

W8LAP

LCARA Waveguide



December Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2003

Upcoming Swap & Shops

Dec 7-L'Anse Creuse Hamfest, Mt Clemens, MI 147.080+ & 146.520

Jan 17-Flint Hamfest, Flushing, MI kf8ui@arrl.net 147.100+ 100Hz pl

Jan 18-Hazel Park 36th annual, Hazel Park, MI aa8kr@arrl.net 146.64- 100Hz pl

The Prez Sez Josh Long, N8CFS

In retrospect, 2003 was an eventful year for the club. We lost Charlie Conley, our former president, earlier this year. Ken Kelch AB8PM resigned as president and moved out of state. Thanks again for the time you spent with us, Ken! Hardware updates have been made to the existing repeater site. Communication with the county road commission has progressed regarding the new Burnside repeater site. Thanks to KD8YX for coordinating this. Hopefully we will be able to install one of our towers at that site sometime in 2004. There are probably other events which elude my memory, but nonetheless I hope that next year will be even more fun and productive for the club and its membership. Lastly, thank you to all the officers and members who help to make the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association what it is today! The LCARA has come a long way since its creation in the early 1960s; it is my hope that it will continue to grow.

Over the next few months the 2004 hamfests will start to pop up. If you plan to attend any of these, please get a stack of LCARA swap fliers to take along with you. This is a great way to publicize our swap, which is the club's major source of income.

As a parting shot, I would like to incorporate short presentations as part of the 2004 club meetings. This would be a great chance to learn about new or different aspects of the radio hobby. I have asked KC8PEZ to give her NTS presentation in January since traffic-handling skills are essential for emergency communications...and who knows what 2004 has in store. If anyone has any suggestions or specializes in a particular part of the hobby, please let me know.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy Holiday season to all from N8CFS!

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat!"

Josh Long, N8CFS

Yet another year is about to end in the history of the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association. What better way is there to celebrate that ending by attending the annual Christmas gathering at the December 9th meeting? The business meeting will be kept to a minimum and the festivities should begin as soon as the business meeting is completed (hopefully around 8 PM). The Christmas gather is an excellent chance to socialize with other club members and their families. Please bring some kind of holiday treat (e.g., cookies, cake, pop, etc...) to pass!

***This month's Meeting is
Tuesday, December 9th—7:30 p.m.
At the Lapeer County Central Dispatch
Center (911) at 2332 W. Genesee Street
in the basement***

The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association website <http://www.w8lap.com> has been updated and it is all setup for the holidays. And complete with a club discussion forum and links to the ARRL Section and Division news.

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**Lapeer County Amateur
Radio Association**

P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, Josh Long, N8CFS.....810-724-6790
Vice-President, Bill Hetchler KC8SHI 810-667-1497
Secretary, Therese Long, KC8PEZ..810-724-6790
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Appointees.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Call Trustee W8LAP.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Swap & Shop Chairperson.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, K8DD
Club Historian.....Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI
Public Information Officer...Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI

ARES Repeater Nets

Monday at 9:00 PM on 146.620-
Thursday at 9:00 PM on 442.750+
Mon—Sat at 9:30 PM on 147.300+

Meetings

LCARA meetings are held on the second
Tuesday of each month in the
Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911),
2332 W. Genesee St, Lapeer MI
at 7:30 p.m. local time

Newsletter

Items for the newsletter may be called to the
Editor at 721-0708, sent by U.S. Mail (Box 88,
Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII file, Word file
or hand-written to k8dd@arrl.net
The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each
month.

Show your club colors

The following items, all with the LCARA logo, are available
to members. Your name and callsign could be included at
no extra charge.

Tee shirts.....\$15.00
Sweat shirts, hooded.....\$30.00
Sweat shirts, long sleeve without hood.....\$18.00
Golf shirts, grey, yellow or white.....\$19.00
Nylon jacket, windbreaker.....\$35.00
Heavier poplin jacket, flannel lined, quilted.....\$85.00

Sizes available to XXL at the prices listed above.

For each "X" above XL, add \$2.00.

Call Flo Haack, KC8CAB , or contact her at any club meeting
to place your order.

LCARA's Video Library

The club has a number of video tapes available for
use by members at no charge. If you would like to
borrow one or more of the tapes, contact the
president, at any club meeting.

Titles presently available:

Getting Started in Ham Radio
Getting Started in DXing
Getting Started in Packet Radio
Getting Started in Amateur Satellites
Getting Started in Contesting

Tapes may be retained by the borrower for one
month and must be returned at the following
month's meeting.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Directors' monthly meetings are held on the
first Tuesday of each month at the BK Lounge at
7:30PM as needed (announced on the W8LAP
repeaters). **All club members are urged to
attend.**

Contributors to this newsletter:

Josh N8CFS ARRL Letter & Contest Rate Sheet
Therese KC8PEZ

Your name and call should be here!



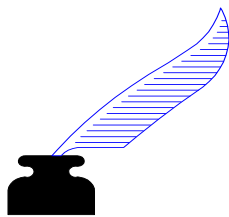
While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store



LCARA Site Sponcer:
Hillcraft Electronics
1831 S. Cedar Street
Imlay City, MI 48444
Phone: 810-721-8030

**LCARA Monthly Meeting
April 8, 2003
Lapeer County Central
Dispatch Center (911).**

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by Josh N8CFS with the pledge of allegiance and recognition of Veterans for Veterans Day. Introductions followed.



Hospital/SK Reports: Fred N8ABR's one month old granddaughter is seriously ill and needs prayers.

Awards/Upgrades: The Michigan NTS Nets, including the Thumb and Mid-Michigan Traffic Net, were recently recognized with a signed certificate from the State of Michigan. The TMMTN meets Mon-Sat at 9:30 PM on 147.300+.

President's Report: given by Josh N8CFS. Josh will discuss the Constitution Revision Project later.

VP/Historian/PIO's Report: presented by Bill KC8SHI. Bill chaired his first meeting last month.

Secretary's Report: read by Therese KC8PEZ. Minutes accepted as read.

Treasurer's Report: given by Bill KD8VP. Accepted as presented.

EC/Trustee's Report: given by Jim KD8YX. The new controller is now in use. Jim is finalizing a letter to be signed by Burnside Twp allowing LCARA to use land in the township for a tower. Jim was an evaluator at Sanilac County's recent SET and was impressed. He suggests that everyone take a turn as net control for a Lapeer Co. ARES Net to prepare for the possibility that they may need to run an emergency net someday. Jim also presented the idea of adding an HF station to the EOC. A motion was made, seconded, and passed by show of hands to table a discussion of the HF station until either a rig was made available or HF is needed in the EOC.

Old Business:

Ed, W8NCJ presented the President, Josh N8CFS, and Historian, Bill KC8SHI, with signed copies of the original club constitution (dating back to 1962).

Josh N8CFS represented the Constitution Revision Committee (CRC) and presented a tentative revised constitution to the club. A lengthy discussion followed. The CRC plans to consider an Article XI to deal with the eventuality that the club might ever be dissolved. In addition, the Committee is revising the article dealing with club dues. The CRC will present the further revised constitution at the January 2004 meeting and welcomes comments or suggestions.

New Business:

Hank K8DD spent 8 days at James Bay, Quebec, for CQ Worldwide. His group of 23 operators made a significant number of contacts, including a QSO with Josh N8CFS.

The LCARA Annual Christmas Party will be held at the December meeting. Please bring snacks, cookies, or non-alcoholic drinks to the party. Family members and friends



This space is where you could have submitted something. Tell us about:

- What DX did you work?
- What interesting QSO did you have recently?
- Did you try a different antenna? Did it work?
- Did another ham you know do something to qualify for "here's your sign"? (the stoopid sign—and we won't publish your call or name!)
- Rumors

Most any format is fine—Text file, Word file, hand written, typed or verbal over the phone. See page 2 for Newsletter contact information!

Be RadioActive— Participate!



**All the best for a very Happy
Holiday Season from the Lapeer
County Amateur Radio
Association.**

are also welcome.

The 50/50 was won by Dick KC8VHA.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:58PM by Josh N8CFS.

Submitted by Therese Long, KC8PEZ, secretary

You Know You're a Ham if :

- You buy electrical black tape in ten packs.
- You've stripped wire with your teeth.
- You've told your son that, "One day, all this will be yours", and he doesn't respond.
- You'd rather help a buddy put up a new tower than mow the lawn.
- You've grabbed the wrong end of a soldering iron.
- You start giving out RST reports when you are on the telephone.
- The propagation forecast means far more to you than the local weather forecast.
- The microphone or visual aids at a meeting don't work and you rush up to the front to fix it.
- You tell the XYL, when she notices a new rig in the shack, why that has been there for years.
- Your watch is set only to UTC.
- At night, when you pray, it starts off something like: CQ

CQ CQ GOD DE (your callsign).

- You ever had to patch your roof after an antenna project.
- Ham radio magazines comprise more than 50% of your bathroom library.
- You ever put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car, just so you could watch her on APRS.
- You and the XYL took a cruise so you could visit the radio room.
- You ever tapped out HI in Morse on your car horn to another ham.
- You ever had an antenna fall down.
- Your teenager refuses to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
- You know the Latitude and Longitude of your home QTH.
- You go into the local Radio Shack store and the clerk asks you where something is.

==>HAYNIE PROMOTES HAM RADIO AT HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, this month used the Amateur Radio Today <<https://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=8861>> CD presentation to promote the potential of Amateur Radio as a part of homeland security at the community level. Haynie served on a panel of national Citizen Corps affiliates during a Volunteers in Homeland Security Conference November 4-6 in Austin, Texas. ARRL became an affiliate of Citizen Corps <<http://www.citizencorps.gov>>--an initiative within the Department of Homeland Security <<http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>>--in June during the ARRL 2003 National Convention. Haynie said Amateur Radio Today turned out to be the proverbial picture worth 1000 words for the crowd of some 300 conference attendees.

"When it was finished and they turned the lights back up, everybody applauded," he said. "I didn't have to say another word." Haynie said several public officials on hand at the event also praised the capabilities of their local Amateur Radio communities in providing assistance during emergencies and disasters.

Citizen Corps is a federal volunteer effort aimed at enhancing public preparedness and safety by bringing to-

gether volunteers and first responders. In some localities, ham radio is being incorporated into a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) <<http://www.citizencorps.gov/programs/cert.shtm>>, a Citizen Corps program. Haynie says the Citizen Corps affiliation is "part of the bigger picture of getting emergency communications aligned with what our government needs." "Amateur Radio stands ready to serve the country as needed in times of emergency," he said.

Citizen Corps Liaison to the White House Liz DiGregorio, headed the three-day gathering and provided an overview of Citizen Corps. She has urged Amateur Radio operators to explore ways to expand their role in the community beyond being a last resort when other communication systems fail.

Those attending the conference primarily represented agencies and organizations serving Federal Emergency Management Agency <<http://www.fema.gov/>> Region VI. FEMA now is a part of the Department of Homeland Security <<http://www.dhs.gov/>>. They included representatives of volunteer organizations as well as FEMA officials and members of local law enforcement. From *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 22, No 46

Support Amateur Radio

Join the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association and the American Radio Relay League. Have your voice heard both locally and nationally.



If you have an e-mail address and would like the Waveguide via e-mail, let Bill KD8VP (kd8vp@juno.com) and Hank K8DD (k8dd@arrl.net) know and it will happen. This can help save postage and printing for the club....And the pictures will look better!

Having trouble opening the Waveguide on-line?

Here is some advice to try if you are having trouble reading the Waveguide via email...For those who have IE and have trouble opening the Newsletter, check to see if you have the identified box "unchecked".

- Open Outlook Express
- Click Tools, Options
- Click Security Tab
- Remove check mark from box

Do not allow attachments to be saved or opened that could be potentially a virus

- Click Apply, OK

If anyone is concerned about doing this, they can apply this ONLY for getting the Waveguide, then return to the original setting.

Also go to www.adobe.com and download the latest Adobe Reader, which is available at no cost! The Waveguide is made with Adobe 5.0.

The Waveguide is also available on
<http://www.qsl.net/k8dd/waveguide>

For Sale

This is a great place to sell what you don't need, give away what you don't need or look for what you can't live with out. Ads will be run for 2 months.

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Wanted: Articles, stories, pictures, facts, fables, witticisms or what-have-you for the Waveguide. If you have something that you think will be of interest to the LCARA membership, please get it to the Editor. See Page 3 for contact information.

For Sale or Trade: MFJ-1278 Multi-Mode TNC. Includes power adapter, manuals, and assorted cables. \$100 or trade for a Kantronics KAM or KAM Plus. Contact Josh at n8cfs@arrl.net or at the club meeting.

Christmas Party!!

The Annual LCARA Christmas Party is one week away! All friends and members of the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association are invited for fun, food and fellowship on December 9th, 7:30PM in the basement of 911 Dispatch (Lapeer, MI). The Christmas Party will immediately follow a (very) short business meeting. Feel free to bring cookies, pop, or any other holiday finger food to share. If you can't bake, just bring ham. The more the merrier! See everyone on the 9th. – Therese KC8PEZ

December 2003

If your e-mail address changes please let KD8VP and K8DD know so you get club email!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 ARES Net 146.62	2	3	4 ARES Net 442.750	5	6
7	8 ARES Net 146.62	9 LCARA Meeting & Holiday Party	10	11 ARES Net 442.750	12	13
14	15 ARES Net 146.62	16	17	18 ARES Net 442.750	19	20
21	22 ARES Net 146.62	23	24	25 ARES Net 442.750 Merry Christmas	26	27
28	29 ARES Net 146.62	30	31 Straight Key Night!			



HillCraft Electronics 888-520-2002
Just North of I-69 on Van Dyke (M-53)
In the Farmer Jack Plaza

New news

Through December 31, 2003

- On any small parts (the 270 series Radio Shack Part numbers **20% discount!** with your LCARA membership card ~or~ proof of Amateur Radio License.

Need a new HT (or a spare HT)?

Special: \$49.99 ea

HTX-400 70cm 200mW (int. batt.) 1W (ext. batt.) HT

HTX-200 2m 200mW (int. batt.) 1W (ext. batt.) HT

Special: \$129.00ea

HTX-420 2m/70cm 3w (int. batt.) 4w (ext. batt.) HT
Rechargeable Lithium Ion battery & charger
Supplies are limited.

We also Recycle rechargeable batteries here at the store - any kind up to two pounds of sealed cell. Let's keep the ground water safe for future generations.

Survey

Bring this Survey in to the Imlay City Radio Shack store and receive 25% off of your Christmas battery needs. Only in Imlay City!

We are looking at stocking Amateur Radio products and equipment.

What is your favorite brand of Mobile rig?

What is your favorite brand of Fixed rig?

What is your favorite brand of Mobile antenna?

What is your favorite brand of Fixed antenna?

What accessories would you like to see on the shelf at the Imlay City Radio Shack?

Join the ARRL!

ARRL is the national membership association for Amateur Radio operators.

The seed for Amateur Radio was planted in the 1890s, when Guglielmo Marconi began his experiments in wireless telegraphy. Soon he was joined by dozens, then hundreds, of others who were enthusiastic about sending and receiving messages through the air--some with a commercial interest, but others solely out of a love for this new communications medium. The United States government began licensing Amateur Radio operators in 1912.

For more information contact the ARRL at:

225 Main Street, Newington CT 06111-1494

Voice: 860-594-0200

E-mail: hq@arrl.org or Internet: <http://www.arrl.org/>



The *ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for November 19, 2003* says:

=>From Timo OH1NOA, "The Contest Club Finland (CCF) gladly once again calls all the contesters and DX-ers around the world to come and join the great company and atmosphere in

the CCF's 9th Annual Contest / DX meeting, to be held on 16-18th January, 2004." This get together is legendary, with attendees from all over and more than 100 of your favorite OH contesters. If you're interested in attending, send email to Pasi Luoma-aho OH2IW at oh2iw@oh2u.com or give him a call at 358-400-436543.

For more information, check out the CCF Web site - <http://www.qsl.net/ccf>. [The LCARA Waveguide staff has these dates free should the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association move to send us to cover this event. - Ed.]

=>The bands are pretty crowded lately, right? What would happen if we lost spectrum? It is a good idea for U.S. hams to encourage their representatives and senators to sign on to the Spectrum Protection Act (SPA), HR 713 and S 537. Sample letters are on the ARRL Web site along with complete information about how to contact your members of Congress and the complete text of the SPA at <http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/arspa.html>.

=>Having trouble dealing with IRC's at the Post Office? Tell the Postal Clerk to look in their manual under section 372.1 that explains in detail how to handle IRC's. (Thanks, Ted K1BV) [don't go to the Lapeer P.O.—they know how to sell IRC's but not redeem them. The Attica P. O. now understands the program! - Ed.]

=>Ed, N7NVP sends along a good Web page about how to operate legally on 60 meters - <http://www.doug-smith.net/sixty.htm>. While 60-meters is not a contest band, it is an interesting new addition to our frequencies and will be useful in both emergency communications and propagation experiments. By operating legally, we hasten the day when hams might obtain a more traditional, non-channelized allocation.

==>ARRL INVITES HIRAM PERCY MAXIM MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATIONS

The ARRL invites nominations of exceptional young Amateur Radio operators for the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. Nominations are due to ARRL section managers by March 31, 2004. The HPM Award goes each year to an enthusiastic and active amateur licensee aged 21 or younger whose contributions to Amateur Radio and to the community are of the most exemplary nature.

An ideal nominee may be involved in recruiting new hams through demonstrations as well as by example to his or her peers; on the air and/or public service activities; employing technical ingenuity to further Amateur Radio; public relations activities; and organizations on a local, state or national level.

The HPM Award winner receives an engraved plaque and a check for \$1500.

Details are available on the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/awards/hpm.html>>, which includes a link to the nomination form. Those nominating HPM Award candidates should include their contact information and forward the form to their ARRL Section Manager <<http://www.arrl.org/sections/>>. Section managers also may nominate young hams for this award.

For additional information, contact Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS

<jwolfgang@arrl.org>.

From *The ARRL Letter*, Vol 22, No 46

FIELD DAY RESULTS 2003

Having received my December 2003 QST magazine I was happy to see the results of Field Day included. Naturally I scrambled to see how LCARA did in the standings. Here are my findings for class 3A, for those of you that do not receive QST.

There were 277 total entries in class 3A, LCARA was 145th on the list.

There were 12 total Michigan entries in class 3A, LCARA was 6th on the list.

The highest score in class 3A was 15,678 points from 4903 total contacts turned in by W2GD in section NNJ, our total score was 2006 points from 603 total contacts. The next highest Michigan scores 2,156 points from 532 total contacts turned in by K8UUT. The next lower Michigan scores 1,446 points from 368 total contacts turned in by K8PA.

The LCARA Field Day group should be commended for their excellence in participation. You that joined our little group know that a very good time was had by all. Those of you that chose not to join the fun need only think about where we would have been in the standings if you would have come down to the park and participated. I feel confident that each year we can do a little better, in the standings, but if we do not I know that we at least gave it a good try and had fun doing it.

I thank everyone that helped in some way and look forward to next year

Yours truly Bill Miller KD8VP

The Animal Scramble

B O S O I M B Y L E R R I U Q S
U U Y P R D R T N A S A E H P D
R T R O E L O B M U S C R A T N
A U M S V W W H I T E T A I L V
C R O S A P N R T L O T R K Y Y
C K O U E E B G A E X E O T A T
O E S M B E E S F E V M I Y R H
O Y E Q Q H A T R C B L V T O D
N D H F E S R R L I W K I E D C
X Q E W E P O L E T N A C A W R
E L K E P A R T R I D G E A U Z
X L I R R W O L V E R I N E L Q
K Z S B I G H O R N N D C E H B
M K Z T I B B A R U B W H N C W
L G R O U N D H O G U Q N O A K
F S I J M S E S U O R G A L S B

ANTELOPE
BEAVER
BIGHORN
BLACKBEAR
BROWNBear
COYOTE
DEER
ELK
GROUNDHOG
GROUSE
MOOSE

MUSCRAT
OPOSSUM
PARTRIDGE
PHEASANT
QUAIL
RABBIT
RACCOON
RINGNECK
SHEEP
SQUIRREL
TURKEY

2002-2003 L.C.A.R.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT:

CALL SIGN: _____ NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY ,STATE, AND ZIP: _____

PHONE : _____ LICENSE CLASS: _____

SKYWARN NO.: _____ RACES NO: _____

ARES MEMBER YES___ NO___ E-MAIL ADD.: _____

ARE YOU AN A.R.R.L. MEMBER: YES___ NO___

L.C.A.R.A. MEMBERSHIP IS \$12.00 PER YEAR, RENEWABLE EACH YEAR ON OCTOBER. 1ST. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP \$20.00. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP \$4.00. IF YOU WISH AN AUTODIAL NUMBER FOR THE REPEATER THERE IS AN ADDITIONAL \$3.00 CHARGE.

**Lapeer County Amateur
Radio Association**

P.O. Box 12

Hadley, MI 48440-0012