W8LAP

LCARA Waveguide

July Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association 2003

Upcoming Swap & Shops

Jul 12—Straits Area ARC http://www.w8gqn.org
Contact: Cliff KC8NVI Phone: 231-526-5645
Email: kc8nvi@glccomputers.com
Aug 2—Iosco County AR Enthusiasts Contact: John Alexander, W8GZF, Phone: 989-362-2398
Email: n1640d@i-star.com
Aug 9—Iron Range ARC Contact: Ken Hookenson, N8XTC Phone: 906-265-5430 Email: hooken@ironriver.tv
Aug 9—Cascades ARS http://www.w8jxn.org Contact: Lee Van Alstine, KA8VMJ Phone: 517-787-7783 Email: ka8vmj@arrl.net
Aug 24—Lapeer County Am. Radio Assn. Swap
Lapeer, MI

This month's Meeting is Tuesday, July 8th—7:30 p.m. At the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911) at 2332 W. Genesee Street

The Beginner's Guide to Working the ISS on Packet

By Josh Long, N8CFS

Over the last couple months we've taken a look at some of the basic equipment and operating techniques needed to work use the International Space Station's packet station However, last month I was reading AMSAT's satellite report and noticed that the ISS packet station was reported as being non-operational and had been reported as such shortly after the explosion of the shuttle Columbia. For that reason, I figured I'd put the column on hold until the status of the packet station changed.

One interesting site to check the status of the space station is K4HG's www.ariss.net website. This website shows the real-

ISS (Continued on page 5)

Where is it?

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The Presidents Column

By Therese Long KC8PEZ

Bon Voyage to our President!

It is with much regret that I have to report that Ken AB8PM has resigned his position as president of the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association. Unfortunately, he had to move back to Wisconsin, and therefore would not be around to fulfill his duties as President. He asked me to pass along his 73 to all the members of LCARA and greatly regretted that he was not able to personally tell everyone good-bye. He said that was a great honor for him to serve LCARA as President for the past 3 years, and he is going to miss everyone in the Lapeer area greatly. He would like to keep in touch with the club via email and 40 meters. Until elections, our vice-president, Josh N8CFS, will serve the club as President.

Thank you Ken for everything! We're going to miss you (and Chris!) very, very, much. Despite what you may have thought from time to time, you were a spectacular President and your departure is a tremendous loss for the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association. We wish you the best of luck in Wisconsin, and look forward to a visit whenever you may be back in Michigan.

73, Therese KC8PEZ
Secretary, Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

==>NO MORSE CODE CONTROVERSY AT WRC-03

Whatever else happens at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03), there's no mystery about the delegates' direction regarding the Morse code requirement. Morse code proficiency will disappear as a treaty obligation for high-frequency access when the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)-sponsored gathering under way in Geneva concludes July 4.

"One matter on which there appears to be no disagreement is the Morse requirement," said International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Secretary (and ARRL CEO) David Sumner, K1ZZ, in a report <http://www.iaru.org/rel030623.html> on the second week of activity at WRC-03. "It is clear that the outcome will be to leave it to administrations' discretion whether or not to have a Morse receiving and sending requirement." He said no administration participating in the sub-working group spoke in favor of retaining the Morse

No Morse (Continued on page 4)

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, Ken Kelch, AB8PM.....810-245-3907
Vice-President, Josh Long, N8CFS...810-724-6790
Secretary, Therese Long, KC8PEZ..810-724-6790
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Etc.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Call Trustee W8LAP.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Swap & Shop Chairpersons.....Ken Kelch, AB8PM
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

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 Sheriff's 911 center, 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 Ken AB8PM, 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:

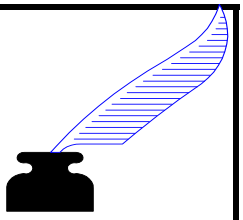
Josh, N8CFS Mary Stikeleather
Therese, KC8PEZ

Your name and call should be here!

While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store



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



The meeting was opened at 7:33 PM by Josh N8CFS for Ken AB8PM with the pledge of allegiance and introductions. There were two new visitors: Andrew Wagner KC8SPD and Eric Mead. Hospital report: Dale KB8WKQ continues to recover from his vehicle accident. Bill KC8SHI will be going into surgery June 23.

President's Report: given by Josh for Ken AB8PM. The sign-up sheet for July Operation C.A.R.E will be available online soon.

VP's Report: given by Josh N8CFS. The Constitution Review Committee now consists of Josh, Therese KC8PEZ, and K8DD. A formal report will be prepared by next meeting.

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

Treasurer's Report: by Bill KD8VP. Accepted as read. PIO/Historian's Report: by Bill KC8SHI. Contact Bill with any ham radio related information you want published in local papers. He is also collecting any historical information about the club.

EC/Trustee's Report: by Jim KD8YX. Jim contacted the County Road Commission about the Deanville Mountain site and is waiting to hear a reply. Nothing new is going on with the repeater.

Old Business: none

New Business: 4th of July Operation C.A.R.E. is coming up soon and volunteers are needed! We need someone to be in charge of this event. Field Day will be in Rotary Park; volunteers are also needed for this event.

Andrew KC8SPD presented a talk on the Huron Lightship and the 2nd Annual Huron Lightship Event on July 19-20. The event will be held at the Lightship and at Pine Grove Park in Port Huron. A new ham radio club is also forming in Port Huron – the Highlander Sea Amateur Radio Club, based on the Highlander Sea tall ship.

Send any information for the newsletter to editor Hank K8DD. Thank you Hank for the Waveguide!

The 50/50 was won by Dick KC8VHA and the meeting was adjourned by N8CFS at 8:44PM.

Submitted by Therese Long, KC8PEZ, secretary

Field Day 2003

The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association Field Day was held again this year at the Rotary Park on the east side of downtown Lapeer. Details as to QSOs, bonus points, or the amount of food and drink consumed were not available by the Waveguide deadline, but from comments heard, a good time was had by all!

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!

The Older Than Dirt Quiz

Count all the ones that you remember, not the ones you were told about!

1. Blackjack chewing gum
2. Coke-shaped wax bottles with colored sugar water
3. Candy cigarettes
4. Soda pop machines that dispensed bottles
5. Coffee shops with tableside jukebox heads
6. Home milk delivery! In glass bottles with cardboard stoppers
7. Party lines
8. Newsreels before the movie
9. P.F. Flyers
10. Butch wax
11. Telephone numbers with a word prefix (Olive4-6933)
12. Peashooters
13. Howdy Doody

14a.78 RPM records
14b.45 RPM records (.75 points)
14c.8 Track Tapes (.5 points)

15. Gold Bond or S&H Green Stamps
16. Hi-fi's
17. Metal ice cube trays with lever
18. Mimeograph paper
19. Blue flashbulbs
20. Packards
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork popguns
23. Drive-in Movie
24. Studebakers
25. Wash tub wringers

0-5 You're still young
6-10 You are getting older
11-15 Don't tell your age
16-25 You're older than dirt

From http://www.qsl.net/qcwa35/old.htm

(Continued from page 1) No Morse

code treaty requirement.
The modification of Article 25.5 of the international Radio Regulations cleared Working Group 4C on June 24. Working Group 4C is dealing with this and other proposals relating to Article 25. The modified text says, "Administrations shall determine whether or not a person seeking a license to operate an amateur station shall prove the ability to send and receive texts in Morse code signals."
It's possible but unlikely that the text would be tinkered with further at the committee level or even in the Plenary, which considers items for adoption. Sumner said delegates continue to wrangle over other aspects of Article 25, which defines Amateur Radio operation.
Adoption of the Article 25.5 modification would not mean the immediate disappearance of the Morse requirement to operate on the amateur bands below 30 MHz. Each administration, including the FCC, would then decide whether or not to drop the requirement from its domestic regulations. Some countries have indicated a desire to retain a Morse code requirement.
Full reports on WRC-03 activities are available on the IARU Web site <http://www.iaru.org/news-releases.html>.
From The ARRL Letter, Vol 22, No 26 [edited for brevity]

An editorial opinion

NO MORSE CODE CONTROVERSY AT WRC-03

Is it good or bad for Amateur Radio?

The uproar has already started on several internet reflectors that I subscribe to! "it's going to destroy amateur radio" "I had to pass ## WPM code, it should always be that way" "they are dumbing down the hobby" It goes on and on and on! Do we really "need" a code test to pass an Amateur Radio license test to operate HF? Many people at the WRC-03 don't think so. Morse Code has been deleted from the Maritime service in favor of radio satellite service. It has been deleted from MARS and from the military services for the most part. Plain and simple—it is not used in any of those services.

Going back to the No-Code Technician, the same things were said—"it's going to destroy amateur radio" and all the same arguments. Did it? No! Was Amateur Radio better for the No-Code Tech's? Yes! It didn't get the massive numbers into Ham Radio, but it got a lot more people into the hobby …. And that's what it's all about!

So maybe it didn't spur classes in some areas to bring new people into Ham Radio, but it did many places. We got some real good hams—some hams who are much more technically inclined than the average Amateur Extra on the street! Some better ops than the average hams you hear on 75M every evening up around 3850 to 3890!

Is no code for an HF license good or bad for Amateur Radio? Even though I operate 90% CW, if it brings more people into the hobby, it's good …. As long as "they" don't mess with the CW bands too much! Besides it is going to be left up to the various governments as to CW requirements, so it's most likely be going to be years before much changes!

Your opinion? 73 Hank K8DD

If you have an e-mail address and would like the Waveguide via e-mail, let 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!

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:

1. Kenwood TS-520 80-10m HF rig. Includes the manual, power cable, and a hand microphone. 125 watts out. Good cosmetic and operating condition. Asking $175.
2. Kenwood VFO-520. External VFO for the TS-520 series radios. Good condition. Includes cable to connect to the radio. $100.

Wanted: information on repairing a damaged Drake TR-4. Call Josh N8CFS at 810-724-6790 or email at n8cfs@arrl.net

For Sale: A TenTec Scout with plug in modules for 75 40 20 15 10, and 2 of some. For $ 450. Call Chuck WA8UCS or email to: wa8ucs@centurytel.net

For Sale:

1. Compaq LTE 5250 Pentium 120MHz. 10.5" display, Windows 98SE, 1Gb disk, Floppy, CD-ROM, 48Mb RAM, Joystick pointer & mouse, Office 97, Outlook, built-in sound, 2 batteries—poor, 33.6K modem. $120
2. Compaq LTE Elite 486DX75. 9.5" display, Windows 3.11, 340Mb disk, Floppy, 16Mb RAM, Trackball built-in & real mouse, Office 4.2, 10Mb PCMCIA Network card, 33.6K modem, battery-Poor, carrying case. $80
3. AT&T Globalyst 200 486DX75. 9.5" display, Windows 95a SP1, 330Mb disk, Floppy, 20Mb RAM, Trackball built-in & real mouse, Office 97, modem, battery-poor, carrying case. $80
4. Clegg 76 220 MHz transceiver. Crystal controlled with a bunch of crystals! $50 OBO
5. UHF Motorola Micor (2) partially converted for 9600 baud packet. $30 ea
6. Synoptics ethernet manageable hub. 10Mb. 16 port & 1 AUI port. $30
7. Cisco 2900 ethernet switch. 24-10Mb, 1-100Mb (fiber or utp) ports. $100

Contact Hank K8DD 721 0708 or k8dd@arrl.net

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.

The Waveguide is also available at http://www.qsl.net/k8dd/waveguide

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.

NEWS AND PRESS RELEASES

If you are chasing the ARRL's Code Proficiency certificate the complete schedule is available at http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#qualifying_run. The schedules of both East and West Coast Qualifying Runs are listed in UTC and local time. (Thanks, Joe NJ1Q)

From ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for July 02, 2003

ISS *(Continued from page 1)*

time location of the station, as well as a list of the recently-heard earth stations which the ISS packet station has heard. Although very few stations have been recently heard aboard the ISS, it appears to be active at times.

Over the last several days I've had my packet station listening to see whether the ISS beacon signal is being transmitted regularly. If the beacon signal is being heard on earth, then it should be possible to digipeat through the station…or even to utilize the ISS mailbox. Turn your 2m radios to 145.800 MHz and listen!

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

July 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 ARES Net 442.750	4 The 4th!	5
6	7 ARES Net 146.62	8 The MEETING!	9	10 ARES Net 442.750	11	12 Straits ARC Swap
13	14 ARES Net 146.62	15	16	17 ARES Net 442.750	18	19
20	21 ARES Net 146.62	22	23	24 ARES Net 442.750	25	26
27	28 ARES Net 146.62	29	30	31 ARES Net 442.750		



Six Meters is ALIVE!

In the past 30 days (05/24 to 06/24) there have been almost 6000 spots on 6 meters posted on the DX Packet-Cluster system (144.970 / WA8DX) from all over the US and quite a few countries. The 6M band has been open almost daily with many S9 signals on my vertical up 20' at the end of the garage. And, for Fathers Day I received a 3 element 6M yagi (and an ON4UN Low Band Dxing book), so I'm ready on 6M and 80M! In the past week or two I've heard several locals—KC8VOW, K8MM, KB8ZUZ and W8JDE—along with a lot of "downstaters"! So if your radio has 6M, throw a dipole together (about 9.5 ft would be a good starting place) and give it a try. If you can't get a 6M dipole to work, let me know and I have an MFJ antenna analyzer that we can use to find what frequency it is really on! 73, Hank K8DD

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/

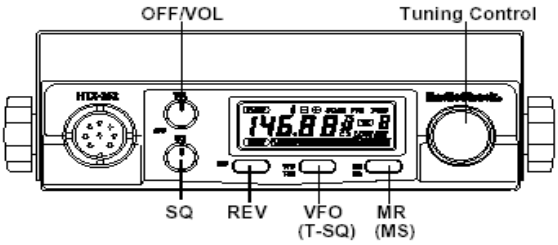
RadioShack
You've got questions. We've got answers.

HillCraft Electronics 888-520-2002

Just North of I-69 on Van Dyke (M-53)
In the Farmer Jack Plaza

Dealer

2-Meter FM Mobile Transceiver is a compact and versatile transceiver, for your vehicle or in your home.



HTX-252

Features:

- High (25 Watt) and Low (10 Watt) Power Settings
- 10-Memory Channels and 1 Call Channel
- Frequency Range of 144-148 MHz (TX) and 136-174 MHz coverage. You can also extend the transmit (RX)
- Channel Up/Down and 16-Key DTMF on the Mic
- CTCSS (Continuous Tone Coded Squelch System)
- Programmable frequency step
- Signal Strength Indicator
- Compact - 1.25" x 5.12" x 5.5" (HWD) & 1.54 lbs

$159.99

Compact Dual-Band 144/440MHz Transceiver with Built-In NOAA Weather Alert and 8-Point Compass



$269.99

As reviewed in the February 2003 CQ

HTX-200
2M / 70CM 200 mW handheld transceiver.
Closeout
$99.00

HTX-200

Features:

• Dual-frequency display dual band, 2M/70cm, 5 watt amateur radio HT
• Broadband receiver 108-174 and 420-512MHz with 100-channel memory
• Radio includes electronic compass and is compatible with Weather Receive and SAME Weather Alert
• CTCSS encode/decode
• Illuminated 16-key DTFM
• Multiple scan modes
• Power-out 5W on 2M, 4.5W on 70cm with external 13.8VDC or 4.2W on 2M, 3.2W on 70cm with 1200maH lithium-ion battery pack (included) H/M/L power settings, battery voltage meter, 7
• Includes empty battery shell; accepts 4 "AA" batteries



May 8 2003 Tornado

This picture was taken on May 8, 2003 by a friend of Adam's (KC8WGL) family, looking to the North.

Is it a tornado? Is it a scud?

It has been cropped and enlarged somewhat.

If you are looking at this in black and white, come to the meeting and hopefully someone will have a color printout of this issue of the Waveguide.

SkyWarn for Dummies

Not to be taken seriously!

For those of you who aren't familiar with tornadoes, this is a short glossary to help you understand.

Fujita Scale: Scale used to measure wind speeds of a tornado and their severity.

F1: Laughable little string of wind unless it comes through your house, then enough to make your insurance company drop you like a brick. People enjoy standing on their porches to watch this kind.

F2: Strong enough to blow your car into your house, unless of course you drive an Expedition and live in a mobile home, then strong enough to blow your house into your car.

F3: Will pick your house and your Expedition up and move you to the other side of town.

F4: Usually ranging from 1/2 to a full mile wide, this tornado can turn an Expedition into a Pinto, then gift wrap it in a semi truck.

F5: The Mother of all Tornadoes, you might as well stand on your front porch and watch it, because it's probably going to be quite a last sight.

Meteorologist: A rather soft-spoken, mild-mannered type person until severe weather strikes, and then they start yelling at you through the TV: "GET TO YOUR BATHROOM OR YOU'RE GOING TO DIE!"

Storm Chaser: Meteorologist rejects who are pretty much insane but who get us really cool pictures of tornadoes. We release them from the mental institution every time it starts thundering, just to see what they'll do.

Tranquilizer: What you have to give any dog or cat who lived through the May 3rd, 1999 tornado every time it storms or they tear your whole house up freaking out of their minds.

Moore, Oklahoma: A favorite gathering place for tornadoes. They like to meet here and do a little partying before stretching out across the rest of the Midwest.

Bathtub: Best place to seek shelter in the middle of a tornado, mostly because after you're covered with debris, you can quickly wash off and come out looking great.

Severe Weather Radio: A handy device that sends out messages from the National Weather Service during a storm, though quite disconcerting because the high pitched, shrill noise just as an alarm sounds suspiciously just like a tornado. Plus, the guy reading the report just sounds creepy.

Tornado Siren: A system the city spent millions to install, which is really useful, unless there's a storm or a tornado, because then, of course, you can't hear them.

Storm Cellar: A great place to go during a tornado, as it is almost 100% safe, though weigh your options carefully, as most are not cared for and are homes to rats and snakes.

May-June: Tourist season in Oklahoma, when people who are tired of bungee jumping and diving out of airplanes decide it might be fun to chase a tornado. These people usually end up on Fear Factor.

Barometric Pressure: Nobody really knows what this is, but when it drops, a lot of pregnant women go into labor, which makes for exciting moments as their husbands are trying to drive them to the hospital and dodge tornadoes at the same time.

Cars: The worst place to be during a tornado (next to a mobile home). Yes, you can out run a tornado in your car...unless everybody on the road decides to do the same thing, and then you're in grid lock.

A Ditch: Supposedly where you're supposed to go if you find yourself without shelter or in your car during a tornado. Theoretically the tornado is supposed to pass right over you, but since it can lift a 20-ton truck and up root a 300-year-old tree, I'd bet my life on out-running it in a car.

SkyWarn (Continued on page 8)

Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management

This is just a reminder that the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division is hosting a FREE Damage Assessment Workshop here in Lapeer County (as we requested) on August 19th. This is an all day class and will be held here in the Emergency Operations Center.

This class is designed to teach officials what needs to be done "AFTER the storm". Basically, it is concerned with determining what happened, when, where, how and who is affected.

Four basic reasons for local jurisdictions to develop a strong damage assessment capability:

1. To obtain information on the emergency/situation.
2. To facilitate effective decision making.
3. To enable the public to be quickly and accurately informed.
4. To develop assistance requests.

PLEASE LOOK AT YOUR CALENDARS VERY CLOSELY AND TRY TO MAKE TIME TO ATTEND THIS CLASS. IT WILL GREATLY ENHANCE OUR CAPABILITIES DURING A DISASTER/EMERGENCY.

If you are interested in attending you can either go to the following web page to register on-line http://www.michigan.gov/msp/0,1607,7-123-1593_3507_5914---,00.html or contact the Training Division of the Michigan State Police Emergency Management Division at 517-333-5022

I hope that you will take the time to attend. Have a safe Holiday Weekend.

Mary Stikeleather, PEM
Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management
2332 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer MI 48446
(810) 667-0242 (810) 667-0415 fax

(Continued from page 7) ***SkyWarn***

Mobile Home: Most people are convinced mobile homes send off some strange signal that triggers tornadoes, because if there's one mobile home park in a hundred mile radius, the tornado will find it.

Earthquake: What any Californian would rather go through on any scale of severity than face a tornado.

Tornado: What any Oklahoman would rather go through on any scale of severity than face an earthquake.

Twister: Slang for 'tornado' and also the title to a movie starring Helen Hunt, which, incidentally, everyone thought was corny and unrealistic until May 3rd, 1999.

Power Flash: One of the most reliable ways to track a tornado at night, it's the term used when the tornado hits a power line and a bright light flashes. It's also the emotion experienced by meteorologists when they get to make the call to interrupt prime-time must-see TV and a million dollars' worth of advertising to track a storm for viewers.

Here are some phrases you might want to learn and be familiar with: "We'll have your electricity restored in 24 hours," which means it'll be a week. "We're going to be out for a week, so buy a lot of supplies and an expensive generator," means it's going to be on in twelve hours, probably as soon as you return from Wal-Mart. "It's a little muggy today." Get outta town. It's getting ready to storm. "There's just a slight chance of severe weather today, so go ahead and make your outdoor plans." Ha. Ha ha ha ha.

And Rene's BIG TIP of the day: When your electricity goes out and you go to bed at night, be sure to turn off everything that was on before it went out, or when it is unexpectedly restored in the middle of the night, every light, every computer, your dishwasher, your blow dryer, your washing machine, your microwave, and your fans will all come on all at once.

1) You'll just about have a heart attack when they all come on at the same time, waking you from a dead sleep, and
2) Your breakers will blow, leaving you in the dark once again.

"If I could have any power, I would love to have the power of invisibility. It's a little bit sad, but I would probably sneak off to a cafe and write all day." - J.K. Rowling, author of the Harry Potter books. She made the comment while speaking to 4,000 children at London's Royal Albert Hall a few days after the release of the fifth book in the series, which sold 1.8 million copies on its first day.



Cable Attenuation (all #'s in dB)

Cable	1 MHz	10 MHz	50 MHz	100 MHz	200 MHz	400 MHz	700 MHz	900 MHz	1 GHz
RG-58	0.44	1.4	4.1	4.8	7.5	11.8			
RG-8X	0.2	0.78	2.0	3.0	4.5	6.0	7.9	8.8	
RG-213	0.17	0.55	1.3	1.9	2.5	4.1	7.5	8.0	8.2
RG-6	0.16	0.57	1.4	2.0	2.8	4.3	5.6	6.0	6.1
RG-11	0.14	0.42	1.0	1.5	2.2	3.5	4.1	5.2	6.6
RF9913**	0.15	0.4	0.9	1.4	1.8	2.6	3.6	4.2	4.5
BURY-FLEX™*	0.26	0.52	1.1	1.5	2.0	2.9	3.8	4.9	5.3
RG-59	0.6	1.1	2.4	3.4	4.9	7.0	9.7	11.1	12.0
RG-214	0.17	0.55	1.3	1.9	2.7	4.1	6.5	7.6	9.0

Notes:
* Bury-Flex attenuation is very close to LMR400 (2.1 dB @ 400 MHz)
** RG-8 (#WM106) {Not listed on table} has somewhat higher attenuations as compared to Bury-Flex (note that Bury-Flex has a 20+ year abrasive resistant jacket of PE, whereas RG-8 is a Non-Contaminating PVC). RG-8 (WM106) has a double shield.
*** RF9913 (#W102) Flexi-XL is stranded. Attenuation is slightly higher than standard 9914, but still very low loss.



This is your spot!

News reports, upgrades, achievements, rumors, humorous events, questions, sound off, what DX have you worked?, or any reports. Send anything you have to the editor (see page 2) in any form—handwritten, typed, ASCII file, email, disk, chipped in stone, or by packet radio (144.970 WA8DX—do a SEND K8DD).

Emergency Management USA Scramble

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

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fires
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