

W8LAP

LCARA Waveguide



May Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association 2003

Upcoming Swap & Shops

May 16-19 Dayton Hamvention www.hamvention.org
Sunday, June 1st — Ham and Antique Radio Swap, Chelsea, MI. Info: ab8fn@arrl.net
Sunday, June 1st—Tom's Birthday swap, Port Huron, in the parking lot behind Arby's north end...contact WB8MCS.drton1@comcast.net for details
Saturday, June 14—Midland ARC Swap...contact: Bill French, AB8JF 989.835.5562
Sunday, June 15—Monroe Hamfest, Monroe County Fairgrounds...contact: Fred VanDaele, 734.242.9487

Field Day is June 28th, 2003

KD8VP Bill Miller is the field day coordinator and is seeking those of you that would like to participate or help out. Contact Bill via kd8vp@juno.com or 810-797-5329 or at the May meeting.
Reservations have been made for Rotary Park again this year and like other years we will have a lot of fun.
73 KD8VP Bill

***This month's Meeting is
Tuesday, May 13th—7:30 p.m.
At the Lapeer County Central Dispatch
Center (911) at 2332 W. Genesee Street
in the basement***

The Presidents Column Ken Kelch, AB8PM

Long Time Member Lost Bout With Cancer

KB8WMR, John Harriman, 41, became a silent key on Monday, April 28, 2003 after a courageous 2 year battle with cancer. John was a member of Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association for about 10 years. He was an exemplary radio operator. John is survived by his wife, Cindy and daughter, Kaitlyn. LCARA has honored the family's request to help with a fund that is being developed for the education of his daughter. Anyone who desires to add to the memorial may contact Bill KD8VP for instructions.

What Are You Planning This Summer?

We are looking forward to another radio-active summer.

President (Continued on page 7)

CQ All Amateurs – Operation C.A.R.E Needs YOU May 23-26!

By Therese Long, KC8PEZ

Operation C.A.R.E. (Combined Accident Resistance Effort) is one of the longest running traffic safety initiatives in our country. Founded in 1977 by the Indiana State Police in cooperation with the Michigan State Police, Operation C.A.R.E was designed to reduce speeding, impaired driving, and failure to use occupant restraints in vehicles. The program is now used in all 50 states and American possessions during Summer holiday weekends.

For over 10 years the LCARA has participated in the Operation C.A.R.E. Program by setting up a Refreshment
C.A.R.E. (Continued on page 11)

The Beginner's Guide to Working the ISS on Packet

By Josh Long, N8CFS

HOUSTON, WE'VE ESTABLISHED CONTACT!

This is the third installation in a series of articles...

Over the last two months, we've taken a look at a number of aspects involved in working the 2m packet station aboard the International Space Station (ISS). In the first article, we looked at the needed equipment. Then, last month we discussed the usefulness of using satellite-tracking software to determine when the best time to work the space station. This month we'll aim to accomplish two things: first, to summarize the basic list of equipment and software that

ISS (Continued on page 10)

N8GSF, SK

Marlette, MI

Robert "Bob" Anderson, N8GSF, passed away April 16 at the age of 77. He was an accomplished violinist and played with the International Symphony. He was born in Port Huron, lived and taught for years in St. Clair and lived in Marlette for the last fifteen or twenty years.

Bob enjoyed ham radio and his goal was to work all counties on 40M CW only...I'm not sure how close he ever got to working all 3,000+, but I know he was well on his way.

73 Bob, dit dit.

**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.....Fred Church, N8ABR

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:

Therese, KC8PEZ Steve, N8EN Josh, N8CFS
Jim, KD8YX Ken, AB8PM

Your name and call should be here!

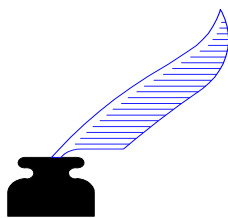


While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store



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 opened at 7:40 PM by Ken AB8PM with 19 members and 3 visitors in attendance. The meeting began with the pledge of allegiance and introductions of visitors. Yolanda Azelton, KC8WGW, and Adam Fischhager, KC8WGL, both received their call signs. Our new hams received a big round of applause.

President's Report: given by Ken AB8PM. Ken reports that the club almost has a tower site at the north end of the county (on Deanville Mountain) thanks to the Road Commission.

VP report: given by Josh N8CFS. Josh commented on DX conditions.

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

Treasurer's report: read by Bill KD8VP. The treasurer's report was accepted as read.

EC/Trustee's report: given by Jim KD8YX. Jim has RACES cards at this meeting. About 2 weeks ago, the repeater controller was not running properly. W8JDE John set up an alternative repeater until our repeater is up and running again. Bill KD8VP donated a computer for the EOC Packet Station.

Old Business:

The club talked about the possible tower site on "Deanville Mountain," approx. 9mi north of Imlay City just off M-53/Van Dyke. Elevation at this site is estimated at greater than 1000ft. Power may be a concern at this site.

New Business:

No New Business.

The 50/50 raffle was won by Ed KC8EGR.

A motion was made, seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM by Ken AB8PM.

Submitted by Therese Long, KC8PEZ, secretary

A Special Thanks!

Many thanks to John W8JDE for the use of his repeater system when our system was down with controller problems. Again, thanks John!
LCARA Repeater

QUOTE OF THE DAY -

"A comfortable old age is the reward of a well-spent youth. Instead of its bringing sad and melancholy prospects of decay, it would give us hopes of eternal youth in a better world."

- French acting legend Maurice Chevalier

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!**

Avoiding Viruses on your PC@Home

It seems as if each time you turn around there is a new computer virus infecting computers around the globe. These viruses spread quickly through email - sometimes automatically, without the knowledge of the sender. Fortunately, there are ways to protect yourself, keep your computer virus-free and help stop the spread.

1. Make sure you are using an antivirus program. There are organizations (i.e. Norton AntiVirus and McAfee VirusScan) that have committed themselves to your protection. Their software, when kept up to date, will protect your property from the new viruses that are made and distributed.
2. Don't click on email attachments that you are not expecting or seem out of place. For example, if you receive an email with the subject line referring to a "meeting time" - and you know you don't have a meeting with this person, do not view the attachment. Also, never open an attachment from someone you do not know.
3. Never open an attachment with the extension VBS, SHS or PIF. Files with double extensions should also be avoided. (i.e. name.bmp.exe)
4. Go back and read #1. Then go to your Anti-virus software and check the date it was last updated. If it is more than a week old, update it!

My Favorite Contact

Steve Waun, N8EN

My favorite—W4DRJ 10/23/96 15:50 7Mhz CW

I sent him a QSL about 4 months after the contact. He didn't have any cards, so he wrote me a letter. I am sure it will always be my most cherished contact. He became a SK a few years ago and his son took his call. The story goes on! Seems John's best friend is W4YDY (Yaky De Yak). I have talked to him on the radio. He is from Greenville N.C. and drives by my sons house every day. It goes on!!! I'm sure you remember Kenny Graff N8FF. He lives in Greenville about a 2 miles from my son. I visit Kenny every time I go down. Guess who takes Kenny to the club meetings? W4YDY !!

Dear OM,

Sorry abt the sloppy manner in which I have handled QSL crds over the past several years. I did have a very good QSO with you a while back. I can remember your sigs were very gud during the QSO on 40 meters 599 or thereabout... I can also remember working about a thousand guys in '35 and '36 without working a single W6 or W7. I also remember that I finally wrkd W6LAC in San Francisco probably in late '36. I showed that card all over town. HI. The cards I was sending in those days were what we called penny post cards. They were purchased from the U.S. Post Office and the penny stamp was printed on the card by the Govt. I am not grumbling abt the cost of stamps. Just looked at the back of the crd revd from U today. You have now spent at least 64 cents on crds to me. My first ham ticket was for an exam passed on July 5, 1935. I am now 84 years old, due to age and failing health I have had to discontinue hamming. XYL es I hve moved into a retirement home. My son n bwo sold my knwood 940 at the last Charlotte, N.C. hamfest. I guess this will have to count as my last QSL crd sent. I gave my 40 foot tower to a member of the local Cary, N.C. club and going in to the moving from Mt. Ary to Raleigh. Am having the horrors of developing diabetes and have had three episodes of congestive heart failure and the veins stripped from both legs, and being replaced with some kind of new pipes, they saved both legs and feet for me. I can now walk at a rather fast clip, and do not limp while walking. How did I get into this??

The space in our new apartment makes it necessary for my chest to be touching the typewriter kbd and that's no way to write.

I shall QRT now and not write nearly as much as I had planned. My daughter is WD4L and is to stop by here shortly and take me to visit my XYL who is just starting to recover frm an opn. What a dismal sounding letter....

I don't feel like the letter sounds.

I made a living at my hobby. Loved the work as much as I did Ham radio.

We destroyed abt a million cards the other day and learned at the Raleigh, N.C. hamfest yesterday that some club, probably the Kiwanis Club, is glad to get old QSL cards to use in some kind of project for youngsters..

73 es gl to u Steve

John M. Sherwood, Jr., W4DRJ

QUOTE OF THE DAY -

"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody."

- *Bill Cosby*

If you have an e-mail address and would like the Waveguide via e-mail, let Ken AB8PM (ab8pm@arri.net) know and it will happen. This can help save postage and printing for the club....And the pictures will look better!

DX MOVIES BY AC6V

Pileup On The Orient Express

Gone With The Wind -- A Yagi Story

DXpedition To Skull Island By K1NG/KØNG

Butch Cassidy And The Sundance Lid

First BLØOD

The Maltese Falklands

To Live and Let Diode -- ØØ73

CasaBlanker

Citizen Band

Key Largo

HamaLot -- The Old DXer is at it again

Silence Of The Hams - Starring Rachel Squelch

Gone With The Windom -- The Sequel

Nightmare On Elmer Street -- With JA1SON

VERTICAL!! Directed By Alfred Switchbox

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. =====

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.

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.

Field Day is coming!

Not many of us can look at a tethered balloon or high-flying kite and avoid thinking, "If only..." Well, Top-Band DX-er Bob G4VGO has a nice Web page on using kites and balloons to hold up wire antennas (<http://www.qsl.net/g4vgo>) with lots of detailed info on balloon and kite-supported wires. (Thanks, Steve VE6WZ). Chuck W1HIS also contributes the following tips:

- Use lightweight Litz wire supported by 100-lb. Test woven fishing line
- Wire losses should be kept below 25% of the radiation resistance
- Wind causes severe "tilts" -- stay away from power lines!
- 5/8-wave antennas give the best low-angle gain and keep counterpoise currents low
- DC ground the antenna at all times to avoid potentially lethal static charges

From *ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for April 09, 2003*

Sayings from past Field Days — "There's no meters like forty meters!" And "The only way to make Q's it to call CQ's!"
From *"the K8DD contest archive"*

May 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Portable in the Park on Wed. evenings—Pg. 6	1 ^{ARES Net} 442.750	2	3
4	5 ^{ARES Net} 146.62	6	7	8 ^{ARES Net} 442.750	9	10
11	12 ^{ARES Net} 146.62	13	14	15 ^{ARES Net} 442.750	16	17
18	19 ^{ARES Net} 146.62	20	21	22 ^{ARES Net} 442.750	23 ^{Operation Care}	24 ^{Operation Care}
25 ^{Operation Care} —>	26 ^{ARES Net} 146.62	27	28	29 ^{ARES Net} 442.750	30	31

Michigan ARPSC Newsletter—May 2003

Field Exercises

Between **May 1** and **October 1**, ARPSC organizations are encouraged to set up portable field stations on Wednesday evenings. The purpose of these drills is to encourage the development of efficient portable capability and have some fun in the process. Participation is open to ARPSC organizations, clubs, or individuals.

Consider these exercises an excellent excuse to take your new FT-817, K-2 or similar QRP radio to the field! It's also an excellent opportunity to enjoy a warm summer evening out-of-doors.

The schedule of activities is as follows:

6:30PM

* Arrival and set-up.

7:00PM

* Field Stations check-in to the MITN Net; 3952 kHz. NCS to give priority to portable stations.

7:30PM

* Field Stations to conduct local ARPSC net from field location and transmit two exercise NTS format messages from the field site.

* Simultaneous check-in to the QMN Training Net (operating at reduced speed for inexperienced operators): 3663 kHz

8:00PM

* Check into local packet nodes or BBS systems (QMN Packet Net and/or ??)

* Check into HF PACTOR gateways/BBS (QMN – W8IHX 7072.5 kHz or K8QMN 3636.0 kHz).

Remember, the idea is to have fun while obtaining some valuable field experience and communications training. Follow the event with coffee or a snack at a nearby restaurant.

If you would like some ideas for portable operation, check out the Kalamazoo LOSTeam. This group is out every Wednesday evening representing Kalamazoo County ARES/RACES and they do a fantastic job while having fun!

www.losteam.com

73!

James Wades

General Manager, Michigan Net, QMN, Inc.

Michigan State RACES Officer / Section Emergency Coordinator

The exert above from the May ARPSC Newsletter is a very novel idea to generate activity. And it is a great way to combine a "trip to the park" on a warm night with a cooler of Pepsi or on a cool night with a thermos of coffee (from Tim Horton's, of course!). It is very easy to setup a portable station on a picnic table on HF and one on VHF. And if there is a General class operator or higher, give a Tech a taste of what it's like to check into an HF net on SSB! There are plenty of hams around that can help with this if there is any interest—call on AB8PM, N8CFS, KC8PEZ or K8DD—there are several HF mobile and / or portable stations in the area. Most likely the promise of a coffee and a donut would get them to come out on a Wednesday evening to demonstrate their stuff. And it is really neat to see what QRP can do under less than optimum conditions.

How about some discussion on this for a club project at the May meeting?

Michigan ARPSC Newsletter—May 2003

Continued

Standardization and Teamwork:

The new homeland security environment is already revealing a wide variety of new agencies, which are seeking Amateur Radio capabilities. Most of these agencies operate at the State and Federal level and are therefore primarily interested in statewide and regional communications. For example, your SEC is currently working with the Michigan Department of Public Health to plan the construction of a second EOC in Lansing just to support this important agency.

If we are to serve such agencies effectively, we must recognize that a fairly significant message flow will move across jurisdictional boundaries both within Michigan, as well as within North America during a significant incident. Such message traffic will have to be standardized throughout the state and region.

Let's imagine, for a moment, an environment in which each county or local ARPSC program did "its own thing." One might experience

83 different message formats arriving at a key command center. Some might be date-time stamped in 24-hour local time while others use UTC. Yet more might arrive in EDT while others arrive in CDT (yes, we do have areas of Michigan in the Central Time Zone). Other messages may have the "From" and "To" lines reversed, whereas others may utilize a different group count!

It is obvious that the best choice for message traffic is the standard NTS format. It is utilized by ARPSC organizations throughout North America. It has a predictable methodology, which promotes accuracy and limits liability. It relies on a single, universal time (UTC).

Imagine your ARPSC organization establishing communications between local hospitals and the Michigan Department of Public Health. Would you be prepared to properly format message traffic for this important agency? Would the messages originated by your ARPSC group be consistent with those utilized by other counties communicating with the same agency?

Take a moment to apply the same scenario to any important State or Federal agency. Are you prepared for a major event?

(Continued from page 1) President

Operation CARE, Field Day and the swap are sure to keep us busy.

On April 20, we held our first SkyWarn Net of the season with nothing terribly severe to report. We extend our thanks to the 10 spotters who checked in.

Remember to have your batteries charged and be ready to check in to the nets during the storm season. Spotter verification is very important to our community and the National Weather Service in getting the proper warnings out.

Thank-you to all who support and participate in our many club functions.

"73" Ken

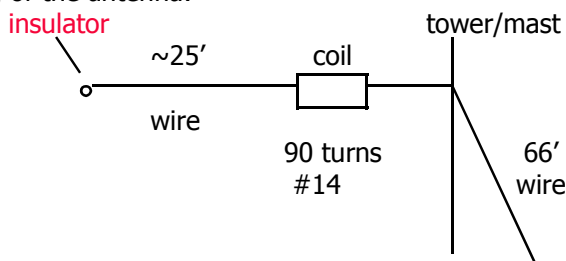
Antenna help

de K8DD

In the March Waveguide we published the NU8Z 160/80M inverted "L" antenna. This antenna was reported to me as working very well on 160M and 80M with only three radials. Looking at this antenna with some skepticism, I thought I would give it a try. And learned a few things!

1. You cannot buy 18 inches of 2" ID PVC pipe—10 ft lengths or nothing!
2. You end up with enough PVC to make about 6 coils.
3. Your arm gets real tired after you turn that piece of pipe 90 times.
4. The lengths given were real close using an MFJ 259B antenna analyzer.
5. Instead of using just string to tie off the end of the antenna you really should use a ceramic insulator—the string will catch on fire and burn very bright at night with only 2-300 watts on 160M.

A drawing of the antenna:



If anyone would like to make one of these antennas, I have enough left over 2" PVC to make a few more short inverted L's. And enough #14 wire on the spool for those coils and the two pieces of wire. If you would like to wind the coil (I'll watch and count the turns), get in touch with me. In the three weeks I had the antenna up, I worked 10 countries and 25 states, so it does work!

73 Hank K8DD

"ENHANCED SSB" BANDWIDTHS "EXTREMELY INCONSIDERATE," FCC SAYS

The FCC has sent advisory notices to four enthusiasts of what's become known as "enhanced SSB"—the practice of engineering transmitted single-sideband audio to approach broadcast quality. Letters went out earlier this month to amateurs in Illinois, Florida and New Jersey who are aficionados of enhanced SSB, also known as "upper wideband" and "lower wideband."

"The Commission has received numerous complaints regarding the operation of your station," FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth wrote Paul Christensen, W9AC, John Anning, NU9N, Anthony Latin, W4NSG, and Sareno Salerno, W2ONV, on April 3. Hollingsworth said complaints to the FCC alleged that the bandwidths of the stations' enhanced SSB emissions were "wider than necessary and contrary to good engineering practice."

"Wideband overly-processed audio, especially when coupled with the high intermodulation levels of certain amplifiers, results in the use of bandwidths extremely inconsiderate of other operators," Hollingsworth said. Such transmissions may violate FCC rules and may be at odds with what Hollingsworth described as "the expectation that the Amateur Service be largely self-regulated."

Occupying more bandwidth than necessary in a heavily used amateur band, Hollingsworth wrote, not only could generate ill will among operators but lead to petitions asking the FCC to establish bandwidth limits for amateur emissions. At present, the FCC imposes no specific bandwidth limits on various amateur modes.

Hollingsworth cited §97.307(a) of the Amateur Service rules that requires the signal of an amateur station not occupy "more bandwidth than necessary for the information rate and emission type being transmitted, in accordance with good amateur practice." Some amateurs have complained that enhanced SSB signals can take up 8 kHz or more of spectrum, cause splatter and unnecessarily interfere with other stations.

"The Amateur Service is not a substitute for the Broadcast Service," Hollingsworth said, "and the frequencies allocated to the Amateur Service were not allocated for a 'broadcast quality' audio emission or sound."

Hollingsworth suggested the enhanced SSBers operate when the bands are less busy or on bands that are not heavily used.

**FRIDAYS ALWAYS SEEM TO GET
IN THE WAY OF SATURDAYS!**

(written on a Friday, of course)



BEECHER 50TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

1953 BEECHER TORNADO

**National Weather Service -
Beecher Tornado
Committee**

**Richard Pollman
National Weather Service**

**Grace Ranger
Emergency Management
Genesee County**

**Mary Stikleather
Emergency Management
Lapeer County**

**Tim Shickles
Sloan Museum**

**John West
American Red Cross**

**Ed Ronders
The Flint Journal**

**Willard Hotchkiss
The Salvation Army**

**Jim Neering
Flushing, MI**

**Chief Daudre Williams
City of Flint Fire Dept.**

**Donald J. Krapohl
Mt. Morris Township, MI**

**Rachel Zagaroli
American Red Cross**

**Gayle L. Reed
Secretary-Treasurer
50th Anniversary
Committee**

As some of you may remember, amateur radio played a key role in the response/recover efforts of this Disastrous event 50 years ago. Our Committee is hoping for a strong commitment from the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association members to help with radio communications on the day of our Ceremony. I would ask each of you to look at your calendars and mark the date listed below if you are able to help us. In addition, there will be tables made available for you to display any items that you would like.

I thank you again for your day-to-day commitment and look forward to seeing you soon.

**When: Sunday, June 8, 2003
12:00 pm – 3:30 pm**

Where: Beecher High School, Flint

**Events: Wreath Laying
Commemoration Ceremony
Survivor Reunion
Displays
Program Book**

**More
Information: Gayle Reed at 810-785-2270**

Please join us to remember those who lost there lives.



In the STØRY DXpedition log:
N8EN 3/29/03 22:51 20M SSB QSO # 2582
K8DD 80, 40, 15 M CW
- Did not see any other locals in the log.

It has been a long **STØRY**... but after years of efforts and a lot of problems, we finally got the permission and license to operate in Sudan. On **March 20, 2003**, we brought Sudan, one of the most needed and top-ranking DXCC entities, on the air with the call sign **STØRY** (Sierra Tango Zero Radio Yankee). After some 48,000 QSOs, STØRY became **hiSTØRY** on **March 31, 2003**. We had three HF stations with amplifiers running, three quarter wave verticals for the low bands, a few Yagis for 10m to 20m, including the WARC bands plus some wire.

Several radio amateurs are underway with the American/British troops in Iraq at the moment. Mark,YI/NG5L, and Jim,YI/KT4CK, showed up on the bands already. Steve,KB0QHV, and Bob,9K2ZZ/K4CY, shall be there as well and it is most likely that more amateurs will join them soon. YI/KV4EB has been spotted on the DX Packetcluster.

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/>

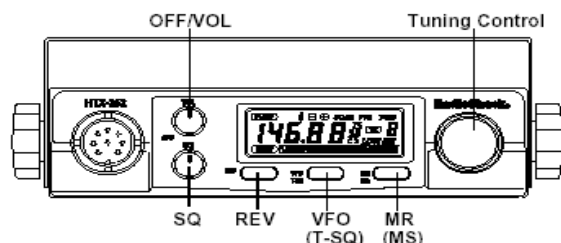


HillCraft Electronics 888-520-2002

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 DTMF
- 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

(Continued from page 1) ISS

we've discussed before, and second, to use that material to receive a 1200 baud packet signal to the ISS.

Among the list of needed equipment, we first included a 2m radio (either using one radio capable of a 190 kHz duplex split or two radios, one to transmit and one to receive). Second, an appropriate antenna system is essential. It is desirable to use either a horizontally (e.g., a dipole mounted parallel to the ground) or a circularly polarized (e.g., an "egg-beater" antenna) system. One proven winner is the turnstile antenna, which is just 2 horizontally polarized dipoles configured at 90 degrees to each other. If you're unfamiliar with these antenna systems, try checking out the ARRL Antenna Book or just bring up the question at a club meeting. Third, a terminal node controller or TNC is needed. A modern alternative to the TNC involves using a computer's soundcard to encode and to decode packet signals. Freeware for this application is available online, but soundcard-to-radio interface is needed. Some hams like to homebrew this interface themselves, while others prefer to buy commercially produced models. I find the TNC much easier to use. Fourth, a PC loaded with the most basic terminal program (I use HyperTerminal) will be more than adequate for a terminal. Fifth, satellite-tracking software using recent Keplerian elements is useful.

So, let's say that you've assembled a station that includes all of the gear listed above and you're eager to use the ISS digipeater or onboard BBS. The first step is to assemble the station: connect the radio to the TNC, connect the TNC to the computer, make sure the antenna system is correctly configured and connected, and observe the trajectory and

location of the ISS using the tracking software. The second step is to listen. By this, I mean activating the radio, setting it to receive on 145.800 MHz (don't worry about transmitting right now). Make sure that the TNC is correctly configured—deactivate any beacons or identification features since we're not interested in transmitting at this time. When the ISS flies overhead, you should be able to hear FM transmissions that sound something like a "BRAAAP-BRAAP." If your TNC is turned on and working properly, the following or a similar message should pop up on your computer's terminal program:

CQ>RS0ISS-1: BEACON: INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

If you receive a transmission like this, then you've successfully heard a transmission from the space station! If not, then make sure that your station is correctly setup—check cable connections and check the radio and TNC settings. Also, patience is essential! The station is not constantly over your location. Consult with your tracking software to determine its passes. Next month we'll take a look at transmitting signals to the station and hearing those signals digipeated back down to earth.

See Page 8. It's not too late. Talk to Ken AB8PM about going to Flint to help out with the Beecher Tornado Commemoration!

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

Antenna Scramble

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

BALANCED
BALUN
BASE
BEAM
BOOM
COAX
COLLINEAR
ELEMENTS
ERP
FEEDLINE
FIXED
GROUNDPLANE
INVERTEDL
LONGWIRE

MAST
MOBILE
NVIS
PORTABLE
QUAD
RADIALS
RADIATION
SCREWDRIVER
SHUNTFED
VBEAM
VERTICAL
WIRE
YAGI
ZEPP

A Good Pun is Its own Reword

A hangover is the wrath of grapes.



Steve, N8EN, found the perfect restaurant for lunch!

Go back to page 1. Read about Operation C.A.R.E. Then go to www.lapeer.com and sign up for a time slot or two, or contact Bill KB8SHI or any club officer. It's really fun out there "on the Hill" talking to the people who stop for coffee or orange drink.

Field Day is coming!

Not many of us can look at a tethered balloon or high-flying kite and avoid thinking, "If only..." Well, Top-Band DX-er Bob G4VGO has a nice Web page on using kites and balloons to hold up wire antennas (<http://www.qsl.net/g4vgo>) with lots of detailed info on balloon and kite-supported wires. (Thanks, Steve VE6WZ). Chuck W1HIS also contributes the following tips:

- Use lightweight Litz wire supported by 100-lb. Test woven fishing line
- Wire losses should be kept below 25% of the radiation resistance
- Wind causes severe "tilts" -- stay away from power lines!
- 5/8-wave antennas give the best low-angle gain and keep counterpoise currents low
- DC ground the antenna at all times to avoid potentially lethal static charges

From *ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for April 09, 2003*

(Continued from page 1)

Area at the 5 Lakes Rest Area off I-69 (just E. of Wilder Rd) during three major holidays of the Summer. Quite possibly our organization has prevented a number of traffic accidents by performing this valuable community service. Another "perk" of the program is that while we do not charge for refreshments, we generally receive donations which compose a significant amount of our club's annual income.

Volunteers are needed to man Op C.A.R.E. at Five Lakes Rest Area off I-69 during Memorial Day Weekend, 4th of July Weekend, and Labor Day Weekend. **The Memorial Day Weekend Op C.A.R.E. will begin May 23 at 4:00PM. We need volunteers during the 6AM to Midnight time periods this weekend.** Time slots are generally for 3hrs, but you can come for more or less time if you'd like.

We have a lot of fun out there "on the Hill," and our activities other than passing out refreshments have included a lot of talking, campfire songs minus the campfire, overwhelming traffic nets by having 12 hams from the Hill check in, helping stranded motorists, watching fireworks (you get an awesome view from the Hill on the 4th of July), picnicking and more...

By the way, if you work the 6AM shift with me, I bring the donuts provided I don't sleep in and miss the shift (Now I'd never do that, would I?). *[there is a story there! Ed.]* You can sign up ahead of time online at www.w8lap.com or by contacting Bill KC8SHI or another club officer. You can also sign up at the last minute by calling the hams manning Op C.A.R.E. during the holiday weekend. **Please sign-up for at least 1 time slot if you will be around this weekend!** If everybody helps, then no one will have to spend their entire weekend out there. The proceeds from this fundraiser are what keep our club's bills paid and our dues low. Thanks all, and see ya on the Hill!

73, Therese KC8PEZ

A
GREAT
Field
Day
Site!



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