

W8LAP

[www.w8lap.com](http://www.w8lap.com)



# LCARA Waveguide



April

Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2004

### Upcoming Swap & Shops

**Apr 17**—Milford Swap Contact: Rose Mary Moore, KC8NQJ 810-632-5174 <http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk> Milford, MI

**Apr 17**—Michigan QSO Party—This could be a great club event! See below.

**Apr 24**—Trunk Sale, Iosco Co. AR Enthusiasts Contact: Ray Knuth KB8ZYY 989-739-2896 <http://www.w8icc.org> Tawas City, MI

**May 1**—Wexaukee ARC Cadillac, MI

**May 14-16**—Dayton Hamvention [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) Rooms \$74/night—See K8DD before April 20, 2004 for more information.

### The Prez Sez

Josh Long, N8CFS

The big news in the ham radio world is that the FCC has called for the submission of comments regarding several petitions, including one on the part of the ARRL, to continue the licensing restructuring process. Take a few minutes to read about the petitions either on the ARRL website or in their full format on the FCC website. The four petitions which are up for comment include a variety of proposals, including the reduction in the morse code requirement for HF operating. Consider submitting observations or comments about the various proposals.

Please check on the discussion page of the club website [www.w8lap.com](http://www.w8lap.com) for a link to submit any

*The Prez Sez (Continued on page 3)*

### EMD Sez

Mary Stikeleather, PEM

A **big** thank you to the LCARA, especially those who volunteered March 25 to work the Spotter Class. We had 84 NEW SPOTTERS and 60 Re-Cert's. GREAT JOB!

ALSO: Just a note that the Abbottville Simulator is returning to Lapeer on April 23 and 24th it would be great to see some LCARA members there.

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

### 2004 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Attention Michigan Amateurs.

**This is really GREAT practice for the June Field Day! Can't get on HF, but have some cabability to get on HF? Invite a General or higher over for this event!**

Spring is here and it's time for the Michigan QSO Party. This is a great opportunity to get on the HF bands, have some fun, and represent the great State of Michigan. The organizers of this event would like to see as many Michigan stations on the air as possible. It is the activity of the Michigan stations that will make this event a success. This event, like other state QSO parties has seen an increase in activity in recent years. Last year, the number of MIQP logs submitted were up by 69% and the total qso count was up by 27%. The MIQP is getting bigger and better every year. With the continued support of those that have discovered the fun and the addition of some new blood, the MIQP will continue to grow. It is now considered one of the better qso parties in the coun-

*MI QSO Party (Continued on page 6)*

### Changes to the Club Constitution

Be sure to come to the next meeting to see the changes to the LCARA constitution and get your copy.

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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.

**'Never argue with an idiot. They drag you down to  
their level then beat you with experience.'** -anon

**Is It a Stroke?**

This was published in a monthly newsletter  
where a friend of mine lives and he sent it on. I  
had never heard this advice before and hadn't a  
clue. Perhaps you hadn't either and would like to  
file it away in the back of your head.

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult  
to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness  
spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain  
damage when people nearby fail to recognize  
the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say any  
bystander can recognize a stroke asking three  
simple questions:

- \* ask the individual to smile.
- \* ask him or her to raise both arms.
- \* ask the person to speak a simple sentence.

If he or she has trouble with any of these  
tasks, call 9-1-1 immediately and describe the  
symptoms to the dispatcher. After discovering  
that a group of nonmedical volunteers could  
identify facial weakness, arm weakness and  
speech problems, researchers urged the general  
public to learn the three questions. They pre-  
sented their conclusions at the American Stroke  
Association's annual meeting last February.  
Widespread use of this test could result in  
prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke  
and prevent brain damage." *Submitted by KD8VP*

**Contributors to this newsletter:**

Josh N8CFS      Bill KD8VP      Bill KC8SHI  
Jim KD8YX      AP1RIL/FØOL      Hank K8DD  
Barb Hartwig, N8NMU/9G5LP  
Sandy Mondro KG8HM

**Your name and call should be here!**

While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store



**RadioShack**  
AUTHORIZED RADIOSHACK DEALER

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

In place of the Missing Monthly Minutes, we have a guest editorial.

## Tes-La Charges Laptops Wirelessly

by Glenn Fleishman <glenn@tidbits.com

Building on the success of short-range induction charging, such as is used in the MobileWise wire-free electric power technology, Posicharge, Inc. has introduced the latest advance to wireless networking technology: the Tes-La passive energy charging system.

When a Wi-Fi hotspot adds Tes-La coils to their wireless gateways, your laptop pulls voltage from the air using a system similar to that which allows drivers to debit charge accounts as they zip through special toll gates.

<<http://www.mobilewise.com/>

<<http://www.tes-la.us/>

A laptop requires a special antenna-like adaptor that replaces the power adapter that comes with the machine. Although power can be transmitted over thousands of feet, its strength dissipates as you move away from the Tes-La coils. It's highly recommended that you wear a grounding strap or constantly touch metal while using the Tes-La system to avoid static discharge (Posicharge offers a pair of grounding straps designed to look like fashionable wrist apparel instead of cheap Velcro straps).

What's fascinating about Tes-La is that it's not a dumb system: it uses a power delivery protocol called TCP/EP, or TCP over Electrical Power. TCP/EP can be metered by measuring the outgoing amperage contained in each packet. A laptop negotiates its power needs through the protocol. For example, when you first connect the battery

*Editorial (Continued on page 7)*

*(Continued from page 1)The Prez Sez*

comments which you might have to the FCC. The odds are that licensing structure will change once again...and the band plans along with it. Have a say in the future of our hobby!

On a more local note, all of the proposed amendments to the club constitution have been adopted. At long last, the constitution project is finally over. Thanks for everyone for their patience through this process.

Check elsewhere in the Waveguide for information on the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test. Please make the effort to participate and help expose our local public safety agencies to the substantial contribution which amateur radio can make in times of emergencies.

For any DXers in the club, be aware that the DXpedition to Rodrigues Island is now in full operation. Listen for 3B9C on the air! The folks will be operating until April 15<sup>th</sup>. I've heard the DXpedition on 20m, but have yet to work them myself. 73 de N8CFS

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!

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.**

**For Sale:** Garmin GPS 45 GPS receiver. Operational, but could be cleaned. Includes a copy of the manual. \$45 or trade for Icom IC-02AT or similar HT

**For Sale:** MFJ-1278B multi-mode TNC. Includes manual, power adapter, and various cables. \$50 or trade for Icom IC-02AT or similar HT

Contact Josh, N8CFS 810-724-6790

## The Treas Sez

Bill Miller, KD8VP

The month of March has been rather uneventful in regards to the financial position of the club, some dues were received, but there were no major bills to pay. Our official membership now stands at 46 paid members.

Work on the antenna at the repeater site will now have to be tabled until the ground dries out since the man lift we plan to use would certainly tear up the school grounds. Boy if it isn't one thing it's another.

I encourage those that want to support the club and the repeater to forward their dues on the form that is included with this news letter.

Also if any one is collecting stamps I have the Ghana, West Africa stamp that came with N8NMU's dues payment. " Yes that means we are an international amateur radio organization." If anyone would like to have the stamp drop me an e-mail. Respectfully Bill kd8vp

This year at  
**Hamvention 2004**

**GRASS ROOTS POLITICAL ACTION FORUM**

There will be a forum at noon on Friday May 14<sup>th</sup>. of the Hamvention this year on grassroots political action.

The program will feature ARRL General Counsel and our man in DC Chris Imlay, W3KD, New England Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF and ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP as speakers. Great Lakes Division Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT will be the MC and Great Lakes Division Director Jim Weaver K8JE will offer the opening remarks.

This forum was called by your Division Leadership to bring attention to the importance of communicating with your legislators on amateur radio issues. They have gathered experts to answer your questions. President Haynie and General Counsel Imlay have spent more time lobbying in Washington than anyone in recent history and they have the knowledge to teach us how to get action.

This is a MUST SEE Forum and we would recommend that you ask your club members to attend and to kick of an effort within your clubs. No one will do this for us, we must act now to protect our spectrum and protect our ability to enjoy the Amateur Radio Service.

If you have not met President Haynie, or heard him speak, you have missed a real treat. Here's your opportunity to meet the people that work for you as a League Member. Plan to be there.

Submitted by Sandy Mondro, KG8HM, Affiliated Clubs Coordinator ARRL, Michigan Section



Support the ARRL's fight against BPL. If the opposition to BPL fails, this is how we may be communicating! Can we get a refund on the repeater antenna?

Opposing views are sought and will be published here.



LCARA 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.**

**This is your Newsletter!**

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).

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

**FULL SCALE MOCK DISASTER EXERCISE IS SET FOR  
SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2004  
DOWNTOWN CLIFFORD**

Please see the attached Work Plan.

If anyone from LCARA would like to attend any of these, we would love to have you.

\*\*\*\*\*

With a New Training Grant Awarded (\$90,900.00) to Lapeer County, you will see several trainings being offered, over the next year, to All our emergency response disciplines:

1. Emergency Response to Terrorism
2. Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings
3. Managing Civil Actions in Threat Incidents
4. WMD Radiological/Nuclear Awareness
5. WMD Crime Scene Management for Emergency Responders
6. CBRNE Defensive Operations
7. Unified Incident Command System

Watch for more details later this summer.

# April 2004

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 442.750 9 PM	2	3
4	5 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM	6	7	8 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM	9	10
11	12 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM	13 <b>LCARA Meeting</b>	14	15 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM	16	17 <b>MI QSO Party!!</b>
18	19 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM	20	21	22 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM	23	24
25 Swap Tawas City	26 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM	27	28	29 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM	30	



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

### SPECIAL Through May 31, 2004

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

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.

**Check with us for your wireless networking needs!**

**Spring is coming—get your batteries—buy two packs of similar batteries and get one free.**

*(Continued from page 1) MI QSO Party try.*

As you can see from the rules listed below, this is only a 12 hour event.. Please consider getting on the air for the whole thing, or any portion of the 12 hour period. You can operate from home, portable, or mobile. We again, with the support of mobile stations plan on having some activity in all 83 counties.

**How about making this a club event?** You can submit your individual or multi-op scores under the name of the club and maybe bring home the club plaque. Hey, why not challenge another local area club or other groups within your club? Are there others in your club that would consider a mini expedition for a portable operation in one of the Michigan counties with minimal activity?? Those of you that have been in the QSO Party, please help us get the word out and encourage other Michiganders to participate and join the fun. The name of the game is to have fun and make Michigan "Radio Active" on April 17th. Hope to hear you on the air!

**Date /Time:** Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, from 1600Z April 17th until 0400Z April 18th. Stations may operate the full 12 hours. (12 noon to 12 midnight local Michigan time on April 17)

**Modes and Categories:** Phone and CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. Single-op, multi-op, and mobile categories. Single-op entries are categorized by output power, QRP (5W or less), Low Power (100W or less), and High Power (greater than 100W)

**Multipliers:** Work stations once per band and mode.

### DX-Peditions all over the place!

It is a great time for working DX!  
R1FJ Franz Josef Island in the Artic Ocean  
3B9C Rodrugues Island in the Indian Ocean  
TJ3G Cameroon, on the African Continent  
T33 Banaba is coming in April



### Out of Africa

Barb Hartwig, N8NMU/9G5LP

Dear Bill and Club

Greetings from Ghana. Here we are well into the New Year already. I hear you're having a real old fashioned winter! And here I went swimming last Saturday - its the hot and dry season now. Thanks for club newsletter, dues enclosed. I'll be home June 2005 next. I keep real busy in the Bible & Health teaching here. And we're about to start some hand-dub wells - hopefully find water this time.

All for now. Barb N8NMU/9G5LP

Work other states and Michigan Stations.

Work portables and mobiles again as they change county, state or province.

**Exchange:** Exchange QSO number and location (county for MI stations, state/province or "DX" for others).

**Freqs:** Suggested frequencies: CW-3545, 7045, 14045, 21045, 28045; Phone-3850, 7225, 14250, 21300, 28450.

**Scoring:** One point per phone QSO, two points per CW QSO. Count multipliers once per mode. Multipliers are MI counties for all entries, plus states & provinces for MI entries only. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers.

**Log Submittal:** Mail logs no later than 30 days after the contest to:

Mad River Radio Club, c/o Dave Pruett, 2727 Harris Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 or via e-mail to logs@miqp.org

**More Information:** For complete rules, along with free logging software, log and summary sheets, see <http://www.miqp.org>

## Be RadioActive— Participate!



## SkyWarn 2004

Hi. I wish to thank all that attended and helped at the SKYWARN class. With 143 in attendance, there was 86 first time people from Center Line, Auburn Hills, Davisburg, Flint, Burton, Lake Orion, Davison and Lapeer County and 77 that renewed the Class. Since 1991 we have had 684 people trained in our SkyWarn classes. Good Job by the N.W.S. I hope all that attended the class enjoyed it and learned more about weather spotting.

A special THANKS to Mary Stikeleather for setting it all up and to Mike Zudan WD8JLW, Therese KC8PEZ, and Bill KC8SHI that helped.

73 Jim KD8YX

Left to Right Mike WD8JLW, Therese KC8PEZ, Mary Stikeleather PEM, Bill KC8SHI

Picture by KD8YX

*(Continued from page 3) Editorial*

is quick-charged to about 70 percent of capacity; then the amperage is throttled back to a slow trickle to top off the remaining capacity. Another advantage to this approach is area-wide power consumption: the system doles out power based on the number of users in the vicinity, averaging the outgoing power among multiple users.

<<http://www.tes-la.us/technology/>

However, the Tes-La system is not without its flaws. Sending power through the air has been a dream of the modern age since the 1920s, but the dangers associated with it can't be understated.

One of Posicharge's competitors, Noside Connections, alleges that if one were to place a dog in the direct path of a Tes-La transmitter, the animal would be fried in a matter of minutes (Noside assured us that the example is theoretical, and that no animals have been tested in this manner).

Posicharge, in response, notes that the Tes-La system is designed to step down its power when it senses interruptions, and that dogs are rarely found in the cafes and other public establishments in which Wi-Fi is traditionally offered.

Tes-La should be available in the United States once the FCC, FDA, FAA, USDA, NSA, DHS, and other governmental agencies provide their approval.

(Published on 04.01.2005)

## The Word Scramble

SkyWarn

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

ANVIL  
 ARES  
 CLOUD  
 DOWNDRAFT  
 EMERGENCY  
 EOC  
 HAIL  
 LIAISON  
 LIGHTNING  
 NETCONTROL  
 NWS  
 RAIN  
 SCUD  
 SHELF  
 SHELTER  
 SKYWARN  
 SPOTTER  
 STORM  
 THUNDER  
 TORNADO  
 UPDRAFT  
 WALL  
 WIND

**2004-2005 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