

W8LAP

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LCARA Waveguide



February Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2004

Upcoming Swap & Shops

Saturday, Feb. 7—St. Catherines, ON. Niagara Peninsula A.R.C. Amateur Radio Flea market

Sunday, Feb. 15—Livonia

Saturday, Feb 28 —Burlington, ON. BARC Spring Flea market VE3PRC 146.880-

Saturday, March 20—Brampton, ON. HAMEX 03, Peel & Mississauga ARC VE3PRC 146.880-

Sunday, Mar. 21—Toledo Toledo Mobile Radio Assoc. Hamfest and Computer Fair, Lucas Co. rec. Ctr., 2901 Key St., Maumee, OH. TI 147.27+; 442.85+

Saturday, April 17—Highland Milford A.R.C. Swap-n-Shop, Milford H.S., 2380 Milford Rd., Highland, MI. TI 145.59-(67hz p.l.); 146.55

*This month's Meeting is
Tuesday, February 10th—7:30 p.m.
At the Lapeer County Central
Dispatch Center (911) at 2332 W.
Genesee Street in the basement*

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ARRL PROPOSES RESTRUCTURING!

ARRL TO PROPOSE NEW ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE, CODE-FREE HF ACCESS

The ARRL will ask the FCC to create a new entry-level Amateur Radio license that would grant HF phone privileges without a Morse code test.

The League also will propose consolidating all current licensees into three classes, retaining the Element 1 Morse requirement--now 5 WPM--only for the highest class. The ARRL Board of Directors overwhelmingly approved the plan January 16 during its Annual Meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The proposals, put forth by the ARRL Executive Committee, were in response to changes made in Article 25 of the international Radio Regulations at World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03).

"Change in the Amateur Radio Service in the US, especially license requirements and even more so when Morse is involved, has always been emotional," said ARRL First Vice President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in presenting the Executive Committee's recommendations. "In fact, without a doubt, Morse is Amateur Radio's 'religious debate.'" Harrison said the League's proposal would provide "a true entry-level license with HF privileges" to promote growth in the Amateur Service.

The League says its proposal would continue a process of streamlining the amateur licensing structure that the FCC began more than five years ago but left unfinished in its Amateur Service license restructuring Report and Order (WT 98-143) that went into effect April 15, 2000.

A new entry-level license class--being called "Novice" for now--would require a 25-question written exam. It would offer limited HF CW/data and phone/image

(Continued on page 6)

**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 Bill, KC8SHI Bill, KD8VP

Your name and call should be here!

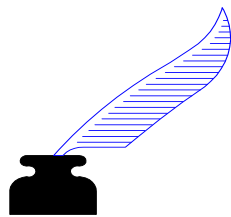
You do have something to contribute to your club, don't you?



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
Minutes
Lapeer County Central
Dispatch Center (911).**



The minutes were not available at "press time", they will be read at the meeting.

The Treas Sez

Bill Miller, KD8VP

Just a reminder to the readers of the newsletter that their 2004 club dues were due starting in October of 2003. The club has purchased a new Celwave four bay, commercial grade antenna for the repeater at a cost of \$1209.19, installation will be to follow as soon as weather will allow. Arrangements have been made to rent a 125 foot manlift, but it will not be available for about two more weeks. The most important consideration for use of this machine at it's outer most limit is that the wind be very calm, by the time the machine is available we will be towards the end of January and perhaps by then the wind will have calmed down. For those who are watching our costs like I do, we will have to pay \$600 per day rental and \$150 each way for pick up and delivery. If Jim and I do a very fast job and take less that two hours to finish the installation, we were told that we would get a break on the delivery and pick up charges.

We will keep everyone informed as to when we will be doing the work, I think that it will be a very interesting experience.

The VP Sez

Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI

As we progress into this New Year we need to look ahead to the future and see how we view the club 5, 10 or more years down the road. Do we even see a club in existence in the future?

If we do we need to do all we can as individuals to see that the club is still viable and functioning? One way would be for each of us to become self-proclaimed recruiters. If we look at our meetings we will see that the great majority of our membership is getting a little long in the tooth. We need to recruit fresh blood of the younger set to keep the club going into the near future and beyond. We also will need new blood to keep our activities as the Operation CARE going since more and more it is getting difficult to get a sufficient number of volunteer workers.

What I am saying is it is time to work to encourage a broader interest in amateur radio in our community and to get people who show interest licensed and active members of the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association. By doing this we will assure our continued existence and will have this entity around to serve the community for a long time to come.

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!

The Prez Sez

Josh Long, N8CFS

The January club meeting was very eventful. As chairman of the constitution revision committee, I presented the latest draft to the membership. After some discussion, the finalized revisions were made. If you have paid your dues for this fiscal year, you should be receiving a ballot to vote on the revisions through the mail. **Please note that you need only to return the ballot to the secretary should you wish to vote against some or all of the proposed revisions, per the motion passed at the January meeting.** All such ballots must be postmarked by March 1st and results will be publicized at the March meeting. Thank you to all for your patience during this project!

Thanks to Dave from the Imlay City Radio Shack for donating the 2 meter mini-HT! The radio was raffled off as a door prize and was won by a visitor, Mike Johns KC8UXQ, from Port Huron.

One of my favorite satellite stations is back on the air—the International Space Station packet station. According to www.ariss.net, the digipeater is back on the air regularly. Tune in a scanner or 2 meter rig to 145.800 MHz and listen for the bird as she flies overhead!

Mark your calendars for the annual Skywarn training session in March. Details will be given at the February meeting. Hope to see you there!

What does the acronym "LSPH" mean?

See page 7 for the answer.



CQ 160 CW Contest

Using an antenna that was written up right here in the Waveguide, K8DD operated in the Multi Op class with AC8W from Port Huron. The total was 695 QSO's in 27 countries and 47 states (missed Wyoming) and 7 Canadian Provinces. The radio used was an Elecraft K2/100 and an Ameritron AL-1200. The antenna is an Inverted L at 55', sloping slightly to the north east. Thirteen European, two Africans and the rest were in the Caribbean and South America.

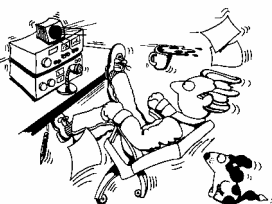
That weekend was also the VHF contest. Six meters was open quite a bit, along with two meters and seventy centimeters.

ARRL Int'l DX CW Contest

The next major contest is the third weekend this month—the ARRL International DX CW Contest. DX stations work only US and Canada. The exchange is a signal report and state for US and VE and DX gives a signal report and their power output.



K8DD Multi Op station on 160 CW



How the rest of the US, VE and DX stations heard us!

You had to be there!

Be RadioActive— Participate!

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).

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: 12 VOLT, 5 AMP POWER SUPPLY KITS (LESS CASE)...\$15.00 Proceeds benefit the Michigan QRP Club.

For Sale: Drake R-8 General Coverage Receiver, \$550 o.b.o. almost like new! contact AC8W 810 364 6674 or K8DD 810 721 0708

Your ad belongs here—For sale or Wanted! Lowest rates in the county—0 cents per word.

- Quote of the Day -

"I didn't know it was going to be a cultural icon. I did a lot of other things than CtrlAltDelete, but I'm famous for that one." - David Bradley, who came up with the computer world's most famous three-key combination. Bradley is retiring from IBM on Friday after 28-1/2 years with the company.

[now you know where the three-finger-salute came from! -Ed.]

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 the web at

<http://www.qsl.net/k8dd/waveguide/2004Waveguide>

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



SPECIAL Through Feb 29, 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.

Need a new HT (or a spare HT)?

Special:

HTX-400 70cm 200mW (int. batt.) 1W (ext. batt.) HT
\$129.00 (Limited Quantities)

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.

We now can order Diamond Antennas and accessories.

Check with us for your wireless networking needs and High Speed internet!

February 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 First day in February! | 2 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM | 3 | 4 | 5 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM | 10 LCARA Meeting 7:30 PM | 11 | 12 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM | 13 | 14 |
| 15 Livonia Swap & Shop | 16 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM | 17 | 18 | 19 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM | 20 | 21 ARRL DX CW Contest |
| 22 ARRL DX CW Contest | 23 ARES Net 146.62 9 PM | 24 | 25 | 26 ARES Net 442.750 9 PM | 27 | 28 Burlington ON Swap & Shop |
| 29 LEAP! | First day in March 2004! | | | | | |

(Continued from page 1)

privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters as well as VHF and UHF privileges on 6 and 2 meters and on 222-225 and 430-450 MHz. Power output would be restricted to 100 W on 80, 40, and 15 meters and to 50 W on 10 meters and up.

"The Board sought to achieve balance in giving new Novice licensees the opportunity to sample a wider range of Amateur Radio activity than is available to current Technicians while retaining a motivation to upgrade," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. The ARRL plan would grandfather current Novice licensees into the new entry-level class without further testing.

The middle group of licensees--Technician, Tech Plus (Technician with Element 1 credit) and General--would be merged into a new General license that also would not require a Morse examination. Current Technician and Tech Plus license holders automatically would gain current General class privileges without additional testing. The current Element 3 General examination would remain in place for new applicants.

The Board indicated that it saw no compelling reason to change the Amateur Extra class license requirements. The ARRL plan calls on the FCC to combine the current Advanced and Amateur Extra class licensees into Amateur Extra, because the technical level of the exams passed by these licensees is very similar. New applicants for Extra would have to pass a 5 WPM Morse code examination, and the written exam would stay the same. Sumner said the Board felt that the highest level of accomplishment should include basic Morse capability. Current Novice, Tech Plus and General licensees would receive lifetime 5 WPM Morse credit.

Among other advantages, Sumner said the plan would allow new Novices to participate in HF SSB emergency nets on 75 and 40 meters as well as on the top 100 kHz of 15 meters. The new license also could get another name, Sumner said. "We're trying to recapture the magic of the old Novice license, but in a manner that's appropriate for the 21st century."

The overall proposed ARRL license restructuring plan would more smoothly integrate HF spectrum privileges across the three license classes and would incorporate the "Novice refarming" plan the League put forth

nearly two years ago in a Petition for Rule Making (RM-10413). The FCC has not yet acted on the ARRL plan, which would alter current HF subbands.

The ARRL license restructuring design calls for no changes in privileges for Extra and General class licensees

on 160, 60, 30, 20, 17 or 12 meters. Novice licensees would have no access to those bands.

See "ARRL to Propose New Entry-Level License, Code-Free HF Access" on the ARRL Web site, <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/19/1/>>, for the specific subband allocations ARRL is proposing for each class.

The amateur community and other interested parties will have an opportunity to comment on the ARRL proposal once the League formally files a Petition for Rule Making and the FCC puts it on public notice.

Proposed Phone/Image HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)

80 Meters

Extra: 3.725-4.000 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
General: 3.800-4.000 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)
Novice: 3.900-4.000 MHz (new)

40 meters

Extra: 7.125-7.300 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
General: 7.175-7.300 MHz (gain of 50 kHz)
Novice: 7.200-7.300 MHz (new)

15 meters

Extra: 21.200-21.450 MHz (no change)
General: 21.275-21.450 MHz (gain of 25 kHz)
Novice: 21.350-21.450 MHz (new)

10 meters

Extra and General: 28.300-29.700 MHz (no change)
Novice: 28.300-28.500 MHz (no change)

Proposed CW/Data-Exclusive HF Subbands (Includes Novice Refarming Proposal)

80 meters

Extra: 3.500-3.725 MHz
General: 3.525-3.725 MHz
Novice: 3.550-3.700 MHz

40 meters

Extra: 7.000-7.125 MHz
General: 7.025-7.125 MHz
Novice: 7.050-7.125 MHz

15 meters

Extra: 21.000-21.200 MHz
General: 21.025-21.200 MHz
Novice: 21.050-21.200 MHz

10 meters

Extra/General: 28.000-28.300 MHz
Novice: 28.050-28.300 MHz

Here is your chance to voice your opinion to the ARRL Division Director Jim Weaver, K8QE k8qe@arrl.org. Let Jim know how you feel about this proposal—he is truly interested in what the ARRL members in the Great Lakes Division think. And he will even read what the non members write, too!!

And the Waveguide would like to know your feelings on this proposal. Write it up and send it to k8dd@arrl.net

Lapeer County

Office of Emergency Management

ATTENTION EVERYONE.....Please find attached some information

that I received yesterday in our Red Cross Board Meeting.

1. Blood Drives being held within Lapeer County - please note that we are in a Blood Emergency right now due to flu season, as well as the cold bitter weather.

2. I also attached a flyer on the Emergency Beacon we are promoting. ----->

And finally, there will be a flyer coming regarding a new program at Red Cross called Caregiver Training Program (for those of you who may be taking care of a parent or Grandparent. It sounds like a great program.

2004 Lapeer County Blood Drives

Call 1-800-GIVE LIFE

February 16 Almont Community Congregational Church
201 E. St. Clair 1 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

March 1 Lapeer Community Calvary Bible Church
923 S. Main 10 a.m. – 7:45 p.m.

March 9 North Branch Community American Legion
4075 Huron St. 12:30 p.m. – 6:15 p.m.

March 16 Imlay City Community St. Paul Lutheran
200 N. Cedar 2 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.

Red Cross offers emergency beacon light bulbs

Home safety product alerts *rescue personnel*

GENESEE & LAPEER COUNTIES – The American Red Cross is selling special light bulbs that can be used to signal for help. The Emergency Beacon light bulb is a new home safety product that can save precious seconds when help is needed.

Under normal circumstances, the Emergency Beacon works just like an ordinary 60-watt light bulb. However, in an emergency, residents can call 911 and let them know that their front light will be flashing. Then, they can activate the Emergency Beacon by simply turning the light switch off and on twice and the outdoor light instantly becomes a flashing signal for help.

The flashing light can help alert police, rescue personnel, neighbors and even passers-by to the emergency. To cancel the flashing light, simply turn the light switch off.

Emergency Beacon light bulbs can be purchased for \$15 at the American Red Cross Genesee-Lapeer Chapter, 1401 S. Grand Traverse in Flint. (Suggested retail price is 19.95.) For each Emergency Beacon purchased, 50 percent will go toward helping fire victims in our community.

When help is needed every second counts. Emergency Beacon light bulbs can help protect families and homes. Emergency Beacon light bulbs are for any home and especially those with seniors, children or people living alone. With an Emergency Beacon, it means that once a resident has called for help, he or she will not have to leave their home to go outside to signal the location.

For more information on purchasing an Emergency Beacon light bulb, call 810-257-0747.

The World Scramble

US Presidents

| | |
|------------|------------|
| ADAMS | JEFFERSON |
| ARTHUR | JOHNSON |
| BUCHANAN | KENNEDY |
| CARTER | LINCOLN |
| CLINTON | MADISON |
| EISENHOWER | MCKINLEY |
| FILLMORE | MONROE |
| FORD | NIXON |
| GARFIELD | REGAN |
| GRANT | ROOSEVELT |
| HARDING | TAFT |
| HARRISON | TAYLOR |
| HAYES | TRUMAN |
| HOOVER | TYLER |
| JACKSON | WASHINGTON |
| | WILSON |

LSPH = "Licensed Since Pearl Harbor"

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

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