

W8LAP

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



# LCARA Waveguide



July Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association 2004

## The Prez Sez

Josh Long, N8CFS

July 2004—the SET and Field Day 2004 are both things of the past. Although Lapeer ARES and RACES were not activated for this year's SET, I want to thank everyone who did stand by last month in case we were needed. It is this willingness on the part of the ARES and RACES membership that, coupled with training and preparation, will make it an asset to both the county emergency management team and to the county as a whole in the case of a real emergency.

At the July meeting I plan to discuss the possibility of an informal emergency drill for the club. This would be an excellent opportunity for everyone to test their station's capabilities and to practice their emergency communication skills. If anyone has suggestions for a possible scenario, please pass them on to myself or Jim KD8YX.

Are there any club members who are interested in kit-building, DXing, contesting, fox-hunting, or other aspects of the hobby? How about a contesting team that uses the club callsign? How about a group of club members that gets together to work on assembling a radio kits? If so, let's try to brainstorm at the July meeting and try to incorporate these into our club activities. Perhaps in the process we will be able to increase membership participation in the club.

Special thanks go out to Doug KC8ZCF and to Therese KC8PEZ for their proposals and efforts to revitalize the appearance and functionality of Operation Care. Once again, thanks to Frank K8MFK over in Port Huron for relaying Blue Water Bridge traffic information to the Operation Care crews. I will send Frank an official thank you letter on behalf of the club.

On a parting note, please recall that nominations for new officers will be held at the August meeting. Hope to see you there!

## The VP Sez

Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI

Aren't computers fun K8DD got his blown up by a lightning strike and is just getting it back on line. The ARRL's went bonkers and lost my designation as PIO and it took over two weeks of constant e-mailing back and forth to get it straightened out. So I can finally get an official badge that is ARRL approved.

I hope that everyone is into his or her summer activities safely. Remember the Operation Care goes on no matter what kind of weather, up to a certain limit naturally. We don't want anyone working it in a tornado. Also be doing all you can to get the word around about the swap. It will be here before you know it.

If anyone has any information, documents, pictures or whatever from the past regarding the LCARA please get them to me so I can put together an organized historical record. It would be greatly appreciated.

See you at the monthly meetings.

73

This Waveguide is a shorter than normal for a couple of reasons.

The first, and most important, is that we had a thunderstorm that took out the PC that held the Waveguide templates and back issues. The hard drive was fine and now resides in another PC, but it took some time to move it.

The second reason is the lack of input!

Actually the reasons should be reversed.

*This month's Meeting is  
Tuesday, July 12th—7:30 p.m.  
At the Lapeer County Central  
Dispatch Center (911) at 2332 W.*

## Upcoming Swap & Shops

July 10 — Straits Area ARC Petoskey, MI

<http://www.w8gqn.org>

August 7 — Iosco County AR Enthusiasts Tawas City, MI

<http://www.w8icc.org>

August 14—Cascades ARS Jackson, MI

<http://www.w8jxn.org/swap.htm>

**August 22—Lapeer County ARA  
Lapeer, MI**

<http://www.w8lap.com>

Sept 11—Grand Rapids ARA, Michigan ARA, & Lowell

ARC, Grand Rapids, MI <http://www.w8dc.org/swap.htm>

**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.

"Sometimes I think war is God's way of teaching us  
geography." - Paul Rodriguez  
The same could be said for Ham Radio.

**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.....\$12.00
- Sweat shirts, hooded.....\$30.00
- Sweat shirts, long sleeve without hood.....\$18.00
- Golf shirts, grey, yellow or white.....\$19.00
- Nylon jacket, windbreaker.....\$45.00
- Heavier poplin jacket, flannel lined, quilted.....\$83.00

For XXL add \$2.00 For XXXL add \$3.00

Add MI sales tax for all items.

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      Jim, KD8YX

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

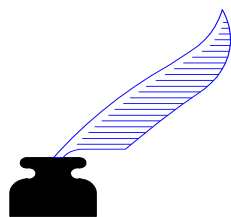
**While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store**



**RadioShack**  
AUTHORIZED RADIOSHACK DEALER

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

**LCARA Monthly Meeting  
Minutes  
Lapeer County Central  
Dispatch Center (911).**



No minutes were received for June

**A New Book—Ham Radio For Dummies**

Greetings,

You may be aware that my new book, "Ham Radio for Dummies" has been released by Wiley Press. It has been receiving good reviews, such as the one by Rick Tavan N6XI on page 62 of the July QST. Other reviews will be forthcoming in CQ and WorldRadio later this summer.

I wrote the book for new hams as a "Desktop Elmer" and for people interested in becoming hams. Even so, experienced hams will also find new items to pique their interest. There is a sample chapter at <http://www.dummies.com/WileyCDA/DummiesTitle/productCd-0764559877.html> as well as a substantial "bonus content" package on the technical details of operating and a large list of Web references. All can be downloaded without charge.

I would very much appreciate any mention of the book you could include in your club newsletter, mailing list, or Web site. A graphic of the book's cover is included that you may use in association with the coverage. The book is available both on-line and in bookstores at prices from \$15 to \$22.

Thanks for your interest!  
73, Ward Silver NOAX

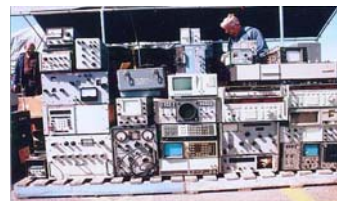
This space is where you could have submitted something. Tell us about:

- 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 stupid 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!**

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:** all items are in good working condition. Talk to me on the -62 repeater, or see me at WMPC (no phone calls, please)

Set of ham-sticks: 75, 40, 20,15, 10.....\$90

MFJ DSP audio filter.....\$110

MFJ pocket CW reader.....\$30

LDG AT-11 automatic antenna tuner.....\$110

Radio Shack frequency counter.....\$35

Radio Shack DSP audio filter.....\$30

Al Smiley K8NOV

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**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

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**For almost Free:** Several sections of aluminum tower that were cut apart—probably 50 ft total.

**For almost Free:** Big 8' C-band satellite dish, LNA thing, receiver, direction motors, spare board for receiver.

**For almost Free:** 1/2 inch CATV aluminum hard line, no jacket—couple hundred feet

**For almost Free:** 7/8 inch CATV aluminum hard line, no jacket—probably a couple hundred feet.

Looking to get a case of Pepsi for each!

Contact Hank, K8DD 810-721-0708

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**For Sale:** Cushcraft X7 Big Thunder tri-band beam with X-740 40 meter add on used but like new \$500 obo.

Two Cushcraft 13B2-13 element two meter beams with PD-2 Power Divider stacker kit \$250 obo.

Cushcraft A430-11S 11 element 440 MHz uhf beam like new \$50

TH-6-DXX tri-band beam needs tender loving care, but is salvageable, \$30 obo.

Four sections 10 foot long , unknown brand tower with rotor plate and bushing plate very good condition \$50 obo.

Seven sections 8 foot long, Heights aluminum amateur radio tower, has rotor and bushing plates, bottom section starts at 16 inches \$200 obo.

Contact Bill Miller kd8vp at kd8vp@juno.com or 810.797.5329

# The World Scramble

## Country Singers

Three of them are / were Amateur Radio operators.

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

- JOHN CASH
- RICKY SKAGGS
- HANK WILLIAMS
- GEORGE STRAIT
- CHET ATKINS
- RONNIE MILSAP
- PATTI LOVELESS
- DOC MONROE
- MARTINA MCBRIDE
- TOBY KEITH
- TIM MCGRAW
- FAITH HILL
- CLETUS
- LORETTA LYNN
- JODEE MESSINA
- TANYA TUCKER
- ALLISON KRAUSE
- VINCE MCGILL
- RICKY SHELTON
- GARTH BROOKS

# July 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	2	3
4	5 ARES Net 146.62	6	7	8 ARES Net 442.750	9	10
11	12 ARES Net 146.62	13 <b>LCARA Meeting</b>	14	15 ARES Net 442.750	16	17
18	19 ARES Net 146.62	20	21	22 ARES Net 442.750	23	24
25	26 ARES Net 146.62	27	28	29 ARES Net 442.750	30	31



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

### SPECIAL Through Jul 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.

**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!**

### ARRL FIELD DAY

Last weekend was the 2004 ARRL Field Day. Rumor has it that the LCARA Field Day was held at the park in Lapeer and made about 500 phone contacts and 150 PSK31 contacts. With one or two transmitters.



Your editor went with the group that I have been going with for the past 25 years over north of Port Huron at the Burtchville Township Park in North Lakeport. The park is on the shore of Lake Huron and has some great 70+ foot trees! The FD there was a 2A, two transmitters with a G5RV dipole at 65', a 3 element triband beam at 40' on a portable tower trailer and another G5RV dipole mounted on the tower. Five full time operators, 3 part time operators, 7 or 8 spectator hams who won't operate and about a dozen visitors from the local cabins and homes. The Field Day made about 1500 CW contacts and 100 phone contacts, drank a case of Coke, two dozen bottles of water, 4 or 5 pots of coffee, ate a couple dozen brats & Vienna hot dogs and three bags of assorted chips. And there was always the Tally Ho restaurant across the street and the Mobil station around the corner with the Krispy Kreme rack!

There were also other local Field Days by the Red Cross in at Goodells Park and the Flying Beers International in Emmett.

### 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).

### A Word of Thanks

Chuck Smiley from Lansing area (Williamston). I was with Mary the night you gave her plaque. Mary was very surprised but yet happy with your radio group having honored her as you did.

Mary again would like to say thanks to each of you for considering such a gift.

As for me it is always great to meet some new friends but with a plus of them being in radio. You just might get some strange radio questions from me.

Again thanks for making great friendships.  
Chuck Smiley



Mary Conley receiving the plaque of appreciation honoring her late husband from Vice President Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI

**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!**

**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