W8LAP

www.w8lap.com

LCARA Waveguide

March Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association **2005**

Upcoming Swap & Shops

Saturday, Mar. 19, Marshall Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society 8:00 am Marshall High School off old US 27, T.I. 146.66 and 146.52 Info www.qsl.net/w8df/hamfest.html

Sunday, Mar. 20, Toledo Toledo Mobile Radio Association Hamfest and Computer Fair 8:00 am Lucas County Recreation Center, 2901 Key Street, Maumee OH T.I. 147.27+ and 442,85+ Info www.tmrahamradio.org/hamfest.htm

Saturday, Apr. 16, Highland, Milford A.R.C. Swap-n-Shop 8:00 a.m. Milford H.S., 2380 Milford Rd. T.I. 145.49- (or 146.55 back-up) Info www.qsl.net/w8ydk

Saturday, June 18, Midland Midland A.R.C. 31st Annual Hamfest. 8:00 a.m. Gerstacker Fair Center, Midland County Fairgrounds. T.I. 147.000+ Info: www.qsl.nte/w8kea

Greetings and an invitation from SEMDXA

My name is Al Bailey, K8SIX, and I am President of SEMDXA. I am sending this email to you in hopes you can let your club members know that on March 11th our club, SEMDXA, is having a presentation put on by W3UR. Bernie Mc Clenny is the editor of Daily DX as well as publisher of the How's DX column in each months QST. Bernie will be putting on a presentation on his DXpedition to both AH3D as well as 4U1UN with his daughter.

I am sure some of your members would like to meet Bernie so I would like to take this time to invite you and your members to our March 11th meeting which is located at the Troy Elks club located about 2 miles East of I-75 on Big Beaver Road and the club is on the North side of Big Beaver. You need not be a member of SEMDXA or the Elks to attend. We start dinner at 5:30pm with the meeting starting at 7:30pm. You can go to www.semdxa.org for all the details and directions.

I am hoping to see some or all of you there. Till then 73 and DX.

de K8SIX, President SEMDXA

The March Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8th—7:30 p.m. At the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911) at 2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.

The Treas Sez

Bill Miller, KD8VP

Greeting to all the members and others receiving this news letter.

February has been a very expensive month for the LCARA. The electric bill is always high in the winter months, but February is the month that both the Club property insurance and the Liability insurance are due. Together they approach $250.00, so that was a pretty hard hit, but not unexpected. Several months ago the membership approved the purchase of a new battery charger for the backup battery in the repeater shack. Well it had not happened, and I discovered the old one amongst the stuff in the shack and took it upon myself to investigate. Seem after talking to the manufacturer that it was just under the two year warranty and they would replace it if we shipped it to them with a check for $15.95. It was done and the new one should be here any day. That was a savings of $75.00.

Other than that the expenditures were the normal things, the problem was we had only $9.50 income this month. Oh well that's the way it goes sometimes.

Keep in mind that Field Day is coming up June 25th and 26th, it's always the fourth full weekend in June. I would like to see everyone at least come out and visit at Rotary Park sometime during the event.

Best regards, Bill Miller KD8VP Treasurer



Are we safe? ……. ……. Page 6
Calendar ……..... Page 4
FCC Commissioner resigns Page 3
Field Day is coming …..…. Page 3
Hamvention Info ……..…. Page 5
Hamvention Rooms ...……. Page 6
Helpful Hints ……...….... Page 6
MI QSO Party …...……. Page 6
Morse Code NRPM ...…… Page 5
The Minutes ……...…. Page 2
WRTC2006 …… Page 4

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

Officers

President, Bob Erskine, W8RAE.....248-628-3401
Vice-Pres., Therese Long, KC8PEZ..810-724-6790
Secretary, Doug Donner, KC8ZCF...810-798-2237
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Appointees.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Call TrusteeW8LAP.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
Club Historian.....Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Skywarn Coordinator.....Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI
Swap & Shop Chairperson.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK
Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, K8DD
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 810-721-0708, 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.

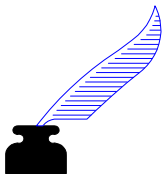
Contributors to this newsletter:
Bill KD8VP LCARC EMARC SEMDXA

Did you do anything?
Your name and call should be here!

Welcome New Members

Sheri, KD8AWV and Bob, KD8AVY

LCARA Monthly Meeting Minutes
Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911).
LCARA Monthly Meeting Minutes from February 08, 2005



The meeting opened at 7:40 P.M by Club President, Bob W8RAE with Pledge and introductions.
Guests: Andrew (Son of Chris, KC8TWL); Bob, KD8AVY; Sheri, KD8AWV
Upgrades and Advances: None
Hospital/SK Reports: Al, K8NOV has improved over the last few days; Ed W8NCJ had hip replacement surgery and is currently an arm chair ham.
Presidents Report (Given by Bob, W8RAE): No presentation tonight. Looking for suggestions for presentations
Vice Presidents Report (Given by Therese, KC8PEZ): Operation Care permit applications have been received. Website has been updated; Club members w/out personal information, 2005 swap registration information, Waveguide. Found one of the club's video tapes. The rest have been misplaced or lost.
Secretaries Report (Given by Doug Jr., KC8ZCF): Accepted with one exception brought up by Bill, KD8VP. He didn't recall giving a date for moving the tower out of Jim's yard – it has not been moved yet. Motion to accept: Bill, KD8VP; Seconded: Doug K8LSQ and Mike, KN8Z
Treasurer's Report (Given by Bill, KD8VP): Accepted as written. Motion to Accept: Herb, KB8LNE Seconded by: Lester, KB8LRE
Repeater Trustee Report: None

Minutes *(Continued on page 3)*

Board of Directors Meeting

The Directors' monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Tim Horton's at 7:30PM (Check on the W8LAP repeaters). **All club members are urged to attend.**

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.

(Continued from page 2) ***Minutes***

Emergency Coordinator Report (Given by Doug Jr., KC8ZCF): ARES files need to be updated. Pictures for RACES cards to be taken next month

Skywarn (Given by Bill, KC8SHI): This year's class is totally new, working on new cards

Old Business: Deanville Mtn update (Given by Mike KN8Z):

Information rcv'd from Ed, W8NCJ, didn't contain a site location.

Mike, KN8Z went to Deanville Mtn, but couldn't find the exact site from memory

It was deducted that Jim, KD8YX might be the only person who has the exact site location

New Business: Field Day: Rotary Park, things have been arranged with the city. Tents and campers are ok on site. A meeting will be set up to discuss final plans for operations.

Break: 8:10 to 8:30

New Business (con't): Bill, KD8VP will officially become Repeater/Club Call trustee. A motion was made by Bob, W8RAE to repurchase a set of ARRL videos for the club. Motion seconded by Bill, KC8SHI and passed unanimously.

50/50 won by: Bob, KD8AVY

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:00 PM. Motion made by Mike, KN8Z. Seconded by Chris, KC8TWL

Submitted By:
Doug Donner Jr., KC8ZCF
Secretary

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!

Field Day is coming! Field Day is coming!

By Bill Miller KD8VP

The Lapeer City Council has approved, once again, our use of Rotary Park for Field Day. It seems every year it gets more complicated to get them to allow us the privilege of using their park without having to pay some ridiculous insurance fee. Perhaps if they didn't change City Managers every year it would help.

Clear your calendars for the fourth weekend in June. I would hope that I could get more of you officials of the club to participate, thus maybe more members themselves.

Federal Communications Commission

FCC Chairman Michael Powell has announced his plan to resign effective in March. Powell was nominated by President Bill Clinton in 1997 and was made Chairman when George W. Bush became President, in 2001. K1ZZ, Dave Sumner, of the ARRL, calls Powell's performance "a deep disappointment," especially given his active promotion of BPL, "broadband over power line," which is widely believed by hams to be a radio spectrum polluter. Sumner says, "A new chairman might be a chance for a fresh start."

==========

The general consensus that your editor has heard various places would suggest that the Amateur community is not too "broken up" over this! Michael Powell was a "cheerleader" for BPL and, along with many of those in power in Washington DC, felt that the underlying regulations that were holding BPL back should be swept aside.

Of course, the next FCC Commissioner could be worse!

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

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

SPECIAL Through March 31, 2005

- 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 now can order Diamond Antennas and accessories.

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

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).

The Scramble

The site on the internet that I use for the scramble is down! "The word scramble is temporarily offline due to technical problems. (Someone seems to be blasting it with too much data; maybe a web spider) "

Be RadioActive—Participate!

WRTC2006 TO BE HELD IN BRAZIL



The World Radiosport Team Championship Sanctioning Committee, LABRE, Liga de Amadores de Radio Emiss, and the GADX Araucaria DX Group are pleased to announce the next World Radio Team Championship competition to he held in 2006 in Brazil.

Following in the footsteps of previous WRTC competitions held in Seattle, San Francisco, Slovenia, and Finland, the WRTC showcases Amateur radio competition at the highest level. The competitors are among the best operators in the world in this ham radio Olympic-type event

The previous WRTC competitions have demonstrated the high degree of friendship in ham radio activity, together with an enormous sense of ethical competitiveness. The competition will be held in Florianopolis, capital of the Santa Catarina State in Southern Brazil from July 7th-10th, 2006. This event is open to everyone - competitor and spectator alike. Everyone is invited to attend the WRTC 2006.

Atilano de Oms, PY5EG, WRTC 2006 Steering committee

March 2005

"Morse Code — One of the romance languages."
Mike, N9BOR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	4	5 ARRL DX SSB Contest
6 ARRL DX SSB Contest	7 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	8 LCARA Meeting	9	10 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	11	12
13	14 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	15	16	17 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	18	19 T & C McDonalds on M24 9 AM
20 Russian DX Contest	21 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	22	23	24 Sky Warn Training	25	26
27	28 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	29	30	31 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM		

Ah, Spring...must be time for DAYTON!

ARRL EXPO 2005 TO HIGHLIGHT LEAGUE'S NATIONAL CONVENTION IN DAYTON

If you've never been to Dayton Hamvention, then this is the year. That's because Hamvention will host the 2005 ARRL National Convention May 20-22. A special feature of the event will be "ARRL Expo 2005," a separate area at Hara Arena that will highlight what the League means to Amateur Radio.

"ARRL Expo 2005 will be a special feature of the Convention," says ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, who's helping to coordinate the event. "ARRL Expo will showcase ARRL membership benefits and services as well as the activities of ARRL volunteers. Visitors will be able to meet ARRL volunteers and staff knowledgeable on a wide variety of topics, and, of course, have their cards checked for operating awards."

Hamvention has donated a separate section of floor space for ARRL Expo 2005. The large area is convenient to the flea market and indoor exhibit areas--and it's just a short walk from the Ballerina entrance to Hara Arena.
While the Expo area will complement the traditional ARRL concession in North Hall, it will operate independently.

ARRL Expo will offer the opportunity to meet and greet ARRL staff members and volunteers--including representatives of DXCC, the Amateur Radio Emergency Service and other ARRL entities and programs that span the wide variety of interests that comprise Amateur Radio.

The National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE) will be attending Hamvention as guests of the ARRL National Convention. ARRL and NARTE have a memorandum of understanding to support mutually beneficial programs and activities. NARTE representatives will be on hand at the ARRL exhibit and will provide FCC General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) examinations to interested applicants. The testing fee, not included in the Hamvention admission price, is $40. Register or get more information from
the NARTE Web site or by calling NARTE toll-free at 800-89-NARTE (800-896-2783).

Inderbitzen notes that ARRL Expo 2005 will be the place to pick up a free "ARRL Passport" to get a 2005 ARRL

National Convention keepsake when making qualifying purchases from participating retailers at Hamvention.

The ARRL ad hoc National Convention Committee has been meeting since last July to help make Dayton Hamvention 2005 a memorable ARRL National Convention. New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, chairs the committee. Members are ARRL Great Lakes Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, Dakota Division Director Jay Bellows, K0QB, Midwest Division Director Wade Walstrom, W0EJ, and ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV.

The theme of Dayton Hamvention 2005 is "Bringing hams together from around the world." Upward of 25,000 visitors from the US and elsewhere on the globe make the annual pilgrimage to Hamvention, where socializing is a big part of the fun.

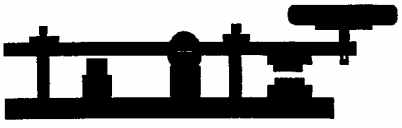
In addition to the popular indoor and outdoor exhibits and vendors, Dayton Hamvention 2005 will feature a full slate of forums and other activities. As they say, "If you can't find it at Dayton, you'll never find it." It's not too soon to purchase tickets for Dayton Hamvention 2005. Early birds can save $5 by getting their tickets online at the Hamvention Web site . Hamvention has eliminated the on-line handling charge.

Check the ARRL National Convention at Dayton Hamvention Web page for information updates.

FCC Still Working on Morse NPRM

March 1, 2005 —- Today the ARRL released on their website the following news about the Morse code requirements for US hams:

The FCC continues to work toward developing a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) that will spell out what the Commission has in mind with respect to possible changes in the current Morse code requirement and Amateur Radio licensing. A total of 18 petitions have been filed, including one from the ARRL, seeking Part 97 rule changes addressing the future of the 5 WPM Morse requirement (Element 1) and revisions to the overall Amateur Radio licensing structure. The FCC plans to tackle all 18 in a single proceeding. As far as the code issue is concerned, petitions--and comments in response to them--run the gamut from retaining or even beefing up the Morse requirement to eliminating it altogether. (The ARRL's proposal would retain the 5 WPM Morse examination for Amateur Extra class applicants only.) The League and others have also put forth proposals for a new entry-level Amateur Radio license class. At this point, personnel in the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau are cont!
inuing to review the thousands of comments filed on the 18 petitions. While the FCC appears unlikely to release an NPRM any sooner than mid-year, the issue still may be a major discussion topic at the FCC Forum at Dayton Hamvention, May 20-22. Once public, the NPRM would initiate another round of comments on what the FCC has proposed. It could be late 2006 or even into 2007 before the FCC releases a Report and Order to implement any new rules, although it's possible the Commission could wrap up the proceeding before that time frame



2005 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Attention Michigan Amateurs. It's that time of year again! Time to start talking about the 2005 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 make this event a success.

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 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 your 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 Michigan hams to participate and join the fun. The name of the game is to have fun and make Michigan "Radio Active" on April 16th. Hope to hear you on the air!

Date /Time: Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, from 1600Z April 16th until 0400Z April 17th. Stations may operate the full 12 hours. (12 noon to 12 midnight local Michigan time on April 16)

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. Work other states and Michigan Stations. MI to MI QSO's are allowed. 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).

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.

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

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

73 es cu April 16th 2005... Mark NU8Z

Helpful Hints...

Ed KA7UKN reminds us of a great way to demagnetize tools or other small metal parts. "I had a screwdriver that was magnetized and it was driving me crazy (no pun intended). I grabbed my trusty Weller 250-watt gun, pressed the trigger and passed the screwdriver through the loop formed by the tip. In a second or two I had the desired results. It was so fast and so effective that I purposely magnetized the tool over again with the strongest bar magnet that I have. A few passes between the loop formed by the solder gun's tip degaussed the tool. Where has this been all of my life?"

An innocent question about the temporary waterproofing of coax connectors unleashed a torrent, so to speak, of ideas on the TowerTalk reflector (http://www.contesting.com). Here are some of the better ones:

- Sections of bicycle tire inner tubes
- Fingers cut from rubber gloves
- Plumber's putty, Silly Putty(R), and duct sealing compounds
- The ubiquitous CoaxSeal(R)
- Long, thin balloons
- CushCraft's PL-259 boots, available direct
- Plastic soda bottles

Contributors were too numerous to credit individually - thanks, one and all. *Tnx ARRL Contest Rate Sheet, 2-23-05*

Dayton Rooms

Going to Dayton Hamvention?

QRP-ARCI / FISTS has a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn/Homewood Suites in Fairborne, OH. Contact K8DD if you need a room for 2+ nights.

"It Seems to Us . . ."
Death by a Thousand Cuts

By David Sumner, K1ZZ
ARRL Chief Executive Officer

Editor's note: Typically, only ARRL members get to read the "It Seems to Us ..." editorials that run each month in QST. We're posting this editorial that appears in the March, 2005 issue of QST in the hope that both ARRL members and nonmembers might appreciate it and find it informative.

Threats to radio amateurs' access to the radio spectrum come in several forms.

We can lose allocations, either at the international or the domestic level. The ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) devote a lot of resources to the protection and expansion of our international allocations through the International Telecommunication Union and regional telecommunications organizations. In its Washington-area Technical Relations Office the ARRL has four full-time staff pursuing the same objectives at the national level. Through the efforts of the ARRL and the IARU, outright losses are rare; gains are more common.

New sharing arrangements can be imposed on us that reduce the utility of our bands. The bands between 420 MHz and 24 GHz are especially vulnerable because our allocations are on a secondary basis, meaning that at least one and sometimes more services have primary allocations and therefore can claim priority over us. Historically, the biggest user of these shared bands has been the military. Their systems must be resistant to interference anyway, so we have been able to coexist pretty well. However, as new uses for this highly desirable part of the spectrum are developed, even the Pentagon has to accede to commercial pressures for reallocation--and commercial sharing partners may be much more difficult for us to live with.

The most insidious threat comes not from new allocations to licensed services, but from the proliferation of unlicensed radio frequency (RF) devices. We have always had to cope with some interference from incidental radiators, such as electric motors, that are not intentionally designed to generate RF energy but do so in the normal course of operation. Other kinds of devices intentionally generate RF energy, but the radiation of the energy is unintentional; radio and television receivers, computers, and power line carrier systems fall into this category. Still others intentionally radiate, but at levels low enough that the FCC does not regard them as significant interference sources (an issue on which we find ourselves in frequent disagreement). Finally, there are unlicensed personal communications devices that are confined to specific frequency bands and are subject to technical regulations designed to limit their interference potential to licensed services as well as to one another.

The public benefits greatly from many kinds of unlicensed devices. The garage door opener is a good example of an appropriate use for an unlicensed, intentional radiator. Commanding the door to open requires just a brief burst of RF, and commands are sent so infrequently that any resulting interference is insignificant. Few people who have garage door openers would want to give them up.

With careful selection of appropriate frequency bands and appropriate technical constraints, the public can benefit from further expansion of intentional radiators and personal communications devices. But the caveat is important. Some of these devices have high duty cycles, occupy large bandwidths, and operate at power levels that are sufficient to make them significant interference sources. While it is not fully utilized everywhere, all the time, the radio spectrum is fully allocated. Unlicensed RF devices are frequently incompatible with incumbent services and users.

"Don't worry. You're protected. Just look at the rules."

On paper, licensed services always have priority. Operators of unlicensed devices have no rights. The devices themselves may only operate if no harmful interference is caused, and they must accept any interference that may be caused by the operation of an authorized radio station. When we licensees raise concerns about the proliferation of unlicensed devices we are told, "Don't worry. You're protected. Just look at the rules."

But reality is different. Enforcement action is rarely taken to protect licensed services. For more than six months the ARRL has been calling to the FCC's attention ongoing harmful interference caused by Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. The FCC has yet to pay more than lip service to its obligation to enforce its own "no harmful interference" regulation.

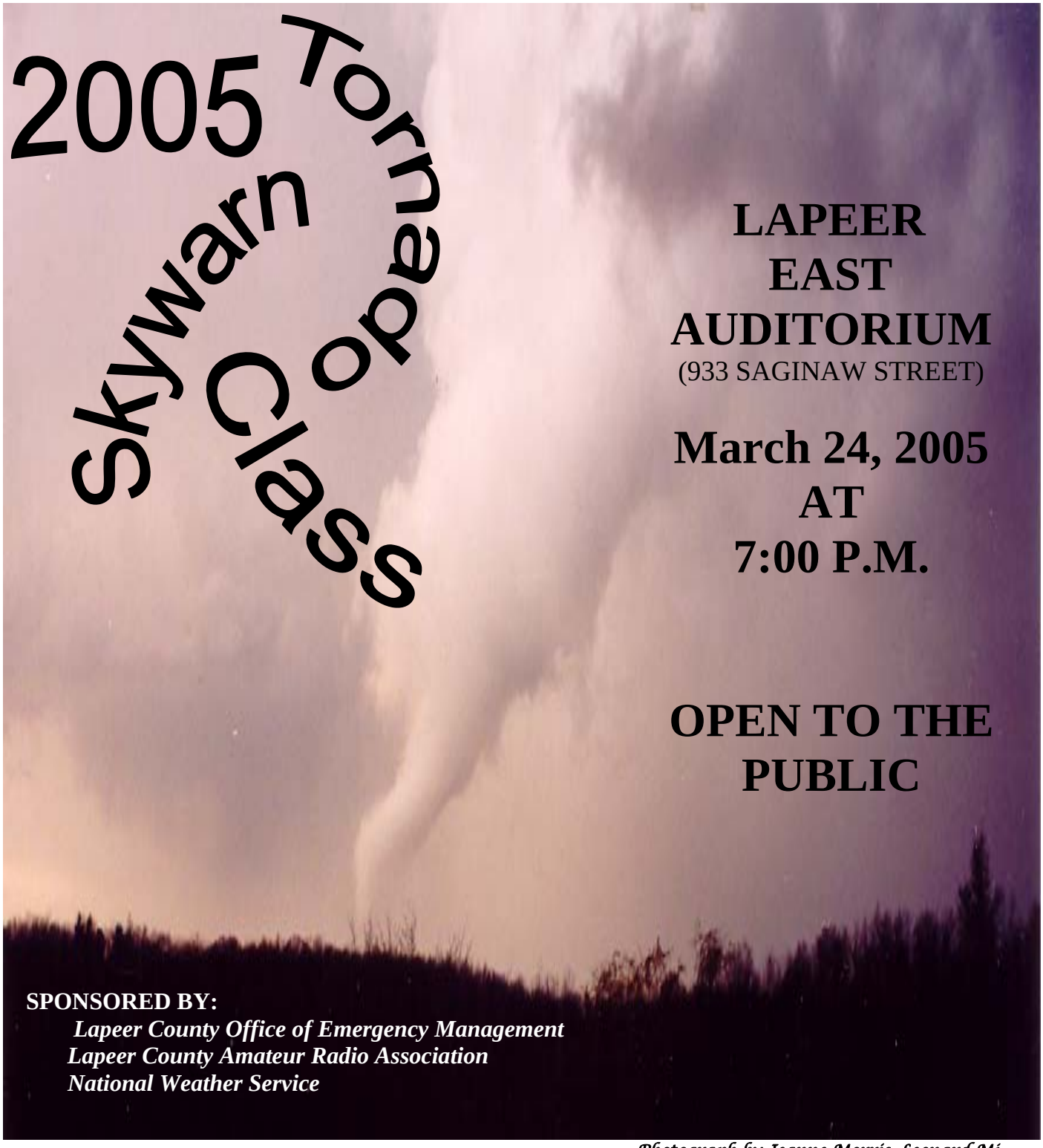
Or take the benign garage door opener, for example. For reasons that must have sounded good at the time, manufacturers decided to use frequencies in a military band. When the military began using a new communications system, garage doors stopped opening. On paper, that isn't the military's problem. But it is at minimum both a public relations headache and a distraction.

For years, the ARRL has fought a persistent and often lonely battle against the FCC's excessively permissive approach to unlicensed devices. We do so because the cumulative effect of an uncontrolled proliferation of unlicensed devices is to inflict "death by a thousand cuts" on licensed radio services. Every unlicensed emission in a band used by a licensed service diminishes the capability and the value of that service, sometimes at the risk of public safety. Every consumer device that is prone to interference is a potential neighbor-relations nightmare.

BPL is the extreme example. It is not a spectrum user because it is not an intentional radiator. To the extent that it radiates, it is purely and simply a spectrum polluter. And it will radiate, and therefore pollute, because power lines are an inappropriate medium for a high-frequency RF signal.

In the words of one unusually forthcoming BPL engineer, "This would be a lot easier if we could repeal the laws of physics."

Something to think about, isn't it ..... Or "it won't happen here", will it?
BPL is coming to a town near you in the near future — Consumers Power in Grand Ledge, Michigan, USA.



Photograph by Jeanne Morris, Leonard Mi

OTHER LOCAL WORKSHOPS BEING OFFERED:

March 16, 2005 North Branch High School 7:00pm

(Spotter cards will not be issued at this event.

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.CA.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. Financing available.

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