

W8LAP

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# LCARA Waveguide



April

Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2005

## Upcoming Swap & Shops

**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](http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk)

**Saturday, May 7, Cadillac** Wixaukee ARC Swap, 8:00 a.m. Cadillac Jr. H.S. Adm: \$5.00 T.I. 146.980 Info: [bandb@netonecom.net](mailto:bandb@netonecom.net)

**Fri, Sat, Sun May 20-22, Hamvention** Dayton, Ohio [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)

**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.net/w8kea](http://www.qsl.net/w8kea)

### The Prez Sez

Bob Erskine, W8RAE

Hope those in attendance at the meeting enjoyed the DX video as much as I did. Hope we can have that sort of diversion more often. It was brought to my attention that some of the general public would probably become a licensed amateur if we had a short class. I know that this sort of thing is usually a winter activity, but it sounds do-able ...Or perhaps we have some Elmers lurking in the background out there ..Give it some thought and let me know what you think. Sky Warn program is past us and I thought went quite well. New program and fast paced. Time seemed to go quickly. Same for Easter but we still have lots of snow at my place. I guess the next big event is in a week. Set your clocks ahead .. Hope to see everyone on the 12th. 73 Bob W8RAE

### Local Volunteer Exam Changes in Lapeer

The volunteers will be available to administer the tests on a pre-registration basis only.

Contact Al Wilson, N8NPR at 810-631-4957 no later than 9 P.M. Wednesday before the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of any month containing five Saturdays, and have your name, address, and phone number added to the testing list.

The testing will continue to be conducted on a Saturday morning, and as always is conducted on the fifth

*VE Testing(Continued on page 4)*

*The April Meeting will be held on  
Tuesday, April 12—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

Greetings to one and all.

March came in like a lion so that means the weather is typically Michigan weather and nothing else. Now mud season will start and it probably is just as good as winter for putting up antennas.

March was mostly uneventful financially. We did have expense for flowers in the passing of K8NOV Al Smiley, our condolences go out to the family, and the 2005 swap flyers have been purchased.

A new battery charger, for the repeater back up battery, was negotiated from the manufacturer under warranty, for the return price of \$15.95 plus shipping, versus \$90.00 outright, but I still haven't received the new one as of yet. I hope it comes soon as the battery hasn't been charged in a long time. It still registers plus 12 volts though.

Keep in mind that May starts our coverage of Operation Care, June is the month for Field Day, the beginning of July is more Operation Care, and August is the month for the Swap and Shop, followed by the Fall Operation Care. Except for Field Day, these are major fund raisers for our club and your participation would be much appreciated in all of them.

Thank you and 73 Bill Miller KD8VP Treasurer



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**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?**

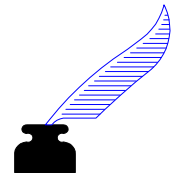
**Your name and call should be here!**

**Welcome New Members**

**LCARA Monthly Meeting  
Minutes**

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

LCARA Monthly Meeting Minutes from  
March 08, 2005



The meeting opened at 7:31 P.M by Club President, Bob  
W8RAE with Pledge and introductions.

**Guests:** None

**Upgrades and Advances:** None

**Hospital/SK Reports:** None

**Presidents Report** (Given by Bob, W8RAE): Please take  
swap flyers to the different meets, Robert (NE8R) found  
an alternate receiver site that already has power and a  
tower. If this comes thru, the 2 towers the club has  
would not be needed. Looking for Operation Care  
Chairperson. Is there any interest in forming a Swap  
Committee?

**Vice Presidents Report** (Given by Therese, KC8PEZ):  
None

**Secretaries Report** (Given by Doug Jr., KC8ZCF): A  
couple of mistakes were pointed out with call signs.  
Herb's call sign should have read KB8NLE and Lester's  
should have read KB8LAE Motion to accept with changes  
made by Tom, KG0ZN. 2<sup>nd</sup> by John, KJ8S

**Treasurer's Report** (Given by Bill, KD8VP): Accepted as  
written. Motion to accept by Dave, KD8DLW. 2<sup>nd</sup> by  
Herb, KB8NLE

*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*

**Repeater Trustee Report** (Given by Bill, KD8VP): The battery charger has been sent back to Deltran for replacement. It's being replaced under warranty.

**Old Business:** Tower Update; proposed site found in Northbranch. There is already a tower and power in place. Robert, NE8R wasn't present to give any details. If this site is used, towers the club has won't be needed. They could possibly be sold of to another club that needed them for cheap. Bill, KD8VP spoke to the owner of Jim's old house (where 1 tower is presently located) and was told there was no problem with leaving the tower where it is for now. Bob, W8RAE out a call for an Operation: Care Chairperson. Bill, KD8VP will arrange a meeting for anyone interested in helping with the swap.

**New Business:** Steve, N8EN proposed the club purchase software (i.e. Code Quick) for members to use to learn code. Hank will try to get a bunch of copies of the FIST cd for the club.

**Break:** 8:00 to 8:10

**Emergency Coordinator Report** (Given by Doug Jr., KC8ZCF):

- Michigan's SEC/SRO, has stepped down due to health concerns. His replacement is Marty, N8MG.

**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.

- Weather Radio distribution is set for Saturday 3/12; 12:00 to 3:00 PM and Tuesday 3/15; 7:00 to 8:45 PM at the Library in Lapeer and the evening of Skywarn training at Lapeer East High School

- National Weather Service is looking for people to act as Net Control for weather events. A training session is in the works. Also a good thing for people communicating with the NWS.

We are looking for Net Control Operator's for Monday night nets.

**Skywarn Report:** (Given by Bill, KC8SHI): His daughter won't have new cards done on time. Proposed a 2 sided business card at the price of \$120.00 per 1000 cards. Still an open issue.

**Tonight's Presentation:** Hank, K8DD brought in a video about a DXpedition from Rodriguez Island.

**50/50 won by:** Hank, K8DD

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:05 PM

Submitted By:

Doug Donner Jr., KC8ZCF  
Secretary



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

### **SPECIAL Through April 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!

### **Volunteer Examinations**

The following are the 2005 dates scheduled for the Port Huron Volunteer Exam Team walk-in sessions at **9:00 AM** in the Gilbert-Wilcox Meeting room, 2nd floor, St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorran Blvd., Port Huron, MI 48060 **Apr 9**, Jun 11, Aug 13, Oct 8, and Dec 10, 2005. Call Bob Herbert K8WMW 810-982-1561 if any questions.

## 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!

*(Continued from page 1) VE Testing*

Saturday of any month that has FIVE Saturdays. The tests will start promptly at 9 A.M.; consequently persons wanting to test should be seated no later than 8 A.M. The tests are currently being conducted at the Lapeer 911 Center, 2332 W. Genesee St. Lapeer, MI.

Items required: A picture I.D., any CSCE with a copy, any original licenses with a copy, \$14.00 correct cash or check, (This fee is subject to change dependent on current ARRL schedules) a non programmable calculator if you wish, #2 pencils, and a ball point pen.

The change in the testing program were made in part, due to the VE team assembling at their own cost, only to have no one show up to be tested. Some VE's drive considerable distance to help test and as the name implies, they are volunteers. The ARRL provide all the test material and receive all of the testing monies.

Please keep in mind we try to keep talking as low as possible so everyone can keep there mind on taking the test, you may if you wish leave the test room after you have turned in your test. Please do not leave the testing site until you have received your new CSCE, and it has been signed by you, the VE team members, and has been dated.

Thank you very much. Al Wilson N8NPR

"Let Your Fingers do the Talking — Morse code"

Mike, N9BOR

# April 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	5 Board meet- ing—Tim Hor- tons . 7:30PM	6	7 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	8	9
10	11 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	12 <b>LCARA Meeting</b>	13	14 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	15	16 <b>MI QSO Party</b>
17	18 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	19	20	21 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	22	23
24	25 ARES Net 146.62 9:30PM	26	27	28 ARES Net 442.750 9:30PM	29	30

## Dear Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association~

Thanks to Doug Donner's coordination, and the help of some very patient individuals (who can now add to their resume' - "Professional NOAA Radio Programmers!! LOL) some members of the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association (as well as some others that I dragged out for the night) donated their time on the evening of February 22nd to help pre-program over 100 NOAA radios. These radios were purchased with Homeland Defense Grant money and earmarked for licensed Day Care Centers (and possibly schools, senior centers, hospital that may need them) within Lapeer County. This has been a personal goal of mine since taking the EM Director's position. And it appears now that it has finally happened.

Again, thanks to Doug and Sherry Donner and Bob Erskine, who donated their time to help distribute the radios, there were over 35 centers (out of 85 notified) that came out on distribution days and pick one up. That's 35+ more centers that have an early warning device!! Take that and multiple it by the possible number of kids that were helped and it sure is a good feeling. An opportunity at being able to provide this many kids with an early chance of safety doesn't come around very often. Again, I want to give those that helped a great big THANK YOU!!!

In addition, this effort along with some time and work by Hank Kohl, will also bring Lapeer County near completion of being credited a Storm Ready Community by the Feds. I will keep you posted on this and I am sure I will have even better news for next month.

Thank you to all the LCARA members that have given so much of their time and efforts for this office and as well as TO our community! It has been greatly appreciated!

Mary Stikeleather, PEM

Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management

2332 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer MI 48446

(810) 667-0242 (810) 667-0415 fax

[www.county.lapeer.org/emerg](http://www.county.lapeer.org/emerg)

"Of all things you wear, your expression is the most important."

*[This email & pictures went to 31 recipients, including the Lapeer Co. Commissioners –ed]*



## 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](mailto: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

## FCC LICENSEES OUTSIDE REGION 2 TO GAIN EARLY ACCESS TO 7100-7200 KHZ

The FCC has given licensees operating in FCC-administered territory in Regions 1 and 3 early access to 7100-7200 kHz. The change was included in a massive Report and Order (R&O) in ET Docket 04-139, a portion of which dealt with 40-meter worldwide realignment. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the ARRL was grateful to the FCC for allowing amateur stations it regulates in Regions 1 and 3 to gain prompt access to 7100-7200 kHz.

"This will make it easier for amateurs throughout the world to use the very popular and crowded 40-meter band and will facilitate disaster communications," Sumner said. He added that ARRL joins the FCC in cautioning Commission-licensed amateurs outside of Region 2 to avoid interfering with broadcast stations in the 7100-7200 kHz band during the transition period, which ends in 2009 per an agreement reached at WRC-03.

Sumner credited the efforts of Larry Gandy, AH8LG, and the American Samoa Amateur Radio Association, who supported the

ARRL's comments in the proceeding, for helping to advance the proposal. Gandy argued that during a typhoon that struck American Samoa, communication would have been significantly improved had amateur operators been allowed access to 7100-7200 kHz.

Other countries also have made 7100-7200 kHz available to amateurs, generally on a secondary, non-interference basis. Sumner said that even with constraints, access to this band by amateurs in a growing number of countries "is a significant benefit to the Amateur Radio Service," and he said the League appreciates the Commission's efforts to extend this benefit to its licensees, especially those in the US Pacific insular areas in Region 3.

In a footnote to the R&O, the FCC said amateur operators may file interference complaints if they receive interference from HF broadcast signals directed to Region 2. "In the current seasonal schedule, we observe that several HFBC signals are directed to the United States in the band 7100-7300 kHz," the FCC noted. The FCC has not announced the effective date of the rule change.



## Great Lakes Division Convention

By Hank Kohl K8DD

March 19, 2005 Toledo, Ohio - Stan AC8W and I attended the Great Lakes Division Banquet on March 19. As I moved from the bar with my beverage I bumped into (figuratively - not literally) Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, from the Federal Communications Commission! I said Flying Pig\*! He said Yes. We talked for about 5 or 10 minutes (time really flies when you're having fun) and several points came out.

1. He loves FDIM\*\* and learns a lot from QRP'ers at Dayton.
2. He wishes all hams had the same sense of spirit, and/or exuberance, about ham radio that QRP'ers and contesters exhibit.
3. BPL \*can\* be done right, but a lot of power companies don't care.
4. Some guy named Ed Hare pretty neat guy and a \*very\* valuable resource.

Riley was the main speaker at the banquet and reiterated all of these thoughts in his speech and made a point of saying that the time he spends at Dayton with the Pigs and QRP'ers rejuvenate him as well as meeting with a contest group in New England. I think he talked about 45 minutes, but it was a fast 45 minutes and at the end he got a standing ovation.

After the banquet Stan (FP #270) and I (FP #281) walked up to the head table and I asked him if we could get a three-pig picture. He stopped and said "this is an occasion!" We got the picture. Really cool!

\* What's a Flying Pig?

The Flying Pigs QRP Club has a mission:

*No Dues, No Rules, Just Fun - and if we don't like it we fix it!*

FPQR [membership](#) is open to all licensed QRP operators who reside within 12,000 nautical miles of Cincinnati, Ohio. You must include a picture of yourself. Membership applications without photos will have a random photo selected for them.

\*\* What's FDIM?

FDIM is the Four Days In May at the Hamvention at Dayton. The Hamvention is Fri, Sat & Sun—But QRP'ers from all over the world descend on the "QRP Hotel" Wed evening and Thur morning to assemble for a full day of seminars on various QRP subjects. FDIM continues every evening after the Hamvention closes for the day with various QRP activities:

- Buildathons
- Vendor night
- Banquet
- FISTS meeting
- Several show & tell sessions
- Many ragchews and eyeball QSO's
- Discussions of which rig/antenna/keyer is the best



Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH Chief of FCC enforcement speaking at the Great Lakes Division Convention in Toledo, OH



Flying Pig QRP Club members Stan AC8W, Riley K4ZDH & most of Hank K8DD

### Dayton Hamvention 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.

**For Sale:** 100' Rohn 45G tower on 2.5 acres, Cushcraft X-7, tailtwister rotator, dipoles for 80M & 40M, 80M 1/4 wave vertical, 106M inverted-L, HyGain Patriot vertical. 6 position antenna switch in the shack. Shack wired for 110 & 220. And a 144/440 Diamond X-50 at 65'. There is even 1300 sq ft living space with 3 BR, 1.5 bath, a finished basement and a 2.5 car garage. Price is negotiable! 810 721 0708 K8DD

## 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. Financing available.

**Lapeer County Amateur**

**Radio Association**

P.O. Box 12

Hadley, MI 48440-0012