

W8LAP

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# LCARA Waveguide



August Published Monthly by The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association 2004

## The Prez Sez

Josh Long, N8CFS

This is my final (or penultimate) column in the Waveguide before the new officers are elected in September...and as club president. Due to work and school considerations, I cannot serve as an officer for another term and cannot accept any nominations for such. Teaching college is not very time consuming, but this summer it prohibited me from attending the July and August meetings. This fall I will have a heavier teaching load, possibly out of state. Additionally, I am preparing for and applying to various doctoral programs.

The nominations for new officers will occur during the August meeting. If you read this prior to the August meeting, please consider running for an office if you are able.

Remember that the club's swap is on Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. I hope to see you there!

73 de N8CFS

## The Treas Sez

Bill Miller, KD8VP

I would like to report to the members that I have initiated the process of switching banks that we do business with. I have been having such a hard time with the tellers at National City Bank in Metamora that the board approved switching to Lapeer County Bank and Trust Co. bank. The reasons being that National City will not take, for any reason, Canadian money, ( you know we get some of that ) and second the tellers do not want to even take in and count all the coins American that we get. After questioning LCBT they assured me that Canadian up to \$100 is not problem and that they have no problem with taking in coins. I have already opened the account in the name of the club, now I need only to finalize the auto payments for the phone and electric bills.

**The SWAP AND SHOP is coming up on August 22, 2004 Sunday.** I need volunteers to help at the entry door, security personal at the various doors, someone to man the microphone and do the door prizes, someone to do talk in, and people to help in various other ways.

I would sure hope that some of you will call me and volunteer to help, otherwise I will be calling you!!!

Summer is a very busy time, but your club needs you. Contact Bill Miller kd8vp @ 810-797-5329, kd8vp@juno.com, or via 146.620 repeater

## "ARESCOM" PLAN TO ENHANCE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION CAPABILITY

—OR—

### New life for Packet Radio in Emergency Services?

The ARRL Board of Directors has adopted a resolution encouraging further development and expansion of an inaugural network to enhance the emergency communications capability of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). The action came during the Board's meeting July 16-17. The Board had charged an ad hoc committee, dubbed "ARESCOM," with developing an augmented ARES telecommunications system that would include rapid and accurate handling of long-range emergency communications. ARESCOM recommended deployment of a digital e-mail system based on Winlink 2000 software. The Board encouraged the deployment of e-mail via Amateur Radio--"as exemplified by Winlink 2000"--to meet the needs of served agencies and others involved in providing disaster communications.

"The digital network will provide a value-added service for

*ARESCOM (Continued on page 3)*

## Upcoming Swap & Shops

**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>

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

This page is "For members only". It is blank for the general mailing to non-members. If yours is blank either you are not a member, or you are not on my latest roster. Come to the meeting and maybe find out what it is all about! -ed.

## The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association is noticed in WorldRadio!

In the August WorldRadio magazine *LETTERS TO THE EDITOR* column, a club in New Hampshire wrote in about how they are over 160 members strong, ARRL Special Services Club with a web site ( <http://www.cnharc.org/> ) and a bulletin and how their club is very successful. When this editor read the comments from the WR editor, I had a bad feeling.

The response, in part, says:

*"I would like to encourage clubs to share with us what it is that makes their club "work." I recently chatted with members from the small local club in the rural area where I live. They told me the club is floundering because aside from an occasional weather net, they don't feel they have a purpose. They are having a difficult time finding a balance; many of the newcomers have little interest in expanding their "ham horizons" beyond what they can do with a handi-talkie and the old-timers don't want to participate in weather spotting. Consequently, the club is suffering and resentment is building.*

*I've seen this situation in larger clubs where cliques tend to develop, which also leads to bad feelings. ...."*

I sat here and thought "wow, is that really LCARA?" But there have been a few newly licensed hams come into the club. And there are a few "old timers" coming to the meetings. And the club does get just enough help to make Operation CARE a success. But there are about 235 hams in Lapeer county and probably 40 to 60 in southern Tuscola county. Where are they? Why do they seem to have nothing to do with LCARA?

Then I sent an email to the WR editor and it was confirmed—LCARA was the club she referred to in the response. Read it again. If the LCARA ever had any "cliques" they have mostly left. Or is there only one left?

Let's face it: as a club, the discussion about the new repeater site has been on the back burner for over a year with little to no action made on it, few people participate in Operation Care, and the turnout at the club's Field Day site was incredibly light this year. I am inclined to agree with Nancy's assessment of the club. To put it simply, a club without membership participation is not much of a club at all.

Folks, the future of this club is YOU. If you just sit there with your hands folded ..... This club will follow your lead.

*(the response from WorldRadio is printed with permission of WorldRadio)*

## The World Scramble

Things that will encourage participation and invigorate the club's activities

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

activities

contest

cw

digital

dxing

elmering

Expertise

hf

kitbuilding

library

operating

presentations

programs

projects

psk

ssb

sstv

videotapes

If your e-mail address changes please let KD8VP and K8DD know so you get club email!

**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.

**Contributors to this newsletter:**

Josh, N8CFS WorldRadio Bill, KD8VP  
ARRL Letter

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

***"I think any amateur who's worth a damn knows  
Morse code. I don't have much use for people who  
don't even attempt to learn it."***

Joe Walsh, WB6ACU Ordinary, Average Ham (and Rock Legend)

*(Continued from page 1) ARESCOM*

ARES and will continue to be viewed very positively by our served agencies," the committee said in its report to the Board. "This allows ARES to be viewed as modern and necessary instead of antiquated and invasive."

The committee, chaired by Great Lakes Division Vice Director Dick Mondro, W8FQT, said situations arise when ARES must "pass message traffic across the nation quickly and accurately." It also said the need for such a nationwide ARES capability is likely to increase in light of the ARRL's Citizen Corps partnership with the Department of Homeland Security.

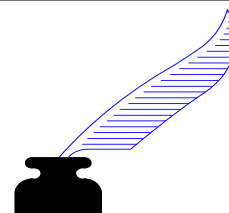
Winlink 2000--a worldwide Amateur Radio digital radio e-mail system--already is widely used by the blue water boating and recreational vehicle communities. Members of the ARRL Programs and Services Committee witnessed a Winlink 2000 demonstration at ARRL Headquarters the day before the board meeting.

The ARRL Board extended the committee's charter until its January 2005 meeting so ARESCOM can complete an implementation plan that ensures that ARES has "the prominent role" in managing the national network and that ARES officials and appropriate ARRL Headquarters staffers have an chance to critique the network's operation to ensure it meets the requirements of ARES and its served agencies.

A two-part series appearing in the August and September 2004 issues of QST, "Winlink for ARES," by ARRL South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Reimer, KK5CA, outlines an enhanced ARES network that would include e-mail capability

*ARESCOM(Continued on page 5)*

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



No minutes were received for July

**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.**

**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.



## 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 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!

**1- 10MB 24 port Hub, 1- 10MB 24 port Switch** \$20 ea

Contact Hank, K8DD 810-721-0708

**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

**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

**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

# August 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 ARES Net 146.62	3	4	5 ARES Net 442.750	6	7
8	9 ARES Net 146.62	10 LCARA Meeting	11	12 ARES Net 442.750	13	14
15	16 ARES Net 146.62	17	18	19 ARES Net 442.750	20	21
22 LCARA SWAP	23 ARES Net 146.62	24	25	26 ARES Net 442.750	27	28
29	30 ARES Net 146.62	31				



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

### SPECIAL Through Aug 31, 2004

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

We now can order Diamond Antennas and accessories.

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



**Be Radio-Active  
Participate**

### CQ magazine announces the CQ WW SSB results

Several months ago Stan, AC8W, and Hank, K8DD, did a program for LCARA about their trip with Team Zone 2 ([www.qsl.net/teamzone2](http://www.qsl.net/teamzone2)) to the James Bay area of the province of Quebec for the annual CQ World Wide SSB contest. The August CQ magazine has the results for the contest. In the Multi Operator, Multi Transmitter class VB2C—Team Zone 2 finished very well considering the group of approximately 20 Amateur Radio operators from Ontario, Quebec, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Michigan and the United Kingdom took all the equipment along with them and set up in Field Day style six kilowatt stations and antennas. If you have ever gone to Field Day, you know what it is like in the summer, putting up antennas and setting up low power stations on a warm day in June. In the James Bay area, in October it is generally in the high 20's to mid 30's .... And that is Fahrenheit, not Centigrade!

The VB2C finished in first place in Canada, fourth place in North America and tenth place World in the contest with 13.5 million points, 9318 QSO's, 148 Zones and 527 Countries.

That is going to be a tough act to follow considering the declining sunspot cycle!



### 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).

*"You see, wire telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat."*

Albert Einstein

*(Continued from page 3) ARESKOM  
over HF links.*

*From the ARRL Letter Vol. 23, No. 29 July 23, 2004*

### Additional Information on WinLink 2000

I took a look at this and downloaded the necessary files from [www.winlink.org](http://www.winlink.org), the site of WinLink 2000. My first thoughts were that it didn't look that great! But then after reading the documentation and looking at the Powerpoint presentations, it looks like a great way to communicate between packet stations in the field and the EOC and the Emergency Management people via real e-mail using Outlook Express, Outlook or Eudora both in the field and at the EOC.

On both the the field PC and the Gateway PC it takes .NET Framework software and AGW Packet Engine software—both of which are available on the internet for free. There is also special software, Paclink for the field PC and TelPac for the gateway PC, which are also available for, you guessed it, free!

While I was installing and getting this all running there were a couple of questions that came up, so I emailed for help and ended up getting a beta version of Paclink and had all my questions answered by one of the authors of the software. And I guess a couple of my suggestions for the installation document will be in the release.

It probably took two hours to get Paclink working on one laptop with a TNC on 145.09 MHz. Another four hours and TelPac was running on another laptop with a TNC and a telnet connection to the internet.

So what does this all mean, and what will it do? On my laptop running Paclink I can open Outlook Express (or Eudora), compose an email to Therese, [kc8pez@yahoo.com](mailto:kc8pez@yahoo.com) and hit send. That calls up Paclink and connects via packet to the other laptop running Telpac. That laptop connects to the internet and sends the email. In this case, Therese got the email, and replied. A short time later I got the email, via my packet link across the basement! And I've tested it with attachments—both text files and Word / Excel files via packet. Take a digital picture at the emergency site and send it to the EOC via e-mail! That's cool!

**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