



**W8LAP/r**

146.620 - 100Hz  
442.750 + 123Hz

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

# WAVEGUIDE

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

November

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2008

*The next regular meeting will be held on  
Tuesday, November 11 —7:30 p.m.  
at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)  
2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

## The Prez Sez:

Trick or treat. Set your clock back. Go vote. Come to the club meeting Nov 11 veterans day, and to the Christmas Dinner Dec 9. The next test is Nov 29 in the 911 Center. The repeaters sound good, links are working, and the new

## The Treas Sez:

Hello to everyone receiving our news letter. I have to inject a job well done to Hank K8DD for doing such a great job for LCARA on this news letter.

The treasury is doing well and has a reasonable amount of money in the checking account and we still have the Certificate of deposit, that has been untouched since it was first initiated. With the purchase of the equipment for both ends of our link to the W8ECP-440 repeater in North Branch and the new CAT 1000B controller, I thought that we might have to tap into the CD. Thankfully we did not. The club still has enough operating revenues, and cash to cover the up coming Christmas Party, to be held on Tuesday December 9, 2008

With that said, I will inject an advertisement for the Christmas Party. For several years now, thanks to Chris

## The Trustee Sez:

Greeting to one and all. The month of October has been an eventful one for your trustee and maintenance man, ME. As many know during the Monday night net a few weeks ago, the 2 meter repeater broke down. Know one bother to let me know, so it wasn't until the next day that I discovered it. Not knowing what might have happened, I took off for Lapeer to investigate, not thinking to take any tools or meters. Once at the site it appeared that the GE Master II transceiver was not putting out any signal. Without any output meter to check, I couldn't tell for sure. So back home I went to gather materials to check things out. Once back at the site again, it was

controller too. Thanks to Bill, Perry and Joe. Thanks also to Hank for the waveguide.

See you soon.

Bob N8NE

and Yolanda Azelton (KC8TWL and KC8WGK) volunteering to organize it, the club has paid for an annual party instead of a December meeting. This party has been an all expense paid banquet dinner for ALL PAID TO DATE members and their spouse's.

Thanks to the many volunteers that help out with Operation Care and the Swap and Shop out treasury has adequate fund to cover the party. If you are interested in attending and having a great meal, contact me or KC8TWL, to sign up. Remember you must be a paid up member and preregister for this banquet.

That's enough for now, see you at the November meeting.

73 Bill Miller KD8VP Treasurer

determined that indeed the transceiver was not putting out. Now I had to deal with my first time switching the Yaesu to the new CAT 1000B controller. This is not quite as simple as it used to be and required opening up the controller lid and switching some connections. Well I did get it done, but not without some consternation. Once removed the GE was taken to W8JIM and he repaired the problem ( a blown capacitor). It is now back on line and working very well.

Hopefully that is all that will be need for some time to come.

73 Bill Miller KD8VP Repeater trustee

## The Secy Sez

Meeting was called to order at 7:35P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and introduction of members and guest.

Minutes was read by Flo, kc8cab. The minutes were accepted by Tom, kd8eby.

Chris, kc8twl reminded everyone of the Christmas Party at Country Side in Imlay City. We meet at 6 P.M. and Dinner is at 6:30 P.M. We have the hall till 9 P.M.

Treasurers report was given by Bill kd8vp. The August report was accepted by Dan kc1bud. The September report was accepted by Tom kd8eby.

Trustees report was given by Bill kd8vp. He gave us all codes for the repeater.

375 Key Pad Test

400 Current Time

The Auto Patch is working, 3 minute time limit \* up number # down - identify yourself.

## The EC Sez:

Can you believe it, November is here. The weather has been holding out nicely, but soon, it'll be time get inside and on the air. Hopefully, Sunspot Cycle 24 will show up real soon and improve HF band conditions.

September 27<sup>th</sup> was the ARRL SET here in Michigan. The plan was to have all the counties participate in one exercise at the same time. It was to involve passing traffic from the State EOC to each county, preferably by packet. Six of us meet in the EOC and took an opportunity to receive some training on set-up and operation of the portable packet stations we have. We had fun, but never did receive the traffic we were expecting. I would like to thank the following for coming out:

Hank, K8DD  
Tom, KD8EBY  
Kevin, KB8TAR  
Joe, KD8CIL  
Dan, KC1BUD  
Jack, KD8HDZ

The 2009 Lapeer County Disaster Drill is in the works. It has been scheduled for March 29, 2009 up in the Columbiaville area. More information will be coming as the planning continues. Please hold that day open as we will have need a lot of help.

We are just a short time away from having a turn key station in Lapeer Regional Hospital. Thanks in large part to the efforts of Denny Fitzpatrick, there will be a dual band Kenwood TM-V71A radio, power supply and support

## From ARES / RACES:

Nothing new to report,; Emergency drill still scheduled for March, 2009. ALSO- If feasible please I need to update my info log with the following: Name, call, Address, Primary phone number, secondary ph. no; (emergency contact no.) ; ARES- RACES certified, and TOWNSHIP (Not just Lapeer, Metamora ect. ALL LCARA members PLEASE respond with all of the above to;

If you call 911 in an emergency identify yourself. Tell them you are an Amateur Radio Operator and going through a repeater then tell your emergency.

New Business:

The election of officers

President: Bob n8ne

Vice President: Chris kc8twl

Secretary: Flo kc8cab

Treasurer: Bill kd8vp

Repeater Trustee: Bill kd8vp

Accepted by Dan kc1bud and seconded by Hank k8dd all the members agreed.

The following members earned a free 1 year membership by working 18 hours at Operation Care this year.

Hank k8dd Tom kd8eby Tom kd8eoa Dick kc8vha

Bob w8rae Bob n8ne Joel kd8cil

Next test session is November 29th. There may be one sooner if Rob n8psp needs one for his class.

50/50 was won by Flo kc8cab.

Motion was made to adjourn at 8:35 P.M. by Hank k8dd. A

equipment in a room off the ER. There is a tri-band antenna being installed so that one of the packet stations can be put on the air in the event of an emergency. The next item on the agenda is to work with Denny to put activation procedures in place for when we're needed. In the near future, the station will be on the air one Monday a month for the ARES Net.

A related item, there are still openings for Net Control Operators for the Monday night net. If you would like to take a turn, give Charlie (KC8JBK), Tom (KD8EBY), or myself a call and we'll make sure you are put in the rotation.

### Upcoming events:

- December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Skywarn Recognition Day on the HF bands
- March 29, 2009 – Lapeer County Disaster Drill – 9:00 AM till 12:00 noon
- April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 – SkyWarn Training at North Branch High School – 7:00 PM
- June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Ride for Hope charity event – We've been asked to provide communications for the charity ride. There are several shifts available, so come on out for a few hours before Field Day starts!

Well, that's it from here.

Till next month, 73 everyone,

Doug Jr., KC8ZCF

[kd8eby@arrl.net](mailto:kd8eby@arrl.net) or see me at the next club monthly meeting in november. This info will be available to ONLY to myself, Doug Donner(kc8zcf) County Emergency Coordinator and all officers of the L.C.A.R.A. Thanks and 73, TOM Thomas Oliver<[kd8eby@arrl.net](mailto:kd8eby@arrl.net)> A.E.C. Lapeer County, Mi.

## **From the mailbag:**

**Full Scale Exercise scheduled for Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am in Otter Lake.**

**For more details contact Tom KD8EBY or Doug KC8ZCF!**

---

## **Let's Get on the Maker Bandwagon**

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

About a week ago, I got an e-mail from a ham down in Texas who had attended the Maker Faire ([makerfaire.com](http://makerfaire.com)). "Makers" are people who love to tinker and make things. They even have their own magazine, Make ([www.makezine.com](http://www.makezine.com)).

He was amazed at the lack of any amateur radio content. He wrote, "The Maker Faire was unbelievable. Incredible stuff. Pedal powered carnival rides, robots, computer drive routers, kits. Outside of a table with a Vectronics kit, and a license manual, and a QRP book, the only radio stuff was from a pirate radio group."

I'm kind of amazed at this as well. It just goes to show how disconnected amateur radio is getting from the ainstream. These are exactly the kind of people we want to get interested in amateur radio, yet there was no one there representing us.

Ham radio needs to be at these events and get plugged into the "maker community." The Faire has not yet released attendance figures for this particular Faire, but more than 65,000 people attended the Faire held in May 2008. Dayton, with its attendance of about 20,000, looks anemic by comparison.

I blogged about this back in May (<http://kb6nu.com/why-cant-dayton-be-more-like-the-maker-faire/>). One of the things I suggested then is moving Dayton to some place like Austin. Seriously, if you were a new, young ham, where would you rather go, Dayton, OH or Austin, TX? Let's be real here.

And can there be a worse place for an event than Hara Arena? The parking lot, where they hold the flea market looks like a mine field, and it usually rains, making the flea market a wet, unpleasant experience. Is it any wonder that

fewer and fewer vendors choose to haul stuff out there? Some of us older hams might fondly reminisce about the bargain we found while traipsing around wearing a trash-bag poncho, but a story like that is not going to resonate with new hams.

Please don't get me wrong. I don't mean to badmouth the Dayton Amateur Radio Association or the Hamvention. I actually think that they do a great job, all things considered. I'm just pointing out that if ham radio wants to again be part of the mainstream, we have to get with the program. Unfortunately, that program probably won't be at the Hara Arena.

Ham radio has got to figure out how to latch onto the Maker phenomenon. At the very least, the ARRL should have a booth at the next one, and in addition to all the books and t-shirts, they need to come up with some kind of demo or display to attract makers into ham radio. I don't know what exactly, but I'm willing to start talking about it.

This phenomenon might also be a boon for clubs who hold hamfests. Just as the computer craze turned ham swaps into ham and computer swaps in the 80s, perhaps ham clubs could turn their hamfests into a combination hamfest and Maker Faire in their communities.

As I said earlier, Makers are exactly the kind of people we want in ham radio. Let's go out and get them.

---

When Dan's not pontificating about ham radio, you'll find him working CW on 40m, teaching ham classes, or running for the ARRL Board of Directors. Read more by going to [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com). Send e-mail to [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

**Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association**

P.O. Box 12  
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

**Officers**

President, Bob Beswetherick, N8NE . 810-653-3856      Vice-Pres., Chris Azelton, KC8TWL..810-245-0073  
Secretary, Flo Haack KC8CAB ..... 810-793-2606      Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

**Committees & Appointees.**

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD      Club Call TrusteeW8LAP.....Bill Miller, KD8VP  
Club Historian.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK      VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR  
Skywarn Coordinator.....Pete Headrick KB8RSG      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.....**It could be you!**

**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.

**Board of Directors'** monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Tim Horton's at 7:30PM (Check on the W8LAP repeaters).

**Newsletter**

Items for the newsletter may be called to the Editor at 810-721-0708, sent by Mail (Box 88, Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII or Word file to k8dd@arrl.net The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

This area is for the article that you were going to write!

## For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale:

I want to buy your old ham/electronic/tube gear. I'm particularly looking for the Heathkit Mohawk that I built and sold to Dave Burch four decades ago.

Contact Mike, AA8K, at: [stepsisters@comcast.net](mailto:stepsisters@comcast.net) or 810-987-8873

### For Sale

HW-8 Handbook—covers HW-7, 8 & 9 \$15

COM port boards, ISA, 2 ports \$3.00 ea

From the estate of N8CQA:

Central Electronics 10B \$130

Central Electronics 20A \$130

One VFO's for above \$75 ea

30M two transistor transmitter in a Hershey cocoa can \$15

All offers will be listened to!

Contact Hank K8DD at [k8dd@k8dd.com](mailto:k8dd@k8dd.com) or 810-721-0708

**Be Radio-Active  
Participate**

**And now ..... One way to find where the DX is operating!**

### ***Dx Packet Cluster***

The **WA8DX** Spider Packet Cluster node is available on **144.970**. At present **WA8DX** is receiving DX info via K8SMC in Jackson or N8NM in Waterford.

This is a tool you can use to build your DXCC total, see where people are working stations on both HF and VHF, and even pass messages.

Use your TNC to connect in the command mode and use **C WA8DX** as the command. Once connected you will get a welcome screen that asks for info. You should start to see DX spots right away.

You can also connect via the internet. Telnet to **wa8dx.servebeer.com** port **7300**

Although you can stay connected indefinitely, if you decide to disconnect, type **b** or **bye** and you will be logged out.

You can view an online version of a users manual at: [www.wd1l.net/DXSpider/usermanual\\_en.html](http://www.wd1l.net/DXSpider/usermanual_en.html)

## ***Remember...DX Is!***

MALTA, **9H**. Anne, OH2YL will be QRV as **9H3YL** from November 1 to 8. QSL to home call.

TONGA, **A3**. Ulli DL2AH QRV as **A35AH** from Tongatapu Group, to Nov 9. QSL home call.

OMAN, **A4**. Lufthansa ARC and DARC club I09 are QRV as **A43DLH** to Nov 11 while guests of Royal Omani ARS; also be QRV as **A43DLH/p** from an Omani Scout Camp. QSL DK7PE.

IRAN, **EP**. Sadegh, **EP3HF** has been active on 15 meters using SSB around 0900z. QSL direct.

ANTARCTICA. Nicolas, F4EGX will be QRV as **FT5YI** from the French base "Dumont d'Urville" on Petrel Island, IOTA AN-017, from November to mid December. QSL to home call.

ITALY, **I**. Special event **IY1EY** will be QRV from November 1 to 9 to commemorate the radio experiments Guglielmo Marconi made on his yacht "Elettra" from 1919 to 1936. QSL IK1QBT.

BELGIUM, **ON**. Special event **ON55INR** is QRV until December 31 to mark the start of TV broadcasting from Brussels from the Institut National Belge de Radiodiffusion. QSL via bureau.

ARUBA, **P4**. Garry, K9WZB and Sharon, K7WZB are QRV as **P40ZB** until November 6. They may also be active from Lighthouse WLOTA LH-0033. QSL direct via K9WZB.

GUATEMALA, **TG**. Emmanuel **TG9AHM** is active using RTTY on 20 meters around 2000z.

ANTARCTICA. Bob, VK2ABP will be QRV as **VK0BP** on

Davis Base from November 1 to March 7. He will be active in his spare time. QSL via VK2CA.

CHAGOS ISLANDS, VQ9. Rick, KI1G is QRV as **VQ9RD** from Diego Garcia Island, IOTA AF-006, until November 11. QSL direct to home call.

LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS, VU7. A group of operators are QRV as **VU7NRO** and **VU7SJ** until November 3. QSL VU7NRO direct via VU2UWZ and VU7SJ via DL9GFB.

INDONESIA, **YB**. Ron, AA5DX is QRV as **YB9/AA5DX** from Bali until November 10. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL to home call.

VANUATU, **YJ**. Mat, JA1JQY and Kuni, JA8VE are QRV as **YJ0AQY** and **YJ0AVE**, respectively, until November 6. QSL YJ0AQY via JA1JQY and YJ0AVE via JF1OCQ.

LATVIA, **YL**. Latvian amateurs can use prefix **YL90** during November, 90<sup>th</sup> anny of Latvia.

ALBANIA, **ZA**. Raul, XE1MO will be QRV as **ZA1/XE1MO** to Nov 9. QSL home call.

NIUE, **ZK2**. Dave N1EMC is QRV as **ZK2DF**, on 40M SSB, listening up. QSL home call.

## N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

~~~~~

### WAE RTTY Contest ... 100W Category

Nov 8, 0000z to Nov 9, 2359z

Rules: <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xedcwr.htm>

### Japan International DX Contest (phone)... 100w category

Nov 8, 0700z to Nov 9, 1300z

Rules: <http://jidx.org/jidxrule-e.html>

### OK/OM DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category!

Nov 8, 1200z to Nov 9, 1200z

Rules: <http://okomdx.crk.cz/g.html>

### Kentucky QSO Party (CW/Ph)

Nov 8, 1400z to Nov 9, 0200z

Rules: <http://www.wkdx.com>

### SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Category

Nov 9, 0000z to 2359z

Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>

### 80 METER FOXHUNT (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Each Tuesday Begining Nov 11 Thru Mar 24

9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

### 40 METER FOXHUNT (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*

Each Thursday Begining Nov 13 Thru March 26

9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

---

ARRL Sweepstakes (Phone) ... QRP Category  
Nov 15, 2100z to Nov 17, 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/novss.html>

---

NA Collegiate ARC Championship (CW) .. QRP Category  
Nov 15, 2100z to Nov 17, 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.collegiatechampionship.org/rules/>

---

European PSK Club - PSK63 QSO Party ... 100W. Max  
Nov 16, 0000z to 2400z  
Rules: <http://www.eu.srars.org/>

---

RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST \*\*\*  
EDT: Oct 16, 9 PM to 11 PM  
UTC: Oct 17, 0200z 0400z  
Rules: <http://www.fpgrp.com/>

---

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint \*\*\* QRP CONTEST! \*\*\*  
EST: Nov 19, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM  
UTC: Nov 20, 0130z to 0330z  
Rules: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/contests.html>

---

YO International PSK31 Contest (80 Meters) ... 50W max  
Nov 21, 1600z to 2200z  
Rules: <http://www.yo5crq.ro/Rules2008EN.htm>  
[3rd Fri]

---

LZ DX CONTEST (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category  
Nov 22, 1200z to Nov 23, 1200z  
Rules: <http://lzdxbfira.org/index.php/rules>

---

SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards  
Nov 26, 0100z to 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

---

CQ World Wide DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category!  
Nov 29, 0000z to Nov 30, 2359z  
Rules: [http://www.cqww.com/2008\\_rules\\_cqww.pdf](http://www.cqww.com/2008_rules_cqww.pdf)

---

MQFD Monthly Sprint (CW/PH/Digital) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*  
Nov 29, 1800z to 2200z  
Rules: <http://w2agn.net/mqfdsprint.html>

---

Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX (ARRL), N2APB, WB3AAL and others for assistance in compiling this calendar. If you wish to subscribe to the Calendar, send an e-mail to [N2CQ@ARRL.Net](mailto:N2CQ@ARRL.Net) Please forward the contest info you sponsor to [N2CQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N2CQ@ARRL.NET) and we will post it in order to give it more publicity. Anyone may use this "N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar" for your website, newsletter, e-mail list or other media as you choose. (Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

## 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