



W8LAP/r

146.620 - 100Hz
442.750 + 123Hz

www.w8lap.com



Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association



April

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2010

*The next regular meeting will be held on
Tuesday, April 13 —7:30 p.m.
at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)
2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

Program for the April meeting:

The program for the April meeting will feature the trip to Granada Nicaragua that Lee, N8LJ and Hank, K8DD took in February 2010 for the ARRL DX Contest.

The Prez Sez:

I see from the calendar that April is a busy month for Lapeer County hams. We have the State EOC SET on the 10th, the club meeting is on the 13th, T&C on the 17th, Michigan QSO party on the 17th, and the March for Babies on the 24th. Please make every effort to help out on the 24th and give Tom KD8EBY a shout to put your name on the list.

I hope many of you made the Skywarn training in March, there were definitely some familiar faces. I overheard the attendance number of 180 but don't quote me on it. The club had a table set up to promote amateur radio and we got the names of 4 victims who are interested in becoming hams. One of the ladies had 2 more friends who wish to get their licenses as well so the effort was well worth it.

The Treas Sez:

Greetings to everyone. As I write this report the Resurrection celebration has passed and the weather is unseasonably good. I hope that doesn't change, but I will bet it will. The treasury is in good shape considering that it won't be long before our coffers will be increasing. I refer of course to Operation Care, fast approaching this Memorial Day. Followed by Independence Day and Labor Day. These volunteer outings are what keeps this club on good financial ground. So please contact Tom Oliver KD8EBY to sign up for a time slot to help out.

Well I did manage to get my new j-pole antenna up and it seems to be playing extremely well. It's an Arrow dual band so I now have 440 in the home shack for the first time.

Don't forget that at this month's club meeting we will be dazzled with a presentation from Hank K8DD and Lee N8LJ on their DXpedition to Nicaragua. Looking forward to it!

See you at the club meeting on April 13th.

Kevin Boxey
KB8TAR

The only bill paid this past month was for the SWR/POWER meter purchase for the maintenance of the repeaters.

I was informed of a slight oversight in my last months column. I refer to my recognition of Doug Donner Jr. doing a fine job on mailing the news letter to those unable to receive it via the internet. Turns out that the whole Donner family takes a part in the process. Thank you very much Donner family for doing the news mailing.

73 for now, see you at the meeting.

Respectfully Bill Miller KD8VP

The Trustee Sez:

Hello to one and all. Well it seems that everything is working fine and that makes my job easy. There has been some e-mail going around about doing some emergency practice work by sending Packet messages through our repeaters. By sending them on our 220 Mhz. link frequency, so that they would also go to the North Branch repeater W8ECM. Well that would work and I do not have any problem with people experimenting with the repeaters, but the link antenna is a small directional Yagi beam pointed 23 degrees North North East towards North Branch from our repeater sight. So it is not going to pick up Packet messages from just anywhere. Please if you are going to experiment let me know ahead of time. That

The Secy Sez:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and introduction of members and guest.

No one is in the hospital.

The hospital has an antenna and coax to be put up for Amateur Radio.

Minutes were read by Flo, kc8cab.

Treasurers report was given by Bill, kd8vp. Accepted by Tom, kd8eby and seconded by Dan, kcibud.

Repeater Trustees report was given by Bill, kd8vp. Bill got a SWR-WATT meter for the club use.

EC report was given by Tom, kd8eby. SET state wide is April 10. Everything is in for EOC packet station.

Operation Care permits were gotten finally and returned.

way I or another control operator would be sure to monitor and be able to be the control operator. That is the only way it could be legal. Packet was not designed to work that way but it is it could. The proper way to use Packet would be to set up relays for the purpose.

Do you have something to say about the repeaters?

Come to the meetings so we can discuss it. Getting it out on the table might bring up some points that need to be discussed, that have not been thought of by others.

Until then use those repeaters so we know they are worthwhile.

73 Bill Miller KD8VP

Sky warn class is March 25 at Lapeer East High School at 7:00 p.m..

Crim Races are on hold for now. GCARES is no longer in business.

Break was from 7:55 to 8:07.

The sheriff is still intrested in ground search team.

Michigan Search and Rescue and Canine is going to be at Mott College in Lapeer on June 10 at 3p.m.

The **Christmas Party** will probably be the same place as last year on the night of our regular meeting.

50/50 was won by Lee, n8lj.

Motion to close by Dan, kc1bud and seconded by Tom, kd8eby.

Meeting was closed at 8:14.

The EC Sez:

Made it through March, Skywarn training went well with approx. 185 attendees. Thanks to all LCARA and CERT members who helped out.

April 10 is the Statewide SET, our(d3) time is from 9:30-11:30 am although the exercise runs from 6-12. We'll be using 147.57 simplex and 3.950. All feel free to monitor or join in.

And last April 24 is the "March of Dimes babies walk" at Rowden park. I believe i have enough operators but we will be staging at 8am at the pavilion.73, see all at the club meeting on the 13th. TOM

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KD8EBY@arri.net

E.C. Lapeer County, Mi.

ARES/RACES/Skywarn

NAEMT(P) Member

**Be Radio-Active
Participate**

From the Mailbag:

It's time for Michigan QSO Party

+++ Michigan QSO Party in April +++

The 2010 Michigan QSO Party (MiQP) will be April 17-18. All amateurs are invited to participate. As usual, Michigan amateurs receive contest points for contacting other amateurs within the state/section. Amateurs outside of Michigan earn contest points for QSOs with Michigan hams, only.

As the announcement of the Party says, "This is a great opportunity develop HF operating skills, represent the great state of Michigan, and last but not least, have a bunch of fun. Even if you don't consider yourself a contest operator, you'll probably find it's a blast to jump in to work the throng who will

be looking for Michigan QSOs. If you've ever operated on Field Day, you'll certainly be ready for MiQP."

The operating period is twelve hours long, from noon local time (1600Z) until midnight local (0400Z) Eastern time. "Activity takes place on the 80 thru 10 meter bands, on both phone and CW. The exchange is simple:

a sequential QSO number (starting with 1, then 2, 3...) and your location (county for Michigan stations, and state, province or "DX" for others). A station may be worked once per band and mode, with CW QSOs counting two points and phone QSOs counting one point (just like Field Day). Multipliers are states, provinces, and Michigan counties, counted once on phone and once on CW. Final score is total QSO points times total multipliers."

There are handsome plaques for major category winners in Michigan and certificates for the top single-operator score in each Michigan county.

There is a competition for Michigan clubs where scores of its members are combined into an aggregate score for that club. There are also

categories and awards for mobile and multi-operator stations.

"The separate category instituted in 2008 for Emergency Operation Center (EOC) stations has become a permanent part of MiQP, and continues in 2010. A handsome MiQP plaque will be awarded to the highest scoring EOC station and certificates for second and third place. We are also continuing the 'MiQP Rookie Of The Year' plaque instituted in 2007, which is awarded to the top single-operator score submitted by a Michigan station who has never participated in MiQP before." *[The rookie plaque was won by Jeff Miller, WB8WKQ, a Lapeer County ham in the 2009 MI QSO Party and the Multi-Single plaque was won by the Eastern MI ARC, K8EPV, operating at K8DD's QTH –ed.]*

See <http://www.miqp.org> for complete rules and further information.

The MiQP is sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club.

And – if anyone needs help with log sheets before the contest or help with getting your logs ready to submit after the contests – contact Hank K8DD for help to get them turned in.

Myth vs Fact

MYTH: When a tornado is approaching, open windows!

FACT: Don't spend precious moments opening windows, BECAUSE IT DOES NOT REDUCE TORNADO DAMAGE. Just get to the lowest level of the building, away from windows. Anyone close to a window could be injured or killed by flying debris.

MYTH: Get out of a car and hide under a highway overpass.

FACT: Many people remember seeing footage of the television news crew that "survived" a tornado by seeking shelter under an overpass. In reality, that tornado only passed nearby, and did not directly impact them. Overpasses are not tornado shelters. People died in Wichita Falls in April of 1979, and 20 years later in Oklahoma City, after seeking shelter in highway overpasses. The UPWARD SLOPING GROUND BENEATH OVERPASSES ACTUALLY ACCELERATES TORNADIC WINDS, THUS SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING YOUR CHANCE OF BEING IMPALED BY FLYING DEBRIS.

MYTH: Cars are safer than mobile homes during a tornado.

FACT: Neither is safe. Get to the nearest tornado shelter. If you are in your car and there are no structures near, abandon the vehicle and get in the nearest ditch and cover your head.

MYTH: Tornadoes are the NUMBER ONE severe weather killer in the United States.

FACT: Flash flooding is actually the number ONE severe weather-related killer in the country.

MYTH: Areas near rivers, lakes, and mountains are safe from tornadoes.

FACT: No place is safe from tornadoes. In the late 1980s, a tornado swept through Yellowstone National Park leaving a path of destruction up and down a 10,000 ft. mountain.

MYTH: Tornadoes tend to avoid large cities.

FACT: Not true...Many large cities across the country were directly hit by tornadoes in recent years

MYTH: Tornadoes, like lightning, never strike the same place twice.

FACT: Not true. Both tornadoes and lightning can strike in the same place twice.

MYTH: The threat of a lightning strike is OVER once the rain stops.

FACT: NOT TRUE. IF you can hear thunder, you can still be hit by lightning. Lightning can strike up to 10

miles away from a storm. THE GENERAL RULE IS TO WAIT THIRTY MINUTES AFTER THE LAST LIGHTNING OR THUNDER TO RESUME OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES.

N8TFT goes to Micon at the NWS

Micon meeting notes, 3/20/2010

First off I want to thank Tom KD8EBY for asking me to fill in for him. Never been to a MICON (Michigan Inter County Organizational Network) meeting and did not know what to expect. I found it very interesting.

Learned a few things and became curious on a few things as well.

Anyway these are some highlights from my scribbling at the meeting.

As far as the Snow this winter for the area, "Snowiest" ranking, Saginaw 11th, Flint 2nd, Detroit 5th

.
As for severe weather events 2009 was the lowest recorded at 102 events. In comparison 1995 was 117 and 1997 was 115.

We had 3 tornados in all of Michigan , zero in S.E. Michigan for the first time since 1983.

CTA (Call to action) reports will include wind/hail tags. The tags will be after the CTA post with Polygon Storm Motion info wind speeds/hail size and current Lat/Long of the storm. Spotter Reports will now be listed in the 3rd paragraph (bullet) of the CTA.

Spotter activation from DTX . There will be a pre-page warning via text message. A test text will be sent about 1:00pm April 4th.

***** Spotter required info, GPS coordinates or address or closest intersection. *****

MICON/WEBINAR Storm briefings . For the November meeting they will have WEBINAR for overflow.

K8DTX Packet was getting upgraded as I left. It will now be a j-nos set-up. K8DTX is on 145.760 and is not a mailbox. It is not for real-time reports. Damage Reports and Storm Measurement only.

Transmissions will be sent to a printer for review.

There will be a Field Day at the White Lake site. Feel free to stop by. 9200 White Lake Rd . White Lake, MI 48386

There was also talk of the APRS tracking system being employed by NOAA to track spotters and provide better location info. It uses Google Map Technology at [www.http://aprs.fi/](http://www.aprs.fi/) . You too can track the MICON/APRS spotters at that site.

You can also register to file online reports at [www.http://espotter.weather.gov/](http://www.espotter.weather.gov/)

For the MICON mission statement go to <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dtx/micon.php>

For those with 440 capability the Fenton 442.350 + offset with a 107.2 tone is part of the MICON linked system. I was able to access it from Metamora no problem. For more freqs read the MICON Mission statement listed above. I'm sure I missed some things or couldn't read my scribbles.

That's it for now , keep your eye on the sky !
73 Brian N8TFT

Coming Events...

Apr 17- Milford info 810-632-5174

May 1- Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

May 16-17- Hamvention(r), Dayton, OH

June 19- Milford Hamfest, Milford, OH

June 19- Midland Hamfest, Midland, MI

June 20- Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI

Remember...DX Is!

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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

Officers

President, Kevin Boxey KC8TAR 810-793-4986 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.....
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-
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 sometimes 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.

Volunteer Exam Session

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be **May 8, 2010** at 10:00 a.m. in the second floor meeting room at the Port Huron Branch of the St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorran Blvd, Port Huron, MI.

Pre-registration NOT NECESSARY!

Bring picture ID, the original and a copy of your present license and the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion (CSC) you may hold. The current fee is \$15.00. For further information call Martin Smith, KD8IKN, at 385-5584

Remaining dates for 2010: May 8; June 12; July 10; August 14; September 11, October 9; November 13; December 11

Martin, KD8IKN

pioneer-2@att.net

810-385-5584

More From the Mailbag:

LCARA is now on Facebook! Logon to your Facebook account and search on "Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association" and become a fan! This is an excellent way to promote the club.

For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale:

FOR SALE:

Henry 2K HF amplifier, floor model \$800 contact Stan, AC8W (810) 364-6674

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:

30M two transistor transmitter in a Hershey Cocoa can , with schematic \$15

All offers will be listened to!

Contact Hank K8DD at k8dd@k8dd.com or 810-721-0708

N2CQ QRP CALENDAR April 2010

Montana QSO Party

Apr 9, 0000z to Apr 11, 0000z

Rules: <http://www.fvarc.org/>

PSK Flavors Contest ... QRP Category

Apr 10, 12:00 to 18:00 YOUR LOCAL TIME

Rules: <http://www.podxs070.com/31-flavors>

Georgia QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Apr 10, 1800z to Apr 11, 0359z

Apr 11, 1400z to Apr 11, 2359z Rules:

<http://gqp.contesting.com>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW)

... QRP Category

Apr 11, 0000z to 2359z

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

UBA Spring Sprint (80m SSB) ... QRP Entries

Noted Apr 11, 0600z to 1000z

Rules: <http://www.uba.be/en/hf/contest-rules>

CWops Mini-CWT Test (CW) ... QRP Category

Apr 14, 1100z to 1200z and

Apr 14, 1900z to 2000z and

Apr 15, 0300z to 0400z

Rules: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint (CW) *** QRP Contest ***

EDT: Apr 13, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM

UTC: Apr 14, 0030Z to 0230Z

Rules:

<http://home.windstream.net/yoel/contests.html>

The HOLYLAND DX CONTEST (CW/SSB/Dig)
... QRP Category

Apr 16, 2100z to Apr 17, 2100z

Rules: http://www.iarc.org/?page_id=983

TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest ... QRP Category

Apr 17, 0000z to 2359z

Rules:

http://www.n2ty.org/seasons/tara_seasons.html

Michigan QSO Party (CW/SSB) ...QRP Category

Apr 17, 1600z to Apr 18, 0400z

Rules: <http://www.miqp.org/>

EA-QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP Contest!

Apr 17, 1700z to 2000z (10, 15 & 20 Mtrs)

Apr 17, 2000z to 2300z (80 Mtrs)

Apr 18, 0700z to 1100z (40 Mtrs)

Apr 18, 1100z to 1300z (10, 15 & 20 Mtrs)

Rules:

http://www.eaqrp.com/concurso/test_eaqrp_cw-en.htm

Ontario QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category

Apr 17, 1800z to Apr 18, 0500z
Apr 18, 1200z to Apr 18, 1800z
Rules: <http://cco.ve3xd.com/oqp/>

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Feld Hell Club Sprint (Feld Hell) ... QRP  
Category  
Apr 17, 2000z to 2200z  
Rules:  
<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home>

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Rookie Roundup (SSB) 100W Max
Apr 18, 1800z to 2359z
Rules:
<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2010/rr.html>

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YU DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category  
Apr 17, 2100z to Apr 18, 0500z and  
Apr 18, 0900z to 1700z  
Rules:  
<http://www.yu1srs.org.rs/dl/yudx/yudxruleseng.html>

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RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) *** QRP
CONTEST ***
EDT: Apr 18, 9 PM to 11 PM
UTC: Apr 19, 0100z 0300z
Rules: <http://www.fqrp.com/>

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SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards  
Apr 28, 0000z to 0200z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

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SP DX RTTY Contest
Apr 24, 1200z to Apr 25, 1200z
Rules: <http://www.pkrvq.org/zbior.html>

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Florida QSO Party (CW/Phone) ...QRP Category  
Apr 24, 1600z to Apr 25, 0159z and  
Apr 25, 1200z to 2159z  
Rules: <http://www.floridaqsoparty.org/>

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Nebraska QSO Party (CW/SSB/Digital) ... QRP
Category
Apr 24, 1700z to Apr 25, 1700z
Rules: <http://www.hdxa.net/neqso/index.htm>

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Helvetia Contest (CW/SSB) (Swiss) ...QRP  
Category  
Apr 24, 1300z to Apr 25, 1259z  
Rules: <http://www.uska.ch>

QRP To The Field (CW) ...QRP Contest!!  
Apr 24, 1500z to Apr 25,0300z Rules:  
<http://www.zianet.com/QRP/>

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FISTS/EUCW CW QRS Contest (CW) ... QRP
Category
Apr 26, 0001z to Apr 30, 2359z
Rules: <http://www.agcw.org/eucw/euqrs.html>

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Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL),  
VA3JFF & G4GXL (QRPARCI)  
N2APB (AmQRP), WB3AAL (EPAQRP) and  
others for assistance in compiling this calendar.

If you wish to subscribe to the Calendar,  
send an e-mail to N2CQ@ARRL.Net  
Please forward the contest info you sponsor to  
[N2CQ@ARRL.NET](mailto:N2CQ@ARRL.NET) and  
we will post it and 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.)

72 de  
Ken Newman - N2CQ  
N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar Links:  
<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/Contest/contest.htm>  
<http://www.amqrp.org/contesting/contesting.html>  
<http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/full/6134/130/lang.en/>

# 2010 LAPEER COUNTY TORNADO SIREN TEST SCHEDULE

If your community doesn't have a siren, or you cannot hear a siren, you may want to purchase a NOAA All Hazard Weather Radio.



If your community has a tornado siren, below are the dates that they will be tested:

Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

**All Tests Will Be  
Held At 1:00PM**

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*Should inclement weather be present at the time of testing, the test will be cancelled. Should you have any questions, please contact your local fire department.*

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## 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