

**W8LAP/r**  
 146.620 - 100Hz  
 442.750 + 123Hz QRP  
[www.w8lap.com](http://www.w8lap.com)

# Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

June

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2010

*The next regular meeting will be held on  
 Tuesday, June 8 —7:30 p.m.  
 at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)  
 2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

## The Prez Sez:

Well I thought the LDS preparedness fair went extremely well. We had a 2m radio running APRS and we also tried to have HF running. The club's Buddipole seems to be awfully noisy and it was difficult to hear anything. Tom (KD8EBY) and I had fun setting up the outside antennas in the rain. It was worth the effort as we collected a total of 11 very interested people. Most of these folks were already interested in amateur radio and already wanted to get their license at some point in the past. So hopefully we will see a few of them at the ham swap testing session.

We need Lapeer County operators for the county SET on June 11<sup>th</sup>! This is a huge opportunity for us to

demonstrate our capabilities to the county and we should make every effort to support it. If we do not practice with the county emergency people they will not use us in an actual event. It is a shame in my opinion that we are forced to ask for assistance outside the county. Please support this very important event.

We will see you at the club meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup> and don't forget to bring your Dayton stories.

Kevin Boxey  
 KB8TAR

## The Treas Sez:

Greetings to one and all. The treasurer's report for the month of May is pretty thin. And that's a good thing. For some reason known only to DTE Energy, they chose to skip last's month bill and they are going to take it out on June 1, 2010. So the only out lay we had was the AT&T phone bill and a minor charge for repeater equipment. Income was typical, dues, coffee and donut donation and fifty-fifty donation. By the time you read this Operation

Care Memorial Day will have passed and the donations received for that will have started to increase our treasury. For those of you that were willing to give some time for that we thank you very much. Remember Op Care for Independence Day is coming up at the beginning of July.

Respectfully submitted and thank you  
 Bill Miller KD8VP Treasurer

## The Trustee Sez:

Hello to everyone, I have some good news and some bad news. The bad news is the 440 repeater is broke and out of commission. What you didn't even know that? I know it didn't break for over use, so it must have been from lack of use. The good news is, it is getting fixed. As I found out there are four stages to the output on the transmitter. The exciter (milliwatts), the first amplifier

(about 8 watts). the second amp. (about 25 watts), and finally the last amplifier stage (about 40 watts). Because of the way the amplifier board is designed, it is very hard to determine whether the 25 watt or the 40 watt transistor is blown.

So the easiest way to repair it is to replace both. They are almost impossible to remove with out cutting the leads. So that is what we are going to do. Cut the leads,

solder in the new transistors and hope for the best.

These GE Master Two radios were mobile police radios back in the Sixties. That makes them very close to 50 years old. Parts are getting very hard to come by, but we found new transistors at RF Parts in California. After a

## **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.

There will be an Emergency Preparedness Fair at LDS Church on Oregon Rd. on May 22 from 1 to 4 p.m. There will be a pre-assembly at the Presbyterian Church on Calhoun St. on May 26 at noon.

**Operation Care** for Memorial Weekend is May 28th to 31st.

**Secretary Report** was given by Flo, kc8cab. Accepted by Tom, kd8eby.

**Treasurers Report** was given by Bill, kd8vp. Accepted by Tom, kd8eoa.

**Trustees Report** was given by Bill, kd8vp. Bill used the new meter at the repeater. The 2 meter repeater has 40 watts. The 440 repeater there was no reading. So Bill took it in to have it checked out.

**EC Report** was given by Tom, kd8eby. Everything is here for packet. The antenna is to go close to 100 feet on the tower. They are still working on office at the hospital. Fifteen [15] people is needed for June 11th from 6pm to 11pm in Dryden.

## **The EC Sez:**

Well we've gotten the radio up and running at the hospital and Lansing should have issued the P.O. needed to pay the climber for the antenna at EOC. Hopefully we'll have that equipment installed also prior to the SET. We still need at least 10 more operators for the set, if you're available on June 11th from 6-9:30pm (approx) please

## **And a word about Operation CARE and LCARA dues:**

Greeting all, First thanks to "all the regulars" who gave up some of their holiday time to assist with Op. Care. I personally appreciate your help. Second to alleviate the confusion from some I've heard- the only requirement for your "free/paid" membership is a TOTAL of 18 hours (6-3 hour shifts) helping on the hill. These can be done over the 3 holiday weekends, one of the weekends or even one day (Fridays and Saturdays Op. Care runs from 6am-9pm). This entirely up to the individual donating their time. If you still have questions please feel free to contact me personally. 73, TOM

short period of time we should be up and running, and the 440 repeater will again be at your beck and call.

That's it for now see you at the club meeting.

Thank you

Bill Miller KD8VP Trustee of the 146.620 and 442.750 repeaters.

**Communication AEC Report** was given by Joe, kd8cil. The I-com 7000 will be going down in 911. A sub station at the hospital will have a 2 meter and a 440 radioes. Everything bought with Federal and State grants belongs to the club. A list is being made up on all the equipment that was bought.

**Break** was from 8:10 to 8:22.

Joe, kd8cil wrote a proposal for the club. I move that the LCARA authorizes the Emergency Coordinator, Tom Oliver to be the signatory for receipt of equipment on the official equipment receipt acknowledgement forms for equipment purchased with State of Michigan and Federal Pass through funds. The proposal was accepted with no nays.

**Field Day** is June 26-27 on the hill at the rest area.

We may have a Summer club meeting for HF work at a park in Lapeer, may be in July, not sure yet.

**50/50** was won by Flo, kc8cab.

Meeting was closed at 8:32. Moved by Joe, kd8cil.

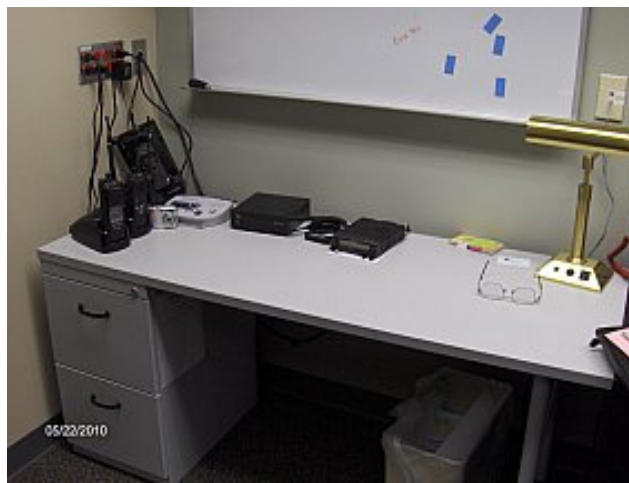
Seconded by Brian, n8tft.

contact me and I'll add you to my list. Next Op. Care 'll be over before this is published. As of now we still have open positions. And last, the "Big Fish Triathlon" is June 20th in Ortonville and we need operators for this also. 73 for now, TOM

## From the Mailbag:



The LCARA display at the LDS Church preparedness fair display



Our station at the Lapeer Hospital in the Emergency Room

## Tech Test Gets a Little More Technical

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

Ever since the FCC dropped the code requirement and the Novice license exam, the Technician Class license has really been misnamed. Being the first license that most hams obtain, it really should have been called the Novice license. The question pool was arguably at the appropriate level for newcomers to amateur radio, being heavy on rules and operating practices, and perhaps a little light on technical topics.

That's about to change. On July 1, 2010, the question pool for the Tech test changes, and this version has noticeably more technical questions than the previous test. You could say that the Tech test is getting, errrr, a little more technical.

For example, the new question pool contains more questions about electronics components and their functions. In addition to that, examinees must also be able to identify the symbols for these components on a schematic diagram. This is a big change from the previous test, which had no diagrams at all. There are also more detailed questions about transistors and how they work.

There are also questions on how to make basic measurements with a multimeter how to troubleshoot basic problems that Technicians are likely to encounter. One question asks, "What two measurements are commonly made using a multimeter"? Answer: voltage and resistance. A follow up question asks, "What is the correct way to connect a voltmeter to a circuit"? Answer: in parallel with the circuit.

To make room for these questions, the committee dropped questions on operating practices and rules and

regulations. In general, these are not big losses, but two questions that I was sorry to see go are the questions on the "basis and purpose" of amateur radio. I think these are very important for new amateurs to learn and keep in mind. (If you don't recall them, go to <http://www.arrl.org/part-97-amateur-radio> and review them.)

By the time you read this--or shortly thereafter--the new version of my No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide should be available. You can download it free of charge from my website, [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com). Look for the link in the right-hand column. It's currently in the hands of more than two dozen reviewers, who are proofreading it right now.

While it may not be in the initial release, I plan to include a section that contains links to websites that cover topics included in the study guide. That way, students can find more information on a topic, if they choose to do so. If you have any favorite websites that discuss making measurements with voltmeters or how to read schematic diagrams, I'd love to hear from you.

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When not updating his No-Nonsense amateur radio license study guides, you'll find him on 40m, 30m, 20m, and if we ever get any sunspots to stick around, 15m and 10m pounding brass. You may even hear him trying to get the hang of using the bug he bought at Dayton this year. You'll find his blog at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com), and you can e-mail website suggestions to [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com)

## Coming Events...

**June 19-** Milford Hamfest, Milford, OH

**June 19-** Midland Hamfest, Midland, MI

**June 20-** Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI

**August 7:** UP Hamfest, Escanaba, MI

**September 12:** Findlay Hamfest, Findlay, OH

**September 19:** Adrian ARC Hamfest, Adrian, MI

**October 17:** Kalamazoo Hamfest, Kalamazoo, MI

**Remember --- DX is!**

### Volunteer Exam Session

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be **June 12, 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: June 12; July 10; August 14; September 11, October 9; November 13; December 11**

*Martin, KD8IKN*

[pioneer-2@att.net](mailto: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.**

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**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.

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**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 ( 2 left )

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

## June 2010

Adventure Radio Spartan Sprint (CW) ... QRP Event!  
June 8 , 0100z to 0300z (First Monday 9 PM EDT)  
Info: [http://adventure-radio.org/wiki/index.php?title=Main\\_Page](http://adventure-radio.org/wiki/index.php?title=Main_Page)

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*  
EDT: June 8, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM  
UTC: June 9, 0030Z to 0230Z  
Rules: <http://home.windstream.net/yoel/contests.html>

CWops Mini-CWT Test (CW) ... QRP Category  
June 9, 1100z to 1200z and  
June 9, 1900z to 2000z and  
June 10, 0300z to 0400z  
Rules: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

Long Distance RTTY Contest  
June 12, 0800z to 1559z  
June 13, 0000z to 0759z  
June 13, 1500z to 2359z  
Rules:  
[http://drcg.de/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=124&Itemid=84](http://drcg.de/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=124&Itemid=84)

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category  
June 12, 1500z to June 13, 1500z  
Rules: <http://tinyurl.com/32mhw7l>

ARRL June VHF QSO Party  
June 12, 1800z to June 14, 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>

BARTG 75 Baud RTTY Sprint  
June 12, 2000z to 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.bartg.org.uk/documents/Contests/sprint75/BARTG%20Sprint%2075%20Rules%202010.pdf>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Category  
June 13, 0000z to 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>

West Virginia QSO Party (SSB/CW)... QRP Category  
June 19, 1600z to June 20, 0200z  
Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc/>

AGCW VHF/UHF CW Contest ... QRP Category  
June 19, 1600z to 1900z (144 Mhz)  
June 19, 1900z to 2100z (432 Mhz)  
Rules: [http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:VHF-UHF\\_Contest](http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:VHF-UHF_Contest)

Feld Hell Club Sprint (Feld Hell) ... QRP Category  
June 19, 2000z to 2200z  
Rules: <http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home>

RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST \*\*\*  
EDT: June 20, 9 PM to 11 PM  
UTC: June 21, 0100z 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.fpqrp.com/>

SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards  
June 23, 0000z to 0200z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

Ukrainian DX Digi Contest (RTTY 75bps- PSK63)  
June 26, 1200z to June 27, 1200z  
Rules: <http://www.izmail-dx.com/>

Marconi Memorial Contest (CW) ... QRP Category  
June 26, 1400z to June 27, 1400z  
Rules: [http://www.arifano.it/Contest\\_Marconi.htm](http://www.arifano.it/Contest_Marconi.htm)

ARRL Field Day (CW/SSB/RTTY)... QRP Category  
June 26, 1800z to June 27, 2100z  
Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day (ALL)... QRP Contest!  
June 26, 1800z to June 27, 2100z  
Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org>

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

**August 15, 2010**

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**Lapeer, MI  
11th Annual  
Ham & Computer Swap**

**Sunday, August 15, 2010 at 8:00 AM—12:00 PM  
Lapeer Co. Center Building—425 County Center Dr.  
(See map on back)**

**\*\*\* Admission: \$5\*\*\***

**Tables: \$10 at the Door  
\$10 in Advance**

Mail-in form for admission & tables at  
<http://www.w8lap.com>

**\*\*\* Handicap Accessible\*\*\***

**\*\*\* Free Parking\*\*\***

**\*\*\* All Sales Inside\*\*\***

**\*\*\* Refreshments Available\*\*\***

**\*\*\* Limited Electricity Available\*\*\***

**\*\*\* Talk-In 146.620-\*\*\*  
100Hz tone**

Swap info: [kd8vp@arrl.net](mailto:kd8vp@arrl.net)



**VE Testing**

Bring the original and a copy of 2 forms of ID, current license & CSCE (if any). Contact Bob, N8NE for test details (810) 653-3856.

**NO WALK-INS**

**2010 LCARA Swap Table & Ticket Order**

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Callsign \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Tables are \$10 each if purchased before the swap, \$10 each the day of the swap

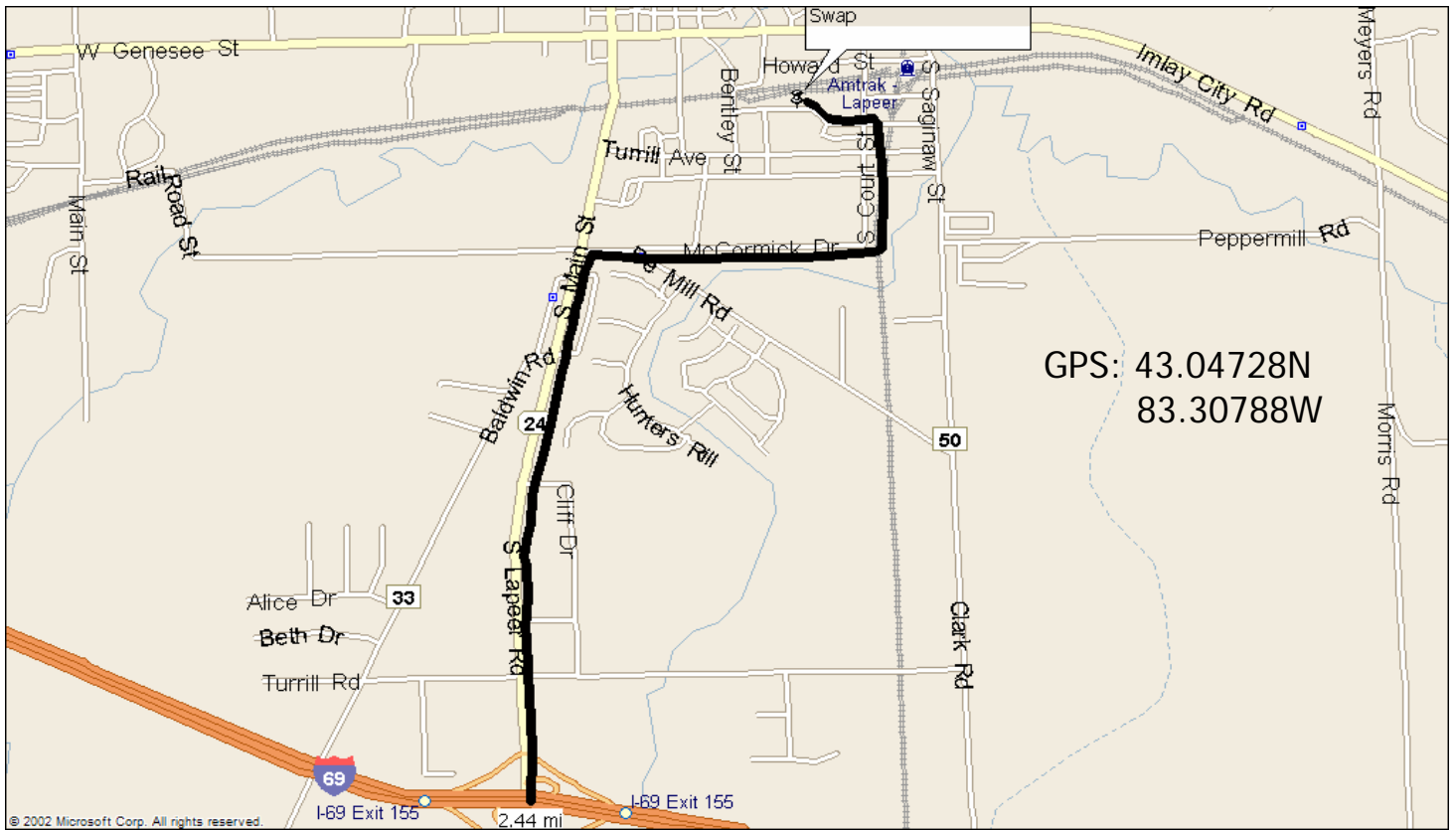
Number of tables: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 5.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Electricity: Limited & on first reserved basis. Do you wish electricity? Y N

For mail-in form - online at [www.w8lap.com](http://www.w8lap.com)

Mail to: LCARA, Box 12, Hadley, MI 48440-0012



### Swap Directions

Exit 155 (I-69) head NORTH on M - 24 for 1.2 mi., turn right on De Mille Rd. (turns into McCormick Dr.). Go 0.2 mi., turn left onto S. Court St. Go 0.2 mi., turn left to the County Center Building at 425 County Center St, Lapeer, MI 48446.

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



# Seaway Trunk Swap

August 8, 2010

9:00 A.M. to Noon

Presented by:

The Eastern Michigan Amateur Radio Club

Vantage Point in Port Huron

5 Water Street,

Downtown at the foot of Water Street where the  
Black River joins the Saint Clair River

Free Admission & Free Parking

Trunk Sales Only

Refreshments available at the Coffee Harbor

Talk-in 147.32-

Admission - Free

Trunk Space - Free

Information email Bob K8WMW at  
[k8wmw@arrl.net](mailto:k8wmw@arrl.net)

This is an ARRL approved Hamfest

## 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