

Waveguide

W8LAP / r

146.620 - 100 Hz

442.750 + 123 Hz

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Club Founder: Hollis Hayes W8ACD

Edition for **March 2015**

***** The next regular club meeting will be held on Tuesday,
March 10th, 2015 @ 7:30 pm at Lapeer County EOC *****

ARES Net

Every Tuesday at 8:00 pm on 146.620 - with 100 Hz PL

(except club meeting nights)

Thursday Night Net

Every Thursday at 8:00 pm on 442.750 + with 123 Hz PL

Meetings

LCARA meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911), 2332 W. Genesee St., Lapeer, MI at 7:30 pm

Newsletter




Items for the newsletter may be called in to the editor at 810-793-4986 or emailed to kevinboxey@hotmail.com. The deadline for submission is the 20th of each month.

Website: <http://www.w8lap.com>

Facebook: Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 -ARPSC @ 3:00 pm on 3.932 LSB -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm - D3 HF digital net 3.583 USB at 8:00 pm	2	3 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	4	5 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	6	7
8 -ARPSC @ 3:00 pm on 3.932 LSB -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm - D3 HF digital net 3.583 USB at 8:00 pm	9	10 LCARA club meeting 7:30 pm at the EOC	11	12 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	13	14
15 -ARPSC @ 3:00 pm on 3.932 LSB -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm - D3 HF digital net 3.583 USB at 8:00 pm	16	17 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	18	19 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	20	21 -T&C
22 -ARPSC @ 3:00 pm on 3.932 LSB -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm - D3 HF digital net 3.583 USB at 8:00 pm	23	24 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	25	26 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	27	28
29 -ARPSC @ 3:00 pm on 3.932 LSB -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm - D3 HF digital net 3.583 USB at 8:00 pm	30	31 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm				
Phases of the moon: 5:○ 13:● 20:● 27:●						

April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	3	4
	6	7 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	8	9 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	10	11 
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Phases of the moon: 4:○ 11:○ 18:● 25:●						
Holidays and Observances: 5: Easter Sunday, 13: Thomas Jefferson's Birthday						

2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015 2015

Upcoming events

Lee N8LJ will be giving a presentation on using LoTW at the March club meeting.



Public Service Event Schedule

**** please keep these dates open in your calendar ****



Skywarn training - 16 April 2015

Memorial Day Op CARE - 22 to 25 May 2015 (TBC)

Big Fish Triathlon - 31 May 2015

July 4th Op CARE - 02 to 05 July 2015 (TBC)

Atwood - 19 July 2015

Crim - 22 Aug 2015

Labor Day Op CARE - 04 to 07 Sept 2015 (TBC)



*** 2015 Michigan QSO Party ***

*** 16z on 4/18/15 to 04z on 4/19/2015 ***

Editorial Section

The President Says:

Hello everyone. You can tell that the busy radio months are almost here by the size of the Waveguide. It practically wrote itself this month.

There is a bunch to read in this issue so I will not be long winded. One topic for the March meeting will be setting up more presentations. I am looking for "show and tell" presenters. The topics could be radio projects you have built or maybe a review of a new piece of gear you purchased. I plan on presenting at the April meeting on my go box project.

See you at the meeting
Kevin KB8TAR

The VP Says:

Nothing new to report for this month except that the new RACES cards are in. I'll soon be distributing them to all that I have the appropriate paperwork on file for.

Due to my work schedule I will be unable to attend the club meetings but I'm certain that I'll be advised of anything new.

73, TOM

The Treasurer Says:

Greetings to one and all. Brrrrr., what a cold winter. We should be outdoors putting up antennas or something this time of year. No were stuck indoors staying out of the cold.

I have been negotiating the lease on the tower out at Maple Grove School. As reported to you quite some time ago, the school was going to want us to add their name to our liability insurance policy. At that time it was going to cost us an additional \$50 a year to do that. I was unwilling, and told the new administration so. After much negotiating with both the school and the insurance co. we came to a compromise. The insurance carrier will send the school a free certificate showing our insurance policy, every year and when any changes are made to the policy. In exchange the school will reinstitution our lease. The only think wrong with that is that the tower lease is in the rears by two years. So to keep things as they have always been, the school is going to renew the lease this time only until 2016. In 2016 we will have to renew again for the normal three year term.

The treasury has now paid the Liability insurance company for the new year. That is one of the big hits for February. The other is the Property insurance that is carried by the ARRL. That is due before the second week in March, so I will be paying it also.

We took in a little bit from some dues and the donations for coffee and donuts, but the treasury is still solvent and not in any trouble.

Operation Care is coming soon and when it does I expect everyone is going to volunteer so that we can build the treasury back up. RIGHT!!!!

Stay warm and full of anticipation of warm weather.
Respectfully, Treasurer, William Miller KD8VP

Editorial Section

The Trustee Says:

Hello W8LAP Supporters:

There have been no issues that involve the trustee administration function, and no system malfunctions.

This month's Links:

Club Call Trustees

The LCARA meeting minutes recently referenced asking the trustee for W8LAP (me) about using the call for the upcoming Michigan QSO party. The FCC rules mention nothing about the procedure for requesting or granting use of a club call at the club level. The rules do note both the requirements for obtaining a club call, and the responsibilities of the trustee.

To obtain a club call, the FCC requires that the club possess certain documents, have a minimum membership, and the trustee be approved/appointed by the club president. Application for trusteeship is done through the VEC office of the ARRL. Details are at <http://www.arrl.org/club-call-signs>.

The essence of trusteeship is to assure that a call is used within the parameters of FCC Part 97 (Amateur Radio Service) rules. The club call is a station license, but not an operator license. This means that a club call may only be used within privileges of either the radio operator, or the control operator. Put another way, if you are given permission to use W8LAP, it must be used with the operating privileges of your license. K6RIA has a very good explanation and Q&A at k6ria.net/PDF/Club_callsign_use.pdf

Some clubs have taken permissions to the extreme. These include requirements for written requests, time limits, and written explanations when the call is used in situations where FCC rule infractions occur. An example is on the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club site: <http://www.bvarc.org/index.php?page=clubcall>. I'll leave it to you to opine on the sagacity of having a full page of instructions, and a request form, let alone submitting to the club board of directors, instead of the trustee.

For W8LAP, using the call is simple: Send an email to me, with the circumstances of your proposed use, and I'll get back to you.

One matter of trusteeship that LCARA differed from some clubs, relative to the club repeater, is in repeater maintenance. For decades, this club considered that the W8LAP trustee possessed the knowledge and equipment to maintain the club repeater. This was, in fact, the case with all past trustees, to my awareness. The FCC rules do not require this, however. Thus, when asked to take over as trustee, I sought other members with more technical experience and equipment to oversee the practical aspects of the W8LAP repeater. Although I work with our Tech Team* at the site, my primary responsibility is to see that the W8LAP call is not used improperly in operation, and has an interference-free signal.

* Lee (N8LJ) and Will (KB8YGA)

See you at the next meeting,

Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)

Editorial Section

The Secretary Says:

Lapeer Radio Club Meeting Minutes February 10, 2015

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by acting president Tom Oliver. 13 members and guests were present.

Congratulations to Tom Mercier KE8AGM for getting his license and welcome to Steve Hill WA8HHE.

Hospital report, Dan reports his wife is doing well.

Skywarn training will be at the PIX Theater April 16th. Pre-registration is required. Sign up at www.lapeerskywarn.com starting March 1st. Seating at the PIX is limited.

There will be a county wide emergency preparedness exercise on June 5th, 2015. The exercise will be held from 8:30 am till noon. Tom KB8EDY is in need of a net control operator and three other operators to monitor the repeater for possible communications back up. Contact Tom for details. kd8eby@arrl.net

The secretary's report was read and approved without changes. The treasures' report was read and approved.

Trustee reported the repeaters were working fine. Steve WA8HHE reported contact with the call sign assignee (who resides out of state) the "lurker" sometimes used. Rumor says the assignee may have contacted some relatives still living in the area inquiring if anyone was using the call sign. Since the contact, no lurker activity has been reported.

Net control operators are needed for Tuesday night and Thursday night 8 pm nets. Please step up and pick up net control if no one else starts the net. The suggested preamble is printed in each Waveguide.

Ideas were suggested to email net announcement to remind the members of the net. The MIQRP group uses an automated email for their weekly net. To get the automatic announcement, the members must be signed into the appropriate yahoo users group.

In the Ask your Elmer agenda, Chris KC8TWL asked if anyone had a repair process for an RJ45 microphone connector. The tab that prevents the removal of the connector broke off allowing the connector to slip out during use. Dan KC1BUD requested a list of "Q" signals.

The presentation of the evening was "Video Cameras" by our own Mike KN8Z.

To support the clubs desire to enhance the meetings with presentations and we depend upon someone procuring a video projector, Mike Bowman graciously agreed to investigate the cost for the club to procure a video projector.

50/50 was won by Chris KC8TWL.

Respectfully submitted

Lee N8LJ

Event announcement

Birch Run Expo Center – Birch Run, MI – April 11, 2015



When and Where

Birch Run, MI

Saturday, April 11, 2015

8:00AM - 4:00PM

Birch Run Expo Center
11600 North Beyer Rd, Birch
Run, MI 48415

Hamfest information



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/14/2015 | Michigan Crossroads Hamfest and Radio Swap

Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.w8df.com/hamfest>

[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

05/09/2015 | CCRAA - KCRA Hamfest

Location: Chassell, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Copper Country Radio Amateur Assn. & Keweenaw County Repeater Assn.

Website: <http://kcra-mi.net/>

[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

03/21/2015 | West Michigan Youth Club Hamfest

Location: Lowell, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: West Michigan Youth Club (Lowell Area Schools)

Website: <http://www.westmichiganyouthclub.org>

[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

06/07/2015 | Chelsea Radio Swap 'n Shop

Location: Chelsea, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Chelsea Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.wd8iel.com>

[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

05/02/2015 | Cadillac Hamfest

Location: Cadillac, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.wexaukeearc.org/>

[Learn More](#)



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

06/21/2015 | Monroe Hamfest

Location: Monroe, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Association

Website: <http://www.mcrcra.org>

[Learn More](#)

Here is a cool website from KD8EOA

<http://hams.mapmash.com/hammap.php>



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Stuff for Sale

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- x

If you have something to sell please send an email with the details to kevinboxey@hotmail.com to be included in the Waveguide listing.



Don't forget to join your fellow hams on the LCARA nets

- *Tuesday* night at 8:00 pm on 146.620 - with 100 Hz PL
and
- *Thursday* night at 8:00 pm on 442.750 + with 123 Hz PL



I was asked to speak at a school Science Olympiad in February on amateur radio and Skywarn. Here are the kids from Murphy Elementary School, 3rd through 5th grade. Hopefully we will see their faces at Skywarn training this year. KB8TAR

FCC license policy update

SB QST @ ARL \$ARLB007 ARLB007 FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Now in Effect ZCZC AG07 QST de W1AW ARRL Bulletin 7 ARLB007 >From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT February 17, 2015

To all radio amateurs SB QST ARL ARLB007 ARLB007 FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Now in Effect Starting today, February 17, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees.

The Commission maintains that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC had routinely continued to print and mail hard copy licenses until this week. In mid-December, the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives.

Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one.

Licensees will also be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager. "We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said.

According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including staff expenses.

Useful information

Common Q Signals Heard on Repeater System

QSignal	Question ?	Answer, Advise, or Order
QRM	Are you being interfered with?	I am being interfered with.
	Do you have interference	
QRN	Are you troubled by static?	I am troubled by static.
QRP	Shall I decrease power?	Decrease power (commonly a Low Power Station)
QRT	Shall I stop sending?	Stop sending
		(Common usage - clear) (Maybe Shutting Down)
QRU	Have you anything for me?	I have nothing for you
QRV	Are you ready?	I am ready.
QRX	When will you call me again?	I will call you again at ... (hours) on ... khz (or Mhz)
	Common Usage Pause, Wait, Standby	Common Usage Pause, Wait, Standby
QRZ	Who is calling me?	You are being called by ... on ... khz (or Mhz)
QSL	Can you acknowledge receipt?	I am acknowledging receipt.
	Common usage - Did you get that OK?	Common usage -- Yes I understand, Roger
QSO	Can you communicate with ... direct or by relay?	I can communicate with ... direct (or by relay through ...)
		Common Usage -- A 2-Way Contact, a conversation.
QSY	Shall I change to transmission on another frequency?	Change to transmission on another frequency (or on ... khz (or Mhz).
QTH	What is your position in latitude and longitude (or according to any other indication)?	My position is ... latitude...longitude
	Where are you located?	Common usage - Your location mobile or home

Useful information

Q Signal Commonly Heard on HF

QSignal	Question ?	Answer, Advise, or Order
QBM	Has ... sent a message for me?	Here is the message sent by ... at ... hours.
QRB	How far are you from my station?	I am ____ km from you station
QCB	Delay	Delay is being caused by ... 1) your transmitting out of turn 2) Your slowness in answering 3) lack of your reply to my ...
QCS	Frequency Breakdown	My reception on ... frequency has broken down.
QCX	What is your full call sign?	My full call sign is ... OR Use your full call sign until further notice
QDB	Have you sent message... to ...?	I have sent message ... to ...
QIF	What frequency is ... using?	... is using ... khz (or ... mhz.).
QMH	Shift Frequency	Shift to transmit and receive on ... khz. (or ... mhz.); if communication is not established within 5 minutes, revert to present frequency.
QRA	What is the name of your station?	The name of my station is ...
QRB	How far are you from my station?	I am ____ km from you station
QRG	Will you tell me my exact frequency (or that of ...)?	Your exact frequency (or that of ...) is ... khz (or Mhz).
QRH	Does my frequency vary?	Your frequency varies.
QRI	How is the tone of my transmission?	The tone of your transmission is (1. Good; 2. Variable; 3. Bad).
QRJ	Are you receiving me badly?	I cannot receive you, your signal is too weak.
QRK	What is the readability of my signals (or those of ...)?	The readability of your signals (or those of ...) is ... (1 to 5).
QRL	Are you busy?	I am busy. (or I am busy with ...) Please do not interfere.
QRM	Are you being interfered with?	I am being interfered with.
QRN	Are you troubled by static?	I am troubled by static.
QRO	Shall I increase power?	Increase power
QRP	Shall I decrease power?	Decrease power
QRQ	Shall I send faster?	Send faster (... wpm)
QRS	Shall I send more slowly?	Send more slowly (... wpm)

WHY TESTING AND PRACTICE IS IMPORTANT?

D. W. Thorne, K6SOJ, Sacramento Valley ARES SEC, Editor and Publisher of EMCOMM Monthly

If 9/11/2001 was a wake up call to America, Hurricane Katrina was a very loud alarm clock! Within a few months, most Amateur Radio operators will hit the "snooze-button" and go back to their self-centered lives. Emergency communications is simply not a priority to them, while hamfests, DXing, contests, clubs, and coffee breaks (which are all fun) are given top billing.

One axiom of disaster planning is, the longer it has been since the last disaster, the closer you are to the next one. Just because you recently experienced one disaster, that does not make you immune from another one. Prior to any disaster, delusion and denial are common. They may be collective (everyone has it) and contagious (it is spread from person-to-person). It is common to see these potentially catastrophic behaviors displayed by local, state, and federal agency officials. These are known as the "It won't happen to me" and/or the "It won't happen here" syndrome.

Hurricane Katrina was arguably the worst natural disaster to ever hit the United States. It is also the most classic textbook illustration of The Delusion of Personal Invulnerability since the decade immediately prior to World War II. While the hurricane itself could not be avoided, the lack of preparedness could have been prevented. It would be less than honest to say "we never saw this coming". Over the past few decades, study after study has forecast that the City of New Orleans was "a sitting duck," just waiting to be destroyed. All the experts agreed that it wasn't a question of "if", it was only a question of "when". Sadly, that question has now been answered.

To say that a disaster of this magnitude is overwhelming is a gross understatement. There will (of course) be all the usual finger-pointing and denial after denial as to "who is to blame". Much of this will be unfair criticism. There is also enough justifiable blame to go around. Hopefully it will be directed appropriately and fairly.

The storm and flood victims are also victims of "The Great Society". For the past forty years the delusion that "The government will protect and come and save us," has dominated the thinking of many Americans, local and state government politicians, appointees and bureaucrats. I doubt that Hurricane Katrina will do much to change this mindset that is so embedded in many people.

In the 1950s and 1960s, the nation's focus for disaster preparedness was personal responsibility. Now it's: "When will the government get here to help me?" Many of us who have been around for awhile remember all the booklets, courses, even TV programs on self-reliance.

While some official agencies were spinning their wheels during the first few days following Hurricane Katrina, some non-government organizations and private individuals mobilized and got to work. One example is the ballet school operator who got so frustrated watching "the authorities" hold press conference after press conference that she went into action without any authorization". She recruited local doctors and nurses, rented a large van, stocked up on medical supplies, and headed into the stricken area. Then proceeded to provide the only medical care to a community in Mississippi. Or, how about the woman physician from Kansas, who loaded up her station wagon and set up shop in one of the worst hit areas in Louisiana?

Emergency communications is often a low priority in the thinking of most emergency planners, yet it is the central nervous system that conveys intelligence information and resource requests during any disaster. In my opinion, it should rank as high as emergency medical care. What good is emergency medical care if those in need cannot communicate their needs?

If our "plan" is to wait until ARES/RACES is "activated" by some government official, we may have a long wait. The important thing, whether your ARES/RACES group is deployed or not, is to be prepared for such a deployment.

Let me be very clear. I am talking about everyone knowing how to originate, relay and deliver a radiogram. Don't wait around for the nightly traffic net, and let someone else do it for you. Even though NTS nets should be operating, everyone must know how to get their message into the system. I am talking about basic planning documents and guidelines. I am talking about self-contained, highly portable equipment. Most importantly, I am talking about having people who are equipped with knowledge and experience.

We have all heard some ham say: "I am not interested in any preparedness activity or meetings or training, but in an emergency I'll be there to help!" Visualize for a moment what would happen if the musicians within a community took this same attitude. "I am not interested in attending any practice sessions or rehearsals. But the next time the symphony has a concert I'll be there with my horn! Since I own an instrument and play with it once a week doesn't that make me qualified? And, why do you insist that we all play from the same page of music?"

If any Amateur Radio operators should be leading the fight against this sort of apathy and ignorance, it should be ARES/RACES leaders and members. Apathy and ignorance are killers.

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

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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

Officers

President: Kevin Boxey KB8TAR, 810-793-4986
Vice President: Tom Oliver KD8EBY, 810-247-3227
Treasurer: Bill Miller KD8VP, 810-797-5329
Secretary: Flo Haack KC8CAB, 810-793-2606

Committees and Appointees

Club Call Trustee W8LAP: Mike Zedan KN8Z
Repeater technical team: Lee N8LJ & Will KB8YGA
Skywarn Coordinator: Tom Oliver KD8EBY
Meeting Refreshments: Bill Miller KD8VP
Newsletter Editor: Kevin Boxey KB8TAR
Net Manager: Tom Oliver KD8EBY
Testing Coordinator: **Volunteer needed**
County EC: Tom Oliver KD8EBY
County AEC: Kevin Boxey KB8TAR



Editorial Section

- Sound analysis - KD8TXW
- CW decoder project - KD8TXW
- Radio message forms - KB8TAR
- Go box construction - does anybody have a box assembled for show and tell ? (multiple club members and examples would be nice)
- 10 tower mistakes - TBD
- Existing videos of 20 minutes or so ?
- Emergency power - TBD
- Equipment review - do you have a new piece of gear and could share your experience with the group ?
- more ideas...??

See you at the January meeting.



International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

**AN ANNUAL AMATEUR RADIO WEEKEND EVENT.
FOUNDED IN 1995 BY TWO MEMBERS OF THE AYR AMATEUR RADIO GROUP, (AARG), SCOTLAND,
AND HELD ON THE THIRD FULL WEEKEND IN AUGUST.**

15-16 August 2015 - Duration 48 hours from 0001 UTC 15.8.2015

Year after - 20-21 August 2016