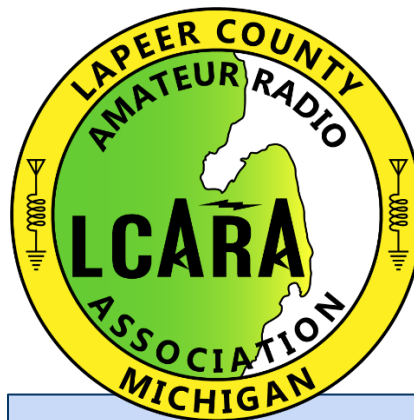


# The Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 12, Hadley MI 48440-0012

<http://www.w8lap.com> | [qso@w8lap.com](mailto:qso@w8lap.com)



## April 2018

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#### W8LAP Repeaters

2 Meter: 146.620 -100 Hz PL Tone

70 CM: 442.750 +123 Hz PL Tone

#### Club Meeting

See calendar for specific dates.

**Lapeer EOC Conference Room**  
(Basement of Dispatch Center)  
2332 West Genesee Street  
Lapeer, MI 48446

#### ARES Team Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month  
(See the club calendar section for specifics.)

#### Regular Nets

Tuesdays, 8pm, 2 Meter Repeater  
*All amateur operators are welcome to check in. Controlled net, two-rounds. No net on club meeting nights.*



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# Reports & Editorials

## President's Report

Hello LCARA Supporters,

The April meeting is right around the corner, and we'll have another digital-themed presentation this month as the club continues to "go deep" on digital technology. Depending on when you read this, the SkyWarn training is coming up on April 5th at 7pm in Lapeer at the PIX theater. If you're interested in participating in weather reports, this is an opportune time to pick up the training. Some of you know this, but a tornado is actually the impetus for my getting involved in the hobby. Back in August of 2007 my family lived in Fenton when the tornado went through (this YouTube video is aerial coverage less than a 1/2 mile from my house - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tHkMRuvq7D0> ). I was still driving home from work, talking with my wife on the cell phone (hands-free, of course) when the line went dead. As I got closer to home, things started looking grim. Trees down over the road, power lines down, the whole nine yards. After driving over several trees in my little commuter car, the last mile was impassable, and I ended up hiking back to my house, fearing the worst. The houses in the video above were at the front end of the subdivision; one had been pushed off its foundation. Another had the contents of the garage sucked clean out through the back wall of the garage. A piece of metal downspout, blown free of its home, was wrapped around a tree trunk, sticking out like a tin foil flag. You get the idea. Long story short, we got lucky, and our home escaped damage.

That storm helped me understand something fundamental. By the time you hear about the disaster on the news, it's already happened. But our amateur nets? Those are real-time, with men and women like yourselves, helping others by keeping (pun intended) a weather eye out. It's a major driver for me, and I recommend it to all.

Hope to see you there.

73,

Gerret, KD8YUK

## Treasurer's Report

For the Treasurer's Report:

Not much happening here, just hanging out and waiting for spring to come, hopefully sooner than later. I have one dipole to change out and a five-element dual band yagi to place on the north side of the house. You can never have enough antennas.

Treasurer activities this past month included paying the ARRL equipment insurance and renewing our post office box.

P.S. Please remember to keep your dues current, utilize them repeaters and check the website often, it's a great resource.

Best Regards,

Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL

## Notes From the Desk of the Secretary

### **Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association- Meeting Minutes - March 13, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Gerret KD8YUK. There were 18 members and guest present.

It was reported that Fred Church N8ABR passed away.

The meeting minutes from the February 2017 meeting were approved as published in the Waveguide.

Paul AB8XL was introduced as the new Treasure. He did an excellent job presenting the financial status of the associations' funds! His report received unanimous approval from the membership present.

Mike KN8Z reported the repeater systems were totally functional.

Kevin KB8TAR reported the ARES meeting for March would focus on Outpost packet. Those who have an interest in ARES activities are encouraged to attend.

Our webmaster Scott N8XP reports the website in under improvement. He is looking for member inputs to add features to the site. The Lapeer Library maintains a list of monthly activities. The LCARA meeting will be added to this site.

We are still looking for programs to fill in our 2018 meetings. If you have a radio/electronic project you would like to share or know of someone who does, please let a board member know so we can schedule them.

The evenings' presentation was DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) and the CMN project. It was presented by Randy N8VDS and Jeff KB8SWR.

The CMN group provides a digital radio network (DMR) across the state of Michigan. Coupled along with the radio network is a standalone internet style backbone providing linking between their sites along with gateways to the commercial internet. Primary purpose of this network is for amateur radio emergency communication and normal amateur radio communication throughout the network. For more information on this organization see <https://w8cmn.net>.

There is an available site with a tower, antenna, and commercial power available near Brown City. CMN is looking for a sponsor to support a DMR UHF repeater and backbone link at this site. See <https://w8cmn.net/DMR-Mi5> and <https://w8cmn.net/Mi5-Sites-Talkgroups>. There is a financial commitment for equipment and a commitment for site maintenance. Cost estimates were discussed. (Ed. Note: there has been added communication regarding cost commitments so I decided not to report them as they are very fluid).

The 50/50 was won by Mike KN8Z.

Meeting Adjourned 9:04 pm

Respectfully submitted

Lee  
N8LJ

**Repeater Trustee**

No news is good news 😊

## EC/RO Report

Hello to all fellow LCARA members.

Well it seems that Skywarn season is almost here if the winter weather would just end. I guess this may be a case of "be careful what you wish for". I would urge all operators that want to participate in the Skywarn nets to brush up on the NWS criteria for reporting. Below is a refresher on what the red, yellow, green status of a Skywarn net means to you the spotter. Please take a moment to review it. This type of information is important to us spotters but is not necessarily covered in the Skywarn training as taught by the NWS.

Please print this out and keep it by your radio throughout this year's weather spotter season.

<u>Type of Alert</u>	<u>County Condition Code</u>
Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch Net is activated Check-ins accepted General weather reports	<b>Green or Standby</b>
Severe Thunderstorm Watch or Warning Net is active Types of reports to be accepted a) Tornadoes (on the ground where, movement, direction, speed, and damage visible) b) Funnel clouds (direction, rotation, speed, location) c) Wall clouds (direction, rotation, speed, location) d) Hail (give diameter) e) Flooding (water over the curbs) f) Heavy or torrential rains (near zero visibility) g) Damaging winds (speed, direction, damage) h) Intense, frequent lighting	<b>Yellow</b>
Tornado Warning a) Tornadoes (on the ground where, movement, direction, speed, and damage visible) b) Funnel clouds (direction, rotation, speed, location) c) Wall clouds (direction, rotation, speed, location)	<b>Red</b>

Our Skywarn coordinator is Tom KD8EBY and his assistant is Paul AB8XL. Either Tom, Paul, and / or myself will be initiating and running the Skywarn nets as required.

As a reminder Lapeer County's Skywarn training is scheduled for Thursday, April 5th at 7:00 pm in the Pix theater in downtown Lapeer. If you recall, the training last year was cancelled due to bad weather. No there is no punch line coming.

The ARES meeting in April will be held on the 18th at 7:00 pm in the EOC. The topic will revolve around Skywarn net protocols and everyone is invited to attend.

73 for now,

Kevin, KB8TAR

EC / RO Lapeer County

## Club Items

### Call for Presentations

Club meeting night is more interesting with presentations! If you have a topic you'd like to learn more about, or present, please contact any member of the board. The audience is easy to work with, and we can provide a projector. If you know someone who would be willing to present, put us in touch with them.

### Heard on the Wire

E-mail received on March 10, 2018

Dear ARROW Communication Association Members and Friends,

Once again, it is that time of year when lots of hams around the world start thinking of the Dayton Hamvention. After all, with 29,296 attendees from all amateur radio interest areas, what's not to like!

Don't you wish you were going? You're not looking forward to that long drive? Don't drive! Take the Arrow bus! It's inexpensive and easy. Even if you come from out of the Metro Detroit Area, you still relieve yourself of more than 8 hours of drive time!

As in years past, The Arrow Communication Association is sponsoring a bus trip from Ann Arbor, Michigan to the Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center in Xenia, Ohio and back. The date is Saturday, May 19. We leave the park-and-ride at **5:00 am** and get to the show at 9:00 am. We leave Xenia at 5:30 pm and arrive back to our large park-and-ride site by 9:30 pm. A continental breakfast is included on board. What more could you ask for?

**Please Note:**

The departure time is 5:00 am this year because Xenia is one-half hour farther and the doors open up this year at 9:00 AM.



There is more. If you want to sell your stuff in the flea market, we have reserved a space there just for you! Every year, Arrow reserves a swap spot just for the bus trip crowd. You save \$70.00. All we ask is that you keep your items to a reasonable limit and that you volunteer at least one hour of your time at the swap tables.

There is still more! As in the past several years, we are giving away **DOOR PRIZES!** In 2018, we already have donations from over a dozen Ham Radio Entrepreneurs around the U.S!

And...

For those of you who cannot make it to **Four Days in May**, you will note that we have several nice QRP prizes on our list! There is more to come...

The cost is \$55.00 for the round trip. (This increases to \$65.00 on or after April 1.) Please mail all applications to ARROW Communication Association, 2545 S. Lima Center Rd., Chelsea, MI 48118. **Please note that this does not include the Hamvention ticket.** That one you'll have to do yourself! You may also use the link below to purchase a seat using **PayPal**.

We are trying to generate as much publicity as possible, which is why we are writing you. If you can, please share this information as widely as you are able. If you have a web page, please consider adding a paragraph about the trip and a link to <https://www.w8pgw.org/activities/dayton-bus-trip/> or simply <https://www.w8pgw.org/> . Talk it up on the air! If you check into a state wide or regional net, please mention it there, also. Feel free to include us in your publications.

We at Arrow deeply appreciate your help in this matter and we thank you.

73,

John Wasciuk,  
WA8TON / VO1TON / VO1HV  
Activities Coordinator, ARROW Communication Association  
[www.w8rp.org](http://www.w8rp.org)  
Ann Arbor, Michigan:  
jwasciuk at gmail dot com  
[\(616\) 560-3365](tel:6165603365)

# Calendar of Events

# - External Event (not LCARA-sponsored)

A - ARES Team Event

Also see:

- Weekly net schedule on page 1.
- Michigan Hamfests and Swaps immediately following the Calendar of Events.

## April 2018

- **04/05, 7:00pm - SkyWarn Training, Pix Theater, Lapeer**
- 04/07, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010, go-box at home QTH
- 04/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- **04/12, 6:30-8:00pm - Weather Spotter Training**
  - City Hall Auditorium  
1000 Rochester Hills Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48309
- 04/12, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 04/18, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- **04/18, 7-9pm - Weather Spotter Training**
  - The Charter Township of Commerce Township  
2009 Township Drive, Commerce Township, MI 48390

## May 2018

- 05/08, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- **05/10, 7-9pm - Weather Spotter Training**
  - Ortonville Old Town Hall  
476 Mill St., Ortonville, MI 48462
- 05/10, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 05/16, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

## June 2018

- 06/10, Morning, time TBA - Big Fish Triathlon Amateur Radio Support
- 06/12, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 06/14, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 06/20, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 06/23-24, ARRL Field Day 2018



## July 2018

- 07/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 07/12, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

## August 2018

- 08/14, 6:00pm - Picnic in the Park
  - Officer Nominations Due for 2018-2019
- 08/15, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 08/16, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 08/25, Early Morning, Crim Festival of Races Amateur Radio Support

## September 2018

- 09/11, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
  - 2019 Officer Elections
- 09/13, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 09/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

## October 2018

- 10/09, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 10/11, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 10/17, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

## November 2018

- 11/04, 2:00am - Daylight Savings Time
- 11/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 11/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 11/17, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010, use home station
- 11/22, all day – Thanksgiving

## December 2018

- 12/11, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner
- 12/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 12/13, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

# Upcoming Michigan Section Hamfests and Swaps

Source: [http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/page:1/Location.section\\_id:MI.rpt?format=htm](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/page:1/Location.section_id:MI.rpt?format=htm)

## 1st Annual GMARC Swap & Shop

**Start Date:** 04/29/2018

**End Date:** 04/29/2018

**Location:** UFCW Local 876 Union Hall

876 Horace Brown Drive

Madison Heights, MI 48071

**Website:** <http://www.gmarc.org/SwapInfo>

**Sponsor:** General Motors Amateur Radio Club

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Talk-In:** 443.075 (PL 123)

**Public Contact:** Mike Carelli , W8MJC

1853 Willowood Drive Rochester Hills, MI 48307

Phone: 248-835-9545

**Email:** [Swap@gmarc.org](mailto:Swap@gmarc.org)

# Officers & Committees

## Officers

<b>President</b>	Gerret Peters	KD8YUK
<b>Vice President</b>	Kevin Boxey	KB8TAR
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Zuhlke	AB8XL
<b>Secretary</b>	Lee Dziekan	N8LJ

## Committees & Appointments

**Club Call Trustee:** Mike Zedan, KN8Z

**Repeater Technical Team:**

- Mike Zedan, KN8Z (**Trustee**)
- Lee Dziekan, N8LJ
- Will Stanton, KB8YGA

**Newsletter Editor / Webmaster:** Scott Nicholes, N8XP

**EC/RO Lapeer County:** Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR

- **AEC SkyWarn Net Manager:** Tom Oliver, KD8EBY
- **AEC SkyWarn Net Manager:** Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL
- **AEC FL-DIGI, FL-MSG Manager:** Scott Nicholes, N8XP

\*EC: Emergency Coordinator / AEC: Assistant EC / RO: Radio Operator

# LCARA Membership Application

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Call Sign:	Name:
License Class: <input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Extra    Other:	
Address:	
City:	
State + Postal Code:	Phone Number:
Email Address:	
ARRL Member (Y/N):	ARES Member (Y/N):
RACES Member (Y/N) and Card #:	SKYWARN Member (Y/N) and Number:
Social Media Handles:	

L.C.A.R.A. Memberships are due annually on October 1st.

- **\$12** - Individual Membership
- **\$20** - Family Membership
- **\$4** - Associate Membership

Membership forms may be turned in to the Treasurer at a monthly meeting, or mailed to the club address:

**Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association**

**P.O. Box 12**

**Hadley, MI 48440-0012**