

Waveguide



Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 12, Hadley MI 48440-0012

<http://www.w8lap.com>

qso@w8lap.com

DECEMBER, 2016

Officers

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| President | Gerret Peters | KD8YUK |
| Vice President | Kevin Boxey | KB8TAR |
| Treasurer | William (Bill) Miller | KD8VP |
| Secretary | Lee Dziekan | N8LJ |

Committees & Appointments

Club Call Trustee: Mike Zedan, KN8Z

Repeater Technical Team:

- Mike Zedan, KN8Z
- Lee Dziekan, N8LJ
- Will Stanton, KB8YGA

Meeting Refreshments: Bill Miller, KD8VP

Newsletter Editor: **OPEN POSITION**

Webmaster: David Erskine, KD8GXW

County EC*: Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR

Operation CARE: Tom Oliver, KD8EBY **Seeking New Coordinator**

*Emergency Coordinator. Assistants are listed under the ARES team.

W8LAP Repeaters

2 Meter: 146.620 -100 Hz PL Tone

70 CM: 442.750 +123 Hz PL Tone

Next Club Meeting

Tuesday, January 08, 7:30pm

Meeting Location

Lapeer County EOC / Dispatch

2332 West Genesee Street

Lapeer, MI 48446

ARES Nets

Tuesdays, 8pm, 2 Meter Repeater

ARES Digital Nets

Thursdays, see ARES section of the Waveguide for details.

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Editorials

The President's Corner

Hello LCARA members and supporters! Well, it looks like summer is coming to an end, hi hi. Really, the weather has been fantastic, and it's only now just getting more wintry. That snow the other day didn't last past lunch, so I'm pretty sure it doesn't count.

Even if the weather is hiding it, it really is the end of the year, and that means ... the annual Christmas party! Details are further on in the Waveguide, but the short and skinny is that it's in the same location as last year, at 6:00pm on the 13th. I'm really looking forward to seeing you there!

I would be scandalized if I didn't mention a great opportunity - the mantle of **Waveguide Editor**. The position details are included in the note on this topic later in this issue. Editing the newsletter is a great way to get to know other members of the club, and have your finger on the pulse!

LCARA is conducting a member survey, and the survey is now available for completion, with the details further on in this issue of the Waveguide. For those of you who would like to dive right in, here is the link: <https://goo.gl/forms/jUc6YW5oE63rAAKA2>. Your feedback is critical to the health, growth, and success of amateur radio in Lapeer County - so thanks in advance for your time!

I look forward to seeing you at the Christmas party.

Best Regards,

Gerret Peters, KD8YUK

Secretary's Report

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association - Meeting Minutes - November 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Gerret KD8YUK at 7:30 pm. There were 16 members and guests in attendance.

The **presentation** of the evening was Mitigating Inter-station Interference Using Coaxial Stubs given by Lee, N8LJ.

Hospital Report: Dave K8DLW had a knee replaced and is doing well.

General Announcements: None

Secretary's Report: Accepted as published in the Waveguide by the membership present.

Treasurer's Report: Accepted as presented by the treasurer, Bill KD8VP, and approved by the members present.

Repeater Committee Report: Trustee, Mike KN8Z, reported all is well with the systems.

EC Report: Kevin KB8TAR reported the FL digi net will relocate to 145.010 Mhz due to interference on 145.070. The Genesee County folks are also invited to check in.

The ARES meeting on Nov 16th 7:00 pm, at the EOC will be FL-Digi practice. Bring your portable stations to practice real time messaging. Kevin is also planning an ARES field trip sometime in January to visit the new state EOC Amateur radio setup.

Old Business:

- Two club positions remain unstaffed. The Waveguide editor and an Operation Care coordinator. Please step up and volunteer for some small duties and support your Association's functions.
- The membership interest survey should be ready soon. When it arrives, please take the time to fill it out so we can identify the memberships' interests.
- Digital Repeater: Discussions continued on system technology consideration. Kevin reported The MICOM group has chosen DMR as their preferred technology. Kevin will try to get a MICOM representative to give us a presentation on DMR.

New Business: None

Remember the December 13th meeting will be our annual Christmas gathering at a local eatery. Keep in mind we meet about 6 pm. Each member and guest order & pay their own meal from the menu. Watch the Waveguide for the time and location.

50/50 was won by Dan, KC1BUD

Meeting Adjourned 8:33 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Lee, N8LJ

Repeater Trustee's Report

Hello W8LAP Supporters,

There were no technical problems with the repeater this month, or any matters concerning use of the W8LAP club call.

Link of the Month – Morse Code in Research

Last month's link, an experimental method of learning Morse, developed at Georgia Institute of Technology, was introduced. If you missed it, go here: <http://phys.org/news/2016-10-morse-code.html>

This month's link illustrates how researchers at Berufsgenossenschaftliches Universitätsklinikum Bergmannsheil, in Germany, are using Morse to investigate how the brain behaves during learning. They claim that characteristics of Morse (long and short elements, plus pauses) give the researchers an ideal method of observing which areas of the brain are used during the learning process.

<http://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/sfb874/rise/morsecode.html>

When the requirement for knowing Morse Code was removed from Amateur Radio licensing, many predicted that Morse would fade into history. The above links illustrate that these predictions may be premature, indeed.

If you have any questions about the above material, feel free to contact me at the below address.

See you at the next meeting,

Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)

Emergency Coordinator Report

Hello fellow LCARA members.

It is hard to believe but December marks the end of the first year of the ARES group activity.

This year we have had the continuation of our Tuesday night nets, 9 monthly training meetings, 3 field exercises, we participated in the Lapeer County SET in April, we supported the Big Fish Triathlon event in May, we participated in the D3 SET in September, we have had a number of Thursday night FLDIGI nets, and a few of us supported the CRIM communications in August.

In addition I was able to participate in a NBEMS demo in July at the Michigan section outing, I gave a FLDIGI presentation to GCARES in September, and I was also able to give an amateur radio capabilities presentation at the county EMAC meeting in October.

ARES members have made huge progress on FLDIGI skills and we have also made progress on our individual portable station equipment and preparedness. So overall I think we have had a very productive and visible year.

In 2017 we will continue honing our FLDIGI and message handling skills and of course, continue assembling and updating our personal equipment. 2017 will also see a county SET, as well as, the D3 SET and the MI section SET repeated.

In February we have a tour of the new SEOC scheduled which should prove to be very interesting.

I hope to see more amateurs joining ARES in 2017 so please consider supporting your community.

Merry Christmas to all and we will see you at the club dinner.

Kevin, KB8TAR

LCARA Member Survey

[Click here to complete the member survey](#)

Responses requested by **January 18, 2017**.

As mentioned during the past two club meetings, LCARA is conducting a survey of its members and supporters. The purpose of the survey is to gather feedback from the local amateur community about various aspects of the club, in particular what events and topics **you** are most interested in. Amateur

Radio is a big hobby, and the officers want to be sure the club is meeting your needs.

The survey itself is a Google Form, and the information collected will be used only by the board to gain a better understanding of what your particular interests are related to Amateur Radio in Lapeer County. The results will be shared in summary form (no individually-identifiable information) with the membership in early 2017. It should take about 15 minutes to complete, and the information will help make LCARA a stronger club.

If you have questions about the survey, please feel free to contact Gerret Peters, KD8YUK, at kd8yuk@kd8yuk.org.

Wanted: Newsletter Editor

As it happens, this issue of the Waveguide was designed and published in Google Docs, freely available to anyone with a computer and recent browser. If you're worried about your "computer savvy" being a hindrance, know this: if you can use Facebook, send email, or tap out instant messages on your phone, you can master this technology. Gerret is willing to train you over a coffee or beer, as needed.

| Volunteer Position | Waveguide Newsletter Editor |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Key Responsibilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publish the monthly newsletter electronically ● Request, edit and incorporate monthly editorial articles from LCARA board members, call sign trustee, and emergency coordinator ● Select and include occasional feature articles related to the Amateur Radio hobby. ● Edit submitted text for basic spelling / grammar |
| Equipment Required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Computer ● Google Chrome Internet Browser (Free) ● Reliable Internet Access ● Reliable email account |
| How to Apply | Send email with interests and qualifications to gso@w8lap.com . A member of the leadership team |

| | |
|--|---|
| | will get in touch with you promptly! Note: FREE Training is provided with this position. You will receive one-on-one instruction in all tools and resources |
|--|---|

Upcoming Club Events

Also see schedule of weekly nets on page 1.

December 2016

- 12/08, 8pm - FL-DIGI Net 145.01 MHz, Olivia 8/500
- 12/13, **6:30pm Club Christmas Dinner (see below)**
- 12/21, 7pm - ARES Team Meeting, Lapeer EOC
- 12/29, 8pm - FL-DIGI Net 145.01 MHz, Olivia 8/500

Christmas Dinner

[Click here to RSVP](#)

The Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association is hosting its annual Christmas dinner on Tuesday, December 13, in lieu of its regularly-scheduled meeting.

As with prior years, attendees will order any pay for their party's meals directly from the menu. We look forward to your company, your camaraderie, and some great conversation as 2016 draws to a close.

Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Time: 6:00pm-9:30pm

Location:

Ted's Sports Pub and Grill

[Link to Google Map location](#)

770 West St., Lapeer MI 48446

January 2017

- 01/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC
- 01/18, 7pm - ARES Team Meeting, Lapeer EOC

February 2017

- 02/18, Time TBD - ARES tour, contact Kevin Boxey for details.

Other Events

April 2017

- 04/20, 7pm-8:30pm - Lapeer County SkyWarn / Tornado Class
Lapeer Pix Theater (downtown) - More details to come.

For Sale and Wanted

- **Wanted** - Coaxial cable crimpers suitable for Amateur Radio cabling. Contact Gerret, KD8YUK if you have a pair for sale (or loan) at a reasonable price. (kd8yuk@kd8yuk.org)

L.C.A.R.A. Membership Application

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Call Sign: License Class: | Name: |
| Address: | |
| City: | |
| State: | Postal Code: |
| 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
- **\$3** - Repeater AutoDial Number

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