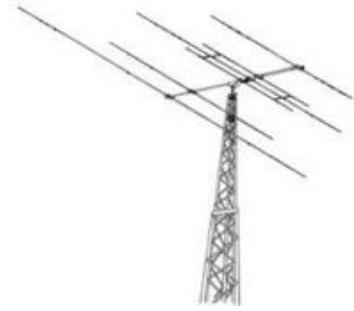


The Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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<http://www.w8lap.com> | qso@w8lap.com



December 2017

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W8LAP Repeaters
2 Meter: 146.620 -100 Hz PL Tone
70 CM: 442.750 +123 Hz PL Tone

Next Club Meeting
Holiday Dinner
Tuesday, Dec 12, 6:30pm
Ted's Sports Pub & Grill
770 West 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.

Reports & Editorials

The President's Corner

This year has certainly been a whirlwind. As you'll read in the other club reports this month, we're doing more than ever, from digital repeater planning, to emergency services, to revamping projects for the website. It's an exciting time for Amateur Radio in Lapeer!

As we round out this full year, I'm mindful of the many things to be thankful for. In fact, I'm penning this missive from the John Wayne Airport in Orange County CA at the tail end of a long (for me) business trip. Looking out over the tarmac, the fire authorities just doused smoke plume that darkened the sky to the northwest, and beyond that, out of sight but not mind, lie the Thomas and Skirball fires that are consuming homes, forests, and hundreds of thousands of acres of beauty.

It makes me very thankful for Michigan's weather; give me the snow and cold any day, and throw another log in the wood stove.

In closing, please join us for the LCARA annual holiday party on Tuesday 12/12, 6:30pm, Ted's Sports Pub & Grill.

See you soon,

Gerret, KD8YUK

Treasurer's Report

Greetings to one and all. Wow, between deer hunting, Thanksgiving, Black Friday and the weather, I just can't catch my breath. What I should be doing is putting up more antennas



while the weather is nice, but I seem to be spending my time chasing after my wife in the stores, trying to keep her from spending too much money. She never wants to spend it on radios for me. The leaves need raking, the lawn mowers need to be winterized, and the snow blowers tuned up. Where does the time go?

All that said, I am here mainly to tell you about the treasury, and it is doing fine. There will be no expected bills to pay until February and as for unexpected who knows. We still have sufficient funds to cover anything that may come up.

Keep in mind that in September I said I was going to retire from treasurer and that someone needs to step up to the plate so that they could be trained. Also keep in mind that according to our bylaw without a full board of officers the club must dissolve and any funds donated to the ARRL. DO YOU REALLY WANT THAT??? I will stick it out for a while longer, but not forever. It seems like forever now!

Remember that this is the Christmas season coming up. Remember what the true meaning of that really is.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully, William Miller, KD8VP

Notes From the Desk of the Secretary

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association - Meeting Minutes - November 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:31pm by president Gerret KD8YUK. There were 20 members and guests present.

The presentations of the evening were videos, demonstrating some usage and benefits of mesh networking.

Hospital Report: Gordon Miller KD8TXW was undergoing some additional health tests.

General Announcements: Presentations are needed to next years' meetings. If you have a radio related topic you would like to present, or know of someone with a radio related topic who would present, please let the leadership know so we can schedule them.

On November 28th, 2017 Genesee county will sponsor winter Skywarn class. It's at 7:00pm in the Administration Building on Saginaw and 7th street.

Treasurer's Report: No report this month since Bill KD8VP is hunting.

Secretary Report: Minutes from the October meeting were approved by the membership present as published in the Waveguide.

Repeater Trustee Report: The repeaters were functioning properly. Will, KB8YGA reset the clock to reflect standard time and it was noted to be very accurate. Good job Will. There was a report of a possible repeater spur at 147.04 Mhz. The repeater team will investigate this report.

EC Report: There was a state wide SET exercise on September 30th. Three dozen counties participated. All operations were done on phone. Participants included Kevin, KB8TAR, Will KB8YGA, (DNR), Paul, AB8XL (D-Star), Gerret, KD8YUK (HF), and Mike, KE8FHE (D-Star back up).

Lapeer Skywarn will be supported by Tom KD8EBY and his assistant Paul AB8XL.

The next ARES team meeting will be Wednesday Nov 15 at 7:00pm at the EOC.

Digital Repeater Team: They are considering utilizing 440 for the project.

Old Business: A recommendation for a dues increase is due to the general membership at the January meeting.

New Business: None

Our December meeting will be replaced by our annual Christmas Holiday get together. Watch the Waveguide for details.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lee, N8LJ

Repeater Trustee Report

Hello W8LAP Supporters:

There were no reported technical problems with the repeater this month.

Club Call [Renewal]

Our club FCC station license was renewed, recently. This renewal is valid for 10 years.

Renewing a club license is a bit more involved than for personal operator licenses. Operator licenses may be renewed through two processes. First, an operator may do so on the web, using the FCC database. The second method is to mail the FCC license renewal form to a VEC (Volunteer Examination Coordinator).

Renewing a club station license may only be done by submitting a renewal form, by mail, to a VEC. In our case, we used the ARRL VEC services. Additionally, this form must be signed by both the club license trustee, and the club president.

W8LAP Repeater Station Coordination

Our repeater and link frequencies renewals were recently approved by the Michigan Area Repeater Council (MARC). This is done every two years.

Repeater coordination councils are manned by Amateur Radio volunteers. Their function is to approve, or deny, application for repeater frequency coordination. The councils make these decisions, based on repeater frequencies, antenna heights and characteristics, and consideration for terrain and distance between sites.

The advantage of coordination is based on this tenet: Any Amateur with the proper license may install a repeater. However, if this repeater happens to be on the same frequencies as another, a dispute is sure to result. If neither repeater has gone through the coordination process, the owners have little recourse but to argue between themselves. In the case that one of the repeaters is coordinated, and the dispute is reviewed by the FCC, the FCC is duty-bound to take the side of the repeater owner who took the time to go through the coordination process.

The following link shows the information that a repeater owner must submit to MARC biannually for each repeater. In the case of W8LAP, we submit three forms; one each for our 140 and 440 MHz repeaters, and another for the link between our repeater and the North Branch MI repeater.

<http://www.miarc.com/tdsform.html>

To fellow Amateurs, and non-Amateurs, I extend my wishes for a joyous, peaceful, and bounteous holiday season to one and all.

See you at the next meeting,
Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)

Emergency Coordinator / Radio Operator Report

Hello to all fellow LCARA members. Well the second year of the ARES team has passed by and we were busy.

In CY2017 the ARES team participated in:

- 9 monthly training meetings
- 8 "mini" exercises involving FLDIGI and EasyPal
- Lapeer County SET
- Big Fish Triathlon
- Michigan State SET
- Approximately 36 Tuesday night nets
- A tour of the Michigan SEOC facility

In addition I was personally able to participate in the following:

- "First on the Farm" Conference in Lapeer
- "Public Officials Conference" in Bay City
- 4 - Lapeer County EMAC meetings
- 4 - District 3 ARES meetings
- COML training (communication leader)
- AUXCOMM training (auxiliary communication)

As if that isn't enough, we are working with the McLaren Hospital in establishing amateur radio as their designated emergency communication backup. **KB8YGA** and I conducted an exercise this past November to evaluate the existing antenna system at the hospital.

I am extremely happy with the way the team is progressing. We have members with expertise in various areas that have stepped forward into assistant positions. This truly demonstrates the team attitude the members have towards our goal of providing communications when called upon. Also, many of the members have made notable progress in their individual "go boxes" and related equipment preparation.

For fun we are going to start a DSTAR net on the Thursday following our LCARA club meetings (once a month net). The net will be at 8:00 pm on 146.46 MHz (simplex). The first net will be held on December 14th and I hope to hear you there.

I truly appreciate the efforts made by all of the team members for their participation in the events listed above. But we have to make a special note for our 2 most radio-active members. Our first place participant is Gerret, **KD8YUK**, very closely followed by Will, **KB8YGA** as runner-up. These 2 gents participated in the most events throughout the year. Thank you guys.

Merry Christmas to all and I hope to see you at the club Christmas dinner.

Kevin, KB8TAR
EC / RO Lapeer County

Webmaster Report

I'm excited to be able to help the club update LCARA's digital presence on the Internet and in our community. In the coming weeks – you'll start to see an updated layout and content to our club's website. Easier access to popular links, the monthly newsletter, online membership application and more! <http://www.W8LAP.com>



Discussion Forum

In addition to the main website – the **online discussion forum is now open for registration**. There are public sections for general information, hardware, ham practices and modes of operation. There are also closed sections only available to registered users. These provide a place for members to discuss club business, future activities, and even brag about our shacks. There will be many updates as the site grows – but I'm sure this will provide a great place for us to interact and collaborate online. <http://discuss.W8LAP.com>

Facebook

To expand our ability to communicate with others that share our interests – we've joined the world of Facebook... again! The club has an older page that was launched several years ago – but it has not been updated in quite some time. If you know who the original admin was – please let us know – so we can integrate it with our new Facebook group.



Since March of 2017, we've successfully been using a new Facebook group to share amateur radio news, events, and general discussion with each other. Thanks to Chance, KE8EXY, and Paul, AB8XL for launching the new group. Many of us have enjoyed the news articles, comments, and possibilities of having this group available to use. Please join and participate with the group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/W8LAP/>

New LCARA Logo

With the websites, LCARA has a great opportunity to be noticed more in the community and surrounding counties. This includes updating the club's identity online and in print - incorporating a new logo! See the article later in this Waveguide with some logo options that we'll present in January for adoption by the membership.

This logo will provide visibility to the community that is easily recognizable and inviting to new members. I remember many years ago, my parents and grandparents proudly wearing jackets with the club's identity on the back – along with their name and callsign on the front to club events, local swaps, and around town. We're all proud members of LCARA – let's show everyone who we are – online and in person!

Scott Nicholes, N8XP



Feature: December Holiday Party

Join your fellow LCARA members at the low-key, high-camaraderie holiday dinner! Hosted locally at Ted's Sports Pub & Grill in Lapeer, Michigan, it's a great opportunity to connect with fellow operators and their significant others / spouses.

Ted's offers a variety of menu items from which to choose. Partygoers will order and pay for their own dinners.

Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 6:30pm

Ted's Sports Pub & Grill, 700 West Street, Lapeer MI 48446



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

Special Request - Remembering Jim, KD8YX

Editor's Note: This request arrived through our qso@w8lap.com email address, and is published here with Kelly's permission. If you have memories of Jim, please send them to KGBoyer@trevecca.edu.

My name is Kelly and I'm a recently licensed ham. I know my great-uncle Jim KD8YX/SK was a part of your community and I was wondering if I could get in touch with someone in the association who knew him well; I'd like to have a better picture of who he was and how I could possibly carry on his legacy as one of the few hams (or maybe even the only ham) in my family.

Thank you,
Kelly Boyer, KN4HDB

Same Operator, New CallSign - AE8RN Becomes N8XP

Our own Scott Nicholes is the newest member of the 1x2 call club, changing his callsign from AE8RN to the shorter N8XP. Congratulations on securing one of those rare short calls, Scott!

Calendar of Events

2017 is almost over; as noted above, we're looking for presentations for the 2018 meeting year.

- 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.

December 2017

- 12/12, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner
 - Ted's Sports Club, Lapeer, MI
- 12/14, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

January 2018

- 01/08, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 01/10, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

February 2018

- 02/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 02/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

March 2018

- 03/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 03/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

April 2018

- 04/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 04/12, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

May 2018

- 05/08, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 05/10, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

June 2018

- 06/12, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 06/14, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 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 2019
- 08/16, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

September 2018

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

October 2018

- 10/09, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 10/11, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

November 2018

- 11/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 11/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

December 2018

- 12/11, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner
- 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

HPARC Swap

Start Date: 01/28/2018

End Date: 01/28/2018

Location: UFCW Local 876

876 Horace Brown Drive

Madison Heights, MI 48071

Website: <http://hparc.org>

Sponsor: Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.640 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Hugh Boyle , KE8BED

703 Woodlawn Avenue Royal Oak, MI 48073

Phone: 248-755-6094

Email: photoink77@hotmail.com

Livonia ARC's 47th Annual Swap & Shop

Start Date: 02/18/2018

End Date: 02/18/2018

Location: Livonia Civic Park Seniors Center

15218 Farmington Road

Livonia, MI 48150

Website: <http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>

Sponsor: Livonia Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.35 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Michael Rudzki , N8MR

PO Box 51532 Livonia, MI 48151

Phone: 734-953-0913

Email: k8uns@arrl.net

Winter Ham Fest

Start Date: 03/04/2018

End Date: 03/04/2018

Location: Lorain County Community College

1005 North Abbe Road

Elyria, OH 44035

Website: <http://noars.net>

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.70 (PL 110.9)

Public Contact: Darlene Ohman , KA8VTS

4122 Bush Avenue Cleveland, OH 44109

Phone: 216-398-8858

Email: dohman1045@gmail.com

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

Officers & Committees

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

Meeting Refreshments: Bill Miller, KD8VP

Newsletter Editor: Daniel Peters, KE8CFI

Webmaster: Scott Nicholes, N8XP

County EC*: Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR

- **SkyWarn AEC:** Tom Oliver, KD8EBY
- **AEC:** Scott Nicholes N8XP FLDIGI

*Emergency Coordinator. AEC: Assistant EC

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