



Waveguide

W8LAP / r
146.620 - 100 Hz
442.750 + 123 Hz

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association
Club Founder: Hollis Hayes W8ACD

Edition for **January 2014**

**** The next regular club meeting will be held on Tuesday,
January 14th, 2014 @ 7:30 pm ****

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

Editorial Section

The President Says:

I hope everyone faired well during the ice storm. We were without power virtually all of Christmas week as were many people. The camping gear & generator were working overtime along with the woodstove, and the shack was on battery power.

For those that did not get to attend the club Christmas party, I believe we had around 20 people and it was a pleasant evening with the fellow club members. It would be nice to have the problem of "not enough room" for the next one with full participation. Also, for comedy relief, we were able to witness the trustees shut the repeater down from the comfort of the dinner table. ☺

To keep things interesting we are in need of presentation ideas and presenters for the club meetings. So please, if you have something to offer please take a turn and give the other members the benefit of your knowledge and experience. Also, any appropriate videos you come across can be sent my way for showing at the meetings.

See you in January and happy New Year.
Kevin KB8TAR

The Treasurer Says:

Greetings to one and all.

As I write this, after Christmas, and before the New Year, I have to reflect a little. The LCARA has done a great job of holding itself together, despite some set backs from the economy and the world situations. Thanks to a few stalwart members that continue to keep Operation Care active we have never had to increase our dues. Thanks YOU! Our treasury is still in good shape and looks like it will stay that way into the future.

We have not had any expenses since the repeater repairs a few months back, and only for see minor expense toward improving the repeaters and possibly eliminating the phone line that continues to be a major expense.

With that I will wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Respectfully, William Miller KD8VP Treasurer

The Secretary Says:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and introduction of members and guest. The secretary report was given by Flo, KC8CAB. It was accepted by the members. The Adjustable Repeater was approved for \$159. The Telephone was approved for \$150 and another \$50. The treasurers report was read by Bill, KD8VP. It was accepted by the club. Another new repeater is needed.. A new repeater runs around \$200. Will, KB8YGA said more repeaters was needed at the sight for around \$30. Old Business: Teds Sports Pub at 6 p.m. on Dec. 10 for the Christmas Party. We buy our own food. Break was from 7:56 to 8:13. Talking of linking our repeater from CMEN, 2 meters. 50/50 was won by Will. KB8YGA. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Flo KC8CAB

Editorial Section

The Trustee Says:

Greetings to all in the New Year:

Items concerning W8LAP, between October 30, 2013, and January 1, 2013, were all related to the repeater site and environs. The Repeater Team spent 42 man hours at the site, and a lesser number performing individual tasks. Activity included:

- Fabricating and installing a connecting cable for the shack computer to program the on-site packet controller.
- Installing and testing a thermostat to control heater lights within the 144 and 440 repeater cabinets.
- Fabricating, installing, and testing new, fused lines to the battery power relay.
- Fabricating, installing, and testing new lines from the Astron power supply to the cabinet connectors.
- Fitting winter cover panels to both repeater cabinets.
- Testing of linking possibilities with the CMEN Fenton repeater for reference.
- Configuring the CAT controller for savings time changes, voice messages, and timing functions.
- Installing and testing a new radio for linking with the North Branch 440 repeater.
- Repairing and re-installing the main Astron power supply, after a failure on 11/7.
- Configuring site to run, while the power supply was being repaired.
- Installing heavy rubber weather guards for the site gate and building locks.
- Correcting CAT handling of incoming telephone communication.
- Installing several thermometers to monitor shack conditions.
- Backing up all changes made to CAT controller for reference.

Site of the Month:

One of the Repeater Team mentioned an incident that occurred at his home. His place, and several in his area, was without power for many hours. In finally getting around to calling in the outage, he discovered that DTE did not have any record of the incident.

The lesson in this, of course, is to not assume that someone else has reported a power outage in your area.

Outages for the providers in our area may be reported by using either telephone or web reporting.

Consumers Phone: **800-477-5050**

DTE Phone: **800-477-4747**

Consumers outage center: <http://www.consumersenergy.com/content.aspx?id=4929>

DTE outage center:

<http://www.dteenergy.com/residentialCustomers/problemsSafety/outageCenter/index.html>

Both sites have methods to report outage by phone number or address. Additionally, they both have excellent maps that contain up to date outages in pictorial form.

Appreciation:

This past year gave us many surprises. Lightning strikes, plus wind and ice storms did their best to reduce our ability to maintain W8LAP backup communications in Lapeer County operating. Everyone who participated in maintaining these deserves a round of applause: Participants in Operation Care, who help to defray operating costs, those with technical expertise who kept the electrons flowing, club members who provided moral support, and net control ops/participants who kept communication skills honed. A hearty "Thank You" to all.

73, Mike, KN8Z

2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	3	4
5 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	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
12 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	13	14 LCARA club meeting 7:30 pm at the EOC	15	16 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	17	18 -T&C -GCRC license test Baker College, rm 5-103 9:30 am
19 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	20	21 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	22	23 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	24	25
26 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	27	28 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	29	30 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	31	
Phases of the moon: 1:● 7:◐ 15:○ 24:◑ 30:●						
Holidays and Observances: 1: New Year's Day, 20: Martin Luther King Day						

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	3	4 ARES net 146.620+ 100 Hz PL at 8 pm	5	6 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	7	8
9 -ARPSC @ 5:00 pm on 3.932 -D3 net 145.31+ 131.8 Hz PL at 6:30 pm	10	11 LCARA club meeting 7:30 pm at the EOC	12	13 ARES net 442.750+ 123 Hz PL at 8 pm	14	15 -T&C -GCRC license test Baker College, rm 5-103 9:30 am
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Phases of the moon: 6:◐ 14:○ 22:◑						
Holidays and Observances: 14: Valentine's Day, 17: Presidents' Day						

2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014 2014

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Stuff for Sale

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

Public Service Event Schedule

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



Skywarn training - 17 April 2014
Memorial Day Op CARE - 23 to 26 May 2014 TBC

Big Fish Triathlon - 08 June 2014

July 4th Op CARE - 3 to 6 July 2014 TBC

Atwood race - 19 July 2014

Otter Lake Triathlon - event TBC

Crim 10 mile race - 23 Aug 2014

Labor Day Op CARE - 29 Aug to 01 Sept 2014 TBC



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

Weekly nets

We are in need of more net control operators to support our club net schedule. The net preamble has been included below. We are inviting anyone to give net control a try for either of our nets. Currently there is no schedule so please jump in. With the preamble it is easy and fun. Give it a try.

Lapeer County ARES Net Preamble

Calling all amateurs to the **Tuesday / Thursday** Lapeer County ARES net (unkey and pause).

Good evening and welcome to the **Tuesday / Thursday** Lapeer County ARES net. This net meets every **Tuesday / Thursday** night at 8:00 pm local time on the W8LAP repeater, located 3 miles east of Lapeer, Michigan. This repeater is owned and operated by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association and the repeater trustee is Mike Zedan, KN8Z. The repeater is accessible with a 100 Hz tone.

The purposes of this net are to promote good fellowship among amateur radio operators and to provide training for ARES net activations. Questions are always welcome. This is a directed net and all licensed amateurs are invited and encouraged to participate.

My name is XX, call sign XX and I will be your net control operator for this session. We will now begin with a series of standbys. When checking into the net, please give your call sign and name clearly.

- At this time are there any **emergency** or **priority** check-ins for the net? If so, please call now.
- Any **mobile** or **portable** stations wishing to check into the net, please call now.
- Any stations with **announcements** for the net, please call now.
- **General** check-ins for the net, please call now.

Note that the above order is listed in the priority that the stations should be recognized by net control.

Net control recognizes **(list all call signs that checked into the net)**.

Now begin the rotation of checked in stations.

Every 10 minutes take a standby for additional check-ins and ID yourself.

After the last round is completed:

Are there any new check-ins for the net?

If nothing is heard:

Is there any further business or re-checks for the net?

If nothing is heard:

Hearing nothing, this will now conclude the net for date. The net is now closed at time PM after XX minutes. We had XX check-ins and XX re-checks. I would like to thank everyone for their participation and wish everyone a good evening. I will now return the repeater to normal amateur use.

73, this is call sign.

Announcement

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 33 ARLB033
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 5, 2013
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB033
ARRLB033 Plans Announced to Update the Communications Act of 1934

The US House Communications and Technology Subcommittee has announced plans for a multi-year effort to examine and update the Communications Act of 1934, the overarching law under which the FCC functions. The subcommittee, part of the US House Energy and Commerce Committee, is chaired by Oregon Republican Greg Walden, W7EQI. Walden and Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Fred Upton of Michigan made the announcement December 3.

"Today we are launching a multi-year effort to examine our nation's communications laws and update them for the Internet era," Upton said in a news release. "The United States has been the global leader in innovation and growth of the Internet, but unfortunately, our communications laws have failed to keep pace."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, noted that the most recent significant update of the Communications Act was in 1996. "Under the leadership of Greg Walden, the subcommittee and its staff are well equipped to take up the challenge," Sumner said. "The ARRL will be monitoring the work closely as it goes forward next year and beyond."

The plan was made public via Google Hangout, where the committee leaders were joined by former FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell, who said he was "delighted" to learn of the update plans. Upton explained that the process, to start in 2014, will involve a series of white papers and hearings focusing on what might be done "to improve the laws surrounding the communications marketplace as well as a robust conversation utilizing all platforms of digital media." He suggested a bill would be ready by 2015.

Walden said, "A lot has happened since the last update" and that the Communications Act is "now painfully out of date." He pointed out that the Act, drafted during the Great Depression, was last updated "when 56 kilobits per second via dial-up modem was state of the art."

Upton said, "We must ensure that our laws make sense for today but are also ready for the innovations of tomorrow."

Walden said he wants to open the discussion to input from everyone. Interested parties may follow the plan's progress via Twitter. "It's important for people to have an opportunity to weigh in," he said. "This is really a public process to get better public policy."

Ice Storm 2013 – KB8TAR's QTH



It is a little hard to see but the bent trees on the right side of the photo are threatening the G5RV. It held until the melt and still works.



The yagi bending a little under the weight.

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

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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 PIO: Dan Bain KC1BUD
County AEC: Joe Medved KD8CIL
County AEC: Kevin Boxey KB8TAR



WWW.ARRL.ORG