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WAVEGUIDE



Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

February

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2008

*The next regular meeting will be held on
Tuesday, February 12 —7:30 p.m.
at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)
2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

The Prez Sez:

January, 15 inches of snow, 60 degrees, and now deep freeze. It was 70 this morning and raining. I am going to the Flint swap. A tornado watch and now it's 0 degrees cold. QST says 656,000 us hams, 2003 was 688,000, we just need a few to cover Lapeer. Well keep warm. Bob, N8NE

The Sec'y Sez:

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with the pledge of allegiance and the introduction of members and guest.

A presentation was given by Section Emergency Coordinator, WB8RCR, John McDonough of Midland on Races and Ares.

A plaque was bought for Al Wilson, N8NPR, to thank him for being head V E for 9 years. It is to be given to him at Tea and Crumpets on January 26.

The minutes were read and accepted. They were accepted by Dan KC1BUD and seconded by Eric KD8DEV.

Treasurers report was given by Bill KD8VP. Accepted by Dave KD8DLW and seconded by Dick KC8VHA.

Intermission was from 8:00 to 8:15.

A motion was made to investigate a remote site. One opposed.

A memorial was given to Visiting Nurses Services in memory of John Steffins. a long time member who passed away.

Chris KC8TLW gave a report on the Christmas party. There was 35 members and guest that attended. Chris asked to have a Thank You note sent to Meijers for there donation for the Christmas Party. Which I did.

Meeting was closed at 8:50 P.M.. Motion to close by Les KB8LAE and seconded by Dick KC8VHA.

50/50 was won by the daughter of Debra KD8GAV.

The Treasurer Sez:

Good day to everyone. As I write this report in the new year of 2008, I reflect on the good treasurer reports that I have been able to give to all of you. This is due mainly to those great volunteers that give up their time to participate in Operation Care and the Swap and Shop. They are our big money makers for the club, and I want to thank all of those people, whether they are club members or not. I say that because some of those helpers are not

members they are the friends and spouses of all of you. THANK YOU.

As far as the treasury goes everything is normal with only the usual bills to pay. I expect the bills for the insurances to come in the next few weeks, but we have plenty of funds set aside to cover all of our expected bills.

Thanks and 73 Bill Miller KD8VP

The Trustee Sez:

Greetings to one and all. Happy New Year.

After the last club meeting I found the time to go to the repeater site and turn down the squelch on the 2 meter

repeater. It was turned way up due the interference we encountered last summer, and I was able to turn it just to the point of squelch coming on and it seems to be OK for

now. I haven't heard from those that brought to my attention the problem, so I do not know if it made a difference.

Some of you have noticed that the 440 repeater is back on the air again. After several attempts to get in touch with W8JIM, the maker of the repeaters, I just jumped in and tried some things. Low and behold I was able to discover something that I never knew before. Mainly that the controller on this repeater is much simpler and easier to program than the one on the 2meter repeater, and that there already is a PL on this

The EC Sez

Happy New Year (albeit a little late)!

This year's disaster exercise (see below) will be a drill targeting a communications failure due to a winter weather event. The purpose is to test some of the county's back-up plans, should their system go down and see what Amateur Radio has to offer. I am looking for between 15 and 20 operators to be stationed at several places across the north end of the county. The drill will consist of moving traffic between the Mobile Command vehicle in the north and the EOC in Lapeer. We will be keying in on HF and Simplex use since a weather event, similar to the drill scenario, could easily cause the 2m repeater to go down. I'll be asking for people to sign-up so I can figure out placement prior to the drill.

2 years ago, I was told by a few people that they wish we could be utilized more during events. This drill is going to be a key event in that quest. A good showing means we get used more; a poor showing means we stay in obscurity. Please remember, Amateur Radio is named

440 machine that was never turned on. I learned how to turn it on and off. With the confidence of that knowledge I put the 440 back in operation to see what it would do. If I experience the same interference from before then I would just turn on the PL to see if it would cancel the interference. As it turned out there isn't a need to turn on the PL just yet, but when it becomes necessary, the tone will be 123 hz.. If you can't bring up the 440 someday try putting on a 123 hz. PL.

Well until better weather to look into our antenna on the 2 meter machine it will have to remain as it is.

73 Bill Miller KD8VP

in the Emergency Action Plan as back-up communications for Lapeer County in an emergency.

Upcoming events:

- February 23rd: 2008 County Disaster Drill, 9:00 AM. This year's exercise will key in on a communications failure where Amateur radio will be used. Participation is greatly encouraged. Please let me know if you are able to help.
- April 3rd: 2008 Skywarn training. This training is being held at Imlay City High School. Online registration begins on February 1st at www.lapeercountyemd.org/skywarn. We are working on yet another special gift to be given away in a drawing of those who pre-register.

Well, that's it from here. Till next month, 73 everyone,

Doug Jr., KC8ZCF

The Lapeer County Emergency Services Sez:

See the Skywarn flyer attached below.....PLEASE NOTE THE NEW LOCATION THIS YEAR.

Due to some scheduling conflicts, we are having to relocate our event to Imlay City High School this year, please help spread the word. Thanks

Mary Stikeleather

From the mailbag:

Al Wilson N8NPR has been the clubs ARRL Volunteer Exam Leader for nine years and has decided to retire. The plaque was presented on January 26, 2008 at the McDonald West, Saturday morning breakfast. As you can see from look on Al's face he was very apprehensive about looking inside. Many, many thanks to Al for his dedicated service.



From the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet for 2008-01-23 (January 23, 2008)

NEW HF OPERATORS - THINGS TO DO

o If you haven't had the pleasure of listening to the signal from an antique radio, tune in some of the signals in the Classic Exchange this weekend. The phone contest is two weeks later. And while you're at it, try out your antenna farm in the CQ WW 160 CW contest - the biggest of the 160 meter contests.

0000 0 -0-- -0-- --- 00-
OPERATING TIP
0-- 0- -0- 0 00- 0--0

Not so much an operating tip as a training tip, Mike W7DRA is teaching Morse code to his grandsons (age around 5) using "Learn code in a minute"
<<http://www.learnmorsecode.com>> - about right for really

This newsletter is being edited under severe conditions. The outdoor temperature on February 2, 2008 at 12:20 AM is a chilling 70 degrees and the wind chill appears to be about 76 degrees. The location is Cocoa Beach, FL and in spite of the weather we will try to get this newsletter, and the March issue, out in a timely manner. I hope the club will actively pursue the remote receive site and not let it slip away due to apathy. It would be another story if the club could not afford a first class repeater operation!

Upcoming Swaps...

BARC Spring Fleamarket	Feb 24 2007	9:00 am	Royal Canadian Legion, 828 Legion Road (west of Discovery Ford) Burlington, ON	VE3RSB 147.210 PL 131.8
Michigan Crossroads Hamfest	Mar 17 2007	8:00 am	Marshall High School, 701 North Marshall Avenue Marshall MI	146.660- 146.52 http://www.w8df.com

Upcoming DX

Feb 13 – 18 - Look for your ole editor from the country of Suriname in South America using the call PZ5DD. The other operators going along are Stan AC8W / PZ5WW, Jim KB8TXZ / PZ5TX and Jay W5JAY / PZ5AY. All bands 160 through 6 meters and all modes. QSL PZ5DD and PZ5WW to K8DD and PZ5TX & PZ5AY to their home calls.

And now One way to find when & where the DX is operating!

DX Packet Cluster

The **WA8DX** Spider Packet Cluster node is available on **144.970**. At present **WA8DX** is receiving DX info via

K8SMC in Jackson or N8NM in Waterford.

This is a tool you can use to build your DXCC total, see where people are working stations on both HF and VHF, and even pass messages.

Use your TNC to connect in the command mode and use **C WA8DX** as the command. Once connected you will get a welcome screen that asks for info. You should start to see DX spots right away.

You can also connect via the internet. Telnet to **wa8dx.servebeer.com** use port **7300**

Although you can stay connected indefinitely, if you decide to disconnect, type **b** or **bye** and you will be logged out.

You can view an online version of a users manual at: www.wd1l.net/DXSpider/usermanual_en.html

Remember...DX Is!

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 12

Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, Bob Beswetherick, N8NE . 810-653-3856

Secretary, Flo Haack KC8CAB 810-793-2606

Vice-Pres., Chris Azelton, KC8TWL..810-245-0073

Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Appointees.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD

Club Historian.....Bill Hetchler, KC8SHI

Skywarn Coordinator.....Pete Headrick KB8RSG

Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP

Two Meter Net Mgr.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK

Public Information Officer...

Club Call TrusteeW8LAP.....Bill Miller, KD8VP

VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR

Swap & Shop Chairperson.....Bill Miller, KD8VP

Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP

Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, K8DD

ARES Repeater Nets

Monday at 9:00 PM on 146.620-

Thursday at 9:00 PM on 442.750+

Mon—Sat at 9:30 PM on 147.300+

Meetings

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

Board of Directors' monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Tim Horton's at 7:30PM (Check on the W8LAP repeaters).

Newsletter

Items for the newsletter may be called to the Editor at 810-721-0708, sent by Mail (Box 88, Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII or Word to k8dd@arrl.net The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

Volunteer Exam Session:

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be **Feb 9, 2008** at 10:00 a.m. in the 2nd floor meeting room at the Port Huron Branch of the St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorran Blvd, Port Huron, MI.

Walk-ins are welcome for the 2008 Volunteer Examinations.

Bring picture ID, the original and a copy of your present license and the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion (CSC) you may hold.

The current fee is \$14.00.

This year we will be sending the schedule to area clubs, school districts and posting at the Radio Shacks.

The remaining 2008 sessions will be:

Feb 9 Mar 8 Apr 12 May 10

Jun 14 Jul 12 Aug 9 Sep 13

Oct 11 Nov 8 Dec 13

For further information call Bob Herbert, K8WMW, at 982-1561 or k8wmw@arrl.net

For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale:

I want to buy your old ham/electronic/tube gear. I'm particularly looking for the Heathkit Mohawk that I built and sold to Dave Burch four decades ago.

Contact Mike, AA8K, at: stepsisters@comcast.net or 810-987-8873

For Sale

HW-8 Handbook—covers HW-7, 8 & 9 \$15

Ten Tec Construction boxes sold out!

K7QO Code Course CD \$ FREE

COM port boards, ISA, 2 ports \$3.00 ea

100' Rohn 45 tower with antennas, house, large garage, dipoles, vertical & wire antennas. Will not split. \$negotiable.

Contact Hank K8DD at k8dd@k8dd.com or 810-721-0708

**Be Radio-Active
Participate**

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR December 2006

80 METER FOXHUNT (CW) *** QRP Contest ***

Each Tuesday to Mar 25

9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

40 METER FOXHUNT (CW) *** QRP Contest ***

Each Thursday to March 27

9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA

Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

North American Sprint (SSB) ... QRP Category

Feb 10, 0000z to 0400z

Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprinrules.php>

SKCC Weekend Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Category

Feb 10, 0000z to 0000z

Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/wknd-sprint-rules.html>

SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards

Feb 13, 0000z to 0200z

Rules: <http://skccgroup.com/sprint/sprint-rules.htm>

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint (CW) *** QRP Contest ***
EST: Feb 12, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM
UTC: Feb 13, 0130Z to 0330Z
Rules: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/contests.html>

ARRL International DX Contest (CW) ... QRP Category
Feb 16, 0000z to Feb 17, 2400z
Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html?year=2008>

RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) *** QRP CONTEST ***
EST: Feb 17, 9 PM to 11 PM
UTC: Feb 18, 0200z 0400z
Rules: <http://www.gentzow.com/fpgrp/>

MQFD Monthly Sprint (CW/PH/Digital) *** QRP Contest ***
Feb 23, 1800z to 2200z
Rules: <http://w2agn.net/mqfdsprint.html>

CQ WW 160-Meter DX Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category
Feb 23, 0000z to Feb 24, 2359z
Rules: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/awards.html>

REF (French) SSB Contest
Feb 23, 0600z to Feb 24, 1800z
Rules: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/refc.htm>

UBA DX Contest - Belgium (CW) ... QRP Category
Feb 23, 1300z to Feb 24, 1300z
Rules: http://www.uba.be/hf_contests/pdf/ubatest_dx.pdf

Mississippi QSO Party (Ph/CW)
Feb 23, 1500z to Feb 24, 0300z
Rules: <http://www.arrlmiss.org>

North American QSO Party (RTTY)
Feb 23, 1800z to Feb 24, 0600z
Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/nagprules.php>

Colorado QRP Club Winter QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... QRP Contest!
Feb 23, 2200z to Feb 24, 0359z
Rules: <http://www.cqc.org/>

High Speed CW Club Contest ... QRP Category
Feb 24, 0900z to 1100z and 1500z to 1700z
Rules: <http://www.dl3bzz.de/html/hscconte.html>

North Carolina QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... 100W all QSOs
Feb 24, 1700z to Feb 25, 0300z
Rules: <http://www.w4nc.com>

Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL), N2APB, WB3AAL and others
for assistance in compiling this calendar.

If you wish to subscribe to the Calendar,
send an e-mail to N2CQ@ARRL.Net

Please forward the contest info you sponsor to N2CQ@ARRL.NET and
we will post it and give it more publicity.

Anyone may use this "N2CQ QRP Contest Calendar" for your website,
newsletter, e-mail list or other media as you choose.

(Include a credit to the source of this material of course.)

72 de Ken Newman - N2CQ

2008 Skywarn Class

(a.k.a. Tornado)



They DO happen HERE



Hadley 2007



SPONSORED BY:

*Lapeer County Office of Emergency Mgmt Lapeer County
Amateur Radio Association
National Weather Service*

**IMLAY CITY
HIGH SCHOOL
AUDITORIUM**

1001 Norlin Drive, Imlay City

NOTE NEW LOCATION



**Thursday
April 3, 2008**

at

7:00 P.M.



FREE

**and Open
to the Public**



**Pre-Registration
Required:**

www.lapeercountyemd.org

Skywarn Training

- Skywarn spotter training sessions are held to train individuals on how to accurately observe such weather phenomena as wall clouds, funnel clouds, tornadoes, shelf clouds associated with squall lines, and clouds that resemble funnel clouds and tornadoes but really aren't.
- In addition, topics covered during Skywarn training are:
 - the role of the spotter, the NWS and emergency services;
 - a recap of significant weather events during 2007;
 - the necessary atmospheric conditions for thunderstorm development;
 - tornado classifications;
 - severe weather safety tips;
 - severe weather terms used in National Weather Service products;
 - what to report to the National Weather Service; and,
 - how to report information to the National Weather Service.
- Skywarn training presentations usually last around two hours, with a scheduled break included.
- Skywarn spotters are essential to the National Weather Service, law enforcement and fire officials, and emergency managers. Among other things, spotters:
 - provide valuable information on the severity of thunderstorms;
 - allow downstream communities to understand the severity of thunderstorms moving toward them; and,
 - allow the National Weather Service to gather information which helps verify the warnings it issues.
- Those who volunteer to be Skywarn spotters offer a valuable service. At a minimum, it is asked that Skywarn volunteers review procedures by attending a Skywarn spotter training session every two years.
- Spotter training is open to members of the general public, law enforcement, fire officials, and amateur radio operators, among others. We look forward to your participation in Skywarn!

2006-2007 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