

W8LAP/r

146.620 - 100Hz
442.750 + 110Hz

www.w8lap.com

WAVEGUIDE

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

September

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2008

*The next regular meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 9 —7:30 p.m.
at the Lapeer County Central Dispatch Center (911)
2332 W. Genesee Street in the basement.*

The Pres Sez:

Time to pick a new prez. There were three that tested at the swap and the good news is they all passed. Two new techs and an upgrade to general. Also there was three address changes and one renewal.

I would like to see all of the repeaters in Lapeer linked. Maybe they would get more use.

Bye,Bob n8ne

The Treas Sez:

Greetings to one and all. The month of August sure has been a busy month. The treasury has been re-plenished some, due to the swap and shop. The exact total still has not been calculated, but let me tell you that

we probably did about the same as last year. I want to Thank all those that helped me put on the swap this year. This is not only a money making operation, but a summer get together for all the local hams that attend, and I think that it went very well. Thank You one and all.

As I type this we are in the middle of Operation Care Labor Day Weekend. This again is a very important fund supplier for our club. Although the traffic and donations have been down some from

other years, it still provides a large portion of our operating funds. Tom Oliver KD8EBY again coordinated a great operation, filling all the volunteer slots for the whole weekend. I was able to take a time slot this year, and totally enjoyed it. I will tell those that do not participate that It is a lot of fun and they should come out and experience it with the rest of us.

The treasury is doing well and we will be more than able to pay our expenses. Due to the expenses of the swap and shop, there were a lot of receipt and bills this month, but the overall after all is balanced out are about the same.

Until next month 73, Bill Miller KD8VP Treasurer

The Trustee Sez:

Hello everyone, this sure has been a very busy month. Not only has there been a lot happening with the repeater, but the swap and shop and getting ready for Operation Care can all take a lot of ones time.

The new CAT1000B controller and associated hardware have all been taken into my possession, and deposited in the repeater shack. A 220 MHZ transceiver and four element Yagi antenna and 100

foot of coax have been acquired and will be installed on the tower pointed at North Branch. As well the same has been added to W8ECP repeater. This is the Linking hardware that will link our W8LAP 2 meter repeater to the W8ECP 440 MHz. repeater in North Branch. Thus giving us greater coverage to the North with not only Lapeer County but beyond too. I have spent some time out at the repeater rearranging the hardware in the cabinets,

making room for the additional equipment, once I make some improvement to the power distribution panel, I will be able to put the new CAT on line. I will tell you ahead

of time that I need some assistance with putting the antenna on the tower, so don't be surprised if I call you up and ask you to help someday soon.

Talk to you later, 73 Bill Miller KD8VP Trustee

The Secretary Sez:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and introduction of members and guest.

Minutes were read by Flo, kc8cab. Accepted by Dan, kc1bud and seconded by Joe, kd8cil.

Treasurer's report was given by Bill, kd8vp.

Accepted by Eric, kd8dev and seconded by Steve, n8en.

Trustees report was given by Bill, kd8vp. He said he spent more money. Perry will be linking the 440 and 220 to the 2 meters. Bill is getting 2-220 radios, beams, and coax. Bill ordered a switch board.

A memorial in the memory of Hans Jens was given to the Immaculate Conception Church. Mr. R.E. Secord passed away.

Break was from 8P.M. to 8:20P.M.

There was a discussion on how to get more Amateur Radio Operators involved in the Club. They talked about putting an announcement in the L.A. View about a membership drive.

September is nomination of Officers.

Dues for 2009 are due in October.

50/50 was won by Bob, n8ne.

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Bob, w8rae and seconded by Dan, kc1bud.

Meeting was closed at 8:45P.M.

OP C.A.R.E.

Well, we made it through another one. Thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to help out; I couldn't do this all by myself. The following persons get their dues paid by the club for the 6 shifts they worked: KC8VHA, W8RAE, N8NE, and KD8CIL. My special thanks to TOM (KD8EOA) who contributed 26 shifts (78 Hours) along with myself who worked 33 shifts (99 hours). Again thanks to all.,73

From the mailbag:

Elmering CW Ops

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I have a reputation for being a CW zealot. It's a reputation that I quite deserve, thank you very much, and one that I'm proud of. Working CW is a heckuva lot of fun, and I want to help as many hams as I can enjoy it as much as I do.

Unlike some OFs (e-mail me if you're not familiar with that CW abbreviation) who just complain that no one operates CW anymore or bemoan the elimination of the code test, I try to walk the walk as well as talk the talk. Here are some of the things I do to get guys to operate CW:

* I always carry around copies of the K7QO Code Course on CD-ROM (<http://www.kc5cqm.org/pmwiki/pmwiki.php?n=Main.K7QOcwCourse>). K7QO has graciously allowed this version to be distributed freely, and when I'm at a ham event, and anyone expresses even the slightest interest in CQ, I pull one out of my briefcase and hand it to him or her.

* I try to keep one or two inexpensive paddles around to sell to interested folks. Bencher BY-1s are good

starter paddles, and you can often find them at hamfests or on EBay for fifty to sixty bucks. I usually keep one or two "in stock." When someone asks about paddles, I offer to sell them one of the ones I have for exactly what I paid for it. Since they know me, they get a good feeling that they're getting a decent paddle at a decent price. And once they have it in the shack, it takes away one excuse for not operating CW. I also, provide technical support. By that I mean I help them get the key and keyer adjusted properly and help them use it properly.

* I never denigrate or complain about hams that never had to pass a code test. That's a sure turnoff. As soon as people get the feeling that you're looking down your nose at them, you lose all credibility with them and they just stop listening to you. My personal opinion is that if more folks have ham licenses, then the pool of potential CW operators is bigger.

* I never denigrate or complain about hams that don't operate CW. See above.

* I acknowledge that Morse Code can be difficult to

learn. I often apologize for the fact that I got into it when I was young and it was easier for me to pick it up then. I also apologize that I seem to have at least a limited talent for Morse Code. I acknowledge that this is not something one learns overnight. You're more likely to win someone over if you sympathize instead of criticize. I like to challenge them to learn it, noting that once they've acquired the skill, it's something that they can be proud of. Not only that, it's a lot of fun!

* I try to show them how much fun CW is! I have an Elecraft KX-1, which I take to things like club picnics. Throw up a simple antenna and I am on the air making contacts. I also invite guys to my shack and show them in person how cool it is.

Finally, I give presentations to just about any club that invites me, if I can make the arrangements. On my blog at <http://kb6nu.com/a-cw-presentation-for-your-club/>, you can find the text for the slides I used for my presentation, "CW is Fun!" Feel free to use them to give a presentation to your club.

Who knows? If you give this presentation to your club, maybe you'll even get one or two guys interested enough in CW to learn the code and get on the air. If every current CW op Elmered one other ham every year, the CW bands would be chock full of activity. We'd be complaining that it's impossible to find a clear frequency instead of complaining that it's getting hard to find a contact.

Upcoming Swaps...And Events...

September 6, 2008—Grand Rapids, GRAHamfest, 8 a.m.—, Kent Co. Fairgrounds, Info: www.grahamfest.org
September 7, 2008—Findlay, OH, 66th Hamfest 7:30— ??? Hancock Co. Fairgrounds. Adm: \$6, tables: 1st \$20, addl. \$15. Camping \$15 Handheld given away every 30 mins. t.i. 147.15+, 444.15+ Info: Findlayradioclub.org
September 13—Hometown Security Day 2008, p.3
September 14, 2008—Adrian, 36th Annual Hamfest & Computer Show, 8 a.m.—, www.w8tqe.com
September 20-21—Peoria, IL 50th Superfest, Exposition Gardens. Info: peoriasuperfest.com
September 27—Simulated Emergency Test (SET)
October 5—Blue Water Ramble *NEW ROUTES!!!*

Volunteer Exam Session

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be September 13, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the 2nd floor meeting room at the Port Huron Branch of the St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorrان Blvd, Port Huron, MI.

Pre-registration NOT NECESSARY for all sessions during 2008!

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. For further information call Bob Herbert, K8WMW, at 982-1561

Dates for 2008 include:
Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 08, Dec 13

For further information call Bob Herbert, K8WMW, at 982-1561

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012

Officers

President, Bob Beswetherick, N8NE . 810-653-3856 Vice-Pres., Chris Azelton, KC8TWL..810-245-0073
Secretary, Flo Haack KC8CAB 810-793-2606 Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Appointees.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD Club Call TrusteeW8LAP.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Club Historian.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Skywarn Coordinator.....Pete Headrick KB8RSG Swap & Shop Chairperson.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Charlie Whipp, KC8JBK Newsletter Editor.....Hank Kohl, K8DD
Public Information Officer.....**It could be you!**

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 file to k8dd@arrl.net The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

This area is for the article that you were going to write!

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

From the estate of N8CQA:
Central Electronics 10B \$130
Central Electronics 20A \$130
One VFO's for above \$75 ea
30M two transistor transmitter in a Hershey cocoa can \$15
All offers will be listened to!

Icom 746 not PRO – pair of Inrad 400 Hz filters, Icom CT-17 for computer control, W2ENY isolated keying cable, microphone, manuals, box \$900 obo

West Mountain Radio Rigblaster Plus – NEW - \$100

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

**Be Radio-Active
Participate**

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

Dx Packet Cluster

The **WA8DX** Spider Packet Cluster node is available on **144.970** the internet. 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.

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

~~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.

The two meter port on 144.970 has been turned off because of the lack of use.

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!

N2CQ QRP CONTEST CALENDAR

~~~~~  
Tennessee QSO Party (SSB/CW/Dig) ... QRP Category  
Sep 7, 1800z to Sep 8, 0100z  
Rules: <http://www.tnqp.org/>  
~~~~~

FISTS: Get Your Feet Wet Weekend ... QRP Category
Sep 12, 0000z to Sep 15, 0000z
Rules: <http://www.fists.org/getfeetwet.html>
~~~~~

PODXS 070 Club 80m Autumn Sprint (PSK31) ... QRP Category  
Sep 12, 2000 Local to 0200 Local  
Rules:  
[http://www.podxs070.com//contests/80m\\_sprint\\_rules08.htm](http://www.podxs070.com//contests/80m_sprint_rules08.htm)  
~~~~~

Worked All Europe DX Contest (SSB) 100W Power Category
Sep 13, 0000z to Sep 14, 2400z
Rules: <http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/xedcwr.htm>
~~~~~

Swiss HTC QRP Sprint (CW) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*  
Sep 13, 1300z to 1859z  
Rules: [http://www.htc.ch/de/htc\\_sprint\\_contest.htm](http://www.htc.ch/de/htc_sprint_contest.htm)  
or: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/htcqrpsp.htm>  
~~~~~

Arkansas QSO Party (CW/SSB/PSK31) ... QRP Category
Sep 13, 1400z to Sep 14, 0600z and
Sep 14, 1500z to Sep 14, 2400z
Rules: <http://www.arkan.us/>
~~~~~

ARRL September VHF QSO Party (All) Low Power Category  
Sep 13, 1800z to Sep 15, 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/sepvhf.html>  
~~~~~

Second Class Operator Club Marathon (CW) *** QRP Contest ***
Sep 13, 1800z to 2400z
Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/soc/contests.htm#top>
~~~~~

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Category  
Sep 14, 0000z to 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>  
~~~~~

NA Sprint (SSB)... QRP Category
Sep 14, 0000z to 0400z
Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php>
~~~~~

End of Summer Digital Sprint \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*  
Sep 14, 2000z to 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org>  
~~~~~

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint *** QRP CONTEST! ***
EDT: Sep 17, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM
UTC: Sep 18, 0030z to 0230z
Rules: <http://www.arm-tek.net/~yoel/contests.html>
~~~~~

Colorado QSO Party (SSB/CW/Digital) ... QRP Category  
Sep 20, 1000z to sep 21, 0400z  
Rules: <http://www.ppraa.org/coqp/>  
~~~~~

Scandinavian Activity Contest (CW) ... QRP Category

Sep 20, 1200z to Sep 21, 1200z
Rules: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/sacnsc.htm>

~~~~~  
South Carolina QSO Party (ALL) ... QRP Category  
Sep 20, 1300z to Sep 21, 2100z  
Rules: <http://carc.ham-radio-op.net/scqp/scqsoweb2008.shtml>

~~~~~  
QRP Afield (All) *** QRP Contest ***
Sep 20, 1500z to 2100z
Rules: <http://newenglandgrp.org/afield>

~~~~~  
Washington State Salmon Run (CW/SSB) ... QRP Category  
Sep 20, 1600z to Sep 21, 0700z  
Sep 21, 1600z to Sep 21, 2400z  
Rules: <http://www.wwdxc.org/>

~~~~~  
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint (CW/PSK31) ***QRP CONTEST***
Sep 22, 0000z to 0400z
Rules: <http://www.njgrp.org/data/qrp-homebrewers-sprint.html>

~~~~~  
RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) \*\*\* QRP CONTEST \*\*\*  
EDT: Sep 21, 9 PM to 11 PM  
UTC: Sep 22, 0100z 0300z  
Rules: <http://fpgrp.net:80/fpqrprun.php>

~~~~~  
SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards
Sep, 24, 0000z to 0200z
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>

~~~~~  
CQWW RTTY DX Contest ... <150w Category  
Sep 27, 0000z to Sep 28, 2400z  
Rules:  
[http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/RTTY\\_Rules\\_July2008ENTIRE.pdf](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/RTTY_Rules_July2008ENTIRE.pdf)

~~~~~  
Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB) ... QRP Category
Sep 27, 1200z to Sep 28, 1200z
Rules: <http://www.sk3bg.se/contest/sacnsc.htm>

~~~~~  
Texas QSO Party (All) ... QRP Category  
Sep 27, 1400z to Sep 28, 0200z  
Sep 28, 1400z to Sep 28, 2000z  
Rules: <http://www.txqp.org/>

~~~~~  
AGCW VHF/UHF CW Contest ... QRP Category
Sep 27, 1600z to 2100z
Rules: http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:VHF-UHF_Contest

~~~~~  
MQFD Monthly Sprint (CW/PH/Digital) \*\*\* QRP Contest \*\*\*  
Sep 27, 1800z to 2200z  
Rules: <http://w2agn.net/mqfdsprint.html>

~~~~~  
Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL), VA3JFF & G4GXL (QRPARCI)
N2APB (AmQRP), WB3AAL (EPAQRP) and others
for assistance in compiling this calendar.

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

3rd Annual Family

FREE Stuff
for pre-registering



Lots of
helpful
material



Preparedness Day

When: **Saturday, Sept. 6, 2008**

9:00am until 1:00pm

Rain or Shine!

Where: **The Old Court House Lawn in Lapeer**

Hands on
demonstrations



Lots of
Door Prizes



Learn to:

- Make a family preparedness plan
- Building an Emergency Supply Kit
- Have fun and play games!

FREE Readiness Starter Kits for those that pre-register
(quantities limited)

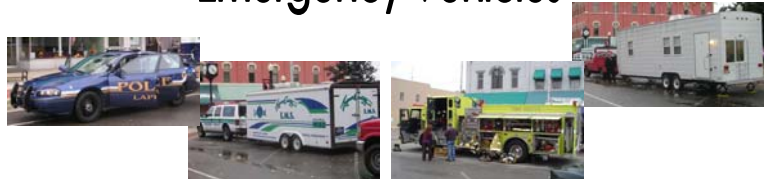
Items to start
your own
Disaster Kit



Specialty
Teams



Emergency Vehicles



Fun Stuff
for Kids



Pet Preparedness



Hosted by:

Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management
and

Lapeer County CERT Team
2332 W. Genesee Street, Lapeer, MI 48446
810-667-0242

www.lapeercountyemd.org

PLEASE NOTE:

Pre-registration does not start until August 2008.

23rd Annual USECA

**Utica-Shelby Emergency Communications
Association**



HAMFEST



Sunday, October 26, 2008

Doors open from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

American Polish Century Club
33204 Maple Lane Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48312-6212
1 Mile East of Van Dyke (M-53), Just North of 14 Mile Rd.

VE Test Sessions
Radio and Equipment Test Bench
New and Used Sales
Many Great Door Prizes
Hang out with other HAMS

Tables are \$15.00, 2nd for \$10.00

Admission is \$5.00 at the door

Contact Larry, W8NIC, (586) 864-4563 or at w8nic@yahoo.com

Talk-in on the USECA Repeater 147.180 – PL 100 Hz

2007-2008 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