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146.620 - 100Hz
442.750 + 123Hz
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Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association



February

Published Monthly by the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

2010

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

The Prez Sez:

Well there was a snow storm the night of our February meeting and attendance was down by about half - Jamie and I carpooled in from Columbiaville with our secretary Flo and we all had a nice talk.

We had a guest speaker at the February meeting. Our District 3 Emergency Coordinator, Joe Tuscher (N8OSL), gave a talk on the differences between RACES and ARES. I think everyone learned something new that they didn't know before the meeting.

The club received an interesting email that Bill forwarded to me. A gentleman named Jim Stafford (K8LFE) is acting as a "liaison" between several ham clubs in the Detroit area. He wanted to know if LCARA would participate in

intra-club communications (such as public service events and the swap to name a few). So I replied to his email and attached our membership flyer to start the communication off. If anything interesting comes up I will give the information in the monthly meeting.

On a personal note I purchased a dual band radio for the home shack and we will soon have 440 capabilities for the first time. Now I just have to get the antenna up....

Come on spring! See you at the club meeting on March 9th.

Kevin Boxey
KB8TAR

The Treas Sez:

Greetings to everyone. The month of February is a pretty expensive month for LCARA. I have to pay both the Liability Insurance and the Property damage insurance.

Together they are over \$350.00, so that is a pretty good hit. I also had to pay Doug KC8ZCF for several months of mailing the news letter to those who do not have an e-mail address on file with us. Doug carries this burden until he sends me the bills, so I want to Thank him for all he is

doing for the club. Not to fear the treasury is still in fine shape. And besides it is only a couple of months until our fine bunch of volunteers, again start doing Operation Care. So prepare yourself for that up coming season, and try and help out your club by volunteering.

Thank you very much for allowing me to continue in this highly paid position.

Best regards and 73 Bill Miller kd8vp

The Trustee Sez:

Hello everyone, it's that time again. It has been a relatively mild winter, with only about half the snow that we received last year by this time. That allowed me to get to the repeater to check things over.

Ordinarily it is very hard to get in out there this time of year. So far everything has been OK. We had a little problem a while back, that turned out to be just a bad connection on the feed line. At least that's what I think.

Readjusting seems to have fixed it.

That little problem though made me realize that the club didn't have a meter to check the output on either repeater. Neither did I. I have an antenna analyzer and can check the antenna's, but no output meter to check the transmitter output. I asked the club for permission to buy one and they approved. The club now has an MFJ 817C SWR meter. The meter will be at my house and will be available to any member that needs

to check the output of any transmitter from 140 Mhz to 540 Mhz. Let me know and we can arrange to do some checking.

The Secy Sez:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and introduction of members and guest by Kevin, kb8tar the president of the club.

There was no hospital report.

The secretary report was given by Flo, kc8cab. It was accepted by not sure, seconded by Tom, kd8eoa and third by Dan, kc1bud.

The treasurers report was given by Bill, kd8vp. Bill sold 2 scom repeater controllers. One went to New Jersey and one went to California. The report was accepted by Tom, kd8eby and seconded by Dan, kc1bud.

The trustees report was given by Bill, kd8vp. Nothing has been done as of yet on incorporation. Bill would like to buy an swr and watt meter for the repeater. Permission was given to buy an swr and watt meter for around \$200.

Motion was made by Lee, n8lj and seconded by Dan, kc1bud.

Use those repeaters before the connections corrode again. Ha Ha.

Best regards and 73 Bill Miller kd8vp

Tom, kd8eby, EC. There is no packet up yet. Field Day is June 26 and 27. SET is June 11 in Dryden. There is still nothing on Operation Care as of yet.

Races/District 3 presentation by Joe, n8osl. They already have the packet equipment for races. A climber is needed for 3 counties. He will have 3 climbs. Stand offs and coax is still needed. Ares is an organization for arrl. Races is a government program. It is activated in disasters. The Governor reports to the Federal Government. You have to take a FEMA Course to get a Races Card.

Break was from 8:23 to 8:30

They are checking on A ground search team. The sheriff is receptive to the ground search team. The undersheriff, Mary, and Kevin are looking into it.

Lee, n8lj will be operating as yn2lj and Hank, k8dd will be operating as yn2dd when they are in Nicaragua.

50/50 was won by Mike, kn8z.

Meeting was closed at 8:43. Dan, kc1bud moved to close and seconded by Tom, kd8eoa

The EC Sez:

only 1 event this month-Skywarn training March 25th, 7pm at Lapeer E. High School. It is recommended that a "refresher" is taken every 2 years. I have 3 meetings to attend this month. If someone wants to represent Lapeer at the MICON meeting in White lake on March 25th please let me know-Kevin and myself have prior commitments. The dates for Operation Care are in and should be posted on our website soon and will be made available at our monthly meeting on March 9th. And last Joe Medved is now county AEC for communications. He would've been designated as Official Emergency Station but that has been stopped in our district due to lack of participation. Enough from me for now, 73 all, TOM

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KD8EBY@arrl.net

E.C. Lapeer County, Mi.

ARES/RACES/Skywarn

NAEMT(P) Member

---- See SKYWARN spotter flyer below ----

**Be Radio-Active
Participate**

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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

Officers

President, Kevin Boxey KC8TAR 810-793-4986 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.....
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-
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 sometimes 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.

Volunteer Exam Session

The next ARRL Volunteer Exam (VE) session will be **March 13, 2010** at 10:00 a.m. in the second floor meeting room at the Port Huron Branch of the St. Clair County Library, 210 McMorrان Blvd, Port Huron, MI.

Pre-registration NOT NECESSARY!

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 \$15.00. For further information call Martin Smith, KD8IKN, at 385-5584

Remaining dates for 2010: March 13; April 10; May 8; June 12; July 10; August 14; September 11, October 9; November 13; December 11

Martin, KD8IKN
pioneer-2@att.net
810-385-5584

From the Mailbag:

LCARA is now on Facebook! Logon to your Facebook account and search on "Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association" and become a fan! This is an excellent way to promote the club. More info at the next LCARA meeting.

2010 Tech Pool -- Revised

In January, the Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) released the 2010 Technician (Element 2) Question Pool. Upon further review of the pool, members of the QPC found and corrected more than 50 minor typographical errors and clarified the questions and answers, making them easier to understand.

These adopted changes are now incorporated in a revised question pool. The errata list, as well as the revised Technician question pool, is available on the NCVEC Web site at, <http://www.ncvec.org/>.

Red Cross MOU

The ARRL Board of Directors has approved a new Memorandum of Understanding between the American Red Cross and ARRL. The new MOU is the result of lengthy negotiations between the two organizations. Being discussed was a Red Cross requirement that Amateur Radio operators who wished to serve as volunteer communicators agree to have an extensive background check performed.

The new MOU allows for amateurs to avoid agreeing to such checking. The new MOU includes an agreement by RC to accept the results of criminal background checks performed by State or local law enforcement agencies as well as checks performed by Mybackgroundcheck.com. From the time negotiations for the new MOU began, the two organizations had agreed that requiring criminal background on volunteer communicators was reasonable. Unfortunately, the only mechanism RC identified for having the checks done was through a service that automatically required the volunteer to agree to multiple forms of checks.

These included manner of living and financial background checks in addition to the needed criminal check. You may recall that RC asserted they would have no more than

criminal checks run on communication volunteers regardless of the wording of the agreement the volunteer was required to sign.

We on the ARRL Board did not believe it was appropriate to accept a new MOU that included such an overly comprehensive background check agreement. Our goal was to make it possible for individual amateurs to have three options available when considering supporting Red Cross communication. These options were to agree to multiple background checks and to agree only to a criminal background check. The third option, of course, is to choose not to have a background check run and not to be a volunteer. This goal has been accomplished. Hams considering becoming RC volunteers now have the full range of choice.

RC agreement to accept criminal background checks performed by law enforcement agencies came with one provision. The fee will need to be paid by some other agency or by the individual volunteer. This [is] no problem [where] criminal background checks are [done] on behalf of EMA or other civil agency with which the amateur volunteers.

Learn Morse Code on YouTube

There are several videos on YouTube to help you learn Morse Code. I particularly like these two.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=97NN2Y8yLpk> teaches the alphabet and

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5hHt-z8AU6g> teaches the numbers.

You can also get the Morse Code song http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q19_CIDycWg

Of course, if you really want to learn Morse Code you can either download the program G4fon at

<http://www.g4fon.net/> or learn online at www.lcwo.net

Reciprocal Agreement Holds

From the Hazel Park *Zero Beat* newsletter regarding operating mobile in Canada

Milt Dzodin N8AYD owns property in Ontario and contacted the Public Relations or Communications Dept. of the Ministry of Transportation. The following replies show that the reciprocal agreement still applies to both sections 13 and section 14 (1) that was added on later. Therefore, this document could be used to prove US hams are exempt from the new cell phone laws in Canada. Some people may want to put a laminated copy in their glove box.

13. (1) Until January 1, 2013, drivers who hold a valid radio operator certificate issued under the *Radiocommunication Act* (Canada) may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while holding or using a two-way radio.

(2) This section is revoked on January 1, 2013.

Exemption for pressing buttons 14. (1) A person may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while pressing a button on a hand-held wireless communication device to make, answer or end a cell phone call or to transmit or receive voice communication on a two-way radio if the device is placed securely in or mounted to the motor vehicle so that it does not move while the vehicle is in motion and the driver can see it at a quick glance and easily reach it without adjusting his or her driving position.

(2) A person may drive a motor vehicle on a highway while pressing a button on a device that is worn on his or her head or hung over or placed inside his or her ear or is attached to his or her clothing and is linked to a hand-held wireless communication device to make, answer or end a

cell phone call or to transmit or receive voice communication on a two-way radio or a hand microphone or portable radio.

Sent: Monday, February 08, 2010 3:56 PM

Mr. Dzodin:

Leo Tasca has moved to another ministry, so I will be answering your question regarding US amateur radio operators in Canada.

The operation of amateur radio service equipment and stations in the territory of the two countries is covered in Treaty

Series 1952 No. 7 *Operation of Certain Radio Equipment or Stations, Convention between Canada and the United States of America*. Under the reciprocal Canada-U.S. agreement, Industry Canada treats a U.S. amateur who is operating a radio in Canada with a valid U.S. certificate as having the same privileges as someone who holds a valid radio operator certificate issued under the Radiocommunication Act (Canada).

Under the new Bill 118, amateur radio operators have been granted a three-year exemption for the hand-held use of their radio equipment. After this time, a hands-free operation will be required.

The U.S. amateurs operating in Canada must abide by the *Radiocommunication Regulations* and

Radiocommunication Information Circular 2, *Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service* (RBR-4). A copy of that document is attached.

Visiting amateurs are not required to register or receive a permit before operating their amateur radio stations. Each amateur station shall indicate at least once during each contact with another station its geographical location as

nearly as possible by city and state or city and province. The amateur station shall be operated in accordance with the laws and regulations of the country in which the station is temporarily located.

More information on reciprocal agreements can be obtained at:<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smtgst.nsf/eng/sf01701.html#reciprocal5>

I hope this has answered your questions. If not, please let me know.

Gordon Stewart

Sent: 2/9/2010 12:01:50 P.M. Eastern Standard Time

Mr. Dzodin:

The ban on hand-held wireless communication devices in Bill 118 applies to all road users in Ontario regardless of their home jurisdiction. It is a blanket prohibition with limited exemptions in the legislation, supported by a regulation that grants exemptions to some classes of drivers for certain types of devices. The exemptions are either permanent or time limited.

Section 13 of the regulation grants a time-limited exemption for amateur radio operators licensed by Industry Canada. As noted in my previous email, Industry Canada treats a U.S. amateur who is operating a radio in Canada with a valid U.S. certificate as having the same privileges as someone who holds a valid radio operator certificate issued under the Radiocommunication Act (Canada). A U.S. amateur operator without a valid U.S. certificate, for instance, would not qualify for the exemption.

I hope this has answered your question.

Gordon Stewart

For Sale For Sale For Sale For Sale:

FOR SALE:

Henry 2K HF amplifier, floor model \$800 contact Stan, AC8W (810) 364-6674

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:

30M two transistor transmitter in a Hershey Cocoa can , with schematic \$15

All offers will be listened to!

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

FOR SALE:

HF Isotron Loop antenna for 80-75-40M, \$60.00 or best offer .

Seven (7) slinkies (metal, can be made into an antenna), \$40.00 for all of them.

Also have approximately 130 ft in coax and 100-200 ft of wire to donate to who ever wants them.

Contact Richard 810.824.3948

Coming Events...

Mar 20- Marshall :8:00-2:00 50th Michigan Cross- roads Hamfest and Radio Swap, **NEW LOCATION** Marshall Activity Center, 15325 W. Michigan Ave., Adm: \$5, tables \$10 T.I. 146.66- Info: www.w8df.com/hamfest.html -or- (269) 96207145

Mar 21- TMRA Hamfest/Computer Show, Toledo, OH

Apr 3—Lowell (ARGYL) info www.argyl.org

Apr 17- Milford info 810-632-5174

May 1- Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

May 16-17- Hamvention(r), Dayton, OH

Remember...DX Is!

N2CQ QRP CALENDAR Feb 26 - March 2010

80 METER FOXHUNT (CW) *** QRP Contest

Each Tuesday to Mar 24
9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA
Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

40 METER FOXHUNT (CW) *** QRP Contest

Each Thursday to March 26
9 PM to 10:29 PM Eastern Time USA
Info: <http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/>

CWops Mini-CWT Test (CW) ... QRP Category

Mar 10, 1100z to 1200z and
Mar 10, 1900z to 2000z and
Mar 11, 0300z to 0400z
Rules: <http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

AGCW QRP Contest (CW) ... QRP/QRPp
Category

Mar 13, 1400z to 2000z
Rules: <http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:QRP-Contest>

QRP ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint (CW) *** QRP
Contest ***

Mar 13, 1500z to 1800z
Rules: <http://www.qrparci.org>

Feld Hell Club Sprint (Feld Hell) ... QRP
Category

Mar 13, 1600z to 1800z
Rules:
<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home>

EA PSK31 Contest

Mar 13, 1600z to Mar 14, 1600z
Rules:
<http://www.ure.es/contest/428-ea-psk31-contest-english-version.html>

Elecraft QSO Party (All) ... QRP Category

Mar 13, 1800z to Mar 14, 1800z
Rules: <http://www.elecraft.com/>

Second Class Operator's Club Marathon Sprint
(CW) .. QRP Contest!

Mar 13, 1800z to 2400z
Rules: <http://www.qsl.net/soc/contests.htm>

Idaho QSO Party (Ph/CW/Dig) ... QRP Category

Mar 13, 1900z to Mar 14, 1900z
Rules:
http://www.nx7tt.com/main_page_link/rules.htm

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon (Straight Key CW)

... QRP Category
Mar 14, 0000z to 2359z
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/wes/>


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North American Sprint (RTTY) ... QRP Category  
Mar 14, 0000z to 0400z  
Rules: <http://www.ncjweb.com/sprintrules.php>  
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Daylight saving starts Mar 14, 2010 - 0200 AM

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Wisconsin QSO Party (CW/SSB)...QRP  
Category  
Mar 14, 1800z to Mar 15, 0100z  
Rules: <http://www.warac.org/index.htm>  
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NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint \*\*\* QRP  
CONTEST! \*\*\*  
EDT: Mar 17, 8:30 PM to 10:30 PM  
UTC: Mar 18, 0030z to 0230z  
Rules:  
<http://home.windstream.net/yoel/contests.html>  
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Ten-Ten Mobile QSO Party (CW/SSB) ... QRP  
Category  
Mar 20, 0001z to 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.ten-ten.org/calendar.html>  
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BARTG Spring RTTY Contest  
Mar 20, 0200z to Mar 22, 0200z  
Rules:  
<http://www.bartg.org.uk/documents/Contests/HF/BARTG%20HF%20Rules%202010.pdf>  
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Russian DX Contest (SSB/CW) ... QRP  
Category  
Mar 20, 1200z to Mar 21, 1200z  
Rules: <http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/rulesg.asp>  
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Oklahoma QSO Party (CW/Digital/Phone) ...  
QRP Category  
Mar 20, 1300z to Mar 21, 0100z and  
Mar 21, 1300z to Mar 21, 1900z  
Rules: <http://www.okdxa.org>  
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AGCW VHF-UHF Contest (CW)...QRP Category

Mar 20, 1400z to 1759z  
Rules: [http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:VHF-UHF\\_Contest](http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:VHF-UHF_Contest)  
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North Dakota QSO Party (CW/PH) ... QRP  
Category  
Mar 20, 1800z to Mar 21, 1800z  
Rules: <http://k0ln.com/ndqsop.pdf>  
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Virginia QSO Party (CW/SSB/Dig) ... QRP  
Category  
Mar 20, 1800z to Mar 22, 0100z  
Rules:  
[http://www.gsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2010\\_VQP/2010\\_VQP\\_Rules.html](http://www.gsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2010_VQP/2010_VQP_Rules.html)  
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Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint (CW/PSK31) ...  
QRP Contest!!!!  
UTC: Mar 22, 0000z to 0400z  
EDT: Mar 21, 8PM to Midnight EDT)  
Rules:  
<http://www.njgrp.org/data/qrphomebrewersprint.html>  
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RUN FOR THE BACON (CW) \*\*\* QRP  
CONTEST \*\*\*  
EDT: Mar 21, 9 PM to 11 PM  
UTC: Mar 22, 0100z 0300z  
Rules: <http://www.fqqr.com/>  
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SKCC Sprint (Straight Key CW) ... QRP Awards  
Mar 24, 0000z to 0200z  
Rules: <http://www.skccgroup.com/sprint/sks/>  
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CQ World-Wide WPX Contest (SSB) ... QRP  
Category  
Mar 27, 0000z to Mar 28, 2359z  
Rules: <http://www.cqwp.com/index.htm>  
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Thanks to SM3CER, WA7BNM, N0AX(ARRL),  
VA3JFF & G4GXL (QRPARCI)  
N2APB (AmQRP), WB3AAL (EPAQRP) and  
others  
for assistance in compiling this calendar.