

The Waveguide



Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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June 2017

Officers			W8LAP Repeaters 2 Meter: 146.620 -100 Hz PL Tone 70 CM: 442.750 +123 Hz PL Tone Next Club Meeting Tuesday, May 9, 7:30pm Meeting Location Lapeer County EOC / Dispatch 2332 West Genesee Street Lapeer, MI 48446 ARES Team Meetings Third Wednesday of each month (See the club calendar section for specifics.) ARES Nets Tuesdays, 8pm, 2 Meter Repeater <i>All amateur operators are welcome to check in.</i>
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mike Zedan, KN8Z (Trustee)• Lee Dziekan, N8LJ• Will Stanton, KB8YGA Meeting Refreshments: Bill Miller, KD8VP Newsletter Editor: Daniel Peters, KE8CFI Webmaster: David Erskine, KD8GXW County EC*: Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SkyWarn AEC: Tom Oliver, KD8EBY Operation CARE: Tom Oliver, KD8EBY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mike Dzwilewski, KE8FHE <small>*Emergency Coordinator. AEC: Assistant EC</small>			

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Editorials

The President's Corner

Operation CARE was just over Memorial Day, and having spent a stunning Saturday afternoon “up on the hill”, it was great to talk with so many travelers heading to all sorts of events. Most moving for me was the memorial ceremony for Duane Williams, a Marine who gave his life in Vietnam for his fellow Marines, by throwing himself on a grenade. The local veterans groups conducted a beautiful ceremony, and many of the travelers stopped to watch as it unfolded. It occurred to me that remembering our fallen, whether in a grand parade, or a quiet ceremony at a small roadside rest stop, is a deeper part of being an American. It left me in a contemplative mood, I suppose. The next opportunity to volunteer a little bit of your time is the weekend prior to July 4th - sign up at [w8lap.com](http://www.w8lap.com), and if that Internet thing's a dealbreaker, call me personally, 248-921-5398, and we'll get you squared away.

Operation C.A.R.E.
Combined Accident Reduction Effort

Why Volunteer?

- Keep Dues Low
- Help People
- Meet Club Members
- Talk Radio with fellow hams

Sign up at <http://www.w8lap.com>

The graphic features a blue background with a bar chart showing three bars of increasing height from left to right. The text is in white and yellow.

Field Day is right around the corner! The weather is warm(er), the grass is growing (too fast), and there are more radio events than you can shake a j-pole at. It's a great time to be a ham radio operator. For those of you interested in Amateur Radio (and that would presumably be you, since you're reading a ham radio club newsletter), Field Day is a great opportunity to make some contacts.

If you've never been to Field Day before, I have great news. The LCARA approach to Field Day can best be summed up as “vacation style”, which is a relaxed atmosphere where we make contacts, but the camaraderie and chance to explore the radio hobb with fellow (and prospective) club members comes first.

Last year Field Day happened at my house, where I've got a large-ish pole barn with concrete floor and electricity and plenty of room to string antennas. We're looking to repeat and improve on that this year, so check out the Field Day section later in this Waveguide, and come to our working meeting this June where we'll talk through the plans for Field Day.

I hope to see you there!

73, Gerret, KD8YUK

Notes From the Desk of the Secretary

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by President Gerret, KD8YUK. There were 16 members and guests in attendance. Kevin, KB8TAR presented the ARES team visit to the State of Michigan's Emergency Operations Center located near Lansing, Michigan. It was quite a show of technology the state has its disposal to use for crisis situation.

Hospital Report: Mike Bowman, KD8OTZ is recovering well. We wish him a speedy recovery.

General Announcements:

- Mike KN8Z reports Windows Defender is getting an important update. If you use defender, it patches a recently discovered security hole.
- Hamvention is coming up. Its new location is in Xenia, Ohio this year.
- Operation Care is Memorial Day weekend. Please select a time slot to man the booth. Remember this is our only fundraiser. Without Operation Care donations to fund our repeater operation, your association dues will certainly be increased.
- Gerret KD8YUK will host the LCARA field day this year. Stay tuned for details.
- There was no Treasurer's report this month.

Secretary's Report: Approved by the membership present.

Repeater Trustee Report: Will KB8YGA is monitoring the electrical usage at the repeater shack to determine if solar power may be economically feasible. There was one report of noisy audio coming through the repeater output but the input signal was noise free.

Emergency Coordinator Report: The Lapeer Skywarn Class was cancelled due to bad weather. June 11 is the Big Fish Triathlon. Volunteers are needed to provide communications along the course. The event is usually over before noon. Contact Kevin KB8TAR if you can help out. The Central Michigan Emergency Network (CMEN) repeater group has located a DMR repeater in the Mayville area. There will be a new repeater (P25 mode) to service the east side of Saginaw and Bay County. The Lapeer ARES group deployed during the county Simulated Emergency Test. They successfully passed messages between the deployment areas. There will be no ARES meeting in May.

New Business: None

50/50: none

this month Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm Respectfully submitted

Lee
N8LJ

Treasurer's Report

Greetings to one and all. For the last couple of months I have been preoccupied with being a caregiver for Carla, my wife, and taking our annual appointed duty to go up North and open up the cabin. In all that time there have been no changes to the treasury, other than paying the electric bill. The two insurance policies were paid back in April. They make up the bulk of our major expenses for the year. Since then we have had an Operation Care activity to start to replenish our coffers.

Operation Care Donations are our saving grace, in that those donations usually pay the insurance and some of the electric bill, thus keeping our member dues at an all time low. Keep in mind that Operation Care is a volunteer club function and requires your participation. I have long held the feeling that participation in Operation Care should be a requirement for being a member of the club, but alas the powers that be do not agree with me. That said please try to participate in one of the OP-Care events this summer.

Try to keep in mind that opinions are like noses, everyone has one. That was just my opinion.

Respectfully, Treasurer, William Miller KD8VP

Repeater Trustee's Report

Hello W8LAP Supporters:

There were no technical problems with the repeater this month, or any matters concerning use of the W8LAP club call.

Links of the Month

I was asked about locating all licensed Amateurs in the area, both active and inactive.

There are several sites that provide either visual locations, or in table form.

- From KE6UZM by state or ZIP Code: <http://hams.mapmash.com/hammap.php>
- From RadioQTH in tables: <http://www.radioqth.net/ziplookup>
- From QRZ.COM by Grid Square: <https://www.qrz.com/gridmapper>

- Tools for creating spreadsheets, etc.: <http://www.myhamcallsign.com/maps.php>

See you at the next meeting,

Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)

Emergency Coordinator Report

Hello fellow LCARA members.

Somewhere in the Waveguide this month you will see a certificate from our county EM showing their gratitude for the ARES group participation in this years county SET. In addition, KB8YGA made the local paper and he even remembered to mention ARES!! I'll bring the article to the next club meeting for your review.

I am really starting to look forward to Field Day. I suppose it would be prudent to get out my HF go box and make sure it still works and also brush up on the N1MM logging skills.

The June ARES meeting will be held at 7:00 pm in the EOC on June 21st.

We would really appreciate the additional skills of any new members that decide to join us.

I hope to have a discussion on the next digital mode that we may introduce to the group.

See you at the club meeting.

Kevin KB8TAR

EC / RO Lapeer County



ARRL Field Day 2017 - June 24-25

LCARA is hosting a club Field Day The LCARA club event will be a “vacation style” gathering, with as much operating as we can, but plenty of time for campfire chat and good cheer. All club members are welcome.

Location and Amenities

Gerret, KD8YUK will host the event at his home in Metamora Township. Just north of the Oakland County Line, the location just under six acres of gently rolling open field, with scattered trees well-suited over which to pitch a wire.



There’s room to park on the grass, and you can set up your operating station in the pole barn, or if you’d prefer to be outside, bring a sun shade or tent (or camper - please call me, first). The barn has power, light and a concrete floor, to blunt the effects of inclement weather. The site elevation is about 1,080’.

5885 Thomas Road, Oxford MI. 48371

Gerret Cell: (248) 921-5398

Will also be listening on the 2m repeater

SETUP—Friday Evening 6/23 6pm+

We’ll be setting up antennas and operating stations running from 3 dipoles. Come by after 6pm to help set up, volunteers wanted at any skill level (or no skill level!).

Finish Setup—Saturday 12pm-2pm

Any last minute setup items, test out the computers for logging with N1MM+, stock the coolers with ice.

Field Day Operations– Saturday 2pm to Sun-day 2pm

We are in need of transceivers (and accessories) for the stations, antenna masts and dipoles. If you have a station and/or antenna set you can set up for the event, please let us know, or better yet, come to the club meeting on June 13th!

We also need a few Windows computers to run the N1MM+ logging software.

If you’re interested in running a GOTA station, VHF, or Satellite, bring it!

Potluck Dinner—Saturday Evening, 7pm or so

Informal affair, bring something to throw on the gas grill or a dish to pass. Weather depending, we can have a fire in the fire pit. The club will provide water, burgers, and hot dogs (or something like that).

Breakfast—Sunday Morning

For those stalwart operators staying late or coming early, a farm-fresh breakfast from the XYL's kitchen with eggs, pancakes, bacon and/or sausage, and coffee. Makes you want to run a transceiver all night, doesn't it!?

Teardown—Sunday 2pm

Time to take it down until next year—volunteers needed for teardown!

Club Items

Michigan State Parks on the Air (MSPOTA) Update

The operating event is under way, and contacts and activations are happening!

In March and April of this year, Gerret, KD8YUK shared information about this exciting three year event leading up to the centennial for Michigan State Parks. Operating much as the National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event did in 2016, MSPOTA is designed to raise awareness of the many beautiful state parks in Michigan.



Not all parks are featured in 2017; as a three-year operating event, event organizers have spread the parks out. The two parks LCARA is sponsoring - Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area and Ortonville Recreation Area - will be featured in 2019.

For more information visit <http://www.mspota.org>

Heard on the Wire

Congratulation Certificate from County EM

Calendar of Events

- External Event (not LCARA-sponsored)

A - ARES Team Event

Also see schedule of weekly nets on page 1.

June 2017

- 06/11, 8:00am - Big Fish Triathlon, Metamora-Hadley Recreation Area
 - Supported by Lapeer ARES team and operators from the surrounding area
 - Contact Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR for more information
- 06/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC
 - Workshop: Preparing for Field Day
- 06/20, 7:00pm - ARES Team Meeting, Lapeer EOC
 - See EC Report for details - more operators of all skill levels welcome!
- 06/24-25, **ARRL Field Day** - LCARA will participate from KD8YUK's home in Metamora Township again
 - More in this issue!

July 2017

- 07/xx - Dates TBD, 8am-8pm, Operation C.A.R.E.
 - **Volunteers Needed** - visit w8lap.com or email kd8eby@arrl.net
 - Rest Area I-69E, just past Wilder Road
 - 4-hour shifts
- 07/11, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC
 - Presentation TBD

August 2017

- 08/08, 6:30pm - Club Picnic, Cramton Park, Lapeer MI
 - Presentation TBD
 - Officer Nominations Due

September 2017

- 09/01-04, 8am-8pm, Operation C.A.R.E.
 - **Volunteers Needed** - visit w8lap.com or email kd8eby@arrl.net
 - Rest Area I-69E, just past Wilder Road
 - 4-hour shifts

- **09/12, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC**
 - Presentation TBD
- **09/15-16, W9DXCC DX Convention and Banquet, Schaumburg, Illinois**
 - See events further on in this issue of the Waveguide for more information, or visit <http://w9dxcc.com/>

October 2017

- **# 10/7-10/8, Great Lakes Hamcon, Michigan International Speedway, Brooklyn,MI**
 - More Details: <http://www.glhamcon.org>
 - Flyer: <http://glhamcon.org/Flyer012717.pdf>
- **10/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC**
 - Presentation TBD

November 2017

- **11/14, 7:30pm - Club Meeting, Lapeer EOC**
 - Presentation TBD

December 2017

- **12/12, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner**
 - Date + Location Tentative (same as club meeting)

Upcoming Hamfests

Excerpted from Dale's Tales for May 2017 (Dale Williams, WA8EFK, ARRL Director, Great Lakes Division)

- Jun 17 - Milford Hamfest - Milford, OH
- Jun 18 - Monroe Hamfest - Monroe, MI
- Jun 24 & 25 - FIELD DAY
- Jul 8 - GARS Hamfest - Germantown, OH
- Jul 9 - 20/9 Tailgate - Austintown, OH
- Jul 16 - Van Wert Hamfest - Van Wert, OH
- Jul 22 - Harrison Hamfest - Harrison, MI
- Jul 22 - GMARC Tailgate - Shelby Twp, MI
- Jul 22 - Big Sandy Hamfest - Louisa, KY
- Jul 29 - CMARC Outdoor Hamfest - Lansing, MI
- Jul 30 - Portage Hamfest - Ravenna, OH

W9DXCC DX Convention and Banquet

(May 21, 2017) - Online registration is now available and much of the program is in place for the 2017 W9DXCC DX Convention and Banquet in suburban Chicago. This year's keynote speaker will be ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. The ARRL has approved the gathering

as an Operating Specialty Convention. Discounted hotel rooms can also be booked now.

Sponsored by the Northern Illinois DX Association, W9DXCC will also offer Contest University and DX University programs on Friday, with presentations for new and veteran DXers and contest operators. The daylong session on Saturday will feature speakers, exhibits, QSL card checking, a CW pileup contest and many valuable prizes. The evening banquet is a time to relax and enjoy our keynote speaker. For non-ham family members, Woodfield Mall, which offers a wide array of shopping, is one traffic light south of the convention site at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 East Golf Road.

Updates and Registration: <http://w9dxcc.com/>

For more information: John McCormick, K9KE@arrl.net

LCARA Membership Application

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Call Sign: License Class:	Name:
Address:	
City:	
State:	Postal Code:
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