

The Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

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February 2018

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W8LAP Repeaters

2 Meter: 146.620 -100 Hz PL Tone

70 CM: 442.750 +123 Hz PL Tone

Club Meeting Location

See calendar for specific dates.

Lapeer EOC

(Basement of Dispatch Center)

2332 West Genesee Street

Lapeer, MI 48446

ARES Team Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month

(See the club calendar section for specifics.)

Regular Nets

Tuesdays, 8pm, 2 Meter Repeater

All amateur operators are welcome to

check in. Controlled net, two-rounds.

No net on club meeting nights.

Reports & Editorials

President's Report

The snow may be falling in quantities, yet perhaps that is providing impetus for LCARA members to take on exciting activities. It seems that winter is the right time to make progress on radio activities that go beyond heating up the atmosphere, though there is that, too. Here is a brief rundown of recent events, chronicled elsewhere in this month's Waveguide.

New Treasurer. After *several decades* of dedicated service to the club, **Bill Miller, KD8VP** has a worthy successor. **Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL** took up the call and is currently beginning the process of transferring roughly thirty years of accumulated financial knowledge from Bill. We expect this process to take a month or few, after which Bill will step down and the club will vote on Paul's election, per the bylaws. Join me in congratulating and thanking Bill for managing the club's financial affairs since before the Internet was a big thing, and to Paul for taking up the green visor and ledger on behalf of the club.

New Website. The location is the same (<http://www.w8lap.com>), yet Webmaster **Scott Nicholes, N8XP** has been working hard to integrate several social media channels into a more seamless experience for members. It includes links to the club's Facebook page, and a Twitter feed (<https://twitter.com/W8LAP>) for the LCARA account, tweeting out Lapeer County Radio Related news. Amazing work, Scott, thank you for your dedicated work to polish up the club's Internet microphone.

New (parts for the) Repeater. As **Mike Zedan, KN8Z** details in the Repeater Trustee's reports, the Repeater Technical team did some troubleshooting on a significant issue with the club's 2-meter repeater. Be sure to read his account of the issue and how the team put the repeaters back on the air with some skillful rebuilding.

New(sletter) Editor. **Daniel Peters, KE8CFI** reluctantly tendered his resignation as the club's Newsletter Editor. Now in the throes of his Junior year at Oxford High School, Daniel is taking an extracurricular computer certification program (A+ Certification) through the Oakland County Technical Education program. In addition to school and certification studies, he is working a part time job several days a week.

Thus, the club finds itself needing a new Newsletter Editor. If you are interested in taking up the post, email any of the officers, or talk to an officer at the meeting, or email QSO@w8lap.com

Treasurer's Report

Greetings to one and all.

Many of you knew that I requested that someone else take over as Treasurer at the last elections. That did not happen right away so I stuck on, hoping someone would step up.

Well someone did!!!! Thanks to **Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL** I will be able to step down and join the audience at the meetings. As soon as the board approves everything, Paul and I will be making the transition.

As a few of you know I have been the Treasurer since the mid-eighties, and have served my time. Now it time to let younger generations take over and grow with the club. I wish to thank Paul for stepping forward and will help him through the transition for as long as it takes. I am not going anywhere!

That said, the treasury is just fine; there have been no big hits this month. This is the time of year that we have to pay our insurance(s) though and so we will be getting a couple of big hits very soon.

Respectfully submitted.

William F. Miller, KD8VP

Incoming Treasurer, Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL

Thank you Bill,

I appreciate the opportunity to serve the club, learn the ropes and propel the club into the future. I do hope to see the club grow a bit and help it in the procurement of new equipment for our repeater and learning the record keeping. I'm most certain I'll learn some new skills and processes along the way.

73' Paul, AB8XL

Notes From the Desk of the Secretary

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association- Meeting Minutes - January 9. 2018

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Gerret, KD8YUK. There were 17 members and guests in attendance.

General Announcements:

-The untimely death of K3LP was reported.

-Meeting presentations are needed. If you have a program, project or know of someone willing to do a presentation related to amateur radio, please share it with us so we can make arrangements.

-Skywarn training in Lapeer County will be April 5th at 7 pm the PIX Theater.

-Several proposals for club logos were viewed. The logo with the lightning bolt seemed to be preferred. More to follow.

Secretary's Report

-The November meeting minutes were approved, as published in the Waveguide, by the membership present.

Treasurer's Report

-The Treasurer's report was approved as presented by the membership present.

-Bill, KD8VP will retire as Treasurer. If no one steps up to assume this office, our association cannot exist.

Repeater Trustee Report

-Additional repeater control operators are needed. Contact Mike, KN8Z for details.

-The GE Master II was inoperative before Christmas. The Yaesu back up was pressed into service. The problem with the Master II was an auxiliary fuse connection that open circuited. Replaced the fuse holder and all is well. Will, KB8YGA investigated the previously reported spur on 147.04 and determined that it exists. However it is 50 dB below the output level and hence the transmitter is within specification and regulation. No further action at this time is required.

-Since our Operation Care fundraiser is no longer supported, Mike, KN8Z requests those items occupying the space in the repeater shack be moved elsewhere to allow easier repeater accessibility by the repeater team. The items will be redistributed.

Digital Repeater Committee Report

-Their recommendation for a digital repeater system will be presented at the April 2018 meeting.

Old Business

The Board of Directors was tasked to report at the January 2018 meeting, a possible membership dues increase since the Operation Care fundraiser was abandon. Several

proposals were discussed and the motion was made by Ed W8NCJ to raise the dues, effective 2018-2019 club year, to \$20 for single member and \$30 for the family rate. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the membership present.

Mike KE8FHE has been in contact with scout camp director at D/A. They are looking for help setting up an amateur radio station and merit badge counselors. Mike will get more details.

No 50/50 this evening.

Meeting Adjourned 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee, N8LJ

Repeater Trustee

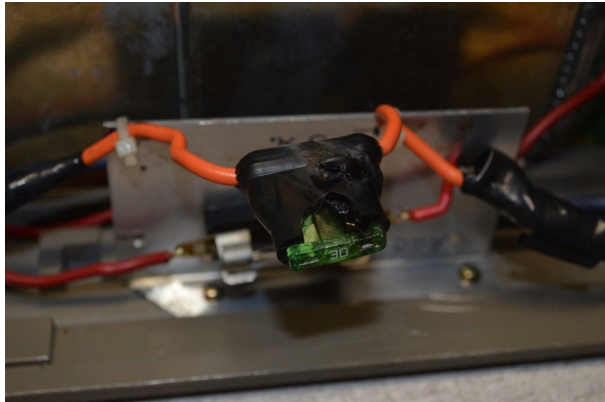
Hello W8LAP Supporters:

In late November, the two meter repeater quit working. Inspection by the Tech Team revealed that the root of the failure was in the transceiver. All other equipment in the shack was functioning as it should.

A few days after the failure, Will, KB8YGA swapped the broken GE transceiver for a backup Yaesu unit. There were few technical issues, such as mating it fully with the CAT 1000 controller, but the swap went smoothly. The only issue is that the Yaesu unit has less than 10 Watts output power, while the GE unit had 40 Watts. Thus, our coverage was reduced a bit.

Will inspected the GE unit and found a melted fuse holder in the transmitter final amplifier. This holder is not part of the original GE circuitry. The <http://www.repeater-builder.com> site shows many modifications that Hams made to commercial units, such as our GE, to add robustness. This added fuse and holder is one of those mods.

Here is the toasted component:



After Will replaced the holder, the GE was re-installed, and tests for function showed 100%.

Fortunately, the removal and swap of the units happened when we had relatively warm (for winter) weather. A few weeks later, when the temperatures dove to 10 degrees F, or less, for eleven days, performing the swap would have been uncomfortable, to say the least.

See you at the next meeting,

Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)

EC/RO Report

Hello to all fellow LCARA members.

The ARES calendar for 2018 has been assembled and it looks like the team will be busy again this year. Many of the dates are being shown in the Waveguide calendar for your reference.

We will continue to hold the Tuesday night net just like always. In addition to the normal Tuesday night net we are holding a DSTAR net on the Thursday following our club meetings at 8:00 pm on 146.46 MHz. The digital mode has been working very well for simplex phone.

We also have a series of exercises on the calendar starting in March. Typically these are for 1 hour on a Saturday morning and involve message handling with FLDIGI and also this year we will be working with EasyPal which is used for sending photos. For those of you that use or did use MMSSTV it is an improvement for photo quality over the air.

In April Lapeer County will have our Skywarn training. Also in April the yearly Michigan Section SET will be held and I plan of having Lapeer County participate again.

The Lapeer County SET was originally scheduled for April but I understand it has been moved to the fall without a firm date being sent. But whenever it is held the ARES team will participate in the SET as best we can.

In June we will be supporting the Big Fish Triathlon once again and we will need all the help we can get.

Our ARES meetings are the third Wednesday of almost every month at 7:00 pm in the EOC. We would love to see some new faces joining the team so please stop by and see what is going on.

See you soon.

Kevin KB8TAR

EC / RO Lapeer County

Club Items

Call for Presentations

Club meeting night is more interesting with presentations! If you have a topic you'd like to learn more about, or present, please contact any member of the board. The audience is easy to work with, and we can provide a projector. If you know someone who would be willing to present, put us in touch with them.

Heard on the Wire

AMSAT Launches new Satellite

Contributed by Mike Bowman, KC8OTZ

AMSAT's latest, Fox1-D, dba AO-92 was launched this weekend from an Indian rocket. *

U/v FM transponder 423.350 MHz 67.0 Hz CTCSS

145.880 MHz downlink for listening; no talking, it's still on test.

New on this ride, an L Band down shifter, experimental 1267.350 MHz uplink.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKC_cmGHOL0&feature=youtu.be

ARLB003 NCVEC Releases New Technician License Question Pool into the Public Domain

ZCZC AG03

QST de W1AW

ARRL Bulletin 3 ARLB003

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT January 9, 2018

To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB003

ARLB003 NCVEC Releases New Technician License Question Pool into the Public Domain

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) has announced the release of the 2018-2022 Amateur Radio Element 2 Technician class license question pool into the public domain. Each question pool must be published and made available to the public prior to its use as a question set, from which individual examinations are developed.

Alert the NCVEC Question Pool Committee to any necessary corrections or typographical errors via email at, qpcinput@ncvec.org.

The new Technician license question pool contains 428 questions. It will become effective for all Technician class license examinations starting on July 1, 2018.

NNNN

/EX

Bouvet Island DXpedition Returns to Port - 3Y0Z

Contributed by Mike Zedan, KN8Z

A great deal of time and money goes into a DxPedition like this one, but, in the end, Mother Nature dictates with a strong voice. I felt a crushing sigh from many parts of the world, when they announced their return to South Africa.

<http://www.bouvetdx.org/news-and-updates>

<https://share.garmin.com/bouvet>

Calendar of Events

- External Event (not LCARA-sponsored)

A - ARES Team Event

Also see:

- Weekly net schedule on page 1.
- Michigan Hamfests and Swaps immediately following the Calendar of Events.

February 2018

- 02/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 02/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 02/21, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

March 2018

- 03/03, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010; use home station
- **03/07, 7-8:30pm - Weather Spotter Training**
 - Oakland County Executive Office Building
2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328
 - <http://www.weather.gov/dtx/>
- 03/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 03/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 03/21, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- **03/24, 10am-2:30pm - Weather Spotter Training**
 - Oakland County Executive Office Building
2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328
 - <http://www.weather.gov/dtx/>
- .

April 2018

- **04/05, 7:00pm - SkyWarn Training, Pix Theater, Lapeer**
- 04/07, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010, go-box at home qth
- 04/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- **04/12, 6:30-8:00pm - Weather Spotter Training**
 - City Hall Auditorium
1000 Rochester Hills Drive, Rochester Hills, MI 48309
- 04/12, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 04/18, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- **04/18, 7-9pm - Weather Spotter Training**

- The Charter Township of Commerce Township
2009 Township Drive, Commerce Township, MI 48390

- .

May 2018

- 05/08, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- **05/10, 7-9pm - Weather Spotter Training**
 - Ortonville Old Town Hall
476 Mill St., Ortonville, MI 48462
- 05/10, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 05/16, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

June 2018

- 06/10, Morning, time TBA - Big Fish Triathlon Amateur Radio Support
- 06/12, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 06/14, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 06/20, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 06/23-24, ARRL Field Day 2018

July 2018

- 07/10, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 07/12, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

August 2018

- 08/14, 6:00pm - Picnic in the Park
 - Officer Nominations Due for 2018-2019
- 08/15, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 08/16, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 08/25, Early Morning, Crim Festival of Races Amateur Radio Support

September 2018

- 09/11, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
 - 2019 Officer Elections
- 09/13, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 09/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

October 2018

- 10/09, 7:30pm - Club Meeting

- 10/11, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 10/17, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC

November 2018

- 11/04, 2:00am - Daylight Savings Time
- 11/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 11/15, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460
- 11/17, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010, use home station
- 11/22, all day - Thanksgiving

December 2018

- 12/11, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner
- 12/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @EOC
- 12/13, 8:00pm - D-STAR Simplex Net, 146.460

Upcoming Michigan Section Hamfests and Swaps

Source: http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/search/page:1/Location.section_id:MI.rpt?format=htm

Livonia ARC's 47th Annual Swap & Shop

Start Date: 02/18/2018

End Date: 02/18/2018

Location: Livonia Civic Park Seniors Center
15218 Farmington Road
Livonia, MI 48150

Website: <http://www.livoniaarc.com/index.php?page=swapshop>

Sponsor: Livonia Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.35 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Michael Rudzki , N8MR

PO Box 51532 Livonia, MI 48151

Phone: 734-953-0913

Email: k8uns@arrl.net

Winter Ham Fest

Start Date: 03/04/2018

End Date: 03/04/2018

Location: Lorain County Community College
1005 North Abbe Road
Elyria, OH 44035

Website: <http://noars.net>

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.70 (PL 110.9)

Public Contact: Darlene Ohman , KA8VTS

4122 Bush Avenue Cleveland, OH 44109
Phone: 216-398-8858
Email: dohman1045@gmail.com

1st Annual GMARC Swap & Shop

Start Date: 04/29/2018

End Date: 04/29/2018

Location: UFCW Local 876 Union Hall
876 Horace Brown Drive
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Website: <http://www.gmarc.org/SwapInfo>

Sponsor: General Motors Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 443.075 (PL 123)

Public Contact: Mike Carelli , W8MJC
1853 Willowood Drive Rochester Hills, MI 48307
Phone: 248-835-9545

Email: Swap@gmarc.org

Officers & Committees

Officers

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:

- Mike Zedan, KN8Z (**Trustee**)
- Lee Dziekan, N8LJ
- Will Stanton, KB8YGA

Meeting Refreshments: Bill Miller, KD8VP

Newsletter Editor: **OPEN POSITION**

Webmaster: Scott Nicholes, N8XP

EC/RO Lapeer County: Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR

- **AEC SkyWarn Net Manager:** Tom Oliver, KD8EBY
- **Assistant AEC SkyWarn Net Manager:** Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL
- **AEC FL-DIGI, FL-MSG Manager:** Scott Nicholes N8XP

*Emergency Coordinator. AEC: Assistant EC. RO: Radio Operator

LCARA Membership Application

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

Call Sign:	Name:
License Class: <input type="checkbox"/> Technician <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Extra Other:	
Address:	
City:	
State + Postal Code:	Phone Number:
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