

The Waveguide

Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association

PO Box 12, Hadley, MI 48440-0012

www.w8lap.com | qso@w8lap.com



September 2018

Contents

Reports & Editorials	2
President's Report	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Web, Media, & D-Star Admin Report	6
Club Items	8
Call for Presentations	8
Heard on the Wire	8
Calendar of Events	10
Upcoming Michigan Section Hamfests and Swaps	11
Officers & Committees	12
LCARA Membership Application	13

W8LAP Repeaters

2 Meter: 146.620 MHz

-600 kHz offset / Analog FM - 100 Hz PL Tone

Scheduled Net:

Tuesday Night ARES Net – 8:00 pm

70 cm: 442.750 MHz

+5.00 MHz offset / Digital FM - D-STAR module B

Scheduled Net:

Thursday Night D-STAR Net – 8:00 pm

All amateur operators are welcome to check in and participate with W8LAP scheduled nets. Controlled nets, two-rounds. No net on club meeting nights.

LCARA Club Meetings

Second Tuesday of each month

**Lapeer EOC Conference Room
(Basement of Dispatch Center)**

**2332 West Genesee Street
Lapeer, MI 48446**

ARES Team Meetings

Third Wednesday of each month

**Lapeer EOC Conference Room
(Basement of Dispatch Center)**

**2332 West Genesee Street
Lapeer, MI 48446**

Support W8LAP and LCARA!

<http://w8lap.com/donate>

Thank you for your continued support of Amateur Radio in our community!



The latest edition of the Waveguide each month - delivered directly to your inbox!

Visit <http://www.w8lap.com/subscribe>

Reports & Editorials

President's Report

Hello LCARA Supporters,

Welcome to Autumn in Michigan. The weather the past week or so has been pleasant, and I'm optimistic for a cooler fall and mild winter. We can dream, right?

I am happy to report that the promotional pricing the club obtained from iCom for the D-STAR repeater is complete, and the final cash outlay is significantly lower than discussed during the several meetings where it was on the agenda. I'd like to thank the team who worked so diligently on that project, whether ordering the hardware, configuring the system, or climbing the towers and roofs necessary. As of this writing there are 29 users registered through the Lapeer system, nearly three times the minimum required for the iCom promotional pricing. Thank you to the Lapeer area operators who registered! Webmaster Scott, N8XP has assembled a variety of D-STAR references on the club website, including a status page that shows recent activity on the D-STAR repeater: <http://w8lap.com/dstar/>.

As you know, September is election month for the club officers, who will take their posts in October. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else (get their agreement first, please) for one of the elected positions, send an email to QSO@w8lap.com.

See you soon,

Gerret, KD8YUK

Technician Class Study Seminar - Fall 2018

Class Fee: \$40.00 (does not include study manual)

Date: Mondays - Oct 15, 22, Nov 5, 12, 19

Time: 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Location: Davison Community Enrichment & Recreation Building - Rm 106

Instructor: Amy Pender, WA8MY

Registration Information:

Davison Community Enrichment & Recreation

Class Name: "Get Your Ham Radio License"

By Phone: (810) 591-0177

Online: <http://davisonschools.org/dcer.cfm>

Instructor uses Gordon West Technician Class Study Manual during the seminar. Students who do not wish to purchase a manual may choose to use free online study materials.

Where to Buy the Study Manual:

- Dentronics in Flushing, MI: 810-659-1776
- Gordon West Online: www.W5YI.org
- Amazon: <http://a.co/d/9MSdias>

Treasurer's Report

2018	Date	Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association	
August 2018 Financial Report			
Lakestone Bank			
		cash on hand - carry over	\$85.61
Received	8/14/2018	Membership dues	\$40.00
Total Cash on Hand Balance:			\$125.61
Checking Account balance August 2018			\$1,194.72
Paid	7/31/2018	DTE Energy	-\$25.62
Paid	8/3/2018	Icom America - IDR4000V 26 70cm RF Module	-\$700.00
Received	8/15/2018	Membership dues via PayPal	\$11.35
Received	8/23/2018	Icom America - Rebate	\$1,000.00
Paid	8/29/2018	DTE Energy	-\$31.38
Checking Account Balance:			\$1,449.07
Lakestone Bank Certificate of Deposit			
	7/17/2018	balance - July 2018	\$5,858.68
<small>This is a 2 year certificate started in January 2017, changes quarterly with earned interest</small>			
Balance of all funds:			\$7,433.36
Respectfully Submitted by: PAUL ZUHLKE, AB8XL			

W8LAP Repeater Discussion Group – Now Over 100 Members!



Amateur Radio events, new projects, weather alerts, and news from around the hobby! People are sharing ideas and talking about Amateur Radio topics every day on the W8LAP Repeater Discussion Group. Join Today!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/W8LAP>



W8LAP Repeater Discussion Group
102 members

Repeater Trustee Report

Hello W8LAP Supporters:

There was no activity, relative to the club call (W8LAP).

Repeater:

Both the analog 2 meter and DV (D-Star) 70 cm repeaters have been functioning without reported issues. If you experience any hiccups, don't hesitate to email me (see below), qso@w8lap.com, or the "Contact Us" tab at w8lap.com.

Sites of the month:

We all know that Morse code is not required for any class of Amateur Radio license.

Likewise, the last U.S. commercial Morse code message was sent at station KPH in California in 1998. This also meant that people could not obtain a First Class Radiotelegraph license from the FCC, because obtaining this license required a number of hours sending and receiving commercial messages.

Even the United States Navy discontinued the Radioman (RM) rating, created in 1921, merging it with the Data Processing Technician (DP). These combined into a new rating, Information Systems Technician (IT) in 1997. This new rating eliminated the old RM requirement for proficiency in sending and copying Morse code for advancement in rate.

For practical purposes, the only instances of Morse code being used on a non-military, regular basis are for hobby purposes (e.g. Ham Radio), and as identification of radio navigation devices (NAVAIDS). These include VHF Omni-Directional Range (VOR), certain navigation beacons, and others. It's doubtful that the majority of aviators who use these NAVAIDS can decode the Morse transmitted signals from memory, so the FAA inserts the Morse dot and dash three-letter station identifier in aeronautical charts. For example:



The U.S. Navy got back into teaching Morse code, adding it to the Cryptologic Technician (CT) training in 2005. This article gives insight into the reason for the addition of, and potential uses for, the skill:

http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=92864

So, the FAA and U.S. Navy believe that there are still situations in which code skills are valuable.

Using a computer for learning Morse characters smooths the process, and provides feedback. The Navy uses one for training their CT students. One very popular, and free, program is the G4FON software. <http://www.g4fon.net/> G4FON is highly customizable for levels of proficiency, from beginner to advanced users. I've used it to increase my speed, and found it highly beneficial. A search, using the term "Morse code learning software" results in hundreds of hits. Additionally, there are many apps available for smart phones.

<https://duckduckgo.com/?q=Morse+code+learning+software&t=ffab&ia=web>

Even though knowledge of Morse code is considered archaic by some, there is a certain mystique in being able to perform mental tasks that others cannot. Learning Morse certainly falls into this category, and has a double benefit in broadening one's Amateur Radio skill set.

See you at the next meeting,

Mike, KN8Z (kn8z at arrl.net)



New Embroidered LCARA Hats

by JSE Repair

Check out the following link to view the different colors and products available.

<https://www.jse-repair.com/product/lapeer-amateur-radio-association-club-hat/>

Web, Media, & D-Star Admin Report

Duplicate article from last month – send D-Star or Website questions to admin@w8lap.com

Many have successfully registered for D-Star using the new W8LAP D-Star Gateway! Now you need to get your radio programmed to access the D-Star network of repeaters and reflectors around the world! There are several online tools that help explain what needs to be programmed into your radio in order to perform different activities and functions from your radio.



D-STAR Calculator

<http://www.dstarinfo.com/dstar-web-calculator.aspx>

This useful tool allows you to select what source repeater you're connecting to, the module, the destination repeater, and destination module. You can also select other special functions such as linking to another repeater or reflector.

The D-Star 'Magic 4 Fields'

- MYCALL:** **W8ACD**
Normally the operator using the rig
- URCALL:** **CQCQCQ**
The most volatile field, used to direct what you want to do
- RPT1:** **W8LAP••B**
Normally, the repeater node your calling in from.
It's what repeater node you're talking into.
- RPT2:** **W8LAP••G**
Normally that repeater's Gateway, usually the call sign
with a G in the 8th character position.

• - represents a space

Radio programming software, such as RT Systems, has a similar calculator built-in and may also automatically calculate these fields for you when programming your radio. This website may also help you understand how these fields are generated and the purpose they have when using your D-Star radio.

The online D-Star Calculator provided by the dstarinfo.com website is very easy to use and provides a graphical explanation of your D-Star calculation and radio connection.

Source Repeater	United States, Michigan Lapeer W8LAP Gateway
Source Module	DV B 442.7500 5.000
Function	Local Repeater with Gateway
Destination Module	DV B 442.7500 5.000

Programming for talking on W8LAP (port DV B) to (port DV B)

YOUR:: CQCQCQ

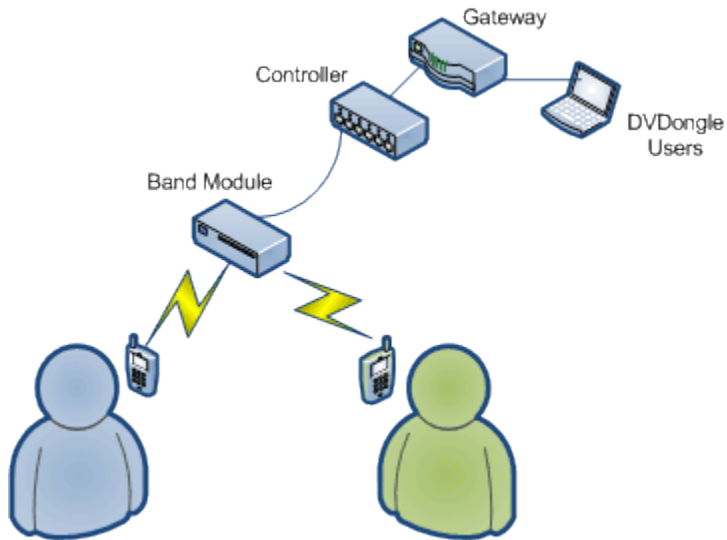
RPT1: W8LAP ■ ■ B

RPT2: W8LAP ■ ■ G

Set Radio To: 442.7500 MHz Offset 5.000 MHz

"■" represents a space

I'm near Lapeer MI USA. I'm talking on W8LAP (port DV B) and my radio is set to 442.7500 5.000 and I am routing through the gateway to allow DV Dongle users to hear me.



I'm also near the same repeater and listening on the same port

Experiment with the D-Star Calculator and you'll quickly learn the importance of each of the "Magic 4 Fields" used by your D-Star radio. If you have any problems registering with the W8LAP D-Star Gateway or programming your radio – please send me an e-mail anytime. I'll always be happy to help you get on the air!

73,
Scott
N8XP

scott.n8xp@gmail.com

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

Random articles of interest found around the internet! If you find an interesting article you would like to share with the club – send an e-mail to newsletter@w8lap.com – thank you!

Flint, MI - 2018 CRIM Festival of Races was a success – Amateur Radio Operators had the course covered well



Smile FM

August 27 at 10:38 PM · 🌐

Smile FM recognizes the Amateur Radio operators that provided auxiliary radio communications for Crim officials during the Crim Festival of races. Amateur Radio operators were located at several key locations along the course and alerted officials of any problems such as medical and automobile traffic issues along the course. Smile FM utilized information from their communications to announce reset times to Smile FM listeners on the race course after several race delays due to thunderstorms and lightening in the area.

Jim Loomis - KD8QQC - Genesee
Dale Herrick - KD8QGF - Genesee
Doug Trouten - KE8HSF - Genesee
Scott Appelton - KD8OOY - Genesee
Grant Mitchell - KD8ZXU - Genesee
Mike Scully - KC8HNG - Genesee
Dale Collins - KC8ZXF - Genesee
Zac Treadwell - W8ZAC - Genesee
Greg Zaleski - N8FVZ - Genesee
Jeff Frost - KD8HQL - Genesee
Scott Nicholes - N8XP - Lapeer
Donald Goldsmith - KE8AJ0 - Genesee
Mike Schafer - KB8RVP - Genesee
Jim Soderlund - KD8ZXV - Genesee
Tim Knights - KC8OYE - Genesee
Doug Parkinson -WB8DLN - Genesee
Clayton Hewitt - KF8UI Genesee

BECOME A HAM RADIO OPERATOR or ADVANCE YOUR LICENSE CLASS!

The Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club is offering:

A 10-week Course for THE TECHNICIAN AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE EXAMINATION

WHEN: Every Monday, from September 10, 2018 to November 12, 2018 — 7pm to 9pm
WHERE: FOP Lodge 130, 2233 Burdette Street, Ferndale, MI
COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25, AVAILABLE AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (November 12th) FEE: \$15

A 12-week Course for THE AMATEUR GENERAL CLASS LICENSE EXAMINATION

WHEN: Every Monday, from September 10, 2018 to November 26, 2018 — 7pm to 9pm
WHERE: i3Detroit DIY Space, 1481A Wordsworth Street, Ferndale, MI
COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25, AVAILABLE AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (November 26th) FEE: \$15

A 14-week Course for THE AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS LICENSE EXAMINATION

WHEN: Every Monday, from September 10, 2018 TO December 10, 2018 — 6pm to 9pm
WHERE: Hazel Park Historical Museum, 45 E. Pearl Avenue, Hazel Park, MI
COST: INSTRUCTION IS FREE; LICENSE MANUAL IS \$25 AVAILABLE AT THE FIRST SESSION.

FCC License EXAM WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE LAST SESSION (December 10th) FEE: \$15

***** PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY FOR ALL CLASSES *****

QUESTIONS AND REGISTRATION:

Please contact Jerry, W9NPI@ARRL.NET

SPONSORED BY THE HAZEL PARK AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, HPARC.ORG



Calendar of Events

September 2018

- 09/11, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
 - 2019 Officer Elections
- 09/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @ EOC

October 2018

- 10/09, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 10/17, 7:00pm - ARES Training @ EOC

November 2018

- 11/04, 2:00am - Daylight Savings Time
- 11/13, 7:30pm - Club Meeting
- 11/17, 9:00am - ARES Exercise, 145.010, use home station

December 2018

- 12/11, 6:30pm - Club Holiday Dinner
- 12/19, 7:00pm - ARES Training @ EOC



GREAT LAKES

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXPO

Birch Run, MI

Saturday, September 29, 2018

9:00am - 5:00PM

Frankenmuth Credit Union Event Center

11600 North Beyer Rd. Birch Run, MI 48415

Tickets are \$5 per person (17 and under free)

For advance tickets or more information: <http://www.glepe.com>

Upcoming Michigan Section Hamfests and Swaps

ARRL hamfests in the Great Lakes Division through the end of the year.

For more information – visit <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>

GRAHamfest	9/8/2018	Wyoming	MI
Kentucky State Convention (Greater Louisville Hamfest 2018)	9/8/2018	Shepherdsville	KY
Findlay Hamfest	9/9/2018	Findlay	OH
Central KY HamFest	9/15/2018	Richmond	KY
Adrian Hamfest	9/16/2018	Adrian	MI
OH-KY-IN ARS Hamfest	9/22/2018	Cincinnati	OH
Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show	9/23/2018	Berea	OH
Amateur Radio Community Service Club Hamfest	9/29/2018	Paintsville	KY
7th Annual Vette City Hamfest	10/6/2018	Bowling Green	KY
Michigan State Convention (Great Lakes HamCon) - CANCELLED	10/6/2018	Brooklyn	MI
Microwave Update 2018 Convention	10/11/2018	Fairborn	OH
Cave Run Hamfest	10/13/2018	Morehead	KY
Northwest Ohio ARC Hamfest	10/13/2018	Lima	OH
Muskegon Color Tour Hamfest	10/20/2018	Muskegon	MI
36th Annual Kalamazoo Hamfest & Amateur Radio Show	10/21/2018	Kalamazoo	MI
Hazard Hamfest	10/27/2018	Hazard	KY
Massillon Hamfest	10/28/2018	Massillon	OH
USECA Hamfest & Swap	10/28/2018	Madison Heights	MI
GARC HAMFEST	11/3/2018	Georgetown	OH
FCARC WinterFest	12/1/2018	Delta	OH
LCARC Amateur Radio Swap/Hamfest	12/2/2018	Madison Heights	MI

Officers & Committees

LCARA Officers (2017-2018)

President	Gerret Peters, KD8YUK
Vice-President	Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR
Treasurer	Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL
Secretary	Lee Dziekan, N8LJ

Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Lapeer County Emergency Coordinator	Kevin Boxey, KB8TAR
Assistant EC – Skywarn	Tom Oliver, KD8EBY
Assistant EC – Skywarn	Paul Zuhlke, AB8XL
Assistant EC – FLDIGI	Scott Nicholes, N8XP

Repeater Technical Team

Repeater Trustee	Mike Zedan, KN8Z
	Lee Dziekan, N8LJ
	Will Stanton, KB8YGA

Media

Waveguide Editor, Webmaster, Social Media	Scott Nicholes, N8XP
--	----------------------

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:

L.C.A.R.A. Memberships are due annually on October 1st.

- \$ 20.00 - Individual Membership
- \$ 30.00 - Family Membership
- \$ 5.00 - Associate Membership

Membership forms may be turned in to the Treasurer at a monthly meeting, or mailed to the club address:

**Join or Renew
your membership online**
<http://w8lap.com/join>





Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 12
Hadley, MI 48440-0012