



Upcoming Swap & Shops

February 16, Sunday Livonia ARC Farmington Hills, MI Contact: Bruno Walczak, WA8DHP
16601 Golfview Drive Livonia, MI 48154-2139
Phone: 734-464-8928

E-mail: wa8dhp@arrl.net

March 15, Saturday Marshall ARC, Marshall, MI

March 16, Sunday Toledo Mobile Radio Association
<http://www.tmrahamradio.org> **Contact:** Brian Harrington, WD8MXR 4463 Holly Hill Drive Toledo, OH 43614
Phone: 419-385-5624

Email: wd8mxr@arrl.net

April 5, Saturday Milford ARC, Milford, MI

Contact: Rose Mary Moore, KC8NQJ
1383 Sylvan Drive Hartland, MI 48353
Phone: 810-632-5174

May 16-19 Dayton Hamvention www.hamvention.org

The Presidents Column

Ken Kelch, AB8PM

Sky Warn Spotter Training is rapidly approaching Wednesday, March 19th at 7:00 pm Lapeer East High School. There have been changes to their tradition program. They are now incorporating some of the advanced training into the Basic Training Workshops. I hope everyone will make an effort to be there.

Though it is a little early, the sign up sheet for Operation Care will be on the website soon. If you do not have web access, give me a call and we will put you on the schedule. Remember, Operation Care is the reason dues are still only \$1.00 per month (\$12.00 per year). We need everyone's participation to make it work. During a typical holiday weekend there are twenty 3 hour time slots. That means if everyone pulled 1 shift we would have people left over. Aside from all of that, the interesting people you meet will make the time go so fast that 3 hours will be over before you know it.

Speaking of dues, our membership year begins in October. Many of us have let our membership slide. You can renew at a meeting, by using the form on the newsletter or online. The newsletter will be coming out regularly, make sure you get yours.

Enough whining for one newsletter, we have some great things planned for 2003. Who knows, maybe we'll be able to plant a tower.

***This month's Meeting is
Tuesday, February 11th—7:30 p.m.
At the Lapeer County Sheriff's 911 center
at 2332 W. Genesee Street in the
basement***

International Marconi Day (IMD)

26th April 2003

There will be about 50+ stations participating in the International Marconi Day (IMD) is a 24-hour amateur radio event held annually to celebrate the birth of Guglielmo Marconi on the 25th April 1874. The International Marconi Day (IMD) event is not a contest: it is an opportunity for amateurs around the world to make point-to-point contact with historic Marconi sites using HF communications techniques similar to those used by Marconi, and to gain an attractive Award for achieving the requisite number of Marconi stations worked (see Classes of Award). IMD is usually held on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birthday, when amateur radio stations are established and operated from original historic sites, or nearby. These stations are known as the 'Participating Stations'. The list is regularly updated as the various stations confirm their availability to operate.

(Continued on page 4)

Support Amateur Radio

Join the Lapeer County Amateur Radio Association and the American Radio Relay League. Have your voice heard both locally and nationally.



Annual Tornado Spotter class is being held on Wednesday, March 19, 2003 from 7-9:00pm at Lapeer East High School

**Lapeer County Amateur
Radio Association**

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

Officers

President, Ken Kelch, AB8PM.....810-245-3907
Vice-President, Josh Long, N8CFS...810-724-6790
Secretary, Therese Long, KC8PEZ..810-724-6790
Treasurer, Bill Miller, KD8VP.....810-797-5329

Committees & Etc.

Club Founder.....Hollis Hayes, W8ACD
Club Call Trustee W8LAP.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
VE Coordinator.....Al Wilson, N8NPR
Swap & Shop Chairpersons.....Ken Kelch, AB8PM
Field Day Chairman.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Meeting Refreshments.....Bill Miller, KD8VP
Two Meter Net Mgr.....Jim Boyer, KD8YX
Newsletter Editor.....K8DD
Club Historian.....Fred Church, N8ABR

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 Sheriff's 911 center,
2332 W. Genesee St, Lapeer MI
at 7:30 p.m. local time

Newsletter

Items for the newsletter may be called to the
Editor at 721-0708, sent by U.S. Mail (Box 88,
Attica, MI 48412), or as an ASCII file, Word file
or hand-written to duck@lapeer.com

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each
month.

Show your club colors

The following items, all with the LCARA logo, are available
to members. Your name and callsign could be included at
no extra charge.

Tee shirts.....\$15.00
Sweat shirts, hooded.....\$30.00
Sweat shirts, long sleeve without hood.....\$18.00
Golf shirts, grey, yellow or white.....\$19.00
Nylon jacket, windbreaker.....\$35.00
Heavier poplin jacket, flannel lined, quilted.....\$85.00

Sizes available to XXL at the prices listed above.

For each "X" above XL, add \$2.00.

Call Flo Haack, KC8CAB , or contact her at any club meeting
to place your order.

LCARA's Video Library

The club has a number of video tapes available for
use by members at no charge. If you would like to
borrow one or more of the tapes, contact Ken
AB8PM, at any club meeting.

Titles presently available:

Getting Started in Ham Radio
Getting Started in DXing
Getting Started in Packet Radio
Getting Started in Amateur Satellites
Getting Started in Contesting

Tapes may be retained by the borrower for one
month and must be returned at the following
month's meeting.

Board of Directors Meeting

The Directors' monthly meetings are held on the
first Tuesday of each month at the BK Lounge at
7:30PM as needed (announced on the W8LAP
repeaters). **All club members are urged to
attend.**

Contributors to this newsletter:

KD8VP WA8UCS Mary Stikeleather N8MJD
KC8MQV KD8YX

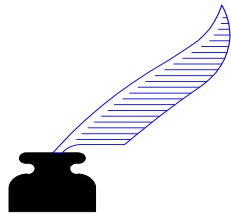
Your call could be here!



While in Imlay City, support your local Radio Shack store

LCARA Site Sponcer:
Hillcraft Electronics
1831 S. Cedar Street
Imlay City, MI 48444
Phone: 810-721-8030

Minutes of the January
Meeting
January 14, 2002



The meeting was opened at 7:35pm by Ken AB8PM with introductions of members and welcoming of visitors, Dan and Linda Slosar, Dick Parker, and "Lizard" Elston. Charlie Conley N8RVG, past president and longtime club member recently passed away. A memorial service will be held at Trinity United Methodist (1300 N Lapeer) in Lapeer on Friday, Feb. 7 at 1 pm. Dale KB8WKQ is in the hospital after a rollover accident in the UP. The latest report from his brother was that Dale was in the intensive care unit. There were no reported awards or upgrades.

President's Report: Ken AB8PM reported that Hank K8DD is the new Waveguide Editor. Send any suggestions for the newsletter to him by the 20th of the month.

VP Report: Josh N8CFS mentioned that the MI QSO party will be in April.

Secretary's Report: read by Therese KC8PEZ. Accepted after a minor correction.

Treasurer's Report: given by Bill KD8VP. Accepted as read.

EC/Trustee's Report: by Jim KD8YX. Jim is still looking for a battery for the repeater. We now have RACES cards and Jim will be taking pictures of everybody who is getting a card at this meeting. The club Packet radio station is currently down and waiting for a new computer that Val is going to be bringing.

Mary Stikeleather's Report: The Beecher Tornado Committee will be having a large commemorative ceremony at the Beecher High School on June 8 and would like to see amateur radio participation. There will be spotter training on March 19, 7-9:30pm at Lapeer East HS. Ham radio operators are also invited to the Abbottville Training Simulator and to ICS/Unified Command Training which are coming up soon. There will be a full-scale Bioterrorism exercise on May 30 in Imlay City.

Old/New Business:

John KJ8S recommended that club financial statements be removed from the newsletter and website. The club approved that all financial information be removed from these places.

The meeting was closed at 9:00 by Ken AB8PM.

Submitted by Therese Long, KC8PEZ, secretary

Now here's a "laid back" contest!

For Hams and SWLs alike and it should not crowd the bands.

UBA-SWARL 365 Day Contest - All modes - sponsored by the Royal Society of Radio Amateurs (UBA) and the Short Wave Amateur Radio Listening (SWARL) during all of 2003. Participants log DXCC entities on all amateur bands from 160 - 10-meters according to the IARU band plans. Each entity logged counts one point per band. Logs are due at three times through the year - 31 March, 30 June, and 30 September to ONL4299@skynet.be (email only). For more information - <http://www.uba.be/>.

**Be RadioActive—
Participate!**

Tech Trivia

Hold the Torch and hand me the spanner, Matey! Anyone who has ever QSO'd G-land knows that our British cousins call a vacuum tube a valve, but did you know that they call a filter capacitor a reservoir capacitor? And they don't put up an antenna, they put up an aerial—the masts for which are held in place not by guy wires, but by stays. Also they don't ground the antenna: they "earth" in.

A Brit doesn't plug in his rig to the AC line with a line cord. He connects it to the mains with a mains flex. If he needs lots of outlets he doesn't use a cube tap or an outlet strip—he uses a trailing socket. And, of course, the mains are 50Hz, 220V. The standard ON position for a switch in England is DOWN, not UP as in the USA.

On the bench, Tommy (the equivalent of our "Joe") uses not a proto-board, but a matrix board. And our "jumper wires" are his "wander plugs" or "flying leads". He spells "solder" the same, but pronounces it SOUL-der, not SAH-der.

The Aussies have a few Tech Terms of their own. My favorite is "Jack and Jill" for our "Jack and Plug". Others, which you should be able to recognize from the above discussion are: bucket, spout, hill hoist, deck and fencing wire.
[from the MCRCA "The Hertzian Herald"]

(Continued from page 1)

Communications techniques have changed significantly since the days of Marconi's first experiments, and today, the Internet has become the most widely used of all communications media. However, the spirit of IMD remains basically that of making point-to-point contact between two stations using only the HF bands. The organising Committee of IMD has therefore decided that the use of the Internet to communicate between stations e.g. using the Internet Relay Linking Project (IRLP) will not count towards the Award.

I have compiled a few Station Histories, and would like to hear from authorised Participating Stations with any interesting details of your particular Marconi Site and, if possible, any original/early photographs. You will see that I have quite a lot, but I would like to build up good profiles of all of you.

If there are other stations out there who have **direct historical connections** with the great man himself (i.e. Guglielmo Marconi) and who would like to be added to the list of "Participating Stations", let me know ; I am sure that there are many more of you who could qualify. But, please remember, to be recognised as a 'Participating Station', you **must** show that your location has a **DIRECT** historical connection with Marconi and his operations. Whether or not you do qualify, please join us on **26th April 2003** and work as many of us as you can within the 24 hour period !!

I am told that Marconi had radio connections with India and Japan but I can find nothing to support this. If anyone out there - especially in India and Japan - can help, please email me because I would like to invite their participation.

Watch this site for more details as they come in, and please help to spread the word about this website, the only **OFFICIAL** site for International Marconi Day 2003

<http://www.gb4imd.co.uk/introduction.htm>

If you have an e-mail address and would like the Waveguide via e-mail, let Ken AB8PM (ab8pm@arrl.net) know and it will happen. This can help save postage and printing for the club....And the pictures will look better!

The Michigan QSO Party now has its own Web site at <http://www.miqp.org>. It has quite a list of features and functions, so stop by! The Michigan QSO Party occurs on the third Saturday in April. For the year 2003, the contest will start on Saturday, April 19, 2003 from 1200 EDST to 2400 EDST (16Z Saturday until 04Z Sunday).

For Sale



This is a great place to sell what you don't need, give away what you don't need or look for what you can't live with out. Ads to duck@lapeer.com or Box 88, Attica, MI 48412

=====
From the K8AGO estate (via WA8UCS). A Mosley TA53M beam and a Rohn 40 ft. I do not have a phone #. Contact Elda Augustine 2730 Bowers rd, Lapeer Mi 48446.

From: Gary Bower N8MJD gwbower@hotmail.com] I have an Yaesu FT 50 (w/extras for somewhere around \$200).I need to sell. 810-678-3637
From Paul, KC8MQV Alinco DJ-G5TIE VHF/UHF twin band FM hand held transceiver, extra battery, battery charger, mag-mobile antenna, speaker/mike, telescoping antenna, ear speaker, plug-in car charger, desk stand. Used very little. All for \$250
MFJ-418 Pocket Morse Code Tutor. External speaker. Both for \$35 **Offers may be accepted!**
810-664-9742

The 146.62 Repeater Batteries

Bill Miller, KD8VP

Ken Kelch and I spent the better part of the day Friday the 17th on the phone and the web tracking down information on batteries and chargers to replace the ones in the repeater shack. After a lot of information was absorbed, it was decided to buy one heavy duty 134 amp hour battery designed for emergency back up systems. This battery is designed to set for long periods of time without any activity and was recommended by the Interstate Battery Company for our needs. It weighs about 100 pounds. After deciding on a battery it was off to the web site that KD8YX had spent considerable time investigating to purchase a smart battery charger. This company, Dextron, was one of the recommended charger companies. When Ken and I looked up the charger that Jim thought was right, we contacted the company by phone, and they agreed it was the right one to buy, so we ordered it. The battery seems to be presenting a little bit more of a challenge because it has to be special ordered out of Texas, but it will be here as soon as possible. So soon the repeaters will have a functioning battery back up system again.

K C P R O P A G A T I O N A R V F F L
 I O H H J Y K T C X N B T T E I I P O
 S I Y F E N V K H O B L F X U B E K N
 M D M P Y O T R H E A D X R T L Y O
 N A E W J L R T E D R A B Q E U D S D
 V R N R H E I R A C E A X N E K D K L
 H N R W Q R J H H P Z D T I P A A E N
 Z A D H E C P S V Z N E A N A P Y C X
 T G W M O L U C T T C H Z R L W K N M
 F I A A A C M E W E O X T O T X V U D
 A H Y G A I N V W L X U L M H R S O J
 R C P O R A D I O S H A C K D B O B N
 C I C O N T E S T I N G S G R W S N F
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 Y U N I V E R S A L R A D I O R E T O
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THE RADIO SCRAMBLE	
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kenwood	yaesu
alphadelta	mfj
elecraft	tentec
cushcraft	texastowers
universalradio	lapeer
propagation	ohmslaw
ameritron	alphapower
fieldday	contesting
dxing	moonbounce
michiganradio	radioshack

From the Lapeer County Office of Emergency Management

- Just a reminder of some upcoming training:
Abbottville February 9 & 10th No charge
Incident Command January 30- February 1st \$10.00

The brochure for both of these, can be found on your web page: (<http://www.w8lap.com/>)

- In addition, our Annual Tornado Spotter class is being held on Wednesday, March 19, 2003 from 7-9:00pm at Lapeer East High School.
- As part of the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Committee for the 1953 Tornadoes, we are asking for volunteer Hamm Radio operators to work on the day of the event. This is going to be a fairly large event and we could use all the radio help we can get. The event will be held on Sunday, June 8, 2003 at Beecher High School in Flint. As soon as the brochures have been printed, I will get them to you. I realize that everyone's summer schedules are loaded, but I really want to show our communities support of this event. In addition to the one fatality in our County, we had considerable damage to many family homes. If you know of anyone who survived this event and has a story or picture to share, please have them call me (810) 667-0242. Since advertising for this sort of information, I have received numerous calls from citizens who survived. There are some incredible stories out there, and from each one, comes a lesson we can learn from. If you would like to volunteer, please let me know.

We have come along way with technology, especially with the advanced warning systems. I firmly believe that your organization is vital, in helping our citizens seek safety as soon as they can. Thank you for your dedication and support.

Mary Stikeleather, Director



Happy Birthday in February

Feb 5 KB8TXX
Feb 20 KC8EGR

Feb 13 KB8ERU
FEB 26 N8VSK

HIGH SPEED MULTIMEDIA HAMMING COULD BE THE NEXT BIG THING

High-speed multimedia hamming via the "Hinternet" could be the next big thing for Amateur Radio. That's the hope of the ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group, which is adapting the highly popular IEEE 802.11b Part 15 wireless Internet protocol to Part 97 amateur operating. "We expect it to be nothing less than revolutionary!" says John Champa, K8OCL, who chairs the ARRL HSMM Working Group--a subset of the League's Technology Task Force. The Working Group's new "High-Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia" page <<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm/>> recently premiered on the ARRL Web site.

Champa's team is calling the specific techniques, software and hardware involved "the ARRL 802.11b protocol" to distinguish it from the unlicensed, commercial protocol. Systems employ direct-sequence spread spectrum techniques and operate in the 2.4 GHz range. The term "Hinternet" (ham + Internet), Champa says, is a user-friendly way to refer to the development of high-speed Radio Local Area Networks (RLANs) capable of simultaneously carrying audio, video and data signals.

"The development of the ARRL 802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities," Champa predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets.

In addition to emergency communication, Hinternet applications could include two-way streaming video, full-duplex streaming audio, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) applications such as eQSO, EchoLink, iLink and IRLP, and digital voice. As on the wired Internet, communication can be point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multicast at high bandwidth.

"An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone and a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency," says Working Group member Kris Mraz, N5KM.

In Michigan, the Livingston County HSMM Experimenters Team already has three HSMM access points-- called APs" in the commercial world--and about a dozen stations on the air centered on 2437 MHz. Another group of Amateur Radio 802.11b enthusiasts has recently organized in the San Antonio, Texas, area.

Although other amateur allocations also would be appropriate for Hinternet operation, the use of 2.4 GHz was an easy choice, since Part 15 WiFi (wireless fidelity) devices already operate in that part of the spectrum, and inexpensive commercial equipment is widely available. Acting on an ARRL petition, the FCC has proposed elevating amateurs to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz.

The ARRL publications catalog now includes the book 802.11 Wireless Networks: The Definitive Guide <<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?category=&words=802.11>> by Matthew S. Gast.

The book covers the topics of creating and administering wireless networks. Champa says that taken in a nationwide context, the meaning of the term Hinternet goes deeper than just an amalgamation of words. "In nautical terms the word hinterland is 'the land beyond the coast,'" he said. "And so it is with us. 'The Hinternet' is the radio net beyond the Internet." From the ARRL Letter, vol. 22, no. 3

Logbook of The World

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 23, 2003--The long-anticipated "Logbook of the World" (LoTW)--the ARRL's secure electronic contact-confirmation system--took a major leap toward public release this month with several weeks of limited--or "alpha"--testing. Dozens of Amateur Radio operators checked out a preliminary version of the LoTW software, which is still under development. Once it's ready, LoTW will provide a means for participants to qualify for awards such as DXCC or WAS without having to first collect hard-copy QSL cards.

"This is cool!" exclaimed one alpha tester. "I got the certificate and was able to upload my 2002 CQ 160-Meter CW log just by following the simple directions." Declared another tester, "Slick! It's pretty neat so far. This looks like a good start." ARRL staffer Dave Patton, NT1N, said the limited test run has produced some tangible results for the League's electronic logging and awards project, and getting actual user comments was extremely helpful. "One of the main things that will come out of this phase of testing is a good package that will be ready to give to logging program developers to incorporate into their software," he said.

ARRL Web and Software Development Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z, explained that the League hopes that logging software vendors will choose to add value to their products by integrating LoTW client-side functions. "But the software we provide to individual amateurs will be sufficient for basic use of LoTW," he added. ARRL will not be releasing the LoTW server code, however.

Linked via e-mail, the LoTW testers spent two weeks registering their call signs, uploading logs and attempting to push the system to extremes. One tester was amazed at its robust nature. "I exported a 45 MB ADIF file from DX4WIN that contained a complete station log, about 320,000 QSOs. When I opened it with the LoTW tool and saved it, it had been trimmed down to about 35 MB," he said. "Then I sent this blob expecting it to croak the server, but it didn't!"

Another tester credited the LoTW developers for doing a great job. "After a few minor glitches, I successfully uploaded my 2003 ARRL 10-Meter Contest log--734 QSOs--in Cabrillo format. I got one confirmation already!" said the happy user. "I can't tell you how thrilling it was to see the specification turned into reality."

Not unexpectedly, alpha testers found a couple of bugs in the LoTW software. They also came up with a number of

LoTW (Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6) LoTW

suggestions for fixes and reported them all to a special bug-reporting site that Bloom had set up. Logbook of the World Project Leader Wayne Mills, N7NG, says LoTW won't spell the end of QSL cards. Instead, he says, it will provide an avenue for increased speed and accuracy for hams chasing awards, as well as remove some chances for human error that can occur in the traditional process.

"This is really a system to offer credits for awards," said Mills, who is also ARRL's Membership Services manager. "It will minimize opportunities to 'game the system' or otherwise cheat--something that's not always possible to detect even with paper QSL submittals."

Mills emphasized that the League has no plans to do away with accepting traditional QSL cards as it's been doing all along. "We're not replacing the whole paper QSL scheme with Logbook of the World," he said.



Second Ducie DXpedition set for March:

The second DXpedition to the newest DXCC entity, Ducie Island, is expected to take place in March, according to Ducie Island DXpedition leader Yuichi Yoshida, JR2KDN. The vessel Braveheart will meet up with the DXpedition team members in Tahiti. They expect to arrive at Pitcairn Island to pick up the remaining team members on March 5 and then head for Ducie Island. Plans are to begin operations March 8 from VP6DI2 (yes, that's a "2" at the end of that call sign) and continue about a week. Activity is being planned for 6 through 160 meters on CW, SSB, RTTY and AO-40. QSL via JR2KDN (bureau or direct). Pilot stations for this DXpedition are JE2EHP, DJ8NK and WA2MOE. A 2.5-square-mile Pacific atoll, Ducie was approved for DXCC credit in November 2001.--The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>>

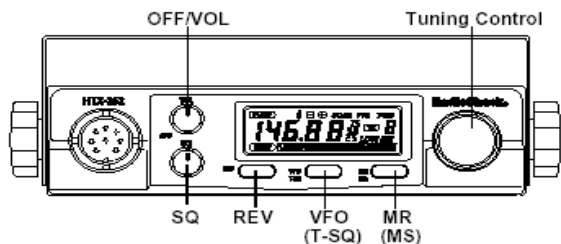
HillCraft Electronics 888-520-2002

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In the Farmer Jack Plaza

Dealer



2-Meter FM Mobile Transceiver is a compact and versatile transceiver, for your vehicle or in your home.



HTX-252

Features:

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Compact Dual-Band 144/440MHz Transceiver with Built-In NOAA Weather Alert and 8-Point Compass



HTX-200

Features:

- Dual-frequency display dual band, 2M/70cm, 5 watt amateur radio HT
- Broadband receiver 108-174 and 420-512MHz with 100-channel memory
- Radio includes electronic compass and is compatible with Weather Receive and SAME Weather Alert
- CTCSS encode/decode
- Illuminated 16-key DTFM
- Multiple scan modes
- Power-out 5W on 2M, 4.5W on 70cm with external 13.8VDC or 4.2W on 2M, 3.2W on 70cm with 1200mAh lithium-ion battery pack (included) H/M/L power settings, battery voltage meter, 7
- Includes empty battery shell; accepts 4 "AA" batteries

\$269.99

As reviewed in the February 2003 CQ

**HTX-200
2M / 70CM 200 mW
handheld transceiver.
Closeout
\$99.00**

2002-2003 L.C.A.R.A. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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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.

Lapeer County Amateur

Radio Association

P.O. Box 12

Hadley, MI 48440-0012