

LAPORTE COUNTY / HARBOR BEAM OCTOBER 2017



146.970 / 441.950 (W9LY)
DIGITAL/FM PL 131.8 DIGITAL/ WIRES-X
146.610 (K9JSI) FM PL 131.8
Echolink Node: 193001 / WIRES-X #21421



WHO WE ARE

Communications:

Matt Lasayko, KC9KUD

Repeater Committee:

Matt Lasayko, Dan Sheetz,
Ken Osborne, Todd Saboff, Dan

Foster, Mike Broviak,
Curt Yeater, Andy Baugh

Internet:

Stan Vandiver
Mike Broviak, Todd Saboff

Field Day:

John Phillips

NEWS LETTER:

Ken Osborne

Activities:

John Phillips

VE TESTING:

Scott Tharp

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Barb Cave

MEMBERSHIP:

Troy Harrison

AMATEUR RADIO A BRIDGE TO FRIENDSHIP

President:

Brian Salzer KB9HMR

Vice President:

John Phillips KA9PGC

Secretary:

Barb Cave KA6OJX

Treasure:

Ken Osborne N9ZIP

Board Members:

Scott Tharp

Dan Foster, KC9GFO

Trustee W9LY:

Dan Sheetz W9DWS

Trustee K9JSI:

Todd Saboff, AC9HQ

Tower Site:

Ken Osborne

John Phillips

Dan Foster

Bob Smith

Fund Raising:

Brian Salzer

Ken Osborne

Troy Harrison

MEETING NOTICE:

Next LaPorte County
Amateur Radio club
meeting is
Monday October 16th
7pm
@
THE KNIGHTS OF
COLUMBUS



**LAPORTE COUNTY
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

P.O. Box 148,
Michigan City, Indiana 46361
WEBPAGE: <http://lpcarc.org>
EMAIL: info@lpcarc.org
FACEBOOK: lpcarc
A 501 (c) (3) Public Charity # 35-1390856



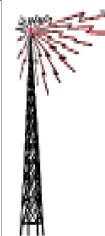
**ARES EMERGENCY
COORDINATOR:**
Dan Foster, KC9GFO
RACES OFFICERS:
Ken Osborne, N9ZIP
Dan Foster, KC9GFO
Ken Maynard, W8KRM
SKYWARN:
Ken Osborne, N9ZIP



WELCOME

TO
THE
**LaPorte
County
Amateur Radio
Club**

lpcarc.org



LaPorte County / Harbor Beam

PAGE 3

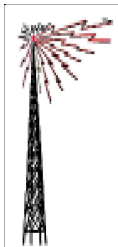
WEEKLY BREAKFAST

Club members meet for Breakfast at
**Grandma's
House of Pancakes
502 State St, LaPorte
on Thursday's
8:00am**

The LaPorte County / Harbor Beam is published on the Saturday, before the monthly club meeting, 12 times each year, as a service of the LaPorte County Amateur Club; for it's members and those interested. Inquires and submissions should be sent to the LaPorte County / Harbor Beam Editor at our e-mail address info@lpcarc.org.

CLUB DUES

Your Club Membership Dues is now being taken. Your dues can be paid any club meeting, or by mail.



**2017 DUES
\$15.00**

Our Mailing Address is:

LPCARC
P.O. Box 148
Michigan City, Indiana 46361



2018 Election of Officers

At our next meeting, our club will be having it's annual election of Officers for the 2018 year. Nominations were taken at our last meeting, and we will continue to take nominations up to the time of the election.

CURRENT NOMINATIONS FOR 2018

President: Brian Salzer

Vice President John Phillips

Secretary Bob Russel

Treasurer Ken Osborne

Three Board Members (Elect two)

Todd Sabboff

Scott Thrap

Todd Miller

Troy Harrison

We elect only two Board Members because our By-Laws names the Past President as the third Board Member.



2018 HAMFEST

Yes it is only October, but since we don't have meeting in December, we only have four meetings before our Hamfest. Our Hamfest is our biggest fundraiser, and over the past few years, we have seen a growth in our Hamfest.

Like any fundraiser, it requires a lot of work. It requires a lot of planning. One of the reasons why our event is growing is that our President and Chairman takes very good event notes. He has seen a pattern on what works and what doesn't.

But like any event, our Chairman needs your help. In the past years, Ron was the Co-Chairman. Since his passing, he left a big hole, in this event.

If you would like to help this event, let Brian know. The planning and mailings have started.

TRICK OR TREAT

The following is a PSA.....

With Hollween right around the corner, many locations will be having Trick or Treat or Beggars Night. While the number of kids our and about isn't like when we were kids, their still will be small chlidren, with masks or costumes that will impare their vision.

Just a reminder, when you are out and about driving on Trick or Treat night, please pay special attention to the kids.

You can see them better than they can see you.



BEHIND THE SCENES

Every now and then, we take a peak on what happens between club meetings. Allot happens, and it's not just a once a month meeting. This month we'll look at the Office of Treasurer. Our Treasure Ken Osborne, has held this office for ten years, give or take. He took us from the pen and paper general ledger, and brought us to age of computerization. Tracking our expenses, on the computer, has enabled us to better control our expenses, and let us find new ways for us to grow. Our By-Laws allows the Treasure to function through out the month, with a cap on expenses. Yes, he records, dues, income, but we also have expenses through the year. For example, mowing the grass at the tower site. Mowers break down, belts break, gas, oil and filters all cost money, and he tracks all of that. One of the biggest reasons for our growth, is that we don't see all the cash we have in the bank, in general terms. By moving from one general ledger to sub-accounts, we are not tempted to spend money. We have our General Fund, Fund Raiser, and Radio accounts, so that we have better control. For example, our Fund Raiser Account is an account with money set a side, just for fund raising. There has been years, many moons ago, where members had to put up money out of their pockects to fund a fund raiser. Repeaters break down and members were asked for donations. Also being a 501 (c) (3) we have IRS rules we have to live by, and annual reports to the state and IRS. This is one issue very important to our Treasure, becuase before the two clubs merged, one club lost it's tax non-for profit status, because annual reports weren't filed for years. Our Treasurer, is working through the year.

MEETING NOTICE

Club meetings have moved back to the Knights of Columbus, in Laporte.

REPEATER NEWS

Well I guess you can say, no news is good news. We have no information on the K9JSI 146.610 system. Is the hospital staying? Is it being torn down? No one knows. The 146.610 has been on top of the hospital for as long as I can remember.

The W9LY 146.970 is running in AMS mode and is open for both analog FM users as well as Fusion digital users.

The W9LY 441.950 is also running in AMS mode. This repeater is connected to Fusion WIRES-X so some of the traffic is digital. On average it is connected to 40 plus nodes and repeaters across the midwest. FM users can still use this repeater when no digital traffic is present. FM traffic generally does not out on WIRES-X. The 441.950 is being used by locals and number of mobiles passing through the coverage area. We have from time to time, we have opened this system so that FM users can use WIRES-X. When monitoring this repeater, it is advised that you have your PL decode turned on, otherwise you'll hear the digital noise when in use. If you would like to listen and try WIRES-X in FM mode, let us know.

Our computer, at the tower, that handles the WIRES-X traffic, has been crashing at least twice a week. Todd Saboff, our "Computer Geek" (that's his job and he comes to your house or office to fix your computer at a great rate... free plug) narrowed the issued down to the hard drive. The club bought a SSD to replace the hard drive, and Todd built a new computer. We all know Windows can be flakie, but with a couple of patches, testing of the new computer has shown increase speed, and no crashes.

Our new computer has been in service for over a week now, running 24/7 at full load, and no issues have been reported. Todd did add a auto software reboot of Wires-X every morning at 2am to clear the computers memory.

Scheduled Work:

Next Saturday, weather permitting the W9LY 2m will be down around 9am for a couple of hours. When our new anntenna was installed, the four beams are aimed to the south. This has created a null to the north or the Michigan City area. So we will be making a tower climb, and turning one of the beams to the north to improve coverage for Michigan City, This will change the pattern increasing the lobe to the north with very little change to the south.

While the 2m is down, we'll open the 441.950 to FM users to have access to Wires-X. Who knows maybe a DX station might pop in.



HAPPY
HOLLOWEEN
TRICK
OR
TREAT

Calendar
of Events



GET ON BOARD
JOIN IN THE FUN
WITH AMATEUR RADIO

LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Calendar for 2017

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP **OCT** NOV DEC

Meeting	23	20	20	17	15	19	17	21	18	16	20	TBA
Location	LP	LP	LP	LP	LP	TS	TS	TS	LP	LP	LP	TS

LP= LaPorte Knights of Columbus TS= Tower Site, U.S. 35 & Schultz Rd.

Club Meetings
at the
Knight of Columbus

EVENTS COMMING UP...

LPCARC
CHRISTMAS
PARTY

2018
HAMFEST