

LAPORTE COUNTY / HARBOR BEAM OCTOBER 2016



146.970 / 441.950 (W9LY)
DIGITAL/FM DIGITAL/ WIRES-X

146.610 (K9JSI) FM

Echolink Node: 193001 / WIRES-X #21421



WHO WE ARE

Communications:

Matt Lasayko, KC9KUD

Dave Kaufman NU9I

Repeater Committee:

Matt Lasayko, Ron Broviak

Dan Sheetz, Ken Osborne, Todd

Saboff, Dan Foster, Dave

Kaufman, 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:

Ron Broviak, WA9RON

Dan Foster, KC9GFO

Dave Kaufman, NU9I

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

Ron Broviak

MEETING NOTICE:

Next LaPorte County
Amateur Radio club
meeting is
Monday October 17th
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

In This Issue

**Upcomming
Events**

**Amateur Radio
vs
Social Media**

**Club Dues
2017**

WELCOME



**TO
THE
LaPorte
County
Amateur Radio
Club**

lpcarc.org



LaPorte County / Harbor Beam

PAGE 3

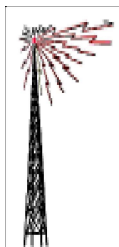
WEEKLY BREAKFAST

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



IRON HORSE

The Boys Scouts Iron Horse Festival is being held on Saturday October 22nd at Potatoe Creek. This is event, where members set up radios, and give scouts a chance to play on the radio. A number of scouts are Amateurs, but for those who are not, it gives them a chance to ask questions, and see what it is all about. If you can help out, or if you want more information, contact John KA9PGC.

XMAS

Fall is in full swing, and soon we'll be having our anual Christams Party. At our next meeting, we'll be looking at possible dates, for our party. But this is also the time of year when we start thinking who you would like to see win our Amateur of Year award. So put your thinking caps on. If you know of someone who should win, let Brian know.

HAMFEST

Hey there..... It's not winter yet but before you know it, the Cabin Fever Hanfest will be here. Brian, our event Chairman is always looking for help. If you would like help, be on the committe, contact vendors or what ever, let Brian know. Our Hamfest is our largest fundraiser. Even though it is only a one day event, it takes several months to put it all together.

Get envloved, in your club.

HAM RADIO VS SOCIAL MEDIA

In the world of Facebook, Twitter and other social media, if you take a moment from your texting and snapchatting, Amateur Radio and Social Media are alike in many ways. With Amateur Radio, we talk on our radios, text with modes like PSK, making new friends or keeping in contact with friends that have moved away. Sometimes we can talk for hours, about nothing. We exchange ideas like how to build a better antenna. We'll spend hours, on our radios, during a contest, meeting new hams, just to give a signal report and we move on. Yes we might get a card, in the mail, from a contact we made. Some Amateurs even collect them like stamps or coins. Like others, in our hobby, I have made a good number of new friends, over the years. We talk about the weather, work or our families. With Amateur Radio we can make new friends, just like Facebook. We'll make friends that chances are we'll never meet, face to face. If you look at your Facebook friends list, how many of them have you actually met? Those that you have met, how long has it been, since you last sat down with them, even if it's just for a cup of coffee? Amateur Radio like social media, we have a lot of friends that we'll never meet, or meet once in awhile. We might even say that he or she is my best friend, even though we haven't seen each other in over 15 years. After all, why should we take time, out of our busy schedules of texting on our phones, or talking on the radio just to meet with a friend face to face? Sure sounds like social media and Amateur Radio are all too alike. But that is where the likeness ends. Amateur Radio is much more. Amateur Radio offers much more than social media. We have clubs. We have events like Field Day, Light House Weekend, JOTA and Hamfest which offers the opportunity for each of us together.

We set aside time to meet with our friends face to face. In this day in age, of social media, the internet and cell phones, Amateur Radio has become even more important, not just as hobby, but as a way of life. So I ask this question. When was the last time you had a face to face with one of your amateur radio friends? When was the last time you attended a club meeting? When was the last time you had breakfast or a cup of coffee with your amateur radio friends?

In recent years, as social media started to really take off, social organizations have seen a big decline. Just look at Amateur Radio club memberships. There are so many clubs, with just a handful of members. Out of those clubs who have a number of members, they still just have a handful attending meetings, events, or even take time to have a cup of coffee.

Has your life become so busy, that you can't take an hour a week to meet with "your friends", or a couple of hours a month to attend a club meeting to be with "your friends"? Is your life so busy that we don't attend club events, like the Christmas Party, Field Day or even a Hamfest, which occurs just once a year each?

It seems that each of us can find the time to chat, text or comment on someone's recent posting, but we somehow can't find the time, to meet our friends. For many, "Radio Shyness" has even set in, where we don't even pick up a mic or our HT's to talk with a friend. So if you ask if Amateur Radio and social media are alike, I'll say no! Amateur radio offers fellowship. Amateur Radio offers true friendship with others. Amateur Radio offers the opportunity to meet the friends you have made, and those friendships can last a life time. You'll find, if you reach out to your club, your club will reach out to you, in friendship. If you reach out to a friend, they'll reach back.

Amateur Radio is the bridge to true friendship.

CLUB DUES 2017

As 2016 draws to a close, we start looking at 2017. With that comes our Hamfest, Field Day and other events. With 2017, right around the corner, we are starting to accept club dues for next year. Dues for 2017 remain unchanged, and is still only \$15.00 per/member. While others may have higher dues, we have not had a increase in a number of years.

Your dues, is very important to the club.

Yes, your dues gives you voice, by allowing you to vote and matters that is important to you. But your dues goes way beyond that. Ten percent of your dues goes directly to the repeaters. Now a \$1.50 doesn't sound like much, but that adds up with all the paid members, year after year, so that our club has funds to maintain and expand our repeater system. The total amount recieved, in annual dues, covers the cost of our insurance. This allows funds from our fundraisers to be used for growing, club events and activities.

REPEATER NEWS

K9JSI - No news is Good News. No problems have been reported.

W9LY - Last week, members noticed that both repeaters were down. There was an electrical issue, at the tower, and the back up system failed.

We also, performed scheduled maintainece on the both repeaters, taking them out of service for a brief period. Updated firmware was installed on both systems

APRS-DIGI - Coverage is still weak, we just can't get a break, in the weather to work on the antenna, on our days off, but it is up and running.

Fusion Digial - The firmware upgrade, that was installed fixed the occasional lock-up.

2m is still in AMS mode serving both analog and digital modes.

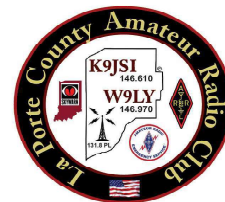
70cm is fixed digital. Most of the time, the repeater is linked to the Wisconsin room, which had grown very large. A large number of midwest amateurs. They also have a very large weekly net on Mondays, with allot of information. The number of Fusion users has also grown locally.

New Study Guide for Technician / General / Extra Tests

The Correct Radio Amateur Answers Manual (CRAAM) is produced to help people to obtain their Amateur Radio License. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that all amateur radio operators (hams) must pass a written test to obtain a license. As with all federal tests, the actual question pool, and answers, including distractors, are published for review. This new manual presents all of the questions, and ONLY the right answers. The distractor answers have been removed, so all you'll see is the question, with the correct answer in bold type.

This new manual also contains all three amateur radio license classes of Technician, General and Extra. The Technician test information is valid until June 30, 2018, General until June 30, 2019, and the Extra portion is valid until June 30, 2020. This combined manual is available on Amazon.com for only \$9.99, and more information is available at: crookedcornrow.com/craam

**** Our next VE Testing is at the Hamfest.**



Calendar of Events



GET ON BOARD
JOIN IN THE FUN
WITH AMATEUR RADIO

LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Calendar for 2015

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

Meeting	18	22	21	18	16	20	18	15	19	17	21	TBA
Location	LP	LP	LP	LP	TS	TS	TS	TS	LP	LP	LP	TS

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

**IRON HORSE
FESTIVAL
October 22nd**

**CHRISTMAS
PARTY**

HAMFEST