

LAPORTE COUNTY / HARBOR BEAM OCTOBER 2018



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

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

Vice President:

John Phillips

Secretary:

Bob Russell

Treasure:

Ken Osborne

Board Members:

Scott Tharp

Troy Harrison

Dan Foster

Trustee W9LY:

Dan Sheetz

Trustee K9JSI:

Todd Saboff

Tower Site:

Ken Osborne

John Phillips

Dan Foster

Bob Smith

Fund Raising:

Brian Salzer

Ken Osborne

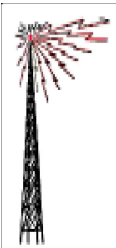
Troy Harrison

MEETING NOTICE:

Next LaPorte County
Amateur Radio club
At
The Knights of Columbus
in LaPorte
October 15th 7:00pm

**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

SKYWARN:
Ken Osborne, N9ZIP

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WELCOME



TO
THE
**LaPorte
County
Amateur Radio
Club**
lpcarc.org



LaPorte County / Harbor Beam

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WEEKLY BREAKFAST

**Club members meet for Breakfast
on Thursday' at 8:00am.**

**See the location schedule
on the back page.**

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 2019

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



**2019 DUES
\$15.00**

Our Mailing Address is:

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



REPEATER MOVE

At our last meeting, we discussed the movement of the W9LY repeater. While it was only one floor down, still it took some planning and manpower. First of all we have to thank everyone who came out to help. Secondly the old guys are grateful that they have one less floor to climb. Of course, nothing goes as planned. What we thought was going to be a few hours turned out to be all day project. Actually moving the repeater was the quick part, of the project. Moving the feedlines and relocating the surge-protection took most of the time. Once we had a plan then we saw a better way, and so the story goes. While we were at it, we also made the final connections for our battery back up system. We were brave enough to test it, and guess what? It actually worked. Power goes out, the repeaters switch to battery. Power returns, batteries turn off and they start charging.

The room we are in now is a secure room with a security camera in place. Our Trustee WD9DWS suggested that we keep open or remove the front door to the cabinet. The door was touching the glass rods, on the duplexors, and that could detune them. We also left the rear door off, and noticed better air movement from the cooling fans. We are now running two cooling fans instead of three. We also put the biggest of the two fans under the UHF repeater, which has the most use.

So what's next? Hmmmm.... how about weather cameras to watch the weather on top of the tower?

ROAD TRIP!!!

A number of club members will be going to the Fort Wayne Hamfest Saturday November 17th. So why not go as group, share rides, and attend with the event with your friends. We'll stop either for breakfast or a late lunch on the way back. Spend the day with friends, and have good time. So plan on joining us on our road trip.

PRODUCT REVIEW

Over the past month, I've been playing with a new toy. It hasn't been out there long, and I read a lot of mixed reviews. Being that no one in area has tried this product, I thought I would give it a shot. We are talking about the Jumbospot MMDVM. There seems to be a number of places to order it from and prices vary but very affordable. When it arrived, it lived up to all positive things I've read about it. The Jumbospot is a slim unit running on a Raspberry Pi. It simply links your radio to your wifi and allows you to connect to others around the world. Sort of like Echo-Link but it does so much more. The Jumbospot will handle DMR, P25, C4FM, D-STAR and other modes. It also has crosslink modes such as DMR to C4FM. The Jumbospot lets you store up to 4 wifi configurations so you can move it from location to location. Currently my unit is in my car, turning my car into a hotspot or a mini digital repeater. If I'm out of range of the repeater, I still can connect.

When mine arrived, it came with no instructions, so YouTube to the rescue. My unit arrived already with the software loaded. The only thing I had to do was tell it my wifi name and password so that it could find it. This was done by going on the web, entering your info, and a small file was generated. You then copied the file to the SD card, and it connected.

In order to connect to the unit, I had to use my computer hard-wired to my router. Then enter some basic information, like your call sign, location and you are ready to go. I even found an app that allows my cell phone to see my data page. This had to be written to the SD card by updating the operating system. The unit has a very low powered UHF transmitter at 0.5 watt which is more than enough to transmit to your radio. On some units the transmitter is not 100% on freq. so there is a setting in the software to adjust this if needed. Mine was good to go.

Now... In order to use this device, you need a digital radio. So if you have P25 you can work P25. If you DMR you can work DMR. I have a C4FM or Fusion radio so that is what I will review. Like all the other modes, this unit connects to its own network called YSF. YSF is not the Fusion Network, but it has its own list of users, just like Fusion does. A good number of Amateurs have built bridges or links to the Fusion network. For example Fusion's room American Link can be found on FCS00290. A number of amateurs link their repeaters, so basically their radio range, into their repeater never ends. The downside to this unit, if you want to change rooms, it can only be done via your Dashboard and change the settings. That is why I have access to my Dashboard on my phone.

Just like any new toy we get, there is a learning curve. With a little help from YouTube to point me in the right direction, you really don't need instructions how to set it up. The configuration menu is simple and straightforward.

What I liked about this unit is that it can work multiple digital modes. Its display is small but readable. It even tells you its IP address so that you can connect to the Dashboard. The audio is crisp and clear. So if you have good wifi connection, you'll have great audio. So on a scale of 1 to 10 I would rate the MMDVM an 8. A good little unit and a good price.

Calendar of Events



**GET ON BOARD
JOIN IN THE FUN
WITH AMATEUR RADIO**

LaPorte County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Calendar for 2018

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

Meeting	15	19	19	16	21	18	16	20	17	15	19	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.

THURSDAY MORNING BREAKFAST SCHEDULE

Grandma's House of Pancakes

502 State St, LaPorte

1st Thursday 8:00am

3rd Thursday 8:00am

5th Thursdays 8:00am ... if it is held

Mama T's ...

607 Lincolnway, LaPorte

Free public parking nearby.

2nd Thursday 8:00am .

4th Thursday 8:00am

MEMO'S on US 20 Trail Creek

SATURDAY October 20th @ 8:00am

EVENTS COMMING UP...

XMAS PARTY

HAMFEST

LPCARC

2018

MEMBERSHIP PAGE

This is current listing of "Paid" club members.

Life Members

Dugger, Rich	A	WD9ARW
Lehker, Gaelan	T	N9XGG
Sheetz, Dan	E	W9DWS
Vanderplough, Dan	E	K9RQ
Zook, Glen	E	K9STH

Paid Members

Cave, Barb	G	KA6OJX
Cave, Brian	G	KA6QMW
Cave, Gary	G	WA6UOO
Carter, Bill	E	AB9QU
Cohan, Jonathan	T	KD9AUT
Foster, Dan	G	KC9GFO
Gaekle, Bob	T	KC9HCR
Gaekle, Sue	T	KC9HCS
Harrison, Troy	E	KC9E
Jones, Alan	E	W9DZ
Kostelnie, Alex		
Kostelnik, Alex		
Lewis, Ron	G	NR9L
Lewis, Tom Jr	T	KA9ZUM
Novak, Richard	T	K7AGI
Osborne, Ken	G	N9ZIP
Reberg, David	G	KA9WNQ
Rozinski, John	E	N9CJR
Rozinski, Phil	T	N9XID
RUSSELL, BOB		
Saboff, Todd	E	AC9HQ
Salzer, Brian	T	KB9HMR
Salzer, Karen		N/A
Sanders, Michael	T	KB9KMC
Shaver, George	E	N9IAS
Shoemaker, David		
Spencer, Dave	T	W3RHJ
Smith, Bob	T	N9ROM
Swanson, James		
Taylor, Travis	G	KC9TWX
VanDiver, Stan	E	W4SV
Yeater, Curt	E	AC9HO