

The LPCARC Roundtable

July 2026 Edition

President's Message

Fellow club members,

Field Day is behind us for another year, and I want to thank the 16 members and friends who came out to the Schultz Rd tower site to make it happen. Between the food, the fellowship, and some unusually cooperative weather, it was a solid weekend on the air. Thanks to everyone who operated, cooked, helped with setup and teardown, or just came out to spend time with the club... it all adds up.

We've also got a busy stretch ahead. Our next monthly meeting is July 13 at the La Porte Seventh Day Adventist Church, and the Tailgate Swap Meet follows on July 18 at the Concrete Tower site. Hope to see a good turnout at both.

You'll also notice this newsletter looks a little different. Curt is moving the Roundtable to a monthly schedule going forward, so keep an eye out for it in your inbox each month with the latest on what's happening around the club.

73 de KC9DJP

Rich Oberle, LPCARC Club President

Upcoming Events & Meetings

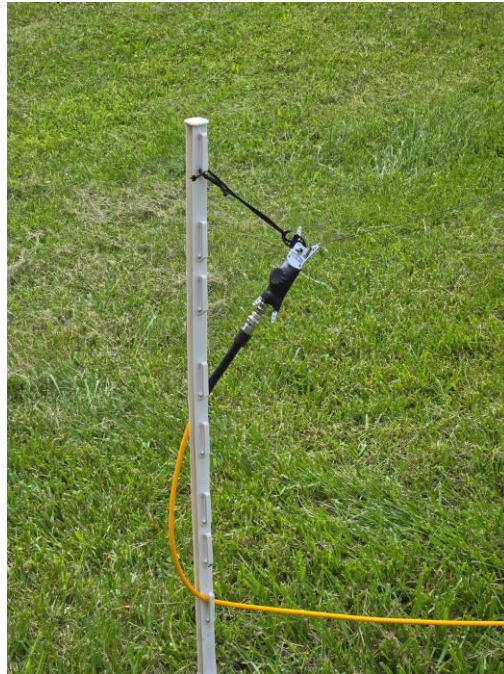
Mark your logbooks! Here is what LPCARC has on the schedule in the weeks ahead. All monthly meetings begin at 7:00 PM local time. Check lpcarc.org for any last-minute changes.

Date	Event	Location
July 13, 2026	Monthly Club Meeting	La Porte Seventh Day Adventist Church
July 18, 2026	Tailgate Swap Meet	Concrete Tower at HWY35 and Schultz Rd.
August 10, 2026	Monthly Club Meeting	La Porte Seventh Day Adventist Church

Field Day 2026 Recap







Field Day 2026 was a great success! We had 16 folks turn out to the Schultz Rd tower site for a weekend of radio, food, and fellowship.

John Phillips KA9PGC, our Vice President, manned the grill and cooked up burgers and hot dogs for everyone, and the potluck table was loaded with side dishes generously donated by members. Nobody went home hungry.

We gave the campfire a good effort, but the brush was still too green to cooperate. Rich Oberle KC9DJP, our club President, spent over an hour coaxing a stubborn little flame, determined to turn it into a proper bonfire. It wasn't meant to be this year... but we're already planning our redemption in 2027 (see below).

On the air, James Jakubin KI9E racked up a strong run of CW contacts, while Bill Mears KI9NG and Hayden David KD9HAY worked a nice mix of digital, voice, and CW. A special shoutout to Seraphina Ohl AC9UI, who joined us for her first LPCARC Field Day and made her own contacts on the air.

Thanks also go out to our setup and teardown crews. Seraphina Ohl AC9UI helped John Phillips KA9PGC with setup, and Rich Oberle KC9DJP and Curt Yeater AC9HO pitched in to help John with teardown. Many hands made for a smooth weekend on both ends.

As for the weather... we'll take it. Most years Field Day means brutal heat, sudden downpours, or both, often cutting the day short. This year we got comfortable temps and dry skies all weekend. You really can't ask for better conditions.

Looking ahead, we're already talking about kicking off Field Day 2027 a day early with a Friday night bonfire and camping through the whole weekend. There's plenty of room at the tower site for tents and campers alike, so start thinking about making it a full weekend getaway next year.

Thanks to everyone who came out, cooked, operated, and helped make it a great one. 73 de LPCARC!



John Phillips KA9PGC and Travis Taylor KC9TWX getting the station set up and ready to go.



John Phillips KA9PGC (left, orange shirt) and Jim Jakubin KI9E making CW contacts during Field Day 2026.



Seraphina Ohl AC9UI operating the station during Field Day 2026.



Hayden David KD9HAY (left, headphones) and Bill Mears KI9NG (right) working contacts during Field Day 2026.



Bill Mears KI9NG and Hayden David KD9HAY at the operating table, with Bill's dog Mira keeping watch.



Seraphina Ohl AC9UI (foreground, hat), Bill Mears KI9NG (red chair), Hayden David KD9HAY, Curt Yeater AC9HO (standing, gray shirt), and Todd Miller N9RKY (standing, dark shirt).



Bill Carter AB9QU (seated, FD26 shirt), Curt Yeater AC9HO (right, sunglasses), with Paul Werner N9VSN and John Phillips KA9PGC (orange shirt) in the background.



Mike Broviak N9MIK at Field Day 2026.

Club Receives Laptop Donation

A big thank-you to Chris West KE9EQR, who donated four ThinkPad laptops to the club, received through his employer. There wasn't enough time to get them set up before Field Day, so they weren't in use this time around.

Travis Taylor KC9Twx and Stacey Donnelly KD9ZGJ are leading the effort to get ham radio related software loaded onto the machines so they're ready for future club events. If you have suggestions for what should be installed, get in touch with Travis or Stacey.

W9LY Site Power Outage

The W9LY repeater site lost power after a tree came down on power lines down the road from the site, and the backup generator did not pick up the load as expected. The cause of the generator issue is still being looked into. We'll share more details in a future issue once we know more.

Thanks to Danny Scheetz W9DWS for his continued work keeping the site running.

APRS Coverage Update

Members may have noticed some gaps in APRS coverage recently. The APRS radio was removed by a non-club member over concerns it might be interfering with the N9IAA repeater. Since then, it's been confirmed that the APRS radio was not the cause of the interference. Hayden David KD9HAY has set up a temporary iGate in the meantime to help keep coverage going while things get sorted out.

Tower Site Cleanup

Thanks to everyone who turned out on June 13 (postponed from June 6 due to weather) to help clean up the tower site: John Phillips KA9PGC, Curt Yeater AC9HO, Rob Franey KD9PYT, Bob Smith N9ROM, Hayden David KD9HAY, and Danny Scheetz W9DWS. The site looks great thanks to your effort.

Getting to Know AllStar: Node 635952

The W9LY AllStar Node

The 146.970 repeater (W9LY) is linked via AllStar node 635952, running on a Raspberry Pi with ASL3, a MastersCommunications RA-DR1XM interface, and the RadioUSB driver. AllStar lets you connect to other nodes and networks around the world right from your radio using simple DTMF commands.

To get started, here are the basic DTMF commands you'll want to know:

- *3 + node number ... connect to a node
- *1 + node number ... disconnect a specific node
- *6 ... disconnect all connected nodes

Give it a try on 146.970 and see where the airwaves take you!

On the Air Activity

Club Nets

LPCARC maintains the following regularly scheduled net. All are open to any licensed amateur:

- Wednesday Evening LPCARC Information Net, 7:00 PM Central, 146.970 MHz (-600 kHz, PL 131.8)

Repeater Status

The club currently sponsors and maintains the following repeaters, all open to any licensed amateur:

- 146.970 MHz (-600 kHz offset, PL Tone 131.8), W9LY, AllStar node 635952, EchoLink node 193001
- 441.950 MHz (+5 MHz offset, PL Tone 131.8), W9LY, C4FM/Wires-X capable
- 146.610 MHz (-600 kHz offset, PL Tone 131.8), K9JSI, analog only

If you notice a repeater issue, please report it to repeatertrustee@lpcarc.org.

Membership Dues Reminder

Annual club membership dues are \$20 per year. Current members are encouraged to pay by March of each year as outlined in the Club By-Laws, but dues are accepted anytime. Dues can be paid at any club meeting or event.

Paying online is preferred as it makes record keeping easier for the club Treasurer. You can pay your dues online at lpcarc.org/Members/Members.html.

Around the Club

Thursday Breakfast

Join fellow members every Thursday morning at 8:00 AM at Mama T's Diner for coffee and conversation. All are welcome.

Sugar Bowl Breakfast

The first-Saturday breakfast at the Sugar Bowl in Michigan City remains on hold while the restaurant itself looks for a new location. We'll let you know as soon as they're settled somewhere new and we can get back to it.

EMA Siren Testing

LaPorte County EMA tests its warning sirens on the first Saturday of every month. The net opens at 10:30 AM on the W9LY repeater (146.970), with sirens activating at 11:00 AM. Dave W9DLP serves as net control. Volunteers are always needed to help monitor sirens around the county... reach out if you'd like to help.

Facebook Group

Stay connected between meetings on our Facebook group, "LaPorte County Amateur Radio Organization," at facebook.com/groups/496694052638376.

The **LPCARC Roundtable** is published monthly by the La Porte County Amateur Radio Club.
73 de LPCARC