



# The Repeater

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*The Livonia Amateur Radio Club*

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

That was a lot of fun! For all those who missed it, this past weekend was the Livonia Amateur Radio Club's first group effort in the Michigan QSO Party. And what a party it was! The event tied together the LARC and the EOC department of the Livonia Police. Lt. Tim McGillivray, of the Emergency Operations Center and Joe Sellinger, Communications Supervisor, were both very instrumental as well as very helpful in our adventure. Without their aid, we would not have been able to put this together.

I'd like to thank John, K8AZT, Dave, K8HW, Richard, K6VEM, Bob, WX8YZ and Jerry, W8WQU for stopping by, operating, logging or giving us support in this very successful event.

How did the LARC MiQP team do? See the Wrap-Up for all the details and photos.

LARC co-sponsored a Skywarn training session along with the Livonia CERT. This turned out to be another successful venture for the club as 177 people attended the session—the second largest that the presenter had seen. Among the audience were students from Stevenson High School, a troop of boy scouts and many interested citizens. We assembled a table full of ham radio literature for people to peruse on their way into the Library auditorium. Shanon, KA8SPW, from the Wayne County ARPSC, witnessed the crowd and suggested that we

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### MICHIGAN QSO PARTY WRAP-UP

We operated from the Livonia EOC, using two stations - one CW and one Phone. The CW station consisted of K8AZT's Electcraft K3 to an 80 Meter dipole fed with 400-ohm open line on the roof (approx. 40 feet high). The Phone station consisted of the club's Yaesu FT-450 to a ground mounted Hygain vertical with six radials. With the help of Joe Sellinger, the City's Communications Supervisor, John and I set up the antennas on Friday, leaving Saturday to the details. Operating positions were in the garage where radios are serviced—a fitting place for our adventure.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*(President's Corner—Continued from page 1)*

do the same thing next year, putting more emphasis on the ham radio. I couldn't agree more and plans are in the works.

By the way, Shanon will be our presenter at the next general meeting—April 27th. He will be giving a talk on the ARES/RACES program as well as the Wayne County ARPSC.

Echolink is back! Jerry set us up once again with Echolink on the repeater. Tas and Doris took advantage of the system by checking into the LARC 2-Meter Net last Thursday at 8pm. They used the internet to connect to W8WQU-R, the link to the 145.35 repeater.

This is the time of year when we start some serious planning for Field Day. John, K8AZT, has been in talks with the Ford Amateur Radio League and things are starting to take shape. I will once again be the CW tent captain and the FARL will take the Phone tent operation. We are also planning on having a GOTA tent (with a much improved antenna) and a more comprehensive satellite station.

We talked to the FARL as well as the Livonia EOC people and decided not to pursue activating the Fire Department as a temporary EOC. The logistics of the operation as well as its inconvenience to the Fire Department personnel (their sleeping quarters are directly above our proposed operating position) caused us to rethink this proposition.

John is contemplating running 3A with a digital station, if someone has the equipment and would be willing to be the captain of that station. I think it would be an exciting and worthwhile addition to our Field Day. Let John know if you're willing to help out with the digital station, or any other aspect of Field Day.

If you have any suggestions for future presentations, please let me know.

73,  
Mike, N8MR

*(Michigan QSO Party—Wrap-Up—Continued from page 1)*

This was mainly a demonstration of our ability to communicate with other counties and states, though it gave us an opportunity to have some contesting fun as well.

We used N1MM logger with two networked computers. This provided real-time score checking at both stations. Most of our crew hadn't used this program and had to get accustomed to it. Also, it was clear to me that most of the crew had little contesting experience. Despite these different "modes" and environments of operating, we conquered the learning curve and in the end, did really well for our first time.

Propagation certainly wasn't the best, but despite the less than perfect conditions, we were able to contact 40 counties, 38 states, 5 Canadian provinces and two DX stations — Germany and Azores. We made 257 CW QSOs and 104 Phone (SSB) QSOs, for a total of 361 contacts over a period of 10.5 hours. Not bad at all!

I think the success of this year's MiQP effort went beyond points and QSO totals. We proved to ourselves as well as the Livonia EOC that we can put together a viable station capable of communicating from Plymouth to Germany for our community in an emergency.

After the contest had ended, a fellow, who had just passed his Technician test, e-mailed me to say that he was listening to us and that we were S9 +20 in Temple, PA (just outside of Reading). This was the first time I'd ever gotten an e-mail SWL report from a contest.

If you didn't join us, but worked the Michigan QSO Party, please send in your log, in Cabrillo format, as a file to: [logs@miqp.org](mailto:logs@miqp.org) and make sure you tell them that you belong to the Livonia Amateur Radio Club. We'll find out in August how we stacked up against the other Michigan EOC stations.

See page 3 for Photos and details of our event.

Mike, N8MR

# MICHIGAN QSO PARTY RESULTS



Center support for the 80 Meter dipole in the shadow of the LPD tower. The dipole was used for CW.



CW operating position, with John, K8AZT at the key.



Hy-Gain vertical in the rear lawn of the LPD. This was used for the Phone station.



Phone operating position with Bob, WX8YZ at the mic.

Band	CW	Ph
80:	119	63
40:	95	41
20:	43	
15:		
10:		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>104</b>

Operating Time: 10.5 hours

CW Multipliers = 74  
Ph Multipliers = 47

Total Score = 74,778

**Counties (41):** ALLE, ALPE, ANTR, BARR, BAY, BERR, CALH, CHIP, DELT, EMME, GENE, GRAT, HOUG, HURO, INGH, IONI, ISAB, JACK, KALK, KENT, LAPE, LENA, LIVI, MACO, MARQ, MASO, MCLM, MECO, MTMO, MUSK, OALK, OGEM, OSCE, OTSE, OTTA, SAGI, SANI, SHIA,

**States (39):** AK, AL, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY

**Canadian Provinces (5):** BC, MB, ON, NS, QC

**DX (2):** DL (Germany), CU (Azores)

## THIS MONTH ON THE AIR

### Contests & Special Events

#### April 2009

QRP to the Field 1500Z, Apr 25 to 0300Z, Apr 26  
 Florida QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 25 to 2159Z, Apr 26  
 Nebraska QSO Party 1700Z, Apr 25 to 1700Z, Apr 26

#### May 2009

10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW 0001Z, May 2 to 2359Z,  
 May 3

7th Call Area QSO Party - 1300Z, May 2 to 0700Z,  
 May 3

Indiana QSO Party - 1600Z, May 2 to 0400Z, May 3

New England QSO Party - 2000Z, May 2 to 2400Z,  
 May 3

ARI International DX Contest - 2000Z, May 2 to 2000Z,  
 May 3

His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW - 1200Z, May 16 to  
 1200Z, May 17

Baltic Contest - 2100Z, May 23 to 0200Z, May 24

MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint - 2300Z, May 24 to  
 0300Z, May 25

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z, May 30 to 2400Z,  
 May 31

### DX

**5X1NH** - Uganda - Mar 11 to May 11 - Mainly CW -  
 QSL via G3RWF

**5N0OCH** - Nigeria - Mar 21 to Jul 24 - CW, SSB,  
 RTTY - QSL via DL3OCH

**S21UGZ** - Bangladesh - Apr 12 to Jun 20 - SSB, RTTY  
 - QSL via DU1UGZ

**HB0/DL2SBY** - Liechtenstein - Apr 24 to May 04 - CW,  
 SSB, RTTY - QSL via DL2SBY

**3D2** - Fiji - Apr 25 to May 08 - Multiple Operations by  
 YT1AD, YU1DW and OK2ZAW

**C21TI** - Nauru - May 01 to May 30 - CW, SSB, RTTY -  
 QSL via EA4ATI

**ZD8KR** - Ascension Island - May 04 to May 11 - 20  
 Meter CW, SSB - QSL via G0UNU

**ZK2V** - Niue - May 16 to June 20 - CW, SSB, RTTY -  
 QSL via N3SL & LoTW

There's always more DX than those listed here. Just  
 tune around and listen.

## UPCOMING SWAPS

#### May 15-16-17

Dayton Hamfest  
 Hara Arena Dayton, OH  
 Talk In 146.940

#### June 7

Chelsea Radio Swap n Shop  
 Chelsea Fairgrounds 20501 Old US Highway 12  
 Talk In 145.450 (PL100)

#### June 20

Midland Swap  
 Midland, MI  
 Talk In 146.72/12

#### June 21

Monroe Hamfest  
 Monroe Cty Fairgrounds  
 M-50 at Raisinville Rd. (2 Miles west of Monroe)