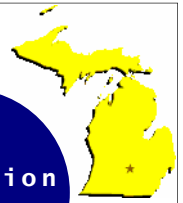


# The Scope

April 2005



Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club  
Lansing Civil Defence Repeater Association  
P.O. Box 27321  
Lansing MI 48909



## Local SKYWARN Procedures and Information

(Storm Spotter Training April 16 at LCC—see page 3 for details)

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With the rash of bad weather recently, this would be a good time to review SKYWARN procedures that have been established to help maintain a quality and efficient net that will best serve the National Weather Service, other agencies,

and our local communities. Spotters are encouraged to follow

the following net operating guidelines:

1) **Direct all traffic to the Net Control Operator.**

The Net Control Operator directs the Net's activities, coordinates spotters, forwards reports, and announces National Weather Service statements.

2) **Be aware of the situation.** Always listen to the reports of other spotters. If what you are experiencing is of less priority than what is occurring in another area, then please yield the frequency to the spotters with the most urgent reports.

3) **Keep transmissions as brief as possible.** This keeps the frequency open for others to use. As always, reports with the most priority should have the most use of the frequency.

4) **Do Not report general phenomena that is always associated with thunderstorms, such as rainfall, lightning, thunder, etc.** Such reports are unnecessary and take up time on the air, possibly preventing more important reports from being passed.

5) **Only report severe weather related observations that are described in training and supplemental materials.** These reports are essential vice during severe weather events.

6) **Be as accurate as possible.** Use proper measurements such as 1/4 inch or pea



size, 3/4 inch or dime size, one inch or size of a quarter, golf ball size, etc. When estimating wind speeds, use the following tips from the National Weather Service's Spotter's Guide:

a) 25-31 mph: Large branches in motion; whistling heard in telephone wires

b) 32-38 mph: Whole trees in motion;

inconvenience felt walking against wind

c) 39-54 mph: Twigs break off trees; wind generally impedes progress

d) 55-72 mph: Damage to chimneys and TV antenna; pushes over shallow rooted trees

e) 73-112 mph: Peels surface off roofs; windows broken; light trailer houses pushed or overturned; moving auto mobiles pushed off roads

7) **Be sure to check out if away from your radio.** This is important as Net Control counts on you being where you say you are. If something is happening in your area and you have not checked out, Net Control has no idea if something may have happened to you due to the weather.

### ADDITIONAL TIPS

- The first sign of a tornado may not be a funnel at the cloud base. Your first clue may be debris or dust at the surface, so be alert to events at ground level, as well as in the clouds.
- At night, lightning flashes can aid in identifying the Rain Free Base, Wall Cloud, and Precipitation Area. Although a loud roar is frequently (continued on page 2)

### Hamfests for April

16 April 2005

Milford ARC  
Highland, MI  
<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

#### Contact:

Mike Board, WA8WOQ  
3106 South Milford Road  
Highland, MI 48357  
Phone: 248-685-1678  
Email: [mboard3106@aol.com](mailto:mboard3106@aol.com)



Heathkit HR-20 SSB  
MOBILE RECEIVER  
www.heathkit-museum.com



ARES Equipment Bag

## Local SKYWARN Procedures and Information (Cont.)

associated with a tornado, strong straight-line winds can also produce such a sound.



- If you spot from a fixed location, use a map to determine distances and directions to known land-

marks such as water towers, TV towers, etc. This will help you estimate distance and direction in your reports. Mobile spotters should always have up-to-date maps and be familiar with the area in which they are operating.

- When available, use binoculars to look for rotation and other cloud features. Once you spot a funnel, tornado, or wall cloud, be alert for the formation of others in the area.

- If you find yourself in

large hail, remember you are in or near the area where tornado formation is most likely in a tornadic thunderstorm.

- Always follow the basic safety rules. In open country, a spotter may be able to use his knowledge of the tornado's motion and available escape routes to drive away from the tornado safely. In urban areas this is usually not possible because of traffic congestion. Make certain your family knows what to do in tornado emergencies as you may not be avail (continued on Page 3)

### CMARC Board & Appointments 2005—Elected Officers

TITLE	NAME	CALL
President	John Hosford	KC8QZB
Vice President	Don Devendorf	W8EGI
Secretary	Richard H. McGuire	KI8C
Treasurer	Dennis "Rocky" Beckner	K8DRB
Director	Jane Law	KC8SFK
Director	Ron Harger	WD8BCS
Membership Chairman	John A. Ingraham	NG8L
Under 22 Director	Jordan Mulder	KC8QYO
APPOINTMENTS		
Scope Editor	OPEN	
Web Chairman	John A. Ingraham	NG8L
Skywarn Chairman	Jim Hannahs	KC8QWH
Awards Manager	Donald L. De Feyter	KC8CY
Ziegenbein Nominations	Pamela J. Denomme	KB8PSF
VE Team Liaison	Laurence J. Nordeen	N8VEN
VE Team Contact	Joseph H. Denomme	N8VYS

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- April 1—Monthly CMARC meeting at Red Cross building—7:30 PM
- April 16—Skywarn Storm Spotter training at Dart Auditorium, Lansing Community College, 10 AM to 3 PM.
- April 16—Milford ARC Hamfest Highland, MI  
<http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk>

**Contact:**

Mike Board, WA8WQQ  
3106 South Milford Road  
Highland, MI 48357  
Phone: 248-685-1678  
Email: [mboard3106@aol.com](mailto:mboard3106@aol.com)

April 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 04/07 - Richard McGuire - K18C
- 04/21 - Kenneth Norton - KC8OIL
- 04/22 - Dan Fuller - N8HFJ

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

- None

**Local SKYWARN Procedures and Information (Cont.)**

able to assist or direct them.

When severe weather is occurring and a SKYWARN Net is in operation, please reserve the frequency for the use of TRAINED spotters (unless there is an out-side emergency). This assures the accuracy of the reports. Trained spotters in the field provide a valuable service to the National Weather Service.

**LOCAL SKYWARN NET FREQUENCIES**

Primary  
145.390 (-) MHz (100Hz PL) repeater

Secondary  
146.700 (-) MHz repeater

Secondary Backup  
146.94 (-) MHz (100Hz PL) repeater

Simplex backup  
146.580 MHz simplex



Rotating Interface



CMARC



NWS

**When a Tornado Watch is issued:**

- Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates
- Be alert to changing weather conditions. Blowing debris or the sound of an approaching tornado may alert you

## Weaver's Words

March—2005

Jim Weaver, K8JE  
Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL

### REFLECTING

I don't mean the type of reflecting we count on for bouncing signals in Earth-Moon-Earth communication or even the Earth-Ionosphere-Earth-Ionosphere, etc. The reflecting to which I refer is on the past. Even at @\$ years young, I don't dwell much on the past except to try to learn from it. There is too much to do now and in the future. On the other hand it is rather useful to think of where I've been, where I am and where I want to go.

With the above background laid, I will apply reflection to Amateur Radio. On a personal plane, my reflection reminded me I had absolutely no aspiration to become even a little fish in the pool of a small ham club. My objectives changed, though, and I moved up the positions to hold a number of leadership positions in clubs and, surprise of all surprises, in ARRL. I even told one of my friends (an SK now) I had absolutely no aspiration to run for any form of office in the League. This was 100% true at the time, but my interests and objectives changed.

At one time, I told anyone who would listen that DXng may be a nice thing to do, but it offered no particular value to the community. The real game, I said again and again, was "emergency communication." I spent 20 years working as a leader in ARES/ARPSC and Civil Defense (now the EMA). But, now, I am a DXer. I still say Emergency Communications is THE most important phase of Amateur Radio, but I've learned it isn't

the only thing. So, after redirecting my Amateur Radio career, I hold 5 Band DXCC and am on the list of hams who have earned a DX Challenge plaque. Things change. We do not stay the same year after year.

About DX offering no particular value to the community: The recent VU4 DXpedition has caused me to eat my words about the value of DXing to the community. This DXpedition party was the first to report the devastating tsunami in the Far East. This group as well as other DXers in and out of the stricken area stayed on the air as the only contacts between victimized areas and relief forces for several days after the incident. Thank goodness for DXers!

OK, so what is the point of all this? It is simple. One major fact of life is that nearly each of us goes through changes in interests over the years. As a result, we individuals do not dare to make fun of the interests of anyone else. It just could be that we may see our preferences redirected sometime in the future to the very activity that we deride today.

Exercise -- even enjoy -- legitimate differences.

Fine tuning this, don't go around bashing others because they have no desire to



The National Association for Amateur Radio  
**Great Lakes Division**  
Kentucky • Michigan • Ohio

**Jim Weaver is Director of the Great Lakes Division of the ARRL. He can be reached at [k8je@arri.org](mailto:k8je@arri.org)**

communicate beyond the range of VHF and UHF repeaters. They are hams just as much as DXers or public service-oriented folks.

Similarly, don't put Techs down because you have a higher license class; put no code licensees down because you passed 13 or 20 wpm. They are just as much radio amateurs as those of us who became Extras under the 20 wpm requirement. Laws and regulations change. People change.

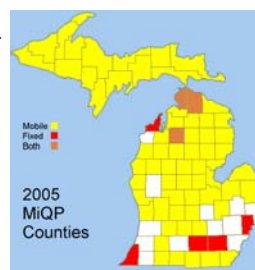
Situations change.

Rather than dividing the ham ranks into no code vs. coded licensees, or Old Timers vs. newbies, or traffic handlers vs. DXers, ad nauseum, let's pull together in a never-before-seen manner for the good of Amateur Radio.

### 2005 MICHIGAN QSO PARTY

Mark Hinkelman, NU8Z

Attention Michigan Amateurs. The Michigan QSO Party is right around the corner and all Michigan hams are invited to join in on this great opportunity to get on the HF bands, represent the great state of Michigan, and last but not least, have some fun. Get on the air for an hour or two, or the entire event. Let's create some RF



Sponsored by the  
**Mad River Radio Club**  
**Saturday, April 16, 2005**

*OK, so what is the point of all this? It is simple. One major fact of life is that nearly each of us goes through changes in interests over the years.*

## Weaver's Words (cont.)

and make Michigan "Radio Active" on April 16!!!!

Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, and will be held from 1600Z April 16th until 0400Z April 17th. (12 hours)

See the MiQP website for more information, complete rules, free logging software, log and summary sheets, and loads of other stuff. There is also a great write up titled "MiQP for First Timers". <http://www.miqp.org>

### REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH

This concept is still alive and well. The Board of Directors reviewed its status during the January Board meeting and referred it back to the Board's Executive Committee for further work and to be brought back to our July meeting. In the meantime, I've been hearing all sorts of unfounded rumors about this still-developing proposal. These revolve around statements such as: You are trying to do away with (you can fill in this blank with AM, RTTY, DIGITAL, ATV, CW, SSB, etc.).

I hate to go around bursting people's bubbles, but none of this is true.

The Board is working diligently to enable our members to have more freedom to experiment without detracting from current operating privileges. To do this requires much thought and considerable time. We want to do it "right" the first time.

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### Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the Meeting (March 4, 2005)

The business meeting was brought to order by club president John Hosford (KC8QZB) at 7:32 p.m.

#### Members

19 members were present at the meeting.

#### Visitors

Tom Cardy (WB9YCN)  
Kay Clark  
Gloria Cote  
Mike Sprague (KC8ZPX)  
DeAnna Barnhill

#### Cards and Flowers

Dick McGuire sent a cards to the families of Don Defeyter (KC8CY) and Roger Young.

#### Sick or in Hospital

Rocky Beckner (K8DRB) is in a hospital in Ann Arbor. Dick will send Rocky a card.

The son of Don Tillitson (WB8NUS) was taken to ICU at Sparrow Hospital on Tuesday and may be transferred to Henry Ford.

#### Upgrades and New Licenses

None yet, but several are hopeful at a scheduled VE session.

#### Old Business

Minutes of the February 4 general meeting were accepted as corrected. Moved by Don Cote (KD8BD) and seconded by Roger Barnhill (AB8RX).

Because of the absence of the Treasurer, there was no Treasurer's report.

John Ingraham (NG8L) reported 67 paid members and 78 unpaid members. John will start deleting some of the unpaid members.

#### New Business

Dick announced Skywarn training in Jackson the next day. Talk-in will be on 147.36 MHz.

John announced that Field Day will be June 25th and 26th. We are still looking for a chairman.

#### Announcements

- Marshall Hamfest will be March 19th.
- Division Convention will be March 19th in Toledo.
- Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) Hamfest will be March 20th.
- Michigan Severe Weather Awareness Week will be March 20th - 26th.
- Skywarn training will be on April 16th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Moved by Dick McGuire and seconded by Ron Harger (WD8BCS).

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CENTRAL MICHIGAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
LANSING CIVIL DEFENCE REPEATER ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 27321  
LANSING MI 48909



We're on the Web:  
[www.qsl.net/cmarc](http://www.qsl.net/cmarc)

The **Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club**, or **CMARC**, is the governing body responsible for local club activities. An affiliated group, The **Lansing Civil Defense Repeater Association**, or **LCDRA**, supports five local repeaters.

**Local Nets**

**CMARC:** Sundays  
8:30 PM  
145.390  
(PL 100 Hz)

**ARES/RACES:** Mondays  
(except 3rd Monday)  
8:30 PM  
146.580 Simplex

**DTACS:** Tuesdays  
7:00 PM  
146.940  
(PL 100 Hz)

TO:

**CMARC**— Full membership: \$10 per year.  
Associate membership: \$5 per year.

Please make check or money order payable to CMARC and mail to: John Ingraham/NG8L, Membership Chairman, 2807 Greenbriar Avenue, Lansing MI 48912.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Email SCOPE?  Yes  No

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

As a licensed Amateur, you can sign up today as a FULL member of CMARC. You will have voting rights as well as an annual subscription to the SCOPE. As an ASSOCIATE, you have an annual subscription to the SCOPE, but no voting rights.

**LCDRA**— Membership: \$15 per year (January to January)  
Additional family members: \$7.50 per person

Send check or money order payable to:  
L.C.D.R.A., PO Box 80106, Lansing MI 48908

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Anniversary: \_\_\_\_\_

Use of the repeater does not REQUIRE membership, but your support is GREATLY appreciated.

Send payment along with this form to the address above.