



The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

Annual LEARA Holiday Dinner At Dimitri's—Nov. 24 2009, 6:30 p.m.

The last Tuesday in November is when we traditionally lock up the President's gavel and the committee reports and motions and bring our YL's or "significant others" and other Ham friends to enjoy an evening of culinary enjoyment, home-grown entertainment and fellowship. Dinner selections this year are:

-Top Sirloin steak- -Chicken Alfredo- -Breaded Pork Chops- -Boston Scrod-

This includes all the usual amenities plus **Baklava** for dessert *if you specify that you want it and you get your order in by **November 20th!*** Cost this year remains at \$20 and includes a 3-course dinner with coffee/tea, dessert, tax and tip. And for the "price of admission" you also get to experience our own "Bingo Bob", W2THU giving you a chance to win \$50 or \$100 Gift Cards!

The festivities are at our usual place, Dimitri's Restaurant, at 1830 Snow Rd., Parma, Ohio (in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, just west of Broadview Road). **Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM.** There will be NO formal meeting.

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY 6:00
P.M. FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20th.**

LEARA Trustee Election Results

The following members were re-elected to the position of Trustee at the LEARA annual meeting:

*Dave Foran, WB8APD
Marv Grossman, W8AZO
Dave Noeth, KD8ACO
Bryan Torok, N800F
Bob Winston, W2THU*

Please call in your reservation and your menu choice to Marv Grossman, W8AZO, at 440-248-0031. You can also visit www.leara.org and make your reservation through the club's website. -AR-

DUES NOTICE!

LEARA Annual Dues are now due and payable at the rate of \$25. They can be paid at the Annual meeting. Pay your dues... Support your club!

| OFFICERS | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Alex Manuk President | WD8JMM 216-459-8523 |
| Jim Ozello Vice President | N8XDO 216-475-7218 |
| Eric Jessen Vice President | N8AUC 440-734-3146 |
| Bob Winston Secretary | W2THU 216-771-3314 |
| Dave Foran Treasurer | WB8APD 440-942-0618 |
| Eric Jessen License Trustee | N8AUC 440-734-3146 |
| TRUSTEES | |
| Jeff Kopcak | K8JTK k8jtk@arrrl.net |
| Raye Bayun | N8NAP |
| Gary Zimmet | WA8TJL 440-446-0402 |
| Marv Grossman | W8AZO 440-248-0031 |
| David Noeth | KD8ACO 216-932-8005 |
| Ron Jakubowski | K2RJ 440-498-1512 |
| John Radney | KC8FOC 216-469-4361 |
| Bryan Torok | N8OOF 440-871-5456 |
| Mike Cegelski | K8EHP 216-252-6640 |
| Jeff Garvas | N8YNR jeff@cia.net |
| TRUSTEES EMERITI | |
| Al Amster | W8TTY |
| Don Raith | N8DJG |
| Fred Collins | W8ADW(SK) |
| Pat Shreve | W8GRG (SK) |
| Al Severson | AB8P (SK) |
| POINTS OF CONTACT | |
| John Radney "Sunshine" | KC8FOC 216-469-4361 |
| Ron Jakubowski Radio Officer | K2RJ 440-498-1512 |
| Bryan Torok Radio Officer | N8OOF 440-871-5456 |

The *Spirit of '76 & '88* is published monthly except in December. Contributions must be received by the 2nd Sunday of the month (except on months with 5 Sundays and Tuesdays, when the 3rd Sunday will suffice.)

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

E-mail: editor@leara.org

The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



Well, another LEARA year is drawing to a close. It's been exciting for me to serve as club president for the past year. I'm not sure how it happened, or why, but the trustees have voted to have me do it all over again next year. Thank you all for the support and I hope I can continue to help make this the best amateur radio organization in Northeast Ohio.

The trustees election was held at our October meeting. I'd like to say a huge thank you to Gary Zimmet, WA8TJL, and his teller crew, who handled the ballot counting. Congratulations to Dave, WB8APD; Marv, W8AZO; Bryan, N8OOF; David, KC8ACO; and Bob, W2THU, for being re-elected. Thank you all for your dedication and service.

The rebuild of the 76 repeater is making good progress. While the machine is being tuned up in preparation for its new home, it's been put on the air at a temporary location. The coverage footprint isn't what it will be from its permanent location, but feel free to use it if you find it available.

November 24th is the LEARA holiday party. For this meeting, we put the business of LEARA on hold and enjoy some good food, good conversation, and some fun. "Bingo" Bob, W2THU, has promised to be on hand to help the festivities, and Dimitri's will be enhancing their usual splendid menu. Due to a family commitment, I won't be able to be with you this month, but I'm sure a good time will be had by all.

My family and I would like to extend warm wishes for a safe and happy holiday season, and I look forward to another exciting year in 2010!

73 de WD8JMM -AR-

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., **LEARA**, is a not-for-profit [501(c)(3)] organization dedicated to Amateur Radio and Public Service. Club information packets and applications for membership are available from **Marv Grossman, W8AZO, 440-248-0031**, or may be downloaded from our web site at www.leara.org. Annual membership is \$25.00. **LEARA's address** is: LEARA, PO Box 22823, Beachwood, OH 44122-0823.

LEARA is an **ARRL**-affiliated club. When you join or renew the **ARRL**, **LEARA** benefits monetarily if you so through the club. Send **ARRL** Applications/renewals to Club Treasurer Dave Foran WB8APD, 5439 Nan Linn Dr. Willoughby, OH 44094-4365. Make the check payable to **LEARA**, not the **ARRL**.

Membership Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except December at Dimitri's Restaurant, 1830 Snow Rd., Parma, OH (in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, just west of Broadview Road). Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are open to all interested persons. You may attend without eating, but **reservations are required** if you do wish to eat. Call **Marv Grossman, W8AZO at 440-248-0031** to leave a message.

Trustees' Meetings are on the second Saturday of odd numbered months at 9 a.m. at the Parma-Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 2121 Snow Rd., Parma, OH (opposite the Mid-Town Shopping Center). Meetings are open to all current members of LEARA.

Letter From the Editor

Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

As LEARA ends its 40th year as an organized Amateur Radio Club, we need to look back over how the hobby has changed in that time as well as look forward to what we want the club to be in the future.

There is no doubt that LEARA was originally organized around repeaters when repeaters were the newest "craze" in our hobby. With repeaters, local and mobile communications became easier and more commonplace. We could now more easily support public service events such as walk-a-thons, triathlons, marathons and other local activities. Later, low-cost handheld transceivers made these activities even easier to support. Autopatches not only gave us a way to "call home" from the road but also facilitated our interface with police, fire and EMS forces, and later the 911 centers, to report incidents we came across in our travels. LEARA (and other local repeaters) were full of "chatter" from early morning to late at night.

Fast-forward 20 years.... The repeaters are much quieter. The autopatch has been made obsolete by the ubiquitous cellphone. Some groups we used to support with our services now use "direct connect" or "push-to-talk" services provided with their cellphone. We (as well as many public safety entities) have to "sell" our "point-to-multipoint" (where all parties can hear the transmissions) capabilities of conventional radio repeater systems.

Can LEARA survive these changes and the others that are inevitable? What do we want our club to be as it continues to age? How can we get more younger persons involved in Amateur Radio and the club? All of these questions are basic survival questions that need to be answered by each and every club member. LEARA over the past 20 years has broadened its scope from repeaters to more general Ham Radio interests. I believe we must continue to find ways of doing this and our meeting programs of late have reflected this change. Ham Radio isn't just "talking on the radio" any more. We must be more into thinking "outside the box" to provide integrated contingency communications services. This is our challenge! -AR-

LEARA Annual Meeting Report October 27, 2009

The following bylaw amendment proposed by Tom Kimball, KA8BZB, at our September meeting passed unanimously at the Annual Meeting:

MOTION: To Amend the LEARA Bylaws as follows:

By deleting, in its entirety, Article VII Section 2 which reads:

"Section 2. Suspension of the Bylaws on dues (Article I, Section 4) and election of members (Article I, Section 2) at any meeting shall require unanimous consent of the active members present."

By adding the following sentence at the end of the existing Article I, Section 4:

This dues requirement may be waived by action of the Board of Trustees or the membership at any meeting thereof.

First Reading: 9/29/09

Published: October Newsletter

Voted upon: 10/27/09

Trustee ballots were accepted per the bylaws counted per our SOP. Results are posted on page 1 of this issue. On motion of a member, seconded and passed unanimously, the ballots were ordered destroyed. -AR-

76 Repeater Update

The repeater is still undergoing final modifications and adjustments from its temporary site in the Newbury area. It is transmitting at a power level of 175 watts and the duplexer has been installed so that the local receiver is operable with decent sensitivity. Coverage is improved with the relocation of the antenna higher on the tower and most of the voting receivers are being received at that location. The main job remaining is getting the audio levels and equalization adjusted so that the system "sounds" good.

We are still awaiting the final approval to move the repeater to the tower site that has been promised very near to the old hospital site. These things take time, however, so the repeater may be operating from its temporary quarters for some time to come.

Please feel free to use the repeater as much as possible! Ron, K2RJ -AR-

LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information

by David Noeth, KD8ACO

Thanks to all those individuals who participated in the Thursday Night Club Net during the month of October. A new record of participation in recent LEARA history was reached with over one hundred check-ins from forty different stations! Thanks again to one and all for your participation in keeping the net active and alive.

Note: Thursday Night Club Nets have been scheduled for the evenings of Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and New Years Eve.

Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets will be returning on February 17, 2010 on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater and will continue on Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM local time until the last week in October. Everyone is welcome! Skywarn nets may be activated anytime threatening weather is approaching.

Thursday Club Net

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly club net is held every Thursday evening at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. This is an open and informal net intended to provide the opportunity to test radio equipment, promote fellowship among local amateur radio operators, and develop radio traffic handling skills. You do not have to be a member of LEARA to participate.

Since the club net is a practice and informal net, LEARA would like to recognize those who take the time to check in and keep the net active and alive. During the past month, the weekly Thursday Club Net had a total of one-hundred and one (101) check-ins. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Bob AA8BV, Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Ron K2RJ, Gene K8ECL, Mike K8EHP, John KA8GZA, Bill KA8VIT, Bob KA8WQL, Greg KB8BNW, Joe KB8OYS, Greg KB8PEC, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, John KC8FOC, Mark KC8FQV, Sara KC8KSU, Jeannie KC8MNV, Jeanne KC8TJH, David KD8ACO, Keith KD8KBL, Joe KD8MCN, Ken KG8DN, Don KJ5KB, Eric N8AUC, Howie N8CXA, Don N8DJG, Raye N8NAP, Bryan N8OOF, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Bob W2THU, Ernie W8AJZ, Matt W8EBB, Paul W8PJW, Stu W8STU, John WA8LGM, Gary WA8TJL, Carmen WB8SDA, and Alex WD8JMM.

Net Control Stations: Eric N8AUC, David KD8ACO, Ken KG8DN, and Bob W2THU.

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

| | | |
|----------|-------|--------|
| 11/19/09 | Eric | N8AUC |
| 11/26/09 | David | KD8ACO |
| 12/3/09 | Ken | KG8DN |
| 12/10/09 | Bob | W2THU |
| 12/17/09 | Eric | N8AUC |
| 12/24/09 | David | KD8ACO |
| 12/31/09 | Ken | KG8DN |

The feedback received from members regarding the Thursday Club Net promotion has been very encouraging. This promotion encourages participation in both the weekly club net, as well as, the monthly LEARA membership meetings. Specifically, any individual who checks into the Thursday Club Net during a given month will be given one extra door prize ticket at the following month's LEARA club meeting. This extra door prize ticket will be given in addition to any other door prize tickets the individual has already been given. Participation in only one net during the preceding month is required. Participation in the monthly meeting is obviously required.

Saturday SSTV Net

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly slow scan TV net is held every Saturday evening from October through May at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Now is the time to get your SSTV station setup and on the air.

The slow scan TV software recommended is MMSSTV. This free software is available online, just Google MMSSTV for a wealth of information. However, any SSTV program can be used. Are you new to this mode of operation? Contact any of the net control stations for assistance getting started! Even if you don't have a slow scan TV setup yet, you're still welcome to check in to the net just to say hello or to ask for more information about this interesting mode.

Wanted! Net Control Stations

We now have four Net Control Stations for the Thursday evening LEARA Club Net. There's always room for more stations who would like to give it a try.

Any member of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association can be a net control operator for one or all of the nets held on one of the club's repeaters. Never tried it you say? No problem. Now would be a really good time to start. It's as easy as getting in touch with me and we'll schedule you into the rotation. If you should have any questions or requests for assistance to get started, just contact me at one of our club meetings or by using any of my contact information in the membership directory or send me an email at kd8aco@leara.org. Hope to talk with you "on the air" soon! -AR-

Hamfest Listing

6 Dec 2009 L'Anse Creuse ARC

<http://www.n8lc.org>

Talk-In: 147.08 + (PL 100)

Contact: Marty Folz, K8HVI

40360 Ryan Road

Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Phone: 586-268-0544

Email: k8hvi@arrl.net

Mount Clemens (Harrison Twp), MI

L'Anse Creuse High School

38495 L'Anse Creuse Street

Div: Great Lakes

17 Jan 2010 44th Annual Hamfest

Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.hparc.org>

Talk-In: 146.640 (PL 100)

Contact: Mike VanBuren, WD8S

2263 Shevlin Street

Ferndale, MI 48220

Phone: 248-399-7970

Email: wd8s@arrl.net

Hazel Park, MI

Hazel Park High School

23400 Hughes Street

Div: Great Lakes

17 Jan 2010 Sunday Creek Amateur
Radio Federation

Talk-In: 147.150 or 147.225

Contact: Jeramy Duncan, KC8QDQ

10847 Walnut Street

Glouster, OH 45732

Phone: 740-767-2554

Email:

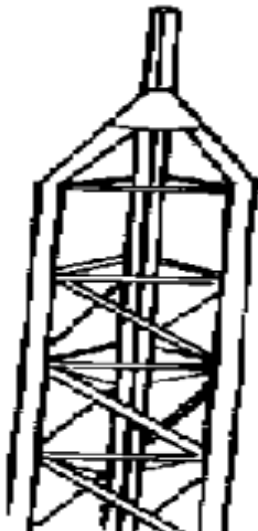
jeramy_duncan30@yahoo.com

Nelsonville, OH

Tri-County Vocational School

15676 State Route 691

Div: Great Lakes



Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

19-Nov-2009

Sponsor: MAHONING VALLEY
ARA

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: JAMES T VIELE

(330)534-1394

Email: W8JV@YAHOO.COM

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: YOUNGSTOWN

STATE UNIVERSITY

WOOD ST - FACILITIES

BUILDING

FOR DIRECTIONS CLICK ON:

WWW.MVARA.ORG

YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44501

01-Dec-2009

Sponsor: CUYAHOGA FALLS
ARC

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: BRUCE M FERRY

(330)929-2766

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: STOW-MUNROE

FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

3512 DARROW RD

[HTTP://WWW.AK8B.US/VE](http://WWW.AK8B.US/VE)

STOW, OH 44224

05-Dec-2009

Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA

Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: SCOTT FARNHAM

(440)256-0320

Email: [SCOTTFARN-](mailto:SCOTTFARNHAM@ROADRUNNER.COM)

HAM@ROADRUNNER.COM

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: KIRTLAND LIBRARY

9267 CHILLICOTHE RD

ROUTE 306

1.7 MI S OF I-90

KIRTLAND, OH 44094

30-Jan-2010

Sponsor: WRECS

Time: 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ROBERT C GAUSS

(330)562-3328

Email: N8ZB@YAHOO.COM

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: BENTLEYVILLE VIL-

LAGE HALL

6253 CHAGRIN RIVER RD

LOOK FOR SIGNS

BENTLEYVILLE, OH 44022



'Leave my stapler alone! Go and get your other glasses!'

MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(7 November 2009 at the Parma-Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library in Parma, Ohio)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

Trustees present: K2RJ, WB8APD, N8XDO, W8AZO, KD8ACO, KC8FOC, N8NAP, WA8TJL, N8AUC, N8OOF, N8YNR, W2THU, WD8JMM. Trustees excused: K8JTK and K8EHP.

Guests: KC8UIX, K8DMT

1. The meeting was called to order at 0903.
2. The Trustees conducted an election of officers by secret ballot. The new officers, selected by majority vote or acclimation are: President: WD8JMM, Vice-Presidents: KD8ACO and N8AUC, Secretary: W2THU, Treasurer: WB8APD, License Trustee: N8AUC, Radio Officers: N8OOF and K2RJ.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting was accepted after making the following corrections: Minute No. 6: change 148.88 to 146.88; Minute No. 8: change "David queried" to "Alex queried" in the second sentence. Minute No. 15: change "LEARA Packer Radio" to "LEARA Packet Radio."
4. Treasurer's Report - WB8APD reported on the money in the bank and funds to be deposited shortly. The club is in good financial footing at this time.
5. Membership Report - W8AZO reported that we have 221 paid up members. 123 are paid up through the end of 2010.
6. Programs for 2010 – W8TAB reported via telephone that the January program is W8KFJ on Software Defined Radios, February is a program on Morse Code and March is tentatively Skywarn but this might not happen this year because Gary Garnet from NWS is considering a countywide program for 2010.
7. Technical Committee Report – N8YNR reported that he was not sure when he would be able to install the 440.40 repeater at his QTH. He still needs to obtain a controller and suitable antenna. WD8JMM expressed his concern that the only way to control the 444.70 repeater is over the air since the phone line has been removed.
8. Status of 146.76 repeater – K2RJ reported that the duplexer and isolator are installed at the temporary site in Newbury. K8SGX is working on equalizing the audio levels from the remote inputs. N8AUC reported that the

site survey at the new location has not yet been completed, so that we don't have final permission or an installation date. The new repeater will not have autopatch and the need for a courtesy tone is still up for discussion.

9. Holiday Party Dinner – N8XDO reported that the menu and the cost to the members will be the same as last year. The Board unanimously approved door prizes as follows: First is a \$100.00 gift card. Second and Third are \$50.00 gift cards. Any tie will be resolved by a sudden death playoff so there is only one winner per prize.

10. Online Membership and Electronic Balloting – N8YNR stated that he hoped to have a demonstration of electronic voting at the next Trustee's meeting. He also wants to enable Paypal as an additional method for the club to collect dues. N8AUC stated that he doesn't want to give up the \$1.10 fee for a Paypal renewal. N8XDO said that this is better than not getting a renewal from a member who doesn't want to write a check. N8OOF stated that he would like to see LEARA send out renewal notices via email several times before we send a written request to a member. WD8JMM said that he will have a proposal for electronic voting by the next meeting and WB8APD said that he would do the same for electronic voting.

11. Sale of RLC-3 and other items – N8NAP reported that he saw an RLC-3 for sale on the internet for \$1300. Collective memory was that the club paid about \$3,000.00 for the controller with the additional boards. N8OOF said that we should be sure that we will not be setting up a multi repeater site again where we would need the RLC-3 before we decide to sell it. The consensus was to see how much we can get for it.



LEARA is an Affiliated Club of the ARRL. If LEARA members join or renew their ARRL membership through the club, the LEARA treasury gets to "pocket" a portion of your dues. Another neat way to support your local club!

(Continued from page 6)

12. Need to amend bylaws to clarify that Trustees Emeriti do not pay dues? – N8NAP was assured that the status of Trustee Emeritus implies lifetime membership with no dues requirement. In any event, the bylaw committee can look into this matter if necessary.

13. New Business – WA8TJL reported that he is ready to teach the entry level Technician class in January, but was concerned over the poor attendance last year. There was a discussion as to the best way to promote LEARA classes. N8YNR suggested publicizing in the area newspapers. KD8ACO reminded us that we are trying to attract young people into the hobby and they don't necessarily get their news from the print medium. He said we need to publicize our classes at schools and libraries. N8OOF suggested that we prepare a ham radio exhibit for library display cases. W8AZO told him to contact Dee Logan, W1HEO, of the Ham Radio Promotion Project.

N8NAP moved that the club give a free membership to anyone who takes our classes and passes the FCC exam. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 1129. Respectfully submitted

Robert M. Winston W2THU
Recording Secretary

-AR-

Radio Club of America Celebrates Centennial

W2RCA Special Event Station

by Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ, Director

The Radio Club of America, the country's oldest professional wireless club, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year with a two-day special Centennial Gala event – slated for Nov. 20-21, 2009 – at the Georgetown University Conference Center and Hotel in Washington, D.C., highlighted by a variety of panel sessions focusing on current and historical topics in the fields of broadcast radio and RF communications. Beginning at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21, and lasting until 4 p.m., panelists participating in the six sessions will discuss everything from amateur radio education in the classroom to what's happening with mesh networks.

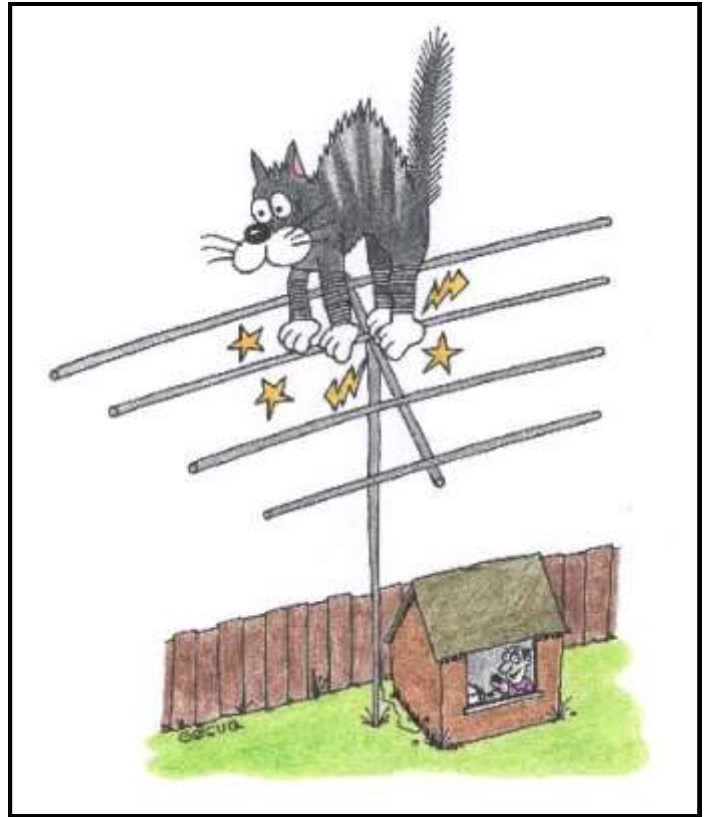
In addition, Radio Club members will be operating an Amateur Radio Special Event Station, W2RCA. The Club will be running a station remotely via an Internet connection, and several Radio Club members not attending the Centennial Gala will be operating with the W2RCA call-sign from their home stations from Friday afternoon 1900Z (Nov. 20) through Sunday afternoon 1900Z (Nov. 22). Operations will be on CW and SSB on 80 thru 20 (and higher if the bands open!) -AR-



QLF— "Try sending with your LEFT foot!"



'This rig is great! I can work Australia on the third harmonic!'



'What? You say there's hissing on my signal?'

LEARA Takes December Off!

Remember that LEARA has no newsletter or meeting in the month of December. This allows all to fully enjoy their holiday season.

See You in 2010!

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

- 40 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

VOICE REPEATERS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 146.76/R- | • Highland Hills (Use 110.9 Hz tone for remote inputs in Lakewood, Newbury & Willoughby) |
| 146.88/R- IRLP | • Lakewood (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) IRLP Node 4282 |
| 224.90/R- | • Lakewood (141.3 Hz tone) |
| 444.40/R+ | • Highland Hills (131.8 Hz tone) |
| 444.70/R+ | • Lakewood (131.8 Hz tone) |
- (.76, .88, .90 and .70 offer emergency and member-only autopatch lines.)

PACKET NODES: CLE1 145.01 MHz: CLE5 145.05 MHz: CLEV220 223.70 MHz

These nodes are part of the Cleveland Net Cluster in K8EIW's backbone system.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| GENERAL: NBRY | • 145.07 MHz & 223.70 MHz (KA-NODE) |
| NBRYX | • 145.07 MHz ⇔ 223.70 MHz Gateway |
| LEARA | • 145.07 MHz & 223.70 MHz PBBS |

INTERNET:

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