



The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Bryan A. Torok, N8OOF

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNV

This Month's Meeting

Slow Scan TV

**Presented by Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT
and Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL**

Tuesday, January 29, 2002

This month's meeting is a presentation by LEARA's newest Trustee, Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, and Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, on Slow Scan Television (SSTV) as done on 2-meters FM. This presentation will cover some of the history of SSTV, its technical aspects, equipment and operating procedures, the LEARA SSTV net and culminating with a live SSTV demonstration.

Bill and Mike have been running the LEARA SSTV net on Saturday nights from 10 PM until midnight on the 146.88 repeater. Participants in the net send and receive images from their computers via SSTV. Don't miss this opportunity to learn all about sending and receiving images via SSTV on our 2-meter repeaters.

The meeting will be at Dimitri's Restaurant in the Mid-Town Shopping Center at Snow and Broadview Rds.

and is open to all. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the program will start at 7:30 PM. **If you plan to eat, reservations are required!** Restaurant service is available only for those who purchase dinner. If you are attending the meeting only, kindly purchase beverages at the bar and bring them to your table.

The dinner menu will consist of Steak, Broiled Boston Scrod, or Chicken Parmigiana for \$14.50. Also available is a vegetable and pasta dish for those who prefer a meatless dinner. The dinner includes a salad, main course, dessert, ice tea or coffee, and gratuity (please note, bar service and soft drinks are not included).

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY 11:00 AM OF THE MEETING DATE. Please call in your reservation and your menu choice to Marv Grossman, W8AZO, at **440-248-0031** or leave a message on the LEARA information and voice mail line at **440-942-0154**.

January, 2002

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Are your Dues Paid?

Check the mailing label, and read "Renewals, Proxies..." on page 4.

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de N8AUC . . .



Snow is flying, the holidays are over, and it's only six months until Field Day!!!

It's hard to think of summer in January, but looking forward always makes things a little easier. I saw the field day results for 2001 in QST the other day, and we did pretty well. Right about the middle of the pack. Not bad for a first attempt. This year, with more of you participating, we'll do even better.



In the mean time, there are public service events to look forward to, and Hamfest season starts in February, you know. The Mansfield Hamfest is always around Valentine's Day. The Ohio Winter Rally is coming up. Check with Tom, KA8BZB for info on the rally. [Ed. note: Ken Swarm, N8PPT, is coordinating the rally this year, see page 5.] That is a fun event. What possesses people to take perfectly fine cars out for a spin (literally) on untreated backcountry roads in the dead of winter escapes me. But it sure is fun to watch their antics. Rumor has it that Tom and Elizabeth are actually going to be contestants in this year's event. Don't miss it.

Don't forget the Westlake Soccer Tournament on Memorial Day weekend!!! (Robin made me put that in!!!)

Have you heard the strange sounds coming from the 88 repeater on Saturday nights? It's not an alien invasion, and (sorry PQM) Art Bell has nothing to do with it. It's the new LEARA SSTV (Slow Scan Television) net. Those noises are color pictures being transmitted over the air. I've tried it, and it's very cool. If you've got a computer with a sound card, you're all set to go. Add a little software (it's free), a cable from the PC to your rig, and you too can be playing right along. In fact, Bill KA8VIT and Mike KC8OWL will be presenting the meeting program on the 29th of January on just this topic. Complete with a live demo. It just might amaze you what can be done with a laptop (or a desktop) computer and an HT. (PSK31 anyone???) Don't miss the meeting on the 29th at Dimitri's!!!

Have you renewed your LEARA membership yet??? Check the mailing label on this issue of the newsletter. If you haven't renewed yet, you'll want to make sure that you do. And please remember to submit your proxy vote on the 501c3 issue. I don't care if you're for it, or against it, but remember to vote. And if you change your mind, you can change your vote as many times as you want, until May 2002. Just remember to sign and date your proxy, and when the votes are finally tallied, your most recent vote is the one that will be counted.

See you all at the meeting on the 29th at Dimitri's – until then 73 de N8AUC – da prez

LEARA is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to Amateur Radio and to Public Service. Club information packets and applications for membership are available from **Marv Grossman, W8AZO, 440-248-0031**, via voice mail at **440-942-0154**, or may be downloaded from our web site at **www.apk.net/leara**. Annual membership is \$18.00. **LEARA's address** is: LEARA, PO Box 22823, Beachwood, OH 44122-0823.

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 PM. The regular meeting begins at 7:30 PM. 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** or leave a message on the LEARA voice mail line at **440-942-0154**.

Trustees' Meetings are held on the second Saturday of odd numbered months at 9:00 AM 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.

Association News

The Editor's Rant

Last issue I thanked those who have contributed to the newsletter since I became editor. For those whose names were not on that list, now it's your turn. Maybe you just need a few ideas, or a gentle nudge. So here are some ways you can contribute.

Got a gripe or a question? Maybe just something you want to get off of your chest? Write it up and send it to me. In a club of this size there surely is someone who has had the same thought or the same problem. And, there is probably someone out there who has a solution for your problem.

Have you been to a hamfest lately? Did you find something special or get a great bargain? How was it? Better or worse than last year? Well, how about writing up a short article, even a few paragraphs would do, on your experience.

How about that public service event you attended recently? Was it fun? Did anything exciting happen? Did the hams make a real contribution, perhaps in some special way, going above and beyond the call of duty? Or, maybe you have an idea on how to improve it. Well, sit down and write it up!

Have you attended a LEARA meeting lately, or for that matter, maybe another club's meeting? Was it interesting? Was it well or poorly attended? If it was poorly attended, what would have made it better? I would very much like to find someone who could give a little recap on the LEARA meeting programs, even if he or she can't do it every month.

Do you have a camera? I would really like to publish pictures of hams participating at the meetings and public service events that we do. The new digital cameras are coming down in price and getting better all the time. Snap a few pictures, load them in your computer, and attach them to an e-mail. Simple, and you don't have to pay for film or processing. Or, shoot some snapshots with your regular camera and get the film to me, I'll see to it that you get reimbursed for the film. And, you'll get your name in the newsletter.

So, you see, this is YOUR newsletter. With just a few minutes of your time, it will be a great newsletter.

de Bryan, N8OOF

November's Meeting

The November meeting was our traditional Holiday Social Meeting. The Trustees again decided to provide some very special door prizes, no doors and no lemons! The Holiday Social Meeting was well attended and a good time for all those who were there.

Door Prize Winners

First Place was a NEW RADIO, an ICOM IC-207H dual-band mobile radio won by:

Jim Ozello, N8XDO



Second Place was a \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE redeemable at Amateur Electronic Supply won by:



Bill Downey, N8UPZ



Third and Fourth Place prizes were one-year memberships in the ARRL valued at \$39 won by:

Jerry Kolenich, K8VEN

John C. Gibbons, N8OBJ

101 Piece Universal Driver Bit Set won by:

Bob Mervis, W8RLM



Free Dinner won by:

Bryan Torok, N8OOF

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Association News

SSTV Net on the .88 Repeater

Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, and a growing number of other hams have been participating a Slow Scan Television (SSTV) net on the 146.88 repeater at 10:00 PM on Sunday evenings. The results they've achieved are truly impressive. More details and pictures are available at www.qsl.net/ka8vit. Check out the VHF-SSTV link and the 2-Meter FM SSTV Net Pictures link. Better yet, come to this month's meeting where Bill and Mike will be giving a live demonstration of this technology in action.



The above pictures are examples of SSTV images sent during a recent 2-Meter FM net. You can find more of these images on the web site as well as a link to download the MMSSTV software for FREE.

Welcome to the Club

LEARA proudly welcomes the following hams who recently joined LEARA and who have been formally approved by the LEARA Trustees.

Ralph Breschini, W8BHJ
Carol Dolgosh, WB8SYD
Ted A. Knyszek, KC8CUJ
Greg Griffin, KA8BNJ
Myron F. Levenson, N8FVP

All will be fine additions to our Association. If you hear them on the air, say hello and make them welcome.

Renewals, Proxies, and the ARRL

The Trustees urge all members who have not done so to please mark your proxy (regarding amending LEARA's Articles of Incorporation) for or against, sign and date it, and send it to the Association P.O. Box.

Please note: As the proxy is on the back of the renewal form, members may submit the proxy without renewing or renew without signing the proxy. As always, members are encouraged to renew (or join) their ARRL membership at the same time. Additional renewal forms, proxies, and ARRL forms are available from Marv Grossman, W8AZO.

Copier Repair Person Needed

LEARA has recently had the good fortune to be the recipient of a donated large commercial photocopier. This copier will be residing in South Euclid at the publisher's home and will be used to produce the newsletter. As all copiers need periodic maintenance and repairs, we are looking for a person, or persons, who would be willing to occasionally donate some time in the effort to keep the copier working properly. Anyone interested in volunteering to help keep the copier working should contact our publisher, Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNV, at (216) 382-0484.

Looking Forward

January 29 — Slow Scan TV by Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, and Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL.

February 26 — ARRL (Tentative)

March 9 — Trustees' Meeting

See page two for details.

March 26 — Skywarn Spotter Training Meeting

Remember... Check your expiration date on the mailing label. If it shows your membership as expired, send in your renewal...

Today!! If you have not done so, please mark the proxy on the back of the renewal form, sign, date it, and return it with the renewal.

Public Service

Volunteers Needed for Communications for Great Lakes Search/Rescue

Steven M. Hnatiak, KC8IVD

Amateur Radio Operators who wish to VOLUNTEER to help in providing communications for the upcoming year (2002) for the Great Lakes of Ohio Search/Rescue K-9 Team (GLSAR) PLEASE RESPOND to this message.

We need radio operators to provide base operations, logging results of K-9 search teams in locating missing persons. GLSAR will provide the blank logs and explain what information needs to be placed in these logs.

We need radio operators to walk with the K-9 teams while searching for missing persons, providing information to base operations of the results of areas searched, persons found, and if any medical assistance is needed.

Amateur radio operators need to bring VHF/UHF MOBILE RADIO'S and/or HTs, extra batteries, antennas, coax, as well as suitable clothing (winter coat, rain gear, boots, compass, etc.).

Great Lakes of Ohio Search/Rescue K-9 Team, Inc. is a non-profit organization that searches for missing persons ONLY when contacted by a local Police/Fire Departments.

Due to liability, a waiver needs to be signed by ALL amateur radio operators who volunteer to help the Great Lakes Of Ohio Search/Rescue K-9 Team, Inc. whether helping at monthly training drills or actual Search/Rescue missions.

GLSAR trains every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 7:00 PM at the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Brecksville Unit) located at 10,000 Brecksville Rd. (Rt. 21) and Miller Rd., Brecksville, Ohio.

***** NOTICE *****

On January 19, 2002 GLSAR will be conducting a MONTHLY drill at the Portage Lakes Ohio State Park at 10:00 AM to ????. The Park is located in southern Summit County just south of Akron, Ohio off of Rt. 93, Manchester Rd. south of Rt. 619. **AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WILL BE NEEDED DUE TO THE LARGE AREA COVERED DURING THIS DRILL.**

If interested contact Steven M. Hnatiak, KC8IVD, via e-mail at kc8ivd@juno.com or hampeacemaker@aol.com or telephone at work, Cleveland area, 440-546-3030 ext. 6200 and leave message with VA Police officer, or home, Akron area, 330-733-3324 and leave message on voice mail.

The Ohio Winter Rally

The Ohio Winter Rally will be held the evening of February 2, 2002, starting from the Days Inn, Rt. 306 and I-90, 4145 State Route 306, Willoughby, OH 44094, telephone 440-946-0500. Rally registration begins at 3:00 PM with the car #1 starting at 5:01 PM. Car #1 should be returning about 1:00 AM. Contact Ken Swarm, N8PPT, at kswarm_2000@yahoo.com or telephone 440-243-3451.

Please check the weekly LEARA net, Thursdays at 8:00 PM on the 146.76 repeater for updated information.

Call for Public Service Information

Your friendly newsletter editor is putting together the 2002 public service listing. If you would like to have your event listed, please send the information ASAP, preferably at least two months prior to the event. Any info you have at this time would be appreciated. However, we will eventually need the name of the event, the date, time, duration, location, number of hams needed, and any special qualifications and/or equipment required.

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LEARA Feature

Counterpoise Kit for FT-817 with ATX-Walkabout Antenna

Dale E. Reed, W8ABZ, w8abz@core.com

I am one of the many hams who has purchased the Yaesu FT-817 Backpack Portable and found that it, indeed, brings the fun back into amateur radio. I carry it with me in my computer bag daily to and from work. And my notebook PC has RITTY, ChromaPix, DigiPan, Stream, AGWPE, WinAPRS and several other ham applications loaded, so I'm pretty much always ready for emergency or non-emergency (like demonstration) operations. And with a few presentations (in Microsoft PowerPoint) always at the ready, I've managed to get tapped to speak at a couple of club meetings while on business travel!

One of the items that completes the portable setup is the Watson ATX-Walkabout antenna. I found out about this antenna after reading about SV1UY's record-breaking pedestrian mobile QRP contact in the e-mail ARRL Letter. I went to check out Demetre's web site (<http://www.athnet.ampr.org/~sv1uy>), and there he mentioned this antenna. It's available at the Waters & Stanton PLC web site (<http://www.wsplc.com>).

The ATX-Walkabout looks like a little brother to the Outbacker series of antennas. I've used the Outbacker Perth Plus and Outreach, both excellent antennas. The ATX has a similar tap arrangement, but has a BNC connector on the bottom instead of the 3/8-24 threads, and has a telescoping upper part instead of a whip. The whole thing breaks down to about a foot long and easily fits in the computer bag.

The manufacturer of this antenna recommends (for very good reason, right Kurt?) that a counterpoise be attached to the ground lug of the FT-817 for best operation. The length of the counterpoise wire, of course, depends on the frequency, and a table of lengths vs. bands is provided with the antenna.

Rather than carry all those lengths of wire, I decided that something with a few wire segments with quick disconnects would roll up a lot smaller. The trick was figuring out a small set of wire lengths that would add to give all the lengths needed. I don't claim to have the

"mathematically optimal" set of lengths, but below is the design I came up with.

These are the lengths of the wire segments and the color coding of the quick-disconnect connectors:

Black connectors	10"	Green connectors	93"
Red connectors	33"	Blue connectors	120"
Yellow connectors	77"	White connectors	296"

...plus a very short wire with a spade lug to a connector, which I leave on the back of the radio always ready.

For a given band, the length of the counterpoise = 180 feet/freq. (MHz). (Yes, it's shorter than a quarter wave. See the explanation at the W&S web site.) All combinations work out to the length recommended by the manufacturer except as shown in the table on the next page.



Notice how you never have more than two wire segments until you get to 75/80m. Of course, other combinations can be assembled for SWL or other purposes. The whole package of wires and connectors rolls up to about the size of a small donut or bagel.

I used Anderson Powerpole connectors because they are available with the required shell colors, they are "genderless", but mostly because they are

very well engineered. They are popular with search-and-rescue operations and local ARES groups, as I learned from the APRS SIG at tapr.org -- repeatedly! (The Powerpole connectors seem to be a recurring topic of heated debate on the SIG for some reason... :-)

Of course, I wouldn't suggest this design if I hadn't tried it. A 5-9 report from S57IIO on 15 meters the first week-end of May from the picnic table in my backyard is typical.

There's only one other thing I want to add to this kit. I'd like to get some small clips (or maybe hook/loop fastener straps in kind of an "H" shape — these could be used for rolling up the wires too!) to use for locking the connectors together so you don't lose most of the wire when you drop it out that hotel window!

LEARA Feature

Band	Wire Segments	Length	Mfr. recommended
6m	Black + Red	43"	same
10m	Yellow	77"	same
12m	Black + Yellow	87"	same
15m	Black + Green	103"	same
17m	Blue	120"	same
20m	Blue + Red	153"	154"
30m	Blue + Green	213"	216"
40m Phone	White	296"	not spec'd
40m CW	White + Black	306"	309"
75m G Phone	All except Yellow	552"	not spec'd
75m A/E Phone	All except Black and Red	586"	not spec'd
80m Data/ Novice	All except Red	596"	not spec'd
80m CW	All except Black	619"	618"

(U.S. bandplan shown)

Other quick disconnects can be used, but I strongly recommend the Anderson Powerpole connectors for repeatedly reliable connections and ease of color-coding. The counterpoise wires and a copy of the color chart above, tucked in a small zipper-locked plastic freezer bag, now have a permanent place in my portable station. I hope you will find them useful too!

[Attached is a photo of the FT-817, the ATX antenna (two pieces, coil/tap unit and separate telescoping whip), and the Counterpoise Kit. Unfortunately I had no yellow Powerpole connector shells, so I used red ones for the wire that should have yellow shells. Hey, it's just a prototype! BTW, the green connectors are very dark green, and they look almost black in the photo, but they are, in fact, green.]

Dale, W8ABZ, w8abz@core.com
Cleveland Heights, Ohio USA
EN91

Skywarn Changes

Bill Hess, K8SGX

There's been a "changing of the guard" of the ham operators who handle severe weather traffic at the National Weather Service for Skywarn backbone communications. Only problem is, there's no new guard. That's where you come in. The entire former staff, all of whom have resigned, needs to be replaced. The function they perform is to communicate information about severe weather, mainly via the six-meter backbone repeater, between the weather forecasters and each of the six district nets that comprise the 30-county Northeast Ohio County Warning Area. This involves taking information gathered by the district nets and relaying it to the meteorologists. This information can be used make the final determination to issue a severe thunderstorm or tornado warning.

Since the entire previous staff of hams has resigned, everyone will do their best to not subject new hams who choose to fill this position to the politics of the previous regime. Those hams who may be interested in participating will be coached through training for the position so there should hopefully be a minimum of feeling awkward or not knowing what to do and how to do it. To ultimately be comfortable doing this job, you should be an operator who does not feel stressed at the microphone if there is a lot of traffic to be handled in a short period of time. Although there are many times when there is little to do, there are those circumstances when it can be described as hectic when severe weather is in multiple areas at the same time.

Since severe weather occurs at any time of day or night, it would be very desirable to locate operators, possibly hams who are retired, who can fill these positions during the regular workday when many of us are at work. Operators for all other times of the day and night are also in great need. If you are interested in participating, there will be an introductory training/get acquainted session at NWS during the beginning of March.

Editor's Note: Any ham who is interested in volunteering at NWS need not be a LEARA member or member of any group. Those who are interested should call Gary Garnet at NWS at 216-265-2370, Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

For Sale

Yaesu FT-212RH 2-meter mobile

5/45 watt transceiver, Includes MH-15C8 microphone with DTMF and keypad, Yaesu mod book, operator's manual, circuit diagram, block diagram, all cables and mounting hardware. Condition is LIKE NEW. Also some miscellaneous 'stuff' connectors, etc. \$325 or best offer.

Larson Dual-Band Antenna

Complete with magnetic mount. \$65

For above items contact Robert "Skip" Vance, N8THN, at 440-285-4813

Yaesu FT-990AC H.F.

Transceiver

with antenna tuner and AC power supply built in, also DC cord and hand microphone included. \$1,300

Alpha-Delta "VRC"

console active speaker, with variable bandwidth, notch-filter, and peaking filter. \$200

Bird 43 Watt Meter

with RF sampler built in, along with three slugs. \$350

For above items contact Jeff Covelli, WA8SAJ, at 440-951-6406 or e-mail at wa8saj@ncweb.com

Yaesu FT-736R Transceiver

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Call John C. Gibbons, N8OBJ, at 330-468-2217.

Pikes Peak, CO

View From the Peak



George Hinds, N8CIX/O

For Road Travelers...

A tip on where to find road/weather condition reports when you're traveling outside of your home region radio stations. When you're approaching a large city, no road or weather is being discussed on local repeaters, and all you see are taillights reading "STOP" ahead, a reference to the "dope sheet" you printed out earlier from this site could be very handy. It's <http://jersey.net/~khjc/trafficreport.htm> and they are seeking input from major cities through volunteers furnishing radio station data including call letters, frequencies and time of road/weather broadcasts. Give it a look-see....

Amateur Radio Public Service

What it says is what it means. Surely of great value to our nation. Radio and TV reports have noted services performed by ham radio operators on and after 9-11. And not confined to New York alone. Web pages of major newspapers nationwide tell of individual and club service performed within and outside of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Hams and the amateur radio service are recognized in the Pikes Peak region. With that recognition now, as never before, comes the demand from officials for "Official ID Badges" to be displayed when called out for service. So we who are ARES members marched in for "mug shots" and ID papers. The reason: this is a "military" city – with the Air Force Academy, Peterson Air Force Base, North American Air Defense Command (NORAD), the Aerospace Command and the army's Fort Carson. In all but a few government places and every military site, heightened security now can mean "no admission" even when called out unless you have "badge" ID. We may not be an "armed camp" exclusively, but official "Alerts" really grab the attention of government and military here in the Colorado Springs area.

See The Funny "Antenna" In The Bush!

No, son – that's not a "funny" antenna – it's the headgear on a MOOSE! I've grown accustomed to a bear roaming around the yard, and such critters as fox, raccoons, deer and an occasional mountain lion. But a moose? This isn't Yellowstone! Well, this moose is not in my yard, but in our city park down the road. Since Dec. 10th Colorado Springs has been enriched by a huge moose in residence. He's found a wealth of grass and willow branches by the creek to munch on and admirers to take his picture, so why should he leave? I'm writing this on January 2nd and he's still at home in the park... this sure is different from my previous home in Westlake, OH.

73, George (gehinds@juno.com)

2002 Hamfest Listing

January	27 - Dover, OH kb8wfn@tusco.net OH National Guard Armory 2800 N. Wooster Ave.	740-922-4454 TI: 146.730-
February	3 - Northern Ohio ARS Email: noars@qsl.net Free pancake/sausage breakfast w/ admission Gargus Hall, 1965 N. Ridge Rd. Lorain, OH	216-696-5709 TI: 146.700-
	10 - Mansfield, OH www.maser.org	419-522-9893 n8sy@arrl.net
	24 - Cuyahoga Falls ARC Emidios Party Center 48 E. Bath Rd.	330-688-2013

Fox (hidden transmitter) Hunts

Ashtabula County Amateur Radio Club (ACARC) holds hunts every Sunday at 4:00 PM. Hunt territory is the northern half of Ashtabula County, from Jefferson north. Mandatory check in is on 146.715(-) repeater. Hunt frequency is 146.415 simplex. Start from anywhere. For more information, contact Joe, KC8DBT; Bob, WD8PVB; or Dick, KC8FNJ on ACARC repeater, or e-mail Dick (rmadison@suite224.net)

Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio (CFARC) holds semi-monthly foxhunts on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 PM starting from the Scout House in Silver Lake, Ohio, located on Church St. a block south of Rt. 59, Kent Rd. The talk-in frequency is 147.27+, and the hunt frequency is 147.555 simplex.

Lake County Amateur Radio Association (LCARA) 2 meter foxhunt starts at Concord Township park which is located at Painesville-Ravenna Road and Concord-Hambden Road (608), just east of Renaissance Quail Hollow Inn & Golf Course. Talk-in is the Painesville repeater 147.21+.

LCARA foxhunts are held on Friday evenings and start at 7:00 PM. Following the foxhunt is a friendly get-together at a local restaurant. In general, LCARA foxhunts are held every third or fourth Friday.

Western Reserve Emergency Communications (WRECS) holds foxhunts which start from Tanglewood Square Shopping Center, on Rt. 306 just north of Rt. 422. Talk-in is on the 147.060+ repeater. Further information is available from Bill Takacs, K8VP, at 440-543-4991 or e-mail btakacs@nccw.net. The hunts are held monthly on the second Thursday, starting at 7:00 PM.

Information and updates on area foxhunts are also available on the internet by signing up for the neohfoxhunt mailing list at: <http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/neohfoxhunt>

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
1/13	Independence	Gary Dewey	(216) 642-1399
1/22	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
2/2	Wickliffe	Scott Farnham	(440) 256-0320
2/17	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
3/10	Independence	Gary Dewey	(216) 642-1399
3/17	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
3/24	Wickliffe	Scott Farnham	(440) 256-0320 (At the Lake County/Madison Hamfest)
4/21	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
5/12	Independence	Gary Dewey	(216) 642-1399
5/19	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
6/1	Wickliffe	Scott Farnham	(440) 256-0320

Elyria - Red Cross Building, 2929 West River Rd., Elyria, OH. Tests are given at 1:00 PM Park in the rear of the building and enter through the back door.

Independence - Independence Town Hall, 6652 Brecks-ville Rd. Doors open at 9:00 AM. Pre-registration is appreciated one week prior to test date, although walk-ins are welcome.

Wickliffe - Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 28940 Euclid Avenue. For reservations by mail, write to Scott Farnham, 10418 Briar Hill Drive, Kirtland OH 44094-9464. Include a 610 form, a copy of current license, and a check for \$10.00 written out to "ARRL/VEC". Walk-ins are welcome. All other exams begin at 1:00 PM. Do NOT call the store for information on VE testing.

****HAMFESTS** - Many hamfests provide VE testing.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEST CANDIDATES

To qualify for VE testing you must bring the original and copies of your current license and CSCE forms (if applicable), proof of identity, i.e., photo ID, or two other forms of identification, and the examination fee. ARRL VEC's exam fees have increased to \$10.00. Check with the contact person in advance for specific testing site requirements.

All VECs have agreed to adopt the policy requiring CSCE forms to be signed by any applicant receiving CSCE credit. Make sure you sign your CSCE before your copy is removed from the carbon copies that are used for processing your license or upgrade.

Those requiring special consideration, such as Braille exams or special hearing equipment for CW testing, should contact the testing organizers at least two weeks before the test session.

LEARA

PO Box 22823
Beachwood OH 44122-0823

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LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

VOICE REPEATERS:

53.230/R-
146.76/R-
146.88/R-
224.90/R-
444.40/R+
444.70/R+

- Highland Hills (136.5 Hz tone)
 - Highland Hills (Use 110.9 Hz tone for remote inputs in Lakewood, Newbury & Willoughby)
 - Lakewood (May require 110.9 Hz tone)
 - Lakewood (141.3 Hz tone)
 - Highland Hills (131.8 Hz tone)
 - 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
NBRYX
LEARA

- 145.07 MHz & 223.70 MHz (KA-NODE)
- 145.07 MHz ↔ 223.70 MHz Gateway
- 145.07 MHz & 223.70 MHz PBBS

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