



The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Bryan A. Torok, N8OOF

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

This Month's Meeting

Skywarn Spotter Training

Presented by Gary Garnet, NWS

Tuesday, March 26, 2002

It's that time of year again, with Spring just around the corner and the start of Ohio's wild weather season. Also at this time of year is our annual Skywarn Spotter Training meeting, presented by Gary Garnet, the Warning Co-ordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Cleveland and the head of the Skywarn program for Northern Ohio.



This year's training will feature the multimedia system used in previous years along with more video and other additions and updates. It will also include an all new amateur radio section featuring a

recorded Skywarn net operation from the Dallas/Fort Worth area. This net was recorded while they had a tornado on the ground. The presentation will include maps and graphics of the area.

The training is also interactive, allowing input from the audience and will run a full ninety minutes. Following the training, Mr. Garnett will be enrolling volunteer Skywarn spotters and also taking names of those interested in volunteering at the NWS office during severe weather.

For complete meeting information, please see page 3.

March, 2002

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**This could be
your last
newsletter!**

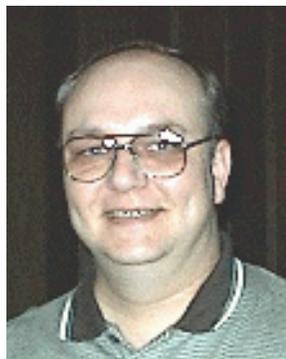
**Check the mailing
label, and read
"Renewals, Proxies..."
on page 3.**

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de N8AUC . . .



Looks like this year is one where winter decided to arrive late, and stick around when it did show up. It's snowing again, but Saturday was nice. Go figure. Weather like this was when you wanted to have an old tube rig in the shack for extra heat. This is where the old saying came from about warming your feet over the finals. This also is where the slang term "foot warmer" came from in reference to a linear amplifier. Just a bit of historical trivia for the new folks.



If you missed the February Meeting, ARRL Night with Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips, you should be kicking yourself right about now. Joe came up from Cincinnati to spend the evening with us. His presentation was informal and informative. In a nutshell Joe talked about where we are now with respect to activities at ARRL-HQ, and where we are going in the future. It wasn't just a "rah-rah join the ARRL" message. But, if you're not an ARRL member yet, I believe you should consider joining. The ARRL may not be the best at everything, but they are the only credible voice we have lobbying for ham radio interests on Capitol Hill. It really is more than just a subscription to QST. Like many of you, I find the entry of politics into ham radio distasteful, and it really

shouldn't come into ham radio at all. But other entities out there with political and lobbying clout, and a financial interest behind them are constantly eyeing the spectrum real estate that we occupy, and unless we fight fire with fire (politically anyways) ham radio will lose, and lose big time. If ham radio loses, you and I lose. And I'm not going down without a fight. Are you?

Catch your breath now, because next month starts public service event season! Two marathon races (CVS and GCOM) are coming up, the Westlake Soccer Tournament, and later in the summer is Pedal to the Point along with an assortment of others (which escape me at the moment). We really do need your help with these, and besides they are fun. I guarantee you that if they weren't fun, I probably wouldn't do them. So stay tuned for further details and plan on joining in on the fun.

Field day is coming!!! Don't miss that either!!! (Man, I love Field Day!)

Next month's meeting is Skywarn night! Gary Garnet from NWS Cleveland will be holding spotter training at the March LEARA meeting. This is one of our best-attended meetings, and if you want to have a good seat (or a seat at all for that matter) you should plan on having dinner with us. Dimitri's Restaurant in the Midtown Shopping Center in Parma is the location. Dinner at 6:30, the program at 7:30-ish on Tuesday March 26th. Be there or be square!!

73 de N8AUC

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 Midtown 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.

Editor's Rant — An Opinion

Before I dive into this topic, I just want to make perfectly clear that, as the headline says, this is an opinion. What follows are my thoughts, with a few supporting facts sprinkled in. Yours may differ; as always, all are welcome to offer a rebuttal.

As most of you know by now, for some time I have been championing the cause of LEARA becoming tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. This, as was expressed to me by an IRS employee, is the "gold standard" of tax-exempt status. It is the most universally accepted proof that an organization is truly set up in a non-profit manner.

While most of you have responded positively to this effort, some have opposed this. In trying to gain an understanding about this opposition, I've had discussions with some of those opposed. Sometimes there was a simple misunderstanding, readily cleared up. In other instances I've found philosophical differences that are harder to reconcile.

At the bottom of one of these differences is the notion that somehow, for LEARA to attain 501(c)(3) status is under-handed, sneaky, immoral, or just plain wrong, as if we are not really qualified for that status and are out to cheat the government in some way. In particular, some members are concerned that amateur radio is not an activity specifically mentioned in the IRS or United States Postal Service (USPS) regulations. They think that we would have to lie about or distort the nature of LEARA's activities to qualify for 501(c)(3) status.

I emphatically and absolutely do not think this is the case. In researching this issue I spoke with officials at both the IRS and USPS, officials who routinely deal with nonprofit organizations. Now, most of the public tends to have little awareness

of what we do, and equates us with the negative aspects of CB radio, and knowing that, I was a little uncertain how these officials might respond. As it happens, neither of them had any such misunderstanding, and in fact gave very positive responses to my inquiries about amateur radio. The gist of their responses was, "We know about ham radio, you're the folks who help out in disasters like hurricanes and tornados. We classify you as charitable or philanthropic because you help people and because you help relieve the burden on the government." And that is, in fact, what we do, both as a Skywarn affiliate and with our numerous public service activities, almost every month of every year. No lie, no cheating about that!

And here's the icing on the cake for this little rant: Many years ago noted American jurist, Learned Hand, (who was often called the "tenth justice of the Supreme Court") wrote "Anyone may so arrange his affairs that his taxes shall be as low as possible; he is not bound to choose that pattern which will best pay the Treasury; there is not even a patriotic duty to increase one's taxes."

March Meeting Info

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**.

Renewals, Proxies, and the ARRL

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. If it shows that your membership is expired, this will be your last newsletter. Those who receive the newsletter electronically and are unsure of their dues status are urged to contact Marv, W8AZO. If your membership is expired, please send your renewal today.

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. **Regardless of how you vote, we need to have your proxy returned.** Thank you for your cooperation.

Additional renewal forms, proxies, and ARRL forms are available from Marv Grossman, W8AZO, as shown above in the March Meeting Info.

February's Meeting — The ARRL and the Future of Amateur Radio

February's meeting was about the ARRL and the future of amateur radio presented by Joe Phillips, K8QOE. Joe is the ARRL Section Manager for Ohio. Prior to the meeting, several members said they expected this to be the same old boring ARRL meeting. Well, I'm here to tell you, this was not your father's ARRL meeting.

Prior to the meeting, LEARA's Program Chairman, Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, e-mailed Joe to ask if he needed any special arrangements. Joe replied as follows:

Thanks for asking what is needed in preparation of my appearance at Dimitri's tomorrow night. Here are a few suggestions:

1. Clear the room of those whose appearance would bother me – Cliff Bade, Bob Winston and Eric Jessen (I've already taken care of Marv Grossman by arranging him to be busy at Mayor's Court. It was a tough move but once I get focused, I can move mountains - or Parma, if you wish. Middleburg Heights would be a little extra).
2. Have the Red Carpet go from the meeting room only to the main entrance of the room. If it goes to the restaurant front door, it would have to pass the bar on the left and any drunk would have access to it. Can't have that.
3. Instruct the attendees that I've become a regular guy. They no longer need to genuflect when I begin; a simple curtsy will suffice.
4. Try to arrange Tuesday for my three greatest wishes - The Indians in the Series; peace on earth and Wednesday's six lotto numbers.

Bill, see to it, please

Joe, K8QOE

Well, Joe didn't really get any of his wishes. Those who were named in item number one refused to leave the room.

Joe gave a very interesting talk, the main point of which is that the predictions of the death of ham radio made by the doom-and-gloomers is completely wrong. Joe made the point that throughout the history of the hobby there have been fluctuations in our numbers and we have always bounced back. In fact, the numbers show that there are twice as many hams today than there were in the 50's and 60's, even though those decades are usually regarded as the peak of amateur radio.

By far, the most entertaining part of the evening hap-

pened when Joe opened the program for questions. The members asked a number of pointed questions, which Joe deftly fielded.



Eric, N8AUC, and Joe, K8QOE at the meeting

A few days after the meeting, our President, Eric, N8AUC, received the following e-mail, which Joe asked us to share with the members. It is my pleasure to do so.

Dear Eric:

All kidding aside, and we all had a good time doing that, the trip to the LEARA's monthly meeting March 26th was an education. I hope it was for the membership because it certainly was an education for me.

People responsible for maintaining American Radio Relay League programs need to always know first hand what the membership is thinking. The hour long questioning by your friends at the meeting gave me solid insight to what is on the member's minds. That free exchange of ideas, during the Q and A, is more valuable than all the surveys combined.

Thank you for letting me join you for the meeting. It was very rewarding.

Joe Phillips, K8QOE
Ohio SM

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Association News

Door Prize Winners

Free Dinner: **Frank Hvidos, W8ACQ**



Computer tool set:
Jack Andrisin, N8HVQ

Radio Shack analog multi-meter with probes and batteries:



Bryan Torok, N8OOF



Lighted screwdriver:
Janice R. Tobin, N8TYV

ARRL membership:
John Mistic, W8VRJ



Copier Repair Person Needed - NOW!

LEARA has recently had the good fortune to be the recipient of a donated large commercial photocopier. This copier is now in South Euclid at the publisher's home and is being used to produce the newsletter.

This copier was working fine before it was moved. Unfortunately something became misaligned in the move and now the collator will not function.

LEARA needs someone who would be willing to donate some time to get the collator fixed and also to provide some instruction on proper maintenance and minor repairs associated with this machine. If a volunteer is not located, LEARA will have to hire a repair person.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help keep the copier working should contact our publisher, Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW, at (216) 382-0484.

Welcome to the Club

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

- James Haboustak, AB8IG**
- Chrissy Haboustak, KC8KLJ**
- Mark Bailey, N8OHA**
- Brian Hottel, KC8SAF**
- Patrick Sweeney, KC8TBD**
- Dan Spaliatsos, KC8RWA**

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

Looking Forward

March 26 — Skywarn Spotter Training Meeting

April 30 — Field Day

May 11 — Trustees' Meeting
See page two for details.

Anyone with program ideas or suggestions is urged to contact Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, at 216-691-1038.

PHONE: (330) 225-7373	RETAIL STORE HOURS [1]
FAX: (330) 225-4333	MON, WED & FRI: 11AM-7PM
PAGER: (216) 634-4290	CLOSED TUES & THURS
ORDERS 877-964-5566	SAT: 10AM-6PM
	SUN: 1PM-4PM
Northern Ohio	www.noard.com
Amateur Radio Depot	
Rick Wells - K8SCI	NOARD Inc
[1] Check phone message machine for any changes in hours 11/2000.	821 Pearl Road
	Brunswick, OH 44212

Remember... Check your expiration date on the mailing label. If it shows your membership as expired, this will be your last newsletter. Please 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. Thanks.

Public Service

Volunteers Needed for Communications for Great Lakes Search and Rescue

Hams are needed to help in providing communications for the Great Lakes of Ohio Search and Rescue K-9 Team (GLSAR). GLSAR holds monthly training drills at various locations in Cuyahoga and surrounding counties. Hams are requested to participate in these drills. For more details please see the article in the January newsletter, check their web site (www.glsar.org) or contact Steven M. Hnatiak, KC8IVD, as listed below. Hams desiring advance notification of GLSAR events should also contact Steven M. Hnatiak, KC8IVD, as listed below.

Contact Steven M. Hnatiak, KC8IVD, via e-mail at kc8ivd@juno.com or hampeacemaker@aol.com or telephone at work, Cleveland area, 440-526-3030 ext. 6200 and leave message with VA Police officer, or home, Akron area, 330-733-3324 and leave message on voice mail.

March of Dimes WalkAmerica 2002

Saturday April 27th

Please note that this event is the day before the CVS Marathon. This is a walking event held in Downtown Cleveland to raise money for healthier babies. There will be approximately 7000 people walking the 5 mile route through Downtown Cleveland and the Flats. Communications is required at all rest stops, start/finish and various other critical points along the route. The volunteers are needed from 7:45 AM until approximately 1:00 PM. A total of approximately 16 volunteers are needed.

This is a fun event where the volunteers are very appreciated and treated well. You will give you a t-shirt, lunch, and more importantly, you'll be helping the March of Dimes to save babies.

If you're available to help out PLEASE contact TJ Powell (N8UIR) by email at tjp@tjp.com or at 330-468-1984. We can use all the help we can get.

25th CVS/pharmacy Cleveland Marathon and 10k

Sunday, April 28, 2002

CVS has a new route this year which spends less time in downtown. The new route heads west and goes further out Lake Road into the western suburbs. Contact: Bob Winston, W2THU, at 216-771-3314, or w2thu@arrl.net



The 2nd Annual Greater Cleveland Marathon

Sunday Morning, May 5, 2002

Starts at the Detroit-Superior Bridge and finishes at the

Hard Rock Cafe on Huron Road. Route visits near Ohio City, Tremont, Playhouse Square, University Circle, Shaker Square, Gordon Park and the Lakefront (to name a few). Full route information is available on their web site at <http://www.greaterclevelandmarathon.com>. We will need about 30 hams to monitor the course. If you can serve as a net control or a liaison with the organizers, you are especially wanted. To volunteer, contact Tom Kimball KA8BZB at one of the following: ka8bzb@arrl.net or 216-371-2832.

Westlake Invitational Soccer Tournament

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday; May 25, 26, and 27

Contact Eric Jessen, N8AUC, or Robin Jessen, KC8AWO, at 440-734-3146.

MS and MOD Events*

Medical Support and Amateur Radio Support will be needed for the following events:

MS Walk Cleveland	April 21
MS Walk Cuyahoga Valley	April 21
MOD Walk America	April 27
MOD Motorcycle Ride	June 23
MS-150 Pedal to the Point	August 17 th & 18 th

*MOD = March of Dimes

*MS = Nat'l Multiple Sclerosis Society

If you have any questions or are interested in volunteering for any of the above events please contact T.J. Powell, N8UIR, at tjp@tjp.com.

American Lung Association of Northeast Ohio Annual Bike Ride

Sunday, June 23, 2002

The ride usually starts about 8AM (hams need to be ready earlier) and is over just after noon. It's a good family function, for riders and non-riders alike, since there is usually entertainment (music, games, demos) at Burke during and after the ride.

Four hams are needed to man their three 'sweep' vehicles (rented vans; personal vehicles have not been used in the past) and a base station at Burke Lakefront Airport. Rest/water stops are usually handled by cell phone so hams don't have to do it, the base station will have a cell phone. The ride mostly goes west from Burke about 30 miles. It's a relatively small event. Preferred equipment is a two-meter radio that can be powered from the vehicle battery (or have enough batteries to assure several hours of operation) and a magnet mount antenna. To volunteer, contact Marv Grossman, W8AZO, at 440-248-0031.

ARRL News

Amateur Radio Volunteers Supporting Olympics

The ARRL Letter, February 15, 2002

Following months of planning and coordination, Amateur Radio is supporting the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, which got under way in Salt Lake City, Utah, February 8. Ham radio volunteers are assisting with security and remain available to provide back-up communication.

“The amateurs involved have assisted numerous local and federal agencies to develop a unique system that covers the entire Wasatch Front Area, providing communications to reach numerous Olympic venues 24 hours a day,” said Utah ARRL Section Manager Mel Parkes, AC7CP. “Amateur Radio will be there should any of the primary frequencies fail or become unavailable.”

According to Parkes, Utah Section Emergency Coordinator John Mabey, W7CWK, and Brent Thomas, AC7H, from the State of Utah Comprehensive Management Office began working on this effort over a year ago. A special public safety organization--Utah Olympic Public Safety Command (UOPSC)--was created by the various local and national public safety organizations that provide the security necessary for the international event. Mabey, along with Davis County EC Hall Blankenship, KC7RAF; Kirk Boman, KD0J; Ed Cole, KB7EC; and

Mike Youngs, KK7VZ, headed up the Amateur Radio effort to provide emergency backup communication for the Olympic Security Command.

“UOPSC has now involved more than 200 Amateur Radio volunteers in Utah to support this critical security effort,” Parkes said. In addition Amateur Radio volunteers are staffing a number of Olympic Security Command centers assisting local and national public safety organizations.

Nevada SEC Paul Cavnar, NN7B, says hams in his state remain on standby in case they're needed to help with communications. Cavnar said hams in Nevada, Idaho and Northern California also are prepared to assist in the unlikely event of a mass evacuation of the Winter Olympics site.

“The hard work and dedication by all these Amateur Radio operators will certainly contribute to a very successful and safe Winter Olympic Games,” Parkes said.

Field Day 2002

The ARRL Letter, February 15, 2002

The ARRL Field Day 2002 rules and packets now are available on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/> as Adobe PDF files (ASCII files will be updated by next week). The ARRL has adopted

rule changes affecting Field Day, including the addition of a “Get On The Air” (GOTA) station, which replaces the Novice-Technician station.

Field Day 2002 will mark the first in which stations throughout the Americas have been invited to participate. All International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 countries — North and South America — may take part in Field Day, which takes place June 22-23 this year. For more information, contact ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, contest@arrl.org.

Check out the newsletter in color at:
www.apk.net/leara/newsletter.html

Ham Classes Offered

C.A.R.S. (Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society) is now taking registration for our Morse Code 5 wpm class.

Classes will be held each Tuesday evening, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM, starting March 12 and running until April 9th and will be located at the Independence Civic Center, 6363 Selig Drive, in the Willow Room.

Cost is \$10.00, which includes materials. Participants only need pen and paper.

We currently have a Technician class in its 7th week (as of February 21), should you have anyone interested in becoming a ham let them know we will be offering classes for them in the near future.

To register or for more information call Gary, NI8Z, at 216-642-8705 or send him an e-mail at gdewey@en.com

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**Cliff Bade, cliff@clecom.com, or
216 - 496 - 2450**

Skywarn Changes

In previous months, we told you that the National Weather Service (NWS) is looking for hams to provide Skywarn backbone communications at NWS. Well, NWS has had a number of hams respond and has held several training sessions. However, they would still like to get a few more hams on board. They specifically would like to have a few more hams from Cuyahoga County who could get to NWS quickly when severe weather threatens.

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.

Hams who are interested in learning more about Skywarn in Cuyahoga County and/or Skywarn Spotter training should contact Bill Lain, W8OLF, at 216-475-5972 or attend the Skywarn Spotter training session at LEARA's March meeting.

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View From the Peak

Pikes Peak, CO



George Hinds, N8CIX/O

I'm beginning to believe that cell phones have eclipsed amateur radio for personal communications. What leads to thinking such thoughts? Because, in a drive that will encompass about 3,000 miles - to Oklahoma City, to Hot Springs, Arkansas, to Memphis, and New Orleans and San Antonio, Texas, the ham two-meter band is staying "almost" silent. Tomorrow it will be homeward bound for Colorado by way of San Antonio with several stops along the way. And yes, as for ham contacts, sorry to report that except for a brief chat in Memphis and New Orleans, the rig on scan was empty of conversation.

Today, March 5, begins the westward leg from NOLA homeward-bound. Of interest to LEARA members who, like me, spent some of their younger life in the military during World War II, my wife and I visited the National D-Day Memorial Museum in New Orleans. It was a few hours of having memories brought back that were filled with pride at what G.I.'s accomplished, and the suffering and losses encountered by Americans and their allies.

It's very much a "live" history of those days and nights. Occupying three floors of a building not far from the riverfront, exhibits are enhanced by sound track recordings of veterans, from privates to generals, and politicians from president to prime ministers, telling in short "sound bites" of personal decisions and experiences during the war years. You not only see the people behind the voices as they appear on numerous screens around you, but see also scenes of the battles before, during and after.

As we looked about during our visit, one could easily discern among the visitors those who had likely "been there and done that." Age alone was the first key; a few times the muffled talk and even a wiping away of a hidden tear were clues to personal involvement.

So if you should travel New Orleans way, it matters not whether you were a veteran of that war, be sure to visit and for a short while see and hear what was taking place in a world at war. For those with children of school age, it is a learning lesson in life that could leave quite an impression upon youngsters relating to good and evil that can exist among nations.

Oh yes - hams can see a tiny radio receiver of the type dropped or smuggled into enemy territory by the Allies so that members of "Resistance" groups in Europe could listen to broadcasts from the BBC and America -- broadcasts that often contained encoded messages to resistance forces -- messages that could mean death to "freedom fighters" if they were discovered by the Nazi regime.

For now, 73!

George - N8CIX
e-mail: gehinds@juno.com

2002 Hamfest Listing

March

17 Toledo Mobile Radio Ass. 419-385-5056 or 419-535-6594
Lucas County Recreation Ctr., 2901 Key St., Maumee, OH
kb8iup@arrl.net <http://tmrahamradio.org> TI: 147.270+

24 Madison / Lake County ARA 440-209-8953
Madison High School, 3100 Burns Rd., Madison, OH
lcarahamfest@hotmail.com <http://hamnet.org/lcara>
TI: 147.210

April

13 Garfield Hamfest/Computer/Electronics 216-663-3258
St. John Lutheran School, 11333 Granger Rd.
Garfield Heights, OH 44125
Admission \$1, Tables \$10 advance / \$15 day of show
ln4js@visn.net (a small "L")

28 Athens County ARA 740-592-2106
<http://www.seorf.ohiou.edu/xx150> mcdanied@ohiou.edu

28 Canfield / Twenty Over Nine ARC 330-793-7072
n8lne@arrl.net TI: 147.315+

May

17, 18, 19 Dayton Hamvention / Dayton ARA
<http://www.hamvention.org/> 937-276-6930

Fox (hidden transmitter) Hunts

Ashtabula County Amateur Radio Club (ACARC) holds hunts every Sunday at 4:00 PM. 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 foxhunts on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 7:00 PM. The talk-in frequency is 147.27+.

Lake County Amateur Radio Association (LCARA) foxhunts are held on Friday evenings, about once every three or four weeks, starting at 7:00 PM from the Concord Township park. Talk-in is the Painesville repeater 147.21+.

Western Reserve Emergency Communications (WRECS) foxhunts are held monthly on the second Thursday, at 7:00 PM, starting from the area of Rt. 306 and 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 bta-kacs@nccw.net.

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

Date	Location	Contact	Phone
3/10	Independence	Gary Dewey	(216) 642-1399
3/17	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
3/24	Wickliffe (At the Lake County/Madison Hamfest)	Scott Farnham	(440) 256-0320
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
6/16	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
7/14	Independence	Gary Dewey	(216) 642-1399
7/21	Elyria	Charles S. Hall	(440) 327-3832
8/3	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 Brecksville 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.

****HAMEESTS** - 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



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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

INTERNET:

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