



The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

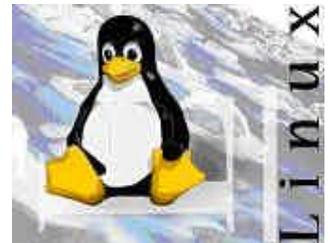
Editor: Bryan A. Torok, N8OOF
Associate Editor: Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

This Month's Meeting — Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Linux, as a Windows Replacement

Presented by Dennis Strock, N8PPE
of Mirazh Systems



Tired of Doing Windows?

Are you tired of doing Windows – the operating system that is? If you seem to find yourself staring at the blue screen of death, giving your computer the famous three finger salute (Ctrl-Alt-Del), or cycling power more times than you are comfortable with to keep your machine working, maybe it's time to consider a different operating system, and I



don't mean Macintosh!

Please join us on Tuesday, April 29th 2003 for what promises to be a very interesting and informative meeting for anyone who has found themselves thinking there has got to be a better way than the Microsoft money-pit. Dennis Strock, N8PPE, of Mirazh Systems will be on hand to provide those in atten-

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April, 2003

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LEARA's April Feature

Not Making the Machine? Here's an Easy Fix!

Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL

You've studied the material, spent hours looking through your favorite amateur radio catalog or magazine at the rigs you hope to buy some day, went to take your Technician class license test, and PASSED! Congratulations, you have just taken the first step into the world of amateur radio – now comes the fun part, buying your first rig, and in most

cases that new rig turns out to be one of those new multi-band, feature-packed hand held radios offered by all the big name manufacturers.

One thing that they never tell you in the magazine adds and product literature is that the rubber duck antenna packed with the radio is, more

(Continued on page 6)

Need Help?
Contact our Elmer
Program!

See page 4.

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The *Spirit of '76 & '88* is published monthly except in December. Contributions must be received by the 1st of the month.

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de N8AUC . . .

Man am I in trouble this month! If you're reading this and not seeing a very ugly (or at least uglier than normal) picture of me, then our newsletter editor is being humanely benevolent! (Thanks Bryan!)



I'm wondering where spring went? It was nice only a few days ago, and now they're canceling the Indians Home Opener, because they're expecting SNOW today! I guess we didn't appease the weather gods well enough at last month's meeting. Speaking of that, we had a record turnout at the March meeting. 97 people were there for the meeting and about 50 had dinner with us. Phenomenal turnout! Gary Garnet did his usual super job, and the Cuyahoga County Skywarn contingent was well represented as well. Note to all you Skywarn guys; make it a point to come visit with us every month. It would be nice to see you a little more often than twice a year.

The Lake County Hamfest in Madison was a few weeks ago. After I got over the shock and awe (timely phrase, eh?) of finding LEARA treasurer Dave Foran there, as well as several other of you there, it was a great hamfest. Certainly better than last year's event. And a little bigger, too. It's a good thing to see hamfests at least holding their own in the face of internet auction and flea market sites. I don't think a mouse click will ever totally replace the social aspect of hamfesting.

And I would be totally remiss if I didn't mention the upcoming Cleveland Marathon, sponsored this year by Rite-Aid. That happens on Sunday April 27th. If you're interested in volunteering to support this event, I'm sure help is still needed. Contact Bob W2THU if you can help out.

This event is just 2 days before our next meeting on the April 29th. Our April meeting will be a good one for all you computer types out there (as well as those thinking about it). Our topic will be the Linux Operating System, which is becoming more and more viable as a replacement for the ubiquitous Microsoft Windows. I encountered our April meeting speaker as a vendor at Madison and bought a couple of disks from him. They installed pretty easily, and my computer at home now dual boots Windows 98SE and Linux.

Hope to see you all at Dimitri's!

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.leara.org**. 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 March/Skywarn Meeting

by Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL

This year's Cuyahoga county Skywarn storm spotter training was presented at the March meeting of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association by Mr. Gary Garnet, the Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Cleveland, Ohio and the head of the Skywarn program for Northern Ohio.



Mr. Garnet presented an updated training session featuring plenty of multimedia and exciting video of the Van Wert tornadoes of November 2002. Both during the break and following the training, Mr. Garnett enrolled a number of new volunteer spotters and verified existing spotter records in his database.

I would also like to take this opportunity to give recognition to our special guests in attendance at this years training session – further demonstrating the importance that severe weather recognition and reporting has in our local communities. I would like to thank the following organizations for allowing representation from their organization to take part in this year's training:

- ✓ Broadview Heights Police
- ✓ Brecksville Fire
- ✓ Beachwood Police
- ✓ Independence Police
- ✓ Westlake Police
- ✓ The Cleveland Plain Dealer

73 de KC8OWL
Mike DiTurno

Welcome to the Club

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

Brian Harris, KC8WFI

Randy Betke, KD8RB

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

March Door Prize Winners

Free Dinner: **Eric Jessen, N8AUC**



Soldering Kit:

Jim Hammer

Desoldering Tool:

Jack Andrisin, W8JAK

Soldering Tools:

Andy Eget

NiCad/NiMH Battery Charger:

Bryan Torok, N8OOF
Betsy Luce



Rain Gauge:

Rivka Tobin, N8TYV

Betsy Luce

Dick Vader

Ofc. Rod Steman, Westlake PD
Anthony Weaver, KC8RXD

Repeater Guide:

Glenn Miller WA8H
Anthony Weaver, KC8RXD
John Mistic, W8VRJ
Jim MacMillan, WA8ZHN
Alex Manuk, WD8JMM
Randy Betke, KD8RB
Ed Eget
Mark Studer, KC8FQV
Sara Cechner, KC8KSU
Darren Turk, K8DMT



50/50 raffle (\$16 cash):

Sandy Carney, KB8UOC

Check out the newsletter in color at
www.leara.org

Follow the Newsletters link on the
left side of the page

Association News

April Meeting (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

dance with a hands-on demonstration of some of the more popular Linux operating systems. Many of you may know Dennis from the local hamfest circuit as he typically sets up with a table or two of Linux machines and software.

The meeting will be held at Dimitri's Restaurant, 1830 Snow Rd., Parma, Ohio (in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, just west of Broadview Road). Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM and the formal meeting will begin 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.

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.

Looking Forward

April 29 — Linux as a Windows Replacement, presented by Dennis Strock, N8PPE, of Mirazh Systems.

May 10 — Trustees' meeting, see info on page 2.

May 27 — Shriners' Ham Radio Club, presented by Cliff Bade, W8CJB.

June 24 — See below listing.

June 28 — **Special Meeting/Picnic**, LEARA Field Day, Saturday, 5:00 PM, at Gordon Park. Details to be announced

Anyone with program ideas or suggestions is urged to contact Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, at 216-898-1891 or by e-mail to kc8owl@yahoo.com.

Need Help?

Contact our Elmer Program

de KC8KSU

Throughout the history of amateur radio, many older, more experienced members of the ham radio community have mentored newer members in every facet of the hobby. These mentors have become known as "Elmers." Thanks to LEARA members who have generously volunteered their time and knowledge, LEARA now has a group of "Elmers" who are ready and waiting to assist those in need.

If you (or someone you know) is a new licensee or thinking of becoming an amateur radio operator and needs assistance, please send an e-mail message to elmer@leara.org or leave a message on LEARA's hotline: 440-942-0154. Be sure to indicate:

1. Your name and call sign (if not yet a ham, indicate your interest in becoming one)
2. What kind of help you need, e.g., basic operation, radio/antenna set-up & tuning, CW practice, etc.
3. Your home address (so we can match you with a nearby "Elmer")
4. A phone number at which you can be reached (in case we need to contact you that way)
5. Any other detail(s) that might help us choose the proper "Elmer" for you

Then wait patiently. You will be contacted as soon as possible. Those interested in becoming Elmers may contact Elmer Program Coordinator, Sara Cechner, KC8KSU, at kc8ksu@leara.org for more information.

PHONE: (330) 225-7373

FAX: (330) 225-4333

ORDERS 877-964-5566

Northern Ohio

Amateur Radio Depot

Rick Wells - K8SCI

[1] Check phone message machine for any changes in hours

RETAIL STORE HOURS [1]

MON, WED & FRI: 11AM-7PM

CLOSED TUES & THURS

SAT: 10AM-6PM

SUN: 1PM-4PM

www.noard.com

NOARD Inc

821 Pearl Road
Brunswick, OH 44212

Public Service

Public Service Season...

...is Upon Us

By Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL

Public service is something that the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association has been significantly involved in for many, many years. For the benefit of the many new amateur radio operators that have joined us on the air over the last year or so, I wanted to take an opportunity to help explain what a typical public service event looks like for an amateur radio volunteer.



Regardless of whether it's a marathon, bike race, or children's soccer tournament, we are there to provide communications. Many times the event coordinators don't have the equipment, personnel, or training to effectively ensure communications throughout the course of an event. As amateur radio operators, our hobby is communications! Typically, we are there to observe the event, pay close attention to the participants for things such as dehydration, fatigue, or serious injury, and report such to the event's net control station.

What better way can you think of to spotlight the many benefits of amateur radio for the public than to provide valuable communications during an event with so many public spectators on hand?

As you read through the pages of the monthly newsletter and participate in the weekly nets, keep the following in mind. Public Service Events are a lot of fun, serve a good cause, are a little frantic at times, and a good opportunity to get out and play radio with your fellow amateur radio operators. I look forward to working with you in some of the upcoming events scheduled for 2003.

Upcoming Public Service

April 27— Cleveland Marathon, see article above right.

May 3— MoD WalkAmerica, see article to right.

May 24-26—Westlake Invitational Soccer Tournament
Contact: Eric Jessen, N8AUC, 440-734-3146

June 28-29—Field Day at Gordon Park

July 20—Triathlon

August 16-17—Pedal to the Point

Additional volunteer opportunities are available at <http://www.neopsv.org>

Cleveland Marathon, Big Changes

The 26th Annual Rite Aid Cleveland Marathon & 10K (this was the CVS Marathon last year) is on **Sunday, April 27**.



We expect to need more Hams to cover this event than in previous years because of changes to the course and the length of the event. This year the route for both the Marathon and the 10K will go out and return via the Shoreway. Also, the event organizers have received a permit for the event to run eight hours. Because of the changes, we may need volunteers who can stay as late as 4:00 PM. Hams may start as late as Noon.

This year Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, will be coordinating Net Control. Those interested in assisting with the Net should contact Mike at 216-898-1891.

All other volunteers contact Bob Winston, W2THU, 216-771-3314 **Note:** Anyone interested in coordinating (or assisting in coordinating) this event please contact Bob. This is your chance to get more involved and learn

March of Dimes WalkAmerica



T.J. Powell, N8UIR, tjp@tjp.com

Communications (ham radio) volunteers are needed for the March of Dimes WalkAmerica.

The March of Dimes will be holding its annual WalkAmerica on SATURDAY MAY 3rd. This is a walking event held at Six Flags in Aurora (Ohio) to raise money for healthier babies. There will be approximately 7,000 people walking the 3-mile route through the park. Communications are 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 get 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. Additional volunteer opportunities are available at <http://www.neopsv.org>

LEARA's April Feature

An Easy Fix!

(Continued from page 1)

often than not, a glorified dummy load that does not begin to let your radio work as well as it can.

To improve the performance of the HT, one does not need to go out and spend a lot of money on a name brand vertical antenna. For a few dollars worth of materials and some very basic hand tools you can build a very effective, inexpensive, and portable 2 meter J-Pole antenna out of 300 ohm twin lead TV antenna wire. This was the first antenna I ever built for amateur radio, and I can attest to its performance. To build one of these antennas please read on.

Materials

- A 54-inch piece of flat TV twin lead. Do not use the expensive foam insulated wire.
- 10 - 15 feet (or more) of coax cable.
- Soldering iron
- Tape measure
- Utility knife
- Wire strippers
- Process

For a center frequency of 146 MHz:

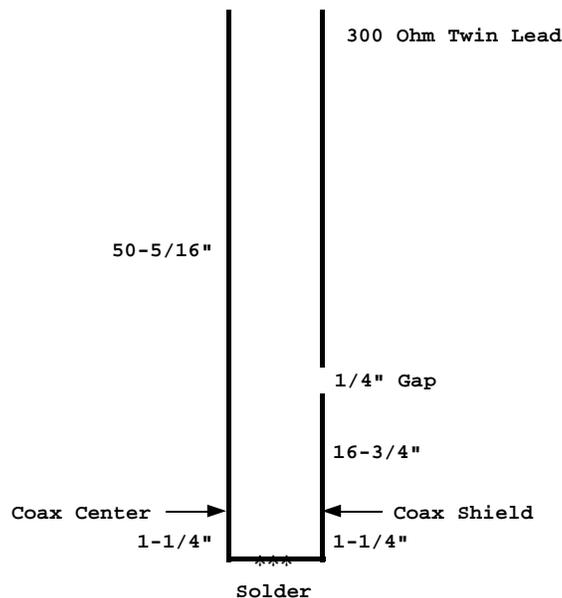
1. Start with 54" of TV twin lead.
2. Strip 1/2" of insulation at bottom and solder wires together.
3. Measure 1 1/4" from soldered wires and strip 1/4 inch of insulation on both sides. This is the solder point for a coax feed line.
4. Measure 16 3/4" from coax shield solder point and cut out 1/4" notch (cut the wire).
5. Measure 50-5/16" from coax center conductor solder point and trim off twin lead at that point.
6. Feed with a length of RG58U coax. Tape coax at feed point to the twin lead for strength and seal coax for weather protection.

To prevent RF from radiating on the feed line, wind 4 or 5 turns of coax into a 4 inch loop and tape the loops together very close to the feed point. This will form an RF choke that will keep the RF from the feed line.

The J-Pole antenna is a vertically polarized antenna with two elements; the radiator and the matching stub. Although the antenna's radiator and stub is $\frac{3}{4}$ wavelength and $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength respectively, it operates as an end-fed half-wave antenna. For the sake of this article I will not

go into further detail on how the antenna works; for those who are interested there is a wealth of information available on the Internet.

Figure 1



To tune the antenna simply trim the length of the elements until you achieve the lowest SWR. Be sure to trim in very small increments and also be sure to trim in a 3:1 ratio to maintain the $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength proportions. For example, if you trim 1/8 inch from the $\frac{1}{4}$ wave stub, trim 3/8 inch from the $\frac{3}{4}$ wavelength radiator. The measurements provided in this example should load up with less than a 2:1 SWR at 146 MHz, though individual results may vary.

A J-Pole antenna will never replace a quality beam or full size vertical but for the time, effort, and expense, it will improve your signal substantially. This antenna is ideally suited for portable, emergency, and travel use (i.e. from a hotel room) by simply hanging it from something by punching a small hole through the insulation at the top end of the antenna and hanging it with a piece of string or some other non-conductive material.

Good luck and please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments.

73 de Mike, KC8OWL
kc8owl@yahoo.com

Editor's Note: A dual-band (VHF - UHF) version of this antenna was featured in the February issue of QST magazine.

Miscellaneous Ham News

Paul Harvey Covers Ham Radio

Submitted by Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT

ABC News broadcaster Paul Harvey made the following comments during his mid-afternoon broadcast on Wednesday, March 19, 2003.

“America’s quiet warriors...are the legion of Ham Radio operators. SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND of them who are always at ready for back-up duty in emergencies. Amateur, unpaid, uncelebrated, civilian radio operators, during and after floods and fires and tornados — after the nine-one-one attacks, hams were indispensable in reuniting families. Most recently it was they who expedited the search for debris after the disaster to the Space-Shuttle Columbia. And right now, at this moment...they are involved in Homeland Security to a greater degree than...you would want me...to make public.”

—Paul Harvey, 3/19 mid-day broadcast, ABC Radio.

Paul Harvey is available on the internet at www.paulharvey.com. The audio file can also be found at www.neopsv.org/article38

CARS Dayton Bus Trip 2003

Gordon Kulus, W8GTK

On May 17, 2003, CARS will continue with its annual bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention. We have negotiated a great deal with BRT so the cost is the same as last year, only \$30.00 for the round trip bus ride to the Hara Complex front door!

As always you will need to have your own ticket into the Hamvention. Advance ticket purchase and information can be found online at “www.hamvention.org” then click on “ticket info” or tickets can be purchased at the Hamvention.

Please remember, first paid gets the seat on the bus, so call me at 330-225-6917 to hold your seat on the bus. Then, as soon as possible, please send your money!

Make check payable to CARS and mail to: CARS P.O. Box 31264 Independence, Ohio 44131-0264

I'll see you on the BUS!

73's Gordon Kulus, W8GTK

NWS Cancels Weather Paging

The below info is reprinted verbatim from the NWS Cleveland web site, <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/cle/skywarn/pager.html>

Effective April 30th, 2003 the National Weather Service in Cleveland will discontinue the manual process of paging severe weather warnings over the Arch/Pagenet system for our Ohio counties. Severe weather spotters and other users of our paging service are instructed to change to a commercial vendor. Several commercial vendors provide dissemination of our warnings to pagers, cell phones, email accounts and other electronic devices very effectively. There are several factors facilitating this change. The increasing the speed of dissemination of warnings to our users, the continued deterioration of the current system and the allocated resources at our office to perform the paging process. The commercial vendors are able to provide the warning very fast and efficient. Below is a NWS link to commercial Weather vendors, some of which provide pager service.

<http://205.156.54.206/im/more>

If you have any questions for the National Weather Service contact:

Gary Garnet, National Weather Service
Cleveland Hopkins International Airport
Federal Facilities Building, Cleveland, OH 44135
216-265-2382 EXT 223, gary.garnet@noaa.gov

The Editor's Rant — NWS Paging

Upon learning that NWS is stopping the weather pages at the end of the month, Jeff Garvas, N8YNR, wrote an e-mail to Gary Garnet. Jeff is heavily involved in the computer industry, networking and the internet. He offered to work with NWS to modernize and automate the system so that pages could be sent without any additional labor on the part of NWS.

Unfortunately, he was rebuffed. In his reply, Gary Garnet stated, “We are moving the EMA directors and key skywarn people to a state ema system that will automatically page our warnings...This system is people who absolutely need the information.”

It appears that the average trained Spotter is not considered an important enough person to be given access to the new system. I feel that NWS may be shooting themselves in the foot with this decision. To echo Jeff's closing comment on this situation, “If NWS Cleveland doesn't want to tell me (the spotter) what is going on, I don't have much of a desire to tell NWS Cleveland what is going on.”

That's my thought, what's yours?

The Morale Factor

MARS Operators Relay Word From Home To The Front

By Shelly Whitehead, Cincinnati Post staff reporter, reprinted by permission (Submitted by Jeff Gavas, N8YNR)

A telegram delivered during the Battle of the Bulge gave Earl Nichols the news: He was the father of a baby boy.

The announcement was two weeks old by the time it was delivered to the front lines, but it gave the battle-weary soldier a tremendous boost.

Knowing what a message from home can do for morale is one reason the 84-year-old retired Army lieutenant colonel is an operator in the Military Affiliate Radio System.

Using a bank of amateur radio equipment in the wood-paneled den of his Park Hills, Ky., home, he sends similar messages to troops — albeit more quickly today. As one of 45 MARS operators in Kentucky, Nichols serves as a conduit of information and support between loved ones in the states and fighting forces abroad.

“During the Battle of the Bulge — it took about two weeks to get the message during combat,” recalled Nichols, eyeing a yellowed black-and-white photo of his Army tank division taken in England in 1944. “But now, with all this computerized stuff, it takes about two days to deliver messages.

“So how important is it?” he asked. “Well, it’s the morale factor. People know they can get a radio-gram through to their son — and just keep in touch.”

All branches of the military are served under three MARS programs.

There are more than 2,600 operators in the Army’s program alone, said

MARS Eastern Area Coordinator Robert Hollister, speaking from the system’s Arizona headquarters. All operators use traditional amateur radio equipment transmitting over high frequencies authorized by the military specifically for MARS use.

Family members can send messages at no cost to military personnel anywhere in the world simply by calling a MARS operator. Messages are relayed by voice over the assigned frequency, eventually reaching the soldier’s military postal address.

Nichols won’t be sending messages to troops in Iraq until a station is established. Both he and Hollister predict that will change with the war well under way.

“During Desert Storm — when I was the state MARS director, we handled 7,000 radio-grams to and from families and (service personnel) overseas. That was during a 100-hour operation,” said Nichols.

Hollister said it will be difficult to get messages through during the first phase of the fighting in Iraq. Troop movement and the need for operational secrecy will likely prevent the rapid relay of less vital communications, he said.

“It becomes a matter of, ‘Where are they?’ and ‘Are they in the same place they were the last time?’” Hollister said.

Priorities also are shifting for the 55-year-old MARS network. Part of the MARS mission has always been to provide a back-up communication system in the event of natural or man-made disasters. Since terrorists struck the World Trade Center and

Pentagon in 2001, though, that has grown to a much greater part of the MARS’ mission.

The MARS network was activated all along the East Coast after the Sept. 11 attacks, with the first messages coming out of New York even before the second tower was hit, Hollister said.

“The network is there when satellites go out and phones go out,” he said, “so it’s become a major part of our training.”



Military Affiliate Radio System

MARS is an official Department of Defense sponsored communication system with three commands for the Army, Air Force and the Navy and Marine Corps. It is operated by trained amateur radio operators on U.S. Government frequencies in the high frequency spectrum.

U.S. military, defense and state department personnel and their dependents or civilians assigned to those organizations are eligible to send messages.

To send a message, call a local MARS operator and provide your name, address and phone number along with the name, military post office address and other address information of the military person the message is being sent to. Describe the message you would like to send, which generally must be limited to about 30 words.

You can’t send initial death notices, profanity, troop movement information or other sensitive information or commercial messages.

For information: Go to the MARS Web site www.marsgateway.net or do a search for one of many other MARS web sites, some of which specialize in a particular branch of the military.

Original Publication Date: 04-07-2003. Reprinted by permission of the Cincinnati Post. View the original article at: www.cincypost.com/2003/04/07/mars040703.html

Hamfest Listing

To update or add to this list, please contact Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, at 216-898-1891 or kc8owl@yahoo.com

May

16-18 Dayton Hamvention, Dayton ARA

http://www.hamvention.org
 Location: Hara Arena, Dayton, OH
 Phone: (937) 276-6934
 Email: info@hamvention.org

June

8 Goodyear ARC, Suffield, Ohio

Contact Rich Kuster, N8ZDQ, 1341 Whippoorwill Trail, Stow, OH 44224-2327
 Phone: 330-688-3589
 Email: RichJKuster@aol.com

July

19 Northern Ohio ARS, Wellinton, OH

www.apk.net/noars/noarsfe.htm; Contact: Tom Porter, W8KYZ, 161 Herrmann Dr., Avon Lake, OH 44012
 Phone: 440-930-9115

27 Portage ARC, Randolph, OH

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

To update or add to this list, please contact Mike DiTurno, KC8OWL, at 216-898-1891 or kc8owl@yahoo.com

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
4/2	Cuyahoga Falls	6/7	Wickliffe
4/20	Elyria	6/15	Elyria
4/26	Bentleyville		
5/4	Independence	7/13	Independence
5/6	Akron, Pioneer AR	7/20	Elyria
5/10	Akron, Red Cross		
5/18	Elyria	8/2	Wickliffe
		8/17	Elyria

Akron, Pioneer AR Fellowship - 2324 Manchester Rd., Akron, OH, 44314. Pre-registration preferred, check-in 6:30 PM, test at 7:00 PM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Ronald D. Lieving, 330-724-5981.

Akron, Summit Co. American Red Cross - 501 W. Market St., Akron, OH, 44303. Testing at 3:00 PM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Bruce M. Ferry, 330-929-2766, ak8b@arrl.net

Bentleyville - Bentleyville Town Hall, 6253 Chagrin River Rd., (corner of Solon Rd & River Rd) Bentleyville, OH 44022. Testing begins at 9:00 AM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Raymond C. Dabkowski, 440-729-0110, w8rd@arrl.net

Canton - Stark Co. Sheriff Office/EOC, 4500 Atlantic Blvd. NE, Canton, OH 44705. Test at 9:00 AM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Gary L. Kline, 330-837-2927, wc8w@raex.com

Cuyahoga Falls - 2015 3rd St., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221. Test at 7:00 PM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Steven Greathouse, 330-724-2247.

Elyria - American Red Cross, 2929 West River Rd., Elyria, OH, 44035. Testing at 1:00 PM, park in rear and enter through back door, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Charles S. Hall, 216-433-3036, ve@w8hf.com, www.w8hf.com

Independence - Independence Town Hall, 6652 Brecks-ville Rd., Independence OH, 44131. Doors open 9:00 AM. Pre-registration is appreciated, walk-ins are welcome. **Contact:** Gary S. Dewey, 216-642-9705, gdewey@en.com

Wickliffe - Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 28940 Euclid Avenue, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Testing at 12:00 PM, Walk-ins are welcome. **Contact:** Scott Farnham, 440-256-0320. Do NOT call the store for information on VE testing.

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEST CANDIDATES

For VE testing one must bring the original and copies of the current license and CSCE forms (if applicable), identification, and the exam fee. ARRL VEC's exam fees are \$10.00. Check with the contact person in advance for specific testing site requirements and any special test accommodations needed.

For Sale

YAESU-FT212RH 2M (Mini) 5/45 Watts mobile. Includes all original equipment, DTMF mike, and all cables. LIKE NEW. Also have 2M Dual Band Ant., Mag. mount & excellent operating 2M through the glass Ant. with SWR. Trimmer. \$250 OBO



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 Chardon OH 44024
 440-285-4813

70 feet of Rohn 25G tower including a top section, already down, \$20.00 per section

Kendacom Mark 4 220 repeater, complete with a 100 W. amp, duplexer, and a controller with voice storage. Probably cost over 5K, all for \$1,200.

SERIOUS buyers only, call Don at 440-235-5188

- NC-300 National Receiver, \$175
- PRO-300 Hammarlund Receiver, \$300
- Gonset Sidewinder 2-meter (needs repair), \$50
- Gonset Communicator 111 6-meter (needs cable), \$50
- Lettine 6-meter Model 242 Transmitter (needs repair), \$50

Contact Ray, KC8MCB, 216-226-8319 or rjspar@msn.com



LEARA ¾ 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 (Requires 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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