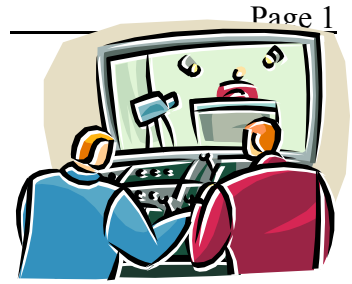




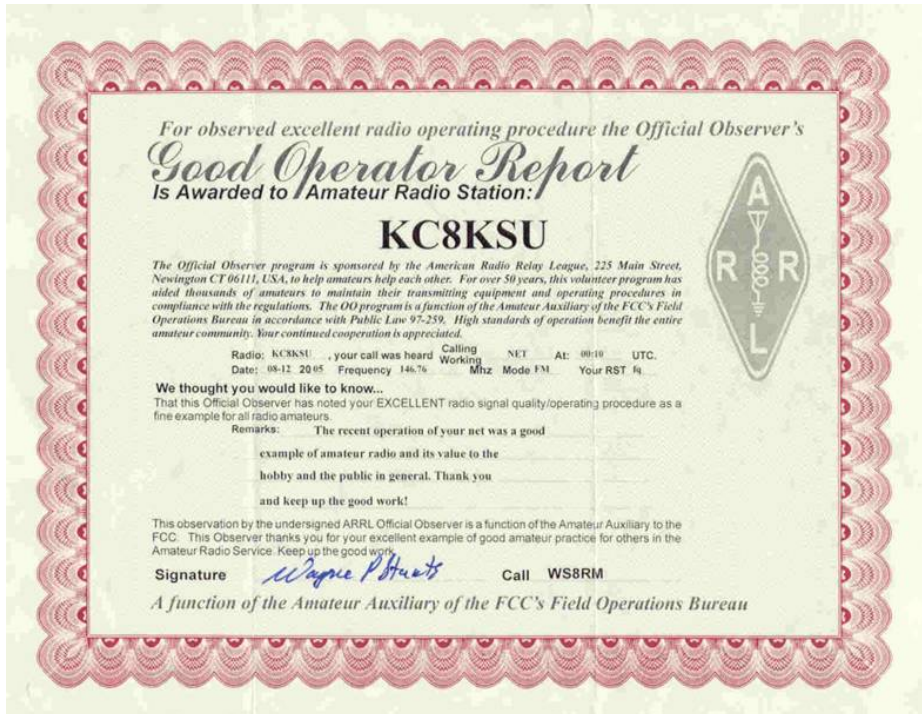
The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor & Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

LEARA NET CONTROL RECEIVES AWARD



August, 2005

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This Month's Meeting — Tuesday, August 30, 2005

August Program: HDTV

At LEARA's August program, to be held at our regular meeting place, *Dimitri's* on August 30th, guest speaker *Dave Kennett, W8KFJ*, will enlighten us on the intricacies of HDTV technology and update us on the status of HDTV here in the U.S.

astonishingly simple: it is simply a television system that has more than the usual number of lines per frame so its pictures show more detail.

So what's the big deal about High Definition Television? The basic definition of the term is so

But it is a lot more than that. With HDTV, you can watch widescreen movies as they were meant to be watched. Also, the audio signals are digitally processed and enhanced. (Those who came to our

OFFICERS

President Bob Winston, W2THU	W2THU@leara.org 216-771-3314
Vice President Eric Jessen, N8AUC	N8AUC@leara.org 440-734-3146
Vice President Bryan Torok, N8OOF	N8OOF@leara.org 440-871-5456
Secretary Steve Kinosh, KB8UTA	KB8UTA@leara.org 440-288-4141
Treasurer Dave Foran, WB8APD	WB8APD@leara.org 440-942-0618
License Trustee Eric Jessen, N8AUC	N8AUC@leara.org 440-734-3146

TRUSTEES

Cliff Bade, W8CJB	W8CJB@leara.org 440-235-1122
Raye Bayun, N8NAP	N8NAP@leara.org 146.760/R
Marv Grossman, W8AZO	W8AZO@leara.org 440-248-0031
Jacob Kinosh, KC8GHX	KC8GHX@leara.org
Tom Long N8QXA	N8QXA@leara.org 440-356-0741
Sara Cechner, KC8KSU	KC8KSU@leara.org 440-942-8787
Jim Ozello, N8XDO	N8XDO@leara.org 216-475-7218
John Radney, KC8FOC	KC8FOC@leara.org 216-751-7067
Tom Bishop, W8TAB	W8TAB@leara.org 440-331-9374
Jeff Garvas, N8YNR	N8YNR@leara.org 216-552-4368

TRUSTEES EMERITUS

Al Amster, W8HYG	Al Severson, AB8P (SK)
Fred Collins, W8ADW (SK)	Pat Shreve, W8GRG (SK)

POINTS OF CONTACT

"Sunshine" Don Raith, N8DJG	216-921-7546
Radio Officer Raye Bayun N8NAP	146.76/R
Radio Officer Bryan Torok, N8OOF	146.88/R

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

Editor:

Jeannie St.Marie, KC8MNV

E-mail: editor@leara.org

de W2THU...

Our July picnic meeting at Oak Grove in the Brecksville Reservation was a great success despite threatening weather. We had a good turnout including those members who only grace us with their presence during this annual outdoor gathering. Thanks to Jeff, N8YNR and Laurie, KC8MYE and Jim, N8XDO and his XYL Carol for preparing the fixings, keeping the coals stoked and cooking all of those hotdogs and hamburgers. After the meeting we had a successful demonstration of foxhunting as Mike, K8EHP and Bryan, N8OOF brought their direction finding gear and let other members try to locate the hidden transmitters. Thanks to all who helped out.



Recently, the FCC announced its long awaited Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) wherein our licensing agency is ready to drop the Morse code requirement for every class of amateur radio license. I do not think this is a good idea. I believe that Morse code is a fundamental of ham radio communications, in the same way that Ohm's Law is a fundamental of electrical engineering. Just because we have more modern ways of communicating does not mean we have to drop the code as a requirement, at least for the highest level license. I

(Continued on page 3)

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** 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.

LEARA is an **ARRL**-affiliated club. When you join **ARRL** or renew your membership, **LEARA** benefits monetarily if you do so through the Club. Send **ARRL** applications/renewals to the club treasurer (Dave Foran/WB8APD, 5439 Nan Linn Dr, Willoughby OH 44094-4365). Payment (check or money order) must be made out to **LEARA (NOT ARRL)**

Membership Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month except December at Dimitri's Restaurant, 1830 Snow Rd., Parma, OH (in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, just west of Broadview Road). Dinner is served at 6:30 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 make your reservation online at www.leara.org.

HDTV (cont'd)

program on “DSP 101” will appreciate what can be done in that area.)

There is a controversy brewing over when (not if, but when) the U.S. will convert entirely to an HDTV system. Dave will let us know what all the fuss is about—come join us!

Dinner is served at approximately 6:30 PM, with the meeting and program beginning at 7:30. Dinner choices (Chicken Parmigiana, Steak, or Broiled Scrod) are \$15.00 per person, and reservations are required if you wish to eat.

Those wishing to make dinner reservations may call Marv Grossman at 440-248-0031, or make your reservations online at <http://www.leara.org>.



de W2THU (cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

propose that we keep a modest 5wpm code test to get the Extra ticket. For those who cannot do code at all, they will still be able to operate on HF via the General Class. No one will be kept out of amateur radio. However, if you want to have full use of all the bands, you will need to get the Extra and that would mean passing a code test.

If you would like to respond to the FCC proposal, then see pages 54-58 of the NPRM located at hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachment/FCC-05-143A1.pdf. [Thanks to Dave Sumner K1ZZ, ARRL Chief Executive Officer for the link. I recommend that you read K1ZZ's editorial in the September 2005 *QST* for further commentary along these lines.]

It is amazing how fast the summer passes by. As I write this column the Back to School ads are beginning to appear in the Sunday newspaper flyers, the baseball season is more than two thirds over and Labor Day is a couple of weeks away. Before long, northeast Ohio's long dark cold winter will envelope the area. So, this is the time to complete those outdoor antenna projects that you have been putting off. It is a lot easier to climb a tower, stand on a roof or

solder a wire when the snow isn't blowing all around you. Even if you want to install an on the glass VHF/UHF antenna on your car window, you need to do it in a warm environment for the glue to set. There is a standard joke in this region that you don't fix your antenna until the snow flies. It needn't be that way.

The last weekend of this month is the Ohio QSO party. Many states promote their own QSO parties, but I believe that Ohio is the most popular in the nation. Sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, this long time contest operates on specific frequencies on the traditional five (not WARC) HF bands. A CW contact earns 2 points, while SSB earns only 1 point. If you want a feel of what it is like to be a “rare” DX station, where hams all over the world are looking for you, then join the fun. Check out www.oqp.us for more information.

This month we return to Dimitri's for our regular club meeting and another great program. Please join your fellow LEARA members for an enjoyable time. I look forward to seeing you there.

73, de Bob Winston, W2THU

Association News

AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING CHAMPIONSHIPS



August 2-6, 2005 saw the 3rd IARU Region II ARDF Championships take place in Albuquerque, NM. The event was hosted by the Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club with accommodations on the campus of the University of New Mexico. Tuesday morning saw all of the competitors, referees and hosts gather at our initial meeting on campus to go over the rules, schedules, etc. In the afternoon a few test transmitters were hidden on both two and eighty meters so we could check out our gear to be sure everything survived the trip. There were receivers from the Czech Republic, Ukraine, Australia and U.S. home brewed. My two meter receiver was Australian made with many people using home brew tape measure beams as I did. While many people used foreign eighty meter receivers, some did as I did and used American designed home brewed units with built-in ferrite rod or loop and sense antennas. Wednesday morning we were bussed into the mountains about fifty minutes away and up to approximately 7500 feet in altitude. This was the site of the two meter competition. Our equipment was impounded to prevent any premature DFing. We were started in groups of four (all different age categories). Five minutes before each start you were issued your contour Orienteering map and picked up your gear. You were not allowed to turn on your receiver until you started running and had cleared the starting chute. It didn't take too long before the altitude started to take its toll. I was gasping for air like a race horse. I did not run the entire course but sometimes slowed to a trot and sometimes just walked quickly, particularly when taking bearings. This course was quite a challenge with lots of fallen trees, debris, brush, etc. to prevent you from running "as the crow flies". The foxes are placed within all of this greenery on this approximately 4000 X 6000 meter course. You have three hours to find your number of foxes depending on your age category. One of the searchers wound up with a serious case of leg cramps and crawled to one of the transmitter sites to await pick up after the

event was over. I had some leg cramping which slowed me down considerably but I was able to carry on to the finish. Thursday was a day off to recover and all of us did some serious sightseeing. This area of the country is just so beautiful but I wouldn't want to live there! Friday morning saw us loaded onto the bus again for the eighty meter event. This was only about a half hour away but at nearly eight thousand feet elevation into the mountains. From the days before I learned to hydrate myself properly with sport drinks just to the point of sloshing as you run, your body absorbs the liquid quickly to keep your muscles from being depleted. No leg cramps today but we did suffer exhaustion from the terrible hills we were forced to climb to get to the foxes. Same three hour time limit for this approximate 2500 X 3000 meter course and the same decisions to go the right way to get to your foxes in the minimum amount of time. Doesn't matter which order you get them in, just as long as you get them. Scoring was done by an electronic stick you wear on your finger which is placed into a small computer hole which records the time, elapsed time, etc. No problems on this day.

Upon returning we cleaned up and attended our awards banquet. Great feast and great camaraderie! The author certainly didn't break any course records in any categories but was still proud to receive fourth place medals in both two and eighty meter finish and overall categories. I am very much looking forward to next year's competition which looks as if it will be held in Raleigh, NC, possibly in April of 2006. And best yet, my XYL's knee should be healed and our daughter's wedding will be history so my wife will be able to accompany me again. I really missed her this year.

D. Michael Cegelski, K8EHP
k8ehp@earthlink.net

Association News

Looking Forward

Mark your calendars for the following upcoming LEARA activities.

General Meeting:

Tuesday, August 30—Dinner Meeting at Dimitri’s. See this issue for program details.

Trustees Meeting:

Saturday, September 10– (Parma-Snow Library, on Snow Road across from Dimitri’s): Any LEARA member is welcome to join the bi-monthly meeting of the officers. If you have an issue that you would like to be heard by the Trustees, we strongly recommend that you submit it to any Trustee prior to the meeting date.

General Meeting:

Tuesday, September 28– Dinner Meeting at Dimitri’s. See future issues for details.

If you have a program idea for LEARA’s monthly general meeting, contact our Program Chair, Sara (KC8KSU) at kc8ksu@leara.org or call 440-942-8787, and she’ll git ‘er done!




Public Service:

Saturday, September 10—River Run 5 K, half marathon, and in-line skate event. **Contact:** Eric Jessen, N8AUC, at 440-734-3146 or n8auc@hotmail.com to volunteer.

Sunday, October 9—Towpath Marathon. Details to follow in a future issue.

Monday, October 31— Shaker Heights Pumpkin Patrol. Details to follow in a future issue.

July Door Prize Winners

Battery Eliminator	N8YNT		Triathlon T-Shirt	Joshua Kinosh
Battery Jump Box	N8OOF		Triathlon T-Shirt	Marilyn Kinosh
Triathlon T-Shirt	KC8TJH		Triathlon T-Shirt	W2THU
Auto Window Shade	K8ZBE		Triathlon T-Shirt	K8EHP
Triathlon T-shirt	KC8FQV		Triathlon T-Shirt	N8AUC
Yaesu Baseball cap	KB8UTA		Triathlon T-Shirt	KC8FOC

LEARA PICNIC ALBUM

The annual LEARA picnic was held in the Oak Grove Reservation of the Cleveland Metroparks on July 26th. Although the weather was stormy, it did not interfere with the cook-out, meeting, door prizes and direction finding demonstration. Here are some photographs courtesy of Joanne Swartz, KB8TGX.



Don, N8DJG & Joe, N8IPC



Dale W8ABZ, Tom W8TAB, Jess KD8ACJ,
Dave KD8ACO, Laurie KC8MYE



Jeff, N8YNR & Jim, N8XDO



Steve, KB8UTA & Ray, N8YNT



Bob, W2THU & Dave, WB8APD



Carol, Don, N8DJG & Joanne, KB8TGX



Tom, KA8BZB

Upcoming Regional Events

Contact Sara Cechner, KC8KSU, at 440-942-8787 or send email to editor@leara.org with updates.

September

11 63rd Annual Findlay Radio Club Hamfest

Findlay Radio Club
<http://www.findlayradioclub.org>
 Talk-In: 147.15; 444.15
 Contact: Bill Kelsey, N8ET
 3521 Spring Lake Drive
 Findlay, OH 45840
 Phone: 419-423-5643
 Email: kanga@bright.net

25 Cleveland Hamfest

Hamfest Association of Cleveland
www.hac.org
 Talk-In 146.73 (110.9 PL)
 Contact: Bill Beckman, N8LXY
 4360 Metropolitan Drive
 Cleveland, Ohio 44135
 Phone: 800-CLE-FEST
 Email: info@hac.org

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The letters are approximately 2 inches tall and the base is 10 inches in length.

Available for \$12.00 each.
 \$2.00 from each purchase
 will be donated to LEARA.
 These make an excellent gift.

Contact Jacob Kinosh at: 440-989-8170
 or
KC8GHX@hotmail.com

All orders placed by June 10th, 2005 will be available for pickup at Field Day, June 25 - 26.

2005 Volunteer Exam

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
9/6	Cuyahoga Falls
9/11	Independence
9/18	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:** Robert Gauss, N8ZB, 330-563-3328, n8zb@yahoo.com

Cuyahoga Falls - 3512 Darrow Rd., Stow, OH 44224. Test at 7:00 PM, walk-ins allowed. **Contact:** Bruce M. Ferry, 330-929-2766.

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

Kirtland - Kirtland Library, 9267 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, OH 44094. Testing at 12:00 PM, Walk-ins are welcome. **Contact:** Scott Farnham, 440-256-0320.

** **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 \$14.00. Check with the contact person in advance for specific testing site requirements and any special test accommodations needed.

LEARA

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Beachwood OH 44122-0823

The Spirit of '76 & '88

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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 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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