



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Joe Prokop KC8RAN

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

\*\*\* 2005 Officer and Trustee Election Results—Page 3 \*\*\*

**This Month's Meeting — Tuesday, November 29, 2005**



## LEARA Annual Holiday Meeting

**Friends....Food....Baklava...The Best Door Prize of the Year!**

*The trustees of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association cordially invites you, and your family and friends, to join us on Tuesday, November 29, 2005 at 6:30 PM at Dimitri's Restaurant in the Mid-Town Shopping Center, Snow & Broadview Rd. in Parma.*



This year's menu includes an expanded menu consisting of:  
Chicken Paprikash                      Chicken Parmigian  
Veal Marsala                      Broiled Ribeye Steak (cut from prime rib)  
Garden Fresh Pasta (Vegetarian dish)  
Broiled Alaskan Salmon                      Orange Roughy  
Breaded Pork Chops with Escalloped Apples



Dinner includes minestrone soup, mashed potatoes, rolls and butter, beverage (coffee, tea, iced tea, or pop) and dessert. You get all of this, and a chance at a fantastic door prize, for only \$16!

**Reservations are required. RSVP to Marv Grossman at 440-248-0031 by 8:00 Monday November 28!**

No need to specify the main dish-you will be offered a menu with the selections. However, we do need to know how many are attending. We need to know ahead of time the desert preferences for all.

**SPECIFY DESSERT (ICE CREAM OR BAKLAVA) WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION !**

### November, 2005

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| OFFICERS  |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <b>Eric Jessen</b><br>President   | <b>N8AUC</b><br>440-734-3146  |
| <b>Jim Ozello</b><br>Vice President   | <b>N8XDO</b><br>216-475-7218  |
| <b>Tom Bishop</b><br>Vice President   | <b>W8TAB</b><br>440-331-9374  |
| <b>Steve Kinosh</b><br>Secretary  | <b>KB8UTA</b><br>440-288-4141 |
| <b>Dave Foran</b><br>Treasurer  | <b>WB8APD</b><br>440-942-0618 |
| <b>Eric Jessen</b><br>License Trustee   | <b>N8AUC</b><br>440-734-3146  |
| TRUSTEES  |                               |
| <b>Cliff Bade</b>   | <b>W8CJB</b><br>440-235-1122  |
| <b>Raye Bayun</b>   | <b>N8NAP</b><br>146.760/R     |
| <b>Jeff Garvas</b>  | <b>N8YNR</b><br>216-552-4368  |
| <b>Marv Grossman</b>  | <b>W8AZO</b><br>440-248-0031  |
| <b>Jacob Kinosh</b>   | <b>KC8GHX</b>                 |
| <b>Tom Long</b>   | <b>N8QXA</b><br>440-356-0741  |
| <b>Joe Prokop</b>   | <b>KC8RAN</b><br>440-884-5796 |
| <b>John Radney</b>  | <b>KC8FOC</b><br>216-751-7067 |
| <b>Bryan Torok</b>  | <b>N8OOF</b><br>440-871-5456  |
| <b>Bob Winston</b>  | <b>W2THU</b><br>216-771-3314  |
| TRUSTEES EMERITUS   |                               |
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| <b>Pat Shreve</b>   | <b>W8GRG (SK)</b>             |
| <b>Al Severson</b>  | <b>AB8P (SK)</b>              |
| POINTS OF CONTACT   |                               |
| <b>Don Raith "Sunshine"</b>   | <b>N8DJG</b><br>216-921-7546  |
| <b>Ray Bayun</b><br>Radio Officer   | <b>N8NAP</b><br>146.76/R      |
| <b>Bryan Torok</b><br>Radio Officer   | <b>N8OOF</b><br>146.88/R      |
| Trustees and officers can be emailed at <a href="mailto:callsign@leara.org">callsign@leara.org</a>  |                               |
| The <i>Spirit of '76 &amp; '88</i> is published monthly except in December. Contributions must be received by the 1 <sup>st</sup> of the month. |                               |
| <b>Editor:</b><br>Joe Prokop, KC8RAN  |                               |

## de N8AUC...



At the November Trustees meeting, the election of officers for 2006 was held, just like it always is. Let me start by congratulating the newly elected officers and trustees. If I know Joe, you'll find election results and a list of the new officers elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter. He's good about stuff like that. I'd also like to thank Sara, KC8KSU for all of her service to LEARA. She's done a great job during her tenure as a LEARA trustee. But she decided not to run for reelection this year so she could pursue some other activities. Thanks a million, Sara!

While on the topic of elections...wouldn't you know it, I got elected to write a monthly column for the newsletter! Actually, that's just one of the duties of the President, but it may be one of the most visible duties, well that and presiding over the monthly membership meetings. Which reminds me, I've got to retrieve the gray metal box from W2THU before the November Holiday meeting.

Speaking of which, you really don't want to miss the annual LEARA Holiday Social. It will be held at Dimitri's on Tuesday, November 29. Now that's the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, and I promise there is no turkey on the menu. By that time, you'll probably be all turkey-ed out anyways. But there are some extra, and different menu choices for dinner that night so you won't want to miss that. And rumor has it that there will be an extra special door prize, too. You DEFINITELY don't want to miss that.

Keeping with the upcoming meeting theme, remember that LEARA does not hold a monthly meeting in December. Harry tells me that you're still welcome to have dinner at Dimitri's, but there won't be any club meeting to go along with it. Besides, that would fall smack dab in the middle of the holidays, and that time should really be spent with family. Additionally, there won't be a December newsletter. Those of you who are long time LEARA members know that we give the newsletter editor a month off in December. You could say it's a little holiday gift from the club to the editor. Now that sounds nice, don't you think?

On another note, have you remembered to renew your LEARA membership for 2006? If you haven't, please renew. Do it now while you're thinking about it. It only takes a

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

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

**Trustees' Meetings** are held on the second Saturday of odd numbered months at 9:00 a.m. at the Parma-Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 2121 Snow Rd., Parma, OH (opposite the Mid-Town Shopping Center). Meetings are open to all current members of LEARA.

## Association News

(de N8AUC, Continued from page 2)

couple of minutes, and it's so easy to do. Simply write a check for \$18, payable to LEARA, and mail it to the club's P. O box. Put your call sign on the check so Dave knows how to properly credit the dues payment. We've planning some neat stuff for 2006, and you don't want to miss out.

In closing, I'd like to wish you all the very best for the holiday season, and a safe, healthy, happy and prosperous New Year for 2006!

See you at Dimitri's on the 29th!

73 de N8AUC

### October Meeting Recap

de KC8RAN

The October meeting is the annual election meeting. This year's election for trustees resulted in the closest finish for one of the trustee positions. The following trustees were re-elected:

Eric Jessen N8AUC  
Cliff Bade W8CJB  
Steve Kinosh KB8UTA  
John Radney KC8FOC

Sara, KC8KSU, elected not to run for re-election. Her spot was closely contested, with Joe Prokop KC8RAN, being elected by a margin of one vote over Mike Cegelski K8EHP. The results were certified by the election chairman, Bryan N8OOF and accepted by the members attending.

While the counters were busy doing their service to the club, the remaining members had an open forum discussion with some interesting stories. Raye, N8NAP brought some vintage equipment and asked the members if they recognized any of the pieces and what they are used for. The mystery equipment was used in repeaters.

Steve, AA8MX, talked about his introduction to radio with the old Lafayette CB band radios. Let's just say him and his friend used the equipment to coordinate activities that can best be described as "youthful mischievousness". Steve also related how Gail AA8MY, was not too interested in ham radio. However, she observed how easy code was as it sounded so much like music. The next thing you know, they both mastered the code. By the way, Gail achieved her Extra class license!

Finally, keeping in the topic of youthful mischievousness, Darren, K8DMT, talked about his home made motor. The one interesting characteristic of this motor was that it was one

(Continued on page 6)

### Club Officer Elections

de Steve Kinosh, KB8UTA  
Club Secretary

#### November Trustees Meeting Election of Officers

November is the month for elections and LEARA is no exception. At this month's trustees meeting, the election of officers for 2006 took place.

Your officers for the coming year are:

|                 |              |        |
|-----------------|--------------|--------|
| President       | Eric Jessen  | N8AUC  |
| Vice Presidents | Jim Ozello   | N8XDO  |
|                 | Tom Bishop   | W8TAB  |
| Secretary       | Steve Kinosh | KB8UTA |
| Treasurer       | Dave Foran   | WB8APD |
| Radio Officers  | Bryan Torok  | N8OOF  |
|                 | Raye Bayun   | N8NAP  |
| License Trustee | Eric Jessen  | N8AUC  |

I would like to thank Bob Winston W2THU who has served as president for the last two year for his time and leadership, as well as to Bryan Torok N8OOF for his tenure as one of our vice presidents.

Thanks also to Sara Cechner KC8KSU who has served as our program chair for the last year. Due to other commitments, she has decided to not to continue in this position, but we look forward to seeing her at the monthly meetings.. She is being replaced by Tom Bishop W8TAB. If anyone has an idea for a speaker or a program, be sure to see Tom at one of our monthly meetings.

We also welcome Joe Prokop, KC8RAN, our newsletter editor as the newest member of the board of trustees. Joe has also taken over the Net Control coordination duties for the Club Net.

### Door Prize Winners!!!!

**Sara KC8KSU - Free Dinner**

**Cliff Walden—Home Repair Kit**

**Mike WF8P (ex KD8ACG) - Long Nose Pliers**

**Virden KD8UN—Solder**

**Mike K8EHP—Cable Ties**

**Jack W8JAK—Storage Case**

**Joe KC8RAN—50/50 (\$24)**

## Bandspread: Tuning The Bands...

*de KC8RAN*

Before writing this, I had just finished a quick QSO with CO8LY on 10.108. We exchanged 599 signal reports and 73's. I had started down on 80M CW and it was very noisy, with apparently weather related QRN. Moving up to 40M CW, the band was alive with RTTY contesters through most of our region's CW segment. By now, 20M was pretty much closed for the evening, so I looked into 30M.

This was a rare QSO on 30M, and I pretty much had been away from CW except for the occasional CW contact on the FO-29 and AO-7 satellites. But the real point of this was that, even as we enter the bottom of the sunspot cycle, opportunities still are available for chasing DX or just reaching out to see who is there. The combination of low solar activity and the upcoming winter means the best place to be will be in the lower frequency bands. Noise levels and D-layer absorption will be lower during the shorter winter days.

But all of the action isn't just in the HF bands. Recently the KE8HR repeater in the Detroit area has been heard often on 146.76. Occasionally the Columbus area 76 repeater has been heard as well. These indicate there are some openings that may be possible for contacts beyond the local repeater range. Once, after a rather deep low pressure system passed, I heard some W5's working a VE3 station on 144.200 USB.

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If you like participating in Skywarn nets and public service activities, there is another opportunity for you in traffic handling.

Locally, there is a training net that meets on 147.015 (+, no PL) every Sunday, Tuesday and Friday at 9:30 PM local time. Check out the website at <http://www.tricountytraffic.net> for more information. You will find links to download a training manual for handling traffic, acting as NCS for those who check in regularly as well as links to other traffic related information.

Also available are links to other nets dedicated to handling traffic. For beginners, the training net is the place to start. After you get some experience try checking into the Burning River Net, which meets daily at 9:30 PM on 147.150 (+). On 75 meters, the Ohio Single Sideband Net meets on 3972.5 kHz (+/- QRM) daily at 10:30 AM, 4:15 PM and 6:45 PM local time. For CW operators, the Ohio Slow Net meets on 3708 kHz at 6:10 PM local time.

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The Cuyahoga County Skywarn website notes that the

Wednesday Skywarn practice nets have been suspended for the season until February 2006.

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From the AMSAT news service and website: "Now is the time to begin preparing your amateur radio station to receive signals from SuitSat, the most unusual Amateur Radio satellite ever orbited. SuitSat amateur radio equipment will be installed inside a surplus Russian Orlan spacesuit. It will become an independently orbiting satellite once it is deployed by the crew of the International Space Station during an extravehicular activity, tentatively planned around December 8, 2005.

The SuitSat project will transmit, Telemetry, Pre-Recorded Voice messages and one SSTV image. The whole process will repeat approximately every 9 minutes. (Robot 36 format). All transmissions will be in FM mode and will be on the 2-meter amateur radio satellite band. The current frequency for SuitSat is 145.990 FM Downlink only (There is no uplink for this satellite).



This means that the Doppler frequency drift will not be much of a problem and you will be able to use your existing 2-meter station or a police scanner to hear and decode the signals SuitSat. If you have already have been successful in working the Packet station or talked to the ISS crew on 2-meter voice, than you already have most of what you need. What's left is to connect your computer to the speaker of your radio and some SSTV decoding software..."

I'll pass on details on the Thursday club net after deployment. Also, you can monitor the AMSAT website for updates.

### Let Us Know

Have you or know of someone who has:

- Achieved an award or a feat worth celebrating?
- Recently upgraded or newly licensed?
- Done something above and beyond the call?
- Made a difference?

Submit your nomination with the name, callsign and the accomplishment to the editor ([kc8ran@leara.org](mailto:kc8ran@leara.org)) so we can recognize the achievement.

## Public Service

### Shaker Heights Halloween Patrol

By Joe N8IPC

Halloween night was warm and dry. It was perfect night for trick or treaters. It was also, a perfect night for those who had more trouble in mind. Since the late 1980's, LEARA hams have helped the Shaker Heights Police Department with a Halloween Patrol. Hams drove around designated areas in Shaker and report suspicious activities to Bob KB8CQX, who now heads the Strike Force. Bob relayed problems to patrol cars in the area who handled the situations.

This night was no exception. John KC8FOC, Tom KA8BZB, Bob W2THU, Mike K8EHP, Rich N8RB, Tom W8TAB, Joanne KB8TGX, and Joe N8IPC joined Bob KB8CQX and his lovely wife, Marge, for the drive about. Tim KB8WII was doing a ride along in an official Shaker patrol car and followed the action, both on the police radio and his 2m handheld. Bob's dad, Andy W8UDG, followed the action from home with his new antenna. A big thank you to all who participated!

The good news is that this Halloween in Shaker was relatively quiet. A few eggs were thrown. Several large groups of older kids were a concern, but were handled professionally. There were a few traffic jams. But mostly, it was a lovely, quiet evening. The bad news is that Bob KB8CQX is retiring and will not be available for next Halloween. The future of the Shaker Halloween Patrol is up in the air.

### Congrats, Kudos, and Well Done!

**Belated Congrats** go to **Angela Kovacs**, age 14 and middle daughter to her proud father **Terry Kovacs KC8NEO**. Angela took her VE test at the Dayton Hamvention (no pressure there!) this past May and received her ticket. **Angela's call is KD8BSC**. If you hear Angela or Terry, make sure to congratulate and welcome another young ham to the hobby.

More **congrats** go to **John KG8YZ**, who sent me the following email:

"My younger daughter, Joni, was married in March to Jason Rapp. Joni is in product merchandising at a Cleveland retailer and Jason is a Cleveland EMT. My older daughter, Janice, married Joe D'Egidio on October 8. Both work at Novastar Financial."

Not only does John gain two sons, he hopefully gained some prime real estate for the radios and the other good stuff!

Belated **kudos** to **Mike, ex-KD8ACG**, on passing the Extra in the past spring. Mike has also received a new call, **WF8P**. Look for Mike to be active on all of the bands!

### Public Service: Practice & the LEARA Net

The Public Service season has come to an end. However, now is the time to practice working in a net. Emergency and public service event communications come in the form of a directed net.

For example, Skywarn conducts practice nets during the severe thunderstorm season. In these nets, the opportunity is given both to check in and to run a directed net. When the time comes to activate the Skywarn net, the net control and net check-in's have had sufficient practice so that they can perform effectively.

In the winter months, spend some time on the local nets. In particular, reserve some Thursday evenings to check into the LEARA club net. Each month, the following announcement is placed in the newsletter:

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly net is held every Thursday evening at 8:00 PM on the 146.760 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. This is an open and informal net intended to provide the opportunity to test radio equipment, promote fellowship among local amateur radio operators, and develop radio traffic handling skills.

If you are interested in serving as net control operator, please contact Joe, KC8RAN to be scheduled into the rotation. Any ideas for topics are always welcome. In addition, club news and announcements are made during these nets, so it pays to check in and be an active part of the club.

(October meeting, continued from page 3)

very effective jamming machine. It worked on things like local CB's, cordless phones and mobile radios.

In other club news, club president Bob, W2THU, read an email from the Tri-County Traffic Net webmaster, Bill WB9LBI. (Information regarding the net and traffic handling can be found in the Bandsread column in this month's issue).

Finally, some sad news was passed on to Bob. Julius, K8JK (formerly licensed as K8HKB) became a Silent Key. Julius was a former club member.

### Let Us Know

Have you recently upgraded or received a vanity call-sign? Did you finally get that last state for your WAS award or finally received your DXCC? Let us know. Please share your amateur radio related awards or special recognitions by sending a note to [editor@leara.org](mailto:editor@leara.org)

### A Personal Note...

De KC8RAN

It came to my attention at the November trustees meeting that NOARD, also known as the "west side candy store" is no longer in business.

My first exposure to LEARA was picking up a newsletter (actually about 3 months' worth) at this store. Also, Rick, K8SCI was always willing to help with antenna supplies, connectors, books adapters and any other needs.

Without commenting on the economics, or any other uncontrollable factors leading up to the closing, it saddens me to see another lost opportunity. How many other new hams, or future club members, will be lost for lack of a local resource for books, training materials or supplies.

Speaking solely for myself, please consider supporting your local outlets as possible before going to the Internet or mail order. Obviously, you need to make good purchasing decisions. But all things being equal, support your local candy store first.

**Got a Hot Topic for a future club meeting?**

**Contact Tom, W8TAB ([w8tab@leara.org](mailto:w8tab@leara.org)) and let Tom know !**

## Reminder:

**There will not be a club meeting in December. There will also not be a newsletter in December. Enjoy your time with family and friends during this upcoming holiday season!**



### Coming Attractions....

*de KC8RAN*

In upcoming editions of the Spirit of 76 & 88:

Steve, KB8UTA is currently stalking a prominent member of our club to profile in an upcoming edition of the newsletter. Rumor has it he will disguise himself as a member of the Reader's Digest Prize Patrol to get his foot in the door.

"Roll Your Own" will debut in January. I have 2 or 3 ideas for this, but I need your help. If you have anything you would like to write about, please send it to me by January 2. Also, if you would like to see something, drop me a message

Contact me at [kc8ran@cox.net](mailto:kc8ran@cox.net) if you can contribute to these new features. You can also catch me on the club net, or send a message through the NTS system.

### Future Club Meetings:

**Nov 29 6:30 PM - Annual Holiday Meeting**

**Jan 14 ('06) 9:00 AM - Trustees Meeting**

**Jan 31, 6:30 PM - tbd; listen to the Thursday club net for updates.**

## ARRL News (From the ARRL Bulletins)

### ARRL 2005 HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE KICKING INTO GEAR

Toys already have begun showing up in Memphis, Tennessee, in response to the ARRL 2005 Holiday Toy Drive appeal. The League has partnered with The Salvation Army for this year's effort to brighten the holiday season for children in the coastal areas of Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana left homeless or displaced in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

"As The Salvation Army continues to provide assistance to the victims of the largest natural disaster in modern US history, we are excited to partner with the ARRL in providing toys for children affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita this holiday season," said Mark Jones, The Salvation Army's public relations director.

Country music artist Patty Loveless, KD4WUJ, is the Holiday Toy Drive's national chairperson.

The collection point for the toys is in Memphis, Tennessee, where the League has secured a warehouse facility. Between now and December 10, the ARRL is encouraging ham radio operators throughout the US to purchase new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1 through 4 and send them with a QSL card to ARRL Toy Drive/The Salvation Army, 1775 Moriah Woods Blvd--Suite 12, Memphis, TN 38117-7125.

"Thousands of families are without a place to live and will be homeless over the coming holiday season," he said. "For a child living out of a tent or car, FEMA trailer or someone else's home, the 2005 holiday season will be anything but jolly. But hams from all across the country are coming to their rescue again through the ARRL Holiday Toy Drive."

Cash donations from ARRL members also are welcome. League members may send checks to ARRL Holiday Toy Drive, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

More information about the ARRL 2005 Holiday Toy Drive is available on the League's Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/pio/>>.

### LF EXPERIMENTATION BY RADIO AMATEURS CONTINUES QUIETLY

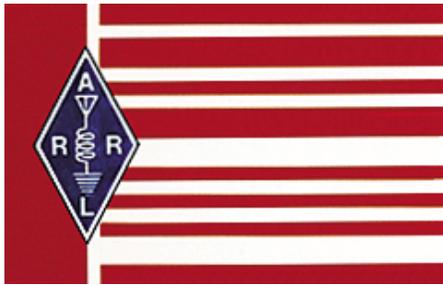
Experimentation by radio amateurs in the nether regions of the radio spectrum continues quietly and largely unnoticed outside of the LF community. Since the FCC turned down the ARRL's 1998 petition to create an Amateur Radio "sliver band" in the vicinity of 136 kHz, some US amateur licensees have obtained FCC Part 5 Experimental licenses to research the possibilities of LF, including transatlantic and transpacific propagation. A few hams in Canada have obtained special permission from Industry Canada to operate on LF using Amateur Radio call signs. The latest noteworthy accomplishment was a 137 kHz QSO <http://www.w1tag.com/XDWQSO.htm> October 29 between US Experimental licensees Laurence Howell, KL1X--operating as WD2XDW--and John Andrews, W1TAG--operating as WD2XES.

"This is the second two-way between US Experimental licensees in that frequency range, the first being a 25-mile CW contact between K2ORS/WD2XGJ and myself last year," said Andrews. The QSO between Andrews, in Massachusetts, and Howell, in Oklahoma, spanned some 1340 miles. LFers typically use very low data rates and process the incoming sound-card audio in real time using DSP software like WOLF or ARGO.

During the October 29 contact, which took more than two hours to complete, Andrews was running 200 W output into a large, tree-supported vertical loop. Howell was running 1 kW into a tree-supported vertical loop.

Experimentation under FCC Part 15 rules in the vicinity of 160 to 190 kHz has been going on for years by radio amateurs and non-amateurs alike. Amateur Radio licensees in Europe and elsewhere have an allocation at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz, and most Amateur Radio experimentation takes place in this band.

## MEANINGFUL ENTRY-LEVEL LICENSE PRIVILEGES ARE TOP PRIORITY, ARRL SAYS



The ARRL again has urged the FCC to provide meaningful operating privileges to entry-level Amateur Radio licensees, including access to HF, even if the Commission doesn't want to create a new license class. Commenting in response to the FCC's July 9 Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235, the League also stood by its stance that the Commission retain the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for Amateur Extra applicants, but do away with it for General applicants.

"Retaining Morse telegraphy as a requirement for only the Amateur Extra class license, in ARRL's view, places Morse telegraphy in a proper, balanced perspective," the League told the Commission October 31, the deadline to comment in the proceeding. Reply comments were due November 14.

The FCC's NPRM&O proposed eliminating the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes but denied requests to create a new entry-level license class with limited HF privileges. The League said the FCC needs to finish the job of license restructuring it began in 1998 by reviewing operating privileges for all classes--especially at the first rung of the licensing ladder.

"The elimination of Morse telegraphy, absent a more thorough review of operating privileges in the Amateur Service, will not address the ascertained flaws in the only entry-level license class," the ARRL asserted, referring to the Technician license. "That license class is not attracting or keeping newcomers in its present configuration, and it needs fixing right now." The ARRL reminded the FCC that its restructuring plan enjoyed the support of the two Amateur Radio licensees in Congress--Rep Greg Walden, W7EQI (R-OR) and Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR).

Eliminating the Morse requirement for General class applicants "creates an anomaly with respect to the Technician class license," the ARRL noted. "If the telegraphy requirement for the General class license is eliminated, the distinction between the Technician class licensee and the Technician Plus class licensee will have disappeared completely." Therefore, the League contends, there is a logical basis for affording Technician licensees entry-level HF privileges.

The time is right to take a look at the operating privileges of Amateur Radio license classes, the ARRL said in its filing, "because the entry-level license class is demonstrably neither attractive to newcomers nor encouraging in terms of retaining the interest of license holders."

To back up its assertions, the League pointed to surveys it conducted in 1992 and 2003. Nearly half of the licensees responding in the latter poll indicated that they were not currently active in Amateur Radio--up 30 percent from the earlier survey. "The number of inactive Technician class licensees is 46 percent," the ARRL noted, adding that more than a quarter of Technicians responding in 2003 said they'd never even been on the air.

The League pointed out that the FCC's proposed across-the-board elimination of the Morse requirement eliminates a simple mechanism for current Technician licensees to obtain HF operating privileges--passing the 5 WPM code exam.

If the FCC does nothing other than eliminate the Morse requirement for the General license, the ARRL commented, it would make no sense to continue to deprive Technician licensees the HF operating privileges that Tech Plus licensees now enjoy.

"To do otherwise is to draw a distinction that is entirely arbitrary," the League concluded.

**HANDCRAFTED OAK CALLSIGN**

**KC8GHX**

Add that touch of class to your Shack.

Custom made with your callsign.  
Handcrafted in red oak from a computer designed template.  
Finished with several coats of high-quality lacquer for durability and years of enjoyment.  
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



Yellow plastic bin boxes.

2000 available .25 each. used.

12" long, 4" high, 1 1/2" wide on bottom, and 2 1/2" wide at the top.

Take all or some.

Contact

Steve Kinosh KB8UTA  
skinosh@hotmail.com  
440-288-4141



Need help with getting your license or upgrading to the next level. Contact LEARA by email to [elmer@leara.org](mailto:elmer@leara.org) or visit the club website at [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org).

**"It's Easier Than You Think!"**

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

November

December

20-Nov-2005

Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY ARA  
RED CROSS

Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: CHARLES S HALL  
(216)433-3036

Email: [VE@W8HF.COM](mailto:VE@W8HF.COM)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: AMERICAN RED  
CROSS

2929 W RIVER RD N

[WWW.W8HF.COM](http://WWW.W8HF.COM) (HOME

PAGE)

ELYRIA, OH 44035

27-Nov-2005

Sponsor: WARREN ARA

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

Contact: WILLIAM H SHOWERS  
(330)872-1929

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: NEWTON FALLS COM-  
MUNITY CENTER

52 E QUARRY ST

REGISTRATION @ 6:30 PM

NEWTON FALLS, OH 44444

03-Dec-2005

Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA

Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins al-  
lowed)

Contact: SCOTT FARNHAM  
(440)256-0320

Email: [SCOTTFARN-](mailto:SCOTTFARNHAM@ADELPHIA.NET)

[HAM@ADELPHIA.NET](mailto:SCOTTFARNHAM@ADELPHIA.NET)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: KIRTLAND LIBRARY

9267 CHILLICOTHE ROAD

ROUTE 306

1.7 MI S OF I-90

KIRTLAND, OH 44094

06-Dec-2005

Sponsor: CUYAHOGA FALLS  
ARC

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins al-  
lowed)

Contact: BRUCE M FERRY  
(330)929-2766

Contact: SEE WEB PAGE

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: STOW-MUNROE

FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

3512 DARROW RD

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

STOW, OH 44224

18-Dec-2005

Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY  
ARA RED CROSS

Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins al-  
lowed)

Contact: CHARLES S HALL  
(216)433-3036

Email: [VE@W8HF.COM](mailto:VE@W8HF.COM)

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: AMERICAN RED  
CROSS

2929 W RIVER RD N

[WWW.W8HF.COM](http://WWW.W8HF.COM) (HOME

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ELYRIA, OH 44035

**Are your  
Dues Paid?**

**The time is  
now to re-  
new for  
2006!**

# 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 (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

## INTERNET:

- [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org)
- To subscribe via e-mail, send a message to: **spirit76-request@leara.org**  
Put subscribe in the subject area and your name and callsign in the body.  
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Northern Ohio



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