



The Spirit of '76 and '88

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Joe Prokop KC8RAN

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

****April Special Announcement: LEARA Field Day Cruise: See inside! ****

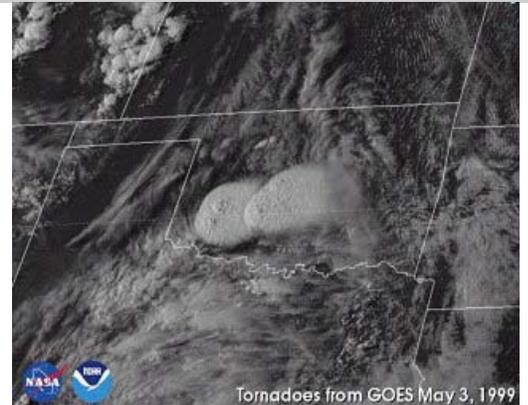
This Month's Meeting — April 25, 2006

Skywarn!

**Dinner 6:30, Meeting at 7:00 PM
(note time change!)**

One of the most popular, well-attended meetings is the Skywarn meeting. This year it was scheduled a month later. But be prepared for a large crowd! Arrive Early!

The meeting will be at Dimitri's Restaurant in the Midtown Shopping Center (Broadview and Snow Road, Parma). Dinner is served at 6:30 PM, with the meeting and program beginning at 7:30 PM. Dinner choices (Chicken Parmigiana, Steak or Broiled Scrod) are \$15 per person, and reservations are required if you wish to eat. Call Marv Grossman at (440) 248-0031 or online at leara.org.



Tornadoes from GOES May 3, 1999
Satellite view of 2 tornadoes in Oklahoma May 3, 1995 from the NOAA image website

March Meeting Highlights: Digital Video Processing

Dave W8KFJ, returned for an excellent presentation on the origins of digital video processing. As was the case with a lot of the technological advancements, amateur radio operators were at the forefront. In this case, the story started with an ATV club in the Indianapolis area in the 1960's. This is where Dave met Mike Tallent, the developer of digital video processing.

The presentation was an interview of Mike Tallent by Dave. This video was recorded to make sure that the story of how digital video processing came about. By the way, anyone who saw the video will agree that

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April 2006

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Bryan Torok Radio Officer	N8OOF 146.88/R

Trustees and officers can be emailed at callsign@leara.org

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

Editor:

Joe Prokop, KC8RAN

de N8AUC

I think it's pretty safe to say that "spring has sprung". The Indians are playing again. Soon there will be leaves on the trees again, and it's looking like the old lawn mower is going to have to get used before tax day. Someone once told me that it was just plain wrong to mow your lawn before April 15. I forget who that was, but I like the way he was thinking. Of course if you live in a warmer climate than ours, that doesn't necessarily hold water. But then I grew up here, and this is pretty much what I'm used to.

I don't know about the rest of you, but my antennas seem to have handled winter OK. I was playing on 20m the other day, and things were working quite well. I know, that means they're not up high enough. But given the fact that there are three sets of power lines running across my yard, it's about as good as it's gonna get.

In the news flash department, it seems as though ham radio is back on for the Cleveland Marathon despite reports I had received to the contrary. This is according to a recent email from Jerry, K8CMI. That's the good news. The bad news is that the Marathon is being held on the same weekend as the Dayton Hamvention. If you're not planning on going to Dayton, send Jerry an email and lend a hand with the Marathon. His email address is gdsteele@yahoo.com.

Don't forget - Memorial Day weekend is the Westlake Soccer Tournament. As usual, we need all the help we can get. If you can help, give me a call, or send me an email at n8auc@leara.org.

I would also be remiss if I didn't mention that Field Day is coming. Always the fourth full weekend in June, which this year is the weekend of June 24-25. Plans are to be down at the Lakefront State Park again, so plan on joining us.

I sure hope you didn't miss last month's LEARA meeting. Dave Kennett W8KFJ did a great job presenting an interview he did with Mike Tallent, who is arguably the "father of digital video". It was fascinating hearing about

(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 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

Congrats, Kudos, and Well Done!

Congrats to Randy, KD8RB!

Randy has recently completed all 3 sections of the ARRL Emergency Communications courses. His call is listed in the March 2006 issue of QST Honor Roll listing for all those completing the courses. Given the events of the past few years, we need competent, trained radio operators to fill the void when "all else fails". Thanks to Randy for taking the time and effort to complete the training!

LEARA Annual Picnic (de KB8UTA)

You may be thinking that it is too early to talk about the annual LEARA picnic. Well, at any other time, you would be right. For the last several years, Jeff, N8YNR and Lori, KC8MYE have done a fantastic job of organizing, preparing foods and cooking. With the new addition to their family this past fall, they are looking to pass the reins on to someone else. We are looking for a volunteer, or volunteers to take on this function. Jeff and Lori will work with you to get things going, and there is always a lot of help at the picnic. In the past, we have had the picnic at the Brecksville reservation in the Metro Parks system. It would be up to whom ever takes over on whether to keep it there or move. If you are a west sider and know of a good location, preferably with a shelter as we all know what happened last year go for it. As long as we have enough notice to get the information in the newsletter. If you are interested, or want to work as a team with other club member, get in touch with one of the trustees and we will point you in the right direction.

(de N8AUC, Continued from page 2)

how they dealt with some very fundamental limitations of the electronic devices of the early 1970's.

Don't forget to check in to our club nets. The regular club net is held every Thursday at 8PM on the 146.76 repeater. And our bi-weekly SSTV net is held every other Saturday on the 146.88 repeater. Be there, or be square.

The April meeting will be our Annual Skywarn Spotter Training. This one fills up fast, so if you want a seat, I'd recommend you join the gang for dinner. Give Marv W8AZO a call at 216-248-0031 to make dinner reservations. Unfortunately, due to a family committment, I won't be there to dine with you this month. But I'll be back for the May meeting. So until then...

73 de N8AUC

Upcoming Meetings:

April 25: Skywarn (make your reservations early!)

May 13: Trustees' Meeting

May 30: Satellite Operation/Beginner & Field Day Opportunities

June 24: Field Day

July 8: Trustees' Meeting

July 25: (?) Picnic Meeting (see the adjoining notice)

Club meetings, with the exception of the June Field Day and picnic meetings, are held at Dimitri's in the MidTown Shopping Center. Trustees Meetings are open to all members in good standing and are held at the Snow Rd. Library across from Dimitri's.

LEARA "On The Air" Club Net Information

Club Net:

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.

Any member of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association interested in trying their hand at directing the weekly net is encouraged to contact Joe KC8RAN (kc8ran@leara.org) or as listed on page 2.

Slow Scan Night:

LEARA is again hosting a net on Saturdays at 8:00, every other week. This is an informal net, run more like a roundtable. NOTE: This is GREAT opportunity to take advantage of the superior audio quality to send some fantastic pictures. We are experimenting with high resolution modes. Also, on "off" weeks, look for a bunch of us just hanging around on the repeater.

If you need help getting started in receiving or sending pictures, this net is THE place to be. Each week we all seem to learn something new. John, N8OBJ has walked many of us through setup and operation of MMSSTV, the most popular freeware program used for SSTV. You can also drop an email to kc8ran@leara.org.

See you on Saturday Nights on "88"!

Association News

(March Highlights, Continued from page 1)

Mike's basement (where the interview was recorded)



is the envy of every techno-radio-geek. Besides the video stuff, lots of old "boat anchor" radios were seen in excellent condition.

The video told the story of how the newscasts were using film, still wet from the developing lab, for their stories. The video tape technology of the time was not good enough to meet the standards for broadcasts. In order to eliminate the "wow" and flutter, a

time-based corrector was needed to make sure the picture was stabilized. This was done using analog circuitry with complicated mechanical corrections.

In order to be able to digitize the signal, 256 high speed converters were used to do the analog to digital conversion. At the time, memory technology was slow and low in capacity. The solution was to use a lot of high speed (at that time) shift registers arranged in groups to support the speed requirements. A lot of invention came out of the necessity of taking a video signal and converting it into a digital signal!

Now, imagine having a product, no manufacturing capacity, and suddenly receiving a lot of orders. The first units, just recently brought to life, were shown in an upstairs hotel room at the National Association of Broadcasters 1973 Convention. Having only a couple of working prototypes to show, Mike did demonstrations almost all day long. Acceptance was great and suddenly hundreds were on order!

Thanks go to Dave for taking the time to record the history of the technology that we now take for granted in delivering excellent video quality, both over the air and in the home entertainment equipment. And thanks as well for sharing this at our March meeting.

Door Prize Winners:

The following individuals saw their taxable income increase dramatically for 2006. In order to protect their identity, no Social Security numbers will be given:

Jerry, KC8NMX— Free Dinner

Josh, guest of Steve, KB8UTA who will not assume tax liability—Flashlight

Tom, KA8BZB-Part case

Jeff, N8YNR-Torx screwdriver set

Steve, KB8UTA-Multi-blade screwdriver

Mark, KC8FQV -Drill bit set

50/50—Anna, purveyor of great food

The LEARA Field Day Cruise...



OK, so maybe it's not the prettiest girl at the dance, but, hey, it's a great RF ground thanks to the salt water! Seriously, join us at the Field Day site this year at the Lakefront State Park June 24-25!

Let Us Know

Have you recently upgraded or received a vanity callsign? 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

Club Member Profiles *de Steve KB8UTA*

Interview with Bill Chaikin, KA8VIT, March 25, 2006.

LEARA: How did you get interested in amateur radio? What got you started?

When I was nine a WW2 buddy of my dad Fred Sharp, W8ASF, got “stuck” watching me one Sunday afternoon while my dad taught his kids piano. Fred took me into his basement and into his shack to keep me busy. Back then all the equipment was boat anchor stuff and he had quite a bit of it, along with a couple of oscilloscopes and other test gear. It was like being in NASA’s mission control. He fired up his transmitter and receiver on 10-meter phone, called CQ a couple of times and worked a guy in Connecticut. After this he worked a guy on 40-meter CW, translating what was being said for me as the QSO progress. The ham radio bug bit me in the butt that afternoon and has never let go. Fred became my Elmer.

LEARA: How long have you been licensed and what class license do you hold now?

In 1974 I finally got my Novice ticket but it lapsed without me upgrading. I later started over again and in October of 1981 was issued KA8VIT. In total I have been license just over 26 years I currently hold an Extra class ticket along with being a VE.

LEARA: What do you like about amateur radio?

Well, there are many, many things I like about amateur radio, but I think the best thing is that me and my radio can communicate with some other person and their radio without any other help or infrastructure. Even today, radio is the only thing that can do that.

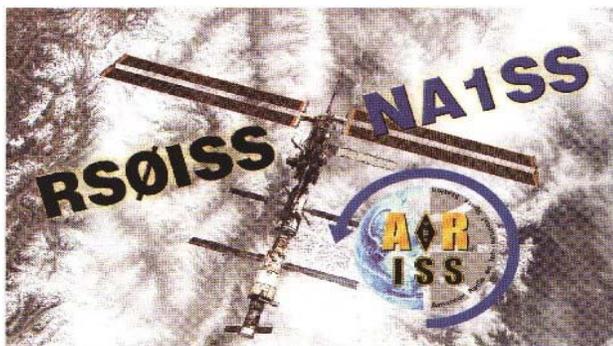
LEARA: What are you favorite bands to work?

I guess that would depend on where in the sunspot cycle we are. Lately, I have been mostly on 40 and 80-meter CW. 20 and 30-meters if they are still open by the time I get on the air.

LEARA: Do you collect QSL cards? If so, how many countries do you have confirmed? What is your favorite card?

I have always loved getting QSL cards and still get excited when I find one in the mailbox. I have amassed a pretty good collection of QSL cards over the years. I am not sure how many countries I have confirmed from this QTH, but it is somewhere around 40.

Here is one of my most favorite cards...



LEARA: What other hobbies do you have besides amateur radio?

I like playing with computers and microcontrollers, observing artificial satellites, guns, hunting and the outdoors.

LEARA: What would you dream station be? Where would it be?

Hmmm... that’s hard to say. I am at a point in my life where I am happy just operating the station I do have.

LEARA: What type of work do you do?

I work in Information Technology, designing and writing software used by the medical claims processing and insurance industries.

The International Space Station is a common project of 16 nations: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States. When fully constructed the Space Station will consist of approximately 70 separate major components and hundreds of minor ones that are due to be launched into space by the year 2004. Some of the major components are:

- **Zarya, also called Functional Cargo Block (FCB – acronym from the Russian term)**—includes the energy block, contingency fuel storage, propulsion and multiple docking points.
- **Zvezda, also called Russian Service Module**—provides life support and utilities, thrusters and habitation functions (toilets and hygiene facilities).
- **Canadian Mobile Servicing System**—includes a 55-foot robot arm with 125-ton payload capability, as well as a mobile transporter, which can be positioned along the truss for robotic assembly and maintenance operations.
- **US, European and Japanese Laboratories**—together provide 33 International Standard Payload Racks with additional science space available in the two Russian Research Modules.
- **The Amateur Radio station** is frequently used to allow the ISS crew to talk with school children and fellow amateurs around the world.

From	To	Day	Month	Year	UTC	MHz	Mode
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA1ISS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RS0ISS	KA8VIT	09	08	2002	2053	144.49	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice <input type="checkbox"/> Packet <input type="checkbox"/> SSTV <input type="checkbox"/> SWL

Pix from the SSTV Night



These pictures were sent over the "88" repeater and received at KC8RAN. See the January '06 newsletter for ways you can join the Saturday SSTV group.

Attention Newsletter Subscribers: Are you getting the newsletter by "snail mail"? Want to see these pictures in color? You can obtain the newsletter online at leara.org.

Announcements and Upcoming Public Service

Cleveland Marathon May 21

The race is in need of a lot of amateur radio operators. The course spans both the east and west side of Cleveland and there are plenty of posts to be manned. The following letter was received from Jerry K8CMI, who is in charge of this year's radio support for the race "...The race starts at 7:00am and is scheduled to end at 3:00pm. That would put us all at our assignments somewhere between 6:30 and 6:45. Please let me know as soon as you can if you can help out on May 21st and if there is an assignment you would like to have. I think I have the assignments from 2004 if that would help. I'm looking forward to hearing from you and hopefully you will be able to come out and play radio. Thanks again, Jerry Steele K8CMI". Jerry can be reach via email at gdsteele@yahoo.com.

Westlake Soccer Tournament May 27-28

Bring a lunch, HT, spare batteries and a lawn chair and be part of a great event. Amateur operators are needed to help with scores and communications between multiple fields and the tourney HQ tent. This is a win-win for all; we provide the help to the tournament staff so they can continue to host a premier event, and we get to play radio and watch some entertaining games (trust me, you either get wrapped up in the action or get a smile watching the younger players). Such a deal! Contact Eric N8AUC at (440) 734-3146 or n8auc@leara.org to be part of the fun.

Cleveland Triathlon July 23,2006

This year's Cleveland Triathlon will be held on Sunday morning July 23, 2006. As in the past, ham volunteers are needed to provide observation and communications support for the event. The first wave of swimmers will be hitting the water at 6:45 a.m. off of the East Ninth Street Pier. Cycling and running will all be done on the Shoreway between East Ninth Street and West Boulevard. All competitors should be off the course by noon or so (roads need to be opened for traffic in time for the Indians Game). Details (including maps) can be found on the event web site at: <http://www.pacificsportsllc.com/ClevelandTriathlon/athlete6.htm> . Current plans are to use the .88 repeater for the entire event. Hams will be meeting on the South Marginal Road near East 55th Street between 6:00 and 6:30 a.m. We can accommodate late arrivals or early departures so please indicate any special constraints. Doughnut Holes will be provided (BYO Coffee) along with T-shirts and vehicle credentials to identify you as part of the event. To volunteer, you may sign up at any LEARA meeting (including the June LEARA meeting at the field day site). You can also send me an e-mail at kaeightbzb@att.net (translate or fix), or give me a phone call at 216-371-2832 some evening.



Need help with getting your license or upgrading to the next level. Contact LEARA by email to elmer@leara.org or visit the club website at

www.leara.org.

"It's Easier Than You Think!"

ARRL News (from the ARRL Letter)

NEW MEXICO FUNDS EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION NETWORK

New Mexico has allocated \$500,000 to design, construct and install a statewide Amateur Radio emergency communication network. Rep Tom Anderson (R-Bernalillo), KB5YSG, sponsored the funding bill in the 2006 New Mexico legislative session.

"After hurricane Katrina, we've seen firsthand just how valuable Amateur Radio can be in a disaster," Anderson said. "The Gulf Coast hurricanes destroyed communications infrastructure and overwhelmed government resources. It was Amateur Radio operators who helped to save the day."

The state Department of Public Safety will pay for the equipment for Amateur Radio volunteers to use in disasters and emergencies. All of the equipment will be state-owned. Early plans call for the installation of strategically located, inter-linked VHF and UHF repeaters to handle both voice and digital communication.

In New Mexico, the potential exists for disastrous wildfires, tornadoes and floods. This year, when range fires broke out near Hobbs, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers provided communication support. Over the past several years, radio amateurs in New Mexico have been called upon to support communication during fires, for severe weather spotting (SKYWARN), during public service events and to assist Albuquerque with Hurricane Katrina refugees.

INJURED MINER RANDY MCCLOY, KC8VKZ, GOES HOME

Randy McCloy, KC8VKZ, the sole survivor of the January 2 Sago Mine disaster in West Virginia, left a Morgantown rehabilitation center March 30 and returned to his home on newly named Miracle Road in Simpson, West Virginia. "I'd just like to thank everybody for their thoughts and prayers," McCloy remarked on his departure. Neurologist Julian Bailes told reporters that he believes McCloy, 26, has a great potential for "a possibly complete" recovery. McCloy did require some assistance walking as he left the Morgantown facility.

West Virginia Gov Joe Manchin announced the new street name at a press briefing this week, and he presented McCloy with a Miracle Road street sign. Earlier this month McCloy visited his home in for the first time since the mine tragedy.

On March 2, McCloy's wife Anna told CBS The Early Show co-anchor Hannah Storm that her husband has told her he remembers "bits and pieces" of the mining disaster that left 12 of his co-workers dead of carbon monoxide poisoning. McCloy this week told the Associated Press that he doesn't understand why he was the only one to survive. He also said he will not go back to work in the mines.

A fund has been set up to accept donations for McCloy's benefit: The Randal McCloy Jr Fund, c/o Clear Mountain Bank, 1889 Earl Core Rd, Morgantown, WV 26505.

Ohio Section News

Want solid advice on your legal rights to a ham radio tower? Want the inside on forming a Local Interference Committee for your city? Or the 2006 ARES State conference in April? How about learning what is the "Holy Grail" of ham radio?

All this and more is in the latest issue - Spring issue - of the Ohio Section Journal edited by Assistant Section Manager, Ron Griffin, N8AEH, of Findlay. It is now available at the Ohio Section web site - www.iarc.ws/ohio. Through the work of Ohio Public Information Coordinator, Scott Yonally, N8SY, of Mansfield, this and every future OSJ edition, published quarterly, can automatically be E-mailed to your home. Check the web site for details.

(Continued on page 9)

Hamfest Listing

19-21 May 2006 (Pilgrimage to Dayton)

Dayton Hamvention

www.hamvention.org

(note: CARS will not be sponsoring a bus trip this year)

30 Jul 2006

HAMFAIR 2006

Portage Amateur Radio Club

<http://www.hamfair.com>

Talk-In: 145.390 -

Randolph, OH

Portage County Fairgrounds

State Route 44

Contact: Joanne Solak, KJ3O/8

9971 Diagonal Road

Mantua, OH 44255

Phone: 330-274-8240

Email: ljsolak@apk.net

24 Sep 2006

Cleveland Hamfest and Computer Show

Hamfest Association of Cleveland

<http://www.hac.org>

Talk-In: 146.73 (PL 110.9)

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds

Contact: Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc.

PO Box 81252

Cleveland, OH 44181-0252

Phone: 800-CLE-FEST

Email: info@hac.org

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

16-Apr-2006

Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY ARA RED CROSS

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

Contact: CHARLES S HALL (216)433-3036

Email: VE@W8HF.COM (WWW.W8HF.COM

HOME PAGE)

Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS

2929 W RIVER RD N

ELYRIA, OH 44035

29-Apr-2006

Sponsor: WRECS

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: ROBERT C GAUSS (330)562-3328 Email:

N8ZB@YAHOO.COM

Location: BENTLEYVILLE TOWN HALL/

CHAGRIN FALLS

6253 CHAGRIN RIVER RD

CORNER SOLON RD & RIVER RD BASEMENT

BENTLEYVILLE, OH 44022

02-May-2006

Sponsor: PIONEER AR FELLOWSHIP

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

Contact: RONALD D LIEVING (330)724-5981

Location: AKRON BAPTIST TEMPLE

2324 MANCHESTER RD

PRE-REGISTRATION PREFERRED CHECK-IN

AT 6:30 PM AKRON, OH 44314

07-May-2006

Sponsor: CUYAHOGA ARS

Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: GARY S DEWEY (216)642-8705

Email: GDEWEY@EN.COM

Location: TOWN HALL 6652 BRECKSVILLE RD

STATE ROUTE 21 INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131

(Continued from page 8)

Newly appointed State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, WB8TMF, of West Jefferson, take you through current Ohio and Federal laws concerning ham radio towers. Which includes current deed and tenant restrictions and interpretations of PRB-1 type protections for hams. Official Observer Coordinator, Rick Swain, KK8O of Galion, gives the inside on getting a LIC started in your city. Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator John Chapman, WB8INY, of Gahanna, gives the agenda for the April ARES State conference. Ohio Section Manager, Joe Phillips, K8QOE, finds the program which is getting youth involved the ham radio - our "Holy Grail."

de K8QOE

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

VOICE REPEATERS:

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 53.230/R- | • Highland Hills (136.5 Hz tone) |
| 146.76/R- | • Highland Hills (Use 110.9 Hz tone for remote inputs in Lakewood, Newbury & Willoughby) |
| 146.88/R- | • Lakewood (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) |
| 224.90/R- | • Lakewood (141.3 Hz tone) |
| 444.40/R+ | • Highland Hills (131.8 Hz tone) |
| 444.70/R+ | • 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
- 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.
Those who subscribe via e-mail will not receive a paper copy.

Affiliated



Club

Northern Ohio



Affiliate