

**DON'T FORGET! THE ARRL GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 22nd !**



# *The Spirit of '76 and '88*



Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

**This Month's Dinner Meeting — Sept. 25, 2007, 6:30 p.m.**  
***“The National Incident Command System”***  
**Presented by Tim Lanese, KB8WII**

Since 9/11 the way we respond to and deal with large emergencies has changed greatly. We now have to deal with multiple agencies and jurisdictions in many cases. This requires extensive coordination and training. One tool is the Incident Command System and its many alphabet relatives, NIMMS, HEICS, etc. It is critical that anyone participating in these events understand these processes. The days of just dropping in and offering your help are gone, you need to be able to fit into the plan to be of any real value. This program will review the basics of these new programs, how area organizations fit in, and hopefully discussions related to how our members can assist.

The dinner and meeting are at our usual meeting place, Dimitri's Restaurant, at 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 around 7:30. 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 \$16. 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. You can also visit [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org) and make your reservation through the club's website. -AR-**

## **In Memoriam**

***David Robichaux, K5EYP—SK***

Arthur David Robichaux, age 62, passed away Monday, August 13 in Albany, New



York as the result of injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident. A ham for over 30 years, he was a past-president of LEARA before moving to the Toledo area in the mid-90's, where he resumed his emergency communications and club activities.

**OFFICERS**

<b>Eric Jessen</b> President	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-734-3146
<b>Jim Ozello</b> Vice President	<b>N8XDO</b> 216-475-7218
<b>Tom Bishop</b> Vice President	<b>W8TAB</b> 440-331-9374
<b>Joe Prokop</b> Secretary	<b>KC8RAN</b> 440-884-5796
<b>Dave Foran</b> Treasurer	<b>WB8APD</b> 440-942-0618
<b>Eric Jessen</b> License Trustee	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-734-3146

**TRUSTEES**

<b>Mike Cegelski</b>	<b>K8EHP</b>
<b>Raye Bayun</b>	<b>N8NAP</b> 146.760/R
<b>Gary Zimmet</b>	<b>WA8TJL</b>
<b>Marv Grossman</b>	<b>W8AZO</b> 440-248-0031
<b>Jacob Kinosh</b>	<b>KC8GHX</b> 440-989-8170
<b>Ron Jakubowski</b>	<b>K2RJ</b> 440-498-1512
<b>John Radney</b>	<b>KC8FOC</b> 216-751-7067
<b>Bryan Torok</b>	<b>N8OOF</b> 440-871-5456
<b>Bob Winston</b>	<b>W2THU</b> 216-771-3314
<b>Jeff Garvas</b>	<b>N8YNR</b> 216-552-4368

**TRUSTEES EMERITUS**

<b>Al Amster</b>	<b>W8TTY</b>
<b>Fred Collins</b>	<b>W8ADW(SK)</b>
<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> 216-921-7546
<b>Mike Cegelski</b> Radio Officer	<b>K8EHP</b>
<b>Bryan Torok</b> Radio Officer	<b>N8OOF</b> 440-871-5456

The *Spirit of '76 & '88* is published monthly except in December. Contributions must be received by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month.

*Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ*

E-mail: editor@leara.org

# The Prez Says

by Eric Jensen, N8AUC



It's September already. The kids are all back in school, the days are beginning to get shorter. The Indians are even in a "pennant race", even though we really don't have those anymore. They are, however, looking pretty good to win their division, which means we just might have baseball in October again. Then before you know it, it'll be winter again, and we'll all be inside playing radio - or outside shoveling snow.

The time to spruce up your antennas is now, before winter gets here. And the best place to learn about antennas, is from someone who really knows them. If you want to learn about antennas from a master, the guy you want to talk to is Tim Duffy, K3LR. If you've ever traveled I-80 into Pennsylvania, you've probably seen his antenna farm. If you want to find out how his stuff works, and learn the "how's and why's" behind his effective setup, you'll want to hear his presentation at the 2007 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention. That's right, Tim, K3LR is one of the guest speakers, giving a seminar on antennas, and he knows whereof he speaks. LEARA is co-sponsoring the convention with CARS and NODXA. Don't worry if you're "not into HF". There is something on the convention's program schedule for just about everybody. It's on Saturday, September 22 at the Sheraton in Independence, which is at I-77 and Rockside Road. The opening ceremonies kick off at 11:30AM. This is an event you don't want to miss. I mentioned it last month in this column, but you can save \$12 by ordering your tickets online (before September 17) at the Convention web site, <http://www.2007gldc.org>. Don't complain that you didn't know sooner, because we've been promoting this event for months, and it was a major topic in this column last month.

What a great time we had at the August LEARA meeting! Our guest speaker was Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV who is the Executive

(Continued on page 3)

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Assn., Inc., **LEARA**, is a not-for-profit [501(c)(3)] organization dedicated to Amateur Radio and 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 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 on the second Saturday of odd numbered months at 9 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**.

*(Prez Says continued from page 2)*

Vice-President of Yaesu Amateur Radio Sales and Marketing. Unfortunately, the airlines lost his luggage on the way to Cleveland, and the DVD that had



his presentation on the East Timor DXpedition was IN that luggage. So he talked about the other subject that he knew very well, and that was Yaesu Amateur Radio Gear, and a 6m DXpedition he did in the Caribbean. Dennis was an interesting speaker, and is really an up-front kind of guy. An enjoyable evening was had by all who attended.

By the way, Yaesu has donated a really sweet FT-857D HF/VHF/UHF all-mode radio as a prize for the ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention, and Yaesu has also stepped up to the plate as one of the corporate sponsors of the event.

Well, I'd love to write more this month but I gotta go get my convention ticket. Saving the \$12 is nice. And besides, I'm in the cast for the induction ceremony for the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong, which happens after the banquet. I think you have to be an ARRL member in order to be initiated, so if you're not already an ARRL member, make sure to join at the convention. It's definitely worth it! Don't know what the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong is? Then be there, or be square! See ya at the convention on the 22nd, the Cleveland Hamfest on the 23rd and at the LEARA meeting on September 25!!! 73 de N8AUC - da prez. -AR-



***LEARA is an Affiliated Club of the ARRL. If LEARA members join or renew their ARRL membership through the club, the LEARA treasury gets to "pocket" a portion of your dues. Another neat way to support your local club!***

## Cleveland Hamfest

Sep 23, 2007

### Cleveland Hamfest & Computer Show

Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds,  
164 Eastland Road

Talk-In: 146.73 MHz (PL 110.9)

Contact: William Beckman, N8LXY  
Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc.

## Another 50-Year Ham!

**Mike Cegelski—K8EHP**

In mid September of 1957 I was a new freshman attending St. Joseph High School in Cleveland. A new call appeared in the Call Book (KN8EHP) at that time just to be upgraded a month later dropping the "N" as I obtained my Technician Class license. Now, 50 years later I have been continuously licensed, holding a Extra Class ticket. I am extremely proud of both accomplishments! -AR-

## LEARA Trustee Nominees

*By Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ*

The Nominating Committee selected the following members to run for election as Trustee in October:

**Alex Manuk, WD8JMM**

**Jim Ozello, N8XDO (I)**

**Raye Bayun, N8NAP (I)**

**Jeff Garvas, N8YNR (I)**

**Gary Zimmet, WA8TJL (I)**

Tom Bishop, W8TAB chose not to run for re-election this year. The rest are incumbents running for re-election. We get to vote for 1/3 of the 15 trustees each year.

## Wanted: Club Photographer

*By Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ*

I would like to find somebody who could take pictures at club meetings, public service events and other club activities that could be included in *The Spirit of '76 and '88*. No formal application is required. Just e-mail low-resolution or down-sampled JPEG files (no larger than 250K per picture) to editor@leara.org. -AR-

## Hamfest Listing

23 Sep 2007

**Cleveland Hamfest & Computer Show** ([www.hac.org](http://www.hac.org))  
**Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Road**  
**Talk-In: 146.73 MHz (PL 110.9)**  
**Contact: William Beckman, N8LXY**  
**Hamfest Association of Cleveland, Inc.**  
**Phone: 800-CLE-FEST**

28 Oct 2007

**Massillon Hamfest and Auction**  
**Massillon Amateur Radio Club**  
<http://www.marcradio.org>  
**Talk-In: 147.180+ (PL 110.9)**  
**Contact:**  
**Terry Russ, N8ATZ**  
**3420 Briardale Circle NW**  
**Massillon, OH 44646**  
**Phone: 330-837-3091**  
**Email: truss@sssnet.com**

10 Nov 2007

**Grant Amateur Radio Club**  
<http://www.garcOhio.net>  
**Talk-In: 146.730 -**  
**Contact:**  
**Rodney Crawford, WD8CTX**  
**PO Box 76**  
**Buford, OH 45110**  
**Phone: 937-446-2338**  
**Email: wd8ctx@juno.com**

20 Jan 2008

**Tusco Amateur Radio Club**  
<http://noard.com/tuscoarc.htm>  
**Talk-In: 146.730 (PL 71.9)**  
**Contact:**  
**Gary A. Green, K8WFN**  
**32210 Norris Road**  
**Tippecanoe, OH 44699**  
**Phone: 740-922-4454**  
**Email: k8wfn@tusco.net**

20 Apr 2008

**54th Annual Hamfest, Electronics, and Computer Show**  
**Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club**  
<http://www.cfarc.org/>  
**Munroe Falls, OH 44262**  
**Phone: 330-688-2013**  
**Email: w8tts@w8tts.com**

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

23-Sep-2007

Sponsor: HAMFEST ASSOC OF CLEVELAND  
 Time: 2:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: JON G ANHOLD  
 Email: JON@SNOOPY.NET  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: BEREA PUBLIC LIBRARY-ENTRANCE NEAR CITY HALL  
 7 BEREA COMMONS  
 BEREA ROOM UNDER LIBRARY  
[HTTP://HAC.ORG/VE](http://HAC.ORG/VE)  
 BEREA, OH 44017

06-Oct-2007

Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA  
 Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: SCOTT FARNHAM  
 (440)256-0320  
 Email: SCOTTFARNHAM@ADELPHIA.NET  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: KIRTLAND LIBRARY  
 9267 CHILLICOTHE RD  
 ROUTE 306  
 1.7 MI S OF I-90  
 KIRTLAND, OH 44094

06-Oct-2007

Sponsor: PORTAGE COUNTY ARS, INC  
 Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: JAMES J AYLWARD  
 (330)297-7979  
 Email: KC8PD@PORTCARS.ORG  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: CENTER OF HOPE  
 1034 W MAIN ST  
 RAVENNA, OH 44266

13-Oct-2007

Sponsor: SUMMIT CO AMERICAN RED CROSS  
 Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: BRUCE M FERRY  
 (330)929-2766

Email: BRUCE@AK8B.US  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: AMERICAN RED CROSS  
 501 W MARKET ST  
[HTTP://WWW.AK8B.US/VE](http://WWW.AK8B.US/VE)  
 AKRON, OH 44303

21-Oct-2007

Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY ARA RED CROSS  
 Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: CHARLES S HALL  
 (216)433-3036  
 Email: 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-Oct-2007

Sponsor: WRECS  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: ROBERT C GAUSS  
 (330)562-3328  
 Email: N8ZB@YAHOO.COM  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL/CHAGRIN FALLS  
 6253 CHAGRIN RIVER RD  
 CORNER SOLON RD & RIVER RD  
 BASEMENT  
 BENTLEYVILLE, OH 44022

28-Oct-2007

Sponsor: MASSILLON HAMFEST  
 Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
 Contact: GARY L KLINE  
 (330)837-2927  
 Email: WC8W@SSSNET.COM  
 VEC: ARRL/VEC  
 Location: MASSILLON BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
 730 DUNCAN ST SW  
 1 BLOCK S OF SR #21  
 ON WALNUT ST  
 MASSILLON, OH 44647

### Upcoming LEARA Club Meetings:

Sept 25 Incident Management - Timothy R. Lanese, RPh, MBA, FASHP

Oct 30 Election

Nov 27 Holiday Party

December—No Meeting Scheduled

## LEARA September Trustees Meeting Minutes

by Joe Prokop, KC8RAN, Secretary

### LEARA Trustees Meeting Minutes September 8, 2007

Attendees: N8AUC, N8XDO, W8TAB, KC8RAN, K8EHP, WA8TJL, W8AZO, K2RJ, KC8FOC

N8AUC called the meeting to order at 9:09 AM EDT.

#### Old Business:

1. Corrections to, and acceptance of the minutes from the July Trustees Meeting.

Motion made by K2RJ, seconded by N8XDO to accept as published. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report.

All bills are current. Election supplies have been purchased.

3. Membership Chair Report.

271 active members. Renewal notices have been prepared with a note added that dues will increase to \$25 effective 1/1/08.

4. Program Chair.

September meeting program is Incident Management. October meeting program is tentatively APRS, which will be confirmed. (Elections are also held in the October meeting; see Item 5.) November meeting is the annual holiday party. Possible January topic on WINLINK 2000.

5. Election Committee Report.

There are 5 candidates for 5 openings. W8TAB is not running for reelection, and WD8JMM has been confirmed as a candidate. All other candidates are incumbents. Ballot and renewal notices will be printed soon by W8AZO.

6. Radio Officers' Reports.

All repeaters are functioning.

7. Technical Committee Report.

IRLP Status:

Need to make time to implement. Temperature should not be an issue as the equipment in the room radiates enough heat.

b. D-Star:

No update to report, but duplexer acquisition may come soon.

8. Great Lakes Convention Update:

K2RJ and N8AUC will go to the Sheraton Hotel this weekend to survey how we will set up the AV equipment for the program speakers. K2RJ will take care of the AV in the room we are responsible for. He has access to several wireless microphones and the equipment necessary to interface them into the hotel's PA system. All of the LEARA volunteers should be in direct contact with Tina Check (W8HBI - Email:tina\_cls@yahoo.com) by now for assignments.

#### New Business:

9. Dinners/Door prizes for monthly meetings.

Door prize budget was set with the exception of the annual holiday party meeting.

10. Student discounted membership rate (from AF8A via W8TAB).

Concern brought up before the board. After discussion, a motion was made by W8AZO, seconded by KC8FOC to not offer a student discount at this time.

11. Timing for release and post of newsletter.

Discussion about timing included study that 1-2 weeks before an event is optimal for ensuring those who want to attend will do so. W8AZO will work to post the newsletter 2 weeks ahead, depending on timing with the release of the newsletter for publication.

12. SSTV net resumes in October: IRLP considerations on '88.

Resumption of SSTV net scheduled to start October 6, 2007, 8:00 on the 88 machine. No known conflicts with IRLP should occur.

Motion made by K2RJ, seconded by KC8FOC to adjourn. N8AUC adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM EDT. -AR-

# LEARA "On The Air"

## Club Net Information

by Joe Prokop, KC8RAN

### SSTV Net: "88 at 8! Returns"

The SSTV net will reconvene on October 6 at 8:00 on the '88 machine. Please plan on checking in, as we welcome all whether they can send and receive or not. We also take the opportunity on the net to "Elmer" new SSTV stations. If you ever wanted to try SSTV, or you are experienced in this mode, this is the place to be!

### Thursday 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.

Since the club net is a practice and informal net, we want to recognize those who take the time to check in and keep the net active and alive. Thanks to all who check in and to the net controls who take the time to pass on the following information:

For the months of July and August, the following had checked into the net (I apologize if I missed someone; I lost some emails with reports):

AB8RZ Tom, K2RJ Ron, K8EHP Mike, K8PPZ Tom, K8SAS Steve, K8WLF Fritz, KA8GZA John, KA8WQL Bob, KB1LCS Matt, KB8MHZ Lilly, KC8EHA Chuck, KC8FQV Mark, KC8MNV Jeannie, KC8RAN Joe, KC8TJH Jeanne, KC8UNV Jim, KD8ACO David, KD8FPQ Phil, KD8FRL Calvin from Mt. Blanchard (Findlay area), KD8FTS Ron, KD8GRA Bud, N3IYI Bob, N8AUC Eric, N8CXA Howie, N8DJG Don, N8ETQ Dan, N8RB Rich, N8UAZ Tom, W2THU Bob, W8CLE Dave, W8EBB Matt, W8EZT Frank, WA8TJL Gary. Net Controls: KD8ACO, W2THU, KC8RAN, KD8GN, N8AUC

Items of note:

There was no net on July 5<sup>th</sup>, KC8FQV reminded those attending the Portage Hamfest that Rte 44 between 619 and 224 was closed.

N8CXA noted that the storm that preceded the 7/26 session resulted in some wipeouts on I71, but there were no apparent injuries.

While we have a couple "2" calls that check in, when we get a check in from the "1's" it sparks a little more interest. We learned that Matt, KB1LCS received his call while in the Navy at the Groton (CT) sub station.

Congrats to N8CXA for recently upgrading to General! W8EBB is studying for his Extra as well. Good luck, Matt!

KD8ACO ran the 8/2 club net on emergency power as his QTH lost power until 2:30 AM. (Preparation for such situations is one of the functions of this net. Great job, David!)

**Net Control Operators Needed...**Any member of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association interested in trying their hand at directing the weekly net or the SSTV net are encouraged to contact Joe KC8RAN (kc8ran@cox.net). There's nothing hard about it. It's a good opportunity to be prepared for emergencies or just to upgrade your operating skills and to try something different. -AR-

## FCC Lowers Vanity Fees

By Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ via ARRL

The FCC will reduce the regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting September 17. In a Report & Order (R&O) released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission will cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. This marks the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current program -- from a low of \$12 to a high of \$50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting \$171,990 in fees from the program. -AR-



**ARRL** *The national association for AMATEUR RADIO*  
**Great Lakes Division**

## 2007 Convention

in conjunction with  
 the 2007 Cleveland Hamfest

**Date: Saturday, September 22, 2007 opening ceremonies at 11:30am**

**Location: Sheraton Independence Hotel, 5300 Rockside Rd, Independence, OH 44131**

We are proud to announce our featured Banquet Speaker will be Joel Harrison W5ZN, President ARRL  
 Jim K8JE, ARRL Great Lakes Division Director will host the Great Lakes Division Awards Ceremony

**GREAT seminars that you asked for with your votes:**

- Bob Heil K9EID and Chip Margelli K7ID, Heil Sound
- Bob WA6EZV & Dick WB4SUV on ARDF
- Antennas by Tim Duffy K3LR
- Jim Sanford WB4GCS, AMSAT
- 3 hour's of DX seminars hosted by Tedd KB8NW featuring John K8YSE, Bernie W3UR and many others

Wouff Hong ceremony after the banquet  
 Hospitality room courtesy of CARS, NODXA & LEARA  
 Card checking - DXCC , WAS, VUCC Low Bands & VHF

**Ticket Information**

<b>full ticket:</b>	\$50.00 save \$12.00 advance sales only
<b>full ticket for those with a room:</b>	\$45.00 save \$17.00 advance sales only
<b>banquet only:</b>	\$37.00 advance sales only
<b>seminars only:</b>	\$25.00 advance - \$30 at the door
(assigned tables for groups of 8 at banquet)	

### SCHEDULE

11:30 / 11:55 Opening of Convention  
 12:00 / 12:55 Seminars by Bob Heil K9EID and Chip Margelli K7JA, Heil Sound

**Salon 1-2**

1:00/3:55 All about DX & DXpeditions  
 KB8NW: Open DX seminars & introductions (10 min.) \*  
 W3UR: history of DX from the beginning to today (40 min.)  
 K8MFO: 6 meter DX-ing (30 min.)  
 K8YSE—KH8SI: Swains Island DXpedition (30 min.)  
 K4UEE—VU7RG DX pedition & DXAC (45 min.)  
 Question & answer panel: till 3:55  
 KB8NW moderating, K8YSE, K4UEE, K8MFO, K4ZLE, W3UR

**Salon 3**

1:00/1:55: Emergency communications.  
 Dennis Dura, K2DCD, ARRL HQ EPRM  
 2:00/2:55: ARDF- Bob Frey WA6EZV & Dick Arnett,  
 WB4SUV  
 3:00/3:55: AMSAT Jim Sanford WB4GCS, Eagle Proj.  
 Mgr. & 2007 ARRL Atlantic Division Technical  
 Achievement Award Winner.

4:00 / 4:55 Seminar - "The K3LR Multi Multi Station" by Tim Duffy K3LR.  
 5:00 / 5:55 Jim, K8JE: Great Lakes Division Awards Ceremony  
 6:00 / 7:00 Pre-Banquet Social Gathering  
 7:00 to — Grand Banquet - Speaker: Joel Harrison W5ZN, President ARRL

An Initiation Ceremony for *The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong* will commence after the Banquet!

# Bonus Articles for Members Who Subscribe to Internet Delivery

## NATO Group Releases Report on BPL

via ARRL

The Information Systems Technology group, part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Research and Technology Organization (RTO), released their report, HF Interference, Procedures and Tools (RTO-TR-IST-050), in June. This report "address[es] the concerns raised by the potential for unintentional radio interference to be caused by the widespread operation of broadband wire-line telecommunications systems."

BPL, also called Power Line Telecommunications (PLT) in Europe, uses existing power lines for telecommunications with data rates higher than 1 MBit per second. NATO said that since existing power lines were not designed for such transmissions, "they will cause unintentional RF emissions which may adversely affect the established radio noise floor directly, or by cumulative propagation from many such sources. The existing HF background noise possibly may be increased via ground wave and/or sky wave propagation."

Not only could this be a problem for Amateur Radio operators, but NATO said that military users would be affected as well: "Increase of the existing HF noise floor by widespread use of PLT...will bring up problems for Military Radio Users as well as for HF Communication Intelligence (COMINT) in all NATO countries. The signal-to-noise ratio thus may be reduced for tactical and strategic HF radio as well as for fixed sensitive COMINT sites."

Saying that "PLT will produce the most problems regarding HF interference," the report makes the assertion that ambient noise levels in Europe have not increased in the last 30 years. This was proved using measurements made by the ITU in the 1970s compared with noise levels today, with the report saying that the "ITU Recommendations for natural and man-made noise in the HF-range are still valid in Europe."

The NATO report said "[r]ecent measurements carried out in

Germany and Great Britain indicated that there is no remarkable difference between these measurements, specifically no increase of the ambient noise in quiet rural zones within the last 30 years. Based on these measurement results, the cumulative interference field strengths far away from telecommunication networks should not be higher than -15 dB $\mu$ V/m (9 kHz bandwidth) across the entire HF range, if no measurable increase in minimum noise levels are to be tolerated."

Conversely, some European PLT proponents "in presentations and discussions have argued (without being able to prove it) that ITU recommendations based on measurements carried out in the 1970s are no longer valid, as the man-made and the ambient noise levels have increased since that time to considerable higher values (by up to 30 dB)."

The NATO report also indicated the following:

- A high probability that PLT would cause increased noise levels at sensitive receiver sites given the projected market penetration.
  - The percentages are highly influenced by assumptions on transmitter EIRP (equivalent, or effective, isotropic radiated power), PLT market penetration and duty cycle.
- ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, was pleased to see the report. "The findings described in this paper are based on good science. They studied distance extrapolation and concluded that 40 dB/decade is not the correct factor to use to make measurements at one distance, and related the measured values to other distances. They also have advanced the state of the art and determined that the aggregate noise from large scale deployment of BPL will increase worldwide noise levels by skywave propagation."

Hare points out that NATO's report "pretty much echoes the ARRL's pleadings during the BPL rulemaking." The ARRL has constantly argued against the 40 dB/decade extrapolation factor that, while recommended by the FCC, the report found, "was not confirmed by measurements carried out by other organizations."

## 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  $\leftrightarrow$  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](mailto: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.

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