



The Spirit of '76 and '88



JANUARY

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2010

Software Defined Radio — By Dave Kennett, W8KFJ Tuesday, January 26, 2010 — Dimitri's Dinner Meeting

If you think you know how radios are made - think again! Dave Kennett will be talking about how digital radios have changed all that, and will be demonstrating his Flex 3000. Dave promises a free radio for everyone, which sounds a bit suspicious. Nevertheless, he says that if you have a computer, you will be able to tune around the various HF ham bands, and "listen" to many hours of AM, SSB, CW, etc. You'll just have to come to the meeting to find out for yourself!

The dinner and meeting are at our usual 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 bev-

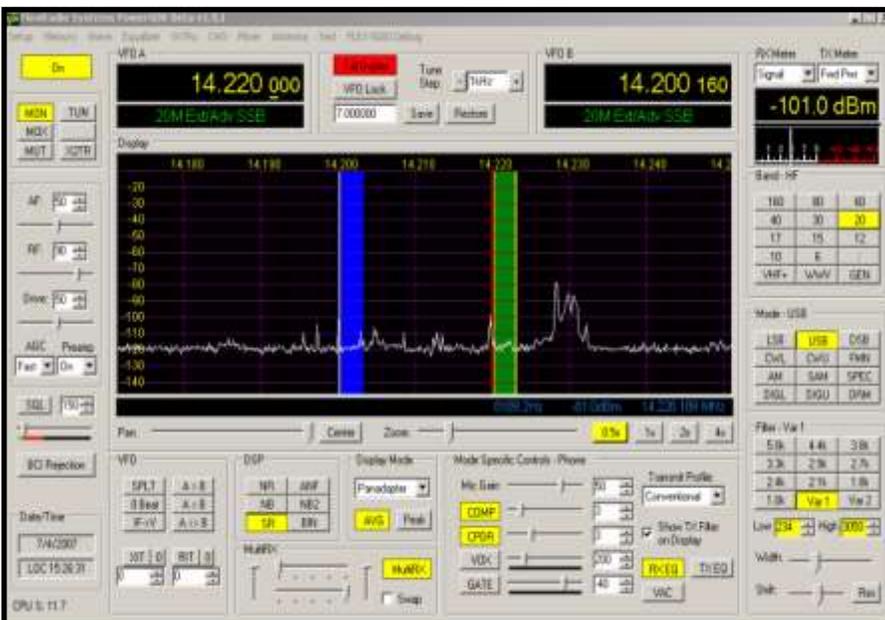
DUES NOTICE!

LEARA Annual Dues are now PAST due and payable at the rate of \$25. They can be paid at the January meeting. Pay your dues... Support your club!

verages 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 A.M. 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 and make your reservation through the club's website. -AR-



OFFICERS	
Alex Manuk President	WD8JMM 216-459-8523
Jim Ozello Vice President	N8XDO 216-475-7218
Eric Jessen Vice President	N8AUC 440-734-3146
Bob Winston Secretary	W2THU 216-771-3314
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John Radney	KC8FOC 216-469-4361
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Mike Cegelski	K8EHP 216-252-6640
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TRUSTEES EMERITI	
Al Amster	W8TTY
Don Raith	N8DJG
Fred Collins	W8ADW(SK)
Pat Shreve	W8GRG (SK)
Al Severson	AB8P (SK)
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Ron Jakubowski Radio Officer	K2RJ 440-498-1512
Bryan Torok Radio Officer	N8OOF 440-871-5456

The *Spirit of '76 & '88* is published monthly except in December. Contributions must be received by the 2nd Sunday of the month (except on months with 5 Sundays and Tuesdays, when the 3rd Sunday will suffice.)

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

E-mail: editor@leara.org

The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



Okay, so what's YOUR New Year's resolution? Every year, I make the usual "get healthy, lose a few pounds, spend more time with my kids, etc etc etc..." I think we all look at the change of calendar as an opportunity for personal reflection and planning. In light of that, what are your plans for amateur radio in the coming year?

With the sunspot cycle finally on the upswing, HF activity will be increasing, which should make chasing elusive states, counties, countries,

or just 'wallpaper' a lot more fun than it's been in the past couple of years. Improving your CW speed, your 'presence' on the air, your participation in traffic nets, ARES, public service, or just generally spending more time on the air – whatever your goal, I hope you continue to make LEARA a part of your amateur radio experience.

January's meeting should prove to be very interesting. Dave Kennett, W8KFJ, will be presenting a program about his software defined radio. FLEX has given the idea of computer control a whole new meaning. Amateur gear has come a long way since the days of spark, or the crystal controlled novice rig most of us remember. Nowadays, the computer has come to be a major player in everything we do, including radio. I have to confess, I know very little about the mechanics of SDR, and I'm very much looking forward to Dave's presentation.

LEARA has some good stuff going on as well. The weather has put a halt on moving 76 to it's new home, but we haven't forgotten the ultimate goal. 444.4 will be back on the air soon, from a new location, and our schedule of events is filling up. In February, we'll be talking CW, and March brings *Skywarn* training.

Winter hamfests are another way to break up the housebound, snow shoveling months of January and February. The 31st of January is the TUSCO fest, in Strasburg (come on, it's not THAT far away), the NOARS winter hamfest is February 7th, and Mansfield is February 14th. So, get out of the house, support the local economy, and meet up with some friends at a hamfest. It's sure to break up the winter monotony.

I hope I've given you some things to think about as we gear up for another year, and I'll see you all on the 26th!

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. Annual membership is \$25.00. 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.

Solak's Loose Home to Fire

Via ARRL

Larry Solak (WD8MVP), and his wife Joanne (KJ3O) lost their home at 3:00am on January 12th to a house fire. They were both hospitalized with smoke inhalation.

Joanne is the Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator, and provides the Ohio Section with club and section news every month. Larry is a former Section Emergency Coordinator for the Ohio Section. -AR-

Hams Asked to Stand By in Aftermath of Earthquake

Via CQ & WorldRadio Online

All radio amateurs are requested to keep 7045 kHz and 3720 kHz clear for possible emergency traffic related to the January 12 major earthquake in Haiti.

International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region II Area C Emergency Coordinator Arnie Coro, CO2KK, reports that as of 0245 UTC on January 13, nothing had been heard from radio amateurs in Haiti, but that the above frequencies were being kept active in case any Haitian hams manage to get on the air, and in case of other related events in surrounding areas, including aftershocks and a possible tsunami.

The following is from an e-mail from CO2KK:

“A few minutes after the earthquake was felt in eastern Cuba's cities, the Cuban Federation of Radio Amateurs Emergency Net was activated, with net control stations CO8WM and CO8RP located in the city of Santiago de Cuba, and in permanent contact with the National Seis-



76 Repeater Update

The repeater operating well from its temporary site in the Newbury area. It is transmitting at a power level of 175 watts. Coverage is improved with the relocation of the antenna higher on the tower and all of the voting receivers are now being received at that location.

We are still awaiting the final approval to move the repeater to the tower site that has been promised very near to the old hospital site. These things take time, however, so the repeater may be operating from its temporary quarters for some time to come.

Please feel free to use the repeater as much as possible! *Ron, K2RJ* -AR-

mology Center of Cuba located in that city.

“Stations in the city of Baracoa, in Guantanamo province, were also activated immediately as the earth movements were felt even stronger there, due to its proximity to Haiti. CO8AZ and CO8AW went on the air immediately, with CM8WAL following. At the early phase of the emergency, the population of the city of Baracoa was evacuated far away from the coast, as there was a primary alert of a possible tsunami event or of a heavy wave trains sequence impacting the coast line at the city's sea wall ...

“Baracoa could not contact Santiago de Cuba stations on 40 meters due to long skip after 5 PM local time, so several stations in western Cuba and one in the US State of Florida provided relays. CO2KK, as IARU Region II Area C Emergency Coordinator, helped to organize the nets, on 7045 kHz and also on 3720 kHz, while local nets in Santiago de Cuba and Baracoa operated on 2 meters.

“As late as 9,45 PM local time 0245 UTC we have not been able to contact any amateur or emergency services stations in Haiti.

“Amateurs from the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Venezuela were monitoring the 40 meter band frequency, that I notified to the IARU Region II executive Ramon Santoyo XE1KK as in use for the emergency, requesting that 7045 kHz be kept as clear as possible ...

“We are still keeping watch on 7045 kHz hoping that someone in Haiti may have access to a transceiver and at least a car battery to run it.

“All information that has so far come from the Cuban seismologists tell us of a very intense earthquake, and also of the possibility of other events following.

“Following the advice of the geophysicists, we are keeping the 7045 and 3720 kiloHertz frequencies active until further notice.” -AR-

LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information

by David Noeth, KD8ACO

Please extend a warm welcome to the newest Net Control Station for the Thursday Night Club Net, Bill, AC8CO. Also, don't forget to check-out the LEARA Club Net Activity Log found under the "Nets" page (see www.leara.org/nets/leara-club-net-activity-log) on the LEARA website for continually updated information from the LEARA Thursday Night Club Net. Everyone's participation in each and every net is greatly appreciated.

Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets will be returning on February 17, 2010 on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater and will continue on Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM local time until the last week in October. Everyone is welcome! Skywarn nets may be activated anytime threatening weather is approaching.

Thursday Club Net

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly club net is held every Thursday evening at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.880 (- 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. You do not have to be a member of LEARA to participate.

Since the club net is a practice and informal net, LEARA would like to recognize those who take the time to check in and keep the net active and alive. During the past two months, the weekly Thursday Night Club Net had a total of one-hundred and five (105) check-ins from forty-four (44) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Tom AA8NR, Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Arp K8ARP, Gene K8ECL, Mike K8EHP, Jeff K8JTK, Steve K8SAS, John KA8GZA, Bill KA8VIT, Bob KA8WQL, Greg KB8PEC, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Ray KC8FMG, Mark KC8FQV, Jeannie KC8MNW, Jeanne KC8TJH, Carl KC9NCF, Greg KD5BNW, David KD8ACO, David KD8DLT, Eddie KD8FTS, Donny KD8GYA, Gary KD8KOA, Laura KD8MBJ, Ricky KD8MGF, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Eric N8AUC, Raye N8NAP, Jack N8NDL, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Jeff N8YNR, Laurie VA3LL, Bob W2THU, Matt W8DEC, Matt W8EBB, Paul W8PJW, Stu W8STU, John WA8LGM, Gary WA8TJL, and Alex WD8JMM.

Net Control Stations: Ken KG8DN, Bob W2THU, Eric N8AUC, David KD8ACO, and Bill AC8CO.

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

1/14/10	Bill	AC8CO
1/21/10	Bob	W2THU
1/28/10	Eric	N8AUC
2/4/10	David	KD8ACO
2/11/10	Ken	KG8DN
2/18/10	Bill	AC8CO
2/25/10	Bob	W2THU

The feedback received from members regarding the Thursday Club Net promotion has been very encouraging. This promotion encourages participation in both the weekly club net, as well as, the monthly LEARA membership meetings. Specifically, any individual who checks into the Thursday Club Net during a given month will be given one extra door prize ticket at the following month's LEARA club meeting. This extra door prize ticket will be given in addition to any other door prize tickets the individual has already been given. Participation in only one net during the preceding month is required. Participation in the monthly meeting is obviously required.

Saturday SSTV Net

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly slow scan TV net is held every Saturday evening from October through May at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Now is the time to get your SSTV station setup and on the air.

The slow scan TV software recommended is MMSSTV. This free software is available online, just Google MMSSTV for a wealth of information. However, any SSTV program can be used. Are you new to this mode of operation? Contact any of the net control stations for assistance getting started! Even if you don't have a slow scan TV setup yet, you're still welcome to check in to the net just to say hello or to ask for more information about this interesting mode.

Wanted! Net Control Stations

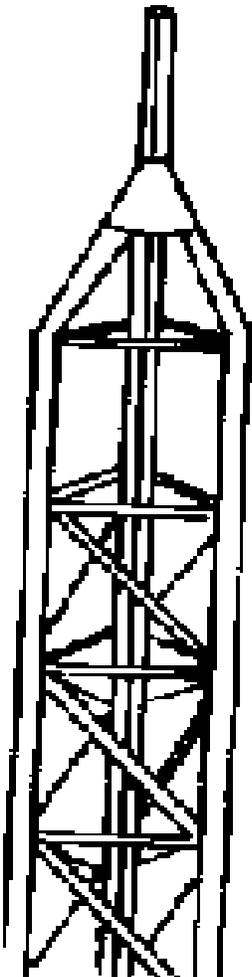
We now have five Net Control Stations for the Thursday evening LEARA Club Net. There's always room for more stations who would like to give it a try.

Any member of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association can be a net control operator for one or all of the nets held on one of the club's repeaters. Never tried it you say? No problem. Now would be a really good time to start. It's as easy as getting in touch with me and we'll schedule you into the rotation. If you should have any questions or requests for assistance to get started, just contact me at one of our club meetings or by using any of my contact information in the membership directory or send me an email at kd8aco@leara.org. Hope to talk with you "on the air" soon! -AR-

Hamfest Listing

7 Feb 2010 Winter HamFest
Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Soc.
<http://www.noars.net>
Talk-In: 146.70 - (open)
Contact: Darlene Ohman, KA8VTS
4122 Bush Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44109
Phone: 216-398-8858 216-398-8858
Email: dfohman@att.net
Lorain, OH, Gargus Hall
1965 North Ridge Road

14 Feb 2010 Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest & Computer Show
InterCity Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.w8we.org/hamfest.htm>
Talk-In: 146.940 (PL 71.9)
Contact: Dean Wrasse, KB8MG
1094 Beal Road
Mansfield, OH 44905
Phone: 419-589-2415 419-589-2415
(1-7 PM please)
Email: metal07man@yahoo.com
Richland County Fairgrounds
750 North Home Road



Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

17-Jan-2010
Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY
ARA RED CROSS
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: CHARLES HALL
(216)453-3700 (216)453-3700
Email: VE@W8HF.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: AMERICAN RED
CROSS
2929 W RIVER RD N
WWW.W8HF.COM (HOME
PAGE)
ELYRIA, OH 44035

21-Jan-2010
Sponsor: MAHONING VLY ARA
Time: 6:30PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: JAMES T VIELE
(330)534-1394 (330)534-1394
Email: W8JV@YAHOO.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: YOUNGSTOWN
STATE UNIVERSITY
WOOD ST - FACILITIES
BUILDING
FOR DIRECTIONS CLICK ON:
WWW.MVARA.ORG
YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44501

24-Jan-2010
Sponsor: WARREN ARA
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: WILLIAM H SHOWERS
(330)872-1929 (330)872-1929
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: NEWTON FALLS
COMMUNITY CENTER
52 E QUARRY ST
REGISTRATION AT 6:30 PM!
NEWTON FALLS, OH 44444

30-Jan-2010
Sponsor: WRECS
Time: 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: ROBERT C GAUSS
(330)562-3328 (330)562-3328
Email: N8ZB@YAHOO.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: BENTLEYVILLE VIL-

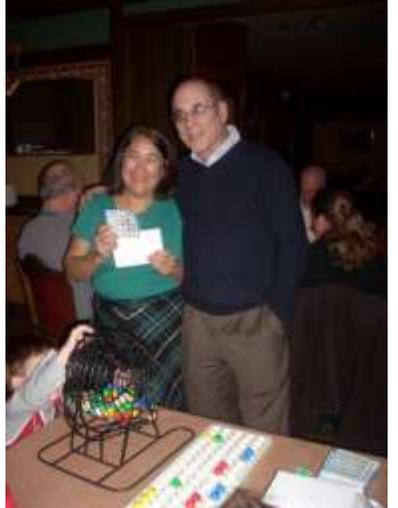
LAGE HALL
6253 CHAGRIN RIVER RD
LOOK FOR SIGNS
BENTLEYVILLE, OH 44022

06-Feb-2010
Sponsor: LAKE COUNTY ARA
Time: 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: SCOTT FARNHAM
(440)256-0320 (440)256-0320
Email: SCOTTFARN-
HAM@ROADRUNNER.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: KIRTLAND LIBRARY
9267 CHILLICOTHE RD
ROUTE 306
1.7 MI S OF I-90
KIRTLAND, OH 44094

06-Feb-2010
Sponsor: PORTAGE COUNTY ARS,
INC
Time: 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: JAMES J AYLWARD
(330)297-7979 (330)297-7979
Email: AYLWARDJIM@AOL.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: CENTER OF HOPE
1034 W MAIN ST
RAVENNA, OH 44266

17-Feb-2010
Sponsor: 20 OVER 9 ARC
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: ALLAN AVNET
(330)549-3051 (330)549-3051
Email: AB8AA@ARRL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA BUILDING
700 INDUSTRIAL RD
YOUNGSTOWN, OH 44509

21-Feb-2010
Sponsor: LORAIN COUNTY ARA
RED CROSS
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: CHARLES HALL
(216)453-3700 (216)453-3700
Email: VE@W8HF.COM
VEC: ARRL/VEC



LEARA Holiday Party





Operating or Shack Pictures?

Your Editor has received a suggestion that instead of just pictures of people taken at meetings, we solicit pictures of member's shack, mobile station or operating events. I'd like to see a varying array of pictures in the *Spirit*, so let's see if we can get an issue or two of different pictures. Please send them by email to editor@leara.org and I'll try to use all I can get! Please help me by reducing the size of the picture before you send it, if you can. If you don't have a clue how to do it, don't worry, just send it and your ol' editor can take care of it...!

Haitian Earthquake Update

via ARRL

IARU Region 2 Requests Frequencies Be Kept Clear After Massive Earthquake Strikes Haiti

On Tuesday, January 12 at 4:53 PM Haiti time (2153 UTC), a magnitude 7.0 earthquake hit 10 miles (15 kilometers) west of Port-au-Prince, the island nation's capital. Communications in and out of Haiti have been disrupted. No word has been received as of yet from any of Haitian Amateur Radio operators. The ARRL encourages US amateurs to be aware of the emergency operations on the following frequencies: 7.045 and 3.720 MHz (IARU Region 2 nets), 14.265, 7.265 and 3.977 MHz (SATERN nets), and 14.300 MHz (Intercontinental Assistance and Traffic Net); the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC) is also active on EchoLink node 278173.

IARU Region 2 Area C Emergency Coordinator, Arnie Coro, CO2KK, is coordinating a multi-national response by hams. There are organized nets on 7.045 and 3.720 MHz; amateurs are asked to monitor the frequencies, but to also keep them clear of non-essential traffic. Amateur Radio operators should also be aware that emergency traffic pertaining to the Haitian earthquake is expected on the SATERN frequencies of 14.265 MHz, 7.265 MHz and 3977 MHz, according to SATERN's leader, Major Pat McPherson. The Salvation Army is accepting health and welfare traffic requests on its Web site.

"As late as 9:45 PM local time (0245 UTC), we have not been able to contact any amateur or emergency services stations in Haiti," Coro said in an e-mail. "Amateurs from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela are monitoring the 40 meter band frequency. We are still keeping watch on 7.045 MHz, hoping that someone in Haiti may have access to a transceiver and at least a car battery to run it," but so far, no

HH stations have checked in. Tuesday's quake was felt in the Dominican Republic, which shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, and in Eastern Cuba, but no major damage was reported in either place.

The January 13 edition of The Daily DX reported that the Rev John Henault, HH6JH, made contact late Wednesday morning with the Intercontinental Assistance and Traffic Net (IATN) on 14.300 MHz; this is the IARU Global Center of Activity frequency for emergency communications. He said that he was safe, but had no power and no phone service. He was operating on battery power and hoping to get a generator running later in the day. The edition also noted that Pierre Petry, HH2/HB9AMO -- who was in Cap Haitien (about 140 km north of Port-au-Prince) is "okay"; Petry is in Haiti working for the United Nations World Food Program. Later today, he will be traveling to the capital.

The UN's 9000 peacekeepers in Haiti -- many of whom are from Brazil -- were distracted from aid efforts by their own tragedy: Many spent the night hunting for survivors in the ruins of their headquarters. "It would appear that everyone who was in the building, including my friend Hedi Annabi, the United Nations' Secretary General's special envoy, and everyone with him and around him, are dead," French Foreign Minister Bernard Kouchner said Wednesday, speaking on French radio. UN peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy would not confirm that Annabi was dead, but said he was among more than 100 people missing in the rubble of its headquarters. He said only about 10 people had been pulled out, many of them badly injured. Fewer than five bodies had been pulled from the rubble, he said. The United Nations said the capital's main airport was "fully operational" and that relief flights would begin on Wednesday, January 13.

The situation in Haiti is still chaotic. More information will be posted as soon as possible. Information is being validated and shared between many amateur groups and news sources as it unfolds.

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

- 40 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

VOICE REPEATERS:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 146.76/R- | • Newbury (<i>Temporary QTH</i>) (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) |
| 146.88/R- IRLP | • Lakewood (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) IRLP Node 4282 |
| 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) |

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.

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.