



The Spirit of '76 and '88



APRIL

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2010

Battery Systems for Critical Communications Applications Tuesday, April 27, Dimitri's Dinner Meeting

This month's program centers on new battery technology being developed for critical infrastructure and communications equipment. Karl Scheucher of Modtech Corp. in Willoughby will demonstrate how these new lithium-ion based products are revolutionizing tactical communications through their use in bi-directional signal booster and other radio-based systems.



Modtech is a NEW TECH energy innovation company, with 29 years of embedded signal processing and communications experience. Its revolutionary SIPS™ systems combine the latest micro-power electronics with patent pending architectures achieving unprecedented levels of functionality, versatility, and portability in scalable, intelligent power systems for the coming decade.

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 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 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-

DUES NOTICE!

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

OFFICERS

Alex Manuk President	WD8JMM 216-459-8523
David Noeth Vice President	KD8ACO 216-932-8005
Eric Jessen Vice President	N8AUC 440-734-3146
Bob Winston Secretary	W2THU 216-771-3314
Dave Foran Treasurer	WB8APD 440-942-0618
Eric Jessen License Trustee	N8AUC 440-734-3146

TRUSTEES

Jeff Kopcak	K8JTK k8jtk@arrl.net
Raye Bayun	N8NAP
Gary Zimmet	WA8TJL 440-446-0402
Marv Grossman	W8AZO 440-248-0031
Jim Ozello	N8XDO 216-475-7218
Ron Jakubowski	K2RJ 440-498-1512
John Radney	KC8FOC 216-469-4361
Bryan Torok	N8OOF 440-871-5456
Mike Cegelski	K8EHP 216-252-6640
Jeff Garvas	N8YNR jeff@cia.net

TRUSTEES EMERITI

Al Amster	W8TTY
Don Raith	N8DJG
Fred Collins	W8ADW(SK)
Pat Shreve	W8GRG (SK)
Al Severson	AB8P (SK)

POINTS OF CONTACT

John Radney "Sunshine"	KC8FOC 216-469-4361
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



LEARA's March meeting was another very crowded Skywarn presentation. Chris Mello did a wonderful job of presenting the material in adverse conditions (I think we probably exceeded the room capacity for Dimitri's, it was that well – attended. I'm happy to say that there were many new faces, and hopefully some of them will become interested in amateur radio as a result of the meeting.

I'd like to take this opportunity to ask for volunteers to run for the Board of Trustees. I know, the election is WAY off, but I am of the opinion that those who wish to run should have time to campaign. So, if you have any inclination toward helping with the administrative side of LEARA, please let either myself or a member of the Election Committee (W8AZO, K2RJ, KC8FOC) know. It's YOUR club, and your participation can only make it better.

Spring has definitely sprung around my household. I cut the lawn yesterday, and spent this afternoon listening to the Indians lose their home opener (man, what a disappointment). As the weather warms up and the sun wanders farther north, the lower reaches of the HF bands tend to become noisy. Thankfully, there has been some sunspot activity, and the upper bands have had activity we haven't seen in several years. It's not DX season yet, but it sure sounds good to hear stations on 15 meters again. If you haven't listened around, give it a shot, you never know what you'll hear.

We've had some difficulty with the IRLP system again – this time it appears the hard drive in the system has quit. As of this writing, IRLP is off the air temporarily until we can reconfigure a new drive. With any luck, by the time you read this, that will have taken place. I'm hopeful that this will iron out the last of the IRLP difficulties and we can finally have a fully functional, reliable system.

Oh, and I almost forgot – In addition to looking for volunteers for the Board of Trustees, we are also in need of someone to pick up the newsletter editor duties in 2011, as our current editor, K2RJ is anticipating retirement. I've tried to tell him he can still edit from Florida, but he's not buying it!

Also, our erstwhile picnic host, N8XDO, has asked that he be relieved of duty

(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. 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.

LEARA Display Project

by Jeff Garvas, N8NYR

At the past few meetings of the LEARA Board of Trustees that are held at the Parma-Snow branch of the Cuyahoga County library system we have discussed the idea of putting together a modern display of Amateur Radio to be used at the public library. This could be as simple as putting together a tri-fold poster display board that could be reproduced at numerous libraries or as elaborate as gathering actual equipment and putting together a smaller number of displays.

The trustees are challenging the membership to create these displays, help us advocate our hobby to the general public, and help us recruit potential members to the organization. The displays will also be re-used for the LEARA table at the Cleveland Hamfest, Field Day, and other publicity opportunities. In exchange for creating these displays the Trustees are prepared to award those members with a free renewal of their 2011 annual dues. Taking on ownership of the whole project and contacting the library for details before designing anything would be important.

If you're interested, please contact me so that I can coordinate the interested parties and maybe introduce them to each other to work together. The number of renewals I can give away may be limited depending upon how many interested parties approach me. I can be reached at (216) 496-3928 or jeff@cia.net. -AR-

76 Repeater Update

We're still waiting to schedule the tower-climb and equipment movement to the new site. In the meantime, the Trustees approved buying a new controller which is being assembled and installed by Bill, K8SGX. Ron, K2RJ -AR-

(Continued from page 2)

this year, so we're looking for someone to take over that position as well. Jim has suggested that he will help out, but he wants to be able to relax and enjoy himself this year. I say his retirement is well deserved!

If you're interested in any of the above opportunities, please email or call me, and we'll get you set up.

Well, that's all I have for now. I hope to see many of you at the April meeting. -AR-

Wanted: Operating and 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...!

ARES Coordinates with Boy Scouts at Expo-X

by Matt Welch, W8DEC

The Greater Western Reserve Council, Boy Scouts of America will be sponsoring an event called EXPO X. More information about the event may be found at <http://www.gwrcexpo10.com>. This event will be held on April 30, May 1st, and May 2nd at the Geauga County Fairgrounds. The expected attendance will be 5,000 to 10,000 participants. This event is open to the public with a \$2.00 admission OR three cans of food such as soup or canned vegetables.

Ohio ARES Tenth District is coordinating the special event station W8G celebrating the 100th anniversary of the BSA. Radio operators are needed to help with this historic event. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate amateur radio to not only the scouts but to the general public.

Feel free to contact Matt W8DEC at w8dec@ohioares10.org or Ross KB8JTZ at kb8jtz@aol.com for more information.

73 de Matt W8DEC
District Emergency Coordinator
ARES Tenth District - ARRL OH Section
www.ohioares10.org
440-336-0295
-AR-

LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information

by David Noeth, KD8ACO

Until the end of May, all three nets held weekly on the LEARA repeaters are on the air! These three nets include the Skywarn Practice Net on Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM, the LEARA Club Net, which is always held at 8:00 PM local time on Thursday nights, and the LEARA SSTV Net on Saturday nights at 8:00 PM. Participation in each and every net is greatly appreciated.

Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets have returned on the 146.760 (-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! The 146.880 (-offset, 110.9 PL) repeater is used, when needed, as a backup. Skywarn nets may be activated on one of these repeaters 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 month, the weekly Thursday Night Club Net had a total of sixty-two (62) check-ins from thirty-seven (37) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Arp K8ARP, Tom K8DMM, Mike K8EHP, Jeff K8JTK, John KA8GZA, Greg KB8PEC, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Jeff KC8FNK, Mark KC8FQV, Jeannie KC8MNW, Jeanne KC8TJH, David KD8ACO, Brad KD8DWK, John KD8HDU, Keith KD8KBL, Rich KD8KBO, Mary KD8NGC, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Don KJ5KB, Fred N8AHS, Eric N8AUC, Don N8DJG, Raye N8NAP, Bryan N8OOF, Walt N8SKM, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Bob W2THU, Matt W8EBB, Kevin W8KMH, Stu W8STU, John WA8LGM, and Gary WA8TJL.

Net Control Stations: David KD8ACO, Ken KG8DN, and Bill AC8CO.

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

4/15/10	Eric	N8AUC
4/22/10	Ken	KG8DN

4/29/10	Bill	AC8CO
5/6/10	Bob	W2THU
5/13/10	David	KD8ACO
5/20/10	Eric	N8AUC
5/27/10	Ken	KG8DN

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-

Upcoming Hamfests

HAMFEST

04/18/2010 | 56th Annual Hamfest, Electronics, Computer Show

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST

04/25/2010 | Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club

Location: Boston, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Two Rivers Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST

06/06/2010 | Hamfest and Computer Show

Location: Butler, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Breeze Shooters ARC

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST

06/20/2010 | Chamfest

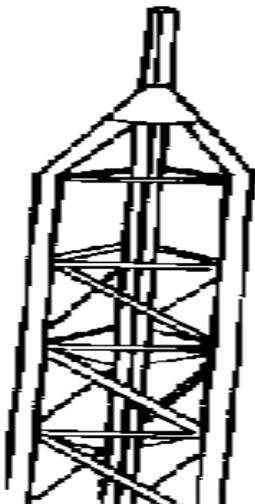
Location: Erie, PA

Type: non-ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Erie Red Cross Chapter

[Learn More](#)

Dayton Hamvention®
May 14, 15, 16
Hara Arena, Dayton, OH
(Contracted through 2013)



Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

EXAM SESSION

04/21/2010 | Youngstown OH 44509-2949

Sponsor: Western Reserve Amateur Radio

Location: EMA Building

Time: 7:00 PM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

04/24/2010 | Bentleyville OH 44022-3337

Sponsor: WRECS

Location: Bentleyville Village Hall

Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

04/24/2010 | Youngstown OH 44501

Sponsor: Mahoning Valley ARA

Location: Youngstown State University

Time: 11:00 AM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

04/28/2010 | Cleveland OH 44106-1712

Sponsor: W8EDU

Location: Case Western Reserve University

Time: 6:00 PM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

05/08/2010 | Canton OH 44705-4374

Sponsor: Canton/Massillon ARC

Location: Stark County Sheriff's Office

Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

05/09/2010 | Independence OH 44131-4841

Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS

Location: Town Hall

Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

05/16/2010 | Elyria OH 44035-1343

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 1:00 PM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

05/18/2010 | Akron OH 44314-3614

Sponsor: Pioneer AR Fellowship

Location: Akron Baptist Temple

Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins)

[Learn More](#)



AM Station

Shack of Jeff Covelli,
W8SAJ



Drake Station



Novice Station



It's like the Energizer Bunny... It keeps going and going and going....!

Tom Sly – WB8LCD Running for ARRL Ohio Section Manager

In August 2010, the Ohio Section of the ARRL will elect a new Section Manager. I have been nominated for and am actively running to be your next Ohio Section Manager. My name is Tom Sly – WB8LCD.

There are three things you should know before casting your vote for me:

Who am I?

What is my vision for the Ohio Section?

Why am I qualified for the position?

I'm a lifelong resident of Ohio and have been a ham for 43 of my 57 years. I'm married with three adult children, our first grandchild is due right about the time I'll be at the Dayton Ham-vention. I graduated from the University of Akron with a degree in Finance. Since graduation I've been self-employed as an Independent Insurance Agent.

First licensed in 1967, I've always been an active ham. My current ham radio activities include QRP, contesting and Dxing. I'm active in my local club and have been an instructor in the club's Technician and General upgrade classes as well as a member of the VE team.

As Ohio Section Manager my goal will be to make the Ohio Section the premier section in the ARRL. I believe this can be accomplished by increasing the number of hams in our Section who are members of the ARRL and by making the Ohio Section stand out as the place where the most new hams are being licensed. I will promote ham radio in Ohio to the general pub-

lic so they will know that Ham Radio is one of the greatest hobbies in the world! With positive community actions, the public in general will hold us in high regard. In the changing world of Emergency Communications there is much to be done to update and better organize the ham radio emcomm response – incorporating ARES, RACES and MARS into a coordinated effort. I think that the Ohio Section should become a “best practices” leader in demonstrating how this can be accomplished.

I've had a successful business career since I started my insurance agency in 1975. I'm an Eagle Scout and on the board of a regional non-profit organization based in Portage county. I was a founding member and the first president of the Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. (PCARS) - www.portcars.org. In just a few short years PCARS has gone from zero to over 150 active members. PCARS has been recognized for its accomplishments by League headquarters staff and others in the ham radio community. I've had the experience to prove that I can organize and accomplish what I set out to do.

More information is available on my website – www.wb8lcd.org – and I invite you to email me directly at wb8lcd@arrl.net if you have any specific questions or concerns. Please let me know what you think are the important issues we'll face in the Ohio Section in the immediate future.

I hope you will agree, and elect me as your section manager this coming August. In the meantime, get on the air and enjoy the greatest hobby in the world! -AR-

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.
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