



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



JUNE

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio

2010

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

## FIELD DAY: JUNE 26 & 27

*NO Dinner Meeting @ Dimitri's This Month!*

**LEARA Meeting at Field Day, Saturday, June 26, 5 P.M.**

As has been the custom now for the past several years, the June LEARA meeting is in conjunction with Field Day on Saturday, June 26, 2009, at Ohio Cleveland Lakefront State Park.

*There is no dinner meeting at Dimitri's this month.*

LEARA's 2010 Field Day Site will again be located inside the Ohio Cleveland Lakefront State Park, just north of Interstate-90 at the Martin Luther King Boulevard interchange, 8701 Lake Shore Blvd. (This is just west of the old Nike Missile Site and the Navy Finance Center and is also known as Upper Gordon Park.) Please note that this site is an Ohio State Park and our use during Field Day is not exclusive., so keep this in mind regarding language, noise and trash. Please be considerate! -AR-

### SCHEDULE

**Saturday—9 a.m.:** Site & Equipment Setup

**Saturday—2 p.m.:** FD Operations Begin

**Saturday—6 p.m.:** June LEARA Meeting

**Sunday — 2 p.m.:** FD Operations End

### DIRECTIONS

Take I-90 east or west to the Martin Luther King Blvd exit (exit 177) Head north towards the lake. Follow MLK past the freeway ramps (be careful; the ramps have the right-of-way here) and around to the right. There will be a sign on the left identifying the area as the Cleveland Lakefront State Park. The driveway will be on your left. Look for the site to the left/west of the parking lots, west of the Ranger Station.



**OFFICERS**

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<b>David Noeth</b> Vice President	<b>KD8ACO</b> 216-932-8005
<b>Eric Jessen</b> Vice President	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-734-3146
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<b>John Radney</b>	<b>KC8FOC</b> 216-469-4361
<b>Bryan Torok</b>	<b>N8OOF</b> 440-871-5456
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**TRUSTEES EMERITI**

<b>Al Amster</b>	<b>W8TTY</b>
<b>Don Raith</b>	<b>N8DJG</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>John Radney</b> "Sunshine"	<b>KC8FOC</b> 216-469-4361
<b>Ron Jakubowski</b> Radio Officer	<b>K2RJ</b> 440-498-1512
<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 (except on months with 5 Sundays and Tuesdays, when the 3rd Sunday will suffice.)

**Editor:** Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

E-mail: [editor@leara.org](mailto:editor@leara.org)

# The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



Well, Happy June, Folks! It's time for my favorite Ham Radio event of the year – Field Day!

Field Day this year is on the 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> of June, at Upper Gordon Park, the same place we've held Field Day for the past several years. It's a great site, with lots of parking, lots of space to put up antennas, and there are plenty of opportunities to show off Ham Radio for the general public.

Whatever your interests in Amateur Radio are, you can find 'em at Field Day. It's an emergency preparedness exercise, a contest, a picnic, a campout, a 24-hour bull session, and if you're looking to experiment with antennas or other equipment, rest assured there'll be plenty of folks around to help you work out the bugs.

Our dinner meeting this month is NOT at Dimitri's, so if you choose to show up there on the last Tuesday of the month, be prepared to dine alone (grin). What that means is that our June meeting will be held at the Field Day site on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, at around 6 PM. Come on out and join us for a fabulous picnic dinner and a brief meeting, then stick around as late as you like to play radio – we'll be there all night!

LEARA's IRLP node has been extremely unreliable for the past several weeks, so last weekend, Dave, WB8APD, removed the IRLP computer from the site for a bit of tweaking and diagnostics. Unfortunately, as I write this, the node is still not back on line, as we're having some difficulty with the audio path from the repeater to the internet. We're still working on it, and hope to have it back to functional soon.

Last but not least, don't forget that the LEARA Election Committee is looking for Trustee candidates to run for election in October. It's not too early to throw your hat in the ring and campaign for election. If you're interested, come to July's Trustees meeting and you can see for yourself what it's about – the 'business' side of LEARA is completely different than our dinner meetings.

Well, enough from me for now – I'll look forward to seeing you at Field Day!

-AR-

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 \$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 Field Day Needs

by Eric Jessen, N8AUC, FD Chairman

Field Day weekend is fast approaching. This is one of the most fun events of the amateur radio year, and simply a "don't miss" event, featuring good food, good fellowship, good times, and a chance to camp out and play radio all night. This year it is being held on Saturday June 26 and Sunday June 27.

Once again, LEARA is hosting a Field Day Event at our usual site, the Cleveland Lakefront State Park, next to the Ranger Station.

You can find out site right now, by using the ARRL Field Day Site Locator web page. Go to <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>.

Type in Cleveland, OH into the location box and click the search button. You will see little push pins on the map. The one near Bratenahl will be us. Click on the push pin for info.

Zoom in on the map to get the exact location. Setup begins at 9AM on Saturday morning, operation begins at 2PM on Saturday, and runs until 2PM Sunday afternoon. (more or less)

Also, don't forget that the June club meeting will be held at the Field Day site. A picnic supper will be provided at 6PM. The brief club meeting, with door prizes will be held right after supper. So far we know there will be 3 stations. One for SSB (WA8TJL), one for CW (N8AUC), and a satellite station (KC8RAN).

There are plenty operating positions still available. And, if you'd like to setup and operate your own station as part of the club effort, we'd like to know what bands and modes you'd like to operate.

### Definite needs are:

- VHF SSB (6m, 2m, possibly 70cm),
- GOTA station (any band, any mode, plus help for new hams).
- A talk-in station on the 88 repeater

If you're interested in becoming part of the crew, please reply via email to [n8auc@hotmail.com](mailto:n8auc@hotmail.com). -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-

## Ohio QSO Party: Save the Date! - August 28

by Kenny Silverman, K2KW,  
Ohio QSO Party PR Coordinator

The Ohio QSO Party - the premier Ohio operating event will be held on Saturday August 28, 2010 from local noon to local midnight. Every year during the Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) Ohioans light up the airwaves and make QSOs all over the world. In this event, Ohio stations are the "DX" and are sought after. Get on and call CQ, and experience the thrill of the world calling you! Event Basics: Ohio stations send consecutive serial number + county. Suggested frequencies are: CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz; SSB 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz. Full details and an operating guide can be found on [www.ohqp.org/](http://www.ohqp.org/). We hope to hear you on the air! -AR-

## Weaver's Words excerpts

by Jim Weaver, K8JE, GL Division Director

Hamfest/Swap committees should be aware that ARRL no longer automatically sends boxes full of free handouts for your event. Instead, it is your privilege to determine which freebies you want and to inform HQ of your wishes. You will receive the free material you request and it will still be shipped to you free-of-charge. A list of materials available for hamfests is included with the free prize certificates you receive. Instructions for ordering the free goods are included with the information. Be sure to ask for your free handouts early enough so they can be shipped to you in time for your hamfest. The freebies are to be placed on the ARRL table of your ARRL-sanctioned event.

### Is it a Broadcast or a QSO?

"In response to reports of broadcasting we receive at times, here is one point to keep in mind to help in determining if it is indeed considered broadcasting. Are the transmissions intended to be received by the general public or are they directed to other amateurs? If other amateurs are involved and they take part and ID, it's considered a QSO." From: *The Official Observer Summary April, 2010* by Chuck Skolaut, KØBOG. Field & Regulatory Correspondent, ARRL.

### Thanks for the Letters.

Thanks to the members of the Great Lakes Division and other ARRL Divisions who stopped by the Legislative Action booth at the Hamvention(tm) to send letters to their US legislators. These letters encouraged legislators to support S. 2881 and H.R. 4089. -AR-

## LEARA "On The Air"

### Club Net Information

by David Noeth, KD8ACO

The last Saturday night LEARA SSTV Net for the season was held on May 22, 2010. After a brief summer vacation, the SSTV net is scheduled to resume in October.

Field Day weekend will be here before you know it (June 26-27, 2010). This is a great opportunity to learn and participate in a hands-on way with the setup, operation, and teardown of an Amateur Radio station. Your help and participation would be greatly appreciated. Hope you can join us for all or just a part of this Amateur Radio tradition. You won't regret it! Please get in contact with me at [kd8aco@leara.org](mailto:kd8aco@leara.org), if you are interested in putting LEARA "On The Air" again this year during Field Day.

Stay tuned to the LEARA Thursday Club Net for additional information, as it becomes available.

### 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 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-six (66) check-ins from thirty-eight (38) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Arp K8ARP, Mike K8EHP, George K8GIL, Jeff K8JTK, Steve K8SAS, John KA8GZA, Bob KA8WQL, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Mark KC8FQV, Neil KC8OMO, Nadine KC8QML, Joe KC8RAN, Mark KC8SIE, Jeanne KC8TJH, David KD8ACO, Eddie KD8FTS, Keith KD8KBL, Rich KD8KBO, Joe KD8MUX, George KD8NBZ, Vivian KD8NOJ, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Tom N8ETP, Raye N8NAP, Mike N8QMK, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Bob W2THU, Ray W8ADV,

Ray W8SLZ, Stu W8STU, Tony WA8FYW, John WA8LGM, and Gary WA8TJL.

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

### Upcoming NCS assignments are:

6/24/10	David	KD8ACO
7/1/10	Bill	AC8CO
7/8/10	Bob	W2THU
7/15/10	David	KD8ACO
7/22/10	Ken	KG8DN
7/29/10	Bill	AC8CO

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 last SSTV net for the season was held on Saturday, May 22, 2010. After a brief summer vacation, the SSTV net is scheduled to resume in October.

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 only four 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

(Continued on page 5)

## Upcoming Hamfests

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 06/20/2010 | Chamfest

Location: Erie, PA

Type: non-ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Erie Red Cross Chapter

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 07/10/2010 | 9th NW PA Hamfest

Location: Erie, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Union City Wireless & Wattsburg Wireless Associations

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 07/11/2010 | 25th Anniversary Hamfest

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: North Hills Amateur Radio Club

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 07/17/2010 | NOARSFEST

Location: Elyria, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 07/25/2010 | Portage Hamfair '10

Location: Randolph, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

### 08/07/2010 | Columbus Hamfest

Location: Columbus, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin ARC (W8FEZ)

[Learn More](#)

(Continued from page 4)

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](mailto:kd8aco@leara.org). Hope to talk with you "on the air" soon! -AR-

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

EXAM SESSION

### 06/20/2010 | Elyria OH 44035-1343

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

### 06/23/2010 | Canton OH 44705-4374

Sponsor: Canton ARC/Massillon ARC

Location: Crenshaw Middle School

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

### 06/26/2010 | Canfield OH 44406-9999

Sponsor: Western Reserve Amateur Radio

Location: 1/4 Mile South of Lettingwell Rd

Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

### 07/10/2010 | Stow OH 44224-4097

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

Time: 12:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

### 07/11/2010 | Independence OH 44131

Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS

Location: Town Hall

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

### 07/15/2010 | Youngstown OH 44501

Sponsor: Mahoning Valley ARA

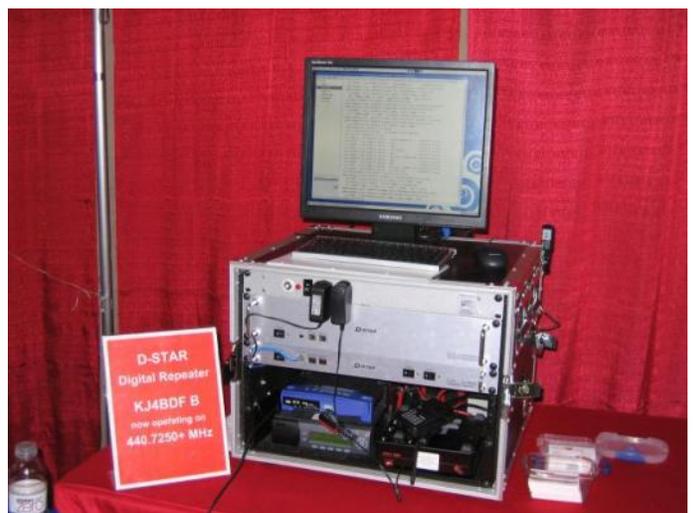
Location: Youngstown State University

Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)



## DAYTON HAMVENTION PICTURES

Tnx—Jeff, K8JTK





## California Hams Help Coordinate Off-Road Rescue

(from the ARRL website)

On Saturday, June 12 around 1:30 local time, Jim Siemons, AF6PU, of Walnut Creek, California, was checking his e-mail when he received a message from a friend who was concerned that his brother -- who, along with four friends had taken an off-road adventure along California's famed [Rubicon Trail](#) -- had not come home when expected. Siemons' friend told him that his brother's group had left on Wednesday with four off-road vehicles in an attempt to cross the Trail. Since Siemons and his friend's brother were members of the same off-roading club, his friend thought Siemons might have some information.

Siemons forwarded the e-mail to several other club members; within five minutes, he received a phone call from fellow club member Jenny Ward, KI6YBQ, suggesting that he try Amateur Radio to attempt to locate the missing group. The Rubicon Trail connects Georgetown with the west side of Lake Tahoe. Although incredibly beautiful, it traverses some of America's most challenging off-road trails as it meanders through peaks reaching upwards of 12,000 feet. There is no cell phone coverage on the Trail and very limited official agency radio coverage, making Amateur Radio the only effective means of communication in the area.

Siemons told the ARRL that he grabbed his *ARRL Repeater Directory* and looked for a repeater frequency and offset that might cover the Rubicon Trail: "I discovered the KA6GWY repeater on 146.805 MHz with a CTCSS tone of 123 Hz in Pollock Pines/Placerville, California, more than 100 miles away from my location. I knew that I was not going to be able to hit that repeater with my handheld transceiver, so I put out a call on Mt Diablo Amateur Radio Club's W6CX repeater with a frequency of 147.060 MHz with a CTCSS tone of 100 Hz."

When Siemons heard John Ronan, K3ZJJ, operating on the repeater, he asked for his assistance. "I knew he was at the top of the Oakland hills and would have a fair chance of hitting the Pollock Pines repeater," Siemons explained. "He agreed to help

out and was able to make contact with a couple of hams who were in the vicinity of the Rubicon's trailhead who offered to help." Merlin Scott, KC6BFV, was volunteering at the trailhead in the gatekeeper's hut and had access to an El Dorado County Sheriff's Office radio. Ronan was able to relay information to a pair of Sheriff Deputies who were on patrol in the area. Siemons said he also requested that a call be relayed via Citizen Band on channel 4, as many off-roaders also monitor and use it to communicate vehicle-to-vehicle. "I was able to report our efforts back to the families of the lost off-roaders, letting them know that everything that could be done was occurring," Siemons told the ARRL. "I knew one of the off-roaders was a ham, but I was not certain that he had his rig or knew the local repeater frequencies. All the drivers were experienced, but that only went so far, due to fact that the snow levels are still quite high and the trail is still considered impassible at this time of year."

By 4 PM local time, Siemons said that hams and off-roaders on both ends of the trail were looking for the group, but due to the normal rough condition of the trail and the heavy snow, search and rescue efforts were slowed. By 7 PM, the Sheriff's Department determined that it was time to launch a helicopter and search the Trail. "A ham using Citizen Band channel 4 made contact with the group and relayed this via Amateur Radio," Siemons explained. "The helicopter spotted the missing crew and landed on the Trail at approximately 7:30 PM and determined that everyone was healthy. One of the group's vehicles was abandoned on the Trail due to a broken drive line, making it impossible to drive through the tall drifts of snow." Hams and the Sheriff's Department monitored the group's progress until their exit from the trail. Siemons said he kept the families updated as to the off-roaders' progress.

"I want to thank the efforts of the Deputies and the dispatchers of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Department, the amateurs of the Mt Diablo Amateur Radio Club ([MDARC](#)) and their W6CX repeater and the amateur operators of the Rubicon Trail and their KA6GWY repeater. This event ended well, but even if it had gotten a lot rougher, it would have been better than it otherwise would have been because of Amateur Radio. " -AR-

## LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

- 40 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

### VOICE REPEATERS:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>146.76/R-</b>      | • Newbury ( <i>Temporary QTH</i> ) (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) |
| <b>146.88/R- IRLP</b> | • Lakewood (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) IRLP Node 4282          |
| <b>224.90/R-</b>      | • Lakewood (141.3 Hz tone)                                  |
| <b>444.40/R+</b>      | • Highland Hills (131.8 Hz tone)                            |
| <b>444.70/R+</b>      | • 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](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.