



The Spirit of '76 and '88



JULY

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

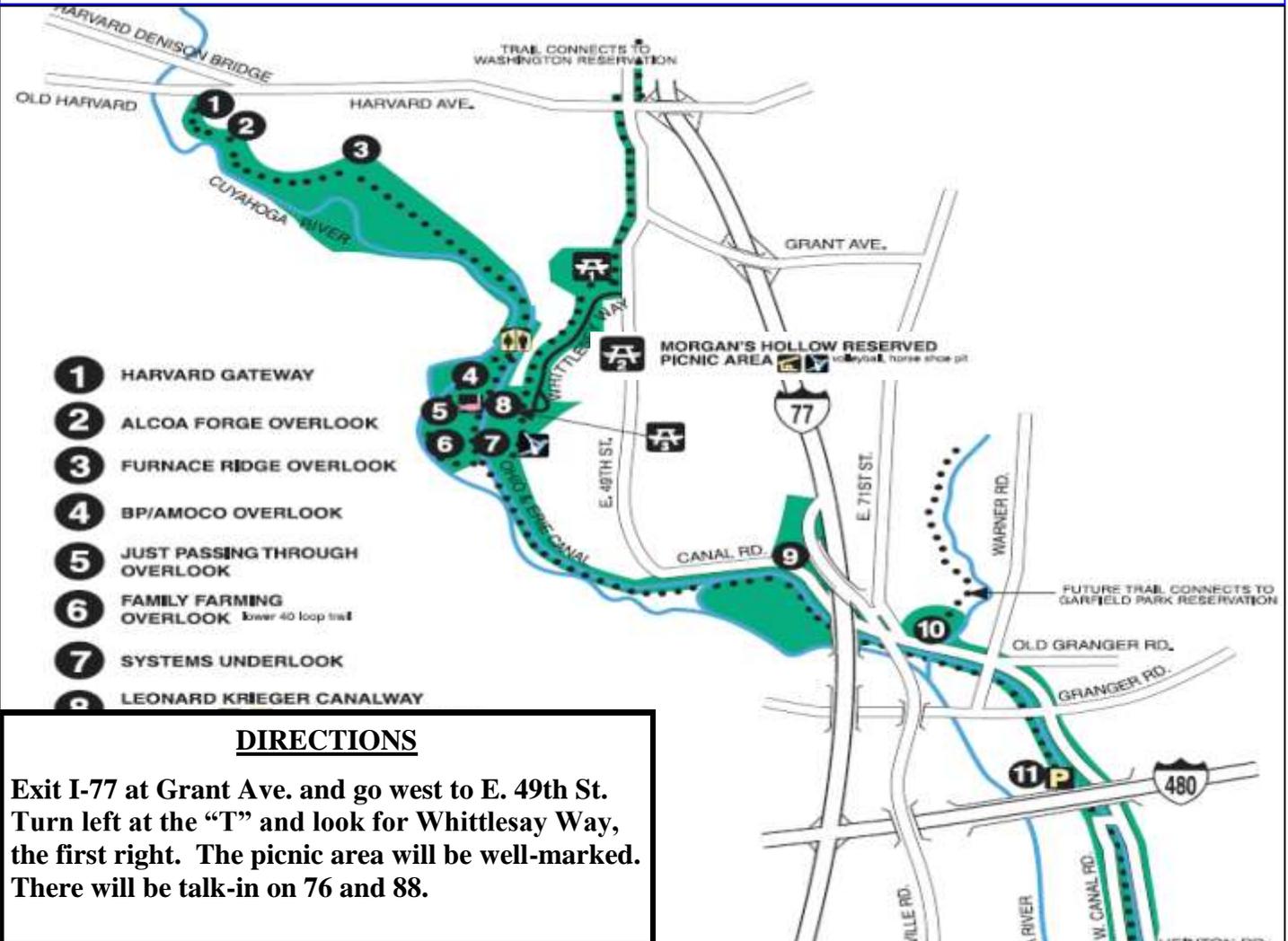
2010

Editor: Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

LEARA Picnic: Tuesday, July 27 *NO Dinner Meeting @ Dimitri's This Month!*

The Annual LEARA Picnic returns this year to Morgan's Hollow Picnic Area in the Metro-parks Ohio and Erie Canal Reservation. ***There is no dinner meeting at Dimitri's this month.*** The club will provide food for the customary \$8 per person. ***Get your reservations in early to Marv Grossman so we can get a good headcount. Contact Marv at (440) 248-0031 or w8azo@leara.org by noon Monday, July 26 !***



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

Editor-in-training: Ken Kane, KG8DN

E-mail: editor@leara.org

The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



I have a confession to make. I am a hopeless procrastinator, ESPECIALLY about this column. When I first took over the position of President, it was pretty neat to be able to speak to the whole club directly like this, but as time goes on it gets harder and harder to come up with fresh, new ideas to talk about. I put off writing this time until I'm sure Ron, our hapless editor, is trying to figure out a way to fill up this space with something else (or maybe he has already).

Anyway, in thinking about writing this month, I figured I'd touch on Field Day, which was wonderful, as usual, and point out that the LEARA picnic is coming up – but there are articles elsewhere in this publication that address those things WAY more eloquently than I do. So, this month, I'd like to talk about something different – our repeaters. Please USE them! I spent a lot of time the past month or so scanning our frequencies, and while everybody makes time for the nets, and severe weather brings out an entirely different crew, most of the time the machines are silent.

I was asked at one point why I would prefer using a repeater over simplex, when I can (usually) work the other station directly anyway. My response was that the repeater gives us a common bond – somewhere that you KNOW you can connect with other LEARA members – it's a meeting place of sorts.

That being said, our 'meetings' have been very poorly attended lately – there's nobody on the air. Is that because the .76 machine is being reworked? It's still on the air and very usable from a lot of the area. The .88 has IRLP on it now, but it's not on all the time – throw out a call sometime and see who comes back. I don't hear people on the air during drive-time anymore. Where has everyone gone? Are we all too busy to spend time with our hobby anymore?

I view repeaters in general as the first incarnation of 'Twitter' – it's an opportunity for people to share happenings in their lives, comment on each other's opinions, and just generally 'follow' what's going on. AND there's no character limit! (As long as you can say it inside of 3 minutes at a time, anyway)

Please, folks, take a few minutes to get on the air this month. Turn on the

(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.

Nomination Committee Report

by Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

The LEARA Nominating Committee (W8AZO, K2RJ, KC8FOC) reports that 3 challengers have come forward to run for election to Trustee along with the incumbents.

The new nominees are :

Ken Kane, KG8DN
Bill Hess, K8SGX
Kelly Manuk, KC8UIX.

The incumbents are:

Jeff Garvas, N8YNR
Raye Bayun, N8NAP
Jim Ozello, N8XDO
Gary Zimmet, WA8TJL
Alex Manuk, WD8JMM

Nominations will officially close at the end of the July business meeting. -AR-

Ken Kane, KG8DN, Selected as New Editor

by Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

Several months ago I mentioned my intention to retire from full-time employment before Christmas and move to Florida. Since that time the Trustees have been speaking with a couple of members who have shown an interest in taking on the job of LEARA Newsletter Editor. Ken is a member of a Catholic religious order, *Brothers of the Holy Cross*, based in Notre Dame, IN. (That explains the Indiana plates on his car!) He lives in Russell Township and teaches at Gilmour Academy in Gates Mills. He works many public service events and has resuscitated an Amateur Radio club at Gilmour with new equipment, antennas and callsign- ND8GA, He has piqued the interest of many of his students in Amateur Radio who have then gone on to get their licenses.

Ken will work with me over the next couple of months to smoothly transition the editorship. Please thank him for taking on this important job when you see him! -AR-

Prez Says (Continued from page 2)

radio on your way to the store and put out a call on one of LEARA's machines. Who knows, you might end up making a new friend!

I hope to see everyone at the picnic on the 27th. Until then, I'll catch you on the air (I hope!) -AR-

2010 Pedal to the Point: Save the Dates! - August 14,15

by Jeff Garvas, N8YNR,

One of the area's largest public service event opportunities is coming up again in mid August, and as usual I need as many amateur radio operators as I can find to staff rest stops, roam the route looking for lost or injured riders, and enjoy playing radio. The event is heavily focused on the medical safety of riders and volunteers, and our direct involvement in rider safety is key to the event. If you know any EMTs, paramedics, nurses, or other medical professionals we are always looking for that kind of help. Most people who are volunteering for this event have been doing it for years and come back annually -- I've been involved since 1993 myself and can tell you that its something I look forward to every year.

If you'd like to volunteer I ask that, if possible, you go to this website: <http://p2p.neomrc.org> -- scroll down to the bottom of the page and fill out the form for me. You can email me at jeff@cia.net if you have any questions. -AR-



Ken, KG8DN operating ND8GA

76 Repeater Update

We're closer to scheduling the tower-climb and equipment movement to the new site. Alex, WD8JMM and Bill, K8SGX are working on the programming of the new controller. K2RJ purchased the UHF antenna for the remote receiver links at the Rochester Hamfest. Ron, K2RJ -AR-

LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information

by David Noeth, KD8ACO

Thanks to all those Thursday Club Net participants that came down to the LEARA Field Day site this year ... especially those that helped with setup, operating, and teardown. It was a pleasure meeting each and every one of you. Now, we can all put a face with the voice we so often hear "on the air".

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-three (63) check-ins from thirty-five (35) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Tom AA8NR, Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Mike K8EHP, Jeff K8JTK, Steve K8SAS, Bill KA8VIT, Jeff KB8QMK, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Mark KC8FQV, Helen KC8IKK, Jeannie KC8MNW, Jeanne KC8TJH, David KD8ACO, Eddie KD8FTS, Don KD8ICR, Laura KD8MBJ, George KD8NBZ, Paul KE8NN, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Don KI4HTA, Raye N8NAP, Bob N8ORC, Bill N8UPZ, Jeff N8YNR, Bob W2THU, Matt W8DEC, Ray W8SLZ, John WA8LGM, Gary WA8TJL, Dave WB8APD, Lou WB8LBJ, and Russ WB8UPA.

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

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

7/15/10 Ken KG8DN

7/22/10	David	KD8ACO
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 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/CONVENTION

07/25/2010 | Portage Hamfair '10

Location: Randolph, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://Hamfair.com>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/07/2010 | Columbus Hamfest

Location: Columbus, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin ARC (W8FEZ)

Website: <http://www.aladdinshrine.org>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/08/2010 | CFARC Tailgate Fest

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate2010.html>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/15/2010 | Warren Amateur Radio Association

Location: Cortland, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Warren Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.w8vtd.org>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/22/2010 | CARA Hamfest and Computer Show

Location: Cambridge, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cambridge Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://www.w8vp.org>

[Learn More](#)

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

08/22/2010 | Western Pennsylvania Section Convention

Location: New Kensington, PA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Skyview Radio Society

Website: <http://www.skyviewradio.net>

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

(from the ARRL website)

EXAM SESSION

07/24/2010 | Lisbon OH 44432-9999

Sponsor: LISBON AREA AMATEUR ACCS

Location: Columbiana Cty Emer Mgt

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

07/25/2010 | Randolph OH 44265

Sponsor: Portage County Hamfest

Location: Portage County Fair Grounds

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

07/31/2010 | Bentleyville OH 44022-3337

Sponsor: WRECS

Location: Bentleyville Village Hall

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

08/03/2010 | Akron OH 44314-3614

Sponsor: Pioneer AR Fellowship

Location: Akron Baptist Temple

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

08/07/2010 | Ravenna OH 44266-2708

Sponsor: Portage County ARS, Inc

Location: Center of Hope

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

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

08/09/2010 | Kirtland OH 44094-8500

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

EXAM SESSION

08/15/2010 | Elyria OH 44035-1343

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)



LEARA FIELD DAY PICTURES

Tnx—Ken, KG8DN





MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(10 July 2010 at the Parma-Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library in Parma, Ohio)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

1. WD8JMM called the meeting to order at 0909.
2. Upon motion of N8XDO, and seconded by N8AUC, the minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as written.
3. WB8APD reported that there are sufficient funds in the association's bank account with all bills paid.
4. W8AZO reported that we have 201 active, paid up members.
5. Nomination Committee Report – W8AZO reported that three incumbents have sent emails confirming they wish to run again for the Board, although WD8JMM said that the bylaws do not require incumbents to do so. Marv also said that candidate's biographies are now due and that three members have verbally indicated their wish to challenge the incumbents (KG8DN, K8SGX and KC8UIX).
6. Programs for 2010 – W2THU reported that we still need a speaker for the August meeting and that he would contact David Goodman to see if he would be willing to be our guest speaker.
7. Technical Committee Report – N8NAP reported that the IRLP on 146.88 needed a proper audio path which he accomplished recently. The 146.76 repeater needed a new power supply due to a power surge that destroyed the previous one. K8SGX provided the replacement. The power surge apparently also caused LEARA's packet transceiver on 145.01 to remain stuck on according to W8AZO. So Marv donated his own radio temporarily, while WB8APD took possession of the broken TM221A. Finally, WB8APD said that he will go to K8QOT's QTH to inventory LEARA property and other club member's property that had been removed from the old 146.76 site and stored in Jim's garage.
8. Status of RLC-3 Controller Sale – N8YNR said that he needs to take some photos in order to sell on the internet, but the sale will be held in abeyance until certain accessories that would enhance its sale, are located in K8QOT's garage.
9. Status of 444.40 Repeater – W8AZO brought the antenna that Jeff will install at his QTH. Meanwhile, N8OOF has a homebrew controller for this repeater but he is still looking for the documentation. N8NAP said that he may be able to locate another controller if necessary.
10. Status of 146.76 Repeater Installation on Tower- N8AUC gave the key to the site to WB8APD who will now coordinate the installation. The consensus of the Board is to install a telco line at the repeater site.
11. Status of Finding a Newsletter Editor – K2RJ stated that although he has not been directly contacted he knows that a couple of members are interested in taking over his job. After a period of discussion, it was agreed to offer it to Ken Kane, KG8DN.

Continued on next page.

Minutes continued from previous page

12. Need to Find a New Newsletter Publisher – W2THU reported that KC8MNW is ready to turn over the actual printing of the Newsletter to another member. There was discussion regarding how much it would cost to have the 70 issues (that are still mailed via the USPS) printed commercially.
13. Ham Radio Exhibit for Library Display Cases, etc – N8YNR stated that since no one in the club responded to his challenge to come up with such a library display, that he considers the matter terminated. The consensus of the Board was to remove this item from the agenda of future meetings.
14. Status of Electronic Balloting – WD8JMM said that the preliminary testing is complete and that Kelly is satisfied. He said that the next step is the logistics of the election, particularly how to integrate the written ballots into the electronic count and to check that no one votes more than once.
15. LEARA QSL cards– N8AUC reported that the master artwork is done and that he will send it to a local printer in the next few weeks. He will order 500 cards which will be used to confirm LEARA Field Day contacts.
16. The Board certified that at the general membership meeting held in May 2010 , the members duly voted to terminate the association's 6 meter repeater and to return the frequency pair to the Ohio Area Repeater Council.
17. New Business – N8XDO announced that he has obtained the permit for the LEARA picnic meeting in July to be held in the same Metropark as last year. WB8APD queried what we should do with the 6 meter repeater but no conclusion was reached. WD8JMM said he is still waiting to hear from the bylaw revision committee. N8NAP queried whether we need to modify the election SOP to accommodate the new electronic balloting. N8OOF said he would do that. N8AUC reminded us that the Burke Airport Disaster Drill is set for 7 August 2010 and the Triathlon is to take place on 8 August 2010 on the 146.88 repeater.
18. Upon motion of K2RJ and seconded by W8AZO the meeting adjourned at 1057.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert M. Winston W2THU
Recording Secretary

DO YOU HAVE YOUR LEARA BADGE?

If you never received your badge, or if you wish to change your badge due to a change in call letters, or if you need to replace a lost badge then please notify Bob W2THU via email: w2thu@arrl.net. First time badges are free. Lost and upgraded badges cost \$5.00

Ohio QSO Party: Save the Date! - August 28

by Kenny Silverman, K2KW,

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/. We hope to hear you on the air! -AR-

LEARA Field Day Report

by Eric Jessen, N8AUC

LEARA's 2010 Field Day was very successful, and a load of fun! Just ask any of the 31 people who were there. We had 7 different operators on 3 stations, and Field Day ambassador John, KC8FOC put on a good show for many of the 24 visitors who stopped by. It's safe to say that a good time was had by all who attended!

Band conditions were better than last year. LEARA was heard all over the US and Canada, as we worked 45 states, and 5 Canadian provinces. Our contacts ranged from the Canadian Maritimes, to Puerto Rico, and even included both Alaska and Hawaii! Just before 20 meters closed down for the night, we actually heard a VK4 call sign from Australia! 6 meters even opened up for a while to the gulf coast!

We managed to work 78 CW contacts, and 410 SSB voice contacts, while qualifying for 950 bonus points to give a total score of 2,082 points. This is a little lower than last year, partially because our resident satellite expert KC8RAN got stuck at work over the weekend. (Maybe better luck next year, Joe!)

No description of LEARA Field Day would be complete without mentioning the efforts of Janet Zimmet (wife of Gary WA8TJL) who made sure that the crew and visitors well fed. Thank you, Janet for all your efforts on our behalf.

So how did we do? Good question. Wally the Wonder Dog (not yet licensed according to W2THU) says to

RFI to be Topic of August LEARA Meeting

Breaking News by Bob Winston, W2THU

Dave Goodman, WA8UIT, a LEARA member, has agreed to be our guest speaker for our August 31st meeting back at *Dimitri's*. For those who don't know Dave, he is very well known for solving various types of RFI problems for government agencies as well as for fellow hams. He has some wonderful case studies to relate.

Dave mentioned that the last time he spoke to LEARA, Pat Shreve was president (and I know that was before I moved to Cleveland in 1979!) Plan to attend this very interesting program! -AR-

check the official listing of Field Day scores that are always printed in the December issue of QST magazine!

Mark your calendars now for Field Day 2011! It's always the fourth full weekend in June. Next year, it will be on June 25 and 26. Be there, or be square! Wally the Wonder Dog also says you should make it a point to attend Field Day next year. He had a good time, and you will too!

-AR-

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

- 41 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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