



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



NOVEMBER

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2010

Editor: Ken Kane, KG8DN

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW

## LEARA's Annual Holiday Dinner

At Dimitri's on Tuesday, November 30, 2010, 6:30 PM

With the snows of winter on the way it is time to digress as we do each year from programmed meetings to enjoying the LEARA "family." Bring your spouse or friend along for a night away from the oven and the dishwashing! There is no meeting or newsletter during December so we can enjoy the company of our loved ones at home or elsewhere as 2010 comes to an end.

When reserving your dinner, **select one of the following** as your main entrée:

**-Top Sirloin Steak- -Chicken Alfredo- -Breaded Pork Chops- -Boston Scrod-**

This includes all the usual amenities, plus **Baklava** for dessert

*if you specify that you want it and you get your order in by November 26th!*

Cost this year remains at \$20 including a 3-course dinner with coffee/tea, dessert, tax and tip. And for the "price of admission" you also get to experience our own "Bingo Bob", W2THU giving you a chance to win **cash prizes of \$50 or \$100!**

The festivities 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.** There will be NO formal meeting.

Please call in your reservation and your menu choice to Marv Grossman, W8AZO, at the club's answer line: 440-248-0031. You can also visit [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org) and make your reservation through the club's website. -AR-

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED BY 6:00 PM, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26.**

Trustee  
**ELECTION 2010**  
Results and Analysis  
**Pp. 2 & 7**

A noble gentleman is gone...  
**N8DJG (SK) Pg. 4**

**Dues Notice!**  
Support your club with your  
**\$25. annual dues!**  
Bring your dues to the party  
or  
See Website or October Newsletter for  
help to pay your dues online.

**OFFICERS**

<b>Alex Manuk</b> President	<b>WD8JMM</b> 216-459-8523
<b>Bryan Torok</b> Vice President	<b>N8OOF</b> 440-871-5456
<b>Eric Jessen</b> Vice President	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-734-3146
<b>Bob Winston</b> Secretary	<b>W2THU</b> 216-771-3314
<b>Dave Foran</b> Treasurer	<b>WB8APD</b> 440-942-0618
<b>Eric Jessen</b> License Trustee	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-734-3146

**TRUSTEES**

<b>Jeff Kopcak</b>	<b>K8JTK</b> <a href="mailto:k8jtk@arrrl.net">k8jtk@arrrl.net</a>
<b>Ken Kane</b>	<b>KG8DN</b> 440-338-8078
<b>Gary Zimmet</b>	<b>WA8TJL</b> 440-446-0402
<b>Marv Grossman</b>	<b>W8AZO</b> 440-248-0031
<b>Jim Ozello</b>	<b>N8XDO</b> 216-475-7218
<b>Bill Hess</b>	<b>K8SGX</b> 440-286-9779
<b>John Radney</b>	<b>KC8FOC</b> 216-469-4361
<b>David Noeth</b>	<b>KD8ACO</b> 216-932-8005
<b>Mike Cegelski</b>	<b>K8EHP</b> 216-252-6640
<b>Jeff Garvas</b> <a href="mailto:jeff@cia.net">jeff@cia.net</a>	<b>N8YNR</b> 216-496-3428

**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>Bill Hess</b> Radio Officer	<b>K8SGX</b> 440-286-9779
<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 be sufficient.)

**Editor:** Ken Kane, KG8DN  
E-mail: [editor@leara.org](mailto:editor@leara.org)

Well, another LEARA year is drawing to a close. I know, it's way too early to start talking retrospectively, but this is the last newsletter of 2010, so if I'm gonna say it, I've gotta do it now.

First of all, at the November trustee's meeting, yours truly was elected to another term as President, so it looks like you're stuck with my wit and wisdom for yet another year. Vice Presidents are N8OOF and N8AUC, W2THU has consented to be Secretary for another year, and WB8APD is still Treasurer for life. We had a very full agenda this month, which I believe you can read about elsewhere in this publication.

I'd like to say a few words of thanks to our retiring trustees. Raye, N8NAP, has served this club in many ways over the years. His knowledge and patience with all things RF has been invaluable when we've got problems to solve. Hopefully, Raye, although you won't be continuing as a trustee, your input will continue as we move the organization forward. In any case, thank you for your many years of service to the club.

Ron, K2RJ, is leaving our fair shores for warmer pastures at the end of the year, and has resigned his position as trustee. Those of you who have been keeping up with the rebuild of the '76 machine know how helpful Ron has been in that endeavor. I don't think '76 would be back on the air in the shape it's in without his help. Ron, thank you for your efforts over the years. Your knowledge and help will be missed, and we hope you continue to keep in touch from sunny Florida. (Could you send me a few tons of sunshine, in, say, February?)

Ron's resignation opened up a vacancy on the board. Appointed to serve out the remainder of Ron's term was N8XDO, Jim, who will (I'm sure) continue to be our "gamblin' man" – can't have a proper 50/50 without him!

So, before we adjourn 2010, we've got one more party to throw. November 30<sup>th</sup>, at Dimitri's restaurant, will be the annual LEARA holiday bash. We'll have a special menu available, there'll be a couple of excellent prizes to be won, and, of course, it wouldn't be the holiday party without "Bingo Bob!"

All the details are available elsewhere in this newsletter. Mark your calendar, and I hope to see all of you at Dimitri's on the 30<sup>th</sup>.

Signing off until January..... Have a safe, happy, and blessed holiday season from  
WD8JMM, KC8UIX, and family!

**-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 AM. Since our meeting locations are under discussion, if you wish to attend a Trustees meeting, contact any of the trustees for the latest information about locations. Meetings are open to all current members of LEARA.

## The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



## '76 Update – On the “Hill” Again!

by Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ

As the October newsletter was being distributed last month on October 16, a small team of LEARA members moved the new '76 repeater from its temporary quarters in Newbury to its permanent home under a tower approximately ¼ mile northwest of its old hospital rooftop location. The installation included running AC power, installing lightning protectors where the feedlines entered the building and making sure all connections were secure. All seemed to be working well. The transmitter was putting out 175 watts, the reflected power was near zero and the local receiver was hearing very well. The only glitch was that the UHF link receivers did not seem to be hearing the remote receivers. It was late, and that problem was left for another day. The new repeater with new controller was putting out an excellent signal and even west-side users with handhelds inside cars were making it in nearly full-quieting.

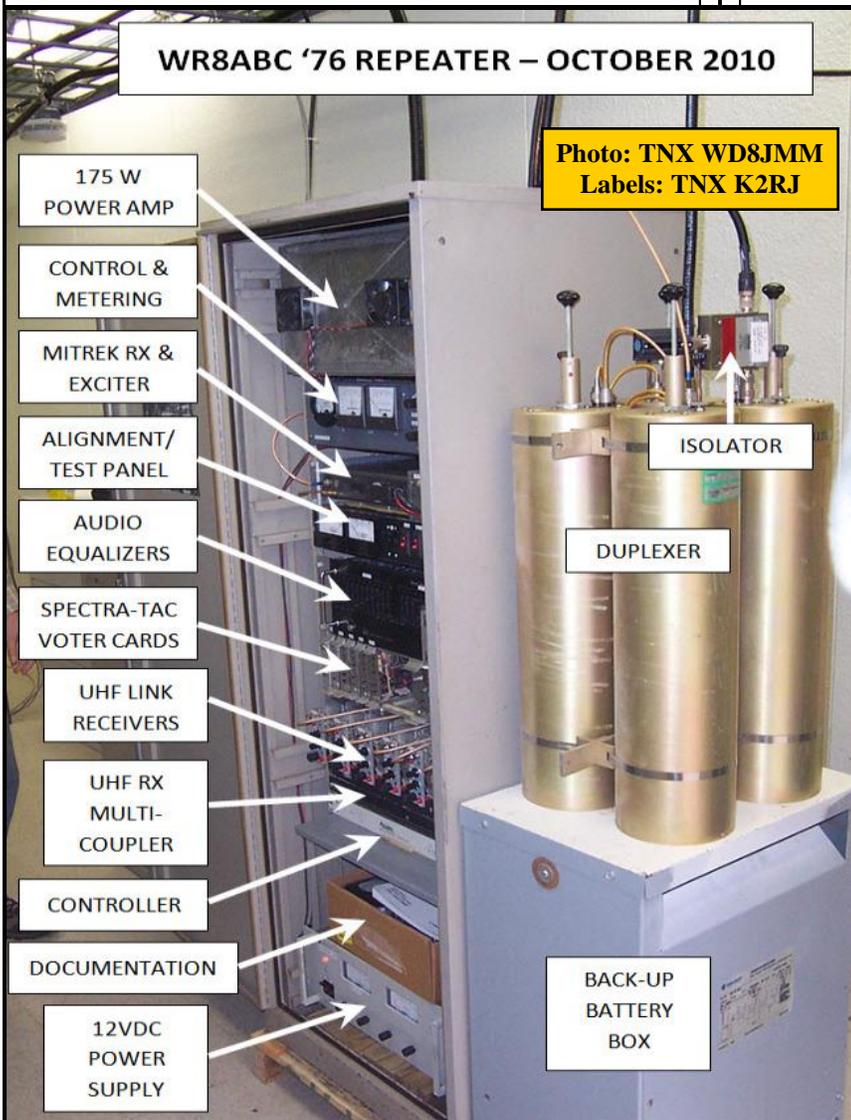
Over the next week, the technical team used and listened to the repeater and were extremely pleased with how it was operating, even with only the main receiver active. The next Saturday, Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ, went up to the site with Bill Hess, K8SGX, and Alex Manuk, WD8JMM, and brought his spectrum analyzer/antenna analyzer with him to determine the cause of the UHF link problem. Within a few minutes Ron realized that the other UHF transmitters on the tower were overloading the receiver multicoupler and link receivers. The solution would be a preselector which would have to be procured and tuned for the job. Ron checked the receiver sensitivity with the repeater transmitter off and then on and found less than 0.5 dB of difference. The duplexer was working like it was supposed to! Bill, Ron and Alex spent the rest of the afternoon adjusting the audio equalizer on the transmitter to get the best possible fidelity from the

repeater transmitter. This was done by comparing a signal on the input frequency with the repeated signal and noting its loudness and tonal quality. It took some time, but we were rewarded by the sound of the first real QSO after we were completed with Don, N8DJG. He sounded as if he was right in the car with us!

The next Saturday, Ron, Bill and Eric Jessen, N8AUC, our License Trustee, returned to the site with the preselector that Ron was able to procure. After the installation of the preselector, the UHF link receivers came alive and we connected a mobile to the repeater antenna to test them all. We then compared the audio quality between the link receivers and the main receiver and decided they were close enough for voice communications. There were slight differences due to the extra processing that happens when audio is demodulated and re-modulated, but nothing we could really do anything about. It sounded quite good! We declared the repeater fully operational.

The picture accompanying this article is annotated to show the various parts of the new repeater. Note the clean and professional look. (Because of the narrow aisle, this is the best angle we could get to photograph the repeater.) All of the RF equipment is Motorola, with the exception of the 300-watt PA which was built by Bill Hess, K8SGX.

-AR-



## Don Raith N8DJG (SK)

### LEARA Bids a Nobleman Farewell



The news of his death spread quickly. Don Raith, N8DJG, who had served LEARA with dedication for so many years left us suddenly in mid-November. Don was a past "sunshine" officer, a trustee emeritus, and often the "Guardian of '76" during the drive times. He served many other roles within LEARA over the years, from retrieving our mail at the Beachwood post office to cheerfully providing public service at the roadside. Even as '76 made the year-long transition from the old hill to the new, N8DJG called frequently from Aurora through the Newbury QTH to those who were monitoring. This quiet, unassuming father of several family generations will be greatly missed. A role model, widely loved and respected, Don showed us how to serve generously and faithfully. Our prayers and supporting wishes go to his family. May he rest in peace.

### Upcoming Hamfests:

12/05/2010

[LCARC Amateur Radio Swap/Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Harrison Township, MI

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** L'Anse Creuse AR Club

**Website:** <http://www.N8LC.org>

[Learn More](#)

01/16/2011

[45th Hazel Park ARC Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Hazel Park, MI

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hazel Park AR Club

**Website:** <http://www.hparc.org>

[Learn More](#)

01/16/2011

[SCARF Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Nelsonville, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Sunday Creek AR Federation

[Learn More](#)

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

11/28/2010

[Newton Falls OH 44444-1639](#)

**Sponsor:** Warren ARA

**Location:** Newton Falls Community Center

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

[Learn More](#)

12/04/2010

[Ravenna OH 44266-2708](#)

**Sponsor:** Portage County ARS, Inc

**Location:** Center of Hope

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

[Learn More](#)

12/06/2010

[Cleveland OH 44106-1712](#)

**Sponsor:** W8EDU

**Location:** Case Western Reserve University

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

[Learn More](#)

12/07/2010

[Stow OH 44224-4097](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

12/19/2010

[Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

**Sponsor:** Lorain County ARA Red Cross

**Location:** American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

01/14/2011

[Cleveland OH 44106-1712](#)

**Sponsor:** W8EDU

**Location:** Case Western Reserve University

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

[Learn More](#)

## September Trustee Minutes

Please link to the minutes by clicking on:

[http://www.leara.org/files/trustee\\_mins\\_2010-09.pdf](http://www.leara.org/files/trustee_mins_2010-09.pdf)

Or, if you are unable to access the internet, you may phone Ken KG8DN at 440-338-8078 to request a hard-copy of the September minutes by regular mail.

## LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information by David Noeth, KD8ACO

*Thanks again to one and all for your participation in keeping the LEARA Thursday Night Club Net active and alive. Over the past year, there has been an increase in participation in excess of 30% over the preceding year. Member participation in each and every net is greatly appreciated.*

*The LEARA Thursday Night Club Net will be moving to the new 146.76 repeater on Thanksgiving. Following Thanksgiving, future LEARA Thursday Night Club Nets will remain on the 146.76 repeater. As a reminder, the 146.88 repeater will always be used as a backup when needed.*

*Wanted: Net Control Stations for the SSTV Net are needed, in order to resume this net. Please get in contact with me at [kd8aco@leara.org](mailto:kd8aco@leara.org), or if you are interested in putting the LEARA Saturday SSTV Net "On The Air" again.*

### Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets will be returning on February 16, 2011 on the 146.76 (- 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 146.76 (- 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-five (65) check-ins from forty-one (41) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Bill AC8CO, David AD8WS, Arp K8ARP, Jeff K8JTK, Steve K8SAS, Fritz K8WLF, Tom KA8BZB, John KA8GZA, Jeff KB8PIH, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Mark KC8FQV, Neil KC8OMO, Jeanne KC8TJH, Jim KC8YGH, David

KD8ACO, Keith KD8KBL, Rick KD8MGF, John KD8MUF, Mark KD8NPD, Mark KD8OLG, Steve KD8OLH, Mark KD8OLI, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Don KJ5KB, Raye N8NAP, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Mark NB8I, Bob W2THU, Clyde W8CGB, Matt W8DEC, Nick W8NVC, Jim W8PSX, Ray W8SLZ, Stu W8STU, John WA8LGM, Al WA8OZC, Gary WA8TJL, and George WD8GEO.

Net Control Stations: Ken KG8DN, Bob W2THU, Bill AC8CO, and Matt W8DEC.

### Upcoming NCS assignments are:

11/18/10	Bob	W2THU
11/25/10	David	KD8ACO
12/2/10	Eric	N8AUC
12/9/10	Ken	KG8DN
12/16/10	Bill	AC8CO
12/23/10	David	KD8ACO
12/30/10	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 was formerly held every Saturday evening from October through May at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Net Control Stations for the SSTV Net are needed, in order to resume this net.

### Wanted! Net Control Stations

We now have six 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 just send me an email at [kd8aco@leara.org](mailto:kd8aco@leara.org).

Hope to talk with you "on the air" soon!

-AR-

## Election Tally and Repeater Design Are Dual Focus in October

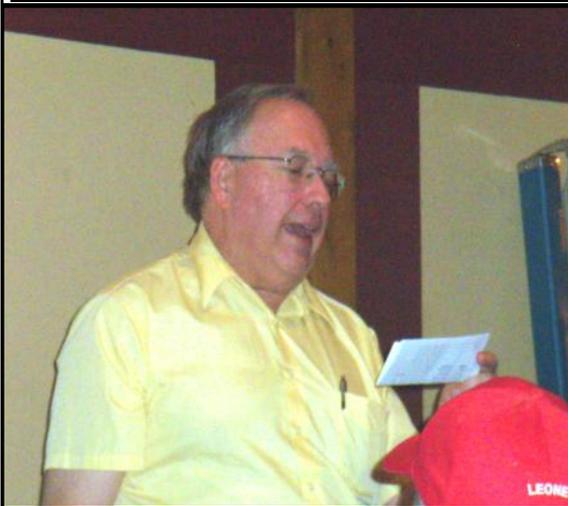
During the October meeting, Florida-bound trustee Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, and License Trustee Eric Jessen N8AUC, each provided detailed reports on the recent election and on the new '76 repeater.

See articles on both topics elsewhere in this November issue.



# Election Results & Analysis

by Ron Jakubowski, K2RJ



The tabulation of this year's LEARA elections indicates we had a record 56% response to the ballots. 63% of those eligible for internet voting participated, as compared to about 24% of those who were mailed a ballot. The electronic voting went without a hitch and we were able to announce the full results at the meeting by 7:35 PM. Thanks to all voters!

-AR-

2010 LEARA Elections		*incumbent	WEB	MAIL	Meeting	TOTAL	
	WD8JMM	Alex Manuk*	72	8	2	82	Elected
	K8SGX	Bill Hess	69	10	2	81	Elected
	KG8DN	Ken Kane	66	8	3	77	Elected
	WA8TJL	Gary Zimmet*	64	9	3	76	Elected
	N8YNR	Jeff Garvas*	62	8	2	72	Elected
	N8XDO	James Ozello*	59	5	2	66	
	N8NAP	Raye Bayun*	41	6	5	52	
	KC8UIX	Kelly S. Manuk	43	6	2	51	
WI	K8DTS	Bob Leskovec	1			1	
WI	KA8BZB	Tom Kimball	1			1	
Ballots Sent			170	53		223	
Ballots Cast			107	13	5	126	
%			62.9%	23.6%		56.0%	

N8YNR



WA8TJL

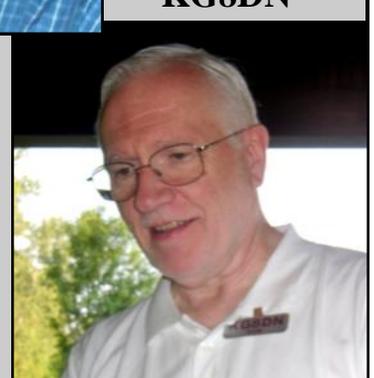


K8SGX

KG8DN



WD8JMM



## November LEARA Trustees Meeting Minutes

### MEETING OF THE LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

13 November 2010 at Dimitri's Restaurant in Parma, OH

#### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Trustees present: N8YNR, K2RJ, K8JTK, W8AZO, N8AUC, N8OOF, K8EHP, WA8TJL, K8SGX, WD8JMM, KG8DN, W2THU, KD8ACO, KC8FOC

Trustee excused: WB8APD

Guests: N8XDO, N8NAP, K8DMT

1. Meeting was called to order by WD8JMM at 9:06 AM.
2. K2RJ resigned as trustee effective at the end of the meeting. Acceptance of his resignation was moved by N8AUC, seconded by W8AZO and passed unanimously. The president thanked Ron for his many services. Moved by N8AUC and seconded by W2THU that N8XDO be appointed as successor to fill the vacancy. Passed unanimously.
3. Nominations for president were opened. WD8JMM was nominated by N8AUC and seconded by W2THU; he accepted. K8SGX was nominated by N8AUC and seconded by K8EHP; he declined. N8OOF nominated by N8YNR and seconded by W2THU; he accepted. Ballots were cast and WD8JMM was elected as president.
4. Nominations for vice presidents were opened, and WD8JMM proposed one ballot for both. KC8FOC was nominated by N8OOF and seconded by W2THU; he accepted. K8EHP was nominated by N8AUC and seconded by K8JTK; he accepted. W8AZO moved and K8EHP seconded to elect by acclimation. Passed unanimously.
5. Nominations were opened for secretary. W2THU was nominated by K8JTK and seconded by K2RJ. Passed unanimously.
6. Nominations were opened for treasurer. WB8APD was nominated, and then elected unanimously.
7. Nominations were opened for radio officers. K8SGK was nominated by N8AUC and seconded by W8AZO. N8OOF was nominated by N8YNR and seconded by K2RJ. Both were elected by acclimation.
8. Nominations were opened for license trustee. N8OOF was nominated by N8YNR and seconded by W2THU. N8AUC was nominated by K8SGX and seconded by K2RJ. N8AUC was elected.
9. Moved by N8AUC and seconded by K8EHP to accept the September minutes as submitted. Passed unanimously.

10. In the absence of WB8APD, WD8JMM reported that our club assets are sufficient. Report accepted.

11. Discussion of trustee meeting location: N8OOF reserved the large room for March 2011 at CC Snow Road Library; W2THU questioned whether that was really the large room. W8AZO offered his work location at the Highland Hills Village Hall. N8YNR recommended Panera's Restaurant on Tiedeman. K2RJ moved and N8OOF seconded that we meet at Marv's workplace in January 2011, and that we decide later about future locations. Passed unanimously.

12. N8YNR moved and N8OOF seconded that the club pay for our breakfast this morning. Defeated: 2 yes 12 no.

13. Discussion of reducing the size of the trustee board: K8SGX said that 15 trustees made no sense since club membership has declined over time from 500 to just over 200, and proposed that we reduce the size of the board by electing three trustees per year instead of the usual five. N8OOF and N8XDO stated that all 15 current trustees are productive. N8YNR proposed term limits for board members. N8NAP suggested that all officers be elected by the membership. WD8JMM stated that such changes as these would require changes in the club by-laws, and that a new committee be established for this purpose to study these ideas. The group approved this by consensus.

14. As an aside above, K8SGX moved and N8OOF seconded that we no longer indicate the incumbent trustees on future ballots, and that this be incorporated in the Standard Operating Procedures. Passed with 13 yes and 1 no. N8YNR asked to be on this committee.

15. Programs for 2011 monthly club meetings: W2THU will contact Dave Goodman for February. N8AUC believes that Bulldog Battery will present in January. N8YNR is trying to get the conference room at UH/AHUJA via Laurie KC8MYE for the Skywarn meeting in March. There was further discussion about whether or not we want to continue combining the Skywarn meeting with the March LEARA meeting.

16. KC8FOC recommended that we contact our own club members to be program speakers.

17. K8JTK checked with CSU and found that they want \$100 plus a catering charge for meetings.

18. WD8JMM distributed a sign-up list for trustees to provide door prizes at the 2011 meetings.

19. Electronic Balloting: K2RJ distributed a spreadsheet showing the results of the election including electronic and paper ballots. (These results are published in the November newsletter.) Email voting involved 56% participation and paper voting involved 24% participation. Balloting was complete by 7:35 PM on the meeting night. One blind ham needed assistance to vote because of her software troubles. There were no negative comments. Ron thanked Kelly profusely for setting up the electronic

*(Continued on page 9)*

(Continued from page 8)

voting. N8OOF pointed out the rule for counting ballots within 24-hours of the close of balloting, and K8RJ explained that his interpretation of this rule was made vis-à-vis the mailing deadline of Saturday for timely delivery of mailed ballots.

20. N8NAP, upon reviewing the election, had an accounting issue, and suggested that VotingPlace could use IP address tracking for security. WD8JMM pointed out that the security provisions in place linking voters by email address, callsign and VP password were sufficient.

21. Repeater courtesy tone on '76: N8OOF said that the short courtesy tone was not what he expected when he voted for it. K8SGX said he had not wanted to put any courtesy tone in anyway. After discussion K8SGX moved and N8AUC seconded that we leave it alone with the short tone. Passed: Yes 9, No 3, Abstentions 2.

22. LEARA participation at the Cleveland Hamfest: WD8JMM reported that KD8ACO did a fine job doing check-ins along with himself, but no one else volunteered. So, next year we will tell the Hamfest that LEARA won't volunteer.

23. Promotional Banner: N8OOF had provided a stand to mount the banner but it wasn't used and the banner was on the table. He believes that this is why we didn't sign up more free members. There was a positive response from the group regarding the attractive design of the banner, and suggestions made for making it more visible in the future.

24. Status of the '76 and '88 repeaters: N8AUC said that '76 is completely functional. K8SGX will tweak filters on the links. N8OOF questioned HT access, and N8AUC claimed that 5-watt access from inside a car was not the intention. WD8JMM claimed that the link receiver on '76 in Lakewood was not hearing with the correct passband. N8NAP said that issues with interference on '88 still continue, and that '76 may also be affected. Further checks in Lakewood will continue. WA8TJL pointed out that high VHF propagation recently may be a factor. W8AZO concurred that the link receiver in Lakewood on 146.16 may be a problem. N8AUC and others said that interference issues have also occurred on 444.7 MHz. KD8ACO asked when the LEARA net should return to '76, and the consensus was that '76 was ready for the move. KD8ACO stated that he will run a net on Thanksgiving night, and set a schedule to return the net to '76 soon.

25. Status of IRLP: K8JTK reported that IRLP on '88 has been "up and down." PL tones are getting through inappropriately. WB8APD currently has the IRLP box. Technical issues involving the audio card and the muting of access codes were pointed out. WD8JMM concluded that the IRLP committee should be empowered to deal with these issues. In this regard, WB8APD has been granted a \$100 credit line to obtain equipment; it was

also moved, seconded and approved that \$100 be authorized for the purchase of a new hard drive.

26. By-Laws committee: WD8JMM asked for a volunteer to head a new committee and N8YNR accepted. N8OOF and K8EHP were appointed to serve on the new committee, and a reminder that decisions of the committee should be vetted by the board before action. Passed. N8YNR invited trustees to provide input to the committee regarding the by-laws.

27. Technical committee: WD8JMM wanted to know if Mike Santilli in Geauga County could be granted through trading some access to the old '76 repeater receivers. N8AUC indicated that this was not in the September minutes. WA8TJL said he could help by working with Mike as needed. N8NAP indicated that the receivers would not be available to Mike, although he is willing to communicate. Also, N8YNR is working on the 444.4 antenna at home, weather permitting. It was indicated that matters involving the technical committee would be revisited in January.

28. Status of the six-meter repeater: N8NAP does not have the repeater receiver from the OET site, but will be working on details.

29. Holiday dinner November 30<sup>th</sup>: N8XDO reported that prices have gone up somewhat. After discussion, it was decided to keep the entrée charge to the members at \$20 each and that the club will make up the deficit, citing that the 50-50 receipts should help with this. Also, bingo prizes will be cash awards of \$100 for first prize and \$50 for second prize.

30. Newsletter revisions: KG8DN distributed a few draft copies of the November newsletter and entertained suggestions for revision. The group agreed that the November Trustee minutes be published and a link provided to the September minutes.

31. Repeater Interference: N8NAP stated that a cable interference issue has been resolved, but he will continue to monitor signals near 146.28 MHz. No warning letters will be issued until a source is confirmed.

32. Club net participation on Thursdays: KD8ACO distributed a statistical report showing considerable improvements in participation since the new promotions (publication of callsigns, extra ticket at meeting raffle, etc.) were put into effect.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Winston, W2THU, Secretary

(with assistance from Ken Kane, KG8DN)

### **Call for By-Laws Suggestions (cf. #26 above)**

The 2011 By-Laws Committee is charged with reviewing the LEARA by-laws for consideration of changes. If you have ideas see the by-laws on [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org) and send suggestions to committee chair N8YNR at [jeff@cia.net](mailto:jeff@cia.net).

# Global EmComm Welcomes Curaçao as Independent Nation

from Mike Corey, W5MPC, as published at ARRL.org ...

The 2010 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (GAREC) Conference was held October 10-12 in Curaçao (PJ2). At the time most conference attendees arrived in Curaçao, it was a part of the Netherlands Antilles along with Bonaire, St Maarten, Saba, and St Eustatius. By the time the attendees headed home, independence had been declared and Curaçao was its own nation within the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

GAREC is an annual conference attended by radio amateurs from around the world who are involved in emergency communications. This year, representatives from the Netherlands, Switzerland, Finland, the United Kingdom, Cuba, India, Japan, South Africa, the United States and Curaçao took part. The ARRL was represented by ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Mike Corey, W5MPC.

Topics covered included the earthquakes in Haiti and Chile, Amateur Radio emergency communication organizations, how emergency messages are handled, and how an emergency communications exercise is designed and organized. Updates on emergency communications activities in each of the three IARU regions were also given. Greg Mossup, G0DUB, had the attendees do a table top exercise for a large scale international disaster.

At the end of the conference a statement paper was written and approved by the representatives in attendance. This will be available soon on the GAREC Web site.

The week of the conference was an exciting time to be in Curaçao. At midnight on 10-10-10, Curaçao became an independent nation. Those who could make it attended a celebration at the VERONA club house. Shortly after midnight Brett Ruiz, PJ2BR, made the first contact from the independent Curaçao with Yuri, R7MA.

Throughout the week of the conference, attendees also had a chance to get on the air using the call sign PJ2A. This call has been assigned to VERONA, Curaçao's IARU Member-Society. When not operating from PJ2A, several attendees operated under their home callsign/PJ2. Those who could go on the air as PJ2 were greeted with massive pileups all week long.

GAREC has been held each year since 2005. The meeting location changes each year and is rotated through each IARU region. The 2011 GAREC conference is scheduled to be in Sun City, South Africa in August and will coincide with the 2011 IARU Region 1 Conference.

## LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

- 41 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

### VOICE REPEATERS:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>146.76/R-</b>      | • Highland Hills (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>444.70/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.