



The Spirit of '76 and '88



MAY

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2011

Editor: Ken Kane, KG8DN

Publisher: Jeannie St. Marie, KC8MNW



LEARA Meets at Dimitri's Tuesday, May 31 Joe Prokop, KC8RAN, Takes LEARA into Orbit with AMSAT

As the amateur radio community awaits Field Day and the upcoming deployment of **ARISSat-1** (formerly known as Suitsat-2), our own Joe Prokop, KC8RAN, will talk to us about **satellite operations**.

A long-time satellite operator and AMSAT member, Joe plans to discuss **working the "birds"** (with both FM and SSB), using fixed and portable rigs.

"I'll have to miss Dayton this year," comments Joe, **"but despite that, I will also talk about the Fox project."** Plan now to get to the club meeting on the last day of the month, **Tuesday, May 31**, to hear Joe's talk!

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.

This month, the dinner menu alternatives will consist of Chopped Philly Steak, Broiled Boston Scrod,



Chicken Parmesan or a Half-Slab of Ribs for \$16. Another alternative of a vegetable and pasta dish may also be requested.

The dinner includes a salad, main course, dessert, coffee or iced tea, and gratuity. (Note that bar service and soft drinks are not included.)

**PLEASE NOTE!
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-



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Eric Jessen Vice President	N8AUC 440-734-3146
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Fred Collins	W8ADW(SK)
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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 be sufficient.)

Editor: Ken Kane, KG8DN

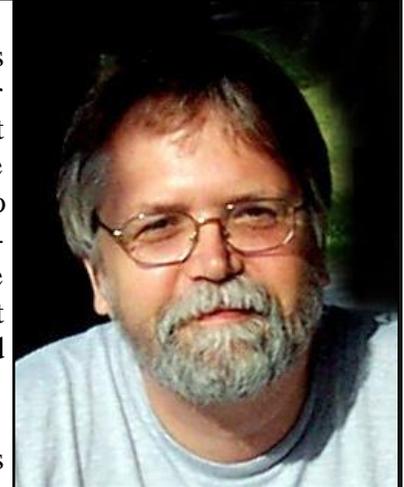
E-mail: editor@leara.org

Proofreading: TNX to

Marv, W8AZO and Jeff, N8YNR

The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



By the time most of you are reading this, it will be Dayton weekend. I haven't been to the Hamvention for a few years, but I can honestly say it's always one of the most exciting times of the amateur radio year. If you haven't been, you don't know what you're missing. Imagine all the hamfests you've ever been to, and all the radio stores, and every club meeting, event, and social opportunity, all piled together into one weekend, and that comes CLOSE to what Dayton is. It's a great time, and I look forward to the next time I can manage the trip.

It's springtime, and the public service season is in full swing. Because of the quality of our machines, LEARA is usually asked to allow their use for various events, even those not directly affiliated with our club. The answer is always "THAT's WHAT IT's THERE FOR" - because without public service, we would have no public presence. One of the folks at my place of employment refers to LEARA as 'your CB club' because he doesn't 'get' ham radio at all. Public service events help us put amateur radio out there on display so people can gain a better understanding of what and who we are. If you're not involved in any of the many public service opportunities that LEARA affords, I urge to you pick one, volunteer, and check out what you're missing. It's a lot of fun, it helps the organizations who run these events, and it's great PR for LEARA and amateur radio in general.

May's meeting presentation will be given by our very own Joe, KC8RAN, who is going to fill us in about the happenings in the world of AMSAT. The ham radio community has a bunch of equipment in orbit, and it doesn't take much to work some of these systems, so if you're at all interested, come on out, have dinner, and check out Joe's presentation. I hope to see you there!

-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. 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 in a first floor room at the Highland Hills Village Hall, 3700 Northfield Road. Meetings are open to all current members of LEARA.

Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, to Be Guest of ARRL and AMSAT at Hamvention® from ARRL.org



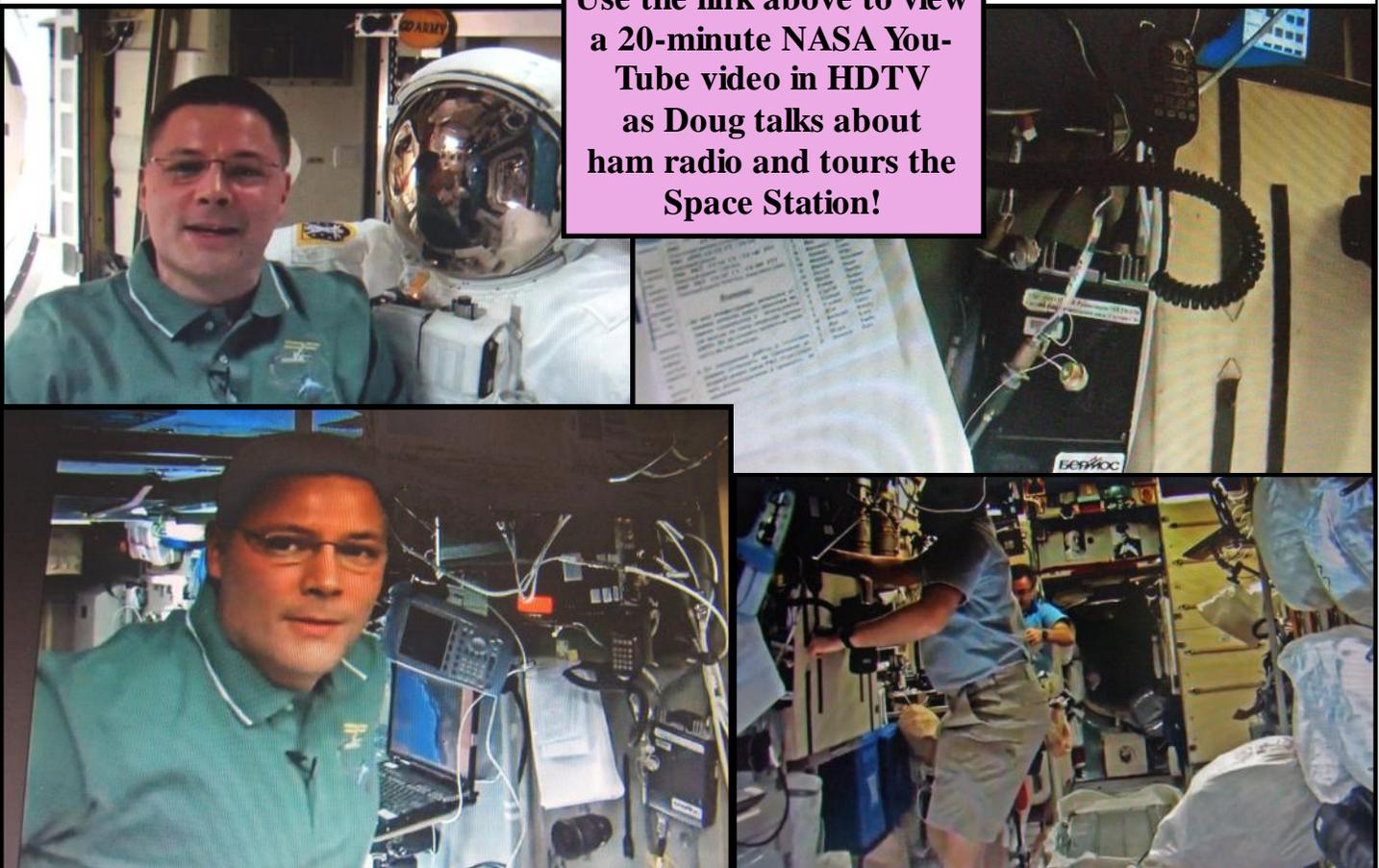
Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, will be attending the 2011 ARRL EXPO -- part of the Dayton [Hamvention®](#) -- as a special guest of the ARRL and AMSAT. While at Hamvention, Wheelock will share his experiences about using Amateur Radio in space. **Wheelock spent 163 days in space, with seven weeks as ISS Commander; he returned to Earth in November 2010. While on board the ISS, he, along with fellow astronaut Shannon Walker, KD5DXB, participated in the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program. Together, the two made 22 ISS-to-school and ISS-to-camp QSOs.**

During his last few weeks in space, Wheelock sent down a note to Johnson Space Center, asking to increase the number of ARISS contacts from one per week to two a week during his last month on the ISS. According to ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, Wheelock said he enjoyed the contacts with children, calling them "priceless." White said that the ARISS Team quickly reviewed the list of schools on the ARISS waiting list and set up contacts for Wheelock. In his off-time, Wheelock -- who has described ham radio as "a fun way to stay 'connected' with planet Earth" -- **squeezed in some casual contacts from NA1SS with earthbound hams -- surprising or exciting all of them, leading to some positive media coverage.** ARISS reports that he made some two dozen general contacts each day he was on the air, and the program now finds itself running low on QSL cards.

"It was totally unexpected, on my way back from a shopping trip!" Erik Janssens, K5WW, of Texas said of his contact with Wheelock, who was using call sign NA1SS. "Exhilarating!" A new ham, David Pruett, KF7ETX, of Oregon, posted an informative and well-received YouTube video of his lucky contact with Wheelock. [Wheelock even made his own YouTube video](#), showing a guided tour of the ISS. *[If an error occurs, copy and paste the URL into the YouTube search box and look for **Space Station Crew Uses HAM Radio to Call Earth.**]* "The video features him making a few ham radio contacts while passing over North America.

The Dayton Hamvention is May 20-22 at Hara Arena, just outside Dayton, Ohio. Find news and information about the 2011 ARRL EXPO [here](#). -AR-

Use the link above to view a 20-minute NASA YouTube video in HDTV as Doug talks about ham radio and tours the Space Station!



Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrrl.org

05/21/2011

[Erie PA 16501-9999](#)

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association
Location: Greene Township Mun Bldg Rm 107
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

05/22/2011

[Newton Falls OH 44444-1639](#)

Sponsor: Warren ARA
Location: Newton Falls Community Center
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

05/26/2011

[Youngstown OH 44501](#)

Sponsor: Mahoning Valley ARA
Location: Youngstown State University
Time: 6:30 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

06/04/2011

[Ravenna OH 44266-2708](#)

Sponsor: Portage County ARS, Inc
Location: Center of Hope
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

06/04/2011

[Rittman OH 44270-1431](#)

Sponsor: Silvercreek ARA
Location: Rittman Public Library
Time: 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

06/19/2011

[Elvria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross
Location: American Red Cross
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

06/21/2011

[Sandusky OH 44870-1926](#)

Sponsor: Sandusky Radio Exp League Inc
Location: Sandusky Radio Exp League Clubhouse
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Hamfests

from www.arrrl.org

05/20/2011

[Dayton Hamvention](#)

Location: Dayton, OH
Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association
Website: <http://www.hamvention.org/>

[Learn More](#)

06/04/2011

[Fulton County ARC Hamfest & Tailgate Party](#)

Location: Tedrow, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://k8bxq.org>

[Learn More](#)

06/05/2011

[Breezeshooters Hamfest and Computer Show](#)

Location: Butler, PA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Breezeshooters ARC
Website: <http://www.breezeshooters.net>

[Learn More](#)

06/18/2011

[Milford Hamfest](#)

Location: Milford, OH
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.w8mrc.com>

[Learn More](#)

06/19/2011

[Monroe Hamfest](#)

Location: Monroe, MI
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Association
Website: <http://www.mcrcra.org>

[Learn More](#)

07/09/2011

[NW PA Hamfest](#)

Location: Erie, PA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Union City & Wattsburg Wireless Associations
Website: <http://www.wattsburg-wireless.us/hamfest.htm>

[Learn More](#)

LEARA "On The Air"

Club Net Information by David Noeth, KD8ACO

Field Day weekend will be here before you know it (June 25-26, 2011). 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.or, if you are interested in putting LEARA "On The Air" again this year during Field Day. Stay tuned to the LEARA Thursday Club Net and The Spirit of '76 and '88 Newsletter for additional information, as it becomes available.

Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets have returned 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 eighty (80) check-ins from forty-three (43) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Tom AA8NR, Bill AC8CO, Bill AC8IH, David AD8WS, Arp K8ARP, Mike K8EHP, Jeff K8JTK, Steve K8SAS, Bill K8SGX, Terry K8TJM, John KA8GZA, Bill KA8VIT, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Mark KC8FQV, Jeannie KC8MNW, Jeanne KC8TJH, David KD8ACO, Gary KD8BHS, Eddie KD8FTS, Roy KD8JMO, Laura KD8MBJ, John KD8MUF, Mark KD8NPD, Steve KD8OLH, Joe KD8PFB, Bruce KD8PTU, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Don KJ5KB, Eric N8AUC, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Dave N8UUC, Bob W2THU, David W8DAL, Matt W8DEC, Matt

W8EBB, Carl W8KRF, Stu W8STU, John WA8LGM, Gary WA8TJL, and George WD8GEO.

Net Control Stations: David KD8ACO, Bill AC8CO, Eric N8AUC, and Matt W8DEC.

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

5/19/11	Ken	KG8DN
5/26/11	Matt	W8DEC
6/2/11	Bob	W2THU
6/9/11	Bill	AC8CO
6/16/11	David	KD8ACO
6/23/11	Ken	KG8DN
6/30/11	Matt	W8DEC

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.

Friday SSTV Net

The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association's weekly slow scan TV net is held informally on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM local time on the 146.880 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Net Control Stations for the SSTV Net are needed, in order to keep this net active and on the air. Please let me know if you are interested. This net is going to continue into the summer on an informal basis. It might be sporadic (like 6 meters, hi hi), but please do try to participate, if you can, when you hear it on the air.

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

Continued on page 7

Calendar Preview—Get “Radio-Active” this Summer!

For Details Email the Contact Person—Offer to Help if you Can

Date	Name	Contact	Email
May 31, 2011	LEARA Meeting-Dimitri's—AMSAT	Marv W8AZO	MarvG@roadrunner.com
June 25-26, 2011	LEARA Field Day Mtg.-Lakefront SP	Eric N8AUC	N8AUC@yahoo.com
July 16, 2010	Great Lakes Emcomm Conference	Matt W8DEC	W8DEC@arrl.net
July 26, 2011	LEARA Picnic—Morgan's Hollow	Marv W8AZO	MarvG@roadrunner.com
August 7, 2011	Cleveland Triathlon—Downtown Cle.	Tom KA8BZB	KAeightBZB@att.net
August 13-14, 2011	MS Pedal to the Point—Berea	Jeff N8YNR	Jeff@cia.net
August 30, 2011	LEARA Meeting-Dimitri's-WA8TJL	Marv W8AZO	MarvG@roadrunner.com
September 10, 2011	Race for the Cure—Wolstein Center	Leone KB8VBR	KB8VBR@yahoo.com

W8DEC Returned for the April Meeting to Urge Our ARES® Participation!

“Ham Radio is an **activity**, but our work through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® is a **commitment**.” This was his theme as Matt Welch, W8DEC, outlined the District 10 ARES® agenda as LEARA gathered at Dimitri's for the meeting this past April 26. Thanks, Matt, for stopping by once again to re-charge our enthusiasm for service! **-AR-**

RELATED NOTE: ARES® District 10 launches a new **twice-monthly digital practice net** beginning at 7:00 PM on **May 25** and continuing each 2nd and 4th Wednesday. Tune to the NORMA **147.015 MHz** repeater.



(Continued from page 5)

LEARA On the Air, Cont:

started, just contact me at one of our club meetings or by using any of my contact information in the membership

Gear to go from Mike, K8EHP, Cleveland:

Item #1: Cushcraft 4-element, 2 meter beam, set up for handheld foxhunt activity, with manual, has never been mounted outside – asking \$50.

Item #2: Antenna launching air gun with foot pump – asking \$30.

Item #3: Ramsey Doppler fox hunting unit, it is completely assembled and working with extra vehicle roof-top magnets, manuals inc'd – asking \$50.

K8EHP@roadrunner.com or phone 216-252-6640

directory or send me an email at kd8aco@leara.org. Hope to talk with you “on the air” soon! de KD8ACO -AR-

Gear to go from Mark, N8UPX, Solon:

I have a Kenwood 930S w/antenna tuner with Matching Speaker and Microphone.

I also have a Yaesu 1200-Watt amplifier, 48 ft. Rohn 25G tower with a Telex Hy-Gain Antenna (Tri-band 10 -15-20 Meters with the Quad expander for 40 Meters), and a rotator that is presently stuck from non-use.

Tower must be taken down, but all hardware is stainless steel. All cables are included. I also have a MFJ Peak Reading SWR meter. I will not ship.

Thanks – Mark Haas N8UPX Contact me by email Haasmail@sbcglobal.net or phone 440-340-3555.



Cuyahoga County ARES® Meets to Tweak Digicom Skills

The Mayfield Heights Library meeting room last month briefly became the site of an RF digital jungle as over 20 ARES® members from Cuyahoga and adjacent counties met to practice their communication skills. Using laptop computers and two-meter radios (set to the lowest

simplex power available), participants employed a variety of interfaces as well as “audio coupling” to exchange digital messages.

“We kept calling for more tables as the troops filed in.” Eric Jessen, N8AUC, EC for the county, and district coordinator, Matt Welch, W8DEC, as well as other experienced communicators, helped those in attendance to navigate through the software, hardware, connections and settings.

“The Cuyahoga group usually meets once a month,” commented Eric, “but we’re taking May off to allow for the annual pilgrimage to Dayton.”

Further training sessions are being scheduled this summer. District 10 will be hosted for the third of three digital training sessions at the TriPoint Medical Center in Concord Township this coming June 18th.

For district information and links to the various county ARES® sites, point your browser to the following website:

<http://cms.ohioares10.org/>

-AR-



LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
14 May 2011 at the Highland Hills (Ohio) Village Hall

Trustees present: KD8ACO, KC8FOC, K8EHP, WB8APD, W2THU, W8AZO, K8SGX, WD8JMM, K8JTK, KG8DN.

Trustees absent: N8XDO, N8YNR, N8AUC, N8OOF, WA8TJL

Guests: KA8BZB

1. **Call to Order** – WD8JMM called the meeting to order at 0905.
2. Corrections to **Previous Meeting's Minutes** – W8AZO moved, seconded by WB8APD to accept the minutes as published. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – WB8APD reported that the balance in the club's treasury is adequate and all bills are paid.
4. **Membership Report** – W8AZO reported that the club has 192 active members and that 34 did not renew from last year.
5. **By-Laws Revision Committee Report** – K8EHP reported that he has been working with Mary, KC8YLC, but was having trouble scheduling a meeting with the other members. WD8JMM stated that we need to have committee members who have the time to perform their duties. He then appointed a replacement committee consisting of K8EHP, KC8YLC, KA8BZB and K8SGX.
6. **Programs for 2011** – WD8JMM reported that our programs for the next few months are as follows: May – KC8RAN on AMSAT, June – Field Day, July – Picnic, August – WA8TJL on avionics.
7. Status of **IRLP Reinstallation** at LCN – K8JTK and WD8JMM stated that they would re-install the IRLP the week of 22 May 2011. [**Secretary Note:** See Minute No. 10 below.]
8. **Survey/Questionnaire Update** – WD8JMM reported that Kelly, KC8UIX, has made up 5 questions so far. All members should forward their survey questions to Kelly ksmanuk@gmail.com. Members will respond to the survey via VotingPlace, the same company that we used for the last LEARA election.
9. **Field Day** – K8SGX moved, seconded by WB8APD that LEARA participate in Field Day. The motion passed unanimously. K8EHP moved, seconded by KC8FOC that the club spend up to \$500.00 on Field Day. This motion also passed unanimously. KC8FOC said that we need to have a suggestion box at our Field Day site and that we need a tent area for promotional materials for visitors. WD8JMM offered his 10x10 foot screen house. Alex also suggested that there be a poster set up at each station describing what the hams are doing there, the band and mode they are operating on, etc.
10. **146.88 Rebuild Status** – K8SGX said that he wanted to talk about 146.76 first. He reported that the company that manufactures the ARCOM controller on the .76 repeater has known programming issues, but he believes these will be worked out. Turning to the 146.88 machine, Bill stated that we need to buy a new controller. During discussion it was learned that the cost of controllers has come way down. So, WB8APD moved, seconded by K8JTK that the club approve up to \$300.00 for a new controller. KC8FOC expressed his concern that the club keep its spending down. W2THU pointed out that we have ample funds and that we collect dues to maintain the club repeaters. The motion passed unanimously. Bill then reported that he had gone out to the .76 site to see which input had the loud buzz. After determining that the source was the Newbury input, he managed to reduce, but not completely eliminate hearing the sub-audible tone. Bill has completed putting together a temporary 146.88 repeater which he expects to install the first week in June. Then, the rebuilt 146.88 repeater will be installed a couple of months later. WD8JMM said that in light of this schedule, he and K8JTK will not install the IRLP on a repeater that is going to be removed in a couple of weeks.
11. **July Picnic Meeting** – K8EHP reported that everything is on track. The club will reimburse their out of pocket expenses.
12. **Streaming Audio from D*Star Network** – WB8APD will set this up in the next few days.

(Continued from page 8)

13. **Dinner Menu** Changes – N8XD0 was not present but he had emailed that we would continue to have one rotating selection on the Dimitri's menu.
14. **Club Policy Regarding Advertising** in the Spirit of 76/88 – Several trustees recalled that LEARA has a specific policy that the Board approved years ago. W8AZO stated that the policy allows for free advertising for members of ham related items, paid advertising for non-members and no business advertising. W2THU recalled that we did have business advertising in the past. He went on to point out that we need to archive all of the significant motions and policies that the Board has passed over the years for easy electronic retrieval, but no one volunteered to do so. W8AZO said he would attempt to locate our newsletter advertising policy.
15. **Club Archival Documents** – K8SGX is still soliciting these documents. He passed out samples of a document that he scanned at 75dpi and 150dpi so that he could get input from the Board regarding the proper resolution before scanning hundreds of pages.
16. **New Business** – ALL:
 - A. **Nomination Committee.** WD8JMM noted that none of the members were present. He reminded us that finding suitable candidates for the Board is not their sole function. All LEARA members are invited to submit the names of hams who wish to serve on the Board.
 - B. KA8BZB requested permission to use the **146.88 repeater for the Triathlon** this summer. As always, the feeling of the Board was “That is what it is there for.” Tom then announced that this would be his last year supporting the Triathlon because he is moving to North Carolina. Alex thanked Tom, on behalf of the club, for all of his service to LEARA over the years.
 - C. WD8JMM expressed his concern that **Dimitri's** does not serve dinner until 7:30 PM which is a problem for our members, and especially for our speakers, because we are now required to leave the dining room by 9:00 PM. Programs are being cut short. A LEARA member has scouted another location that might be suitable. The consensus is to look around. Some Trustees expressed their dissatisfaction with the quality or quantity of food. Alex will first talk to Dimitri's to see if this issue can be resolved.
 - D. W8AZO wants to know what items are really **newsworthy** for the entire **LEARA email membership** list? For example, should ARRL bulletins be forwarded? The consensus was no. There was some discussion, but no definitive answer or policy was suggested.
17. **Adjournment** – K8SGX moved, seconded by WB8APD, that the meeting be adjourned at 1101hours. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert M. Winston W2THU

Recording Secretary

Got Docs?

If you have been a member of LEARA for a while, Bill Hess, K8SGX, may want you to check your attic, basement or closet for that box of LEARA stuff from the deep, dark past. Bill is looking for “fills” on newsletters, listings of trustees and members, election materials, meeting minutes, etc., to complete our club archives. These will be scanned into electronic form for storage and retrieval. If you have such items to loan for archiving, please contact Bill Hess, K8SGX. His phone number is listed on page two in the trustees column.

TNX!

May 7, 2011

RIT ARC Designs, Flies Reusable High-Altitude Rig Climbs 20 miles above Lake Ontario

TNX to Jeff K8JTK
For suggesting this story.

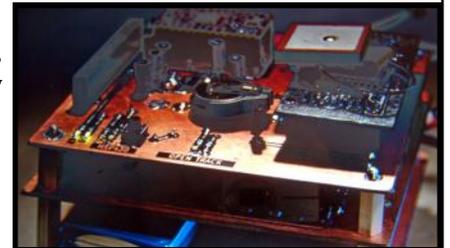


This remarkable HD photo above was taken on Saturday, May 7, 2011, during the [Imagine RIT Innovation & Creativity Festival](#) from **RITCHIE-1**, a balloon-lifted reusable electronics payload designed and built by student members of the Rochester Institute of Technology Amateur Radio Club. Flying above the New York Thruway and reaching an altitude of 96,305 feet above Palmyra, NY, the launch was tracked by using the national APRS frequency to send data down to club members on the RIT campus. The reusable package landed about seventy feet above ground in a tree on the property of a private home in Clifton Springs, NY, and the family aided in its retrieval.

In a QRZ.com forum item (see link at bottom), club member **Bryce Salmi, KB1LQC**, explains that he and his student peers in the **radio club designed and built RITCHIE-1** (photo below) to approach the technique of high altitude ballooning differently, “and aimed to engineer a highly reliable, modular, and reusable payload rather than just get into near-space. We also aimed to create a highly-publicized event **to show newer aspects of ham radio.**” A GoPro960 HD video camera took images every five seconds in order to conserve battery power.

Bryce Salmi, KB1LQC, is co-founder of the college amateur radio group, www.CollegeARC.com. He is also a full-time undergraduate student and varsity oarsman for the RIT crew team. See the link here below for more:

<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?296382-RITCHIE-1-High-Altitude-Balloon-Success!> -AR-



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VOICE REPEATERS:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 146.76/R- | • Highland Hills (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+ | • Macedonia (Requires 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.

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