



The Spirit of '76 and '88



NOVEMBER

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2011

Editor: Ken Kane, KG8DN

Annual Holiday Gathering Tuesday, November 29 will Close Out 2011 for LEARA

This is the meeting each year during which we put aside our usual techie radio stuff just to enjoy each other's company for a night out to dinner!



"Bingo Bob" Winston expects to be on hand, offering worthwhile prizes to reward the skill (luck?) of the attending membership and their guests. An **enhanced menu** will help us all to celebrate well. Photos here are from last year's event, thanks to Joe Swartz, N8IPC.

On Tuesday, November 29, dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. There is no formal meeting. Handsome prizes will be awarded as we close the night with a few rounds of bingo.

This month, the holiday dinner menu alternatives will consist of the following:

**Top Sirloin
Chicken Alfredo
Breaded Pork Chops
Broiled Boston Scrod**

A vegetable and pasta dish may also be substituted for the above, if requested when you make your reservation.

Your cost of \$20 includes all the usual amenities... a salad, main course, dessert, coffee or iced tea, and gratuity. (Note that bar service and soft drinks are not included.)



In addition, a complimentary serving of **Baklava** for dessert will be provided, **but ONLY if you specify that you want it AND you get your order in by Friday, November 25!**

**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.

**Dues Notice!
Support your club
with your
\$25 annual dues!**

Bring your dues to the party or pay at leara.org

LEARA gives everyone time after this gathering to observe the December holidays with our families and friends. **There is no newsletter and no club meeting during the month of December.**

-AR-

OFFICERS

Alex Manuk President	WD8JMM 216-459-8523
Gary Zimmet Vice President	WA8TJL 440-446-0402
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@arri.net
Ken Kane	KG8DN 440-338-8078
Bryan Torok	N8OOF 440-871-5456
Marv Grossman	W8AZO 440-248-0031
Jim Ozello	N8XDO 216-475-7218
Bill Hess	K8SGX 440-286-9779
Bill Schultz	AC8CO 216-765-1328
David Noeth	KD8ACO 216-932-8005
Mike Cegelski	K8EHP 216-252-6640
Jeff Garvas jeff@cia.net	N8YNR 216-496-3928

TRUSTEES EMERITI

Al Amster	W8TTY
Don Raith	N8DJG (SK)
Fred Collins	W8ADW(SK)
John Radney	KC8FOC(SK)
Pat Shreve	W8GRG (SK)
Al Severson	AB8P (SK)

POINTS OF CONTACT

Kelly Manuk "Sunshine"	KC8UIX 216-459-8523
Bill Hess Radio Officer	K8SGX 440-286-9779
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 be sufficient.)

Editor: Ken Kane, KG8DN

E-mail: editor@leara.org

Proofreading: TNX to

Marv, W8AZO and Jeff, N8YNR

It's been a crazy November so far. As I write this, I'm listening to thunder, and what will probably be the last Skywarn net of the year. We're under a Tornado Watch til 11, and things are cracking and booming outside.

Three days ago, I woke up to snow on the car, and today we're having severe weather. I suppose I shouldn't be surprised.

Anyway, the LEARA year has come to an end. At last weekend's Trustees meeting, I was elected President again, so you're stuck with me for another year. I hope I can live up to the confidence everyone has in me.

Thank you all for your support.

November is the LEARA holiday party - this year it's the Tuesday AFTER Thanksgiving, so don't eat so much turkey that you don't have room for a good dinner (and baklava!) at Dimitri's on the 29th. As always, we dispense with any official business and just enjoy the meal, the fellowship, and of course, Bingo Bob! Come on out and begin your holiday celebration with us!

Since this is the last column (and newsletter) of 2011, I'd like to talk about **New Year's resolutions**. Personally, I never enjoyed making them, because it always seemed to me to be a recipe for failure. This year, though, I've decided to spend more time listening to the LEARA machines (and maybe actually TALKING on them once in a while) I've got the radio on scan whenever I'm at home and while the past weekend has been quiet, it's neat to hear activity on the repeaters. If you've got a radio handy, throw out your call on one of the machines, you may be surprised at who you end up talking to.

(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.

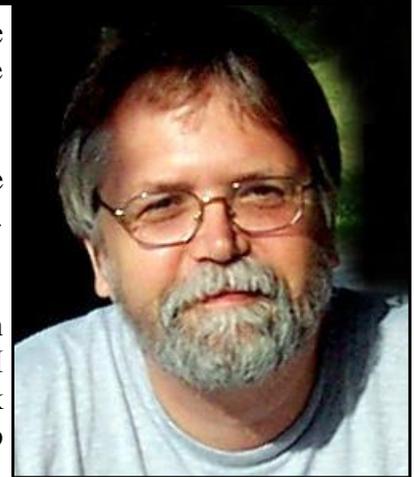
LEARA is an **ARRL**-affiliated club. When you join or renew the **ARRL**, **LEARA** benefits monetarily if you so through the club. Send **ARRL** Applications/renewals to Club Treasurer Dave Foran WB8APD, 5439 Nan Linn Dr. Willoughby, OH 44094-4365. Make the check payable to **LEARA**, not the **ARRL**.

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

The Prez Says

by Alex Manuk, WD8JMM



(Continued from page 2)

Prez, cont.

What are YOU going to resolve (in the amateur radio realm) for 2012? Maybe try a new mode, or upgrade your ticket, or put up a better antenna? I'd like to hear from you with your ideas for things LEARA can do to help improve your enjoyment of amateur radio. **Please email me with suggestions and ideas** on how we can keep LEARA at the forefront of ham radio in Northeast Ohio.

That's all I've got for this month. From the Manuk household, I'd like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, or Joyous Festivus, and a very Happy and Blessed New Year!

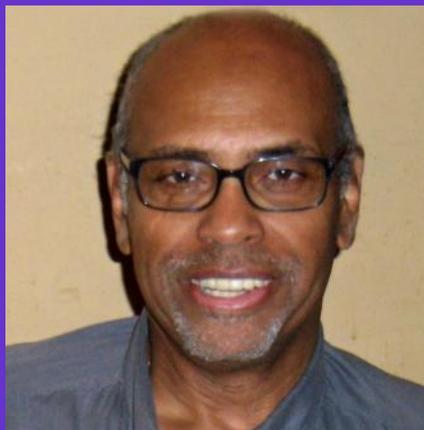
See you in January!

73, de Alex WD8JMM

A Farewell Tribute

LEARA Mourns the Untimely Passing of John Radney, KC8FOC, Trustee

[Link to Guest Register for John at Legacy.com](#)



KC8FOC (SK)

John Radney, KC8FOC, will be best remembered as LEARA's "Field Day Ambassador and Tour Guide." On meeting his family after his sudden death in mid-October, my previous sense of John's character was confirmed by his children and their spouses: He was a man who genuinely cared about people.

We will always remember John as an outgoing guy, always enthusiastic, loyal to the club, and a devoted ham. Even when going through some dark times, John had an upbeat, positive attitude, an "attitude of gratitude." He looked forward to Field Day every year, was always one of the first to arrive on site, and was willing to lend a hand with just about any setup job that was needed.

John served on the Board of Trustees for LEARA as one of the most enthusiastic supporters of the club. Many of his contributions on the Board were not that obvious unless one really paid attention. Always John was trying to make things better. Often, his influence came as a result of a subtle tweak to something. The original idea may not have been his, but the end result was always at least just a little bit better because of his involvement.

He never stopped learning. He never let a temporary lack of knowledge affect his strong desire to be involved and to help. What he didn't know, he would diligently work to learn "on the fly." He did such a good job in this way, that I believe LEARA will have a tough time finding someone to fill his shoes.

For all that John Radney was and for all that he contributed to others, he will be sorely missed. While his time with us was relatively brief, he made an indelibly positive impression on those of us in the amateur radio community who had the privilege of knowing him and working with him.

Eric Jessen, N8AUC

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

11/20/2011 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

12/02/2011 | [Cleveland OH 44106-1712](#)

Sponsor: W8EDU

Location: Case Western Reserve University

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

[Learn More](#)

12/03/2011 | [Ravenna OH 44266-2708](#)

Sponsor: Portage County ARS, Inc

Location: Center of Hope

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

[Learn More](#)

12/12/2011 | [Cleveland OH 44106-1712](#)

Sponsor: W8EDU

Location: Case Western Reserve University

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

[Learn More](#)

12/18/2011 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: Lorain County ARA Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

01/20/2012 | [Cleveland OH 44106-1712](#)

Sponsor: W8EDU

Location: Case Western Reserve University

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

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

11/19/2011

[Indiana State Convention \(Fort Wayne Hamfest and Computer Expo\)](#)

Location: Fort Wayne, IN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

Website: <http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com>

[Learn More](#)

12/04/2011

[LCARC Amateur Radio Swap/Hamfest](#)

Location: Harrison Township , MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: L'Anse Creuse Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

01/15/2012

[Hazel Park 46th Annual Hamfest](#)

Location: Hazel Park, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hparc.org>

[Learn More](#)

01/29/2012

[Tusco ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Strasburg, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tusco ARC

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

[Learn More](#)

Calendar from 2011 into 2012

November 29, 2011	LEARA-Dimitri's (Holiday Party)	Marv W8AZO	MarvG@roadrunner.com
December 2011	No Meeting or Newsletter this month — Enjoy your Holiday Season!		
January 14, 2012	LEARA Trustees' Meeting	[LEARA members are welcome]	
January 31, 2012	LEARA-Dimitri's Restaurant	Marv W8AZO	MarvG@roadrunner.com

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 during this past year. Member participation in each and every net is greatly appreciated.

As has been the custom for the past few years, a LEARA Thursday Night Club Net has been scheduled on the evening of Thanksgiving once again this year. The net will be held as usual at 8:00 PM local time on the 146.76 repeater. As a reminder, the 146.88 repeater will always be used as a backup when needed.

Reminder: The Friday SSTV Net has resumed its weekly schedule on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM local time on the 146.88 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Please get in contact with me at kd8aco@leara.org, if you have any questions regarding participation in this net.

Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn practice nets will be returning on February 15, 2012 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 146.88 (- 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 seventy-eight (78) check-ins from forty (40) different stations. The following were reported by our net control stations to have participated:

Bill AC8CO, Bill AC8IH, David AD8WS, Andy K8AND, Arp K8ARP, Bruce K8CSI, Mike K8EHP, Jeff K8JTK, Fritz K8WLF, John KA8GZA, Bill KA8VIT, Mike KB8KMC, Leone KB8VBR, Carl KB8VXE, Mark KC8FQV, Jeannie KC8MNV, Jeanne KC8TJH, David

KD8ACO, Eddie KD8FTS, Colleen KD8FTT, Leon KD8NVX, Steve KD8OLH, Joseph KD8OVQ, John KD8QMU, Dave KD8QWI, Sue KD8RBR, Ed KE8ZZ, Ken KG8DN, Mike KG8MTG, Don KJ5KB, Tom N8UAZ, Bill N8UPZ, Dave N8UUC, Bob W2THU, John WA8LGM, Gary WA8TJL, Dick WA8TPP, Linda WB8QLT, Carmen WB8SDA and George WD8GEO.

Net Control Stations: Bill N8UPZ, Ken KG8DN, Bob W2THU, and Bill AC8CO.

Upcoming NCS assignments are:

11/17/11	Bob	W2THU
11/24/11	David	KD8ACO
12/1/11	Bill	AC8CO
12/8/11	Ken	KG8DN
12/15/11	Eric	N8AUC
12/22/11	David	KD8ACO
12/29/11	Joe	KC8RAN

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 regularly scheduled weekly slow scan TV net is held on Friday evenings at 7:30 PM local time on the 146.88 (- offset, 110.9 PL) repeater. Please refer to Terry, K8TJM, McCann's "SSTV Friday Night Net" article in September's newsletter for more information.

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. Please send me an email at kd8aco@leara.org, if you are interested. Hope to talk with you "on the air" soon!

-AR-

At LEARA's October Meeting
“Pictures Radioed Digitally”
by Terry McCann, K8TJM





October 2011 LEARA Meeting, cont.



LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION TRUSTEE'S MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
12 November 2011 at the Highland Hills (Ohio) Village Hall
(Subject to Revision)

Trustees Present: W2THU, K8SGX, W8AZO, KD8ACO, WB8APD, WA8TJL, AC8CO, K8JTK, WD8JMM, N8XDO, K8EHP, N8YNR, N8OOF, N8AUC

Excused: KG8DN Guest: KC8UIX

1. The meeting began at 0915.
2. Election of New Officers-
President: The following were duly nominated and seconded: K8JTK, N8OOF and WD8JMM. WD8JMM was elected by secret ballot.
Vice-President: The following were duly nominated and seconded: K8JTK, N8OOF, N8AUC, K8SGX, WA8TJL. WA8TJL and N8AUC were elected by secret ballot.
The current Secretary, W2THU, Treasurer, WB8APD, Radio Officers, K8SGX and N8OOF, and License Trustee, N8AUC were all re-elected by unanimous vote of the Board.
3. Corrections to Previous Meeting's Minutes – N8AUC moved, seconded by WA8TJL that the minutes be accepted as published. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Treasurer's Report – WB8APD reported that the association has \$1,675.66 in its treasury. Dave said that K8SGX submitted a request to be reimbursed for \$450.56 for expenses he incurred in rebuilding the repeaters for the Lakewood site. N8AUC moved, seconded by W8AZO, that the club pay this bill. The motion passed without dissent.
5. Membership Report: W8AZO reported that we have 214 voting members of which 163 are dues paying members.
6. Wrap-up of LEARA participation at the Cleveland Hamfest – N8AUC said that the club enrolled 10 new members as part of its free membership drive. Other members attending the LEARA table included WA8TJL, KD8ACO, KC8FOC(SK), KD8ACJ, K8JTK.
7. Holiday Party Menu and Entertainment – N8XDO reported that the menu would be similar to last year, consisting of chicken Alfredo, breaded pork chops, Boston scrod, top sirloin, and soup. Those who desire baklava need to order no later than the preceding Friday. N8YNR moved, seconded by KD8ACO that this menu be approved at \$20.00 per person. The motion passed unanimously. The door prizes will be won via Bingo. It was further agreed that if there is a tie, the cash prize shall be split in equal shares among the winners.
8. N8YNR moved, seconded by WA8TJL, that KC8FOC(SK) be elected Trustee Emeritus posthumously. After careful deliberations during which many Trustees recalled specific actions taken by John to promote amateur radio to the community, the motion passed unanimously. However, because the bylaws require all of the Trustees to vote in the affirmative, this motion was held in abeyance until KG8DN had an opportunity to vote.
9. Since John Radney was also the sunshine person, it was necessary to find a replacement. Kelly Manuk, KC8UIX, agreed to take over this function for the club.
10. By-Laws Revision Committee Report – WD8JMM congratulated N8YNR on the excellent power point presentation that he made to the Trustees at the previous meeting regarding the bylaw revisions. Jeff will make the same presentation to the members at the January club meeting. Jeff asked if we should consider reducing the vote for Trustee Emeritus from 100% of the Trustees to a lesser number. The consensus was to leave it at 100%.

(Continued from page 8)

11. Programs for 2012 – N8AUC suggests that the program for January simply be a group discussion of the bylaw revisions. Eric will be looking for programs for the balance of 2012, with ideas from all members.
12. Survey/Questionnaire Results – KC8UIX said that the most surprising survey write- in response was someone who said that he or she was ignored at the meetings. To rectify this, N8YNR suggested that the sign-in sheet have a third column that asks if you are a first time visitor. In this way, no one new will be ignored at the meeting. N8AUC suggested that we devote an entire club meeting to discussing the survey results. WA8TJL agreed to do this.
13. Technical Committee Report (including 146.88 rebuild status) – K8SGX said he will install the 146.76 operator codes today, after the meeting. Regarding the entire Lakewood rebuild, the new repeaters are in the rack ready to be installed, but there was still a concern over the reliability of the IRLP computer. In the past, we have experienced hard drive failures and the need to physically reboot the computer at the repeater site. W2THU suggested that we replace the computer with an embedded node that has no hard drive. N8YNR said that such a device is available for approximately \$700.00. W2THU offered to pay \$350.00 towards this device if the club would pay the balance. K8SGX moved, seconded by N8YNR that LEARA appropriate \$400.00 for the embedded node. The motion passed unanimously.
14. Status of Streaming Audio from D*Star Network – WB8APD said it works like a champ.
15. New Business –
 - a. K8JTK said that the club's website had been down because of server issues. N8YNR recommends that we move the site to Dreamhost, as the club has had an account there for the past 3 years. N8AUC moved, seconded by N8OOF that LEARA move its website to Dreamhost. The motion passed without dissent.
 - b. N8AUC said that Cuyahoga County ARES wants to run a monthly digital net on 146.76 on Saturday. Permission was granted by consensus.
 - c. KD8ACO has the KC8FOC video that he is turning over to K8SGX. It will also be put on the website.
16. The meeting was adjourned at 1205.

Respectfully submitted,
 Robert M .Winston W2THU
 Recording Secretary

Trustees To Serve New Three-Year Terms



K8EHP
 Mike Cegelski



N8AUC
 Eric Jessen



K8JTK
 Jeff Kopcak



N8XDO
 Jim Ozello



AC8CO
 Bill Schultz

California Team Claims Amateur Radio High-Altitude Balloon Record in October.

On October 23, 2011, after three years and many trials, a group of Bay-area hams report breaking the high altitude balloon record by tracking their helium-filled balloon over central California to an altitude of over 25 miles above ground level (136,545 feet). This most recent design included a dipole antenna, a cross-band repeater with GPS tracking, and a digital camera. The crew included Don Ferguson (KD6IRE), Ron Meadows (K6RPT), Lee Meadows, and Frank Meadows, KA6TVU, and their many friends. [Excerpts from the ARRL news item follow below:]

On **September 12, 2009** Ron, with support of his son Lee and Ron's father, Frank, KA6TVU, launched the first of what would become many balloons. This one carried a payload containing a camera, a simplex repeater and an APRS tracking GPS and radio. This project was named CNSP-01, for "California Near Space Project." It is also the name of Ron's website and the large team of friends who support him and Lee. ...

On **March 27, 2010** this second balloon was another success that traveled to 100,442 feet AGL and provided a couple of hours of excellent radio contacts covering central California from Bakersfield to Chico. ...

For the **October 23, 2011 record-breaking flight**, Lee made all the decisions related to fill and led the team during the launch process. Ron and the team supported all his decisions and deserve significant credit for the success and the **world record**. CNSP-10 reached 136,545 feet, or 25.86 miles, AGL. ...



See also: <http://www.californianearspaceproject.com/>

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association - 42 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

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.

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.
Those who subscribe via e-mail will not receive a paper copy.