



The Spirit of '76 and '88



June

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2018

Ken Kane, KG8DN, Editor



Talk-in on 146.76/R

Yes! **Field Day weekend** is upon us again! **Andrew, WA8LIV**, (937-681-1516) and **Joel, K8SHB**, will head the event (*see page nine for more*) at our usual stomping grounds in the Cleveland Metropark Lakefront Reservation just north of and above MLK Drive.

Our hosts suggest that we bring a salad or other side dish to go with the provided pizza and beverages. We plan a **dinner with meeting**. *Call Marv at 440-248-0031 or give your "count" for dinner at www.leara.org no later than Wednesday, June 20th.*

Carl, KB8VXE, will offer his radio Saturday as a Get On The Air (GOTA) station. Now is your chance to introduce someone to the hobby. Give us a call through '76 on your way in.

See you on your radio or there in person on **Saturday afternoon, June 23rd!**

Saturday 9 AM: Setup of Site & Gear

Saturday 2 PM: FD Operations Begin
GOTA station by **KB8VXE**

Saturday 6 PM: LEARA Food & Meeting

Pizza and beverages provided.

Side dishes or donations welcome.

If overnighiting, bring camping gear.

Sunday 2 PM: FD Operations End
(Come at Noon Sunday to help strike camp!)

[Field Day Site Locator](#)

On June 23-24 it's time for
LEARA Field Day 2018

Cleveland Metropark Lakefront Reservation
Reserve Pizza Dinner by Wed., June 20!

NO restaurant
meeting this
month...



Club Call WB8CQR



Guests

welcome!

Take I-90 to

Exit 177 at

MLK, Jr. Blvd.

Head north from
ramp, following the
road east and
up the hill!

**OFFICERS
and TRUSTEES**

Bryan Torok President	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
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Al Amster	W8TTY (SK)
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NEWSLETTER

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the
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except on months with
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when the 3rd Sunday
will be sufficient.

Editor:

Ken Kane, KG8DN
E-mail: editor@leara.org

*Proofreading: TNX to
W8AZO, N8YNR, K8JTK*

The May Meeting was held at the **Hofbräuhaus**. Even with some traffic due to the Indians game, I was pleasantly surprised to find that getting to the location went smoothly. The room was very nice, comfortably appointed. A plus was the included screen, projector, and sound system. Although I did hear a couple of negative comments, I think most people found the food to be good. With some care, one could stay close to the price range of our other meetings. Or, you could break the budget as Sara, KC8KSU, and I did.

Unfortunately, there was a bit of a snafu/miscommunication regarding the parking. **Eddie, KD8FTS**, was told that so long as no special event is happening, parking would be \$5 and if there is an event happening, there would be valet parking for \$10. What wasn't made clear is that "event" refers to an event happening at Playhouse Square. The Indians game triggered the parking lots, not owned by the restaurant, to raise their prices but did *not* trigger the Hofbräuhaus to implement valet parking. Still, I was pleased to find parking directly across the street for \$10.

Ted Alexander's, W8IXY, presentation on the history of broadcast radio and TV in the Cleveland area was entertaining and a very nice walk down memory lane. It was neat to see the behind-the-scenes photos and how the equipment has progressed from the early days of radio and TV to the present.

Field Day is Always the Fourth Full Weekend in June. Folks, attendance at LEARA's Field Day (FD) has declined over the last few years, making the FD Committee and others wonder if it is worth the effort. There are number of reasons this has happened, members are aging, moving away, or out of town for the weekend. I must confess that the last few years' work has caused me to be what Eric, N8AUC, calls "a Field Day Tourist." That is one who comes out for a few hours then goes home.

Still, I think Field Day is a very worthwhile event to support. We get exposure to the public, the media, and law enforcement. We get practice setting up and operating stations under less than ideal conditions. Technicians and the

The Prez Says
by Bryan Torok, N8OOF

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, P.O. Box 22823, Beachwood, OH 44122-0823.

LEARA is an **ARRL**-affiliated club. When you join or renew the **ARRL**, **LEARA** benefits monetarily if you do so through the club. Send **ARRL** Applications/renewals to LEARA, P.O. Box 22823, Beachwood, OH 44122-0823. Make the check payable to **LEARA**, not the **ARRL**.

Membership Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month (except December and June) at a Cleveland-area restaurant to be announced each month in the newsletter. The LEARA newsletter usually arrives near the middle of the month. Locations for dinner may vary and often require a reservation. Those interested in dinner should arrive around 6 p.m. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are open to all interested persons. You may attend without eating.

Trustees' Meetings are on the second Saturday of odd numbered months. Meetings are open to all current members of LEARA. **Locations are subject to change.** In the next few coming months, meetings are planned at the Maple Heights branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library, 5225 Library Lane. Contact a trustee or check the website at www.leara.org for details.

(Continued from page 2)

**Prez
cont.**

unlicensed get to come out and experience HF long distance communication without repeaters or the internet. Yes, even the unlicensed can play radio on Field Day. So, even if you only have a few hours, come out and support LEARA's Field Day. Better yet, bring a young ham or a non-ham to give it a try! This year LEARA will hold Field Day (FD) at Upper Gordon Park (Cleveland Metropark Lakefront Reservation, north of MLK Jr. Dr.). Details are on the cover. This year the club will be providing pizza for the on-the-field meeting. **Reservations will be requested** for the meeting so the FD Committee can order the correct amount of pizza and beverages.

...and July is the Picnic Meeting...We will again be at the Harriet Keeler Memorial Picnic Area in Brecksville. The folks who did the bulk of the work in previous years either aren't able to do it or aren't available this year. So, we are having the event catered by a company we've used in the past for several of our meetings. The price will be in the \$15 range. The caterer will deliver and set up the food. However, **we will still need volunteers** to get ice and beverages and then help with clean up afterwards. Those interested in volunteering, **please contact Carl Gideon, KB8VXE, at 440-243-5710.**

Nominations for Trustee are under way. **Jeff Kopcak, K8JTK**, and **Andrew Kahn, WA8LIV**, are the nominating committee for 2018. Any members interested in running or in nominating a member for Trustee should contact Jeff or Andrew. Their contact info is on page two.

Until next month, talk on the radio, and use the repeaters. Come out and see us at a meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Bryan Torok, N8OOF

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
17 <div><i>June</i></div>	18	19 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	20 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R then Practice	21 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	22	23 LEARA Field Day Meeting 6pm Upper Gordon
24 Field Day Weekend	25	26 No Tuesday Meeting in June	27 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R / S	28 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	29	30
1	2	3 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	4 Independence Day 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R / S	5 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	6 <div><i>July</i></div>	7
8	9	10 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	11 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R then Practice S'plx	12 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	13	14
15	16	17 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	18 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R then Practice S'plx	19 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	20	21
22 Cleve.Triath David AD8WS 2pm ARES® CCPL Indep.	23	24 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	25 8:30 pm Skywarn Net 146.76/R then Practice S'plx	26 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL	27 <div>Pan Ohio Hope Ride: John Padley</div>	28
29 Pan Ohio Hope Ride	30	31 LEARA Picnic 6pm at Keeler Memorial, Brecksville Res.				



LEARA "On The Air"
Club Net Information
by Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE

June 2018 Newsletter Net Report

The Thursday Club Net is held 8PM on our 146.760 (or 146.880 backup) MHz (- 600 kHz offset, PL 110.9) repeater.

Checkins for the month of May

Checkins for May 2018					
AC8CO	Bill	KC8FQV	Mark	N8JIW	Don
K2WJS	BILL	KD8ACO	David	N8DOF	Bryan
K8ARP	Arp	KD8FTS	Eddie	N8UPZ	Bill
K8CVM	Chuck	KE8CSM	Chris	W8DKA	Doug
K8EHP	Mike	KE8GKO	Jodi	W8IE	Ed
K8SAS	Steve	KE8HXX	Duane	WA8LIV	Andrew
K8WLF	Fritz	KE8IPK	Scott	WB8ROK	Ed
KB8RNY	Warren	N8AGM	Tom		
KB8VXE	Carl	N8FSF	Fred		

Remember if you missed a net, check out the web page for a recap of the trivia and discussion questions.

For July and August, the tentatively scheduled NCOs are:

Net Control Schedule		
06/28/18	Andrew	WA8LIV
07/05/18	Carl	KB8VXE
07/12/18	Tom	N8AGM
07/19/18	Steve	K8SAS
07/26/18	Ken	KG8DN
08/02/18	David	KD8ACO
08/09/18	Carl	KB8VXE
08/16/18	Andrew	WA8LIV
08/23/18	Tom	N8AGM
08/30/18	Ken	KG8DN
09/06/18	Steve	K8SAS

The Digital Communications Net is held every Thursday on LEARA's 146.880 (-600 kHz offset, PL 110.9) repeater at 9PM.

The Wednesday Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn season runs from March through September. Skywarn practice nets are held on LEARA's 146.76 repeater Wednesday evenings at 8:30 PM. A simplex net follows on 146.475.

Should the National Weather Service issue a severe weather alert, a Skywarn net will be started on the 146.76 repeater. Be sure to visit the web page at www.ccskywarn.org for more information and training sessions.

Thursday Net NCOs

K8SAS	STEVE	N8AGM	TOM
KB8VXE	CARL	N8AUC	ERIC
KD8ACO	DAVID	WA8LIV	ANDREW
KG8DN	KEN		

We can always use more LEARA members to become net control operators. It's not that difficult to do. It's a GREAT way to learn the voices and call signs of the members of the club as well as the visitors of the ham community.

Why not give the NCO slot a try? It's an easy-to-learn job that is very important in emergencies. Your help is really needed!

We look forward to your participation!

Carl, KB8VXE, email: kb8vxe@arrl.net

The next ARES meeting is 2PM Sunday, July 22, 2018, at the Independence branch of the Cuyahoga County Library system. You do not have to be a member to attend.

For more information go to www.ccares.us.

Sunshine report

(No new additions)

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

06/17/2018 | [Monroe Hamfest](#)

Location: Monroe, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Association

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

[Learn More](#)

07/08/2018 | [20/9 ARC Hamfest, Electronics & Computer Show](#)

Location: Austintown, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: 20/9 Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://20over9.org>

[Learn More](#)

07/14/2018 | [NW PA Hamfest 2018](#)

Location: Erie, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wattsburg Wireless Association

Website: <http://www.wattsburg-wireless.us/>

[Learn More](#)

07/21/2018 | [NOARSFEST](#)

Location: Elyria, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://noars.net>

[Learn More](#)

07/29/2018 | [Portage Hamfair '18](#)

Location: Ravenna, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hamfair.com>

[Learn More](#)

08/12/2018 | [Cuyahoga Falls ARC's 10th Annual Tailgate Hamfest](#)

Location: Stow, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.cfarc.org/tailgate.php>

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

06/14/2018 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221-3205](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Cuyahoga Falls Library

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

[Learn More](#)

06/17/2018 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 12:50 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

06/23/2018 | [Freedom Township OH 44288](#)

Sponsor: Portage Cty ARS Inc

Location: Freedom Township Comm Park

Time: 4:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

07/08/2018 | [Independence OH 44131-4841](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS

Location: Old Elmwood Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

07/12/2018 | [Stow OH 44224-4097](#)

Location: Stow-Munroe Falls Public Library

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

[Learn More](#)

07/15/2018 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 12:50 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

08/04/2018 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

08/04/2018 | [Ravenna OH 44266-2191](#)

Sponsor: Portage County ARS Inc.

Location: PCARS Club Site (Rear of complex, under BIG tower)

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

[Learn More](#)

Hamvention 2018 - Second Year in Xenia Improved

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF

My wife, Sara KC8KSU, and I had not visited the Dayton Hamvention for a number of years, but last year with it being held in a new location, Xenia, we decide to go and check it out. Despite heat, rain, and mud, we enjoyed ourselves and decided to give it another go this year. We found some favorable improvements.

Parking -- The on-site parking was pretty much the same as last year, on grass and muddy in some places. Still, there was plenty of available space. On Friday we got there about 0815 and found nearly no delays. On Saturday we arrived mid-morning and again it was smooth sailing. The Talk-In folks were doing a fine job directing hams and pushing for folks to use the alternate lots.

Remember I mentioned some muddy places? Well, Sunday morning I misjudged the length and depth of one of those muddy spots and the speed I would need to get through it. We got stuck. Within minutes assistance arrived in the form of two young men and a tracked frontend loader. They quickly pulled us to a parking space. The cost? No charge to us. The service is provided by a local towing company and paid for by the Hamvention.

As for the Off-Site parking, I did not hear any negative comments. One change from last year is that at some point over the weekend, there was a switch where they started bringing the busses right to the main entrance instead of shuttling people from the far end of the parking area.

Flea Market Much Improved -- The fairground has a half-mile oval horse race track. Most of the flea

market was in the grassy infield of the race track. Last year, rain turned the grassy areas into a swamp with inches of mud in places. This year, despite also being rainy, was much better. The fairgrounds used ground asphalt from county road resurfacing projects to cover the walkways. Even with rain showers and storms, the surface remained solid and free of mud.

Indoor Exhibits, Vendors, Forums -- This is one of the areas where the Greene County Fairgrounds really excelled. This year they opened additional buildings for vendor exhibits. They also added another building for the forums. Last year a few of the forums I attended were standing room only, with the air being warm and humid. This year the forums I attended had generous seating with decent ventilation and air conditioning.

Food Vendors and Seating -- The food vendors and facilities were similar to last year and a huge improvement from Hara Arena days. There were more than 17 different food vendors, 5 located in the flea market, offering a wide variety of food. There were the usual burgers and dogs, but also Tex-Mex, pork chops, noodles, Cajun, BBQ, ice cream, and adult beverages. While pavilions as well as large tents with tables and chairs were available to provide shelter from the elements, during peak times they were crowded.

Overall, we really enjoyed Hamvention. With the improvements, I give the new location an even better rating than last year. We may not attend every year, but we definitely will be back.

Bryan





K8SHB and WA8LIV Set Field Day Plan

Saturday, **June 23, 2018** (and Sunday, **June 24, 2018**)

Upper Gordon Park (Lakefront State Park)

This article is re-published here from the May 2017 issue (with updates).

It's almost that time of the year. According to N8AUC, our own Eric Jessen, there are two holidays. One of them is Hamvention. The other is **Field Day** and it is coming fast! We want to invite you to Upper Gordon Park for the **2018 LEARA Field Day**. LEARA field day is a laid-back experience filled with camaraderie, fun, and contacts.

Our plan is to operate at least two stations out of a communications trailer, using our call sign **WB8CQR**. Setup will begin early in the morning (9AM) and we'll operate until the next day. We hope to use this opportunity to not only make as many QSOs as possible but teach as well. Last year was my first field day. I learned more in that 24-hour period than I did passing Amateur Extra! If you have not previously worked HF or are a licensed Technician this is a great opportunity to try out HF and operate with Amateur Extra Privileges. Operating with other experienced HF operators you can get rid of the first time jitters. Although it doesn't count towards points, Talk-In will be on the 76 repeater.

All are welcome and encouraged to come. We'll also be hosting our June meeting and dinner at 6PM during field day. While **Pizza and beverages** will be provided, please bring sides to share with your fellow HAMs. Also, feel free to bring those interested in HAM radio. Field day is a wonderful time to introduce someone to the hobby.



We look forward to seeing you and look forward to operating alongside.

73...**Andrew Kahn, WA8LIV** **Joel Chaney, K8SHB**

Recently, Andrew Kahn, WA8LIV, composed the following letter and submitted it to the ARRL. It is published here with his approval. ~Ed.

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing you and the Amateur Radio community as a whole regarding the ARRL's proposal to expand Technician class privileges. While I am not opposed, I do not feel it solves the overarching issue of young people losing interest in Amateur Radio. In the ARRL's request for proposed rulemaking it was stated, "ARRL, as the largest Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) offering examination opportunities to candidates for new and upgraded Amateur Radio licenses, has found that there is insufficient growth in the Amateur Service to sustain the Service in the long term, relative to the benefits of involvement in it, especially among younger people." I applaud the ARRL for making young people a priority as I am a 29 year old ham and often the youngest person in the room.

The problem to solve should be getting young people to sit the license exam altogether. Mechanisms such as field day, NPOTA, contesting, and ARES will lead to Technician class operators upgrading; the desire to use HF has no bearing on entrants sitting the technician class license. The League relies on clubs recruiting at the local level. Often times hams are created by club VEs attending club-offered classes. Unfortunately, clubs have been woefully underwhelming at offering these services and are out of touch with what young people look for in Amateur Radio - this hobby needs elmers again.

(Continued from page 8)

Hams are well intentioned but largely fail to spark interest in young people because the instructors are enthusiasts but have no formal training themselves. The classes offered are largely boring and teach nothing but the exam. I believe that the ARRL has an opportunity here. In the day and age of online, on-demand, learning the ARRL should explore online classes. I picture a world where the ARRL could be at the forefront of learning by offering an interactive class similar to that of Coursera or Udemy. Offering on-demand learning through one of these platforms would drastically improve the consistency of the class as well as the reproducibility. These platforms have proven successful for professional training and would certainly be suitable or able to be emulated by ham radio. Additionally, online platforms could offer skills trainings that enthusiasts may not have. Young people like hands on; many instructors have amazing radios but often times lack proper test equipment. An online platform could emulate seeing a sine wave and could demonstrate and strengthen concept learnings.

Largely our repeaters sit unused. With nearly 50 repeaters in Cleveland a handful see use on the regular basis. The ARRL should support clubs further by assisting clubs in pushing technology forward. Young people are often times at the forefront of technology. Unfortunately, clubs don't always support new technology. DMR (and all of it's various networks), P25-NX, ICOM, DSTAR and others excite newcomers and make up for repeaters being largely quiet, as being able to broaden the repeaters' footprint through the internet can lead to more QSOs. The League has an opportunity here as well to offer clubs the ability to present or be part of the maker faire revolution that is sweeping the country. I would love to see the ARRL offer canned presentations and materials that clubs could use to present on the local level. Our regional technical coordinators and specialists could oversee and maybe even present themselves. By being at the forefront of technology the league may be able to reach young people inspired by things such as the Raspberry Pi. Additionally, the league should consider promoting innovative clubs by redoing the special service club program and encouraging new and old applicants to be innovative with their outreach.

The ARRL additionally has an opportunity with online presence. The Website looks wonderful and modern! Having said that, the QST iPad application is sluggish and laggy. Young people in the app age are used to instantly receiving content. The QST app is a turn off. Additionally, the ARRL publishes some great works but often times these are not found in digital form from the website. I would encourage the league to publish, freely, any publications that involve maker faire as well as the ARRL handbook which is a great resource for new hams. While the content is great, people may be turned off by the cost and turn to Wikipedia to gain knowledge.

The ARRL must continue to push the cutting edge of technology and issues that are important to young people. We are privileged to have spectrum to play around with and develop with. Older hams may be turned off by digital packet voice technologies but it's driving new hams and driving innovation. I was disappointed to see the League not take a stance on Network Neutrality. Young people were overwhelmingly against the FCC's overturn of Network Neutrality. As a ham we have access to the Amateur Packet Radio Network, also known as 44-net (44.0.0.0/8). This packet network could be negatively impacted by it. Young people rallied but where was ham radio in this moment? It was another missed opportunity in my eyes as the League stood idle while companies young people admire released statements.

I hope this letter finds you well. I have been a ham since I was in 8th grade elmered by my father, WA8LIU. As a child, I was excited that I had someone to teach me the ropes. My dad was not the most technical but he encouraged me to learn and grow into the hobby. When I went off to college, my professor, WA8JH, pushed me as a developing Network Engineer. WA8JH would joke that the original Network Engineers were hams and that I was clearly destined for this career. In my 20s I joined ARES and aligned with a group of hams who were pushing DMR in Cleveland and today we have multiple digital repeaters in the area. I am a product of elmers. Those who taught me did so outside of the club environment. I want this hobby to grow but also feel the hams within the hobby need to do a much better job of supporting the hobby. The League should be leading the charge. Supplying tools to encourage elmering will be much more effective at getting young people into the hobby than simply asking the FCC to make a rule change allowing Technician class operators onto HF.

Thank you for your time.

73,

Andrew L. Kahn - WA8LIV

Hamvention Forum Videos Now Searchable on YouTube

from www.arrl.org

5/31/2018

Videos of some Hamvention 2018 forums are available in the YouTube Dayton Hamvention 2018 videos playlist.

Among those available are the [TAPR Forum](#), the [SDR Forum](#), and the [HamSCI Forum](#).

— Thanks to
George Byrkit, K9TRV



**QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY,
speaks at the TAPR Forum during
Hamvention 2018**

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

46 Years of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969 -

VOICE REPEATERS:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 146.76/R- | • Highland Hills (Requires 110.9 Hz tone) |
| 146.88/R- <i>IRLP</i> | • 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 <i>System Fusion</i> Digital Repeater |

INTERNET:

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Put *subscribe* in the subject area and your *name* and *call sign* in the body.
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