



The Spirit of '76 and '88



January

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2019

Ken Kane, KG8DN, Editor



The **January 29, 2019 LEARA meeting** will be at **Corky and Lenny's** located at **27091 Chagrin Blvd. in Woodmere, Ohio 44122.**

As usual, dinner will begin at 6:30 pm followed by the club meeting.

Attendees can order off of the menu so there is no set price for the dinner, but

advance reservations, along with your entree selection from their regular menu, are required.

Selecting entrees in advance will help the restaurant serve everyone in a timely manner.

The menu is available online at

<http://www.corkyandlennys.com/menu>.

Reservations may be made on the club website at <http://www.leara.org>, or by calling Marv Grossman (W8AZO) at 440-248-0031.

Please let us know if you have any special dietary needs or concerns.

Reservations must be submitted by Sunday, January 27th.

We hope to see you there.

Dinner 6:30 PM Meeting 7:30 PM

Scott Returns!

January 29, 2019

At Corky & Lennys in Woodmere

Our friend and ARRL Ohio Section Manager, **Scott Yonally, N8SY**, is coming back to kick off our New Year! Scott's program is called, The Ohio Section: **Things You Might Not Know**. No one can accuse our frequent central Ohio visitor of "not covering his territory."

Scott was recently down to Ironton as the guest of the SOARA group. Scott will have spanned the State when he speaks at our **LEARA meeting January 29th**. Don't miss!



In Ironton, Ohio, **Mike Love, WB8YKS**, P.I.O. of the Southern Ohio Amateur Radio Association, awards a "Certificate of Excellence" to **Scott Yonally, N8SY**, "For Your Dedication in Promoting Ham Radio as the **ARRL Ohio Section Manager**"

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NEWSLETTER

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 5 Tuesdays
when the 3rd Sunday
will be sufficient.

Editor:

Ken Kane, KG8DN

E-mail: editor@leara.org

Proofreading: TNX to
W8AZO, N8YNR, K8JTK

The November meeting was at Teamz in Middleburg Heights. Each time we have been there the food has been very good and this time was no exception. If I had to complain, I would report that some folks experienced delays in getting beverages and there was a delay in replenishing some items on the buffet. But, the staff did get caught up and there was plenty of food and drink for everyone.

As has become our standard, we enjoyed several rounds of bingo followed by the drawing for the **grand prize, a Yaesu FT-70DR** 144/430 MHz Dual-Band C4FM Digital HT. I must confess, I'm considering buying one of those myself.

The January meeting will be at a new (to us) venue, Corky & Lenny's. This will be handled a bit differently than other meeting venues. We will be ordering off the menu, but the management wants to have the meals pre-ordered so that they will know how much to prepare and can also serve us promptly. Go to <http://corkyandlennys.com/menu/> to make your selection. Then type in the selection when you make your reservation. Details are on the front cover.

The Good: The 146.88 repeater and the western input for 146.76 have been back on the air for about a month. We are actively working on getting IRLP back up on 146.88 and getting the Fusion repeater back on the air on 444.700. We hope to have those up and fully functional by spring.

The Bad: Last year, despite repeated pleas for help, Field Day (FD) and the Picnic were both under-volunteered. We had about five or six Field Day attendees that actually sat at a radio and made contacts. The rest attended for the meeting and food, then left. While the Picnic was well attended, and we had the food catered, the bulk of the work fell to two folks who did the heavy lifting and carrying. I had one attendee who told me that he was sure that if I just asked, I'd get plenty of volunteers. But, he didn't volunteer.

The Ugly: If we don't have sufficient volunteers and interest in Field Day and the Picnic, LEARA will discontinue having those events this year. We need to have volunteers and plans in place by the end of the **March Trustees' Meeting, scheduled for March 9, 2019** at 0915 hours at the Maple Heights Library. If we don't, well then Eddie, KD8FTS, our Venue Chair, has plenty of restaurants on his list and we'll just make June and July regular meetings. If you think that FD and the Picnic are important and want to get involved, please contact **Andrew, WA8LIV**, at 937-681-1516 or andrew.l.kahn@gmail.com.

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.** Trustees meet at one of the Cuyahoga County Public Library branches. Contact a trustee or check the website at www.leara.org for details.

Thoughts and History: LEARA's first Field Day was held in June of 2001. LEARA had traditionally been a repeater organization and heavily involved in supporting Skywarn and public service. Several members who were into HF operation thought that FD was an activity that LEARA should be involved in. I've never been a big HF person, but from the standpoint of public service and disaster preparedness, I could get behind it. The Trustees have typically approved a budget of about \$600 for FD to cover permits and food for about 30 hours. The event has been held in the same location from the beginning.

**Prez
cont.**

Early on, FD was well attended. Some members came for set-up and stayed all the way through tear-down. Many camped out overnight. Recent years have seen declining participation as some members moved away, some attended other events, and some just lost interest. Also, the park where we held the event has allowed the grounds to return to nature, making most of the area unusable for our purpose.

The Picnic was LEARA's most popular meeting for many years. We had lots of volunteers to help. We had members who would shop for the food, bring it to the site, and fire up the grills and cook it. Part of what made the Picnic popular that it was less expensive than restaurant meetings. Members would bring their spouse and children. Last year we had no one to get the food and cook, so we switched to having the Picnic catered. Still, we needed folks to arrive early and stake out the location, folks to get and transport beverages and supplies, set up, clean up, and haul away left overs.

Following last year's FD and the Picnic, most of the folks who made those events happen told me that they won't be available for this year. **Andrew Kahn, WA8LIV**, who helped with both events, has graciously offered to be the contact person for those who want to get involved and offer guidance in setting up and running the event. If you feel strongly that LEARA should continue having FD or the Picnic, please contact **Andrew at 937-681-1516 or via email at andrew.l.kahn@gmail.com**.

If the club does not want to have these events, I'll be a bit sad. But inevitably, the direction the club goes is up to the members.

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
20 January	21	22 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	23 Skywarn nets are on hiatus until March ...	24 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	25	26
27 Dinner Reservation Deadline for Tuesday's Meeting	28	29 LEARA MEETING 6:30 PM Corky & Lennys in Woodmere	30 ...except for weather emergencies.)	31 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	1 February	2
3	4	5 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	6	7 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	8	9
10 ARES® Cuyahoga 2pm at CCPL in Independence	11	12 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	13	14 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	15	16
17	18	19 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	20	21 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	22	23
24 Dinner Reservation Deadline for Tuesday's Meeting	25	26 LEARA MEETING 6:30 PM My Friends Restaurant	27	28 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88		



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

January 2019 Newsletter
Net Report

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

Checkins for November and December:

Checkins for November 2018

K2WJS	Bill	KC8JPU	Scott	N8JIW	Don
K8EHP	Mike	KC8KI	John	N8UPZ	Bill
K8DSQ	Joe	KD8ACO	David	WB8AMQ	Bob
K8RJH	Ron	KD8FTS	Eddie	W8DKA	Doug
K8SAS	Steve	KE8CEO	Robert	W8IE	Ed
K8WLF	Fritz	KE8IPK	Scott	W8TAB	Tom
KB8VXE	Carl	KG8DN	Ken	WB8ROK	Ed
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AGM	Tom		

Checkins for December 2018

K2WJS	Bill	KD8ARZ	Mike
K8ARP	Arp	KD8FTS	Eddie
K8EHP	Mike	KD8OVQ	Joe
K8RJH	Ron	KG8DN	Ken
K8SAS	Steve	N8UPZ	Bill
KB8VXE	Carl	W8IE	Ed
KC8FQV	Mark	WA8LIV	Andrew
KD8ACO	David	WB8ROK	Ed

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

See the November issue for NCOs this January.

For February and March, the tentative scheduled NCOs are:

Net Control Schedule		
01/31/19	Steve	K8SAS
02/07/19	Bill	K2WJS
02/14/19	Andrew	WA8LIV
02/21/19	David	KD8ACO
02/28/19	Mike	AB8UM
03/07/19	Carl	KB8VXE
03/14/19	Eric	N8AUC
03/21/19	Ken	KG8DN
03/28/19	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. The Skywarn practice nets are on hiatus until March. Skywarn nets are held on LEARA's 146.760 repeater. Should the National Weather Service issue a severe weather alert, a Skywarn net will be started 146.760 repeater.

Be sure to visit the web page at

www.ccskywarn.org

for more information and training sessions.

Thursday Net NCOs

AB8UM	MIKE	KD8ACO	DAVID
K2WJS	BILL	KG8DN	KEN
K8SAS	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
KB8VXE	CARL	WA8LIV	ANDREW

Do you know K2??? How about ??UPZ? Do you recognize the voice. Have you met them in person? What about N8OOF? Every one of us has a unique voice. A great way to learn who these voices belong to is to be a net controller! Not only do you learn their voice but when you see them face to face at a meeting you remember the "whole" person. Consider being a net controller.

We can always use more LEARA members to become Net Control Operators (NCOs). 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@arri.net

The next ARES meeting is 2PM Sunday, February 10, 2019, at the Independence branch of the Cuyahoga County Library System. See website for more information.

ARES Nets are now held every Tuesday at 8PM on the 145.410 (+110.9) repeater.

For more information go to www.ccares.us.

Sunshine report: (no report)

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

01/27/2019 | [Hazel Park ARC's 53rd Annual Swap and Shop](#)

Location: Madison Heights, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Hazel Park Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hparc.org>

[Learn More](#)

01/27/2019 | [Tusco ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Strasburg, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

02/17/2019 | [InterCity ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Mansfield, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: InterCity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.iarc.club>

[Learn More](#)

02/24/2019 | [The South Hills Hamfest](#)

Location: South Park Township, PA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wireless Association of the South Hills ARC

Website: <http://n3sh.org>

[Learn More](#)

03/03/2019 | [WINTER HAMFEST](#)

Location: Elyria, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest>

[Learn More](#)

03/17/2019 | [Hamfest and Computer Fair](#)

Location: Perrysburg, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Toledo Mobile Radio Association

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

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

01/20/2019 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

02/02/2019 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

02/02/2019 | [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](#)

02/06/2019 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221-3205](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Cuyahoga Falls Library

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

[Learn More](#)

02/17/2019 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

02/17/2019 | [Mansfield OH 44901-9999](#)

Sponsor: Inter City ARC/HAMFEST

Location: Richland County Fairgrounds

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

[Learn More](#)

02/21/2019 | [Akron OH 44301-2108](#)

Sponsor: Pioneer AR Fellowship

Location: Firestone Park Community Center

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

[Learn More](#)



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LAKE ERIE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' MEETING MINUTES OF THE MEETING

12 January 2019, at the Parma-Snow Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library
(subject to revision)

Present: KE8CEO (Robert, club member, as guest), N8OOF, W8AZO, K8SAS, WA8LIV, N8AUC, KG8DN, KD8TWG, KB8VXE (Carl, Net and Sunshine, as guest), N8YNR, and KD8FTS

Call to Order: N8OOF called the meeting to order near 9:20 AM

November Minutes: N8AUC moved and K8SAS seconded that the minutes from the November 10, 2018, board meeting be accepted as published. Passed.

Membership: W8AZO distributed a membership summary. We currently have 157 total members in LEARA. Only about a third of these have paid their dues for 2019, although others have until March to complete payment of their dues.

LEARA Net: KB8VXE distributed a 2018 summary of statistics. We had 51 nets with 666 total check-ins by 362 unique individuals.

Venue Chair: N8AUC said (soon confirmed by KD8FTS) that the January meeting will be at Corky & Lennys in Woodmere, the February meeting will be at My Friends Restaurant on Detroit Avenue just east of Lakewood, and the March meeting will be at the Firehouse Grill located near SOM (Rt. 91) and Wilson Mills (Rt. 6) in Willoughby Hills. Eddie will continue setting up the venues for the rest of this year, taking periodic surveys especially when we have a new venue, and he welcomes venue suggestions from members. He also welcomes feedback regarding service issues because sometimes these can be corrected for later meetings.

Program Chair: N8AUC reported that Scott Yonally N8SY will be our speaker for the January meeting. The program for February is still pending. At the March meeting, Jeff Garvas N8YNR will provide another program on Digital Scanners.

Cancelled Dinner Reservations: KB8VXE asked about reservation cancellations. Marv W8AZO said that he needs to know at least before the meeting starts if a person who has made a reservation would now need to cancel. It was suggested that, if a person cancels later than that, they should be told something like, 'You may be charged for dinner' if the club would otherwise take a loss. Marv suggested that this be our normal practice.

2ND Vice President: N8OOF mentioned that we have not yet replaced Jeff Kopcak as the club's 2nd Vice President. N8AUC moved and KD8TWG seconded that Andrew, WA8LIV, be appointed as 2nd Vice President. The motion passed and Andrew accepted this appointment.

Treasurer's Report: N8YNR reported that our total funds are adequate. There are a couple of outstanding expenses not yet paid (to the installers for the new '88 antenna, and for the holiday dinner door prize). In the discussion, KD8TWG moved and KG8DN seconded that we also purchase two gently used backup batteries (80 amp-hour) needed for the '76 Repeater. Passed. We tabled similar action for the '88 Repeater site.

UPDATES – N8OOF:

'88 Antenna – There was discussion regarding details on the installation of the phasing dipoles, and the need to improve and reinforce the mount for the new DB224 antenna at the '88 site. This new antenna at '88, however, is now up and functioning, and seems to allow the repeater to cover the county adequately.

Field Day and Picnic – Recently, these two events have suffered from weak volunteer collaboration. N8OOF proposed that we ask

(Continued from page 8)

for volunteers to surface by the end of the March Trustees' meeting for both of these events, or the events would be cancelled and we would then make the June and/or July meetings like our usual restaurant gatherings. N8AUC pointed out that Field Day in particular could be becoming prohibitively expensive. KD8FTS and KD8TWG recommended a more positive tone. Andrew WA8LIV (who supported previous field days, for example) is willing to answer questions and mentor volunteers. Trustees recommended that we promote these summer activities at each of our regular meetings.

IRLP – N8OOF asked for help at '88 in getting the IRLP function working. KD8TWG commented that the usual RC210 controller is out and on the way to Arcom for repairs, and a temporary controller is in its place. N8YNR offered to help if access is provided, and KD8TWG collaborates. KD8FTS expressed concern about how the settings in the controller are configured. KD8TWG offered to contact N8YNR for a trip to the repeater site once the RC210 controller has been reinstalled. KD8FTS offered to assist. N8YNR also offered to repeat his earlier program on IRLP to promote its use once it is functioning on '88 again.

Fusion Repeater – (as corrected at March Trustees' meeting ~ Ed.) N8OOF has possession of the club's new Yaesu Fusion repeater with its manuals and its laptop computer. N8AUC observed that the Fusion repeater can't be remotely controlled unless an outside controller (Like Arcom 210) is available to control it. He mentioned that the ADR board allows for mode AMS operation (automatic mode select analog-digital) when an external controller is being used. KD8FTS suggested that N8OOF get the Fusion computer working in his own location first, and then we can consider moving it to the site.

Technical Committee – KD8TWG:

The '88 repeater is working well now as a standard repeater. Levels have been adjusted and hardware conditions improved.

The '76 repeater: Bill K8SGX and Dave KD8TWG will be reviewing problems that have been reported by West Side users involving the Lakewood input.

Case input for '76: It is ready to go but is not on site. Dave will follow up.

Southside input for '76: It is ready and Dave will get it in place when weather permits.

Lake County: We are looking for a place in Lake County to locate a receiver so that users in the County could have better access to the '76 repeater.

Website Management: N8YNR is willing to manage the club website, but he suggested that the different Trustee users be granted access to the website to do their jobs. KD8TWG asked that we consider employing software to manage our passwords.

SOP for Trustees' email list: N8YNR and KD8TWG suggested that all Trustees be included as usual in emails to the group. In addition, others who hold positions with the club (but are not active Trustees) also be included in the list if their club contributions make that desirable.

Use of PayPal for Paying Dues: WB8JWE fielded a question about this during a Thursday net. LEARA welcomes and encourages dues payment in many ways, including the use of PayPal. Club members may go to www.leara.org and click "Club Information," then in that dropdown list click "Membership Renewal" for details.

Old Business: (none further)

New business (none)

Adjournment: Near noon, W8AZO moved and WA8LIV seconded that we adjourn. Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ken Kane, KG8DN
Secretary

W6NBC Wins the January QST Cover Plaque Award

The Slot-Cube Antenna for Two Meters

From ARRL News and Features

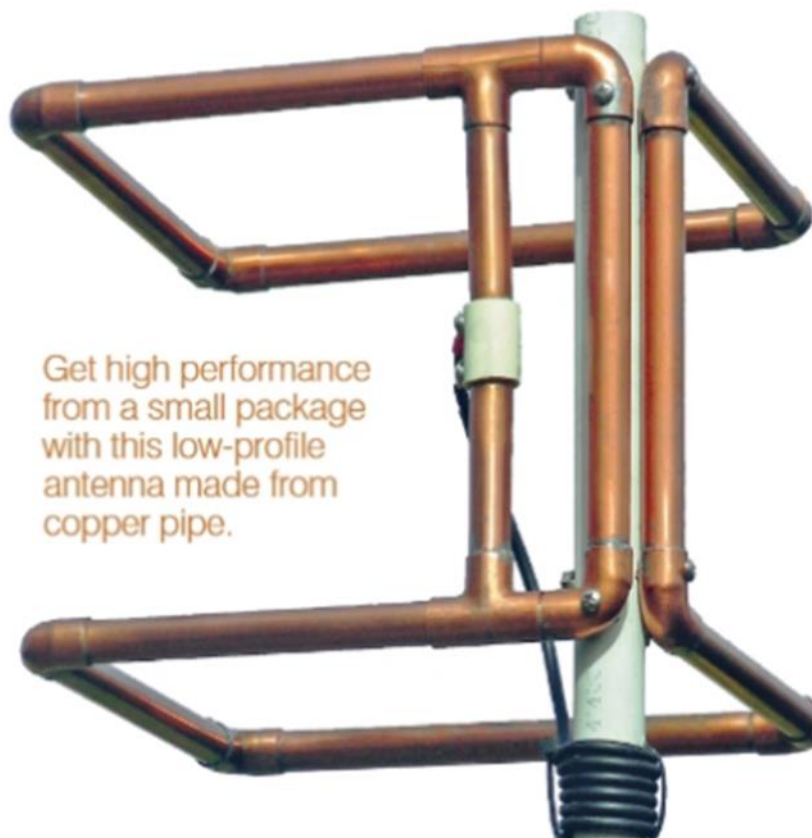
<http://www.arrl.org/news/w6nbc-wins-the-january-qst-cover-plaque-award>

01/09/2019 The winning article for the January 2019 QST Cover Plaque award is "The 2-Meter Slot-Cube Antenna" by John Portune, W6NBC.

The QST Cover Plaque Award -- given to the author or authors of the most popular article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the [QST Cover Plaque Poll web page](#).

"Few homebrew antennas have been more popular than the 2-meter J-pole made from ordinary copper water pipe. However, the J-pole's highly visible profile may be objectionable to some neighbors. If that's your situation, this may be the antenna for you.

While still using copper pipe, you can build a less visible antenna with better performance than a J-pole." ...



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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*Marv W8AZO:
MarvG@LEARA.org
or 440-248-0031*

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