



The Spirit of '76 and '88



March

Newsletter of the Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2019

Ken Kane, KG8DN, Editor

Dinner 6:30 PM

Meeting 7:30 PM

Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in Willoughby Hills

Jeff Garvas, N8YNR

Presents

Monitoring Digital Public Service Trunked Radio Systems

Fire House Grille & Pub

2768 Stark Drive

Willoughby Hills, OH 44094



You may remember Jeff's jam-packed program on this subject back in February of 2017 at Houlihan's in Westlake. He's about to present an update in Lake County at the **Fire House Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills.**

Here's Jeff's description:

"An introduction to trunking, digital systems in our region, understanding multi-site systems, overview of scanner programming, what scanners you might want to buy and which to avoid, using SDR dongles as home-brew scanners to record entire systems and conventional channels."



The March 26,

2019 LEARA meeting will be at Fire House Grille & Pub, located at 2768 Stark Drive in Willoughby Hills, OH 44094. Take SOM Center Rd. (Rt. 91) to Stark Drive and go west.

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.firehousegrilleandpub.com>.

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, March 24th We hope to see you there.

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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

The February meeting was at **My Friends Restaurant** on the west-side. While most people were favorably impressed with the food and service, there were a few instances of meals or side dishes arriving late. One big plus to My Friends is that it is a 24/7 restaurant. It was nice to feel that we did not have to rush the program or that we were being rushed out the door by impatient employees.

Mat Nickoson's, KC8NZJ, overview of **Skywarn's** operation in Cuyahoga County and Northern Ohio was interesting and provided information that I had not seen before.

Mat also talked about the operation of **ARES** and volunteering. One item Mat mentioned is that the **Statewide Tornado Drill** will be held Wednesday, March 20th at 9:50 A.M. on the 146.760 (pl 110.9) repeater with 442.125 (pl 82.5) backup. If you are able, please check in with your name and location only. Siren reports are not needed.

The March meeting will be at **Fire House Grille & Pub** in Willoughby Hills. This is a nice venue that we have previously been to with ample free parking, good food, and a nice large room. **Jeff Garvas, N8YNR**, will reprise and extend his program on digital scanning public service in our area. Jeff will also have some exhibits that he didn't have room to set up for his previous talk on this topic.

The Bad and the Ugly: In my January column and at both the January and February meetings, I talked about the future of LEARA's Field Day and Picnic. If you missed those, please look up the January newsletter and read the article. At the March meeting of the Trustees, it was decided that LEARA will not have or support a Field Day site. Members who are interested are encouraged to attend FD at another location. We'll have a list of area FD sites in the June newsletter.

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, has indicated an interest helping with the picnic and would again handle the catering arrangements. Also, **Andrew Kahn, WA8LIV**, has stated he would mentor someone interested in running the picnic. If you think that having the Picnic is important and want to get involved, please contact Eddie at 440-668-7409 or eddiestevens@eddiestevens.net

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.

OR Andrew, WA8LIV, at 937-681-1516 or andrew.l.kahn@gmail.com.

**Prez
cont.**

Other ideas discussed involved having the picnic be a pot-luck event or a bring-your-own event. Those make it less of a picnic and more just outdoor dining. The final decision on having a Picnic meeting this year was deferred until the May meeting of the Trustees. Lastly, even if we don't have Field Day or a Picnic this year, we can always revisit one or both if there is sufficient interest next year.

LEARA needs YOU: LEARA currently has 168 members, with 49 who have yet to renew. The club relies on the dues to operate and maintain the repeaters. For example, the 146.88 antenna we replaced last year cost almost \$900, plus the cost of installation. If you haven't yet renewed, *we would appreciate your doing so now.*

It's our 50th! May 27th marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of LEARA, on the last Tuesday of the month. For our May meeting we are trying to round up as many of the original founders and planning to have a special meeting.

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 March	18	19 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	20 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM 146.76/R	21 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	22 HamSCI Workshop CWRU * http://hamsci.org/	23
24	25	26 LEARA MEETING 6:30 PM Firehouse Grille In Willoughby	27 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM 146.76/R	28 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	29	30
31	1	52 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	3 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM 146.76/R	4 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	5 April	6
7	8	59 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	10 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM 146.76/R	11 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	12	13
14 ARES® Cuyahoga 2pm at CCPL in Independence	15	516 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	17 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM 146.76/R	18 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	19	20
21	22	523 ARES® 80m 7:15 pm OSSB 8 pm OHDN	24 Skywarn Practice Net 8:30 PM	25 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76 9 pm LEARA DIGITAL '88	26	27
28	29	30 LEARA MEETING 6:30 PM Pearl of the Orient in Rocky River	* The United States National Science Foundation (NSF) has recognized the need to join the amateur radio and professional science communities through a recent grant award to support the upcoming HamSCI Workshop from March 22-23, 2019 in Cleveland, OH . The conference is hosted by the Case Western Reserve University Amateur Radio Club and organized and administered by the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) .			



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

**March 2019 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 February 2019

AB8UM	Mike	K8SHB	Joel	KG8DN	Ken
AD8AA	Andy	KB8VXE	Carl	N8JIW	Don
K2WJS	BILL	KC8FQV	Mark	N8QWS	Ray
K8ARP	Arp	KC8NZJ	Mat	N8UPZ	Bill
K8EHP	Mike	KD8ACO	David	WBIE	Ed
K8RJH	Ron	KD8FTS	Eddie	WA8LIV	Andrew
K8SAS	Steve	KE8CED	Robert	WB8ROK	Ed

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

For April & May the tentative scheduled NCOs are:

Net Control Schedule		
03/21/19	Ken	KG8DN
03/28/19	Steve	K8SAS
04/04/19	Andrew	WA8LIV
04/11/19	Mike	AB8UM
04/18/19	David	KD8ACO
04/25/19	Carl	KB8VXE
05/02/19	Eric	N8AUC
05/09/19	Ken	KG8DN
05/16/19	Steve	K8SAS
05/23/19	Bill	K2WJS
05/30/19	Andrew	WA8LIV

Please check the website for current assignments.

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 every Wednesday during the season, 8:30 PM, on LEARA's 146.760 repeater. There is a brief simplex net that is held after the repeater net to test gear and operational skills. Please check in and learn how the net works. 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@arrl.net

The next ARES meeting is 2 PM Sunday, April 14, 2019, The meeting will be held at the Independence Branch of the Cuyahoga County Library System, 6361 Selig Drive, Independence OH 44131. Please see the ARES web site for more details (click on website below).

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

For more information go to www.ccares.us.

Sunshine report: We offer our sympathies to Jeannie St. Marie KC8MNW whose sister recently passed.

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

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](#)

04/07/2019 | [2nd Annual GMARC Technology Expo](#)

Location: Madison Heights, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: GM Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

04/13/2019 | [65th Annual Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)

Location: Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: The Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <http://cfarc.org>

[Learn More](#)

06/01/2019 [Western Pennsylvania Section Convention \(BreezeShooters Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Prospect, PA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: BreezeShooters Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

06/16/2019 | [Monroe Hamfest](#)

Location: Monroe, MI

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Comm Assoc

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

[Learn More](#)

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

03/17/2019 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)

03/21/2019 | [Medina OH 44256-2460](#)

Sponsor: Medina 2 Meter Group

Location: Medina County Career Center

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

[Learn More](#)

03/24/2019 | [Akron OH 44326-1000](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Akron Summit Co Library

Time: 2:00 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

04/06/2019 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

04/06/2019 | [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](#)

04/13/2019 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223-2504](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Emidio & Sons Expo Center

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

04/21/2019 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

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

[Learn More](#)



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Local Skywarn Frequencies

County	Primary	Backup	Other
Cuyahoga	146.760 110.9	146.880 110.9	442.125 82.5
Geauga	146.940 110.9	147.015 110.9	
Lake	443.700 131.8	147.210 110.9	
Lorain	146.625 110.9		
Medina	147.030 141.3	147.030 110.9	
Summit	147.270 110.9	145.170 110.9	



February 26, 2019

An Overview of Skywarn

By Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ

at

My Friends Restaurant on Detroit Ave.

- ### Types Of Nets
- Practice Net
 - Wednesdays 8:30 PM
 - Held March through September
 - Directed Net
 - Activated when a WARNING is issued for Cuyahoga County or NWS requests activation.
 - Standby Net
 - Activated when severe weather is expected but no warnings have been issued for Cuyahoga County.
 - Repeater still open for limited use.



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

09 March 2019, at the Maple Heights Branch of the Cuyahoga County Public Library
(subject to revision)

Present: K8SAS, KG8DN, N8YNR, W8AZO, N8OOF, N8AUC, KD8FTS, KB8VXE (guest)
Excused: KD8TWG, WA8LIV

Call to Order: N8OOF called the meeting to order near 9:40 AM

January Minutes: N8AUC moved and W8AZO seconded that, following N8AUC's corrected details in item 9D ("Fusion Repeater"), the Minutes of the January meeting be approved as amended. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: N8YNR reported that our accounts are in order. The club's liability insurance and other bills have been paid.

Membership Chair's Report: W8AZO reported that we have 168 members in total, including about 50 who have not yet renewed for 2019. Reminder notices will be sent.

Venues Chair's Report: KD8FTS reported that the March 26th meeting will be at the Fire House Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills, and that the April 30th meeting will be at the Pearl of the Orient restaurant in Rocky River. We will continue striving to alternate between east and west sides of town.

Programs: The program for the April meeting is pending. N8AUC has obtained several good videos on certain of the recent DXpeditions. He has also been in contact with an ARES ham who has provided disaster relief service in Puerto Rico. For the May 28th meeting, one day following the club's 50th anniversary, he hopes to assemble a panel of previous club trustees.

Field Day and Picnic: Our polls indicate no new interest in chairing these events. N8AUC moved and W8AZO seconded that we cancel Field Day for 2019 and replace it with a Tuesday end-of-the-month meeting. Passed unanimously. At this time, no decision has been made regarding the usual July Picnic. This decision will take place at the May Trustees meeting. Those interested in helping with a possible July picnic are asked to contact Eddie, KD8FTS, for further information.

Club 50th Anniversary in May: N8OOF suggested providing a free dinner for living charter members of the LEARA Board of Trustees. N8AUC suggested hosting a panel on the history of the club. We might have a sheet cake to celebrate. KD8FTS and N8AUC agreed to work together on refining the program and venue. N8OOF thought someone could provide a slide show of some photos from past club events over the years. The planned venue for this May 28th meeting may be the Play Arcade and Kitchen site on Mayfield Road.

Fusion Repeater and other "west hill" issues: We discussed installing the Fusion repeater unit in its current state, along with providing a way of remotely shutting its power down through a web-controlled power switch. N8YNR moved and N8AUC seconded that we purchase a web-controlled power switch (less than \$200) for this purpose. Passed. N8YNR moved and W8AZO seconded that Jeff be permitted to put a wallet-sized receiver at the LCN site to hear the US Coast Guard search and rescue traffic out on the

(Continued from page 8)

lake. Passed. N8OOF and N8YNR will continue to develop our Fusion repeater capabilities.

2020 Newsletter Search: KG8DN indicated that after November of this year he will not be running again for another term, and that finding a new editor for the Newsletter will become an issue. The group recommended that we begin seeking a new editor to be prepared to start in January of 2020, and that we communicate this open position in the usual ways.

Old Business: (none)

New Business:

A. **Nominating committee:** KG8DN and K8SAS volunteered to serve on the nominating committee for the upcoming October Trustee elections, with others welcome to join the committee at the March meeting.

B. **HamSCI Workshop 2019 at CWRU:** N8OOF suggested that we promote this in the newsletter. The program is organized by Dave Kazdan, AD8Y, and it will take place soon at CWRU on Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23, 2019.

(See <http://hamsci.org/hamsci2019>)

C. **Request from David, WD8JIX:** David would like information on navigating the D-Star registration process. He uses OpenSpot 2 with an ICOM ID-51. If you can help, contact a club trustee.

Adjournment – Near 11:30 AM, W8AZO moved and KD8FTS seconded that we adjourn. Passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Ken Kane, KG8DN
Secretary

New ARRL Podcast Geared Toward Newcomers to Amateur Radio Debuts on March 7

from www.arrl.org

03/06/2019 A new ARRL podcast aimed newcomers to Amateur Radio will launch on Thursday, March 7. “[So Now What?](#)” will alternate new-episode weeks with the “[ARRL The Doctor is In](#)” podcast.

“**So Now What?**” will focus on answering questions and providing support and encouragement for new licensees to get the most out of the hobby. Co-hosting “So Now What?” will be ARRL Communications Content Producer Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, and ARRL Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. The podcast will explore questions that newer hams may have and the issues that keep newcomers from remaining active.

“**So Now What?**” will be sponsored by [LDG Electronics](#).

“No other podcast is really aimed at this segment of the Amateur Radio community... that is being underserved, that is not getting the answers to the many questions they have,” said ARRL Communications Manager David Isgur, N1RSN, who will serve as the podcast’s executive producer.

Topics to be discussed in the first several episodes include getting started, operating modes available to Technician licensees, VEC and licensing issues, sunspots and propagation, mobile operating, contesting, Amateur Radio in pop culture, and perceptions of Technician license holders.

As with “ARRL The Doctor is In,” listeners will be able to find “**So Now What?**” on [Apple iTunes](#), [Blubrry](#), or [Stitcher](#) (free registration required, or browse the site as a guest) and through the free Stitcher app for iOS, Kindle, or Android devices...or wherever you get your podcasts. Episodes will also be archived on the ARRL website.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/new-arrrl-podcast-geared-toward-newcomers-to-amateur-radio-debuts-on-march-7>

German Radio Amateur Successfully Sends OPERA Signal via Es'hail-2

from www.arrl.org

Markus Vester, DF6NM, recently used the digital mode OPERA to send a **2.5-mW signal** through the 2.4 – 10 GHz transponder of the Es'hail-2 (QO-100) geostationary satellite. OPERA is a “slow” digital mode for very weak signal work that enables the exchange of call signs and signal reports.

According to a [post](#) on the Digital Radio Groups reflector, Vester started out at 250 mW of OPERA on 2.4 GHz into a 60-centimeter dish. The downlink signal was received via the AMSAT-UK and BATC 10 GHz WebSDR in Cornwall by Peter Knol, PA1SDB. Vester then reduced power to just 2.5 mW, and the signal was still readable. OPERA was developed by EA5HVK.

Elsewhere, the advent of QO-100 invigorated sales of the [MiniTiouner-Express](#) DATV receiver/analyzer for DVB-S/DVB-S2 to the point of exhausting current inventory, according to Hamvention® ATV Forum moderator Art Towslee, WA8RMC. It's anticipated that Mini-Tiouner-Express units will be available for shipment again sometime in April. Charles Brain, G4GUO, reports many successful DATV contacts via QO-100. He can hit the satellite with just 10 W into a 1.8-meter dish and said, “Every evening, OSCAR-100 is very, very busy.”



LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

49 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 |

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