



The Spirit of '76 and '88



January Newsletter of the
Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

2020

Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB, Editor

Solar Power - by Eric, N8AUC

Eric Jessen, N8AUC, made some interesting discoveries — he built a solar radio station to supply round-the-clock power at a relatively modest cost.

Eric will share his secrets with you at "My Friends Restaurant" on Tuesday, January 28th. Perhaps solar power radio is coming into its own at last...Brush up your vocabulary: "voltage parameters," "charge controller," "optimum current."

Watch the numbers change as the sun comes up.



Meet at "My Friends Restaurant"

11616 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44102

Tuesday, January 28

6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting



The **January 28, 2020 LEARA meeting** will be at My Friends Restaurant, located at 11616 Detroit Avenue in Cleveland, OH 44102. As usual, dinner will begin at 6:30 pm followed by the club meeting. Advance reservations, along with your entrée selections, are required. Choose between Grecian Style Angus Ground Beef Steak, Swiss Steak, Homemade Meatloaf, Chicken Piccata or Ocean Perch. All entrees are served with a choice of potato and the Vegetable of the Day. Soup or salad, dinner rolls, water, coffee, tea, and soft drinks are included. Dessert items may be purchased separately. Reservations may be made on the club website at <http://www.leara.org>, or by calling Marv Grossman (W8AZO) at 440-248-0031. **Reservations** must be submitted by **Sunday, January 26th**.

We hope to see you there.

OFFICERS and TRUSTEES

Bryan Torok President	N8OOF btorok@sbcbglobal.net
Eric Jessen VP, License Trustee	N8AUC 440-554-3057
Jeff Garvas Sec'y-Treasurer	N8YNR 216-496-3928

TRUSTEES

Marv Grossman Membership	W8AZO 440-248-0031
Andrew Kahn Vice President	WA8LIV 937-681-1516
Steve Spisak Trustee	K8SAS 216-533-7300
Eddie Stevens Venue	KD8FTS 440-668-7409
Ted Alexander Trustee	W8IXY amfmtv@aol.com
Robert Wright, II Trustee	KE8CEO 216-502-1552

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Don Raith	N8DJG (SK)
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John Radney	KC8FOC(SK)
Pat Shreve	W8GRG (SK)
Al Severson	AB8P (SK)
Dave Foran	WB8APD (SK)
Bob Winston	W2THU

POINTS OF CONTACT

Carl Gedeon "Sunshine"	KB8VXE 440-243-5710
Bryan Torok Radio Officer	N8OOF btorok@sbcbglobal.net
Dave Andrzejewski Radio Officer	KD8TWG 330-353-9754

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:
Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB
E-mail: editor@leara.org

Proofreading:
TNX to W8AZO, N8YNR

The Prez Says by Bryan Torok, N8OOF



The November Meeting was at **The Hofbräuhaus** in downtown Cleveland on Chester Avenue. Because of a small mishap, I was not able to attend, but judging by the pictures on pages 6 and 7, two of our members looked happy to have won the **Yaesu FT-4XR** and the **Alinco DJ-500T** dual-band HTs. From what I've heard, a good time was had by those who attended. I'm sorry I missed it.

The January Meeting will be at **My Friends Restaurant**, 11616 Detroit Avenue on the west-side of Cleveland. Details are on the front page. Please note: LEARA is charged for the number meals reserved even if fewer people attend. So, if you make a reservation, please be sure to attend so as to not cost the club additional funds.

444.700 Fusion up and running: As detailed in an email to the members and the article on page 9, we have the Yaesu Fusion repeater on the air and connected to the Internet. A big thank you goes to **Alan Taylor, KF8PM** for donating the Wires-X HRI-200 Interface that makes the Internet connection possible. Thanks are also in order for **Jon Anhold, KM8V** and **Jeff Garvas, N8YNR** who did the lion's share of the actual work to get the repeater configured and installed.

RFI, Surprising sources in your home: I recently viewed a YouTube video detailing some surprising sources of the RFI in the HF Ham bands. As more home appliances such as refrigerators, clothes washers and dryers, and dish washers,

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.

Prez cont.

contain embedded microprocessors and switching power supplies, these can generate large amounts of broad spectrum RFI. This can create noise levels as high as S5 or S6 in the Ham's home, rendering weaker signals uncopiable.

Other sources of RFI include TVs and home electronics, stereo systems, and even wall warts for charging cell phones, computers, and other devices. One thing that all of these items have in common is that some part of the power supply is always active when the device is plugged in, whether the device is on or not.

The video, created by **Josh B Nass, KI6NAZ** details methods for locating the offending source and reducing or eliminating the radiated noise.

It can be viewed here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=QQzmMOJvFfc

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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12 January	13	14	15	16 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	24	19
26	27	28 6:30 pm LEARA Club Meeting	29	30 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	31	1
2 February	3	4	5	6 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 8 pm LEARA VOICE '76	21	22



LEARA "On the Air"

Club Net Information by Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE

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

For January, February and March, the tentative scheduled NCOs are:

Net Control Schedule

01/16/20	Steve	K8SAS
01/23/20	David	KD8ACO
01/30/20	Mike	AB8UM
02/06/20	Carl	KB8VXE
02/06/20	Bill	K2WJS
02/13/20	Carl	KB8VXE
02/20/20	Eric	N8AUC
02/27/20	Ken	KG8DN
03/05/20	Steve	K8SAS
03/12/20	David	KD8ACO
03/19/20	Bill	K2WJS
03/26/20	Mike	AB8UM

Welcome back from the Holidays!

Checkins for November 2019

AB8UM	Mike	KC8NZJ	Mat	N8JIW	Don
AC8JR	Andy	KD8ACO	David	N8UPZ	Bill
K2WJS	BILL	KD8AJZ	Rich	W8DKA	Doug
K8EHP	Mike	KD8TWG	Dave	W8IE	Ed
K8RJH	Ron	KE8GKO	Jodi	W8IXY	Ted
K8SAS	Steve	KG8DN	Ken	W8LIV	Andrew
KB8VBR	Leone	N8AGM	Tom	WB8ROK	Ed
KB8VXE	Carl	N8AHS	FRED		
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AUC	Eric		

Checkins for December 2019

AB8M	Doug	K8WLF	Fritz	KM8V	Jon
AB8UM	Mike	K8BBNJ	Greg	N8AHS	FRED
AC8JR	Andy	KB8VXE	Carl	N8UPZ	Bill
K2WJS	BILL	KC8FQV	Mark	W8DKA	Doug
K8CCS	Connie	KC8NZJ	Mat	W8DKA	Doug
K8CVM	Chuck	KD8ACO	David	W8IE	Ed
K8EHP	Mike	KD8AJZ	Rich	W8IXY	Ted
K8RJH	Ron	KD8WBB	Carsten	W8TAB	Tom
K8SAS	Steve	KE8GKO	Jodi	WB8ROK	Ed

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

NCOs	AB8UM	MIKE	KD8ACO	DAVID
	K2WJS	Bill	KG8DN	KEN
	K8SAS	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
	KB8VXE	CARL	W8LIV	ANDREW

Please check the website for current assignments.

The Wednesday Night 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.

ARES

The next ARES meetings are 2PM Sunday January 19 and February 9, 2020, at the Independence branch of the Cuyahoga County Library System. You do not have to be a member to attend, all are welcome. See website for more information. The weekly nets have been suspended until January 7th. The nets are held Tuesdays on the 145.410 Repeater at 8PM local time.

Thursday Net NCOs

We can always use more LEARA Members to become Net Control Operators (NCOs). 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. It's an easy to learn job that is very important in emergencies.

We look forward to your participation!

Carl, KB8VXE, email: kb8vxe@arrl.net

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

01/19/2020 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: LCARA & American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 12:45 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

02/01/2020 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

02/13/2020 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221-3205](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls ARC

Location: Cuyahoga Falls Library

Time: 6:30 PM (No Walk-ins / Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

02/16/2020 | [Elyria OH 44035-1343](#)

Sponsor: LCARA & American Red Cross

Location: American Red Cross

Time: 12:45 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

**01/26/2020 | [Tusco Amateur Radio Club's
30th Annual Hamfest, Electronics
and Computer Show](#)**

Location: Strasburg, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tusco Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

02/16/2020 | [Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest](#)

Location: Mansfield , OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://WWW.IARC.CLUB>

[Learn More](#)

03/01/2020 | [WinterHamFest](#)

Location: Elyria, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://noars.net>

[Learn More](#)

FOR SALE

- Kenwood TS2000 - New, in unopened box.
- Astron RF70M power supply - New and unused in box.

Please contact

Robert Wick, (KB8PYB) at 440-684-0960.



The 2019 LEARA Holiday Party November 26 - The Hofbräuhaus Cleveland

Pictures: Kenneth Kane





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

Saturday, 11th January 2020, at the CCPL Independence Branch
(Subject to Revision)

Attendees: N8AUC, W8AZO, KE8CEO, N8OOF, W8IXY, WA8LIV

Guests: K8RJH, KD8WBB, KB8VXE

Excused: KD7FTS, N8YNR (dialed in for part of the meeting)

Unexcused: K8SAS

Call to Order

- N8OOF called the meeting to order at 9:24AM

Confirmation/revision of Agenda Order

- No changes

Corrections to November Board Meeting Minutes – ALL

- WA8LIV move to accept the minutes from the last meeting, KE8CEO seconded. Minutes passed.

Treasurer's Report – N8YNR

- after yearly membership fees arrived, our funds are again reasonably filled.
- Anticipate the annual insurance to be due in Q1 for approximately \$400

Membership Report – W8AZO

- W8AZO reports: 142 members

Venue Chair's Report – KD8FTS (emailed report prior to Trustees meeting)

- January meeting will be at "My Friends Restaurant". W8AZO commented that My Friends Restaurant charges us per person and LEARA is charged for the number on the reservation.
- N8OOF brought up a field day discussion. Consensus is that we are not doing field day.
- N8OOF brought up the LEARA Picnic - the

past few years we've had it catered and had a discussion. The consensus is LEARA will continue to do the picnic in a similar catered format.

Programs for 2020 – N8AUC

- January Program - Solar power presentation has been requested. N8AUC will present.
- "Ham radio and the law" is being considered for a future event
- Digital Scanners (N8YNR) has been requested by the membership
- N8OOF suggested a program about drones, which was also discussed, as a possible 2-part program:
 - One part (presentation) at a meeting
 - One part (flight show) at the July Picnic

Technical Committee Report

- N8OOF announced that 444.7Mhz is back on the air. N8AUC commented that he's heard a lot of use on it. N8AUC also mentioned he's heard a lot of out of town use.
- Discussion about Fusion USA Link and Ohio Link on handling Hams who bring up an active "room" and walk away on very active "rooms". Recommended to do a future program on YSF.
- KD8TWG, via SMS, "Have a possible lead on an input site that might cover Lake County. More info when I have it."

Old Business - ALL

- (none)

New Business – ALL

- N8YNR had a discussion with N8OOF that someone has access to a tower in Summit

County for 444.400. LEARA would have to pay for the engineering assessment, hardline, antenna, tower climber, and summit county ARES would have permission to use it. A consulting company was recommended for \$1,200 for the assessment.

- N8YNR via email to N8OOF proposes to fundraise by raffling off something. If LEARA don't sell enough tickets to pay for the item money would be refunded. Tickets would be able to be purchased online. W8IXY moves for a vote to hold a raffle, WA8LIV second. Motion passed. N8YNR will devote time to running the raffle. N8AUC recommended to go ask the Ohio Section to post it in the newsletter. WA8LIV recommended to leverage Facebook groups such as Ohio DMR or Ohio Ham Radio Operators to promote the raffle. K8RJH suggested ordering the prize to the raffle winner and therefore not pay shipping.

Adjournment – ALL

- N8OOF motioned to adjourn, N8AUC seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

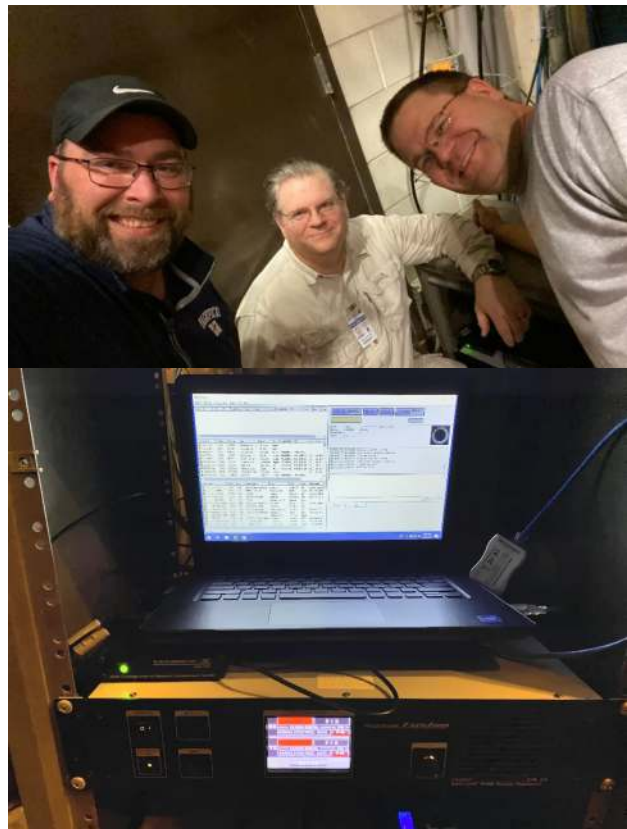
Andrew Kahn, Vice President

Fusion/Wires-X repeater back online

The 444.700 repeater has been back on the air for a couple of months now. I wanted to be sure we had the kinks worked out before announcing it to the members. This is a Yaesu Fusion C4FM and FM repeater. It is running in Auto Mode Select. That means that it will retransmit in whatever mode it hears on the input. If it hears FM, then it functions as an FM repeater.

Note: FM requires 131.8 PL. If it hears C4FM, then it functions in Fusion mode. The repeater has Wires-X capability and is connected to the Internet.

We encourage hams to use the repeater. However, we ask that if you bring up a Wires-X node, when you are done please shut the node off so that others will know that the repeater is available to use. Also, it is good form to participate on the node.



Puerto Rico Volunteers Deployed to Red Cross, ARRL Sending Equipment

01/13/2020 — Article shortened for editorial purposes. Read the full article here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/view/puerto-rico-volunteers-deployed-to-red-cross-arrl-sending-equipment>

Puerto Rico Section Manager Oscar Resto, KP4RF, reports that several Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers have been deployed to earthquake-ravaged regions of the island at the request of the American Red Cross. Initial operations got under way in the town of Yauco, where the Red Cross has a central warehouse for the earthquake relief effort. Operations are on VHF and UHF, although commercial telecommunication services remain in operation for the most part. A station has also been activated at the Red Cross Headquarters in the capital of San Juan, which is not in the earthquake zone. Aftershocks continue on the island. A magnitude 5.9 tremor struck over the weekend.

"The stations are operating as a backbone, in case a new or stronger earthquake hits the region," Resto explained. "HF equipment is stored in Pelican Cases for protection from a larger catastrophic event, if communications fail." Power has been re-established over more than 90% of Puerto Rico, and water service is operational in most places, Resto added.

ARRL is shipping six VHF/UHF base/repeater antennas and six 50-foot rolls of LMR-400 coax, through the Ham Aid Fund.

...
"Today was a bit of a rough day," Perez said on Saturday. "Many quakes during the day. It feels like you're in a simulator." He said the three-person team is using UHF for direct contact with San Juan, with a backup support frequency on VHF, and communication has been solid.

...
Perez said an HF radio was to be on site for backup on 20 and 40 meters. Power to the distribution center is 40% from the power utility and 60% from generators.

...
"A personal comment," Resto added. "[It] is very difficult to sleep with so many earthquakes — more than 3,000 from December 28 — shaking your house. I hope that my house survives these intense seismic events."

A 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck the southwestern part of Puerto Rico on January 7, fast on the heels of a magnitude 5.8 tremor the day before. The worst-impacted cities were Guayanilla, Peñuelas, Yauco, and Guánica, where, Resto said, engineers have determined that 80% of the houses in the earthquake's impact zone are uninhabitable.

...

Read the full article online here... >>>

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

More than **50 YEARS** of Serving Greater Cleveland Since 1969

VOICE REPEATERS:

146.76/R-	• Highland Hills	(Requires 110.9 Hz tone, CTCSS)
146.88/R- IRLP	• Lakewood	(Requires 110.9 Hz tone, CTCSS) IRLP Node 4282
224.90/R-	• Lakewood	(141.3 Hz tone, CTCSS)
444.40/R+	• Macedonia	(Requires 131.8 Hz tone, CTCSS)
444.70/R+	• Lakewood System Fusion	Digital Repeater

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