



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the  
**January Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association 2021**  
Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB, Editor

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## LEARA January 26. Meeting

### Virtual Meeting - Online

Digitally  
controlled  
Christmas lights

Jeff Garvas,  
N8YNR

January 26.  
7:30 p.m.



Click or  
scan to join

Christmas lights are used for decoration in celebration of Christmas. The custom goes back to when Christmas trees were decorated with candles, which symbolized Christ being the light of the world. This custom was borrowed from pagan yule rituals that celebrate the return of the light of the sun as the days grow longer after solstice: the evergreen trees symbolising the renewal and continuance of life in dark times.

By the mid-20th century, it became customary to display strings of electric lights along streets and on buildings.

It didn't take long until skilled homeowners started to supplement the light displays with computer controlled animations, synchronised to music or sound effects.

But wait...isn't Christmas already over?  
No...its still 365 days ahead. Just enough time to learn how to do this yourself!

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## The Prez Says by Bryan Torok, N8OOF



### The November Meeting presentation featured a very special guest speaker, **Bob Heil, K9EID of Heil Sound**

(heilsound.com and heilhamradio.com). Bob gave a bit of his history growing up in the Midwest, playing the organ professionally as a teenager and being involved in Ham Radio. His talent at music and love of electronics and building radio gear led to Bob building large audio amplifiers and speaker systems for local venues. That led

... continue on page 2

**Prez cont.**

<b>OFFICERS and TRUSTEES</b>	
<b>Bryan Torok President</b>	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
<b>Eric Jessen VP, License Trustee</b>	N8AUC 440-554-3057
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<b>Fred Collins</b>	W8ADW(SK)
<b>John Radney</b>	KC8FOC(SK)
<b>Pat Shreve</b>	W8GRG (SK)
<b>Al Severson</b>	AB8P (SK)
<b>Dave Foran</b>	WB8APD (SK)
<b>Bob Winston</b>	W2THU
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<b>Bryan Torok Radio Officer</b>	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
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<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	
<p><i>The Spirit of '76 &amp; '88</i> 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.</p> <p><b>Editor:</b> Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB E-mail: editor@leara.org</p> <p><b>Proofreading:</b> TNX to W8AZO, N8YNR</p>	

v04/2020-11-16

to developing contacts with musicians and in the music industry. This led to his developing better microphones and his manufacturing microphones. This last area is why Bob became well known in Amateur Radio. Bob demonstrated phasing, patterns, and why his microphones are designed with a frequency response bump at 2.4 KHz. This was a great presentation. Pictures from the program are on page 8.

**The January Meeting** will feature a presentation on digitally controlled Christmas lights animated to music by our own **Jeff Garvas, N8YNR**. Jeff's house won the 2020 Macedonia Deck the House Holiday Light Contest in the motion category. I find it amazing that he can address each individual LED light, thousands of them, for on/off, intensity, and color. Then making them dance to music is another huge part of the story. You don't want to miss this.

**Instagram:** [https://www.instagram.com/garvas\\_family\\_lights/](https://www.instagram.com/garvas_family_lights/)

**Youtube:** <https://tinyurl.com/aami1ag0>

Please share the meeting info on any nets you might be on, with other Ham Radio clubs, and with anyone who you think might be interested in this presentation. And, plan to join us early so you don't miss out.

Thanks to **Hamfest Association of Cleveland (HAC.org)** for the use of the ZOOM video conferencing. All meetings are planned to be via Zoom through May of 2021.

**Needing Help Remembering Things:** A year or two ago, a member contacted me with a suggestion on a source for very inexpensive Wi-Fi hotspot service for nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations. I'd appreciate it if that person would send me the info again.

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](http://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 or, if situation requires, in a virtual conference meeting online. 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 or in a virtual conference room online.

Contact a trustee or check the website at [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org) for details.

## Prez cont.

**Leara Dues Renewal:** It is that time of year. If you have not paid your dues, your membership has expired. We allow a grace period until the end of March, but then we cut you off. You can renew online at

<https://www.leara.org/club-information/membership-renewal>

and you don't even need a stamp.

**Hamvention canceled:** The Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) has announced that they have cancelled the Hamvention for 2021. Those who purchased tickets, booth or flea market spaces for 2020 and were deferred will be deferred again. Those who purchased for 2021 will also be deferred. Those wanting a refund should contact DARA. Further info at Hamvention.org. The Hamvention is now set for May 20, 2022. I hope to see you there.

**FCC Ham Radio** fees are going up to \$35, the FCC announced on December 29, 2020. It is expected that the new fees won't take effect for 60 to 90 days and that the FCC will give 30 days notice of the effective date. Further info is on page 10 with a link to the full article on the ARRL's website. Another take on this issue from Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G, is available at

<https://ad8g.net/2020/12/30/amateur-radio-license-fee-now-35/>

Renewals may be done up to 90 days in advance. So, if you have a renewal coming up or are thinking of a vanity call sign, get your request in soon to beat the \$35 fee.

**Fund Raising Ideas:** The Generator Raffle is over. It was won by Lance Murdock, KK8BIT, of Findlay, Ohio. Now the Trustees are looking for new fund raising ideas to implement in 2021.

One of the ideas floated is to reinstitute the 50/50 drawing in an online version. People from anywhere could buy tickets online during the entire month and then we would hold the

drawing during our virtual membership meetings. The winner would get a check or deposit in their PayPal account.

Some thoughts would be to allow participants to purchase as many tickets as they desire but to set a \$5 minimum. We might also add a fixed fee for each purchase to cover our costs. What do you think? Would you participate? Would you help spread the word? Let me know your thoughts.

**Until next month**, stay home, talk on the radio, and use the repeaters more. Join us at a virtual meeting. Avoid close contact with other people, wash your hands frequently, use a mask in public, and stay healthy. Get your vaccine shot (and a flu shot) when they are available. We really want to see you when this health crisis is over with and we get back to in-person meetings.

We have entered the most dangerous part of this pandemic.

We are all tired of physical isolation.

-- The virus is not tired.



### Membership renewals!

Please be aware that membership renewals are due!

If you are still missing out, you can find renewal information or pay directly on our website:

<https://www.leara.org/club-information/membership-renewal>



## 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.

Checkins for November-December					
AB8M	Doug	KD8QTR	Distin	N8IH	Steven
AB8UM	Mike	KD8WBB	Carsten	N8LXY	Bill
AC8JR	Andy	KD8YPL	Bruce	N8UPZ	Bill
AD8AA	Jeff	KD8ZJP	Daniel	N8XNV	Jeff
AD8Y	David	KE8ADV	Tony	W8DKA	Doug
K2WJS	BILL	KE8ELR	Andrew	W8IE	Ed
K8ADS	Allen	KE8GKO	Jody	W8IXY	Ted
K8EHP	Mike	KE8NNC	Brian	W8PKT	William
K8RJH	Ron	KG8DN	Ken	W8TAB	Tom
K8SAS	Steve	KM8V	Jon	W8ZHN	Jim
KB8VXE	Carl	N8AGM	Tom	W88ROK	Ed
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AHS	Fred		
KD8FTS	Eddie	N8AUC	Eric		

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

For February through March, the tentative scheduled NCOs are:

Please check the website for current assignments.

--- click ---

Net Control Schedule		
01/28/21	Eric	N8AUC
02/04/21	Steve	K8SAS
02/11/21	Jon	KM8V
02/18/21	Mike	AB8UM
02/25/21	Carl	KB8VXE
03/04/21	Eric	N8AUC
03/11/21	Steve	K8SAS
03/18/21	Ken	KG8DN
03/25/21	Jon	KM8V

## The Wednesday Night Skywarn Practice Net

Skywarn is currently on Hiatus. Skywarn season runs from March through September. Skywarn nets are held on LEARA's 146.760 repeater every Wednesday at 8 p.m. with a simplex net that follows on 146.475. Should the National Weather Service issue a severe weather alert, a Skywarn net will be started on the 146.760 repeater. Be sure to visit the web page at [www.ccskywarn.org](http://www.ccskywarn.org) for more information and training sessions.

An online Storm Spotter training video from the NWS is available at:

[www.facebook.com/NWSCleveland/videos/858879174941020/](https://www.facebook.com/NWSCleveland/videos/858879174941020/)

## ARES

ARES nets are held every Tuesday at 8PM on 145.410 +110.9. A simplex net will be held afterwards. Ares Meetings will still be held via Zoom. The next meeting is February 7, 2021 at 2PM. Please monitor the ARES website at [www.n8esg.org/ares](http://www.n8esg.org/ares) for information on nets and events. Please note that as of now the Cleveland Marathon is still scheduled on May 15 & 16. Feel free to sign up. You do not have to be an ARES member to participate.

## Thursday Net NCOs

Do you know K2??? How about ??UPZ? Do you recognize the voice. Have you met them in person? What about N8OOF? A great way to learn who these voices belong to is to be a net controller! Consider being a net controller.

HELP! We have several people who are on temporary leave of duty. We can always use more LEARA Members to be-come Net Control Operators (NCOs). It's an easy to learn job that is very important in emergencies.

... continue on page 5



NCOs	AB8UM	MIKE	KG8DN*	KEN
	K2WJS*	BILL	KM8V	JON
	K8SAS	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
	KB8VXE	CARL	W8IE*	Ed
	KD8ACO**	DAVID		

\*Short time leave \*\*Long term leave

We look forward to your participation!

Carl, KB8VXE, E-Mail: kb8vxe@arrl.net

### Sunshine

- We offer Get Well Wishes to Catherine Nickoson (KC8NZJ's XYL)
- Ed Rivers (W8IE) who took a nasty fall and will be moving slowly for a while
- Lastly, we offer our condolences to Eric Jessen N8AUC and family who lost his father on New Year's Eve.

## HONDA 2200 WATT Generator Raffle Winner



(valued at \$1050)

Leara is pleased to announce the winner of the raffle and therefore receiver of the generator as:

**LANCE R.  
MURDOCK,  
KK8BIT  
(Ohio)**

The draft was on Nov. 24th, 2020

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)



Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please verify with your VE team that the exam session is being held.

**02/23/2021 | [Westlake OH 44145](#)**

**Sponsor:** AD0VR

**Location:** Dover Masonic Temple

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

[Learn More](#)

**03/14/2021 | [Independence OH 44101](#)**

**Sponsor:** CARS Cuyahoga ARS

**Location:** To Be Determined

**Time:** 9:00 AM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)



Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, please verify the websites of the hamfests and conventions if the event is being held.

**03/07/2021 - [WINTERHAMFEST](#)**

**Location:** Elyria, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

[Learn More](#)

**CANCELED**



**Dayton Hamvention  
2021**

**CANCELED**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>17</b> <b>January</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 7:30p.m. <b>LEARA</b> <b>Virtual meeting</b> 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 7:15 p.m. ARES 80m OSSB 8 p.m. OHDN	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>

Nela  
ParkGE  
CLE  
2020  
(cla)

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

Saturday, 9th January 2021, held virtually in a  
Zoom Video Conference  
(Subject to Revision)

**Attendance:**

Jeff N8YNR, Bryan N8OOF, Eddie KD8FTS,  
Eric N8AUC, Marv W8AZO, Ted W8IXY,  
Robert KE8CEO, Jon KM8V, Steve K8SAS

**Guests:**

Mark KC8FQV, Carsten KD8WBB,  
Bob W2THU, Carl KB8VXE,  
David AD8G

**1. Call to Order**

N8OOF Bryan called the meeting to order  
promptly at 9:15 a.m.

**2. November minutes**

Jeff moved to approve November's minutes,  
Marv seconded. The motion carried.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Jeff reported the current balance and  
reviewed the funds the raffle generated rough  
less PayPal processing fees that were not  
recoverable when buyers did not use the "to  
a friend" option. The generator was \$1050  
and the winner was asked to pay the slightly  
increased cost and Ohio sales tax in  
accordance with the published raffle rules,  
which he agreed to do.

**4. Member status**

Marv provided a status report on  
membership. We are in the annual renewal  
period and will need to encourage members  
who have not yet renewed to do so between  
now and the March deadline.

**5. Meetings**

A discussion about meeting in person took  
place where it was discussed that other clubs  
are going to meet in person and provide a  
zoom camera feed for those who don't attend.  
No changes to prior decisions have been  
made for LEARA's meetings.

Eric reported that meeting programs are  
booked through February with a lead being  
worked for March.

**6. Technical Report**

There was a brief discussion about  
installation of MMDVM on the old 444.70  
repeater. The equipment is with David  
Andrewjewski. Jeff mentioned that David  
plans to remove the EQ from the .76 site and  
hopefully make the audio sound better. At  
approximately 10:15 David Andrewjeski  
joined and provided additional technical  
committee update details.

**7. Various**

Discussion over the QCWA article concluded  
that we should run articles promoting  
anything ham radio.

Discussion about the club's membership  
database system in MS Access and his recent  
upgrade to Windows 10 took place. We have  
a functional system now, but some discussion  
took place about the effort that was needed  
to get it working properly.

Bryan proposed the idea of holding 50/50  
raffles electronically for our membership  
meetings and discussion about how we could  
accomplish that took place.

**8. Adjournment**

Eric moved to adjourn, Jon seconded, the  
motion passed at 10:57am

Respectfully submitted,  
**Jeff Garvas - N8YNR**  
Secretary/Treasurer





## The science of Audio Bob Heil, K9EID

24th November 2020



JEFF BECK

Joan Baez



Humble Pie



Les Paul



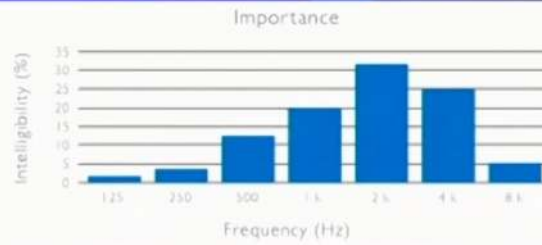
Zoom Video Conference  
Room  
sponsored by  
**Hamfest Association of  
Cleveland.**  
We say **THANK YOU.**



## Maximum speech articulation

### THE AUDIBLE FREQUENCIES

Maximum articulation between. 2 kHz and 3 kHz. 2.5kHz is the 'spot'



WOW!



## FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

12/30/2020

from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-reduces-proposed-amateur-radio-application-fee-to-35>

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was “too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications.” In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address.

...

“After reviewing the record, including the extensive comments filed by amateur radio licensees and based on our revised analysis of the cost of processing mostly automated processes discussed in our methodology section, we adopt

a \$35 application fee, a lower application fee than the Commission proposed in the NPRM for personal licenses, in recognition of the fact that the application process is mostly automated,” the FCC said in the R&O. “We adopt the proposal from the NPRM to assess no additional application fee for minor modifications or administrative updates, which also are highly automated.”

...

The effective date of the fee schedule has not been established, but it will be announced at least 30 days in advance. The FCC has directed the Office of Managing Director, in consultation with relevant offices and bureaus, to draft a notice for publication in the Federal Register announcing when rule change(s) will become effective, “once the relevant databases, guides, and internal procedures have been updated.”

...read the full article here...

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## LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

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

### VOICE REPEATERS:

<b>146.76/R-</b>	• Highland Hills	(Requires 110.9 Hz tone, CTCSS)
<b>146.88/R-</b>	• Lakewood	(Requires 110.9 Hz tone, CTCSS)
<b>224.90/R-</b>	• Lakewood	(141.3 Hz tone, CTCSS)
<b>444.40/R+</b>	• Macedonia	(Requires 131.8 Hz tone, CTCSS)
<b>444.70/R+</b>	• Lakewood	<b>System Fusion</b> Digital Repeater (temp. out of order)

### INTERNET:

- [www.leara.org](http://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 call sign in the body.  
Those who subscribe via e-mail will not receive a paper copy of the newsletter.