



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the  
**March Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association 2024**  
Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB, Editor



## LEARA Monthly Meeting

**Skywarn**  
Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ

**March 26, 6:30 p.m.**

**Amici Italian Restaurant & Bar**  
13000 Royalton Rd, North  
Royalton, OH 44133



**Click or scan QR code to RSVP**



## The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF



**It's Time to renew your LEARA membership.** As of the last Trustees' meeting, we had about 43 members who had not yet renewed. If you don't renew, you will be dropped from the roster at the end of March and will no longer receive newsletter and meeting announcements via email. If you haven't yet renewed, please do

... continue on page 2

OFFICERS and TRUSTEES	
<b>Bryan Torok</b> <b>President</b>	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
<b>Eric Jessen</b> VP, License Trustee	N8AUC 440-554-3057
<b>Jeff Garvas</b> Sec'y-Treasurer	N8YNR 216-496-3928
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<b>Eddie Stevens</b> Venue	KD8FTS 440-668-7409
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<b>Jon Anhold</b> Trustee	KM8V km8v@arrl.net
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<b>Fred Collins</b>	W8ADW(SK)
<b>John Radney</b>	KC8FOC(SK)
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<b>Al Severson</b>	AB8P (SK)
<b>Dave Foran</b>	WB8APD (SK)
<b>Bob Winston</b>	W2THU
POINTS OF CONTACT	
<b>Robert Wright, II</b> "Sunshine"	KE8CEO 216-502-1552
<b>Bryan Torok</b> Radio Officer	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
<b>Dave Andrzejewski</b> Radio Officer	AD8G 440-220-2064
NEWSLETTER	
<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>	

v08/2022-08-25

## Prez cont.

it now. Your dues help to support club resources, including maintaining and upgrading the repeaters. The easiest way to do that is to go to our website, <https://www.leara.org/club-information/membership-renewal> and pay online using PayPal or your favorite credit card. You may also mail a check to LEARA, PO Box 22823, Beachwood, Ohio 44122-0823. To those who have renewed, thank you, we appreciate your support.

**The February meeting** was held via **Zoom**. Our guest speaker was **Gary Mikitin, AF8A**, speaking about **HamSCI and The Festival of the Eclipse**. You could learn about the HamSCI (Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation) [hamsci@hamsci.org](mailto:hamsci@hamsci.org) organization and how thousands of hams are participating in space science research during the upcoming total solar eclipse.

Gary started off with a review of how HF propagation depends on radio signals bouncing off different layers of the atmosphere and how those layers are affected by sunlight. Thus, propagation is different between day, night, and during the transition period known as the grey line. The grey line propagation happens twice each day at dawn and dusk and lasts for an hour or more each time. HamSCI is seeking data to quantify how the much shorter absence of sunlight experienced during an eclipse affects radio propagation.

In order to gather the data, HamSCI is recruiting Hams to participate in many different events. They will be running contests on bands 6 – 160 meters using CW, SSB, and digital modes. In other events, they will be using of Time Delay of

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.

Go to [https://www.leara.org/files/ARRL\\_via\\_LEARA\\_Appl\\_Instructions.pdf](https://www.leara.org/files/ARRL_via_LEARA_Appl_Instructions.pdf) and follow the instructions therein.

**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.

Arrival (TDOA) measurements to profile ionospheric layer height changes during solar eclipses. There are other events that involve only receiving so that one doesn't even need a Ham license participate. To find out how YOU can participate and get signed up for those or other events, visit <https://hamsci.org/eclipse>.

**The March meeting** will be at a new-to-LEARA restaurant, Amici Italian Restaurant & Bar, 13000 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH 44133 (<https://www.amicisfam.com>). It is in a shopping center on the northeast corner of W. 130 and Rt. 82/Royalton Rd. Several of the Trustees and I attended a QCWA meeting there a few months ago and thought it would a nice venue for LEARA.

We will be ordering off the menu. The menu is largely Italian, with a few other choices available. Because we are ordering off the menu, reservations are not strictly required, but are preferred so we can let the restaurant know how many places to set. You may make your **reservation** on the website, <https://www.leara.org/meetings-and-events/dinner-reservation> or by calling **Marv Grossman, W8AZO**, at (440) 248-0031. Come out for the food and camaraderie. The March presentation will be the **Skywarn** related program presented by **Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ**.

For those interested in the full NWS spotter training, NWS will be having spotter training April 4, 2024, 6 – 8 PM, at the Community Center, 6363 Selig Blvd, Independence, OH 44131. For more details go to:

[https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN\\_schedule](https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN_schedule)

As I'm writing this, I am planning on NOT having a Zoom link up for this meeting. Watch your email for announcements if that changes.

**Upcoming Meetings & Programs:** The April meeting will be at the Firehouse Grille in Willoughby. The program is open for that

meeting. May is set for My Friends Restaurant with Bob Winston, W2THU, presenting Ham Radio & the Law. June will be the picnic meeting, tentatively in Independence and catered by Mister Mike as last year. We are looking into having another drone program with the picnic meeting. If you have any suggestions for meeting programs, please contact Eric Jessen, N8AUC, or me.

**Until next month**, talk on the radio and use the repeaters. Check into one of the many nets available on the LEARA repeaters. Join us on the air, online, or in person. If you don't feel safe meeting in person, we understand. But, we really want to see or at least hear from you, even if it is only by radio or Zoom.

**FINAL**



### 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 8 p.m. on our 146.760 (or 146.880 backup) MHz (-600 kHz offset, PL 110.9) repeater. All nets will be

held on this repeater. Please use it and notify any trustee of any troubles or issues.

February 2024 - 22 Checkins					
ABBUM	Mike	KE8VRM	Rick	N8UPZ	Bill
K2WJS	BILL	KMBV	Jon	W8DKA	Doug
K8SAS	Steve	N8ACP	Chris	W8IE	Ed
KB8LJ	Chuck	N8AHS	Fred	W8IXY	Ted
KB8VXE	Carl	N8AUC	Eric	W8AWD	Bob
KC8ESG	Mark	N8IYA	Steve	W8ZHN	Jim
KC8MRC	Bob	N8QMK	Mike		
KD8ICR	Don	N8RKE	Larry		

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

The tentative scheduled NCOs for the next Nets are:

Please check the website for current assignments.

--- click ---

Net Control Schedule		
03/21/24	Ed	W8IE
03/28/24	Steve	K8SAS
04/04/24	Carl	KB8VXE
04/11/24	Eric	N8AUC
04/18/24	Mike	ABBUM
04/25/24	Ed	W8IE
05/02/24	Jim	W8ZHN
05/09/24	Carl	KB8VXE
05/16/24	Eric	N8AUC
05/23/24	Mike	ABBUM
05/30/24	Ed	W8IE

NCOs

ABBUM	MIKE	KMBV*	Jon
K8SAS *	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
KB8VXE	CARL	W8IE	Ed
AD8G	Dave	You Can Be it	

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

## The Wednesday Night Skywarn Practice Net

The Skywarn season runs from April thru September. Practice nets are held Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. on the 146.76 repeater. Should the National Weather Service issue a severe storm warning for Cuyahoga County, a weather net will be brought up on the 146.76 repeater.

Visit [www.ccskywarn.org](http://www.ccskywarn.org) for more information and training sessions.

An On-Line Storm Spotter training video from the NWS is available at

<https://www.facebook.com/NWSCleveland/videos/858879174941020/>

## ARES

ARES nets and meetings are held every Tuesday (Except the third Tuesday of the Month) at 8PM on 145.410 (+)110.9. A simplex net will be held afterwards. ARES meetings are in the meeting room at the Helwig Whistle Stop 599 West Bagley Rd. Berea, OH. at 7PM the third Tuesday of each month. More info about ARES can be found at [www.n8esg.org/ares](http://www.n8esg.org/ares).

## Thursday Net NCOs

Do you know K2??? How about ??UPZ? A great way to learn who these voices belong to is to be a net controller! Consider being a net controller.

We look forward to your participation! Carl, KB8VXE, E-Mail: [kb8vxe@arrl.net](mailto:kb8vxe@arrl.net)

## Sunshine

- Mike has a surgery pending; we wish him all the best and a good recovery.

Please contact Robert Wright ([ke8ceo@leara.org](mailto:ke8ceo@leara.org)) with information.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
24 <b>March</b>	25	26 6:30p.m. <b>LEARA meeting</b>	27	28 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	29	30
31	1 <b>April</b>	2	3	4 6 p.m. NWS Skywarn class 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	5	6 <b>East vs. West Marathon</b>
7	8 1 p.m. Solar Eclipse	9	10	11 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	12	13
14	15 <b>Tax Day</b>	16	17	18 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	26	27 <b>NVIS Day</b>
28	29	30 6:30p.m. <b>LEARA meeting</b>	1	2 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	3 <b>May</b>	4

## This year the National Weather Service will be offering their annual storm spotter training class.

SKYWARN - Cuyahoga County OH 6:00pm - 8:00pm

When: Thu, April 4, 6pm – 8pm

Where: 6363 Selig Blvd, Independence, OH 44131, USA ([map](#))

more details» [copy to my calendar](#)

You will need to register using the registration form: [Registration Form](#)

Information can be found at [www.weather.gov/cle](http://www.weather.gov/cle)

At the news headlines at the top, click on the 2024 Information Schedule.

Other dates and county locations may be found at their website.

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

January 13th, 2024  
held virtually in a Zoom Video Conference  
(Subject to Revision)

April will be at the Firehouse Grille in Willoughby. May is set for My Friends. June will be the picnic meeting, tentatively in Independence as last year. Bryan to make the needed contacts for the venue. Eddie to contact Mister Mike for the catering once the venue is secured.

**Attendance:**

Bryan Torok, N8OOF; Eric Jessen, N8AUC; Robert Wright, KE8CEO; Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS; Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE; Marv Grossman, W8AZO; Jon Anhold, KM8V; Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G;

**Members:**

Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB;

**Excused:**

Jeff Garvas, N8YNR

**1. Call to Order**

The president called the meeting to order at 9:22 A.M.

**2. Last meeting minutes**

Not reviewed

**3. Treasurer's Report**

provided by Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS; Outstanding expenses approx. \$200 for insurance.

**3. Membership Report**

by Marv Grossman, W8AZO; 140 current members with 43 yet to renew. Members have until the end of March to renew before being removed from the roster at the end of March.

**4. Venue Chair's Report / Discussion**

by Eddie, KD8FTS; March to be at a new-to-LEARA restaurant, Amici's Amici Italian Restaurant & Bar, 13000 Royalton Rd, North Royalton, OH 44133 (<https://www.amicisfam.com/>).

**8. Upcoming Programs:**

by Eric Jessen, N8AUC; March will be the Skywarn related program presented by Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ. April is open. May will be Ham Radio & the Law presented by Bob Winston, W2THU. Jon Anhold, KM8V, is looking into having another drone program with the June picnic meeting.

Eric further reported that NWS will be having spotter training April 4, 2024, 6 – 8 PM, at the Community Center, 6363 Selig Blvd, Independence, OH 44131. More details: [https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN\\_schedule](https://www.weather.gov/cle/SKYWARN_schedule)

**9. Net Report & Sunshine:**

Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE, and Robert Wright, KE8CEO reported that Mike AB8UM had another surgery and is now recovering. Jeff Garvas, N8YNR, had a minor surgery and is recovering. Nothing else new on the Net.

**11. Technical Committee Report:**

By Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G, all repeaters operating. Dave is working on a new website for leara.org. He is working with Carl and others to ensure they have access to maintain and update sections as needed.

**12. Old Business:**

Eddie, KD8FTS, is proceeding with setting up Tech Soup and Microsoft accounts but has run into a paperwork and communication problem. He thinks starting a fresh application may be an easier way around the problem.

**13. New Business:**

President, Bryan N8OOF, noted that the appointment of the Nomination and Election Committees will take place at the May Trustees meeting. Eddie asked If the Zoom meeting links (both Members & Trustees meetings) could be permanently posted on the web site for those who can't access or don't receive the email notifications. Currently, out of security concerns, we have limited access to the links. After discussion, it was decided to have the Zoom links listed on the website. Dave will implement this.

**14. Adjournment:**

Motion by Eric and seconded by Robert, motion carried at 1005 hours EDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Bryan Torok, N8OOF**

**FINAL**



**Membership renewals!**

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Puzzle 3 (Hard, difficulty rating 0.67)

6			5					2
		8		4	9	5	3	
	3					6		
		7		2	3		6	9
3	2		9	7		1		
		2					4	
	8	1	3	5		9		
4					7			5

## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

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

**04/13/2024** - [Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 68th Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Cuyahoga Falls, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

**Website:** <http://www.w8vpv.org/hamfest>

[Learn More](#)

**07/06/2024** - [Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest](#)

**Location:** Mansfield, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://W8WE.ORG>

[Learn More](#)

**10/27/2024** - [2024 MARC Hamfest at MAPS](#)

**Location:** N. Canton, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Massillon Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <https://www.w8np.net>

[Learn More](#)

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

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

**04/06/2024** | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

**Sponsor:** Lake County ARA

**Location:** Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

**04/13/2024** | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44223](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Emidio & Sons Expo Center

**Time:** 9:00 AM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

**05/04/2024** | [Fairview Park OH 44126](#)

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio

Amateur Radio Society

**Location:** Fairview Park Library

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

[Learn More](#)

**05/11/2024** | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Cuyahoga Falls Library

**Time:** 10:30 AM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

**05/12/2024** | [Independence OH 44131](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga ARS

**Location:** Old Elmwood

Recreation Center

**Time:** 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)



## Bob Heil, K9EID, Silent Key

03/01/2024 - from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/bob-heil-k9eid-silent-key>

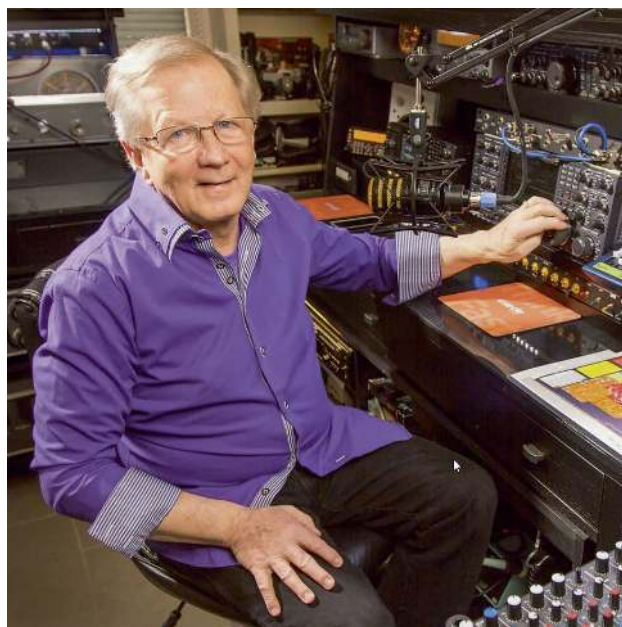
The man who defined the sound of live rock 'n' roll music and brought audio engineering principals into mainstream amateur radio use, Dr. Bob Heil, K9EID, has passed away at the age of 83. He was an ARRL Life Member and in the ARRL Maxim Society. A Facebook post from Heil Ham Radio paid tribute to their founder: "Bob fought a valiant, yearlong battle with cancer, and passed peacefully surrounded by his family."

Heil founded Heil Sound in 1966, through which he created the template for modern concert sound systems for musicians like the Grateful Dead, The Who, Joe Walsh, and Peter Frampton. The talk box used on iconic live record Frampton Comes Alive! was of Heil's design. His audio engineering products have been featured in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and he was honored in 2007 with the Parnelli Audio Innovator Award for his impact on the live sound industry. "My life has been about achieving great sound, whether on the concert stage or in the amateur radio world," Bob Heil recounted in 2022. "I've watched Heil Sound go from a regional sound company to a world-class microphone manufacturer. This company has been my passion," he said.

Parallel to his commercial and artistic success in live music, was his passion for amateur radio. He was active in ham radio from a young age and merged his expertise in audio engineering with his love for radio. Heil Ham Radio was founded to produce microphones, headsets, and other gear for radio amateurs with an emphasis on high-quality audio.

Heil was known as a mentor who enjoyed helping others find success in ham radio. Recently, his grandson Charlie Hartley, KF0OOP, became a licensed ham to surprise Heil for his birthday. The pair attended the ARRL Midwest Convention/Winterfest in St. Louis, Missouri, on January 27, 2024.

Heil was a generous donor to amateur radio organizations, including ARRL. Recently, he



donated a host of new audio gear to the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW.

His generosity and kind nature will be missed by many, including ARRL Director of Development Kevin Beal, K8EAL. "Bob was a titan in many areas. He was generous with his time, offered keen insights, and had the heart of a philanthropist in the ARRL Maxim Society," Beal said. "He was a gentleman to his core, making friends easily and everywhere he went, from rock stars to captains of industry. I consider it a real privilege to have become a friend to him, too, all because of amateur radio."

Heil was known for his passion for AM operations. He served for many years as an on-camera host of the Ham Nation podcast. Tributes to Heil have been flooding social media, including from his co-hosts.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, said Heil's passing is a significant loss. "Bob Heil's technical achievements that brought high-quality audio to amateur radio pale in comparison to his generosity and willingness to help his fellow ham. He's long been known as someone eager to help mentor and teach. His legacy on our hobby will be long-lasting. Our thoughts are with his loved ones."

## Amateur Radio Stands Ready to Support Eclipse Operations

03/01/2024 - from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-stands-ready-to-support-eclipse-operations>

The upcoming April 8, 2024, solar eclipse has many excited about the opportunity to witness the darkness of totality. Spectators from across the country are traveling to the path of total darkness that will stretch from South Texas to Northeastern Maine.

Some states are anticipating more than a million travelers for the event. In the impacted areas, schools will be letting students out early for the day, and residents are being encouraged to avoid driving on the day of the event. Emergency response organizations are adding staff for the event in many areas. The eclipse is expected to directly impact parts of 14 states as it moves across the country. The travel impact alone could be substantial.

In preparation for the event, many state emergency management organizations have called on local hams to provide communication services via HF nets and locally on VHF/UHF frequencies. There have been numerous planning meetings, exercises, and preparations across the

country. The ARRL Emergency Management department has worked with ARRL Section Emergency Coordinators and Section Managers in the directly affected areas to collect the frequencies each Section plans to utilize, and to assist in any frequency conflicts. Hams across multiple states and ARRL Sections have been practicing their communications capabilities via Winlink, SSB, and CW. "It is great to see Sections along the path working together to be prepared to assist in any emergency, should it occur during the event," said ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV. "Heavy traffic is the major concern, but [anything can happen] during such a large event," he added.

Johnston went on to say, "There will be several on-air operating events on the day of the eclipse, but please give some space for any emergency traffic that may be taking place as well."

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) is leading the Solar Eclipse QSO Party which will allow radio amateurs to participate in propagation research by operating during the eclipse and submitting their logs. Much of that activity will be focused on the FT8 frequencies of the non-World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC) HF bands, but all modes will be welcome during the event.

## 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)
146.88/R-	• Lakewood	(Requires 110.9 Hz tone)
224.90/R-	• Lakewood	(Requires 141.3 Hz tone)
444.40/R+	• Macedonia	(Requires 131.8 Hz tone) (Offline)
444.70/R+	• Lakewood	<b>Digital System Fusion</b> & Analog (Req. 131.8 Hz tone)

### INTERNET:

- [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org)
- To subscribe via e-mail, send a message to: [spirit76-request@leara.org](mailto: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.