



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



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



## LEARA Website

[LEARA's brand new website](#) is up and running. Our goal was to both modernize and simplify the site. If you find any errors or if anything is missing, or if you have any other suggestions, please let me know!

- dave/ad8g



**Upcoming Events**

23 May

**LEARA Net**

May 23, 2024  
8:00 pm - 8:30 pm  
Click Here

Not Correct? Edit, Add, or Remove Item  
Eric, N8AUC

On May 27, 1969, the last Tuesday of that month, a group of Ham interested in operating who had been meeting informally for some time decided to form a new Amateur Radio club - The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association.

Someone mentioned that this was a risk - would need a leader and Bill Stone, K8GOC, volunteered and became LEARA's first President. And that was how that would become the largest Amateur Radio club in the greater Cleveland area!

For over 50 years LEARA has been providing public service and emergency communications for Northeast Ohio. The club call signs are WR8ABC and WB8CQR. To join an ARRL affiliated club.

Any and all items are encouraged to attend our monthly meeting, you need not be a member of the club. We have working positions for becoming a ham radio operator are also encouraged to attend.

**The Spirit of '76 and '88**  
LEARA's Monthly Club Newsletter  
April, 2024  
Tide Trips: Being with partners, reports and also: Share your loved memory.  
March, 2024  
Upcoming Meeting - Skewen, Prez column, Treasurer Meeting notes: Bill Phil, K8GOC, Steve Eric  
February, 2024  
Upcoming Meeting - Steve Phil and the President of the League: Prez column  
January, 2024  
Holiday Party photos, Treasurer Meeting notes, ARRL Conference announcement  
November, 2023  
Upcoming Holiday Party announcement, Prez column, Treasurer Meeting notes

## LEARA Monthly Meeting

### Amateur Radio and the Law

Bob Winston W2THU

May 28, 6:30 p.m.

### My Friends Restaurant

11616 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH, 44102

Click or scan QR code to RSVP



## The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF



The April meeting was at The Firehouse Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills. We ordered off the menu and as usual the food and service were terrific.

Since the previous Saturday, April 27, was NVIS Antenna day in the ARRL Ohio Section, Eric Jessen, N8AUC gave a presentation on "NVIS Antennas for Public Service."

... continue on page 2

**Prez cont.**

OFFICERS and TRUSTEES	
<b>Bryan Torok</b> President	<b>N8OOF</b> btorok@sbcglobal.net
<b>Eric Jessen</b> VP, License Trustee	<b>N8AUC</b> 440-554-3057
<b>Eddie Stevens</b> Treasurer	<b>KD8FTS</b> 440-668-7409
TRUSTEES	
<b>Marv Grossman</b> Membership	<b>W8AZO</b> 440-248-0031
<b>Robert Wright, II</b> Vice President	<b>KE8CEO</b> 216-502-1552
<b>Eddie Stevens</b> Venue	<b>KD8FTS</b> 440-668-7409
<b>Carl Gedeon</b> Trustee	<b>KB8VXE</b> kb8vxe@arrl.net
<b>Jon Anhold</b> Trustee	<b>KM8V</b> km8v@arrl.net
<b>Dave Andrzejewski</b> Trustee	<b>AD8G</b> 440-220-2064
TRUSTEES EMERITI	
<b>Al Amster</b>	<b>W8TTY (SK)</b>
<b>Don Raith</b>	<b>N8DJG (SK)</b>
<b>Fred Collins</b>	<b>W8ADW(SK)</b>
<b>John Radney</b>	<b>KC8FOC(SK)</b>
<b>Pat Shreve</b>	<b>W8GRG (SK)</b>
<b>Al Severson</b>	<b>AB8P (SK)</b>
<b>Dave Foran</b>	<b>WB8APD (SK)</b>
<b>Bob Winston</b>	<b>W2THU</b>
POINTS OF CONTACT	
<b>Robert Wright, II</b> "Sunshine"	<b>KE8CEO</b> 216-502-1552
<b>Bryan Torok</b> Radio Officer	<b>N8OOF</b> btorok@sbcglobal.net
<b>Dave Andrzejewski</b> Radio Officer	<b>AD8G</b> 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: <a href="mailto:editor@leara.org">editor@leara.org</a></p> <p><b>Proofreading:</b> TNX to W8AZO, N8YNR</p>	

v09/2024-04-21

Eric explained that many HF Amateur Radio antennas are designed for distance (DX). They send signals out at very shallow angles to the ground so that when the signals hit the various layers of the atmosphere and refract back the ground they come down hundreds to thousands of miles away. This is not good when one needs to communicate with a person at closer distances.

Near Vertical Incidence Skywave antennas send signals up at much steeper angles so that atmosphere refracted signals return at distances from a few miles out to distances of 500 to 600 miles. This makes NVIS antennas particularly well suited for regional public service and emergency communication (emcomm). Eric discussed the frequencies and antenna designs that work best for NVIS communications. Further info and antenna designs are at the below links.

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near\\_vertical\\_incidence\\_skywave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near_vertical_incidence_skywave)
- <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/EC-016-Course/NVIS-Pion%20KK7XO.pdf>
- <https://static.dxengineering.com/pdf/wp-nvis-rev2.pdf>

**For the May meeting** we will be returning to **My Friends Restaurant**, 11616 Detroit Ave, Cleveland, OH 44102. Details of the restaurant may be found here: <https://myfriendsrestaurant.com> We've been there many times with good food, good service, and reasonable prices. We will again be ordering off the menu.

**Bob Winston, W2THU**, will be presenting **Ham Radio & the Law**. In addition to Bob updating us on what is happening with current and proposed legislation affecting ham radio, I'm told that Bob may have an amusing anecdote or two from his many years as a practicing attorney. I'm looking forward to it.

Because we are ordering off the menu, reservations are not strictly required, but are appreciated so we can let the restaurant know how

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.

many places to set. You may make your **reservation** on the website, <https://leara.org/dinner-reservation> or by calling Marv Grossman, W8AZO, at (440) 248-0031. Come out for the food and camaraderie.

As I'm writing this, I am planning on NOT having a Zoom link up for this meeting.

**Upcoming Meetings & Programs:** The June will be the annual LEARA picnic meeting, in the same park in Independence as last year. However, we will be in a different shelter with open sides. We plan to have it catered by Mister Mike, same as last year. If you have any suggestions for meeting programs, please contact **Eric Jessen, N8AUC**, or me.

The folks who put on the **Amateur Radio Meet and Greet Potluck** multi club event last year are planning to do it again. It will be Sunday, August 4, 2024, 1 to 4 PM in the Cottonwood Picnic Area of the Cleveland MetroParks, the same as last year. Last year the event was very successful. However, they did end up with an excess of one kind of dish and not enough of another. This year the organizers are trying out a system to divvy up the types of dishes by the attendees last initial. More details to come.

**AM Radio Car Bill:** Senate Bill S.1669 - AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act of 2023 was introduced as bipartisan legislation to ensure that auto manufacturers continue to provide AM broadcast radio service in every new vehicle at no additional charge to the customer. It has recently been gaining traction.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1669>

You might be thinking, "What is this have to do with ham radio?" Or, "I don't listen to AM radio. Why should I care?" Auto manufacturers cite two reasons for deleting AM radios from new cars. The first is cost for a device they claim fewer than 5% of new car buyers use. I personally have to question this because how much additional cost could there really be in an AM broadcast radio receiving circuit that would be incorporated into a 12 inch display screen infotainment center? The second reason, the one of great concern to amateur

radio operators, has to do with radio frequency interference (RFI) generated by switching power supplies used in hybrid and electric (EV) vehicles.

We are very familiar with RFI created by switching supplies used in everything from our cell phone chargers, computers, appliances, LED light bulbs, and much more. The RFI created by those things pales in comparison to the switching supplies in EVs which are switching hundreds of volts at currents that can exceed 100 amps. The RFI from some of these cars extends not only into the AM broadcast band, but also well into the HF amateur bands and in some cases into VHF and UHF.

This RFI effects not just devices in the car, but can travel hundreds of feet. There are hams who have reported that a Tesla car driving past their house wipes out their ability to use any HF amateur band. Imagine the impact of a few of these cars driving around your Field Day or Parks on the Air (POTA) site. These cars are still relatively uncommon and in some areas of the country even rare. Now is the time to attack this problem before there are more of them on the road.

In March of 2024, The AM for Every Vehicle Act attained the number of voting co-sponsors it will need to ensure passage through the House of Representatives. It would still be good to contact your representative to let them know of your support.

I urge you to contact your U.S. Senator to support this bill. In Ohio that is:

**Sherrod Brown,**

<https://www.brown.senate.gov/contact/email> Phone: (216) 522-7272 Address: 801 West Superior Ave. Suite 1400, Cleveland, OH 44133

**J.D. Vance,**

<https://www.vance.senate.gov/share-your-opinion> Phone: (202) 224-3353 Address: B4OC Dirksen Senate Office Bldg. Washington D.C. 20510

**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.



## 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.

April 2024 Checkins 25					
ABBUM	Mike	KC8MRC	Bob	N8AHS	Fred
K2WJS	BILL	KD8AJZ	Rich	N8AUC	Eric
K8EHP	Mike	KD8FTS	Eddie	N8UPZ	Bill
K8RYK	Rich	KD8IGR	Don	W8IE	Ed
K8SAS	Steve	KD8WBB	Carsten	W8IXY	Ted
K8SHB	Joel	KE8MNZ	Andrew	W8AWD	Bob
K88AYQ	Terry	KE8NMZ	Marc	W8ZHN	Jim
K88VBR	Leone	KE8ZSJ	Eric		
K88VXE	Carl	N8ACP	Chris		

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		
05/23/24	Mike	ABBUM
05/30/24	Eric	N8AUC
06/06/24	Jim	W8ZHN
06/13/24	Carl	K88VXE
06/20/24	Eric	N8AUC
06/27/24	Mike	ABBUM
07/04/24	Ed	W8IE
07/11/24	Jim	W8ZHN
07/18/24	Eric	N8AUC
06/27/24	Mike	ABBUM

NCOs

ABBUM	MIKE	K8BV*	Jon
K8SAS *	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
K88VXE	CARL	W8IE	Ed
K88DN	KEN	W8ZJN	Jim

\*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. With a simplex net to follow on 146.745. 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

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 May	27 Memorial Day	28 6:30p.m. LEARA meeting	29	30 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	31	1
2 June	3	4	5	6 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	7	8 Bike to the Bay
9 Bike to the Bay	10	11	12	13 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	21	22 Ride to Remember
23	24	25 6:30p.m. LEARA meeting	26	27 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	28	29
30	1 July	2	3	4 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	5	6

## ARRL Systems Service Disruption - Possible Ransomware infection

(5/16/2024)

ARRL is in the process of responding to a serious incident involving access to their network and headquarters-based systems. Several services, such as Logbook of The World® and the ARRL Learning Center, are affected. Please know that restoring access is their highest priority, and they are expeditiously working with outside industry experts to address the issue. They appreciate your patience.

(Updated 5/17/2024)

Some members have asked whether their personal information has been compromised in some way. ARRL does not store credit card information anywhere on our systems, and they do not collect social security numbers. The member database only contains publicly available information like name, address, and call sign along with ARRL specific data like email preferences and membership dates.

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

May 11th, 2024

held virtually in a Zoom Video Conference

(Subject to Revision)

**Attendance:**

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

**Members:**

Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB; Jim Mac Millan, WA8ZHN.

**Excused:**

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS; Jeff Garvas, N8YNR

**1. Call to Order**

The president called the meeting to order at 9:29 A.M.

**2. Last board meeting minutes**

Motion to accept, Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G; second Robert Wright, KE8CEO. Motion carried without objection.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

by Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS via email;

**4. Membership Report**

by Marv Grossman, W8AZO; none due to intermittent internet connection.

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

by Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, via email. May is set for My Friends, pending confirmation of reservation. June will be the picnic meeting, in Independence in an open-sided pavilion, same park as last year but different pavilion. Eddie to contact Mister Mike for the catering.

**6. Upcoming Programs:**

by Eric Jessen, N8AUC; 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.

**7. Net Report & Sunshine:**

Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE; no net to be held on July 4.

Robert Wright, KE8CEO reported nothing new at this time for the Sunshine.

**8. Technical Committee Report:**

By Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G, all repeaters operating. Dave expects to get the new power supply installed at the 146.76 repeater. He is configuring the new voter. The CWRU input is down while the college is doing renovations. The Case ham club received a grant for a new tower. The new leara.org website is up. Dave is working out the kinks with Carl and Eddie. There will be a permanent banner with the Zoom meeting links.

**9. President's Appointment the Nomination/  
Election Committee:**

Robert Wright, KE8CEO, volunteered to chair the committees. However, he would like someone to step up to help and perhaps to take over the position. Any member can do this, we will train any volunteer. Trustees who were elected in 2021 and are up for reelection: Marv Grossman, W8AZO; Bryan Torok, N8OOF; and Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G.

**10. Old Business:**

Eddie, KD8FTS, determined the reason Microsoft rejected LEARA's application for a non-profit account. Apparently, the request needs to come from an email address at leara.org. Because we have been in the process of moving the hosting of the website and email, email at leara.org had been disabled. Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G said he will add that to his to do list.

**11. New Business:**

None.

**12. Adjournment:**

Motion by Eric Jessen, N8AUC, and seconded by Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE, motion carried at 1001 hours EDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Bryan Torok, N8OOF**

## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

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

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

**Location:** Mansfield, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

### 07/20/2024 - [NOARSFEST](#)

**Location:** Elyria, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio  
Amateur Radio Society

**Website:** <http://www.noars.net>

[Learn More](#)

### 09/22/2024 - [Cleveland Hamfest](#)

**Location:** Berea, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland

**Website:** <https://www.hac.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)

### 06/01/2024 | [Kirtland OH 44094](#)

**Sponsor:** Lake County ARA

**Location:** Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

### 06/10/2024 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Cuyahoga Falls Library

**Time:** 6:30 PM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

### 07/14/2024 | [Independence OH 44131](#)

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga ARS

**Location:** Old Elmwood Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

### 07/20/2024 | [Elyria OH 44035](#)

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio ARS

**Location:** Lorain County  
Community College

**Time:** 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

### 08/03/2024 | [Kirtland OH 44094](#)

**Sponsor:** Lake County ARA

**Location:** Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

## Storms and Tornadoes: Amateur Radio Ready

05/03/2024 - from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/storms-and-tornadoes-amateur-radio-ready>

Strong storms and reports of at least 60 tornadoes have wreaked havoc in the Central U.S. for nearly two weeks. Homes and businesses across Nebraska, Oklahoma, Texas, Missouri, and Iowa were destroyed, and power is still down for more than 30,000 residents. On May 1, 2024, President Joe Biden declared a major disaster exists in Oklahoma, making federal aid available to those affected by last weekend's severe storms in Hughes, Love, and Murray counties.

Section Manager of the ARRL Iowa Section Lelia Garner, WA0UIG, reported that in Iowa, they have moved from response to recovery. Currently, nine counties are under the Iowa State Individual Assistance Grant Program and the Disaster Case Advocacy Program.

"Amateur Radio has served our local agencies well. We recently networked at a central Iowa hamfest and are building our emergency communications capacity primarily through [the Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®)]. ARES resources [include] personnel, experience, meetings, training, [communications] equipment,

[and] operating trailers. The opportunity to share our experience and knowledge gained in the field has been critical to supporting ARES in Iowa," said Garner.

Garner added that awareness is the best tool. She stressed that amateur operators and ARES members work to help the National Weather Service and other served agencies in order make their work and the community safer.

ARRL Emergency Management Director Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, agrees that everyone should stay vigilant in their awareness and preparations, even during periods of less activity. Make sure you are prepared at home and that your family has a severe weather plan. This is extremely important if you plan to be mobile or away from your home during a severe weather event. Your safety is the most important thing if you plan to be active during severe weather. Every ham who is interested in severe weather should take the SKYWARN storm spotting class offered by the National Weather Service," said Johnston.

The ARRL Learning Center offers courses like on Basic EmComm and Intro to Radio for Emergencies & Disasters.

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