



The Spirit of '76 and '88



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

The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF

Our July meeting was at **My Friends Restaurant** in Cleveland. The program was on **Solar Lithium Power - Sustainable Power for your Station** presented by **Axel Fisser, K8AXX**. Axel has an extensive station with five transceivers, five antennas, one computer and three large computer screens. His entire station runs on emergency solar power with Lithium battery banks holding 5.2 kWh. There are no electric utility-fed power supplies in his station.



You can see more details and pictures of Axel's station at <https://www.qrz.com/db/K8AXX> What you won't find there are the details he shared at the meeting on how he does this and his recommended sources for the materials and batteries to accomplish this on a very low budget. For that, you needed to be at the meeting.

For the August LEARA meeting our guest speaker will be **Jeff Garvas, N8YNR**, telling us all about **Monitoring Trunked Radio System**. Jeff will share his tips and tricks for monitoring the systems active in our area, which systems are used in the various communities, which scanners are likely to give good results, and which ones

LEARA Monthly Meeting

Monitoring Trunked Radio Systems

Jeff Garvas, N8YNR

Firehouse Grille and Pub
2768 Stark Dr. Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

August 27, 6:30 p.m.



Click or scan QR code to RSVP

won't. Jeff's talks on this topic are always well attended. This should be a good one you won't want to miss.

Join us at the **The Firehouse Grille & Pub**, 2768 Stark Dr. Willoughby Hills, OH. We will be ordering off the menu (<https://firehousegrilleandpub.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Our-Menu-File.pdf>) Because we are ordering off the menu, reservations are not strictly required, but are appreciated so we can let the restaurant know how 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.

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Prez cont.

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NEWSLETTER	
<p><i>The Spirit of '76 & '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>Editor: Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB E-mail: editor@leara.org</p> <p>Proofreading: TNX to W8AZO, N8YNR</p>	

v09/2024-04-21

As always, if you have any suggestions for meeting programs, please contact Eric Jessen, N8AUC, or me. Contact info is in the column on the left.

For the last several months I've been telling you about the **Amateur Radio Meet and Greet Potluck** multi club event. Well it was held Sunday, August 4, in the Cottonwood Picnic Area of the Cleveland MetroParks. It was a smashing success with beautiful weather and attendance in the mid-40s. There were hams from at least six different area clubs from three different counties. The food was wonderful and there was plenty of it. The system of suggesting what category of food to bring (appetizer, main dish, side dish, dessert, etc.) by the initial of the last name worked very well to provide an even distribution of foods.

Then there were the prizes in the bag raffle, at least 12 of them. Just off the top of my head; there were two antennas, a kid's toy basket, a gift card to DX Engineering, a nice sized LiFePO battery, a Diamond 40-amp power supply, and a cash bag with \$76 in it. I'm sure I left out a few prizes. Each attendee received one raffle ticket. Additional tickets were sold. Once the organizers sold enough tickets to cover the cost of the event, the extra money went in the cash bag.

There are already plans in the works for next year's event. Make it a point to attend if you can.

The Big Storm of 2024. Unless you were living under a rock, you know that on August 6, a terrible storm and at least five tornados blew through Northeast Ohio. Come to think of it, being under a rock might have been a good place to be. I was sitting at my computer when the weather alert on my cell phone went off warning of a possible tornado. This was followed by some wind

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. Go to [https://www.leara.org/files/ARRL via LEARA Appl Instructions.pdf](https://www.leara.org/files/ARRL%20via%20LEARA%20Appl%20Instructions.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 for details.

Prez cont.

gusts and the lights going off and back on. Then, there was a loud Bzzzzz-Bang sound and the lights were out for good.

I decided to go outside to see if I could see anything. I figured that if I saw a tornado or heard the characteristic freight train sound I was just a few feet from the house and basement door. Then again, the images of TV weathermen standing in pouring rain and hanging on to a pole in high winds while talking about how dangerous it is came to mind. That and the videos of the guy trying to video a tornado while his family is begging him to get in the cellar. Of course I'm not that dumb.

At one point, it wasn't raining that much but it seemed to be coming horizontally from multiple directions at once. There is a pine tree in my neighbor's yard, about 80 to 100 feet tall. They also have pop-up cabana that is securely staked to the ground. I saw the top of the tree start to whip around in a circular motion. While that was happening, the cabana started to shake violently. Then the cabana took off straight up for about 40 feet. It paused for a second and came straight down; landing in the same space it left from.

Later, my neighbor came out, pointed to some shingles in his backyard, and was wondering where they came from. I figured out that we lost two rows of shingles from the other side of our garage roof and that is what landed in the neighbor's yard. Still, compared to many, we were pretty lucky. Later when the NWS showed the paths of the tornados, it looked to me as though the track of the one that wreaked destruction in Parma may have passed over us but had not yet touched down.

We were without commercial power for two days. But, about six years ago I bought a Harbor Freight Predator 3500 Inverter generator. Except for periodic testing as recommended, it has seen almost no real use. Even with five to six year old gas, it started on the first pull and ran beautifully for more than 48 hours. They rate it to run for 11 hours on a tank (2.6 gallons) of gas under 25%

load. I figure we were getting about 16 to 17 hours on that much gas. I ran one extension cord into the basement to power the sump pump and another to the kitchen and dining room for the refrigerator, microwave, and computer and monitor. I have lots of portable LED lights, so that was not a problem.

The one complaint I have is with Verizon. Every year or so, our cell service at the house goes out. I can travel a half mile away and get fine service. Immediately after the storm, it was working, but a bit slow. However, over the next few hours, it degraded and then stopped. The next day I had voice service back, so I tried calling them. It was a frustrating hour and a half to get a real person on the phone. He was able to tell me that they had lots of complaints from my area and that the tower which serves my area was not working. He even told me where that tower is located. About six hours later cell service came back. I found it scary to be without phone or internet service. Lacking internet is annoying, but I worry if we had a medical emergency or fire, how would we get help?

Anyway, I hope you came through the storm without major incident and we will see you at the next meeting.

Foxhunting: The Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society (NOARS) has been running monthly hidden transmitter hunts in the MetroParks and western suburbs. They would like to expand them and get more hunters from adjoining areas. I'd like to hear from you as to what it would take to get you to come out and participate. If you are interested, contact me. Info is on second page.

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.

July 2024 Checkins 21					
AB8UM	Mike	KC8MRC	Bob	N8UPZ	Bill
K2WJS	BILL	KD8AJZ	Rich	W8IE	Ed
K8EHP	Mike	KF8BNF	Mike	W8JMI	Bryan
K8RYK	Rich	N8AHS	Fred	W8NVC	NICHOLAS
K8BVBR	Leone	N8AUC	Eric	W8AWD	Bob
K8BVXE	Carl	N8QMK	Mike	W8ZHN	Jim
KC8FQV	Mark	N8RKE	Larry	W8JIX	David

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:

Net Control Schedule			
08/22/24	Jim	W8ZHN	
08/29/24	Eric	N8AUC	
09/05/24	Mike	AB8UM	
09/12/24	Ed	W8IE	
09/19/24	Jim	W8ZHN	
09/26/24	Carl	K8BVXE	
10/03/24	Eric	N8AUC	
10/10/24	Mike	AB8UM	

Please check the website for current assignments.

--- click ---

NCOs

AB8UM	MIKE	K8BV*	Jon
K8SAS *	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
K8BVXE	CARL	W8IE	Ed
K8BDN	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 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.

Sunshine

Please contact Robert Wright (ke8ceo@leara.org) with information.

- John Huetter K8DZR, SK passed away. The funeral was on 11 July 2024 at Messiah Lutheran Church. at 21485 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park. John was a "way back" (prior to 1990) LEARA member. His obituary can be found at:

<https://obits.cleveland.com/us/obituaries/cleveland/name/john-huetter-obituary?id=55528172>

- Ron Hollas K8RJH, is going through some serious medical issues. Please feel free to email him Get well wishes or anything else to cheer him up. He enjoys it when Ester reads them to him. ron@hollas.co

- Chuck Mehozonek K8CVM: Had a bad weekend. He had to put down one of his dogs, a long time member of the family. Sorry for your loss Chuck.

EOTA (Everyone On The Air)

A Mini POTA (Parks On The Air) Like Activity

Calling all Northeast Ohio Amateur Radio Operators. You are invited to join us on the air on **September 11th from 4:30 to 7:30 PM local time (2030 to 2330 UTC)**. The activity is designed to include all hams, regardless of license class. The bands and modes (2 M, 70cm & 6 M FM and 6 M & 10M SSB) are chosen to cover radios that most Amateurs already have and operating privileges of all hams, including Technicians. You can choose to work one or all modes/band combinations.

10 M	6 M		2 M		0.75 M
SSB	FM	SSB	FM		FM
28.320	52.525	50.125	146.460	146.535	446.0000
to	52.540	to	146.475	146.550	446.0125
28.340	52.550	50.135	146.490	146.565	446.0250
	52.570		146.505	146.580	446.0375
	52.590		146.520	146.595	446.0500

Setting up can be as simple or complex as you like- Using your handheld, driving your vehicle with mobile radio/antennas, or setting up a portable station with gain antennas. You can also activate multiple park locations if you want to be a rover.

Sponsored by the Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club (CFARC), the event uses the Summit County Metro Parks as the setting. Still, you can also participate from your home station if you are within range. With 39 possible locations, including parks and trailheads, there are plenty of choices. If you are a dedicated POTA operator, some of the parks are also part of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Although sponsored by CFARC, the event is open to all Hams, regardless of club affiliation.

If you are in Summit County, pick out your nearby park or plan to operate from home and join us on the air. If you are from outside the county, take a short drive and enjoy autumn in one of the parks while you operate. Maybe even plan a hike before operations begin. There is also a random drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate for DX Engineering for all participants who make at least five contacts and submit an entry.

For full details on the event, visit <http://tiny.cc/eota2024>. You will find lists of locations, abbreviations, maps, operating rules, score sheets and more.

We also suggest you warm up for this event by participating in two other local events: Ohio QSO Party (<https://www.ohqp.org/>) on August 24 and Ohio State Parks On The Air—OSPOTA (<https://ospota.org/>) on September 7th.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25 August	26	27 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	28	29 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	30	31
1 September	2	3	4	5 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	6	7
8 River Run	9	10	11	12 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	13	14 Coast to the Oast
15 Shaker Lakes Hike & Run	16	17 7 p.m. Cuyahoga ARES Meeting	18	19 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	20	21
22 Cleveland Hamfest	23	24 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	25	26 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	27	28
29	30	1 October	2	3 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	4	5 ACS Strides Walk

Check the Event Support Group Website for more event details
 >>> <https://n8esg.org/calendar/> <<<

David J. Goodman, WA8UIT, SK Estate Sale

I will do the sale once more. Had a few members come to the first sale! Thanks.

Where: 31870 Hiram Trail, Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022

When: Sunday, 10/6/2024, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Helen, KC8IKK

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

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

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

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

09/07/2024 | [Fairview Park OH 44126](#)

Sponsor: Northern Ohio
Amateur Radio Society

Location: Fairview Park Library

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

[Learn More](#)

09/08/2024 | [Independence OH 44131](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS

Location: Old Elmwood
Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

10/05/2024 | [Kirtland OH 44094](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

ARRL Urges Protecting the Amateur Radio 902-928 MHz Band

08/15/2024 from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-urges-protecting-the-amateur-radio-902-928-mhz-band>

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) accepted for public comment a Petition for Rulemaking filed by NextNav Inc., a licensee in the 900-MHz Location and Monitoring Service (LMS), to completely reconfigure the 902-928 MHz band and replace the LMS with high-powered 5G cellular and related location services.

...

The new nationwide license would authorize NextNav to provide much higher-powered traditional broadband and 5G cellular services as well as the related location service occupying 15 of the total 26 megahertz available in the band. The reconfiguration proposed by NextNav would create a 5-megahertz-wide uplink subband at 902-907 MHz paired with a 10-megahertz downlink subband at 918-928 MHz. The 5-megahertz uplink subband would be limited to use by mobiles with a maximum of 3 watts ERP. On the 10-megahertz downlink subband, up to 2000 watts ERP would be permitted in rural areas and 1000 watts ERP in urban and suburban areas, radiating from tower structures that could reach

1000 or more feet above average terrain. These configurations reflect the FCC's rules for standard cellular configurations that have been adopted to govern a number of other bands used for similar 5G and like services.

...

ARRL is preparing comments urging protection of existing and future amateur uses in this band. ARRL urges all amateurs to study the proposal and file their own comments describing their activities in this band and the expected effect of the proposed changes. The filing deadline is September 5, 2024. Replies to comments are due by September 20, 2024.

Read the full article, including further links, here:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-urges-protecting-the-amateur-radio-902-928-mhz-band>

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 | Digital Only (mmdvm: Fusion, DMR, D-Star & P25)
(Requires 131.8 Hz tone) |

INTERNET: www.leara.org