



# The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the  
**June Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association 2025**  
Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB, Editor

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And you thought “digital” was the only game in town, right?

Want to keep an eye on a battery? Wonder what you can do with the stuff you picked up for your junk box?

Come to the Firehouse Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills as the month ends for a great session with Eric Jessen, N8AUC.

Eric will explore and explain how to use analog meters in a variety of applications including to monitor the state of the battery in your “go” kit for Field Day or POTA.

## LEARA Monthly Meeting

### The Care and Feeding of Analog Meters!

Eric Jessen, N8AUC

### The Firehouse Grille & Pub

2768 Stark Dr., Willoughby Hills, OH

June 24, 6:30 p.m.



Click or scan  
QR code to RSVP

## The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF

**LEARA NEEDS YOU!** It is that time of the year again when we seek candidates to run for Trustee and also to help with running the club. Anyone who has been a member for the last 12 months is eligible to run.

If you are at interested, please contact me. Or, log into the next Trustees Zoom meeting Saturday, July 12 at 9:00 A.M.



... continue on page 2

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NEWSLETTER	
<p><b>The Spirit of '76 &amp; '88</b> 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>	

v10/2025-01-01

## Prez cont.

**IDEAS NEEDED!** The annual LEARA Picnic is will be Tuesday, August 26. We would very much like to hear some new ideas for how to handle the food and perhaps volunteers to take on running it. For more info, see below.

**For the May Meeting** we had a special presentation of a PBS American Experience documentary, "**Mr. Tornado, One Man's Pursuit to Understand the Deadliest Storms**".

This video started with the life of Dr. Tetsuya Theodore "Ted" Fujita as a boy in Japan prior to WW2. It told of his love of science and a nonconformist view, something very unusual in Japanese culture. Prior to the war, Fujita studied engineering. The video followed his study of the blast patterns from the atom bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and research into localized severe storms including tornadoes.

When Fujita's theories regarding storm and tornado formation did not gain acceptance in Japan, he contacted scientists at the University of Chicago who were doing similar research. That resulted in his being offered a position at the University. Many years of meticulous research into tornadoes led to the development of the Fujita or F Scale for classifying tornadoes.

In the 1970s he was asked to investigate several mysterious airplane crashes where planes approaching airports to land simply seem to fall out of the sky. Over the next decade, he observed patterns in cornfields similar to those he had seen back in Japan from the atom bombs. Through the use of Doppler radar, Fujita was able to prove the existence of microburst (severe

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.

downdraft) storms which caused the airplane crashes. Of course, the documentary had far more information and detail than I can condense into a few paragraphs.

**The June Meeting** program will be **The Care and Feeding of Analog Meters!** To be presented by **Eric Jessen, N8AUC**. Eric will explore and explain how to use analog meters in a variety of applications including to monitor the state of the battery in your “go” kit for Field Day or POTA.

For the June Meeting, we will be back at **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.

**Future Meetings:** We have not booked anything definite for July. Eric is working with a returning LEARA member on a presentation on **Slow Scan TV (SSTV)** for a future meeting. Side note: If there is enough interest, we plan to reactivate the SSTV net that ran on the 146.88 repeater.

The **August meeting** will be the picnic meeting, in Independence in the enclosed Kiwanis pavilion. **Food is undecided and we would sure like to hear your suggestions and ideas.** Volunteering to help with this is a bonus! Lacking other input, we will probably return to Mister Mike for the catering.

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

**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 for a Saturday morning Trustees meeting. Join us on the air, online, or in person. We really want to see or at least hear from you, even if it is only by radio or Zoom.

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## Interference

Last week I received a text from my wife that the remote garage door opener did not work. When I arrived later I had the same problem. I had assumed a battery problem but that turned out to be not the case.

Two lamps in the house, controlled by a holiday remote, were on. Attempts to turn them off lasted for less than a second. The led on the control fob was pulsating so I removed the coin cell. The remotes were on the same 433 MHz channel and the garage opener function was restored. I haven't had any reports of problems from neighbors which is good news. It could have been in storage in the hot attic and It was a fairly fresh battery so it could have persisted for quite a while. I'm removing all batteries from my Christmas light controllers. This is reminiscent of a report in another westside community where a resident had rigged a similar remote to a switch on the entry door to detect intrusion. It was in the failsafe/always on mode and disabled keyless entry on nearby cars and other systems.

**73. WA8ZHN**



## 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.

May 2025 Check-Ins 24					
K2DLB	Dan	KC8QLS	Steve	N8IYA	Steven
K2WJS	BILL	KE8TDG	Bill	N8RWP	Konrad
K8ARP	Arp	KF8BNF	Mike	N8UPZ	Bill
KABJOY	Robert	KF8DGD	Bill	N8Y	John
KB8PQM	Bob	KF8DYE	Michael	W8IE	Ed
KB8VXE	Carl	N8ACP	Chris	W8JMI	Bryan
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AHS	Fred	WA8AWD	Bob
KC8MRC	Bob	N8AUC	Eric	WA8ZHN	Jim

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		
06/19/25	Carl	KB8VXE
06/26/25	Ed	W8IE
07/03/25	Eric	N8AUC
07/10/25	Jim	WA8ZHN
07/17/25	Carl	KB8VXE
07/24/25	Ed	W8IE
07/31/25	Carl	KB8VXE
8/7/25	Eric	N8AUC
8/14/25	Jim	WA8ZHN
8/21/25	Carl	KB8VXE
8/28/25	Ed	W8IE

NCOs	KB8VXE	Carl	W8IE	Ed
	KM8V*	Jon	WA8ZJN	Jim
	N8AUC	Eric		

\*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 146.475. 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 <https://n8esg.org/skywarn/> for more information and training sessions.

Information about Cleveland Weather operations can be found at <https://wx8cle.org/>

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).

## Sunshine

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



## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

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

**07/19/2025 - [NOARSfest](#)**

**Location:** Elyria, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio  
Amateur Radio Society

**Website:**

<https://www.noars.net/hamfests/noarsfest/>  
[Learn More](#)

**09/28/2025 - [Cleveland Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Berea, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland

**Website:** <https://www.hac.org>  
[Learn More](#)

**11/02/2025 - [2025 MARC  
Hamfest at MAPS](#)**

**Location:** N. Canton, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Massillon ARC

**Website:** <http://www.w8np.net>  
[Learn More](#)

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

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

**07/05/2025 | [Fairview Park OH 44126](#)**

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio  
Amateur Radio Society

**Location:** Fairview Park Library

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

[Learn More](#)

**07/12/2025 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221](#)**

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Cuyahoga Public Library

**Time:** 3:00 PM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

**07/13/2025 | [Independence OH 44131](#)**

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga ARS

**Location:** Old Elmwood  
Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

**08/02/2025 | [Kirtland OH 44094](#)**

**Sponsor:** Lake County ARA

**Location:** Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)



# LEARA Meeting

Firehouse Restaurant

May 27th 2025; Pictures: Bryan Torok



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
22 <b>June</b>	23	24 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	25	26 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	27	28 <b>Field Day</b>
29 <b>Field Day</b>	30	1 <b>July</b>	2	3 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R <b>Pan Ohio Hope Ride</b>	25 <b>Pan Ohio Hope Ride</b>	26 <b>Pan Ohio Hope Ride</b>
27 <b>Pan Ohio Hope Ride</b>	28	29 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	30	31 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	1 <b>August</b>	2
3	4	5	6	7 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	8	9

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



## Ham Radio Reports Fire; Helicopter Crew Extinguishes Just in Time

06/16/2025 from: <https://www.arrl.org/news/ham-radio-reports-fire-helicopter-crew-extinguishes-just-in-time>

With the help of amateur radio operators, a potential wildfire was averted in California on June 12. Amateur “ham” radio is a thriving technical hobby with members active all over the world. Hams often operate from remote locations, and several of them wound up in the right place at the right time while preparing to participate in the 2025 ARRL June VHF Contest.

Robert “Bobby” Debevec, W6IWN, and Jacob T. “Jake” Graham, KC7WXD, both ARRL members from the Reno, Nevada area, were hiking on the Grouse Ridge Trail in California, a section of the Tahoe National Forest. In addition to getting ready for the contest, they had hoped to also activate several Summits on the Air (SOTA) locations. Their day of using the Amateur Radio Service for recreation was going well until they saw smoke near the Black Buttes area and had to use it for its utility value.

Debevec captured the event on video, and posted it to his YouTube channel.

“I was surprised to see smoke ahead of us,” said Graham. “As we got closer, it was clear there had

been a lighting hit several days ago and we could also see flames.”

Wireless service is spotty in portions of the eastern Sierra, and they didn’t have a cell signal, so Debevec used his handheld ham radio to report the fire on a nearby repeater. In just seconds, Dan Patterson, W6AI, responded back. He was monitoring the Nevada County Amateur Radio Club linked repeater system in Grass Valley, California, and heard the call. He took the GPS coordinates from Graham and notified the U.S. Forest Service.

“We were monitoring the U.S Forest Service and it only took about 10 minutes for them to dispatch a helicopter to the area,” said Graham. “We watched four firefighters rappel down followed by a pack of equipment. The pair then walked closer to the area and started talking to the crew, who thanked them for the report.

“They put the out the fires but radioed for a helicopter water drop, before they left on foot, with the gear, to a nearby pickup site,” added Debevec.

After the firefighters left, the winds picked up dramatically. Had that happened earlier, the outcome could have much worse. Amateur radio serves communities before and When All Else Fails®, and having a thriving group of trained operators active in amateur radio allowed it to facilitate emergency communications that saved the day.

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## LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

More than **55 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) ( <b>Offline</b> )
<b>444.70/R+</b>	• Lakewood	<b>Digital Only</b> (mmdvm: Fusion, DMR, D-Star & P25) (Requires 131.8 Hz tone)

INTERNET: [www.leara.org](http://www.leara.org)