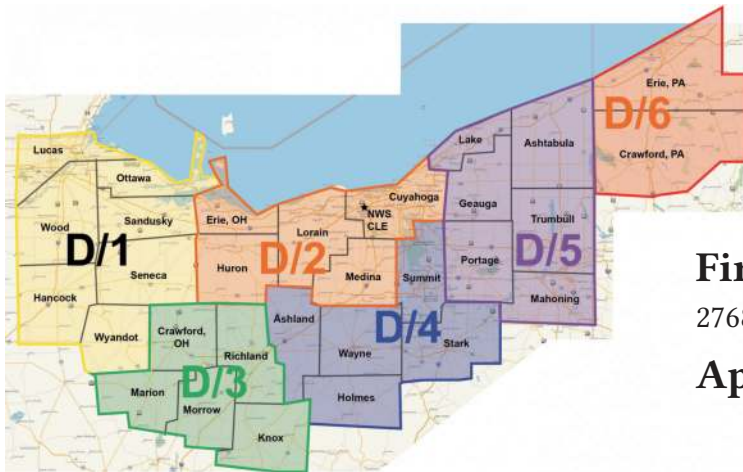




# The Spirit of '76 and '88



Newsletter of the  
**April Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association 2023**  
Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB, Editor



## LEARA Meeting Skywarn Radio Operations

by Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G

### Firehouse Grille & Pub

2768 Stark Dr, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

April 25, 6:30 p.m.



Click or scan QR code to RSVP



For the upcoming April meeting, Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G, will give a presentation about Cleveland's Skywarn Radio Operations. The program will discuss how amateur radio operators can report severe weather to their local Skywarn nets, and what the structure of those nets is and how those reports get routed to the National Weather Service.

Dave will also discuss the activation criteria for the Cuyahoga County Skywarn net as well as activation criteria for having amateur radio operators staff the National Weather Service office. Learn what things should and should not be reported to a Skywarn net.

### The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF



### The March Meeting

featured another historical video, "The Storied History of the Ham Radio Call Sign" given by Mike, W7VO. It traced the history of how ham radio call signs came to be, and how historical events got us to where we are now. All in all, it was another interesting presentation. Thanks to Eric Jessen, N8AUC, for arranging it.

... continue on page 2

**Prez cont.**

**For the April meeting**, we are returning to in-person meetings at one of our favorite meeting locations, **The Firehouse Grille & Pub** in Willoughby Hills. We will have our annual Skywarn/ weather related weather presentation, this year done by **Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G**. Dinner will be at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting at about 7:30 p.m.

As I'm writing this, I anticipate we will have Zoom up for the meeting, but mostly as a one-way setup for people at home to view the program. If you can't make the meeting, check the Zoom link between 7:15 to 7:30 and see if we are there. The link will be on the web site and **in the emailed meeting announcement**. Thanks to the **Hamfest Association of Cleveland (HAC.org)** for the use of the Zoom video conferencing.

**Upcoming meetings:** For the May meeting we will have an introduction to using the Nano VNA presented by Chuck Mehozzonek, K8CVM.

**Committee Appointments:** Coming up at the **May trustees' meeting** I will be making appointments for the **Nomination and Election Committees**. Chairs and members of these committees only have to be members in good standing. They do not have to be Trustees. If you would like to be on either one of these committees or would like to run for Trustee, please contact me via the email address on page 2.

**ARRL Renewal Notice Snafu 2.0:** Last month I told you about my having received an ARRL renewal notice even though my membership is good through June 30, 2025. Well, just a few days ago I received another renewal notice. And today I received my

OFFICERS and TRUSTEES	
<b>Bryan Torok</b> President	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
TRUSTEES	
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<b>Robert Wright, II</b> Vice President	KE8CEO 216-502-1552
<b>Eddie Stevens</b> Venue	KD8FTS 440-668-7409
<b>Carl Gedeon</b> Trustee	KB8VXE kb8vxe@arrl.net
<b>Jon Anhold</b> Trustee	KM8V km8v@arrl.net
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<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	
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<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

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.

May issue of QST magazine which again shows my expiration as 6/2025. I haven't had time to call the ARRL again but it sure seems wasteful for them to send renewal notices to members with two years to go on their membership.

Speaking of the ARRL, if you join or renew the ARRL through LEARA, the association receives \$5 for each application or renewal we process. Directions for doing so are in the gray box on page 2.

**Ohio's New No Cell Phone Law:** From the Ohio Department of Transportation's web site (<https://www.transportation.ohio.gov/phonesdown>): As of April 4, 2023, it is illegal to use or hold a cell phone or electronic device in your hand, lap, or other parts of the body while driving on Ohio roads. If an officer sees a violation, they can pull you over.

Drivers over 18 years old can make or receive calls via hands-free devices, including: speakerphone, earpiece, wireless headset, electronic watch, or connecting the phone to the vehicle. In most cases, anything more than a single touch or swipe is against the law. If you must physically manipulate your device, you should pull over to a safe location and park your car before handling.

Drivers can listen to audio streaming apps and use navigational equipment if they turn them on before getting on the road or use a single touch or swipe to activate, modify, or deactivate them. Drivers under the age of 18 are still restricted from using their devices in any way, including hands-free features.

There are many exceptions included in the new law. Perhaps most important for readers of this column is a specific exemption for licensed operators using an amateur radio. Other exemptions include:

- Drivers reporting an emergency to proper authorities.
- Drivers holding a phone to their ear only during phone conversations, if the call is started

or stopped with a single touch or swipe.

- Drivers holding or using cell phones and other electronic devices while stopped at a traffic light or parked on a road or highway during an emergency or road closure.

- First responders (law enforcement, fire, EMS), using electronic devices as part of their official duties.

- Utility workers operating utility vehicles in certain emergency or outage situations.

- Commercial truck drivers using a mobile data terminal.

This new law is a primary law, meaning if an officer sees a violation they can pull you over for it. They do not need another violation to stop you for this. For the first six months law enforcement will issue warnings for violation of the new law. Beginning October 5, 2023 police will begin issuing citations. Penalties for a first offense include up to a \$150 fine and two points on your driver's license. Subsequent offenses within two years have increased fines and points assessed, all the way up to a \$500 fine and possible 90 day suspension of driver's license.

The entire text of the law may be found here: <https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-revised-code/section-4511.204/4-4-2023>

Remember, regardless of which electronic device you use or how you use it, paying attention to driving must always be your first priority. Be especially careful when driving in heavy traffic or inclement weather. Put the microphone or other device down and get to your destination safely.

**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 Meeting

## The Storied History of the Ham Radio Call Sign

via Zoom, Mar. 28, 2023

shared by Eric Jessen, N8AUC, presented by Mike Ritz, W7VO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Su76QyChuEU>



	CALL LETTERS.	APPROXIMATE WAVE LENGTH IN METERS.	SPARK LENGTH OF INDUCTION COIL.
1--A. C. Austin, Jr., Hasbrouck Hgts, N. J.	AU	200	2 ins.
2--Otto E. Curtis, Rochester, N. Y.	Q	152	1 "
3--M. D. Douglas, Hasbrouck Hgts, N. J.	MD	100	¼ "
4--Harry Gross, Hackensack, N. J.	HG	125	½ "
5--Albert Higson, Jersey City, N. J.	AH	75	1 "
6--Harold E. Peck, Providence, R. I.	PE	40	1 "
7--J. Peters, Jr., Florissant, Mo.	PI	125	4 "
8--L. S. Stevens, Marlboro, Mass.	LS	60	1½ "
9--Newell A. Thompson, Brookline, Mass.	KN	400-700	½ KW
10--Earl Vogel, Ashton, Ill.	AN	56	2 ins.

The first ten published "hams"

From: Modern Electrics, May 1908

### US Radio Inspection Districts- 1912





- The Titanic had a Marconi owned wireless station aboard, callsign: **“MGY”**
- Non-Marconi owned stations aboard other ships (most were Telefunken equipped) didn't have to acknowledge them, and sometimes didn't!
- There was a great deal of both unintentional and intentional interference with Titanic's distress signals
- Confusion on use of **“CQD”** distress signal verses **“SOS”**



- By 1923, international contacts were becoming commonplace, but hams still were not using the callsign conventions established in 1913. Still lots of duplications in callsigns!

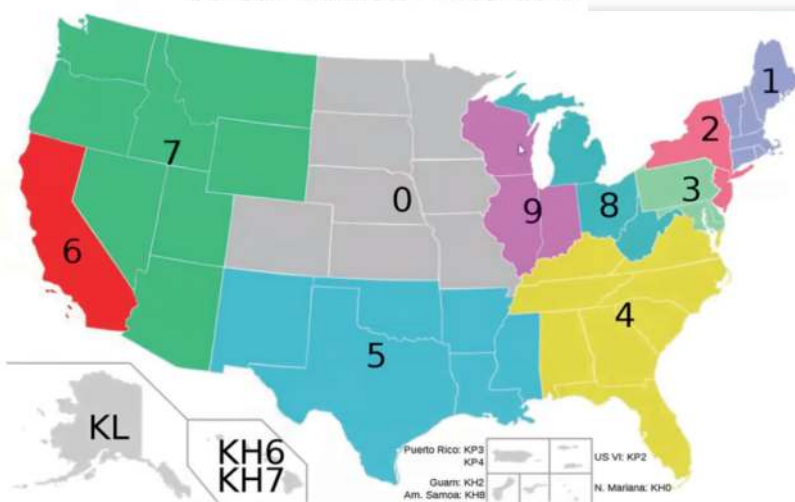


Canada

Italy

USA

US Call Districts - After 1947





## 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.

March 2023 Checkins - 32					
AB8UM	Mike	KD8FTS	Eddie	N800F	Bryan
AD8G	Dave	KE8ADV	Tony	N8QMK	Mike
K2WJS	BILL	KE8OZQ	Chuck	N8RKE	Larry
K8CVM	Chuck	KG8DN	Ken	N8UPZ	Bill
K8EHP	Mike	KI4AGJ	Martin	W8DKA	Doug
K8SAS	Steve	N8ACP	Chris	W8IE	Ed
KB8VBR	Leone	N8ACP	Chris	W8IXY	Ted
KB8VXE	Carl	N8AHS	Fred	W8JMI	Bryan
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AUC	Eric	W8UTC	Art
KC8KTE	Tim	N8IYA	Steve	W8ZHN	Jim
KD8AJZ	Rich	N8JIW	Don		

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		
04/27/23	Ken	KG8DN
05/04/23	Mike	AB8UM
05/11/23	Ed	W8IE
05/18/23	Carl	KB8VXE
05/25/23	Eric	N8AUC
06/01/23	Mike	AB8UM
06/08/23	Ed	W8IE
06/15/23	Carl	KB8VXE
06/22/23	Eric	N8AUC
06/29/23	Mike	AB8UM

<b>NCOs</b>	AB8UM	MIKE	KM8V*	Jon
	K8SAS *	STEVE	N8AUC	ERIC
	KB8VXE	CARL	W8IE	Ed
	KG8DN	KEN		

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

## The Wednesday Night Skywarn Practice Net

The Skywarn season has begun.

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 have resumed and nets 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@leara.org](mailto:kb8vxe@leara.org)

## Sunshine

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

## Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

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

**05/06/2023 | [North Olmsted OH 44070](#)**

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amt Radio Society

**Location:** North Olmsted Library

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

[Learn More](#)

**05/13/2023 | [Cuyahoga Falls OH 44221](#)**

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga Falls ARC

**Location:** Cuyahoga Public Library

**Time:** 6:30 PM

(No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

**05/14/2023 | [Independence OH 44131](#)**

**Sponsor:** Cuyahoga ARS

**Location:** Old Elmwood Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

**06/03/2023 | [Kirtland OH 44094](#)**

**Sponsor:** Lake County ARA

**Location:** Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

**07/01/2023 | [North Olmsted OH 44070](#)**

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amt Radio Society

**Location:** North Olmsted Library

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

[Learn More](#)

## Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

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

**07/08/2023 - [Mansfield Trunkfest 2023](#)**

**Location:** Mansfield, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Intercity Amateur Radio Club

**Website:** <http://iarc.club>

[Learn More](#)

**07/15/2023 - [NOARSFEST](#)**

**Location:** Elyria, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Northern Ohio Amateur  
Radio Society

[Learn More](#)

**09/24/2023 - [Cleveland Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Berea, OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Hamfest Association of Cleveland

**Website:** <http://www.hac.org>

[Learn More](#)

**10/29/2023 - [Massillon \(OH\) Hamfest  
\(& Auction\)](#)**

**Location:** North Canton, , OH

**Type:** ARRL Hamfest

**Sponsor:** Massillon Amateur Radio Club

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

[Learn More](#)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23 <b>April</b>	24	25 6:30p.m. <b>LEARA meeting</b>	26	27 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	28	29
30	1 <b>May</b>	2 7:45 p.m. OHDN 8:00 p.m. ARES Net 145.41	3	4 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	5	6 6:00 a.m. Walk MS 8:00 a.m. Woof Walk
7	8	9 7:45 p.m. OHDN 8:00 p.m. ARES Net 145.41	10	11 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	12	13 9 a.m. Trustees Meeting
14	15	16 7:45 p.m. OHDN 8:00 p.m. ARES Net 145.41	17	18 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	19	20 <b>Cleveland Marathon 2023</b>
21 <b>Cleveland Marathon 2023</b>	22	23 7:45 p.m. OHDN 8:00 p.m. ARES Net 145.41	24	25 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	26	27
28	29	30 6:30p.m. <b>LEARA meeting</b>	31	1 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	2 <b>June</b>	3





## Amateur Radio Included in FEMA Guide for National Emergency Preparedness

03/22/2023 - from: <http://www.arrl.org/news/amateur-radio-included-in-fema-guide-for-national-emergency-preparedness>

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has released a final version (March 2023) of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Functional Guidance. The guidance, which provides a framework for communications resources within incident management, officially includes support from amateur radio operators. The expanded Communications Unit (COMU) structure now includes the Auxiliary Communicator (AUXC) role, which covers personnel from services that provide communications support to emergency management, public safety, and other government agencies. This includes amateur radio.

NIMS guides government, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to work together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters and other emergencies. "This is a

major step in the recognition of the need and usefulness of amateur radio and other communications services in our national preparedness," said Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, Director of Emergency Management for ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio®. "It also gives official guidance to pave the way for future training and education of volunteers in ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®)," Johnston added.

The NIMS ICT guide (PDF) is available at [https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema\\_ict-functional-guidance.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_ict-functional-guidance.pdf)

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## 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.