



The Spirit of '76 and '88



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



The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) is a group of amateur radio operators who play a crucial role in tracking and reporting on hurricanes in the Atlantic region. Established in 1965, HWN activates when a hurricane comes within 300 miles of populated areas. These volunteers operate on specific radio frequencies to gather and relay real-time weather data, damage reports, and other critical information from areas affected by hurricanes. This information is then passed on to the National Hurricane Center and other meteorological services, helping forecasters and emergency responders get a more accurate picture of the storm's impact. The HWN's ability to function even when traditional communication systems fail makes it an invaluable resource during hurricane emergencies.

LEARA Monthly Meeting

The Hurricane Watch Net

Stan Broadway, N8BHL

My Friends Restaurant

11616 Detroit Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44102

<https://myfriendsrestaurant.com>

January 28, 6:30 p.m.



Click or scan QR code to RSVP

The Prez Says

by Bryan Torok, N8OOF

Happy belated New Year. Lately I have had the phrase, "May you live in interesting times" running through my head. I decided to spend a few minutes looking up the origin of the phrase. If you really want to go down a rabbit hole do a search do a search and



... continue on page 2

Prez cont.

OFFICERS and TRUSTEES	
Bryan Torok President	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
Eric Jessen VP, License Trustee	N8AUC 440-554-3057
Eddie Stevens Treasurer	KD8FTS 440-668-7409
TRUSTEES	
Marv Grossman Membership	W8AZO 440-248-0031
Robert Wright, II Vice President	KE8CEO 216-502-1552
Eddie Stevens Venue	KD8FTS 440-668-7409
Jeff Garvas Public Information	N8YNR 216-496-3928
Carl Gedeon Trustee	KB8VXE kb8vxe@arrl.net
Jon Anhold Trustee	KM8V km8v@arrl.net
Dave Andrzejewski Trustee	AD8G 440-220-2064
TRUSTEES EMERITI	
Al Amster	W8TTY (SK)
Don Raith	N8DJG (SK)
Fred Collins	W8ADW(SK)
John Radney	KC8FOC(SK)
Pat Shreve	W8GRG (SK)
Al Severson	AB8P (SK)
Dave Foran	WB8APD (SK)
Bob Winston	W2THU
POINTS OF CONTACT	
Robert Wright, II "Sunshine"	KE8CEO 216-502-1552
Bryan Torok Radio Officer	N8OOF btorok@sbcglobal.net
Dave Andrzejewski Radio Officer	AD8G 440-220-2064
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>	

v10/2025-01-01

read the Wikipedia article. One of the theories is that it is related to an ancient Chinese curse.

Regardless of the origins, we do in fact live in some very interesting times. In the last 12 months we have experienced some very interesting weather patterns in this country with resulting natural disasters, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, and firestorms. But we have also seen remarkable scientific and technological development, some of which rivals and even surpasses the wildest science-fiction of a century ago. We have self-driving cars that will come pick you up at the sidewalk and rockets which fly to space and return to the launch point to be grabbed by giant arms. And, regardless of which way you lean politically, I don't think anyone would call it boring.

Despite the allusion to a Chinese curse, I prefer to think of the phrase as an optimistic wish for the future. May you live in interesting times.

The November Meeting was LEARA's Annual Holiday Social meeting at Teamz in Middleburg Heights. As usual, the food and service was good.

We played Bingo for an assortment of door prizes and LEARA Bucks followed by the drawing for the main prizes, a Baofeng HT and a Yaesu FT-65R HT.

The January 2025 meeting will be at **My Friends Restaurant**, 11616 Detroit Rd., Cleveland, Ohio 44102. The program will be on **The Hurricane Watch Net** presented by **Stan Broadway, N8BHL**.

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 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.

Reservations: Because we are ordering off their 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: The February, March, and April meetings will be at The Firehouse Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills. The February meeting program is TBD. March will be Skywarn/Weather related by Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ; April will be a special viewing of the PBS program “Mr. Tornado”, the history of Tetsuya Fujita.

As always, if you have any suggestions for meeting programs, please contact **Eric Jessen, N8AUC**, or me. Contact info is in the column on page 2 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 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.

Pictures: Bryan Torok ---->



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://leara.org/membership/renew/>



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.

November 2024 Checkins - 21					
K2WJS	BILL	KB8VXE	Carl	N8AUC	Eric
K8ARP	Arp	KC8FQV	Mark	N8QMK	Mike
K8EHP	Mike	KC8MRC	Bob	N8UPZ	Bill
K8SAS	Steve	KD8FTS	Eddie	W8IE	Ed
K8JOY	Robert	KE8CEO	Robert	W8JMI	Bryan
K8WQL	Bob	KF8BNF	Mike	W8AWD	Bob
K8VBR	Leone	N8AHS	Fred	W8ZHN	Jim

December 2024 Checkins - 15					
K8EHP	Mike	KE8GKO	Jody	N8UPZ	Bill
K8VBR	Leone	KF8BNF	Mike	W8IE	Ed
K8VXE	Carl	N8AGM	Tom	W8JMI	Bryan
KC8FQV	Mark	N8AHS	Fred	W8AWD	Bob
KC8MRC	Bob	N8QMK	Mike	W8ZHN	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			
01/23/25	Ed	W8IE	
01/30/25	Eric	N8AUC	
02/06/25	Eric	N8AUC	
02/13/25	Jim	W8ZHN	
02/20/25	Carl	K8VXE	
02/27/25	Ed	W8IE	
03/06/25	Eric	N8AUC	
03/13/25	Jim	W8ZHN	
03/20/25	Carl	K8VXE	
03/27/25	Ed	W8IE	

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.

NCOs	KB8VXE	Carl	W8IE	Ed
	KM8V*	Jon	W8ZJN	Jim
	N8AUC	Eric		

*Short time leave **Long term leave

Upcoming Hamfests and Conventions

from www.arrl.org

03/09/2025 - [Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society Winter Hamfest](#)

Location: Elyria, OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Northern Ohio
Amateur Radio Society

Website:

<https://www.noars.net/hamfests/winter-hamfest/>

[Learn More](#)

04/05/2025 - [Cuyahoga Falls Amateur Radio Club 69th Hamfest](#)

Location: Cuyahoga Falls , OH

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cuyahoga Falls
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Website: <https://www.cfarc-hamfest.org>

[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](#)

Volunteer Exam Dates and Locations

from www.arrl.org

02/02/2025 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

03/01/2025 | [Fairview Park OH 44126](#)

Sponsor: Northern Ohio
Amateur Radio Society

Location: Fairview Park Library

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

[Learn More](#)

03/09/2025 | [Independence OH 44131](#)

Sponsor: Cuyahoga ARS

Location: Old Elmwood
Recreation Center

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

[Learn More](#)

04/05/2025 | [Kirtland OH 44094-8500](#)

Sponsor: Lake County ARA

Location: Kirtland Library

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

[Learn More](#)

05/03/2025 | [Fairview Park OH 44126](#)

Sponsor: Northern Ohio
Amateur Radio Society

Location: Fairview Park Library

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

[Learn More](#)



LEARA Holiday Meeting

Teamz Restaurant & Bar



November 26, 2024; Pictures: Carsten Lohrmann



November 2024 Holiday Meeting Prize Winners

Door Prizes

- Robert Gilbert, KA8JOY
- Janet, with Nate Jacobson, WA6LBT
- Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS
- Carsten Lohrmann, KD8WBB
- Danielle, with Mike Herdmann, KF8BNF
- Mike Herdmann, KF8BNF
- Gary Gargus, N8DIU
- Fred Heyse, N8AHS
- Eric Jessen, N8AUC
- Mark Studer, KC8FQV

LEARA Bucks

- Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS
- Colleen Crawford, KD8FTT

Baofeng HT

- Gary Gargus, N8DIU

Yaesu FT-65R

- Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE





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

January 11th, 2025

held virtually in a Zoom Video Conference

(Subject to Revision)

Attendance:

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

Members:

Jim MacMillan, WA8ZHN

Excused:

Jon Anhold, KM8V.

Absent:

Jeff Garvas, N8YNR

Members:

Jim MacMillan, WA8ZHN; Mark Studer,
KC8FQV.

1. Call to Order

The president called the meeting to order at 0910 ET. Recognized and thanked Hamfest Association of Cleveland for the use of Zoom.

2. Confirmation/Revision of Agenda Order

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, calling in from work. We will handle his reports first.

3. Venue Chair's Report/Discussion:

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS; January at My Friends, February, March and April will be at Firehouse. Eddie is investigating two new possibilities, one in the area of Rockside & I-77, the other in Twinsburg.

4. November Trustee Meeting Minutes:

Motion to accept, Eric Jessen, N8AUC. Seconded by Marv Grossman, W8AZO. Motion carried without objection.

5. Membership Report

Marv Grossman, W8AZO: members expiring in March, 97; members paid for 2025, 26; total 123.

6. Treasurer's Report

Eddie Stevens, KD8FTS, not available as he was driving.

7. Upcoming Programs:

Eric Jessen, N8AUC; January 2025 will be The Hurricane Watch Net presented by Stan Broadway, N8BHL. February TBD. March will be Skywarn/Weather related by Mat Nickoson, KC8NZJ; April will be a special viewing of the PBS program "Mr. Tornado", the history of Tetsuya Fujita.

8. Net Report:

Carl Gedeon, KB8VXE; We are currently down to four active controllers. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Carl. We will help you out to get you started.

9. Sunshine

Robert Wright, KE8CEO; Nothing new.

10. Technical Committee Report:

Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G; nothing new to report. We need to have [name redacted] contact Dave regarding moving 444.400 to a new location.

11. Old Business:

Nothing new at this time.

12. New Business:

Nothing new at this time.

At about this point in the meeting, Bryan Torok, N8OOF, experienced computer/connection problems. VP Eric Jessen, N8AUC, took over running the meeting.

13. Adjournment:

Motion by Marv Grossman, W8AZO, and seconded by Dave Andrzejewski, AD8G. Passed without objection. Meeting adjourned at 0947 ET.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Torok, N8OOF



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://leara.org/membership/renew/>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 January	27	28 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	29	30	31	1
2 February	3	4	5	6 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	7	8
9	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
23	24	25 6:30 p.m. LEARA meeting	26	27 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	28	1 March
2	3	4	5	6 8 p.m. LEARA VOICE 146.76/R	7	8

Check the Event Support Group Website for more event details

>>> <https://n8esg.org/calendar/> <<<

Ham Radio Operators Serving During California Firestorms

01/13/2025 from: <https://www.arrl.org/news/ham-radio-operators-serving-during-california-firestorms>

As the firestorms across Southern California continue to threaten millions of residents, trained amateur radio operators are serving critical volunteer roles to help officials spot fires before they get out of control. Dry conditions and wind gusts of 100 miles per hour have fueled days of devastating wildfires. Entire neighborhoods have been leveled by infernos.

The Eaton fire burned to the top of Mount Wilson, a critical logistical post for broadcast radio and television stations, as well as communications across the Southland. Federal agencies, air traffic control, local emergency responders, radio amateurs, and others all share tower space on the mountain.

While the main fires have been burning north and northwest of the central section of Los Angeles, just to the south, hams are standing watch. Orange County Fire Watch (OCFW) is a program locally organized by the Orange County Parks Department and the Irvine Conservancy.

During severe fire weather, volunteers go to preassigned locations within parks and open

spaces to report conditions. Many of them are hams, using the amateur radio bands to fill in mobile network weak zones.

ARRL National Instructor Gordon West, WB6NOA, is among the deployed volunteers. He said hams are stepping up. "We're all over the ARRL Orange Section on hilltops, reporting the wind and humidity, ash seen coming down, scanning for spot fires (none so far), smoke from the LA fires, guest activity at the parks, and being a presence at trailheads with reflective vests and vehicle signs indicating Fire Watch," he said.

Ray Hutchinson, AE6H, is a retired Firefighter who serves as the chief radio officer for Fire Watch. He says local clubs are key to providing the needed RF infrastructure. "Our local club, the South Orange Amateur Radio Association (SOARA), an ARRL Special Service Club, provides linked 2-meter and 70-centimeter repeaters: one high level and one coastal, for use by OCFW hams during deployments. There is a formal OCFW Net Control Station (NCS) for the entirety of these events," he said.

Radio amateurs are also ready and able to serve at evacuation centers, providing support as needed...

Read more online at arrl.org here:

<https://www.arrl.org/news/ham-radio-operators-serving-during-california-firestorms>

LEARA — The Lake Erie Amateur Radio Association

More than **55 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