

# The LCARA Patch

Volume 30, Issue 8

AUGUST 2008

## The LCARA Patch

Published by the Lake County Amateur Radio Association  
P O Box 868  
Painesville, OH 44077-0868

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## LCARA 2008 MEETING PROGRAMS

The following programs are tentative scheduled for the Red Cross Building in Painesville:

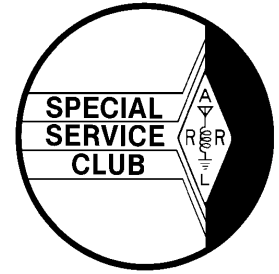
**AUGUST 6** – Hot Air Ballooning, GPS controlled Airplane transmitting APRS, – Don Greathouse, N8NBC

**AUGUST 16** – 2008 LCARA Annual Club Picnic at Veterans Park, Hopkins Road, Mentor, Oh.

**SEPTEMBER 3** - Radio Astronomy – Hal Braschwitz W8PN

**OCTOBER 1** - National Weather Service in Northeast Ohio – Kirk Lombardy

**NOVEMBER 5**- Homebrew Night – Bring a soldering gun, solder, and wire strippers and let's build an Anderson PowerPole power extension box.



## DECEMBER 3 – Board Elections

Our VP has prepared a great series of programs so talk them up and invite your fellow amateurs to join us.

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## MONTHLY HAPPENINGS

“The Patch” – Please E-mail all articles to Bob Mekinda at [lcaraeditor@lcara.org](mailto:lcaraeditor@lcara.org).

Club Breakfast is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 8:30am at Perkins on Mentor Avenue in Painesville.

The LCARA club net is every Thursday at 19:00 on 147.210+ (PL 110.9). All are welcome.

The 10 Meter Net meets on Wednesday at 20:30 on 28.450 MHz. All are welcome.

The ARES® Net is every Monday at 19:30 on 147.210+ (PL 110.9). All are welcome.

The SKYWARN Net meets at 20:00 local on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays of the month on 443.700+ (PL 131.8). All are welcome.

The LCARA membership meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the:

Red Cross Building  
1016 Bank Street  
Painesville, OH 44077

Next meeting is August 6, 2008.

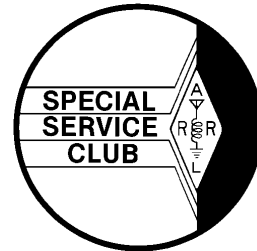
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## MINUTES FOR July 2, 2008 MEETING

### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ted	W4CID	Treasurer
Bob	K8QXO	Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Ted W4CID. Ted began the meeting with a round of introductions of the members and guests present. He then introduced our speaker for the evening Eric Bartholomew, KF8YK Eric's presentation was on The Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) which is a system linking repeaters and remote base stations around the world using internet protocols (TCP/IP). Eric provided handouts covering his full presentation so that every one could follow along and then upon completion of the presentation he gave a hands-on demonstration



## MINUTES FOR July 2, 2008 MEETING

which worked excellently and made it easy to ask questions while it was in operation. (For any members who were not back to order and a short business meeting was held with the following information being presented and discussed.

**MINUTES:** The June meeting minutes were not yet published in the **PATCH**, so were not voted on.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None this month.

**TREASURER:** No Treasurer's report was presented.

**BOARD MEETING REPORT:** No report was available. The next Board Meeting is to be held at Bill N8IJG's home on July 10th at 7:00 PM.

**NEW MEMBERS:** None this month.

**ARRL:** Nothing to report this month.

**DX [Jim AA8OY]:** Provided updates on the activities currently taking place and scheduled for the month of July.

**EDUCATION:** Nothing to report.

**FIELD DAY:** There were 3 SSB stations (20, 40, & 80 meters), 2 CW stations (20 & 40 meters), 1 RTTY station and solar station. The steak dinner was excellent as was the breakfast. The Club call N8BC was used and the log programs should show the club call.

**PUBLIC SERVICE:** Mike WB8ZGH passed around a sign up sheet for the Heritage Festival at the new Historical Society site on July 26<sup>th</sup> by Riverside High School. He provided an update on Lake Hospital System and the LCARA Equipment located at Lake East. Additionally he provided an update on the Lakeland Repeater system. He finished by advising of the Perry Plant simulated emergency – Practice September 17<sup>th</sup> and the actual simulation October 7th.

**SUNSHINE [Connie KB8ZZW]:** It was reported that George N8GB would like visitors and Fritz reported that he took Doug K8NFF to dinner and a visit to see George before he left town. Both were thrilled.

**2 METER NET:** No report.

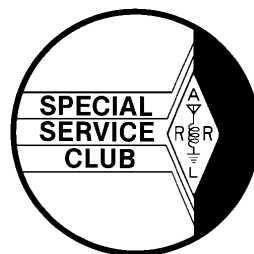
**10 METER NET:** No report.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None to report.

**FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE:** Nothing to report.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Robert Mekinda K8QXO



## BACKSCATTER - AUGUST

**30 Years Ago:** LCARA provides communications for the News Herald's Johnnycake Jog. No emergencies are encountered, other than a riderless horse joining the runners, then falling. Horse survives.

**25 Years Ago:** The LCARA "Ham-O-Gram" is renamed "The Patch". Editor Gary, KC8GN is elated.

The combined Field Day effort of LCARA and LGARC nets a record 12738 points, more than both clubs did the prior year combined. This is despite a now traditional problem of the generator running out of gas at 1 AM.

Years ahead of its time, the FCC runs out of paper for issuing licenses. It temporarily allows operation of new and upgraded hams with only telephone approval.

**20 Years Ago:** LCARA gets the boot! The Union Federal S&L, where the club has met for a decade, converts its 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room into offices. We move to the basement of the LAKE County Administration Building on short notice.

Field Day tower falls! While erecting the 20 meter phone tower, the base levitates, resulting in an unplanned impact with the ground, and a bent tribander. Fortunately, no hams are bent.

**15 Years Ago:** The ARRL DXCC desk catches up. K8BL reports 30 day response time on a packet of QSL endorsements.

**10 Years Ago:** The FCC proposes elimination of Novice, Technician, General, Advanced and Extra classes. They are to be replaced with Class D, C, B & A, with the entry level Class D being equivalent to the current Technician class. There will be no replacement for the current Novice class. The highest class, Class A, will require 12 wpm code.

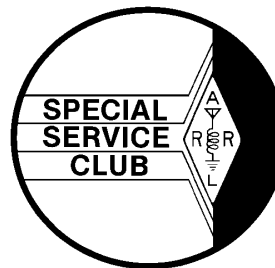
The Madison input no longer exists. "The property that held the site has been sold.

**5 Years Ago:** Jim, AA8OY reports that despite a MUF of 7 MHz, the Field Day effort managed 3205 QSOs, including 1714 on CW. The total raw score was 11,138 points.

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## AUGUST 2008 DX Alert

**HONG KONG, VR2.** The Hong Kong Amateur Radio DX Association will use the special call sign VR2008O during the Olympic Games on 40 through 6 meters with SSB, RTTY and PSK31 until August 31. QSL direct only to VR2XMT, Charlie Ho, P.O. Box 900, Fanling Post Office, and Hong Kong. Have a look at the QSL on [www.qrz.com/vr2008o](http://www.qrz.com/vr2008o).



## AUGUST 2008 DX Alert (cont.)

**CRETE, SV9.** Dmitri's, SV9/SV1JB, will be active from Kokini Hani, (EU-015) on CW, SSB and PSK31 using 80 through 10 meters from July 21 to August 7. QSL via home call, direct or via bureau.

**TIMOR LESTE, 4W.** Mike, PA5M, is now active as 4W6AAB for about five weeks. He was heard on 20 meters around 14047 kHz between 0530 and 0615z. His QSL Manager is PA7FM.

**GHANA, 9G.** Stefan, DL5XX, plans to be active during his free time as 9G5MM until August 10. Activity will be on all bands using CW. QSL via DL5XX.

**IRAN, EP.** Yuki, JH1NBN, is currently active as EP3BN. His length of stay is unknown. QSL via his home call sign.

**MAYOTTE, FH.** Alain, F6BFH, will be active as FH/F6BFH until August 9. Activity will be on all bands, CW and SSB, but he will pay particular attention to the lower bands.

Happy Hunting!  
Jim Pyle, AA8OY  
Thanks to ARRL DX

*If you are a LCARA club member and want to start a monthly column or have an article you would like to see in the next newsletter don't be shy. Contact Bob K8QXO and get it in print! All submissions have a deadline of the 18th day of the month.*

## HAM EXAMS IN LAKE COUNTY EVERY OTHER MONTH

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association will be holding its **2008** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, on the following dates:

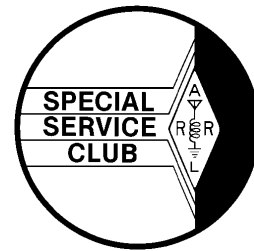
Saturday, August 2  
Saturday, October 4  
Saturday, December 6

This bi-monthly schedule is the first Saturday of every even-numbered month (e.g., February being the second month, etc.), and will be held at the Kirtland Library, 1.7 miles south of I-90 on Route 306. The library is on the left, immediately after the Marathon gas station.



To register, you will need the NCV EC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, you can find it at [arrl.org/arrlvec/ncvec605.pdf](http://arrl.org/arrlvec/ncvec605.pdf). Please arrive by the following times:

<b>Theory</b>	<b>12:00</b>
<b>Morse Code</b>	<b>1:00</b>



Please bring **the original and a copy of both your license and any CSEs you may have to the exam.** The cost is \$14.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification is also necessary, with a picture ID. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440)256-0320.

#### **New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Now in Effect:**

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) released a new pool of 741 questions and 12 graphics <<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=338>> for the Amateur Extra class license. This pool will become Effective for examinations given on or after July 1, 2008, and should be in service until June 30, 2012. It can be downloaded from the NCVEC Web site in Word, PDF or RTF formats. If you have any questions concerning the new Amateur Extra question pool, please contact the NCVEC's Question Pool Committee via e-mail <[gpc@ncvec.org](mailto:gpc@ncvec.org)>.

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#### **PUBLIC SERVICE CALENDER 2008**

(Note: Mark your Calendar for 2008 for the following events. Actual dates will be provided as soon as they are established).

**August 10<sup>th</sup>** – Greater Cleveland Triathlon

**September 17<sup>th</sup>** – Perry Nuclear Plant Practice Dry Run

**September 20 & 21<sup>st</sup>** – IBIM Parade & Run

**October 7<sup>th</sup>** – Perry Nuclear Plant Practice Drill- FEMA/DHS

We are an active group, doing good things for the community, and having fun while doing it. Come and add your call to the 2008 events while building new friendships with other local hams.

Mike  
WB8ZGH

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#### **August 2008 Radio Officer's Report**

We have had a pretty uneventful month regarding the repeaters. The repeaters are operating properly with no reports of malfunction at this time.

I am still waiting for the climber to give me a time & date of when he can climb the clubs' sixty-foot tower. As soon I know, I'll be sure to get the information out to everyone as we'll need a ground crew and strong jin pole.

In the meantime, I am still look for volunteers to climb the tower. Please contact me for more information.

73 de Matt KB1LCS



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## 2008 OHIO QSO PARTY

The 2008 Ohio QSO Party is coming up in August. LCARA has a history of operating in this event. Full rules are listed on the internet at <http://www.oqp.us>. A quick summary follows:

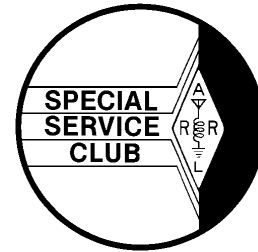
1. For Amateurs outside the state of Ohio to make contact with as many Ohio stations as possible. Non-Ohio stations may work only Ohio stations, while Ohio stations may contact anyone.
2. August 23 and August 24. Start time is 1200 EDT (1600 UTC) Saturday Aug. 23 and ends at 2400 EDT Saturday or 0400 UTC Sunday. This is a 12 hour event.
3. Signal exchange is very simple. Ohio stations send a sequential serial number and their county. Non Ohio W/VE stations send a sequential serial number and their state or province.
4. We can use CW or SSB on the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. Stations can be worked once per mode per band. Thus it is possible to work a station a maximum of 10 times.
5. Scoring is that each complete non-duplicate SSB contact is worth 1 point and each complete non-duplicate CW contact is worth 2 points. Multipliers are counted once per mode. For Ohio stations, multipliers are the remaining 49 American states, 11 Canadian Provinces and the 88 Ohio Counties.
6. All Ohio stations can have their scores count toward their Ohio radio club. To do so, they must specify on their submitted log the club name. Ours is LCARA.
7. Most of us in LCARA will enter as a Single Operator class station. Output power is QRP ( 5 watts or less CW and 10 watts or less on SSB), low power (100 watts or less output) or high power ( more than 100 watts output).

For more information, go to the web site and get full details. As mentioned earlier, LCARA has a history in this event and has won the Club Competition once. I hope to hear and make contact with many of you during this event. Its fun.

73 de Reno, WT8C

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## NET INFORMATION

### ARES®/SKYWARN NETS

They Lake County ARES® Net currently meets on 147.210 every Monday of the month at 1930 Local (7:30 PM).

They Lake County SKYWARN Weather Net currently meet's on 443.700(+) PL131.8 the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 2000 Local (8:00 PM).

There has been a Yahoo group established for Lake County SKYWARN. It is <http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/lcskywarn/>. You can copy & paste the link to your favorite browser instead of typing it all. Once on the website click on the "JOIN THIS GROUP" button to sign up. You can also send a blank email to [lcskywarn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lcskywarn-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to sign up.

The purpose of the group is to provide another avenue for information about potential severe weather in Lake County. This has been proven to be useful to allow more time to prepare your station before the potential storm hits. The other purpose of the group is to contain useful information about weather in general and resources to keep your weather spotting skills up to par.

Also, please remember that all Lake County SKYWARN and Weather Net activities are on the 443.700(+) PL131.8 CLARA repeater in Eastlake. 147.210(+) PL 110.9 LCARA repeater is the alternate repeater in case 443.700 is unavailable.

**The District 5 Net on the 443.450 in Montville and the NWS Cleveland Six Meter repeater(s) are closed and limited to SKYWARN Coordinators only.**

For more information, please contact Scott W8OXI at [callmeox@yahoo.com](mailto:callmeox@yahoo.com) or Matt at [KB1LCS@gmail.com](mailto:KB1LCS@gmail.com). You do not have to be ARES® or SKYWARN members to participate in these nets. ALL ARE WELCOME. Please mark your calendars' for Mondays at 1930.

Matt KB1LCS

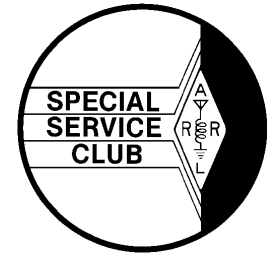
'ARES' is a registered trademark of the American Radio Relay League, Incorporated, and is used by permission.

### 10 METER NET

The 10 Meter Net is up and running come join your fellow hams on Wednesday's at 8:30 PM on 28.450 MHz. This is an informal roundtable where the group can chat about anything that come to mind and even correct some of the world's problems.

You don't need to be a LCARA member, just at least a Tech ticket and some 10 meter gear. Here is a good chance to meet old and maybe some new friends. We might even have a check in from out of the local area.

Come join us.



## 2 METER NET

The 2 Meter Club Net meets every Thursday at 7:00 PM on the club repeater frequency of 147.210+ (PL 110.9). All are welcome.

## NET CONTROL OPERATORS

Today all our nets need Net Control Operators, people go on vacation, can not be home on at Net time and unfortunately get ill. We are going to pass around a sign up sheet, think about it and see if you can fit it in your schedule and serve once a month or once every two months. Thanks in advance for your help.

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## For your Information

### FIELD DAY

I would like to thank all the participants in Field Day for a great two days at Shady Brook. We had the following stations operational: In the barn – Rick WA3DTO (RTTY), Jim AA8OY and Bob K8BL operating 20 & 40 meter CW. Scott KO8O – operating solar power. In the field we had Rick N8BY, Ed KD8BSG, Brad KC8ZMZ, and Karl KC8LYH operated 40 meter phone – Bob K8QXO, Bill N8IJG, and Ed KD8FVI operated 80 meter phone - Mike WB8ZGH and Vance KA8YHZ operated 20 meter phone. Excellent meals were provided by Don WA8TWM and Reno WT8C. Finally I a very special thank you to Vance KA8YHZ and Mike WB8ZGH who had to return and unload all the equipment to the storage facility.

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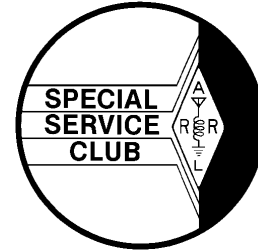
### HERITAGE FESTIVAL

A big thank you to the following members who participated in the handling of the car parking at the Festival: Mike WB8ZGH, Reno WT8C, Vance KA8YHZ, Dave KD8FAC, Jim KC8EBR, Ron KC8BTN, Bob K8QXO, and second shifter Matt KB1LCS.

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### CLUB APPAREL

For those interested in purchasing club apparel with the club's logo and your name and call please go to <http://www.callsignwear.com/index.php> and pick out what you would like to order. Placing the order through the club will eliminate shipping charges. If you order direct you will incur shipping expenses unless you are placing a large order.



### **Tuesday Morning Breakfast Group**

Next meeting of the group is at the Painesville Perkins on August 19th at 8:30. The date for September is the 16th. Keep these days open and join the group.

### **FROM YOUR EDITOR**

#### **ONE FINAL NOTE**

**We would like to update the roster.** We will have some update sheets at the meeting and we would like the following information to add to the database: Current E-Mail, Current Phone Number, Birthday (only month and day), Spouse's Name, Class of License, Are you a member of ARRL? Thank you in advance for your assistance in updating our records.

I continue to try to get new articles and expand our newsletter with each issue. Some of what I do may be good and some may not, however I need feedback for improvement. I am beginning to see other clubs newsletters and I hope in the next year to add a number of new features. So remember this is your newsletter and I want it to provide the information and updates on our hobby that you want to see. I want the **PATCH** to be a newsletter you look forward to receiving and reading every month.

Bob K8QXO  
Secretary

LCARA was organized for the purpose of furthering Amateur Radio by increasing the technical knowledge and operating proficiency of radio amateurs through continuing education, public service and acting as a vehicle of communication by, between and with the members of the association. LCARA is an incorporated association chartered under the laws of the State of Ohio and is an exempt organization under section 501 (C) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to LCARA are fully deductible from Federal Income Tax. Regular and Senior Dues are \$20.00 per year, Students \$10.00. Items may be reprinted by other non-profit publications without prior permission providing credit is given to the original source and The LCARA Patch. Articles from members are welcome.

## **LCARA– The Lake County Amateur Radio Association**

Regular LCARA meetings are open to all people interested in Amateur Radio, whether licensed or not! We meet at 7:30PM at the:

**Red Cross Building  
1016 Bank Street  
Painesville, OH 44077.**

### **Voice Repeaters N8BC**

147.210 with a .600 Mhz+ offset PL tone of 110.9 Hz.

224.500 with a 1.6mhz.-offset, PL tone of 141.3 Hz.

444.650 With a 5.0 MHz. +offset, PL tone of 131.8 Hz.

(Repeater & N8BC trustee, Bob Liddy, K8BL)

**Internet address:** [www.lcara.org](http://www.lcara.org)

**E-mail address:** [lcaraeditor@lcara.org](mailto:lcaraeditor@lcara.org)

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Send an e- mail to [lcara\\_patch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:lcara_patch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)