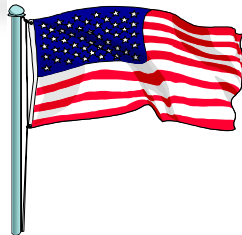


The LCARA Patch

10 METER ROUNDTABLE

WEDNESDAY NIGHT @ 2030 HRS

28.450 MHz



LCARA TWO METER NET

THURSDAY EVENING @ 1900 HRS

LCARA WEBSITE

LCARA.ORG

The *PATCH*

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

The Patch Staff

Editor: Melody Leasko, KB8QIB

LCARA Officers

Ed Kopcak	KB8BKE	President
Larry Caskey	K8LPC	Vice-President (<i>In Memory</i>)
Rick White	W8QL	Secretary
Ed Kopcak	KB8BKE	Treasurer
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Sunshine	Connie Tonsi	KB8ZZW
Trustee, N8BC	Bob Liddy	K8BL
Web Master LCARA	Bill Wihebrink	N8IJG



March's meeting is at Tri-Point Medical Center

Physicians Pavilion (Lower Level)
7590 Auburn Rd., Concord, OH 44077
Meeting @ 7:30 pm on March 4th

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A Message from the President

Greetings fellow Travelers

A few items of interest....

Our repeaters (147.210 and 444.650) will be out of service for about 10 days, beginning sometime during the week of February 24th., as the controller is in need of firmware and software upgrades. The 220 machine will continue to be operational.

We will conduct our regular Monday and Thursday nets using the 147.255 machine.

We will have a presentation at the March meeting by Larry (WB8PHI) speaking on the "Theory, Design and Application of Wire Antennas". This will be the last meeting at Tri-Point for this winter. Starting in April and thru October we are back at LCHS.

March 14th we will again be hosting the scouts of America for a Radio Merit Badge class. This is our second year offering this and hopefully we'll have as good a turn out as last year. Special thanks to our team of instructors Joe (N8JKO), Bob (K8QXO) and Don (WA8TWM).

It's coming on to "Get OUT of the House Time!" and we have a full calendar of events and activities scheduled this year. Take a moment to check out the entire list on our website and consider stopping by or volunteering to help.

By the way...we are at 90% membership renewal! Thanks everyone!

Finally, I would just like to say how heartwarming it was to see so many at the services for Larry. The Amateur Radio community is a wonder to behold especially when it comes to caring for our fellow hams. I know his family appreciated seeing such an outpouring of support in their time of sorrow. Larry is at peace now and reunited with his beloved Donna.
...and Thank You, Neal...words cannot adequately express our gratitude.

"73

Ed

Meeting Minutes for February

Board Members Present:

- KB8BKE – Ed – President
- W8QL – Rick - Secretary

Meeting Minutes:

- Meeting began at 7:30 PM with no introductions. Ed – KB8BKE led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- There were 19 members present.
- Ed – KB8BKE noted the treasury was in good shape.
- Ed– KB8BKE reported that everything was in order for us to continue operating as a non-profit organization.
- Ed– KB8BKE presented Melody Leasko – KB8QIB with the Ham of the Year Award. This is in recognition of her excellent work as the Editor in Chief of the Patch. All congratulated her with a round of applause.
- Jim- AA8OY commented there were many DX opportunities. Many DXpeditions were operating. Most had digital operations of RTTY and FT8.
- Jim – AA8OY stated that the LCHS had rented out the majority of the Property and grounds to another group for the same day as Field Day in 2020. We will, however, have the main house as usual. There may even be an opportunity to be in the old hospital area if it can be cleaned out in time. Antennas will be a challenge as the only areas available will be near the front flag pole with no towers possible. Other areas may include those very near the house, and north? To the railroad tracks.
- Mike-WB8ZGH noted there were no public service events on the horizon yet. The closest next event in 2020 will be the Sunday In June ride. We will need folks to volunteer for this event.
- Bob – K8QXO noted there was no LCHS report.
- Evan – W8LSQ noted the Icom 7300 radio station is on the air.
- No report from Bill – N8IJG as he was not present.
- Sunshine report noted the Reno – WT8C is getting better. Larry Caskey is in the hospital at the Cleveland Clinic – Main Campus.
- Ed– KB8BKE will take the helm at the Thursday night 2 meter net.
- A round of introductions was held.

Meeting adjourned 8:25 PM

Rick – W8QL





Sunshine Report

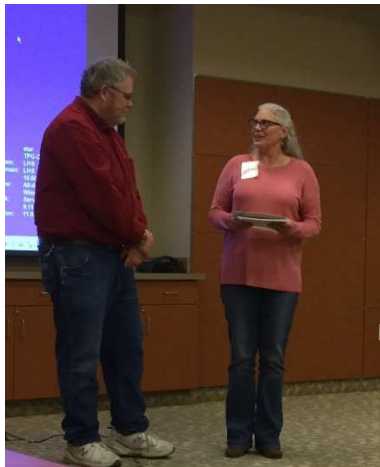
By Connie, KB8ZZW

- the Reno – WT8C is getting better.



Ham of the Year

Melody Leasko - KB8QIB was announced the 2019 Ham of the Year.



Silent Key



Lawrence P. "Larry" Caskey



LAWRENCE P. "LARRY" CASKEY age 60, beloved husband for 32 years of the late Donna (nee Brendy); cherished son of the late Larry J. and Doris; dearest brother-in-law, uncle, great uncle and friend of many. Contributions may be made in memory of Lawrence to Lake County Amateur Radio Association c/o Edward Kopcak, P.O. Box 868, Painesville, OH 44077.

Lawrence P. Caskey was born in Cleveland, OH on May 10, 1959 and passed away February 7, 2020. He was a resident of Chardon for 31 years and prior to that Mentor. Larry grew up in Mayfield Heights and graduated from Mayfield High School. When Larry was younger, he took RTA to get to work downtown, where he met his future wife Donna at a coffee shop. He was affiliated with many organizations such as Tri County Traffic Training Net, Vice President of Lake County Amateur Radio Association, Geauga County Amateur Radio Association, Ohio Single Sideband Net, and a member the American Radio Relay League. Larry worked at RTA as a Safety Director and was a licensed electrician. He enjoyed riding his Harley Motorcycle and traveling to Vegas with his late wife Donna and playing golf. Larry will be remembered as a social, giving and friendly man. He was very generous, witty and kind. Larry will be dearly missed.

BACKSCATTER

144 Years Ago: Alexander Graham Bell made the first telephone call. His assistant, Thomas Watson, located in an adjoining room in Boston, heard Bell's voice over the experimental device say to him, "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you." Later that day, Bell wrote his father of his "great success" and speculated that "the day is coming when wires will be laid on to houses just like water and gas, and friends converse with each other without leaving home."

90 Years Ago: In 1930, a ninth planet is discovered by Clyde Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff AZ. At one-tenth as large as Earth and 3.6 billion miles from the sun it was given the name Pluto. 76 years later it was downgraded to a "dwarf planet".

40 Years Ago: The program at the March meeting is the film "The World of Amateur Radio" starring hams Arthur Godfrey, Barry Goldwater and King Hussein.

The 2nd Annual LCARA Hamfest is moving from the Painesville Armory to the new and more spacious Mentor High School. 2895 flyers are mailed as far away as the PA line.

Icom announces their new miniature HT, the IC-2A, measuring only 5.25"x2.5"x1.4", plus battery. With a thumb-wheel switch for frequency control, it covers the entire 2 meter band.

The FCC approves use of ASCII between 3.5 and 21.23 MHz. Rates as high as 19.6 Kbaud will be allowed.

35 Years Ago: With the FCC phasing out of amateur exams, LCARA begins it's Volunteer Examination program. The first LCARA VE exams are to be given March 31st at the Hamfest.

A new one! The ARRL recognizes the UK Sovereign Base Areas on Cyprus as separate DXCC countries entities. The prefix, ZC4 represents the two UK military bases at Akrotiri and Dhekelia.

30 Years Ago: Bill, N8BC reports the Royal Observatory in Brussels has officially declared the current 11 year sunspot cycle to have peaked in September of 1989.

25 Years Ago: The FCC starts the Vanity Callsign program. Bob, K8BL speculates on requesting the call K8BUBBA.

If Wayne Greene sees his shadow on Groundhog Day, does that mean we'll have six more years of bad sunspots?

The *PATCH*, Published by the Lake County Amateur Radio Association

Backscatter cont'd.

20 Years Ago: With license restructuring to take effect April 15th, LCARA's VE team reports a crowd taking Extra and General theory. Instead of a normal turnout of 10-15 people, the tests at AES bring in 76.

Starting a five year cycle, the February Backscatter, accidentally omitted from the February Patch, is printed alongside the March Backscatter.

15 Years Ago: Radio Officer Don WN8IIJ reports the .21 repeater has been replaced along with the antenna system, duplexer and hardline. The remote inputs are off for a while to test the sensitivity of the new machine. PL of 110.9 has been added to minimize the DX problem, and autodial is no longer available.

Newsletter editor Grant, KV0T has found two people to assist with the Patch. Ray, N8QWS will edit and print, while Dennis, KI8U will write articles.

10 Years Ago: Vibroplex is sold! In business continuously for 110 years, W4PA, Scott Robbins becomes the 8th owner of the manufacturer of side-to-side mechanical, semi-automatic Morse keys, first manufactured and sold in 1905. Founded by Horace Greeley Martin of New York City, the original device became known as a "bug", most likely due to the original logo, showing an "electrified bug".

5 Years Ago: LCARA's January and February meetings are snowed out.

Joe N8JKO, bemoans the decline and bankruptcy of Radio Shack, which once had 3500 stores selling CB's and Tandy computers.

LCARA Historian

Scott, KO8O



DX Alert, March 2020

VP8 – South Orkney -The VP8PJ expedition group planned dates of operation are until March 5, 2020. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8 in DXpedition mode.

VU4 – Andaman and Nicobar Islands -A group of eight operators are planning a DXpedition as VU4R to Neil Island from March 20 to 31. Plans are to have three stations with an emphasis on 160, 80 and 40 meters.

8Q – Maldives - F6BGC, Noel, reports he “will be active as 8Q7NC from Veligandu Island, Rashdoo Atoll, in the Maldives” from March 12-21. The operation will be on HF running 100 watts to a vertical. He will be on SSB, CW and Data modes on 3.5 through 28 MHz

PY0/F – Fernando de Noronha - PT2IC, Stephano, is planning a single-op, single band 20 meter effort in the upcoming ARRL DX SSB Contest, March 7-8, as PY0F from Fernando de Noronha Island (SA-003).

V8 – Brunei - In celebration of the 36th Brunei Darussalam Nation Day special event station V84SHK will be QRV from February 23 to March 2. Activity will be on CW, SSB and Digital modes on the HF bands.

5H – Tanzania - 5H3DX (NK8O), Charles, tells us he “and Fred 5H3AX (N8AX) will be operating in Tanzania until 21 March. Activity will be holiday style on 160 to 10 meters using CW, PSK31 and FT8.

EX – Kyrgyzstan - EX0QR, manned by R2DY, R2DX and RW3FB, will be on the air March 6-17 CW, SSB and digital modes.

HP – Panama - H33K is planned for March 2-13 by HP1DAV, HP3AK, G4BVY, G4CLA and GD4XUM. They plan to be on 160-10 SSB, CW and FT8.

P4 – Aruba - KK9A, John, plans to be QRV from Aruba as P40A from March 1-8, including activity of CW and SSB on 1.8 through 28 MHz.

T30 – Western Kiribati - T30ET will be on from Tarawa March 18-April 7. 5B4ALX will be there, operating on 160-6 CW, SSB, FT8/FT4 and RTTY.

V2 – Antigua and Barbuda - During the ARRL DX CW Contest SSB Contest, March 7-8, N3AD, Alan, is planning an SOA effort as V26M.

V4 – St. Kitts and Nevis - K5ZD, Randy, plans to be at V47T during the ARRL DX SSB Contest, March 7-8.

DX Alert cont'd.

JD1 – Ogasawara - Take, JA1UII and Kami, JH1HHC will be QRV as JD1BON and JD1BPH, respectively, from Chichijima Island, IOTA AS-031, from February 25 to March 5. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and FT8.

VP2M – Montserrat - K1XX, Charlie, is going to operate as VP2MMF as a single-op in the ARRL DX SSB Contest, March 7-8.

Happy hunting!

Jim, AA8OY
Thanks to ARRL DX and Weekly DX



OHDEN Has Some Changes To Tell You About

(from Gary, NJ8BB & Eldon, W5UHQ)

Due to the continued long skip being experienced on 80 meters during the Ohio Digital Emergency Net (OHDEN) training sessions @2145 local time each Tuesday; OHDEN will temporarily go to **Sunday afternoons at 3:00 - 4:00PM.**

Training will remain on the prime frequency of 3584.5KHz USB +1500 Hz.

Tests show that this time has much better propagation throughout the state and should allow the best propagation currently possible on 80 meter band. We are currently having to use a North Carolina station for NCS relays later in the evening.

Anything beyond local ground wave and this long skip point have not been reliable during this time of year, time of day, and sunspot cycle for the past three years.

At the same time, W5UHQ is going to start an experimental Olivia / FT8 net on 1805.000 USB +1500 Hz during the normal time slot of 21:45 – 22:45 on Tuesdays.

The objective of the 160 meter net will be to perform signal reports and check for traffic quality circuits on 160 meters from county to county and county to SEOC. Hopefully we can get more stations active on this frequency and as many county control stations as possible to try out their capability. Tests thus far have been great from border to border. I currently have six different stations that have checked into that test frequency. There will be no change to our standard mission call up frequencies at this time. Using alternate times and frequencies is already in our SOP. The Ohio Technical Specialist team will be available to assist ECs in putting up at least a compromise antenna for that band.

These changes be in effect from Jan 15 until March 12 (start of daylight savings time). These changes should allow all members interested in improving the 160 meter readiness of this critical statewide connection under all conditions of solar impacted propagation.

VE Testing in Lake County

Exams are held every other month.

The Lake County Amateur Radio Association will be holding its **2020** Amateur Radio license exams at the **Kirtland Library**, 9267 Chillicothe Road, on the following dates:



Saturday, February 1

Saturday, April 4

Saturday, June 6

Saturday, August 1

Saturday, October 3

Saturday, December 5



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 (Chillicothe Rd). The library is on the left, just beyond the Marathon gas station. The tests will start at **12 noon**. Please arrive a few minutes earlier.

To register, you will need the NCVEC 605 Form, which will be available at the test. If you would like to complete one ahead of time, be sure it is the Sept 2017 version or later. You can find it by Googling "NCVEC quick-form 605" and clicking on the url for a pdf of the form.

Be sure to bring **the original and a copy of both your license and any CSCEs you may have to the exam**. The cost is \$15.00, and if you wish to pay by check, it should be made out to the ARRL/VEC. Identification with your picture is also necessary, such as a driver's license. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Farnham, KO8O, at (440)256-0320, or scottfarnham@roadrunner.com



Breakfast Date for March 2020



Mark your calendar the next meeting of the Tuesday Morning Breakfast Group is at the Painesville Perkins on **Tuesday, March 17th** at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast orders start being taken at 8:30 a.m. This group averages 15-20 people from all counties, and it provides a great opportunity to meet other Hams, sell and trade your spare equipment. This is not a club event. Please encourage any Hams or non-Hams to bring your significant other, or a friend, to breakfast. It is a fun gathering.

LCARA Board Meeting

Board Meeting



The LCARA Board meeting will be at the Tri-Point facility on **March 11th @ 7:00 p.m.**, in the Tri-Point Board room.

To find the Board room, simply continue waling past the regular meeting rooms down the hallway. The Board room is located on the left from the main elevators.

All members are invited.

The *PATCH*, Published by the Lake County Amateur Radio Association

For Sale or Swap

Equipment for Sale: by Bill, N8IJG (call 440.943.1703)

MFJ 8268 Digital SWR/Wattmeter/Freq Readout	\$140.00
Icom IC-756 Pro 3 Transceiver	\$1300.00
Icom IC-275H 2 meter All Mode Transceiver	\$600.00
Swan 350C w/117XC PS	\$300.00
Icom IC-275H 2 meter All Mode Transceiver	\$600.00
Swan 350C w/117XC PS	\$300.00

Equipment for Sale: by Evan Liechty, W8LSQ (ELIECHTY@windstream.net)

Icom 718, like new, original box, will demo	\$450.00
Kenwood TS950 SD 150 watts, internal power supply, dual receivers, auto antenna tuner, all of the filters, like new condition, will demo	\$475.00
Yaesu FT901 DE, 180 watts, comes with Turner desk mike with Heil HC 5 cartridge, like new, will demo	

Mike, KD8JDL is in the process of disposing of radio tubes from his father's store. If members could e-mail him with requests and he has the tube, there will be no charge.

Check the LCARA website Swap/Sell/Trade page for equipment from the Bricker's estate.

The *PATCH*, Published by the Lake County Amateur Radio Association

Events Contact Info.

Event	Contact	Location	Date
ARES	WB8ZGH mgoffos@ymail.com	147.210 MHz	Mondays 1930
Two Meter Net	Bill N8IJG n8ijg@arrl.net	147.210 MHz	Thursdays 1900
Ten Meter Roundtable	WB8ZGH mgoffos@ymail.com	28.450 MHz	Wednesdays 2030
LCARA Board Meeting	Tri-Point Board Room	Tri-Point Medical	Wed. 3/11 1900
VE Testing	Scott, KO8O, at 440-256-0320	Kirtland Library	Sat. 4/4 12:00

LCARA Net Information

Lake County ARES Net

The **Net is Every Monday at 7:30 pm** on the 147.210 repeater. This net is open to all licensed operators; you do not need to be a member. This net is provided for operators to verify the proper operation of their equipment and verify their stations capabilities in the event of an emergency. Here is your perfect chance to be Net Control or Alternate Net Control. Step forward, no experience is necessary, everyone will help you.

Lake County Two Meter Net

The 2 Meter Net runs weekly. Come join your fellow hams on Thursday's at 7:00 pm on 147.210 MHz. this is an informal net where the group can discuss any subject for the good of the group, great time to ask those questions, especially from the new operators. List your items related to ham radio that you want to sell or swap and any sunshine announcements to pass on.

N8IJG brings us the ARRL News when available. Bill is always looking for Alternate Net Control Operators. Please check in.

Ten Meter Roundtable

The 10 meter Roundtable meets on Wednesday's at 8:30 pm on 28.450 MHz. This is an informal roundtable where the group can chat about anything that comes to mind and even correct some of the world's problems.

You don't need to be a LCARA member, just have at least a Tech ticket and some 10 meter gear. The Roundtable is a good chance to meet old and maybe some new friends this is a "Round Table" anyone can start it off on 10 meters. Any Questions contact WB8ZGH.

The *PATCH*, Published by the Lake County Amateur Radio Association

Ohio Emergency Preparedness Nets, Columbus EOC

Ohio Emergency Preparedness Net, W8SGT, is on every Tuesday at 7:15 pm. Try 3.902 MHz, tune up and down the band and check in! Follow on Twitter (hashtag W8SGT) for frequency information on the 80 meter band.

Ohio Digital Emergency Net

Ohio Digital Emergency Net is held on Tuesdays at 8:00 pm (0100 UTC).

OHDEN meets on 3585 KHz +/- USB <http://ohden.org/>

This net is looking for all Ohio Counties to check-in. Learn as you go.

Modes: OLIVIA 8/500/PSK31 alternate, with MT63 1K for bulletins.

Frequency: 3585 KHz, 7072 KHz alternate.

MT63 2K on VHF/UHF with PSK as an alternate (Assigned locally)

The Amateurs Code

By Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE..... never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL..... offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE..... with knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station, and operation beyond reproach.

FRIENDLY..... with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED..... Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC..... with station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

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.

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 5.0MHz. +offset, PL tone of 131.8 Hz.

(Repeater & N8BC trustee, Bob Liddy, K8BL)



Web site: www.lcara.org



To receive the Patch via email in PDF format Send an e-mail to lcara_patch-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

The Lake County Amateur RADIO ASSOCIATION

March 2020

LCARA CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 ARES NET 7:30 (147.21)	3	4 LCARA Club Meeting 7:30 (Tri-Point)	5 LCARA Meeting Net 7:00 (147.21)	6	7
8	9 ARES NET 7:30 (147.21)	10	11 LCARA Board Meeting 7:00 (Tri-Point)	12 LCARA Meeting Net 7:00 (147.21)	13	14
15	16 ARES NET 7:30 (147.21)	17 Breakfast 8:00 (Perkins) 	18 10 Meter Roundtable 8:30 (28.450)	19 LCARA Meeting Net 7:00 (147.21) 	20	21
22	23 ARES NET 7:30 (147.21)	24	25 10 Meter Roundtable 8:30 (28.450)	26 LCARA Meeting Net 7:00 (147.21)	27	28
29	30 ARES NET 7:30 (147.21)	31				