



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

The Toledo Mobile Radio Association is an ARRL Special Services Club Serving Northwest Ohio Since 1953



APRIL 2005

The Prez Sez:

It is late March, and the Great Lakes Division Convention and our Hamfest have just come to an end for yet another year. The task was thrust upon us and in my opinion, we showed them just what our club could accomplish. Thanks to all the volunteers involved with every aspect; from the beginning preparation several long months ago, to the diligent hams that helped 'tear down' and clean up the mess when it was all over. Special thanks to our chairpersons; Brenda, KB8IUP, for the Convention; and Brian, WD8MXR, in charge of the Hamfest, for bringing it all together, and not even working up a sweat (at least not showing it if they did!) Hopefully, if you didn't support the cause by 'working', at least you bought an admission ticket, supported some vendors, and felt proud to be a member belonging to the club that was hosting these great events.

During the awards ceremony portion of the Convention, the club was honored for its affiliation with the ARRL for fifty years. I think this speaks volumes about the club's members and of the club's longevity to exist for that duration and to work towards the same beliefs with the ARRL. Let's hope for fifty more! It was mentioned several times during the Convention and even by Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, himself; that if the ARRL didn't

exist, then Amateur Radio would most certainly not exist as we know it, if at all. If you personally do not belong to the ARRL, I would first be interested to know why, but secondly, I would still stress that you definitely should seriously consider joining. If you enjoy the hobby, I think you have the ARRL to thank for it. Check out their webpage to find out more: WWW.ARRL.ORG.



Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, was the speaker at the Hamfest FCC forum.

Several members decided to renew their membership at the Hamfest and the total membership is now at about 160. Many thanks to those that have renewed. I will soon be mailing out the membership cards to those who have not picked them up. Also, just a warning, if you haven't renewed yet, you won't be getting the next issue of this newsletter. Yep, you'll be dropped from the membership roll and thus the mailing list. So, please take this opportunity now to make sure that doesn't happen. Also, the newly revised Club By-Laws should get mailed out before the end of the first week in April to all members from 2004 and new ones since then; you may have gotten them already. Any questions that may arise about the By-Laws can be directed to myself; Steve, W8TER; or Brian, WD8MXR.

73 de KB8PAI, (remember: you've been warned),
Tom Swartz, President and Membership Chairman
kb8pai@arrl.net

Winners

It's that time of year where we have TMRA winners. First the HamFest; as I write this all the figures are not in, but it looks as though we had another winning HamFest – thanks to our vendors and attendees and, of course, those TMRA members who helped with the preparations. Table sales went well, thanks to several new vendors, and we broke the 400 tables barrier - so much so that this year there was no room inside for the ARES truck or trailer. The ARRL Great Lakes Convention, held in conjunction with our HamFest apparently was a success also. Winners of the 3 main prizes at the HamFest were: Jason, KB8FTE; Ben, N0BW and Randy, WA8GAU. For the first time in many years we had VE testing at the HamFest. I don't have the exact numbers of successful exam takers, but I believe that it was over 12.



Pat Jones, KB8OPA, starts her shift as a Hamfest ticket seller. Volunteers like her made the Hamfest a success.

The Northwest District Science Day was held March 12th at UT, and again this year TMRA supported electronics/radio/computer projects with 3 cash awards. 1st place went to a 9th Grader from Gorham Fayette High School with a project involving the efficiency of different colored LEDs; 2nd place to a 10th Grader from Hicksville High School for a comparison of Wi-Fi antennas, and 3rd place to an 8th Grader from Bowling Green Christian Academy for a project entitled "Zinc about it... for a change". Congratulations to all our winners.

Brian, WD8MXR, HamFest Committee Chair.

2005 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention

The Toledo Mobile Radio Association hosted the 2005 ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention here in Toledo on Saturday, March 19 at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Reynolds Road.

The Convention featured Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, as special guest speaker, with a presentation at the 1:00 forum and another as the banquet speaker. Other forums were; DX seminar, (Wayne Mills, N7NG/1) WinLink 2000, (John Chapman, WB8INY) High Speed Multi Media, (Jim Kvochick, WB8AZP) Mobile HF Operation, (Darrell Pace, N8FTS) Clubs Seminar, (Dan Romanchik, KB6NU) and PSK-31 (Jeff Breitner, KA8NCR).

According to Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, individual hams are the force that gives the ARRL purpose and that amateur radio would be nowhere without the ARRL fighting for or frequencies in Washington. You don't have to agree with everything the league does but we need to find common ground and work together to achieve our goals. We have to find a way to bring more people, especially the young into the hobby. Brenda, KB8IUP presented a glass ruler to Riley, engraved with his name and the event, to commemorate his attendance at the convention.

The Royal Order of the Wouff Hong ceremony took place about 20 minutes after the banquet. The ceremony featured Riley, K4ZDF as the "Novice".

The convention division committee members were: Jim, K8JE, Great Lakes Division Director; Joe Phillips, K8QOE, Ohio Section Manager & Convention Seminars Chair; Gary Johnson, KI4LA, Convention Chairman; Dick Mondro, W8FQT, Awards Chair; Dale Williams, WA8EFK; Scott Yonally, N8SY, Newsletter Award Chair; Jeanie Dalton, KB8QLC, Convention Office and Brenda, KB8IUP, Convention Manager. Brenda and the rest of the division convention committee started planning for this event in February of 2004. Lots of work, many meetings and conference calls paid off with a well-planned convention that went off with out a hitch.

The Lucas County ARES communication truck and trailer were on display for the convention attendees to inspect. A special thanks to Tom, KB8PAI; Steve W8TER and Steve, KC8TVW, who brought life to some dead batteries and got the rig to the hotel on time.

A well supplied hospitality room was available all day, courtesy of Lynn Ferguson and TMRA. Dinner music for the banquet was provided by our own Steve Ashenfelter, N8XSF. Tom Watkins, K8MGK, (news director for Toledo Clear Channel, WSPD) served as MC for the banquet. Members of TMRA's convention committee were: Brenda, KB8IUP; Chuck, N8NIR, his wife Lynn; Tom, KB8PAI; Howard, W8NEE; Paul, K8PL; Randi, KC8IVV and Chuck, KB8FXJ.

The convention was attended by 99 hams and spouses from as far away as Utah and Canada. Most conventioners attended the TMRA hamfest on Sunday.

Weaver's Words

An edited version

FCC Action

We often complain about the apparent slowness of enforcement action by the FCC. These complaints no doubt result from the vast majority of members not being aware of the cumbersome legal hurdles our society has demanded to protect the innocent, and the limited funding for FCC action and staffing. Individually, these issues cause the wheels of regulatory enforcement to turn slowly.

Nonetheless, the wheels of the vehicle driven by Riley Hollingsworth continue to move. During recent months, he and his people have issued various forms of citations to a number of power companies that have been interfering with Amateur Radio reception, various industrial operations whose mistuned equipment has been radiating excessively on our bands, unlicensed operators who have been using 2M HTs to coordinate their hunting expeditions, manufacturers whose equipment is made to generate more power on ham bands than Part 15 allows, and, yes a variety of licensed amateurs who seem to take relish in inappropriate and illegal operations.

Many of the actions of the FCC have been assisted the ARRL OO Corps. This Corps has often done the initial spade work to identify who, when, where and what. Because this effort most generally is conducted without fanfare, OOs and the FCC often are derided as "do nothings." This is far from the truth, though. These people, whether OOs or FCC staffers, go about their business as unsung heroes. Remember, if there is a problem with unlicensed operators, illegally-radiating power lines or equipment, or illegally-operating amateurs in your area, work through the OO Corps and get the issue solved. You don't have any OOs in your vicinity? Contact your Section OO Coordinator or Section Manager and offer to become an OO. Become part of the resolution. Remember that "It is better to light one little candle than to curse the darkness."

Michigan QSO Party (an unpaid, unpolitical announcement)

Michigan QSO Party, sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, and will be held from 1600Z April 16th until 0400Z April 17th. (12 hours)

Reflecting

I don't mean the type of reflecting we count on for bouncing signals in Earth-Moon-Earth communication or even the Earth-Ionosphere-Earth-Ionosphere, etc. The reflecting to which I refer is on the past. Even at @\$ years young, I don't dwell much on the past except to try to learn from it. There is too much to do now and in the future. On the other hand it is rather useful to think of where I've been, where I am and where I want to go.

With the above background laid, I will apply reflection to Amateur Radio. On a personal plane, my reflection reminded me I had absolutely no aspiration to become even a little fish in the pool of a small ham club. My objectives changed, though, and I moved up the positions to hold a number of leadership positions in clubs and, surprise of all surprises, in ARRL. I even told one of my friends (an SK now) I had absolutely no aspiration to run for any form of office in the League. This was 100% true at the time, but my interests and objectives changed.

At one time, I told anyone who would listen that DXing may be a nice thing to do, but it offered no particular value to the community. The real game, I said again and again, was "emergency communication." I spent 20 years working as a leader in ARES/ARPS and Civil Defense (now the EMA). But, now, I am a DXer. I still say Emergency Communications is THE most important phase of Amateur Radio, but I've learned it isn't the only thing. So, after redirecting my Amateur Radio career, I hold 5 Band DXCC and am on the list of hams who have earned a DX Challenge plaque. Things change. We do not stay the same year after year.

About DX offering no particular value to the community: The recent VU4 DXpedition has caused me to eat my words about the value of DXing to the community. This DXpedition party was the first to report the devastating tsunami in the Far East. This group as well as other DXers in and out of the stricken area stayed on the air as the only contacts between victimized areas and relief forces for several days after the incident. Thank goodness for DXers!

OK, so what is the point of all this waste of bytes? It is simple. One major fact of life is that nearly each of us goes through changes in interests over the years. As a result, we individuals do not dare to make fun of the interests of anyone else. It just could be that we may see our preferences redirected sometime in the future to the very activity that we deride today. Exercise -- even enjoy -- legitimate differences.

Fine tuning this, don't go around bashing others because they have no desire to communicate beyond the range of VHF and UHF repeaters. They are hams just as much as DXers or public service-oriented folks. Similarly, don't put Techs down because you have a higher license class; put no code licensees down because you passed 13 or 20 wpm. They are just as much radio amateurs as those of us who became Extras under the 20 wpm requirement. Laws and regulations change. People change. Situations change. Rather than dividing the ham ranks into no code vs. coded licensees, or Old Timers vs. newbies, or traffic handlers vs. DXers, ad nauseum, let's pull together in a never-before-seen manner for the good of Amateur Radio.

OTHER TOLEDO AREA AMATEUR RADIO ORGANIZATIONS

ARES

Lucas County Amateur Radio
Emergency Service meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month in the "Private Dining Room" in St. Luke's Hospital, at 9:00 AM. You are welcome to meet in the cafeteria for breakfast before the meeting. Alternate meeting locations and information will be announced on the daily 6:40 PM net. Contact Brenda, KB8IUP at 419-866-5928. **ARES NTS and Training Net** meets daily at 6:40 PM. 146.940- Alternate frequencies are: 147.375+ or 147.270+.

SKYWARN Net as needed by the NWS, 147.375+ Alternate frequencies are 146.940-, 147.270+ or others announced by "net control".

GTARA (146.610-) Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 3100 W. Central, 7:30 PM. Contact Martha, K8AAC.

SARA Meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Tom, N8MAV, 419-826-7401.

TRAC (147.375+, 146.940-) Meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Terry Caldwell, KC8HQB, 419-874-2173.

QCWA Chapter 142, meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month at The Big Boy Restaurant, 1402 Reynolds Road, Maumee. (next to Hampton-Inn hotel) Contact Paul Lentz, K8PL, 419-882-5906. Or email, pelentzk8pl@juno.com

FRAT (52.360, 146.835-, 224.280-, 444.650+) Meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. FRAT net follows the Rain Dialup and Amateur News Weekly on Thursday nights starting at 8:30 PM.

OK. I'm off my Ivory Soap box.

Regulation By Bandwidth

This concept is still alive and well. The Board of Directors reviewed its status during the January Board meeting and referred it back to the Board's Executive Committee for further work and to be brought back to our July meeting. In the meantime, I've been hearing all sorts of unfounded rumors about this still-developing proposal. These revolve around statements such as: You are trying to do away with (you can fill in this blank with AM, RTTY, DIGITAL, ATV, CW, SSB, etc.).

I hate to go around bursting people's bubbles, but none of this is true. The Board is working diligently to enable our members to have more freedom to experiment without detracting from current operating privileges. To do this requires much thought and considerable time. We want to do it "right" the first time.

The ARRL Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act has been introduced to the US House for the current term. This means we will soon want to ask each of our Representatives to cosponsor and vote for the act.

I've received several volunteers who are willing to meet with their Congressmen or their aides "back home." We still need a quite a number of additional volunteers. If you have not yet notified me of your willingness to help, please contact me ASAP with your name, call, address, telephone number, E-mail address, Congressional District and the name of your Congressman. You will not be requested to devote any great amount of time and effort and we will provide you with instructions on making contacts.

ARRL National Convention -- ARRL Expo -- is being held at the Dayton Hamvention(R). Dayton is a "must attend" for many amateurs worldwide. This year, the addition of the ARRL National alongside the Hamvention is a double-must! There will be special activities and presentations throughout the extended weekend. Check out <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2005/> frequently as details are presented. This site also has a link to the Hamvention. ARRL Expo will have a large, special Expo area inside HARA Arena.

Tnx for your support of ARRL, your SM and staff, and of Dick and me. We appreciate this. Moreover, we need it if we are to continue to provide the best leadership for Amateur Radio.

73,
Jim

PS: Go Reds! Go White Sox!

Jim Weaver, K8JE
Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL; <http://www.arrl.org/>
5065 Bethany Rd., Mason, OH 45040
Tel.: 513-459-0142; E-mail: k8je@arrl.org
ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is!
MEMBERS: The reason ARRL Is!

<p>The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ. Email, kb8iup@arrl.net</p>
--

Join Us For Dinner!
LCARES Ham of the Year Award Dinner

When: April 9, 2005 6:00PM

Where: Dave's Home Cooked Foods Restaurant
1855 S. Reynolds Rd.
Toledo, OH (near Glendale and Reynolds)

Cost: \$12.00 per person
(Includes steak dinner, coffee or soft drinks, dessert and tip.
Call Terry Caldwell KC8HQB at 419-874-2173 for dietary options)

Reservation Deadline: Wednesday, April 6th
Make reservations through and mail check to:
Terry Caldwell
26980 Oakmead Dr.
Perrysburg, OH 43551



TMRA Swap And Shop

Current As Of March 28, 2005

For Sale:

Harold, K8MRE 419-435-1374 (Fostoria)

Heathkit Deluxe ant tuner # SA-2060, with built-in dual wattmeter - \$275.00. Kenwood dual band mobile 2m/440 # TM-G707A, new last year, 4 months left on warranty - \$230.00. Henry 2m amplifier, C130AB Series, 10w in -150w out, draws 22amps, has fan and thermostat - \$325.00MFJ switching power supply # MFJ-4225MV, front panel Adjustable voltage 9-15VDC, lighted dual meters \$100.00. 2m Amp and PS together for \$375.00 All items are in excellent working and physical condition. All have manuals and schematics. Cash only, buyer picks up (from Fostoria). Date renewed 3/13/05 **

Doug KC8WLT 419-825-1991

Realistic 10m SSB/CW tcvr # HTX100 Date listed 3/13/05 **

Looking For:

Joseph KB8AAK kb8aak@yahoo.com Kenwood dual band 2m/440 # TMV7A Date listed 3/13/05 **

To list items of Amateur Radio interest, check into the Net Sunday evenings after the TMRA Information Net on 147.27/87, or call me at 419-385-5624, or mail to my address, or leave a message for me on the TMRA packet BBS W8HHF, or if you see me in person, or to my e-mail bharrington@mco.edu

The TMRA reserves the right to decline to accept any listing. *Any descriptions of items listed are those of the person listing the item(s).*

73 Brian WD8MXR

Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Minutes Of Regular Meeting Wednesday, March 9, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 19:49 by President Tom KB8PAI with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call of names and callsigns. We had 42 persons present.

Minutes of the February meeting were printed in the newsletter and provided prior to the start of the meeting. Brian, WD8MXR, noted that the date of the Ham of the Year Banquet should be corrected to April 9th.

Treasurer Chuck, N8NIR, reported the financial status of the Club as of February 28, 2005. Chuck moved that the report be filed subject to audit. Seconded by Dale, WA8WTZ.

President Tom, KB8PAI, (Membership) reported we currently have 150 members. The Bylaws are almost ready to mail out after proofreading. Coming up this month are the Hamfest and the Convention, and Skywarn Training. March 28th will be the Budget Committee Meeting. The Executive Committee meeting has been rescheduled for 3/30/2005 to allow time for accumulating figures from the Hamfest. Tom has information on a man who carves callsigns in wood in case you are interested. Terry Caldwell, KC8HQB, asked that we get the word out about the Ham of the Year Banquet at 18:00 on Saturday, April 9th.

Vice President Steve, W8TER, said that ARES is suggesting that Anderson Power Poles be standard equipment. West Mountain Radio will be at the Hamfest with Anderson Power Poles. In you want to get some, see Steve, W8TER, or Steve, KC8TVW, as they are accumulating a list to buy in bulk. Steve wants to encourage all of us to attend the banquet and convention. He has inside or outside TMRA stickers for \$1.

Committee Reports: Technical: Mark, WB8OET, has done some work on the repeater, and has bought a new antenna for the packet BBS system.

ARES: Chris, KC8UFV, was not present. He has had to resign as TMRA rep for ARES due to work schedule conflict. Brenda, KB8IUP, reported there will be Skywarn Training at St. Lukes auditorium at 09:00 on March 26th. On April 19th will be the dry run for the Davis Besse drill. The evaluated drill is May 17th. If you are interested in driving the truck and trailer, see Brenda for training. There will be a meeting for Ohio Emergency Coordinators in Columbus on Sat. 4/23/05 at 08:30. The new at-large board members are Steve Ashenfelter, Brian Harrington, Chris Taylor and James Easter. Great Lakes Convention Sat. 3/19. Brenda said if you are going to attend, email Jeanie Dalton (see website or kb8qlc@arrl.net) or call her at 859-245-7703. Registration starts at 10:00; the Convention starts at 12:00. Riley Hollingsworth will talk; then there will be 6 different seminars. There will be VE testing at the Convention and Hamfest.

TMRA Hamfest: Brian, WD8MXR, reported about 300 tables have been sold so far, out of 340. Randi, KC8IVV, is handling Security. Brian has tickets if you want to sign any out. Chuck, KB8FXJ, is handling Set-up and will take names of any who would like to help. Mark, KC8MKL, (& Ike) are handling Talk-In and thinks he has all the slots filled.

Programs: Tonight's program will be Steve, N8XSF, with a presentation about Winlink 2000, e-mail by amateur radio. More information is available at www.winlink.org.

Projects: Dave, K5EYP, has resigned as chair; we are looking for a new Projects Coordinator and volunteers to handle each race. The Glass City Marathon is Sunday April 10th. We are looking for volunteers. Steve, W8TER, mentioned these projects are good practice for Net Control

Dayton Bus Trip: Mike, WA8SYD, has a sign-up sheet available. There is still room available- May 21 at 05:30.

OLD BUSINESS: none.

NEW BUSINESS: none.

It was moved by Mike, WA8SYD, and seconded by Mark, KC8TVP, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 20:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Kehr KC8WQU

TMRA
P.O. BOX 9673
TOLEDO, OH
43697-9673

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Toledo, OH
Permit No. 906

April 2005

TMRA Annual Bus Trip to Dayton

More than ever before, with over \$2.00 gas prices, this may be the year to take the TMRA bus to Dayton. For only \$25.00 you can reserve a comfortable seat on the bus. (All bus seats have been tested and approved by Mike, WA8SYD) You can take a nap on the way down, and be ready for a full day of hamfesting. The bus parks close to the gate so it is easy to store a load of goodies and go back for more. Just think, no driving or parking. Contact Mike, WA8SYD, and reserve your seat now. The takes place on Saturday, May 21. Go to www.hamvention.org for Hanvention® information and tickets.

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673

President, Tom, KB8PAI; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Pat, KC8WQU;

Treasurer, Chuck, N8NIR; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Ed, WA8BHO; Scott, N8BIR; Brian, WD8MXR; Howard, W8NEE.

TMRA Home Page www.tmrahamradio.org Webmaster, Becky, KC8ZNX.

TMRA W8HHF Repeaters; 29.680-, 147.270+, 224.140-, 442.850+ (TMRA 2 meter, 220, and 440 repeaters operate with a 103.5 "PL", or a touch-tone access code of 1-2-3) Please "ID" before using phone-patch.

(10 digit dialing, *up and #down)

TMRA W8HHF Packet BBS Frequencies 51.780, 145.690, 223.480, 441.060

The TMRA meets at 7:30 PM every second Wednesday in

The Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Rd. Rossford, Ohio.

The TMRA Q & A net meets every Sunday night at 7:30 PM, followed by the TMRA "Information & Swap 'N-Shop" net at 8:30 on the 147.270+ repeater. All amateurs are invited to check-in. *TMRA Voice Mail 419-535-6594*