



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

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



October 2005

The Prez Sez:

We had quite an eventful "Annual Business Meeting" during this last General meeting in September on the 14th. We covered the usual business of course, but it was also time for the officer elections and the TMRA Amateur of the Year Award presentation (more on that in a moment.) After the regular business was concluded, we had our officer elections. The only office that was contested was for that of President, that's when things got really interesting. I had already made my nomination for re-election known, but Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP, was nominated from the floor and she accepted to run for the office. We now had a horse race (no offense to Brenda!) It turned out to be a very close race... the ballots were counted and the Nominating Committee (thanks to Dave, KB8EH and Steve, KC8TVW and assistant James, WD8IOL) announced that there was a tie! It was that close! I never thought I'd see the day for that kind of situation. Well, it then came down to a coin toss... yes, a coin toss. That is how the Club has decided that ties would be resolved, should there be any. So, a coin toss it was. And with a fifty-fifty chance at getting re-elected, I guess luck was on my side (or was it?) So, here is the new slate of Club Officers that gets installed on October 1st: President: Tom, KB8PAI; Vice President: Steve, W8TER; Treasurer: Chuck, N8NIR; Secretary: Brian, WD8MXR. Thanks must go to those that ran for an office and participated in the voting process, and congratulations to those officers elected or re-elected. A special thanks to Pat, KC8WQU for her year of service as Secretary.



Tom, KB8PAI with TMRA Ham of the Year,
Steve, KC8TVW. *n8nir-photo*

After that excitement calmed down, then came time for the 2005 TMRA Amateur of the Year Award. Read more about the presentation and the awardee elsewhere in this newsletter, but just so you know, the award was presented to Steve Stalker, KC8TVW. He even remarked to me that he was fooled for a moment thinking that the award couldn't be going to him. So, I guess I got him, and it was all in good fun. He is most deserving of this award. Congratulations again, Steve!

Make sure to mark your calendars for the next General meeting on October 12th. We have on the schedule a program to be given by Bill Halsey, N8XVD, the Lucas County's EMA Director. I don't know the exact details of his program, but I'm sure it will be interesting and quite possibly concerning emergency preparedness; something we should all be thinking about.

Finally, regarding membership; something else we should all be concerned with... we are currently at 204 members. If we can get a technician class together, that number could easily top 210 or 215. Keep in mind that we will soon be accepting renewals and new applications for membership for the 2006 year. Watch for the applications coming soon in next months newsletter, and please don't delay in filling them out and getting them back to me.

73 de KB8PAI,
Tom Swartz, President and Membership Chairman
kb8pai@arrl.net

Code Ode

By Troy Wiedenheimer

It's more than dots and dashes,
It's a place.
A sanctuary for those who've learned
To love the mysterious magic of
Thoughts arriving in mile-long strings
On roads of either or wire.
Even more, its peace,
A shield from the disordered sounds
Of traffic, angry people
And industrial clutter clatter,
Within its warm mantle
We find soothing respite.
And the patter of bright ideas it is,
The sharp focusing of others thoughts
From miles beyond our vision's range
As in a dream we sit so still.
It floats in our ears and stirs our minds
With concern, remembrance, speculation
And mirth.
And code is music,
From sounders and speakers it dances
In the shack to each sender's inner clock,
And comes butter-smooth, deliciously swimming,
Or choppy staccato from a "fist" praising definition
Or perfectly metered, flowing exquisitely
From the gentle hand of an artist.
A place,
A peace,
Intelligence and
Music.
Code is more than dots and dashes.

Submitted by Jim, N8NLE

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.

Weaver's Words -- September Song

Date: Saturday, September 24, 2005 3:29 PM
(a condensed version)

CW Survey

I have one of my member surveys I'd like you to take to assist me. The background to this is that the FCC has proposed to dump Morse code testing requirements. I would like you to tell me how you think the Board should react to the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making by selecting from among the following answers. Please answer both Question No. 1 and Question No. 2. Question No. 2 has three possible answers to choose from, so provide the answer that best reflects your position.

Question No. 1: Do you operate using CW? ___ Yes or ___ No.

Question No. 2: What do you believe ARRL should do regarding the FCC's proposed rule change?

___ 2.a. Do nothing. Let the FCC do what it chooses without encouragement or protest.

___ 2.b. Fight to have FCC retain a Morse code requirement but do not allow this fight to draw effort from our attempts to obtain additional, critical changes in the Amateur Radio license structure.

___ 2.C. Fight strongly to have FCC retain a Morse code requirement even though doing this will prevent us from engaging in a strong campaign to obtain additional, critical changes in the Amateur Radio license structure. Pull out all the stops for CW.

Please be certain to answer the questions with Yes or No (No. 1), or with No 2.a., No. 2.b., or No. 2.c. ONLY if you wish your preference to be recorded, promptly. ADD a discussion statement to your pin-point answers if you wish, but I may be unable to review any discussion answers, themselves, until some time in November or possibly December.

Send your answers to k8je@arrl.org only

Election Procedures

I've been asked about the timing for balloting in the Director/Vice Director elections by several members. The ballots will be mailed from HQ at the end of this week. These are being mailed via "bulk mail" which means it could take as long as two weeks for some of them to be delivered. In the past, the overwhelming majority of ballots seem to have been received within a week after they were mailed. There is ample time to mark and return your ballot in time for them to be counted.

Ballots are counted very carefully under tight security in a moderate-size conference room at HQ. Ballot counting generally requires most of the day and into the evening provided there is more than one contested election. (Five Divisions are open for elections each year over a three-year cycle.) The Elections and Ethics Committee is always on hand throughout the process to adjudicate any questions that may arise (we don't have to contend with hanging chads, but I understand other questions regarding proper marking of ballots, etc. occasionally surface). Typically, successful candidates of contested elections learn they have been elected via a telephone call (often the next day) from the President.

A limited number of observers may attend ballot counting provided they receive confirmation of their request to do this ahead of time. These observers must officially represent a candidate for elected office.

When All Else Fails' Amateur Radio!

Jim Weaver, K8JE

Director, Great Lakes Division ARRL; <http://www.arrl.org/>

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ARRL: The reason Amateur Radio Is!

MEMBERS: The reason ARRL Is!

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

2005-The Annual ARRL Ohio Section Conference..

September 17, 2005

A day in review..

The Conference opened promptly at 9am with 87 interested hams attending. A round of introductions of the Section Cabinet as presented by Joe Phillips, K8QOE after which a round of self introductions was done with all other present. A moment of silence was observed for all of the Katrina victims and survivors after which Joe got right down to business and started the Conference.

Our Section Emergency Coordinator - John Chapman, WB8INY was first up.. He spoke briefly on the new ARRL ARES weekly E-newsletter and updated on Winlink..

Rick Swain, KK8O our Official Observer Coordinator then was up.. He presented 2 "Meritorious Service" awards. Pictured here is Rick (right) presenting the award to Ernie Howard, W8EH. Not pictured is the other recipient - Mike Nelson, W8MMN. Rick then spoke on the effect his O.O.'s had on keeping the peace in the state. He cited 2 different instances in the state just this year that his O.O.'s have had a very positive effect on keeping the bands clean. Rick also did a very good presentation on the various digital modes that can be heard on the bands today. He had recorded a number of them and played them back for all present to guess what mode was being played.

Next up was our Great Lakes Director, Jim Weaver, K8JE.. He spoke on the work that the League has been doing for all the Hams in the country. He also gave a brief run down on the progress of the Grass Roots Lobbying. He stated that he had just appointed Jim Ashman, W8ASH to the position of Ohio State Legislative Action Coordinator.

John, WB8INY then took the floor and spoke about all the work that the hams have been doing with the Katrina disaster. There were several groups that have already gotten good PR because of what the Ham Radios can do..

Bill Carpenter, AA8EY was the first to show the television exposure that the Columbus area had gotten. Channel 10 news ran a very good story. Bill explained that just before the news team had arrived we had a solar burst which took out all communications at the time the cameras were rolling, but no matter what, the news team showed just what we could do..

Brenda Krukowski, KB8IUP then took the floor and described what the Toledo group did for not only their local news paper, but also their local television channels, Channel 11 and 13

Scott, N8SY the Public Information Coordinator then introduced the winners of the 14th annual ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest. 1st Place went to: 20/9 Club News Editor Jane Avnet, K8JAA

After a very good lunch, Joe, K8QOE introduced this years Allan Severson, AB8P Memorial winner. It is none other than John Haungs, W8STX.. John was unfortunately unable to attend. But he will be given his award at a roast for him later this year. Congratulations John.. It couldn't have gone to a more deserving person.

Bob, W2THU then gave an update on possible new legislation that was rumored to have some impact on ham radio. As he described the legislation "Ohio House Bill" 274 it was written primarily for Cellular Telephone usage.. it is not intended "as it appears to be written" to limit the hams in mobiles. He said that he'd definitely be keeping an eye open for this legislation as it goes through the House.

Connie Hamilton, N8IO then gave a short synopsis on what has been happening with the Ohio Single Side-Band Net in the wake of Katrina.. She also gave an update about the Net and it's membership. One member in particular was recognized, Ormal Garlock, K8BYR. Not only is he a young 96 years old, he's still very active with the OSSBN checking in on a regular basis. We congratulate "Garlock" for all the years of being such an active ham..!!

Tom Holmes, N8ZM our Technical Coordinator then gave a very good presentation on BPL and where it is now.. Tom showed a presentation from Ed Hare, W1RFI. This video was a very good presentation as that it showed the true effects of BPL and what it will do to our ham bands in actual field conditions.

The Conference then adjourned.

We thank the Ohio Emergency Management Agency for being gracious hosts and allowing us to use their facility and equipment for our presentations. Joe invites you all to attend the 2006 Ohio Section Conference..!!

posted: 09/17/05

for photos and the complete report go to; www.iarc.ws/ohio/

Communications

My communications life started when I was sent to Radio Operator School at Scott AFB, IL. after completion of basic training at San Antonio, TX. Through-out my 20 year career I had various jobs, all dealing with communications. During the last 11 years I was a long haul multi-channel trouble-shooter. My claim to fame was while at Andrews AFB, MD.; I completed a radiophone call between Senator Jacob Javits in the Azore Islands to Secretary of State Dean Rusk

While stationed in Alaska, I received my first ham license with the call of KL7ABH. At that time when you changed call areas you had to change your call. My next call was W8PET, almost my last name. Then I let my license lapse and did not get back into amateur radio until 1994. I have had a ball ever since. I received my vanity call AF8CS in 2003. I got it to reflect on my Military Career in communications. Air Force 8 Communications Service

Nick AF8CS

How did you get started in Amateur Radio? Do you have an interesting story to share with your friends? Send it to the Amateur Radio Beacon and we will publish it on these pages. --the editors

TMRA Swap And Shop:

Current as of September 28, 2005

For Sale:

BILL, WB8PLS 419-893-3666 50 amp astron PS # RS50M - \$75.00 Date listed 9/4/05 *****

PAUL WB8TTQ 517-869-2200 or wb8ttq@aol.com Kenwood tcvr #TS180S with KW desk mike and KW PS. Antenna tuner. 55 ft Rohn fold-over tower, no rotor but with the cables. Date listed 9/18/05 **

The Swap and Shop is a service of the TMRA, open to all amateurs or interested persons in the coverage area of the repeater. 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 if you see me in person, or to my e-mail > bharrington@meduohio.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

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

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October 2005

Post-Katrina: 800 Mhz Trunk Systems First To Go

The 800 MHz and other trunked systems commonly used by local and state agencies were the first to go in the hard hit areas of Katrina. In many cases, we found police and fire units dispatching from a car or HT. Even after two weeks, we still had radio amateurs handling all of the EOC and public safety communications in a number of counties and parishes on the coast. The most valuable asset by far has been the totally self-contained Amateur Radio operator or ham team who went in with radios, generators, antennas, food, water, and sleeping bags.

Alabama SEC
Jay Isbell, KA4KUN

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673
President, Tom, KB8PAI; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Brian, WD8MXR;
Treasurer, Chuck, N8NIR; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Ed, WA8BHO; Scott, N8BIR; 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*