



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

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



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October 2006

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## The Prez Sez:

As we move into the Fall season, let me say hello to my fellow members and the others that may be interested in Amateur Radio and this newsletter.

Well, during this last month or so we had the Ohio QSO Party, our Club's picnic, the Annual Business meeting, and the Findlay hamfest, as just some of the highlights. That should've kept most all of you busy! I'm sure in future 'Prez Sez' articles you'll be kept abreast of upcoming events like 'JOTA' happening on October 21st.

I enjoyed participating in the 'OQP,' though I didn't break any records. But that's okay, it was still a lot of fun just trying to keep a 'run' going. I heard a couple of others that I am familiar with operating from 'LUCA' (Lucas) county.

The Club's picnic was nice and the weather held off just enough so that we could enjoy the event, though we didn't get to play any games of bocce ball. If you didn't go to the picnic, you missed out on a very nice affair. We really should have more members that participate with events like this one. The more the merrier, as they say.

At the Annual Business meeting, we conducted our normal business and attended to the little things like electing new officers and presenting an 'Amateur of the Year' award. Congratulations to the new slate of officers: Brian, WD8MXR, who will once again fill the President's seat; Steve, W8TER, was willing to once again be the V-P; the same goes for Chuck, N8NIR as Treasurer; and newly elected Secretary: James, WD8IOL who will round out the 'head table.' The position of Station License Custodian (who is responsible for the Club's call: W8HHF) was filled once again for a ten year term by Mark, WB8OET. Good luck to all of the officers of the TMRA for what the future holds.

For the 'Amateur of the Year' presentation, last year's recipient Steve, KC8TVW, had much of the audience wondering who it was going to be, including Pat, KC8WQU. So much so, that she didn't realize that she was the Amateur being portrayed! Read more about the deserving recipient Pat, elsewhere in this newsletter. Congratulations Pat!

The Findlay hamfest was also held during this last month, but I can't give a report about it, because I was feeling 'under the weather' and didn't go, though I wanted to very much.

In this, my final 'Prez Sez' article, I would like to say that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the 'figure-head' of this fine organization. Also, I would very much like to thank the other officers who have served with me for their support and assistance during my term(s): Sally, KA8NNM; Randi, KC8IVV; Pat; KC8WQU; and Brian; WD8MXR as Secretary; Chuck, N8NIR as Treasurer; and my right-hand-man Steve, W8TER as Vice-President. Also, honorable mention goes to Brenda, KB8IUP; Mike, WA8SYD; and Brian, WD8MXR; (all are former Presidents) for their special support and assistance whilst I was 'the Prez.'

Now I am on to serve as a Trustee, and even though I will be more 'behind the scenes,' I hope to help steer the Club in a direction that you, the members, want to go. And to do so in such a way that it will keep the Club healthy, active, and around for a very long time.

Thank you all, for your support during the last four years,  
73 de KB8PAI,  
Tom Swartz, (Former) President and Membership Chairman  
[kb8pai@arrl.net](mailto:kb8pai@arrl.net)

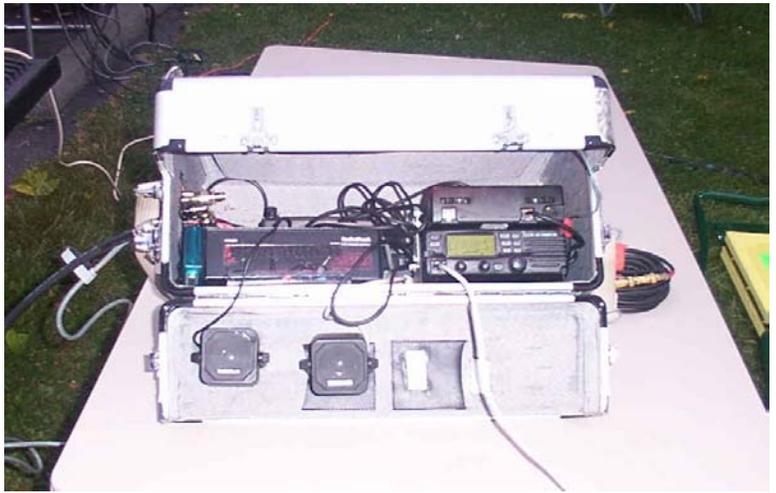
## Mini Field Day

September 19, 2006

I'm never sure how these things will go once we schedule them. The mini field day was held at Wildwood Metro Park. At about 4:30 PM Steve, KB9UPS was first to arrive with me pulling in immediately after him. We did not know where to setup but an open field soon came into view and we knew it was the area we wanted.

We were joined, shortly there after, by Ron, WD8LDF, and soon the antennas were going up.

Steve, KB9UPS, has a satellite station that he brings out so this took some time to put together. Always trying to be prepared we needed a compass to find north. I checked my grab and go kit but no compass. Where was it I wondered. I must have put it in my toolbox. Well, I am glad I brought it along because that is where it was.



Chris, KC8UFV, set up this portable station.

*kb9ups-photo*



Steve, KB9UPS, assembles the many components of his satellite earth station.

*n8ajp- photo*

Why do we have these mini field days anyway?

Answer: to find out what can go wrong before we need it. Finding out that we don't have the right stuff with us now, increases the chances that you will have it in your grab and go kit when you do need it.

Chuck, KC8WLU, brought out one of the clubs generators. We tried to start it. Nothing happened when we turned the key! After some consultation and checking, we determined the battery was dead. Jumper cables to the rescue! I pulled out a set of jumper cables that I carry in my truck and we were able to get the generator started.

Of course there were those of us who did not need an alternate source of power like Steve, KC8TVW. He had his 80 meter dipole up and on the air running his IC 706 on battery power. With his station he was able

to check into the OSSBN and also perform a demonstration of how to pass traffic on two meters.

The mini field day was pretty much a success. We were caught off guard by the cold air front that moved into the area that day, and it was cold out there at the site. We braved the weather and had an enjoyable time setting up and tearing down the stations. Oh yea! There were some contacts made and people learned things.

This concludes our third mini field day and we are looking forward to the next. We don't have a date yet. But when we get one, you are invited.

W8TER

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



## OTHER TOLEDO AREA AMATEUR RADIO ORGANIZATIONS

### ARES

Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 3100 W. Central, 7:30 PM. Contact Martha, K8AAC.

**SARA** Contact Tom, N8MAV, 419-826-7401.

**TRAC** (147.375+, 146.940-) Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Terry Caldwell, KC8HQH, 419-874-2173.

**QCWA Chapter 142**, meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:pelentzk8pl@juno.com)

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

### TMRA Amateur of the Year, 2006

At the September TMRA meeting, Pat, KC8WQU, received the 2006 "TMRA Amateur of the Year" award. Pat has been an active member of TMRA. Even before she was licensed, Pat could be seen at most TMRA activities, not just as a participant but often working behind the scenes to assure success. Selling Hamfest tickets or taking care of details at a picnic Pat is always there. When it came time to study for her ham ticket she relied on one of the areas best known ham radio instructors, her husband, Mike, WA8SYD.

The Award was presented by Steve, KC8TVW, the 2005 TMRA Amateur of the year.

Thanks to Chuck, N8NIR for the photo of Pat and Steve.

## Microwave Update 2006

Microwave Update 2006 offers learning opportunity: Microwave Update 2006 (MUD 2006) will take place in Dayton, Ohio, Friday and Saturday, October 20-21. Sponsored by the Midwest VHF/UHF Society and held for the first time in Dayton, this conference offers an excellent opportunity to learn about Amateur Radio microwave activity. Forum presentations are set for both days. There will be a flea market Friday night, and the banquet (with door prize) will be held Saturday evening. Full registration information is available on the MUD 2006 Web site <<http://www.microwaveupdate.org/>>. Registration is \$40 before September 30, \$45 after September 30, and \$50 at the door. Banquet tickets are \$30 per person. Registration includes a volume of the conference Proceedings.

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### Safety Tip of the Month

It is getting dark earlier every day. When was the last time you checked the lights on your car or truck? Today's vehicles have more lights than ever. With separate lamps for turn signals, stop lights, "high-mount" stop lights and others, there are more lamps to fail. Unfortunately, the cheap imported lamps available today don't seem to last as long as they used to. If you don't have a helper, an easy way to check the lights is to observe the reflection in a store window at a strip mall.

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673  
President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, James, WD8IOL;  
Treasurer, Chuck, N8NIR; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Howard, W8NEE; Bob, K8ADK; Steve, KC8TVW; Tom, KB8PAI

TMRA Home Page [www.tmrahamradio.org](http://www.tmrahamradio.org) Webmaster, Tom, KB8PAI.

- 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*