



# *LCARA Amateur Radio Beacon*

February 2007



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## **Membership**

Congratulations to the two winners of a complimentary membership for 2008! Out of a pool of about 75 eligible members for the drawing, the lucky winners were Howard Fuller, W8NEE and Patricia Navarre, KD8DJW. They each had their membership renewals turned-in to me before the end of the membership year (December 31st for those of you who should be counting.) And so, they were entered into the drawing. Aren't they just lucky?

I know there are more of you out there who need to renew. Unfortunately, this always seems to be the case. We are at about 120 members, still approximately 80 shy from last years total membership. Please don't wait until the hamfest to renew. I will have to remove those who haven't renewed from the mailing list at the end of March... don't let this happen to you! For the most part, I am always willing to accept a renewal or application for membership. Preferably sooner than later, I must admit. I always want to be of help if you have questions about your membership. There are a number of members that I am not sure are aware, that qualify for a complementary membership. Just ask, and I will check and let you know where you stand. Thanks to all of you for your continued support of the Club!

Kudos go to Sean Forrester, N8SEA who I see became a life member of ARRL. A very noble gesture in my opinion, plus he won't have to worry about any membership dues increases! Also, congratulations to Brian Harrington, WD8MXR who has passed all three ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications courses. Hats off to both for their accomplishments and dedication to the hobby.

I am compiling a list of birthdays for our membership to get published in the Beacon on a monthly basis. This month, I will have the list of members and their birth dates that I have for February. I will also wish a belated 'Happy Birthday' for those who celebrated in January (but I didn't have the list ready yet!) If there is anyone I have left out, or if my information is not correct, I am sorry. But please let me know so that I can make sure to get your information squared away in the database.

Our annual Hamfest is coming real soon. Please take some time to volunteer and help out YOUR club. I know there are committee members who would like your assistance.

73 de KB8PAI,  
Tom Swartz, Membership Chairman  
KB8PAI@ARRL.NET

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## **LCARES, Inc. Fundraiser**

There will be a fundraiser for Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (LCARES) Monday February 19, 2007 at Max and Erma's restaurant in Maumee on Dussel Dr. near I-475. This will be an all day event, you may dine in or carry-out. You must provide the cashier person with a pre-printed ticket (2 are included in this newsletter) when you pay your bill so LCARES can be credited 20% for the event. If you have any questions or need tickets I can be contacted at [WD8PNZ@arrl.net](mailto:WD8PNZ@arrl.net). Thanks, and hope to see you there.

## Birthday List

### January:

- 1: Bill, KA8BFT; Jon, KB8KLL
- 5: Bernie, WD8C; Shelley, KD8DOQ
- 6: Mark, WB8OET
- 11: Doug, K8OF
- 12: John, KD8DOU
- 18: Ed, WA8BHO; Terry, WI8Q
- 20: John, KG8SC
- 21: Forest, N8ZBW; Jon, K6JON; Derek, W8JJK
- 22: Tony, KB8YIH
- 26: George, WB8HHZ
- 27: Al, KC8MC
- 30: Ann, N8RBL
- 31: Scott, WB8JLT

### February:

- 4: James, W6RTG; Paul, K8PL
- 13: Patty, KB8NHH
- 16: Terry, KC8HQH; Dave, KD8DWT
- 18: Martha, K8AAC
- 19: Dan, KE8UE
- 20: Al, W8KIX
- 21: Howard, W8NEE; Glenn, W8MUK
- 23: John, KC8NNT
- 24: Doug, KC8CCM
- 25: Bob, WD8OJK

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## It's official! Morse code requirement ends Friday, February 23.

ARRL Bulletin 5 ARLB005

From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 24, 2007

To all radio amateurs

Circle Friday, February 23, on your calendar. That's when the current 5 WPM Morse code requirement will officially disappear from the Amateur Radio Service Part 97 rules. On or after that date, applicants for a General or Amateur Extra class Amateur Radio license no longer will have to demonstrate proficiency in Morse code. They'll just have to pass the applicable written examination. Federal Register publication January 24 of the FCC's Report and Order (R&O) in the "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, starts a 30-day countdown for the new rules to become effective. Deletion of the Morse requirement - still a matter of controversy within the amateur community - is a landmark in Amateur Radio history.

"The overall effect of this action is to further the public interest by encouraging individuals who are interested in communications technology or who are able to contribute to the advancement of the radio art, to become Amateur Radio operators; and eliminating a requirement that is now unnecessary and may discourage Amateur Service licensees from advancing their skills in the communications and technical phases of Amateur Radio," the FCC remarked in the "Morse code" R&O that settled the matter, at least from a regulatory standpoint.

### 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 Steve, W8TER, at 419-754-9120. **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-, 147.120+ 103.5) 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.

The League had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants, but the Commission held to its decision to eliminate the requirement across the board. The R&O appearing in the Federal Register constitutes the official version of the new rules. It is on the web in PDF format at, <http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-729.pdf>.

Until 1991, when a Morse code examination was dropped from the requirements to obtain a Technician ticket, all prospective radio amateurs had to pass a Morse code test. With the change the US will join a growing list of countries that have dropped the need to demonstrate some level of Morse code proficiency to earn access to frequencies below 30 MHz.

The new rules also put all Technician licensees on an equal footing, whether or not they've passed a Morse code examination. Starting February 23, Technicians will gain CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 meters and CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on 10 meters.

Once the revised rules are in place, an applicant holding a valid Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for Element 3 (General) or Element 4 (Amateur Extra) may redeem it for an upgrade. A CSCE is good for 365 days from the date of issuance, no exceptions. For example, a Technician licensee holding a valid CSCE for Element 3 may apply at a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) test session, pay the application fee, which most VECs charge, and receive an instant upgrade.

The FCC R&O includes an Order on Reconsideration in WT Docket 04-140 - the so-called "omnibus" proceeding. It will modify Part 97 in response to ARRL's request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of other rule changes that became effective last December 15. The Commission designated 3585 to 3600 kHz for such operations, although that segment will remain available for CW, RTTY and data. The ARRL had requested that the upper limit of the CW/RTTY/data subband be set at 3635 kHz, so that there would be no change in the existing 3620 to 3635 kHz subband.

The ARRL has posted all relevant information on these important Part 97 rule revisions on its "FCC's Morse Code Report and Order WT Docket 05-235" Web page, <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/morse/>.

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## **VE Testing - Jan. 13**

Congrats to new Technician: KD8EYY, Joe. Passed Element 3: KC8QHO, Jerry and KC8LBO, Gerald.

Thanks to the VE's that helped: KC8WCN, Wayne; KD8DFI, Stacey; WD8MXR, Brian and W8NEE, Howard.

VE notes:

The last club sponsored CW testing will be at the Feb 10 session. The Amateur CW requirement ends Feb. 23. I will need a total of 6 VE's for both Feb 10 and March 10. If you are a VE and can be at one or both sessions, please call me.

I am also attempting to put together a session on the evening of Monday Feb 26 at 6:30 p.m. for those who cannot attend Saturday sessions. Time and location to be determined. This will be a one time only session.

Thanks,  
Steve, KC8TVW, 419-467-3734

<p><b>The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ. Email, kb8iup @ arrl . net</b></p>
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## How many Hams in a State?

Well, that depends on which State (or Territory) you are asking about. Our own state of Ohio has about 28,198 licensed Amateurs. Our neighbors to the north in Michigan, number about 20,617. California leads the count with 91,118, while the Virgin Islands have only 237. Could this be why you have to work a little harder for a VI contact than a west coast one? It has been said "everything is big in Texas", but they rate a distant second place with 43,072, just ahead of Florida's 38,163. To round out the top five we have New York with 28,293 and Ohio in the very close fifth position. These numbers were good on January 23, 2007, so we may have moved up a notch by the time you read this. On that date the total number of hams in the USA was 655,359.

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*