



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

November 2007



Repeaters Find New Home

If you have not heard yet, the Club's 2 Meter and 440 Repeaters have a new home in downtown Toledo. They are on the National City Bank Building.

On a Saturday in late September with the weather cooperating we had several club members gathered to install the 2 meter and 440 antennas along with the hardline and the repeater cabinet that was used at the OI site. The equipment that was to be installed this weekend was not being used on the current repeater sites. This way the heavy equipment could be installed first, and then all the repeater components could be transferred to the new site during the week. We all thought it was good plan but, when it comes to the repeaters you need to plan that things will just go wrong or take more time than normal.

Getting the 2 Meter antenna up to the roof was possible with the help of Stewart Pripi, a maintenance worker who worked for the building management. He was able to get the antenna within 50 feet of the roof. All we needed to do was haul it up the last 50 feet by rope. The other equipment would fit in the freight elevator. All we needed to do then was walk the equipment some 58 steps that were only 24 inches wide, and that was only to where the equipment would be. You had to walk additional 47 steps to the roof.

We had three basic teams working, one group was to haul the repeater cabinet up. I had rented an appliance and a regular hand trucks. Everyone thought that the cabinet was around 150 to 200 pounds. I had pre-measured the cabinet and the steps, it would be tight but doable. After a few minutes the crew wanted me to look things over. They tried several different ways, it just would not fit in the step turn around landings, let alone the fire water connections that were very close to the steps.

We were able to get the antennas up and the Hardline run. The 2 Meter repeater has 1-1/4" hardline and the 440 repeater has 1-5/8" hardline. If you have ever tangoed with a python snake then you know how hard it is to control hardline this size. We had to approximate the length since we did not have the cabinet.

n8nir, photo

The hunt was on to find a cabinet(s). One of the guys thought his brother, Mike, N8KLZ a TMRA member, might have some cabinets. So after meeting with Mike he had two identical cabinets. Mike donated both cabinets to the club. The cabinets are almost in new condition, and are big enough to expand the repeaters with a voter and remote receivers.

With the cabinets in place and bolted together we were able to start moving the repeaters from Parks Tower and St Luke's Hospital. It was only two weeks since we started the project but, it has been time well spent. The repeaters were off the air for about 4 to 5 hours during the transfer.

While the repeaters are not as high when they were on the OI Building they are, again back downtown atop the National City Bank Building. The site difference is about 54 feet lower than the OI site. To help make up for the shorter site, the antenna feed lines also needed to be shortened by 47 feet each. All total the repeaters are on a great site. The average height above ground is 340 feet.

We hope you enjoy the repeaters, and the coverage they have. As part of the long-term plans, we would like to add a voter and remote receivers. This way we can expand the coverage area of the repeater. With your membership and volunteering for club activities like the Hamfest, we can maintain our repeater system and continue to improve its service for Northwest Ohio.

We would like to thank: Steve, W8TER; Chuck, KB8FXJ; Stacy, NS8W; Steve, KB9UPS; Mark, KC8TVP; Jon, KB8KLLK;

And a Special Thank You to Mike, N8KLZ for the donating the equipment cabinets.

We also thank the membership for your dedication to make this possible,

73,
Chuck Ferguson, N8NIR and Mark Collins, WB8OET

Motorola To Acquire Controlling Interest In Parent Company Of Yaesu

From The ARRL Letter, Vol.26, No.45, Nov 9, 2007

Motorola issued a press release earlier this week stating that its subsidiary, Motorola USA, will "launch a tender offer to acquire a controlling interest in Vertex Standard Co., Ltd." Vertex Standard is the parent company of Yaesu. Upon successful completion of the tender offer and subsequent restructuring process, Motorola will own 80 percent of Vertex Standard; Tokogiken, a privately held Japanese company, controlled by current President and CEO of Vertex Standard Jun Hasegawa, will retain 20 percent, forming a joint venture. The total purchase price for 80 percent of the outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis will be approximately 12.3 billion yen (approximately US \$108 million). The bid will start November 6 and end on December 26. If the bid succeeds, shares of Vertex would be delisted from the JASDAQ Securities Exchange in Japan.

According to Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, Yaesu's Executive Vice President for Amateur Radio Sales in North America, "I thought that the happiest and proudest day of my 45-plus years in Amateur Radio was when I was offered the opportunity to lead the Yaesu North American sales effort; however, being able to now announce this news to my fellow Amateur Radio operators takes over as the top life thrill for me! I am certain the good fortune that put me in this leadership chair at Yaesu now promises opportunities for me to do more for the technological future of Amateur Radio than I ever dreamed possible. I do not pretend to know the full extent of the positive impact this Motorola/Vertex Standard business arrangement will have on Amateur Radio - I just know it is going to be terrific for all of us who love Amateur Radio for its public service and entertainment value, as well as its potential for us to make lifelong friendships in our neighborhoods and around the world."

Saying that hams should not expect to see a line of Motorola Amateur Radio products, Motschenbacher said he sees the joint venture between Motorola and Vertex Standard "as a very good thing for Amateur Radio in general and Yaesu customers in particular. I hope our loyal customers will readily see this business venture for

what it is, an opportunity to make a solid 50-plus year old Yaesu company even stronger and more formidable than is already the case. There is absolutely no reason to have the slightest concern about equipment warranties and the continuation of support for our products. I am really excited to see what the joint engineering capabilities of these two huge communications companies will bring in the way of new technology advancement for the Amateur Radio service."

Motorola said that the joint venture "will develop and sell Vertex Standard branded products and develop select Motorola branded products. The Motorola brand will continue to focus on higher featured, higher tier products and continue to utilize existing Motorola distribution channels. Vertex Standard's strength in the Amateur, Marine and Airband (Avionics) segments will also provide Motorola with access to new business opportunities. In addition, Vertex Standard's solutions are highly complementary with Motorola's products and will add greater depth and breadth to Motorola's Government and Public Safety business." According to Hasegawa, "The joint venture will give Vertex Standard access to Motorola's global distribution channels, presenting considerable opportunities for Vertex Standard to drive growth. We also expect to reduce costs, as we will benefit from Motorola's global scale and resources. With Motorola, Vertex Standard will be stronger and better positioned to deliver new and innovative 2-way radio solutions for professionals and consumers around the world."

Motschenbacher said, "There is a unique aspect of business that comes with Amateur Radio. It's not just about a radio. It's the relationship between the ham, the radio itself and the company that makes that radio. This relationship in Amateur Radio is far different than it is, say, between a buyer of a HDTV, the TV and the TV manufacturer. The relationship in Amateur Radio is far more personal and 'bonding,' per se. I am certain that we will do our utmost to ensure that Motorola understands this delicate bond. Since Motorola is leaving the day-to-day management of Yaesu in the hands of my boss, Jun Hasegawa, President of Vertex Standard, we can expect our longtime relationship with hams to remain intact."

Calling the joint venture "a good thing," Motschenbacher said, "Before working in the business side of Amateur Radio, my old business partner and I purchased a number of small companies in our line of business. More often than not, we found that bringing these new acquisitions into our existing family of companies added more to the overall success of the total group than expected. Therefore, I believe that this joint venture is not just a $1 + 1 = 2$ equation -- I am positive that the outcome for our Amateur Radio customers is going to feel more like $1 + 1 = 3$ and that's a good thing!"

Computer virus + late articles = Late newsletter

We apologize for the late mailing. We had lots of pictures from the event at Camp Miakonda, but no text to go with them on the computer. It caught a virus and died. No email either. Thanks to N8NIR for saving his article and picture on a cd and running it out here so we could feed it into the old steam powered computer with some other stuff and produce this.

Chuck & Brenda

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 Bill, WN8RUG, at 419-882-7337. **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 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 3100 W. Central, 7:30 PM. Contact Martha, K8AAC.

TRAC (147.375+, 146.940-) Meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Becky, KC8ZNX, 419-290-3511.

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)

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.

The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association.

Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ.

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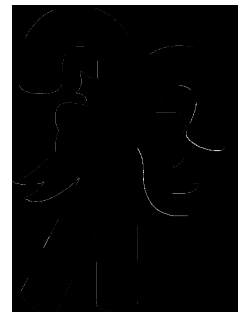
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Mark your calendars for the December 12 Meeting/Christmas Party

There is a time change for this meeting! It will begin with dinner at **6:30 p.m.** Please bring a dish to pass. The club provides the meat, drinks and table service. There will be door prizes and entertainment. Reservations are needed by Dec. 7. For reservations contact Pat Kehr, KC8WQU at 476-2947.



THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673
President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;
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 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.