



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

October 2007



## The Prez Sez

The September meeting was election night: we have one new officer – Secretary for the coming year is Ron, N8RLH (ex-WD8LVF). James, WD8IOL, our previous Secretary now has another commitment Wednesday evenings and did not run for re-election. Thanks go to James for his year as Secretary. Steve, W8TER was in competition with Steve, KB9UPS for Vice-President, and Steve, W8TER was re-elected. Somewhat disappointingly, no-one challenged me or Chuck, N8NIR for office, so I am President again, and Chuck is still Treasurer.

### TMRA Mini Field Day

TMRA's long awaited "mini field day" took place on Thursday September 27. It was a comfortable autumn evening at Wildwood Metro Park, on Central Ave.

Several antennas were set up. All power was supplied by battery, as generators are not allowed in the park. Truly, a portable event. More details next month.



Many thanks go to all those members who helped with the moves and installations. Even without the amp on the 2m repeater we have good coverage; the amp, most likely the source of the noise on the repeater in recent weeks, and which led to it being shut down on several occasions, is being serviced.

73, Brian, WD8MXR

The TMRA Amateur of the Year is announced at our September meeting, and for 2007 it is Stacey, NS8W (ex-KD8DFI) – his plaque is out of date already – congratulations to Stacey on the award. As none of us thought to bring a digital camera to the meeting, hopefully his telephone camera enabled Ron, N8RLH to get a photograph of Pat, KC8WQU presenting Stacey with his plaque for the newsletter and posterity.

I'd like to see us have a program at most of the club meetings. It wouldn't have to be something highly specific and/or technical on Amateur radio – there must be plenty of general interest topics that club members could present. I appreciate what Steve, KB9UPS did with the Challenger project, not only the presentations he organized for club meetings, but the involvement of TMRA with the actual contact for the students.

The position of Program Chairperson is still vacant, and even if we can't fill it on a "full-time" basis, if anyone has any ideas for a program or two, let me or one of the other officers know.

The TMRA 2 meter repeater is now at its new home high above (400') downtown Toledo. By now, the TMRA 440MHz repeater may also be sharing that site.

## Get Ready For JOTA

Jamboree on the Air will celebrate its 50th year this year when it gets on the air October 19-21. Normally a 48 hour event, this year's JOTA will be 50 hours long in recognition of the anniversary. The fun begins at 2200 (local time) October 19 and ends at midnight (local time) October 21.

An on-the-air operating event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau, JOTA was founded in 1958 by Les Mitchell, G3BHK. It has grown to become the largest international Scout event. More than half a million Scouts and Guides in more than 100 countries participate in JOTA, involving as many as 10,000 Amateur Radio stations.

The event relies on the Amateur Radio community and local hams for its success. Getting Boy and Girl Scouts (including Cubs and Brownies) on the air to talk with other Scouts around the world provides a great opportunity to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Some troops and clubs team up to make a big splash with lots of activities, radios and antennas, offering a variety of modes to experience. For others, JOTA provides an opportunity to coach a smaller group of Scouts and to just have fun talking on the radio. Scouts usually enjoy communicating by speaking into a microphone, but some radio amateurs are able to provide other modes, such as slow-scan TV or amateur TV, satellites, packet radio, RTTY or even EME!

For more information on the 2007 Jamboree on the Air, please visit the ARRL JOTA Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota>> where you can find general rules, suggested exchanges and recommended frequencies. There will also be a place on the ARRL Web site to tell your JOTA stories at <<http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/>>.

TMRA will be at Camp Miakonda on October, 20 for JOTA activities. Contact Steve, W8TER, or listen to the Sunday evening TMRA nets for more information

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## TMRA Election Results September 2007

In case you missed the elections at September's meeting here are the results. President: Brian Harrington, WD8MXR. Vice President Steve Bellner, W8TER. Treasurer: Chuck Ferguson, N8NIR. Secretary: Ron Hornbeck, N8RLH. Only one position was challenged and voted on. That was the position of Vice President. Steve, KB9UPS came in second in the election but gave the office a run for the money.

Though the nominating committee was a little slim this year, I would like to thank all who considered running for office. Ron Hornbeck, N8RLH is now replacing James, WD8IOL as secretary. Thanks go to James for his service as secretary.

### 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 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 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 3100 W. Central, 7:30 PM. Contact Martha, K8AAC.

**TRAC** (147.375+, 146.940-) Meets 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at TV13-WTVG Door St. at Richards Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Becky, KC8ZNX, 419-290-3511.

**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)

**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.

Remember that elections are held once a year in September. Nominations for the offices are started being taken at the August meeting. If you would like to participate as an officer next year or have some one you would like to nominate then next August is the time to start.

73

Steve, W8TER  
VP and Nominating committee chairman.

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## **Thank You From The 2007 TMRA Ham of the Year**

Greetings everyone, this is Stacey, NS8W, and again I say Thank You for awarding me the TMRA Amateur of the Year Award. I am humbled and honored to receive the Award this year.

When presented with the award I was completely surprised and had no words planned so I just said the first thing I thought, which was that all the helping at the events I did was not to win a award but to learn how to be a better operator and gain more knowledge about the hobby. And that I graciously accepted the award.

Every time I helped or participated in an event I always learned something new. Every time: Operating conditions, how to set up a station, proper operating procedures, safe operating habits and most important gaining new friends. And at some events you get a free T-shirt! Hi Hi.

There are Hams out there who will help Elmer new Hams if you ask, participate, and most important *Listen* when they are telling you anything. After a while you begin to soak it up.

I want to thank a few who have impacted my experience, Bob & Martha, George, Ron, Joe, Steve & Steve for their Q&A net and a bunch of others who I have worked with at different times.

Thank you all again.

The last club business I helped on was the move of the club's repeater's antennas to its new Downtown location. I want to tell you there were a few brave club members up on the ladders on top of the site working and boy, you are waaay up there. I could not believe the size of the antennas and the fact that we got them in the air. It was like putting up 30 ft. flagpoles 400 ft in the air. And that hard line did not like to conform at all. It was a lot of hard work by a small number of members and the whole club owes them a BIG thanks.

Yes, I have a new callsign NS8W. I applied for it weeks before I was presented with the award. It was the shortest callsign I found available with my initials in it.

Thank you all again and I am looking forward to helping present the award to next years winner.

73's  
Stacey, NS8W

**The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association.**  
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### Safety Tip of the Month

Time to check the lights on your car or truck. As winter approaches, we are driving in darkness more than light. On the older cars it was easy to tell if one of your turn signals were out, they would either blink very fast or not at all. With the newer vehicles we don't have that indication. It seems that every day I see one or two cars with one or more stop lights or turn signals out. Don't forget to check the "high mount" center stop light too. The cheap bulbs that are being produced now don't seem to last as long as they used to.

73, Chuck, KB8FXJ

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](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*