



# **TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon**



**April 2008**

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## **The Prez Sez**

I want to thank all who participated in our recent TMRA annual Hamfest, whether as a vendor, attendee, helper or any combination of these three important activities. Several of the subcommittee chairpersons who depend heavily on volunteers to help were pleasantly surprised at the willingness of TMRA members to help with security, set-up and take-down and ticket sales at the door. Final numbers are not yet completely tallied, but table sales (number of tables that rent out to vendors) and ticket sales were both down this year compared to previous years - but we aren't alone in experiencing that problem.

Our next major activity will be Field Day: again at the Wolcott House museum grounds - Steve W8TER is Chair again this year and Steve will be keeping us up to date with preparations for that activity, as well as planning some "mini-FDs" as late afternoon/evening events.

We have re-vamped the Technical Committee and in the very near future that committee will be meeting, taking a detailed look at our present equipment and future needs. The Budget Committee has recommended a major increase in our budgeted amount for the Tech Committee, and I hope to see many of you at the General meeting in April as that's the meeting at which the proposed Budget for the Financial Year 2008-09 will be presented to the membership for approval.

73, Brian, WD8MXR

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## **Think About This**

### *Dayton Bus:*

For those going to the Dayton Hamfest, there is still time to purchase your tickets on-line for a \$5 savings. Go to: [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org) <<http://www.hamvention.org/>>

Additionally, I will be bringing my Powerpole crimper for those who decide to purchase powerpoles and lead wire at Dayton. I will have different examples with me so you can see the possibilities and know what to purchase. We can create powerpole leads on the way back to Toledo.

### *Q&A Net:*

Just a note to pass along to all those who have helped W8TER and myself make the Q&A net a success for the last 4.5 years. We are going to attempt to do something different on an occasional last Sunday of the month. For April 27th, we will be running simplex. If you are interested in seeing how well you can operate in the area without using a repeater, join us for simplex night.

Steve, KC8TVW

## TMRA Security People.

I wish to thank you for your time and assistance with the security details you were involved with during the TMRA Hamfest.

The Hamfest is probably the most significant event that TMRA performs during the year. In fact, if it were not for the Hamfest it would be very difficult for TMRA to exist. It is because you took the time to volunteer that this event became successful.

I would like to point out not only did you volunteer for standard security posts you went above and beyond when you stayed at your posts during a significant portion of the Hamfest because we were short handed due to the Toledo Explores being unable to fill all the posts needed. Had you not volunteered I am sure our security would have been compromised and so I am grateful that you took your time and assisted me with the task of securing the Hamfest arena. You made TMRA look good and you made the Hamfest look even better.

Individually listed are the 22 security personnel volunteers:  
HIRAM, AB8XP; RICK, K8RKS; TIM, KB8LAB; MARK, KC8TVP; JOE, KC8YBP; KEN, KD8DWO; JIM, KD8FNA; TERRENCE, KD8GOC; RICHARD, KD8GXX; BOB, N8AJP; RON, N8APZ; BEN, N8JUD; BOB, N8WBG; STACEY, NS8W; HOWARD, W8NEE; BOB, W8NYY; TOM, W8OJM; TIM, WA8IUR; DALE, WA8WTZ; SANDRA, KD8HYS; JEREMY, KD8HYZ; BEN, KD8HYV.

Stephen Bellner, W8TER  
Hamfest Security Committee  
Vice President  
Toledo Mobile Radio Association

## 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+. **Lucas County SKYWARN Net** as needed by the NWS, 147.270+ Alternate frequencies are 146.835-, 146.940- or others announced by "net control". **District SKYWARN Net** on 147.375+, Alternate frequencies are 146.610- and 147.345+.

**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 the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola 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.

## Glass City Marathon

Hello all! I'm still looking for help with the Glass City Marathon. The race takes place Sunday, April 13th and starts at 8:00. It will follow the same course as last year. I need at least 10 more operators to make this event a success and 15 could easily be accommodated. Please consider giving some of your time to this great event, I can work around most time restrictions and everyone is usually done by 1:00PM (some much earlier).

Thanks!

Rick K8RKS  
k8rks@arrl.net  
419-471-0573

## SKYWARN Spotter Training 2008 a Success

Every year, the National Weather Service holds Skywarn Spotter Training in all of the counties they serve, including Lucas County. Gary Garnet, Warning Coordinator Meteorologist for the National Weather Service Cleveland office, was once again our presenter, and he did an outstanding job!

In an average year, we have about 180 people complete the training, with our record being 210....until this year. We blew away our old record and had **293** people go through the program! This number also included 2 cub scouts and 8 boy scouts with their leaders.

I saw in attendance this year, members of the police, sheriff and fire departments, the media, and representatives from the Metroparks. Lucas County was not the only county represented. We had people from Hillsdale, Lenewee, Monroe and Washtenaw counties in Michigan, as well as Williams, Fulton, Henry, Defiance, Ottawa and Sandusky counties in Ohio.

I would like to thank everyone that helped with our Spotter Training this year. I could not have pulled it off without the help of everyone involved! I would especially like to thank the Lucas County EMA office for sponsoring the event, as well as St. Luke's Hospital for allowing us to hold training in their auditorium.

For anyone not able to attend but would like to go through training, here are some other dates and times in our area. To see the full schedule, please go to:

<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/cle/skywarn/training/spottran.html>

Hancock County, April 7, 2008 @ 6:30 PM

Wood County, April 14, 2008 @ 6:30PM

Ottawa County, April 28, 2008 @ 6:30 PM

Wyandot County, May 12, 2008 @ 6:30 PM

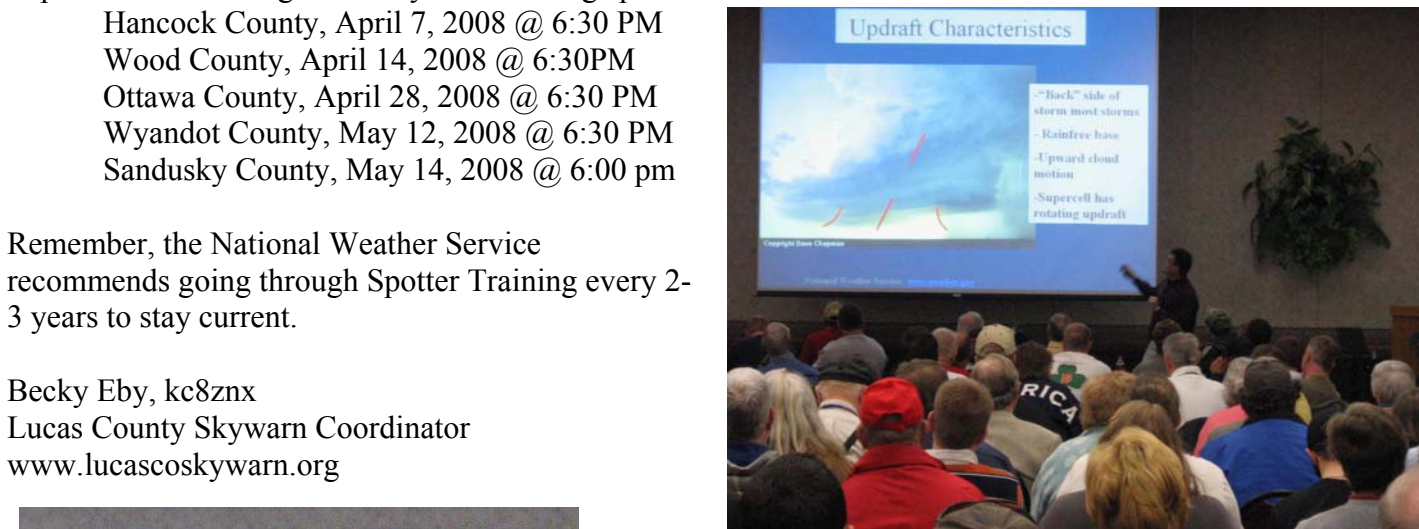
Sandusky County, May 14, 2008 @ 6:00 pm

Remember, the National Weather Service recommends going through Spotter Training every 2-3 years to stay current.

Becky Eby, kc8znx

Lucas County Skywarn Coordinator

[www.lucascoskywarn.org](http://www.lucascoskywarn.org)



## STORM SPOTTER LINKS

by KB9UPS

With storm season here again and the great turn out at the spotter training class I have had several requests for more information on spotting. I have put together several good pages that will help new spotters and us old folks too.

The first link <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/stormspotting/> is an introduction to Storm Observation and Reporting by the National Weather Service Norman, Oklahoma. On this page spotters will find a basic introduction to storm spotting.

The second link <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/> is the online Tornado FAQ page and covers forecasting, damage, safety, climatology, research, history, research and spotting & chasing.

The third link [http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/courses/EF\\_scale/index.html](http://www.wdtb.noaa.gov/courses/EF_scale/index.html) is an online EF-Scale Training site. It covers the new EF-scale and helps spotters make accurate damage assessments of affected areas.

The next link <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/oun/severewx/glossary.php> is a Comprehensive Glossary of Weather Terms for Storm Spotters. These terms are a “must have” to communicate correctly and understand the NWS lingo. Knowing the terms the NWS uses enables spotters to accurately convey needed information.

This link [http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/\(Gh\)/guides/mtr/svr/home.rxml](http://ww2010.atmos.uiuc.edu/(Gh)/guides/mtr/svr/home.rxml) discusses the dangers of thunderstorms, type of thunderstorms, components of thunderstorms, tornadoes and storm modeling. Included are the basic spotter field guide and the advanced spotter field guide and much more detailed information needed to be safe and report accurately.

The Storm Spotters Guides page <http://spotterguides.us/> shows the spotter most everything that is needed in the field. Spotters should carry a copy of the field guide and refer to it often.

The last link I have included <http://www.stormtrack.org/library/faq/> is the online Storm Chasing FAQ page. There is a large difference between Spotting and Chasing and everyone should know the differences.

Safety is first! Three important rules to follow: know what your doing; know where you are when spotting; have a way out. Spotters should carry maps and safety equipment at all times. Don't travel areas you don't know “well”. Night time spotting is “DANGEROUS” so if in doubt, don't.

I encourage spotters to attend all Skywarn meetings and stay informed of the local groups activities. During storm season stay ready! Check as much weather data as you can every day and monitor NOAA weather radio. If you are an Amateur operator monitor the repeaters in your area for weather nets and participate in any weather training exercises in or out of your area.

No matter how much or how little you storm spot remember one thing, stay safe to spot another day. I'll see you, in the field..73

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## SKYWARN District Frequency Change

Due to problems at the East Toledo repeater site, the TRAC 147.375 repeater will be off the air for approximately 1 more month.

Until it is back on the air, the GTARA repeater (146. 61-) will be used as the district net frequency.

73

George H.  
WB8HHZ

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

**Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ.**

**Email, kb8iup @ arrl . net**



## NWOHAMS.ORG

– What is this web site about?

This site was designed for NorthWest Ohio HAMS but is not limited to just HAMS in northwest Ohio as all HAMS, Radio enthusiasts and well just everyone is always welcome!

We thought it would be good idea to try and pull all of the events together in one calendar so it would be easy to know what was going on in the area and it just grew from there. There is (or will be as the site grows) plenty of news, links, downloads and pictures, here is a quick list of what is available:

- News (Local News) and WX (Weather info (NOAA Bulletins))
- News Feeds (These are always being updated and you can get info from just regular daily news from the likes of CNN, ABC and BBC just to name a few and there are other feeds for amateur radio and some government feeds, check them out!)
- Calendar (The calendar has all of the events I know of and if your event is not listed and you would like it to be send me an email [WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG](mailto:WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG))
- Event Registration (We can help you with registration for your events, people can come this site and check out your event and register for it and you will receive an email for each registration for your event contact us for more info [WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG](mailto:WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG))
- Downloads (Files for download such as documents, spreadsheets, PDF's or programs (Freeware of course))
- Links (Web Links we have 277 links as of this writing and always adding more)
- Forum (We have a forum, I would like to use it mostly for Elmering HAMS in all aspects of amateur radio)
- Picture Gallery (pictures of your shack, mobile setup, weather pictures, hamfest pictures and event pictures so send us your pictures [WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG](mailto:WEBMASTER@NWOHAMS.ORG))
- Coming soon – A Market Place - (This will be a place for people to list their radio equipment for sale, trade or free for the taking)

So stop by and see us at [WWW.NWOHAMS.ORG](http://WWW.NWOHAMS.ORG) when you get on the site please register, use your call sign for your login id (it is unique and will make registering quicker) when you finish the registration process the site will send you an email to confirm your email address you supplied, once you get the email click the link in the email, doing so will activate your login id. Registered users can submit links, calendar events, files for download and news items to be added to the site. You also have to be a registered user to use the forum.

We are not here to compete with any club web site or any national sites so let us know what you think in the guest book.

Jon, KB8KLLK

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*Be sure to tune into the TMRA Sunday nite nets, starting at 7:30 with the Q & A net. Got a question about antennas, emergency communications or anything related to ham radio? Check in and ask a question or answer somebody else's. Every one is welcome, you don't even have to be a TMRA member. At 8:30 we continue with the TMRA information net. Tune in and find out what is happening in the area. The info net is followed by the Swap N Shop net. Just think, it's free and it's fun.*

TMRA  
P.O. BOX 9673  
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43697-9673

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## 2008 Lucas County ARES Ham of The Year

Congratulations to Becky, KC8ZNX, who was named 2008 ARES Ham of the Year. She received the award at the annual Ham of the Year Banquet. Next month we will have more information and pictures.

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*Next TMRA meeting – April 9, at the usual place. Important meeting, try to be there.*

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.