



# *TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon*

December 2008



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## The Prez Sez

This month we have good news and bad news: the first good news is that we will have a TMRA Xmas Party ! Dave, KB8EH; Kim, NoCall (wife of Ed KD8GT) and Charles, KD8JGU, have volunteered to organize the event - so we owe them all a big "thank you". I assume that there will be more details of the party elsewhere in this newsletter.

The bad news is that I have just received a letter (dated 11/20/2008) from the Lucas County Recreation Center informing us that they will not be scheduling use of the halls after June 15, 2009. It says that spending the million dollars needed for repairs to keep the facility safe for public use cannot be justified. We will be there in March 2009 for our Hamfest, but for 2010 and later we'll have to find someplace else. The County suggests that we consider the Seagate Convention Center, but a few years ago when it was rumored that the Rec Center was closing we contacted the Seagate Center and had discussions with them about having the Hamfest there, but there were several major problems, probably the most important was the cost. There would also be the parking situation downtown - its scattered nature and the distances from the Convention Center. Obviously the TMRA Executive Committee and the Hamfest Committee will be giving this issue considerable thought, but I urge all members to think of, investigate, and suggest possible locations for TMRA Hamfests in 2010 and later. Given our own experiences and the experiences of other clubs that hold Hamfests - the trend is that Hamfests are getting smaller - fewer vendors and tables rented and fewer attendees - so we may not need a location offering the space of 2 large halls such as we had at the LC Rec Center. Chances are that even if we could still use the Rec Center for years to come, sooner or later we'd be cutting back to renting only one of their halls.

Back to good news: TWO HUNDRED (and counting). Back in May 1992, Chuck, KB8FXJ, (with the important assistance of Brenda, KB8IUP) took over as Editor of the TMRA monthly Newsletter. The present issue - December 2008 - is the 200th issue they have edited and produced. Not only do they put it together as editors, they take it to the printers, pick it up from the printers, and take it to the Post Office. And, of course, they frequently have to remind us that they need articles for the newsletter. We have a high quality newsletter and we owe Chuck and Brenda many, many thanks for their work and dedication.

73, Brian, WD8MXR

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## ARES Net time change!

Effective Nov 19, the Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN) is changing its time to 6:15 PM due to poor propagation on 3972.5 KHz, therefore, Colleen is changing the local net time to 6:10 PM. Please pass the word to all.

73, George WB8HHZ

## 2008 A Year Of Memories

In January TMRA president Brian, WD8MXR, reminded everyone of the TMRA owned equipment that is available for use by club members. Steve, W8TER, outlined our developing plans for involvement with the Challenger Learning Center. At the end of the month a small group of TMRA members gathered at Brian's home and addressed more than 5800 hamfest announcement postcards.

February was a short but cold month. It marked the beginning of the reorganization of the Technical Committee. During this month the Hamfest committee was busy with final plans and preparations for the TMRA Hamfest. In the February *Amateur Radio Beacon*, James, WD8IOL, entertained us with the story of his "Lost W-32A".

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Toledo's NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards transmitter changed its local frequency from 162.550 MHz to 162.500 MHz. The new upgraded transmitter increased the output power to 300 watts, resulting in a larger coverage area. Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> found the Hamfest Committee and many volunteers at the Lucas County Rec Center setting up for our Hamfest. Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup> was TMRA's big day of the year, the 2008 TMRA Hamfest/Computer Fair. On Saturday, March 28 Lucas County ARES and the National Weather service presented the annual Skywarn® Training at St. Luke's Hospital. Over 290 were in attendance for the training. Also in March Becky, KC8ZNX, was elected LCARES Ham of the Year.

In April Jon, KB8KLLK, started a new local ham radio web site. ([www.nwohams.org](http://www.nwohams.org)) The Budget Committee recommended a major increase in the budgeted amount for the newly revamped Tech Committee. On April 13<sup>th</sup> many local hams, through LCARES, assisted with the annual Glass City Marathon.

In May, Stacey, NS8W, successfully hosted a General Upgrade Class. Mike, WA8SYD, guided the annual pilgrimage to Dayton on the TMRA bus. On May 13, the spring mini-field day was presented by Steve, W8TER at Swan creek Metropark.

The month of June finds many Toledo area hams taking a short trip north for the Monroe Hamfest. Once again, the Wolcott House Museum was the site of TMRA Field Day activities. The big event for June took place on the weekend of the 28<sup>th</sup>.

In July, several TMRA members joined Doug, AB8XW, at the Pioneer Scout Camp demonstrating ham radio for the scouts. On July 20, we provided communications for the Ohio/Michigan Run. The ARES truck was set up at the Lucas County Fair.

August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> were the dates of the Sylvania Super Kids and Sylvania Tri-Athalon. The triathlon is one of largest events we participate in. August 23<sup>rd</sup> was the Ohio QSO Party. August 23 was also the first of the TMRA fall Tech Classes hosted by Mike, WA8SYD and Steve, KC8TVW.

September 1 was the date of the TMRA sponsored ARISS contact form the Challenger Learning Center under the leadership of Steve, KB9UPS. It looked like rain in the morning, but the Findlay Hamfest on the 7<sup>th</sup> turned into a nice day for those of us who made the trip. At the September TMRA meeting Dave, KB8EH, was named 2008 TMRA Amateur of the Year. Rita, WB8FGB was elected TMRA Treasurer. On Sunday, August 14, several TMRA members made the trip to Adrian for their hamfest.

At the October General Meeting, Stacey, NS8W, was elected to a 5 year term as a TMRA Trustee. On October 18, area hams participated in the JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) at Camp Miakonda. Becky, KC8ZNX, got the project going. It featured Scouting Merit Badge sessions, weather information, satellite communications (Steve, KB9UPS), "fox hunting" (Steve, N8XSF) and HF communications (Steve, KC8TVW; Chris, KC8UFV; Steve, W8TER; Brenda, KB8IUP and others

The weather turned cold in November. In November, TMRA President, Brian, WD8MXR, announced the official TMRA committee appointments. Several Toledo area hams traveled to Ft. Wayne for the last large hamfest of the year.

This December we look forward to the annual TMRA Christmas party on the 10<sup>th</sup>. It is also Hamfest planning time. As we end this year, we wish you all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday season and best wishes for the New Year.

73,  
Chuck, KB8FXJ

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## 2008 TMRA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday, December 10

6:30 PM

**Regular meeting place, Electrical Industry Building,  
Rossford.**

**Bring a dish to pass, meat and drinks will be  
provided. Call Dave, KB8EH, at 419-8748286 for  
reservations and more information.**

**Good friends, Good food, Door prizes and more.**



### 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 6:10 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.

## Membership Notes:

Thanks to all of you who have taken the time to renew your membership. The applications are starting to flow in nicely, but there is still a ways to go. As of this writing, I have about 50 members processed. That is about a quarter of our total membership that I am anticipating to renew or join, so the work is not done. If you have not yet taken the time to renew your membership, please do so now, and I will get it processed as soon as possible. I have a goal to have all of our members processed by the March Hamfest. Technically, your membership ends on December 31, but because we are so forgiving, we let it string along for longer than it should. So, I am trying to make it easier for all of us. Please help me do this. If you can get your membership applications to me before the end of December, and if you are eligible, you can be entered into the drawing for one of two complimentary memberships for 2010. Good luck!

Speaking of complimentary memberships; members that are over the age of 70, and have been in good standing for at least three previous years are eligible for a complimentary membership. There are quite a few members who fall into this category and either don't realize it, or they wish to contribute money towards dues just to be supportive, which is fine. I just want to make sure that they know they have the choice to not pay dues.

We appreciate all of our members and the dues that they pay, but though the money helps, another way to support the club is to volunteer for events and projects; especially the annual March Hamfest. The Hamfest is the other major aspect to how the club supports itself for all of our activities, donations, and equipment purchases and maintenance. Lending your knowledge and / or some physical efforts to our activities can also be a big help to the success of the organization and allowing it to thrive.

On a different note: just a reminder, since I deal with all of the members names and addresses and such for the membership roster; I have noticed that there are a few of you who have not updated your address data on file with the FCC. It is important that you keep this information up to date and correct. It is also a rule that you are supposed to abide by, and you should have learned this when you earned your license; so please check to make sure your information is correct. It's real easy. QRZ.COM gets their information from the FCC database, so a quick check there will let you know if your address is correct. If it is not, you can go directly to the WWW.FCC.GOV website and change your address online. It doesn't cost you anything and it is important to stay current and legal. You wouldn't want to lose your license just because the FCC couldn't contact you, would you? Also, if your information changes, be sure to please let me know so that I can make sure you will still get the newsletter and other club correspondence. If you have any questions about any of this, I'm pretty sure we can help you out. Just ask.

See you all at the annual Christmas Party! Yes, I will still be processing memberships then too!

Take care and 73 de Tom, KB8PAI  
TMRA Membership Chairman  
KB8PAI@ARRL.NET

**The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. #200**  
**Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ.**  
**Email, kb8iup @ arrl . net**

## TMRA Swap 'N Shop

Contact me to create, remove, or edit a listing at [KB8PAI@ARRL.NET](mailto:KB8PAI@ARRL.NET) or by phone at 419-724-8672.

*Current as of November 25, 2008*

### *For Sale:*

Jeff, KD8HYU, [kd8hyu@gmail.com](mailto:kd8hyu@gmail.com) , Acer Aspire 3680 laptop, running Windows Vista Home OS, 3 Gb Ram memory, 60 Gb hard drive, DVD/CD-RW drive, and built-in wireless. (\$650.00 o.b.o.)

Dave, KD8JGQ, [davkenrem@yahoo.com](mailto:davkenrem@yahoo.com) , APW 42-U rack unit. It has an open front and a door on the back, it also has five bolt-in shelves. It would make a great repeater rack. See it at <http://www.davkenrem.net/rack/> (Devices pictured in the rack are not included) (\$100.00)

Earl Wells, N8XYO, [Earlr1957@aol.com](mailto:Earlr1957@aol.com) , Items from the estate of a silent key: all sorts of radio equipment, HF Rigs, Amps, Antennas, HT's, etc. Kenwood TS-930, Kenwood SP-940, Icom P2AT, Oscilloscope-S54A, lots more to list.

Chuck, KD8JGU, 419-754-1519 or [kd8jgu@arrl.net](mailto:kd8jgu@arrl.net) , MFJ-949D Deluxe Versa Tuner II (\$60.00), MFJ-1274 TNC-2 for packet radio (\$30.00)

### *Looking For:*

Ted, W8PDY, 419-729-3980, Information on integrated circuits: Number CA3055 or RCA3055

Fred, WD8ADG, [fjmelick@aol.com](mailto:fjmelick@aol.com) ,(Sandusky) Heathkit SB-200/201 amplifier

Chuck, KD8JGU, 419-754-1519 or [kd8jgu@arrl.net](mailto:kd8jgu@arrl.net) , looking for a TNC or something to use to get into MARS and / or digital.

Ed, KD8JGT, [horsewisper04@aol.com](mailto:horsewisper04@aol.com) or 419-260-4893, looking for a vertical 2-meter base antenna.

Howard, N8VHX, 419-826-5968 , looking for an SWR / Power meter that can handle up to 1500 watts.

### *Free for the Taking:*

Chuck, KD8JGU, 419-754-1519 or [kd8jgu@arrl.net](mailto:kd8jgu@arrl.net) , Ground-plane antenna and tower. Downward elements are 1 to 1 1/2 meters, vertical element is 2 to 3 meters. It is on a tower. Anyone who is willing to take down antenna can also have the tower.

Brian, KD8COO, [briank@glmotorsports.net](mailto:briank@glmotorsports.net) , Two Mitsubishi / Infinity speakers. Front speakers from a '95 Eclipse, part number MR7331/73. 3" including the still attached bracket. Looks like they'd make a decent little speaker for someone building their own receiver or external speaker setup.

Ron, KG8EC, [kg8ec@att.net](mailto:kg8ec@att.net) , Accessories for a Kenwood TH-77A (circa 1979)(radio is damaged): BNC-10 Drop-in desk charger, wall charger, two NIMH rechargeable 2700 MaH batteries (less than a year old), and a speaker mike.

The TMRA Swap 'N Shop is a service of the Toledo Mobile Radio Association, and open to all amateurs or interested persons in the coverage area of the repeater, newsletter, or website. The TMRA reserves the right to decline to accept any listing. Any descriptions of items listed are those of the person listing the items. Items are kept on the Swap 'N Shop list for a period of four weeks, or five Sundays on the air after which they are dropped from the list. Renewals are welcome, but please notify me promptly when there is no longer a need to continue a listing. When the TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published each month, the then current Swap 'N Shop listings are included in the newsletter (at the editor's discretion.) Prices are not mentioned over the air, but if known, will be shown in the newsletter or on the website.

There are several ways to list items of Amateur Radio interest:

Check into the Swap 'N Shop Net Sunday evenings after the Information Net (approximately 9PM EST.) on the 147.270+ MHz TMRA repeater

E-mail me at [KB8PAI@ARRL.NET](mailto:KB8PAI@ARRL.NET)

Call me at 419-724-8672

Mail the information to me through the USPS

73 de Tom, KB8PAI

TMRA  
P.O. BOX 9673  
TOLEDO, OH  
43697-9673

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
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Toledo, OH  
Permit No. 906

December 2008

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### KI4LA is re-elected Vice Director, ARRL Great Lakes Section

Incumbent Vice Director, Gary Johnston, KI4LA of Edgewood, KY has been reelected to his post for another three years in a very close, 3-candidate race. The results of the vote count as reported on the ARRL web site were: Gary Johnston, KI4LA = 1218; Dan Romanchik, KB6NU = 1205 and John Meyers, NB4K = 1155 votes.

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673  
President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;  
Treasurer, Rita, WB8FGB; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Stacey, NS8W; Chris, KC8UFV; Steve, KC8TVW; Tom, KB8PAI

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

TMRA W8HHF Repeaters; 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.