



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

July 2008



The Prez Sez

TMRA has a KW TS-830S HF transceiver that has seen no usage in the last few years - neither at Field Day nor short-term borrowing by club members. Because of this it is being offered for sale to TMRA members on a highest-bidder-gets-it basis. The package includes the tcvr, matching SP-230 speaker, MC-50 desk mike, owner's manual and the service manual. It has been stored in my basement for probably the last 15 years or so - never in the storage shed.

If interested in it - send to me at my home address your bid in a sealed envelope by US mail so that I receive it no later than Monday August 11, 2008, or give it to me in a sealed envelope at the July TMRA meeting. At the August 13, 2008 TMRA general meeting we will open all the bids received and the station goes to the highest bidder - no minimum bid. Make certain that your name/address is on the envelope - I'll acknowledge receipt of your bid. No bids by email, please - I don't want to know the amount of any bids before we open the envelopes at the August 13, 2008 TMRA meeting.

In June the TMRA By-Laws require us to set up a Nominating Committee to seek members who would like to run for one of the 4 officers' positions up for election at the September meeting. At the last TMRA general meeting I asked for volunteers to be on the committee, but no one did. Please consider volunteering for the committee, and/or even to be a candidate for office. I cannot speak for the other present officers regarding their intents, but I'm willing to run again for President, but some competition would be good.



I have 2 Alinco HT and a Yaesu HT rechargeable battery packs in which the NiCd cells no longer take a charge; it has always irked me that these are sealed packs and I've had to buy whole new packs rather than just being able to replace the NiCd batteries. One seller of NiCd batteries at our Hamfest suggested that I try cutting through the glue seal with a razor blade, but it didn't take me very long to realize that one slip and a considerable amount of flesh could be sliced from at least one finger. In the Hints and Kinks section of the July 2008 QST, Johnny, W4XKE describes how he opened the sealed Yaesu battery pack from his FT-50 HT by putting it in a freezer overnight and then hitting it on all four sides with a mallet - the glue at the freezer temperature is brittle and the glued seams opened easily. I tried it with my Yaesu battery pack - the seams didn't quite pop apart as easily as Johnny described, but a little gentle prying with a small flat screwdriver blade separated the two pieces easily. Now I'm going to try it with the Alinco packs - hopefully Alinco uses the same type of glue !

73, Brian

The next TMRA meeting will be on Wednesday, July 9.

Severe Weather of June 9 Not a Tornado

Monday, June 9, 2008 started out like any other Lucas County Skywarn net. The net was activated at 4:00pm, but by 7:15pm we knew it was going to be bad.

A report came in from Lyons, (which is Fulton County) of a measured wind gust of 117 mph and ¼ inch hail and it was headed our way. The report was measured on a Davis weather station, so we did not doubt its accuracy. We passed the report to IWX, the National Weather Service forecast office responsible for Fulton County. Although the report was found later to be in kilometers per hour, not miles per hour, it was still almost 73 miles per hour and a very impressive wind speed.

By 7:40pm, reports starting coming in from Western Lucas County of storm damage. Lucas County Skywarn took reports of large limbs and power lines down, along with power outages and heavy rainfall. Many of the spotters reported near zero visibility due to rainfall along with strong winds. This included a report at 7:52pm, in Point Place with a measured wind speed of 50 mph. The storm seemed to have crossed Lucas County heading southwest to northeast, from Waterville to Point Place, in a matter of about 15 minutes. That is when the reports of major damage started rolling in.

Beginning at 8:00pm, we began to receive reports of trees snapped off at their bases, steel flagpoles bent over, major power outages and large healthy trees completely uprooted. The reports continued to come in though 9:30pm and several officials from the Lucas County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) office worked with Skywarn looking at radar data and mapping the damage reports that had come. It was determined that two areas of the county were hit very hard by the damaging winds.

The first area, and the hardest hit, was the area of Dorr and Centennial. Throughout the area, trees were sheared off at their tops, large healthy trees were snapped off all at around the same level and several houses took major damage.

The other area hit hard was in West Toledo, in the area of Douglas and Elsie. Douglas Road was closed at Gracewood for about 12 hours due to a fallen tree. Elsie had numerous large, healthy Oak trees completely uprooted and all blown over in the same direction. Both Elsie and Gracewood were closed for a while due to large trees in the road and power lines down.

Around 10:00pm, after examining the storm damage reports and talking with local fire stations, the EMA office thought that a possible tornado had blown through the county and the National Weather Service office in Cleveland was called and asked to do a survey of the area. The EMA office was told they would send someone out sometime the next morning.



kc8znx photo

When daybreak arrived, I set off with my camera to get pictures of the damage. I started in my neighborhood (near Gracewood and Elsie) and followed a straight line to Dorr and Centennial. After looking at the damage, even I was convinced that a tornado did indeed roll through the county. I have never seen damage like I saw over in the Dorr and Centennial area. I got pictures of tree tops being sheared off, houses with trees that had fallen on top of them and one house whose back bedroom was ripped off the foundation when a tree was uprooted from right underneath it.

As I talked to residents, I heard stories that convinced me even more that it was a tornado that caused the damage. One resident I talked to told me that from her front porch, the winds were traveling to the east behind the house and west in the front yard and it was as if she was sitting the “eye” of a tornado because the wind wasn’t really blowing on her front porch. Her next door neighbor said his propane gas grill, and the back end of his boat were lifted several feet off the ground and set back down.

On the morning of June 10th, several National Weather Service officials, along with EMA officials, surveyed the damage in the Dorr and Centennial area. Their final ruling was downburst and straight line wind damage...not a tornado. They explained that if it was in fact a tornado, the snapped off tree limbs and the structural damage would have been thrown a distance away from where it occurred.

Only the National Weather Service can rule whether or not a tornado actually touched town, so the ruling of downburst winds is the final ruling, even if I don't agree with it.

I would like to thank everyone who checked onto the Skywarn net and those who called in reports in to the net. The reports given to the EMA office by us helped them convince the National Weather Service office that this area needed to be assessed for a tornado. And even though it was not ruled a tornado, our reports were invaluable to the EMA office and proved once again how important each and every report from a Spotter actually is.

Becky Eby, KC8ZNX

Lucas County Skywarn Coordinator

www.lucascoskywarn.org

Pioneer Scout Camp

Monday, June 30, 2008 15:39

Doug AB8XW is going to be at Camp Frontier at the Pioneer Scout Reservation in Pioneer Ohio for the next few Tuesday's to introduce scouts to Amateur Radio. I went Tuesday June 24th and helped set up some antennas and got a few scouts on the air.

One kid would not talk because he was afraid of doing something wrong and getting sued. Well after holding back the laugh we assured him it was ok. We got a station in Virginia Beach. After a few minutes of coaxing and watching his buddy do it we got him to talk. About five minutes later he was inviting the ham's granddaughter on the Virginia Beach station to spend a week at the Camp with him. Talk about a fast mover.

The scouts were really interested in Weather Radios and Emergency Preparedness. We showed them that our HT's had all the weather channels available at the touch of a button. Plus get your License and you can help with Skywarn and use the radio for more than listening. The cost of the 2meter / 440 HT is comparable to a weather radio.

If anyone is interested in helping out at the camp or even hanging around on HF to make a contact with the scouts, the scouts are available to Doug AB8XW from 7pm to 9pm. We will be in the General class phone frequencies on 20 - 40 - & 75 meters, depending on band conditions.

Please contact Doug at AB8XW@ARRL.NET for any info or if interested in volunteering.

Thanks. Stacey, NS8W

VE Test Session Results

On May 10th Khalid, KD8INZ, earned his Technician license. On June 14th Rick, KD8IVQ, and John, KD8IVR, both earned their Technician Licenses.

Congrats to all and thank you to the VE's who volunteered their time. The next test session is July 12th in Maumee. Contact Steve, KC8TVW, to register.

73, Stacey, NS8W

2008 Field Day

Another field day has come and gone. This is the first rain we had for field day since 2000. If it does not rain for another 8 years I think we will be fine. The rain only held us up for a couple of hours. Once it had passed radios were on the air and there was a frenzy of stations calling and trying to make that ever-elusive contact.

To start things off we had the Lucas County ARES group hold their general meeting at the site. Brent,



WD8PNZ and Barb, KC8GWM, brought the truck and trailer to the site. Bill, WN8RUG and Becky, KC8ZNX, set up an information booth for Skywarn and amateur radio. It looked professionally done and was appealing.

Several TMRA members helped on Friday afternoon setting up the club's tent and putting out advertising. Some antennas were strung up as well.

Al Mytyk, W8AII set up and successfully operated an actual Army MARS emergency net for several hours on Saturday afternoon. I am hoping to include the MARS stations for field day next year as they too provide emergency communications.

Ron, N8RLH, was on the air with 160 meters and his station was also used by Stacey, NS8W for the OSSBN net for the NTS net at 6:40 PM. Chuck, N8NIR worked twenty meters for the event and Steve, KC8YRK, used the 20 meter station to work the event through the night making many contacts. Chuck, KB8FXJ and Brenda, KB8IUP, worked 40 meters using a ground mounted vertical antenna for 125 contacts. They normally have good success with that antenna every year. Steve, KB9UPS, goes to a great deal of trouble to bring out his satellite station for the 100 point satellite contact. This year we got the 100 points with a contact to Scotland. It may seem like not much but on field day the satellites are very congested and making a contact is next to impossible. Thanks to Steve for his great effort. Brian, WD8MXR, brought out the club's 10/15-meter rotatable dipole and it seemed to work well for is first time on the air since it's revamping.



Speaking of revamping, Dave, KB8EH and others worked hard on the club's 20 meter beam. It was mothballed years ago but a group of us decided to bring it out for field day and try to get it on the air. It still needs some work so we hope to have it back next year. Many thanks to those who spent so much time on it.

Igor, N1NI, was our GOTA station, and our alternate power station. Igor had setup a Yeasu 817 that was completely portable. Running at less than 5 watts he made a number of contacts using only a small portable antenna. Tom, KB8PAI, worked 80 meters and made sure the field day stations had logging software. Tom has been my unofficial assistant for many years of field day and I am sure that it would be much harder to make field day go without his assistance.



Hiram, AB8XP, was the cook for breakfast both Saturday and Sunday on the clubs new grill. If you missed breakfast then you missed a good meal. Sausage, scrambled eggs, and biscuits were on the menu. A special thanks to Karen (KB9UPS XYL) who cooked the afternoon meal on Saturday for her great talent of making food taste so good that there was nothing left of the bratwursts.



Field day is a lot of work and I am very glad for the help I received.

To those of you that came out and participated in anyway I say, thanks for showing up and making this event fun and interesting. We have given the Wolcott House Museum a donation every year that we have used their grounds. They are happy to have us there.



73,
Steve, W8TER

Volunteering

Excerpts taken from the ARRL 1988 Communications Manual

A volunteer; A person who performs or offers to perform a service of his or her own free will, A person who renders aid, performs a service, or assumes an obligation voluntarily. Do you fit this description?

As the Great Lakes Division Legislation Action Coordinator (DLAC), I have asked the State Legislative Action Coordinators (LAC) when making first contact with prospective Legislative Action Assistants (LAA) to make sure before they accepted the position that they were asked to take, to read the description before they make a decision. In accepting the volunteer position they will be expected to do the work, knowing that circumstances do arise and that make it impossible to carry through. But all in all we all are expected to do the job we accept.

The LAC has asked you to take this position because they feel you can and will do the work involved. They have asked you to take this position because they need it done and feel you were the best person to do it.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of the ARRL. They are difficult to find, more difficult to keep, and at times, we all can be difficult to work with. Volunteers come in a wide variety of shapes, colors, sizes, backgrounds, skills, experience, and levels of motivation. They have their own reasons for participating and their own specific needs which must be met if they are to continue to volunteer. Their needs, abilities, and accomplishments determine the ultimate success or failure.

We must remember that volunteers are human beings with human needs, goals, attitudes, abilities, strengths and weaknesses. Since volunteers are the basic resource that we will be working with, it will be to our advantage to get to know each other as well as possible. Generally, volunteers will do precisely what they are asked to do - no more - no less. As each individual has his own likes and dislikes, it maybe necessary to demonstrate the full value of some assignments which are important though unpopular. Volunteers must believe in what you are asking them to do is really needed. Volunteers don't like to be underutilized, and tend to disappear when kept cooling their heels for a significant length of time. They will work for long hours under the worst conditions as long as they can see the need for it. Most will do anything you ask as long as they're treated properly. If you mistreat or abuse them, they may not volunteer their help again.

It would be physically impossible to discuss in this article every possible reason why people join a volunteer group. Generally speaking, they volunteer and join to satisfy a personal need. The majority of your volunteers though joined out of a need they have to serve the public or hobby in a way they best know how: as

communicators. These are the volunteers you should direct your efforts toward. You've got to find out what their needs are before you can attempt to satisfy these. In short, the best way to find out why your members volunteered is to ask them!

As volunteers they have a right to expect courteous, considerate, fair and impartial treatment from the leadership. Courtesy is always in order; rudeness will cost us dearly. In addition to learning and compensating for their weaknesses and being tolerant of their faults, you must also consider their feelings. Don't forget that you are taking precious time from their families. They also have the right to expect you to make a reasonable effort to learn and apply the skills and techniques of communications management. You will be expected to make mistakes -- admit them openly, and learn from them as you grow into your new role. You will also be expected to keep them informed as to what is happening and why. Unfortunately, some members will expect much more of you than they have a right to expect, and often more than you can do. They may expect you to change situations over which you have no control, force other volunteers to change their habits, provide them with privileged treatment or status, fire a useful assistant because they happen to dislike him, or other equally inappropriate actions. In short, they will tend to forget that you deserve the same treatment from them that they expect from you. Each member has different job demands and family requirements, as well as other outside interests.

John D. Meyers, NB4K
Great Lakes Division
Division Legislative Action Chairman

TMRA Swap 'N Shop

Contact me to create, remove, or edit a listing at KB8PAI@ARRL.NET or by phone at 419-724-8672.

Current as of July 1, 2008

For Sale:

William, 419-467-3814 or willpwatkins@juno.com , Kenwood TM-733A dual band 2 meter / 440 MHz transceiver (\$300.00, OBO,) Alinco DJ-C1T Frequency Coverage: VHF TX: 144 - 147.995 MHz RX: 118 - 173.995 MHz (\$60.00, OBO.) They were bought new, work fine, and have had little use.

Wayne, KB8NGA, 419-340-2738, Roof mount tri-pod antenna mount, brand new in the box (\$25.00)

Looking For:

Josh, KD8ENQ, penguin_621@sbcglobal.net , Older version of the Icom 706 and a used Buddi-Pole antenna

Ted, W8PDY, 419-729-3980, Integrated Circuits: Number CA3055 or RCA3055

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

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+. **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 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.

Brian, KD8IIS, 419-392-4669, Used HF transceiver to copy CW (or contact Steve, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734)

Brian, W8PH, 419-260-7811 or brianv@bex.net , Kenwood TS-530S in good operating condition or would settle for a TS-520S

Tony, N8WAC, natewac@aol.com (put in the subject line 1.2 Ghz) 1.2 Ghz transceiver and two 1.2 Ghz yagi antennas

Free for the Taking:

Chuck, N8NIR, 419-729-3484, Ferrite core toroids and some connectors

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 TMRA 147.270 repeater

E-mail me at KB8PAI@ARRL.NET

Call me at 419-724-8672

Mail the information to me through the USPS

73 de Tom, KB8PAI

Great Lakes Division Web Site Revised

The GLD web site is totally revised and updated! You are invited to go to <http://www.greatlakes.arrl.org> to get a look at what webmeister Gary Osborne, W8XS has done.

The web site and how we plan to use it will continue to evolve. If you have suggestions of features you would like to see on the site, please let me know. Keep in mind that this is a Division site. The three Section web sites will continue to provide most of the coverage of Section information.

Thanks to W8XS for the fine work; work he has only just begun.

73,

Jim

Jim Weaver, K8JE, Director
ARRL Great Lakes Division
5065 Bethany Rd.
Mason, OH 45040
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ARRL - The Reason Amateur Radio Is!
Members - The Reason ARRL Is!

<p>The TMRA <i>Amateur Radio Beacon</i> is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ. Email, kb8iup @ arrl . net</p>
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July 2008

Events coming up

July 20th the Ohio-Michigan run based at Pacesetter Park in Sylvania.

On August 9th and 10th there is The Sylvania Superkids on Sat. and The Sylvania Tri-athalon on Sun. Both events are based at Olander Park in Sylvania. Lots of operators are needed for Sunday.

Please contact Rick, K8RKS, at k8rks@arrl.net or call 471-0573 to help out.

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; Chris, KC8UFV; 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.