



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

July 2010



It's Sunday evening after Field Day as I write this – I want to thank everyone who took part in what turned out to be a very successful FD and Club Picnic combination event. Some of us would have preferred a cooler couple of days, but at least we didn't get rained on. Thanks go to Steve, W8TER, for organizing FD and to those who helped him with set-up and take down. To Brenda, KB8IUP, for organizing the picnic, and to all who brought a great selection of foods. Mike, N8YAE, did a great job with the grill, turning out hot dogs and hamburgers as fast as he could for the largest crowd we've had at a picnic for many years.



Chief cook, Mike, N8YAE, and assistant.

*kb8fxj photo*

It's too soon to know exactly how many contacts we made – Steve, W8TER, will have a much more detailed FD report in the next Newsletter – we ran 6A this year, one more “A” than last year, and most bands were active - Let's try for at least 7A next year. There seemed to be a steady stream of people at the 20m phone station making many contacts. I worked 15m phone, and for the 49 contacts we made on 15m phone (triple my last year's number), my thanks go to Ron, N8RLH, for starting while I got my station set up, and to Raven, the 10 year old grand daughter of

Howard, KB8NVF, who took over my mike and made 12 contacts while Howard and I

logged for her ! She got us 20 bonus points for being a participant under 18 years old making at least one QSO. Howard made some contacts too, thanks.

Our current plans are to hold FD next year at the outdoor location next to where we have our monthly meetings – it will present more of a challenge than the Wolcott House site as there are no trees to string antennas in or from. There's no problem with the Wolcott House location, we're very grateful to them for their cooperation with us, but FD is about training for emergency communications wherever they may be needed, and we shouldn't assume that there will always be conveniently-located tall trees for antennas.

Sadly we have to note the death of James, N8NLE, on May 30, 2010 – Jim was a member of TMRA for many years and had served as Secretary; on the 2m repeater he was an example to us all with his courtesy and the deliberation and clarity with which he pronounced his call. In addition to Jim's family, the Club's condolences also go to Tom, KB8PAI, and his family on the death of his brother John, and to Steve, KB9UPS, and his family on the death of his mother.

73,Brian,WD8MXR

## Amateur Radio Operators Active during Severe Tornado Breakout in Northwestern Ohio

06/09/2010

During the early overnight hours of Saturday, June 5 through Sunday, June 6, severe weather and tornadoes ripped across an area of Northwestern Ohio, laying a large path of destruction. ARES® and SKYWARN groups in Erie, Huron, Sandusky and Wood Counties activated nets as early as 10:30 PM Saturday, with many not standing down until 4:30 AM the next day. According to ARRL Ohio Section Manager Frank J. Piper, KI8GW, traffic on the nets was filled with reports of severe weather damage, flooding and downed power lines.



A family surveys their home, destroyed by a tornado in Northwestern Ohio. [Tony Everhardt, N8WAC, Photo]

In Wood County, ARES Emergency Coordinator Bob Schumann, W8NYY, reported that the severity of the damage quickly became apparent with the frequency of the reports coming in during a 15 minute window shortly before midnight on Saturday. Tony Everhardt, N8WAC, and Assistant Emergency Coordinator Ed Brown, K8ZCS, gave on-site reports of severe damage to Lake High School, located in Millbury. Everhardt reported that he was able to see the funnel cloud only when electrical transformers began exploding and lighting up the sky. Brown added that there were broken natural gas lines and downed power lines in the area as well,

requiring Schumann to recall weather spotters from the area for their own safety. Hams relayed continuous reports on the net of telephone poles and power lines down blocking roads; live electrical wires were an immediate danger. During the early morning hours, Schumann spoke with Wood County Sheriff Mark Wasyslyshyn concerning the state of communications. Wasyslyshyn advised Schumann he was setting up a temporary command center across from the Lake Township Police Department; that building had been heavily damaged by the tornado. The sheriff and Schumann decided to deploy the Wood County Amateur Radio Emergency Service trailer, as the trailer had a supply of police band radios, as well as a generator and Amateur Radio equipment. Early Sunday morning, Wasyslyshyn reported that communications had been restored to Lake Township via temporary equipment. Many Wood County ARES® members remained on standby in case they were needed at a later time. The nets stood down at approximately 4:30 AM.

Schumann said he is very proud of the work that was performed by the hams of Wood County, and thanks them for their dedication: “It’s my hope that their dedication was responsible for the reports that ultimately sounded the sirens, which indeed saved lives.”

District Emergency Coordinator George Henzler, WB8HHZ, maintained contact with Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Jack Sovik, KB8WPZ, during the time of the incident, as is outlined in the Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan. Sovik told the ARRL that “the professionalism of the ARES® members, working in conjunction with the National Weather Service and their SKYWARN program, as per the written *Memorandum of Understanding*, saved lives and kept the National Weather Service and the public apprised of the situation that was developing in the immediate affected areas.”

## **\*Reminder About The TMRA E-Mail List!\***

Hello all. In conversations I've had recently I've noticed that some are still unaware of the TMRA e-mail list. This may also be called a "list serve" or "reflector". This feature of the TMRA web presence is not one-way, i.e., it's not just a way for TMRA to contact you. YOU can also use this feature too! After signing up for the TMRA mailing list you are able to send a message to the list, and your message is "reflected" to all the members of the list. "So what?". Well, let's say you want to practice or try out your digital setup. You can post a message to the list and, if anyone else is around and free, you might find a practice partner. Another situation might involve a problem you're having with your radio and you can't find the answer on the Internet. Maybe someone on the list may have your answer. And don't forget band openings! I find it fun when others note band openings using the list.

If you don't know if you are signed up for the TMRA e-mail list, then you are probably NOT. You are not signed up for the list automatically. To sign up, go to our website, [www.tmrahamradio.org](http://www.tmrahamradio.org) and click on the first link under the banner graphic which reads "TMRA Mailing List - Sign Up Here!". Then, in the "Subscribing to TMRA" section, simply enter your e-mail address and create a password. After submitting the form, a TMRA administrator will need to "approve" your login before you can begin posting messages. The reason behind this approval is to keep out "spammers" from the mailing list. I'm sure we can all appreciate that.

Messages on the list are archived. What does this mean? If you post about a problem, and someone provides help, then others can look up and see the answer to that particular problem in the future. In addition, you can search through the archives as well! Perhaps your problem has been solved before. You can access the archives directly by clicking on the "View Archives" link on our web page.

One last note... if you reply to a message sent from the e-mail list, the reply will only go to the person who originally sent the e-mail. If you wish the whole list to see your reply, then you need to use the "REPLY TO ALL" function. So, if you are replying to a question posted to the list, please use the reply to all function so the whole list sees your reply.

73 de KJ0EYT

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## **What's Wrong With the Sun?**

For an explanation of our current solar cycle sunspot doldrums, visit:  
<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20627640.800-whats-wrong-with-the-sun.html>

Steve KC8TVW

**The TMRA *Amateur Radio Beacon* is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. #219  
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## Ohio Section Journal, Summer 2010 is now available!

The 2010 Summer edition of the Ohio Section Journal, a quarterly publication for the Ohio Section about and for the Ohio Section Hams, is now published for downloading on the Ohio Section Website ([www.arrlohio.org](http://www.arrlohio.org)). There are a lot of great articles covering a wide area of topics. In this issue, you'll read of On-Going Antenna Legislation by SGL Nick Pittner, K8NAP, along with articles by OOC Rick Swain, KK8O; SEC Jack Sovik, KB8WPZ; ASM articles by Connie Hamilton, N8IO, Scott Yonally, N8SY, and Bob Johnson, K3RC, as well as part-2 of an inside look of ARRL headquarters by ASM Steve Katz, N8WL.

Also included is information of upcoming on-the-air contests: The Ohio QSO party, and the Ohio State Parks On The Air.

Preliminary information regarding the Ohio Section and ARES Conference is included as well.

ARRL Ohio Section

Section Manager: Frank J Piper, KI8GW

[ki8gw@arrl.org](mailto:ki8gw@arrl.org)



Tom, KB8PAI, sets up the wireless network for the Field Day logging program. Next month, read more Field Day information in the news letter. Find out which station stayed on the air all night.

*kb8fxj, photo*

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673

President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;

Treasurer, Brenda, KB8IUP; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Chris, KC8UFV; Steve, KC8TVW; Tom, KB8PAI; Rita, WB8FBG; Dan, KE8UE.

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.