



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

February 2011



## The Prez Sez

First of all, an update on the TMRA Technical Committee: a couple of years (or so) ago we increased the membership of this committee to 16 members when we were reviewing our need for new repeater equipment – controllers, repeaters, amplifiers - and planning changes at the two repeater sites that we have. The work and contributions of these members, and other TMRA members who helped with the more physical work of antenna and tower dismantling and erection, is greatly appreciated. With the joint leadership of Dan, KE8UE and Steve, W8TER, as co-chairs, the tech committee has been meeting almost every month, but with most of the decisions and work on the repeaters and the sites behind us, we've run into problems at the meetings due to lack of a quorum. 16 members means we need 8 for a quorum: I surveyed the committee members and several offered that, while being willing to help when and where needed, they would step down as regular, voting members of the committee. These are Jerry, WJ8E; Tom, KB8PAI; Ron, N8RLH and Chuck, KB8FXJ – and many thanks to these for their past participation and willingness to help in the future. Two others I did not re-appoint to the committee as it has been over a year since they attended a committee meeting. The TMRA Technical Committee now consists of Dan, KE8UE; Steve, W8TER; Dave, KB8EH; Chris, KC8UVF; Joe, KJ0EYT; Steve, N8XSF; Mike, WA8SYD; Tony, N8WAC; Ken, KD8DWO and me, WD8MXR (as President, on the committee as a voting member, but not counting towards a quorum).



2010 TMRA Hamfest at Owens Community College.  
*photo, kb8fxj*

Our Hamfest is less than 2 months away (Sunday March 20<sup>th</sup> 2011). In case anyone doesn't know – we're back again at Owens Community College in the Student Health and Activities Center (SHAC). Several of the Hamfest Committee met with Rebecca Drayton of OCC – they are extremely willing and eager to work with us on the Hamfest. One problem we encountered last year was over a lack of many handicapped parking spaces – this year they will (temporarily for the Hamfest) designate many more spaces for this. As always we need volunteers – notably for security, set-up AND take-down, ticket selling: Steve, W8TER, is handling security; Tom, KB8PAI, set-up and take-down; Rita, WB8FBG, tickets. Steve, KC8TVW, will hold VE testing Sunday morning and will need examiners for a couple of hours. Contact these members to volunteer. Keep checking the TMRA

website for more Hamfest details, e.g. Forums, as they become available.

Keep checking the website anyway to see what Joe, KJ0EYT, is doing with it !

As a parting thought for this month, if the #2 pencil is the most popular type (as it is) – why isn't it #1?

73, Brian WD8MXR.

## The Tech Committee Update

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a very good Holiday Season. We have done a few things since I last wrote and here they are. We have been doing some tidying up at the Parks Tower site by labeling and tagging the towers with who owns them and who to get touch with. We checked out repeaters with some PM time. The 2-meter seems to be operating ok with little problems now that some of us have the right codes. The 440 repeater audio was turn up a little and the other Henry Amp was checkout for proper operation it will be put on the 440 repeater downtown on the PNC Bank Building and it was showing us a 100 watts out. We checked out what we thought was fan noise in the 440 repeater but could not detect any at the time we up there. The 440 repeater at Parks is doing 100 watts and all is good

We now will turn our efforts towards the downtown site. We will make a trip down to this site in the near future to gather some info on what is needed and what we should do first. The things we will be looking at is the BBS station, we know it needs a new computer which was purchased last spring and newer program software, checking out the grounding on all cabinets, antennas, what radios are needed and general clean up. The repeater will also get some attention by installing the Henry Amp for the 440 and just doing some PM on it and the same goes for the 2-meter side of the site. We will possibly be re-programming the controllers so we have more flexible control. I wish I could say we don't anticipate any serious problems, but one never knows.

Your Tech Committee members are working very hard in getting things done and I want to thank all of the members of the committee with their input and help. You have a nice New Year and remember we need lots of help with the up coming Hamfest.

73's Dan  
KE8UE

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## ARES Training Net... *Net Time Has Changed.*

This is a reminder that the ARES training nets formerly held on Thursdays were moved to Sundays on January 9th and will continue to be on Sunday evenings thereafter. When the NTS net is finished, approximately 7:00 PM or after, the ARES Training Net will take place on 146.940 w/ PL 103.5 linked to 442.950 w/PL of 103.5

Please make a note of it.

Thanks for your support.

73,

STEPHEN BELLNER  
ARES EC, LUCAS COUNTY  
RADIO: W8TER  
419-367-1200  
w8ter@arrl.net

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**Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, (poof-reeder) and Chuck, KB8FXJ.**  
**Email, kb8iup @ arrl.net**

## TMRA "Infocast"

I have been approached by some members who are unaware of times, dates, and locations of events.

Our attention spans seem to shrink with longevity. We have the webpage. We have our TMRA reflector. We have our Newsletter. I've been told that if an article or an e-mail is more than a couple of sentences long that chances of it getting read completely are slim. You might not have made it this far.

TMRA's Public Information officer (PIO) is Steve Stalker. Steve is a very level headed and an active member of TMRA. Steve is our link to the media.

Steve would like to send out emails prior to events as to when and where events are happening i.e. (TMRA mini Field day January 29th from 8:00AM until 5:00 PM) A one liner. Not a lot of stuff. Just plain facts.

He realizes that many of you get bombarded with emails. If you get added to the list, all email subject lines would start with TMRA.

If you would like to be part of this e-Mail Infocast then send Steve an e-mail to:

kc8tvw@arrl.net with "TMRA Infocast" in the subject line and your name & call sign in the body.

73,  
STEPHEN BELLNER  
RADIO: W8TER

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## LCARES Digital Mode Training

When- Saturday, Feb 12, 2011  
Where - Jefferson Ave. & N 22nd St., Toledo, OH 43620

Description:  
CERT Training - Behind 911 Center, Downtown Toledo  
Jefferson Ave. & N 22nd St., Toledo, OH 43620

Lucas County ARES - Digital Mode Training featuring the FLDigi software package, with the intention of creating a digital ARES weekly net. Bring your laptop! Instructions & help will be given on installing FLDigi.

For more information, contact Steve, W8TER, at W8TER@ARRL.NET  
Feb 12th 2011, 1PM-4PM

This web page explains the basics of the FLDIGI software suite. It can act as a primer for those who plan to attend the training...<http://www.uspacket.org/network/index.php/topic,44.0.html>

Also click on calendar [www.tmrahamradio.org](http://www.tmrahamradio.org)

STEPHEN BELLNER  
ARES EC, LUCAS COUNTY  
RADIO: W8TER  
419-367-1200  
w8ter@arrl.net

## S O S Origination    ··· - - - ···

The lack of international radio regulations created problems, among them the Marconi company's attempt to establish a radio monopoly. Marconi initially leased rather than sold his equipment to his clients and supplied the operators as well. He further stipulated that there must be no intercommunication between Marconi sets and those of other manufacturers, except in emergencies. By this means he hoped to force all those wanting wireless service to use Marconi equipment. At the invitation of the German government, representatives of eight nations, including Chief Signal Officer Greely, gathered at the first international conference on wireless telegraphy, held in Berlin during August 1903. The meeting produced a protocol that remains the cornerstone of international radio agreements. Its provisions contained a statement upholding the policy of intercommunication, thus striking a blow to the Marconi interests.

A second conference convened in Berlin in October 1906, with Chief Signal Officer Allen in attendance. The resulting treaty embodied the intercommunication principle of the 1903 protocol and received the endorsement of President Roosevelt. The conference also adopted the signal "SOS" as the international distress call because these letters could be easily sent and deciphered. General Allen and other government officials concerned about radio policy jointly submitted arguments in favor of the treaty before congressional hearings.

Due to strenuous opposition by various radio companies, especially the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company of America, as well as of amateur operators, the Senate did not ratify this treaty until 1912. Majors Squier, Russel and Saltzman attended the third international conference, held in London in 1912 to revise the 1906 treaty. Convening shortly after the Titanic disaster, the conference devoted much of its attention to safety at sea.

*Citation: Getting the Message Through by Becky Raines, pp. 137 -138, Center of Military History*

Steve, W8TER

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## Mid-Winter Hamfest & Computer Show

Sunday, February 13, Richland County Fairgrounds, Mansfield. Forums and VE Test Session.  
Talk-in on 146.940-, (71.9 PL). More info at: <http://w8we.org>

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; Joe, KJ0EYT; 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.