



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

February 2012



## The Prez Sez

At the January TMRA Executive Committee meeting we had considerable discussion about the Club's nets on the repeaters, primarily about the Sunday evening (8:30pm) informal "Information Net", which used to be followed by the Swap and Shop Net. I'll be the first to recognize that in recent years I rarely have checked into the Information net – either forget it's on, or we have guests, or I'm working on something for Monday – but I'll try to change my ways and check in more often, or take the Net Control Station position on occasion if need be. Mike, WA8SYD has been net control for that net many, many times – for which we are grateful - but we cannot expect any one person to be able to be there every week. Sharing the load is a concept that we should adopt when it comes to having the net on a regular, weekly basis – which means having a pool of members who are willing to be net control station, and that means having some-one to act as a scheduler or net manager. A net manager with a list of members who are willing to be net control station once a month, once every 6 weeks, or take a block of 3 or 4 Sundays – the rotation and frequency would be governed to some extent by the numbers of volunteers – could set up a schedule, with a back-up net control for each Sunday. The point that I'm coming to is that, if the club members want an informal, information net on Sunday evenings – we need volunteers for net controls and an organizing scheduler so that the people involved know when it's their turn – any offers ?

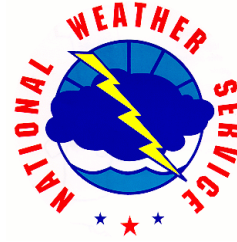
The Swap and Shop listings that are maintained on the TMRA website are extensive and probably too long for reading on the net every week in their present form. I know that when Mike has been net control, he has invited those with new listings to list on the air and he passes those on to Tom, KB8PAI.

Elsewhere in the Newsletter, Steve, KC8TVW has information regarding two important other TMRA nets – the Q&A Sunday evening net and the digital communications net. It is Steve's intention to go back to the original format of the Q&A net from 7:30-8:30pm – immediately before the Information net – and schedule 2 weekly digital training nets – one on Sunday evenings after the Information/ Swap&Shop net, and one on Tuesday evenings starting at 8:00pm. At these times, the digital nets can be open-ended, which is an important consideration as there may be times when the net is helping participating station(s) with equipment and/or software adjustments or diagnosing problems – which can be time-consuming, but frustrating those seeking help if the net has to close because its time has run out and another net is waiting to start.

We are a little over a month away from our Hamfest, and volunteers are needed for set-up Saturday morning and afternoon, helping vendors bring in their stuff (if they want help), security at the doors Saturday afternoon and evening, ticket sales Sunday morning, security at the doors Sunday, talk-in Sunday morning, helping vendors take out their unsold stuff (if they want help), take-down and general clean-up Sunday afternoon. If you don't know who to contact to volunteer your time – see us at the meeting on Wednesday or contact me (419-385-5624 or email [WD8MXR@gmail.com](mailto:WD8MXR@gmail.com)) and I'll put you in touch with the appropriate person(s).

Again this year we'll be giving \$5.00 food vouchers for the food service at the Hamfest to those members who put in at least a hour of helping time.

73, Brian WD8MXR



## **2012 SKYWARN®**

# **Severe Weather Spotter Training**

## **Lucas County SKYWARN® TRAINING**

The National Weather Service (NWS), Lucas County SKYWARN® and the Lucas County Emergency Management Agency, are presenting a SKYWARN® Severe Weather Spotter Training class on Saturday, March 24th 2012 10:00 a.m. St. Luke's Hospital Auditorium in Maumee, Ohio.

\*The class will last about 2 hours and includes a multimedia presentation.

Gary Garnet, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Cleveland Ohio, organizes the training each spring. It is open to all citizens interested in severe weather recognition, reporting, safety and teaches:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

***SKYWARN® Storm Spotters form the first line of defense against severe weather. It's more than just a weather class. It is information that could save many lives by advance warning!***

All interested individuals are encouraged to attend this free training for all ages and it is not necessary to pre-register for this training. Those who attend and complete the program will be registered with the National Weather Service Cleveland Forecast Office and will be issued a SKYWARN® Spotter ID card at the training.

For more information contact:  
Tim McConoughey  
Skywarn Coordinator  
[MYCV64@AMERITECH.NET](mailto:MYCV64@AMERITECH.NET)

Lucas County

## **From the TMRA Department of Education:**

(if the Feds and States have one, so can we).

The Sunday night net schedule has changed effective immediately.

At 7:30 p.m. we will be going back to a Q&A net. All communication will be voice. The net will be open to all questions. The net will depend on us having a net control. Any TMRA member may be net control.

At 8:30 we will have the Information net and swap and shop. As above, it is dependent on having a net control.

Following the Information net (or 9:00 if no Information net has taken place), we will start the Digital Training net. Again, if no one is available and you are willing to be Net Control, please jump right in. Remember, this is a training net (including how to be a digital net control station).

As we mentioned in the fldigi workshop, we will be having a Digital training net on Tuesdays at 8:00 starting January 31.

Steve W8TER & Steve KC8TVW

## **Ohio State ARRL Convention - Call For Programs And Speakers**

The Ohio Section is hosting an Ohio State ARRL Convention, to be held on August 4, 2012, in conjunction with the Columbus Hamfest. The Hamfest is sponsored by the Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club. The Hamfest and Convention will be held at the Aladdin Shrine Temple, 3850 Stelzer Road in Columbus.

The Convention Committee is now opening invitations for programs and speakers who would like to make a presentation at the convention.

Deadline for submittal is March 1, 2012 for program consideration. Please be sure to contact Assistant Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY by that date if you have a program of interest.

Please contact:

Scott Yonally, N8SY

ASM -- Ohio Section at: [n8sy@arrl.net](mailto:n8sy@arrl.net) or [n8sy@n8sy.com](mailto:n8sy@n8sy.com) You can also telephone Scott direct with your information at: 419-884-5105.

More information about the upcoming Ohio State ARRL Convention will be announced as the date of the convention draws nearer.

ARRL Ohio Section

Section Manager: Frank Piper, KI8GW

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

## Hamfest Schedule

Sunday, February 12, 2012

Mid Winter Hamfest and Computer Show Mansfield, Ohio

Richland County Fairgrounds (750 North Home Road)

Sponsored by The Intercity Amateur Radio Club. Inc.

Forums and VE Test Session. For more info goto [www.w8we.org](http://www.w8we.org)

Talk-in on 146.94- (71.9 pl)

Sunday, February 19, 2012

Livonia Amateur Radio Club presents their 41<sup>st</sup> Annual SWAP-N-SHOP.

Civic Park Senior Center. 15218 Farmington Rd. Livonia, Mi. (SE corner of Farmington Rd. and 5 Mile Rd.) Talk-in: 145.35- (100 pl) or 146.52 Simplex

Sunday, March 18, 2012

TMRA Hamfest, That's right it will be here before you know it. Now is the time to call Brian, WD8MXR, (419-385-5624) to volunteer to help make our hamfest a success.

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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.

Board Members: Chris, KC8UFV; Joe, KJ0EYT; James, WD8IOL; Rita, WB8FBG; Dan, KE8UE.

TMRA Home Page [www.tmrahamradio.org](http://www.tmrahamradio.org) Webmasters, Tom, KB8PAI & Joe, KJ0EYT

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)

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.