



# TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

August 2014



## The Prez Sez

With my re-election as President, there is a vacancy on the Board of Trustees: Dan KE8UE has just completed the un-expired term of Rita, WB8FBG, as Trustee, and the Executive Committee is nominating Dan for a full 5 year term as a Trustee, and this will be voted on by the members present at the August general meeting.

Elsewhere in this issue are some proposed changes to our By-Laws: probably the most important is that the present By-Laws do not address the position of Statutory Agent, which is a position required of Not-for-Profit organizations in the State of Ohio. The proposed change here is to have the TMRA Vice-President serve as that agent. These proposed changes will be voted on at the August general meeting.

Also elsewhere in this issue is information on behalf of LCARES, concerning testing of the hospital radio equipment, which we hope to do in September in conjunction with a TMRA 2m FM simplex sprint contest. LCARES is planning on having a training session on the Icom 880H 2m/440MHz radios before the September hospital radio testing – more details of that will come.

73, Brian



## Help Needed!

Date: Sunday, July 20, 2014 16:47

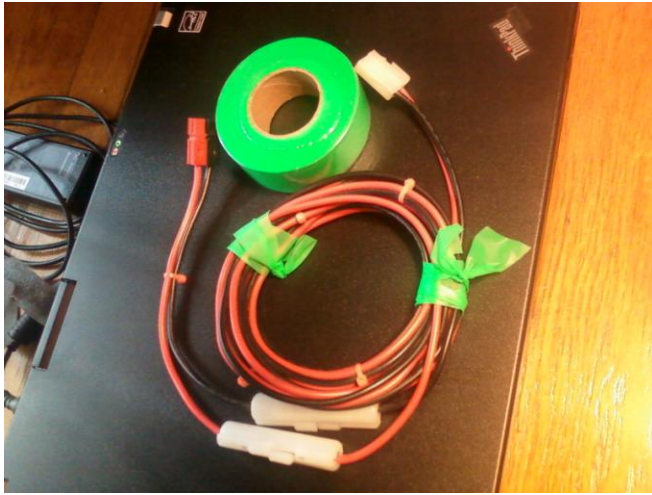
Hi all! I'm in need of help for the Sylvania events. The SuperKids is Saturday, August 9th, and the race starts at 7:30 AM. We only cover the bicycling portion of the race and we're usually done by 11. The following day, Sunday, August 10th is the Sylvania Triathlon. It also starts at 7:30 AM and the course closes at 1 PM. We cover all three parts but not everyone needs to be present for the whole time. Both events take place in and around Olander Park in Sylvania. If you would like to volunteer for either of these events or need more information please contact me at k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573.

Thanks!

Rick, K8RKS  
k8rks@arrl.net  
419-471-0573

## A Visible Solution

If you have tried to navigate through a field day site or your own ham shack for that matter, you may have found that hazards lie in wait. Tent stakes, dipoles with ladder line feeds, and power cords strewn about on the ground. In the dark, it becomes even more hazardous, especially as you try to navigate to the coffee pot.



Ever drop a screw or bolt in the grass at field day? How long did it take you to find it? Did you ever find it!??? Have you taken your grab and go kit to a drill or event and found that tucking coaxial cable and power cords away to keep them away from the surrounding foot traffic is usually done in a fashion that ends up being a tangle when you break down your station?

What if I told you there is a tool you can use to help keep your coax, power cords, and antenna leads neat and orderly as well as easy to tie up and store in the grab and go kit. No, not the ever popular zip ties or electricians tape. It is called surveyors tape and is used by surveyors to mark the lathing they drive into the ground. It is a ribbon of colored polyvinyl that is non-conductive and non-sticky. It costs about \$2.00 for a brightly colored roll that is 200 feet in length. You can get it at your local Home Depot, Lowes, and maybe even your local hardware store. They come in a variety of colors; pink, green, orange.

It is great for marking, locating, identifying and can be used as you might use light string or small zip ties. Coil up that 50 foot length of RG/8 and tie it with the surveyors tape. Use a different color for different coax. Coil up your 16 foot coax from your 1/4 wave amount to easily store it in your Grab and go kit.

Using a sharpie, you can write on it to identify your programming cables or tie and mark your power cord and coiled coaxial cable for storage. It is strong enough to hold small items by itself but you can double and triple the tape for added strength. Also poke that screw through a small piece of the ribbon and if you drop it... it stands out against the green grass.

Use your imagination. 200 feet of ribbon will go a long way. You can hang your 2 meter 1/4 wave from a ceiling hook or tree limb using the surveyors tape. Being a fairly good insulator allows for a variety of uses. The roll is light weight and does not take up much space in the grab and go kit. Cheaper and easier to use than zip ties. The usefulness of a \$2.00 roll of surveyors tape is extensive. I keep at least one in the radio shack. It ties like string, is a good insulator, and is easy to see. I hope it will help you keep your gear neat, orderly, and easy to identify.

Stephen L. Bellner  
Amateur Radio Call / W8TER  
Mobile Phone 419-367-1200

Never be afraid to try something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark;  
professionals built the Titanic.

-- Anonymous

## LCARES News.

*Test of hospital radios: Saturday Sept 27, 2014 Time 6:00 – 7:00pm*

In conjunction with TMRA's 2m FM Simplex Contest – after the testing of the hospital radios (see below), the operators will remain at the hospitals for 7:00 – 9:00pm period to participate in the contest. As the hospital stations are “Bonus Stations” worth 5 points – it is hoped that contestants will take this opportunity to see how well they can contact the local hospitals on simplex.

Need coverage at:

The Toledo Hospital    Mercy St. Vincent Med Center    UT Medical Center  
Flower Hospital        St. Lukes Hospital            Mercy St. Charles Hospital  
Baypark Hospital        Mercy St. Anne Hospital  
Wood County Hospital (check with Bob W8NYY – ARES EC for Wood County)  
Preferably at least 2 operators at each hospital.

The test will also include the radio equipment (the same as at the hospitals) in the LCARES communications truck/trailer AND the EMA/911 building.

If you can participate, please contact Ron or me, stating which location you can go to.

Ron, N8RLH, Steve, W8TER, and I will serve as NCS operating portable, emergency power, with the “Grab-and-Go” set of equipment from a remote (non-hospital) location

Planned activity for the test:

1. Check and document SWR of the antenna installation – 2m (and 440MHz if possible):  
Operator will need to take appropriate meter(s).
2. Roll call, with SWR report, on 147.270 repeater
3. FM contacts on 2m and 440MHz:  
i) Through several local repeaters    ii) On simplex
4. D-STAR contacts on 2m and 440MHz on simplex
5. D-STAR contacts through 440MHz repeater(s) and TMRA 2m D-STAR.
6. Confirm reception of NWS broadcasts from local NWS station
7. ***If time permits*** - pass digital traffic (operator will need to take computer with Fldigi)
8. Confirm that the information in the hospitals radios files (posted on Yahoo) is up-to-date and still correct for each hospital (except Wood Cy Hospital – no file for that).

Any other issues/concerns ?

73, Brian, WD8MXR and Ron, N8RLH  
LCARES AECs for the hospitals

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**Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP and Chuck, KB8FXJ.**  
**Email, kb8iup @ arrl.net**

## Proposed Revisions To The TMRA By-Laws.

In accordance with our By-Laws' requirement that they be reviewed in even-dated years, the current version has been reviewed and several changes are proposed. These have been approved by the Executive Committee and will now be presented to the TMRA membership present at the General Meeting on August 13, 2014 for discussion and approval.

Section II MEMBERSHIP: 2a. Currently reads "Full members: Amateurs licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and holding a license of Novice or higher." delete "and holding a license of Novice or higher."

Section V BOARD OF TRUSTEES: 4. Change "Any Trustee absent from three (3) unexcused consecutive meetings of the Association ....." to "Any Trustee absent from three (3) unexcused consecutive Board and/or Executive meetings of the Association ....."

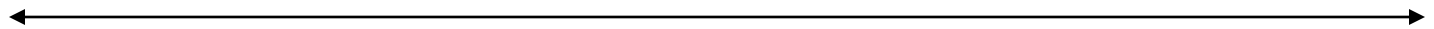
Section V BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Add #14 "The Trustees shall function as the Nominating Committee to fill any vacancy of the Vice President, Secretary or Treasurer's office, and there shall be an election at a regular meeting of the Association with 60 days. The Vice President shall immediately become President if the office becomes open for any reason.

Section VI OFFICERS: Add to #1. Any officer that becomes a signatory for the Association shall be bonded. #3 duties of the Vice-President: make the present un-numbered paragraph 3a.

Add 3b. In the absence of the Secretary, the Vice President shall take minutes of the meeting.

Add 3c. Shall oversee the Field Day Committee.

Add 3d. Shall be the registered Statutory Agent as required by the Corporation Not for Profit laws of the State of Ohio, Section 1702.06 m(A) etc. Revised Code of Ohio, and shall have Form 521 on file with the State of Ohio.



## Newcomers and Elmer's Net

*Dave, KD8EVN*

July 27, 2000 - 2224 hrs 2 HOURS 24 MINUTES On The Air! 22 CHECK-INS

Topic: Getting Involved on the Air, TMRA/LCARES 2M Contest save the Date 9/27/14 Discussed, Grounding and antennas are most questions asked topics.

Personal thanks to mike WA8SYD! WA8SYD was a trooper and was the key to the success and length of the net. The more info he gave, the more they wanted. Longest N & E Net Ever.

Thanks to the newcomers and the elmers who checked in to answer questions!

Dave, KD8EVN, Net control; Dan, KE8UE; Juan, KD8UOT; Ron, KD8SEW; Ed, KD8WBY; Mike, WA8SYD; Rich, KQ6EF; Mike, W8MEF; Dale, K8DFK; Bill, KD8CZQ; Chuck, KB8FXJ; Rich, KD8WCB; Dan, K8PLW; Josh, KD8UTQ; Ben, KD8HYV; Ernie, K8EEE; Ried, KD8UOU; Jerom, KC8UXM; Ed, KC8IQ; Don, KC9MJU; Mike, W8MAL and Ken, N8VGE;

Have you tuned in to the net yet? Give it a try. Sunday night at 20:00 on the TMRA repeater system.

## VE Test Session 7-12-14

Congrats to: *New Tech*- Ervin, KD8ZEB

New Generals- Steven, KD8WZM; Matthew, KD8MVW; Daniel, KD8VHE.

Thanks to the VE's: Steve, KC8TVW; Brian, WD8MXR; Dave, KD8EVN; Dan, KE8UE and Chris, KC8UFV.

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## Ohio QSO Party - Available Elmering

We have a two hour block prior to the Ohio QSO party on August 23rd from 10-Noon. We will have many "Elmers" on hand to cover what you feel is needed. In order to prepare, please let us know you are coming. An email with your intent to attend and your choice of topics will help us prepare.

Possible (but not all) topics: Digital Software, Digital Hardware, DC power supplies, DC power cables and Powerpoles, How do I work my HT, How do I work my mobile/base unit, How do I make a dipole antenna, How do I interpret a band plan? Other topics?

If you bring a radio, bring your manual also.

Steve KC8TVW  
KC8TVW@arrl.net

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## Dale's Tales for August, 2014

Greetings everyone,

This has been a fast and furious three weeks, and now with the transition to Director, the ARRL National Convention/100th Anniversary, the appointment to the Programs and Services Committee and the ARRL Board Meeting in Hartford all behind us, we now get down to the business of working for our Great lakes Division and ARRL. Jim Weaver K8JE has really helped to make the transition very smooth and I certainly must thank him for that. Your new Vice Director, Tom Delaney W8WTD will begin his monthly commentary with his introductory article next month.

Now, some Words from the Former Director K8JE:

My dear friends in the Great Lakes Division,

By now you know I have retired as Director of the Division. Much thought went into my decision to take this step. After much soul-searching, I concluded it was time for me to step aside to allow someone else with fresher ideas to represent you and Amateur Radio in Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio. This decision was difficult because so many of you have made my period in office so worthwhile.

It is hard to believe that nearly 12 years have passed since you first elected me. I had no idea that I would sit in the director's chair for so long. The years were very good. The task of looking out for your best interests has required work,

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

President, Brian,  
WD8MXR;  
Vice-President, Steve,  
W8TER;  
Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;  
Treasurer, Brenda,  
KB8IUP.

Board Members: Glenn,  
W8MUK; Joe, KJ0EYT;  
James, WD8IOL; Dan,  
KE8UE; Dave, KD8EVN.

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)  
D-Star Repeater:  
442.750  
APRS: 144.390

The TMRA meets at  
7:30 PM on the second  
Wednesday of every  
month in  
The Electrical Industry  
Building, Lime City Rd.  
Rossford, Ohio.

but was very rewarding. The support you gave me was very important. The fact that you stood by me when we disagreed was very critical. We seemed to understand we could have different views on how to achieve the same, ultimate goals and still remain colleagues.

Many members volunteered to develop and serve in the Legislative Action Program in the Division. When tied together with members in other divisions, we were able to ward off at least one serious challenge to amateur frequencies that was introduced into the US House of Representatives. Rick Haltermon, KD4PYR played a special role in two of our campaigns by developing an online utility that simplified sending letters to our US Representatives and US Senators. Thanks to each of you.

My Assistant Directors: These appointees stood by to perform nearly any task I asked of them. They also provided valuable input. Fred Jones, WA4SWF, Murray Scott, KE8UM, Scott Yonally, N8SY, John Farler, K4AVX, Brenda Krukowski KB8IUP and Tedd Mirgliotla, KB8NW were particularly helpful on multiple occasions. Thank you each and all.

Former directors George Wilson, W4OYI (SK) and George Race, WB8BGY each helped when I called on them. They were especially helpful the first few years I was in office. Thank you.

The Section Managers: A fact poorly known among ARRL members is that SMs have absolutely no responsibility toward the Director. In some divisions, open antagonism has even developed between the Director and the SMs. Nothing could be farther from the truth in the Great Lakes Division, though. Each of the several SMs who served during the years I was in office was very supportive and cooperative in working toward the good of Amateur Radio, radio amateurs and ARRL. What a joy it has been to work with them. Thank you.

Dale Williams: I was extremely fortunate when Dale chose to relinquish the SM position for Michigan to run for the Vice Director position three years ago. Upon becoming Vice Director, he found himself serving as my "go-to" guy. Each time I bounced an idea off him he helped develop a better solution. When I asked questions he provided answers that stimulated greater thinking. I cannot thank Dale enough for all he has done for the Division and me already. Thank you.

Finally, a brief comment about Tom Delaney, W8WTD. I have known Tom for many years. He is a very active amateur and Life Member of ARRL. He has been immersed in emergency and public service communications in support of the Red Cross in the Greater Cincinnati area. His working career was as a manager with Procter & Gamble. The Division is in great hands with Dale and Tom at the helm and with active members such as you supporting them.

Now, it is time for me to put 30 to my words. Oh, in publishing parlance, 30 means "the end." 73 and thank you . . . and tnx to Dale for allowing me to share my goodbye thoughts with you.

Jim Weaver, K8JE  
k8je@arrrl.org

Thank you, Jim, for your very kind words, thoughts and expectations.  
Good DXing!

73 all, see you on the bands.

Dale Williams WA8EFK  
Director, Great Lakes Division