



# *TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon*

October 2014



## **The Prez Sez**

Congratulations to Dave, KD8EVN and to Rod, KB8OPT, for their selection as TMRA's "Amateur of the Year" award. The awards committee felt that they were both equally deserving of the award this year. Both contribute to TMRA by being active members of the Technical Committee and as active Volunteer Examiners.

Rod has considerable electronic/computer/radio expertise that he frequently applies to serve the Tech Committee and the club with support and problem-solving with our ever increasingly complex and sophisticated equipment—often in the "background".

Dave's contributions have included organization of "Special Events" stations. He was and is the driving force behind the "Newcomers and Elmers Net on ur 147.270 repeater on Sunday evenings and the TMRA 2 meter FM Sprint Contest that we recently sponsored.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is a report on the LCARES test of the radios at the 8 Lucas County hospitals. On behalf of LCARES, I would urge you to become involved; don't be intimidated by the fact that the radio at the hospital is a D-STAR radio. It is not used solely for D-STAR, nor for digital mode with a computer and the D-STAR mode is not really that complicated to operate. Each radio has been programmed with an extensive list of area repeaters and commonly used simplex frequencies. Steve, W8TER, put on a training session on the radio a few days before the recent test. We are planning more training sessions and practice with the digital modes in the future – most likely at our monthly TMRA meetings.

73,  
Brian, WD8MXR

## **ARRL Foundation Scholarships**

The application period for ARRL Foundation scholarships opened October 1st. Here is an opportunity to assist students that could use help in paying for their college education. Please pass the word that the ARRL Foundation scholarship program is available to help out and encourage students to apply.

Details at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/the-arrl-foundation-invites-scholarship-applications-for-2015-16-academic-year>

73 all, see you on the bands.  
Dale Williams WA8EFK  
Director, Great Lakes Division

## LCARES Hospital Radio Test

In conjunction with TMRA's 2 meter FM Sprint Contest on the evening of Saturday, September 27, we conducted a test of 11 of the 12 radios that LCARES had purchased in 2012 with a grant from the US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) through the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio (HCNO).

Under the conditions of the ASPR grant, LCARES is required to test the radios several times a year. In addition to this reason for periodic tests, there are the important issues of Amateurs becoming familiar with the equipment, with its location within the hospitals and with the hospital's parking, contacting security, etc. In addition to testing the radios and the antenna, it gives us the chance to see if the hospitals have made any changes without notifying us. The operators who went to Flower Hospital were surprised to discover that the box containing the amateur radio equipment had been moved to a different room, which presented some problems in accessing it for the test. We are well on the way to developing a core group of operators for both the testing events and should there be a real need in an emergency situation, but we could always use more. Taking part in the testing this time were myself WD8MXR; Ron, N8RLH; Steve, W8TER and Glenn, W8MUK, at the Net Control location on the grounds of the Wolcott House in Maumee, with the "Grab-and-Go" set of equipment using a 2m/440MHz Diamond vertical antenna at about 18' and running off a 2Kw generator. At the hospitals were Richard, KA8IVY; Ernie, K8EEE; Jerome, KC8UXM; Mike, WA8SYD; Jim, KD8FNA; Juan, KD8UOT; Ron, KD8SEW; Tom, KD8WCD; Skeet, KD8KXD; Joe, KD8UZA; Rich, KD8WCB; Steve, N8SXF; Mike, KD8ZLW; Mike, N8GBU; Ken, KD8TPC and Reed, KD8UOU. At the EMA/911 building were Tim, KD8IZU and Brent, WD8PNZ. Bob, W8NNY was operating from a location in Wood County, and Dave, KD8EVN and Zak, N8ZAK were stationary mobile at the Toledo Express Airport with their own equipment. We could not include the radios in the LCARES truck as the it was out of service for repairs.

Notice the number of very recent KD8xxx calls taking part! Many thanks to all, for a successful one hour of testing, and especially to those new Hams. We limited the test to the hour between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm as we wanted the hospitals to be part of the TMRA's 2m FM Sprint contest from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm to give operators a chance to check their abilities to contact as many as possible of the 8 Lucas County hospitals using simplex. Next time we run a hospital test, we'll schedule more time for it and concentrate less on FM simplex and repeater contacts and more on D-STAR and FLDigi contacts and information exchanges. Thanks to the personnel at the Wolcott House for allowing us to set up the Net Control Station there; as we know from their allowing TMRA's Field Day event there for many years, they are very supportive of amateur radio.

Brian, WD8MXR  
AEC for Hospitals  
LCARES.

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## The Northwest Ohio Healthcare Emergency Management Coalition (NWO-HEMC) and Amateur Radio

The hospitals of NWO-HEMC have written into their emergency back-up plans a place for amateur radio operators to participate. They need amateur radio operators/stations to act as back up communications during drills and emergencies; and to make a *communications grid that will cover 18 counties* should it be needed so that the hospitals could or would be able to communicate using amateur radio operators.

Hospitals located in these counties are involved with the Northwest Ohio Healthcare Emergency Management Coalition:

*Allen, Auglaize, Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Hancock, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood.*

Stations close enough to communicate simplex with any hospital via VHF/UHF are encouraged to participate. You do not have to be a member of a club or organization to participate.

This past testing of the NWO-HEMC radios was executed in a manner befitting of well-seasoned amateur radio operators. Great job!

Please consider participating in future events regarding hospital communications. NWO-HEMC radio testing is not the same as the Lucas County Hospitals LCARES testing. NWO-HEMC testing dates will be announced as they are planned.

Steve, W8TER

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### Terry Recomends

Terry, WB8YRS, has suggested some articles and information on the internet that you may find useful. Take a look at these and see.

<http://kf5czo.blogspot.com/2012/03/eico-model-625-tube-tester.html>

Want to know about EF Johnson Matchbox?

[http://www.w8ji.com/antenna\\_tuners.htm](http://www.w8ji.com/antenna_tuners.htm)

One for the homebrewer:

<http://soldersmoke.com/soldersmoke166>

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO  
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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.

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# Toledo Mobile Radio Association LCARES 2M FM Simplex Contest

The joint 2014 TMRA/LCARES 2M FM Simplex Contest was held 9/27/14. The contest helped us all be simplex prepared in a number of ways. It allowed us to get to know one another, fostered some friendly competition, and tested our emergency preparedness skills. Since this contest was limited to the 2M FM band, it did not require any fancy equipment and everyone could participate. The contest was a Sprint...just a short two hours of intense radio operation.

After the hospital radio test the contest started at 1900 hrs. The bonus hospitals and other stations/operators are listed below:

LOCATION	NAME & CALL	NAME & CALL	NAME &CALL
UTMC	Richard KA9IVY		
TOLEDO HOSP	Ernie K8EEE	Jerome KC8UXM	
ST V'S HOSP	Mike WA8SYD	Jim KD8FNA	Juan KD8UOT
FLOWER	Ron KD8SEW	Rich KQ6EF	Tom KD8WCD
ST LUKES	Skeet KD8KXD	Tom KD8PUA	Rich KD8WCB
BAYPARK	Steve N8XSF	Could not stay for the contest.	
ST ANNES	Mike KD8ZLW		
ST CHARLES	Mike N8GBU	Ken KD8TPC	Reid KD8UOU
EMA/911	Tim KD8IZU		
LCARES TRUCK	Out of Service		
TOLEDO AIRPORT	Dave KD8EVN	Zak N8ZAK	

Brian WD8MXR, Steve W8TER, and Ron N8RLH acted as contest controllers on the 147.270 repeater operating at the Wolcott Complex on emergency power and antennas. The eight simplex frequencies were busy until the contest ended at 2100 hrs.

Simplex contacts were made as far north as Onsted, MI, east to Wharton, OH, south below Bowling, Green, OH and west to Fulton County! Many on air remarks were made on how busy the simplex frequencies were.

As of 10/7/14 eight stations have submitted logs for the contest: KE8UE, K8WZY, KB8WDX, KD8WBZ, KC8RWR, W8FO/W8IQ, N8GBU, N8WAC. An average of about 25 contacts were made by each of the 9 bonus stations and 25 to 35 by the stations in the contest. The number of contacts really did not matter as antennas, operating power and bonus stations will determine the winners. The Newcomer and Elmer winners will be announced at the TMRA meeting 10/8/14. Bragging rights and free meals at the Maumee Cracker Barrel courtesy of Mike K8WZY will be given to the top Newcomer and Elmer. It was a great night for 2 Meter Simplex with over 40 stations on the air and all operators having a good time.

Dave, KD8EVN

TEA Bonus Station KD8EVN



N8ZAK working the 2M simplex

