



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

April 2015



The Prez Sez

The 2015 Hamfest appears to have gone well, not all the bills are in yet, but hopefully we'll have the final financial report in time for the General meeting on Wednesday April 8th. I want to thank all who helped make it a success, club members, vendors, everyone who bought a ticket. The Hamfest Committee will be meeting soon to review how it went, and any thoughts, comments, suggestions, ideas, changes – what can we do better, what shouldn't we do, etc. will be welcome. We plan on being at Owens Community College again next year – Sunday March 20th, 2016.

Now that the Hamfest is over, we have to look ahead for our Budget for the up-coming Financial Year, and this initially is the work of the Budget Committee. So far members who have agreed to serve on it are, myself, Treasurer Brenda, KB8IUP, and Dave, KD8EVN. We could use a couple more members for this group. We'll meet at my house one evening for a couple of hours. The proposed Budget from the Budget Committee is considered by the Executive Committee and then by the Membership at the June General meeting.

Also, at the June meeting we'll be electing Officers for the 2015-16 year: A Nominating Committee has been formed – Ron, N8RLH, Glenn, W8MUK, and myself, and anyone else who would like to be on it – to seek candidates for office. So far we need candidates for Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-President as Ron, Brenda and Steve are not seeking re-election. Also of course, if any member wishes to run for President, she or he should let us know.

Steve, W8TER and Glenn, W8MUK are getting busy with Field Day preparations – we'll be at the Wolcott House again this year – last full weekend in June – this year the 27th and 28th. I see from the FD results in QST for the last few years that if we could operate 11A or 12A or 13A – we'd pretty much have the category to ourselves and might even come in 1st or at least 2nd - it's worth trying (and gets more people out operating at FD)

I've just seen reports that Yaesu has received 180 "Fusion" repeaters and has started shipping them out, including to some who ordered around the time we did, so we hopefully will get ours within the next week or two if Yaesu keeps on its planned schedule.

73,

Brian, WD8MXR



Mike, WA8SYD, closes the 2015 TMRA Hamfest by announcing the grand prize winner (a ham from Ft.Wayne) at 2:00.
kb8fxj photo

Dale's Tales for April

Greetings everyone, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for April 2015.

The Michigan QSO Party arrives at 1600Z on April 18. It runs until 0400Z on April 19. Sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, the MiQSO party is an annual event that offers Single op, Multi op, Mobile and Portable operators a chance to compete for the honors. This year introduces a special award for working the "Michigan Cabinet Counties". Full details are on the MiQP web page at <http://www.miqp.org/index.html>.

The Parma Radio Club will celebrate its 3rd annual Earth Day this April 25th with a special event station. W8PRC, will be on SSB within 20 kHz of 7.195 and 14.245 kHz from historic Stearns Farm in the heart of the city. Our operation will be entirely on solar power in recognition of Earth Day. A beautiful QSL card will be available. For more information, see www.parmaradioclub.webs.com.

The Southeastern VHF Society is proud to announce the upcoming 2015 Spring Technical Conference will be held at the Space Science Center of Morehead State University in Morehead, Kentucky on April 24th and 25th. In addition, this conference has just been upgraded to an Operating Specialty Convention by the ARRL. Two days of various VHF-UHF-Microwave technical presentations covering weak signal work, VHF-UHF-Micro contesting, construction technique, demos, antenna testing, preamp testing, vendor displays, flea market, and a Saturday evening banquet with its history of valuable door prizes. The SVHFS website and links to the conference registration, program, and hotel info are at <http://svhfs.org/wp/>.

As you are aware, HB 1301 has been introduced in the House of Representatives. This bill is to allow ham radio operators living in areas controlled by homeowners associations and on deed-restricted properties, to reasonably install antennas; not unlike the FCC ruling that today allows those very same people living in such areas to install outdoor broadcast TV receive antennas. Hence the name "Amateur Radio Parity Act". This just calls for fairness. While a person living in a deed-restricted area today can legally install a 2 foot diameter TV receive-only dish on his roof, he cannot install a 4 inch UHF ¼ wave ham radio antenna on his rain gutter. Our bill asks that, just like the case of PRB-1, ham antennas should be reasonably accommodated.

So today, I ask you: "Has your Congressman signed up to support HB 1301?" Have you contacted him/her to gain support? Please examine the ARRL Web Page <http://www.arrl.org/hr-1301> for contact information and the complete text of the bill. There you will find some excellent suggestions for formatting your letter to your congressperson, along with supporting documentation and a listing of Congressmen. We currently have support from the following in our Division: Dan Benishek MI-01, David Joyce OH-14, and Tim Walberg MI-07. Please take some time to thank them and be sure to implore your Congressperson to support HB 1301.

As a further opportunity to assist you, we will have a booth in the ARRL EXPO at the Dayton Hamvention to allow you to send an appropriate letter to your congressman in support of HB 1301.

Here are the monthly comments from our Great Lakes Div. Vice Director, Tom W8WTD:

One of my goals as Vice Director is to keep in touch with what's going on throughout the Division, so I can help our Director, Dale, know what people are thinking, and look at trends, whether they relate to on-going policy decisions for the League, or are just good radio activities in general.

At the beginning of March, I traveled down to Cave City, KY, for their hamfest. I was fortunate to talk to a number of hams around Elizabethtown who had just been through an emergency response a few days before. All those people stranded in the snowstorm on I-65 needed help, and the hams were there to assist local responders. Well done, everyone!

You know, we prepare and plan, and time goes on and we think all is fine. Then, in a matter of hours, we are in the thick of things. We can't tell the situation to hold off while we get ready. It's just a matter of grabbing the radios and other stuff, and responding. If we prepared well, it shows. Even if we haven't, we can do a good job, but it could always be better with more prep. You never know when the next disaster will happen. Spring is almost here, and the storms will be following. Are your batteries charged?

When we think of trends, it's usually about what a lot of individuals are doing or have discovered. Trends or patterns with clubs are usually harder to spot. But right now I sense that there is a trend going on with a number of clubs, and it is that they are acquiring new digital voice repeaters. The discount offered by one manufacturer (ending this month) has attracted many clubs, and soon we'll have a lot of these repeaters on the air across the Great Lakes Division.

I look forward to hearing how things go. It's one more step in the on-going advancement of amateur radio. Some people don't like the trend towards digital. Others have embraced it in its various competing forms. Some are waiting on the sidelines for the formats to settle out. What will happen? How will a repeater built to handle either digital or analog input perform for its users? Will a lot of people invest in the new digital format? Will a particular repeater stay mostly analog, even if it's capable of digital? Will one type prevail?

On the larger subject of digital voice modes, we hope to have a forum on that subject at our Division Convention in August. If you've never heard of P25, DMR, D-Star, or C4FM, you can find out more from those who use those modes. If you're really involved in any of those modes, you can meet other folks who are as well, and share knowledge. Either way, we hope it will be a topic of much interest.

See you at Dayton! 73,
Tom, W8WTD
Vice Director
Great Lakes Division

The ARRL Director, Vice Director and Section Managers are available to visit local radio clubs and give presentations about ARRL and what is happening in the Section or Division. Please feel free to invite any of us for an "ARRL Night" at your club. Most of the talks are prepared in a video presentation format and can include a Q&A session as well. Advance scheduling really helps and gives you an opportunity to publicize the event. See pages 15 & 16 of a recent QST for contact information.

73, see you on the bands.

Dale Williams, WA8EFK
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Great Lakes Division
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Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP and Chuck, KB8FXJ.
Email, kb8iup @ arrl.net

Help needed!

It's time again for the Glass City Marathon and help is needed with Radio Communications. Race day is Sunday, April 26th and first start is at 7 AM. The course closes at 1 PM. Many spots need to be filled for this event, but not everyone needs to be there the whole time. Please let me know if you can help out with this event or if you have any questions. I can be reached at k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573.

Thanks!

Rick
k8rks@arrl.net
419-471-0573

ARES Operators: Do NOT Miss Field Day

ARRL [Field Day](#) is the flagship emergency/disaster/public event training exercise. Miss it at great expense to your annual training regimen. It is held annually on the fourth weekend of June - this year, June 27-28.

ARRL Field Day is the most popular (and in my opinion, the most fun) on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. More than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations, ideally outdoors in a true field.

The experience and training gained from transporting your radios and antennas to the field, setting them up, using them as you would in an emergency/disaster/public event, troubleshooting problems, deriving efficiencies and effectiveness, and learning lessons and fixes to be applied for the next time, are more valuable than any other training exercise, class or manual.

Activate for June's Field Day and make yourself a better public service field operator for yourself, your ARES member-team mates, and the public safety agencies and public event organizers and managers we work with during the rest of the year. See the June issue of *QST* for more information on this year's Field Day, including the rules and scoring. And lastly, have a ball! - *KICE*

From the ARES E-Letter, March 18, 2015

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

TMRA Home Page
www.tmrahamradio.org
Webmasters, Zak, N8ZAK &
Mike, N8ZLW

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.

VE Test Results

Hamfest VE testing 3/15

Congratulations to *New Techs*: William, KE8ASO; Jay, KE8ASP; Michael, KE8ASQ; Darian, KE8ASR; Robert, KE8AST; Arthur, KE8ASU and Evan, KE8ASV

New Generals: Lee, KD8QYM; Kent, KD8WAG; Malcom, KA9MFN; Barbara, KB9OZX; Richard, KD8VJC; Stephen, W8MSW; John, KD9ASH and Jeffery, WB6FZQ

New Amateur Extra: Robert, KD8WPI

Thanks to VE's: Brian, KD8COO; Ed, KD8WBC; Dan, KE8UE; Rod, KB8OTP; Dave, KD8EVN; Brian, KD8UOX and Steve, KC8TVW.

From The “Sarge” (W8SGT) State Of Ohio EOC

By Gayle Adams, W8KWG

w8kwg4@gmail.com

Who Will Be Our Future Hams?

Have you ever thought of who would be our future hams? Right now is a good time as any to think about it. First we have our Scout troops, youth groups from various organizations and the like. Why am I broaching this subject?

I am suggesting that we need new and fresh ideas. Yes, I don't like all the digital stuff, but the future hams will take to it like a duck takes to water. Nothing will replace phone or CW, the good stuff. New digital modes will continue to be developed by guess who? Our future hams.

W8SGT is hosting a Cub Scouts presentation on April 11, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. There will be 20-30 first- and second-graders and some parents, whose curiosity meters might be pegged—60 over!

If you know Scout troop leaders in your area, invite them to a club meeting and give them a presentation about your club, the basics of amateur radio and how it is used. This might pique their interest into earning a radio/communications badge. You might demonstrate to them how to make a contact via amateur radio, and give them a chance at the mic, too. W8SGT participated last year in Operation Thunderbase in May and made many contacts via HF.

Elmering these new and budding hams is a very important task for us who have been in the hobby for quite some time. I myself have been in the Amateur Radio Service for 6 years. If you know someone who is really interested in ham radio and he/she keeps asking you questions, why not get them a Technician Class manual to study from. They may want to continue up the ladder.

Who will be our future hams? It might be someone you know in a Scout troop. It might be your next-door neighbor who has seen you operate an HT. Keeping the Amateur Radio Service in a “well-oiled state” is our job. Pass it on!

73, Gayle, W8KWG

From the March edition of the Ohio Section Journal

Terry Recomend

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

<http://youtube/K8H24-WUK30>

<http://www.qsotoday.com/blog>

http://jessystems.com/N6QW%27s_K_K.html

Terry
tminsel@frontier.com



Something for everyone at the 2015 TMRA Hamfest, new or used. Did you find what you were looking for?
kb8fxj photos

Important dates for your calendar

April 8, monthly TMRA meeting at the Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Road, Rossford.

April 13, TMRA Tech meeting at Maumee Fire Station #2.

April 26, Glass City Marathon, (help is needed) call Rick, K8RKS, 419-471-0573

April 29 and May 9, TMRA Tech classes, contact KC8TVW or WA8SYD

May 16, TMRA bus trip to Dayton Hamvention®, contact Mike, WA8SYD, to reserve a comfortable seat.

May 15, 16, & 17, Dayton Hamvention® (see above).

June 27 & 28, ARRL Field Day at the Wolcott House Museum Complex

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