



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

January 2015



The Prez Sez

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. In keeping with a long-established tradition, the TMRA December General Meeting was replaced with the Club's Christmas party last month, and special thanks go to Sandy, KD8HYS; Brenda, KB8IUP and Pat, KC8WQU, for organizing it again. I think we had at least 40 people present, with an amazing amount of and quality of foods – thanks to all who took part. I'm not sure that I know everyone who brought CW equipment other than Mike WA8SYD and Steve KC8TVW, but these two gentlemen provided an impressive collection of keys, oscillators, etc – thanks to all who contributed to that display. With the interest that Steve, KC8TVW, is generating in the code with his Sunday evening training/-practice on our 2m FM repeater – that display and Mike and Steve's commentaries would make a good meeting program.



kb8fxj photo

Preparations for our 2015 Hamfest at Owens Community College on Sunday, March 15th have started, I'll have more details, a.k.a. requests for volunteers the day before and the day of the Hamfest, next month, but it's never too early to volunteer: the main people needing help will be Tom, KB8PAL, – set-up and tear-down; Skeet, – KD8KXD, ticket sales; Mike, W8MAL, - “security” at the doors; Chris, KC8UFV, – talk-in.

Steve, W8TER, is planning a mini Field Day at the Maumee #2 fire station on Dussel Drive Saturday January 24th which also is the date of the January LCARES meeting at St. Luke's Hospital. The following Wednesday the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio (HCNO) is planning a major communications exercise (scheduled at present for the morning) for the hospitals in NW Ohio and personnel at the HCNO HQ (in Sylvania), and would like amateur radio to be a part of that drill. Whilst primarily they look towards LCARES, any amateur in NW Ohio is welcome to take part. We'll have more information at the LCARES meeting, but rather than leave our preparations to the last minute, if you'd like more information on the HCNO exercise, and/or to volunteer – contact Steve, W8TER, at w8ster@arrl.net, or me wd8mxr@gmail.com, or Brenda KB8IUP. We'll also have information on it at the TMRA January meeting.

This month 4 of the 8 elected positions on the Board of Trustees for LCARES, Inc. become vacant and nominations are open and sought for LCARES members who are willing to run for election to those positions for a 2 year term as a Trustee. Election takes place at the January LCARES meeting: contact Richard, KA9IVY, if you're interested.

There will be a meeting of the TMRA Executive Committee on Wednesday January 28th, 7:30pm at the Maumee #2 fire station on Dussel Drive, Maumee; all TMRA members are welcome to attend.

Best wishes to all for the New Year
73, Brian, WD8MXR

Have a Safe and Happy New Year 2015

Dale's Tales for January

Happy New Year Everyone!

And, it was a Happy Old Year as well. 2014 brought the 100th Anniversary of the ARRL and along with it THE outstanding operating event of the past century. Now the individual logs are uploading to Logbook of the World and scores will all be recalculated for the Centennial QSO Party. Remember, the log deadline is January 15 at 2359 Z.

There were several key events that bear mentioning from our historic 2014:

We experienced a change in the guard at the Division level in July as long time Director, Jim Weaver, K8JE retired and Vice Director Dale Williams assumed that role. Tom Delaney W8WTD moved up to fill Dale's unexpired term. Tom was then elected to the Vice Director position in the fall election cycle.

2014 also saw the Ohio PRB-1 Law standing its own ground and winning an appeal at the 6th Appellate District Court. The town of Swanton once again loses its case.

In Ohio, Section Manager Frank Piper retired and Scott Yonally N8SY became the new SM. A new Affiliated Clubs Coordinator, Sandy Mackey, N8YS and a new Official Observer Coordinator, John Perone, W8RXX stepped in as well. Complimenting these changes was a course change in the Ohio ARES program with the appointment of a new Section Emergency Coordinator, Stan Broadway N8BHL. Ohio also said hello to a newly appointed Affiliated Clubs Coordinator- John Myers, KD8MQ

In August, the Ohio Section had its conference along with the always-successful Columbus Hamfest where the top newsletters in Ohio were acknowledged in the ARRL Ohio Section Newsletter Contest. They also celebrated the newest inductee of the Allan Severson Award Frank Piper, KI8GW. Jackie Piper, KC8ESO received the Section Manager's "Special Appreciation" award.

Ohio got to cheer as one of its own, Jay Slough, K4ZLE was the winner of the April QST® Cover Plaque award for his article "A 10 Meter Moxon Antenna."

Vice Director Tom Delaney W8WTD and your Director were able to attend a number of the Division's hamfests throughout the past year. Our sincere thanks to all of these hamfest teams who extended such warm hospitality to us during our visits. We hope to include visits to even more swaps in 2015.

Adrian, MI. Bowling Green, KY. Chelsea, MI. Cleveland, OH. Columbus, OH. Dayton, OH. Elyria, OH. Findlay, OH. Grand Rapids, MI. Hazel Park, MI. Louisville, KY. Mansfield, OH. MI Crossroads, MI. Monroe, MI. OKYIN, OH. Portage, OH. Richmond, KY. Toledo, OH.

Now as we move into 2015, Vice Director Delaney and I prepare for the Annual ARRL Board meeting in mid-January. Our visits to club meetings and conversations with many of you at hamfests around the Division have provided us with suggestions for consideration at committee meetings and the Board itself. It is always a pleasure to hear from you with your thoughts and ideas to improve all that we do in Amateur Radio.

To all: Thanks for your contribution to ARRL and ham radio during 2014. Now let us go on and make this New Year even better and strive to show the great works of ham radio to the world.

73,

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: Dale R Williams, WA8EFK
wa8efk@arrl.org

TMRA Membership

Just a reminder, TMRA membership dues are due July 1, 2015, not January 1st. This is due to a By-Law change in May 2013.

Please email educey@roadrunner.com or call 567-225-7644 if you question your membership status.

Ernie Ducey
K8EEE
TMRA Membership Chairman

Fldigi Training

Fldigi hands on Training Feb 14, 10 am - 3 pm
Location - 450 W. Dussel Dr, Maumee FD #2
Bring your rig and computer. We also need Elmers
Questions?
kc8tvw@arrl.net

December 13 VE Session

New General - Gary, W8TVD, New Extra - K8ZJB
Thanks to VE's: Chris, KC8UFV; Mike, N8GBU;
Ernie, K8EEE and Steve, KC8TVW.

Who am I talking to?

With the influx of new hams, here is a list of most of the active new hams.

JIM, KD8QBH; DAVE, KD8QBR; RON, KD8SEW; BILL, KD8TIF; JUAN, KD8UOT; RIED, KD8UOU;
BRIAN, KD8UOX; DOUG, KD8VWU; ED, KD8WBY; DARIN, KD8WBZ; RICH, KD8WCB; TOM,
KD8WCD; GRANT, KD8WZK; STEVE, KD8YLO; MIKE, KD8ZLW; NATE, KD8ZLX; RICK, KD8ZYH;
LUCAS, KD8ZYI.



kb8fxj photo



Rod, KB8OTP, who was one of the "TMRA Amateur of the Year" awardees received the award plaque at the Christmas party from James, WD8IOL.

kb8fxj photo

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Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP and Chuck, KB8FXJ.
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Element Credit For Licenses Beyond The 2 Year Grace Period

The FCC now offers partial credit for expired General, Advanced or Extra Amateur Radio licenses. A license that has expired and gone beyond the two year grace period will be canceled in the FCC system. The licensee will not automatically qualify for a new license. At a minimum, previous license holders must take the current 35-question Technician exam at a VE exam session to return to Amateur Radio. The FCC will issue a new call sign and a new license when the Technician exam is passed. Please refer to Expired License Credit section below.

* Expired License for Exam Element Credit-FCC Rule 97.505(a) offers partial credit to an examinee that has an expired General, Advanced, or Extra license. If an applicant held a General or Advanced license, and has proof, the FCC will afford credit for the General (Element 3) written exam only. If an applicant held an Extra license, and has proof, the FCC will afford credit for the General (Element 3) and Extra (Element 4) written exams. At VE exam sessions it is the applicant (not the VEs or coordinating VEC) who is responsible for supplying the evidence of holding valid expired license credit. The section titled "Valid Forms of Exam Element Credit for Expired Licenses" explains how to verify the license status of someone eligible for such credit under Section 97.505 of FCC Rules. This can be verified if an applicant presents any of the following:

--

Per FCC Rule 97.505(a), an original or copy of an original expired FCC issued General, Advanced or Extra license as indicated on the license.

-- A REFERENCE COPY of the license printed from the FCC ULS license database or FCC archive database located on the FCC website at <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>.

-- If licensed in the mid-'70s or after, FCC will issue a 'License Verification Letter' indicating that the applicant was licensed. The FCC stated any requests for verification must be submitted in writing to:

FCC, ATTN: Amateur Section, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325. The request must include name, address, telephone number, date of birth, call sign issued at that time, and when the license was granted (if exact date is not known, give the approximate time frame). The FCC asks those inquiring to include any information that may be helpful in researching these requests, but it does not need to know details of the examination session, such as where the test was administered or who gave it. "These requests must be researched on microfiche, so they will be very time-consuming," an FCC spokesperson said, adding that no one should expect an overnight response.

CW Practice Files

On the TMRA website at the bottom of the "Download" tab are three files containing random 5 letter groups. The CW is approximately 4 WPM and contain only those letters that have 3 elements or less. The remainder of the letters will come toward the end of January ./ early February in a new set of files.

KC8TVW



The CW table at the Christmas party drew a lot of interest. The items on display ranged from old and new straight keys, "bugs", "paddles", all kinds of keyers, readers, digital interfaces, and educational materials.

Terry, wb8yrs photo

New Years Resolution

Hi Gang,

As the year of 2014 is quickly winding down and I'm sure that most of us will be up and working stations left and right on New Year's Eve night as it is "Red Badge" night all over the country. I will be on, mostly 80/75 and 40 meters (if anyone is interested..) I do want to take just a quick moment of your time to say it has been a privilege to be able to serve as your Section Manager this past year and I want to wish each and every one of you a very prosperous 2015.

My goal for 2015 is a more robust one for the Section, as that now that I'm retired from my professional job, I plan on being more PRO-active at visiting with you.. Yes, the Ohio Section has done a great job in the past, but I want to make it even better this next year by being at your club activities and not just reading about them. So, with that in mind, I hope you will continue to extend an invitation to me to come to your meeting/functions. I really enjoy visiting with all of you.

This New Year is also bringing another challenge to our Affiliated Clubs Coordinator and I. We want to get more clubs in Ohio "Affiliated" and those that are affiliated already.. well.., we want them to become Special Services Clubs. What you may not know about Ohio is that we "Ohio" started what is now the criterion for Special Services Clubs many years ago. We took what the ARRL had and enhanced it. We made it more of a challenge than what it had originally started out being. It was Ohio that set the "gold standard" throughout the country for having the most hard working and committed clubs as Special Services Clubs, and yes, we were noticed for that.. Yes folks, the League took notice of what WE (Ohio) was doing with this program and incorporated it into what we have today. Is your club a Special Services Club? Don't think your club is up to the challenge? I think it is!! I think ALL clubs in Ohio can meet / exceed the criteria needed to accomplish this.

My challenge for the clubs in Ohio for 2015 is to become an Affiliated Club and/or Special Services Club. Right now our Affiliated Clubs Coordinator tells me we have about 57 Affiliated Clubs that have the paperwork up-to-date out of 96 clubs registered. On the Special Services Clubs side of things we have 9 clubs who are listed as Special Services Clubs. We have around 28 clubs that just haven't renewed their SSC paperwork, WHY??. I'm sure that you meet the criterial still, right..??. John, KD8MQ and I want EVERY club in Ohio to be an Affiliated AND Special Services Club. After all, we are the largest Section in the country, why shouldn't we also have the most Affiliated and SSC's in the country to go with that.

Now here's what I will do for you.. If your club becomes an Affiliated Club or even better yet, a Special Services Club, I will personally come and present the certificate to your club!! Now lookie there, I've just created an awards night for your club. In addition someone in your club will get a "mug" on me. Yup, I'll be sure to bring one of my very special Ohio Section Coffee Mugs filled with candies and a gift card to somewhere special. Let's make Ohio the envy of the 70 other Sections in the country..!!

Now, on another topic.. Does your club have a hard time looking for things to do to advertise themselves to the public? Here's something that came across my desk that I think goes over the top for that idea.."Ball drops at midnight in Marion on New Year's Eve" - MARION - A lighted ball drop, a "waterfall," fireworks, singing, dancing and hot chocolate will mark the end of 2014 and the arrival of 2015 in downtown Marion. The Marion Amateur Radio Club will provide a portable tower from which the lighted ball will slowly descend from a height of 60 feet via a pulley system beginning 10 seconds before midnight, Kevin Landes, a past president for the club, said. "We do things of service to the community," Landes said. "That's what ham radio is all about. This is just another thing we could help out with. (And) it gets our name out there."

Now there's an original way of getting your name in front of the public for ya'..

Whelp.. That's going to do it for this year!!! May the best of 2014 be remembered and we all enjoy an even GREATER and more FUN 2015!!

73,
ARRL Ohio Section
Section Manager: Scott D Yonally, N8SY
n8sy@arrl.org

THE TOLEDO MOBILE
RADIO ASSOCIATION
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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, 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.