



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

March 2015



The Prez Sez

In the last Newsletter I listed some changes that had and would be taking place in the Club: We can add one more in that Ron, N8RLH, will not be seeking re-election as Secretary.

A Nominating Committee will be formed this month to seek candidates for office, and 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.

Our application to Yaesu to be considered for the special offer deal on their DR-1X System Fusion repeater was approved by Yaesu, so we now have one on order: however, the units are on backorder and Yaesu does not expect to be shipping them to clubs until mid-April as a tentative date.

Volunteers are needed to help with Set-up Saturday morning and afternoon, and Tear-down Sunday afternoon, Ticket sales Sunday morning, Talk-in Sunday morning, Security Saturday afternoon and evening and Sunday during the Hamfest.

Chris, KC8UFV, has a program for us at the March 11th General Meeting.

73, Brian WD8MXR

March Meeting Program

At the next TMRA general meeting on March 11, 2015, I will be doing a brief presentation and interactive demonstration of a new digital mode for amateur radio that would allow for large quantities of information, such as streaming video, large pictures, or other large files, very quickly. One can even run virtually any program that runs across the internet with Broadband-Hamnet. This new mode uses relatively inexpensive equipment repurposed from part 15 service.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a WiFi enabled laptop to the meeting, so you may see for yourself how easy this new mode is to operate. If you'd like to learn more about this mode before the meeting, you can visit WWW.broadband-hamnet.org

Chris Hart
KC8UFV

February 2015 Edition of the Ohio Section Journal

>> The Ohio Section Journal <<
Leading Ohio Amateurs into a New Century

From The Section Emergency Coordinator

By Stan Broadway, N8BHL
broadways@standi.com

Spring is on the way!

I offer that to counter the mid-winter blah's that we often get in this part of the country. But it's true- spring is coming with a lot to offer ARES in Ohio!

We're nailing down the specifics for the All-Ohio ARES Conference. It's scheduled for April 11 at the Ohio Fire Marshall's Conference Center, 8895 E. Main St, Reynoldsburg, OH. That's a little drive east from Reynoldsburg. Our aim has been to make this a training session, with information you can take home and be really glad you came. Our keynote speakers will be from the joint FBI/Homeland/Police "Fusion Center" and the training will be on anti-terrorism. I've seen these experts before, and I have to tell you I had trouble sleeping for a couple nights when I heard what all was going on right here in Ohio! We will learn eight signs of terrorism- and since hams communicate for all the major populated events in our state, we need to be more than just 'aware' we need to be active and trained! We have representatives of the Red Cross to talk about their renewed interest in partnering with ARES hams. Of course, we'll have some important internal discussions: the re-written Ohio Section Emergency Response Plan (OSERP), the launch of the Ohio ARESMAT program, the Ohio OARS database, and a few administrative details. There are more speakers on the agenda as well and not to be overlooked is the group from Ashtabula County to detail our Ohio NVIS Antenna Day. Pre-registration for the conference is on the ARRL-Ohio website, and they are coming in good numbers. There is a seating limit of around 125-140 so don't wait! Bring your go-box, and your comm vehicle for the show!

April 25 is another great day in the Ohio Section! That is the Ohio NVIS antenna day. You should know the drill by now- put together your concepts of what a good NVIS antenna should be like, and get together to actually try them out! Starting at 10AM, this is not exactly a contest, but it's designed to get as many counties in Ohio on the air at once, all testing antennas and communications with each other. Since we've been written up in ARRL's national news, I have received numerous inquiries from as far away as Texas! I think this is going to be just a fun way to get together, play and test in our hobby, and munch some great burgers!

The most important thing we can do until spring breaks is TRAIN! Our recent activation when 911 service dropped for six Ohio counties showed that it ~can~ happen to you and when it does it'll come quickly! Our county EC's and volunteers did a great job- ham radio was absolutely a star in this real-life event that paralleled our last SEC almost to the letter. So bring in your EMA Directors, Red Cross managers, safety officers and get some training in stuff that happens when there is a disaster! We should know how to operate radios- but we'll be much more useful if we are familiar with NIMS, ICS, and our local officials.

This is also a great time to make contact with the representatives of the public service activities that we cover. Make sure you have email, telephone and other contact information up to date, get the right dates for when your activities will be held this year, and make an early contact to get in on their planning process!

I sincerely appreciate all you do for your neighbors, and for the Ohio Section!

73, Stan, N8BHL

This Is A Test From W8SGT!

You are familiar with the occasional interruption of on-air programming with an alarm tone and this announcement: “This is a test from the Emergency Alert System,” followed by instructions on what to do. Now let’s take this same scenario and apply it to our Amateur Radio Service.

We all know the reasons for the occasional interruptions—to test equipment to make sure it is ready in case of an emergency. The same goes for our service—we must test our equipment so we can be ready in case of an emergency. A perfect example, as all of you know, happened last month. Remember the 9-1-1 service interruption in Medina and several other counties? W8SGT was requested by Medina County to help out during this time.

We never know when disaster may strike, or whether or not we will be needed in a public service event. How many of you participated in public service events? The purpose is twofold: (1) to test your equipment and skills and put them through their paces and 2) to provide safety for all participants involved.

The next time your county is activated, will you be ready or will you be a sitting duck? Hopefully, you will be ready.

Henceforth, this behooves me to mention our Tuesday night net. Yes, our Tuesday night net is a means by which we can test our radios to make sure they are functioning properly and our skills as operators, for that matter. I encourage any and all of our 88 counties to check into our net.

Our net has been changed to 7:15 (1915 hours or 0015 UTC). Tune up and check in! Follow us on Twitter (hashtag W8SGT) for frequency information. You can also see our Twitter feed directly from the Ohio Section Website. There’s a window on the left side of the main page that allows you to view the Twitter posts from W8SGT directly. So, if you don’t have a Twitter account, you are still good to go. Just logon to the Ohio Section website.

*From The “Sarge” (W8SGT) State Of Ohio EOC
By Gayle Adams, W8KWG
w8kwg4@gmail.com*

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

Annual Lucas County SKYWARN® Training

The 2015 Skywarn® Spotter training will take place on Saturday, March 28. 10:00am to noon. The location is the auditorium at ProMedica St. Luke’s Hospital, 5901 Monclova Rd. Maumee, OH.

This training is open to all. Register at the event, starting at 9:00.

The monthly March Lucas County Skywarn® meeting will take place on Thursday Mar. 5th (7:30 pm) at the Lucas County 911 Training Center at 2127 Jefferson Ave. Toledo.

VE Session Feb14

Congratulations to New Generals:
Darin, KD8WBZ and Steven, KE8AKZ.
New Amateur Extra: Nate, KD8ZLX.

A big THANK YOU to the VE's who make the session possible:
Chris, KC8UFV; Dave, KD8EVN; Brian, WD8MXR; Ernie, K8EEE and Steve, KC8TVW.

TMRA



This old newspaper clip from about 1967 shows the TMRA officers as they prepare for the 12th annual hamfest or auction.

Toledo Mobile Radio Association - Hamfest 2015

Toledo Radio/Computer/Electronics Hamfest
 March 15th 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Owens Community College – Student Health and Activity Center
 30335 Oregon Road
 Perrysburg, OH 43551

Talk-in: 147.27+ & 442.850+ (W8HHF - 103.5PL)

This Huge Hamfest is Indoors and Security is Provided! On Campus Parking is Free and Close to the Hamfest!

INFORMATION ON FORUMS, VE (Ham Radio Licensing) TESTING AND TABLE APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE ON OUR WEBSITE -www.tmrahamradio.org

Two, \$100.00 cash prizes - drawn at 9:00am, 10:00am (Must be present to win)

One, Dual Band Handheld at 11:00am (Must be present to win)

One, \$250.00 cash prize - drawn at 12:00pm Noon (Must be present to win)

One, \$500.00 cash prize - drawn at 2:00pm (Need *Not* be present to win)

FCC "Paperless" Amateur Radio License Policy Now in Effect

Starting today, February 17, the FCC no longer routinely issues paper license documents to Amateur Radio applicants and licensees. The Commission maintains that the official Amateur Radio license authorization is the electronic record that exists in its Universal Licensing System (ULS), although the FCC had routinely continued to print and mail hard copy licenses until this week.

In mid-December, the FCC adopted final procedures to provide access to official electronic authorizations, as it had proposed in WT Docket 14-161 as part of its "process reform" initiatives. Under the new procedures, licensees will access their current official authorization ("Active" status only) via the ULS License Manager. The FCC will continue to provide paper license documents to all licensees who notify the Commission that they prefer to receive one. Licensees will also be able to print out an official authorization - as well as an unofficial "reference copy" - from the ULS License Manager.

"We find this electronic process will improve efficiency by simplifying access to official authorizations in ULS, shortening the time period between grant of an application and access to the official authorization, and reducing regulatory costs," the FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said. According to the WTB, the new procedures will save at least \$304,000 a year, including staff expenses.

Steve, KC8TVW

Win a Generator

The Delaware County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consistently donates over 2000 hours per year in public service work, using our own equipment and supplies. Like many ARES groups, we are looking for funding for our various projects.

In order to raise funds are raffling off Honda EU-2000i generators, shipped to your door with DC charger and cover.

You can purchase a ticket to win one of three Honda Generators (\$1000 retail) for \$20! 1000 tickets will be sold. Drawing May 18 or sooner if sold out. Buy your tickets online at: <http://www.delares.org/raffle> or reply with your name, address, phone, and I'll get in touch. Thanks – and spread the word!

Stan, N8BLH

TMRA Opportunities for Service and Leadership

Three TMRA officer positions need to be filled this year: Steve, W8TER, is leaving the Vice-president post this year, Brenda, KB8IUP, is leaving the position of TMRA Treasurer and Ron, N8RLH, is leaving the position of Secretary We thank Steve, Brenda and Ron for their years of service. All three will remain active in the club.

Contact Brian, WD8MXR, to volunteer, or to nominate someone, to run for one of these offices. The newsletter editor Chuck, KB8FXJ, is also retiring from that position on June 30. If interested please contact him or Brian.

Dale's Tales for March

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

I recently had the pleasure of making a surprise visit to the Marion Amateur Radio Club with the specific mission of presenting one of their members with one of ARRL's most prestigious awards. Mr. Bill Finnegan NR8I was chosen by the ARRL Board of Directors to be the recipient of the Herb S. Brier Award. This award is named in memory of Herb S. Brier, W9AD, long-time CQ Novice Editor, who represented the spirit of effective, caring Amateur Radio instruction. The ARRL sponsors this award in conjunction with the Lake County Indiana Amateur Radio Club, in Herb's memory to recognize the very best in Amateur Radio instruction and recruitment. Bill Finnegan's contribution to the recruitment of new amateurs and the subsequent follow-on to insure they continue in the hobby, epitomizes the ideals of W9AD. The Great Lakes Division is indeed proud to recognize Bill's contributions to amateur radio. Congratulations NR8I.

Next month on April 1 (!) to be exact, our Kentucky Section will greet a new Section Manager. I want to personally take this opportunity to welcome Alan Morgan KY1O into his new position. He will be replacing Jim Brooks KY4Z who has served as KY SM for the past eight years. Alan is an ARRL Life Member and has held the positions of DEC, EC and NM as well as the presidency of his local radio club. Our best wishes go to Alan and of course to Jim, as he moves on to enjoy some of the other facets of ham radio.

The Great Lakes Division's largest ham radio bash is coming up soon. Well, OK it is the world's largest ham radio bash and we are fortunate to have it all happen in our Division. Of course, it's the Dayton HamVention®. If you have never attended, you must. If you have not made your plans yet, you must. The dates are May 15, 16 & 17, 2015. Of course we will have the ARRL Expo in place again this year, with all of the League's key people and resources ready to visit with you. Your Division and Section officials plan to be circulating at the Expo. Please plan to stop by for an "eye ball QSO". Check out the HamVention web site at <http://hamvention.org/>.

ARRL members are going to be polled for their opinions on the recently proposed HF band changes. The ARRL is asking members to comment by April 19 on possible changes to the League's HF Band Plans suggested by the HF Band Planning Committee. The survey is part of the committee's efforts to tweak the band plans for the RTTY/data/CW portions of 80 through 10 meters with the exception of 60 meters. 400 members commented in response to a March 2014 solicitation that sought suggestions for using the spectrum more efficiently so that data modes may coexist compatibly. This is an important survey and you are encouraged to use this opportunity to provide input on the suggestions the committee has posted. First, review the proposal which will appear in your April 2015 QST. Then go to <http://www.arrl.org/bandplan> to file your comments.

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

Snow, snow and more snow. I haven't heard many good words about it recently, as we are all looking forward to spring. And there was plenty of snow for the Mansfield Mid-Winter Hamfest a few weeks ago. Nice to see many of you there.

Like everyone else, I'm looking forward to spring, but those thoughts are always accompanied, for me, by thoughts of preparation. I look around to check on radios, batteries, jump kits (go kits), etc. I guess it's the many years of preparing for and responding to disasters with the Red Cross that set my thinking. And while the specifics of emergency communications in a particular area are best left to the ARES leadership, I'm sure the EC's, DEC's and SEC's don't mind my giving the reminder for all of us to be prepared. Spring is, even on a snowy morning, just around the corner, and with it, the bad weather and storms along with the gentle breezes and flowers.

Along those lines, my home club, the Queen City Emergency Net, had a program on solar power at our February meeting. Thanks to Jerry, W1SCR, for providing the good information. Whether you're looking for a power source for QRP, Field Day, or keeping a station on the air during an extended power failure, solar might be a good way to go. It fits right in to disaster planning. Speaking of disaster planning, Ohio ARES is planning a NVIS antenna day in April. What else is going on in the Division? Any additional things we can share and test? Let us know.

Maybe I can find out more about activities in Kentucky when I visit the Cave City Hamfest this coming weekend. I look forward to meeting some friends, and making new ones. I always like to share ideas and listen to members' concerns as I get around. That's part of what I can do for the Great Lakes Division. I'll make sure that Director Williams knows about new programs and activities that I get a chance to hear about. Whether it's that hamfest, or any of the others ones I get to attend during this new season, if you see me, stop by and say hello. I look forward to meeting you.

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

Dale Williams WA8EFK
Director
Great Lakes Division

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

***On Sunday night be sure to tune into
the TMRA Sunday Nite Nets:
CW practice net at 7:30
Newcomers and Elmers net at 8:00
Always Great Amateur Radio***

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, Zack, 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.

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Now is the right time to support your club. Volunteer to help with one of the many tasks that make our hamfest a success. Like Mike, WA8SYD, says; "Many hands make light work". See you at the TMRA meeting on March 11.