



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

February 2018



The Prez Sez

From Brian, WD8MXR, President

Hamfest update: our 2018 Hamfest will be Sunday March 18th at Owens Community College, with set up Saturday March 17th. It's registered with and "approved" by the ARRL. The table application form is on the TMRA website, as is a one page announcement flyer. We expect many of our usual vendors to be back, and as we hear from our major vendors, we'll list them on the website. Mark and Brenda's "Homestyle Concessions" will be providing the food service again this year, and we assume indoors again.

Volunteers will be needed: Skeet, KD8KXD, for tickets; Chrissy, KC8UFV, for talk-in; Steve, KC8TVW, for VE testing; Tom, KB8PAI, for set-up/teardown (especially volunteers for teardown Sunday afternoon; Mike, W8MAL, for security (manning the doors). New this year is a need for extra volunteers during the Hamfest - with the prize drawings every 30 minutes from 9:00am to Noon, Mike, WA8SYD, and Chrissy (on the computer to display the winning numbers) need help relaying the information of the prize winners between them. Also, Toby, KE8CZO, will appreciate help with his silent auction. All will be grateful for volunteers to help with those activities. Again, we'll have food vouchers for all who volunteer at least 1 hour to help in any way. If there are any ideas/suggestions for Forums, contact Ron, N8RLH. To volunteer, either contact appropriate person, or contact me (wd8mxr@gmail.com) and I'll forward the information on.

Also at the Hamfest we plan on having an "advertising blitz", "new member recruitment drive", "TMRA awareness – What Do We Do?" (call it what you will) by handing out to the Hamfest attendees an information sheet, one page, maybe double-sided, listing all that TMRA does and offers Hams and the local community. Designed especially for non-members of TMRA, the hope is that it will encourage them to consider joining and supporting our Club, although many of our activities, like our repeaters, are open to all.

73, Brian WD8MXR

**The TMRA Hamfest will be March 18, 2018 at Owens
Community College, Perrysburg, OH.**

ARES News

From Skeet, KD8KXD, Lucas County EC

The next Lucas County Monthly Meeting will be held Saturday, February 24, 2018. The Meeting location is at St Luke's Hospital in the basement Private Dining Room near the cafeteria. The meeting starts at 9:00am.

Please tune into the Lucas County ARES in Brief Net, Sunday nights on the 147.270 repeater at 7:30pm for the latest information.



Technician License Classes

From Steve, KC8TVW

TMRA will be holding a two-day Technician License class on April 7 & 21, 2018. There is no charge for the class. A text book is required and costs \$25.00. At the end of the second class, students may take the FCC license exam. The cost of the exam is \$15.00.

The classes will be held at the Lucas County EMS Training Center, 2127 Jefferson Street, Toledo, Ohio 43624. Registration is required. Contact Steve, KC8TVW. Phone: 419-467-3734 or email: kc8tvw@arrl.net.

... And VE Testing

The January VE session was cancelled due to a Level 1 snow alert. The March and April VE sessions will not be the normal second Saturday of the month. In March, the VE session will be Sunday, March 18, at 9:00 AM at the TMRA Hamfest at Owens Community College. Then, on April 21, at 3:00 PM, the VE testing will be held after the Tech Class at the Lucas County EMS Training Center (see above).

... And CW Code Practice

The tentative date for the next CW practice session is February 17, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at Trilby Church, 5918 Secor Road, Toledo, Ohio. Please note, this date is subject to change.

For more information about VE testing or CW practice, contact Steve, KC8TVW. Phone: 419-467-3734 or email: kc8tvw@arrl.net.

TMRA VE Session Examiners

From Dave, KD8EVN

Are you getting your amateur radio license or upgrading the one you have? No problem. TMRA has monthly VE (Volunteer Examiner) Test Sessions every month. Just call or email KC8TVW, kc8tvw@arrl.net and let him know what test you need, what month you will be taking the test, and the required number of three VE's will see you the second Saturday of the month over at Maumee Fire Station Number 2 at 0815hrs.

VE's have taken a qualifying exam approved by the FCC and ARRL to give you the licensing test. The time to give the test and travel time from home is a personal commitment of at least three hours of time for each session. TMRA has about 12 sessions per year including the Hamfest and two Tech Classes held annually. When you look at the list below you can see the dedication of service over literally years to help newcomers and everyone pursue their Amateur Radio License goals.

Congratulations to everyone who is a VE. Below is a list of the current TMRA pool of VE's and how many test sessions they have given. From the seasoned veteran VE's to the ones just starting out a sincere "Thank You" for your assistance to our hobby.

TESTS GIVEN / CALL SIGN / NAME

184	WD8MXR	BRIAN HARRINGTON
107	KC8TVW	STEVE STALKER
65	KE8UE	DAN CUNNINGHAM
64	KC8UFV	CHRISSEY HART
47	KD8EVN	DAVE SHUGAR
40	KB8PAI	TOM SWARTZ
28	KD8COO	BRIAN KNOBLAUCH
22	KD8NYJ	DAVE MCCANNA
19	KB8OTP	ROD UNGER
18	K8EEE	ERNIE DUCEY
15	N8GBU	MICHAEL FARKAS
11	KV8P	ROB HALL
11	W8TER	STEVE BELLNER
10	AA8HS	BRUCE HAMMOND
10	KE8EF	ED FREY
8	KD8UOX	BRIAN MERTZ
6	KA9IVY	RICHARD BROWNLEE
4	KJ0EYT	JOEY THIELEN
4	N8ZAK	ZAK BURNS
4	W8MAL	MIKE LACUMSKY
1	K8XXA	TOM SZUBA
1	WB8RG	BRAD RUHBERG

TMRA Hamfest

Many volunteers will be needed for the TMRA Hamfest on Sunday, March 18th at Owens Community College. Set up is Saturday, March 17th.

Contact Skeet, KD8KXD, to volunteer for ticker sales; Chrissy, KC8UFV, for talk-in; Steve, KC8TVW, for VE testing; Tom, KB8PAI, for set-up and tear-down; and Mike, W8MAL, for security. If you have questions or suggestions for forums, contact Ron, N8RLH. There will be food vouchers for anyone who volunteers to help for at least one hour.

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

President, Brian, WD8MXR;
Vice-President, Rob, KV8P;
Secretary, Zack, N8ZAK;
Treasurer, Rich, KD8WCB.

Board Members: Steve, W8TER;
Skeet, KD8XKD; Tom, KD8WCD;
Dan, KE8UE; Rich, KQ6EF.

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.

Winter Field Day

By Glenn, W8MUK

TMRA held its Winter Field Day on January 27, 2018 at the Maumee Branch Library in Maumee, Ohio. “We had 28 people sign in to the event,” said Steve, W8TER, the event organizer. The total was likely higher than this because not everyone signed the log.

As in prior Winter Field Day events, there were a variety of rigs, modes, and antennas. If you wanted to see a sampling of radios and grab-and-go kits, this was the place. Also, there was plenty of expertise to answer questions and share what works and what doesn't. As usual, there was plenty of food in case you got hungry.

Please note, Steve, W8TER, reported that he has a vest/jacket that someone left behind. You may contact him at stevebellner@gmail.com. The following photos are courtesy of Glenn, W8MUK.



... And Field Day 2018

Yes, I know, Field Day is a long way away. But not if you plan to operate, especially for the first time or with new equipment. If you want to be ready to go by the last full weekend in June, you need to begin preparing now. Have you tested that new rig under field conditions? What antenna will you use? Have you tested that? What about your power supply? From where will you operate . . . a tent, camper, somewhere else?

You don't have to face these questions alone. There are many experienced hams at TMRA who will be glad to lend a hand. For more information about Field Day contact the Chairman, Steve, W8TER, at stevebellner@gmail.com, or his bumbling assistant, Glenn, W8MUK, at w8muk@arrl.net.

February Mobile Fox Hunt

There will not be a mobile fox hunt in February because of the cold weather.

Tech Committee News

From Rob, KV8P

Rich, KQ6EF, pulled together, installed and tested a PL decode board that will eventually be available for use on the 53.110 repeater. Thanks to Rich for his work in getting it decoding! While on-site at our repeater site Rich also noticed that a little work needs to be done to reinforce a few of the new 6m repeater antenna ground

plane elements. That work is being planned. Also, Dan, KE8UE, has a 2 meter amplifier ready for installation onto the fusion repeater. That should significantly increase its talking-range once installed here soon.

Other recent in-process committee discussion items in January included the mounting of the mast into the newly acquired 10' tower section for the 147.27 antenna, finalizing backup battery power for 147.27, amplifiers for 224.14 and 442.850, fan replacement on 927.025, upgrading the feedline on 442.850 to the available 1 5/8" during the new antenna install, prioritization of heliax sizes on the downtown repeaters, and an eventual need and fit for pre-amplifiers for 224.14 and 53.110.

Also, while building renovation work continues at our University of Toledo repeater site (by the university), the elevator RF interference which we had previously plagued 147.27 and 224.14 has significantly decreased (dare I say, disappeared?) along with their isolation and replacement of the old elevator control systems. We are expecting the new elevators to be much more "RF Quiet", but we'll be watching it closely as they come online.

... And a Happy Surprise

On Jan 11th, we were fortunate enough to find out about a crane-lift being done at our UT campus repeater site and were able to get the crane company (for a small fee) to allow our antennas to take a ride to the top of the building. The lift to the roof is definitely the most challenging part of our project, so this was a huge help at the UT site (done very inexpensively). The crane was already on-site lifting elevator parts, so they were able to just fit us in. Thanks to Tom, KD8WCD, Steve, W8TER, and Rob, KV8P, for working the specifics out and getting the lift accomplished for that site!

Here are some photos courtesy of Rob, KV8P.



Congratulations to Dave, KD8EVN: Maumee H.S. Distinguished Alumnus By Glenn, W8MUK

TMRA can be justly proud when one of its own, a past TMRA Radio Amateur of the Year, is also recognized and honored by the local community. On January 27, Dave, KD8EVN, along with three other alumni, was honored by Maumee High School for making "significant and noteworthy achievements as successful adults in their chosen careers and/or have served as benefactors to mankind."

The award, given at a Maumee High School basketball game, cited Dave's many achievements including, "David earned his Amateur Extra radio license and volunteers with Lucas County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (LCARES) helping Toledo Express Airport run disaster drill simulation communication. David was the Toledo Mobile Radio Association (TMRA) 2014 Amateur of the Year, and volunteers many hours each month to TMRA for public service and education."



Thanks, Dave, for your many years of service to our community and to TMRA. And thank you for bringing positive recognition to ARES and to TMRA. Dave provided the photo showing him receiving the award and the award plaque.

Dale's Tales

By Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Director Great Lakes Division

HAMFESTING: Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Schedule covering the next couple of months. These swaps have received their sanctioning approval from ARRL HQ at the time of this publication. We have approximately 65 ARRL hamfests each year in the Division. I do encourage each Hamfest Chair to register early for ARRL Sanctioning. Be sure to invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set.

2/3/18	HARA Hamfest	Negaunee, MI
2/10/18	Cherryland Hamfest	Traverse City, MI
2/18/18	InterCity Hamfest	Mansfield, OH
2/18/18	Livonia Hamfest	Livonia, MI
3/3/18	Cave City Hamfest	Cave City, KY
3/4/18	NOARS Hamfest	Elyria, OH
3/17/18	Crossroads Hamfest	Kalamazoo, MI
3/17/18	MOVARC Hamfest	Gallipolis, OH
3/18/18	Toledo Mobile R.A.	Perrysburg, OH
4/7/18	Lincoln Trail	Elizabethtown, KY
4/14/18	Cuyahoga Falls	Cuyahoga Falls, OH
4/21/18	Portsmouth	Portsmouth, OH
4/29/18	GMARC Hamfest	Madison Hgts, MI
4/29/18	Athens Hamfest	Athens, OH



Editor's Note: Dale's Tales was edited to fit the space available.

Did You Know?

- The **Lucas County ARES Informational Net** is every Sunday at 7:30 pm on 147.270.
- The **TMRA Newcomers and Elmers Net** is every Sunday at 8:00 pm on 147.270.
- The **Tech Committee** meets the second Monday of each month at Maumee Fire Station #2 on Dussel Drive (in front of the water tower).
- The **Fldigi Net** meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 PM at 147.27 MHz
- The **TMRA general meeting** is the second Wednesday of each month at the Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Rd., Rossford, Ohio.
- The **Six Meter Net** meets every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 PM (EST).
- The **Lucas County Siren Net** is the first Friday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 AM on 147.270 + W/103.5 PL and 442.850 + W/103.5 PL.
- The **Lucas County Hospital Net** is the first Saturday of the even numbered months at 10:00 AM.
- The **NORC Net** is the first Saturday of each month. This net typically meets at 11:00 AM on or around +/- 7.200 MHz LSB.
- **ARES** meets the fourth Saturday of each month at St. Luke's Hospital, 5901 Monclova Road, in Maumee, Ohio, at 9:00 AM.
- **Mobile Fox Hunts**. No February fox hunt because of the cold weather.
- **The TMRA Hamfest will be March 18, 2018 at Owens Community College, Perrysburg, OH.**
- **VE testing** is each month. Contact Steve, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734 or kc8tvw@arrl.net.
- Register for **CW classes** by contacting Steve, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734 or kc8tvw@arrl.net.
- **Ron, N8RLH**, has ham gear from the estates of silent keys. Contact: 419-345-6382 or rlhornbeck@att.net.
- The calendar at the **TMRA website**, www.tmrahamradio.org, lists numerous ham radio activities each month.
- TMRA has a **Facebook** page.
- Don't forget to select TMRA as your Organization of choice for *Kroger Cares* and *Amazon Smile*. This results in a donation to the club as a portion of your purchase.

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