



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

June 2021



From the Prez, Steve W8TER

We are within days of getting through this period of time lost to the Covid -19 virus.

June is going to be a busy month as we have elections and meetings not to mention Field Day and the Schoonmaker "Ships On The Air" event.

June 5th and 6th is the Ships on the Air event. A group of operators will be setting up and operating 20 and 40 meters from the aft cabins or "Dog House" as it is known. Just being on the ship is exciting enough. Operating ham radio from it and contacting other ships makes it even more so.

June 9th we will be holding our General meeting at the Electrical Industries Building on Lime City Road. Just off the Buck Road exit. You do not have to be a member to attend. Doors open at 6 pm and the meeting starts at 7pm.

As a reminder, memberships expire on June 30th 2021. If you have not done so, please renew your membership. You can pay through the TMRA web site.

Here is a little run down of the agenda. The June meeting is our annual business meeting. We will be taking nominations for Officers during the meeting and then, after nominations are closed, the membership will have a vote.

If you are interested in running for President, Vice President, Treasurer, Bursar, or Secretary please contact Glenn Ingersoll W8MUK gningersoll@gmail.com or Ron Hornbeck rlhornbeck@bex.net .

KD8EVN may have some Power Pole test kits available during the meeting.

We will also receive the Auditors report.

W8MUK and N8RLH are the Field Day Chairs for this year's Field Day event. Contact Glenn or Ron If you are interested in getting a station on the air for that event.

June 23rd is the Executive Committee meeting.

73,

Steve/W8TER

TMRA MEMBERSHIP

If you have not already renewed, TMRA memberships for the current year will expire on June 30th! Becoming a member of TMRA shows your support for the club and is now the only source of income for the club. For certain club activities, like the Schoonmaker event, membership is required for insurance coverage. The fastest, easier way to renew is through Paypal at www.tmrahamradio.org/store

You can charge a one time payment with a credit card for a very small fee if you do not already have a Paypal account.



K8E James M. Schoonmaker Museum Ships on the Air 2021

Darin Snell KD8WBZ
Dave Shugar KD8EVN

Will TMRA be able to hold the Schoonmaker K8E Special Event for 2021?

As of this writing 4/30/2021, the Schoonmaker steering committee is cautiously optimistic that our Museum Ship on the Air Event K8E will happen on June 5-6, 2021.

Be aware it will not be like any of our previous events due to Covid-19.

The 2021 event will be more relaxed with a goal of just getting "on the air," respecting the wonderful museum ships and the people that ran these ships "back in the day".

There will be fewer Museum Ships activated this year worldwide.

As of 4/30 there are 57+ ships operating, not the usual 109+ ships.

This event has always been "not a contest, it is a fun event," but this year's activation is a tribute to "getting back to being normal" for amateur radio events and our lives after the pandemic events of 2020.

Some onboard operating procedures and habits will be different this year. TMRA will not have anyone in the galley public area. There will be no outreach to the public onboard.

We will only be on the dog house deck making radio contacts with our fellow radio amateurs worldwide. We will be limited to how many people can be onboard at any time during the event.

A schedule will be made for all radio operators and loggers (if used). Operators may do logging too. Social distancing will be enforced and masks when we are close together.

Everyone on board will be scheduled and there will be no drop in members or visitor members.

We expect to have 20m and 40m SSB stations not in the same room, but in two different rooms.

The final say for the go or no go for Schoonmaker activation will be the decision of the Museum of the Great Lakes and the State of Ohio's current rules and regulations for having this type of event. We will respect their decisions as being final. As always, the #1 rule is this will be a safe event for all attending.

This Special Event is only open to TMRA Members.

If you are interested in attending the Special Event or want more information in being part of the K8E Schoonmaker Team, please advise our 2021 Schoonmaker Chairman Darin Snell KD8WBZ by email at: KD8WBZ@arrl.net.

You will be put on our email information list for the K8E event and receive and latest news via email.

Let Darin know if you plan to operate and which day or days (Saturday or Sunday) are best for you to get on the air.

Up to date information will be also be posted on the QRZ K8E website and as always, at: **MUSEUM SHIPS WEEKEND EVENT** sponsored by **The Battleship New Jersey Amateur Radio Station**.

For a current list of ships and other information on the worldwide event at:

<https://www.nj2bb.org/museum/>

Be part of the K8E Team that welcomes the world onboard the James M. Schoonmaker at the Museum of the Great Lakes in Toledo, Ohio, June 5 & 6, 2021.





ARES News
From Tim, KD8IZU
boxcar@toast.net.

Please always keep in touch through ARES in Brief Net on Sunday Nights at 7:30 or the ARES IO Group. If you have questions, you can contact Tim KD8IZU

There is an app on the IO Group to renew your Lucas County ARES Membership, this app will also allow you to sign you up for ARES alerts and get info to get state ID when there is an emergency deployment. Please fill it out so we can keep our records up to date if you are a Lucas County ARES Member.

If you go to the Ohio Section newsletter at ARRL-Ohio.org under Skywarn there are several sites listed for Skywarn Spotter Training.

The Lucas County Siren Net is always the first Friday of the month, we run a net on the 147.270 repeater starting around 11:45 a.m. with the sirens going off at noon.

The Lucas County ARES Meeting is held on the fourth Saturday of month. The ARES in Brief Net is ran on Sunday nights at 7:30 P.M. on the 146.940 repeater and on the fourth Sunday of the month 147.270 repeater. This Net is where ARES puts out their announcements and your chance to enter your voice.

KD8IZU has issue a fund raising challenge, "Donate your spare change to LCARES". Contact Tim KD8IZU for details.

From Rick K8RKS

I'm still in need of several operators for the Muddy Mini Half Marathon on June 19th. The race starts at 7:30 AM and runs from downtown Maumee to 5/3 Field in downtown Toledo. There is also a quarter marathon course

which starts a bit north of Maumee and finishes in the same place. Last time we did this race I believe we were all finished by 11:30. If you'd like more information or to sign up to help please contact me at either k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573. Thanks!

Rick K8RKS
k8rks@arrl.net
419-471-0573

A “garden” antenna for 80 and 160 meters

Bruce AA8HS, editor

There are many areas of the world where backyards are small so I would add this project to the list of “limited space antennas.” David M0E2P referred to this an antenna within his garden. He has since moved but, fortunately, left some details for us. I have seen variations of this design elsewhere. Base loaded antennas are nothing new. In the past, there was an AM broadcast station on 540 Khz in Windsor, Ontario. The radiating towers were only about 100 feet tall with a quarter wave being over 400 feet at this frequency. This required some serious base loading and tuning! Furthermore, AM broadcast stations usually have several acres of buried , thick “chicken wire” for a ground system. The more, the better.

So, the idea here is to create an antenna which is usable on both 80 and 160 meters and can be placed on a small lot. It is a base loaded inverted L or sloper with some radials. It requires a serial tapped coil (pictures are below). What is different about this antenna is that the tuning is done outside and maybe tweaked indoors with an antenna tuner. Since the impedance and SWR match will not be perfect, you should use a 1:1 balun (a Unum) which you can make yourself, between the coil and the coax, to keep the RF out of the shack.

The basic idea is that you will determine where to operate. If you join the 160 meter nets on 1926 and 1936 Khz, then you would use the coil taps that give the lowest SWR in those frequencies. The same goes for FT8 on 1840 and 3573 Khz.

An alligator clip with its wire lead soldered to the antenna wire can be attached to a tap on the coil to adjust the resonant frequency.

Since the antenna is shorter than what would be required for a quarter wave antenna, the coil makes the antenna electrically equivalent to a quarter wave. An inverted L should be about a quarter wave in length.

You want an antenna with a minimum X, that is, reactance at your frequency of choice. Since a shortened antenna has capacitive reactance, the inductive reactance of the coil cancels it out as much as possible. **An antenna analyzer, either purchased or borrowed, is essential to making this work.** The analyzer should be connected on the side of UNUM going to the house. When you measure the SWR and X in the house, don't be surprised that it is somewhat different than your measurement outside: this is a phenomenon familiar to many hams since the match is never perfect.

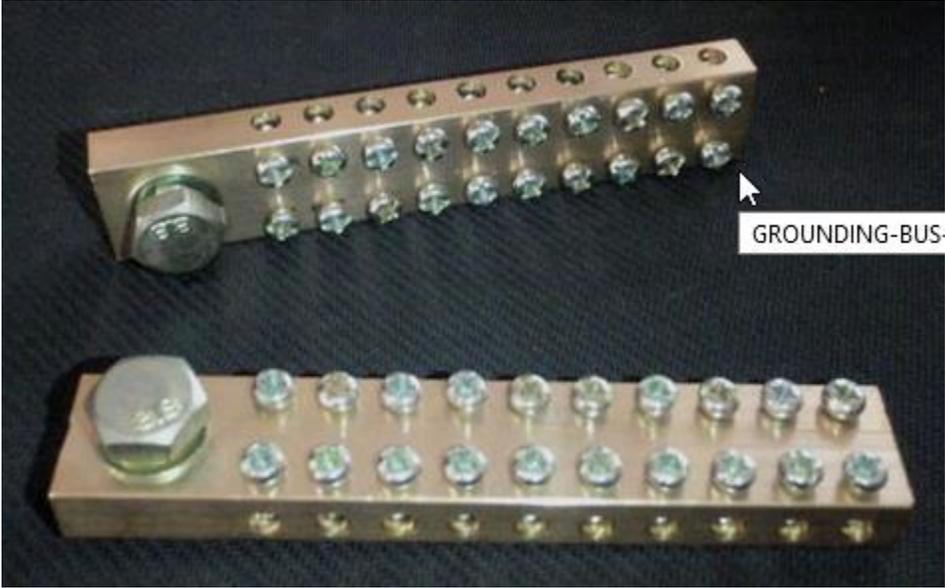
The length of wire that you can run determines the size of the coil and the number of turns on that coil. If you are lucky enough to have nearly 60 feet of wire, the antenna should easily tune to about 4.0 Mhz. then, only a few taps on the coil should cover the whole 80 meter band. The coil that is used here has a high Q for best efficiency so that the bandwidth is very tight: a change of two turns can mean the difference between a 3:1 SWR and a 1.5:1 SWR. This requires a coil with numerous taps.

MOEZP only had about 44 feet of wire but by using this method, he was able to get good matches on both 80 and 160 and win an award on 160 meters. The rest of the coil could be used for 160 meters. As your antenna tap moves up the coil, the series inductance increases and the resonant frequency decreases. Thus, the top of the coil (maximum inductance) would be used to resonate at about 1800 Khz.

Building the antenna

Place the tuner on the side of the Unum that will lead to the house. Although some hams use ground rods, you will get better performance from a bunch of radials. You can bury insulated wire around you house and in the yard and bring

them to a common point. To save money by not buying a radial plate, you can use a grounding bar:



Another method for the spring and fall is to lay the radials on the ground and keep them in place with staples such as these:



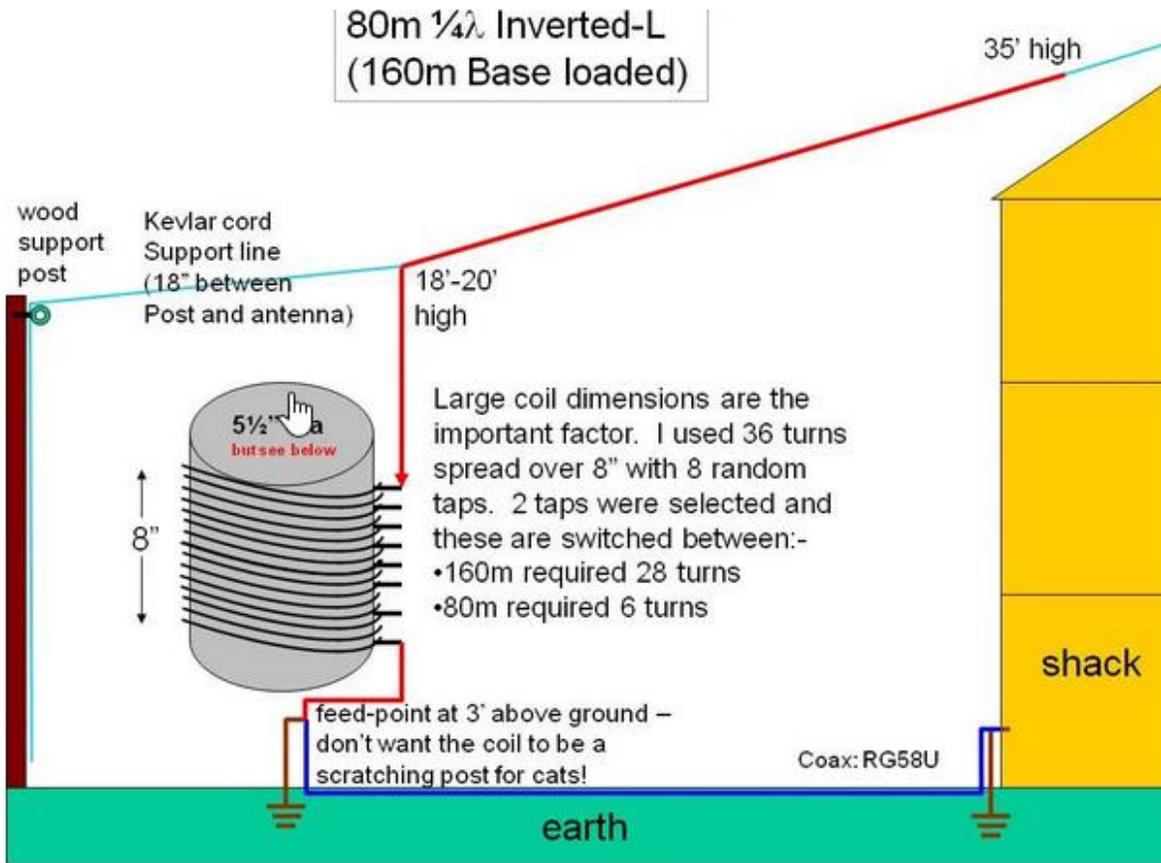
If your radials cannot be long, then use as many as possible close to the feed point. The size of the PVC pipe used for the coil is up to you. I have had good luck with 3 and ½ inch pipe of about a foot and a half in length. The larger the diameter of the pipe, the higher the Q and the narrower the bandwidth. The number of turns will definitely depend on your situation. If you use solid wire, such as #16, small rectangular taps can be created every one and a quarter turn . You can certainly

find other ways of doing this. As you will note, MOEZP used a larger pipe diameter and a shorter pipe length.

To protect the coil from the weather, particularly if you use alligator clips, I have used a small tote and drilled a hole in the bottom so that the PVC pipe can be mounted on a wooden stake. Additional holes for the radials can also be drilled. Since this is a shortened antenna, high voltages can be present on the antenna lead. Wrapping the antenna wire with several layers of electrical tape as it leaves the tote would be a good idea.

When using the antenna analyzer, you may find that the SWR is low, but the impedance is higher or lower than 50 ohms, this is more likely to be the case at 160 meters. Correcting this is the job of your indoor tuner. On the Net, you will find many other antennas for small lots, but this one is fairly easy to build and tune. Good luck!





Unum between coil hot lead and coax is not shown. Coax ground is connected to radials.

<https://m0ezp.squirrelhouse.biz/80m-inverted-l-base-loaded-for-160m/>

<https://landscape.gardeningg.com/hf-multiband-antenna-for-very-small-garden/>

Ham Radio Humor

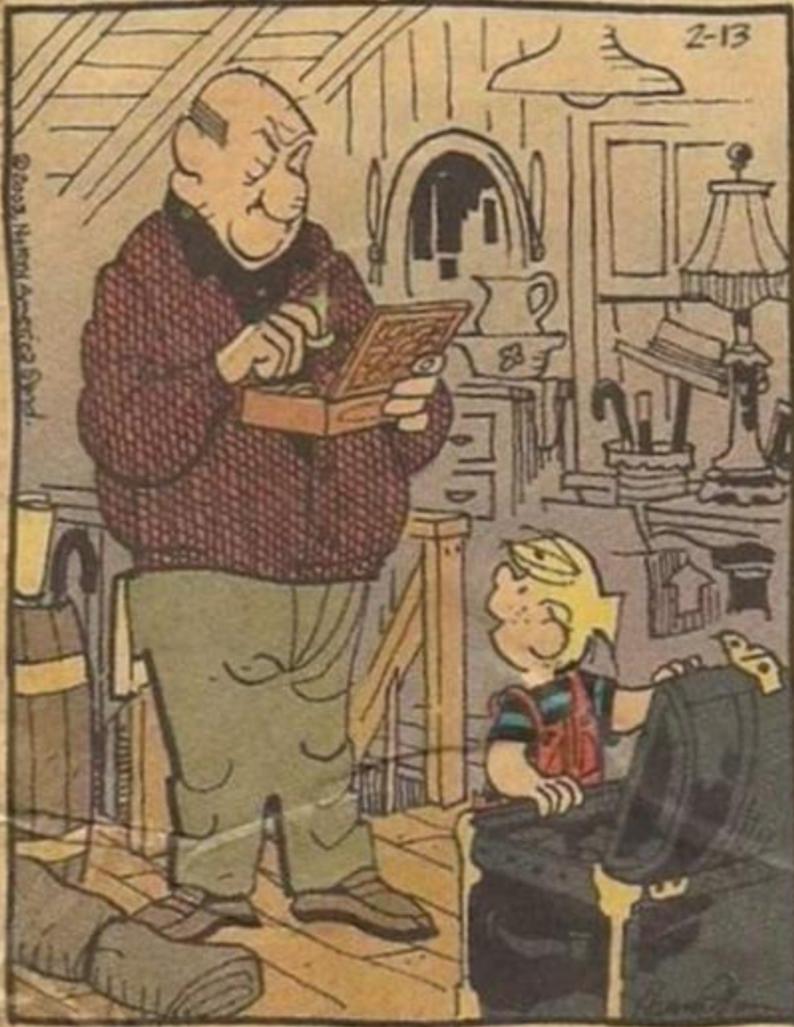


**THE NEW KENWOOD TS99900
CONTESTING TRANSCEIVER**

**1500 WATTS (MICROWAVE)
2.3 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR
10 CUP COFFEE POT
200 WATT PEP SSB***

*ACTUAL OUTPUT MAY VARY DEPENDING ON NUMBER OF APPLIANCES CONCURRENTLY RUNNING

DENNIS THE MENACE / By Hank Ketcham



**You old hams have more
junk in the trunk than the
girls in rap videos on TV!**

OH DEER!



I BUILT A MULTIBAND.







Dale's Tales May 2021

Dale's Tales for June

Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for June, 2021.

It surely is nice to see our hamfest schedule growing and some actual swaps happening. We all are well aware that many of our clubs have faced very difficult decisions in determining if their plans for a hamfest needed to be scrubbed. The rapidly changing health environment, changing rules and guidelines both from the federal and state level, combined with rules from various venues all forced postponements and cancellations.

At this writing, guidelines have reached a reasonable level in most areas and now with careful planning and cooperation, the doors and gates are opening. We have juggled a few plans and rearranged our ARRL Convention Schedule to make accommodations as best we can. I took the liberty to put everything on the table.

We normally plan conventions in alternate years, with individual State Conventions (3) in one year, and our Division Convention the next. A lot of planning and commitment goes into these events, each is unique and each puts a heavy load on the sponsoring group so alternating the convention types has really worked well. We all are eager to get back in the swing of meeting our fellow hams in person, so we'll hold Division Conventions both this year and 2022. We'll put a couple of State Conferences (like mini-conventions) on the calendar this year and next then return to our regular alternating schedule in 2023.

Truly, the Division Conventions always get the largest attendance as they cover all three Sections in our Division, Kentucky, Ohio and Michigan, and because of that, we also are fortunate to receive extra support from ARRL HQ, typically in the form of guest attendees and speakers from the HQ staff. Make your plans to attend these as special forums, net meetings and training sessions are always of interest. We are all going to do our best to bring the latest in up-to-date presentations to the ARRL Great Lakes Division. A banquet, guest speakers and Special Awards are always an integral part of these affairs, times when we can honor our fellow hams for their outstanding efforts in assisting their communities and ham radio itself.

Announcements containing the details of each convention will follow over the next few weeks as each forum gets confirmed. See "Scott's Stuff" below for the first announcement.

SCOTT'S STUFF: Comments from your ARRL Vice Director Scott, N8SY.

This past month has been really crazy around here as a lot of hard work is continuing on the committees that I'm on. The Field Organization group is one of them and in the past couple of months we put out a questionnaire to all of the Section Managers in the country. We asked them to tell us what was the most important issue that they would like to see improved (or problem resolved) that would be most beneficial to them as Section Managers to perform their jobs? We received a lot of really valuable and great comments and we are now working on getting those concerns resolved.

The PR Committee that I'm also on is going through the list of candidates to nominate the next Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award recipient. Because of the pandemic last year, no one was chosen, but that's not true this year. We have several really good candidates to choose from. Once we choose our candidate, that person's name will then be submitted to the full Board of Directors when we meet in July for their consideration and approval. Our PR Committee has also been busy putting together a lot of information that all of the PIOs and PICs have already received to help them promote this year's Field Day. Don't forget, Field Day is June 26 - 27.

If you haven't heard, we are going to have a Great Lakes Division Convention after all! Yes, the great folks of Bowling Green Kentucky are going to host the 10th Annual Vette City Hamfest / ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention on October 2nd! As that it is only 4 months away, planning is spinning up fast, so get this on your calendars now. We want everyone in the Great Lakes Division to come out and have a blast with us.

Yes, the Joseph Phillips, K8QOE, Newsletter Award is still on. For those of you in Kentucky and Michigan please get your newsletters turned in to your Section Manager and Public Information Coordinator quickly. The best newsletter from each of the 3 Sections (Michigan, Kentucky and Ohio) will be chosen by their respective Section Leaderships to compete for this very prestigious award.

We want every club in the Great Lakes Division to be able to participate for this award. So, if you are producing a newsletter, be sure to send a copy of it to your Section Manager. He'll take it from there.

That is going to do it from here this month. So, "GOTA" and have FUN!!!

--73, Scott Yonally N8SY, Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

HAMFESTING: Here is the current listing of Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned hamfests for 2021. Please note that all are subject to change, so please stay current by checking the sponsoring club's web page before making your travel arrangements. Be sure to invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set. If you club plans to request ARRL Hamfest Sanctioning, they should do so well in advance of the planned Hamfest date, as this allows adequate time for QST Listings.

QST announcements require a 3 month lead time. If a swap is cancelled or the date is going to change, please notify ARRL HQ.

2021 Great Lakes Div. ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest calendar:

06/05/2021 - Fulton County, Wauseon, OH

06/05/2021 - IRA Hamfest, Hudsonville, MI

06/06/2021 - Chelsea Hamfest, Chelsea, MI

06/12/2021 - Luce Co Yooper Hamfest, Newberry, MI

06/19/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI

06/20/2021 - Monroe Hamfest, Monroe, MI

07/10/2021 - Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest, Mansfield, OH

07/10/2021 - Cave City Hamfest - Cave City, KY

07/17/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI

07/17/2021 - NOARS Fest, Elyria, OH

07/18/2021 - Van Wert Hamfest, Van Wert, OH

08/07/2021 - Columbus Hamfest, Columbus, OH

08/21/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI

08/28/2021 - Cincinnati Hamfest/Ohio Conference, Cincinnati, OH

09/11/2021 - Greater Louisville, Shepherdsville, KY

09/11/2021 - GRAHamfest, Grand Rapids, MI

09/18/2021 - Cadillac Hamfest, Cadillac, MI

09/18/2021 - Richmond Hamfest, Richmond, KY
09/18/2021 - GMARC Trunkfest, Shelby Twp, MI
09/18/2021 - CMARC Hamfest, Okemos, MI
09/18/2021 - Mound ARA Swapmeet, Miamisburg, OH
09/19/2021 - Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI
09/26/2021 - Cleveland Hamfest, Berea, OH
10/02/2021 - VetteCity/Great Lakes Convention, Bowling Green, KY
10/16/2021 - Muskegon Color Tour Swap, Muskegon, MI
10/24/2021 - USECA Hamfest, Madison Hgts, MI
10/31/2021 - Massillon Swap, Massillon, OH
12/04/2021 - Fulton Co Winterfest, Delta, OH
12/05/2021 - L'anse Creuse Swap, Madison Hgts, MI

We work together with the HQ staff to verify all new date selections in the hope of mitigating date conflicts. Many swap dates have changed from the regular hamfest calendar and as hard as we all work to avoid it, there are now several hamfests which fall on the same weekends.

For the latest detail on regional hamfests, check the ARRL web page at:
<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>.

73, Stay safe.

Light up those bands!

Dale Williams WA8EFK
Director
Great Lakes Division
wa8efk@arrl.org

Did you know?

- The **Lucas County ARES Informational Net** is every Sunday at 7:30 pm on 147.270.
- The social net is every Sunday at 8:00 pm on 147.270.
- The **FLDigi Net** meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 PM at 147.27 MHz
- **Six Meter Nets** meet every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 PM (EST). The Thursday night Net is on 50.255 USB. For more information contact Dan, KE8UE, at dlcunn@sbcglobal.net. The Monday night 6 meter Net is at 9 PM on the TMRA 6 meter repeater.
- 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.
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- **Ron, N8RLH**, has ham gear from the estates of silent keys. Contact: 419-345-6382 or rlhornbeck@att.net.
- The **TMRA apparel store** is now open. Contact Gold Medal Ideas at <http://www.goldmedalideas.com/tmra>.
- The calendar at the **TMRA website**, www.tmrahamradio.org, lists numerous ham radio activities each month.
- TMRA has a **Facebook** page and an **Instagram** page, which can be accessed from an icon on the TMRA website or at <https://www.instagram.com/tmrahamradio/>.
- 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. Instead of typing in the URL www.amazon.com, you must use smile.amazon.com.
- There is a 900 Mhz net Saturday nights at 9 pm on the TMRA 900 Mhz repeater.
- There is a simplex two meter net on 144.22 Mhz USB Friday nights at 8 pm.

Editor's Note: Beginning with the February 2019 issue, The Beacon will no longer produce a print version for mailing. The Beacon understands this change may inconvenience some club members and regrets that it is necessary.

You may contact the Editor of *The Beacon* by emailing to: AA8HS@ arrl.net or writing to:

Bruce, AA8HS

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