



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

December 2007



Membership News

It has been quite busy around here in my personal life, and that is my excuse as to why I haven't had any membership articles for a while. Not as much has been going on with the Club's membership, as it has been pretty stable for the last several months. We currently are at a comfortable 211 members for the 2007 membership year. Now things are getting exciting as the 2008 membership renewal season kicks into full gear and I felt I needed to write an article to help get it going and to catch you up on other news.

In this issue of 'The Beacon' you will find a membership renewal application. Please fill it out completely and make sure to sign it at the bottom. It is important that we receive a signed application from our members each year. One reason being insurance coverage. If we don't have a signed application from you, then you can't be a member and thus you won't be covered under the Club's insurance. Simple as that. Also, we like to make sure that we have the latest information from you since phone numbers and e-mail addresses can change so often. It doesn't take but a few minutes of your time, and a reasonable amount of money to renew your club dues. Please do it now while you're thinking about it. If you get it sent in before the end of December, you might be the lucky winner of our 'Early Renewal' drawing like Howard, W8NEE, and Patricia, KD8DJW were, and win a free membership for 2009.

I also wanted to remind those that are seniors, if you are over the age of seventy (70) and you have been a member for at least the last three years, then you are eligible for complimentary membership. Check the Club's By-Laws, Section II Membership, number 3 (f (iii)) or with me if you are unsure.

On a slightly different topic, if you haven't already heard or noticed, the annual 'Roster Mailing' packet has been delayed / postponed until December (about now.) Normally, I've tried to get it out to the membership around August or September as has been done in the past. A few months ago, after I brought it to their attention and after much discussion, the Board of Trustees had decided to postpone the mailing until at least December for several reasons. Basically, some of the documents that normally go out in the mailing were in the process of needing to be updated, and some of the details were not yet known. The By-Laws Review Committee is still waiting to meet and finalize some possible changes (with membership voting involved,) and that has delayed that document from getting updated. And also, the Repeater Guide was awaiting update due to the (possible) move of the repeater to the National City Building (which has now been completed.) And lastly, to allow for the most up-to-date roster of the membership.

On yet another topic, I have a few used, big and heavy, gel cell type batteries that I obtained from my employer and I am going to have something of a lottery to distribute them to interested club members. Persons who are newer hams or haven't previously gotten a battery from me will most likely get preference. Let me know if you are interested in one of these batteries and I will enter you into this 'drawing.'

73 de KB8PAI,
Tom Swartz, Membership Chairman
kb8pai@arrl.net

Jamboree On (JOTA) The Air October 2007

If you have been listening to the Q&A net you may have heard us talking about the Jamboree On The Air event that took place at the end of October. TMRA is going to be attempting to interest scouts, both girl and boy in amateur radio by helping them get on the air with ham radio.

For the past two years we have set up and operated HF for the scouts. TMRA is interested in promoting amateur radio to those who may be curious about it. One good place to find those who might be curious about ham radio is through the BSA and the GSA. Operating a JOTA station for the scouts enables them to find out how exciting ham radio can be. TMRA is planning on setting up for JOTA each October. This event will help TMRA promote Ham Radio and maybe encourage some individuals to get licensed.

Setup for this event was very easy thanks to those that helped. We setup a seventy five meter antenna and a forty meter antenna. These were sufficient to get on the air to allow the scouts to make contacts with other stations. A bonus was KB9UPS who brought out his satellite station to try and contact the ISS and make contacts through orbiting satellites. Even though the ISS was not on the air, KB9UPS's station identified a time when the ISS would pass directly over head after dark. Using this information we encouraged the scouts at the camp to watch the sky for it. Since this time was later evening it was viewed by naked eye by the scouts who were present at the event. This was quite thrilling and impressive to them.

One of the most talked about subjects by the scouts was the secret code of Morse Code. They were very impressed with the ability to talk using dits and dahs. Most would play with the keyer that KC8TVW had brought to the event. After hearing the keyer they would then attempt to spell their name or the alphabet using the keyer. The idea of a secret code like Morse Code to them seemed to really grab their interest.

This is how we encourage the youth to become interested in radio, by being there and representing what it can do. I am hoping that TMRA will continue to support JOTA and any other event that promotes ham radio to the next generation. I hope they will enjoy it as much as we do.

If you really enjoy ham radio, maybe you might want to come out and share your enthusiasm about it with the scouts. This is the time to let them know how thrilling ham radio is for you as a radio operator. Getting them started in amateur radio means getting them interested. They will get interested if they have exposure to it.

73
Steve, W8TER

A big THANK YOU to Ron, N8RLH, for resurrecting the newsletter computer.

Brenda and Chuck

OTHER TOLEDO AREA AMATEUR RADIO ORGANIZATIONS

ARES

Lucas County Amateur Radio
Emergency Service meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month in the "Private Dining Room" in St. Luke's Hospital, at 9:00 AM. You are welcome to meet in the cafeteria for breakfast before the meeting.

Alternate meeting locations and information will be announced on the daily 6:40 PM net. Contact Bill, WN8RUG, at 419-882-7337. **ARES NTS and Training Net** meets daily at 6:40 PM. 146.940- Alternate frequencies are: 147.375+ or 147.270+. **SKYWARN Net** as needed by the NWS, 147.375+ Alternate frequencies are 146.940-, 147.270+ or others announced by "net control".

GTARA (146.610-, 147.120+ 103.5) Meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross Building, 3100 W. Central, 7:30 PM. Contact Martha, K8AAC.

TRAC (147.375+, 146.940-) Meets 1st Thursday of the month at the Springfield Twp. Hall, 7617 Angola Rd. at 7:30 PM. Contact Becky, KC8ZNX, 419-290-3511.

QCWA Chapter 142, meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month at The Big Boy Restaurant, 1402 Reynolds Road, Maumee. (next to Hampton-Inn hotel)

FRAT (52.360, 146.835-, 224.280-, 444.650+) Meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month. FRAT net follows the Rain Dialup and Amateur News Weekly on Thursday nights starting at 8:30 PM.

The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association.

Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, and Chuck, KB8FXJ.

Email, kb8iup @ arrl . net

November VE Testing

At the Nov. 10, 2007 TMRA VE session in Maumee, Antonio, KD8HCP; Nancy, KC8ZLZ and Richard, KC8CCP upgraded to General.

Congrat's to all who took the test and thank's to the VE's who helped. Next test session is Dec. 8th in Maumee.

Stacey NS8W

December and January ARES Meetings

Due to the Christmas holiday, there will be no December ARES meeting. The next ARES meeting will be held on January 26, 2008. The location will be the usual place, St. Luke's Hospital, in the basement, "Private Dining Room" at 9:00. Join us in the cafeteria for breakfast and friendship.

Mark your calendars for the December 12 Meeting/Christmas Party

There is a time change for this meeting! It will begin with dinner at 6:30 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass. The club provides the meat, drinks and table service. There will be door prizes and entertainment. Reservations are needed by Dec. 7. For reservations contact Pat Kehr, KC8WQU at 476-2947.



Where Is Everybody?

With about 200 members, you would think we would have a few more check-ins to the TMRA Sunday night nets. The first net at 7:30 is an informative net meant to sharpen our communication skills. Steve, W8TER and Steve, KC8TVW, host this fast moving hour with subjects ranging from basic communication procedures to Zep antennas. The net starts with a few minutes of morse code practice. After that, it opens up and anyone can suggest a subject to be discussed. So join in for communication fun and information. If you have a question that you need answered, you can always play "Stump the Steves".

At 8:30 we start the TMRA information net. This is an informal and friendly net. You never know who the net-control will be since guest net-controls are always welcome. Check into this one to say just Hi and let your friends know how you are doing. TMRA club activities are announced on this net.

The TMRA Swap-n-Shop net usually follows the 8:30 "Information Net". This is your opportunity to list ham related items for sale and listen to the list of items that others are selling or giving away.

The TMRA nets are open to all amateurs, members or not. With our 2 meter and 440 repeaters linked together you have more opportunity to check into the nets over a wider area. The frequencies of course are 147.270 + and 442.850 +.

**TMRA
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December 2007

**Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year
from the
Toledo Mobile Radio Association.**

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673
President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;
Treasurer, Chuck, N8NIR; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Howard, W8NEE; Bob, K8ADK; Steve, KC8TVW; Tom, KB8PAI

TMRA Home Page www.tmrahamradio.org Webmaster, Tom, KB8PAI.

TMRA W8HHF Repeaters; 29.680-, 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) Please "ID" before using phone-patch.
(10 digit dialing, *up and #down)

TMRA W8HHF Packet BBS Frequencies 51.780, 145.690, 223.480, 441.060

The TMRA meets at 7:30 PM every second Wednesday in
The Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Rd. Rossford, Ohio.

The TMRA Q & A net meets every Sunday night at 7:30 PM, followed by the TMRA "Information & Swap 'N-Shop"
net at 8:30 on the 147.270+ repeater. All amateurs are invited to check-in.