



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

November 2008



The Prez Sez

At the October General Meeting Stacey, NS8W, was elected to a 5 year term as a TMRA Trustee, and we welcome Stacey to the Board.

I mentioned last month that I'd come across a TMRA roster from the Fall of 1978: the following current members of TMRA were members back then, so we recognize their support of the club for at least 30 years. Jack, K8HNI; Gerry, WA8JTB; Tom, K8OSH; Doug, K8OF; Brent, WD8PNZ and Karen, (No Call).

In addition to these 6 members, the 1980 roster also lists our current members Dave, KB8EH; George, WB8HHZ and Larry, WD8PKI.

If we find membership rosters for other years, we'll recognize other members for their long-time support.

TMRA appointed (non-elected) positions: October 2008 – September 2009

Technical Committee:

Dan, KE8UE (Chair); Jerry, WJ8E; Dave, KB8EH;
Tom, KB8PAI; Mike, WA8SYD; Chuck, KB8FXJ;
Steve, N8XSF; Steve, W8TER; Steve, KB9UPS;
Brian, WD8MXR; Ken, KD8DWO; Jim, KD8FNA;
Chris, KC8UFV; Ron, N8RLH; Steve, KB9UPS

Control Operators:

Dave, KB8EH; Tom, KB8PAI; Chuck, KB8FXJ;
Paul, N8XDB; Bill, KA8BFT; Brian, WD8MXR;
Jim, KC8BAA; Steve, W8TER; Chris, KC8UFV;
Ron, N8RLH; Steve, N8XSF

Packet BBS sys-op

Steve, N8XSF

TMRA Station License Trustee:

Brian, WD8MXR

Statutory Agent:

Brent, WD8PNZ

Education:

Mike, WA8SYD; Steve, KC8TVW

Membership:

Tom, KB8PAI

Challenger Committee: (Challenger Learning Center)

Steve, W8TER (Chair); Chris, KC8UFV; Bob, K8ADK; Dave, KB8EH; Brenda, KB8IUP; Steve, KB9UPS; Stacey, NS8W; Ron, N8RLH; Mike, WA8SYD; Rita, WB8FBG; Brian, WD8MXR; Steve, KC8TVW; Julie, KD8HYR; Reed, KD8HYH; Pat, KC8IQU

Equipment Manager:

Brian, WD8MXR

Flowers:

Brian, WD8MXR

TMRA Representatives to the LCARES Board of Trustees:

Chuck, KB8FXJ; Ron, N8RLH

Field Day:

Steve, W8TER (Chair)

TMRA-sponsored VE monthly testing in Maumee:
Steve, KC8TVW

Dayton Bus:
Mike, WA8SYD

Newsletter Editors:
Brenda, KB8IUP; Chuck, KB8FXJ

Meeting Snacks:
Steve, W8TER (Chair) (*doesn't mean Steve brings them* – he's keeping a list of who is volunteering to bring them – contact Steve for available months).

Hamfest Committee:
To be decided – probably the same as last year except for Treasurer

By-Laws Review Committee:
Budget Committee:
Audit Committee:
To be named

The following Committees or Committee Chairs are vacant: volunteers are welcome:

Picnic: (too late for one this year).
Xmas party: (if NO volunteer(s) – NO Xmas party this year – and time's running out).

Programs: (no one person has to commit for a long term – just organize/arrange for one or two programs).

If I've missed anyone, my apologies, and let me know so that I can keep the list up-to-date and correct. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered for a position, or accepted one if asked; in addition to those in elected positions, the members listed above all help make the TMRA an active and effective organization.

73, Brian

JOTA 2008 a Success

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) is an annual event in which half-a-million Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of amateur radio contacts. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, via the radio waves.

The first Jamboree on the Air was held in 1958. It is organized to coincide with the third **full** weekend of October each year. The event starts at 00.00 hours local time on the Saturday and concludes 48 hours later at 24.00 hours local time on the Sunday. Each station can choose its own operating hours within this period.



This year, as in the last couple of years, TMRA has sponsored the event. It was held October 18, 2008 at Camp Miakonda on Sylvania Avenue in Toledo. TMRA set up Friday night in Booker Cabin. They had a 40M station set up and Steve Stalker, KC8TVW, had a CW station set up, which the kids really enjoyed. They got to spell out their names and received a certificate for doing so.

Becky Eby, KC8ZNX, offered two sessions of the Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge. A total of 30 Scouts received their Merit Badge during JOTA. The parents had more questions than the Scouts did during class. Several Scouts (and a few parents) expressed interest in getting their Amateur Radio License. This is a wonderful opportunity to get the Scouts (and their families) excited about Amateur Radio.

Steve Michalski, KB9UPS, had his station set up to talk to the International Space Station (ISS). Although he never made contact with them, he could hear the ISS as they spoke to other JOTA stations. He also received many pictures sent down via slow-scan which were printed out for everyone to see. The Space Station passed



overhead about every 93 minutes and every pass drew a crowd. The parents showed as much interest as the boys did and they all asked a lot of questions. Some of the parents were surprised that we could communicate to the Space Station via Amateur Radio. This gives them another great reason to get their Amateur License and I am hoping many of them do.

Steve Ashenfelter, N8XSF, offered foxhunting to the boys. He put a transmitter inside of a stuffed animal and hid the transmitter somewhere in the camp. It was then the job of the Scouts to use a radio to find where the transmitter was placed. The boys loved it and some of the boys expressed interest in doing foxhunts outside of JOTA.

Lucas County ARES[®] was also out at JOTA with the truck and trailer. Volunteers had tables set up with radio kits that the boys would put together. Some were set up to receive AM or FM broadcasts and some were Shortwave only. The radio kits are a big hit with the boys and this was no exception. There were always kids at the radio kit stations and sometimes their parents could not pull them away without a fight. Two big radio kits along with 2 of the smaller kits were raffled off this year and they were divided into two groups: Boy Scouts and Webelos in one group, and Tigers, Bears and Wolves in the other. A total of 66 scouts entered the drawing. Of those 66, **nine said they were interested in becoming an Amateur Radio Operator.** That's more than 13 percent!

Lucas County Skywarn[®] had tables set up at JOTA and they helped the scouts make an anemometer and a wind vane using straws, index cards and Dixie cups. These two projects fulfilled some scout requirements for the younger boys.

I was not present in the evening, but I understand that the boys who stayed the night out at camp talked back and forth to each other over the air for a good part of the night. It has really gotten the boys excited about Amateur Radio.

The weekend was a success and a lot of positive feedback was received. The parents that we talked to said they were going to spread the word for next year and hopefully by this time next year, we will have (at least) those nine new hams.

We wouldn't have been able to offer the Scouts so many different aspects of Amateur Radio if it weren't for those who helped out. **THANK YOU** to everyone who volunteered their time!

I would like to give a special thanks to TMRA and their volunteers for making JOTA an exciting place to get Scouts interested in Amateur Radio, to Russ Eby for promoting JOTA and doing the printing of the materials, and to Camp Miakonda for donating the use of the cabins to us during JOTA.

If you would like to get involved with JOTA, please talk to Steve Stalker, KC8TVW or Steve Bellner, W8TER. If you would like to get involved with other Boy Scout events, or become a Merit Badge Counselor, contact Becky Eby, KC8ZNX.



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

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Membership Notes:

I'm sure you can guess that it is that time again... time for membership renewal season to begin. (Insert famous quote...) "I have a dream." Well, I have a goal anyway... and that would be to have all memberships renewed and processed by the time the TMRA hamfest rolls around in March of '09. So, here is your mission should you choose to accept it, or just look at it as if you will be helping me out. Please fill out the application enclosed with this newsletter and get it back to me soon. I will process it as soon as possible. Then, when you see another application in next months issue of the 'Beacon,' you can pass it along to a friend! See how easy that was!

And thus, life is good! Especially for Brenda, KB8IUP, and Earl, KD8GFM who were the lucky winners of a free membership from last year; their memberships are paid for because they renewed early, yet another reason to get your application back to me soon.

Thanks for your continued support of the Club, and if you have any questions at all about membership, just ask!

-Tom, KB8PAI, TMRA Membership Chairman. KB8PAI@ARRL.NET

THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673, TOLEDO, OH. 43697-9673
President, Brian, WD8MXR; Vice-President, Steve, W8TER; Secretary, Ron, N8RLH;
Treasurer, Rita, WB8FBG; Public Information Officer, Steve, KC8TVW.

Board Members: Dave, KB8EH; Stacey, N8SW; Chris, KC8UFV; 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.