



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

June 2011



The Prez Sez

The end of May and the beginning of June means that the Dayton Hamvention is over, and that we're approaching Field Day weekend. I didn't hear what the weather was like down there, but I hope all who went enjoyed themselves. Thanks go to Mike, WA8SYD, for organizing the TMRA bus trip again this year. Again this year the annual, national microbiology convention that I go to clashed with Dayton weekend, so I, and my wife, were on planes bound for New Orleans instead of me on the TMRA bus to Dayton.

For Field Day, Steve, W8TER, is our Chairman and will probably have an article elsewhere in this Newsletter, and he's the one to contact if you want to work a specific band and mode. I'm hoping that we can get up to the category 8A (or higher) this year – stations on 8 different bands and modes. You don't have to commit to bringing a station – come out and there'll be stations to operate: we operate under the TMRA Club's license, which is Extra Class, and call (W8HHF). We have a new location this year. It is the large open field behind the Electrical Industry Building. (that is where we hold our monthly meetings) Space isn't a issue – there's a very large shelter house with many picnic tables at the site. It comes with all the conveniences of a kitchen, flush toilets, charcoal cooking grills (and we have our own propane grill), a fireplace (if we supply the wood) – just about everything except A/C. It has electric power, but we'll be using our generators in the true spirit of Field Day.

If TMRA has an e-mail address on file for you, in the near future (before the next meeting on June 8) you'll be getting an informational mailing from Joe, KJ0EYT, and the Tech Committee with information about a special project on which the TMRA Trustees and Executive Committee need your input. There'll be more information on this at the June 8 meeting. At that meeting, before we get to our regular business meeting, we have a presentation on Fox Hunting by Mike, K8MLH.

We still have an opening for the TMRA Public Information Officer (PIO) !!.

According to our By-Laws, the time has come around once again (June each year) to put together a Nominating Committee, of at least 3 members, to prepare a slate of officers for election at our September meeting. So, if you'd like to be on that committee or if you'd like to be a candidate – please let me know.

73, Brian, WD8MXR

Field Day Is Approaching, Are You Ready?

One of the most well known operating weekends for Amateur Radio is approaching. Field Day. The most social, fun-filled operating weekend of the year!

Field Day has always been the operating event that still gives me chills. Before I was even licensed, I got to experience Field Day with friends in my computer club who were also Amateur Radio operators. Even in this world of wireless devices, there's still something about throwing a wire up in the trees, powering up the rigs, and just trying to figure out who in the world is going to hear your signal!

In honor of Field Day in Ohio, Ohio Governor John Kasich has proclaimed Saturday, June 25th as "Amateur Radio Operator's Appreciation Day" in Ohio. A downloadable copy of the Proclamation is available in the Ohio Section website (www.arrloho.org). Please, if you're going to host a Field Day, make sure this document is proudly displayed. Many thanks for State Government Liaison Nick Pittner, K8NAP, for securing the Proclamation. Nick has also provided a press release you may use to notify your local media, invite local officials, etc, which is also available on the Ohio Section website.

The ARRL is once again offering clubs and individuals to register your Field Day site on their Field Day locator. This is a great way for potential members to find you, and maybe even show off the hobby to potential new Hams! You may find the locator at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

For details on Field Day, please download the official ARRL Field Day packet from http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2011/2011_FD_Packet.pdf

Now, while getting points for your contacts is usually everyone's main focus, please keep these items in mind:

1. Field Day is to allow groups to operate in emergency conditions. Use some time to develop and send Radiograms to either your local Traffic Net, or the Ohio Single Sideband Net (OSSBN), which operates daily at 10:30am, 4:30pm, and 6:45pm local time on 3972.5 kHz. Sending a radiogram to your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator will help you collect bonus points for your group. It will also allow you to get some practice time in for some formal traffic handling.
2. Make your site safe for yourself and visitors alike! Make sure antennas are at a safe height, properly marked, and barricaded off to visitors who may not know about RF safety. Likewise with your feed lines, power lines, etc. Watch out for "trip zones" and high power. Many visitors bring small children, and small children get curious!
3. Make sure your FCC license(s) are properly displayed! If you are using club calls, make sure the trustee of that call is aware of its use.
4. Make sure GOTA stations are under the proper care of a responsible control operator (likewise with ANY station that is being operated by a non-licensed operator).

Field Day is a great opportunity to build positive community relations for your club, and that's important. Put in real estate terms, our FCC licenses give us a lease on some of the most valuable real estate in the universe – our portions of the frequency spectrum. We have that lease by the grace of the federal government, and it can be taken from us easily. We pay our "rent" through the good deeds we perform with our hobby. Whether it's emergency communications in the face of a disaster or simply providing assistance with the local bike race, hams provide a valuable service to their communities.

But, the value we provide needs to be understood and appreciated by the public if we hope to continue our lease. That means it's up to us to remind folks what we do, how we do it and why it's important to them. To carry that mission forward, let's use Field Day as an opportunity to educate the community about what Hams do, and why it brings value to them. Get news releases in the local papers both before – and after -- Field Day. Make the electronic media aware of the event and invite them to stop by and do a news report. Take pictures and invite officials as well as members of the public to stop by and maybe even pick up to mike for a contact or two. Make a visit to your Field Day site a positive and rewarding experience for the public – it helps pay the rent.

One more note, the Section Manager's XYL (Jackie, KC8ESO), wants to remind Field Day operators that if the Section Manager approaches your site, avoid feeding him. The Section Manager is on a set diet. Use proper cautions to secure food and keep your site safe from this (often found begging) creature!

73, and Have Fun!!!
Frank Piper, KI8GW

ARRL Ohio Section
Section Manager: Frank J Piper, KI8GW
ki8gw@arrl.org

The Status Of HR 607

In preparing this issue of Words, I had drafted a brief update on the status of HR 607. It turns out that ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN also wrote an update which I can't really beat so I'm quoting from her statement as follows:

"The ARRL continues to coordinate activity among the amateur community in its opposition to H.R. 607 in its current form. While we do not object to the concept of a common, contiguous group of frequencies for emergency and first responders located in the "D-Block" area previously occupied by analog television, we vigorously oppose the "frequency swap" provision of HR 607 that would remove the amateur radio allocation between 420-440 MHz and auction it off. As of the end of May, over 6,000 letters were received by the ARRL's Washington legislative consulting firm from ARRL members and interested parties for delivery to members of the United States House of Representatives.

While on the subject of HR 607, it is worth noting the letter generating utility developed by Rick Haltermon, KD4PYR has been responsible for over 13,000 letters to US Representatives over the past several weeks -- over 13,000! Of these, 867 were generated at the Hamvention(TM). I believe that word of this great number of letters has spread among the House offices and has made the unpopularity of the proposed taking and sale of our frequencies very well known to its members. I continue to believe firmly that this is one we can win.

From, Weaver's Words June 02, 2011

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**REMEMBER THE MONROE HAMFEST
ON FATHERS DAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 19TH.**

<p>The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. #230 Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP, (poof-reeder) and Chuck, KB8FXJ. Email, kb8iup @ arrl.net</p>
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Is There A D-Star In Our Future?

At the June TMRA meeting, after a presentation on *Fox Hunting*, information will be presented on the D-Star communication system. TMRA is considering pursuing the installation of a D-STAR repeater.

A PDF informational handout is available on the TMRA website. Please download and read the handout. If you know of a club member who has not heard of this please share this with them.

Here is the link: http://www.tmrahamradio.org/media/TMRA-D_Star_Handout_FINAL.pdf

We will be discussing the information and the handout at the next TMRA meeting on June 8th. Remember, only club members can vote. Please mark your calendar.

Steve Bellner, W8TER
VP Toledo Mobile Radio Association

Still Looking For Help!

Hi all! I'm still in need of quite a bit of help with the two June events. The Happy Trails 5K at Wildwood Metropark is on Saturday, June 18th with a start time of 9:00 AM and usually takes a couple hours. The next day, Sunday, June 19th is the Maumee Bay Triathlon. The race starts at 8:00 AM and usually take less than 3 hours. They've added a new extra short course this year and we'll need a couple more people than usual to cover it. If you'd like to volunteer or have any questions, please contact me at either k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573. Thanks!

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

TRAC News

Congratulations to Tim Gray, KD8IZU, the newly elected President of TRAC, and Larry Scott, WB8NLS, who was elected Vice-President. Tim has announced that TRAC will sponsor a Fox Hunt on July 24th on the 147.375 repeater. More info to follow.

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: Chris, KC8UFV; Joe, KJ0EYT; Tom, KB8PAI; Rita, WB8FBG; Dan, KE8UE.

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

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)

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.