



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

July 2014



The Prez Sez:

Sadly we have to report the death of another TMRA member. Richard "Rick" Thomas WB8TVL died on May 16, 2014. The club will make a donation in his memory to an organization of his family's choice.

At the June general meeting it was history repeating itself, again, and again, as the only nominees for the four Officer positions were the existing officers – so re-elected were Brenda, KB8IUP, for Treasurer; Ron, N8RLH, for Secretary; Steve, W8TER, for Vice-President and me for President. As I will not be rotating onto the Board of Trustees, we need to elect someone as a Trustee for a 5 year term. The Executive Committee is the Nominating Committee for vacancies on the Board, but as we did not have a quorum at the June Executive Committee meeting, we do not yet have a nominee; we'll have a candidate by the August general. If you are interested in serving the club as a Trustee – let me know that you'd like to be considered.

At the June general meeting the proposed budget for our Financial Year July 2014-June 2015 was presented, discussed, and approved. We have 2 main sources of income – membership dues and the annual Hamfest – with the income from the Hamfest getting smaller each year. The Technical Committee requested more money than was initially proposed, making the points that the club is getting or has got more equipment – the latest being the 2m D-STAR repeater – and maintenance and costs to replace some older equipment are increasing. The membership present approved increasing the budgeted amount for the Tech Committee.

The last full weekend in June was Field Day: we again were at the Wolcott House grounds in Maumee, with a really good turn-out of participants and helpers. Thanks go to Steve, W8TER and Glen, W8MUK, as co-chairs for the event, and to all who helped in any way(s). Steve doesn't have the final report yet as some stations were not logging on the central computer, but probably over 400 contacts were made. It was a subdued weekend for me as I learned Friday evening that my youngest brother had died unexpectedly Friday afternoon, apparently dozed off in his armchair and never woke up.

We're looking for a member of the club to store, inside, one of the club's generators and run it occasionally to keep it "in shape". Both are 7Kw and mounted on a 2-wheeled trailer.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be Wednesday July 23, 7:30pm at the #2 Maumee Fire Station on Dussel Drive.

73, Brian, WD8MXR.

Field Day 2014

And so we go with another Field Day behind us. I still do not have the total count of contacts but there was some very good efforts to make as many contacts as we could. I counted 19 for myself.

We had numerous pieces of traffic passed thanks to W8MAL and a lot of pictures taken... Heck, we even made the ARRL Ohio Section News <http://arrl-ohio.org/fd-pix/index.html> .

I can tell you that 49 people signed the logbook but I am certain that more than that were in attendance.



Dave, KD8DVN and Steve, KC8TVW at the Digital Station
all field day photos: w8ter

At the finish of field day the weather was questionable so we were moved to tear down shortly after noon to try and beat the rain that was threatening. Everyone helped and it made the task go smoothly.

A special Thank you to Glenn, W8MUK the assistant chair of field day who was instrumental in planning this year's event but was unable to attend this event. And to Ernie, K8EEE who filled in as information table and advisor for the duration of the event.

If you did not experience field day with TMRA this year I hope that you might consider participation with us next year. It is always a challenge to operate under LESS THAN ideal conditions.

73,

Steve / W8TER
Field day Chair



With the information table set up in the school house Ernie and myself were ready to promote amateur radio with demonstrations of the D Star repeater and some visual aid using the TMRA projector.

The food was great as I had a lot of help from those who brought a dish to pass and from Sandra, KD8HSY who was the chief cook and bottle washer. Dave, KD8EVN, went about gathering up subs and chips from a few vendors who "donated" to our event... Thanks to Andersons, The big "A", and to Briarfield Café. If you have not eaten there I suggest you try the food. Great food and reasonable prices. Located at Briarfield and Salisbury roads.



Ernie, K8EEE on duty in the schoolhouse.

P.S. Ohio QSO Party is coming up August 23rd. Time and place TBA

VE Results 06/14/14

Congrats to:

New Techs: Deb, KD8YWV and Dennis, KD8YWW.

New General: Duane, KD8NYQ.

Thanks to:

VE's: Brian, WD8MXR, (150th VE session!); Chris, KC8UFV, (37th) and Dave, KD8NJY (12th).

Steve, KC8TVW,

VE Liaison (79th)

-

The TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon is published monthly by the Toledo Mobile Radio Association. #267
Editors: Brenda, KB8IUP and Chuck, KB8FXJ.
Email, kb8iup @ arrl.net

Ohio Amateur License Plate Rules Have Changed

Ohio Section Journal - June 2014 Edition..(from Gene, WA8MCN)

I just have to tell you this story that happened to me when I went to get my new Ohio Amateur Radio license plates. As most of you know I have been driving my wife's van for several years now, she bought a new car and I got the old one. Now since the van was in her name it obviously had her Amateur Call on the license plate (go figure). Well, on the way home from the Athens Hamfest late last month, the old van just started giving up. It started making noises that even I couldn't identify. I can't really complain as that it had over 175,000 miles on it with very little repairs in the 10 years that we had it. I took it to the repair shop and found that I would have way more in repairs than I would ever get out of the van, so it was time for another vehicle. I purchased one and off we went to get the plates for it.

I had my old call plates hanging in the garage from when I was driving a vehicle under my name, so I thought that getting them updated would be a breeze.. WRONG!! Since these plates hadn't been renewed for more than 3 years they were expired and could not be renewed. So, it's now new plates that I have to acquire. Now either way I knew that I would have to go to the local Deputy registrar's office to either get the old plates re-issued which I now knew was not really going to happen, or get new plates. I thought about this for a bit and decided to take a copy of my Amateur License with me just in case they would need it for the new plates. With title and Amateur License along with the old registration from the old plates in case someone might take pity on me and allow me to just catch the old plates up to current times and off I went to my local Deputy Registrar's office.

I got there and went through the miles of paperwork that they now require you to sign to get things started, and then they told me that I had to have a current Amateur Radio license to complete the paperwork. I presented it to them and asked way they needed it since I'm already on file with the current call sign. That's when they told me that the law had been changed and you now have to present your license each time you renew. I was flabbergasted; I couldn't believe that my 10 year FCC Amateur Radio License would be challenged each year by the State of Ohio, but it's true. In a little publicized act of the Ohio Congress last year, they changed the law. Now you have to demonstrate to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in Ohio every year that you hold a current and non-suspended, non-expired official FCC issued Amateur Radio License, and with that you are now only given 2 ways of renewing your license, through the mail, or a personal visit to your local Deputy Registrar's office. The on-line renewal of your Amateur plate is still an option for now, but according to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in Columbus, this option will soon go away as they update the website to reflect the new law.

It's really funny that the State of Ohio feels compelled to check my license each year, but that's the new law. With that, you will no longer be afforded the same opportunity of renewing you license plate on-line as everyone else, including those with "special" vanity plates can do.

Here's the information from the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles website about what is now required:

Owners or lessees of motor vehicles who are residents of Ohio and hold an unrevoked and unexpired official amateur radio station license issued by the Federal Communications Commission may apply for these plates. The official call letters will be the license plate numbers. There are no options.

Registrant Eligibility - Owner must submit a copy of the un-revoked and unexpired official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission. (FCC).

Title Requirements - Ohio Certificate of Title issued in the same name as the FCC license, either singly or jointly, or the name on the FCC license is the same name on the lease agreement.

Vehicle Information - These plates may be issued to passenger vehicles, non-commercial trucks, recreational vehicles, house vehicles and non-commercial trailers.

Type of Plates - Plates will be manufactured with the FCC license.

Issuance Information - Amateur Radio plates cannot be issued with system assigned, reserved, or personalized plate formats.

Renewal of plates can be done at your local Deputy Registrar or by mail using their renewal notice. Amateur Radio License Holders must provide a copy of their current unexpired and unrevoked official amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) at the time of any type renewal transaction.

All plates will be mailed directly to the address on your registration card unless customer requests otherwise. The deputy will issue your registration card, stickers and provide you with a permit which will allow you to operate your vehicle while your plates are being manufactured.

Special license plate applications are available at all Deputy Registrar license agency locations or can be downloaded.

Cost - These plates cost an additional \$10.00 annually plus the normal registration fees. The fee is determined by Ohio Revised Code section 4503.14.

For those of you who would like to see this for themselves, here is the link:
http://www.bmv.ohio.gov/sp_amateur_radio.stm

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: Glenn,
W8MUK; Joe, KJ0EYT;
James, WD8IOL; Dan,
KE8UE; Dave, KD8EVN.

TMRA Home Page
www.tmrahamradio.org

Webmasters, Tom,
KB8PAI & Joe, KJ0EYT

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.



Joe, KD8UZA and 6 mo old Liam holding microphone.