



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

June 2018



Congratulations to Brian, WD8MXR!

Brian, WD8MXR, received a lifetime achievement award recognizing his nineteen years of service as a TMRA officer, especially his tenure as president. Under his guidance, TMRA has grown in size and success with an ever-expanding set of activities and regularly hosting about fifty members and visitors at each meeting. Rob, KV8P, president-elect, presented Brian with a plaque recognizing this achievement.

We look forward to benefiting from Brian's experience and wisdom, both on the board of directors and as a member, for many years to come.

Rob, you have big shoes to fill!

TMRA Elections

At the June business meeting, TMRA members elected Rob, KV8P, as the new president, and Tom, KD8WCD, as the new vice president. Zack, N8ZAK, was reelected as secretary and Rich, KD8WCB, as treasurer. As the retiring president, Brian, WD8MXR, is automatically appointed to the open seat on the board of directors.

Congratulations to all our officers!

Field Day is June 23 and 24 at the Wolcott House Museum on River Road in Maumee, Ohio. All TMRA Club members and their families, all ham radio operators, and members of the community in general are welcome.



ARES News

From Skeet, KD8KXD, Lucas County EC

The Lucas County ARES monthly meeting for June will be held on Saturday, June 23, at 9:00am. Please note the location change; it will be at the TMRA Field Day Site (Wolcott House Complex, 1031 River Road, Maumee, Ohio).

Please tune into the Lucas County ARES in Brief Net, Sunday nights on the 147.270 repeater at 7:30pm for the latest information

Congratulations to New Hams and Upgrades

From Steve, KC8TVW

Here are the results from the May VE session: New Techs: KE8JYO, Denny; and KE8JYP, Guy.

Please note that CW practice is over until the fall.

For more information about VE testing or CW practice, contact Steve, KC8TVW. Phone: 419-467-3734 or email: kc8tvw@arrl.net.

Hamvention 2018

By Glenn, W8MUK

TMRA sponsored a comfortable bus to Hamvention® at the Clark County, Ohio Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 19, 2018. It left the University of Toledo Scott Park Campus at 5:30 AM with 42 sleepy passengers looking forward to a day at the biggest hamfest in the United States. The bus parked within easy walking distance of the front gate. This year the weather was warm, sunny, with only a shower or two. The numerous forums, worldwide vendors, and extensive trunk-sales made this a hamfest not to miss.

At the end of the day, we enjoyed the usual fine dining at the Dayton Golden Corral, except for a few of us who walked across the street to Panera. My midsection has seen too many all-you-can-eat buffets! After dinner, the bus brought us and all our treasures back to Toledo.

Our special thanks to Mike, WA8SYD, who once again organized a flawless trip to Hamvention®. Photos courtesy of Rich, KD8WCB, Brad, WB8RG, and Rob, KV8P.



Mobile Fox Hunts

From Ron, N8RLH

The fox hunt for June is cancelled because of Field Day. Next fox hunt will be in July.

Help Needed!

From Rick, K8RKS

I still need 3 or 4 operators for the Muddy Mini Half Marathon. The race is Saturday, June 16th and starts at 7:30 AM. It runs from downtown Maumee to Mud Hens Stadium in downtown Toledo.

If you can help out or need more information please contact me at k8rks@arrl.net or 419-471-0573. Thanks!

Tech Committee News

From Rob, KV8P

The Technical Committee met this past month and we have a few updates.

2018 Budget Review - The committee worked through the budget for the 2018/2019 year. The replacement 442.850 repeater (which includes full 100w service, not requiring an amplifier) and a power backup for the 147.270 repeater are included in the budget.

147.270 - The work party for install, weather dependent, will be on the morning of Saturday June 9th. We have been completing some final prep and a skeleton crew will visit the site on June 1st, ahead of the lift-date, to review the plan for mounting the gin pole and ensure that all items are in place. On the morning of the 9th, work on the layout will begin with a small crew at 7:30am, and the majority of the lift assistance will be needed at 10am for a 10:30am lift. Contact Rob at (kv8p@kv8p.com) if you can assist that day.

We have also noticed recently that we have been experiencing some very occasional heavy desense on the repeater input frequency on occasion. This is typically/often a signal that is up to 10-15 KHz off of the input and that does not have a PL tone. A few of us have been deploying some transmitter hunting recently to find sources of interference around the repeater input. One wide-band FM source near the repeater input has been located and was remedied already. We'll deploy the Doppler tracking unit on occasion (unannounced) to find additional offenders if needed.

224.140 - The previous plan for mounting the antenna base was found to be insufficient for roof and wind-loading. Therefore, a new base has been specified (based on wind loading and roof loading). This robust

**THE TOLEDO MOBILE RADIO
ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 9673,
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President, Brian, WD8MXR;
Vice-President, Rob, KV8P;
Secretary, Zack, N8ZAK;
Treasurer, Rich, KD8WCB.

Board Members: Steve, W8TER;
Skeet, KD8XKD; Tom, KD8WCD;
Dan, KE8UE; Rich, KQ6EF.

TMRA Home Page

www.tmrahamradio.org

Webmasters, Zak, N8ZAK &
Mike, N8ZLW

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.

mounting option/plan will require additional one-time funds to purchase for install. The assembly and plan will be presented to the general membership for approval at the June general meeting.

442.850 - Several have noticed what appears to be another power drop in the output of the repeater. Given that, we are now prioritizing preparation of the Motorola Repeater for install on-site. We expect to be working on the install over the next couple weeks after the interconnect wiring is ready. Once installed, the audio will be balanced with the other repeaters (stay tuned for more info).

146.835/442.750 - Plans have been finalized for lifting these antennas onto the building. Area businesses and the site Maintenance team are also involved and have approved the plan. Additional funding will be needed to complete the lift. This plan will be presented to the general membership for approval at the June general meeting. We currently are anticipating a late June or early July lift date, after which a work-party for antenna placement will be scheduled.

New Ham Class - The "I have my ham radio license, now what?" class was well received. Requests for some small changes have been received, but we do anticipate offering this class after each new License Class going forward. Look for follow-on classes on a few topics to be added to the schedule soon.

3 element tape measure Yagi Antenna Build - There are currently 11 people signed up for the Yagi antenna build which is enough to make the order. Please let Rob (KV8P) know immediately if you wish to build one. Cost will be \$20 for a standard, and \$72 with the offset attenuator built into the antenna. (for fox-hunting)



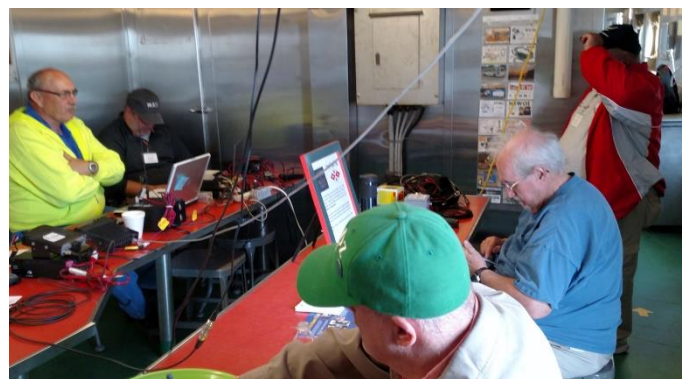
Museum Ships on-the Air 2018

By Glenn, W8MUK

Last year I wrote in the Beacon that Museum Ships Weekend would be a tough act to follow and "I can't imagine how we could make it better." This year Tom, KD8WCD (Chairman), assisted by Dave, KD8EVN (Chairman 2017) did just that. From the planning, organizing, set-up and testing, to operating and tear-down, Tom did a great job of making this year's operating event a success.

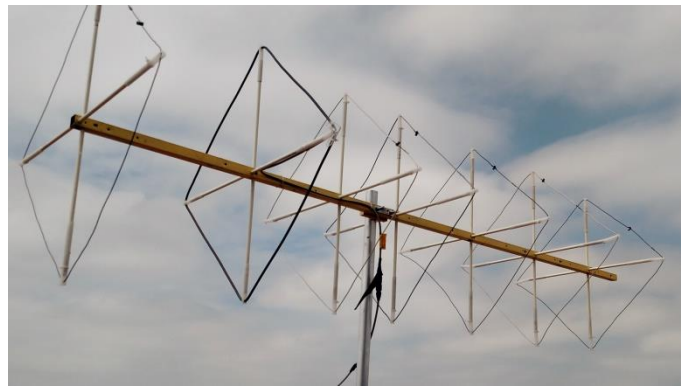


Of course, he didn't do it alone. Assisted by a crew of over 23 TMRA members, we once again operated special event station K8E on June 2nd and 3rd aboard the Col. James M. Schoonmaker, a retired lake freighter maintained as a museum ship by the National Museum of the Great Lakes in Toledo. This year there were 108 ships participating in Museum Ships Weekend.



We set up 20 meter and 40 meter voice stations in the "doghouse," a part of the crew quarters located in the aft superstructure of the ship. We also set up 2 meter, 6 meter, and 10 meter stations in the galley, where visitors to the ship could observe amateur radio at work.

New this year was a 40 meter dipole stretched between the ship's two large masts, a distance of 460 feet! Both this dipole and the 20 meter "crappie pole" beam functioned beautifully in spite of a stiff wind that deflected both the dipole and the beam elements. In addition Rich, KD8WCB, brought his 2 meter beam antenna to try out.



Getting an early start on Saturday, we were able to make many early contacts on 20 and 40 meters to add to the continuous pile-ups throughout the day. Fortunately, we had plenty of volunteer operators and loggers to brave the difficult band conditions and to "welcome aboard" the many hams who wanted to contact us.

Sunday was similar to Saturday. We started a little before noon and instantly created a pile-up that lasted all afternoon. Also, similar to Saturday, the weather was sunny, warm and breezy . . . perfect for operating.

Over the two days we made 1811 contacts using voice and digital modes over a total of 15 hours. This included at least 47 states, 5 Canadian provinces, and 8 DX stations; the log is still being reviewed and updated. Our K8E listing on QRZ.com had over 4000 hits during this event!



Special mention goes to the staff of the National Museum of the Great Lakes and the volunteers who keep the Schoonmaker in such great shape. Once again they went out of their way to make us welcome and to assist us over several days as we set-up and operated. We couldn't do this without them.

Finally, we answered the question, "Can you have too many donuts?" Yes we did! Between the donuts, cookies, and other baked goods, we simply could not eat them all. That's gotta be a first!

Photos are courtesy of numerous TMRA members.

Field Day 2018

Field day (June 23 and 24) is fast approaching so it's time to see to last minute details. As you are getting your rigs and antennas ready, organizing your camping gear and outdoor clothing, and finding that box of parts you know you will need, don't forget a few things. We will be communicating at the field day site using HTs set to 145.555 MHz, so charge up your batteries. If you are coming to dinner Saturday night (6:00 PM), please bring a dish to pass. Take another look at the list of tasks that Steve, W8TER, presented in the May 2018 issue of the Beacon. More help is always needed!



And don't forget, if you can come on Friday, June 22 at 1:00 PM (or later) to help with the club tent and antenna set-up, your assistance will be appreciated!

Monroe Hamfest

The Monroe Hamfest and Computer Show will be held on Father's Day, June 17, from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM at the Monroe County Fairgrounds at M-50 and Raisinville Road, two miles west of Monroe, Michigan.

The hamfest features ham gear, free parking, indoor facilities, trunk sales, computers and equipment, distributors, and hot food. Overnight camping is available.

For more information, contact Fred, KA8EBI at ka8ebi@yahoo.com. Sponsored by the Monroe County Radio Comm. Assoc.

Hamfests from Dale's Tales

By Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Director Great Lakes Division

HAMFESTING: Here is the current Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest Schedule covering the next couple of months.

6/2/18	IRA Hamfest	Hudsonville, MI
6/2/18	Fulton County Hamfest	Tedrow, OH
6/2/18	Princeton Hamfest	Princeton, KY
6/3/18	Chelsea Hamfest	Chelsea, MI
6/9/18	LARS Hamfest	Newberry, MI
6/9/18	Union County	Marysville, OH
6/16/18	Midland Hamfest	Midland, MI
6/16/18	Milford Hamfest	Owensville, OH
6/17/18	Monroe Hamfest	Monroe, MI
7/8/18	20/9 Radio Club	Austintown, OH
7/21/18	GARS Hamfest	Germantown, OH
7/21/18	Gladwin Hamfest	Gladwin, MI
7/21/18	NOARS Fest	Elyria, OH
7/22/18	Van Wert Hamfest	Van Wert, OH
7/28/18	Big Sandy Hamfest	Louisa, KY
7/28/18	CMARC Hamfest	Lansing, MI
7/29/18	Portage Hamfair	Ravenna, OH
8/4/18	Columbus/OH Sect Conf	Columbus, OH
8/4/18	UP Hamfest	Escanaba, MI
8/11/18	Central KY Hamfest	Lexington, KY
8/12/18	Cuyahoga Falls Hamfest	Stow, OH
8/12/18	Seaway Trunk Swap	Port Huron, MI

[Editor's Note: Dale's Tales was edited to fit the space available.]

Did You Know?

- The **Lucas County ARES Informational Net** is every Sunday at 7:30 pm on 147.270.
- The **TMRA Newcomers and Elmers Net** is every Sunday at 8:00 pm on 147.270.
- The **Tech Committee** meets the second Monday of each month at Maumee Fire Station #2 on Dussel Drive (in front of the water tower).
- The **Fldigi Net** meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 PM at 147.27 MHz
- The **TMRA general meeting** is the second Wednesday of each month at the Electrical Industry Building, Lime City Rd., Rossford, Ohio. **New meeting time is 7:00 PM.**
- The **Six Meter Net** meets every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 PM (EST).
- 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.
- **ARES** meets the fourth Saturday of each month.
- **Field Day** is June 23 and 24. Contact Steve, W8TER for more information.
- The next **Mobile Fox Hunt** will be July 28 after the ARES meeting.
- **VE testing** is each month. Contact Steve, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734 or kc8tvw@arrl.net.
- Register for **CW classes** by contacting Steve, KC8TVW at 419-467-3734 or kc8tvw@arrl.net.
- **Ron, N8RLH**, has ham gear from the estates of silent keys. Contact: 419-345-6382 or rlhornbeck@att.net.
- The calendar at the **TMRA website**, www.tmrahamradio.org, lists numerous ham radio activities each month.
- TMRA has a **Facebook** page.
- 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.

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