

Scotch111



TMRA Amateur Radio Beacon

January 2021



2021 Happy New Year... We Hope

Greetings to all TMRA Members for 2021:

I want to thank all the members of TMRA for your support over the last year.

The year 2020 has been a horrific year for everyone. Many of us have friends and family who became sick and possibly died from the Covid-19 Virus. We stayed home, avoided going out, and were unable to live our lives like before the virus. Many of our friends in the club were impacted economically and everyone was and is stressed, worried, and on edge.

Clubs are social organizations and we were unable to meet monthly in-person. Our general meetings and committees were forced to meet on Zoom to conduct club business. Monthly meetings were also on the [147.270](#) repeater. Throughout the year, we found that these virtual and on-air meetings were a poor substitute for in-person meetings. We found that effective communications are hard to do when you cannot meet face-to-face. In-person meetings are usually the best way to communicate in a club.

Also in 2020, we had to cancel the TMRA Hamfest and the ARRL Great Lakes Convention, both at the last minute after months of planning. The Dayton Hamfest and the Dayton Bus Trip were canceled. The “Museum Ships on the Air” operating event was canceled, and the ARRL was forced to rethink and reorganize Summer Field Day. In person VE testing went outdoors and did the best they could under the state’s new rules for groups

and organizations. Steve, KC8TVW, went online for Tech License Training. On-the-air nets and simplex became the new normal for meetings and social contacts. Amateur Radio became more of an “alone in the shack” hobby and less of a gathering for fellowship and shared experiences hobby. At this time, we are very happy to hear the vaccine inoculations for the virus are underway and we hope a return to normal in summer 2021.

Unfortunately, I feel 2021 will not be the old normal we enjoyed, but a new normal for groups, events, and everyday living. For now, club meetings must continue to be held virtually and/or on-the-air. Regrettably, the TMRA 2021 Hamfest may not happen. Like 2020, the choice could be out of our control and up to Owens Community College, and the State of Ohio, and the success of the Covid-19 vaccines. Similarly, other traditional club operating events and activities will also depend on forces outside of our control. The Executive Committee is doing its best to deal with losing the Hamfest for two years, and is working with the Budget Committee to cut spending and to have a plan for 2021 and the coming years.

Yes, TMRA has had some tough times in 2020 and we learned some hard lessons. Club members faced new demands on their personal time and the real possibility of losing family and friends to Covid-19. These and other problems have understandably reduced the time they spend on club activities. The time you volunteer to the club is a very personal decision. I was told when I joined TMRA that family and club is a balance you will have to make. But remember, family always comes first, and everyone in amateur radio understands that and will support your decisions.

In these confusing times, some club members have felt that their ideas and concerns have been ignored and dismissed. Some have left TMRA or withdrawn from most club activities. The elected Officers and Trustees have spent many hours listening, researching, and discussing all the issues brought to our attention. This is not an easy process via email, Zoom meetings, and the occasional phone call. We are volunteers committed to

looking out for the best interests of TMRA and believing in continuous improvement. Because of job and family pressures and other concerns, we currently have two openings for Trustees on the Executive Committee. We also have some openings on other committees. We are working on filling those positions.

This has been a unique and trying year for all of us in TMRA. Year 2021 also looks to be very difficult. It is time for all members to ask, “What can I do for TMRA to help and make our club better?” The club is the sum of *all* members’ actions. For the club to succeed *every member* needs to be actively involved; to be flexible and responsive; and to work with respect as a team. If you have a problem, bring a solution. I invite you to join a committee, be a net control, learn something new, and share it with the club. Do what needs to be done for the good of the club. We are all in this together, and we are better and stronger when we work together. TMRA is not one officer or one member. ***Together we are all TMRA!***

I wish everyone a “Better and Happier New Year” and look forward to the day we all can shake hands and have an “Eyeball QSO”.

73,

Steve W8TER

President TMRA





ARES News
From Tim, KD8IZU
boxcar@toast.net.

January 1 Siren Test
January 23 ARES General Meeting on the Air. On the 146.940 repeater at 9:00 Saturday morning.

ARRL Petitions FCC for Reconsideration of Order Removing 3.4 GHz Amateur Allocation

Bruce AA8HS, editor

This article from the ARRL discusses the ARRL's efforts to recover some of the 3.3 to 3.4 Ghz spectrum space that has been taken from ham radio, probably sold for 5G use and possibly for Wireless Internet Service Provider (WISP) use. The FCC, in the past, has encouraged experimentation on microwave frequencies and this portion of our frequency allocation has been used for earth moon bounce, amateur satellites, beacons, repeater links, as well as contesting using satellite type of dishes. The most serious threat is to the AREDN network, particularly in Southern California. The AREDN mesh system uses the 2.4 Ghz, 5 Ghz, and 3.4 Ghz frequencies to provide overlapping "mesh" coverage with devices sometimes on all three bands on the same tower or mountain location. The 3.4 Ghz band is sometimes the "backbone" of the network system and may use sector type antennas instead of the dish antennas often used on 5 Ghz or omnidirectional or sector antennas used on 2.4 Ghz. The 3.3-3.4 Ghz devices are also used by Australian WISP providers and there are not many sources for them.

So this ruling by the FCC, where money was most likely involved, and more important than their commitment to the amateur community, might result in limiting the growth of

the AREDN networks. According to the FCC, portions of this band will be “sunsetting” which means that amateurs must get off portions of the band as other services begin to use it. The ARRL is arguing for continued secondary use by hams. For instance, aiming a tightly focused signal at the moon or a satellite should not cause a problem.

The article is here:

<https://qrznow.com/arrl-petitions-fcc-for-reconsideration-of-order-removing-3-4-ghz-amateur-allocation/>

The 5 Ghz Issue

Another irritating but maybe not so important problem is in the 5.9 Ghz region. Frequencies in the upper 5 Ghz regions are not normally accusable by wireless home routers and are not used by radar. If someone buys a Ubiquity or Mickotik device, they can program it in this range but it should be only used by hams. The upper 50 Mhz portion of the band has been proposed for self-driving cars and other safety devices in big cities. If this proposal goes through, point to point services on tall buildings may still be workable. Because home wireless mesh networks like the Eero and the Omni use large portions of the 5 Ghz spectrum, ham use of this spectrum could become tricky if we are denied use of these upper channels (channels 169-196).

5G and other Intrusions

By the way, we are not the only victims of the FCC’s sale of frequencies. The 3.5 to 4.0 Ghz region is used by a number of encrypted and a few non-encrypted TV channels, including pay tv and radio feeds. This is the land of the 8 to 10 foot Big Ugly Dish (BUD) that were so popular in the past. The FCC determined that there was enough space in the 4.0 to 4.5 Ghz region if these services used different satellites, but at a cost of millions of dollars in technology. Many TV services have already been switching to reliable high speed Internet with backups to deliver their content anyway; So they may give up on satellite usage. Satellite use costs at least \$300 per hour anyway. Some of the 3.5 to 4.0 spectrum space has also been sold to WISPs and there is also some point to point microwave use.

For years, the FCC has been selling off the UHF TV spectrum so that there are now no stations about TV channel 39. If you search for channel 36 in Toledo, that is the virtual channel, but the real channel is 26; the WUPW antenna is directional so that 26 can be reused East and South of this area. T-Mobile/Sprint advertises their 5g at 600 Mhz, a frequency range lower than the original 800 Mhz used by 3G flip phones. This should translate into fewer towers in a region versus 3G or 4G (1.8 Ghz). A lot of people are also worried about the effects of short range microwave 5G systems going up on telephone poles around town and all of the low earth orbiting 5G satellites that are planned.

Hopefully, the ARRL and its lawyers will be able to protect us from further assaults!

The Threat to the 2 meter Band in France

As you may know, there has been a struggle over the amateur use of the 2 meter band in France, where the aeronautical industry would like to commandeer the 144-146 Mhz spectrum space. This has been a concern for a while and the Aeronautical Mobile Service seems determined to use that portion of the band; now they say on a secondary basis. However, we see this kind of language being used by the French aeronautical authorities:

“Considering the challenges of sharing spectrum with aeronautical systems, it seems inevitable that the conclusion of such studies would be that sharing with a widely used part of the amateur spectrum presents too many problems to be viable.”

According those involved, four years of study would be needed to determine if things would work out. The entire article, originally from the ARRL and quoted in QRZnow, was suggested by Tony, N8WAC:

<https://qrznow.com/france-stands-its-ground-on-144-146-mhz-aeronautical-mobile-sharing-proposal/>

Hopefully, the FCC, with its spectrum hungry intentions, doesn't get any ideas.

A Blast from the Past:

Toledo Mobile Radio Association's
17th Annual

HAMFEST and AUCTION



will be held
Sunday
Feb. 20, 1972
10 AM till 5 PM



Free Parking

QSL Card Contest

Many Door Prizes

Prizes

1st prize is choice of

Regency UHF, VHF Hi, Low Band
16 CHANNEL Police Band Scanner
and Certificate for 4 Xtals

or a MOSELY TA 33 SR Tri-Band Beam.

2nd - Alternate of First

3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th Prizes

\$50.00 Gift Certificates

Talk in Freqs.

52.525 Mhz FM
146.34/.76 Mhz FM
146.94/.94 Mhz FM

Registration \$1.00

Lucas County Recreation Center

Key Street

Maumee, Ohio

Larry Alexander W8MKY Chairman

Box 273

Toledo, Ohio

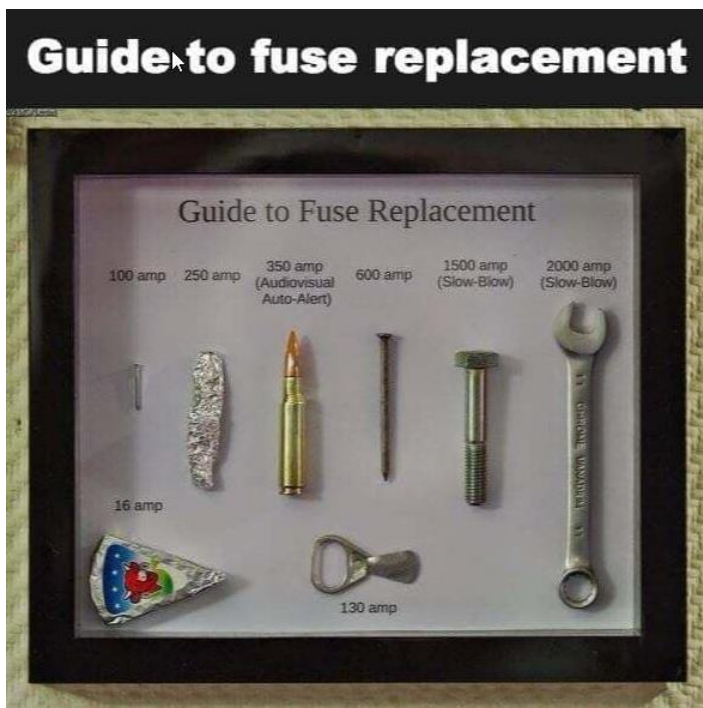
w8hh

Were repeater splits different back then?

The publication *Ham Shack Gossip* was published on legal size paper and published by the Bayswater Press. It included news from TMRA that met at Linck's cafeteria (near Toledo Hospital) the second Wednesday at 8pm; the Toledo Radio Club, the Toledo Repeater, the Critical Bias Cutups, the Fulton County Club, the Genoa Radio Club, the Henry County Club, and the Wood County Amateur Radio Club.

Ham Radio Humor

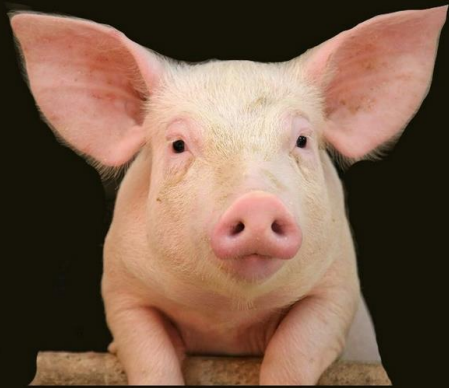
From Dave KD8EVN



Wife: Did you just buy another Amp?

Me:

TRYING NOT TO HOG
THE REPEATER, SO



LISTENING 146.520



•A: It was an accident.

•B: I've had that.

•C: I got a deal on it.

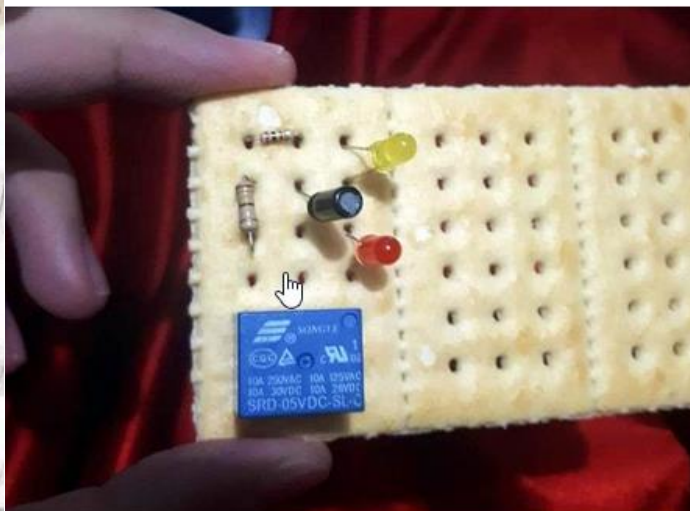
•D: You look very pretty today.

NEW FROM MFJ:



"QRP HELPER"

Looks like an MFJ product.





Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for January 2021

Greetings, welcome to "Dale's Tales" for January, 2021.
HAPPY NEW YEAR and let's all hope it brings us back to a more normal lifestyle.

SOME CHANGES FOR 2021: With the New Year, we report some changes within the Great Lakes Division. As you know, Tom Delaney W8WTD chose not to run for re-election as our Division Vice Director. Former Ohio Section Manager Scott Yonally, N8SY was elected to the post and officially took office January first. We also bid farewell to "Tom's Tome", W8WTD's monthly news section of this column and introduce "Scott's Stuff", to keep you apprised of Division news from the Vice Director's perspective.

We also welcome the new Section Manager for the Ohio Section as Tom Sly WB8LCD takes the helm to manage the nation's largest Section in terms of ham population. Tom had been recently serving as Ohio's Affiliated Club Coordinator and brings a wealth of experience in team management to his new post.

My special thanks to Tom Delaney W8WTD who has been such a team player

and wonderful associate while serving as our Vice Director. Thanks Tom for all of your efforts and successes and best wishes as you continue to enjoy ham radio.

A special note to Scott N8SY as he changes roles: "Scott, you voluntarily retired from the Section Manager slot - remember that - it is now WB8LCD's job - remember that. Tom will do it differently, make changes, bring in new ideas, and toss old ones. Sit back and enjoy, it's Tom's turn." <GRIN>.

UPDATES: The ARRL Board of Directors meets the third weekend of January, again by remote due to COVID restrictions. This seems to work pretty well for the actual meeting process, but is rather limiting when we attempt to discuss new ideas and try to build a coalition in support of a potential motion.

I suspect that it is not too much different from what most of are experiencing when conducting a remote radio club meeting. Still, it is important that we make a full effort to keep close contact with our membership and likewise take the extra action to keep those members involved. We are seeing a lot of live remote presentations and pre-recorded videos put to use. These have offered new technical training materials, reported on some historical and very interesting DXpeditions, provided some new contesting ideas and ham radio product reviews. Actually it is really taking some of the edge off for those of us in lock-down. Club programs are a revitalized initiative for radio clubs - let's keep it on a roll.

SCOTT'S STUFF: Comments from your ARRL Vice Director Scott, N8SY. Wow, what a year this has been for all of us. This being my first article as the Great Lakes Division Vice Director I want to say that I have some really big shoes to fill as Tom, W8WTD did a really exceptional job over these many years and I have a great example to follow and grow on. I will do my level best to carry on in his footsteps in serving Dale as a team partner in taking the Great Lakes Division to the "Next Level."

A lot of you are most likely wondering just who the heck is this guy anyway. Well, here's a little background information about me. I became licensed in January 1979 as a Novice. I was issued one of those unusual newfangled "KA8" calls that really stuck out "KA8DWI." Don't worry, I've heard it all. But I was proud of becoming an Amateur Radio operator no matter what the call sign. Oh, I do have that call sign on a license plate! I soon upgraded to General and then again to the now almost extinct Advanced Class license and became KC8SS. Yes, I was kidded about now becoming "Suddenly Sober," but I will say this, I really loved that call! I was sought after during Sweepstakes every year. My boss convinced me to upgrade one more time and I got my amateur extra along with a new call sign N8SY. YES, I am a CW nut as well as a life member of the ARRL.

I've always had a place in my heart for emergency communications and traffic handling. Over the years I have been a part of numerous emergency situations and have been very active in a number of traffic nets around the country. I'm currently the resident troubleshooter for ARES Connect assisting Headquarters as well as volunteers from around the country getting them up and running. In the late 1990's I got interested in the world wide web and created a number of websites, including the one for the Great Lakes Division.

In 2019 I received the Joe Knight, Distinguished Service Award for my work as Section Manager of Ohio, and for my leadership contributions to the ARRL and its Field Organization. I am one of only 9 Section Managers in the country to receive this award and I am so very honored to be able to serve all of you.

That's going to do it from here. I want to say to everyone.... Have a Fantastic New Year!! Let's keep our fingers crossed that we all get to meet at a Hamfest somewhere soon.

--73, Scott Yonally N8SY, Vice Director, Great Lakes Division

HAMFESTING: For the latest detail on regional hamfests, check the ARRL web page at: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>.

If you plan to request ARRL Hamfest Sanctioning, please do so well in advance of your Hamfest date, as this allows adequate time for QST Listings. QST announcements require a 3 month lead time.

Be sure to invite your ARRL Officials as soon as your date is set.

Things do require some advanced planning, especially under the current travel restrictions.

This is a continuing struggle for most hamfest sponsors, both in terms of meeting community safety requirements and those imposed by the host venue. If your swap is cancelled or the date is going to change, please notify ARRL HQ. We work together with the HQ staff to verify all new date selections in the hope of mitigating date conflicts.

Here is the current listing of Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned hamfests for early 2021. Please note that all are subject to change, so please stay current by checking the sponsoring club's web page before making your travel arrangements.

On the 2021 ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest calendar:

03/06/2021 - Cave City Hamfest, Cave City, KY

03/07/2021 - WINTERHAMFEST, Elyria, OH

04/25/2021 - Athens Hamfest, Athens, OH

5/21/21021 - Dayton Hamvention, Xenia, OH

It should be noted that there has been a change in the way ARRL contributes to your ARRL sanctioned hamfest efforts. Please carefully read the e-mail from ARRL Headquarters confirming your sanctioning as IT CONTAINS IMPORTANT DETAILS REGARDING PRIZES.

73, Stay safe.
Ham it up!
Dale Williams WA8EFK
Director
Great Lakes Division
wa8efk@arrrl.org

ARRL Great Lakes Division
Director: Dale R Williams, WA8EFK
wa8efk@arrrl.org

Did you know?

- The **Lucas County ARES Informational Net** is every Sunday at 7:30 pm on 147.270.
- The social net is every Sunday at 8:00 pm on 147.270.
- The **FLDigi Net** meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 PM at 147.27 MHz
- **Six Meter Nets** meet every Wednesday and Thursday at 9:00 PM (EST). The Thursday night Net is on 50.255 USB. For more information contact Dan, KE8UE, at dlcunn@sbcglobal.net. The Monday night 6 meter Net is at 9 PM on the TMRA 6 meter repeater.
- 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.
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- **Ron, N8RLH**, has ham gear from the estates of silent keys. Contact: 419-345-6382 or rlhornbeck@att.net.
- The **TMRA apparel store** is now open. Contact Gold Medal Ideas at <http://www.goldmedalideas.com/tmra>.
- The calendar at the **TMRA website**, www.tmrahamradio.org, lists numerous ham radio activities each month.
- TMRA has a **Facebook** page and an **Instagram** page, which can be accessed from an icon on the TMRA website or at <https://www.instagram.com/tmrahamradio/>.
- 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. Instead of typing in the URL www.amazon.com, you must use smile.amazon.com.
- There is a 900 Mhz net Saturday nights at 9 pm on the TMRA 900 Mhz repeater.
- There is a simplex two meter net on 144.22 Mhz USB Friday nights at 8 pm.

Editor's Note: Beginning with the February 2019 issue, The Beacon will no longer produce a print version for mailing. The Beacon understands this change may inconvenience some club members and regrets that it is necessary.

You may contact the Editor of *The Beacon* by emailing to: AA8HS@ arrl.net or writing to:

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