



The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club



August, 2010 Newsletter



Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each Month at 7:00 P.M. at the Knox County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 300 N. Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio

Local Ham Community

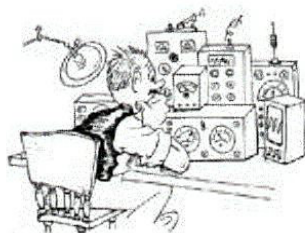
K8EEN Repeater: 146.790 Mhz (-600 Khz With PL of 71.9 Hz)
KD8EVR Repeater: 442.100 Mhz (+5Mhz With PL of 71.9 Hz)



Ham Radio Rocks!

Sunday Night ARES Net at 9:00 P.M. on The K8EEN Repeater
Wednesday Night Social Net at 9:00 P.M. on the KD8EVR Repeater

*From the Pen of
W 8 P E N*



This Newsletter will be a short one due to lack of contributions from members. This is not as much a complaint from me as it is just a fact of life. I like to keep the newsletter as much as possible "home grown" and only using fill as items I feel the membership should be aware of.

That being said, I too, am responsible. I have had very little time the past month or so for even thinking about the Newsletter. Therefore, you will see my column lacking in these pages too. Lets face it. Summer is a time for family activities and yard work. Other than Field Day, ham radio takes a back stage.

The Newsletter will still be its typical eight to ten pages though. I am looking over some Newsletters from the past and plan on republishing a few of the more interesting articles.

How bad is it this summer? President Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, had to scratch our new communications van from the Knox County Fair due to lack of volunteers to man the station. We missed a great opportunity to publicize ham radio here. Perhaps next year will be better.

EMCOMM 1 WILL BE AT THE MT. VERNON FIRST FRIDAY EVENT THIS COMING FRIDAY AUGUST 6TH FROM 6PM TO 9PM. ANY AND ALL HAMS ARE ENCOURAGE TO STOP BY AND HAVE FUN WITH US.

*****SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE*****

THE AUGUST MEETING OF THE MVARC WILL BE HELD AT THE KNOX COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER INSIDE THE KNOX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMPLEX 11540 UPPER GILCHRIST ROAD AT 7PM. ALL VISITORS MUST CHECK IN AT THE SECURITY WINDOW

Please remember to check into the long running Sunday Night ARES net at 9:00 P.M. on the K8EEN 2-meter Repeater.

Also check out the UHF net on the KD8EVR Repeater. This net runs each Wednesday at 9:00 P.M. and is a social net. Please join us for the fun of it.

Every Wednesday at 5:00 PM, MVARC club members meet at Wendy's, 522 South Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Dinner Coordinator Dick Huggins, N8RDH, reports good turnouts for this event. Come share dinner with friends, or make new friends, by attending one or all of these events.

Join MVARC club members every second Saturday of the month for breakfast. Breakfast Coordinator Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, reports good turnouts for this event.

******The next Breakfast will be August 14, 2010 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio*** Please note that this is the Saturday after our regular meeting.***

Ohio QSO Party is August 28, 2010

The Ohio QSO Party (OhQP) is just 5 weeks away, and the excitement is already building. Stations from across Ohio are making their plans to be on the air for one of the premier state QSO parties. Small stations from Ohio can make hundreds of QSOs during the short 12 hour event. Get on and call "CQ Ohio QSO Party" and run the pileups! We hope you will join us to make this the best event yet - our goal is to get fixed operations on from every county this year. If you are planning on being on, please let everyone know by posting your county of operation on the "Planned Operations" website at <http://ohqp.org/plannedOpsEntry.html>

For those who don't know what the OhQP is all about, it's a fun time for Ohio stations to be on the air and be the hunted station, or "DX". People from around the world are seeking out Ohio stations in this event, which is a nice change from most operating events. The OhQP occurs on Saturday August 28, 2010 from local noon to local midnight. In the basic QSO exchange, Ohio stations send a consecutive serial number + county, and non-Ohioans (who can only work Ohio) send a consecutive serial number and state/province/DX. Suggested frequencies are: CW: 3545, 7045, 14,045, 21,045, 28,045 kHz; SSB 3825, 7200, 14,250, 21,300, and 28,450 kHz. Don't be shy - try calling CQ in addition to searching and pouncing. Remember, the world is tuning the bands looking for Ohio stations - your CQ's will be answered! Full details and an OhQP operating guide can be found on the official website at: www.ohqp.org/.

This is a great event for a club activity or a training ground for new(er) hams. QSO rates are as high or higher than Field Day, and there's virtually no QRM in this event. Round up the club and have some fun. If you are in the mood to enjoy the great Ohio countryside, try operating portable or mobile from a rare county. Remember, the ultimate goal is to just get on the air and have some fun!

73 and we hope to hear you on the air,

Kenny K2KW
Ohio QSO Party PR Coordinator
kenny.k2kw@gmail.com

P.S. If any Ohio amateur radio organization has an upcoming event, they can post it on the ARRL Ohio Section calendar, even if they are not a member of the ARRL. <http://arrloho.org/calendar/calendar.php> (QSP from Scott N8SY, ARRL Assistant Section Manager)

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

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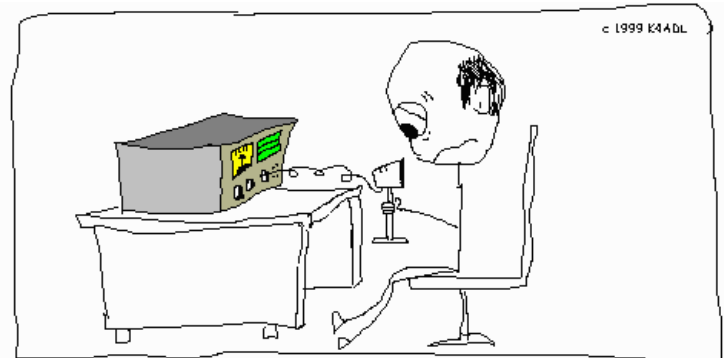
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Members are encouraged to send articles pertaining to Amateur Radio, with an emphasis on local activity, equipment reviews, and personal experiences to the Newsletter Editor. Articles are due on the Sunday before the first Monday of the month.

Newsletter Editor: Don Russell, W8PEN
w8pen@arrl.net
Phone: 740-397-0249



DESTINED TO LIVE OUT HIS LIFE AS A POORLY-DRAWN STICK FIGURE, CHARLES FOUND SOLICE IN CHATTING WITH PEOPLE WHO WOULD NEVER SEE HIM.

Treasurer's Report

July 31, 2010
for July 1 to July 31, 2010

Balance on 7-1-10: \$ 2855.40

Income:

Dues: \$ 24.00
Donations: \$
Field Day Donation: \$.30
50-50: \$

Expenses:

Field Day food: \$ 171.67

Balance on 7-31-10: \$ 2708.03

Designated Funds:

Year 2005 Repeater Fund: \$ 364.94
Field Day Fund: \$ 18.25
Communication Vehicle Fund: \$ 540.18

Barry Butz N8PPF

ARRL Argues that Oklahoma Town's RFI Ordinance is "Null and Void"

From the ARRL Letter, July 29, 2010

Officials in Midwest City, Oklahoma sent a letter to a local ham, trying to regulate radio frequency interference (RFI) issues, something that only the FCC is allowed to do.



Saying that only the Federal Communications

Commission is empowered to regulate radio frequency interference (RFI), the ARRL has notified Midwest City, Oklahoma, that its local ordinance 27-3(9), seeking to regulate radio transmissions and RFI, is "null and void." Midwest City is in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. The ordinance reads: "In addition to other public nuisances declared by other sections of this Code or law, the following [is] hereby declared to be [a] public nuisance: Operating or using any electrical apparatus or machine which materially and unduly interferes with radio or television reception by others."

On July 21, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD,

wrote to Midwest City Assistant City Manager Dave Ballew, City Attorney Katherine Bolles and Director of Code Enforcement Mike Stroh, informing them that the ARRL had been provided with a copy of the ordinance by amateurs in that community. "We are also aware that a notice was sent by Mr Stroh on behalf of the City to one of ARRL's members who resides in Midwest City asserting that the FCC-licensed radio amateur to whom the letter was addressed was in violation of the ordinance as the result of radio frequency interference appearing in a neighbor/complainant's home electronic equipment," the letter read. "The licensed radio amateur was ordered to remedy the problem in one day, under penalty of a sanction assessed against the real property of the radio amateur."

Mt. Vernon 2 meter Repeater to Move

The Mt. Vernon Repeater, K8EEN, will be moved to a temporary location in the near future.

The City of Mt. Vernon will be refurbishing the water tower where the repeater is located. The antenna and Repeater equipment will have to be removed.

The timing of this move is unknown, as the City has not yet scheduled the work. It is assumed that we will be allowed back in when refurbishing is completed, which will take six to eight weeks.

Several alternate sites have been discussed. There is a very good possibility that the repeater will be installed at Barry Butz's, N8PPF, garage until work is complete. This would allow the Repeater Tech group to investigate some suspected issues with the repeater. Barry's site would give decent repeater coverage, although not as good as the water tower or a few other choice locations.

Personally, I am in favor of installing the repeater at Barry's so that we can closely monitor and fix any problems with the system.

Problems we would look at include:

- **Checking for power drop off after extended use.**
- **Check for an intermittent noise problem that could be in the repeater system or something external such as water tower equipment.**
- **Realignment of the duplexer. This has not be done since we put the new repeater into service in 2002 or 2003**
- **We are considering adding a 100 watt amplifier for better coverage in some areas.**

Don Russell, W8PEN

MVARC

Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club Minutes for the June 14, 2010 Meeting.



By Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Attendees:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------|
| 1. | Kevin Adams | KD8NGV |
| 2. | Ann Bradford | KD8LFH |
| 3. | Ray Ann Bradford | KD8NGW |
| 4. | Ruben Clark | KB2SAI |
| 5. | Arlin Bradford | KD8EVR |
| 6. | Brandon Hunt | KD8LPP |
| 7. | Mark Bisenius | AC8FV |
| 8. | Tony Spiegel | KC8UR |
| 9. | Scott Fields | KD8OAB |
| 10. | Barry Butz | N8PPF |
| 11. | Don Blizzard | W8UMH |
| 12. | Jim Jennessee | KD8UT |
| 13. | Tom Evans | KD8HSA |
| 14. | Steve Barr | KD8GRM |
| 15. | Don Bunner | KB8QPM |
| 16. | Larry Helzer | AA8WP |
| 17. | Nick Altstatt | KD8NGS |
| 18. | Matt Sturgeon | KD8NGT |

President Bradford opened the meeting at 7:01 P.M.

Treasurers Report: Barry Butz, N8PPF

Income for last Month:

Donation \$ 5.00

50/50 Drawing \$11.00

Expenses:

Club Banners \$129.00

Balance: \$2873.89

Since then we had an expense of \$88.00 for stamps that is not reflected in the above balance.

Secretary's Report: Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Last months minutes were approved as published in the last newsletter.

ARES Report: Ruben Clark: KB2SAI

Ruben thanked everyone who participated in last Tuesday's siren test. The local EMA office contacted

Ruben for some help and nine Ham's went out to make sure the tornado sirens worked.

Wednesday we had the Local Emergency Planning Committee had their "Simulated Test" which was a tabletop drill that Ruben participated in as a Designer and Facilitator.

Ruben said he has forms for anyone who would like to join ARES and to see him after the meeting to fill them out.

He is trying to compile an emergency call out list so he is asking all current and interested ARES members to give him their cell phone numbers so he can send out a text message during an emergency.

Field Day Committee: Doc Helzer, AA8WP

We will set up at the same place as last year at Apple Valley, Friday, June 25th at 2:00 P.M. we will begin setting up the antennas. Field Day then officially starts Saturday at 2:00 P.M. and the contest is over at 2:00 P.M. on Sunday. Doc is looking forward to everyone coming early to set up the antennas and equipment.

Old Business

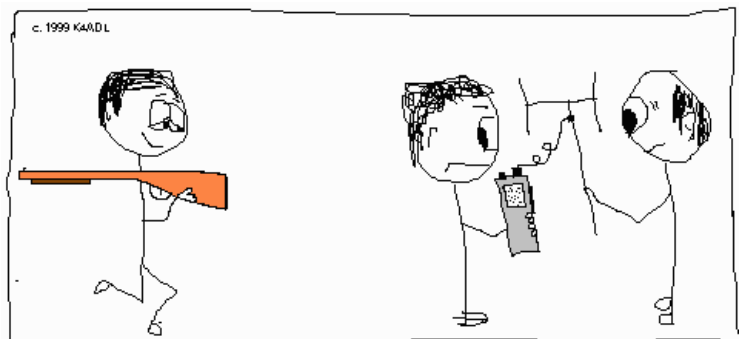
Emergency Communications Vehicle: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR.

The vehicle has officially been signed over to us by the City. It has City Plates on it and is insured by the City but it is ours to do with as we wish. We supply the fuel.

New Business:

Steve Barr made a motion that the club have the new emergency communications vehicle at the Knox County Fair this year and that we do a special events station during the fair. The motion was seconded by Don Bunner and passed by voice vote.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made Barry Butz, N8PPF and seconded by Don Blizzard, W8UMH. The motion passed by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 P.M.



NEVER ONE TO PAY CLOSE ATTENTION AT CLUB MEETINGS,
PHILLIP ARRIVES INCORRECTLY EQUIPPED FOR THE ANNUAL FOX HUNT.

FCC Modifies Rules to Allow Limited Employee Participation in Disaster and Emergency Drills

From the ARRL Letter, July 22, 2010

In a Report and Order (R&O) released Wednesday, July 14, the FCC amended Part 97.113 to allow amateurs to participate without an FCC waiver in government-sponsored disaster preparedness drills on behalf of their employers participating in the exercise. The FCC also has amended the rules to allow employees to participate in non-government drills and exercises up to one hour per week and up to two 72 hour periods during the year. The effective date of the R&O is to be determined and will be 30 days after its publication in the Federal Register.



mechanical.) So it is with communication technology. Its good to learn the digital ways, to be able to use repeaters, echolink, Winlink, ect., but when the supporting systems for all of these fail we fall back to simple radios, a wire and battery power and we're on the air! No cell tower network necessary. No computer necessary. Less expensive, well, maybe...

We have all heard, recently, that the FCC has decided to drop the Morse Code requirement for all license classes. Thirty days from when this change is published in the National Register it will become law and Technicians will automatically gain 400 KHz on 10 meters, 100 KHz on 15 meters, 50 KHz on 40 meters and 50 KHz on 80 meters. This includes a "whopping" 200 KHz of phone privileges between 28.3 and 28.5 MHz on 10 meters. 200 KHz is not a lot of bandwidth. In fact it is less than 1 hertz per Technician. With the 10 meter being as dead as it has been this year, one may ask, "What can I do to increase my chances to make HF contacts? The answer is easy.

1. Learn CODE!
2. Upgrade to General.

Remember, just because you didn't pass a code test doesn't mean you can never use it. In fact I believe most of the fear of learning code wasn't the code, but the test. The fear of failure, I believe, kept more people from upgrading than fear of the code. If I can upgrade without learning the code why, you may ask, would I want to learn the code?

My first answer is the fun and challenge of it, second would be to not waste your newly gained bandwidth. Even with the new band expansions, over one third of all bandwidth in the General class allocation is for CW and FSK, and since CW communication uses significant less bandwidth than voice more conversations can take place within the same space. Here is my challenge to any ham that hasn't passed the code test. It's not too late to learn. You don't have to put yourself at risk by passing a test. You can learn at your own pace and without a deadline.

WE WILL HELP YOU!

One last thing, you never need to apologize because you became a ham or upgraded after the FCC drops the code. You followed the rules as they were in effect when you got your license, just as I did when passed at 5 wpm or Don or Doc and many others did when they passed at 20 wpm. It is not your fault they changed the rules. However, it is your right to take advantage of the rules and your responsibility to follow them.

The Ohio Section announced the realignment of its nine ARES Districts recently. The only change in our District 6 was the addition of Medina County. We will still report to Mansfield for Skywarn and Jay Bookwalter, KC8GNL, will remain as our District 6 DEC. Statewide the new

ComPIONents

By Mike McCardel, KC8YLD
(From January, 2007 - w8pen)

"When All Else Fails"

With our ever-growing dependency on technology in our daily lives one has to wonder when we actually have gone overboard. Don't get me wrong. I love gadgets. I want the newest smaller, fastest but I certainly don't need it. Recently my brother-in-law moved in while he is recovering from a stroke. Jim is getting better every day, but had a set back recently and had to go to the hospital. In route, in the ambulance they were trying to monitor his blood with a digital machine, which they just couldn't get to work. It wasn't life threatening but one has to wonder what about using a sphygmomanometer and a stethoscope (\$50 words for the equipment used to get blood pressure the old analog way).



Later in that week, at the doctors, they tried taking his temperature with a device they place on his forehead. It didn't work until the third try. Meanwhile, I'm sitting there thinking "Hello, thermometer!" Newer technology isn't always the most cost effective. In point would be the US spending a million dollars to invent a pen that wrote in space while the Soviet Union used pencils. (I prefer a pencil, although I must admit my favorite one is

alignment consists of districts having 8-11 counties each while the old plan the span contained 5-18 counties per district. The new plan also minimizes the number of DECs that may need to coordinate with Citizens Corps within the same county grouping. Changes go into effect January 1, 2007. To see SEC Frank Piper's comments as well as a new district map visit <http://www.iarc.ws/ohio/SEC/default.htm>.

I would like to congratulate Don Russell WA8YRS, Jeff Butz N8SMT and Don Bunner KB8QPO for their re-election to VP, Secretary and Board of Director, respectively and to Barry Butz N8PPF, for his election to Treasurer. I would also like to thank everyone for his or her support in electing me President for the next year. I offer a special thank you to Ruben Clark KB2SAI, our outgoing President, who served MVARC for in that capacity for four years. We appreciate his leadership and guidance during that time. Ruben will remain active on the Board of Directors for one year and will continue serve as an Assistant EC and as liaison to Citizen Corp.

January's meeting will be at 6:30 PM, Monday Jan 8, at the Red Cross. Note the early start. We promise to keep it short so we can all get home in time for the OSU game.

Mansfield Hamfest is February 11 at the Richland County Fairgrounds.

February's meeting will be 7pm Monday Feb 12, at the Red Cross. This meeting will be our first annual "give away". You must be a club member to win. You need not be present to win. We are intending to have a couple of gift certificates for Universal Radio and/or the ARRL as well as some other ham gear. Watch for more details in February's Newsletter. Dues are only \$12 a year (3.3 cents a day), so if you haven't already, join today!

I have recently taken possession of a gift of ham equipment from Trish Rankin, the widow of Dave Rankin K4AWO who died last January, most of it is "shack stuff" however, some of the equipment may be placed in the February give away after we have inventoried and tested it. There are also two transceivers which I will recommend be retained by the club as temporary loaners to new hams and others who might be without a radio. Both have passed the initial smoke test, but we are looking for user's manual to be sure they are operable. Also, there is a Bird Thruline 43 wattmeter with 7 slugs in a leather case with instruction book. I would like to retain this as a club item, but we could sell it, or give it away in February. I will consult with the trustees and other officers before we make that decision. If anyone would like make a comment on these please contact me via email kc8yld@arrl.net

KUDOS

Ruben Clark KB2SAI four years of quality service as

President of MVARC

Tony Speigel, KC8UR who recently took the EMCOMM level 1 training online from the ARRL.

Marcus Nogaj, KD8EVP of Johnstown

John Nogaj, KD8EVQ of Johnstown

Arlin Bradford KD8EVR of Gambier

Kenneth Hodges KD8EVS of Marion

Kris Reese of Lima

Gamanie Pelaketiyage KD8EVT

Who all passed their Technicians License at our testing session in December. Of particular note was Marcus KD8EVP who at 10 years old is Knox Counties youngest ham. In addition Kenneth Hodges KD8EVS was 78. The age spread of 68 years is one of the largest ever at a testing session anywhere!

Barry Butz N8PPF, who passed both his General and Amateur Extra written exams at the same session. Barry said he was going to give the FCC six months to drop the code before he worried about the code, but they did so in only six days. Barry is poised to be the countries first no code Extra.

See you all at the meeting.

73,

EMike McCardel, KC8YLD

HAM HISTORY

By Barry Butz, N8PPF

Credit for this article goes to: International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)

<http://www.iec.ch/100years/techline/>

From February, 2007 - w8pen

One of the most important inventions of the 19th century was the telegraph. Several people deserve credit for its development, namely Joseph Henry (1791-1872), Samuel Morse (1797-1878), Charles Wheatstone (1802-1875) and William F. Cooke(1802-1879).

No single person can be identified as the inventor of the electric telegraph. Attempts had been made since the late eighteenth century to use electricity to communicate down wires to distant locations, although none were effective or convenient enough to develop further. Oersted's discovery of electromagnetism in 1820 stimulated many individuals to attempt electrical forms of communication, especially in the 1830s when practical

applications arose in railway signaling and time-keeping systems. During that decade four individuals played key roles: Henry and Morse in the USA and Wheatstone and Cooke in the UK and their respective contributions were later discussed at great length in patent litigation. All of them relied on the electromagnet, invented by the Briton William Sturgeon in 1825 and subsequently developed

into a much more powerful form by Joseph Henry. In 1831, Henry used his electromagnet to show that electrical impulses could be communicated over distances greater than a few hundred meters – hitherto thought impracticable.

An artist by training, Morse was returning by ship from England to the USA in 1832 when he overheard discussion of the electromagnet and this inspired him to develop a scheme both for the electric telegraph and also the coded language of dots and dashes later known as Morse code. Yet Morse found it difficult to secure the technical expertise and financial backing he needed to demonstrate a fully operational system. Finally in 1844 he was able to send the message "What hath God wrought?" from the Supreme Court room in the Capitol in Washington D.C. This was received by Morse's assistant and financial backer in Baltimore, Alfred Vail, in paper form with the raised dots and dashes characteristic of Morse code.

Technological development took place faster if less decisively in Britain. Soon after Charles Wheatstone became professor of experimental philosophy at King's College, London, in 1834, he experimented on the speed of electrical transmission along wires. Lacking the finance or connections needed to develop a commercial telegraph, Wheatstone soon teamed up with the entrepreneurial William Cooke who had seen short range telegraphs in Europe. Together they produced a receiver involving five deflecting needles controlled by electromagnets and arranged for telegraph trials with it on several British railway routes in 1837; however, it was found too expensive for general use. By 1845 they had developed a two needle device that was adopted in telegraphic lines across the country, although Wheatstone's letter-reading and type-printing forms of telegraph also came into more widespread use in Britain. Morse code was, of course, much more generally employed later on in the form of 'wireless' telegraphy that we now know as radio.

Connect with the National Scout Jamboree via Amateur Radio

From the ARRL Letter, July 22, 2010.

The National Scout Jamboree takes place July 26-August 4 at Fort AP Hill, Caroline County, Virginia. A myriad of exhibits and activities await the close to 40,000 Scouts, leaders and staff. Coming from all 50 states -- and even territories and foreign countries -- they will have the opportunity to live, work and play together in an atmosphere of Scouting fellowship. And just like the National Scout Jamborees in 1973, 1981, 1985, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001 and 2005, the 2010 event will feature Amateur Radio.



An eagle-eye view of the K2BSA site and antennas. Click here for a larger image. [Map courtesy of Bob Bruninga, WB4APR]

A team of 17 Scouters and two Scouts will activate K2BSA as a demonstration station at the Jamboree. According to K2BSA Staff Member Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, they will be demonstrating various operating modes to the visiting Scouts, with activity primarily on HF, around the published Scout frequencies. Wolfgang is the ARRL Liaison to the National Scout Jamboree. Another group of 17 Scouters and one Scout will assist other Scouts in earning the Radio merit badge, while seven Scouters will be offering classes and will help administer Amateur Radio licensing exams.



ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO

Support Your Radio Club!

Join or Renew Your ARRL Membership

TODAY!

*******SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE*******

**THE AUGUST MEETING OF THE MVARC
WILL BE HELD AT THE KNOX COUNTY
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
INSIDE THE KNOX COUNTY SHERIFF'S
OFFICE COMPLEX 11540 UPPER
GILCHRIST ROAD AT 7PM. ALL VISITORS
MUST CHECK IN AT THE SECURITY
WINDOW.**

MEETING STARTS AT 7:00pm