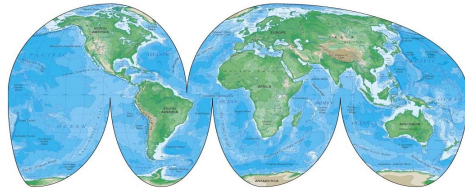


MOUNT VERNON

C



Q

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB December 2004

MEETINGS: SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE BIG BROTHERS OUTER LIMITS 7:00 PM
REPEATER FREQUENCIES: 146.790 (-) K8EEN 444.750(+) KC8YED
SPEED DIAL #S 7770=AAA (Howard St. Garage) 7771=Sheriff 7773=Police 7776=Highway Patrol
7778=MV Fire 7779=Report Repeater Problem # to shut off Auto Patch

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Hams,

Hello and welcome to December! Wow. I can hardly believe that the year is almost over. It has been a good year, thanks to many of you. Our club has worked itself into the county's emergency plan once again, we have had some training on weather spotting, we had a record field day, and above all, I feel that many of us are better friends now than ever before. And that was all just this year! I hope this coming year will be just as rewarding for both us and the club.

Last month's meeting did not shed a lot of light on any new issues. I have the county emergency ID cards all set to be distributed. If anyone else needs one, I can take their picture at our next meeting. Speaking of our next meeting, remember that it will be held in conjunction with our Annual Christmas dinner. It will be at the Mount Vernon Ryan's on Wednesday, December 15th at 7 p.m. I hope all of you can make it out! Please feel free to bring your family or a guest, since this is a time of fellowship.

As a club, we have decided to help a local family for Thanksgiving through Big Brothers/Big Sisters. However, when I contacted them, they did not have a family available for us to help. Because of this, we have decided to help a family this Christmas instead. BBBS will be contacting us soon about the family we will be helping. We are planning on buying a wonderful Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. :) If you would like to help out, please let me know.

Lastly, I want to thank those of you that voted me in as Club President for another year. I hope that many of us can get to know each other better this coming year. Congratulations to Don (WA8YRS), Phil (N1GTZ), and Bob (N8PCE) for getting voted in or remaining as officers.

73's,

Ruben Clark
KB2SAI

P.S. If you have not renewed your membership yet, please do so soon, since the end of the year is coming fast. You will find a membership renewal form towards the end of this newsletter. Thanks!

Letter from the Editor

Just a note on the page format this month. After seeing a copy of the printed version of the newsletter last month - and seeing how excessively wide the margins were - I decided to try some minor tweaks this month. This month the page margins are as wide as I dare make them and with the extra room I've changed back to 12 point font to make it easier to read. With these changes I hope I'll still have the same amount of copy space as before. Only time will tell.

Reminder: The yearly banquet has been changed from Tues to Wed, Dec. 15th at 6:00 pm (local time) at Ryans.

Phil
N1GTZ

Attendance

November 8, 2004

Monthly Meeting

Name

Call

E-mail (if not already on record)

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Don Russell | WA8YRS |
| 2. Don Bunner | KB8QPO |
| 3. Dick Huggins | WD8QHY |
| 4. Jeff Butz | N8SMT |
| 5. Barry Butz | N8PPF |
| 6. Ruben Clark | KB2SAI |
| 7. Harold Rush | AB8BI |
| 8. Louise Rush | |
| 9. George Ferri | W8VXO |
| 10. Phillip Buble | N1GTZ |
| 11. Dan Crowthers | KB8TEX |
| 12. Jeff Hall | KC8WXL |
| 13. Robert Joseph M ^c Bride, Sr. | N8QPM |
| 14. Stephen Dick | KC8YED |
| 15. Mike M ^c Cardel | KC8YLD |
| 16. Zach M ^c Cardel | KC8YLE |

Minutes

November 8, 2004

Monthly Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm local time.

Treasury Report: 1014.13 in savings (repeater fund) 149.10 in checking and 46.00 in Field day fund.

Old News:

Issue 1: The yearly banquet/monthly meeting combination will be held at Ryans on Wednesday Dec 15th at 6:00 pm local time.

Issue 2: The monthly newsletter went out on time this month.

Issue 3: The website redesign is complete and is up and running. All are welcome to view it at <http://www.mvarc.net>. It is suggested we add a membership form to the public space. This will eventually allow members to sign-up online using Pay-Pal.

Issue 4: There was no additional news regarding the sale of the Big Brothers, Big Sisters building. Danial Jenkins checked out the New Hope building on New Hope Road some years ago and it looked good. No mention if it was still available.

New News:

Issue 1: RACES cards are off to be laminated and will be returned and distributed when finished.

Issue 2: EOC-EMA antenna has yet to be tested. It cannot be done during a weekend since no one works in the building during that time. It is considered a good idea to get HF coverage in this building using grant money for the equipment.

Issue 3: Bob, N8QPM, gave his EC report: November has the highest likelihood for tornado activity of any month of the year in Ohio. All are advised to keep an eye out for severe weather this month. Our SET is tentatively planned for spring. A fox hunt is in the works.

Issue 4: This is Membership Drive time. Time to renew!!!

Issue 5: Votes for official positions: Don, WA8YRS, was voted as club Vice President. Ruben was voted as club President. I will remain Secretary and Bob, N8PCE, will remain Treasurer.

Issue 6: It was voted and accepted to buy Thanksgiving Dinner for a needy family. \$35.00 cash was donated and Ruben, KB2SAI, and Jeff, KC8WXL, will get the meal.

Issue 7: We plan to host another severe weather Skywarn Training class. It is hoped we'll have a much better turn-out than last time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm

50/50 drawing was won by Don Bunner, KB8QPO

2855 Apple Valley Drive



Howard, Ohio 43028-9382

Phone: (740) 393-0970

Cellular: (740) 398-1277

Email: bobmcbridesr@earthlink.net
bobmcbridesr@yahoo.com

Robert J. McBride, Sr.

Knox County Emergency Coordinator
Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Monthly Report: ARES November 2004

We are in the holiday season and most hams are huddled in their shacks keeping warm and trying to make contacts. Ruben Clark should have our EMA cards at the Christmas dinner next Wednesday. Hopefully, everyone can make it. Others are watching the space station with care hoping Santa will fill their stockings full of ham gear. I hope everyone will have a happy and safe holiday season.

Please, remember snow safety. On long trips take a shovel, blankets, warm boots, and some munchies. These will help if you get stranded. There are several other things to have. You can go to the NWS web site and the Red Cross web site to get further information.

Please, remember to check in to the Sunday night ARES Nets at 9:00P.M.

I apologize for not having the check-ins listed. I will try to have the update for next month.

The Sunday night ARES nets schedule is as follows:

First Sunday Net Control: N8QPM Bob McBride, Sr.
Second Sunday Net Control: KC8WXL Jeff Hall
Third Sunday Net Control: KB2SAI Ruben Clark
Fourth Sunday Net Control: N1GTZ Phil
Fifth Sunday Net Control: KB8TEX Dan Crowthers

Everyone have a Happy and Heathy Holiday Season!
73's from N8QPM and have a good month!

K8EEN FIELD DAY RESULTS

By Don, WA8YRS

The final results of Field Day 2004 were published in the December, 2004 issue of QST. I did a little figuring. Our group placed 94th out of 333 in the 3A Class (3 transmitters, Club or Group). State wide, we placed 8th out of 16 3A Class groups in the Ohio Section. A job well done. Thanks and congratulations to everyone involved.

REPEATERS AND STUFF **By Don Russell, WA8YRS**

Just one little note on the 2-meter Repeater. Every time it rains it seems like we have excessive noise on the audio output. I am not sure why this is, but I am checking into it. I did read on one of the repeater web pages a while back that a electromagnetic field can develop around the antenna during rain. I forget what they called it. Apparently, he fought this for years not knowing what it was. There is a device that will eliminate the problem though and when he used it, the problem went away. He said the problem only occurred during rain storms, and a lightening arrestor did not help at all. Maybe we have something similar.

All but a few of you should receive this months Newsletter in the mail. The few that will not are the ones that have asked me not to send them one. They will get it off the web page. Starting in January some of you will receive only an e-mail notice that the Newsletter is ready to read on the web page. The Newsletter will be a pdf file, so you may save it to your hard drive. You may also read it on-line. I like to save it to the hard drive and then print it out. I have created a folder on my computer that contains all the Newsletters I have downloaded. I can reread them anytime I want.

Members that will be receiving an e-mail notice from Phil (N1GTZ) and **NOT A MAILED** version are:
AA8WP, AB8BI, K4AWO, KB2SAI, KB8QPO, KB8QPP, KB8TEX, KC8PJS, KC8RTC, KC8WXL,
KC8YAE, KC8YED, KC8YLD, KC8YLE, N8OVE, N8PCE, N8PPF, N8QPM, N8SMT, W8JZR, W8PMJ,
WA8YRS, and WD8QHY.

Those that are not on this list but wish to be should e-mail a request to Phil (n1gtz@mvarc.net). Those that are on the list but still want to be mailed a hard copy should e-mail me (wa8yrs@arrl.net). Phil and I will work together to get it right.

At the November meeting, the club talked about having an SET (Simulated Emergency Test) which would actually be a transmitter hunt. I will be searching the web page for information on this kind of activity, which is call a "Fox Hunt" in some areas. It would be nice if one of the local hams in Knox County would volunteer to put on a program about the "how to" of transmitter hunts. I have relatively little experience in this area. Also, I encourage anyone interested in writing up an article for a future Newsletter on Fox hunting to do so. Let me know you want to do it so we do not duplicate our efforts.

Did anyone operate in the ARRL November Sweepstakes this year? I did the CW one of course. I have not

been contesting much for the last two or three years but I always like to do the Sweepstakes and the 160 meter contest at the beginning of December. The 10 meter contest is in December also. That is usually a fun one if the band opens up.

I operated less than 12 hours of the 24 hours allowed in the November Sweepstakes, CW. I worked all states except Hawaii and Alaska. I heard Hawaii on, but the pile up was so big, a didn't even try. Never heard Alaska this year. This is a great contest to get your WAS (Work All States) award in 24 hours. In fact, I worked 75 of the 80 ARRL Sections! That is not bad for 12 hours operating time. The Sections I missed were Hawaii, Alaska, Northern New York (of all things!) and two Canadian Providence's. All in all, a really fun time. By the way, the 160 meter Contest and the 10 meter Contests are excellent for obtaining your single band WAS on those bands.

It has been a while since I have written anything for my **High Frequency** column. I am thinking of changing the name of the column to **Ham Radio Fun**, or maybe just **Radio Fun** (for RF; get it?). Maybe I can come up with some fun projects to try out. Get a group together and try it, then report back. One of the first ones I would tackle would be moonbounce. I didn't get much response from last month's Newsletter about wanting to do moonbounce. Maybe explaining some of the particulars would help spur interest. Look for it in the January or February issue of the Newsletter. Until then, keep Radio Active and have fun.

Vacuum Tube Daze

A tongue-in-cheek look at the days when tubes ruled.

By Phillip Buble, N1GTZ

Episode 5: In the heat of the night.

Crack some eggs into a frying pan, place pan over the back end of your tube-type stereo amp and cook for 5 minutes. Over easy for a minute or so and their done. Vacuum tubes got that hot. RCA color TV chassis #5 of 1955 vintage had a total of 28 tubes, counting the picture tube, and it got way too hot for it's own good. I know, I had one. The wax melted right out of the transformer housing poring all over the chassis. It did no obvious harm, just coated half the components with wax. Worse yet RCA decided to use the newfangled fiberglass printed circuit boards and mounted the tubes directly on the fiberglass. After a few years you had roasted fiberglass. Even the copper in the PCB etchings eventually evaporated from the heat causing strange circuit failures. Vacuum tubes should never have been mounted on anything other than a metal chassis.

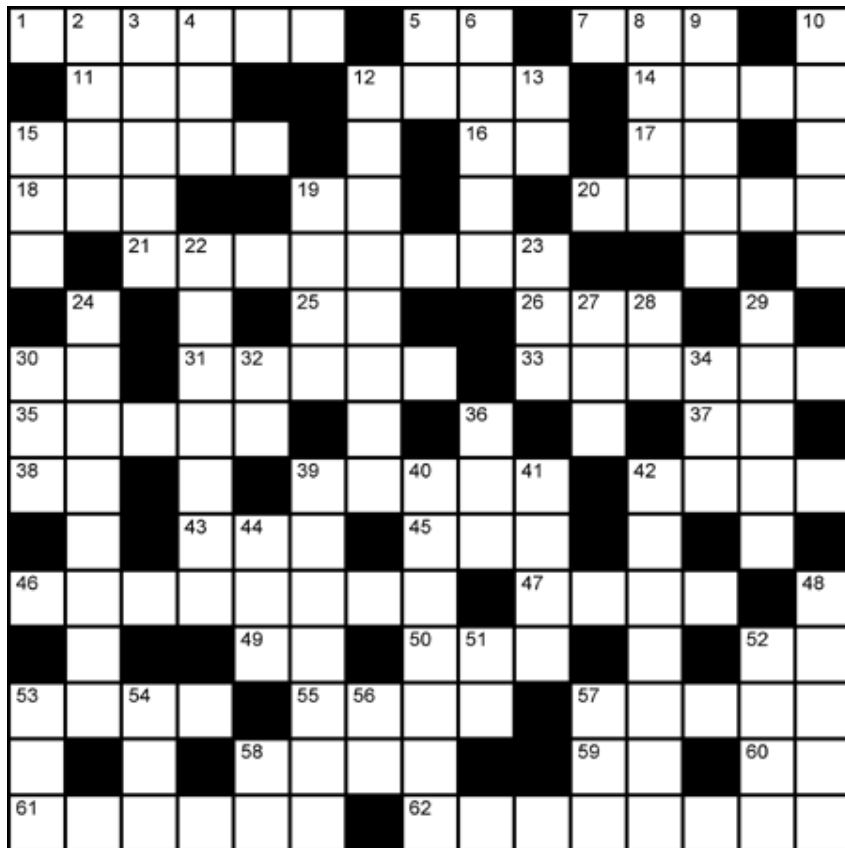
Heat is the enemy of electronics same now as it was back then, not just to the active components but to the passives as well. This includes resistors, capacitors and inductors. Often the old carbon composition resistors would not fail cleanly in the heat but change value instead. This caused even more strange circuit failures. Engineers call it MTBF, (mean time between failures) and excess heat caused the MTBF to be rather short.

For my stereo amp, now in excess of 40 years old, the MTBF is on the order of a few months. It too has the power output tubes mounted on a fiberglass PCB; yep on the same side as the passives. Freeze spray makes detecting failing passives easier and I routinely use it. Freeze spray itself can have its own nasty side effects. Just once the ice covered plastic tube extension I was using brushed up against one of the power tubes while it was in operation. POP, FLASH, POP... dead! The glass envelope cracked and the tube rapidly lost its vacuum, blowing the main fuse. This was the first time this had ever happened to me while using freeze spray. It will be the last.



The End.

Beso Del Sol



By H. Ward Silver, N0AX
November 13, 2004

Across

1. Simplest antenna
5. Come in anybody!
7. Highest frequency on the path
11. Don't have one of these, man!
12. Energy from the sun
14. Visible surface of the sun
15. Refers to phenomena of the sun
16. Abbreviation meaning "that is"
17. Short for editor
18. Popular microwave cable connector type
19. Two sizes bigger than M
20. Circle that's the shortest path on a sphere
21. What the ionosphere does to radio waves
25. Portion of the day in which sunrise occurs
26. Measure of maximum output power
30. Companion to "az"
31. Structure in the ionosphere
33. Sunspots come in these
35. Advanced technology is indistinguishable from this
39. Disturbed geomagnetic conditions
42. Dark area on the sun
43. Unit of time
45. Pocket-sized computer
46. Prediction of conditions
47. Simon does this
49. Light (abbr.)
50. Acronym for orbiting platform
52. Planetary index
53. Visible at night
55. Temporary (abbr.)
57. Weak or hard to detect
58. List of choices
59. Vehicle that travels for fun (abbr.)
60. Tough metal (abbr.)
61. Used for scattering VHF signals
62. Earth's protective field

37. Popular antenna material (abbr.)

38. Local ARES coordinator

Down

2. Radio manufacturer

3. Northern or southern path

4. Type of Yagi design by K3LR & WA3FET (abbr.)

5. Closing down (CW abbr.)

6. Period of low activity

8. Type of ground system using concrete

9. Decreased signal level

10. Discovered radio waves

12. Disturb propagation when they disappear

13. US's southern neighbor (prefix)

15. Spot count (abbr.)

19. Beyond ultra-violet

22. Lunar or solar obstruction

23. States, Provinces, and Countries (abbr.)

24. When signals suddenly disappear

27. Don't look at the sun with this while it's naked

28. Computer (abbr.)

29. Lower than

30. Mode of communication using the moon

32. Type of current from the power line

34. Computers sit on top of this

36. Received (abbr.)

39. Reflect in many directions

40. Best or most useful

41. What coronas eject

42. Propagation via the ionosphere

44. Type of digital logic

48. Having to do with the sense of sight

51. Germany's eastern neighbor (prefix)

52. Prefix meaning "opposite"

53. Appointed to manage nets in a section

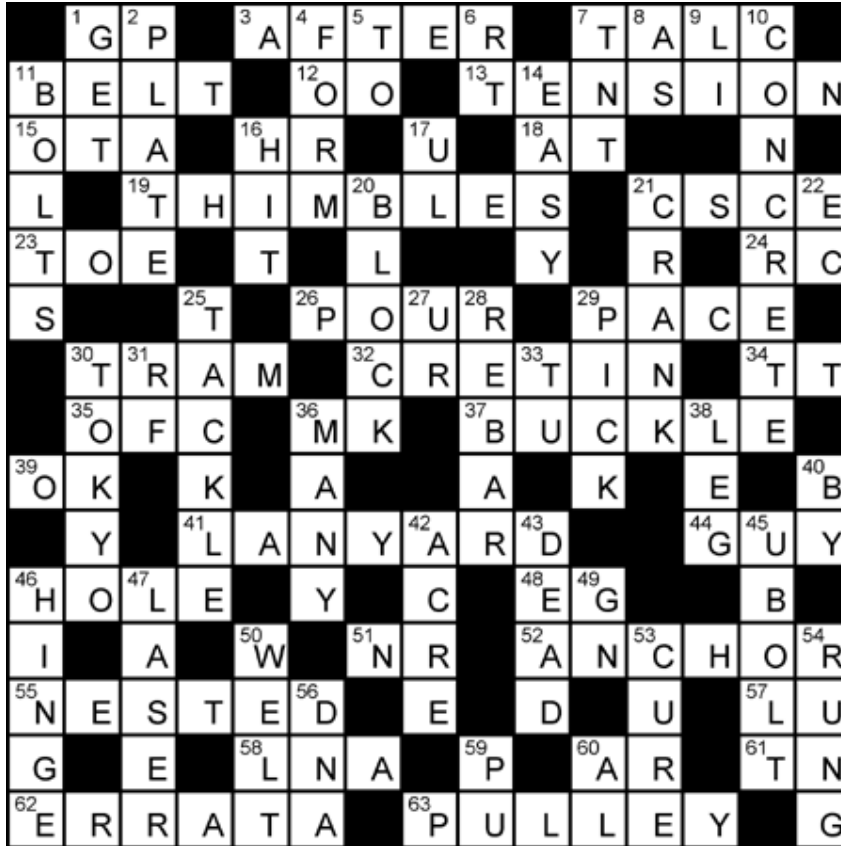
54. Skyhook (abbr.)

56. Particles on the way are .. route to the Earth

57. Your FCC identifier

58. Abbreviation meaning "method of operating"

Solution to last month's puzzle.



A Pause For Thought

“It is a far, far better thing to have a firm anchor in nonsense than to put out on the troubled seas of thought.”

J. K. Galbraith, “The Affluent Society”

=====
Membership Form

Club dues run from Jan. 1 until Dec. 31 and are collected during the last quarter of the year.
You can mail in the dues to the address below or bring them to a meeting.

Dues Schedule:

\$20 regular

\$10 for second member in the same family

\$10 for over 65 yrs. of age

\$15 for those living outside Knox County

Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 372

Mt. Vernon, OH 43050

Name_____Call-Sign_____

Street_____

City_____State_____Zip Code_____

Phone Number_____License Class_____

ARRL Member (Y/N)_____E-Mail_____

Extra Donation (Optional)_____

Members are entitled to a free MVARC E-Mail address. Would you like one?

No_____Yes_____

If yes please enter password_____

Other Comments

Classifieds

Only Need to Ask, Inc
24 South Clayton Street
Centerburg, Ohio 43011

740-625-6659
740-625-6649 fax

onlyneedtoask@core.com

2way radio Sales & Service



AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

Your total communication shop.

Nextel authorized representative

Special right now, Free Phone and Free car charger with every NEW activation of 2years.

=====
Stuff I need to sell.
I have all this stuff at my house.

I would like to sell this and all you need to do is make a good offer.
E-mail me at bruff13@yahoo.com or call 397-3555 or cell 358-1169

- Mirage D3010 430Mhz. Power amp for Satellite station
- Yeasu Ft-736R satellite radio
- Yeasu desk mic
- 2 Motorola extension speakers
- Kenwood extension speaker
- Kenwood TM241a 2 meter mobile
- Kenwood TS440SAT HF radio with antenna tuner
- Kenwood MC-60 Desk Mic
- Kantronics Kamplus TNC
- Old 386 computer and monitor for packet station
- Quantum Ham Battery
- Radio Shack frequency counter
- MFJ swr analyzer for 440 Mhz

There are owners manuals for about all this stuff.
I have a lot of stuff so if you are looking for something just ask

Bob Burff
N8PCE

=====
Yaesu FT-901-DM All Mode, SSB, AM, FM Transceiver 160 through 10M, use as stand alone fixed, mobile operation or exciter for linear amplifier and

Yaesu SP-901-P Combination matching speaker with built in phone patch.
\$350.00

Dentron MLA-2500 Full 2KW Linear Amplifier all bands 160 through 10M. Factory installed 10M band came with original purchase just before FCC made it illegal to sell linear amplifiers in the US covering 10 meters.
\$450.00

Matching Dentron 3000A all band combination antenna matching network and SWR Bridge with Dual Large Face Meters, 160 through 10M. Rated for full 2KW SSB input.
\$140.00

This equipment is fully operational, cosmetically like new, no modifications and includes all manuals. I am the original owner and purchased this equipment new.

Rhon 50ft Tower with commercial tower climbing safety belt. Good condition.
\$50.00

Wilson 6 element triband beam (20, 15, 10M) in reasonably fair condition including a complete set of brand new element loading coils.
\$30.00

Cornell Dublier model H-IV-CD-45 Controller and Heavy Duty Rotor with brake. Reasonably fair condition.
\$30.00

If all equipment is purchased together I will sell for a reduced price.

Bruce Anderson W1VOT
112 Academy Ct.
Gahanna, OH 43230
Phone: 614-471-3899, Cell 614-208-6487
Email: Anderson.309@osu.edu