The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

December, 2008 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)

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

Ham Radio Rocks!

December Meeting And Christmas Dinner Set for Ryan's Restaurant

President Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, has arranged for our December Meeting to be held a Ryan's Restaurant, 1515 Coshocton Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Please note the date: Sunday, December 7; and the time: 6:00 p.m.

This annual club Christmas Dinner/December meeting takes the place of our regular scheduled December meeting. Friends, family, and prospective new hams are welcome to this event.

Everyone is responsible for their own meals.

We will have a short business meeting and election of officers, but fellowship is the agenda for the evening.

Please plan on attending this special event.

Election of 2009 Officers

The election of new officers is once again upon us. Please use the ballet on page 9 of this issue and turn it in at the December Christmas Dinner/meeting. There will also be extra ballets at the Dinner.

Members running for office this year are:

President: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Vice President: Tony Spiegel, KC8UR

Secretary: Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Treasurer: Bary Butz, N8PPF

Board of Directors: Don Russell, W8PEN

I would like to thank outgoing President Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, for his two years of service to the club. During his time in office, the club positioned itself well with the American Red Cross and had many, many successful events. Worth mentioning are: The record setting Field Day of 2008, participation in Keynon College's Earth Day Marathon (twice), and many other public service events. Our celebration of the clubs 50 years of ARRL affiliation should also be mentioned. It has been a good two years. Thanks Mike.

Don, W8PEN

SPECTRUM DEFENSE: THE ARRL'S PRIMARY MISSION
(From the ARRL Letter, November 14, 2008)

Defending and enhancing access to the Amateur Radio spectrum is the primary mission of the ARRL. According to ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, the League has not only protected the bands, but has also added several new ones, despite exponential growth in the variety and number of radio frequency devices in the hands of consumers and businesses. "Even our most disappointing

defeat -- the loss of the bottom 40 percent of the 220 MHz band some two decades ago -- gave us upgraded status, from shared to exclusive, in the remaining 60 percent of the band," he said.

Sumner said that amateurs will soon have cause to celebrate: March 29, 2009 marks the date that high-powered international broadcasting stations will be removed from the heart of the 40 meter band. "We are working with the broadcasters to make sure the change takes place as agreed at the 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC)," Sumner said. "While it's probably too much to expect 100 percent instant compliance, we know that the responsible broadcasters are preparing to move out of the 7100-7200 kHz segment -- doubling the size of the worldwide 40 meter band and making this popular band more useful than it's been in 70 years."

At the WRC in 2007, the Amateur Radio Service earned its first low-frequency (LF) allocation, 135.7-137.8 kHz; however, here in the United States, amateurs will not gain access to this new band automatically when the Final Acts of the conference take effect on January 1, 2009. "We must petition the FCC to implement the allocation, and we know the petition will not be granted without an argument -- because we've been down this road before," Sumner explained. "Twice in the past, the ARRL has sought an LF allocation. Both times our request was opposed by the Utilities Telecom Council (UTC) -- the same organization that has opposed our efforts to protect radio services from Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) interference."

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

Sumner recounted that the ARRL's fight against BPL interference has been going on for six years. "Last year, in the wake of Federal Communications Commission decisions that did not adequately protect licensed radiocommunication services from interference from BPL systems, the ARRL even went to court to challenge the FCC and won!" he said

<http://pacer.cadc.uscourts.gov/common/opinions/200804/06-1343-1112979.pdf>.

"On April 25, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit confirmed what the ARRL has been saying for years about how the FCC was handling the BPL interference issue: FCC prejudice tainted the rulemaking process."

On July 9, the Court went one step further, ordering the FCC to pay the ARRL more than $6000 toward the League's costs in pursuing the appeal. "While this is a tiny fraction of our total investment," Sumner said, "the award affirmed that -- contrary to the 'spin' the FCC had been trying to give to the Court's decision -- the ARRL substantially prevailed in its appeal."

Calling the Court's decision "a tremendous victory for radio amateurs and other licensed users of the radio spectrum -- indeed, for anyone who cares about the federal administrative process," Sumner said that the remand does not guarantee that the FCC will correct its errors. "We face another round of technical arguments," he said. "No doubt the FCC's technical staff, many of whom want to do the right thing, will remain under heavy pressure to ignore the laws of physics and give

preference to wishful thinking once again. When the FCC reopens the BPL proceeding as the Court has ordered, we must leave no room for these technical issues to be settled on anything other than technical grounds. There's more work to do. It is only through the support of thousands of ARRL members and friends that we have managed to come this far. But it took great effort, including our frontal assault on the flawed FCC proceedings, to get their attention. Together we can celebrate all that we have accomplished on the BPL front over the past six years!"

BPL is not the only challenge facing the League, Sumner said, pointing out that preparations for the upcoming WRC in 2011 are already underway.

The key WRC-11 issues for Amateur Radio are:

* A possible allocation near 500 kHz. This would provide amateurs' first access to the lower part of the medium frequency (MF) band. Sumner said a "600 meter" band offers exciting possibilities for reliable groundwave communication through the application of digital signal processing techniques to a portion of the spectrum that is as old as radio itself.

* Defense against a push to allocate spectrum between 3 and 50 MHz for oceanographic radar applications.

* Support of an initiative to provide better protection for radio services against interference from short-range radio devices.

* Consideration of regulatory measures for software-defined radio and cognitive radio systems, which offer both opportunities and threats to existing radio services.

* Selection of agenda items for the WRC to follow (tentatively planned for 2015).

"ARRL staff and volunteers are hard at work on your behalf, teaming up with International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) volunteers from around the globe to build the strongest possible case for Amateur Radio at WRC-11," he said, calling on all amateurs to help protect Amateur Radio's precious spectrum. "Once again, your financial commitment to spectrum defense is vital to our ability to protect your access to radio spectrum. Your contribution to the 2009 Spectrum Defense Fund will provide the financial resources required for us to represent you at WRC-11, and to respond when the FCC reacts to the BPL remand decision. Contributions to the 2009 Spectrum Defense Fund are coming in, but the goal of raising $300,000 to support ARRL's representation of members by November 30 is an uphill climb. We cannot reach our goal without contributions from ARRL members."

To help in the ARRL's ongoing mission to protect our valuable spectrum, please visit the Spectrum Defense area on the ARRL Web site

<https://www.arrl.org/forms/fdefense/>

Radio Activity
By Don Russell, W8PEN

The November Sweepstakes are over for another year. Darn it. Last Month, the newsletter deadline was the

same weekend as the CW portion of the Sweepstakes. I was able to reveal my results, which while not record setting, was very satisfying to me.

Remember my transceiver problem the day of the contest? Well, I thought I had things solved. Ended up, the power plug was not making good contact in the socket, obviously not allowing me to draw full power. I also realized that the wire size of that particular plug was not as large as it should have been, and got warm at full power. It was not the original power plug, so I dug around and found the plug that came with the transceiver and everything seemed to work normally.

As a test, I set the contest logger on automated CQ. The longer would send VVV VVV DE W8PEN W8PEN. Wait 3 seconds and do it again. Ran this test for two hours into a dummy load at 100 watts. Even had the heat-sink on the back of the radio warm to the touch. At the end of the test, the rig was still putting out 100 watts with no problems. I was ready to go in the SSB portion of the Sweepstakes..... Or so I thought.

I decided during the CW portion of the test that it was getting old having to retune the antenna tuner every 50 Khz or so when Search and Pouncing during a contest. This is most often done on 160 and 80 meters where the bandwidth of antennas are not usually very wide. This was going to be really bad during SSB contests due to the expanded frequencies now available to us. So, I ordered a new automatic antenna tuner. The package arrived several days before the SSB Sweeps so I had plenty of time to "pre-tune" it before the contest. I figured the best way to do this was to start at one end of the band, let the tuner tune to that frequency, then move up the band until the turner decided to retune by itself. This worked out fairly well, and I covered all five bands in short order. I was wondering though, why was I not hearing stations on the bands? I understood that 20 through 10 meters were probably closed for the evening. But why was I not hearing things on 160, 80, and 40 meters? Those bands should be pretty active in the evening.

First I thought maybe I had messed up, and really did not have my antenna connected. With an auto-tuner, that would not be difficult to do. The tuner would just match the open feed line. Had I spent the evening tuning the feed line and not the antenna? Possible.

So, I moved the cable coming from the antenna tuner over to my trusty FT-847. The bands came too life! Wonder how many stations I tuned up on? Thank goodness it took less than a second to tune the antenna. Of course, this meant that I had yet another problem with my Contest Omni 6 plus radio. No receive. Well, at least the problem was different from the original.

After several attempts to determine the problem over a two day period (I felt sure I was doing something wrong!) including doing a manual radio reset, I determined that the radio received just fine attached to the second antenna connector. This connector is used when one wants to use two antennas: one for transmit and one for receive. This is often done on 160 and 80 meters where one would use a low noise receive antenna called a beverage antenna on receive and a vertical or high dipole on transmit which would be likely to pick up more noise when used on receive.

Since one cannot transmit through the second antenna

connector, I was finished with this radio as far as the Sweeps were concerned. Back to the FT-0847.

There was only one major problem with using the FT-847 during the SSB portion of the Sweepstakes. No VOX. For the uninformed, a VOX is a system by which the transmitter is activated by the operators voice and turns off the transmitter when the operator stops talking. VOX: **V**oice **O**perated **X**mit This leaves the contest operators hands free to type information into the contest logger. Would be a big hassle with a mobile type push to talk microphone. I know. I have tried it on past Field Days. Since my FT-847 did not have a built in VOX, which is probably the biggest drawback of this otherwise fine radio, I had to figure out an alternative way to transmit with no hands.

Actually, it was pretty easy and I had set this system up years ago. I never really gave it a try until now. I knew the FT-847 did not have VOX when I ordered it. Just in case I needed to use this radio for contesting (not really in the plans), I went to Radio Shack and bought a footswitch. I hear of many contest operators who prefer a footswitch to VOX. I wasn't sure I would like it, but I wanted to be prepared anyways. So, I knew that somewhere in my shack was a footswitch. In the end, it took me an hour to find the switch. One of those things that you put somewhere that you won't loose it, but forget to look there first deals......

Everything was set. While I was disappointed in not having my contest radio, I was confident in working plenty of stations with my FT-847. And I did. At first the footswitch gave me problems. It would slide around on the carpet and I would loose track of where it was at. Strategic location of a heavy object solved this problem.

The contest was enjoyable. I did more Search and Pouncing Saturday than normal because I could not seem to get a run started when calling "CQ". Even though I got a few compliments on how good my signal was. That was confusing. If you have a good signal, you should have no problems running stations.

Sunday was better and I able to sustain several runs. However, I had the beginnings of "catching a cold" and my throat was sour and my voice did not sound like me.

I actually took several long breaks. I was in the contest for fun, not blood. I would work at it as long as I was having fun. To be frank, I do not enjoy contesting with SSB voice as much as I do CW Morse Code. But it made for an enjoyable weekend of Ohio State Football and contesting.

My total score was 246 contacts in 67 ARRL sections for a score of 32,964. Total time on the air was eight hours. I had one hour of 40 contacts. The rest were less. Some were much less, indicating I did indeed have problems trying to run stations. Oh well.

This was a 30 hour contest with a maximum on time of 24 hours. No ones needs to work an entire contest just to have fun. I had lots of fun with the eight hours of on time. Got plenty of sleep. Did not miss a meal. Got my dogs walked. Ended up with a really bad cold (not in the plans). One should try contesting just for fun. Just don't do the cold part. That wasn't much fun.

If there is room in this newsletter, look for my review on the

N1MM contesting software. Otherwise, it will be in next months issue.

See you all at Ryan's.

Treasurer's Report
December 2008
for Oct 26 to Nov 30, 2008

Balance 10-25-08: $ 2273.36

Income:
Interest: $ .03

Dues: $ 102.00
Donations: $ 15.00
50-50: $ 7.00

Expenses:

Balance on 11-30-08: $2397.39

Designated Funds
Year 2005 Repeater Fund: $ 701.94
Field Day Fund: $ 133.24

Barry N8PPF

Field Day Results
Past/Present
By Mick McCardel, KC8YLD

Results for Field Day 2008 have been released by the ARRL and we had a very good year. Competing in Class 3A we had 1223 QSO's, and 4226 points with 17 participants.

We have been assuming we had the best results ever for our club. The ARRL recently made available, to members full text articles for the entire content of QST from December 1915 through December 2004. I've been looking through old Field Day Results , so far I researched every year back through 1967. It's been interesting. I found no results published for 16 of those years.

In the remaining 26 years for which I have found results, the Mt Vernon ARC has participated in seven different classes, used two callsigns, competed with a revival Mt Vernon group in 1970, and, whereas this year's result were the best ever, they only beat the 1988 participants by 2 points. In four of the years, a second callsign appears next to the familiar K8EEN. Reading through the rules I found that it was once required that novice stations had to identify using their own callsign. I am assuming that is why our results were reported as K8EEN (+KB8SIE) in 1995, K8EEN (+KB8EWB) in 1988, K8EEN (+KA8LUO) in 1981 and K8EEN (+WB8AYM) in 1980.

Over the years we have participated in classes 3A, 3F, 2A, 2A Commercial, 4A, 4E, and 3D.
In 1998 Mt Vernon ARC is listed as callsign NI8R.

In 1970 the call WA8EHC competed as Mt Vernon Contest Club in class 2A . Their 4 participants made 177 QSO's and scored 162 points. Although, they out QSO'd the 6 people who participated for K8EEN 162 to 39, the K8EEN group easily outscored their cross town counterparts 278 vs WA8EHC's 162. K8EEN participated in class 3D that year.

In 1988, entered as K8EEN (+KB8EWB) 13 hams participated, competing in class 3A. They amassed 1194 QSO's for 4,224 points.

I'll keep digging, looking next to years prior to 1967 and will revisit those years I found no results, (2002, 2001, 2000, 1993, 1991, 1990, 1987, 1979, 1976, 1975, 1974, 1972, 1971, 1968 and 1967).

The following table includes all results found in a tabular format.

FD Results for Mt Vernon ARC in Section OH

	Class	QSO's	Multiplier	Participants	Points	Call
2008	3A	1223	2	17	4226	K8EEN
2007	3F	930	2	12	3420	K8EEN
2006	3A	724	2	15	3254	K8EEN
2005	3A	568	2	25	2226	K8EEN
2004	3A	1051	2	25	3282	K8EEN
2003	3A	477	2	13	1792	K8EEN
1999	3A	634	2	20	2486	K8EEN
1998	2A	153	2	25	944	NI8R
1997	2A	377	2	30	1802	K8EEN
1996	3A	380	2	35	1620	K8EEN
1995	2A	354	2	16	1500	K8EEN (+KB8SIE)
1994	2A Commercial	304	2	9	1122	K8EEN
1992	2A Commercial	326	2	19	1172	K8EEN
1989	3A	844	2	9	2884	K8EEN
1988	3A	325	2	13	4224	K8EEN(+KB8EWB)
1986	3A	634	B	9	2430	K8EEN
1985	3A	850	B	7	2934	K8EEN
1984	3A	325	B	7	1356	K8EEN
1982	3A	405	B	10	1432	K8EEN
1981	3A	698	B	13	2016	K8EEN(+KA8LUO)
1980	2A	485	B	7	1972	K8EEN(+WB8AY)
1978	4A	295	B	9	1136	K8EEN
1977	4A	241	B	6	1164	K8EEN
1973	4E	212	B	10	424	K8EEN
1970	3D	39	C	7	278	K8EEN
1969	4A	269	BC	7	568	K8EEN

FD Results for Mt. Vernon Contest Club in Section OH

Year	Class	QSO's	Multiplier	Participants	Points	Call
1970	2A	177	C	4	162	WA8EHC

Class B is power over 10 watts up to 200 watts and has a multiplier of 2, C is a mobile station set-up even if stationary. I am unclear what BC means. D is a home station set-up, not necessarily commercial power. E is

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The N1MM Contest Logger
By Don Russell, W8PEN

I first learned about the N1MM contest logger perhaps five years or so ago. Like all contest loggers, the program had features such as: Keeping track of stations and multipliers worked. Checking for duplicates (dupes). The logger would send Morse code with "CQ Test" or the contest exchange being done automatically or by keyboard. The program will keep a running contest score so you know where you stand at any given time in the contest. Rig control was a valuable feature. No longer would one switch bands on the radio but forget to change bands on the logger and really get messed up!

Back then, my program of choice was the NA Contest logger. This software had many of the same features and was less complicated. For those reasons, I have stuck with the NA logger over the years, and it has served me well.

With the advent of Windows plug and play com ports and USB ports, NA logger has begun to show its age. The program is a DOS program and as such does not recognize com ports set up by windows. Nor does it recognize USB to serial or parallel port converters. There are supposed to be ways to fix this, but non seem to work for me. I decided that NA Contest logger was no longer a viable option for me. Especially since I want to get back into contesting after a fairly long lay off.

So the hunt was on for new contest logging software. My first thought was the N1MM logger. However, my first impressions many years ago left me hesitant. The set up of this software was rather complicated compared to some of the others. Second thought was to look at the N3FJP line of logging software. Scott has a really nice set of programs and one can have all of them for a one time fee of $49. That includes all his software on a CD.

All registered to use. Free updates and free registration of any additional programs added to the CD at a later date. A cheaper alternative is to buy the registration to his software package, excluding the CD. That is $39.
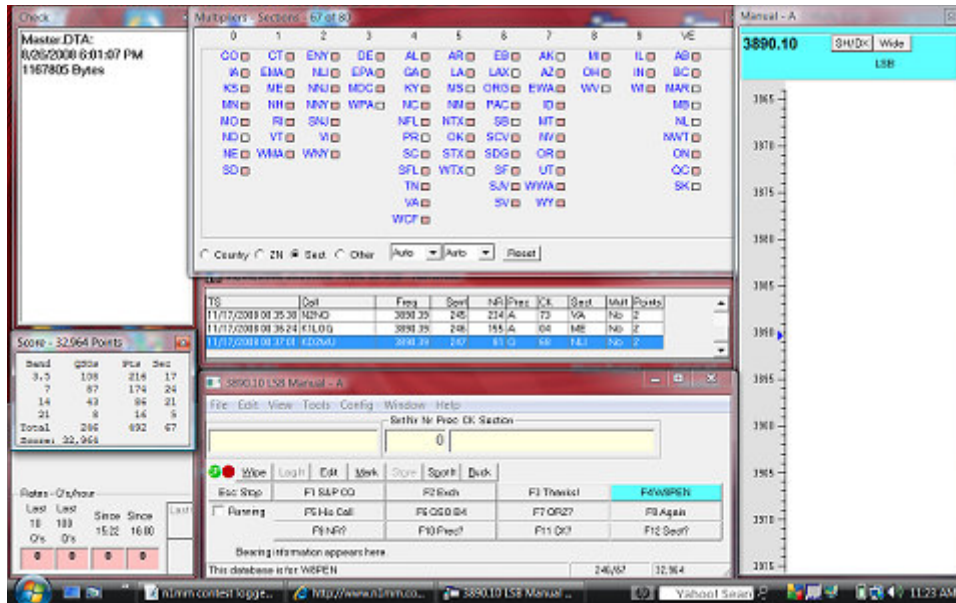
You download the programs yourself from his web site and save $10. This is a pretty good deal and his programs work great. We use his Networked Field Day program every year. My problem with his contest loggers is that they do not allow one to log a duplicate contact. Most experienced contesters simply log the dupe and go on. Faster than explaining that the other station is already in your log. And it guarantees that you are in his log. Scott has shown no inclination to fix this, so I decided that his software is not for me. However, for anyone just getting started, or wants to do an occasional contest, I recommend his line of software.

Since I was tired of remembering to pay a yearly fee for updates to the NA logger, I had decided that my next contest software should be either freeware, or a program with a one time fee and lifetime upgrades for free. That meant the I needed to seriously look at the N1MM logger again. It was free. If it worked as advertised, it would be an awesome piece of software. So I downloaded and installed it on my computer. Here is the download site:

http://www.n1mm.com/

Getting this software up and running is not at all hard. In fact that is the easy part. The really hard part for me was deciding what options I wanted displayed on the screen. There was not enough space for all the displays available. Detailing every option is way beyond this short article. One needs to download the manual from the above site and get a feel for this software.

Anyway, I decided on the basic stuff being displayed. This including a list of stations worked previously, multipliers worked and needed, score and current rate. One feature I did want to try was the band mapping feature, which when using rig control, placed the call of stations heard on a radio dial like display. That way one could quickly spin the dial so to speak and return to that station.

See the picture of N1MM in action above. This is my log from the end of the November Sweepstakes, SSB. Upper left is where partial dupes are checked. As you enter the call into the logger, it progresses through calls that are available in a master call file, or calls that you have already worked. By watching this window, one can usually tell before typing in the whole call, whether the station has been worked before. Top center is the Multiplier window. The squares are filled in as one works each multiplier. In this case ARRL sections. Second down from the center is the log of previous stations worked. I kept it small, only wanting to see the last few stations worked. One can scroll up or down in this window. Bottom center is the Entry window where one enters new stations to be worked and their exchanges. Second down one the left is the score summary screen, giving number of contacts per band and number of multipliers per band an the total score. Bottom left is a rate screen giving rate statistics of the last 10 stations, last 100 stations, and the last hour. Far right is the band map. This is usually filled with calls that have been entered into the Entry window.

I stress again that this is simply the way I had the logger set up. It worked very nicely for me, but others may have different ideas of what is important during a contest. All windows can be resized to the operators preference, making this logger very flexible. With a little patience, a contester can get the screen showing just about anything of value.

There are a few features that I did not use. Actually a lot of them. Packet and internet spotting is supported. I like going it alone, so I never use this feature.

Another interesting feature is that one can record sound files of the CQ, Exchange, as well as different parts of the exchange. These can all be called up from the Function keys. Indeed, one can set the logger to call up

the CQ file with a time laps between CQ's, thus saving ones voice for the actual contact and exchange. Frankly, I did not have time to set this up. Not sure I would have used it if I did. That being said, I sure did hear plenty of stations using this feature. Most sounded okay. Some sounded really good, other pretty awful. I would say one need to work on adjustments before the contest. Preferably with a local station to monitor the results. I even hear a few that had apparently recorded the whole alphabet in phonetics. That way, the computer would give the call and exchange without the operator saying one word. Though I like doing this in a CW contest, it would be rather strange doing it during a phone contest. To each their own I guess.

After using N1MM contest logger during the two November Sweepstakes contests (CW and SSB), I am very pleased with how well this software works. Perhaps my favorite feature is that when Search and Pouncing, you can enter a call in the entry window. If you do not make a contact and decide to move on to another station, all it takes is a spin of the dial and the call is removed from the entry screen and put on the band map. That made for very efficient Search and Pouncing. Of course this only works if you have Rig Control set up. Otherwise one needs wipe the contact out either with the mouse key or the ALT-W key combo. The band map would not be available. This program shines when using Rig control.

Join the ARRL?
By Mike McCardel, KC8YLD

Why we all should spend $39 of our hard earned money and join the ARRL.

Actually a lot of things come to mind. MVARC has a 50 year affiliation with the ARRL yet just

over half of our members hold membership in the ARRL. Yes *QST* is one of the longest standing and informative magazines on Amateur Radio, but that's not why we all should join. If you're a member you have online access to every article that has appeared in *QST* between December 1915 and December 2004. Members also have online access to *QEX* from 1968 to the present, *Ham Radio* between 1968 through 1990, and *NJC* from 1973 to the present. This still is not the reason we all should be members. Other membership benefits include Emergency Communication Services, Technical and Regulatory Information Services, Publication Specials and on-line course discounts, Operating Awards, Ham Radio Equipment Insurance Plan Available, Outgoing Foreign QSL Service, a voice in the affairs of ARRL and ham radio through locally appointed volunteers, and the list goes on. These alone are reasons enough to become an ARRL member but not the reason we all should be members.

So what is the reason? SPECTRUM. We have spectrum. One of the reasons the hobby-service is still available for us right now is due to the efforts of Hiram Percy Maxim (SK W1AW) and the ARRL which he organized. During WWI the Navy controlled all radio activity. After the war they really didn't see the need to give any of it back. Maxim and the ARRL were successful in convincing the US Government of the importance of the Amateur Radio Service. Recently the ARRL has been fighting a successful battle to eliminate the threat of interference due to BPL. They were integral in moving international broadcasting stations from the heart of the 40 meter band. Full implementation of this begins March 29, 2009. Recently the FCC had issued an experimental license to the Digital Aurora Radio Technologies (DART) for broadcasting up to 660 KHW of digital emission with a 20 kHz bandwidth to operate in the 7.1 to 7.3 Mhz band. the ARRL had to remind the FCC that this was an obvious error and the FCC reassigned DART to a different spectrum allocation. There are more examples, but the bottom line is that no other organization in the United States stands up for all Amateur Radio Operators like the ARRL does. No one. None has protected our spectrum like the ARRL. Individually we just don't have the political pool, but as a membership 110,000 strong the ARRL has clout. Okay, you may say, but a half million U.S. Hams aren't members or you don't agree with everything the ARRL does. My argument is as members you would BE the ARRL and would have a say in what direction the ARRL takes.

One thing we all share is that our precious spectrum is always under attack. This may be especially true in the present economic climate. After all we talk nightly on what has been perceived as millions of dollars of bandwidth. Protect your hobby and spend what comes to 11 cents a day to join the ARRL. Then we can be sure we will see each other on down the log.

MVARC Club Meeting is Sunday, December 7, 2008 at the Ryan's Steak House, 1515 Coshocton Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This is our annual Club Christmas Dinner. Election of officers and a proposal to support Knox County Fire Departments by serving as a reception point for monies collected and to be used to purchase smoke detectors to be distributed by the Fire Departments is on the short meeting agenda. Family, friends, and potential new hams are welcome to join us.

Please remember the long running Sunday Night ARES net at 9:00 P.M.

Also check out the new UHF net on the KD8EVR Repeater. This net runs each Wednesday at 9:00 P.M. This 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. Family and friends welcome. You do not need to be a ham or club member to participate in this event.

Come join MVARC club members every second Saturday of the month for breakfast. Each month we try a different place, so check the MVARC Newsletter for current information. Breakfast Coordinator Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, can also be contacted for the latest news on the 2 meter or the 440 Mhz. Repeaters. Or tune into our ARES net each Sunday at 8:00 PM for current information.

The next Breakfast will be December 6, 2008 at 9:00 AM at Ryan's Steak House, 1515 Coshocton Ave. , Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BALLOT FOR 2009 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

_____**ARLIN BRADFORD, KD8EVR**   **WRITE IN:**_____

VICE PRESIDENT

_____ **TONY SPIEGEL, KC8UR**   **WRITE IN:**_____

SECRETARY

_____ **JEFF BUTZ N8SMT**   **WRITE IN:**_____

TREASURER

_____ **BARRY BUTZ N8PPF**   **WRITE IN:**_____

DIRECTOR (TWO YEAR TERM)

_____ **DON RUSSELL, W8PEN**   **WRITE IN:**_____

Note: Ballots may be presented in person or by proxy Sunday Dec 7, 2008 during the Club meeting to be held at Ryans Steakhouse at 6:00 pm, or be delivered to the following before December 7, 2008:

Don Blizzard, W8UMH, 14121 Old Mansfield Rd, Mount Vernon Ohio, 43050-8734

Mt. Vernon ARC Officers

President: Mike McCardel, KC8YLD   **kc8yld@arrl.net**   **Phone: 740-599-6614**
Vice President: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR **arlinb@vasucom.com**   **Phone: 740-427-2440**
Secretary: Jeff Butz, N8SM   **Jaylynn@copper.net**   **Phone: 740-965-9368**
Treasurer: Barry Butz, N8PPF   **n8ppf@mvarc.net**   **Phone: 740-397-7540**

Newsletter Credits
Editor: Don Russell, W8PEN

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The ARRL letter is a weekly e-mail publication by the ARRL. You may read the entire ARRL letter by visiting the ARRL Web page at http://www.arrl.org/. **Other News** from: http://ky4ky.com/fyi.htm.

The ARES E-Letter is an e-mail digest of news and information of interest to active members of the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Past issues of The ARES E-Letter are available at http://www.arrl.org/ares-el/. Issues are posted to this page after publication.

Project OSCAR is a monthly column written for Newsletter Editors. Columns will appear as space permits. You may download all the columns yourself at: http://www.projectoscar.net/beacon.php

Members are encouraged to send articles pertaining to ham radio, with an emphasis on local activities, equipment reviews, and personal experience to w8pen@arrl.net or Don Russell, W8PEN, 815 Brookwood Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050

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 are prorated for new members at the time of application. Visit our Web Page at www.mvarc.net

Dues Schedule: $12 regular

$10 for second member in the same family, for those over 65 yrs. of age, and 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: