The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

December, 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)

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!

Club Christmas Dinner
To be Sunday, December 12th

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Dinner and club meeting is set for **Sunday, December 12, 2010 at Allison's Finer Diner**, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Dinner is open to all club members, family, and friends, as well as those interested in Amateur Radio. Reservations have been made and one should inform the hostess that you are with the radio club. Due to the hopefully large turn out, dinner choices will be limited to three menu items decided in advance. There will also be an automatic 18% gratuity added to everyone's bill, so no tipping is required. All persons are responsible for payment of their own meal.

Menu items are:

1. **Sirloin Steak (6 oz.) Served with baked potato and house salad $9.25**
2. **Pork Roast Tender: succulent pork roast served over mashed potato's and topped with sautéed onions and homemade gravy with fresh vegetables. $8.50**
3. **Chicken Breast Seasoned and grilled, served over rice with fresh vegetables. $7.50**

Election results and a short meeting will follow the dinner. Ballots will be available at the dinner for those who have not already voted.

The Christmas dinner is also a good time for members to pay their 2011 dues (hint, hint).

The next meeting of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be Sunday, December 12, 2010, 6:00PM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This is the clubs annual Christmas dinner / December meeting. There will be no meeting on Monday the 13th.

Besides great food, the main item on the agenda will be voting in club officers for 2011. Members may also pay 2011 dues at this time.

See Newsletter article for more details.

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 Dec 11, 2010 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio****

Election of 2011 Officers

Officers for the current year 2010 are as follows:

President:	Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR (2nd term)
Vice President:	Tony Spiegel, KC8UR (2nd Term)
Secretary:	Jeff Butz, N8SMT (3rd term)
Treasurer:	Barry Butz, N8PPF (3rd term)

Current Board of Directors are:

Mike McCardel,KC8YLD (First term expires end of 2011. Eligible for re-election)

Steve Austin, KD7NMS (First Term expires end of 2011. Eligible for re-election)

Tom Evans, KD8HSA (First Term expires end of 2011. Eligible for re-election)

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI (First Term expires end of 2010. Eligible for re-election)

Don Russell, W8PEN (First Term expires end of 2010. Eligible for re-election)

Those running for Leadership Roles in the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club for the year 2011 are as follows:

President: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Vice President: Tom Evans, KD8HSA
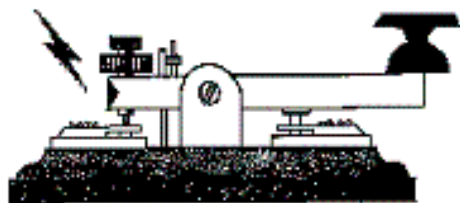Jon Penko, KD8LFI
Mark Bisenius, AC8FV

Secretary: Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Treasurer: Barry Butz, N8PPF
Jim Jennessee, KD8UT

Board of Directors:

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI
Don Russell, W8PEN

Please see ballot at the end of the Newsletter and vote for your choice.

KC8YLD NAMED TO OHIO SECTION CABINET

Ohio Section Manager Frank Piper, KI8GW, recently announced the appointments of three people to serve on the Ohio Section Cabinet. Topping the list of new appointees is MVARC's own KC8YLD who accepted the position to be Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator. McCardel replaces long-time ACC Joanne Solak, KJ3O. Joanne resigned the position in October due to personal reasons.

McCardel's term begins immediately.

Profiles of the appointees follow.

AFFILIATED CLUB COORDINATOR: Edwin Michael "E. Mike" McCardel. KC8YLD

"E. Mike", as his friends call him, lives in Danville, in rural Knox County. He and his youngest son, Zach, KC8YLE, became hams together in 2003. A father of five and grandfather of three, he is the Manager of Kenyon College's Desktop Support Department. E. Mike has been active with his hobby, joining the ARRL and the Mount Vernon Amateur radio Club (MVARC). He has served MVARC as President, served on many committees, organizes and serves as liaison for their VE team. E. Mike Is active with Skywarn and special activities. He assists with the teaching of MVARC's Technician preparation class, and has mentored others in obtaining their general and Extra Class tickets. He serves as Communications Director for Kenyon's Earth Day Marathon, coordinating hams from four different clubs in assisting with this growing event's race day communication needs. He is a regular contributor to MVARC's newsletter "CQ". E. Mike enjoys contesting, APRS, collecting QSL cards, traffic handling and experimenting. He serves as a net control for the Knox County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, and holds membership with Intercity Radio Club and OSSBN, and was appointed a PIO by the late Joe Philips, K8QOE (SK). E. Mike claims that he enjoys sharing his hobby as much as he enjoys operating. His other interests include geocaching, astronomy, map collecting and baseball research.

E. Mike describes his life as one of service, motivation and dedication. His career path has been eclectic, holding such positions as Teacher, Coach, MRDD trainer, Camp Ground Manager and Retailer. He is most proud of his role of Husband and Father. He will draw from all his experiences, personal and professional to serve and assist Ohio and the ARRL with the growth and betterment of its Hams.

"Ohio's 90 some clubs have a long and storied history. Ohio clubs are active, growing and thriving. I see my job as the ACC to assist our clubs in receiving the credit they deserve, to support their missions and to assist their transitions as they change officers and grow in membership. I can best assist them by sharing ideas, not just my own, but best practices and activities from amongst all the clubs. I also hope to encourage clubs working together for the benefit of all."

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR: JIM YODER, W8ERW

Jim Yoder of Tiffin replaces out-going TC Tom Holmes, NZ8M. Tom resigned the position in Late September. Jim's term as TC starts immediately.

Jim will be overseeing all the Technical Specialists in the Ohio Section, whose services are available for all Amateur Radio operators in the Ohio Section.

A little information on Jim is as follows…

Jim is a lifelong Ohio resident, having gotten his start in Fostoria at a very slight 3 lbs and 11 Oz. Having grown up in Fremont, Jim started his career with Ohio Bell as a Lineman and progressed into Cable Splicing, and then to Marketing. Jim transferred to AT&T when the Bell System was broken up and eventually found his retirement after nearly 34 year at the Columbus Works of Lucent Technologies. After retirement, Jim relocated to Tiffin Ohio where he resides with his very supportive fiancé, Jeanne. Jim currently works as an Equipment Technician at ICP where he manages an Oxygen Transfill operation and services medical equipment.

Always interested in electronics and often in the shack of the original W8ERW, Phil Summers, a great uncle, Jim finally took the plunge in 1990 and was first licensed as a Novice with the call of KB8LDG. Over the years Jim upgraded to Technician, Advanced and then to Extra. Along about 1997, Jim took advantage of the Vanity Call program and acquired W8ERW.

Jim's interest lies in rag chewing on HF, working the local repeaters, experimenting, Packet Radio, ARES and most of all, helping others enjoy the hobby that he loves. Jim is a VE and enjoys the test sessions that often produce a new Ham or more. Jim also serves as the Public Information Officer for Seneca County ARES.

According to Jim, the most significant aspect of his Amateur Radio experience, is the wonderful associations with other Hams over the last 20 years and the opportunity to work with many of them as they begin their own Amateur Radio experience.

ASSISTANT SECTION MANAGER, CENTRAL OHIO REGION: FRITZ TENDER, WD8E

The Ohio Section now has a new Assistant Section Manager (ASM) for the Central Ohio Region. Fritz Tender, WD8E takes over for outgoing ASM Steve Katz, N8WL. Steve resigned his role in October.

Some background on Fritz:

After graduating from High School (1966), Fritz enrolled at Electronic Institute (EI) in Pittsburgh Pa. While attending EI he earned a Novice license (WN3IDW) and latter a Technician (WA3IDW) license. Soon after graduating (1968) Fritz moved to Newark Ohio for employment, requested an "8" land call and was issued WB8HII which he held until mid 1980's when he upgraded to Extra.

Fritz retired in March 2002 from the federal government with 34 years' service. He began his career as an Inertial Guidance Digital Computer Repairmen working on Minuteman I ICBM guidance systems and concluded as Program Management Analyst. Along the way Fritz earned a Master of Science in Administration (MSA) from Central Michigan University.

Fritz enjoys many facets of the hobby including ARES, DXing, Teaching Amateur classes, and acting as a Volunteer Examiner (VE). Fritz enjoys the fraternal aspect of Amateur Radio when attending Hamfests, dinners, and club meetings. Fritz is the founding member of two clubs, Central Ohio Operators Klub Extra-Novice (COOKEN) of which he is a Trustee and the second being the Mid Ohio Chapter 212 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, where Fritz serves as the current president.

As a teacher, first at the Licking County Joint Vocational School and second as a countywide substitute, Fritz observed firsthand the natural curiosity of youth. Fritz feels we must not miss any opportunity to expose our hobby to young people be it a display at a mall, field day, or an invitation to a club meeting. Greet them with a smile and show them how much fun amateur radio can be.

Zen and the Art of Radiotelegraphy

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One thing that I find amusing about Morse Code is that the more people claim that it's dead, the more people there are that rise up to defend and promote it. Note that I said "defend and promote it," not actually use it, but that topic is for another column.

Having said that, let me direct you to a new tome on our ancient art, Zen and the Art of Radiotelegraphy by Carlo Consoli, IK0YGJ. This book is available as a free download in the original Italian

(http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART_ita_v20100826.pdf)

and in an English translation

(http://www.qsl.net/ik0ygj/enu/ZART_r20101008m.pdf).

What makes this book different from others is that instead of concentrating on the mechanics of learning and using Morse Code, the author spends a good deal of time talking about the psychology of learning this skill. To succeed in learning Morse Code, Consoli advises that we need to change our approach to learning:

"When learning CW, therefore, we must establish a new component in our self-image and, when doing so, we need to be relaxed. Always practice during the same time of day and in a place where you can experience positive feelings of comfort and pleasure. When we make a mistake we are always ready to blame ourselves. This is the way we learnt from our environment during childhood, often accepting any fault as our own error or weakness.

This potentially destructive mechanism can be used to build a positive self-image, rather than demolish it. A mistake must be considered a signal, pointing us in the right direction. If you fail, let your mistake pass away, with no blame or irritation. Learn CW in a relaxed mood, enjoy the pleasure of learning something new, repeat your exercises every day and be confident in the self-programming abilities of your self-image. Just a few minutes a day: you can take care of your 'more serious' stuff later on."

Consoli also has some interesting things to say about getting faster. He agrees with me that it's essential to abandon pencil and paper and start copying in one's head. We also agree that at this point, you need to start using a paddle instead of a straight key.

He has analyzed the situation a lot more than I have, though. When hams ask me how I learned to copy in my head, all I can do is to relate my own experience, which is that one day, I just went cold turkey. I put down the pencil and paper and never copied letter-by-letter ever again.

Unfortunately, that doesn't seem to work for a lot of operators. If that doesn't work for you, Consoli says that what you need to do is to program yourself to copy in your head. You do this, he says, by relaxing and visualizing. Visualize yourself as a high-speed operator, and one day, you will be one.

That seems to have worked for him. He is a member of the Very High Speed Club (VHSC), First Class Operator's Club (FOC), and has been clocked at copying over 70 wpm.

Will it work for you? I'm not sure, but if you haven't been successful with other methods to improve your code speed, then Consoli's methods are certainly worth a try.

Ham Radio and Boy Scouts – A lesson in "Be Prepared"

By Jon Penko, KD8LFI - Scout Master (740)-501-4382 -

Since my wife and I were blessed with 3 boys, my involvement in Boys Scouts of America was inevitable. In 2005-6 I was thrust into a leadership position of a local Boy Scout troop and for the past 5 years have been on quite an adventure. Many of you that were in the Scouting program will know what I am talking about. There was the 30 mile canoe trip down the Muskingum river and through the Zanesville locks, the -17 degree winter camp, and the massive summer camp water ball war. I witnessed the determination to succeed and the temporary failures as well as the helping hands and encouragement. It is a special blessing to witnessing a young boy transformed through real life experiences into a productive, caring, young man. Oh yes back to ham radio….

One of the goals of BSA is to prepare the youth for life situations through training and real life experience. Shortly after becoming a ham I realized this "toy" could be promoted to the youth as a tool for the scout moto "Be Prepared". You never know when you will be called upon to serve in an emergency situation such as an organized search, or in the middle of a disaster. Training is the best way to be prepared.

I would like to congratulate the following youth and adults

on their call signs and approaching their 1 year anniversary.

> KD8LTA – Tyler
> KD8NGQ – Haddon
> KD8NJS – Kyle
> KD8NGR – Dave

These boys are one step closer to being prepared!! Welcome to Ham Radio!!!

Following is what the Scouts have been doing with Ham radio.

Road Trip
One weekend in January, February, and March the Crooksville recreation center holds a merit badge college. This is a chance for the boys to advance their scouting career by earning up to 5 merit badges. Ham radio fits in by providing communications between the cars for the road trip.   The boys keep everyone coordinated so no one gets lost at the same time they discuss everything from camp plans to homework, girls and cars.

Summer Camp
One week in the summer the boys go to BSA Camp for a week. The boys work on merit badges during the day and in the evening they are challenged with the evening activities. Tired boys make a peaceful evening for the Scoutmaster. Due to BSA child protection policies the youth are not to have cell phones while on camp grounds. There have been cases where the cameras on the phones were used in inappropriate ways. Our troop uses ham radio and the Coshocton repeater to help keep track of where boys are and where help is needed. The boys with the ham license have earned their right to use their radio's and assist with the activities.   This past summer we even had a chance to string an antenna in the trees and made contact with Zanesville.

Troop Meetings
In November the troop did 1 mile hike with a map and compass(1st class rank requirement 2). The boys were given a map and told to follow the course on the map and while they were at it measure how far they traveled. The skill was to use their calibrated pace to tell how far they traveled. During this hike the boys that were hams kept in touch and were able to ask questions along the way. It was a blessing to see how the older boys helped the younger boys.

Litter Quitter
As a service project the scouts have adopted Upper Gilchrest road. Signs are posted along the road. Three times a year the boys split into groups and pick up the trash along the road.   Ham radio is used to help coordinate the groups and the boys chat over the air while they pick up the trash.

Camping

Three times a year the BSA council has a camporee where the different troops camp for the weekend and do various activities during the day. Many times this is a competition. This past Fall the boys organized themselves into two patrols with a ham in each group. The boys were able to communicate to each other and warn the other group what was coming and how to be prepared. Last spring the troop went on a 30 mile Muskingum river trip from Coshocton to Zanesville. While on the river I was able to use the Coshocton and Zanesville repeaters to keep folks informed as to our progress over the 2 day trip.

The scouts have used Ham radio in a practical way over the past year. As a leader of boys it has allows us to keep the boys safer and to react faster to the needs of the youth. The goal has been to train the boys to be more prepared for that emergency.

If you would like to get involved with training the youth of today and the leaders of tomorrow here is how. The BSA spring camporee theme is "It's a disaster". It takes placed on April 16th at the Muskingum Valley Scout reservation just south of Coshocton. We are currently in the planning stages of this big event where the boys will be trained for part of the day then asked to show their skills in simulated disasters. We will be setting up a command center, a Red Cross shelter, as well as a communications trailer. We will use these tools in several large scale disasters such as bus and car accidents, a fire, a flood, a hurricane, and a simulated plane crash. Just to name a few. We are in need of ham operators to be at the event to be at each station and teach the boys how to report a disaster to the command center and to promote the hobby. I will have more information in later articles. Please feel free to contact Jon Penko at jpenko@columbus.rr.com with any questions.

KD8LFI – Jon (Scoutmaster Troop 377)

CW Batting Cage

By Mark Bisenius, AC8FV

What if you could stop off at a batting cage every night for free?

You'd get really good in no time, and it would be a heck of a lot of fun.

Does such a place exist? Don, W8PEN, gave directions to it in the February 2010 Newsletter. And you guessed right. Instead of baseballs, it pitches letters of the alphabet at
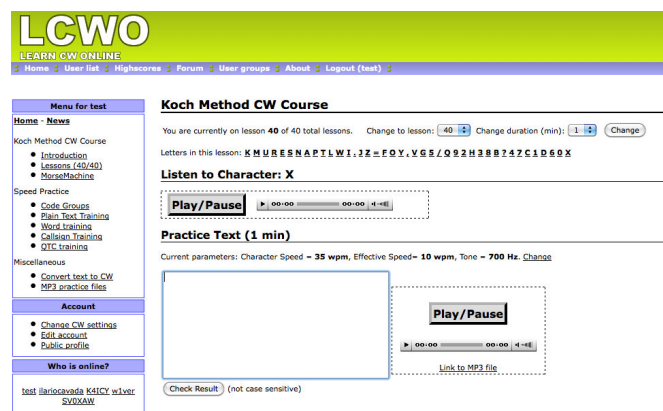
you in Morse code!

Just stop by http://lcwo.net/ (Learn CW Online). It's free.

Using the Koch Method, you start right out at Character Speed = 20 wpm, but with an Effective Speed = 10 wpm, which creates "Farnsworth spacing" between the characters, while still averaging over 13 wpm. When you can copy for 1 minute with over 90% accuracy, you add the next character. After 41 characters you're done. Then you whittle away at the "Farnsworth spacing," until you're copying at a full 20 wpm.

If you've always wanted to learn CW, this is as easy as it gets!

There are no audio glitches through a cable modem, and each practice file is randomly generated, "perfect" code. You start with fixed 5 character word groups, but you really want to switch to random 2-7 character "words" after about the first five letters.

I begin each night listening to the newer characters, and sounding them out with this chart, to reinforce their rhythm: http://morsecode.scphillips.com/morse.html.

Then I set the duration to five minutes, which gives me time to relax and copy away, without really "thinking" about it. That way, you learn to miss characters and keep on going. When I'm ready, I set the duration to 1 minute and grade for accuracy.

About a quarter of the way through the alphabet, I just couldn't get 90% accuracy anymore. I was hunched over the desk, writing smaller and smaller. After about two weeks of this, I added 2 new letters the same night.

The next night, I set the rate to a full 24 wpm, so that when I slowed down again, it would be easier. I started picking out the two new letters right away at 24 wpm, but all my previous letters were a blur. How could this be?

If I had read "The Art and Skill of Radio-Telegraphy," available as a free download at http://www.qsl.net/n9bor/n0hff.htm, I would have known that "if you do not instantly recognize the sound of any

character, you have not really learned it yet."

So I hadn't really learned any of my letters. Even at 20 wpm, my brain was busy analyzing the "dits" and "dahs," compared to similar letters, instead of instantly recognizing the whole sound of each letter as a reflex.

The book quotes Thomas Edison from 1902: "It is not the speed at which a letter is sounded that perplexes the learner, but the rapid succession in which they follow each other." So, I finally settled on Character Speed = 35 wpm, Effective Speed = 10 wpm. At this speed, I hear each character only as a complete sound. I either instantly recognize it--or not. Now, I lean back in my chair with a clipboard and headphones, and just relax.

CW is a different way of learning for me, because it's 100% auditory. "Translating," "picturing," "analyzing," or "thinking," will just slow you down. Dots and dashes, and even charts, are a curse--because visual learning is not involved.

When you finish learning your characters, or if you just need a tune up for Field Day, there's plain text and call sign training for speed practice. Then it's time to take your test. What test?

The ARRL holds "Qualifying Runs" twice a month at 5-40 wpm on HF, just for the fun and challenge of it. One minute of perfect copy will earn you a handsome Code Proficiency Certificate for your wall. It's $10.00. An endorsement sticker for each higher speed is $7.50.

Sorry, driving to Cleveland, and sending code at 20 wpm in front of an FCC Examiner, is no longer offered!

Engineer Volunteers offer Free Advise to Radio Amateurs

Several years ago, the ARRL established an appointment for engineers who are willing to provide initial, free advice to amateurs with engineering issues related to Amateur Radio. These Volunteer Consulting Engineers (VCEs) are available to help hams address structural requirements set forth in local zoning authorities.

An up-to-date list of VCEs in Ohio can be found at the end of this article and on the GLD website -- www.arrl-greatlakes.org. Click on the Staff icon at the left of the home page and then on Volunteer Consulting Engineers to reach the lists.

Engineers who would like to consider becoming a VCE are invited to click on the To Become A Volunteer

Consulting Engineer link at the bottom of the right-hand column of the VCE list. Here, one can review details of this position and apply for an appointment if they choose.

**Ohio Volunteer
Consulting Engineers**

OH (VCE)
Stanley Cohen, W8QDQ
2301 Royal Oak Ct
Cincinnati OH 45237-2939
Day Phone: (513) 531-1011

OH (VCE)
Herbert R. Nichols, N9HN
7446 Quail Run Dr
West Chester OH 45069-1015
Day Phone: (513) 779-1538
Night Phone: (513) 484-7627
E-mail: n9hn@arrl.net

OH (VCE)
Steven O. Putman, N8ZR
1934 Campus Dr
Fairborn OH 45324-3951
Day Phone: (937) 781-1062
Night Phone: (937) 879-7483
E-mail: n8zr@arrl.net

E. Michael McCardel, KC8YLD

Radio-Activity
By Don Russell, W8PEN

One may have noticed the absence of updates on my moonbounce project. I have put this off for a while as being too expensive and time consuming. I still want to do it sometime, but I have been waiting 40 years. Another year or two will not hurt. Perhaps when I retire?

My thoughts have been on another project that I have often considered. One that I have all the ingredients to accomplish so the price would be minimal. Readers may want to call this "Deep Wish Two".

For those of you who are members of the ARRL or at least read QST magazine on a regular basis, articles on remote controlling ham radio via the internet are very common. Usually not in a step by step fashion; just a few tips on how it can be done, or an "off the shelf" purchase that will allow this to happen.

There are many possible pluses for being able to control

a ham radio from a remote location over the internet. Here are just a few off the top of my head:

1. If you have antenna restrictions or a poor location, a radio can be set up at a choice site and controlled via the internet using your home computer.
2. A group can go together in purchasing a radio, computer, antennas, etc. This radio can then be set up at one of the groups home and shared by all. Cheaper to share a radio than to buy individual radios.
3. Number 2 can be extended having a radio set up that can be used by new hams just graduating from a ham class. Most households now have at least one computer capable of controlling a device over the internet. Then as one gains experience, they can buy their own equipment. Note I am talking mostly about HF here. Echolink does a fine job for the new tech's. Although 6 meters on the remote radio would not be out of the question.
4. It may even be possible to run the remote radio during a natural disaster or public service event. Imagine the remote radio being located outside the affected area with a good location, high antennas, and commercial power.

My desires go along with number two of the above. I think it would be nice to install a remote controlled ham radio that members of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club could access over the internet. This would allow members access to the HF bands without actually owning their own HF radio or setting up antennas. Ideal for the apartment dweller too.

The set up would be a simple one. One radio capable of 160 - 10 meters. Perhaps 6 and 2 meters will be included. The antenna would be a 160 meter windom that works on all bands via an automatic antenna tuner. If 6 meters is available, there will be a 3 element fixed pointed beam. 2 meters would use a J-Pole antenna. Members wishing to participate would have a user name and password. When accessing this internet radio, the user would be the control operator and be responsible for operating the station in accordance with his / her license and FCC rules and use their own call letters. Possibly, the user name and password would be used to determine what bands would be available. These things would need to be worked out.

Available modes would be SSB, FM, CW, and Digital.

I have been reading on the internet how to make this project happen. Looks like the biggest problem is going to be acquiring a static (fixed) internet address that will not change if the internet connection is broken and then reestablished. Sounds simple enough to purchase a domain name. Or perhaps I can get a page on the MVARC web page for this purpose.

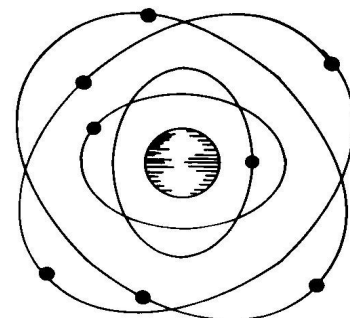The main steps required to get this project under way

would be:

1. Get the remote radio working with software capable of remote control over the internet. The obvious choice here is Ham Radio Deluxe (HRD), which has been mentioned in previous MVARC newsletters. HRD can actually be set up for controlling a radio over the internet. Once HRD is controlling the radio, the rest should be easy(!). The user would also have to have HRD installed on their computer.
2. A soundcard interface, as well as PPT control will be required. This of course is for running audio via the internet and keying of the transmitter. My interface does both, so I should be in good shape there. Not sure how it would work out on the digital modes. I do not think I would need two soundcards, but if I do, they are relatively inexpensive and should not pose a problem.
3. There needs to be a way to send audio back and forth over the internet. There is a program some readers may be familiar with called "Skype". This program allows computer users to talk back and forth among other computer users just like Echolink does. This program has been used by some hams remote controlling their radios over the internet without any problems. I believe there is another program call "Microsoft Net Meeting" that can be used also, as well as others. The more I look, the more I find! This area needs researched a bit more before committing to any audio scheme.
4. Fancy features such as antenna switching and rotator control can be added at a later date.

So there you have it. As I get time (may be plenty of that with winter coming) I will be working on developing this and will keep readers abreast of any progress. There is no time factor involved here. It will get done when it gets done, if ever.

I might add that I may be asking for help from some of our members more knowledgeable than I am as far as setting up things on the internet. I do like to go it alone as much as possible though. I feel I learn more if I figure it out by myself.

See you at the Christmas Dinner scheduled for December 12, 2010 at Allison's Finer Diner, 6:00PM.

MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BALLOT FOR 2011 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)

[　] ARLIN BRADFORD, KD8EVR

[　] Write in _____

VICE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)

[　] Mark Bisenius, AC8FV

[　] Tom Evans, KD8HSA

[　] Jon Penko, KD8LFI

[　] Write in _____

SECRETARY (VOTE FOR ONE)

[　] JEFF BUTZ N8SMT

[　] WRITE IN_____

TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE)

[　] BARRY BUTZ, N8PPF

[　] Jim Jennessee, KD8UT

[　] Write in_____

DIRECTOR   (VOTE FOR TWO)

[　] Ruben Clark, KB2SAI   [　] WRITE IN:_____

[　] Don Russell, W8PEN   [　] WRITE IN:_____

Note: Ballots may be presented in person or by proxy Sunday Dec 12, 2010 during the Club meeting to be held at *Allison's Finer Diner* at 6:00 pm, or be delivered by mail to the following by December 10, 2010:

Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, 23449 Bear Run Road, Danville, Ohio 43013-9644

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_____

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

No_____Yes_____ If yes please enter password_____

Other Comments: