



Ham Radio Rocks!

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club December, 2012 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)

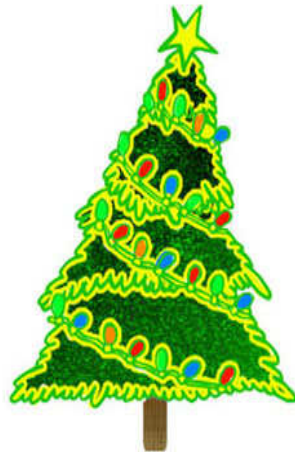
KD8EVR Repeater: 442.100 Mhz (+5Mhz With PL of 71.9 Hz)

**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**



Annual Christmas Dinner to be Saturday December 8th

The clubs annual Christmas dinner and December meeting will be held at **R&M's Southside Dinner, 620 South Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.** **Please note that this is a different location from last years dinner.**



Dinner will be in the Banquet Room. Enter the main door, make a right and proceed to the back.

As a reminder, members are responsible for their own bill.

There will be a short meeting and we will be voting on officers for 2013. This is also a good time to renew your dues for 2013.

Monthly Club Breakfast Moved to December 15th

To accommodate The Christmas Dinner, the Clubs monthly Breakfast will be moved to Saturday, December 15th 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Dinner.

The next meeting of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be Saturday, December 8, 2012 at 6:00 P.M. at R&M's Southside Dinner, 620 South Main Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. This is the clubs annual Christmas dinner and club meeting. Members will be sitting in the back dining area.

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 December 15, 2012 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio****

Please note that this is a week later than our normal schedule due to our Christmas Dinner / December meeting scheduled for December 8th

Election of 2013 Officers

The following club members are running for leadership positions for 2013:

President:

Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR
Jim Jenness, KD8UT

Vice President:

Don Russell, W8PEN

Secretary:

Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Treasurer:

Barry Butz, N8PPF

Board of Directors (2):

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI
Emory Bennett, W8TW
David Bird, KD8RST
Don Blizzard, W8UMH

Please see the ballot at the end of this Newsletter. There will also be ballots available at our Christmas Dinner & December meeting.

MVARC

Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club Minutes, October 2012 Meeting.

Attendees:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Matt Ware | KD8PSK |
| 2. Larry Helzer DVM | AA8WP |
| 3. Tom Evans | KD8HSA |
| 4. Don Russell | W8PEN |
| 5. Ralph Hoffman | W8LFR |
| 6. David Byrd | KD8RST |
| 7. Mike McCardel | KC8YLD |
| 8. Jim Jenness | KD8UT |
| 9. Carl Payne | AC8LQ |
| 10. Jeff Butz | N8SMT |

Vice President Ware opened the meeting at 7:11 P.M.

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

President: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR
kd8evr@mvarc.net
Phone: 740-627-0922

V. President: Matt Ware, KD8PSK
Mware11@msn.com
Phone: 614-580-7520

Secretary: Jeff Butz, N8SMT
jaylynn4@gmail.com
Phone: 740-965-9368

Treasurer: Barry Butz, N8PPF
N8ppf@mvarc.net
Phone: 740-397-7540

Trustee: Don Russell, W8PEN
W8pen@arrl.net
Phone: 740-397-0249

Directors:

Mike McCardel, KC8YLD
Kc8yld@arrl.net
Phone: 740-599-6614

Tom Evans, KD8HSA
tom65@embarqmail.com
Phone: 740-625-5138

Larry "Doc" Helzer, AA8WP
aa8wplarry@yahoo.com
740-392-8836

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI
Kb2sai@mvarc.net
Phone: 740-326-4151

Don Russell, W8PEN
W8pen@arrl.net
Phone 397-0249

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

New Business:

Don Russell announced that a new Technician's Class instruction program will be starting in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

things are currently running smoothly. If anyone is interested in running the Monday Night Net to please contact him and he will provide the outline for running the Net.

President Bradford brought up the subject of office nominations and a selection committee. Emery Bennett and David Byrd volunteered to be the selection committee.

The following nominations were offered from the floor and accepted:

- President: Jim Jennessee
- V. President: Don Russell
- Secretary: Jeff Butz
- Treasurer: Barry Butz
- Trustee: Ruben Clark
- Trustee: Emery Bennett
- Trustee: David Byrd

The Nomination Committee will add to the list before the next meeting.

Old Business:

New Meeting Site:

Arlin stated that the County Building on Pittsburgh Avenue is not available and he is continuing discussions with the County Commissioners. A suggestion was made to inquire about the Apple Valley Community Center. Jim Jennessee said he would inquire further.

New Business:

Arlin stated that Allison's was out for our Christmas Party and suggested the R&M's Southside Diner at 620 S. Main St. Mt Vernon. Jim Jennessee made a motion to have the Christmas Dinner at R&M Diner and was seconded by Charles Fisher. The motion was passed by voice vote. The Christmas Dinner will be December 8th at 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 P.M.

MVARC

**Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club
Minutes, November 2012 Meeting.**



By Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Attendees:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------|
| 1. Larry Helzer DVM | AA8WP |
| 2. Jim Jennessee | KD8UT |
| 3. David Byrd | KD8RST |
| 4. Tom Evans | KD8HSA |
| 5. Matt Ware | KD8PSK |
| 6. Arlin Bradford | KD8EVR |
| 7. Emery Bennett | W8TW |
| 8. Ruben Clark | KB2SAI |
| 9. Melinda Clark | KD8RZZ |
| 10. Charles Fisher | KD8NGP |
| 11. Don Russell | W8PEN |
| 12. Mike McCardel | KC8YLD |
| 13. Jeff Butz | N8SMT |
| 14. Barry Butz | N8PPF |
| 15. Frank Counts | KC8EVS |

President Bradford opened the meeting at 7:08 P.M.

Barry Butz gave the Treasurer's Report and suggested to put the 50/50 donations, which are currently going into the repeater fund to be put in the Field Day Fund. Jeff Butz made a motion to do this. The motion was seconded by Charles Fisher and passed by voice vote.

Jeff Butz gave the Secretary's Report from last month.

Ruben Clark gave the E.C. report and stated that



AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS



KC8YLD

It's that time of year. Holiday Parties, Annual Meetings, Elections, Parades, Special Events. Clubs all over the state are quite busy. I would like to remind everyone. Now is the time to update your ARRL Affiliated Club listing AKA Annual Report. It's fine if you have done this earlier this year. Please take the time to double check that everything is up to date.

To help here is a PDF tutorial for updating your club file.

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Clubs/Club%20Update%20procedure_20120313a.pdf

This tutorial walks you right through the whole process step by step. You can even add media, links and files to your listing. Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, has done a wonderful job putting this together.

If you run into any problems, contact me. I am more than willing to offer a helpful hand.

Here are some other hints. Make sure you change your Annual Report date each time you make a change, even if you do it more than once a year. Another is filling in the Club Description. List the type of activities you club does. Make it fun. Make sure the link to your Webpage is correct and up to date. Most of all make sure you answer YES to the question "Should prospective amateurs be referred to this club?"

Keeping this information fresh is paramount to attracting new members and keeping your club vibrant. Think back to when you got started, especially if you went it alone. You were new, didn't know other hams, were unaware that a club met just down the street from you. New hams look for this stuff online, make sure you are found and that your information is up to date.

Around the Ohio Section

Lake Erie ARA

Gary Zimnet, WA8TLJ is new president. He succeeds Alex Manuk, WD8JMM. Bryan Torok, N8OOF, was elected as a vice-president to succeed Gary. They are holding their Holiday Dinner at Harry's Steakhouse November 27th.

Alliance ARC New Officers Announced for 2013 officers are:

President: Frank WA8WHP

V. President: Mary, KD8RFZ

Secretary: Don, AB8KV

Treasurer: MaryAnn, KB8IVS

Trustee:

Tony, KD8BBK

Ben, KD8KMQ

Steve, KB8RFE

This is the first election in a long time where every position was contested.

They recently held their fourth Homebrew Night. I look forward to seeing the results.

Delaware ARA

They are celebrating their Nationwide 2nd place in Class 4A from last Summers Field Day. DELARA members recently made a field trip to Pennsylvania to visit legendary contester Tim Duffy, K3LR. Delaware is sponsoring the Worked All Delaware County Ohio Award (WADCO). To earn this award, make a radio contact with each of the 18 townships within Delaware County, Ohio. This award is free and paperless. Check out their website <http://www.k8es.org/>

Lake County ARA

Will hold their election December 5. Their last Ham Exam for the year is December 1 at the Kirtland Library. Testing starts at High Noon!

They recently built Powerpole Polarity testers.

The Buckeye Belles

The only Buckeye Belles net still going is at 9 AM Eastern time Mondays (1400 GMT/UTC) on 3950 + or - Sue Simpson N8AJU will continue to edit the Buckeye Burr even though she has recently taken on the responsibility was elected to fill a vacancy for a national director of the QCWA.

Greater Cincinnati ARA

Greater Cincinnati ARA will hold its elections November 28 at their meeting at the Breeze Manor. Scott Henninger W8GS was conferred the Title of

Director Emeritus Mark Young, N2OJD and Paul Flaughner, KB8ANY were the winners of the GCARA Hamfest 2012 Hidden Transmitter Hunt

Mount Vernon ARC

Mount Vernon will hold their elections at their December meeting December 8 at their annual meeting and dinner. Club editor Don Russell, W8PEN wrote about his experience putting Linux on old PCs.

Western Reserve ARC

Held their annual election November 20 If members have questions for an Elmer they can contact ask@wrarc.net for answers. They also conduct an Ask The Elmer Net immediately after their Friday Night Net WRACR announces they will sponsor a series of workshops beginning Saturdays January 2013 at ITT Tech. "The important thing is to never stop learning something new" Alan AB8AA.

Massillon ARC

MARC will hold its elections in December with a new twist. The President is elected directly as opposed to moving into the position from the VP position, there will no longer be a two year term limit and no waiting period to run again. Simplifying rules helps in the long run.

They supported the Massillon Holiday Parade November 17.

They just completed their version of a Triple Crown by participating in the following events in one weekend:

1. 85th Anniversary W8NP on-air special event.
2. Tappan Lake Island, IOTA operating event. (Islands on the air) 3.
3. Boy Scout JOTA event at a local campground. (Jamboree on the Air)

Until next month, have fun and get out of meeting mode!

73,

E.Mike McCardel, KC8YLD
Ohio Section Affiliated Club Coordinator
kc8yld@arll.net

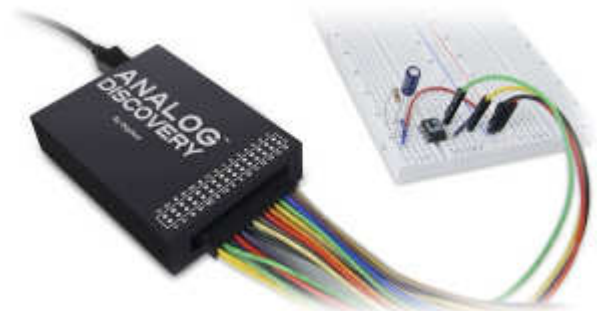
Oscilloscope on Your Laptop



By Mark Bisenius, AC8FV

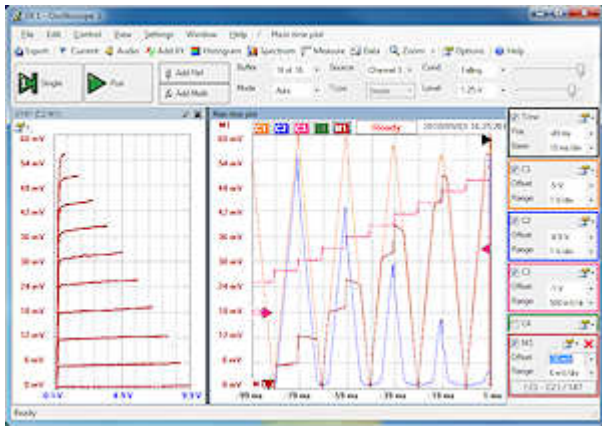
The Analog Explorer is an electronics lab in a box, with a dual-channel oscilloscope, waveform generator, logic analyzer, digital pattern generator, spectrum analyzer, programmable dual power supplies, network analyzer, multimeter, etc.

A \$10,000 lab bench crammed into your laptop for just \$199. (Students get it for \$99.)

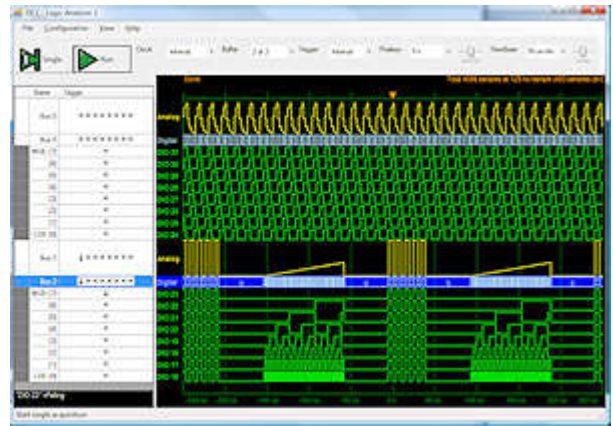


Analog Discovery Module

It's USB powered with a cable that plugs into your laptop, so it can go anywhere.



Oscilloscope



Logic Analyzer

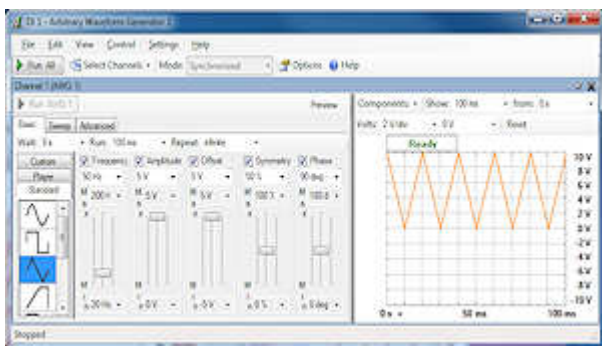
Waveforms is the free software package that comes with the kit, with screens for the oscilloscope, arbitrary waveform generator, digital pattern generator, logic analyzer, power supplies and voltmeters, and static I/O devices like switches, displays, LEDs, and push buttons. It runs on Windows XP and later.

What a great way for students and us newer hams to get into electronics.

The Waveforms software integrates the Analog Discovery module with the optional Electronics Explorer Board and the Analog Parts Kit available at DigilentInc.com.

Documentation, demos, reference designs, and lab projects are free downloads.

There are all kinds of other microprocessors, chips and boards on the website. So cut up your credit card now.



Arbitrary Waveform Generator

Used for lab "homework" by engineering students, even veteran hams and electronics wizards will be impressed.

The dual power supplies have independently programmable voltage and current settings up to 2A, as well as fixed 5V and 3.3V supplies.

KB6NU builds an end-fed, half-wave antenna



KB6NU

I've always been interested in end-fed, half-wave antennas before, but until this recently, I'd never built one. One of the reasons for this is that most designs are for QRP antennas and not made to handle more than 5 – 10 W of power.

A couple of months ago, though, I ran across a design rated at 100 W

http://earchi.org/proj_homebrew.html

The design seemed relatively simple to build, requiring only a single toroid and a capacitor made with a short length of RG-174 coax. Well, it just so happens that I bought 100-ft. of RG-174 at Dayton this year, and I found the toroid cores online from the "Toroid King" for a very reasonable price, so I decided it was high time to build one.

All told, the parts cost about \$10, the biggest part of that being a 4-in. x 4-in. x 2-in. plastic junction box(Carlon E989NNJ-CAR) I got from Lowe's for \$6.41. Compare that with the \$60 that LNR wants for their end-fed antenna.

I put up the antenna about three weeks ago, on a beautiful fall Sunday, running 34 feet of wire up a trellis attached to a small deck in my backyard, then out to a tree near the back of my lot. With more than a little anticipation, I put the antenna analyzer on it, only to be somewhat disappointed with the readings. The SWR was 2.6:1 at 14.000 MHz, dropping to about 1.5:1 at 14.900 MHz.

Since the internal tuner on my IC-746PRO is supposed to be good to 3:1, I did use it and made a couple of contacts. A guy in MA even gave me a 599 signal report. So, while I was a little uncomfortable with an SWR so close to the limit of my tuner, it did seem to radiate pretty well.

I e-mailed the guy who published the design and asked why he thought the resonant frequency was so high, and he said that all I had to do was add a couple feet of wire to the antenna. I also did some more reading about end-feds and several websites suggested that adding a counterpoise might be a good idea, too.

A week later, I finally got back to playing with the antenna. I added 24-in. of wire to it, and it did indeed bring down the SWR of the antenna to below 2:1 in the CW portion of 20m. I'm happier with this. I made a couple of contacts that day, too, with both stations giving me good reports.

I still do plan to try a counterpoise. Not so much to improve the SWR, but to see if it makes the antenna a little more efficient.

Overall, this has been a fun project. I learned something about end-fed, half-wave antennas and saved a bunch of money by rolling my own. Isn't that what ham radio is all about?

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When he's not messing with antennas, Dan, KB6NU publishes the "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides. The latest in this series is the No-Nonsense Extra Class License Study Guide. For more information, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Treasurer's Report

Dec 1, 2012
for Nov 1 to Nov 30, 2012

<u>Balance on 11-1-12:</u>	\$ 2674.44
<u>Income:</u>	
Dues:	\$ 170.00
50-50:	\$ 25.00
Interest:	\$
Donations:	\$ 21.00
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Training Materials:	\$ 50.00
<u>Balance on 11-30-12:</u>	\$ 2840.44
<u>Designated Funds:</u>	
Year 2005 Repeater Fund:	\$ 536.39
Field Day Fund:	\$
46.00	
Communication Vehicle Fund:	\$
471.04	

Barry Butz N8PPF

Ham Classes to Begin January 17, 2013

A new Amateur Radio Technician Class course is tentiely scheduled to begin January 17, 2013. I just need to verify that Thursday nights are good and we can use the Red Cross training center. An updated flyer will be mailed to everyone if the dates or location changes.

Please see the flyer on the next page. Print it out and post it at appropriate places.

Invite your family and friends interested in ham radio to attend this class. It is free except for the testing in which we must follow FCC and ARRL pricing. The club does not make money on this venture. What we hope for is more members and more activity on our repeaters.

How do Weather Spotters communicate?

When Disaster Strikes, how will you communicate?

Ham Radio

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS...



AMATEUR RADIO



“Whether you want to be an effective weather spotter, useful during disasters, or just prepared, you really need a ham license.”

HAM RADIO CLASSES NOW FORMING FOR THE TECHICIAN CLASS LICENSE

Date: Begins Thursday, January 17th, 2013 and runs every Thursday through Feb. 28th from 7:00PM to 9:00PM. Exams will be held Saturday March 2nd.

Location: The Knox County American Red Cross, 300 North Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. We are using the Training Center, which is the building in back of the Headquarters.

Cost: The course and course material are FREE. Exam fee is \$15.00 due at the time of the exam.

Pre-Register or Walk ins welcome.

Who are Amateur Radio Operators? Anyone you know could be an Amateur Radio operator or "ham" --no matter what age, gender or physical ability. From ages 8 to 80, people in many countries of the world can have fun as radio amateurs. If you've had fun with CB radio or trying new things with your computer, wait till you see what you can do with ham radio!

Contact: Don Russell, W8PEN, w8pen@arri.net 740-397-0249
Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, kc8yld@arri.net 740-599-6614
Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, kd8evr@mvarc.net 740-627-0922

Visit our Web Page: <http://www.mvarc.net/>
Or our national club: <http://www.arri.org/>



**MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
BALLOT FOR 2013 CLUB OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)

Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Jim Jennessee, KD8UT

Write in _____

VICE PRESIDENT (VOTE FOR ONE)

Don Russell, W8PEN

Write in _____

SECRETARY (VOTE FOR ONE)

Jeff Butz, N8SMT

WRITE IN _____

TREASURER (VOTE FOR ONE)

Barry Butz, N8PPF

Write in _____

DIRECTOR (VOTE FOR TWO)

Ruben Clark, KB2SAI

Emory Bennett, W8TW

David Bird, KD8RST

Don Blizzard, W8UMH

Write in: _____

Write in: _____

Note: Ballots may be presented in person or by proxy by Saturday Dec 8, 2013. Bring to the Christmas Dinner at R&M's Southside Dinner or mail to:

Mt. Vernon ARC, Box 372, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050

Ballots will be available at the meeting.

