



Ham Radio Rocks

# The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club July, 2014 Newsletter



Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month at 7:00 PM 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**



## Field Day 2014 A Record Setter!

By Don Russell, W8PEN

### Problems, Problems!

Despite some unusual setbacks, the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Clubs participation in the 2014 ARRL Field Day event can only be defined as a major success.

A hint of what was to come began with the prompt 2:00PM crash of the server computer. For those not familiar with Field Day, the event starts at 2:00PM! So, even after considerable testing of the server computer at the Field site, the thing crashes right at start time.

The server computer was also being used as the CW station logging computer. This was done last year with no problems. Things were solved by moving the computer to the tent area where it had stable electricity. Not sure that was the problem, but except for an unexpected reboot of the server computer at about 2:00AM Sunday morning, everything went fine with the logging software.

After solving the computer issues, one other unexpected problem arose. The 20 meter station could not get a good antenna match to the 20 meter Extended Zepp antenna that I had tested the weekend before. Even after changing radios and trying a manual antenna tuner, we could not get the antenna working. So, the crew took down the problem antenna and put up a 40 – 10 meter Windom antenna in its place. This antenna seemed to work properly. However, at least an hour was lost trouble shooting this problem.

Then about the time everything was going good, a thunderstorm moved through the area forcing us to shut down operations for about an hour and a half.

The next meeting of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be Monday, July 14, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Cross Training Center, 300 North Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

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

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.

Retired club members meet each Friday at 10:00 AM for a breakfast at Hardy's, 998 Coshocton Ave., Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

Come enjoy some good Ham Radio Fellowship and conversations. Oh, you don't have to be retired to join us. Contact Emery Bennett W8TW or David Byrd KD8RST for more information.

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 Saturday, July 12, 2014 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio\*\*\*

Luckily, no other major problems arose the rest of the Field Day weekend and the rain and thunderstorms stayed away for the most part. The CW-Station did seem to fight problems almost continuously during most of Field Day. I believe the problem was in the Honda Generator I had bought. This generator does a fine job. It will last 10 hours on a tank of gas (which is only 0.6 gallons anyway) in the "economy" mode which slows the generators motor down when power drain is not too substantial. It will run 4 hours on a tank in regular mode. It is much quieter in economy mode, but is really not that bad in regular mode. I kept the generator in economy mode because I only brought a limited amount of gas and really did not want to go get more gas. Indeed, you could hear the generator sending Morse Code as the power drain fluctuated during keying.

I will consider the problem for next Field Day. There are a few possible solutions. One is to put the radio power supply across a battery and run the station off the battery with the power supply simply maintaining the battery. I actually thought about this before Field Day began and wish I would have went ahead and did it. I am thinking this would regulate the load on the generator somewhat.

The other option is to simply run the generator in regular mode and bring more fuel. I will experiment with this during the summer and see which seems to work the best.

### Antennas, Antennas!

The other problem that concerns me is the antenna issue. Most of our antennas have played pretty darn well. I am sure the problems we had this year was the exception. Heck it could have been an operator error on everyone including me! Come on; a manual antenna tuner should have been able to tune that antenna!

That being said, it is always fun to try new things.

Even though the CW station had an excellent year using the 80 – 10 meter Doublet, I am considering changing to an 80 – 10 meter Windom antenna for next year.

The big problem with the doublet is that it needs an antenna tuner. Last year I used my manual antenna tuner and it worked very well. This year I used my MFJ auto-tuner with mixed results. Some bands were fine, others a match was hard to find. I eventually switched back to the manual tuner.

With a Windom antenna, the internal auto-tuner in the radio will suffice (providing the radio has one).

At first I thought I would simply order the Radio Works 80 meter Windom antenna. I have the 160 meter version and it is a great antenna. However, after checking the pricing, I have reconsidered! I have enough baluns to build 3 Windom antennas. All I need is the wire and I will probably have enough of that once I look around. I would like to build at least one 80 meter Windom and one 40 meter Windom. These antennas would simply go into my Field Day box and be used at various club

operating events as needed. Even if I have to buy the wire, the cost will be way cheaper than buying the commercial version.

I am thinking I may want to build two 80 meter Windoms and one 40 meter Windom. One 80 meter Windom would be for the CW-Station (with the Doublet Antenna as a backup) and the other one would be a backup antenna for the 75 meter SSB station. Meaning if no one has an antenna for this station, we would use the Windom.

### Best Score Ever?

We did good this year. Yes, from all the documents I could find, this was our top year for total contacts and final score.

Here is a rundown of our contact total and score since 2003:

Year	Contacts CW	Contacts SSB	Total Contacts	Score
2003	N/A	N/A	477	1792
2004	215	836	1051	2532
2005	200	368	568	2226
2006	318	406	724	2904
2007	355	575	930	2570
2008	615	608	1223	3676
2009	500	626	1126	3252
2010	686	828	1514	4400
2011	642	567	1209	4892
2012	616	756	1372	3976
2013	727	558	1285	4040
<b>2014</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>5666</b>

In 2003 through 2005 the club set up at the Knox County Fair Grounds. In 2006 and 2007, the club used the Knox County Red Crosses Training Center. 2008 saw us at Doc's (AA8WP) place. From 2009 to present we have been setting up at Apple Valley.

For those of you interested, you can read past Field Day reports for 2006 to present in the July issue of the club Newsletter. 2004 results are in the August issue. There are incomplete results in the July 2005.

I think looking at these results show how the club has grown from being okay at Field Day to being consistently good at doing Field Day. The best SSB contact score was in 2010 with 828 contacts. The best CW result was this year at 805. The club has hit over 1,000 contacts a year for 7years straight. Pretty darn good in my mind.

The 1553 total contacts made this year is the highest contact total I could find on record. The score of 5666 is also the highest final score I could find on record.

Congratulations to all the club members who made this event a success. Special thanks to Matt Ware (KD8PSK) for organizing the Field Day Picnic and doing the majority of the grilling. Also to Jim (KD8UT) for providing the

Presidential Breakfast Sunday morning. Rumor had it he had lots of help though.

Field Day is exhausting, that is for sure. I guess it is a good thing it only comes once a year.

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 MEETING OF THE MVARC

Meeting called to order by President KD8UT at 7:05 P.M.

### OLD BUSINESS

KD8UT-Reported all went well with Tour De Cure.

KD8UT mentioned GOBA is June 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>. Not sure if we will be needed to provide communications for this event.

Treasurer's report approved.

Secretary's report approved.

Motion to spend \$200.00 for field day food. Motion-W8TW, 2<sup>nd</sup>-W8PEN. Approved.

Motion to Pay for 1 (one) General Class License manual. Motion-KC8EVS, 2<sup>nd</sup>-N8PPF. Approved.

KD8PSK-Go Box for Equipment being removed from ENCOMM Vehicle still in planning stages.

### NEW BUSINESS

Motion to file paperwork for re-instatement of club's incorporation status with the State of Ohio. Moved-KD8SWJ, 2<sup>nd</sup>-W8TW. Approved.

Members reminded set up for Field Day will begin Friday June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 2P.M.

Motion to adjourn meeting. Moved-N8PPF, 2<sup>nd</sup>-W8TW. Approved.

No 50/50 drawing this meeting.

15 Members present.

Members then informally discussed Field Day set up and equipment.

Respectfully submitted  
N8IBR Secretary MVARC

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# JUNE 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

## TREASURERS REPORT

Beginning Balance as of May 2014: \$3165.09

### May expenditures:

- (Check to Don Russell for newsletter supplies)  
\$100.00
- (Check for repeater insurance premium)  
\$75.00

### Funds received:

- (Dues and 50/50 drawing): \$22.00

### Account Balances as of June 2014:

- Certificate of Deposit #500  
\$810.15
- Certificate of Deposit #501  
\$578.19
- Checking  
\$487.78
- Savings  
\$1135.98
- Total Funds on Hand  
\$3012.09

Submitted KC8UR Treasurer MVARC

## New hams are different



By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

This is going to be a bit of a ramble, but I need to get some thoughts down about new hams, and maybe get some feedback on these ideas from both new hams and guys that have been around for a while.

Recently, I visited the All Hands Active (AHA) makerspace here in Ann Arbor. Several of the "makers" that use this space have recently gotten their ham licenses—most of them in one of my one-day Tech classes. I was down there trying to get them interested in attending Field Day, and in particular, in operating the GOTA station.

There were four of us sitting around, talking about amateur radio, the projects they were working on, Field Day, and other stuff. In the past, they had also expressed an interest in doing something with WA2HOM, our station at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. While it was a great discussion, it was apparent to me that it was going to be difficult to get them out for Field Day.

It dawned on me that these new radio amateurs were just not interested in the "old" amateur radio. Sitting in front of shortwave radios and exchanging fake signal reports with other guys sitting in front of shortwave radios is just not their idea of a good time. I think that if you take a step back and try to look at it through their eyes, you'll see where they're coming from.

What are they interested in? Well, one guy is having a blast playing around with RTL SDR dongles. He's also trying to figure out a way to rig up wireless link to light a light at bus stops around his house when a bus is approaching. Another is working on a Hinternet-type project. I helped him out a little bit last summer setting up a wireless node at his house.

This is perhaps one reason why there are so many more licensed radio amateurs these days, but yet there seems to be less activity on the HF bands these days. HF is just not where it's at for these new guys.

One consequence of this is that the old amateur radio clubs don't have much to offer the new guys. In fact, one of them told me that the one time that he attended the local club meeting, he got such a hostile response that he decided not to return.

I'm finding this all quite interesting. I do intend to pursue some kind of joint activities between the All Hands Active maker group and WA2HOM and see where that goes. They may not be interested in working DX on 20m, but they do seem to be interested in the IRLP node that we're in the process of installing there.

I'm not sure where this is all headed, but what I do know is that these folks have a lot of energy and creativity. If we can couple that with our knowledge and experience, then I think that we'll be a good fit for one another. It's going to take open minds all around, though.

I'm really interested in hearing from all of you about this. Have your clubs made contact with the "makers" in your area? Do any of them have ham radio licenses? Are there any interesting ham radio/maker projects going on in your area?

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When he's not thinking about the future of amateur radio, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands, teaching amateur radio classes, and building kits. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of amateur radio license study guides, go to KB6NU.Com or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).



So, we start by saying "Number 1", as this is the message number. Next we would say the word "Routine", for the Precedence. When giving the Handling Instructions, we would say: 'HOTEL, X-RAY, GOLF'. When giving the Handling Instructions, always pass them in the ITU Phonetic Alphabet.

We then have "The Station of Origin". This again given in phonetics: In this case we would say; "KILO, EIGHT, ECHO, ECHO, November." Then "Check" is given next, and we give it by saying: "Figures 1 (said as ONE) 0 (said as ZERO)." You do not say the number Ten (10), and you do not spell out the numbers in the check, you simply speak them individually.

The "place of origin" is given as "Mt Vernon Ohio". Some stations give the state abbreviations in phonetics instead of saying the name of the state. In this case they might say "OSCAR HOTEL," instead of saying "Ohio." We did not have a filing time, so we would move ahead to the Date and give it as "May, Figure One (1)". Again, we say the word "Figure" and then say the number "One" (1). We do not spell it phonetically, we just say it.

Now for the address, "We would present the address as follows; John 'Initial R Romeo', Doe, WB8JRZ." When giving a middle initial in a name, you always say the word Initial, and then say it phonetically as shown in our example. You don't give the amateur call in the address phonetically, unless the receiving station ask for a repeat of that information, then you would give it as "Amateur Call, WHISKEY BRAVO EIGHT JULIET ROMEO ZULU. Next is the street address; '234 Second Street'. Then the city or town, state, and zip code; 'ANYWHERE OH 00000'. Lastly you give the phone number information; '000 000 0000'. After finishing the ADDRESS section say the word '**BREAK**', then stop transmitting, and leave a 2 to 3 second pause before you start transmitting more information.

This pause does multiple things. First, the word **BREAK** tells the receiving station that you are done with the Preamble and Address, and are getting ready to pass them the TEXT portion of the message. It also allows them to ask you for any information they may have missed. When Traffic handlers ask for "**FILLS**", they are asking for any information they have missed. They will then tell you what part of the message they need those **FILLS** in.

When passing the "Text" portion of a message, try to give it in groups of 3 to 5 words when possible. In our message, I would send it as follows; 'THANKS FOR CONTACT X-RAY'. 'HOPE TO WORK'. 'YOU AGAIN 73'. As you can see, I broke the message into groups of 4 words, then 3 words, and then 3 words again.

When you are done sending the message body, you would say "**BREAK**" again, stop transmitting, and leave another 2 to 3 second pause. This again tells the receiving station that you are done with this portion of the message, and leaves the space for them to ask for any **FILLS** before you continue with the next section which would be the SIGNATURE.

Lastly, we give the SIGNATURE portion of the message. I would again break this into groups of 3 to 5 words as follows; 'Jim Williams N8IBR'. 'Secretary Mt Vernon'. 'Amateur Radio Club K8EEN'. You then would say the word '**END**'. The word **END** tells the receiving station that you are done with the message. As you can see, this time I sent groups of 3, 3, and 4 words. As before, this makes it easier on the receiving station. Some stations will let you know that there is a long Signature, but this is not necessary, as you are not done with the message until you hear the word **END**. So, if you don't hear "**END**", be prepared to receive more information.

The receiving station will answer you in one of two ways. They will ask for more **FILLS**, or they will say the word '**ROGER**' to let you know that they have your message complete. And, that's it. Your message is now passed.

Okay, now let's talk about how our message gets to Anywhere Ohio. Let's say that Anywhere Ohio is located in the far northeastern corner of the state of Ohio which is too far away for us to reach on the local VHF/UHF repeaters. So, we check into our local Sunday night net on the 146.790 repeater to start our message on its way. Our message would most likely then be transferred to another VHF/UHF net in Columbus or Mansfield, who would then transfer it to an HF Ohio Sectional Net. We have HF Nets on Voice, CW, and Digital modes in the Ohio Section, and our message could go directly to one of these nets if one of their member stations checked into our local net.

These nets would then distribute our message to an Amateur station in or near Anywhere Ohio for delivery. So, in 3 to 4 steps, our traffic could be delivered to our intended recipient. Some of the traffic going from point "A" to point "B" in the same state can be handled in as few as two steps.

If our traffic was going from Mt. Vernon to another location in the Eastern, Central or Pacific (Western) Areas of the USA, our traffic would go from a local or Sectional (Ohio) net, to a Regional (8<sup>th</sup>) net. If the traffic was going to Michigan or West Virginia, it would stay in the Region 8 net and be passed to the intended state. If not going to either of those states, it would then go to the Eastern Area Net. From the Eastern Area Net, it would then be passed to the appropriate Regional or Area Net for its intended delivery in the Eastern, Central or Pacific Area nets.

After its arrival in one of these Area Nets, our message would be sent to the appropriate Regional (Call Area) Net. The message then is transferred to a Sectional (State) Net, and finally moved to either a local Net or Amateur station located in the intended city or town of delivery in that section.

While I have not mentioned them, there are many independent nets out there that also handle message traffic. A few examples in our part of the USA being the Hit and Bounce Net that meets every morning on 40 meter CW at 7:30 A.M. and 8:30 A.M. Eastern Time, and The Interstate Single Sideband Net that meets on 80 Meters at 9:00 P.M. Eastern Time daily.

I hope you have enjoyed our trip through the land of Message Traffic and the National Traffic System. This series of articles has been intended as a basic explanation of the ins and outs of these systems, and should give you enough information to write, receive, and pass traffic through the National Traffic System if called upon to do so. There is more information on the ARRL website at: [ARRL.ORG/NTS](http://ARRL.ORG/NTS) if you wish to go there and read their materials. Just remember, their website can at times be a little confusing to navigate.

And, as always, if you would like further information, feel free to contact me on our Sunday night nets, or e mail me at:

[n8ibr51@centurylink.net](mailto:n8ibr51@centurylink.net) .

Jim Williams N8IBR/ORS

#### ITU PHONETIC ALPHABET

<b>A</b>	<b>ALPHA</b>	<b>J</b>	<b>JULIET</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>ROMEO</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>BRAVO</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>KILO</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>SIERRA</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>CHARLIE</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>LIMA</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>TANGO</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>DELTA</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>MIKE</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>UNIFORM</b>
<b>E</b>	<b>ECHO</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>VICTOR</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>FOXTROT</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>OSCAR</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>WHISKEY</b>
<b>G</b>	<b>GOLF</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>PAPA</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X-RAY</b>
<b>H</b>	<b>HOTE</b>	<b>Q</b>	<b>QUEBEC</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>YANKEE</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>INDIA</b>			<b>Z</b>	<b>ZULU</b>





# 2014 Field Day Entry Form

2014 Rules

Datestamp: 2014-07-02 19:27:07 PDT  
 Confirmation: a1c3bfc397830421

Use the following link if you want to update your Field Day entry:  
<http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/fielddayupdate.php?callused=K8EEN&confirmation=a1c3bfc397830421>

Thanks for using the web to submit your 2014 ARRL Field Day entry. Print this page to use as proof that you submitted your entry.

Call Used: **K8EEN** GOTA Station Call: **(none)** ARRL/RAC Section: **OH** Class: **4A**

Participants: **35** Club/Group Name: **Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club**

Power Source(s): **Generator, Battery, Solar**

Power Multiplier: **2X**

**Bonus Points:**

Description	Points
100% Emergency power	400
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
NTS message to ARRL SM/SEC	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Natural power QSOs completed	100
Submitted via the Web	50
<b>Total Bonus Points</b>	<b>950</b>

**Score Summary:**

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total	
<b>Total QSOs</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>748</b>		
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>1610</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>2358</b>	<b>Claimed Score = 4,716</b>

**Submitted by:**

Don Russell, W8PEN  
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 Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050  
 E-mail: w8pen@arri.net

**Comments:**

(blank)

**Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:**

	CW		Digital		Phone	
	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)	QSOs	Pwr(W)
160m						
80m	229	150			174	150
40m	373	150			274	150
20m	163	150			218	150
15m	40	150			78	150
10m					1	150
6m					3	150
2m						
1.25						
Other						
Satellite						



GOTA						
<b>Total</b>	<b>805</b>		<b>0</b>		<b>748</b>	

**Supporting Documentation Required**

Based on your selections, the ARRL expects to receive supporting documentation:

- via e-mail to: fieldday@arrl.org

Your entry was e-mailed to: fieldday@arrl.org with a copy to w8pen@arrl.net

# The Mt. Vernon, Ohio Wireless Pioneer Project

**By Robert Ballantine, W8SU**  
**Reprinted with Permission of W8SU**

Your author lives in Warren, Ohio and I'm not positive why I've taken on my Mount Vernon, Ohio wireless pioneer project however here are a few possible triggers. Being into SWL and ham radio from my earliest memory, one of my favorite subjects has been geography and magic of radio.

With an early age memory in the mid 1940's while residing with my grandparents in Cambridge, Ohio, there was our usual summer auto trip and visitation.. Grandfather Raymond had two aunts residing in Mount Vernon Ohio and a weekend trip was planned. We arrived in Mount Vernon, the good weather, scenery and lack of traffic in those days was amazing. Plenty of rolling hills and farm country along the way. I would guess we took the state highways all the way over in that direction above Zanesville as the vision of the interstate highway had not been a practicality.

I recall the two aunts hospitality, the home was neat but very uncluttered, a pitcher pump for water in the kitchen. They wore those large flowered aprons then. The house was adjacent to a city park and the trees were numerous with a very appealing view. I think I can remember the clanking of the horse shoes the park offered its visitors. We had a bite to eat and refreshment and before long the visit was over. I have two family pictures to this day to remind us of those dear ladies.

Time passes and in my travels to Columbus while in the employ of the Ohio State Highway Patrol on the vaunted super IS 71 there was the Mount Vernon exit. There was also the mention of a Nazarene College exit. I was always fascinated with those land marks as I was converted in the Nazarene Church.

After retirement and in a historical mood, thunder struck and tributes of ham operators on various earlywireless historical endeavors became the norm, Wheeling, Cambridge, Zanesville, Tusco and Coshocton. I decided to learn who the radio pioneers were and what became of them in Mount Vernon, Knox County Ohio. To commence the project I had in my possession about a dozen old QSL cards (from the K8CX Ham Gallery

collection) and fond memories of the early visit with the two elderly relatives one weekend near the city park.

I've learned Mount Vernon has a very active ham radio club K8EEN, complete with old newsletters and an Internet web-page to aid my research. On many of the regional QSL cards including the Mount Vernon cards the imprint of I.R.C. was on many of the personal cards. I would later on learn about the I.R.C. Several of the members are being very helpful in my quest to learn who they were and what became of them. We've keep a good deal of radio history out of the landfill and are very pleased with this product. We hope you are too!

MF/mount vernon trigger W8SU 2014

## Albert Alfred Watts W8OPU - W6IBR \*1927-2002\*

One time resident of Mount Vernon, Ohio. Wife Dottie W8OPV and W6IBP - son Ed K16DCB. Our first knowledge of this family was in checking Ancestry, hams of Mt Vernon, Ohio. Little was found about Albert, but he had left his mark with the Local MCARA along with his wife Dottie.

I found a few short remarks by their son Ed on the World wide web. "I do recall my father W6OPU coming in on the kitchen toaster faintly but clearly on 80 and 75 meters."

Ed Watts (K16DCB) mentioned in 2007, "Dad became disabled in the early 70s, almost blind, he spent many pleasurable hours on the ham radio setup I built, before dad expired. "I used to kid him unmercifully always being on the air when we visited, calling him a professional amateur."

We find Albert and wife Dottie very active in the Orange Co.. ARC. Holding office and operating W6ZE frequently. Our subject entered the U.S. Army 1 Sept 1945, held the rank of SGT and served also in the Korean War. He is interred at Riverside National Cemetery, California.

Al and Dottie Watts are mentioned with respect and their courtesy to serve in the Mount Vernon region still today 2014. - A note from Don Russell present holder of W8PEN

recently said; "Sure, I do recall Al Watts, my novice class instructor. He was much older than I but we became close friends. In the late 60's Al and family moved to California. We kept in touch with Al and his son Ed for a while but eventually lost contact." Al pictured below at the 1957 Mt. Vernon Field-day manning the 80 Meter amateur setup. Get a load of that bug on the operating position!



Al Watts (W8OPU) front, and Doug Rhodes operate K8EEN

Some material garnered from Mt Vernon Amateur Radio Club Bulletin. W8SU 2014.

Next month Robert will spotlight another Mt. Vernon ham from the Golden Era of Ham Radio.

## AFFILIATED CLUBS COORDINATOR REPORT

By: **Sandy Macke, N8YS - ACC**  
[sandymackey@gmail.com](mailto:sandymackey@gmail.com)

From the Ohio Section Journal, June 2014

As I am sure you are aware, I have resigned my position as Ohio Section ACC. I have enjoyed being ACC, and I appreciate having had the opportunity to work with so many of the clubs in Ohio. I feel this position deserves to have someone who can dedicate more time, than I was able to do. I will continue to be available to talk field day or whatever else you may want to discuss, and I know that Scott will find a replacement that will do a fantastic job making sure each and every club is a healthy club.

I have met some wonderful people that I would not have had the chance to meet had it not been for the events I attended. I would like to say thanks to the cabinet members who are the heart and soul of the Ohio

Section and continue to make great strides in the world of amateur radio here in Ohio.

I send my very best to everyone across the state and wish you all well. Thanks again for everything. Remember, Field Day is June 28 & 29, so get yourself and/or your club out there and give it your best shot!!!

ARRL Special Service Club... If your club is not an ARRL Special Service Club, this may be the year to do it! [CLICK HERE](#) for information and the Special Service Club application. If you think your club is ready to take this step, and you would like assistance filling out the form or discussing what you need to do, contact Scott Yonally. N8SY.

73, Sandy, N8YS

## OHIO HAMFEST CALENDAR

From the Ohio Section Journal, June 2014

06/21/2014 | MILFORD HAMFEST  
Location: Milford, OH  
Sponsor: Milford Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.w8mrc.com>

07/12/2014 | 20/9 ARC Tailgate and Hamfest 2014  
Location: Austintown, OH  
Sponsor: 20/9 Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.20over9.org>

07/19/2014 | NOARSFEST  
Location: Elyria, OH  
Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://NOARS.net>

07/20/2014 | 27th Annual Van Wert Hamfest  
Location: Van Wert, OH  
Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://w8fy.org>

07/27/2014 | Portage Hamfair '14  
Location: Randolph, OH  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Portage Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://Hamfair.com>

08/02/2014 | Columbus Hamfest/Ohio Section Conference  
Location: Columbus, OH  
Sponsor: Voice of Aladdin Amateur Radio Club (W8FEZ)  
Website: <http://www.columbushamfest.com>