The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

November, 2009 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!

Emergency Communications Grant: An Update

By President Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Just a quick update on the Emergency Communications Grant we received. First, thanks again to the Operation Round-Up organization for providing us with this grant. The grant is for communications equipment to use at trainings, bike races, marathons and any type of disaster that we may be involved with. The grant committee, consisting of Ruben Clark KB2SAI, Austin Godber KD7NMS, and I, Arlin Bradford KD8EVR, sat down and reviewed the grant funds. We tailored the list of equipment to fit our needs and the amount of funds received. Here is a list of the items we decided on:

Yaesu Ft-8900 Quad Band Mobile
Yaesu Ft-857 HF,VHF,UHF Mobile
Timewave PK96 TNC Interface
Astron SRM30 Dual Power supply
Crown 75A hr Battery and case
Yaesu CT-39 Packet Cable
Yaesu ATAS-120 HF Antenna
Maxrad Dual Band Antennas x 4
Misc. Power Wires

Because we did not get enough funds to purchase a trailer, as previously discussed in our meetings, I began looking at other options. Thanks to a great relationship that MVARC and I have with the City of Mount Vernon, Mayor Richard Mavis and Fire Chief Shawn Christy, we are in the process of utilizing a decommissioned ambulance from the city. The vehicle will be owned by the city, and we will have complete use and authority to change the lettering, antennas, radios, etc. If we ever deem the vehicle not fit for use, we have to return it to the City of Mount Vernon for proper disposal. This

MVARC Club Meeting is Monday, November 9, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Cross Annex Building, 300 North Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. At the time of this writing, no program has been announced for the meeting.

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 November 14, 2009 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio******

vehicle will fit not only the needs for our communications, but our budget as well.

Decommissioned Ambulance

Artists Conception (Ruben, KB2SAI)

I am currently in the process of finalizing the paperwork with the city, and hope to take possession of it before the next meeting. If so, I will be bringing it to November's meeting for everyone to inspect it. We are open to any suggestions from our members in the set up. Ruben Clark KB2SAI, has put together a proposed layout of the lettering for the vehicle. It looks good and reflects the purpose of the vehicle.

In addition, several of our served agencies are interested in helping secure other items for the vehicle. Some of these items being donated are 2 commercial Kenwood mobiles, 5 Kenwood portables with a gang charger, a generator, first aid kits, and an Automatic External Defibulator or AED. If you know someone that would like to donate any other items, please have them contact me at (740)627-0922.

Did You Know? The Wouff Hong

From the ARRL Letter, October 16, 2009

Every amateur should know and tremble at the history and origins of this fearsome instrument for the punishment of amateurs who cultivate bad operating habits and who nourish and culture their meaner instincts on the air.

The Wouff Hong was invented -- or at any rate, discovered -- by "The Old Man" himself, just as amateurs were getting back on the air after World War I. The Old Man (who later turned out to be Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, co-founder and first President of ARRL) first heard the Wouff Hong described amid the howls and garble of interference as he tuned across a band filled with signals that exemplified all the rotten operating practices then available to amateurs (considering the state of the art as they knew it).

As The Old Man heard it, the Wouff Hong was being used on some hapless offender so effectively that he investigated. After further effort, "T.O.M." was able to locate and identify a Wouff Hong.

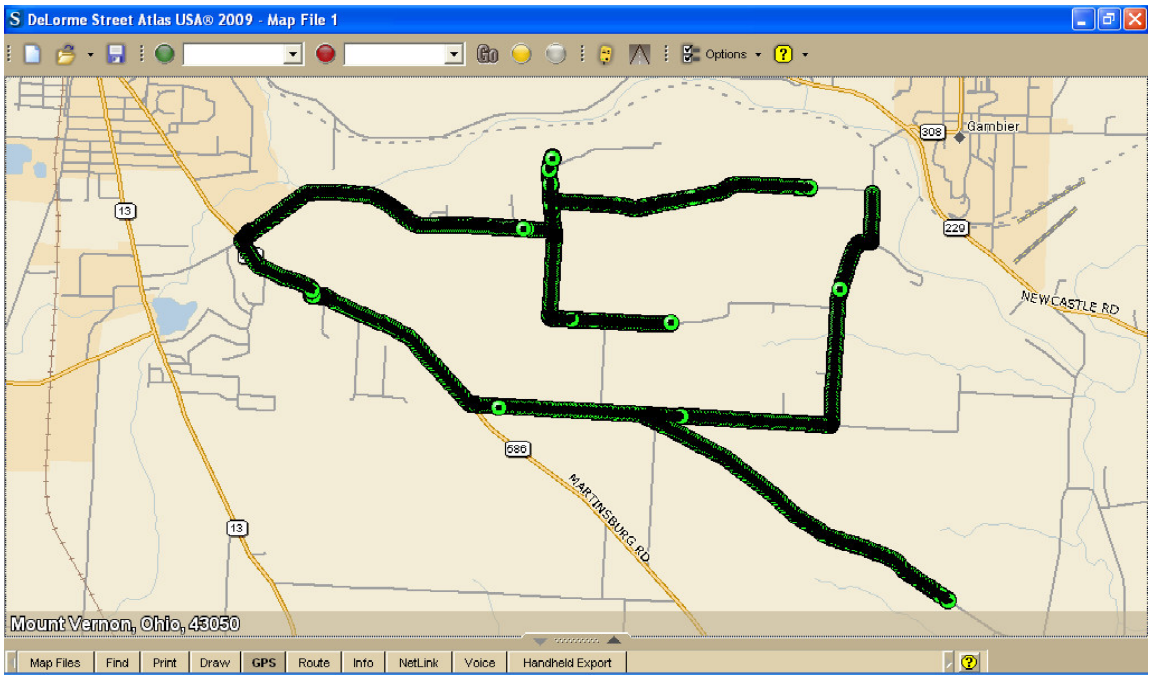
The Old Man never prescribed the exact manner in which the Wouff Hong was to be used, but amateurs need only a little imagination to surmise how painful punishments were inflicted on those who stoop to liddish behavior on the air.

The Original Wouff Hong is on display at ARRL Headquarters. Find out more about this dreaded instrument of torture here

THE OCTOBER CLUB FOXHUNT

By Barry Butz N8PPF

On October 10 the club had its first foxhunt in a long time. There were a half dozen teams or singles chasing around the Mt Vernon / Gambier area searching for Arlin's hidden transmitter. After having breakfast at Alison's, Arlin instructed us on how to find the fox. Of course he didn't give very specific instructions. Just that the fox would transmit for 30 seconds, then be silent for the next 90 seconds. Also the fox was somewhere that could be reached by car, without walking. Some didn't listen to the last part. Anyway, I did the hunt solo using two homemade antennas, a 2-element quad and a 3-element yagi. They seemed to perform about the same as direction finders but the quad could fit in the back seat of the truck, while the yagi had to rest in the bed. An Alinco DJ-500 handheld, my first radio, was my receiver. I like it because it has a 20db attenuator to reduce the signal strength if and when I got close to the transmitter. At first I thought there would be a problem because Arlin had chosen 146.565 as the frequency and the Alinco only has 10 kHz steps. It wasn't a problem after all. I just tuned to 146.560, which cut the signal strength somewhat, and that was helpful. I even tried 146.550 but that was too far off frequency and I lost the signal entirely. From Alison's the signal seemed to be coming from the east so I headed that way, stopping to take bearings every couple miles. At Gambier, it seemed I should go southeast. At the bike trail parking, a passerby asked if I was tracking an animal. He had seen another crazy person in Gambier. I explained I was an amateur radio operator and we were doing a transmitter hunt. From this point you can see the rest of my route on this screen shot. It was made with GPS tracking and Street Atlas software. In examining the map, you can see that this not an exact science. Starting at the top right of the figure, I went straight south at first, then zigged, zagged, and backtracked several times. The green dots are the places I stopped to take a bearing. Eventually, after about 1½ hours, I found the fox, the third to do so. It was at the end of Bogardus Road, at the green dot at the top center. Notice how many dots are nearby. I was really close several times but just didn't go far enough down the road. Everybody showed up in the end and we stood around shooting the breeze for quite a while before going home. It was a fun event.



Heard Any Beacons Lately?

By Charles Russell, WA8ONN

Note: In fairness, much of this article has been paraphrased from the many web sites I visited while researching amateur Radio Beacons.

Not well known to many amateurs, especially the newer Hams, is that unattended radio beacons are permitted by the FCC on certain frequencies. The purpose is to provide signals from fixed locations to show when propagation will support DX communications.

Section 97.3.9 defines a beacon station as an amateur station transmitting communications for the purposes of observation of propagation and reception or other related experimental activities.

A better definition comes from Andy Talbot, G4JNT, in his article dated May 2008 entitled “Amateur Beacons”.

“A station in the Amateur Service or Amateur Satellite Service that autonomously transmits in a fixed format, which may include repeated data or information, for the study of propagation, determination of frequency or bearing, or for other experimental purposes.”

Who can operate a beacon? Here is an excerpt from Part 97:

Sec. 97.203 Beacon station (Excerpt):

(a) Any amateur station licensed to a holder of a Technician, Technician Plus, General, Advanced or Amateur Extra Class operator license may be a beacon.
(b) A beacon must not concurrently transmit on more than 1 channel in the same amateur service frequency band, from the same station location.
(c) The transmitter power of a beacon must not exceed 100 W.
(d) A beacon may be automatically controlled while it is transmitting on the 28.20-28.30 MHz, 50.06-50.08 MHz, 144.275-144.300 MHz, 222.05-222.06 MHz or 432.300-432.400 MHz segments, or on the 33 cm and shorter wavelength bands.
…
(g) A beacon may transmit one-way communications

Please read the entire 97.203 for more information. As noted in subpart (d), beacons above 28hz may be automated and unattended. Other HF beacons below 28Mhz are permissible but must have a control operator present when transmitting. Unless, of course, you can get a STA (Special Temporary Authorization) from the FCC.

There is no standard beacon message format but the common approach is to send the call sign (followed by /B) 2 or 3 times followed by its location at 16 – 22 wpm. Some beacons repeat this as often as every 4 seconds, while others may only repeat every 3 minutes. Since QSB is often a factor, faster, shorter messages are preferred rather than slow, longer messages. The more sophisticated beacons might start the process with 100 watts, drop to 10 watts, then again to 1 watt. Some will even use flea power (100mw). I have been trying to hear the K5DZE (***http://www.k5dze.net/BEACON.htm)*** 3 watt beacon located in Northern Kentucky on 28.2415Mhz, but have had no success. You might want to give the site a visit. It is very clean and has many links to various 10 meter beacon sites.

In practice, it is best to use an omnidirectional antenna on the band(s) that you want to monitor. Using a directional antenna to listen for beacons will only be effective in the direction toward which the beam is pointing. But, that may be the intent. Learning how to monitor ham radio beacons successfully can lead to plentiful DX! Who knows, if you hear a beacon and transmit a CQ, you might start the pileup rather than having to fight your way into one later.

Manual monitoring can get tiresome, if not boring. Using software to control your receiver can automate the beacon scanning process and frees you to work on something else in the meantime. The *Northern California DX Foundation* (***http://www.ncdxf.org/beacons.html***) lists a number of programs that have been verified to work as advertised.

Beacons are owned and operated by a variety of groups and individuals, both local and international, to numerous to list here. Just google “amateur radio beacons” or something similar and you will find an immense amount of information to sort through. Who knows, maybe you would like to install and operate your own beacon station some day.

Treasurer’s Report

October 31, 2009
for Oct 1 to Oct 31, 2009

Balance on 10-1-09:	$ 2015.36
Income:	
Interest:	$
Dues:	$
Donations:	$
Field day donation:	$
50-50 Repeater Fund:	$
Energy Co-op Round-Up Foundation grant – Communication Vehicle	$ 3000.00

Expenses:	
Communication vehicle equipment	$ 2459.82
Postage stamps:	$ 44.00
Balance on 10-31-09:	$ 2511.54
Designated Funds:	
Year 2005 Repeater Fund:	$ 315.94
Field Day Fund:	$ 64.92
Communication Vehicle Fund:	$ 540.18

Barry Butz N8PPF

Give Your Generator Some Space

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the same folks that bring you WWV, publish a monthly newsletter called NIST Tech Beat. Here's an item rom the 10/6/09 issue of NIST Tech Beat that will be of interest to radio amateurs:

To subdue the steaming heat of hurricanes or to thaw out during a blizzard, gasoline-powered, portable generators are a lifeline during weather emergencies when homes are cut off without electricity. But these generators emit poisonous carbon monoxide—a single generator can produce a hundred times more of the colorless, odorless gas than a modern car's exhaust. New research from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shows that to prevent potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide, users may need to keep generators farther from the house than previously believed—perhaps as much as 25 feet.

Up to half of the incidents of non-fatal carbon monoxide(CO) poisoning reported in the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons involved generators run within 7 feet of the home, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Carbon monoxide can enter a house through a number of airflow paths, such as a door or window left open to accommodate the extension cord that brings power from the generator into the house. While some guidance recommends 10 feet from open windows as a safe operating distance, NIST researcher Steven Emmerich says the "safe" operating distance depends on the house, the weather conditions and the unit. A generator's carbon monoxide output is usually higher than an automobile's, he says, because most generators do not have the sophisticated emission controls that cars do.

"People need to be aware that generators are potentially deadly and they need to educate themselves on proper use," Emmerich says. With funding from CDC, NIST researchers are gathering reliable data to support future CDC guidance.

NIST building researchers simulated multiple scenarios of a portable generator operating outside of a one-story house, using both a test structure and two different computer models—the NIST-developed CONTAM indoor air quality model and a computational fluid dynamics model.

The simulations included factors that could be controlled by humans, such as generator location, exhaust direction and window-opening size, and environmental factors such as wind, temperature and house dimensions. In the simulations the generator was placed at various distances from the house and tested under different weather conditions.

"We found that for the house modeled in this study," researcher Leon Wang says, "a generator position 15 feet away from open windows was not far enough to prevent carbon monoxide entry into the house."

Winds perpendicular to the open window resulted in more carbon monoxide entry than winds at an angle, and lower wind speeds generally allowed more carbon monoxide in the house. "Slow, stagnant wind seems to be the worst case because it leads to the carbon monoxide lingering by the windows," Wang explains. Researchers determined that placing the generator outside of the airflow recirculation regions near the open windows reduced carbon monoxide entry.

In the next phase of the study NIST will model a two-story house that researchers believe will interact with the wind differently. NIST researchers also have worked with the Consumer Product Safety Commission on related work.

(See: "NIST to Study Hazards of Portable Gasoline-Powered Generators," NIST Tech Beat, March 5, 2008.)

The generator study can be downloaded at

http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/build09/PDF/b09009.pdf.

* L. Wang and S.J. Emmerich. Modeling the Effects of Outdoor Gasoline Powered Generator Use on Indoor Carbon Monoxide Exposures. (NIST Technical Note 1637, 2009)

Radio-Activity

By Don Russell, W8PEN

Is Knox County Ready for Digital?

The ARRL has gone to great lengths to sell the advantage of going digital for at least some ARES operations. I have in the past not been impressed with this move. For one thing, during an emergency, there will probably be power outages mandating that we use battery power or generator power to run our communications equipment. Not a big problem. As we have found out during the last two Field Days, a 100 watt HF station can run 15 to 20 hours or more on one 12 volt deep cycle battery. That of course is based the 50 percent duty cycle of SSB and CW. Based on this experience, I am predicting that the typical 25 watt VHF/UHF transceiver would last much longer. A 5 watt handheld would last a really long time! This is good. However, adding a laptop computer to the station would increase battery drain and therefore longevity of the station. Of course, if running a generator, this becomes less of a problem.

I feel that as a "When All Else Fails" organization we should stick to what we do best, which is communicate by voice or Morse Code. I will concede, however, that there are certain advantages to having digital capabilities between Headquarters and the disaster scene, or at least the Emergency Shelters.

If the Knox County ARES is successful in their bid to obtain a Communications Trailer, going digital should be a little easier. This would be part of the equipment set up in the Communications Trailer on a permanent basis.

Using digital would be great at an Emergency Shelter to send names, addresses, telephone numbers, etc of the people at each shelter. It would also be reasonably secure in that most non hams would not know how to decode the information. Digital could do the same for victims at the disaster scene. Could you imagine sending this list of 50 to 100 people in Voice or Morse Code? If sent by digital, this information would be guaranteed to be 100 percent accurate, as long as it was typed in correctly to start with. Of course, any communications between the Command Center and various other stations would benefit from digital too. Rather than using NTS message forms, one would type all requests through the keyboard and be assured that the receiving station would be sent an accurate copy of the transmission.

One other neat fact about using digital. All transmissions, both transmitted and received would be recorded on each computer that is using digital. If there is a question about a previously sent message, it would be easy to scroll back and find the original transmission. These recordings would also be valuable in the meetings following the event to get a detailed analysis of what went on. Example: During a drill, it would be benificial to know what messages were sent to what stations at what times.

There are two programs/systems that I am looking at which may fulfill the above wishes. One is call **NBEMS** for **N**arrow **B**and **E**mergency **M**essaging **S**ystem:

http://www.w1hkj.com/NBEMS/index.html

NBEMS is a collaborative effort of W1HKJ and KH6TY. This program is actually a suite of programs that provide error free transmission of text, images and email files.

The NBEMS suite consists of a digital modem program, "Fldigi", An automatic repeat request application, "Flarq", and a File Encapsulation application, "Wrap". Wrap allows receipt verification of a broadcast message.

Don't let the above scare you off. Fldigi and Flarq are installed on the computer from a single installation program. Wrap just needs to be in the same folder as the other programs. Okay, someone had a really fun time naming these programs!

Fldigi is actually a pretty neat digital program that allows one to go digi with a multitude of modes. It has the typical waterfall screen that one is used to in this type of program. I counted 10 digital modes including PSK31, RTTY, and CW. Fldigi uses the computer sound card to send and receive these digital modes. Other than the program itself, one needs a sound card interface and a transceiver. This program can be used to communicate with other hams using these modes when not being used for emergency communications. I would consider this as an advantage. By simply using this program, you are checking its functionality and familiarizing yourself with its operation, thus preparing yourself for its eventual use it in its NBEMS form. Wrap was added to the basic program to get your error free communications.

The other program that is available is call Winlink 2000. This is the one that the ARRL is really pushing, and for good reason.

http://www.winlink.org/

Winlink *2000 (WL2K)* is a worldwide *system* of volunteer resources supporting e-mail by radio, with non-commercial links to internet e-mail. These resources come from Amateur Radio, the Military Affiliate Radio Systems (MARS), and other volunteer organizations. The system provides valuable service to emergency communicators, and to licensed radio operators without access to the internet.

Wouldn't it be nice to tell our served Agency's in Knox County (Homeland Security, The American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army) that in the event of an emergency so severe that their internet email went down that we could provide them with access to the internet via Ham Radio? Not only that. They would be able to continue to use their own computers and programs. In other words, they could send their emails just as if it was business as usual. Our equipment allowing them to maintain connection to the internet would be transparent. This is what Winlink 2000 would allow.

This system is already established and has been up and running for many years providing hams in far away places or simply on vacation with no internet connection to send email to anyone they wish. Even non hams over the internet.

To be honest, the Winlink 2000 is a big and complicated system. I have been to their web page and it is huge! It will be some time before I can give out much information about this system. Lets just say for now that if you are a ham and would like to maintain email services via ham radio while on vacation or in other areas that do not have internet access, You should check out Winlink 2000. It is not just for Emergency Communications. It is used everyday day by hundreds if not thousands of hams.

Next month I will give a bit more detail on the NBEMS program. I hope to include a simple sound card interface system that could be used in the field without much difficulty.

ComPIOnents

By Mike McCardel, KC8YLD

Rethinking my preparedness plan.

There I was unloading my portable shack, aka the Pontiac Sundance. All the time I am thinking how actually prepared I am. Trunk propped open with a piece of quarter round I salvaged from a recent home improvement project, because I had enough forethought to know that the trunk won't stay open with the weight of my mag-mount HF vertical resting on it. I remove the folding table, folding chair, the two deep cell batteries pre-configured with Anderson Powerpole connectors, my solar panel array for charging those batteries, my Yaesu FT-857D, my loop wire antenna. I set aside my hard hat and sling shot line projection tool and my bag full of coax, extension cords and surge protectors. I dig through coils of rope and string, a bag full of a variety of connectors, another bag of wire cutters, pliers, wrenches, a soldering iron, solder, chargers, and an inverter. I gather my pouches of paper, notebooks, pencils and maps. Well you get the picture

Patting myself on the back I think about my dual bander Kenwood TM700 set to the local K8EEN repeater and to 144.39 the universal APRS frequency. I smile as I hear the squelshy tone of an APRS packet being received knowing that if I would to glance at the radio's display I would know who sent the packet how far away and in what direction they were from me. Then I hear the distinct two syllable tone the radio makes when receiving my sent position coordinates as they pass through the digipeater in Mansfield or New Castle. Now I know that anyone monitoring knows where I am. I ponder the wisdom of buying that external GPS antenna, what a difference that has made. I reveille in the fact that I have a backup GPS unit and even a compass, in the fanny pack, in the back seat. I even have a case a water and some food.

With my trunk, now empty, I know I can connect with the world by the power of the radio for at least a day or two. There is, however, one hitch. I am not here to use my radio. I have a flat tire. Beneath all the things I carry in the event I am called to help with a radio emergency there is no spare tire, no tire wrench, no car jack. So, I humble myself. I reach into my pocket, pull out my cell phone and call roadside assistance. Rethinking my preparedness plan.

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club Fox Hunt 2009

By Ann Bradford, KD8LFH

This year has been very interesting, informative, and fun for me. The fox hunt was one of the most exciting things yet. Even though I did not get the chance to locate it, I was involved in other aspects that made it just as entertaining.

When I first heard of this thing called a fox hunt, it was earlier this year. I believe it was through casual conversation between a few hams. It sounded like fun, but way too complicated for me to understand. It actually wasn't as hard to learn about it as I once thought.

At the club's monthly meeting in May, Jamie Book N8NOP, took time to explain to all of us just how it's done. He gave us some scenarios he had encountered in his field of work. He explained how different landscapes, buildings, and reflective surfaces can make it difficult to locate the source that is causing interference or transmitting signals. After our meeting, I was filled with lots of ideas, and excited about participating.

We were suppose to have the hunt in June, but because of scheduling conflicts it didn't happen. Eventually, I had

forgotten about it, until Arlin Bradford KD8EVR, asked me if I was going to participate in the fox hunt October 10th. I got excited again and helped prepare radios and antennas for our search. Little did I know about the events which were to occur the night before
.
On October 9th, Arlin had made a couple of phone calls to confirm that it was a go for the next morning. To his surprise, Jamie, who was actually going to set up the fox for us, inadvertently forgot about it and was on vacation. In a panic, Arlin started putting things together to make a transmitter around 9 o'clock that night. He wasn't going to delay this again. Writing down a whole script which he recorded on his computer to send across the radio via the headphones to muffle any ambient noise, all held together by a shoe string was one the funniest but inventive thing I have seen him do. Then the hard question, where was he going to put it? Never been to a fox hunt himself, he came up with some ideas and asked my opinion. He commented on a couple of places that I thought were good, but just about everyone knows Arlin. And those that know Arlin would have an unfair advantage. So he asked where I would put it. We sat at his laptop looking at a map. I started moving it around looking at a couple of different locations. I suggested one, but then I was told my car would be carrying the fox so it wouldn't work. Then it came to me. This dead end road I had been down before, where I met Arlin last year during deer season. I knew that the valley it was in, the barn, the river, and the woods would all make it more difficult to find. Plus, GPS doesn't work in several spots out there, so I thought everyone would really have to rely on their communications equipment to get them there.

Saturday morning, October 10th, several hams met up at Allison's Diner for breakfast. I made an excuse to leave, and no one there thought I would be the one hiding it. I left for the site, and Arlin met up with me later to set up and do a test. Then we left the site a completely different way than either one of us got there. We were asked if we would hide it a couple more times once it was found, and decided to see how long it took to find it the first time. I thought to myself, these guys are pretty confident. We ran around town listening for someone to let us know they found it. I was pretty happy after one hour went by and no one said anything. I was hoping everyone was still having fun and was pretty confused as to where it was coming from.

Finally, Austin Godber KD7NMS, who paired up with Matt Sturgeon, Knox County EMA Deputy Director and soon to be ham, came across the radio saying he has located the fox. After confirming, we slowly made our way over there, being careful to avoid any other hams that were still searching. Once we got there, we listened to Austin and Matt's story on how they found it. As other hams came in gradually, I listened to their stories as well. Some people found a strong signal in a barn and others were on the bike path. It sounded as if everyone enjoyed themselves.

Being so new to the world of amateur radio, I felt I had done a pretty good job of hiding it. I had so much fun that I couldn't stop talking about it the rest of the day. I hope everyone that participated in it enjoyed themselves as well. Also I want to congratulate Austin and Matt on a job well done, and enjoy that Yaesu VX-3 you won.

Winners Matt Sturgeon, Austin Godber, KD7NMS, receiving the VX-3 from President Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Quote of the month:

Fox hunting is a very serious training exercise designed to train amateur radio operators to locate jamming radio transmitters during emergency situations. Willingly telling another ham's XYL/OM any different is a violation of the ham code.

Author Unknown

Ham Radio Classes Now Forming

As a Licensed Ham Radio Operator You Get To
- Serve Your Community
- Talk To Other Hams On The Radio
- Meet New Friends
- Have Your Own Individual Callsign

The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be holding a multi-week course where **YOU** will learn everything you need to earn your entry level FCC **Amateur Radio** license and begin to **talk on the radio with other hams** in the area.

Classes Begin Thursday January 14, 2010 from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M and will continue through February 25, 2010. A testing session for all licenses will be held February 27, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. The class is free, including all study material. The test will be $15.00 required at the time of testing.

Classes will be held in the Training Center at the Knox County Chapter of the American Red Cross, 300 N. Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The white building in back of the main building will be used.

For more information:

Don Russell, W8PEN: 740-397-0249, w8pen@arrl.net

Mike McCardel, KC8YLD: 740-599-6614, kc8yld@arrl.net

Pre-Registration is **not** required. Just attend the first class.

ARRL, The national association for Amateur Radio --
Helping Hams Get Started Since 1914.
1-800-32-NEWHAM

Mt. Vernon ARC Officers

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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

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

If yes please enter password_____