



The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club



November, 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)



Ham Radio Rocks!

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

Election of 2011 Club Officers

Nominations for Club officers of 2011 will be taken during the November Club meeting. Anyone wishing to nominate or volunteer for a club leadership role in the year 2011 should attend this meeting.

The nominating committee will present their recommendations during the meeting as well. The positions open for nominations are:

1. President: Currently Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR
2. V. President: Currently Tony Spiegel, KC8UR
3. Secretary: Currently Jeff Butz, N8SMT
4. Treasurer: Currently Barry Butz, N8PPF
5. Two Board of Directors:
 - One Currently held by Ruben Clark, KB2SAI
 - One currently held by Don Russell, W8PEN

As one may guess, this is a very important meeting. Please plan to attend.

October Meeting Cookout

The October meeting and cookout was a huge success. Members of the club were able to finish off all the Field Day leftovers along with a few surprises from Doc Heltzer, AA8WP, such as grilled corn on the cob.

The weather was great. Not too chilly for the beginning of October. Membership turnout was very good, and the club actually picked up two additional members for 2011.

Members may have had a preview of our next field Day

The next meeting of the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club will be November 8, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Red Cross Annex Building, 300 North Mulberry Street, Mt. Vernon, Ohio. As of this writing, no program has been announced. Election of 2011 club officers will be the main agenda for the meeting. If you wish to give your input on the direction the club will take in 2011, this is the meeting to attend. See you there.

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 13, 2010 at 9:00 AM at Allison's Finer Diner, 11587 Upper Gilchrist Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio****

site. While not as awesome as the site we have used the previous two Field Days, there is plenty of room and a permanent shelter that can be used. It also has electric that can be used for niceties such as a refrigerator and large screen TV (for our logging display). There is also a large pond and a play area for the kids. The main thing missing are large, high trees. We would have to make our own (antenna masts! Towers!). It does sit in a bit of a hole. That should be no real problem on HF though.

We did say we wanted to try different sites from time to time. While I have a love affair with our previous site, I am willing to give this one a try.

Don, W8PEN

MT63 Quick Start Guide

By Mark Bisenius, AC8FV

Have you always wanted to try digital, but all you own is a handheld and a netbook?

MT63 digital mode is so robust, you can make a digital contact on FM using only audio coupling between your radio and computer.

First, go to www.w1hjk.com, and navigate to the download page:

<http://www.w1hkj.com/download.html>.

Download the most recent version of Fldigi for Windows (fldigi-3.20.28_setup.exe), which is the Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System (NBEMS) digital modem program, that uses a computer's sound card to connect to a radio, instead of using a TNC.

Double-click to install, and follow the default installation steps. Fldigi runs on any system after Windows 98, under a no-cost GNU General Public License.

The Fldigi Configuration Wizard will open the first time you run Fldigi. Click "Next," and in the Operator Information Window, enter your call sign and first name.

Click "Next," and in the Audio Devices Window, in the "Devices" Tab, select the "PortAudio" box with a checkmark. Leave all other default settings as they are, click "Next," and skip the Transceiver Control Window by clicking "Finish." Fldigi will now start.



The Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club

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

V. President: Tony Spiegel, KC8UR
Tony516@embarqmail.com
Phone: 740-392-7586

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

Austin Godber, KD7NMS
godber@uberhip.com
Phone: 740-427-2450

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

Click "Op Mode" on the top toolbar in the upper left corner of the Fldigi window, scroll down to "MT63" in the pull-down menu, and select "MT63-2000." "MT63-2K" should now appear in the white box in the lower left corner of the Fldigi window. All other default settings should be left as they are.

If background noise is causing random text to scroll across the pale pink Receive Window, make sure the "SQL" squelch button in the lower right corner of the Fldigi window is engaged (green or yellow), and adjust the slider immediately above it until the "SQL" button just stays yellow without flickering green, and the random text stops scrolling. If Fldigi's squelch is too high, no digital will be received.

Next, open your computer sound card properties window, and set your computer speaker "Volume Control" to 50% volume for linear audio output. Make sure its mute is off, and its balance slider is centered.

Immediately adjacent is the "Wave" volume slider, which controls Fldigi's internal digital volume. Set it to 100% volume, and make sure its mute is off, and its balance slider is centered.

Finally, set your "Microphone" to 50% volume for linear audio input gain. Click its "Select" box with a checkmark, and make sure its balance slider is centered.

All ambient noise reduction, EQ, and DSP features of your computer sound card should be turned off.

In Fldigi, test the computer speaker volume by clicking the blue-green "CQ >I" Macro button just below the lower left corner of the pale blue Transmit Window. This Macro generates a digital CQ using your call sign, which appears as black text in the Transmit Window.

The black text will turn red as it is "transmitted" as audio out of the computer speakers, disappearing from the Transmit Window and reappearing in the Receive Window, to become part of the complete record of the QSO. Adjust the computer speaker volume to a comfortable listening level from the Windows taskbar.

Next, set your radio's speaker volume to a comfortable listening level. Test this by selecting your radio's VFO mode, and entering your NOAA Weather Radio frequency. (162.450 MHz in Knox County)

With the weather forecast playing from your radio speaker about 2 feet from your computer mic, the blue "Waterfall" will be scrolling in the bottom window of Fldigi. It should remain blue, not getting too yellow--or red.

Also, the diamond-shaped indicator in the lower right corner of the Fldigi window near the "SQL" button should remain green, and not turn yellow--or red. Otherwise,

you may have to turn down your radio volume, and/or your computer mic. You need less audio than expected!

Your radio's power should be reduced to half of full output or less, because on FM, the excessive lengths of many digital transmissions compared to voice could overheat the radio's finals, especially if made back-to-back. And your radio's output will be linear for MT63.

All RIT, compression, noise blanker, EQ, and DSP features of your radio should be turned off. MT63 up to 12dB below the noise floor can be received from a distant FM simplex contact, by opening your radio's squelch.

The ARRL National Band Plan lists 145.50-145.80 MHz as "Miscellaneous and experimental modes," which allows for mixed voice and digital on FM.

The Oroville Amateur Radio Society (CA) uses 145.510, 145.525, 145.565, and 145.580 MHz for digital modes on FM, avoiding interference with the SSTV national FM simplex frequency at 145.500 MHz, the Space Shuttle/ISS at 145.550 MHz, and high-altitude balloon packet/beacons at 145.590, 145.650, 145.690, 145.710, and 145.770 MHz. Check your local band plan as well.

OK, let's call CQ! First, monitor the frequency for about 5 minutes, and then using voice, ask: "Is this frequency in use?" Wait about 10 seconds and say: "Nothing heard...this is [your call sign] on [frequency]. I'm going to transmit a digital CQ using MT63-2K Long Interleave."

With the PTT switch still held down, and the handheld or radio mic about a foot or two from the computer speakers, click on the blue-green "CQ >I" Macro button just below the lower left corner of the pale blue Fldigi Transmit Window.

While Fldigi is in transmit mode, the "T/R" button in the lower right corner of the Fldigi window, just above the "SQL" button, will turn red. When the Fldigi transmission is complete, the "T/R" button will change from red to blank, and you can release the PTT switch on your radio, and wait for a reply. Clicking the "T/R" button while it is red will abort any Fldigi transmission.

Try three MT63 digital CQs about 30 seconds apart, using the "CQ >I" Macro button. When you get a reply to your CQ, it will scroll in the Receive Window.

Type your response in the Transmit Window, and when you're ready to transmit your text, make sure the handheld or radio mic is about a foot or two from the computer speakers. Hold down the PTT switch, and this time, click the purple "TX >I" button, just below the lower right corner of the Transmit Window. When your Fldigi transmission is complete, the "T/R" button will change from red to blank, and you can release the PTT switch, and wait for the next reply.

If you don't get a reply after three CQ attempts, or when you complete an MT63 digital QSO, use voice and say: "This is [your call sign], clear."

You just called CQ using MT63 digital!

ARISSat-1 "Suits Up" for February 2011 Launch

From the ARRL Letter, Oct. 28, 2010

Earlier this year, astronauts living on the International Space Station had to discard two surplus Orlan space suits. With the loss of the suits, those involved with AMSAT and Amateur Radio on the International Space Station were at a loss. One of these suits was to be used to house the electronics for the upcoming Suit-Sat mission. The batteries were to be mounted inside the suit, solar panels attached to the extremities with the electronics, with video cameras and an antenna mounted on the helmet. But even though the removal of the space suits took away the "Suit" component of the deployment, AMSAT and ARISS forged ahead, changing the configuration of the satellite and Amateur Radio experiment and giving it a new name: ARISSat-1/RadioSkaf-V.

According to ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, the AMSAT engineering team made the final decision for the satellite to become a cube with solar panels on all 6 sides. "The team is mounting a 70 cm quarter-wave whip on the bottom and a 2 meter quarter wave whip on the top, she explained. "All of the hardware and software goes inside the cube, with the cameras on the outside. ARISS sees this mission as another opportunity for education outreach, as it will provide an opportunity for students around the world to listen for recorded greetings from space, as well as learn about tracking spacecraft in orbit."

Students at Russia's Kursk State University are developing an experiment that will measure the vacuum of space; it is expected to be integrated into the electronics once the US-produced equipment is delivered to Russia this fall.

A band plan for the ARISSat-1, including CW beacon, SSB/CW 16 kHz transponder (70 cm uplink/2 meter downlink), BPSK telemetry (satellite status and experiment telemetry) and FM (announcements, slow scan television [SSTV] transmissions and telemetry) is now available:

[Band Plan](#)

ARISSat-1 will boast:

- 24 different student greetings -- transmitted in 15 languages -- on the FM downlink.
- SSTV shots taken by the spacecraft and transmitted to the ground on FM.
- Telemetry from Russia's Kursk State University experiment that will measure of the vacuum of space. The experiment will be sampling the amount of vacuum each day for 90 minutes, then sending down the data to map the vacuum change as the satellite slowly spirals into the atmosphere. According to AMSAT ARISSat Project Manager Gould Smith, WA4SXM, this is a unique experiment, "as we understand that such measurements have not been taken previously at the altitudes at which ARISSat-1 will operate."
- Ground station software for both the PC and Mac platforms. This software will be useful to demodulate and display the new BPSK1000 downlink that will include data from the experiment and satellite telemetry, as well as demodulate the older BPSK-400 format used by the Phase III satellites, such as AO-40. Audio from a 2 meter SSB receiver/scanner can be fed into a computer soundcard and the software will demodulate the downlink. Separate programs for displaying SSTV images and decoding CW are currently available from other sources.

Smith said that compared to SuitSat-1, the ARISSat-1 satellite is significantly enhanced: "You will recall that SuitSat-1 was battery operated only (no solar panels), while ARISSat-1 has six solar panels to provide power, plus a storage battery provided by RSC-Energia (the same type of battery used in the Russian Orlan spacesuit). The addition of solar panels will significantly enhance mission duration versus SuitSat-1."

Other ARISSat-1 upgrades include:

- ARISSat-1 will transmit four different modulated signals across a 48 kHz band, including a 16 kHz wide SSB/CW transponder, extensive BPSK telemetry downlink, CW beacon and FM downlink capabilities. SuitSat-1 did not have a receiver, so it was transmit-only with canned voice messages and a pre-recorded SSTV image, plus CW telemetry downlink on a single FM channel.
- ARISSat-1 will have a student experiment; the system can handle up to three experiments. SuitSat-1 did not carry student experiments.
- ARISSat-1 has 4 SSTV cameras and software to select photos taken with illuminated pixels to be transmitted to the ground on the FM channel. SuitSat-1 did not have SSTV photo capability, only a prerecorded SSTV image to transmit.
- ARISSat-1 has more pre-recorded student messages to transmit -- 24 messages in 15

languages. SuitSat-1 had prerecorded student messages in only 6 languages.

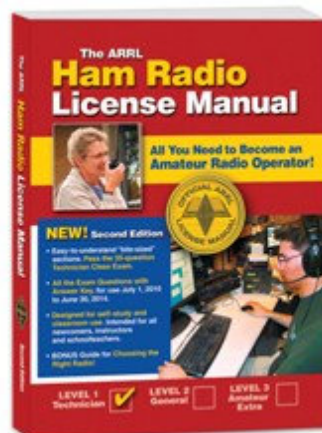
- ARISSat-1 has several “challenges” that students and others will be encouraged to meet, including decoding CW transmission of call signs of those involved with the project, recognizing a “secret word” at the end of the greetings and hearing a recording of a two-way transmission from former Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first human to orbit the Earth.
- ARISSat-1 is a technology demonstrator, featuring the first use of a software defined transponder (SDX) in an Amateur Radio spacecraft. According to one of the team leaders, Gould Smith, WA4SXM, SDX uses software to modulate/demodulate radio signals, rather than analog hardware. SuitSat-1 used a modified Kenwood analog transmitter.

Plans to launch a second SuitSat-spacesuit-turned-satellite were the subject of discussions and presentations at the November 2006 AMSAT Space Symposium and ARISS International Delegates' meeting. Despite a weaker-than-anticipated 2 meter signal, SuitSat-1-- a surplus Russian Orlan spacesuit fitted with an Amateur Radio transmitter -- sparked the imagination of students and the general public and turned into a public relations bonanza for Amateur Radio. ARISS hoped to capitalize on the concept by building an even *better* SuitSat that will include ham radio transponders. The SuitSat.org Web site attracted nearly 10 million hits during the mission. Designated by AMSAT as AO-54, SuitSat-1 remained in operation for more than two weeks, easily outlasting initial predictions that it would transmit for about a week. It re-entered the atmosphere and burned up in September 2006.

“Though ARISSat-1 won't sport as charming an exterior as its predecessor, it embodies significant enhancement in capability and longevity,” said ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ. “The ham radio community and schools with access to Amateur Radio ground stations can begin planning their mode of conversation with this new space inhabitant that will be arriving on the scene in just a few months!”

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual

I've begun reading through The ARRL Radio License Manual, ARRL's study guide for the Technician



level exam. This may be the best such study guide I have seen. The new exam pool is a lot more technical. It has gone back to using diagrams as examples in question In Subelement T6C, which deals with Electrical component, semiconductors, circuit diagrams, and component function, there are a 13 questions in the pool. Of these one will used on each exam. Of the 13 questions 10 refer to diagrams. So a prospective ham had better bone up on recognizing schematic symbols. Then there is Subelement T7D Basic repair and testing; soldering, use of a voltmeter, ammeter, ohmmeter. Yes you read that right. There is 20% chance that you will get a questions about soldering! These are just a couple of example. The Manual takes attacks these head on, with clear concise text and excellent diagrams and side bars that clearly demonstrate and explain concepts. It not only explains an answer to a question but it gives background as to the why and how.

As an example, Pool question T0C02 asks Which of the following frequencies has the lowest Maximum Permissible Exposure Limits? A. 3.5 MHz, B. 50 MHz, C. 440 MHz, D. 1296 MHz. The text not only guides you to the answer it explains why it true. I did not know that the full human body is resonant at about 35 MHz when grounded and 70 MHz if not grounded. So knowing this I don't have to memorize the answer to the above question. 50 MHz is right in the middle of that range. Its like this through the whole book. Add that this Manual also includes all 396 question in the pool with the questions posted in the column to the side of the question, makes it easy to cover-up or fold over why reviewing.

In addition to the excellent descriptions within the text the Manual is also laced with additional reference material online at:

<http://www.arrl.org/ham-radio-license-manual>

Once at this page there is a Chapter by Chapter list of links that follow the link references in the Manual. One such link is the "annotated tutorials on waves":

<http://www.acoustics.salford.ac.uk/schools/index1.htm>.

Another is the Ohm's Law Tutorial:

http://www.allaboutcircuits.com/vol_1/chpt_2/1.html.

As they say on the infomercials "Wait there's more!" The 24 page supplement "Choosing a Ham Radio" is class addition to this volume. This isn't a buyers guide, but rather a short treatise that explains the workings and purposes of radios in general. It explains batteries, squelch and tones, scanning, modes, antennas and accessories as the pertain to radios in general. There are two section here, one on VHF/UHF radios and another on HF radios. Each section has its own glossary.

As is typical of such guides, ARRL helps offset the cost of publishing by taking advertising. There are twelve pages of advertisements at the very end of the book. Here's the good part. The ads cover equipment books other study guides etc. for all levels of radio. However, the majority of ads are for equipment that would be bought by a new ham. Thus it makes an interesting supplement to the "Choosing a Ham Radio" supplement.

To say the least I am very impressed with the new Manual and recommend it to anyone who wants to add to his ham knowledge, not just to those studying or those teaching or helping a person study for his/her Technician License. I judge it to be a great additional to my Radio Library.

The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual Published by ARRL, Newington, CT\$24.95

As a side note: The Question Pool Study Guide that is in "The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual" can be found online at:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Get%20Licensed/HRLM%20nd/QPOOL-study%20guide-2nd-ed.pdf>

E. Michael McCardel

No "Maybes" About It: ARRL Sweepstakes is Fun!

From the ARRL Letter, Oct. 28, 2010

[ARRL Sweepstakes](#) has been part of Amateur Radio in the US and Canada for more than 75 years. In 2010, the tradition continues with the 77th running of the best domestic contest in all of Amateur Radio: CW will be the weekend of November 6, while the Phone portion of the contest runs the weekend of November 20.

What makes it so special? According to ARRL Contest Branch Manager Sean Kutzko, KX9X, there are many reasons. "Maybe it's the long exchange that recalls the days of message handling," he said. "Have you ever wondered why you get two points for each QSO in Sweepstakes? In the original rules, you earned 1 point for every message transmitted and 1 point for every message received." Maybe it's the different levels of competition throughout the event. Kutzko explained that at the contest's highest level, the top scores are only separated by only a few QSOs. At the Division and Section level, Kutzko said that



the friendly rivalries between friends and club members across the continent over who buys the pizza are too numerous to list. This event brings clubs together!

Maybe it's the fact that a station with just 100 W and a dipole can do well. "When you string up a wire, put some RF into it and keep sitting in the chair, and you could easily win a certificate for your efforts," Kutzko said. "If you make 100 QSOs, you can order a Participation Pin to document your accomplishment."

Maybe it's the mystique of the Clean Sweep: working all 80 ARRL Sections and former ARRL Canadian Sections in an entire weekend. "Never have so many radio amateurs put it so much effort to earn the coveted Clean Sweep mug," he said. Last year, the Contest Branch shipped more than 500 mugs to those who accomplished the feat.

With so much tradition and fun to be had, what's keeping you on the sidelines of one of the highlights of the Amateur Radio calendar? With participation on the bands at an all-time high --, and with 10 meters showing significant signs of life as recently as October 23 -- every amateur from Technician to Extra -- from the casual participant to the seasoned contest veteran -- can get in on the action and fun.

This year for the first time ever, alumni are allowed to participate in the School Club category; previously, alumni were only allowed to mentor from the sidelines. Now alumni can operate from their school's established club station right along with the current student members. "This is a golden Elmering moment, so take advantage of it," Kutzko explained. "But don't hog all the fun -- make sure the students get operating time, too! There are a lot of Sections where an entry in the School Club category has *never* been received. Do you want to make your School Club's first foray into Sweepstakes a record score? Look at the [All-Time Records table](#) and take your pick from some extremely low-hanging fruit."

Also worth nothing this year is that the return to Standard Time from Daylight Saving Time occurs during the CW running of Sweepstakes. While you will seemingly "gain" an hour in local time during the event, remember that logs use UTC, which is not affected by the time change. The contest will still end at 0300 UTC on Monday. For stations on the East Coast, CW Sweepstakes begins at 5 PM Saturday afternoon and ends at 10 PM Sunday evening; West Coast stations will start at 2 PM Saturday and end at 7 PM Sunday.

The 2010 ARRL November CW Sweepstakes runs from 2100 UTC Saturday, November 6 through 0300 UTC Monday, November 8. The SSB portion of Sweepstakes runs from 2100 UTC Saturday, November 20 through 0300 UTC Monday, November 22. Complete information and the Sweepstakes Operating Guide, as well as a PDF complete with rules, operating tips and templates for submitting an electronic Cabrillo log, can be found [here](#).

Submit your electronic CW logs [here](#); electronic Phone

logs go [here](#). Paper logs should be sent to ARRL November Sweepstakes, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. Please be sure to designate Phone or CW on the envelope. All Sweepstakes logs must be submitted within 15 days of the contest ending. For CW, logs are due no later than 0300 UTC on Tuesday, November 23, 2010, and Phone logs no later than 0300 UTC on Tuesday, December 7, 2010. Logs not e-mailed or postmarked by the log submission deadline may be reclassified as checklogs. While the ARRL will never refuse a paper log, Cabrillo-formatted electronic logs are strongly encouraged.

Join thousands of other radio amateurs across the continent and get in on this year's fun in the ARRL November Sweepstakes!

Radio-Activity

By Don Russell, W8PEN

Great Event

I had a great time at the October meeting/Cookout this year. The club lucked out and we had really nice weather for the event.



Club President Arlin Bradford brought our new Communications Vehicle to the event and set up an HF station. The antenna mast was compliments of Tom Evans, KD8HSA. One of those fiber glass masts that Tom got a good deal on. Antenna I believe was a G5RV all band antenna. I did not operate the station. I was actually having fun socializing with some of the old timers and new timers alike.

It was a really good meeting too. I figured we would not have much of a meeting because it would get too dark, but lighting from the shelter was just fine.

2011 Elections

Don't forget to come to the November meeting and voice your opinion on who should lead the club in 2011. The Election Committee of Mike McCardel (KC8YLD) and myself have been hard at work lining up some suggestions. We have a full slate of nominations that will be revealed at the November meeting. However, nominations will still be open from the floor. If you don't like whom we suggest, then volunteer or nominate someone else. That is the way it is supposed to work.

New Technician Class

As fall sets in, it will be time to get serious about another Technician Class.

A new, more difficult, question pool has been introduced. It will be a challenge to teach some of the more Technical stuff. I am pleased to have Instructors like Barry Butz (N8PPF), Mike McCardel (KC8YLD), Jim Jennessee (KD8UT), and Arlin Bradford (KD8EVR) to help teach this stuff.

That is not to say that more instructors are not welcome. Indeed, if any club member wishes to help out with our class, let me know.

Thinking about it, it is very nice to have so many well qualified instructors as we now have. I started out teaching our classes simply because no one else wanted to do it. I did not want to do it either. I hate teaching, and do not consider myself especially good at it. However, the job needed to be done. Thanks to Barry (N8PPF) helping me out from day one, we have had annual classes for the last seven years or so. Sometimes the class consisted of only two or three students. But hey, you got to keep working at it.

The last several classes have been very big turnouts thanks in part to Jon Penko (KD8LFI) and Don Bunner (KP8QPO) talking up Ham Radio and supplying us with the students.

Look for a full page announcement in the December and January Newsletters which one can copy and post on your favorite bulletin board.

Anticipated start date is January 20, 2011. However, that may be moved up a week to January 13th. It will last from six to eight weeks. I need to get with our Instructors and see what they think due to the new material that will need to be covered. There is also the matter of books. KC8YLD has a very nice article on the new License Manual in this Newsletter. Perhaps we will go with it.

Pay Your Dues!

I hope everyone looks back at the year 2010 and finds that the Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club has had a great year. KD8EVR has done a fantastic job leading our club in a positive direction. All members need to realize how much respect our club has gained in the community through Arlin's efforts and will hopefully consider staying on for the year of 2011. Dues are a low \$12 per year.

If you are not already a member, please consider supporting us by joining today. End of Ad (Hi Hi).

See you at the meeting.

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: