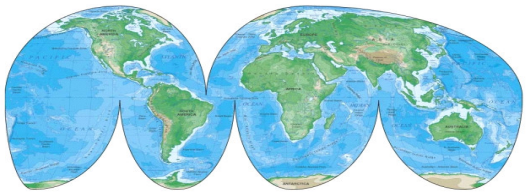
MOUNT VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

C  Q

October 2007 Newsletter

MEETINGS SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH AT THE RED CROSS ANNEX BUILDING,
300 N MULBERRY ST, MT. VERNON, OHIO
FREQUENCIES: 146.790 Mhz (-) K8EEN /R , Simplex: 146.52 Mhz, 446.000 Mhz, and 446.125 Mhz (WA8YRS-L Echolink Simplex)
*****SUNDAY NIGHT ARES NET AT 8:00 P.M ON THE K8EEN REPEATER OPEN TO ALL*****

HT FIRST AID

By Ronald M. Youvan, KA4INM

(*Found this on the Internet. Use the info at your own risk..Ed)*

What would you do if your H.T. drops into water? The "First Aid" you administer at the time of the incident can save you money! If an antenna was on the radio. remove it and submerge it in water until you are done working on the radio and the battery pack. If it fell into salt water, the faster you disconnect the battery pack and get the salt water out, the better, and the quicker you rinse the salt water out of the radio and battery pack and replace it with fresh water the less damage will result!

First the battery pack: I don't know how well sealed the various brands of battery packs are, but if the (very conductive) salt water gets in, you need to get it out, by replacing it with fresh water. If you don't remove it the electroplating that will take place in the pack before the battery is run down will make a real mess of things. If some salt water gets in the pack, won't shake out, and you can't fill it with fresh water (by submerging it in a bucket or something), add a teaspoon of dish washing detergent to improve the "wetting action". You might need to take the battery pack apart or remove one cover, and rinse it out under running tap water many times.

Now the Radio itself: The easiest way to clean out the H.T. itself is to remove the back and rinse it out under a running stream of water. Repeatedly drain and re-fill the entire unit a lot of times. Remember the H.T. has a little battery in it, to maintain the channel memories when the battery pack is removed. The quicker you get the salt water out the better the chances are that the wires will be still be on the lithium cell or nicad pack, but expect the memory to be wiped out. Dry it as discussed below. Remember to thoroughly clean the radio's back, it's belt clip, and the antenna before you put them back on the radio.

Removing the fresh water may be easer than replacing the (highly conductive) salt water with (slightly conductive) fresh water. Simply gently heat the pack to about 120 degrees F with any openings down on some toweling and periodically pick it up and shake it to "sling" the water out through the cracks or the charging hole.

You can use a hair drier set on its coolest warming setting or a household vacuum cleaner, with the dust etc. blown out of the hose, set on exhaust, the motor will eventually heat up and worm the air passing through it. - no oven!

Once dried, you can test it. First on receive. If the speaker is distorted, plug in an external one or try an earpiece. Some brands of radios have plastic loudspeaker cones (usually mylar) others are paper. Both can be adversely affected by water immersion, and both types can survive a "Hosing off." The little speakers can be removed from old (lightning damaged) cordless phones for nothing and are found at surplus outlets (local and mail order) for a dollar or so.

Whether you take your radio straight to a local service center or try to control the damage yourself, the "First Aid" you administer at the time of the incident can save you money in the long run! **Ron, ka4inm@qsl.net**

MVARC

Mt. Vernon Amateur Radio Club
Minutes for the September 10, 2007 Meeting.

By Jeff Butz, N8SMT

Attendees:

1	**Dick Huggins**	**N8RDH**
2	**Mike McCardel**	**KC8YLD**
3	**Arlin Bradford**	**KD8EVR**
4	**Jeff Butz**	**N8SMT**
5	**Tom Kern**	

President Mike McCardel, KC8YLD, called the meeting to order at 7:20 P.M.

Tom Kern introduced himself and said he was interested in Ham Radio. A good discussion on the different aspects of Ham Radio ensued.

Repeater Report: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR.
The 440 Repeater is up and running. Its frequency is 442.100 + with a 5 MHz. offset and a PL of 71.9. The tower is 180 feet up. It currently does not have a controller so it doesn't identify itself. Users should identify that they are using the KD8EVR repeater.

Red Cross: Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR.
The Red Cross has a UHF system up and running its on 452.050 MHz. with a DCS of 423. This system can be cross-banded to the National Red Cross Low Band of 47.24 MHz.

Pizza Hut Report: Dick Huggins, N8RDH.
Dick reported that last Wednesday they had a very good turnout of 12 people and everyone had a good time. Everyone is welcome. They get together Wednesdays at 5:00 P.M. at the Pizza Hut on South Main Street.

Library Book Donation Report: Mike McCardel, KC8YLD.
Don Russell, WA8YRS has received another book from ARRL and the Library is processing it.

New Business:
Mike McCardel said that Terry Klopcic, Director of Laboratories for Physics and Mathematics, has agreed to present his demonstration on Wave Theory at Kenyon and Mike thought that would be a good item to have for our February meeting.

Jeff Butz, N8SMT recommended we have a motion to cancel the Fox Hunt because of a lack of participants. Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, made the motion that was seconded by Dick Huggins, N8RDH. The motion was carried.

Mike asked for a motion to adjourn. Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, made the motion that was seconded by Jeff Butz, N8SMT. The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Jeffrey L. Butz, N8SMT.

HAM HISTORY

By Barry Butz, N8PPF

Credit for this article goes to: International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)
http://www.iec.ch/100years/techline/

George Westinghouse (1846-1914) is now known for the brand of electrical appliances that bear his name. One of his inventions was the railroad airbrake, built by the Westinghouse Airbrake Company (Wabco). When I worked at Rolls-Royce, all our turbine units had a Wabco valve that served as a quick-closing fuel shutoff.

Westinghouse's engineering fame rests largely on putting into effect a vision of alternating current, rather than the direct current promoted by Thomas Edison, as the electrical distribution system of the future. He founded Westinghouse Electric in 1886 and worked with some of the most talented electrical engineers in the world to put that realization into practice. After seeing Nikola Tesla's comprehensive polyphase alternating current transmission system in 1888, Westinghouse purchased Tesla's AC motor and dynamo patents and hired him to improve and modify the dynamo for use in the power system. Westinghouse also completely funded Tesla's research and offered him a generous royalty agreement on future profits. (Tesla declined a 1% royalty payment. If he had accepted, his estate would certainly be among the wealthiest in the world today.)

Bidding at half the cost of what Edison bid for a DC system, Westinghouse won the coveted contract to harness the power of the Niagara River. Thereafter Westinghouse built power plants and transmission lines, proving once and for all that AC power was an economical and workable system, while Edison's DC system only ever secured limited application.

Tesla later said of him: “George Westinghouse was, in my opinion, the only man on this globe who could take my alternating-current system under the circumstances then existing and win the battle against prejudice and money power. He was a pioneer of imposing stature, one of the world's true nobleman of whom America may well be proud and to whom humanity owes an immense debt of gratitude.

Items for Sale

The following list is items for sale by Bob Bruff, N8PCE.

If anyone is interested, contact Don Russell, WA8YRS at wa8yrs@arrl.net or 740-397-0249.

1. 140 feet of RG-213-U coax with PL-259 connectors on both ends. Good condition. $40.00
2. 45 feet of Type III RG-8 coax with 1 N connector and 1 PL-259 on each end. Good Condition. $20.00
3. 60 feet of RG-8 coax with PL-259 connectors on each end. Good conditon. $20.00
4. 65 feet of Type III RG-8 coax with 1 N connector and 1 PL-259 on each end. Good condition. There are two rolls. $30.00 each roll.
5. Heathkit 1 KW Cantenna dummy load. Fair condition. The can looks rough, but there is oil in it and it does not leak. $20.00
6. Heathkit Ultra Pro CW keyboard model HD-8999. Looks to be in Very good conditon. I did not test it $20.00
7. MFJ 440 Mhz UHF SWR Analyzer. Model Number MFJ-219. Very good Good condition. I did not test it. $30.00
8. Kenwood HT microphone for older Kenwoods. Has the two plugs on one end. Looks like new, but I did not test it. $15.00
9. Kenwood DTMF mobile microphone. Looks nice. Not tested. $20.
10. Radio Shack RS-232 seriel prot tester. $3.00
11. Beckman Teck 300 digital Volt/ohm meter. Works. $10.00
12. Radio Shack straight key. $2.00
13. Drake TV-42-LP Low Pass Filter and Drake TV-75-HP High Pass Filter. Both for $15.00
14. Radio Shack TRC-475 CB Emergency Radio. 40 channel. Looks like an older handheld. Requires batteries that are not included. Has a mag-mount antenna. Looks like new but not tested. $10.00
15. MFJ keyer and paddle. Model MFJ-422B-X. Works and looks to be in good condition. $50.00
16. MFJ RTTY/CW interface. Model MFJ-1224. Looks to be in good condition. I think this was intended for the older Radio Shack, Commadore, Apple, and Atari computers. I do not think it has a serial port, but rather uses TTL. One should read up on it on the intenet. $10.00
17. MFJ Signal Enhancer II Tunable SSB/CW audio filter. Model MFJ 752B. $40.00
18. Kenwood Speaker, Model SP-430. $25.00
19. Radio Shack Frequency Counter. Cat # 22-305. Goes up to 1300 Mhz. $40.00
20. Three bags of misc. stuff. Soldering irons, earphones, cables. A little bit of everything. $5.00 per bag.

Pending prior sales, I will bring what I have left to the October meeting. Everything is “as is” because most of it has been visually looked at, but not tested. I believe these are very low priced, intended for quick sales. Everything is “or best offer”.

There are a few things that may not be on this list. I will bring everything to the meeting.

While we are on the topic of items for sale, I personally have an HP Pavilion 6545C that I will give to anyone needing an extra computer, or maybe a first computer. It is a Celeron 500 with a speed of 500 Mhz (of course). 191 MB of memory, and a 20 Gig drive. Has a fast CD/RW drive. Runs Windows 98 and has all the updates.

I have had this computer for a long time and it still runs 99 percent of the ham radio software out there. The only reason I am parting with it is because I found a good deal on a Pentium 4 with Windows Vista, and have no room to store it.

I have just recently reformatted the drive and put all the original software back on. I works as good as it did brand new. Would be a good computer logging computer, dedicated digital mode computer, or just plain e-mailing and web browsing.

This computer is not for sale. It is free on a first come first serve basis.

Anyone interested, contact me by using the above contact information. Don, WA8YRS.

AMATEUR RADIO GOES TO WASHINGTON

(From the ARRL Letter, September 28, 2007)

Army MARS Chief Stuart S. Carter, AAA9A, has invited the ARRL and Amateur Radio representatives to join a Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) demonstration outside the Capitol building in Washington, DC on October 3. Hams around the country are asked to aid in the demonstration by making HF contacts during the day. With help from Laura Abshire, Legislative Aide to Representative Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), Tricia Russell, Legislative Aide to Representative Steve Israel (D-NY), and coordination of the myriad

details by "Pudge" Forrester, W4LTX, Systems Administrator for Representative Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD), the "show" is set for next Wednesday, and hams around the country can help.

ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "Thanks to a MARS invitation to join in a demonstration, and excellent coordination work by Forrester, the October 3 demonstration of Amateur Radio and MARS emergency communications will be front and center in the open space between the Capitol building and the Botanic Garden in Washington, DC." Pitts went on to say that the regional MARS organization is planning to conduct an exercise demonstrating emergency communications at the Capitol, as well.

The exercise assumes a Category 3 hurricane, Hurricane Quincy, will make landfall on October 2 over the coastal areas of Delaware, Maryland, DC and Virginia. Quincy will progress northward to New Jersey and Pennsylvania and then travel inland to the south, returning to the Atlantic Ocean on October 5 via the Carolinas and Georgia. During this time, MARS resources will be challenged by ongoing events in every part of the country, including ice storms, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and earthquakes.

There will be a communication trailer, tent type shelter, four HF transceivers -- voice, PSK, and Winlink -- and VHF equipment at the site. The local Voice of America (VOA) organization and MARS have local repeaters and digipeaters available. Power will come from solar panels and generators with battery backup. The emergency communications trailer, owned by the Blue Ridge Association, Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware, part of the Southern Baptist North American Missions Disaster Relief Ministries, will also be on hand.

Representatives from ARRL headquarters, including Pitts, will be there. They will have ARRL public relations materials as well as video that shows the negative impact of BPL if current FCC rules are not modified. In addition, there are special materials for Members of Congress and their staff advocating Amateur Radio's positions on several legislative issues, including information to solicit co-sponsorship of H.R. 462 and H.R. 2743.

While MARS will be conducting their drill on their frequencies, Amateur Radio operations are scheduled from 1400-2100 UTC. While there may be last minute changes, plans are to try to center HF voice contacts around 14.250 and 7.250 MHz, and on PSK at 14.070 MHz. "By showing Members of Congress our nationwide capabilities and potentials, we advance the Service in many ways," Pitts said.

Representatives Ross and Bartlett plan to stop by. Army MARS is sending their Chief of Operations Grant Hays from Arizona. Mike Barrett, K3MMB, of the Transportation Security Administration's Office of Security Operations is aiding with the operations and logistics.

Repeaters and Stuff

By Don Russell, WA8YRS

For those who do not know, there is another Repeater in town. Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR, has put up a new 440 Repeater on 442.100 Mhz. + (plus 5 Mhz. for transmit) This repeater is using a PL of 71.9 Hz., just like our 2 meter Repeater does, so set up your radio accordingly.

The repeater is on the Sheriff's tower on the East end of town. The antenna is on top of the tower at about 100 feet.

Obviously, there has not been a lot of activity on this repeater, but the hope is that it will be used as an alternate to the 2 meter repeater. When the 2 meter repeater is in use, feel free to use this one. We need a few stations out there checking the range.

I have had some success using this repeater. From my QTH, with the hill blocking the East, I have a hard time hitting this repeater with a handheld. No problem with the mobile, however. I was out at the brush recycling center by the old dump a week or so ago and was able to hit this repeater with my VX-1 which runs ½ a watt.

I am a little disappointed with the activity of my Echolink Simplex channel on 446.125 Mhz. I really did figure there would be a few readers interested in using it once in a while. So far, I have been the only user.

It has been fun though. During my walks around the neighborhood, I have talked to quite a few stations from all over. The other day I joined a round table which included hams from Ireland, England, and California. It was fun.

So, whether anyone else uses it or not, I am getting lots of enjoyment out of the set up and plan on continuing to have it up during the evenings from 5:00p.m. to 10:00p.m local time, pending weather and my ability to monitor. Feel free to reread last months Newsletter on how to use this Echo Link Station and join the fun.

Remember, this is not a repeater. You may not hear me talking to someone because I will be using my HT or mobile most all the time. You should, however, hear the Echolink Station, WA8YRS-L and whomever is talking to me.

Our 2 meter Repeater has been working just fine. No

problems from what I can see. When I am mobile, I continue to give calls on our repeater. Actually, I give a call out on these frequencies: 176.79 (-), 442.100 (+), 146.52 simplex, 446.000 simplex, and 446.125 simplex. I call on each of these frequencies and if I get no answer, I scan these frequencies in case I get a late call.

Since shutting down the 6 meter repeater, I have made some improvements to my Radio Shack. This all started when I set up the Echo Link Station. I wanted to be able to access the Echolink Station from my car, but had no DTMF microphones that would work on my FT-857D mobile rig. This is a very nice radio which covers all bands and modes from 160 meters to 70 cm., but had a standard microphone with it. I check the price of a DTMF microphone for this radio and thought the price was rather steep. Since I really did not do much HF work from the car, I decided to remove this radio and reinstall my FT-8900 quad bander, complete with DTMF microphone. I am glad I did. I really like this radio.

That left me with a spare radio though. Oh what to do?

Well, I decided that since my “Ham Shack” was down in the basement and I had no means to get on the HF bands from upstairs, that I would set up the FT-857D downstairs at the operating table and run the remote head upstairs to where I keep my laptop, which I use to edit the Newsletter and read emails and surf the web.

It did not take long to set up. All the antennas come into the basement, so keeping the radio down there made it easy to hook up. I had just enough remote cable to place the radio head exactly where I wanted it. It is really nice to finally be able to listen to the HF bands upstairs. Plus, the radio works on 2 meters and 440 too. Now I am able to also monitor the repeater and simplex channels with something other than my HT. I am indeed in Ham Heaven!

Taking this one step further, I ordered the Cushcraft Tri-band VHF/UHF beam. This antenna is a 3 element beam on 6 meters, a 5 element beam on 2 meters and a 5 element beam on 70 cm. All from one boom. It is almost invisible above my 20-10 meter tri-band beam.

I believe I am set for the winter. No more tower climbing or antenna building for me. I am ready to chew the rag!

The Fox Hunt (transmitter hunt) that was supposed to happen at the September meeting was a no show. Not enough people attended the meeting. In fact, I actually missed this one!

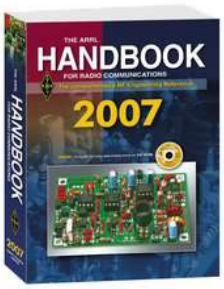
We may still be able to get a hunt in before winter embraces us. Perhaps we should discuss this at the meeting and pick a Saturday that Ohio State is not playing football in the afternoon, or at least later in the afternoon. We could start at noon and be done by 3:00 or 4:00pm.

Okay, and later we can have a winter fox hunt!

See you at the meeting.

DO YOU READ THE BIBLE?

By Ronald M. Youvan, KA4INM



The BIBLE. I don't mean "The BIBLE," in it's many variations. I am referring to our hobby manual that few hobbies have, `The Radio Amateur's Handbook.' It's easy for those of us that have had one glued to our elbow for 35 years, but what about the newcomers? The new ham who does not have an electronic backgrounds. In fact, I have a very good ham friend that is a nurse, and she is not the first nurse-ham that I have met. I use much more of the information that I learn from the ARRL handbook than from my 2 years of technical school, or in my work maintaining transmitters.

I spent many very nice days (with my wife) at "Disney World" starting in 1971 reading my way through the long waiting lines at attractions. It added to my enjoyment of the holiday. Little by Little my technical knowledge of radio expanded. I have always been a technician trying to learn to operate!

For a newcomer to ham radio the Radio Amateur's Handbook is a must! Where to get one? From the ARRL of course. Or your favorite Candy Store. Hardcover books are $59.95. Softcover book is $44.95. Each book comes with a searchable CD-ROM that includes the complete handbook. You can pick up a nice copy at some hamfests for less than $10.00. I read a 1967 edition, (bright red cover - different every year.)

How to study it? This may seem odd, but new hams without any electronics background should read the first chapter called "Amateur Radio" then "Operating a Station" followed by `Assembling a Station'. All non-technical chapters. Then the technical chapters begin, `Electrical Laws and Circuits' followed by `Transmission Lines'. I have no more suggestions. Read about anything that you develop an interest or have a question about, like antennas or the Digital Modes or Single Sideband, etc. **KA4INM, ka4inm@qsl.net**

DELIGHTED AT HOW WELL HE GETS OUT WITH A KILOWATT AND AN INDOOR DIPOLE, BOB GIVES LITTLE THOUGHT TO THE EFFECTS OF NEAR-FIELD RF.

GET READY FOR JOTA

(From the ARRL Letter, September 28,2007)

Jamboree on the Air will celebrate its 50th year this year when it gets on the air October 19-21. Normally a 48 hour event, this year's JOTA will be 50 hours long in recognition of the anniversary. The fun begins at 2200 (local time) October 19 and ends at midnight (local time) October 21.

An on-the-air operating event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau, JOTA was founded in 1958 by Les Mitchell, G3BHK. It has grown to become the largest international Scout event. More than half a million Scouts and Guides in more than 100 countries participate in JOTA, involving as many as 10,000 Amateur Radio stations.

The event relies on the Amateur Radio community and local hams for its success. Getting Boy and Girl Scouts (including Cubs and Brownies) on the air to talk with other Scouts around the world provides a great opportunity to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Some troops and clubs team up to make a big splash with lots of activities, radios and antennas, offering a variety of modes to experience. For others, JOTA provides an opportunity to coach a smaller group of Scouts and to just have fun talking on the radio. Scouts usually enjoy communicating by speaking into a microphone, but some radio amateurs are able to provide other modes, such as slow-scan TV or amateur TV, satellites, packet radio, RTTY or even EME!

For more information on the 2007 Jamboree on the Air, please visit the ARRL JOTA Web site <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota> where you can find general rules, suggested exchanges and recommended frequencies. There will also be a place on the ARRL Web site to tell your JOTA stories at <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/>.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER

(From the ARRL Letter, September 28,2007)

America was abruptly reminded of the critical role of Amateur Radio in 2005 as Amateur Radio operators came from all over the country to provide emergency communications when other systems failed during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2007, Amateur Radio operators continued to provide lifesaving services in many floods and wildfires around the country. Because of the complexity of today's normal communications systems, they are often overwhelmed in a disaster. These painful lessons are being tested again on October 6 and 7 as Amateur Radio operators around the country conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Test.

This year, Amateur Radio operators will be replicating many scenarios that have crippled normal communications in the recent past. These include flooding, wildfires, bombings, ice storms, hurricanes and earthquakes. Something new for this year are plans for responses in case of pandemic flu and the probability that large populations will need to shelter at home and not be able to go out.

Using emergency powered radios and working with local agencies, hams will establish radio communications networks that can be used should there be a failure or overload of normal services.

While the ARRL has scheduled the Simulated Emergency Test for October 6-7, some ARRL Sections have scheduled their SET for different dates. Please check with your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator for the date of the SET in your Section.

The Satellite Beacon
A monthly article presented by the Project OSCAR Amateur Radio Club

Originally published in January of 2005

This Month's Topic – Kids and Amateur Satellites
By Arundathie (Aruni) Kumari Perera VE4WMK – Project OSCAR Team Member

[Ed. Note: At age 11, Aruni is the youngest member of the Project OSCAR team. She lives in Winnipeg, MB and attends the 6th grade. Her Dad, Kumara Perera VE4WKP is also a Project OSCAR member and active on Amateur Satellites.]

Amateur radio is a wonderful hobby with no age limit. It is not only a "fun" hobby but also a hobby with great benefits for our school studies such as science, math and social studies, as well as for our day-to-day life. Amateur satellite communication is the most fascinating and technically challenging part of this hobby in the modern world.

What are these Amateur Satellites or "birds" (the pet name for Amateur satellites)? What we can learn from this as school children if we become young Amateur satellite operators?

Understanding the basics of Amateur satellites is very beneficial for us as school children. Amateur satellites are built on the ground by Radio Amateurs and sent into space around the earth by

powerful rockets. They carry transmitters and receivers to communicate with Radio Amateurs on the ground helping them to exchange radio contacts from long distances covering large ground areas. Their paths or “orbits” around the earth are about 400 Km to 2000 Km high above the earth. They travel on these “orbits” at a speed of about 28,500 Km per hour. Such speed keeps satellites from falling back to earth due to gravity. This is a very important principle of physics in science we learn in our later grades.

We learn how to send radio signals to these moving satellites by tracking or following their paths accurately while they travel above our ground stations. There are computer “satellite tracking programs” to help predict these paths for us. We can learn some interesting geographical terms such as Horizon, Azimuth, Elevation, Latitude, Longitude, which are related to these computer programs. We also learn about the earth’s time zones when we learn how to convert our local time to the Universal time UTC (Universal Time Coordinate).

To know the exact angle the satellite entering from our “Horizon”, we must learn how to measure various angles. We learn how the “Compass” works and how to find the “Azimuth” or the geographical angle of the satellite’s path using the Compass. Elevation is also an angle we should understand to locate these “birds”. These are good homework for our math studies.

We satellite operators, exchange contacts through these satellites using base stations, mobile stations with equipment mounted in cars or even like myself operate with inexpensive portable transceivers and handheld antennas. When we use our radio equipment and portable antennas for satellite communication, we learn the basics of modern communication equipment and radio transmission principles. It’s a great opportunity for us to learn how to program the various functions such as transmit and receive frequencies, tones, transmit power levels etc in modern transceivers. We also learn how to care about our basic electronic equipment and how to maintain their rechargeable batteries.

As satellite operators, we follow certain routines in order to share this fun with other operators. Since these satellites travel above our stations only for about 15 minutes, we learn to be patient to make a contact with a station in order not to interfere with on going communications. We also learn to follow the “Golden rule” - not to send transmissions to the satellite until we hear other stations. This is to make sure our receiving setup is working properly before we transmit. These are good manners and disciplines that are even useful to our daily life.

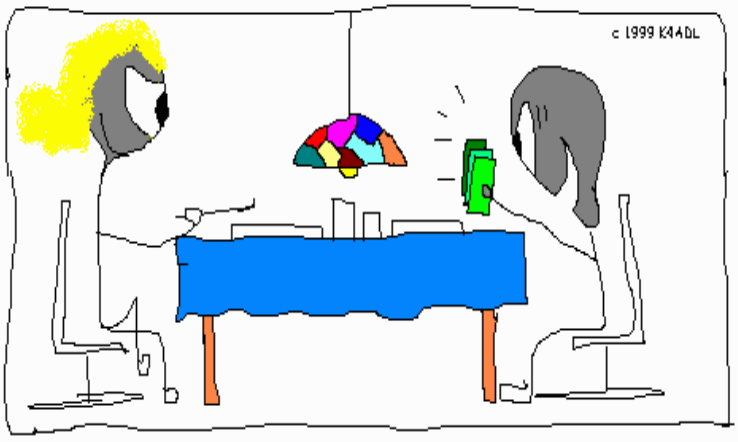
We also learn to keep records of all the satellite contacts we make to exchange official “QSL cards” to confirm our contacts. These records includes all necessary details about these contacts including date, time, station call signs, grid locations, frequencies, equipment, antennas etc. These records can be used to apply for various satellite communication awards. Recently I won my first such award of “Oscar Satellite Communication Achievement Award” for the satellite contacts I made through 20 individual US states including 3 Canadian provinces. This is one of the things we earn from Amateur Satellite operations that we can be proud of when we grow up. Since I started keeping records of my satellite contacts, I also started maintaining a record about the history of my daily activities before I go to bed. This is a good example of a great habit, which I learned from being a Radio Amateur.

I hope many more kids join with this exciting hobby, benefit from the experience, which will help to build their future successfully.

Hear you on the “birds” soon!

73,
Aruni

Member of WARC (Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club)
Member of RAC (Radio Amateurs of Canada)
Member of CLARA (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association)
Member of AMSAT (Amateur Satellite Organization)



Newsletter Credits
Editor: Don Russell, WA8YRS

Clip Art and Cartoons thanks to http://wm8c1.50megs.com/radio_clip_art.htm, http://www.qsl.net/k4adl/, http://pages.prodigy.net/kg0zz/clipart/ham_art3.htm, http://www.arrl.org/,

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 wa8yrs@arrl.net or Don Russell, WA8YRS, 815 Brookwood Road, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050

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Vice President: Don Russell, WA8YRS	**Wa8yrs@arrl.net**	**Phone: 740-397-0249**
Secretary: Jeff Butz, N8SM	**Jaylynn@copper.net**	**Phone: 740-965-9368**
Treasurer: Barry Butz, N8PPF	**n8ppf@mvarc.net**	**Phone: 740-397-7540**

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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_____

Extra Donation (Optional)_____

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

If yes please enter password_____

Other Comments: