



**Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Knox County Chapter of the American Red Cross (Annex) 300 North Mulberry Street Mount Vernon, OH 43050**



**K8EEN Repeater: 146.790. MHz (600KHz with PL of 71.9 Hz)  
K8EEN-R Echolink Node: 809800  
K8EEN Repeater: 444.600 MHz (+5 MHz with PL of 71.9 Hz)**

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## President's View

I hope everyone's New Year is off to a good start. We have been very busy here in EVS land plenty of children and grandchildren in and out, plus some travel. It's a new year and it use to be a quiet time for the radio club but that has been changing. First, we have the 50 up simplex contest (Ohio ARES VHF Simplex Contest) this Saturday Jan 12 from 10am to 4pm. For more details visit look up January 7 edition of PostScript, or visit <http://ww8tf.club/ares-contest/>. This looks to be a great time to try 6 meters.



Second item this month is the Tech Class starts. There will be an introductory meeting on Thursday, January 24th with our first study session on Thursday, January 31. Our sessions will run weekly every Thursday evening with our last session on March 14th. We anticipate our Exam Session will be Saturday, March 16th, not confirmed at this time.

Our introductory meeting, all of our sessions, and our Exam will be held in the Education Resource Building of the American Red Cross, located at 300 N Mulberry Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio. Our introductory meeting and study sessions will start at 7:00pm and run no later than 9:30pm. Questions regarding these sessions can be directed to Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE @ [g.m.jacobs@gmail.com](mailto:g.m.jacobs@gmail.com).

Third and final item that I want to mention for January is Winter Field Day. The dates are January 26-27. Check out the rules at <https://www.winterfieldday.com/>. If you are interested in operating from the club station, plans are under way for operating there. More details to be worked out at the club meeting on January 14 at 7pm so plan on attending to be up to date. I would like to add here that, if you cannot get away from home don't let that stop you from participating. I know all would love to work you from home or where ever you may be, so if you can get on the air, give it a try.

Whew, we will be busy this month. I have not looked at February yet, but I did get a card in the mail concerning the Intercity ARC Hamfest coming up February 17 so keep that date in mind as you look ahead at your calendar. As usual I look forward to seeing you at the meeting January 14, at 7pm. Please catch me after the meeting I always enjoy hearing an update from other DX stations in the county.

Frank, KC8EVS

[ARES News](#)

Just a reminder to start using ARES Connect to log your time. This includes meetings, the Sunday Night Net, Friday Breakfast and Wednesday Dinner.

All ARES members are to take the IS-300/400 classes. They recognize that IS-300/400 requires multiple days of actual classroom training that is not easily obtained. So, if you just can't find the time to fit these class room courses in, they do have an alternative method for getting you to Level 3. Completing the following "FREE" and "ONLINE" courses will act as substitute for you FEMA Leadership Development Course requirements. You absolutely will need to complete all 7 of these courses to get your ICS 300/400 credit. Here are the courses that you need to take: IS-120, 230, 240, 241, 242, 244 & 288.

Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ

[Interesting web sites:](#)

<http://www.ossbn.org/>

Ohio Single Side-band Net.org, our Ohio connection for what is going on in the Ohio Traffic System.

[eHam.net](#)

Ham radio on the net. Articles on Ham Radio as well as interesting topics for all of the Ham Radio hobby. Product Reviews, classifieds, Ham Radio News, propagation and upcoming events around to country.

**Delaware Radio ARES website:** [www.delares.org](http://www.delares.org)

**Wayne Technical Fanatics** <http://ww8tf.club/>

[FT8Call:](#)

<http://ft8call.info/downloads/>

[SDR](#)

Shortwave Listening Without a Receiver <http://www.hamsphere.com>

<http://websdr.org/>

A WebSDR is a Software-Defined Radio receiver connected to the internet, allowing many listeners to listen and tune it simultaneously.

Go to the chart in the middle of the page and select [Band](#) you want, then [Region](#) (North America). This will bring up 18 listening stations in the United States and Canada. Pennsylvania, Alabama and Utah are favorites for this area.

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## December 2018 Meeting Minutes

By Terry Windsor



Frank, KC8EVS called the Christmas Banquet meeting to order at Fiesta Mexicana.

There were 15 MVARC members and 10 guests present.

November Meeting Minutes accepted: Motion by Greg, W8DOH and seconded by Don, W8PEN.

No Treasurers Report this month. For club finance specifics please contact Terry, KI8N.

### **New Business:**

Election of MVARC officers and directors done as a group and accepted. Motion by Michael, KE8HGE and seconded by Don, W8PEN. Ralph, W8LFR commented that this election was like stories of smoky back room elections.

### **2019 Officers** (Elected names in RED)

President Frank Counts, KC8EVS

Vice President Scott Fields, K8AEC

Secretary / Treasurer Terry Windsor, KI8N

### **Current Directors: Term ends**

Emery Bennett W8TW: 2020

Greg Short W8DOH: 2020

Bill Stroud KD8WHQ: 2020

Scott Magers KE8ANQ: 2020

Don Russell W8PEN: 2020

Louie Wilkinson NT8I: 2021

Michael Jacobs KE8HGE: 2021

Barry Butz N8PPF: 2021

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Emery, W8TW and seconded by Barry, N8PPF. Motion passed and meeting adjourned.

Terry Windsor, KI8N

MVARC Secretary/Treasurer



MVARC Christmas Dinner at the Fiesta Mexicana Restaurant, 2018

Dan Emmett Music and Arts Festival Special Event Station

MVARC and K8EEN have a new QSL card that was purchased and donated to the club. The new card shown below has the call sign, address, and web site listed along with QSO confirming information.

OHIO USA  
Knox County - EN80sj

**K8EEN**

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 372  
Mount Vernon, OH 43050-0372

www.mvarc.net

PSE QSL  TNX QSL

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DAY	MONTH	YEAR
UTC	MHz	RST	MODE

www.cheapqsls.com

The new cards are available at the Red Cross Training building in the storage closet if you would like to have a copy or need to mail cards for contacts where you were operating as K8EEN.

### Dan Emmett Music and Arts Festival Special Event Station

During the 2018 Mount Vernon Dan Emmett Music and Arts Festival your MVARC operated K8EEN as special event station for the event. Four operators participated, Barry (N8PPF), Greg (W8DOH), Frank (KC8EVS) and Terry (K18N) working from their home shacks August 9 - 12.

A certificate for the event was designed and available for those stations that requested as per instructions on QRZ regarding K8EEN. The certificate was printed on 110 lb. white card stock

**MUSICIAN AND PERFORMER; WROTE THE SONG "DIXIE" IN 1859.**  
 Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club **K8EEN** Special Event Station.  
 Celebrating the life and times of Mount Vernon native Daniel Decatur Emmett. August 9 – 11, 2018

**K8EEN**  
 MVARC  
 PO Box 372  
 Mount Vernon, OH 43050  
 SES Operators: N8PPF, KC8EVS, W8DOH, K18N

QSO: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ UTC: \_\_\_\_\_ RST: \_\_\_\_\_ Mode: \_\_\_\_\_ MHz

A total of 88 SSB contacts were completed with stations in the United States and Canada. Only five operators requested and were mailed a certificate and QSL Card for their participation.

The four of us had a good time playing radio, where were YOU?

Terry, K18N

## By Don Russell, W8PEN



### Do you QSL?

Collecting / building radios, putting together antennas, working DX, chatting away on your favorite nets. All fun things to do with ham radio. However, do you QSL?

If your main operating mode is 2 meter FM, perhaps you have not had the opportunity to receive a QSL card. However, if you work HF, do any contesting, or work DX, then you certainly have become accustomed to receiving QSL cards occasionally. QSL cards used to be considered the final courtesy of a nice QSO. Not so anymore.

When I first started out in ham radio, I anxiously awaited the mailman to see what new QSL cards were coming my way. I always had a stack of cards ready to go. No one needed to send SASE (self addressed stamped envelopes) because everyone sent QSL cards out without asking; often before getting a request for one.

Today it is different. If you want to confirm a certain county, country, or whatever for one of the many paper rewards out there, you need to send your QSL card, a SASE, and be willing to wait a long time. I am not complaining, as I do not QSL myself, unless I receive a card.

In fact, many hams do not keep a supply of QSL cards on hand. I presume they just do not return QSL cards. I am semi-guilty of this. Sometimes my best intentions go to waste and I lose the QSL card and request for a QSL card in return. Sometimes I will find these lost souls and get them sent back, a year later! Not really a good track record there.

Of course now days you have the electronic QSL services of LOTW, E-QSL, QTH.COM, and several others. These are the three I use. It does the job. The QSO gets confirmed and one can apply for many paper awards. Just not very personalized.

But, what to do if you receive a QSL in the mail and you do not have any printed up? This is a problem for me since I started my EME project. Lots of hams using EME prefer a hard copy QSL card they can put on their wall.

I go to a website that allows you to design your own QSL card and print it out. You can print one card to a particular station, or you can print as many blank QSL cards as you wish so that you have some on hand.

Check out the website at: <http://www.radioqth.net/qslcards/>

Basically, you upload a picture you wish to use on your QSL card to the website. They will use this picture on your personal QSL card. The picture can take up the whole card or centered left or right. Or, you can skip a picture altogether and just use your callsign against a colored background. If you want to be economical, the card can have a white background so the printer doesn't use much ink. I prefer a more colorful background, but use a lot more ink.

[Radio Activity, continues on page 7](#)

## By Don Russell, W8PEN

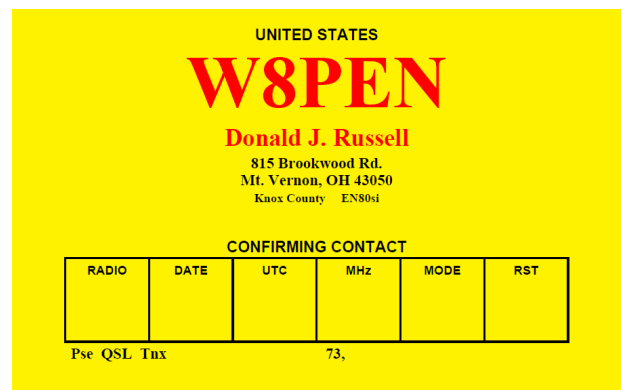
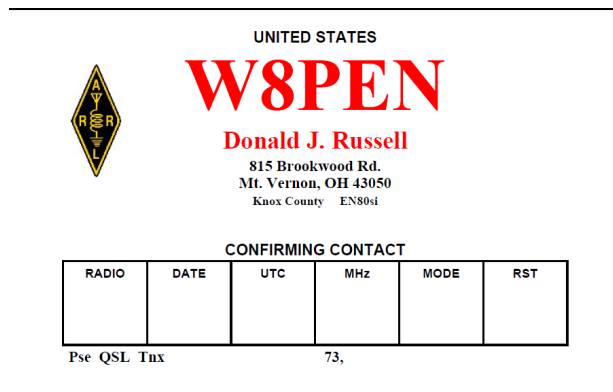
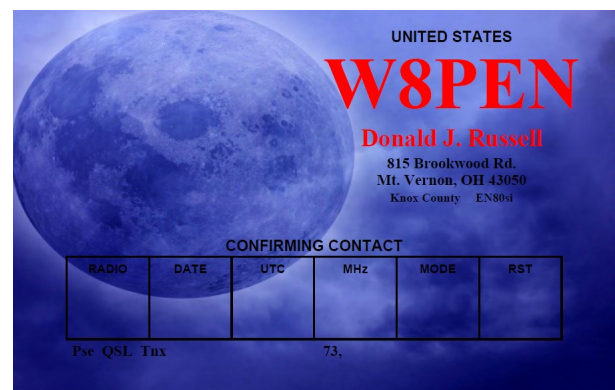
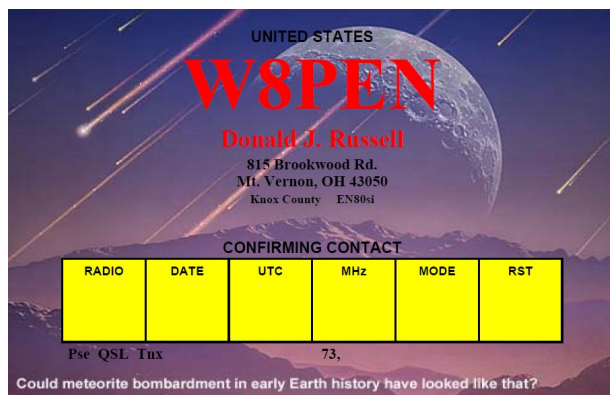
Once you upload your picture (or not), you simply fill in the blanks. There is not a whole lot of choice in formatting, but enough so that you can print out a great looking card if you use your imagination.

Cards will be downloaded to your computer in pdf format and you can select to print one to four cards per page. The print size is the standard QSL card size of 5.5 inches wide by 3.5 inches high.



I like to use photo paper for my QSL cards. It gives a nice professional look. However, 5.5 X 3.5 photo paper is very hard to find. So I slightly enlarge the QSL card before printing so the it completely covers a 6 X 4 standard photo paper. Makes a really nice looking QSL card.

Here are a few of the designs I was able to create with this QSL card generator:



As you can see, there is plenty of flexibility here. Cards can be very simple or fairly complex. Either way you end up with a nice looking card. The white card is an ink saver. Since it just prints the text and ARR logo. On the yellow card I had to create the yellow background using the paint program in windows and save it as an image file. Then I uploaded it to the QSL card designer. It worked like a charm.

I have found a source of 3.5 X 5 photo paper. This would be half an inch short for a standard QSL card. I might try it anyway.

Printing is simple. You can print four cards on 8.5 X 11 sheets of heavy weight paper or even 8.5 X 11 inch photo paper and cut them to size. I print one card on 4 X 6 photo paper (using the high quality photo setting) and the card looks really great. If I need a standard size QSL card, I still print it on the 4 X 6 photo paper and simply cut it to size.

73. See you at the meeting.

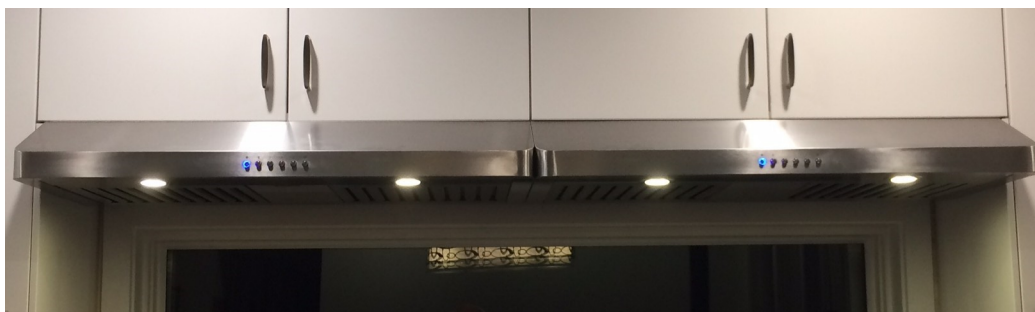
**By Barry Butz, N8PPF**

A few days after Christmas I joined the RAC Winter Contest from my son's new house in North Carolina. The contest began at 7pm on Friday. I was all primed to beat my score from last year.

I turned on my rig,  
And what to my wondering eyes did appear –  
But S9 of noise on the glowing meter!  
I struggled a while, making a few,  
Contacts when only the strongest got through.  
(End of my poetic efforts.)

I shut down for the night. Next morning the noise was down to S1. What was going on?

Craig's house is equipped with LED lights throughout, about three dozen of them. That morning they all were off. LEDs have been known to cause RF interference in some cases. That's what I suspected. I turned on all the lights and surprise – the noise was still S1. Now what? I had overlooked the lights on the range hoods. The house has two range hoods side-by-side, both the same model but built at different times. I turned on the hood on at the right – no problem; I turned on the hood on the left – big problem, S9.



I finished the contest noise-free but still did poorly. Can't blame the LEDs for that. Then I started some exploratory surgery on the left hood. I disconnected each bulb separately, which helped some. I disconnected both bulbs together but the noise was still S5. That makes me conclude that the source of the noise is the 12-volt power supply feeding the LEDs. The increased noise with the bulbs connected is not because of the bulbs themselves but because of their connecting wires acting as antennas. Somewhere hidden in the innards of the hood is a power supply that must be different than the one in the other hood. The situation is probably permanent but at least I know how to avoid it by simply not using one pair of lights.





**MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Club dues run from January 1 to December 31<sup>st</sup> and are collected the last quarter of the year. You can mail in your dues to the address shown below, bring them to a meeting, or give them to any club officer. Visit our web page at: [www.mvarc.net](http://www.mvarc.net) for further club information. Dues are \$12.00 regular membership. They are \$10.00 for those over 65 years of age, 2<sup>nd</sup> members in the same family, and for those living outside of Knox County.

The Mt Vernon Amateur Radio Club

P O Box 372

Mt Vernon, Ohio 43050

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CALLSIGN \_\_\_\_\_

STREET OR PO BOX \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

ARRL MEMBER (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_ E MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

DONATIONS (OPTIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_

SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE MEETING PROGRAMS:

# January, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>6</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>KC8BB – Bill</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at Southside Diner	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Club Meeting room	<b>12</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Barb's Diner Columbus Road
<b>13</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net <b>W8PEN – Don</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00 p.m. <b>MVARC Monthly            Meeting -Red            Cross Annex</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at Southside Diner	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Club Meeting room	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>NT8I – Louie</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at Southside Diner	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Club Meeting room	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>KE8HGE -Michael</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at Southside Diner	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> <b>February</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Club Meeting room	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>KC8BB – Bill</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at Southside Diner	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Club Meeting room	<b>9</b> 10:00 am Breakfast at Barb's Diner Columbus Road
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