

Ham Radio News & Information

## MVARC Monthly Meeting

We will be holding our Monthly Meeting on Monday July 13, on our

K8EEN Repeater: 146.790. MHz (600KHz with PL of 71.9 Hz) at

7:00 pm. Please tune in to stay informed, participate and

share your views.

#### Visit us on Facebook:

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club

Visit our new website:

https://mvarc.net

Please email for inquires and information at:

info@mvarc.net

#### Traffic Nets:

#### http://www.ossbn.org/

Ohio Single Side-band Net.org, our Ohio connection for what is going on in the Ohio Traffic System. The Net meets on 3.972.5 KHz at 10:30 a.m., 4:15 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. daily. Alternate Frequency for all sessions 3.968 KHZ

<u>http://www.cotn.us/</u> The Central Ohio Traffic Net is a part of the Ohio Section of the National Traffic System. We meet daily to handle traffic; all licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to check in and to learn how to handle traffic. The Net meets daily at 7:15 p.m. local time.

## Area Radio Clubs:

Delaware Amateur Radio Association: <u>http://k8es.org/</u>

Newark Amateur Radio Assoc: <u>https://www.n8ara.org/</u>

(Mansfield) InterCity Amateur Radio Club: https://iarc.club/

The ARRL Ohio Section calendar lists many interesting events around Ohio. The webpage is shown below:

https://arrl-ohio.org/g-calendar/default.html

#### The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club Officers

<u>President</u>: Louie Wilkinson, NT8I

Vice President: Greg Short, W8DOH

<u>Secretary</u>

Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE

<u>Treasurer</u>:

Terry Windsor, KI8N

Club Call Trustee:

Don Russell, W8PEN

Equipment Trustee:

Barry Butz, N8PPF

**Directors:** 

Chairman: Frank Counts, KC8EVS

Greg Short, W8DOH

Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE

Don Russell, W8PEN

Barry Butz, N8PPF

Emery Bennett, W8TW

Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ

<u>Newsletter Editor</u> & <u>Facebook Editor</u>:

Bill Bradley, KC8BB

**MVARC Meeting Minutes** 

#### July, 2020

#### June Meeting Minutes June 8, 2020

#### Opening

The repeater was toned to Net Mode by Net Control N8TI (Louie Wilkinson) at 7:01 PM with a total of 11 check-ins.

### Reports Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented in the MVARC Newsletter without objection.

#### Treasurer (Terry Windsor KI8N)

The Treasurer's report for May, 2020, was accepted as presented without objection. Copies of the report and our current bank statement are available upon request.

#### Repeaters and MESH (Don Russell W8PEN)

Don attempted to make his report via EchoLink, however his connection was... less than optimal. He was unable to make a clear connection.

#### ARES (Bill Stroud KD8WHQ)

Bill Stroud (KD8WHQ) had nothing new to report this month. He deferred the balance of his report to Larry Howell (AC8YE) who oversaw our participation in the Red Cross Exercise.

#### Red Cross Exercise (Larry Howell AC8YE)

Locally, Don Russell (W8PEN), Frank Counts (KC8EVS), Tony Spiegel (KC8UR), and G Michael Jacobs (KE8HGE) operated from simulated shelters for this exercise. They sent Red Cross forms/reports to Larry Howell (AC8YE) via the K8EEN repeater. Both AC8YE and K8EEN have backup power supplies, so could be used for this exercise. The forms were then converted to FLDigi and sent to a collection hub for the Red Cross. A more formal report will be submitted for the July newsletter once AC8YE has sorted out all of the data. AC8YE reported on a survey that 80m (required for the exercise) was problematic during the exercise, citing that a different band (more suitable for digital communications) could be used. The purpose of the exercise was to show upper-level Red Cross management what amateur radio can do for them in a total, prolonged power outage. He believes that the exercise was successful on that count.

#### **Coming Events**

Field Day discussion was next on the agenda, but Don Russell (W8PEN) who was coordinating the event, was unavailable. He did inform Louie Wilkinson (N8TI) yesterday on the ARES Net that all of the information regarding Field Day was in the June newsletter. Additional or follow-up questions can be directed to W8PEN.

Ohio State Parks on the Air is September 12 of this year. Louie Wilkinson (NT8A) suggested that we start thinking about this event and in particular which of the Mohican shelters we might want to use. This will be discussed at the next meeting.





Ralph Bower (KC8REB) reported Wayne Bower (WB8WB) was unable to reach the repeater for the meeting tonight.

Barry Butz (N8PPF) reported that the Friday Morning Breakfast was held in Foundation Park at the large shelter on the north side of the lake. Everyone brought their own coffee and food. There was enough space that everyone had their own table, allowing for social distancing to take place. He encouraged others to join them this coming Friday.

G Michael Jacobs (KE8HGE) reported that the Wednesday dinners were back underway at R&M Southside Diner. Ordering still at 4:45pm. Their menu is short their finer cuts of meat, but the balance of the menu is available. The tables in the Immediate Seating area have been thinned out to accommodate social distancing. No notice on when the monthly Saturday breakfast resuming.

#### Meeting Adjourned

After a motion to adjourn from Barry Butz (N8PPF) was seconded by Ralph Bower (KC8REB), the repeater was returned to Normal Amateur Use without objection. The Net closed at 7:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted, G Michael Jacobs KE8HGE Page 5

## **Radio Activity**

#### 2020 Field Day Results

#### By Don Russell, W8PEN

Let's face it, Field Day 2020 was like no other Field Day. Due to the COVID-19, we had no club picnic and no publicity table. Other than that, it seemed pretty much like a regular Field Day. Social distancing was easy because each station was so far apart.

Setting up antennas was low risk for the coronavirus because we were out in the fresh air. What was a risk were tornado warnings and a fairly big thunderstorm

coming through shortly after getting the last antenna up in the air. Kind of uncomfortable hearing tornado sirens go off when you are under a canopy.

After antenna set up, W8PEN sponsored a little fish fry for those who stayed long enough. Crappie, Tater Tots, and Baked beans. I heard no complaints and we had enough fish left over for a small lunch Saturday before Field Day began. A little scary frying up fish with lightening all around and sirens going off, but we got through it.

We had fourteen participants this year. Mostly to help set up antennas and to visit. I counted seven operators, but there could have been one or two more.

A historic first for our group was a satellite contact by Carl Payne W8CP. This was so unexpected that I thought it was a mistake when I saw it come through on the logging software.

This years Field Day was better than last year as far as total contacts are concerned. The SSB stations made a total of 496 contacts. The digital station made 264 contacts, breaking its contact record of last year. The CW station made 844 contacts, which was down somewhat from last year. CW ops were pushing for a thousand contacts this year, but it was not meant to be.

We had five stations set up this year. Three were ran on low noise generators, one strictly on a battery, and one on batteries and solar cells. Only four of the stations were on the air at any one time.

The club station, set up as an extra station for random users, had the highest antenna. I would guess it was at least 40 feet in the air at its apex. The longest antenna was 260 feet long and used by Greg Short's station on 80 - 10 SSB. The digital station used an all band inverted V antenna and the CW station used an off center fed dipole for 80 - 10 meters. Barry Butz N8PPF used an 80 - 10 end fed antenna plus inverted V antennas.

Loren Robbins W5HIO made the most contacts at 536. Don Russell W8PEN was second with 312. Greg Short W8DOH made 275 contacts, Terry Windsor KI8N 264, Barry Butz N8PPF 95, Carl Payne W8CP 76, and Frank Counts KC8EVS 46.

The most contacts were made with Pennsylvania with 116. Followed by New York with 90. North Carolina (surprise) and Texas tied with 89 each.

W8PEN worked the only two DX stations: UT4U, Ukraine and ZM1JM, New Zealand. Both were on CW.

#### **Total Contacts by Band and Mode:**

			Dedie Activity continues on no				
Total	844	496	264	1,604	100		
SAT	0	1	0	1	0		
10	41	27	33	101	6		
15	67	37	0	104	6		
20	305	96	50	451	28		
40	216	155	101	472	29		
80	215	180	80	475	30		
Band	CW	Phone	Dig	Total	%		

Radio Activity continues on page 6



## Here are the clubs results, as submitted to the ARRL:

## ARRL Field Day

- 1. Field Day Call Used: K8EEN GOTA Station Call: N/A
- 2. Club or Group Name: Mt. Vernon ARC, Ohio
- 3. Number of Participants: 14
- 4. Number of transmitters in simultaneous operation: 4
- 5. Entry Class: Check only one: X A. Club or non-club portable
- 6. Check All power sources used: X Generator X Battery X Solar
- 7. ARRL / RAC Section: OH
- 8. Total CW QSOs: 844 X 2 = Total CW QSO points: 1688
- 9. Total Digital QSOs: 264 X 2 = Total Digital QSO points: 528
- 10. Total Phone QSOs: 496 X 1 = Total Phone QSO points: 496
- 11. Total QSO points: 2712
- 12. Power Multiplier (select only one): X 150 Watts or less = 2
- 13. Power Multiplier: 2
- 14. Claimed Score: 5424

15. Bonus points claimed: Please check each block as appropriate and include required proof of points with your submission. All bonus points will be verified at ARRL HQ and added to your score.

X 100% Emergency power: X W1AW Field Day Message X Satellite QSO completed X Submitted using the b4h.net applet

Total Bonus Points Claimed: 650 Total score: 6,074

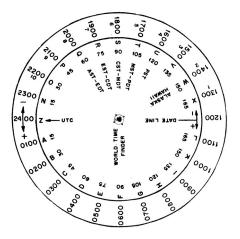
16. I/We have observed all competition rules as well as all regulations for amateur radio in my/our country. My/our report is correct and true to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We agree to be bound by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

Date: 06/29/2020 Call: K8EEN Signature: Don Russell

# TIPS AND SLIPS By Barry Butz N8PPF



One of the things hams need to do is use 24 hour time and Universal Coordinated Time - UTC, sometimes known to us as Zulu time or formerly as GMT. A conversion tool I used for a long time is a circular calculator from an ARRL handbook. I copied, laminated and pinned the two pieces together. It's easy to use for time but the date always threw me.



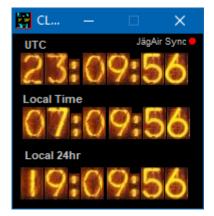
In the days before electronic calculators I used a slide rule all the time but a circular slide rule always confused me in the same way. So I decided to go linear and make a straight converter.

EST	<pre>&lt; 12m 1a 2a 00 01 02</pre>	3a 4a 9 03 04 0	5a 6a 7a 05 06 07	a 8a 9a 7 08 09	Today 10a 11a 12n 1p 10 11 12 13	2p 3p 4p 14 15 16	5p 6p 7p 8p 17 18 19 20	9р 10р 11р 12m EST 21 22 23 00 EST(24hr)
UTC					15 16 17 18 Тоday			02 03 04 05 UTC -Tomorrow>

The upper scale illustrated above shows Eastern Standard Time in 12 and 24 hour format. The scale below shows UTC and also the hours that are already tomorrow in universal time. For example, 9am EST Jan 8 is 1400 UTC Jan 8. But later in the day at 10pm EST Jan 8 the time is 0300 UTC Jan 9.

I will be emailing a text file to members that includes an Eastern Daylight Time scale. Print the file in landscape format, trim to size, and fold over to make a two sided tool for EST or EDT.

I also use a handy downloadable clock called "Nixie Clock" for real-time conversions. It has several options for displaying time. I have chosen the nixie tubes of course because they are so cool.



July, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5	6	7	8	9	<b>1010:00am</b> Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large	11
<b>12</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN	13 7:00 pm MVARC Monthly	14	<b>15</b> 4:45 pm Dinner at	16	Shelter north of Lake 1710:00am Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large	18
NT8I, Louie	Meeting	0.1	South Side Diner	0.0	Shelter north of Lake	97
<b>19</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN KE8HGE, Michael	20	21	<b>22</b> 4:45 pm Dinner at South Side Diner	23	2410:00am Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large Shelter north of Lake	25
<b>26</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>W8DOH, Greg</b>	27	28	<b>29</b> 4:45 pm Dinner at South Side Diner	30	<b>31</b> 10:00am Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large Shelter north of Lake	1 August
<b>2</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>W8PEN, Don</b>	3	4	<b>5</b> 5:00 pm Dinner at South Side Diner	6	<b>710:00am</b> Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large Shelter north of Lake	8
<b>9</b> 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net on K8EEN <b>NT8I, Louie</b>	<b>10</b> 7:00 pm MVARC Monthly Meeting	11	<b>12</b> 4:45 pm Dinner at South Side Diner	13	1410:00am Breakfast at Foundation Park, Large Shelter north of Lake	15