

August 2023

2023 Edition 8



# Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club



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## MVARC Repeaters

K8EEN VHF Repeater  
146.790 MHz  
- 600KHz

K8EEN-R Echolink Node:  
809800

K8EEN UHF Repeater  
444.600 MHz  
+5 MHz / PL = 71.9 Hz

## President's View

Frank Counts

KC8EVS



I hope that this finds everyone well as we enter August. This time last year I was focused on trying to walk and a particular dandelion outside the window that I could see. I'm very glad to report that I am walking well, and the dandelion is no longer. By the time we meet in August we will have participated in our first "First Friday". I'm writing this prior to that event so can't say much as to how it went but I am looking forward

to participating. This should be a good way to promote amateur radio and the club. That Saturday following the First Friday is the Columbus Hamfest in Grove City, Ohio. I always like attending this one. Small and easily seen in a couple of hours, depending upon how long you spend chatting.

Our next club event is Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) September 9<sup>th</sup>. We will be at Mohican State Park, the exact location to be determined. This is always a fun event and a good time spent outdoors. Please plan to attend.

**Our August meeting is on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.** Please join us and find out what is happening in your club.

73



## Meeting Minutes

**Bill Stroud**  
**KD8WHQ**



The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Frank, KC8EVS and he asked if there were any additions or corrections to the May Meeting Minutes as published in the

newsletter. Hearing none, the meeting minutes were approved as published.

### Treasurers Report

Terry, KI8N gave the Treasurers Report. There were no corrections to the report and so it stands as read. He reported we will have two bills, club insurance and equipment insurance, to pay next month.

A motion was made and passed to send Apple Valley a check for \$150 for use of the park for Field Day. Motion passed. The motion was made by Emery and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steven.

### Committee Reports

#### ARES

Terry, KI8N reported The antenna at the EOC needs to be adjusted – SWR is very high on 80M. A group will be looking into working on the antenna.

#### ARRL

Scott, N8SY, was not at the meeting. He will be attending the ARRL's Directors meeting later this month and will report on it at next month's meeting.

### Repeaters

Steven, N8RLW reported that the amp for the repeater has issues. At low power there is a frequency drift. He will be sending it back for repair.

### MESH / EchoLink

Steven, N8RLW reported Don, W8PEN installed a different computer and Echolink is operating.

### Old Business

Frank, KC8EVS opened the floor on the proposed new position of a Public Information Officer (PIO). Much discussion followed with new input as to the requirements for the PIO. Michael, KE8HGE stated that he would add the new suggestions to the current document and Scott, N8SY stated that he would get the updated proposal on the website as soon as they become available for all to view.

### Tech Class / V.E. Testing

A testing session will be held on July 12 with two people taking the Tech test.

Michael, KE8HGE will be setting up a 2024 schedule with two Tech and one General class.

### Events

Frank, KC8EVS and Steven, N8RLW reported on the reserved 10' by 10' MVARC spot for First Friday (August 4th) in downtown Mount Vernon. We will have a public display with a 2 meter radio set up and club information to hand out.. Some discussion followed.

- ◆ Ohio State Parks on the Air is September 9.

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“Either of these contests should provide plenty of fun and experience for new operators. Check with me at the August meeting if you want to help activate the club station for either of these contests.” Don, W8PEN

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## New Business

Frank would like the Director's to start looking into nominations for Officers for next year. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:50 pm with no dissenting votes. The 50/50 raffle was held and Terry, KI8N won.

June Meeting Members Present
Frank Counts, KC8EVS
Emery Bennet, W8TW
Roger Gorrell, KE8ICI
Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE
Don Bunner, KB8QPO
Steve Harvey, N8RLW
Terry Windsor, KI8N
Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ
Larry Howell, AC8YE



## EVERY HAM RADIO MEETING!





## ARES

Terry Windsor

KI8N



Nothing to discuss this month. In July there were no ARES activities to report on.

I will be looking into the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test (S.E.T.) scheduled October 7 and 8. I will begin to put ideas out this month to see if anyone is interested in participating. It seems like something we need to do as Knox County has not been active in this event since I have been a MVARC member. Stand by for upcoming information.

### CONTINUING:

This is a great time for all club members interested in ARES to review the [Ohio Section ARES](#) web pages and complete or update any NIMS ICS training courses.

To send in your NIMS or ARRL certificates please use this link to submit them to the Ohio

section coordinator. <http://arrrl-ohio.org/upload.html>



73







## Radio Active

**Don Russell**

**W8PEN**



Oh my gosh, it is August already. Seems like we were just shaking off the Spring cold weather yesterday. There is still plenty of time for the club to go "Radio Active".

### **A Radio Active Club**

I was looking at the WA7BNM Contest calendar. There are two opportunities to activate the club station.

The first is the North American QSO Party, SSB. This contest starts at 2:00 PM EDT August 19 and ends 1:59 AM EDT August 20th. This is a 12 hour contest, so it will not take up someone's whole weekend. If we operate as a multi op club, then we can work the whole 12 hours. If a single op wishes to operate, then operating time is limited to 10 hours. The exchange is simple. Operators nickname and state. If operating multi op, then the group would probably want to use a generic nickname. Last time I think we use KNOX. Maybe we should try MVARC? Or keep it simple. Like Ed. Either case, we would want to keep the nickname the same throughout the contest to keep confusion down. Some of the multi op stations in this contest simply use the current operators name so that there are several names associated with the station call. When I run into this, I wonder if I miscopied the previous contact.

This is a popular contest and there should be plenty of stations to work, making it a nice experience for both beginners and experienced operators.

The CW version of this contest is earlier in the month, August 6th. Since we have very few CW operators in our club, I may activate the club station as a single op. However, if there are any CW ops that wish to assist, let me know and we will turn it into a multi op day.

The next opportunity to activate the club station will be during the Ohio QSO Party August 26 starting at 12:00PM EDT and ending August 27 at 12:00AM EDT. Again, a 12 hour contest.

The exchange for this contest is also simple. For Ohio stations it is a signal report (RS/T) and County. For non-Ohio stations it is signal report (RS/T) and state / province / or DX.

Either of these contests should provide plenty of fun and experience for new operators. Check with me at the August meeting if you want to help activate the club station for either of these contests. We will have a short time to get things organized.

The next scheduled club activity that requires setting up in the field is the Ohio State Parks On The Air. Always a fun one for the group. This will be September 9th. This activity will be discussed at the August meeting.

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**“Michael, KE8HGE will be setting up a 2024 schedule with two Tech and one General class.”  
Michael, KE8HGE per the meeting minutes**

## **Local Mesh Network**

Unfortunately, our local mesh network needs a little bit of maintenance. Recently I have not been a good steward of this project.

At the water tower, the three nodes that we have running are not talking to each other. Matt, KB8UVN and I believe it is the Nano Switch installed at the top of the tower. This Nano Switch provides POE Pass Through and communications to the three nodes we have online. This means instead of running three cables to the top of the tower, we only need one.

Since the nodes are working okay all by themselves, the POE Pass Through is working. The Ethernet communication is not. So right now, these three nodes are limping along and depending on other off site nodes to give them direction. This is inefficient and should have been fixed months ago. We do have a replacement unit available. Perhaps I can get Matt down here to make the climb. Unfortunately, my health is such that I am not climbing much right now. The XYL won't even let me climb my own tower.

In addition to the problem at the water tower, one of the nodes at KCH, went deaf. It is still working, but other than the associated node at KCH, it does not hear anything. We need to get this fixed too. Perhaps we can get both the water tower and KCH done the same day.

Since this roof is flat, I could walk on it; getting on the roof would be a problem for me. My legs just don't work the way they used to. I will have to depend on others to do the actual repair work.

The water towers at Centerburg and Fredericktown have been put on hold. Mainly because I have had no ambition to get these going. We may be out as far as Fredericktown is concerned. We have had no communication with the Fredericktown City Council for quite a while. As far as I know, we can do the Centerburg water tower anytime we want. Looking for someone that would like to take the lead on the Centerburg project. Any takers?

## **Antenna Project**

Currently I am without an HF antenna. Just to be ready for Field Day, I had taken down my Off Center Fed antenna so we could use it if needed during FD. My thought was that I wanted to put up a different antenna anyway, and taking the OCF down would force the issue.

So, I have been investigating End Fed Antennas. I would like to eliminate the wire above the house and just have one wire running over the empty lot West of the house. I have room for 200 to 250 feet of wire going West.

I remember last year I had put up an Inverted L antenna for the 160 meter contests coming up. Just so happened that this antenna worked on several bands and gave me good signal reports. The SWR was higher than I would have liked on these bands, but the external automatic antenna tuner did a nice job tuning this antenna. I was thinking maybe putting this antenna back up. A 9:1 or 12:1 balun may reduce the SWR significantly on this Inverted L antenna.

I think the way to approach this is to put the antenna up, do some measurements with my antenna analyzer, and then build the balun according to what ratio would give the lowest SWR on all the bands I wish to work.



On the other hand, while I like home brewing my antennas, I might just buy a commercial one for this project. The End Fed Antenna I like the most is the CHAMELEON ANTENNA EMCOMM-III-B HF Base Antenna (<https://www.dxengineering.com/parts/cha-emcomm-iii-b>) priced at \$195.

This antenna would give me 160 - 10 meters, end fed at the tower, and I think I can use the tower itself as a counterpoise for the antenna. The antenna has good reviews.

My main question about this antenna is: Does it really work with reasonable SWR on 160 meters? The description of the antenna says 160 - 10 meters. However, I downloaded the manual, and I could find nothing about using the antenna on 160 meters.

As with the home brew antenna, I would use the Emcomm-III-B in the form of an inverted L, using the tower as the counterpoise. This works very well with the home brew 160 meter inverted L. I would expect the same results with a commercial version.

I should have made up my mind and have an antenna up for the next Newsletter. Will let members know which antenna I choose and how well it performs.

Until then, Hope to see you at the August meeting. Yes, I will be there. Ready to brag about last month's fishing trip which forced me to miss the July meeting. It was worth it.

73.

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## Repeater Update



**Steven Harvey**

**N8RLW**

The dog days of summer have arrived, and mother nature is not disappointing with heat waves and lots of thunderstorms. Luckily, we made it through some lightning storms without any of our repeaters becoming a target. However, we keep everything grounded and have polyphasers in line to keep the static discharge down to a minimum and send it to ground. Here is my August 2023 repeater report and if you look, I have organized the report by repeater and its ca-

pabilities.

### **146.790 Repeater (K8EEN) - Analog, C4FM and Echolink**

Our Wacom duplexers have been delivered to Vasu Communications for analysis and to see about repairing them. It's in their queue and might be another month before I can report any results on what they found. The currently borrowed TXRX duplexers are working well and have provided an upgrade to the receiver coverage with the Yaesu repeater. We are still running without any PL on the machine so please double and triple check to make sure you have your PL Decode on your radio turned off. I have heard during the Sunday night net a few people could see the machines signal but could not hear and this would be the reason why.

I have been asked about the Henry amplifier and if has been placed on the air. The answer is yes, it was placed on the air but there was an issue with it and has since been removed and sent back to Henry for warranty service. Roger and I noticed when it was on the air it was not developing enough output power and amp draw on the power supply to make 100 watts. After having looked at it on a watt meter and on a service monitor it was only developing 24.06 watts with a 5-watt input. While it may be disappointing to hear this, it is a man-made product and sometimes things go wrong in shipping, or a transistor just didn't want to work when it arrives.

Later this month once it is not that hot outside, I'll be doing a software update to the Arcom controller to keep up with bug fixes and the latest bells and whistles.

As a reminder you can do your own signal test to the repeater by keying down 50 on your touch tone pad, unkey, the repeater will say "Echo Start Ready" and you key down right away and say your callsign and one, two, three, four, five and unkey, it will repeat back what the repeater heard. Give this a try and if you get stuck, I'm home most days during the week listening to the machine so feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

#### **444.600 Repeater PL 71.9 (K8EEN) - Analog, C4FM and Wires-X**

The 444.600 needs some usage. It's like the Maytag repair man, sits there quietly waiting to be called into service or in this case to have someone have a QSO on the machine. Please take some time if you have a 440 Mhz radio and have a QSO on the 444.600 machine.

July's 440 Technet was a bust as no one was around to have the TechNet other than net control. Roger KE8ICI has built another Arcom controller, and we are considering placing this one on the 444.600 and this would give it the same bells and whistles as the 146.790. This will be talked about at the August meeting as it will have to take the Wires-X feature offline to add the repeater controller. However, it will still leave the analog and C4FM (System Fusion) capability if the controller is placed on the repeater.

#### **442.100 Repeater PL 71.9 (KD8EVR) - Analog and DMR**

Why is this repeater in the newsletter, you may be asking? Did the club get a new machine and we are now just learning about it? No that is not the case, I wanted to promote the repeaters that are in Knox County and Arlin, KD8EVR has a very nice 440 MHz machine that does both Analog and DMR. I have used it in both modes and has a good coverage pattern and is located on a high tower in Knox County. I highly recommend using this repeater and as Arlin told me please feel free to put some use on the machine. In the future I will be looking towards this machine as being a backup to the 444.600. Program your radio with this repeater and if you have never used DMR feel free to take it for a test drive.

Hope everyone is taking some time off to get some rest and relaxation. Don't forget to take a HT with you as you can get a few QSO's on local repeaters in your vacation location. I encourage you to use the club's repeaters and Arlin's to rag chew with your other ham radio friends, gather up a few people who might be mobile to test range and as always let's keep the usage up and the repeaters busy. If you're out of the area and want to say check into the Sunday night net, you can download the EchoLink app on your cell phone to check in. Last but not least, I like to say, a happy repeater is a busy repeater so let's keep them on the air and running well.

Until next month, 73

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**"If it wasn't for ham radio, I would have never even heard of Kyrgyzstan, Brunei, Kiribati, Djibouti, Malta, Nauru, Azerbaijan, or Burkina Faso!**

Today's inspirational message ;)





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“By the time we meet in August we will have participated in our first “First Friday”. I’m writing this prior to that event so can’t say much as to how it went but I am looking forward to participating.” Frank, KC8EVS

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# August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 9:00 am— Breakfast	5
6 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net—Don (W8PEN)	7	8	9 4:45 pm Dinner	10	11 9:00 am— Breakfast	12
13 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net— Roger (KE8ICI)	14 <b>7 pm MVARC Meeting</b>	15	16 4:45 pm Dinner	17	18 9:00 am— Breakfast	19
20 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net— Michael (KE8HGE)	21	22	23 4:45 pm Dinner	24	25 9:00 am— Breakfast	26
27 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net—Terry (K18N)	28	29	30 4:45 pm Dinner	31		

## Ham Radio Contest Calendar

## Miscellaneous Rambling

Terry Windsor

K18N



Last month I stated issues with my back caused a lack of physical activity. This month things have improved slightly and I am driving and getting around. However, I still have pain issues and have only had a consultation with a spine specialist. I was prescribed a pill to help with nerve pain and by the time you read this will have had an MRI which the Dr. needed to better see what is happening. Unfortunately my next appointment with him is not until mid September.

Is this our new NORMAL as we age, appointments will take months to schedule no matter what is occurring? It appears so. Even an oil change for my third world Jeep Wrangler is out three weeks before they could get me in. I did say "third world" because if you have ever owned or driven one of these it is an apt description.

I did get out to Mount Gilead State Park to do two POTA activations in July. That gives me 19 activations with 1197 contacts from this park and I only need one more activation to achieve a "Repeat Offender Award". I plan to achieve this the first week of August. Then my plan going forward is to activate parks in Ohio I have never been to. Time to work on seeing new areas within the state.

This picture is my setup at my last Mount Gilead State Park activation in the gazebo. I used an IC-706MKII, Digirig sound card, LDG IT-100, Bioeeno 20AH battery, Hustler Resonators on a tripod with four elevated radials, and an Evolve laptop for logging. All easy and quick to setup and the radio equipment fits into the small case the radio is sitting on. Not shown is my lawn chair and RG-8x coax.



Until next month "Be safe and Ham it UP"!

## EchoLink System Q&A

**Steven Harvey**  
**N8RLW**



<https://echolink.org/>

Maybe some of you have heard a strange voice on the 146.790 repeater that does not sound like the repeater controller. Such as N8RLW disconnected or W8PEN connected.

You likely have heard someone logging into and out of EchoLink.

Lots of hams check our repeater to see who is there or call CQ to have a QSO. Most of the time the Ham on the EchoLink side is too far away from the repeater to talk locally or uses EchoLink to check in the net. On our repeater alone I have had QSO's with other hams as far away as Germany, France, UK, and Scotland as they were checking in via EchoLink to see if they could find someone to talk to. I use EchoLink to talk to hams on the Marquette, MI repeater who I have made friends with while vacationing and checking into their Saturday net.

EchoLink is another tool in the ham radio toolbox, and I highly recommend you sign up for EchoLink. Below is a small set of Q&A and if you're new to ham radio I would sign up and see if you can get a few global QSO's via EchoLink.

*What is EchoLink, you might ask?*

EchoLink® software allows licensed amateur radio stations to communicate with one another over the Internet, using streaming-audio technology. The program allows worldwide

connections to be made between stations, or from computer to station, greatly enhancing amateur radio's communications capabilities. There are more than 350,000 validated users worldwide — in 159 of the world's 193 nations — with about 6,000 online at any given time according to the EchoLink website.

*Why use EchoLink?*

Sometimes you need to have guaranteed communications and EchoLink can provide the communication to places you might not be able to reach via HF if the bands are not open or maybe you have your tech license and want to see who you can reach on the other side of the globe.

*Can I use EchoLink on the 146.790 Repeater?*

Yes, you can, as we have a remote station connected to the internet that allows you to get access to the 146.790 repeater. The people who maintain the EchoLink system have made a phone app for both Android and Apple. You can use those to participate in any of the nets locally.

*Is EchoLink on 24x7x365 on the 146.790?*

The EchoLink system is always on and available for use on the 146.790 minus any internet, computer, or power issues.

So, the next time you're out of range, want to talk to some of us here in Knox County, or maybe you're on vacation and you want to check into a net. Consider signing up for EchoLink as I have enjoyed having many QSO's to hams around the world. If you have any questions about EchoLink let me know via email.

73 and happy QSO hunting.



## Welcome to the 60's

Don Russell  
W8PEN



### *Reprinted for the May 2006 MVARC Newsletter*

I was first licensed as a Novice Class ham in November or December of 1964. Funny, I always thought I was first licensed in 1963, but the later date is the only one that works out. My brother Chuck was already in College at the University of Dayton. I was a Freshman in High School. Anyway, my novice call was WN8ODK. My parents bought me a used Heathkit DX-35 for Christmas. I am sure Chuck chose the transmitter, as I knew very little about this stuff yet. Chuck also brought home a Heathkit Antenna Tuner, an AC-1. The receiver was a Knight Kit Span Master super regenerative receiver that my parents had bought Chuck for Christmas the year before.



### **The Heathkit DX-35**

Phone or CW--80 through 10 meters

65 watts CW--50 watts peak on phone

6146 final amplifier

Pi network output to match various antenna impedances

The DX-35 transmitter featured a 6146 final amplifier to provide 65 watt plate power input on CW and AM modulation (or about 40 watts out). The power supply was built in, and the transmitter covered 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters with a single band-change switch. The Pi network output coupling provided a matching to various antenna impedances.

The DX-35 used a 12BY7 oscillator, 12BY7 buffer and 6146 final. The speech amplifier was a 12AX7, and a 12AU7 was used to provide modulation. Panel control provided switch selection of three different crystals. You installed these crystals through a door in the back of the rig. The panel meter indicated final grid current or final plate current. By the way, Novices were not allowed to use VFO's in the 60's. They had to use crystals to control their frequency. The term of the decade was "Novices were Rock Bound".



**Heathkit AC-1**



**Knight Kit Span Master**

The Heathkit AC-1 was an antenna tuner mainly for long wire antennas. You would bring the long wire right into the shack and attach it to the top front of the tuner. Refer to the picture. On the left was the coil tap switch and on the right was capacitor tuning. Right in the middle there was a neon light that you would tune the controls for maximum brightness. That is how you knew the antenna was tuned and you were putting out some power. Relative is the key word here! Oh, and see the insulator and nut at the top? That is where the antenna wire went. So, Christmas of 1964 found Chuck and I putting up our first true ham antenna. It was sort of an inverted V but paid no attention to length. Novices were not really good at figuring antennas out! As I recall, the antenna lead came in through a window. It was not coax, it was just antenna wire! I think electric fence wire!

Okay. We spent the next week trying to make our first contact. While we seemed to receive okay, nobody could hear us. The solution amazed us! Oh, you need to put insulators in the antenna wire and not attach the ends of the antenna directly to the metal roof! Now who could have figured that out?

From there on out, contacts came at a fast clip. My first QSO was with a ham in Ashtabula, Ohio. I still have his card somewhere (I hope). Later, we graduated to a dipole antenna with true coax lead in.

A few odds and ends to this station were the knife switch we used to change the antenna from the transmitter to the receiver and a J-38 straight key, which I still use to this day. Of course, the logbook. In those days hams had to keep a complete logbook of all station activities, even unanswered CQ's. In some ways I wish the FCC would require this again. I have all my logbooks stashed. For the record, in my first year as a ham, I worked 35 states and four or five countries. What a blast!

## Ohio State Parks On The Air

September 9, 2023

MVARC is planning to operate from Mohican State Park (MOH). Unfortunately, we are unable to use the North Shelter as we have in the last 2 or 3 years as it has been reserved by someone else for this date / entire weekend.

However, we can use the smaller shelter just up the road from the North Shelter. It is not reservable but we have never seen anyone using it during past operations.

I took a trip out there to check for trees we can use for placing our antennas and found the shelter/area is full of trees that will work for our purposes.



The picture is the front of the shelter with parking just off the road. This shelter is close to the North Shelter however, there is no restroom close to this location. The only restrooms I located were at the group camp area or the North Shelter.

We will discuss at the August meeting.



## Final Takeaway

Is anyone using Powerpoles for their radio power connections either to a 12 (13.8) vdc power supply or a battery? The convenience of powerpoles makes their use easy and standardizes DC connections.

For use in amateur radio, the community has adopted a standard color code, polarity, and specific physical arrangement for assembling pairs of Powerpole connectors. The standard is red positive and black negative. However, powerpole connectors do come in other colors such as green, yellow, blue and others.

The typical sizes are: PP15 which is a 15 amp version for smaller wire, typically 16 AWG and smaller and reduced current capability. PP30 a 30 amp version which works with 16 to 12 AWG wire and finally, a PP45 or 45 amp current carrying version which is for 14 to 10 AWG wire. A typical 35 amp power supply would use PP45 powerpoles due to the larger wire and higher current.



To install the connector onto the wire works best with a dedicated crimping tool. The DX Engineering crimp connector hand tool works great for installing powerpoles with the correct tool die.



However, you can also solder and self crimp the powerpole contacts onto the wire but installing the contact into the housing is a little tougher. The solder usually sticks up just enough or the home-made crimp is messy so the contact will not slide into the housing as easy as it should.



This is a correctly assembled power cable with powerpole connectors.



## General Exam Sample Test Questions:

**G1B06** Under what conditions are state and local governments permitted to regulate amateur radio antenna structures?

- A. At any time and to any extent necessary to accomplish a legitimate purpose of the state or local entity, provided that proper filings are made with the FCC
- B. Only when such structures exceed 50 feet in height and are clearly visible 1,000 feet from the structure
- C. Under no circumstances, FCC rules take priority
- D. Amateur service communications must be reasonably accommodated, and regulations must constitute the minimum practical to accommodate a legitimate purpose of the state or local entity

**G1B08** When is it permissible to communicate with amateur stations in countries outside the areas administered by the Federal Communications Commission?

- A. When the contact is with amateurs in any country except those whose administrations have notified the ITU that they object to such communications
- B. Only when the contact is with amateurs licensed by a country which is a member of the United Nations, or by a territory possessed by such a country
- C. Only when the contact is with amateurs licensed by a country which is a member of the International Amateur Radio Union, or by a territory possessed by such a country
- D. Only when the foreign country has a formal third-party agreement filed with the FCC

## Extra Class Exam Sample Test Questions:

**E2C02** Which of the following best describes the term “self-spotting” in connection with HF contest operating?

- A. A manual technique for rapidly zero beating or tuning to a station’s frequency before calling that station
- B. An automatic method for rapidly zero beating or tuning to a station’s frequency before calling that station
- C. The often-prohibited practice of posting one’s own call sign and frequency on a spotting network
- D. The acceptable practice of manually posting the call signs of stations on a spotting network

**E2C04** Which of the following frequencies are sometimes used for amateur radio mesh networks?

- A. The 60 meter band channel centered on 5373 kHz
- B. Frequencies shared with various unlicensed wireless data services
- C. HF frequencies where digital communications are permitted
- D. Cable TV channels 41 through 43

These test questions are from the current test pools for their respective license classes. How did you do? The answers are on the last page. Practice tests for all license classes can be found here: <https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/>.

## FM Repeater Nets In And Around Knox County

County	Net	Frequency	Day and Time
Ashland	No net as of 03.30.2023		
Coshocton	CCRA	147.045 PL 71.9	Every Sunday 9:00 PM
	ARES	147.045 PL 71.9	Every Monday 8:00 PM
Delaware	Monday Night Net	145.170 PL 74.4	Every Monday 8:00 PM
Holmes	No net as of 03.30.2023		
<b>Knox</b>	<b>ARES Sunday Night Net</b>	<b>146.790 PL 71.9</b>	<b>Every Sunday 9:00 PM</b>
Licking	N8RA Tuesday Night Net	146.880 PL 141.3 444.500 PL 141.3	Every Tuesday 9:00 PM on the 146.880 except for the last Tuesday of the month they check in on the 444.500 repeater.
Morrow	Morrow County Information Net	146.775 PL 107.2	Every Sunday 9:00 PM
Richland	IRAC Net - Mansfield	146.940 PL 71.9	Every Wednesday 8:00 PM

**Has anyone tried contacting any of the other nets? We have several operators from Licking County joining our Sunday Night Net and it would be great if we could reciprocate and join their net!**

## **AUGUST MVARC MEETING**

**August 14th at 7 pm.**

**Academy Building  
790 Fairgrounds Rd.  
Mount Vernon, OH**



## Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests

Here is the current listing of Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned hamfests and Special Events through September of 2023. (Ohio hamfests in **BOLD**)

8/5/23 - UP Hamfest, Rapid River, MI

8/12/23 - **Cincinnati Hamfest**, Owensville, OH

8/19/23 - **Portsmouth Hamfest**, New Boston, OH

8/20/23 - **WARA Tailgate Swap**, Cortland, OH

8/27/23 - Seaway Trunk Swap, Port Huron, MI

9/9/23 - Letcher Co KY ARC Hamfest, Whitesburg, KY

9/9/23 - Greater Louisville Hamfest, Shepherdsville, KY

9/10/23 - **Findlay Hamfest**, Findlay, OH

9/16/23 - Hiawatha ARA Swap, Negaunee, MI

9/16/23 - Richmond Hamfest, Richmond, KY

9/17/23 - Adrian Hamfest, Adrian, MI

9/23/23 - CMARC Hamfest, Okemos, MI

9/23/23 - Gaylord Hamfest, Gaylord, MI

9/24/23 - **Cleveland Hamfest**, Berea, OH

9/30/23 - KY4ARC Hamfest, Paintsville, KY



## Miscellaneous Amateur Radio Information

Join us every Sunday night on the Mt. Vernon 146.79 repeater for our weekly **MVARC ARES Sunday Night Net. Check-in starts at 9 pm.**

Unable to access the repeater from where you are? We are on IRLP (EchoLink) K8EEN-R Node 809800.

## Ohio Traffic Nets



### [The Ohio Single Side-Band Net \(OSSBN\)](#)

Ohio Single Side-Band Net; Ohio connection for what is going on in the Ohio Traffic System. The Net meets on 3.972.5 MHz at 10:30 am, 4:15 pm, and 6:45 pm daily. Alternate Frequency for all sessions is 3.968 MHz.



### [Central Ohio Traffic Net](#)

The Central Ohio Traffic Net is a part of the Ohio Section of the National Traffic System. They meet daily to handle traffic; all licensed amateur radio operators are welcome to check in and to learn to handle traffic. COTN meets daily at 7:15 pm on 146.970, -.600 MHz, PL 123.0. Signal Operating Instructions and frequencies given here: <https://www.cotn.us/sop>.

### [The Ohio ARES HF Digital Net—OHDEN](#)

Tuesday at 7:45 pm 1804.5 MHz, USB, Olivia 8-500 with water-fall frequency 1500.



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“... I wanted to promote the repeaters that are in Knox County and Arlin, KD8EVR has a very nice 440 MHz machine that does both Analog and DMR.” Steven, N8RLW

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## FCC and License Updates



### First-Time Exam Applicants Must Obtain an FCC Registration Number before Taking an Exam

All amateur examination applicants are required to provide an FCC Registration Number ([FRN](#)) to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs) BEFORE taking an amateur exam. **Social security numbers are no longer accepted at exam sessions.**

Amateur candidates who already have an FCC license, whether for amateur radio already have an FRN and can use the same number. All prospective new FCC licensees, however, will be required to obtain an FRN *before* the examination and provide that number to the volunteer examiners on the Form 605 license application

All applications will be required to contain an email address for FCC correspondence. Applicants will receive an email direct from the FCC with a link to the official electronic copy of their license whenever a license is issued or changed.

### FCC Application Fee and VEC Filed Applications

EXAMINEES MUST PAY WITHIN 10 DAYS.

Examinees do **NOT** have to wait for the email from the FCC to pay the fee. As soon as an the application file number is issued by

the FCC, they can pay by logging into the CORES [Payer FRN System](#).

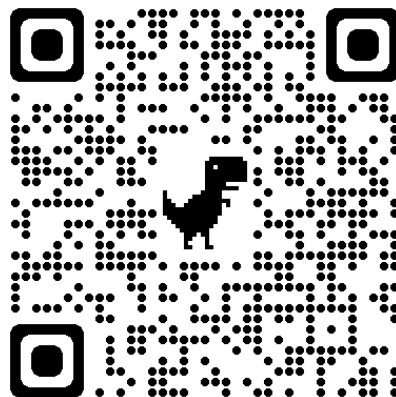
Application File Number search using an FRN: [FCC Application File Number Search](#)

### FCC Legacy CORES System—Retired

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) retired the [Legacy version](#) of its Commission REgistration System (CORES) on July 15, 2022.

CORES is designed to identify those who hold certain types of FCC licenses and FCC authorizations, including amateur licenses, and organize them in an easily accessible manner under a common FCC Registration Number (FRN) regardless of whether one holds a single such authority or more.

Starting on July 15, 2022, the Legacy CORES website will re-direct users to the [Commission's updated CORES](#) site. Although some functionalities in the old system will continue to work for a short time, the [FCC has urged all users](#) to transition to the updated CORES system to take advantage of its enhanced security and functionality.



## MVARC

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\* President

Frank Counts, KC8EVS

\* Vice President

Barry Butz, N8PPF

\* Secretary

Scott Yonally, N8SY

\* Treasurer

Terry Windsor, KI8N

\* Club Call Trustee

Don Russell, W8PEN

\* Equipment Trustee

Barry Butz, N8PPF

\* Directors

Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE

Arlin Bradford, KD8EVR

Roger Gorrell, KE8ICI

Steve Harvey, N8RLW

Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ

\* Newsletter Editors

Frank Counts, KC8EVS

Terry Windsor, KI8N

## Contact Us

MVARC

812 Coshocton Ave.

PMB #145

Mount Vernon, OH

43050

## Email

[admin@mvarc.net](mailto:admin@mvarc.net)





## Items for Sale

### Yaesu 991A HF/VHF/UHF Multimode Transceiver

Hf = 100 watts, VHF/UHF = 50 watts

New in the box and never used.

Has all warranty cards and all packaging has never been opened.



Asking \$950.00

Current new prices range: \$1259.00 to \$1495.00 new from dealer.

Steven Harvey

N8RLW

### Deal of the Day!

Bluetooth jumper cables. Good for about 30 feet when jumping cars. Makes life a lot easier instead of having all the wires attached.

\$40. I have about 6 pairs for sale.

Terry, KI8N



Answers to sample test questions on page 19.

G1B06: D

G1B08: A

E2C02: C

E2C04: B

## Editors Notes



The MVARC Newsletter is delivered to club members via email containing a link to the MVARC webpage, Member Pages heading.

*Thanks to all for your assistance with the MVARC Newsletter; in 2022 we were selected as the second best newsletter in the Ohio Section.*

Please note the contact email for the MVARC newsletter is: [admin@mvarc.net](mailto:admin@mvarc.net).

The **MVARC CQ** is the official newsletter of the Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club.

## Web Page

MVARC.net

## Facebook Page

[https://  
www.facebook.com/  
mvarc](https://www.facebook.com/mvarc)

