# **Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club**

## October 2024 2024 Edition 10









An Innovative Community; Authentically Hometown





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## **MVARC Repeaters**

**K8EEN** 146.790 MHz - 600KHz / PL = 71.9 Hz

K8EEN-R Echolink Node: 809800

**K8EEN** 444.600 MHz +5 MHz / PL = 71.9 Hz

## Every Sunday night on the Mount 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.

## **Meeting Notice**

## October Meeting— October 14 starting at 7:00 pm at the Academy Building.

## **President's View**

Frank, KC8EVS



Hope to see you at the October meeting.

73!

## **Training Class Schedule**

## G. Michael, KE8HGE



Sessions meet weekly, every Tuesday evening, starting at 6:30 pm.

## Study Session Schedule, 2024

• Technician Class license: October 22 to December 10, testing session on December 18.

## Study Session Schedule, 2025

- Technician Class license: February 25 to April 15, testing session April 16.
- General Class license: July 1 to August 19, testing session August 20.
- Technician Class license: October 28 to December 16, testing session December 17.

## **Meeting Minutes**

## G. Michael, KE8HGE



The September 2024 meeting was called to order by Vice-President Emery Bennett, W8TW due to the absence of President Frank Counts, KC8EVS with 13 members present.

#### Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented in the September newsletter.

#### **Treasurers Report**

The report for September was waived due to the absence of Treasurer Terry, KI8N.

#### **Committee Reports**

#### ARES

There was no ARES Report as Bill, KD8WHQ was absent.

#### Repeaters

Roger, KE8ICI says that the Yaesu Repeater is back, and it appears to be working as it should. It should be back on the air within the next week or so. Both repeaters (2 m and 70 cm) will be located on the Academia water tower, 70 cm repeater equipment to be removed from KCH when roof access can be set up. Issues with the antennas on the water tower (badly protected antenna connectors) have been addressed by VASU. Other repeater operational issues were raised by Barry Butz, N8PPF which Roger was able to address.

#### MESH / EchoLink

Don, W8PEN arrived late. He indicated that with the lack of use of the Mesh Net, that he was interested in taking it down. It was suggested that in lieu of a complete take down, all redundant antennas be removed and the Net left intact for now.

#### **Old Business**

The Wires-X box that had been acquired by the club for use on the 70 cm repeater for digital radio was discussed again. It is to be sold, offered first to the club (see the submission in this issue for more information on the device). It will be offered for sale on the Ohio

Section ARRL page if the membership passes on it.

G Michael, KE8HGE reported that there was no new business submitted to the Directors. They are still accepting nominations/volunteers for 2025 Officers: with only Terry, KI8N offering to continue as Treasurer. There are 2 openings for Directors for which nominations/volunteers are being accepted. Please contact G Michael, KE8HGE or Frank, KC8EVS with the positions you are willing to fill.

Ohio State Parks on the Air went very well. 26 of 75 State Parks were contacted during nearly ideal operating conditions (although it was noted that the weather was a bit chilly).

#### **New Business**

None

#### **Coming Events**

None

### **Meeting Adjourned**

A motion to adjourn made by G Michael, KE8HGE passed without objection.

## **Contact MVARC**

MVARC 812 Coshocton Ave. PMB #145

Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Email admin@mvarc.net

"Not too much club activity in September 2024. " Don, W8PEN

## We're looking for a few good hams

## G. Michael, KE8HGE



It is time to start looking for our 2025 leadership team. We are now accepting nominations for all of our offices: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We are also looking to fill our Public Information Officer position. And, we have a couple of openings for Directors.

If you are interested in filling any of these roles, please reach out to any Director.

## **Amateur Radio Vinyl Decals**

## Nichole Adessa, N8OVE

I make vinyl decals. I made two designs for MVARC. The links below are to the designs on my online shop.

The first link is a club design shown below.

https://www.etsy.com/listing/1009895981/mount-vernon-amateur-radio-club-vinyl? ref=shop\_home\_active\_1&variation0=1971593946&variation1=1991398087

The second decal is personalized with the individual's Call Sign added.

https://www.etsy.com/listing/995928986/personalized-decal-with-call-sign-for?ref=shop\_home\_active\_2

NOTE: You can view both designs and color options by going to the web address.





"Me: can you grow please? Bank account: NO, Lawn: NO, Hair: NO, Muscles: NO, Stomach: I GOT YOU." found on the web by Terry, KI8N

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## **Radio Activity**

### Don, W8PEN



Not too much club activity in September 2024. The club did Ohio Parks on the Air and that was about it.

#### Ohio Parks on the Air

Parks on the air was a successful event. Roger, KE8ICI brought his FT-991 and end fed antenna. The end fed would not load up on 80 meters, so we missed that. However, 40 meters was very good for both parks in Ohio and states outside of Ohio. The group ended up making 124 contacts and enjoying ourselves.

The group not only did Ohio State Parks on the Air, but we also did Parks On The Air, more commonly called POTA. I had registered the club on the POTA website so that we

could give out Mohican State Park, US-1977. It provided many more stations for us to work.

An hour or so after we started, Terry, KI8N arrived and set up a separate station to work 20 meters. This turned us into a multi op multi transmitter group, which was just fine.

Participating club members were Tom, KD8HSA; Terry, KI8N; Roger, KE8ICI; Steven, N8RLW; Barry, N8PPF; and me, Don, W8PEN.

Yep, pretty much the same group. The rest of the club members are missing a lot of fun.

	P's Ohio QSO Party	Contest Lo	g 4.6.5		w	ww.n3fjp.com										— C	
		Mode Vie		Recall List Help													
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Rec	Call	Rcvd	St / Prv / Cnt	County R	Snt	County S	Date / Time	Mode	Bnd	^	Total	Contact	s				12
124	KD8UDM	59	OH	Not IN Park	59	Mohican	09/07 18:57	SSB	40								
123	W8DGN	57	OH	Hueston Woods		Mohican	09/07 18:57	SSB	40		Total	QSO Po	ints				12
122	KE8UWD	59	OH	Not IN Park	59	Mohican	09/07 18:56	SSB	40		Total	Multiplie	ars				5
121	KE8JVX	59	OH	Not IN Park	59	Mohican	09/07 18:55	SSB	40								
120	N3FMC	59	OH	Not IN Park	59	Mohican	09/07 18:54	SSB	40		Total	Score					6,44
119	KA8TOA	59	OH	Not IN Park	59	Mohican	09/07 18:54	SSB	40		050-	; / Hr (La	ct 20 mi	-			
118	W8VCO	59	OH	Lake Alma	59	Mohican	09/07 18:54	SSB	40		4305	i nr (La	51 20 MI	")			
117 116	N2HTE KD8TO	57 59	OH OH	Stonelick Not IN Park	59 59	Mohican Mohican	09/07 18:53 09/07 18:52	SSB SSB	40 40	~	QSOs	s / Hr (La	st 60 mi	n)			
Plea		our bai	ly to begin! nd and mode ptions!	e from the men	u			A.W.Mario Adams La Alum Cree Barkcamp Beaver Cr Blue Rock Buck Cree Buckeye I Burr Oak Caesar Cr	ke ek eek s ek Lake eek	CT MA ME	NH RI VT	AL FL GA KY	NC SC TN VA	AK AZ ID MT NV	OR UT WA WY	CO IA KS MN Can AB	MC NE SE ada
	Clear			Spot Last				Catawba I Cowan La		NY	NJ	AR	NM	м	wv	BC	ON
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Our total contacts are shown in this image:

The Ohio Parks on the Air submission sheet and score are on the next page:

Portage County Amateur Radio Service, Inc. - PCARS

## Ohio State Parks On The Air

2024 CONTEST SUMMARY SHEET → <u>Must</u> be submitted with each entry ←

Call Sig	In Used: KSEEN	← This call sign will be printed on certificates
	MML - Multi-Op/Multi-Transmitter Low Power	MMH - Multi-Op/Multi-Transmitter High Power
Entry	operating from one Ohio State Park	operating from one Ohio State Park
Category	MSL - Multi-Op/Single-Transmitter Low Power	MSH - Multi-Op/Single-Transmitter High Power
Select	operating from one Ohio State Park	operating from one Ohio State Park
ONLY	SL - Single Operator Low Power operating	SH - Single Operator High Power operating from
ONE	from one Ohio State Park	one Ohio State Park
۲	R - Rover - One Summary Sheet Per Park -	Low Power - Park for this Summary Sheet =
图 不可能	INOH - Operator inside Ohio not at an Ohio	OUT - Operator operating from outside Ohio
	State Park	From Where?:
Enforyour	State Dark Name or S-Jetter Designator: www	What was your maximum watts used?:

Club Name (even if your club is not the participant - will not affect your score): MT. VERNON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

If Multi-op, list calls of all operators and loggers (all your team members):

KISN, NSRLW, KESICI, NSPPF, WSPEN

		CAE	E FOR	B IDM	LHO	I MHD	D OPT	SFK	WBR
	alu Alu	CAT	GEN GEN	I ILK	R LMI	I MJT	D PLK	SHA	C WLK
Ohio	AWM	COM	GLK	□ JAC	R LML	MLK	POR	SRN SRN	C WRN
State Park	BAR	DEE	GLM	D JEF	LOG	MOH	D PTC	STO	
ID	BCK	DEL	GSL	🕱 JEO	LOR	MST	R PUN	STR	
Check List	BEA	DIL	R HEA	JOB	R LWT	I MTG	C PYM	SYC	
	BKL	EFK	R HLK	KEL	MAL	MUS	R QHL	TAR	
	BLU	🕱 EHB	I HOC	C KLK	I MBI	NBI	RFK	E TCK	
	BUR BUR	S FIN	R HUE		MBY MBY	NKL	R SBI	VAN	

Total OSPOTA	Number of Ohio State	Total Submitted Score	3224
Contest QSOs = 124	Parks Contacted (75 Max) 26	(QSOs x Ohio State Parks)	

NOTE: As of 2020 - Add YOUR state park in the list above to count as a multiplier II

"By submitting this Summary Sheet I'm confirming that I have observed all competition rules. My report is correct and irue to the best of my knowledge and I agree to be bound by the decisions of the Ohio State Parks On The Air Awards Committee."

Send Cabrillo log with this Summary Sheet, photos, comments, ideas, etc. within 14 days after the contest to:



Ohio State Parks On The Air



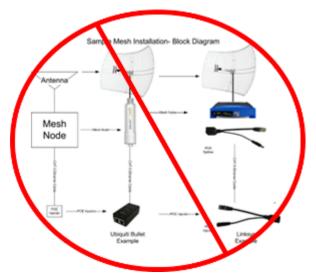


#### Entries with Summary Sheet may be e-mailed to: LOGS@OSPOTA.org

Name	DONALD J RUSSELL	Call	WSPEN		Call Sign Listed at Lop of Page will be used for certificate
Address	815 BROOKWOOD RD				
City	MT. VERNON	State	OHIO	Zip	43050
E-Mail Address	WSPEN@YAHOO.COM				Hav. January 2024

#### Local Mesh Network Status

We have started the process of taking the mesh equipment off-line. Roger, KE8ICI and Michael, W8OIO did the honors at KCH.



The KCH mesh nodes and antennas, as well as the 440 MHz repeater antenna were removed from service.

While KCH staff did not request this, they have been unresponsive to our request to access the equipment room and roof to perform some Maintenance. Per FCC rules, we must be allowed access to our equipment or provide some kind of remote control.

Because of the situation at KCH, the 440 MHz repeater was installed at the water tower alongside the 2-meter repeater. Coverage has improved twofold, so plans are to leave it there.

The mesh node in the club room has been turned off. I will be removing the mesh equipment from the club room soon.

it went off during a thunderstorm and I never turned it he had but was not using and had no plans for it. back on.

top of the parking garage, and any individual node being run by club members. (W8PEN, N8PPF, KD0DML, KE8HGE). Club members may remove their nodes or leave them on at their discretion.

Presently, we will leave the nodes on the water tower 54.000 MHz without any issues at all. running. Frank, KC8EVS was thinking we might want to develop some nodes into go boxes that could be used

in some way. I think most nodes pointed at the water tower would work quite well, but we will have to experiment with it.

The local mesh system has had a good run for about 10 years. I have not been successful in building it up to a point that the system could support ARES activities, which was the goal. I am not getting any younger and decided that it was time to retire this system. If there is anyone out there with the energy to keep it going, then contact the club.

#### **EchoLink System**

Not much to say here. EchoLink has been running extremely well for several months now.

#### **Station Upgrades**

I have been working on a few club station upgrades that are now completed.

The first upgrade was to install an external antenna tuner alongside the Icom IC-7300. The IC-7300 has had a difficult time tuning both club antennas on 80 meters with its internal antenna tuner, which only tunes antennas with a maximum SWR of 3:1. A lot of this is caused by the antennas being in the attic. The antennas work surprisingly well on 40 through 6 meters, but tuning on 80 meters has always been limited to frequencies under 3.700 MHz. Any higher and the antenna exceeds the 3:1 SWR maximum.

I had decided to buy an external auto antenna tuner through E-Bay for the club. Prices on the cheaper LDG antenna tuners that would work with the IC-7300 were generally under \$100. I figured I could afford to gift that to the club. As luck would have it, the antenna tuner I had in mind was gone before I could order it. The rest of them disappeared as well. I would have to wait until another one was put on the board.

While waiting, I mention to Roger, KE8ICI what I wanted The node at Foundation Park has been turned off. Well, to do. He offered the club use of an LDG antenna tuner

I took him up on the offer. The antenna tuner is one of This leaves the nodes at the water tower, the node on the better ones LDG makes, so it is an upgrade to what I was planning. I did have to buy the correct control cable to get the antenna tuner to work with the IC-7300.

> The antenna tuner has been installed and our club station can now operate between 3.500 MHz through

The other upgrade was to the club's Kenwood TS-570D.

I guess I was itching to spend some money on the club. While looking at antenna tuners, I saw a 500 Hz CW filter that would fit the TS-570D. I thought it would be nice to add this filter to the TS-570D and have the radio available to run CW on Field Day.

So, I ordered the filter for \$90 and installed it in the TS-570D. It works perfectly.

As a side note, when I installed the 500 Hz CW filter, I had to remove a 1.8 KHz filter that was installed. Only room for one extra filter. Switching filters back and forth would only take a few minutes. So, if we ever want to use the TS-570D on SSB in a contest situation, we will want to switch filters. Not a big deal. Just something to keep in mind.

I have since set up both the IC-7300 and the TS-570D in the club room. To use one or the other, you must move the antenna cable to the appropriate radio, but that is easy to do. I expect most members to use the IC-7300 on SSB. Perhaps a few of the CW guys will use the TS-570D.

Unfortunately, we can't use the two radios simultaneously. The two HF antennas are in the attic and too close to each other. Perhaps if we ever get the clubs R5 Vertical set up outside, the two stations can be operated at the same time. Would be nice.

That is a wrap for this month. Hope to see all of you at the October meeting. 73.



Ohio State Parks on the Air. Photo by: Barry , N8PPF



# **October 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 4:45 pm Dinner	3	4 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	5
6 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	7	8	9 4:45 pm Dinner	10	11 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	12
13 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	14 Columbus Day 7:00 pm MVARC Meeting	15	16 4:45 pm Dinner	17	18 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	19
20 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	21	22	23 4:45 pm Dinner	24	25 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	26
27 <i>9</i> :00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	28	29	30 4:45 pm Dinner	31 Halloween		
Link to: Ha	am Radio Cor	test Cale	HAR A	- A SANG SANGE	and a state	

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Link to: Ham Radio Contest Calendar



## **Miscellaneous Rambling**

Terry, KI8N



In September I was fairly radio active which was nice. I did two POTA activations not including the OSPOTA with the MVARC group. Both of these activations were my first time there.

Cath and I took the motorhome to Punderson State

Park (US-1977) the 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 5<sup>th</sup> and I activated this park three separate days with 403 contacts. Then, on the 21<sup>st</sup> I activated Andreoff State Wildlife Area (US-9444) with 87 contacts. With those contacts I managed to put 813 contacts into my log during September.

Just a reminder the third weekend in October is POTA *Support Your Parks* weekend. You can do this either as a hunter, activator, or both. There will most likely be well over 100 activators both Saturday and Sunday so hunting will be easy. I intend to do both, activate Mohican State Park and hunt from home.

Several days this month Cath and I got out and explored parts of Ohio we had never been to. This was part of an activity called the <u>All Ohio Shop Hop</u>. This is billed as the "Great sewing adventure across Ohio <sup>TM</sup>". There were 84 quilt/sewing shops across Ohio that participated and we managed to visit 51 of them. In this adventure the state is broken up into six regions and the intent is to visit all shops in each region; averaging about 14 shops per region. Cath and I managed to visit all of the shops in three regions and quite a few in a fourth. The regions we completed were: South East, East Central and North East. We also visited half the shops in the North West region.

At each shop the book (passport) was marked and a fabric square was given. These squares are typically sewn into a quilt or other wall hanging or decoration. However, the shop hopper is also expected to make a purchase to support the shops on the hop. Cath is a quilter and I was the support team. I read while she shopped.

As stated last month, the tower is up and the antenna and new rotator is working great, as evidenced by the number of contacts the last couple of months. I plan to reinstall my 160 meter OCF dipole this month and get it back on the air. With the nights getting cooler, the weeds in the woods at the back of the property are

dying, and hopefully the tick population is not as prevalent, so I can access the tree I use for a support. I still have the line in the tree I had the dipole supported with before but I may try to get it higher up in the tree this time. Depends if I can get my tennis ball cannon to shoot where I intend through the tree branches.

Still working on projects around the house; engine rebuild, gutter repair, patio cover, and shop clean up. The patio cover is built but now we have to stain, paint, and hang gutters. It is harder to pick a stain color than I imagined. Tried a couple and those sample colors in the brochure are not close to how it looks when put onto wood and looked at in day light.



We had an Amish crew build it while I mostly watched and stayed out of their way.

The Ford 352 FE engine rebuild is underway with all components removed and down to a bare block. I have been cleaning off 60 years of built up grime and repainting outside components; intake and exhaust manifolds, heads, and soon will paint the engine block. The parts needed list has been put together and I will be ordering these items and then reassembly begins. I have yet to start on the Cruise O'Matic transmission, but that is next. The final part is cleaning and painting the engine compartment and installation of engine and transmission. Hoping to have it complete and running next spring.

One of the items I have been working on was replying to a stack of QSL cards that I kept putting off. What I found was I am running out of cards I purchased a few years ago so it is time to design a new card instead of buying generic cards with my call sign and address. It was tough finding a picture that I want to use but believe I finally have a photo and design to use. Will order these new cards this week.

Lastly, still working on my health prognosis, the PET scan still shows cancer on the spleen but the size of the lesions has decreased. Another PET scan in December and if still there then possibly a splenectomy. Getting old is not fun.

Now back to your regularly scheduled day, me working on my project list, and hoping everyone is radio active!

"Be safe and Ham it UP"!

URGENT WARNING FOR TOMORROW! Aliens are coming to earth tomorrow. Their mission is to abduct all sexy, good looking 'old' people, I'm just sharing to say goodbye. I've got to pack.

KI8N



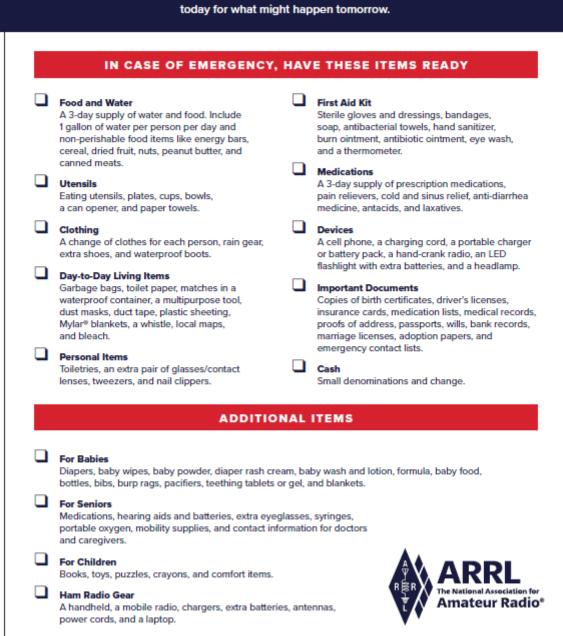
How I feel about a lot of things these days

"We are now accepting nominations for all of our offices: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We are also looking to fill our Public Information Officer position." Michael, KE8HGE



# **Emergency Prep Kit Checklist**

It's hard to think clearly during an emergency, and the last thing you want to do is leave something important behind. Use this checklist to gather essential items and prepare today for what might happen tomorrow.



## FM Repeater Nets In And Around Knox County

County	Net	Frequency	Day and Time
Coshocton	CCRA	147.045 PL 71.9	Every Sunday 9:00 PM
COSHOCION	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
Кпох	ARES Sunday Night Net	146.790 PL 71.9	Every Sunday 9:00 PM
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

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.



October 14 7:00 pm Academy Building - Fairgrounds Rd.

"Because of the situation at KCH, the 440 MHz repeater was installed at the water tower alongside the 2-meter repeater." Don, W8PEN

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## **Ohio ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests**

The current listing of <u>Ohio Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests</u> coming in October through December 2024.

#### October 5, 2024

Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club (NWOARC) Hamfest Location: Lima, OH Sponsor: Northwest Ohio Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: http://www.nwoarc.com

October 5, 2024 Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Hamfest Location: Piketon, OH Sponsor: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club Website: Scioto Valley Amateur Radio Club

## October 27, 2024

2024 MARC Hamfest at Maps Location: N. Canton, OH Sponsor: Massillon Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Website: https://www.w8np.net

November 9, 2024 Grant Amateur Radio Club Hamfest Location: Georgetown, OH Sponsor: Grant Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

December 7, 2024 WinterFest 2024 Location: Archibold, OH Sponsor: Fulton County Amateur Radio Club Website: https://k8bxq.org/hamfest







"Just a reminder that the third weekend in October is POTA Support Your Parks weekend. "Terry, KI8N

## **Editors Notes**

The MVARC Newsletter is delivered to club members via email containing a link to the MVARC webpage, 2024 Newsletters button.



We really **NEED** your input - help eliminate missing articles on club events or interests!

Submit an article as a Word, OpenOffice or text file attachment to an email. **Do not** submit a PDF file.

Contact email for the MVARC newsletter is:admin@mvarc.net.

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

## **MVARC**

- PresidentFrank, KC8EVS
- \* Vice President
  Emery, W8TW
- \* SecretaryBill, KD8WHQ
- \* Treasurer Terry, KI8N
- \* Club Call Trustee Don, W8PEN
- \* Equipment Trustee Barry, N8PPF
- \* Directors Michael, KE8HGE Roger, KE8ICI Scott, N8SY Barry, N8PPF Tom, KD8HSA

Newsletter Editors
 Frank, KC8EVS
 Terry, KI8N



Web Page MVARC.net Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/mvarc MVARC Email

admin@mvarc.net

## Mount Vernon, OH











Can you name each of these Mount Vernon buildings and locate them within the city?