

Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club

December 2024

2024 Edition 12



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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





<p>WHEN Sunday, December 8, 2024 5:30 PM EST Ordering starts at 6:00PM</p>	<p>Where Bob Evans Restaurant Party Room 1624 Coshocton Ave Mount Vernon, OH 43050</p>
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Meeting Notice

December Meeting— December 8 — 5:30 pm at Bob Evans restaurant.



President's View

Frank, KC8EVS

Wishing all a Happy Thanksgiving. It's time that we start planning for next year. If you haven't already and would like to help the club as an officer please contact Michael, KE8HGE and let him know that you are interested. We will hold elections at the December meeting (12-8, 5:30p, Bob Evans). I am putting together the list of club activities that we participate in, that I have dates for, and will attach at the end.

I know that I have asked many times as to what your interests are, amateur radio wise, in the past. I'm looking for ideas as to what we can do as a club or maybe presentations. I'm going to start this year by trying to present something concerning ARES and message handling. Not that I'm an expert but it's something that I feel that we should work on to be a better service to our community. If you have something that you would like to present, please let me know. Just a simple project that you have been working on or completed in the past, show 'n tell.

Looking forward to 2025, see you at the Christmas Dinner.

Mark your calendars these are always fun to participate in, I'll provide updated dates as they are available. Meaning if I remember to look them up.

73

Winter Field Day	Jan 25-26 2025
NVIS	TBD
Blackfork Gravel Grinder	May 3, 2025
Field Day	June 27-29
OSPOTA	Sep 6, 2025
First Friday	TBD
Family Palooza (Apple Valley, Floral Valley)	TBD

**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.

Membership Renewal

It is time to renew your MVARC club membership for 2025. Dues can be paid at a club meeting or mailed to the club address.

MVARC

812 Coshocton Ave.
PMB #145
Mount Vernon, OH 43050

MVARC Membership Application

Regular membership dues are \$20.00. Dues are \$15.00 for those over 65 years of age, additional members in the same family, or who do not hold an active FCC amateur radio license.

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ License Class: _____

Email Address: _____

ARRL Member (Y/N): _____

Please include the Membership Application with your payment as the Treasurer needs this to keep records of who has paid and ARRL membership status. To keep our ARRL Affiliated Club status this information is required when yearly updates are provided to the ARRL.

COMMON MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Newsletters



Events



**Sense of
community**

Meeting Minutes

Bill, KD8WHQ



The November 2024 meeting of the Mt. Vernon ARC was called to order by President Frank Counts, KC8EVS.

There were 24 members who attended the meeting.

Meeting Minutes

The minutes for last month were presented. There were no changes. A motion by Scott, N8SY and seconded by Roger, KE8ICI to accept the minutes as read. The motion passed.

Treasurers Report

Terry K18N was not at the meeting and Frank KC8EVS presented the report. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read was made by Emery, W8TW and seconded by Scott, N8SY. The motion passed.

Committee Reports

ARES

We are trying to get a complete list of shelter areas from the Red Cross. Then we will set up a training session to have people at these shelters, fire departments, hospitals and maybe a few other places and report back to a net control operator. The objective is to see how the repeater covers the county.

ARRL

Scott, N8SY, talked about the need to know how to send a Radiogram and passed out some information. He will be presenting this at a meeting next year.

Repeaters

Roger, KE8ICI reported the repeater works fine, he hopes to put the amplifier in next month. He has the old repeater for sell as parts

MESH / EchoLink

Don, W8PEN reported that EchoLink is working fine.

Old Business

The Directors are looking for Officers for next year. Frank has said he will run for president, Terry will run

for Treasure. Emery will run for vice president. We need a secretary and directors. The election of officers will be at next month's meeting.

Training

A Technician Class is running until December 10 with testing on December 18.

New Business

A motion was made by Scott, N8SY and seconded by Steven, N8RLW to move the monthly meeting to Saturdays at 10 am starting in January thru March. This was to eliminate people having to drive at night. The motion passed.

Coming Events

The Christmas party will be on December 8 at Bob Evans. It will start at 5:30 with ordering at 6 pm.

Raffle

The raffle was the ARRL Handbook that was given to the club by Scott Yonally, N8SY and won by Don, W8PEN

Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Emery Bennett and Seconded by Scott Fields. The motion passed.

Contact MVARC

MVARC

812 Coshocton Ave.

PMB #145

Mount Vernon, OH 43050

Email

admin@mvarc.net

"The biggest communication problem is we don't listen to understand—We listen to reply." Unknown

We're looking for a few good hams

G. Michael, KE8HGE



Be part of the 2025 MVARC leadership team.

We are still accepting nominations for all of our offices. This is what we currently have received:

- President: Frank Counts
- Vice-President: Emery Bennett
- Secretary: none (Terry has volunteered to serve as Secretary/Treasurer if no one else steps forward)

- Treasurer: Terry Windsor
- Public Information Officer: none

We are looking at 3 Directors for the 2025-6 cycle. Current nominees are:

- Scott Yonally (2nd round), will be ineligible to run again for 2 years after this term is completed.
- Tyler Fields (1st round)
- Evan Koontz (1st round)

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.



"I need a good domestic contest to help determine just how well this antenna works." — Don, W8PEN

December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	2	3	4 4:45 pm Dinner	5	6 9:00 am— Breakfast McDonalds	7 Pearl Harbor Day
8 5:30 pm Christmas Party and Meeting 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net		10	11 4:45 pm Dinner	12	13 9:00 am— Breakfast McDonalds	14
15 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	16	17	18 4:45 pm Dinner 6:30 pm Ham Radio Testing @ Academy Building	19	20 9:00 am— Breakfast McDonalds	21 First Day of Winter 
22 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	23	24	25 Christmas Day 	26	27 9:00 am— Breakfast McDonalds	28
29 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	30	31 New Year's Eve				

[Link to: Ham Radio Contest Calendar](#)



Radio Activity

Don, W8PEN



Happy Holidays everyone!

I finally bit the bullet this past month and upgraded my personal laptop computer to Windows 11. Had it not been for the pending end of service, although not until October of 2025, I would not have bothered. I have heard too many

horror stories about Windows 11. I don't really like Windows 10 but am comfortable enough with it to run the necessary ham programs for my shack.

There have been no issues so far, knock on wood. Everything I have has been running fine on Windows 11. So far. I have not tried all the various interfaces I have for ham radio, so as the need arises, we will be finding out what is compatible and what is not.

Since there were no big issues resulting from upgrading my computer to Windows 11, Darlene's computer was upgraded as well. Her computer seems to be running just fine.

The one thing I do notice is that the battery seems to drain faster running Windows 11 vs Windows 10.

Time will tell.

Since I am a fan of Linux, and not knowing much about setting up a dual boot system on Windows 11, I have decided to run Linux in Virtual Box. The advances that have been made in the design of Virtual Box have mostly eliminated any slowdown of the Guest operating system.

In other words, in my case Linux will be a guest operating system on my Windows 11 computer. This is accomplished by way of software called Virtual Box. Virtual Box is an open-source project, meaning anyone can use it free of charge. Donations are encouraged to help with the developmental costs of this software. Virtual Box is Cross Platform Virtualization Software, meaning its purpose is to allow installing an operating system within another operating system.

In my case, with a Windows 11 computer, I will use Virtual Box to let me run a Linux operating system. I could just as easily run another Windows operating system, such as XP, Win7, Win8, etc.

I am not expecting issues running Linux within Windows 11.

More information on Virtual Box: <https://www.oracle.com/virtualization/technologies/vm/virtualbox.html>

Long Wire Antenna

My Long Wire Antenna that I described last month seems to be working well. I have not really spent a lot of time testing it though. I need a good domestic contest to help determine just how well this antenna works.

But signals are great on 80, 60, and 40 meters when talking to Lynn, KG8D, my friend from early days of ham radio. And yes, I said 60 meters. 60 meters is the only channelized band on ham radio, and we share the band mostly with the government. But it is a neat band with moderate activity. It shares propagation characteristics of 80 and 40 meters, as it is between these two bands. This makes it nice for Lynn and I. We usually have good signals between us on 60 meters.

My long wire antenna seems to work well on that band too.

Remote Station

Another item that was mentioned last month was setting up a remote station at our club shack.

This project would allow club members to operate the club station via the internet from their home, or basically anywhere they can get an internet connection.

A great addition to club benefits, especially for hams that do not have their own HF station or have limited or restricted space for antennas.

I decided to experiment with setting up a remote station by first doing so at home. My Kenwood TS-590S has been successfully set up as a remote station. I must say, it is working well.



I can access my remote station while in my living room, or even outside in the lawn chair using my laptop computer. I can change bands, tune around the frequencies, even adjust the mic gain on the radio. All remotely.

I have kept this simple. One radio and one antenna. Multi-band operation is fine due to the internal antenna tuner built into the TS-590s.

Currently, this system is limited to SSB. But I think FT-8, FT-4, and other digital modes can easily be added. CW is something I would like to try by using a paddle remotely. But I must do a bit of research before I attempt any such thing.

Putting a remote station at the club is the main objective. However, it may be months, if ever, before this happens. I need to really test this out. One thing I don't want is to have a runaway transmitter. That would not be good.

With the system I have set up, I can even operate my station through a cell phone. Now that is neat.

The system I am using relies on Google Chrome Remote for control of the radio, and Skype for the audio. I am very tempted to try using EchoLink for the audio. At any rate, Google Chrome Remote and Skype are both free services.

Frank, KC8EVS, has received permission for us to use internet access at the administration building. Requirements for the remote station are minimal. Hardly any bandwidth is used until a connection is made. I do not expect a remote to be used much. But it is an interesting project.

EchoLink

The EchoLink on the 2-meter repeater has been running flawlessly for the last few months. Now that we have

internet access at the administration building, I would like to move the EchoLink system to the club room.

There are several good reasons for doing so:

One, the EchoLink Station would be really close to the repeater, guaranteeing good signals.

Two, it would get EchoLink out of my project room so it would be one less thing in the way (the real reason, Lol).

Three, If something goes wrong, it would be easier to get to by other club members so it could at least be turned off. This is especially important at times when I am on vacation. I plan on lots of vacations next year.

Christmas Party

The club's annual Christmas Party is Dec 8th at Bob Evans. I will not go into details here, as I am sure there is an announcement elsewhere in this Newsletter.

I have decided to sponsor two door prizes for the Christmas Party. All club members in attendance will get a ticket and we will have the drawing sometime during the party. No used stuff. Both prizes are brand new. We will also be doing the 50/50 drawing, so please bring a spare dollar or two. \$1.00 per ticket and the money is divided between the winner and the club.

That is a wrap. Hope to see you at Bob Evans.



Personnel present at the 11/11/2024 MVARC meeting		
Scott, N8SY	Don, W8PEN	Larry, AC8YE
Bill, KD8WHQ	Emery, W8TW	Don, KB8QPO
Ralph, KC8REB	Barry, N8PPF	Bill, KE8ZIG
Frank, KC8EVS	Roger, KE8ICI	Tom, KD8HSA
Steven, N8RLW	Kevin, KD8NGV	Tony, KE8ODE
Wayne, WB8WB	G. Michael, KE8HGE	Sean, KB8SL
Michael, W8OIO	Tyler, KF8AVA	Scott Brooks
Scott, W8HK	Evan, KF8APC	David Bickford

DMR and FM Digital Modes Class

Stephen, N8RLW

I am putting together a class on "What is DMR". This will be a high-level overview of how DMR works and why there are so many different FM digital modes.

It will be a virtual class, so no one has to leave their shack to attend. I'll send out the access link the week before the class and I just need people to sign up by sending an email to: sharvey6325@gmail.com.

To register, I just need your first and last name along with your email address.

I'll be using [Google Meet](#) for this presentation and will send out the link to the people who sign up.

It is just that the simple.

Class: DMR and FM Digital Modes

Date: January 25th, 2025 (Saturday)

Time: 11:00 AM

Run time: 1 hour



Knox County Repeaters

MVARC Sponsored Repeaters—K8EEN

146.790 PL 71.9

Type: Analog Only

Features: Weather Net, ARES Net at 9:00PM on Sunday EchoLink: 809800

444.600 PL 71.9

Digital ID 00 for C4FM/Fusion

Type: Automatic Mix mode, Analog and Yaesu C4FM/Fusion

Features: Backup to the 146.790 machine and open to all to use.

Individual Repeaters open to all Amateurs for use.

KD8EVR Repeater

442.100 PL 71.9

Type: Automatic Mixed mode, Analog and DMR

Color Code: CC7 (which is the digital PL of DMR)

TalkGroups with TimeSlots

TimeSlot1

Local 9 - Local Traffic Only

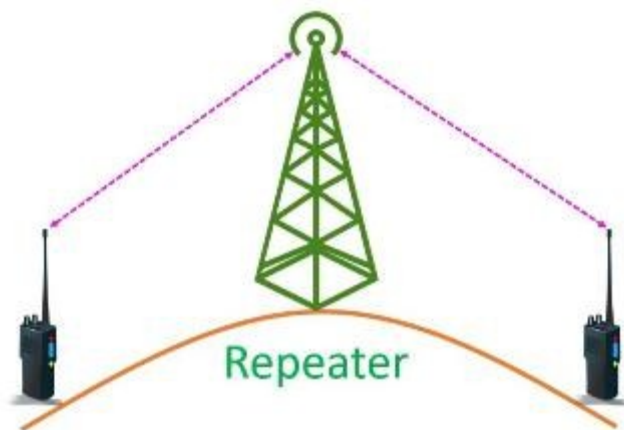
313964 - Knox, Morrow and Marion County

31395 - ARES USA only

Timeslot2

Local 2 - Local Traffic Only

3139 - Ohio Statewide 10-minute limit



Link

Miscellaneous Rambling

Terry, KI8N



Last month I managed a few ham related items; attended the Massillon hamfest, put up an OCF 160M antenna, and making a few SSB, CW, and FT8/4 contacts.

Don, W8PEN was saying last month he didn't like the cold weather and since it is now

here, I will agree. I still have some outside projects I wanted to finish but have decided they will still be here next year. I did get the motorhome winterized and stored so it will be ready for next year.

I was not excited about the Massillon hamfest as it really didn't have much to offer—at least that is what I observed. Mostly old junk; ancient laptops, old Motorola radios, and a lot of non-ham related stuff. The best part was getting to tour the MAPS (Military Aviation Preservation Society) Air Museum and looking at their old aircraft. I had a great conversation with one of the gentlemen that had restored the B-26 "Marauder" bomber. It is also rare that you get to touch and look into an actual MIG fighter jet, but you can at MAPS.

As stated above I finally got a 160-meter OCF dipole hung in the back yard. So far it is working really good on 160, 80, 40, and 20-meters. I really haven't tried it on the other bands. My one wish was that I could have had it oriented in a slightly different direction but so far I am making contacts without any problems. May make a few adjustments to how it is hanging sometime this month to make it more secure.

I started rearranging my ham shack and what a load of work that is. Trying to make it easier to reach controls, provide bookshelf space for manuals, and straighten up the cable mess behind the bench. This will be an ongoing project as it seems hard to find that one good setup and at the same time be able to access radios and controls as needed.

One part of cleaning up is determining if everything is really necessary. I have too many radios that are sitting around and do not get used much. I have an IC-7100 and IC-706MKII that are used for POTA activations. Trying to decide whether to get rid of them and buy a new FT-891 which would consolidate various radio boxes and put everything into one ready to go activation box.



Haven't really decided yet as the IC-7100 is a nice radio and does VHF/UHF/HF.

Other than those items already mentioned I am staying busy. I volunteer two times a month at Flying Horse Farms as part of the "Over The Hill Gang" doing general facility maintenance as required. Anybody know how many horses are actually at Flying Horse Farms?



a seriousfun camp

The answer to the number of horses is zero. They were flying horses and flew away!

I repaired my chainsaw and cleaned up the brush in the creek behind the house so that if we do get rain this coming spring it will not jump the banks and flood the bank yard like it has a couple of times.

I am continuing to work on the 1964 Galaxy 500's engine and transmission. I have the transmission cleaned up and painted. Now I have a seal around the shifter to replace. Parts are starting to come in for the engine and I should have it cleaned and painted this month.

I have medical tests coming up to determine if the cancer is growing or not. Based on the outcome of these tests then early in 2025 decisions will have to be made about the next steps.

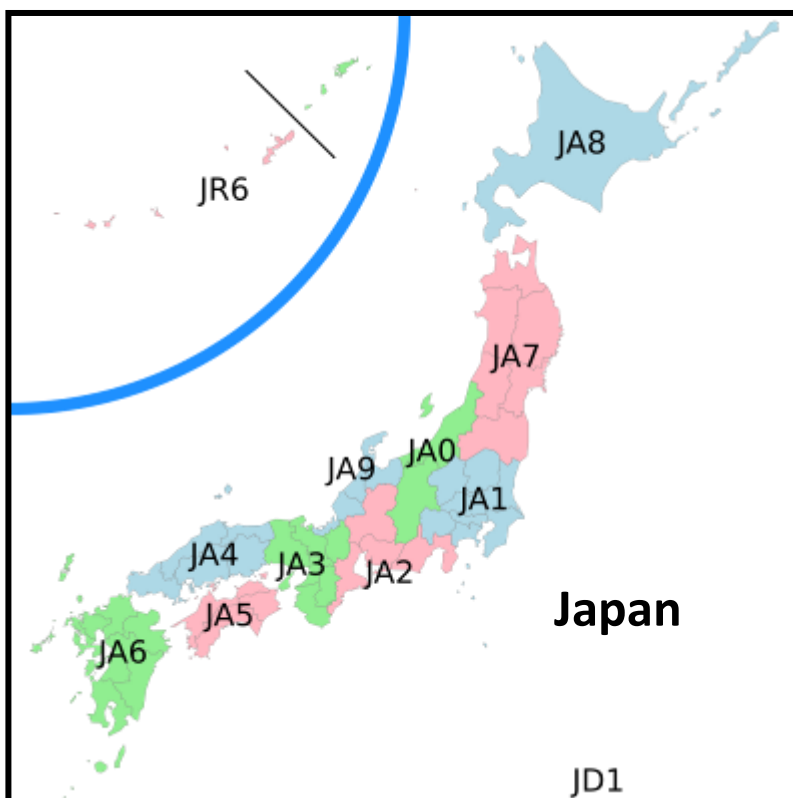
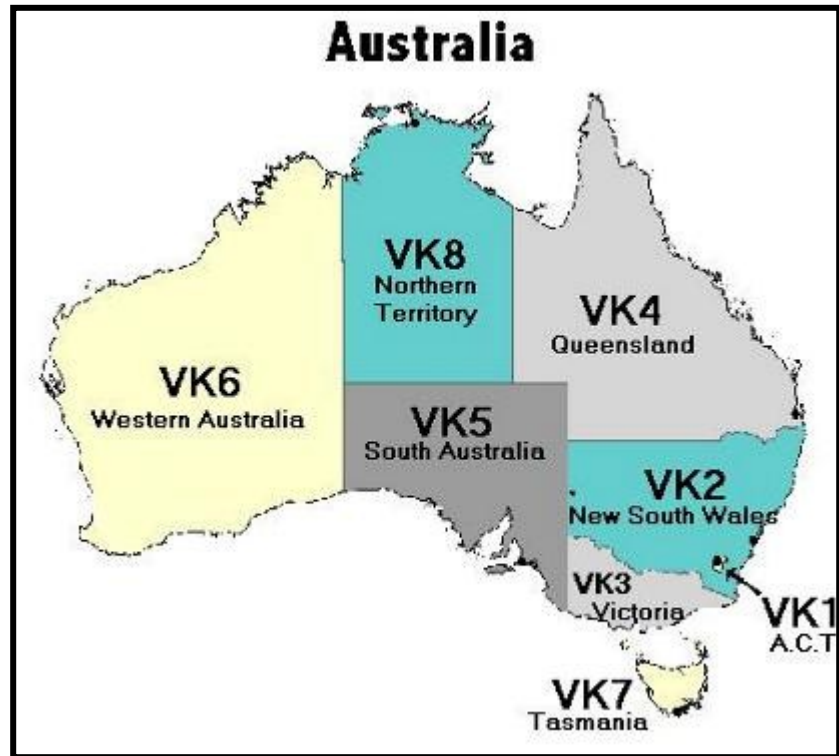
Now back to your regularly scheduled day, me working on my ongoing project list, and hoping everyone is radio active!

"Be safe and Ham it UP"!

"I know that I have asked many times as to what your interests are, amateur radio wise, in the past. I'm looking for ideas as to what we can do as a club or maybe presentations." Frank, KC8EVS

Final Takeaway

Have you ever completed a QSO with Australia, Japan, Spain or Italy and wondered where that person was located within their country? Now you are in luck, as the four images show where call sign prefixes originate within these countries.





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
	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
Knox	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.

“I started rearranging my ham shack and what a load of work that is.” Terry, KI8N

Ohio ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests

Ohio ARRL Hamfest gatherings and Conventions

[Ohio Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests.](https://arrrl-ohio.org/hamfests/)

Or

<https://arrrl-ohio.org/hamfests/>



Training Class Schedule

G. Michael, KE8HGE



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

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.



“I am putting together a class on “What is DMR”. This will be a high-level overview of how DMR works and why there are so many different FM digital modes.” Stephen N8RLW

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

- * President
Frank, KC8EVS
- * Vice President
Emery, W8TW
- * Secretary
Bill, 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



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