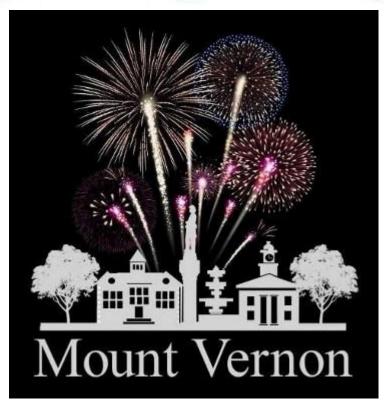
## **Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club**

July 2024
2024 Edition 7











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## **MVARC Repeaters**

K8EEN 146.790 MHz - 600KHz / PL = 71.9 Hz

K8EEN-R Echolink Node: 809800

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

## **Meeting Notice**

## July Meeting— July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the Academy Building.

## President's View Frank Counts, KC8EVS



First, I want to thank all who came out and participated in Field Day in one way or another. It was one of the

hottest Field Days that I can remember. This made setting up on Friday a bear, but we took our time and got it done. As in the past we ran 4A (4 Alpha) which means we had four stations and were on emergency power (battery or generator).

We also had a GOTA (Get On The Air) station on Saturday. This station is for anyone to operate that does not have a license or is a newly license Tech. It was set up for 10 meters, but 10 meters was not cooperating all Saturday afternoon. I did not hear anyone nor did anyone answer my calls. It could have been my antenna as I was using my Wolf River Coil 17-foot whip. It tuned up well but no contacts. I've never used it on 10 meters so more experimenting needs to be done before I give up on it. That's part of getting the air on Field Day experimenting with different things like antennas and seeing what works and what doesn't

Our four stations were: a CW station using an IC 7300 (the clubs' radio), two SSB stations one in the main tent an IC 7300 and another in Roger's

trailer FT 891, we also had a digital station set up in the main tent using an IC 706. Other than the usual glitch or two in the Wi-Fi set up for logging, everything worked as planned and we did not interfere with each other.

I did not operate until midnight and operated out of Roger's trailer using his FT 891. This was the first time for me to use this radio. I've read about it and seen a bunch of you tubers using it. It took a while for me to get comfortable with the menu, etc. but that is more due to my using an IC 7300 at home. I made several contacts from midnight to 4:30 am and caught up and passed Don on the CW station (he was asleep at the time, and no one was operating CW).

I went to bed at about 4:30 am only to wake up about 6 am to the sound of dits and dahs coming from Don's station. So much for my getting ahead. I fixed breakfast for Don and myself to slow him down some until I got back on the air. I sat down and started operating Roger's station about 8 am and operated until it was time to go QRT at 2 pm. We tore down all the stations and cleared out by 4 pm. Never caught up with Don at the CW station.

Overall, it was a great time, and I was glad to see all who came out. Thanks to all who helped with setting up and tearing down all the equipment, the help was much appreciated. I had a great time and I hope everyone else did also.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting coming up July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm in the Academy Administration Building, 290 Fairgrounds Road. Enter through the back up to the third floor.

73!

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 Minutes Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ**



The June 2024 meeting of the Mount Vernon ARC was called to order by Directors Frank, KC8EVS at 7:00 pm. The meeting meeting. place was changed to Apple Valley at the Field Day site.

#### **Meeting Minutes**

The minutes for last month were presented. There were no changes. The minutes were passed as read.

#### **Treasurers Report**

Terry, KI8N provided an account of the current balance of all bank accounts and expenditures through June 2024. There were no additions or corrections, and the report was approved as presented.

#### **Committee Reports**

#### **ARES**

Reminder: The ARRL put a new hours tracking program into service. We need to report all time that we do anything Ham Radio related other than making contacts. Examples meeting, Friday breakfast, training, working The meeting adjourned after the Field Day site tour. on club radios/antennas/repeaters, field day, POTA.

#### Repeaters

Roger, KE8ICI reported that there could be an issue with the antenna at the water tower. He will be checking to see if that is the issue. Roger bought a HyTera Repeater. There are donations around \$400 to buy it from him for the club. If there are no more donations, then the Director's will have to vote to ask the club to pay the difference.

A suggestion was made to look at selling the two Yaesu repeaters and the WiresX box.

#### **MESH / EchoLink**

Don, W8PEN reported that is running fine.

EchoLink had an issue, Don got a new router that fixed the issue.

#### **Old Business**

NVIS Day was on April 27 – We had two stations, Thayer

Ridge Park and Wolfe Run Regional Park. Not a lot of contacts for NVIS but several POTA contacts.

Black Fork Gravel Grinder was held on May 4 there were no issues. There were around 850 riders.

Directors should keep track of the donations for a new 15 members attended the repeater and decide what to do with the old repeaters.

#### **New Business**

A spot has been reserved for First Friday August 2. More details to come at next month's meeting.

Michael, KE8HGE, will be starting a General License Class this month.

#### Show and Tell

Everyone took a tour of the Field Day site.

#### **Coming Events**

Field Day – June 22-23 location Apple Valley. There will be 4 stations. One digital, one cw and 2 SSB. Pizza will be ordered for dinner. Setup will be Friday June 21 at 2PM.

Parks On the Air – Sept. 7 for more info <a href="https://">https://</a> ospota.org/ We will be at Mohican State Park.

Family Peloza is August 10 from 3pm to 7 pm at Apple



"I find it hard to sit in the basement shack when the sun is up and I have so many projects started that have been backed up for the last year." Terry, KI8N

Personnel present at the 6/10/2024 meeting								
Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE Bill Bullock, KE8ZIG Scott Fields, W8HK								
Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ	Emery Bennett, W8TW	Chuck Perkins, N8KHR						
Don Russell, W8PEN	Barry Butz, N8PPF	Tyler Sheets, KF8AVA						
Frank Counts, KC8EVS	Roger Gorrell, KE8ICI	Evan Koonz, KF8APC						
Tom Evans, KD8HSA	Terry Windsor, KI8N	Michael Deane, W8OIO						

### **ARRL Systems Service Disruption**

7/01/2024 - Logbook of The World® (LoTW®) has returned to service.

As work progressed on the network, some users encountered LoTW opening briefly during which some 6600 logs were uploaded. The logs were not processed until the weekend as we tested the interfaces to LoTW were functioning properly.

We are taking steps to help manage what will likely be a huge influx of logs. We are requesting if you have large uploads, perhaps from contests or from a DXpedition, please wait a week or two before uploading to give LoTW a chance to catch up. We have also implemented a process to reject logs with excessive duplicates. Please do not upload your entire log to "ensure" your contacts are in LoTW as they will be rejected. Lastly, please do not call ARRL Headquarters to report issues you are having with LoTW. You can contact support at LoTW-help@arrl.org.

Through the end of the year, you may experience planned times when LoTW will be unavailable. We have been using this time to evaluate operational and infrastructure improvements we would like to make to LoTW. Those times will be announced.

## **Contact MVARC**

**MVARC** 

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

**Email** 

admin@mvarc.net





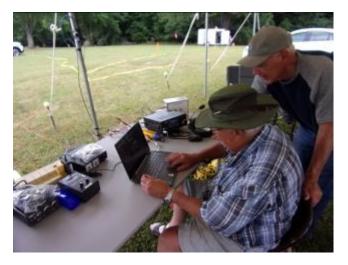


# **July 2024**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 of July	<b>5</b> 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	6
7 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net—Don (W8PEN)	7:00 pm MVARC Meeting	9	10 4:45 pm Dinner	11	12 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	13
14 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	15	16	17 4:45 pm Dinner 6:30 PM Testing Ses- sion; Acade- my Building	18	19 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	20
21 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net— Michael (KE8HGE)	22	23	24 4:45 pm Dinner	25	26 9:00 am— Breakfast Foundation Park	27
28 9:00 pm ARES Sunday Night Net	29	30	31 4:45 pm Dinner			

Link to: Ham Radio Contest Calendar

Field Day Photos.
Photos by G.M. Jacobs, KE8HGE

























## Field Day Results MVARC 2024

## Don Russell W8PEN



Once again, we come to the end of another successful Field Day. 2024 Field Day was hot and muggy, but that did not stop the club from having a great Field Day.

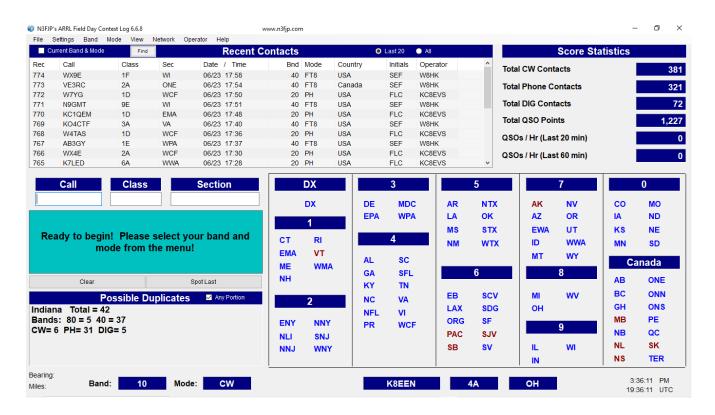
Scores were down a little bit, but as usual, our club starts slow and ends up with a good overall score of total contacts.

The Extended Double Zepp antennas that I was counting on turned out to be dummy loads. While they received great, nobody could hear us. I finally abandoned mine on CW and went with the Off-Center Fed antenna. It didn't take long for Roger, KE8ICI, to do the same with the one I built for SSB. Roger switched to his ARRL special End Fed antenna.

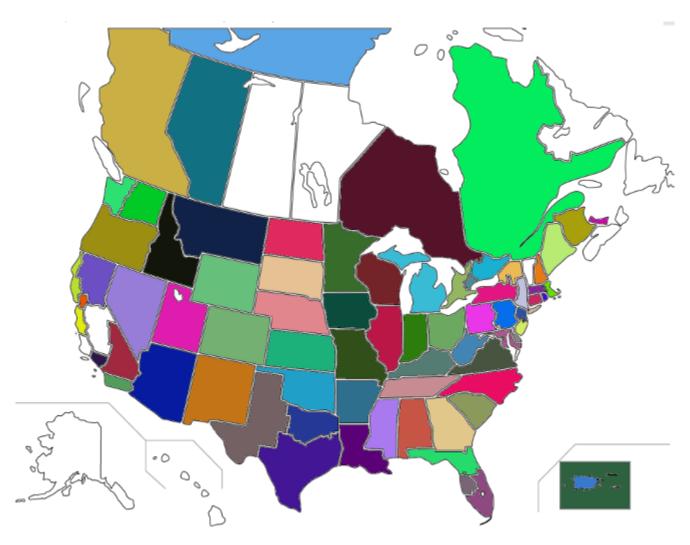
Back to the drawing board. I'll have to think about antennas for 2025 for a bit.

While there was some interference between stations, it wasn't as bad as some past years. I think it evened out. The CW station would hear some of the clubs SSB and digital, the digital would hear some of the SSB and CW, and SSB heard some CW and digital.

According to the N3FJP logging software, our total operating time was 18 hours and 53 minutes. This was the total time that the club had at least one transmitter out of the four making contacts. Average contacts for the group were 43 contacts per hour.



The club worked all states except Vermont, Alaska, and Hawaii. Worked all sections except VT, PAC, SB, SJV, AK, MB, NL, NS, and SK.



Total Contacts by Country										
Country Total Percentage										
USA	714	92								
Canada	47	6								
Puerto Rico	6	1								
European Russia	2	0								
England	1	0								
France	1	0								
Poland	1	0								
Spain	1	0								
US Virgin Islands	1	0								

	Contacts by Mode								
Mode	Total	Percentage							
cw	381	49							
SSB 1	187	24							
SSB 2	134	17							
Digital	72	10							
	Total Contacts by Initials								
Initials	Total	Percentage							
DR	381	49							
FLC	157	20							
BEB	115	15							
SEF	72	9							
RTS	28	4							
EAB	8	1							
RG	7	1							
WEC	6	1							

The contacts by initials may or may not be accurate. Depends on if everyone updated the logging software when they started operating.

And finally, our score, as submitted to the ARRL:

Entry Received; 2024-06-30 at 14:05:43

Call Used: K8EEN—GOTA Station Call: (NONE) — ARRL/RAC Section: OH — 4A

Participants: 23— Club/Group Name: Mt. Vernon, Ohio ARC

Power Source Generator

Power Multiplier 2X

Preliminary Total Score 3204

**Bonus Points** 

100% Emergency Power 400

Public Location 100

W1AW Field Day Message 100—-Documented by FD Message 2024.txt

Social Media 100

Entry Submitted via Web 100

Total Bonus Points 750

Score Summary								
Mode Total QSOs Total Points								
CW	381	762						
SSB	321	321						
Digital	72	144						
Total Points 1227								

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown											
CW Digital SSB											
Band	QSOs	Power (W)	W) QSOs Power (W)			Power (W)					
80 Meter	125	100	3	5	0						
40 Meter	122	Meter 122 100	100	100 62	62	5	257	100			
20 Meter	83	100	6	5	27	100					
15 Meter	42	100	0		35	100					
10 Meter	9	100	1	5	2	100					
Total	3	81	7	72		321					

#### **Going Forward**

If I am selected as Field Day Chairperson for 2025, we will be doing things a bit differently. We will put into effect some things I wanted to try this year but backed off.

Next year, I would like to see the club run two transmitters instead of four. This would be more reasonable for our size of group and competitively, would put us in a lower group where we may have a lower score, but place higher up in the rankings. Using two transmitters will also allow us to run two stations pretty much the whole 24 hours of the contest. If the operators are willing.

We would also make better use of the GOTA station. With all Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE efforts getting new hams licensed, it is a pity we don't take full advantage of the GOTA station.

The other thing I would like to change is the setup time. I would like to start setting up Saturday morning instead of Friday evening. This would be relatively simple if we are running just two stations. Working together, it would take no time at all to set up the antennas and radios. In fact, if we wish to push it, we could start setup at 2:00 PM, the very start of Field Day. By doing so, we would be allowed to operate an extra three hours (until 5:00PM). Not sure I would want to do this, but it is a possibility.

The two stations would be set up for the three modes we operate: SSB, CW, and Digital. The current operator would decide which mode he wants to operate.

We will discuss this at the next few meetings.

### **Miscellaneous Rambling**

**Terry Windsor, KI8N** 



The last couple of months I have been reporting on the status of getting my tower and antenna back into the air. Everything is back together but the tower is still sitting propped up and not in the air. We, myself and a friend, tried to put it up on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> and were

unsuccessful. The same sketchy wench assembly I used last time refused to raise the tower and instead broke part of the contraption. Back to the drawing board on how to get it raised. At least the coax has been replaced and buried from the tower to the house. That was no small feat with the heat and humidity the last few days.

The CW Ops class I had been taking finished and I passed! To celebrate I have been making a few POTA CW contacts as a hunter. Time to sign up for the next level class starting in September.

Not sure if any of you are DX hunters but there have been several DXpeditions. I found a web site that identifies which ones are active, their call sign and scheduled days, and if they are on the air at that time. The web address is: <a href="https://www.ham365.net/Dxpeditions">https://www.ham365.net/Dxpeditions</a>. Check it out if you actively hunt DX activity. Since the only antenna I currently have active is a 43 foot vertical I am mostly hit or miss contacting DX activity. (See next page for a copy of what is on ham365.net.)

Did anyone actively participate in the 13 Colonies event? Normally I look forward to this event but this year I have not felt the urge to be involved. I think I managed 4 of the colonies and none of the bonus stations. Last year I had a clean sweep of all stations on both digital and CW. I find it hard to sit in the basement shack when the sun is up and I have so many projects started that have been backed up for the last year. So maybe next year I will feel the desire to get involved.

In June I finished my radiation treatments and now have to wait until September to find out if all the cancer was killed. Glad to be done with driving to Columbus every day and especially the intense fatigue from each treatment. Hoping my energy and stamina start to recover. However, doctor says this could take months before I start to feel somewhat normal. I am very ap-

preciative of all the medical staff at both Knox Community Hospital and The James for their kindness and trying to make me feel upbeat about the ongoing prognosis.

As one of the newsletter editors I have a final bit of concern/rant; - I have noticed no one is willing to put in the effort to write a short synopsis of our events to turn in for the newsletter. Typically I would attend and put in a short story about events MVARC was involved with. However, being ill for the last 11 months I have not been actively involved and it appears NO ONE ELSE IS EITHER! There were no stories regarding NVIS day or Black Fork Gravel Grinder which probably makes new members feel that the club is not involved in any outside activities. As Barry, N8PPF is always trying to get members actively involved in outside activities, not having anyone take a few minutes to write a short paragraph and maybe a couple of photos, seems no one really cares. As Don, W8PEN says in his story about Field Day, it really is a pity no one participates.

Now back to your regularly scheduled day, my working on some of the easier projects I have added to my list, and hoping everyone is radio active!

"Be safe and Ham it UP"!



## Ham365.net/Dxpeditions

Dx-peditions	1 Mnami Torishima Is.	Wallis & Futuna Islands	American Samoa Is. ONAIR	Camboda	Maldives Is.	Greenland	Saint Pierre & Miquelon Is. [011]	Seychelles Islands	Reunion Island	Svalbard Is.	Wake Island	American Samoa Is.	Uk Bases On Cyprus	Iota EU- 166	Z Iota OC-013 Iota OC-083	Iota AS-148	Iota OC-144	Iota EU-016	Iota EU-172	Iota AS-204
	JG8NQJ/JD1	FW7 JV	K8K	XU7GNY	8Q7EC	ОХЗГХ	FP/KV13	S79/HA8PX	T07PX	JW/WE9G	NL7RR/KH9	K8R	ZC4MK	IQ9VG/P	E51KEE-CZZ	DTØIP	7E4C-7E4K	9A8DV	СОБСМ	RIOF
	96						_	S7		.,	N			-	ES		71			
color																				
DAY																				
1	1	1	1	1	1	1														
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2													
3	3		3	3	3	3	3													
4	4		4	4	4	4	4													
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6	6		6	6	6	6	6	6	6											
								_	_											
7	7		7	7	7	7	7	7	7											



### **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
Coshocton	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.

Of all the things that taste like chicken, it's weird that eggs aren't one of them.



"Next year, I would like to see the club run two transmitters instead of four." Don, W8PEN

#### **Final Takeaway**

In the past I have received inquiries about ham radio repeater operation and usage. I have done a couple of articles or how to operate and Stephen, N8RLW supplied information about the MVARC repeaters. This month I took to YouTube to see what was available regarding repeater operation.

This first video is a 10 minute description provided by NW7US.

#### What are Ham Radio Repeaters?

Another YouTube video that would be helpful to watch goes over some suggestions for being a good operator on repeaters.

#### Ham Radio Repeater Dos and Don'ts operating tips

#### Chapters;

Dos Listen first

Leave space for others to break in

Be nice

Ask first if the repeater is in use

Participate in nets

Use EchoLink when out of the area

Don'ts Kerchunk the repeater

Curse

Dominate the repeater

The next video is aimed towards personnel that are "non-techies"

#### How Do Ham Radio Repeaters Work

Finally, if you have questions regarding Yaesu C4FM or WiresX be sure to watch "Yaesu The Radio Show "Podcasts with John Kruk. These are found on YouTube or can be listened to on your podcast apps. A new podcast/video is released every two weeks.

#### Yaesu USA Official

These are just a few of the videos put together to assist amateur radio operators learn about repeaters and their functions and uses. You can do a further search and find more topics that may interest you.



#### **Ohio ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests**

The current listing of Ohio Great Lakes Division ARRL Sanctioned Hamfests coming in July and August 2024.

#### 07/06/2024

#### **Mansfield Mid Summer Trunkfest**

Location: Mansfield, OH

Sponsor: Intercity Amateur Radio Club

Website: https://iarc.club/

#### 07/20/2024

#### **Ashtabula County Hamfest 2024**

Location: Pierpoint, OH

Sponsor: Amigos Radio Club Ashtabula

Website: <a href="https://sites.google.com/view/arca-home/">https://sites.google.com/view/arca-home/</a>

## 07/20/2024

## NOARSFEST

Location: Elyria, OH

Sponsor: Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society

Website: <a href="https://www.noars.net/">https://www.noars.net/</a>

#### 07/21/2024

#### **Van Wert Hamfest**

Location: Van Wert, OH

Sponsor: Van Wert Amateur Radio Club

Website: <a href="https://w8fy.org/">https://w8fy.org/</a>

#### 08/03/2024

#### **2024 Columbus Hamfest**

**Location:** Grove City, OH

**Sponsor:** Aladdin Shrine Audio Unit

Website: https://aladdinshrine.org/hamfest/

#### 08/10/2024

#### **Cincinnati Hamfest**

**Location:** Owensville, OH **Sponsor:** Milford ARC

Website: <a href="https://cincinnatihamfest.org/">https://cincinnatihamfest.org/</a>

#### 08/18/2024

#### **Warren Hamfest**

Location: Cortland, OH

**Sponsor:** Warren Amateur Radio Association

Website: <a href="https://w8vtd.com/">https://w8vtd.com/</a>







"Directors should keep track of the donations for a new repeater and decide what to do with the old repeaters."

June Meeting Minutes

### **General Exam Sample Test Questions**

GOBO2 According to the National Electrical Code, what is the minimum wire size that may be used safely for wiring with a 20-ampere circuit breaker?

- A. AWG number 8
- B. AWG number 16
- C. AWG number 12
- D. AWG number 20

GOB10 Which of the following is a danger from lead-tin solder?

- A. RF Energy can convert the lead into a poisonous gas
- B. High voltages can cause lead-tin solder to disintegrate suddenly
- C. Tin in the solder can "cold flow," causing shorts
- D. Lead can contaminate food if hands are not washed carefully after handling the solder

#### **Extra Class Exam Sample Test Questions**

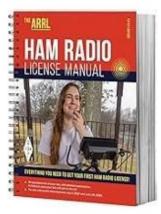
E9F02 Which of the following has the biggest effect on the velocity of a transmission line?

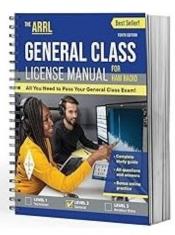
- A. The line length
- B. Dielectric materials used in the line
- C. The termination impedance
- D. The center conductor resisitivity

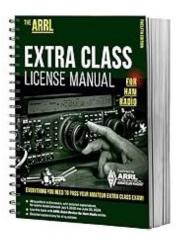
E9F10 What impedance does a 1/8-wavelength transmission line present to a generator when the line is shorted at the far end?

- A. Zero
- B. A capacitive reactance
- C. The same as the characteristic impedance of the line
- D. An inductive reactance

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: <a href="https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/">https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/</a>. The ARRL license manuals shown are available from the <a href="https://www.qrz.com/hamtest/">ARRL license manuals shown are available from the ARRL or Amazon.</a>







#### **Editors Notes**

The MVARC Newsletter is delivered to club members via email containing a link to the MVARC webpage, 2024 Newsletters button. We could really use your input - help eliminate missing arti-





cles on club events!

Thanks to all for your assistance with the MVARC Newsletter; in 2023 we were selected as fourth best newsletter in the Ohio Section.

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 Counts, KC8EVS
- \* Vice President Emery Bennett, W8TW
- \* Secretary Bill Stroud, KD8WHQ
- \* Treasurer Terry Windsor, KI8N
- \* Club Call Trustee Don Russell, W8PEN
- \* Equipment Trustee Barry Butz, N8PPF
- \* Directors
  Michael Jacobs, KE8HGE
  Roger Gorrell, KE8ICI
  Scott Yonally, N8SY
  Barry Butz, N8PPF
  Tom Evans, KD8HSA
- \* Newsletter Editors Frank Counts, KC8EVS Terry Windsor, KI8N



## **Web Page**

**MVARC.net** 

## **Facebook Page**

https://www.facebook.com/mvarc

## **MVARC Email**

admin@mvarc.net

### **Practice Amateur Radio Exam Question Answers**

G0B02-C

G0B10-D

E9F02-B

E9F10-D







"I went to bed at about 4:30 am only to wake up about 6 am to the sound of dits and dahs coming from Don's station. So much for my getting ahead." Frank, KC8EVS