

How do I?

An occasional series

This week: Clubs, Nets and Social Activities Part 3

The **Mennonet** meets at 1930 eastern on Tuesday at 3.947. Anyone is welcome to check in, but the net is an offshoot of the Mennonite Central Relief Committee and typically begins with a listing of where help is needed and whom to contact. For example, a small town in Alabama may need 10 volunteers for a week to help rebuild a church after a tornado. The net check ins span PA, NY, VA, OH to IN, KS and other places. Some of the net members are also VFN members and it shares a frequency with the VFN and the VFN makes sure it ends the Tuesday 1930 net early so that they give way to the Mennonet. If they end too early (some VFN members don't check in so that they can be sure the net ends by 1930), VFN members will hold down the frequency for the Mennonet until they are ready to start.

Just as there are at least 28 flavors of hams, there are many clubs and nets. Both have been a backbone of the hobby for a century. Please check them out. The ARRL website has a club finder and a list of nets throughout the country.

There are also many other nets devoted to emergency communications. One of these, described elsewhere in this series, is the PA NBEMS net.

Catch ya on the air!