



## **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR JUNE, 2008**

<http://www.qsl.net/cm-arc/>

### **CMARC HAMFEST**

**Hamfests are fun, and ours will be a lot of fun!**

Dave, WC3A, is our Hamfest Chairman. Dave tells us that the reservations for vendors are coming in. KJI Electronics, a major amateur radio dealer from New Jersey, will be coming to our hamfest. Sauder Electronics is coming too, and have requested 7 inside tables. Sauder Electronics always has that connector or thing-a-ma-jig that you need. Dave also reports he has several other reservations, so things are shaping up nicely.

Our club hamfest will be held at the Lime Ridge Community Center on June 14<sup>th</sup>. We will need help setting up for the hamfest the day before, and we will need lots of help the day of the hamfest. We will begin our hamfest operations around 6 a.m. on June 14<sup>th</sup> and finish up around noon. Food will be available; the ladies of the church across the street will be providing people at the hamfest with breakfast and lunch goodies. Mark your calendars now have some fun, meet some fellow hams, and maybe to give us a hand working a little at the hamfest.

So far, we have 18 people who can work for some time, and enjoy the hamfest for the rest of the time. If you can work at the hamfest and have not told me, please drop me an email:

[rlfoster1@verizon.net](mailto:rlfoster1@verizon.net)

Remember, the more workers we have, the less each worker has to work; there will be more time for all to enjoy the hamfest. For all the

information about the hamfest, take a look at the flyer on our club website:

<http://www.qsl.net/cm-arc/hamfest.htm>

## **OUR CLUB VE TESTING PROGRAM**

Recently, Matt, KB3JKU, became our VE Testing Chairman. Matt is responsible for organizing our amateur radio licensing testing, or VE (Volunteer Examiner) testing. So far, we have eight club members who are certified as Volunteer Examiners (VEs). Here is the list I have so far of VEs:

Linda Daring, K3BD  
Bob Foster, K3QIA  
Bill Hoops, K3WJH  
Matt Lunger, KB3JKU  
Rich Maynard, N3YGL  
Wayne Robbins, AB3AM  
Dave Schack, WC3A  
Jere Vietz, W3JLV

If I am missing anyone, please let Matt and me know. Thanks!

## **CMARC FIELD DAY**

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come to our CMARC Field Day!

Once again we will be conducting our Field Day at the Kulp Church Grove near Slabtown. We have made a donation to the ladies of the Kulp Church, and all arrangements have been made. Mark the dates on your calendar now! Set up on Friday, June 27, and Field Day operation begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 28 and concludes Sunday at 2 p.m.

There are a number of new rules this year. One of the new rules is that we can get bonus points for conducting an educational experience for people, and then give them a hands-on chance to put their new knowledge to work. The experience we have decided upon is to show people how to operate PSK, then let them operate and

**work stations on PSK on Field Day. We get two points for every PSK contact.**

**We also get bonus points for anyone aged 18 or younger who makes at least one QSO. Young people are especially welcome on Field Day.**

**For those who may not be familiar with Field Day, it is an exercise in emergency communications. You try to work as many stations as possible within a 24-hour period. There is a lot to Field Day! If you want to get a copy of the rules, check out the ARRL website at: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/fd.html>**

**Field Day is a lot of fun! Plan to take part in this fun activity!**

### **Directions to the Kulp Church Field Day Site**

**From Bloomsburg, take PA route 42 through Catawissa. Just beyond the bridge over Catawissa Creek (near Tom's Kitchen Restaurant), take the LEFT fork (continue on route 42). Three miles beyond the fork, watch for two "do not enter" signs on the left. At the "do not enter" signs, turn left (using the correct right lane). Drive about half a mile passing Ideal Park, which is a trailer park. Just past the park turn left on Creek Road. Continue on Creek Road for about a mile to Old Reading Road. Turn right on Old Reading Road, and proceed about a mile and a half to the Kulp Church.**

### **DAVE, WC3A, COORDINATES MARATHON**

**Dave, WC3A, organized a group of ham radio operators and helped to provide communications for the officials of the Danville Marathon. The race was held on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. After the race, Dave wrote the following:**

Hi Fellow Hams,

I want to thank you for taking part of your busy schedule to donate a few hours to the Danville Marathon. We received rave reviews and many "I can't believe you made contact and got answers so quickly". We sure showed them what hams do best - communicate.

This was their first Marathon and they admit that they had some supply issues but they will learn from them and grow.

I will contact the marathon coordinator with any suggestions you come up with.

One suggestion I think we need to make is to have a dedicated chase vehicle. Someone offered to follow on his motorcycle with ham radio. Who was that? I was mobile at the time and did not write it down - age thing you know.

The coordinator was traveling around the course a lot and had to be contacted via cell phone. Perhaps a ham in his vehicle would have been able to stay in contact better and made for swifter answers.

So guys, do you have any ideas, suggestions or gripes that I can pass along?

What a great team we had and I thank you very much. I know I had a good time and I hope you will consider helping again next year.

The following HAMS participated:

Larry, KB3JMS

Vic, WA4THR

Randy, N3JPV

Rich, W3OSS

Pat, KB3MCT

Ken, KB3PSP

Ray, KD3RN

Dave, KB3PWE

Dave

WC3A

**Well done, Dave!**

## **JIM, KB3PNI, IS AUTHOR**

**Jim, KB3PNI, is a writer. Here is Jim's email. Click on his link to learn about his writing.**

**I thought that you might like to know that the "HandiHam Courage System" is promoting my creative writing endeavors. Click on the following link to reference the aforementioned:**

**<http://www.handiham.org/node/100>**

**"HandiHam is well respected the American Radio Relay League and other high profile ham organizations.**

**Congratulations, Jim!**

## **IMPORTANT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DATES**

Randy, N3JPV, informs us of the following dates:

PPL Picnic at Knoebels Grove – August 23

PPL Practice Drill – September 18

PPL Drill – beginning approximately 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 21.

The October 21<sup>st</sup> drill is very important! We will need lots of RACES operators to take part in the drill, which will be observed by state and federal emergency management officials.

## **OUR CLUB MAILING ADDRESS**

CMARC

% Robert Foster

1586 State Route 93

Berwick, PA 18603

## **VE TESTING UPDATE**

Our VE team is now a "Field Stocked Team". This is a higher level of VE team since we will now automatically receive all testing materials and updates without making a request. This status was achieved due to our monthly testing schedule and Hamfest activities. We are currently the only ARRL VE testing team in our immediate area and have tested Hams from as far away as Lock Haven. Thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers, we have maintained a monthly testing schedule and give tests almost every month before our club meetings.

## **NET CONTROL STATIONS NEEDED**

In order to be prepared to carry on emergency communications when needed, we have an ARES Net on our CMARC repeater, 147.225 +, tone 203.5. The net is activated every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. local time. We need amateurs who will act as net control stations. So if you want to have some fun and be a net control station, send an E-mail to Jack, N3EUM:

[jlmcorm@jlink.net](mailto:jlmcorm@jlink.net)

Jack is an Assistant ARES Emergency Coordinator, and he is

our Net Coordinator who schedules the net control stations. He will provide a script for you to read when you act as net control. Please keep on checking into the net, and encourage others to check in, too!

Jack has about eight people who act as net control stations, so the job of actually being a net control only comes around every eight weeks or so. The more people we have, the less frequently each person has to be net control, and the more people we can involve in emergency communications.

Here is the roster for the net control stations:

Date	Primary	Call	Back-up	Call
6/10/08	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
6/17/08	JACK	N3EUM	BOB	K3QIA
6/24/08	BOB	K3QIA	JIM	KB3ICM
7/1/08	LINDA	K3BD	BOB	K3QIA
7/8/08	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
7/15/08	JIM	KB3ICM	JACK	N3EUM
7/22/08	SAM	K3EAU	RICH	N3YGL
7/29/08	BILL	K3WJH	PAUL	W3EGL

## **ARRL DX QSL SERVICE**

If you are a member of both CMARC and ARRL, we will forward your DX QSL cards to the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau. Just make sure I get the cards (you can give them to me at a meeting or drop your cards at my home), and as soon as I accumulate a pound of cards (about 155 cards), I will forward the cards to the bureau. There is no charge to you for this service, but I must have your ARRL membership number in order to forward your cards.

CMARC collects and sends to the bureau about eight shipments

of one pound each of DX QSL cards per year. About ten club members use this service at present. The ARRL has increased the rate from \$8 per pound of QSLs to \$10 per pound. Aren't you glad we offer this service?

## **ARE YOU RECEIVING THE "CMARC MEMBERS ONLY" EMAILS????**

At the same time this newsletter was sent over the Internet, another message was sent titled "CMARC Members Only – April". This message is only sent to people who have paid their CMARC dues for 2008. If you did not get the "CMARC Members Only" message, it means you have not paid your 2008 dues. What is in the "CMARC Members Only" Email messages? The message contains the minutes of the last meeting and a complete roster of all members of CMARC. These "Members Only" messages are sent out monthly.

In some cases, people have forgotten whether they have paid their dues. If you are not receiving the "Members Only" monthly email, you have not paid your dues for 2008.

If you are not receiving the "Members Only" email, please take a few minutes and send in your 2008 dues now! The next two articles describe how you can join CMARC. We would love to have you as a member! Don't wait! Send in your dues now! Read the next article on how to become a member!

## **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 2008**

The membership drive for 2008 is underway! To become a member of the Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club, send in your membership dues:

Regular Membership -----	\$20
Senior Membership (65 years of age or older) -	\$15
Student -----	\$10
Associate Member (unlicensed) -----	\$5

If you are a family member of a person with membership, the dues are \$5 less than the primary family member (or if the family member is a student, use the student membership rate).

To become a member, please send a check to our Membership Chairman:

Dave Schack  
6020 Fort Jenkins Lane - #17  
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

When you send in your dues for 2008, please include the following information: Name, Call, whether you are an ARRL member, your E-mail address, and your regular U.S. Postal Service address. Remember that there is no more phone patch.

**Please note that many people have had address changes caused by the State of Pennsylvania changing from RR and RD addresses to the new 911 addresses. Please give Dave your new address!**

Please state whether you qualify for a discount because you are the child of a member or if you are a student. Our membership chairman, Dave, WC3A, will appreciate this very much.

**73, Bob, K3QIA  
President of the Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club**