



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR MAY, 2008

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

CMARC HAMFEST

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

Our club hamfest will be held at the Lime Ridge Community Center on June 14th. 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 14th 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 to give us a hand at the hamfest.

I'm compiling a list of who wishes to work at what job, so please let me know whether you want to work gate, VE or tables. If you have no personal preference, please let me know and you can work where needed.

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>

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.

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!

PICTURES TAKEN FOR NEW RACES BADGES

The RACES Officer for Columbia County, Randy, N3JPV, has the new RACES badges for those who had their pictures taken at our March meeting. Randy's email address is: hamradil@ptd.net

If you missed the March meeting, but still would like to get your RACES badge, contact Randy.

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DATES

Randy, N3JPV, informs us of the following dates:

PPL Dinner at Portobellos in Lightstreet – 7 p.m., May 15

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 21st 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.

BILL, K3JWH, EXPLAINS DISASTER RELIEF EFFORTS

Recently Bill, K3JWH, attended a disaster relief conference in North Carolina. Here is his report on the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief; take special note of the communication systems used.

The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief has over 81,000 trained volunteers in the nation and over 1500 trailers for Disaster Response, and over 500 mobile kitchens. We also have Communications trailers, most of them set up the Kenwood Sky Command system with Kenwood TS-2000 and D-700s. Many business band radios on 151.625, the Southern Baptist assigned frequency along with MUR frequencies. We even have a few trailers set up with mobile Icom D-Star digital systems. The big thing now is to install mobile satellite systems in all the trailers so that we can almost always have email and Internet connections. Sometime cloud cover will prevent Satellite connections, at which time we go back to good old HF communications. They also have shower units, laundry units, chain saw units, mud out units, child care units. We also have 2377 trained Disaster Relief Chaplains to provide pastoral care to the victims of a natural or man made disaster. That is the largest cadre of Chaplains from any denomination for any focus group. The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief team is second only to the Red Cross. FEMA and the Red Cross depend on the Southern Baptist to feed the masses in any disaster any more.

Bill Hoops

INFO ON PAUL, W3LXN

Paul, W3LXN, has been a regular check-in to our ARES net for many years. Recently we received an email from Patty Rolands, Paul's daughter, about W3LXN:

Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 6:49 PM

I wanted to let you know that dad fell this morning and is now in Kramm's Nursing Home in Milton. They expect him to be there for two weeks until he can recover some strength and get his pain under control.

I know he would like any and all company that would like to visit him.

Thanks, Patty

Thanks to Bill, K3WJH, for sharing this email with us.

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:

jlmccorm@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	BACKUP	CALL
4/1/08	RICH	N3YGL	BILL	K3WJH
4/8/08	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
4/15/08	BOB	K3QIA	JACK	N3EUM
4/22/08	LINDA	K3BD	SAM	K3EAU
4/29/08	JACK	N3EUM	PAUL	W3EGL
5/6/08	SAM	K3EAU	LINDA	K3BD
5/13/08	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
5/20/08	JIM	KB3ICM	RICH	N3YGL
5/27/08	PAUL	W3EGL	BILL	K3WJH

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