



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2008**

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

## **LOGO COMMITTEE FORMED**

The club has formed a committee to make suggestions about a club logo. The members of the Logo Committee are: Matt, KB3JKU (Chairman), Linda, K3BD, and Jack, N3EUM. The committee will study the design of a logo for the club. The committee will make a report at the regular September meeting.

## **RACES MEMBERS ARE TREATED AT KNOEBELS**

PPL treated all the volunteers of the Radiological Emergency Response Teams in Eastern Pennsylvania to a chicken and pork picnic at Knoebel's Grove on August 23, 2008. We have over 20 RACES operators who were eligible to attend. We had five attend that I know about: Randy, N3JPV, Linda, K3BD, Rich, K3RND, John, N3XJZ, and Bob, K3QIA. Any other RACES operators attend? There were hundreds of people there, and it was a very enjoyable picnic. All emergency responders in PPL's service area (most of Eastern Pennsylvania) were invited guests.

## **OUR REPEATER COORDINATION REPRESENTATION**

The Area Repeater Coordination Council (ARCC) coordinates all the repeaters in the Eastern Pennsylvania ARRL Section (as well as the Southern New Jersey ARRL Section). Our repeater, KB3BJO on 147.225+, has been coordinated for a number of years. This means that the ARCC has accepted our repeater into their system. ARCC maintains the system, and makes sure no

two repeaters are operated on the same frequency (or adjacent frequencies) in the same coverage area. This keeps interference down to an absolute minimum.

We received an invitation to send a representative to the next meeting of ARCC. It will be held Saturday, September 20 at noon at the Harvest Diner in Cinnaminson, NJ. Does anyone want to go and represent CMARC? Let me know if you are interested. Drop me an email if you wish to go:

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

Check out the ARCC website at:

<http://www.arcc-inc.org/>

A list of the coordinated repeaters is on their website.

## **BILL, K3WJH, IS INVOLVED WITH EMERGENCY HURRICANE COMMUNICATIONS**

The following is from Bill, K3WJH:

As you know, I am the Director of Communications for the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief for Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

(It is very similar to SATERN for the Salvation Army, that many of you are aware of.)

The Southern Baptist Disaster Relief has over 83,000 trained -- deployable volunteers for disasters, making them the second largest disaster relief agency, next to the Red Cross in the world.

This really has nothing to do with us as ARES or RACES operators, but I thought you may want to know what Hams are doing in this crisis.

Today, I was ordered to put all the SouthBEARS (Southern Baptist Emergency Amateur Radio Service) in Pennsylvania and New Jersey on "Alert" (prepare to go - stay home - updates will come at least every 24 hours or sooner when needed). If activated they will support the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief

mobile kitchen. They will be under the authority of SouthBEARS not ARES, RACES or ARRL.

Also included are operating frequencies if you want to listen in.

**EMERGENCY/TACTICAL: DAYTIME 7285 KHZ**

**NIGHTTIME**

**3873 KHZ**

**H&W DAYTIME 7290 KHZ**

**NIGHTTIME**

**3935 KHZ**

**Bill Hoops**

**K3WJH**

## **PA QSO PARTY**

Every October, our club takes part in a really fun operating event, the Pennsylvania QSO Party. You try to work as many stations as possible, especially trying to work as many different Pennsylvania counties as you can. Stations in Pennsylvania give a serial number and their county. Serial numbers work like this: the first station worked is given number 1, the second station number 2, etc. Complete information about the PA QSO Party is given at:

<http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html>

We would like to make a good showing again this year in the friendly PA QSO Party. Please plan to join in the fun on October 11 and 12. Even if you can only get on a short time, please send in your entry log.

## **HAMFEST ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2008**

There will be a hamfest in Wrightstown, PA (about 20 miles from Philadelphia) on Sunday, September 28. If you are interested in attending, here is the website with hamfest info. Scroll down the page to find the latest info.

<http://www.packratvhf.com/Hamarama/hamarama.html>

**OCTOBER 21<sup>ST</sup> IS DATE FOR BIG DRILL**

Randy, our RACES and ARES Radio Officer, reminds us that Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> is the date for the big PPL drill to simulate a problem at the nuclear power plant near Berwick. Almost all the municipal buildings in the area must have a ham radio op with RACES certification on site that evening. RACES is an acronym for Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. We have over 20 club members who are certified, but if you are not and would be willing to take part in the big drill, contact Randy. His email address is:

[hamradil@ptd.net](mailto:hamradil@ptd.net)

Randy mentions that he needs volunteers for the various locations, so if you are certified, please contact Randy. There are a few locations not yet manned, so you may have a choice if you act now.

This drill will be observed by both state and federal emergency management officials, so it is important that we have a good turnout of RACES operators. Remember that our repeaters' antennas are located on Columbia County towers, and the antennas were installed by county officials at no cost to us. The reason the county does this is so that the county will have ham radio operators as emergency responders. We really need to have a great turn-out of club members on October 21<sup>st</sup>. The drill will begin approximately 6:30 p.m., and last until about 9:30 p.m. Please contact Randy as soon as possible to take part in the drill.

## **JERZY WORKS NUMBER 203**

As most of you know, Jerzy, N3FIP, works mostly PSK, but also a little RTTY. Recently Jerzy worked a new country, PY0FF, and that makes 203 DXCC Entities that Jerzy has worked on the digital modes. This is an awesome accomplishment! Be sure to congratulate Jerzy the next time you see him!

## **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:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Call</b>	<b>Back-up</b>	<b>Call</b>
<b>9/2/08</b>	<b>BOB</b>	<b>K3QIA</b>	<b>PAUL</b>	<b>W3EGL</b>
<b>9/9/08</b>	<b>DENNIS</b>	<b>N3VMM</b>	<b>DAVE</b>	<b>WC3A</b>

9/16/08	LINDA	K3BD	PAUL	W3EGL
9/23/08	SAM	K3EAU	RICH	N3YGL
9/30/08	BILL	K3WJH	JIM	KB3PNI
10/7/08	JIM	KB3PNI	JACK	N3EUM
10/14/08	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
10/21/08	JACK	N3EUM	BOB	K3QIA

check into the net, and join in the fun!

## **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**

### **POSTSCRIPT**

**If you have any amateur radio news, especially news that our local amateurs would like to know, please send it to me. My email address is:**

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

**I'll be glad to put it in our newsletter.**