



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER APRIL 2009**

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

## **CMARC HAMFEST IS ON TRACK**

Your club officers have been planning for our hamfest on Saturday, June 13, 2009. Our hamfest will be held at the same location as last year, the Lime Ridge Community Center. Our club is an ARRL Affiliated Club, and ARRL officials have approved our hamfest. Approval means our hamfest is listed on the ARRL website, and also will be listed in the June issue of QST.

Our club Webmaster, Matt, KB3JKU, has placed the hamfest flyer on our club website. Check it out at:

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

Be sure to take a look at the great map Matt has at the bottom of the hamfest flyer.

## **FIELD DAY IS COMING**

We will have our Field Day activities at the same location as last year, the Kulp Church grove near Slabtown. Mark your calendars now for this important and fun event. We begin setting up antennas on Friday, June 26. We'll begin working other stations on Saturday, June 27. Everyone is welcome to come and operate. We will finish operations around 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 28. Yes, we go all night long!

## **ARRL International SSB DX Contest 2009**

The following report written by Linda, K3BD:

I had fun operating the ARRL International DX contest the first weekend in March. I only operated about 2 hours on Sunday and was sorry I wasn't able to operate more during that weekend.

During those 2 hours I worked 20 stations that spanned the globe from the Netherlands to Mexico and the Bahamas, Slovenia to the Azores and most of Western Europe. Since they only gave their call signs I asked Bob, K3QIA, to help me with the locations.

I was pleasantly surprised to see how well our Yaesu FT 847 on the Hygain antenna worked. All my contacts were on the 20 Meter band and all gave me a 5-9 report.

It was fun and could be come addictive so I hope others will try it next year and increase the radio activity.

There are contests almost every weekend. To find out the contests any weekend, see the website:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Just in case you work a station and you would like to get more info on the station, type the station's callsign in the search box at:

<http://www.qrz.com/>

## **DANVILLE MARATHON COORDINATION**

Dave, WC3A, is coordinating the effort to provide ham radio communications for the Danville Marathon, scheduled for April 5th. Here is the info on the race from Dave:

The 2009 Danville foot race will be held on Sunday, April 5th.

Here is some of the info:

**Name:** River Town Marathon 2009

**Rating:** Gold, based on 3 reviews

**Distance:** 26.20 miles / 42.16 km

**Location:** Start: Danville High  
Bloomsburg/ Danville - Danville, PA, US

**Attributes:** loop, mostly flat, roads

**Description:** A kinder, gentler route in 2009 that retains all the

nice scenery, but loses a hill or two.

We will need about 12 radio operators to be at some of the water stations for communications from those areas. We will need the operators to be in place by 8 a.m. They tell me that there will be water stations every 2 mile markers so 12 or 14 hams will be needed.

You can get a map of the course here ---->  
<http://www.usatf.org/routes/view.asp?rID=256782>

And here is more info here ---->  
<http://web.mac.com/earthscapes66/Marathon/Welcome.html>

OK Guys & Gals, I need to hear from you soon so please check your calendars and let me know if you can help. We had an excellent turn out last year and I would expect the same this year. This is good publicity for our club and it goes a body good to help out our local communities.

Email me at [drs352478@verizon.net](mailto:drs352478@verizon.net)

Please contact me soon!

73, Dave, WC3A

## **DELAWARE HAMFEST**

I just got a flyer in the snail mail about a hamfest to be held in Delaware on April 4. If you are interested, here is their website:  
<http://www.k3str.com/>

It looks like a good one!

Additional information about the hamfest is provided by Denny, KB3MJ in the following email:

Hi Bob,

I should have thought to email you with this info before. It looks like we will at least have several good speakers/presenters with

Riley Hollingsworth (retired from the FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Division), Gene Zimmerman of QST's "The World Above 50 MHz" Fame and Norm Fusaro from the ARRL HQ describing and explaining LOTW.

From Berwick, it's about 3 1/2 to 4 hours drive (depending on your speed, of course). Don't forget, we don't have sales tax in Delaware and you can spend some time at the beach and the Outlet Stores while your here, too! (I just bought a 750 Watt inverter for under \$23.00 from the Black & Decker outlet.)

It would be nice to see some of my old compadres of CMARC, too!

Aloha and 73,

KB3MJ - Denny

## **APRIL FOOL IN QST**

In every April edition of QST, there is an April fool article written as if it were real. Just in case you may have missed the article in the April 2009 QST, it is on page 81 and is titled "Acorn Antenna Altitude Apparatus". It describes how you can get squirrels to help to install antennas in tall trees. April fool! Hi Hi!

## **FUND RAISING BY DONATING YOUR UNUSED ITEMS**

Andy, N3OMA, made a great suggestion. Andy said that many members have things lying around that they do not need. If you have such items, bring them to a club meeting and donate them to the club. Andy will sell the items either to other club members or will sell the items on Ebay. I've already given Andy several items, and he is busy on Ebay. So look around your junk boxes and see if you have anything that you no longer want and bring it to the next club meeting. Thanks!

## **ACTIVITIES AT MONTHLY MEETINGS**

We have been accepting suggestions concerning what topics members would like to hear about at monthly meetings. We are

using these suggestions to schedule the activities for our monthly meetings.

The club Activities Director, Andy, N3OMA, will be coordinating the monthly activities, so you can also send additional suggestions to Andy. Please carbon-copy your suggestions to me, too, please!

Andy's email address is [maxfax@cris.com](mailto:maxfax@cris.com)

Bob, K3QIA, email address is [rlfoster1@verizon.net](mailto:rlfoster1@verizon.net)

Andy informs us that the programs for the next few regular club meetings have now been scheduled. We will announce the topics here in the monthly newsletter (as well as at the club meetings). The activities for the next few meetings are:

**April – RACES/ARES – Emergency Communications**

(This program will be presented by Randy, N3JPV)

**May – Digital Communications**

(This program will be presented by Dave, WC3A and Bob, K3QIA)

**June – This will be a planning session for our Hamfest and Field Day.**

**July – This will be a reporting session on the results of our Hamfest and Field Day with photos of the events.**

The people presenting the programs will be asking for interaction with the other members. The programs are meant to be interactive, with the audience participating.

## **LOGO COMMITTEE IS ACTIVE**

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 met recently and has made plans to have several designs for a logo for our club. When the designs are ready, the designs will be presented to the club for a vote.

## **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.

Remember to contact our VE Testing Chairman, Matt, KB3JKU, if you know of anyone who wishes to take an amateur radio license exam. Matt's address is :  
[kb3jku@verizon.net](mailto:kb3jku@verizon.net)

## **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 ten 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 schedule for the net control stations:

<b>CALL SCHED</b>	<b>PRIMARY</b>	<b>CALL</b>	<b>BACKUP</b>	<b>CALL</b>
4/7/09	PAUL	W3EGL	JACK	N3EUM
4/14/09	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
4/21/09	JIM	KB3PNI	BOB	K3QIA
4/28/09	SAM	K3EAU	PAUL	W3EGL
5/5/09	LINDA	K3BD	BILL	K3WJH
5/12/09	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
5/19/09	JACK	N3EUM	JIM	KB3PNI
6/2/09	BOB	K3QIA	LINDA	K3BD
6/9/09	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
6/16/09	JIM	KB3PNI	JACK	N3EUM
6/23/09	JACK	N3EUM	SAM	K3EAU
6/30/09	LINDA	K3BD	BILL	K3WJH
7/7/09	JIM	KB3PNI	JACK	N3EUM
7/14/09	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
7/21/09	JACK	N3EUM	BOB	K3QIA
7/28/09	BILL	K3WJH	SAM	K3EAU

Thanks, Jack, N3EUM, for making out the roster. 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 – March". This message is only sent to people who paid their CMARC dues. The message contains the minutes of the last meeting, and the list of club members. We will allow a short grace period to members who have not paid their dues yet for 2009. We will continue to send the Members-Only to people who pay their dues for 2009.

If you have not paid your dues for 2009, please take a few minutes and send in your dues now! The next article describes 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 2009**

The membership drive for 2009 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 2009, 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.**

## **CLUB OFFICERS**

**The following club members have been elected to club offices for 2009:**

**President: Bob Foster, K3QIA**

**Vice President: Randy Kishbaugh, N3JPV**

**Secretary: Linda Daring, K3BD**

**Treasurer: Dave Schack, WC3A**

**Activities Director: Andy Shecktor, N3OMA**

**Public Relations Officer\*: Matt Lunger, KB3JKU**

**[\*This is a new office. The Public Relations Officer will handle publicity in the media for the club.]**

**Trustee: Bill Hoops, K3WJH [This office is to be held for three years. Term will expire in December 2011]**

**Other Trustees are:**

**Linda Daring, K3BD. [Term expires December 2010]**

**Jack McCormick, N3EUM [Term expires December 2009]**

**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 next newsletter.**