



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2009

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

ELECTION OF 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]

CMARC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2009

Our membership drive for the year 2009 has begun. For info on how to pay your dues for 2009, see the article on membership near the end of this newsletter.

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

At the regular monthly meeting in November, we discussed what topics members would like to hear about or discuss at the club meetings. Sheets of paper were passed out, and members put on the paper what topics they would like to see presented. Then the members were asked to write down what topics they would like to present to the club at a meeting.

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

Bob, K3QIA, email address is rlfoster1@verizon.net

Andy informs us that the programs for the next three regular club meetings have now been scheduled. Hopefully we will schedule the programs for the next three club meetings, and we will announce the topics here in the monthly newsletter. The programs for the next three programs are:

January – Digital Television, including High-Definition TV
(this program will be presented by Andy, N3OMA)

February – GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) – we keep our logs in GMT, or UTC (Universal Time Coordinated).
(This program will be presented by Jack, N3EUM)

March – RACES/ARES – Emergency Communications
(This program will be presented by Randy, N3JPV)

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.

CMARC FIELD DAY RESULTS

There were 2,409 groups participating in the ARRL Field Day last June. Our CMARC group participated in class 4A. We placed number 31 out of 122 entries in class 4A. That means we placed in the 75th percentile. Folks, we placed better than 75 percent of the entries in our class. That is very good! It was a lot of fun, and now is the time to mark your calendars for our next Field Day, June 26-27-28, 2009. Plan on taking part in the fun!

TEN-METER CONTEST

The ARRL 10-Meter Contest was held the weekend of December 13-14. So far, we have these results from our members:

Randy, N3JPV, 31 QSOs on SSB

Skeeter, WA3IIA, 16 QSOs on CW (7 states, 1 DX [LU]) = 512 points

Dave, WC3A, 1 QSO SSB (Florida)

Jack, N3EUM, 1 QSO SSB (Florida)

Bob, K3QIA, 136 QSOs, all CW

States = 21, VE Provinces = 2, DX = 8 (J3, KP2, KP4, CX, LU, P4, PY and YV) Total Multpliers = 21+2+8 = 31

Score = 136 QSOs X 31 Multpliers X 4 points per CW QSO = 16,846 points

Side observations: Worked 44 stations in Florida, 15 in Pennsylvania, and 9 in PY, Brazil.

Overall, conditions were poor, with lots of QSB. Hopefully, there will be better conditions next year!

160-METER CONTEST

We had two club members work the 160-Meter Contest, held December 6-7, 2008. This is a CW-only contest. Skeeter, WA3IIA, had 286 QSOs (with 7 countries) and yours truly, Bob, K3QIA, had 323 QSOs (with 14 countries). It was a lot of fun. Both of us worked some new countries on 160 meters. Skeeter worked France and Belgium, and I worked Bosnia.

ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP

If you operate the digital modes, this contest is a great one. It begins at 1 p.m. EST on Saturday, January 3rd, and ends at 7 p.m. EST on Sunday, January 4th. For more information on this fun contest, see this website:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2009/rtty.html>

Of all the contests, the digital ones are by far the easiest to work! Try it, you will like it!

GREAT ARTICLE IN JANUARY QST

The article beginning on page 55 of the January 2009 issue of QST is great. It is titled "Morse Code: Efficient or Over the Hill?" I highly recommend it for your reading pleasure.

INTERESTING ARTICLE ON LONG-TIME HAM

Dave, WC3A, tells us about an interesting article about a person who has been hamming for a long time. Check it out at:

<http://www.tnonline.com/node/398604>

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.

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 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:

DATE	PRIMARY	CALL	BACKUP	CALL
12/2/08	BOB	K3QIA	JACK	N3EUM
12/9/08	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
12/16/08	JIM	KB3PNI	LINDA	K3BD
12/23/08	SAM	K3EAU	PAUL	W3EGL
12/30/08	RICH	N3YGL	BILL	K3WJH
1/6/09	JACK	N3EUM	JIM	KB3PNI
1/13/09	DENNIS	N3VMM	DAVE	WC3A
1/20/09	LINDA	K3BD	RICH	N3YGL
1/27/09	BILL	K3WJH	SAM	K3EAU
2/3/09	JIM	KB3PNI	JACK	N3EUM
2/10/09	DAVE	WC3A	DENNIS	N3VMM
2/17/09	JACK	N3EUM	LINDA	K3BD
2/24/09	RICH	N3YGL	BILL	K3WJH
3/3/09	PAUL	W3EGL	JACK	N3EUM
3/10/09	DENNIS	N3VMM	SAM	K3EAU
3/17/09	LINDA	K3BD	JIM	KB3PNI
3/24/09	BILL	K3WJH	RICH	N3YGL
3/31/09	JIM	KB3PNI	LINDA	K3BD

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 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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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

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