



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY - MARCH 2012

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

DAVE, WC3A, IS MOVING

Dave Schack, WC3A, is going to move to Florida! Dave plans on spending about six months in Florida, and about six months back here in Pennsylvania. Dave will remain a member of our club, of course!

As you know, Dave is extremely active in our club. Dave has resigned as Treasurer/Membership Chairman of our club. Jack McCann, W3GY (who is presently our Assistant Treasurer), has consented to be a candidate for the office. We will be holding an election for the office of Treasurer/Membership Chairman at the March regular meeting (we must do this according to our club constitution). If Jack is elected Treasurer/Membership Chairman, he will be taking over for Dave beginning at the March meeting. If you wish to be a candidate for the office, please let one of the club officers know before the March meeting. Jack says that he travels in the summer months, so he may not be able to make all the summer regular meetings. Dave is going to return in late June in time to go on Field Day with us, and Dave plans to be at the meetings during the summer months. Therefore, as club president, I am going to appoint Dave to be "Assistant Treasurer". So Dave will act as Treasurer

when Jack is not available. To this end, we have placed three names on the club bank account: Jack McCann, Dave Schack and Bob Foster. It will take just one of the three to sign checks.

Dave is also our Hamfest Chairman. Randy Kishbaugh, N3JPV, has consented to be our new Hamfest Chairman. Randy is already making plans for the Hamfest. Randy has secured the loudspeaker amplifier, and will soon get the mailing list files from Dave.

WHAT DAVE HAS MEANT TO OUR CLUB

Dave Schack, WC3A, has been a fantastic asset to our club. Dave has served as club Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President. You have read in the previous paragraphs that Dave is presently Treasurer, Membership Chairman and Hamfest Chairman. Dave is also Chairman of the Run for the Diamonds Coordination and Chairman of the Operation Santa project. Dave has also been an operator at Field Day for many years, and he is the main cook on Field Day. Dave states that he has been a member of our club for 31 years, and plans to continue to be a member for the next 31 years.

To put it another way, Dave has been invaluable to our club. Bare in mind we are not losing Dave, but he will be gone for about half the year. We wish you well in your new adventures in Florida, Dave! See you in June, Dave!

COLUMBIA MALL COMMUNITY DAYS

Bill Hoops, K3WJH, has informed us that we will have a unique opportunity at Columbia Mall on March 17th. On that date, the mall will allow organizations from throughout the area to set up stands in the mall to demonstrate what they do. There is no charge to the organizations. So our club could set up a table and we could hang our club banner nearby. Bill has an easel and a white board that we could use. We could put info about our club on the white board, and set up a base station (two-meter). We could have some members walk around the mall and work the base station. We could allow people who stop by to talk on the radio to the hams roaming the mall

with hand-helds. Other demonstrations are possible, too, especially since we will have Internet access there. The set-up will be at 9 a.m., and the mall opens at 10 a.m. The demonstrations could continue as long as we wish, even until 6 p.m. when the mall closes. We will be discussing this project at our next regular meeting in March. We hope we can get enough people to take part so we can have it staffed most of the day.

SM ELECTION FOR ARRL EPA SECTION

As you may know, there was an election for Section Manager (SM) for our ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section. One of our club members, Andy Shecktor, N3OMA, was one of three candidates. The person who won the election was Bob Famiglio, K3RF, of Media, PA. Bob will assume the duties of EPA SM on April 1, 2012. Andy has expressed congratulations to Bob, and wished him well in the new position. We all wish Bob all the best and look forward to working with him as our Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager.

From the ARRL website:

Famiglio -- an ARRL Life Member -- has been an active radio amateur for 44 years. He has served as ARES First District Emergency Coordinator for the last six years and as an ARRL Atlantic Division Volunteer Counsel for more than 25 years.

Our present Section Manager is Eric Olena, WB3FPL. Eric has done a fantastic job as Section Manager, and we wish Eric all the best as he explores having some free time. Good Luck, Eric, and many thanks for all you did for us and for amateur radio!

SOME DX NEWS FROM SKEETER, WA3IIA

If you are a DXer (that is, you try to work DX to earn awards), you will be interested in the Club Log website:

<http://www.clublog.org/loginform.php>

Some really great logging information is on the website for amateurs who have worked a DXpedition and want to see if they are in the log. Thanks, Skeeter!

WE NEED NET CONTROL OPERATORS

Jack, N3EUM, our ARES net manager, reminds us that Dave, WC3A, is a net control operator for our Tuesday evening ARES nets. We are losing a net control operator, and we need to replace him. So we need at least one, and better yet more than one, net control operator. Please read the next article carefully, and if you are able, please volunteer to be a net control operator.

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, and you do not need to be a member of CMARC to be a net control station. So if you want to have some fun and be a net control station, send an E-mail to Jack, N3EUM:

jilmccorm@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 ten 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 | Net Control | | Backup station | |
|----------------|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 3/6/12 | BOB | K3QIA | LINDA | K3BD |
| 3/13/12 | WHO? | WC3A | DENNIS | N3VMM |
| 3/20/12 | SAM | K3EAU | SHIRLEY | KB3TAX |
| 3/27/12 | BILL | K3WJH | JACK | W3GY |

| | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 4/3/12 | JACK | N3EUM | LINDA | K3BD |
| 4/10/12 | DENNIS | N3VMM | WHO? | WC3A |

Thanks, Jack, N3EUM, for making out the roster. Check into the net, and join in the fun!

IMPORTANT NOTE: We would like to get more check-ins to the net. Please! Use reminders to yourself like sticky-notes to check into the net. The reminders do work!

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

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?

SPECIAL NOTE! PLEASE, PLEASE, SORT YOUR CARDS ALPHABETICALLY BEFORE YOU GIVE THEM TO ME. IT MAKES MY JOB MUCH EASIER!

ARE YOU RECEIVING THE “CMARC MEMBERS ONLY” EMAILS????

This month there is a bit of a change in the Members Only emails. Instead of sending out a separate email to members, the members will receive the newsletter and a copy of the meeting minutes and the latest club roster with the newsletter. The Non-Members will also receive a copy of the newsletter, but not the meeting minutes nor the latest club roster.

If you have not paid your dues for 2012, 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 2012

The membership drive for 2012 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:

**Jack McCann
11 Bald Top Heights
Danville, PA 17821**

When you send in your dues for 2012, 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.

Please state if you qualify for a discount because you are the child of a member or if you are a student. Our Membership Chairman, Jack, W3GY, will appreciate this very much.

If you prefer, you could just pay Jack at a regular club meeting. Jack will gladly accept your dues for 2012 then!

CLUB OFFICERS

The following club members have been elected (or appointed) club offices for 2012: (Those officers who are appointed have a * before the name of the office)

President: Bob Foster, K3QIA

Vice President: Randy Kishbaugh, N3JPV

Secretary: Linda Daring, K3BD

***Assistant Secretary: Jack McCormick, N3EUM**

Treasurer: Dave Schack, WC3A

***Assistant Treasurer: Jack McCann, W3GY**

Activities Director: Steve Zappe, WA3GQA

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

Trustee: Jack McCormick, N3EUM [Term will expire in December 2014]

Trustee: Matt Lunger, KB3JKU [Term will expire in December 2012]

Trustee: Jere Vietz, W3JLV [Term will expire in December 2013]

*Web Master: Matt Lunger, KB3JKU

*VE Testing Chairman: Matt Lunger, KB3JKU

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 and/or send it out over the Internet.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY