



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER APRIL 2012

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

RANDY, N3JPV, OFFERS TRAFFIC HANDLING CLASS

This info from Randy, N3JPV:

Do you check into Nets and want more information on formal traffic handling? Your own Columbia County Emergency Coordinator, Randy, N3JPV, will be teaching a class before the regular scheduled CMARC meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. This class will be instructions on formal traffic handling entitled "An Instructors Guide to Training Traffic Handlers by W2EAG".

Please contact:

n3jpv@verizon.net

if you are interested in this class.

JACK McCANN, W3GY, IS ELECTED TREASURER

Jack McCann, W3GY, was elected to the office of our club Treasurer. Jack will also be our Membership Chairman. Many thanks, Jack, for serving in this very important club office.

DAVE, WC3A, ARRIVES IN FLORIDA

Dave, WC3A, our previous Treasurer/Membership Chairman, has arrived safely in Florida. He sent us the following report:

Hi All,

I wanted to tell you all about my excellent adventures here in Florida. First of all my main purpose in moving to Florida was to watch over

my Sister who is 85. She still gets around pretty well but needs some care now and then.

I won't go into details about the trip down here except it was wonderful to ride aboard the Amtrak Auto Train. Great food and service!

Upon my arrival I quickly realized that I have been blessed with wonderful neighbors and new friends. It seems that several of my neighbors were used to gathering on the porch to discuss the troubles of the world. They asked if I minded if they keep up the tradition. I told them that tradition stands and I would be honored to have the group over as often as they wish. So we meet just about everyday. We still try to settle the problems of the world and have a lot of laughs doing it.

This is a mobile home park that is very clean and well cared for. The tenants have to be 55 or older to live here. There are no pets allowed. They mow the grass and would shovel the snow if it ever happened. There is a snow shovel in the club house with the words "rust in peace" painted on it.

There are quite a few activities here every month. Pot luck dinners, bingo, movie night, dinners out, day trips to events in the area, ROMEO lunches (Retired Old Men Eating Out), game night, etc.

Now the best part is the boat rides I've been on. There are 2 huge lakes near my place and there is a connecting canal between the lakes. The canal is a nature preserve and is full of wildlife including, Blue Herrins, White Egrets, Vultures and of course Alligators.

A friend here has a large pontoon boat and we go out often to explore the canal and side canals. There are Cyprus trees that are well over 1,000 years old and Spanish Moss on many of the trees.

All in all I'm enjoying my new life here in sunny Florida. It has been very warm here and I'm slowly getting used to the heat. We have had over 21 days of 80° or more with low humidity, so far. I've experienced 2 thunder storms that sound a little different from NEPA. Maybe it's because this area is so flat. I did not hear any rolling thunder like in PA.

I've got my ticket to ride the Auto Train back up North for the summer. I leave on June 19th and will arrive on the 20th. Just in time to get ready for Field Day.

I look forward to seeing all my ol' friends soon.

Dave, WC3A

COLUMBIA MALL COMMUNITY DAYS

Bill Hoops, K3WJH, has informed us that we had a unique opportunity at Columbia Mall on March 17th. On that date, the mall allowed organizations from throughout the area to set up stands in the mall to demonstrate what they do to the mall visitors. There is no charge to the organizations. So our club set up a table with information about our club. Bill brought in a radio and a white board and an easel. We placed info about our club on the white board so passers-by could see who we were. We brought in some QSL cards and put them on the table, along with some ham radio magazines and some ARRL hand-outs.

We had a number of our club members staff the event, including:

Bill Hoops, K3WJH

Randy Kishbaugh, N3JPV

Jack McCann, W3GY

Dean Robbins, W3DLR

Pat Taylor, W3HGV

Jere Vietz, W3JLV

Steve Zappe, WA3GQA

Bob Foster, K3QIA

Matt Lunger, KB3JKU

In the mall, I spoke with Neil Young, N3QOH, who mentioned he might come down to visit our table. Neil works with animals for people with health problems, and he had an area set up at the mall.

Here is the report of Bill, K3WJH, who organized the event for our club:

We had a few positive responses for Ham Radio in general.

...2 different truck drivers from Florida (at different times and not related)

...a home school family that thought getting a Ham Radio License for a 9-10 year old girl and a 11-12 year old girl would be a good Science project. They want to learn the whole radio wave, how radio works, as a class.

...a family that the father had a radio and a 9 year old girl that wanted to get a radio.

...a few other looky-lous, but I don't think nothing will come from it.

We may not have gained any interest in the radio club, but we may have gained a few very young ham radio operators, making it worth the time.

I think if we do it again we need to think about getting the banner up on the table.

I think it was worth the time, and would be willing to do it again.

Bill

K3WJH

73

OUR CLUB HAMFEST NEWS

Our new Hamfest Chairman is Randy, N3JPV. Randy is taking over from Dave Schack, WC3A, who was our Hamfest Chairman for many years. Randy reports that the proper forms have been completed and submitted to ARRL, and ARRL has approved our Hamfest. Because our Hamfest is approved, ARRL will print information about our Hamfest in QST, and will send us door prizes for our Hamfest. Our Hamfest will be held on June 9th at the Lime Ridge Community Center. Randy is in the process of reorganizing of the names and addresses of those who will receive printed cards advertising our Hamfest. Randy also reports Kathy Sauder, of Sauder Electronics, will be at our Hamfest again this year.

Randy also reminds us that we will need lots of people to help at our club Hamfest. We will need people to work the gates (and collect the entrance fee from each attendee), and people to work at the club table and help with Exam testing. So mark your calendar for June 9th to do

some work at our club Hamfest, check out the bargains, visit with the other hams, and have fun!

Our club Webmaster, Matt, KB3JKU, has placed the flyer for our Hamfest on the club website. Take a look:

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

CMARC AT BOY SCOUTS SPRING CAMPOREE

Our club has been invited to set up a station at the Boy Scout Camp Lavigne, near Benton, on May 5th. The Boy Scout official inviting us is Larry Lahr, N3PED. We plan to erect a G5RV antenna and be on the air on 80 meters through 10 meters from about 9 a.m. to around 5 p.m. on May 5th.

ARTICLE FROM ARRL ATLANTIC DIVISION NEWS

Atlantic Division News

March 30, 2012

Bulletin 2012-01

***** Best Wishes to Eric Olena WB3FPL *****

Both Tom W3TOM and I would like to offer our best wishes to Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Eric Olena WB3FPL whose term of office ends April 1st.

Eric served his section members faithfully and tirelessly. His service was deeply appreciated by his members and by the Atlantic Division leadership.

A training session was held for Bob Famiglio K3RF, the incoming EPA Section Manager several weeks ago. The assistance of MDC Section Manager Jim Cross WI3N and WNY Section Manager Steve Ryan N2ITF in this training session was appreciated.

73,
Bill Edgar N3LLR
Atlantic Division Director

Tom Abernethy W3TOM
Atlantic Division Vice Director

JAN, KB3VXC, EARNS GENERAL LICENSE

Congratulations to Jan, KB3VXC, who recently passed her General License Exam. Check out the next article, which deals with how Jan prepared for the exam!

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO PREPARE FOR HAM RADIO LICENSING EXAMS

I asked Jan's permission to print her email to me in the club newsletter. I think it has some valuable info about preparing for the licensing exams.

Bob,

Just wanted to let you know that I passed my General at the Hamfest in Timonium Maryland this weekend. It was amazing, I am so Happy. Thank you for the info you sent me

<http://copaseticflows.appspot.com/hamtest>

This is the best site to study for the exams. I had no problems, Please thank KD0FNR Hamilton Carter. Absolutely wonderful site I highly recommend to all future Hams

73, KB3VXC Jan Bucanelli

APRIL QST IS VERY INTERESTING TITANIC

One hundred years ago this month, the Titanic sank and many people lost their lives in the frigid North Atlantic Ocean. Read about the radio operators of the Titanic on pages 30-31 of QST.

CARPATHIA

After the Titanic sank, another ship, the Carpathia, picked up the survivors of the disaster and took them to New York. Read about the radio operator of the Carpathia on pages 93-94 of QST.

APRIL FOOL

Every April edition of QST contains an “April Fool” article. The “April Fool” articles are NOT identified as such. You just might read an article that may not be true in the April issue of QST! Fortunately, the 2012 April QST issue has an “April Fool” article that is easy to identify as such. Have you found it? If you have, drop me an email and I’ll place the names of the sharp-eyed people who found the “April Fool” article in the next CMARC Newsletter.

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: 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 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
4/3/12	JACK N3EUM	LINDA K3BD
4/10/12	DENNIS N3VMM	???????? WC3A
4/17/12	JIM KB3PNI	SAM K3EAU
4/24/12	JACK W3GY	JACK N3EUM

5/1/12	SHIRLEY	KB3TAX	JIM	KB3PNI
5/8/12	DENNIS	N3VMM	???????	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: Jack McCann, W3GY

***Assistant Treasurer: Dave Schack, WC3A**

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 EASTER