



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER JULY-AUGUST 2012**

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

## **CMARC HAMFEST**

Our club held its annual hamfest on June 9<sup>th</sup> at the Lime Ridge Community Center, beginning around 6 a.m. This was the first Hamfest for our new Hamfest Chairman, Randy, N3JPV, and it was a complete success.

Our Hamfest was a complete success for several reasons. First, Randy had made extensive plans for the Hamfest by sending out the postcards to hams that had attended previous hamfests, having the Hamfest sanctioned by ARRL, securing door prizes, and many other things that contributed to the success!

Of course the Hamfest did not run itself. Many of our club members helped with the operation of the Hamfest by parking cars, selling admission tickets, turning in money collected, and many other odd jobs. Many thanks to all who helped make the Hamfest a success!

Randy was able to report at our June club meeting that the Hamfest was a financial success, too! We had a nice profit from the Hamfest!

And lastly, everyone reported they had a lot of fun at our Hamfest, and that, above all, is the best part of all our club activities!

## **SPECIAL CLUB TABLE AT HAMFEST**

Andy, N3OMA, accepted donated items to be sold at the club table during the hamfest. Andy is a great salesman, and he and his daughter Kim really did well. Andy was able to turn in a nice sum to our club treasury. Way to go, Andy & Kim!

## **CMARC FIELD DAY**

We really had a great Field Day this year! It really was a lot of fun!

First, many thanks to the people who helped raise the antennas the Friday before Field Day began, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. We never had all the antennas up in two hours and 11 minutes before. It was a fantastic effort. Special thanks to Joe, W3JSW, who brought his compressed-air antenna-launching device! Between Joe's launching device and my trusty slingshot and a great team of helpers, the antennas were up in record time! Special thanks to the team that helped put up the antennas, including Randy, N3JPV, Rich, K3RND, Linda, K3BD, Steve, WA3GQA, Dave, WC3A, Don, K3LRD, Anthony Spotts and Ed Hudgens. If I missed anyone, I apologize!

The following people brought radio equipment to Field Day: Rich, NQ3Y, Bill, K3WJH, Jack, W3GY, Linda, K3BD, Dave, WC3A, Randy, N3JPV, Andy, N3OMA, and Bob, K3QIA. We operated class 5A, and Linda, K3BD, was our coach at the GOTA station.

On Saturday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, we began working stations, and continued until about 1 p.m. on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Here are the QSOs:

80 SSB = 157

40 SSB = 117

20 SSB = 55

15 SSB = 14

10 SSB = 5

2 FM = 1 (the plane)

70 FM = 1 (the plane)

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Phone QSOs above = 350  
Total GOTA QSOs = 80

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Total phone QSOs = 430

40 CW = 365  
40 Digital = 19  
20 CW = 5  
20 Digital = 11

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Total CW + Digital (PSK) = 400

Grand total of all QSOs (phone + CW + digital) = 830

We worked 46 states (missing only MT, SD, NE and AK)  
We missed only 7 ARRL sections of the U.S.A. (We worked HI and Puerto Rico)

## **INFO ON HISTORY OF AMATEUR RADIO**

Dave, WC3A, has some information about the history of amateur radio he received from Dave, KY3W. Check out these links:

<http://novice.bappy.com/custom3.html>

<http://www.astrosurf.com/luxorion/qsl-ham-history10.htm>

<http://www.ominous-valve.com/ba-mfrs.html>

<http://www.k3msb.com/bw5100b/bw5100b.html>

Thanks, Dave & Dave!

## **SHIRLEY AND DON NOW ON HF**

Shirley, KB3TAX, and her husband, Don, KB3UIK, with the help of their son, Don, KB3SAQ, put up a G5RV antenna and are now active on HF for the first time. Read Shirley's account of getting on HF for the first time from her home:

I had to tell you my good news! Yesterday afternoon (July 2<sup>nd</sup>), Donny came down and we put up the G5RV, after cutting

some limbs out of the way. It is not the way I had thought that it would be, but that's OK. Then I got on HF for

the first time!!!! My first contact was a very nice fellow in Greenwich CT. Then I talked with folks from North

Carolina, Kentucky, Ohio and one from Potter County, PA. Guess the set-up worked well. They said that my

signal was good and they could hear me loud and clear. It was on 40 meters and there seemed to be a lot of

activity there. Just thought you would like to know.

Shirley has been one of our ARES net control operators for some time, and is an excellent operator! Welcome to HF, Shirley & Don!

## **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](mailto: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  |        |
|---------|-------------|--------|---------|--------|
| 7/3/12  | SHIRLEY     | KB3TAX | BOB     | K3QIA  |
| 7/10/12 | DENNIS      | N3VMM  | SAM     | K3EAU  |
| 7/17/12 | JACK        | N3EUM  | BILL    | K3WJH  |
| 7/24/12 | BOB         | K3QIA  | JACK    | N3EUM  |
| 7/31/12 | SAM         | K3EAU  | SHIRLEY | KB3TAX |
| 8/7/12  | JACK        | W3GY   | BILL    | K3WJH  |
| 8/14/12 | DENNIS      | N3VMM  | JACK    | N3EUM  |
| 8/21/12 | LINDA       | K3BD   | BOB     | K3QIA  |
| 8/28/12 | BOB         | K3QIA  | BILL    | W3WJH  |
| 9/4/12  | JACK        | N3EUM  | SAM     | K3EAU  |

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](mailto: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: Linda Daring, K3BD**

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

I'll be glad to put it in our next newsletter and/or send it out over the Internet.