



# COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2012

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

## **CLUB MEETINGS INTERESTING AND FUN**

From the feedback I have been receiving, more and more club members are saying the regular club meetings are becoming more informative and more fun. We plan to have a program at each meeting, and after the program, we have a “What have you been up to lately” session. During these sessions, members share their latest amateur radio adventures. The adventures can be interesting QSOs, new antenna projects, new radios, DX worked, operating awards earned, anything in the realm of amateur radio. Our thanks to Mike, N3BUD, who suggested the sessions. This exchange of ideas is great; you can pick up a lot of operating tips and also trade info. Hope you will be able to come to the meetings.

By the way, the next few programs at the meetings will be:  
October – ACS Emergency Communications (presented by Randy, N3JPV)  
November – Logbook of the World (presented by Bob, K3QIA)  
December – Christmas Party – food and fun!

## **WHEN AND WHERE ARE THE CLUB MEETINGS?**

Our regular club meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at the Shiloh Bible Church in Almedia, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Come early and enjoy chatting with other amateurs, and enjoy some cookies and coffee.

## **NOMINATION FOR CLUB OFFICERS**

As we have done many years, we will nominate candidates for club officers at our regular November club meeting.

If you are interested in being a candidate for a club office, please let any club officer know; we will be sure you are nominated at the November meeting.

Actual election of officers will be held at the December meeting, which will be our Christmas party.

## **RUN FOR THE DIAMONDS RACE COORDINATION**

Once again, on Thanksgiving Day, our club will help coordinate the Run for the Diamonds race held in Berwick. Bill Hoops, K3WJH, will provide his motor home trailer to be used as the net control location. The motor home will be parked close to the starting line.

Approximately 2,000 runners take part in the race.

We will have club members posted at each mile marker around the nine-mile course. As the runners pass the mile markers, the club members radio the order of the first runners back to the net control location, and Bill and his son, Paul, W3EGL, will relay the info to the race organizers. The info will also be announced over local radio stations.

All amateurs participating in the race will be given a T-shirt. Randy, N3JPV, will be organizing our club's effort. **Please drop Randy an email and let him know which mile-marker you wish as your post, and also tell Randy the size of your T-shirts.** Each person participating will get a T-shirt, but we need to know your size.

Randy's email address is:

[n3jpv@verizon.net](mailto:n3jpv@verizon.net)

It seems early to begin this project, but the T-shirts have to be ordered soon. The shirts this year will be very different than in previous years. The front of the shirt will have only a very small logo in the left pocket area (the back of the shirt will look similar to previous years' shirts).

## **PA QSO PARTY**

We try to encourage as many club members as possible to participate in the PA QSO Party, which will be held October 13-14. It is a fun contest! Please plan on having some fun on October 13-14. Complete information on the PA QSO Party is at:

<http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html>

See how many of the 67 Pennsylvania counties you can work!

Every year we try to get club members to take part in this fun activity. When you work this contest, you try to work as many stations as possible. You give a serial number and your county; stations in PA will give you a serial number and their county. Stations outside Pennsylvania will give their ARRL section. If you work DX, those QSOs count, too! You can work any stations in this fun on-the-air activity. Just keep an accurate log, and send in your entry form after the contest. Be sure to state Columbia-Montour ARC as your club affiliation.

Please send me your results, so I can tabulate them with the other club members. We usually have a good showing in this event, so please plan to give it a try! It is fun!

## **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	
9/25/12	BILL	K3WJH	LINDA	K3BD
10/2/12	SHIRLEY	KB3TAX	BOB	K3QIA
10/9/12	DENNIS	N3VMM	SAM	K3EAU
10/16/12	JACK	N3EUM	BILL	K3WJH
10/23/12	LINDA	K3BD	JACK	N3EUM
10/30/12	BOB	K3QIA	SHIRLEY	KB3TAX

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!

## **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.**

**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????**

**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 payable to CMARC to me, and I will be sure our Membership Chairman, Jack, W3GY, gets the check. Here is the address:

**CMARC**  
% Robert Foster  
1586 State Route 93  
Berwick, PA 18603

Better yet, give your check or cash to our Membership Chairman, Jack, W3GY, at a club meeting. Thanks!

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.