



# COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2012

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

## **HURRICANE SANDY**

Hurricane Sandy spared Pennsylvania for the most part, but poor New Jersey and New York really were hit hard. One of our club members, Bill, K3WJH, is deeply involved in disaster relief, and Bill has deployed to New Jersey. Bill and his fellow relief workers have a huge job; they are serving 600,000 meals a day, more than were needed during Katrina. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bill, his fellow relief workers, and the victims of the hurricane.

## **NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013**

We will have nominations for club officers for 2013 at the November regular meeting. There is a list of the present club officers near the end of the newsletter. Consider whom you would like to serve as club officers, and nominate them. If you would like to serve as a club officer, make sure you let one of the present officers know, and we will be sure to place your name in nomination. Nominations will also be accepted at the December meeting, and election of officers will be held at the December meeting (which will be the Christmas party).

## **CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY**

We had a Christmas party last year instead of a regular meeting in December, and we've decided to do it again this year. Last year's party was a great success, and we had a lot of fun. The only business that will be conducted at the Christmas party will be nominations and election of club officers for the year 2013.

**As we did last year, we'll have covered dishes brought in by club members. So mark your calendars for the regular meeting date of the second Tuesday of the month, December 11. That is the date of the party! The Christmas party will be at our regular meeting location, the Shiloh Bible Church in Almedia.**

## **PPL DRILL HELD IN OCTOBER**

**Randy, N3JPV, reports the PPL Emergency Drill held in October was very successful. A full report on the drill will be in our next newsletter.**

## **RUN FOR THE DIAMONDS COORDINATION**

**This info comes from our Radio Officer for Columbia County, Randy, N3JPV.**

**CQ CQ CQ, calling all Ham radio operators.**

**Once again its time to collect volunteers for the annual Run for the Diamonds race on Thanksgiving Day in Berwick.**

**CMARC has been a proud supplier of radio operators for about 30 years.**

**We station 1 or 2 hams at each milepost to act as the eyes of the Race organizers. We watch for any runners in trouble and report back to Net Control if an ambulance is needed. In all those years we only needed help once as I recall. We got him help within a few minutes.**

**A secondary reason we do this is to report the ID numbers of the runners who are leading the pack. We will report the first 7 male runners and then the first 3 female runners. The race announcers will relay this info out to the general public over their PA system.**

**We have fun with this every year and the Race committee is very happy to have our participation. They plug our club often in their announcements.**

So here we go! We have 7 mileposts and each one should have 1 or 2 hams to relay the info back to Net Control.

The gun goes off at 10:30 sharp and we need to be in place by 10 AM at the latest.

The race committee will send a timer to each mile post to yell out the time as the runner go by. Sometimes a timer person is not available. If you have a stop watch and an extra person, please bring both along.

The participants will receive a form so they can gather the info as Net Control needs it. Please stop by the Net Control trailer, at 3rd and Market Streets, for that form and other goodies.  
**Many thanks to Bill, K3WJH, for providing the Net Control trailer!**

If you're having guests for Thanksgiving dinner, bring them along to see what we do for our community. The race will finish at about Noon. Plenty of time to get back to Family!

Let me know if you can help us this year. Time is running short so check with your family and let me know as soon as possible.

If you have not volunteered as yet, please drop me an email and let me know which mile marker you would like to man on Thanksgiving morning. My email address is:  
[n3jpv@verizon.net](mailto:n3jpv@verizon.net)

73, Randy, N3JPV

## **OPERATION SANTA**

Each year our club takes a two-meter radio to the Geisinger Hospital and lets sick children talk to "Santa". We plan to conduct our Operation Santa in early December. The sick children tell "Santa" what they want for Christmas, then "Santa" tells the children that his helpers have some gifts for them. Then we give the sick children coloring books, crayons and stuffed toys. You will receive more info on this in late November.

## **PA QSO PARTY**

We try to encourage as many club members as possible to participate in the PA QSO Party, which was held October 13-14. This year we had at least four members (that I know of) work the contest. Here are the results reported to me so far:

Dave, WC3A = 35 SSB QSOs, 805 points (Dave worked the PA QSO Party from Florida)

Linda, K3BD = 120 SSB QSOs, 7378 points

Mike, N3BUD = 233 CW QSOs, 683 SSB QSOs, 152468 points

Bob, K3QIA = 401 CW QSOs, 79196 points

If you worked the contest, but do not see your results above, please let me know, and I'll put your results in the next newsletter. We had good representation of our club in the PA QSO Party this year!

## **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)

## **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: [ilmccorm@jlink.net](mailto:ilmccorm@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:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Net Control</b>		<b>Backup station</b>	
<b>11/6/12</b>	<b>JACK</b>	<b>W3GY</b>	<b>LINDA</b>	<b>K3BD</b>
<b>11/13/12</b>	<b>DENNIS</b>	<b>N3VMM</b>	<b>SAM</b>	<b>K3EAU</b>
<b>11/20/12</b>	<b>JACK</b>	<b>NEUM</b>	<b>SHIRLEY</b>	<b>KB3TAX</b>
<b>11/27/12</b>	<b>BOB</b>	<b>K3QIA</b>	<b>BILL</b>	<b>K3WJH</b>
<b>12/4/12</b>	<b>LINDA</b>	<b>K3BD</b>	<b>JACK</b>	<b>N3EUM</b>

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, so I've started sending out reminders for the net. Please! Use reminders to yourself like sticky-notes to check into the net. The reminders do work!

## **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 2011, 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 2013**

The membership drive for 2013 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!

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 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 2013 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.