



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2012**

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

## **ELECTIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013**

We had some nominations for club officers for 2013 at the November regular meeting; there will be another opportunity to nominate candidates for club officers at our December 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.

This year the club Christmas party will be held at the Pine Barn Inn on our regular meeting night, Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. The party begins at 7 p.m. We will hold election of officers at 7 p.m., so please be prompt.

**PLEASE LET OUR CLUB SECRETARY, LINDA, K3BD, KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND OUR PARTY AT THE PINE BARN INN. LINDA'S EMAIL ADDRESS IS:**

**[bedare@epix.net](mailto:bedare@epix.net)**

## **RUN FOR THE DIAMONDS COORDINATION**

CMARC helped to coordinate the Run for the Diamonds race on Thanksgiving Day. Many thanks to Bill, K3WJH, for providing his trailer as the command post for the run! The runner who took info from the trailer to the race officials was Paul, W3EGL. Here are the operators who were posted at the mile markers:

**Mile Marker – Operators**

**2 – Randy, N3JPV, and Dennis, N3VMM**

**3 – Bob, K3QIA**

**4 – Rich, NQ3Y, and Jere, W3JLV, and John, N3XJZ**

**5 – Matt, KB3JKU (accompanied by his father)**

**6 – Larry, KB3JMS, and Scott, KB3JMQ (accompanied by Scott's two daughters)**

**7 – Jack, W3GY (accompanied by Jill, his wife)**

**8 - Randy, N3JPV, and Dennis, N3VMM (Note that Randy and Dennis moved from mile marker 2 to mile marker 8, they covered two locations)**

**Thanks to all who took part!**

## **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 on December 5<sup>th</sup>; we will begin operations shortly after 6 p.m. and continue until around 8 p.m. The sick children use the radio to 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 can listen in on the Danville repeater, 145.29 MHz, as the children speak to "Santa". It is a fun activity!

Dave, WC3A, originated Operation Santa. Dave is now living in Florida, but he will be with us in spirit. Dave informs us that it is difficult living in paradise, but someone has to do it. Hi Hi!

## **CMARC FIELD DAY RESULTS**

The December issue of QST has the results of the 2012 Field Day. Our club operated in class 5A (5 transmitters on the air simultaneously, power was a generator). In our class 5A, we placed number 25 out of 86 entries. That places us in the 71<sup>st</sup> percentile. That means we scored better than 71 percent of the entries in our class. Thanks to everyone who participated!

## **TEN METER CONTEST IS COMING!**

The ARRL Ten Meter Contest will be held this month on December 8-9. This is a fun contest, and I hope we can get as many members as possible to work the contest. Both SSB and CW is allowed in the contest. The exchange in the contest is signal report and state (so on SSB, you would give the other stations "59 Pennsylvania"). Notice that Canadians will give their province, and Mexicans will give their state (in Mexico, of course). There should be lots of DX to work, too!

Complete information on the contest is found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

(There is a neat map and list of the Mexican states on the website above)

The propagation on ten meters is fabulous now that the sunspots are up. In the CQ WW DX CW Contest on November 24-25, I worked 37 countries (76 QSOs) on ten meters. Nothing too rare; some Europeans, some South Americans, some Africa, Hawaii and New Zealand! Plan to work the Ten Meter Contest, and be sure to send me your results.

## **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:

[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 station	
12/4/12	LINDA	K3BD	JACK	N3EUM
12/11/12	DENNIS	N3VMM	SHIRLEY	KB3TAX

12/18/12	SAM	K3EAU	BOB	K3QIA
12/25*	PAUL	W3EGL	*	
1/1/13*	PAUL	W3EGL	*	
1/8/13	DENNIS	N3VMM	JACK	W3GY
1/15/13	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, 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. 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 2013, 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 to me at the following address:

Robert Foster  
1586 State Route 93  
Berwick, PA 18603

I will make sure Jack, W3GY, our Membership Chairman, gets the check, or you can just give Jack your check (or cash) at a club meeting.

When you send in your dues for 2013, 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 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.

## **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.