



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER JUNE 2013**

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

## **JUNE MEETING AT IRREGULAR TIME**

The June regular meeting of the club will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup>, one week earlier than usual. The location will be different, too. We will meet in the building across the street from our regular meeting place on the second floor. This will be an important meeting, because we will be making plans for both the club Hamfest and our club Field Day. Hope to see you there!

## **CMARC HAMFEST**

Plan now for our club Hamfest! Once again our Hamfest Chairman will be Randy, N3JPV. Randy informs us that the Hamfest will be held at the same location as last year, the Lime Ridge Community Center. We will set up at the Center on Friday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning around 3 p.m. and continue until around sunset. The actual Hamfest will begin around 6 a.m. on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> and continue to noon. Please plan to help out with the running of the Hamfest; we need a lot of help if the Hamfest is to be successful! You will still have plenty of time to enjoy the Hamfest yourself!

## **FIELD DAY PLANS FOR CMARC**

Our club will once again be conducting our Field Day activities at the Kulp Church grove near Slabtown. Mark your calendars now so you can take part in this neat club activity. We will begin setting up antennas in the grove on Friday, June 21, 2013, around noon. The

actual working of stations begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and continues until 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Field Day takes a lot of planning if it is to be successful. These are the club members who are bringing a station to Field Day:

Linda, K3BD

Randy, N3JPV

Dave, WC3A

Jack, W3GY

Bob, K3QIA

Andy, N3OMA

It looks like we will be running class 4A. That means we will have up to four stations on the air at the same time on HF. VHF stations and the GOTA station (provided by Linda, K3BD) do not count toward the class.

Actually, this number of stations will be right at the limit of what can be placed in that grove without having a lot of interference problems between stations. There is also the problem having enough operators to staff more than four transmitters for 24 hours. So we have reached our practical limit!

We need people to operate the stations! Three of the stations will be SSB-only stations, and we will need SSB operators to man the stations. So plan on coming to Field Day and operating! If you just want to pay us a visit and watch the operating, that is fine, too! Please plan on taking part in our Field Day festivities!

Dave, WC3A, will be our chief cook and food specialist.

## **DIRECTIONS TO OUR FIELD DAY SITE**

Take PA Route 42 South through Catawissa. Just beyond the bridge over Catawissa Creek (near Tom's Kitchen Restaurant used to be), take the LEFT fork (continue on route 42). Three miles beyond the fork, watch for two "do not enter" signs on the left. At the "Do Not Enter" signs, turn left (using the correct right lane). You are now on Ideal Park Road. Continue on Ideal Park Road for about one mile, and turn left on Creek Road. Drive approximately two miles on Creek

Road. When you reach Old Reading Road turn right, and continue about one mile. Kulp Church Grove will be on the left.

## **ANDY, N30MA, PROMISED TWO SURPRISES AT OUR MAY MEETING**

Andy, N30MA, promised us two surprises at our May club meeting. The two surprises both dealt with April Fool and the April 2013 issue of QST. First, one April Fool article dealt with a two-meter antenna called the Q antenna. The antenna was only an April Fool joke, and the antenna was not supposed to work. Andy built one, and to his surprise, it does indeed work! Andy also discovered a second April Fool article concerning raising a tower. Can you find the second article?

## **REPEATER COMMITTEE WORKING ON OUR SYSTEM**

Randy, N3JPV, our Repeater Committee Chairman, informs us that the Repeater Committee is very actively working on our CMARC repeater system. The committee is upgrading the system; this process is very time-consuming and will be an on-going procedure for a long time. You will notice improvements in the club's repeater in the coming months. By the way, our club repeater is 147.225+, and has a tone of 85.4.

## **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 85.4. 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	
6/4/13	SHIRLEY	KB3TAX
6/11/13	DENNIS	N3VMM
6/18/13	JACK	W3GY
6/25/13	BOB	K3QIA

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 \$12 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!**

**IF YOU ARE GOING TO USE THE ARRL BUREAU, PLEASE LOOK HOW THE BUREAU OPERATES AT:**

**<http://www.arrl.org/outgoing-qsl-service>**

## **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 2013: (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 2015]**  
**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.

**Check your two-meter radio to be sure you have the correct PL for our CMARC repeater. The PL is 85.4**