



# **COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER MARCH 2014**

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

## **JACK McCORMICK, N3EUM, BECOMES SILENT KEY**

It is with deep regret that we mention that Jack McCormick, a very active member of our club, became a Silent Key in January. At the time of his death, Jack was our ARES Net Manager. He was responsible for the regular Tuesday evening net; he assigned the net control operators, and maintained the list of check-ins to be called. Jack was also active in the club Field Day activities; he earned the club bonus points by receiving messages on many Field Days. Jack presented programs at the regular club meetings. Jack was a Trustee of the club at the time of his passing, and his term runs until December 2014.

## **ELECTION FOR NEW TRUSTEE**

The club will hold an election for a new Trustee to complete Jack McCormick's term at the March meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>. At the present time, we have one candidate: Rich Daring, K3RND.

## **SHIRLEY, KB3TAX, HELPING WITH NET**

Shirley Cicero, KB3TAX, has been helping with the Tuesday evening ARES net. She has made up the roster of net control stations. Thanks for your help, Shirley!

## **DENNIS, N3VMM, VERY ACTIVE ON 10 METERS**

Dennis, N3VMM, has been very active on the 10-meter band. Here is what Dennis has worked recently:

Little info for you been working 10 meters couple hours each day. Been using Psk, Rtty, tried jt65 and ssb. So far on my logs I have around 938 Qso's and 143 Qsl's on LoTW and in my logs at QRZ.com there is 969 Qso's and 50 confirmed. Having a blast at it! Talked into Maryland to the Netherlands. Been trying to work some of the DX Expeditions got a few on Psk and SSB. Psk 20 watts and 90 watts on SSB through my Icom 718 . This past weekend worked the CRAM IOTA DX expedition and a French QSL Manager FY5KE. Also in the last couple weeks I got my 10-10 number(77033). Currently I'm trying to make a contact on 10 meters right now with 9m2idj (western Malaysia). Will let you know on that. Couldn't get through better luck next time I guess. Got my EDX for 50 contacts on EQSL.cc  
Dennis, N3VMM

Thanks, Dennis!

## **INTERESTING VIDEOS FROM WORLD WAR II**

Here are some interesting videos discovered by Skeeter, WA3IIA:

I found these old videos while looking for parts for a Hallicrafters receiver. There are two parts each about 15 minutes.

I am glad that we don't have to do what they did back then to go mobile.

Skeeter

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nxf0GA-GLqk>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FczuSJKk4ow>

Thanks, Skeeter!

## **SKEETER, WA3IIA, INSTALLES BEACON**

Hams use beacons to become aware of band openings. Recently Skeeter, WA3IIA, installed a 10-meter beacon at his home. Here is his report:

The beacon frequency is 28284.80, it is not on every day but when it is on I usually have it on from about 9 am to 6 pm. It is a converted Midland CB radio with 4 watts output to a Antron 99 CB vertical that Rich Maynard, NQ3Y, gave me. The ID'er is an ID-O-Matic. I turn the beacon off when I am operating 10 and 12 meters due to the interference it causes to my HF radio on those bands.

I have been very surprised on the reports that I have received. I check the reverse beacon network to see who is hearing my beacon, there is a station in Australia that has spotted it several times. Not bad for 4 watts! You can see the equipment on QRZ.COM when you search my call.

**Skeeter, WA3IIA**

## **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. The most recent trip of committee members to the repeater site was in the last week of February, 2014.

The members of the Repeater Committee are:

Randy, N3JPV, Chairman

Jere, W3JLV

Matt, KB3JKU

Dennis, N3VMM

The Committee is aided by Ryan Gross, N3SSL, who is an expert in repeater technology.

The Committee also calls upon the expertise of:

Vic, WA4THR

Doug, KC3HP

The efforts of all the Repeater Committee are much appreciated.

Thanks, everyone!

You will notice continuing improvements in the club's repeater in the coming months. By the way, our club repeater is on 147.225+, and has a tone of 85.4.

Special note: On the repeater coordination (ARCC) website, the new tone for our repeater is NOT listed. Randy has applied for the update, but the folks there have not listed the updated tone of 85.4.

## **MATERIALS NEEDED BY ANDY FOR HAMFEST**

At our hamfest last June, Andy, N3OMA, sold items that had been donated to the club. Andy is a terrific salesman, and he was able to sell many of the items that were donated. Andy is now asking for more donations; he needs materials to sell at our next hamfest. Our hamfest will not be held until June, but Andy reminds us that he cannot accumulate all he needs to have successful sales at the club table in a short time. So check out your basements, garages, and your radio rooms (shacks), and anything you find you are not using please consider donating to the club. Andy would love to have more items to sell. If you find some items, let Andy know. Andy's email address is:

[maxfax@cris.com](mailto:maxfax@cris.com)

Andy, N3OMA and Randy, N3JPV recently went to the home of a Silent Key. Here is their report:

Andy, N3OMA, and Randy, N3JPV, visited the home of Silent Key John Kurtinecz, K3EGK, and returned with a Jeep load for the hamfest with the idea to return again before next hamfest. Mrs. Kurtinecz was very cordial, we sat and had tea and coffee and a nice discussion about the hobby.

## **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.

We have a new person in charge of the net: Shirley Cicero, KB3TAX. If you are interested in becoming a net control station (and we need new net control stations) please contact Shirley. Shirley's email address is:

[scicero11@verizon.net](mailto:scicero11@verizon.net)

Here are the scheduled net control stations for the next few weeks:

Feb 25	Bob	K3QIA
Mar 4	Shirley	KB3TAX
Mar 11	Dennis	N3VMM
Mar 18	Shirley	KB3TAX
Mar 25	Linda	K3BD

Thanks, Shirley, for making out the schedule. Shirley mentions that there may be some last-minute changes.

**We need more check-ins to our ARES net! Mark your calendar to check into the net on our club repeater at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays! Thanks!**

## 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 2014

The membership drive for 2014 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 2014, 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 2014: (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: VACANT

Treasurer: Jack McCann, W3GY

\*Assistant Treasurer: Dave Schack, WC3A

Activities Director: Steve Zappe, WA3GQA

\*Public Relations Officer: Linda Daring, K3BD

Trustee: VACANT [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 2016]

\*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**