



COLUMBIA-MONTOUR AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER APRIL 2014

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

CLUB HAMFEST APPROVED BY ARRL

Our CMARC Hamfest has been approved by ARRL. This means that our club hamfest information will be published in the June issue of QST, and we will receive door prizes for our event. Our Hamfest Chairman, Randy, N3JPV, tells us that our hamfest has been scheduled for June 14, 2014. It will be held at the same location as last year, the Lime Ridge Community Center. The ladies from the Lime Ridge United Methodist Church (located across the street from the community center) will be providing the food for our event. We will be setting up for the hamfest the day before our event, on Friday, June 13th, beginning at 3 p.m. at the community center. The actual hamfest will begin around 6 a.m. on Saturday, June 14th, and continue until around noon.

Our webmaster, Matt, KB3JKU, has posted the flyer for our hamfest on our website. Take a look, then come back here and read the rest of the newsletter. Here is the website for the hamfest flyer:

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

We will be discussing our club hamfest at our April and May and June regular club meetings, so plan to attend.

CMARC FIELD DAY

Each year our club takes part in the biggest operating event of the year, ARRL Field Day. This year Field Day will be held on June 28-29, with set-up taking place on the day before, Friday, June 27th. We have

made arrangements to conduct our Field Day activities in the same location as last year, the Kulp Church Grove near Slabtown.

We will put up antennas on Friday, June 27th, then at 2 p.m. Saturday we begin working stations. We need club members to come and take part and get on the air and work as many stations as you can. We also need people to log the stations worked. Field Day goes for 24 hours, until 2 p.m. on Sunday.

You will be receiving much more information about Field Day as the big event approaches. We will be discussing Field Day at our April and May and June regular club meetings, so plan to attend.

RICH DARING, K3RND, ELECTED NEW TRUSTEE

Rich Daring, K3RND, was elected a club trustee at the March regular club meeting. Rich was elected to complete the term of trustee previously held by Jack McCormick (SK). Rich's term will end in December 2014, and he may run for re-election.

SHIRLEY, KB3TAX, IS NET MANAGER

Shirley Cicero, KB3TAX, is now our net manager for the Tuesday evening ARES net. She has made up the roster of net control stations.

Here are the net control stations for April:

April 1	Bob	K3QIA
April 8	Dennis	N3VMM
April 15	Don	K3LRD
April 22	Jack	W3GY
April 29	Shirley	KB3TAX

Some people may be interested in the number of check-ins. The numbers for January, February and March are as follows:

1/14 15
1/21 13
1/28 6
2/4 10
2/11 17
2/18 14
2/25 13
3/4 8
3/11 15
3/18 8
3/25 11

Don't be left out! Join in the fun and check into the net!
Thanks for your organization of the net, Shirley!

Linda, K3BD, is helping Shirley by maintaining the list of stations to be called on the net. Thanks, Linda!

VE TESTING CHAIRMAN, MATT, KB3JKU, REPORTS RESULTS

Our VE Testing Chairman, Matt, KB3JKU, reports the results of the last test session, held on March 11th, were very good. Two amateurs passed tests and upgraded their licenses. Congratulations to Ryan Gross, N3SSL, for passing the Extra test, and congratulations to Harry Hunsinger, KC3CDX, for upgrading to General. Thanks to Matt and the rest of Matt's VE certified amateurs who help give the tests.

ANDY, N3OMA, DISTRICT 4 EC, LOOKING FOR EC FOR MONTOUR COUNTY

Andy, N3OMA, is looking for an amateur who lives in Montour County to become the Emergency Coordinator (EC) for the county. This is from Andy:

ARRL needs one good person to serve as Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Montour County to fill the position left vacant by the passing of Jack McCormick, N3EUM. Not a lot of work is involved, but you must be a current ARRL member and maintain ARRL membership in order to remain in the position. If you are interested, or want to find out more, please contact the ARRL District 4 District Emergency

Coordinator, Andy Shecktor, N3OMA, by email
(andrew@shecktor.com) or phone (570-752-2434.)

ANDY, N3OMA, UNDERWENT SURGERY

Andy Shecktor, N3OMA, ARRL District 4 District Emergency Coordinator, has just completed what appears to be quite a successful surgical knee rebuild. The surgeon found much more damage once inside his knee than the MRI showed, but the surgery went well and the knee should be fully functional in short order.

We wish Andy a quick and pain-free recovery!

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 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:

andrew@shecktor.com

Louise McCormick, the widow of Jack McCormick, N3EUM, has notified the club that Jack wished his radio equipment to be donated to the club. So sometime before the hamfest, Andy and some other club members will be picking up Jack's radio equipment. Special thanks to Jack and his wife for this donation.

APRIL FOOL IN QST?

Each April edition of QST contains an April Fool article. It is not real information, just a joke. These April Fool articles are not identified by QST as being jokes; they appear to be real. I have not found the April Fool article in April 2014 edition of QST; have you found the article? Please let me know!

HAVE YOU WORKED ANY W1AW/-- STATIONS?

A number of stations using the callsign W1AW portable ____ are on the air as part of the ARRL Centennial QSO Party. Has anyone worked any of the W1AW portable stations? Throughout 2014, these stations will be operating from all 50 states and some U.S. possessions. You can earn awards for working the W1AW stations. You can find info about the stations and the awards on the ARRL website.

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:

dekb3jku@outlook.com

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 net manager: 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

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

Treasurer: Jack McCann, W3GY

*Assistant Treasurer: Dave Schack, WC3A

Activities Director: Steve Zappe, WA3GQA

*Public Relations Officer: Linda Daring, K3BD

Trustee: Rich Daring, K3RND [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

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