

# Smoke Signals

Volume 12, Issue 12 December 2009

The Newsletter of Charles County Amateur Radio Club

## Meetings & Nets

First Friday is our Monthly meeting at 7:30 PM at the LaPlata Train Station

Nets are on Tuesdays 8:00 PM on 443.700 MHz, (No PL, TSQ 179.9 Hz)

Once a month social gathering for breakfast –please check the website for schedule

Second Tuesday we hold a Commex with the ARES/RACES team Charles County 7:00PM EOC LaPlata

## How to Contact Us

PO BOX 169, La Plata, MD 20646

Web: <http://www.qsl.net/k3smd/index.html>

Email: [robhoyt32@yahoo.com](mailto:robhoyt32@yahoo.com)

President: Rob Hoyt N2OMC [robhoyt32@yahoo.com](mailto:robhoyt32@yahoo.com)

Vice President: Lee Flick N3YWZ [flick2@juno.com](mailto:flick2@juno.com)

Treasurer: Bob Curtin, W1BJC [bc660@msn.com](mailto:bc660@msn.com)

Secretary: Bill Palmer KE3RE [catwilpalm@verizon.net](mailto:catwilpalm@verizon.net)

Activities Manager/ Membership: Bob Davidson, KB3KOW  
[rdavidson@ispwest.com](mailto:rdavidson@ispwest.com)

Smoke Signals is published monthly as the newsletter of the Charles County Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Items to be published in the Smoke Signals should be submitted before the Sunday before the first Friday of each month. Email submissions are most efficient [msack@prodigy.net](mailto:msack@prodigy.net) or mail to Michelle Sack PO Box 1182 Waldorf, MD 20604. Permission is granted to reprint.

## CCARC Net Control Schedule for Dec. 2009

Date	Primary	Alternate
12/01	Bill (KE3RE)	Bob (KB3KOW)
12/08	Bob (KB3KOW)	Rob (N2OMC)
12/15	Rob (N2OMC)	Art (AA3RT)
12/22	Art (AA3RT)	Joe (KB3HNP)
12/29	Joe (KB3HNP)	Bill (KE3RE)

## Activities

### **Holiday Party**

**Here is a reminder about the upcoming party**

Date: 4 Dec 2009 7:00 - 9:00 pm (1900-2100)

Location: Old Country Buffet

Gift exchange: Yes, we will be doing one again.

Cost of the gift should not exceed \$15 and it should be radio/electronics related as much as possible.

Look forward to seeing everyone there. 73Bob

## Other Information

Ham web site--During a recent email exchange with CT1BWW in Portugal, he pointed me to one of his web sites. After looking over this data, I looked at the web service and basically; it is a free service for licensed hams to stand up a very simple web site.

[www.myhamshack.com](http://www.myhamshack.com) You can list your equipment, post photos and even do a blog. Figured I'd just pass it on if you ever thought about starting a radio related web site. 73 Bob

## New Question Pool

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) is due to release the new Technician class (Element 2) question pool to the 14 VECs on December 1, 2009; it will be released to the public in January 2010. This new Technician class pool will become effective on July 1, 2010.

Each question pool for the three Amateur Radio license classes -- Technician, General and Amateur Extra -- is reviewed on a four-year rotation to ensure that the questions are kept current with the latest amateur practice and technology, as well as addresses information relevant to that particular license class. In the case of the Technician pool, the question set should provide for the new Technician licensee to be able to establish his station and operate it legally, courteously and safely. The Technician question pool and exam are intended to be the beginning of the journey into the Amateur Radio Service.

The new question pool will become effective for all examinations administered on or after July 1, 2010, and it will remain valid until June 30, 2014. The current Technician question pool that became effective July 1, 2006 will expire June 30, 2010. The new Technician pool contains approximately 400 questions, from which 35 are selected for an Element 2 examination. This question pool will contain graphics and diagrams, something new for this element.

The current General class question pool was effective July 1, 2007 and is valid through June 30, 2011. The current Amateur Extra class pool was effective July 1, 2008 and is valid until June 30, 2012.

**Newsletter Continued below**

# Smoke Signals

Volume 12, Issue 12 December 2009

The Newsletter of Charles County Amateur Radio Club

## Creation of a CCARC library

I'm sure that many of us have a number of ARRL publications as well as other radio related reference material lining the shelves of our ham shacks or closets.

I'd like to propose that a listing be created of the publications we're willing to loan out to other club members. The books would stay in our possession and anyone looking to borrow a book can then contact the holder of the book directly and coordinate the loan of the publication.

I'll start the list off with what I have on hand:

Emergency Power for radio communications - ARRL  
Best of the New Ham Companion - ARRL  
VHF Digital Handbook - ARRL  
Low Power Communications (The art/science of QRP) - ARRL  
Hints & Kinks, 15th edition - ARRL  
Ham Radio License Manual for Tech - ARRL  
2005 ARRL Handbook - ARRL  
Crystal Radio Bonanza - XTAL Society

If anyone else would like to provide their data, please send it to me directly and I'll build a consolidated list and then send it out to the club. 73 Bob KB3KOW