



www.marc-radio.org
 P.O. BOX 557
 EAGLEVILLE, PA
 19408

REMARCS

Next Meeting: July 17, 2012 at 7:30 PM

Jul/Aug 2012

MARC Field Day 2012

This year's ARRL Field Day was held on June 23-24, 2012. We set up again at the Lower Providence Fire Company, located at Ridge Pike and Mount Kirk Avenue, Eagleville, PA. We had a great turnout and the weather was perfect. Anytime it is rain free the weather is perfect. Thirty-five members and guests were recorded on the sign-in sheet.

We began setup at 10:00 AM on Saturday and were ready to operate shortly after 2:00 PM, the official start time for Field Day. Extra careful measurements were made regarding the assembly of the HF yagi. We referenced the Cushcraft manual and used tape measurements and that made a difference regarding antenna performance. **Ron W3ZV** again did a fantastic job with leading and doing much of the hard/complicated work putting up the antennas. He also pre-strung the lines for the G5RV @ over 40 ft on the towers. At that height, the G5RV performed beautifully, especially on the low bands. Press on the PTT mic button and we'd always get a reply.



Ron W3ZV adjusting the rotator



Chris N3GBJ and Josy WQ3E working on the 6 meter quad



Ron W3ZV and Jim K3RTU installing the beam

Inside REMARCS

1	2012 Field Day
5	2012 Hamfest
7	VOX
7	Volunteers Needed for Kimberton Fair
7	Letter from the MARC President
8	From the Editor's Shack
9	Board Meeting Minutes
10	Upcoming Membership Meetings
10	VE Test Sessions
10	New Extra Class Pool Questions
10	Public Service Events
11	Member Highlight
11	Hamfests and Contests

This year MARC purchased five bandpass filters so our stations would not interfere with each other. With the addition of a GOTA (Get on the Air) station, we would be operating on three bands simultaneously. The bandpass filters did their job well. Not only did we have to worry about our own stations, but we had to worry about the nearby Montgomery County EOC Field Day effort using about 700 watts with a beam antenna high up on their tower only a short distance from us.



Doug NE3U and Jeremy N2ZLQ



Dennis KA3QOT, Josy WQ3E and Yak N3MQM supervising

Bob Famiglio K3RF, the ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager, and Jim Goldman W3JG visited over 21 club field day sites by air including ours. Early Saturday afternoon, right on schedule, we saw a private airplane circling our field day site. We communicated with them via Bob N3JIZ's 2 meter handheld radio on simplex. That accounted for our one and only 2 meter contact. This was the first year that a Section Manager flyover was attempted.

Again, no need for fans on the hill due to the nice cool breeze that was ever present. The generator was a little on the loud side, but never burped and was a real workhorse. The 600-watt UPS was very nice to run power thru. Thanks to Andrew KA2DDO for providing the generator and the UPS. Andrew was also our Field Day Publicity Chairman. He sent out numerous Press Releases, invited public officials and supplied all the club and amateur radio handouts for the information table.

MARC Info

wb3joe@marc-radio.org
<http://www.marc-radio.org>

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS -

3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 PM (Doors open at 7:00 PM)
 Council Room (in the front) of the Tredyffrin Township Municipal Building, 1100 DuPortail Road, Berwyn, PA 19312-1079.
 Guests Welcome, Smoke Free, Handicapped-accessible.

BOARD MEETINGS -

2nd Tuesdays of even months, 7:00 PM
 Paoli Hospital, Willistown Meeting Room, Paoli, PA.
 Members may attend as observers.

WB3JOE REPEATERS (CTCSS or PL = 131.8 hz) -
 145.130 - / 147.060 + / 147.360 + / 224.420 - / 224.5 -
 / 445.675 - / 444.050 -

The 145.13 and 147.06 2-meter repeaters are linked. The 147.36 MHz, the 224.50 MHz and the 444.050 MHz repeaters are linked.

WEBMASTER -

Dennis Silage K3DS
k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

2-METER NETS -

Club Net, Sundays and Wednesdays, 8:30 PM
 Roundtable Net, Thursdays, 8:30 PM

These nets occur on linked 145.13 - / 147.06 + Repeaters

NET MANAGER -

Brenden McNeil W3VD
w3vd@marc-radio.org 302-319-3536

NET CONTROL OPS -

Alan K3WWT, Bob N3JIZ, Steve N1HDP, Miguel KC2HMG, Yak N3MQM, Rob KB3WIR, Brenden W3VD, Mike WB2UQV, Martin AA3A, Milton K2MXF, Dominic KB3GNL and Peggy KB3MOX

DUES - Payable at the March Meeting

\$15 Full (Licensed Amateurs)
 \$5 Associate (unlicensed persons)
 Family rate \$5/ham - after first member pays full dues

NEWSLETTER -

The REMARCS editor is Steve WA2EAJ
 610-662-2768 wa2eaj@marc-radio.org
 Do you have anything for REMARCS?
 Please let me know.



Andrew KA2DDO and Bob N3JIZ

Just as we did last year, we operated as class 2A. By using that category we were able to add the GOTA station and a VHF/UHF station without changing our entry classification. Thanks to **Dennis KA3QOT** for bringing in his rig for VHF/UHF. Thanks also to Temple University's Amateur Radio Club and **Dennis K3DS** for loaning us their TS-430 w/PS. We are also grateful to **Steve WA2EYD** for loaning us his TS-440S w/PS.



Brenden W3VD and Dennis KA3QOT

Former MARC President **Al Maslin N3EA** showed up and scored a nice number of CW contacts and solved some issues on Dennis' 6 meter rig (Kenwood TS-570S). We had to open up the club's Kenwood TS-440S and increase the CW side tone volume via potentiometer VR9 - a very tiny pot, located under the top cover of the radio. **Lou WX3I** was very helpful in digging up info on where that potentiometer was located (the CW side tone volume is independent of the regular volume control on the TS-440S).

MARC Board of Directors 2011-2012

PRESIDENT

Steven Werner KD3WK

kd3wk@marc-radio.org 610-574-6836

VICE PRESIDENT

Stephen Ikler WA2EAJ

wa2eaj@marc-radio.org 610-662-2768

SECRETARY

John Callahan K3JDR

k3jdr@marc-radio.org 610-291-6976

TREASURER

Lou Ruh WX3I

wx3i@marc-radio.org 610-630-9146

PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ

n3jiz@marc-radio.org 610-687-4587

TECHNICAL SERVICE

Dennis Silage K3DS

k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Allan Glaser AB3FN

ab3fn@marc-radio.org 610-687-0928

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Jim Biddle W3DCL

w3dcl@marc-radio.org 610-353-0880

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Richard Russo KB3VZL

kb3vzl@marc-radio.org 610-539-2999

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2012 -

Doug Wilkens NE3U

ne3u@marc-radio.org 610-692-6819

To 9/30/2013 -

Brenden McNeil W3VD

w3vd@marc-radio.org 302-319-3536

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

- WB3JOE

Dennis Silage K3DS

k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

- W3NWA

Dieter Hauer K3DK

k3dk@marc-radio.org 610-489-1920



AI N3EA

No youth operators were present this year (anyone 18 or younger). However, there was still plenty of activity on the GOTA station. The GOTA station was for new or inexperienced operators. They could use this station to learn how to set up a station and operate a contest in a non-competitive relaxed environment. **John K3JDR** made most of our contacts on the GOTA station.

Bob Lees W3ZQN showed up with his new wife and looked well and relaxed. Lou arrived on his 3-wheeler Can Am and assisted with station & PC setup. **Jim K3RTU** assisted with antenna assembly, installation and checked the antennas with his MFJ Antenna analyzer. **Yak N3MQM** showed up with his new camper in tow and stayed overnight at the site with **Steve WA2EAJ** and **Dieter K3DK**. **Ned WQ3Z** and **Doug NE3U** helped out on Saturday with setup (many others also showed up and assisted). **Dennis K3DS** assisted on Sunday and made some contacts on Sunday morning as well.



Jim K3RTU

The group was well fed on Saturday afternoon with an assortment of hoagies from Wawa. Thanks to whoever took the orders and picked up the sandwiches! Thanks also to **Rich KB3VZL** for supplying the chips, pretzels and other snacks. On Saturday evening **Steve WA2EAJ** and **Bob N3JIZ** made a pizza run to feed those hearty late night operators. **Dieter K3DK** and **Bob N3JIZ** provided coolers full of ice and pre-chilled drinks.

Dominick KB3GNL showed up Saturday evening and helped out with making contacts. So did **Brenden W3VD**. **Jeremy N2ZLQ** brought his telescope with filters, and actually counted the number of spots on the sun! Not too many, but enough to help propagation out to the West Coast on some of the HF bands. He also assisted with setup/tear down and operations.



Josy WQ3E and Jeremy N2ZLQ looking for sunspots

Ron W3ZV and **Dennis K3DS** transported club items/antennas, etc. to from the Field Day site. **Steve WA2EAJ** was our Field Day captain and did a wonderful job!



Rich KB3VZL, Steve WA2EAJ and Lou WX3I

Notes: The 6 and 10 meter bands never seemed to open up for us. If there was an opening, it must have been short-lived and we obviously missed it. The 15 Meter band did have some nice openings and Sunday morning was productive there, with contacts easily being made out to the West Coast on both CW and phone. We did contact both Alaska and Hawaii. Dieter worked Alaska in the wee hours of the morning on 20 Meter CW and also worked Hawaii a few times on 20 Meter CW.

2012 Scoring Summary for W3NWA (Class 2A EPA)

We were able to claim the following bonuses:
 100% Emergency Power (100 X 2 stations = 200)
 Media Publicity (100)
 Set-up in Public Place (100)
 Information Booth (100)
 W1AW FD Message (100) (Thanks to Dieter K3DK for recording and transcribing the message)
 Submitted using the web applet (50)
 Total = 650

Total CW QSOs = 193 X 2 pts ea = 386 CW QSO Points
 Total Phone QSOs = 285 x 1 pt ea = 285 Phone QSO Points
 Power Mult = 2
 Claimed QSO Score = 1342
 Bonus Points = 650
 Total Score = 1992

This was less than our score for last year (2378) but more than our score for 2008 or 2009. We beat out 2008 score by only 2 points.

Band	Phone QSOs	CW QSOs
80	98	99
40	63	52
20	82	19
15	27	23
6	14	0
2	1	0
GOTA	16 (incl above)	0
Total	285	193

(Dieter K3DK was a major contributor to this article. He supplied text and photos.)

Net Control List

Brenden McNeil W3VD is MARC's Net Control Manager and he reports the following changes to our lineup of Net Control Stations. The current list is:

Martin Keefe, AA3A	Bob Palin, N3JIZ
Milton Frantz, K2MXF	Anthony Yakonick, N3MQM
Alan Handley, K3WWT	Brenden McNeil, W3VD
Robert Esposito, KB3WIR	Michael Jacobetz, WB2UQV
Miguel Ramirez, KC2HMG	Dominic Edinger, KB3GNL
Steven Blatman, N1HDP	Peggy Edinger, KB3MOX

MARC Hamfest 2012



Bob W3ZQN at the MARC Table

The 2012 MARC sponsored Valley Forge Hamfest and Computer Fair was held on Sunday, July 8, 2012. It was a cloudy day but the temperatures were well below the 100+ degrees of the previous day. There was a lot of enthusiasm from the buyers and sellers and we had great support from our major commercial vendors. Thanks to Quicksilver Radio (<http://www.qsradio.com>), Radio Oasis (<http://www.radio-oasis.com>) and Sauder Electronics (<http://sauderelectronics.com>). MARC also gives a very big "Thank You" to Anro Printing of West Chester, PA (<http://www.anro.com>) for supplying hamfest flyers and the tickets used at the hamfest.



Flea Market

Once again, **Mile Pilotti KF3CD** served as our Hamfest Chairman and he did an excellent job. Even though attendance was slightly down this year, our profits remained close to recent years.



Lou WX3I and Mike KF3CD

This year we had two grand prizes and several other door prizes. Instead of one VHF handheld radio, we gave away two dual band VHF/UHF handhelds from Wouxun. We also gave away gift certificates from the ARRL and software from N3FJP. **Martin Keefe AA3A** of Middletown, DE and **Lou Marcelli K3EMG** of Pottstown, PA won the two grand prizes.

For the second year in a row we held a very successful VE Test session at the hamfest. A total of twelve candidates took tests and many licenses and upgrades were earned. Congratulations to those who upgraded or earned new licenses.



VE Test Session



Dieter K3DK, Will K3WIL, and Dick K3ITH (in the car)

A BIG Thank You to MARC member **Charlie Wood, KC3DS**. His very generous donation of equipment netted the club \$473 and we didn't even sell everything. We still have 2 new wire antennas, a D104 mic and one or two other items that we will offer for sale to club members.



Dick K3ITH and Bob K3RF (ARRL EPA SM) at the ARRL table

Toward the end of the hamfest members of the Rooster Net (<http://www.roosternet.org>) held a "crow-in".



MARC President Steve KD3WK



Roosters
(L-R: Steve WU3I, unknown, Bill KA3RMM, Terry KB3SOM, Joe K3UYK, Bill KB3UHK, Bob K3DBD, Jim K3JJC, Dick K3ITH, Dieter K3DK)

MARC recognizes and thanks the following members for volunteering to help out at this year's hamfest.

Mike Pilotti KF3CD
Steve Werner KD3WK
Bob Palin N3JIZ
Lou Ruh WX3I
Dieter Hauer K3DK
Ron Kenwood W3ZV
Ned Smith WQ3Z

Dennis Silage K3DS
Sal Marandola NC3U
Dennis DeMarco KA3QOT
Doug Wilkens NE3U
Steve Blatman N1HDP
Will Emmons K3WIL
Bob Lees W3ZQN



Bob N3JIZ



John K3JDR and son Daniel

VOX

Welcome to new members: **Denise Burstein KB3ANO, Frank Burstein K3FSB, David Mauro KD2BXC, Mark Genovario KB2UMF, Sal Marandola NC3U, and Debbie Pullaro W9QWN.**

Congratulations to **Rich Russo KB3VZL** for recently upgrading to a General Class ticket. Congratulations are also in order to **Bob Lees W3ZQN** on his recent marriage.

Volunteers Needed for Kimberton Fair

The Kimberton Fire Company donates the use of their facilities for our Hamfest in exchange for volunteers that we provide for their fair. This saves our club \$900. We desperately need volunteers to sell ride tickets and collect parking donations. Volunteers need not be MARC members or licensed hams so feel free to ask a friend or family member (no children) to sign up and work with you.

Selling ride tickets is easy. You sit in an air-conditioned booth with another person and sell tickets for the rides. Collecting parking donations is also easy. You stand along the entrance road and collect donations and keep the traffic flowing. If you volunteer to help at the fair, it is very important that you arrive on time. The Fire Company will provide all volunteers with free meal tickets, which are also good for their famous homemade donuts. If you sign up to help at the fair, we will send you complete details after the hamfest.

Below is the schedule for the fair for this year. We need 4 volunteers for each shift. If you are able to help, please contact Mike Pilotti, KF3CD at kf3cd@arrl.net or 610.496.0921.

CURRENT 2012 KIMBERTON FAIR SCHEDULE

THURSDAY 7/26

6 TO 10 PM

PARKING: Ron Kenwood, Allan Glaser, Jim Smith, Ned Smith
TICKETS:

FRIDAY 7/27

6 TO 10 PM

PARKING: Steve Ikler, Ned Smith

TICKETS: Dieter Hauer, Doug Wilkens, Chris and Rita Ruhl

SATURDAY 7/28

PARKING 1 TO 5 PM: Mike, Dominic and Anthony Pilotti, Alyssa Lauritsen

TICKETS 1 TO 5 PM: Brenden McNeil W3VD, Martin AA3A, Andrew Pavlin, Julia Chappell

PARKING 5 TO 10 PM: Sam Mitchell, Will Emmons

Letter From the MARC President

We continue to enjoy a banner year for our club. My continued thanks and appreciation to all the members who help make our club the success that it is. Here's a synopsis of some recent events:

- **Field Day** – MARC participated in the annual ARRL Field Day event June 23-24 where we ran a 2A (two transceivers operating on emergency power) along with a Get On The Air (GOTA) station. Thanks go out to **Steve Ikler (WA2EAJ)** our Field Day Captain and everyone else who helped set up, operate and

take down the station.

- **Hamfest** – July 8 was our annual Hamfest held at the Kimberton Fire Company facility. Thanks to **Mike Pilotti KF3CD** who organized this event – as he has for many years – along with all the other members who helped set up, run and take down. This was a banner year for indoor sellers – we even ran out of tables – and we had a good showing of tailgate sellers. The club's proceeds for this year's Hamfest exceeded \$2,800, thanks in part to the generous donation of equipment sales proceeds by our own **Charlie Wood (KC3DS)**. We had a very successful VE session with 10 folks passing one or more test elements – including our own **Rich Russo (WB3VZL)** who upgraded to General. Most of the test takers were non-MARC members who we hope to attract to our club.
- **Membership** – Thanks in part to seven new members who signed up at the Hamfest, club membership is now at 89.
- **Saturday Breakfast Meetings** - We had a record attendance of 12 at our regular Saturday breakfast meeting held on July 14.
- **Technical Presentations** – our presenter for the July 17 meeting will be our own **Steve Ikler (WA2EAJ)** who's topic is "The C6AAJ Suitcase DXpedition"



Breakfast Meeting for July 14, 2012

My thanks to all members who give generously of their time and energy to help make our club the success that it is.

73/Steve
KD3WK
President, Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club

From the Editor's Shack

The MARC website (<http://www.marc-radio.org>) was recently updated with a new feature thanks to **Dennis K3DS**. The Membership page now has a Membership Map. It shows the location of each MARC member. Just hover your mouse over the bubble and it shows the callsign for that member. Pretty neat!

At the regular membership meeting this Tuesday, July 17, 2012, I will be presenting a program titled "The C6AAJ

Suitcase DXpedition". As you know, C6A is the prefix for the Bahamas. Last March, **Al Maslin N3EA** and I traveled to Freeport in the Bahamas to operate as a mini-DXpedition. Ham Radio was the main objective; not vacation. We didn't even take our wives along. Actually, they didn't want to join us. They knew that we wouldn't have any time for them; too busy on the radio. Anyway, the Bahamas is still a desired DXCC entity for many hams even though it is so close to the US. There are very few full-time hams there. This makes it a perfect ham radio destination. There are several options for traveling to the Bahamas with minimal equipment packed in your suitcase. You just unpack and operate. When you get spotted on DX clusters the pileups begin.

This type of DXpedition does not cost a lot of money and is within reach for many of us. You just need to know the ins and outs. My presentation will give you that information. That's how I did it. I heard a presentation at a hamfest in South Florida from someone who had done it before me. That piqued my interest and I decided to do it myself.

Don't forget to bring your Outgoing ARRL QSL Bureau cards to the MARC meeting on September 18, 2012 at 7:30 PM. If you are a member of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) you are permitted to use the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service to conveniently send your QSL cards overseas. Cards sent via this service are sorted by the Outgoing QSL Service staff who ships QSL cards to QSL Bureaus throughout the world. Sending QSL cards via the Bureau takes a little while longer than mailing them directly, but keep in mind that what you might lose in speed is more than made up in the convenience and savings of not having to address and mail each QSL card separately.

Since MARC is an affiliated club with the ARRL, individual MARC members may use the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau service and have the fees and postage paid for by MARC. MARC can send QSLs for its members to the ARRL in bulk by "pooling" members' cards together in one package and indicating MARC's name inside the package. In a "pooled" package, each club member using this service must also be an ARRL member.

We will be collecting members' cards for distribution to the ARRL at our regular September 2012 General Membership Meeting on September 18, 2012 at 7:30PM. To take advantage of this club and ARRL membership benefit, please bring your outgoing DX QSL cards (completely filled out) to the September meeting along with proof of your current ARRL membership. This can be in the form of a photocopy or cutout of the address area from your current copy of QST. You can also write the information from the label on a slip of paper and use that as proof of membership. A copy of your current membership card is also acceptable. The ARRL QSL Service cannot be used to exchange QSL cards within the 48 contiguous states (US to US). However, you may also send QSLs via the bureau to any QSL manager who manages a non-U.S. callsign. However, you must look up the QSL manager and clearly indicate the QSL manager's callsign on your outgoing card. For example:

Example 1: 8P8P via NN1N. Sort this card in with other

cards going to U.S. managers.

Example 2: 6Y1V via OH3RB. Sort this card in with cards to Finland.

MARC will pay the fees and shipping costs. Complete information about the service can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/On the Air/QSL Bureau/Outgoing QSL Bureau 2011.pdf>

73,

Steve Ikler WA2EAJ
MARC VP and Newsletter Editor

MARC Board Meeting of June 12, 2012

Board Members Present:

KD3WK Steve Werner
WA2EAJ Steve Ikler
WX3I Lou Ruh
N3JIZ Bob Palin
K3DS Dennis Silage
AB3FN Alan Glaser
KB3VZL Rich Russo
K3JDR John Callahan
W3DCL Jim Biddle (Phone)

Board Members Absent:

NE3U Doug Wilkens
W3VD Brenden McNeil
K3DK Dieter Hauer

The meeting commenced at 7PM.

Minutes from the April 10, 2012 Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Income

Dues \$210.00
DCARA Transfer \$274.00
Auction \$101.63
Total Income \$585.63

Expenses

Tech committee 5//16 \$118.40
Tech committee 5/29 \$207.69
Charlie Myhre \$28.56
Field Day Filters \$357.50
Total Expenses \$712.15

Current Balance \$13,624.70

Nick Fund Balance \$101.23

Membership: 79 paid members as of today.

Equipment Insurance

The Board agreed to only insure the assets at and above \$200.00 in value. **Lou WX3I** and **Dennis K3DS** will document the equipment Make/Model/Value to apply for the insurance. The Board approved the Cost of insurance.

Amateur Radio Awareness

Lou WX3I provided MARC Facebook statistics for the last month. Daily reach 128, Weekly reach 151, Monthly reach 206.

Steve KD3WK. - No updates from Ned on his ideas for membership contests.

Field Day

MARC will run a 2A station. Possibly also running GOTA (Get On The Air) station. Possibly also running 6M. Efforts are being made to secure press coverage. Boy Scout and Girl Scout participation is uncertain. Lou will need to get the insurance certificate for field day and hamfest.

Kimberton Fair

Volunteers are still needed to sell ride tickets and collect parking donations. Dennis will put something on the web site for this.

Skywarn

Lou (WX3I) reported two SKYWARN training sessions for June 16.

Basic – 10am
Advanced – 1pm

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau

Steve WA2EAJ raised an opportunity to use the ARRL outgoing QSL service. MARC will collect cards at the September general membership meeting, The Board agreed to pay for shipping and fees to ARRL. **Steve WA2EAJ** will send out email to the club for targeting the September meeting.

Atlantic Division Director – Bill Edgar

Steve WA2EAJ posed the question if MARC would like to participate as a webinar forum host for a future ARRL Webinar. There are no details yet on when this may happen and no details yet on possible topics. **Dennis K3DS** suggested that the Webinar could be our "technical" topic for a future meeting.

Club Direction -

K3TU / The Temple University Radio Club will be relocating their station, which includes a Kenwood TS200. This could lead to some future collaboration with MARC.

Bob Palin N3JIZ indicated that PA Governor Tom Corbett has declared June as Amateur Radio Month.

Elmer Program - Dennis / Steve W.

We have several volunteers to be Elmers but few have yet elected to take advantage of this program.

Hamfest (as relayed by **Mike Pilotti KC3FD**)

Preparations are complete and vendors are lined up...

Meeting closed 8:15pm.

General Membership Meetings

July 17, 2012 7:30 PM – “The C6AAJ Suitcase DXpedition” presented by **Steve Ikler WA2EAJ**

August 21, 2012 7:30 PM – New Amateur Radio Equipment by a representative from Ham Radio Outlet

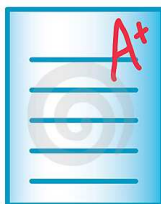
September 18, 2012 7:30 PM – Program to be determined.

MARC usually meets the third Tuesday of the month in the Large Meeting Room (in the front) of the Tredyffrin Township Municipal Building, 1100 DuPortail Road, Berwyn, PA 19312-1079. If unavoidable changes in the date or location of the MARC meeting is anticipated, the details will be announced on the Nets and posted on the Calendar.

Beginning at 7:30 PM and following a short round of introductions, announcements, Club reports and business a lively technical program is provided. See the Calendar on the MARC website for details.

The schedule of Club meetings is interrupted in June because of Field Day and in December with a joyous MARC Holiday party. The current schedule of Club meetings and the topic of discussion is announced on the weekly MARC Nets.

MARC Sponsored VE Test Sessions



A special VE Test session was held on July 8, 2012 at the MARC Hamfest in Kimberton, PA.

Technician earned	3
General earned	6
Extra earned	1
Passed an element but did not upgrade	0
Did not pass an element	2
Total candidates served	12
Total elements administered	17

One MARC member took advantage of the free test session.

The following VE's took part in the session: **Bob W3ZQN, Doug NE3U, Jim AB3OM, Steve KD3WK, Dennis K3DS, Dick K3ITH, and Joe K3JGJ.**

The next VE test session will be on August 4, 2012 at the First Presbyterian Church, 113 East Airy Street in Norristown, PA.

New Amateur Extra Class Question Pool Effective July 1

ARRL Bulletin 15 ARLB015
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT June 14, 2012
To all radio amateurs:

The new Amateur Extra class (Element 4) question pool -- released by the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in January 2012 -- becomes effective on Sunday, July 1. The current Amateur Extra class pool expires on June 30, 2012 and cannot be used after that date. This new question pool -- including graphics and diagrams -- will remain valid until June 30, 2016. The new Amateur Extra pool contains 702 questions, from which 50 are selected for an Element 4 examination. As of June 13, three questions -- E1D09, E2A14 and E6E10 -- have been removed from the new pool. The current Technician class question pool that became effective July 1, 2010 is valid through June 30, 2014. The current General class pool that became effective July 1, 2011 is valid until June 30, 2015.

Public Service Events

The Radnor Memorial Day Parade was held on Monday, May 28, 2012. MARC provided valuable radio communications for the event. Once again, **Bob N3JIZ** coordinated the event and acted as our net control operator. Due to the terrain and location of the parade, none of our repeaters worked very well for us so for this event we used 2-meter simplex.



L-R: Ned WQ3Z, Ryan KB3MPX, Steve KD3WK, Jim K3RTU, Bob N3JIZ, Steve WA2EAJ, Beth KA3GKI, Jeremy N2ZLQ, Doug NE3U, Dieter K3DK (Floyd KA3OXA – missing from picture)

MARC Facebook Page Stats

As reported in a previous issue of REMARCS, MARC has a Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/MARC.HamRadio>). Facebook provides a lot of statistics but, the stat we're probably most interested in is "reach" ... the number of Facebook users who have seen content related to our page.

In the last month, that spiked to the following numbers:

Daily reach 128
Weekly reach 151
Monthly reach 206

This spike occurred right after **Lou WX3I** posted the pictures from the Radnor Memorial Day Parade public service event.

Member Highlight Mike Pilotti KF3CD



Mike was first licensed as a novice in 1986 as KA3OWX, thanks to a class at Cabrini College given by Carter Craigie N3AO and Kay Craigie N3KN (current President of the ARRL). He spent his first few years as a ham operating CW on 80 meters. He then upgraded to General N3IRZ a few years later and then to Advanced KF3CD. He operated as 8P9CO on his honeymoon in 1991 and again in 1994 and as KF3CD/VP9 from Bermuda in 2006. He has also operated several times from IOTA NA #111 at the Jersey shore.

In 2009, Mike moved from Phoenixville, Pa. to West Chester, Pa. and sold his tower and beam. At home on HF, he uses a Kenwood TS-950SD and a Buckmaster 7 band off center fed dipole and although he no longer has a beam, he's still working plenty of DX. He especially likes CW, DXing and hunting for new IOTAs (Islands On The Air). In 2006, Mike started operating "Pedestrian/Backpack mobile," using a 10 watt MFJ 9420 Travel Radio with a hamstick and rechargeable 12 volt power pack in a backpack. He worked 8 different countries on his very first attempt at this and was hooked! He recently started operating Bicycle Mobile with a Yaesu FT-100 and a hamstick and as of July 2012, had 114 countries worked from his bike, all with 50 watts or less. If he can collect all the QSL cards, The Bicycle Mobile Hams of America will issue him their Bicycle Mobile DXCC Certificate #1. Although a few other folks have completed DXCC from a bike, he hopes to be the first one to prove it! Check out <http://www.hfpack.com/> and <http://bmha-hams.org> for more info on these modes.

Mike has been the QSL manager for his friend Nick UX0ZZ in Ukraine since 1994. He works as a manager at a large commercial printing company (<http://www.anro.com/>) in West Chester, Pa. and he has been successfully running the MARC hamfest since 1996.

Mike's younger brother Scott recently surprised him and got his ham radio license. He is now KB3RBU. Mike lives in West Chester, Pa with his wife Laurie and sons Anthony and Dominic.

Hamfests and Contests

The following hamfests and contests will be held in the next two months.

Hamfests

Sussex County Amateur Radio Club (SCARC) - Augusta, NJ

Date: July 15, 2012

Location: Sussex County Fairgrounds, 37 Plains Rd (off Rt. 206), Augusta, NJ 07822

Sponsor: Sussex County Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 11, Newton, New Jersey 07860-0011

Website: <http://www.scarcnj.org> | [Flyer](#) | [INFO](#)

Cost: \$7; Tailgate: \$20 (includes 1 admission), Indoor: \$20/table; Overnight Camping: \$25

Opens: 8am; Vendor setup available after 6pm Saturday

Jersey Shore Hamfest - Egg Harbor Township, NJ -

Date: July 21, 2012

Location: Shore Mall, 6725 Black Horse Pike (US Rt 40/322), Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234; GSP Exit 36/37

Sponsor: Southern Counties Amateur Radio Assoc. (SCARA), PO Box 121 Linwood, NJ 08221

Website: <http://www.k2br.com> | <http://www.jerseyshorehamfest.com>

Cost: Free; Vendors provided one 8' table & 2 chairs for free; no outdoor tailgaters

Opens: 9:00 am; vendor setup 8:00 am

VE Testing*: 10 am to 2 pm (continuous)

DXCC QSL Card checking, Presentations (ARRL, NOAH)

Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS) Maryland Hamfest and Computer Fest

Date: July 22, 2012

Location: Howard County Fairgrounds, West Friendship, MD, MD Rt. 144, adjacent to I-70, one mile West of Rt. 32

Sponsor: Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society, PO Box 5915, Baltimore, MD 21282-5915

Website: <http://www.bratsatv.org/> | [On-line Flyer & Map](#)

Opens: Tailgaters 6:00 am, Indoors 8:00 am; Vendor set-up 2:00 pm Saturday

Cost: \$6, Kids U12 free; Tailgate: \$10

VE Testing*: Free! 9:00 am, check-in 8:30 am; Pre-registration required, call John Creel, WB3GXW, at 301-572-5124 between 6:00 pm and 9 pm, or e-mail to

creewb3gxw@aol.com
DXCC, WAS card checking

Jersey Shore ARS (JSARS Hamfest by the Shore) - Toms River, NJ

Date: August 19, 2012

Location: Riverwood Park Recreation Building, Riverwood Drive & Whiteville Road (Rt 527), Toms River, NJ - GSP Exit 88 (Southbound) to Rt. 70W, south on Rt 527; Exit 83 (Northbound) to Rt 9N, left on Riverwood Dr

Sponsor: Jersey Shore Amateur Radio Society (JSARS), PO Box 295, Toms River, NJ 08754-0295

Website: <http://www.jsars.org>

Opens: 8 am, Vendor setup 6 am

Cost: \$5 Buyers; Tailgate \$15, Indoors \$15 each (vendor cost includes one admission)

VE Testing*: 10:00 am (question contact

WA2NDA@verizon.net)

Indoors - Air Conditioned

Pocono Area Hamfest & Electronics Expo - Stroudsburg, PA

Date: September 8, 2012

Location: Stroudsburg Jr. High School, 1198 Chipperfield Drive, Stroudsburg, I-80 Exit 302 (eastbound) or Exit 303 (westbound)

Sponsor: Eastern Pennsylvania Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 51, Delaware Water Gap, PA 18327

Website: <http://www.arvelo.net/PARK/Park-v001/hamfest-index.html> for hamfest info

<http://www.arvelo.net/N2MZZ/graphics/2012hamfestflyer2.wps.pdf> for flyer

Opens: 8:00 am, Vendors: 6:00 am (if before 6:00 am, must be pre-arranged!)

Cost: \$5 (children & ULS free); Vendors: \$10 indoors, \$6 outdoors

VE Testing*: 9am (registration from 8 to 9am); pre-registration required (e-mail: wx3k@arrl.net)

Amateur Radio, R/C Hobbies, Arts&Crafts, Trains, etc.

Gloucester County ARC (GCARC) 50th Anniversary Hamfest - Mullica Hill, NJ

Date: September 16, 2012

Location: 4H Fairgrounds, Rt. 77, 2 miles south of Rt. 45 / Rt. 536, Mullica Hill, NJ

Sponsor: Gloucester County ARC, PO Box 370, Pitman, NJ 08071

Website: <http://w2mmd.org/>

Opens: 8:00 am (general), 6:00 am (vendors)

Cost: \$6, Non-ham spouse, kids U12 free; Tailgate spaces \$5, Pavilion \$10, plus admission

Awards: DXCC, WAS, VUCC Field Checking

VE Testing*: 9:00 am; Fee \$15

QSL Card Checking (DXCC, WAS, VUCC) at 11:30 am

Contests

IARU HF World Championship

1200Z, Jul 14 to 1200Z, Jul 15

Find Rules at:

<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

North American QSO Party, RTTY

1800Z, Jul 21 to 0600Z, Jul 22

Find Rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/nagprules.php>

CQ Worldwide VHF Contest

1800Z, Jul 21 to 2100Z, Jul 22

Find Rules at:

<http://www.cqww-vhf.com/rules.htm>

New Jersey QSO Party

1600Z, Jul 28 to 2000Z, Jul 29

Find Rules at:

<http://www.njqp.hamshack.info/rules.htm>

North American QSO Party, CW

1800Z, Aug 4 to 0600Z, Aug 5

Find Rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/nagprules.php>

North American QSO Party, SSB

1800Z, Aug 18 to 0600Z, Aug 19

Find Rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/nagprules.php>