



Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club

www.marc-radio.org

P.O. BOX 557
EAGLEVILLE, PA
19408

REMARCS

Next Meeting: Mar.15, 2011 at 7:30 PM

March/April 2011

ARRL Field Day 2011



www.arrl.org

The ARRL Field Day for 2011 will be held on June 25-26. It is always held on the fourth full weekend in June beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and ending at 2100 UTC Sunday. Field Day is always the biggest on-air activity of the year in the US and Canada. It is a great opportunity to practice emergency communications capabilities and demonstrate those capabilities to the general public. Since it is not technically a cutthroat contest, Field Day is a great opportunity for inexperienced contesters to learn how to operate in a low-keyed, low stress environment.

Starting this year, all groups operating in Class A or F (club or non-club portable stations and emergency operations centers) may also operate one additional VHF or UHF transmitter without changing its basic entry classification (Free VHF Station).

MARC has a long history of participating in Field Day and it is one of our biggest activities. Last year MARC held its Field Day jointly with the DCARA, MNARC and the Mobile Sixers. In 2009 we operated our own station at the Lower Providence Fire Company.

For 2011 we plan to operate our own station again at the Lower Providence Fire Company location. We are forming a committee to organize our activities rather than the usual Field Day Captain. We need members to volunteer for our Field Day committee. These will be the folks to organize the event; not to necessarily do all the work. If you would like to volunteer, please contact **President Steve Werner KD3WK** at kd3wk@marc-radio.org.

VOX

Dieter K3DK recently worked operator/pilot **Jake K4JQV**/air mobile on 17 Meters SSB. Jake was just leaving the east coast of the US on a small private jet, headed for Dublin Ireland - altitude @ 35,000 feet and ground speed = 610 MPH and the signal was 30 db/S9.

After being a ham for over 43 years, **Steve WA2EAJ** has just broken the century mark in his quest for the coveted DXCC Award. Now begins the task of getting all those QSOs confirmed.

DXpedition Rescheduled

The DXpedition to Sable Island (CY0, off the coast of Nova Scotia) has been delayed twice due to the weather. The third time should be the charm. The target dates for this DXpedition are March 7-15. They should be fairly easy to work from here on the east coast on many bands. More info and updates can be found at: <http://www.cy0dxpedition.com/>

**Remember, now more than ever:
It is not the class of license the amateur holds,
but the class of the amateur that holds the license.**

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March is Dues Month

MARC's membership year starts on March 1.

Club Dues are:

Full member (licensed ham)	\$15
Family member (licensed ham, after 1st member pays full dues)	\$5
Associate member (Unlicensed person)	\$5

Returning members: You may bring your money to the March General Meeting on March 15 or send a check for the appropriate amount, made out to MARC, to:

Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 557
Eagleville, PA 19408

New members: Please include an application form, obtained by clicking MEMBERSHIP at <http://www.marc-radio.org>

Returning members wishing to register new information (e.g., address changes, license upgrades) should also include an application form.

Thanks to all those who have already sent in their dues!

VE Test Sessions

MARC provides VE Test Sessions quarterly on the first Saturday of the months of February, May, August and November at 9:00 AM and hosted by the First Presbyterian Church, 113 East Airy Street (corner of Airy Street and Dekalb Street which is one-way US 202 North) in Norristown, PA. The VE Test Sessions are held in the Church and coordinated by **Bob Lees W3ZQN**. You can visit the MARC website for a detailed map that includes directions and parking instructions.

Here are the February 5 test session results:

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

No MARC members took advantage of the free test session.

It was an icy morning and we only had one candidate, but he drove all day from Denver, PA and passed both Technician and General exams.

The following VEs took part in the session: **W3ZQN, WQ2E, K3ITH, KD3WK, KF3G.**

MARC Info

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS -

3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 PM (Doors open at 7:00 PM)
 Community Meeting 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, 7:30 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 + / 224.420 - / 445.675 -
 The 2-meter repeaters are linked.

WEBMASTER -

Foster Schucker K3FXS
k3fxs@marc-radio.org 302-363-7347
 Dennis Silage K3DS
k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

2-METER NETS -

Club Net, Sundays and Wednesdays, 8:30 PM
 Roundtable Net, Last Thurs of the Month, 8:30 PM
 These nets occur on linked 145.13 - / 147.06 + Repeaters

NET MANAGER -

Miguel Ramirez KC2HMG
kc2hmg@marc-radio.org 856-534-8120

NET CONTROL OPS -

Alan K3WWT, Bob N3JIZ, Marc N3ZAN, Miguel KC2HMG,
 Steve N1HDP, Yak N3MQM, and Brenden W3VD

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.

The next test session will be on May 7, 2011 in Norristown, PA. **YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THE VE TEST SESSION!** For more information or to register, please contact **Bob Lees W3ZQN** at rjlees@aol.com.

MARC Board Meeting Minutes

MARC Board Meeting February 8, 2011

Board members present: **Steve KD3WK, Allan AB3FN, Bob N3JIZ, Jim W3DCL, Dennis K3DS, Doug NE3U, Gerry W3GER, Steve WA2EAJ** (by telephone).

President Steve called the meeting **to order** at 7:08 PM.

Program for the February general meeting: Certain members (to be selected) will discuss (with pictures) their equipment, antennas, operating procedures and practices, etc. Possibilities include **Ron W3ZV, Doug NE3U, Steve KD3WK**, somebody on QRP, somebody on old military gear.

The results of the recent **membership survey** were discussed. A very gratifying 48% of the membership responded. (Compared with the June 1994 survey-- of 180 members, 25% responded; the present higher response rate is probably partially attributable to the existence of email.)

Should we be more active in **Elmering** or conducting **licensing classes**? Perhaps in concert with neighboring clubs? This will be discussed further in the future.

Gerry W3GER will be teaching an *Intro to Ham Radio* class on March 3 under the auspices of the Mt. Airy Learning Tree, an adult education organization in the Mt. Airy/Chestnut Hill area (www.mtairylearningtree.org). The Board resolved that notice of this class should be extended to local Boy Scout and Girl Scout leaders.

On the subject of the **Club Nets**:

- Should the nets be earlier (7:30 or 8:00 instead of 8:30)?
- Should there be an EchoLink (or IRLP) node to allow wider access to the nets? (Club will provide technical assistance to the station providing the node.)
- Miguel KC2HMG** reported (by email earlier in the day) that there are now seven Net Control operators; this allows sufficient coverage, although he still seeks two more operators.

On the subject of the **Club Repeaters**: **Dennis K3DS** wishes to train a backup Control Operator for when he is on vacation and such. He wishes to work up a "short list" of candidates for this.

Should there be more **social events**:

- Such as monthly brunch or breakfast (perhaps quarterly at first to try it out)
- Perhaps lunch after VE sessions, so that new hams have the opportunity to chat with veterans.

Does MARC hold the status of **Special Service Club**? **Steve KD3WK** will find out. If we're not, should we seek that status?

Hamfest: We need to start preparing a backup and eventual replacement for **Mike KF3CD** as Hamfest Coordinator.

Should we qualify someone as a **QSL checker** for the hamfest? Must investigate what the qualifications are.

MARC Board of Directors 2010-2011

PRESIDENT

Steven Werner KD3WK
kd3wk@marc-radio.org 610-574-6836

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MEMBERSHIP SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Allan Glaser AB3FN
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PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Jim Biddle W3DCL
w3dcl@marc-radio.org 610-353-0880

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2012 -
Doug Wilkens NE3U
ne3u@marc-radio.org 610-692-6819

To 9/30/2011 -

Miguel Ramirez KC2HMG
kc2hmg@marc-radio.org 267-474-6557

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

- WB3JOE Dennis Silage K3DS
k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

- W3NWA Dieter Hauer K3DK
k3dk@marc-radio.org 610-489-1920

Upcoming MARC Meetings

March 15, 2011 at 7:30 PM – Program to be announced
April 19, 2011 at 7:30 PM – Annual Junque Auction
May 17, 2011 at 7:30 PM – Program to be announced

Other Dates to Remember:

June 25-26, 2011 – ARRL Field Day

July 17, 2011 – MARC Hamfest in Kimberton, PA

Perhaps we could invite an outside QSL checker in exchange for free admission?

Field Day. It was disappointing that we did not participate last year. We should try again. The Verizon site is probably no longer available to us, but the Lower Providence Fire Department site is, and is probably better. Perhaps we'll have a FD *Committee* (2-3 people) rather than an individual FD *Captain*. We'll check into the insurance to make sure that the captain or committee would not be personally liable for mishaps.

The annual **auction** will take place at the April meeting.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 8:40 PM. The next Board meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday in April (i.e., April 12). The next General meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry W3GER
MARC Secretary

ARRL Asks Members to Write in Opposition to HR 607

02/22/2011

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ARRL is asking its members to contact their US representatives in opposition to the sections of HR 607 that could affect the Amateur Radio Service allocation at 420-440 MHz. HR 607, the Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011, would address certain spectrum management issues, including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. It was introduced into the US House of Representatives February 10.

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, clarified that the League opposes HR 607 in its present form. "We do not oppose the concept of dedicated spectrum for the development of a Public Safety infrastructure and wireless network. We object to the bill because of the inclusion of 420-440 MHz as part of the spectrum to be swapped and auctioned to commercial users."

You can find a sample letter, "how to find your Representative" and the contact information for ARRL's legislative consultant, Chwat & Co, at <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters>.

MARC 2010 Survey Results/Highlights

Forty-eight MARC members responded to the recent club survey on the Internet. This is encouraging since it represents over 50% of the paid membership. The MARC Board thanks all those that responded to the survey.

The survey showed that 48% of the respondents had been MARC members for more than 15 years. A significant number (29%) never attend MARC meetings. There were many reasons, but the most common were conflicts with work and family.

Fifty-five percent of the respondents said that they used the MARC repeaters occasionally or frequently. The 147.060 2-meter repeater was used the most with the 145.130 repeater being a close second. The 220 and 440 Mhz repeaters were used by only 5% of the respondents each. With respect to the MARC repeater nets, 63% of the respondents preferred to have the nets meet earlier than 8:30 PM.

The question of MARC offering an HF net has been proposed several times in the past. According to the survey, 37% would participate in a 75 meter net and 33% would participate in a 10 meter net.

On the subject of topics that respondents would like presented at club meetings, there was no real consensus. Antennas, digital modes, and station grounding and lightning were the only topics to receive more than 10%.

An impressive 46% said that they have participated in MARC public service events. The most common reason for not participating was that weekends are always too busy.

Twenty-two percent of the respondents have achieved DXCC, 29% Worked all States, and 24% Worked all Continents. SSB was the most popular mode with FM close behind and CW and Digital modes following. Fifty-eight percent operate while mobile and 77% own a handheld radio. Forty-nine percent regularly send out paper QSL cards, with 15% using e-QSLs and 13% using Logbook of the World (LOTW).

Some of the most valuable information we received from the survey was in the form of textual comments. These were too numerous to list and impossible to quantify. However, the board reads these comments and will use that input in future decision-making.

While looking over MARC archival materials, we discovered an article about the results of a membership survey from June 1994. Here are some of the highlights from that survey. The original questions were not available.

Highlights from the June 1994 MARC Membership Survey

- 25 of 180 members responded to the survey
- 56% of respondents held advanced or extra class licenses
- 37% use CW
- 23 of 25 attend meetings sometimes or often
- 13 of 18 often check in on nets but overall net interest was low
- 15 of 19 regularly participate in public service events
- High % of repeater users
- Club meetings and the newsletter got good reviews
- Several wanted more technical topics at meetings although there was no real sense of dissatisfaction with the meetings

- Some interest in CW training
- Suggested events, included:
 - Annual special event station to commemorate a local historical event
 - Q&A sessions on antennas, grounding, tuners
 - Classes to license new hams and help members upgrade
 - Technical work parties

From the Editor's Shack

At our January meeting, **Jack Coupe WA3BXH**, **Jim McCloskey NS3K**, and **Mark Hinkel WA3QVU** of the Philadelphia Digital Amateur Radio Association K3PDR (www.k3pdr.org) gave a presentation of D-STAR digital voice and data communication. Jack delivered a very informative PowerPoint presentation and Jim gave a live demonstration of accessing the D-STAR network using DV Dongle and Dvap. Thanks to Jack, Jim and Mark for a great program.

At the February meeting, **President Steve Werner KD3WK** and **Doug Wilkins NE3U** provided the gathering with an overall description of their shacks, equipment, antennas, etc, including pictures. This will become a regular feature at future meetings. Members would talk about various aspects of their shacks – e.g., how they QSL, grounding, antenna/antenna restrictions, QRP, digital modes, etc. We're asking for volunteers for this program in the future. Please send your willingness to **Steve KD3WK**. Thanks to Steve and Doug for being the first to initiate this new feature.

The April meeting will be our annual "junque" auction. The auctioneer again this year will be **Dennis K3DS**. The date for the auction is April 19, 2011 at 7:30 PM.

For the past two winters I have lived at my residence in Florida to escape the harsh northern weather. While here, I joined the Wellington Radio Club nearby. At a recent meeting, **Scott Heath AA4FK** showed off his car with more than a few mobile radios. It was described to the club as "Extreme Mobiling". You could just as easily have called it ham radio mobiling on double steroids. His compact car has no less than 48 antennas and dozens of transceivers, scanners, broadcast receivers, GPS devices, microphones, CW keys and more. Of course there is no room for passengers or even groceries. Here are a few pictures of his car.



Roof of Scott Heath AA4FK's Car



Dashboard



Inside driver's side door



Inside passenger side door

More pictures can be found at:

<http://www.jtrg.org/Photoalbum/Members/AF4KK/AF4KK-Project%20Car/index.html>.

73, Steve WA2EAJ

D-STAR Stars at the January MARC Meeting Dennis Silage K3DS



The January 2011 MARC meeting featured a presentation of D-STAR digital voice and data communication led by **Jack Coupe WA3BXH**, **Jim McCloskey NS3K**, and **Mark Hinkel WA3QVU** of the Philadelphia Digital Amateur Radio Association K3PDR (www.k3pdr.org). D-STAR or Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio is a digital voice and data protocol specification developed as the result of research by the Japan Amateur Radio League to investigate digital technologies for Amateur Radio.

The D-STAR system today is capable of linking repeaters together locally and through the Internet utilizing callsigns for routing of traffic. Callsign routing means that you can literally find an Amateur anywhere in the world once they have keyed up on their current local D-STAR repeater. This is a significant departure from other Amateur Radio linking modes like IRLP. The slow speed text data transmission on D-STAR is similar to AX.25 packet radio; both were at 1200 bits/sec, but ranges globally because of Internet linking. D-STAR also provides data at 128 kb/sec but at 1.2 GHz because of the wide bandwidth required.

D-STAR has comparable usable range to analog FM but

degrades differently. While the quality of analog FM progressively degrades ("not full quieting"), D-STAR maintains a constant voice quality up to a point, then essentially "falls off a cliff" like a cell phone does. This performance is a property of any digital data system. D-STAR has data error correction but this demonstrates the point at which a signal is no longer correctable.

D-STAR uses a closed-source proprietary voice codec by Digital Voice Systems (www.dvsinc.com) called AMBE. One criticism of D-STAR is that we do not have access to the detailed specification of this codec or the rights to implement it without buying the licensed product. However, the complete voice codec is freely available as an integrated circuit (IC). This AMBE-2020 voice code IC is a convenient building block so that innovation in Amateur Radio can continue to be demonstrated. Other manufacturers are also free to use it, although only ICOM offers D-STAR transceivers currently.

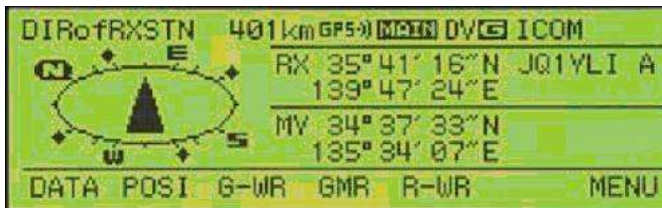
My experience with the AMBE-2020 voice codec was a 2003 undergraduate senior design project at Temple University, which was one year earlier than the development of D-STAR in Japan. The result was a vocoder (voice encoder) using the AMBE-2020 IC to encode an analog voice signal to this compressed digital format and uncompress the digital data back to an analog voice signal. The prototype vocoder hardware that resulted is shown here and more information is available on the TUARC K3TU website (www.temple.edu/k3tu). The AMBE-2020 IC is at the center, top of the figure.



There are Amateur Radio operators designing both D-STAR hardware and software so the spirit of innovation continues. One popular (non-ICOM) product is the DV Dongle which connects to your PC via USB and enables you to communicate from your sound card to other D-STAR operators via the Internet. You can work dongle-to-dongle or dongle to D-STAR transceivers through Internet gateway-equipped D-STAR repeaters. The K3PDR repeater, located in Wyndmoor, operates on 445.18125 MHz and is an Internet gateway. Such operation sounds like Echolink but features the operation of the robust and growing global D-STAR network. For more information, see www.dstarusers.org



ICOM produces several D-STAR ready or capable transceivers, the top-of-the line of which is the IC-2820 which has 50 W of power and both analog FM and digital voice ready D-STAR capabilities on VHF and UHF. The addition of the optional UT-123 digital voice module also produces GPS capabilities (but not compatible with APRS) for the IC-2820.



Several MARC members, including myself, are on D-STAR. If you are interested in the mode you can contact me for advice. MARC has always been an innovative organization, for example, running a very successful AX.25 packet radio bulletin board system up to 2000. Do you think we should embrace this new Amateur Radio technology as it develops too?

You Might Be (and Probably Are) an Amateur Radio Operator, if:

1. You have bought black electrical tape in ten packs.
2. You have stripped wire with your teeth.
3. You have told your child, "One day, all this will be yours," and he or she did not respond at all.
4. You have grabbed the wrong end of a hot soldering iron.
5. You have gotten an RF burn from your own antenna.
6. You have given out RST reports while you were on the telephone.
7. You have told the XYL, when she noticed a new rig in the shack, "Why, that has been there for years."
8. You have set your watch to UTC only.
9. You have put a GPS tracker in the XYL's car or on the riding mower, just so you could watch it on APRS.
10. You have tapped out "CQ" or "HI" on the car horn in Morse Code to another Ham.
11. Your teenager has refused to ride in your car because it looks like a porcupine.
12. You have gone into the local Radio Shack store, and

- the store clerk has asked YOU where something is and how it works.
13. You have answered the telephone with your call sign, and then finished the conversation with "73" and your call sign.
14. You have looked for antennas, radios, and Morse Code in movies and television shows.
15. When you look at anything made of wire or metal tubing, you wonder if it could be used as an antenna.
16. You have referred to your Ham friends by their call sign suffixes instead of their real names.
17. You have intentionally confused Non-Hams by telling them that the only things you talk about on the air are pork products.
18. You have looked at telephone poles and power line towers as potential antenna supports.
19. You have thought you were still hearing CW, SSB, or SSTV tones, even when your Ham radio was off.
20. Your significant other sits in the back seat, and your radios ride in the front.
21. When looking for a place to live you don't look for a nice neighborhood, you look for the highest spot in the county with no trees.
22. When out on a Sunday drive with the XYL you point out homes as "great ham locations!"
23. When shopping for a new home, antenna considerations were the highest priority.
24. Holidays are scheduled in areas/dates with great hamfests or ham conferences.

Antenna Raising at K3EWZ

Doug Wilkins NE3U and Mike Pilotti KF3CD recently finished involvement with helping **Greg Johnson K3EWZ** get his antennas organized. Other local hams involved were **Olaf Markert W3PA, Bob Puharic WF3H, and Jim Perry KJ3P.**

Greg had a beam antenna that had been on the ground for a number of years. He also had a 2m antenna he wanted on his tower as well. Doug found out about his situation and managed to team up with several other hams that were willing to help get his antennas up on his tower. It took about a year to get everything accomplished, but they finally managed to finish the job.



Five element Yagi ready to mount



Bob WF3H on the tower



Bob WF3H and Jim KJ3P



(L-R) Doug NE3U, Greg K3EWZ, Bob WF3H, Jim KJ3P

Three Yachtsmen Killed by Somali Pirates Were Hams

02/22/2011

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Four Americans -- including three Amateur Radio operators -- who were being held hostage on their yacht by pirates off the coast of Oman have been killed. Scott Adam, K9ESO, and his wife Jean, KF6RVB, along with Bob Riggle, KE7IIV, and Phylis Macay were on board the S/V Quest when pirates boarded their vessel on Friday, February 18. The Adams were based in the Los Angeles area; Riggle and Macay were from Seattle.

According to the US Central Command, the boat was in the Indian Ocean, headed toward the Somali coast when on Friday, the 58 foot yacht sent a distress signal. The boat was being trailed by US Navy forces; it was about a two day sail from the Somali coast. They had begun tracking the yacht after being alerted that a Danish naval helicopter had seen the Quest off Oman under the pirates' control. The Central Command oversees US anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

Officials were in the process of negotiating for the Americans' release when gunfire was heard around 1 AM (EST) on Tuesday, February 22. "As (US forces) responded to the gunfire, reaching and boarding the Quest, the forces discovered all four hostages had been shot by their captors," a statement from US Central Command said. "Despite immediate steps to provide life-saving care, all four hostages ultimately died of their wounds."

Favorite Ham Radio Websites

Do you have a favorite ham radio website that you frequently use? If so, we'd like to hear from you! Send your favorites to wa2eaj@marc-radio.org and we will share your favorites in a future issue of REMARCS.

This is a very funny animated video about ham radio. Parts of this may sound a little too familiar for some of us...

http://southgatearc.org/news/january2011/ham_buys_new_radio.htm

Mike KF3CD writes:

Check this out, it's pretty cool...you will find our friend Nick UX0ZZ on here and can talk to him if he is on.

<http://www.hamsphere.com>

For the contesters out there, here is a link to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar.

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>

Here is a link to N2LVI's Delaware Valley Area Hamfests Calendar

<http://www.qsl.net/w2vtm/hamfest.html>

PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest

1200-1800 local, Apr 9, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.podxs070.com/31-flavors>

ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB

1800Z-2359Z, Apr 17, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Hamfests and Contests

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

Hamfests

Cherryville Repeater Assn. (aka Flemington Hamfest)

Date: March 19, 2011

Location: North Hunterdon Regional High School, 1445 Route 31 South, Annandale, NJ (½-mile south of I-78 on Rt. 31 at Regional Rd.)

Sponsor: Cherryville Repeater Association II, PO Box 308, Quakertown, NJ 08868

<http://www.qsl.net/w2cra> | **Hamfest Info**

VE Testing: starts 9:00 am; pre-registration requested to w2cra@qsl.net (VE Questions - Marty Grozinski, W2CG, 908-788-2644, before 10 pm)

SKYWARN class starts 10:00 am (Joe Miketta from the Mount Holly National Weather Service)

QSL Card Checking (NJDXA)

Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest & Maryland State Convention

Dates: March 26-27, 2011 (Sat and Sun)

Location: Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD, I-83 to Exit 17, Padonia Rd East (map)

Sponsor: Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 120, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

<http://www.thehamfest.com>

VE Testing: Sunday, register by 9:00, for info contact John Creel, WB3GXW, 301-572-5124 or e-mail creewb3gxw@aol.com

Trenton Computer Festival, DVRA Hamfest & New Jersey State Convention

Dates: April 2-3, 2011 (Sat and Sun)

Location: The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), Ewing, NJ, Route 31 South (about 1.5 miles past the junction of I-95, left at the third traffic light) (directions) (map) (see TCNJ website for additional info)

Sponsor: Delaware Valley Radio Association (DVRA)

<http://www.tcf-nj.org>

VE Testing: TBD Sat 11-3, Sun 11-2

Contests

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB

0000Z, Mar 5 to 2400Z, Mar 6, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB

0000Z, Mar 26 to 2400Z, Mar 27, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.cqwpw.com/rules.htm>