



Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club

www.marc-radio.org

P.O. BOX 557  
EAGLEVILLE, PA  
19408

# REMARCS

**Next Meeting: May 17, 2011 at 7:30 PM**

**May/June 2011**

## ARRL Field Day 2011



The MARC Field Day Planning Committee is working diligently to ensure that we have a successful event this year – but we need your help. Among our goals is to ensure that every interested MARC member has an opportunity to operate and participate in the event to the greatest extent possible. Please take a moment to fill out a brief survey that will help us better understand why Field Day is important to you, what activities you would like to see at Field Day and when you are available to operate.

To take the survey online, click on this link:

<http://www.kwiksurveys.com?u=FieldDay2011>

If you previously took the survey, you do not need to do it again. Thank you and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Field Day.

The ARRL Field Day for 2011 will be held on **June 25-26, 2011**. 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.

For 2011 MARC will operate its own station at the Lower Providence Fire Company, located at Ridge Pike and Mount Kirk Avenue, Eagleville (see the maps at <http://www.marc-radio.org/fieldday.htm>).

Here is an update from the Field Day Committee:

- The most important thing is that we are hosting field day this year – even if it's only a limited effort, we'll grow it in the years to come
- We'll rely on power from the facility – not worry about generators
- Based on the amount of equipment available, we still need to determine what class of station we will have
- We'll use this event to clean out the storage locker so that we can eliminate that ongoing expense
- Food will be purchased and brought in – there will be no cooking – that will be easier and our cook (Yak) is not available for this event
- We expect to have participation from the boy scouts – the scope of this still needs to be worked out
- We've invited a couple of public officials and we're waiting to see who responds (State Senator Andrew Dinniman and State Representative Chris Ross)
- The goals of field day are:
  - Have fun
  - Participate in a contest – and do the best we can, but it's not the primary purpose
  - Conduct an exercise in emergency communications
  - Provide an opportunity for new/non-hams to operate/participate – have a GOTA station

### Inside REMARCS

1	ARRL Field Day 2011
2	VOX
2	Letter From the MARC President
3	MARC Board Meeting Minutes
4	Public Service Events
5	From the Editor's Shack
5	VE Test Sessions
6	2011 MARC Hamfest
6	Favorite Ham Radio Websites
6	Postage Price Increase Now in Effect
6	Special Callsigns for Royal Wedding
7	Hamfests and Contests
7	Upcoming MARC Meetings

## VOX

Carter N3AO, Josy WQ3E and Dieter K3DK recently worked the 4A4A DXpedition on Revillagigedo Island, back in late March.



<http://revillagigedo2011.com/>

## Letter From the MARC President

Dear Fellow MARC Members:

I'm pleased to tell you that our Club continues to thrive and grow – thanks to the efforts of your Board and a significant number of contributing members.

- Paid membership is up to almost 90.
- Attendance at general membership meetings has risen significantly.
- We have had and will continue to have interesting presentations at our meetings including, presentations on digital communications, discussions about member shacks and various challenges such as antenna restrictions and EME (Earth-Moon-Earth/moonbounce) communications.
- Our annual ham radio auction (April meeting) was well attended. A lot of equipment was auctioned and the club made some money.
- We continue to have participation at a number of community service events.
- We've confirmed that our Club continues to be affiliated with the ARRL and we are working to restore our designation as a Special Service Club.
- We will be hosting our own Field Day event this year.

So, we have a lot to be proud of. Thanks to everyone who is a part of MARC.

**73/KD3WK**  
Steve – MARC President

## MARC Info

[wb3joe@marc-radio.org](mailto: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](mailto:k3fxs@marc-radio.org) 302-363-7347  
Dennis Silage K3DS  
[k3ds@marc-radio.org](mailto: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 –

Miguel Ramirez KC2HMG  
[kc2hmg@marc-radio.org](mailto:kc2hmg@marc-radio.org) 856-534-8120

### NET CONTROL OPS –

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

### 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](mailto:wa2eaj@marc-radio.org)  
Do you have anything for REMARCS?  
Please let me know.

## MARC Board Meeting Minutes

MARC Board Meeting April 12, 2011

Board members present: **Steve WA2EAJ**, **Miguel KC3HMG**, **Bob N3JIZ**, **Jim W3DCL**, **Dennis K3DS**, **Doug NE3U**, **Dieter K3DK**, and **Gerry W3GER**

In the absence of **President Steve KD3WK** (detained on business in Boston) **Vice-President Steve WA2EAJ** called the meeting **to order** at 7:10 PM.

**Minutes** of the February 8 Board Meeting were approved.

In the absence of **Treasurer Lou WX3I**, it was stated that the **bank balance** is around \$12,000.

The feature of the next General Meeting will be the annual **auction--**

- Talk it up, get stuff to sell
- Dennis K3DS (who will serve as the auctioneer) will provide vouchers to facilitate payment

The **May Meeting on May 17** will feature **Howard Sherer AE3T** presenting EME, meteor scatter, and the like.

Discussion of **compensation** for presenters--

- The board approved a \$50 honorarium for Howard Sherer AE3T due to the fact that he will incur travel expenses from Allentown, PA.
  - (**Editor's Note:** AE3T respectfully declined the honorarium)
- **Steve WA2EAJ** will take AE3T to dinner (not paid for by MARC)
- Should we provide free MARC membership for presenters?
- Decide on a case-by-case basis for future presenters

**Legal matters--**

- We have a lawyer assisting us *pro bono*.
- Verified that we ARE a Pennsylvania Not for Profit Corporation
- There is no sign of our continuing to have 501(c)(4) [tax-exempt] status
- We're obtaining a copy of our Articles of Incorporation (\$45) and the 'corporate book' will be made current
- Taxes are a function of income
- We still have our ARRL-affiliated status
- We've lost our Special Service Club status by not filing requisite annual papers
  - **Steve (KD3WK)** has completed the on-line application to reinstate this designation and we hope it will be easily recovered
  - ARRL still gives us stuff to give away at the hamfest

## MARC Board of Directors 2010-2011

### PRESIDENT

Steven Werner KD3WK

[kd3wk@marc-radio.org](mailto:kd3wk@marc-radio.org) 610-574-6836

### VICE PRESIDENT

Stephen Ikler WA2EAJ

[wa2eaj@marc-radio.org](mailto:wa2eaj@marc-radio.org) 610-662-2768

### SECRETARY

Gerry Cechony W3GER

[w3ger@marc-radio.org](mailto:w3ger@marc-radio.org) 215-247-2373

### TREASURER

Lou Ruh WX3I

[wx3i@marc-radio.org](mailto:wx3i@marc-radio.org) 610-630-9146

### PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ

[n3jiz@marc-radio.org](mailto:n3jiz@marc-radio.org) 610-687-4587

### TECHNICAL SERVICE

Dennis Silage K3DS

[k3ds@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3ds@marc-radio.org) 610-353-4829

### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Allan Glaser AB3FN

[ab3fn@marc-radio.org](mailto:ab3fn@marc-radio.org) 610-687-0928

### PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Jim Biddle W3DCL

[w3dcl@marc-radio.org](mailto:w3dcl@marc-radio.org) 610-353-0880

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2012 -

Doug Wilkens NE3U

[ne3u@marc-radio.org](mailto:ne3u@marc-radio.org) 610-692-6819

To 9/30/2011 -

Miguel Ramirez KC2HMG

[kc2hmg@marc-radio.org](mailto:kc2hmg@marc-radio.org) 267-474-6557

### CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

- WB3JOE

Dennis Silage K3DS

[k3ds@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3ds@marc-radio.org) 610-353-4829

- W3NWA

Dieter Hauer K3DK

[k3dk@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3dk@marc-radio.org) 610-489-1920

- It is believed that **Lou WX3I** is proceeding on obtaining equipment insurance.

**Archive** materials continue to arrive from various sources. **Dennis K3DS** has access to a copy machine that can automatically email scans; he will scan these materials.

How can we attract **new members**?

- Determine why people drop out
- Contact new licensees in our area
- Contact members of the now-dissolving DCARA. (Several members felt that this would not yield any new members.)
- Contact inactive current members
- "Each one of us invites one" to a MARC meeting/event
- Video-stream the meetings (use a free service called StickAM.com)? (Try at May meeting)
  - **(Editor's Note:** AE3T preferred not to have his presentation webcast)
- A recruiting handout for Field Day, aimed at youth

Should we have **nets** in addition to the current 2-meter nets?

- HF. We should start out with a 75 meter SSB net.
- Slow-speed CW?

We still need more NCS (net control) stations for Thursday evenings. Should the nets be earlier than 8:30PM? Perhaps we'll try 8:00PM and see how it works. We need to contact all the current net control operators to make sure they can run their nets earlier.

Determine (again) whether there might be any interest in **IRLP/EchoLink**

- Someone willing to provide a node

Need to break in a technical backup for **Dennis K3DS**

- Identify an interested person

**Long-term goals:**

- Assign Elmers to successful VE candidates
- Social events? i.e., a monthly breakfast?

A **QSL checker** in the club

- Should have one at Field Day, at least invite an outsider
  - **(Editor's Note:** There are no ARRL DXCC card checkers closer than Hammonton, NJ so we'll have to do without one at least for this year.)

A big push for the **PA QSO Party** (next October)--

- Revive the PA-67 award? (For working all 67 PA counties)
  - **(Editor's Note:** The Holmesburg Amateur Radio Club (Philadelphia) is now sponsoring the PA-67 Award. Complete details can be found at: <http://www.harcnet.org/pa67.htm>)

- Special Event callsign?

**Hamfest:**

- Need to identify a backup for **Mike KF3CD**
- There should be hats and/or t-shirts to identify staff
- The "food lady" should have a more complete menu and should stay on site longer
- Check with **Bob W3ZQN** about a VE session at the Hamfest

**By-Laws and Constitution:**

- Proposal to abolish the post of Program Committee Chairman, which has been vacant since the death of **Dick K3IIN**. This function has been handled by the Board collectively
- Proposal to delete the Program Committee as one of the standing committees, and to make the Hamfest committee one of the standing committees so its chairman would be on the board
- Question as to whether MARC has a formal constitution (in addition to the by-laws). **Steve WA2EAJ** will check.
  - **(Editor's Note:** As per **Kay Craigie N3KN**, MARC has only by-laws, no constitution.)

**Doug NE3U** reported on the recent meeting of the **Field Day Committee**

- Generators: none will be used. We will not be operating "class A".
- No one need bother with cooking: the club will provide takeout foods
- A good chance to finally decommission the storage shed and stop paying rent for it
- A preference survey is being sent to the membership.

**Steve WA2EAJ** adjourned the meeting at 8:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

**Gerry W3GER**  
**MARC Secretary**

## Public Service Events

MARC has one more Public Service event coming up in May and volunteers are needed.

It is the Radnor Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2011. Volunteers are needed for this event. To volunteer, please contact **Bob N3JIZ** at 610-687-4587. There will be a talk-in on the 145.13 repeater. The parade will be noisy so please bring an earphone or a speaker/microphone for your handheld.

On May 1, 2011 MARC provided communications support for the Multiple Sclerosis 5K Run at East Goshen Park. Representing MARC were **Sam WA3LGL** and **Bob N3JIZ**.

## From the Editor's Shack

As I write this column I am back at my regular QTH in Conshohocken, PA. I spent this past winter at my home in Florida and it looks like I missed one heck of a bad winter up north. My Florida home is in an antenna restricted community but that doesn't mean I was off the air. Luckily, I was able to place a mobile antenna on my car and run the feedline into our spare bedroom to a somewhat smaller radio shack. This worked out quite well for me. I added several new countries, made a lot of contacts and had lots of fun. It was great being able to hide my antenna in plain sight. One day, while placing my ham stick on the car one neighbor looked puzzled and asked me where I was going fishing. The antenna did look a little like a fishing rod. I explained what it was and that I was fishing for something else.

We have a great program scheduled for the May general meeting on May 17. **Howard Sherer, AE3T**, will present "Getting Started on 2M EME". EME stands for Earth-Moon-Earth. From Wikipedia, "Earth-Moon-Earth, also known as moon bounce, is a radio communications technique which relies on the propagation of radio waves from an Earth-based transmitter directed via reflection from the surface of the Moon back to an Earth-based receiver." Howard had an article about getting started in 2M EME published in the Fall 2010 issue of CQ VHF Magazine and excerpts of that article were published in the VHF Plus column of the February 2011 issue of CQ Magazine.



Here is Howard's biography from his QRZ.com page. "I was first licensed in 1964 as WN2RBG in upstate New York and upgraded to general during my 1 year novice term. I am currently active on HF and VHF weak signal operation. I prefer CW on the HF bands and enjoy chasing DX as well as rag chewing. On VHF I am interested in studying the wide range of propagation modes available, and have become active on 2M meteor scatter, and EME using the WSJT modes. On 2M EME, my station is limited and I run 500 watts to a single 12-element K1FO 2.5WL yagi. I have been very pleased with my results working the large EME stations around the world."

Howard and I grew up as hams in Albany, NY at the same time but attended different schools. You will find both of us on the same extended family tree and we are distant relatives. This looks like it will be a very interesting and informative program so let's try to have a big turnout for this month's general meeting.

**73, Steve WA2EAJ**  
**REMARCS Editor**

## VE Test Sessions

MARC provides VE Test Sessions quarterly on the first Saturday of the months of February, May, August and November at 0900 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. **The next MARC VE Test Session will be on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**



### MARC VE Test Session Rules:

**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](mailto:rjlees@aol.com). If you do not register in advance for the VE Test Session, you may find no one there to test you. Applicants should arrive no later than 9:15 AM. All applicants **MUST PRESENT EITHER A PHOTO ID OR TWO OTHER FORMS OF POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION.** The test fee is \$15, preferably by a **CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO ARRL/VEC.** Those wishing to pay cash may do so but please bring **EXACT CHANGE.** MARC members can take one test per year for free!

Applicants already holding an amateur license must **BRING THE ORIGINAL OF THAT LICENSE PLUS A PHOTOCOPY OF IT.** Applicants holding a Certificate of Successful Completion (CSCE) for any examination element must **BRING THE ORIGINAL CSCE PLUS A PHOTOCOPY OF IT.** Applicants wishing to upgrade a Technician License held before 1987 must **BRING THE ORIGINAL PLUS A PHOTOCOPY OF THE DOCUMENT VERIFYING THE DATE OF THE ORIGINAL LICENSE.**

Please be aware of the following Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club policies concerning VE Test Session:

- We stop issuing exams at 11 AM. After that you will not be permitted to begin a new test.
- If you fail an element, we do not allow a retake of that element using another test version. However, if you are prepared to take the test for the next higher element, you may take that test. Passing a higher element without passing the lower one does not entitle you to the license associated with that higher element.

## 2011 MARC Hamfest

The MARC sponsored hamfest, also known as the Valley Forge Hamfest and Computer Fair, will be held this year on Sunday, July 17, 2011 at the Kimberton, PA Fire Company Fairgrounds located at Route 113 and Firehouse Lane, south of Route 113 and Route 23 in Phoenixville. It starts at 7:00 AM for sellers and 8:00 AM for buyers. A downloadable flyer with additional information and directions can be found at <http://www.marc-radio.org/HamFest11.pdf>.



The hamfest is the club's biggest money making event and is run by volunteers like you. Volunteers are still needed for this year's event. To volunteer, please contact **Mike Pilotti, KF3CD**, Phone: 610-696-5040 E-mail: [kf3cd@arrl.net](mailto:kf3cd@arrl.net).

The Kimberton Fire Company allows us to use their fairgrounds for our hamfest for free in return for our help in running their fundraiser, the Kimberton Fair <http://www.kimbertonfair.org/index.php>. This year, the Kimberton Fair runs from Monday, July 25 through Saturday, July 30, 2011. Volunteers from MARC are needed to sell amusement tickets (in air-conditioned booths) and collect parking donations. Our help isn't needed for the entire Fair. To find out the schedule for MARC volunteers and to volunteer, contact **Mike Pilotti, KF3CD**, at the above phone or e-mail address. This means a lot to the club. In prior years when this offer was not made available to us, we had to pay \$900 rent for their facilities. So, please consider volunteering for this. You don't need to be a ham or a MARC member. Friends and family members are also welcome.

## 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](mailto:wa2eaj@marc-radio.org) and we will share your favorites in a future issue of REMARCS.

**Mac Ham Radio** <http://machamradio.com/>. Started in 2003 by Steve Muncy, NI5V as a site to promote ham software for the newly released Mac OSX.

Steve had supported the site for 5 years before moving on to new endeavors. October 2008, Lee Imber, WW2DX then took over the reins to keep machamradio.com the nets #1 resource for Mac Ham Radio enthusiasts. I look forward to continuing Steve's great contribution and also

welcome all to help promote and expand the technologies of this great hobby and operating system.

More to come! 73  
Lee J. Imber  
WW2DX

### WA7BNM Contest Calendar -

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> This site provides detailed information about amateur radio contests throughout the world, including their scheduled dates/times, rules summaries, log submission information and links to the official rules as published by the contest sponsors.

### PA QSO Party Home Page <http://www.nittany-arc.net/PAQSO.html>

. The Pennsylvania QSO Party – The Friendly QSO Party. October 8 and 9, 2011.

### N2LVI's Delaware Valley Area Hamfests

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

## Postage Price Increase Now in Effect

From the ARRL  
04/19/2011

On Sunday, April 17, the US Postal Service increased the price to mail certain items within the US and abroad. While the cost to mail a 1 ounce piece of first class mail within the US stays at 44 cents, the cost of mailing a postcard increased one penny, from 28 cents to 29 cents.

Remember this when mailing out your domestic QSL cards as postcards.

## Ofcom to Issue Special Temporary Call Signs for Royal Wedding

From the ARRL  
04/13/2011

If you are a prefix hunter -- or you just get caught up in the pageantry that a [Royal Wedding](#) can bring -- then take note: Ofcom, at the request of the Radio Society of Great Britain ([RSGB](#)), will issue special temporary call signs that British amateurs may use from April 29 through May 9, 2011, commemorating the marriage of HRH Prince William of Wales and Miss Catherine Middleton. Amateurs in the United Kingdom who choose to apply for these special call signs will be using GR, MR and 2R prefixes during this time to commemorate the wedding.

## Hamfests and Contests

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

### Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club, Antique Radio Meet & Auction

**Date:** May 13-14, 2011

**Location:** Kutztown, PA - Renningers Antiques Market, 740 Noble St, Kutztown

**Website:** <http://www.dvhrc.info>

**Sponsor:** DVHRC, PO Box 5053, New Britain, PA 18901

**E-mail:** Lewallie@aol.com (Lewie)

**Opens:** About noon Friday, 7:00 am Sat; Vendor setup Friday afternoon (free overnight camping)

**Dayton Hamvention** (the largest hamfest in the country, if not the world!)

**Date:** May 20-22, 2011

**Location:** Hara Arena, 1001 Shiloh Springs Road, Trotwood, Ohio

**Website:** <http://www.hamvention.org>

**Sponsor:** Dayton Amateur Radio Assn.

**Opens:** 8 am (Fri, Sat, Sun); closes 6pm Fri, 5pm Sat, 1pm Sun

**VE Testing:** Free; Friday 2:30, Saturday 9:30 am and 1:30 pm; contact [exams@hamvention.org](mailto:exams@hamvention.org)

### Bloomsburg Hamfest & Computer Show

**Date:** June 11, 2011

**Location:** Lime Ridge Community Center, 6405 4th Street (Old Berwick RD.), Lime Ridge (Bloomsburg), PA

**Website:** <http://www.gsl.net/cm-arc>

**Sponsor:** Columbia-Montour Amateur Radio Club (CMARC)

**Opens:** 7 am; Vendors 6 am (Friday early setup 4pm to 9pm)

**VE Testing:** 9 am, walk-ins only; Testing provided by Columbia County ARC

## Contests

### CQ WW WPX Contest, CW

0000Z Saturday to 2359Z Sunday, May 28-29, 2011

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

### ARRL June VHF QSO Party

1800Z, Jun 11 to 0259Z, Jun 13, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>

### ARRL Field Day

1800Z, Jun 25 to 2100Z, Jun 26, 2011

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

## Upcoming MARC Meetings

**May 17, 2011 at 7:30 PM** – Howard Sherer AE3T presents “Getting Started on 2M EME”

**June 2011** – No meeting (Field Day)

**July 19, 2011** – To be announced

**August 16, 2011** – To be announced

Other Dates to Remember:

**June 25-26, 2011** – ARRL Field Day

**July 17, 2011** – MARC Hamfest in Kimberton, PA