



REMARKS



BOARD ELECTIONS FOR 1999

Election of the 1999 club Board of Directors takes place at the January 21 club meeting. A ballot is enclosed in this issue for all licensed members of the club.

You may return the ballot by mail to the club's PO box or bring it with you to the club meeting. Ballots will be counted and the results announced at that meeting. Mail-in ballots must be in the club PO box by the club meeting date.

You will notice that two positions on the slate are not filled. We were not able to find a candidate for Treasurer. Ordinarily, only one Member-at-Large position is up for election each year. This time, you'll see we have two. **Chris N3VXB** resigned his position (the 1998-1999 term) to devote full attention to his studies as a high school senior headed for college. A candidate is needed to complete the second year of that Member-at-Large term.

Write-in votes may be cast for any licensed club member for the open positions, or for any others. Before launching a write-in campaign on behalf of someone other than yourself, please make sure the person is willing to serve if elected. Every effort will be made to have the vacant slots filled by the end of the January meeting. If you'd like to run for an open office, it would be a good idea to contact President **Tom N3JMA** as soon as possible, then attend the meeting and make your interest known to others.

1999 MARC Board Slate

President:	Tom N3JMA
Vice President:	Gene WB3FTJ
Secretary:	Bob W3SA
Treasurer:	(OPEN)

Membership Services:	Kay WT3P
Public Relations:	Bill W3KRB
Public Service:	Bob N3JIZ
Technical:	Jeff WA3RIZ
Program:	Dennis K3DS

Members-at-Large:	
1998-1999:	(OPEN)*
1999-2000:	Steve N3ORH

*** To fill last year of unexpired 2-year term**

ANNUAL JANUARY JUNQUE AUCTION WILL BE FUN AS USUAL

Bring money, bring stuff to sell, but above all bring your sense of humor to the January meeting for the annual closet-cleaning fun-fest. The ground rules are simple: (1) Ham and ham-related equipment only. (2) Only MARC members may offer items for sale – no dealers. (3) MARC receives 10% of the sale price of each item, or \$10, whichever is less. (4) Tag items with your name/callsign, what it is, and (if any) the minimum acceptable price. (5) Take home any unsold items. (6) All items are sold as-is. MARC gives no warranties or guarantees,

implied or otherwise, regarding items offered for sale. The club and the auctioneer(s) will not be liable for any problems arising from sales. (7) Bring no more than 3 items to sell, so all can have a chance to participate.

People are looking for small stuff and bargains, so you can leave the \$1,000 amplifier at home. Do bring some small bills or a checkbook. Any questions should be directed to president **Tom N3JMA**.

MARC TO JOIN MAIN LINE VOLUNTEER FORCE

Main Line Volunteer Force is a consortium of organizations that support charity. Founded in 1995, the group is chaired by a representative of Sovereign Bank (formerly Main Line Bank), and includes such prominent organizations as ANRO Inc., Anthony Wayne Buick-Ford, Autobahn Carson-Petit Mercedes, Chilton/Cahners Publishing, Harron Communications, Fox and Roach Realtors, IKON Office Solutions, Madsen, Inc., Desmond Hotel, Coldwell Banker Caparo Real Estate, Dorset Financial, Kistler Tiffany Co., Willis Corroon, and Klehr, Harrison, Harvey, Branzburg & Ellers.

MLVF has two main charity projects each year. "Christmas in July" is a mid-summer food drive, when food bank cupboards

are often bare. "Santa's Brigade" in December collects gifts for underprivileged children. In addition, individuals who want to do so may participate in other ways.

MARC's Board has voted to participate in MLVF. Not only is it an opportunity to help less fortunate people in our community, it's also a way to show that MARC belongs in the company of the distinguished organizations already participating in MLVF. There is no expense to MARC in associating with MLVF, and no individual member is obligated to take part in a MLVF activity. We'll have more information as the year goes on.

ABOUT MARC

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

3rd Thursdays, 8 PM, Memorial
 Library of Radnor Township,
 Wayne. Guests welcome. Smoke-
 free. Handicapped-accessible.

BOARD MEETINGS

4th Thursdays, 7:30 PM, Paoli
 Hospital. Members may attend
 as observers.

SYSTEMS

145.13/R, 147.06/R, 224.42/R
 145.13 and 147.06 are linked
 WB3JOE packet BBS 145.090
 Packet sysop and Webmaster:
 Steve N3ORH (610-313-8080,
 smaslin@fast.net)

NETS

Club Net, Sundays, 8:30 PM
 Traffic net, M/W/F, 8:30 PM
 All nets on 147.06 + 145.13
 linked repeater system.
 Net Manager: Carter N3AO
 (610-993-9623, ccraigie@msn.com)

DUES

\$15 Full (licensed Amateurs)
 \$5 Associate (unlicensed persons)
 Family rate \$5 per ham after first
 member pays full dues.

NEWSLETTER

REMARCS is published in the odd
 months, edited by Kay WT3P
 (610-993-9623, wt3p@msn.com)

**BRING A FRIEND
 TO A MARC MEETING!**

VOX

File under OOPS! The last issue busted a new member's callsign. Please correct it to **Marco KB3CXS**. Also, **Bob W3SA** was inexplicably omitted from the list of people at the hamfest planning meeting. **Josy WQ3E** enjoyed an autumn trip to the Caribbean, including passage through the Panama Canal. **Bob W3ZQN's** good fist was heard in the ARRL 160 Meter contest. In early December, the club had 168 licensed members. **Bob WR3K** is ex-AA3RK.

Marco KB3CXS and **Dave KB3CRY** upgraded to Tech Plus at the November MARC test session. **George N3ORC** has passed the Extra theory test. **Dave KB3CRY** has already used his new HF privileges to work St. Helena Island in the South Atlantic. That's a very nice DX catch.

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER APPROPRIATE USE

The membership rosters distributed several times a year are intended for the personal use of club members. The Board requests members not to use (or permit others to use) the names, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses for anyone's business or commercial purposes. The Board believes most members prefer not to receive unsolicited advertising messages or charity appeals, which is why the Board has always refused to sell the club membership database. Thanks for your cooperation.

MARC INFORMATION LISTSERVER

MARC members are encouraged to subscribe to the club's information listserver, which brings you meeting reminders and other club announcements via e-mail at no charge to you.

remarcs@bfdin.com

To subscribe, simply address an e-mail to **remarcs@bfdin.com**. The title or subject should be the single word SUBSCRIBE. The text is irrelevant and can be left blank. Yes, that's the reverse of how many listserver subscriptions work!

We promise not to fill up your inbox with junk mail ... just information you want to know about as a club member. The listserver is provided to MARC at no charge courtesy of **Bill Edgar N3LLR**, sysop at the Bradford Information Network.

TRAINING UPDATE

Carter N3AO has agreed to teach another informal Morse code class at his home this spring. The class aims to take you from where you are to where you want to be. We've had total beginners and people who are preparing to upgrade to General or Extra. The class begins Tuesday, March 2. Please contact **Carter** (610-993-9623, ccraigie@msn.com) for directions and more information.

The ARRL license prep materials purchased by the club have been put to good use by members. We have the video courses for Novice/Technician, General, and Advanced, and the book for Extra class. The club has copies of a good shareware Morse code program called "SuperMorse" available free to members. Contact **Kay WT3P** (610-993-9623, wt3p@msn.com) for info about any of these training materials.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD MEETING

The Board met on December 3 for a combined November / December session. At the meeting, the Board voted that the club will participate in the Main Line Volunteer Force. Because both Kenwood 520's owned by MARC are being used by members to get started on HF, the Board decided not to sell one of the rigs at this time. The room at the hospital is to be reserved for 1999 Board meetings. Technical ideas were

discussed; it was noted that there had been little response to the idea of creating a test equipment database. At the end of December, the treasury balance was \$6,011.03.

Any MARC member may attend Board meetings as an observer. For directions, please contact the President or a Member-at-Large.

SHORT CIRCUITS FROM THE EDITOR'S SHACK

If you mix orange juice and milk of magnesia, do you get a Phillips screwdriver?

Harry W3FM, CW op extraordinaire, plans to add computer-generated CW to his station, to complement the traditional hand-cranked variety. Why? He says it's something new for him, and he likes to try new stuff. This shows why Harry, who has been a ham for about 60 years and has worked the world on umpteen bands, is still one of the youngest people I know.

Some old-timers, when Johnny or Janey Come-Lately burbles, "Wow, I just worked Germany (or Nebraska, or whatever)!" don't even bother to cover their mouths when they yawn. I know this is true, because it happened to me! But you say that sort of thing to Harry, and his enthusiastic response will make you feel even better about yourself than you did to start with. This happened to me, too.

Apart from embarrassing Harry, the point of this story is that we cannot control how long we live, but we certainly can control how old we get. Think about it. Happy New Year!

When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?

Many people worry about where ham radio stands vis-à-vis the cutting edge. Truth is, we're in no danger of losing blood! One of our new-ham members has given me something provocative to think about, though. He's in the computer biz, where things change so fast, if you step out to the restroom for 5 minutes, you come back to your desk two months behind the times. That's the cutting edge, that's pressure, and my new friend says he really doesn't need this in his hobby. He gave up at the office!

For him, ham radio's slower pace of evolution is relaxing. He has time to enjoy what he has learned, before it morphs into ancient history.

In avoiding the frying pan of "retro-geezer-hobby," we don't want to jump into the fire of "heck-this-ain't-no-fun."

When someone asks you, "A penny for your thoughts," and you put your two cents in, what happens to the other penny?

A friend of mine suffered a heart attack and died in the Los Angeles airport on her way home from a DXpedition to the south Pacific Ocean. **Mary Lou Brown NM7N** had no known health problems, and her sudden death was as stunning to me as walking smack into a brick wall in the dark. Another friend, **Hugh Turnbull W3ABC**, is in the hospital with a serious illness. Let us treasure our friends. We never know how long we may be allowed to have them. — **73, Kay WT3P**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1998

PRESIDENT

Tom Porett N3JMA 610-896-8413
tporett@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Russ Hamilton K3RH 610-687-5245
rusham@compuserve.com

SECRETARY

Steve Haly KDOVA

TREASURER

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MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

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Bill Owen W3KRB 610-325-3995
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PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ 610-687-4587

TECHNICAL

Jeff Chapman WA3RIZ 610-265-6593
jchapman@voicenet.com

PROGRAMS

Dennis Silage K3DS 610-353-4829
silage@vm.temple.edu

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Bob Haase W3SA 610-293-1919
rhaase@bellatlantic.net

(Other Member at-Large position open)

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

WB3JOE: Al Maslin W3DZI 610-446-4936, amaslin@earthlink.net
W3NWA: Kay Craigie WT3P 610-993-9623, wt3p@msn.com

LICENSE TEST SESSION REPORT

At the club's November exam session, 6 candidates were served by Volunteer Examiners **Bob W3ZQN**, **Hugh N3HT**, **Paul NX3Q**, **Bob KA3NIQ**, **Rob WI3S**, **Walt WA3PPW**, **Bob W3SA**, and **Harry W1JZW**.

Three candidates achieved Technician Plus, and 2 passed exam elements. **Tom K3YPO**, our liaison to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, handled logistics and hospitality. Four candidates at this session took their tests using their MARC member free session benefit.

The MARC Board has decided that the one free test session for club members policy will be continued in 1999.

The next MARC test session will be on Saturday, February 6, 9:15 AM, at the Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church's Education Building.

Pre-registration is necessary. Contact **Bob W3ZQN** at 610-265-6032 for directions and registration.

TEMPLE CLUB HOSTS BUCKS COUNTY SCOUTS FOR MERIT BADGE WORKSHOP

[From Temple Owl Telegraph]

Last time, we asked for more Scout Jamboree on the Air stories from you. MARC member **Brad K3HQ** is president of the Temple University ARC. **K3TU** is the Temple club's callsign. In addition to the information mentioned below, the *ARRL Scout Handbook* is available from the League's Educational Activities Department.

Five Boy Scouts from Troop 607, Morrisville, PA, earned their Radio merit badge through a Temple University Amateur Radio Club workshop October 17 and talked to Scouts in the United States and Europe.

Using guidelines provided by Boy Scouts of America, **Brad K3HQ** put together a six-page work book for the Scouts and conducted a 90-minute work-shop on electronic theory, propagation, and broadcast and Amateur Radio communications. Class participation was required so that the Scouts would have to truly earn their merit badge. The youngsters were required to answer questions, draw propagation diagrams, schematics, and ten electronic-

component symbols.

Following the workshop, Troop 607 members participated in the 1998 Jamboree On The Air from **K3TU** and spoke with other Scouts in Florida, Colorado, and Germany on 15 and 10 meter single side-band. The Troop 607 Scouts found it interesting that one of the Colorado Scouts was a Cheyenne Indian. CW and RTTY contacts were also used to demonstrate Amateur Radio communications. Each Scout was required to fill out a log book entry in his course book for one of the contacts. The Scouts were given **K3TU** QSL cards as souvenirs. **Brad K3HQ** commended the Scouts on their courteous demeanor and enthusiasm for the on-air work.

The manual used by TUARC in its recent Boy Scout Radio merit badge workshop is available on request by sending a 8x11 envelope and \$1 for copying & postage to TUARC.

Temple University Amateur Radio Club
College of Engineering
Temple Univ. Philadelphia PA 19122

DONATED COMPUTER GEAR RECEIVED IN UKRAINE

Several months ago, MARC members donated computer equipment and books, etc., to be sent to a ham radio club in Ukraine. **Steve K3KFD** donated a computer for the project, which was spearheaded by **Mike KF3CD**. We've received word that the computer arrived safely in Ukraine. Here's what the Ukrainian hams said:

"We don't know how thank your for parcel arrived today. All members are happy and began learn all books, many, many thanks to you, **Steve K3KFD** personally and MARC! All works fine and we try find CD-player, drive as have already some discs. Dear friends, we appreciate your human action and will be remember you always. Thank you again! Merry Christmas to all members MARC club and yours families! 73! **Boris UU5JK** and Yalta Club Station **UU4JWF**"

PUBLIC SERVICE

MARC Net Manager **Carter N3AO** has copies of the *ARRL NET DIRECTORY* that may be requested by members who are new to formal message-handling. This booklet is not just a schedule of nets. It contains a great deal of educational information explaining how to format and transmit messages. That's why the MARC Board authorized purchase of some copies to give away to newcomers to our traffic (message-handling) nets. Message-handling is an emergency communications skill that every ham should have.

Are you associated with an organization which sponsors public events that could benefit from Amateur Radio communications? Ham radio is usually superior to wireless phones at such events. MARC is looking for events to serve ... foot races and various other charity "a-thons" (walk-, bike-, etc.) are just some of the possibilities. Environmental clean-up days, horse trials, historical re-enactments, parades, and festivals also come to mind. Please contact **Bob N3JIZ** to discuss how MARC volunteers could assist your event.

HOLMESBURG ARC INVITES MARC MEMBERS TO ANNUAL BANQUET

The Holmesburg ARC will hold its annual banquet on Saturday, January 16, at the Rosewood Caterers on Frankford Avenue, in northeast Philadelphia. The speaker will be **Joe Fairclough WB2JKJ**, founder and President of The Radio Club of Junior High School 22 NYC, Inc. The buffet will be start at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$30 each and are available from **Bob**

WA3PZO. This is sure to be a popular event and space is limited, but Holmesburg wanted to offer the opportunity to hear a national speaker. For further information contact **Bob WA3PZO** at bjosuweit@aol.com or (215) 624-6450. The caterer is on Frankford Avenue between the Academy Rd. and Cottman Ave. exits of I-95.

Need a hand evaluating your station's compliance with the FCC's RF exposure safety rules? One way is to use an on-line calculator such as the one found at <http://n5xu.ae.utexas.edu/rfsafety>.

DOING DX ... TEN METERS IS BACK!

By Kay Craigie WT3P

Ten meters is my favorite HF band. It is a great band for new hams and anybody else who does not want to spend the Gross Domestic Product of Argentina on a ham station. With a 100 watt rig and a simple antenna system, you can work the world on 10m: voice, CW, and/or digital. Until recently, you'd have had to take my word for it, since we've been at the rocky bottom of the sunspot cycle. Propagation on 10 was nil for most of the 1990's, except for a little trans-equatorial (north/south) stuff ... even then, it was more like having dental work than you really want in a hobby activity.

Recently, however, the upswing of the sunspot cycle proved to be more than just a rumor. In the CQ World Wide DX CW contest, I worked over 80 countries on 10 meters without knocking myself out. In the ARRL 10 Meter Contest, in which I play on both phone and CW, I worked about 45 states and dozens of countries.

In these two contests, I worked Australia, New Zealand, South Shetland Islands (*go to the end of the world and turn left*), United Arab Emirates, Israel, Russia, Japan, Togo, Senegal, South Africa, San Marino (*no relation to Dan Marino*), Cyprus, and most of Europe, South America, and the Caribbean. I don't use an amplifier, and my beam is at about 45 feet. W1AW, I ain't! Your station can do as well, or better.

Now that the 10 meter band is out of hibernation, there is good reason for hams whose experience of the hobby has been all above 30 MHz to work on earning HF privileges. The effort put into learning code and upgrading is more than repaid by the fun you'll have on 10 meters and eventually on other HF bands also. One note about 10 ... it's fundamentally a daylight band. This is inconvenient if you work during the day, but there are always the week-ends. See you soon on 10 meters!

THE DAILY DX ARCHIVE ON-LINE

THE DAILY DX is an e-mail DX information newsletter published Monday through Friday by **Bernie McClenny W3UR**. The home page at <http://www.dailydx.com> now has a searchable database of past issues. I tried it out and found it to be a great way to research stuff. This feature is available to all and includes past issues from November '97 to fairly recent editions. Bernie is not about to give away really recent issues, since people pay for subscriptions. You can sign up for a free 2-week trial sub to the newsletter via the Web page.

Another top-notch DX newsletter, this one a weekly print publication, is **THE 59(9) DX REPORT** published by **Bob Nadolny WB2YQH**. You can find out more and ask for sample copies by looking at the Web page at <http://members.aol.com/the599rpt/dx.htm>.

QSL BUREAU FEE REMINDER

Effective January 1, 1999, the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service fee increased to \$6 per pound. Other fees remain unchanged. It still costs \$1 for 10 cards, \$2 for 20 cards and \$3 for 30 cards, etc. Also, effective January 10, US first-class postage increases to 33 cents. Remember to send your incoming QSL bureau extra postage if you have envelopes on file bearing 32-cent stamps. The 60¢ overseas airmail rate does not change.

If you need information on how to use the ARRL QSL bureau system, contact **Kay WT3P**, send an e-mail request to buro@arrl.org, or send an SASE to QSL Service, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT, 06111. Anyone can use the incoming bureaus, but the outgoing bureau is a service just for ARRL members.

NICE DX WEB PAGE

Have a look at the Islands of Scotland Award's web page at <http://merlin.legend.org.uk/~tanar/islog.html>. You may not want the award, but the pictures are pretty. I'm Scottish-American. Indulge me.

Have you found any interesting Web pages related to DXing? Send in their URL's for future REMARKS.

MARC TRAFFIC NET FACTS

Anyone who is interested in learning to be a Net Control Station should contact **Carter N3AO**. It really isn't hard to do, and we can always use new help and back-ups.

You don't have to be on HF to hold an ARRL Official Relay Station (ORS) appointment. You just need to be a regular traffic-handler, willing to report monthly, and an ARRL member. Ask Carter for more information, if you're interested.

Have you ever wondered what the alphabet soup in the net report messages is all about? They are special Q-signals developed for traffic-handling on CW that are also commonly used in net reports on phone for their abbreviation value.

Here are some of them, their English translations, and mnemonics (in parentheses) you can use to remember the definitions.

QNI – Number of check-ins ("Number In"). On CW nets, QNI means "I am reporting in to the net" or "Net stations report in."

QTC – Number of messages passed on the net ("Traffic Count"). On CW, QTC means "I have traffic for the net."

QNS – Following stations were in the net ("Names of Stations"). This is followed by a list of callsigns.

QNF – Time the net was closed, or number of minutes the net lasted ("Net Finished"). The official translation is "Net is free (not controlled)."

Net will now stand by for someone from the Slang Police to complain about use of Q-signals on a voice net. Look ... they're efficient, their meaning is standard, and they do not cause cancer in laboratory animals ... so go away and gripe to somebody else.

“ENFORCEMENT” PUT BACK IN FCC’S DICTIONARY!

For years, the FCC did not enforce the rules in the Amateur Radio Service. The fact that they weren't doing much enforcement in other services, either, was no comfort to hams! Despite complaints from hams, relentless pressure from the ARRL, and even the occasional kick in the pants from a Member of Congress, the FCC managed to black-hole the entire subject.

Earlier this year, **Richard Lee** was appointed to head the Commission's Compliance and Information Bureau. He agreed to a meeting with the ARRL's Enforcement Task Force, where the conversation was quite candid on both sides. Your editor knows, because your editor was one of the ARRL participants! Several months later, Amateur enforcement was shifted into CIB from another area of the FCC, and things began to happen. In the fall, Lee appointed **Riley Hollingsworth** (a.k.a. **K4ZDH**) to head Amateur enforcement. Hollingsworth also met with the ARRL Enforcement Task Force and explained his philosophy and approach. He is tackling both on-the-air problems, such as malicious interference, and reports of license exam irregularities.

Although it is too soon to pop open any champagne, this is certainly the most sincere and serious enforcement effort from the FCC in more than a decade. So far, so good!

The following examples are from *THE ARRL LETTER*:

◆ On December 14, the FCC downgraded two amateur licensees and canceled the ticket of a third in Michigan. Busted from Advanced to Tech Plus were Lawrence A. Repp Jr., N8HFN, of Gaylord, and Alan E. Quirie, KA8ZRR, of Royal Oak. The FCC pulled the Tech Plus ticket of Steven A. Penn, formerly KC8HUM, of Southfield. The Commission said the three filed Amateur applications claiming to have taken Amateur Radio examinations at Oak Park June 3, 1997, at an ARRL VEC session. The FCC says its evidence shows that the three did not sit for the exams and that their names "were added and

signatures forged, sometime after the tests were administered, by one of the four examiners."

◆ The FCC has pulled back a General Class upgrade from a Kentucky ham because it says the Physician's Certification used to obtain a Morse code testing waiver "is not a valid document." The FCC notified Richard C. Lalone II, KC5GAX, of Fort Campbell, Kentucky, of its action by certified mail November 18. But the Commission stopped short of revoking his license or levying a fine.

An FCC official said that Lalone upgraded at a test session in January 1997. "The doctor's certificate was apparently forged," he said. "The doctor confirmed that he didn't sign it. It wasn't the VEC's fault."

The FCC advised Lalone that while it was not pursuing a fine at this time, he could run into problems later if he decides to renew his ticket or to upgrade. At that point, the Commission said, it might later decide to designate the issue for a hearing before an administrative law judge, "in order for the Commission to determine what, if any, enforcement action should be taken and what action to take on the application."

◆ The FCC has notified four individuals that it is setting aside their recent Extra Class license grants and privileges while it investigates alleged irregularities in the volunteer examination process. Letters from the FCC went out November 10 to Elmer J. Smith, N3UNR, of Effort, Pennsylvania; Philip DiGenova, N3UNS, of Bartonsville, Pennsylvania; Wayne S. Bowden, AA3RT, of Millsboro, Delaware; and Kenneth L. Sharp, AA3RU, of Boyertown, Pennsylvania, that the Commission was setting aside their Extra Class grants. All four individuals were requested to return their Extra Class license documents and Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCs) to the FCC's Gettysburg office. Their Extra class call signs were changed back to their previous calls, except for Bowden, who apparently did not hold any license

prior to the exam session that was called into question.

"This letter is not a finding that you have engaged in misconduct," the letter said, adding that if the FCC's investigation concludes that it should grant the Extra Class license applications, it will reinstate the grants. An FCC official said the investigation was looking into testing irregularities including allegations that examinees might have been coached or given test answers. "They are bumped back for now while we investigate, since we had enough evidence at the outset to do that," he said.

◆ The FCC has levied a \$7500 fine on a New Jersey ham who interfered with a net operation on 40 meter SSB. James C. Thompson, KA2YBP, of Waretown also was ordered off 40 meters until further notice after the October 18 incident. The case against Thompson, 58, stemmed from interference complaints from other amateurs, including the Association of North American Radio Clubs (ANARC), which conducts a Sunday morning net on 7240 kHz.

The FCC charged Thompson with illegally retransmitting programs from a Standard Broadcast (AM) station on 40 meters and willfully interfering with the net. The FCC also said Thompson failed to properly identify.

The FCC issued an Official Notice of Violation October 21. In replying to the NOV, Thompson admitted the violations, the FCC said November 9. "Applying the Forfeiture Policy Statement and statutory factors to the instant case, we have determined that a monetary forfeiture in the amount of \$7,500 is warranted," the FCC's notice said. Thompson had 30 days to pay the fine or appeal it.

Other hams have received warning letters from Hollingsworth asking them to call his office to discuss their activities. Such warnings from the FCC have already caused some people to straighten up and do right. These warnings will continue, along with high-profile actions against hams accused of major rules violations.

TRAFFIC NET CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS

Net Manager **Carter N3AO** has awarded ARRL Local Net certificates to the following participants in the MARC VHF traffic nets. Recipients were selected on the basis of how many times they checked in to the net during 1998. People who did not receive their certificates at the December meeting can expect to get them through the mail.

Mike WA2ABF
Bart K4BF
Mich N3BGA
Ed W3BNR
David KB3CRY
Marco KB3CXS

Bev KB3DCT
Dennis K3DS
Al W2GPY
Hugh N3HT
Dave W3ITK
Link W3IVS

Dan KA3KHR
Bob KA3MIX
Floyd KA3OXA
Bob AA3RK
Bob W3SA
Steve KD0VA

Chris N3VXB
Tom K3YPO
Bob W3ZQN

HOLIDAY PARTY A GREAT SUCCESS

The 1998 holiday party was very well attended and lots of fun.

Edie KA3NKP put together another outstanding array of refreshments. Many people brought artistic works to display ... great photographs, beautiful wood-craft. The weather gave us

a break, for once, so the attendance was somewhat better than the last few years. Many thanks to everyone who helped make the party so enjoyable.

1999 MEMBERSHIP DUES CAN BE PAID NOW

MARC dues are being accepted now for the 1999 membership year. The actual due date is March 1. You can pay by mail or in person at a club meeting. Using a renewal form helps us keep the records straight. Separate renewal notices will be mailed later. If you want to help save the club some money on those notices, please use the form below or pay at a club meeting. Thanks for renewing early!