



MARCH / APRIL 2006

REMARCS

www.marc-radio.org

MARC'S MARCH MADNESS: THE ANNUAL JUNQUE AUCTION

The annual auction will be at the March 21 meeting instead of the April meeting as reported in the last newsletter. **Bart K4BF** will be our auctioneer.

The auction is a chance for members to sell our surplus ham radio and ham-related gear and buy other people's dusty old stuff. Small items and bargains usually sell best -- save the big-bucks gear for the MARC hamfest. Only MARC members may sell at the auction but for buyers we'll take anybody's money. Invite your friends.

Here are the ground rules:

- Ham and ham-related items only.
- Only MARC members may sell. No dealers, please.
- MARC gets 10% of the price or \$10, whichever is less.
- Tag items with your name and callsign, what the item is, and the minimum acceptable price (if any).
- Take home any unsold items. NO DUMPING AT THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING!
- All items are sold as-is. MARC gives no warranties, implied or otherwise, regarding items offered for sale. The club and the auctioneer will not be liable for any problems arising from the sales.

There is no limit on the number of items you may bring to sell. If a club member is disposing of the estate equipment of a ham who wasn't a club member, that's okay. Bring some coins and bills smaller than \$20's, because we have limited ability to make change. Plan on paying cash. We cannot promise that sellers will accept personal checks.

APRIL PROGRAM: HOMEBREW SHOW & TELL NIGHT

The April 18 program will be MARC members' chance to bring in our homebrew projects for show & tell. "Homebrew" is an elastic term here, including ham gear and accessories you . . . made entirely from scratch, built from a kit, built from published plans, modified, improved, or otherwise messed with using your skills and creativity.

The projects can be grand successes or (if you have a sense of humor) total flops. If the project is immobile or too large to bring to the meeting, bring photos.

In the past this program has been thought-provoking, educational, and funny as all get-out.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Individualized renewal notices were mailed in February to everyone whose dues were not already paid up. We thank all the members who have paid their 2006 club dues.

For everyone else, please find that notice which came in the mail, or use the blank form provided at the end of this newsletter. Renewals are due this month.

Membership cards are now sent as postcards. A new twist this year is that the cards show the log-in and password information for the members-only section of the club web site.

Membership benefits include taking tests at one club-sponsored license test session per year free of charge, use of the autopatch, and getting the newsletter. Your dues help sponsor the only hamfest and the only regularly-scheduled license tests in Philly's western suburbs, four VHF/UHF repeaters, and monthly programs on ham radio and high tech subjects. That's worth your \$15!

DICK THOMPSON K3IIN, SILENT KEY

On Monday evening, January 23, **Dick K3IIN** conducted the MARC traffic net as usual. The next day we learned that during the night he died suddenly of a heart attack at age 52.

Dick joined MARC shortly after becoming licensed in August, 2002. So quickly did he become a leader in the club that it's astonishing to realize he was a member for less than 4 years!

Involved in leadership of Montgomery County ARES/RACES, Dick was also a liaison between that organization and its equivalents in Chester and Delaware Counties.

(Continued on page 2)

HAMFEST PUBLICITY AND VENDOR RECRUITMENT *It's Easy and Important to Help*

MARC's major fundraiser is the hamfest -- July 16, this year -- and your help is needed. When you attend a hamfest this spring, take a wad of MARC hamfest flyers and leave them wherever other flyers are located. Contact **Mike KF3CD** (kf3cd@arrl.net, 610-935-4429) to get some flyers.

Also, as you walk around the event, pick up vendors' business cards and advertising literature -- anything that shows their e-mail or postal mail addresses. Then contact Mike and he'll arrange to get the literature from you. We MUST build up our vendor list for 2006, and this is the best way to do it. Questions? Contact Mike.

ABOUT MARC

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

4th Tuesdays, 8 PM, Tredyffrin Township
Bldg, Wayne/Berwyn. 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, 445.675/R
145.13 & 147.06 linked, CTCSS 131.8 Hz
Webmaster: Steve N3ORH (610-327-8666,
smaslin@marc-radio.org)

NETS

Club Net, Sunday, 8:30 PM
Traffic net, M/W/F, 8:30 PM
All nets on linked 145.13/R & 147.06/R
Net Manager: (open)

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 N3KN
(610-993-9623, n3kn@arrl.net)

BRING A FRIEND
TO A MARC MEETING!

VOX

Welcome new members of MARC: **Jim KB3MIC**, **John W3WOM**, **Russ W3GGY**, **Joe WA3KNQ**, **Pete WB3CQC**, **Robert KB3MMZ**, and **Pedro N3GY**. Also welcome back **Joseph WA1SSY** and **Susan K3SUE**. January was a hard month -- we said farewell to **Bill W3IGU**, **Harry W1JZW**, and **Dick K3IIN**.

John W3YO is the former **W3PEN**. **Kurt KB3EJS** notes that his father, **Dr. Richard P. Richter**, President Emeritus of Ursinus College, who used to bring him to field day gatherings, passed away at the age of 74. Kurt says his father "was always a supporter of **WB3BOG**, the ham radio club at Ursinus College." MARC extends condolences to Kurt on his father's passing. **Lor W3QA** spoke on Winlink 2000 at a Warminster ARC meeting last fall. Congratulations to **Ron K3MMN** (ex-**KB3MMN**) on passing General theory and getting his vanity call. **Gene N3HG** is walking well again after his hip operation; he and **Judy N3MBW** send 73 to all from Maryland. **Carl WA3ZZU** is front & center in the big photo on page 45 of the March QST. **Jim W3BG** is in the **3Y0X** DXpedition log for 15 QSO's. Wow! **David N3ZG** is the former **KB3CRY**.

*The Thursday night roundtable is looking for a few more moderators. It's easy and fun to do. Contact **Bob W3LIA** (bobl@ieee.org) if you'd like to give it a try.*

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS

Sunday, April 30 - Multiple Sclerosis 5k Run/Walk - West Goshen Township Park on the outskirts of West Chester, PA. Report at 8 AM.

Monday, May 29 (Memorial Day) - Radnor Memorial Day Parade - Wayne, PA. This is a fun event but a noisy environment. Earphones are necessary! Report to the Micro Center parking lot at 8 AM.

To find out more about these public service events and to sign up as a communicator, contact **Bob N3JIZ** at 610-687-4587. All volunteers are welcome -- no previous experience is required.

BILL DENK W3IGU, SILENT KEY

Past member **Bill Denk W3IGU** became a Silent Key on January 11 at age 95. Bill was a widely-respected expert on antique wireless.

Born in North Dakota, Bill was first licensed as a Radio Amateur in 1928. He pursued a career in electrical engineering and the law. As an attorney, he worked for Philco Corporation and Ford Motor Company in their patent departments.

As an engineer, Bill was a pioneer in radio, television, radar, sonar, military electronics, and microwave communications. He was known for scholarly book reviews and articles on radios and

patents for technical publications.

Bill was a fine ham and a delightful gentleman. He and his wife Jane were great friends of our club. [Photo by Kay N3KN]



INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPON NOTE

A local DXer bought some old IRC's from another ham, only to learn that they were not being accepted overseas and his money was up in smoke. Do not buy the old small IRC's from uninformed or dishonest people. Use only the new, larger, blue IRC's to be sure that overseas post offices will accept them for postage back to the USA. Also make sure the IRC's are stamped in the country of origin space. Happy DXing!

K3IIN, SILENT KEY

Continued from page 1



Many hams from MARC and the ARES/RACES groups attended Dick's funeral service on January 27. **Steve N3LJZ** set up a blog at www.sdpearl.com so Dick's friends could post tributes to him. These expressions, along with recordings of nets on which hams talked about their friend, have been given to Dick's family.

Dick's passing was sudden and unforeseen. As the clergyman who conducted the funeral service said, "It was too soon." Now the rest of us who really cared about this big, joyous man must pick up where he left off and do our best to deserve having been his friends. Read a tribute to Dick by **Dori W3IBH** on page 4 and a story about how you can help honor his memory on page 5. [Photo by Dieter Hauer K3DKJ]

FROM THE EDITOR'S JUNK BOX

"The Heart of a Winner"

Life has a brutal way of reminding me from time to time that I am not in charge. **Dick K3IIN** was the kind of person I wanted to clone, not to lose after just 3 1/2 years of friendship. I can use up all ten fingers and several toes counting off people who are selfish, unkind, arrogant, mean-spirited, lazy, untruthful, dishonest, bullies, downright malicious, and all-around wastes of breath, but they are alive and Dick is gone at the age of 52. Because I am not in charge.

Which is probably a good thing as whole cosmic schemes go, though I choke on accepting that as true just this minute.

Dick applied his intelligence, energy, and humor -- all of which he had in abundance -- to enjoying life and helping others. The father of a young man with special needs, Dick coached Special Olympics sports with no taint of pity or condescension. He was committed to serving MARC and to Amateur Radio emergency communications, but he also loved just playing radio. Dick's devotion to his wife, daughters, and son was as serious as a ton of bricks but it also bordered on the goofy. This is a man who once wrote a love note to his wife in pink spray paint on the street in front of their house.

As **Steve Pearl N3LJZ** wrote in his blog, Dick had "a heart for service. A passion for life." We all know people who are here just marking time like they're waiting for a bus, whining about how they're bored, how their lives have no purpose, how they don't have the time for this or the energy for that. Guess what: Life expands to fit the passion that you pour into it.

Dick lived a big life, though not a long one. While he was here his throttle was stuck wide open, and we friends were lucky to be along for part of the ride.

"Dick's actions and Dick's conversations," again to quote Steve's wonderful blog, "revealed the heart of a winner." Can't say it better than that! Although Dick's physical heart failed him, the heart of his character will not fail us if we follow his example of what a person and a Radio Amateur ought to be like.

73 and 88, Dick. See you on a later net. -- **Kay N3KN**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD MEETINGS

The January 26 board meeting began with a moment of silence in honor of secretary **Dick K3IIN**. **Steve N3ORH** moved, seconded by **Bob N3JIZ**, the following plan to honor Dick K3IIN's devotion to service was approved unanimously: MARC will donate \$250 to Special Olympics and \$250 to the ARRL Foundation. In addition, MARC will match up to \$250 in member donations to Special Olympics and up to \$250 in member donations to the ARRL Foundation. The treasurer presented a 2005 annual report of income and expenses in addition to the usual monthly report. The treasury balance was \$12,062.32. Reports were heard on programs and public service. The technical report noted problems with the 424 MHz link transmitter between the '13 and '06 repeaters. **Ted NT3J** proposed a program of operating challenges intended to stimulate more HF activity among members. **Kay N3KN** presented draft by-law changes proposing to change how board vacancies are filled and making it explicit that the VP becomes president if the presidency becomes vacant. The proposals offered by Ted and Kay were not acted upon but will be considered at a future board meeting.

The February 23 board meeting included reports on membership renewals, public service events, programs, and the state of the repeaters. The treasury balance was \$13,024.71. The board voted to recommend that members approve proposed amendments to the by-laws (see page 7). Details of a proposed HF operating challenge were presented. The board received the material for study. The board identified a number of roles which now need to be filled following the loss of **Dick K3IIN**. **Bob W3SA**'s illness was noted and the board expressed hope that he will soon be well again.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 2006

PRESIDENT

Steve Maslin N3ORH 610-327-8666
smaslin@marc-radio.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Bart Feroe K4BF 610-367-4288
k4bf@arrl.net

SECRETARY

Open

TREASURER

Carter Craigie N3AO 610-993-9623
n3ao@arrl.net

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Kay Craigie N3KN 610-993-9623
n3kn@arrl.net

PROGRAMS

Open

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Dennis DeMarco KA3QOT 610-935-7954
dennisdm@cavtel.net

PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ 610-687-4587

TECHNICAL

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

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2006: **Bob Haase W3SA**
610-293-1919, rhaase@bellatlantic.net

To 9/30/2007: **Ted Jennings NT3J**
610-793-1979, tedddyjsr@aol.com

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

WB3JOE: **Carter Craigie N3AO**
610-993-9623, n3ao@arrl.net

W3NWA: **Kay Craigie N3KN**
610-993-9623, n3kn@arrl.net

MARC
HAMFEST
JULY 16
KIMBERTON
FIRE COMPANY
FAIRGROUNDS

This is our
major annual
fundraiser. Put it
on your calendar
NOW!

DICK THOMPSON K3IIN

By Dori Lawson W3IBH



On January 24, I received the email that changed my outlook on my middle age years. My best friend, **Dick K3IIN** died suddenly on January 23 in his sleep. It was impossible, unheard of, and totally unbelievable. Dick was only 52 years young, had no bad habits to speak of, and this was just a dream from which we were going to all wake.

But it was not to be so.

Dick Thompson was an incredible person. I met Dick when he was **KB3IIN** and I was **KB3JZN**, and we were both new to ham radio and MARC. Neither of us kept our original call signs long. I claimed my Dad's old call sign, and he dropped the "B."

Dick was a man on a mission. He moved up to General license quickly, and was studying for his Extra. He was the guy we all wanted to be, but somehow found the excuse not to be for one reason or another. He never quite learned the meaning of the words "I can't" or "I won't." Instead, he morphed those words into "we will work it out" or "let's think about it," always putting the team effort behind the job, and recruiting people into a task.

Dick loved this hobby, Amateur Radio, and found a second home here on the radio. I dare say he found a second family here. The "Afterburners," **Miguel KC2HMG**, **Dennis KA3QOT**, **Bob WR3K**, and I were founded one cold January evening when **Bob W3SA** asked a question about the Beatles on a net one night. We all found something in common, and three years later, we continued to burn up the air after nets with our talk of music, health, finance, or the price of eggs in China. We were five middle-aged, baby boomer hams who had everything in common.

Dick entertained us all on drive time on the repeaters with his daily commute up the blue route to pick up **Danny** from Home

Depot. We all laughed when he would talk of his "unsupervised" weekends when Beth would be working so Danny, Erin and he would be alone in the house until she got home. He worked tirelessly with the Montco RACES/ARES group to bring his new-found technology Winlink 2000 to their emergency communications. He sat on the board on MARC as our program chairman, but could never attend a meeting to see the fruit of his labor, because he always had meetings at his job the nights of our MARC meetings. That never stopped him from providing us with outstanding programs. On Field Day or Hamfest or community events, you could find Dick's pickup there first and leaving last.

But, as we all know, Dick Thompson's first love was his wife **Beth**, and his children **Sandy**, **Danny**, and **Erin**. One of his proudest moments was the day he presented his daughter Sandy to her husband **Darrin** for marriage (although we had to talk him out of taking a HT in his tuxedo!). He was a coach for Danny's Special Olympics volleyball team, and I can still recall the excitement in his voice when he told us of how well they did in the State Championship in State College this year. Erin is already a member of MARC and an aspiring ham. **Carter N3AO**, **Steve N3LJZ** and I will be mentoring her to get her license and help her reclaim that call sign we all love to hear.

Dick was my friend and my mentor in ham radio. Had it not been for him, I would not have been a Net Control Station or a board member or been as involved as I have been. I will miss him so, so dearly. There is a hole in my heart that will take a long time to heal. I can only hope that his passing will renew the spirit of volunteering in many of ourselves.

So on behalf of the Afterburners, Miguel, Dennis, Bob, and me and Dick's other friends at MARC; I would like to sign off to K3IIN one last time as he liked to do at the end of a "burn." Quite unashamedly, he would tell us all on the air for everyone to hear... "Hey... love ya man... 73s all around." [Photo by Dick Stewart K3ITH]

HARRY KENOSIAN W1JZW, SK

Harry W1JZW of Berwyn became a Silent Key at age 85 on January 25. He was class of 1944 at MIT and went on to a distinguished career in engineering. Harry was a ham as a younger man but dropped out.

In the mid-1980's Harry was trying to get a local kid interested in ham radio and took the boy to visit some dubious characters named **Craigie** in Devon whom he had heard about. The kid never caught the ham radio bug, but Harry was reinfected and soon became **N3FTH**. He joined MARC in late 1987. By 1988 he was an Extra signing **NS3A**. When vanity call signs came in, he regained his old call sign, **W1JZW**.

He was sitting behind us once at an Audubon Society meeting, when **Carter N3AO** muttered that the supposedly ancient type of bird depicted on the speaker's slide didn't look so ancient to him. In old-time deadpan comedian style Harry wisecracked, "You was expecting maybe a pterodactyl?" He was funny, brilliant, occasionally difficult, and definitely someone one we will miss.

LICENSE TEST SESSION REPORT

Team captain **Bob W3ZQN** reports that 3 candidates were examined at the February test session. One person earned a new Technician license, one passed General theory, and one did not pass the attempted exam. The Volunteer Examiners were **Bob W3ZQN**, **Paul NX3Q**, **Susan K3SUE**, **Bob KA3NIQ**, **Dick K3ITH**, **Walt WA3PPW**, **Bart K4BF**, **Kay N3KN**, and **Carter N3AO**.

The next **Tom Powell K3YPO** Memorial exam session will be held on Saturday, May 6. Contact **Bob W3ZQN** (rjlees@aol.com, 610-265-6032) for information and pre-registration.

Paid-up MARC members may participate in one club-sponsored test session per year free of charge. The club pays the test fee.

To locate an exam session sponsored by another team, go to www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.shtml and follow the on-screen instructions.

VANITY CALLSIGN LICENSE RENEWALS ARE NOT FREE!

As the window approaches to renew the very first Amateur Radio licenses issued a decade ago through the vanity call sign program, the question on many lips is, "Do I have to pay a vanity call sign fee again when I renew my license?" The answer is yes, if you want to keep your vanity call sign for another 10 years. The FCC has steadfastly maintained from the very start of the vanity call sign program that payment of the vanity call sign regulatory fee would be required for renewal applications as well as for new applications.

The ARRL VEC, which handles routine Amateur Radio license renewal applications as a service for League members, notes that it does not plan to process Amateur Radio vanity call sign renewal applications. ARRL VEC Manager **Maria Somma AB1FM** says that's because the VEC is currently not equipped to handle the regulatory fees that vanity renewals will require.

ARRL BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

News from the ARRL at www.arrl.org

Joel Harrison W5ZN of Judsonia, Arkansas, is the ARRL's president for the next two years. In Windsor, Connecticut, for its annual meeting, the League's Board voted 10 to 5 to choose Harrison over the other candidate, **Dick Isely W9GIG**. Harrison, 47, said he believes Amateur Radio is looking at a different society and pool of potential licensees in the 21st century than in the past.

"One of the things we need to do over the next few years is realize that Main Street USA is not the Main Street USA it was years ago," Harrison commented after the vote. "We all remember those days when we became interested in radio and the magic that it provided to us. The magic is still there, but Main Street has changed." Harrison says this means that the League needs to focus on doing a better job of attracting the average person on the new Main Street of today into the magic of Amateur Radio.

The ARRL Board also elected Vice President **Kay Craigie N3KN** as First Vice President, succeeding Harrison, and Delta Division Director **Rick Roderick K5UR** to Vice President, succeeding Craigie. International Affairs Vice President **Rod Stafford W6ROD** was re-elected. The candidates for vice presidencies ran unopposed.

FLEA MARKET

For Sale: Cushcraft R-7 multiband vertical 10, 12, 15, 17, 20, 30, 40 Meters (no radials required). Original manual. \$145 OBO. Good condition. Pick-up in Malvern, PA. Call **Jim W3BG** at 610-695-9013 or e-mail w3bg@arrl.net.

Wanted: 6m / 2m portable rig. Contact **Chris KB3MUC** at 610-480-8292 or e-mail christopherchampness@yahoo.com.

For Sale: Yaesu MD-100A8X desk microphone with tone control, in original box, never used. \$100 (HRO's price is \$129.95). Contact **Kay N3KN** at 610-993-9623 or e-mail n3kn@arrl.net.

HOW YOU CAN HONOR THE MEMORY OF DICK K3IIN

As you read in the board meeting highlights column, the MARC board has voted to make donations to two charities from the treasury in memory of **Dick K3IIN**. In addition, club members are invited to make their own donations if they wish to, and the club will match the total of those donations up to \$250 per charity. The charities for which donations will be matched are Special Olympics, 630 W. Germantown Pike, Suite 161 Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462, and the ARRL Foundation, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111.

Here are your options for donating: (1) Send your check made payable to the charity to the MARC post office box (PO Box 2154, Southeastern, PA 19399-2154), and we will forward it to the charity after noting the amount you've given. (2) Send your donation directly to the charity and drop a note or e-mail to treasurer **Carter N3AO** stating which charity you gave to and how much you gave. You can give to both charities if you wish.

If you've already made a donation, just let Carter know which one and how much, so we can add your info to the total.

March 31 is the cut-off date. After that we will total the donations to each charity and matching amounts will be donated by the club. We will not publicize the names of donors or the amounts they give.

Another option for donating in memory of Dick is to give to the club's Nick Fund. This fund benefits the medical needs of **Nick Bortnik UX0ZZ**, a Ukrainian ham whom the club has been assisting for quite a few years. Money donated to the Nick Fund will not be matched by the club, since the board promised several years ago not to spend any club money on this project owing to some members' objections.

NET MANAGER POSITION AVAILABLE

Some net control spots also open

The position of MARC Net Manager is open and a club member volunteer is sought to fill it. The Net Manager is expected to receive and tabulate reports on how many people check into the MARC Traffic Nets each month and how many messages are handled on the nets, for a monthly report e-mailed to the Eastern PA Section Traffic Manager.

The Net Manager also maintains the net control station schedule and recruits volunteers to fill empty spots on the schedule. The Net Manager should be familiar with protocol for conducting a directed net and should know formal message handling procedures. The Net Manager is NOT expected to check into every net, so you don't sign over your life to this thing.

If you may be interested in the Net Manager position, please contact **Carter N3AO** (610-993-9623, n3ao@arrl.net). He is a past Net Manager and can explain the duties to you. The appointment will be made by the board of directors.

Some net control station spots are also open at this time. Until the Net Manager position is filled, please contact Carter if you'd like to know which net control spots are available.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The membership year begins March 1. We do not accept more than one year's dues at a time. Please send your check payable to MARC to Mid-Atlantic ARC, PO Box 2154, Southeastern, PA 19399-2154.

NAME		CALLSIGN	
ADDRESS			
CITY		STATE	ZIP + 4
TELEPHONE		OK to publish phone?	
E-MAIL ADDRESS		OK to publish e-mail?	
Newsletter delivery via: E-mail PDF ' Download PDF from Web ' Paper mail '			
License Class:		ARRL Member?	
Please compute amount due:			
Full member (licensed ham) @ \$15		\$	
Family member (licensed ham, after 1 st member pays full dues) @ \$5		\$	
Associate member (unlicensed person) @ \$5		\$	
TOTAL DUE WITH THIS FORM		\$	

HISTORICAL CLIPS

From the MARC Newsletter Archives



This graphic appeared on newsletters from February, 1978, through January, 1980. It was created by **Doug Priest N3ADL**, now **W3CF**.

The July, 1982, newsletter noted the loss of a founding member whose callsign is now entrusted to the club: **Bob Young W3NWA**. The newsletter editor in '82 was **Bob Josuweit WA3PZO**. MARC received **W3NWA** as a club callsign in 1997.

MARC member Bob Young, W3NWA, passed away recently after a long illness. Bob was active in the Club serving as a member-at-large on the Board of Directors and Chairman of several Field Day activities. Bob, W3 North West Airlines, was considered to be the Elmer of the Club helping many make their first CW contact, others with antenna problems and others with their teletype. He also shared his knowledge with those who were less fortunate, including working with handicapped hams. Bob was also a member of the Roosters.

A memorial fund has been established in Bob's memory at Suburban General Hospital, Norristown. For additional info on the fund contact Neil, WB3KIL.

As MARC neared our 10th anniversary in 1986, we became part of the new way of administering Amateur Radio license exams: the Volunteer Examiner system. The notice of our first session appeared in the May/June *REMARCS* in 1986. In 1996, our 20th anniversary, we began allowing members to take tests at one MARC-sponsored exam session per year with the club paying the test fee. **Tom Powell K3YPO** was instrumental in making the test sessions possible thanks to his connections with Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Though never a VE, Tom attended every MARC test session until he became a Silent Key in April, 2001.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS OF THE MID-ATLANTIC ARC, INC.

The club board of directors recommends that members vote to approve the following amendments. Votes may be cast in person at the March 21 club meeting or by mail sent to the club post office box. A ballot is provided on the following page in the electronic edition or as a separate sheet in the paper edition. These amendments have to do with how vacancies on the board that occur during a term of office are to be filled. A 2/3 majority of members voting is required to approve the amendments.

**Article III
Section 6 - Vacancies***Existing language:*

If the office of any Director shall become vacant, it shall be filled by special election and shall last until October 1.

Rationale for the change:

Special elections are expensive and take a lot of time to carry out. Contested special elections are rare. Also, the By-Laws do not specify that the VP succeeds the President, though common sense would lead us to expect that. We should make that explicit to avoid any disputes in the future.

Proposed amendment:

Delete the existing By-Law and replace it with the following:

If the office of any Director except President shall become vacant, a club member qualified as required in Section 2 shall be appointed following approval by a majority vote of the Board of Directors to complete the unexpired term. If less than 60 days remain in the term of office, the Board of Directors may choose to permit the office to remain vacant and to permit the normal election process to go forward.

If the office of President shall become vacant, the Vice-President shall become President. The office of Vice President shall then be filled according to the preceding paragraph.

**Article III
Section 3 - Composition of the Board***Existing language:*

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Club President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Trustees of the Club Call Signs, all Standing Committee chairmen, and two (2) Members-at-Large elected by the general Club membership. Directors serving in more than one capacity shall have one vote.

Proposed amendment:

In the first sentence, delete the phrase "elected by the general Club membership."

Rationale for the change:

Deleting this phrase makes Section 3 conform to the proposed revision of Section 6, above, in which vacancies during the term of office may be filled via an appointment made by the board.

**Article IV Officers
Section 3 - Vice-President***Existing language:*

The Vice-President shall perform all duties and exercise all powers (except that of emergency expenditure) of the President when the President is absent or is otherwise unable to act. The Vice-President shall perform other duties as may be prescribed by the President or Board of Directors.

At the end of his/her term of office, the Vice-President shall pass on to the incoming Vice-President all property belonging to the Club.

Proposed amendment:

Add the following sentence as a paragraph between the two existing paragraphs:

If the office of President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall succeed to the presidency.

Rationale for the change:

Although it is common sense to suppose that the Vice-President becomes President if the presidency becomes vacant during a term of office, our By-Laws do not say that. This should be made explicit to avoid any disputes that might arise in the future.

MID-ATLANTIC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 2154
SOUTHEASTERN, PA 19399-2154

IMPORTANT INFORMATION IN THIS ISSUE

ANNUAL AUCTION MARCH 21

DONATION OPPORTUNITY IN MEMORY OF K3IIN

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CLUB BY-LAWS
(BALLOT ENCLOSED)**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS DUE NOW
(FORM ENCLOSED)**