



# REMARCS



## FCC'S UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM COMES TO AMATEUR RADIO

Say good-bye to Form 610! The FCC has added the Amateur Radio Service to the Universal Licensing System, which brings a single set of paperwork to many licensed services.

Being phased out under ULS is the familiar paper FCC Form 610 series. A 'universal' Form 605—primarily designed for electronic use but also available on paper—will take its place.

Existing Amateur Radio licensing data was transferred into the ULS database during a weeklong phase-in period in August. During the phase-in period, the FCC did not process new or upgraded licenses. This led to a backlog in processing of applications. *[story continues, page 4]*

## MORSE CODE LESSONS START SEPTEMBER 7

**Carter N3AO** will offer free Morse code lessons at his home in Paoli again this fall. It's very informal. Lessons teach not only the Morse characters and speed-building, but also what a person can do with code on the air. Sometimes, hams lose sight of the fact that code can be enjoyable and not just a ceremonial hoop one must jump through in order to get on HF. Carter enjoys code, and it shows.

Whether you are learning code for the first time or brushing up for an exam or just for fun, you can attend this class. Once we figure out who wants to do what, we'll go from there. The class will meet on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, starting on September 7.

For more information and directions, contact **Carter N3AO** (610-993-9623, [n3ao@arrl.net](mailto:n3ao@arrl.net)).

## REMARCS GOES ELECTRONIC

Nearly half the club's membership has opted to receive the newsletter in Adobe PDF format via e-mail. This will add up to a substantial savings on printing and postage for the club. A paper edition will continue to be published, because not everybody has e-mail.

A survey was sent to members who have e-mail addresses, asking whether and how they might like to receive the newsletter electronically. When responses showed that electronic distribution was desired by a lot of people, we ran a distribution test in August to identify and iron out any glitches. About a dozen members helped us as testers.

Discovery #1 was that members using Adobe Acrobat version 3 couldn't receive graphics in a PDF file generated with version 4 of Adobe's encoding software. **Steve N3ORH** figured out that problem. Fortunately, there's a way to get the encoding

software to make the output file compatible with the version 3 reader. Members are encouraged, however, to get version 4.

I would particularly like to thank **Ed W3BNR**, one of our testers, who offered several very constructive suggestions. He said that the document could be locked so that nobody could make changes in it and embarrass the club. Heard ya! He also reminded me that live Internet links can be put in PDF documents. The electronic version of the newsletter thus features some live links to Web pages.

If you currently receive the paper edition but would like to get the newsletter electronically, here's what you need: an Internet e-mail account that allows file attachments, and version 3 or 4 of the Adobe Acrobat Reader (free from Adobe's Web site and included with many software packages you may already own). Then you contact **Kay WT3P** ([wt3p@arrl.net](mailto:wt3p@arrl.net)) and you'll be put on the list for the next edition.

## MEETING PROGRAMS TO FEATURE REPEATERS, UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM

The September 16 meeting program will be on FM repeater coordination. Our speaker will be **Gene Pressler W3ZXV**, VP of the ARCC repeater coordinating organization. He'll discuss the growth of FM repeaters in the Delaware Valley and the need for repeater coordination. Part of the program will be a video produced by our own **David N3LHY**, who is president of ARCC. ARCC is on the Web at <http://www.arcc-inc.org/>.

The October 21 program will be on the new Universal Licensing System (ULS). If you have not registered in ULS by the time of the meeting, plan to arrive early. **Dennis K3DS** plans to arrange computer access so members can go through the 5-minute registration process. All you need to know is your Social Security Number, which is required for registration. **We need a wireless modem or wireless data phone for this ... if you have one, please contact Dennis now!**

## ABOUT MARC

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

## MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

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

## BOARD MEETINGS

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

## SYSTEMS

145.13/R, 147.06/R  
**WB3JOE** packet BBS 145.090  
 Packet sysop and Webmaster:  
**Steve N3ORH** (610-313-8080,  
[smaslin@fast.net](mailto:smaslin@fast.net))

## NETS

Club Net, Sundays, 8:30 PM  
 Traffic net, M/W/F, 8:30 PM  
 All nets on 147.06/R  
 Net Manager: **Carter N3AO**  
 (610-993-9623, [n3ao@arrl.net](mailto:n3ao@arrl.net))

## 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@arrl.net](mailto:wt3p@arrl.net))

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

## VOX

Welcome new member **Tom W3BED** from Wayne. Past member **Brad KA3GWW** is now living in Connecticut and sends 73 to friends back here. **Bob W3SA** is feeling much better now that his medical treatments are over. **Dennis K3DS** was appointed by ARRL President **Rod Stafford W6ROD** to the League's Technology Working Group, a national committee of experts on emerging communications technologies. **Jeff WA3RIZ** and **Edie KA3NKP** went to Alaska on their vacation. **Carter N3AO** accompanied his church's youth group to West Virginia, where they did home repair projects for poor people. **Mike KF3CD** is photo'd on page 65 of September *WORLD RADIO* with his Kid's Day group. **Lee KB3BUO** was probably the only person at our hamfest who had green hair ... no fashion coward is he! **Al N3EA** is now the grandfather of a VVYL (Very Very Young Lady) born to his daughter **Debra Maslin-Conard**. **Steve N3ORH** earned credentials as a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer. Condolences to **Kevin K3NTD**, whose parents both passed away within a 6-month period. **Kay WT3P** had top score in Eastern PA, mixed-mode, low power, in the 1998 ARRL 10 Meter Contest. **Brad KB8PPA** upgraded to Advanced. Welcome returning member **Colin AA3LM**.

## HAMFEST '99 IS A FINANCIAL SUCCESS

The 1999 hamfest earned a nice profit for the treasury. Gross receipts were \$5,585, and the net profit was \$3,655. This is nothing like what we used to earn back in the early '90s, when you could give a hamfest in a pig barn and people would crowd inside. But for an event like ours at this point in ham radio history, that kind of profit is very good indeed. All the volunteers who helped deserve a great deal of credit. If you weren't able to help this year, Hamfest 2000 will be on Sunday, July 16.

Attendance held its own. We did draw a number of excellent exhibitors/vendors, including but not limited to Denver Amateur Radio Supply, ARRL, CQ Publications, Gene's Computers (Frazer, PA), Printer World (Allentown, PA), Bill Plum's DX supplies, Q-Stick Antennas, and Larry & Joanne Stamm's badge engraving service. A special treat was the Old Radio Museum, a bus fitted out as a 1930's ham station by **John Dilks K2TQN**. He had over 300 visitors in the log and praised our hamfest as one of the best-organized ones he has attended. **Gene Mitchell K3DSM** of Gene's Computers put an APRS beacon on the air from the hamfest that drew some additional patrons. When you patronize these and other vendors, make sure to tell them you saw them at the MARC hamfest and hope to find them with us again next year.

**Gene WB3FTJ** and **Judy N3MBW** managed the club members' equipment sales table and made about \$70-\$80 for the club. **Bob W3ZQN** took over PA announcer duties at the last minute. **Peter N3DXY** managed talk-in. **Carter N3AO** sold over \$450 worth of ARRL publications, on which MARC gets a commission. A list of volunteers is on page 4.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD MEETINGS

The July 22 meeting of the MARC board did not have a quorum, so no business was transacted. Informally, those attending discussed the successful hamfest. **Steve N3ORH** reported that the club made \$730 from sale of the donated computers from Genuardi's. All computers have been sold. A member's complaint about the condition of the club's repeaters was duly noted.

The August 26 meeting included reports on upcoming public service events, future programs, and electronic *REMARCS*. The Board requested a proposal from **Steve N3ORH** for

replacing the packet BBS with an APRS station. Two Board members announced that they will not seek re-election in January. The Board authorized renting a storage closet for keeping Field Day and hamfest gear, as this has become a burden to the individual members who are housing the equipment now. The Board also authorized contacting the library to see if they would accept donation of a VCR for the meeting room. There was also discussion of the ongoing lack of telephone service for 147.06. The treasury balance was \$9,711.77.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S JUNK BOX

When Carter lost his wallet at the Acme, whoever found it, kept it. After waiting an hour, we called the police and then spent the afternoon canceling credit cards. Many hours later, the wallet turned up at Paoli post office. It had been dropped in a letter box minus cash, but with credit cards, driver's license, etc., all present and accounted for.

Now, you might say that batting .500 is not bad when we're dealing with the 20<sup>th</sup> century human species — *Homo duplicitus*, known to bird-watchers everywhere as the Common Scrooyoo. (*When I mix a metaphor, guys, it is well and truly mixed.*) Things could have been lots worse: bogus charges on the cards, identity-cloning ... nasty stuff.

Can you name all the credit cards and important documents in your wallet this minute? Neither can I. This is why we should take these items, arrange them in a photocopier, and make a record of what we're carrying. Date it. File it away safely. I used to do this, and then I got complacent. Not one of the smarter things I ever did!

One of the cards we had to cancel didn't print the customer service phone number on the card-stock information page that comes with each new card. Instead, the page said, "To report a lost or stolen card, call the number on the back of your card." Think about that one for a minute.

I hope you enjoyed ham radio this summer. Our MARC repeaters had their ups and downs, but there were band openings on VHF and some fun on HF as well. We had interesting club meeting programs, a good Field Day, and an encouraging hamfest. The ham bands are a nicer, cleaner place to play, thanks to the FCC's revived rules enforcement in the past year.

There's never been a better time to introduce a friend to ham radio. —  
**73 de Kay WT3P**

## AUGUST LICENSE TEST SESSION

Our August test session served 4 candidates. Two earned Tech licenses, one made Tech Plus, and the other went home a General. Eleven exam elements were administered, 9 of which were passed. The VE's were **Bob W3ZQN**, **Bob KA3NIQ**, **Dick K3ITH**, **Hugh N3HT**, and **Dennis K3DS**. In addition, **Tom K3YPO** assisted with the session.

**Bob W3ZQN** says, "Two of the candidates had been hams before (in the 60's) but had let their licenses lapse and now want to re-enter the hobby. One walked in with nothing and left with a Tech + with credit for 13 wpm code. The other walked in with nothing and left with a General with credit for 20 wpm code." It's good to hear about ex-hams returning to the family.

The next MARC test session will be on November 6. For information about MARC's tests, contact **Bob W3ZQN** (610-265-6032, [rjlees@aol.com](mailto:rjlees@aol.com)).

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1999

### PRESIDENT

**Tom Porett N3JMA 610-896-8413**  
[tporett@aol.com](mailto:tporett@aol.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

**Gene Hoenig WB3FTJ 610-353-3281**  
[ehoenig@pol.net](mailto:ehoenig@pol.net)

### SECRETARY

**Bob Haase W3SA 610-293-1919**  
[rhaase@bellatlantic.net](mailto:rhaase@bellatlantic.net)

### TREASURER

**Dave DePizzo KB3CRY 610-630-0129**  
[del131@msn.com](mailto:del131@msn.com)

### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

**Kay Craigie WT3P 610-993-9623**  
[wt3p@arri.net](mailto:wt3p@arri.net)

### PUBLIC RELATIONS

**Bill Owen W3KRB 610-325-3995**  
[gem@op.net](mailto:gem@op.net)

### PUBLIC SERVICE

**Bob Palin N3JIZ 610-687-4587**

### TECHNICAL

**Jeff Chapman WA3RIZ 610-265-6593**  
[jchapman@voicenet.com](mailto:jchapman@voicenet.com)

### PROGRAMS

**Dennis Silage K3DS 610-353-4829**  
[silage@vm.temple.edu](mailto:silage@vm.temple.edu)

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

**Al Maslin N3EA 610-446-4936**  
[amaslin@earthlink.net](mailto:amaslin@earthlink.net)

**Steve Maslin N3ORH 610-313-8080**  
[smaslin@fast.net](mailto:smaslin@fast.net)

### CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

**WB3JOE: Al Maslin N3EA 610-446-4936**, [amaslin@earthlink.net](mailto:amaslin@earthlink.net)

**W3NWA: Kay Craigie WT3P 610-993-9623**, [wt3p@arri.net](mailto:wt3p@arri.net)

## MORE ABOUT PROGRAMS

The November program will be about ARRL, circa 1936. Do you know what the League's HQ station callsign was at that time? The callsign in question is no longer associated with the ARRL ... a mystery for you to solve! If you go back a few years (even 10 or 20 qualifies as "a few"), bring in some memorabilia ... like shack photos and your past QSL cards ... to show &

tell. Ham radio has an exciting future, but it's fun and instructive to look at our history, too.

December will be the annual holiday party again. Do you have any ideas to make the party even more fun? Contact **Dennis K3DS** or a Member-at-Large with your suggestions.

See hamfest and Field Day photos on the Web at <http://www.marc-radio.org/>

## HAMFEST VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL

Mike Pilotti KF3CD  
Carter Craigie N3AO  
Paul Yoder WB3CEZ  
Shawn Conahan N3CGT  
David Del Pizzo KB3CRY  
Dave Wojciechowski  
KB3CXU  
Peter Wisner N3DXY  
Josy Malebranche WQ3E

Al Maslin N3EA  
Gene Hoenig WB3FTJ  
Brian Bowman WD0HGB  
Bob Palin N3JIZ  
Dan Milligan KA3KHR  
Bill Owen W3KRB  
Dan Toner W3LKD  
Colin Neal AA3LM  
Mitch Hyman W2MBH

Judy Hoenig N3MBW  
Paul Yoder, Jr. KA3MUD  
Charlie Higgins N3NQX  
Delores Higgins  
Steve Maslin N3ORH  
Kay Craigie WT3P  
Bob Josuweit WA3PZO  
Russ Hamilton K3RH  
Bob Haase W3SA

Branin Boyd N3SAM  
Steve Haly KD0VA  
Alex Montare KA2VLP  
Travis Lisk N3YLI  
Ned Smith WQ3Z  
Bob Lees W3ZQN

Please report additions to  
**Kay WT3P**

## UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM

*Continued from Page 1*

Starting August 16, hams registered in the ULS could file the new FCC Form 605 electronically. FCC Form 605 will be used for license renewals, modifications, cancellations, vanity call sign application, as well as requests for duplicate licenses and administrative updates (i.e., a change of address or other clerical license modification).

Applications for new or upgraded licenses will continue to be filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

The FCC will stop accepting most Form 610 applications next February 16. One feature of the new ULS is a renewal reminder sent 90 days prior to a license's expiration date. ULS also will simplify the process of submitting fees to the FCC, and the FCC said it

anticipates that the ULS will be capable of accepting credit card payments on-line in the near future.

Registration in the ULS is required. Applicants should use FCC Form 606 for both electronic or manual filing. To register online, visit <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration." A paper FCC Form 606 is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or from the Forms Distribution Center, 800-418-3676.

The FCC will not process future license grants, upgrades, modifications or renewals for any applicant not registered in the ULS. Individuals eligible to hold a Social Security Number (a.k.a. TIN) must provide this number to the FCC in order to be registered in ULS.

A copy of the July 23, 1999 Public Notice is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>.

"Washington Mailbox" in September QST answers most of your basic questions about ULS.

**Confused? Here's what it boils down to: Every ham must register in the ULS.**

**Kay WT3P has Form 606 in PDF format and can put it on paper for you if you can't get it any other way.**

**Be sure to read the "Washington Mailbox" column in September QST!**

## FLEA MARKET

**For sale:** Butternut vertical antenna (dual band, 80, 40 meters). New -- never assembled, never installed. Sells for \$229.95 (AES). Best offer over \$140.00. Contact **Gene WB3FTJ** at (610) 353-3281 or [ehoenig@pol.net](mailto:ehoenig@pol.net).

**For sale:** Pac Com PC 320 TNC for IBM computers. With DCD mod and real-time clock. \$75.00 Contact **Gene WB3FTJ** at (610) 353-3281 or [ehoenig@pol.net](mailto:ehoenig@pol.net).

**For sale:** Alpha 91B linear amplifier, all bands 10 - 160 meters, legal limit output. Warranty. \$2,100. Contact **Harry W3FM** (610-827-7374)

**Members' sale/trade/want ads** for ham gear and related equipment are printed free of charge. Contact **Kay WT3P** at (610) 993-9623 or [wt3p@arrl.net](mailto:wt3p@arrl.net). The next issue will appear in November. Ads may also be posted on the club Web page.

## ARRL ATLANTIC DIVISION ELECTION COMING SOON

ARRL members in the Atlantic Division will cast ballots for Vice Director this fall. Director **Kay Craigie WT3P** has no opponent for a third term as Director. Vice Director **Bernie Fuller N3EFN** from Saegertown, PA, is challenged by **John Buchanan KW3X** from La Plata, MD, in his bid for a third term. The new term begins January 1, 2000.

Ballots will be mailed on or about October 1 and will include statements by each candidate. All League members are encouraged to study the candidates' qualifications and vote. It really makes a difference who is Vice Director, because that is the person who must be prepared to fill in for the Director at any time.

If you would like to meet **Bernie Fuller N3EFN**, you can do so at the Pack Rats hamfest on October 3 at the Wrightstown Grange Fairgrounds. Speaking now as ARRL Director and not a MARC official, I encourage you to meet Bernie ... and to vote for him.



## HIRAM PERCY MAXIM 130<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY EVENT - MARC MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE

September marks the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of **Hiram Percy Maxim W1AW**, co-founder of the ARRL. September 2 - 11, ARRL volunteers and HQ staff will mark The Old Man's birthday with a special operating event any ham can play in. Hams who qualify may append /130 to their callsigns, and any ham can work a list of these special callsigns to qualify for a nice certificate.

MARC members, you can append /130 to your callsign if you're a League member who holds an ARRL appointment (ORS, OES, OBS, OO,

etc.), a Life Member, a VE or Awards Manager who's an ARRL member, a past or present elected official. Check the full list and other information in September QST. Operation may be on any ham band, any mode.

Repeater contacts are fine, but please be considerate of others and do not hog a repeater while running contacts.

Quite a few MARC members qualify to sign /130. Earning the certificate will be easy for hams on HF, but it will be more of a challenge for VHF licensees. Let's make sure that our /130 callsigns

are heard on the MARC (before or after nets would be a good time) so that all club members have a sporting chance to earn the wallpaper.

Some MARC members who qualify to sign /130 include **Kay WT3P**, **Carter N3AO**, **Al N3EA**, **Steve N3ORH**, **Bob W3ZQN**, **Bob WA3PZO**, **Ed W3BNR**, **Dennis K3DS**, **Steve K3KFD**, and **Bruce N3JOV**. If you're a Life Member or a VE who's an ARRL member, you're one, too. This event is a lot of fun ... get on the air and enjoy it.

## ARRL NATIONAL TRAFFIC SYSTEM IS 50 YEARS OLD - MARC WILL MARK IT

Although message relay has been part of the ARRL since day one (*which is why it's the American Radio RELAY League*), the National Traffic System as we know it was designed by **George Hart W1NJM** soon after hams came back on after World War II.

SSB and digital modes were added to the original CW, and appointment titles have changed, but Hart's fundamental concept of a hierarchical system of nets remains. For the history, see September QST.

MARC has had a Local NTS net for most of our existence. Ours is one of the few VHF traffic nets in Eastern PA Section. Several MARC members have held leadership appointments in NTS at the Section level.

MARC Net Manager **Carter N3AO** has designed a commemorative exercise for the net to note NTS's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You qualify for an ARRL patch or decal if you bring 5 new radiograms to the MARC traffic nets during the month of September. Don't know how to

format or transmit a radiogram? Our nets are training nets ... teaching you "how to" is what we're all about.

In NTS-speak, qualifying radiograms will be originations (you send a new message on behalf of someone other than yourself) or new messages sent on your own behalf (such as a hello to your Aunt Gertie in Wisconsin). Please refer questions about this operating challenge to **Carter N3AO**.

## OPERATING FUN

**Steve N1HDP** notes that there are 2m and 440 MHz repeaters at Disney World, in case you're planning a vacation there. The machines are on 147.300 (up 600, no tone), and on 442.000 (up 5.000, tone 103.5). They're sponsored by Disney employees' ham club. Back in the mid-1980's, Disney World staff would hassle you big-time for using an HT within the park, claiming it would interfere with park communications. If you adopted an attitude, they backed off, but it didn't add to the fun of the visit. Glad to hear of the change.

Whether you're an Honor Roll DXer or a wannabe like your editor, finding QSL routes is essential business if you're going to get cards for stations in less-common countries. A Web site to bookmark is **K4UTE's manager lookup service** at <http://users.southeast.net/~rhicks/k4ute.htm>. I've had good luck there finding current

addresses for overseas managers who aren't in the CD-ROM callbook.

**PSK31 Contest**, sponsored by the Chautauqua County Contest Club, 0000Z to 2359Z Sept 4, *PSK31 only*. 80 40 20 15 10 meters. Check September QST for further details, or <http://www.netsync.net/users/obrienaj/carc.htm>. This will be a good opportunity to meet other hams who are using this new and increasingly-popular digital mode.

**Air Force Anniversary QSO Party**, sponsored by the Director of Communications and Information, HQ, USAF. Celebrating the formation of the USAF (Sept 17, 1947), 0001Z Sept 18 to 2359Z Sept 19.

**CQ/RJ WW RTTY Contest**, sponsored by CQ magazine and *The New RTTY Journal*, 0000Z Sept 25 to 2400Z Sept 26. 80, 40, 20 15, 10

meters. See September QST for details on these and many other interesting operating challenges on various bands and modes.

**Pennsylvania QSO Party**, October 9-10, sponsored by the Nittany ARC of State College, PA. This is the biggest and best state QSO party of them all (*Ah shuddup, California!*). Activity is on phone and CW, mainly on 40 and 80 meters. MARC enters the club competition. If you need rules, entry forms, etc., talk to **Kay WT3P** or **Carter N3AO**. This event is just plain FUN and a great way to get a taste of competitive operating.

**Scout Jamboree on the Air**, October 16-17. Get some Scouts in your shack and enjoy! **Steve N1HDP** may have a Chester County Scouting angle. Contact him to find out. Get JOTA details from p. 49 of September QST.

## DEALING WITH MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE ON A REPEATER

Malicious interference is deliberate disruption of communications. Because of the capture effect, FM is particularly vulnerable to jamming. It can take many forms, including keying down to blot out users' transmissions, making rude body-function noises, playing back recordings, transmitting music, using nasty language ... and so on. It's intentional, not an operator's mistake or a fluke of propagation.

In our area, we refer to the losers who jam repeaters as "bananas."

Like people who make anonymous crank telephone calls, bananas thrive on others' distress. Authorities advise people who receive crank telephone calls simply to hang up. Anything you say to a crank caller rewards him. You can't reason with him, and blowing your stack really entertains him.

Similarly, when a banana interferes on a repeater (or any other ham radio frequency), the best thing to do is ignore the interference. If possible, continue the net or QSO just as if nothing were wrong. This is hard on FM, but do it. These head-cases are looking for attention and are trying to upset you. Don't feed their habit.

- ♦ Do not remark on interference in any way. Zip, zilch, nada!
- ♦ Do not respond in kind with insults, bad language, threats, etc.
- ♦ Keep a perfectly calm tone of voice. Don't let any irritation show.
- ♦ Do not carry on QSO's with ops who do not ID or who are using obviously invalid callsigns.
- ♦ Take note of any information you can: the nature of the interference (music, profanity, etc.), date and time, unusual voice qualities, etc.
- ♦ If you have a directional antenna and can shift your rig quickly to

the input frequency, see if you can get a bearing on the source.

- ♦ Avoid having QSO's with hams who brag about being involved in questionable on-air activities. They think they are celebrities. We know better. Shun them!
- ♦ Avoid discussing jammer problems on the air. You don't know who's listening to the repeater. It could be the banana, enjoying proof that he has caused trouble and attracted attention to himself.

Report repeater interference data to **WB3JOE** callsign trustee **AI N3EA**. If you have any questions about how to deal with a jammer, also contact AI.

It is important for us to advise new licensees how to react and how NOT to react to bananas. This education is best done off the air.

## PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

MARC will communicate for the Wyeth-Ayerst American Lung Association 5K run in Radnor, on October 31. Contact **Bob N3JIZ** (610-687-4587) to get on the list..

The Valley Forge Chapter, Vietnam Veterans run will be on November 14 at the Norristown Farm Park. We'll have more information in the next

newsletter. However, if you would like to communicate for that event, contact **Bob N3JIZ** now to get on the list.

Main Line Volunteer Force's "Christmas in July" campaign brought in about \$20,000 worth of donated food and household supplies for food cupboards serving disadvantaged families in our area. About a dozen

bags were donated by MARC members. Thanks to all who took part in this community service project. Stand by for word on other MLVF projects coming up later in the year. MARC is the only non-profit corporation affiliated with MLVF! Our club was listed in many local newspaper articles that reported on the charity food drive.

## LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR CLUB

Several important club leadership positions will be open in 2000.

- ♦ President. **Tom N3JMA** is in his second consecutive term and cannot run again for that office.
- ♦ Technical. **Jeff WA3RIZ** will not seek re-election to the position he has held since 1993.
- ♦ Programs. **Dennis K3DS** will not seek re-election for a third year. He must teach a course at Temple on Thursday evenings.
- ♦ Field Day. **Carter N3AO** has been Field Day captain for quite a few years and has decided it is someone else's turn.
- ♦ Hamfest. **Mike KF3CD** will chair the hamfest next year. However, family obligations make it impossible for him to attend the event itself. We must have someone to serve as Mike's assistant chairman, to be in charge on hamfest weekend.

Look at that list. Without qualified people in those positions, we don't have much of a club, do we? At this time, it's not known whether other Board members will seek re-election or not. More openings could appear by the time we have to get serious about assembling a slate for 2000.

There are ham clubs whose main thing is getting together for a monthly shmoose. They don't do repeaters, or Field Day, or hamfests, or even programs. That's fine, for them. But that isn't the club you joined, when you joined MARC. If you want to keep the club you joined, then you need to consider how you will respond to the leadership opportunities that arise at election time and throughout the year.

"Elections aren't until January. Field Day is next June. The hamfest is next July. What's the hurry?" Planning for these events must be started well ahead of time. As in, "now," when we have so many spots to fill. Think about the kind of club you want ... and decide what you need to do, in order to have it.

## AREA HAMFEST CALENDAR

September 18	Delaware-Lehigh ARC - Schnecksville, PA
September 19	York Hamfest - York, PA
September 25	South Jersey Radio Association - Mt. Holly, NJ
September 26	Foundation for Amateur Radio - Bowie, MD
October 3	Pack Rats - Wrightstown, PA
October 17	RF Hill ARC - Sellersville, PA

**Notes:** The York Hamfest is at York County Vo-Tech, not the county fairgrounds. The Foundation for Amateur Radio Hamfest, formerly known as "Gaithersburg," has moved to Bowie and changed weekends. The Pack Rats have moved to the Wrightstown Grange Fairgrounds, site of Warminster ARC's hamfest, because the old Route 611 Drive-In has been demolished and re-developed as a store.

ARRL's national hamfest calendar on-line is now fully searchable. You can find just the hamfests you want to know about, without having to sift through a huge text file. Check it out at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>. Also see the Atlantic Division hamfest calendar at <http://www.bfdin.com/atlantic/index.htm>.

**WE NEED PEOPLE TO TAKE MARC HAMFEST FLYERS TO MOST OF THESE 'FESTS! Contact Kay WT3P if you can help.**

## SOME NEIGHBOR CLUB WEB PAGES

It's fun to look at other clubs' Web pages to see what they are doing. Here are a few to check out for our neighbor clubs.

Delaware County ARA	<a href="http://www.qsl.net/dcara/">http://www.qsl.net/dcara/</a>
Frankford RC	<a href="http://www.frc-contest.org/">http://www.frc-contest.org/</a>
Holmesburg ARC	<a href="http://www.harcnet.org/">http://www.harcnet.org/</a>
Marple Newtown ARC	<a href="http://www.op.net/~goldman/mnarc/">http://www.op.net/~goldman/mnarc/</a>
Mt. Airy VHF RC	<a href="http://www.ij.net/packrats">http://www.ij.net/packrats</a>
Philadelphia Area Repeater Assn.	<a href="http://para.buxcom.net/">http://para.buxcom.net/</a>
Phil-Mont Mobile RC	<a href="http://www.phil-mont.org/">http://www.phil-mont.org/</a>
Pottstown Area Repeater Team	<a href="http://www.worldlynx.net/w3bnr/part.html">http://www.worldlynx.net/w3bnr/part.html</a>
RF Hill ARC	<a href="http://www.rfhill.ampr.org/">http://www.rfhill.ampr.org/</a>
Spark Lodge ARC	<a href="http://www.k3bsa.org/">http://www.k3bsa.org/</a>
Temple University ARC	<a href="http://www.temple.edu/radio_club/">http://www.temple.edu/radio_club/</a>
University of Pennsylvania ARC	<a href="http://www.offto.com/n3kz/index.html">http://www.offto.com/n3kz/index.html</a>
Warminster ARC	<a href="http://www.voicenet.com/~k3dn/">http://www.voicenet.com/~k3dn/</a>

These and other club Web pages are linked to the ARRL Atlantic Division page at <http://www.bfdin.com/atlantic/index.htm>. When you see something you like on a club Web page, please take a minute to send an e-mail to the Webmaster. These people are volunteers.

## 145.13 REPEATER UPDATE

**Steve N3ORH** writes on July 26: "Unfortunately, we were not able to get the .13 repeater on-air at my place this weekend. We did have a lot of help: **Jeff WA3RIZ**, **Bob N3JIZ**, **Dave KB3CRY**, and myself. **Ned WQ3Z** offered his services as well, but we did not need him. We got the antenna together, and while Jeff was putting the repeater together, I noticed I didn't have a grounded outlet in there. So luckily Bob is an electrician and checked it out. Well, it turns out that the work we had the previous owners do to the house was only partially done.

There is a ground wire going from the house to the garage. However, in my attic, there are several junction boxes, which then do not relay the ground back to the fuse box. Also it turns out there is another outlet inside my house that is connected into that circuit, and it's my upright freezer. So, needless to say, I have some power problems in my house I didn't know about. The repeater is completely assembled, and the antenna is mostly assembled as well. LETS FIND A PLACE FOR IT! "

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES AND MARC STUFF

**Club logo callsign badges.** These cost \$6.50 and feature the MARC logo in gold color on a blue badge with white lettering.

**Callsign tags for car and shack.** Mid-Atlantic ARC tags, customized with your callsign. Great for the front of your car, or for hanging on the shack wall. They cost \$12 if picked up at a club meeting, or \$14 if shipped to you.

**License study materials.** ARRL video courses for Tech through Advanced, ARRL manual for Extra class. These are

available to be borrowed by club members for themselves and their family members.

**Morse code software.** SuperMorse is a DOS shareware program. Copies provided free to club members on request.

Contact Membership Services chairman **Kay WT3P** (610-993-9623, [wt3p@arrl.net](mailto:wt3p@arrl.net)) about these club benefits and "stuff."