



Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club

www.marc-radio.org

P.O. BOX 557
EAGLEVILLE, PA
19408

REMARCS

Next Meeting: Jan.18, 2011 at 7:30 PM

January/February 2011

MARC Honors Past President Dieter Hauer, K3DK

MARC President **Steve Werner, KD3WK** presented past President **Dieter Hauer, K3DK** with a special plaque at the Board Meeting on November 9, 2010. This award was given to Dieter for all he has done for the club, especially over the past three years. Dieter has been a board member, President, REMARCS Newsletter Editor and Field Day Captain. He took over these responsibilities at a critical time in MARC's history. Past President, **Steve Maslin N3ORH** was moving to Florida and perennial board members **Carter Craigie N3AO** and **Kay Craigie N3KN** were moving to Virginia. Dieter stepped right in and kept the club thriving.



Current President Steve Werner KD3WK (left) presents Award to Past President Dieter Hauer K3DK (right)

The inscription on the plaque reads:
"Presented to DIETER HAUER, K3DK In Recognition of His Outstanding Service to the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club 2010"

Although Dieter declined to run for another term as President, he remains on the board as trustee of the MARC callsign W3NWA.

VOX

Former MARC President and current member, **Al Maslin N3EA**, and your REMARCS Editor, **Steve Ikler WA2EAJ**, are neighbors down in South Florida. These snowbirds live only a few miles apart in Palm Beach County. Al enjoys spending the winters in South Florida with his wife Nina, as does Steve along with his wife Gail. Al and Steve recently met for lunch near their homes. It was an unusually cool day in Florida and that explains the need for jackets.



Al N3EA (left) Steve WA2EAJ (right)

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Gerry Cechony W3GER is going to be teaching "Introduction to Ham Radio" in March. This course will be offered through the "Mt. Airy Learning Tree".

Welcome to new MARC members **Brenden McNeil W3VD** and **Tony Lamorgese KA3CBS**. Congrats to Brenden on his recent upgrade to Extra.

Letter From the MARC President

Dear Fellow MARC Members:

We should all be proud of what was accomplished by the club during 2010, including:

- Significant increase in dues paying members
- A number of our members upgraded their licenses through our Volunteer Exam program
- Our VE program also assisted a number of non-MARC members to become licensed and to start enjoying ham radio
- Major improvements were made to our 2 meter and 440 repeaters
- MARC provided valuable communications for numerous local public service events
- More than half of our membership responded to the club survey and the results will assist the Board develop new programs and other activities to help keep MARC vibrant and of value to all members.

I am looking forward to seeing and working with all of you in 2011.

On behalf of the entire Board, I want to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families best wishes for the holidays and a safe and happy of New Year.

73/KD3WK
Steve – MARC President

Upcoming MARC Meetings

January 18, 2011 at 7:30 PM - D-Star demo by **Mark Hinkel WA3QVU**. He will bring his DV Dongle and Dvap to the meeting for a demonstration.

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

Other dates to Remember:

June 25-26, 2011 – ARRL Field Day
July 17, 2011 – MARC Hamfest in Kimberton, PA

MARC Info

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS -

3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 PM (Doors open at 7:00 PM)
Community Meeting Room (in the front) of the
Tredyffrin Township Municipal Building, 1100
DuPortail Road, Berwyn, PA 19312-1079.
Guests Welcome, Smoke Free, Handicapped-
accessible.

BOARD MEETINGS -

2nd Tuesdays of even months, 7:30 PM
Paoli Hospital, Willistown Meeting Room, Paoli, PA.
Members may attend as observers.

WB3JOE REPEATERS (CTCSS or PL = 131.8 hz) -
145.130 - / 147.060 + / 224.420 - / 445.675 -
The 2-meter repeaters are linked.

WEBMASTER -

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

2-METER NETS -

Club Net, Sundays and Wednesdays, 8:30 PM
Roundtable Net, Thursdays, 8:30 PM
These nets occur on linked 145.13 - / 147.06 + Repeater

NET MANAGER –

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

NET CONTROL OPS –

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

DUES – Payable at the March Meeting

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

NEWSLETTER -

The REMARCS editor is Steve WA2EAJ
610-662-2768 wa2eai@marc-radio.org
Do you have anything for REMARCS?
Please let me know.

MARC Board Meeting Minutes

MARC Board Meeting

November 9, 2010

Board members present: Steve KD3WK, Steve WA2EAJ, Allan AB3FN, Dieter K3DK, Bob N3JIZ, Lou WX3I, Jim W3DCL, Dennis K3DS, Miguel KC2HMG, Gerry W3GER

President **Steve KD3WK** called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM.

Treasurer **Lou WX3I** rendered his report: The current bank balance is \$11,239.74. Cash on hand \$516.47. It may be possible to eliminate the \$63.60 monthly rental for the storage locker (see further below).

A plaque was awarded to **Dieter K3DK** in recognition of his outstanding recent service as President.

Regarding tax status, it is believed that the club once had 501(c)(4) status, but it is unclear whether this still holds. A CPA will be contacted to check into the matter.

Regarding the archive, **Kay N3KN** is in the process of sending archival material to **Steve KD3WK**. A meeting with **Marlene WA3UOC** was postponed because of a death in Marlene's family.

Dennis K3DS provided cost information (invoices) for the new repeater equipment, and insurance will be promptly obtained, probably through the ARRL, at an estimated cost of approximately \$100/yr.

There have been problems with the website ISP forwarding email sent through @marc-radio.org. At least some of these problems have been cleared up in a telephone consultation between the ISP and **Dieter K3DK**. **Gerry W3GER** will investigate whether any problems remain.

The club's storage shed is a significant expense, which may be possible to eliminate. **Dennis K3DS** will be able to store some of the long items (masts, push-up poles, etc.). Other contents of the shed can probably be discarded or distributed. A workday will be scheduled at the shed to attend to these matters.

The Holiday party will be held at the Uno Chicago Grill in Newtown Square. They offer a variety of "party platters" of which it was agreed we would purchase one of each variety for a total cost \$539.28 (incl. gratuity and tax). Diners will select food buffet-style from these party platters. The party will be subsidized about 50%-- a member and one guest can attend for \$10/person; additional guests or non-members can attend for the estimated full price of \$20/person. **Gerry W3GER** will notify the membership ASAP. Payment must be received by Saturday, November 27.

It has recently been determined that the 147.06 repeater antenna, now 18 years old, resonates at 155 MHz. An expenditure of \$500 has been tentatively approved for a replacement.

MARC Board of Directors 2010-2011

PRESIDENT

Steven Werner KD3WK

kd3wk@marc-radio.org 610-574-6836

VICE PRESIDENT

Stephen Ikler WA2EAJ

wa2eaj@marc-radio.org 610-662-2768

SECRETARY

Gerry Cechony W3GER

w3ger@marc-radio.org 215-247-2373

TREASURER

Lou Ruh WX3I

wx3i@marc-radio.org 610-630-9146

PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ

n3jiz@marc-radio.org 610-687-4587

TECHNICAL SERVICE

Dennis Silage K3DS

k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Allan Glaser AB3FN

ab3fn@marc-radio.org 610-687-0928

PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Jim Biddle W3DCL

w3dcl@marc-radio.org 610-353-0880

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2012 -

Doug Wilkens NE3U

ne3u@marc-radio.org 610-692-6819

To 9/30/2011 -

Miguel Ramirez KC2HMG

kc2hmg@marc-radio.org 267-474-6557

CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

- WB3JOE

Dennis Silage K3DS

k3ds@marc-radio.org 610-353-4829

- W3NWA

Dieter Hauer K3DK

k3dk@marc-radio.org 610-489-1920

From the Editor's Shack

The regular meeting on Tuesday, November 16, will feature the presentation of "whacky keys" (as announced at the October meeting), and a presentation on space-station communication by **Doug Poole, N3NZZ**.

It was discussed whether to publish the results of VE licensing tests in local newspapers. It was decided that the names of people who pass may be published since they will soon be receiving FCC licenses, which are on the public record, but no information should be published concerning applicants who do not pass.

There will be a public service event on November 14. A new supply of hats and orange vests will soon be needed for PS events.

Miguel KC2HMG has lined up a few net-control operators, but could use more.

The REMARCS newsletter will not be posted on the website until one month after normal email publication. Distribution by postal mail may be discontinued, since virtually all members who receive it that way have email addresses.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 PM. The next Board meeting is scheduled for the second Tuesday in February. The next General meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16.

Respectfully submitted,
Gerry W3GER
 MARC Secretary

MARC Holiday Party

MARC held its annual Holiday Party on December 4, 2010 at the Uno Chicago Grill in Newtown Square, PA. The party was held in place of the regular monthly meeting. The party was a brunch on a weekend rather than a weekday evening event.

The Club subsidized this event and plans to have it again next year. The Uno Grill provided a separate dining room with fireplace and flat screen TV for the Cincinnati verses Pittsburgh college football game. Club members were treated to a three-course luncheon with individual appetizer, entree and dessert.

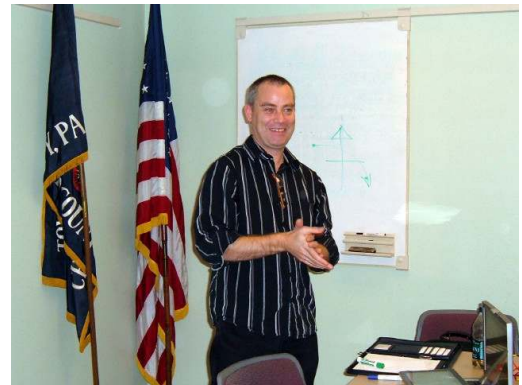


As I write this, we are nearing the end of 2010. A common practice at the end of the year is the remembering of those who are no longer with us. MARC would like to take this opportunity to remember former members who have passed away. Their keys may be silent but their memories are forever in our hearts.

MARC Remembers:

Carole Lentz	AD1P	Stan Greenstein	N3CUS
Dick Thompson	K3IIN	Mary Kittel	N3DAU
Ron Dudek	K3LIC	Wally Wopatek	N3DFO
Harry Klaus	K3MHM	Hugh Toole	N3HT
Ray Robinson	K3OYP	Norm Nields	N3KNW
Millard "Doc" Croll	K3PTQ	Harry Kenosian	W1JZW
Susan Persing	K3SUE	Lou Seltzer	W3COG
Dick Frick	K3SXR	John Edmonds	W3CX
Stu Silverstein	K3UEI	Bill Denk	W3IGU
Tom Powell	K3YPD	Link Hartz	W3IVS
Pete Essl	K3ZFG	Nat Boonin	W3JS
Joe Sankowicz	K3ZQH	Harry Lentz	W3KCD
Mike Dunn	KA3FSE	John Struthers	W3KIR
Art Mangani	KA3LYM	Jack Ditton	W3KQJ
Gordon Bitterlich	KA3NKZ	Bill Owen	W3KRB
Kim Josuweit	KB3COV	Cliff Bader	W3NNL
Emanuel Perry	KB3GBW	Bob Young	W3NWA
Jon Wederbrand	KD2YN	Bob Haase	W3SA
Don Walker	KD3AY	Blake Butcher	W4MSZ
Jim Cothran	KD3N	Larry Ferrari	WA2MKI
Bob Montgomery	KT3O	Walt Sharrar	WA3PPW
Hal Lytle	N3APK	John Bartholomew	WB3ELA
Andy Haig	N3AZW	Walt Hoffritz	WB3IOG
Gardiner Pearson	N3BF	Dick Stauffer	WB3JCE
Ray Steever	N3BPJ	Frank Bissell	

At the November 16 General Membership Meeting, **Doug Poole N3NZZ** gave an impressive and detailed presentation of his setup for contacting the International Space Station and other ham radio satellites. Thanks, Doug, for an excellent presentation.



Doug Poole N3NZZ giving presentation

Thank you to all the members who responded to the recent MARC Online Survey. An impressive 48 members took time to provide valuable feedback on all aspects of club activity. While going through some MARC archives, we uncovered a survey done by the club back in 1994. We are currently analyzing the results of the current survey and will be comparing the results to the previous one. After the Board has had an opportunity to see the results, they will be shared with the general membership. There is an article planned for the next newsletter about the survey results.

I would also like to wish all MARC members, their families and friends a Happy Holiday season and a great New Year.

73, **Steve WA2EAJ**

New MARC Yahoo Group

MARC has created a new Yahoo group. Yahoo Groups work like a bulletin board system. Messages may be posted to the bulletin board and all subscribers may read and reply to the message. The MARC Yahoo Group is for members of the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club. The purpose of this group is to foster communications between and to distribute information to club members. Posts about ham radio related items 'For Sale' and 'Wanted' may be posted to this group. However, commercial ads are not allowed. MARC accepts no responsibility for any transactions resulting from 'For Sale' or 'Wanted' ads posted to this group. The group is moderated, meaning that the moderators must approve requests for membership to this Yahoo group. Group members may choose to receive posts via email or by the website only.

Earlier in December, members received a pre-approved invitation to join this Yahoo Group. In order to join, members should have a Yahoo account. If you don't already have one, a free account can be created. There are several options to receive messages posted to the group. You can receive individual emails for each message posted to the group, a single daily digest email containing all the messages posted to the group the previous day, or only special messages from the group. You can also use the Yahoo Groups website to read and reply to group messages. Emails sent to group members are sent to the email address you setup when you join the MARC Yahoo Group.

By using this Yahoo Group, members can communicate with other subscribed MARC members without having to use the MARC mailing lists, which need board member approval. Yahoo Groups also allows subscribers to post files, links and photos to the group. The MARC mailing lists will continue to be the primary way the club communicates with its members. This Yahoo Group is a secondary communications tool.

To join the MARC Yahoo Group, go to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/marc-radio>

Click on the "Join This Group!" button. If you aren't already logged into your Yahoo account, you will be asked to log in. Since the Group is moderated, your request for membership must be approved by one of the group moderators. If you are

a current or former MARC member or a friend of MARC, you will probably be approved. We hope you will choose to join this new group and make use of all that is offered.

MARC CW Key Building Challenge (Part 2)

At the October 19, 2010 meeting, **Steve WA2EAJ**, introduced the CW Key Building Challenge. **Jari Vainio, OH6DC** has a website showing many weird and wacky CW keys he has built out of everyday items like neck ties, speed skates, paper cups, nail clippers, bananas and many more. His website shows how they are built and includes a short video of the keys in operation. These keys are really very funny. Here is the URL to his site:

<http://sites.google.com/site/oh6dccw/strangecwkeys>

Steve WA2EAJ presented part 2 of the MARC CW Key Building Challenge at the November 16, 2010 meeting. Three homemade keys were shown. **Mike KF3CD** showed us his work glove CW key. Metal grommets were placed at the tips of the thumb and index finger. Tapping these fingers together keyed the code practice oscillator. **Steve WA2EAJ** showed his QSL card CW key. Two old QSL cards were stapled together at one end and the other end had paper clips connected to the lead wires and were separated by weather stripping. You pressed the cards together to generate the CW. Steve also showed his pocket protector CW key. You place the pocket protector in your pocket and press it against your chest to generate the CW. Inside the pocket protector are two bare wires separated by weather stripping. As the winner of the contest, **Mike KF3CD** was awarded a Digital Multi-Meter.



Mike KF3CD showing off his work glove CW key. In the background were **Bill N3NUL**, **Ned WQ3Z**, and **Bob KB3QAJ**.

VE Test Sessions

MARC provides VE Test Sessions quarterly on the first Saturday of the months of February, May, August and November at 0900 and hosted by the First Presbyterian Church, 113 East Airy Street (corner of Airy Street and Dekalb

Street which is one-way US 202 North) in Norristown, PA. The VE Test Sessions are held in the Church and coordinated by **Bob Lees W3ZQN**. You can visit the MARC website for a detailed map that includes directions and parking instructions.

Here are the test session results for November 6, 2010:

Technician Earned	1
General Earned	0
Extra Earned	1
Passed an element but did not upgrade	0
Did not pass an element	1
Total Candidates Served	3
Total Elements Administered	3

No MARC members took advantage of the free test session.

The following Volunteer Examiners (VE) took part in the session: **Bob W3ZQN, Josy WQ3E, Ron W3ZV, Ned WQ3Z, Dennis K3DS, Dick K3ITH, and Joe W3JBS** (JBS brought a candidate to the session and we gave him credit for participating).

The next test session will be on Saturday, February 5, 2011 in Norristown, PA. **YOU MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THE VE TEST SESSION!** For more information or to register, please contact **Bob Lees W3ZQN** at rjlees@aol.com.

Public Service Events

On Saturday, October 30, 2010 MARC provided communications support for the Penn Wynne Library 5K Run. The run was sponsored by and benefited the Penn Wynne Library. Participating for MARC were **Bob N3JIZ, Doug NE3U, Floyd KA3OXA** and **Steve WA2EAJ**.



(L-R) Steve WA2EAJ, Bob N3JIZ, Doug NE3U, Floyd KA3OXA at the Penn Wynne Library Run

Just one day later, on Sunday, October 31, 2010 MARC provided communications support for the 5 Mile Radnor Run. The run was sponsored by Penn Medicine at Radnor and benefits the American Lung Association in Pennsylvania. Participating for MARC were **Bob N3JIZ** and **Steve WA2EAJ**.

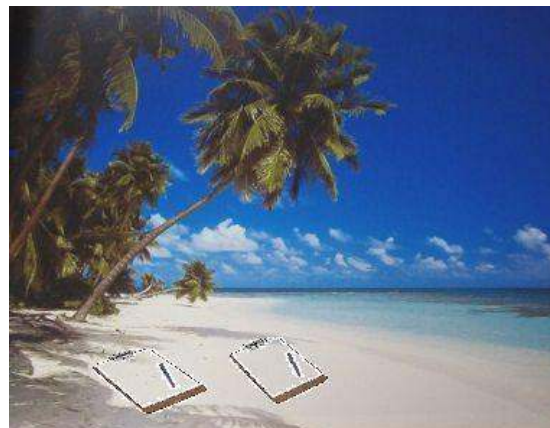
The last public service event on the schedule this year was

the Vietnam Veterans Run. The event took place at the Norristown Farm Park at North Wales and Germantown Pike on Sunday, November 14, 2010. Proceeds from the run benefit Vietnam Veterans community projects. Vietnam Veterans of America Valley Forge Chapter 349 sponsored the run. Participating for MARC were **John KB3SJV, Ryan KB3MPX, Sam WA3LGL, Bob N3JIZ, and Ron W3ZV**.



(L-R) John KB3SJV, Ryan KB3MPX, Sam WA3LGL, and Bob N3JIZ at the Vietnam Veterans Run
Missing: Ron W3ZV (Photo by John Dizenzo KB3SJV)

A roving reporter for REMARCS filed this exclusive report. The Public Service clipboards have been spotted on an island in the Caribbean.



Favorite Ham Radio Websites

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

Here is a cute ham radio video from YouTube. Especially appropriate for the season. It's called a "Ham's Night Before Christmas".

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ailFghtEKsc&feature=youtu.be_qdata_player

www.dxwatch.com/ A worldwide DX cluster that allows you to watch and post DX spots on all bands or you can select filters to watch just certain bands and modes.

www.hfpack.com - Devoted to portable operating, they also have a bunch of videos on YouTube, just search hfpack.

<http://www.bmha-hams.org/> - Bicycle Mobile Hams of America

www.qth.com - A great site for free ham radio classified ads. I have placed free ads on this site and received calls and sold equipment in under an hour! (KF3CD)

<http://www.planetofnoise.com/midi/morse2mid.php> - A morse code ring tone generator for smart phones.

Hamfests and Contests

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

Winterfest

Date: 01/15/2011

Location: Paxtang Firehouse

3423 Derry Street

Harrisburg, PA 17101

Website: <http://www.w3uu.org>

Sponsor: Harrisburg Radio Amateurs Club

Type: non-ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 100)

Public Contact: Glenn Kurzenknabe , K3SWZ

23 Carriage Road New Cumberland, PA 17070

Phone: 717-774-1728

Email: k3swz@arrl.net

Contests

ARRL RTTY Roundup

1800Z, Jan 8 to 2400Z, Jan 9, 2011

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

North American QSO Party, CW

1800Z, Jan 8 to 0600Z, Jan 9, 2011

Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php>

North American QSO Party, SSB

1800Z, Jan 15 to 0600Z, Jan 16

Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php>

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest

0000Z, Feb 12 to 2400Z, Feb 13

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

ARRL International DX Contest, CW

0000Z, Feb 19 to 2400Z, Feb 20

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

North American QSO Party, RTTY

1800Z, Feb 26 to 0600Z, Feb 27

Find rules at: <http://www.ncjweb.com/naqprules.php>