



Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club

www.marc-radio.org

P.O. BOX 557  
EAGLEVILLE, PA  
19408

# REMARCS

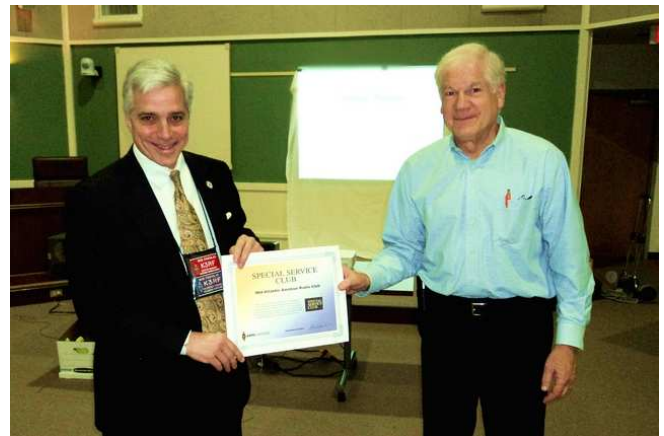
**Next Meeting: Feb 18, 2014 at 7:30 PM**

**Jan/Feb 2014**

## MARC Receives ARRL Special Services Club Recognition from Section Manager

The ARRL awards the Special Services Club (SSC) designation to ARRL affiliated clubs who go the extra mile to provide ongoing training and community service.

“The SSC is a special program that exists to recognize those clubs who do more than the usual for their communities and for Amateur Radio. These well-rounded groups are the Special Services Clubs (SSCs). SSCs are the leaders in their Amateur Radio communities. They're the ones with the active training classes, the publicity program and the members who actively pursue technical projects and operating activities.”  
(from the ARRL Active Club Online Primer)



EPA Section Manager Bob Famiglio K3RF (on left) presenting SSC Certificate to MARC President Steve Werner KD3WK



MARC has been an SSC for several years now but we recently went through a renewal process. The ARRL approved our renewal application and Eastern PA Section Manager, Bob Famiglio K3RF, was in attendance at our November general membership meeting to present the new certificate to us in person. Congratulations to MARC for this achievement.

## 2014 MARC Hamfest

Bill Dobson, III, N3WD will be attending our hamfest again this year and will provide DXCC, WAS, VUCC and WAC card checking, and will also be selling envelopes for the W3 QSL Bureau. The hamfest will be on Saturday, July 12, 2014 at the Kimberton Fairgrounds in Kimberton, PA. Note that this year's hamfest will be on Saturday rather than the usual Sunday.

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## MARC 2013 Holiday Party a Great Success

MARC held its annual Holiday Party on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at noon at Uno Chicago Grill, 3910 West Chester Pike, Newtown Square, PA 19073. There were 24 members and guests in attendance.



As announced previously, the MARC Board approved a program to encourage members to volunteer for various club activities such as public service events, VE test sessions, running our on-air nets, giving presentations at club meetings, writing articles for our newsletter REMARCS, Field day participation, hamfest participation, Kimberton Fair service, etc. The award for volunteering would be that the member would be eligible for a random drawing of a \$100 gift certificate from Ham Radio Outlet. The award was made at the Holiday Party and this year's winner was **Anthony 'Yak' Yakonick N3MQM**. Congratulations, Yak!



## MARC Info

[wb3joe@marc-radio.org](mailto:wb3joe@marc-radio.org)  
<http://www.marc-radio.org>

### MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS -

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

### BOARD MEETINGS -

2nd Tuesdays of even months, 7:00 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 + / 147.360 + / 224.420 - / 224.5 -  
/ 445.675 - / 444.050 -

The 145.13 and 147.06 2-meter repeaters are linked. The  
147.36 MHz, the 224.50 MHz and the 444.050 MHz  
repeaters are linked.

### WEBMASTER -

Dennis Silage K3DS  
[k3ds@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3ds@marc-radio.org) 610-353-4829

### 2-METER NETS -

Club Net, Sundays and Wednesdays, 8:30 PM  
Roundtable Net, Thursdays, 8:30 PM

These nets occur on linked 145.13 - / 147.06 + Repeaters

### NET MANAGER -

Anthony "Yak" Yakonick N3MQM  
[anthonyturns@yahoo.com](mailto:anthonyturns@yahoo.com)

### NET CONTROL OPS -

Alan K3WWT, Bob N3JIZ, Steve N1HDP, Miguel  
KC2HMG, Yak N3MQM, Rob KB3WIR, Brenden W3VD,  
Mike WB2UQV and Bob WB3T

### 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 KS3K  
610-662-2768 [ks3k@marc-radio.org](mailto:ks3k@marc-radio.org)  
Do you have anything for REMARCS?  
Please let me know.

## Remarks From the MARC President

Fellow MARC members – another year is upon us. I trust you all had a safe and happy holiday season and that you are all looking forward to a ‘radioactive’ 2014.

We finished 2013 with a great Holiday party at Chicago Uno in Newtown Square where we have celebrated for the past three years. We had more than 20 attendees. Some good camaraderie and a great way to spend some time with our fellow club members. In late 2013, the MARC Board authorized awarding a prize based on members participation in various ‘qualifying events’ that included participation in public service events, helping out at Field Day and net control operations. Each time a member participated in a qualifying event they were awarded a ‘chit’ – all chits were placed in a hat for a drawing at the Holiday Party. Yak (N3MQM) won the drawing, giving him a \$100 gift certificate to Ham Radio Outlet. Congratulations to Yak and thanks to everyone who participated in our activities in 2013. The award program will continue in 2014 and beyond.

Unfortunately our January meeting was cancelled due to winter weather. However, our scheduled speaker – Joe Stratton W3JBS – will be rescheduled so you will be able to hear his presentation on GPS devices. We have a number of great presentations coming up in 2014 and I hope to see you at our upcoming meetings.

Field Day will be June 28/29 and we will be scheduling a day when we can review all of our equipment to make sure everything is working well. We may be looking to replace some of our transmission lines that appeared faulty at last year’s event.

As you know, MARC has become more active with the Boy Scouts. This year we are looking to set up a station at the West Chester Scout headquarters to assist in the celebration of the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event – October 18/19. We will be looking for volunteers so please keep the date in mind.

I hope you all enjoy a safe winter and I look forward to seeing you all at future MARC meetings and other events.

73/Steve Werner – KD3WK  
MARC President

## MARC Board of Directors 2013-2014

### PRESIDENT

Steven Werner KD3WK

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

### VICE PRESIDENT

Stephen Ikler KS3K

[ks3k@marc-radio.org](mailto:ks3k@marc-radio.org) 610-662-2768

### SECRETARY

Sal Marandola NC3U

[nc3u@marc-radio.org](mailto:nc3u@marc-radio.org) 610-306-2817

### TREASURER

Lou Ruh WX3I

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

### PUBLIC SERVICE

Bob Palin N3JIZ

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

### TECHNICAL SERVICE

Dennis Silage K3DS

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

### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES CHAIRMAN

Chris Ruhl N3GBJ

[n3gbi@marc-radio.org](mailto:n3gbi@marc-radio.org) 484-494-7572

### PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Jim Biddle W3DCL

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

### PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

Richard Russo KB3VZL

[k3bvzl@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3bvzl@marc-radio.org) 610-539-2999

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

To 9/30/2014 -

Doug Wilkens NE3U

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

To 9/30/2015 -

Jim Smith K3RTU

[k3rtu@marc-radio.org](mailto:k3rtu@marc-radio.org) 610-494-5897

### CALLSIGN TRUSTEES

- WB3JOE

Dennis Silage K3DS

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

- W3NWA

Dieter Hauer K3DK

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

## Upcoming General Membership Meetings

February 18, 2013 – **Jim Smith K3RTU** - QRP Operation.

March 18, 2014 – **Mile Pilotti KF3CD** - Bicycle Mobile.

April 15, 2014 – Annual MARC Junque Auction. **Dennis K3DS** will be our auctioneer.

May 20, 2014 - Montgomery County Emergency Services MCAR, ARES and RACES.

June, 2014 – No monthly meeting due to ARRL Field Day.

MARC usually meets the third Tuesday of the month in the Large Meeting Room (in the front) of the Tredyffrin Township Municipal Building, 1100 DuPortail Road, Berwyn, PA 19312-1079. If unavoidable changes in the date or location of the MARC meeting is anticipated, the details will be announced on the Nets and posted on the Calendar.

Beginning at 7:30 PM and following a short round of introductions, announcements, Club reports and business, a lively technical program is provided. See the Calendar on the MARC website for details.

The schedule of Club meetings is interrupted in June because of Field Day and in December with a joyous MARC Holiday party. The current schedule of Club meetings and the topic of discussion is announced on the weekly MARC Nets.

## VOX

MARC welcomes the following new member: **Brandon Montgomery KC3BBM**.

In January, **Bob Josuweit WA3PZO** earned a spot on the CQ WPX SSB Honor Roll. To make the honor roll you need to have confirmed contacts (in this case SSB) with at least 600 different prefixes. Currently there are only 125 people worldwide on the CQ WPX SSB Honor Roll. Congratulations to Bob!

Each year QST magazine has an article soliciting nominations for the Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award. The award is given for excellence in ham radio public relations in the non-amateur community. In their annual call for nominations, QST publishes a list of previous winners. We are therefore reminded that two of those previous winners were, and still are, members of MARC. In 1996 the award was given to **Bob Josuweit WA3PZO** and in the following year it was given to **Jim Biddle now W3DCL**. Congratulations again Bob and Jim!

## From the Editor's Shack

Old Man Winter has really given us his worst this season with one of the harshest winters in many years up north. We all hope that you are managing winter's problems well and that you and your families are in good health. Hopefully your antennas and towers (for those lucky enough to have them) are in good shape and have avoided any damage. If not, you are not alone. Your friends and neighbors at MARC are here to help. When you have scheduled a date and time to make any necessary repair work and you need extra manpower (or womanpower), please let us know and we'll get the word out. After all, that is what being a ham radio operator is all about; hams helping hams and the community.

At last November's regular general membership meeting, our own **Doug Wilkins NE3U** gave an excellent presentation on Vintage Radios. Doug even brought and demonstrated several old radios from his vast collection.



**Doug NE3U demonstrating his classic Hallicrafters receiver**

This issue of REMARCS is coming out a little later than usual and I apologize for that. I recently returned from another mini suitcase DXpedition to the Bahamas. This trip included myself, Al Maslin N3EA and Steve Masur K9SDM.

We left from Ft. Lauderdale, FL via high-speed ferry to Freeport, Bahamas very early on Friday, January 17, 2014. We use the ferry rather than flying because the ferry lets you take more baggage without having to check them or paying extra. Three hours later we arrived at the Freeport terminal. Freeport is only about 90 miles due east of my winter home in Boynton Beach, Florida but it is a world apart. For example, they drive on the wrong side of the road. But according to them, it isn't the wrong side; it's the left side. There are few permanent resident hams on the islands so the Bahamas is still a somewhat rare DX entity.

This trip was different from the trip Al and I took there in 2012. This time we planned to participate in a contest. Neither of us is a big contesteer and we can only use what we can fit into 2 small suitcases and a computer bag each (including clothes). Luckily, the location we stayed in has antennas already erected. All the antennas are inverted 'V' wire antennas but the apex on each one is quite high. The 80m antenna's center is at 100 feet, the 40m antenna (also used for 15m) at

80 feet, the 20m antenna at 70 feet and the 10m antenna at 60 feet. The saltwater nearby also helps a lot.



**Antennas strung from unused 160-foot commercial tower**

We chose a contest that doesn't go on for days or allows high power. We chose the North American QSO Party – SSB. That contest only lasts 12 hours and all stations must use 100 watts or less. We used two rigs operating on different bands so we were entered into the Multi-Two Category. We did quite well racking up over 1600 contacts and over 300,000 points. For the contest, we used the callsign C6AEA on both stations. That's Al's Bahamian callsign so for the contest exchange we used his name on both stations. According to the rules, both stations must use the same callsign and name. It was very awkward for me to say my name was Al – Alpha-Lima. I was dying to say, "Really my name is Steve but...". According to the latest 3830scores.com unofficial listing of scores we are currently in fourth place.

After the contest we went back to casual operating with our own individual callsigns. Mine is C6AAJ. I had a blast working the pileups. Things usually started out slowly, but after a few minutes and after I was spotted on the DX clusters, huge pileups followed.



**Steve KS3K operating as C6AAJ from the Bahamas**



**Al N3EA operating as C6AEA from the Bahamas**

This trip was only four days long; same as back in 2012. The weather was cool for the Bahamas with high temperatures in the upper 60s. The Islands of the Bahamas are gorgeous and the people are very friendly. I highly recommend going there whether for hamming or not. Our home was within a few minutes' walk from Taino Beach.



**Taino Beach Resort**

We returned to the US on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 and back to reality. Strange, but back here no one wants to talk to me on the air when I sign as KS3K. We all had a blast. If you ever get the chance to operate from a foreign location, take it. Operating from "the other side" is a wonderful experience that you won't soon forget.

73,

**Steve Ikler KS3K**

MARC VP and Newsletter Editor

## Request for Net Participants and Net Control Operators

Hello MARC Members,

My name is **Anthony “Yak” Yakonick N3MQM** and I'm currently the manager for the MARC 2 meter nets on Wednesdays and Sundays. I am looking for members who would like to participate in the weekly nets. I am also looking for Net Control Operators to fill a few vacant spots. If you would like to help please contact me at [anthonyturns@yahoo.com](mailto:anthonyturns@yahoo.com), otherwise feel free to join us Wednesdays and Sundays at 8:30 PM.

**Yak, N3MQM**

## Stamps for the Wounded

If you chase DX and DX QSL cards, have you ever wondered what to do with the cancelled postage stamps you receive on foreign QSL card envelopes? Consider sending them to [Stamps For The Wounded](#).

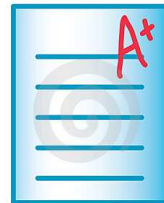
Sponsored by The Lions International Stamp Club and now in its 72nd year of operation, [Stamps For The Wounded](#) accepts donations of US and foreign stamps and stamp collecting supplies and tools. This program helps thousands of patients through clubs and occupational therapy programs in veterans' hospitals and convalescent centers nationwide.

[Stamps for the Wounded](#) accepts any U.S. or foreign stamps that are not torn or damaged. They request you leave at least a quarter-inch margin around the stamp and don't try to peel or steam the stamp off. Collect enough to fill a large envelope or box and ask the Post Office clerk to put stamps on the shipment.

[Stamps for the Wounded](#) was founded in 1942 by Ernie Kehr, collector and author, at the request of a friend from a Staten Island, N.Y., veterans' hospital, for a therapeutic activity for the veterans. Kehr responded, even taking stamps from his collections as a start, and enlisted the support of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a collector since childhood.

Donations should be sent to [Stamps for the Wounded](#), Box 1125, Falls Church, Va., 22041. Contributions are tax deductible and receipts will be granted on request.

## MARC Sponsored VE Test Sessions



A MARC VE Test session was held on Saturday, February 1, 2014 at the First Presbyterian Church, 113 East Airy Street in Norristown, PA.

Technician earned	0
General earned	1
Extra earned	1
Passed an element but did not upgrade	0
Did not pass an element	0
Total candidates served	2
Total elements administered	4

The following successful candidates earned upgrades:

Foster Schucker, K3FXS, of Eagle, PA – Extra  
Timothy Hudson. KC8UPJ, of Hummelstown, PA - General

Congratulations on your upgrades!

One MARC member took advantage of the free test session.

The following VE's took part in the session: **Bob W3ZQN, Doug NE3U, Mike N3OMR, Dennis K3DS and Josy WQ3E.**

The next test session will be on Saturday, May 3, 2014 at the First Presbyterian Church, 113 East Airy Street in Norristown, PA.

**Bob W3ZQN**

## Public Service Events

The **Vietnam Veterans 5K Run** was held on Sunday, November 17, 2013. This event took place at the Norristown Farm Park at North Wales and Germantown Pike. Proceeds from the run benefit Vietnam Veterans community projects. The Valley Forge Chapter 349 of Vietnam Veterans of America sponsors the event. Providing race day communications for MARC were: **Bob N3JIZ, Sam WA3LGL, Steve KD3WK, Steve KS3K, Doug NE3U, Jim K3RTU, Josy WQ3E and Denise KB3ANO.**



L-R: Josy WQ3E, Steve KD3WK, Jim K3RTU, Denise KB3ANO, Steve KS3K, Sam WA3LGL and Doug NE3U

Find Rules at:

<http://www.cq160.com/rules.htm>

**North American QSO Party, RTTY**

1800Z, Feb 22 to 0559Z, Feb 23

Find Rules at:

<http://www.ncjweb.com/NAQP-Rules.pdf>

**ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB**

0000Z, Mar 1 to 2400Z, Mar 2

Find Rules at:

<http://www.arri.org/arri-dx>

**CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB**

0000Z, Mar 29 to 2400Z, Mar 30

Find Rules at:

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

## Hamfests and Contests

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

### Hamfests

**Greater Baltimore Hamboree and Computer Fest & Maryland State Convention**

**Date:** April 6, 2014 Saturday Only!

**Location:** Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD, I-83 to Exit 17, Padonia Rd East ([map](#))

**Sponsor:** Baltimore Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 120, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

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

**Cost:** \$8 in advance, \$9 at gate; Vendor rates Basic \$20 per space, Flea Market is \$30 a space, Commercial \$75 a space

**Opens:** 9 am (8:30 for advance tickets) to 4 pm; Vendor setup 5pm to 12pm Friday, 4:30 am Saturday

**VE Testing\*:** Crowne Plaza Hotel, register by 9:00, for info contact John Creel, WB3GXW, 301-572-5124 or e-mail [crewb3gxw@aol.com](mailto:crewb3gxw@aol.com)

**DXCC, WAS and VUCC card checking** 9am - 12pm

### Contests

**CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest**

0000Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 9

Find Rules at:

<http://www.cqwxrtty.com/rules.htm>

**ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW**

0000Z, Feb 15 to 2400Z, Feb 16

Find Rules at:

<http://www.arri.org/arri-dx>

**CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB**

2200Z, Feb 21 to 2200Z, Feb 23