

THANKS K3FXS!

Foster K3FXS did an interesting presentation on radio control for robots at our last club meeting, back in November. He also brought several different robots to the meeting, provided a demonstration and gave attendees the opportunity to get some hands-on' experience so they could operate the robots with RF remote controls.



Foster K3FXS presenting at the November club meeting.

VOX

Please welcome new MARC member **Carl Krauthauser K3NTH!**

Lou WX3I is the new Chairman for Skywarn in Mt Holly, NJ. Also, many thanks to Lou for inviting MARC members earlier to visit the Mt Holly NOAA office and for encouraging us to participate in the annual Skywarn Recognition Day event. Lou also provided a nice tour of the facilities.

MARC's 2008 Field Day score is officially listed in the December 2008 issue of QST magazine (see **W3NWA** with a score of 1,990 points - middle of page 72).

Bob WA3PZO writes a monthly Public Service column in CQ magazine. Bob recently assembled a very nice and interesting article that detailed the Lance Armstrong – Livestrong Bicycle Event that some MARC members assisted with back in late August 2008. This article is in the December 2008 issue of CQ Magazine (page 28). Other local ham clubs also assisted with this major event. The authorities and officials for the event were extremely impressed with the organization, professionalism and support provided by the hams.

We forgot to mention in the previous issue of REMARCS that **Bill N3NUL** also assisted, as a ticket seller at the 2008 Kimberton Fair. Thanks Bill!

The ARRL has recently added **Susan K3SUE** to the **DXCC Honor Roll list**. Congratulations Susan! Please see page 2 for more details.

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Bill N3NUL selling tickets earlier at the 2008 Kimberton Fair

K3SUE ACHIEVES DXCC HONOR ROLL STATUS!

DXCC stands for "DX Century Club". In order to qualify for the ARRL's DXCC award, hams must follow the rules and requirements stated by the League' and prove that they have legitimately made a radio contact with other hams in at least 100 different DXCC Entities. The use of echolink or repeaters is not allowed.

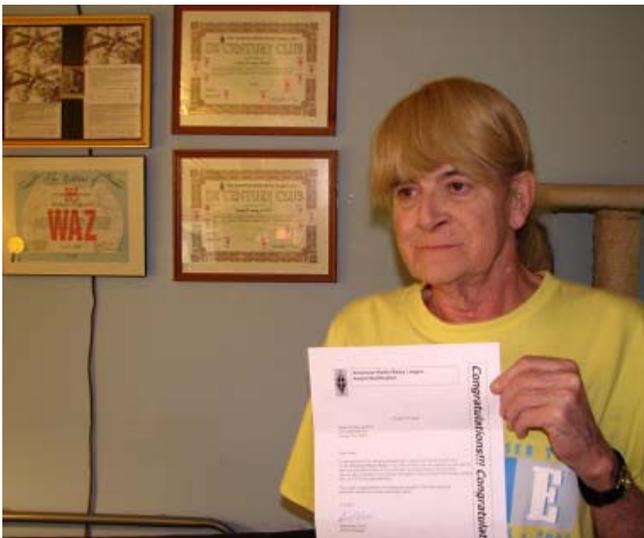
Clearly, there are more than 100 different DXCC entities (338 total). So, although getting DXCC is still a significant achievement... getting DXCC Honor Roll is a MUCH bigger achievement that most hams will never realize in their lifetime.

In order to achieve DXCC Honor Roll status, you must currently work (and confirm) at least 328 of the 338 unique DXCC entities. The league prefers 329 or more confirmed. No small feat!

Of the few hams that attain DXCC Honor Roll status, most of them usually spend a good portion of their years (i.e. decades) "chasing after that new one".

Enter **Susan Persing, K3SUE**. Susan became a ham almost 10 years ago and started out as a Technician class ham with the callsign KB3EPQ. Later, Susan upgraded like some of us, and, went the full route to Extra class. She then got the vanity callsign of K3SUE.

Now the DXing bug bites Susan and, the HF bands were in pretty nice shape several years ago - with some interesting DXpeditions along the way.



Susan K3SUE showing a congratulatory letter of recognition from the ARRL for DXCC Honor Roll!

Susan is not only an accomplished DX'er and MARC member, she is also a member of Montgomery County ARES/RACES, Skywarn, and is a registered emergency station recognized by the ARRL. She is also active and involved with the local fire department. Whew! So much for being retired?

Susan has also achieved other awards such as: WAZ (Worked All Zones), WAC (Worked All Continents) and WAS (Worked All States). She continues to work new DX entities.



K3SUE's SteppIR 4 element, HF/VHF yagi antenna

Her favorite mode is SSB and favorite HF band is 20 Meters with 17 Meters also held in high regard. The most difficult DXCC entity to work was North Korea - P5/4L4FN. The conditions and massive pileups were tough.

One of the most interesting and exotic DX contacts was Bouvet Island – 3Y0C. When 3Y0C went QRX for a 15 minute break, Susan and another ham briefly mentioned on frequency how they probably wouldn't have a chance to work Bouvet since they both only had 100 watts and simple dipole antennas at that time. Well... several minutes later, the ham in Bouvet got back on frequency after his break and said "would the two hams with the 100 watts and dipole antennas please respond?" Chalk up another rare one!

Susan's most recent contact was Willis Island VK9DN, near Australia which is DXCC entity #330! She now has 329 entities confirmed. Congratulations Susan!



K3SUE's station - Yaesu FT1000MP Mk V Field at center

MARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

By Sam Mitchell WA3LGL

Below are meeting minutes from the last two MARC Board meetings in 2008.

August 12, 2008

Meeting Started at 7:30 PM

In Attendance: Dieter K3DK, Sam WA3LGL, Bob N3JIZ, Dennis K3DS, Foster K3FXS, and Miguel KC2HMG. No regular members present this month.

Dieter K3DK opened this months meeting.

Foster K3FXS distributed this months Agenda.

1. Sam WA3LGL read Aprils board meeting notes.
2. No financial report since Lou WX3I is absent.
3. Dennis K3DS reported that the 440 repeater is off the air.
Dennis proposed turning off the Newtown Square phone line and replacing it with a cellular data line. Or, turn off the Paoli phone line and make it a slave to the Newtown Square repeater.
The 2 meter repeaters are working fine.
4. No membership report.
5. Dieter K3DK reported that ten gallons of gas was put into the Verizon generator truck. We earned 700 + bonus points for field day. We discussed setting up antennas in advance for next year's field day. Dieter will send a thank you card to Verizon for letting us use the field and the trucks.
6. Ham fest attendance was down from last year. But, we still had a successful ham fest. Kimbertown Fair was successful and we received the \$900.00 discount.
7. Bob N3JIZ stated that the Penn Wynn Run will be on Oct. 11 and the Radnor Run will be on Oct. 26. Also, Nov. 9 or 15 we will support the Viet Nam Veterans Run.
8. We welcomed Miguel KC2HMG to the board. A suggestion was made to recognize our older hams and members with a certificate.
9. No president items.
10. Foster K3FXS checked the Web site and updated the membership list. We discussed how to get the membership list up. Also, suggested having a new ham license course. Discussed programs for the general meetings. The board approved buying a new data projector. We should video tape some of our meeting presentations. We are looking for volunteers to help store field day equipment to eliminate the use of a storage locker fees.
11. We decided to have the annual Christmas party at a restaurant.
12. We will use E-Mail for this year's election.
13. In 2009 we will try to reduce our expenses even if it's a little.

Meeting Ended at 8:50 PM

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MARC INFO

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

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS -

3rd Tuesdays, 7:30 PM
Tredyffrin Twp. Bldg.
Berwyn, PA – Guests Welcome
Smoke Free, Handicapped-accessible.

BOARD MEETINGS -

2nd Tuesdays of even months, 7:30 PM
Paoli Hospital, Willistown Meeting Room
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, Sunday, 8:30 PM
Traffic Net, Monday and Wednesday, 8:30 PM
Roundtable, Thursdays, 8:30 PM

These nets occur on linked 145.13 - R / 147.06 + R

1.25 METER (220 MHz) NET –

Club Net, Sunday, 7:30 PM

This net occurs on 224.420 - R

NET MANAGER –

Sam Mitchell WA3LGL
wa3lgl@marc-radio.org 215-530-2151

DUES -

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

NEWSLETTER -

The REMARCS editor is Dieter K3DK
610-489-1920 k3dk@marc-radio.org
Do you have anything for REMARCS?
Please let me know.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

January 20th – Dennis KA3QOT will narrate and show slides and video of our field trip to ARRL Head Quarters and W1AW that we did back in October 2008. Get the pop corn!

February 17th – A DXpedition video will be shown on exotic and rare Scarborough Reef - BS7H. This was a most interesting and controversial DXpedition. Come over and see for yourself.

October 14, 2008

Meeting Started at 7:30 PM

In Attendance: Dieter K3DK, Sam WA3LGL, Dennis K3DS, Ed W3DUB, Lou WX3I, Jim W3DCL, and Miguel KC2HMG. No regular members present this month.

Dieter K3DK opened this month's meeting. The November General Membership meeting will be in the back of the township building. Foster will give a presentation on robotics. Discussed the holiday party.

Dennis K3DS Stated that the 145.130 repeater is still running on the temporary 50 watt amplifier. The 440 repeater is still down. The 220 repeater is still working well.

Lou WX3I stated that there was over \$19,000.00 in the treasury.

Jim W3DCL needs to be informed when new members join so he can welcome them to the club.

Sam WA3LGL reported that net attendance was down from previous years. The board voted to discontinue the Friday traffic net due to lack of attendance and not enough net control operators.

Meeting Ended at 8:30 PM

Penn Wynne Run October 11th, 2008

Below are the volunteers for the Penn Wynne Run that was held back in October.



L-R, Volunteers: Floyd KA3OXA, Steve WA2EAJ, Bob W3ZQN and Bob N3JIZ (net control) – Photo by Steve WA2EAJ

NORRISTOWN FARM PARK – VIETNAM VETERANS 5K RUN November 15th, 2008

Below are the volunteer communicators for the last public service event that MARC assisted with in 2008.



L-R, Volunteers: Sam WA3LGL, Alex KA2VLP, Tom KB3TQS, Susan K3SUE, Bob N3JIZ (net control), Lou WX3I, Charlie KB3CO and Ryan KB3MPX – Photo by Lou WX3I

RADNOR RUN October 26th, 2008

Below are the volunteers for the Radnor Run that was also held back in October.



L-R, Volunteers: Dieter K3DK, Sam WA3LGL, Bob N3JIZ (net control), Alex KA2VLP – Photo by Dieter K3DK

FROM THE EDITOR'S SHACK

The auger turns slowly in my wood pellet stove. I can hear the plinking sound of the pellets as they hit the steel cup and fuel the fire that is dancing around inside. The heat exchanger is now at proper temperature and some decent heat is flowing out into the family room.

As I write this, we will usher in 2009 very soon and old man winter has decided to reduce the temperature by a good 20+ degrees, along with 35-40 MPH gusts of wind from the northwest. It is bitter cold out there! I hope that you're all keeping warm in your homes.

Looking outside, I can see the 140 foot, off-center-fed dipole heaving up and down in the back yard as one end of it is tied to a swaying tree, deep in the woods. That Copperweld wire is tough as nails and works well. On a different note...

This past 2008 has been full of changes and we at MARC have tried a few different things. In October, we offered a field trip to ARRL Head Quarters, complete with a tour. Some of us went and also had a chance to operate W1AW. It was a blast and something that I know I've wanted to do for over 25 years. We also held our annual holiday party in early December and decided to hold it "off site" at a local brewhouse-restaurant. That turned out to be a big hit with those that attended and it was a respite from the previous necessary planning and legwork which was required for previous parties.

Our Field Day event, Hamfest and Public Service events were also a success and we always encourage ALL members to partake when they can. I really hope that you'll start the new year with us by attending our January meeting.

Happy New Year & 73 for now, Dieter K3DK

MARC BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-2009

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Jim Biddle W3DCL

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To 9/30/2010 -

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- W3NWA

Dieter Hauer K3DK

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ARRL W1AW Station – Guest Ops: L-R, Josy WQ3E on 20 Meter CW while Bob N3JIZ operates 6 Meter SSB.

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