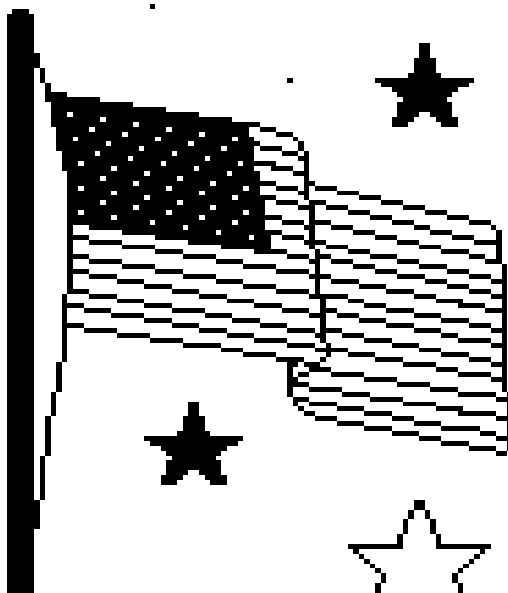

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

July, 2000

There will be no Membership or Board meeting in July



America the Beautiful

O Beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain.
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain.
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with
brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

Karhryn Lee Bates Samuel A. Ward

The Star Spangled Banner

O say can you see,
By the dawn's early light
What we proudly so hailed
At the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright
stars, thro' the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched,
Were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare,
The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night
That our flag was still there.
O say, does that Star-spangled
Banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the
home of the brave?

Francis Scott Key

My Country 'tis of Thee

My country 'tis of thee
Sweet Land of liberty
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride
From every mountain side
Let freedom ring!

S. F. Smith H. Carey

Minutes of Membership and Business Meetings

Membership Meeting 6/2/00

Rich Carbine W6UDS, called the meeting to order at 1933 hours. Officers present were: Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Vice President; Don Schroder KF6WSI, Secretary; Lorraine Karl K2VDG, Treasurer; Jackson Sauers KB6JRI, Director; Leo Bodian K5BAQ, Director; Curtis Thames KF6TAO, Education Chairman.

There being no quorum noofficial action on acceptance or nonacceptance of actions could occur, only discussions of matters pertinent to the life of the MARS club.

The Treasurer reported that our money accounts were \$xxxxxx. The President noted that as a result of our merger we will see about \$6,000 more to our account.

Ed Karl, KOKL, commented that the benefits of membership should include MARS supporting club events with our resources such as, Filed Day, Picnic, and Xmas party. It was generally agreed that to the extent possible, our club funds would be so utilized.

Field Day. Ed Karl noted that the planning contiues and on Sundays, Bible Study, is a good time to do the planning. Food menus are in the process, but it was stated that Hot Beef Stew would be available all night(Saturday Night). Marilyn Bagshaw N6VAW, will bring all field day participants up to speed on how to keep the log sheets. The use of the RACES trailer for field day is still not a sure commitment.

Education. Curtis Thames said we have 7 students who will take the exam at kaiser Facility June 3rd. A great deal of preparation went into this session of licensing and not having the new exam texts made it all the more difficult. So to Curtis and all the others who helped put this together, Kudos for a job well done.

A Special Announcement. PeteWolford N6IYU, is also the Membership Chairman as well as our Newsletter Editor. Thank you Pete.

No old business. So our speaker Mark Noble, W6ZXA, gave an interesting talk on the Flux Gate Compass. If you don't have one, get one.

Meeting Adjourned 2037 hours.

Don Schroder KF6WSI, Secretary

Directors Meeting 6/6/00

The meeting was called to order at 1927 hours by Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Vice President.

Officers present were:

Don Schroder KF6WSI, Secretary;
Lorraine Karl K2VDG, Treasurer;
Jackson Sauers KB6JRI, Director;
Leo Bodian K6BAQ, Director;
Doug Slusher KF6KU, Director;
Richard Young W6GHZ, Director and whose mailing address is PO Box 150795, San Rafael, CA 94915; Thus, a quorum exists.

Pete Wolford N6IYU, Newsletter Editor and Membership;

Our Treasurer, Lorraine Karl, said our total funds in MARS are now \$xxxxx. Discussed raising the amount in CS's and also consider MARS tax exempt status. There will be more information on the latter in the near future. She needs info on our future club plans so that the budgeting for such activities is complete, bldg improvements, social event costs, and such. Part of this is known, for example the repair of the repeater from old ACS was budgeted for \$1200 but the bill will be more like \$1500.

We presently have \$500 for upkeep of our renters apartment. Obviously this can be expanded if necessary. Ben Sawtelle will be reissued a check for last Xmas costs, since the first check was lost.

There will be no meeting in July because of Field Day. QSA-5 will be issued as it will no doubt have some news concerning the Field Day (June 24 and 25).

It was recommended that participating VE's be credited for dues; and the analyzer we are getting be used to help members with their equipment.

There was no other business to consider so the meeting adjourned at 2003 hours.

Don Schroder KF6WSI, Secretary

Again! There will be no Membership or Board meeting in July! BUT! The Bible Class welcomes all comers!

ARRL to Have Role in Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act

Courtesy of Ed Karl KOKL

NEWINGTON, CT, May 31, 2000--

The FCC has assigned the ARRL a role under the new Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act in helping to determine consumers' eligibility in borderline cases to receive distant network TV signals via satellite. The FCC has designated the League to be the independent and neutral entity" to designate a party to conduct a signal strength test at a subscriber's household in the event of a dispute between network stations and satellite carriers.

"It's a service we're glad to provide to the public," said ARRL President Jim Haynie W5JBP. Haynie said the League is pleased to be called upon to play a part in implementing the consumer-oriented legislation. He added that few eligibility disputes are anticipated.

"We appreciate the American Radio Relay League's interest in serving as an independent and neutral entity," said FCC Office of Engineering and Technology Chief Dale Hatfield in a letter to the ARRL. Hatfield said the FCC believes the ARRL is "a particularly appropriate choice for this role because it has no commercial connection with delivery of television services." He also noted the ARRL's national field organization, and that many of its members already were engaged in activities related to the measurement of radio field intensity.

Under SHVIA, a household is eligible to get distant TV signals via satellite if it cannot receive a Grade B signal using a conventional, outdoor TV antenna. The SHVIA sets up procedures for network TV stations to grant waivers to satellite subscribers who can predictably receive a local station's signal off the air as opposed to via satellite. The SHVIA provides that if a waiver is denied, a consumer can request a signal test to determine the actual signal

strength received. The ARRL's role would be to determine an appropriate entity to take the measurement.

Hatfield said the ARRL would review the qualifications of proposed testing entities to determine their competence to take signal strength measurements at a given home site. Factors to be considered would include tectonics that satellite carriers, broadcasters or other interested parties "will identify for ARRL entities willing to conduct the tests and will provide their qualifications in writing."

Hatfield said that training and background, experience with outdoor field strength measurements, and access to appropriate equipment.....(lost copy..). He said the FCC anticipates the League also eventually may develop a list of qualified individuals or concerns to conduct such tests throughout the US and offer that list to satellite providers and broadcasters "as needed and appropriate."

The SHVIA says the costs of conducting the test "shall be borne by the satellite carrier, if the station's signal meets or exceeds the signal intensity standard" or by the network station, if its signal fails to meet or exceed the standard.

The FCC seeks comments on technical parameters that could affect over-the-air reception. It also seeks comment on an appropriate eligibility standard for distant digital signals. In addition, the Commission has adopted rules to improve the computer model used to predict signal intensity at a given location to determine eligibility to receive distant network signals via satellite. The improved model now includes signal propagation effects of terrain, building structures and land cover variations, the FCC said.

The Satellite Home Viewer Improvement Act revises and extends the statutory provisions Congress established in the 1988 Satellite Home Viewer Act.

President's Message

DE RICH W6UDS

FIELD DAY 2000 was a huge success! Thanks to all of you who participated and to the two Chairmen, Ed Karl K0KL and Chet Rice WA6PAC, who put it together.

At the time of this writing, Marilyn N6VAW had not quite finished up the numbers but it looks like we did better than last year.

The count of folks who were on hand totals about thirty-five with at least half operating at one time or another. The mode of choice was CW with double points given for each contact.

Last year we came in about half in the nation running category 3A, this year we ran 4A which is a bit more difficult to compete in.

The Sat night dinner couldn't have been better and, of course the Sunday breakfast, with Chet at the helm, left no one hungry.

Because of the holiday, vacations, etc., there will be no meeting this month.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Big Club picnic on Aug 19th at Miwok Meadows, China camp state park; the club will be supplying the food and refreshments...please call any of the officers and let them know if you will attend... **this is mandatory**

The bands have been in fairly good shape lately with lots of opportunities to work DX or just plain rag chew. Remember that W6SG is open to all that have the proper license and are checked out on the proper operation of the station.

Cul es vy 73,

Field Day Results

from Marilyn N6VAW, Coordinator

There were:

385 CW contacts

175 Phone contacts

totaling 560 contacts in all.

This gave us a total of 2565 points. Our rating was 4AL for operating on portable power.

Last years figures:

348 CW contacts

173 Phone contacts

Editorial:

We are alarmed that only a few members of the former ACS chose to join MARS when the two clubs merged.. If we recall former statistics correctly, about sixty percent of ACS membership was made up of MARS members. That still leaves a rather large number of prospects for us.

You cannot help be aware of the high expenses involved in buying and maintaining repeaters. We realize that the non-joiners are not reading this editorial, but those of us who have friends in the old ACS club, should bring this to their attention and appeal to their sense of fair play: to support the repeaters they are using.

Just for fun, we printed the two other versions of what would make, in our opinion, much better national anthems. The bombs bursting in air, the rockets red glare, what in the world does this tell us about our beauty and ideals as a nation? Any comments? One would have to take into account that "My country 'tis of thee... bears the tune of God Save the King, the British anthem.

Any of you who would like a copy of the roster, sorted on the last three letters of the call signs, may obtain same by sending a stamped, self addressed envelope to your Membership person. (One can hardly be a chairman with no staff.) Also, they will be available at the Bible Class.

**Marin Amateur Radio Society
Incorporated**
P.O.Box 151231
San Rafael, CA 94915-1231

President:

Rich Carbine W6UDS, 479-3136

Vice President:

Norm Baetz WA6CLK, 475-6238

Secretary:

Don Schroder KF6WSI

Treasurer:

Lorraine Karl K2VDG, 479-8928

Director:

Leo Bodian K6BAQ, 435-4300

Director:

Jackson Sauers, KB6JRI, 388-4094

Director:

Gordon Haberfelde KR6DP, 246-1754

Membership:

Pete Wolford, N6IYU, 924-1578

Education Chairman:

Curtis Thames KF6TAO, 453-2925

VE Liaison:

Stuart Dake, AC6GD, 382-8317

Station Manager & Trustee:

Rich Carbine W6UDS, 479-3136

Sunday Emergency Nets:

HF Jackson Sauers, KB6JRI, 388-4094

VH F Up for grabs

ARRL WAS Local Rep;

Jackson Sauers, KB6JRI, 388-4094

DX Representative of ARRL:

Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, 892-3829

Editor of QSA-5

Pete Wolford N6IYU, 92401578
11 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939
e-mail: wolford1@juno.com

Members and Guests arfee Welcome at all Meetings

General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 PM. **No meeting in July**

Business Meeting (Board of Directors) **No meeting in July**

Sunday morning informal meeting, smilingly called The Bible Class, meets every Sunday morning at roughly at 0800 hours and closes down about 1100 hours.

Directions to our new clubhouse: Take the Mill Valley exit and go west from highway 101. At the first stop light, turn right. You will be directly under huge high-power lines. Go straight ahead and at the end, veer off to the right and the next road on the left is Shell Road. We are the big white building under the power lines.

VE Testing is at Kaiser Hospital complex. As you turn in from Nova Albion, the ground floor of the big building on the left is where you want to go.

Dues structure is: \$20.00 per year for regular or family memberships. No dues are charged for Life or Honorary members.

Coming Events

Annual Picnic, 19th of August.

at Miwok Meadows opposite China Camp

It is most important that we have reservations from all who will attend. The feast will be paid for by our beloved Club, now known as a Society, but we must know well in advance how many will attend, and, obviously, how much food to prepare. Drop a post card to your Editor or send an e-mail so there will be no mix-ups

Input amybody?