

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

July, 2001

Website at W6SG.NET

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certificates. We have more Archie comic books at the club house. If any members know of any young people who might be interested in ham radio, feel free to give them one. Not only did we pique the interest of young people, we also stimulated the interest of some older people.

It would seem that having Amateur Radio displays at malls and other places that attract large numbers of people is a great way to build public awareness of Ham Radio. I would like to see MARS doing Ham Radio exhibits in more locations around Marin County. If any members have suggestions as to where we can do more demonstrations, contact me and I will look into setting something up. Maybe we can even do a special event station at next year's Marin County Fair.

I just got home from field day a few hours ago. We had quite a large turn out this year. We operated as an Alpha Three station and, as I understand it, this means we could have three HF stations running on generator power. Stations that operate on 50 Mhz. or higher do not have to count as stations but we still get the points they earn. We had John Boyd on 6m sideband, and he had very good luck this year. One of our younger members, **Jesse Crocker** KG6FNX, and Ed and Lorraine Karl's grandson were operating a 10 meter novice station, also with great success.

The rest of us took turns on the HF bands. **Stu Dake** worked his magic on a fine dinner on Saturday; those tri tips were great. We also had a Carrot cake for desert from the **Woodbine Bakery**. I would like to thank **Ron Damsen**, KG6FNZ for giving us a

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President's Message

For those of you who did not have a chance to stop by our Kid's Day station on the 16th of June, we had a lot of fun teaching kids and their parents about ham radio and it looks like we will have some new young ham radio operators and some of their parents as well. While making a CQ Kids Day call on 20 meters we had a very strong signal come back from **Gregory Ball** KC6CSY mobile. He was at the shell station about 1/4 mile from our location. He stopped by and helped out and he also helped us load up at the end of the day. Greg is from Marin but now lives in San Diego. He was visiting in Marin and I believe he had one of our flyers from **HRO**.

We were operating on 10, 15 and 20 meters. **George Rothbart** KF6VSG was running PSK 31 and APRS. Both of these modes are very interesting; I may have to try PSK 31 and APRS myself. There was interest expressed by one Cub Scout pack in bringing the kids to the clubhouse on a field trip. We also had some Girl Scouts stop by who are interested in becoming hams. Of course, there were times that we had kids at the booth that the bands were not open, and there were times that the bands were open but there were no kids at the booth. The first young man that stopped by had a QSO with a young person in Seattle and he decided he wants a ham licensee. We gave all the kids that came by Archie comic books and the ones that participated all got

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great deal on the cake, which was one of the Field Day highlights. Every bit of it disappeared. If you did not have a chance to stop by for dinner you missed a great one. Sunday morning we had breakfast served by **Chef Chet** WA6PAC. Bacon, eggs, sausage, coffee and sweet rolls, very good indeed. If you have not been to a Field Day event, you should try to make next year's.

Logo contest: by the time you read this we should have the logo contest entries posted at the club house. Lets not forget the award for the logo contest. The prize will be two tickets to the Christmas party and a one year subscription to World Radio.

Remember the Club picnic Sat. August 25 @ Miwok Meadows, China Camp State Park, San Rafael. RSVP myself or Rich Carbine. The menu has not been finalized at this time but is guaranteed not to discourage anyone from coming.

John Iacono, KF6VYH

Many thanks and also several attaboys to Pres. John Iacono for making the considerable preliminary arrangements, and to him and his crew for pulling off a successful Kids' Day on 16 June in Corte Madera.

More on Field Day, page 3.

MARS General Meeting June 1, 2001

President John Iacono KF6VUH called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. Other officers present were John Boyd KE6ORI, Lorraine Karl K2VGD, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Doug Slusher KF6AKU and Rich Carbine W6UDS. There were 18 members present. Lorraine Karl presented the treasurer's report and after a brief discussion it was approved. A new CD will be purchased, more details after the next board meeting.

Ed Karl K0KL talked about Field Day and asked for operators to contact him about manning the stations.

Rich Carbine talked about the club's annual picnic coming up in August and asked that members interested in coming contact him. Ed Karl proposed setting up a field measuring test site for antennas at the picnic grounds.

Rich Carbine discussed the clubhouse remodeling plans. Nothing new but should have something after the next board meeting.

Rich said he was going to erect a new dipole for the club station.

Doug Slusher said that the new repeater controllers have been ordered and should arrive soon.

Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ said all arrangements have been made for the Christmas party and food selection will be made in October.

John Iacono talked about the club's upcoming participation in Kids Day at the Corte Madera shopping center. He also talked about the possibility of setting up a ham club for the Boy Scouts which would include radio classes.

George Rothbart KF6VSG discussed the possibility of providing club scholarships for disadvantaged children. This would include tech training classes and the use of handhelds.

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Rich Carbine suggested that this should be brought up at the next board meeting

Chuck Deatrick WA6SQQ asked for volunteers for upcoming races and events. He also said the club received a donation of \$150.00 from the Miwok Association for our help.

Rich Carbine showed a video of the A52A DXpedition to Bhutan.

The meeting was adjourned at 2115 hours.

Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK

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motion favoring our interest in it was passed. John I has offered to look into this further.

Logo: Herman W. suggested an entity that might print up our new logo on materials at a possible discount. John B. noted that the printing of a single patch in a batch of less than \$250 might be as much as \$7-8 each.

Club name: Rich brought up the changing of the club name from MARS to MARC. Filing of the business name was discussed by Ed K., Doug S., John B., Lorraine K. and others.

Finance: The treasurer noted the club has purchased a certificate of deposit; the treasurer has also secured insurance for Field Day and Kid's Day.

Safety deposit box: Ed K. mentioned that it might behoove us to have a safety deposit box for the club's more important documents. Ed recounted an incident which highlights why care must be taken in terms of responsible caretakers of the box & its keys.

Scholarship Program: A document on a proposed scholarship was presented and discussed at length. A motion to table the suggestion until August was passed.

Free Tech. Class: Ed K. proposed an idea that the club would underwrite Technician classes for kids 14 and under. John B. proposed a motion that was subsequently, unanimously passed.

Silent Keys: A motion was made and passed that the Board endorse a website which would honor deceased members.

Kevin Foley, acting secretary.

MARS Regular Board Meeting June 11, 2001

Present: John Iacono, Ben Sawtelle, Kevin Foley, Doug Slusher, John Boyd, Jackson Sauters, Herman Weiss, Rich Carbine, Lorraine Karl, Ed Karl, Curtis Thames.

The meeting convened at 7:30 p.m. and adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Old Business:

Rent: There was a continuation of the discussion to raise the rent on the second floor unit at Shell Rd. The need for improvement and upkeep of the property were the primary points of discussion. A motion was raised for approval and was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: Lorraine K. presented the treasurer's report. After review without comment, its approval was passed unanimously. The Board recognizes Lorraine's diligence and hard work in this area.

Improvement to the club's kitchen: it was agreed that we search out a new architect/builder for our club's kitchen, office and small roof adjacent to the tenant's stairwell. Doug S. recommended one contact.

Field Day: arrangements for moving the generator to the Rod & Gun Club site in preparation for the event were coordinated between Doug S., John B. and Ed K.

Education: Curtis T. proposed that Ben Sawtelle be commended for his hard work in a recent event (the minutes taker apologizes for omission of any details). Those present agreed wholeheartedly.

Xmas party: Ben S. recommended that the caterers be invited to the October board meeting. Extra consideration and arrangements for the ladies who will attend was discussed. The Board agreed that this was a good idea.

Kid's Day: John I. will get to the site by 9 am to set up. A Digital communication station was discussed. Help was solicited and asked to arrive by 11 am.

New Business:

Absent members: Concern about one of the board members missing from the last 5-6 meetings was expressed. This will be looked into.

External publicity: An event at Marin Outdoors that may provide an opportunity for promotion of the club was presented. Our involvement was suggested and a

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Guest Commentary

While listening to a couple of hams on 147.330, I heard a couple of them complaining about Field Day being held at the Rod and Gun Club again. I am thinking to myself, "This is so typical of many clubs, Ham and otherwise." You have about 10 percent of the members going to meetings, making decisions on club activities. Then you have a large group that seldom or never goes to meetings to voice their opinion or to vote on what the club should or should not do. If you don't like what is going on, go the meetings and get involved. Or you can chose to stay home and not come the monthly meetings, and not enjoy the food and drink the club provides there. You don't have to come to Field Day for the dinner and snacks that the club provides. You don't have to come to the annual picnic. But next time you want to whine about the Field Day location or about anything else the club does, just remember, **YOU HAVE ONLY YOURSELF TO BLAME FOR NOT GETTING INVOLVED.** So why don't you get off your butts and go to a meeting instead of complaining all the time. And let's not forget who provides the repeaters you do all your complaining on.

Phranque O'Pinion, 5U4GB

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From column two

two trips with stuff from the FD site to the clubhouse, including the generator. John KE6ORI worked like a horse with all his equipment plus hauling the power distribution box and mast sections back to the clubhouse. He could use a bigger truck.

Rich and Marilyn had things well in hand with that slick camper. Looks like it was designed for Field Day use.

Field Day combines so many things: Camping, Ham Radio, Picnic, Bar-B-Que. Probably the most important benefit to be had there is the affable communion of the members and friends who attend this event. A real high point to the ham radio calendar!

Ed Karl KOKL

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Jackson Sauers has some stuff to sell. Not enough space to list it in this issue. If he still has it we'll put it in the August edition. Call him at 388-4094 to haggle.

Field Day 2001 by Ed

We just finished the Marin Amateur Radio Society's Field Day 2001 odyssey. Wow, if you missed it, you missed a lot of fun! We started setting up Friday afternoon. John KE6ORI had already brought the trailer up with the A/C generator from the clubhouse. Stu AC6GD was on site and getting ready for the hot dog extravaganza on Friday evening. Pres. John, KF6VYH set up his antenna support. Rich set up for 40 and 15. Looked like we'd have a good start in the morning.

Saturday more folks showed up and we were on the air at about 11am. The bands were hopping. Rich W6UDS, Norm WA6CLK and Marilyn N6VAW operated on 15 and 40 meters racking up the CW points. Many friends and members showed up to wish us well and to guest operate. By the end of Saturday we had about 40 members in the roster, not bad in a situation where no one told us in advance whether they would be there for dinner or to operate. (editor's note: We told 'em we'd be there for dinner!) Chef Stu made the best tri-tip I've ever had. Add the fabulous carrot cake and salads and we really had a great feed for our Saturday night dinner. Wine was also available in those two new varietals, Red and White.

We had one Novice station, first time in a while (so I'm told) using KC0JNS, my grandson Ryan's call. All contacts 50mc and above count, but we retain 3A category. Kudos to Jesse KG6FNX who was observed on 10 meters at 23:30 local time calling CQ. John Boyd KE6ORI made several dozen QSOs on 6m with a fancy Delta beam.

Yours truly had a special Saturday night. Chilly and windy outside, with a catalytic heater inside my tent to keep toasty, and lots of QSOs on 20 CW. Life doesn't get better than that!

Sunday we were treated to Chez Chet's mobile kitchen. Bacon, sausage and eggs (Hey, it's OK once a year here in California; it's a staple in the Midwest). Again great company and spirited conversation to get the day started. Worked a few more pages of the log and shut down. Thanks to Phil K6PHD for

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(Alt. Sundays. Guest ops welcome)

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Errors, additions or deletions?

Let us know, preferably by email, PacBell or in writing. If we're in eyeball mode, make sure we write it down. ed.

(Poor grammar is n.a.)

Club Meetings

General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at Alto District Clubhouse on Shell Road in Mill Valley, starting at 7:30 PM. Turn right at the first stop light west off hwy 101 at the Mill Valley/Tiburon exit. Bear to right at next stop sign, then turn left at next street, Shell Road. We are in the two story building on the left under the power lines. The upper floor is a private residence.

Business Meeting meets at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley on the second Tuesday of each Month at 7:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend.

Sunday morning informal meeting, smilingly called The Bible (or babble)Class, meets every Sunday morning at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley starting at roughly at 0800 hours and runs to around 1100 hours.

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

Coming events

The Club Picnic Aug. 25 at Miwok Meadows, China Camp State Park.

Marin Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
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The Mailing
Address
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