

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Nov., 2001

Christmas Party, December 9.

Cutoff date for sending in your \$25/person check is November 23. Mail to: Christmas Party POBox 6423, San Rafael, 94903. Watch for the flyer.

President's Message

As the year winds down toward the holidays we have our Christmas party to look forward to on December 9th. at the clubhouse. We are expecting a large turnout this year.

We also have our board of directors election coming up.

It has been a fun year. Field Day was a great success and our first Kids Day event went well. I will be contacting Town Center Corte Madera about doing Kids Day again next June. At that time we will be able to show off our communications truck. John Boyd has put a lot of work into getting the truck ready and it will be a great asset for our community service events in the coming years. Of course we do not want to forget that the donation of the truck, from KPIX, was arranged by Ed Karl KOKL.

We are looking for ways in which to use our new logo. If anyone has any ideas on that subject let me or any board member know.

We also had a chance to use our clubhouse for a VE session this year and I believe the next VE session on Dec. 15th. will be held there, too. I hope to be at that one, taking the Extra Class exam or doing a VE's job. Stu AC6GD has been doing a great job with the VE sessions. He even got the VE teams from the Hamilton Wireless Club, The West Marin Radio Club and the Petaluma group together at our picnic to coordinate next year's sessions so that we would not be testing on the same dates.

73, John KF6VYH

Website at W6SG.NET

FCC SAYS BAND PLANS DO MATTER

The FCC recently asked three amateurs to respond to complaints alleging that they deliberately transmitted SSB on top of CW stations operating in the vicinity of 1820 to 1825 kHz. The FCC has never designated mode-specific sub bands in the 160-meter amateur band. Instead, operators are asked to voluntarily adhere to the ARRL band plan, revised this past summer, which recommends a lower limit of 1843 kHz for SSB operation.

In the wake of the complaints, FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio Enforcement Riley Hollingsworth wrote George Wehrung, W5TZ, and Dennis Clauder, KT5S--both of Texas--and Derrick Vogt, WA4TWM, of Kansas in mid-September. Hollingsworth asked each to respond to allegations from several other operators that their SSB transmissions deliberately interfered with attempts by others to operate on CW between 1820 and 1830 kHz. Copies of the complaints were sent to all three operators.

"Band plans are voluntary in nature," Hollingsworth acknowledged in each of the similarly worded letters. He said the FCC depends upon voluntary compliance because it minimizes the necessity for the Commission to be called in to resolve amateur problems. **"Where interference results from band plans not being followed,"** Hollingsworth continued, **"the Commission expects substantial justification to be shown by the operators ignoring the band plans."**

Hollingsworth requested that Wehrung, Clauder and Vogt each reply to the complaints within 20 days.

From the ARRL Letter 12 October 2001

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

ELECTION FOR 2002 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We will elect four members to the Board to replace those whose two-year terms will expire. Those with a year left to serve are:

John Iacono	KF6VYH
John Boyd	KE6ORI
Kevin Foley	KF6YUF
Herman Weiss	WP4DCM
Doug Slusher	KF6AKU

Rich Carbine and Bob Webb remain as trustees for W6SG and K6GWE, respectively.

The nominating committee has come up with six possible new board members, out of which four will be elected by the membership. These are:

Steve Rathbone	AJ6Y
Norm Baetz	WA6CLK
Lorraine Karl (Treas.)	K2VGD
Raine Kinney	KG6GII
Jackson Sauers	W6JRI
Phil Dunlap	K6PHD

The ballots will be mailed out soon with return envelopes, pre-addressed we've been told. So all you gotta do is scrape up 34 cents for a stamp, or hand carry it to the clubhouse. Ballots will be counted on Sunday November 25 at bible/babble class.

MARS General Meeting October 5, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 1932 hours by President John Iacono KF6VYH. Other officers present were John Boyd KE6ORI, Lorraine Karl K2VGD, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Rich Carbine W6UDS, Doug Slusher KF6AKU, and Herman Weiss WP4DCM.

John Iacono asked any guests present to introduce themselves. There were a total of 31 members present.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Lorraine Karl passed out the treasurer's report and it was approved.

The following committee reports were presented:

Ed Karl K0KL will host classes for the Extra class license starting Oct. 27. Anyone interested, please contact Ed.

Rich Carbine said a new dipole antenna had been erected on top of the club building. Hopefully, it will improve the club station's signal. Doug Slusher discussed the new UHF repeater being installed.

Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ discussed the Christmas party to be held Dec. 9th. Volunteers to help set up are asked to come the day before, Sat. the 8th. The caterer will be at the Oct 9th board meeting to go over the menu.

Al Weisman W5ALW said he was going to Japan shortly and asked the club if it would like to set up a communication between the club and an amateur radio club in Japan. The idea of exchanging gifts with a club was brought up and approved.

Curtis Thames KF6TAU brought up the problem of obscenity over the 2 meter repeaters. Everyone agreed it was offensive. Consensus: Just report it and turn it off.

John Boyd reported on the latest repairs and renovations on the club's comm. truck. He said it's about time to decide what kind of equipment we want to install in the truck. This will be discussed

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further at the next board meeting. John also suggested we fix our flagpole in front of the building and look into purchasing a California Bear flag.

Dr. George Rothbart, KF6VSG was our speaker and gave a very interesting and informative talk on PSK31.

The meeting was adjourned at 2120 hours. Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK secretary.

From column three

The per person cost was set at \$25.00. It was noted that handicap parking would be strictly enforced. It was agreed to try to get the same entertainment we had last year.

John Boyd talked about redoing the flagpole in front of the building. For the time being we will repair the existing pole.

There was a discussion on selecting a nominating committee to choose a slate of candidates for the coming year's board. Lorraine Karl, and Jackson Sauers have agreed to run again for office. Five board members, elected for 2001-2002, have a year to go so we will be electing four to bring the total to nine plus two trustees.

The meeting was adjourned at 2117 hours.

Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Secretary.

VANITY & HAM PLATES

To check on availability of special/vanity—not ham—license plates without visiting your local DMV office, try this one:

plates.ca.gov/search

To apply for amateur plates you'll need DMV form

REG 17A which is not available on the website, www.dmv.ca.gov. They had to make a copy for us from a master at the Novato office. There were none on the forms table.

Vanity plates are applied for using the REG 17 form which IS available on the DMV website.

MARS Regular Board Meeting Sept. 11, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 1930 hours by President John Iacono KF6VYH. Other board members present were John Boyd KE6ORI, Lorraine Karl K2VGD, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Rich Carbine W6UDS, Doug Slusher KF6AKU, Jackson Sauers W6JRI, and Kevin Foley KF6YUF.

John Iacono said the Hamilton Wireless Club has requested that MARS remove some antennas left at the Hamilton location. It was agreed to both remove the items and also offer to sell some of the pieces to the Hamilton club.

Lorraine Karl passed out the treasurer's report and after some discussion it was approved.

The C & C Equipment Co. sent a note to the club saying that because of the terrorist attacks in NYC and D.C. and also because of the state of the economy there would be no rental increase at our repeater sites.

Rich Carbine asked for approval to purchase a new doublet antenna for the club station. The request was approved.

There was a discussion about the need for a new paint job for the exterior of the clubhouse. It was agreed it was necessary and would probably be expensive.

Doug Slusher said the new repeater is on the way and would be in place in a few weeks.

Lorraine Karl requested a file cabinet. The board said if there was none available in the clubhouse to purchase a new one.

John Boyd said the comm. truck renovation was coming along well and the installation of radio gear and antenna mounts is close at hand. It was agreed we have sufficient HF radios available but need to purchase VHF and UHF rigs.

Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ discussed the Christmas party to be held on Dec. 9. Volunteers are needed to help set up and decorate the day before. The choice of foods, ladies' gifts and raffle prizes was discussed.

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Guest Commentary

**There're Those That Talk And
There're Those That Do**

Seven of us plus our fearless leader, Chuck WA6SQQ, stood a long watch providing communications for the Providian Relay Race on September 29th through the wee hours of the morning on the 30th.

I was there mostly to help out Chuck who has the thankless job of Volunteer Coordinator for Marin. I don't know if VC is a club function or just a ham function. It's sort of like being VE Liaison. Sometimes you have to pester, beg and coerce people to help out. But there are always the backbones of volunteers--those sorts who are always there when you need them. Remember the Mt. Vision fire of '95. We staffed the Red Cross for almost a week, 24 hours a day. I bet we wouldn't be able to do that today. Back then, it was almost the same volunteers who help out today.

So I wonder--where is everyone? Don't hams realize that volunteering is not only about helping out the community, but it may be the only on-the-job training for passing traffic any of us will ever receive. Oh it's fun to go to the clubhouse and monkey with the radios and the new van but next time you hear the call for volunteers to cover an event - VOLUNTEER!

You may have fun; you will gain some experience, you will be helping out the community and you will earn some gratitude from the public. Think about that the next time your neighbors protest your antenna installation. But most of all, you'll be one of those that Do.

Stu AC6GD

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**A hard lesson that some have yet
to learn.**

October 2001

Taliban supreme leader, Mullah Mohammed Omar: "The situation where we are now, there are two things: either death or victory. To those who are fighting and bombarding us, they should understand the Afghan man is a fighter willing to die for jihad."

June 1944

General George S. Patton: "I want you to remember that no bastard ever won a war by dying for his country. He won it by making the other poor dumb bastard die for his country..."

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HOAXES IN YOUR EMAIL?

The best indication that you have been the recipient of a hoax is the phrase "send this to as many of your friends, etc., as possible" or something close to that. If in doubt, don't forward it and then check some of the following sites:

www.stiller.com/hoaxes.htm

www.vmyths.com/

www.nonprofit.net/hoax/default.htm

www.icsa.net/html/communities/antivirus/hoaxes

hoaxbusters.ciac.org/

There's some really interesting info on these sites. The latest hoax we've received is called the "Klingerman Virus" and is covered on Hoaxbusters with references dated 8/13 and 10/4.

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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 0800 hours and runs to around 1100 hours. This weekly event is hosted by **Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ**, our Ham of The Year in 1996, whose absence would be the result of serious disease or dismemberment, only.

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

Coming events

The Christmas Party on December 9 , at the clubhouse.

Marin Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

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The Mailing
Address
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