

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

President's Message?
Nope. Whines a Lot. Claims
He Has Writer's Block.

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Board Meeting, Oct. 14, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 1939 hours by President Doug KF6AKU Slusher. Other board members present were John KE6ORI Boyd, Norm WA6CLK Baetz, Lorraine K2VGD Karl, Phil K6PHD Dunlap, Kevin KF6YUF Foley and Al W5ALW Weisman.

The secretary was asked to send a "Thank You" letter to Gloria Schultz for her donation of her husband's radio equipment to the club.

The Treasurer's report was given by Lorraine on behalf of Ed Karl. It was approved.

John Boyd showed the vests the participating members will wear during special events. Also shown were T-shirts with the club logo that members can purchase for the sum of \$15.00. Cost for nonmembers will be \$20.00. Make sure you order the correct size because we are not ordering an assortment of different sizes; too many leftovers, that way.

John Boyd also reported possible vandalism on the club's truck. (Maybe just 'evil spirits'. ed.) This and other repairs are being made.

Doug Slusher gave an update on the status of the club's repeaters. There were problems with the San Pedro 440 repeater but these are, hopefully, fixed. There was occasional noise on the Mt. Tam repeater, the cause of which was not found. The Big Rock repeater will be checked in November.

Lorraine Karl reported that all is going well with this year's Christmas party and said that Nov. 22 is the cutoff date for sending in for your tickets. Friends of members are welcome, too.

Go to column three, lower.

Website at W6SG.NET
Phone 415.389.6630

Do You Have Something for Sale?
Advertise FREE in this publication.
Send your info to the editor.

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General Meeting, 3 October 2003

The meeting was called to order by Pres. Doug KF6AKU Slusher at 1936 hours. Other board members present were John KE6ORI Boyd, Norm WA6CLK Baetz, Lorraine K2VGD Karl, Herman WP4DCM Weiss, Phil K6PHD Dunlap and Kevin Foley KF6YUF. There was a total of 24 members and guests present.

Ed KØKL Karl passed out the Treasurer's report and it was approved. The minutes of the last meeting were also approved.

Special thanks were given to Lorraine Karl and Connie KG6RAW Sawtelle for the food they prepared for the evening's meeting.

John KF6VYH Iacono gave a report on upcoming special events the club is participating in. As usual we need more volunteers to help.

Doug Slusher gave his thoughts about what the club should do as far as future special events. He gave us an update on clubhouse remodeling and said drawings for a revised kitchen will be submitted soon. Roof repair will be done before the winter rains. Doug also talked about the store room cleanup done the previous week. A lot of litter/junk was removed.

John Boyd said modifications, repair and cleanup of the club's comm truck are proceeding.

As far as the Christmas party is concerned, Lorraine Karl asked members to send for their tickets as soon as possible. Any guests of members are also welcome to come.

John Iacono is planning a trip to Hawaii and hopes to operate from the

Go to column three, top.

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

Monthly MARS Breakfast.
Third Sunday, starting about 08:00
At The Flatiron Sports Bar & Grill,
2nd @ B, San Rafael.

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From column two.

General Meeting

ham station aboard the battleship USS Missouri at Pearl Harbor.

Our speaker Bill W6JBZ Provines, (Bill says the accent is on the second syllable: provINES. ed.) a founding member of MARC, ended the evening with stories of his getting into ham radio and the beginning of the club station. He also reminisced about the early railroad systems in the county, (e.g., Mill Valley had some dual gauge track at the interchange of the mountain railroad and the line bringing riders in from Sausalito. Three rails instead of two spiked down on those ties, due to the track up the mountain being standard 4ft.8½inch width and the line in from Sausalito being narrow, 36inch gauge. ed.) A great way to end the meeting with some local history.

The meeting was adjourned at 2025 hours. Submitted by Norm Baetz WA6CLK, secretary.

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From column one.

Board Meeting

Al W5ALW Weisman said the recent successful ham test results have been sent to the ARRL. He is also attempting to set up a sister city with a ham club in Japan.

The meeting ended with a discussion of possible educational support, scholarships and donations to schools in the county. The meeting was adjourned at 2057 hours.

Submitted by Norm Baetz, secretary.

Pacificon, Oct. 17-19.

We drove over Saturday morning and, after taking a wrong turn into a shopping center while trying to send directions to some others on the way, arrived at the point when flashlights were no longer necessary to see the stuff for sale at the swap meet. That's where you swap your cash for something of unknown, and sometimes dubious, value. Got very lucky with parking and ended up about twenty feet from the swappers/sellers when another car pulled out. Some others mentioned they drove around for quite a bit before being able to land. The place was jammed with vehicles. Next year we may spring for at least one night at the hotel to avoid getting up early to drive the 48 miles to the site and cruise around looking for parking.

Lorraine K2VGD Karl's luck held and she came away with a Yaesu FT-8800R, won at the banquet Saturday eve. This new dual-band 2m/440 unit goes for \$400 in the Fall/Winter AES catalog. It has independent 2-chan op w/separate vol & squelch controls for each band. Several other bells & whistles including a \$25 factory rebate until 12/31/03. It isn't stated whether that \$400 price is before or after the rebate. Better assume it's AFTER unless proven otherwise. The latest AES flyer shows a price of \$370 AFTER a \$50 rebate.

Some Humorous Stuff .

"Aim toward the Enemy." - Instruction printed on US Rocket Launcher.

"When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend."

-U.S. Marine Corps.

"Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs are guaranteed to always hit the ground."

-USAF Ammo Troop

"If the enemy is in range, so are you." - Infantry Journal.

"If your attack is going too well, you're walking into an ambush."

-Infantry Journal.

"Any ship can be a minesweeper... once." -Anon

For Sale

Kenwood TX 440S \$325.00. Includes: Hand mike, 12V power cord and instructional manual. Full documentation, excellent condition. Little use since last functions were realigned. Work performed by Kenwood authorized repair station. Bob KS6V (415) 453 5171 or e-mail bean6evm@juno.com

For Sale

Kenwood TS-430S-\$400
Astron RS-20A-\$70
Astron RS-7A-\$40
All in working order. I am the original owner of all.
73 Brian KI6HT 415-454-9462
marinxs@webtv.net

FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth this month heard from amateurs in the Los Angeles area that some repeater owners are shutting down their machines due to alleged ongoing interference from Jack Gerritsen, formerly KG6IRO. The FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau set aside Gerritsen's license in 2001 a few days after granting it after learning that he'd been convicted the previous year on state charges of interfering with Los Angeles Police Department radio transmissions.

Imprisoned, paroled and imprisoned again after breaking parole for allegedly having and operating radio equipment without a license, Gerritsen was released early due to jail overcrowding.

Hollingsworth said the FCC continues to work the case, but he expressed frustration that Gerritsen was let out of prison again with no conditions or restrictions "even regarding radio, which is what he was in there for in the first place."

From the ARRL Letter.

More

It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed." - U.S. Air Force Manual

"Try to look unimportant; they may be low on ammo." -Infantry Journal

"Tracers work both ways." -U.S. Army Ordnance Manual.

"Five-second fuses only last three seconds." -Infantry Journal

Member's Comments.

Ever hear the expression, "Use it or lose it?" Well, that could apply to our two-meter repeaters. Gosh, I'm getting tired of saying, "This is W-A six pack monitoring on six-seven-oh", and having no one come back. Do the members of our club have two-meters in their cars? I should hope so because if we really had a bad County-wide disaster, we would sure need 'em. In the meantime, I get really lonesome driving along the freeway to Babble Class and would love to have someone to talk to. Come on back.

Chet Rice, WA6PAC

A Texas amateur antenna case has affirmed again that the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 has teeth when it comes to compelling municipalities to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communication. It took some time, persistence and considerable aggravation, but in the end the US District Court for the Southern District of Texas--Houston Division ruled in favor of Orin Snook, KB5F, of Missouri City. The court determined in late August that Snook could keep his 114-foot antenna structure.

In a 63-page Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law that Snook has posted on his Web site, US District Judge David Hittner said the city "failed to meet the FCC's requirement of reasonably accommodating Snook's amateur communication needs in accordance with PRB-1." Missouri City had attempted to limit Snook's tower to 65 feet, limit the size of his antenna array and required removal of the 100-foot structure for which it already had granted him a building permit. Snook, who is ARRL Fort Bend County Emergency Coordinator and an Official Emergency Station, argued that he needed the higher structure to permit him to operate VHF and UHF effectively in an emergency.

The court declared the city's height restrictions, antenna array restrictions and structure removal requirement "preempted, void and unenforceable."

From the ARRL Letter.

Gil

(Plagiarized Off the Net)

Phil Gildersleeve, 1908-1966, was well known as a cartoonist. He drew hundreds of cartoons for the ham radio operator's magazine QST. He was a ham radio operator himself, and had worked as a radio operator on merchant ships. He held various radio licenses since the age of 16 and won several awards for high-speed radio-telegraphic reception. He could transmit 60 words per minute in Morse code! After his untimely death in 1966, QST published an entire book of his cartoons, entitled Gil: a Collection of Classic Cartoons from QST. Portland, CT, Public Library, fittingly, has a copy of the book, but I warn you: these cartoons are virtually incomprehensible to anyone not versed in ham radio! (and to some who are. ed.) They span the time period 1927 to 1966, and are drawn in a sort of 1930s style reminiscent of Gasoline Alley, Felix the Cat, or the Katzenjammer Kids.

"Gil" (Phil's signature in each cartoon) created the mythical *Podunk Hollow Radio Club*, with "Where's Waldo"-type pictures sprawling over the page, depicting the idiosyncrasies of a group of radio enthusiasts getting together. The cover for the June 1964 (for Field Day. ed.) issue of QST, for example, shows the Podunkers, hundreds of them, happily camped out in a forest setting. In the large tent in the rear, several are operating their radios. In the foreground, several more are chatting up a couple of attractive girls in a convertible, little cartoon hearts fluttering over one ham's head. And off to the far right, the Department of Conservation is beginning to set up their blasting apparatus with its accompanying signs of "Turn off all two-way radios!"

He drew a good many *Jeeves* cartoons, depicting the faithful butler serving his ham operator master. His first one, from February of 1940, is one I can relate to: from the other room comes the master's voice, saying, "Jeeves, come here and help me look for DX!" Jeeves, as uncertain as I am as to what "DX" is, is coming on the run, carrying a road map, a telescope, binoculars, a lantern, a

From column one.

compass, and a butterfly net! (DX, according to long-time radio operator Gordon Barker, is distance--how far away you can reach.)

In the words of QST, "Gil became a silent key in 1966..." (think of the Morse code key, stilled from clicking out its messages).

by Doris Sherrow, August 2000
Portland, CT
QST, Feb. 1940.

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July 1952 QST: Looking back, **From:** "Rob Atkinson, K5UJ" <k5uj@hotmail.com> Thu, 25 Sep 2003

QST is in the old National Geographic size, 40 cents and in black, white and red. The huge art deco "Amateur Radio," as in, "Devoted entirely to..." is there. The art of Phil Gildersleeve (Gil) is on the cover with what can only be the Podunk Hollow Radio Club out in the field but the XYLS are doing all of the operating while the OMs hang up clothes, wash dishes and change diapers. What's also noteworthy is all the feedlines in Gil's cover are open wire. Am I the only one who still misses Gil's artwork on the column headings today? A.L. Budlong, W1BUD, is editor. Also on staff: Don Mix W1TS, Byron Goodman W1DX, Ed Tilton W1HDQ, Rod Newkirk W1VMW (later W9BRD), and Eleanor Wilson W1QON and others. L.A. Moxon G6XN writes on 2 element driven arrays. There's an excellent article for novices by Richard M. Smith, W1FTX on "Getting the Most Into Your Antenna" with beautifully drafted drawings of E and I curves on open wire line and center and end fed (zepp) wire antennas. Go to column three.

From column two.

In How's DX? the unforgettable Rod Newkirk predicts (humorously of course) how things will be in 1975 and 2002: We'll be working dxpeditions on Neptune, XF1A and KV4AA (remember Dick?) will have their QSL files on microfilm, W1FH has color TV DXCC, and W1DX needs Jupiter for WAP (that's Worked All Planets). A youthful Noel Eaton, VE3CJ is shown on one of the Cayman Is. for the '52 DX Test.

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Gil had a way of capturing the essence of amateur radio - dedicated to the hobby without taking one's self too seriously, and still having fun while doing it. The cartoonists in QST since Gil have come close but he remains the Master. -- Bill, W7TI

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A few ads from the past:
Why all this JUNK?...When you can have a HARVEY - WELLS
B A N D M A S T E R ?

ARRL License Manual 50 cents.

Amphenol folded dipole twin-lead amateur antennas. New models available shortly for 10, 20 and 40 meters.

Self Supporting Steel Towers for rotary beams, FM, TV. Attractive--no guy wires! 4 post construction for greater strength! Galvanized steel--will last a lifetime! SAFE--ladder to top of platform...easy monthly payments; up to 12 months to pay. Width at base = 1/5 of height. 22' \$94.75, 33' \$135.75, 50' \$217.75, 61' \$279.75, 100' \$1060.00. Vesto Co., Inc., North Kansas City, Mo.

Towers by Trylon Amateur radio types, guyed towers for FM/TV antennas, vertical radiators, microwave towers, commercial communication towers, transmission line supports, etc. Completely fabricated by the most modern methods by 20 year tower specialists, Trylon towers offer top value for any installation--commercial or amateur, Made only by Wind Turbine Company, West Chester, Pa.

Rob Atkinson K5UJ
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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 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.

<p>Marin Amateur Radio Society President: Doug Slusher KF6AKU 927-8120 Vice President: John Boyd KE6ORI Secretary: Norm Baetz WA6CLK 898-4887 Treasurer: Ed Karl KØKL Temp 479-8928 Additional Board Members: Al Weisman W5ALW 510.237.1978 Herman Weiss WP4DCM 789-9576 Kevin Foley KF6YUF 388-4849 Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 Raine Kinney KG6GII 453-3170 Lorraine Karl K2VGD 479-8928</p>	<p>Education Chair: Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ 382-1170 Ben7ham@aol.com Membership Chair: Doug Slusher KF6AKU 927-8120 VE Liaison: Al Weisman W5ALW 510-237-1978 Building Mgr. John Butler KF6GNI 717-3148 Trustee for W6SG: Steve Rathbone AJ6Y 898-8123 Trustee for K6GWE: Bob Webb WB6QPR Sunday Emergency Nets: HF Frank Strom WA6JTP VHF Raine Kinney KG6GII</p>	<p>ARRL WAS Local Rep: Jackson Sauers W6JRI 388-4094 DX Representative of ARRL: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829 WEBMASTER Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET Public Service Event Coordinator John Iacono KF6VYH 897-0413 KF6VYH@ARRL.NET Editor of QSA-5: Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 K6PHD@ARRL.NET</p>
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Dues structure is: \$20.00 per year for regular or family memberships. No dues are charged for Life or Honorary members.

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

Stamp

The Mailing
 Address
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