

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

June 2004

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President's Message?

Not bloody likely.

General Meeting 7 May 2004.

President John Boyd KE6ORI called the meeting to order at 1935 hours. Other board members present were John Iacono KF6VYH, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Herman Weiss WP4DCM, Steve Rathbone AJ6Y and Phil Dunlap K6PHD.

Connie Sawtelle AE6PA gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved.

John Boyd said refitting the truck is coming along and it was used as special events location for the Miwok 100 race.

Connie Sawtelle AE6PA said all arrangements have been made for the club's picnic at Sam Taylor park in July but we need a person to handle the barbecue. Otherwise it's immolate it yourself.

It's quite a distance away but keep in mind Dec. 5th for our Christmas party.

There was a call for volunteers for future Special Events.

John Boyd said repairs have been made on the UHF repeater. All other repeaters are operating properly.

There was a general invitation for members to use the club's HF station. We hope to improve the antenna in the near future.

John Butler KF6GNI said a new front gate has been installed and fence replacement will commence shortly. He also said the outside water heater room will be renovated. (An old alarm signal line running from this room all the way to E. Blithedale was discovered/rediscovered by our building mgr. It hangs from the power/phone poles and enters the building at the left front, 2nd story level. It'll be

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Website at W6SG.NET

Phone 415.389.6630

Come on Out on July 17th!

The Annual Marin Amateur Society Picnic will be held on July 17th, 2004 at Sam Taylor Park in West Marin from Noon to 5:00 PM. Bring your family and friends for a day of good eating, fellowship, games and general relaxation in the cool Redwood Grove area of the park. We plan to barbecue hamburgers and hot dogs and will have side salads, drinks and other goodies for you to enjoy. If there is something other than these items that you would prefer please bring it along to be prepared by our chef or incinerate it yourself.

So that we have enough food and drink for everyone, please do contact Connie at 415-382-6463 or email at cpolarb9@aol.com by July 12, 2004. You can give the reservation number of 1-2529632 at the gate as your entrance pass.

We hope to see you there.

Don't miss out!!!

Connie AE6PA

Field Day 2004

With Field Day fast approaching, your committee has made its decision to hold the event at the Marin Rod and Gun Club. The committee had hoped to hold this great event at a more public location to promote amateur radio and the club but, to date, club member support has been limited so we do not have the resources to put on a show and invite the public.

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Mailing Address

P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

Board Meeting 11 May

The meeting was called to order at 1935 hours by VP John Iacono KF6VYH. Other board members present were Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Phil Dunlap K6PHD, Herman Weiss WP4DCM, Raine Strom KG6GII and Kevin Foley KF6YUF.

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ gave a report on this year's Field Day. The Marin Rod and Gun Club is the site selected. We have quite a few volunteers to help set up the equipment Friday night but still need operators to man the station Saturday. As of this date we are planning on three positions plus a PSK31 and QRP set up. Food and rigs are being provided so all we need is people.

John Boyd talked about the possible club participation in Kids Day and the site may be at Courthouse Square in San Rafael. More news on this soon. John also talked about upcoming Special Events that the club will be supplying radio communication for. There will be a total of 15 races including the Pacific Sun, Holstein, Dipsea and Marin Century. Again, volunteers are needed so contact John if you can help.

Phil Dunlap suggested a written summary of duties so some of the new people can know what is expected of them when volunteering for the special events.

Some neighbors came in to discuss the fence the club is replacing, particularly around the small stub at the extreme rear of the property. They were told nothing could be decided until a full board is present. The meeting was adjourned at 2020 hours. Presented by Norm Baetz, Secretary.

Field Day, from page two.

We will be setting up antennas on Friday afternoon from approx. 16:30 until dark and for all that lend a hand we are offering a KFC gourmand dinner. Bring your own paper towels, bibs and antacids. Phil K6PHD will have a microwave on site for the three days for heating/reheating anything clammy or that has temporarily turned to stone, like yesterday's donuts. Last year's cheeseburgers cooked on Saturday eve went down well on Sunday morn, along with Chet's breakfast. In 2002 we had the Colonel's Greasy Bird for dinner. We took the leftovers home to refrigerate overnight and brought 'em back Sunday morn. The congealed grease looked ghastly but melted rapidly and was reabsorbed back into the coating. There's no record of excessive regurgitation or fatalities that year.

Field Day rules allow us to begin operation at 18:00 ZULU. For us West Coast folks that's 11 AM Saturday (PDT is only seven hours behind ZULU) We can operate for a 24 hour period so 11 AM Sunday we will start to clean up. So far George KF6VSG has been the only one to volunteer to help breakdown the site. We need a few more hands so if you can find a way to be at the site early Sunday morning we have a great breakfast planned. We will have a surprise breakfast chef this year as Lance Atchison KG6GGK has moved to Louisiana.

We will be operating four stations 15/80 meters, 10/40 meters, 20 meters and 20 Meters PSK31, so we have broken the 24-hour period into 2-hour blocks starting at 11 AM Saturday. So far we have John KF6VYH 2-4 Sat on 10/40 meters, Ben N6PJZ with Connie AE6PA have staked out 20 Meters from 2-4 Sat. so there are plenty of times and frequencies still available. We are also looking for radio captains to set up rigs Saturday morning Norm WA6CLK has already volunteered to captain the 20 Meter station. This involves making sure the area you set up in will have a light, note pad, pencils, cables, antenna tuner and all the things we always forget. If you are interested in

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Field Day, from column one.

being a captain, want to operate or just help log contacts (For those of you that don't have a lot of DX experience logging is a great way to learn) give Dave KG6TCJ (415) 332-1864 a call or email kg6tcj@arrl.net to pick a time that works with your HoneyDo List.

Our PSK-31 guru George KF6VSG will be giving us a demonstration Saturday of his PSKMETER on 20 Meters (we have also loaned him a bandpass filter just in case, so he promises no QRM this year)

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W6RO,
the Amateur Radio station in the Wireless Room of the Queen Mary, recently celebrated 25 years of continuous operation. Permanently berthed at the Port of Long Beach, "The Queen" is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Southern California. During its 25 years of operation, W6RO has presented a positive image of Amateur Radio to more than four million visitors.

W6RO is the club call sign of the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach, an ARRL Special Service Club. At the center of operations is Nate Brightman, K6OSC. He has spearheaded Amateur Radio aboard the Queen Mary, recruited hundreds of operators, garnered equipment donations from leading manufacturers, and maintained excellent relations with "The Queen's" management.

At a 25th anniversary celebration held April 29 in the Queen's salon, ARRL Southwestern Division Director Art Goddard, W6XD, presented a Special Service Award to Brightman, who accepted it on behalf of all W6RO radio operators.

Nearly 100 amateurs volunteer at least four hours a month to operate W6RO from 9 AM until 5 PM daily. W6RO also is a regular stop on the Queen Mary self-guided tour, and licensed visitors may log in and get on the air. The former passenger liner now is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Condensed from the ARRL letter.

KIDS DAY

I am working on setting up a location or two for Kid's Day—in case one doesn't pan out, hopefully the other will—and know that to draw a bigger crowd and to accommodate more tikes we will need more than a radio or two.

One thing tested and known to be enjoyed by kids is using a code practice oscillator and tapping out their names with the international Morse code alphabet.

I am wondering if you could put a small call for help in the June QSA5 saying that **the club needs to borrow a code practice oscillator (and speaker if it is needed for one, rather than headphones) for Kid's Day on June 19, and then we will return it.**

73Rem k6bbq@arrl.net
456-0658

Public Service Events.

We have the following public service events coming up for which we need volunteers:

Sunday, June 13, 2004 The Dipsea
Saturday, August 7, 2004 Marin Century 100/200M Bike Ride
Saturday, August 21, 2004 Holstein Hundred Bike Ride

Please contact me at

ka6bqf@aol.com or John at
kf6vyh@earthlink.net.

73, Randy KA6BQF

Scheduled VE exam dates for 2004.

June 19, September 25 and December 18. These are all Saturdays. Tech classes will be held prior to each of these dates. Also, General Class instruction will be held shortly before the June exam. This will be the last time to go for the General ticket before the question pool is enlarged on 1 July.

Monthly MARS Glutton Breakfast. Third Sunday. Doors open at 0800 at The Flatiron Sports Bar & Grill, 2nd @ B, San Rafael.

Gen'l meeting, from page two, column one.

removed and should have some copper worth recycling, maybe by PG+E for taking it down. Maybe the reason it's still hanging on the poles is the cost of removing it. Hoonose? Ed.)

Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ announced classes for general class ham license will be held at the clubhouse on June 5 and 12. A test will follow on June 19.

John Butler has possible plans to set up a cw net on UHF and VHF.

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ and Chet Rice WA6PAC gave a report on Field Day preparations. We still need volunteers to man the operating stations.

John Iacono has purchased a Rig blaster for the club station and we hope to get it operating soon.

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From column one.

John Boyd said the club's Web site has been partially updated. He also talked about the upcoming convention in Dayton. He and Doug Slusher will both attend.

Bill Ashley finished the evening with a very interesting and informative talk on the history of world wide radio prefixes. The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours.

Submitted by Norm Baetz, Secretary.

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Looking to buy or sell something? Advertise your stuff, or wants (within limits) in this publication, FREE. Contact the editor.

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Frisbeetarianism: The belief that when you die your soul goes up on the roof and gets stuck. George Carlin.

Field Day, from page three, column two.

Tom KG6TCM is the lead for Saturday dinner and has planned a meal fit for a king. The only problem is we will all pig out, which will cause us to fade slowly into unconsciousness or at least become lethargic. There go the points.

Field Day 2004 looks to be a great event and fun for all so come on out to the Rod & Gun Club and play radio for the weekend or maybe just a small part of it. You don't even have to be an operator but we can always use more of them. Bring beer.

Your Field Day Committee:

Chet Rice WA6PAC

Norm Baetz WA6CLK

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ

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.

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

President:

John Boyd KE6ORI

Vice President:

John Iacono KF6VYH 897-0431

Secretary:

Norm Baetz WA6CLK 898-4887

Treasurer:

Doug Slusher KF6AKU 927-8120

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 Strom KG6GII 453-3170

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:

Doug Slusher KF6AKU (shortly)

Sunday Emergency Nets:

HF Frank Strom WA6JTP

VHF Raine Strom KG6GII

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

This will probably be a shared responsibility.

Editor of QSA-5:

Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318

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