

# QSA-5

Founded, 1933

## President's Message

(Ain't seen one since 2003)

### General Meeting, 4 March.

President John Boyd KE6ORI called the meeting to order at 19:31 hours. Other board members present were John Iacono KF6VYH, Doug Slusher KF6AKU, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Phil Dunlap K6PHD, Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ, Kevin Foley KF6YUF and Al Weisman W5ALW. There were some 28 members and guests present.

Connie Sawtelle AE6PA gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved. Connie also said the club's picnic will be held at Samuel P. Taylor Park on Saturday, 17 September.

John Boyd talked about work being done on the club's comm truck including weather stripping the windows and doors. A member has donated the use of a de-humidifier to help dry out the interior which became soggy as a result of the recent rains.

Randy Jenkins talked about the upcoming special events and how important it is for members to participate. Any volunteers please contact Randy. All events will be listed in QSA-5.

Doug Slusher said the new receiver will soon be installed on Big Rock.

John Butler said there are on-going plans for remodeling the men's room, antenna updates to meet codes, and a cleanup of the backroom is planned.

Dave Hodgson talked about the ARRL emergency classes and said the site for this year's Field Day is yet to be decided.

Ben Sawtell called for members to make certain they have sent in their dues for 2005. No April QSA-5 if not renewed.

Bill Provines is back home from the hospital and wishes the club well as we do him. Bill was our Ham of the Year in 2004.

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## Website at W6SG.NET

Phone 415.389.6630

### Special Events for 2005.

**Most of these events are on a Saturday. The DIPSEA is on Sunday as is the Escape From Alcatraz. The Saturn Relay runs on both days. The figure in parens is the number of volunteers required for each event. We believe that the Double Century supplies food and drink along the route and at the finish. Others may do the same. See Randy KA6BQF for further info.**

30 April **Miwok 100K** 05:00-22:30  
Rodeo Beach—Marin Headlands (9)

7 May **Human Race** 07:30-12:00  
Civic Center (5)

31 May **Pacific Sun 10K Run** (5)  
College of Marin 07:30-11:30

12 June **DIPSEA** 08:00-12:00  
Mill Valley—Stinson Beach (12)

25 June **Double Dipsea** 08:00-15:00  
Stinson Beach—Mill Valley (6)

22 July **Bike Around the Bay** (15+)  
Novato 04:00-23:30

5 August **Marin Century/Mt. Tam**  
Novato **Double Century** (15+)  
04:00-23:30

19 August **Holstein Hundred** (15+)  
Tomales 06:00-20:00

26 August **Headlands 50K** (9)  
Rodeo Beach 07:00-17:00

2 October **Escape from Alcatraz** (5)  
Mill Valley 10:00-17:00

15/16 October **Saturn Relay** (9)

## Mailing Address

P.O. Box 6423  
San Rafael, CA 94903

### Board Meeting, 8 March

The meeting was called to order by President John Boyd KE6ORI at 19:35 hours. Other board members present were John Iacono KF6VYH, Norm Baetz WA6CLK, Phil Dunlap K6PHD, Kevin Foley KF6YUF and Al Weisman W5ALW.

It was decided that some of older rigs the club has in the radio room will be sold, with members having first option. Minimum prices will be printed in QSA-5 as soon as they are decided on. Enough operational equipment will be retained to supply the shack, comm truck and Field Day ops.

A motion was approved to send the club's second floor renter a letter asking her to remove her non-drivable car from the backyard.

A contractor still has to be found to come up with an estimate for remodeling the men's room. John Butler will keep us informed on this. He also mentioned that PG&E bills for the club have gone up quite a bit. (NS,DT.)

Bill Provines has donated a ClearSpeech DSP speaker unit to be used on our HF rig for Sunday check in. Bill says his current rig's DSP makes the ClearSpeech unit redundant. Phil K6PHD is making minor modifications to the donated unit and as of 3/17 it was operational. (External 12v power comes from the Astron supply on the VHF rig.) Bill does not drive anymore and has got rid of his car. We miss him at our Sunday morning meetings.

Repeater repair work will continue when the required technical people are available. If you have problems with repeater operation, please be patient. (No whining! Ed.)

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**Bill Provines.**

Bill proVINES (accent that on the second syllable) W6JBZ, called Monday morning, 3/14 to check on the status of a ClearSpeech speaker unit he has donated for use on the club's HF net. This is an external DSP unit formerly available with or w/o the built in speaker from AmCom. HEIL SOUND is the present source of these units and they have been upgraded with some added external controls which we won't go into here. The unit that Bill donated, as well as our own, was sold by AmCom but the circuitry was designed by NCT.

We dug two insulated alligator clips out of the junk box to connect the ClearSpeech to the 13.8vdc power supply used with the VHF rig in the clubhouse shack. The HF rig has a built in power supply that's difficult to tap into.

Our own ClearSpeech has, so far, made two trips to the submarine Pampanito at pier 45 at Fisherman's Wharf in The City. On a Saturday, usually once a month, two or three members of the Pampanito Radio Club operate from the radio room on the sub, mostly sideband, using a modern amateur xceiver, which is kept hidden from view so as not to detract from the WW2 era view thru the door. Hours are from around 11:30 to 16:00 or until the band—20 or 15, last resort is 40—goes dead or until we get tired of being crammed into that tiny radio shack. Flatulence by the ops is not forgivable. Don't expect much activity after about 14:30. This past weekend, 3/12, Rich Carbine, W6UDS made over twenty-five contacts on 20 and 15. We filled in for comedy relief for a short period and made a few, hoping that we had made no enemies. Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW, did the logging and will send out the QSLs.

We QSL whether you want the card or not, unless you adamantly turn it down with threats of violence. Along with the QSL we add a pamphlet with info on the sub. Please don't ask the op about the weather because he can't see anything outside. All he/she can do is to tell you what it was at the time of boarding. Probably close enough. Ed.

**From our Contact at the IJ.**

Dark and Stormy Night competition. For you lovers of excellent uses of the language... These came from the annual "Dark and Stormy Night" competition -- actual analogies and metaphors found in high school essays:

1. Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.
2. His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.
3. He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it.
4. She grew on him like she was a colony of E. coli and he was room-temperature Canadian beef.
5. She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.
10. McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.
12. Her hair glistened in the rain like a nose hair after a sneeze.
13. The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease.
15. They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.
16. He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant and she was the East River.
17. Even in his last years, Grandpappy had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.
18. The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.
19. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame, maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.
20. It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools.

**General Meeting, from page one.**

The business meeting was adjourned and our guest speaker Dr. Robert Uhrhammer WB6VEX, chief research seismologist at Cal, Berkeley, gave a very absorbing and informative talk on the Great Sumatran Earthquake and Tsunami plus much information on local seismic conditions and events, past and projected future. A question and answer period followed. Thanks to Randy for arranging for Dr. Uhrhammer to speak to our club. The presentation ended at 2145 hours. No one was seen to leave early.

Submitted by Norm Baetz, Secretary.

**Board Meeting, from page one.**

There was a discussion on what kind of HF rig and antenna to be used in the club's comm. truck.

A special thanks was given to Randy Jenkins KA6BQF for helping out with the VE tests. Randy will be our guest speaker at the April meeting and will talk about public service events.

The meeting was adjourned at 2015 hours.

Submitted by Norm Baetz, Secretary.

**Items For Sale.**

Ramsey 2 Mtr. amplifier to bring your hand held up to approx. 25 W.

Asking \$35.00

400 Ch Uniden Bearcat BC3000XLT scanner with cell phone coverage. Comes with Manual, AC Adapter and Charger, Belt Clip, and two Battery (NiCad) packs. Asking \$75.00

Almost FREE, Epson Stylus Color Photo 785 EPX ink jet printer. Print border free photos with or without your computer on 4X6, 5X7, or 8X10 sizes with built in PC card slot for CF I, II; Smart-Media, Microdrive, Memory Stick, and Secure Digital. Printer accepts sheets or 4"X26 feet premium glossy photo paper rolls. Three rolls are included for a value of \$58. Two new Epson Black ink cartridges are included for a value of \$50.00. Total value of material supplied = \$108.00. Comes with a USB cable and preview monitor to help select photos for printing. Asking \$50.00.

Dick Sadler, KD6RUP  
San Rafael 415 485-1835

**History Lesson, from the 'net.**

Many amateurs already know that "73" is from what is known as the "Phillips Code", a series of numeric messages conceived for the purpose of cutting down transmission time on the old land telegraph systems when sending text that is basically the same.

In the April 1935 issue of QST on page 60 there is a short article on the origin of 73. This article was a summation of another article that appeared in the "December Bulletin from the Navy Department Office of the Chief of Naval Operations". That would be December of 1934.

The quotation from the Navy is as follows: "It appears from a research of telegraph histories that in 1859 the telegraph people held a convention, and one of its features was a discussion as to the saving of 'line time'. A committee was appointed to devise a code to reduce standard expressions to symbols or figures. This committee worked out a figure code, from figure 1 to 92. Most of these figure symbols became obsolescent, but a few remain to this date, such as 4, which means "Where shall I go ahead?'. Figure 9 means 'wire', the wire chief being on the wire and that everyone should close their keys. Symbol 13 means 'I don't understand'; 22 is 'love and a kiss'; 30 means 'good night' or 'the end'. The symbol most often used now is 73, which means 'my compliments' and 92 is for the word 'deliver.' The other figures in between the forgoing have fallen into almost complete disuse."

One of the chief telegraphers of the Navy Department of Communications, a J. L. Bishop, quoted from memory the signals that were in effect in 1905:

- 1 Wait a minute
- 5 Have you anything for me?
- 9 Attention or clear the wire
- 13 I do not understand
- 22 Love and kisses
- 25 Busy on another circuit
- 30 Finished, the end-used mainly by press telegraphers

Go to column two.

From column one.

73 My compliments, or Best Regards.

92 Deliver

Now days, 22 has become 88 (love and kisses). I don't know when this came about. 30 is still used in the newspaper and magazine business to indicate the end of a feature, story, or column. And, of course, 73 is still used by amateur radio operators to mean "best regards".

**Making any of these numbers plural (73s, 88s, etc.) is incorrect since they are already plural. 73s would mean best regardses and 88s would mean love and kisseses. Those make no sense.**

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**Some CW Abbreviations from the 'net.**

**30 - I have no more to send**

**33 - Fondest Regards**

**55 - Best Success**

**73 - Best Regards (NOT 73s) \***

**88 - Love and kisses (NOT 88s)**

**161 - 73+88=161" first came about in FOC circles (First-Class CW Operators' Club, founded by Louis Varney G5RV a number of years ago). The essential meaning is "Best regards to you and your XYL".**

**\* 73 IS BEST REGARDS. 73s (PLURAL) MAKES NO SENSE AND IS IMPROPER USEAGE.**

**(Used mainly by former CBers. Children's Banders and the ignorant. (grin) Ed.)**

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**Woody Wilson, W6KVV, SK**

Got a call this morning, 3/14, from Steve Rathbone AJ6Y, with the sad news that Woody Wilson had died of heart failure early today. Woody was a life member of MARC and was 87.

A 37 year veteran of PG&E, Woody retired as a Line Foreman.

Woody Wilson's obit was in the Wednesday 3/16 IJ. Ed.

**Items For Sale.**

Ramsey 2 Mtr. amplifier to bring your hand held up to approx. 25 W. Asking \$35.00

400 Ch Uniden Bearcat BC3000XLT scanner with cell phone coverage. Comes with Manual, AC Adapter and Charger, Belt Clip, and two Battery (NiCad) packs. Asking \$75.00

Almost FREE, Epson Stylus Color Photo 785 EPX ink jet printer. Print border free photos with or without your computer on 4X6, 5X7, or 8X10 sizes with built in PC card slot for CF I, II; Smart-Media, Microdrive, Memory Stick, and Secure Digital. Printer accepts sheets or 4"X26 feet premium glossy photo paper rolls. Three rolls are included for a value of \$58. Two new Epson Black ink cartridges are included for a value of \$50.00. Total value of material supplied = \$108.00. Comes with a USB cable and preview monitor to help select photos for printing. Asking \$50.00.

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One day a man came home and was greeted by his wife dressed in a very sexy nightie. "Tie me up," she purred, "and you can do anything you want."

So, he tied her up and went golfing. Pleasure is where you find it.

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"Why does Sea World have a seafood restaurant? I'm halfway through my fish burger and I realize, Oh my God.... I could be eating a slow learner."

--Lynda Montgomery

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"Suppose you were an idiot ... And suppose you were a member of Congress... But I repeat myself."

-Mark Twain

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**Do you know why they call it "PMS"? Because "Mad Cow Disease" was already taken.**

**—Unknown, presumed dead.**

**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 directly 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:

##### 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

Frank Strom WA6JTP 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:

Augie Koehler KØCQL

##### Trustee for K6GWE:

Doug Slusher KF6AKU

##### 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

K6PHD@ARRL.NET

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 Address  
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