

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

August 2006 Page 1

Board Meeting, 11 July.

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Hodgson at 19:34. Others present were Vice-president / Treasurer Eric KG6WOU; Secretary Randy, KA6BQF; Board Members John, KE6ORI; Tom, KG6TCM; Kevin, KF6YUF; K6GWE Trustee Doug, KF6AKU; W6SG Trustee Augie, KØCQL and QSA-5 Editor Phil, K6PHD.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the June Board of Director's Meeting were approved as published in QSA-5.

Secretary Randy reported on correspondence from the Registrar of Voters requesting the use of the clubhouse for the November election, and to the ARRL-VEC dealing with the W6SG trustee listing. Use of the facility was approved by the Board.

President Dave contacted the Marin Cyclists about the Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century. Dave and Tom will attend a meeting on July 12.

Recreation: picnic coming up. Decision on Xmas party next month.

Public Service Chair Randy reported that the Double Dipsea was completed successfully and that recruitment for the Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century and the Holstein Hundred have begun. We have been asked to recruit for the Waves-to-Wine ride in Sonoma in September.

Under Technical Committee, K6GWE Trustee Doug reported on a trip to the Big Rock site. The receiver at the site was received. (Gremlins? ed.) Activation of the San Pedro Ridge back-up repeater was discussed. There was some discussion on radio sites.

President Dave reported that the radio battery in the truck needed to be charged up.

Technician Classes are scheduled for August 19 and 26. A VE Session is scheduled on September 09.

Our building manager has completed repairs on the tenant's bathtub to stop the leak. John is also in the process of resealing the asphalt parking area.

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Website at W6SG.NET
Phone 415.389.6630

Public Service Events for 2006

Here are the remaining events for 2006.

August 5 Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century

August 19 Holstein Hundred

October 15 Escape from Alcatraz

Randy KA6BQF

ka6bqf@arrl.net 510-526-4089

Our biggest public service events are coming up in August. The Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century Bike Ride is on Saturday August 5. Volunteers are needed for aid station and SAG* wagon communications. We can work with your schedule. The ride is also looking for SAG* drivers. We need 20 - 25 hams to staff this event.

(The Double Century event has the most food for participants. We've not seen this many pizzas in one place at any other event, ever. And that's only part of it! Plus, there's food and drink at stops along the routes, all the way to Valley Ford and back. Nobody goes home hungry. Bloated, maybe.

The Holstein has had chicken, rice, salad, rolls and ice cream. We're sold on it! ed.)

The Holstein Hundred, which benefits the West Marin Senior Center is also coming up on Saturday, August 19. We have the same assignments available. They will also be looking for SAG* drivers. We need 15 - 20 hams to staff this event.

Contact Randy, KA6BQF to volunteer. ka6bqf@arrl.net 510.526.4089

* **SAG.** We always forget what this term means but it probably has little or nothing to do with the anatomy of the participants. Well, maybe some with a few.

See page three for more on public service events.

P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

General Meeting, 7 July

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 by President Dave Hodgson, KG6TCJ. Other board members present were; Frank Strom, WA6JTP; Raine Strom, KG6GII; Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF; John Boyd, KE6ORI; and W6SG Trustee Augie Khoehler, KØCQL. Fifteen members and guests signed in.

The Agenda was approved as submitted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published in QSA-5.

Secretary Randy reported on incoming correspondence. Norm Baetz, WA6CLK, sent a letter of thanks to the Marin Rod & Gun Club for the use of their site for Field Day.

President Hodgson summarized the actions at the previous Board Meeting. The comm truck generator was discussed.

No treasurer's report available, bills were paid.

The recreation committee has set September 23 as the date for the picnic, and has a tentative date of December 3 for the Xmas / Holiday Party. Suggestions for the Xmas party will be left open for an additional month.

Public Service Chair Randy reported on upcoming public service events, including the Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century on August 5 and the Holstein Hundred on August 19. The Sonoma Club is looking for volunteers for the Waves to Wine on September 9 & 10.

John Boyd reported that a trip was made to Big Rock to work on the repeater input, and that the problem fixed itself. We have a replacement machine in the pipeline.

John reported on a conversation with ENG Engineering about the proposed replacement generator for the Comm Truck. The generator situation was explained and discussed.

Education Chair Ben Sawtelle, N6PJZ, reported that classes for the Technician license would be held on August 19 and 26.

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Field Day, 2006

As Field Day chairman I was asked to write a few lines about our recent ARRL Field Day. This year it was held on June 24th and 25th at our old reliable Marin Rod and Gun Club. Other sites were discussed but mainly because of costs it was decided once again to use the Rod and Gun Club facility. The people there are most accommodating and I would recommend using their site again next year. A number of us (we don't remember how many. ed.) set up most of the equipment and antennas on Friday afternoon. Phil Dunlap K6PHD hauled and set up the club's generator and power cable. John Boyd's diesel gen was not operational. The rest of us cleaned up the sheds and set up the rigs. Rich Carbine W6UDS was our main man in putting up the antennas. Most of us left by early evening but Doug Short KD6SAU and Rem KD6BBQ stayed overnight for security reasons. Speaking of security, ask Doug about the Deputy Sheriff who showed up during the night a bit suspicious about what was going on. Doug gave him a guided tour of our setup and explained the operation. Who knows? Maybe we have another 'ham convert'. Late Saturday morning we proceeded to work station after station. Not really, but we had fun trying. We had two main stations (100 watts ea.) and a QRP station run by Bill Stewart KF6RMK and a solar powered station with Rem as the op. Rich and I mainly operated CW. Doug Slusher KF6AKU again provided computers to help us log. Band conditions, other than 20m and 40m, were not the best but contacts were made. I don't know our final tally. I'm sure we didn't make a lot of points but we did have a good time. Again our Field Day highlights were the great lunch, as usual by Chet Rice WA6PAC, a delicious dinner provided by Tom Jordan KG6TCM and the club treasury. A fine, hearty, calorie-filled Sunday breakfast by our president Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ kept our abused bodies operational for the rest of the morning, at least.

Saturday Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV our ARRL San Francisco Section Manager stopped by. He seemed impressed by our efforts, especially Rem's solar station.

We had about 30 members and guests who operated, helped with setup and/or tear down or just visited. All were welcome and their efforts greatly appreciated!

Column two.>>>

From column one.

We started cleaning up fairly early Sunday and were gone by noon, taking most of the equipment back to the clubhouse.

Norm Baetz, WA6CLK

Board Meeting, cont.

Old Business: A leave of absence for Director Eric Rosenquist was approved. He has resigned his officer positions for the duration of his absence. John Boyd was appointed as Vice-president, as position he has held in the recent past, and Kevin Foley was appointed Treasurer. Tom Jordan will serve as Assistant Treasurer.

The status of the comm truck generator was discussed. Al W5ALW has evaluated the generator and recommends replacing the head gasket and testing. This was approved. More on this next month. John Boyd has conferred with ENG about using a Honda generator as a replacement. If it fits, OK; we'll have to let ENG know if we want them to install it.

More on the comm truck: the feasibility of installing a two-meter linear amplifier was discussed. A portable communications box was discussed. Reinstallation of the Spectra UHF and installation of the Kenwood VHF was discussed.

New Business: The Board approved a 4% increase in the rent for our tenant, effective in September if the notifications can be made in time (otherwise October). There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:29.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Jenkins KA6BQF Secretary.

Volunteers still needed for the August 5 Marin Century/Double Century event. This is fun and you get to stuff yourself on included goodies as you cruise from rest stop to rest stop with final gluttony at Start/Finish in Terrible Linda. I believe Chet WA6PAC is coming out for this ride. We'll be there, too. ed.

The Holstein Hundred on August 19 is short a few hams to ride along in SAG vehicles. We haven't participated in this one yet but Randy sez the food is good. Unfortunately we'll be at the Truckee River Wine Walk in Reno on that date. Maybe one of our members could save us a doggie bag in the freezer?

The Sonoma County club is looking for help with their "Waves to Wine Ride" on September 9 & 10. Contact is Craig K6XLT k6xlt@sonic.net >>>>>>>>

General Meeting, cont.

Secretary Randy reported that a VE session was scheduled for September 9.

Field Day Chair Norm Baetz, WA6CLK, stated that Field Day was over. Around 30 people participated. There was a visit by our ARRL Section Manager, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV.

Kid's Day on Saturday, June 17th was a lot of fun. We are looking forward to going back to the same location.

Building Manager John Butler needs assistance with some sheet rock repairs.

John Comstock, KI6ENC, reported on activity at the San Francisco VA Hospital including that related to the SF Radio Club.

Denise Stoops, KI6BBR, reported on "Night of Nights 7" coming up on Wednesday, July 12.

Secretary Randy reported on an open house at KRE with the California Historical Radio Society on July 15.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 20:07. (General blabbing commenced at that point. ed.) Respectfully submitted,

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary.

Can you ID the make of this vehicle, photographed in Klamath Falls in August of 1992? Color is red. We've never seen another one of these.



Herb Caen's last visit to Playland at the Beach, 4 Sept. 1972:

www.sonic.net/~playland/herb.html

Your name can appear here for a small donation.

The "Ride Against the Odds" in Oakland is looking for volunteers for their September 10 event. Contact Mike Pompa mpompa@inbox.com. You could probably weasel some info on these last two out of Randy before committing.

K6GWE Repeaters
2 meters
Big Rock Ridge 147.330 +
INPUTS
 pl 203.5 Big Rock
 pl 179.9 Mt. Tam west
 pl 167.9 Mt. Barnabe
 pl 192.8 Tiburon
Mt. Tamalpais 146.700 -
 pl 179.9 Mt. Tam input
San Pedro Ridge 147.330 +
 pl 173.8 off-line - reserve status.
440
San Pedro Ridge
 443.525 + pl 82.5
Mt. Tamalpais
 443.250 + pl 179.9

Crystal Sets
 If you've ever wondered how these work and how to build them, try this site:
<http://www.midnightscience.com/>
 Books are available here showing how to do it, including parts lists, diagrams, etc. We built one as a kid in Seattle and as well as picking up local stations, we pulled in some long haul stations like KOA out of Denver after dark.
 Now that solid state diodes are available, there's no more fiddling with a 'cat's whisker' on a galena crystal like we did. A crystal radio would make a good project for show & tell for the kids.

Nut Tree to be Reincarnated.
 "Yes, the airport is still open and will be in the future. The only difference is that the train will not connect to the airport. We are looking into alternative means to get from the airport to the Nut Tree and back."
 Thank you for your inquiry.
 The Nut Tree Staff.
 See www.nuttreeusa.com

An oldie
 College Station, Texas', worst disaster occurred when a small two-seater Cessna 150 plane, piloted by two Texas A&M students, crashed into a cemetery earlier today. Search and Rescue workers have recovered 300 bodies so far and expect the number to climb as digging continues into the evening. The pilot and copilot survived and are helping in the recovery efforts.

FCC SUSPENDS HAM LICENSES FOR FAILURE TO MAINTAIN MAILING ADDRESS

The FCC has suspended two Amateur Radio licenses because the holders had failed to maintain correct mailing addresses in the Commission's licensee database. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth wrote Larry L. Smith, KC7LJR, of Middleton, Idaho, and Larry Maniag, KD7JTG, of Payson, Arizona, on June 28 to inform them the FCC was suspending their Technician tickets for the remainder of their license terms or until each licensee provides a valid mailing address.

In his letter to Smith, Hollingsworth noted that on three occasions in late 2005, the FCC had been unable to deliver warning notices alleging deliberate interference to a 2-meter repeater system.

He told Maniag that the US Postal Service earlier this year returned as undeliverable two warning notices alleging deliberate interference with several repeaters. Hollingsworth cited §97.23 of the Commission's Amateur Radio Service rules that requires each license grant to show the licensee's correct name and mailing address. The rule provides that "revocation of the station license or suspension of the operator license may result when correspondence from the FCC is returned as undeliverable because the grantee failed to provide the correct mailing address."

Hollingsworth cited the same rule to an Ohio licensee apparently tempting a similar fate. On June 26 Hollingsworth afforded Robert D. Reckner, W8IQJ, more time to respond to complaints involving his service as MIDCARS net control. The complaint alleges deliberate interference as a result of his starting the net on top of existing communications on 7.258 MHz in April. A June 1 letter enclosing the complaint came back to the FCC as undeliverable, he said.

In another failure-to-reply case, Hollingsworth notified William E. Kuth, KB2SGQ, of Utica, New York, on June 27 that his license renewal application has been designated for dismissal. That action effectively eliminates Kuth's Amateur Radio privileges, and Hollingsworth reminded him of that fact.

In May, the FCC notified Kuth that his renewal application "could not be routinely granted" and had been referred to the Enforcement Bureau for review. That came in the wake of a Warning Notice for allegedly operating on 26.815 MHz without a license and causing interference on 10 meters. Additional complaints alleged that Kuth operated on 26.945 MHz.

Hollingsworth said postal records indicate that Kuth received the FCC inquiry on May 5 but did not respond. The letter to Kuth noted that the address on his renewal application differed from his actual mailing address. Kuth's Technician license expired in November 2004.

The FCC dismissed the upgrade application of Andrew O. Ojwang, KI4LTH, of Roswell, Geor-

response to "numerous complaints about the operation of your station since the grant of your General class license," Hollingsworth wrote. Following the complaints, the FCC last October set aside Ojwang's General license and his renewal application, which reverted to pending status.

"Pursuant to your response dated May 31, 2006, your General class application is being forwarded to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for dismissal," Hollingsworth informed Ojwang on June 28. Complaints regarding Ojwang's on-air operation would have to be resolved before the Commission would consider an upgrade application, Hollingsworth advised. The FCC appears to have renewed Ojwang's Technician ticket for a full 10-year term, however.

Meanwhile, a Texas man, Billy J. Benefiel, W5BJB, turned in his amateur license rather than respond to complaints alleging that he was operating on frequencies not authorized to him as a Technician, and for causing interference.
 From the ARRL Letter.

A blonde walks by a travel agency and notices a sign in the window, "Cruise Special -- \$99!" So she goes inside, lays her money on the counter and says, "I'd like the \$99 cruise special, please."

The agent says, "Yes, ma'am," then he grabs her, drags her into the back room, ties her into a large inner tube, pulls her out the back door and downhill to the river bank, where he pushes her in and sends her floating down the river.

A second blonde comes by a few minutes later, sees the sign, goes inside, lays down her money, and asks for the \$99 special. She too is tied to an inner tube and sent floating down the river. Drifting into a stronger current, she eventually catches up with the first blonde. They float side by side for a while before the first blonde asks, "Do they serve refreshments on his cruise?" The second blonde replies, "They didn't last year."

The new Supermarket near our house has an automatic water mister to keep the produce fresh. Just before it activates, you hear the sound of a thunderstorm and are aware of the smell of fresh rain. When you approach the milk cases, you hear cows mooing and smell the scent of fresh butter fat. (And only that. You can't trust cows. ed.)

When you approach the egg case, you hear hens cackling and the air is filled with the pleasing aroma of eggs frying.

So far I have been too afraid to go down the toilet paper aisle.

Submitted by a loyal reader.

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. Angle 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.

Business/Board Meeting meets at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley on the second Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend to try to keep the clowns honest. However, they probably would not be successful at that.

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	Education Chair:	ARRL WAS Local Rep:
President:	Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ 382-1170	Rem O'Donnely K6BBQ
Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864	kermode7@hotmail.com	DX Representative of ARRL:
Vice President:	Membership Chair:	Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829
Eric Rosenquist KG6WOU 257-8841	Raine Strom KG6GII 453-3170	WEBMASTER
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Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089	Al Weisman W5ALW 510-237-1978	N1ZKW@ARRL.NET
Treasurer:	Building Mgr.	Public Service Event Coordinators
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Stamp

The Mailing
 Address
 Goes Here