

Q S A - 5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter November 2006 Page 1

President's Message.

Daylight Saving is still with us for a few more days, ending Sunday the 29th at 02:00, and the Holiday Season is about to begin. The club Christmas party and dinner is scheduled for December 3rd from 6:00 PM to about 9:30 PM at the Four Seasons Sheraton Hotel in Terra Linda. This is always a great party with good food and friends to match. If you plan to attend it's time to get your checks in. You can return them in the same envelope with your 2007 Board of Directors ballot. As long as we are on the subject of entertainment, it takes a lot of time, planning and a lot of work to prepare for the Club Picnic, Christmas Party and the eats for our general meetings. I want to personally thank Connie for a terrific job, and to Ben and the others who have lent a hand, a big thank you.

We had our last Public Service event on Saturday October 15, the Dolphin Club's Escape from Alcatraz, which came off without a hitch. Randy KA6BQF, Rita KG6WPN, Chuck WA6SQQ, Brian Campbell KI6BQV (who came over from SF) and I gave up going to Pacificon on Saturday to staff the event. The club staffed nine events this year which required over 80 radio operators. As you can imagine there is no way we can field 80 people so many of you participated in more than one event. Either this shows a strong dedication to ham radio or, maybe, we are just a little masochistic. We also had help from the folks at EBARC across the Bay and our friends up in Sonoma County. We even talked our ARRL Section Manger Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, into coming down for the Double Century. Thank you all. We could not have done it without you.

For those of you who did not attend the last membership meeting, you really missed out on a great party. We had a BBQ with burgers, dogs and tri-tip topped off with a great presentation by Adam McLaughlin KD6POC about radio station KPH in West Marin. Adam is a member of the Maritime Radio Historical Society which is the group working in conjunction

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Website at W6SG.NET
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Christmas Party

We still call it the Christmas party and resent to varying degrees the more politically correct term, 'holiday'. Same goes for Christmas cards, season, shopping and a few other terms that have been usurped by the PC. We elderfahrenten, at least those whom we've talked to, agree on this.

One thing the MARS members of all ages do agree on is that our Party is worth attending. You'll leave stuffed if you don't happen to be on a diet. One change this year is that the all-you-can-slam down bar is now a no-host. Most of us are too conservative to take proper advantage of it and that bar was costing too much for what we actually imbibed. This should help to prevent those embarrassing displays of inebriated streaking through the halls of the hotel. However, if you are still planning to do this, let us know in advance so we can have our cameras ready. You could get your picture in this publication.

The RSVP flyer is included with this mailing as is the ballot for members of the 2007 Board of Directors. The terms of office are staggered so that the whole corrupt bunch is not replaced at one time. The holdovers can then infect the newly elected. You can mail both ballot and RSVP back in the pre-addressed envelope. The stamp is on you. ed.

A Little plagiarized SSB History

1933 - Robert Moore, W6DEI, puts an amateur station on 75 meter LSB. This station was later described in detail in R/9 magazine. It used LC filtering at 10 kc to generate the SSB signal, followed by conversion to 200 kc and 3950 kc.

SSB operation concentrated on 75 and 20 meters in the post-WW2 years because: - they were the most crowded 'phone allocations - 40 had no 'phone band, and 15 wasn't a ham band, until the early 1950s. The main reasons SSB was not more widely adopted by hams in the '30s were cost and complexity.

A little more on page three, column three, bottom.

P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

General Meeting 6 October.

The meeting was called to order by president Dave Hodgson at 19:29 hours. There were twenty-one members present. Board members present included Dave Hodgson, Randy Jenkins, Al Weisman, Raine Strom, Frank Strom, John Boyd, Tom Jordan, and Augie Koehler. Guests present included Adam McLaughlin, KD6POC and Tom Ferrin, KI6FLL.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as posted on the bulletin board.

Treasurer's Report: Our bookkeeper Connie Sawtelle reported balances of \$10,435.85 in checking accounts before the deposit of the rent check, and \$19,702.45 in savings deposits, for total assets of \$35,697.20.

Recreation Committee: Connie Sawtelle reported that the Christmas party has been scheduled for December 3 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel. Members should arrive between five thirty and six p.m. Hodgson thanked everyone who helped make the picnic a great success.

Public Service Committee: Chairman Jenkins reported that Mt. Tam Peak Hike had been successfully completed, and the Escape from Alcatraz was coming up on October 14. Volunteers were still needed.

Trustee Slusher has been in contact with the MMWD Ranger in charge of the Tam West site. We will be going into negotiations regarding the Mt. Tam Middle Peak site.

Com Truck: Al Weisman completed work on the generator, and it runs well.

Education: Ben Sawtelle reported that the next classes would be held on November 11 and 18 and shortly after that he will probably teach a Technician class.

VE: VE Liaison Al Weisman reported that there would be a VE session on Saturday, December 2.

Membership: Chair Raine Strom reported that we had two new members. Craig Sharrow, K9LEG and Gary Collum, KB6SYW.

Building Manager: John Butler submitted a written report, which indicated that he had already sealed the decks.

Old Business: John Boyd reported on progress of the club's table at Pacificon on October 13, 14 and 15. Hodgson has been working with Phil Dunlap on a brochure to be distributed at Pacificon. Staffing for the table was discussed.

New Business: Hodgson reported that the last

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General Meeting continued from page one.

10 feet of the culvert that runs through the back of the property was in need of replacement. Building Manager John Butler will address removal of the rusted out culvert with the assistance of a friend.

President Hodgson reported on the actions of the Board of Directors:

The board has appointed a committee to look at housekeeping changes to the bylaws. The committee will consist of Jordan, Slusher, and Jenkins.

The dues for 2007 will increase to \$25 for members and \$30 for family membership. Doug Slusher will be in contact with MMWD.

Norm Baetz is chairing the nominating committee for next year's board members. Chet Rice is heading up the Ham-of-the-Year nominations.

Good of the Order: Norm Baetz asked about the status of the radio at Marin General Hospital. Hodgson told him it had been taken care of.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 19:49. Then we enjoyed a presentation by Adam McLaughlin about radio station KPH, then and now.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins KA6BQF Secretary.

Board of Directors Meeting, 10 October.

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Hodgson at 1933 hours. Present were Board Members Hodgson, Jordan, F. Strom, R. Strom, Weisman, Foley, and Jenkins; Trustees Slusher and Koehler; and Editor Dunlap.

The minutes of the previous Board of Directors meeting were approved as e-mailed.

Treasurer: There were balances of \$10,435.85 in checking and \$19,702.45 in savings for a total of \$35,697.20. As of this meeting, we appear to be ahead for the year. Expenses incurred for the picnic were discussed.

Treasurer Foley reported on an e-mail he had received from the bookkeeper, Connie Sawtelle.

Membership: Three new members were reported for this month. Going forward from this date, all new or renewing members should pay at the 2007 dues rate.

Recreation Committee: The Christmas Party is scheduled for December 3.

Public Service: The next scheduled event is The Escape from Alcatraz is on October 14. Volunteers are still needed.

Technical Committee: President Hodgson reported that we are in discussion about the fate of our repeater equipment on Mt. Tam's Middle Peak. Trustee Slusher reported on the continuing discussions about the repeater equipment on West Peak.

Many thanks to Al Weisman for his repairs to the generator, which saved us a ton of money.

Column two.

Education Committee: The next training sessions have been scheduled for November 11 and 18.

Volunteer Examiner: The next session is scheduled for December 2.

RACES: Dave Hodgson reported on a change in the RACES leadership.

Building Manager: John Butler sent an e-mail regarding his work on sealing the decks and the necessary work on the culvert at the back of the property.

Old Business:

Tom Jordan commented on Amateur Radio training for CERT, the Community Emergency Response Team.

The brochure for the Pacificon table was presented and approved. John Boyd is getting the display ready. Staffing of our table was discussed.

Norm Baetz will head the nominating committee for 2007's Board of Directors.

The lock on the front door was discussed.

New Business:

The report of the bylaws committee was postponed until next month.

The situation regarding the culvert at the back of the property was discussed. Hodgson will investigate to determine the who has responsibility for maintaining it.

Phil Dunlap reported on the donation of a generator trailer. The trailer will need new wheels.

Tom Jordan presented a proposal by a student, who is working toward her Master's Degree on Nonprofit Administration at USF, to do a study of the club's financial management practices. The study would be an exercise by the student and the information would be kept in confidence between the student and faculty. At the end of the exercise, the club would be presented with a report and recommendations. The Board voted to accept the proposal, with the understanding from the student, of the limited nature of the information that may be available.

Frank Strom inquired as to who was responsible for obtaining entertainment or programming for the general meetings. At this time, there is no one person dedicated to this job. We have been relying on volunteers and have had some interesting presentations this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:31 hours.

The next Board of Directors meeting is November 14.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins KA6BQF, Secretary.

The official copy of these minutes shall reside in the Secretary's notes as maintained at the corporate office.

Why Did the Allies Favor TRF Designed Sets During WWII?

The military used some TRF designed radios because they didn't radiate RF (like Superhets do) and thus couldn't be found by the Axis. The RAK-6 equipment like the CRV-46155 etc. were TRFs during WWII.

Pres' Message, cont.

with GGNRA to restore and operate the old Coast station. Club member Denice KI6BBR, another member of the KPH group and ex CW operator at the station for about nineteen years, will be giving a tour of the facilities to club members in the next month or so. This will be a great opportunity for us to get up-close with the historic equipment, so keep an eye out for the trip announcement. It is always fun to have speakers at our meetings but it is also hard to find people and subjects that are of interest to us all. If anyone has ideas or knows of people would be willing to give a presentation or talk at an upcoming meeting, please let us know.

For the last several years Connie has been assisting the treasurer in keeping our books and paying the bills. Because of a recent promotion at work which piles on more responsibility and work time, Connie has reluctantly informed the Board that she will no longer be able to help the treasurer. If anyone is interested in keeping the books and paying our bills, the club does offset their time with a small pittance. Please let the Board know.

Denice KI6BBR rescued two aluminum lawn chairs left behind at the picnic. They are currently being cared for at the clubhouse but are half-heartedly looking for their owner.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving

Dave Hodgson KG6TCI

Why Hams End A QSO With Dit Dit.

In the old days, every time a train left the station, it would sound two short blasts from its whistle, warning everyone it was moving out. The old telegraph operators having been exposed to this practice, picked it up and would send two dits at the end of each telegraph message. This meant "GOODBYE". So ham radio CW operators adopted the practice. It is still used worldwide today.

Reports - 5 by 5 and Loud and Clear

From an old Military Radio Telephone Procedure Manual (Circa 1953). In all probability, these came from the Q-Signals of yore where QRK was -- What is the readability of my signals ? Answer: The readability of your signals is ... (1 to 5). And QSA -- What is the strength of my signals ? Answer was: The strength of your signals is ... (1 to 5).

Webmaster note: I believe the oft heard "You are Q5 is a voice equivalent to the CW QRK 5" And receiving you 5 by 5 is voice equivalent to QRK 5 and QSA 5.

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

A redneck was stopped by a game warden in Mississippi recently with two ice chests full of fish. He was leavin' a cove well-known for its fishing. The game warden asked the man, "Do you have a license to catch those fish?" "Naw, sir", replied the redneck. "I ain't got none of them there licenses. You must understand, these here are my pet fish."
 "Pet fish?"
 "Yeah. Every night, I take these here fish down to the lake and let 'em swim 'round for awhile. Then, when I whistle, they jump right back into these here ice chests and I take 'em home."
 "That's a bunch'a s—t! Fish can't do that." The redneck looked at the warden for a moment and then said, "It's the truth Mr. Game Warden. I'll show ya. It really works."
 "O. K.", said the warden. "I've got to see this!"
 The redneck poured the fish into the lake, where they disappeared below the surface, then stood and waited. After several minutes, the warden says, "Well?"
 Well, what?", says the redneck.
 The warden says, "When are you going to call them back?"
 "Call who back?"
 The FISH", replied the warden!
 "What fish?", replied the redneck.

If your wife calls and asks you to bring home a ham and you show up with one of your radio friends.....you might be a ham!
 If your wife tells you she would like a diamond for Christmas and you give her an antenna**you're in some deep s trouble!**
 (And you are probably not too swift and will likely end up like a triode with a very high negative grid bias. Old timers will figure that one out easily. ed.)

Contributed by the big fella from Sausalito.

Ole, while not a brilliant scholar, was a gifted portrait artist. His fame grew and soon people from all over the country were coming to him in Minnesota for paintings.
 One day, a beautiful young woman pulled up to his house in a stretch limo. She asked Ole if he would paint her in the nude. This was the first time anyone had made this request. The beautiful lady said money was no object; she was willing to pay \$50,000.
 Not wanting to get into trouble with his wife, Ole asked the lady to wait while he went in the house and conferred with Lena, his missus. In a few minutes he returned and said to the lady, "Ya shoor, you betcha. I'll paint you in da nude, but I'll haff ta leave my socks on so I'll have a place to wipe my brushes."

A man and his ever-nagging wife went on vacation to Jerusalem. While they were there, the wife died. The undertaker told the husband, "You can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here, in the Holy Land, for \$150." The man thought about it and told him he would just have her shipped home.

The undertaker asked, "Why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your wife home, when it would be wonderful to be buried here and you would spend only \$150?"

The man replied, "Long ago a man died here, was buried here, and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance."

The kids filed back into class Monday morning. They were very excited. Their weekend assignment was to sell something, then give a talk on productive salesmanship. Little Sally led off: "I sold Girl Scout cookies and I made \$30," she said proudly, "My sales approach was to appeal to the customer's civil spirit and I credit that approach for my obvious success."

"Very good," said the teacher. Little Jenny was next: "I sold magazines," she said, "I made \$45 and I explained to everyone that magazines would keep them up on current events."

"Very good, Jenny," said the teacher. Eventually, it was Little Johnny's turn. The teacher held her breath. Little Johnny walked to the front of the classroom and dumped a box full of cash on the teacher's desk. "\$2,467," he said. "\$2,467!" cried the teacher, "What in the world were you selling?" "Toothbrushes," said Little Johnny.
 "Toothbrushes," echoed the teacher, "How could you possibly sell enough tooth brushes to make that much money?" "I found the busiest corner in town," said Little Johnny, "I set up a cookie stand. I gave everybody who walked by a free sample. They all said the same thing, "Jeeze, this tastes like dog s___!" Then I would say, "It is! Wanta buy a toothbrush?"

Subject: Should children witness childbirth.

Due to a power outage, only one paramedic responded to the call. The house was very dark so the paramedic asked Kathleen, a 3-yr old girl to hold a flashlight high over her mommy, Heidi, so he could see while he helped to deliver the baby. Very diligently, Kathleen did as she was asked.

Heidi pushed and pushed and after a little while, Connor was born. The paramedic lifted him by his little feet and spanked him on his bottom. Connor began to cry. The paramedic then thanked Kathleen for her help and asked the wide-eyed 3-yr old what she thought about what she had just witnessed.

Kathleen quickly responded, "He shouldn't have crawled in there in the first place.....smack his ass again!"

(If you don't laugh at this one, there's no hope for you.)

"Doc," he said, "I've got trouble. Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it. I'm going crazy!"

"Just put yourself in my hands for one year," said the shrink. "Come talk to me three times a week, and we should be able to get rid of those fears. "How much will that cost me?" "Eighty dollars per visit," replied the doctor. "I'll sleep on it," he said.

Six months later the doctor met him on the street. "Why didn't you ever come to see about those fears you were having?" asked the psychiatrist.

"Well.... Eighty bucks a visit three times a week for a year is an awful lot of money! I found a bartender who cured me for \$10. I was so happy to have saved all that money I went and bought me a new pickup!"

"Is that so! And how, may I ask, did a bartender cure you?" "He told me to cut the legs off the bed! Ain't nobody under there now!"

SSB, continued from page one.

In those years (late '40s-early '50s), QST had a regular column called "On The Air With Single Sideband". There were "SSB Handbooks" for hams put out by several publishers. And there were gripes that QST was becoming "too technical" and that ARRL was "forcing SSB down hams' throats".

Early SSB efforts all used separate receivers and transmitters - the first SSB transceivers and matched-pair receiver/transmitter sets for the amateur market did not appear until the late 1950s (Cosmophone 35, Collins KWM-1 & KWM-2, Collins S-Line, etc.).

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

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