

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter March 2007 Page 1

Letter from The Prez.

Dear MARS members,
Greetings from the desk of the President. Spring is in the air!

Now that I am settling into office, and have a better grip on the issues facing the club, I would like to share my observations and opinions with you. It is my desire to see this club continue, and to prosper.

I don't want to be the bearer of bad news, and I'm not placing blame. I'm also not telling you anything that you don't already know. The building's maintenance has been neglected. I don't believe the Board elected me to be 'popular'. It is possible that I was chosen to 'GET THINGS DONE'. If you want to keep THE CLUB HOUSE, changes are going to have to be made in how the club operates. That means we will ALL have to chip in a little. It might mean time and labor, it might mean food, it might mean money.

There are a couple of issues that need immediate attention. I urge club members to attend as many meetings as you can in the coming year and voice your opinions as to how and in what order these issues are going to be addressed. Just like any family with property, maintenance and repairs are an unwelcome but inevitable reality. The income generated by the rental has not been spent on the building. We have been living the 'high life'. Now it is time to budget the remaining resources at our disposal, to 'take care of business' and get the club house repairs started. This will take time; it will not all happen this year. But we need to start NOW.

So far, we have been blessed with a gentle winter. The creek that runs thru the property is in disrepair. I am in contact with the government entity with jurisdiction over the property, to discover who is responsible for repairs and the effects those repairs may have on our neighbors downstream.

The building has dry rot, leaks and insulation issues that severely compromise the safety, health and integrity of the structure. These areas will need to be addressed also.

Column three.

**Website at W6SG.NET
Phone 415.389.6630**

Public Service Events for 2007.

At the present time, the list below shows some of the Public Service events that are normally manned by Amateur Radio personnel. Just a heads up to give advance notice of some of the dates.

May 5, MiWok 100K run (0700-1000 hrs) These first two are on the same dates and both need numerous volunteers!

May 5 and into early May 6th, -
The Relay (1500-0530 hrs)

May 12,
The Human Race (0730-1200 hrs)

June 10, Dipsea (0700 - 1700 hrs)

June 16, Terrible Two (0800-2230 hrs) A Sonoma County event.

**From the Silverado ARA
<http://www.napasars.org/>**

The 29th Annual Napa Valley Marathon, March 4th 2007. Mark your calendars. This is an opportunity to practice communication skills as well as exposure to what Amateur radio can do. The Napa Valley Marathon boasts one of the most beautiful courses in the world. The course runs the length of the Napa Valley. It begins in Calistoga, famous for its geysers and spas, then winds south along the historic Silverado Trail to finish at Vintage High School in Napa. Dedicated to fostering and promoting quality road racing, the Napa Valley Marathon is known as the biggest little marathon in the West. Napa was named the Best Rural Marathon in America. There is a limited field this year of 2200 runners. Radio Amateur Operators provide communications for the event. Need to fill 19 Volunteer positions including tracking lead and last runners with APRS, liaisons, aid stations and Net Control. Plenty of opportunities. The Marathon runs from approximately 7:00am to 12:30pm. Position start times vary. Contact Don Wing, KG6IZS to volunteer, either on the 441.80 repeater or via Email kg6izs@aol.com. If sending an email please provide T shirt size desired and if you have a position or time frame preference. Your support is greatly appreciated by the Napa Valley Marathon.

(Sent in by Randy KA6BQF)

**P.O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903**

From column one..

None of the projects that will bring the building back into shape can be accomplished all at once, due to our financial reserves. It is likely that the existing plans that were prepared about 7 years ago, are no longer valid, due to changes in building codes and available building materials.

It is my understanding that when the club was presented with the building, it also came with a fund to effect maintenance and repairs. The wolf is knocking at the door. He isn't going to have to huff and puff too much longer if no action is taken to take care of what we have.

I have a few ideas about how we can learn to budget the income we already have, and raise more money if needed, but I need the input and support of the membership and the Board of Directors to implement them.

Please come to the next meeting. The club needs you.

73/88

Denice Stoops, President.

Questions about your license now that the code requirement is gone?

Go here:

www.arrl.org/qst/2007/02/FCC.pdf

PDF files.

Most of us who use the internet have received pdf files and know how to handle them. For those who have not, it's a no sweat proposition. There's a free download that makes this file type readable. It's called 'Adobe Reader' and it comes in different versions for the common operating systems. Because QSA-5 will be available

in pdf format, it's a good idea to have AR on your PC. Get it here, along with answers about pdf.

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

The only animal you eat, on a regular basis, before they're born and after

General Meeting 2 February

The meeting was called to order at 1929 hrs by President Denice Stoops. 23 members and guests signed in. Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, ARRL SF Section Manager was present.

Secretary Randy reported on incoming communications from the Dipsea Committee and the Marin County Registrar of Voters. Randy was requested to draft a thank you letter to KO6X for a donation of radio equipment.

President Denice reported on the actions of the January Board of Directors meeting. Denice was elected president, Eric Rosenquist was reelected vice president, Randy Jenkins was reelected secretary, and Dave Hodgson was elected treasurer. Denice said that her emphasis this year would be on history, education and Morse code. She reported that the Board of Directors meeting had been moved to the second Thursday of each month. Dave Hodgson added that we would begin sending the club newsletter, QSA-5, via e-mail, soon. Dave also commented that they were still working on a members-only section for the club website that would be password protected, where personnel information like the roster would reside.

Treasurer Dave reported January income of \$2315.00 and January expenses of \$2421.83. Account balances included \$11,906.46 in checking accounts, \$5,593.24 in the repeater certificates of deposit, and \$19,635.73 in the reserve fund certificates of deposit. Dave reminded everybody that renewals for 2007 were being accepted. There was a question from VP Eric about the ATV repeater fund. The history of that particular item was discussed.

Under recreation committee, it was decided after discussion that the annual picnic would be scheduled for September 15. Connie AE6PA will take care of scheduling.

Under public service events, it was reported that we have several events scheduled for this year and we would begin recruiting operators very shortly. Bill Hillendahl requested that we contact the Sonoma group to add the Terrible Two bicycle ride to the list.

Under technical committee, Dave Hodgson reported on repairs to the Big Rock input for the 147.33 system, and that the Tam West input was still down. Trustee Slusher is still negotiating for access to that site. Dave also reported on continuing negotiations regarding the Tam Middle Peak site.

A VE session is scheduled for Saturday, March 3.

President Stoops reminded everyone that we still need a chair for Field Day, which takes place on June 23 and 24th. Rich Carbine suggested a joint Field Day with the Redwood Empire DX Association, REDXA. The suggestion was well received.

Column two.

From column one.

The membership committee is being taken care of by Phil Dunlap and Dave Hodgson.

We still need a chair for Kids Day.

President Stoops reported on the resignation of building manager John Butler. Vice President Eric reported on three outstanding projects, the awning for the com truck, the culvert at the back of the property, and the pressure reducing valve for the water system.

Good of the Order - ARRL SF Section Manager Bill Hillendahl commented on several subjects including League activities, VE sessions, training classes, protection of amateur radio spectrum, IRLP and public service.

The meeting was adjourned at 2012 hrs.

There was a presentation by Captain Mark Schaefer on the Liberty Ship SS Jeremiah O'Brien.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins KA6BQF, secretary.

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

Board of Directors Meeting 8 February

The meeting was called to order at 1931 hrs by President Denice Stoops. Present were Board Members Stoops, Weisman, Hodgson, Jordan, Dunlap, Rosenquist, Carbine, Baetz, and Jenkins; Trustees Koehler and Slusher.

Incoming communications included a request for public service assistance from the Dipsea Committee. President Stoops requested that a thank you letter be drafted for our outgoing building manager, John Butler.

Treasurer Hodgson presented a statement of accounts for the month of January. There was discussion about the amount of rent the tenant was paying. Apparently, the full amount due after the 2006 increase was not being received. Dave had also prepared a budget for 2007 that would be discussed under new business. There was a protracted discussion about publication of income and expense accounts in QSA-5. A decision was made to include a limited summary of income and expenses.

Membership - Phil Dunlap is handling the membership committee job. (New rosters will be available after the 2007 dues are in. A dues reminder was in the mail 2/20. ed.)

Recreation - The picnic has been scheduled for September 15.

Public Service - Chairman Randy reported on upcoming events, the Miwok 100, The Relay, and the Dipsea. Solicitations of volunteers will begin shortly.

Technical Committee - Trustee Doug Slusher reported on repairs to the Big Rock repeater input. That system is back online. Also, the Tam West input has come back to life. Doug is still in negotiations with GG NRA to get access to the West Peak site. V P Eric Rosenquist inquired about the status of the stash of Motorola Handi-talkies in the storage room. Doug reported, that due to the exorbitant cost of

Column three.

re-crystalling them, the plan was to sell the equipment. There was a discussion about the status of the remaining surplus equipment that the club owns. Eric will head up the equipment disposition effort.

Com Truck Committee - Dave Hodgson reported on looking into repairs regarding the tower in the truck. He has obtained schematic drawings and repair instructions for the tower. Parts are available. Dave said that he still needs to get on the issue of the new cover for the com truck awning.

Education Committee - Technician classes are scheduled for February 10 and February 17. Members from the Southern Marin CERT group were attending.

VE Liaison - Al Weisman reported that a VE session was scheduled for Saturday, March 3, and they were expecting a large group of people. Volunteer examiners are needed.

Dave Hodgson reported that NIMS training was now mandatory for all RACES members, courses IC-100 and IC-700, which are available online.

Building Manager - for the interim, Denice Stoops and Rich Carbine have notified the tenant that they are the contacts for anything that goes wrong with the building. Denice has contacted several contractors that she knows to find out if they are interested in working on the building. Tom Jordan may be available for simple calls as he lives nearby. Randy Jenkins has a contractor in San Francisco that he has approached on this subject and who may be interested. Rich Carbine will act as the building manager in the interim and will arrange for any necessary repairs.

Old Business - Treasurer Dave presented a budget for 2007. The board accepted the budget under submission and will take action on it at the March 8 meeting. There was a discussion about the drain culvert at the rear of the property. It will be inspected on Sunday, February 11. Phil Dunlap reported that a new cover had been obtained for the generator. (The old one blew away in the strong winds of January. ed.)

New Business - The condition of the clubhouse was discussed. President Stoops proposed a general spring cleaning of the clubhouse. Several proposals were discussed. The issue of the thermostat in the clubhouse was discussed at length. Multiple opinions were expressed at length. The building manager will schedule a contractor to look at the furnace and make recommendations.

President Stoops reminded everyone that she had proposed a field trip to KPH in West Marin, and was available any time.

Denice proposed rescheduling the July Board of Directors meeting.

Rich Carbine proposed conducting Field Day with the Redwood Empire DX Assn. The Board of Directors formally accepted that proposal.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2100 hrs. Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins KA6BQF, Secretary The official copy of these minutes shall reside in the secretary's files as maintained at the office.

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

Looking For a Vanity Call?

Unlike the site that used to list all of the unassigned calls, **this site lists all of the assigned calls** in the six call area as of January 2007.

www.amateur-radio.org/CallArea-6.htm

Lena was in bed with her lover, Ole, when she heard Sven's key in the door. "Stay vere you are," she said. "He's so drunk he von't even notice you're in bed widt me." Sure enough, Sven lurched into bed none the wiser, but a few minutes later, through a drunken haze, he saw six feet sticking out at the end of the bed. He turned to Lena and said, "Hey, dere are six feet in dis bed! Dere shud only be four. What's going on?!?" "Nonsense," said Lena, "You're so drunk you miscounted. Get out of bed and try again. You can see better from over dere." Sven climbed out of bed and counted. "Vun, two, tree, four. Damn, you're right.

Historybit.

John Henry made history drilling holes for explosives in the Big Bend tunnel (on the C & O RR) which was built from 1870 to 1873. This coincides with the first use of the steam drill. In the contest between Henry and the steam drill, he made two 7 ft. holes while the steam drill made a single 9 footer, getting stuck in a seam in the process and losing time. Eye witness accounts differ on what happened to Henry afterward. The majority agreed, however, that he did not die that night but continued on the tunnel job for some time afterward.

From the ARRL web site.

NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 22, 2007 --

A new Amateur Radio Service regime goes into effect at one minute past midnight Eastern Time. That's when the requirement to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF privileges officially disappears from the FCC's Part 97 rules. In addition, some 200,000 Technician licensees who have not passed a Morse code exam will acquire HF privileges equivalent to those now available to Novice licensees.

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, points to the huge and still burgeoning number of exam sessions now on the schedule across the US as evidence that the rule changes will provide a shot in the arm to Amateur Radio.

"ARRL VEC has been extremely busy scheduling new exam sessions," Kramer said. "We normally coordinate about 5500 sessions per year, but we've already scheduled close to 5000 sessions and it's only the end of February." He said ARRL VEC anticipates demand will surge further after February 23.

Special Section in March QST

March QST includes an eight-page "tearout" section "Now, New Opportunities for Every Ham!" (it appears between pages 48 and 49). It focuses on various topics of interest to those gaining new HF privileges through upgrading or owing to the new rules as well as to veteran licensees. Among other things, it covers mentoring -- or Elmering -- newcomers, "The Top 10 Reasons to Try Morse Code," earning ham radio operating awards by using Logbook of the World (LoTW) and a "Welcome to the fascinating world of high frequency (HF) radio!" by ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Joint Field Day with REDXA.

Looks like MARS will be holding Field Day with members of the Redwood Empire DX Assn. this June. If all goes well, the location will be the Marin Rod & Gun Club site, favored for its location near the salty Bay and for the running water and flush toilets on site. No hiding behind a bush.

The last few years our Field Day has been a laid back event, as much a social gathering as a readiness contest. Things could get a bit more serious this June but the word is that REDX is easing off a bit after placing second or third in their category the last two years. So it's still going to be a fun event.

Weekly Offering

One Sunday, in counting the money in the weekly offering, the pastor of a small Florida church found a pink envelope containing \$1000. It happened again the next week. The following Sunday, he watched as the offering was collected and saw a little old lady put the distinctive pink envelope in the plate.

This went on for weeks until the pastor, overcome by curiosity, approached her. "Ma'am, I couldn't help but notice that you put \$1,000 a week in the collection plate," he stated. "Why yes," she replied, "every week my son sends me money, and I give some of it to the church." The pastor replied, "That's wonderful, how much does he send you?" The old lady said, "\$10,000 a week." The pastor was amazed. "Your son is very successful; what does he do for a living?"

"He is a veterinarian," she answered. "That is an honorable profession," the pastor said. "Where does he practice?" The old lady said proudly, "He has three cat houses in Nevada..

A classic story.

A fire fighter is working on the engine outside the station when he notices a little girl next door in a little red wagon with little ladders hung off the sides and a garden hose tightly coiled in the middle.

The girl is wearing a fire fighter's helmet. The wagon is being pulled by her dog and her cat. The fire fighter walked over to take a closer look.

"That sure is a nice fire truck," the fire fighter says with admiration. "Thanks" the girl says. The firefighter looks a little closer and notices the girl has tied the wagon to her dog's collar and to the cat's testicles.

"Little Partner", the fire fighter says, "I don't want to tell you how to run your rig, but if you were to tie that rope around the cat's collar too, I think you could go faster.

"The little girl replies thoughtfully, "You're probably right, but then I wouldn't have a siren."

Heinold's First and Last Chance Saloon opens in 1883 and remains in continuous operation to the present. The bar was a favorite haunt of Jack London who references the bar seventeen times in his novel "John Barleycorn". Heinold's is designated a National Literary Landmark in 1998 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2000.

Foot of Webster St., Oakland.

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.

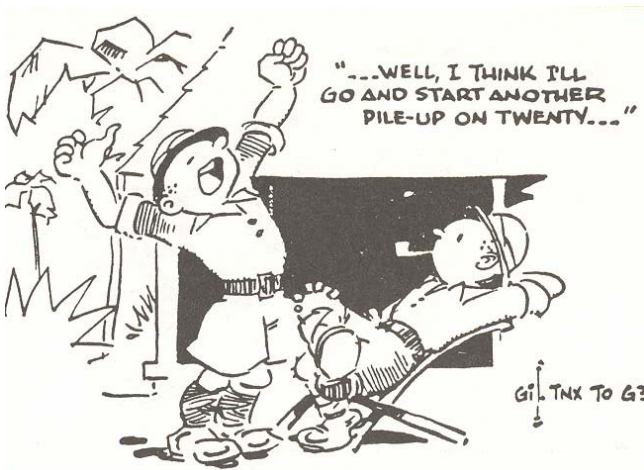
Business/Board Meeting meets at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley on the second Thursday at 7:30 PM. Members are encouraged to attend to try to keep the clowns honest.

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: \$25.00 per year. \$30 for family memberships.** No dues are charged for Life or Honorary members.

<p>Marin Amateur Radio Society President: Denice Stoops KI6BBR 672-0303 Vice President: Eric Rosenquist KG6WOU 257-8841 Secretary: Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 Treasurer: Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864 Additional Board Members: Norm Baetz WA6CLK 898-4887 Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136 Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 Tom Jordan KG6TCM 497-4406 Al Weisman W5ALW 510-237-1978</p>	<p>Education Chair: Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ 382-1170 kermode7@hotmail.com Membership: Dave and Phil VE Liaison: Al Weisman W5ALW 510-237-1978 Trustee for W6SG: Augie Koehler KØCQL Trustee for K6GWE: Doug Slusher KF6AKU Sunday Emergency Nets: HF Frank Strom WA6JTP VHF Raine Strom KG6GII Corrections to K6PHD@ARRL.NET</p>	<p>ARRL WAS Local Rep: Rem O'Donnely K6BBQ DX Representative of ARRL: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829 WEBMASTER Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET Public Service Event Coordinators Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 Asst. Tom Jordan KG6TCM 497-4406 Chuck Deatrick WA6SQQ 897-7267 Editor of QSA-5: Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 K6PHD@ARRL.NET</p>
--	--	---

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

Stamp



The Mailing
 Address
 Goes Here