

QSA-5

Founded 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

September 2009

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Pres' Msg.

Hello fellow MarinARS members. Saturday, September 26, is our club picnic, to be held at Samuel P. Taylor State Park, noon to 4 p.m., in the Redwood Grove picnic area. Bring your own entrée (meat), and a side dish to pass. The club will provide beverages and charcoal. We are allowed a limited number of vehicles that get in without charge. Any vehicles exceeding that number will pay the entry fee at the park entrance. Be sure to identify yourselves as being with the radio club that's meeting in the Redwood Grove. Carpooling is encouraged. Hope to see you there. Thanks to Marilyn, N6VAW, for organizing this event.

We plan to have our annual Christmas party at the clubhouse this year. Justin Smith is the Committee Chairman for this event, and promises a potluck/buffet meal. More details follow. Tickets will be required, so that we may cover the costs associated with putting on this event. Thanks to Justin and the rest of the committee for the work they have done on organizing this event.

As you may have heard, we plan to resume work on the clubhouse again this fall. We have received a grant which will allow us to complete a portion of the work that still needs to be done. This phase is planned to include completion of the kitchen and bathrooms, more electrical work, and some renovation to the front of the building. We still have some repairs that need to be completed for the upstairs apartment, which are planned, when funds are available, probably sometime next year. Donations to the building fund are always welcome. Thanks to our building manager, Rich, W6UDS, for arranging the grant and for spearheading work on the building.

We have a public-service event coming up on Sunday, September 27, The Peak Hike. Thank you to Michael Fisher, K6LMF, for organizing that event. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact Michael.

Column two.

Website at W6SG.NET
Phone 415.389.6630
For ARRL SF Section news, go to
www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF

We also had a request for communications support for an event on Saturday, September 26, The Escape from Alcatraz. This falls on the same day as the picnic, which we have had scheduled for six months. We have made them no commitment at this time. If there are volunteers interested in covering this event, I will put them in touch with the appropriate person at the Dolphin Club. The Dipsea Trail would need coverage from Mill Valley to Stinson Beach from around 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.. Thank you to all the hard-working volunteers who have made this year's events run so smoothly, and for donating your time and effort. We have received more praise from the groups we have served this year than ever before.

Also, the election for the Board of Directors is coming up. We have four positions up for election, for a two-year term. Two of the incumbents are eligible for reelection, and two others, including myself, have termed out and will need to be replaced on the Board. The nominating committee will be contacting people, asking them to run. If you're interested in serving in this position, please let us know.

73,
Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF
ka6bqf@arrl.net
510 526.4089
President, VE Liason & Public Service
Co-Coordinator
Marin Amateur Radio Society

Board Meeting, August 13

President Randy Jenkins called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. Other board members were Horst Dannecker, Dave Hodgson, Norm Baetz, Phil Dunlap, Marilyn Bagshaw, Rich Carbine and August Koehler.

Column three.

POBox 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

This evening's agenda and the Treasurer's report were approved. Nothing new on membership.

[The club's picnic at Sam Taylor park will be from noon to 5:00 pm September 26.](#) To save on possible park entrance fees, carpooling is suggested.

Up-coming Public service events discussed were the Holstein 100 and the Peak Hike. A request from the Dolphin club was rejected due to conflict with our Sept. 26 picnic.

Nothing new on the club's repeaters; all seem to be working OK.

The comm truck needs to have a smog check and we're still looking into purchasing a new generator.

There will be a Tech class held on Nov. 14.

Our building manager talked about the club's new dipole antenna and said he was looking into estimates for tree trimming on the west side of our building to keep our antennas in the clear. Because the trees are our neighbor's we'll see if he would help with the costs.

Rich also said he was still waiting for the Marin Rod and Gun Club to OK our request to use their facility for next year's Field Day.

[Rich was congratulated for his work in getting a \\$35K grant for clubhouse repair and upgrade.](#) He's hoping to get the kitchen and bath remodeling work started as soon as possible.

Volunteers are still needed for the Waves to Wine event to be held Sept. 12.

The next General meeting will be held Sept. 4 with a possible Field Day video to be shown.

We need a nominating committee to be formed soon. The vote for new officers will be held late Nov.

The meeting was adjourned at 2025 hours.

Submitted by

Norm Baetz, Secretary.

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

MARS Sunday morning check-ins are held at **10:00 on 3915kc** for HFers and at **10:15 on the 147.330 repeater** for all members and guests. Those members who are suffering from hangovers, are out of town or have a better thing or two to do on Sunday mornings are excused.

The clubhouse furnace fires up at 0800 Sundays as required so if you show up, you won't freeze your ass off. Take a chance. Come on down 0800 to 1100 +/- . Ben N6PJZ has the place opened up before 0800.

Join the Elderfahrten Net Mondays and Thursdays at 0800 on 3892kc.

Is This on YOUR calendar?
 From Bill Hillendahl
 ARRL SF Section Mgr.
September 26, 2009, San Francisco Section Convention at St. Bernard's High School in Eureka. Hosted by the Humboldt clubs, the convention will include a banquet dinner as well as a swap and raffle prizes. Check www.humboldt-arc.org for more and up-to-date information.
 See you at the swaps.
 73, Bill KH6GJV

If you know of someone who/m (Your choice. We don't remember the rules on the use of these two.) in their youth was a "bed wetter, fire setter and animal 'getter'", keep your distance. Some of this type have graduated from animal abuse to human abuser and worse.

 Pried from the 'net.

MARS General Meeting, August 7, 2009

 President Randy Jenkins called the meeting to order at 1930 hours. Other officers present were Rich Carbine , Marilyn Bagshaw, Norm Baetz, Phil Dunlap, August Koehler and John Boyd. Member introductions were made followed by approvals of this evenings agenda.

 There is progress in placing the club's prescriptive easement in place. There was no Treasurer's report and nothing new on membership.

Information about this year's picnic that will be held at Sam Taylor park will be on the Web Site. Marilyn suggested everyone bring a side dish.

 Upcoming Public Service events were discussed. Among them the Holstein 100, Peak Hike and the Waves to Wine. Volunteers are always welcome. Call Randy if you can help.

Nothing new on the Tech committee side but John Boyd said the Comm. truck still needs brake work. Our building mgr., Rich Carbine has installed a new dipole antenna on the roof. He said that a new front door on the upstairs apartment will be installed. And best of all, Rich announced a grant of \$35,000.00 for the club has been approved. Thanks Rich for all the hard work. Now work on the kitchen, etc. can go ahead.

The Field Day committee will try to get the Marin Rod and Gun Club for next years Field Day site. We are looking for candidates to run for next year's board.

The meeting was adjourned at 1940 hours followed by a very interesting talk on earthquakes by

Dr. Bob Uhrhammer, WA6VEX.
 Submitted by Norm Baetz, Secretary.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE ISSUE #18
by Bill Continelli, W2XOY
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In our last installment, we traced the development of FM and repeaters from 1932 up to 1970. Since the FCC rules at that time had no provision for repeater operation, stations in repeater service were operated under the Part 97 provisions covering remote control. The FCC, in February, 1970, came out with Docket #18803, which set forth the Commission's proposed repeater rules. These included small subbands set aside for repeater operation, a ban on linked, cross-band and multiband repeaters, a requirement for "whistle on" or other tone control, and a requirement that the licensee of a repeater station be in attendance at the transmitter or at an authorized fixed control point to monitor all transmissions of the station. In regards to the 2 meter band, the FCC set up the repeater subband in such a way that two thirds of it would not be accessible to Technicians.

Reaction was quick and negative. The ARRL and others felt that the proposed rules were so restrictive that they might be the end of amateur repeater operation as it existed at that time. Counter proposals, far less restrictive than the FCC's, were submitted to the Commission. While amateurs waited for the revised FCC rules, another problem had to be solved. When two meter FM operation started in the 60's, 146.94 had been chosen as the national simplex frequency. This was the highest wide band FM frequency available to Technicians. After repeaters came along, amateurs discovered that the surplus commercial equipment in use had a maximum bandwidth of 600 khz.

Thus, 146.34 was chosen for the first repeater input. However, in areas where .94 was in heavy use by simplex stations, 146.76 was chosen as the output. This led to the problem of non-standard splits, and in some areas of the country, repeaters such as .34/76, .28/94, and .34/82 could be found. The frequency 146.94 was a battleground between the simplex vs. repeater groups.

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Amateurs were also fighting a minor battle over 146.64 Mhz, which, in some parts of the country, was a DX simplex frequency. To make matters worse, all transceivers back then were crystal controlled. With crystals at \$10 per pair, it cost \$120 (about \$350 today) to fill all 12 channels in a 2 meter radio. It was possible to equip your radio with the repeaters and simplex frequencies used in one area, then find all of your channels were useless 200 miles away. A National Plan was needed.

The Texas VHF-FM Society proposed such a plan, which was described in the May, 1972 issue of QST. In it, the repeater offset was standardized at 600 khz, 146.94 and 146.64 became repeater outputs, 146.40 through 146.58 became simplex, and 146.52 was chosen as the national simplex frequency. In the 146-147 range, accessible to Technicians and above, there were 13 repeater and 7 simplex channels. The 147-148 range, available only to Generals and above, had 14 repeater and 6 simplex channels. Note that in the Texas plan, all repeater inputs were 600 khz below the output--even in the 147-148 range. Except for changing the inputs to the high side above 147 mhz, the Texas Plan was adopted. The gradual acceptance of a 2 meter band plan still did not resolve the FCC issue. The Texas Plan, as good as it was, violated the FCC's 1970 proposal. The Commission still had not issued any repeater rules, nor had they acted on the ARRL's 1969 request to give Technicians the full 2 meter band. Finally, in September 1972, the FCC issued new rules covering repeaters, logging and portable/mobile operations

Liberal repeater subbands were authorized at 52-54, 146-148, 222-225, and 442-450 Mhz. Logging requirements, especially for repeater and mobile stations, was simplified: repeater operators no longer needed a tape recorder hooked up to their stations. The requirement for a portable or mobile station to notify the FCC of operation in a particular Radio District was also reduced--no longer would amateurs contemplating a cross country trip with their radios have to write to each District on their journey in order to inform the Engineer of the trip. Repeaters would have to be licensed: callsigns beginning with the prefix "WR" would be issued. The repeater license application was complex--each applicant for a repeater license had to submit certain data to the FCC regarding the technical, operational, and effective radiated power of the proposed station.

"Whistle on" or tone control was no longer required, two repeaters could be linked, but multi-linked or crossband repeaters were prohibited. Repeater monitoring and control requirements were made more flexible. And finally, the FCC acted in part on the ARRL's 1969 proposal. Although they did not give Technicians full 2 meter privileges, they did grant them the 147-148 segment. Technicians could now operate all 2 meter repeaters without violating FCC rules. The new FCC repeater rules, coupled with the Texas Plan, caused a surge in 2 meter FM activity. It also was the shot in the arm the hobby needed to fully recover from the decrease in growth caused by Incentive Licensing. Manufacturers such as Drake, Standard, Regency, Tempo, Genave, Clegg and Midland poured rigs onto the amateur market. Heathkit had the very successful HW-202 followed by the even more popular HW-2036. The increase in the number of Technicians on 2 meter FM finally killed the "Technicians are experimenters, not communicators" theory. And finally, thanks to 2 meter FM, amateur radio grew by over 33% in the 1970's.

In 1975, due to increased demand, the FCC authorized the use of 144.5-145.5 Mhz for repeater operation. Technicians were given access to this subband. In 1978, the FCC relaxed the rules, eliminated the separate repeater licenses and the "WR" prefix, and gave Technicians the full 2 meter band. From 1978--1981, the synthesized revolution took place, as affordable PLL and microprocessor rigs drove the last of the crystal controlled radios off the market. Today, a name brand, 2 meter HT costs about \$175. With it, you can access over 4000 repeaters, or scan the VHF Hi band. Compare that to 1972, when a crystal controlled radio, equipped with 12 channels, cost \$300--or about \$800 in today's dollars. We truly have come a long way.

In our next installment, we will look at a couple of license proposals in the mid 70s and the controversy they caused. I hope you will join me.

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One day a florist went to a barber for a haircut. After the cut, he asked about his bill, and the barber replied, "I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week." The florist was pleased and left the shop.

When the barber went to open his shop the next morning, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen roses waiting for him at his door.

Later, a cop comes in for a haircut, and when he tries to pay his bill, the barber again replied, "I cannot accept money from you, I'm doing community service this week." The cop was happy and left the shop.

The next morning when the barber went to open up, there was a 'thank you' card and a dozen donuts waiting for him at his door.

Then a Congressman came in for a haircut, and when he went to pay his bill, the barber again replied, "I cannot accept money from you. I'm doing community service this week." The Congressman was very happy and left the shop.

The next morning, when the barber went to open up, there were a dozen Congressmen lined up waiting for a free haircut.

And that, my friends, illustrates the fundamental difference between the citizens of our country and the politicians who run it.

Filched from the 'net.

Hi All

While we missed the August 8th DDO we made up for it this last weekend thanks to Michael Fischer, K6MLF. Michael did an outstanding job racking up 19 SSB QSO's. Your somewhat under the weather CO made one CW QSO on the 40 meter band before retiring for the day. Michael's report follows.

--- On Sat, 8/29/09, Michael Fischer <fischer@igc.org> wrote:

From: Michael Fischer <fischer@igc.org>
Subject: Today's operations aboard the Pampanito
To: "Dennis Regan" <k6zju@yahoo.com>, "Jerry Foster" <WA6BXV@hotmail.com>
Date: Saturday, August 29, 2009, 8:44 PM

Hello, Den—

Today, the radio room aboard the boat operated NJ6VT from noon to 1530 (1900-2230Z.) Operators were K6MLF and yourself.

In addition to entertaining visitors including a WWII French submariner (who spoke almost no English,) and is on his way to San Diego for a world congress of former submariners from 18 nations, we made 19 SSB QSOs and one CW QSO. Our visitors also included a half-dozen licensed radio operators who signed our logbook. We spoke with the *Columbia*, the lightship in Astoria, OR, and the *USS Hornet*. Three of our QSOs were with former submariners—W7UUO, W7AE, and W7WWI.

I have just mailed 37 QSL cards—today's contacts and those from our last DDO.

Thanks for coming aboard, even tho you were sick! Clearly, I needed your guidance to get up and running... I think I could handle it solo if need be next time. I agree! Den

Cordially,

Michael

Michael Fischer K6MLF
131 Bolsa Avenue
Mill Valley, CA 94941-1101
415 383 5855
415 519 2201 cell
415 578 8773 work iPhone

Den here:

We have a DDO scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2009 aboard the boat. I should be back from my mid west trip by then. let me know if any of you can help out.

73,

Den Regan, K6ZJU
CO Pampanito A.R.C. NJ6VT
USS Pampanito, SS-383
San Francisco

QSA 5 September 2009

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 from 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, grinningly called the bible/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 +or-. Sometimes we even talk about radio. 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, dismemberment or flooding, only. So far, he hasn't forgotten how to get to the clubhouse.

Dues structure is: \$25. per year. \$30. for family memberships. No dues are charged for Life or Honorary members.

<p>Marin Amateur Radio Society President: Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089</p> <p>Vice President: Horst Dannecker KH6BHZ</p> <p>Secretary: Norm Baetz WA6CLK 898-4887</p> <p>Treasurer: Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864</p> <p>Additional Board Members: Marilyn Bagshaw N6VAW 479-3136 John Boyd KE6ORI Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136 Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 Justin Smith AF6NY</p>	<p>Education Chair: Ben Sawtelle N6PJZ 382-1170 kermode7@hotmail.com</p> <p>Membership: Dave and Phil</p> <p>VE Liaison: Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089</p> <p>Bldg. Manager Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136</p> <p>Trustee for W6SG: Augie Koehler KØCQL</p> <p>Trustee for K6GWE: Doug Slusher KF6AKU</p> <p>Sunday Emergency Nets: HF Ben's been doing both. VHF</p>	<p>DX Representative of ARRL: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829</p> <p>WEBMASTER Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET</p> <p>Public Service Event Coordinator Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089</p> <p>ARRL San Francisco Section Mgr. Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV@ARRL.ORG</p> <p>Editor of QSA-5 and Procurer of The Bellywash Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 K6PHD@ARRL.NET</p>
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Marin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 6423
San Rafael, CA 94903

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The Mailing
 Address
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