

QSA-5

Founded 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

July 2010

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Pres' Msg.

I hear the "Stars and Stripes Forever" played by a high school marching band not all quite tuned to the same pitch though still inspiring and more charming for the fact. A troupe of unicycle riders all dressed like Uncle Sam is gamboling in front of us. Followed by a color guard and a column of veterans both amazingly young and old yet still marching on. It seems that the whole town is crowding the sidewalks, standing, sitting on lawn chairs, and walking along all to see the Fourth of July parade. As John Philip Sousa put it in the lyrics, yes the tune has lyrics, "A flag appears 'mid thunderous cheers, The banner of the Western land. The emblem of the brave and true, Its folds protect no tyrant crew;"

Of the ten federal holidays our government has deemed fit to recognize it is perhaps the one that still holds its original meaning. John Adams at the time wrote, "It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward forever more", and so it is celebrated.

It is a day to reflect on the remarkable founding of country, not by conquest but by a group of people with a wide range of ideas on how a society should be organized all agreeing to relinquish some of their freedom, so that the majority of their freedoms could be preserved.

It is a day to reflect that at the foundation of this country is the idea that the people consent to be governed and that the rules we live under are agreed to, not decreed at the whim of an autocrat.

Column two.

MARS Website at W6SG.NET
Phone 415-389-6630
For ARRL SF Section news, go to
www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=SF

POBox 6423, San Rafael, 93903

MARS Picnic Sunday 12 September
At Sam Taylor Park

It is a day to reflect on the idea that there will be differences of opinion on how we should proceed as a nation. In recognition of that there are mechanisms in our government to resolve those differences. We have the option to from time to time change our course as we see fit.

It is a day to reflect on the spirit of the people who founded this country, and of those who maintain it today. People who will do the right thing, not because they are told to, but because they know it is right. People always ready to lend a hand to others. People generous in spirit, effort, and treasure.

It is finally a day to celebrate all of these things and a thousand more that you value about this great country. Any organization that declares that we have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness deserves a party. So get out there, watch a parade, march in the parade, stroll, get dressed up, have some barbeque, fly the flag, go to the fair, see some fireworks, work some DX. Celebrate in the way that you choose but remember you are celebrating a unique

Curtis, WA6UDS

Board Meeting, 10 June 2010

The meeting was called to order at 1930 hrs by President Curtis Ardourel. Other board members present were Rich W6UDS, Phil K6PHD, Norm WA6CLK, Jerry WA6BXV, Dave KG6TCJ and Doug KG6AKU. Also John Butler from Novato.

Tonight's agenda and minutes of the last board meeting were approved. Dave, our treasurer, gave his report and it was approved. As of June the club's assets were at \$45,462,69.00.

Membership has remained constant.

Mars picnic coming up Sept. 12. More details to follow.

Randy Jenkins talked about upcoming Public Service events.

Doug gave an update on what's happening with the club's new repeater equipment on Big Rock.

The comm. truck is ready to run in any of our events.

General Amateur class lessons have been ongoing and a VE test was scheduled for June 19.

Jerry Foster gave an update on RACES.

Rich talked about the latest on club remodeling and needed improvements on our upstairs apartment. He also announced a new grant of \$10,000.00 for the club has been approved. This will help with further club building improvements.

Doug and Rich talked about our up-coming Field Day. Again we will join with RED XA and be a 3A class station.

Future speakers and events for our General meetings will focus on Digital communications, DX presentations and discussion on our new repeater. Also future projects for the club will center on clubhouse cleanups, upstairs apartment repairs and new antenna feedlines.

The use of online dues paying was discussed. Also internet access for the club was brought up. The Website for W6SG has been updated. Justin Smith has submitted his resignation as a board member because of pressing personal matters and it was accepted. Matt Schallock, K6OHD, offered to fill out the position and his offer was gratefully accepted. Welcome aboard Matt. The meeting was adjourned at 2045 hours. Submitted by Norm Baetz, secretary.

General Meeting June 4, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 19:35 hrs by vice-president Jerry WA6BXV. The agenda was approved as submitted. Jerry announced that there would be a presentation by Denice Stoops after the meeting.

A round of introductions was held.

The minutes of the May general membership meeting were tabled as they had not yet been published in 'QSA-5'.

Incoming communications consisted of a letter from the Registrar of Voters.

Treasurer Dave reported income of \$2,320.00 and expenses of \$369.71. He reported that as of 5/31, the deposit account was at \$25,225.69, and a grant balance of \$20,237.00.

Phil K6PHD reported we had about 114 members, including those in family memberships.

Rich WA6UDS reported that Marilyn, N6VAW, had made the reservation for the picnic on 9/12 at Sam Taylor State Park.

Randy Jenkins reported on the upcoming Dipsea and Double Dipsea.

Dave reported that we be replacing the repeater on Big Rock as soon as all parts are received and tested.

Dave reported that we were about 1/2 way through the General class instruction, being held on Sundays. We are also planning a class in July on "Now that I have a license, what can I do with it?"

Randy reported that the next VE session would be on Saturday, June 19.

Grant Prichard reported that RACES would have a meeting on June 12 at 09:00. Rich reported that indoor plumbing was again available, with more work to do on the second bathroom.

Dave reported on Field Day. Set-up would start at around 11:00 on Friday, June 25. MARS & REDXA will operate class 3A this year and have a GOTA station. Dinner on Saturday will be at 6:00PM, \$5.00/person.

New business:

The official copy of these minutes shall reside in the secretary's records on file at the corporate office.

The program for the evening was Denice Stoops giving a presentation on her CW career and a trip aboard The Lane Victory.

The July general membership meeting was canceled due to it falling on the July 4 holiday weekend.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:07 hrs. Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, (Acting Secretary). Ka6bqf@arrl.net

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

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

For those who keep watch on sun spots and HF propagation, try this site:

<http://www.hamqsl.com/solar.html>

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 0700 Sundays as required so if you show up, you won't freeze your ass off. Take a chance. Come on down 0800 to 1100 +/-.

Operators are needed for the Marin Century / Mt. Tam Double Century Ride on Saturday August 7; and for the Holstein 100 Ride on August 21. Contact ka6bqf@arrl.net for information.

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, ka6bqf@arrl.net 510 526.4089 Secretary, Education, & Public Events, East Bay Amateur Radio Club www.eastbayarc.org VE Liaison & Public Service Co-Coordinator, Marin Amateur Radio Society www.w6sg.net

THE WAYBACK MACHINE ISSUE #28

by Bill Continelli, W2XOY

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Where were you in '62? Lets take a snapshot of amateur radio 40 years ago. In January, 1962, there was one word on the lips of every amateur, "OSCAR". No, I'm not talking about the Academy Award, but rather Orbital Satellite Carrying Amateur Radio. OSCAR I was launched on December 12, 1961. By today's standards it was extremely simple--a one cubic foot package containing a 2 transistor, 140 mw crystal controlled cw transmitter sending "hi" on 144.98 Mc. The beacon lasted only 3 weeks--long enough for thousands of hams to hear it. Amateur radio was now in the space age. Congratulations came in from Vice President Lyndon Johnson and Mrs. Lee DeForest--widow of the famous inventor. OSCAR I was followed in June by OSCAR II. Other notable 1962 space activities included John Glenn's first flight in February, and the launching of Telstar--the first communications satellite--in the summer.

The amateur radio population hit two milestones in 1962. The number of hams passed the 250,000 mark by the end of the year, and membership in the American Radio Relay League hit 100,000.

With the increase in the amateur census, the FCC was running out of "WA" prefix callsigns in the 2nd and 6th Call Areas. Soon, "WB" callsigns would appear. As for the ARRL, it was running out of space. The old building in West Hartford was filled to the rafters. So, the ARRL proposed a new Headquarters at the site of W1AW--225 Main St., Newington, Conn. The new building would cover 25,000 sq. ft.--vs. 14,000 sq. ft. for the West Hartford location. To finance the \$250,000 cost, the ARRL started the Building Fund. They hoped to be in the new Headquarters by 1963.

On May 11, 1962, Herbert Hoover Jr., W6ZH, was elected President of the ARRL. Son of Herbert Hoover--the former President and Secretary of Commerce--W6ZH was famous in his own right as an inventor, Corporate President, and engineer. Licensed since 1915, he was active on all bands from 160 through 2 meters.

In regards to licenses, there was good news and bad news. The FCC decided in 1962 that an individual seeking an amateur or CB license no longer needed to have the application Notarized. No longer would you solemnly stand before a Notary Public, right hand raised, and swear that the application was accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge. Given the sorry state of some CB and ham frequencies, I, as a Notary, believe this requirement should be brought back. The bad news from the FCC- license fees. Public comment was solicited on the FCC proposal to institute license fees of between \$5 and \$10. The ARRL was strongly opposed to the idea.

For Technicians, 1962 was not a good year. A proposal to amend Part 12 to allow Technicians on 10 meters was denied by the FCC. The FCC strongly reinforced their policy that the purpose of this license was experimentation, not communication. The license was not designed for communications service, and was not to be regarded as a stepping stone between the Novice and General Classes. The ARRL supported the FCC decision. There was one bit of good news for Technicians--a new magazine called "VHF Horizons". The focus of this publication was ham radio above 50 Mc, and, for the first time in the amateur community, there were editorials in a national magazine supporting Technicians as full fledged hams. Unfortunately, after only 2 years, "VHF Horizons" ceased publication.

In technical areas, SSB was passing AM as the favored voice mode. Transistors now existed that could handle 2 watts or more above 50 Mc. Column 2.

As a result, many "all transistor" 6 meter portable units were described in the pages of QST.

For those who preferred kits or factory built equipment over home-brewing, there were lots of choices. Heathkit had the "Pawnee" and "Shawnee" 2 and 6 meter transceiver kits. These were AM/CW mobile units, which used 15 tubes and a vibrator power supply. Clegg and Gonset also had many 2 and 6 meter rigs, including the Clegg Zeus, a 6 and 2 meter transmitter for \$675. Polytronics introduced the Poly-Comm 62, a dual band 6 and 2 meter transceiver for \$379.50. For the HF operator, Johnson had a full Viking Line, including the Invader, a 200 watt CW/SSB/AM transmitter for \$619.50, the Ranger, a 75 watt CW, 65 watt AM transmitter for \$249.50, and the Adventurer, a 50 watt CW crystal controlled transmitter for only \$54.95. Why don't you match your Viking transmitter with a Hammarlund receiver? Try the HQ180 for \$429, or the HQ 170 for \$379. By the way, Radio Shack carries the full line of Hammarlund equipment--at their 8 stores coast to coast.

Note that these are 1962 prices--multiply them by 4 to get today's equivalent. Adjusted for inflation, today's radios are 3 times cheaper than those of the 50's and 60's.

CB radio was booming in 1962. There were more CBers than hams, and an ugly rumor started that the FCC was going to give 10 meters to the CB crowd. The FCC put out an announcement that the rumor was 100% false. CB radios were everywhere--even in the pages of QST, tucked away in full page ads from Eico and Lafayette.

The National Calling and Emergency frequencies in 1962 were 3.55, 7.1, 14.05, 21.05, and 28.1 Mc for CW, and 3.875, 7.25, 14.225, 21.4, 29.64, 50.55, and 145.35 Mc for phone.

And, finally, CONELRAD was still alive at the beginning of 1962. Every ham had to monitor 640 or 1240 kc while on the air. However, the basis for CONELRAD was becoming obsolete and, on July 13, 1962, Column three.

CONELRAD ended. It was replaced by the Emergency Broadcast System.

In our next installment, we are going to look at CONELRAD, and the role it played in the lives of every amateur, CBER and US citizen. So, until then, keep monitoring 640 and 1240 kc, and remember to "Duck and Cover".

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Items for sale.

Three current ARRL manuals for more than 50% off.

1. ARRL Handbook 2009 with CD.
MSRP = \$44.95. asking = \$22.50.
2. ARRL General Class License Manual, Exam questions to 6/30/11,
MSRP = \$24.95, asking = \$12.50.
3. ARRL Antenna Book, 21st Edition signed by the Editor.
MSRP = \$44.95, asking = \$22.50.
4. Or all three with a total MSRP of \$114.95, asking \$50.00

Contact, KD6RUP, Dick at 415.485.1835, or dick.sadler@comcast.net

QSA-5 July 2010

General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at Alto District Clubhouse at 27 Shell Road in Mill Valley, starting at 7:30 PM. Come a little early for pizza or whatever. 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 a two story building, second from the corner on the left directly under the power lines. Don't worry, they haven't fallen on us, yet.

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.

The Sunday Emergency nets. Come on down and watch Matt K6OHD do the nets. You could try it yourself, while Matt stands by, and get rid of any mike fright you might have. If at any time you feel a panic attack coming on, Matt will get you thru it.

<p>Marin Amateur Radio Society President: Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS 510-595-3494</p> <p>Vice President: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829</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 924-4419 Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136 Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 Matt Schallock K6OHD</p>	<p>Education Chair: Randy?</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: Matt Schallock K6OHD</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

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

Stamp

The Mailing
 Address
 Goes Here