

QSA-5

Founded 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

October 2011

Page 1

From our Prez.

At the last board meeting we discussed the annual Christmas party. We have not yet nailed down the date, but it looks like Matt Schallock K6OHD and his friend Josh will again preside over the food. This of course reminds me that it is once again time for elections to the board of directors. Horst Dannecker KA6BHZ, Jerry Foster WA6BXV and my terms are ending. We are looking for candidates to run for the board.

Board members serve two year terms with a maximum of three consecutive terms. This means that over time the membership of the board must change, and a diversity of opinion on the board makes for better governance. At the November regular meeting of the club the names of candidates for the board must be announced. There are two ways get nominated. One is complicated but exists to prevent the board from just nominating their friends. The bylaws state **“Any member in good standing may nominate in writing any other member in good standing for the office of director. Any such additional nominees shall be seconded, in writing, by at least one other member in good standing, and the nominee must submit a written statement that he or she would serve if elected.”**

What does it mean to serve? You are signing up for twelve board meetings a year. A quick check of attendance indicates that on average board members make it to nine meetings per year. We have a large board so we rarely have trouble getting a quorum. Most board meetings last about an hour.

Column two.

We discuss club and amateur radio issues and steer the direction of the club. The atmosphere is casual and informal. We have a number of very interesting on-going projects and we seek the wisdom and experience you can bring to the board. Only by running for the board, can you put to rest the rumors of lavish wild parties, and all expense paid junkets to exotic paradises that board members long to experience.

73

Curtis WA6UDS

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 13, 2011

Board members present: Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS; Matt Schallock, K6OHD; Rita Brenden, KG6WPN; Rich Carbine, W6UDS; Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW; August Koehler, K0CQL; Doug Slusher, KF6AKU and Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF. Phil Dunlap, K6PHD was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hrs by President Curtis. The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the September 08 meeting were approved as published.

Communications: Received mail consisted of the property tax bill, a bill for web hosting, a thank-you note from the Dolphin Club, and a check from the MS Society.

Treasurer: Doug Slusher presented the monthly report. Balances were \$37,101.31 in the general fund, and \$10,056.90 in the building grant fund. Total cash assets \$47,537.21.

Committee reports:

Membership- Phil reported that we still have around 110 members. The new member from the general meeting was Kevin Lockey, KJ6FAU.

Column two

Phil reported a potential equipment donation.

A motion was made and passed to collect membership information on an application for all new members, and to announce new members at the next membership meeting.

Recreation- Marilyn Bagshaw reported that the picnic was done. Matt Schallock volunteered to head the Christmas Party Committee. The date will be in early December, depending on the cook's schedule. The budget for the party was approved for \$500.00 for food and \$300.00 for prizes. Cost was set at \$25.00 per person.

Technical: Doug reported that the Big Rock project will be scheduled. Doug reported on a suggestion from Dan Dufficy about conversion of the 147.330 repeater to simulcasting from several sites. Comm Truck-Parked out back.

Field Day Committee – Rich Carbine reported that he will contact Rod and Gun about the site for next year.

VE Liaison – Randy reported that the next session was Saturday, November 19.

RACES – Rich Carbine reported that there would be a leadership meeting on November 19. The RACES grant was approved.

Building Manager – Matt reported that the trees next door had been cut back, discussed the plumbing problems, and that he has contacted a contractor about the deck repairs; a bid will be coming. There was a discussion about paying for repairs. Matt reported that the clean-up in the back room was proceeding. There was discussion about John Boyd's 6 meter repeater.

Education: Randy and Dave started a Technician class October 09. We have one student. (Two, now, ed.)

Next page, column one.

Board Meeting, cont.

Program for the November General Meeting will be Doug and Curtis on Test Equipment (VOM)

Old Business:

Apartment Repairs – Waiting on Estimate.

Personal property – Discussed.

Projection screen – There may be one available at the Buck Center.

Donation Policy: Doug is still working on phase II.

Ham-of the Year: Doug has the folder.

Nominating committee: Up for re-election; **John KE6ORI; Horst KA6BHZ; Jerry, WA6BXV; Curtis, WA6UDS.** Potential candidates to replace those board members who have completed their scheduled time and will be 'termed out' for one year before they are again eligible:

Phil K6PHD, Dave KG6TCJ. .

Jeremy Leary: No Report

New Business:

1) HF Rig Issues: Rich to make a recommendation on replacement equipment

2) Projection screen from Buck Center: Discussed above.

3) Web Site Redesign: Discussed. Matt to begin identification of goals. Randy to respond to Craig.

4) MS Society Check: Randy to return, with request that funds be used for MS research program.

5) Building Repair Fund: Grant funds to remain segregated. Treasurer to investigate check card on regular account with limits (\$500 per transaction / \$1500 per month) and report.

6) By-Laws: Discussed

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:37 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF Secretary,
Marin Amateur Radio Society

The official copy of these minutes shall reside in the Secretary's files as maintained at the Corporate Office.

This was an exceptionally long meeting.

THE WAYBACK MACHINE

Issue #8 by William Continelli

Printed with permission.

Our Founding Fathers knew that the United States would have to enter into legal and binding agreements with foreign countries, thus in Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution, they gave the President the power to make treaties, with the approval of two-thirds of the Senate. Over the years, the Supreme Court has ruled that provisions of a treaty are constitutional and legally binding, even if the exact same provisions contained in a law not covered by a treaty would not pass the constitutional test.

Under the Radio Act of 1927, and the regulations issued by the Federal Radio Commission, amateurs were "in the catbird seat" (to use a popular phrase of the day). They had over 2700 kc of spectrum between 160 and 20 meters, plus another 15,000 kc at 5 meters. They had a Secretary of Commerce (Herbert Hoover) who was a strong proponent of amateur radio. Congress was supportive and sympathetic. Nothing could go wrong--or could it?

Yes it could. An International Radiotelegraph Conference was scheduled for Washington, D.C., on October 4, 1927. Here, participants from 74 nations would gather to hammer out an international treaty covering the entire known radio spectrum. Once this treaty was accepted by the Senate, it would become Law, and supersede anything contained in the 1927 Act. Although amateurs could count on the full support of the U. S. Delegation, we had only one vote, the same as any of the other 73 participants.

So how much support could we count on from the other countries? Sadly, not much. Democracy was still a foreign idea to most nations; many hovered in that gray area between Old World Monarchy and Fascism/Communism. Communications were a government monopoly. Individual private stations were feared; they could compete with the Government Stations, or they could be

used in anti-government activities.

This attitude was even present in the representatives from England and France. As for the other countries, many were blatantly anti-amateur radio. Germany, for example, stated that private stations could violate "the rights of the State." Switzerland was on the record against amateur radio. Japan would tolerate amateurs, however they would have to use "phantom" (i.e., non-radiating) antennas. In other words, you could have a transmitter, you just couldn't radiate a signal!!!! One proposal would only give amateurs frequencies below 13 meters (above 23 Mc).

Fortunately, the ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (founded in 1925) were well aware of this hostility and had made detailed preparations. The IARU and the ARRL both had made presentations to the various delegations prior to the start of the conference. Support of the amateur community was also received from private radio interests and radio manufacturers. The ARRL and the IARU would both have delegates attending the conference.

And so, after the opening session, which was addressed by President Calvin Coolidge and Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover (who was also president of the Conference), the delegates divided themselves into subcommittees and began to work.

England, the European country most favorable to amateur radio, made it's first proposal: amateurs would be allowed the 150 to 200 meter band (1500 to 2000 kc) with a maximum power input of 10 watts. The ARRL/IARU delegates, K.B. Warner, H.P. Maxim and C. H. Stewart, as well as W.D. Terrell, who was Chief of the Radio Division in the Department of Commerce, indicated that this was unacceptable. The British then came up with a compromise position: amateurs would have the 150 meter band, as well as bands at 2.75, 3.66, 5.50, 11.00, 22.00, and 44 Mc. Except for the 1500-2000 kc segment, each band would be 100 kc wide.

Next page, column one.

The total amateur allocations under the British proposal were 1100 kc, of which 900 kc was in the known usable spectrum below 15 Mc. This was a 60% reduction for American hams in the frequencies below 15 Mc, and a whopping 93% reduction when you counted our 4 to 5 meter band!

Nevertheless, many delegates urged the US and ARRL/IARU representatives to accept this proposal. They pointed out that it was far more generous than many countries were willing to give on their own. With the use of C.W. and crystal control, it was argued, there would be enough room for all amateurs. Many were afraid that if the British compromise wasn't accepted, a more restrictive amateur band plan would take its place.

The ARRL/IARU delegates had one thing in their corner, however; the strong support of Secretary Hoover and the American Delegation. With that, they found the strength to (carefully) carry on. They were diplomatic, but they were persistent. Maxim, Stewart, and Warner proceeded step by step.

The 160 meter band was the first agreed on--1715 to 2000 kc. Next, it was decided that the remaining amateur bands would be at the 80-40-20 meter spots. How wide they would be was the next argument. On the 80 meter band, everyone was at a stalemate until it was suggested that the band could be 3500-4000 kc on a non-exclusive basis. This was accepted by all the delegates. Each country could decide for themselves how much of the 500 kc they would allocate to amateurs. Next on the agenda was 20 meters. The U.S. wanted 14,000 to 16,000 kc. There was no way any of the other delegates would agree. After much debate, the U.S. delegation realized that 400 kc was the maximum they were going to get, and acquiesced.

With 160, 80, and 20 out of the way (and the U.S. assured of at least adequate domestic and international allocations) the subcommittee turned to 40. The American delegation wanted 7000 To 8000 kc. The most and other

other country was willing to offer was 7000 to 7200. Germany, in fact, put a high power station on 7200 kc in order to thwart a larger amateur allocation on 40 meters. Back and forth the debate went, the other delegates finally offered 225 kc. Maxim and Stewart felt they had played their last hand and wanted to accept the proposal. Warner, however, still pushed for 400 kc. More debate followed. Finally, the other delegates agreed to 300 kc. Additional bands were set up at 10 and 5 meters.

When the dust had settled, the Conference had approved the following amateur bands: 1715-2000, 3500-4000, 7000-7300, 14,000- 14,400, 28,000-30,000 and 56,000-60,000 kilocycles. This was a 37.5% reduction in the frequencies amateurs had under the U.S. regulations, however, it was a vast increase for the amateurs of most other countries. Furthermore, the frequencies approved by the Conference established amateur radio under international law -- something which had not existed before. Given the circumstances, this was a major victory for amateur radio.

Initially, there was some opposition by a minority of U.S. hams to the ratification of the Treaty. The ARRL and the vast majority of amateurs, however, supported it, knowing that a small loss in frequencies was insignificant in comparison to the international recognition now given to amateur radio. The Senate agreed and, on March 21, 1928, ratified the Treaty.

As a postscript, Herbert Hoover, the Secretary of Commerce who had always supported amateur radio 100%, was elected President of the United States in November 1928. Although most remember his administration as coinciding with the onset of the Great Depression, it was also the time of the greatest growth in amateur radio history. From the 1929 total of 16,289 to the 1933 count of 41,555, amateur radio grew 255% in 4 years. Before his death at the age of ninety on October 20, 1964, Hoover would live to see his son, Herbert Hoover Jr., W6ZH, elected President of the ARRL, and see an

amateur running for President of the United States (Senator Barry Goldwater, K7UGA/K3UIG). Whatever historians may think of his administration, hams will always remember him as a Friend to Amateur Radio.

Next time, "The Wayback Machine" will begin to explore the battle over the VHF spectrum in the mid 40s. **Did you ever wonder what happened to TV channel 1?** "The Wayback Machine" will have the answers.

All material Copyright © William Continelli, W2XOY. All Rights Reserved

At a wine merchant's warehouse the regular taster died, and the director started looking for a replacement. A scruffy retired Navy Chief came to apply for the position. The director wondered how to send him away. They gave him a glass to drink.

The old Chief tried it and said, "It's a Muscat three years old, grown on a north slope, matured in steel containers. Low grade but acceptable."

"That's correct", said the boss. "Another glass, please."

"It's a cabernet, eight years old, south-western slope, oak barrels, matured at eight degrees. Requires three more years for finest results."

"Absolutely correct. A third glass." "It's a pinot blanc champagne, high grade and exclusive" calmly said the old Retired Chief.

The director was astonished and winked at his secretary to suggest something. She left the room and came back in with a glass of urine.

The old Chief tried it. "It's a blonde female, 26 years old, three months pregnant, and if I don't get the job, Ill name the father.

I was devastated to find out my wife was having an affair but, by turning to religion, I was soon able to come to terms with the whole thing. I converted to Islam, and we're stoning her in the morning.

US Amateurs Now 700,000 Strong!

There are now more than 700,000 radio amateurs in the US, the highest number ever. This chart reflects Amateur Radio's growth since 1999. Note that as the number of total licensees grows, so do the number of Technician, General and Amateur Extra class licensees. Please note: While the number of licensees has grown considerably over the years, we realize that these numbers include some who are no longer active in Amateur Radio. A recent survey of ARRL members, however, indicates that more than 80 percent of those responding are active. *The number of new Technicians peaked in March 2011 at 342,572. (From the ARRL Letter,

FCC LICENSEES BY LICENSE CLASS							
Year	Ending Month	Extra	Advanced	General	Tech*	Novice	Total
2011	Sep	125,661	58,224	159,861	341,658	14,817	700,221
2010	Dec	122,951	59,387	155,781	342,191	15,731	696,041
2009	Dec	119,403	60,795	150,970	334,245	17,084	682,497
2008	Dec	115,625	62,104	144,832	322,660	18,343	663,564
2007	Dec	112,022	65,368	142,680	315,314	20,458	655,842
2006	Dec	108,223	69,915	131,224	323,073	23,633	656,068
2005	Dec	107,440	74,221	135,067	319,125	26,747	662,600
2004	Dec	106,090	77,948	138,292	319,742	29,765	671,837
2003	Dec	104,894	82,034	141,498	322,821	32,812	684,059
2002	Dec	103,257	84,326	139,848	321,805	36,072	685,308
2001	Dec	97,977	86,545	138,625	319,735	40,155	683,037
2000	Dec	93,807	88,783	134,144	319,874	45,632	682,240
1999	Dec	75,392	103,471	110,386	335,768	52,375	677,392

This is the site of our MARS picnic in September. Rain? Not much. The only really wet patch of ground

is to the left of the table, from the five gallon container behind the ice chest containing genuine MMWD brand chlorine cocktail. This pic shows the cleanup phase when most of the attendees had gone and Randy's blue shelters are being lowered, a helper trainee at each corner. No fingers were damaged that we know of but often people don't admit to minor bleeding.

The pic, originally in color, is from Capt. Mark Shafer, KE6FGL



From Marilyn B. N6VAW Dated 28 September.

“An acquaintance of mine had her cousin visiting from Scotland. He is Angus Annan, MM1CCR, Past President of the RSGB, the Radio Society of Great Britain. He’s from Blairlogie, Stirling, Scotland and is retired from the University of Stirling as their IT. He attended the MARS picnic at Miwok Meadows last Sunday along with some members of REDXA and thoroughly enjoyed meeting all those present. We especially thank Ron Castro and his wife, Jeanie, and Bill Hillendahl for making the trip down to China Camp. Rich and I met with Angus again today and took him on a tour of the MARS clubhouse in Mill Valley.

Here is a website which gives more detail on Angus and his credentials.

<http://www.groupe-intellex.com/news2/55-angus-annan-rsgb-president.html>

Marilyn



A mystery. Is there anyone still alive who remembers this?

Back in 1989, ACS sent a TS-430 back to the Seattle dealer it came from for minor repairs. What came back was not what was sent. Someone at the dealer apparently swapped the cover with a different 430 and since the serial # was on the case and not the chassis, nobody knew the difference until the five year battery failed way before its time. Then it was discovered that the 430 wouldn't load up on the NAVY MARS freqs for which two diodes had been cut out to make that possible. Further inspection showed internal rust and corrosion. The rig was sent back to Seattle where the dealer refused to acknowledge the swap had taken place.

Was this ever resolved? Two TS-430s were bought from this dealer. They are still in the radio room at the clubhouse.

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. From hwy 101, head west toward Mill Valley on E. Blithedale. Turn right at the first stop light a block off the highway. Angle right at next stop sign, then turn left at next corner, Shell Road. We are in a two story building, second from the corner 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 and 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 Vice President: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829 Secretary: Randy Jenkins KA6BQF Treasurer: Doug Slusher KF6AKU Additional Board Members: Marilyn Bagshaw N6VAW 479-3704 John Boyd KE6ORI 924-4419 Rita Brenden KG6WPN 707-557-5521 Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136 Horst Dannecker KA6BHZ 459-6163 Matt Schallock K6OHD 531-2676</p>	<p>Education Chair: Randy? 491-0318 VE Liaison: Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 Building Co-Managers Matt Schallock K6OHD 531-2676 Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136 Trustee for W6SG: Augie Koehler KØCQL Trustee for K6GWE: Doug Slusher KF6AKU Sunday Emergency Nets: Matt Schallock K6OHD Assistant to the Treasurer: Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864</p>	<p>DX Representative of ARRL: Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829 WEBMASTER Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET Public Service Event Coordinator Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 ARRL San Francisco Section Mgr. Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV@ARRL.ORG Editor of QSA-5 and Procurer of The Bellywash Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318 K6PHD@ARRL.NET Membership: Phil Dunlap K6PHD</p>
--	---	--

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