

# QSA-5

Founded 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

April 2012

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## From our Prez.

If you study American history you come to realize that the current crop of elected officials we have in Washington is probably no worse than their predecessors. That said, our recent crew seems particularly inept when it comes to technology. Moreover that lack of understanding seems to cross party boundaries, and ideologies.

I have ranted about this before in this space, and exhorted you to act. This is yet another call to action. First some background. As the result of a request from the ARRL to gather information about how government at various levels hinders amateur radio from providing the communications infrastructure needed in times of disaster, a bill was presented to Congress. A section was added to a bill that requested comment from interested parties about a laundry list of issues. You can find the complete list of questions on the FCC web site [in notice DA 12-523](#). All of the questions are good, but complex, and want factual answers rather than opinions. Where the study goes off the rails is that the time allowed for comment is quite brief. All comments must be submitted by May 17 2012.

There is a couple of things you can do in the time remaining, and without having to do a lot of writing or research. The first applies to those of us who live under the rules of a homeowner's associa-

tion or in deed restricted communities. These associations have a set of rules called Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions or CC&Rs. These documents may contain rules restricting antennas, feed lines, the gathering of people, activities and any other thing you can imagine. If you have encountered any restrictions on your station or Emergency Communications activities, please go to <http://www.arrl.org/ccr-study-information> and fill out the form. There is also a survey you can take at <http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/WEB22FJ7YKLXKC/>.

Evidently I woke up with a number of bees in my bonnet. On Tuesday 24 April I learned that someone had put paper towels into the toilet in one of our restrooms. They then flushed the toilet and caused the other contents of the toilet to eventually spread all over the floor in both our restrooms. Matt Schallock W6OHD then did the right thing and cleaned up the mess. He then called a plumber to clear the sewer line. We owe him for actions above and beyond the call of duty. Please don't put paper towels into the toilet. Use the waste basket for paper towels. (See notice on next page.)

Rant free zone: It was proposed that we decorate the club with QSL cards. We are looking for a few good QSL cards to put up on the walls on donated cork boards. If you have a few you can lend us please bring them in or send them to us, and we will display them for all to see.

73 de Curtis WA6UDS

## HF operators needed, May 26-27

This year is the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Golden Gate Bridge, and instead of mobs of humans flattening the bridge's cathedral angle, there will be a Special Event station: W6G. The entire world will be listening!

The San Francisco Amateur Radio Club has asked for our assistance in staffing a two-position station in their ham shack on the top floor of the Veteran's Administration Hospital at Fort Miley (on Clement Street, just West of Lincoln Park.)

It'll be in operation for 30 hours, so they'll be looking for operators to staff 4-hour shifts, including thru the wee hours. They'll be flogging it to increase contacts, and will be sending out special event QSL cards.

Here's their website:  
<http://www.qrz.com/db/W6G>  
and  
<http://www.sfarcc.org/timeline05262712.htm>

Interested? Contact Doug KF6AKU or Michael K6MLF.

Due to a clerical error, we couldn't separate the renewed members from the rest for 2012 so y'all are gonna have QSA-5 inflicted on you for another year. Oh, the horror!

### Paper in Sewer Systems

According to those who've had experience unclogging sewer lines, only the paper on the roll, hopefully within closer reach of the throne than a roll of paper towels, should be flushed down. No tissues like Kleenex. They don't disintegrate well. No rat tails, either. They don't come apart and can be the start of great clogs when they catch on a tree root or other small obstruction. Some paper towels can and do survive a cycle in a clothes washer in a pocket of your Levis. They can sometimes be found free-ranging in the dryer so if times get really tight, they can be recovered and re-used. ed.

### FOR SALE

**GAP Challenger DX VIII vertical antenna has worked well for me since I installed it 16 months ago. It is in perfect working order, the metal is shiny as new, with a few marks that were made when I took it apart to sell. Covers 80m - 10m (and reportedly 6m and 2m as well, but I never tried.) Great for a small lot. 31 feet tall and can be ground mounted. Asking \$175.**

Mike ai6ii@att.net  
415-721-7697.

Thanks, Mike AI6II

See what eham says about it.

<http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/455>

**This story is several years old and has proly been forgotten by most:**

### Fun at The Ball Park

Bill and Hillary are at the Yankee season opener sitting in the first row, with the Secret Service agents directly behind them. One of the Secret Service guys leans forward and whispers something to Bill.

At first, Clinton stares at the guy, looks at Hillary, looks back at the agent, and shakes his head. The agent then says, "Mr. President, it was at the unanimous request of the entire team, from the owner on down to the bat boy." Bill hesitates . . . but begins to change his mind when the agent tells him the fans would love it!

Bill shrugs his shoulders and says, "Okay, if that's what the people want."

With that, Bill gets up, grabs Hillary by her collar and the seat of her pants, lifts her up, and tosses her right over the wall onto the field.

She gets up kicking, swearing, screaming, "I'll kill you! You \$#!T#EAD@#\$!&\$%\*!!!"

The crowd goes absolutely wild. Fans are jumping up & down cheering, hooting & hollering, and high-fiving. Bill is bowing, smiling and waving to the crowd. He leans over to the agent and says, "How about that! I would have never believed how much everyone would enjoy that!

Noticing his agent has gone totally pale, he asks what is wrong. The agent replies, "Mr. President, Sir, I said they wanted you to throw out the first "pitch."

**THE WAYBACK MACHINE**  
Issue #12 by William Continelli  
Printed with permission.

November 15, 1945. The day that amateurs had waited for, ever since December 7, 1941. Finally, after three years and 11 months of wartime radio silence, amateurs were allowed back on the air! Granted, we didn't have everything back yet. The initial authorization allowed amateur operations on 10 meters (28-29.7 Mc), five meters (56-60 Mc), and the new two meter band at 144-148 Mc. And there were restrictions on these limited frequencies. Our old pre-war five meter allocation was temporary. The new post-war band was shifted to six meters (50-54 Mc), but the actual transition would not take place until March 1, 1946. So, we were back on the 56-60 Mc segment for only 3-1/2 months.

On the new two meter band, the frequencies 146.5-148 Mc were unavailable within a 50 mile radius of Washington, DC and Seattle, Washington. The military was still using these frequencies, as well as our 160, 80, 40, and 20 meter HF bands. The military also occupied our new UHF and microwave allocations. It would be months, maybe a year or more, before the Armed Forces would fully vacate our bands and return them to us.

But amateurs didn't care. Unlike 1919, when there was open hostility to us by the military and the threat of our elimination, the post WW II Armed Forces, as well as the FCC, were fully aware of the tremendous assistance that amateurs had given throughout the war and they were eager to give us back our frequencies. The ARRL was working closely with the FCC and the military to get our bands back.

One band, however, was apparently not coming back. Our 160 meter band, the birthplace of our post 1912 operations, was fully occupied by the military with it's new LORAN Radionavigation System. The Armed Services and the FCC made it clear that this segment was to remain for the

use of LORAN.

Over the years, the ARRL obtained small concessions -- a 25 Kc segment here and there, 25 watt power limitations, day and night restrictions; but from the 1940s right up to the early 80s, our 160 meter band sounded like a huge broadbanded buzzsaw as LORAN completely dominated it.

But this was a minor blot on the landscape as amateurs rushed to get back on the air. Ten meters was the band they went to first and the 28-29.7 Mc range became crowded with those making up for lost time. Two meters was next; hams modified their old 2 1/2 meter equipment to operate on the new band, and soon the rushing sounds of the superregenerative receiver were everywhere. The more adventurous were trying out something called FM. Five meters was quiet. Since the band was available for only 105 days, many hams spent that time converting their rigs to the new six meter band.

On March 1, 1946, our old five meter band died and the new 50-54 Mc segment was born. Also on that date, to compensate amateurs for the loss of 29.7-30 Mc, we were given an 11 meter band at 27 mc. That's right, the present day CB band was once an amateur allocation.

By May 1946, we had our 80/75 meter allocation back. We also had a temporary allocation from 235-240 Mc, which would soon be shifted down to 220-225 Mc. On November 2, 1946, the FCC finally released our 40 and 20 meter bands. By the end of 1946, we had our full HF spectrum back, 80/75, 40 meters (which was CW only), 20, 11 and 10 meters. Note that there was no 15 meter allocation then. Our 15 meter band did not appear until 1952. The military restrictions on our two meter band were lifted in June 1947, and, except for 160 meters, the military was off of our bands.

By 1947, every amateur band from 80 thru two meters was full of stations. But there was trouble brewing. Amateurs weren't the only ones taking to the airwaves. Television was

growing by leaps and bounds. In 1946, there were only 7,000 TV sets. In 1947, the number jumped to 180,000, and by 1948, there were over 1 million TVs in use. Amateurs, who were used to harmonically related bands and an empty VHF spectrum, were not prepared for the TVI their neighbors were experiencing. A typical unshielded amateur transmitter, operating on 14, 28 or 50 Mc, could wipe out all the TVs in the neighborhood. QST ran a series of articles on proper shielding and filtering of stations and hams gradually learned to eliminate harmonics from their transmitters. But there was one band where shielding and good design didn't seem to help -- six meters. Our 50-54 Mc segment was sandwiched right between TV channel 1 (44-50 Mc) and channel 2 (54-60 Mc). At that time, only channel 2 was actually being used for TV. The channel 1 range was still part of the old pre-war FM Band (42-50 Mc) which was being phased out in favor of the new 88-108 Mc allocation. We were causing interference to WCBS and the other handful of stations on channel 2. And the problem would only get worse when channel 1 became available. Tests were run and an interesting solution was proposed. Because a television video signal is amplitude modulated, operates with a wide bandwidth and uses the lower portion of the TV channel, it was determined that channel 2 was twice as susceptible to interference from a 6 meter station than channel 1 was. The ARRL's proposal to the FCC? Eliminate channel 2, keep channel 1. But this idea didn't sit well with the stations already on channel 2, nor did it win the approval of Major Armstrong, who was still fighting the grand battle to keep FM Broadcast in the 42-50 Mc range. And so, in August 1947, the FCC withdrew channel 1 from the TV allocations. By the end of 1947, all the pre-war FM broadcast stations had disappeared from the 42-50 Mc range, which was then turned over to Public Service. Amateurs learned to operate in the lower portions of 6 meters to avoid TVI to channel 2.

In our next installment, we are going to look at a major upheaval that began 30 years ago and pitted amateur against amateur, and (according to some) the ARRL against hams. I'm talking about incentive licensing, and how it changed the entire licensing structure.

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A young woman on a flight from Ireland asked the priest beside her, 'Father, may I ask a favor?'

'Of course, child. What can I do for you?'

'Well, I bought an expensive woman's electric hair dryer for my Mother's birthday that is unopened and well over the Customs limits, and I'm afraid they'll confiscate it. Is there any way you could carry it through customs for me? Under your robes perhaps?'

'I would love to help you, dear, but I must warn you: I will not lie.'

'With your honest face, Father, no one will question you.'

When they got to Customs, she let the priest go ahead of her.

The official asked, 'Father, do you have anything to declare?'

'From the top of my head down to my waist, I have nothing to declare.'

The official thought this answer strange, so he asked, 'And what do you have to declare from your waist to the floor?'

'I have a marvelous instrument designed to be used on a woman, but which is, to date, unused.'

Roaring with laughter, the official said, 'Go ahead, Father. Next!'

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 12, 2012

Members present: Curtis WB6UDS, Matt K6OHD, Rich W6UDS, Marilyn N6VAW, Dave KG6TCJ, Rita KG6WPN, Phil K6PHD, August KØCQL, Doug KF6AKU, and Randy KA6BQF. John KE6ORI arrived while the meeting was in progress.

The meeting was called to order at 19:00 hrs by President Curtis Ardourel.

The agenda was approved as distributed.

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

Correspondence consisted of an opt-out notice from Marin Clean Energy.

Treasurer: Dave presented the March Treasurer's report. The checking account balance was reported as \$40,973.33 and the building account balance was reported as \$500.00. The grant funds have been exhausted.

Committee reports:

Membership- Phil Dunlap reported that there was one new member to report, Ed Essick K6ELE.

Recreation – The picnic date was set for Sunday 9/16. Possible sites were discussed, as well as the possibility of a BBQ at the clubhouse.

Public Service - The first events are April 28 and May 5. Lots of events on the chalkboard.

Technical: Doug was contacted last week by MMWD about moving the Tam West input to another site on the property. The new location will be east of the current location. There may be an expense as a result of the move. Doug also reported that Dan Dufficy located some available 2M duplexers. There was a motion to approve purchase for \$500.00. OHD/PHD/Pass.

Field Day Committee – Rich will be meeting with RedX on 4/30. Field Day shirts were discussed.

VE Liaison – Randy reported Saturday, April 14.

RACES – RACES has new grant money for antennas.

Building Manager – Matt reported that the building was dry through the rains. The neighbor's trees were discussed. Tenant parking was discussed. The electrician is scheduled for 4/13.

Education: A technician class was discussed.

Speakers – Doug is looking.

Old Business:

The proscriptive easement sign – Doug has them.

Donation Policy: An auction of equipment in mid-July was discussed. Perhaps with a BBQ.

Website – Next meeting 4/24 at 19:00

Budget - There was a discussion about creating reserve funds. The budget as presented last month was adopted as a working document. AKU/WPN/Pass.

Tenant Issues – Curtis drafted and sent a letter to the tenant about modifications to the apartment. Matt will follow up. There was discussion about the form of a new lease.

At 19:50 hours the Board went into closed session to discuss a confidential issue.

At 20:05 hours the Board exited closed session and resumed the normal order of business. No actions were taken in closed session.

Tenant status - Tabled

Board Meeting time – Motion to hold May meeting at 7:30 PM and revisit the issue.

New Business:

Ham Shack Procedures: Written procedures for equipment operation, securing the shack, and standard operating procedures were discussed. Randy presented a draft document about radio room access. There was a motion supporting further development of standard operating procedures and operator checks for the radio room. A committee is to be formed. BQF/OHD/Pass. Augie, Matt, Rich, Doug and Randy will be on the committee.

The FCC request for comments regarding CC&R's and local regulations, as related to amateur radio emergency preparedness and operation were discussed. Curtis will make mention in his article in QSA-5.

The Golden Gate Anniversary event was mentioned.

Member QSL's to be posted at the clubhouse will be solicited in QSA-5.

The six meter repeater was discussed. Dave may have a site.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:38 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.

Randy Jenkins, Secretary.

The National Transportation Safety Board recently divulged they had covertly funded a project with the US auto makers for the past five years, whereby the auto makers were installing black box voice recorders in four-wheel drive pickup trucks in an effort to determine, in fatal accidents, the circumstances in the last 15 seconds before the crash.

They were surprised to find in 44 of the 50 states the recorded last words of drivers in 61.2 percent of fatal crashes were, "Oh, \$HIT!" Only the states of Oklahoma, Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama and Texas were different. There, 89.3 percent of the final words were: "Hold my beer and watch this."

**Got a question about ham radio, like where did the term 'ham' come from? Many more answers.**

Try this site:

<http://www.ac6v.com/73.htm>

**Ambrose Bierce defined a few common words:**

Appeal, in law: to put the dice back in the box for another throw.

Revolution: An abrupt change in the form of misgovernment.

Saint: A dead sinner, revised and edited.

Responsibility: A detachable burden easily shifted to the shoulders of God, Fate, Fortune, Luck, or one's neighbor.

Marin Amateur Radio Society  
General Membership Meeting  
April 06, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hrs by President Curtis WA6UDS

A round of introductions was the first order of business. Eighteen members or guests were present.

No presentation was scheduled after the meeting.

The agenda was adopted as printed.

The minutes of the March 02, 2012 general membership meeting were approved as published in QSA-5. There was a correction noted to the February minutes.

A report on actions at the March Board of Director's Meeting was made by President Curtis. The Board is meeting at 7:00 PM, and the budget was discussed.

There were five reports under "Fun with Amateur Radio".

Treasurer Dave Hodgson's report showed \$2,657.00 income and \$4,558.06 expenses.

Recreation: Matt K6OHD and Josh will chair the Christmas Party. Marilyn discussed a site for the picnic.

Maybe China Camp, maybe the clubhouse.

Public Service: Randy KA6BQF reported that the 2012 dates were on the chalkboard. The first events will be Ridge to Bridge on April 28 followed by Miwok 100K on May 05.

The Technical Committee: Doug reported that there will be changes on Mt. Tam for the Tam West site.

Comm Truck: Doug reported that the tarp to cover the truck was installed.

Education: Randy said the Extra study session concluded.

VE Liaison: Randy reported next Saturday, April 14, plus June 30 and November 10 were scheduled.

**RACES:** Rich reported that the RACES grant was approved. There will be antennas installed at Civic Center.

**There will be an earthquake / tsunami drill Thursday, May 10.**

Field Day: Rich reported that we have the six meter beam. There will be a planning luncheon.

New business: QSL cards from the membership were discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:06 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary.

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

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF

ka6bqf@arrl.net

510 526.4089

Treasurer, East Bay Amateur Radio Club

www.eastbayarc.org

Secretary, VE Liaison & Public Service Co-Coordinator

Marin Amateur Radio Society

www.w6sg.net

PO Box 6423

San Rafael, CA 94903

Hi All

Our regularly scheduled Dedicated Day of Operation (DDO) got underway early Saturday morning at NJ6VT aboard the USS Pampanito, SS-383. RO Bill Stewart, KF6RMK, fired up NJ6VT a little after 0900 on a beautiful Saturday morning in SF. I joined Bill in the radio shack around 1030 hours. Bill had been working the QRP net on 40 meters when the band suddenly dropped out. Whether that was caused by a solar flare or CME I do not know.

I tried to do some CW work on the 40 meter band. I had a schedule with Roger, KA9UDA, in Barstow but the skip was not working. I tried for almost an hour to QSO with Roger, but no luck.

Our XO, Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, with friend and ex-submariner, Theo arrived with the new MFJ VHF/UHF antenna and mag-mount. Both went top-side along with Bill, KF6RMK, and worked together to mount the new antenna. The installation went well and NJ6VT now sports a brand new, VHF / UHF antenna!! By the way, all the coax connectors looked good as well! The new antenna system was tested using the K6GWE repeater and the antenna works well. A special thank you to our XO, Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, for purchasing and installing the new VHF / UHF antenna and donating it to the club! Thank you Jerry!!

Back in the radio shack, Bill, KF6RMK, worked several stations in the southwest with fair signal reports on the 20 meter band. While the 40 meter band was not active on CW or SSB, the 17 meter band was open at times to various parts of the world. Later in the afternoon, I managed to work the 17 meter CW band and worked Russians UA0ZC and RA1FF. One Japanese station, JR1NH, was worked and a special event station in Mexico City, 6H6IARU, was also worked. I learned later that 6H6IARU is a special event station for the International Amateur Radio Union. Interesting contact!

The visitor traffic aboard the boat was, in general, light. I am sure most visitors to the Fisherman's Wharf were top-side enjoying the beautiful weather, rather than wanting to be below deck in a submarine!

NJ6VT was secured around 1630 hours. Thanks to Bill, KF6RMK, Jerry, WA6BXV and Jerry's friend Theo for all the help!! Our next scheduled DDO has been changed to Sunday, April 22, 2012. The scheduled RO's are Michael, K6MLF and Guest RO Jan, WB6SPX.

I should report that there were times I had to reduce the power to 75 watts with the FT-890 to avoid some RF feed back from the auto-tuner. The rig sounds fine with a 50 Ohm dummy load connected, so I think the problem is once again related to the grounding situation on the boat. Our next "On the Air" PARC meeting is set for this Wednesday evening at 8 pm on the K6GWE repeater, 147.330 ( + ). Use appropriate PL (I use 179.9 Hz) for your QTH. I hope to talk with all then!

73,

Den Regan, K6ZJU

CO Pampanito A.R.C. NJ6VT

USS Pampanito, SS-383

Pier 45, Shed "A"

San Francisco

cc: Aaron Washington, Ship's Manager

Guest RO's

Hi All

Here is the DDO Report for Sunday, April 22, 2012 aboard the USS Pampanito, SS-383 at NJ6VT. The RO's were Michael Fischer, K6MLF, and Guest RO, Jan Leja, WB6SPX. Thanks to Michael and Jan for being aboard and operating NJ6VT !! A job well done!

Our next scheduled DDO is set for Saturday, May 12 aboard the boat. Please try to help out if you can.

73,

Den Regan, K6ZJU

CO Pampanito A.R.C. NJ6VT

--- On **Sun, 4/22/12, Michael Fischer** <[fischer@igc.org](mailto:fischer@igc.org)> wrote:

To: Den Regan K6ZJU, USS Pampanito Amateur Radio Club

From: Michael Fischer K6MLF, Radio Operator

About Operations aboard the boat today

Jan Leja KB6SPX and I brought the radio room to life today from 0900 until 1530. This unusual Sunday deployment was a reschedule of our "fourth Saturday" in April—the Ridge to Bridge public service event will be on that day, and family obligations transpired to fix today as the replacement.

I was a slow day on the boat—relatively few visitors. Yesterday's very warm and clear day had been replaced by windy, foggy, and chilly weather along the Golden Gate, and most of the expected tourists were elsewhere.

Nevertheless, we found ourselves to be the only docents aboard, so we had many pleasant extended conversations with visitors from Sweden, Russia, the UK, France, and Australia. Jan's poly-lingual skills were brought into play on several occasions. A larger-than-usual percentage of the visitors were from the Bay Area. One of our better conversations was with a former Petty Officer/Wiper from the British navy, who had served aboard an SSBN for an extended tour. He was surprised by the spaciousness of the accommodations aboard the Pampanito (!?) Den here: Any extra space on nuke boats is usually take up by more and more equipment by the time the boat is finally commissioned!

On the air, we made 30 contacts, all except two from West of the Rockies. Our first contact of the day, after checking in to the Marin Amateur Radio Society's Sunday nets, was AH0AH/KL7 from Anchorage, Alaska. We had four strong QRP/5 watt contacts from Everett and Seattle Washington, Colorado, and San Francisco NVIS. The non-Western contacts were from Arkansas and Minnesota.

Jan and I enjoyed an al fresco lunch at Alioto's restaurant, at a sidewalk table—our tourist-observations were enlivened by the passage of more than a dozen goose-bumped, chilly male cyclists all in a group. Not a stitch of clothing, not even helmets on most of them, and several riding in full-extension mode.

Several small problems with the radios: in CW mode, the signal is still distorted when the PO is above 80W. We asked for voice signal reports when the PO was cranked up to 100W, and got excellent reports. So it's a continuing CW problem, not SSB. Den here: It also seems to take a second or two at "high" power for the "burble" to manifest itself.

On the VHF radio, we got reports that the audio was muffled. Steve, K6SDY, said that it sounded as though I was talking into the wrong side of the mic. (I wasn't.) Bill, KF6RMK, said that the carrier was pegging at +40 over 9, but agreed with Steve that the voice was quite weak. Without the manual, I couldn't figure out how to adjust the mic gain. Since the carrier was strong, we didn't think that it could've been caused by the mew mag mount antenna that Jerry installed last week. Den here: Perhaps a poor mic connector pin connection? I hope it is something simple!

Rem K6BBQ, we had a good contact with Carey KD7BBQ—he looks forward to hear from you. Also, I was able to score the ball cap that you want. Let me know how to deliver it.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Fischer, K6MLF

RO Pampanito A.R.C. NJ6VT    USS Pampanito, SS-383    Pier 45, Shed "A"    San Francisco

Hello, colleagues-

Thank you again for your assistance last year in one or more of the public service events. The 2012 schedule is below. Our season will end ten events later, in October, with the Breast Cancer Fund's Peak Hike. In addition to those events formally sponsored by MARS, we have listed other opportunities for your engagement-we are committed to collaborate with our colleague radio clubs in San Francisco, Sonoma County, and the East Bay, and we hope to see some of you at those events, as well.

We urge your participation, because not only do we help to support a number of worthwhile causes, but we also get real-world, real-time practice in emergency communications. We maintain and improve our skills in operating in a controlled net, we maintain our cool when emergency situations arise, and we employ imaginative resilience when unexpected events transpire, or when equipment fails. We get to build our community of experienced radio operators. And we get to have great outdoor adventures in a pretty magnificent landscape.

Please take a look at the entire schedule, and let one of us know in which events you will be able to participate. Randy Jenkins KA6BQF is at [ka6bqf@arri.net](mailto:ka6bqf@arri.net), and I, Michael Fischer, am at [fischer@igc.org](mailto:fischer@igc.org)

2012 MARS Public Service Dates:

Saturday, May 05, 2012 Miwok 100K (Route change this year)

Sunday, June 10, 2012 The Dipsea Race

Saturday, June 23, 2012 Double Dipsea

TBD July Summer Sun Day Hike

Saturday, August 04, 2012 Marin Century / Double Century

Saturday, August 18, 2012 Holstein 100

Saturday, September 23, 2012 ZBC Dipsea Lite Hike

Saturday, September 23, 2012 Dolphin Escape From Alcatraz

Sunday, October 14, 2012 BCF Peak Hike

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Other Planned Events:

May 26 & 27 75th Anniversary Golden Gate Bridge Event (Joint Special Event W6G with the SF Amateur Radio Club)

June 2-3 Annual Museum Ships on the air weekend aboard the USS Pampanito

June 22-24 Field Day 2012

October 6-7 California QSO Party HF DX contest

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Non-MARS Events on following page.

We just looked and apparently they've disappeared.

### **Not new but definitely worth a rerun.**

Here are six reasons why you should think before you speak - the last one is great! Have you ever spoken and wished that you could immediately take the words back... or that you could crawl into a hole? Here are the Testimonials of a few people who did.

#### **FIRST TESTIMONY:**

I walked into a hair salon with my husband and three kids in tow and asked loudly, "How much do you charge for a shampoo and a blow job?" I turned around and walked back out and never went back. My husband didn't say a word... he knew better.

#### **SECOND TESTIMONY:**

I was at the golf store comparing different kinds of golf balls. I was unhappy with the women's type I had been using. After browsing for several minutes, I was approached by one of the good-looking gentlemen who works at the store. He asked if he could help me. Without thinking, I looked at him and said, "I think I like playing with men's balls"

#### **THIRD TESTIMONY:**

My sister and I were at the mall and passed by a store that sold a variety of candy and nuts. As we were looking at the display case, the boy behind the counter asked if we needed any help. I replied, "No, I'm just looking at your nuts." My sister started to laugh hysterically. The boy grinned, and I turned beet-red and walked away. To this day, my sister has never let me forget.

#### **FOURTH TESTIMONY:**

While in line at the bank one afternoon, my toddler decided to release some pent-up energy and ran amok. (Yep, that's the correct spelling.) I was finally able to grab hold of her after receiving looks of disgust and annoyance from other patrons. I told her that if she did not start behaving "right now" she would be punished. To my horror, she looked me in the eye and said in a voice just as threatening, "If you don't let me go right now, I will tell Grandma that I saw you kissing Daddy's pee-pee last night!" The silence was deafening after this enlightening exchange. Even the tellers stopped what they were doing. I mustered up the last of my dignity and walked out of the bank with my daughter in tow. The last thing I heard when the door closed behind me, were screams of laughter.

#### **FIFTH TESTIMONY:**

Have you ever asked your child a question too many times? My three-year-old son had a lot of problems with potty training and I was on him constantly. One day we stopped at Taco Bell for a quick lunch, in between errands. It was very busy, with a full dining room. While enjoying my taco, I smelled something funny, so of course I checked my seven-month-old daughter, she was clean. The realized that Danny had not asked to go potty in a while. I asked him if he needed to go, and he said "No". I kept thinking "Oh Lord, that child has had an accident, and I don't have any clothes with me." Then I said, "Danny, are you SURE you didn't have an accident?" "No," he replied. I just KNEW that he must have had an accident, because the smell was getting worse. Soooooo, I asked one more time, "Danny did you have an accident? This time he jumped up, yanked down his pants, bent over, spread his cheeks and yelled "SEE MOM, IT'S JUST FARTS!!" While 30 people nearly choked to death on their tacos laughing, he calmly pulled up his pants and sat down. An old couple made me feel better, thanking me for the best laugh they'd ever had!

#### **LAST BUT NOT LEAST TESTIMONY:**

What happens when you predict snow but don't get any! We had a female news anchor that, the day after it was supposed to have snowed and didn't, turned to the weatherman and asked: "So Bob, where's that 8 inches you promised me last night?" Not only did HE have to leave the set, but half the crew did too they were laughing so hard!

**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><b>Marin Amateur Radio Society</b>  <b>President:</b> Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS                      510-595-3494  <b>Vice President:</b>                      John Boyd KE6ORI 924-04419  <b>Secretary:</b>                      Randy Jenkins KA6BQF  <b>Treasurer:</b>                      Doug Slusher KF6AKU</p> <p><b>Additional Board Members:</b>                      (for a total of eleven)                      Marilyn Bagshaw N6VAW 479-3704                      Rita Brenden KG6WPN 707-557-5521                      Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136                      Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318                      Matt Schallock K6OHD 531-2676</p>	<p><b>Education Chair:</b>                      Randy                      491-0318  <b>VE Liaison:</b>                      Randy Jenkins KA6BQF                      510-526-4089  <b>Building Co-Managers</b>                      Matt Schallock K6OHD 531-2676                      Rich Carbine W6UDS 479-3136</p> <p><b>Trustee for W6SG:</b>                      Augie Koehler KØCQL  <b>Trustee for K6GWE:</b>                      Doug Slusher KF6AKU  <b>Sunday Emergency Nets:</b>                      Matt Schallock K6OHD  <b>Assistant to the Treasurer:</b>                      Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864</p>	<p><b>DX Representative of ARRL:</b>                      Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829  <b>WEBMASTER</b>                      Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948                      N1ZKW@ARRL.NET  <b>Public Service Event Coordinator</b>                      Randy Jenkins KA6BQF                      510-526-4089</p> <p><b>ARRL San Francisco Section Mgr.</b>                      Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV@ARRL.ORG</p> <p><b>Editor of QSA-5 and Procurer of The Bellywash</b>                      Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318                      K6PHD@ARRL.NET  <b>Membership:</b>                      Phil Dunlap K6PHD</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.

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