
QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

June 2014

Presidents Corner

It is hot. For the last several years we have not really had summer in Emeryville. I live near the bay and the weather is usually cooler rather than warmer. Not that any of that has anything to do with anything but heat wise I have grown soft in my old age. For years I lived in New York City and it was hot and humid from May to September I got used it. When I moved back to the bay area I thought it never got too hot here. Ok the old geezer is rambling again.

While I am on the topic of summer, Field Day is behind us. I want to thank all of you who came out to setup, work, and/or strike our Field Day site, our sister club Redwood Empire DX Association. In particular I want to thank Doug Slusher KF6AKU and Cal Anber N6TIA who were our Field Day co-chairmen. We are now half way through our public service events. To all of you who worked a public service event, thank you. To the rest of us, there are still chances to volunteer for a public service event. Check out the calendar at http://w6sg.net/site/?page_id=33.

I would like to join the board in thanking Alan Best K6AJB for replacing the gate at our club house. This is the human sized gate that had almost completely disintegrated. The board discussed getting bids from contractors to replace the gate. Before the next meeting, Alan had stepped up and done the job. That is the Ham Radio spirit.

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From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Ham Radio World Cup

With all of the excitement of the World Cup Soccer matches you may not have noticed that we have our own World Cup coming up on July 12-13, 2014. The World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) occurs every four years and this year 59 teams from 29 qualifying regions around the world will participate from the East coast of the USA. The last WRTC was from Russia in 2010.

The WRTC is a competition between two-person teams of amateur radio operators testing their skills to make contacts with other Amateur Radio operators around the world over a 24 hour period. Unlike most on-the-air competitions, all stations are required to use identical antennas from the same geographic region, eliminating all variables except operating ability.

The qualifying process is based on results in selected ham radio contests over 3 years. Team leaders are selected based on their 12 best scores compared to others in their region. Each Team Leader selects their teammate from anywhere in the world.

The WRTC competitors will use 1×1 call signs from the USA first call area. The competition starts at 1200Z on July 12, 2014 and ends at 1200Z on July 13, 2014. This is the same as the IARU HF Championship. Bands of operation are 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters using both CW and SSB.

All competitors will be located in the same geographical region with similar topography. Competitor locations will be separated by a minimum of 500 meters. Each station will use one 10/15/20M tribander on a 40 foot tower. Inverted-V dipoles will be used for 40M and 80M. All stations will operate in "Field Day" mode using a generator, tent, etc.

You can participate in the competition by working team stations in one of two ways. First, you can work the stations and receive an Activity Award for working all of 59 teams. No log is needed for this and you can download a certificate from the WRTC2014 website after the contest. Second, you can submit your log for another award level. If you are participating in the ARRL Centennial QSO Party each QSO with a WRTC team counts for 5 points.

So give it a try and support our World Cup competition this year from the US. WRTC website:
<http://www.wrtc2014.org/>

The very first purpose of our club according to the bylaws is "To educate and increase the proficiency of its members in the science of radio communications." We have not yet scheduled classes for this year. We would like to hear from you about what classes you would like to have. Are you looking to upgrade from Technician to General or General to Extra? Would you be interested in a class on operating practice? What about a focus on HF operating practice? We have some really great instructors who will walk you through the material. The way we teach is not about how-to-take-the-test, it is about learning the underlying law and theory. We need to schedule classes that people will attend. Please go to the Contact Us page at http://w6sg.net/site/?page_id=73 and leave us a note about what class you would like to attend.

Not to forget that the fourth of the July is coming up soon. There is no membership meeting on the fourth. I plan to go to a parade and a barbeque. I wish all of you and our great country the best.

73 de WA6UDS

Field Day 2014 Results

CW QSO's: 1237
Phone QSO's: 1387
GOTA QSO's: 114 (added 576 points to the final score!)
Total QSO's: 2738
FINAL SCORE: 9,268



Field Day 2013 Erecting 40M beam on tower



2010 WRTC operating site Russia

FCC Part 97 Changes Effective on July 21

The FCC's recently announced revisions to the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules governing exam credit to former licensees, test administration, and emission types will go into effect on Monday, July 21. The new rules were published in The Federal Register on June 20.

In a wide-ranging Report and Order (R&O) released June 9, the Commission announced that it would grant examination credit for written elements 3 (General) and 4 (Amateur Extra) to holders of "expired licenses that required passage of those elements."

The FCC will require former licensees falling outside the 2-year grace period to pass Element 2 (Technician) in order to be relicensed. The Commission declined to give exam credit to holders of expired Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCEs) or to extend lifetime validity to CSCEs.

Bill Introduced to Limit CC&Rs

Rep Adam Kinzinger (R-IL) introduced a new bill with bipartisan support that would require the FCC to apply the "reasonable accommodation" three-part test of the PRB-1 federal pre-emption policy to private land-use restrictions. HR.4969, the "Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2014", would substantially change PRB-1 to include CC&R communities. The FCC has repeatedly said it would like guidance from Congress before extending the PRB-1 policies to private land-use regulations. To support this bill, write or email your congressman.

On The Air

Contest Calendar

10-10 Int. Spirit of 76 QSO Party: 0001Z, Jun 30 to 2400Z, Jul 6

DL-DX RTTY Contest: 1100Z, Jul 5 to 1059Z, Jul 6

Marconi Memorial HF Contest: 1400Z, Jul 5 to 1400Z, Jul 6

Original QRP Contest: 1500Z, Jul 5 to 1500Z, Jul 6

See complete list at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>



ARRL Looks Back

A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

Continuing our look at ham radio in the early 1950s, we see that QST reported regularly on states that offered call sign license plates for motor vehicles. Just a handful of states offered call sign plates at first, but the idea gained momentum as more and more states joined in. Ham clubs -- or groups of ham clubs -- would lobby their state legislators to introduce bills requesting a new law. One notable example was Mississippi, where an eight-member Amateur Radio club lobbied successfully, leading to a new state law allowing Amateur Radio call sign tags!

With the help and advice of the ARRL, governments at the federal, state, and local levels started looking at ham radio's role in Civil Defense. The idea was to get a CD organization in place before an emergency, rather than waiting until afterward (as happened in World War II). By this time, the value of hams in providing emergency communication had been demonstrated to and appreciated by government agencies all over, so the ARRL's role was to get things operating smoothly while in the planning stages, rather than having to make a "hard sell."

The 1950s were, of course, the time of the "Cold War" and the threat of all-out nuclear war. Seattle, Washington, was the scene of a massive "A-Bomb Test," to test all aspects of emergency preparedness, should a nuclear device hit the city, and the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps -- as ARES was known in those days -- was a major asset during the test. On a related note, QST carried several articles on radiological monitoring during the early 1950s.

Following World War II, the number of private automobiles in the country increased by leaps and bounds, as vehicle production shifted from military to civilian needs, and as the populace became more affluent and more mobile. In 1938, about 1.7 million American cars were built; in 1953, more than 6 million.



Going mobile in the 1950s was not for the faint of heart, as can be seen in this 1952 ARRL Handbook photo. Note the crystal poking out from the transmitter below the dashboard.

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As a result, QST published many articles on mobile receiving converters, mobile transmitters (single-band and band switching), and mobile antennas -- particularly multiband antennas.

Other areas that received attention in QST included VHF topics, the Military Affiliate (now "Auxiliary") Radio System (MARS), huge rotary arrays for 10 meters, antennas for VHF/UHF, RTTY, HF receivers and transmitters, and electronic keyers.

The ugly face of zoning restrictions first appeared in the 1950s. The ARRL got involved in helping hams wage legal battles against overly restrictive community limits on antenna and tower heights -- or, in some cases, complete prohibitions of antennas. These cases were reported in QST as they developed. Happily, the radio amateurs always won complete or partial victories in the court cases, thereby setting precedents for future battles of a similar nature. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB (Reprinted with permission from The ARRL Letter for June 19, 2014)

USS Pampanito Report

Museum Ships on the Air Special Event June 7-8

We kicked off the Museum Ships on the Air Special Event on Saturday, June 7 on the USS Pampanito, SS-383, at 0900 hours. The participants for this year's event were as follows:

PARC MEMBERS

Den Regan, CO, K6ZJU
Jerry Foster, XO, WA6BXV
Hal Strunk, Yeoman, WA6JNZ
Bill Stewart, KF6RMK
Michael Fischer, K6MLF

GUEST OPERATORS

Craig Mirkin, KG6VMI
Steve Fischer, K6ETA
Doug McCasland, KJ6OYJ
Jeff Webster, KC9DPP

Operations continued during Maritime Museum hours through June 8, 2014. Not being able to operate NJ6VT off hours really hurt our tally this year!

This year's museum ships event did not go well compared to previous years. About the time we arrived on the boat on Saturday morning at 0900 hours to set up our station NJ6VT, the remnants of a solar flare hit our ionosphere rendering communications all but impossible at times. The bands were almost totally dead a good part of the time both Saturday and Sunday. Many times we knew that a museum ship was on frequency, but only by the calls from others trying to work that ship. There is an old saying "If you can't hear them you can't work them!" How true!

While we listened to several bands, all of our operations were on 20 and 40 meters: the only bands where a measure activity was heard. There were times when these bands did open up, but not for long. All in all, we made only 124 QSO's - far less than the 400 QSO's we made last year. Also, we worked only 9 museum ships this year - six ships short of the minimum 15 ships required for a certificate. Last year the USS Pampanito worked 16 museum ships under far better radio conditions. Nonetheless, our station, NJ6VT, will get a certificate as a participant in the museum ships event and so will the PARC members and Guest Operators that participated in the museum ships event aboard the USS Pampanito.

Below is a list of museum ships that NJ6VT worked on June 7 - 8, 2014:

N6MSO, USS Lucid, Minesweeper, Stockton, CA
NG6BC, USS Hornet, Aircraft Carrier, Alameda Point, CA
K6YVM, SS Red Oak Victory, Victory Ship, Richmond, CA
NI6IW, USS Midway, Aircraft Carrier, San Diego, CA
NE6JP, USS Potomac, Presidential Yacht, Oakland, CA
K6JOB, SS Jeremiah O'Brien, Liberty Ship, San Francisco, CA
W7SUB, USS Blueback, Submarine, Portland, OR
NS6OI, Star of India, Tall Ship, San Diego, CA
W7BU, Lightship Columbia, Astoria, OR

Notice that all museum ships worked were on the west coast - no other museum ships heard from the southern coast, the east coast or the Pacific this time around! Also, the QSO with the Lightship Columbia, W7BU, is suspect because we could not find W7BU on the "official" museum ships list. Apparently, W7BU failed to register for the museum ships event this year! Subsequent contact with W7BU could not confirm that they were registered for the museum ships event for 2014. By the way, visitor traffic aboard the boat was moderate overall. Lots of visitors from Canada, Russia, England and several other countries. We also were able to watch the Jeremiah O'Brien, K6JOB, depart for a Saturday cruise around San Francisco Bay. Always interesting to watch the tug boats handle a ship!

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Well, that is it in a nutshell. Maybe next year's museum ships event will be more productive with better radio propagation conditions? I sure hope so! Even with the bad radio propagation conditions, we all had fun aboard the boat and several nice lunches together. I'll send the log book into HQ i.e. the Battleship New Jersey, NJ2BB, and wait for the certificates. I want to thank all those RO's that helped out with the museum ships event! Thank you all very much!

73.

Den Regan, K6ZJU
CO Pampanito A.R.C. NJ6VT
USS Pampanito, SS-383
Pier 45, Shed "A"
San Francisco

Minutes for Board Meeting

Marin Amateur Radio Society

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Board Members present: Curtis Ardourel, August Koehler, Doug Slusher, Phil Dunlap, Dave Hodgson, Ed Essick, Marc Bruvery, John Boyd, Rita Brenden and Randy Jenkins.

The meeting was called to order by Curtis Ardourel at 19:30 hours.

The agenda was approved as amended to add items under new business.

The minutes of the May 08, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

Randy reported no important mail.

Treasurer: Dave submitted reports for April. The report showed \$2,250.00 income and \$1,673.80 expenses; and total cash assets stated as \$44,818.28

Committee reports:

Membership- We have 67 members for 2014. Reminders were sent out. There was a discussion about an application from a ham in Slovenia to join the club. No objections; Curtis will reply.

Public Service – The Dipsea is done, Double Dipsea next on June 21. Doug attended the Marin Century Meeting.

Technical- Doug reported that the repeater worked well for the Dipsea.

Comm Truck- No Change.

VE Liaison – 2014 dates are June 14, September 28, and November 23.

Education - Nothing scheduled.

Speakers – Doug reported that he was working to line up several programs. Edison Fong on constructing J-poles, Steve SDY on finding, and Bill Hillendahl?

Field Day – Doug reported that he was still looking for help for set-up on Friday, June 27. Cal is cooking. Discussed 'Official Visits', participation by Scouts, and Internet access.

There was a motion to advance Cal \$200.00 for Field Day food. ELE/WPN/Pass

There was a motion to authorize Doug to spend NTE \$200.00 for an Internet hot spot for Field Day / Public Service. TIA/ORI/Pass
Building - Alan Best repaired the gate.

Old Business:

Updated Club Logo – No new report. Need to get a hold of Steve Fischer for next month.

Ham Shack Procedures – No progress.

The Sunday Nets – No progress.

Website Redesign – There are a few bugs. E-mail Curtis.

Budget – Tabled until July 10.

Building Inspection – Ed Essick will get some estimates, based on the building size.

Parking Signs – No progress.

New Business:

There was a discussion about termites observed near the electric meter box.

Phil asked about a better way to move the generator. He has a trailer that he would be willing to donate.

There was a motion to update the signature card on the bank accounts, with Dave Hodgson, Doug Slusher, and John Boyd as signatories on the accounts, and to remove all other persons. Dave will hold the main check book, and Doug will hold the 'Building Account' checkbook. BQF/TIA/Pass. Randy will write a letter to the bank.

Next meeting: July 10, 2014.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:46 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, KA6BQF

General Membership Meeting

Friday, June 06, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 19:32 hrs by President Curtis Ardourel.

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

The agenda was adopted as amended.

The minutes of the May 2, 2014 general membership meeting were approved.

President Ardourel reported on the actions at the May Board of Director's Meeting. "Talked a lot."

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

The following new members were announced: Robin Spalding, N6RLS.

Secretary Jenkins reported on communications were bills and junk.

Treasurer Dave Hodgson was not present and submitted a written report which showed \$2,250.00 income and \$576.20 expenses. Total assets were reported as \$44,818.28.

Membership: 66. Curtis has sent out reminders.

Public Service: Dipsea, next Sunday 6/8. Double Dipsea, June 21. Thanks to Michael and Doug for help with Davis DC. Discussed.

The Technical Committee: Doug is still working on the Tam West repeater. The duplexers need need to be retuned.

Comm Truck: No change.

VE Liaison: Randy reported that the next VE session will be on June 14. Additional dates: September 28, November 23. There was a question about renewing your license.

Field Day: Doug asked for help for set-up on Friday, June 27. Field Day will be again at the Marin Rod & Gun Club, June 27 through 29. Cal is doing the food.

Old business: None

New Business: None

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 20:25 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary.

John Boyd made a presentation on digital communications.

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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 highway 101, head west toward Mill Valley on E. Blithedale. Turn right at the first stop light. Stay 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.

Sunday morning informal meeting (aka bible class) meets every Sunday morning at the Alto District Clubhouse in Mill Valley starting around 8am and runs to about 11am. Sometimes we even talk about radio.

The Sunday Emergency nets. The K6GWE emergency VHF net check-in is at 10:15 am on 147.700 (-pl 203.5). This is a directed net and the net control station may operate at the club house or at a member location. Members on the net check-in list that do not check in for three consecutive weeks are removed from the list until they reestablish check-in. Any member can sign up to act as the net control station. See the club website for signup instructions. The W6SG emergency HF net check-in is at 9 am on 3.915 Mh.

Marin Amateur Radio Society Officers and Board Members:

President

Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS 510-595-3494

Vice President

John Boyd KE6ORI 924-04419

Secretary

Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089

Treasurer:

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864

Board Members

Cal Anber N6TIA 209-275-5252
Rita Brenden KG6WPN 707-557-5521
Marc Bruvry KF6VNT 492-9292
Phil Dunlap K6PHD 491-0318
Ed Essick K6ELE 456-1715

Other Positions:

Education Chair

Randy Jenkins

VE Liaison

Randy Jenkins

Building Co-Managers

Curtis Ardourel
Dave Hodgson

Trustee for W6SG

Augie Koehler K0CQL

Trustee for K6GWE

Doug Slusher KF6AKU

Sunday Emergency Nets

Mark Bruvry and other volunteers

DX Representative of ARRL

Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829

Public Service Event Coordinator

Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089

Membership

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