
QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

December 2014

Presidents Corner

Christmas 2014 is history now. The club Christmas dinner went very well. I was half an hour late when Doug Slusher KF6AKU phoned me. I was outside parking the car. It was a dark and stormy night and it took me an hour and forty five minutes to drive the 11.8 minutes from work. I missed the soup and salad course. After all that the dinner was great.

I want to thank Randy Jenkins KA6BQF and Rita Brendan KG6WPN for pulling together an amazing meal. We had more different meats, vegetables and desserts than I can remember at a club function. I also want to thank Doug Slusher KF6AKU, Cal Anber N6TIA and the others of you who pitched in for setup and cleanup.

We did have a short club meeting at the dinner. First I want to remind everyone that Friday 2 January is our next regular membership meeting. I look forward to seeing you all in the New Year.

Our club has a long history of providing communications for other organizations events. In 2014 we were very busy. Working the event is its own reward but we all benefit from the experience gained on these events. The club as an organization also benefits. This year the Dolphin Swimming and Boating Club donated three hundred dollars to the club. Marin Cyclists donated a whopping four thousand dollars this year. We are grateful for the donations but even more grateful for the chance to work with all the organizations we serve each year.

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Christmas Party

Club Picnic

Public Service 2014

On the Air

From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Annual Christmas Dinner Party

This is the third Christmas Dinner Party I have attended as a club member. The dinner was changed to a weekday this year and it was well attended. It was nice to see some new faces at the dinner and also those who have attended in years past. The club has two main events each year, the annual picnic and this dinner, that allow us to come together to connect and share our interest in ham radio. Rita Brenden, KG6WPN, was in charge of the menu this year and she did a fine job in providing a dinner that everyone enjoyed. Thanks to Rita, Randy, Doug, and Cal for making the dinner and raffle a success.

This past year I have had the opportunity to meet some of you at one of these events or thru my participation in public service events. I always learn something new either about the club, ham radio, or club member interests in the hobby. If you have missed the two club events this year I would urge you try to attend one of these events next year. We now have over 70 members in the club and one of the best ways for us to get know each other, in addition to contacts on the radio, is through our club events. So next year join in and meet someone new in the club.

Looking forward to next year, I am again asking you what you would like to see in QSA5. If you are doing something new in ham radio or have a special interest to share, let's hear from you. You can send me an email to my email address on the club website or see me at a club meeting. Until next year stay healthy and happy New Year.



To all of you who participated in events this year I want to remind you about the public service thank you lunch. This will take place on Saturday 17 January at the club house. We will be providing lunch, a voice in shaping how we do public service events, swag, door prizes and awards.

The other agenda item at the Christmas Dinner was the presentation of club awards. This is one of my favorite parts of being president. Each year we present two awards. The first is Ham of the Year. The Ham of the Year award was originally a way to recognize a contribution to the club in a particular year. There were a number of years where we did not present this award however for the last few years we have. Because of the hiatus we named a couple of Hams of the Year based on years of contributions to the club. The Ham of the Year award is bestowed by previous winners of the award. This year we recognize outstanding service in the past year or so. The award goes to Steve Fischer K6ETA for the huge job of bringing our website into the 21st century. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his efforts, and we have a great website.

The second award is the Hi Roberts award. Named after the man most responsible for our club house. The recipient is decided by the club president with advice from the board. This year I am proud to give the award to Craig Mirkin KG6VMT for our new club logo. This was a job of herding cats if ever there was one. Between the new logo and the new website we move into the new year with a new modern look.

73 DE WA6UDS

Photos from our Christmas dinner December 2014



Photos from club picnic



Public Service 2014



On The Air

Contest Calendar

ARRL RTTY Roundup: 1800Z, Jan 3 to 2400Z,
Jan 4

North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z, Jan 10
to 0600Z, Jan 11

DARC 10-Meter Contest 0900Z-1059Z, Jan 11

North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 17
to 0600Z, Jan 18

See complete list at:

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

VE Testing MARS club house

Date	Day	Time
15-Feb-15	Sunday	2:00PM
24-May-15	Sunday	2:00PM
29-Aug-15	Saturday	9:00AM
21-Nov-15	Saturday	9:00AM

USS Pampanito Report

Saturday December 12th the DDO was carried out on the USS Pampanito by Dennis Franklin, K6DF and later in the day by Michael Fischer, K6MLF and our XO, Jerry Foster, WA6BXV. Thanks to Denny, Michael and Jerry for helping out as I was not able to make it to the boat on Saturday.

Denny, K6DF, worked five CW stations on 40 meters. He reported that there was little traffic on the other HF bands with the exception of 10 meters, where a ten meter contest was underway.

Michael, K6MLF and Jerry, WA6BXV, handled some NTS traffic for the boat on 2 meters. Jerry made a few CW QSO' as well. Visitor traffic was light aboard the boat. As Denny, K6DF said it was a "Ho-Hum Day" aboard the boat. Not too surprising with the recent weather conditions that we had a few days ago.

Some of you who participated in last June's, year 2014, "Museum Ships on the Air Special Event" may be wondering where your participation certificate is. I have sent two emails to HQ on the Battleship New Jersey, NJ2BB, and finally received a response this last week. HQ is still working on the certificates and they should be in the mail very soon. Apparently, there has been a few problems back at HQ, so hang in there! When the certificates arrive I will get one to you as soon as I can.

I want to thank all of you who helped out with radio operations aboard the USS Pampanito this year. Let's hope this next year is a good one for the radio club and the Pampanito!

Happy Holidays to all and I wish you a Happy New Year!!

73,

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



KG6YPI (Brandon Hansen and family) – HOME DAMAGED, DISPLACED IN FLOOD

Posted by [K6ETA](#) on Dec 16, 2014



Our very good friend Brandon, KG6YPI– LPRC Member, Elecraft designer, and author and founder of RemoteHams.com — suffered a severe personal setback last Thursday when his home was one of 15 in Salinas that went partially under a blackwater flood when a small creek behind the neighborhood breached its levee in a couple of places. Brandon, wife Kelly, and little ones Emma and Amy were displaced from their home just a couple of weeks before Christmas, and the home and its contents sustained major flood damage, made even worse by septic effluent in the floodwaters. Not a pretty scene at all!

This was widely reported on in local Monterey Bay regional media. Although flood insurance will cover the Dwelling damage up to limits, there's no coverage at all for any of the family's personal property (kid's toys, radio equipment, computers, etc.) or temporary living expenses. Scott, WA6LIE, reported seeing an image in the media of little Amy's Big Wheel floating down the street! Audrey, KI6OYS, and I have put together a GoFundMe donation campaign site to benefit Brandon and his family in their time of need. Let's pull together as a community to support our friend and his family! Any donation—large or small—will help. Thanks in advance, all, and please contact me, Brandon or Scott if you have questions or wish to help out in other ways.

<http://www.gofundme.com/ixs5rs> Editor: This article appeared in the Loma Pioneer Repeater Club Newsletter.

Preparations Under Way for January DXpedition to Iran

Preparations continue on the part of the Rockall DX Group to make Iran -- #33 on ClubLog's DXCC Most Wanted List -- available through a DXpedition to Kish Island (IOTA AS-166). Look for EP6T beginning on January 16. While the emphasis will be on 160 meters, the DXpedition will operate on all bands, 160 through 10 meters. EP6T plans to remain active until January 26. Organizers say the theme of the expedition will be "friendship and cultural tolerance."

"We hope to make a lot of people happy," team member Luc Kerkhofs, ON4IA, said.

A dedicated 160 meter station will be on the air starting at local sunrise and sunset for the first two nights, in order to work as many Europeans as possible and to check when signals peak to North America. The planned transmitting antenna is a 26-meter (85.3 feet) vertical with 50 quarter-wave radials. Kerkhofs said the operators will attempt to be fair in giving all continents a crack at working Iran on 160. After that, the operators will concentrate on listening for North American stations, although they concede that paths to North America on Top Band will be dicey and of short duration.

Since word first spread of the planned DXpedition, many groups and individuals have offered support, including the Northern California DX Foundation. The organizers say that preparations are "progressing smoothly and according to plan." M0URX will be the QSL manager. The EP6T log will be uploaded to Logbook of The World (LoTW) once the DXpedition has concluded.

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ARRL Looks Back

In July 2001, the ARRL petitioned the FCC to allocate 5.250 to 5.400 MHz to Amateur Radio.

At its July 2001 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors endorsed the Logbook of The World (LoTW) concept, and Headquarters staffers began the massive push to make LoTW a reality.



In September 2001, the ARRL presented an Amateur Radio demonstration and tutorial to FCC commissioners and staff members. ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, headed the ARRL contingent, and the show-and-tell was deemed a great success.

Amateur Radio mobilized and provided communication support following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The following month, the FCC established a Homeland Security Panel to plan for restoration of communications links following terrorist attacks.

In October 2001, a rash of bio-terrorist (anthrax) threats to federal government facilities caused FCC processing of licensing and other matters to be significantly delayed.

The FCC announced that all applicants must register for and obtain a 10-digit FCC Registration Number (FRN), in order to do business with the Commission after December 3, 2001. -- *Al Brogdon, W1AB*

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Marin Amateur Radio Society W6SG.NET, membership@w6sg.net 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

Treasure:

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 332-1864

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- 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

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