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# QSA-5

## The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

November 2015

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### Presidents Corner

It is just shy of six years since first I penned the first one of these little missives. I hope over that time I hope in that time I have not bored you too much with my ramblings. I thank you all for the chance to work for you as your president.

I would like to take a moment to thank a Phil Dunlap K6PHD for publishing our newsletter for years. I would also like to thank Ed Essick K6ELE for taking on that thankless job. You have both done excellent work for the club. I would also like to than my fellow board members both current and past for stepping up with your time, energy, and ideas. It has been a privilege and pleasure to work with you.

Enough sentimental reflection on past glories. Let's be about it then. Though I will no longer be your president, you won't be rid of me. The board in its wisdom has made me Membership Chairman so you will still get my harangues about renewing your membership. That said, I promise no emails about renewing until after the first of the year.

The December monthly club meeting will take place in an abbreviated form at the Christmas Dinner on 16<sup>th</sup> December. I hope to see many of you there. Please let us know if you are planning on attending (email to [RSVP@W6SG.NET](mailto:RSVP@W6SG.NET)) so we can make sure we have enough of everything. I also need to thank John Boyd KE6ORI for being the point man on the food for the dinner.

One of the headings in the agenda for the monthly meetings is board actions. Under that rubric I can report that the club has decided to test the waters of digital repeaters.

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Board Minutes

### From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

#### End of Year Wrap-up

This is the last issue of QSA5 for 2015 as your editor will be traveling and enjoying the holidays with family. I hope all of you have an enjoyable holiday season and I wish all of you the best of health and fun with radio in 2016.

Next month club members will vote for three members of the board. Our outgoing president Curtis Ardourel, W6UDS, has served the club both as a board member and president. He is termed out by club bylaws. I personally want to thank Curtis for his dedication to the club and his leadership as the club president. He has kept the club focused on our goals of public service, education, and operations. Thanks to outgoing board member Phil Dunlap, K6PHD, for his service on the board and support of the club.

Dave Hodgson, our current club treasurer, is running again for the board. Three new candidates are also running for the board; Howard Leistner, W2BBF, Kris Bakenstose, KK6AYC, and Tom Soskin, W6MTS.

I hope to see you at the Christmas dinner on Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse. John Boyd has lined up a great caterer to provide turkey, ham and all of the trimmings for the party. As usual there will be some great raffle prizes.

If you have an interest in participating in a public service event in 2016 or participated in an event in 2015, please join us for the annual public service lunch, debrief, and training on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 12-3 at the clubhouse. Please RSVP to [rsvp@w6sg.net](mailto:rsvp@w6sg.net) if you plan to attend.

Some of you know that our club participates in the Amazonsmile program. For each purchase you make at Amazon the club receives 1/2% donation of the purchase. This is an easy way for you, family, and friends to support the club. Just setup your login to Amazon using the link listed later in the newsletter.

Till next year 73's and remember to send me your suggestions for content for QSA5.

Article 2 Section 1 c of our bylaws says “To encourage and sponsor experimental activities in radio communications and electronics to the end that skills and experience gained in amateur radio will further the application of electronics to the benefit of the public at large” In that spirit we have purchased a Yaesu Fusion repeater. This particular machine can operate as an analog repeater (so you can use existing radios) and as a digital repeater (Oh the chance to buy new hardware). We will be testing it on UHF. More information will be forthcoming on this topic. I should also point out the San Francisco Radio Club is also installing two repeaters using this technology. Antonis Papatsaras AA6PP a member of both SFRC and our club as generously agreed to do a presentation on what they have learned in their implementation. The date for this will be announced soon.

In the not too distant future, you will be receiving an email or snail mail about the election of board members. When I was young I lived for a year in Chicago so I can urge you in spirit of that great city “Vote early and vote often”. This year as last year we will be using on-line voting.

In closing, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Chanukah, Happy Kwanzaa, and Happy Saturnalia and Yule. Though not a complete list I think I have gotten most of the major greetings in there.

73 DE WA6UDS

This is the new digital repeater that the club will be installing in the next year. See this YouTube video introduction to System Fusion. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tNjgHUhhMmA>

### **YAESU DR-1 144/430 Dual Band C4FM/FM Digital Repeater**

The YAESU DR-1 is a digital/conventional FM dual mode repeater that covers the VHF and UHF amateur radio bands. It was developed for use with System Fusion. Replacing your conventional FM repeater with the DR-1 will provide continued use of conventional FM communication while integrating the use of digital communication functions through its unique AMS capability.



## **On The Air**

### **Contest Calendar**

Ten-Meter RTTY Contest, 0000Z-2400Z, Dec 6  
ARRL 10-Meter Contest, 0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13  
DARC Christmas Contest, 0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26  
ARRL RTTY Roundup, 1800Z, Jan 2 to 2400Z, Jan 3  
DARC 10-Meter Contest, 0900Z-1059Z, Jan 10  
North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z, Jan 16 to 0559Z, Jan 17  
ARRL January VHF Contest, 1900Z, Jan 30 to 0359Z, Feb 1  
See complete list at:  
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

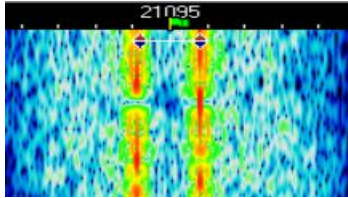
### **ARRL News**

The Amateur Radio Parity Act S. 1685 has been endorsed by the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. The act asks the FCC to extend the limited federal pre-emption of PRB-1 to cover private land-use restrictions such as deed covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs). If the legislation becomes law, radio amateurs living in antenna-restricted communities would have the opportunity to negotiate with homeowners associations to install an antenna that reasonably accommodates Amateur Radio communication.



## October what's this

This is a digital mode RTTY signal on 20 meters as seen on the waterfall in the MixW digital software.



## Mars Election

The following candidates are running for three positions on the board. All club members will receive an email ballot in December. Ballots will be mailed to those without email.

Dave Hodgson- KG6TCJ (Incumbent)  
Howard Leistner- W2BBF  
Kris Bakenstose - KK6AYC  
Tom Soskin- W6MTS

## VE Session

Thanks to the VE team for conducting a successful testing session that had 6 candidates that all passed new or upgrade tests. One Technician, four Generals, and one Extra.

VE team: Dave Hodgson, Jerry Foster, Tom Soskin, and Richard Cochran.

## VEC Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll

Congratulations to WB6OVH, Gordon Fuller, a past member, who still checks into our Sunday HF net, on being fourth on the list in the Pacific Division for the most VE sessions served, (216 sessions). The ARRL VEC Volunteer Examiner Honor Roll is the December 2015 issue of QST (page 101). *Thanks Randy for this one.*

## Help Needed with Beam

New ham to area (San Rafael) second home with station....problem: I am 77 and not confident with being on even low roof...my little compact beam probably has flakey PL259 at the beam...I am off the air....I don't know anyone who can put a new PL259 on my RG8U coax and I am not confident that someone untrained could do it....perhaps some suggestions or a volunteer?  
Jan Leestma, MD W9MKR (ham since 1956). My phone is 415-455-8832.

*Ed. Jan lives in Chicago and will be back here in January. Anyone know of a person who can do this work?*

## What's Happening in Radio

### World Radiocommunication Conference Approves Global 60 Meter Allocation!

The Plenary Meeting of the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference ([WRC-15](#)) in Geneva has approved an allocation of 5351.5-5366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis, with a power limit of 15 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP). The November 18 decision on Agenda Item 1.4 was adopted on two back-to-back readings. Some Region 2 countries -- but not the US -- will be permitted up to 25 W EIRP. With this action, and despite conditions that are more restrictive than had been hoped at the start of the Conference, the Amateur Service has obtained its first new global HF allocation since 1979. While the Final Acts of the conference are expected to take effect on January 1, 2017, the new band will not become available to amateurs until their national telecommunications administration amends its rules and licensing conditions. Those administrations that already permit amateurs to operate in the 5 MHz range under certain conditions and on a not-to-interfere basis, including the FCC, will be considering whether, how, and when to modify those arrangements in light of the international allocation.

The International Amateur Radio Union team is doing what it can to influence the agenda for WRC-19. The agenda could include addressing amateur spectrum requirements in the 50-54 MHz band in Region 1, which could lead to at least partial harmonization of the 6 meter band worldwide. A proposed agenda item to align the 160 meter allocation in Region 1 with the rest of the world is no longer under active consideration.

The WRC-19 agenda will also likely pose spectrum defense challenges, including possible consideration of the 420-450 MHz band to accommodate a new allocation to the space operations service for satellites in non-geostationary orbit that are described as "small satellites" or "satellites with short duration missions." One or more bands above 10 GHz may be up for consideration for 5G smartphone use. The bounds of these potential defensive items, however, are still under discussion by the conference and will not be settled until its final week. The IARU team continues to monitor several other WRC-15 items that appear to be headed toward acceptable conclusions. WRC-15 continues through the signing of the Final Acts on November 27. *Reprinted with permission of ARRL Newsletter, 11/19/15*



## Amazonsmile

Club members remember to use the Amazonsmile program when you purchase at Amazon for the donation to the club on your purchases. All you need is an account with Amazon and then use this login link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0010718>

You should see the following login:



You shop. Amazon gives.

- Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to **Marin Amateur Radio Club** whenever you shop on AmazonSmile.  
You can select a different charitable organization after signing in.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

### Sign In

Your email address or mobile phone number:

Your Amazon password:

[Forgot your password?](#)

[Sign in using our secure server](#) 

[New to Amazon?](#) [Create an account](#)

# 2015 MARS CHRISTMAS PARTY



2009 Christmas Party

**Planned Menu:**

Salad, Turkey, Ham, Whipped Potatoes, Green Beans, Bread, Deserts, Appetizers

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

\$25.00 Per Person (Payable on our webpage at:

[http://w6sg.net/christmas\\_dinner.php](http://w6sg.net/christmas_dinner.php))

RSVP by 11/30 to:

[rsvp@w6sg.net](mailto:rsvp@w6sg.net) to reserve your space.

Arrive at 5:30 PM for visiting.

Dinner around 6:30 PM.

Door Prizes

Volunteers appreciated for decorating and / or clean-up.

Contact John:

[johnmboyd@earthlink.net](mailto:johnmboyd@earthlink.net)

**December 16, 2015 17:30 (5:30 PM) - MARS Clubhouse, 27 Shell Rd, Mill Valley, CA 94941**

## USS Pampanito



I was aboard the USS Pampanito on Saturday, November 14, 2015 and had NJ6VT on the air by 1030 hours. Band conditions were fair and I was able to make a few QSO's on the 40 meter band before noon.

One of the events of the day was the reception of two historical messages sent to the boat by relay from Mike Pulley, WB4ZKA, in Chandler, Arizona via Ray, W6RAR, in San Jose using the Big Rock Repeater on 146.700. These messages are from the actual Pampanito log book during the war years from 1943 to 1945. There was some difficulty in receiving these messages because once again the microphone became intermittent on the VHF rig. More about this later. Nonetheless, using two "clicks" on the mic for a "yes" we were able to get the messages through and they are as follows:

MESSAGE NO 1 RCVD 11/14/15  
FROM W6RAR 1115Z  
108 ROUTINE HANDLING CF 14  
FROM WB4ZKA CK 23 NOV 12

CAPT FENNO CO  
NJ6VT USS PAMPANITO SS383  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94109 (should be 94133)  
415-516-5310 146.700  
R 1100 SAT

TXT HISTORICAL RADIO EXERCISE 1944 LOG

BE ADVISED FRIENDLY AIRCRAFT PATROLLING YOUR AREA  
PUSHING OUT ENEMY PLANE X  
CONFIRM EVERY AIR CONTACT BY IFF SIGNAL

VADM LOCKWOOD  
MESSAGE NO 2 RCVD 11/14/15  
109 ROUTINE HANDLING CF 24  
WB4ZKA CK 23 SAIPAN NOV 12

TXT HISTORICAL RADIO EXERCISE 1944 LOG X  
APPENDICTOMY RESOLVED X  
REPARING FIVE CRACKED LINERS IN ENGINE FOUR X  
EXPECT TO JOIN YOUR GROUP SOON

CAPT BILL DEGAGON  
USS PIPEFISH SS388

For those of you unfamiliar with some of the abbreviations, VADM means Vice Admiral and IFF means Identification Friend or Foe - a reference to a special piece of electronic equipment on aircraft that broadcasts a code of the day to verify that an aircraft is "friendly."

The letter "X" signifies the end of a sentence. CO means Commanding Officer.

We were joined in the afternoon by Doug McCaslin, KJ6OYJ, and Jan Leja, WB6SPX. Doug brought along a special cable to interface our Yeosu FT-890 with PSK-31 software on his laptop. Doug got the system up and running, but we were not able to transmit, only receive. Doug is working on the problem and will have another "go" at it soon. Thanks to Doug and his efforts!

The VHF microphone was intermittent but was operating again before I left the boat. I was able to push the mic cord a little further in the mic plug and that got the mic going again. Please note that if this happens to you, you can always use the FT-890 mic with the VHF rig in a pinch. I wish I had thought of that at the time I was handling the Pampanito traffic!

Our next scheduled DDO is set for December 12, 2015. Please let me know if you can help out. Also, Pearl Harbor Day is December 7th, so if there is any interest on operating NJ6VT then let me know.

73,  
Den Regan, K6ZJU

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





**JANUARY 16,  
2016**  
**PUBLIC SERVICE  
DEBRIEF AND  
VOLUNTEER THANK  
YOU LUNCH**



**Thank you lunch  
and annual de-  
brief meeting**

**Training for New  
Volunteers for  
2016**

**2015 Volunteer  
Thank You Gift**

**Door Prizes &  
Lunch!**

**Sign-up for 2016  
Events**

**MARIN AMATEUR  
RADIO SOCIETY**

27 Shell Rd.  
Mill Valley, CA 94941

[www.w6sg.net](http://www.w6sg.net)

RSVP to: [rsvp@w6sg.net](mailto:rsvp@w6sg.net)

1/16/2016  
12:00 – 15:00



## General Membership Meeting

Friday, November 06, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 19:31 hrs by President Curtis Ardourel

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

The agenda was adopted as presented.

The minutes of the October 02 General Membership Meeting were approved as published.

President Ardourel reported on the actions at the September 08 Board of Director's Meeting. There a Board election coming up. Howard Leister, W2BBF, was nominated from the floor.

There were seven reports under "Fun with Ham Radio". There was a discussion about the new Fusion repeater installed by the San Francisco Radio Club on 444.225 MHz.

Howard Foster, WA6ZVM, and Robert Moses, KC3AMZ, were reported as new members.

Secretary Jenkins reported on correspondence. There were two QSL cards from the School Club Roundup.

Treasurer Dave Hodgson was not present, and submitted no report.

Membership: 88 for 2015.

Public Service – Randy reported that the agenda for 2015 was completed. We are putting together the 2016 schedule. The Public Service Coordinators will meet on Sunday.

The Technical Committee: No report.

Education: We will schedule a meeting with the persons interested in taking over teaching.

VE: We have exam session on Saturday, 11/21.

John reported on the Christmas Party on December 16.

Old business: None.

New Business:

There was a question about staffing the County Fair or July 4.

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

## Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 12, 2015

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

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

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the October 08, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Randy reported on two QSL cards received. The cards were turned over to Ed for reply.

Treasurer: Dave submitted reports for October. The report showed \$2,357.00 income and \$804.70 expenses; and total cash assets of \$68,302.15. Curtis explained the issue with our PalPal account. Randy will try to resolve. Curtis will look the costs of registering w6sg.com and w6sg.org. The Board authorized Dave to pay both installments of the property tax.

Committee reports:

Membership- We have 89 paid members.

Public Service – The 2016 dates for public service schedule are almost complete. The Public Service Committee (Randy, Michael, Doug, and Rob) have met, and divided up responsibility for the events. They also have made a recommendation to the Board on accepting a new event, with a date that conflicts with a long-standing commitment. (No, unless the event changes the date.) Randy has updated the Public Service webpages.

Technical- Doug is working on a proposal to link site 402 into the Simulcast System.

Comm Truck- Still rusting.

Education – We need to schedule a meeting with the volunteers who would teach. Randy will contact the volunteers and try to schedule a meeting.

VE Liaison - The next session is scheduled for Saturday, November 21.

Speakers – No one is scheduled.

Christmas Party – John Boyd reported that he has all the table coverings, plates, and cups. The catering vendor will supply all flatware and 4 water pitchers. The club will supply all decorations, desert, salad dressing, and beverages. The menu planned will include turkey, ham, gravy, garlic mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, and corn bread. The Board added stuffing. Randy has most of the door prizes, which will be wrapped this year.

Building Committee – Doug is still in discussions the roofing contractor. A cleaning will be scheduled before the Christmas Party.

Old Business:

Parking Signs – Here. Cal has the materials to make stands, and promises that it will be done.

Digital Repeater - Discussed. There was a motion to take advantage of the offer by Yaesu, to purchase a Fusion System repeater for \$500.00. ORI/WPN/Pass John will get it ordered.

Transmitter hunts – We are still waiting on information.

New Business:

There was a motion to reschedule the January 1, 2016 scheduled meeting to January 8, 2016. AKU/TIA/Pass

We will seek more information about our participation in the National Parks Centennial.

The Public Service Lunch and Debrief will start with lunch at Noon; rather at 10:00AM.

There was a motion to reimburse reasonable expenses incurred in using Randy's motorhome as the net control site on public service events. ELE/ORI/Pass

County Fair – Discussed. No Action.

Board Election – Doug is putting the election together. If there is a candidate, Phil will not run. The election will be completed by the December 16 Christmas Party.

The 'Ham-of-the-Year', 'Hi Roberts', and 'John Butler' were discussed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:07 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

**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.

<p><b>Marin Amateur Radio Society Officers and Board Members:</b></p> <p><b>President</b> Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS 510-595-3494</p> <p><b>Vice President</b> John Boyd KE6ORI 924-04419</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089</p> <p><b>Treasure:</b> Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 707 978-2560</p> <p><b>Board Members</b> 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</p> <p><b>Other Positions:</b></p> <p><b>Education Chair</b> Randy Jenkins</p> <p><b>VE Liaison</b> Randy Jenkins</p> <p><b>Building Co-Managers</b> Doug Slusher Dave Hodgson</p> <p><b>Trustee for W6SG</b> Augie Koehler K0CQL</p> <p><b>Trustee for K6GWE</b> Doug Slusher KF6AKU</p> <p><b>Sunday Emergency Nets</b> Mark Bruvry and other volunteers</p> <p><b>DX Representative of ARRL</b> Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829</p>	<p><b>Public Service Event Coordinator</b> Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089</p> <p><b>Public Service Co-Coordinators</b> Rob Rowlands, NZ6J and Michael Fischer, K6MLF</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS</p> <p><b>Editor of QSA-5</b> Ed Essick K6ELE 456-1715 e.essick@comcast.net</p> <p><b>ARRL San Francisco Section Manager</b> Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV@ARRL.ORG</p> <p><b>WEBMASTER</b> Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET</p>
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