
QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

October 2015

Presidents Corner

So this morning I reset the clocks to standard time. An annual ritual most of us have to go through. People in Arizona, parts of Florida, Hawaii, parts of Indiana and Nevada don't change their clocks. This peculiar practice was first proposed in 1895 and first adopted in Europe in 1916.

I began to examine this clock change when I was working for an alarm central station. This company received messages from alarm systems across the United States and Canada. My job was to develop software that would log the messages and when appropriate send the message to an operator's screen for human intervention, calling the police, fire, the owner depending on rules. So the actual time of the event in the local time zone would be important. This was quite a while ago and the rules were less regular then. For each customer we had to record the starting and ending times and dates for daylight savings time if observed, and the amount of offset from UTC. There were also locations where the time zones were not full hours Newfoundland is either -3:30 or -2:30 from UTC.

As a child I was told a number of different stories about why we shifted the time. I was told that it was for farmers to have extra hours of daylight to work the fields although often farmer's groups tend to oppose it, or it was to save energy by not using as much artificial light in the summer, or it was to allow more time for outdoor activities. At some latitudes this makes some sense but in the tropics where there is very little change in the length of the day and in high latitudes where the changes in the length of the day vary by several hours it makes little sense. In hotter climates it probably uses more energy having us run air conditioning system for more hours.

Continued on page 2

From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Participating in Contests

Last week there were two ham radio contests that I operated. The first was the ARRL School Roundup, which was a weeklong event. Mike, AI6II, David, KK5AZR, and I operated the Roundup as a club station using our club call W6SB. The second was the CQWWSSB contest on October 24th and 25th. See my summary of these later in this issue.

I had two totally different experiences in these contests. The Roundup contest allowed us to run a frequency, which means we controlled the frequency and called CQ. Stations would answer our call and were logged. For most of the Roundup contest we operated this way.

In all we contacted 20 schools on the air, these included primary schools, high schools, and colleges. In total we made 258 contacts in 45 states and 5 foreign countries. The Roundup contest was a first for David and he was operating under limited conditions, but he did make a contact for the effort.

The CQWWSSB contest can be a frantic affair as 30,000+ hams around the world participate. Fortunately this year band conditions were pretty good and there was a great opening on 10 meters that occurred on both days of the contest. If it weren't for the contest, I would not have looked at 10 meters for activity. So you just never know, check on 10 meters as we all have privileges on the band and you just might just be surprised at the result and make some contacts.



CQ World Wide DX Contest

What's Happening in Radio

On the Air

ARRL News

Pampanito Report

Member Report- APRS

Board Minutes

Our elected officials who cannot seem to grasp any technology that was not described in the bible seem to think that if a little is a good thing than more must be better and 2007 moved the dates to where they currently sit. So we got to sleep an extra hour and I will spend the next several days getting all the clocks in my life that are not connected to computers back in sync. This will take more than an hour.

73 de WA6UDS

What's Happening in Radio

ARRL -Use of 146.52 MHz FM Simplex Frequency Cleared for ARRL Contests

The ARRL Programs and Services Committee earlier this year unanimously adopted a recommendation from its VHF and Above Revitalization Committee to remove the rule prohibiting the use of 146.52 MHz simplex for making contest contacts. The change becomes effective in 2016, starting with the ARRL January VHF Contest.

The VHF and Above Revitalization Committee concluded that the restriction was no longer necessary. The committee felt that permitting the use of 146.52 MHz would allow new/curious contesters possessing only FM-mode radios to stumble upon more contacts, increasing their chances of being drawn further into VHF+ contesting -- the primary aim of the Revitalization Committee.

The change will also be incorporated into the ARRL Field Day rules. This change eliminates Rule 1.8 in the "General Rules for ARRL Contests Above 50 MHz," with subsequent Rule 1 sections renumbered accordingly.



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On The Air

Contest Calendar

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z, Nov 7 to 0300Z, Nov 9
WAE DX Contest, RTTY 0000Z, Nov 14 to 2359Z, Nov 15
0-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital 0001Z, Nov 14 to 2359Z, Nov 15
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB 2100Z, Nov 21 to 0300Z, Nov 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Nov 28 to 2400Z, Nov 29
See complete list at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

ARRL News

Parity Act House Cosponsors Now in Triple Digits!

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 bill in the US House (H.R. 1301) now has 106 cosponsors! ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, credited ARRL members "who understand the importance of the legislation" with making it possible to reach that milestone.

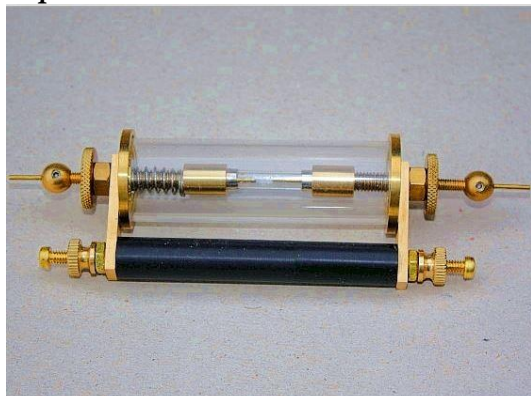


"They have signed letters at hamfests and conventions all over the country, at booths staffed by Directors, Vice Directors, Section Managers, and other ARRL officials," President Craigie said. Backing up those efforts have been recent personal visits to Capitol Hill by ARRL Directors Dick Isely, W9GIG, and Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, as well as by General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD.

The 100th cosponsor of H.R. 1301 was Rep Larry Bucshon [R-IN], who signed aboard on October 16. Six more cosponsors added their names on October 20 and 21. They are Reps Steve Chabot, [R-OH], Mike Bost [R-IL], and Frank LoBiondo [R-NJ]; Katherine Clark [D-MA]; Thomas MacArthur [R-NJ], and Sheila Jackson Lee [D-TX].

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September what's this?



Thanks to Bill, KF6RMK for this one.

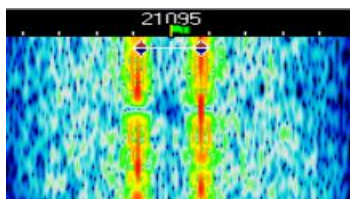
Skip, KJ6ARL responded that it was some type of spark gap transmitter.

It's a Coherer Detector.

The **coherer** is a primitive form of radio signal detector used in the first radio receivers during the wireless telegraphy era at the beginning of the 20th century. Its use in radio was based on the 1890 findings of French physicist Edouard Branly and adapted by other physicists and inventors over the next ten years. The device consists of a tube or capsule containing two electrodes spaced a small distance apart with metal filings in the space between. When a radio frequency signal is applied to the device, the metal particles would cling together or "cohere", reducing the initial high resistance of the device, thereby allowing an electric current to flow through it. In a receiver, the current would activate a bell, or a Morse paper tape recorder to make a record of the received signal. The metal filings in the coherer remained conductive after the signal (pulse) ended so that the coherer had to be "decohered" by tapping it with a clapper each time a signal was received, thereby restoring the coherer to its original state. Coherers remained in widespread use until about 1907, when they were replaced by more sensitive electrolytic and crystal detectors.

October what's this

OK, tried to make it easier this month. Send me your answers.



ARRL Field Day 2015 Results Now Available

Results of ARRL Field Day 2015 are now available. These include the searchable scores database, the soapbox, and the *QST* results article (PDF). A total of 2720 stations submitted entries for the ever-popular June 27-28 event.

While propagation was on the sorry side for Field Day 2015, the number of contacts for this year's event rose slightly over 2014 -- a modest 1.1 percent -- and CW contacts account for all of that increase; phone and digital contact numbers dipped slightly in 2015. Nearly 1.3 million contacts were logged during FD 2015.

The number of logs received appears to be an all-time ARRL Field Day record. This year saw 35,369 participants, down slightly from 2014.

A total of 1247 entries claimed the broad classification of "A" (which includes generator, commercial, and alternate/battery-powered entries). Joining that core group operating in temporary setups were an additional 315 Class B entries (one- or two-person entries). This indicates that 58 percent of all Field Day 2015 participants in some way took to the field.



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National Parks On The Air

Rich Cochran, AG6QR

The ARRL has announced a "National Parks On The Air" (NPOTA) event, to be held during the entire 2016 calendar year, January through December.

It encourages "activators" to operate from National Parks and other areas administered by the Park Service, and encourages "chasers" to work those activators.

There are 433 recognized units administered by the Park Service which are eligible to be activated. The Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Point Reyes National Seashore, and Muir Woods are three of them that are located right here in Marin County. Several more are very close by in the Bay Area, including Rosie the Riveter in Richmond, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, and Fort Point in San Francisco. Some major National Parks are located within a day's drive of us, such as Yosemite, Sequoia, King's Canyon, Lassen, Pinnacles, and more.

An "Activator Award" will be given to any Amateur who makes at least one accredited operation from an NPS Administrative unit. A "Chaser Award" is given to any Amateur who confirms QSOs with at least one accredited operation from an NPS Administrative unit. Either of these certificates will be printed with the actual number of activations or NPS units worked, as appropriate.

A "National Parks Honor Roll" award will be given to any Amateur who confirms QSOS with 75% of the 59 national parks that have accredited operations in 2016. Note, this honor roll only counts National Parks, not the National Monuments, National Seashores, and National Recreation areas which we have here in Marin.

There will be "Five Star Activator" awards to activators who perform exceptional public outreach during the event. See the ARRL pages for specifics, but they count things like Media Publicity, Public Information Table, using Solar Power and/or Batteries, using digital modes, and more.

For an activation to count, at least ten QSOs must be made, and they must be uploaded to LoTW. QSOs through a repeater do not count, but simplex QSOs on all VHF/UHF/HF bands except 60m will be counted.

It should be fairly easy for many of us in Marin County to do a quick activation of the GGNRA or Point Reyes. With a little more driving, we could activate a nearby National Park. Activating one of the less-visited National Parks might be fun, and could perhaps generate a bit of a pileup, since the National Parks Honor Roll will motivate chasers to contact National Parks more so than the other kinds of properties administered by the Park Service. Lassen or Pinnacles might be good nearby candidates.

See <http://www.arrl.org/npota> for full details on the event.

I suspect many of us will choose to participate as individuals, but I wonder if there is enough interest to get a club activation going? If you want to use me as a focal point for gathering information about interest in possible group activities on this event, feel free to drop me, Rich Cochran, an e-mail at ag6qr@arrl.net. Regardless, listen for those activations starting next January, and support them by chasing them.

W6SG ARRL School Club Roundup



Burr and Burton Academy, Manchester VT, K1BBS, participating in ARRL School Club Roundup

Objective: To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate. - ARRL

When Mike Ransom, AI6II, approached me and suggested we operate in this contest as a club, it sounded like a good idea. He discussed the idea with several club members and as a result Mike, David, and I became the team. Mike and I both use N1MM+ for contesting and so that was the logging program selected. We developed an operating plan to meet the requirements of the contest. This meant only 6 hours of operation per day for the team. We setup a schedule to make sure only one of us was on the air at a time. The N1MM+ log was emailed at the end of the day to the team member that would operate the next day.

As a club entry we used the W6SG call and operated at our individual locations. David, KK5AZR, is restricted in operating from his location, so he decided to try a field location. In the picture below you can see he is operating from a park table near the Marin Rod and Gun Club. He used a car battery and Buddy Pole portable antenna, seen at the right of the photo next to the concrete column. Unfortunately David was operating on 40 meters in the late afternoon and conditions were not that good for him. He did manage one contact, but he said he learned a lot about portable operations from the experience.



For our effort we had a total score of 42,312 points as shown in ARRL summary below.

Thanks for submitting your score for the recent ARRL School Club Roundup. Your submission and calculated score are summarized below and also e-mailed to the primary operator/sponsor's e-mail address. If you need to modify a score that you've already submitted, please use this score submittal form to resubmit. Your most recent submission will be used to determine your final score after the contest.

Call Used	Category	QTH Club/School Name	Participants
W6SG	Club/Multi-Op	CA MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	3

Primary Operator/Sponsor:

Full Name	Call	E-mail Address	Mailing Address
MICHAEL RANSOM	AI6II		

Score Calculation:

QSOs		Multipliers				Total Score
CW/RTTY/Dig	Phone	States	VE Prov/Ter	DX	Clubs	
0	258	45	4	1	7	20
QSO Points		Total Multipliers				= 42,312
(2x0 + 1x258)		x (1x45 + 1x4 + 1x1 + 2x7 + 5x20)				

Comments/Soapbox:
[none]

Send comments or questions about this page to [ARRL Contest Manager](#).
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ARRL SCHOOL CLUB ROUNDUP ENTRIES POSTING SCORES

Call Used	Category	QTH	Club/School Name
K1MCS	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	RI	Monsignor Clarke School Amateur Radio Club
K4DMS	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	SC	K4DMS - DuBose Middle School Amateur Radio Club
K4VBM	Individual	GA	
K5LBJ	Senior High School	TX	LASA High School Amateur Radio Club
K5LMS	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	TX	Lampasas Middle School Youth ARC
K6MHS	Senior High School	CA	McBride High School Radio Club
K7UAZ	College/University	AZ	The University of Arizona
K9CAV	Individual	OH	
K9SOU	Senior High School	IN	Bloomington High School South ARC
K9THN	Senior High School	IN	TERRE HAUTE NORTH VIGO HIGH SCHOOL
KB4SA	Elementary/Primary School	FL	Pinewood Christian Academy
KC2KJN	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	NY	Gowanda CSD ARC
KC3ASH	Individual	MD	
KC7KFF	Club/Multi-Op	AZ	Milky Way Wireless Club
KD0QLW	Senior High School	MO	St Charles High Radio Club
KF5EN	Individual	TX	
KI4FW	Individual	VA	
KK4BKD	Individual	KY	
KK4PUX	Individual	VA	
KL7DG	Elementary/Primary School	AK	Pilot Station School Radio Club
N1ASA	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	RI	All Saints STEAM Academy
N2RQ	Individual	NY	
N3FJP	Individual	MD	
N3NTF	Individual	PA	
N4SMS	Middle/Intermed/JR High School	SC	SCHOFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL
N5CHS	Senior High School	AR	Catholic High School ARC
N9NBC	Individual	WI	
ND8GA	Senior High School	OH	Gilmour Academy ARC
VA2QDC	College/University	QC	Dawson College
VE2GT	Individual	QC	
W1DGL	Individual	AZ	
W1VRC	Senior High School	RI	Rogers High Schol Ham Radio Club/ Rogers High School
W1WBB	Individual	RI	
W2CXN	Senior High School	NY	Brooklyn Technical High School Amateur Radio and Wireless Technology Club
W5AC	College/University	TX	Texas A&M University
W5YM	College/University	AR	Amateur Radio Club of Univ of Arkansas
W6SG	Club/Multi-Op	CA	MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
W7OSU	College/University	OR	Oregon State University Amateur Radio Club
W7PV	Individual	AZ	
W8KW	College/University	MI	Eastern Michigan University
W8SH	College/University	MI	Mich State Univ. ARC
W8UPD	College/University	OH	UNIVERSITY OF AKRON
W9UIH	College/University	IL	Southern Illinois University ARC
WB0IWG	Individual	ND	
WD8E	Individual	OH	
WE8DX	Club/Multi-Op	OH	Central Ohio Contest Association
WN8QGV	Individual	MI	

CQ World Wide SSB Contest

Ed Essick, K6ELE

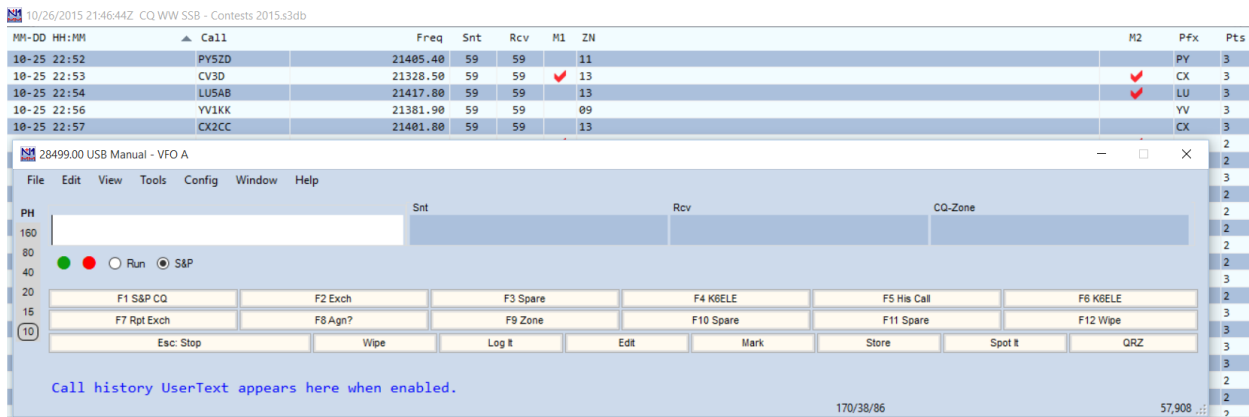
The annual CQWWSSB contest attracts one of the largest number of hams on the air in one weekend in October. This year was no exception. The band conditions from California were pretty good for this point in the sun spot cycle. The 10 meter band was open to Europe, Asia, and South America on both days of the contest. I made the most contacts on 10 meters in this contest. The 15 and 20 meter bands were very crowded and many stations were overlapping each other, making it hard to copy individual stations on my radio. I have an Icom 7600, which has a good receiver, but it was still difficult to contact some of the stations that had many stations calling them. I did manage to make contacts in Russia, Sweden, Africa, Morocco, Cyprus, the Canary Islands, Chile, and most of the countries in central Europe and South America. The majority of these contacts were on 10 meters during the day on Saturday and Sunday. All hams can operate on 10 meters and when this band is open, contacts can be made with modest antennas and low power.

When I participate in a contest I now use the logging program N1MM+. This is a freeware program that can be downloaded at their website. There is an extensive online manual for the program and also a Yahoo group that can answer questions on its use. The program provides support for almost every contest available.

Everyone has an operating style and mine includes using two monitors when I contest. The first monitor shows DX Summit spots of stations on the air. (By the way this is on Monday October 26th, so you can see 10 meters is open. I just heard a station in Argentina calling CQ on 28.400 while I am writing this.) This allows me to see where the stations are on a crowded band and I use it mainly on 20 meters where signals were really close together and often overlapping each other in a contest.

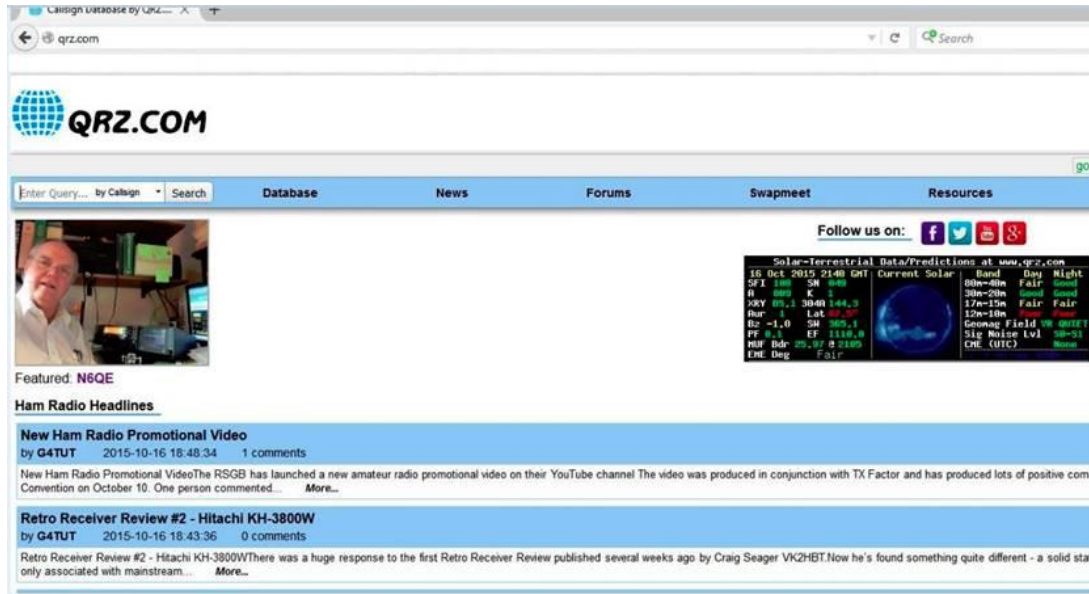
Spotter	Freq.	DX	Time	Info	Country
PY1FOG	28450.0	CX2CQ	21:30 26 Oct	73	Uruguay
N7XAZ	28453.0	ZL1KEN	21:26 26 Oct		New Zealand
PU20XZ	28443.0	HT7C	21:17 26 Oct	5/5 qso 73	Nicaragua
NP4AC	28443.0	HT7C	21:17 26 Oct		Nicaragua
LU1QR	28443.0	HT7C	21:12 26 Oct	73	Nicaragua
PY4MAB-@	28450.0	PY4MAB	21:05 26 Oct	CALL DX	Brazil
PY4MAB-@	28450.0	DX	21:05 26 Oct	CALL DX	Philippines
PY4MAB-@	28495.0	LW2DY	21:02 26 Oct	DX	Argentina
PY1FOG	28495.0	LW2DY	20:56 26 Oct	friend Dani73	Argentina
LU1QR	28435.0	WP4PCD	20:55 26 Oct	73'S	Puerto Rico
NP4AC	28435.0	WP4PCD	20:52 26 Oct		Puerto Rico
LU1QR	28465.0	E88CVZ	20:48 26 Oct	ISLA D LAS PALMAS 73	Canary Islands

This next screen is N1MM+ setup for the CQWWSSB contest. The logging entry window is at the bottom with the contact log in the background. For many contests a “Call history” is available that when loaded into N1MM will look up the call you enter in the entry window and if it’s in history, it will fill in the exchange information automatically.



Entering a contest or just operating on a contest weekend can give you the opportunity to work some DX. I started contesting to work DX stations and get them in the log toward my ARRL DXCC award. Now I find contesting a reward in itself. Try it, you might enjoy it.

Thanks to Mike, AI6II, for spotting this on QRZ highlighting one of our club members, Herb, N6QE.



Thanks to Randy, KA6BQF for this one.

From the Changelog <http://changelog.complete.org/>

"You may not know it, but [wifi is under assault in the USA](#) due to proposed FCC regulations about modifications to devices with modular radios. In short, it would make it illegal for vendors to sell devices with firmware that users can replace. This is of concern to everyone, because Wifi routers are notoriously buggy and insecure. It is also of special concern to amateur radio hobbyists, due to the use of these devices in the Amateur Radio Service (FCC Part 97).

I submitted a comment to the FCC about this, which I am pasting in here. This provides a background and summary of the issues for those that are interested. Here it is:

My comment has two parts: one, the impact on the Amateur Radio service; and two, the impact on security. Both pertain primarily to the 802.11 ("Wifi") services typically operating under Part 15.

The Amateur Radio Service (FCC part 97) has long been recognized by the FCC and Congress as important to the nation. Through it, amateurs contribute to scientific knowledge, learn skills that bolster the technological competitiveness of the United States, and save lives through their extensive involvement in disaster response.

Certain segments of the 2.4GHz and 5GHz Wifi bands authorized under FCC Part 15 also fall under the frequencies available to licensed amateurs under FCC Part 97 [1].

By scrupulously following the Part 97 regulations, many amateur radio operators are taking devices originally designed for Part 15 use and modifying them for legal use under the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service. Although the uses are varied, much effort is being devoted to fault-tolerant mesh networks that provide high-speed multimedia communications in response to a disaster, even without the presence of any traditional infrastructure or Internet backbone. One such effort [2] causes users to replace the firmware on off-the-shelf Part 15 Wifi devices, reconfiguring them for proper authorized use under Part 97. This project has many vital properties, particularly the self-discovery of routes between nodes and self-healing nature of the mesh network. These features are not typically available in the firmware of normal Part 15 devices.

It should also be noted that there is presently no vendor of Wifi devices that operate under Part 97 out of the box. The only route available to amateurs is to take Part 15 devices and modify them for Part 97 use.

Amateur radio users of these services have been working for years to make sure they do not cause interference to Part 15 users [3].

One such effort takes advantage of the modular radio features of consumer Wifi gear to enable communication on frequencies that are within the Part 97 allocation, but outside (though adjacent) to the Part 15 allocation. For instance, the chart at [1] identifies frequencies such as 2.397GHz or 5.660GHz that will never cause interference to Part 15 users because they lie entirely outside the Part 15 Wifi allocation.

If the FCC prevents the ability of consumers to modify the firmware of these devices, the following negative consequences will necessarily follow:

1) The use of high-speed multimedia or mesh networks in the Amateur Radio service will be sharply curtailed, relegated to only outdated hardware.

Continued on page 8

2) Interference between the Amateur Radio service — which may use higher power or antennas with higher gain — and Part 15 users will be expanded, because Amateur Radio service users will no longer be able to intentionally select frequencies that avoid Part 15.

3) The culture of inventiveness surrounding wireless communication will be curtailed in an important way.

Besides the impact on the Part 97 Amateur Radio Service, I also wish to comment on the impact to end-user security. There have been a terrible slew of high-profile situations where very popular consumer Wifi devices have had incredible security holes. Vendors have often been unwilling to address these issues [4].

Michael Horowitz maintains a website tracking security bugs in consumer wifi routers [5]. Sadly these bugs are both severe and commonplace. Within just the last month, various popular routers have been found vulnerable to remote hacking [6] and platforms for launching Distributed Denial-of-Service (DDoS) attacks [7]. These impacted multiple models from multiple vendors. To make matters worse, most of these issues should have never happened in the first place, and were largely the result of carelessness or cluelessness on the part of manufacturers.

Consumers should not be at the mercy of vendors to fix their own networks, nor should they be required to trust unauditible systems. There are many well-regarded efforts to provide better firmware for Wifi devices, which still keep them operating under Part 15 restrictions. One is OpenWRT [8], which supports a wide variety of devices with a system built upon a solid Linux base.

Board of Directors Election

Below is the section of the club bylaws regarding the nomination and election of board members. If you have an interest in running for the board contact Doug Slusher, KF6AKU (KF6AKU at arrl.net) or Ed Essick, K6ELE (eessick at Comcast.net).

SECTION 2. ANNUAL AND OTHER REGULAR MEETINGS

The membership regular meeting scheduled for the month of November of each year shall be designated as the annual meeting, for the purposes of presentation of candidates for election to the Board of Directors, and transacting other business as may come before the meeting. Voting for the election of directors shall be by either mail ballot or electronic balloting of the membership, and the vote tabulation shall be published in the club publication and announced at the December membership meeting. The November meeting of members for these stated purposes shall be deemed a regular meeting, and any reference in these Bylaws to regular meetings of members shall also refer to this annual meeting. <Amended2014>

If the day fixed for the annual meeting or other regular meetings falls on or near a legal holiday, such meeting shall be held at the same hour and place on a day as determined by the Board of Directors.

General Membership Meeting

Friday, October 02, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 hrs by Vice-president John Boyd.

A round of introductions was the first order of business. Twenty-six members or guests were present.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

The minutes of the September 04 General Membership Meeting were approved as published.

Vice-president Boyd reported on the actions at the September 10 Board of Director's Meeting. Transmitter hunts and fund allocation were discussed.

There were no new members to report.

Secretary Jenkins reported on correspondence. There was nothing to report on.

Treasurer Dave Hodgson was not present, and submitted a report.

Membership: 86 for 2015.

Public Service – The next event is on October 11. There are two more events scheduled.

The Technical Committee: John commented on the repeater system.

Education: There is interest in teaching a class

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

A digital repeater was discussed.

Old business: None.

New Business:

Pacificon is October 16,17, and 18.

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 20:09 hrs.

There was a presentation on APRS by Rob Rowlands, NZ6J and Steve Fischer, K6ETA.

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, October 08, 2015

Board Members present: Curtis Ardourel, August Koehler, Doug Slusher, John Boyd, Cal Anber, Rita Brenden, and Randy Jenkins.
Members present: Michael Fischer.

The meeting was called to order by Curtis Ardourel at 19:50 hours.

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the September 10, 2015 meeting were approved as submitted.

Randy reported on a letter from the Marin Elections Dept., AT&T, and an insurance certificate for the Escape from Alcatraz, under Correspondence.

Treasurer: Dave submitted reports for August. The report showed \$2,323.00 income and \$399.45 expenses; and total cash assets of \$66,749.85.

Committee reports:

Membership- We have 86 paid members.

Public Service – There are two events left, The Peak Hike on 10/11, and the Escape from Alcatraz on 10/17. There was a discussion about sign-ups. The de-brief and thank-you meeting was set for January 16, 2016. Randy announced that he had ordered mugs for thank-you gifts. There was a motion to reimburse Randy for the cost of the mugs. ORI/AKU/Pass.

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

Comm Truck- Still rusting. There was a discussion about covering the comm truck.

Education – We need to schedule a meeting with the volunteers, who would teach the class.

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

Speakers – Doug announced that we would not have a speaker for the November meeting. There may be a discussion about a digital repeater.

Christmas Party – John Boyd reported that he had contacted Red Robin Catering in Larkspur. The initial cost per plate would be about \$16.50 based on 30 people, the menu items included turkey and ham. We will need to have RSVP's early. There was a motion to allocate NTE \$1,000.00 for food and supplies; plus \$400.00 for door prizes. BQF/AKU/Pass. John will try to keep the cost around \$20.00 per plate.

Building Committee – Doug has the roofing contractor on hold. The initial cleaning cost \$200.00. Doug requested to have the cleaning repeated on a monthly basis. There was a motion to that effect, to be reviewed in six months. AKU/ORI/Pass

Old Business:

Parking Signs – Here. Cal has the materials to make stands, and he will get to it soon.

Digital Repeater - Discussed.

Transmitter hunts – We are still waiting on information.

New Business:

The was a motion to pay NZ6J \$75.00 for a Tiny Track 4 installed in K6GWE-7 tracker, turning into a digipeater. ORI/AKU/Pass

There was a motion to purchase an additional Tiny Track 4 to install in K6GWE-6 tracker. ORI/AKU/Pass

There was a communication from the people running the Double Dipsea requesting we commit to supporting the event on 6/18/2016. It should be OK.

Curtis will write a comment in opposition regarding the FCC's proposal to restrict modifications to WiFi routers, if the comment period is still open.

There was discussion about buying a portable dishwasher for the clubhouse.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 21:28 hours.

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