QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933 January 2016

Presidents Corner

Change is in the air for 2016. It is a new year and lots of changes will be taking place; not only for our club, but for the ARRL and for our country as well. I am of course talking about the leadership changes. We all owe a big THANK YOU for our out-going club president Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS who, for the last six years has devoted his time and efforts to our club and community. I have a lot of respect for Curtis and hope we keep the club running as smoothly as he did in the days ahead.

As your new president, I would like to introduce myself for those of you who may not know me. My name is Marvin Thomas Soskin W6MTS but go by Tom. My amateur radio experiences are minimal and have only been a Ham for a few years. I am a true product of this club. Starting with an interest in emergency preparedness I read about the necessity of communications. I found the Marin Amateur Radio Society on the internet and enrolled in the Technician's class that was offered. After encouragement from the instructors to study for both the Tech and General license, I passed both exams and received my General Class license December 31, 2013. I immediately applied for my Vanity call sign (my initials) and started working on my Extra Class license. While studying, I attended club meetings and Sunday morning "Bible" classes trying to learn as much as possible from other club members. I passed my Extra class exam in September last year. I've since become an ARRL Instructor and received my ARRL Volunteer Examiner accreditation.

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From the Editor Ed Essick, K6ELE

Welcome to the first issue of QSA5 for the New Year. We start the year with some changes in the club leadership. Our new President, Tom Soskin, W6MTS, Vice President, Kris Bakenstose, KK6AYC, and a new board member Howard Leistner, W2BBF. Our outgoing President, Curtis Adroul, WA6UDS and Vice President John Boyd, KE6ORI, both worked hard to support our club. Thank you both for your service to our club.

Our new leadership has already been active in securing speakers for our monthly meetings. Check out the Guest Speaker lineup in this issue.

One of our club missions is Public Service. The Public Service luncheon on January 16th recognized the effort of those club members and other volunteers who supported events in 2015. Check out the list of members who participated in this issue.

So if you did not participate in 2015 in support of a Public Service, check out our website for opportunities in 2016. I can say from my experience that you will get a lot out of participating in an event. You should improve your radio operational skills, learn more about your equipment, and have fun also.



I have had many mentors from the club but of special note I would like to recognize a few individuals. First Cal Anber, who took the time to welcome me from the moment I walked through the club house doors. I've seen Cal working in the background in support of the club and I don't think people realize the important role that he plays. Second, I would like to thank Randy Jenkins, he has been a huge asset to myself and our club, from training/testing and public service to club events. Next are two individuals that I owe much of my knowledge to and who continue to mentor me as I grow in this hobby, Doug Slusher and Mike Ransom who I appreciate immensely for their time and patience, thank you. There are, of course many more members that I owe my gratitude to and who have, and continue to, contribute to my learning and successes in amateur radio and this club. Thank you all for your support and I hope to be deserving of election to the board and to president of the club.

Tom Soskin, W6MTS

National Parks on the Air Update

Great pileups were reported from many National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) activators over the January 16-17 weekend. We're getting more and more comments from participants who are catching "NPOTA Fever" and beginning the chase.

At three weeks into the year-long event, we've seen nearly 200 of the 483 NPOTA units activated -- an amazing level of participation! Several Chasers are taking the event seriously as well; 11 Chasers have more than 100 NPOTA units confirmed, and 84 have 50 or more units in the bag. And it's still mighty cold in a large part of the county...just think what activity will be like when it warms up a bit.

NPOTA Managers Sean Kutzko, KX9X, and Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, are talking NPOTA, ham radio, and RVing on this week's RoadTreking.com podcast, "Reliable Communications for the RVer," hosted by Mike Wendland, K8ZRH, an NPOTA Activator.

More than 20 Activations are scheduled for the week of January 21-27; check the NPOTA Activations calendar for details.

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On The Air

Contest Calendar

 $10\mbox{-}10$ Int. Winter Contest, SSB 0001Z, Feb 6 to 2359Z, Feb 7

British Columbia QSO Party, 1600Z, Feb 6 to 0400Z, Feb 7

Mexico RTTY International Contest,1800Z, Feb 6 to 1759Z, Feb 7

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest, 0000Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 14

ARRL School Club Roundup, 1300Z, Feb 8 to 2359Z, Feb 12

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW, 0000Z, Feb 20 to 2400Z, Feb 21

North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 27 to 0559Z, Feb 28

See complete list at:

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

ARRL News

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC to fix a "shortfall in available RTTY/data spectrum" the regulator created when it reapportioned 80 and 75 meters a decade ago. The League's January 8 Petition for Rule Making asks the FCC to shift the boundary between the 80 meter RTTY/data subband and the 75 meter phone/image subband from 3600 kHz to 3650 kHz. The ARRL's Petition points out that the proposed change has received strong support from the ARRL membership and was adopted as policy by the League's Board of Directors in July 2015. At that time the Board also agreed to seek RTTY and data privileges for Technician and Novice licensees within the portion of the 15 meter band where they now may operate CW and to do the same on 80 meters, contingent upon the 80/75 meter subband revision.

Specifically, the petition asks the FCC to make the following changes, with regard to 80/75 meters:

- Modify the 80 meter RTTY/data subband, so that it extends from 3500 kHz to 3650 kHz.
- Modify the 75 meter phone/image subband, so that it extends from 3650 kHz to 4000 kHz.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available for General and Advanced Class licensees, as was the case prior to 2006.
- Make 3600-3650 kHz available to Novice and Technician licensees for telegraphy -consistent with existing rules permitting Novices and Technicians to use telegraphy in the General and Advanced RTTY/data subbands on 80, 40, and 15 Meters.

Modify the rules governing automatically controlled digital stations (ACDS), to shift the 80 meter ACDS segment from 3585-3600 kHz to 3600-3615 kHz, consistent with the IARU Region 1 and 2 band plans.

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School Club Roundup Results

Our club received this ARRL certificate for participation in the School Club Roundup last year. We also placed first in the Club – W/VE category for the contest. Mike, AI6II, David, KK5AZR, and Ed, K6ELE operated the Roundup as a club station using our club call W6SB.



Category: Club/Multi-Op - W/VE

Call Used	School/Club	QTH	Score	Rank	CW/RTTY/Dig Qs	Phone Q	s US	VE	DX	Clubs	Schools
W6SG	MARIN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY	CA	42,312	1	0	258	45	4	1	7	20
KC5CYY	Contest Club	OK	8,910	2	0	110	33	1	1	3	8
KC7KFF	Milky Way Wireless Club	AZ	3,120	3	0	26	17	1	1	3	19
WE8DX	Central Ohio Contest Association	ОН	273	4	0	7	4	0	0	0	7

Mars Election

The following club members were elected to the board of directors. Thanks to all of you who voted.

Dave Hodgson- KG6TCJ (Incumbent)

Howard Leistner- W2BBF Kris Bakenstose - KK6AYC Tom Soskin- W6MTS

New Club Officers

The Board of Directors selected the following persons as the 2016 Officers at the January 14 Board Meeting:

Tom Soskin W6MTS President Vice President Kris Backenstose KK6AYC Secretary Randy Jenkins KA6BQF Treasurer Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ The rest of the Board of Directors for 2016 are: August Koehler K0CQL Trustee, W6SG Doug Slusher KF6AKU Trustee, K6GWE

Cal Anber N6TIA
Rita Brenden KG6WPN

Marc Bruvry KF6VNT

Ed Essick K6ELE Editor, QSA-5

Howard Leistner W2BBF

Guest Speakers 2016

Our guest speaker program for 2016 starts off with a presentation by Brett Stewart, K6BPS. Brett will talk about building a PAN adapter.

"Wouldn't it be nice when working a band to see potential contacts on all the frequencies at once? What about during a contest, wouldn't be great to pounce on a new contact almost immediately? Wouldn't it be great to eliminate a lot of the background noise while listening?

With an SDR/computer based PAN adapter (Band Scope), you can get all that and more for between \$20 - \$100 (not including the computer). Come see how easy it is to set one up, and bring even older rigs into the modern age."

2/5/2016 - Brett Stewart K6BPS – Build a PAN adapter 3/4/2016 - Antonis Papatsaras AA6PP - SF club digital Fusion repeater

4/1/2016 - Richard Dillman - Marconi / KPH history 5/6/2016 - Kenneth Finnegan W6KWF - Wildflower

Triathlon

6/3/2016 - Edison Fong - Tri-band J-pole 8/5/2016 - David Messerschmitt - Interstellar

Communication

What's Happening in Radio

South Sandwich VP8STI and South Georgia VP8SGI DXpedition



On January 14th a group of 14 DXers departed from the Falkland Islands to activate two remote and rare DX entities. There voyage of 37 days took them through the Drake Passage which is known for strong winds and high seas.

Operations on South Sandwich Island were terminated on January 25th due to a fierce South Atlantic storm. Winds of 70mph destroyed two of their tents and most of the yagi antennas.



All team members were safely returned to the R/V Braveheart transport vessel. All equipment was left behind on Southern Thule Is. A break in the weather allowed equipment to be retrieved the next day. VP8STI logged 51,613 contacts while on the island.

Currently, as of January 27th, the team is on their way to South Georgia Is. and plan to arrive in three days. They will try to operate for 8 days from the island as VP8SGI. Their progress on the R/V Braveheart can be tracked at http://www.intrepid-dx.com/vp8/location.php

Public Service

The annual Public Service lunch held on 1/16 at the club house was well attended with 52 members and guests present. Awards were given to those who participated in one or more public service events in 2015. Hams that participated in 3 or more events received a gold pin and those with one event received a club mug.

A demonstration of APRS was presented by Rob, NZ6J, and Steve, K6ETA. They showed how you can use a \$10 cell phone and TNC module with a HT to do APRS tracking. Tracking of volunteers in Public Service events can help in locating and identifying needed support services.



Rich, AG6QR and Steve, K6ETA demonstrated their portable Go Kits.



Club members participating in events for 2015

Club members who participated in at least one event received a club coffee mug. Those participating in at least three received a gold pin.

Name			Events
Backenstose	Kris	KK6AYC	****
Boyd	John	KE6ORI	*
Bradley	Larry	KK6QPE	**
Breakfield	Ernest	N6ZES	*
Brenden	Rita	KG6WPN	*****
Brennies	Marty	KC6YYP	*
Chaney	David	KK6AZR	*
Cochran	Rich	AG6QR	***
Couch	George	KK6UNO	*
Dunlap	Phil	K6PHD	*
Engler	Don	KI6MPE	*****
Essick	Ed	K6ELE	*
Fedzano	Anthony - 'Skip'	KJ6ARL	****
Ferris	Walt	N6ABR	**
Fischer	Michael	K6MLF	****
Fischer	Steve	K6ETA	*****
Fischer	Christina	KI6TDG	*
Foster	Jerry	WA6BXV	****
Friedlander	Ben	AD6JA	*
Gleason	Stanton	KD6SWU	*****
Greene	Jim	KG6RZQ	*****
Hertan	Bill	KI6JOP	*
Hinsdale	Palmer	N0PFH	***
Hodgson	Dave	KG6TCJ	****
Hubert	Jay	K0OLK	***
Iban	Michael	K6WAV	
Ireson	Rob	K6RGI	*****
Jenkins	Randy	KA6BQF	*****
Joslin	Terry	N6TOK	*
Kay	Jerry	KG6IAC	***

Minutes

Public Service Lunch

Saturday, January 16, 2016

Lunch was served at Noon.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 hrs by President Tom Soskin.

Fifty-five members or guests were present.

The first order of business was a round of introductions.

Emily Bauska from the Bay Area Ridge Council was introduced by Michael Fischer; and had thanks for the volunteers for Ridge to Bridge.

Awards for 2015 volunteers were presented.

Michael Fischer recapped the changes that we had implemented in 2015. Randy asked for updates on public service location pages.

Several suggestions from the floor were accepted. Several of the suggestions were discussed.

Go-Kit demonstrations were presented by Rich Cochran and Steve Fischer.

A summary of the 2016 schedule was presented by Michael Fischer. A sign-up roster was passed around.

APRS training was presented by Rob Rowlands and Steve Fischer. An inexpensive way to have an APRS tracker was explained.

Doug Slusher explained changes planned for the repeater system in 2016.

Door Prizes were awarded.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 15:10 hrs. Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Secretary

Treasurer's Report for 2015

Marin Amateur Radio Society	
Membership Treasurer Report For 2015	
Income	
Income Total	35,803.30
Rent, Membership Dues, Donations, Other	
Expenses	
Utilities total	5,731.37
Phones Repeaters, Clubhouse Phone, DSL, Water, Refuse	
Rents Total	1,188.96
Repeaters, Field Day, PO Box, Web Site (3 Years),	
Taxes & Fees Total	3,929.40
Property Tax, Franchise Tax, Secretary of State	
Attorney General, Corp Name Public Notice	
Insurance Total	3,190.75
Professional Services Total	575.00
Tax Preparation	
Maintenance Totals	4,566.76
Clubhouse, Repeaters Upgrade	1,438.00
Club Activities Total	3,368.20
Public Service, Meeting Food/Drinks, Field Day	
Picnic, Christmas Party, Education/Training	
Total Expenses	22,550.44
Total Income	35,803.30
Net	13,252.86
General Account Balance 01/01/2016	58,353.74
Building Account Balance 01/01/2016	10,078.81
Total Assets	68,432.55

USS Pampanito

SUMMARY OF PARC RADIO OPS - DDO 09, JAN. 2016

Duty ops: Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, Bill Stewart, KF6RMK

NJ6VT was activated at 11:00 and 40 meters, CW was not very active at the time so we moved up to 20 meters and the band seemed very active and conditions were very good. The NAQP SSB QSO party was in progress and making contacts was no problem and stations from all over the country were heard.

In spite of the rainy weather, there were a good number of visitors aboard with a steady flow throughout the day. An interesting visitor was one of the original "Frog Men" when the only gear they used was a set of flippers and a pair of shorts. For missions, they would exit the sub through the torpedo tubes (hopefully not charged with compressed air). We also chatted with another interesting group: A crew of 3 on an Air Force Boeing 707 from Texas. The pilot introduced himself as a new ham and made his first air mobile QSO on the way to the Bay Area. The others in the crew were two women; the copilot, and navigator.

We received and copied two exercise historic traffic messages from Michael Fischer, K6MLF at 11:00. The messages we received aboard the Pampanito are as follows:

MGG #4 ROUTINE CF9 WB6ZKA 24 PEARL HARBOR HI JAN 5 TO CAPT PAUL SUMMERS USS PAMPANITO SS383 NJVT SAN FRANCISCO 94133 BT

HISTORICAL RADIO EXERCISE 1945 LOG

COMPLETE REFIT AT FREEMANTLE WEST AUSTRALIA AND TRAINING X

DEPART 23 JAN FOR PATROL AREA D 2 WITH SUB GUAVINA SS362 X

SIG VADM LOCKWOOD

COMSUBPAC

NNNN

MSG #5 ROUTINE CF 9 WB4ZK 22 PEARL HARBOR HA JAN 5

FREEMANTLE WEST AUSTRALIA JAN 5

TO CAPT PAUL SUMMERS

USS PAMPANITO SS 383

SAN FRANCISCO CA NJVT

HISTORICAL RADIO EXERCISE 1945 LOG

REFITTING AND TRAINING ON SCHEDULE WILL BE SEA READY 23 JAN TOO JOIN YOUR TASK GROUP X

SIG CAPT RALPH LOCKWOOD

USS GUAVINA SS362 NKHM

NNNN

RECEIVED BY RADIO OPERATOR USS PAMPANITO OPERATOR 2ND CLASS JF.

We enjoyed a good day of operation with many interesting conversations with the various visitors to the boat. The station closed down a 5:30 pm.

Bill Stewart, RO, NJ6VT USS Pampanito, SS383 San Francisco, ca 94133



2 MCM Radio Practice Friends,

Our next radio practice will be **Saturday, February 13, 2016**, at Spreckels Lake in Golden Gate Park, 36th Ave. and Fulton St., from 1000brs to 1200brs.

Check-in will be by radio, at the lake, using 146.550 PL 100 simplex. This frequency may not be monitored after check-ins.

At this practice we will continue to help amateur radio operators practice using their radios, practice sending and receiving messages, answer questions and introduce radio topics.

For our January 9th practice the Sun broke through the clouds about 0900 and we had a very pleasant morning at the lake talking on our radios.

Mark your calendars, charge up your radio's battery and join the others and me at Spreckels Lake.

All radio operators are welcome to this practice and exercise. Invite a friend to join you.

Don't miss this radio practice opportunity.

This is an independent radio practice and exercise. All are invited to join us.

Best regards,

Peter McElmury AA6SF 2MeterCriticalMass.com

Club Jackets Available

Like the new MARS logo? Need a toasty, spiffy jacket? Look at the photo of Steve, Jerry and Michael wearing theirs, and get one for yourself! You order them directly from Debbie Diaz of Catto's Graphics in Santa Cruz. Her telephone number is 888-722-7135 (0700-1530L) Base price is \$52 w/logo.

Add your name and call sign, tax and shipping, it's around \$80. Up to 6XL available. (Base price for XXL and up is \$58) Her email is debbie@cattosgraphics.com



General Membership Meeting (Christmas Party)

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

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

Thirty-one members or guests were present.

President Ardourel expressed thanks to John Boyd and his crew for putting together the dinner.

New Members: Two new members were reported: Antonis Papasaras, AA6PP; and Dale Komani, Call sign pending.

We have 91 paid members.

The results of the 2016 Board of Directors election were announced. Dave Hodgson, KG6TCM; Howard Leistner, W2BBF; Kris Backenstose, KK6AYC; and Tom Soskin, W6MTS were elected to a two-year term. August Koehler, K0CQL, was confirmed as trustee of W6SG.

The following awards were announced by President Ardourel:

Ham-of-the-Year: Rob Rowland, NZ6J

John Butler 'Elmer' Award: Mike Ransom, AI6II Hi Roberts Award: Doug Slusher, KF6AKU

The Roberts Award. Doug Stustier, REOTIKO

Our next regular meeting has been rescheduled to January 08, 2016.

Don Magdanz, KI6MZX presented a check from the Marin Cyclists for \$4,000.00.

We had a drawing for door prizes.

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

General Membership Meeting MARS General Membership Meeting Date: ____1/8/2016_ Number of members and guests in attendance: 11 The meeting was called to order by Tom at _19:32 __Hours. There will not be a presentation before / after the meeting. The Agenda was approved as printed The minutes of the Dec 2015 general membership meeting were approved as published in QSA-5 / as amended. Board Actions: President Ardourel reported on the following Board Actions: President Ardourel reported the following new members: 2 There were 4 reports under "Fun with Ham Radio". Membership: We have 91 members. Technical: -expanding simulcast new receive site at bldg 400 -approved funding last month -purchased yeasu repeater mt. tam 440 pair Comm Truck: _still rusting/will revisit soon_____ Education: scheduled Jan 31st meeting to discuss rehab or education program all members are invited There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2019 hours. The official copy of these minutes shall reside in the secretary's records on file at the corporate office.

Kris Backenstose, KK6AYC

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2016

Board Members present: Rita Brenden, Tom Soskin, Howard Leistner, Kris Backenstose, August Koehler, Cal Anber, Dave Hodgson, Ed Essick, Marc Bruvry, and Randy Jenkins; plus members John Boyd, Curtis Ardourel, and Michael Fischer.

The meeting was called to order by Randy Jenkins at 19:30 hours.

New Board members were welcomed.

2016 Officers were elected: Treasurer – Dave Hodgson; Secretary – Randy Jenkins; Vice-president – Kris Backenstose; President – Tom Soskin.

Tom Soskin took over running the meeting.

Communications: Randy reported on a thank you card and a check received from the Dolphin Club and a notice from the Marin Planning Department.

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the December 10 Board of Directors meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer: Dave submitted reports for December. The report showed \$3,480.00 income and \$615.57 expenses; and total cash assets of \$68,177.72. Dave also submitted a 2015 profit & loss summary.

Condition of the clubhouse was added to the agenda for February.

Committee reports:

Membership- We had 91 paid members in 2015. We have 25 paid members so far in 2016. Dues were due January 01 and are delinquent June 30. Curtis will send out reminders.

Public Service – We have the thank-you lunch scheduled for January 16. The schedule reported by Michael Fischer was approved. Technical- The new Yeasu Fusion repeater was delivered by John Boyd.

Comm Truck- Cal is willing to take on the project of getting the comm truck operational. Discussion of a budget will be on the Board agenda in February.

Education – Was discussed. 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 date is scheduled for March 6.

Speakers – Kris and Cal will take on the task of inviting speakers.

Recreation Committee - Need to schedule a discussion 4 months prior to the picnic and the Christmas Party.

Building Committee - No Report.

Old Business:

Transmitter hunts – No report.

Education: Randy will schedule a meeting with the volunteers.

New Business:

Steve Toquinto, KB6HOH, was continued as a honorary member. TCJ/AYC/Pass.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 11, 2016

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.netGeneral 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

Tom Soskin, W6MTS

Vice President

Kris Bakenstose, KK6AYC

Secretary

Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089

Treasure:

Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 707 978-2560

Board Members

Cal Anber N6TIA 209-275-5252 Rita Brenden KG6WPN 707-557-5521 Marc Bruvry KF6VNT 492-9292 Howard Leistner, W2BBF Ed Essick K6ELE 456-1715

Other Positions:

Education Chair

Randy Jenkins

VE Liaison

Randy Jenkins

Building Co-Managers

Doug Slusher

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

Public Service Co-Coordinators

Rob Rowlands, NZ6J and Michael Fischer, K6MLF

Membership

Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS

Editor of QSA-5

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