
QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

January 2017

Presidents Corner

Tom Soskin, W6MTS

Everyone likes a puzzle.

One of my favorite times with club members is our Sunday morning "Informal Bible Study". When I first became interested in learning about Amateur radio, I spent a few minutes looking online to find a class or club and found the Marin Amateur Radio Society. Interestingly and luckily, they were about to have a Technician license class. And, when I inquired about the class, they fortunately had enough room for one more! Yay! And so I took the class and was diligent in my studying because I really wanted to learn.

Well, I passed my test, both Tech and General; and low and behold, with all my new found "knowledge" I knew..... nothing, not really anyway. I knew enough to know that I needed help. This, I believe, was a critically important time for me (as well as any new Ham). I needed some help and guidance to figure all this out.

It's like I had been given a big box of puzzle pieces to put together that eventually becomes my adventure with Ham radio. These pieces form a dynamically changing puzzle that can grow, change, and adapt to whatever my interests are or become - and there always seem to be extra pieces I don't know what to do with. Funny thing though, I think everyone gets a different puzzle. Now comes the good part, I found out that with my box of puzzle pieces, I also get an equally dynamic crew to help build my puzzle. Of course, I'm referring to the Sunday morning group of members who attend our "Bible Study".

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Board Minutes

From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Club Members Service

There are many members who contribute in some way to supporting our club thru activities like public service, club offices, club events, mentoring new members, maintaining our repeaters, and education and testing. All of these are important parts of making our club successful.

This year will see some changes in the club officers and board members. Board members elected for 2017 are Curtis Ardourel, Mitch Martin, Cal Anber, Marc Bruvry, and Ed Essick. Club officers for 2017 are Tom Soskin, President; Kris Backenstose, Vice President; Dave Hodgson, Treasurer; David Chaney, Secretary. Doug Slusher was confirmed as Trustee of K6GWE. Public service will continue to be coordinated by Michael Fischer, Randy Jenkins, and Rob Rowlands.

This past year education was a focus with a technician class organized by Kris Backenstose and taught by members of our club. Kris will again serve as the Instructional Team Leader for education and another licensing class is being planned for this year.

Randy Jenkins is a club member who has contributed a great deal of his time and energy to the club as secretary, education co-chair, a public service event coordinator, club events organizer, and public service events net control. Randy leaves the board this year and his job as secretary. A big thank you to Randy for all of the years of service to our club and its members. Randy also was awarded the Hi Roberts award for all of his work in behalf of the club.

Also congratulations to Mike Ransom, named Ham of the Year for his work with the Sunday radio repair group and weekly CW practice group.

Congratulation to Kris Backenstose who received the John Butler award for his work on the education program and conducting the technician class for the club.

Guest Speaker February 3rd General Meeting

Dr. Uhrhammer, WA6VEX, will present on earthquake early warning. He was research seismologist with the UCB Seismology Lab and is now retired after 30 years with the Working Group for California Earthquake Probabilities and the California Integrated Seismic Network. He will update us on earthquake prediction and preparedness.

It's fun to just show up on any Sunday and get help with whatever I'm working on, or help someone else (sometimes, I even know the answers to their questions). There always seems to be a great group of members hanging out, laughing, learning, teaching or just plain old socializing (and eating donuts). So if you haven't yet or haven't lately, come down to our clubhouse on Sunday mornings, fellowship and a good time is offered to all.

As for my puzzle, I'm still building it and I'm pretty sure it will never be completed, but I do enjoy a good puzzle.

73
Tom Soskin, W6MTS

Club By-Laws Proposed Changes

The board of directors have been reviewing the club By-Laws as they pertain to number of board members, their duties, and terms of offices. Here are the proposed changes. They will be voted on at a future general membership meeting.

ARTICLE 3 DIRECTORS

Please see notations at the bottom of ARTICLE 3-DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. NUMBER

The corporation shall have ~~nine (9)~~ **seven (7)** directors ~~and not more than two Trustee(s) of License~~, and collectively they shall be known as the Board of Directors. The number may be changed by amendment of this bylaw, or by repeal of this bylaw and adoption of a new bylaw, as provided in these Bylaws. **It shall be the intent of this provision to have a number less than 10% of the membership serve on the Board of Directors, but not less than the number of Officers mentioned elsewhere in these By-Laws. (see notations)**
<Amended 03/31/2000> <Amended 01/15/2014> (SEE NOTATIONS) <Amended 2017>

~~The Trustee(s) of License shall be permanent members of the Board of Directors as long as he or she continues to hold that capacity (subject to the provisions of Section 4, Paragraph b, below), or until such time as the Board of Directors removes that person from that capacity. The corporation shall have not more than two (2) Trustee(s) of License, who may vote on matters affecting club held licenses. In the event that a Trustee of License also serves as an elected Director or Officer of the Corporation, then that position shall be considered as one and the same.~~
<Amended 03/31/2000> <Amended 01/15/2014> <Amended 2017>

All directors of this corporation shall be members of the corporation in good standing and must possess a current, valid and renewable amateur radio operator's license recognized or

By-Laws Proposed Changes in 2107

issued by the Federal Communications Commission. AMENDED NOVEMBER 1990:
<Amended 03/31/2000>

SECTION 3. DUTIES

It shall be the duty of the ~~4~~ Directors **and Trustee(s) of License** to: <Amended 2017>

(e) Register their **mailing addresses and their electronic addresses** with the secretary of the corporation, and notices of meetings mailed or communicated to them at such addresses shall be valid notices thereof. <Amended 03/31/2000> <Amended 2017>

SECTION 4. TERMS OF OFFICE

a) Each director shall hold office for a term of two (2) years until the next ~~annual meeting~~ for election of the Board of Directors as specified in these Bylaws, and until his or her successor is elected and qualifies. No board member may serve more than three (3) consecutive terms. <Amended 03/31/2000> <Amended 01/15/2014> <Amended 2017>

b) The Trustee(s) of License shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, to be confirmed by a vote of the general membership, with a majority of the ballots cast, every two years, and may serve until his / her resignation, death, or removal by the Board of Directors. (Trustee of W6SG to be confirmed in even numbered years, Trustee of K6GWE to be confirmed in odd numbered years.) **All Trustee(s) of License of this corporation shall be members of the corporation in good standing and must possess a current, valid and renewable amateur radio operator's license recognized or issued by the Federal Communications Commission.** <Amended 01/15/2014> <Amended 2017>

What's Happening in Radio



68th Annual
International
DX Convention
April 21-23, 2017
Visalia, California

Full 2.5 Days!
DX & Technical Seminars
DX Forum
Contest Forum
YL Forum
Contest Academy
40+ Vendors
Great Raffle Prizes
QSL Card Checking
Optional Bus Tour

Complete Program &
Registration
Information at:

dxconvention.org

ARRL NEWS

ARLB006 Amateur Radio Parity Act Speeds to U.S. House Passage, Heads to U.S. Senate

Just 10 days after being introduced, the 2017 Amateur Radio Parity Act legislation, H.R. 555, passed the U.S. House of Representatives this week on unanimous consent under a suspension of House rules.

The bill's language is identical to that of the 2015 measure, H.R. 1301, which won House approval late last summer after attracting 126 co-sponsors, but failed to clear the U.S. Senate last fall.

Reprinted with permission ARRL website 1/26/17

California Outlaws Handheld Mobile Operation

Attention California Mobile Operators and Rovers! Recent changes to California Vehicle Code 23123.5 CVC, effective January 1, 2017, regarding use of handheld electronic communication devices, may affect your mobile operation. The code, which previously exempted Amateur Radio, now does not include such language. Amateur Radio operation while driving may now be considered the same as talking on your cell phone and subject to the same restrictions. The California Highway Patrol has reportedly notified the courts that "they intend to issue citations to anyone they see holding a device, which includes your mobile radio microphone.

Reprinted with permission ARRL website 1/25/17

ARRL Asks FCC to Allocate New 5 MHz Band, Retain Channels and Current Power Limit

ARRL has asked the FCC to allocate a new, secondary contiguous band at 5 MHz to the Amateur Service, while also retaining four of the current five 60-meter channels and current operating rules, including the 100 W PEP effective radiated power (ERP) limit. The federal government is the primary user of the 5 MHz spectrum. The proposed action would implement a portion of the *Final Acts* of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) that provided for a secondary international allocation of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz to the Amateur Service; that band includes 5,358.5 kHz, one of the existing 5 MHz channels in the US.

"Such implementation will allow radio amateurs engaged in emergency and disaster relief communications, and especially those between the United States and the Caribbean basin, to more reliably, more flexibly, and more capably conduct those communications [and preparedness exercises], before the next hurricane season in the summer of 2017," ARRL said in a January 12 [Petition for Rule Making](#). The FCC has not yet acted to implement other portions of the WRC-15 *Final Acts*.

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Tech Tips

Weatherproofing Your Coaxial Cable Connections

DX Engineering has published a Tech tip on how to protect your coax connections from failure due to moisture at this link. <https://static.dxengineering.com/global/images/chartsguides/t/tes-2155.pdf>

The method use TES-2155 3M Temflex™ 2155 Rubber Splicing Tape. It is a self-fusing rubber electrical insulating tape that when used outdoors must be protected from UV deterioration. UV protection is provided by wrapping the Temflex with a PVC tape such as Scotch® Super 33+.

How to Use Your Hand-Held Radio Class

Chris Backenstose will teach a class on basic use of hand-held radios February 19th at 11AM at the club house. This is for new users and anyone needing a refresher on basic operations.

A Brief History of Amateur Radio

Randy Jenkins has posted his article on the history of ham radio on our website. You can view it at this link. <http://w6sg.net/site/a-brief-history-of-amateur-radio/>

Harry K. Wolf, W6NKT, SK at 107; May Have Been World's Oldest Active Radio Amateur

Harry K. Wolf, W6NKT, of Morro Bay, California, has died just a couple of weeks short of his 108th birthday. Wolf *may* have been the oldest active radio amateur in the US, if not in the world, although no official records are maintained. Licensed since 1936, Wolf was an ARRL member and a Life Member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association ([QCWA](#)). Wolf was on the air daily, mostly on 40-meter CW.

Born in Paso Robles, California, Wolf said in his QRZ.com profile that he built his first radio as a young teenager in 1922. He got his ham ticket while living in Arizona, and held the call sign W6NKT for his entire life.

While serving in the US Navy during World War II, Wolf taught navigation to cadets in San Luis Obispo, California. Later, he served for 31 years as a professor of electronics engineering at two University of California campuses, retiring in 1973. Wolf was the founding advisor of the Cal Poly Amateur Radio Club and signed the club's original charter in 1947; in 2009, he donated a Yaesu FTDX-9000D transceiver to the club. After retiring, Wolf went to Hong Kong Polytechnic for 4 years and operated as VS6GF. His nephew, Tim Bryan, said his uncle also taught in Tanzania. After returning to the US, he lived in Florida until 1994, when he returned to Morro Bay.

Reprinted with permission ARRL letter 1/19/17



**FEBRUARY 25,
2017**

**PUBLIC SERVICE
DEBRIEF AND**

**VOLUNTEER
LUNCH**



**MARIN AMATEUR RADIO
SOCIETY**

27 Shell Rd.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

www.w6sg.net

RSVP to: rsvp@w6sg.net

2/25/2017
11:00 – 15:00

Thank you lunch and
annual de-
brief meeting

Training for New
Volunteers for
2017

2016 Volunteer Thank
You Gift

Lunch!

Sign-up for 2017
Events

THANK YOU

Pampanito Report

Our first Dedicated Day of Operation (DDO) for Year 2017 got under way at NJ6VT on Saturday, January 14th aboard the USS Pampanito, SS-383. The participants were our XO, Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, and Yeoman, Hal Strunk, WA6JNZ. It was great to work with Jerry and Hal again!

Most of the HF bands were not in the best of shape and the noise level on the 40 meter band was S6 to S7, most likely due to high solar winds. Short skip was nearly non-existent. Nonetheless, we managed to have a good SSB QSO with the USS Midway, NI6IW, in San Diego on 7.250 MHz. NJ6VT received an S9 signal report as did the Midway. Several other stations were worked on the 20 and 17 meter bands. Traffic aboard the boat was light, but we did meet visitors from several countries including Japan, England and Canada.

I received our participation certificate for last years "Museum Ships On The Air Special Event" from the Battleship New Jersey, NJ2BB, headquarters for this event. The new certificate is posted in the display cabinet in the Watch Shack. Copies of this certificate were made and will be mailed to participating PARC members and guest operators this week. Last years museum ships participants for Year 2016 were PARC members Jerry Foster, WA6BXV; Michael Fischer, K6MLF and myself. Guest RO's were Tom Soskin, W6MTS; Wassim Nassif, WN6WJN and Ed Essick, K6ELE. Thanks to all who participated in the Museum Ships event! The next museum ships event will take place this year in early June. We will be looking for RO's for this event. Let me know if you are interested in helping out. It's great fun!

Our next scheduled DDO is set for February 11, 2017. Let me know if you are interested in operating NJ6VT aboard the USS Pampanito.

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



San Francisco Radio Club Activates WiresX for Repeaters

The club has connected its repeater to the WiresX network. With this connection they will host three weekly digital NETS. These are C4FM(DN Mode) nets on:

Sundays (7:00pm PST):

BAY-NET & SFRC rooms connected "general" NET : use *Sutro* or *WW6BAY YSF repeaters*

Mondays (5:30pm PST):

SFRC connects to MNWIS-Room "technical NET" : use *Sutro* or *FCS002/23*

Mondays (8:30pm PST):

SFRC hosted NET, everyone welcome "members get together, Q&A" : use *Sutro* or *FCS002/64*

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 06, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 19:33 hrs by President Tom Soskin.

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

The agenda was adopted as presented.

The approval of the minutes of the December 08 General Membership Meeting were approved as presented.

President Soskin reported that the next Board of Director's Meeting will be on January 12.

There were four reports under "Fun with Ham Radio".

There were KM6DVF, AI6TT, KM6DYF, and KM6HBP reported as new members.

ARRL Section Manager Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV made some remarks on the League.

Larry Bradley, KK6QPE, updated us MDARC's education program.

Secretary – Randy reported there were a renewal, a check, and insurance cards for the van.

Treasurer – Dave submitted a report that showed \$2,610.00 income, \$1,689.95 expenses, and assets of \$81,950.04.

Standing Committee Reports:

Club Station and Facilities: Nothing has changed.

Membership: Doug thought we ended 2016 with about 106 members.

Education: Instruction Team Leader Kris Backenstose reported a "Get on the Air" class would be scheduled on Sunday, February 19.

Technical / Repeaters: Doug reported that he is waiting.

Public Service: Public Service Thank-you Lunch is scheduled for Saturday, February 25.

VE - We have exam session scheduled on March 05.

Elections for Board of Directors – 42 votes cast. The following were elected to a two year term:

Curtis Ardourel – WA6UDS; Ed Essick - K6ELE; Mitch Martin – WU1Q; Marc Bruvry – KF6VNT; Khaled Anber – N6TIA.

Old Business: None

New Business: There was a request for information to fill in our past presidents list. If anyone has information to fill in the blanks, please send to us. Or information on club history.

Good of the Order: No Report

There being no further business, the business meeting was adjourned at 20:11.

Steve Reynolds, W6SDY, made a presentation on RFI (Radio Frequency Interference).

Respectfully submitted, Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF, Acting Secretary.

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 10, 2016

Board Members present: Tom Soskin, Dave Hodgson, David Chaney, Kris Backenstose, August Koehler, Doug Slusher, Ed Essick, and Randy Jenkins. Member Curtis Ardourel was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Soskin at 19:30 hours.

The agenda was approved as amended.

The minutes of the October 13 Board of Director's Meeting were approved as amended.

President Soskin has an antenna that he won at Pacificon, that needs a new home. Contact Tom.

Communications: Randy reported that he mailed the response to the Marin Elections Department. There were bills for the Treasurer.

Treasurer: Dave was present, and submitted his report. The report showed \$2,480.00 income, \$623.49 expenses, and total assets of \$84,487.18.

Club Station & Facilities: Doug reported that nothing has changed.

Membership: Curtis reported 95 members. There was discussion on the cost of renewing through PayPal, \$0.86 per renewal.

Education: Kris reported we had concluded our first class.

Technical / Repeaters: Doug reported that nothing has changed.

Public Service: Upcoming events this year are two events in September, and one event in October. Randy reported that we have received a request for a new event in April 2017, that the Public Service Committee was not able to endorse. The event was not adopted by the Board of Director's. Randy will send a response to the e-mailed request.

VE Liaison: The next exam date is Wednesday, November 02 at 7PM. We have three people signed for the November 02 evening session, plus the class members.

Grant Writing: No new report.

Special Events: There was a motion, to approve Christmas Party price at \$25.00 per person; \$30.00 after 11/30. AKU/MTS/Passed
There was a motion to purchase a Yaesu Digital Radio as the grand prize at the Christmas Party in addition to the \$400.00 already approved as prize costs. AKU/BQF/Passed.

Old Business

Dues for 2018: There was a motion to recommend that a dues increase to \$30.00 for members, and \$ 35.00 for families. AKU / Tabled until 2017. The dues rates for 2017 will remain unchanged.

Ham-of- the-Year: Past winners recommended Mike Ransom, AI6II.

Club Awards: Tom Soskin recommended Kris Backenstose, KK6AYC for the "John Butler" award; and Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF for the "Hi Roberts" award.

Doug reported that he was short one candidate for the 2017 Board of Directors election. Doug will get the election going in short order.

The Board of Directors approved continuing Steve Toquinto, KB6HOH as an Honorary Member in 2017. AKU/BQF/Passed.

Discussion of the proposed By-Laws changes were tabled until February 2017. Randy will work additional changes suggested.

Internet: Tom has rewired the phone lines. There was a discussion on changing Internet providers. Doug will consult with Tom.

Education: There was a discussion about radios for students in our class. Kris will survey discussion leaders for an appropriate debrief meeting date. Michael Fischer was asked when he was planning to the training for new public service volunteers. There was discussion about Peter McElmury's class in San Francisco.

New Business

Use by EBARC on November 18 was approved.

Reimburse REDEX for Field Day expenses: Dave reported that the check was cashed.

MDARC Lauren Info on Van: Doug will talk with Alan. Randy knows Lauren, if Doug says OK, Randy will correspond with Lauren.

The next Board Meeting will be held at the Christmas Party on December 08.

Kid's Day: The January 07 date is too soon, Kris expressed interest in June 18. The consensus was to focus on JOTA in October.

Donation to the Club: Ed Essick reported he was in contact with a former member that wanted to rejoin and had a radio to donate. Doug will send Ed the Donation Form. The radio may need to be serviced, some costs may be borne by the club.

Good of the Order: Tom proposed that Randy Jenkins be granted Life Membership. MTS/AYC/Passed.

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 08, 2016.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Jenkins, KA6BQF

Secretary, Marin Amateur Radio Society

Marin Amateur Radio Society Officers and Board Members: President Tom Soskin, W6MTS tomsoskin@gmail.com Vice President Kris Backenstose, KK6AYC Secretary David Chaney, AA6AE Treasurer: Dave Hodgson, KG6TCJ 707 978-2560 Board Members Cal Anber, N6TIA 209-275-5252 Marc Bruvry, KF6VNT 492-9292 David Chaney, AA6AE 818-332-6029 Ed Essick, K6ELE 456-1715 Curtis Ardourel, W6UDS 510-595-3494 Other Positions: Education Chair Randy Jenkins Kris Backenstose Instruction Team Leader. 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 DX Representative of ARRL Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829	Public Service Event Coordinators Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 Rob Rowlands, NZ6J, Michael Fischer, K6MLF Membership Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS Editor of QSA-5 Ed Essick K6ELE e.essick@comcast.net ARRL San Francisco Section Manager Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV@ARRL.ORG WEBMASTER Glenn Meader N1ZKW 987-3948 N1ZKW@ARRL.NET HF Sunday Net Control Mike Ransom, AI6II VHF Sunday Net Control Steve Toquinto, KB6HOH
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