

QSA-5

The Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

March 2017

Presidents Corner

Club History

Recently I met someone who told me about a club, now dissolved, WMARS, the West Marin Amateur Radio Society. They still have their website posted. Though it doesn't appear to have been updated in many years. There is mention of their 1999 Field Day Plans. This got me thinking about the former club member's current radio activities. She did mention that the club dissolved after many of its members passed and became Silent Keys. Interestingly, we also use of the QSO prosign SK - silent key, for "end of transmission". She even gave me a list of the club's members at that time, so I looked them up in QRZ.com.

I found that most are active call signs. Some were not found, some licenses are on the verge of expiring, but a lot have been renewed in the last few years. I wonder if I should try to reach out to some to see if they would like to join us. Or, ask if any of our club members knows of them, so don't be surprised if I ask. I looked up my own call sign, W6MTS, that was previously used by a local "club", the Southern Marin Amateur Radio Society, from 7/15/1998 to 7/15/2008. If anyone knows Edward J. Schuller, the former Trustee, please let me know. I have spent some time reading some books from the early to mid 1900's, including mid 90's licensing books, both ARRL and Gordon West's. It is amazing just how much has not changed.

Continued on Page 2

From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

Advances in Radio Technology

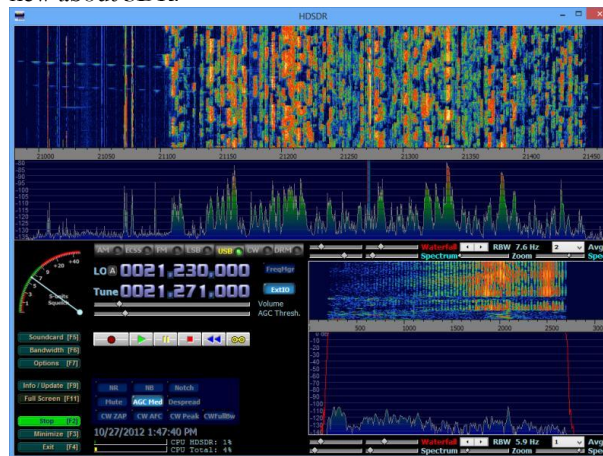
I had the opportunity to visit the Air and Space Museum in Washington DC last week. It was interesting to see the "old" technology that early aircraft, submarines, and space missions used. What we have in our hand-held radio/GPS today filled a very large space on 1980's aircraft and submarines.

Radio technology continues to advance rapidly and we hams are presented with new opportunities to learn about these advances such as SDR radio.

This month our guest speaker will be Rob Rowland making a presentation on software defined radios or SDR. SDR is a great example of how radio technology advances and gives us the opportunity to apply this technology in ham radio. The various low cost dongles available today allow us to experiment with SDR radio applications.

Recently I purchased a panadapter kit for my Icom 7600 for less than \$100 that included cables and a SDR dongle. The panadapter provides a panoramic display that connects to the first IF in the Icom 7600. Using the panadapter I can display up to 3MHz of the band I have my 7600 set for. Using this SDR dongle I can monitor the entire 20-meter band on my computer monitor. I use the free HSDR software to display and control my radio. Using the cables in the kit I replaced the 7600 cabling going to the first IF and mounted a cable junction box on the rear of my radio. The display shown below is the 15-meter band using the HSDR software.

So, plan to attend our April meeting and learn something new about SDR.



What's Happening in Radio

Guest Speaker List 2017

On The Air

Club By-Law Changes

Club Member Contest Awards

Membership Meeting Minutes

Board Minutes

The point in all of this is the preservation of our club's history. I have asked about our combined club's history several times. Everyone does know we are the formation of two clubs, right? I have asked some of our members and at our monthly meetings, and even in this column. I truly would enjoy finding out more about our club's history and trying to document as much as possible. So if you have something, old records, names, dates, remembrances, stories etc., please if you can, write it down and share it with us. Everyone likes a good story, I would just like to hear ours.

73

Tom Soskin, W6MTS

Guest Speakers 2017

4/7/2017 - Rob Rowland, NZ6J – SDR Dongles basics

All attending should try to bring an android phone if they can, so we can set up SDR anywhere. Also anyone that has any kind of sdr dongle or other device should bring it along

5/5/2017 - Leighton Hills - Internet connectivity via fiber

6/02/2017 – Michelle Paquette - Antenna basic principles

8/4/2016 – Alan Bowker, WA6DNR, Working ham satellites

HRO Closes Sunnyvale Store

For more than a quarter of a century this store served bay area hams. HRO will continue to operate the Oakland location, but decided to close the Sunnyvale store due to operational costs and parking issues. Many of us remember trips to this location in our youth as we started out in ham radio.



On the Air

Contest Calendar

Mississippi QSO Party, 1400Z, Apr 1 to 0200Z, Apr 2

Missouri QSO Party, 1400Z, Apr 1 to 0400Z, Apr 2 and 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 2

SP DX Contest, 1500Z, Apr 1 to 1500Z, Apr 2

New Mexico QSO Party, 1400Z, Apr 8 to 0200Z, Apr 9

Georgia QSO Party, 1800Z, Apr 8 to 0359Z, Apr 9 and 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 9

SP DX RTTY Contest, 1200Z, Apr 22 to 1200Z, Apr 23

Nebraska QSO Party, 1300Z, Apr 22 to 0100Z, Apr 23 and 1300Z-2200Z, Apr 23

10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital, 0001Z, Apr 29 to 2359Z, Apr 30

30 Helvetia Contest, 1300Z, Apr 29 to 1259Z, Apr 30

Florida QSO Party, 1600Z, Apr 29 to 0159Z, Apr 30 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 30

What's Happening in Radio

FCC Issues Amateur Radio Service Rules for 630 Meters and 2,200 Meters

The Amateur Service will officially get two new bands in the near future. The FCC has adopted rules that will allow Amateur Radio access to the 630 and 2,200-meter bands, with minor conditions starting in May. The rule, which also addresses several non-Amateur Radio issues, allocates the 472-479 kHz band (630 meters) to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis and amends Part 97 to provide for Amateur Service use of that band as well as of the previously allocated 135.7-137.8 kHz band (2,200 meters). "It's a big win for the Amateur community and the ARRL," ARRL CEO Tom Gallagher, NY2RF, said. "We are excited by the FCC's action to authorize Amateur Radio access for the first time on the MF and LF spectrum."

The FCC said the Amateur Radio service rules it has adopted for 630 meters and 2,200 meters allow "for co-existence with Power Line Carrier (PLC) systems that use these bands." Utilities have opposed Amateur Radio use of the MF and LF spectrum, fearing interference to unlicensed Part 15 PLC systems used to manage the power grid.

Amateurs operating on 472-479 kHz would be permitted a maximum equivalent isotropically radiated power (EIRP) of 5 W, except in parts of Alaska within 800 kilometers (approximately 496 miles) of Russia, where the maximum would be 1 W EIRP. Amateurs operating in the 135.7-137.8 kHz band could run up to 1 W EIRP.

The FCC is requiring a 1-kilometer separation distance between radio amateurs using the two new bands and electric power transmission lines with PLC systems on those bands. Amateur Radio operators will have to notify UTC of station location prior to commencing operations.

The FCC also placed a 60-meter (approximately 197 feet) above-ground-level (AGL) height limit on transmitting antennas used on 630 meters and 2,200 meters. The bands would be available to General class and higher licensees, and permissible modes would include CW, RTTY, data, phone, and image. Automatically controlled stations would be permitted to operate in the bands. More details soon, on the ARRL website.

Reprinted with permission from ARRL Letter 3/30/17

Former MARC President Honored

Gordon Fuller, WB6OVH, past club president was listed on the VE Honor Roll in the March issue of QST magazine for the Pacific Division, with 254 sessions served. Gordy occasionally checks into the Sunday HF Net from Fair Oaks.

Proposed Changes to Club By-Laws

The Board of Directors meeting in March, the board approved the submission of the following changes to our by-laws to club members. The vote on the by-law changes will take place at the monthly general meeting in June.

We have gone through the By-Laws and updated them, according our current practices. We have also added provisions for mailed and electronic balloting to transact business, since we rarely get 25% of the members at a meeting (a quorum).

There was discussion among the Board of Directors about reducing the size of the Board of Directors. There was discussion among the Board of Directors about the dues structure.

Proposed existing language to be deleted is in ~~Strikethrough type~~, proposed language to added is in **red type**.

<Update Logo; Article 3 S1, S3, S4, S13, Notations; Article 5 S2; Article 9 S1; Article 12 S1, S2, S4, S9; Article 13 S2, S3, S5 as Amended 2017>



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 in the Board of Directors meetings, 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 issued by the Federal Communications Commission. AMENDED NOVEMBER 1990: <Amended 03/31/2000>

SECTION 3. DUTIES

It shall be the duty of the ~~d~~ **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>

SECTION 13. QUORUM FOR MEETINGS

A quorum shall consist of ~~five (5)~~ four (4) directors, except as otherwise provided in these Bylaws or in the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation, or by law. No business shall be considered by the board at any meeting at which a quorum, as hereinafter defined, is not present, and the only motion which the chairperson shall entertain at such meeting is a motion to adjourn.<Amended 03/31/2000> <Amended 2017>

NOTATIONS: It is understood and agreed prior to the 2017 amendment to these bylaws, to reduce the number of serving directors from nine to seven, that the currently serving directors shall serve until the end of their respective elected terms. The appointed Trustees of License will not be considered voting members of the Board of Directors in 2018 or after, except for license matters, unless elected by the membership to an open position on the Board. One director slot shall be eliminated in 2018 and an additional slot shall be eliminated in 2019. In 2018 this corporation shall have 8 elected directors. In 2019 this corporation shall 7 elected directors.

ARTICLE 5

COMMITTEES

SECTION 2. OTHER COMMITTEES

(a) The corporation shall have such other committees as may from time to time be designated by resolution of the Board of Directors. Such other committees may consist of persons who are not also members of the board. These additional committees shall act in an advisory capacity only to the board and shall be clearly titled as "advisory" committees.

(b) Standing committees shall be:

1. Club Station and Facilities
2. Membership <Amended 03/31/2000>
3. Education
4. Repeater Technical Committee <Amended 03/31/2000>
5. Public Service Committee <Added 2017>

ARTICLE 9

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT

Subject to any provision of law applicable to the amendment of Bylaws of public benefit nonprofit corporations, these Bylaws, or any of them, may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws adopted as follows:

(a) Subject to the power of members to change or repeal these Bylaws under Section 5150 of the Corporation Code, by approval of the Board of Directors unless the bylaw amendment would materially and adversely affect the rights of members as to voting or transfer, provided, however, if this corporation has admitted any members, then a bylaw specifying or changing the fixed number of directors of the corporation, the maximum or minimum number of directors, or changing from a fixed to variable board, or vice versa, may not be adopted, amended, or repealed, except as provided in subparagraph (b) of this section; or

(b) By approval of the members of this corporation, by a majority vote of the membership at any general membership meeting at which a quorum is present, or 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 next membership meeting. <Amended 2017>

ARTICLE 12

MEMBERS

SECTION 1. DETERMINATION AND RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

The corporation shall have ~~five (5)~~ **six (6) classes types** of members. Each dues-paying member is entitled to one vote. No members shall hold more than one membership in the corporation. Except as expressly provided in or authorized by the Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws of this corporation, all dues-paying memberships shall have the same rights, privileges, restrictions, and conditions. **<Amended 2017>**

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS

The qualifications for membership in this corporation are as follows: Any person with expressed interest in amateur radio. **Membership in this corporation shall not have any regard for the gender, race, creed, political affiliation, religious belief, ethnic origin, nationality, or licensed status of the member; other than the restrictions on Serving Directors in Article 2, Section 1. <Amended 2017>**

SECTION 4. FEES, DUES, AND ASSESSMENTS

(a) The following fee shall be charged for making application for membership in the corporation: None.

(b) The Board of Directors of Marin Amateur Radio ~~Club~~ **Society** shall establish dues for each type of membership, subject to the approval of the majority vote of the members present at a regular general membership meeting, **or 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 next membership meeting.** Dues for the various membership types shall be published in the club's monthly publication, the QSA-5. Dues shall be due and payable on the first day of the fiscal year as specified in ARTICLE 8, and shall be considered delinquent 180 days following that date. **Dues payments accepted after October 31 of any year, shall applied to the subsequent year's payment of dues, and the payee shall be considered as a member-in-good-standing, until dues payment is due again. <Amended 1/15/2014> <Amended 2017>**

(c) Memberships shall be non-assessable. **<sp>**

(d) The Board of Directors of Marin Amateur Radio Society may wave payment of dues by any group of members (other than themselves), for good cause, subject to the approval of a majority vote of the members present at a regular general membership meeting, **or 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 next membership meeting.** Any member who is exempted from paying annual dues shall be classified as an Honorary Member as listed in sub-paragraph (e)(5) below, unless otherwise specified in the motion by the Board of Directors and ratified by the membership. **<Added 2017>**

(~~e~~) There shall be ~~five (5)~~ **six (6)** types of memberships as follows: **<Amended 2017>**

1. Individual membership. Members who submit individual applications and pay annual dues for one member. As previously approved by the membership, individuals who take any class for getting any class of license, taught by our instruction team; and subsequently pass an examination to obtain a license or upgrade their license, within 90 days of the conclusion of the class; shall be granted individual membership, for the remainder of the current calendar year. If the examination occurs after October 31 of any year, the individual shall granted the subsequent year's membership, and the individual shall be considered as a member-in-good-standing, until dues payment is due again. **<Amended 2017>**

2. Family membership. Limited to members who submit their entire family, regardless of number, on one application form and pay annual membership dues. "Families" shall be defined as persons desiring membership who reside at the same mailing address. **<Amended 1/15/2014>**

3. Senior/Student membership. Senior membership is available to members who are fully retired. **The dues rate shall be set by the Board of Directors according the provisions of paragraph (b) above. If the Board of Directors fails to set a different rate for Senior members, they shall pay the rate set for Individual members, or as appropriate the rate, set for Family membership.** **A student who is enrolled in a recognized school or college may enroll at the same dues as senior members. <Amended 2017>**

4. Life membership. Life membership may be conferred as an honor on any member who has served the Marin Amateur Radio Society in an exemplary fashion. The Board of Directors may nominate a member for Life Membership. A majority vote of the membership at an annual meeting at which a quorum is present can confer this honor on any regular member, or may be conferred 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. Life members shall be entitled to vote and/or hold office and are exempt from paying dues. <Amended 2017>

5. Honorary membership. Awarded to nonmembers who have rendered distinguished service to Marin Amateur Radio Society, or be considered an asset to have in the membership roll. Honorary membership shall be offered and continued at the discretion of the Board of Directors and be approved by the majority of the voting members present at a regular board meeting. Honorary members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.

6. Student membership. A full-time student who is enrolled in a recognized, accredited school or college may enroll at the rate determined by the Board of Directors, according to the provisions of paragraph (b) above. If the Board of Directors fails to set a different rate for Student members, they shall pay the rate set for Individual members, or as appropriate the rate, set for Family membership. Student members shall be entitled to vote and/or hold office. <Added 2017>

7. SECTION 9. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

8.

9. (a) Grounds for termination. The membership of a member shall terminate upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

10.

11. If this corporation has provided for the payment of dues by members, upon a failure to renew his or her membership by paying dues on or before their due delinquent date, such termination to be effective thirty (30) days after a written notification of delinquency is given personally or mailed to such member by the secretary of the corporation or the Membership Chair. A member may avoid such termination by paying the amount of delinquent dues within a thirty-day (30-day) period following the member's receipt of the written notification of delinquency. All memberships, when is this corporation has provided for the payment of dues by members, shall expire at the end of the of the fiscal year as specified in ARTICLE 8 . <Amended 2017>

12. ARTICLE 13

13. MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

14.

15. SECTION 2. ANNUAL AND OTHER REGULAR MEETINGS

16.

17. Regular meetings of the membership of this club shall be held on the first Friday of each month at 7:30 p.m. or at such alternate time and date as approved by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. <Amended 03/31/2000>

18. Regular meetings of the membership may be cancelled from time to time as need and necessity determine with the approval of the Board of Directors. <Amended 03/31/2000>

19.

20. 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.

All other business that comes before the Annual Meeting, if a quorum is present, may be decided by a vote of the majority of the members present; or may be decided 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. <Amended 1/15/2014> <Amended 2017>

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.

SECTION 3. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

(a) Persons who may call special meetings of members: Special meetings of the members shall be called by the Board of Directors or the president of the corporation. In addition, special meetings of the members for any lawful purpose may be called by five (5) percent or more of the members. Any business that comes before a Special Meeting, if a quorum is present, may be decided by a vote of the majority of the members present; or may be decided 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 next membership meeting. <Amended 2017>

SECTION 5. QUORUM FOR MEETINGS

A quorum shall consist of twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the corporation. The members present at a duly called and held meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to do business, notwithstanding the loss of a quorum at the meeting due to a withdrawal of members from the meeting, provided that any action taken after the loss of a quorum must be approved by at least a majority of the members required to constitute a quorum, or may be decided 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 next membership meeting. <Amended 1/15/2014> <Amended 2017>

In the absence of a quorum, any meeting of the members may be adjourned by the vote of a majority of the votes represented in person at the meeting. No business shall be transacted at such meeting. Any business that is presented at any meeting, that requires a vote of the membership, if a quorum is not present, may upon a vote by the Board of Directors, may be submitted by a vote of the membership; to be decided 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 next scheduled membership meeting. <Amended 2017>

SECTION 6. MAJORITY ACTION AS MEMBERSHIP ACTION

Every act or decision done or made by a majority of voting members present in person at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present is the act of the members, unless the law, the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation, or these Bylaws require a greater number. Any business that is presented at any duly held meeting, that requires a vote of the membership, if a quorum is not present, may upon a vote by the Board of Directors, may be submitted by a vote of the membership; to be decided 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 next

scheduled membership meeting. Any such act or decision done or made by a majority of voting members voting by mail ballot or electronic balloting of the membership, is an act of the members, unless the law, the Articles of Incorporation of this corporation, or these Bylaws require a greater number. <Amended 2017>

Club Member Contest Awards

Mike Ransom, AI6II



Ed Essick, K6ELE



General Meeting Minutes

February 3rd, 2017

MARS

Marin Amateur Radio Society

General Meeting Minutes from 3 March 2017

- 7:30 PM President Tom Soskin calls the meeting to order.
- 7:31 PM President Soskin leads the club in introductions.
- 7:32 PM The MARS club thanks Randy Jenkins for the dinner: pizza, salad, and drinks.
- 7:32 PM Adoption of the agenda; motion, second, and vote.
- 7:33 PM Former minutes are not adopted because they were not in the QSA-5; the adoption will be postponed.
- 7:33 PM President's Minute. President Soskin makes a general plea to club members for civility and good cheer among each other. The tour of the new communications van at the Public Service Luncheon on February 25, 2017 was wonderful and Member Randy Jenkins is doing great work on the van. Components and pieces are still being installed.
- 7:39 PM Fun with Ham Radio. President Soskin asks for fun stories from the membership about their use of amateur radio. There are remarks about how the Public Service Luncheon was enjoyed by many. Jan Leja recounts the repair of a Swan Model 350 in the Sunday RRS and how it was difficult to track down prior modifications from a prior owner of the unit that was creating audio feedback during transmit. Member Marc Burvry, and Member Mike Ransom helped with the detective work. Larry who is KK6QPE asks for ideas in the construction and erection of an ICOM TH 7000 antenna. Member Mitch Martin WU1Q suggest that it be up 50 feet in the air, but Larry bemuses that his location in Concord allows antennas up only 30 feet in the air. There is a roundabout discussion of using the SDR Play radio.
- 7:45 PM Trustee Doug Slusher is asked about New Members but a list from Member Curtis Ardourel is not available at this time.
- 7:45 PM Secretary's Report. Bills have been received and sent on their way. There is no other outstanding correspondence.
- 7:46 PM Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Dave Hodgson is not available. If anyone has questions or needed reimbursements then see Trustee Doug Slusher. His name is on the checking account and he can write checks. There is an error on the date of the financial report on the back of the agenda document and President Tom Soskin will correct it for future meetings.
- 7:49 PM Education. Vice-President Kris Backenstose notes that new amateur radio operators and new members have more than one kind of VHF/UHF radios and that it would be good to have recurring classes to help them to program frequencies, repeater tones, and offsets into their units. Kris will put out a schedule. Trustee Doug Slusher can help program radios on Sundays for those who need. Member Cal Anbar asks whether or not the MARS club has a computer configured to program HT radios with software and a cable-yes the club has that set up. Trustee Doug Slusher tells membership that he can help program their HT's using his own laptop computer. Doug has a collection of local repeater information already catalogued to program a new HT-his own special program load. Vice-President Kris Backenstose discusses some of the problems with compatibility in "chirp" software, and suggests that the club buy software, possibly RT Systems software.
- 8:00 PM Club Station. Trustee Doug Slusher is working to schedule the roof repair in the back of the Alto Clubhouse. New Repeater units are stacked up and ready to go for installation in Room 402. The 147.330 Repeater will be changed to encode/decode for two tones during the transition and installation of the satellite receiver. Use tones 179.9 AND 192.8.
- 8:05 PM Public Service. The Ridge to Bridge race is coming up. Please read the President's message in the QSA-5 about volunteering.
- 8:06 PM VE. The next VE session for amateur radio exams is upcoming on March 5, 2017 at 2PM at the Alto clubhouse. There is a Mega-VE Session scheduled at UC

Berkeley on March 15, 2017 for Electronic Engineering and other students. Volunteer Examiners are needed and contact Member Randy Jenkins if you can help.

- 8:07 PM Field Day. Field Day at the Monkey Ranch in Marin County is described by Trustee Doug Slusher. The Field Day will be share with the Sonoma Redex amateur radio club.
- 8:09 PM Adjournment by President Tom Soskin with a motion, second, and vote.
- 8:10 PM Bill Busbee presents his Magic-1 microcomputer which he built from discrete components over years and ported to the Minix computer language. The project which is running as an online server can be seen at www.hombrewcpu.com.

END
David Chaney
Secretary

Board of Directors Meeting 9 February 2017

MARS
Marin Amateur Radio Society
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from 9 February 2017

- 7:30 PM Club President Tom Soskin calls the meeting to order at the Alto clubhouse.
- 7:32 PM Adoption of the Agenda by a motion, second, and vote.
- 7:33 PM A discussion ensues about the Treasurer's notes. Concerns are voiced about the Treasurer's personal health and well being. More discussion includes the question of transferring the job to another more physically able and if that is indeed necessary at all. Trustee Doug Slusher is a signature on the club's bank account.
- 7:40 PM The minutes of the previous General Meeting of February 3, 2017 are approved. There are corrections made to Board Member Cal Anbar title of "Senior Recreation Director" that was omitted in previous club correspondence.
- 7:43 PM President's Minute.
- 7:44 PM Secretary's Report. Bills received in the mail and a \$25 membership payment are discussed. The prior club secretary Randy Jenkins discusses the Amazon Smile club account and former problems with their communications to the club. A discussion about the QSA-5 e-magazine produced by Member Ed Essick followed. There are reports of not all members receiving the publication. Ed Essick has helped several members with the club web site password. There is a discussion about whether or not the Century Event Crew (public service) can use the Alto clubhouse. There are several who remind the meeting of past use of the clubhouse wherein the group left behind piles of trash. President Tom Soskin says that the use of the clubhouse and trash disposal can be addressed on a case-by-case basis with those who would use the building
- 7:53 PM The budget. President Tom Soskin has received the budget. Trustee Doug Slusher suggests emailing the budget to members. Member Randy Jenkins suggests tabling the issue until the March 2017 Board of Director's meeting
- 7:55 PM COMMITTEE REPORT-MEMBERSHIP. Trustee Doug Slusher has information from Curtis that 78 out of 110 members have paid their dues for 2017.
- 7:57 PM COMMITTEE REPORT-EDUCATION. Vice-President Kris Backenstose would like to run a class entitled "Radio 101" where he would brief students on VHF/UHF radios and how to program them at the public service luncheon on February 25, 2017. Member Mitch Martin asks Kris if that would be to members only or to all comers? Member Randy Jenkins reports that there are 26 RSVPs for the public service luncheon on February 25, 2017
- 8:04 PM COMMITTEE REPORTS-REPEATER AND CLUB STATION. Trustee Doug Slusher reports that he is waiting for the repeater unit to arrive back from the technician in Colorado. Doug reports also that repeater upgrades will require "getting on the roof" and

- he asks if it is possible to get [rent, borrow?] a bucket truck.
- 8:06 PM COMMITTEE REPORT-PUBLIC SERVICE. Randy Jenkins reminds the meeting about the public service luncheon at the Alto clubhouse on February 25, 2017. He also reports that the Double Dipsea race will begin earlier in the morning due to local permitting changes. Please check with Rob for details.
- 8:08 PM COMMITTEE REPORT-VE. The next VE test session at the Alto clubhouse is on March 5, 2017.
- 8:10PM COMMITTEE REPORT-FIELD DAY. The event will be held at the Monkey Ranch with the reservations and payment pending.
- 8:11 PM Old Business. Vice-President Kris Backenstose discusses a post-radio instruction class meeting or debriefing with the instructors. Kris will report back to the MARS Board with prospective dates. There is discussion about posting a "Speakers List" for the club meetings. The End of the Year Activity Report is pending with the Treasurer.
- 8:16 PM New Business. Member Randy Jenkins present a plan to prepare the communications truck. He has created a detailed parts and pieces list with costs.
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Vice-President Kris Backenstose proposes that a "Keystone Jack" be included in the communications truck. The Board reviews the lists of needed parts, and Member Mitch Martin asks the Board to give Member Randy Jenkins to add anything that he might think necessary in addition. Member Randy Jenkins agrees to think about additional purchases so that the communications truck is complete.

- 8:22 PM The MARS board authorizes \$1,300.00 to \$1,500.00 for Member Randy Jenkins to spend on the communications van.
- 8:22 PM New Business continues...President Tom Soskin proposes that the MARS club provide lunch at the club house on Sundays twice a month. Board Member Cal Anbar offers to help prepare the lunches [costs are not discussed]. There is a discussion about reimbursing MARS Member Jan for the baked pies that he brings each Sunday for the RRS meeting and work. Board Member Marc Bruvary will talk to Jan about remuneration. President Tom Soskin introduces the discussion of the QSA-5 magazine and he wants to entertain proposals about how to increase access to the electronic magazine. President Soskin says that QSA-5 is highly valued by all of the club members for both the content and production values. Trustee Doug Slusher adds that QSA-5 is a great tool for advertising the activities of the MARS club. He says also that he receives comments from across the country praising the QSA-5. Finally Trustee Doug Slusher argues to make QSA-5 easily and freely obtainable by all and is rebutted by QSA-5 editor Ed Essick that this may cause a drop in membership due to people getting the electronic magazine for free. Various forms of distribution including paper and email are discussed. Trustee Doug Slusher argues for the QSA-5 to be featured on its own website. Vice-President Kris Backenstose suggests that the MARS club utilize the software program *Mailchimp* to allow people to opt-in to subscriptions and to create an "associates" list. Editor and Member Ed Essick suggests that those who write in email that they are interested should receive a free sample copy. Vice-President Kris Backenstose suggests alternate formatting plans for the QSA-5 saying "The newsletter is very valuable. We should enrich good content with better formatting." He adds that the *Mailchimp* program would be very helpful in this effort. The QSA-5 discussion lasted 28 minutes and the discussion is table until a committee is formed to take up the issue further.
- 8:50 PM Tabled Items. VOIP; ATT, DSL, *Sonic Bonded Pair Teleconnect Fund*. Vice-President Kris Backenstose makes a VOIP proposal. He argues that the club internet is slow and that the club pays for minimal bandwidth-could the club call the company to price check other plans? Trustee Doug Slusher will check with the internet providers to discover the costs of other plans. Vice-President Kris Backenstose is still working on the IRS 990 reduced rate proposal [it would reduce costs by up to 50 %]. Member Mitch suggests "building" the internet costs into the rental package of the upstairs tenant. President Tom Soskin rebuts Member Martin reminding him that the suggestion was

refused last year in 2016. Changes to the by-laws will be discussed at the March General club meeting. Dues changes are not discussed. The Boy Scout Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) has been held previously at Pacificon. There is some discussion about MARS participation. The ARRL Kid's Day in June 2017 would be a fun public service. Trustee Doug Slusher remembers that MARS previously set up a radio station at the Town Center Mall. There is no discussion about grant writing or a new Tech class. Member Randy Jenkins instructs the new MARS Secretary David Chaney to update the names of the new members of the MARS Board of Directors with the State of California for the 501 c(3). Member Mitch Martin asks if there is room on the repeater tower for other antennas to which Trustee Doug Slusher answers "No," and also that he would like to donate 3 or

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4 Force 12 antennas to the MARS club. All of the tabled items were left tabled.
9:16 PM President Tom Soskin adjourns the meeting with a motion, second, and vote.

END
David Chaney
Secretary

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 sign-up 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 Tom Soskin, W6MTS tomsoskin@gmail.com</p> <p>Vice President Kris Backenstose, KK6AYC</p> <p>Secretary David Chaney, AA6AE</p> <p>Treasure: Dave Hodgson KG6TCJ 707 978-2560</p> <p>Board Members Curtis Ardourel, W6UDS, 510-595-3494 Cal Anber N6TIA 209-275-5252 Marc Bruvry KF6VNT 492-9292 Ed Essick K6ELE 456-1715 Mitch Martin, WU1Q</p> <p>Other Positions:</p> <p>Education Chair Randy Jenkins Kris Backenstose Instruction Team Leader.</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</p> <p>DX Representative of ARRL Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829</p>	<p>Public Service Event Coordinators Randy Jenkins KA6BQF 510-526-4089 Rob Rowlands, NZ6J, Michael Fischer, K6MLF</p> <p>Membership Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS</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> <p>HF Sunday Net Control Mike Ransom, AI6II</p> <p>VHF Sunday Net Control Steve Toquinto, KB6HOH</p>
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