

QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Club Monthly Newsletter

January, 1996

Your New Board

President - Bob Laflamme, KC6UNC
V/P - Paul Niederberger, N6MQN
Secretary - John Larson, N6YNF
Treasurer - Bob Mott KO6EN
Station Mgr. - Mike Edwards W6FCQ
Red Cross - Stuart Dake AC6GD
Publicity - Elizabeth Nager KE6FHD

Please come and welcome them at the January Membership Meeting on Friday the 5th at our new location, Bldg. 2, Kaiser Hospital. See back page for directions. We are trying to make it as easy as possible for you-all to attend. There are no stairs, LOTS of parking and good comradery.

Ham of the Year

Stu Dake, AC6GD

Thanks MARC

Something strange happened to me at the Christmas dinner...I was at a loss for words after being named Ham of the Year. I always thought the award was given out as sort of a lifetime achievement award and never expected it. (After all, I almost didn't return after driving a friend home).

I would like to thank MARC for bestowing it upon me. I would like to thank MARC, and especially Chet, WA6PAC and Ben, N6PJZ; for donating so much of their time and holding the classes which enabled me to receive my "ticket". I would like to thank MARC for giving me the opportunity to have fun and learn more about amateur radio than I could ever do on my own.

I look at the Ham of the Year award

as vindication. It seems last summer one club member (whom I guess I was rude to and didn't say hello to at the clubhouse) who shall remain un-named, accused me of being the reason why no one joins MARC. I let him have both barrels and told him there are over 150 members in MARC and that I have the right to choose with whom to associate and that it is absurd to think that one person could drive away people from the club. I think he ought to start coming back since you could always count on him for help when we requested it.

You can't please everyone all the time, so it's better to please yourself. Remember, Ham radio is a hobby which happens to be of vital public service when its needed. I think some people look at it the other way around and get too wrapped up in that thought.

Members of MARC have many opportunities to serve, whether it be on a work party at the clubhouse or the Red Cross, working on field day, volunteering to man the Scout-O-Rama station the club usually sets up, hosting Scouts -on-the-Air, helping out at a flea market sale, or just answering the call for assistance when fellow club members ask for it. These jobs usually get off to a rough start but more than not, turn out to be enjoyable. Most clubs rely on volunteers to do most of the work and without volunteers, they would never survive. Spread the word, get involved, and watch the club grow in admiration and membership.

Finally, a few Hams were admiring the plaque. I told them, anyone is welcome in my shack to see it. So my advice to you is to get involved and next year, it could happen to you".

Stu Dake

If you want to get something out of an organization, put service into it!

Marge, N6JTJ , as seen in World Radio

Mystery Speaker for Friday's Meeting

With the change of watch things get misplaced and so it is with the program for our Membership Meeting at Kaiser.

Appologies to you who showed up at Kaiser on December the first. It was assumed by your Editor that everyone knew that the Christmas Party took the place of that 1st Friday. If we still have the job, IYU promises not to take anything for granted. Same appology applies to the Membership questionnaire. A quick way to find the Editor's address as well as the Membership Chairman's, is to look on the back page of this QSA-5, you won't have to resort to searching thru the roster....Ed

'96 Dues are Due

Please use the form enclosed in the December issue. We need to know how many members belong to ARRL, RACES, VE, ACS and even how many Novices and so forth we have. . Tnx...Ed.

SK
WD6AMA
Ed Valenta

On Thanksgiving Day at 9:00 AM, Ed Valenta became a silent key. No funeral or memorial services will be held at his request.

A condolence card, sent to his wife Perry, will be appreciated. Her address is 21 Oceano Pl., Novato, CA 94949-6104.

The last five or so years were not easy for Ed as he spent much of his time in various hospitals. Originally ill with Legionnaires Disease, he underwent dialysis three times a week for many years.

His cheerfulness belied the fact that he was so seriously ill and his enjoyment of ham radio kept him going forward.

We shall all miss his outlook and voice conducting the Sunday AM nets. 73 to a big beloved ham.

Leo Bodian, K6BAQ

Business Meeting 12/19/95

President Grant, KK6JJ, presided over the meeting attended by Bob, KC6UNC, Bob, KO6EN, Stu AC6GD comprising the old Board.

New Board: Pres. Bob Laflamme, KC6UNC, Treas. Bob Mott KO6EN, Dir. Stuart Dake AC6GD. Also: Pete N6IYU, Dick W6MJO, Jere KE6FGJ, Chet WA6PAC, Dick KC6JJI.

1. **Treasurer: Bob KO6EN**, reported year-to-date Net Cash Flow as \$+1800 and the Y/E Bank Bal. as \$5300. He presented a nifty spreadsheet showing 1995 monthly income/expenses which can be used to budget the same for 1995.

Contact Bob for a copy.

2. **Membership: Pete N6IYU** reported Y/E dues-paying members as 142 plus 14 Life & 4 Honoraries.

3. **Clubhouse: Dick KB6JJI** had nothing new to report. However, he suggested assigning responsibility to someone to answer our phone machine. Further, if we close the Clubhouse, he suggested having our phone installed in our operating room at the Red Cross. Stu AC6GD will investigate this possibility.

4. **Clubhouse Lease: Grant KK6JJ** reported that our lease (\$13.76/mo.) with DOD Housing will expire during the 2Q96 and our Liability Insurance (costs \$2K/Yr.) will expire the end of Feb. 96. Ron AB6QP has all the lease and insurance papers.

5. **Red Cross: Stu AC6GD** reported reserving the smaller meeting room (across the hall from our operating room) for 1996 Business Meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month. He also wants to throw away all old magazines and Catalogs left each Sunday. We currently have working UHF/VHF radios, HF radio and Packet in our "Shack" at the Red Cross Building.

6. **Education: Chet WA6PAC** reported 3 successful No-Code N/T graduates from the latest class (95D). Jere KE6FGJ and Carl KE6LOB may be interested in helping with the '96 Education Program. Also, provisions have been made for places to hold '96 Classes if we close the Clubhouse.

7. **Close Clubhouse? Grant KK6JJ** reported that the Power Squadron is still looking for a 2nd tenant to share their Bldg. (100?). Search and Rescue (Bldg. 82) may have excess space in the back of their hanger which requires building an 8' partition. This bldg. is leased by the County of Marin. Mike St. John KE6CRD is our contact if interested. Grant suggests seriously considering abandoning our Clubhouse since it costs too much for the little use it gets by the members.

8. **Field Day '96: Chairman Stu AC6GD** reported having reserved the Marin Rod and Gun Gun Club's parking lot for FD96. But we need proof of insurance. Grant KK6JJ said that getting a rider was easy! Stu also asked for volunteers, especially to cook Saturday dinner —

(maybe spaghetti?).

9. **Board Turn-Over: Grant KK6JJ** inquired as to who was to be the new MARC President. Bob Laflamme KC6UNC reported that elections had already been held Dec. 4 at a special meeting of the new Board at Bob's home. Grant then handed Bob an ARRL booklet on *How-to-be-President*. Bob reported the 1996 Board of Directors to be:

President - Bob Laflamme, KC6UNC

V/P - Paul Niederberger, N6MQN

Secretary - John Larson, N6YNF

Treasurer - Bob Mott KO6EN

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Bob hoped the various Committee Chairmen from 1995 would continue in 1996. No speaker has been chosen for the Jan. 5th General Meeting. Altho absent, Bill KM6UX, acting '95 secretary, plans to turn over files to the new Sec. John N6YNF before Y/E '95.

10. **VE Program: Tom Miller WE6N**, altho absent, has agreed to head the MARC VE Program for 1996 and reported Test Dates as follows: Mar 2, Jun 1, Sep 7, Dec 7—all Saturdays. Arrangements have been made thru Mike W6FCQ to hold these Saturday exams in the same Kaiser meeting rooms in which we will have our '96 General Membership Meetings.

Respectfully submitted by C.T. Rice
WA6PAC Acting Secretary.

Thank you Chet for a bonnie job...Ed.

Red Cross Report

by Stu Dake AC6D

As we turn the page on another year, we can all be proud of the service we provided to the Red Cross this past year. Many thanks to Ben Sawtelle, N6PJZ, for all his work on Sundays- without Ben, I don't think we could maintain a steady "bible class" schedule. Many have contributed to the station but I would like to single out: Mike, W6FCQ ; Carl, KE6OIB ; Charlie, KB6WZG ; Bob, KC6UNC ; Greg, KD6YRB ; and finally Rich, WB6UDS. These people in particular always answered my call for technical or other help when we needed it.

..continued from page 2.....

On a sad note, we all miss Ed, WD6AMA; who ran the Sunday nets for so long. I didn't know Ed very well, but he always had a smile on his face.

With the new year, lets all get behind our station when we're needed. Its not a one person job--it must be a group effort to make the club station a success and a resource to the community.

73 de STU, AC6GD

Field Day '96

by Stu ,AC6GD

June will be here before we know, and plans have begun for MARC's participation on field day.

The Marin Rod and Gun Club has graciously granted us use of its grounds again. I am forming a field day committee and need help. Give me a call at 382-8317 if you can help.

As of today, I am trying to round up someone to handle the food..Are there any chefs (or aspiring chefs) who might help?

Last year we had wonderful propagation with too few operators. It is to be hoped that we'll have more operators this year. We are trying to decide which category to sign up for. It will depend on the amount of operators who sign up to operate their favorite band and mode. Let us know your thoughts.

Remember, we need some help! The last two people (94 & 95) who handled field day have dropped from sight mysteriously....

This is also a wonderful opportunity for our out-of-town members to shake a few hands and pound a little brass at the same time. More later as it develops.

de Stu AC6GD

Why is 6 afraid of 7?

Because 7 8 9.....

ARRL Pacific Division Update

By Brad Wyatt, K6WR, Director

N.B. This is only a couple of articles. For the entire report, your Editor can mail you a Xerox copy.

FCC 610-V - Amateur Station Vanity Call Sign Request - is now available, but the FCC is not yet accepting completed forms for filing. The FCC is expected to announce opening dates for the first vanity call sign filing gate in early 1996.

In response to previous requests, the ARRL has mailed 9,000 copies of the form. If you requested one from the ARRL and have not yet received it, call 850-594-0300 or e-mail to vec@arrl.org.

No Change to CW Requirements for HF Licenses.

In late October, FCC announced the dismissal of three petitions for changes in the CW speed requirement for FH licenses in the U. S. See page 15 of December QST.

On the international front, at the World Radio Conference-95 in Geneva, Switzerland, at the Working Group level, that New Zealand's proposal to delete the Morse requirement for amateur operation below 30 MHz on a world-wide basis will not be taken up at WRC-95. See page 16 of January QST for details.

Save Those MARS Stations:-

With the closing of the military bases, the related MARS stations will likely be closed. There are several groups working to attempt to save the MARS stations involved. Several have written proposals to save the stations but with mixed results. One Federal program which might be a great aid in saving the MARS stations is the "Federal Lands to Parks Program" as described in a brochure "U.S. Government Printing Office 1933-0-359-650" and related information available from the National Park Service, Western Regional Office, Planning, Grants and Environmental Quality Division, 600 Harrison St., Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94107 (744-3972. A preliminary contact with Pete Sly

with Pete Sly, the manager of this program has been made. There may be other contacts and programs, but this is the only one found so far.

If you would like a listing off facilities closed or realigned since 1988 in the Pacific Division, just as for a copy.

Spectrum Protection Battles Continue:-

There is no "new" news since the September 1995 Update, but the 2300 - 2310 MHz battle is coming soon.

Antennas, Towers and Ordinances:-

The negotiations over these ordinances continue in Fresno, Sonoma and Napa counties. No significant news to report.

Please forward copies of all antenna, tower and related ordinances to Phil Kane, N6SP, who is collecting this data for the Pacific Division. Phil can be reached at P.O. Box 280192, San Francisco, CA 94128-0192, 369-7373 and commmlaw@netcom.com

Please read the article by Chris Imlay, N3AKD, ARRL General Counsel, "But I Never Agreed to That" starting on page 47 of December 95 QST.

In Gratitude

As our President Grant Pritchard, KK6JJ, steps down and relinquishes his responsibilities to Bob, we cannot let him do so in silence.

Grant is perhaps the most "together" guy I have met. He never shirked his responsibilities; was always ready with his Presidents Message; he ran the business meetings with a printed agenda; he put many, many hours of his personal time negotiating club business; he rose to the top rating of Extra Class. He rose to the top along with the other outstanding members of our club.

Thank you Grant! ...Ed

Happy New Year All

Members And Guests Are Welcome At All Meetings

Marin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

P.O.Box 151231

San Rafael, CA 94915-1231

President:

Bob Laflamme, KC6UNC, 472-4219

Vice President:

Paul Niederberger, N6MQN, 454-9602

Secretary:

John Larson, N6YNF, 388-5292

Treasurer:

Bob Mott, KO6EN, 435-1569

Director:

Elizabeth Nager, KE6FHD, 453-3743

Director:

Stu Dake, AC6GD, 382-8317

Director:

Mike Edwards, W6FCQ, 472-0460

Editor QSA-5:

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Education Chairman:

Chet Rice, WA6PAC, 461-0657

Membership Chairman:

Pete Wolford, N6IYU, 924-1578

11 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939

VE Liaison:

Tom Miller, WE6N, 884-2811

MARS Chairman:

Greg Stacey, N6ZVZ, 457-7944

R.A.C.E.S. Chairman:

Bob Fajardo, WA6VOI, 892-2441

Clubhouse Building 549:

Hamilton Field, 883-9789

Clubhouse Manager:

Dick Fay, KB6JJI, 892-2769

Station Manager & Trustee:

Mike Edwards, W6FCQ, 472-0460

Red Cross Sunday AM meeting:

Red Cross Bldg. S.R, 454-1305

Station Manager:

Stu Dake, AC6GD, 382-8317

Sunday Emergency Nets:

Ed Valenta, WD6AMA, 883-0149

Worked All States Local Rep;

Jackson Sauers, KB6JRI, 388-4094

DX Representative of ARRL:

Jerry Foster, WA6BXV, 892-3829

Club Meetings

General Membership Meeting is held on the first Friday of each month at Kaiser Hospital Building 2, first building. on left after turning off Nova Albion Way into Monticello Road; starts at 7:00 PM. Ample parking.

Business Meeting meets at the Red Cross Bldg. on the third Thursday at 1930 hrs. and usually lasts an hour. Members are welcome to attend.

Sunday morning informal meeting, smilingly called The Bible Class, meets every Sunday morning at the Red Cross Bldg., 5th Street slightly east of Lincoln Ave. in San Rafael starting at roughly 0800 hours and closes down about 1100 hrs.

Dues structure is: \$20.00 per year for Students and Retired persons; \$25.00 for Regular membership; \$30.00 for Family membership and no dues for Life or Honorary members.

Coming Events

MARC VE Testing: All level of licenses, Mar 2, Jun 1, Sep 7 & Dec 7. Test site changed to Kaiser Bldg. 2. See above **Club Meetings** for location directions

VOMARC VE First session January 14 at Hewlett Packard in Santa Rosa. 9 AM, fee is \$6.05 Call Claude Jones, AB6OL, 707-527-8593 for information.

Candidate Requirements: A photo identification or two non-photo IDs. The Original and a photocopy of your current license, if licensed. Any original valid CSCEs and photocopies, if you have any CSCEs. Radiotelegraph license if held (see VE.) Medical exemptions (see VE.) Fee is \$6.05 but Novice Test is free.

Warning! Test dates subject to change or cancellation without notice.

Emergency Nets

W6SG Sunday AM 1000 - Voice (LSB) 3915 MHz
1015 - Voice (FM) 147.33 +600 PL 203.5

RACES - Monday nite 1930 - Voice 147.33 +600 PL 203.5
ACS - Follows above at 2000 on same frequency.