

# QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Club Monthly Newsletter

February, 1996

## Take Your Radio On A Vacation

### February's Program

by Marilyn Bagshaw, N6VAW

So you want to go on a DXpedition but you don't have \$30,000 to charter a boat to Scarborough Reef? Pack up your family, take a vacation and get on the radio! The program for Friday, February 2, will be presented by Rich WB6UDS, and Marilyn N6VAW, who will show you how you can have the best of both worlds: a holiday and a radio operation. See how you can carry a station and your snorkel in a duffel bag! Having operated from the South Cook Islands as ZKI and French Polynesia as FOO, Rich and Marilyn will demonstrate how they did it all.

### Results of Nov/Tech Class 95D

by Chet WA6PAC

Of the nine students from Class 95D, who showed up for the VE Exam session at the Clubhouse on Saturday 2 Dec 95, three passed their No-Code Novice/Tech exams, and will be using their new Ham licenses soon.

They are John Brown, Al Coddington and Chuck Billings. Congratulations to those new Hams.

At least three other students passed the Novice test, so they are almost there. Hopefully, they will return for classes this year which start in mid Feb.

### Nov/Tech Classes for 1996

MARC will be giving, again this year, its Nov/Tech classes with three changes from last year's. One is that the classes will be given at the Kaiser Office Bldg. in the same room that we use for our General Club Meetings. Another is that

we've scheduled an extra Saturday for review—one week after the "Marathon Video Day."

The third change is that we are now charging \$35 (\$25 for Seniors & full-time students.) If you've taken the course before and have a course workbook, you can repeat the course at no charge.

### We want to get you licensed!

Carl Sealock KE6OIB will be the helper instructor. Classes will be held as follows:

96A - Feb 16, 17 & 24 - VE test Mar 2  
96B - May 10, 11 & 18 - VE test Jun 1  
96C - Aug 16, 17 & 24 - VE test Sep 7  
96D - Nov 15, 16 & 23 - VE test Dec 7

Anyone who wants to join any of these classes, should sign up with Chet Rice WA6PAC by calling him at 461-0657.

### Clean up Day at 549

by Liz Nager KE6FHD

Ask not what your radio club can do for you...

A few strong, energetic, dedicated people are needed to help on a cleanup day fromn 9AM to approx. Noon on Feb 17, 1996.

We will be cleaning up the Hamilton clubhouse, inside and out. This is a purge — **everything useless** will be tossed, including all non-essential files, magazines, etc.

For those interested, this will be the last opportunity to rescue any memorabilia for your collection. Drive your pickup truck to the top of the hill (we need it); bring your lopping shears, rakes and any large empty cartons and be prepared to work. All are encouraged to lend a hand. It'll make you feel

### January's Program.

You-all missed a good one. We had Tracy Reese WB6TMY, enthusiastically present slides and describe how and why the Ship/Shore commercial radio station KPH came to be located at Bolinas and Point Reyes. RCA, or whatever, took a meter up and down the coast to find the hottest spots and lo and behold, Bolinas and Pt. Reyes were "it." Prior to this move, the station was at the Palace Hotel (the PH in KPH). At this time, the base station is a Collins 30K-5 ground-to-air transmitter designed for remote control. It runs 200 watts output on two frequencies crystal controlled 1805 kHz and 10121 kHz, both held within 0.001%. We are planning a tour on a Sunday in the future after the Bible Class. ...Ed

### Observations of "Charlie Ham"

There are four amateur (ham) radio operators in our family, and we have a couple of expensive handheld radios that can transmit and receive over great distances.

One afternoon, my father-in-law and I devised a sure-fire way to make them help pay for themselves. We made identical shopping lists and set out for two different supermarkets. For every item on the list, we announced the price over the radio. Whoever found the lower price for that item would put it in his shopping cart.

After finding five such bargains, I noticed two other shoppers following me through the store. They had caught on to what we were doing. Each time I put something in my cart, they'd pick up the same item and follow at a discreet distance, knowing they had gotten the best price in town.

"James Manatt of Janesville, CA. as seen in Readers Digest, December 1995

## Minutes of Membership and Business Meetings

### January 5, 1996

The meeting was called to order at our new convenient Kaiser location at 1705 hours by **President Bob Laflamme KC6UNC**, with a total of 27 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Six Directors were there, Mike W6FCQ being absent.

**Secretary's Report:** The last meeting was the Christmas Party held at the Embassy Suites Hotel on 12/10/95. There were no minutes recorded and a great time was had by all.

**Treasurer's Report:** For year 1995 - Beginning bank balance \$3446.66; Cash income \$8086.69; Cash expenses (\$6279.22); Ending bank balance \$5249.13; Net gain \$1807.47. Income from the sale of used equipment & Novice/Tech classes were greater than expected, thus offsetting the premium on our liability insurance. Unknown for 1996 is the \$1865.00 insurance premium and approximately a \$760.00 electricity bill for which we have not been billed. Bob concluded his report with the statement, "So we start the new year in very respectable fiscal conditions."

**President Bob KC6UNC**, requested that members introduce themselves and, if they can participate in a telephone tree for emergency manning of the Red Cross station, to so indicate on the sign-up sheet. Bob further advised that there is a by-law change being written to change the Director's business meeting to any day in the third week of the month, rather than the third Tuesday as currently written. A general discussion ensued wherein other changes as proposed by the long range planning committee (LRPC) were discussed; i.e. two-year terms or staggered terms for the board of directors.

#### Committee Reports:

**Clubhouse: no report**

**RACES/Red Cross: Stu AC6GD**, reported on emergency situations during 1995 where MARC members had been called upon.

**Education: Chet WA6PAC**, announced that they are planning on starting the

N/T classes using the same format as in 1995 with an additional day for "review" before giving the exam. Dates will be announced when finalized with Kaiser. **Membership: Pete N6IYU**, reported that in 1995 we had 142 paid members, 12 contributing 4 honorary and 14 life members for a total of 172 in the database. At the start of 1996 we had 84 paid-up members. Pete requested that members use the form provided when paying their dues so member information can be updated and amended. Any changes of address, phone, upgrades, etc., should be reported but must be legible!

**President: Bob KC6UNC**, talked about the club's insurance and the status of the clubhouse (Bldg. 549). A general discussion ensued concerning insurance; closure of the clubhouse; use of Bldg. 549; using Bldg. 82; sharing use of the Power Squadron building; securing insurance for Field Day; etc. The membership was advised that the closure of the clubhouse was inevitable and it was just a matter of time. The Board will address this issue in the next couple of months.

**Vice-President Paul N6MQN, (Program Chairman)** introduced our speaker, Tracy Reese WB6TMY of station KPH radio in Bolinas (the ship/shore station) who presented a most interesting talk and accompanying slides on both their Bolinas and Point Reyes facilities. Following his presentation, Mr. Reese conducted an enjoyable question and answer period. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2045 hrs.

**Respectfully submitted, John Larson N6YNF, Secretary**

### January 18, 1996

#### Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at the new location, the Red Cross Bldg., San Rafael, by **President Bob Laflamme KC6UNC** at 7:35 PM with all directors and five regular members present

**President Bob** called on **Director Mike W6FCQ** to present prepared changes in the By-laws. Following a discussion, it was moved, seconded and carried (MSC) unanimously that Article 3, Sec. 8 of the MARC By-laws be changed to read as follows:

*"Regular meetings of Board of Directors shall be held during the third week of each month. The Board of Directors shall notify the membership of the day and time of the meetings by publication in the club newsletter."*

A contemplated change in the By-laws that deals with increasing the number of members on the Board of Directors and the length of their terms was tabled.

Following a discussion, it was decided that a clean-up day be held at Building 549 on Sat Feb 17th between 9:00 AM and Noon with Stu Dake in charge.

The subject of renewing our license and the lease on Building 549 as well as our liability insurance was discussed at great length. Storage in hanger 82 at Hamilton was considered the best location for storing the club's property when we vacate 549.

Since our status with the Navy is not precisely known and our present lease expires on 1/31/96, it was decided that President Bob would:

- (1) Contact the Navy and determine if we can remain in 549 on a month to month basis and
- (2) Contact the Sheriff's Office about storage in Building 82 and
- (3) if necessary, renew our liability insurance.

It was MSC that all files at the clubhouse dated prior to Jan 1, 1993, except Financial records and those required by law, be disposed of on the clean-up day, 2/17/96.

**Stu Dake AC6GD** advised the Board that it would cost \$100.00 to repair the club's Kenwood 7400 A 2 Meter rig. It was MSC that the radio was for sale for \$50.00 (that must mean as-is, Ed..!)

The subject of the telephone at Bldg. 549 came up because it was rarely used

**Dues are due!**

and messages left on the answering machine were not answered in a timely manner. Stu advised that we had permission from the Red Cross to move the telephone to our "Shack" at the Red Cross Building. Following discussion, it was MSC that the phone at 549 be moved to the "shack" as soon as possible.

Stu brought up the subject of stimulating interest in the club and gaining new members. He suggested that the club sponsor a FOX Hunt, possibly in association with ACS. Further discussion followed including setting up a station at the Scout-O-Rama, The Marin County Fair, etc. Stu will check into these suggestions and report back.

**Education Chairman Chet WA6PAC** thought our fee for the Nov/Tech Class was too high and suggested that a fee of \$35.00 regular and \$25.00 for Seniors and students would be more in keeping with that charged by other organizations. It was MSC that the Nov/Tech class fees be set at \$35.00 and 25.00 for seniors and students.

The time for vacating the facilities having arrived, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

**Respectfully submitted, John Larson  
N6YNF Secretary.**

## BOARD PROPOSES CHANGE IN BY-LAWS

by Mike, W6FCQ

The Board of directors feels that Article 3, Section 8 of the by-laws is too restrictive as presently worded. As worded, fixing the day of the meeting in the by-laws prevents some members from participating in the governing body of the club. Special board meetings may be called on short notice by any club officer, but the by-law statement of the "Third Tuesday of each month" seems more rigid than necessary. The following change is proposed.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Article 3, Section 8.) "Regular and annual meetings."**

Regular meetings of the board of directors shall be held during the third week of each month.

The board of directors shall notify the membership of the day and time of the meetings by publication in the club newsletter."

### AMENDMENT PROCEDURE

#### BY-LAWS-Article 9

Section B of this Article states that amendment must be by vote of the membership.

#### BT-LAWS-Article 13, Section 2

This article specifies that the annual meeting is the place to handle voting on changes such as we are contemplating here. HOWEVER, Section 3 of this article specifies that special meetings may be called to facilitate handling problems such as this.

#### BOARD ACTION

1. At the Jan. 18th meeting, the board adopted this by-law change as a "Proposal to be taken to a vote by the membership."
2. The proposed change is published in QSA 5.
3. The board will present and entertain discussion of the change at the February regular monthly meeting of the club.
4. The MARCH general membership meeting is called as a "Special meeting" to vote on this change in the By-laws. If adopted at that meeting, the by-laws will be amended to incorporate this change.

## Jaclie Lecklikner N6LZC, Saluted

by The Volunteer Center of Marin, was an article brought to us by the Bank of Marin. Jackie is, of course, the XYL of Nels N6AQY-SK, our beloved member of many years as was she. Jackie served about 60 hours per month as a volunteer with Marin Senior Peer

Counselling Program since its inception five years ago. Jackie provides one-to-one counselling to older people. About two years ago, she was instrumental in forming the Vision Loss Group of Marin, offering information and support for older adults with low vision. The group is co-sponsored by the Margaret Todd Senior Center, where it meets. One of Jackie's challenges is finding transportation to bring members to meetings. She has worked independently and with innovation to learn about resources for people with low vision and to find guest speakers for the group. Under her leadership, members find strength and learn new strategies to help them deal with their disabilities. With her dedication and commitment, Jackie Lecklikner is a vital part of the Senior Peer counselling Program. To find out more about the program, call 499-6800.

We miss your presence at W6SG, Jackie ...Ed

## Notice

The staff of QSA-5 welcomes contributions to the newsletter. Send articles, tips, announcements or ads to Pete Wolford, N6IYU, Editor, 11 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939. To bask in the undying gratitude of your Editor, send it in text format on a 3 1/2 floppy (which will be returned) saved as plainText. We, editorially speaking, use Windows for DOS and WINWORD or MSWORKS and, currently, MSPUB.

Watch for an article on QRP in next month's QSA-5

## For Sale

Hy Gain TH7DX tri band beam, \$195.  
Force 12 40 M rotatable di-pole, \$125.  
12'  
TV Satellite dish, \$375. Call Rich  
WB6UDS at 479-3136

## Dues Anyone?

## 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, KCX6UNC, 474-4219

**Vice President:**

Paul Niederberger, N6YNF, 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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 11 Ardmore Rd. Larkspur, CA 94939

**QSA-5 GOFER:**

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Chet Rice, WA6PAC, 461-0657

**Membership Chairman:**

Pete Wolford, N6IYU, 924-1578  
 11 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939

**VE Liaison:**

Tom Miller, WE6N, 707-778-8504

**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:**

Stu Dake, AC6GD, 382-8317

**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 and a level walk to your seat.

**Business Meeting** meets at the Red Cross Building in San Rafael on the third Thursday and starts at 1930 hrs. and usually lasts an hour. Members may 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 instructions.

**VOMARC VE** Feb 3, Apt 27, Aug 10, Nov 16 Sonoma Development Center.

**More: Send a SASE to: Radio Exams, PO Box 176, Petaluma, CA 94953-0176**

**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.

**Dues** are payable for 1996! We wish they were not so high, but we need them to run the club. If you haven't sent them in, please consider doing so. We have made the meetings super accessible, we have very interesting speakers with more to follow, come join us and heighten your interest in Ham radio. ...Ed.