

# QSA-5

Founded, 1933

The Marin Amateur Radio Club Monthly Newsletter

December, 1996

## Merry Christmas

### The Presidents Corner

We are approaching the end of another year and getting ready for the annual meeting and Christmas Party. By the time you get this newsletter we will have elected a new Board of Directors and we will be looking to the new Board.

We have had an active Board of Directors this year, our programs have been well received and we are financially sound.

When 1996 started, we had been told that we would have to vacate the Clubhouse by September 30th since our lease/license expired at that time. The September date has come and gone and we are still there. The Navy and/or Coast Guard do not seem to be in any hurry to reclaim the building. We have been advised that we would be getting a License extension, though we have not received one. Unofficially, we have been advised that the various agencies involved are very busy pursuing more important projects. It looks like we will have use of Building 549 for some time to come. On the other hand, the situation could change abruptly.

Being an Officer of MARC can be a very time consuming function, or a fairly easy time. I would like to thank all the Board members for a job well done. I would also like to give thanks to all who contribute on an ongoing basis without getting recognized. I would like to give extra thanks to those who are still members of the working class.

Thanks to all for a job well done.

Bob KC6UNC



### MARC Annual Christmas Party

Marin Art and Garden Center  
Ross Garden Restaurant  
30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Ross

This year we are going to have the annual Christmas party at the Marin Art & Garden Center in Ross. The Ross Garden Restaurant is next to their parking lot.

It will be a buffet so everybody can pick and chose what and how much they want. The main entree will be roasted turkey, potatoes & gravy, pasta, vegetables, bread, dessert, coffee and wine. All this for \$20,00 per person.

It is very important for everybody to send in their checks **BEFORE** Friday, December 6. We will not be able to accept anybody who 'just' shows up.

Looking forward to seeing many of MARC members at this event

Paul Niederberger N6MQN

### Membership

Rich Carbine is no longer WB6UDS. Thru the magic of the FCC he has become W6UDS. That's W6 folks!!

Have any other club members changed their call signs? Please let your Editor know ... (or you can even let the Membership Chairman know) Es macht nichts aus..

V-Mail anybody? Soon to be included in QSA-5 will be a list of members with E-Mail addresses.

### Election Returns

The membership has spoken and here is the new Board of Directors:

John Boyd KE6ORI  
Chuck Deatrick KD6ZYJ  
Bob Laflamme KC6UDS  
Elizabeth Nager KE6FHD  
Shirley Parlan KA6ELJ  
Bill Smith AB6MT  
Pete Wolford N6IYU

The electees will meet before the Christmas party and choose the new Officers who will serve you well. They will be announced at that time.

The Club's heartfelt thanks goes out to the 1996 Officers. Well done you good and faithful friends:

Bob Laflamme KC6UNC, President  
Paul Niederberger N6MQN, VP  
John Larson N6YNF, Secretary  
Bob Mott KO6EN, Treasurer  
Liz Nager, KE6FHD, Acting Treas.  
Stu Dake AC6GD, Director  
Mike Edwards W6FCQ, Director

## Minutes of Membership and Business Meetings

### Membership Meeting 11/1/96 Kaiser Hospital, San Rafael

The meeting was called to order at 1900 hrs by VP Paul Niederberger N6MQN. There were 18 members present, not enough for a quorum to discuss business, therefore an informal meeting was held.

Paul called upon those present to introduce themselves following which he called everyone's attention to the flyers that he had distributed which announced this year's Christmas Party being held on December 15th at 1800 hrs at the Marin Art & Garden Center in Ross. The price will be \$20.00 per person.

Paul then called on Shirley Parlan KA6ELJ, a candidate for the Board of Directors who gave a brief summary of her membership in MARC.

There being no other candidate present, Paul called on Carl Sealock KE6OIB, nominating committee chairman, who announced the remaining candidates and gave a brief resumé of their qualifications.

In light of the coming presidential elections, a straw vote was held so that we could compare our vote to the national results. Our vote was: Clinton 53%; Dole 33% and others 14%.

There being nothing else on the agenda, the meeting adjourned at 2005 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, John S. Larson N6YNF, Secretary.

### Statistics anyone?

Your Editor's car got rear-ended on the way to our November 1st meeting (no one hurt, bumper bracket damage to his car) and arrived as the meeting was ending. Point! He was all prepared with a membership report.

There was no quorum so no business was discussed, only a game of voting for the next President was played. (See page 2 minutes for results) It was predicted that this ratio would prove to be what the real vote would show.

As your Editor had prepared a report on Membership, no one can prevent him from making it here. *Ah! The power of executive privilege!*

so, putting on his Membership Chairman hat, here are the facts .....

We have 150 members. 13 are Life, 4 Honorary. There are 26 Extra Class holders, 33 Advanced, 22 General, 20 Technician + Novice, 24 Technician and 5 Novice Class members. 53 belong to RACES, 69 to ACS and there are 15 Voluntary Examiners. Any surprises in this?



### Board Meeting 11/21/96 Red Cross, San Rafael

The meeting was called to order at 1955 hrs. by President Bob Laflamme KC6UNC. All Board members were present plus seven regular members.

The election committee, headed by Dick Waite W6MJO, plus Carl Sealock KE6OIB & Mike Edwards W6FCQ, reported the following members as having been elected to the Board of Directors for 1997:

John Boyd KE6ORI  
Chuck Deatrick KD6ZYJ  
Bob Laflamme KC6UDS  
Elizabeth Nager KE6FHD  
Shirley Parlan KA6ELJ  
Bill Smith AB6MT  
Pete Wolford N6IYU

**Treasurer's Report:** Liz Nager KE6FHD reported that the balance in the checking account was \$5016.70

**Secretary's Report:** No correspondence  
**Membership Report:** Pete N6IYU, a complete report would appear in QSA-5, however, to the best of his recollection, membership stood at 150, down some 40 members from last year.

**Vice President:** Paul Niederberger N6MQN reported on the Christmas Party and requested assistance in certain areas such as decorations, music, wine, etc.

was arranged

Paul suggested that, in addition to the "Ham of the Year" award, that The Board present certificates of appreciation to others who had significantly contributed to MARC and the betterment of amateur radio in the past year. Following discussion, three persons were named to be recipients and presentations will be made at the Christmas Party.

Carl Sealock KE6OIB advised The Board that he had a 440 Mhz repeater available for installation at the Hamilton Club House at no cost to MARC. Following a short discussion, it was moved to table the matter and allow the incoming Board to decide the matter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2045 hrs.

Respectfully submitted, John Larson N6YNF, Secretary



Could anyone please loan us Christmas music on cassette tape cartridges to be played at the dinner? ...Ed.

### RESULTS OF NOV/TECH CLASS 96D

With the help of Jere Van Loan KQ6HB, we registered 11 students in Class 96D, MARC's last N/T class for 1996.

Douglas Allen Craig KF6GJK, wanted a review and Alice Thomas was retaking the class. The other 9 are new students who are eager to get their tickets, at the VE Test coming up on Sat. Dec 7. Good Luck to them!

Jere KQ6HB, did an excellent job assisting this year and has agreed to take over next year ('97) as Chairman of Education. Chet Rice(WA6PAC) will assist him. Chet Rice WA6PAC, Education Chairman.

### Phonograph wanted

Our good friend Jim Falk N6NBE, needs a means of playing old 33 and 78 rpm records. Can you help him? 488-9157

## USS Pampanito SS 383

The Long Beach ARC has the ocean liner Queen Mary on which they maintain a famous Ham station. It appears, from the following article, from the National Maritime Museum Assn., that we here at MARC have a participation on this Submarine without much credit given. Read on! ...Ed.

## Radio Broadcasts Begin From Pampanito

by Russell Booth, Ship's Manager

At a recent meeting, the Association's Board of Trustees appointed a special committee of volunteers under the direction of the Ship Committee to serve as the USS Pampanito Amateur Radio Club.

Longtime Pampanito volunteer Joe Senft, who served aboard the USS Threadfin (SS-410) as a radio technician, along with Navy veteran Bob Fajardo WA6VOI, began restoring the submarine's radio room several years ago. In that time they have not only restored the room but also actively recruited radio room volunteers to help with the project. The group had been broadcasting to other ham operators every Thursday for the last few years. Special twenty-four hour radio events have been held on special occasions, such as VJ Day and Memorial Day, in which hundreds of operators have been contacted. The station is so popular that when it goes on the air there is an immediate backup of people waiting to get through to the submarine.

The Radio Club will increase operators of the amateur radio station from Pampanito and try to make contact with as many ham radio operators as possible. The club has been given its own call sign from the Federal Communications Commission, KF6DSP.

Each person contacted receives a special card, called a QSL card, which ham radio operators collect as souvenirs of their contacts all over the world. The attractive card includes an image of the Pampanito and historical information about her.

Our thanks to Joe Senft and the radio volunteers for bringing this important part of history back to life.

## Brian and the Tomatoes

by Rick Fairweather K1KYI  
(ARNS)

One day, Brian, a new club member, rode to Charlie's house on his bicycle.

Charlie greeted Brian from his tomato garden and said, "Come over here and take a bag of tomatoes for your Mom."

Brian walked over, hands in his pockets, and said, "Mister Charlie..."

"I hear you just passed your Tech," Charlie interrupted.

When Brian nodded, Charlie grinned mischievously, "So your a ham now. Hams call each other by their first names. So it's Mister Charlie no more! Okay?"

"Sure Charlie. I'll try to remember that. But...up ... well ... what I wanted to ask you was, where hams learn to talk?"

"You mean on CW?"

"No. I've been listening to the repeaters. I hear people saying, 'I'll be on the side,' or 'You're pushing a big S-meter to me,' or 'Good numbers,' or 'My personal is Fireball.' But hams I've met here at your shack and at club meetings don't talk like that and they have ordinary names like Joe and Bob and..."

Charlie's lip had curled into a pucker like a corkscrew. "Well, this may not be easy for me, Brian. I may even have to take some of my medication to get through it. But, you see, some hams came into the hobby from the military, some from college engineering programs, some from the Boy Scouts and others came from the Citizens Band. CB'ers have developed their own dialect, which is a mixture of Southern trucker, gutter talk and Boo Reynolds' Bandit. And what you've described comes from the CB Band.

Brian pondered this for a moment. "Charlie, it's not rad fat, huh?"

"Sorry, 'rad fat' is a new one on me. But if you mean it's not the kind of language I would like to hear you use, you're right."

"Thanks Charlie. I give you my 73's."

"Whoa there, Brian. On CW, just send 73—singular. Its meaning, 'best regards,' which is already plural. But

in person, plain old good-bye still works for hams like us."

"Okay Charlie, thanks."

"Hey Brian, don't forget the tomatoes!"

We're pretty sophisticated here in Marin for the above but then you never really know, do you?  
...Ed

## News items wanted

The staff of QSA-5 welcomes contributions to the newsletter. Send articles, tips, announcements or ads to E-Mail: [wolford1@juno.com](mailto:wolford1@juno.com)

or Pete Wolford N6IYU, Editor, 11 Ardmore Rd., Larkspur, CA 94939  
To bask in the undying gratitude of your Editor, send it on any size floppy (which will be returned) saved as **Text**. We, editorially speaking, use Windows 95, MSWORKS, WINWORD and, currently, MSPUB.

## For Sale:

Azden 3000, 2 Meter mobile/base, has PL tone of 100. Manuals, microphone, all in good shape, has no dings or scratches

Kenwood TH21 2 meter handheld. 2 rubber dickies (long & short) and earphone. Includes new nicad batteries plus home brew power supply. No PL tones. All yours for \$100! Call Hank W6TDP, 415-349-2071

## Also for sale:

Yaesu FT49RH 5-watt handheld. Includes automatic charger, leather case and strap, headphone, cigar plug-in (3styles & extra fuses), Xtra cables, steel mounting bracket, rubber duckie plus telescoping antenna, 10 memories....\$150.00

Call Jim Reagan K6QVE, 457-1010

## Members And Guests Are Welcome At All Meetings

### Editor of QSA-5:

Pete Wolford N6IYU, 924-1578  
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QSA-5 Gofer: Dick Waite W6MJO,  
456-9887

### President:

Bob Laflamme KC6UNC, 472-4219

### Vice President:

Paul Niederberger N6MQN, 454-9602

### Secretary:

John Larson N6YNF, 388-5292

### Treasurer:

Elizabeth Nager KE6FHD, 453-3743

### Director:

Bob Mott KO6EN, 435-1569

### Director:

Stuart Dake AC6GD, 382-8317

### Director:

Mike Edwards W6FCQ, 472-0460

### Education Chairman:

Chet Rice WA6PAC, 461-0657

### Membership Chairman:

Pete Wolford N6IYU, 924-1578

### 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:

Stuart Dake AC6GD, 382-8317

### Sunday Emergency Nets:

Stuart Dale AC6GD, 382-8317

### Worked All States Local Rep;

Jackson Sauers KB6JRI, 388-4094

### DX Representative of ARRL:

Jerry Foster WA6BXV, 892-3829

### Marin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

P.O.Box 151231

San Rafael, CA 94915-1231

## 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 7:30 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

**Christmas Party, December 15 (mentioned elsewhere in this edition)**

**MARC VE Testing:** All levels of licenses, Dec 7. Test site Kaiser Bldg. 2. See above **Club Meetings** for location instructions.

**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 hrs - Voice (LSB) 3915 MHz  
1015 hrs - Voice (FM) 147.33 +600 PL 203.5

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