

# Marin Amateur Radio Society Monthly Newsletter

Founded 1933

April 2020

## Presidents Corner

Thank you all for hanging on. In December of 1776 Thomas Paine wrote “THESE are the times that try men’s souls”. He was writing of course about the American revolution and viewed two and a half centuries later is choice of pronouns is perhaps quaint. But that aside we are living in difficult times. Those of you reading my musings are joiners, you have joined the Marin Amateur Radio Society and many of you enjoy having “eyeball” QSOs with other members. Sadly our “eyeball” contacts are not on Amateur TV but rather on Zoom.

Our club is best known for our repeaters and our public service work both of which are hobbled right now and yet we press on. Paine continues “The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands by it now deserves the love and thanks of man and woman”. Summer is almost upon us and along with COVID and PPE there is every prospect of another initialization rearing its ugly head PSPS or Public Safety Power Shutdown. (COVID is a acronym because you pronounce it like a word where PPE and PSPS are initializations because you pronounce the individual letters. Don’t try pronouncing PSPS in mixed company) Lets all think about how we can better prepare for a PSPS and while the Shelter in Place order may have been lifted we will certainly be practicing some form of Social Distancing. Rather than being strictly reactive as we have been to surprises like last years PSPS, COVID-19 and the loss of two of our repeater sites, lets think about how we prepare for what we can assume will come.

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What’s Happening In Radio

New Members

Public Service

ARRL News

Treasurers Report

Minutes

## Clubhouse Lock System Changed

The key system for the clubhouse has been changed to digital fob entry. Keys will no longer work. Anyone who has a key will need to make a request to the board for fob access. Thanks to Doug and the others who worked on this upgrade to improve the security of our clubhouse.

## From the Editor

Ed Essick, K6ELE

## Five Things to Do While Sheltering

1. Plan your Go Kit.  
There are several websites that have parts and complete Go Kits.  
[Quicksilver Radio](#)  
[Powerpoint Go Kit presentation](#)  
[Useful Go Kit projects](#)  
[Custom Built Go Kits](#)
2. Listen to podcasts on ARRL’s Eclectic Tech Podcast. [Link](#)
3. Join the ARRL and get these digital publications: QST, On the Air!, NCJ, and QEX.
  - a. [ARRL](#) – the monthly membership journal of ARRL. Each issue is your source for equipment reviews, technical tips, projects, and news. Printed and digital
  - b. [On the Air](#) - The magazine covers a range of ham radio interests and topics, delivering introductory techniques and stories to help anyone with a beginner-to-intermediate-level of experience.
  - c. [NCJ](#) - National Contest Journal, published bimonthly, features articles by top contesters, letters, hints, statistics, scores, NA Sprint and QSO Parties.
  - d. [QEX](#) - A bimonthly publication, it features technical articles, columns, and other items of interest to radio amateurs and communications professionals.
4. Learn more about Arduino projects for ham radio from these YouTube videos.
  - a. [Hamshield: Arduino meets amateur radio](#)
  - b. [Arduino and LCD project for ham radio antennas](#)
  - c. [Arduino for amateur radio: experiments with the Freetronics KitTen](#)
5. Explore software defined radio stations. A number of SDR stations are active for listening to HF radio frequencies.
  - a. [KES](#) – Half Moon Bay, Covers 160M-20M and shortwave broadcast bands.
  - b. [Northern Utah WebSDR](#) – Covers many ham bands and shortwave broadcast bands.
  - c. [Sedona AZ SDR](#) - Covers many ham bands and shortwave broadcast bands.

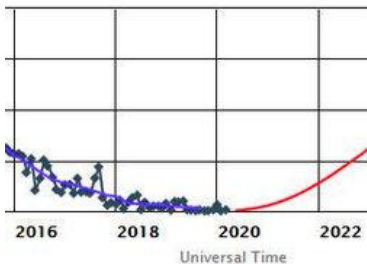
This month we will hold our Friday membership meeting again on Zoom. Our April meeting had 21 people show up which is about average for a meeting at the club house. I welcome you all to come on down and join our meeting. I will send out invites to the membership. I also want to point out to those of you new to zoom that in the upper right hand corner of the screen is a button that allows you to switch from "Speaker" mode where my head fills your screen to "Gallery" mode where you see everyone who has enabled video sharing. This view is a little more calming than a closeup of me. I look forward to seeing you there. And I end as I started: Thank you for supporting our club. Thank you for supporting your friends, neighbors, and colleagues by maintaining social distance and thank you all for hanging on.  
73 de WA6UDS asking "Who was that masked man?"

## Public Service Awards Meeting



## NOAA Updates Solar Cycle 25 Prediction

Frank Donovan, W3LPL, notes that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Space Weather Prediction Center ([SWPC](#)) has published its official updated prediction of Solar Cycle 25 in new, interactive [Solar Cycle Progression graphs](#). The updated



prediction is based on the results of NOAA's Solar Cycle 25 Prediction Panel.

"SWPC forecasts a solar maximum between 105 and 125, with the peak occurring between November 2024 and March 2026," Donovan said. "There is broad consensus that solar minimum is ongoing this year -- or may have already occurred -- and that Cycle 25 will have no major change in the level of solar activity compared to Cycle 24."

*Continued on page 3*

## ARRL News

### ARRL Eclectic Tech Podcast

ARRL's every other week, Eclectic Tech podcast hosted by QST Editor and ARRL Author Steve Ford, WB8IMY, brings you news, interviews, and commentary about technology and science — all with an amateur radio twist! <http://www.arrl.org/eclecticas> on TuneIn and Blubrry. Topics include: testing handhelds, raspberry Pi remote, JS8Call and QO-100 satellite.

Use this link to see past episodes: <http://www.arrl.org/eclectic>

### ARRL Suggests Taking a Creative Approach to Field Day 2020

This year, ARRL [Field Day](#) promises to be a unique iteration of this annual event, with many individuals and groups coming up with new and interesting ways to adjust their approach. As an event, Field Day is structured to be versatile and can be adapted for any situation.

Many groups have asked how they can adjust their Field Day planning to address social-distancing guidelines that may be in effect in many areas of the country, as gathering at their traditional Field Day site may not be feasible or safe. Instead of participating in a group event this year, consider operating as a Class B, C, D, or E station, utilizing your own call sign.

ARRL will include club names for all participating stations in the published results, so the efforts of your club's members can be acknowledged. While we will not publish an aggregate club score, seeing the name of your club associated with various individual member's results is certainly a way to highlight your club's activity.

Myriad opportunities are possible in this year's Field Day setting. A few options are as follows:

- Consider having an intra-club competition among members, seeing who can make the most contacts during the event. You can award prizes or distribute certificates at a club meeting. This can be a fun way to bolster the activities of individual club members, even though they cannot all gather together at the same location this year.
- Set up a Field Day Challenge with rival clubs in neighboring communities. See how many members of each club get on the air from their own stations and participate in the event. In addition to "bragging rights," perhaps certificates to the top-scoring individual entries in each category can be presented as part of this inter-club camaraderie.

*Reprinted with permission from ARRL Newsletter 2/27/20*

## General Meeting Friday 5/1

The meeting will be by Zoom again this month. Look for your email to attend.

As Donovan explained, for many years the SWPC's solar cycle predictions have used the Royal Observatory of Belgium's International Sunspot Number. SWPC's official solar cycle prediction now uses the SWPC sunspot number. The International Sunspot Number is typically about one-third lower than the SWPC sunspot number.

While this is SWPC's official Cycle 25 prediction, it's important to note there is still divergence among various forecasting methods and members of the space weather forecasting community," Donovan said. "Most forecasts and forecasters agree that the Cycle 25 peak is likely to be within  $\pm 20\%$  of Cycle 24 and is likely to occur between 2024 and 2027."

*Reprinted with permission from ARRL Newsletter 4/23/20*

## New Members

Paul Giusti, KN6AOD - San Anselmo

## What's Happening In Radio

7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 2 to 0700Z, May 3
Indiana QSO Party	1500Z, May 2 to 0300Z, May 3
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, May 2 to 2359Z, May 3
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 2 to 0500Z, May 3 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 3
Aegean RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 16 to 1200Z, May 17
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 30 to 2359Z, May 31

## HF Operators

This is the month to get on the air and make contacts. The state QSO parties will keep the bands busy, so get on and make some QSO's.

## Treasurer's Report

### Marin Amateur Radio Club

#### BALANCE SHEET SUMMARY

As of April 28, 2020

	TOTAL
▼ ASSETS	
▼ Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	36,191.59
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$36,191.59</b>
Fixed Assets	58,983.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$95,174.59</b>
▼ LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	
Equity	95,174.59
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$95,174.59</b>

**PROFIT AND LOSS**  
January 1 - April 28, 2020

	<b>TOTAL</b>
▼ Income	
Donations	1,777.38
Dues	5,595.00
Rent	7,450.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$14,822.38</b>
GROSS PROFIT	<b>\$14,822.38</b>
▼ Expenses	
Car & Truck	93.50
Contractors	270.83
Food	1,277.00
Garbage	175.76
Insurance	2,525.25
Legal & Professional Services	525.00
Other Business Expenses	114.06
Reimbursable Expenses	3,086.07
Rent & Lease	-2,450.00
Repair & Maintenance	23,584.57
Taxes & Licenses	3,795.05
Telephone	325.70
Utilities	394.00
Water	278.98
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$33,995.77</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	<b>\$ -19,173.39</b>
NET INCOME	<b>\$ -19,173.39</b>

# MINUTES

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### March 6, 2020

**Held at:** Clubhouse, 27 Shell Ave., Mill Valley, CA

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Curtis Ardourel.

**2. Introductions:**

There were a total of 26 members and guests present. Board members and officers present: Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS, President, Milt Hyams KM6ASI, Secretary, and Doug Slusher, Trustee K6GWE, Member.

**3. Adopt Agenda:**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

**4. Approve Minutes:**

It was **M/S/A** that the minutes from the February 7, 2020, General Membership Meeting be approved.

**5. Board Actions:**

Board actions will be discussed with the applicable Committee Reports later in the meeting.

**6. Fun with Ham Radio:**

JoAnne Saltzgaber, KN6FXH, reported that she was able to impress a car full of teenagers when she received a call on her 2m radio in her car concerning an accident on White's Hill. They thought she police or someone official.

**7. Secretary Report on External Communication:**

Milt reported that we officially received the notice of cancellation of our insurance policy with Nationwide, which was replaced by a policy with Great American on March 3.

**8. Treasurer's Report:**

The latest Treasurer's Report is in the latest QSA-5.

**9. Committee and other Reports:**

Membership:

As of March 6th, MARS has 104 members current for 2019, 98% of 2019 year-end membership. At the end of the grace period for renewing membership (March 31<sup>st</sup>), the annual membership cards for 2020 will be mailed to current members.

Facilities:

Doug reported that the deck resurfacing is completed with only the area around the trim to be painted when the rest of the building is painted later this year. Digging and pouring of the antenna base is the next construction project.

Doug and Steve Wilson W6SDY went up to Mt Tam last Sunday to work on the issues with the simulcast repeater there. The preamp was found to be disconnected, but issues with the receiver antenna desensitization continue. Doug is going to consult experts for help with the issue.

The search for a new Novato/north Marin repeater site continues with a number of serious options being worked.

Public Service:

Curtis reminded everyone that the Public Service Luncheon will be tomorrow, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 11am. In response to a request from the floor, T-shirts from last year's events will be located and made available for those that supported those events.

Education:

Curtis reported the new licensing training dates have been selected and are posted on the club website.

**10. Old business:**

None.

**11. New business:**

None.

12. **Good of the order:**

None.

13. **Adjournment:**

It was moved, seconded and approved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:55 pm.

**Presentation:**

Marcel Stieber, AI6MS, made a presentation on the ARKNet Wireless Emergency Network that has been installed in Cupertino in partnership with the city. It is a Part 15, as opposed to Part 97, system which requires no ham license to operate or maintain. It is a point to multi-point system that uses new technology to support voice (using regular commercial type phones), data and real-time video monitoring operating totally off the grid using various emergency power sources. Their remote sites use solar power. It uses Mikro-Tik equipment and is designed to be the go-to system when commercial power and communications systems go down. The ARKs are communications sites located in or next to City offices, facilities and first responder locations. Those interested in learning more about ARKNet can consult [cupertinoares.org](http://cupertinoares.org) or go to Marcel's QRZ profile using his call, AI6MS.

Respectfully submitted by

**Milton Hyams, ,**

Secretary, on March 8, 2020.

## **MINUTES GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING April 3, 2020**

**Held on:** Zoom on line.

1. **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Curtis Ardourel.

2. **Introductions:**

There were a total of 21 members participating. Board members and officers present: Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS, President; Milt Hyams KM6ASI, Secretary; Anthony (Skip) Fedanzo, KJ6ARL; Marc Bruvry KF6VNT; and K6GWE Trustee Doug Slusher, KF6AKU.

New member Roger Dickerson participated and was introduced.

3. **Adopt Agenda:**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

4. **Approve Minutes:**

No action was taken with respect to the minutes of the General Meeting of March 6, 2020, because there being no QSA-5 this month, they have not been circulated to the membership.

5. **Board Actions:**

Curtis reported that a new MOU between RACES/ACS and MARS was approved by the Board and signed. The Board has cancelled all face to face meetings due to the Covid virus until further notice.

6. **Fun with Ham Radio:**

Stan Witherspoon reported building a QRP transceiver kit. Jim Salzberger and Doug Slusher reported blowing the finals on their mobile radios and that this was not much in the way of ham fun. Pam Witherspoon reported that in a non-ham project, she received a new sewing machine which she has been using to make face masks. Alan Bowker has been restoring old computers and transcribing old reel to reel tapes of interviews from his time at KCBS.

7. **Secretary's Report—External Communications:**

Milt reported that the only communications received of note was a hard copy of the club's new insurance policy and a kind contribution to the repeater fund from John Kristian.

**8. Treasurer's Report:**

None.

**9. Committee and other Reports:**

Membership : As of the close of business of April 3rd, we now have 107 paid up members 78% of the year-end membership for 2019.

Public Service: Curtis and Doug reported that the cancelled Ridge to Bridge will be run as a drill on April 18<sup>th</sup> from home using the Miwok 100 as the scenario.

Facilities: Doug reported that there have been no leaks so far from the new roof repairs and that the contractor has been paid for all work performed to date. The next project is the HF antenna base when the weather improves. Steve Smith has installed a new electronic entry lock on the clubhouse. Key fobs will be distributed to selected members in lieu of keys. The lock will still operate with metal keys which will be for emergency use only. The lock will be rekeyed as there are too many keys in circulation for adequate security for the building. Doug also reported that there is work to be done on the Mt. Tam repeater, which cannot be done until access to the site can be arranged with the Rangers. The road has been closed due to the virus pandemic. Milt reported that we have found a very good repeater site in Novato. It was used to great success during the RACES exercise last week. Negotiations for an agreement have been started with the North Marin Water District for use of the site but have been slowed by limited work schedules under the shelter in place order.

RACES: Jay Hubert reported that the EOC has been activated on a limited basis due to the virus pandemic. The focus has been on providing health and human services and they have been trying to keep everyone else out, including RACES as there have been two Covid virus cases among the staff there.

**10. Old business:** None.

**11. New business:** None.

**12. Good of the order:**

The next General Meeting will be on May 1, 2020. The Board Meeting next week will be by Zoom as well.

**13. Adjournment:**

It was M/S/A that the meeting be adjourned at 8:28 pm.

**Presentation:** There was no presentation.

Respectfully submitted by

**Milton Hyams**, , Secretary, on April 4, 2020.

## MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**April 9, 2020**

**Held at:** On Zoom online.

**Board members present:** Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS, President; Marc Bruvry KF6VNT, Vice President; Ed Essick K6ELE, Treasurer; Milt Hyams KM6ASI, Secretary; Anthony (Skip) Fedanzo KJ6ARL; K6GWE Trustee Doug Slusher, KF6AKU and W6SG Trustee Mitch Martin WU1Q, members

**Absent:** None

**Other attendees:** None.

**9. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by Curtis Ardourel.

The agenda, as amended to add a discussion about insurance, was adopted.

**2. Approve minutes:**

Minutes of the March 12, 2020, board meeting were approved without objection.

**3. Treasurer's Report:**

Ed Essick circulated by e-mail the club's profit and loss statement which will be published in the next QSA-5. Income tax materials for the past year have been sent to the accountant. The club's return is due in May.

**4. Secretary's Report (External Communications):**

Our semi-annual bill for insurance has been received and will be given to Ed to pay on Friday. Correspondence sent to Cal Anbar in October was returned—need to get an address update from him for our records. A packet of QSL cards was received for W6SG from the Region 6 QSL coordinator. They will be placed in the radio room at the club house.

Milt reported that he updated the California corporate registration for MARS with the Secretary of State.

**5. Membership Chair Report:**

Curtis reported that 118 members are current for this year, 86% of total paid membership at the end of last year. A dunning letter was sent to members from last year who have not renewed as of the end of March. This brought a flurry of payments in the past week. Membership cards for 2020 will be distributed to paid-up members shortly.

**6. Facilities:**

a. MARS' tenant, Sharon Miller, has been checking on the clubhouse space during the shelter in place and has reported that all is well with the building. Doug will prepare a closed sign for Milt to post on the clubhouse door. Marc Bruvry checked the interior after the last rain storm and it appears that there are no leaks and the leak situation was apparently cured by the deck resurfacing.

b. Doug reported that as soon as the shelter in place is lifted, key fobs for the new door lock will be issued to selected members and the door lock will be rekeyed. The new key will be for emergency entry and first responders only and only a few copies will be made. He is also looking into replacing the sliding door to the storage area in the rear with a conventional door that can be used as an emergency exit.

c. Crown-Castle has contacted Doug to state that they are reviewing our request for installation of a MARS repeater in their site on Big-Rock and will get back to him. Milt reported that he has been in contact with the NMWD concerning the proposed repeater site in Novato, but they have not had a chance to get agreement papers to him due to the shelter-in-place order impact on their staffing.

**7. Field Day:**

Field Day 2020 is in limbo at this point. Marin Rod and Gun Club closed for the duration of the shelter-in-place and our check for rent of space there for this year's field day has not been issued yet. If it is going forward, we will also have to secure insurance certification for the event. Curtis will check with Bill Hillendahl to determine ARRL's position with respect to the conduct of event this year in light of shelter-in-place.

**8. Old business:**

a. Public Service Web Pages: Curtis is working with Dale Komai to resolve technical issues in the website that developed during Dale's work on upgrade of the Public Service Web pages. Work on fixes are on the back burner now due to the shelter-in-place order.

b. COVID-19: MARS will continue to have virtual meetings, only, to be conducted on Zoom for the duration of the shelter-in-place order. Milt will review the type of notice of meeting required under the bylaws, but meeting notices and log-in information will be posted in QSA-5 and on the MARS website for the duration of the crisis pending any demonstrated need for more notice.

c. Insurance: Milt reported that our most recent insurance policy does not include Directors and Officers coverage as was originally discussed when seeking a new insurance policy. Such coverage would provide insurance coverage and defense for directors and officers against individual claims arising out of their performance of duties on behalf of the club, but would cost about \$1000 to



2000 more. Although it was pointed out that the Board and its officers take very few actions that could potentially expose them to legal action, there was enough concern to merit exploring such coverage further.

It was M/S/A that Milt is directed to obtain a proposal for D & O insurance coverage for MARS directors and officers and bring the bid back to the Board for review and further consideration.

**9. New business:**

None.

**10. Good of the order:**

Next General Membership Meeting will May 1, 2020.  
Next Board of Directors Meeting will be May 14, 2020.

**11. Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm  
Respectfully submitted by  
**Milton Hyams**  
Secretary, on April 12, 2020

## **MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING March 12, 2020**

**Held at:** Clubhouse, 27 Shell Ave., Mill Valley, CA

**Board members present:** Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS, President; Milt Hyams KM6ASI, Secretary; Doug Slusher, Trustee K6GWE, Member; and Skip Fedanzo, KJ6ARL, member .

**Absent:** Marc Bruvry KF6VNT, Vice President; Ed Essick K6ELE, Treasurer; Mitch Martin WU1Q, member.

**10. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Curtis Ardourel.

**11. Adopt Agenda:**

Without objection, the agenda was adopted.

**12. Approve minutes:**

Minutes of the February 13, 2020 board meeting were approved without objection.

**13. Secretary's Report (External Communications):**

Nothing to report.

**14. Treasurer's Report:**

The Treasurer's report is as published in the latest QSA-5.

**15. Membership Chair Report:**

Curtis reported that 106 members are current for 2020, 77% of 2019 year-end membership.

**16. Education Committee:**

Curtis reported that Jamie has agreed to the license training dates posted on the website. He will be making assignments of presentation topics to instructors in the next month.

**17. Facilities Chair:**

Doug has been compiling a punch list for the contractor to work on from the roof replacement. Most notable are the cable and phone line boxes that need to be reattached to the front fascia.

Steve Smith has completed installation of the new electronic lock on the front door.

Doug will program fobs which will be issued to the Board and selected members. A policy will be established for who will be entitled to a fob. Metal master keys will be retained for use by police and fire in case of emergencies.

Doug has contacted Paul Mason, W5ANT, a well known expert on repeater systems, to assist us in resolving the issues with our Tam repeater, most notably the desense problem. Doug, Rob Rowlands and Steve Wilson have all had a hand in working on the problem. Because of wiring issues between the preamp and the receiver, the previous measurements taken are not reliable and will have to be redone. The Repeater Committee will be revisiting the site within the next 10 days to two weeks. The next Technical Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday March 18, 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse.

Milt reported that progress has been made on locating a new repeater site in Novato. Four sites have been visited and tested. The North Marin Water District has been contacted with regard to one of their tank locations. The location we identified was not satisfactory to them because they don't have the infrastructure or the power source to support a repeater system, but offered another site as an alternative. Doug and Milt visited the site and determined that it may even be better than the original choice. Further testing will be done at the site and Milt will follow up with NMWD on a formal agreement for access to the site.

**18. Old Business:**

a. It was observed that the changes and improvements to the Public Service pages in our website have created some errors and problems elsewhere in the site. Curtis reported that he will undertake to fix those problems in the very near future.

b. Arrangements have been made for members to order club name badges on line. As soon as it is determined how payment for the badges will be made, the process will be published to the membership.

**19. New Business:**

a. The final version of the MARS/RACES MOU has been returned executed from the Marin County Office of Emergency Services management, requiring only formal approval by the Board and execution by MARS' President.

It was **M/S/A** that the MOU between MARS and RACES be approved and that President Curtis Ardourel be authorized to execute same.

b. Concern was raised about the wisdom of continuing to hold full membership meetings in view of the COVID-19 health crisis. It was noted that the demographic of our membership is in the high risk group for the disease.

It was **M/S/A** that the April MARS General Membership Meeting be cancelled due to the COVID-19 health emergency and that the meeting schedule will resume in May subject to further developments and review. Curtis will prepare a letter to the membership explaining the situation and our policy concerning determination of the health threat to the membership.

**20. Good of the Order:**

Nothing.

**21. Executive Session:**

None.

**22. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
**Milton Hyams**

**Secretary**, on March 15, 2020

# MINUTES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 12, 2020

**Held at:** Clubhouse, 27 Shell Ave., Mill Valley, CA

**Board members present:** Curtis Ardourel WA6UDS, President; Milt Hyams KM6ASI, Secretary; Doug Slusher, Trustee K6GWE, Member; and Skip Fedanzo, KJ6ARL, member .

**Absent:** Marc Bruvry KF6VNT, Vice President; Ed Essick K6ELE, Treasurer; Mitch Martin WU1Q, member.

## 23. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 pm by Curtis Ardourel.

## 24. Adopt Agenda:

Without objection, the agenda was adopted.

## 25. Approve minutes:

Minutes of the February 13, 2020 board meeting were approved without objection.

## 26. Secretary's Report (External Communications):

Nothing to report.

## 27. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report is as published in the latest QSA-5.

## 28. Membership Chair Report:

Curtis reported that 106 members are current for 2020, 77% of 2019 year-end membership.

## 29. Education Committee:

Curtis reported that Jamie has agreed to the license training dates posted on the website. He will be making assignments of presentation topics to instructors in the next month.

## 30. Facilities Chair:

Doug has been compiling a punch list for the contractor to work on from the roof replacement. Most notable are the cable and phone line boxes that need to be reattached to the front fascia.

Steve Smith has completed installation of the new electronic lock on the front door.

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It was **M/S/A** that the MOU between MARS and RACES be approved and that President Curtis Ardourel be authorized to execute same.

b. Concern was raised about the wisdom of continuing to hold full membership meetings in view of the COVID-19 health crisis. It was noted that the demographic of our membership is in the high risk group for the disease.

It was **M/S/A** that the April MARS General Membership Meeting be cancelled due to the COVID-19 health emergency and that the meeting schedule will resume in May subject to further developments and review. Curtis will prepare a letter to the membership explaining the situation and our policy concerning determination of the health threat to the membership.

**33. Good of the Order:**

Nothing.

**34. Executive Session:**

None.

**35. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:33 pm

Respectfully submitted by  
**Milton Hyams**

**Secretary,** on March 15, 2020

**Marin Amateur Radio Society W6SG.NET, [membership@w6sg.net](mailto: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** 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 signup instructions. The W6SG emergency HF net check-in is at 9 am on 3.915 Mh.

**Marin Amateur Radio Society Officers and Board Members:****President**

Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS

**Vice President**

Marc Bruvry, KF6VNT

**Secretary**

Milt Hyams, KM6ASI

**Treasurer:**

Ed Essick, K6ELE

**Board Members**

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Milt Hyams, KM6ASI, 415453-3867

Skip Fedanzo, KJ6ARL, 415-924-0584

Marc Bruvry, KF6VNT 492-9292

Ed Essick, K6ELE, 415-456-1715

Mitch Martin, WU1Q

Doug Slusher, KF6AKU

**Other Positions:****Education Chair**

Jamie Taylor, KK6OLF

**VE Liaison**

Grant Pritchard

**Building Manager**

Doug Slusher

**Trustee for W6SG**

Mitch Martin, WU1Q

**Trustee for K6GWE**

Doug Slusher KF6AKU

**Sunday Emergency Nets**

Mark Bruvry

**DX Representative of ARRL**

Jerry Foster WA6BXV 892-3829

**Public Service Event Coordinators**

Michael Fischer, K6MKLF

Rob Rowlands, NZ6J

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Curtis Ardourel, WA6UDS

**HF Sunday Net Control**

Mark Bruvry, KF6VNT

**VHF Sunday Net Control**

Steve Toquinto, KB6HOH