

## **Humboldt Amateur Radio Club**

Minutes of Meeting - October 4, 2016

Officers Present: Jim Armstrong KW6JIM, Pres. / Peter Esko W6IES, V.P. /  
Dan Eaton KB6DE, Secretary / Marcy Campbell KE6IAU, Treasurer /  
Jaye Inabnit KE6SLS, Newsletter Editor Pro Tem. /  
Anthony Wiese KG6LHW, Events Planner

Jim called the meeting to order at 1902 PDT in the Eureka, 6th Street Fire Department meeting room. Jim announced the next meeting would be held at the new location, former Red Cross room to the rear of the Eureka Civic Auditorium. The address is 406 11th Street (11th & E Street).

Intros were made and the log book was and passed. We congratulated Linda K. Atkins KM6CKF on her recent upgrade to Amateur Extra.

### Health and Welfare:

Peter is scheduled for back surgery at UCSF on October 18th. We wish him well. Don Campbell KE6HEC announced his upcoming retirement party on Friday October 7th.

Secretary Report: The July 5th minutes were again passed around and Peter read an amendment to his EMCOMM Report to be added to those minutes. Jim made a motion to accept the amended minutes, seconded by Robert [Bob] Colburn KA6ULG. September 6th meeting minutes were also reviewed by members. Forrest Shafer KI6GRU motioned to approve and Bob again seconded. The club members voted to accept both July and September minutes without dissent.

Treasurer's Report: Marcy told us the current balance was \$2722.03 including \$46.00 from the September raffle. Del Freret W6KOZ motioned to accept the report, seconded by Steve Isherwood KK6MPV. Marcy is working on an updated list of club members.

### Vice President's EMCOMM report:

a) Don N and Peter discussed EMCOMM plans. Peter suggested simulated emergency events should be held on weekdays to assure access to equipment so we can confirm everything works properly. Don suggested it would be better to activate in the location parking lots using mobile equipment and not inside the various command centers.

Peter said we might try net controlling from various locations for our Monday evening nets for practice. He envisions a list of liaison persons and a precise list of equipment at each of the county locations (fire, police & hospitals). We do know of one contact, Kim Comet at the Board of Education. A list of equipment and locations is in hand at this time but we do not now the operation status of all the setups.

Jim suggested an in-person survey of each location and equipment status. Various club members might

“adopt a station.”

b) An EMCOMM event was announced by Don N. and Peter. Members will drive to activation locations on Sunday October 9th at 1000 PDT and log into the Far West system on 146.700MHz. We will attempt to simulate an emergency response and exercise our communication skills using first the Far West system then using simplex only. A sign-up list was passed around. Don N. will be net control.

#### Old Business:

- a) Jim said the Trusteeship transfer for the Club's call sign W6ZZK was approved by ARRL.
- b) Jim told us he listed the communications van on Craig's List, asking \$5250 per an evaluation by Don C. Marcy and Don C. discussed and agreed to lower the asking price to \$4750 since there were only nibbles but no offers so far.
- c) A planned meeting with Reg Kennedy KJ6DXX at the U.S. Weather Service has not been scheduled.
- d) The new owner of the old, sold ambulance van reported to Marcy some DMV documentation was in error. It seems the stated value was \$15,000 instead of the correct \$1,500. Peter will complete a Statement of Facts form at the DMV to fix it.

#### New Business:

- a) The Red Cross officially Ok'ed moving the repeater from their (retained) storage room to another position in our new space and confirmed they will vacate in time for our November meeting.
- b) Anthony suggested that we start a library at the new location and offered to get it started and organized.
- c) Our new location will need new co-ax for the roof antenna. The cost needs to be determined. Don Nelson WA6NBN emphasized the importance of a new continuous run of co-ax, preferably ready-made, to assure reliability.
- d) We congratulated Anthony for appearing on the cover of ARRL's 2017 NPOTA calendar. The photo shows him making a contact with the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument hills in the background. Anthony's spouse, Aleda Cloud KK6YJB, took the picture. Outstanding!
- e) Jim was contacted by Gary Wellborn K6JXM of SHARC (Garberville). Our one third to one half share of a new battery for the Grasshopper repeater should be \$60-70. Don N. moved to approve payment when the bill is presented. Bob Rocha WB6QPG seconded the motion. The vote to approve was unanimous.
- f) Don C. and Bernie Christen WA6HZG went to the Monument Ridge (Pierce Mountain) repeater (146.760 MHz) and replaced some siding and two antennas.

#### Past Event Report:

- a) The 3rd Annual Prairie Creek Redwood Parks One-half Marathon on the Newton Drury Parkway on Saturday September 17th became radio-active with the help of Jim, Del Freret W6KOZ, Charles Gannon KK6MPU, and Steve Isherwood KK6MPV. There were no effective repeaters, so Jim ran simplex net control from his truck. Peter could not attend but did event preparation the day before.
- b) Jim, Anthony, Aleda and Howard Lang KB6NN traveled to Shasta Valley (elev. 6200 ft.), near Whiskytown, for an NPOTA activation. They had several equipment problems that hindered making contacts. Still, it was fun.

Future Events: No events other than the above mentioned EMCOMM activation were discussed

Break and Raffle: Great cookies and juice were brought by Marcy and Don C.! Raffle winners were: Steve, Dan, and Keith Witte KD6VUH,

Presentation:

Jim showed a TWTTV YouTube presentation (W6TWT) on why QRP works and the #26 Ham Nation episode featuring Dr. Tamitha Skov talking about space weather and the effects on radio communication. Amazing stuff.

The meeting was adjourned at 2105 PDT.

Minutes submitted by Dan Eaton KB6DE

## **RARC MEETING JULY 26, 2016**

The Redwood Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order at 1905 by Vice President Spencer Koch, KF6HBY.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Secretary's Report for the June meeting was accepted as read.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

As Treasurer Frank Cope, K6BMZ, is recovering from a stroke, there was no report. Frank is doing well in rehab.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Silent Key – Iris Mattes KD6AXL, passed away on July 26.

Robbie, KC6SJO, says that the pink slip for the new RARC trailer is at the site in Ferndale. We should be able to take a look at the trailer at the August meeting. The trailer equipment inventory needs to be provided to Frank to send to the insurance company.

Spencer will take the program for the September meeting.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Larry Rogers, KI6AJK, offered his 4X4 truck with rack for the work party to Pierce.

Robbie and Richard, KD8LRX, will take the Net for August.

The FWRA picnic and Swap Meet will be held September 11 at Fireman's Park in Scotia.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Don Campbell, KE6HEC, Secretary

In comments filed on October 12 with the FCC, ARRL reiterated its case that the FCC should impose a 2.8 kHz limit on symbol rate for digital modes, arguing that its approach is both balanced and necessary. ARRL had asked the FCC to change the Part 97 rules to delete the symbol rate limits in Part 97.307(f) and replace them with a maximum bandwidth for data emissions of 2.8 kHz on amateur frequencies below 29.7 MHz. In a July Notice of Proposed Rule Making

(NPRM) in WT Docket 16-239, the FCC proposed to eliminate the current baud rate limitations for data emissions, consistent with ARRL's Petition, but it declined to propose a bandwidth limitation for data emissions in the MF and HF bands to replace the baud rate limitations.

ARRL's comments can be found on in PDF format on the web at, <https://ecfsapi.fcc.gov/file/1011120327463/Comments%20of%20ARRL%20on%20NPRM%2010112016%20FINAL.pdf>

ARRL told the FCC in its comments that the current HF symbol rate "speed limit" reflects 1980s technology and has no place in an experimental radio service in which modern protocols could be efficiently deployed in crowded RTTY/data subbands.

"The symbol rate limit was created in order to maximize the efficient use and reuse of that crowded, shared spectrum, but the assumptions made at the time are no longer valid," ARRL said, "and the rules now prohibit radio amateurs from utilizing state-of-the-art technology, thus precluding or substantially inhibiting any meaningful contribution to the advancement of the radio art in this area." ARRL said earlier assumptions are no longer valid mainly because there is no correlation between the data rate and the occupied bandwidth in the rules now.

The League said present rules in the HF data subbands promote inefficiency, allowing data transmissions of unlimited bandwidth as long as the symbol rate is sufficiently low, and it stressed that there must be some limit on occupied bandwidth for HF data emissions.

"Eliminating the symbol rate limitations for data emissions and substituting a maximum authorized bandwidth would permit the utilization of all HF data transmission protocols presently legal in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as state-of-the-art protocols that fall within the authorized bandwidth," the League said.

ARRL said that it could be "fairly debated" whether or not 2.8 kHz is the proper maximum bandwidth for data emissions. "Greater bandwidth for data emissions would permit a wider array of data emissions now and in the future," the League said in its comments. "However, even 2.8 kHz could arguably permit usurpation of the subbands to the detriment of CW and other narrow-bandwidth emissions. ARRL views the 2.8 kHz maximum bandwidth proposal for data emissions at HF to be a necessary component of the FCC's

proposal, and it fairly balances the objectives of facilitating use of new and future data emissions and protecting against usurpation of the band by a few data stations.

ARRL said it would be impossible to reduce the permitted maximum bandwidth for data emissions at HF much below 2.8 kHz without prohibiting data modes that are now legal. "At the same time, it would not be desirable to have a few data stations using large swaths of spectrum to the detriment of other modes," the League said.

The deadline to file reply comments in the proceeding - ie, comments on comments already filed - is November 10.



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Jaye Inabnit ke6sls, ke6sls@arrl.net

For more information, please visit our website <http://www.humboldt-arc.org> or write to:

Humboldt Amateur Radio Club  
BOX 5251  
Eureka, CA 95502-5251

## **Pacific Seafarer's Net Assists in Maritime Rescue of Sailors on Sinking Sailboat**

The Pacific Seafarer's Net relayed a call for help and contacted the US Coast Guard on September 28, after the SV Rafiki began taking on water some 230 miles south of Cold Bay, Alaska. At approximately 0300 UTC, Charles Houlihan, KD6SPJ, a net relay station, received the distress call from the sailboat's captain. Houlihan, who was also at sea in SV Jacaranda, contacted Randy VanLeeuwen, KH6RC, a net relay station in Hawaii. He, in turn, got in touch with Hawaii USCG District 14 to report the incident and provide Rafiki's location. The Hawaii USCG district then contacted the 17th USCG District in Alaska, which handled the rescue. VanLeeuwen kept in constant radio contact with the Rafiki until contact was lost. Fred Moore, W3ZU, in Florida, and Peter Mott, ZL1PWM, in New Zealand, also were on frequency and in contact with the vessel's captain until a US Coast Guard rescue helicopter arrived.



A crew member of Coast Guard Station Valdez receives a hoist basket from an MH-60 Jayhawk helicopter during rescue hoist training in Port Valdez, Alaska, on September 14. [US Coast Guard photo by Bill Colclough]

The Jayhawk helicopter crew was able to hoist the captain and a crew member to safety at around 1000 UTC, after dropping survival suits. Both men were reported to be uninjured, but the vessel was abandoned. The two men were taken to Kodiak, Alaska, for medical attention.

The incident occurred just before the net's daily roll-call, when a call is put out for medical, emergency, or priority traffic. The Pacific Seafarer's Net convenes daily on 14.300 MHz at 0300 UTC to monitor the progress of maritime Amateur Radio operators sailing in the Pacific. Read more. -- Thanks to the Pacific Seafarer's Net and the US Coast Guard

### **Humboldt County Emergency Communications Group Meeting**

Thursday, October 20, 7pm – 9pm

533 C Street, Eureka, CA (use 6th Street door) (map)

Use the side door on 6th Street between C and D Streets, and go to the small conference room in front. Coordinate Humboldt County's ham radio emergency response. Contact is Peter, W6IES.

### **San Francisco Radio Club special event**

We at the San Francisco Radio Club would like to let you know of our final special event operation for this our centennial year of 2016. We invite you to participate by making contact with us during this event.

Call Sign: **W6PW/100**

Saturday, November 12, 2016 Hours: 16:00Z-23:00Z

Frequencies: 28.300 MHz, 24.945 MHz, 21.275 MHz, 18.150 MHz 14.225 MHz, 7.178MHz (SSB)

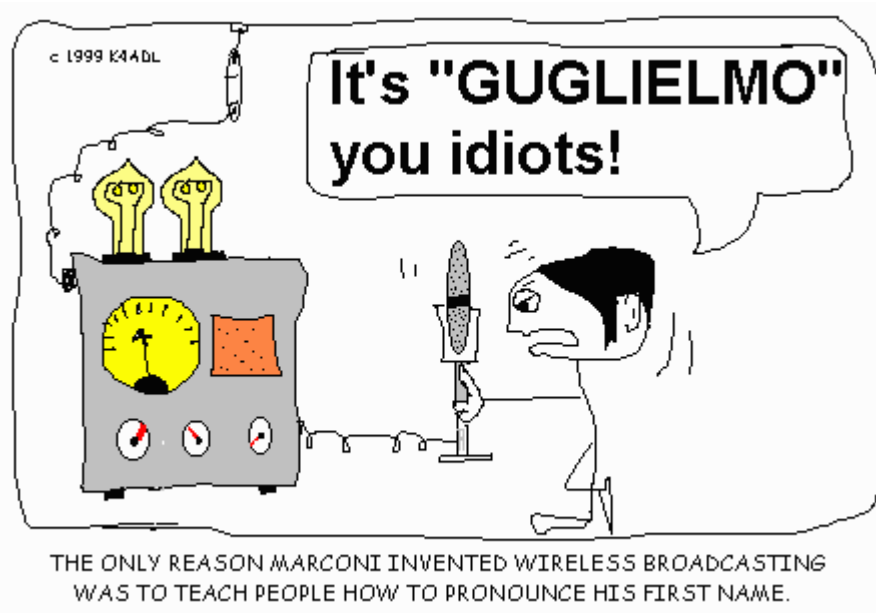
Other frequencies and modes will be announced as we get closer to the event and will be posted on QRZ.com/W6PW. A special QSL Card will be available for all QSOs. See QRZ.com/w6pw or www.sfar.org for details.

We hope you can be a part of amateur radio history and help us celebrate 100 continuous years as a service club. Please pass this information along to as many other clubs and hams as possible. Thank you!

73, Tony Dowler K6BV  
President, SFRC

## EXAM SESSION November 19, 2016

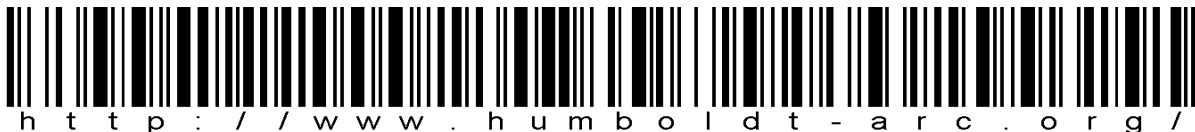
Sponsor: Humboldt ARC  
Date: Nov 19 2016  
Time: 10:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: Irma D. Ruegg  
(707) 826-0767  
Email: hamradio1991@hotmail.com  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Fire Dept (Classrooms)  
6th & C Street  
Eureka CA 95501



RAIN  
Box 5251  
Eureka, California, 95502-5251

North Coast Nets

Sunday	0800	North coast emergency net	3.855 MHz SSB
Monday	1900	Arcata Emergency simplex net	146.430 MHz
Monday	1900	Eel River Emergency net	147.090 PL103.5
Monday	1900	Eureka Emergency simplex net	146.460 MHz
Monday	1900	Southern Humboldt Emergency net	146.790 PL 103.5
Monday	1915	Eureka & north UHF Emergency net	444.400 +5000 PL103.5
Monday	1930	Humboldt county Emergency net (nearest FWRA repeater to you)	146.700 PL1031.5 147.000 PL1031.5 146.760 PL1031.5 146.610 PL1031.5
Monday	1945	Humboldt County HF emergency net	3.955 MHz SSB
Monday	2000	California State net	3.992 MHz SSB
Monday	2005	Humboldt HF Digital emergency net	3.582 USB
Tuesday	1930	ORCA digital operations net	3.581 MHz USB
Tuesday	1930	California-Mendocino net	3.915 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1000	California State net	7.230 MHz SSB
Wednesday	1930	FWRA net	146.760 PL103.5



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