



FROM THE TOP OF THE HILL

“CQ FIELD DAY, CQ FIELD DAY”.

If you join us on the 23rd and 24th of this month, you will hear that phrase repeated often.

Yes, it’s that time of the year where the club practices its skills in setting up many emergency stations and participating in the national ARRL event called, Field Day. This is one of the most fun events we do all year.

Let me emphasize, ALL ARE WELCOME regardless of your license category. We need help setting up and the tear down Sunday morning. This is a great time to get some operating time, so mark your calendars .

Glad to see the number of check-ins on the Wednesday night net creep up. Also, nice to hear all the visitors.

Still looking for a few more volunteers for the charity hike on Mt Tam put on by, “AT the Crosswords. Its on the 15th if July and we need to get there around 7:00am.

Let me know if you need a BNC to SMA adapter for the antennas we made at the last meeting.

Thats about it.

See you at the next meeting and on the nets.

73, Jim, K6UUW

NEXT MEETING

Wed, June 20, 2018, 7:30pm

City of Sonoma EOC,

Sonoma Police Department

Topic: Planning for Field Day

VOMARC Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2018

Called to order at 19:32 by President K6UUW, thank you very much!

KG6N (Frank), KD6FIL (Dave), KG6QNT (Eileen), K6UUW (Jim), W1EJ (Ed), KE6HID (Andrew), WD6BOR (Darrel), WB6TMH (Mike), N7PIB (San), K6KLL (Alan), KJ6QIQ (Scott), KM6QJC (Allen), KF6FZM (Dick), WA6CRB (Dan), KI6TPK (Kevin), KM6SJR (Elizabeth), KA5WSS (Robert)

Introductions.

Minutes: Approved

President: Thanks to all who helped with the Hamfest.

Vice President: There is an Emergency Fair in Sonoma on May 19 at Sassarini Elementary School.

Secretary: Family fun Day at Sonoma Sky Park is May 19, Field Day is June 23/24 and N6P at Point Reyes is on August 18/19. Pacificon is October

19-21. Need to Check with the City on the Free Day for the Vets Building from the City of Sonoma.

Treasurer's report: We have \$4,069.93 in the bank. We did well at the Hamfest with the Swap Table doing great.

ACS: No News

Radio Officer: WB6TMH is back in Sonoma.

VE Session: at the VE Session held at the Hamfest – 7 people tested and 5 passed. At the Hamilton VE Session – 10 people passed. The next VOMARC VE Session is September 29.

New Business:

Motion made and seconded to donate \$100 to the California Historical Radio Society. Plans are in the works to schedule a trip to the California Historical Radio Society in Alameda.

Field Day will be at the Sonoma Skypark on June 23 and 24.

Club History is in boxes in KG6N's garage.

Club Picnic is scheduled for September 8 at K6UW's house.

Christmas Party is scheduled for December 19 at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs.

KJ6QIQ is looking for ideas on wire antennas for his property in Glen Ellen.

Old Business:

Hamfest

Went smoothly. It would be nice to see more vendors. A club brochure that could be handed out would be good for all the public events, including the Hamfest.

Meeting Adjourned at 20:00

2-Meter roll up J-Pole antenna construction project.

—Submitted by: KD6FIL

VOMARC Google Calendar Integrated into Website

The VOMARC Google Calendar is a convenient way to keep track of VOMARC and Amateur Radio events automatically. Now the contents of this calendar has been incorporated into vomarc.org. Navigate the the website meetings and events page:

<http://vomarc.org/meetings.html>

The "Event Schedule" section at the top lists club meetings and events that are coming up. You can add the events from this calendar into your own Google Calendar and/or Google phone by pressing the "+ Google Calendar" button on the bottom right of the event list. Never miss another meeting because you forgot to mark your calendar!



—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

ARRL Drone Transmitters Complaint Spurs Proposed \$2.8 Million FCC Penalty

In the wake of an investigation resulting from a 2017 ARRL [complaint](#), the FCC has proposed fining HobbyKing and associated entities \$2.8 million for apparently marketing noncompliant RF devices and failing to comply with Commission orders. According to a June 5 FCC *Notice of Apparent Liability (NAL)*, HobbyKing appears to have sold audio/video (A/V) transmitters intended for use with unmanned aircraft, such as drones, in some instances marketing them as Amateur Radio equipment.

This week, the FCC also issued an [Enforcement Advisory](#) cautioning that drone transmitters must

comply with FCC rules in order to be marketed to customers in the US, and that operators must comply with FCC rules.

"However, many A/V transmitters that purport to operate on amateur frequencies also operate on frequencies that extend beyond the designated amateur frequency bands," the advisory said. "If an A/V transmitter is capable of operating outside of the amateur frequency bands, it cannot be advertised, sold, or operated within the United States without an FCC equipment certification. Individuals without an amateur license may not use such radio equipment, if it is designed solely for use by amateur licensees."



In its 2017 complaint, ARRL cited the Lawmate transmitter and its companion 6 W amplifier as examples of problematic devices being marketed in the US.

Imlay said the FCC action addressed "another of many instances in which unscrupulous importers import and market products in the US touted as Amateur Radio equipment but actually marketed to the general public, and which, in this case, have a high potential for abuse and interference to other radio services and to radio amateurs." Imlay characterized the FCC *NAL* as an important "line in the sand" aimed at keeping companies from encouraging the general public to use the amateur bands without a license.

(from ARRL 6/6/18 newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Baker Island KH1/KH7Z DXpedition Team Bracing for "Grim" Propagation

The 2018 KH1/KH7Z [Baker Island DXpedition](#), set to begin on June 27 and continue until July 7, is preparing for less-than-ideal conditions. The sponsoring Dateline DX Association (DDXA) said this week that its 15 operators are planning to maximize the times they will be available to work into propagation-challenged regions of the world. Their effort will include round-the-clock operation on 20 meters. DDXA has permission from the US Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct an Amateur Radio expedition to Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge (KH1).

The DXpedition's permit restricts antennas to 43-foot verticals. "We will be using SteppIR [verticals] and special-design antennas to take advantage of the saltwater ground," the release said. KH1/KH7Z will also use FT8 to find openings that may not be all that obvious and to serve as a beacon. "When we find an opening, we will put as many radios/modes/ops on as we can," the organizers pledged. The DXpedition will use the latest version of [WSJT-X](#) software to incorporate the FT8 "DXpedition Mode."

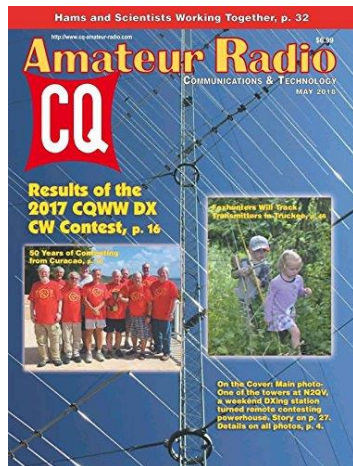
Baker/Howland Islands (KH1) is the fifth most-wanted DXCC entity. Read [more](#).

(from 6/8/18 ARRL newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Read CQ Magazine for "Free"

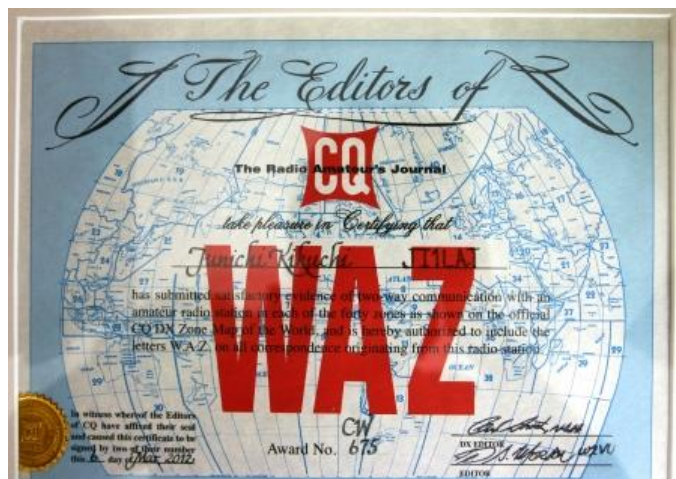
I just stumbled across another benefit of Amazon Prime membership. CQ is one of the magazines that can be read on a Kindle device (or any device that can run the Kindle app) and I was able to download and read the June issue for free. Not sure if future issues will also be free, but worth checking out.



—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

LoTW Adds CQ WAZ Support

QSO's submitted to the ARRL's Logbook of The World can now be used to apply for credit CQ's prestigious Worked All Zones (WAZ) awards. With this addition LoTW can keep track of credit for several varieties of DXCC, WAS, VUCC, CQ WPX and CQ WAZ awards.



—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

MARS Urges Members To Use Non-Internet Connected Computers

Given the rise in attacks of computer systems connected to the Internet MARS (Military Auxiliary Radio System) has urged members to utilize non-connected computers for some



activities. Though not a blanket requirement at this time, the group is attempting to harden their operations against possible disruption from outside actors.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/mars-urging-members-to-use-computers-that-are-isolated-from-the-internet>

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

Satellites With Amateur Radio on the Way to the Moon

A Chinese research satellite has been sent into lunar orbit, one of several that will be conducting experiments and observations of the Moon. Of particular interest to Hams is the fact that it will be carrying Amateur Radio transceivers as part of its payload.

Though not a radio transponder allowing for repeater-like two way communication there will be telemetry and the ability to download captured images.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/post-launch-signals-received-as-amateur-radio-heads-to-moon>

—Submitted by Robert KA5WSS

When He's Not Up on a Ladder at Jim's House...



THE VOMARC WIRELESS

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A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Jim Hill K6UUW – President

Robert Barron KA5WSS – Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Sanford Smith, N7PIB – VE Liaison

Jim Hill K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Robert Barron, KA5WSS – Webmeister

“Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC.”—S. Marler

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the City of Sonoma Police Department EOC 175 1st St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: <http://www.vomarc.org/>

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Black Bear Restaurant, 201 W Napa St, #34 (Marketplace Shopping Center), Sonoma. The fun starts at 08:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—OR—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.

C/O Sonoma Police Department

175 First Street West

Sonoma, CA 95476

**2018 ACS
Net Control Assignments**

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY		
AUGUST	BILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**2018 VOMARC
Net Control Assignments**

	Name	Call
JANUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
FEBRUARY	JIM	K6UUW
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	MOE	KI6JNU
AUGUST	CARL	N6TVN
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE JUNE 20, 2018, 7:30PM,
CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W, SONOMA, 95476
SEE YOU THERE.**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2018

Membership Dues: \$15/year individual; \$5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.