



Frankly Speaking

June is here and that means field day! Planning will take place at this month's meeting. We'll also have a presentation on SDR radios. thanks Alan K6KLL for recruiting our speaker.

We had young Eagles last Sunday at Sonoma Skypark. Radio conditions were lacking, but we still managed to have fun.

Not far off in Oct is the Cal QSO Party. We'll have a presentation on it in the comings months.

Until then, keep your amps tuned and your aerials resonant.

—Frank KG6N

NEXT MEETING

Wed, June 21, 2017, 7:30pm

City of Sonoma EOC,
Sonoma Police Department

**Topic: SDR Radios
Planning for Field Day**

SDR -Now You See It; At What Cost?

—By Alan K6KLL

Presentation on Your Computer

Art Landmark - WA6JKP Has a presentation on the use of looking inside of SDR. Find vital

information displayed on your personal computer. Without purchase of very costly test gear.

This is a practical presentation displayed on the video system at EOC.

Art is a professional designer and installer of all types of Audio and Video installations and has used this knowledge to assist us in Ham radio.

VOMARC Meeting Minutes May 17, 2017

The meeting was called to order by president Frank at 7:30 pm.

PRESIDENT: Frank will apply for special event call, N6P. ARRL needs to be notified. Use permit needed.

Members present, Jim, K6UUW, Frank, KG6N, Eileen, KG6QNT, Matt, AK6RF, Stan, NJ6E, Darrel, WD6BOR, MIKE, WB6TMH, Adam, N9ZZZ, Mike, KI6FPE, Bill, KK6MOJ, Scott, KJ6QIQ, Dan, WA6CRB, Dick, KF6FZM, San, N7PIB, Robert, KA5WSS, Declan, KA2QQO, Alan, K6KLL, Sam, W5LTP.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Previous balance was \$1955.39. Net from Hamfest, \$991.00, New balance, \$2,976.39.

ACS, ACS training on June 10th

OLD BUSINESS: Hamfest wrap-up, There were 21 vendors. We treated 3 uniformed officers to breakfast.

Suggestion; (1) we treat the workers at the Vets Old. (2) we sell soft drinks at the club swap table.

NEW BUSINESS: Field Day discussion. GOTA station approved. Get on ARRL locator page. (done, K6UUW) Everyone to bring a dish for Saturday dinner. Need to call to get access to site. (done, K6UUW)

Meeting adjourned 7:58

—Respectfully submitted by Jim K6UUW for Dave KD6FIL

FOR SALE

FL 200 linear amp, coax switch,

Call Frank for details.

Call **Frank (225-1133)** or **Jim (935-7441)** for more details.

Pizza, Beer and Radio. Life is Good!



—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

A quick update on the CA Hands Free Law—AB 1785/CVC 23123.5.

We have been fielding a number of inquiries on if Amateur Radio (2-way radio) is exempt from the updated “hands-free “ law that went into effect on January 1st of this year. The language of the legislation is “all inclusive “ and tends to, by default, wrap 2-way radio use into the prohibition.

Amateur licensees in the Pacific and South West Divisions of ARRL have been working on this issue. The original bill's sponsor has been contacted a number of times. The CHP command has also been contacted.

As a result, the CHP has issued a memo to its officers advising that “a radio installed and mounted in a vehicle with a wired hand microphone is not considered a wireless communications device...and therefore is not subject to enforcement under this section. “ That memo was issued on March 28, 2017.

More recently, the sponsoring assemblyman entered into the Assembly Journal a letter establishing the legislative intent of the law. Essentially, the letter states that common 2-way, wired radio use was not intended to be addressed by the newer hands-free law. This letter was published in the Assembly Journal on April 27, 2017.

Please note: Use of an HT would still be a violation. The radio must be mounted and the microphone be corded to the radio.

I have packaged the CHP memo and the letter to the Assembly Journal in one document. Please pass it on. Amateurs should carry copies of these documents in their vehicles to present to law enforcement officials in case they are stopped. It may, or may not, prevent them from receiving a citation.

Please remember that not all law enforcement officers will be aware of these documents, and may not follow them. Amateurs may still be cited.

I would like to hear if any Amateur is actually cited under CVC 23123.5 for using Amateur Radio.

We can all thank the past SW Div Vice Director Marty Woll N6VI, Jim Aspinwall NO1PC, Norm Lucas WB6RVR, and others behind the scenes for their valiant effort to move this clarification forward. The effort is not over, as equally ambiguous language is being promoted in the revision to the law moving through the legislature now.

Please remind everyone that they must still not use their radios in a manner that detracts from their safe operation of their vehicle. Drivers can still be cited under the very broad “distracted driving “ code section.

73,

Bill Hillendahl KH6GJV
Section Manager
San Francisco Section

FCC Issues Amateur Radio Licensee a *Notice of Violation* for Pirate Broadcasting

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has sent a California Amateur Radio licensee a *Notice of Violation (NoV)* alleging that he engaged in unlicensed -- or “pirate “ -- radio broadcasting -- on the FM band. The *NoV* to Lyle E. Hilden, KD6LUL, of Vista, was released on May 26. Depending on Hilden's responses, the *NoV* could be a precursor to a *Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture* (fine).

According to the FCC's Los Angeles Office, the Enforcement Bureau in March received a complaint of an apparently unlicensed FM broadcasting station on 93.7 MHz in Vista. The *NoV* does not indicate the origin of the



complaint, but these sometimes come from legitimate broadcasters in the listening area.

The *NoV* also does not recount the nature of the alleged pirate broadcasts nor indicate how long

they had continued. The following month, FCC agents monitored the apparent unlicensed signal 93.7 MHz and used direction-finding techniques “to positively locate “ its source as Hilden's residence.

“Field strength measurements revealed that the signal transmitted by the station greatly exceeded 250 μ V per meter at 3 meters -- the maximum permitted on 93.7 [under Part 15 rules] without a Broadcast license, “ the FCC said in the *NoV*. Agents inspected Hilden's station and pointed out in the *NoV* that his Amateur Radio license does not entitle him to transmit on the FM broadcast band.

(from ARRL June 1 newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

Ham Radio Aviator Set to Depart on Round-the-World Flight

Brian Lloyd, WB6RQN, took off from Miami, Florida, on June 1 on a solo, [round-the-world flight](#) to commemorate Amelia Earhart's attempt to circumnavigate the globe 80 years ago.

“Airborne!, “ he posted to his [Facebook page](#), once aloft. “En route to St Thomas! “

Lloyd will be on the air from *Spirit*, his single-engine Mooney 231 aircraft, during the course of his journey, expected to take 2 months. He will follow Earhart's historic route to fly around the globe at the equator, starting in Miami, skirting the Caribbean islands, then passing

along the coast of South America before heading across the Atlantic.

Lloyd will be [on the air](#) using HF SSB on or about 14,210.0 kHz, 14,346.0 kHz, 18,117.5 kHz, or 7,130.0 kHz. On board, he has a Mobat Micom-3 transceiver, which puts out about 125 W. His antenna is under the fuselage. He also will utilize ALE (automatic link establishment) on the Amateur Radio [HFLINK](#) frequencies.

(from ARRL June 1 newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

Consent Decree, Forfeiture Terminate FCC Interference Investigation

The FCC has again used a [consent decree](#) to resolve an enforcement matter. The FCC Enforcement Bureau recently concluded a radio interference investigation with “a negotiated settlement “ and a \$90,000 civil penalty. The case against AFX Inc. involved the marketing of unauthorized RF devices that interfered with AM/FM radio reception.

After the company's NLL Series LED lighting fixtures were reported to be causing interference to broadcast radio



reception last year, the Enforcement Bureau's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a *Letter of Inquiry (LOI)* to AFX directing it to submit a sworn written response regarding its marketing and sale of the fixtures, considered unintentional radiators under FCC rules. According to the FCC, evidence revealed that the suspect lighting fixtures had not been tested and authorized under FCC rules prior to marketing,

and that AFX continued to market them during an approximately 5-month period after receipt of the *LOI*.

“[W]e find that the public interest would be served by adopting the Consent Decree and terminating the referenced investigation regarding AFX's marketing of unauthorized radio frequency devices, and compliance with Section 302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended and Sections 2.803(b)(2), 15.107(a), and 15.109(a) of the Commission's rules (Rules), “ the FCC said.

(from ARRL June 1 newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

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

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President Emeritus

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

“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

**2017 ACS
Net Control Assignments**

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	JIM	KJ6UUW
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY	KEN	N6KN
AUGUST	GILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**2017 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		
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE JUNE 21, 2016, 7:30PM,
CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W, SONOMA, 95476
SEE YOU THERE.**

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2017

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**.