



Frankly Speaking

It looks like May brought the hot weather! Our hamfest wrapped up pretty well, with lots of vendors and shoppers. There was plenty of action on the club swap table, and I hear Darrel and Mike were pleased to lighten their loads a bit. This truly is an event that's made by its participants. Everyone did a great job, and all ran smoothly. Thanks to all who helped, I think we try this again next year!

This month's meeting should be Darrel demonstrating scope principles with a scope donated by a member at the hamfest. At the time of writing this, I don't have his name, so we'll thank him at the meeting and in next month's article.

We have field day planning to do as well this month. It seems our plan of the last few years has worked well, so unless there are changes suggested, we'll most likely stick with it. The tower we had previously used for the 20 meter antenna has been pressed into service, and another has been located.

Word around the campfire is one of our own has acquired a 40' mast and a beam is in the works. More on that soon.

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

—Frank KG6N

NEXT MEETING

Wed, May 17, 2017, 7:30pm

City of Sonoma EOC,

Sonoma Police Department

Topic: Scope Principles

Presenter: Darrel WD6BOR

VOMARC Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm by president Frank.

Members present, Darrel, WD6BOR, Dick, KF6FZM, Stan, NJ6E, Jim, K6UUW, Robert, KA5WSS, Ed, W1EJ, Matt, AK6RF, Dan, WA6CRB, Adam, N9ZZZ, Ken, N6km, Moe, KI6JNU, Scott, KJ6QiQ, Eileen, KG6QNT, Frank, KG6N, Mike, WB6TMH.

Treasurer's report. There is around \$1931.36 in the bank. This does not include the results of the Hamfest,

Old Business. Hamfest organization.

The club swap table and station will be out doors.

Sabine and Katherine will do registration.

Mike contacted the Maker Group to see if they would like to participate.

Robert suggestion that we put out a suggestion box.

Darrel will bring the 20m beam to the Hamfest.

Ken announced that the ARRL has brochures.

A suggestion was made put a DMR rig as part of the club station.

Darrel reminded the group is a fun event as long as everyone pitches in.

—Respectfully submitted by Jim K6UUW for Dave KD6FIL

HAMFEST VE SESSION REPORT

We had a total of 6 candidates and we awarded 3 technicians, one general and one extra.

A big congratulations to Scott for upgrading to Extra.

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

Armed Forces Day Crossband Communications Test Set for Saturday, May 13

US Army, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard stations will participate in the annual [Armed Forces Day Crossband Communications Test](#) on Saturday, May 13. This annual HF communication interoperability event, sponsored by the Department of Defense since 1934, challenges Amateur Radio operators to contact military stations across the US.

The event marks the 66th annual Armed Forces Day (AFD), officially on May 20. The AFD Crossband Military-Amateur Radio event takes place a week earlier in order to avoid schedule conflicts with those attending Hamvention.

(from ARRL 4/27 Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

US Fish and Wildlife Service Seeks Comments on Baker Island DXpedition Compatibility

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) appears open to a DXpedition to Baker Island in the Pacific, which has not been activated for 15 years. Baker and Howland Islands (KH1) is the fourth most-wanted DXCC entity, according to the Club Log *DXCC Most Wanted List*. On April 24, the FWS released a [Draft Compatibility Determination for Amateur Radio Operation](#) for public review and comment. The comment period ends on May 8. Public access to the Baker Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is managed through a special use permit (SUP). Baker and Howland Islands are part of the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument ([PRIMNM](#)), created by former President George W. Bush under the authority of the Antiquities Act of 1906. The monument was expanded by President Barack Obama.

(from ARRL 4/27 Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

FCC Proposes Levying Huge Fine on New York Police Radio Jammer

The FCC has proposed imposing a fine of more than \$400,000 on a Queens, New York, man who has admitted making unauthorized transmissions on New York City Police Department (NYPD) radio frequencies, maliciously interfering with NYPD officers' communications. Jay Peralta, 20, is alleged to have transmitted false bomb threats, false claims of criminal activities involving firearms, false distress calls from purported NYPD officers, and threats against individual NYPD officers. The unauthorized transmissions began a year ago, according to the FCC.

(from 4/20 ARRL Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW

Hamfest 2017 Report

—submitted by Darrel WD6BOR

VOMARC had another great Hamfest thanks to all the people who came out and volunteered.

Where do I start? I guess the low profile, unsung hero is once again Dave KD6FIL. He called me Saturday afternoon to confirm the Hamfest date for 2018 because he was going to get his letter written asking the City of Sonoma for one of its free days' use of the Vet's building. He also gets all the paperwork done to reserve the Vet's building, make sure our insurance requirements are met, and who knows what else needs doing to allow us to hold the event in the first place. Thanks Dave.

We would probably need to fold up the event and retire if it weren't for Ed W1EJ agreeing year after year to organize and run the breakfast. This year he was especially pleased to report that he will not use frozen blueberries in his pancakes after finding them fresh at Costco this year. I understand. They melt in your mouth. VOMARC sold over ninety breakfasts, with the majority of them being full breakfasts.

Jim K6UUW once again ran our VE exam, although he did say that we will need to find a replacement to run it someday. I think we are just wearing the poor kid out. It's not an overwhelming commitment, but one of you VOMARC Extras need to step up, get qualified as a VE Examiner, and work your way into that important position. Just think of the fame and glory, as well as the high pay. As usual, San N7PIB and Alan K6KLL helped out with the exams.

Finally, I think El Presidente' Frank KE6N has found his true calling. He can wheel and deal with the best of them, and did so taking over the club swap table from Stan NJ6E. We benefited from donations of Kermit Parker's gear as well as

from other members and VOMARC netted nearly \$400 from those donated items. I will be eternally grateful for the fact that he got rid of several hundred pounds of my stuff. Mike WB6TMH took the other end of the tables and unloaded a bunch of club merchandise that won't go back home to his shop.

Moe KI6JNU dragged himself out of his sick bed to put out our direction signs; Dan WA6CRB ably handled talk-in duties and PA announcements outside; Carl N6TVN, Declan KA6QQO, Dick KF6FZM, Matt AK6RF, Andrew KC6HID, Robert KA6WSS and Dave KD6FIL all pitched in helping in the kitchen. Carl and Matt also helped with set-up and take-down, and Robert put together a suggestion box to gather feedback for future hamfests. Adam N9ZZZ was Gopher Supreme. Without asking, he was doing anything and everything that needed doing. He even brought his beautiful five week old daughter and lovely wife to breakfast. Someone saw the antenna of a handheld sticking up from the back of the stroller and asked Adam if he was getting her "started young".

Now we can announce that Scott KJ6QIQ not only collected \$210 from the swap tables, but took a quick break to take an exam and upgrade to Extra. Congratulations! Scott is extremely well organized. He may need to run the Hamfest someday.

It comes down to this: if we didn't have someone to welcome our guests, give them a door prize ticket and sell them breakfast tickets, we would have to close down and give up. Sabine KM6FPZ generously volunteered to do registration and did a bang-up job at that. Show up early, collect the money with a smile and hand out tickets. It's a tough job, but it was done very well indeed. Thanks Sabine! She was ably helped by Catherine KE6LNP, and I hear that they caught up on all the news about kids and grandkids while doing their job.

The hamfest netted \$991.00, but it wouldn't be worth all the work unless people had fun. I was gratified to have our Pacific Division Director, Bob W6RGG, who comes up every year with the Vice Director Jim K6JAT, tell me that this is his favorite hamfest and that he wishes every club had an event like ours. Eat your heart out Pacificon.

It wouldn't work without the many VOMARC members who pitch in and help. I am especially gratified that so many younger hams are in the club. It gives us old guys hope for the future of VOMARC.

Thanks again to the many people who once again made the VOMARC hamfest a resounding success. As long as it's fun well keep doing it.

73, Darrel WD6BOR

(Editor's note: Sgt Craver of Sonoma PD said Thanks for the breakfast.)

FOR SALE

Yaesu FT 1000MKV transceiver fully loaded with filters. Asking \$1250.00

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

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

Frank Wiebusch KG6N — President

Scott Wellington KJ6QIQ —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, Training Officer, 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 MAY 17, 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**.