



## Frankly Speaking...

Hi All,

Hope summer is treating you well. This month we have N6P the weekend of the 19-20 at Pt Reyes. More details to follow.

Our club meeting is 8/16. Hopefully someone can get something rolling for a program. I will be out of town for both. Look for me portable on HF!

Until then, keep your amps tuned and aerials resonant.

—Frank KG6N

### NEXT MEETING

Wed, August 16, 2017, 7:30pm  
City of Sonoma EOC,  
Sonoma Police Department

**Topic: TBA**

## Minutes July 19, 2017

**Members Present:** Jim, K6UUW, Frank, KG6N, Carl, N6TVN, Ed, W1EJ, Stan, NJ6E, Eileen, KG6QNT, Wendy, KJ6ZMV, Robert, KA5WSS, Dick, KF6FZM, Matt, AK6RF, Declan, KA2QQO, Darrel, WD6BOR, San, N7PIB, Alan, K6KLL, Rachel, KI6DHG, Sam, W5LTP.

### President:

The insurance has been approved for the Lighthouse on the Air weekend at Pt. Reyes. The date is the 18th and 19th of Aug.

### Treasurer:

Jan. 1 \$1,613.32

Income \$1,051.32

Balance \$2,663.50

### Old Business

Jim reported that the charity hike on Mt. Tam was cancelled.

### New Business:

Rachel will host the club picnic on Sept. 9 at 4pm. Her address is 1900 Lovell Valley Rd.

There will be no monthly meeting or newsletter for that month.

Frank will miss the Aug. meeting.

The Christmas dinner will be at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs on Dec. 6th.

A reminder that Eileen needs all newsletter items in to her by the second Wednesday of the month.

Meeting adjourned at 1944.

—Submitted by Jim, K6UUW, for Dave KD6FIL

## Newsletter Submissions

The VOMARC Wireless welcomes all articles, letters, essays, pictures, references and documents of interest to Ham Radio operators. Please email to: [Eileen@vom.com](mailto:Eileen@vom.com).

The Newsletter is published monthly on the Friday before the monthly meeting (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month). Deadline is the Second Wednesday of the Month.

## FT8 Mode is Latest Bright Shiny Object in Amateur Radio Digital World

It's still in beta testing, but FT8—the latest digital bauble to capture the imagination of the Amateur Radio community—has been luring away many of those already using the already-popular JT65 “weak-signal” mode. FT8 is included in a beta release of [WSJT-X](#), version 1.8.0-rc1. Among its biggest advantages is a shorter transmit-receive cycle, meaning quicker contacts. The [notes](#) for the “candidate” release say that FT8 offers “sensitivity down to -20 dB on the AWGN channel.” Contacts are four times faster than with JT65 or JT9, and an entire FT8 contact can take place in about 1 minute.

(from ARRL newsletter, 9/3/17)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

## ARRL President Issues Call for Members to Reach Out to their Senators to Support S. 1534

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, is calling on League members to urge their US Senators to support the [Amateur Radio Parity Act](#) of 2017, S. 1534. ARRL has opened a [RallyCongress page](#) to simplify the task.

“[W]e are at a crossroad in our efforts to obtain passage of The Amateur Radio Parity Act,” Roderick said. He said the campaign to secure passage of the bill scored a major victory earlier this year when



H.R. 555 passed unanimously in the US House of Representatives. Obtaining passage of the companion Senate bill, S. 1534, is the final legislative hurdle.

(from ARRL newsletter, 7/27/17)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

## THE VOMARC WIRELESS

### VOLUME 21 EDITION 7

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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 AUGUST 16, 2016, 7:30PM,  
CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1<sup>ST</sup> 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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**.