

# THE WIRELESS

Published Monthly by the Iredell County Amateur Radio Society

## 2017 OFFICER ELECTIONS

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is at 7pm on November 10th. It will be at Mitchell College Technology and Workforce Development Center Room 205, 701 West Front Street, Statesville. For directions, see our WebSite at [W4SNC.org](http://W4SNC.org)

### October Program

The November Program will Election of 2017 Officers. We will also be at the Boxcar Grille at 1730, come and dine with us.

### December Program

The December Program will be the annual Christmas Party.

(the Wireless is 4 pages this month, be sure and read to the end)

### Nominations for Officers - 2017

The Nominating Committee has submitted the nominations for 2017:

President - Rick McClure, KE4TEP

VP - Ben Perry, W4BGP

Secretary - Buzz Borries, KD3QO

Treasurer - Johnny Levan, KC4KQC

Member-at-Large - Frank Horvath, KM4VDL

Other nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November Meeting. Be sure and come to cast your vote - No speeches, no ads, just plain good folks!

### Dinner Without the Show

Every month a group of ICARS Members meet at the Boxcar Grille in Statesville for a social meal before the monthly meeting. Even if you are not an ICARS member, you are invited to join us for the camaraderie. We start arriving a little before 1730 and break up in time to get to the meeting at Mitchell College. Hope to see you there!

## Maritime Radio Historical Society article

This month Howard W1HO noticed this article on the Web.

On 30 June 1997 Ray Smith, senior Morse operator at KPH, reached for his key at the receive station at Point Reyes. The transmitters in Bolinas stood ready for his command as always. But the message Ray tapped out that day was a fateful one. "We wish you fair winds and following seas... goodbye... de KPH... SK" and then silence.

One by one the transmitters in Bolinas were powered down and grew cold. One by one the operators at Point Reyes filed their final logs, gathered up their keys and ended their watch, a watch that had been kept since 1905. The last to leave, as a captain leaves his ship, was station manager Jack Martini who turned out the lights, locked the door and walked away.

It was the end. Or so it was thought. The lights had already gone out at most of the famous coast stations around the world. KPH was one of the last hold outs. No station had ever returned to life after their last messages had been sent. The bulldozers were poised at their gates, their engines quietly idling, waiting for the signal to erase all memory of these once great stations to make way for condominiums and golf courses. Why should KPH be any different?

But at KPH it **was** different.

On 8 October 2016 senior Morse operator Ray Smith reached for his key at the receive station at Point Reyes. The transmitters in Bolinas stood ready for his command. At precisely 12:00 noon Ray began sending a message of resurrection. KPH, the wireless giant of the Pacific, was once again on the air from its ancestral home.

The Point Reyes receive site was filled with *True Believers* who joined us for this great and historic event. Jack Martini, along with KPH operators Denice Stoops and Rick Wahl were there. The crack MRHS transmitter crew in Bolinas kept close watch on the transmitters. The occasion was solemn yet joyous. Since then, the KPH signal has arced over the dome of the Earth to once again be heard by listeners across the globe.

Of course, as all *True Believers* know, the Point Reyes and Bolinas sites had been on the air for several years before Ray keyed his message on 8 October. The MRHS had obtained its own coast station license under the call sign KSM. This in itself was a big accomplishment. But we yearned for the magic of that original call sign that had been heard around the world for so many years... KPH! Finally, in

KPH OPENING MESSAGE AS TRANSMITTED BY RAY SMITH, 8  
OCTOBER 2016

CQ CQ CQ DE KPH KPH KPH OPENING MESSAGE FOLLOWS QSW  
426/HF --

CQ CQ CQ DE KPH KPH KPH OPENING MESSAGE --

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS BEING SENT BY RAY SMITH, WHO  
SENT THE KPH CLOSING MESSAGE ON 30 JUNE 1997 --

TO ALL SHIPS AND STATIONS --

TODAY A VISION AND A DREAM HAVE BEEN REALIZED, THE  
RESTORATION OF OPERATIONS OF SAN FRANCISCO RADIO/KPH  
FROM ITS ANCESTRAL HOME AT POINT REYES AND BOLINAS.

WHEN I SENT THE CLOSING MESSAGE ON THAT DARK DAY IN 1997  
NO ONE THEN COULD HAVE IMAGINED THAT ONE DAY THE ICONIC  
CALLSIGN KPH WOULD EMANATE ONCE AGAIN FROM THIS SAME  
OPERATING POSITION AND THESE SAME TRANSMITTERS AND  
ANTENNAS.

ON THAT FATEFUL DAY KPH STATION MANAGER JACK MARTINI  
LEFT THE RECEIVERS ON, MAINTAINING A CONTINUOUS SYMBOLIC  
WATCH ON THE SACRED WAVELENGTH OF 600 METERS. IT WAS  
THAT SYMBOLIC WATCH THAT INSPIRED THE FOUNDING OF THE  
MRHS. WE HAVE CONTINUED TO MAINTAIN THAT WATCH IN HONOR  
OF THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT SERVED THE MARITIME COMMUNITY  
FOR A CENTURY. IT IS THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE, HISTORY  
AND CULTURE THAT HAVE INSPIRED OUR STEWARDSHIP OF THESE  
PRECIOUS TRADITIONS AND RESOURCES.

ON THIS SOLEMN OCCASION WE REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO OUR  
MISSION AS WE CONTINUE TO HONOR THE GIANTS WHO HAVE GONE  
BEFORE US HERE AT THE WIRELESS GIANT OF THE PACIFIC.

OUR BELOVED DENICE STOOPS WILL NOW INAUGURATE THE  
RESTORATION OF SERVICE OF MRHS SAN FRANCISCO RADIO/KPH

AR

73/88 BV GL DE KPH SK EE (DA COMMENCES "WHEEL")

2016, our negotiations to this end bore fruit, the transmitters in Bolinas were shifted back to their original frequencies and Ray returned to the operating position he had occupied for decades to announce the return of KPH to listeners the world over. Listen for KPH on these frequencies (CW and NBDP on Saturdays, CW only on Sundays):

CW:                   NBDP (RTTY):

426                   6324.5

500  
4247.0  
6477.5  
8642.0  
12808.5  
17016.8  
22477.5

12585.5

We still have a hard time believing this long sought goal has been achieved.

See the pictures and video [HERE](#)



## Events in Radio

1925

Nov 1, VARA, Vereniging van Workers Radio Amateurs forms in Amsterdam

1936

Nov 2, **1936** First high-definition TV broadcast service, by BBC in London

2 meter net every Weds @ 9:00pm Local 146.685 -600 77Hz tone

75 meter net every Sat @ 8:30pm Local 3.972Mhz USB

2 meter Digital Net every Sat @ 7:30pm Local 147.510 Simplex PSK31

2 meter ARES Training net every Mon @ 7:30pm Local 146.685 -600 77 Hz tone