

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

March 2019

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**YSARC Web Page:** <http://www.ysarc.net>  
**Y-S ARES Web Page:** <http://www.ysares.org>

**P.O. Box 1169**  
**Yuba City, California 95992**

March 2019

Editors: Curtis R. Sylvester-José, KF6VFP      Webmaster: Kevin Conde, K1KMC  
          Marsha L. Sylvester-José, KI6CSN      Club Callsign: W6KJ  
Telephone: 530-743-3003  
E-Mail: Curtis at [kf6vfp@arrl.net](mailto:kf6vfp@arrl.net)  
          Marsha at [ki6csn@arrl.net](mailto:ki6csn@arrl.net)

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## **CLUB OFFICERS 2019**

Pres.: Chris McLain, KK6VZD  
Vice Pres.: Daniel Weber, KM6RHC  
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ  
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Joseph Peterson, K6JFP  
Neil Bossard, N6CNY  
John Rogers, KI6UDF  
Mark Peters, KA6FFM  
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

## **LIAISONS**

ARES: Andy Boone, KJ6IYM  
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD  
VE Liaison: LeRoy Smith, KJ6DKM

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

09 Apr – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Marysville First UMC, 730 D Street, Marysville

10 Apr to 12 Jun – Morse Code Class

17 Apr – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, American Red Cross Classroom 2, 2125 E Onstott Rd, Yuba City

27 Apr – Bike Around the Buttes

04 May – 3F Century Ride

04 May – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City

07 May – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Marysville First UMC, 730 D Street, Marysville

15 May – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, American Red Cross Classroom 2, 2125 E Onstott Rd, Yuba City

17-19 May – Dayton Hamvention

04 Jun – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Marysville First UMC, 730 D Street, Marysville

19 Jun – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, American Red Cross Classroom 2, 2125 E Onstott Rd, Yuba City

22-23 Jun – Field Day

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02 Jul – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Marysville First UMC, 730 D Street, Marysville

06 Jul – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City

17 Jul – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, American Red Cross Classroom 2, 2125 E Onstott Rd, Yuba City

CA Traffic Net: 3906 kHz nightly at 6:00 P.M. for traffic listing and 6:30 P.M. for roll call.

California TALARC (The American Legion Amateur Radio Club) net. Sunday at 1:00 P.M. weekly on 7278 KHz

## YSARC Weekly Breakfast

Wednesday mornings – Breakfast 8:30 A.M. at Dancing Tomato in Yuba City.

## Local Nets

Monday night at 7:00 P.M. – weekly net (146.085+) PL 127.3 with swap shop and help sessions.

Monday night at 8:00 P.M. – **Butte County ARES net** (145.280–), PL 110.9

Tuesday night at 8:00 P.M. – **GEARS Club net**, (146.850–), PL 110.9

Thursday night at 7:00 P.M. weekly – **ARES net** (146.085+) PL 127.3.

Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. – the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (VHF) Net, on club repeater followed by an HF Net on 3987 KHz LSB.

Saturday night at 8:00 P.M. – **OARS Net** (146.655-), PL 136.5.

Other nets (From the GEARs Radiator Newsletter)

Sac Valley Net: 7:00 P.M., 2nd Wed of the month (146.850–), PL 110.9

440 Wed. Night Net: 8:00 P.M. each Wednesday, 440.650 MHz.

Golden Bear Net: 7:00 P.M. daily 3975 kHz.

Willie Net: 8:00 P.M. Mondays, 1930 kHz.

## **PREZ MESSAGE**

I hope many of you had the opportunity to go to the recent Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club Ham Swap held in Loomis a couple of weeks ago. This swap is held annually and is the first major swap of the year in our area. It is one of the larger ones so there is generally a lot to see and choose from. I had intended to buy nothing more than some small hardware items but took a little more cash “just in case”. No, I didn’t stick to my original plan, a nice used 220 MHz mobile rig spoiled that for me. But that’s part of the fun, stumbling upon that “gem” (whatever that means to you) that is hard to come by through normal channels. It’s fun to walk around and see what hams have squirreled away over the years and sometimes you find one of those equipment “legends” that you might have heard about but never seen. You might not be able to afford to add it to *your* collection but it’s fun to experience it in person. I *almost* walked away with a J-38 straight Morse code key that was made by Lionel. Any of you that know anything about J-38s know that the Lionel key is the one to have JUST BECAUSE it was made by Lionel (they made electric train sets) for the military during WW II (for the rest of

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you, Google it.). If I actually knew how to code I might have picked it up but restrained myself from having yet another display item, cool as it might have been. Ham swaps I have discovered are also a great way to connect with those you might know only as a voice coming to you through your rig. Somehow this experience seems to create an even stronger bond between on the air friends. You see many there run into friends who might have moved away or they don't get to see due to distance and it's a special time to be able to rag-chew face to face once again. It's an excellent place for a new ham to see a lot more aspects of the hobby even if they don't walk away with anything. But go with a "seasoned" ham if you can. It helps to have their knowledge to understand what's being presented and to spot good deals. I went to my first Ham Swap in Loomis with N6BOB and he came back to me with a good size dummy load that he had picked up for me (we had been investigating separately) for the princely sum of ..... \$5. SCORE!! And Thanks Bob. If you missed the Loomis swap there are 2 more major ham swaps scheduled for this year, the Carmichael Elks Club on May 26<sup>th</sup>, and the Western Placer Amateur Radio Club Ham Fest in Lincoln on Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. And in our own area look for a smallish but fun ham swap in Durham. Get there early though, just like garage sales there are always looky-loos there as soon as the venues open for setup trying to score the best deals. Hope you're able to get to at least one this year and I hope you have fun.

Till next time, 73s.

Chris/KK6VZD

## **BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES**

Bike Around The Buttes (BATB) will be held on Apr 27<sup>th</sup> this year. John Rogers (KI6UDF) has again volunteered to be the ramrod for this event.

BATB supports Yuba-Sutter Children's Type 1 Diabetes. It has a 20-mile, 40-mile, 65-mile (100-kilometer) and 100-mile route. The 20-mile route starts from 0830 to 1000, the 40-mile route starts from 0730 to 0830, the 65-mile route starts from 0630 to 0730 and the 100-mile route starts from 0600 to 0630.

So far we have the following positions filled:

Mike (KI6ISQ) net control

Curtis (KF6VFP) net control

Marsha (KI6CSN) SAG 1

Andy (KJ6IYM) SAG 2

Mark (KA6FFM) SAG 3

Daniel (KM6RHC) SAG 4

Joe (K6JFP) SAG 5

**Open SAG 6**

**Open SAG 7**

Robert (K6VNR) SAG 8

Chris (KK6VZD) SAG 9

LeRoy (KJ6DKM) SAG 10

**Open SAG 11**

**Open SAG 12**

**Open Rest Stop 1**

Brandon (KM6JID) Rest Stop 2

Linda (KK6SOZ) Rest Stop 3

Bill (WA6OHP) Rest Stop 4

We need four more SAGs and

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possibly a Rest Stop. Contact John Rogers to volunteer.

## **3F CENTURY RIDE**

The 3F Century Ride will be held on May 4th this year. Mark Peters (KA6FFM) has again volunteered to be the ramrod for this event.

The 3F Century started in May of 2010. Initially the ride was a fundraiser to help pay for a wrestling mat for the Colusa High School Wrestling team. We met that goal last year. The ride is now sponsored by the Colusa Lions Club and helps support youth activities in Colusa County. It is billed as a fun, fast, flat ride. There are 100-mile, 100-kilometer and 38-mile routes.

So far we have the following positions filled:

Mark (KA6FFM)

Chris (KK6VZD)

Neil (N6CNY)

Bill (WA6OHP)

Curtis (KF6VFP) -- late start VE

Joseph Peterson (K6JFP) -- late start, VE

LeRoy Smith (KJ6DKM) -- late start, VE

Robert Kelly (K6VNR)

We could use a couple more SAGs.

## **GREETINGS TO ALL WHO USE THE WD6AXM REPEATER**

That which follows is a written explanation for the standards that I have strived to maintain over the past 30 + years of operation. This is an attempt to have a written standard that can be

shared with the newcomer to our hobby, as well as the seasoned operator, for that facet of our hobby known as FM repeater operation, as it applies to this repeater. Most of these same rules are widely accepted and used on most repeaters in operation today. All of you help make our repeater what it is today and for that I thank You very much.

## **Why do we need rules at all for repeater conduct or etiquette?**

No one likes a bunch of arbitrary rules, but when you have a shared resource, like a wide area coverage repeater they become necessary. We tend to assume (we all know what "assume" stands for) that everyone knows the generally accepted rules. But, that could be careless of us and unfair to those who want or need to have a clearer definition of our expectations and requirements. It can also create discord when repeater users offend others by unknowingly breaking some unwritten rule. Activities that may be an irritation or even a flagrant violation to one person might not be an issue at all to another. It's probably best for us to be clear about the rules we really think are important. It is not our intention to define every action allowed or disallowed but to provide some minimum expectations and guidelines for proper etiquette.

## **What gives the owner or trustees the right to tell someone how to operate?**

All repeaters have rules. These rules often go beyond Part 97. And, users who refuse to comply with the repeater's rules can be told to stop using the repeaters. This is entirely at the judgment of the repeater owner or

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trustee. FCC Rule 97.205(e) says, "...Limiting the use of a repeater to only certain user stations is permissible." There are no qualifications – ifs, ands, or buts – to this rule. This isn't just the right to close a repeater. In fact, the ARRL says, "...a repeater does not have to be listed as being "closed" in The ARRL Repeater Directory in order to have a limited access." (Source: The ARRL's FCC Rule Book) The terms "open" and "closed" don't appear in the regulations at all! All repeater users must follow the rules of the repeater.

Nothing could be fairer. The ARRL says it clearest of all: "A repeater is not a public utility - you don't have a "right" to use it. When you are using someone else's repeater you are, in effect, a visitor in the owner's station. So, you should conduct yourself accordingly. If you use that station in a manner that the owner finds objectionable, that person has every right to revoke your privilege of using it!" (Source: The ARRL's FCC Rule Book)

Each station owner is responsible for the operation of their equipment. They must always meet the FCC defined rules, and may also implement a more stringent set of rules for the operation of their equipment. To use the repeater, you must follow the rules. There are repeaters with more lenient rules than ours and some which are much more restrictive. Beyond the FCC minimum requirements, it's up to each repeater owner / trustee to set their own operating rules. A repeater user needs to try to fit in. If you do not agree with these rules for the WD6AXM repeater or do not suit your personal needs or style,

we encourage you to go elsewhere. We wish for everyone willing to abide by these simple rules to freely use our repeater.

**Here are the minimum rules. They are pretty basic.**

We understand that everyone slips once in awhile. But, we expect all users of the WD6AXM repeater to do their very best to follow these few simple rules of repeater usage. Conduct on the repeater should be governed by common sense and courtesy. If you are not sure your actions are within the rules listed below, don't be afraid to ask.

- Always identify yourself according to the regulations. Basically that means at the beginning of your conversation, then every 10 minutes thereafter and finally at the end of your conversation. (Hint: The repeater is set to identify every 10 minutes of usage and one final time after 10 minutes of inactivity until it is used again.)
- Avoid lengthy conversations. Give some pauses between transmissions. Let the repeater carrier drop. The repeater has a 3 minute timeout timer.
- Any kind of "Business" communications is not permitted, both by FCC rules and the repeater licensee. This includes coordinating business affairs and actions, as well as conducting actions that result in monetary gains or benefits to a business. The first question to ask yourself, "Is the person I am communicating with, related to

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my business or commercial affairs and is the information I am communicating have anything to do with my business or commercial affairs?" Also, in some instances, personal family affairs could be construed as business affairs and should be communicated by other means. Health and Welfare is OK.

- Do not interrupt existing conversations unless you have something meaningful to add. Do so in a courteous manner.
- Yield existing conversations to recognized activities: RACES, Skywarn, Monday Night YSARC net, etc.
- Watch your language; our repeater is "G-Rated" 24 hours a day and family oriented.
- Do not engage in political or religious soap boxing.
- Conversations with sexual content or innuendo will not be tolerated.
- Do not engage in any personal antagonisms.
- Do not use CB lingo/language. Try not to use "Q" codes excessively.
- Always yield the frequency to a breaking station (any station with emergency traffic)
- Listing of items for sale OTHER than ham related equipment is not allowed. Negotiations are to take place elsewhere, (i.e. landline or in person).
- If you hear stations jamming or interfering do not make any

comment, ignore them. Do not interact, antagonize or acknowledge those interfering!

The WD6AXM repeater is open for all licensed Amateur radio operators to use, provided you follow the rules in using it.

Part 97, officially called Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97 (47 CFR Part 97), is the body of rules that govern the Amateur Radio Service.

We welcome you and hope you have many enjoyable conversations on the WD6AXM repeater. 73!

## **VE TEST SESSION**

At the last VE session 6 technicians test and 3 general tests were given. There were 4 new technicians and one new general. Congratulations to Mark Manross (KN6AOP) who made general, and Robert Ruschke (KN6AOM), Todd Daily (KN6AON), Gary Butner (KN6AOL) and Michael Bell (KN6A00) who made technician.

The next VE session will be 9:00 A.M., May 4, 2019 at 715 King Ave., Yuba City. A reminder, the new technician license question pool became active on July 1, 2018.

VE's are needed to administer the exam. The elements for Technician, General, and Extra class will be offered. If you are planning on taking an exam you will need two forms of ID, at least one of them must be a picture ID. A fee of \$15.00 is required. A calculator may also be used as long as it has had all of its memories cleared and there are no built in or preprogrammed formulas.

If you are upgrading to a higher class

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you need to bring your license and a photocopy of the license.

If you take an exam and pass, you can take the next higher class exam for no additional cost. If you do not pass and wish to try again an additional fee will be required.

Good luck to everyone taking exams.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

### 70th International DX Convention

Start Date: 04/12/2019

End Date: 04/14/2019

Location: The Visalia Convention Center  
303 East Acequia Avenue  
Visalia, CA 93277

Website:

<http://www.dxconvention.com/index.html>

Sponsor: Northern California DX Club

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In:

Public Contact: Michael Flowers,  
K6MKF

1412 Sprucewood Drive San Jose, CA  
95118

Phone: 408-307-8258

Email: [mike.flowers@gmail.com](mailto:mike.flowers@gmail.com)

### Valley of the Moon ARC Annual Hamfest

Start Date: 04/27/2019

End Date: 04/27/2019

Location: Sonoma Veterans' Memorial  
Building

126 First Street West  
Sonoma, CA 95476

Website: <http://vomarc.org>

Sponsor: Valley of the Moon Amateur  
Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 145.35 (PL 88.5)

Public Contact: Darrel Jones, WD6BOR  
358 Patten Street Sonoma, CA 95476

Phone: 707-799-6382

Email: [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com)

## **MORSE CODE CLASS**



www.shutterstock.com · 100085864

The Samuel F Morse ARC will be running a 10-week CW for beginner's course. This course will be held once a week for 2 hours (7 PM until 9 PM) each Wednesday evening in Carmichael.

You do NOT need to be a licensed operator to join our class. We will begin Wednesday evening April 10th (ending June 12th).

Students will be taught the complete International Morse Code alphabet, numbers, pro-signs, how to adjust and send on a Morse Code straight. Please contact Mike, N6MQL for more information: [admin@w6sfm.com](mailto:admin@w6sfm.com)

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## ***NEXT GENERAL MEETING***

The next general meeting will be held Tues., Apr 9th at Marysville First United Methodist Church, 730 D Street, Marysville. There will be a drawing at this meeting.

## ***CLUB STORE***

The club has the following items available for purchase at cost.

1. PL295 Coax connectors, 83 each. Cost is \$1.84 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 62 each. Cost is \$0.64 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 35 red/ black pairs. Cost is \$1.00 per pair.
4. RG8X strain relief boots, 5 each. Cost is \$0.50 each.
5. RG8X Black Coax, 1 spool 210 feet, 1 spool 210 foot feet. Cost is \$0.39 per foot.
6. BNC Female to SMA Female Adapter, 6 each. Cost is \$3.50 each.
7. SO-239 bulkhead connector. 3 each. Cost is \$2.65 each
8. RG-213 Coax cable, about 265 feet. Cost is \$0.50 per foot.
9. Red/Black Power Cable, 50 feet. Cost is \$1.38 per foot.
10. LMR240 Double Shielded Coax, 1000 feet. Cost is \$0.26 per foot.
11. Dacron rope, 3/16" 770 pound pull strength. 1000 feet. Cost is \$0.15 per foot.

If you are interested in purchasing

any of these items contact the club store manager, Curtis (KF6VFP) at (530) 743-3003, by email at [kf6vfp@arrl.net](mailto:kf6vfp@arrl.net), on the air, or at one of the club meetings.

## ***ITEMS FOR SALE***

NQ6M Silent Key Equipment for sale  
Contact for prices: Leroy (KJ6DKM) at [landusmith@att.net](mailto:landusmith@att.net)

1. Yaesu FT-2800 – 2-Meter Mobile
2. ICOM IC-38A - 220 MHz Mobile
3. Yaesu FTDX-400 - HF Transceiver - Tube
4. Yaesu FV-400 - External VFO
5. Yaesu FT-212 – 2-Meter Mobile
6. 2 MFJ Coax Switches
7. 48-Foot Tower

## ***BOARD MEETINGS***

Board meetings are held at the American Red Cross Center. The Red Cross building is located at 125 E. Onstott Road, Yuba City.

The next board meeting will be Wed., 17 Apr. 2019. Visitors are welcome.

## ***MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL***

It is getting to be that time of year again when we remind everyone to renew membership for 2019. The application form for renewal is available on the club website at:

<http://ysarc.net/join-now.html>.

You can also make a donation to the repeater fund at the same time if you are so inclined.



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## **COMMENTS**

✓**Technician, General, and Extra Class** study guides are available at the Sutter and Yuba County Libraries. Call number: **621.384**. Note: the technician study guides are not the latest.

✓YSARC's web page is: **ysarc.net**.

Past and current issue's of the VHN are available on this website.

Click on the upper right-hand icon on the homepage to join the club's **Facebook** page.

✓Send your ham related articles and pictures to share in your VHN. Pictures of ham shacks, antenna projects, antenna parties, field day, Bike Around the Buttes, etc. are appreciated [KI6CSN@arrl.net](mailto:KI6CSN@arrl.net) or [KF6FVP@arrl.net](mailto:KF6FVP@arrl.net)

✓If you have any ideas of what you'd like to see in this newsletter, please let us know.

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## Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes February 20, 2019  
Red Cross Building, 2125 E W Onstott Rd, Yuba City, CA 95991

Meeting called to order by President Chris McLain KK6VZD at 18:59 hours.

### Officers and Board Members present unless noted:

President: Chris McLain KK6VZD

Vice President: Daniel Weber KM6RHC

Secretary: Linda Maas KK6SOZ

Treasurer: June McJunkin N6JEY

B M: Joe Visalli N9BD

B M: Mark Peters KA6FFM

B M: John Rogers KI6UDF – absent

B M: Neil Bossard N6CNY

B M: Joseph Peterson K6JFP

Members and Guests present: Udell and Leroy Smith KJ6DKM, Repeater Trustee Dave Gartner WD6AXM

### Secretary's Report:

- Motion to accept January 16, 2019 board meeting minutes as presented, Mark/Neil, passed.
- New membership applications received from the following: Ken Whitsett K6AOQ, Bob Chavez KJ6VVV, Mike Smith K9CCO, Matthew Gilbert N6JKU. Motion to approve them, Neil/Joe, passed.
- Letter of appreciation received from Doug Poppelreiter on behalf of Paradise Amateur Radio Society for the solar panels we donated and delivered to them.

### Treasurer's Report:

- June presented the financial report for February 20, 2019. Motion to approve, Mark/Joe, passed.
- June will renew our SI-100 form for \$20.

### Old Business

- Tech class still going well.
- PayPal is linked to our website and savings account.
- Linda updated the Contacts section of yuba.sutter.arc Gmail account for mass email use. The contacts include current and recent members, and two others who requested to receive emailings.
- Bike around the Buttes - discussion of club sponsored HF event at SutterHS, Chris will find out if they have anything else planned for that day. Neil will get update from John regarding volunteer count. Concern about a part of route between Humphrey and Acacia that is a path, not a road. Use an ATV?
- Member badges – no new progress
- Club website – Kevin will share new software program with Joe, Chris expressed interest in it.
- QSL cards – Joe brought samples. GotPrint will make 100 for \$17.32 + \$14.56 shipping, 500 for \$36.59 + \$14.56 shipping, 1000 for \$42.35 + \$15.20 shipping.
- School Round-up went better this year. Every group that came in got to talk to someone.

### New Business

- Discussion of requirement to be an ARRL affiliated club that 51% of voting membership be ARRL

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members. We currently have 59 members, 54 licensed members, and 31 ARRL members; 52%. In most clubs non-licensed members cannot vote. Need to check bylaws on membership and voting.

- Sutter HS is requesting volunteers the last Wednesday of each month for a couple hours to work with the kids on radio during teacher in-service.
- Manna relayed info that Rotary Club would like a presentation on ham radio, Chris will contact them for more details
- Daniel bought a case of grounding straps, is selling them for \$2/each and will donate \$1/each to club
- Daniel is donating a 2m radio to a Sutter HS student who passes their ham test, if more than one pass, a drawing to determine winner.
- June and Mark will be absent at March board meeting.

## Upcoming Events

- March 2 – VE testing
- March 5 – Club Meeting, ham swap
- March 20 – Board Meeting
- April 27 - Bike around the Buttes, POC: John Rogers KI6UDF
- May 4 - 3F Century Bike Ride , POC: Mark Peters KA6FFM
- June 22-23 - Field Day

Motion to adjourn at 20:15 hours, Mark/Neil, passed.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary