

VALLEY HAM NEWS

April 2020

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

P.O. Box 1169
Yuba City, California 95992

April 2020

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Webmasters: Kevin Conde, K1KMC
Joe Visalli, N9BD
Club Callsign: W6KJ

CLUB OFFICERS 2020

Pres.: Daniel Weber, KM6RHC
Vice Pres.: Mike Morris, KK6ISQ
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020

Joe Visalli, N9BD
Chris McLain, KK6VZD
Brandon Guthrie, KM6JID
Kevin Klatt, KM6WFW
Vandell "Bud" Myers, KK1BUD
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

2020

02 May – VE Session
05 May – General Club Meeting

Cancelled

21 May – Board Meeting TBD

02 Jun – General Club Meeting TBD

18 Jun – Board Meeting TBD

27-28 Jun – Field Day

YSARC Weekly Breakfast

Wednesday mornings – Cancelled
until further notice

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.

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

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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.

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.

CANCELLED/RESCHEDULED

Due to the COVID-19 virus going around the following have been cancelled or rescheduled.

Cancelled:

- General club meeting until the church facilities are reopened.
- Board meetings until the Red Cross Facilities are reopened.
- Loomis Ham Fest
- Weekly breakfasts at Dancing Tomato until further notice.

Rescheduled:

- Bike Around the Buttes has been moved to 26 Sep 2020.
- 3F Century Ride has been moved to 10 Oct 2020.

FROM THE EDITORS

Hopefully this newsletter finds all of you safe and healthy. Marsha and I have been staying around home. When

we do have to go into town we have been practicing distancing, wearing masks, and gloves. A lot of the little projects that keep getting put off are being done. We've also been keeping in touch with our children and family via phone and FaceTime.

I know that this is a scary time for all of us; but I also know that we will get thru this.

To stay busy, do things around the house you have been putting off. Learn something new. Study for your general or extra class license. Plant a garden. Exercise, read, etc.

CLUB STORE

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

1. PL295 Coax connectors, 29 each. Cost is \$1.84 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 51 each. Cost is \$0.64 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 25 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 185 feet, 1 spool 210 foot feet. Cost is \$0.39 per foot.
6. BNC Female to SMA Female Adapter, 7 each. Cost is \$3.50 each.
7. Red/Black Power Cable, 45 feet. Cost is \$1.38 per foot.
8. LMR240 Double Shielded Coax, 644 feet. Cost is \$0.26 per foot.

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9. Dacron rope, 3/16" 770 pound pull strength. About 800 feet. Cost is \$0.15 per foot.
10. RCA Male to BNC Female Adapters, 5 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
11. BNC Male Crimp 20 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
12. BNC Male to Male Adapter 3 each. Cost is 3.00 each.
13. SO-239 to SO-239 4 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
14. TNC Male Crimp 10 each. Cost is 2.50 each.
15. BNC Male to RCA Female Adapter 7 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

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, on the air, or at one of the club meetings.

WEBSITES

Want to study for your Technician, General or Amateur Extra license – check out Dave Casler KE6OG you tube channel. His videos closely follow the ARRL manuals. He also has other videos of interest to hams; such as, ground, antennas, etc.

You tube channel Ham Radio Testing:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgZhejy7ObVY15JcWY4cpTA>

TRANSMITTER TIME-OUT TIMER (TOT)

What is it? The transmitter TOT feature is a “safety switch” that will limit a single transmission time to a pre-programmed length of time. When that time is exceeded, the transmitter will unkey and until the Push-To-Talk button is released or a radio transmit malfunction is cleared. In most radios, it will also emit an alert tone to get your attention that something is wrong

Most times, the “malfunction” is a stuck **Push-To-Talk** (PTT) switch due to a microphone being wedged between car seats or something being laid on top of a base station microphone. In some cases, the PTT may be coming from an external source, such as a computer attached, being used for some forms of digital communications modes. In some rare cases, there may be an actual internal failure of the radio or maybe a bad mic cord.

With regards to repeater operation, the **repeater does has a time-out timer** to satisfy FCC regulation 97.213(b) requiring us to limit **repeater TX** transmissions to a maximum of three minutes of continuous time under automatic control. For most repeaters, this timer is driven by a combination of receiver input signal and/or CTCSS tone to drive the repeater transmitter key up time. So, when this timer expires, the repeater will unkey and not return until the carrier at the repeater input is removed. This affectively renders the repeater unusable.

In some cases of a stuck “hot mic”,

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some very embarrassing things can occur and might even result in a couple of FCC violations. When this situation goes on for a long period of time, the repeater licensee and/or a group of repeater users may amass to search for the “**interfering signal**”. This effort will result in the expenditure of a significant amount of time and fuel costs that might be better spent elsewhere (i.e. family time).

I did spent some time researching a number of the more popular brands and models of radios that are used in the area. Almost all of the major brands have the **TOT** feature available. About the only one that didn't appear to have it, was the Baofeng UV3R. Your Users manual will have all the information needed to enable and use this feature.

To sum it all up, utilizing the **TOT** feature has several benefits. At the very least it may save you some real embarrassment. In the case of an HT, it will also promote battery conservation by keeping you from making excessively-long transmissions. It can also help protect your radio from overheating. Most radios have a very short duty cycle.

At the very most, it will help prevent **interference** to others.

PLEASE, use it if you have it. Your fellow Hams will appreciate it.

73's,
Dave (WD6AXM)

MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL

Manna (KA6ETB) has again volunteered to coordinate the Monday

Night Net Control operators. To date she has the following:

Jan	Chris	KK6VZD
Feb	Robert	K6VNR
Mar	Joseph	K6JFP
Apr	Chris	KK6VZD
May	Manna	KA6ETB
Jun	Mike	N6MRB
Jul	Chris	KK6VZD
Aug	Joe	N9BD
Sep	Mike	N6MRB
Oct	Chris	KK6VZD
Nov	Mike	N6MRB
Dec	Manna	KA6ETB

Thanks to all who have volunteered.

Manna (KA6ETB)

BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES UPDATE

The 35th annual Bike Around The Buttes (BATB) was postponed. It will be held September 26th this year. Neil (N6CNY) is heading up this event this year. All participation is greatly appreciated. If you would like to volunteer, but cannot do a full day, that is perfectly fine! We can work things around. Packets will be going out ASAP to everyone who is participating via email.

BATB Supports the Yuba-Sutter Children's Type 1 Diabetes Support Group. It has a 20-mile, 40-mile, 65-mile and 100-mile routes. The 100-mile riders start from 0600-0630, 65-mile riders start from 0630-0730, 40-mile riders start from 0730-0830, and the 20-mile riders start from 0830-1000 hrs.

Positions as of 3/6/2020:

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Position	Name	Call
Net Control 1	Mike	KK6ISQ
Net Control 2	Curtis	KF6VFP
Net Control Runner	Brandon	KM6JID
Rest Stop 1	Mike	N6MRB
Rest Stop 1	Britt	N/A
Rest Stop 2	Marsha	KI6CSN
Rest Stop 3		
Rest Stop 4	Bill	WA6OHP
SAG 1	Daniel	N6APX
SAG 2	Joe	K6JFP
SAG 3	Kevin	KM6WFW
SAG 4	Bud	KK1BUD
SAG 5	Mike	KC5DWF
SAG 6	Robert	K6VNR
SAG 7	Paul	K6WAP
SAG 8		
SAG 9	Chris	KK6VZD
SAG 10	LeRoy	KJ6DKM
SAG 11	Steven	KE6INW
Bike Path		
Victor 1	Neil	N6CNY
Victor 2	Daniel	KM6RHC

Anyone available to volunteer, please contact Neil at n6cny@yahoo.com.

73,

Neil E. Bossard

FCC: N6CNY

Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Board Member: 2018/2019

Yuba-Sutter ARES: Assistant

Emergency Coordinator

SKYWARN: SU-34

GENERAL CLUB MEETING

Our next club meeting is to be determined. At present the First United Methodist hall we used is closed until

further notice. Once things return to some semblance of normality the date will be in the VHN and announced on the Monday Night Net. Check in on Monday at 1900 (7:00 P.M.) for further information. Guaranteed you cannot catch the virus via radio.

NEW ARRL MEMBER BENEFIT

Not an ARRL member and considering becoming one, or just curious or already a member? The ARRL just announced a new benefit for all ARRL members:

From an ARRL email received April 24th:

"ARRL members will now receive digital access to four ARRL magazines beginning with their latest issues. Joining QST and On the Air on a digital platform will be the bimonthly editions of QEX — The Forum for Communications Experimenters and NCJ — National Contest Journal. QEX includes articles, columns, and other features ranging from construction projects to more advanced technical information in radio theory and practice. NCJ targets radio amateurs active in radiosport, and includes scores, technical articles, contributions from top contesters, and advice for radiosport enthusiasts alike.

"All members can enjoy specialized content and a high-quality reading experience whether at their desk or on the go. Offering this suite of digital magazines is an opportunity for us to give members more of what they want while adding value to ARRL membership" said ARRL Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY.

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ARRL's digital magazine editions provide replicas of the printed editions with added functionality, allowing users to fully search issues, enlarge pages, share articles, and more. All four are easily accessible through any web browser from members-only links. The free ARRL Magazines app also supports downloading complete issues for offline reading. It is available for iOS and Android in the Apple App Store and Google Play.

For more information visit www.arrl.org/arrl-magazines ”

ARRL EXTRA CLASS LICENSE MANUAL

NOTE: The Extra Class (Element 4) question pool is valid until June 30, 2020. Beginning July 1st the new question pool will take effect. That means if you plan on testing for Amateur Extra on July 11th you need to study the new question pool. The new questions are available at:

www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=356.

Be sure to download the diagrams also.

ARRL says new editions of its Extra Class study materials (for exams given on, or after, July 1, 2020) will be by mid or late May.

FOR SALE

Herb (W6HBU) has for sale:

1. 2012 iMac for \$450.00. Operating system 10.11.6 OS X El Capitan, 2.8 GHz, 4 GB RAM, 320 GB harddrive, 3 USB ports, 24 inch

display, CD-DVD Superdrive, mini display port, 10/100/1000 ethernet, audio in/optical digital audio in port, headphone out/optical digital audio out port, firwire 400 port, firewire 800 port, keyboard and mouse.

2. MFJ1704 quad antenna switch for \$70.00
3. MFJ 1702 dual antenna switch for \$40.00



iMac for sale

Contact Curtis (KF6VFP) if you wish at KF6VFP@arrl.net to purchase these items.

MAY QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS

May 2 – Indiana QSO Party – CW, Phone

May 2 – Delaware QSO Party – CW, Phone

May 2 – New England QSO Party – CW, Phone, Digital

May 9 – Arkansas QSO Party – CW, Phone

May 16 – Portuguese Navy Day

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Contest, CW, Phone, Digital
May 16 – His Majesty King of Spain
Contest – CW

Many others can be found at:
http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest/Corral/2020/May_2020_Corral.pdf

VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session is scheduled for May 2nd at the 9:00 A.M., Twin Cities Rod and Gun Club, 1125 Market Street, Yuba City.

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 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.

BOARD MEETINGS

Our next board meeting is to be determined. At present the American Red Cross classroom we used is closed until further notice. Once things return to some semblance of normality the date will be in the VHN, an email from Daniel

(KM6RHC) and announced on the Monday Night Net. Check in on Monday at 1900 (7:00 P.M.) for further information. Guaranteed you cannot catch the virus via radio.

COMMENTS

✓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 or KF6FVP@arrl.net

✓For more information about QSO parties state by state: ysarc.net - [Event - State QSO Party Calendar](#).

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