

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

January 2021

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**YSARC Web Page:** <http://www.ysarc.net>

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

January 2021

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Club Call Sign: W6KJ

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## **CLUB OFFICERS**

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

06 Mar – VE Session  
16 Mar – General Meeting

06 Apr – Board Meeting  
20 Apr – General Meeting

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Chris McLain, KK6VZD  
Brandon Guthrie, KM6JID  
Kevin Klatt, KM6WFW  
Neil Bossard N6CNY  
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

04 May – Board Meeting  
08 May – VE Session  
18 May – General Meeting

01 Jun – Board Meeting  
15 Jun – General Meeting  
19 Jun – Kids Day  
26-27 Jun – Field Day

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

## **YSARC Weekly Breakfast**

Wednesday mornings – Cancelled  
until further notice

## **LIAISONS**

ARES: Neil Bossard, N6CNY  
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD  
VE Liaison: LeRoy Smith, KJ6DKM

## **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.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

02 Feb – Board Meeting  
08-12 Feb – School Club Roundup  
16 Feb – General Meeting

02 Mar – Board Meeting

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Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. – the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (VHF) Net, on the WD6AXM repeater followed by an HF Net on 3987 KHz LSB.

Sunday 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.

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.

## **UPCOMING WEBINARS**

### **Easy Helical Copper Tape and PVC 2m Vertical Antenna**

Presented by John Portune, W6NBC  
Here's how to quickly build from hardware-store copper tape and PVC pipe a tiny 18 in. continuously loaded light weight portable or base station 2m omni-directional vertical antenna with performance and efficiency comparable to a 5 ft. J-pole. Cost: roughly \$10. It's an easy afternoon's home brew project, ideal for the new ham but equal to the serious hams' needs. It is great for events like bike-a-thons. It also makes an excellent ham radio club hands-on

build-it meeting project. Further, it adapts well to other bands.

Tuesday February 2, 2021 @ 1 pm EST (1800 UTC)

### **Interesting Stories about Ham Radio & Weather Spotting**

Presented by Rob Macedo, KD1CY  
One of the most critical ways Amateur Radio supports agencies such as the National weather service, National Hurricane Center and Emergency Management is via weather spotting via the NWS SKYWARN program. This presentation goes through interesting stories about how Amateurs involved in SKYWARN have saved lives and property and how this is an important Amateur Radio activity.

Thursday February 11, 2021 @ 8 pm EST (0100 UTC on Friday, February 12)

### **Maxim Memorial Station W1AW Tour** Presented by Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, W1AW Station Manager

Maxim Memorial Station W1AW, located in Newington, Connecticut was established to honor the memory of ARRL's co-founder and first president, Hiram Percy Maxim. Although the first radio station of the ARRL was actually located in Hartford, Connecticut and active as W1MK, W1AW in Newington is known worldwide and considered the radio station most associated with Hiram Percy Maxim. Formally established in 1938 – nearly two years after the death of Hiram Percy Maxim - W1AW has consistently been on the air, save for the time when the station was ordered off the air by the FCC because of World War II. This guided tour will provide an

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inside look at W1AW and will be led by Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q. Thursday February 18, 2021 @ 3:30 pm EST (2030 UTC)

I recommend a past webinar by Greg Evans, K56TX. The title of this webinar is: **Emergency Communications: Why Train?**

**Emergency Communications** fits well with Neil's, N6CNY, presentation about ARES in January.

EMCOMM: ARS, ARES, RACES, NTS, MARS, and SHARES-RF are discussed in this webinar.

~Marsha, KI6CSN

## **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, 584 feet. Cost is \$0.26 per foot.

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](mailto:KF6VFP@arrl.net), on the air, or at one of the club meetings.

## **GENERAL MEETING**

At the last general club meeting Neil Bossard, N6CNY, gave an excellent presentation on ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services). You can see the Power Point presentation he used at the Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Facebook page. From there you can also download a application form, get a list of frequencies they use, and get a list of the ARES activation levels.

Next month at the General Zoom Meeting on 16 Feb. Robert Kelly (K6VNR) will be doing a presentation on WINLINK, an email program used by ARES.

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## **ARRL ON THE PURPOSE OF AMATEUR RADIO**

From ARRL email

“For over 100 years amateur radio and ARRL — the National Association for Amateur Radio® — have stood for the development of the science and art of communications, public service, and the enhancement of international goodwill. Amateur Radio’s long history and service to the public has solidified the well-earned reputation that “Amateur Radio saves lives.” Amateur Radio Operators, due to their history of public service, their training, and the requirement that they be licensed by the FCC have earned their status as a component of critical communications infrastructure and as a reliable resource “when all else fails.” Amateur Radio is about development of communications and responsible public service. Its misuse is inconsistent with its history of service and its statutory charter. ARRL does not support its misuse for purposes inconsistent with these values and purposes.”

## **FCC ISSUES ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY**

From the ARRL website:

“01/17/2021

The FCC has released an Enforcement Advisory for licensees and operators across radio services.

[Complete text of FCC Enforcement Advisory follows.]

FCC ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY

DA 21-73

Released: January 17, 2021

**WARNING: AMATEUR AND  
PERSONAL RADIO SERVICES  
LICENSEES AND OPERATORS MAY  
NOT USE RADIO EQUIPMENT TO  
COMMIT OR FACILITATE CRIMINAL  
ACTS**

The Enforcement Bureau (Bureau) of the Federal Communications Commission issues this Enforcement Advisory to remind licensees in the Amateur Radio Service, as well as licensees and operators in the Personal Radio Services, that the Commission prohibits the use of radios in those services to commit or facilitate criminal acts.

The Bureau has become aware of discussions on social media platforms suggesting that certain radio services regulated by the Commission may be an alternative to social media platforms for groups to communicate and coordinate future activities. The Bureau recognizes that these services can be used for a wide range of permitted purposes, including speech that is protected under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. Amateur and Personal Radio Services, however, may not be used to commit or facilitate crimes.

Specifically, the Bureau reminds amateur licensees that they are prohibited from transmitting “communications intended to facilitate a criminal act” or “messages encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning.” 47 CFR § 97.113(a)(4).

Likewise, individuals operating radios

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in the Personal Radio Services, a category that includes Citizens Band radios, Family Radio Service walkie-talkies, and General Mobile Radio Service, are prohibited from using those radios "in connection with any activity which is against Federal, State or local law." 47 CFR § 95.333(a).

Individuals using radios in the Amateur or Personal Radio Services in this manner may be subject to severe penalties, including significant fines, seizure of the offending equipment, and, in some cases, criminal prosecution. 47 U.S.C. §§ 401, 501, 503, 510.

Media inquiries should be directed to 202-418-0500 or [MediaRelations@fcc.gov](mailto:MediaRelations@fcc.gov).

To file a complaint with the FCC, visit <https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov> or call 1-888-CALL-FCC. To report a crime, contact your local law enforcement office or the FBI.

To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (TTY).

Issued by: Chief, Enforcement Bureau"

## ***FCC INVITS COMMENTS ON EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF VOLUNTEER EXAM COORDINATORS***

"ARRL Bulletin 3 ARLB003  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT January 8, 2021  
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB003

## **ARLB003 FCC Invites Comments on Expanding the Number of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators**

In a January 5 Public Notice, the FCC requested comments on whether the current 14 Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) are sufficient to facilitate the efforts of their accredited Volunteer Examiners (VEs) in administering amateur radio examinations. The ARRL VEC is the largest of the 14 VECs in the US. Comments are due by February 5, and reply comments are due by February 19. After Congress authorized it to do so, the FCC adopted rules in 1983 to allow volunteers to prepare and administer amateur radio examinations, and it established the system of VECs and VEs.

The Public Notice can be found online in PDF format at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-21-9A1.pdf>.

"VECs introduced consistency into the volunteer examiner program by centralizing accreditation of volunteer examiners, coordinating the dates and times for scheduling examinations, and managing the various administrative tasks arising from examinations," the FCC said. Authorized VECs may operate in any of the 13 VEC regions but must service at least one region. The FCC pointed out that some VECs now offer remote examinations.

"The Commission has long maintained 14 VECs and now seeks to consider whether they continue to serve the evolving needs of the amateur community, or whether there are unmet

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needs that warrant considering expanding the number of VECs."

The FCC Public Notice provided questions for framing comments:

\* Are the existing 14 VECs sufficient to coordinate the efforts of Volunteer Examiners in preparing and administering examinations for amateur radio operator licenses, or are additional VECs needed?

\* What needs are currently being met, and which needs, if any, are not?

\* If the FCC were to allow additional VECs, how many more would be needed to satisfy existing Amateur Radio Service license examination needs? (The FCC indicated that it will likely cap the number of additional VECs at five.)

\* Given that VECs use a collaborative process to create examination question pools and volunteer examination administration protocols, would additional VECs enhance or hinder this process?

\* How would increasing the number of VECs address the unmet needs, if any, of the amateur radio community, and what obstacles or complications could result from increasing the number of VECs?

Interested parties may file short comments on WT Docket No. 21-2 via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing Service (Express) at,

<https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/express>.

Visit the FCC's "How to Comment on FCC Proceedings" page for information on filing extended comments at,

<https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/how-comment>.

NNNN"

## **MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL**

Manna (KA6ETB) has again volunteered to coordinate the Monday Night Net Control operators. To date she has the following:

2021		
Jan	Chris McLain	KK6VZD
Feb	Joseph Peterson	K6JFP
Mar	Mike Morris	KK6ISQ
Apr	Grant Mitchell	W6JIB
May	Steven Shepard	KN6IJD
Jun	Manna Whelchel	KA6ETB
Jul		
Aug	Bob McClard	N6BOB
Sep		
Oct	Neil Bossard	N6CNY
Nov		
Dec		

Volunteers for 2021 are still needed. Thanks to all who have volunteered. Manna (KA6ETB)

## **VE TEST SESSION**

At the last VE session there were 6 new Technicians, and 1 upgrade to General. Congratulations to:

Cynthia Hee (KN6MWZ),  
Mervin Hee (KN6MXA),  
Jeffery Hyatt (KN6MXB),  
Paul Hyatt (KN6MXC),  
Daviel Wright (KN6MXD), and  
Jason Tedder (KN6MXE)

who passed the Technician Class exam. Also congratulations to:

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Edmund Davies (KI6SZK) who upgraded to General Class.

The next VE session is scheduled for Sat. Mar. 06, 2021 at 715 King Ave., Yuba City at 9:00 A.M. VE's are needed to administer the exam. The elements for Technician, General, and Extra class will be offered.

The exam requires two forms of ID. At least one of them must be a picture ID. A fee of \$15.00 is required.

A calculator may be used as long as it has had all of its memories cleared and there are no built in or preprogrammed formulas.

Upgrades to a higher class also require two forms of ID. At least one of them must be a picture ID. Also, 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.

## **JANUARY QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS**

06 Feb, Vermont QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

06 Feb, Minnesota QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

06 Feb, British Columbia QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

06 Feb, North America Sprint; CW

08-12 Feb, ARRL School Club Roundup; CW, Phone

13 Feb, Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) YL-OM (Old Man)

Contest; CW, Phone, Digital

20 Feb, ARRL International DX Contest; CW

27 Feb, South Carolina QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

27 Feb, North America QSO Party; Digital

28 Feb, North Carolina QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

Many other contests can be found at:

<http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2021/February 2021 Corral.pdf>

## **FCC REDUCES PROPOSED AMATEUR RADIO FEE TO \$35**

"The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications." In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. Administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address, are exempt.

ARRL had filed comments opposing the FCC's \$50 fee and application fees and urged its members to follow suit.

As the FCC noted in its R&O, although some commenters supported the proposed \$50 fee as reasonable and fair, "ARRL and many individual commenters argued that there was no cost-based justification for application

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fees in the Amateur Radio Service." The fee proposal was contained in a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 - the so-called "Ray Baum's Act."

"After reviewing the record, including the extensive comments filed by amateur radio licensees and based on our revised analysis of the cost of processing mostly automated processes discussed in our methodology section, we adopt a \$35 application fee, a lower application fee than the Commission proposed in the NPRM for personal licenses, in recognition of the fact that the application process is mostly automated," the FCC said in the R&O. "We adopt the proposal from the NPRM to assess no additional application fee for minor modifications or administrative updates, which also are highly automated."

The FCC turned away the arguments of some commenters that the FCC should exempt amateur radio licensees. The FCC stated that it had no authority to create an exemption "where none presently exists." The FCC also disagreed with those who argued that amateur radio licensees should be exempt from fees because of their public service contribution during emergencies and disasters.

"We are very much aware of these laudable and important services amateur radio licensees provide to the American public," the FCC said, but noted that specific exemptions provided under Section 8 of the so-called "Ray

Baum's Act" requiring the FCC to assess the fees do not apply to amateur radio personal licenses. "Emergency communications, for example, are voluntary and are not required by our rules," the FCC noted. While the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service, the amateur service is not an emergency radio service."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. The FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service, which had been excluded previously. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

The effective date of the fee schedule has not been established.

For more information go to:"

[arrl.org/news/fcc-reduces-proposed-amateur-radio-application-fee-to-35](http://arrl.org/news/fcc-reduces-proposed-amateur-radio-application-fee-to-35)

## **BOARD MEETINGS**

Our next board meeting is Tues., 2 Feb. It will be an in-person (with social distancing) and zoom meeting. Zoom details to be provided by email, later. Note: Zoom meetings can be attended via computer Zoom application (app), mobile phone app, iPad, or Android app, or dial in (landline or mobile phone).



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## **HAM HELP**

Steven Martinez (KE6INW) is asking for help with Yaesu Fusion. He has a new radio and is looking for help getting started. Anyone who has experience with this and is willing to Elmer him can contact him via email at [sm\\_martinez@comcast.net](mailto:sm_martinez@comcast.net).

From the 26 Jan 2021 Monday night net. Chris McLain (KK6VZD).

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

It is getting to be that time of year again when we remind everyone to renew membership for 2021.

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

Members can now use paypal to pay their dues. When you get into PayPal and choose "Send Money" type in [PAYPAL@YSARC.NET](mailto:PAYPAL@YSARC.NET) as the recipient and it will show Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club. This is the recipient that works. There is a section for notes so you can detail where you want the

money to go and you can even leave details about your application, whether it's for Full or Associate, e-mails, phone numbers, Call Sign, etc.

Thanks to Chris (KK6VZD) for providing the procedures on using paypal to pay dues.

## **COMMENTS**

YSARC's web page is: [ysarc.net](http://ysarc.net).

The web page is currently being updated. Thanks to our webmaster, Kevin Klatt, KM6WFW.

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 anyone has ideas/ suggestions for club activities that we can do online or virtually please contact any club officer or board member or email your suggestions to [board@ysarc.net](mailto:board@ysarc.net).

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## Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 1, 2020 Held on Zoom platform, hosted by June



Meeting called to order by Vice President Mike KK6ISQ at 18:30 hours.

### Officers and Board Members present unless noted:

President: Daniel Weber KM6RHC -  
absent  
Vice President: Mike Morris KK6ISQ  
Secretary: Linda Maas KK6SOZ  
Treasurer: June McJunkin N6JEY

Director: Joe Visalli N9BD  
Director: Chris McLain KK6VZD  
Director: Bud Myers KK1BUD- joined at  
18:47  
Director: Brandon Guthrie KM6JID  
Director: Kevin Klatt KM6WFW - joined at  
18:45

Members and Guests present: Dave Gipson KC9EI, Brenda Gipson KC9EIO, Neil Bossard N6CNY, LeRoy Smith KJ6DKM, Claire Schloenvogt KI6VWG.

### Secretary's Report:

- Motion to approve 2 sets of minutes: November 10, 2020 Board Meeting and November 17 Annual Meeting, Joe/Chris, passed by the 3 directors present at that time: Joe, Chris, and Brandon.
- Motion to accept new member Bob Dove KN6MCF, Chris/Brandon, passed by the 3 directors present at that time: Joe, Chris, and Brandon.

### Treasurer's Report:

- June did not have financial reports prepared at this time.
- Discussion of pros/cons of Paypal payments. More information needed.

### Old Business

- Elections were held at the November 17 club meeting on Zoom with the following results:
  - Dan Weber KM6RHC- President
  - Mike Morris KK6ISQ- Vice President
  - June McJunkin N6JEY - Treasurer
  - Linda Maas KK6SOZ - Secretary
  - Joe Visalli N9BD - Board Member
  - Chris McLain KK6VZD - Board Member
  - Brandon Guthrie KM6JID - Board Member
  - Kevin Klatt KM6WFW - Board Member
  - Neil Bossard N6CNY - Board Member
  - 2020 Budget also voted on and passed by the membership.

Motion to approve the results of the November 17 election of Officers and Board Members and the 2020 Budget, Joe/Chris, passed by the 3 directors present at that time: Joe, Chris, and Brandon.

- Kevin reported the new YSARC website should be live by Sunday. It will still be at ysarc.net.

Motion to adjourn at 18:52 hours, Joe/Chris, passed unanimously.

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Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary