

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

January 2025

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**YSARC Web Page:** <http://www.YubaSutterARC.org>

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

January 2025

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Club Call Sign: W6KJ

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## **2025 CLUB OFFICERS**

Pres.: John Rogers KI6UDF  
Vice Pres.: Steve Shepard, KN6IJD  
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ  
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

## **2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Paul Hyatt, W6PNH  
Bud Myers KK1BUD  
Devon Goss N0DVE  
Leonard Lanigan KO6DVV

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

## **LIAISONS**

ARES: Robert Kelly K6VNR  
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD  
VE Liaison: Paul Hyatt, W6PNH

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

01 Feb – Fox Hunt  
04 Feb – Board Meeting  
10-14 Feb – School Club Roundup  
18 Feb – General Meeting

01 Mar – Bok Kai Parade  
04 Mar – Board Meeting

08 Mar – VE Session  
18 Mar – General Meeting  
22 Mar – Loomis Ham Fest

01 April – Board Meeting  
12 April – Fox Hunt  
15 April – General Meeting  
18 April – World Amateur Radio Day

03 May – VE Session  
03 May – Bike Around the Buttes  
04 May – Star Wars Day  
06 May – Board Meeting  
20 May – General Meeting

## **Local Nets**

**YSARC Net:** Monday night at 7:00 P.M. (146.085+) PL 127.3 with swap shop and help sessions.

**Butte County ARES Net:** Monday night at 8:00 P.M. (145.290–), PL 110.9

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

**ARES Net:** Thursday night at 7:00 P.M., (146.085+) PL 127.3.

**YL Net:** Sunday nights at 2000, (146.970- MHz) PL 123.0.

**ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (VHF) Net:** Third Thursday of each month

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at 7:30 P.M.: on the WD6AXM repeater followed by an HF Net on 3987 kHz LSB.

**OARS Net:** Sunday night at 8:00 P.M., (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.

## CLUB STORE

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

1. PL259 Coax connectors, 21 each. Cost is \$1.84 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 83 each. Cost is \$0.64 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 103 red/ black pairs. Cost is \$1.09 per pair.
4. RG8X strain relief boots, 5 at \$0.50 each.
5. RG8X Black Coax, 1 spool 85 feet, 1-spool 100 feet and 1 coil of 122 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, 34 feet. Cost is \$1.38 per foot.
8. LMR240 Double Shielded Coax, 500 feet. Cost is \$0.26 per foot.

9. RCA Male to BNC Female Adapters, 5 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

10. BNC Male Crimp 20 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

11. BNC Male-to-Male Adapter 3 each. Cost is 3.00 each.

12. SO-239 to SO-239 2 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

13. TNC Male Crimp 10 each. Cost is 2.50 each.

14. BNC Male to RCA Female Adapter 7 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

There is a Power Pole crimper that can be checked out.

If you are interested in checking out the crimper or purchasing any of the club store items contact, Curtis (KF6VFP) at (530) 713-9068, by email at [KF6VFP@arrl.net](mailto:KF6VFP@arrl.net), on the air, or at one of the club meetings. At most club meetings he has the club store available excluding cable.

## FOR SALE

Dave McCready has the following items for sale:

1. Daiwa Cross needle SWR / Power meter CN 801 \$80
2. Ameritron AL-811 H Amplifier 800 watts PEP \$1,300
3. Delta -4 coax switch/ surge protector \$120
4. Astron RS-35A Power Supply \$250

If you are interested, Dave can be contacted by phone : 530.682.4338 or via email: [dnamcc@yahoo.com](mailto:dnamcc@yahoo.com).

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## **HAM RADIO OPERATORS SERVING DURING CALIFORNIA FIRESTORMS**

From the ARRL Letter for January 16, 2025:

“As the firestorms across Southern California continue to threaten millions of residents, trained amateur radio operators are serving critical volunteer roles to help officials spot fires before they get out of control. Dry conditions and wind gusts of 100 miles per hour have fueled days of devastating wildfires. Entire neighborhoods have been leveled by infernos.

The Eaton fire burned to the top of Mount Wilson, a critical logistical post for broadcast radio and television stations, as well as communications across the Southland. Federal agencies, air traffic control, local emergency responders, radio amateurs, and others all share tower space on the mountain.

While the main fires have been burning north and northwest of the central section of Los Angeles, just to the south, hams are standing watch. Orange County Fire Watch (OCFW) is a program locally organized by the Orange County Parks Department and the Irvine Conservancy.

During severe fire weather, volunteers go to preassigned locations within parks and open spaces to report conditions. Many of them are hams, using the amateur radio bands to fill in mobile network weak zones.

ARRL National Instructor Gordon West, WB6NOA, is among the deployed volunteers. He said hams are stepping up. “We’re all over the ARRL Orange Section on hilltops, reporting the wind and humidity, ash seen coming down, scanning for spot fires (none so far), smoke from the LA fires, guest activity at

the parks, and being a presence at trailheads with reflective vests and vehicle signs indicating Fire Watch,” he said.

Ray Hutchinson, AE6H, is a retired Firefighter who serves as the chief radio officer for Fire Watch. He says local clubs are key to providing the needed RF infrastructure. “Our local club, the South Orange Amateur Radio Association (SOARA), an ARRL Special Service Club, provides linked 2-meter and 70-centimeter repeaters: one high level and one coastal, for use by OCFW hams during deployments. There is a formal OCFW Net Control Station (NCS) for the entirety of these events,” he said.

Radio amateurs are also ready and able to serve at evacuation centers, providing support as needed.

Members of ARRL Headquarters staff have been in touch with ARRL volunteers and other ham radio groups around the affected area, and are offering material support for any activations. “It has been a busy start to the year for ham volunteers,” said ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX. “Whether it’s firestorms or ice storms or any other need, ARRL volunteers selflessly serve their communities. We’re mindful that large-scale events like this impact the hams who are active serving,” she said.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, has been on calls with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other served agencies, offering ARRL resources. Efforts are being coordinated locally by Emergency Network Los Angeles (ENLA), the Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) group in Southern California.

Johnston urges hams in the affected regions to be ready to take care of

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themselves and their families before needing to deploy. He points to resources shared by ARRL's Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) during National Preparedness Month. "These are stressful events for everyone, and being a ham volunteer is really second to keeping yourself and your family safe," said Johnston.

## SEE ARTICLES:

[Resilience Through Amateur Radio for National Preparedness Month](#)

[National Preparedness Month: Ensuring Family Safety](#)

[National Preparedness Month - Station Readiness](#)

[National Preparedness Month - Get Involved](#)

## **BOK KAI PARADE**

The Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club will be providing communications and logistical support for the 145<sup>th</sup> annual Bok Kai Parade in Marysville on Saturday, March 1, 2025. We provided this service for the first time in 2024 and the committee was so impressed and grateful that they asked us to assist again this year.

Bud (KK1BUD) will chair this project and has recruited the assistance of the following club members: Curtis (KF6VFP), Buck (N6CNY), Chris (KK6VZD), Daniel (N6APX), Paul (W6PNH), Joe (AK6JN), and Todd (KO6GRI). We would like to get a couple more volunteers to make sure we are sufficiently staffed. It would only require about 4 hours of your time 8:00 am to

about Noon. It is easy and only requires that you have a reliable HT Transceiver. For new hams it is a good opportunity to get involved with club and to get to know some of the veteran HAMS. If you would be interested in helping out, you can either call or text Bud at (530) 933-9586 OR email at [kk1bud@yahoo.com](mailto:kk1bud@yahoo.com).

Bud (KK1BUD)

## **YS ARES NEWS**

As most, if not all of you may know, I have been a member of Yuba - Sutter ARES since September 2017. I became an AEC under Andy Boone (KJ6IYM) in 2018 and became the Emergency Coordinator in October of 2020. During this time, our team has seen awesome growth and progress with working with our served agencies, doing drills, and being in the public eye helping and working with the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club with public service events.

At this time, I am stepping down as the EC for our team. I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you. You all have met and exceeded my expectations as your Emergency Coordinator, and have made me extremely proud to have been able to head such a great team.

My stepping down has been a phenomenally hard decision. However, due to family medical needs as well as personal health issues, it must be done. I have been continuously trying to balance family needs, work, travel back and forth to the east coast as well as fulfilling my obligations to our team. Unfortunately, the team has not been my primary focus which can be detrimental for this awesome organization.

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I am not pulling the plug on our ARES Team. By all means, I will continue to support and assist our team whenever I am in the area, or as much as possible remotely from the east coast.

At this time, I would like to announce that we DO have an Emergency Coordinator in place already. Everyone, PLEASE give a well-deserved and warm welcome to Robert Kelly (K6VNR) as our new EC! I will be assisting Robert in any way he needs in the process of taking the team over. I would be extremely appreciative if the team would assist Robert just the same.

Robert joined our team during the Camp Fire activation in 2018. Since then, he has been a vital part of our team as well as an astounding communicator for Butte County CERT. He became Assistant Emergency Coordinator for our team in 2020, and Training Coordinator in 2021. I have the upmost confidence in Robert, and our team to continually progress grow.

Thank you all for the opportunity you have afforded me to serve such a stellar team. I will be forever grateful for the 4 years of dedicated service our membership has provided me as your Emergency Coordinator. Now, the Team can continue to grow and succeed with Robert at the helm!

73,  
Neil 'Buck' Bossard (N6CNY)  
**(Fmr) Emergency Coordinator:**  
**Yuba-Sutter ARES**  
Cell/Text: (530) 844.4776  
[yubasutterares@outlook.com](mailto:yubasutterares@outlook.com)  
**FCC GMRS: WRXH675**  
**SKYWARN: SU-34**

## **ARES TEAM**

So it is official. Neil Buck Bossard has stepped down from his EC position and passed the torch to me. I sincerely thank Buck for all the effort he has put into this team, and for the many enjoyable days working with him. Fortunately, he says he will be popping in from time to time when he is in California, so he will retain the operating title of AEC until I can think of a better one. "Roving AEC"? "Tactical AEC"? I will work on that.

For now, we enter 2025 in some interesting times. Disasters seem to surround us.

What can we do to assist?

How can we assist ourselves, our neighbors and communities?

The Red Cross has used us a few times in the past, but where are the local Jurisdictions?

Why are we on the sidelines when they are activated. And is that best?

How can we help them? How do we leverage our radio skills and equipment to assist in the age of Starlink?

How can they know how to use us if we don't know ourselves?

In the last few years, I have acquired a little experience in this. I volunteer with Butte County as a Disaster Service Worker. One of my tasks assignments are emergency radio communications to the public using Amateur and GMRS services. Is this something our members might want to do for Yuba and Sutter Counties?

We also need to have some fun! Maybe BBQ, get together meetings would be a great place to start. Yuba Sutter ARES has been a leader in cross county ARES relationships. Operators from several counties participating in



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Communications Exercises.mIn a rural area like ours this is an absolute must!

Feel free to contact me anytime, you have my email address.

Good luck to our friend a fellow radio operator Neil Buck Bossard 😊

Gratefully,  
Robert Kelly  
K6VNR  
Yuba Sutter EC

## FOX HUNT

The next Fox Hunt is scheduled for Sat., February 1st. The Fox will be transmitting on 146.565 MHz. When you find the location, you'll have an opportunity to find a second, low-power transmitter on foot. After about an hour the APRS will be turned on.

Contact: Paul Hyatt, W6PNH. He will be available on the repeater.

## MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL

### NET CONTROL VOLUNTEERS 2025

| Month | Name              | Call             |
|-------|-------------------|------------------|
| Jan   | Chris             | KK6VZD           |
| Fed   | Bud               | KK1BUD           |
| Mar   | Paul/<br>Karla    | W6PNH<br>K6KDS   |
| Apr   | Devon             | N0DVE            |
| May   | Curtis/<br>Marsha | KF6VFP<br>KI6CSN |
| Jun   | Bob               | N6BOB            |
| Jul   |                   |                  |
| Aug   |                   |                  |

| Month | Name  | Call   |
|-------|-------|--------|
| Sep   | Ernie | KN6GTN |
| Oct   | Joe   | AK6GN  |
| Nov   |       |        |
| Dec   |       |        |

### Backup

|  |      |        |
|--|------|--------|
|  | Mike | KK6ISQ |
|--|------|--------|

To sign up for net control, contact Chris on the net or email him at **KK6VZD@arrl.net**.

## VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be Sat., March 8. 4th 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. **Please Note: You must have a FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) to take an exam and for any transactions with the FCC. You will need this number for the forms you'll complete. You will not be allowed to take the exam without this number. A FRN can be obtained at:**

<https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/commission-registration-system-fcc>

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

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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 at no additional cost.

If you do not pass and wish to try again an additional fee will be required.

Licensing fees will be the responsibility of the applicant regardless of filing method and must be paid within 10 calendar days of FCC's receipt of the application. For applications filed by a VEC, the period does not begin until the application is received by the Commission, a ULS file number assigned, and an email sent by the FCC directly to the applicant."

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at license exam sessions. New and upgrade candidates at an exam session will continue to pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the new, \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or explanation of other action. The link will be good for 30 days

Good luck to everyone taking exams!

## **FEBRUARY QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS**

01 Feb: Vermont QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

01 Feb: Minnesota QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

02 Feb: North American Sprint; CW

08 Feb: Asia-Pacific Sprint Sprint; CW

08 Feb: OMISS QSO Party; Phone

10-14 Feb: ARRL School Club Roundup; CW, Phone, Digital

15 Feb: ARRL International DX Contest; CW

15 Feb: YLRL YL-OM Contest; CW, Phone, Digital

22 Feb: South Carolina QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

22 Feb: North America QSO Party; Digital

23 Feb: North Carolina QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

For more info, visit:

[www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest Corral/2025/February 2025 Corral.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest_Corral/2025/February%202025_Corral.pdf)

[www.qrpfoxhunt.org](http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org)

[www.ncccsprint.com](http://www.ncccsprint.com) and

[www.cwops.org](http://www.cwops.org).

## **BOARD MEETING**

The next board meeting will be held on Tues. February 4 at 1900 (7 p.m.) via zoom. Details for the zoom meeting will be emailed.

At this meeting the new board and officers will be taking over.

## **COMMENTS**

- YSARC's web page is:  
**[YubaSutterARC.org](http://YubaSutterARC.org)**. Check out

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more photos of foxhunts and public service events!

- Past VHN's are available on the YubaSutterARC.org website.
- Thanks to our web master, Paul Hyatt, W6PNH.
- Click on the upper right-hand icon "**Join Now**" on the YSARC homepage to become a member

of the club. Mailing instructions are provided.

- Send your ham related articles and pictures to share in your VHN. Pictures of ham shacks, antenna parties, field day, Bike Around the Buttes, Fox Hunt, etc. are appreciated. Send them to KI6CSN@arrl.net or KF6FVP@arrl.net



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## Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 3, 2024

Held on Zoom platform, hosted by June

Meeting called to order by Chris McLain at 19:00 hours.

Officers and Board Members present unless noted:

President: Chris McLain KK6VZD

Vice President: Steve Shepard KN6IJD - absent

Secretary: Linda Maas KK6SOZ

Treasurer: June McJunkin N6JEY

Director: Joe Visalli N9BD

Director: Paul Hyatt W6PNH

Director: Bud Myers KK1BUD

Director: Neil Bossard N6CNY - absent

Director: Eric Walton KM6QQT - absent

Members and Guests present: Curtis Sylvester-Jose KF6VFP, LeRoy Smith KJ6DKM, John Rogers KI6UDF, Devon Goss N0DVE, Leonard Lanigan KO6DVV, and Claire Schloenvogt KI6VWG.

Secretary's Report:

- Motion to approve minutes from November 5, 2024 as presented, Bud/Joe, passed.
- Motion to approve new member application from Todd Tanner KO6GRI, Paul/Bud, passed.
- YSARC will receive \$90 "rebate" for the 4 new ARRL membership applications and 2 renewals.

Treasurer's Report:

- Motion to approve June's Financial Reports for December 3, 2024, Joe/Paul, passed.

Old Business

- There will be no December club meeting, instead we have the annual Christmas Party on Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Paul reported the new webpage at yubasutterarc.org will be official on January 1<sup>st</sup>. We still need to remove PayPal links as we no longer have access to that account.

New Business

- Motion to approve the results of the November 5 election of 2025 Officers and Directors by a quorum of 23 of the 69 full voting members, Paul/Joe, passed with 2 ayes, 0 nays, and 1 abstention.
  - John Rogers KI6UDF – President
  - Steve Shepard KN6IJD – Vice President
  - Linda Maas KK6SOZ – Secretary
  - June McJunkin N6JEY - Treasurer
  - Joe Visalli N9BD – Board Member
  - Paul Hyatt W6PNH – Board Member
  - Bud Myers KK1BUD – Board Member
  - Leonard Lanigan KO6DVV – Board Member
  - Devon Goss N0DVE – Board Member

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- Motion to approve the 2025 budget, which will remain the same as last year, Bud/Joe, passed.
- Technician class starts January 7<sup>th</sup>; two people are signed up so far.
- We need to solicit members for ideas for topics and activities they may be interested in for 2025 club meetings.

Motion to adjourn at 20:00 hours, Joe/Paul, passed.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary