

VALLEY HAM NEWS

February 2025

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

**P.O. Box 1169
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February 2025

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Club Call Sign: W6KJ

Club Board at board@ysarc.net

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 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

03 Jun – Board Meeting

14 Jun – Fox Hunt

17 Jun – General Meeting

28-29 Jun – Field Day

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

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month 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, on the air, or at one of the club meetings. At most club meetings he has the club store available excluding cable.

Essential Guide to Two-Way Radio Communication

From the ARRL ARES Letter dated Jan. 15, 2025.

“By Scott Read, KM6RFB

Shorthand expressions and codes are useful for radio communication, especially when you need to transfer information quickly. It's important to make sure that everyone's on the same page with the terminology you're using

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and what it all means, so make sure all radio users know and understand all the terms in advance. You may decide to just use plain language, or use just a few of these terms instead of all of them – whichever helps your team to communicate effectively.

Common terminology in radio communication is crucial because it ensures clear and concise information exchange between individuals or groups, especially in critical situations like emergencies/disasters, by eliminating confusion arising from different interpretations of words or phrases, allowing for swift and effective action; essentially, everyone on the same radio channel understands the meaning of each term used, leading to better coordination and response times.

In amateur radio, we tend to use terminology that has been applied to and accepted in our community, deeply rooted in our long history, particularly from the historic use of telegraphy with Morse code stemming from the 1850s.

In the world of the public safety community we serve, however, amateur radio operators need to shift our mindset to using its language of public safety, understand agencies' requirements and how they communicate. Public safety workers generally do not understand our jargon, nor have the time to learn it. Under presidential directive after 9/11, the whole community needed to adopt common language, which ultimately embraced the NIMS/ICS terminology set.

A good example is the Q-signals table, a system of radio shorthand as old as wireless and developed from even older telegraphy codes. Q-signals are a set of

abbreviations for common information that save time and allow communication between amateur radio operators. But public safety professionals are almost totally unfamiliar with it. Just the opposite is true with public safety and the use of Ten Codes, with which we as hams are mostly unfamiliar. Examples for police radio: 10-0 Use Caution; 10-1 Weak Signal; 10-2 Good Signal; 10-3 Stop Transmitting; 10-4 Affirmative; etc. [Read the police 10-codes](#). Even worse, they may not even be clear between public safety agencies. This can impede the flow of information between served agencies in a timely process.

Key points about the importance of common radio terminology:

Reduces miscommunication: Using standardized terms minimizes the risk of misunderstandings that could have serious consequences in emergency scenarios.

Improves interoperability: When different agencies or teams use the same radio language, it facilitates collaboration and information sharing across groups.

Efficiency in communication: Standardized phrases and codes allow for faster transmission of information, particularly when time is critical.

Safety enhancement: Clear and consistent communication is essential for ensuring safety in situations like search and rescue operations or industrial work environments.

Examples of common radio terminology:

- Roger: Acknowledgment of a message received.

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- Over and Out: Indicates the end of a transmission and requests a response
- Mayday: Emergency distress call
- Affirmative: Yes
- Negative: No
- Go ahead: I am ready for your message
- Say again: Repeat all of your last message
- Say all before/after: Repeat all before/after a certain phrase or word if you didn't catch part of the message
- Out: Conversation is finished, no answer is required or expected
- Radio check: What's my signal strength? Can you hear me?
- Read you loud and clear: Your transmission signal is good; I can hear you fine
- Wilco: Abbreviation of "I will comply", means the speaker will complete the task that's been asked of them
- Break, break: Interruption to a transmission to communicate urgently
- Emergency, emergency: Distress call, only to be used when there

is an imminent danger to life and immediate assistance is required

- Stand by: Wait
- Wait out: Waiting period is longer than I expected, I will get back to you as soon as possible
- I spell: The next word will be spelled out using the phonetic alphabet

The ITU or NATO phonetic alphabet is internationally recognized and used. If you've ever tried to spell a word over a radio, you'll understand why—it makes things much simpler. [Read the ITU phonetic alphabet list.](#)

In conclusion, we need to keep in mind that at the end of the day we work for the served agency. We should think of them as our client and the citizens we serve as our customers. It is also important to remember how we integrate into their operation and not the other way around. [Scott Read, KM6RFB, is a COML, COMT, AUXCOMM cert holder, and SKYWARN operator]"

FOXHUNT

Unfortunately, the last fox hunt was cancelled due to the rain. So, no photos this month.

The next Fox Hunt is scheduled for Sat., April 12th. 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.

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

HAMFEST

Sierra Foothills / Loomis Hamfest

Start Date: 03/22/2025

End Date: 03/22/2025

Location: Loomis Historic Train Station
5775 Horseshoe Bar Road
Loomis, CA 95650

Website: <https://hamfest.w6ek.org/>

Sponsor: ARRL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 146.535

Public Contact: Michael Smith, WB1G
6484 Osprey Court Rocklin, CA 95765
Phone: 916-773-1999

Email: pio@w6ek.org

YOUNG LADIES RADIO LEAGUE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Young Ladies Radio League (YLRL) is sponsoring three scholarships:

- The Ethel Smith, K4LMB, Memorial Scholarship — \$2,500 award
- The Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Memorial Scholarship — \$2,500 award
- The Martha “Marte” Wessel, KØEPE, Memorial Scholarship — \$1,500 award

To qualify, students must be female, have an amateur radio license, meet the requirements listed on the [YLRL website](https://ylrl.net/Scholarships) and apply using the [online application](https://ylrl.net/Scholarships).
<https://ylrl.net/Scholarships>

Applications are due by April 30, 2025. Winners will be announced in July 2025.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ACT RE- INTRODUCED

From the ARRL Member Bulletin dated February 8, 2025.

“Legislation Will Increase Communication Options During Natural Disasters

WASHINGTON — U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Representatives August Pfluger, R-Tex., and Joe Courtney, D-Conn. announced their joint re-introduction of legislation in the Senate and House to restore the right to Amateur Radio operators to install the antennas necessary to serve their communities.

Homeowner association rules often prevent Amateur Radio operators from installing antennas at their homes even though Amateur Radio has proven to be essential in emergencies and natural disasters such as hurricanes when other means of communication fail.

“Mississippians should have access to every possible means of warning for natural disasters, including amateur radio operators. In an emergency, those warnings can mean the difference between life and death,” Senator Wicker said. “The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act would remove unnecessary roadblocks that could help keep communities safe during

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emergencies like tornadoes, hurricanes, and fires.”

“When disaster strikes, amateur radio operators provide vital, often life-saving information, which shouldn’t be hindered by prohibitive rules or confusing approval processes. The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act eliminates obstacles for ham radio enthusiasts, allowing them to continue their communications and serve their communities in the face of emergencies,” said Senator Blumenthal.

“Natural disasters and other emergency situations that hinder our regular lines of communication are unfortunately unavoidable, which is why we must bolster our emergency preparedness by removing the barriers amateur radio operators often run into when installing antennas. Amateur radio plays a vital role in public safety by delivering critical information to people at all times. My district is home to dozens of amateur radio operators ready to volunteer in the event of an emergency, and I am proud to lead this legislation,” said Congressman August Pfluger.

“As we know from recent natural disasters, amateur radio operators in Connecticut can be a critical component of disaster response and emergency management. It is in our communities’ best interest that we give them the capabilities to operate at the highest level, and with the re-introduction of this bill, we’ve taken a strong step in that direction,” said Congressman Courtney.

Background:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 (H.R. 1094 and S. 459) would require homeowner

associations to accommodate the needs of FCC-licensed Amateur Radio operators by prohibiting the enforcement of private land use restrictions that ban, prevent, or require the approval of the installation or use of Amateur Radio station antennas. Homeowner associations have often prevented installation and use of such antennas through private land use restrictions. This has hindered voluntary training for emergency situations and blocked access to necessary communications when disaster strikes.

Among other provisions, this legislation would:

- Prohibit homeowner association rules that would prevent or ban Amateur Radio antennas;

- Specify an approval process for installing Amateur Radio antennas;

- Provide a Federal private right of action to Amateur Radio operators in disputed cases.

On behalf of America’s Amateur Radio licensees, Rick Roderick, the President of The American Radio Relay League, re-confirmed the ARRL’s full support for the passage of the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act of 2025 and extended his thanks and appreciation to Senators Wicker and Blumenthal and Congressmen Pfluger and Courtney for their unflagging leadership of the bi-partisan effort to support and protect the rights of all Amateur Radio Operators.

The text of the House version can be found at this [link](#).”

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BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES

The annual Bike Around the Buttes (BATB) will be held May 3rd, 2025. Ted (KN6TED) is heading up the 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 soon, via email, to everyone who is participating.

BATB Supports the NorCal Lions Health Foundation. It has a 20-mile, 40-mile, -71-mile and 100-mile routes. The 100-mile riders start from 0600-0630, 71-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 25 Feb 2025

Position	Name	Call Sign
Net Control 1	Ted	KN6TED
Net Control 2	Curtis	KF6VFP
Runner		
Rest Stop 1	Robert	K6VNR
Rest Stop 1		
Rest Stop 2	Chris	KK6VZd
Rest Stop 2		
Rest Stop 3	Joe	AK6JN
Rest Stop 3		
Rest Stop 4		
Rest Stop 4		
SAG 1	Bud	KK1BUD
SAG 2	Eric	KN6QQT
SAG 3	Ernie	KN6GTN
SAG 4		
SAG 5		
SAG 6		

Position	Name	Call Sign
SAG 7		
SAG 8		
SAG 9	Steve	KM6IJD
SAG 10	Daniel	N6APX
SAG 11		
Bike Path		
Victor 1		
Victor 2		

We are currently looking for 7 more SAG's, 1 more rest stop, and a net control runner. Anyone available to volunteer, please contact Ted at kn6ted@gmail.com or Text him at 530.844.0998 with your Name, Callsign, and email address

Remember, SAG's are to check in at Net Control by 0545 Saturday morning. At 0545, we will do a safety and information brief for any last minute changes. Rest Stops can check into Net Control via radio. Rest stops please arrive on your post 15 minutes prior to it's opening. If you are running late, please notify Net Control.

Ted Herman (KN6TED)

MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL

Mar	Paul/ Karla	W6PNH K6KDS
Apr	Devon	N0DVE
May	Curtis/ Marsha	KF6VFP KI6CSN
Jun	Bob	N6BOB
Jul	Ryan?	K6RCM
Aug		

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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@arri.net.

VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be Sat., Mar 8th 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 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!

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MARCH QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS

01 Mar: ARRL International DX Contest, SSB; Phone

08 Mar: Oklahoma QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

08 Mar: Idaho QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

08 Mar: North America Sprint, RTTY; Digital

09 Mar: Youngsters on the Air; CW, Phone

09 Mar: Wisconsin QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

15 Mar: Virginia QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

For more info, visit:

[www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2024/March 2025 Corral.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2024/March%202025%20Corral.pdf)
www.qrpfoxhunt.org
www.ncccsprint.com and
www.cwops.org.

GENERAL MEETING

At the last club meeting, the topic was how to assemble a 10-meter J-Pole wire antenna using window line. The presentation was available via Ham Radio Outdoors.

The next meeting will be on March 18th. Curtis (KF6VFP) and Joe (N9BD)

will be giving a presentation on coax cables and things to consider when selecting a coax for your system.

BOARD MEETING

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

COMMENTS

- YSARC's web page is: **ysarc.net**. Check out more photos of foxhunts and public service events!
- Past VHN's are available on the **ysarc.net** 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 January 7, 2025

Held on Zoom platform, hosted by June

Meeting called to order by John Rogers at 19:02 hours.

Officers and Board Members present unless noted:

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

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

Members and Guests present: Curtis Sylvester-Jose KF6VFP and Claire Schloenvogt KI6VWG.

Secretary's Report:

- Motion to approve minutes from December 3, 2024 board meeting, Joe/Bud, passed.
- No new member applications received this past month.
- We received a notice from the Registry of Charities and Fundraisers (formerly Registry of Charitable Trusts) to submit annual documents.

Treasurer's Report:

- Motion to approve June's Financial Reports for December 31, 2024 and January 7, 2025, Joe/Paul, passed.
- June will be submitting our annual government documents required as a 501c3 organization: 990N, 199N, SI-100, RRF-1, and CT-TR-1.

Old Business

- Paul was able to work with Chris, the wife of Kevin (former member and silent key), to get the domain transferred from Kevin to Paul. The Network Solutions account is now closed. Leonard suggested we keep both ysarc.net and yubasutterarc.org.
- Paul was also able, with Chris's help, to get the PayPal account transferred from Kevin to us.
- Joe and Curtis are instructors for the Tech class – 2 students didn't show for the first class tonight, but plan to come on Thursday.
- Bud is coordinating the Bok Kai Festival on March 1. He has 9 volunteers.
- At the January club meeting John will ask members for topics & activities they may be interested in.

New Business

- Bike Around the Buttes will be Saturday, May 3rd. Volunteers are needed.

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- Devon suggested Winter Field Day on January 25-26. It was explained that in the years when we did host this event, it was not very successful, mainly due to few contacts being made.
 - Paul reported a good turn-out at last Saturday's VE session: 2 extras, 1 general, 1 tech. Paul also discussed the move from paper tests to online tests.

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

Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary