



Valley Ham News

THE VOICE OF THE YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
A California Non-profit Organization

PO Box 1169

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992

AUGUST 1986

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU

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Next Board of Directors' Meeting: The August Board Meeting will be held on August 27, 1986, at 7:30 PM. Location is at Loyd Wilbur's house in Yuba City.

Next Club Meeting: The meeting this month will be a "Pizza Meeting" at Round Table Pizza on Gray Avenue in Yuba City. Starting time is 6:30 to 7:00 PM. We will go dutch treat. Date is Tuesday, August 12.

The Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club holds a regular net for members and guests each Tuesday evening at 7:00PM on WD6AXM/R, 146.085/.685. See you there.

NET CONTROL STATIONS--AUGUST, 1986

August 19---OPEN FOR A VOLUNTEER August 26---Ron, WB5FIX
September 2---Ron, N6OAN

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:Loyd Wilbur, WA6AGD VICE PRESIDENT:Bill McJunkin, N6FAB
SECRETARY:Herb Puckett, W6HBU TREASURER:Jack Craig, K6ZMA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bud Peters, K6HDE
Ron Murdock, WB5FIX
Sue Powell, KA6DHZ

Barry Barnes, KE6LW
Jim Giarde, WA6RZA

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Minutes for July 23, 1986.

The meeting was called to order by President Loyd.

Present were Jim Giarde, Ron Zeigler, Bud Peters, Barry Barnes, Loyd and Donna Wilbur, and Ron and Joanne Murdock.

A Treasurer's report was not made.

On July 10, Ron Murdock attended a meeting in Sacramento concerning emergency planning as a representative of our club. It was asked that each area provide the names of five Hams that could be contacted to mobilize the other Hams in the area should the need arise. The names submitted are those of Barry, Jerry, Larry, Loyd, and Jim G. No Moe, no Curley. With one possible exception, these names were chosen on the basis of availability rather than charm, looks, or personality.

A report was made on the ARRL Section Bar B Que of July 12. The Board wishes to express its gratitude to Lenore, KA6UBI, for her hospitality. Sixty-six people attended and we collected \$21.25 which was used to defray expenses. There was no cost to the club. At the meeting, it was clear that there are several Section appointments that need to be filled. It was suggested that if we do it again we start it at 4:00 or 4:30 when it is a little cooler.

We need a Chairperson for the Christmas party. It is tentatively to be at the Bonanza, similar to last year's, provided we can get some flexibility of the menu. Input from the members is needed before the plans are finalized. If we are going to mail invitations to all Hams in the area, we will need some help with the job.

Moved by Bud, seconded by Jim to buy a reverse directory callbook. Passed by acclamation.

The August 12 meeting is to be a PIZZA Meeting at Round Table Pizza on Gray Avenue to start 6:30 to 7:00. Dutch treat.

The Board directed the club Treasurer to find out the cost of obtaining casualty insurance on club-owned property such as the repeater.

It was reported that we still need a volunteer to type a finished copy of the by-laws.

There was discussion of forming a nominating committee so there is plenty of time to railroad new Directors and a new slate of officers for the year-end elections.

It was announced that the club has received a plaque from the Red Cross thanking us for our service during the Linda Flood.

We will need 6 to 10 volunteers to provide communications for the "Heart Run" at Riverfront Park in late September.

There was discussion of starting a NEAT program. NEAT stands for Novice Equipment and Training. It would be a committee that would locate and loan out old receivers, and provide training and encouragement to the new Hams in our area. Would the membership of the club support it?

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Of the 20 original copies of Tune in the World, Loyd has sold 5 and Barry has sold 1.

Moved by Ron M., seconded by Jim to increase retirement contribution for Officers and Directors by 32.5%. Tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 2110 PDT.

Submitted by Loyd, in the unavoidable absence of Herb.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

No, it is not too soon to be thinking of election of Officers and Directors. It has been proposed that the Board elect officers earlier than they have in the past, perhaps as early as October. The By-Laws are being researched to see if it is permissible. In the past, elections were held in November, the December meeting was the Christmas Party and the new officers were faced with running the club in January. It is felt that having the elections earlier would permit the new folks some time to figure out HOW to run a radio club and this might be a great improvement.

Whenever elections are mentioned the members of the club with absolute predictability start reciting reasons why someone else, anyone else should be elected. What follows are some of the more common statements along with what I believe to be a proper interpretation or translation of their meanings.

1. "I'm no good at that sort of thing." (Humility is a great quality of leadership.)

2. "I've done enough for the club." (an experienced hand that deserves the honor of holding office.)

3. "My hobby is Ham Radio, not Ham Radio Clubs!" (A real gem, this one, who can keep club activities radio related.)

4. "I get too nervous in front of people." (This from someone whose voice is carried by 7000 watts ERP. There is no rule that says that officers must sit at the front of the room.)

5. "I don't have time!" (A fine candidate, this one will keep club activities on schedule.)

6. "I'm not qualified." (See number 1 above.)

7. "I don't know how to run a radio club." (So, who does? Also, see number 1 above.)

8. "I usually end up making people mad at me." (This is an ideal candidate who will provide clear direction.)

9. "If nominated, I will not run. If elected, I will not serve." (Perfect, won't run. Get it? We won't even have to chase this one.)

10. Number 10 remains open for you to fill in, just in case I missed one. I'll bet I didn't.

With Federal deregulation, the importance of Radio Clubs has increased dramatically. We are only beginning to see the effects as Big Brother turns over more responsibility to us. If you have any interest in taking a one year term, just drop a hint. Thanks.
73, Loyd WA6AGD.

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TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR TECHNICIANS

I. Beware the lightning that lurketh in the undischarged capacitor, lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy buttocks in a most un-technician-like manner.

II. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged, that thy days in this earthly vale of tears may be long.

III. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged lest they lift thee to radio frequency potential and causeth thee also to make like a radiator.

IV. Tarry not amongst those fools who engageth in intentional shocks for they are surely nonbelievers and are not long for this world.

V. Take care that thou useth the proper method when thou taketh the measure of a high-voltage circuit lest thou incinerate both thyself and thy meter, for verily, though thou hast no account number and can easily be surveyed, the test meter doth have one and, as a consequence, bringeth much woe unto the inventory clerk.

VI. Take care that thou tampereth not with safety devices and interlocks, for this incurreth the wrath of the communications officer and bringeth the fury of thy safety inspector down upon thy head.

VII. Work thou not on energized equipment, for if thou dost, thy fellow workers will surely buy beers for thy widow and console her in other ways.

VIII. Service thou not equipment for electrical cooking. It is a slothful process and thou might sizzle in thine own fat for hours upon a hot circuit before thy Maker sees fit to end thy misery.

IX. Trifle thou not with radioactive tubes and substances lest thou commence to glow in the dark like a lightning bug and thy wife have no further use for thee except for thy wages.

X. Thou shall not make unauthorized modifications to equipment, but causeth thou to record all field changes and authorized modifications made by thee, lest thy successor tear his hair out and go slowly mad in his attempt to decide what manner of creature hath made a nest in the wiring of such equipment.

(Originally from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, contributed by Larry, K6AAW)

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

I wonder if everyone else has the feeling that the summer is speeding by and there is not enough time to do the necessary things, let alone the fun things? Here it is August already, and we are looking at Labor Day just around the corner. Loyd is reminding us that we need volunteers for a thing due to happen in late September already!

Incidentally, before we get too tied up in September things, don't forget the August meeting in the form of a Pizza Party on August 12. Loyd advises that our ARRL Section Manager, Bob Watson, and his XYL will be on hand for the fun. Here is one more chance to make Bob aware of your concerns, gripes, and agreement where applicable of ARRL goings on. Don't forget to let him know of the good things. Let's not get caught in the web of constant complaining when there are compliments due. Bob probably gets more than his share of "onions", so give him an "orchid" for the time and effort he puts in for us.

Don't forget that the club will be needing a new slate of officers shortly, and after reading the President's message this month, I don't see how anyone can do anything but volunteer to help.

Your editor has been playing around with a rather nebulous idea involving a collection of anecdotes of a "semi-fictional" group of young Hams in a small town. The first of several installments appears in this issue of the newsletter. Let us know if you would like to see more of the "Terror of the Town" in future issues.

We still need contributions for the newsletter. Larry, K6AAW, sent some good material down; and some of it appears this month. Let's have some more in that vein, if the readership desires and can dredge up the material.

73, Herb

THE GANG

Each of us, as we go through life, becomes acquainted with many different people along the way. These chronicles detail a few of the events in the lives of one such fictional group.

It is a group of young men (or boys) of approximately high school age, and several older people with whom they might have come in contact. While the story revolves around Amateur Radio, it could be any of several other activities which brought the group together. The names are fictitious, as are the events; but all of us have known people and events that could have inspired such tales.

Perhaps, if your story teller is successful, each reader will see either himself or herself; or the story will trigger the memory of a long-forgotten experience.

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Let us now meet some of the young people who make up the "Terror of the Town" gang.

First there was Alfred---he was tall and skinny, with somewhat sandy hair that seemed always to need a comb. He was a sloppy dresser who might appear with mismatched socks and a shirt that looked like a fugitive from his mother's last week's ironing. From the wrong side of the tracks, he had been licensed for several years and was considered a good operator.

John was of medium build, was an average dresser; and came from an average middle-class home. His main interest was contest operating and traffic handling. He was blessed with average intelligence and received good grades at the local high school. His great unhappiness was his name, which he hated.

Jim was next. He was tall and husky, active in athletics at high school; and received average grades. His was a very well-to-do family, who were anxious that he belong to all the "right" organizations. However, Jim was more interested in girls and in chasing DX on 20 meters. This caused many problems between him and his parents.

Frank was short and fat; not lazy, just "relaxed" and taking life easy. He always received good grades in school with a minimum of work. He was one of those "natural" technicians---always able to fix a sick radio.

George was average in every way. He could blend into the background and no one was aware he was present. He got along well with everyone and was well liked. He was a good operator and he especially liked CW.

Henry was one of the oldest of the group, in his last year of high school. He was probably the most handsome of the group, and having found girls; divided his time between his girl friend and his DX station.

Jerry, the "crazy" of the group, was also the genius of the gang. His long-suffering mother was said to say "My God! What have you done now?" at least three times each week. Jerry was an excellent CW operator, a non-conformer, and could make anything electronic work to perfection. He had a strange sense of humor, but was nevertheless well-liked by everyone.

Peter---this poor guy was short, thin, not athletic, very gullible, and was the subject of most of the practical jokes in the group. He talked constantly, about everything. He used his father's station because he couldn't get anything to work except commercial gear. He wanted desperately to ask a girl for a date, but was terrified that she might accept.

Edward was Jerry's older friend who sometimes came along on ham outings. Edward, not licensed, had been in the military and was in combat as a rifleman. He suffered from a long-term case of battle fatigue. He sometimes worried that his "brain might be addled".

Raunch was a nickname, and no one really knew this guy's real name. He was loner who was a good technician not greatly interested in operating. He was a "hippy type" who wore torn and soiled clothes and sometimes appeared in need of a bath. His family background was

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unknown, since he was very quiet. He liked loud music.

Herb was another non-ham of the group. He was younger than the rest, and a little strange; but a nice person. He was of medium height, almost "skinny". He enjoyed electronics but never learned the code.

Gene was the older "observer" of the gang. Married, his wife was expecting their first child when he met the group. He had held a license for some time by then. He was more technician than operator. His wife was an excellent cook who always had "goodies" available for whomever might show up to talk ham radio.

So there we have it--the nucleus of the group around which our tale will revolve. Only time will tell what adventures will befall these young people. One thing is for sure--things are going to be interesting in the Town before this group passes from the scene.

Next time we will trace the progress of one of their escapades. Join us then.

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