

VALLEY HAM NEWS

The Voice of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
A California Non-profit Organization

P.O. Box 1169
Yuba City, California 95992

April, 1997

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NEXT CLUB MEETING

The next club meeting will occur on April 7 at the Yuba City Police Training Room on Poole Boulevard in Yuba City. **NOTE CHANGE IN DATE!** There will be a discussion of what happens at events such as Bike Around the Buttes and The MS Walk. Written information on these and similar events will be available to members. This is especially important for the newer members.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will occur on April 23 at 7:00PM at the Yuba City Police facility on Poole Boulevard. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Come to the meeting to be sure that your voice is heard.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MARCH 25, 1997

PRESENT: President-Ron Murdock-W6KJ, Vice President-Barry Barnes-KE6LW, Secretary/Treasurer-Clara Ansley-KC6JPP. BOARD MEMBERS: Jerry Whitney-WA6ZZK, Robby Robinson-N6PGK, Lee Sheffield-KC6MCI, Tom Galbreath-KB6WID, Herb Puckett-W6HBU.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Ron Murdock-W6KJ at his home.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Checking Balance: 2/26: \$4,708.67. MONTH'S RECEIPTS: \$1,325.50; DISBURSEMENTS: \$535.14. Checking Balance: \$5,499.03; Less Repeater Donation Balance: \$459 and VE Balance: \$261.91; leaving a Club Balance: \$4,823.12. Swap Meet netted: \$389.91 after expenses.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Murdock, W6KJ
Vice President: Barry Barnes, KE6LW
Secretary/Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Galbreath, KB6WID
Jerry Whitney, WA6ZZK Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI
Tom (Robby) Robinson, N6PGK
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

OLD BUSINESS: Motion was made by Lee, KC6MCI, seconded by Jerry, WA6ZZK, that we purchase 2 Argelo DF-Junior mobile doppler systems; and this motion supersedes the one we made to purchase a stationary doppler system, motion passed.

Secretary Clara, KC6JPP, will write a note of thanks to the American Legion, thanking them for the use of their facility for our Swap Meet and for the breakfast they prepared.

It was stated that we should purchase all new screws to put the club's Mosely TA-33 antenna in working order. Jerry, WA6ZZK, stated that we could use this antenna on Field Day, if we just put it up part way. Ken Taylor, KN6WZ, has requested to be allowed to use this antenna, minus its plate.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion was made by Herb, W6HBU, seconded by Lee, KC6MCI, that we purchase a Log Periodic, 2 - 6 mtr, antenna not to exceed \$150, motion passed.

The Club's next breakfast will be Sunday, April 20th, at the American Legion on Feather River Blvd.

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Next Club Meeting will be Monday, April 7th 7:30 pm., at the Yuba City Police station. NOTE CHANGE IN DATE!! We will discuss what the volunteers will be doing at: The Ride Around the Buttes on April 12th and the MS Walk on April 13th. We will also discuss and would like input on the proposed changes in the licensing of hams.

President Ron, W6KJ, removed Keith Owens, KI7IX, as a Board Member as he has missed 3 meetings and is no longer in the area. Anyone interested in serving as a Board Member is encouraged to contact President Ron, W6KJ.

Being no further business the meeting was adjourned about 8:15pm.

We want to thank Ron, W6KJ and JoAnne, N6YLO for their generosity in providing a meeting place and for the refreshments.

Submitted by:
Clara M. Ansley, KC6JPP

THE PREZ SEZ

While listening to the discussion of upcoming operating events at the board meeting, I realized how long it has been since we have been over this important ground. What is it we do at operating events such as Bike Around the Buttes, or the MS Walk? What is it that is expected of ham radio participants? How should we prepare, and how should we indicate our interest?

All of these topics will be covered at the next meeting. We will meet one night earlier than normal, Monday night, 7 April, to accommodate training by the Yuba City Police Dept. in their own training room. The time is the same, but please note that it is Monday night, rather than Tuesday for April--no foolin'.

Those of you who take ham magazines should have noted by now those articles of the April Fool variety. It used to be that a number of false and deceptive signals would be heard on April 1st--FOOL, or now, FOOL, not to mention SP0OF, COAX, to name a few, usually on CW of course. But these days, few if any, are "fooled" by these illegal operations.

One of the best swap meets I have ever attended took place last month in Linda at the American Legion Post and WE put it on! I thank each member who turned out to take a shift as ticket seller/taker, parking assistant, etc. It was a group effort and we did a fine job. Not one critical comment was heard, and we kept asking, "How are we doing?" Of course we'd like to see a few more sellers, and even a few more buyers,

but your club made a few hundred dollars on this project and we will do it again next year.

We may be buying one of those nice push-up mast and VHF log periodic setups you saw at the swap. If I can find one at the next swap I go to and the price is no worse than those I have seen so far, the club will have a nice portable 6 and 2 meter beam antenna for field day, and VHF contests. The only thing we will need is a bit of equipment and operators.

Would you like to see a club response to the ARRL proposals for amateur license exam restructuring? Be at the next club meeting and put your two cents in, or more if you have it.

I'm headed for the beach, and the RV is not yet loaded, so 73 and hope you work lots of rare DX.
Ron, W6KJ

NOTES AND THOUGHTS ON A SUNNY SPRING DAY

March 13, 1997

It's almost Spring here, and the sun is shining, giving me a cheery view out my window. However, this is a view of concrete and blacktop. I long for the view from the trailer under my favorite pine tree in the forest. In my mind I see the creatures like the birds, squirrels and chipmunks who inhabit that area during the warm, lazy days of summer.

Logic tells me that my pine tree presently stands surrounded by snow, and the days and nights are cold and dreary. The birds are still gone to the south, and the ground creatures are deep asleep hibernating under the snow. Logic be damned, my soul still longs for the quiet, tranquil peace that only the forest in summer can provide.

Each of us, it is said, has a favorite place or locality to which we return for solace and rejuvenation. For some, it is the mountain trail or slope in winter, the windswept sea shore in the stormy winter or the sea breeze off the same sea shore in the summer. For others, it is the noisy, turbulent City with its night lights and grid-locked daytime traffic. To each his own, but this restless dreamer can't get the forest and its sights, sounds, and odors out of his mind.

There is only one other place that approaches the forest in quiet solitude. The high desert of northwest Nevada, with its barren wasteland and struggling junipers can also give solace to the soul. The desert, with its bleak and stark landscape, is a place where body and soul can soak up a peace and contentment available nowhere else. However, the desert does have surprises. Just when it seems all life has left the planet, a

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creature of the area appears to remind us that we are not alone. Unfortunately, the high desert in this season is as cold and inhospitable to me as the snowy forest. There will, however, come a time later in the year when the desert will provide a few days of solitude and nights of beauty under the light of a million blazing stars.

I have been told to consider the deserts and mountains of the southwest in winter. They are said to be warm and sunny, with an abundance of rocks, sand, cactus and their own share of native creatures. Trees grow in the mountains, and birds are there also. The southwest does have its share of cold wind and snow, though not to the extent found to the north.

I have considered going south with the birds for the winter. However, this entails leaving home and family and traveling many more miles than to the favorite pine tree. For many people, this is an acceptable tradeoff. For me, the ties to home and family are too great, and migration such as this is not acceptable now. There are times when there is a slight longing to see the southern desert, but that longing pales into nothing when compared with the incessant pull of the pine tree to the north.

So the wait for summer will continue, and as the days grow longer and warmer, the pull of the pine tree is finally satisfied. The snow is almost gone, and the forest is waking up from the long winter nap. The dirt road in the mountains is negotiable with the trailer, and summer in the forest begins. Rejuvenation commences, and the mountain air works its magic on body and soul.

I am home for the summer.

Herb, W6HBU

YSARC APRIL DOINGS

This is April Fool month, but changes in usual dates for Club Activities are true - no foolin'.

The Club Meeting is a day early on Monday, April 7. There will be no net that night.

Bike Around the Buttes will be on Saturday, April 12. We have a good list of volunteers, and this event will be discussed at the Club Meeting.

The MS Walk is Sunday, April 13. This is also on the Club Meeting agenda. Call Clara, KC6JPP, if you can volunteer to see if she needs more bodies.

The Club Breakfast will be on Sunday, April 20, at 9:00 am. This change is because of the two events above.

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Not much room left for rambling this month. This is the time of year to get the summer antenna farm ready for the coming season.

Field Day, the VHF Contest and vacation time are just around the corner, and it's time to get a tan and take in some of the sunshine (not too much, though, watch out for sunburn!).

Your Editor has been working on a new antenna for the trailer (modified DK3), and it's just about ready for test. We still need to refurbish the mobile HF antenna (another DK3). I found some wear in the finger stock, and it needs replacement; and the paint should be redone. The antenna control systems are in the process of being rebuilt, so there is still much to be done.

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WA6POM

Membership Application: YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Type: New _____ Renewal _____

Member Information: (Full voting rights and privileges)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: () _____ ARRL Member? (Y/N) _____

Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Associate Family Member (Living in the same Household only) ARRL Member? (Y/N) _____

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Dues: \$ _____ (\$18.00 per year) Mail to: Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Associate dues: \$ _____ (\$4.00 per year) P.O. Box 1169

Total: _____ Yuba City, CA 95992

Signature: _____

**Yuba Sutter ARC
PO Box 1169
Yuba City, CA 95992**