

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
May 1998

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NEXT MEETING

The next combined Club and Board meeting will occur on May 13, at the Red Cross building at 144 Garden Highway in Yuba City at 7:00PM.

WE WILL STILL BE DISCUSSING A PERMANENT MEETING LOCATION!

It seems the Red Cross has run into a legal problem regarding use of the building by other than a Red Cross group. See later in this issue.

We should be discussing Field Day at this meeting, also. Possible locations, etc. will be the subject.

YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

BOARD AND MONTHLY MEETING

APRIL 15, 1998

Present:

Treasurer: Clara Ansley-KC6JPP. Board Members: Ron Murdock-W6KJ, Herb Puckett-W6HBU. Members: Walter-K6CPI and Grace Kelley-KB2CIQ, Marvin Lemburg-KE6JNT, Jean-KF6EIN and Gary Knox-KF6CIT, Thomas Robinson-N6PGK, Russell Decker-KB6YAF, Roger Reed-W5VKU and Bill McJunkin-N6FAB. Guests: Alex and Michiko Salsbery.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Murdock, W6KJ
Vice President: Barry Barnes, KE6LW
Secretary: Jean Knox, KF6EIN
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Russell Decker, KB6YAF Bill McJunkin, N6FAB
John Ellison, KE6ZIM Thomas Robinson, N6PGK
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

The meeting began at 7:10pm with Treasurer Clara Ansley presiding.

Ron Murdock-W6KJ volunteered to serve as President for the remainder of this year. Elected to serve the remainder of the year were: Secretary Jean Knox-KF6EIN; Board members: Thomas Robinson-N6PGK, Russell Decker-KB6YAF and Bill McJunkin-N6FAB. These members are to be congratulated in stepping forward.

We agreed to continue combining the Board and Monthly meetings under the Continuing Resolution voted on at last month's Board Meeting.

Jillia Robinson volunteered to remain as Net Control Coordinator. She would really appreciate having more volunteers for the Monday Night Net. She can be reached at 749-1614. If you do not reach

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her you can contact one of the officers or Board Members. WE WANT EVERYONE TO REMEMBER THAT WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS!!

A motion was made by Robby Robinson-N6PGK, and seconded, that we go to Forbestown, for a potluck dinner on either Saturday August 8 or the 15th. Motion passed. Secretary Jean Knox-KF6EIN, will get the facility from the Yuba Feather Historical Association. We will be able to visit the museum there.

Since we have requested the use of the facility at the Red Cross for the 2nd and 4h Wednesdays and will only use the one on the 2d Wednesday, it was suggested that we might use the 4h Wednesday as a Tech Night, show study videos, etc. Discussion took place on the possibility of another antenna, a 2 meter, 450, 2 meter SSB. It would be great to have as many frequencies available as possible.

Clara-KC6JPP will contact our insurance carrier for Rider for the Red Cross.

Treasurer's Report: Balance March/1998 \$3,601.66; Receipts \$51, Disbursements: \$101.66. Checking Balance \$3,551.00; less Repeater Balance of \$479 and VE Balance of \$219.86 for a total of \$698.86. Club Balance \$2,852.14.

Being no further business, the meeting was closed.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Clara M. Ansley, Treasurer

LATE NOTICE!!!! ALL ITEMS REGARDING THE RED CROSS ARE NO LONGER APPLICABLE, AS THEY HAVE FOUND OUT THAT NO NON RED CROSS FUNCTION CAN BE HELD AT THE BUILDING DUE TO A CLAUSE IN THEIR LEASE. We will, however, be able to hold our May meeting there. So we are now

looking for another location for our meetings. If you know of a possibility, let us know.

In Appreciation

As most of the Y.S.A.R.C members know, Homer Oliver has become a silent key and was laid to rest at Sierra View Cemetery April 17, 1998.

On behalf of his wife Mertis (KC6PFT), also a member of the club, and the entire Oliver family, I would like to thank all of you that attended Homer's funeral services.

Homer was an active member of the Y.S.A.R.C for eight years and also a VE who contributed much of his time to the advancement of new ham operators.

Homer was well liked by all of us that knew him and he will be missed by many.

73 'ole man,

Lee (KC6MCI)

THE PREZ SEZ

Here I am again! Not in the driver's seat, but in the rumble seat, it seems. Due to the unexpected resignation of Tony, KF6CXL, your once and future president for the remainder of the year is me. Most people who read this newsletter already know this, but in case you didn't, you do now.

Herb, W6HBU, is ready for his annual rediscovery of a favorite pine tree at a place called "dear camp", or is it "deer camp". I have never quite figured that out. His duties as editor usually fall on me, but I would really appreciate someone else picking up this "opportunity". The editor puts the newsletter together and delivers it to the printer (PIP in Yuba

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City) and makes sure that our treasurer, Clara, KC6JPP, knows it has been delivered.

Our meeting place is still not decided. If the current effort with the Red Cross aborts, we will try the mall. But since we function as a Red Cross auxiliary during the disasters that happen all to frequently here, I think there may be a way to get access to the meeting room. It is being worked on. Robby, N6PGK, put in a lot of preparation for this to happen, and it would be a shame to see all that go to waste.

Our meeting this month is on 13 May. Please be there if you can. We now conduct a short business (board) meeting at 7 pm and then the regular meeting at 7:30. If you have something for the board meeting agenda, please contact me ASAP. We intend to do everything as quickly as possible.

Just after the monthly meeting, I will be heading out to Dayton, Ohio, for the 1998 Dayton Hamvention. This trek used to be an annual event for me, and I have made about 15 of them since my first trip in 1977. At the June meeting, I will present my findings. I may (or may not) have a new piece of equipment to show.

May is normally the month when we nail down what we are planning for Field Day, which occurs the last full weekend of June. Field Day is wide open this year. We need to designate a site, plan participation, etc. This will be on the agenda at the club meeting.

A VE session will be held at the Red Cross on May 9. Please get your 610's in to me before May 7. I am host for a weekend graduation party and need all the lead time possible to have everything for both events ready.

73,

Ron, W6KJ

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Not too much room to ramble this month, as I'm running out of space. I guess the big deal is the uncertainty of the meeting location. We'll know more by meeting night.

Thanks and our appreciation to those hearty souls who stepped forward when needed to fill the gaps in the club leadership positions. It can be a tough job, but it has to be done if we are to survive as a group.

As Ron says, your Editor will be under that pine tree for most of the summer. We need a temporary Editor. I can make up partial front pages for each month if it will help. I will also attempt to have something for the newsletter each month if I am at home long enough. Please consider it. It's not as tough as it might look. It can be frustrating, but overall, the return is much more than the work required.

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SURVEY RESULTS

March 27, 1998

This survey, taken by Tony Ramos prior to his resignation as President, is a telephone sampling of approximately 70 percent of the 95 members of the club. The information and numbers are as received from Tony via E-mail.

1. What would it take to get you as a club member more involved?

Most people acknowledged that they didn't attend meetings. None were able to offer any ideas (topic or project) that would get them to attend the club meetings. Those who confirmed that they attended meetings said it was hard to do this with any regularity.

2. Are you interested in more of the newsletter approach?

Approximately 65 percent of those surveyed responded favorably to the newsletters, indicating that they read it and enjoyed it a lot. Most were in favor of getting more information into the newsletter as opposed to attending the club meetings. When questioned whether they liked the inserts, they mostly responded "Yes".

3. Is it timing/location that usually keep you from attending club meetings?

As is apparent in viewing the roster, a lot of the members simply do not live close enough to make it practical for them to attend. They said that as a club we are not doing anything wrong. It is just not practical for them to attend. Actually, when asked about this issue almost all responded back indicating there was nothing wrong being done, they just had too much going on.

4. Is your interest only to support the repeater via your dues getting paid?

About 25 percent responded that they only had an interest in supporting the repeater via their dues getting paid. No real interest in club activities and some interest in the newsletter. They had nothing bad to say about the manner in which the club was being managed but just did not have an interest in the club activities.

5. Are you even interested in the club meetings?

Over 50 percent of those surveyed confirmed that they were interested in the club meetings; however, due to timing or other obligations they could not make the meetings. Of these, approximately 1/3 noted that they used to like to attend the breakfasts the club had at restaurants in the past. They seemed to prefer a regular restaurant rather than the American Legion building. The remaining members were not too much concerned with the meetings to the extent that they would go out of their way to attend any. All responded that they saw nothing wrong with what the club was doing; it just plays a small part in their schedules, so attending is not high on the list.

Summary:

It appears that though those surveyed acknowledged lack of interest in attending the club meeting (with 2-3 exceptions), they seemed pleased with the management of the club. They enjoy the newsletter and expressed an interest in more information being put into it that will keep them somewhat updated with ham news. Almost all agreed that if there is not enough participation then, yes, the Club and Board meeting should be combined (not that they would show up anyway).

So maybe we should address formatting the newsletter to present some information consistently (monthly updates) and putting together some high point bulletins.

Tony Ramos