

# **VALLEY HAM NEWS**

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

**P.O. Box 1169  
Yuba City, CA 95992  
August 1998**

Edited by Nancy Barlage, KE6JJZ  
5865 Cohn Avenue  
Marysville, CA 95901  
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## **CLUB OFFICERS**

**President: Ron Murdock, W6KJ  
Vice President: Barry Barnes, KB6LW  
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**

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next combined Club and Board meeting will occur on August 8, 1998 at the Charles Lynds Hall in Forbestown following the potluck.

## **YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BOARD AND MONTHLY MEETING** **JULY 8, 1998**

### **Present:**

**Board Members: Russ Decker, KB6YAF and  
Thomas Robinson, N6PGK.**

**Officers: Ron Murdock, W6KJ; Barry Barnes,  
KB6LW; Clara Ansley, KC6JPP; Jean Knox,  
KF6EIN.**

**Members: Paul Johnson, N6XVL; Gary Knox,  
KF6CIT; Ernie Royat, KB6VHW; Roger Reed,  
W5VKU.**

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Murdock, W6KJ, at 7:20 p.m. at the Mall at Yuba City.

The Treasurer's Report, as follows, was read and approved: Balance June 1998: \$3,454.81.

Disbursements: \$53.00. New Balance: \$3,401.81.

Less: Repeater balance of \$479.00 and VE balance of \$226.11 for a new Club Balance of \$2,696.70.

Submitted by Clara Ansley, KC6JPP, Treasurer.

### **Old Business:**

Ron talked about Field Day, which was enjoyed by all present. He estimated that about 300 points had been earned. He has a report in the works. The potluck on August 8 will proceed as planned.



**New Business:**

Three people tested. One earned Novice and one General. Ron announced that the Calaveras Amateur Radio Society was having a flea market at Utica Park in Angels Camp on July 18, 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The club voted to purchase the ingredients and supplies needed to make ice cream for the potluck. Robbie reported that the equipment stored in his garage needed to be looked at and replaced.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. the next meeting will be held on August 8, 1998 at approximately 4:00 p.m., at the Charles Lynds Hall in Forbestown after the potluck.

Jean Knox, KF6EIN, Secretary

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### **THE PREZ SEZ**

Just about the most significant thing to happen to the Amateur Radio service in 30 years is about to begin. It was about 30 years ago that incentive licensing was rolled out, just in time to take away my general class privileges for which I had worked so hard. I still had a general class ticket on the day incentive licensing took effect (1 October 1968, as I recall), but far fewer frequencies on which to operate.

With any luck, that won't happen this time. FCC is in the biennial review process and if we (hams) did nothing, FCC would, on their own, come up with a *simplified structure and changes to the rules we have now*. There would be a review process, but in the end, things would change.

In order to make this work to our favor, the ARRL Board of Directors has (over the past 30 months or so) been working on a long range proposed restructuring. Adopted by the Board of Directors on July 18, 1998, the proposed new structure would not reduce anyone's operating privilege, and would in most cases give everyone some new band or sub-band operating space. The only ones not getting new space would be our present no-code tech licensees. This is *much better than the fiasco 30 years back that instantly reduces the privileges of most of the amateur radio population*.

Lots of changes have occurred in the last 30 years, most of them crafted to increase our access to this

wonderful hobby. I believe the ARRL proposal goes a long way to secure operating privileges and encourage hams and non-hams alike to stick with the hobby. I think it reflects the reality of operating practices today, and gives us hope for the future. In short, I agree with and support the proposal the way it is written. I have read it, kept up with the discussion of the issues over the last few years, and will continue to do so as this proposal goes through the comment process once a petition for rule making has been submitted.

I hope you will eventually comment if you have something to say, and that you have something to say after reading the background information and the *entire proposal*. I also hope you keep the best interests of Amateur Radio service in mind when you evaluate this proposal. At this point the one to contact is Brad Wyatt, K6WR, our Pacific Division ARRL Director. he can be reached via e-mail at [bwyrat@arasmith.com](mailto:bwyrat@arasmith.com), or [k6wr@arrl.org](mailto:k6wr@arrl.org). If you don't have access to e-mail, write to him at his call book address. September QST will have a full discussion of the proposal. If you are not presently a member of the ARRL, now is a good time to come on board and make your feelings known.

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### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Well, it looks like summer is finally upon us with several days over 100 degrees in the recent past. It was but a short time ago that the Old Guy was rambling about the rain and mud. At least we have had a few days where that wonderful Delta breeze has kicked in and cooled us off a bit. A reminder to all to do what you can to keep cool and well hydrated during these hot summer days. Thanks again to all of you who have made doing this newsletter such an enjoyable experience, and remember to keep the information coming.

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### **REMINDER!!!!!!**

Anyone who is planning on attending the potluck in Forbestown on August 8th, please call Clara, KC6JPP, at 742-2674 as soon as possible so as accurate a count as possible can be obtained. Hope to see you there!!



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**P.O. Box 1169  
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October 1998**

**Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU  
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## **NEXT MEETING**

The next combined Club and Board meeting will occur at 7:00PM on October 14 at Jerry's Restaurant at Live Oak Boulevard and Colusa Avenue (Highway 20) in Yuba City. Our location at the Yuba City Mall has been rented so will not be available for the next few months. Some of the dates discussed at the September meeting will be firmed up, and it is time to be thinking of Officers and Board Members for the next year.



## **YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**September 9, 1998**

**PRESENT:** Barry Barnes-KE6LW, Vice President;  
Clara Ansley-KC6JPP, Treasurer; and Jean  
Knox-KF6EIN, Secretary.

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Thomas Robinson-N6PGK,  
and Russell Decker-KB6YAF.

**MEMBERS:** Gary Knox-KF6CIT and Roger  
Need-W5VKU.

**GUESTS:** Bruce Cucuel and Jettie Hill, ARRL  
representative.

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## **REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE**

**Dave Gartner, WD6AXM**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Barry Barnes, at 7:00pm at the Yuba City Mall.

The Treasurer's report is as follows: Balance:  
August 1998-\$3,336.56.

Disbursements: \$103.90.

New Checking Balance: \$3,232.16; less Repeater Balance of \$505.00 and VE Balance of \$238.61, for a new club balance of \$2,490.05.

Clara noted that we need a fund raiser next year to bolster the Treasury.

Treasurer's report submitted by Clara Ansley, Treasurer.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Our meeting place in the mall, will not be available during October, November and December. We will meet at Jerry's restaurant in October and November. In December, the Christmas



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## COMING EVENTS

October 14	Club Meeting - Jerry's Restaurant
November 7	VE Session
November 11	Club Meeting - Jerry's Restaurant - Nomination of Officers and Board Members for 1999.
November 26	Thanksgiving.
December 9	Christmas Dinner, Location to be determined. Election and Installation of new Officers and Board Members
December 25	Merry Christmas!
January 1	Happy New Year!
January 13	Club Meeting
February 10	Club Meeting - Potluck Dinner
March 13	Club Meeting - Swap Meet

party will replace the meeting. The location will be announced later.

The February 10th potluck was discussed, but no plans were made.

It was decided to hold an Amateur Radio Swap Meet on March 13, 1999. Spaces will be \$10.00. Location to be announced later.

The tentative location of Field Day 1999 is the Knox property in Forbestown.

The August 14th picnic will be held at the park in Forbestown.

Jettie Hill, from the ARRL, talked about the new FCC proposal for license changes. The FCC would like comments by December 1, and reply comments by January 15, 1999.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Jean Knox, KF6EIN  
Secretary

## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Here we go again, for another siege of being your Editor for the Newsletter.

First off, many heartfelt thanks to Nancy for her hard work in getting the thing out on time and for doing an all-around fine job. Nancy, you made my Summer of lollygagging possible and just a little more enjoyable. Thank you again.

As this is written, your Editor has returned from a four-day flying trip through Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming and Utah. No radio along this time. We were with a friend in a rental car and this time it was Motels and Restaurants. None of that dust, hauling water, and watching the birds and local animals. However, there were antelope, deer and coyotes visible several times from the highways. There is some beautiful country out there as well as miles and miles of nothing but miles and miles. Just be sure to bring lots of coats and long johns in the Winter months. It is reported that 40 degrees below zero is not uncommon in some of the places we saw. We saw only two or three Ham QTH's, and about the same number of mobiles in our travels. Lots of RV's, but only one had an amateur antenna on it. Since last editing the newsletter, the old guy spent the usual weeks at deer camp (not Dear Camp, Ron) and then a week in Oregon with the deer hunters. Fate was kind to the hunters this season. Two deer in the Chester and two in Oregon so far, and the son-in-law and his buddy are still at it. Then in October, it's off to Colorado for the son-in-law. Hmmmm --- talk about deer widows; the wives are really laying in the markers for honey-dews.

Your editor had great ideas for a new format for the Newsletter, and I spent several unpleasant hours fooling around with things like Templates, Styles and other things in Microsoft Word and then in the old friend, Wordperfect. First of all, the guy who wrote that the transition from Wordperfect to Word is very easy is on the worst of my lists!! 'Taint so, at least for this old guy!! I guess you really can't teach an old dog new tricks. Anyway, here we are, back at the old standby and getting things to work. Nothing fancy, and for sure we will never even place



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a journalistic contest. However, it gets done; and most of the time it's on schedule or slightly early. There are still some ideas rattling around in my head, and maybe in between issues, something can be worked out to be simple enough for even your Editor to understand. We'll see -- but don't hold your breath.

Once again, it's that time of year when the membership needs to consider which of the offices or directorships you will consider as your contribution to the cause. Think about it, please. It's not always easy, and sometimes it's downright frustrating and discouraging. Then's when you think of the get-togethers and fun things that come from being in a group such as this. The frustration and discouragement don't go away, but they become easier to handle.

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## THE PREZ SEZ

Every year at this time, we try to come up with a slate of officers to serve the club the following year. In this way, we hope not to have a situation where no one is running for a particular office. Because of the turmoil of last Spring, I took on the office of president one final time. Believe me, I want to see some interested ham do it for 1999.

It is obvious that we should never again have husband and wife each serve as officer or board member at the same time. Their abrupt departure leaves too big a hole. It is also a given that too many times in the past, the same people have stepped forward when no one else would.

I thank everyone who has helped out this year. Clara is our rock--providing stability and service without complaint. If you want a good example to follow, just study the way Clara does it--you won't find a better model. Jean stepped up this year to take the secretary's position and has done a fine job. We need more people to do this!

Barry, despite his busy schedule, filled in at the appropriate time and I am grateful for that. I commend our board members who stabilized the club this year; Russ, Bill, John, Robby, and Herb, a big thank you is in your account. So now we ask you to consider serving as an officer or board member. The slate will be offered to the voting membership (those who show up) at the November meeting. We will hold a short election and that will be that.

We also have this perennial request for ideas for meeting programs. If you have any, please put them forward.

The club will offer a class for prospective hams again when we have our meeting place back. Early in February is my best guess.

The meeting room we get for free at the Mall has its drawbacks--we can see that this month. They were lucky enough to rent the space and so we go begging for a while. If you can come up with an interim meeting room, please let me know. The comment deadline for the FCC's licensing streamline proposal is December 1, 1998. The reply comments are due by January 15, 1999. The proposal would (1) reduce the number of license classes from 6 to 4, (2) permit additional amateur licensees to act as volunteer examiners, and (3) eliminate RACES. Along with everything else, the FCC wants ideas to improve the Amateur Service enforcement process, and your ideas on possible changes to the telegraphy requirements and the written examinations. The ball is now in your court. Changes will occur and you can have your say.

73, Ron, W6KJ

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## Quad A's Electronic Supply

7366 Auburn Blvd., #3  
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(916) 723-7368

Samuel E. Ansell  
WA6POM

## Turner Radio Repairs

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**President**

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## MISCELLANEOUS THOUGHTS

In the past, we've called it Biscuits and Gravy or Biscuits and Honey; but for a change, this time it's Miscellaneous Thoughts.

Yep, once again, things didn't come out even. We either had too much material or not enough. So ---- some miscellaneous thoughts.

I note that we have a new advertiser. Please try to patronize these firms, as they contribute significantly to the considerable cost of publishing this newsletter. If memory serves me correctly, Charles Turner appeared at one of the club meetings and described his work and products. He merits a call if you have a problem with that rig that only a person wearing a white coat in a lab can work on. I don't really know whether he wears a white coat, but give him a shot anyway.

I didn't see any white coats in evidence at The Radio Place the other day, but they have a lot of merchandise on display with the people present to explain its merits and give you many reasons to buy some of it. They are very knowledgeable and they can help you with your radio problems.

At Quad A's at the other end of town, you're always greeted with a smile and a "Hello", and "What can I do for you?". This firm has long been a supporter of the club, and again, there are many goodies on display to make your mouth water and your station perform better. Incidentally, the next time you're there, ask for the story of the company name. It's an interesting tale.

Along these lines, do you know of a firm or organization that might benefit from a spot in this fine publication? Remember that we need support such as this, and the advertiser gets the benefit of exposure to about one hundred people each month.

The class Ron mentioned will feature your Editor as an instructor as things now stand. It had been planned for October, but with loss of the meeting room at the Mall and scheduling conflicts on the part of yours truly, it had to move to January or February. At present, it will be limited to the No-Code Tech, but that could change if need be. We now can generate practice exams of every Element including the code tests. Hardware for code practice over the air is in development, and should be finished by November. (Boy doesn't that sound technical!!) !!!!

If you are a No-Code Tech and haven't read the new licensing proposals, take a look at things and think about upgrading to Tech Plus. You could end up in a better position after re-structuring, and even if that doesn't happen as it's now proposed, you ought to upgrade anyway. If the old guy can do it, anybody can.

A thought concerning the back page of the newsletter ----- do we need the application blank on every issue? It takes up space, and I wonder how many of these things Clara gets at renewal time or when we get a new member? If it's as few as I suspicion, maybe we should rethink that feature. It might help the "Biscuits and Honey" thing at times.

--30--