

# **VALLEY HAM NEWS**

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

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**P.O. Box 1169  
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**May 2001**

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## ***NEXT CLUB MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER***

The next regular club meeting will occur on Tuesday, May 22, at the Lindhurst High School Cafeteria. It seems that the cafeteria is not available on the date set by the Board on April 7; so we had to set a later date.

Like always, be there at 6:00PM, and we eat at 6:30PM.

The club will furnish rolls, coffee and soft drinks. You bring your favorite dish to share.

## ***CLUB OFFICERS***

**President: Curtis Sylvester Jose, KF6VFP**  
**Vice President: Bill McJunkin, N6FAB**  
**Secretary: Jean Knox, KF6EIN**  
**Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP**

## ***BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

**Art Nelson, W6ARN Ernest Royat, KB6VHW**  
**Herb Puckett, W6HBU Russ Decker, KB6YAF**  
**Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI**

## ***REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE***

**Dave Gartner, WD6AXM**

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## ***NEXT BOARD MEETING AND CLUB BREAKFAST***

The next Board Meeting and breakfast will be at the Lake Francis RV Resort Cafe in Dobbins. Date is May 19, and time is 9:00AM.

We'll shoot for breakfast at 9:00AM, and the Board meeting will convene after breakfast.

We will continue the process of planning the club activities for the year at this meeting. We would appreciate your thoughts and input.

One thing up for discussion will be a substitute Newsletter Editor for the date or dates when your regular editor is out of town.

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## ***BOARD MEETING MINUTES***

April 7, 2001

The meeting was called to order at the Willow Glen Cafe after breakfast. The time was approximately 1000 AM.

Officers present: President Curtis Sylvester-Jose, Vice President Russ Decker, Treasurer Clara Ansley and Secretary Jean Knox



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Board members present: Lee Sheffield, Ernie Royat, Bill McJunken and Herb Puckett.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

The treasurer's report was approved.

Checking balance 3-10-01: \$2691.42. Receipts deposited: \$411.40. Disbursements: \$427.52.

Repeater balance: \$651.00. VE balance: \$131.97.

Checks not deposited: \$50.84. Club balance as of 4-7-01: \$1943.17.

The "Bike Around The Buttes" on April 21, will be pretty much the same as last year. The only change will be a portion of the course will be located on the new bike trail. Russ Decker will be net control.

The "MS Walk" will be held on the following day, April 22. Some volunteers were rounded up at the breakfast.

The next potluck will be held at Lindhurst High School on May 8, at 630 PM. **Editor's note: Changed to May 22. See announcement above.**

The next breakfast and board meeting will be held at Lake Francis RV park restaurant, in Dobbins. We will be honoring Cy Owens-W6YZT. Cy celebrates his 98th birthday in May. Pete Visalli will make reservations.

ARES will be having a field day exercise in El Dorado County on the last week-end of June.

Russ Decker reported on his trip to EM Comm 2001 in Palo Cedro. He learned a lot and had a good time.

Bill McJunken told us that Cy Owens has had surgery and is recuperating.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:31

Submitted by Jean Knox, Secretary

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## THE PREZ SEZ

Thanks to all of the volunteers that helped out at the Bike Around the Buttes and MS Walk. Without the help of volunteers like you we would not have been able to support either of these events, as well as advertise our hobby. A special thanks to Herb (W6HBU) and Clara (KC6JPP) for organizing

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the volunteers.

During the ride, one rider stopped and asked if I was a Ham. He stated he was, but had gotten out of the hobby because lack of a local Ham club. After talking for a while he mention the possibility of getting back into Amateur Radio and hopefully joining us.

Till next month,

73

Curtis (KF6VFP).

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## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Your Editor has been busy lately. So busy, in fact, that his appearance on the local simplex frequency has generated comments about "Who's that stranger?".

It is getting closer to the warm days of summer, and we all know what that means. The pine tree calls more strongly each day. This requires checking of the trailer and getting it and various other things ready for the summer. It also means that we must check out the snow conditions where we will be later on this year.

So --- Ed, N6VRH, Marvin, KE6JNT, and your intrepid Editor made a trip up Chester way and went exploring. The way into the camp spots is clear for the most part, and it should be completely clear by the time we could get there with the trailer. Unfortunately, a heavy social calendar prevents



leaving the valley before somewhere around three weeks from now.

It has been said that the good Lord protects darn fools and drunks. I have two witnesses that will testify that your Editor was stone sober, but he was a darn fool when he attempted to negotiate one snow bank. We didn't get stuck in the snow, but it was very exciting for several seconds as the snow and mud flew, and we slid into the borrow pit along the side of the logging road. Thank heaven for all-time 4-wheel drive and your Editor's patron saint. We escaped with only a few very minor scratches on the vehicle and a very ruffled dignity. You can bet that the old Dad won't be that stupid again.

The trip included a stop at the Kopper Kettle in Chester for lunch. If you haven't experienced a meal at this establishment, you haven't lived. Just ask Marvin or Ed. It was another high light of the trip.

Concerning your Editor's summer plans, we still don't have all issues of the Newsletter covered. Ron, W6KJ, has filled the slot in the past, but this year he will be unable to cover all the gaps. I don't want to skip a month or two, but that is a possibility if we can't get someone to tackle the job. Please think about it. Another thing to consider is the VE situation. I believe that can be handled either by another VE or by moving the date a week or so. We'll keep you posted on it.

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## ***EMCOMM 2001***

The second annual EMMCOMM (EMergency COMMunication) 2001 was again held in Palo Cedro, CA. ( Hwy 44 just east of Redding, CA.) On March 31, 2001. I also attended the first EMMCOMM last July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The purpose of EMMCOMM is to bring together state agencies such as OES, local, county and state law enforcement with the Ham community such as ARES and RACES and provide training in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Jerry Boyd, K6BZ, the Sacramento Valley Section Manager spearheads the event and offers

quite a bit of expertise and knowledge on emergency management through his book When The Big One Hits...A Survival Guide For Amateur Radio Operators. Dave Thorne, K6SOJ, the SV SEC, North; Assistant ACS Officer, MAR III, California OES, gave instruction on how to handle emergencies and disasters using the ICS (the Incident Command System). He also gave a great talk on the "Psychology of Disaster".

OES brought some of their equipment to EMMCOMM. They brought a 4 wheel drive vehicle pulling a trailer which supported the huge crank-up uplink satellite dish. Also featured were two communications vehicles; one standard size van loaded with every kind of two-way radio imaginable and second was the large walk-in van which also had tons of radio equipment and enough room to hold a small meeting around a mini-conference table. The Sheriff's Department brought their van loaded with radios as well as other emergency equipment. The highlight of the display was a special visit by the new north state CHP helicopter. A French-made machine, it supports an 800 hp. engine with a cable hoist, infra-red radar and every radio imaginable. It has proved to be a valuable tool in search and rescue, especially when dealing with the unique weather problems in and around Mount Shasta.

I hope that each and everyone of you will have the ability to attend next year's EMMCOMM. I'll keep you posted!

73, Russ, KB6YAF

Yuba-Sutter County EC

Editor's note:

There are several pictures of the equipment later in this issue.

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## ***NEXT EXAM SESSION***

The next exam session is Saturday, May 5. See the Club Web Site or call your Editor for full details.

Usual time, usual place.



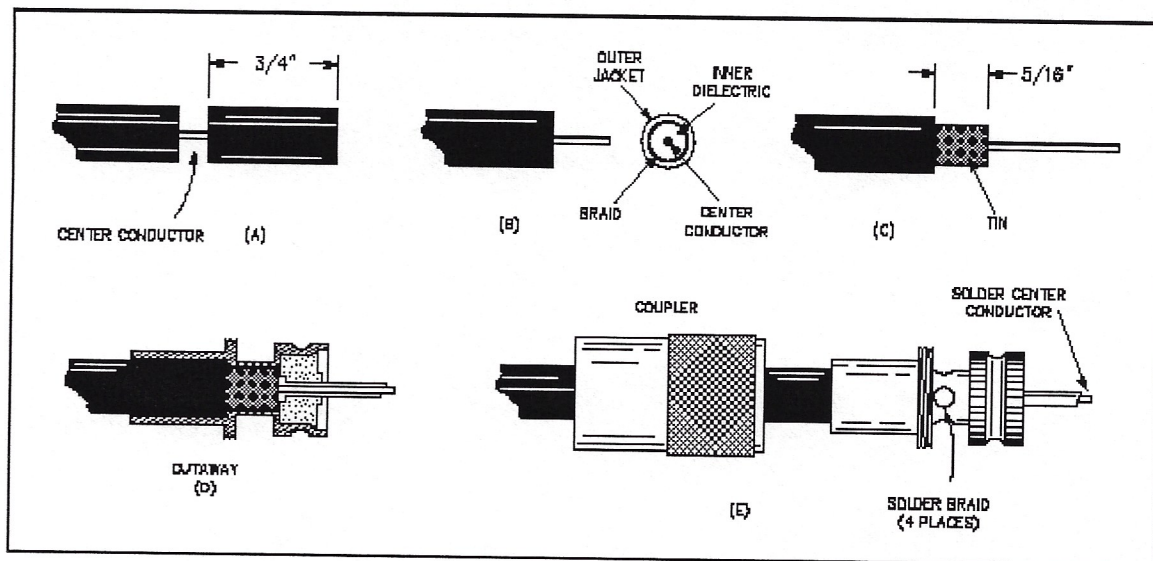


Figure 1

## CURT'S CONNECTOR CORNER

Welcome to the second installment of the Connector Corner. Today we'll talk briefly about coax connectors. These are the type we most commonly use for connections to antennas.

Information for this article was taken from the *ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs 2001* (CD), chapter 22. There are three families of connectors used for RF - BNC, UHF and Type N. The UHF connector is mostly used for HF frequencies. It's nomenclature for the male connector is PL-259 and the female is SO-239. Figure 1 shows the proper way to build a connection using a PL-259. These connectors are used with RG-8 and RG-11 size coaxial cable and are designed to handle the full power of amateur radio operations. For more detailed information refer to *ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs 2001*, pages 22-9 and 22-10.

## CY OWENS, W6Yzt, 97 YEARS YOUNG

Here is a bit of data on Cy Owens.

I first met Cy about 1948 or 1949. My dad knew him and he had a TV shop on Percy Avenue, just south of Woodbridge Ave. If I looked over the

east fence from the back yard I could see Cy's shop. There were a lot fewer buildings down there then. It was almost directly across the street from "Sam's (filth) Burgers"..best darn burger in town, just don't look at the flies stuck in the grease on the screen over the walk-up window.

I used to take tubes over and have Cy test them until he got tired of testing tubes that I found in junk radios and never bought a new tube ever. His wife tested tubes for me when he was off to Dunlap's or on some other errand. She also gave me resistors once in a while from the junk box. I was 12 years old and mowing lawns on the north end of Percy Avenue to earn money for model airplanes and fishing tackle from Bill Ledford's Sport Shop on Percy Avenue, just north of Franklin Avenue. Now it's a beauty shop. Bill Ledford's mom (Maudie) was NR6A's grandmother. June's (my XYL) youngest sister married a grandson of one of Cy's sister-in-law's... (second-shirt-tail?)

Cecil L. Owens, W6Yzt

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# VALLEY HAM NEWS

May 2001

Birth Date 05-22-1904

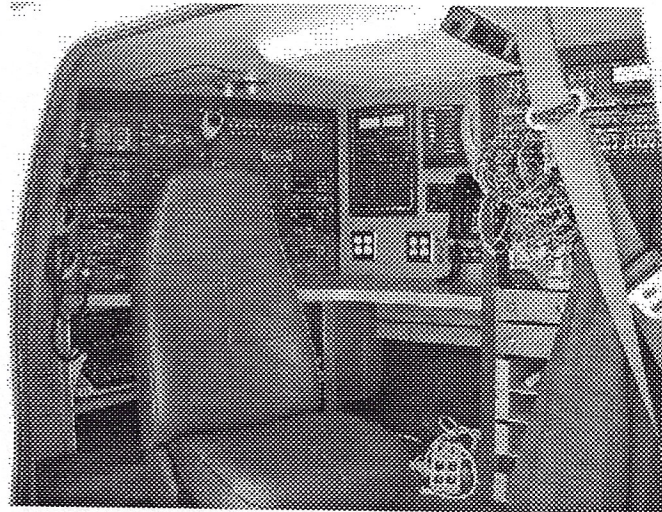
Bill McJunkin N6FAB wmcj@jps.net  
That which lingers in your mind might be lost  
elsewhere.

<http://www.jps.net/wmcj/index.html> Apprentice  
Neanderthal

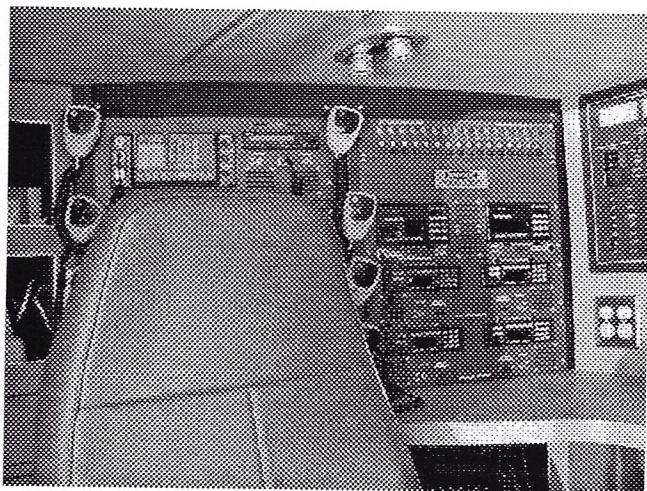
<http://www.jps.net/mcjunkin/index.htm> John  
McJunkin Photography

Thanks, Bill, for the input. Our best to Cy.

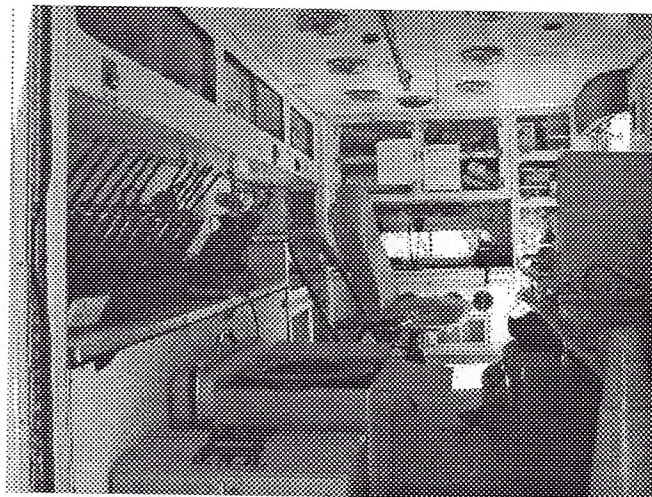
Here are some of the Pictures From the  
EMCOMM Meeting



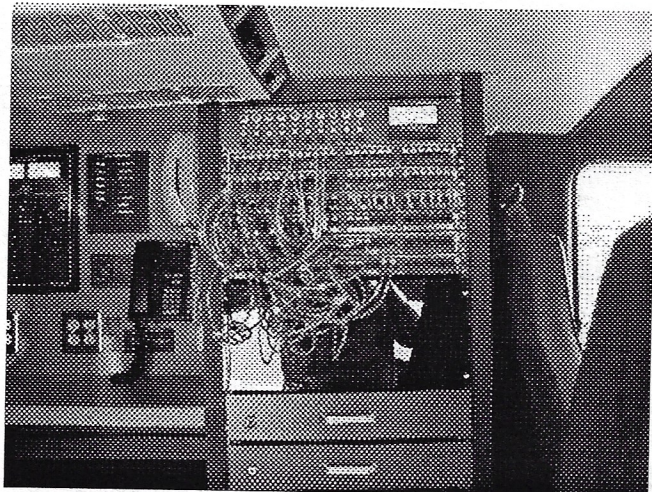
Another View of the OES Van



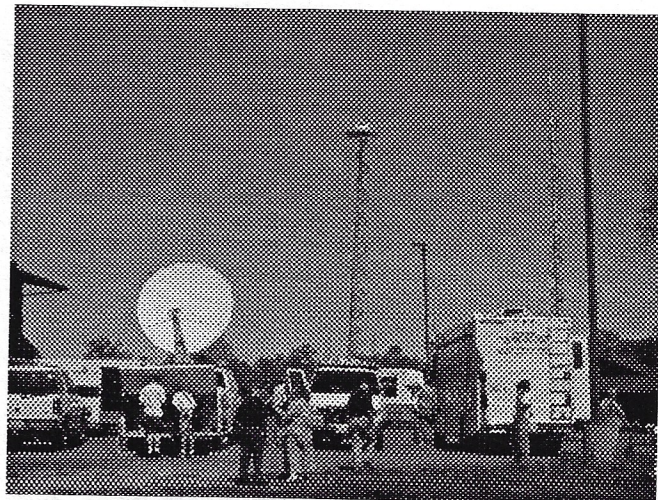
Inside the OES Communication Van



This is the Sheriff's Department Van



This is another view of the OES Van Interior



This is a view of the parking lot