

The VALLEY HAM NEWS

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

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CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mike Colvin, W6CUJ
Vice President: Art Nelson, W6ARN
Secretary/Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paul Johnson, N6XVL
Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Russ Decker, KB6YAF
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI
Curtis Sylvester-José, KF6VFP
Thomas (Robby) Robinson, N6PGK
Marvin Lemburg, KE6JNT
REPEATER TRUSTEE
Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be at Coco's in Yuba City on May 10 at 9:30 a.m. Come join us for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. before the meeting.

Bring your suggestions, gripes and offers to help as well as your appetite.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3 – VE testing Session.
May 10 – Breakfast and Board Meeting at 8:30 a.m., Coco's in Yuba City.
May 16-19 – Dayton, Ohio Hamvention.
May 21, 7:00 p.m. General Club Meeting at Yuba County Library.

E-Mail: ysarc@cwnet.com

Y-S ARC Web Page: <http://users.cwnet.com/ysarc/>

Y-S ARES Web Page: <http://www.ysares.org>

P.O. Box 1169

Yuba City, California 95992

May 2003

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May 31 – EMCOMMWEST 2003 an ARRL Pacific Division Operating Specialty Convention in Reno NV.

June 28 and 29 – Field Day.

July 10 – VE Testing Session.

July 26 – Club Barbeque at Pete Visalli's in Dobbins.

Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. – weekly net with swap shop and help sessions.

Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. – the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (UHF) Net.

Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. – weekly ARES net.

BIKE-AROUND-THE-BUTTES

It was wet, windy and cold. We at least had our vehicles to sit in and stay warm and dry. The bicyclist that were willing to brave the weather were out, between 500 and 600 of the 1200 who had signed up.

Net control this years were Russ Decker (KB6YAF) and Art nelson (W6ARN). As in previous years the control station was in Russ' trailer.

The following radio operators from our club helped out by manning the seven rest stops and nine SAG vehicles. Mike (W6CUJ), Clara (KC6JPP), Scott (K6EVP), Laura (KG6PAL), Marvin (KE6JNT), Teeje (NE1CQ), Paul (N6XVL), Dan (WB6PKB), Lee (KC6MCI), Larry (KN6LE), Curtis (KF6VFP), Dennis

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(KD6DFY), Herb (W6HBU), Tom (KB6WID), Ron (W6KJ), Barry (KE6LW), Leonard (KG6PND), Tricia (KG6PNC) and Mike (KG6PNG). Also assisting from the Liewkcaty, WA ARES group was Hugh (AC7XF).

We were kept busy this year dealing with scrapped knees and shins from spills due to the slick roads, and cyclists to SAGged to pedal. All told the SAG vehicles transported approximately 30 riders back to the starting point. One rider was reported missing by his wife and was found by Lee (KC6MCI).

Thanks to all of you who volunteered your time and equipment to assist this year. This is what our hobby as amateur radio operators is all about. A special thanks to Herb for all of his hard work as the event coordinator. **"PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community".**¹

Curtis (KF6VFP)

ARES

My being away for so much of this month has been a good thing for YSARES. A number of people have stepped up to the plate as pinch hitters for me, and I appreciate it. The next step is to develop a rotation schedule for each ARES member to run the Thursday evening net.

We began doing some training on the net a couple of times in the month of April, using material from the ARRL Emergency Communication Course 001. I have received positive comments from several people, but it is hard to know how many people were really getting something out of it. I plan to continue the training sessions now that I'm back. Even better, I would be interested in having an Assistant Emergency Coordinator in charge of training. Any volunteers?

The Red Cross Disaster Utility Vehicle was officially turned over to the Red Cross Board of Directors this month. It will be available for events like Bike Around the Buttes and the MS Walk. Though the operating consoles have not been completed, the DUV can still be used with temporary tables and equipment.

There were 18 ARES members for the SEMS (Standard Emergency Management System) training at the Yuba City Police Department. Kelly Purdom did a very nice job of explaining how SEMS relates to the Incident Command System. There were two reasons why this meeting was important. First, it helped ARES members get the "big picture" of disaster response, so that we can begin to see how we fit into all the activities that are involved in reacting to a disaster. Second, our impressive attendance at the meeting shows local OES, police, and fire officials that there are quite a few hams in the area that are interested in receiving training to improve our skills. It was a good opportunity for Kelly

CLUB STATION

The Three Rivers Red Cross chapter has offered the use of space in their facility for a club radio station. In order to do this we would have to get a club callsign and appoint a trustee; general or extra class license; for the radio station just like we have for the repeater. If we have a station the hams who do not or cannot have a home station would have a place to do HF, etc. Also, technician licensee's could try out HF when a General Class or higher ham is present as the control operator. Otherwise hams using the station would be limited to their privileges.

The board would like input from the general membership on this offer. Please email me at my address above, check in to a Monday night net or write me and give us your input and questions.

¹ The 1990 ARRL Handbook for the Radio Amateur, 67th Edition, The American Radio Relay League, 1990.

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Purdom to get to know more of us face to face.

Finally, on May 31, EMCOMMWEST 2003 will be held in Reno. It's a one-day event highlighting amateur radio emergency communications. Below is the announcement from the EMCOMMWEST Newsletter:

+++ EMCOMMWEST 2003 +++

Just 40 days until EMCOMMWEST 2003!

ARRL PACIFIC DIVISION OPERATING SPECIALTY CONVENTION

Reno, Nevada May 31, 2003 - hosted by:

South Reno Baptist Church

6780 So. McCarran Blvd.

Reno, Nevada.

+ HIGHLIGHTS:

Dan Miller, K3UFG, from ARRL HQ. Dan is the ARECC Course Managers and will be conducting a forum Saturday afternoon for mentors, instructors and interested students. Don Carlson, KQ6FM, Santa Clara Valley SEC, ASM, and professional broadcaster including the Armed Forces Radio Network. Don is the Operations Manager and Program Director at KYA AM 1200.

Classes on ARECC and ARRL VE Testing, EMCOMM mobile and portable field unit displays and competition.

Vendor Area + INFO SUMMARY:

Registration is \$10.00 advance or \$15.00 at the door.

Hosted by the ARRL Nevada Section and Northern Nevada Amateur Radio Services (NNARS).

Expanded hotel/motel information on the web page.

If you who have not pre-registered, please do so on the web. We need to know how many people that are attending to arrange for lunch (\$5.00) provided by Northern Nevada VOAD. Meal tickets may be purchased at the event.

After you pre-register, mail your registration check to:

NNARS

PO Box 50445

Sparks, NV. 89435-0445

Write: "EMCOMMWEST" and your call sign in the MEMO space. + FULL DETAILS: Information and registration now at:

www.cvrc.net/emcommwest/ History of EMCOMM The EVENT www.emcomm.org/emcomm/ May 2002 QST Magazine story www.emcomm.org/emcomm_story.htm

Michael Colvin (W6CUJ)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's April 24, and I feel like I am a bit out of the loop, since I just returned from 12 days in the Los Angeles area (whoopee). Somebody needs to fill me in on what's been going on while I have been away.

I think we can all be proud of the participation and enthusiasm of everyone who participated in the MS Walk and the Bike Around the Buttes events in April.

There were 18 hams who showed up to work on the MS Walk. One thing we learned from doing the MS Walk is the importance of not having our command post so close to all the noise and action. Next year we plan to put the command post a safe distance away from the dance music. The Featherdown Shopping Center also makes a fairly effective RF shield for HTs, so we will want to keep it from coming between the command post and the repeater on the Buttes.

I'm not sure how many turned out for Bike Around the Buttes, since I left for Southern California the next day! It seemed like there were a lot of us, however, even with all the rain.

We had about 12 participants at the last club meeting at the Yuba County Library. A total of 8 dual-band J-Pole antennas were made and they all appear to have been working. I'd be interested to hear what those

who made them have been doing with their new antennas.

I heard that we had 22 at the last Breakfast Board Meeting on the 19th. That is very good news! Plans are moving ahead for the club Field Day at the American Legion Hall in Linda. Stay tuned for more information on that.

The next club meeting will be held on Friday, May 21 at the Yuba County Library. The evening will be devoted to QRP operation, just in time for gearing up for some portable operation in the summer. I am hoping to have a number of QRP rigs, power sources, and portable antennas to be demonstrated. There may even be an opportunity to purchase your own QRP kit.

Michael Colvin (W6CUJ)

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2003

Members met for breakfast, at Kallico Kitchen, prior to the Board meeting.

Present were: V.P. Art Nelson - W6ARN, Secretary-Treasurer Clara Ansley - KC6JPP, Board Members: Herb Puckett - W6HBU, Curtis Sylvester-Jose - KF6VFP, Paul Johnson - N6XVL, Marvin Lemburg - KE6JNT. Members: Deane Coats - NR6A, Teeje Jamison - NE1CQ, Michael Hardesty - KG6PNG, Howard Fairbanks - WB6AIL, Dan Flores - WB6PKB, Tricia Wilkerson - KG6PNC, Leonard Wilkerson - KG6PND, Walter Kelley - K6CPI, Grace Kelley - KB2CIQ, JoAnne Murdock - N6YLO, Ron Murdock - W6KJ, Manna Whelchel - KG6PNE. Guests: Bob McClard - WA6OWH, Karolyn Fairbanks, Agnes Puckett, and Gail Giralico.

Our Board Meeting began with V.P. Art Nelson presiding. He thanked everyone for being with us this morning; stating that this was the largest group that has been in attendance in a very long time. He also thanked the volunteers for their good work

during the MS Walk and The Bike Around the Buttes: INCOME - \$0.00 less 10% for dues.

Minutes of the March 22, 2003 meeting were approved. These were not read, as the members had received them via the regular mail or from our web site.

Treasurer's Report: Checking Balance: March 22: \$2,396.46. Receipts Deposited: Dues: KD6DFY, WB6PKB, KF6ZIF, KG6PAL, K6EVP: \$76.00. TOTAL: \$2,472.46. Bills: (826) PIP-newsletter: \$21.61, (827) Postmaster-Olivehurst-60 stamps: \$20.20, (828) Copy City-additional copies-newsletter: \$7.72. Total: \$51.53. Checking Balance: \$2,420.93; less Repeater Balance: \$660 and VE Balance: \$122.48. Total: \$782.48. Club Balance: \$1,638.45.

Old Business: Bike Around the Buttes: Club Chairman, Herb Puckett, reported that he thought we had done well; but that there had been too many doubles; net discipline needs to be improved. The SAG vehicles did an excellent job under adverse conditions, high winds and heavy rain. About 30 riders and their bikes were brought in. Most were simply worn out from fighting the wind and rain; some from bicycle problems, and other reasons. Deane Coats monitored our frequency, and stated that he thought that this had been one of our best. Thanks for the compliment, Deane. Herb stated that he wanted to have a meeting with the volunteers to critique what we thought could be done differently, to make everything run smoother. It was brought to our attention that the Diabetes Society needs to do a better job of putting their signs together, as a lot of them came apart.

New Business: Field Day will be held on June 28 and 29 at the American Legion facility on Feather River Blvd., in Marysville. This was voted on about 3 months ago.

A motion was made by Clara Ansley, seconded by Herb Puckett that the Club will have a Potluck Outing at the residence of Pete Visalli, W6HKB, and his wife, in Dobbins on July 26. Motion passed. Those that attended last year stated this was a great place to have

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an outing, and everyone had a great time.

Swap Meet: Most places checked on to have this event, appear to be priced too high. We will keep on trying to locate a site.

Herb Puckett made a motion, seconded by Clara Ansley that it be REITERATED: THE BOARD OF THE CLUB, NOT CLUB OFFICERS, MAKES THE DECISIONS UNDER WHICH THE CLUB OPERATES. Motion passed. Club officers can set up places and times for events, but before they can take place, it has to be brought before the Board for approval.

Ron stated that we can have a Club Radio Station at the Red Cross facility. There are two ways this can be done: 1. Get a call sign for the club; this requires the need of a Trustee (like Dave Gartner is for our repeater), and puts the Trustee's license on the line; or 2. Each person can use the equipment under their own license, on those frequencies to which he/she has the privilege.

Motion was made by Curtis Sylvester-Jose, seconded by Ron Murdock that the Club have a Christmas Party in December. Motion passed. A date will be determined later.

A VE Session will be held on Saturday, May 3, at 9:00 a.m. at the Evangelical Free Church on Clark Avenue. If you plan on taking an exam you can contact Clara KC6JPP and pre-register.

Our next Board Meeting and breakfast will be held on May 10, at 8:30 a.m. at Coco's in Yuba City.

Being no further business, a motion was made by Ron Murdock, seconded by Clara Ansley that the meeting be closed. Motion passed. Meeting closed at 10:09.

Submitted by:

Clara Ansley (KC6JPP)
Secretary/Treasurer

VE EXAMS

The next VEC session will be May 3 at the Evangelical Free Church in Yuba City starting at the usual time of 9:00 a.m. Four to five VE are needed for the testing.

If you are going to test, please preregister with Clara Ansley (KC6JPP).

EDITORS RAMBLINGS

April was a busy month for the club. Looking back at my calendar we had something scheduled 15 days that month between radio nets, meetings and volunteering for the Bike Around the Buttes and MS Walk. Things will be a little slower this month and that's okay.

I by no means participated in all of the activities. I did participate in those I wanted to and had the time to. Hopefully, so did you. If you have any ideas for club activities that you would like to do, bring them up with the board. Even if no one else participates, you can. The more you the members do the better for the club. We want you to be active and enjoy your club. That's what we are all about.

Speaking of volunteering. The ARRL wants a yearly report of the number of hours the club spends in volunteer activities. So, if you done any volunteer work this year, keep track of the number of hours you spent. We'll compile the information at the end of the year and report the activities and totals to the ARRL. Number of hours should be reported in hours and tenths of hours. Also, since this is a not for profit organization you might want to check with your tax advisor to see if the hours, mileage and your costs are tax deductible.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

MS WALK-A-THON

Net control for the MS Walk was Paul

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(N6XVL). Helping him with the walk were some 13 hams, five of new comers to this hobby. Assisting were Clara (KC6JPP), Mike (W6CUJ), TJ (NE1CQ), Dennis (KD6DFY), Mike (KG6PNG), Leonard (KG6PND), Tricia (KG6PNC), Lee (KC6MCI), Ron (W6KJ), Laura (KG6PAL), Robert (KF6ZIF) and Dawn (KG6AIM).

There were no problems during the walk other than a radio dieing at one of the rest stops and a spare radio being brought out. Thanks to all who helped out and congratulations to all the new hams who survived their first public service support. A great job was done by all.

Paul Johnson (N6XVL)

FOR SALE

KI6OE has the following items for sale:

2. Kenwood TS950-SDS HF radio for \$750.00.
2. Azden PCS5000 2 meter transceiver for \$200.00.
3. Antenna Rotor for \$200.00.
4. Astron Power Supply, 12A for \$50.00.
5. Transmit/Receive Directional Controller for \$50.00.
6. Radio Shack Scanner, free if you buy all of the above.
7. Disassembled antenna and pole support, free if you buy all of the above.

If you are interested in purchasing any of this equipment you can contact his wife at (530) 639-2285.

K6CPI has the following items for sale:

1. Yaesu FT-757GX II All mode transceiver with hand held microphone and Heil desk microphone, stand, and owner's manual for \$350.00.
2. Dentron antenna tuner with output meter for \$50.00.

5. Ten-Tec 1500 watt linear amplifier, model 425S-Titan for \$1200.00. Includes desk top control unit and 220 Volt power supply. Heavy, weights 52 pounds.
5. Kenwood SSB transceiver, model number TS520S for \$100.00.
6. General Radio Co. variac variable voltage unit, 120 Volt, 1 Ampere with knob and dial for \$10.00.
7. New steel radio cabinet, 20" x 12" x 10" with hinged top for \$15.00.

If you are interested in purchasing any of this equipment you can contact his Walter Kelly (K6CPI) at (530) 755-3466.

GRUMBLIES FROM THE CURMUDGEON

From Webster on line:

"One entry found for curmudgeon.

Main Entry: cur·mud·geon.

Pronunciation: ("k&r-muj'-&n.

Function: noun.

Etymology: origin unknown.

Date: 1577.

1 archaic : MISER.

2 : a crusty, ill-tempered, and usually old man.

- cur·mud·geon·li·ness /-IE-n&s/ noun

- cur·mud·geon·ly /-IE/ adjective"

In the past, I've referred to myself as the "Old Dude", as in "Can I get the Old Dude's discount?" at the fast food counter; as the "Old Dad" in relation to family and friends, as the "Old Guy" at times in print and numerous other labels just as well not mentioned here. I am indebted to Mike, W6CUJ, for the "Curmudgeon" label, and I suppose it is as good as any other. At any rate, if the Editor will allow me, the politically incorrect Curmudgeon will show up from time to time on these pages.

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If you enjoy the grumbles, let the Editor know. If you don't like it, lie about it and tell him how good it is anyway.

Soooooo what's the current grumble?

This is something that lights my candle every I hear it. How many of you know what Net Discipline is? Apparently a lot of operators don't if Bike Around the Buttes is any indicator. Y'all just gotta understand that you don't transmit unless you've got something of value to say. There was a lot of doubling out there in the rain. "You done well", but you coulda done better. Lots of people got stepped on during the day. Remember??? That was supposed to be a controlled net, but it sounded at times like a bunch of magpies trying to out do each other. The curmudgeon hat is off to the NCS people. They weathered the storm pretty well. Next time, stop just for a bit and put yourself in the place of the poor guy or gal who is trying to make sense of all that chatter. I'll bet four bits to a hole in a doughnut that you'll reconsider and keep your mouth shut.

Now here is something almost as bad. How many of you check in to the Monday night net and then leave without checking out with Net Control? A bunch, that's how many. Darn it, that's not only impolite, it's tough on the Net Control Station when he looks for you and you're gone into the far yonder. If you need to check out, let the guy or gal know you're tired of listening and you're going bye bye. It only takes a moment, and it makes for a much better net. It might even help net discipline. (Where have we heard that before?)

That about does it for this issue. If I don't get shot for this, maybe you'll see more of the Curmudgeon down the road.

73 to all,

Herb (W6HBU)

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO ROSTER

Please make the following changes

and additions to your copies of the club roster.

Address Change:

Teeje Jamison, NE1CQ, 1000 K Elliott Road, Paradise, CA 95969, Phone 530-872-7025

Additions:

Robert McClard, WA6OWH, Extra Class, 1087 Helen Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991, Phone 530-673-1621, Email scienceguy@hotmail.net

Jeanne McClard, WA6LRZ Technician+, 1087 Helen Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991

Jerry Snaper, KG6FDM Technician, 8037 Condor Way, Smartville, CA 95977, Phone 530-639-2108, Email snaper@access4less.net

Dennis Hively, KD6DFY Advance Class, 12507 Douglas Way, Loma Rica, CA 95901

Bill McJunkin, N6FAB Extra Class, 300 South Lawrence Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991, Phone 530-673-3859, Email mcjunkin@sbcglobal.net

June McJunkin, N6JEY General, 300 South Lawrence Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991, Phone 530-673-3859, Email mcjunkin@sbcglobal.net

Lance Miller, KC6FLB Technician+, 2939 Yard Street, Oroville, CA 95966

Walt Hammontree, N6HNS Extra Class, ARRL member, 12244 Robust Way, Nevada City, CA 95959, Phone 530-478-1403, Email whammontree@earthlink.net

Dan Flores, WB6PKB Advance Class, 5123 Feather Rock Court, Paradise, CA 95969, Phone 530-877-2769, Email WB6PKB@AOL.COM

Robert R. Lannon, KF6ZIF Technician, 1581 Glenn Ellen, Gridley, CA 95948, Phone 530-846-9544, Email KF6ZIF@HOTMAIL.COM

Laura K. Lannon, KG6PAL Technician, 1581 Glenn Ellen, Gridley, CA 95948, Phone 530-846-9544

Thanks to Herb (W6HBU) and Clara (KC6JPP) for the above updates.

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) _____ ARES 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 (\$18.00 per year)

Associate Dues: \$ _____ (\$4.00 per year)

Total: \$ _____

Email: _____

Prefer Electronic Copy of Newsletter (Y/N) _____ The newsletter can be viewed online at <http://users.cwnet.com/ysarc>.
By selecting this option you'll receive an email telling you the new newsletter is online.

Signature: _____

Mail to: Clara Ansley - Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
1943 16th Street
Olivehurst, CA 95961

Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 1169
Yuba City, CA 95992