

# 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

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 9, 6:00-9:00 p.m. – Christmas Party  
at American Legion Hall in Linda and Board  
Meeting

Jan 1 – Membership renewal payments  
due.

Jan 10, 9:00 a.m. – VE Session.

Feb 10, 6:00 p.m. – Potluck.

Apr 3 – MS Walk-A-Thon

Apr 17 – Bike Around the Buttes.

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

Tuesday, Thursday at 7:00 p.m. starting  
January 6, 2004 until February 26, 2004 –  
Technician Class.

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.

## NEXT BOARD MEETING

A short board meeting will be held just  
before or just after the Christmas Party to review  
the upcoming events for the new year. We  
would like to see the outgoing and incoming  
board members their to have their say. Items  
that need to be covered are the status of the  
LDS request to use the repeater for a LDS net,  
the upcoming technician class, the potluck in  
February and major events for 2004. Hope to  
see you all their.

## VE EXAMS RESULTS

There were a total of four candidates who  
tested. Three people took Element Two (No  
code Tech), and the other took Element Four  
(Extra). All four passed, so we have one  
upgrade and three new amateurs.

Herb Puckett (W6HBU)

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## BOARD MINUTES

Twenty-one members and five guests met for a delicious dinner in the cafeteria of Lindhurst High School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Michael Colvin W6CUJ. Other officers present were: Vice President Art Nelson W6ARN. Board Members present were Lee Sheffield KC6MCI, Herb Puckett W6HBU, Russ Decker KB6YAF, Curtis R. Sylvester-José KF6VFP, and Marv Lemburg KB6JNT.

The first item on the agenda was the election of officers for 2004. members present voted by written ballot. Several ballots had been submitted by email and mail to Herb W6HBU and Clara KC6JPP were added to those. Joan Murdock N6YLO and Carol Nelson KF6VFW tallied the votes. Election results were: President: Curtis R. Sylvester-José KF6VFP, Vice President: Herb Puckett W6HBU, Secretary: Tricia Wilkerson KF6PNC, Treasurer: Clara Ansley KC6JPP, Board Members: Lee Sheffield KC6MCI, Ron Murdock W6KJ, Paul Johnson N6XVL, Manna Whelchel KG6PNE and Leonard Wilkerson KG6PND.

The meeting ended abruptly, as some of the board members had to leave and there was not a quorum for any further business.

Minutes were taken by Tricia Wilkerson due to secretary Clara's having to attend a Grand Jury meeting.

Thanks Tricia!

Submitted By,

Clara M. Ansley, (KC6JPP) Secretary

## TREASURERS REPORT

10-11-2003	Opening Balance	\$2160.38
Deposits		
11-3-2003	Dues	\$72.00
11-3-2003	Christmas	\$35.00
11-3-2003	VEC Test	\$48.00
11-3-2003	Donation	\$7.00
Expenses		
848	Copy City	-\$18.34
849	Postmaster	-\$14.80
850	VOID	
851	ARRL VEC	-\$32.00

11-3-2003	Checking Balance	\$2257.24
	Repeater Balance	-\$677.00
	VE Balance	-\$148.56
11-3-2003	Ending Balance	\$1431.58

Clara M. Ansley  
KC6JPP  
Treasurer

## MORE CA QSO PARTY RESULTS

Tom (W6EO) operated again this year in CQP from his farm in southern Sutter Co. about 5 miles northwest of Robbins. It lies along the banks of the Sacramento River. He and his friend, N6EM operated together using his friend's call. They believe that they have the highest score for Sutter Co. this year as they did last year when we used his call, W6EO.

Tom and his friend made a total of 211 CW QSO's and 333 SSB QSO's for a total of 544. They had 54 multipliers – i.e. they worked 54 of the U.S. states and Canadian provinces.

They ran 100 watts and for antennas used a R7000 vertical on 75 SSB and 20 meters and a Force 12 C3 beam on 20, 15 and 10 meters. They did not operate on 40 meters during the contest.

Tom - W6EO

## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Well, the year is rapidly drawing to a close; and what a year it has been. This club has been very busy indeed. We have provided communications support for the MS Walk and Bike Around the Buttes in April, The LOVE Horse Ride and Veteran's Day Parade in November. We have held 6 VE testing sessions, conducted a Technician Class, participated in Field Day in June, a demonstration of ham radio at Community Day in January and the CA QSO in October. Add to those events we had a monthly breakfast and board meeting (nearly every month), 3 potlucks and a barbecue.

Other happenings this year has been a group of club members and nonmembers starting up an Amateur Radio Emergency Services group in the Yuba-Sutter area. This group has been working hard with local emergency providers to get training and become familiar with who and what they would do in an

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emergency.

Many of us have attended various swap meets here in the local area (Sacramento and San Francisco come to mind) as well as out of state in Dayton OH. Some members have started learning new aspects of amateur radio such as PSK31.

I hope that next year will see us busy as this year, providing opportunities for members to enjoy their hobby, whether its doing DXing, CW, IRLP, EchoLink, PSK 31, ARES, providing communications support to various local activities or being an Elmer to a new ham. There is something for everyone and I hope you'll join us in whatever activity you enjoy.

See you all at the Christmas Party and hope your Holidays are filled with joy.

Till next month,  
Curtis (KF6VFP)

## LOVE RIDE

Clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop "control, team 1, "Go ahead." The Lake Oroville Vista Endurance Ride (LOVER), a 50 mile and 30 mile horse ride around beautiful Lake Oroville is in progress. Hams from the Yuba-Sutter ARC and The Sweep Riders of the Sierras (SOS) provided support for this annual event.

The Sweep Riders of the Sierras is a unique organization of amateur radio operators who are also horse enthusiasts. They have combined their two loves into one exciting hobby. For the past 4 years SOS has provided communications for this event, with the assistance of Ralph Lucas (W6RWL), Burton Gilbert (N6UG) and Bill Pryor (KD6RSA). This year they invited the Yuba Sutter ARC (YS ARC) to join them. Paul (N6XVL) recruited the volunteers from the YS ARC.

The YS ARC repeater was used for communicating between the various stations along with a simplex frequency at 147.555 between net control, finish line and ride secretary. In addition a portable cross band repeater was set up by Ralph Lucas (W6RWL) to cover dead spots that the YS ARC repeater could not reach. Last year a horse went down in that area and the sweeps could not get out to call for help.

The hams from both the SOS and YSARC that participated were Curtis (KF6VFP) and Burton Gilbert (N6UG) as net control, Paul (N6XVL) in Mobile 1, Mike (W6CUJ) and

Steve Dawson (KG6BOR) at Lunch stop, Marvin (KE6JNT) and Virgil Toothaker (KG6FWH) at Spillway, Tom (KD6WID) and Ralph Lucas (W6RWL) at Ride Secretary, Donna Gonsalves (KF6UOQ) and Sue Jessen (KG6IZM) as Sweep Team 1, Stuart Porter (KG6GVD) and Gail Maduri as Sweep Team 2, Linda Zeigler (KG6IMS), Liz Helms (KF6SYV) and Dawn Simas as Sweep Team 3, Bob Balthrope (KD6WTY) and Maty Pope (KG6EOV) at finish, and Randy Hackbarth (KD6MIW) at Private Property. Bill Pryor (KD6SRA) was the event director's; Kathy Papa (KG6IBI); shadow. Finally Mary Anne Balthrope (KE6EST) oversaw all the ham efforts. In all there were 20 ham operators and 2 non hams (sweep riders) used along with 100 volunteers and veterinarians to cover the entire 50 mile course. We were on the air from 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Over 100 horseback riders were tracked by number and time. When the last horse came over the finish line, every single one had been accounted for.

We were lucky this year with no rain on event day, in spite of the showers on Friday. We were also lucky by not having any casualties and limited injuries. In the past there has been lost riders and downed horses.

Thanks to all the regular users of the repeater for standing by during the entire 14 hours and to Dave Gartner (WD6AXM) for the use of the repeater.

Mary Anne (KE6EST)

## ARES NEWS

Ham radio to the rescue! Once again, amateur radio operators in the Yuba-Sutter region helped out in an emergency. This time it was an exercise. November 13th saw an area wide disaster response drill with swat teams, fire and law-enforcement personnel, local government emergency services, and a group of volunteer amateur radio operators helping out with back up communications. It was the Emergency Medical Support Agency's (EMSA) California exercise, and ham radio was there.

Michael Colvin, of Maryville, callsign W6CUJ, was called to Yuba County Emergency Operation Center and began assigning volunteer communicators to other places where they were sure to be needed. Ron Murdock, W6KJ, of Yuba City, established

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station at Three Rivers Red Cross, coordinating simulated Red Cross support with Mike Scott, Red Cross Director of Disaster Services. Curtis Sylvester-Jose, KF6VFP, went to Rideout Hospital, to set up a portable radio station there, and later drove to Colusa to handle emergency radio communications at the Sheriff's Office and Emergency Operations Center. He later relayed a report which Ron Murdock in turn relayed to Redding. Additionally, Michael Hardesty, KG6PNG, of Marysville, assisted Yuba County Social Services with backup communications. In an actual emergency, many more local ham operators would have been involved, as happened with the floods of 1986 and 1997.

Ron (W6KJ)

## VETERAN'S DAY PARADE

Seven local hams marshaled and directed the start of units in the Veteran's Day Parade in Marysville on November 11. Five of them were themselves veterans.

Paul (N6XVL) operated under the tactical call of "Honcho" and shadowed the parade director. Ron (W6KJ), Mike (W6CUJ), Jerry (N6LAI) and Curtis (KF6VFP) used tactical call signs of "Marshall 1" through "Marshall 4." They help the various parade participants to find their holding places while they waited for their turn to march. They then started them out in the correct lineup. Herb (W6HBU) was "Control" and directed all traffic. Finally Tom (KB6WID) operated as "Review" and passed on to the announcers any changes in the program such as an incorrect spelling of names and missing participants and the status of the parades progress.

The group operated on the simplex frequency of 147.450 from 9:00 a.m. until the parades end at 12:00 P.M. Thanks to Paul for organizing all the volunteers.

## CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual Christmas party will be held December 9<sup>th</sup> at the American Legion Hall in Linda. Some of the best Prime Rib in Northern, CA made by two of our own hams will be served. Members are asked to bring a side dish such as a salad or desert to go with the meal.

Come and enjoy a great time with family and friends, sing Christmas songs and in general have good time.

## FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Dues for 2004 are due before January 1, 2004. If not paid you will not receive a newsletter in January. If you plan on attending the Christmas Party consider paying for you membership at the same time. The application form is at the top of the mailing page. A copy of the club application is also available on the club website at <http://users.cwnet.com/ysarc/>. Click on the membership button and then the membership application button.

## TECHNICIAN CLASS

Coming in January and February the next technicians class. Do you know of anyone interested in becoming a ham. Encourage them to attend and then become their Elmer. Help your hobby to grow.

## RILEY HOLLINGSWORTH

Hams in trouble again. To see the latest list of hams that have received a notice for improper operation or actions go to [http://www2.arrl.org/news/enforcement\\_logs/2003/1004.html](http://www2.arrl.org/news/enforcement_logs/2003/1004.html).