

The VALLEY HAM NEWS

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

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CLUB OFFICERS

Pres.: Curtis R. Sylvester-José, KF6VFP
Vice Pres.: Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Secretary: Tricia Wilkerson, KG6PNC
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leonard Wilkerson, KG6PND
Manna Whelchel, KG6PNE
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI
Paul Johnson, N6XVL
Ron Murdock, W6KJ

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

LIASANS

ARES: Mike Colvin, W6CUJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 4, 9:00 a.m. – VE Test Session
Sep 18, 8:30 a.m. – Breakfast and Board Meeting
Sep 18 – Satellite TV demo.
Oct 22-24 – Pacificon.
Nov 6th – Communications Support for LOVER (Lake Oroville Vista Endurance Ride).
Nov 9th – Potluck and election of officers.
Nov 11th – Communications Support for Veteran's Day Parade.

Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. – weekly net with swap shop and help sessions.
Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. – Butte County ARES net on Chico repeater.

Wednesday ay 9:00 a.m. – coffee and donuts at the Donut Shop corner of Gray Avenue and Bridge Street in Yuba City.

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

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

NEXT VE EXAM

The next VEC session will be Sept. 4th at the Cornerstone Free Evangelical Church in Yuba City starting at the usual time of 9:00 a.m. Four to five VE are needed for the testing. Contact Herb (W6HBU) if you can help out.

Please pre-register with Clara Ansley (KC6JPP) if you are going to test, or if you know of someone who is going to test have them pre-register. As always, walk-ins are welcome, but those who pre-registered will be given priority.

Please note: the new General Class question pool started July 1st.

Herb Puckett (W6HBU)

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be at the Waffle Shop in Yuba City. Visitors are welcome to come and join us. Breakfast begins around 8:30 a.m. and the board meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Bring your suggestions, gripes and offers to help as well as your appetite. The election of officers for next year is coming up soon. We

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need your input for officers and board members. Also, do we want to have a Christmas Party this year.

FOR SALE BY CLUB

Dipole Antennas -10, 15, 40 and 75 m (\$20.00 each).

HusLer antennas - 10 m and 40 m (2 each) (\$20.00 each).

Dipole HF antennas - 3 each, not labeled. (\$15.00 each).

Heathkit Hybrid Phone Patch, Model HD-15; with manual. (\$15.00).

Heathkit 2-meter Amplifier, Model HA-201; with manual. (\$20.00).

Heathkit μ Matic Memory Keyer, Model SA-5010; with manual. (\$30.00).

Book - *Surplus Radio Conversion Manual*, Vol. 2, 1948 by R C Evensen and O R Beach. (\$2.00)

FT-207R Manual (3 each). (Free to a FT-207R owner).

FT-208R Radio Manual . (Free to a FT-208B owner).

Book - *Golden Classics of Yesteryear* by Dave Ingram, K4TWJ. (\$1.00)

Book - *1934 Official Short Wave Radio Manual, Complete Experimenter's Set-Building and Servicing Guide*. (\$2.00)

TR-2400 Manual. (2 each) (Free to TR-2400 owner).

TR-2400 Service Manual. (\$2.00)

If interested in purchasing any of these items please contact Curtis (KF6VFP) at 743-3003 or preferably via email at kf6vfp@arrl.net.

BOARD MINUTES

No minutes this month. No board meeting held due to a lack of a quorum. Manna (KG6PNE) reports:

I went to - as it turned out - informal, not-enough-board-members - In-attendance - meeting on Saturday Aug 14, at the Linda Café. The result of the informal chatter was: I called The Waffle Shop At 590 Colusa Ave., Yuba City (kitty corner from Burger King - or - Old 'Sambo's Restaurant) (Colusa Hwy and Live Oak Blvd intersection Area). Our next meeting will be Saturday, September 18, 2004, at 8:30 am, at

The Waffle Shop Restaurant. I called and made the reservations. So, unless I hear back from them, that will be the place.

Submitted By,
Manna Whelchel (KG6PNE)

LOCAL HAMS HELP WITH FIRES

Several club members assisted with communications during the Oroville fire. Ron Murdock reported "We had two outstations (one at the shelter--two people) and one at the IC (Incident Command point) which had to be manned by Butte county folks, and one ncs at Red Cross HQ, which we manned around the clock. I had Paul do the honors several times from home while I had a Thursday shift from 7 am to 3:15 pm, proving that ncs does not have to be away from home. There was always someone at the radio, or near it, at Red Cross, in case they needed to be in the loop. The main thing is to have the ncs able to contact all outstations and supporting individuals, as in this case, with ECs in Butte, Placer, and El Dorado counties. The EC in Butte made the personnel assignments, using us as ncs so he didn't have to get another 3 individuals to do that. I am afraid this will not be the end of our fire season.

73, Ron

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Seoul, Korea. Rain, rain and more rain. One tropical storm has passed and three more are on the way.

It's been busy here, and from the looks of the news and emails, busy there. Thanks to all of you who are helping provide communications for the fires.

In November is the annual election of officers and board members. Please support the club by volunteering to fill a position. We need volunteers for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and five board members. These jobs are not difficult, any of us can easily fill the position and I for one would like to see more club members stepping into the positions.\

Curtis (KF6VFP)

SACRAMENTO VALLEY ARES UNITS GO ON HIGH ALERT FOR FIRE DUTY¹

Amateur Radio Emergency Service units in the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section of Northern California went on high alert this past week as firefighters continued efforts to contain and control the French Fire. Located 15 miles northwest of Redding, the French Fire, which broke out August 14, at one point resulted in the evacuation of French Gulch. As of August 20, the fire had destroyed 22 homes, caused a dozen injuries and consumed nearly 13,000 acres of forest lands and vegetation. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) was estimating that the fire would be 90 percent contained by week's end. Sacramento Valley Section Emergency Coordinator David Thorne, K6SOJ, said he expected ARES to remain active at least through the August 21-22 weekend and possibly into the following week.

"If it runs into next week, I may be requesting assistance from the Northern Nevada District, Nevada Section," Thorne said August 20. The San Francisco Section--Humboldt County--already was scheduled to send ARES resources for the August 21-22 weekend.

Mutual assistance was in effect during the week to relieve exhausted operators, with ARES teams from Butte, Siskiyou, Placer and Nevada counties deployed to assist Shasta County ARES. District Emergency Coordinator Richard Cloyd, WO6P is the ARES incident coordinator.

Some 300 area residents evacuated because of the French Fire were allowed to return August 17. Amateur Radio provided necessary communication at the shelter for CDF and American Red Cross as well as for local authorities. At one point, a packet system was set up between French Gulch and the shelter, located at Shasta College, to provide for more secure communications.

One ARES member noted that CDF "was really relying on Amateur Radio" because the agency's own repeaters couldn't reach the fire zone.

The French Fire was one of three that ARES teams in Northern California have had to confront this month. The Bear Fire, which burned over some 10,500 acres, now is considered fully contained and controlled. It destroyed 80 homes

and 30 other structures in Jones Valley. ARES supported Red Cross Disaster Services with damage assessment and health-and-welfare support in that incident. Earlier in the month, ARES units assisted in the now-contained Oregon Fire in Butte County.

The French Fire has led authorities to close Highway 299 between Redding and Weaverville from time to time. When it's open, a pilot car is leading traffic through the area.

The ARES response in Northern California drew words of praise from former Sacramento Section Manager and Section Emergency Coordinator Jerry Boyd, KW7J (ex-K6BZ). "I continue to be impressed with how smoothly this whole complex operation is going," he told Thorne in an e-mail. "Please convey to all the admiration of the former SEC and SM." Boyd now directs the Baker County 911 Dispatch Center in Oregon.

¹ *The ARRL Letter*, Vol. 23, No. 33 August 20, 2004.