

THE VALLEY HAM NEWS

The Voice of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club

January, 2006

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CLUB OFFICERS

President: Bob McClard, W6OWH
Vice President: Curtis Sylvester-Jose, KF6VFP
Secretary/Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Wainer, WD6SCD
Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI
Howard Fairbanks, W6AIL
Manna Whelchel, KG6PNE

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 7, VE Exam Session in Yuba City.
January 10, Technician class starts. 7:00PM at Red Cross Bldg. In Yuba City
January 10, Club Meeting at Red Cross Bldg. In Yuba City. 7:00PM
January 22, Board Meeting 5:00PM at W6OWH
H, 1087 Helen, Yuba City
February 7, Potluck Dinner at Marysville, Methodist Church, 8th & D Street, Marysville. 6:00PM
Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. - Weekly net with swap shop and help sessions on the local repeater.

Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. - Butte County ARES net on Chico repeater.

Every Wednesday except the third Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. - Coffee and donuts get together. Location changes weekly.

Third Wednesday of each month, Breakfast at the Country Waffle Restaurant in Yuba City. 9:00AM
Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM - the ARRL Section Net on the local repeater.

Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. - weekly ARES net on the local repeater.

Second Saturday of each month: Breakfast at the Country Waffle Restaurant in Yuba City

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be the first of the year and will start the move to members' homes instead of the noisy restaurants. This time it's at Bob McClard's home at 1087 Helen, in Yuba City. Starting time is 5:00PM.

All are welcome. Bring your suggestions for the new year. There are several new activities planned, and your input is needed.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

At the informal Board Meeting at the Christmas party, the only business transacted was setting the schedule for the next Board Meeting in January.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Everyone from your new YSARC President. I hope to represent you and reflect the direction you would like to see the club go. I have some ideas for changes in the months ahead and hope you will enjoy them and expect you to pitch in to help too. I know I can count on your participation and suggestions.

With the new Ham Class starting January 10th at the Red Cross building we all have the opportunity to steer a friend, relative or coworker into Amateur radio via this easy route with lots of Elmer support from Ron and Herb. Meeting on Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 9 PM the leaders guide the new hams gently into the hobby. With lots of encouragement and study we have a high success rate. All of you are welcome to come and help "teach" /support this newbie class. Last year I saw a faithful David WD6SCD attend the classes and support his two sons in law in their successful ham license quest. Good job David! Other club members also came at times and did the same. We had fun and even had some laughs as some of the Old Men talked of times past and now the present and future of Ham Radio.

Some would say that one of the things that make the "old timers" a bit more well-rounded in this hobby is the fact that when we were first licensed, there weren't any handy-talkies, and repeaters were something very new, just getting started with no standardization, and there was a lot of room for experimentation.

Now some comments on a first radio:

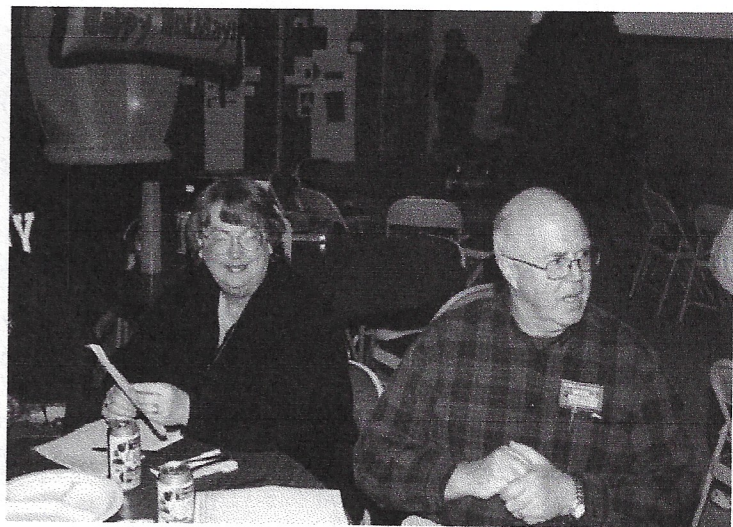
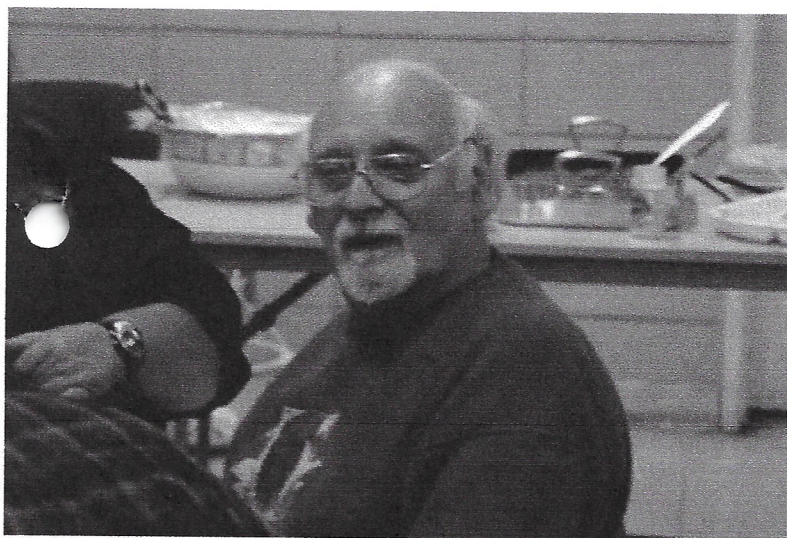
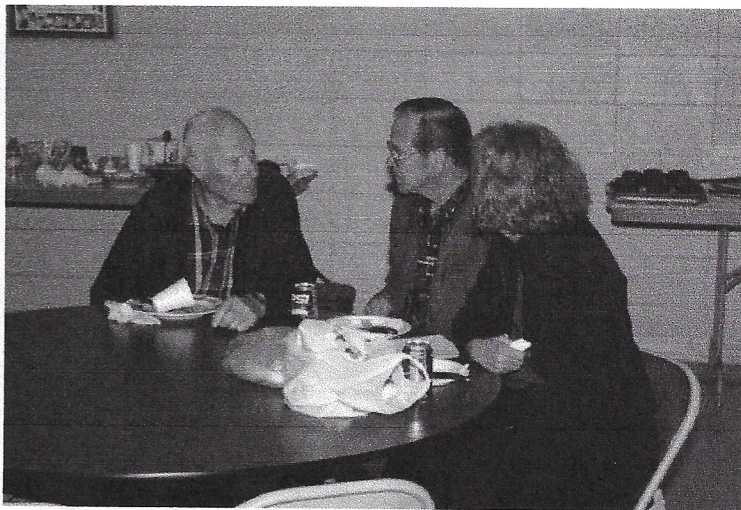
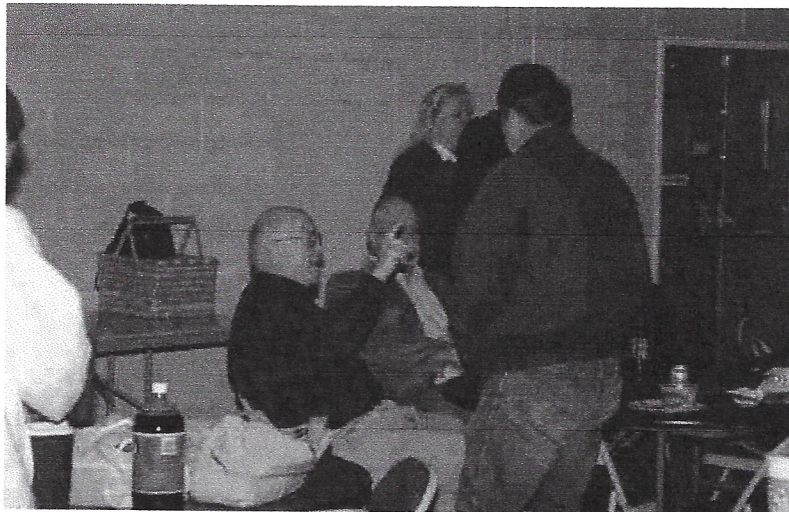
It was literally impossible to "start out in ham radio" by buying and using a handy-talkie. Even if you could find one, there would be nobody to talk to.

So, we did other stuff.

As a new Novice in 1960, and a young kid (15 yrs), I was having too much fun building antennas and working 40/80 meter CW on my used AT-1 transmitter and BC224 receiver. I am saddened that new hams today almost always do not have that kind of fun. But, a place we did have fun that is still available today is 2 meters... yes, a novice could use 2 meters then. I bought a used 2 meter AM 6 watt rig called a Gonset Communicator II for \$100. This was a dream of a rig. A box-like transceiver with a green tuning eye in the center staring at you as you spoke. What fun we had.

Everything was simplex then so I would carry the Gonset between my feet on the motor scooter to the top of a mountain (Diablo, Tamalpais, or Grizzly Peak) and operate portable not too unlike some of our portable operations on Field Day or Cal-QSO Contest. I carried a long extension cord and plugged it into any nearby electrical outlet and ran it up to the rig... in a tree or as high as I could get. My best stories revolve around taking my buddy (Gonset Communicator II) up to an empty wooden water tank on Grizzly Peak and operating the June VHF contests in 1961 and 1962. I made over 100 contacts using a 19" whip stuck on the top of the rig... I still have this wire whip.

I hope you can have as much fun as I have had... 73 and see you on the air... Bob W6OWH



PICTURES FROM THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On the previous page are a few pictures of the Christmas party taken by Herb, W6HBU.

Upper left: Ron, W6KJ, makes a point.

Center left: Ted, W7XRX, enjoying dinner.

Lower left: Pat, WD6ECC, in deep thought.

Upper right: Marvin, KE6JNT, discussing problems of the world with Lee, KC6MCI and his XYL Wilma, KE6ZCR.

Center right: Art, W6ARN, and XYL Carol, KF6VBT.

Ron, W6KJ, and XYL JoAnne, N6YLO.

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

This is the month that we start the new year with new officers and Board members. President Bob, W6OWH, has hit the field running with lots of new activities and ideas up his sleeve. The attached 2006 schedule of Club Events gives you a tentative list of the things he has planned. As always, he will need your help and backing to make things happen. Don't let him down.

We start the Technician class this month with a first sign-up of about 17 students. That is about the most in my memory. Ron and I are looking forward to shepherding these people into the hobby, and we will need lots of Elmers to give the new people the help they will need as they go along. Once again, don't let them down. Each of us has something to offer the new guy or gal, and we owe it to the hobby to be there to provide that support.

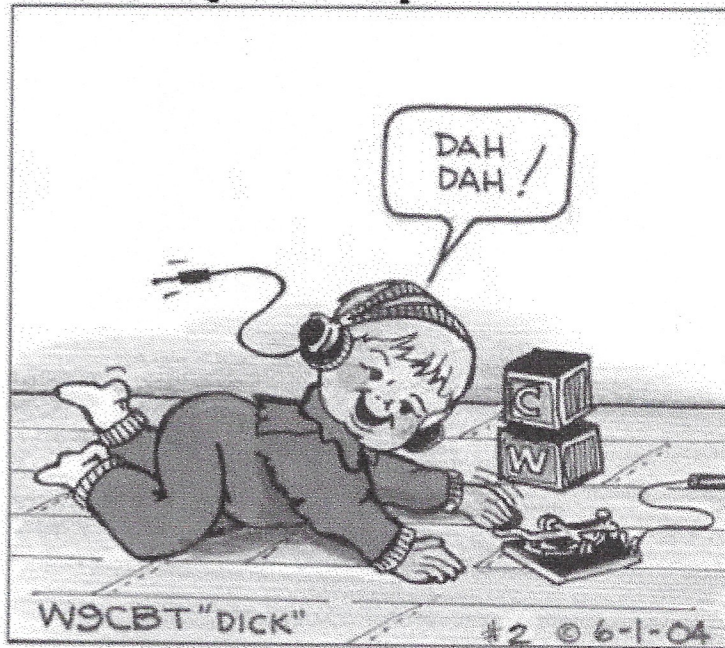
As this is written, it is between storms, and there are numerous reports of flooding and road closures due to the rain. Thus far, there has been no call-out for the amateurs, but I hope you, like me, have the necessities to go where needed on a moments notice. Let's hope this one is contained by the river and levee system. I don't care to get my feet wet.

AMATEUR RADIO VANITY CALL SIGN PROCESSING WILL RESUME JANUARY 4

The FCC has announced that routine processing of Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications will resume Wednesday, January 4, 2006. The Wireless telecommunications Bureau (WTB) suspended vanity processing in September as an indirect result of its hurricane-related extensions of certain regulatory and filing deadlines. This is good news for one of our local hams Jim KG6FGJ who has been waiting since September for his new easy to remember Vanity Call... finally the call will be issued!

The ARRL Letter Dec 23 2005

Morse Tips & Quips



"IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START LEARNING MORSE CODE!"

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Courtesy of Bob, W6OWH

Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club Activities for 2006

January	7	Saturday, VE testing. EV Free Church@ 700 Washington YC	9:00 AM
	10	Technician Class begins @ Red Cross building – Tues & Thurs	7:00 PM
	10	Club meeting @ Red Cross – Welcome new hams and meeting	7:00 PM
	22	Board Meeting @ W6OWH QTH 1087 Helen, YC	5:00 PM
Feb	7	Tuesday, Potluck, followed by Club Meeting @ Msvl Methodist	6:00 PM
March	4	Saturday, VE testing session.	9:00 AM
	14	Tuesday, monthly meeting with program @ St. Andrew P.C.	7:00 PM
	26	Board Meeting @ TBA	5:00 PM
April	1	Saturday, MS Walk. Contact Paul, N6XVL, for details	
	11	Second Tuesday, Club Meeting, with program @ St. Andrew P.C.	7:00 PM
	22	Saturday, Bike Around the Buttes. Contact Paul for details	
	23	Sunday Board Meeting @ TBA	5:00 PM
May	6	Saturday, VE testing session	9:00 AM
	9	Tues, Potluck, club meeting, location @.Msvl Methodist	6:00 PM
	21	Board Meeting @ TBA	5:00 PM
June	10	Second Saturday, Club Breakfast Meeting @ TBA	8:30 AM
	17	Third Saturday - KID'S DAY	
	24, 25	Field Days (Sat. & Sun) @ TBA	
July	15	Third Saturday, VE testing session	9:00 AM
	22	Club Picnic Saturday @ TBA	11:00 AM
August	12	Saturday Club Breakfast... @ TBA	8:30 AM
	27	Board Meeting @ TBA	5:00 PM
Sept	12	Tuesday, club meeting, program St. Andy PC, YC	7:00 PM
	16	Saturday VE Testing	9:00 AM
	20	Board Meeting... Wed. @ TBA	7:00 PM
Oct	7	Cal QSO Contest? Feel like DX Stations calling CQ, CA CQ, CA great fun	
	10	Tuesday, monthly meeting, with program St. Andy YC	7:00 PM
	13 14, 15	Pacificon Ham Fest- Bigger/better @ San Ramon Marriott	
	20	Board Meeting... Wed @ TBA	7:00 PM
Nov	4	Saturday VE Testing session	9:00 AM
	4	Saturday LOVER (Lake Oroville Ride). Contact Paul N6XVL	
	14	Second Tuesday, Potluck and election of officers @ Msvl Meth.	6:00 PM
Dec	12	Christmas Party @ TBA	6:00 PM

Weekly nets meet Monday 7 PM on the WD6AXM Repeater; 146.685 in, 146.085 out - 127.3 PL
 Weekly Wednesday morning gatherings are often held at a local eatery. TBA weekly @ on the air
 Remember to also use 443.850+ 127.3 PL, Voice of the Sutter Buttes. See Valley Ham News for updates.

**YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
TREASURER'S REPORT
DECEMBER, 2005**

BALANCE: Last Report: **\$2,451.07**

RECEIPTS DEPOSITED:

12-14-05 DUES: KE6VUC \$18 MEAT: \$96 **\$ 114.00**

12-22-05 DUES: KB6WID - NR6A **36.00**

12-29-05 DUES: W6OWH - KG6YJU **36.00**

TOTAL: **\$2.637.07**

BILLS:

1005 **FOOD MAXX - MEAT** **\$ 231.39**

1006 **Cornorstone Evangelical Free Church**
 Donation: **75.00**

1007 **WorldRadio - Ad** **65.00**

TOTAL: **\$ 371.39**

CHECKING BALANCE: Agrees w/chkbk **\$2,265.68**

Less Repeater Balance: \$684.80

VE " 65.41

Total: \$750.21 Less \$ 750.21

CLUB BALANCE: **\$1,515.47**

SUBMITTED BY:

**CIARA M. ANSLEY, KC6JPP
TREASURER**