

# THE VALLEY HAM NEWS

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

**SEPTEMBER**  
**2007 Edition**

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## **CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Bob McClard, W6OWH  
Vice President: Don Fair, KB6RHJ  
Secretary: Manna Whelchel, KG6PNE  
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Herb Puckett, W6HBU  
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI  
Rom Murdock, W6KJ  
David Wainer, WD6SCD  
David Sweetman, K6YCS

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<b>September</b>	8: Saturday, VE Testing	Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church 700 Washington Avenue, Yuba City	9:00 AM
	11: Tuesday, Club Meeting Win Program (See Minutes)	St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 1390 Franklin Road, Yuba City	7:00 PM
	26: Wednesday, Board Meeting	Manna's Residence KG6PNE	7:00 PM
<b>October</b>	6: Saturday California QSO Party		
	9: Tuesday Club Meeting	St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 1390 Franklin Road, Yuba City	7:00 PM
	12-14 Fri.-Sun., Pacificon Ham Fest	San Ramon Marriott	
	24: Wednesday, Board Meeting	Leo's Residence K7PPM	7:00 PM

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## UPCOMING EVENTS (Continued)

<b>November</b>	3: Saturday, VE Testing	Cornerstone Evangelical Church	9:00 AM
	3: Saturday, LOVER		
	Radio Support for "Lake Oroville Ride"- Contact Paul, N6XVL		
	11 Sunday, Veteran's Day Parade; More Details Next Month - Contact Paul, N6XVL		
	13: Tuesday, Election of 2008 Officers	St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 1390 Franklin Road, Yuba City	7:00 PM
<b>December</b>	11: Tuesday, Christmas Party Potluck and Prize Drawing	St. Andrew Presbyterian Church 1390 Franklin Road, Yuba City	6:00 PM
	17: Monday, Board Meeting	Herb's Residence W6HBU	7:00 PM

## WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. - Weekly net with swap shop and help sessions on the local repeater (146.085 minus-PL=127.3).

Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. - Butte County ARES net on Chico repeater (146.850 minus-PL=110.0).

Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM - YSARES Net on the local repeater.

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. - Coffee and donuts get together. Location varies. Check on the Monday night net.

Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM - the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Net on the local repeater.

## WE HAVE A NEW EDITOR

If you looked at the first page carefully, you will have noted that there is a new Editor for the Valley Ham News. Well, he's not really new, he feels pretty well used up at times. I have long since lost track of the number of issues I have produced as Editor. It started in 1985, when I opened my mouth when I should have been listening. That lasted for about 15 years, and there have been a number of starts and stops since. At any rate, you're stuck with the old Dad until he quits or gets fired by the Board.

Leo, K7PPM was our most recent Editor, and he did a very job after taking the thing on short notice. So Leo, sit back, relax, and take a break from the world of journalism. We thank you and you are very much appreciated.

It would be well at this time to lay out some directions for the Newsletter as I see them. First of all, I AM NOT A JOURNALIST. I do not claim to be

a good writer, just a guy that's been around for a few years with a gift of gab via the printed word. I have some definite ideas about the appearance and content of the Newsletter. I volunteered for the job in a moment of insanity, but I'll do my best to keep the thing going and I'll try not to ruffle too many feathers. I will answer to the Board, and will do my best to negotiate any real differences of opinion about the job. I will not be micro managed, and I will take full responsibility for the content.

About content — this is a family organization. We have always made it so, and I know that things will continue in that direction. Therefore, you can permit your pre-school grand daughter to read the thing or to look at the pictures. After a bad experience in another club long ago as its editor, there will be no anonymous offerings in the Valley Ham News. I tried it only once, and the whole sky fell in on me. It was not a pleasant experience. Humor is welcome and solicited. Your pictures of



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perhaps we can get them to the Web Master for inclusion on the Web Site. Product reviews are always welcome. If you have a new piece of gear, tell us about it, whether good or bad. Pictures and descriptions of your station will always be interesting to others, even if it's a very simple layout.

There is literally a mountain of subject matter out there. We only have to look for it and recognize that someone else will be interested. If your writing or spelling is not the greatest, not to worry; the computer is plenty smart and can correct your and my spelling, and I might rewrite something to get it into shape for publication. If there is a significant change to your offering, I will give you last look and the right of approval before it goes into the newsletter.

We have almost 100 members in this club. Some of these people have been around since before dirt, and some are still trying figure out where the antenna and microphone are connected. Each and every one of these persons has a story to tell. So don't be bashful. Tell us your story. What was your first contact? What was the first state outside California you were able to contact? Have you worked any foreign countries? If so, how many and where are they? Do you have them located on a map? So you see, there are many possibilities for content for the Newsletter.

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## **YSARC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**August 22, 2007**

Bob McClard's Residence

The monthly Board Meeting was brought to order about 7:15 PM.

**Officers in attendance:** Bob McClard, President W6OWH; ; Manna Whelchel, Secretary KG6PNE; Clara Ansley, Treasurer KC6JPP.  
**Officers absent:** Don Fair, Vice President KB6RHJ

**Board Members in attendance:** Herb Puckett W6HBU; David Wainer WD6SCD; and Steve Sweetman K6YCS.

**Board Members absent:** Ron Murdoch W6KJ; Lee Sheffield KC6MCI;

**The secretary Manna**, read the minutes of the last meeting which was held at Lee's residence. The minutes were amended to show that the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting @ Herbs will be a joint meeting with the old and new boards. Herb made a motion to accept board minutes as read. M/S/P.

Bob asked Clara how her sunshine fund was going. She contributed \$25.00 to start it going. The attendees of our meeting tonite all contributed various amounts of money to Clara for this fund.

Clara said the \$50 fund is going fine. She repaid Manna for purchase of 6 months for box rent for the USPS.

Clara said the Treasurer's report balanced. David made motion that Clara's Treasurer's report be accepted. Steve seconded. M/S/P. Clara requested board approval to pay other bills as shown on this month's Treasurer's report. M/S/P.

The club received a letter from Mickey Vallimont, Executive Secretary of the Diabetes Society thanking the club for our participation in Bike Around the Buttes 2 months ago. Next year's event is April 19, 2008.

### **New Business:**

Bob brought to our attention a Notice from Don Fair relative to the Club adopting formalized rules relative to donations of equipment to the YSARC. David made a motion to accept Don's suggestions as presented with amendment. M/S/P.

The adopted rules are as follows:

1. The donations should be inventoried before any disbursements are made.
2. A list should be made available to all club members.
3. Time period for all club members to inspect.
4. Time period for club members to express interest in items.
5. More than one club member interested in same item, draw name out of hat.
6. Items with no interest are up for grabs at a club function.
7. Items left - Club may elect to dispose of as how it sees fit.



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Steve brought up the topic of our raffle. Dave nominated Steve to be in charge of getting things going. There is \$40.00 in our raffle kitty. Expect to see small drawings at club events in the near future.

Herb brought up the topic of newsletter editor. He passed around samples of format suggestions on which he has been working.

The Board was pleased with what he presented. There was much discussion about format. Members are encouraged to submit writings to him via email.

**REMINDER: The September Club General Meeting has a special guest** with a Power Point presentation to show us how we can use the WinSystem. Harry Miller, W6HFM, will be here on Tuesday, September 11, at St Andrew Presbyterian Church. His topic will be the **WINSYSTEM** which has repeaters in the United States and in 3 countries. The system uses linked repeaters on the 70 cm band and the internet.

REMEMBER: CLUB DUES ARE COMING DUE.  
YOU MAY SUBMIT MEMBERSHIP PAYMENT  
ANYTIME NOW.!!

Joint meeting of Old Board and New Board will be on December 17, 2007 @ Herb's house.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Manna Whelchel, Secretary, KG6PNE

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## EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Well here we are back at the keyboard again. This is being written in the trailer at Deer Camp in Tehama County West of Chester. I can bring the laptop up here and perhaps get ahead of the deadline. Unfortunately, I seem to have left the wireless keyboard home, and the laptop keyboard does not fit my hands and fingers. It is most inconvenient, but it's my own fault for not checking the list of things to go to camp more carefully.

It has been warm here the last few days, with lows in the mid forties and highs around 80 degrees in the afternoons. The deer hunting has been great, but the seeing and bagging of the wily animals has

been the pits. Neither my son or grand daughter (the hunters) has seen a legal buck. One more weekend, and then the trailer comes home on Labor Day. I am ready to return full time to the valley, even in the heat. I am sure that things will cool off in September.

As I mentioned earlier, we need input for the Newsletter. Right now we could use some of your pictures of Amateur-related subjects. I would especially be interested in some shots of your station layout. Antenna farms are welcome if you can get a good shot of them. Please don't be afraid to give it a try writing an article. There is help out there, and you don't have to be an expert author to get your work published. Your Editor is an example of this.

I don't see how people can get used to using a laptop keyboard. This one happens to have the cursor controls directly below the letter keys, and I am continually hitting the cursor control and then I have to go back and find where I was typing before the mishap. Also, a few of the control keys are in different locations from those on a standard keyboard.

Oh, well, I'm going back to the hot valley today (August 28), and the plan is to finish this issue before I come back Friday afternoon.

I think it's time to bring the trailer home anyway, since the refrigerator doesn't come on when it should, and I'm on the last tank of propane and the last can of gasoline for the generator. I can get gas and propane in Chester, but the refrigerator is another matter. I think there is a message there somewhere.

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## FORMAT/CONTENT NOTE

You will note a change in appearance of the cover sheet of the Valley Ham News in this issue. The membership application form is missing, and in its place is an extra half page of content - pictures or printed matter. At the last Board meeting, we decided after some discussion to include the form in only the last three and first three issues of the year.

The form is always available on the Club Web Site, and any Officer or Board member can make it available to prospective members. It will also be available at all the club meetings and functions. If this doesn't work out, we can always go back to the original format. Let me know what you think.



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## Pictures from 2007 Field Day



Shucking the Corn

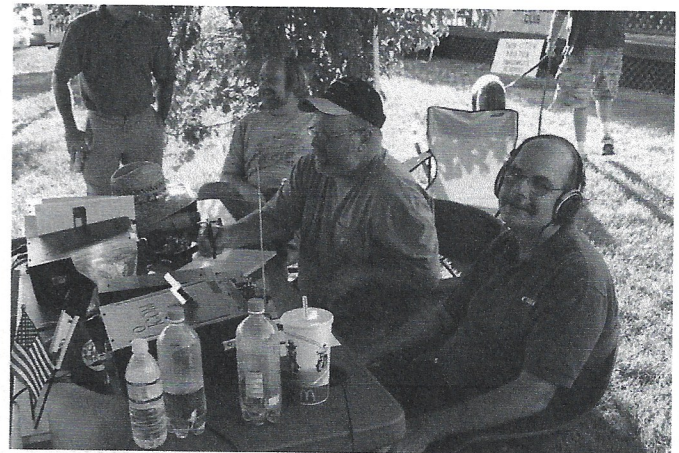
## More Field Day Pictures



Deep Discussion



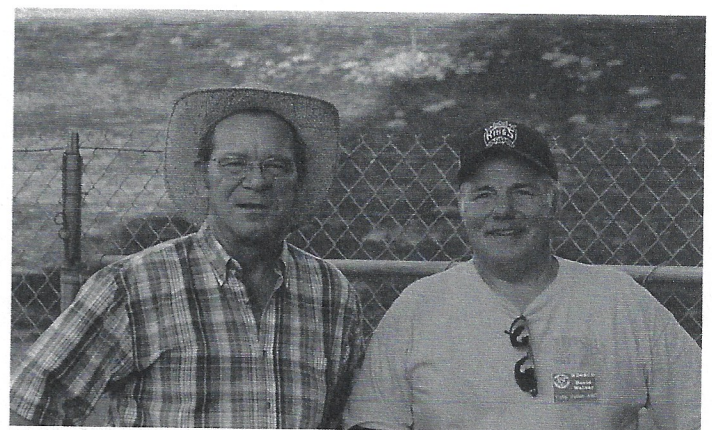
Pickin' and Grinnin'



The CW Position at Work



Our Secretary, Manna



Board Members Lee and David



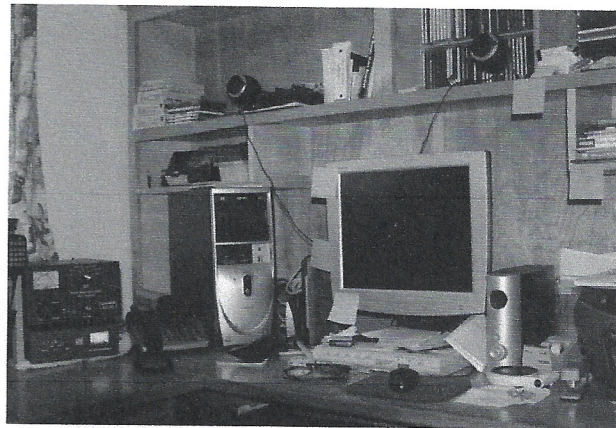
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The Radio Portion of the Shack at W6HBU



The Computer Portion of the W6HBU Shack

All Photographs

by Herb Puckett, W6HBU

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