



THE VALLEY HAM NEWS



"The Voice of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club"

A California Non-Profit Organization

June 2011



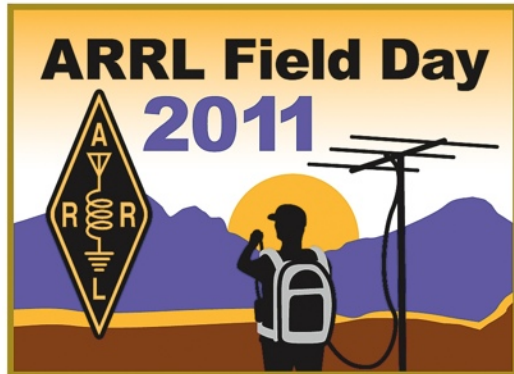
THE YSARC FIELD DAY IS NEAR

Yes, it's that time of year again where ham radio clubs across America get together in public parks, mountain tops, parking lots, school baseball fields to set up antennas in the trees, on portable trailers, ham shacks, or just off the back of a car or truck. At these Field Day locations, you will find folding tables and chairs, wires,

happens no matter what. Field Day is sponsored by the American Relay League, known to us hams as the ARRL.

According to some sources, Field Day has been happening since 1933 and is the single largest emergency preparedness exercise in the country with over 30,000 people participating. Besides being an exercise, it is also a contest with most clubs turning in their 'points' according to the ARRL Field Day rules to be recognized in the ARRL publication called "QST".

Since I have been a member of YSARC, they have had their Field Day at a number of locations including operations in the forest, school baseball fields, next to airports, and recently, walnut orchards. This year, we will once again have Field Day at Meg Burgin's QTH in Live Oak. Set up for Field Day usually begins on Saturday morning after breakfast around 9am. with Field Day operations starting a few hours later. The end of Field Day extends to Sunday morning. Always, the biggest ordeal, is to find people willing to work other stations into the night time.



www.arrl.org

cables, microphones, computers, batteries, solar panels, guy wires, tents, shade structures, radios, speakers, CW keys, ice chests, BBQ's, and people making contacts exchanging call signs, locations, and field day designators like 3--alpha, 2 bravo, etc.

All of this happens on the last weekend of June - everywhere. The weather? try rain, sunshine, wind, heat, less heat, more heat, scorching heat, high and low humidity, etc. Yes, Field Day

If you would like to learn how to put up a ham radio station, or would simply like to help, please be at Meg's on Saturday morning, June 25th. You don't need to be an ARRL member, or even a club member. If you are a ham, you can enjoy the opportunity to work other stations within the top "Extra Class" privileges.

73 Russell, KB6YAF

YSARC
PO Box 1169, Yuba City, CA
95992

President

Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY

Vice President

Alfred Herrmann, KD6NSQ

Secretary

Meg Burgin, KI6TLS

Treasurer

Clara Ansley, N6VRH

Board Members

Herb Puckett, W6HBU

Andy Boone, KJ6IYM

Barry Barnes, KE6LW

Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI

Russell Decker, KB6YAF

VHN Editor and Webmaster

Russell Decker, KB6YAF

Repeater Trustee

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday: Club Meeting
3rd Wednesday: Board Meeting

(Check the minutes for details on the Club and Board Meetings)

All newsletter submissions are due on or before the 4th Wednesday of the month

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 1st - Wed. @6pm - **YSARC Potluck Dinner Meeting** at Meg's QTH in Live Oak, CA

June 15th - Wed. 7:00pm - **YSARC Board Meeting** - Place TBA

June 25-26th - Sat/Sun. - **YSARC Field Day** at Meg's QTH in Live Oak, CA

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monday Night Net - (7 PM) - Weekly net w/swap shop
(146.085 + PL 127.3)

Monday Night Net - (8 PM) - Butte Co. ARES Net
(146.850 - PL 110.0)

Tuesday Night Net - (7 PM) - YSARC ARES Net
(146.085 + PL 127.3)

2nd Wednesday - (7 PM) - ARRL Sac Valley Net

ALL ABOUT ELECTRICITY

I have been fiddlin' with electricity for 50 years! While I'm still able, I'd like to pass along some of my vast knowledge about this stuff.

1. Electricity is manufactured in power plants where it is fed into wires and wrapped around large drums that hang on poles.
2. Some electricity does not need to go through wires, like that used for lightening for example, and portable radios. This kind of electricity is not manufactured, but just hangs around in the air, loose.
3. Electricity makes a low humming noise. This noise may be pitched differently for use in telephones, doorbells, and electronic organs.
4. Electricity must be grounded before it can function - except in airplanes which have their own arrangements.
5. Although electricity does not leak out of an empty socket, if you put your finger in the socket, you can tell it's there. So, if it is not leaking out, what else is it doing?
6. Electricity is made of two ingredients - negative and positive. One ingredient travels along a wire covered with white plastic, the other ingredient along a wire covered with black plastic. These two wires connect to a device called a plug. There, the two ingredients are mixed to form electricity.
7. Electricity may be stored in boxes called batteries. Big batteries do not necessarily hold more electricity than small ones. In big batteries, the electricity is shoveled in, while in small batteries, it is packed in flat.
8. The electric switch contains a sort of vise grip that squeezes the wire very hard so the electricity can't get through. Opening (turning 'on') the switch releases the vise grip and the electricity can flow.
9. Electricity goes into a light bulb where for the first time we can see electricity! It is enlarged many times by the curvature of the bulb, which is made of magnifying glass.
10. Why does the light bulb blow out? Because as any school kid knows, heat converts oxygen into moisture. When all the oxygen in the bulb becomes moisture, then the water quenches the spark.
11. Colored electricity lights red and green bulbs and stoplights.
12. Negative electricity runs refridgerators.
13. Some people who don't understand electricity, wire their fuse boxes to hold little glass things with fuse wire in them. I find chicken wire better, and it won't blow out, even if the drier goes up in flames.

Despite all this vast knowledge, I still don't understand a few things about electricity, like how a computer that speaks English can be programmed to speak French, which is a different voltage? Also, neon signs are a mystery. How is electricity trained to spell out things? How does the electricity know when the toast is ready?

As you can see, I have acquired a pretty good knowledge of Electricity.

.....signed Joe Strolin, K1REC

P.S. Most of what I have learned was from *Reader's Digest*

MEG'S MINUTES

YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Board of Directors Meeting

May 18th, 2011

A regular Board of Directors meeting was held at the QTH of Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI on Wednesday, May 19th, 2011. The meeting was called to order by President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, at 1910 hours. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Club officers present were: President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, and Secretary, Meg Burgin, KI6TLS. Treasurer, Clara Ansley, N6VRH, and Vice President, Alfred Herrmann, KD6NSQ, were both absent.

Board of Directors present were Barry Barnes, KE6LW; Russell Decker, KB6YAF; Herb Puckett, W6HBU, and Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI. Andy Boone, KJ6IYM, was absent.

Guests introduced were Dave Gartner, WD6AXM and Ramona Traub.

Officers Reports:

Minutes of April 20th meeting were approved as read. The Treasurer's report was approved as corrected read by Russell Decker, KB6YAF. No new bill were presented. Russell also read a thank you letter from the YS Diabetes Resource Center along with a check for \$400.00 to reimburse expenses incurred by club members for the April Bike Around the Buttes.

Under Old Business, President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, reviewed the May meeting at 2 Bit's Cafe where Bob McClard, N6BOB, gave a program on his families trip through South America and the Panama Canal. President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, again thanked members for helping with the MS Walk.

VE Chairman, Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI, made a report on 5 people who successfully passed exams on April 14th.

Under New business, Repeater Trustee, Dave Gartner, WD6AXM, informed the Board about necessary repair to replace or repair a missing sway bracket on the 10 year old repeater atop the Sutter Buttes. The part is proving to be difficult to locate. Board members advised Dave to investigate the integrity of the entire antenna and approved use of the clubs debit card to make necessary purchases to assure continued function of the repeater.

Under Unfinished Business, details of Field Day activities were discussed. The June 1st Membership Meeting will again be a Bon Fire/Pot Luck at Burgin's QTH to finalize layout plans for Field Day, June 25-26.

Setting up stations will be:

Lee, KC6MCI - 20 meter PSK 31	Dipole/Colinear
Russ, KB6YAF - 40 meter SSB	Dipole / Chef
Lonnie, KI6ZYY - 10 / 15 meters SSB	Club Tower / Yagi
Bob, W6BO - VHF SSB	8 Element Yagi/35' mast
Sean, K6SCM - GOTA Station	R7000 / 30' Mast
Andy, KJ6IYM -	

Club activities for the next few months were discussed. President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, would like to include a recognition dinner, thanking club members for serving YSARC in years passed. The July 6th Membership Meeting, a National Birthday Bash, will be held at 2 Bit's Cafe and a program, perhaps by Andy Boone, KJ6IYM, covering a program on LED's. The August meeting will likely be again at 2 Bit's Cafe.

Look for an announcement for CW practice moving to a new frequency.

Finally, location of the Lincoln Ham Fest, September 10th, has been changed to McBean Park. The VE Session will be held in the board room at Raley's Bel-Air.

President Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY, also announced that he will take a different approach to encouraging club members to become more active in club activities and functions.

Coax cable will be ordered Thursday, May 19th, for the club store.

The meeting was adjourned at 2036-hours.

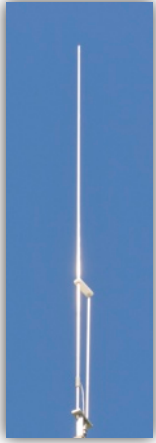
WELCOME NEW YSARC MEMBERS

The Yuba Sutter Amateur radio club welcomes our newest members!

James Barnes, KD6LIL - Oroville, CA
Cal Cornils, KI6NY - Yuba City, CA

HAM STUFF to BUY, SELL, or TRADE

Here are the rules: Any YSARC member can list a ham-related item(s) to sell, buy, or trade. Give a brief description of the item(s), an asking price, and a way to contact you (email address would be a good way). Please limit the amount of items to (4) per month. The items will be run in the YSARC newsletter. Please submit your listing on or before the 4th Wednesday of the month.



Aluminum J-Pole Antenna (available for either 144 MHz / 222MHz / 450 MHz)

These J Poles are hand made using T6061 aircraft grade aluminum and stainless steel fasteners. These antennas are omni-directional and have around 3dB gain. They can be mounted on any camera tripod as it is drilled and tapped w/ 1/4"x 20 thread.

Cost: \$30 (locally) (or \$35 for the special collapsible model.)

Call Russell, KB6YAF at 530-821-5882 or email at kb6yaf@arrl.net



Custom Made 40 foot Poles by Lee, KC6MCI

\$85.00

If you are interested in buying a custom made 40' push up poles built in sections complete with guy wire loops, call Lee Sheffield at 530-755-1004 or email him at leesheffield@comcast.net



ScrewDriver HF Antennas

Under \$200.00

Lee, KC6MCI manufactures the famous Screwdriver-motor HF Antenna based on the original design of Don, W6AAQ. If you are interested in a great HF antenna that covers 10-80 meters mobile, contact Lee. He can even custom make one in different colors and his "Stars & Bars" Special

THE JUNE YSARC POTLUCK MEETING

Once again, we are going to have a great potluck dinner meeting at the QTH of Meg Burgin, KI6TLS in Live Oak, CA. Her address is 11476 Larkin Rd. From the south, head north on Hwy 99 into Live Oak. Turn right on Pennington Rd and left on Larkin. Drive north about 1/4 mile to 11476 on your left. Look for the yellow mailbox. Meg's place is the walnut orchard with the beautiful new fence.

The potluck is at 6pm. Everyone bring a dish or two, something to drink, and your place settings. After the meal, Lonnie will guide us in a simulated Field Day-pre-planning 'walk-about' Meg will also start up the fire on the stump. Maybe we will drag out the chairs and warm up around the fire!! It sounds like summer camp

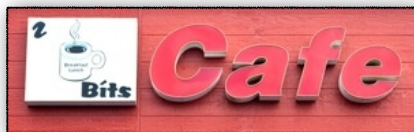
HOW TO CONTACT US.....

Valley Ham News Editor & YSARC.ORG Webmaster - Russell Decker, KB6YAF kb6yaf@arrl.net
YSARC President - Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY ki6zyy@yahoo.com
YSARC Secretary - Meg Burgin, KI6TLS mburgin@syix.com
YSARC Treasurer - Clara Ansley, N6VRH claraansely@openrange.net
YSARC VE Testing Coordinator - Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI leesheffield@comcast.net

WEBSITES...

www.arrl.org - This is the website to the American Radio Relay League
www.ysarc.org - This is the club website. It contains information about the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
<http://aprs.fi> - This is a 'Google Maps' site that contain all of the APRS activity.
www.qrz.com - Look up call signs, take practice ham radio exams, and much more.
<http://rettysnitch.org> - This website explains what those two weird things are on the front page of the VHN
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/YSARC/> - This is the URL to the YSARC Yahoo Group Site. Sign- Up !!!!
<http://hamslife.com/> - This is the ham radio blog of Bill, WA6OHP
www.quartzfest.org - The official website of the "Quartzfest" held on the last week of January
<http://www.wunderground.com/> - A very cool weather website

The members of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club want to thank the following businesses in Yuba City that have supported the club with their goods and services. We hope you will patronize their businesses.



The "2 Bits" Cafe

1272 Colusa Ave - Yuba City, CA
(530) 755-2012
YSARC Breakfasts
Every Wednesday
@ 8:30am



1199 Butte House Rd Suite D, Yuba City, CA 95991
(530) 671-9905

**A discount is offered to all YSARC Members*