

YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

December 1980

"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

The Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club meets at 7:30 P.M. the second Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross Building, 144 Garden Highway, Yuba City, CA. The mailing address for the club is P.O. Box 1169, Yuba City, CA 95991. The next meeting will be held on December 9, 1980.

The VSARC net meets every Monday evening at 7:30 P.M. on 146.685 MHz (WA6OWH/R). Everyone is invited to participate in this net and a swap shop will follow the net. The Women's Ham Organization (WHO) conducts a net on Thursday evenings at 7:30 P.M. on 146.52 MHz. All YLs and XYLs are invited to participate in this net.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

George - KD6BO
Howard - N6CCS
Clarence - K6DEO
Denny - KB6MD
Bill - WD6BFR

CLUB OFFICERS

President, Emery - WD6EEC
Vice President, Jim - WB6ZZY
Secretary, Ruth - KA6CQH
Asst Secretary, Harley - KA6BDU
Treasurer, Clarence - W6GCM

The VSARC Board of Directors and Club Officers meet the Friday preceding the monthly meeting at the Red Cross Building at 7:30 P.M. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on 5 December 1980. Members are invited to attend these meetings.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Board Meeting - December 5
Membership Meeting - December 9
ARES/RACES Meeting - December 11
Christmas Party - December 15
Antenna Party (at Red Cross) - December 6

ARRL League Officials Meeting with
Club Representatives - January 31

ARRL Pacific Division Convention -
May 15 - 17

CHRISTMAS PARTY

A repeat from last month - the VSARC Christmas Party will be held on December 15th at the Sky Harbour Inn (Yuba County Airport). The cost will be \$5.50 for adults, \$2.75 for children (6-12), and children under 6 will be \$2.00. Tax must be added to the above figures. We must have reservations and money no later than December 5th. It is going to be a great event so all should come!

DONATIONS WANTED

The VSARC plans to purchase a copy of the latest ARRL film on Amateur Radio. To help pay for this film the hat will be passed during the next meeting. We need approximately \$100.00 so please come and put a little into the fund. If you can't be there send your contribution with a friend. This film will be a great help in our Public Relations department.

HOW ABOUT SOME OF YOUR TIME?

We need some muscle and expertise on Saturday, December 6th, to put up some antennas at the Red Cross Building. We do not have everything we need to put up the quad but will be putting up the 40 and 80 meter dipoles so come out and lend a hand. Hope to see you there.

ARES/RACES

Anyone who is interested in emergency communications should talk to Ross Forbes, WB6GFJ. If an emergency were to hit our area, we'll need plenty of operators who know what to do, where to set up equipment, and how to handle communications. Prior experience is not necessary! Participation in emergency communications is our way to justify our licenses! Ross conducts a meeting the second Thursday of each month at the Office of Emergency Services in Yuba City. The next meeting will be on December 11th at 7:30 P.M. Everyone is welcome.

LEARN ABOUT TAKING TRAFFIC

If you don't have a HF receiver, but do have a two meter FM receiver, listen any night of the year on 145.41 (WA6EOZ/R) for the Northern California Net - VHF session, at 7:30 P.M.

SKYWARN

The National Weather Service is looking for amateur radio operators to help out with weather observation. No experience, nor is a lot of time necessary. Participating amateurs will occasionally report the time, wind direction, and brief description of weather to a toll free number. For more details contact Ross Forbes, WB6GFJ.

MORE ON ANTENNA SYSTEMS (From the Northern California DX Club Bulletin)

DIGGING - This is one of the less glamorous aspects of putting up a tower! But it's one of the most important. And the one involving the most work. Here are a few tips to help reduce the work involved. First, are the tools of the trade. The two I found most helpful are an electric jackhammer, and a small shovel, better known to those with some military background as an "entrenchment tool". No hand tool can compare with the jackhammer when trying to dig in clay or very hard soil. And when trying to bring up those clumps of dirt and clay so carved out, the entrenching tool, bent 90 degrees, is the undisputed champion. It's ideal for work in close quarters.

Another thing to consider is the size of the hole to be dug. A good rule of thumb is to make the hole at least half as wide as it is deep. A hole 4' deep should be 2' square, one 6' deep should be at least 3' square, and so on. And remember that you have to be able to get in and out. Unless you are 7' tall, you'll need a ladder to get into and out of a 6' deep cavern. A hole only 18" wide is very hard to maneuver in, much less swing a shovel. So, make the hole a little wider and the work will be much easier.