

Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club



Valley Ham News

THE VOICE OF THE YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
A California Non-profit Organization
PO Box 1169
YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992
JANUARY 1988

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU
712 King Avenue
Yuba City, CA. 95991
Telephone 916-674-3648

Next Board of Directors' Meeting: The January Board Meeting will be held on January 27, 1988, at Larry's home. Time is 7:30PM, and address is 1581 Lisa Court in Yuba City.

Next Club Meeting: The meeting this month will be at the Red Cross building on Garden Highway in Yuba City. Date is January 12, 1988, and time is 7:30PM.

The Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club holds a regular net for members and guests each Tuesday evening at 7:00PM on WD6AXM/R, 146.085/.685. See you there.

NET CONTROL STATIONS--JANUARY, 1988

January 5---Jack, kK6ZMA January 19---Open for a volunteer
January 26---Open for a volunteer February 2---Open for a volunteer

CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:Larry Badger, WA6ISR VICE PRESIDENT:Roger Mason, KA6BBF
SECRETARY:Don Caskey, KB6RHM TREASURER:Jack Craig,K6ZMA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Doug Engle, N6QWU Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Bud Peters, K6HDE Jim Giarde, WA6RZA

January 1988

YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of the December 30, 1987 Board of Directors' Meeting

1. THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:39 PM BY PRESIDENT BUD PETERS.
2. OFFICERS PRESENT: PRESIDENT BUD PETERS, K6HDE; TREASURER JACK CRAIG, K6ZMA.
3. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: LOYD WILBUR, AA6CX; LARRY BADGER, WA6ISR.
4. GUESTS: HERB PUCKETT, W6HBU; DON CASKEY, KB6RHM.
5. TREASURER'S REPORT: \$1040.07 IS IN OUR ACCOUNT.
6. OLD BUSINESS:
 - A. BOK KAI PARADE. THE DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO SAT, 19 MAR 88. 22 OPERATORS WILL BE NEEDED TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS.
 - B. POTLUCK DINNER. FEBRUARY 1988 CLUB MEETING.
 - C. RON MURDOCK, WB5FIX, HAS RECEIVED PERMISSION TO HOLD AMATEUR LICENSE CLASSES AT YUBA COLLEGE DURING THE SPRING SEMESTER.
7. NEW BUSINESS:
 - A. NET TAILTWISTER. A REPLACEMENT IS NEEDED FOR LARRY BADGER, WHO IS NOW THE NEW PRESIDENT. WE NEED TO KEEP THE NET GOING. WE NEED HAMS WITH NET CONTROL EXPERIENCE FOR FUTURE EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.
 - B. JACK CRAIG, K6ZMA, HAS VOLUNTEERED FOR NET CONTROL ON TUESDAY, 5 JAN 88
 - C. BARRY BARNES, KE6LW, HAS THE FOLLOWING IN OPERATION ON PACKET:
 - 1) KE6LW-1 MAILBOX.
 - 2) KE6LW-2 NET/ROM.
 - 3) KE6LW-3 DIGIPEATER.THESE ARE OPERATING ON 145.090 MHZ.
 - D. THE BOARD DISCUSSED THE POTENTIAL FOR A LOCAL 220 REPEATER. SOME POSSIBILITIES MENTIONED WERE: 1) FIRE DEPARTMENT LOCATION, 2) 911 ACCESS, 3) LINKING TO 2 METERS, 4) GETTING NEW NOVICES INVOLVED. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT SOME OF THE NEW MEMBERS FORM A COMMITTEE TO 1) COORDINATE, 2) SET UP, 3) MAINTAIN THE REPEATER. THIS WOULD ALLOW THE NEW HAMS TO GAIN SOME EXPERIENCE IN MANAGING A REPEATER.
 - E. THE BOARD DISCUSSED STARTING A PACKET NET. IT WOULD BE CONDUCTED ON AN OCCASIONAL BASIS AND ALLOW THOSE ON PACKET TO GET SOME TRAINING ON USING PACKET DURING EMERGENCY OPERATIONS.
 - F. THE NEXT BOARD MEETING IS JANUARY 27 AT 7:30 PM AT LARRY'S HOUSE.
8. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:40 PM BY BUD PETERS, K6HDE.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
DONALD CASKEY, KB6RHM

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PACSAT CRASH PROGRAM UNDERWAY

Within the next two years, packet radio users may be able to pass their signals through an orbiting satellite as a result of a crash program that is underway to build and launch such a bird, according to Jan King, AMSAT Vice President of engineering. The satellite, generally referred to as PACSAT, has been dreamed about for nearly half a decade since the concept of the TAPR TNC.

There are several "fertile" launch opportunities within calendar 1988 and 1989. The PACSAT project has been funded with \$50,000 from AMSAT to take advantage of any feasible launch. A major portion of the design of PACSAT is complete, and the construction of a prototype will commence immediately.

All packet-radio enthusiasts will be able to make use of the PACSAT satellite when it is launched, possibly within the next two years. Attainment of this goal will entail financial support and a special fund has been set up for this purpose.

Contact Amsat, PO Box 27, Washington, DC 20044 for further details.

from The ARRL Gateway Packet-Radio Newsletter

Editor's note: the above courtesy of Bob, WA6OWH

YSARC CHRISTMAS PARTY BEST EVER!!

For those of you that missed the Christmas Dinner meeting...too bad! We had 39 turn out for one of the best meals in town. The food was excellent with plenty of room for the eyeball QSO contest which was a hit.

Our meal consisted of Barron of Beef (carved as you like it), chicken, scalloped potatoes, home made bread, beverage, and mud pie for dessert. We started the occasion with the eyeball QSO contest and hors d'oeuvres---then salad bar followed by the presentation of eleven prizes ranging from Handbooks donated by the Radio Place and Operator's Manual from HRO to baseball caps from the big three manufactures across the sea.

We were told by many who attended that Ruthy's would be a good place to have next year's party and I have to agree. Thank you all for making the deadline and paying in advance, which made the evening more enjoyable for all.

Bob WA6OWH

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The following is the program agenda for the YSARC for 1988.

To protect the experts from being sought by every club in the country, the names and callsigns are shown as XXXXXX.

JANUARY: "How to disguise soldering iron burns" by XXXXXX, who will also share his secret recipe for solder chip cookies.

FEBRUARY: "Creating harmonics can be fun, fun, fun!" by YL of the year.

MARCH: "Phone patches, how and where to apply them" by XXXXXX. These patches will be available at the meeting in the following materials: Denim, Corduroy, Vulcanized Rubber, and the country look with cross stitch.

APRIL: "Playing the saxophone on SSB for fun and profit" by the Unknown Heterodynes Quartet, a lively subject, complete with slides and solos.

MAY: "The Perfect Ground" an interesting lecture by the President of the Grave Diggers Union.

JUNE: "How I ran 10 KW and almost got away with it" by 6649377. Because of the nature of this topic, and the speakers inability to get away from his office, this will be part of a transmitter hunt to begin on the grounds of the State Institution at Folsom.

JULY: "The art of constructing intelligent 200 word sentences which will time out any repeater within 500 miles" by XXXXXX, who holds the record for timing out 80 meters. A lively roundtable discussion will follow on "Tips on defeating a timer on a repeater."

AUGUST: "A solid state filter which eliminates XYLs from SSB nets but allows other QRM through"---a practical approach by a member who wishes to remain anonymous. (Note: Alternate program in the event of sudden disability of speaker will be "How to get along and make a marriage work with ERA (Equal Radio Access)" by XXXXXXXX

SEPTEMBER: "Self hypnosis techniques to learn code and pass VEC tests" by XXXXXXXX. This is a tentative schedule depending on the speaker's trial in his suit filed by FCC.

OCTOBER: "How to ride a motorcycle thru a nudist colony in the dead of winter" by a member who will warm your hearts with the bare facts.

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NOVEMBER: "I don't need a linear when I can run barefoot with you" by XXXXXX, a tender touching demonstration.

DECEMBER: Party time with a timely debate from our own debating teams:

HAMS vs TURKEYS and LIDS vs HANDLES
Refreshments by the Honey Dew Drill Team.

Editor's note: It is the policy of this periodical to give credit for all contributions. Therefore, at the risk of bodily injury to the contributor, we are forced to admit that the above schedule came via packet from Barry, KE6LW. Barry says he picked it up on a Packet Bulletin Board, and the author is unknown.

ALL I EVER REALLY NEEDED TO KNOW
I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN

by Robert Faughum

Most of what I really need to know about how to live, and what to do, and how to be, I learned in kindergarten. Wisdom was not at the top of the graduate school mountain, but there in the sandbox at nursery school.

These are the things I learned: Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you. Live a balanced life. Learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work every day some.

Take a nap every afternoon. When you go out into the world, watch for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the plastic cup. The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.

Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the plastic cup die--they all die. So do we.

And then remember the book about Dick and Jane and the first word you learned, the biggest word of all: LOOK. Everything you need to know is in there somewhere. The Golden Rule and love and basic sanitation. Ecology and politics and sane living.

Think of what a better world it would be if we all--the whole world--had cookies and milk about 3 o'clock every afternoon and then lay down with our blankets for a nap. Or if we had a basic policy in our nation and other nations to always put things back where we found them and cleaned up our own messes. And it is still true, no

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matter how old you are, when you go out into the world, it is best to hold hands and stick together.

Editor's note: I couldn't resist including the above in the newsletter in case you missed it elsewhere. It showed up on a bulletin board at the CALTRANS office. It also surfaced at a local Toastmistress' meeting, and it has been seen in Reader's Digest.

from MIKE AND KEY
SACRAMENTO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
PO BOX 1619003, SACRAMENTO CA 95816-1903
DECEMBER 1987

GIVING DIRECTIONS ON 2 METERS

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS CONTAIN SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR ALL OF US.

1. BE BRIEF AND KEEP TRANSMISSIONS SHORT. GIVE ONLY ONE OR TWO INSTRUCTIONS PER TRANSMISSION.

2. INSTRUCT THE STATION RECEIVING DIRECTIONS TO KEEP HIS TRANSMISSIONS SHORT, TOO, UNLESS HE IS ON A LONG STRAIGHTAWAY. EXCESS VERBIAGE CAUSES MISSED TURNS.

3. BE TERSE. FOR EXAMPLE, IN HIGHWAY EXIT INSTRUCTIONS: "TURN RIGHT/LEFT OFF THE RAMP."

4. AVOID EXCESSIVE USE OF LANDMARKS ON STRAIGHTAWAYS. IT ONLY ADDS CONFUSION.

5. IF YOU HEAR ROUNDABOUT DIRECTIONS BEING GIVEN, HANG LOOSE, UNLESS IT IS A GROSS ERROR.

6. IF YOU FEEL YOU MUST BREAK IN TO CORRECT A WRONG DIRECTION, USE EXTREME TACT OR YOU WILL MAKE TWO ENEMIES.

7. IF YOU CAN'T HELP, DON'T RESPOND TO GIVE A LONG APOLOGY OF WHY YOU CAN'T HELP. MANY AN EXIT HAS BEEN MISSED BECAUSE OF EXCESSIVE GASSING BY AN UNQUALIFIED GUESSER/GASSER.

8. IF YOU ARE THE STATION RECEIVING DIRECTIONS, TRY TO EVALUATE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE STATION GIVING DIRECTIONS.

9. IN SUMMARY, BE BRIEF (LONG WINDS ARE FOR SAILING) AND LEAVE THE FREQUENCY OPEN FOR QUESTIONS.

10. PUT YOURSELF IN THE SHOES OR CAR OF THE STATION RECEIVING YOUR DIRECTIONS. DON'T MAKE IT NECESSARY FOR HIM TO SORT OUT USABLE DATA FROM EXCESS CHAFF. - AL COHEN, W1FXQ

(DECEMBER QST)

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THE SPOILERS

YOU MUST KNOW THE TYPE. EVERY ORGANIZATION HAS AT LEAST ONE. YOU CAN'T ALWAYS SPOT THEM BY LOOKS, BUT THEY FOLLOW A COMMON PATTERN.

THEY ARE THE SPOILERS. THE SECOND GUESSERS.

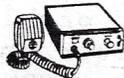
THEY STAY IN THE BACKGROUND WHILE THE GROUNDWORK IS BEING LAID. WHILE THE IDEAS ARE BEING CREATED. WHILE THE PLANS ARE BEING FORMED, WHILE THE DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE.

THEN THEY SWING INTO ACTION. THEY DEMAND MINOR CHANGES. THEY FIND FAULT WITH SMALL POINTS. THEY REHASH ISSUES THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN SETTLED THE HARD WAY. THEY QUESTION CONCLUSIONS. THEY CHALLENGE ASSUMPTIONS.

THEY DEFEND THEIR STAND IN THE NAME OF CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM AND IMPROVEMENT. AND, IT PROBABLY IS. BUT TOO OFTEN THE VALUE OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION IS OUTWEIGHED BY THE DESTRUCTIVE SIDE-EFFECTS PRODUCED. THEY INHIBIT CREATIVITY. THEY DAMPEN ENTHUSIASM. THEY DEMORALIZE PERSONNEL. THEY CREATE UNCERTAINTY.

YOU MUST KNOW THE TYPE. OR DOES THE SHOE FIT? IF IT DOES, BE PREPARED FOR THE QUESTION THAT IS LIKELY TO FOLLOW AN OVERDOSE OF 20/20 HINDSIGHT: "WHERE WERE YOU WHEN THE PAPER WAS BLANK?" (RIVER CITY ARCS)

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W1AW Schedule
October 25, 1987--April 1, 1988

PACIFIC STANDARD TIME

Slow Code Practice MWF: 6 AM, 4PM; TThSSu: 1 PM, 7 PM
Fast Code Practice MWF: 1 PM, 7PM; TTh: 6 AM; TThSSu: 4 PM
CW Bulletins Dly: 2 PM, 5 PM, 8 PM; MTWThF: 7 AM
Teleprinter Bulletins Dly: 3 PM, 6PM, 9 PM; MTWThF: 8 AM
Voice Bulletins Dly: 6:30 PM, 9:30 PM

Code Practice, Qualifying Run and CW bulletin frequencies: 1.818, 3.58, 7.08, 14.07, 21.08, 28.08, 50.08, 147.555 MHz.
Teleprinter bulletin frequencies: 3.625, 7.095, 14.095, 21.095, 28.095, 147.555 MHz.
Voice bulletin frequencies: 1.89, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 21.39, 28.59, 50.19, 147.555 MHz.
Slow code practice is at 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13, and 15 WPM.
Fast code practice is at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, and 10 WPM.
On Fridays at 5 and 6 PM a DX bulletin replaces the regular bulletin transmissions.

WANTED: NEW HAMS, NOVICES, ETC.

5 or more warm moving bodies--not too many brains
Should be willing to put in long hours without pay
Will need to put up with politics, legal snarls, technical problems,
and a whole raft of other problems.

Needed to put new 220 MHz repeater on the air.
See Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club for more information.

FROM KE6LW, CLUB EC

Well the waters have receded and things have settled down and started to get back to a more normal routine.

"What is this IDIOT talking about?" you say. I'll tell you. This week (Dec. 7 thru 11) there were two disasters in Yuba and Sutter Counties. Obviously both were simulated. The first occurred in Sutter County. I never did find out what the actual disaster was. I started receiving phone calls from Red Cross on Wednesday that they needed radio operators at shelters that had been set up as well as a link to their assessment team out in the field.

I began estimating the needs of OES and the Red Cross. I then tried to work out a schedule using local resources as to who might be available to help and when. I based this schedule on past experience and did not make actual contacts to confirm availability. This being one of the busiest times of the year at my regular job, there just weren't enough hours in the day. At about noon Thursday, Dec.10 I did call NR6A, Deane at work and request 8

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operators be available in this area by 5:00 PM. He said that there would be no problem providing this relief. With this help the schedule would have been 12 hours on 12 hours off. As more help arrived from outside the duty cycles could be made shorter. Knowing that I have one of the finest groups around at my disposal the job was not all that difficult and had it been reality we would have been there when needed.

The second disaster was a flood in Yuba County...West Linda...where else?

This was a tabletop exercise and I was more of an observer than a participant. I feel that Kelly Purdom has made great strides toward improvement in Yuba County Emergency Services. The exercise drilled his co-workers as to who is doing what when. I did make some notes on possible communication problems that may occur during another situation in Yuba Co. If these problems should occur the hams can handle them easily. The exercise lasted about 2 1/2 hours and I felt it was worth my time spent.

The next obvious thing is... ARE YOU READY???? Is all the gear in order and ready for use? Can you provide the communications when called upon? Look the gear over now and take the time to fix that little "Bug" in the gear that doesn't bother you right now, but could cause a communication failure in the field. Be ready. Though it is inherent in our community, floods are not the only disasters that occur.

Once again I remind you REGISTER WITH RACES at your local Office of Emergency Services.

73...KE6LW

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings and may the New Year bring you a multitude of blessings.

As we enter the new year we must reflect momentarily on the year that has passed. It was an exciting one filled with special events, classes that yielded a bumper crop of new amateurs, an incomparable field day and a gastronomic delight at the club's Christmas Party. It was a year that saw continued work on the club's repeater and the "discovery" of the machine by a plethora of hams. Listen in on weekends (and weekdays to) and you'll find it in use by hams from below Sacramento to above Redding and as far east as Quincy. Packet fans also got a boost in the second half of the year as KE6LW-2/3 went on the air, providing not only a convenient "mailbox" drop point for local messages and bulletins but a digipeater that provided us with a highly reliable digital link to places like the State Office of Emergency Services in Sacramento and beyond.

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So what's in store for 1988?

Our crystal ball sees further upgrading efforts on the club's 2-meter repeater, upgrades on the packet digipeater, maybe the start of a 220 repeater; further work toward setting up a 911 emergency link through club facilities, another rip-roaring, button-busting good time at Field Day (bring on the food...er, radios that is), and a number of special events. The premier event ahead for us is the Marysville Bok Kai Festival Parade Saturday, March 19. This will be the third straight year the Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club has provide much-needed assistance for this cultural festival which draws thousands into the area each year. We will need somewhere between 20 and 30 operators this year on voice and packet so please mark your calendar now. AND LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING A NEW CROP OF HAMS THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF WB5FIX AND THE FOLKS AT YUBA COLLEGE.

It is a real joy to be a part of an organization like this that has such diversity of interests among its members. I look forward along with your other officers and your board of directors to helping guide it in 1988.

73s,
Larry, WA6ISR

NEXT HAM CLASS IN THE WORKS

Yuba College will offer two Amateur Radio courses during the 1988 Spring semester. Electronics 197 (Novice) will begin February 2, 1988 and continue for nine weeks. Classes will meet Tuesday and Thursday evenings in room 602 at the main campus. The course number is 197 and 2 semester units are awarded for successful completion. The course materials will be ARRL's Tune in the World book (latest edition) and code instruction cassette tapes.

A second course, also numbered 197 (Technician) will commence upon completion of the novice course. You guessed it! The second course will cover the Technician License preparation and also result in 2 semester credits. The course materials are ARRL's Technician License manual (latest edition).

The only way either course can be offered is on an experimental basis.

The cost is \$10 for each course, plus text and parking sticker. The college units earned from this course will count for graduation, but cannot be transferred. Ron Murdock, WB5FIX, will be the instructor. He can be reached at 674-8533 evenings. Yuba College is now accepting registrations for this course. Electronics 197, Amateur Radio License Preparation is intended to get the student not only the knowledge needed to pass the license exam, but also, much needed background in ham radio techniques.

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

This month's newsletter has been a joy to put out. We have more than enough contributions for a good issue. Thanks to all who took the time and effort to send material.

Ron, WB5FIX, will be busy this Spring teaching Ham classes at the college. (He also provided the news article above.) When he calls for help, don't hesitate to give of some of your time. It's a worthy endeavor, and we all benefit from it.

Also, you might think about giving some time on the net as NCS for a night or two. The club really needs some help on this. Think of all the fame, notoriety, and glory involved!

Don't miss the February Club meeting. We have the two experts in food science heading up the thing, and the result promises to be another gala calorie festival! Bob, WA6OWH and Kristin, KB6RHL will do the honors and put in the time necessary to make it a success. Your Editor's stomach thanks you in advance, Bob and Kristen.

We have a new slate of officers and a new Board of Directors, and this promises to be another banner year for the club. Happy New Year to all, and may the band openings provide you much DX!

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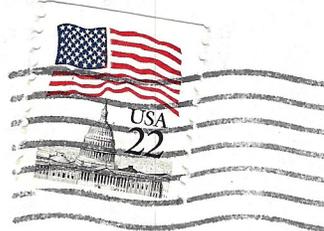
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Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
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