

VALLEY HAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

A California Non-profit Organization

PO Box 1169

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992

APRIL, 1989

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU

712 King Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991

Telephone 916-674-3648

Next Board of Directors Meeting

The April Board Meeting will be held on April 19, 1989, at Ron Murdock's home. Time is 7:30 PM, and address is 998 Bogue Road, Yuba City.

Next Club Meeting

The next Club Meeting will be on April 11, 1989, at the Gray Avenue School in Yuba City. Time is 7:30 PM. This will be a Packet Night. Barry, KE6LW will talk about the local Bulletin Board and answer your questions about Packet,

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

NET-CONTROL STATIONS---APRIL, 1989

April 10---By Invitation

April 17---By Invitation

April 24---By Invitation

May 1---By Invitation

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Murdock, WB5FIX

Vice President: Bud Peters, K6HDE

Secretary: Russ Decker, KB6YAF

Treasurer: Jack Craig, K6ZMA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Pea, KB6YAD

Ron Nash, WD5HHF

Jim Giarde, WA6RZA

Herb Puckett, W6HBU

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

Larry Badger, WA6ISR

**** ARRL QSL BUREAU ****

If you are a new ham, and working any DX at all, you should have an envelope on file at the W6 QSL Bureau. Send them a medium sized self addressed stamped envelope—big enough for the larger format QSL cards favored by many DX ops, and with two units of postage (about 50 cents.) When they have enough cards to make it worthwhile to send you yours, they will put them in the mail to you. The current W6 (all W6,K6,N6,A6 etc.) Bureau's address is Sixth (6th) District DX QSL Bureau Box 1460 Sun Valley, CA. 91352 The folks who perform this service are volunteers, so bear with them if they misfile a card of yours or someone else's in the thousands of envelopes they have on file occasionally. Remember this is a hobby.

WB5FIX

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: APRIL 1989

Bok Kai was a great success, although solar disturbances kept the special event from being as special as it could have been. While WA6ISR led a group of dedicated amateurs in a very professional communications support event, W6HBU and I set up his camping trailer, my radio and antenna and got on the air. Our position near the levee (3rd and C st.) was about the best Marysville had to offer, but a major HF communications outage occurred just after we started the operation and we had to fight for each of the 30 contacts made that day. Ken, K6LYT, saved me from being the only operator present and made roughly half our contacts. Even with the solar storm in progress, Canada, Japan, and the east coast were worked. We made good the promise to hit 40 through 10 meters.

On the 14th, our pot luck dinner was very good, and we filled the room. Bob, W6IEW, led a discussion on interesting ham radio topics and a general discussion on ARRL HQ. Bob is a dedicated section manager and when he steps down this fall, will leave a solid record of leadership to be proud of.

Other folks contributed to the fine program as well—Bob, WA6OWH brought a delicious punch, and Russ, KB6YAF, brought a cool drink dispenser. Thanks to all who made the meal and the meeting a success. This month's meeting program will feature Barry, KE6LW, presenting the Packet Bulletin Board he has been building — and operating — on 145.07 Mhz. If you can't think of a good reason to get on packet, consider what Barry has to say. Bud, K6HDE, will be handing out the initial information needed for the May program on direction finding—hereafter referred to as DF.

Then on April 15, we have picnic/mobile/portable hf/vhf/uhf antenna expo. We will gather at about 10:00 AM at Lindhurst High School to show off, gander at, and eat a picnic lunch. It is bring your own, and swapping a radio here and there is ok too. Don, W6AAQ, will be there with some of his antenna books, and maybe an HF antenna or what is left of one. Ask him about it.

As a novice instructor, I can tell you that keeping someone on the air once he or she gets licensed is not always easy. Radio-activity is needed to keep folks going in the hobby, and that means we need volunteer examiners, Elmers, technical advisors, and generally, more sharing of the fun part of ham radio. When you find something that is really enjoyable in our hobby, share it with the rest of us. Write it up, tell your friends, and don't be shy about showing off your pet project to us.

73, Ron, WB5FIX

220 MHZ REPEATER NEWS

This is the first of what we hope will be a regular update of goings-on concerning the N6QMM 220 MHZ repeater.

Randy advises that there are new duplexers being prepared which will improve the sensitivity of the machine.

He is hoping to change the controller to allow linking to a 2-meter machine. This involves dollars and solution of a few technical problems, so consider this a future capability.

Meanwhile, he and his cohorts are concentrating on killing the more immediate rats as they arise.

The machine statistics have been published in the NARC bulletin. This is the first step in the official sanction of the machine. Randy advises that he is, hopefully, six weeks to two months from an official sanction. He anticipates no problem, but no major or expensive changes to the machine will be made until it receives an official sanction. This includes the controller changes mentioned above and further work and investment on the auto-patch system.

There have been no problems with interference with other repeaters, and thus far the machine has passed all such tests with flying colors.

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Well, here we sit, once again wondering what to put down on the page. We asked to Randy, N6QMM, this evening, and he was saying that he is no literary type who can type up information for

the Newsletter on the 220 MHZ repeater. Well, neither is your Editor, Randy. Many times there are false starts and a pile of paper on the floor before we get the thing done.

Tom, KB6YAD, came by this evening and told us he is just out of the hospital after an appendectomy. It seems that his recent hernia operation wasn't enough, he had to try for another bout with the surgeon. Tom was taking inventory of his remaining body parts, saying "This seems to be the year for me to be losing body pieces!".

All kidding aside, it's not a funny matter. Get well soon, Tom, and be careful with the lifting.

I saw a preliminary flyer floating around advertising the Chico club's fiftieth anniversary Hamfest on August 13, 1989. This is the G.E.A.R.S. group, and it looks like an interesting bash. If you're interested, write them at PO Box 508, Chico, CA 95927.

Your Editor has done very little hamming this month. We have spent more of our spare time playing with the computer and learning to use the word processor. Besides being fun to play with, it should result in a better product here in the Newsletter.

If you have the slightest interest in Packet, be sure to make the club meeting this month. Barry, KE6LW, will give us a rundown on the local Mailbox he's running. There is LOTS of work involved in one of these things. Your Editor for one, is grateful for the thing. It makes putting the Newsletter together significantly easier. Thanks a bunch, Barry. We appreciate it.

In the interest of saving pages, we are

not publishing the calendars beginning this month. Look for a listing of upcoming club events in the President's Message and elsewhere in the Newsletter. Special events and contests, etc. can be found in QST and other publications.

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TURNING A MICROWAVE OVEN INTO A TV TRANSMITTER

from the New York times News
Service

Electronic engineers are forever tinkering.

Consider the March issue of RF Design, a technical journal for communications engineers. The journal, based in Englewood, Colo., contains a detailed article that describes how a skilled engineer could alter a standard kitchen microwave oven to create a powerful 250-watt transmitter for amateur television broadcasting frequencies.

Written by David Pacholok of Creative Electronics Consultants in Sleepy Hollow, Ill., as an entry in the magazine's design awards contest, the article received an award as an example of a project that shows innovation, engineering design and documentation.

The author writes that the project's goal was to create a simple high-power microwave transmitter for less than \$200, with parts readily available from consumer electronics supply houses.

The heart of the design is a plan that permits the oven's power source, a magnetron tube, to be "tamed down" to provide power for the TV transmitter. A circuit called a modulator, which controls power and frequency, is placed where the food would go.

The editors of RF Design stress that this is a project to be attempted only by a skilled engineer - not a radio amateur. Leaking microwave radiation can be

extremely hazardous.

Also, the Federal Communications Commission, which regulates the broadcast industry, including broadcast transmissions, might have something to say about such a transmitter, too.

Editor's note: The above was provided by Larry, WA6ISR.

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NEW PACKETEER NEEDS HELP

Bill Hutchinson, K6TAD, Marysville, Cal, has a new IBM compatible, PK232 TNC, and all the necessary software but is not familiar with any of it. He could use some help. His phone number is 743-0462, or try him on WD6AXM/r-146.085 Mhz/up 600. Bill will be most appreciative of your assistance.

73, Ron, WB5FIX

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Editor's note: Quad A's Electronic Supply joins The Radio Place this month as a regular advertiser in Valley Ham News. They deserve your consideration when you need anything electronic.

*****_____*****

PAID ADVERTISING

7366 Auburn Blvd., #3
Citrus Heights, CA 95610
(916) 723-7366
(916) 723-7368

Quad A's
Electronic
Supply

Samuel E. Ansell
WA6POM

Retail & Commercial Sales

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting of March 22, 1989

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by President Ron Murdock.

Officers present: President Ron, WB5FIX; Vice President Bud, K6HDE; Secretary Russ, KB6YAF; Treasurer Jack, K6ZMA.

Board members present: Ron, WD5HHF, Jim, WA5RZA, Herb, W6HBU.

Treasurer's report: Jack reported a total of \$1809.15 in the club treasury.

OLD BUSINESS

1. BOK KAI - The Special Event Station at the Bok Kai Parade experienced poor propagation due to the large solar flare activity. Only 30 contacts were made, some from Japan, Canada, and Hawaii. The old Bok Kai QSL's were sent to their respective stations.

2. ANTENNA SATURDAY - Antenna Saturday is set for April 15th at Lindhurst High School. Don Johnson, W6AAQ, will be the guest of the club and will be there to answer any of your antenna problems, so bring your antennas and questions. Also remember there will be a Barbecue during this event! The starting time is 10:00 AM. Talk-in 146.085+ MHZ. The address is Lindhurst High School, 4446 Olive Avenue, Olivehurst, CA. 95961.

3. CLUB NEWSLETTER - The Board decided to omit the calendars and club application for future newsletters to trim the cost of printing.

4. FIELD DAY - The Board is still exploring a 'Valley Field Day Site' for the coming Field Day. Our 'Mountain Field Day Site' is still available. More on this later.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There will be an ARRL Packet Demo Film at the next club meeting along with a talk by Barry, KE6LW, on the PBBS. This will be April 11th. Bud Peters will 'prep' the club members on his 'DF' project.

2. May will be the 'DF'ing' meeting featuring Bud Peters at the helm.

3. Receipts will be given to our current paid membership.

NEXT CLUB MEETING: Tuesday, April 11, 1989 at Gray Avenue Intermediate School.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Wednesday, April 19, 1989, at Ron Murdock's QTH (WB5FIX).

Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Russell Decker, KB6YAF.

MORE PAID ADVERTISING

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AMATEUR • CB • SCANNERS • SHORTWAVE
CELLULAR • COMMERCIAL

The Radio Place
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WR60

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95818
(916) 441-7388

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YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

Type of application: New Renewal

Name: -----

Address: -----

City, State/Zip: -----

Telephone: () Member ARRL: Yes No

Call Sign: License Class

ASSOCIATE FAMILY MEMBER (Living in same household only)
(Same voting rights and privileges as MEMBER)

Name: -----

Call Sign (if any) License Class

Member Dues \$ (\$18.00)

Associate \$ (\$4.00)

Total \$

Signature Date

Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 1169
Yuba City, CA 95992



RUSSELL DECKER KB6YAF
1227 KATHLEEN WAY
YUBA CITY CA 95991