

VALLEY HAM NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE YUBA-SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

A California Non-profit Organization

PO Box 1169

YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992

SEPTEMBER, 1989

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU

712 King Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991

Telephone 916-674-3648

Next Board of Directors Meeting

The September Board Meeting will be held on September 27, 1989, at Russ Decker's home. Time is 7:30 PM, and address is 1227 Kathleen Way, Yuba City.

Next Club Meeting

The next Club Meeting will be on September 12, 1989, at the Gray Avenue School in Yuba City. Time is 7:30 PM. This will be a "Get Acquainted" night. Bring your friend, family member, or the person down the street who is interested in Amateur Radio. The upcoming Novice Class will be the subject of the meeting. Bring some gear and some of your exotic QSL cards to amaze and edify our guests.

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---SEPTEMBER 1989

Once again this month, NCS duties will be by means of INVITATION, COERCION, SHANGHAI, or other means. See WB5FIX, KB6YAD or KB6YAF to volunteer.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Murdock, WB5FIX
Secretary: Russ Decker, KB6YAF

Vice President: Bud Peters, K6HDE
Treasurer: Jack Craig, K6ZMA

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tom Pea, KB6YAD
Jim Giarde, WA6RZA
Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

Ron Nash, WD5HHF
Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Larry Badger, WA6ISR

President's Message--September 1989

I wasn't yet licensed when single sideband made its first appearance on the ham bands. But the debate and discussion of AM vs. SSB was still going on when my novice ticket arrived in June, 1967. That issue has been settled by the voluntary adoption of SSB by most of the voice operators on our HF bands today. The change had its price, and not just a monetary price. AM still has more fidelity than sideband, though most would admit that SSB has come a long way in that regard. We gained operating space and that was good--SSB signals take up a lot less spectrum than AM. I suspect that there is a non-monetary price to pay with each new advance in the state of our art. One such involves the current field test of the HF Skipnet "service" of unattended packet bulletin boards on 20 meters. Situated at 14098 kHz, the signals tend to bleed down over W1AW bulletin frequencies to the extent that W1AW at 14097.1 kHz is wiped out. When apprised of this interference, the operator of N7GXP said he had a special temporary authorization (STA) to operate on that frequency and that all interference reports should go to the net control station W8AKF who is also an official observer. I am trying that, even though it sounds like there must be a conflict of interest there someplace.

Considered in a vacuum, the idea of automatic HF packet BBS (or HF rtty BBS) sounds like a dream come true. Imagine, the information would go through even though the ham operator would not be present to control his station--his computer would do it for him. Basically, we have that situation on VHF now, (KE6LW has a superb VHF system serving our area) so why not on HF? If you have operated 20M rtty lately you may have heard the TG9 station in Guatemala come on in beacon mode and offer its BBS service to all hams

worldwide. Great, huh? Only this station, like the HF skipnet, can't listen first to see who it is going to wipe out with transmissions no one will answer. In the Skipnet case, the frequency is in the RTTY portion of the band plan, and anyone who tries to stick to the band plan ARRL promotes knows that is a tough thing to do. Since the Skipnet can't shut itself off during the W1AW sked, and can't distinguish on-going RTTY traffic, the STA amounts to a de facto frequency allocation for a small number of HF operators. It will be interesting to see what ARRL has to say about all of this.

Other matters: Novice classes will begin in the second week of September, and the September meeting is the time we want you to invite your non-ham-but-interested friends to our club meeting. The club will shortly have the latest editions of ARRL's Tune in the World package, but the current Novice question pool is good until 1 November. PLEASE, if you have an OLD (post March 1987) Tune in the World book and tapes, PLEASE make it available on a loan basis to a student in our club class. We'd appreciate it.

Meetings will resume at Gray Ave. school unless you hear differently.

An unofficial review of the last few boards of directors and slates of club officers reveals that we are just rotating among a few individuals the leadership positions in our organization. That is not a good idea. Jack, K6ZMA, has been the only club member to volunteer for the Treasurer's job for four years. I have been president twice, AA6CX was president twice, and our board of directors has enjoyed a similar lack of turnover. I can speak for the other officers and the members on the board--we want you to join up and serve a term in one of these leadership

positions. We can achieve more with your active support.

The first annual Ham Radio Awareness Day, 16 September, 1989, will go unobserved in our area. The club board directors and officers agreed that too little time remained to set this operation up in a public place. In other areas of the country, public ham radio displays will take place on that day, but not here.

By now the new rules are in effect—1 September was the date—so you can retire that old FCC rule book, and start shopping for a new one.

For swappers and buyers/sellers, there is a swap portion of our local net each Monday night (146.085 MHz, WD6AXM repeater). There is also a swap meet at HSC Electronics in Sacramento the first Saturday morning of each month. There are other nets, and other swap meets. We need a volunteer to help with this information, get it to the newsletter editor, and check in with it on the net. Any volunteers?

Enough for now. CU at the meeting.
73, Ron. WB5FIX

PROGRAM IDEAS FOR YOUR RADIO CLUB

Is your program chairman having trouble getting interesting programs for your club? If so, show him/her this schedule of programs of the leading Amateur Radio Club in Sacramento. To protect the experts from being sought by every club in the USA, their names and call signs 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 xxxxxx, 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, plastic and the fashionable country look with cross stitch.

April: "Playing the saxophone on SSB for fun and profit" by the unknown heterodyners 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 9475662. Because of the nature of this topic, and the speakers inability to get away from his office, this will be part of a T-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 xxxxxx.)

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

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

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.

From "Nineland", McHenry County Wireless Assn. and "Spectrum", Victor Valley ARC.

Reported by Norm, K6FO.

Editor's note: The above was lifted off the local Packet BBS.

AMATEUR—CB—SCANNERS
SHORTWAVE—CELLULAR
COMMERCIAL

THE RADIO PLACE

SALES SERVICE INSTALLATION

GLENN STILWELL
WR60

2964 FREEPORT BLVD.
SACRAMENTO, CA 95818
(916)441-7388

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

We are back from vacation at Deer-Hunting camp near Chester where the hunting was excellent but the "catching" was the pits. This was the year the deer got even, since all the mighty hunters returned empty-handed.

Oh well, hopes are high for next year. Why do I have the feeling that I've heard this before? Maybe like field day or such.—

While up in the wilds of Tehama County, we tried out the new IC-725 rig with the G5RV antenna. We were able to work out on 75 and 40 meters, but the DX was less than spectacular on 20 meters and above. Maybe it was because of the location down in a canyon, or maybe conditions were not that good all over. Anyway, we managed to check in to the RV'ers net on 7263 KHz in the mornings, and we talked to Clarence, W6GCM, on the Western Public Service Net on 3952 KHz one evening.

One thing that is always gratifying about that type of operation is the lack of man-made noise. With battery power, there isn't even the sound of a generator in the background. This makes for quiet, relaxed operation, and the new rigs are quite economical in their thirst for DC power.

If you have read the President's message, you know we are beating the drums for new blood in the Club Officer and Director Corps. Some of you young gals and guys take heed — also you older members who have not experienced the Fame, Notoriety and Glory that comes with taking your turn at one of the jobs that make the club wheels turn. Remember, there is no such thing as a free lunch. We need to make the payment to keep the club running.

This is also the season to think about new members of the hobby. We have a Novice class coming up which will start this month, so take another look at the meeting announcement. If you don't have a possible new Ham in tow, maybe you can bring a piece of interesting gear or some foreign QSL cards to the meeting. Who knows, maybe you'll impress even the oldtimers with your DX prowess.

You know, sometimes we wonder if

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anyone really reads this fine periodical. Last month's front page had the wrong month on it and we heard nothing. Hmmmmmm----- Are our readers skipping the important front-page offerings, or are they as nearly unconscious as your sloppy Editor? I guess it depends upon the mistake. I do know that when a mistake directly affects even one member of the club, then we will hear about it loud and clear!

and Russell Decker, KB6YAF.

Treasurer's report - Jack reported a total of \$1249.54 in the club treasury.

Old Business - none

New Business -

1. Software - Bill Spoto, WD6BFR, and Emory Probst, NG6L, provided the club with software to aid in the production of the club's newsletter. With it, we can keep a roster of membership and from the data inputted, create mailing labels for our newsletter and such.

2. Mailing labels - Ron suggested the club purchase mailing labels at a bulk rate to go with the software. The mailing labels will last the club for a few years to come. It was passed.

3. Guest night - There was discussion about 'guest night' on the 12 September meeting night. Everyone is urged to bring a guest or 'prospect' into the Amateur Radio hobby.

Next Board meeting - Russell Decker, KB6YAF, 1227 Kathleen way, Yuba City - 27 September, 1989 at 7:30PM

Next Club Meeting - 12 September at 7:30PM at Gray Avenue School

Meeting adjourned at 8:27PM
respectfully submitted,
Russell Decker, KB6YAF

220 REPORT

The 220 repeater is up and operating, with no new news to report.

Randy, N6QMM, reports there are many good sales on 220 gear nowadays, so check the ads if you need 220 equipment.

ANTENNAS:
TV - CB - AMATEUR
ROTORS - MASTS
TOWERS - POWER SUPPLIES

COMPUTER ACCESSORIES:
PRE-MADE CABLES - HOODS
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QUAD A's
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7366 Auburn Boulevard
Citrus Heights, CA 95610

723-7366 or 723-7368

AUDIO/VIDEO
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SEMICONDUCTORS
RESISTORS - CAPACITORS
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MAGAZINES - BOOKS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS/OFFICERS MEETING 23 August, 1989

Regular Board meeting on 16 August, 1989, had no quorum.

Place - Ron Murdock, WB5FIX, in Yuba city

Time - 7:38 PM

Members and guests present were Ron Murdock, WB5FIX; Jack Craig, K6ZMA; Bud Peters, K6HDE; Jim Giarde, WA6RZA;

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AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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