

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, 1991

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU

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Next Board of Directors Meeting

The April Board Meeting will be held on April 24, 1991, at 7:30 PM. Location is to be announced. Check on the Monday night net for details.

Next Club Meeting

The next Club Meeting will feature Don Johnson, W6AAQ, who will talk about HF Mobile antennae. Time is 7:30 PM, and date is April 9, 1991. Place is the Yuba City Police Dept. at 1545 Poole Boulevard. We look forward to an interesting evening. See you there.

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, 1991

Talk to Jullia, KC6OMX, to volunteer for Net Control Duty. She is always looking for helpers and will assist you in getting started if you're bashful.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Russ Decker, KB6YAF Vice Pres: Kristen McClard, KB6RHL
Secretary: Jullia Robinson, KC6OMX Treasurer: Ron Murdock, WB5FIX

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Giarde, WA6RZA Homer Oliver, KB6EJ
Dave Gartner, WD6AXM Bob McClard, WA6OWH
Jack Craig, K6ZMA

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Editor's note:

We start off this month of April with two technical dissertations -- one courtesy of K6AAW, and the other from N6PGK. Larry says this is the first of three installments. We have received installments one and three. We either did not receive the second one, or we lost it. Considering the extraordinary concepts in the series, we can only hope that Larry did not destroy the second installment.

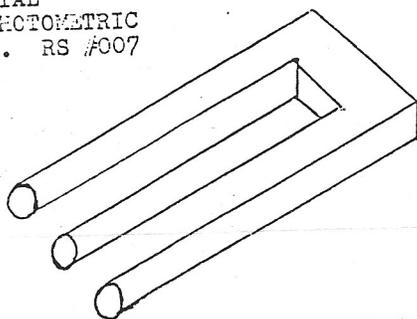
FIRST IN A SERIES OF MODULATION METHODS BY MURDOCH

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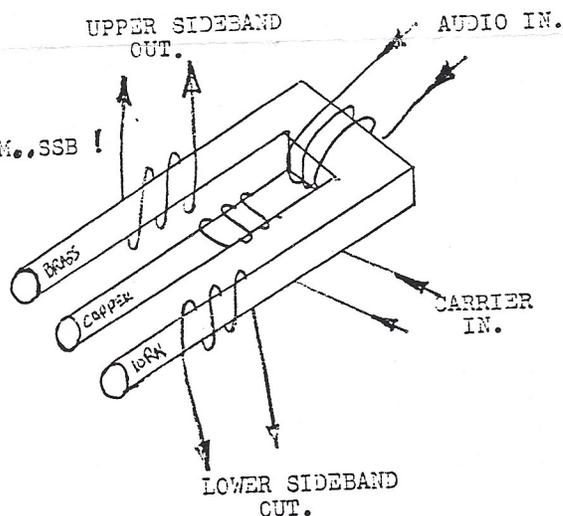
PLUS
+



SPCCL OF #18
WIRE.



.... AND SHAZAM...SSB !



Yes, the simplest way ever to get on the air with single sideband. No more complicated circuits. No more expensive filters. No more precise alignments. Just simple audio and a crystal oscillator and presto...USB and LSB !!

By now the old timers have figured out how it works. In a tuned circuit, brass raises the frequency while iron lowers it. The fact that the brass prong is mounted higher than the iron one also allows gravity to help the circuit work better because lower sidebands are slightly heavier than upper ones.

Next month, an even simpler way to get on FM !

Good luck, K6AAW.

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SMOKE

A sheet of paper passed through my hands the other day, and as I read it, a realization of a basic truth came over me. It was so simple! So obvious! Why didn't I see it before? I discovered how IC's (integrated circuits) work. SMOKE is the thing that makes IC's work; because every time you let the SMOKE out of an IC, it stops working.

Of course SMOKE makes all things electrical work. Remember the last time SMOKE escaped from your Kenwood? Didn't it stop working? I sat and smiled like an idiot as more of the truth came to light. It's the wiring harness that carries the SMOKE from one device to another. When the harness springs a leak, it lets the SMOKE out of everything at once. Then nothing works. The Kenwood dual bander requires large amounts of SMOKE to operate properly, and that's why the wiring to it is so large.

If improvements in electrical systems are to be achieved, we are going to have to find a way to keep SMOKE from leaking, much as we keep air from leaking from our tires.

Robby, N6PGK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 27, 1991

Called to order at 7:55 PM by Russ, KB6YAF..

Treasurer's report: \$715.48 in the bank.

Old Business:

Tech Class is on hold --- looking for a room to hold it in.

General and Advanced Class was excellent.

Meeting Place --- Space at Yuba City Police Building approved by Chief Harmon's office.

Newsletter -- Note the bright paper.

Net Procedures are available at the Club meetings from Russ, KB6YAF.

Bok Kai --- We will need 25 operators for the parade and 5 or 6 people for the race on Sunday.

New Business:

Discussed having a club table at the North Hills Swap.

Discussed having Club Yard Sale on April 20, 1991. Place and date tentative at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectively submitted,
Kristin, KB6RHL

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strategic locations along the parade route. The ATV was provided by the Mercury Amateur Radio Association. The "eyes" allowed IC to watch critical locations for problems developing so solutions could be found and relayed either to hams on the parade route or to one of the two "gophers".

If this sounds involved, it is. Why? The reasons are many.

One, this is an event that demands an overview few other events require. It combines a crowd of 15,000 (when it doesn't precipitate), Chinese drums and cymbals, thousands of firecrackers, tons of bands and horses, many of which aren't used to noises, especially firecrackers. The communications system that has developed has helped keep everyone in touch and problems under control. Ask Randy, N6QMM, horse-mobile, some time.

Two, it gives us hams a chance to operate under conditions we might find in a disaster, such as a flood or earthquake. How long will your batteries last? What problems will we encounter trying to link bands when equipment is limited? Just how much power does it take to communicate between point A and point B? What kind of antennas work? Don't work? What about working with someone else? How do I learn to anticipate the person I'm shadowing? Did you remember to bring a plastic lunch bag to seal your radio in so it wouldn't get wet and be useless to you? What do I need to take with me for my personal warmth and comfort when I'm called out to help in inclement weather?

We learned some years ago while packet radio is neat, it's of little value in a tactical situation such as this. ATV operators from Sacramento demonstrated we needed to develop our own ATV capability and that has been done under the leadership of K6EPH. Its a chance to see what works and what doesn't.

Three, one of the few ways we have to demonstrate to emergency services folks around here that we are prepared, that we know what we're doing and that they have a valuable tool at their disposal when they include ham radio in their response plans. "Gopher 1" already is convinced. He is Brock Bowen, chief of the Oswald-Tudor Fire Department. "Gopher 2" is convinced. He was Will Graham, division chief at the Yuba City Fire Department. He had not seen us at work before. Marysville police are convinced. They all know now there is a resource they can draw upon out there.

Yes, its a lot of work and it eats up time. But its worth it when someone comes up to you and says "Thanks. I appreciate what you're doing".

So next time you're asked to help out on an event, don't worry about equipment you have or don't have. Look at it as a challenge, a challenge through which you'll grow and someone else will be helped.

From the Yuba-Sutter Cultural Exchange, parent group of the Bok Kai Festival, a BIG thanks to all hams for the help they provide to produce a safe and well-organized event. "Thanks. We appreciate what you do."

WA6ISR

Editor's Note: Larry, WA6ISR, is a member of the Yuba-Sutter Cultural Exchange's Executive Committee and in charge of operations for the Bok Kai Parade and communications for the bicycle race.

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Wow!!! It's either a feast or a famine! This month we have not only the things left out of the last issue, but there are subjects that needed addressing for this month.

Don't forget the club meeting, the Bike Around the Buttes thing and the Yard Sale. Lotsa things going on this month.

For the benefit of new members, we call your attention to the fact that this is the annual April issue of this fine periodical. Consider this as you read our offerings in the technical department this month. Your Editor many years ago, read a thing in QST one April that had me going for several months, until the realization that it was the April issue. We even went so far as to periodically check a frequency on 20 meters that was supposed to be "burned out" by a DX pileup!

It looks like your Editor will be setting up the communication system for the Bike Around The Buttes on April 13. With the assistance of N6PGK, N6TNJ, N6VRH, KB6JPP, KB6PJA and WA6RZA, we have determined that simplex will work for the thing. We will use the 146.085 machine for emergency backup. Many thanks, all, for a fine job; and for a most enjoyable Saturday morning.

We need operators for the real thing on April 13. If you can help, we would like to hear from you, either via the repeater or at the Club meeting.

See you next month, and thanks to all for the contributions. Keep 'em coming.

--30--

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TYPE: NEW() RENEWAL()

MEMBER INFORMATION:(Full voting rights and privileges)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone:() _____ ARRL Member?(Y\N) _____

Callsign: _____ License Class: _____

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Name: _____ Callsign: _____ Class: _____

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SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

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