

VALLEY HAM NEWS

The Voice of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
A California Non-profit Organization

PO Box 1169
YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95992
OCTOBER, 1994

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NEXT CLUB MEETING

October's Club meeting will feature nominations of officers and Board members for the 1995 year. The club always needs nominees and you can help. Be at the meeting to nominate your candidate or to defend yourself! There will also be an old timer's roundtable that night. Date is October 10 at 7:30PM at the Yuba City Police facility in Yuba City. See the Board minutes and later in this issue for more information and details.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will occur on October 26 at 7:00PM at the Yuba City Police facility on Poole Boulevard.

All members are welcome and encouraged to attend the Board meetings. Be sure to let your officers and Board Members know your wishes and ideas. Everyone is invited.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Paul Johnson, N6XVL
Vice President: Nate Walls, KD6HNR
Secretary: Hugh MacDonald, N7OKM
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

KB6YAF, Russ Decker
W6HBU, Herb Puckett
KB6WID, Tom Galbreath
KN6WX, Wade Fiske
N6XOP, Bob Anderson

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

LOCAL BBS UPDATE

Telephone modem access to the KE6LW-1 packet BBS is now available. The number is (916) 751-9285 at either 1200 or 2400 baud 8/N/1 24 hours a day. Speeds up to 9600 baud will be available if I ever get this other modem figured out. Higher baud rates are moot because with the multitasking taking place in the software the best it will do is around 8000 baud and slower depending on how many users are on line and considering a relatively slow computer.

A password is required for modem access. Before your first modem connect you must contact me (KE6LW) for a password. After you log on to the system you can change the password to anything you want using the NP command. You may contact me by calling 674-2334 during the day or leave a note on the BBS for me. PLEASE do not call me at home for the password.

Modem access is available for all hams. You need not be a packet user to access the BBS and you will have access to the packet network. If you are a new user be sure and enter KE6LW when asked for a HOME BBS. Using your own callsign here will corrupt the WP database and mail for you could easily be routed wrong and lost.

Another new feature on the BBS is BULLETIN SCAN. This program will scan all the new bulletins each day for keywords chosen by you. You can have it scan TO, FROM, TITLE, Message Body and ALL of the above for key words or phrases that are of interest to you such as NASA, QUAKE, SALE, WANTED, TRADE TS820, AMSAT etc. Each day at housekeeping time (around 2:00AM local) all new bulletins received that day will be scanned for your keywords. A private message to you will be generated listing all bulletins that contain your keywords. At the BBS prompt type SCAN HELP for informa-

tion on how to set up your keywords.

Some folks have been having problems with paging. Paging can be set by using the OP command. Typing OP 20 will set your paging to 20 lines, OP 13 will set it to 13 lines and so on. Typing OP by itself will toggle paging ON or OFF. If you have paging set to 10 lines and type OP your paging will be turned OFF. The system remembers your paging setup and the next time you type OP by itself paging will be turned back ON with the 10 line setting.

The system also remembers your last listed message number each time you check in to the BBS. This number is reset with the B for BYE command to log off the BBS. If you do a hard disconnect, that is disconnect from your end without sending the B for BYE command, the BBS assumes you lost the link and will not reset your last listed message. It reverts back to the last time you sent a B command. To insure the

last listed message gets reset use B to log off the BBS. By the same token if you check in and do not do a L for LIST command the BBS retains the last number listed when you last used the L command.

Many new features are available with the new software. An on line user data server and satellite server are available. Private directories accessible only by you are available for storing files. Binary file uploads and downloads via modem and radio are now available. I will be updating and reorganizing the user files in the near future as time allows. I have already obtained a program that will allow directory descriptions and easier upload and download commands using W and D without the DOS path. It will be much the same as the old system.

I have put in a couple of hours of overtime getting this system set up and running but expect there will be some "bugs". Please advise me of any strange or abnormal happenings while using the BBS.

Last, but certainly not least, many thanks to those that have contributed equipment and cash to the BBS effort. Though it is a hobby and I enjoy doing it your generosity is greatly appreciated.

73's Barry / KE6LW

A NEW FCC SERVICE

The FCC has instituted a toll-free phone line at its Gettysburg, Pennsylvania licensing division for customer service inquiries.

Amateurs may call 800-322-1117 weekdays between 8 AM and 4:30 PM Eastern Time to access an automated information system with recorded messages on interference complaints, form requests, records, and Amateur Radio call sign assignments.

Other messages regard fee information and processing times. A TouchTone telephone is required.

The FCC said the new service was part of its response to a presidential order that the federal government be "cus-

tomers driven."

The FCC said it used a series of focus groups with external customers to identify the desire for an 800 number at its licensing division.

"Within the next 18 months," the FCC said, "customer service standards will be developed for other areas of Commission operations to ensure that FCC customers receive the highest quality of service possible. As these new standards become available, the FCC will inform its customers."

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUR PET HAM

By Laura Sargent.

The pet ham is one of the most intelligent of pets, often seeming almost human; but he can also be one of the most difficult to keep. Only a person with a great deal of patience and understanding should attempt to keep a pet ham.

The following is a short guide to some of the most important things that you should know about caring for your pet ham.

1. Living area: Your pet ham should have a private area of his own; an entire room, if possible, where he will not be disturbed. He will spend many happy hours alone there with his collection of treasures. (Boxes, wires, bits of metal, glass, paper, plastic, etc. that he will bring home regularly). He should be encouraged to confine his activities to this nest room in order to protect the rest of the house from his natural tendencies toward noise, clutter and making holes in the walls...

2. Expenses: raising your pet ham can turn into an expensive hobby. But, unlike most pets, the pet ham can be trained to work outside the home for short periods and so bring in enough money to cover part or all of his expenses...

3. Feeding: The well behaved pet ham will be able to eat with the family on occasion. But he usually feels more comfortable and secure if he can take

many of his meals in the privacy of his nest room. It will be your responsibility to see that your pet ham is kept well supplied with food and drinks during the long periods of time that he will spend alone in the nest room...

4. Housekeeping: Pet hams can usually be trained to use the family bathroom facilities...

5. Obedience training: Most pet hams can be trained to respond to a few simple commands... The easiest for him being sit and speak. Once your pet ham has learned these commands, he will sometimes practice them on his own for hours at a time...

6. Health care: The pet ham is especially subject to minor irritations of the lower back and sore throat from too much sitting and speaking. The special CW breed tends to have a tired wrist rather than sore throat, and the rty versions may suffer from tired and hurting eyes depending on his age and monitor...

7. Travelling: Your pet ham will gladly travel with you in the family car if he is allowed to bring some of the collection from his nest room. His favorite trips will be to places where he can associate with other pet hams from other families...

8. Breeding: If you plan to breed your pet ham, you should do so as early as possible after you get him.... As the pet ham matures he becomes more and more reluctant to engage in any activities not connected with his nest room collection...

From a publication called Scuttlebut which is published by + the Waterway Radio + Radio and Cruising Club.

The author is not a ham herself, but keeps one at her home...

Editor's note: From the KE6LW BBS via KE6HLU.

PACIFICON 94

Pacificon 94 will be held on Friday through Sunday, October 21 - 23, at the Concord Hilton Hotel (Diamond near Willow Pass, Concord, California. Sponsored by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club, Pacificon 94 event will include technical sessions, a swap meet, vendor exhibits, T-hunt, VE testing, the Wouff-Hong Ceremony, foot and fanny contest, drawings and raffles, a bus tour and the Pacificon Banquet. Tickets are \$3.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door. For more information, contact: Pacificon 94, PO Box 272613, Concord, CA 94527, or phone 510-932-6125.

VANITY "PREFERRED"
CALLSIGNS UPDATE

At the ARRL National Convention and at later meetings, FCC officials indicated that the vanity call implementation should occur by the end of the year or early 1995. The basic outline of the ARRL Comments filed on FCC Docket 93-305 by the April 21 deadline is contained in the June 1994 Update. The latest news is that Congress has decided to change the \$7.00 per year fee for the licenses to a ONE TIME application fee of \$150.00. It was the judgement of Congress that this change was "revenue neutral" and would ease the burden of billing and collection on the FCC. Also, it would get the dollars up front which is an advantage to Congress and the Administration.

Editor's note: From the ARRL Pacific Division Update by Brad Wyatt, K6WR.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

28 September 1994.

The meeting was called to order in the training room of the Yuba City Police Dept at 1902 by the president, Paul, N6XVL.

Those present were:

President; Paul, N6XVL
Vice-President; Nate, KD6HNR
Treasurer; Clara, KC6JPP
Secretary; Hugh, N7OKM

Board Members;
Wade KN6WX, Tom KB6WID, Herb W6HBU, Bob N6XOP

Visitors;
Ron WB5FIX, Kathy KE6LNT

Treasurer Report:
Club Balance-----\$1,007.32
Repeater Donations----\$ 168.00
VE Balance-----\$ 114.20
Total Account Balance-\$1,289.52

Upcoming Events:
October
Old Timer Nite and Nominations of club officers for 1995. Any member that has been licensed for 30 years or longer is invited to attend and tell the rest of us young whipper snappers how it was in the days of the smoke signal. Seriously, we want to hear from the older members what it was like to go to San Francisco and draw the schematic for your rig.

November
Elections of Officers and Tech Nite. Bring your rig in to set its deviation and frequency.

December
Christmas Party at the American Legion Hall in Linda. A volunteer is needed to head up the committee. Clara will be unable to do it this year. YL's, it's your turn to crack the whip. Help is needed.

Old Business
Club recognition in the QST magazine. The secretary presented a proposed letter to the SM Jettie Hill, W6RFF. It was decided by the Board that it would be better for a committee to liaison with Jettie to discuss the matter. Herb, W6HBU, Ron WB5FIX, and Wade KN6WX, were appointed to a committee to handle the situation either by Letter or message.

New Business

Repeater QRM
Due to the recent rash of QRM and profanity on the repeater the Board has decided to take direct action against the

offending party/parties. 3 options were discussed:

- A. Make a complaint through the ARRL/FCC channel and wait for action from the FCC.
- B. Obtain Counsel and start proceedings through the civil legal system.
- C. Make a direct complaint to the FCC documenting the problems that have been caused by the incidents.

The Board, after a long discussion of the pros and cons of each option, has decided the following:

- 1. A direct documented complaint will be made to the local FCC office.
- 2. An attempt will be made to work with the other clubs in the Sacramento Valley who have also been affected and, hopefully, complaints will also be sent to the FCC from those clubs and repeater owners.
- 3. Hugh, N7OKM, was appointed the contact point for YSARC and will contact the other clubs and liaison with them. He will collect all tapes, transcripts, and letters from our club. He will report his progress on an on-going basis to the Board. Motion by Herb W6HBU, Second by Nate KD6HNR
Carried

Nominating Committee
A nominating committee of Wade, KN6WX, and Herb W6HBU, was appointed by the President to nominate officer for the next election. If you are interested in serving on the Board contact them.

The meeting was adjourned at 2026

Submitted;
Hugh, N7OKM

Some Do's and Don'ts during QRM.

DO
Note the time and date the event occurs.

Note the call signs of the stations involved. Note the beam heading or S reading on the INPUT to the repeater. Attempt to record the violations on an audio tape, attempt to put the time on the tape and note whether the time is in

GMT or local. If possible make a transcription of the tape (a written record of the contents). Seal the tape in an envelope and sign and date over the flap. Forward the tape to Hugh.

Do Not

Attempt to argue or harangue the individual committing the violations. You just give them a platform to continue to rant and rave. If you caution them once about profanity and they ignore it then drop the subject and discontinue the conversation with them.

DO NOT, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES attempt to throw a carrier on the individual or cuss back at them. That would make you guilty also of a violation and you could interfere with an attempt to DF the violator.

(During the latest round of profanity and QRM some well-meaning local amateur attempted to silence the individual via a carrier. This only compounded the situation and foiled attempts at obtaining a DF fix on the violator.)

Above all **KEEP YOUR COOL**

by Hugh , N7OKM

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

**Quad A's
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Supply**

Samuel E. Ansell
WA6POM

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Yeah, I know, you need a program to tell the Editors. After a long, easy and enjoyable Summer, your original Editor is back on the job. The substitutes did a fine job, and we thank them all for their hard work. The result was in some ways a better product.

We still can't seem to get fired, though. Anyway, many thanks, guys. We really appreciate your taking care of the store while we spent the summer under a pine tree in the cool country.

We need to beat the drums for the upcoming meeting, where we will nominate officers and board members for the upcoming year. If you're the least bit interested in how the club works and if you would like a small part of the action, let one of the present officers or board members know. You can also let it be known at the October club meeting and get overrun by the mad rush to get nominated. Seriously, the club runs on the ability

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and hard work of these people, and they need all the help they can get.

While your lollygagging Editor was taking it easy the club gained some new members and there are new calls being heard in the local area. Congratulations and welcome to all the new comers. Enjoy your new privileges and have fun.

The October meeting will also feature "tall tales" by some of the people who have been around the block and over the hill a few times. Come out and hear how it used to be. Believe me, there have been many changes over the years.

As we write, the California QSO Party is history, and there should be a report at the meeting on how the club effort fared in the contest. I've heard that Pat, KI6ZX, started a pileup on CW and had the pleasure of being the sought-after call. Perhaps Yuba County was somewhat rare, after all. It's nice to be on the other end of the pileup for a change. We don't have a list of people who helped at the station; so we can't recognize them in print. The main thing is, the people involved had a good time and perhaps someone learned something new. If this happened, the thing was a great success.

By now, you're surely aware of the changes to the local Packet BBS. Your Editor has tried the landline circuit, and it works well. You don't even need a TNC to work the Board. If you aren't on Packet but you have a telephone modem, try it out. There are many new things on the BBS, and Barry is still working on more improvements. Thanks, Barry, for all your efforts. The Editor for one, really appreciates it. It makes the job much easier.

Incidentally, we are always looking for grist for the Newsletter mill. If you want to submit something for consideration, our job is much easier if it comes in on Packet. If your word processor allows it, make it without line feed characters at the end of every line, since our software is happier that way. It's OK if they are needed for formatting and for paragraphs, etc. Also, if it's all in capital letters, we have to change to upper and lower case. Our software isn't too smart about that, so please stay away from all capitals if possible. We can make no promises that everything received will make it to print, but everything is looked at; and that is a promise.

The bottom of the page approaches, and that means time to finish the thing up for the month. Now to finish getting the HF rig unpacked and hooked up, then to repair the 40-meter doublet. After that, W6HBU should be back in business for the fall and winter.

Membership Application - New Student American Radio Club

Type: New Renewal
Member Information: Full Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Occupation: _____
Education: _____
Employer: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Sex: _____
Blood Type: _____
Emergency Contact: Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Send to: Yuba River American Radio Club
P.O. Box 1109
Yuba City, CA 99902

YUBA RIVER
AMERICAN RADIO CLUB
P.O. Box 1109
Yuba City, CA 99902

Membership application: Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Type: New Renewal

Member Information: (Full Voting Rights and Privileges)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

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

Callsign: _____ License Class: _____

Associate Family Member (Living in Same Household Only) ARRL Member? (Y/N) _____

Name: _____ Callsign: _____ License Class: _____

Dues: \$ _____ (18.00 per year)

Associate dues: \$ _____ (4.00 per year)

Total:

Mail to: Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1169
Yuba City, CA. 95992

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**YUBA SUTTER
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**
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P.O. Box 1169
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HUGH MACDONALD
N7DKM
220 1/2 HAZEL STREET
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