

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, 1995

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NEXT CLUB MEETING

The January club meeting will occur on January 10 at the Yuba City Police Facility on Poole Boulevard. Time is 7:30 PM. Barry, KE6LW, is scheduled to discuss Emergency Preparedness. There will be discussion of upcoming club events. Also, there will be a most unusual exhibit of one of the early cornerstones of ARRL and Amateur Radio. DON'T MISS IT!!

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The first Board meeting of 1995 will take place at the Yuba City Police Facility on Poole Boulevard in Yuba City. The Date is January 25, and time is 7:00 PM. Upcoming club events will be the subject and as much as possible, the year will be laid out and planned. As always, you are welcome to attend.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Paul Johnson, N6XVL
Vice President: Wade Fiske, KN6WX
Secretary: Randy, Smith, KC6MUS
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Russ Decker, KB6YAF
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI
Tom Galbreath, KB6WID
Hugh MacDonald, N7OKM
Dave McElyea, KE6HRO

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, December 28, 1994

Attending:

Paul, N6XVL
Hugh, N7OKM
Tom, KB6WID
Lee, KC6MCI
Clara, KC6JPP
Herb, W6HBU
Dave, KE6HRO
Nate, KD6HNR
Randy, KC6MUS

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Treasurers report: \$715.42

Old Business:

Hugh, N7OKM, is still waiting to hear from Jettie Hill about the local interfer-

ence committee. He hopes to hear from him soon!! P.O.C. Hugh N7OKM. Open

New Business:

The next club breakfast will be the 14th of January. It will feature video of the club Christmas Party by local Vid Wiz Homer, KB6EJ.

There was a discussion about traffic handling and the NTS system. The discussion was tabled till the next board meeting. P.O.C. Paul, N6XVL. Open

The board also discussed plans for meeting topics for the next couple of meetings.

Scheduled are:

January: Barry, KE6LW, will give a talk on emergency communications.
February: Potluck dinner at Lindhurst High School with an equipment show by the Radio Place.

March: A talk on the TCP/IP Packet radio system.

April: This meeting will be a Field Day planning meeting We need a site(s) for FD. We also need operators, Radios, antennas Etc.

May: Picnic meeting at Colgate Power Plant.

June: Final meeting for Field Day

If you have any ideas or want any topics covered at any future meetings, please let your club officers know!! P.O.C. Paul, N6XVL. Open.

Dues need to be paid by the first of February if you want to receive your newsletter without interruption. In other words No Dues, No News!! P.O.C. Clara, KC6JPP. Closed

Herb reported he has not heard any info about Bike Around The Buttes: P.O.C. Herb, W6HBU. Open.

The Bok Kai parade is approaching and there is a need for operators. More info at the next club meeting. Open

Randy, KC6MUS, is making a list of all club-owned property. If you have any club-owned property please contact Randy via packet, the WD6AXM repeater or the KC6MUS repeater and let him know what you have!! P.O.C. Randy, KC6MUS. Open.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM Minutes submitted by Randy KC6MUS

**DON'T MISS
THE CLUB MEETING!!**

This will be a somewhat special meeting this month. Not only will we get some very timely information on Emergency Operation and such, but there will be added attractions.

To further add to the festivities, Roger, W5VKU, will have on exhibit a genuine simulated reproduction of one of the most terrible weapons available to Humanity in the ongoing War on Rotten Ham Operating. Originally conceived in the late 'teens or in the early 1920's, this terrible instrument is guaranteed to correct even the worst operating habits. It is written in the official ARRL Board of Directors minutes that when presented to the Board, every face at the table turned pale with terror when the awful significance of the instrument was contemplated.

Your Editor or one of the other old-timers will be available to answer questions (from a safe distance).

The best part is that Roger has volunteered to donate the device to the club for auction at the February Potluck Dinner. Look in January and come prepared to bid in February. Don't let this bit of history pass you by. Give it a place of honor in your shack for all to see.

CLUB BREAKFAST

Don't forget the Club Breakfast on Saturday, January 14. Same place as usual -- the Legion Hall in Linda. Come and eat too much with us and enjoy some fellowship in the bargain.

We will be entertained by two renowned artists who are hip on the deep dark musty secrets of the preservation of current events. Homer, KB6EJ, and Dave, KE6HRO, have plans to regale us with living records of the Christmas Dinner in both Video and Still mediums. Come see if Homer or Dave caught you with your mouth open.

Good food, good price, good people. You can't beat it.

DUES ARE DUE

Like it says in the Board minutes, Dues are due again. If Clara doesn't have your dollars in hand by February 1, you will be out in the cold. The club needs you. Don't let the new Officers and Board down.

If you have already renewed, many thanks. Clara, our banker and the Post Office appreciate it.

**ODDS AND ENDS
BITS AND PIECES**

The potluck dinner is in February. Be sure to put it on your calendar. Added Attractions this year.

The April meeting will be the start of planning for Field Day in June. Yeah, it's early, but there is much to be done. Paul needs "Pushers" for both sites if we are to run them. Dave, KE6HRO, says he will help with upper site, but he's a new Ham and will need a seasoned helper to keep him on the path leading to a high score.

KE6LW-1 is up on landline at 9600 Baud. Sure beats the radio link when you need to handle a large file like the newsletter. Maybe we shouldn't spread

the word, since it's been relatively quiet there recently. Anyway, if you have a modem and the terminal software give it a try for something different.

Between illness, procrastination and the New Year Holiday, it looks like the Newsletter may be a day late again. No apologies, no excuses. I guess we were born to be lazy. Now there are really no excuses. Pip opens for business January 3, your Editor seems to be getting better by the day and we have beat the computer into submission for the time being. Full steam ahead and away we go!

**QST NOW AVAILABLE
AT SUTTER COUNTY LIBRARY**

QST magazine will be available beginning in February at the Sutter County Library. Ron, WB5FIX, advises that back issues will be available for checkout.

If you're not a member of ARRL, this is your opportunity to see what's going on in the world of Ham Radio. ARRL has done more to advance the cause of the hobby than any one entity around. Presently, there is a group working on restrictive antenna ordinances, and several cities have lost cases in court as a result of the ARRL attorneys' effort. In many cases, this makes the difference between operating a station or shutting down and quitting the hobby. The same is true of various types of interference cases allegedly involving Amateur operators. ARRL represents us before the FCC, and while you can't win 'em all, we win more than we lose.

You might think about this the next time you punch the button on that rig to talk to your friend on the air. Like so many things taken for granted, you are reaping the benefits of a lot of work by a lot of people.

Thanks, Ron, for making the magazine available.

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Citrus Heights, CA 95610
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(916) 723-7368

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EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

It's now 1995, and everyone is talking about the new year and all the resolutions and the political revolution in Washington. I guess we may as well follow the trend and do some talking about the good, the bad, and the ugly of last year and this new coming year. Only thing is, we are fresh out of ideas; though thanks to two of our local members, we have been thinking about people, takers and givers, and "doing your share".

The members are Roger, W5VKU, who obtained the tool to correct "Rot-ten Operating" and Ron, WBSFIX, who made QST magazine available at the local library.

Roger reminded me that all too often we are lax in educating the new member of the hobby to the fact that there is more to it than buying an expensive hand-held transceiver with a rubber duck antenna and calling that your AMATEUR RADIO STATION. Far too few of us are ready to point out what that person is missing. How many times will he or she listen with headphones clamped on tired ears to the elusive weak signals on the HF bands in the middle of the night? Will that person ever know the indescribable thrill of using the "Q" signals on CW to talk to a person in another land half-way around the world who speaks another language? And this using a pile of radio parts scattered around the table connected by various wires and clip leads to make a simple low powered transmitter.

Will that person ever know the story of the "Terrible Instrument" presented to

the ARRL Board of Directors somewhere around 1920?? An instrument that still lives in the history and lore of the Amateur Radio hobby. How about the story behind the present makeup of the Amateur bands? All these things didn't "just happen". Many people over most of a century have worked together to arrive at what we today take for granted and, yes, gripe about at times when things don't happen just as we think they should. Perhaps "The History of Amateur Radio" should be required reading before admission to the exam room for the license test.

The other thing that got me to thinking (Yeah Ed, it's me, not we, today), was Ron's action to make the magazine available at the library. This is not some huge endowment to the hobby or some great effort on behalf of "challenged newcomers". It does involve some bucks, but the real significance in the eyes of this Editor is in the thought behind the act. The thought indicates a real concern for the hobby and the people that make it up. There is also concern for the direction in which the hobby is going and a willingness to stand up and be counted as one who really cares about things.

The question for 1995 might be, "What will YOU do this year to deserve the privilege (And it is a privilege, not a right!), of punching the button on that whiz bang latest bell and whistle-equipped handheld to talk to your friend across town or in the next County?"

Will you show up at a meeting, even if you disagree with the officers? Will you donate a little time to raise some extra money to make sure the club will still exist in 1996? Will you scrounge around

in your attic or garage for junk for the sale if we have a yard sale? Better yet, will you volunteer to be one of Paul's "Pushers" when he needs help? Will you put up an outside antenna to get a better signal into the repeater to make your signal easier for the other guy to read?

So do your part. Go buy a copy of "200 Meters and Down" by Clinton DeSoto, which contains a portion of the history of Amateur Radio, and read it. It should be available at the Radio Place. If not, they can order it. It might even be available at the February presentation at the Potluck. Be a Net Control Station once in a while. When Paul points his finger, don't edge toward the door. Talk to Lee, KC6MCI, or any of the people who have built simple little 2-meter antennas. It's not as difficult as you may think, and the reward is great. Acquire an HF rig. If you're a codeless tech., then darn it, upgrade. Give it a shot. Remember, you must be at least as smart as the elementary school kids who have done it. There is a bumper sticker by the American Lamb Producers Association out there in the world that I've always enjoyed. It proudly proclaims "Eat American Lamb. 100,000 Coyotes can't be wrong!" The parallel is "Upgrade! 500,000 General Class and above Licensees can't be wrong!"

We owe a large hurrah to the people who made possible the Christmas festivities. I'll never get them all, but for sure the MacDonalds and the Ansleys deserve our thanks and appreciation. Paul gets a pat on the back for getting the space, and all the other work he did or got done. The prizes were great, and the ornament exchange was a fine idea. Mrs. W6HBU is most happy with hers.

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. 95991

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**YUBA SUTTER
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

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