

VALLEY HAM NEWS

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

P.O. Box 1169
Yuba City, California 95992
December 1998

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NEXT MEETING

The next combined Club and Board meeting will be the annual Christmas dinner on December 8 at 6:00PM. Location is the Legion Hall at 5477 Riverside Boulevard in Linda. By the time you read this, you should have already been registered for this fine event. Board business will be minimal, and will cover handing over duties to the new Officers and Board members for the next year. There will also be a request for more Board members. We are still in need of at least two more people on the Board. We hope to see each of you there.

MINUTES OF BOARD AND GENERAL MEETING

November 10, 1998

PRESENT: President: Ron Murdock - W6KJ,
Treasurer: Clara Ansley - KC6JPP.

Board Members: Herb Puckett - W6HBU,
Bill McJunkin - N6FAB.

Members: Mertis Oliver - KC6PFT, Al
Robinson - KE6BLK, Ernest Royat - KB6VHW,
Walter Kelley - K6CPI, Grace Kelley - KB2CIQ.

Guests: Tom Pea - KB6YAD and Art
Nelson.

The Board and General meeting began at Jerry's Restaurant, but due to their over booking we were invited to the home of Herb W6HBU. The meeting was called to order at 7:30p.m.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Ron Murdock, W6KJ
Vice President: Barry Barnes, KE6LW
Secretary: Jean Knox, KF6EIN
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Russell Decker, KB6YAF Bill McJunkin, N6FAB
John Ellison, KE6ZIM Thomas Robinson, N6PGK
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

We had self introduction. Secretary Jean Knox was absent due to the illness of her husband Gary. Minutes were taken by Treasurer Clara Ansley.

Treasurer Clara gave her report.
Balance 10-14: \$3,241.94. Receipts: \$61.00 Total:
\$3,302.94. Disbursements: \$366.99.
Checking Balance: \$2,935.95; less Repeater Balance
of \$504 and VE Balance of \$238.61, leaving a Club
Balance of \$2,193.34.

The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Herb Puckett, W6HBU, reported that we have too large a balance in the VE account, according to ARRL. He stated he had expenses of \$60.17 at the last VE session, and that he had sent all of the money he had collected to ARRL. Two gentlemen were tested; one is now a No-Code Tech and the other passed the written portion of the

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General. They were given a copy of our Newsletter, and a listing of ARRL catalogs.

OLD BUSINESS: President Ron stated that we may be holding our meetings at The Mall by March. Ernest Royat, KB6VHW, stated he had yet to hear from P.G.&E. about the use of their facility. It was mention that we should check into the possibility of using a facility of Sutter County Public Works. This possibility will be investigated.

Herb, W6HBU, stated that we may be able to use the church facility again for our Saturday VE session in May. It was agreed that we would give the church a donation for their youth activities as our thanks for using their facility recently.

We need to line up a place to hold our January meeting..

NEW BUSINESS: Our volunteers as officers for 1999 are: President: Herb Puckett - W6HBU, V.President: Barry Barnes - KE6LW, Secretary: Jean Knox - KF6EIN, Treasurer: Clara Ansley KC6JPP. Board Members: Bill McJunkin - N6FAB, Ernest Royat - KB6VHW, Russ Decker - KB6YAF. Being no other volunteers to serve on the Board, a motion was made by Clara Ansley, seconded by Herb Puckett that we accept these three members as Board members. Motion passed.

If an adequate place can be obtained for our January meeting Herb, W6HBU, will present a program on the workings of a traffic light.

President Ron, W6KJ, stated that Tom Galbreath, KB6WID, had resigned as ARRL Emergency Coodinator for Sutter County. We need volunteers to take the positions in Sutter and Yuba counties. President Ron stated that he would be willing to do it, but someone would have to take over the ARRL Bulletin responsibilities.

Treasurer Clara stated there needs to be a list of the club's equipment, its model and serial numbers and where it is located.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

Editor's note: I received the following from Lee, KC6MCI. I agree that it is well worth publishing.

Hello Herb,

Maybe you can find a place in the Newsletter for this:

Just a note of recognition to Chuck Turner (KC6ARU), of "Turner Radio Communications", who happens to have an ad in the club newsletter.

I recently had some repairs done to my Kenwood 940s by Chuck and the radio is now working superbly. He realigned the rig, cleaned and resoldered the circuit boards and replaced some lights that were burned out.

I would like to recommend him to anyone that is in need of radio repair work.

Thanks, Chuck.

Lee (KC6MCI)

THE PREZ SEZ

Is this the last one of these? I can't remember. Maybe next month.

I go back to work tomorrow. I haven't taken this much time off since I "retired." Over a month ago I said a fond farewell to my long term class, a fifth grade at Lincrest School in Yuba City, and started the big clean out and patch/paint up in the ham shack. I am no longer reticent about showing it off or having visitors. We have a long way to go, that room and I, and at least I can enjoy it again. It still needs curtains, (on order) and junk still needs to be thrown out, but the worst is over.

We didn't need to throw out any board members or officers. Our club could still use your services if you are interested in serving as a board member.

We do need to form a committee for the swap meet. It is the 2nd Saturday in March. If you can serve a few hours as parking director or hot dog cooker, etc., let us know. The only way we can do this is by having a group effort.

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My Christmas shopping is underway, and I am trying to figure out what a ham would like for under \$5.00. That is the thing we do each year at the club party--you bring something you would like and then give it to another ham, or YL, as the case may be. It is a neat tradition.

Hope to see you all at the Christmas party, 2nd Tuesday in December, at the American Legion Post in Linda, at 6 p.m.

73,

Ron, W6KJ

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

Wind - rain - cold - grey days. Winter is here for sure. W6HBU has not yet lost an antenna, but I just picked up a piece of the patio roofing paper in the back yard. Hmmmmm -- looks like the roofer will be getting a call.

Tom, KB6YAD, built and put up a 2-meter halo antenna for me, and the results on 2-meter SSB are amazing. It's a whole new world out there. There are lots of people on SSB, and the distances covered are really encouraging for the guy working simplex. Last night I heard a station in Fallon, Nevada. I couldn't copy the signal, but it was readily apparent that there was a signal there. It would take only a modest beam and he would be copyable. My thanks to Tom for the antenna, and the later assistance in getting the feedline into the shack. The XYL is happy (no coax dangling out the window), the OM is happy with a new antenna and we are now on a new mode at W6HBU. Now for some time to use the capability.

With winter comes the Christmas season, and all the things associated with that holiday. In the case of the Club, we will partake of the goodies and eat too much on December 8 at the Club Potluck. Please cross Clara's palm with dollars if you have not already done so. We need you there. The XYL and I look forward to seeing you.

By now if you read last month's newsletter, you know that I am not only your Editor, but also

the President-elect. In addition, yours truly will be running most of the VE sessions. I also opened my big mouth and agreed to be an instructor for a class for upcoming Novices and Techs. The head examiner can find no abnormalities, but there surely must be something wrong there.

What this is leading up to, of course, is that one person can't do it all. I have several ideas floating around in my head, and they will be aired at the January meeting.

Concerning meetings --- the only thing remaining is the School Administration Office signature to assure a meeting place ON PAPER for 1999. Location will be the King Avenue School Multi-Purpose Room in Yuba City. Enter from Clark Avenue just south of King Avenue (Yeah, I know, but the exit is on King Avenue, so I guess that makes it OK.). We have the location free of charge for the whole year until 8:30PM except the months we will have other functions such as the Swap Meet or Field Day. If we go to 9:00PM, there will be a charge for custodian overtime - about \$7.50. Possibly a down side --- it's a new night. Second Thursday of the month. Both Tuesday and Wednesday were taken. Monday conflicts with Monday night football in season, and Friday is bad for many reasons, since it's the start of the weekend. After bouncing around and having so many changes in meeting nights and places, maybe we can finally say something that will hold. The Principal at King Avenue School has signed the application, and she says "Put it in the bulletin. It's a done deal." Of course, the school is a no-smoking zone; and I forgot to ask about outside the building on the school grounds. Besides, smoking's getting so expensive a person could buy a new rig for what smoking would cost. Wow --- between the taxes and price increases, it makes quitting a very attractive move.

By the way, I am thinking of making up some code practice tapes for use by whomever may want to learn or upgrade their code speed. If you're interested, please let me know what speed you are interested in. It'll be nothing fancy, probably five-element coded groups and plain text. We have

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dubbing capabilities now, so there could be several copies made as needed. I had thought of using 2 meters to run several sessions, but the tapes should give the student the capability to do things at his or her own pace and at a time that fits his or her schedule. It would seem that with the upcoming restructuring of the Amateur Service, the person who upgrades now will only improve his or her chances for more privileges later. ARRL is insisting that no one will lose privileges if they (ARRL) have anything to say about it. They learned that lesson with "Incentive Licensing" some years back. Your editor lost a lot of privileges in that fiasco, and I still get a little steamed when I think about it.

RESTRUCTURING

We are indebted to Brad Wyatt, K6WR, for the following information. Brad is our Pacific Division ARRL Director. Brad sent me enough to fill more than a whole issue of the Newsletter. Unfortunately, the deadline for comment to FCC was December 1.

However, the following World Wide Web Sites may be of interest to those of you with Internet capability and an interest in what's happening concerning your Ham license:

A complete copy of the "Notice of Proposed Rule-Making" from FCC, ARRL Headquarters, <<http://www.arrl.org>> Pacific Division web page, <<http://www.pdarrrl.org>>. The FCC NPRM can also be downloaded from the FCC Web site in Word Perfect 5.1 and text versions at, <<http://www.fcc.gov/bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1998/fcc98183.wp>> and <<http://www.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Wireless/Notices/1998/fcc98183.txt>>.

Thanks, Rod. By the way, you can get some additional information from QST if you're an ARRL member and are not on the 'Net. (Are there really people nowadays who are not on the Internet?)

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Amateur Call #KC6ARU
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Quad A's Electronic Supply

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

Samuel E. Ansell
WA6POM

AMATEUR • CB • SCANNERS • SHORTWAVE
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SACRAMENTO, CA 95824
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Biscuits and Gravy

Well, it's happened again. Space and material didn't come out even. The Newsletter was finished, spell-checked and proofed by the XYL and put to bed for the month.

Good Heavens!!! I forgot to include the "Coming Events" box! I'd let it go, but there was a blank page this month, and there had been a few comments about the events thing, so it had to be included.

Since your rotund Editor is a biscuits and gravy man, this month it's not biscuits and honey but biscuits and gravy. In a sense biscuits and gravy are easier to handle, since one can always spoon up the extra gravy or eat the extra biscuit by itself. Honey doesn't really lend itself to such actions.

I once saw a posting on one of the local Internet sites where a newcomer asked for information on a good gourmet restaurant for a night out dining in Yuba City or Marysville. The answers for the most part ran along the lines of "This is a Biscuits and Gravy town; you won't find a gourmet restaurant on either side of the river." I guess that's probably true. I admit to liking a well prepared biscuits and gravy main course, and I'm not sure that I'd recognize a gourmet restaurant if I saw one.

I've always felt somewhat out of place in an establishment where they required a jacket and tie of their customers. I can think of lots of places within less than half an hour's drive of my home where the bill of fare is not fancy or high-priced, but the food is good and there is plenty of it for a fair price. I must confess that not all of them serve biscuits and gravy, and some that do won't put the good ones out of business. Also, you're always welcome and your money is good even if you are in a work shirt and jeans. 'Course, it's always appreciated if the shirt and jeans have seen a washing machine recently.

Well, there it is. More than a column on the subject of biscuits and gravy in a publication supposedly devoted to the finer points of Amateur

Radio. I guess it just goes to show it takes all kinds and the hobby attracts people from all walks of life.

Merry Christmas, everyone; and have a happy, safe and productive New Year. Take care; each of you is needed and appreciated.

COMING EVENTS

December 8: Club Meeting/Christmas Potluck

December 12-13: ARRL 10-Meter Contest,
see November QST for details.

December 25: Merry Christmas

December 27: RAC Winter Contest,
Sponsored by Radio Amateurs of
Canada. Details in December QST.

December 31: ARRL Straight Key Night, see
December QST for rules. No bugs,
no keyers.

January 1: Happy New Year!!

January 2-3: ARRL RTTY Roundup,
see December QST for details

January 12: VE Session

January 12: Club/Board Meeting. King
Avenue School, Yuba City

January 23-25: ARRL VHF Contest, see
December QST for times and rules

February 9: Club meeting/ Potluck

February 20-21: ARRL International DX
Contest, CW. See December QST for
details. Here's your chance to work
some new countries.

March 6-7: ARRL International DX Contest,
Phone

March 9: VE Session

March 13: Swap Meet

April 8: Club Meeting

May 1: VE Session 9:00AM

May 13: Club Meeting

There are always a lot of Special Events going on. Check the "Special Events" section of QST for details. Same goes for Contests.

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) _____

Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Associate Family Member (Living in the same Household only) ARRL Member? (Y/N) _____

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____ License Class: _____

Dues: \$ _____ (\$18.00 per year)

Associate dues: \$ _____ (\$4.00 per year)

Total: _____

Signature: _____

Mail to: Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club
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