

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
April 2000

Edited by Herb Puckett, W6HBU
712 King Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991
Telephone 530-674-3648
Internet: <http://www.syx.com/hpuckett>
E-Mail: hpuckett@syx.com
Packet: W6HBU @ KE6LW-1

NEXT CLUB MEETING AND POTLUCK DINNER

The next regular club meeting will be the May 9 Potluck dinner.

Location will be the Cafeteria at Lindhurst High School in Olivehurst. Be there at 6:00PM, and we start eating at 6:30PM. The club will provide the coffee, sodas and dinner rolls. Bring your own table service and a favorite dish to share.

As this is written, the topic of the evening (other than eating) is undetermined. As more details come from the Board meetings, they will appear here.

Stay tuned for further information.

(Last month's Newsletter was in error. It's in May, not June. Nobody said a thing about it.)

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Curtis Sylvester Jose, KF6VFP
Vice President: Russ Decker, KB6YAF
Secretary: Jean Knox, KF6EIN
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Art Nelson, KF6UEV Bill McJunken, N6FAB
Herb Puckett, W6HBU Ernest Royat, KB6VHW
Lee Sheffield, KC6MCI Dennis Hively, KD6DFY

REPEATER LICENSE TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board Meeting will occur after the April 22 VE Filing Session. Location will be the home of W6HBU at 712 King Avenue in Yuba City. Time will be between 11:00AM and 12:00 noon.

The coffee pot will be on.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2000

The meeting was called to order by President Curtis Sylvester-Jose' KF6VFP at 8:30 AM, at the American Legion Hall in Linda. The meeting was held after breakfast, during the swap meet. Other officers present: Clara Ansley-KC6JPP and Jean Knox-KF6EIN. Board members present: Art Nelson-KF6UEV, Herb Puckett-W6HBU and Bill McJunken-N6FAB.

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The minutes of the last meeting were approved. The financial report was given by Clara. Checking account balance Jan. 22, 2000 \$2,981.91. Deposits \$690.70. Disbursements \$694.48. Repeater balance \$592.00. VE balance \$51.27. March 11, 2000 Club balance \$2,334.86.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Info on "Bike Around the Buttes" will be given at a later date.
2. We will have a VE session on April 8 at the same location as usual.
3. The "MS Walk" on April 9 will start at 8:00 AM.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. The paper filing session will be held at the church on April 22. Pre-registration is required.
2. Herb is changing his web server. We need to set up a new club site. Herb will be administrator and needs 1 or 2 people to help. These people will be subject to Herb's approval.
3. The next Board meeting will be held after the filing session on April 22.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Knox, KF6EIN, Secretary

NEXT VE SESSION

The next examination session is scheduled for Saturday, April 8, at the Evangelical Free Church in Yuba City. The church is located on the corner of Clark Avenue and King Avenue. You can enter the parking lot from either Clark or King, though the church address is 700 Washington Avenue. Washington Avenue is one block north of King Avenue.

Testing and sign-up will start at 9:00AM. We would appreciate pre-registration, but walk-ins **AS SPACE AND TIME PERMIT** will be accepted

until 10:00AM. Pre-registrants will be tested first, then walk-ins. The sessions generally last slightly more than two hours.

As we have said before, bring a photo ID or two other types of ID, the original and a copy of your license and/or CSCE if applicable, a completed NCVEC Quick-Form 605 and the fee of \$6.65. Checks should be made out to YSARC or Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club.

Forms and other information can be had from Ed or Clara Ansley at 530-742-2674, or from Herb at 530-674-3648.

EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS

It seems that this month the weather man (or is she a woman?) has been relatively consistent with Spring-like weather most of the time.

Of course, this results in thoughts of the mountains and the lazy days of summer for your Editor. We have checked one location for the trailer that is presently not in the "snow belt", and you may hear W6HBU on the repeater from out of town shortly.

The highlight of your Editor's life for the last few days has been the major crash of the computer and the resulting frustration, anger and anguish of the reformat and re-install of all the software. The problem was of our own making, which makes it even more maddening. Then we tried to take a shortcut to re-installation of one or two programs, and that caused more problems. Several conversations with Tech Support and many cups of coffee later, we appear to have a working installation again. The radios have been turned off while this has gone on, because I value my license, and any conversation at times would have resulted in VERY inappropriate language. Anyway, things are almost back to normal here, and maybe the radios can be turned back on.

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As mentioned in the Board Meeting minutes, (you do read them don't you?) I will be changing my Internet Service Provider in the near future. This will result in changes to my E-Mail address and loss of Web Page space for the club on my personal site. When the new address and such are available, the information will be published here.

Another result is that the Board approved the expenditure for a Club presence on JPS.NET. Yeah, I know you can get it free elsewhere, but I felt that in the long run, this was the right move, and the Board agreed.

The club will have an E-Mail address of its own, and the present club information now on my Web site will be moved to the club site on jps.net. Detailed information will be published here next month and on the Monday night net as it becomes available.

As for club doings, don't forget the VE Session on April 8, Bike Around the Buttes on April 15 and the Filing Session and Board meeting on April 22. I don't see a club breakfast on the calendar for April. Three Saturdays in a row seemed to be enough!! If you're interested in a breakfast on April 1 or April 29, maybe something can be worked up on a non-club basis. I understand this has happened, and it was well attended.

We have nothing new as this is written concerning Bike Around the Buttes. The Diabetes Society seems to be very quiet about it recently. We are still looking for people to work the event, especially as standby and lunch relief. See the article in this issue.

The club will need a substitute Editor for several issues this summer (not sure yet just when), and it looks like your Editor will be in Oregon the weekend of the July VE Session. We will need a fill-in VE Liaison person for that session and possibly the one in September (back in Oregon

again). Please think about volunteering if you will be an Extra Class VE by then. We should have quite a few new Extras after April 22.

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E-Mail kc6aru@cwo.com

ROSTER CORRECTIONS

The following corrections should be made to the roster:

Paul Mellinger, NI6P; change E-Mail to ni6p@jps.net, Phone, 530-889-9012.

Randy smith, KC6MUS; change address to 1491 Bridge Street #86, Yuba City 95993, Phone, 530-674-3732.

Tom Green, K6AJS; change license class to General, Phone 916-457-2720.

Rick Williams, KF6LOW; change license class to General.

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Daniel Conklin, KF6JQH; change call to KR6BE.

Don Coons, KF6CTJ; add license class, Extra.

Judy Coons, KF6FGD; add license class, Tech.

Lance Miller, KC6FLB; change address to 3929
Yard Street, Oroville, CA 95966.

Add members:

Robert L. Cross, K6EPH
2225 Colusa Highway
Yuba City, CA 95993-8900
Advanced Class license (Extra after 4-22-00)
Phone 530-671-0228
ARRL member (Life)
E-Mail, rlcross@jps.net

James Mensor, KD6NID
P. O. Box 6276
Oroville, CA 95966-6276

Donald Fair, KB6RHJ
2291 Mage Avenue
Marysville, CA 95901
Technician Class license

Donald DeRee, KF6RNF
P. O. Box 535
Gridley, CA 95948
General Class license
Phone 530-846-6929

Donald Johnson, W6AQ
P. O. Box 595
Esparto, CA 95627-0595
Advanced Class license (Extra After 4-15)

Dorothy Clark
P. O. Box 296
Oregon House, CA 95962
XYL of KO6GR

FILING SESSION SET FOR APRIL 22

There will be a special "Filing Session" on Saturday, April 22, at the Evangelical Free Church in Yuba City. For location, etc. see the article on the April 8 Test Session.

This will be an upgrade session for those who have CSCE's from previous exams, and those who are eligible for upgrade under the new regulations after April 15.

MORE INFORMATION (CONFUSION?) CONCERNING UPGRADES

If you held a Technician license before March 21, 1987, and can furnish documentary proof of that license or if you have a CSCE for Technician dated before March 21, 1987, you will be able to upgrade to General after April 15.

If you ever held a Novice license, you will be able to claim credit for the 5 WPM (New Element 1) under the new regulations. The regulation will state: "An expired or unexpired FCC-granted Novice Class operator license grant: Element 1."

The devil is in the "Documentary Proof" of the old or expired license. Of course if you have the original license you're home free. If you have the CSCE for the test, that will be acceptable. If you have neither of these, a listing in the Amateur Callbook showing you held the license will be acceptable. If the date is not on the page of your listing, you will need a copy also of the cover of that issue of the Callbook. If you go the Callbook route, bring the original Callbook with you to the session. It will be returned to you.

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You can also request verification of your license from FCC at:

1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
ATTN: Amateur Section.

The request must include name, address, telephone number, date of birth, call issued at that time, and when the Technician license was granted (if exact date is not known, give the approximate timeframe). The FCC asks that you include *any* information that may be helpful in researching these requests, but it does not need to know the details of the exam session, such as who gave it, or where it was located.

The FCC points out that these requests have to be researched on Micro Fiche, and it's very time-consuming. You will not get an answer overnight.

The FCC search is free, but there is another source that will do the same thing, perhaps faster, for a fee. Contact ITS Inc. at 717-337-1433 by phone and place an order for "verification of a pre-March 21, 1987, amateur license." They don't recommend E-Mail requests. I've heard that the fee is in the \$20 to \$30 range. Their web site is <http://www.itsdocl.com/>.

All this information and more is available on the ARRL Web site at <http://www.arrl.org/>. If you have internet capability, by all means check out this site for the latest information. The restructuring thing is complicated at best, and incomprehensible most of the time when it comes to this area of the upgrade arena.

THE PREZ SEZ

Well, the new FCC changes are almost upon us. For those who are tech, tech+, general or advanced license holders, April 8 is the next testing

session. Then on April 22, come to the filing session and get your license upgraded. We're looking forward to a whole slew of new and upgraded licenses.

Monday night net needs NET CONTROLLERS. Please, PLEASE, volunteer to act as net control. Currently we are using the same 5 -7 people over and over again. They're going to grow tired of this after a while. We need some new blood to liven things up and spread the wealth. If you wish to volunteer contact me at (530) 743 3003 or contact any board member. You can also contact me via email at curtsj@yuba.net.

Until next month this is KF6VFP signing clear and returning the newsletter to Herb, your editor.

Curt

BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES

The 100-mile route has now been finalized. It involves a crossing of Highway 20, but the organizers feel this is the best of the alternatives available. They feel that the bypass will probably be unusable, so they went for the alternate route.

Maps will be printed and available the week of March 20

We still need several more volunteers. Please contact your Editor, Russ, KB6YAF or Robby, N6PGK, if you can help.

MS WALK

The MS Walk will occur on April 9 this year. Talk to Clara, KC6JPP, if you can help. She still needs several volunteers as this is written. It's not a lengthy event, usually over by 12:00 Noon.