

# THE VALLEY HAM NEWS

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

**June 2008  
Edition**

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## CLUB OFFICERS

President: Steve Sweetman, K6YCS  
Vice President: Vacant  
Secretary: Manna Whelchel, KG6PNE  
Treasurer: Clara Ansley, KC6JPP

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Herb Puckett, W6HBU  
Russ Decker, KB6YAF  
Pat Fulmer, KI6ZX  
Bob McClard, N6BOB  
Barry Barnes, KE6LW

## REPEATER TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

<b>June</b>	<b>14 Saturday</b>	<b>Special Exam Session 9:00 AM at Cornerstone Evangelical Church</b>
	14 Saturday	Club Breakfast-Lunch at Hometown Buffet 11:00 AM-11:30 AM
	18 Wednesday	Board Meeting at Location TBA. Check the Monday night net prior to the meeting.
	28-29 Saturday-Sunday	Field Day See Leo, K7PPM to sign up
<b>July</b>	12 Saturday	Exam Session 9:00 AM at the Cornerstone Evangelical Church in Yuba City

YSARC Board and Officers are on Vacation in July. No Board Meeting, No Club Meeting. No Newsletter. Have a good vacation.

**August** Board and Officers still on Vacation. See you in September.

**September** 6 Saturday Multi-club Hamfest/Exam Session in Lincoln. More information and details later.  
 13 Saturday Antenna Saturday 9:00 AM Location TBA  
 17 Wednesday Board Meeting at 7:00 PM at N6BOB QTH

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Monday nights at 7:00 p.m. - Weekly net with swap shop and help sessions on the local repeater (146.085 Plus-PL=127.3).  
 Monday nights at 8:00 p.m. - Butte County ARES net on Chico repeater (146.850 minus-PL=110.0).  
 Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM - YSARES Net on the local repeater.  
 Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. - Coffee and donuts get together. Location varies. Check on the Monday night net.  
 Second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM - the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Net on the local repeater.

**YSARC BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 21, 2008**  
 Marysville Masonic Lodge

The monthly Board Meeting was brought to order about 7:15 PM.

**Officers in attendance:** Steve Sweetman, President K6YCS; Clara Ansley, Treasurer KC6JPP; Manna Whelchel, Secretary KG6PNE.

The Vice President has resigned and that position is now open. Former Vice President Don Fair, K6HE was in attendance.

**Board Members in attendance:** Herb Puckett W6HBU; Pat Fulmer KI6ZX; Bob McClard N6BOB; and Barry Barnes KE6LW.

Absent: Russ Decker KB6YAF  
 Teeje Jamison NE1CQ, Webmaster for the YSARC was in attendance tonite.

Our Repeater Trustee Dave Gartner WD6AXM, was in attendance tonite.

Section Manager Ron Murdock W6KJ, was in attendance tonite.

The following guests were in attendance:

David Wainer WA1NER  
 Steve Harding KT6Z

Vicki Ball	KI6TNT
Steve O'Toole	N6HTV
Shirley Wainer	
Don Fair	K6HE
Charles A Orgovan	KF6YKQ
Anna Horn-Orgovan	KG6ZOA
Jerry L Willis	N6LAI
Chuck Murphey	KI6IND
Roger Hahn	KI6COM
Teeje Jamison	NE1CQ
Daniel Foat	WA6DAN

The secretary Manna, read the minutes of the last Club meeting which was held on April 16, at Russ Decker's residence. The minutes were approved as read. Barry made the motion for the minutes to stand as read. Dave Gartner seconded the motion. M/S/P.

**Treasurer's Report:** Clara, read and submitted copies of the Treasurer's report. Clara read off the list of volunteers for Bike Around the Buttes to whom mileage reimbursements were going. The reimbursement fee ended up being \$0.25 p/mile. Some have decided to return their reimbursement to the Club for the upcoming eventual costs to support our Repeater.

**Old Business:** There is \$42.00 left over in our Raffle kitty. There is still an opening for a raffle volunteer to head-up the ticket sales which can take place at: 1) the daily 'lunch-bunch' gathering; and/or, 2) the weekly coffee-klatch' gathering. A little dollar here and there would build up our kitty for more prizes !!!!

Chuck Murphey told the club that he had gone to the EMS Appreciation Day in Grass Valley on Tuesday, May 20, that Lee Sheffield was also attending. Chuck related to the club that there was a trailer set aside; there was a helicopter there; fire departments were also represented. The North wind was blowing.

Steve Harding, KT6Z, from the Lincoln ARC, said that the Lincoln group was having a Ham Fest. Said event is planned for Saturday, September 6. There are other amateur radio clubs joining in on it also: North Hills; River City; Sierra Foothills. Steve was inquiring if the YSARC would also be interested in joining the group. It was brought up that the possibility of a VE Session might also be an option. Stu WA6BTK will be doing the publication. The deadline is June 1, 2008. Ron suggested a public service announcement.

Ron also said that the formerly-known-as HSC ham supply store in Sacramento has sold out. However, there has been a name change to HFE, and it is in the same location. Only the merchandise has changed. Sounds like a good thing to check out !

Leo was not in attendance at this meeting to talk about Field Day. He did speak about it pretty well on the Monday Nite Net of 5/19. So, tune in each Monday with any questions you may have.

**New Business:** The YSARC received an invitation from an Oregon ARC to attend a function. The club also received an invitation from the Sutter County Superior Court inquiring as to any volunteers for jury duty.

It was decided that interested parties will get together to decide about the YSARC Web-site stuff and newsletter: volunteers were Steve O'Toole, N6HTV; Bob McClard, N6BOB; TJ Jamison, NE1CQ; Steve

Sweetman, K6YCS; and Dave Gartner, WD6AXM. The date is to be set later.

Steve KT6Z, thanked the YSARC for making available the option to use our repeater for the Tour de Lincoln, if needed.

Don Fair, Vice President of YSARC, has stepped down. The club is looking for a Vice President. No volunteers at this time.

Ron brought up an issue that has in the past also included repeater usage among other things. A lengthy discussion ensued. It was finally decided to leave things as they are now.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:58PM.

The June YSARC Board meeting location is TBA.

Respectfully submitted,  
Manna Whelchel, Secretary, KG6PNE

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### ***FIELD DAY IS NEARLY HERE***

By the time you are reading this article it will be about three weeks until field day. The plans are progressing smoothly and I believe we will have an enjoyable field day again this year.

Mark, K6CSQ, has again volunteered his location at the Sutter County Airport for our field day use. Mark has also volunteered the use of his antenna, generator, office and restrooms. In addition he has volunteered the use of his radio for use at the CW station.

The general plan for the 2008 YSARC Field Day is shaping up like this:

**Information Booth** – will be at the entrance to the event for welcoming visitors and members and providing general information about our field day. The booth will be headed up by David, WAINER

**High Frequency Station** – will be again headed by Steve, K6YCS. He will be using the club tower and HF beam, which is mounted on a trailer. If you have not seen the setup, this is the time to see it in operation. Herb, W6HBU, will be the night time operator and plans on working 75 meter single side band.

**CW Station** – will again be headed by Pat, KI6ZX. He has again graciously agreed to allow us to use his call for the event.

**Get On The Air Station** – will be headed up by Leo, K7PPM.

**Pot Luck** – Will be organized by Tom, KI6BKM. Volunteers are needed to assist in all these operations. I encourage all club members who attend to get on the air and make a few contacts. Volunteers are needed for each station to mentor hams who have little experience on the radio, to provide back-up to the primary operators, and to assist in logging the contacts that are made. We will also need volunteers at the Information Booth to greet people as they arrive, provide information about amateur radio, and direct them to the various activities. If you would like to volunteer for a specific station or function, please contact the person heading up this operation or you can contact me directly.

In addition to volunteers, we will need you all to help with canopies so operators and visitors can enjoy some shade, some tables, chairs, a 75 meter wire antenna, etc. I will be making specific requests for items during the Monday night net. If you are not a frequenter of the Monday night net, you may contact me at [k7ppm@hotmail.com](mailto:k7ppm@hotmail.com) or by phone at 530-742-3486. If you call, please call before 2030 hours (8:30 pm), thanks.

I will be looking forward to hearing from you **and** seeing you during field day.

Leo  
K7PPM

## ***ROSTER CHANGES AND UPDATES***

Additions to Members Rosters:

Adam Brooks KB6VOM E 1635 Royo Ranchero Dr., Yuba City 95993  
530--415-9949 [KB8VOM@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:KB8VOM@HOTMAIL.COM)

Sid Padrick N6OTW G 1737 River Run Dr., Marysville 95901 530-542-6811

Bill Spoto WD6BFR G ARRL 15733 Shannon Way Nevada City 95959  
530-265-5985 [bspoto@pacbell.net](mailto:bspoto@pacbell.net)

Leita Spoto KA6FUP G Address same as Bill's

If you have NOT received a dues card, please send me an e-mail message or land line. Please let me know if anything on your information sheet changes. I need to keep it all up to date. Thanks for your help.  
Clara KC6JPP

E-Mail corrections

Alan Hill, KG6EBL [wahill@wcisp.com](mailto:wahill@wcisp.com)  
Roger Hahn KI6COM [rogerhahn01@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rogerhahn01@sbcglobal.net)

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## ***ODYSSEY***

Continued

The first week of September, 1949, was a momentous week in my life. My brand new Class B license arrived in the mail with the call of W6HBU. I was working long hours hauling baled hay, and there was no time for Amateur Radio. Anyway, I had no transmitter or antenna. The following week or so, there was a lull in the job, and I threw up a 40-meter dipole and started work on a simple CW transmitter. The transmitter was done in a day or so, and the magic moment arrived. I had only one crystal, on 7010 KHz. Testing indicated enough power out to light a small light bulb. There was no way to measure power output. Input was 6.5 watts.

With shaking hands I began answering CQ's on the low end of the band. After several tries, W6VF in San Francisco came back to me. I doubt that he copied much of my sending due to shaking hands. We completed the contact, and I was on my way! Incidentally, I still have the QSL card from that contact. Strangely, I never made contact or heard of him again.

This contact began the sometimes rocky road toward what is today a modern station with bells and whistles unheard of in 1949. Being "rockbound" on one frequency was very discouraging, and resulted in many unsuccessful calls and QRM from the high speed operators in that part of the band. Within a month, I had begun work on a new transmitter with variable frequency control and an output of about 50 watts. It was a constant program of improvement and experience that continues today.

I upgraded to a Class A license which arrived on my birthday on January 23, 1951. I now spent more time on phone than CW, though the key still got lots of use. New home-built transmitters of gradually increasing power continued until about 1970, when I was running about 500 watts and was using a different receiver. I had purchased a Hammarlund HQ-129X that was much better than the old surplus BC-342. At about this time, a family, a wife and three kids and the associated PTA, Scouts, Campfire Girls, and other organizations competed for my time, and Amateur Radio lost. It was to be 15 years before W6HBU was on the air again.

*The odyssey will continue in the September issue.*

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### **EDITOR'S RAMBLINGS**

It has been a trying two weeks at W6HBU. The weather has been anything but summer. We have the trailer parked in an RV park up near Chester, but the temperatures have been cold and there has been wind and rain. One night the minimum was 27 degrees. I don't care to keep running up and back a lot considering the price of gasoline, and I can shiver down here just as well as up there.

I presently plan to go up on Saturday, June 7, and stay perhaps until Thursday of next week. I will have one grand son with me for company. Hopefully, we won't get rained on. This schedule makes it necessary to get the newsletter done and to the printer and TJ before I leave. As this is being written on June 5, I still don't have one piece of important information. That is supposed to be forthcoming later today. I may make it on time yet.

Don't forget the special VE Session on June 14. This is in response to requests for just one more chance for people taking the Extra exam before the present question pool expires. The present pool has something like 400 questions, but the new pool beginning July 1 will have over 700 questions to draw from. The new pool is out, but we don't have the new software to generate the new tests. That is due some time in mid or late June. That's another deadline.

Many thanks and my appreciation to the people, especially Don, K6HE, who ran the last session. We need more people like Don who will take a shot at being the VEC liaison for the test sessions.

Your Editor managed to pull defeat from the jaws of victory once again. I scheduled the special VE Session on the same day and time as the club breakfast. My copy of the year's schedule got buried and I missed the connection. I thought at the time that was the only date available at the church, but they could probably have made adjustments. I understand the breakfast is now a breakfast-lunch scheduled for 11:00-11:30 AM. For more information, check the Monday night net. My thanks and apologies to Steve for the extra trouble.

I am getting a few suggestions and ideas for the newsletter from several of the members. These are welcome and most of them could be fun if I can get them implemented. If you have an idea, please don't be bashful. Just remember if you write something and it gets published, it will be over your name. You write it, you own up to it. I don't have any pictures this month. With Field Day coming up, the next issue should have some good ones. Please send yours to me. They should be just as they come out of the camera with no editing, etc.

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June 2008

YUBA SUTTER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

TREASURER'S REPORT

May, 2008

Updated from report given at Board Meeting -5/21

APRIL CHECKING BALANCE: \$2,768.49

RECEIPTS DEPOSITED:

5/6 DUES: N6OTW - WD6BFR/KA6FUP: \$40, N6OTW  
Donation: \$2 Memorial, N6RA: \$50 new repeater \$ 110.00

5/12 DUES: KB8VOM: \$18-Donation \$1 - VEC: \$70 \$ 89.00

5/22 Donations: New Repeater Fund: KE6LW: \$42.50;  
Clara for members: \$21.70; W6KJ/N6YLO: \$100:  
\$164.20 - Diabetes Society donation for mileage: \$300 \$ 464.20

Total: \$ 663.20

TOTAL: \$3,431.69

BILLS:

1141 PIP: newsletter/roster \$ 31.85

1142 ARRL - VEC \$ 70.00

1143-1149 Milage donation to members:  
K66PNE: \$25; KF6VFP: \$37; KE6ITK: \$25.75; KI6NY:  
\$31; KB6WID: \$34.25; K6DYT: \$28.75 \$ 181.75

Total: \$ 283.60

Checks not written/donated to club: W6HBU: \$21.50 - K6YCS: \$25.50 to New Rptr. Fund.

CHECKING BALANCE: \$3,148.09

LESS: Repeater Fund: \$ 712.80

VE " 131.10

Memorial " 51.89

New Rptr: " \$ 201.20

Total: \$1,096.99 \$1,096.99

CLUB BALANCE: \$2,051.10