

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

Y-S ARC Web Page: <http://www.ysarc.org>
Y-S ARES Web Page: <http://www.ysaes.org>

P.O. Box 1169
Yuba City, California 95992

December 2015

Editors: Curtis R. Sylvester-José, KF6VFP Webmaster: Ted Herman, KN6TED
 Marsha L. Sylvester-José, KI6CSN Chris Price, KD6CP
Telephone: 530-743-3003
E-Mail: Curtis at kf6vfp@arrl.net
 Marsha at ki6csn@arrl.net

CLUB OFFICERS

2015

Pres.: Dave Gipson, KC9EI
Vice Pres.: Ted Herman, KN6TED
Secretary: Jo Anne Murdock, N6YLO
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

2016

Pres.: Chris Price, KD6CP
Vice Pres.: Eleanor Knox, KI6CSO
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2015

Don Elder, KC6PPX
Kathy Burns, N7WVW
Chris Price, KD6CP
Mike Sangria, AG6IP
Bob McClard, N6BOB
Herb Pucket, W6HBU

2016

Ron Murdock, W6KJ
Kathy Burns, N7WVW
Manna Whelcher, KA6ETB
Matthew den Hollandar, AC6MF
Lester Allan, KK6SYV
Herb Pucket, W6HBU

REPEATER TRUSTEE

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

LIAISONS

ARES: Steve Sweetman, K6TAZ
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD
VE Liaison: LeRoy Smith, KJ6DKM

UPCOMING EVENTS

02 Jan – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715
King Ave. Yuba City
04 Jan – 29 Feb, Technician Class,
American Red Cross Classroom 1,
Monday and Wednesday, 6:30-8:30
P.M.
05 Jan – 6:00 P.M. General Club
Meeting
19 Jan – 6:00 P.M. Board Meeting
02 Feb – 6:00 P.M. General Club
Meetingt
16 Feb – 6:00 P.M. Board Meeting
01 Mar – 6:00 P.M. General Club
Meeting
05 Mar – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715
King Ave. Yuba City

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

15 Mar – 6:00 P.M. Board Meeting

Monday nights at 7:00 P.M. – weekly net (146.085+) PL 127.3 with swap shop and help sessions.

Monday nights at 8:00 P.M. – Butte County ARES net, 145.280 MHz – offset, PL 110.9

Tuesday nights at 8:00 P.M. – GEARS Club net, 146.850 MHz – offset, PL 110.9

Thursday nights at 7:00 P.M. – weekly ARES net.

Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. – the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (VHF) Net, on club repeater followed by an HF Net on 3987 KHz LSB.

Other nets (From the GEARS Radiator Newsletter)

Sac Valley Net, 7:00 P.M., 2nd Wed of the month 146.850 MHz – offset, PL 110.9

440 Wed. Night Net, 8:00 P.M. each Wednesday, 440.650 MHz.

Golden Bear Net, 7:00 P.M. daily 3975 kHz.

Willie net, 8:00 P.M. Mondays, 1930 kHz.

CA Traffic Net, 3906 kHz nightly at 6:00 P.M. for traffic listing and 6:30 P.M. for roll call.

Club repeater: 146.085 MHz out, 146.685 MHz in, PL 127.3

year. I owe my gratitude to numerous people for making this such a successful year for the club. When I chose to throw my hat into the ring my only intention was to get more people involved in our great club. Everyone stepped and as a result we have many examples of club successes for which we can/should be rightfully proud.

- Our membership has grown significantly
- Thanks to Curtis we have an excellent training program
- Excellent door prizes from the committee and donors
- The VE program is flourishing. Thank you VE's
- Field day was attended by one of the largest groups in anyone's recollection. Ham radio, food, and entertainment for all.
- A pot luck dinner was held
- Many informative, well attended presentations were held at the public library meeting room.
- And to cap off the year... a Christmas party attended by over 100 people featuring food, friendship, good company and great door prizes. Again a resounding success due primarily to the work and preparations of David Wainer, WA1NER.

It was my hope as president to move us toward more of a technical type club. Perhaps a better balance as a social club as well may have been a better path. The new president will make that decision and I encourage everyone to

PRESIDENTS COMMENTS

Wow! What a year. It has been an honor serving as your president for this

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

support him as well as you have supported me.

ALWAYS remember, we are a club of volunteers serving you with your gratitude as our only payment. I wish to give the board and officers my heartfelt thanks for their support and patience. To vice-president Ted, KN6TED who stepped up and assumed control of the club when work called me away for those months, thank you so much. Well Done!

Please do your part in support of the club in the coming year in whatever manner you can. I promise to do the same.

Dave (KC9EI)

CLUB STORE

The club has the following items available for purchase at cost.

1. Marine grade white RG8X coax, 13 feet. Cost is \$0.41/foot.
2. RG8X Black coax, 320 foot reel. Cost is \$0.41/foot.
3. PL295 coax connectors, 57 each. Cost is \$1.99 each.
4. RG8X reducers, 40 each. Cost is \$0.69 each.
5. Power Pole connectors, 119 red/black pairs. Cost is \$1.00 per pair.
6. 12 gauge red/black wire for power connections, 25 feet. Cost is \$1.00/foot.
7. Coax wrap, 2 rolls. Cost is \$4.00 per roll.
8. LMR 400 coax, 40 feet. Cost is \$0.90/foot.

9. RG8X strain relief boots, 14 each. Cost is \$0.50 each.

If you are interested in purchasing any of these items contact the club store manager, Curtis (KF6VFP) at (530) 743-3003, on the air, or at one of the club meetings.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It is getting to be that time of year again when we remind everyone to renew their membership for 2016. Application form for renewal is available on the club website.

ysarc.org/index.php/join-now.

VE TEST RESULTS

The next VE session will be 2 January at 715 King Ave., Yuba City at 9:00 A.M. VE's are needed to administer the exam. The elements for Technician, General and Extra class will be offered. If you are planning on taking an exam you will need two forms of ID, at least one of them must be a picture ID. A fee of \$15.00 is required. A calculator may also be used as long as it has had all of its memories cleared and there are no built in or preprogrammed formulas.

If you are upgrading to a higher class you need to bring your license and a photocopy of the license.

If you take an exam and pass, you

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

can take the next higher class exam for no additional cost. If you do not pass and wish to try again an additional fee will be required.

Good luck to all who are taking exams.

Christmas Party

YSARC celebrated its annual Christmas party at Home Town Buffet, in Yuba City, on December 9, 2015.

The entire backroom was reserved and packed with members, family, and friends. An estimate of about 100 people enjoyed the holiday activities and good food.

A large variety of prizes were available to the lucky winners. The grand prize for \$1 tickets was a 2-meter YAESU mobile radio. The prize for \$2 tickets was a \$200 dollar HRO gift certificate.

Santa stopped by and passed out candy and good cheer.



Pick a prize.



Dave (KC9EI) gives Santa his wish list.



What a crowd!



Santa passes out goodies.

Marsha (KI6CSN)

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

JUST IN TIME DISASTER TRAINING VIDEOS ¹

The Disaster Resistant Communities Group publishes Just In Time Disaster Training videos, which can be found on their website. Most of their videos are hosted on You Tube. Some of the videos are Interoperable Communications, WINLINK, and Text Messaging During Emergencies. The site lists 221 different videos. The web page to view the videos and a complete listing is at: www.drc-group.com/project/jitt.html.

-
1. From the ARRL The ARES E-Letter for December 16, 2015
-

TECHNICIAN CLASS

The club will again be sponsoring a technician class. Classes will be held at the American Red Cross Center, 2125 East Onstott Frontage Road, Yuba City, Classroom 1. It will be taught from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday evenings from Jan 4th thru Feb 29th.

There is no cost for the classes, however you will need an up-to-date manual. You can obtain a Kindle version from Amazon or order a hard copy (book or spiral bound) thru the instructor.

During the class you will be learning what amateur radio is and is not; radio and signal fundamentals; electricity; components and circuits; propagation; antennas and feed lines; amateur radio equipment; communicating with other

hams; licensing regulations; operating regulations and safety.

The instructors will be Curtis (KF6VFP) and Ron (W6KJ).

Please get the word out to family, friends and anyone you know who is interested in getting their license.

More information can be obtained from Curtis at (530) 743-3003 or KF6VFP@arrl.net (preferred method of contact).

Curtis, K6VFP

PAY FOR LICENSE RENEWAL?

Recently I received a reminder from a company to renew my ham radio license. For a fee, some paperwork to fill out and send back, this company would do it for me. Actually you can do it yourself for free and it takes only a few minutes.

1. Locate your Amateur Radio License FRN (Ten Digit Number) on your current license.
2. Go to the FCC website: <https://www.fcc.gov/>
3. Click on Licensing & Databases
4. On the right-hand side choose the icon, USL (Universal Licensing System)
5. Once on the Universal Licensing System page, choose Online Filing, Log-in. Enter your FRN number and password.

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

--If you do not have a login and password, now is the time to make one!

6. Click on [begin the renewal process](#) highlighted in blue.
7. Update your address information if necessary; click continue.
8. A two-page application for renewal is available to print out.
9. Approval for license renewal will take only a few business days.
10. To print a copy of your new license, login to the FCC website as you did to renew.
11. At the top of your "My License" page locate the sentence, "Change your paper authorization preferences [here](#), or download your official electronic authorizations [now](#)." Click on the word in blue "[now](#)."
12. On the next page find the box titled "Filter by Radio Service" and select your call sign and click the "add" button. Your call sign will appear in the box, "Authorizations to Download."
13. Print your license by clicking on the "download" button on the lower right side of the page.

Marsha (KI6CSN)

TECHNICIAN, GENERAL AND EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL REVIEW

From the Technician Class question pool:

T1F02 When using tactical identifiers such as "Race Headquarters" during a community service net operation, how often must your station transmit the station's FCC-assigned call sign?

- A. Never, the tactical call is sufficient
- B. Once during every hour
- C. At the end of each communication and every ten minutes during a communication
- D. At the end of every transmission

The correct answer is C. While the use of "tactical" call-signs is helpful during events such as Bike Around the Buttes you still have a requirement to meet FCC rules and regulations. Reference FCC Part 97.119 (a).

From the General Class question pool:

G1E05 What types of messages for a third party in another country may be transmitted by an amateur station?

- A. Any message, as long as the amateur operator is not paid
- B. Only messages for other licensed amateurs
- C. Only messages relating to Amateur Radio or remarks of a personal character, or messages relating to emergencies or disaster relief
- D. Any messages, as long as the text of the message is recorded in the station log

The correct answer is C. FCC Part

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

97.115(a)(2) allows for third party messages relating to emergencies or disaster relief provided the foreign government has agreed. FCC Part 97.117 limits transmissions to a different country to messages relating to Amateur Radio or remarks of a personal character.

From the Extra Class question pool:

E2A01 What is the direction of an ascending pass for an amateur satellite?

- A. From west to east
- B. From east to west
- C. From south to north
- D. From north to south

The correct answer is C. A node is the point where a satellite's orbit crosses the equator. The ascending node is where it crosses the equator when the satellite is traveling from south to north. The descending node is where it crosses the equator when the satellite is traveling from north to south.¹

1. ARRL, *Extra Class License Manual*, 9th Edition, page 2-17.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

EDITORS COMMENTS

2015 has been a very busy year for YSARC. A variety of interesting presentations have been held monthly at the Yuba County Library.

A technician license class was held during January and February.

In April, YSARC members participated as communications support for the Bike Around the Buttes event.

The last week of June attracted a large crowd to Field Day at the Sutter County Airport. During this two day event, Ham equipment was set-up making contacts around the country. Good food and comradery made Field Day a great time.

YSARC sponsored six VE sessions in 2015 with many new hams.

A general license class was held in May and June.

November brought the Veteran's Day Parade through downtown Marysville. Thanks to all in YSARC who participated in this event.

Happy New Year to all!
Marsha (KI6CSN)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS NEEDED

We need volunteers to step forward and act as committee chairs for events this year. Suggested chairs are:

Bike Around the Buttes
Veterans Day Parade
Field Day
Christams Party
Nominating Committee
Ham Fest
CA QSO
Others you can think of and suggest

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

Remember, these events are what make this club fun. Your participation is necessary. The board and officers cannot do it all. Contact any club officer or board member to volunteer.

A HAM RADIO OPERATOR'S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

T'was the night before Christmas,
And all through two-meters,
Not a signal was keying up
Any repeaters.
The antennas reached up
From the tower, quite high,
To catch the weak signals
That bounced from the sky.
The children, Tech-Pluses,
Took their HTs to bed,
And dreamed of the day
They'd be Extras, instead.
Mom put on her headphones,
I plugged in the key,
And we tuned 40 meters
For that rare ZK3.
When the meter was pegged
by a signal with power.
It smoked a small diode,
and, I swear, shook the tower.
Mom yanked off her phones,
And with all she could muster
Logged a spot of the signal
On the DX Packet Cluster,
While I ran to the window
And peered up at the sky,
To see what could generate
RF that high.
It was way in the distance,
But the moon made it gleam -
A flying sleigh, with an

Eight element beam,
And a little old driver
who looked slightly mean.
So I thought for a moment,
That it might be Wayne Green.
But no, it was Santa
The Santa of Hams.
On a mission, this Christmas
To clean up the bands.
He circled the tower,
Then stopped in his track,
And he slid down the coax
Right into the shack.
While Mom and I hid
Behind stacks of CQ,
This Santa of hamming
Knew just what to do.
He cleared off the shack desk
Of paper and parts,
And filled out all my late QSLs
For a start.
He ran copper braid,
Took a steel rod and pounded
It into the earth, till
The station was grounded.
He tightened loose fittings,
Re-soldered connections,
Cranked down modulation,
Installed lightning protection.
He neutralized tubes
In my linear amp...
(Never worked right before --
Now it works like a champ).
A new, low-pass filter
Cleaned up the TV,
He corrected the settings
In my TNC.
He repaired the computer
That would not compute,
And he backed up the hard drive
And got it to boot.

VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 2015

Then, he reached really deep
In the bag that he brought,
And he pulled out a big box,
"A new rig?" I thought!
"A new Kenwood? An Icom?
A Yaesu, for me?!"
(If he thought I'd been bad
it might be QRP!)
Yes! The Ultimate Station!
How could I deserve this?
Could it be all those hours
that I worked Public Service?
He hooked it all up
And in record time, quickly
Worked 100 countries,
All down on 160.
I should have been happy,
It was my call he sent,
But the cards and the postage
Will cost two month's rent!
He made final adjustments,
And left a card by the key:
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.
Seventy-Three."
Then he grabbed his HT,
Looked me straight in the eye,
Punched a code on the pad,
And was gone - no good bye.
I ran back to the station,
And the pile-up was big,
But a card from St. Nick
Would be worth my new rig.
Oh, too late, for his final
came over the air.
It was copied all over.
It was heard everywhere.
The Ham's Santa exclaimed
What a ham might expect,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all, good DX."

Thanks Bob (N6BOB) for submitting this.

© 1996 Gary Pearce, KN4AQ

KIDS DAY

From the ARRL newsletter for Dec. 24th the first Kids Day of 2016 will be Sunday, Jan. 3rd from 1800 to 2400 UTC (that's 0800 to 1600 PST). This twice-yearly event, sponsored by the ARRL and The Boring (Oregon) Amateur Radio Club, is an excellent opportunity to showcase Amateur Radio and Amateur Radio satellites to youngsters. Hand over the keys so they can get some hands-on experience.

To solicit contacts call "CQ Kids Day." The suggested exchange is name, age, location, and favorite color. There is no limit on operating time, and stations may work each other more than once if the operator has changed. Observe third-party traffic restrictions when making DX contacts.