

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

April 2017

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**YSARC Web Page:** <http://www.ysarc.net>  
**Y-S ARES Web Page:** <http://www.ysares.org>

**P.O. Box 1169**  
**Yuba City, California 95992**

April 2017

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## **CLUB OFFICERS 2017**

Pres.: Chris McLain, KK6VZD  
Vice Pres.: Eleanor Knox, KI6CSO  
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ  
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

06 May – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City  
17 May – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Kathy Burns, N7WVW  
Manna Whelchel, KA6ETB  
Matthew den Hollandar, AC6MF  
Mark Peters, KA6FFM  
Herb Pucket, W6HBU

06 Jun – General Meeting  
21 Jun – Board Meeting  
24-25 Jun – ARRL Field Day

11 Jul – General Meeting  
08 Jul – VE Session  
19 Jul – Board Meeting

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

01 Aug – General Meeting  
16 Aug – Board Meeting

## **LIAISONS**

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

02 Sep – VE Session  
05 Sep – General Meeting  
20 Sep – Board Meeting

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

02 May – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville  
06 May – 3F Bike Ride

03 Oct – General Meeting  
07-08 Oct – CA QSO  
18 Oct – Board Meeting  
20-22 Oct – Pacificon  
04 Nov – VE Session  
07 Nov – Election of Officers and

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Budget Approval

11 Nov – Veterans Day Parade

15 Nov – Board Meeting

05 Dec – General Meeting/Christmas Party

20 Dec – Board Meeting

Wednesday mornings – Breakfast 8:30 A.M. at Dancing Tomato in Yuba City.

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

Monday night at 8:00 P.M. – Butte County ARES net (145.280–), PL 110.9

Tuesday night at 8:00 P.M. – GEARS Club net, (146.850–), PL 110.9

Thursday night at 7:00 P.M. weekly – ARES net (146.085+) PL 127.3.

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–), 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.

Sunday at 1:00 P.M. weekly on 7278 KHz - California TALARC (The American Legion Amateur Radio Club) net.

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## **CLUB STORE**

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

1. PL295 coax connectors, 34 each. Cost is \$1.99 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 18 each. Cost is \$0.69 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 60 red/black pairs. Cost is \$1.00 per pair.
4. Coax wrap, 1 roll. Cost is \$4.00 per roll.
5. RG8X strain relief boots, 10 each. Cost is \$0.50 each.
6. 10 AWG Red/Black Power Zip Cord, 22 feet. Cost is \$1.38 per foot.
7. RG8X Black Coax, 350 feet. Cost is \$0.39 per foot.
8. 6 BNC Female to SMA Female Adapter, \$3.50 each.

If you are interested in purchasing any of these items contact the club store manager, Curtis (KF6VFP) at (530) 743-3003, by email at [kf6vfp@arrl.net](mailto:kf6vfp@arrl.net), on the air, or at one of the club meetings.

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## **BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES**

Bike Around the Buttes was Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. The routes are 17 mile, 40 mile, and 100 mile bike rides to raise money for Children's Type 1

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Diabetes.

I want to thank all who participated in the Bike Around the Buttes. Every volunteer who signed up, showed up and we were able to keep the riders safe. Seventy-eight cyclists took to the 100 mile route early on the eighth of April with more participants going on the 40 mile and 17 mile routes. There were two riders brought back by our SAG drivers and a third rider returned to complete the ride after a bike repair at the base. Other SAGs reported participants repairing flats on the side of the road but no accidents or injuries were reported. One rest stop recovered a backpack and that was returned to its owner.

Those who participated or volunteered were able to enjoy a fine lunch that was provided by Cool Hand Luke's. Lunch included a vegan pasta salad, mashed potatoes, lettuce, rolls and a choice of chicken and tri-tip, and for dessert, a cookie or two.

Again I want to thank all who helped. Net control was Steve Sweetman (K6TAZ) and myself with Mike Sangria (KF6RCP) as shadow. The rest stops were covered by Ted Cochran (N6TBC), Brandon Guthrie (KM6JID), Linda Maas (KK6SOZ), Eleanor Knox (KI6CSO), and Bill Duncan (WA6OHP) The SAG drivers were Mike Morris (KK6ISQ), Lonnie Moore (KI6ZYY), Andy Boone (KJ6IYM), Curtis Sylvester-Jose (KF6VFP), Rosalyn Watson (KK6SOV), Joe Stafford (KK6SOX), Sheryl Stafford (KK6DCN), Manna Whelchel (KA6ETB) Mark Peters (KA6FFM), Buck Bossard (N6CNY), Chris McLain (KK6VZD),

LeRoy (KJ6DKM) and Udell Smith, and Kevin Conde (K1KMC).

John Rogers (KI6UDF)

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## **3F BIKE RIDE**

Saturday, May 6, 2017 starting at 7:00 A.M. riders will visit the rural towns of Meridian and Sutter. Ride through the pastoral farmlands of the Sutter Bypass, cross the Tisdale Weir, ride along the scenic Sacramento River levee road and around the unique Sutter Buttes (the smallest mountain range in the world), where John C. Fremont camped his troops in 1848 and return to Colusa along the banks of the beautiful Sacramento River. Hams as SAGs, at rest stops and net control will be right there with them assisting in this 100 km (63 mile) ride.

Position	Name	Call Sign
Rest Stop 1	John	KI6UD
Rest Stop 2	Lonnie	KI6ZYY
Rest Stop 3	Eleanor	KI6CSO
Rest Stop 4	Curtis	KF6VFP
SAG 1	Neil	KJ6IYC
SAG 2	Kevin	K1KMC
SAG 3	Mark	KA6FFM
SAG 4	Branden	KM6JID
SAG 5	LeRoy	KJ6DKM
SAG 6	Richard	KI6JRW
SAG 7		
SAG 8		
Net Control	Bill	WA6OHP
Net Control	Pat	K6PBM

Bill Duncan (WA6OHP) is in need of more volunteers to assist, particularly SAGs. He can be reach at [wa6ohp@yahoo.com](mailto:wa6ohp@yahoo.com) or call him at 530-

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763-7175 to volunteer.

Bill Duncan (WA6OHP)

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## **GENERAL MEETING**

The next general meeting will be held Tuesday, May 2nd at the Caltrans Building in Marysville. Yuba Sutter Domestic Animal Disaster Assistance will be giving a talk about what they do and how radio plays a part.

Come to the meeting, help plan, and volunteer to help out.

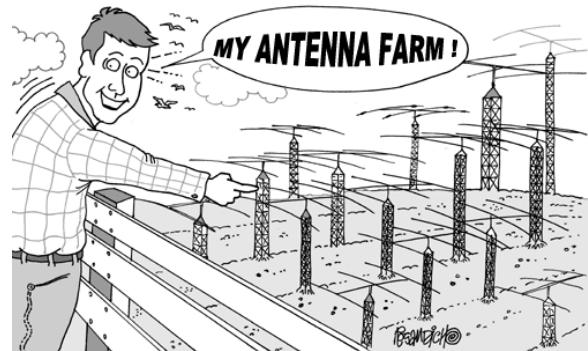
Mid May I'll be willing to Elmer up to four individuals. One person has already contacted me so there are three slots open. Anyone else, please contact me at KF6VFP@ARRL.NET.

If there are any other club members willing to help others upgrade their license please announce your willingness at a club meeting, on the Monday Night Net or drop me an email and I'll put it in the newsletter.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

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## **JUST BECAUSE**



Field Day is coming up June 24 – 25, 2017. Chris McLain (KK6VZD) and Mark Peters (KA6FFM) scouted two potential locations to hold Field Day. One was a private residence in Browns Valley and the other Sycamore Ranch. Other possible locations are Hammon Grove Park and Live Oak High School.

Committee members are needed to help with planning; such as, dinner, set up, etc. Also needed is loan of equipment and antennas to use during the event.

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## **GENERAL CLASS ELMERS**

The club has several technicians who are asking for "Elmers" to help them upgrade to general.



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## **HAMFESTS**

Military Radio Collectors Group  
Convention

Start Date: 05/04/2017  
End Date: 05/06/2017  
Location: Camp San Luis Obispo NCO  
Club  
10 Sonoma Avenue  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Website: <http://www.mrcgwest.org/>  
Sponsor: MRCG West  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Talk-In: 146.52  
Public Contact: Tim Sammons, N6CC  
675 Dana Drive Santa Paula, CA 93060  
Phone: 925-830-9474  
Email: [N6CC@arrl.net](mailto:N6CC@arrl.net)

Reno Ham Swap

Start Date: 05/06/2017  
End Date: 05/06/2017  
Location: Boomtown Casino Hotel  
2100 Garson Road  
Reno, NV 89501  
Website: <http://renohamswap.com>  
Sponsor: Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio  
Society  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Talk-In: 147.210 (PL 100) or DMR TG:  
SNARS 31328  
Public Contact: Anthony Marcin, W7XM  
PO Box 7727 Reno, NV 89510  
Phone: 775-453-4142  
Email: [w7xm@snars.org](mailto:w7xm@snars.org)

North Hills RC Hamfest

Start Date: 05/21/2017  
End Date: 05/21/2017  
Location: Carmichael Elk's Club  
5631 Cypress Avenue  
Carmichael, CA 95608  
Website: <http://k6is.org>  
Sponsor: North Hills Radio Club  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Talk-In: 145.190- (PL 162.2)  
Public Contact: Kaayla Jaret, KA6YLA  
5925 Hilltop Drive, #5 Carmichael, CA  
95608  
Phone: 916-517-6876  
Email: [kaaylajaret@hotmail.com](mailto:kaaylajaret@hotmail.com)

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## **RON MURDOCK (W6KJ) SK**

Ronald Murdock, Lt. Col. USAF Retired passed away in his home, on April 1, 2017, after a yearlong battle with Multiple Myeloma. He was born August 19, 1940 in San Jose, CA. Ron was preceded by his parents Robert and Alice Murdock. His wife, Jo Anne Hudson Murdock, sons Guy Murdock, Andy Murdock, daughter-in-law Holly Karmanocky, and his beloved granddaughters, Mia and Taylor Murdock, survive Ronald. Three brothers, Bruce, John, and Frank, sister Sara and numerous nephews, nieces, and cousins also survive him.

Ron served twenty five years in the US Air Force in a career that included twelve years in B-52's, as a radar navigator, a tour at the National Security Agency, a tour at Offutt AFB Looking Glass Airborne Control Systems, as a squadron intelligence commander, and as DOX for the U2 and SR71 at Beale

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AFB. He had over 350 bombing missions over Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War and was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses and over 20 Air Medals. His was truly a stellar career.

After his military retirement Ron became a substitute teacher in the Yuba Sutter area and will be remembered fondly by many of his former students, especially those who attended Lincoln and Lincrest schools where he was the "go to" sub for many years. He also served as a member of the Sutter County Grand Jury.



Ron was active in Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club, taught ham radio classes for many years, and was a mentor to many of the local "hams". He was the President of the club, served on the board many times, served as a VE and helped out at many of the events the club supported. He put this hobby to good use by helping out in local emergencies by providing radio communications during flood evacuations and fires.

Ron was also an elected official for many years of the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) serving as Sacramento Valley Section Manager. Ron was first licensed in Michigan as

WN8WRT and over the next four years had four different call signs. He kept WB5FIX for 25 years, before applying for W6KJ, the call of his good friend Russ Hanlon of San Francisco.



His favorite ham radio hobbies were rag chewing and helping new hams get on the air. An ARRL Life member, Ron Murdock was 76.

"Ron's passion for serving our amateur radio community was truly inspiring and he will be sorely missed," said current Sacramento Valley SM Dr. Carol Milazzo, KP4MD. He served as ARRL Sacramento Valley Section Manager from 2007 until 2015.

Information obtained from the Appeal Democrat, ARRL Special Bulletin, and club members.

The International Order of Krazies has an online memorial at: [www.iook.org/memorial/w6kjemem.htm](http://www.iook.org/memorial/w6kjemem.htm)

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## YESTERYEAR



## TECHNICIAN, GENERAL AND EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL REVIEW

From the Technician Class question pool:

T7B07 Which of the following may be useful in correcting a radio frequency interference problem?

- A. Snap-on ferrite chokes
- B. Low-pass and high-pass filters
- C. Band-reject and band-pass filters
- D. All of these choices are correct

The correct answer is D. A ferrite choke placed on the power cord will block RF signals from getting into the equipment through the power supply

and causing interference. A low pass filter placed on the phone line to block RF from getting into the audio circuits such as a telephone line. A high pass filter in the antenna feed line might be used prevent amateur radio signals entering a TV receiver.

A ferrite ring or bead is typically made of a ceramics consisting of various metal oxides formulated to have very high permeability. Iron (Fe), manganese (Mn), manganese zinc (MnZn), and nickel zinc (NiZn) are the most commonly used oxides.

A low pass filter allows all frequencies from dc to the cutoff frequency and attenuate frequencies above the cutoff frequency.

A high pass filter on the other hand will attenuate frequencies from dc to the cutoff frequency and pass frequencies above the cutoff frequency.

A notch filter is a combination of a high pass followed by a low pass filter. It has two cutoff frequencies. The lower cutoff frequency (high pass filter) blocks dc to the lower cutoff frequency and passes everything else.. The upper cutoff frequency blocks frequencies from the upper cutoff frequency and above. For example: a notch filter that pass 5 MHz to 10 MHz but blocks all others.

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications, 2014, page 5.19.

From the General Class question pool:

G8A01 How is an FSK signal generated?

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- A. By keying an FM transmitter with a sub-audible tone
- B. By changing an oscillator's frequency directly with a digital control signal
- C. By using a transceiver's computer data interface protocol to change frequencies
- D. By reconfiguring the CW keying input to act as a tone generator

The correct answer is B. FSK or Frequency Shift Keying is a means of sending digital message over the radio. The computer takes the message, creates a digital signal (such as ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange) an eight bit binary code used to represent letters, numbers and control signal), and then converts it to an Audio Frequency Shift Keyed (AFSK) signal using two or more non-harmonically related tones are used to represent the different digital code. This signal is then sent via you sound card to the radio to modulate the RF carrier. For example: the audio signal is a sine wave that shifts between 2125 and 2295 Hz used to represent the "1's" and "0's" of the ASCII code. At 14 MHz the RF signals would be 14.002125 and 14.002295 MHz.

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications, 2014, page 8.14.

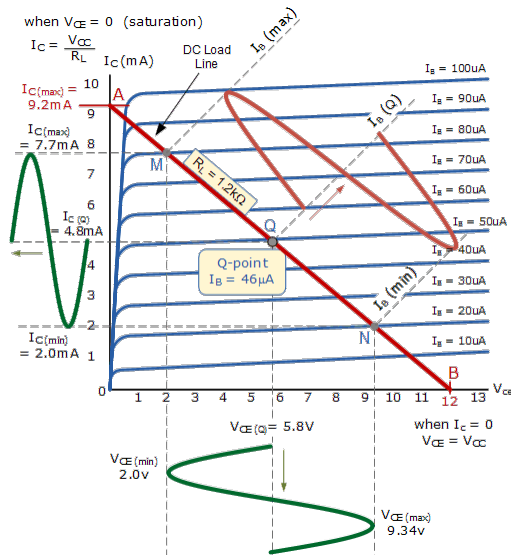
From the Extra Class question pool:

E7B04 Where on the load line of a Class A common emitter amplifier would bias normally be set?

- A. Approximately half-way between saturation and cutoff
- B. Where the load line intersects the voltage axis
- C. At a point where the bias resistor equals the load resistor
- D. At a point where the load line intersects the zero bias current curve

The correct answer is A. "The operation of an analog signal-processing device is greatly affected by which portion of the characteristic curve is used to do the processing." A Class A amplifier is designed to amplify a signal without distorting the signal. The best point on is half way between cutoff (where a transistor does not conduct) and saturation (where the transistor is conducting as much as possible). In this area the curve is flat.





The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications, 2014, page 3.7.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

## VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be 9:00 A.M., 6 May at 715 King Ave., Yuba City. 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 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 everyone taking exams.

## EDITORS COMMENTS

✓YSARC's new web page is: [ysarc.net](http://ysarc.net) - click on the upper right-hand icon on the homepage to join the club's Facebook page. Past issue's of the VHN are available on our new website.

✓Send your ham related articles and pictures to share in your VHN. Pictures of ham shacks, antenna projects, antenna parties, etc. are appreciated [KI6CSN@arri.net](mailto:KI6CSN@arri.net) or [KF6FVP@arri.net](mailto:KF6FVP@arri.net)

It is with great sadness that Marsha and I learned of Ron's passing when we returned from our vacation. Ron was one of our mentors and was one of the instructors when we took technician classes, Curtis in 1999 and Marsha in 2006. We will greatly miss being able to pick his brain on amateur radio and will miss his stories.

Herb (W6HBU) sent Kevin (KM6GVD) a PDF entitled "Ham Radio Isn't The Fun It Used To Be" by Bud Peters (K6HDE). Kevin has posted on the club web site. Check it out at [YSARC.net](http://YSARC.net).

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Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 15, 2017  
Caltrans, Cedar Ridge Room #105, 703 B Street, Marysville,  
CA 95901



Meeting called to order by President Chris McLain KK6VZD at 1901 hours.

Officers and Board Present: President Chris McLain KK6VZD, Vice President Eleanor Knox KI6CSO, Secretary Linda Maas KK6SOZ, Treasurer June McJunkin N6JEY and Board Members: Manna Whelchel KA6ETB, Joe Visalli N9BD, Kathy Burns N7WVW, Matthew den Hollander AC6MF, Mark Peters KA6FFM and Honorary Board Member Dave Gartner WD6AXM. Absent: Board Member Emeritus Herb Puckett W6HBU.

Members and Guests present: Leroy Smith KJ6DKM, Udell Smith, John Rogers KI6UDF

Secretary's Report: Jan 18, 2017 board meeting minutes were passed out. Motion to accept minutes as amended: Kathy/Matthew, passed. Motion to approve the following new hams as complimentary members, regardless of whether they took the Tech class: Christopher Atkinson KM6JIA, Katie Atkinson KM6JIB, Dean Cromwell KM6JIC, Brandon Guthrie KM6JID, and Neil Bossard KM6JIE. Joe/Mark, passed. Correspondence received: Sec. of State Form SI-100 due April 30, DX Engineering offers to make a presentation to club meeting via Skype, HamUniverse.com sent a postcard promoting themselves.

Treasurer's Report: June McJunkin presented the Financial Report for March 15, 2017. We're in good shape. Motion to accept Financial Report, Joe/Dave, passed.

## Old Business

- Mark Peters has agreed to be Field Day coordinator. Need to discuss many aspects at next General Meeting: points vs fun, food, antennas, power supply, number of Port-a-potties, advertizing it, etc. Lester Allen KK6SYV has the club trailer.
- We still need a Prize coordinator. June says the raffle pays for itself.
- John needs 7-10 more volunteers for Bike around the Buttes. And a power supply for net control. Lots of folks volunteered equipment.
- Kathy reports 4 openings for Monday Net Control: June, August, November and December. Joe, Manna, Chris and Eleanor volunteered to fill those slots, respectively.
- ARRL books/manuals for libraries: Yuba County would like 2 sets – one for reference and one to circulate, Sutter County wants just one set. Each set consists of Tech, General, Extra study guides, Handbook and Antenna book, and costs approximately \$200. Motion to spend approximately \$400 on ARRL books/manuals for Sutter and Yuba Counties to each have one set, with "Donated by..." inside to promote our club. Kathy/Manna, passed.
- Dave says the Repeater upgrade is in motion. Next week they'll start installing equipment on the hill. Old tower has cracks.

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## New Business

- Antenna workshop – better outdoors, will wait till summer
- Tech night went well.
- Curtis will start tutoring sessions for General at his house in mid-May, since Jose Hernandez and others want help upgrading. He is looking for other Elmers to help out.

## Upcoming Activities

- VE sessions: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the odd months: May 6.
- Field Day June 24-25

## Upcoming General Meetings

- Tuesday, April 4 – Field Day planning
- Tuesday, May 2 -
- Tuesday, June 6 -

## Upcoming Board Meetings

- Wednesday, April 19. Chris will miss this board meeting.
- Wednesday, May 17
- Wednesday, June 21

Adjourned at 2026 hours, Dave/Kathy, passed.

Notes: There was no February Board Meeting due to Oroville Dam situation. New ham call signs were not known during the board meeting; they were added on March 21.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary