

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

August 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**

August 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

03 Oct – General Meeting  
07-08 Oct – CA QSO  
14 Oct – Fox Hunt  
18 Oct – Board Meeting  
20-22 Oct – Pacificon

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017**

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

04 Nov – VE Session  
07 Nov – Election of Officers and  
Budget Approval  
11 Nov – Veterans Day Parade  
15 Nov – Board Meeting

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

05 Dec – General Meeting/Christmas  
Party  
20 Dec – Board Meeting

## **LIAISONS**

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

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

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

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

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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, 27 each. Cost is \$1.99 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 27 each. Cost is \$0.69 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 59 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, 5 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, 245 feet. Cost is \$0.39 per foot.

8. BNC Female to SMA Female Adapter, 6 each. Cost is \$3.50 each.

9. SO-239 bulkhead connector. 3 each. Cost is \$2.65 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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## **PACIFICON**

Pacificon, an ARRL Convention, will be held October 20-22, 2017 at the San Ramon Marriott, 2600 Bishop Drive, San Ramon, CA The Talk-In frequency will be on the Mount Diablo Repeater at 147.060 with a PL 100 Hz, or 441.325 with a PL of 100 Hz, call sign W6CX.

Pacificon gives you three great days of activities for one low cost: A full slate of outstanding Forum presentations about a wide range of amateur radio topics, a large Vendor Expo filled with exciting products and exhibits, an outdoor Swap Meet, great QRP activities, a Youth Forum, and great Youth Activities including electronics kit building and soldering classes, a One Day License Prep Class to prepare you to pass the amateur radio Technician license examination and get your first amateur radio license, a chance to hear

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about and discuss important national amateur radio issues with top ARRL leaders, a chance to win radios and other great prizes throughout the convention, and perhaps the best part - a chance to interact and share information with lots of other amateur radio enthusiasts to further (or begin) your own knowledge and to advance the hobby. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance (thru Oct. 8th) or \$30.00 at the door.

Website: <http://www.pacificon.org>

For more information contact send an email to [info@pacificon.org](mailto:info@pacificon.org) or call at (925) 288-1730.

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## **THE "PREZ" SAYS**

Is it that time already??? Time seems to be really flying by. It's hard for me to believe that Field Day was not that long ago. I think you've probably heard quite a bit from those who participated what a fun time we had and how well it went off. I'm SO glad for all the hard work put in by those involved in the planning. Now that we're "back in the groove" hopefully next year's Field Day will be even bigger and better! I'm looking forward to it. I hope you all are also. It would be really fun to have twice as many operators as we did this year.

I'm also very pleased with our recent Antenna Day. Hosted by Curtis (KF6VFP) and Marsha (KI6CSN) it was another enjoyable event for those who

attended. We had numerous members get their first experience with building simple antennas and learn new skills that they can now use to experiment further. I've already heard back from some of the attendees on additional antenna projects that they want to pursue. It's satisfying to see the enthusiasm generated by this experience.

Who's up for a fox hunt? Who knows what a fox hunt is? As part of the antenna day activities some tape measure Yagi antennas were constructed by a few of the attendees. They are commonly used for fox hunting, tracking down a radio transmitter through direction finding techniques, and are relatively quick and easy to make. At the last meeting we introduced the idea of having a foxhunt and the response was very positive so we've planned to hold one the morning of October 21<sup>st</sup> to be followed by some sort of social/eating activity. For those that need an antenna a couple of club members will be putting together kits of needed parts that only need to be assembled. Bob McClard has already agreed to host an antenna assembling get-together in the latter part of September on his (covered) back porch.

I'm very pleased to see the progress that Gary Mason (KE6VUR) is making with putting together the Sutter High School Amateur Radio Club. At the recent Sutter High Club Day seven more students signed up to participate. Kudos to the YSARC club members who are stepping up and donating equipment and manuals to give the club a kick start. Gary, Joe (N9BD), Mark

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(KA6FFM) and myself met recently to discuss what Gary thought we could contribute as a partner with the SHSARC to assist them in their endeavors. Gary is very appreciative of what the club has already done on their behalf, donating equipment and study material and showing enthusiasm for his project. His primary request of the club and its members will be the sharing of club member expertise with his students. Occasional club member presentations to the club would be greatly appreciated as well as our willingness to welcome his group into our activities whenever possible. A Technician class held at their club meetings at the high school is planned to move the students along in acquiring their licenses. Gary is a certified instructor but might need some assistance so if you're willing to help please let him know. Along those lines if you think you might be willing to do a presentation at one of the club meetings again contact Gary.

There are many other activities coming up in the near future. The Western Placer Amateur Radio Club will be hosting their annual HamFest in Lincoln on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September. This is one of the bigger ham swaps in the area and would be worth attending. A great opportunity to pick up some of the ham gear you need or want and hopefully score an unbelievable deal. The California QSO Party contest will be held the first full weekend in October. After Field Day this is probably one of the bigger contests for California hams. With Gary's group coming up to speed if you plan on working this contest

consider inviting a student to participate along with you. It would be a great opportunity to stoke their enthusiasm. November will bring us the Veteran's Day Parade in Marysville and our handling of the communications. Volunteers are always appreciated. December is not too far away and the subsequent club Christmas party. This will also need a coordinator so I am mentioning it now in the hopes it will prompt a volunteer sooner rather than later.

Finally, a reminder to all that Steve Sweetman (K6TAZ), our Yuba Sutter ARES coordinator will be shortly bound for South Carolina for retirement. First of all, we want to thank Steve for his service to the community in filling this position. His dedication to his post has ensured that ham radio is ready to respond should the need arise. Anyone interested in assuming his position should contact him or Carol Milazzo, our ARRL Section Manager.

Till next time, 73s.

Chris (KK6VZD)

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## **ANTENNA REPAIR**

Here is a photo of Joe (N9BD) doing some antenna repair at his father's home in Dobbins.

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Now this is the way to work on a tower!

Joe Visalli (N9BD)

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## **FOR SALE**

TS-2000 Kenwood all-mode 160m thru 70cm \$900

TH-F6 Kenwood 2, 220 and 440 tri-band handheld with microphone. \$200

TH-D7 Kenwood Dual band handheld 2 /440 with microphone. \$145

IC-Q7A Icom Dual Band handheld low power HT. Runs off AA batteries

350mw/300mw \$100

FTM-3200D Yaesu 2 meter C4FM base/mobile \$100

Yaesu G-800-S Rotator, control and cable \$200

Nice antenna system 48 foot self supported tower, G-100DXA rotator and Lightning Bolt 4 element 5 band quad \$450. You will need help or equipment to take down.

If you are interested in any of the items contact Joe Visalli (N9BD) at [N9BD@arrl.net](mailto:N9BD@arrl.net) or 530-845-3324.

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## **TOWER REMOVAL**

Here are some photos of Joe (N9BD) removing the antennas and tower at Ron Murdock's (W6KJ SK) home.

Thanks to Linda Maas (KK6SOZ) for submitting the photos.



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## Removing the Loop Antenna



Removing the J-Pole Antenna



Removing the Beam Antenna

RIP Ron (W6KJ SK). We miss you.

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## CA QSO

The California QSO Party (CQP) is held every year on the first weekend of October. The first CQP took place in 1966. Since 1974, the Northern California Contest Club ([NCCC](#)) has sponsored CQP. CQP has traditionally opened the annual contest season by providing an opportunity for contesters to prepare for the ARRL November Sweepstakes since the format is similar.

Stations that are outside California work stations in California only. The 58 counties of CA are the multipliers. California stations work all stations in or out of CA. The 50 US states and 8 Canadian areas are the multipliers. Stations outside of Canada and the US add to one's QSO total but do not count as multipliers. See the full set of CQP Rules for more details.

For more information go to the California QSO Party website at [cqp.org](http://cqp.org).

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## ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at the Caltrans building in Marysville at 7:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed for board, officer positions and committees for the upcoming year (2018).

To have a full roster we need 5 board members, President, Vice

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President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Remember, this is your club. It does not exist nor run without you. You are the spark plugs that make this a great club. Please volunteer and bring your great ideas.

As a side note, we will also be approving the budget for 2018 at the November meeting.

Volunteers are also needed for non elected positions such as: Newsletter, Club Prizes, Net Control Manager, Club Store, Christmas Party, Field Day, Veterans Parade, and Bike Around the Buttes.

Please volunteer! This is your club.

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## **SUTTER HIGH SCHOOL STARTED AN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

Gary Mason (KE6VUR), a teacher at Sutter High School, started a ham club this fall. They are in need of some used, current Technician license manuals for the club. If you have one you're willing to donate to them please contact Chris (KK6VZD). About 10 copies of the manual will be needed.

The students were able to get on the air August the 18<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> during their lunch hour to generate interest in the club. Chris McLain (KK6VZD) was present August 18<sup>th</sup> with his radios to demonstrate Amateur Radio and act as the third party control operator. During that time five students signed up for the club.

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## **HAMFESTS**

Southwestern Division Convention  
(HAMCON 2017)

Start Date: 09/15/2017

End Date: 09/17/2017

Location: Torrance Marriott Redondo  
Beach Hotel  
3635 Fashion Way  
Torrance, CA 90501

Website: <http://www.hamconinc.org>

Sponsor: Los Angeles Area Council of  
Amateur Radio Clubs

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 145.550 (PL 173.8)

Public Contact: Diana Feinberg, AI6DF  
PO Box 4678 Palos Verdes Peninsula,  
CA 90274

Phone: 310-544-2917

Email: [ai6df@arrl.net](mailto:ai6df@arrl.net)

WPARC's 11th Annual Hamfest

Start Date: 09/16/2017

End Date: 09/16/2017

Location: McBean Park  
65 McBean Park (Highway 193)  
Lincoln, CA 95648

Website: <http://www.wparc.us>

Sponsor: Western Placer Amateur  
Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.300+ (PL 179.9)

Public Contact: Kathryn Miller, KJ6YCP  
1530 Crestmont Oak Drive Roseville,  
CA 95661

Phone: 916-782-3656

Email: [entertainangels@surewest.net](mailto:entertainangels@surewest.net)

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Reno Fall Ham Swap

Start Date: 09/23/2017

End Date: 09/23/2017

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)

DEC and SEC, as well as our Section Manager Carol Milazzo KP4MD, will work with you and support your efforts.

EC Requirements: Technician class license or higher and full ARRL membership.

A complete list of responsibilities is listed on the ARRL web site at <https://arrl.org/emergency-coordinator>.

If you are interested in volunteering for the Emergency coordinator position, know of someone who might be interested in the position, or have questions about the position please contact one of the individuals listed below:

Yuba-Sutter EC: Steve Sweetman,  
K6TAZ

[k6taz@arrl.net](mailto:k6taz@arrl.net)

(530) 639-2433

District EC: Ken Wilson, K6WLS  
[gramps55@gmail.com](mailto:gramps55@gmail.com)

(530) 305-4088

Section EC: Greg Kruckewitt,  
KG6SJT

[kg6sjt@gmail.com](mailto:kg6sjt@gmail.com)

(530) 219-0611

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## ***NEW EMERGENCY COORDINATOR NEEDED***

The Sacramento Valley Section needs to recruit a new Emergency Coordinator for Yuba-Sutter ARES. Steve Sweetman, K6TAZ, who has been the EC for the last four years has notified us that due to a family move, he will be leaving his position as Yuba-Sutter ARES Emergency Coordinator effective September 1.

As Emergency Coordinator you will be a key player for ARES on the local emergency scene. Working with the Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), the District Emergency Coordinator (DEC), and Official Emergency Stations, the EC prepares for, and engages in management of communications needs in disasters.

You will have full support from the

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## ***TECHNICIAN, GENERAL AND EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL REVIEW***

From the Technician Class question pool:

T8A05 Which of the following types of emission has the narrowest bandwidth?

A. FM Voice

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- B. SSB Voice
- C. CW
- D. Slow-scan TV

The correct answer is C. Typical signal bandwidths of transmissions are:<sup>1</sup>

Type of Signal	Typical Bandwidth
AM Voice	6 kHz
AM Broadcast	10 kHz
Commercial video	6 MHz
SSB Voice	2-3 KHz
SSB Digital	500-3000 Hz
CW	150 Hz
FM Voice	10-15 kHz
FM Broadcast	150 kHz

As you can see from the table, nothing beats CW in efficiency of bandwidth use.

1. *The ARRL Ham Radio License Manual, 3<sup>rd</sup> addition, 2014, page 2-10, table 2.3.*

From the General Class question pool:

G0B03 Which size of fuse or circuit breaker would be appropriate to use with a circuit that uses AWG number 14 wiring?

- A. 100 Amperes
- B. 60 Amperes
- C. 30 Amperes
- D. 15 Amperes

The correct answer is D. According to the NEC (National Electric Code) a 14 AWG (American Wire Gauge) wire is

rated to carry 20 amperes and must be fused at 15 amperes.

As the diameter of the wire gets larger, the more current it can carry. Thus, if you need 20 amperes (A) you would use a 12 AWG wire that can handle 25 A with a 20 A fuse.

From the Extra Class question pool:

E7E04 What is one way a single-sideband phone signal can be generated?

- A. By using a balanced modulator followed by a filter
- B. By using a reactance modulator followed by a mixer
- C. By using a loop modulator followed by a mixer
- D. By driving a product detector with a DSB signal

The correct answer is A. The balanced modulator will generate the LSB and USB signals. Since each sideband contains the same information you only need one. A filter centered on the frequency of the side band you wish to transmit; either the lower or upper side band; will remove the unwanted sideband and pass the desired sideband.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

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## VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be 9:00

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A.M., 2 September 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.

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## ***EDITORS COMMENTS***

✓YSARC's new web page is: **ysarc.net** - click on the upper right-hand icon on the homepage to join the club's Facebook page. Past and current 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@arrl.net](mailto:KI6CSN@arrl.net) or [KF6FVP@arrl.net](mailto:KF6FVP@arrl.net)

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