

VALLEY HAM NEWS

April 2023

YSARC Web Page: <http://www.ysarc.net>

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

April 2023

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LIAISONS

ARES: Neil Bossard, N6CNY
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD
VE Liaison: LeRoy Smith, KJ6DKM

UPCOMING EVENTS

02 May – Board Meeting
06 May – VE Session
13 May – Sutter Buttes Day
13 May – Armed Forces Day
Crossband Test
16 May – General Meeting
18 May – Preparedness Fair

20 May – Antenna Build
20 May – Kristina Chesterman
Memorial Ride

02-04 Jun – SeaPac Convention
06 Jun – Board Meeting
10 Jun – Fox Hunt
17 Jun – Kids Day
20 Jun – General Meeting
24-25 Jun – ARRL Field Day

01 Jul – VE Session
04 Jul – Independence Day
04 Jul – Board Meeting
08 Jul – Fox Hunt
18 Jul – General Meeting

01 Aug – Board Meeting
12 Aug – Fox Hunt
15 Aug – General Meeting

Local Nets

YSARC Net: Monday night at 7:00 P.M. (146.085+) PL 127.3 with swap shop and help sessions.
Butte County ARES Net: Monday night at 8:00 P.M. (145.290–), PL 110.9
GEARS Club Net: Tuesday night at 8:00 P.M., (146.850–), PL 110.9

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ARES Net: Thursday night at 7:00 P.M., (146.085+) PL 127.3.

YL Net: Sunday nights at 2000, (146.970- MHz) PL 123.0.

ARRL Sacramento Valley Section (VHF) Net: Third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M.: on the WD6AXM repeater followed by an HF Net on 3987 kHz LSB.

OARS Net: Sunday night at 8:00 P.M., (146.655-), PL 136.5.

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.

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

ARMED FORCES DAY CROSSBAND TEST

The US Department of Defense (DoD) will host this year's Armed Forces Day (AFD) Crossband Test on May 13, 2023. This annual event is open to all licensed amateur radio operators and will not impact any public or private communications. For more than 50 years, military and amateur stations have taken part in this event.

The AFD Crossband Test is a unique

opportunity to test two-way communications between military communicators and radio stations in the Amateur Radio Service (ARS), as authorized in 47 CFR 97.111. These tests provide opportunities and challenges for radio operators to demonstrate individual technical skills in a tightly controlled exercise scenario.

Military stations will transmit on selected frequencies and will announce the specific ARS frequencies monitored. All of the times are Zulu (Z), and all frequencies are Upper Side Band (USB) unless otherwise noted. The frequencies used for the test will not stray outside the confines of the exercise.

A complete list of frequencies, time periods, QSL cards, and other information can be found at DoD MARS - Armed Forces Day.

AFD is a time of honor. It will be celebrated on Saturday, May 20, 2023. The first AFD was celebrated with parades, open houses, receptions, and air shows. Today, many events and activities take place and may include multi-service military displays in areas open to the public, various educational activities that teach children about the armed forces, and large parades with local celebrations.

The longest running AFD parade in the United States is held in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Certain types of music will be played at AFD 2023 events to show respect to those in the armed forces who died for their country.

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SUTTER BUTTES DAY

A ham shack will be making contacts at the 45th annual Sutter Buttes Day Saturday, May 13th from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Activities include a parade and good food. The club will have a booth with an HF and VHF Get on the Air (GOTA) stations.

Bud Myers (KK1BUD)

KRISTINA CHESTERMAN MEMORIAL RIDE

As many of you know, the Kristina Chesterman Memorial Ride that was set for October of 2022 got snowed out. It has been set up with a new date of May 20th 2023.

I am reaching out to everyone now so that you can start to make plans to join us for what should be an EPIC TUNE-UP ride in the beauty that is Magalia, CA. It's an EPIC TUNE-UP ride since "Tevis", the 100 mile One Day Western States Trail Ride is just around the corner. These horse and rider combo's need practice, they need to build up their endurance now because, let's face it, 100 miles IS 100 MILES on horseback. The Kristina Chesterman Memorial Ride is just one of those tune-ups. And the K C Memorial Ride's trails meander through some breathtaking nature.

In October of last year, we had most of the H2O locations on the ride covered. Six months later, we are starting to revisit filling these H2O locations with HAM / GMRS radio operators in support of the horse and

riders who will be participating this upcoming May 20th weekend. You are invited for the day of you can stay overnight (no large campers, RV's etc. as the space is needed for the riders and their charges).

Attached you will find the RADIO operators supplement.pdf. (Attachment at the end of the newsletter) It's a description of the ride and it outlines the locations that we are going to be responsible for as radio support. It describes what is to be expected with regard to generic site occupation times and requirements. It's information ONLY at this point, but the primary objective is to find folks who are good with a HAM or GMRS radio (handheld or base station) that are willing to support a wonderful event. If you were a part of this process last year, this is just updated information. I try to keep everyone in the loop. Most say I over do... Some say I don't say enough... It's a living. ☐

Review the supplement. If you have questions, drop me a line. If there is an H2O stop that you would like to manage, send me an e-mail at **Mark Griner** <mgriner@bootleggproductions.com> and specify a location. If it's something you want to talk about, call me (916) 591-3171 (leave a message if I don't answer - I'm probably on the other line with the boss [my wife], and she can be a bit demanding. Most of all, we need help. It's not hard, it's actually a lot of fun. And from what I see of the long range forecasts, mid May will be warm during the day and cool at night.

Pass the word... I know the ride management staff deeply appreciate the effort we are putting together and I want

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to make this Kristina Chesterman Memorial Ride one to remember!

Mark Griner (K6GRI)

CLUB STORE

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

1. PL259 Coax connectors, 21 each. Cost is \$1.84 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 84 each. Cost is \$0.64 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 105 red/ black pairs. Cost is \$1.09 per pair.
4. RG8X strain relief boots, 5 at \$0.50 each.
5. RG8X Black Coax, 1 spool 85 feet, 1-spool 100 feet and 1 coil of 125 feet. Cost is \$0.39 per foot.
6. BNC Female to SMA Female Adapter, 7 each. Cost is \$3.50 each.
7. Red/Black Power Cable, 45 feet. Cost is \$1.38 per foot.
8. LMR240 Double Shielded Coax, 500 feet. Cost is \$0.26 per foot.
9. RCA Male to BNC Female Adapters, 5 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
10. BNC Male Crimp 20 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
11. BNC Male-to-Male Adapter 3 each. Cost is 3.00 each.
12. SO-239 to SO-239 2 each. Cost is 2.00 each.
13. TNC Male Crimp 10 each. Cost is 2.50 each.
14. BNC Male to RCA Female

Adapter 7 each. Cost is 2.00 each.

Also available are 25 Watt soldering irons that can be checked out for up to 1 month. There is also a Power Pole crimper that can be checked out.

If you are interested in checking out a soldering iron, the crimper or purchasing any of the club store items contact, Curtis (KF6VFP) at (530) 743-3003, by email at KF6VFP@arrl.net, on the air, or at one of the club meetings. At most club meetings he has the club store available excluding cable.

HAMFESTS

Reno Ham Swap

Start Date: 05/13/2023

End Date: 05/13/2023

Location: Cabela's
8650 Boomtown Garson Rd.

Verdi, NV 89439

Website: <http://renohamswap.com>
Sponsor: Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.210 + PL 100.0

Public Contact: Wes Vick, KG7QXE

"PO BOX 7727 Reno, NV 89510

Phone: 775-453-4142

Email: snars@snars.org

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SEAPAC CONVENTION

SEA-PAC, ARRL Northwestern
Division Convention

Start Date: 06/02/2023

End Date: 06/04/2023

Location: Seaside Civic and
Convention Center
415 1st Ave.

Seaside, OR 97138

Website: <http://seapac.org>

Sponsor: Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club, Clark County
Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 145.49, -0.6 MHz, 118.8
Public Contact: C Wayne Schuler , AI9Q
PO Box 7263 Aloha, OR 97007
Phone: 503-882-7388
Email: info@seapac.org

SeaPac is a great convention with
numerous informative classes and great
prizes!

Marsha, KI6CSN

GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting will be
Tues., 16 May at the First United
Methodist Church, Pioneer Hall in
Marysville, Ca. John Portune (W6NBC)
will be doing a presentation via zoom on
"An Easy to Build Inexpensive 'Snooper'
Probe for Detecting and Solving Stray
RF on Your Coax and in Your Shack."

In addition, there is a revealing, little-
known, new view of baluns. You may be

surprised to learn, in this inside look,
that they belong only at the antenna.

The meeting starts at 7:00 P.M.

Last month, Grant Hunsicker
(KB6EC) from the Paradise Club gave
us an enthusiastic presentation on Parks
On The Air (POTA).

Website: <https://parksontheair.com/>



POTA map showing locations of
sites in CA. (Photo courtesy of Linda,
KK6SOZ)

FCC EXPOSURE RULES SOON TO AFFECT EVERY US RADIO AMATEUR

Beginning May 3, all ham radio
transmitters operating in the US will be
expected to comply with new FCC rules
governing RF exposure limits. These
new rules, which went into effect in May
2021, raised many questions in the ham
radio community. Gregory Lapin's,
N9GL, article, "FCC Exposure Rules
Soon to Affect Every US Radio
Amateur," is a plain-language
explanation of the FCC's expectations
including information about how to
perform the necessary assessments of
your station.

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The FCC has announced that rule changes detailed in a lengthy 2019 **Report and Order** governing RF exposure standards go into effect on May 3, 2021. The new rules do not change existing RF exposure (RFE) limits but do require that stations in all services, including amateur radio, be evaluated against existing limits, unless they are exempted. For stations already in place, that evaluation must be completed by May 3, 2023. After May 3 of this year, any new station, or any existing station modified in a way that's likely to change its RFE profile — such as different antenna or placement or greater power — will need to conduct an evaluation by the date of activation or change.

“In the RF Report and Order, the Commission anticipated that few parties would have to conduct reevaluations under the new rules and that such evaluations will be relatively straightforward,” the FCC said in an April 2 Public Notice. “It nevertheless adopted a 2-year period for parties to verify and ensure compliance under the new rules.”

The Amateur Service is no longer categorically excluded from certain aspects of the rules, as amended, and licensees can no longer avoid performing an exposure assessment simply because they are transmitting below a given power level.

“For most amateurs, the major difference is the removal of the categorical exclusion for amateur radio, which means that ham station owners must determine if they either qualify for an exemption or must perform a routine

environmental evaluation,” said Greg Lapin, N9GL, chair of the ARRL RF Safety Committee and a member of the FCC Technological Advisory Council (TAC).

“Ham stations previously excluded from performing environmental evaluations will have until May 3, 2023, to perform these. After May 3, 2021, any new stations or those modified in a way that affects RF exposure must comply before being put into service,” Lapin said.

The December 2019 RF Report and Order changes the methods that many radio services use to determine and achieve compliance with FCC limits on human exposure to RF electromagnetic fields. The FCC also modified the process for determining whether a particular device or deployment is exempt from a more thorough analysis by replacing a service-specific list of transmitters, facilities, and operations for which evaluation is required with new streamlined formula-based criteria. The R&O also addressed how to perform evaluations where the exemption does not apply, and how to mitigate exposure.

Amateur radio licensees will have to determine whether any existing facilities previously excluded under the old rules now qualify for an exemption under the new rules. Most will, but some may not.

The ARRL Laboratory staff is available to help amateurs to make these determinations and, if needed, perform the necessary calculations to ensure their stations comply. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, who helped prepare ARRL's RF Exposure and You book, explained it

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this way. “The FCC did not change any of the underlying rules applicable to amateur station evaluations,” he said. “The sections of the book on how to perform routine station evaluations are still valid and usable, especially the many charts of common antennas at different heights.” Hare said ARRL Lab staff also would be available to help amateurs understand the rules and evaluate their stations.”

RF Exposure and You is available for free download from ARRL. ARRL also has an RF Safety page on its website.

The ARRL RF Safety Committee is working with the FCC to update the FCC’s aids for following human exposure rules — OET Bulletin 65 and OET Bulletin 65 Supplement B for Radio Amateurs. In addition, ARRL is developing tools that all hams can use to perform exposure assessments.

PRES SEZ

I hope that many of you were able to join us at our April club meeting for the special presentation on Parks on the Air given by KB6EC / Grant. It was a very detailed introduction as to what POTA is all about and how to get started. My take on the reactions by those who attended was that we now have at least a few members eager to try out this easy to participate in method of operating remotely. I hope that our members are motivated to get out and attempt activating one of the close by sites registered with the POTA organization (5 or 6 within an hour’s drive). And if you are one of the ones who want to try it out I hope that you will open yourselves

up to partnering with another interested club member who might not currently have the equipment but would like to have the experience. In my experience, operating as a team is a very enjoyable way to share the excitement of making contacts across the country. POTA is probably one of the easiest ways to get started in field operating and not a bad way to rack up some contacts in your chase for some of the awards you might covet.

One of the things I wanted to promote this year is more participation in field operations. POTA is just one of those activities I think will be enjoyable to many of our members. It will also give us confidence in setting up a field station for other purposes. For a few years now I have wanted to try to interest our club members in planning a special event, something that we can advertise through the ARRL to the rest of the Ham community to bring attention to our club outside of our local area. There are so many special events held every year by clubs across the country to commemorate something special going on in their communities. For example, in February a club in Washington state held a special event commemorating the birthday of George Washington. They do it every year and they set up operations in the town of. George, Washington. I’ve been meaning to try and get a contact them for a couple of years and this year I did it. It was fun getting their special QSO card and more fun to me because I once celebrated the 4th of July in George. We too have unique things about our community that I think we can share with the rest of the country. The

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Bok Kai festival is probably the one that most easily comes to mind. And a special event with that as our theme has been discussed before but never in time to do anything about it. We can start planning for next year's festival but I'd like to try something not quite so ambitious to begin with. This year is the 70th anniversary of the Gray Lodge Wildlife Area. Gray Lodge is definitely something unique to our area and something we can advertise to the rest of the country through a special event. I have had some preliminary discussion with the management of Gray Lodge and there should be no real obstacles to setting up a station in the check-in station parking lot. Since that does not get busy until hunting season opens we should have no problem in setting up a station for the day. The only thing that they ask us is that we register ourselves at Parking Lot 14 and pay the usage fee. If we start planning now to hold this special event in August or September we have plenty of time to put all the pieces together. Field Day will be over by then and the Cal QSO Party won't be for a couple of more months so this would be an activity we could participate in during the lull. If you're interested in helping the club put together a special event please contact your board members. We'll make the effort to put together the plans if we know there's interest. If you want to see examples of special events go to the calendar at ARRL's web site: https://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:2/model:Event

Till next time,
73,
Chris / KK6VZD

PREPAREDNESS FAIR

The Yuba County Office of Emergency Services is holding a Preparedness Fair at the Ponderosa Community Center, Brownsville Ca. May 18th from 5:30 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Fire Trucks. Food Trucks. Door Prizes. Giveaways. A Helicopter.

All this, and you'll also get ready for any emergency.

Residents from all over Yuba County are invited to join the 3rd Annual Be Prepared Fair. It's a great evening of getting prepared for the wildfire season and chatting with state and local public safety officials in a festive, friendly atmosphere. There will be fire engines, emergency vehicles, giveaways, door prizes, the REACH Helicopter landing on the baseball field, food trucks, and so much more.

Check out the list of confirmed public safety agencies that will be at the Be Prepared Fair (including vehicles, equipment, and information tables):

Yuba County Office of Emergency Services

Yuba County Sheriff

Cal Fire

Foothill Fire Department

Camptonville Fire

California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES)

Yuba County Sheriff Boat Patrol

Yuba County Animal Care Services

Tahoe National Forest Service

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California Highway Patrol
PG&E
American Red Cross
93Q Radio
Yuba Water Agency
Yuba FireSafe Council
REACH Medical Helicopter
Yuba County Health and Human
Services
Field Haven Feline Center
Yuba-Sutter Domestic Animal
Disaster Assistance
Bi-County Ambulance
Amateur Radio Emergency Service
First 5 Yuba County
UC Master Gardeners
FREED
Feather River Air Quality
Management District
Yuba County Resource Conservation
District

Our local ARES group will also have a table there.

BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES WRAP UP

It's hard to believe it was just 10 days ago that our Club provided radio and vehicle support for the 2023 Bike Around the Buttes. Even though it was a very busy day, many memories come to mind, of SAG drivers dropping everything to pick up an injured ride, or just to provide the presence of "we care". Or many radio transmissions that helped out the local Lions groups provide the best support at the rest stops.

And, most of all, the sound of old friends and new friends working together

- hand in hand, or mic in mic. It went so well, I don't even remember a single hiccup even though routes were changing and rest stops were slightly behind schedules.

Kudos to everyone to helped, even if in the "watchful" mode.

73

Steve, KN6IJD

Those who helped and their positions:

| Position | Name | Call |
|-------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| Net Control | Curtis Sylvester-Jose | KF6VFP |
| Net Control | Mike Morris | KK6ISQ |
| Rest Stop 1 | Karla Hyatt Paul Hyatt | K6KDS W6PNH |
| Rest Stop 2 | Chris McLain | KK6VZD |
| Rest Stop 3 | Linda Maas | KK6SOZ |
| Rest Stop 4 | Patrick Putney | KN6RTH |
| Rest Stop 5 | Marsha Sylvester-Jose | KI6CSN |
| SAG 1 | Robert Kelly | K6VNR |
| SAG 3 | Ernie Rissler | KN6GTN |
| SAG 4 | Neil Bossard | N6CNY |
| SAG 5 | Andy Boone | KJ6IYM |
| SAG 6 | Ted Herman | KN6TED |
| SAG 7 | Matthew Anderson | KN6WNR |
| SAG 9 | Bud Myers Amelia Whitaker | KK1BUD KN6UUP |
| SAG 10 | Leroy Smith | KI6DKM |
| SAG 11 | Brandon Guthrie | KM6JID |
| Rover | Devon Goss | N0DVE |
| Victor 1 | Daniel Shelsta | N6APX |
| Victor 2 | Steve Shepard | KN6IJD |

During the event we had 4 people brought back to the finish line by the SAGs. All in all event organizers and riders gave praise to all the hams who helped out.

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Photos, courtesy of Linda (KK6SOZ) from Bike Around the Buttes Rest Stop 3. Rest stop 3 was located on the 22 mile "cute ride" suitable for families with young children.



NEW GENERAL CLASS QUESTION POOL

Effective July 1, 2023

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators' (NCVEC) Question Pool Committee (QPC) has released the 2023 - 2027 General Class FCC Element 3 Syllabus and Question Pool to the public. The new General Question Pool is effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2027.

The new pool incorporates some significant changes compared to the 2019 - 2023 version. Its 432 questions were modified slightly to improve wording and to replace distractors; 51 new questions were generated, and 73 questions were eliminated. This resulted in a reduction of 22 questions, bringing the total number of questions in the pool down from 454. The level of difficulty of questions is more balanced, and the techniques and practices addressed have been updated.

The pool is available as a Microsoft Word document and PDF online at,

<http://www.ncvec.org/page.php?id=369>.

The single graphic required for the new General Question Pool is available within the documents, or separately as PDF and JPG file formats.

"The newly revised pool must be used for General-class license exams starting July 1, 2023," said ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who is a member of the NCVEC Question Pool Committee. "New test designs will be available to ARRL Volunteer Examiners on that date. The ARRL VEC will supply its officially appointed, field-stocked VE teams with new General exam booklet designs around mid-June."

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General class examination candidates preparing for their exams using the 9th edition of The General Class License Manual, and/or the 6th edition of ARRL's General Q & A are encouraged to test by, or before, June 30, 2023. New editions of ARRL licensing publications will be available in May, for exams taken on, or after, July 1, 2023.

MONDAY NIGHT NET CONTROL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

To date, John (KI6UDF) has the following hams volunteering for 2023. Net control positions are open for 2023.

We are urgently in need of volunteers for the last 6 months of the year. Please step up and volunteer. You can do a single net, several nets or a whole month. The choice is yours.

If you wish to sign up let John know. John can be contacted on the net or email him at KI6UDF@gmail.com.

| Month | Name | Call |
|-------|---------------|--------|
| May | Ernie Rissler | KN6GTN |
| Jun | Steve Shepard | KN6IJD |
| Jul | | |
| Aug | | |
| Sep | | |
| Oct | | |
| Nov | | |
| Dec | | |

Thanks to all who have volunteered.
John (KI6UDF)

VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be Sat. May

6, 2023 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.

The exam requires two forms of ID. At least one of them must be a picture ID. A fee of \$15.00 is required. **Please Note: You must have a FCC Federal Registration Number (FRN) to take an exam and for any transactions with the FCC. You will need this number for the forms you'll complete. You will not be allowed to take the exam without this number. A FRN can be obtained at:**

<https://www.fcc.gov/licensing-databases/commission-registration-system-fcc>

A calculator may be used as long as it has had all of its memories cleared and there are no built in or preprogrammed formulas.

Upgrades to a higher class also require two forms of ID. At least one of them must be a picture ID. Also, 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.

Also note: new licensing fees are in effect. The fees will be the responsibility of the applicant regardless of filing method and must be paid within 10 calendar days of FCC's receipt of the application. For applications filed by a VEC, the period does not begin until the

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application is received by the Commission, a ULS file number assigned, and an email sent by the FCC directly to the applicant."

VECs and Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams will not collect the \$35 fee at license exam sessions. New and upgrade candidates at an exam session will continue to pay the \$15 exam session fee to the ARRL VE team as usual, and pay the new, \$35 application fee directly to the FCC by using the CORES FRN Registration system.

When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each successful candidate who then will have 10 calendar days from the date of the email to pay. After the fee is paid and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or explanation of other action. The link will be good for 30 days.

Good luck to everyone taking exams!

MAY QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS

06 May: Indiana QSO Party; CW, Phone

06 May: Delaware QSO Party; Phone, Digital

06 May: New England QSO Party, CW, Phone, Digital

13 May: Canadians Prairies QSO Party; CW, Phone

18 May; Netherlands QSO Party; CW

20 May: Arkansas QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

22 May: Youth on the Air Contest; CW, Phone

Many other contests can be found at: http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2023/May_2023_Corral.pdf and <https://www.contestcalendar.com>

Curtis (KF6VFP)

BOARD MEETING

The next board meeting will be held on Tues., May 2nd at 1900 (7 p.m.) via zoom. Details for the zoom meeting have been emailed.

COMMENTS

✓ YSARC's web page is: **ysarc.net**. Past VHN's are available on the club's website. Check out more photos of fox hunts and public service events!

Thanks to our webmaster, Paul Hyatt, W6PNH.

Click on the upper right-hand icon on the club's homepage to join the YSARC's **Facebook** page.

✓ How many of you have checked out the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section web page? There's lots of good information about what's happening with many of the different clubs in the Northern California area. Check it out!

<https://www.arrlsacvalley.org/home>

✓ Send your ham related articles and pictures to share in your VHN. Pictures of ham shacks, antenna parties, field day, Bike Around the Buttes, Fox Hunt, etc. are appreciated. Send them to KI6CSN@arrl.net or KF6FVP@arrl.net

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✓ Send your “Ask Curtis” questions to kf6vfp@arrl.net

✓ If anyone has ideas/suggestions for club activities that we can do online,

in person or virtually please contact any club officer or board member or email your suggestions to board@ysarc.net.

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Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 7, 2023 Held on Zoom platform, hosted by June



Meeting called to order by Chris McLain KK6VZD at 19:01 hours.

Officers and Board Members present unless noted

President: Chris McLain KK6VZD

Vice President: Steve Shepard KN6IJD

Secretary: Linda Maas KK6SOZ

Treasurer: June McJunkin N6JEY

Director: Joe Visalli N9BD

Director: Paul Hyatt W6PNH

Director: Robert Kelly K6VNR

Director: Bud Myers KK1BUD

Director: Ryan Mather K6RCM

Members and Guests present: Claire Schloenvogt KI6VWG, Curtis Sylvester-Jose KF6VFP, and LeRoy Smith KJ6DKM.

Secretary's Report:

- Motion to approve minutes from February 7, 2023 as written, Paul/Bud, passed.
- Motion to approved new member application from Scott Boulant who completed the technician class and passed the test, Joe/Ryan, passed.
- Received a letter from Umpqua Bank saying they are merging with Columbia Bank. Umpqua name will be retained.

Treasurer's Report:

- Motion to approve June's Financial Report for March 7, Joe/Paul, passed.

Old Business

- Steve says he has 6 of 11 SAGs and all rest stops needed for Bike around the Buttes.
- Joe will make a presentation on logging programs if John Portune isn't available to do a presentation for the March club meeting.
- Grant Hunsicker KB6EC will do a presentation on POTA for the April club meeting.
- Curtis will host an antenna building workshop on May 20 at his house. Options include tape measure Yagi, ladder line J-pole, dipoles, or whatever someone wants to make.

New Business

- Motion to authorize Joe to spend \$200 on club drawing prizes, Paul/Ryan, passed.
- Motion to authorize Curtis to buy power poles and a new receipt book not to exceed \$150, Joe/Paul, passed. Motion to increase it to \$200 so Curtis can buy a power pole crimper for the club, Bud/Joe, passed.
- Chris proposed the club activate a POTA site on a Saturday when the weather is nicer.
- Discussion of possible locations for holding a special event, such as Bok Kai Festival or Sutter Buttes Day.
- Motion to adjourn at 20:15 hours, Bud/Ryan, passed.

VALLEY HAM NEWS

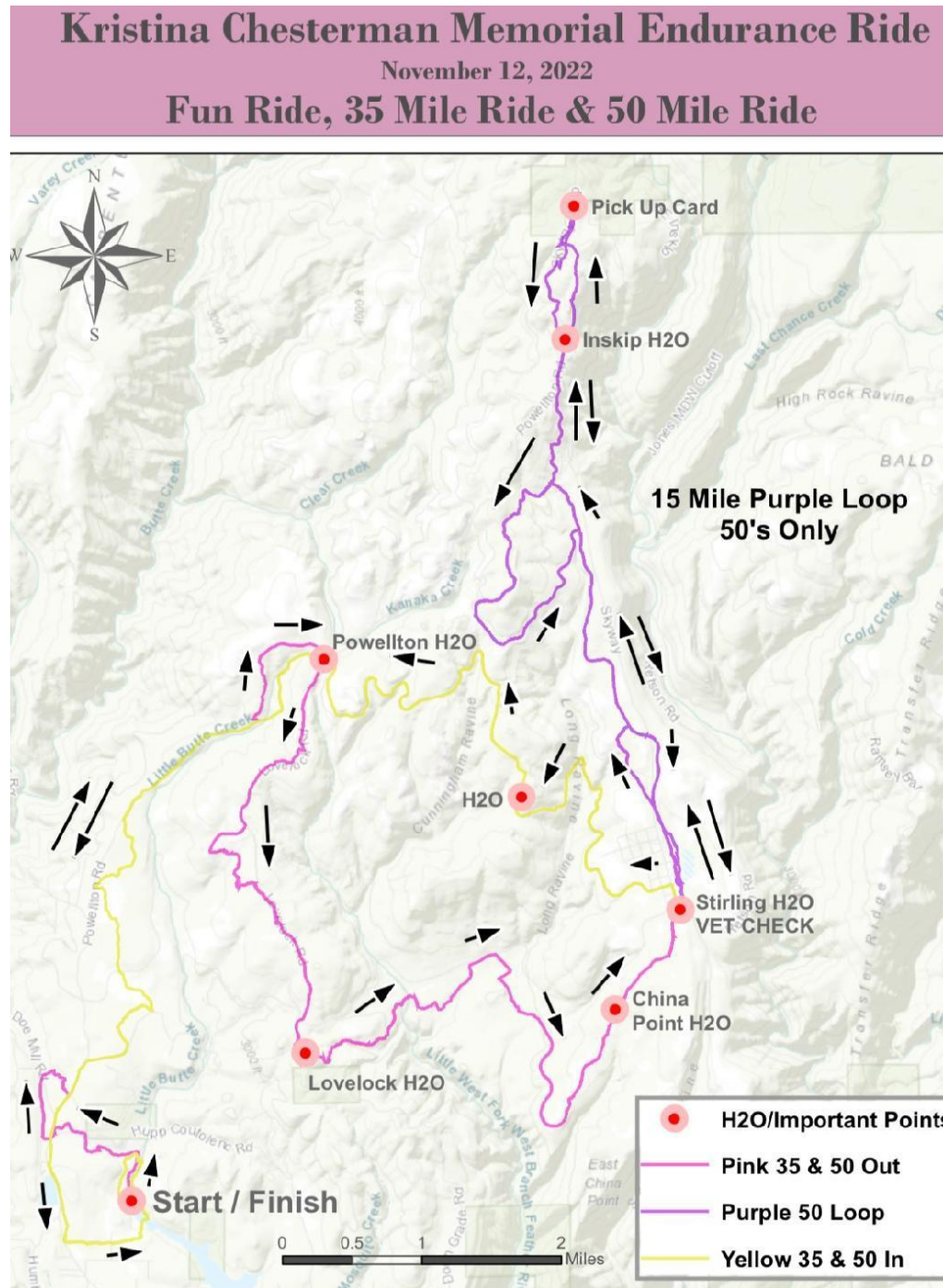
April 2023

Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary

RADIO / Checkpoint operational considerations

Good morning;

I thought I would send this attachment along as I don't know how well it would translate if I just sat down and ripped off this missive in the body of an e-mail. There's a lot of moving parts to this so bear with me.



The above is the KC Memorial Ride Map. There are two races; One is a 50-mile loop and the other is a 35-mile loop. The STOPS are all H2O points for the riders.

The critical STOPS are:

START/FINISH (Meadowbrook)

Powellton (OUTGOING – All riders)

Lovelock

China Point

Stirling City Vet Check

Inskip

Stirling City Vet Check

Powellton (RETURNING – 35 mile in late AM / 50 mile in the early PM)

START/FINISH (Meadowbrook)

START / FINISH (Meadowbrook) – All of the main comings and goings will happen here. I will be onsite at this location late THURSDAY evening and will handle radio operations on FRIDAY (riders will be arriving, have questions, need answers, directions, parking or location info etc.). If you are in the area, please check-in at my rig which will be adjacent to the BARN and large oval corrals on the site.

Powellton – This is a critical ALL DAY stop. All riders will pass through this stop coming in from the West. You will have frequent visits by the water truck. It is also a point which may need transport for horses and / or riders that can't continue (it's an uphill trail from the H2O stop which I call 'The Gap H2O' stop between Stirling City and Powellton as the riders return). I would like to have two people (minimum – one radio operator and one vet technician) at this stop. Ideally it should be somebody who isn't afraid of the dark or has no issue with a very early start to the day (like someone who has a camper on a high ground clearance vehicle that would be able to spend the night - no power or water at this location) and be ready when the first early riders start coming through.

SITE ASSIGNED TO: Patrick (KN6RTH) and Kaila

Lovelock – We are borrowing the parking lot from the Lovelock Inn. Riders come down the hill from Powellton to this point. There is a road crossing here. We hope to have a POLICE presence to aid in stopping traffic to allow the riders to cross the road. The RIDE folks will also have someone at this point to aid in the road crossing adventure. One radio operator should be sufficient, but if there's a husband / wife radio team here, that would be great. Once all riders are through, the site can close for the day. If the radio operators are still available, we can use your talents elsewhere.

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

China Point – Is just south of the Vet check in Stirling City. The reason we have a radio operator here is to warn the Vet check of all riders approaching the Stirling City site. A single radio operator here would do the job. Once all riders are through, they can re set-up elsewhere or help at the Vet Check location for the 50-mile riders who come back through this point later in the morning.

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

Stirling City Vet Check – This will be a busy place. The stop is located just south of the main part of town in a parking area that looks like a big gravel lot. Riders will be coming up from the China Point stop and will have to undergo a mandatory Vet examination. There is a possibility of riders and horses having to stop their ride if the Vet's Tech's determine that it is necessary. Ride management has this well staffed. A single radio operator can do the job. They should introduce themselves to all those at the Vet Check and let them know that any continuation decisions about riders and horses should be relayed to the radio operator. The times that the riders enter this stop and leave the Vet Check area to continue the race are CRITICAL HERE. This is also a point where a police presence will be established to help riders cross the road to continue on the course.

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

Inskip – This is a wide "dozer" cleared area on the West side of the road just below the cemetery (Pick-up card). The 50-mile riders will go through the stop twice. It is my opinion that two people are needed (one radio and one helper) as the riders come through. We record ONLY the riders that come from the Stirling City Vet check (from the South). Once all 50-mile riders are through, this stop can close for the day (early PM).

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

Stirling City Vet Check – The 50-mile riders will return from the Inskip stop and follow the 35 mile riders back up the trail towards Powellton. Vet's may spot check riders and horses as they return (it's an uphill grind to Inskip and the Card Pickup point). Again, this will be a busy place. Once all riders are through, the stop can shut down (early PM).

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

Powellton – This is a critical ALL DAY stop. All riders will pass through this stop coming in from the East. I covered the formalities of this stop above, just be ready when riders start the final leg of the ride. The number and ID's of the rider's and horses coming through this stop in the late AM / early PM is critical. Once we have verified that all riders are through, this stop can shut down for the day.

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

START/FINISH – If you would like to join the festivities, this is where the party will start. If you are at a remote stop, please consider coming back to the START / FINISH area. All of these riders have undertaken a huge endeavor on making this ride a success. They will be tears and high fives. It's a wonderful experience just being a part of it.

SITE ASSIGNED TO:

Somethings to think about – This race is not a 'walk in the park'. I have been to events where riders have been injured, horses and/or riders had to be pulled from the race, riders and horses that part company on the course... you name it. I've even been at a race where the radio operator took an impromptu bath and injured themselves in a water trough out on the course. If it can happen, it will. It shouldn't happen, but all radio operators and their assistants should be ready for anything.

Cell phone coverage may be spotty in some locations. It's a good idea to have, as a minimum, the Butte County Sheriff's phone number already preloaded into your cell phone.

Butte County Sheriff 530.538.7321

FRIDAY – Any and all help would be appreciated on Friday. Those operators with HT's would be warmly welcomed. I am working on getting Hi-Viz vests that can be worn (both at Start / Finish and at all the stops) so that the folks manning the radios can be easily identified.

If you are assigned to any of these spots, I do have some photos of the immediate area. Please send me an e-mail requesting the location and I'll see what I can do...

mgriner@bootleggproductions.com