

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

December 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**

December 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

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017**

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

## **CLUB OFFICERS 2018**

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

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Kevin Conde, K1KMC  
Neil Bossard, N6CNY  
John Rogers, KI6UDF  
Mark Peters, KA6FFM  
Herb Puckett, W6HBU

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

## **LIAISONS**

ARES: Andy Boone, KJ6IYM  
ARRL SM: Carol Milazzo, KP4MD  
VE Liaison: LeRoy Smith, KJ6DKM

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

02 Jan – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville  
03 Jan – 6:30 P.M. Technician Class Begins. American Red Cross - Classroom 1  
06 Jan – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City  
06 Jan – Kids Day  
17 Jan – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville  
  
06 Feb – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville  
21 Feb – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting,

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Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

28 Feb – 6:30 P.M. Technician Class Ends, American Red Cross, Classroom 1

03 Mar – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City

06 Mar – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

21 Mar – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

03 Apr – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

18 Apr – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

21 Apr – Bike Around the Buttes

01 May – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

05 May – 3F Bike Ride

05 May – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City

16 May – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

05 Jun – 7:00 P.M. General Club Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

17 Jun – Kids Day

20 Jun – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

23-24 Jun – ARRL Field Day

03 Jul – 7:00 P.M. General Club

Meeting, Sierra-Nevada Room, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

07 Jul – 9:00 A.M., VE Test, 715 King Ave. Yuba City

18 Jul – 7:00 P.M. Board Meeting, Caltrans Building, 703 B Street, Marysville

## YSARC Weekly Breakfast

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

## Local Nets

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.

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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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the air, or at one of the club meetings.

Herb Puckett (W6HBU) has some RG-58 and RG-59 coax available. Quantity is limited. If you want some please contact Curtis (KF6VFP).

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## ***THE "PREZ" SAYS***



## ***CLUB STORE***

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

1. PL295 Coax connectors, 21 each. Cost is \$1.99 each.
2. RG8X reducers, 21 each. Cost is \$0.69 each.
3. Power Pole connectors, 39 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, 225 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
10. RG-213 Coax cable, about 400 feet. Cost is \$0.50 per foot.
11. LMR 240 Coax cable, 600 feet. Cost is \$0.25 per foot.

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

As we edge ever closer to a new year I'm hoping that everyone had a reasonably pleasant holiday season. Mine was a bit hampered by being ill from whatever is going around, hopefully not many of you were affected. So, I'll try to keep it short this time around but wanted to tell you a little of what we have in store for this year. We should have a good mix of things we've done before and some new opportunities to expand our experiences. The solar panels donated to us by Sutter High School are still at Manna's house waiting for us to start putting them together into an array we can use for field activities. I've already gathered up some parts, we just need a few interested parties to get together and put it together. Although the Fox Hunt attendance was affected by the Cascade Fire for those that participated it was worthwhile. There seems to be enough interest that we're tentatively planning on scheduling another that more can attend. The antenna building activities seemed to be popular enough

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that I anticipate having more this year also. We have an opportunity to have a booth at the Beale AFB Air Show in April. I still have to contact the base to get more details but I think it would be a great way to get our name and hobby some more publicity throughout the area. It would be fantastic if we could bring the trailer, set up a station (including the solar array?) and do some operating there. In February the School Clubs contest is coming up which gives us another chance to introduce the hobby to students in the area. The Sutter High School Amateur Radio Club will probably want us to come out again as we did in September and set up a station. I think it would be great to start expanding into the elementary schools also. I've already approached a science teacher I know at Franklin Elementary to see what interest they might have. Of course, Field Day will roll around as it does every year although we'll need a coordinator to help get the planning going. We also have the possibility to pairing up with other groups to have activities together. Some members of the Paradise Amateur Radio Club are interested in planning a field activity or two that we participate in together. Something along the lines of meeting at a spot roughly halfway in between, setting up a field station and having a picnic together. It would be a great way to meet, work together, learn from one another and put a face to a call sign. And, as always, we always have communications teams we need volunteers for. We could keep ourselves really busy in the coming year. I'll be looking forward to meeting soon and

hearing your ideas for what you'd like our club to do.

Chris/KK6VZD

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## **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 Monday and Wednesday evenings from Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> thru Feb 28<sup>th</sup>.

There is no cost for the classes, however you will need an up-to-date manual. You can obtain a Kindle version from Amazon, purchase a copy from a bookstore, ARRL, or order one thru an instructor.

The instructors will be Curtis (KF6VFP) and Joe (N9BD)

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

So far ten people have signed up.

More information can be obtained from Curtis at (530) 743-3003 or [KF6VFP@arrl.net](mailto:KF6VFP@arrl.net).

Curtis, KF6VFP

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## **FREE ANTENNA TOWER**

Michael Burns, the son of a deceased ham has an approximately 25

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foot tower free to anyone who is willing to come get it. He can be contacted at (530) 671-7822.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

It is getting to be that time of year again when we remind everyone to renew membership for 2018. The application form for renewal is available on the club website at:

<http://ysarc.net/join-now.html>

## **YSARC 2017 CHRISTMAS PARTY**



Good food, good friends, great door prizes, and a visit from Santa. This was our annual Christmas Party.



Porky's BBQ's served delicious food.



Santa delivers a radio! Winifred (KD8PGD) was the recipient.



Beautiful quilts and an HRO gift certificate were among the great prizes.

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Website: <http://quartzfest.org>  
Sponsor: QuartzFest Planning  
Committee

Type: ARRL Convention  
Talk-In: 146.55 FM Simplex  
Public Contact: Kristyn Weed , KR1SS  
1519 North Camino Emiliano Tucson,  
AZ 85745

Phone: 520-730-1806  
Email: [kristynweed@gmail.com](mailto:kristynweed@gmail.com)

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## HAMFESTS

*Thunderbird Hamfest 2018*

*Start Date: 01/13/2018*

*End Date: 01/13/2018*

*Location: Northwest Community Church  
16615 North 43rd Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85001*

*Website: <http://www.w7tbc.org>*

*Sponsor: Thunderbird Amateur Radio  
Club*

*Type: ARRL Hamfest*

*Talk-In: 146.700 -600 KHz (PL 162.2) or  
446.150 -5 MHz (PL 100)*

*Public Contact: Walter Reinert , NJ8G  
5546 West Sweetwater Avenue  
Glendale, AZ 85304*

*Phone: 602-938-8219*

*Email: [hamfest@w7tbc.org](mailto:hamfest@w7tbc.org)*

*QuartzFest Convention*

*Start Date: 01/21/2018*

*End Date: 01/27/2018*

*Location: Road Runner BLM  
La Paz Valley Road (53rd Street N)  
Quartzsite, AZ 85346*

## ELECTIONS

Kathleen Squires, KM6BDQ, has volunteered to be the VP next year. According to the club by-laws a special election must be held within 2 months of the position becoming vacant on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## TECHNICIAN, GENERAL AND EXTRA CLASS QUESTION POOL REVIEW

From the Technician Class question pool:

T9A03 Which of the following describes a simple dipole mounted so the conductor is parallel to the Earth's surface?

- A. A ground wave antenna
- B. A horizontally polarized antenna
- C. A rhombic antenna
- D. A vertically polarized antenna

The correct answer is B This question designed to test your

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knowledge of a vertical vs. horizontal polarized antenna. A dipole antenna is one that is  $\frac{1}{2}$  wave-length long (about 39 inches (1 meter) for 2 meter). When the antenna element is parallel to the earth then you have a horizontally polarized antenna (typical of HF antennas). When the antenna element is perpendicular to the earth you have a vertically polarized antenna.

The polarization of an antenna is determined by the direction of the E-field. Remember that all radiation from an antenna has a E-field (electric field) and an M-field (magnetic field). The E field and M-field are at  $90^\circ$  to each other. The E-field is the direction of the current flowing along the length of the antenna element. Hence the position of the element gives you a clue to vertical vs. horizontal polarization.

A ground wave antenna is usually a  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength (19 inches for 2 meters) or a  $\frac{5}{8}$  wavelength that uses a ground plain or radials to reflect the signal.

A rhombic antenna is a type of directional antenna.

From the General Class question pool:

G1D03 On which of the following band segments may you operate if you are a Technician Class operator and have a CSCE for General Class privileges?

A. Only the Technician band segments until your upgrade is posted in the FCC database

B. Only on the Technician band

segments until your license arrives in the mail

C. On any General or Technician Class band segment

D. On any General or Technician Class band segment except 30-meters and 60-meters

The correct answer is C. According to the FCC part 97.9(b) states "The person named in an operator license grant of Novice, Technician, General or Advanced Class, who has properly submitted to the administering VEs a FCC Form 605 document requesting examination for an operator license grant of a higher class, and who holds a CSCE indicating that the person has completed the necessary examinations within the previous 365 days, is authorized to exercise the rights and privileges of the higher operator class until final disposition of the application or until 365 days following the passing of the examination, whichever comes first."

In order to use your privileges you must add to your call sign a special identifier suffix – for example KF6VFP/AG (digital) or KF6VFP slash AG or temporary AG (audio) when operating in the general portions of the bands.

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From the Extra Class question pool:

E8B03 What is the modulation index of an FM-phone signal having a maximum frequency deviation of 3000 Hz either side of the carrier frequency when the modulating frequency is 1000 Hz?

- A. 3
- B. 0.3
- C. 3000
- D. 1000

The correct answer is A. The formula for Modulation Index is:

$$\text{Modulation Index} = \frac{D_{\max}}{m} = \frac{3000}{1000}$$

where

$D_{\max}$  is the peak deviation in hertz.

M is the modulating frequency in hertz at any given instant.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

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## VE TEST SESSION

The next VE session will be 9:00 A.M., 6 January 2018 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 web page is: [ysarc.net](http://ysarc.net).

Past and current issue's of the VHN are available on this website.

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

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

✓If you have any ideas of what you'd like to see in this newsletter, please let us know.

✓Do you have something to sell? Send us the information and we'll include it.

**Field Day** is coming up in six months! If you would like to ramrod this event contact any board member or club officer with your ideas. Planning needs to start 3-4 months before June.

**Elmers** are need for ham equipment



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help, Morse code training, and license upgrades.

We hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and have a



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