

# VALLEY HAM NEWS

January 2023

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

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

January 2023

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## **CLUB OFFICERS**

Pres.: Chris McLain, KK6VZD  
Vice Pres.: Steve Shepard, KN6IJD  
Secretary: Linda Maas, KK6SOZ  
Treasurer: June McJunkin, N6JEY

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Joe Visalli, N9BD  
Paul Hyatt, W6PNH  
Robert Kelly, K6VNR  
Bud Myers KK1BUD  
Ryan Mather K6RCM

## **REPEATER TRUSTEE**

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

## **LIAISONS**

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

04 Jan – 27 Feb – Technician Class  
  
07 Feb – Board Meeting  
11 Feb – Fox Hunt  
21 Feb – General Meeting  
  
04 Mar – VE Session

07 Mar – Board Meeting  
11 Mar – Fox Hunt  
18 Mar – Loomis Hamfest  
21 Mar – General Meeting  
25-26 Mar – QSO Today Virtual Ham  
Fest

04 Apr – Board Meeting  
18 Apr – General Meeting  
22 Apr – Bike Around the Buttes

## **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

**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

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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.

## FOX HUNT



Unfortunately, the January Fox Hunt got rained out. The next Fox Hunt will be Feb. 11th. Beginning at 9 AM. The Fox will be transmitting from somewhere in Yuba City on 146.565 MHz. When you arrive at the location, you'll have an opportunity to find a second, low-power transmitter on foot. We'll have some refreshments and a chance to share hunting stories. After about an hour the APRS will be turned on.

Contact: Paul Hyatt, W6PNH. He will be available on the repeater.

Bring your transceivers and antennas. Can you find the hidden

transmitters?

Paul (W6PNH) and Karla (K6KDS)

## 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, 25 red/ black pairs. Cost is \$1.00 per pair.
4. RG8X strain relief boots, 5
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, 584 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.

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Also available are 25 Watt soldering irons that can be checked out for up to 1 month.

If you are interested in checking out a soldering iron or purchasing any of the club store items contact, 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.

## HAMFESTS

### Loomis Hamfest

Start Date: 03/18/2023

End Date: 03/18/2023

Location: Historic Loomis Train Depot  
5775 Horseshoe Bar Rd.

Loomis, CA 95650

Website: [w6ek.org](http://w6ek.org)

Sponsor: Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: W6EK, 145.430 MHz, -.6, 162.2

Public Contact: Smitty Smith, WB1G

6484 Osprey Court Rocklin, CA 95765

Phone: 916-773-1999

Email: [pio@w6ek.org](mailto:pio@w6ek.org)

## ARRL SACRAMENTO VALLEY SECTION NET

The next Section-wide Net will be held Thursday, February 16, 2023 following the 7 pm Yuba-Sutter ARES net on the WD6AXM 146.085 MHz +0.6 MHz offset, CTCSS 127.3 Hz FM repeater, followed by the HF Section Net on 3880 kHz LSB +/- 3 kHz (or 5330.5 kHz USB).

## BIKE AROUND THE BUTTES

Our club is in need of a Ramrod for the Bike Around The Buttes in April. You will need to contact the Northern California Lions club to get the bike routes, number and location of rest stops.

[www.bikearoundthebuttes.com](http://www.bikearoundthebuttes.com)

Duties of the ramrod: coordinate the ham radio volunteers, which includes net controls, one or two volunteers for each rest stop, and enough SAGs (Support And Gear) to cover the routes with one SAG preferred for every 10 miles.

Curtis (KF6VFP) will volunteer for net control or a rest stop.

## ASK CURTIS

How are resistance (R), reactance (X) and impedance (Z) related?

Resistance (R) is the opposition to both AC and DC current flow.

Reactance ( $X_L$  or  $X_C$ ) is the opposition to AC current flow by an inductor or capacitor. The amount of reactance is frequency dependent. In an inductor there is no resistance to DC current. In a capacitor DC current is blocked. The formula for reactance in an inductor is:

$$X_L = 2\pi fL$$

Where  $X_L$  is the reactance in ohms  
 $f$  is the frequency  
 $L$  is the inductance

The formula for reactance in a capacitor is:

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$$X_C = 1/(2\pi fC)$$

Where  $X_C$  is the reactance in ohms  
 $f$  is the frequency  
 $C$  is the capacitance

Based on the above formulas the reactance increases in an inductor as the frequency increases and decreases in a capacitor as frequency increases.

Impedance occurs when a circuit has both resistance and reactance. This combined opposition to current is the impedance ( $Z$ ).

Resistance, reactance and impedance are all measured in ohms ( $\Omega$ ).

For more detailed information can be found in the *ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications*, chapter 2 Electrical Fundamentals.

Curtis (KF6VFP)

## **TECHNICIAN CLASS**

The technician class is in full swing. Currently we have 6 students attending the class.

## **THE "PREZ" SAYS**



Well, time is moving on and it's already time for the next edition of the Prez Says. Cross fingers that I'll be able to keep putting one together every month for the rest of the year. I'm trying Curtis! I think we had a very good club

meeting in January. We had a few new visitors who joined into the meeting who were gladly welcomed by the "old timers" and got one of them directed to the Technician class so he could get his license. I'm always so proud to see how welcoming and open our club is to new faces. I've heard those comments before from non-members who have come into contact with you. That inclusiveness is part of what it means to be a ham so keep it up.

On January 16<sup>th</sup> I made a trip to Lincoln and visited a club meeting of the Lincoln Hills Amateur Radio Group. This is a group of hams that are exclusively residents of Sun City Lincoln Hills. Two of their members are also members of our own club; Claire/KI6VWG who is a longtime member of YSARC and Dan/KN6DRN who is a more recent member of YSARC but is also current president of LHARG. It was nice to make some new acquaintances and to see how they run their meetings (they meet every Monday!) and see what they talk about. I intentionally made the effort to attend, not only to foster camaraderie between our groups, but to try and pick up some ideas that we might want to apply to our own club. We have a lot of clubs around us in Northern California and each one of them does some things differently. By visiting these other clubs and joining in their nets I'm hoping to breathe some new life into our own club by stimulating our imagination. I think that sometimes our membership might be somewhat disappointed that we seem to be in a rut doing the same things every year. Don't get me wrong. Some of our activities are eagerly

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awaited every year and would be missed if we did not schedule them. But I also think that bringing in some new ideas would generate more interest AND satisfaction for all our members. So, I'm encouraging all of you to do some investigating of other groups. There are a lot of ways to do it. One easy way is to visit other club web sites and look around. All that takes is some computer time. See what you like about the website itself and give us some idea on how we might improve ours. While you're there see what they have to offer that might be open to any ham, not just their members. Myself, Eric/KN6QQT and another ham from Illinois, are attending an Amateur Extra class being taught by members of the Sierra Foothills Amateur Radio Club on Zoom. It's a no cost class that's not easy to find locally. They also offer Technician and General classes. And if you don't need to attend one yourself it's nice to know about them yourselves so you can pass that information on to others that may be interested. Other clubs might also need some assistance providing radio communications for an event as we do with Bike Around the Buttes. If that type of activity interests you then club web sites are the place to find that info. Another fairly easy thing to do is check into another club's net every once in awhile. Again, you'll get to see some differences in how their nets are conducted and come away with an idea on how to add to ours or improve the way we conduct ours. If you do, take the opportunity to invite their members to participate in the YSARC net. Again, developing camaraderie amongst fellow

hams. And you might get to operate on a different band than you're used to, 10 MHz, 220 MHz, and 900 MHz (I haven't yet seen nets on this band but I'd be eager to join if I did). Actually attending other club meetings is more difficult due to the distances that would need to be driven. But again those would be opportunities to pick up new ideas for own club. And maybe actually meet some of the people who belong to the voices you talk with on the air. These contacts could lead to a joint event that we would otherwise not be able to take part in. Such as, Paradise Amateur Radio Group and YSARC jointly operated from the Kiwi Fest in Gridley a few years ago.

I myself am going to try to do all of these things multiple times throughout the year. I'm hoping that some of you will see the value to our club (and yourself) and join me in exploring these other opportunities in any way you can. If you do, please, please, please share with all of us your thoughts of those experiences. It can only help us to be a better club than we already are.

Till next time, 73,

Chris / KK6VZD

## **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

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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."

General class examination candidates preparing for their exams using the 9th edition of The General Class License Manual, and/or the 6<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

If you wish to sign up let John know.

2023		
Jan	Steve Shepard	KN6IJD
Feb	Chris McLain	KK6VZD
Mar	Karla Hyatt Paul Hyatt	K6KDS W6PNH
Apr	Marsha Curtis	KI6CSN KF6VFP
May	Ernie Rissler	KN6GTN
Jun		
Jul		
Aug		
Sep		
Oct		
Nov		
Dec		

Thanks to all who have volunteered.  
John (KI6UDF)

## **VE TEST SESSION**

Sat. Mar. 4, 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

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ID. A fee of \$15.00 is required.

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.

**Please Note: You must use 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. A FRN can be obtained at:**

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

**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 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!

## ***FEBRUARY QSO AND OTHER CONTESTS***

04 Feb: Vermont QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

04 Feb: Minnesota QSO Party; CW, Phone, Digital

04 Feb: British Columbia QSO Party; CW, Phone

04 Feb: North America Sprint; CW

11 Feb: Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint; CW

11 Feb: YLRL YL-OM Contest; CW, Phone, Digital

11 Feb: OMISS QSO Party; Phone

13 Feb: CQC Winter QSO Party; CW

13 Feb: ARRL School Club Roundup; CW, Phone, Digital

18 Feb: ARRL International DX Contest; CW

25 Feb: North America QSO Party; Digital

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26 Feb: North Carolina QSO Party;  
CW, Phone, Digital

Many other contests can be found at:  
[http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2022/February 2023 Corral.pdf](http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ContestCorral/2022/February%202023%20Corral.pdf)

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

It is getting to be that time of year again when we remind everyone to renew membership for 2023. Full membership is \$20. Second ham in same household is \$5. Associate (non-voting) membership is \$5.

You can also make a donation to the repeater fund or to YSARES at the same time if you are so inclined.

A copy of the club application form is available on the club website: [ysarc.net](http://ysarc.net).

## **BOARD MEETING**

The next board meeting will be held on Tues. February 7th at 1900 (7 p.m.) via zoom. Details for the zoom meeting will be emailed later.

## **COMMENTS**

✓ YSARC's web page is: [ysarc.net](http://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 when you have a chance.

<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](mailto:KI6CSN@arrl.net) or [KF6FVP@arrl.net](mailto:KF6FVP@arrl.net)

✓ Send your "Ask Curtis" questions to [kf6vfp@arrl.net](mailto: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](mailto:board@ysarc.net).



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## Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 6, 2022

Held on Zoom platform, hosted by June

Meeting called to order by President Daniel Weber KM6RHC at 19:01 hours.

### Officers and Board Members present unless noted

President: Daniel Weber KM6RHC

Vice President: Steve Shepard KN6IJD

Secretary: Linda Maas KK6SOZ

Treasurer: June McJunkin N6JEY

Director: Joe Visalli N9BD

Director: Chris McLain KK6VZD

Director: Mike Morris KK6ISQ - absent

Director: Paul Hyatt W6PNH

Director: Robert Kelly K6VNR

Members and Guests present: LeRoy Smith KJ6DKM, Claire Schloenvogt KI6VWG, Curtis Sylvester-Jose KF6VFP, Ryan Mather K6RCM.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Linda requests reimbursement of \$27.50 for postage stamps purchased, Joe/Paul, passed.

### Secretary's Report:

- Motion to approve minutes from November 1, 2022 as written, Paul/Joe, passed.
- We received a Christmas card and donation request from Salvation Army. No action taken.

### Old Business

- Christmas party went well. 46 people attended (50 meals paid for). \$505 collected from drawing tickets. Santa was paid \$100.
- Technicians class starts Jan 4 at the Red Cross building in Yuba City, M&W, 6:30-8:30pm.

### New Business

- Motion to make a \$300 donation to the First United Methodist Church in Marysville for the use of their facility for club meetings, Robert/Chris, passed. Curtis reports that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month has been reserved.
- Motion to approve the results of the November 15 election of the 2023 Officers and Board Members, accomplished by a unanimous show of hands by a quorum of 23 of the 66 full voting members. Chris/Paul, passed. 2023 Budget was also voted on and passed by the membership.
  - Chris McLain KK6VZD – President
  - Steve Shepard KN6IJD – Vice President
  - June McJunkin N6JEY - Treasurer
  - Linda Maas KK6SOZ – Secretary
  - Joe Visalli N9BD – Board Member
  - Robert Kelly K6VNR – Board Member
  - Paul Hyatt W6PNH – Board Member

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- Bud Myers KK1BUD – Board Member
  - Ryan Mather K6RCM – Board Member
  - The next board meeting will be Tuesday, January 3rd. We need to come up with a topic.
  - Motion to adjourn at 19:25 hours, Joe/Chris, passed.
- Respectfully submitted by Linda Maas KK6SOZ, YSARC Secretary