

THE VALLEY HAM NEWS



"The Voice of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club"

A California Non-Profit Organization

September 2010



THE AUGUST YSARC DINNER IS A BIG SUCCESS !!



Pictured in the photo is Andy, KJ6IYM; Debbie, KI6ROW; June, N6JEY; & Russell, KB6YAF

Nothing brings people together better than good food and good company! Members of the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club did just that at the Black Bear Restaurant in Gridley on August 4th. We only had 2 extra seats available! The evening started out with Russell, KB6YAF, showing a couple short video highlights of the 2010 Dayton Hamfest. Also, several "door prizes" were given away to several lucky recipients before the meal. Lonnie, KI6ZYY showed a piece of equipment he had bought at June, N6JEY's garage sale. It is a homebrew antenna tuner that Bill, N6FAB (sk) had built. No one seemed to have any idea on how to use it properly. If you'd like to give Lonnie an email concerning the tuner, you can reach him at ki6zyy@yahoo.com. Check out the photos of the "Mystery Tuner" at the end of the newsletter!

YSARC
PO Box 1169, Yuba City, CA 95992

President

Russell Decker, KB6YAF
(Newsletter Editor)

Vice President

Lonnie Moore, KI6ZYY

Secretary

Manna Whelchel, KA6ETB

Treasurer

Clara Ansley, N6VRH

Board Members

Herb Puckett, W6HBU
Paul Johnson, N6XVL
Barry Barnes, KE6LW
Nancy Strong, KI6INC
Teeje Jamison, NE1CQ
(Webmaster)

Repeater Trustee

Dave Gartner, WD6AXM

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday: Club Meeting
3rd Wednesday: Board Meeting
(Check the minutes for details on the Club and Board Meetings)

All newsletter submissions are due on or before the 4th Wednesday of the month

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 31st (6 PM) Club Potluck BBO at Meg's
Bring a side dish and meet at Meg Burgin's in Live Oak. Go north on Hwy. 99, turn Right at Pennington Rd, turn Left at Larkin, go one mile and turn left at 11476 Larkin. The club will provide the hamburgers & Hot Dogs. We will also have a mini demo on "T-Hunting"

CLUB ACTIVITIES

Monday Night Net - (7 PM) - Weekly net w/swap shop
(146.085 + PL 127.3)
Monday Night Net - (8 PM) - Butte Co. ARES Net
(146.850 - PL 110.0)
Tuesday Night Net - (7 PM) - YSARC ARES Net
(146.085 + PL 127.3)
2nd Wednesday - (7 PM) - ARRL Sac Valley Net

MANNA'S MINUTES

YSARC BOARD MEETING - WEDNESDAY Aug 18, 2010 - W6HBU Residence, Yuba City, CA

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1905 hours by President Russell Decker.

The Club started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE: President Russell Decker, KB6YAF; Vice President Lonnie Moore KI6ZYY;

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Herb Puckett, W6HBU; Paul Johnson, N6XVL; Nancy Strong, KI6INC.

OFFICERS/BOARD MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND: Treasurer Clara Ansley, N6VRH; Manna Whelchel, KA6ETB; Barry Barnes, KE6LW; Teeje Jamison, NE1CQ

Guests in attendance: Ramona Traub, Gerry, WA6ZZK; Lee, KC6MCI

Secretary's Report: Russell read Manna's minutes of meeting of the July Meeting. July Minutes - (M/S/P)

Treasurer's Report: No Treasurer's Report

Old Business:

1. Since Bill, WA6OHP, will be teaching a ham radio class in Colusa, Gerry, WA6ZZK and Lee, KC6MCI will take over the responsibilities of administering the VE testing at the Sacramento Valley Hamfest. They will also have help from members from the Oroville and Western Placer radio clubs. VE credentials will be checked.
2. Club Antenna Help List - The following people need help in repairing/installing ham radio antennas: Meg, KI6TLS with her 2m Quad and J Pole; Herb, W6HBU with his 2m Quad; June, N6JEY with her J Pole; and Eleanor, KI6CSO, with her 2m Quad; Paul, N6XVL needs old quad replaced & rotor checked.
3. Any one else needs antenna help needs to contact Lonnie, Lee, or Russ.
4. Barry, KE6LW has Anderson Power Poles for the club store. An order of coax and crimp connectors will be made as soon as it is determined the proper size and amount needed. Lee, KC6MCI will take care of the coax and connectors. Herb, W6HBU has the tools for crimping.

New Business:

1. The next meeting will be held at Meg Burgin's QTH in Live Oak starting at 6 PM. Some members will arrive early to help Meg set up and get the BBQ fire going. Members, family, and guests are asked to bring a side dish. The club will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. Lonnie and Russ will work on a mini-demo for "T-Hunting" for the evening. Hopefully this demo will help those for the next "T-Hunt" in September.
2. The next board meeting - T.B.A. - (Barry or Herb's QTH??)
3. A repeater Interference Phone Tree is planned for future problems with jammers.
4. Look for a "T or Fox Hunt" on either Sept. 18th or 25th (Saturday) Usual meeting place is at Sam Brannon Park on Gray Ave between Colusa Blvd and Bridge Street at 9 am. Listen to the 146.085 repeater on the Monday Night Net for more info.
5. A Mobile Antenna Field Strength Test is being organized soon to help those determine their mobile RF radiation pattern.
6. The YSARC will continue to have "door prizes" at their meetings featuring 'grab bags with other fine prizes. One free ticket per person will be given to those who attend. Additional tickets will be sold - \$1 per ticket or 6 for \$5
7. The club wishes to thank Lee, KC6MCI for his donation of his 2m Quad to Meg, KI6TLS. The club also wishes to thank Gerry, WA6ZZK for his donation of the RG-213 coax for Meg's Quad and J Pole.
8. Russell, KB6YAF is donating a J Pole to the Yuba Sutter Animal Rescue Group Comm Trailer.
9. A discussion of the upcoming elections were discussed.

The meeting ended at 8:45pm. - Russell Decker & Lonnie substituting minute taking for Manna, KA6ETB

ANTENNA ASSISTANCE

Any club member(s) who need assistance with their antennas, please contact Lonnie, KI6ZYY at ki6zyy@yahoo.com to make arrangements for a team of volunteers to come to your QTH and help with your antenna project. If you have the skills and ability to help repair antennas, etc. and would like to be a part of the "Antenna Assistance Group", please contact Lonnie and let him know that

HAM STUFF TO BUY, SELL, OR TRADE

Yaesu FT-840 HF Transceiver - \$250

Astron RS-12a Power Supply. Rated @ 12amps - \$80

Aluminum 2m J-Poles - 6061 Aluminum/Stainless fasteners - \$30 ea.

If interested ...call Russ, KB6YAF @ 530-821-5882 or email at kb6yaf@arrl.net

Here are the rules: Any YSARC member can list a ham-related item(s) to sell, buy, or trade. Give a brief description of the item(s), an asking price, and a way to contact you (email address would be a good way). Please limit the amount of items to (4) per month. The items

YSARC CLUB STORE

The YSARC Club Store is a service for YSARC "Members Only" Sometimes you get into a ham related project and find that you are in need of some parts, etc. and would like to have them NOW. We've all been there. Now, the YSARC is starting to stock commonly used items. If you are a member and need to access the Club Store, please contact Barry, KE6LW at ke6lw@comcast.net or Lee, KC6MCI at leesheffield@comcast.net

YUMMI STUFF - RECIPES FROM OUR MEMBERS

SNICKERDOODLES

Mix Thoroughly:

1 cup Soft Shortening
1 1/2 cups Sugar
2 Eggs

Sift together and add:

2 3/4 cups Flour
2 tsp. Cream of Tartar
1 tsp. Baking Soda
1/2 tsp. Salt

Chill dough and roll into balls walnut size. Roll in mixture of 2 Tbs. sugar and 2 tsp. cinnamon. Place 2 inches apart on un-greased cookie sheet. Bake until lightly brown but still soft. These cookies will puff up at first, then flatten out with crinkled tops. Temp: 400 deg. - 8-10 minutes.

(.....submitted by Herb, W6HBU from the Puckett Family Recipe Book - Second Edition - Oct. 2008)

EDITORS NOTE: This recipe has always received RAVE reviews over the years from the YSARC membership. This recipe is Paul, N6XVL's favorite, so much so that Herb's XYL, Agnes, used to make him a special batch!!!



The KB6YAF manufacturing dept. has been in full tilt in the last few weeks. As many of you know, I build J Poles patterned after the ones sold by the VFW Group in the bay area. I use T6061 aircraft aluminum and stainless steel connectors. I also have tapped a 1/4"

x#20 threaded hole on the end of the stud that will fit almost any camera tripod. The J Poles do offer a dB gain and is very light compared to the popular copper J Poles. Many people have bought these from me over the years and have enjoyed their durability and reliability. Unless you run over it with a truck, these J Poles will last many many years. My first J Pole is still in service, and that was over 20 years ago!! If you are interested in buying one, just contact me. I will be at the Sacramento Valley Hamfest at Lincoln HS on Sept 11th. Hope to see you there.

I gauge the health of our club by the involvement of our membership. I am encouraged how we are getting more and more members to participate at our functions. Please be thinking about the elections for our club officers and board members in November for the coming year. We need dedicated members who are willing to donate their skills and time to guide our club into the next year. If you would like to run for an office or a board position, please don't hesitate to make that know to one of our current leaders. Our club needs people with leadership skills who are willing to donate

time and effort to ham radio in the Yuba Sutter area with the Yuba Sutter Amateur Radio Club.

I have designed a mount for the BIG DK3 for the pickup and have had it welded up by Lonnie, KI6ZYY. He is a "Master Welder"!! The BIG DK3 originally invented by Don, W6AAQ(sk), covers the HF band 10-80m. by moving a coil up and down using a handheld powered screwdriver activated by the operator inside the pickup with a DPDT switch. Mine works fantastic. If you are interested in purchasing a mobile HF antenna, Lee, KC6MCI manufactures them for a very reasonable price. This motorized antenna can also be used as a stationary antenna for your home or on an RV. I have had good results mounting it on a heavy duty camera tripod. I do this while camping and it works out quite well. You might think of using one for Field Day or emergency communications. I will post some photographs of the BIG DK3 in this newsletter.

73 for now, KB6YAF



ADDITIONAL YSARC ITEMS

TECH CLASSES OFFERED

Bill WA6OHP, will be teaching a Tech class in Colusa on Saturdays, starting Sept 11 and going through October 30. Class times will be from 9 am - 12 noon. The lessons are available on his web blog. www.hamslife2.blogspot.com Meetings will be at the Colusa Sheriffs building located at 929 Bridge Street. Parking will be on the south side of the building (across the side street from Burger King). Someone will be there to let you in.

LONNIE, KI6ZYY'S LATEST ANTENNA PROJECT



July 24th found Lonnie KI6ZYY assembling & raising a mast/antenna set up. He used a 30 foot piece of 2.5" aluminum irrigation pipe with a 10' length of 1.5" PVC pipe. Half the PVC extended above the aluminum pipe to help keep the upper halyard pulley above the metal mast.

It took several tries to stand it up. It was like trying to get cooked spaghetti to stand up straight. Lots of flex! The mast is affixed to the tower with worm gear clamps. The Ringo Ranger 2 works like a dream & the 6 band multi-trap does too.

The mast is vertical at last! A 6 band multi-trap is partially raised with the halyard.



THE "MYSTERY TUNER"

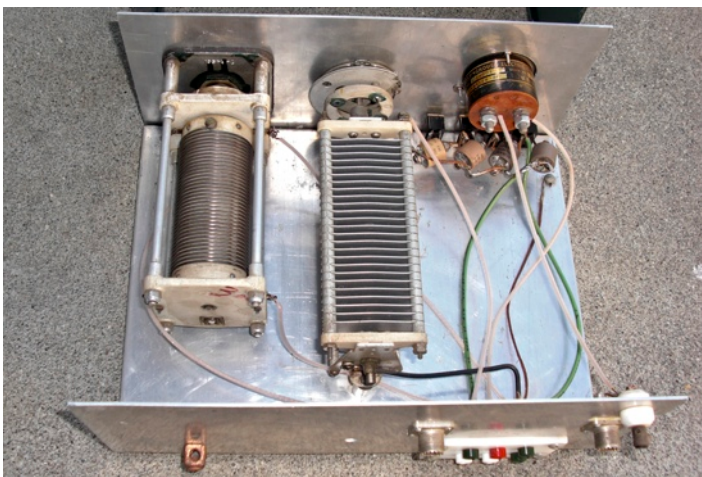
Looking at the photos, if you have any ideas how this homebrew tuner works, do not hesitate to contact Lonnie, KI6ZYY



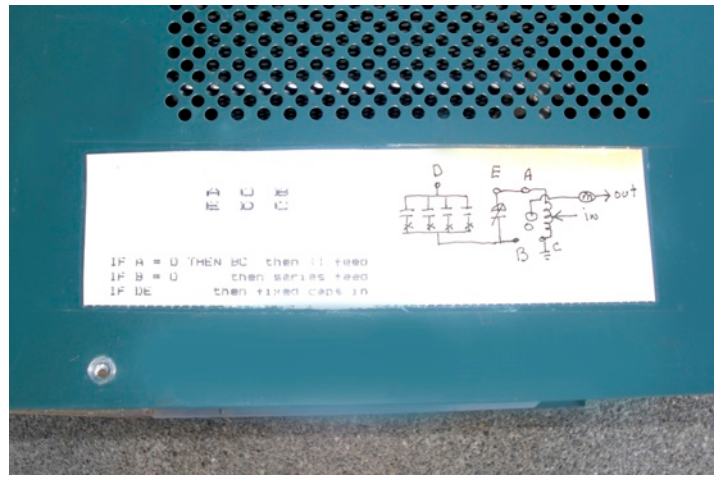
Front Panel View



Rear Panel View



Inside View



Schematic



Eleanor's new 2m Quad



Russell, KB6YAF's PSK31 Station



Lonnie, KI6ZYY talks to the WPARC in Lincoln, CA