

THE GRID LEAK

September 2007 Issue

The Official Newsletter of the Tulare County Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 723, Visalia, CA 93279
TULARE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
146.880 (-) TCARC REPEATER
Park Ridge Mountain
East of Fresno, California
36.43.29' N Latitude, 118.56.38' W Longitude
7,500' above Sea Level

I.R.L.P. Node # **8120**

Echolink Node # **152747** (WA6BAI-R)

Web Page: <http://www.tcarc.net/>

Companion site at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wa6bai/>

Club Officers

President: DaveMcElory W6BEF

Vice President: Bill Stenger K6QOG

Secretary: Ray Quinn W6RAY

Treasurer: Dave Millhouse N6YMM

Past President: Steve Lee-Thomas W6SLT

Repeater Coordinator: Chuck Ward W6SAA

Activities Director: Hal Clover KC5LUB



Next Club Meeting is September 20th, 7:30 pm at the
County Board of Supervisors Building,
2800 Burrell, Visalia.
It is located West of the Court House.

Club Websites:

The mailing lists available for TCARC are:

- * gridleak@tcarc.net - Grid Leak distribution in Portable Document Format (PDF)
- * gridleak-text@tcarc.net - Grid Leak distribution in text format for those who prefer or require it.
- * tcarc-announce@tcarc.net - One-way announcements open to all
- * members@tcarc.net - Open to all active members

- * repeater@tcarc.net - New repeater committee list (committee members only)
- * officers@tcarc.net - For officers only

If anyone wishes to start a new list related to amateur radio or the TCARC, you may do so by sending me an e-mail. -- 73 de Ray W6RAY

Emergency Coordinators for Tulare County:

RACES is Jim Reeves KC6YRU-
kc6yru@tcarc.net

ARES is Hal Clover KC5LUB-
kc5lub@arrl.net

The President's Message

Hello from the WA6BEF qth.

Hope everybody's looking forward to cooler weather in the months to come. I know at least half of our household will as Pam KA2RQK hates the heat.

I'd like to have someone to cover the net for the week of September 24, as we will be out of town visiting with family on the east coast. So if anybody can do it, please give me a call. Otherwise, net will be placed on hold for that week.

Recently, we had a couple of rather young kids on the '88 repeater apparently talking to a relative about their experiences on vacation with their parents. Though I didn't hear the exchange, those who did said that though quite young sounding, they were very good operators and their radio decorum was impressive.

This leads me to thinking. What would make ham radio interesting to young kids? How could we entice the kids with all the other diversions in their lives? I was thinking about this question while riding with my grandkids in the

car the other day. They will grow up assuming that every car has at least one phone in it. They'll look at cd's as old technology. And records? What are those?

What will truly impress our kids and grandkids in the next ten to twenty years? Will amateur radio have any part in it? Time was when aside from paying unbelievably expensive phone charges, ham radio was the only means of reasonably reliable international communication. Now we all have access to such communication from our computers should we choose to access it.

It is my hope that we in the ham community haven't lost our desire to experiment, to explore the frontiers of communication whatever they might be.

Have a good month and we'll see you all at our TCARC monthly meeting, September 20 at 1930 hours.

73's for now

Dave



Ham Radio Equipment For Sale:

P.C. ELECTRONICS TVC-4G UHF ATV DOWNCONVERTER -	\$45.00
P.C. ELECTRONICS TVC-9G 900 MHZ ATV DOWNCONVERTER -	\$75.00
YAESU FT-1500M 2 METER MOBILE TRANSCEIVER -	\$125.00
YAESU FT-480R 2 METER ALL-MODE -	\$200.00

For more Info call Alan W6MTR 559-733-2902

From the Editors: If there is anything that you would like to add to the newsletter, you may contact us by email at k6qog@arrl.net. The deadline to have articles included is the 10th of each month; submissions after the 10th will go in the next newsletter unless otherwise instructed.

-- de Carol & Bill K6QOG

TCARC Minutes from August 15th Meeting

Due to unforeseen happenings the minutes are not available. If you see one of those present, ask them what the meeting was about.

Those present were:

WA6BEF	Dave
W6RAY	Ray
KC6ZWM	Dan
KI6KFZ	Robby
KI6KFW	Bard
N6IJF	Andy
WA6HRG	Jim
WA6SAA	Chuck
KC6LUB	Hal
KG6JYB	Cody
KG6AIR	Bill
K6QOG	Bill



SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION

Report for the month of August 2007

SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASMs K6YK and N2NS, ACC W6DPD, SEC N6ZFN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC KE6IGJ, TC W6TE.

Greetings from the ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section.

If you desire your club information and events to be listed in Section News, please send the information to w6dpd@arrl.org. I get very little information. If your club has a newsletter, please send it to me, email to w6dpd@arrl.org or via U.S Mail.

Mark your calendars. The California QSO Party is October 6-7, 2007. Check www.cqp.org for information. The California Historical Radio Society Central Valley Chapter Swap Meet is October 6, 2007 at the corner of 13th and X Streets in Merced. Check www.californiahistoricalradio.com for information. The Turlock ARC Auction is October 6, 2007, at the Turlock Youth Center, East Ave and Minerva in Turlock. Doors open at 8:00 AM and the auction starts at 9:00 AM. Check www.w6bxn.org for information. Pacificon 2007 is October 19-21, 2007 at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon CA. Check www.pacifico.org for information. The International DX Convention is April 25-28, 2008 at Visalia. Check <http://www.dxconvention.org/> for information.

When your affiliated club elects officers for the next year, be sure to update your club's information on the affiliated club area of the ARRL web page so your club will get any information sent from the ARRL Club department. If you fail to update your clubs information for 2 years, your club will be placed in the inactive file.

Need to take an Amateur exam? Check the ARRL web page, www.arrl.org for exam information. You can also search for Amateur Radio Classes in your area.

The Northern California Net (NCN), the Section Traffic Net, meets nightly on

3.533 MHZ at 7 PM Pacific Time. The slow speed training session of the net meets nightly on 3.533 MHZ at 9 PM Pacific Time. Handling traffic on CW is a good way to improve your CW skills. The Daytime Region 6 Traffic Net meets daily at 3:30 pacific time on or near 7.275 MHZ. The California Traffic Net meets daily on 3.906 MHZ and 6:30 PM local time. The noon time net meets on 7.268.5 MHZ. This net handles a lot of messages.

PACIFICON, the ARRL Pacific Division is October 19-21, 2007 at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon CA. This is a good time for new Amateurs and new upgrades to view the new radios and other accessories, attend many of the numerous sessions on the various aspects of Amateur Radio where you can learn something new. The tentative schedule of sessions is posted on the Pacificon web page. Amateur Exams will be given and there is a 1-day Technician class so anyone can earn an Amateur License. You can download the PACIFICON brochure at http://pacificon.org/Printable_Brochure.html. This is a .pdf file. Advanced registration is \$10 and it is \$15 at the door. The Antenna Seminar is all day on Friday. There is a breakfast on Saturday Morning and a banquet on Saturday night. ARRL members can be initiated into the Royal Order of the Wouff Hong at midnight Saturday night. The Swap meet is Sunday morning. This is a great event for all Amateurs, experienced and new. Full details for Pacificon can be found at <http://pacificon.org/>. This site has all the prices for the various activities that take place at the convention. Keep watching this site as new information is posted from time to time as the details are worked out.

It is my sad duty to report that ex K6IKT now K7IKT John, ex W6AKS Arthur, K6BCL Dwain, W6ALT Walt, KE6CZ Gary, W6REZ Ludwig, and WA6RDX Cecil are Silent Keys. They will be missed.

The John H Pittman Memorial Radio Society has the W6HHD D Star System active on

San Joaquin Valley Section Continued

Mt. Bullion. The system is on 144.62 MHz, 444.1125 MHz and 1284.100 MHz voice and 1249.225 MHz for data. Contact Grady, K6IXA for information.

The California QSO Party is October 6-7, 2007. This state contest is perhaps the best of the state QSO Parties. This gives California stations the opportunity to be the "DX" stations and sought after by stations in other states and countries. Check www.cqp.org for information on the California QSO Party. It begins at 1600 UTC on October 6 and ends at 2200 UTC October 7. The exchange is serial number (the number of the contact) and county. You will receive a serial number and state from out of state contacts and county for California contacts. Call CQ and the world will respond to you (well mostly the USA and Canada). All entrants with 100 or more QSOs receive a free certificate of achievement and are eligible to purchase a T-shirt (\$12).

Kings ARC 2007 Officers are pres KA6PNL, vp NW6K, sec WA7YHX, and treas

N6SDD. The club meets the third Thursday in Hanford. Check www.qsl.net/ka6q for information.

Porterville Repeater Association 2007 officers are pres W6BJ, vp N6JQL, sec KC6ZOG and treas K6LSB. The club meets the first Saturday at 9:00 AM local time at Country Waffles in Lindsay CA. Check www.ke6wdx.org for information.

The Amateur Radio Association of Central California has provided communications support for 3 bicycle races since January 1. Officers for 2007 are pres W7POR, vp WA6PTG, sec KI6JCY, and treas KI6FLR. The club is affiliated with ARRL. Check www.aracc.org for information.

Congratulations to AA6K, Shirl, who had the top score for the single operator low power category for the 6th call area in the 2006 CQ WW DX SSB Contest.

Traffic for August: K6RAU 22, W6DPD 1, and W6SX 8. Total 31. PSHR: K6RAU 79 and W6SX 38.



Mark Your Calendar

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| October 6, 2007 | California Historical Radio Society
Central Valley Chapter Swap Meet ,
See www.californiahistoricalradio.com |
| October 6, 2007 | Turlock ARC Auction See www.w6bxn.org |
| October 6-7, 2007 | California QSO Party See www.cqp.org |
| October 19-21, 2007 | Pacificon 2007 See www.pacificon.org |
| April 25-28, 2008 | International DX Convention
See www.dxconvention.org/ |

Hot OFF the Press from ARRL

1. The FCC will reduce the regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting September 17. In a Report & Order (R&O) released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the Commission will cut the fee from its current \$20.80 to \$11.70. This marks the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program.

2. In the only contested Section Manager race this summer, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, was re-elected as the ARRL San Francisco Section Manager.

3. Pentagon ARC to Host Special Event Station Commemorating 9/11: On Sunday, September 9, the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) will operate a Special Event station commemorating the 6th anniversary of the attacks that occurred on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and over Pennsylvania in 2001. They will be operating on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters, both phone and CW where and when possible, with plans to operate on a 12 hour basis (1200-2400 UTC). There will be a special QSL card available for stations that work K4AF. For more information, please contact Claude Hennessey, KG4TVN. QSL via PARC, PO Box 2322, Arlington, VA 22202.



4. ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration: (Sep 5, 2007) -- Registration remains open through **Sunday, September 23** for these online courses beginning on **Friday, October 5:** Technician License Course (EC - 010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC- 001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC - 006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC - 009); Analog Electronics (EC - 012), and Digital Electronics (EC - 013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator.

TULARE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME (Self) _____ NAME (Family Member) _____

CALLSIGN (Self) _____ CALLSIGN (Family Member) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

LICENSE CLASS (Self) _____ LICENSE CLASS (Family Member) _____

RES PHONE _____ BUS PHONE _____

EQUIPMENT _____

BANDS _____

INTERESTS (Please Check)

EMERGENCY SERVICE

RAG CHEWING

BUILDING

TRAFFIC HANDLING

Dxing

ANTENNAS

CINTESTS

QRP

OTHER

DESCRIBE _____

SIGNATURE _____

Membership Dues: (\$20.00 - Individual - \$25.00 - Family)

Mail To:

Tulare County Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 723

Visalia, CA 93279