

# THE GRID LEAK

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 WA6SAA

Activities Director: Hal Clover KC5LUB



Next Club Meeting is November 15th, 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](mailto:gridleak@tcarc.net) - Grid Leak distribution in Portable Document Format (PDF)
- \* [gridleak-text@tcarc.net](mailto:gridleak-text@tcarc.net) - Grid Leak distribution in text format for those who prefer or require it.
- \* [tcarc-announce@tcarc.net](mailto:tcarc-announce@tcarc.net) - One-way announcements open to all
- \* [members@tcarc.net](mailto:members@tcarc.net) - Open to all active members

- \* [repeater@tcarc.net](mailto:repeater@tcarc.net) - New repeater committee list (committee members only)
- \* [officers@tcarc.net](mailto: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](mailto:kc6yru@tcarc.net)

**ARES** is Hal Clover KC5LUB-  
[kc5lub@arrl.net](mailto:kc5lub@arrl.net)

## The President's Message

Hello all:

Well, we're coming to the end of another year and as it happens, the second year I've been presiding over this club.

Though I fully intend to continue as an active TCARC member, I believe that it is time to turn the presidential duties over to someone else. Of course, I would remain as part of the board for the coming year as "past president."

Duties for all officers can be found in our bilaws on the TCARC website. Need them in print? Just ask and one of us can certainly accommodate.

This is a good time for a new leader to take over the helm. We've got a great repeater system that is always undergoing further

development, we have some new members and we have the opportunity to grow and to participate in the community if we want to.

On the subject of the repeater we have a group building a yagi antenna which will be utilized for an extended "voting" link into Visalia from Milk Ranch. This should provide even better handheld coverage around Visalia than what we have now. Dave, N6YMM, Kody, KF6??? And others have been working this project in the past month. Thanks guys.

So, please consider taking a board position. The experience is truly a good one.

So for now, 73's and we'll be seeing you on November 15.

Dave McElroy, WA6BEF



**ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration** (November 8, 2007) -- Registration remains open through **Sunday November 18**, for these online courses beginning on **Friday December 2**: 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.



**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.org. 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 October 11th Meeting

There was not a quorum for an official meeting.

Members present:

Dave, WA6BEF,  
Pam, KA2RQK,  
Cody, KF6JYB,  
Dave, N6YMM,  
Dave, KG6GTB,  
Paul, KI6KGT,  
Bard, KI6KFW,  
Chuck, WA6SAA.

I. Discussed Paul's initial plans for getting his scouts on the air for the scout jamboree this weekend. Apparently, the troop would be hiking up Hospital Rock on Saturday and would not be taking a radio with them. Paul may operate independently but won't do anything official. He does ask, however, for assistance with an event to be held November 3, when his troop will be participating in a simulated emergency test; he would like assistance in communications to Visalia and beyond.

I suggested that this would be a good and appropriate use for ARES and suggested that we conduct an ARES net beginning at the appropriate time, 1300 hours as suggested by him as the hour at which the test would begin. I also suggested that Hal, KC5LUB, had tentatively planned on a barbecue on November 3, which he said could be held in addition to the test. (Note, this did not occur.)

The scenario is that a plain has crashed causing injury and death to several scouts. (Addendum: As of Tuesday, October 30, Paul

stated that his group would be utilizing FRS radios as they are not comfortable with operating on ham frequencies.)

II. In an effort to increase the signal into Visalia from the Parkridge repeater, Chuck, W6SAA, has been working on a "voting" system which will have its initial radio placed at Milk ranch with a microwave signal from there to Parkridge. The need is for a yagi antenna to be pointed to Visalia. Will we the club build one? Dave, N6YMM stated that he has plans on the computer with appropriate dimensions. He, Dave, KF6JYB and anyone else interested will get together sometime in the next two to three weeks to build the yagi and get it set up at Milk ranch.

III. Nominations for 2008 TCARC officers. We discussed the fact that meeting on the third Thursday as we have been doing allows for a November meeting which will allow us to obtain 2008 nominations in a timely manor. Dave, N6YMM and I have both stated that we wish to step down from our present positions, Dave, W6YMM as treasurer and myself as president. I would remain on the board as immediate past president and Dave will continue to be an active club member. All present officers, I believe, would be available for advice and assistance.

IV. Christmas party. Paul, KF6KGT, has tentatively volunteered to host the TCARC Christmas/holiday party to be held sometime in early December. No final plans have been made, so we'll need to finalize this one at our November meeting.

Adjourned at 20:40.

Submitted by Dave McElroy WA6BEF



## San Joaquin Valley Section Report for the month of October, 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](mailto:w6dpd@arrl.org). I get very little information. If your club has a newsletter, please send it to me, email to [w6dpd@arrl.org](mailto:w6dpd@arrl.org) or via U.S Mail.

Mark your calendars: SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 1, 2007. The Pacific Division Directors Meeting will be December 1, 2007, in the City Council Chambers in Livermore. Each affiliated club is permitted to send a maximum of 2 representatives to the meeting. More information will be posted when it is known. Radiofest is February 23-24, 2008 in Monterey. Check [www.radiofest.org](http://www.radiofest.org) for information. The International DX Convention is April 25-28, 2008 at Visalia. Check <http://www.dxconvention.org/> for information. EMCOMM West is May 2-4, 2008 at the Circus Circus in Reno NV. Check [www.emcommwest.org](http://www.emcommwest.org) for information. Pacificon 2008 is October 17-19, 2008 at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon CA. Check [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.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 you 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](http://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 for 2007 was a great convention. The attendance was greater than in 2006. The exhibit hall was filled to capacity and all spaces in the hall were occupied too. There were lots of good deals to be had there. The forums were outstanding. If you have not attended a Pacificon, you should plan to attend in October of 2008. The dates are October 17-19, 2008 at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel. The conventions are a great place to meet other hams and learn new things. The San Joaquin Valley was well represented among the attendees this year. If you did not attend this year, you should plan to attend next year's event.

The 2007 ARRL Pacific Division Director's Meeting is December 1, 2007, from 9:30 AM to 3 PM at the City Council Chambers, 3575 Pacific Ave., in Livermore CA. Each affiliated club may send a maximum of 2 representatives to this meeting. Confirm your attendance by sending an email to [w6rgg@arrl.org](mailto:w6rgg@arrl.org). Lunch will be provided. If you have any items you would like the group to consider, please include the item(s) in your confirmation email. The items presented may be of such significance to be presented to the ARRL Board in January 2008.

## San Joaquin Valley Section Continued

EMCOMM West for 2008 has moved to the Circus Circus in Reno. The dates are May 2 to 4, 2008. This is an ARRL specialty convention devoted entirely to emergency communications. Information can soon be found at [www.emcommwest.org](http://www.emcommwest.org). If you are involved in emergency communications, this is an event you should plan to attend.

Top SJV scores in the 2007 ARRL Field Day were first W6A (Madera ARC), second W6TO (Fresno ARC) and third W6SW (San Andreas Fault Line Survivors).

SKYWARN Recognition Day is December 1, 2007. This annual event has many NOAA Weather Service facilities on the air, manned by Amateurs who participate in the SKYWARN program. The SKYWARN program is very important to help make the weather service personnel aware of severe weather conditions.

The Clovis ARP and Fresno ARC members provided communications support for the American Diabetes Association's Second Annual Step Out to Fight Diabetes Walk/run.

The Mountain ARC and the Amateur Radio Association of Central California provided communications support for the 2007 Double Century Bike Ride.

Congratulations to KF6JOQ on earning DXCC and to WI6J on earning WAC.

Traffic for October: K6RAU 24, W6DPD 0, and W6SX 30. Total 54. PSHR: K6RAU 79 and W6SX 59.



## Mark Your Calendar

December TBA, 2007  
April 25-28, 2008

**TCARC Christmas Party**  
**International DX Convention** See [www.dxconvention.org/](http://www.dxconvention.org/)

## Traffic Nets

**The Northern California Net (NCN)**  
7PM 3.533MHZ - fast speed - CW  
9PM 3.533MHZ - slow speed - CW

**Daytime Region 6 Traffic Net**  
3:30PM 7.275MHZ

**The California Traffic Net**  
6:30PM 3.906MHZ

**Noon Time net** 7.268.5MHZ

## Hot OFF the Press from ARRL

QST de W1AW  
ARRL Bulletin 25 ARLB025  
From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT November 6, 2007  
To all radio amateurs

### Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
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1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

### Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)  
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

### Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

### Frequencies (MHz)

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 CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555  
 RTTY: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555  
 VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

### Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM  
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM  
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 96 in the November 2007 issue of QST or on the web at, [www.arrl.org/w1aw.html](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html).

# TULARE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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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