

THE GRID LEAK

December, 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 WA6SAA

Activities Director: Hal Clover KC5LUB



Next Club Meeting/Christmas Holiday Potluck Dinner
is December 13th, 6:00 pm at
505 W. Maple St. Tulare
Near Tulare Western High School

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:

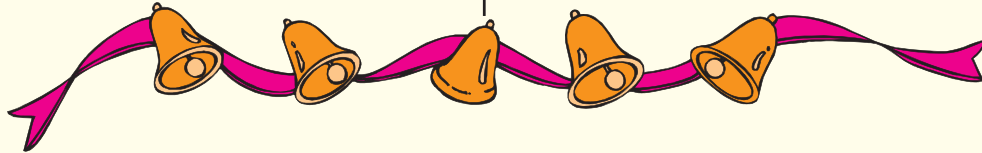
RACES is Jim Reeves KC6YRU-
kc6yru@tcarc.net

ARES is Hal Clover KC5LUB-
kc5lub@arrl.net

A Message To The President

Dave, the TCARC members extend a heartfelt thank-you for all your time and devotion you have given to our Radio Club over the past two years. Membership has grown, the club has provided Technician and above classes as well as provided the VEC testing and have acquired many new members who are extremely active. The club has put up a new repeater and club members have had the opportunity to learn first hand about the construction of a repeater as well as building a

new 2 meter beam for the repeater system and it's installation in a remote site. The Club membership gained valuable communication skills by their participation in many ARES and Tulare County simulated emergency exercises. The Tuesday night nets have generated new interest by your weekly net control skills. Dave, your leadership and example of dedication have inspired us all. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



You are invited to attend the December 13th Potluck Dinner/Meeting

Place: 505 west Maple Ave Tulare, California
(near Tulare Western Highschool)

Time: 6PM to 8PM

What to bring. Please email Paul Reagan at p_reagan@sbcglobal.net to get a list of what is still needed for the potluck. Or Call 559-688-2524 hm, or 685-7238 wrk.

At this time we still need the following items:

- Main Dish
- Salads
- Desserts
- Drinks (non alcoholic)

Bring the family: Activities for young children will be available.

Elections for new club officers will also be held at this meeting.

For more information regarding the elections contact Ray Quinn at w6gray@sbcglobal.net

Paul Reagan

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 November 15th Meeting

President Dave McElroy WA6BEF called meeting to order at 1936. A quorum was present.

Introductions:

Those present are:

WA6BEF	Dave
KA2RQK	Pam
WB6CHL	Gene
WA7ZUI	Jim
N6PGG	Dave
KI6KFZ	Robby Heather
W6RAY	Ray
WA6SAA	Chuck
KI6KFW	Bard
KI6KGI	Paul
KG6JYB	Cody
N6YMM	Dave
WA7HRG	Jim
KC6ZWM	Dan
W6SLT	Steve
K6QOG	Bill

There was no quorum present at the October meeting so no minutes were read.

Dave Millhouse N6YMM talked about the 2-meter antenna that he, Cody Unruh KG6JYB, and Paul Reagan KG6KGT built.

Chuck Ward WA6SAA gave us an update on the voting system, including Milk Ranch, which will

point directly into Three Rivers and on into Visalia. There was discussion regarding the December meeting. Paul Reagan KG6KGT offered a location in Tulare. It was determined that the December meeting will be at 505 W. Maple in Tulare, near Tulare Western High School on Thursday December 13, 2007 at 1800 hours. Paul was appointed the Christmas Meeting Chair. Members signed up to bring various items for a potluck. A business meeting will follow at approximately 19:30.

Nominations for 2008 officers were opened and will be closed just before the election at the December meeting. Nominations are as follows:

President:	Cody Unruh KG6JYB
Vice President:	Paul Reagan KG6KGT
Secretary:	Robby Gill KI6KFZ
Treasurer:	Dan Morauske KC6ZWM

Paul Reagan KF6KGT motioned and Robby Gill KI6KFZ seconded that the elections to be held at the December meeting instead of November as the Club's by-laws state. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Ray Quinn W6RAY motioned and Pam Drake KA2RQK seconded to adjourn. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 2106.

Respectfully submitted by Ray Quinn W6RAY
2007 TCARC Secretary



San Joaquin Valley Section

Report for the month of November, 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.

Your section staff wishes everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

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. Radiofest is February 23-24, 2008 in Monterey. Check 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 for information. Pacificon 2008 is October 17-19, 2008 at the Marriott Hotel in San Ramon CA. Check 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. Your club will be notified if the 2-year period is about to take place.

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.

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. If you are involved in emergency communications, this is an event you should plan to attend.

WA6HIP, Jerry; N6AJ, Jerry; and KG6KWZ, Mark are Silent Keys. They will be missed.

Oak Tree Radio, KI6MUT, is a new club in Oakdale.

Stockton Delta ARC 2008 Officers are pres W6INP, vp KD6FVA, sec and editor N6LHL, treas KD6CPA. The club meets the second Thursday at 7:30 PM at the Bear Creek Community Church in Stockton. Check www.w6sf.org for information.

K6YK participated in the CQ World Wide DX and the Worked All Europe RTTY Contests.

The Turlock ARC members provided communications support for the Turkey Trot in Turlock.

Amateur Radio Association of Central California 2008 officers are pres W7POR, vp WA6PTG, sec KI6JCY and treas KI6FLR. Check www.aracc.org for information.

Mountain ARC 2008 officers are pres W6LSU, vp KB6CLV, sec WB6JAY, and treas W6HYY. The club meets the 4th Thursday in Oakhurst. Check www.w6bw.org for information.

San Joaquin Valley Section Continued

Sequoia Amateur Radio Group 2008 officers are pres KA6IYS, vp W6SV, sec KC6RIZ, and treas KA6CZS. **Check www.srg-krv.org** for information.

QCWA Fresno Chapter 213 2008 officers are pres W6YEP, vp W6VPS, and sec/treas W6DPD. The chapter meets the 4th Tuesday at Noon at Carrows Restaurant on Blackstone in Fresno.

K6PTS has earned WAC and the IARU Region III award. Congratulations Phil.

SJV participants I the July 2007 North American QSO RTTY Party were WK6I, NN6NN (W6XK) and KE6SHL.

SJV Scores in the 2007 ARRL June VHF QSO Party were 1st W6TV (W6YEP, KW6N, and K6MI), 2nd W6BW (KF6CNV, and third K6YK.

Traffic for November: K6RAU 26, W6DPD 0, and W6SX 17. Total 43. PSHR: K6RAU 81 and W6SX 44.



Mark Your Calendar

December 13, 2007

February 23-24, 2008

April 25-28, 2008

TCARC Christmas Party

Radiofest See www.radiofest.org

International DX Convention See 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

Tulare County Amateur Radio Club

Antenna for the new Voter



L-R Dan Morauske KC6ZWM Cody Unruh KG6JYB
Chuck Ward WA6SAA prepare to attach a hard line to
the railing as Robbie Gill comes up the stairs.



Cody Unruh KG6JYB, Jim Purvis WA7HRG and Dan
Morauske KC6ZWM make sure the hard line is secure.



Jim Purvis WA7HRG installs the receiver.



Dave McElroy WA6BEF and Josiah Morauske (son of
Dan Morauske KC6ZWM) head down. Chuck Ward
WA6SAA prepares his drill.



Cody Unruh KG6JYB “weatherizes” the feedline
connection.



Celebrating a job well done: L-R Dave McElroy WA6BEF,
Chuck Ward WA6SAA, Jim Purvis WA7HRG, Cody
Unruh KG6JYB, Robbie Gill KI6KFZ and Robbie’s YL
Heather.

Photos by Ray Quinn W6RAY

Hot OFF the Press from ARRL



ARISS Antennas Set to Launch on NASA Mission in December (Nov 30, 2007) -- *Columbus*, the laboratory built by the European Space Agency (ESA), is now packed inside space shuttle *Atlantis*' payload bay. It is the culmination of years of design and engineering work aimed at creating Europe's primary component for the International Space Station (ISS). At 23 feet long and 15 feet in diameter, the cylindrical segment is designed to host specialized experiments examining how humans react to microgravity and the effect of space on various fluids and objects such as crystals. Two Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) antennas have been installed on the nadir side of *Columbus*. NASA is currently planning on a launch date of Thursday, December 6 for *Atlantis*. The complete article is available at arrrl.org.



British Hams Mark Longest-Ever Bicycle-to-Backpack Transmission (Dec 3, 2007) -- Dave Starkie, G4AKC, of Blackpool, Lancashire in England, and Keith Sharples, G7LPW/ZL3, of Ormskirk, Lancashire, have been working for the past two years on a backpack and bicycle mobile system for the HF bands. At 0900 UTC on November 15, Starkie in England and Sharples in New Zealand had a first -- a QRP contact on 20 meters from bicycle to backpack and backpack to backpack, each with good signals at both 5 and 50 W. Their route was along the greyline and took the longpath at a distance of 22,100 kilometers (13,724 miles). According to the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), this was the result of two years work to improve and develop a high performance HF backpack that was used at both ends of the contact. The contact has been declared the longest radio transmission using backpacks by the World Records Academy (WRA). The complete article is available at arrrl.org.



Feature: It Seems to Us: Absolute Zero (Dec 1, 2007) -- "Sunspot-wise, we seem to be stuck in a trough between Solar Cycles 23 and 24. Lately the W1AW propagation bulletins have been reporting zero sunspots, day after day. The level of solar activity was low throughout 2006 and 2007 and is not expected to begin to pick up until around March 2008 -- months later than earlier predictions." The complete article is available at arrrl.org.

ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration (December 4, 2007) -- Registration remains open through **Sunday December 23, 2007**, for these online courses beginning on **Friday January 4, 2008**: 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