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Contact Us

Via [Facebook](#)

Via www.ac6ee.org

U.S. Mail:

TARA

P.O. Box 134

Keene, CA 93531

A Word

Dan Mason, AB6DM, President

Hello, TARA friends!

As TARA's membership numbers continue to grow, I hope that you who have been participating in our various events, or just reading the Dummy Load, are enjoying our company. The entire TARA board appreciates your membership. Also, if you have not had the chance to renew for 2025, please go to ac6ee.org on the internet, or contact John KM6DXY (km6dxy@arrl.org) for possibly a more streamlined method.

Besides being a member of TARA, most of us feel it is important to join the ARRL as it is our advocate in both our national and state government. There are always commercial entities trying to grab our precious frequency spectrum. Additionally, besides QST and On the Air magazines, the ARRL has a fairly comprehensive amount of coverage and lessons for all things ham radio. Go to arrl.org to learn more.

Later in April is a volunteer opportunity for patrol/communications at the 2025 Tehachapi Wind/Kite Festival on Saturday, April 26th from 12:00 AM to 6:00 PM. We need volunteers for any amount of time. It would be nice if we could have shifts to spell team members for part of the day. Contact Micah KN6VUT at kn6vut@ac6ee.org or 661-316-8348.

Like I mentioned earlier, May 10th is our first of two Fox Hunts. This one will be at Meadowbrook Park in Tehachapi, it is designed to be a closer range hunt with a larger region hunt coming later in the year. We would like to incorporate a picnic/BBQ. There will be prizes associated with finding each transmitter, then returning to home base with the evidence. I'll explain later.

Planning for the 2025 ARRL Summer Field Day is under way. The operation site is again High Country Park in BVS. Setup starts Friday afternoon on June 27th, and operations run continuously from Saturday, June 28th through Sunday, June 29th. Our Field Day Director is Zach W9UOI. Please support him by volunteering for subcommittees and filling in the boxes for equipment and labor. Contact Zach at zachary.dickinson.82@gmail.com or 701-340-3372.

If are interested in a certain meeting presentation subject or a special ham activity, contact me at 661-203-8398 or better imprezaspeed@yahoo.com.

73,

Dan - AB6DM

Hospitality

Valerie Mason - KK6WLQ

Winter Field Day went pretty well! I believe the idea is to practice away from home in any weather for an emergency. It snowed the last day, otherwise I thought all went well. Had a few visitors and made several contacts.

Thank you to All who brought food and drinks for the event! Now to prepare for Summer Field Day at the end of June.

Next breakfast is Saturday April 12th at The Village Grill at 8:00 am followed by our VE session at the Salvation Army. Saturday March 26th at the Mulligan Room in Bear Valley Springs at 8:00 am. Respond to email val3mason@yahoo.com with RSVP and # attending before the 14th, or text 661-203-8619.

73 All,

Valerie Mason - Hospitality Chairperson for TARA

Special Feature - Women/Ladies in Ham Radio/Amateur Radio

Valerie Mason, KK6WLQ

At one of our recent meetings, I did a presentation on Women / Ladies in Amateur Radio. Several of our local women amateurs were present and introduced themselves with name, call sign and a little about how they became involved with amateur radio. I want to thank all of them for sharing that evening.

Since there was quite a bit more information about women in ham radio than we had time to present at our meeting I have compiled some of it for our newsletter.

Several links are included below with a short description about what you will discover about the amazing women in our hobby.

- **Desiree Baccus, N3DEZ**, is a dedicated emergency management professional with a passion for amateur radio. She plays vital roles in many amateur radio and emergency response groups, such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and NASA Ames Research Center's Disaster Assistance & Rescue Team (DART), showcasing her expertise and dedication to emergency communications. – Desiree has written a great article highlighting several other women amateurs. Find her article with this link: <https://domesticpreparedness.com/articles/amateurs-of-action-the-women-of-radio>
- Wikipedia has a nice article on Women in early radio. It describes women's involvement as telegraph operators starting as early as the 1840s and moving into wireless operations around 1901. Here is the link to the article: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women_in_early_radio
- Another interesting article was on the QRZ site – titled “Women of Amateur Radio” written by Dave Jensen, W7DGJ. https://www.qrz.com/articles/node_1700522696
- You can find many women in this list of Famous Radio Hams found in an article from HAM Radio Insider. They list authors, astronauts, musicians, singers, politicians and others. Here is the link to that article by Nigel Peacock, G4KIU. <https://hamradioinsider.com/famous-radio-hams-and-what-they-did-for-a-living/>
- **Kristen McIntyre, K6WX**, served as the ARRL Pacific Division Director starting in November 2020. More information can be found in this announcement from ARRL news. <https://www.arrl.org/news/kristen-mcintyre-k6wx-is-new-arrl-pacific-division-director>
- Field Radio also has an article about Female Ham Operators Making Their Mark – The link is here: https://fieldradio.org/female-ham-operators/#google_vignette

EDITORS' Note:

The Dummy Load theme for May is Go Bag Contents - What's in Your Go Bag – Do you have one? Are you prepared? Can you operate mobile or portable on short notice?

In addition to your article on the topic above, we would like your input on topics that you would like to see in future issues of The Dummy Load. What aspect of Amateur Radio interests you. We would very much appreciate your thoughts and ideas.

Send them to kn6zgi@ac6ee.org by May 5, 2025.

73, Stephen, KN6ZGI

Your Amateur Radio Journey

Dan Mason, AB6DM

Hi. AB6DM Dan here. I have been a ham for 10 years, starting with the call sign KK6SUI. As some of you know, I am very active in TARA and ham radio in general. However, this almost never happened, and I was very much against it for most of my life.

So, it all started when I was a young child helping my Dad in his part time electronics business. One day, he stuck me with a radio of some kind that was tuned to a signal that was sending a Morse Code message. Then he gave me a chart of the Morse Code and told me to decode the message.

I tried to copy the message for about an hour, but I hadn't got very far, and what I had copied was wrong. Dad was displeased with my progress and spewed some more info about Morse Code at me. I tried for another hour but still got it wrong. Now Dad was fed up, and things got ugly. It got so ugly that my mom had to intervene and put a stop to the Morse Code endeavor. I was traumatized and vowed never to mess with the Code again.

Over the years, my dad would pester me to get my ham license. Each time I would say, "No thanks, I'm not doing code". In my head I was saying, "Hell No!". Then one year when he asked the same old question, I said, "No" again, but he replied that they had dropped the code requirement. I still blew him off but was slightly intrigued. Well, on my 50th birthday, a package arrived at my house from a place called "HRO". In the box was a new Yaesu FT-60. I yelled, "Damn you, Dad!", and called him on the phone with, "What is the meaning of

this?!" He said, "It's your birthday, and I thought you might like a cool piece of electronics." He found my weak spot. The geek in me went nuts, and I HAD to learn more.

I searched the internet for how to get involved in this radio thing and found John Carnakis KE6DKY. We talked for quite a while, and he was very encouraging. Next thing you know, I got my Technician class amateur radio license, joined SSARS, quickly followed by my General and Extra, then my vanity call and VE cert.

Most of you know how much I love amateur radio, and how I work to promote it. I never learned Morse Code, but I have done some digital modes, ARRS, and Winlink. Now I need to retire so I can more fully enjoy the many facets of being a ham.

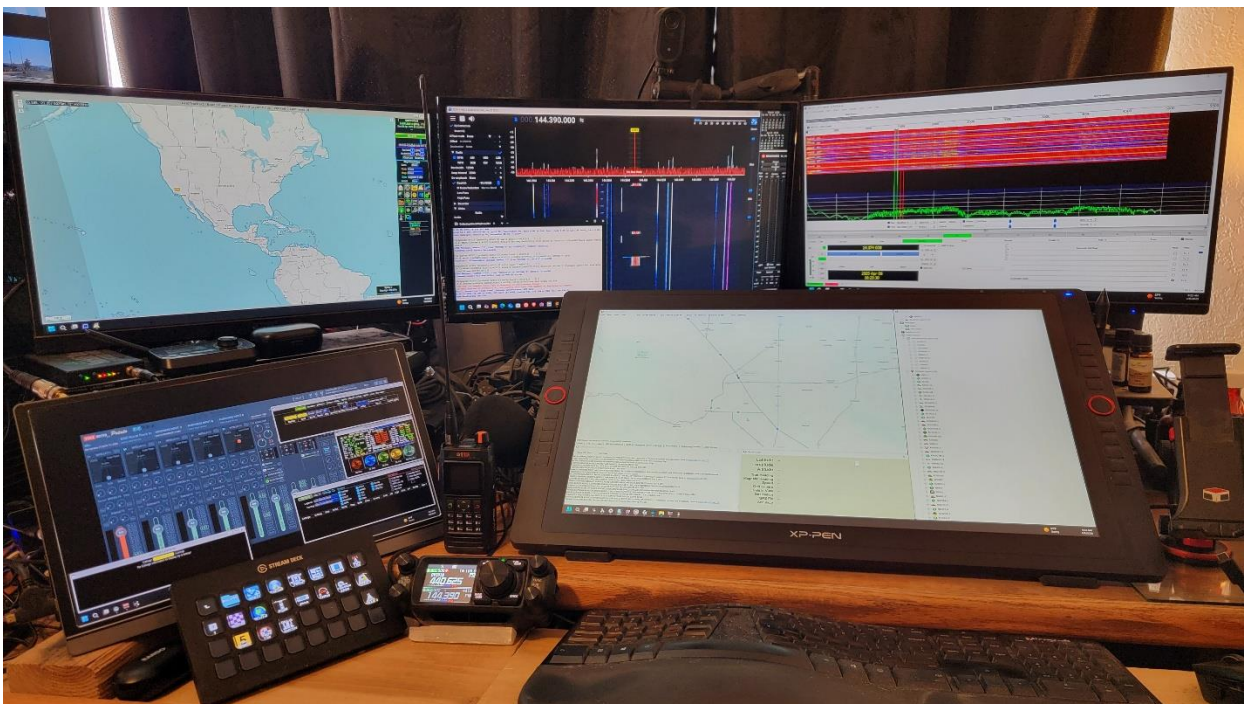
73,

Dan - AB6DM

Rob Stanfield, KO6IBY

From Facebook Post to Field Operation: My Journey into the World of Amateur Radio

My amateur radio journey began unexpectedly through a simple Facebook post. My wife spotted an announcement from the Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association (TARA) about their Winter Field Day 2025 event at Brite Lake. Though I'm not particularly active on Facebook, she forwarded it to our kids on our shared Discord space to see if they might be interested in attending. Little did I know this casual family outing would spark a new passion.



Our family ventured out to Brite Lake, curious about what amateur radio was all about. What caught my attention immediately was W6QPA's setup - particularly the interface between his radio equipment and computer. With my background in computer programming, I was instantly intrigued by this technological marriage of radio waves and digital systems. That connection between computing and radio communication was the hook that pulled me into the hobby.

Since that first field day experience, I've been steadily building my knowledge and equipment collection. I started by listening to local repeaters and discovered some fascinating programs on the WIN System network. The blend of technical knowledge, practical skills, and community engagement proved to be a perfect fit for someone with my interests.

My equipment collection has grown considerably in just a few months. I've acquired several transceivers including a uSDX uSDR HF QRP SDR Transceiver, a HackRF One SDR, a YAESU FTM-500DR dual-band digital transceiver, and a couple of handheld units. For antennas, I've set up a Tram 1477 pre-tuned dual-band base antenna, a Taurus desktop scanner antenna, and a vehicle mobile ham radio antenna with a ground plane. Each piece of equipment has opened new possibilities for exploration.

The software side is where my programming background has really come into play. I've been experimenting with numerous applications to enhance my radio experience. Pinpoint and Direwolf paired with SDR++ and my HackRF One have been instrumental in learning APRS (Automatic Packet Reporting System). Grid Tracker 2 with WSJT has been my gateway into the fascinating world of FT8 digital communication. I've also explored Winlink for emergency communications, though I see this more as a preparedness tool rather than for everyday use. EchoLink has provided a fun way to discover worldwide nodes from the comfort of my home.

My technical journey has included learning about different operating modes and protocols. FT8 has particularly captured my interest with its ability to make contacts under challenging conditions using minimal power. APRS has fascinated me with its capabilities for position reporting and messaging. These digital modes perfectly align with my computing interests, creating a natural bridge into the radio world.

While I'm still relatively new to the hobby, I've already achieved some personal milestones. I've earned my Technician license and am currently studying for my General class upgrade. Our family has embraced communication technology together, with two of my children considering getting licensed. In the meantime, we've obtained our GMRS license (WSHK901) for family use during outings and travel.

Looking ahead, I see amateur radio as a complementary hobby rather than all-consuming. My professional life keeps me busy, so ham radio serves as a welcome diversion - something I can engage with at varying levels depending on available time. I appreciate having capabilities for emergency communication during travel or if internet services were disrupted, though I don't dwell on worst-case scenarios.

My current projects include setting up a portable station for camping trips, configuring my mobile setup for APRS while traveling, and continuing to explore digital modes through my

computer interface. I still need to get an adapter to fully utilize FT8 with my equipment, but that's part of the ongoing learning process.

What I value most about this journey is how it's encouraged technical exploration while connecting me with a welcoming community. That initial Field Day experience introduced me to knowledgeable enthusiasts who were eager to share their passion. The blend of individual learning and community support makes amateur radio uniquely satisfying.

For anyone curious about amateur radio, especially those with technical backgrounds, I'd recommend attending a field day or club event as I did. The hands-on exposure to equipment and operation provides context that no amount of reading can match. And if you have computing interests, the digital aspects of modern amateur radio offer a fascinating playground for experimentation and growth.

73,

Rob, KO6IBY

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA



My Uncle, Walter Clement (sk) K4BHY introduced me to shortwave radio when I was about 10 years old. I was fascinated as we listened to these strange sounds (radio teletype, morse code) and voices from faraway places like Vatican City, BBC Radio World Service from London and many others. Then he said we could talk too! He tuned to the HAM bands and said something silly into the desk mic "CQ CQ this is

K4BHY calling CQ". After a few calls a voice answered back and I was hooked!!

I finally learned morse code well enough to pass the 5 wpm test and earned a Novice license in 1970 with a call sign WN6QPA. I built a Heathkit HW-16 CW transceiver, my Dad put up two telephone-poles with TV antenna masts on top and I strung a single band dipole between them at ~60 ft and was on the air. College, US Air Force active duty and early career days intervened, for the next 20 years I was off the air. I tested for Tech-Plus in 1993 and was awarded the call KE6TYH. I operated VHF with a Kenwood TH-22AT handi-talkie and QRP HF with an Index Labs QRP-Plus transceiver for a couple of years. Then once

again career and family pushed HAM radio to the background. I retired in 2013 and finally returned to the air with a vanity call W6QPA (the call I would have had if I'd upgraded from novice in time). In 2017 I got around to testing for General and upgraded. In 2024, with the encouragement of my study buddy David Walter, WA5GUL, I upgraded to Amateur Extra.

I now work mostly QRP HF CW and digital. The CW has been a long path, I took the CWOPS CW Academy program a couple of years ago and have finally unlearned and relearned CW enough to become more comfortable. I spend most HF time on CW first, then move to Digital modes (JS8, Olivia, PSK-31, RTTY, FT8) if I can't scare up a CW contact.

The station today consists of an Elecraft KX-3; multiple QRPLabs kits: 3 QCX mono-band CW transceivers for 20, 30, 40 meters with companion 50 watt amplifiers, a QMX multi-band multi-mode HF transceiver and a QDX multi-band digital transceiver; VHF/UHF is a Kenwood D-700 and Kenwood TH-D74 HT plus a Baofeng. Antennas are a 30 foot flagpole with an SG-230 antenna coupler for HF and a slot-antenna cut into a Dish-network satellite antenna for VHF/UHF.

I'm active in rag chewing, POTA and some of the slower speed CW contests. I'm enjoying tinkering with construction and repair of QRP radios and volunteering as the 'Y'-sorter for the ARRL 6th District Incoming QSL Bureau.

On the Bench

This is a semi-regular column for members to share the off-the-air aspects of their ham radio activities. Using a sports metaphor, on-the-bench refers to a player not currently active in the game. So, applying that in a ham radio context, what is "On-the-(work)bench" in your shack?

Follow the instructions and create a file containing your call sign and grid onto the external micro flash and you are ready to operate. Total cost is about \$100.

Here is the link containing the information on ordering the kit and all the documentation:

<https://tinyurl.com/DX-FT8-Kit>

Here are a few pictures of the build and N6PAZ operating the DX FT-8 at Philip Marx Central park in Tehachapi. My first QSO's on 20m was Japan, Russia and Virginia on just 700mw of power, impressive.



73's de Oscar,
N6PAZ

The Operating Room

This is a semi-regular column for club members to share the on-the-air aspects of their ham radio activities.

POTA Adventures

Duane Ellison, KN6YOJ

POTA on the Pacific: Lessons from the Dunes and Beyond

Recently I was getting ready for a trip back to Oceano Dunes on the coast of California and adjacent to Pismo Beach. Oceano Dunes is the one place that I know of, where you can

camp directly on the beach. The plan for this trip was to activate the **Oceano Dunes State Recreation Area (US-3523)**. Before heading out I had 2 activations and the most QSOs with 388. My goal was to try and get a **KILO** (1000) QSOs at the park, so I need 612 for days, Sunday through Wednesday. I hoped I might have a good chance to achieve a **KILO** with the few days that I was going to be there. But as we all know sometimes band conditions have other plans!

For this trip I used my **Yaesu FT-891 HF** radios with a **Packtenna 40m EFHW** which gives me access to **10M, 15M,**

20M, and 40M. This will all be powered by a **Power Queen 50Ah Lipo4**. For logging I used my **iPad Mini** running **Ham2k Polo** app which I really love. I also planned to use my **Explorer POTA20 Portable Mast**.



As a “side quest” I was considering taking a little drive to activate the other local parks near there. Another achievement I am looking to get a **Gold Activator** certificate for activating 30 unique parks. I had 26 going into this trip and need just 4 more. When I’m working toward new park goals, I focus on just getting the 10 QSOs (with maybe a couple “extra” for good measure) and then move on.

The first thing I did upon arriving was set up the **PackTenna 40m End Fed Half Wave** antenna using the **POTA20 mast**.

On a previous trip to the dunes, I had problems staking down a mast, so this time I came prepared with large sand stakes. Honestly, it didn’t seem like they’d really work — you could pull them straight out of the sand — so I wasn’t very confident. But I’m happy to report



they worked extremely well. The mast stayed up for days without issue, even with the constant wind and blowing sand! The wind did force me to operate from the cab of the truck, but that actually worked out pretty well.

On a personal note: my hearing isn’t great. Most of the time, I receive very weak signals, so I use headphones to hear the QSOs clearly. I had been using basic phone headphones, which worked okay. But a few months ago, **Ham Radio 2.0** on YouTube partnered with **GigaParts** for a “Name Your Price” event. I was able to grab a **Heil PS6 Headset**, the interface cables for my **FT-891**, and a Heil handheld PTT switch. Game changer!

On the second day of the trip, I moved my truck into **Pismo State Beach (US-3535)** and made 23 contacts, enough to activate the park! After that, I returned to camp but didn’t have much luck; I only made 10 contacts compared to the 140 QSOs the previous UTC day. I was

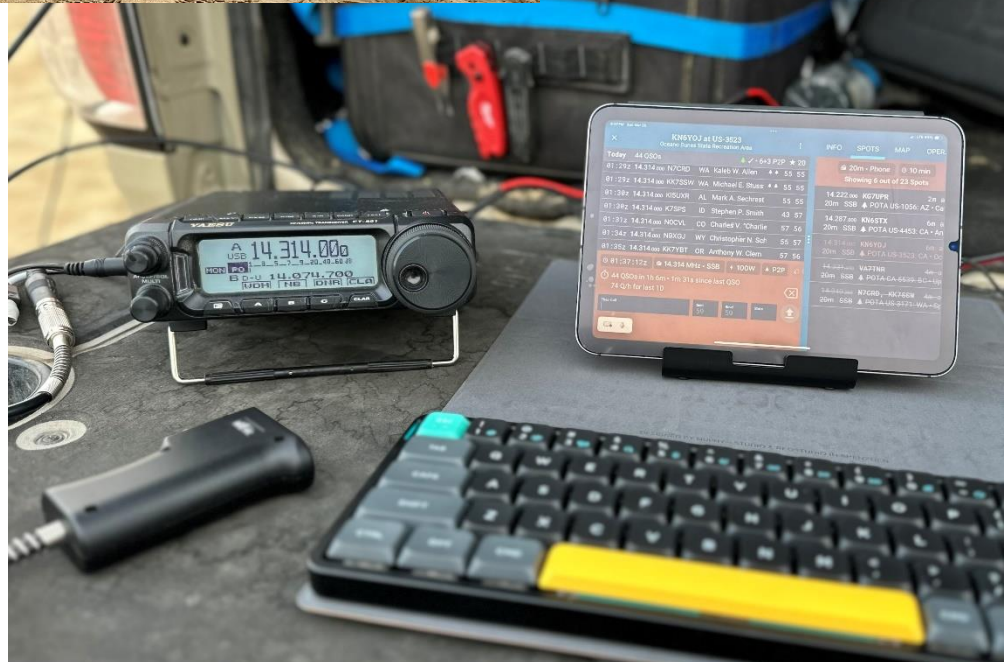


still far short of my KILO goal. At that point, I had 4 activations and 538 QSOs — so another trip to the coast is definitely in my future.

Since the KILO goal was likely out of reach, I shifted focus to the **Gold Activator** certificate. On Wednesday, I packed up and headed north toward the Morro Bay Area. First stop: **Montana de Pro State Park (US-1174)**. I found a beautiful spot with views of waves crashing between the rocks. Because there were people nearby, I opted to use a hamstick mounted to the side of my camper. It worked great, and

I got 13 QSOs to activate the park — 28 parks down, just 2 to go!

Next was **Morro Bay State Park (US-1175)**. By this point, the bands were really starting to deteriorate. My hamstick setup wasn't cutting it — I heard nothing but noise not even a weak signal. So, I pulled out my EFHW, leaned my mast into a tree and could finally hear some activity. Even though it was still tough going, I managed to log 12 QSOs. That made 29 parks — just one more to go!



My final stop for the day: **Morro Strand State Beach (US-3480)**. As soon as I arrived, I was worried. The park was right next to a residential area, with no trees and no good place to set up a mast. With my poor experience using the hamstick earlier, I wasn't confident. But I mounted the **20m hamstick**, set up, and got to work. The UTC day was closing fast, and I

only had about an hour left. I started calling, "CQ Parks on the Air", hoping that I would find at least 10 QSOs—and the bands cooperated! I got 13 QSOs, activated the park, and hit the magic 30 parks needed for the elusive **Gold Activator** certificate!



Afterward, I treated myself to some deep-fried food near **Morro Rock** and watched the sunset back at **Pismo Beach**. The California coast really delivers spectacular sunsets. That evening, I headed inland and spent the night at **Los**

Padres National Forest (US-0639). I arrived after 9 p.m., deployed my **Super Pacific X1** camper, and crawled into bed. The next morning, I threw up my **PackTenna EFHW** again and started making contacts. Before shutting down (after a nearby camper asked what I was doing), I managed to get 47 QSOs.

On the way home, I aimed my GPS at **Carrizo Plain National Monument (US-4541)**. I found a quiet spot off a dirt road and set up — only to realize I had misplaced my **BNC to UHF adapter** for the **PackTenna**. I think I left it on my tailgate back at Los Padres, and it either rolled off or got launched when I packed up. Luckily, I had a backup **MFJ 40m EFHW**, which didn't need a BNC. I leaned the mast into a nearby tree and got on the air. I started on 20m and logged 32 QSOs. Just as I was about to switch to 40m... the radio went dark. I had never charged my 50Ah battery! It finally gave out. Fortunately, I activated the park before the power died—so another one in the log!

Activations from this trip:

- US-3523 – Oceano Dunes State Recreation Area – 150 QSOs
- US-3535 – Pismo State Beach – 21 QSOs
- US-1174 – Montana de Oro State Park – 13 QSOs
- US-1175 – Morro Bay State Park – 12 QSOs

- US-3480 – Morro Strand State Beach – 13 QSOs
- US-0639 – Los Padres National Forest – 47 QSOs
- US-4541 – Carrizo Plain National Monument – 32 QSOs

Lessons learned:

1. **Getting 500+ contacts over a few days is tough.** Part of the challenge was I was camping with non-radio folks. They were super supportive, but it still felt a little odd to slip away to make contacts. I've realized that unless a trip is *radio-specific*, I may not be able to grind out the high QSO count.
2. **You must have spare parts.** I was lucky I brought multiple antennas. When something failed, I had backup options. My collection of hamsticks also proved essential, especially in places where stringing up a wire just wasn't practical or allowed.

Final thoughts:

I've discovered I really enjoy HF far more than I expected. **POTA** was the reason I upgraded to **General**, and it's been a blast learning more about my radio, antennas, and everything else that comes with it. Funny story—on the very day I passed my test, I headed to **Red Rock Canyon State Park (US-1189)** for my very first activation—my very first POTA contacts. I've also loved starting to recognize familiar voices on the air. I may not have all the callsigns memorized, but I definitely know the voices—and **Ham2k Polo** keeps track of how many times I've contacted each one!

Tid-Bits

A collection of miscellaneous mostly amateur radio related items.

Maybe next month?

Humorous

Laura Sherrod - KI6EOG

Each king in a deck of cards represents a great king from history:

Spades - King David

Hearts - Charlemagne

Clubs - Alexander, the Great

Diamonds - Julius Caesar

ARRL Contest Calendar

This page provides a summary of events sponsored by the ARRL, the national association for amateur radio. The most current information is on the website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>.

Another source for contest and on-the-air activity is WA7BNM Contest Calendar at

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/weeklycont.php>

April 2025

- 13 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

May 2025

- [\(no ARRL Contests\)](#)

June 2025

- 7-8 [International Digital Contest](#)
- 14-16 [June VHF](#)
- 21 [Kids Day](#)
- 28-29 [Field Day](#)

July 2025

- 12-13 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August 2025

- 2-3 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
- 16-18 [10 GHz & UP - Roundup 1](#)
- 16-17 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)
- 17 [Rookie Roundup](#)

September 2025

- 13-15 [September VHF](#)
- 13-14 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)
- 20-22 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

TARA Calendar

This page is a summary of events sponsored by or involving our club. All dates are subject to change. Please check the club Facebook and [website](#) for updates.

April 2025

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 1300 hrs “Wireless Wednesday” at Taco Samich
- 3 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 5, 12, 19, 26 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 6, 13, 20, 27 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 6, 13, 20, 27 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 10 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 12 — 0800 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at The Village Grill, 410 E Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 5 April.
- 12 — 1100 hrs, VE Amateur Radio License Exam, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 26 – 1200 to 1800 hrs, Tehachapi Wind/Kite Festival – Volunteer Comms Patrol, Contact Micah KN6VUT at kn6vut@ac6ee.org
- 26 — 0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 19 April.
- 29 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.

May 2025

- 1 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 4, 11, 18, 25 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 4, 11, 18, 25 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 7, 14, 21, 28 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 7, 14, 21, 28 – 1300 hrs “Wireless Wednesday” at Taco Samich
- 8 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 10 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast TARA Club Breakfast at P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561 Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 1 May.
- 10 — Time TBD, Fox Hunt after the TARA Club Breakfast, Location at Meadowbrook Park in Tehachapi followed by a picnic/BBQ.
- 27 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.
- 31 — 0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 21 May.

June 2025

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)

- 4, 11, 18, 25 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – 1300 hrs “Wireless Wednesday” at Taco Samich
- 5 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 7, 14, 21, 28 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 12 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 14 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at The Village Grill, 410 E Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 1 June.
- 24 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.
- 27,28,29 – Summer Field Day, Setup Friday Afternoon, Operating Saturday and Sunday. Contact Zach W9UOI to support our Field Day at Zachary.dickinson.82@gmail.com
- 28 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by June 18.

Reference Information

Local Repeater Information				
BVS APRS Digipeater	144.390	No tone	AC6EE-3	APRS
BVS Repeater Backup Freq.	146.700 145.580	123.0 Hz Tone Simplex	W6SLZ	Open Machine
BVS Repeater	440.625	100.0 Hz Tone	W6SLZ	Open Machine (WIN System node)
Tehachapi Repeater (Cummings Mtn.)	442.925(+)	141.3 Hz tone	KI6HHU	On the KERN System
Tehachapi Repeater (Double Mtn.)	446.320(-)	151.4 Hz tone	KI6HHU	On the KERN System
Tehachapi Repeater	444.225(+)	100.0 Hz TONE	KG6KKV	Overlooks Bakersfield
Tehachapi Repeater	447.120(-)	67.0 Hz Tone	KR6DK	Linked to KR6DK Bilingual Repeater Network

Local Repeater Information				
DMR Repeater	442.675	Offset: +5.000 ColorCode: 1	K6RET	Brandmeister, Bakersfield, CA The location is in the Tehachapi Mountains near Cummings Mountain
DMR Repeater	442.225	Offset: +5.000 ColorCode: 1	K6GTA	Brandmeister, Located about halfway up Bear Mountain at about 3,200' coverage to west side of the mountain in Bear Valley Springs
Tehachapi Simplex	145.58	No Tone		Local Simplex
Tehachapi Simplex	146.54	No Tone		Local Simplex

In addition to the repeaters listed above the following repeaters, part of the Kern System, can be reached from locations throughout the Tehachapi area and much of the San Joaquin Valley. They are linked together, and more information may be found at <http://www.KernSystem.org>

<u>KERN System Linked Repeaters</u>				
Frazier Mountain (8,000')	447.860	141.3 Hz Tone	KK6AC	Jerry Garis
Cummings Mountain (7,800')	442.95	141.3 Hz Tone	KI6HHU	Lee Bouchard
Double Mountain (8,000')	446.320	151.4 Hz Tone	KI6HHU	Lee Bouchard

<u>ARRG Linked Repeaters</u>				
Cummings Mountain (7,800')	444.425	100 Hz Tone		

ATTENTION:

For those interested in monitoring dispatch for the Bear Valley Springs Police Department

- KCSO Eastern Dispatch — 460.225
- KCSO East TAC — 460.125

All dispatch for BVSPD will be handled by the Kern County Sheriff’s Department

Club & Other Websites	
TARA website	http://www.ac6ee.org
TARA Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/TARAtchapiamateurradio/
Tehachapi-hams (email list)	https://groups.io/g/tehachapi-hams/
Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)	http://www.k6ox.club/index.html
Kern County-Central Valley Amateur Radio Club (KCCVARC)	http://www.w6lie.org
ARRL	http://www.arrl.org
West Kern County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (WKCARES)	http://westernkerncountyares.org/index.html

Officers & Committee Chairs			
Officer/Committee Chair	Name	Call	Email
President	Dan Mason	AB6DM	ab6dm@arrl.net
1st Vice President	Dan Mason (Interim)	AB6DM	ab6dm@arrl.net
2nd Vice President	Micah Martin	KN6VUT	kn6vut@ac6ee.org
Treasurer	John Dyer	KM6DXY	km6dxy@ac6ee.org
Secretary	Joe Jacobson	KJ7PUL	kj7pul@ac6ee.org
Technical Director	Dick Brown	W6SLZ	db24130@sbcglobal.net
Web Page & FaceBook Committee Chair	John Dyer	KM6DXY	km6dxy@ac6ee.org

Officers & Committee Chairs			
Officer/Committee Chair	Name	Call	Email
Hospitality Committee Chair	Valerie Mason	KK6WLQ	val3mason@yahoo.com
Public Affairs Committee Chair	Micah Martin	KN6VUT	kn6vut@ac6ee.org
Newsletter Editor	Stephen Lee	KN6ZGI	Kn6zgi@ac6ee.org

Meeting and Club Membership Information

The Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association meets every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM (except for July - no meeting). Our meeting site is the Tehachapi Police Department Conference Room, 220 W C St, Tehachapi.

Member Annual Dues: \$25.00/year

- Individual Memberships: <https://square.link/u/Q38FHI5A>

Additional Family Member: \$12.50/per person

- Family Memberships: <https://square.link/u/Q38FHI5A>

The QR codes below can also be used to link to your favorite transaction application.



Square / SquareUp



PayPal



venmo

Membership Application

Download a copy of our Membership Application [here](#). Please share this with any friends, family or neighbors that are either hams or may be interested in amateur radio. Applications are accepted at all club meetings, or you may mail your application along with the applicable dues to the club Post Office Box:

Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association (TARA)
P.O. Box 134
Keene, CA 93531