In This Issue

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!

TARA continues to grow in both membership and experience. We are making several new hams this year and helping many in our group to grow in experience. We have a rich set of interests among us including DX, Contests, POTA, SOTA, EMCOMM, Digital Modes, and now Mesh Networks.

Winter Field Day at Brite Lake at the end of January gave us new challenges as we experienced our first ever actual Winter conditions. It actually snowed on us. But we came fairly well prepared and put in a lot of operating time. Now our contact numbers we not so big, but we got several lesser experienced hams and guests on the air. We were visited by the press and even got a certificate of appreciation from Kern County District #2 Supervisor Chris Parlier.

Saturday, February 8th was a great day for TARA. We enjoyed a delicious and fun breakfast at P-Dubs. Right after that, we conducted a VE session at the Salvation Army in Tehachapi. We birthed 4 new Techs, upgraded one candidate to General, and our very own Clinton upgrading to Extra.

Next up on our events is volunteer patrol/communications for the 2025 Tehachapi Wine Walk on Saturday, February 15th from 11:30 AM to 5:30 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.

On Saturday, March 1st through Sunday, March 2nd, Dick W6SLZ will be hosting the International DX Contest - SSB at his QTH. This is a great chance to get experience operating DX quality radio equipment and to make contacts all over the world! Operation go around the clock. Bring pizza, and/or snacks, and/or desert, and the drink of your choice (water provided). Contact Dick at db24130@sbcglobal.net.

It's time to prepare for the 2025 ARRL Summer Field Day. Setup starts Friday afternoon on June 27th, and operation run continuously from Saturday, June 28th through Sunday, June 29th. First thing we need is a Director who simply herds the cats and checks the boxes of stuff we need. You can pull in as many people as you need to focus on specific aspects of the event.

73,

Dan - AB6DM

A Note from our Secretary Treasurer, John Dyer, KM6DXY

We had a very successful VE Testing Session last Saturday, February 8th.

We tested 6 candidates and all 6 passed their respective license exams.

The candidates were:
- Clinton Burkhart (WA7CRV) - Passed Extra – current club member
- Michael Gibson (KO6HCE) - Passed General and joined the club
- Timothy King (Pending) - Passed Technician and received a club application
- Mia Plasencia (Pending) - Passed Technician and joined the club as well as ARRL
- Chris Plasencia (Pending) - Passed Technician and joined the club
- Edward Weston (Pending) - Passed Technician and joined the club

A big Shout Out and Thanks to our VE's that were able to support the session. They were:

- Dan Mason
- Dave Walter
- Howard Krawitz
- Rick Kannard
- Jeff Beutemeister
- Dylan Durst
- John Dyer
- Valerie Mason (Support)

Our next Test Session will be held on April 12th. Plenty of time to study for your next upgrade!

From our Public Information Officer, Micah Martin, KN6VUT

Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association Winter Field Day 2025: A Grand Success!

Winter Field Day 2025 at Tehachapi's Brite Lake was nothing short of a winter wonderland for the *Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association* (TARA)! Despite the harsh winter wind, cold, snow, and hail, our dedicated members made this event a resounding success.

Ray W6QPA braved the elements, staying warm in his small trailer and camping on-site throughout the event. He and other TARA members demonstrated our preparedness to serve the community under all weather conditions by operating three different radios.

Using voice, digital, and radio email, we successfully made numerous contacts, proving that whether it's summer or winter, TARA is always ready to help.

Micah KN6VUT, our Public Information Officer, was there with a table full of information for guests interested in becoming ham radio operators. He even provided details on testing and study apps, ensuring that aspiring operators have all they need to get started.

John KM6DXY and Diana KE6SBA added to the value of the event by operating and making contacts, as well as demonstrating an HF radio from a separate tent. Their expertise and dedication were truly on display for all to see.

We were honored by the presence of our new County Supervisor, Chris Parlier, who presented us with a **Certificate of Recognition** for our volunteer work in the community. This recognition is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our TARA members.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the *Tehachapi Valley Recreation and Parks District* for their support with social media posts and site preparation. Special thanks to *Camp Host* Jonna for her warm welcome and multiple check-ins, despite the challenging winter weather.

We are also thankful to Clare KO6GDV at the *Greater Tehachapi Chamber of Commerce* for sharing our event on social media and *TehachaPod*. Your support helped spread the word and bring more participants to our event.

Our appreciation goes out to Wendy Merrick, Store Manager of *Big 5 Sporting Goods* in Tehachapi, for the generous donation and special coupons for our visitors. Your support made a significant difference in the success of our event.

And a big thank you to Haley at *Starbucks* on Tehachapi Blvd for providing early pre-dawn hot coffee on the cold Saturday morning. Your kindness warmed us up and kept us going strong.

Before and after *Winter Field Day*, TARA received coverage in *The Loop*, *Tehachapi News*, *TehachaPod*, and several local businesses who posted our *Winter Field Day* signs.

This extensive coverage helped highlight our commitment to the community and the success of our event.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported us. We look forward to more successful events in the future! 🎉❁

-Micah KN6VUT

Public Information Officer
Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association

EDITORS' Note:

The Dummy Load theme for March is Your Ham Shack Configuration – Tell us about your fixed operating station. Why your chose your gear. What you like about it. Where you think it is lacking. What are your plans to make it better?

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 March 10, 2025.

73, Stephen, KN6ZGI

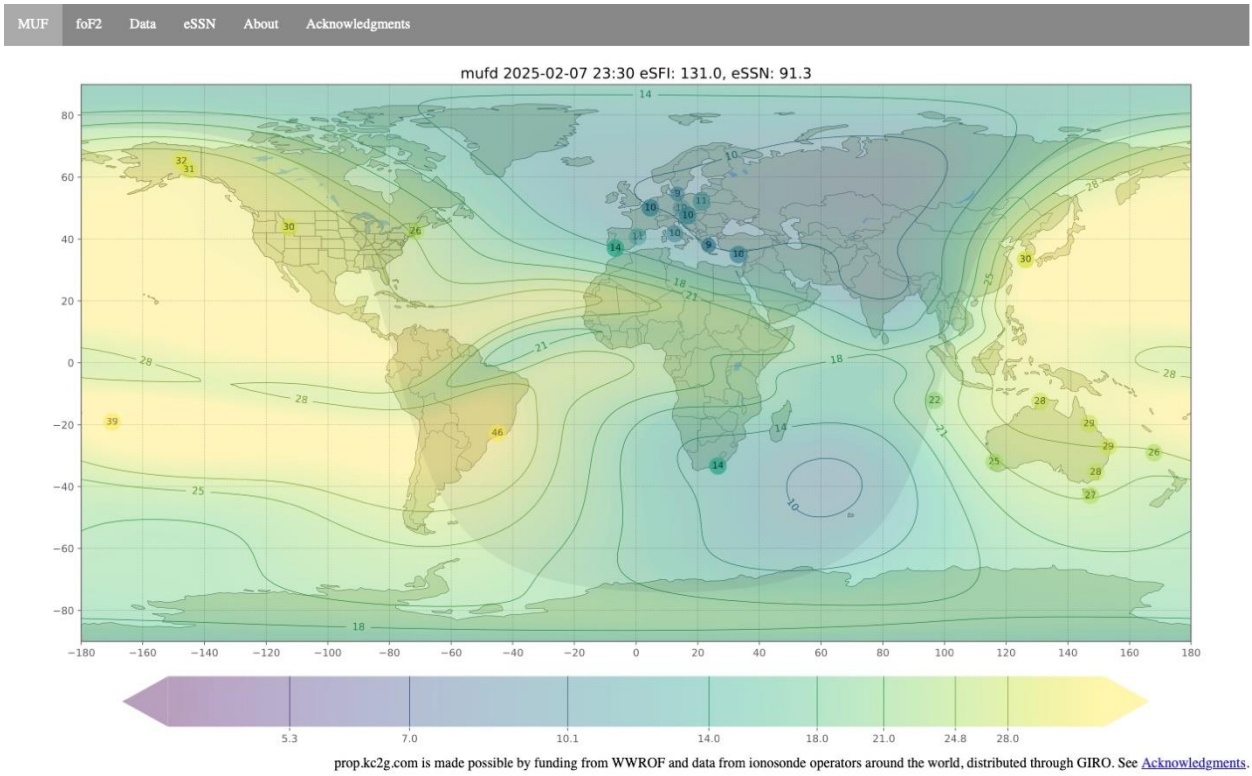
Your Propagation Monitoring Tools

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

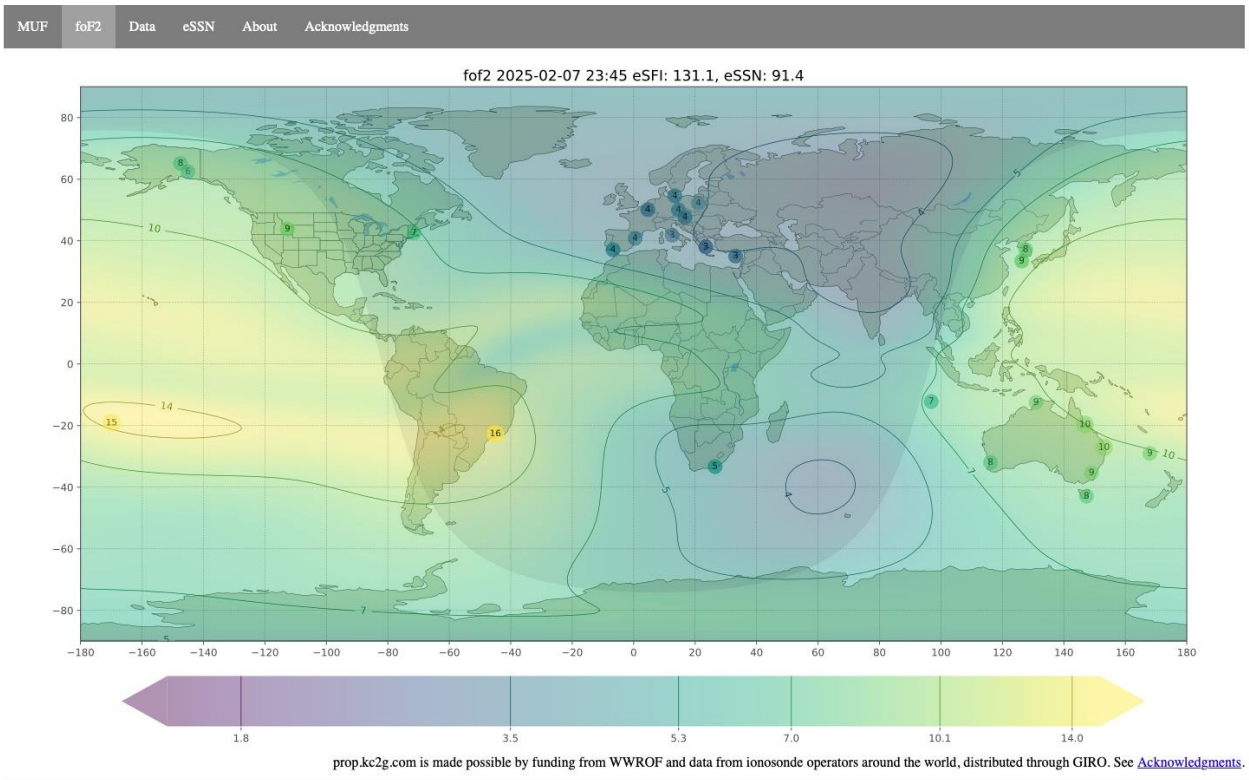
Since I operate mostly low power (even my QRO is only 48 watts), I must work with the propagation if I'm going to have much luck. To pick a band most likely to reach where I hope to contact, I use a few tools:

Near-Realtime maps and data about ionospheric conditions

I start by looking at the Maximum Usable Frequency and the FoF2 frequency as depicted at https://prop.kc2g.com .



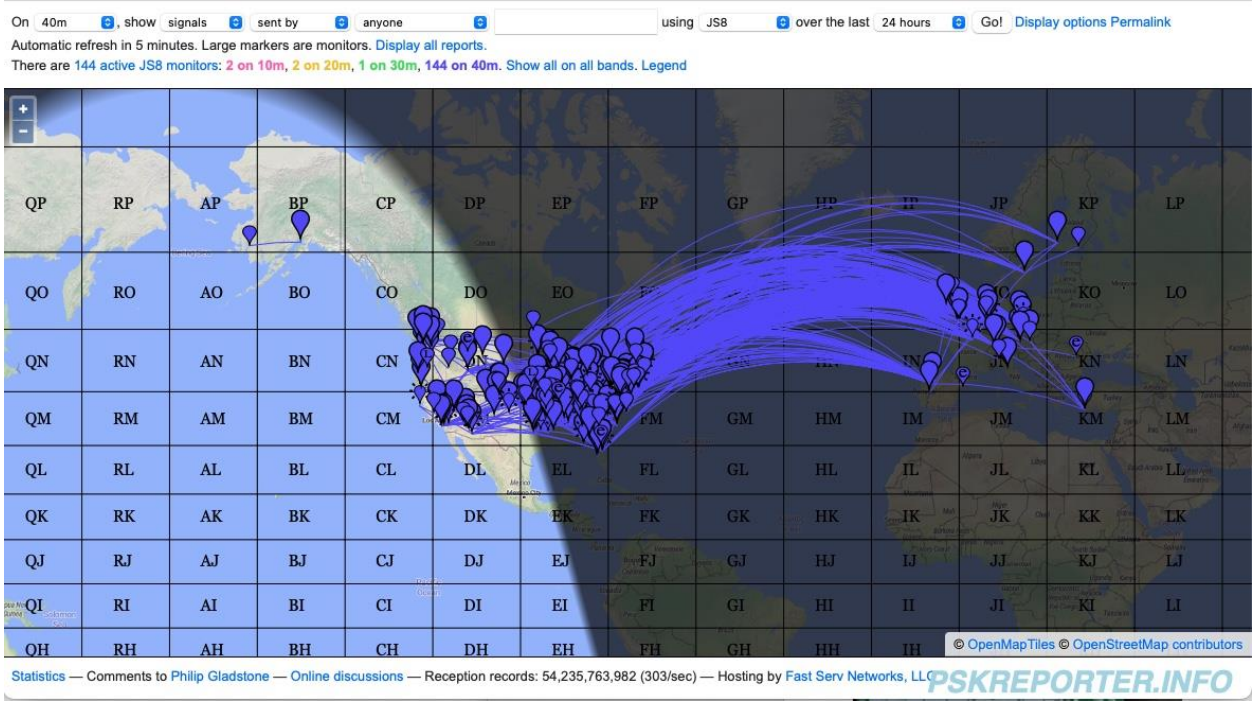
The MUF is a reasonable estimate of the highest frequency that will cover a 3000KM path … basically a coast-to-coast path. So, in the chart above I could probably run 10 MHZ and make it to the east coast. Higher frequencies are not being refracted back and those just go out into space.



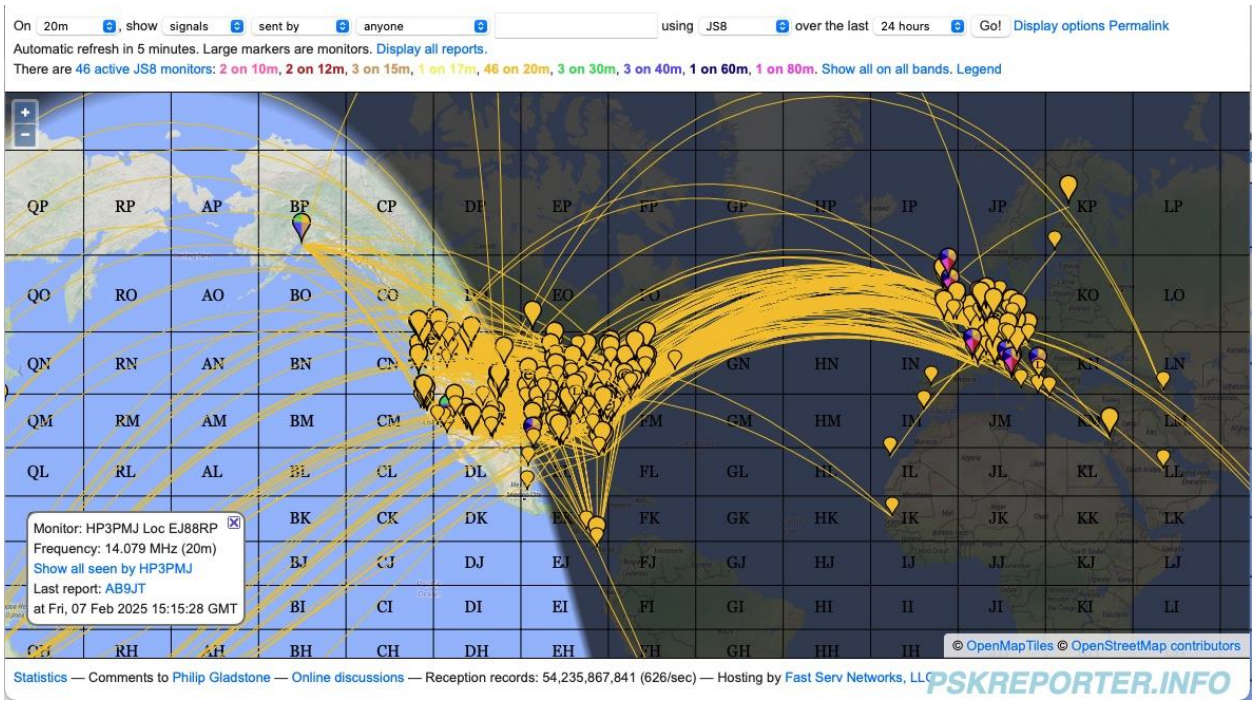
The FoF2 is the Critical Frequency. This is the highest frequency which will still bounce off the ionosphere at near vertical angle of incidence. This means it will be usable for stations up to a few hundred miles away. Between FoF2 and the MUF is essentially going to be long range paths and below FoF2 is for local calls. In my case, since I live on the east side of Bakersfield, if I want to contact someone in Tehachapi, I pick a frequency below the FoF2. If I'm hoping for DX I pick a frequency between FoF2 and MUF.

PSK Reporter Map

The ionospheric models are good for estimating the conditions, but there is no substitute for checking with a real signal from your antenna and radio. To test reality, I use PSK-Reporter (https://pskreporter.info/pskmap.html) for digital modes. It allows you to look for all traffic (any call sign) or a specific call, for a specific band and or a specific mode. To see where the bands are active, I pick the mode (JS8 for example) and band I'm interested in and see if there is any traffic. In the screen shot below you see the JS8 on 40 meters (Blue traces) was open to the east … but not the west. Likewise, JS8 on 20 meters (Yellow traces) was open both east and west.



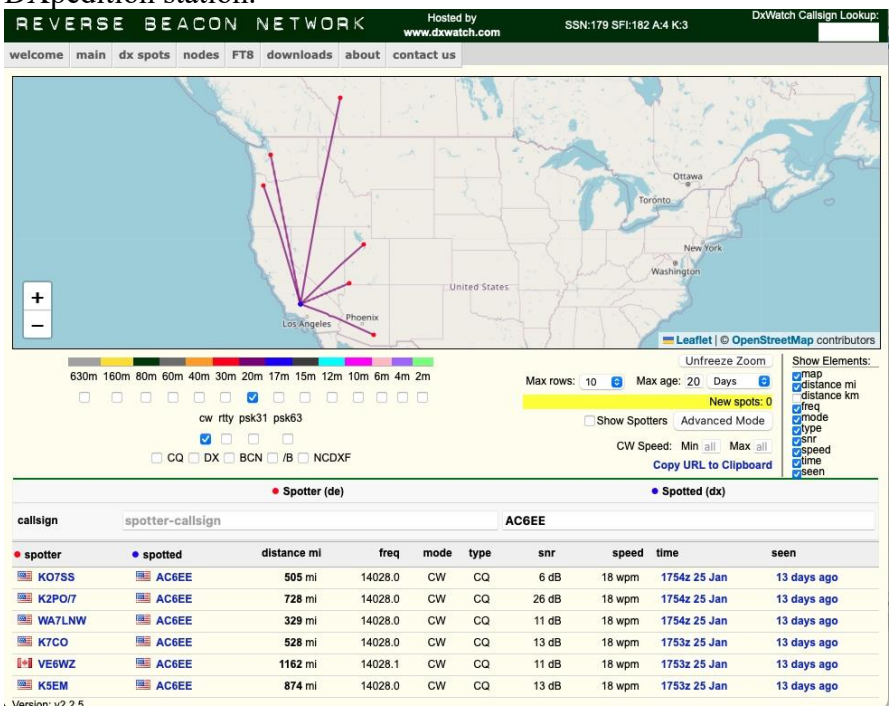
https://pskreporter.info/pskmap.html



Using PSK Reporter with a specific call sign, such as AC6EE, shows where that signal is being heard. The map above shows our 40-meter FT8 coverage from Brite Lake Winter Field Day site. It shows we had a good signal with about a 1200 mile skip zone. From this you can see we would have near zero chance of reaching any station west of about Nebraska at about 22:15 pm on January 24 using 40-meters.

Reverse Beacon Network

The third tool I find useful is the Reverse Beacon Network. This site allows me to see where my CW signals are being heard. It is also useful if you're looking for a particular station, perhaps a DXpedition station.



The map above shows the coverage of the AC6EE 20 Meter CW from the Brite Lake Winter Field Day site. Comparing these PSKreporter 40 meter with the above 20-meter CW shows how critical it

is to select a band that is covering your desired contact. 20 meters at about 09:45 on 25 January was good for local western us contacts.

There are many other propagation tools. Voice of America Coverage Analysis Program (VOCAP) is good for specific point-to-point propagation analysis. And is available for ham radio use at https://www.voacap.com/hf/. I only use this occasionally.

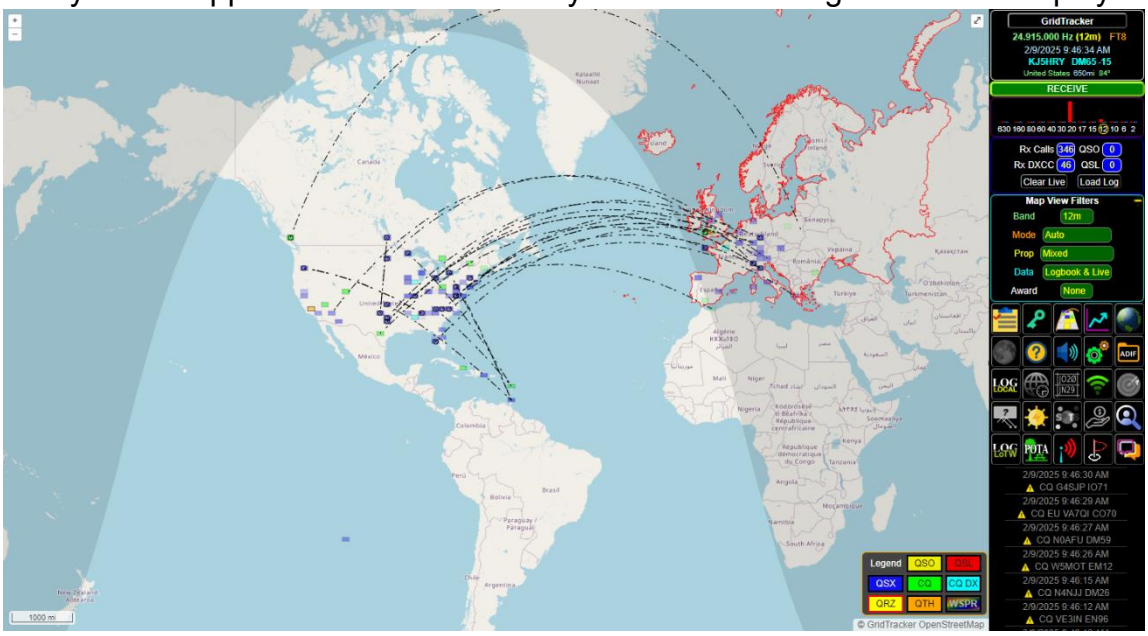
And finally, for a better understanding of ionospheric (aka Skywave) propagation have a look at this tutorial https://www.qsl.net/4x4xm/HF-Propagation.htm#Reg2 . This site has a good summary of propagation tools.

John Rue, KK6WKX

The best sites I have found for solar conditions and ham radio propagation include, Tamitha Skov the space weather woman, at https://www.spaceweatherwoman.com/ . Another site SpaceWeather.com at this link, https://www.spaceweather.com/ provides current reports of solar and geomagnetic conditions. The Sun Today, https://www.thesuntoday.org/, with C. Alex Young PH.D. has a large amount of information about Solar Science. There are more but I haven't gotten around to looking them up.

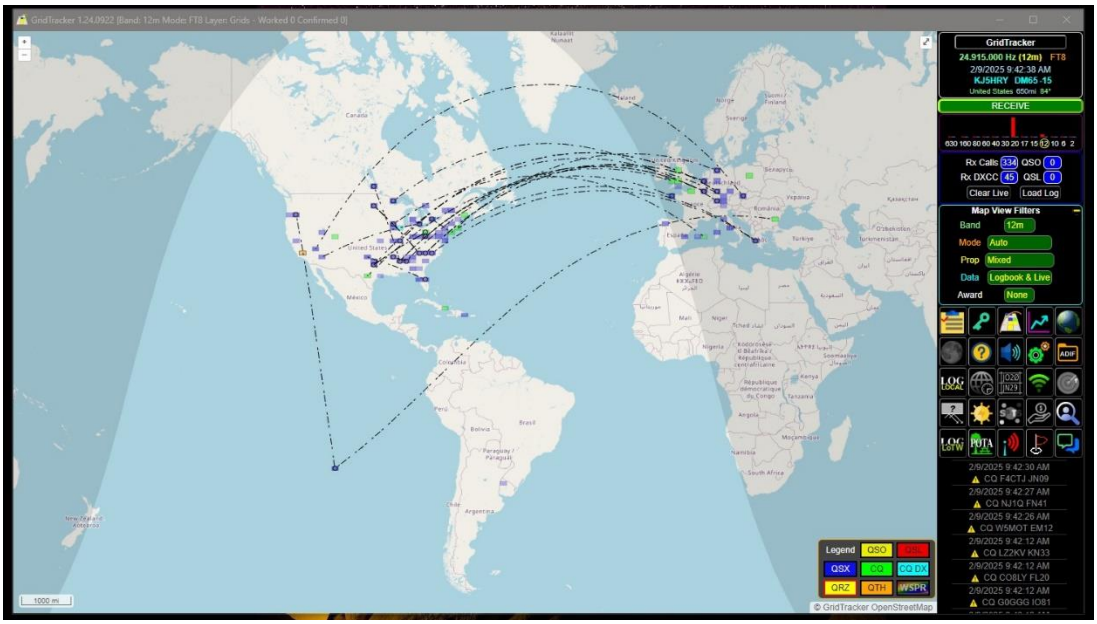
Stephen Lee, KN6ZGI

I like to operate FT8 so a tool I use when on the air with this mode is Grid Tracker. It is a very robust application that offers many features including a real-time display of current activity in the band where you are operating.



This image was captured using one of the hot key commands. It displays the paths of stations

making connections with each other and updates with each new cycle of FT8 decoding. Another feature I like is the bar graph in the upper right corner that displays activity on all the bands. This image shows I was operating on 12m however there was a lot more activity on 20m. I use this graph to switch bands when another one becomes hot. The red outline on the map indicates someone in that area is calling CQ. When you are attempting to contact a station you see a flashing red path trace on the map to the station you are calling.



Other features I like are logging and real-time lookup. There is a popup window with all the information available for the station you are calling/contacting. It is almost like a real-time QSL card. Some include photos of the other operator and their station. There are many other features to the application that I haven't explored yet including other propagation aids.

Grid Tracker is a free application that is frequently updated with new stuff. You can find out more about it and download it at the following link: https://gridtracker.org/index.php

From the website "GridTracker is a warehouse of amateur radio information presented in an easy to use interface, from live traffic decodes, logbooks, real-time spot reports, weather, current solar conditions and more!"

I also found this Propagation – Presentation from Dr. Jonathan S Shapiro to the Stamford Amateur Radio Association W1EE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Udk5Y1dus6M

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?

No submissions for this month … You must have a project you can share with the club. Start now and have your article ready for our next newsletter.

The Operating Room

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

Winter Field Day

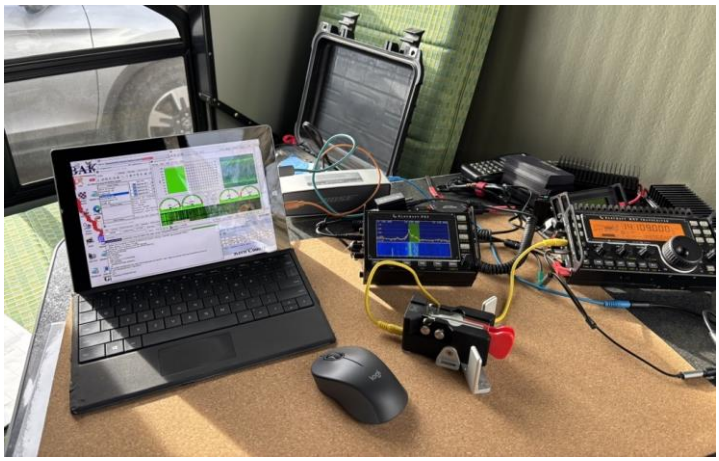
Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

I had a great time at this year's Winter Field Day. The club participated from Brite Lake Campground where the Tehachapi Parks and Recreation Department was kind enough to allow the use of campsite 35 and Pavilion 2 for this exercise.

Winter Field Day went well in many aspects. Our objectives included community engagement, exercising the equipment we brought in less-than-ideal conditions, getting members on the air and making contacts.

Community engagement -- Micah's efforts brought out Chris Parlier, newly elected District 2 County Supervisor who presented the club with a certificate of recognition from the county. We also had a reporter with the Tehachapi Loop and a number of non-hams who saw the flyers and newspaper announcements and decided to check it out. The Tehachapi Recreation and Parkes Department even let us use the site gratis! Starbucks donated coffee.

Exercising the equipment — I think this went very well. I brought our small travel trailer to Brite Lake along with solar panels, a generator and three different radios, my favorite linked-



dipole inverted-vee and a WIFI network to support logging computer integration. I ran CW and digital modes (JS8, Olivia, Winlink) on 20 and 40 meters. This year I changed my antenna anchors to small sandbags to avoid trying to drive spikes into rock-hard soil and am very pleased with how well that worked out. For the first time my deployment kit had exactly what was needed and everything worked.

The HF phone tent ran using Dan's large LiFePO4 battery and was kept warm with a "Buddy Heater" propane fired space heater. Zack Dickenson W9UOI, brought out an SDR receiver he setup as a server accessible from browsers, a Xiegu radio the model of which I forget, and a couple of small pc tablets. With these devices he ran a scouting operation looking for activity on the bands and telling where we could maybe find contacts. The phone operation also got a number of club members with less HF experience, on the air … far more than in past years.

Operating and Making Contacts — Setting up went well, nice weather on Friday helped. I stayed on-site Friday and Saturday night where it was cold (sub-freezing) but didn't start snowing until Sunday late morning about the time we began packing up for fear of getting stuck in the forecast snow. By the time I left, about noon, the snow was just starting to stick.
I didn't make as many QSO's as in past years; however, I had the chance to demonstrate several digital modes to guests and members. All totaled we had 34 contacts (22 SSB and 12 CW/Digi). Not a high score, however, we (I) had a good time and exposed people to modes and techniques that were new to many.

Our Score was 506 points
Which is calculated as QSO Points * multiplier
46 * 11 = 506
22 Phone contacts for 22 points
12 CW/Digi contacts 24 point
11 multiplier points

The Objectives (Multipliers) we achieved were:
Operate 100% alternative power — 1
Operate away from home — 3
Deploy multiple antennas — 1
Send and receive at least one WINlink email — 1
Copy the Winter Field Day special bulletin (see attached)— 1
Use multiple modes — 2
Operate six continuous hours during the event —2

We missed:
FM Satellite contact — 2
SSB/CW satellite contact — 3
operate at least six different bands (we only hit 4) — 6
Operate the event QRP — 4

The logging software reports who was operating … if we remember to use that feature. We didn't use it in all cases. The operators I think I know of are (if I missed anyone let me know):
W6QPA — Ray
KM6DXY — John
KN6VUT — Micha
KJ7PUL -- Joe
KE6SBA — Diana
KK6WLQ — Valerie
W9UOI — Zack
KN6YOJ -- Duane
AK5JI -- Caleb

Tid-Bits

A collection of miscellaneous mostly amateur radio related items.

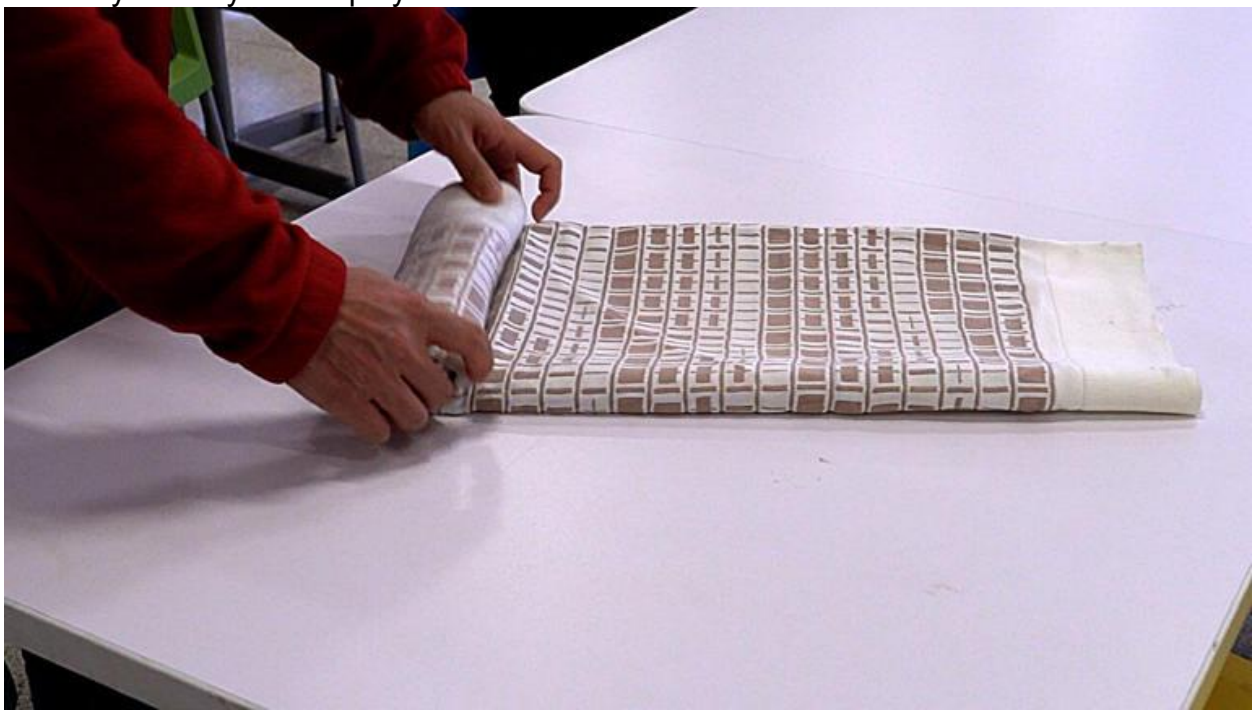
David Walter - WA5GUL

Engineers knit a 'blanket' of sophisticated radio-frequency antennas

Imagine taking the radio frequency properties of the dish antennas you see on rooftops and knitting them into a wearable garment—a sweater or a blanket that is ultralight, portable, easy to fold up and stow away.

Not having to use heavy, bulky satellite antennas would make communications much easier for those who live or travel in remote locations—a lightweight, flexible antenna that can send information over long distances would be a useful tool for both the public and private sectors.

A Columbia Engineering team reports that they have used their expertise in metasurfaces—ultra-thin optical components that can control the propagation of light—and a low-cost, highly scalable flat-knitting platform to create radio-frequency (RF) communications antennas that are easy to carry and deploy.



The study, led by Nanfang Yu, associate professor of applied physics and applied mathematics, was published in *Advanced Materials*.

Why knitting?

Most RF antennas, particularly highly directional array antennas like reflectarrays are planar, rigid devices. While these devices will likely always remain state-of-the-art in terms of pure performance metrics, they are often large, heavy, and unwieldy and can be expensive to manufacture.

Researchers have been investigating ways to produce smaller, more flexible antennas, including inkjet printing or screen-printing directly on textiles, and embroidery. But these techniques are quasi-additive approaches in which a conductive material is added to an

existing textile instead of being integrated into the textile during the fabrication process of the textile itself, introducing problems such as delamination, slip, or cracking of the metallic region, as well as issues of production scalability.

Yu's group realized that what they needed to create was a high-throughput, inexpensive technique that directly integrates flat array antennas onto textiles. So they decided to study knitting and weaving, which, while being the most common approaches for fabricating patterned textiles, have not been explored as a way to produce complex array antennas with engineered electromagnetic responses.

A Fair Isle approach

The researchers took a novel approach to fabricating flexible, lightweight centimeter-wavelength metasurfaces. They leveraged an old-school colorwork knitting technique called float-jacquard knitting (think Fair Isle sweaters) and used commercially available metallic and dielectric yarns with existing knitting machinery to produce two prototype reflectarray devices, a metasurface lens (metalens) and a vortex-beam generating device.

In the float-jacquard knitting technique, two or more types of yarn are used to produce a pattern: A yarn is floated loose beneath the fabric when not used and transferred back to the frontside as needed to create the desired pattern.

By integrating the textile fabrication and antenna patterning into a single process, the team streamlined the fabrication process and alleviated common defects in fabric-based antennas. The group is the first to adapt flat-knitting techniques to incorporate antennas directly during the fabric production procedure—integrated fabrication—and able to do it at low cost and high yield on an industrial scale.

For example, each of the prototype metasurfaces with a footprint of approximately 1 square meter was knit within 45 minutes. In addition, the flat-knit fabric devices withstood repeated washing and stretching on a frame.

"The float-jacquard knitting technique used for making our textile metasurfaces is exactly the same technique that my mother used to make sweaters for me. I still remember a purple sweater I wore as a kid that had a row of white cats across the chest; I remember that when I inspected the inner side of the sweater, I saw white parallel yarns—the floats," said Yu, a pioneer in researching nanophotonic devices like metasurfaces.

He noted that these complex RF antennas can be readily produced by existing infrastructure: "We can leverage the very old and very well-established knitting industry to fulfill some of the needs of modern telecommunications. The facile and scalable nature of the fabrication approach means these devices could be inexpensive, ultra-lightweight, flexible variants of sophisticated radio-frequency communications antennas."

The results

The researchers showed experimentally that when the metalens operates as a receiving antenna, it focuses an incident centimeter-wave into a tight (diffraction-limited) focal spot, and that when it operates as a transmitting antenna, it converts the divergent emission from a horn antenna (a common RF source) into a wave with planar wavefront—a highly directional beam.

They also demonstrated that more complex wavefront shaping tasks can be accomplished: the vortex-beam generating metasurface produces a vortex beam—a beam with a corkscrew-shaped wavefront. Because of the peculiar wavefront, the vortex beam can carry an independent channel of information, thus a vortex beam and a beam with planar wavefront used together can make a communications channel twice as efficient.

Next steps

In future efforts, the researchers will explore modern knitting techniques—there are at least a dozen varieties—and knitting machines to realize more complex multi-functional designs—fabrics with combined designer electromagnetic, electronic, and mechanical responses. This could be used to engineer hinge points or folds, and electronic circuits into a fabric, which could be actuated to further facilitate stowage and deployment or even switch between different electromagnetic functionalities.

The scalability of flat knitting ranks highly among all techniques used to produce flexible or rigid RF metasurfaces and reflectarrays: commercial flat-knitting machines are capable of producing textiles up to two meters in width and with no limitation in the length direction. The researchers will explore this advantage to create high-gain antennas with apertures several meters in diameter yet lightweight and stowable to be carried by satellites to communicate across vast distances.

"It's important to stress that these devices were fabricated using commercially available off-the-shelf yarns and leveraging established fabrication techniques," Yu said. "I am almost certain that communities of knitters can come up with ingenious ways to integrate aesthetics and functionality into a sweater—a sweater that can double as a WiFi signal booster."

More information: Michael J. Carter et al, Flat-Knit, Flexible, Textile Metasurfaces, *Advanced Materials* (2024). DOI: 10.1002/adma.202312087

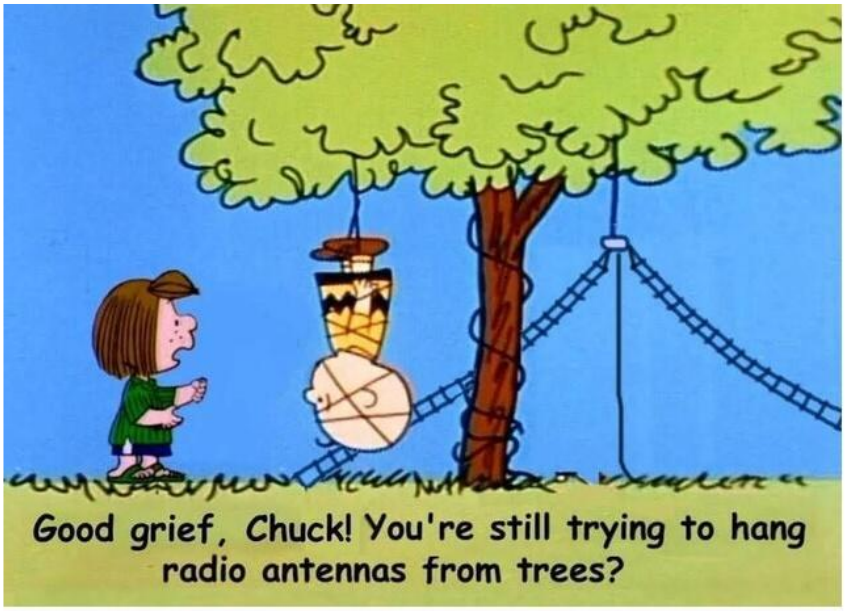
Provided by Columbia University School of Engineering and Applied Science

Humorous

David Walter - WA5GUL

With WFD just over, I thought the new hams would appreciate the effort that goes into making a great mobile station!

Stephen – KN6ZGI



If you feel like you need help with your antennas, you aren't alone.

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

February 2025

- 10-14 School Club Roundup
- 15-16 International DX – CW

March 2025

- 1-2 International DX – Phone

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

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.

February 2025

- 1, 8, 15, 22 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 2, 9, 16, 23 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2, 9, 16, 23 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 5, 12, 19, 26 – 1900 hrs "Just Because" Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 5, 12, 19, 26 – 1300 hrs "Wireless Wednesday" at Taco Samich
- 6 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 8 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561 Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 1 February.
- 8 — 11:00 hrs, VE Amateur Radio License Exam, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 13 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 18 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.
- 22 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 15 February.

March 2025

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 5, 12, 19, 26 – 1900 hrs "Just Because" Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 5, 12, 19, 26 – 1300 hrs "Wireless Wednesday" at Taco Samich
- 6 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 8 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at Kelcy's Restaurant, 110 W Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 1 March.
- 13 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 18 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.
- 29 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 22 March.

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 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561 Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 5 April.
- 12 — 11:00 hrs, VE Amateur Radio License Exam, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 15 – 1800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Meeting at the BVS Equestrian Center Lounge.
- 26 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 19 April.

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 at Kelcy’s Restaurant, 110 W Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 1 May.
- 20 – 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.

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

Local Repeater Information				
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
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

KERN System Linked Repeaters				
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

KERN System Linked Repeaters				
Double Mountain (8,000')	446.320	151.4 Hz Tone	KI6HHU	Lee Bouchard

ARRG Linked Repeaters				
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/TARAtehachapiamateurradio/**
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
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