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## Contact Us

- Via [Facebook](#)
- Via [WWW.AC6EE.ORG](http://WWW.AC6EE.ORG)
- U.S. Mail:  
TARA  
P.O. Box 1681  
Tehachapi, CA 93581

## A Word

Dan Mason, AB6DM, President

Hi all,

So on this month's Dummy Load theme: Mode of the Month— Phone —

I have three:

Station: ICOM IC-706MkIIg, battery power with 80 - 10 meter end fed half wave (EFHW) dipole antenna between a tree and my military pole.

QSO: We were in a day camp up at about 6500 feet, a buddy and my XYL, Valerie (KK6WLQ), operating at a picnic table doing what we called a "Mini Field Day". We were having fun talking to people from Fresno to the East Coast. But tuning around, we heard a special event station at the running of the Indianapolis 500 race. We all three checked in, yay!

Station: Yaesu FT-450D on battery power and the same EFHW antenna

QSO: It was ARRL Field Day, and the QSO was with my Dad in Carlsbad, CA on his FT-857 and little Yaesu screwdriver in his pickup truck. It was my Dad who got me into amateur radio when I turned 50.

Station: Kenwood TM-281 with Tram 1185 mag mount antenna on our Subaru Outback

QSO: We took our daughters into the Kelso Valley to show them where we helped with the High Dessert Trails rally car race. We decided to go further yet and make it all the way to Lake Isabella. While still on Kelso Valley road, with no cell

service, I tuned into the Bird Springs repeater to see if I could hit it. The repeater heard me and did its thing, sending my call out to places I could not reach. Then I got a reply back from another ham (of course). But not just any ham, it was our buddy Aaron Ray, N4ARY, who was way on the other side of the mountain by Red Hills, equally with no cell service! He was out there with his daughter collecting something for a school project. What a coincidence that two Tehachapi guys would be far away from home, yet still far away from each other, and neither with cell service, yet still able to communicate electronically. That's what ham radio can do!

73,

Dan Mason

AB6DM

## RadioActive!

Phil Dolber, W6WBT, 1st Vice President

July's Dummy Load Topic is your favorite phone mode/experience, so let me step onto my soap box about an activity I think our club is really missing out on; Special Event Stations. We have an historical engineering wonder in our back yard and I think we should take advantage of that. In 2000 I created my EchoLink account. It was quite different back then, but my point is every evening I would get at least one call from someone wanting to talk about the Tehachapi Loop. This went on for almost 2 years. I think a special event station celebrating an anniversary related to the Tehachapi Loop would be popular. Special event stations do take some planning. A QST notice has to be sent a couple of months in advance, you have to plan the station (usually portable), you need an operating schedule or plan and then there is the food. This is a great way to promote the hobby in the community and an excellent way to get newly licensed hams over their mic fright.

**So, get on the air and get Radio Active.**

### EDITORS' Note:

Thanks to Phil W6WBT and Dan AB6DM for sharing their "Mode of the Month — Phone" experiences with us.

The theme for August is "Readiness Month and Stories from your Field Day 2021" September is the National Preparedness Month sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. So we thought it would be useful to share your steps in Amateur Radio preparedness for emergencies. Since we often exercise our readiness/preparedness plans on Field Day please consider jotting down your readiness actions and your field day experiences for 2021 and any lessons learned to share with our readers.

Please email your contributions to [AC6EE@arrl.net](mailto:AC6EE@arrl.net) by 30 July 2021

73 ...Ray W6QPA

# Mode of the Month — Phone

## HF SSB Special Event Operations

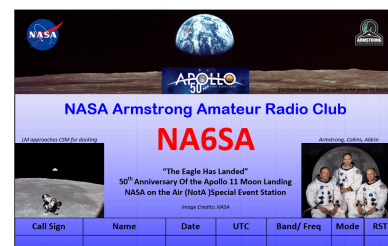
Phil Dolber, W6WBT



If you hadn't guessed, one of my favorite phone activities is the Special Event Station. One of my favorites' was when our ham radio club at work hosted a special event station in Apollo Park to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. We gave each station a chance to share their memory of the event and we kept notes.

We created a special electronic QSL card for the event and sent them via email, so there was no expense for postage, or the designing and printing a QSL Cards.

Even though we took time with each contact to hear their story and band conditions were terrible we managed 175 contacts in approximately 5.5 hours. Park hours, setup and tear down dictated the amount of time we had to operate.



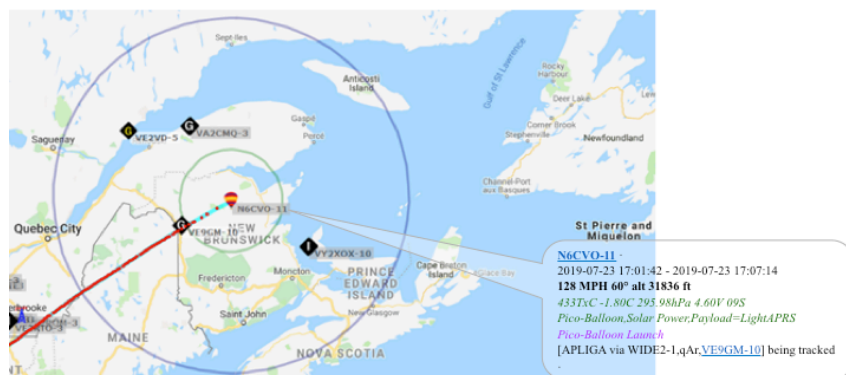
We invited other clubs to join us so, we had operators from the Grub Grabbers Net, the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club and The Acton club. It was a lot of fun to operate with



Kevin K6KTR and Ken KN6AZK

hams with little on the air experience and see their enthusiasm grow as they shed their inhibitions on the air. One gentleman, Ken was a new ham and legally blind. He had reached out to one of our members saying he had attended Field Day but was not welcomed to operate. We told him if he came to the event we would make sure he left with the confidence to operate his station on his own. Ken spent about 2.5 hours at the mic and had a great time.

Another attendee, Brian, had launched a balloon that morning and brought his tablet to track it. Brian shared the link with all those who wanted to track it beyond that day. We tracked the balloon until Tuesday at which time it either stopped transmitting or the balloon went down. The balloon did make it to just north of Brunswick Maine.



	A Peak at our Log	
Canada	Alabama	Kentucky
Columbia	Alaska, North Pole	Louisiana
Iceland	Arkansas	Mississippi
Mexico	Colorado	Missouri
Yukon	Florida	Montana
Nevada	Georgia	Utah
New Hampshire	Hawaii	Washington
New Mexico	Idaho	Wisconsin
New York	Indiana	Wyoming
Ohio	Kansas	
Oklahoma	Oregon	California (SF, Bakersfield, Yuba City, San Jose, Rosedale Napa)
Puerto Rico	Pennsylvania	Tennessee
	Texas	

This event was fun for a lot of reasons but it was a gathering of hams who wanted to get on the air and celebrate an historic event that many hams all over the world could relate to. It was the type of event that people remember where they were and what they were doing when it happened.

The park was very busy that day and we had many visitors come over to see what we were doing. Oh, and of course we barbecued and had a potluck.

Phil W6WBT

## 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>

### July 2021

- 10-11 IARU HF World Championship

### August 2021

7-8 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest

21-22 10 GHz & Up – Round 1

22 Rookie Roundup – RTTY

### September 2021

- 11-13 September VHF
- 18-19 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.

### In-person events are returning:

- Beginning with the “2nd Saturday Breakfast”.
- And starting on August 12 — the club meeting returns!!

### July 2021

- 7, 14, 21, 28 – 19:00 PDT “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 1 – 19:00 PDT, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 8 – 19:00 PDT, TARA Club Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 10 — 08:30 PDT, TARA Club Breakfast at The Village Grill

### August 2021

- 4, 11, 18, 25 — 19:00 PDT “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 5 — 19:00 PDT, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 12 — 19:00 PDT, TARA Club Meeting, Mountain Aire Estates Activities Center
- 14 — 08:30 PDT, TARA Club Breakfast at Gracian Grill

## September 2021

- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – 19:00 PDT “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2 – 19:00 PDT, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 9 – 19:00 PDT, TARA Club Meeting, Mountain Aire Estates Activities Center
- 11 — 08:30 PDT, TARA Club Breakfast at The Village Grill

## Reference Information

Local Repeater Information				
TARA APRS Digipeater	144.39	No tone	AC6EE-3	APRS
BVS APRS Digipeater	144.390	No tone	WA6LDQ-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
Tehachapi Repeater	444.225	100.0 Hz TONE	KG6KKV	Overlooks Bakersfield
Tehachapi Simplex	145.48	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. They are linked together and more information may be found at <http://www.KernSystem.org>

KERN System Linked Repeater				
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

### 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	<a href="http://www.ac6ee.org">http://www.ac6ee.org</a>
TARA Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/TARatehachapiamateurradio/">https://www.facebook.com/TARatehachapiamateurradio/</a>
Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC)	<a href="http://www.k6ox.club/index.html">http://www.k6ox.club/index.html</a>
Bear Valley Springs Emergency Response Team (BVSERT)	The website is being refurbished.
Kern County-Central Valley Amateur Radio Club (KCCVARC)	<a href="http://www.w6lie.org">http://www.w6lie.org</a>
ARRL	<a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>
West Kern County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (WKCARES)	<a href="http://westernkerncountyares.org/index.html">http://westernkerncountyares.org/index.html</a>

Officers & Committee Chairs			
Office/Committee	Name	Call	Email
President	Dan Mason	AB6DM	<a href="mailto:ab6dm@arrl.net">ab6dm@arrl.net</a>
1st Vice President	Phil Dolber	W6WBT	<a href="mailto:w6wbt@arrl.net">w6wbt@arrl.net</a>
2nd Vice President	Ray Gretlein	W6QPA	<a href="mailto:w6qpa@arrl.net">w6qpa@arrl.net</a>
Secretary	Valerie Mason	KK6WLQ	<a href="mailto:val3mason@yahoo.com">val3mason@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Dick Brown	W6SLZ	<a href="mailto:db24130@sbcglobal.net">db24130@sbcglobal.net</a>
Web Page & FaceBook maintenance	John Dyer	KM6DXY	<a href="mailto:km6dxy@gmail.com">km6dxy@gmail.com</a>

## Meeting and Club Membership Information

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The Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association meets every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM (except for July - no meeting). Our meetings are held at the Mountain Aire Estates Activities Center, 600 South Dennison Road in Tehachapi, Ca. Drive in the entrance and the Activities Center is straight ahead.

Member Annual Dues:       \$25.00/year

Additional Family Member: \$12.50/per person

## Membership Application

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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 if we are meeting in-person. 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 1681

Tehachapi, CA 93581-1681