In This Issue

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- U.S. Mail:

  TARA
  P.O. Box 134
  Keene, CA 93531

A Word

Dan Mason, AB6DM, President

Greetings, TARA friends!

I hope you all are staying warm and dry this winter. It's a good thing that much of ham radio can be done indoors!

Speaking of winter, the 2024 Winter Field Day on January 27th through 28th at the Kern River Campground was a great success! We made many contacts and got a few visitors. More details to come at the general meeting and in the Dummy Load.

We are still working the list of items from our recent TARA activity/project planning meeting. More on that to come. Monitor your emails and come to the general meeting to learn more.

We will be meeting for our mid-month breakfast this Saturday the 10th, 8:30 AM, at P-Dubs located at 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561.

Also on February 10 at 11:00 AM is our next VE session. It will be at the Tehachapi Salvation Army, located at 538 E Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA 93561. Get yourself ready for an upgrade, or bring us some new blood.

Less than a month away is the International DX Contest on March 2nd and 3rd. The Browns have invited the club to operate out of their QTH. We will get interested operators in touch with Dick for the address and a pass into BVS where he lives. Bring some pizza, a desert, and the drink of your choice.

It's (Still) renewal time!

John Dyer, KM6DXY — Secretary/Treasurer

TARA membership for 2023 ended on 31 Dec 2023 (unless you paid for multiple years, of course). Renewal dues are $25. This year you may renew by clicking this link (or via the QR code below) and paying by credit card, Apple Pay, Google Pay or Cash App. If you'd prefer you can send a check made out to the Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association to TARA, PO Box 134, Keene, CA 93531. I'll also be accepting cash, check or credit card for fees at the club meeting.

TARA Renewal QR code

Contesting

Valerie Mason, KK6WLQ

I participate in some of the contesting on Ham Radio, but I think the one I like the most is speaking to other countries. To be able to talk to people that far away on a radio is awesome. I usually try to make at least 5 contacts, but the guys have to help me because there is so much talking from other people on the radio, I can't always detect when to break in. So, thank you to all the guys on the team who have helped me. Good experience if I ever have to try in an emergency.

Dan Mason, AB6DM

My contesting experience is simply the International DX Contest (IDX) and ARRL Field Day (AFD) each year. Some people might include Winter Field Day, but the organizers of that do not like calling it a contest. At the IDX, I always operate out of W6SLZ Dick's QTH using his beam antenna, amplifier, and his awesome Kenwood radios. We have a great time. At AFD, I operate whatever people bring for phone mode, all sorts of antennas and radios, but no amplifiers. If I bring my own equipment, it is a Yeasu FT-450D radio and both a MyAntennas EFHW-8010 antenna and a home made 40/15M vertical wire antenna. Both antennas work great. For outdoor events, I power my gear with batteries, solar, and sparsely with a Honda 2K generator.

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

I'm still new to contesting — 2023 was not a real active contesting year for me. From my earliest ham operations, contests intimidated me. To win it seemed it was an activity for the rich (top of the line radios, linear amps, monster antenna farms) and super-experienced operators. Now, I'm not as concerned with winning, more with just the experience and opportunities to make contacts. Contests provide LOTS of hams looking for a contact so it is a target rich environment! I operate mostly CW and find that contests are easier QSO's than the unstructured "Rag Chew" conversation when using morse code. That is because a contest is a very limited exchange of information and becomes very predictable. Each contest has a defined minimum exchange of information which must be completed in order for the QSO to count for scoring.

As an example, when I participate in the QRPFox hunt the exchange is a signal report, state , operator's name and power. Let's say the Fox is K9CW located Illinois and his name is Drew running 5 watts. I tune around listening for CQ FOX K9CW. I then send W6QPA and hope to hear his exchange which is "W6QPA 559 IL DREW 5W W6QPA<ar>" I then send "559 CA RAY 5W <ar>" to which he'll usually acknowledge with TU K9CW QRZ? Presto, I have logged a QSO and scored some points. The QRPFox hunt also operates in split mode where the fox sends on a fixed frequency but instructs the hounds that he'll be listening "UP" 1 to 2 KHz above his transmit freq. Good skill to learn.

The structured nature makes it much easier for me since I really only have to listen for a limited set of characters and don't have any anxiety about "what to say" in a rag chew. That said, I still look for ragchews wherever possible as that is where I really improve my morse code skills.

My current contest experience involves:

- Winter Field Day
- K1USN Slow Speed Contest — max CW speed is 20WPM ... which initially DID NOT seem SLOW at all. Nice group of operators mostly interested in helping others develop CW/morse code skills and will adjust to whatever speed you send to them.
- CWops conTest (CWT) — Sponsored by the CWops organization. These are the same folks that run the CW Academy morse code training program. It is targeted at the CW Academy students and intended to push their speed up. Definitely not limited to 20 WPM, in fact I think 25 is more like a minimum speed!
- QRP Fox hunt — As described in the text, this is a weekly activity for about 30 or so weeks a year. For me it's a level-ish playing field in that everyone is operating at 5 watts (or less ... I've seen milliwatt levels reported!)
- State QSO Parties — Less of a contest and more of an operating opportunity.
- ARRL RTTY Round-up — My first contest, obviously not CW. I used this as a chance to learn how to use RTTY and find stations to contact.
- ARRL Field Day — Aka Summer Field Day

Dick – W6SLZ

CJ and I invite you all to our home QTH to participate in the 2024 International DX Phone Contest Friday, 1 March from 4 pm (that is 00:00 zulu March 2) to Sunday, March 2 03:59 pm (that is 23:59 zulu March 2). All 48 hours are open to operate.

This is an opportunity for you to use my station to make contacts with stations literally all over the world.

We'll run food more or less potluck (see Valerie's "Hospitality" note below); we ask that each of you bring pizza to feed yourselves plus extra to share. Please include some dessert items, again for yourself and some to share. Also bring your own drinks. The club is going to supply paper plates, napkins, cups, and a cooler of ice and water.

Here is more information about what the contest is all about: https://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Our address is 24130 Sorrel Ct in Bear Valley Springs. Let me know if you need a BVS guest pass.

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?

W6SLZ WIN System Repeater Repair

Dick Brown, W6SLZ

The WIN system repeater (W6SLZ — 440.25) was back on the air 2/1/2024. The repeater had been off-line while troubleshooting. It would work fine when connected to the Win System but could not be accessed locally. When disconnected from the Win System, the repeater would work fine for local communications. The two would not work together.

I contacted Allstar as that is the interface for the unit. They told me that it could not do what it was doing (Wrong).

They asked that I send pictures and call him back. I sent pictures and tried to call back. I called and left messages but like a government no one answers…just "leave a message and we will call back"…like that is really going to happen. After a lot of research, down loading manuals, reading them trying to understand how it works I inspected the hardware and found a poor solder connection. Re-soldered the connection and all is working. If it is still working on 2/1/2024 it will be back up on the Mtn

Install HF in the Truck

Dick Brown, W6SLZ

I purchased a CB mount for the truck and modified it drastically to work for HF ham use.

I am using the Ham Sticks which are about 7 ft tall. They need to be tuned to work with any transceiver. Two methods to tune them:

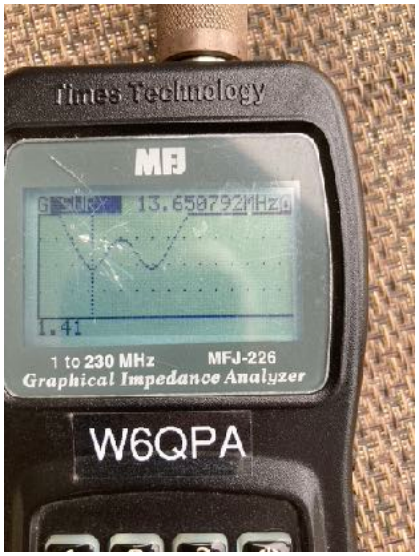
- One is to use a coil and tap the coil till you find the correct match.
- Second option is to use a capacitor from the center conductor to ground at the base of the antenna.

I chose the second option. The antenna SWR on 40 meters was about 2 to 1 when I started at 7220. When adding the correct capacitor, about 220 pf, I brought the SWR down to 1 to 1 at 7220 At 7.3 it was 1.5 to 1 and 7150 it was 1.5 to 1. I think that is good.

Proving "common knowledge"

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

For Winter Field Day I decided to take a portable base-loaded 40/30/20 meter vertical and my tried-and-true inverted-vee 20/30/40 meter linked-dipole. My thinking was that the inverted-vee and the vertical have slightly different radiation patterns and that would allow me to switch between them to maybe cover closer-in areas when the band was short. To economize on the amount of coax and masts needed I also decided to put the vertical on the same mast as used to support the inverted-vee.



I spent a number of hours trimming and adjusting the vertical and its loading torrid in this configuration.

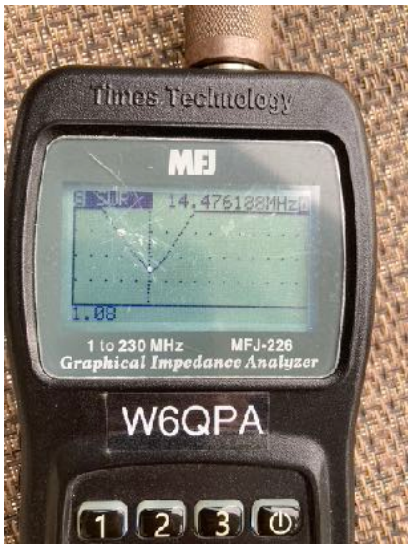
As I was checking the "systems" behavior with the antenna analyzer, I found this odd problem … two low SWR points, neither of which were where I had tuned and trimmed. (left photo above)

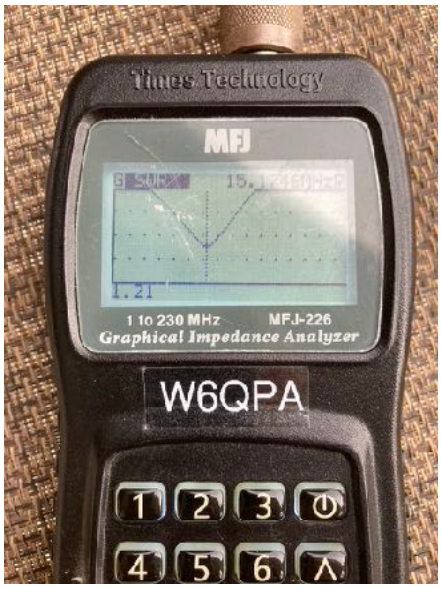
Then it occurred to me … the coupling between the vertical and dipole was really messing the match up. I

had both of them on the 20 meter band and they were interfering with each other.

I reconfigured the inverted-vee for 40 meters and it looked like the vertical on 20 was a near perfect match at 14.476 MHz right where I wanted it.

However, now of course, the inverted-vee was out of whack!





I took the inverted -vee off the mast and just left the vertical. It was now WAY off the mark, best SWR was 15.1746 MHz. (left photo)

I'll have to go back and rewind the loading coils and replace the radiating element (which I trimmed too short) of the vertical.

I ended up at WFD with just the inverted-vee.

I just reproved "Common Knowledge" … you can't have antennas too close together. Proved it again.

Dummy Loads & A New Patch Panel

Will Perry, WA6LDQ

Several times during my ham radio life I've encountered hams who don't own, use, or see a need for a dummy load. In my opinion, it's one of the very essential pieces of test equipment on my bench. It is especially important now that many of us are communicating digitally these days. A dummy load allows us to transmit in any mode and monitor our modulation signal conveniently on another HT or HF rig without causing interference. It's also a great tool for testing our rigs and troubleshooting antenna SWR problems.

I recently built an RF patch panel for use in my shack with 15 individual BNC jacks to switch rigs or antennas to different rooms, to my bench, or to a dummy load. Once you have more than one rig and several antennas it's almost imperative to have a RF patch panel. RF switches can be used as an alternative but are limited to switching selections, are not as versatile, and are more expensive. I have a dummy load connected to one of the jacks to conveniently connect to any rig. My HF antenna tuner input and output is connected to the panel also to connect any of the HF rigs to the tuner. The automatic tuner has 2 antenna jacks so that made it convenient to connect an additional dummy load to the Antenna 2 jack. That allows me to quickly switch to that dummy load via the front panel of the antenna tuner. I recommend a 100 watt or higher capacity well shielded dummy load. These can usually be found used at hamfests or on eBay for $30-100. My next step is to label all the jacks on the patch panel……hey, that's pretty important!

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 2024

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

Winter Field Day 2024 was January 27 & 28th. We operated from the Kern River Camp Ground sites 12 & 13, the sites we used last year.

TARA participants included Ray Gretlein W6QPA, Dave Walter WA5GUL, Micah Martin KN6VUT, Dan Mason AB6DM, Valerie Mason KK6LWQ, Will Perry WA6LDQ, Elliot Hewitt KN6HWW, John Dyer KM6DXY, Joshua Dyer KN6HWS, Dick Brown W6SLZ

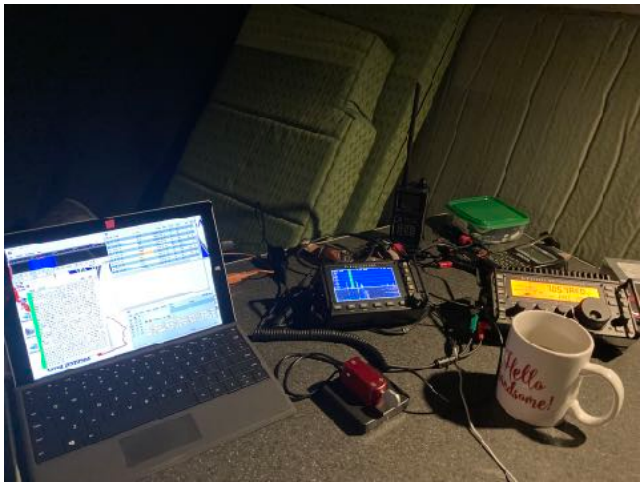
Set up began around 14:00 Jan 26 with Dave Walter, Micah Martin, Ray Gretlein, Dan & Valerie Mason, John & Joshua Dyer.

Dave, Micah, Dan and Valerie set up the tent on site 12. Ray used his travel trailer at site 13.

Power was battery, solar and generators.

We operated using the club call AC6EE:

- ➡ CW (Ray W6QPA and Dave WA5GUL) on 20 & 40 meters
- ➡ SSB Phone (Dave WA5GUL, Dan AB6DM, ?? and visitors) on 40, 20 ,15 meters
- ➡ SSB Phone (Will WA6LDQ) on 10 meters
- ➡ FM (Micah KN6VUT) VHF/UHF FM



The publicity for this outreach event included a short spot on KGET TV-17 Friday at the end of the evening news. That spot generated visitors from Bakersfield and a couple came from Fresno specifically to see our operations. All in all we had 12 plus visitors.

We're still gathering and tabulating the logs, so far we had 24 CW contacts (8 - 40M; 16 - 20M) & 25 SSB Phone contacts on 10 meters. Will Perry operating 10 Meters from his mobile installation may have the distance prize with a YE9BJM DX QSO … that's Indonesia, 8,500+ miles!

For more photos please click here

Meet Our Members

This column will server to let each of us get to know other members. Over the course of the next two years we should be able to introduce the majority of the TARA members to each other.

No inputs this month. I'll try again for March.

TidBits

A collection of miscellaneous mostly amateur radio related items.

History of Amateur Radio – Part #1

David Walter - WA5GUL

The article should be credited to Electronic Notes by Ian Poole.

Foundations

The foundations of the hobby of amateur radio were set in place with some of the early discoveries that were made into electrical current, then magnetism and then the mathematical proof of electromagnetic waves, and finally their discovery and use.

Many pioneers were involved in this history, some working as professionals, others as amateur experimenters.

Each of these people contributed to the furthering of electrical and then radio technology, and many being purely amateurs added their bit, enabling the hobby of amateur radio to come into existence.

History of amateur radio: basic foundations

Some of the first discoveries that set the foundations for radio and amateur radio were set in place by some of the key figures in History.

Luigi Galvani was an early pioneer. In 1780, he discovered that the muscles of dead frogs' legs twitched when struck by an electrical spark. Galvani coined the term 'animal electricity' to describe a force that activated muscles. At the time electricity was not understood, and Galvani thought that the movement was caused by an electrical fluid that was carried to the muscles by the nerves.

The next step was taken by Alessandro Volta who invented the electrical battery. This enabled electrical currents to be created, rather than the static electricity that had previously been accessible. He invented the Voltaic pile in 1799, although he previously used a 'Crown of Cups' to provide a battery.

Other pioneers like the French scientist Ampere followed. Ampere began developing a mathematical and physical theory to understand the relationship between electricity and magnetism having seen that a current flowing in a wire deflected the needle of a compass. He also showed that two parallel wires with currents flowing in opposite directions repelled each other.

Another key figure in setting the foundations for radio and later amateur radio was Michael Faraday. Although he received very little formal education, he went on to be one of the most influential scientists of all time. He researched many areas, many of which were associated with electrical science as well as chemistry. In terms of his work that can directly be linked to the development of radio, he established the concept of the electromagnetic field, that magnetism could affect light rays and the fact that there was an underlying relationship between them.

Joseph Henry in the USA had also been looking at electromagnets and he discovered the electromagnetic phenomenon of self-inductance.

Radio signals in theory

With the basic electrical concepts in place, the next step was for these developed towards the idea of electromagnetic waves and then radio transmissions.

A brilliant Scottish scientist named James Clerk Maxwell set the next foundations in place.

Maxwell was a theoretical scientist and sought to express physics in terms of mathematical relationships.

Maxwell was well ahead of his time, and was able to prove that a phenomenon called electromagnetic waves existed, even though nobody could relate to what they were. He even deduced their speed of travel and some saw a coincidence between the speed of electromagnetic waves and that of light which had been measured by other scientists.

Maxwell's work culminated in 1873 with the publication of a book called "A Treatise on Electricity and Magnetism". In this he developed equations, now known as Maxwell's

Equations that defined electromagnetic waves. However Maxwell never gave a practical demonstration of his theories.

Radio signals discovered

Trying to determine the first person to see or use radio waves is difficult. A number of people reported what we now know to be radio waves, but then it was not obvious.

A person called Professor D E Hughes built what was a spark gap transmitter in his house and was able to detect the sparks at a range of over 400 metres.

Other people as well undertook similar experiments and were able to successfully detect the sparks at varying distances.

Unfortunately these people did not link these effects to Maxwell's electromagnetic waves and therefore they cannot be honored with being the first to identify how the effect occurred.

The honor of discovering radio waves fell to a German scientist named Heinrich Hertz. He performed several experiments that demonstrated their presence beyond doubt. His most famous experiment Hertz used two coils of the same size that were placed a few metres apart. Each loop had a spark gap in it. When a spark was made to cross the gap in the first coil, Hertz showed that a similar but smaller spark jumped the gap in the second.

The result of Hertz's were published in many journals and as a result Hertz was attributed with having discovered these waves. For some years afterwards they even bore his name being called 'Hertzian Waves.'

The phenomenon of radio waves gained a lot of publicity - the fact that signals could travel between two points with no wire even held a form of magical mystery and public demonstrations were sometimes given. This fueled the interest of many up and coming radio amateurs, and can be seen as a key period in the history of ham radio.

Coherers arrive

Using Hertz's apparatus where the signal was detected by a second loop with a gap across which a second spark jumped required a very large signal to be received and this severely limited the range.

Several people started to perform experiments and develop radio technology further. One major step was made by a person named Professor Onesti who showed that iron filings placed in a glass tube with electrodes at either end could be made to stick together or cohere when a high voltage was placed across the electrodes. Once the filings had cohered they were able to pass an electric current which could be used to complete a second circuit. This was taken a stage further by Edouard Branley a French inventor, physicist and professor at the Institut Catholique de Paris who discovered the iron filings would cohere in the vicinity of an electrical discharge. Finally Oliver Lodge in Britain used this discovery to

detect Hertzian waves. Using this system he managed to receive signals over a distance of about 150 yards.

Marconi develops radio further

As the technology behind radio started to be developed, many others were interested, although initially it was seen more of a curiosity rather than a technology that could be used.

Marconi was different: he saw that it could be a key form of communication, especially for shipping where no wired telegraphs could operate.

Initially Marconi undertook his experiments at his parents' home in Italy, but finding no commercial interest there, he came to Britain with his mother.Marconi steadily increased the distances over which he could transmit. In 1898 he used wire-less (as it was then called) to report on the Kingstown Regatta for a Dublin newspaper. A year later he made the first international contact by communicating between a station at South Foreland, England and another located at Wimereux near Bologne, in France. This was a distance of about 50 km.

Then against all the odds he planned a transatlantic transmission, finally succeeding by hearing signals across the Atlantic on 12 December 1901. In just three years he had increased the distances that could be covered from a kilometre or so to the traversing of the Atlantic.

Humorous

Laura Sherrod — KI6EOG via Valerie Mason - KK6WLQ

A day without sunshine is like, well, night.

David Walter - WA5GUL

Hospitality Corner

Valerie Mason - KK6WLQ

Next is DX Contest at the Brown's house in March 2-3 (see “Operating Room” for details above). We would like all who come Saturday to bring:

1. Pizza (some to share and for you) or
2. A small desert/snacks (cookies, brownies, etc)
3. Drink of your choice.

TARA will provide :

1. Water bottles.
2. Plates.
3. Napkins
4. Dinner ware needed to serve the meal.

February’s 2nd Saturday breakfast is at P-Dubs. See you there. The Last Saturday breakfast will be at Mulligan Room, let me know if you are coming and how many are coming by 14 February.

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

March 2024

- 1-3 DX Contest - SSB

April 2024

- 21 Rookie Roundup – Phone

May 2024

- No ARRL Contests

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.

March 2024

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 — 1900 hrs PST, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 6, 13, 20, 27 – 1900 hrs PST "Just Because" Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 7 – 1900 hrs PST, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 9 — 0830 hrs PST, TARA Club Kelcy's Restaurant, 110 W Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 2 March.
- 14 – 1800 hrs PST, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 30 —0800 hrs PST, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 16 March.

April 2024

- 3, 10, 17, 24 – 1900 hrs PST "Just Because" Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 6, 13, 20, 27 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 7, 14, 21, 28 — 1900, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 4 – 1900 hrs PST, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 11 – 1900 hrs PST, TARA Club Meeting, Tehachapi Police Department Conference Room, 220 W C St, Tehachapi.
- 13 — 0830 hrs PST, TARA Club Breakfast at P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561 Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 6 April
- 16 — 12:00 PST Tehachapi Chamber of Commerce Luncheon
- 27 — 0800 hrs PST, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room… Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 13 April

May 2024

- 4, 11, 18, 25 — 1800 hrs PST ,10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 5, 12, 19, 26 — 1900 hrs PST, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 – 1900 hrs PST "Just Because" Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2 – 1900 hrs PST, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 9 – 1900 hrs PST, TARA Club Meeting, Tehachapi Police Department Conference Room, 220 W C St, Tehachapi.
- 11 — 0830 hrs PST, TARA Club Breakfast at Kelcy's Restaurant, 110 W Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 4 May
- 10 — 11:00 hrs PST, VE Amateur Radio License Testing, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 20 — 12:00 PST Tehachapi Chamber of Commerce Luncheon

- 25 —0800 hrs PST, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room… Reserve a spot with Valerie Mason by 11 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
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

Local Repeater Information				
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
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	Ray Gretlein	W6QPA	w6qpa@ac6ee.org
Secretary/Treasurer	John Dyer	KM6DXY	km6dxy@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

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 meetings are on Zoom and in-person, our meeting site is now the Tehachapi Police Department Conference Room, 220 W C St, Tehachapi.

Member Annual Dues: $25.00/year

Additional Family Member: $12.50/per person

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