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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!

We have a busy October planned. If this is not too late, please volunteer to be part of our comms team at the Tehachapi Apple Festival. We need people both Saturday the 12th and Sunday the 13th. If you can help, please contact Micah KN6VUT at kn6vut@ac6ee.org or 661-316-8348.

Also, on Saturday the 12th we will have breakfast with a few of the Bakersfield club at P-Dubs located at 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561. Please note that the start time has been moved 1/2 HR earlier to 0800 PST. Yes, I tried to recruit them for Apple Fest, LoL!

We have a VE session in the works that would have been on October 12th but are trying to reschedule it to better support Apple Fest.

The Boy Scouts are having their yearly Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA), the largest Scouting event in the world, on the weekend of October 18 - 20, 2024. Dave WA5GUL will be helping our local scouts participate. There are three days you can help too. Please contact Dave Walter WA5GUL 661-900-9199 or email drwalter@eqtservices.com.

October 19th is our activation of the Manzanar Internment camp for POTA. It is located at 5001 Highway 395, Independence, CA 93526. It is a very interesting National

Historical site. Most of us will meet at the Loves truck stop McDonalds in Tehachapi at 0600 PST, then convoying North. We will be in communication on 145.580 FM simplex. Please contact Dan AB6DM at impresaspeed@yahoo.com 661-203-8398.

Saturday, October 26th from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM is the GHOULDEN HILLS TRICK OR TREAT at Golden Hills Community Services District, 21415 Reeves St, Tehachapi, CA 93561. Here again we could use a couple volunteers. Please contact Micah KN6VUT at kn6vut@ac6ee.org or 661-316-8348.

Whew! That's October. Two more things to mention:

On Saturday, November 9th, we are visiting the USS Midway and it's radio room to commemorate Veteran's Day with their special event station. If you can make it, they will try to get you on the air. You can be escorted to just the radio room for free, but some of us are paying the admission price to tour the entire ship. The USS Midway is Located at 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101. More details to come. Please contact Dan AB6DM at impresaspeed@yahoo.com 661-203-8398.

We are supporting the High Desert Trails Rally on Saturday, December 7th ALL day and into the night. It's really a fun event for hams as we make a ham radio network along with the rally organization to keep the rally safe and watch the fast car action. Lunch is provided. We will have some training. Please contact Mike & Paula Gibeault at mpgibeault@gmail.com. Or go to <https://www.rodnocracing.com/stream> to sign up.

73,

Dan Mason - AB6DM

John Dyer, KM6DXY, Secretary/Treasurer

A brief note regarding some yearend events and business.

Welcome to the last quarter of 2024. In addition to the Holidays, we have two items that will require your attention, club officer nominations and membership renewal.

If you have not already done so, please send me an email with your nominations for club officers. They will be serving 2-year terms starting in January 2025. Voting will take place at our Christmas Party/meeting.

The available positions are President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Nominations can be emailed to me at either:

- Km6dxy@ac6ee.org
- info@ac6ee.org

They can also be mailed (if you wish to be anonymous) to:

- Tehachapi Amateur Radio Association
P.O. Box 134
Keene, CA 93531-0134

In addition to electing new officers, it is time to renew our membership. If you like, you can choose the method of payment you are most comfortable with.

Be sure to include a note, if not provided, with your name and your renewal type/term. Choose either type Individual Membership (\$25.00/year) or Family Membership (\$12.50/Year) for each member of the family associated with the Standard Membership). Then choose the term 1-year, 2-years, 3-years or more.

Multiple payment methods are available. SquareUp is the Primary Club System however PayPal and Venmo also work. Cash, Check, or Credit Card at any club meeting or function, including the Christmas Party are also acceptable. Links and QR codes can be found in the membership section near the end of the newsletter. An invoice is available if requested via email to treasurer@ac6ee.org.

Please complete a new TARA Membership Application with your renewal so that we have your current information and email it to treasurer@ac6ee.org. Download the application with this link [TARA Membership Application \(Revised_v3\).pdf](#)

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you and 73's!
John Dyer, KM6DXY

EDITORS' Note:

The Dummy Load theme for November is a Mode of the Month — Digital, whether it is PSK, Packet, RTTY or Weak signal modes (FT 8, FT4, JS8 to name a few). Tell us of your digital setup and an interesting QSO.

Send them to kn6zgi@ac6ee.org by 7 November 2024.

73 ...Ray, W6QPA & Stephen, KN6ZGI

What Are Your Memorable QSOs

Dave Walter, WA5GUL

One of my favorite QSOs occurred on December 6, 1967. Licensed in 1963, I was a relatively new ham eagerly seeking those “different” call signs known as DX. With most of

the bands open around the clock, I had adopted 10 meters as a favorite. While scanning the 10 meter frequencies, I came across a pile up calling GB5QM. I determined it was the RMS Queen Mary cruise ship heading to the United States from Britain with a final destination of Long Beach, California. With an elevated heartbeat and sweaty hands, I called "GB5QM this is WA5GUL Whisky Alpha 5 Golf Uniform Lima". To my surprise, my call was acknowledged. This was in the days of amplitude modulation and I was running 90 watts with an EICO 720/outboard modulator/Hallicrafters S-40A/inverted vee at 50'. There were many big guns on the bands running 1 KW or ?.



The Queen Mary also has a special interest to me since it was converted to troop transport during WW II and my father was one of its "passengers". The Queen Mary was the first maritime mobile station operated by Americans to be licensed by the British General Post Office.

Once in Long Beach, the radio room remained available for hams to operate (as W6RO) by appointment until 2020. Significant safety repairs leave its re-opening date and floating

life uncertain.

Queen Mary revisited: Now owned by the City of Long Beach, the ship reopened to passengers in 2022 and continues to expand its facilities yearly. The radio station, W6RO, is sponsored by ARALB (Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach). The radio room is generally staffed every day from 9:00 am to 5:00 PM local time. Visiting hams may be permitted to operate the station and earn the Guest Operator certificate. It is said that in addition to the voices of the million plus soldiers transported during WW II, one can also hear morse code echoing down the halls. Live on, Queen Mary!



Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

It is tough to identify a single favorite QSO, so here are my top two.

In 1996, relicensed as a Tech Plus (meaning I passed a CW test and earned some HF privileges), I bought a used QRP-Plus all band transceiver by Index Labs. I set up a sloping 40 M/15 M Inverted Vee from the peak of the second story of our home and began working whomever I could. Working CW at about 10 WPM I had a few, mostly minimal QSOs. I liked rag chewing but didn't find many ops willing to do that at my speed. WA0DFF (SK), Carl in Bedford IA, was the exception! On 3 December 1996 he called me after I finished a minimal QSO, and proceeded to hang with me for over half an hour. We set up additional schedules and worked each other a number of times over the following months. We established a letter-writing friendship, supplemented by CW QSOs whenever the bands allowed. He provided lots of operating tips and encouragement and nominated me for the ARRL Rag Chewers Certificate. Carl was a friend in the finest spirit of ham radio.

My other favorite is more recent. In November of 2017 we were living in a "mother-in-law" apartment while we waited for our current home to be built. With almost everything in storage I was a bit bored. I decided it was a good time to jump back into ham radio. Since we were in temporary quarters with no antenna privileges, I needed something that could be set-up and taken down easily. I found a magnetic loop antenna of W4OP design built by LNR that looked like it would fit the bill. I dug out the Index Labs QRP-Plus mentioned above and connected a Signalink sound card interface to a Raspberry Pi running WSJT-X for FT8.

With this minimal rig and compromise antenna I made a number of FT8 contacts. My FAVORITE was ZL2ILB, Gary Hinson, of New Zealand. The Index Labs QRP-Plus was only producing about 2.5 watts and that contact was just over 6500 miles, yielding a miles/watt of 2600! Makes this a favorite QSO when explaining how our "little" radios can actually cover the earth.

Dan Mason, AB6DM

Getting ready for the Saturday 10M Tech Net on October 5th, at about 1752 PST (0052 UTC), I made an interesting QSO.

We usually meet on 28.350 MHz. At 1.64 KHz higher (28.35164 MHz) was a guy calling CQ in the Oceanic DX Contest. He was ZL1T (New Zealand). I called him back and he easily copied me. It was my first ever QSO on the Oceanic DX Contest.

Funny how a net that usually only works locally can surprise you!

73,

Dan Mason - AB6DM

Valerie Mason, KK6WLO

My favorite QSO was my first communication to another country. I believe it was Japan. I've talked to a few since then. It fascinated me that I could talk to another country with the radio. It's not a long conversation, because they are just making a contact, so be prepared for quick interactions. It is always fun though. 😊

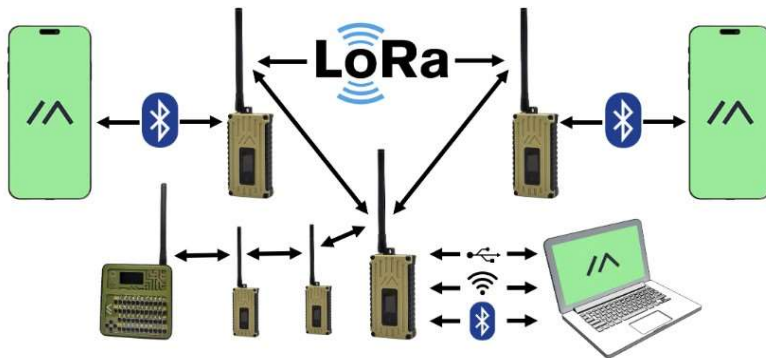
On the Bench

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?

Stephen Lee, KN6ZGI

Mesh Radio – Off Grid Redundant Comms

LoRa is a spread-spectrum low power long range radio system initially developed for industrial applications like remote metering. In the US they operate 902 – 928 MHz band. They can be operated unlicensed or configured for amateur requirements. Due to the frequency and power limitations these radios only communicate line of sight. Here is a diagram of the network topology for a mesh network.

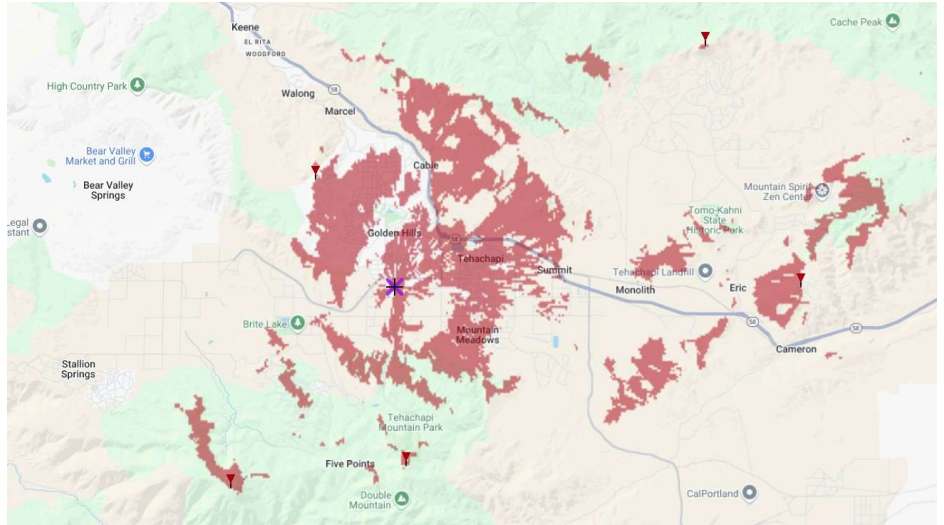


These radios are very small and low-cost allowing remotes to be deployed around a broad local area to build a mesh network. Their low power consumption also makes them ideal for small solar panel powered deployment. More information is available at <https://meshtastic.org>.

I first became interested when I read an article in the June 2023 issue of QST. The members of the Wellesley Amateur Radio Society, W1TKZ made the first known LoRa 2022 Field Day contact using a mesh network setup in bird houses. Their mesh network was configured for amateur radio operation.

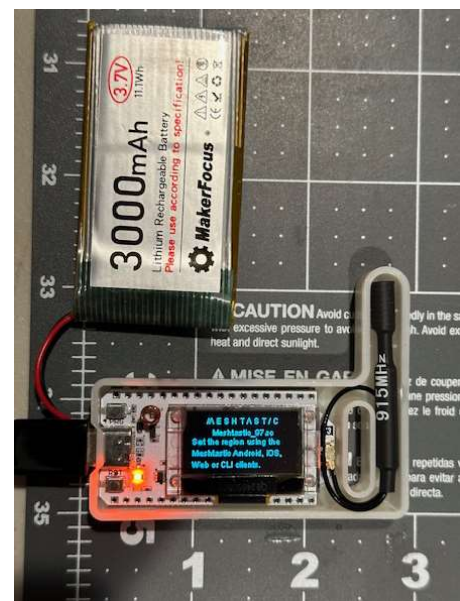
Dylan, KN6QOQ, has been actively using LoRa for quite some time. Recently he introduced it to some of our local amateur community. Collectively we purchased some radios to try out and got them configured with Dylan’s help. The idea is to get enough nodes around the Tehachapi area that we will have a reliable backup off grid network. This initial network was configured as a general public network to promote broader coverage and enable non-amateurs access for emergency communication.

Nodes (radios) have been deployed to various locations around the Tehachapi area to test the coverage and reliability of a mesh network. A free application, <https://www.heywhatsthat.com/>, was used to survey some of the possible locations and generate coverage maps. This is a very useful application anyone can use to predict line of site communications for a certain location. Here is an example of LOS coverage from P-Dubs.



One of my nodes is pictured here. Located on a 10 ft post at the highest point in my back yard. This is the same unit I brought to a recent club meeting. The radio is a Heltec LoRa32 V3 using an ESP32-S3FN8 processor and a SX1262 radio.

Here is one in the original case with a 3000 mAh battery and the tiny antenna supplied with the radio. You can see how small these are.

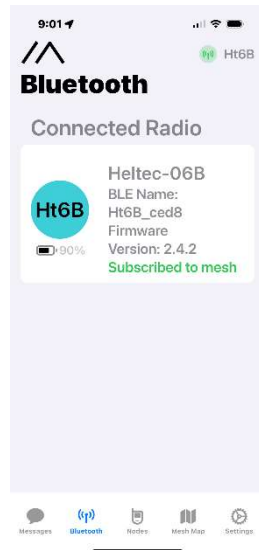


The unit on the post was mounted in a plastic electrical box from the local hardware store and some PVC fittings to help hold the solar panel. The solar panel is a \$12 unit from Amazon with a 5V USB output normally used for charging other devices. I plugged it into the USB-C port on the radio and it seems

to keep the battery topped off early in the day. I am waiting to see how it performs over the winter. It needs rework for better weather resistance. The antenna is a cheap \$6 unit from Amazon that includes the cable that interfaces with the radio board.

Here is another unit (my Ht6B node) mounted in a pager case that Dylan 3D printed. These units come with a small display but no keyboard, so you use an app on your phone to connect via Bluetooth.

The app functions as your user interface to make configuration changes and send text messages. The phone does not need to be connected to any other network, cell or WiFi. I use an old Android without a SIM card – no cell network connection.



With the nodes we have deployed at this point we have coverage of most of Tehachapi Valley. We are planning other locations that will give more coverage and potentially linking the network into Bakersfield. More investigation is needed to get coverage into Bear Valley Springs. Exploring mesh radio has been a lot of fun and has potential for another mode of communication in an emergency. I am looking forward to seeing where we can go with this little Tehachapi mesh network. Dylan deserves a lot of credit for introducing it to us and working out a lot of technical details.

The Operating Room

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

Ray Gretlein, W6QPA

POTA along the *Butterfield Overland National Historic Trail*.



This national historic trail stretches from St. Louis, Missouri to San Francisco, California. The original trail followed a southerly course through Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona before heading north through California to its western terminus in San Francisco.

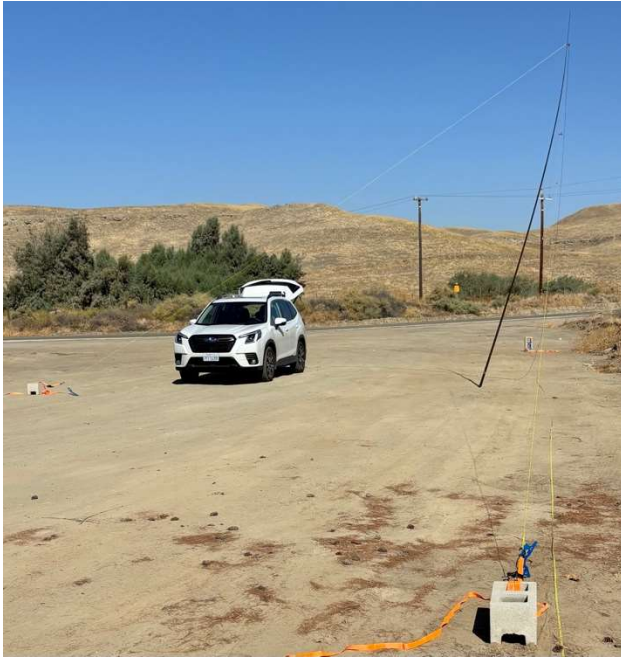
The trail goes through Kern County where it was once serviced by six stagecoach stations.

Fortunately the trail is easily accessible and has a marker identifying the location of the Posey Station stagecoach stop just north of Bakersfield at the intersection of Round Mountain Rd and Bakersfield Granite Rd, just north of Poso Creek.

This was a special POTA site to me. When I was 4 or 5 my aunt took me to watch a centennial commemoration of the Butterfield Stage route with a horse drawn stage coach following this route, we saw it arrive at Granite Station just a few miles up the road from this site.



I activated this POTA site 28 September 2024 using CW and digi modes. For CW I used my QRPLabs QCX-mini on 20 meters with a QRPLabs amp (45 watts) into a SOTA Beams Band Hopper III 40-30-20 meter linked dipole set up as an inverted-vee with apex at 17 feet.



For digital (FT-8) I used a Microsoft Surface running WSJT-X connected to my [QRPLabs QMX multi-band transceiver](#) producing 4 watts feeding the same antenna.

I had planned to self-spot on the POTA iPhone app. The previous experience with self-spotting provided a pile-up of POTA Hunters as soon as I sent CQ POTA.

This time however, I goofed! Even though I performed a site survey, I neglected to check cellular service. There was none, zero, zip, nada. I was on my own! I sent CQ POTA for perhaps ten minutes before I got the first

response. Then quiet again for a few minutes, then another contact. They continued to dribble in over the next hour or so. Over the two hours I allotted to CW, I made 17 contacts, including one with another POTA activator (we each got a Park-to-Park score for that). These QSOs were enough to qualify as an activation (minimum is 10) so I was not disappointed. Switching over to digi-mode brought a higher QSO rate 6 QSO's in 13 minutes.

Hospitality

Valerie Mason - KK6WLQ

The Christmas Party for TARA will be at Kelcy's. The invite was sent out by Ray a few days ago. Check the spam folder unless you already get newsletter and can find it normally. I have received 10 responses so far. Thank you to those people for their responses. My email is the response email to val3mason@yahoo.com Also, please put Christmas Party for TARA on the subject line. Meal and appetizer for each person is what Kelcy's asked me for. Thank you.

See you all at the club meeting. Oh, and bring cash for 50/50 and raffle. We are now working with one set of tickets. 50/50, then prize raffle.

The Apple Festival is this weekend. TARA will help with Comms again.

Please come to club meetings earlier, like 6:45, to get raffle tickets purchased before the meeting at 7:00. Bring cash! 😊 Thank you!

TidBits

A collection of miscellaneous mostly amateur radio related items.

History of the Radio Receiver: Part 2

David Walter - WA5GUL

(Originally in Electronics-notes.com)

History of the Radio Receiver Part 2

History of the development of the or wireless radio receiver from the earliest antique radio sets using coherers, magnetic detectors, crystal radio sets, vintage radios using valves / tubes to modern high-performance semiconductor-based radios using digital signal processing and software defined radio techniques.

Crystal detectors

While Fleming's valve was a great stride forward it would take some years before thermionic technology was fully adopted. One of the reasons for this is that it was expensive to manufacture and to run. It could only be powered by batteries when used as a radio detector and batteries did not last for long because of the power required by the filament. Batteries were also very expensive as they had not been developed as much as they have been today.

Around this time work on other types of detectors started to be undertaken and it resulted in what was later known as the cat's whisker. It consisted of a crystal of a material such as galena with a small springy piece of wire brought up against it. The detector was constructed so that the wire contact could be moved to different points on the crystal, and thereby obtain the best point for rectifying the signal and the best detection.

These detectors soon gained the name Cat's Whiskers because of their construction. They were never very reliable, and the whisker needed to be moved periodically to enable it to detect the signal properly. However, they were very much cheaper than valves and gained widespread acceptance.



Cat's whisker detector from a Gecophone vintage radio

It is interesting to note that the Cat's Whisker was the first semiconductor device to be used. The materials that were used were semiconductors, and Cat's Whisker formed a very crude point contact diode.

Crystal radio sets became the radio of choice in the 1920s for broadcast listening. These crystal radio sets were produced by a huge number of companies and a new industry built up around them.

Triodes

Despite the success of the cat's whisker, work did not stop on the development of thermionic technology. An American named Lee de Forest was a competitor to Marconi and needed to develop receiver technology that did not infringe any patents to which Marconi had access.

To achieve this, he devoted a large amount of time in developing a thermionic detector which did not infringe Fleming's patents. He took out a number of patents in the period between 1905 and 1907 covering a variety of developments that culminated in the form of the triode valve in which there was a third electrode called a grid. He called this tube an Audion.

With the benefit of hindsight, it seems amazing that the Audion was initially used as a leaky grid detector, and it took until 1911 for it to be used as an amplifier. Once this fact had been discovered many people were quick to exploit this fact in a variety of applications.

One of the first areas in which valves were used was in the manufacture of telephone repeaters, and although the performance was poor, they gave significant improvement in long distance telephone circuits.

With the discovery that triode valves could amplify signals it was soon noticed that they would also oscillate. This was a mixed blessing. It was a great disadvantage because these early valves were very difficult to stabilize when used for signals above a few kilohertz.

However, the fact that valves could be used as oscillators was exploited in generating signals. Previously high frequency signals had been difficult to generate. If steady signals were required, electromechanical techniques had to be used, and these had obvious frequency limitations. With the use of valves, it was possible to make relatively compact electronic oscillators.

TRF Receivers

Once the triode was established as an amplifier it made a tremendous difference to radio receiver performance as it allowed the incoming signals to be amplified. Previously most sets used crystal detectors and even with a large aerial, the signal levels were low.

The introduction of the triode valve enabled signals to be amplified so that more distant or weaker stations could be heard. However, in virtually all cases the valve was used as an audio amplifier because of the stability problems with these early devices.

To be able to achieve sufficient gain, more than one valve was needed, and as their cost was very high, people looked at making the most efficient use of them. One way that proved very successful was introduced in 1913 and involved the use of positive feedback in the form of a regenerative detector. This gave significant improvements in the levels of gain that could be achieved.

These regenerative receivers proved to be very successful. The amount of feedback could be adjusted to the point of oscillation, and this greatly increased the gain and selectivity, enabling this type of receiver to out-perform all other forms.

1st World War developments

With the outbreak of the First World War, there was a great impetus to develop wireless technology further. Both sides of the conflict recognized the benefits it could bring, both in terms of improved communication and intelligence. One of the first areas on which development activity was focused was the valve itself. In these early days of thermionic technology their performance was poor. They lacked gain, especially at high frequencies and they were prone to oscillate when they were used at frequencies anything above a few kilohertz.

Originally it was thought that small amount of gas in the envelope was key to their operation. However, an American named Langmuir disproved this and as a result a new generation totally evacuated "hard" valves were introduced. Not only was the operation of valves improved by the complete evacuation, but it also allowed the heaters to have coatings applied to them to improve their emission. In the old "soft" valves the gasses in the envelope contaminated the coatings making them unusable.

The other problem with valves was their susceptibility to oscillation. One of the main reasons for this was the level of capacitance between the grid and anode. Several attempts were made to reduce this. H.J. Round undertook some work on this and in 1916 he produced a number of valves with the grid connection taken out of the top of the envelope away from the anode connection. This proved to give a major improvement, but the final solution did not come until the 1920s.

Although the TRF receiver represented a major improvement in performance over what had been available before, it still fell short of the needs for some of the new applications. To enable receiver technology to meet the needs placed upon it a few new ideas started to surface.

One of these was a new form of direct conversion receiver. Here an internal or local oscillator was used to beat with the incoming signal to produce an audible signal that could be amplified by an audio amplifier. Although the basic principle of the direct conversion had

been known about for many years many considered the system was wasteful of valves because the oscillator and mixer did not contribute to the gain of the set. Even in military circles this was a consideration because of the size and cost of the valves and their associated batteries.

The problem was solved by one of Britain's leading wireless engineers, a man named H J Round. He developed a receiver he called an autodyne in which the same valve was used as a mixer and an oscillator, While the set used fewer valves it was difficult to optimize the circuit for both the mixer and oscillator functions. To make the next leap forward in receiver technology a new type of set was needed.

Superhet radio

With the rise in use of wireless technology in a variety of areas, the need for greater selectivity became more apparent.



The 11 valve Philco 111 superhet from 1931

Crystal sets had neither the gain nor the selectivity needed, and the new tuned radio frequency, TRF sets lacked the levels of selectivity required, especially as the number of transmitting stations rose and there was a need for greater levels of performance.

To combat this, the superheterodyne radio or to give it its shorter name the superhet radio rose in popularity, especially as the number of broadcast stations rose.

Once the use of the superhet radio was established it became virtually the only form or topology of radio that was used.

Various forms were developed including double and even triple superhet radios and they had correspondingly high levels of performance.



EKCO AD75 round radio introduced in 1940

The need for the increased performance of the superhet was first felt in America and by the late 1920s most sets were superhets. However, in Europe the number of broadcast stations did not start to rise as rapidly until later. Even so, by the mid-1930s virtually all sets in Europe as well were using the superhet principle.

Transistor radio history

In the late 1940s the transistor was discovered. Initially the devices were not widely used because of their expense, and the fact that valves were being made smaller, and performed better. However, by the early 1960s portable transistor broadcast radios were hitting the marketplace. These radios were ideal for broadcast reception on the long and medium wave bands.

They were much smaller than their valve equivalents, they were portable and could be powered from batteries. Although some valve portable receivers were available, batteries for these were expensive and did not last for long. The power requirements for transistor radios were very much less, resulting in batteries lasting for much longer and being considerably cheaper.

Although transistors gained a wide level of acceptance for broadcast sets, their introduction was a little slower in the professional market. The performance of the early transistors was much lower than that of valves, and this meant that high performance sets were not so easy to design.

Nevertheless, as transistor performance improved and field effect transistors were introduced, semiconductor technology soon started to overtake that of valves. This was particularly true of the size and weight characteristics.



Tandberg transistor radio circa 1970

Further developments in semiconductor technology led to the introduction of the integrated circuit. This enabled radio receiver technology to move forwards even further. The fact that integrated circuits enabled high performance circuits to be built for less cost, and significant amounts of space could be saved both gave advantages.

As a result of these developments new techniques could be introduced. One of these was the frequency synthesizer that was used to generate the local oscillator signal for the receiver. By using a synthesizer, it was possible

to generate a very accurate and stable local oscillator signal. Also, the ability of synthesizers to be controlled by microprocessors meant that many new facilities could be introduced apart from the significant performance improvements offered by synthesizers.

21st Century

Receiver technology is still moving forward. Digital signal processing where many of the functions performed by an analogue intermediate frequency stage can be performed digitally by converting the signal to a digital stream that is manipulated mathematically is now widespread. Indeed, the new digital audio broadcasting standard being introduced can only be used when the receiver can manipulate the signal digitally.

While today's radios are miracles of modern technology, filled with low power high performance integrated circuits crammed into the smallest spaces, the basic principle of the radio is usually the superhet, the same idea which was developed by Edwin Armstrong back in 1918.

Note: Part 1 of this article was featured in last month's issue of the Dummy Load.

Humorous

David Walter - WA5GUL

A perfect Halloween/Thanksgiving gift for the Ham that has everything!



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>

October 2024

- TBD [Collegiate QSO Party](#)
- 19-20 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 21-25 [School Club Roundup](#)

November 2024

- 2-4 [Nov Sweepstakes–CW](#)
- 16-17 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 16-18 [Nov Sweepstakes–Phone](#)

December 2024

- 2-4 [160 Meter](#)
 - 14-15 [10 Meter](#)
 - 22 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)
-

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.

October 2024

- 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
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 – 1300 hrs “Whopper Wednesday” at Burger King

- 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 P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561 Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 1 October.
- 12 -18, Boy Scouts annual Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA).
- TBD — Rescheduling, VE Amateur Radio License Exam, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 26 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 15 October.

November 2024

- 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 — 1800 hrs, 10 Meter Technician Net every Saturday on 28.350 MHz
- 3, 10, 17, 24 — 1900 hrs, TARA Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 3, 10, 17, 24 — 1930 hrs, BVS ERT Net (ARES) (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 6, 13, 20, 27 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 6, 13, 20, 27 – 1300 hrs “Whopper Wednesday” at Burger King
- 7 – 1900 hrs, TARA Board Meeting, Via Zoom (invite via email)
- 9 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at Kelcy’s Restaurant, 110 W Tehachapi Blvd, Tehachapi, CA. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 1 November.
- 14 – 1900 hrs, TARA Club Meeting Tehachapi Police Department, 220 W C St, Tehachapi
- 30 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 15 November.

December 2024

- 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 – 1300 hrs “Whopper Wednesday” at Burger King
- 4, 11, 18, 25 – 1900 hrs “Just Because” Net (W6SLZ VHF rpt, 146.70 - / 123.0)
- 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 – 1800 hrs, TARA Club Christmas Party (General Meeting) – Kelcy’s Restaurant.
- 14 — 0830 hrs, TARA Club Breakfast at P-Dubs, 20800 Santa Lucia St, Tehachapi, CA 93561. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 1 December.
- 14 — 11:00 hrs, VE Amateur Radio License Exam, 538 East Tehachapi Boulevard
- 28 —0800 hrs, BVS Emergency Radio Team Breakfast at BVS Mulligan Room. Reserve a spot with [Valerie Mason](#) by 15 December.

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>

<u>KERN System Linked Repeater</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</u> Linked Repeater				
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

Officers & Committee Chairs			
Officer/Committee Chair	Name	Call	Email
Newsletter Co-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