

**The Official Newsletter of the Tulare County Amateur Radio Club**

P.O. Box 723, Visalia, CA 93279  
TULARE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA  
146.880 (-) TCARC REPEATER  
Blue Ridge Mountain  
East of Visalia, California  
36 17.19' N Latitude, 118 50.23' W Longitude  
5,700' above Sea Level

I.R.L.P. Node # **8120**  
Echolink Node # **152747 (WA6BAI-R)**

Web Page: <http://www.tcarc.net/>  
Companion site at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wa6bai/>

**Club Officers**

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President: Steve Lee-Thomas W6SLT  
Secretary: Jim Brunk KD6NED  
Past President: Ray Quinn KF6KMY

Vice President: Dave Millhouse N6YMM  
Treasurer: Joseph Simons WB6MUD  
Repeater Coordinator: Mike Irving N6BYH

Activities Director: Tom Thompson KD6DXX



**A Speedy Return . . .**

. . . to **Karen KF6PCV** and **John KB6DAV**. According to Karen, John is experiencing some new problems with his diabetes that requires her full attention. In their absence, **Jim Brunk KD6NED** assumed secretary duties and **Carol** and **Bill K6QOG** volunteered to help with the newsletter.

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**Exams**

From the ARRL Database last updated on Mon 14-Jun-2004. One found within approx. 50 miles of 93277 01-Aug-2004

Sponsor: FRESNO ARC INC  
Time: 1:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
Contact: CHARLES P MCCONNELL (559) 431-2038  
Email: W6DPD@ARRL.ORG  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH  
980 E YALE AVE; SE CORNER OF YALE &  
ORCHARD; BEHIND RADIO PARK; FRESNO, CA  
93703

**Club News**

The mailing lists available for TCARC are:

- [gridleak@tcarc.net](mailto:gridleak@tcarc.net) - Grid Leak distribution in Portable Document Format (PDF)
- [gridleak-text@tcarc.net](mailto:gridleak-text@tcarc.net) - Grid Leak distribution in text format for those who prefer or require it.
- [tcarc-announce@tcarc.net](mailto:tcarc-announce@tcarc.net) - One-way announcements open to all
- [members@tcarc.net](mailto:members@tcarc.net) - Open to all active members
- [repeater@tcarc.net](mailto:repeater@tcarc.net) - New repeater committee list (committee members only)
- [officers@tcarc.net](mailto:officers@tcarc.net) - For officers

If anyone wishes to start a new list related to amateur radio or the TCARC, you may do so by sending me an e-mail. -- 73 de Ray KF6KMY

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**Next Meeting**

Will be August 26, 2004, at the Supervisors Chambers, 2800 W. Burrel in Visalia at 7:30 P.M.

**All are welcome to attend.**

Please join us every Tuesday evening at 7:30 P.M. on 146.880 MHz for our weekly net. All amateurs are welcome to check in.

## To View the Repeater . . .

. . . To view the repeater, if it is on the air or if the beacon is on, you may use a Cable Ready Television or a Cable Ready VCR or a Cable Box if you have one available. Whichever unit you are using must be tuned to Cable Channel 57 (notice that is not UHF 57) and connect it to an outside antenna, preferably vertically polarized. If the antenna is a directional type, it should be pointed towards Blue Ridge Mountain. Blue Ridge is located approximately 26 miles due east of Visalia at an approximate elevation of 5700 feet. Generally, the beacon, which is a color bar display with the callsign N6BYH will be on during the day, and if your timing is right, you may even find someone on the air.

Presently, we have about five users locally. **Mike Irving N6BYH** (Owner of the repeater) -Visalia, **Doug Edwards KM6OR** -Tulare, **Alan Vicenbti W6MTR** -Visalia, **Jim Greaser K6RGZ** -Hanford, **Jim Reeves KC6YRU** -Visalia.

We also have a couple of occasional users from over near the coast. The talk-in radio frequency is Mike Irving's Repeater system which includes, 443.200 (141.3 PL) Blue Ridge. 146.760 Bakersfield Area South or Mt Bullon NE of Fresno, 146.775 (141.3 PL) Meadow Lakes. If you have any technical questions, call Mike or Doug.

Website to view the repeater: [kc6yru.ww.com](http://kc6yru.ww.com)  
73 de Alan W6MTR

### Equipment Sale/Trade/Seeking -

For Sale: Kenwood TS 440S w/Astron PS35A power supply + MC-60 desktop microphone \$400; HT-41 linear amp. \$100. Call **Bill K6QOG**



## Minutes of July 29, 2004

Meeting called to order July 29, 2004, by **President Steve Lee-Thomas, W6SLT**.

Introductions, attendance was taken.

### Old Business

1. Still working on memorandum for emergency communications.
2. **Field Day report** - It was nice and cool in the mountains. Approximately 1,164 points were earned.

### New Business

1. Nomination for Grid Leak editor in the absence of **Karen KF6PCV** was **Bill K6QOG** nominated by **Leonard KG6BBE**, seconded by **Dave W6BEF**. For secretary, **Jim KD5NED**, nominated and seconded by unknown persons.
2. Discussed having a second repeater for redundancy in case of failure to one or the other repeaters. Also discussed were the possibilities of locating the repeaters in different areas with different frequencies with linking capabilities.
3. **Leonard KG6BBE** moved to pursue a second repeater location in the near future.
4. **Mike N6BYH** believed we should have the new repeater ready within the next four repeater shop meetings.

### Treasurer Report

1. The club had to pay a fine for failure to file a franchise tax board form on time for our tax exempt status.

2. **Joe WB6MUD** made a deal with Bank of the West to go from a savings account to a checking account with no monthly fees. We paid \$8 for a box of checks. Checking account balance is \$1,527.75
3. New member **Harold K6OGX**. He is Andy's neighbor. There are 43 paid members.
4. Approved \$606 for controller for repeater two months ago. It was bought in May and approved for in April.
5. Paid \$70 to **Dave N6YMM** for repeater IDer.
6. Channel elements for the 440 machine will be paid out (\$106.00) to **Chuck WA6SAA**.
7. Club will reimburse **Steve W6SLT** \$50 for the circulator.

### Meetings

1. The next TCARC meeting will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
2. **Hal KC5LUB** announced the **ARES** meeting is the 4th Thursday of August. It will be a potluck dinner. Please bring meat to BBQ and a side dish.  
\*Note: **ARES** meeting moved to Sept. 9th. See August **ARES** news.

### Adjournment

There being no further business presented, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by **Jim KD5NED**

## All Ham News

Emergency Coordinators for Tulare County:

RACES is Jim Reeves KC6YRU - kc6yru@tcarc.net

ARES is Hal Clover KC6LUB - hal90000@sosinet.net

ARES Events by Hal KC5LUB:

## August ARES News

Well, the warm time of year seems to be upon us. Haven't we had great weather up until late July? Wow, it reminds me of earthquake weather. Fortunately there haven't been many major temblors in the state. A couple of 4.0+ took place over the last month, however, nothing major to report. A great website to check out and get up to date information about earthquakes is <http://quake.wr.usgs.gov/recentegs/>. There is even a link to allow you to send information should you experience the quake in real time.

Congratulations to **Dave WA6BEF** and **Tom AD6N** for submitting their 100% copy of the message sent in June. Stay tuned for the next net, Tuesday August 10. Frequency will be 145.31 and the net will take place at 2000 local time.

This is a quite time when a lot of us are headed out on vacation. Something to remember while on vacation is to pack an HT with some extra batteries. Not so much that you're actually going to use it while getting away from everybody. A 2m HT can come in handy should an emergency or natural disaster occur while you're away

from home. Do a little preplanning and check out some of the frequencies/repeaters that are in the area you're traveling. Find out if there is an IRLP link that you might be able to access while in the area.

I would like to send out a big thank you to several hams that helped on the recent fireworks patrol with CDF. A big thanks to **Dave WA6BEF** (net control), **Scott KF6KMX**, **Scott KE6ITF**, **Ray KF6KMY**, **Bill KA6HGA**, **Jim KD5NED**, and **Hal KC5LUB**. While we'll never know how many injuries or fires were prevented by the patrols, everyone was a little safer because of your efforts. Thanks again and hope to see every one next year.

September will find us meeting on the fourth Thursday, (Sept. 9) for a bring your own BBQ potluck. Bring something to BBQ, and a side dish to share. The BBQ will be fired up at about 17:30/18:00 in the park outside the Tulare County Board of Supervisors Conference Room.

73 de KC5LUB  
Emergency Coordinator  
Tulare County ARES



From "The Bear Facts" newsletter. "TUU Volunteers in Prevention" - August 2004

## The Bear Facts

### VIPs PATROL THE COUNTY

July 3 & 4 was our annual fireworks patrol. Several of our VIPs, including our two newest recruits roamed the county deterring the use of illegal fireworks. Thanks to all of you. And a special thanks to our Ham operators!



**Welcome New Recruits**  
Dave McElroy & Jim Brunk  
(both HAM operators!)

## SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for July 2004

73, Charles W6DPD SM SJV

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION Report for the month of July 2004:

SM Charles McConnell, W6DPD- ASM K6YK, ACC W6DPD, SEC K6IN, OOC N1VM, STM K6RAU, PIC KE6IGJ, TC W6TE.

Greetings from the ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section.

Need to take an Amateur Exam? Exams are given on various times of each month throughout the San Joaquin Valley Section. Check the ARRL web page, [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) for the schedule by clicking on the Exams button in the upper left corner. You should be able to find an exam near you. You can also check your local radio club newsletter or webpage for an exam schedule. Remember the General Class Exam changed on July 1, 2004. Make sure the study material for General has an effective date of July 1, 2004.

Pacificon 04 is October 15-17, 2004 at the San Ramon Marriott. Check [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) for information. This should be another fine show under the direction of the Mt. Diablo ARC. You can order tickets from the webpage.

If you Work All States during 2004, you can apply for a WAS/90 certificate from ARRL. No QSL cards are needed, only log information. The cost is \$10. This is to celebrate the 90th Anniversary of ARRL.

When your affiliated club elects officers for the next year, be sure to update your club's information on the affiliated club area of the ARRL web page.

Emergency Coordinators are needed in Mono and Calaveras Counties. Contact K6IN ([k6in@mercednet.com](mailto:k6in@mercednet.com)) or W6DPD ([w6dpd@arrl.org](mailto:w6dpd@arrl.org)) if you can help.

Please write your congressional representative and urge support and co-sponsorship of HR 713, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act and HR 1478, which would apply PRB-1 to CC&Rs. Also contact your Senators and urge support and co-sponsorship of S 537, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act.

BPL. All Amateurs are urged to contact President Bush ([president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)) to urge him to change his position on BPL. Also, please contact your senators and representative to urge them to oppose the implementation of BPL. Check the ARRL web page ([arrl.org](http://arrl.org)) for more information, sample letters and email addresses.

The Northern California Net (NCN), the Section Traffic Net, meets nightly on 3.630 MHz at 7 PM Pacific Time. The slow speed training session of the net meets nightly on 3.705 MHz at 9 PM Pacific Time. Handling traffic on CW is a good way to improve your CW skills.

The following clubs have change the URL for their web pages: Fresno ARC is now [www.w6to.com](http://www.w6to.com) <<http://www.w6to.com/>> Madera County ARC is now [www.w6wgz.org](http://www.w6wgz.org) <<http://www.w6wgz.org/>> Mountain ARC is [www.w6bw.org](http://www.w6bw.org) <<http://www.w6bw.org/>>

The links to the clubs of the SJV can be found on [www.pdarrrl.org](http://www.pdarrrl.org) <<http://www.pdarrrl.org/>> . Click on the SJV and then go to Clubs of the SJV. Thanks go to Rex Emerson, KE6ZOC, for maintaining the SJV page on [pdarrrl](http://pdarrrl.org).

Congratulations to KG6AIR and N6JYW on completing the ARECC Level One course.

It is my sad duty to report that K6VXR and WB6KMM have become Silent Keys. They will be missed.

The Tuolumne County ARES and the Tulare County ARC members participated in a "Red Flag" patrol on July 4.

W6FRH operating as P40RH had the top score from Aruba (P4) in the 2003 CQ 160 meter contest. Way to go Bob.

On July 10, 14 members of the Tuolumne County ARES participated in a CERT review and training at the Sonora City Firehouse. The 14 members had previously completed CERT Training.

In the January 2004 ARRL VHF Sweepstakes, N6NB was the number 1 Rover in the nation, and W6TE was the highest multi-op in the SJV. KF6CNV was the highest scoring single op. Congratulations.

SJV Section winners in the 2004 ARRL RTTY Roundup were WK6I for high power and K6XJ for low power. Congratulations.

W6FRH and K6XJ had good scores in the 2003 CQWW SSB Contest.

Traffic for June was 0. PSHR K6RAU 54.

*Happy Birthday to --*

**August Birthdays**

**M.A. Petty N6EHA  
Al Yarbrough KF6SMN  
Pam Drake KA2RQK**

**September Birthdays**

**Jim Reeves KC6YRU  
Chris Hembree N6HPP**

*Happy Anniversary to --*

**September Anniversaries**

**Gloria W6NRS & Alan Vicenti W6MTR  
Charles & Darlene Wilcox N6QBK**

**From the Editors:** If there is anything that you would like to add to the newsletter, you may contact us by email at [stenger@sti.net](mailto:stenger@sti.net). The deadline to have articles included is the 10th of each month; submissions after the 10th will go in the next newsletter unless otherwise instructed.

-- de Carol & Bill K6QOG

# TULARE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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NAME (Self) \_\_\_\_\_ NAME (Family Member) \_\_\_\_\_

CALLSIGN (Self) \_\_\_\_\_ CALLSIGN (Family Member) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LICENSE CLASS (Self) \_\_\_\_\_ LICENSE CLASS (Family Member) \_\_\_\_\_

RES PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ BUS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EQUIPMENT \_\_\_\_\_

BANDS \_\_\_\_\_

INTERESTS (Please Check)

EMERGENCY SERVICE

RAG CHEWING

BUILDING

TRAFFIC HANDLING

Dxing

ANTENNAS

CINTESTS

QRP

OTHER

DESCRIBE \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues: (\$20.00 - Individual - \$25.00 - Family)

Mail To:  
Tulare County Amateur Radio Club  
P.O. Box 723  
Visalia, CA 93279