

THE GRID LEAK

The Official Newsletter of the Tulare County Amateur Radio Club January 2004 Issue

TULARE COUNTY WA6BAI AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. Box 723
Visalia, CA 93279

TULARE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

146.880 (-) TCARC REPEATER

Stokes Mountain, North of Visalia

36.31.22N 119.12.80W

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/>

2004 Happy New Year **2004**

Club Officers:

President: Ray Quinn KF6KMY
Vice President: Steve Lee Thomas W6SLT
Secretary: Jimmie Reeves KC6YRU
Treasurer: Joseph Simons WB6MUD
Repeater Coordinator: Hal Clover
KC6LUB
Activity Coordinator: Not Yet Filled

Words from the President:

Happy New Year to everyone, a reminder for those who have not paid their club due's, Please pay them as soon as you can. We will try to elect our Club Officers at the January meeting.

73 de Ray Quinn KF6KMY

Club News:

At the next club meeting please be prepared to vote for our Club Officers.

We need to update our Club Roster, make sure we have current addresses and current e-mails, phone numbers, birth dates, and anniversary dates. Just a reminder, Club Dues need to be paid if you have overlooked them.

Club Events:

No events to report at this time

Last Meeting Minutes:

Dec. 4, 2003, No Minutes to report, for this meeting, it was the Christmas Party.

Notes from the Editor:

If there is anything that anyone would like to add to the newsletter you may contact me by e-mail at kf6pcv@tcarc.net. The deadline to have anything included in the newsletter will be the 10th of each month; submissions after the 10th will go in the

next newsletter issue unless you notify me to not include it or it is date sensitive.

**Happy New Year to All
Thank you
KF6PCV
de Karen**

All Ham News:

ARES News by Hal KC6LUB: Happy 2004 to everyone! I'm glad we made it through the New Year without any major incidents. Hopefully this next year will see our group grow stronger in emergency communications skills and resources. The crisis buzzword now is not IF there will be a communications emergency, it is WHEN. As hams we need to be prepared to step up to the challenge not if we're called, WHEN we're called. Over the next several months our group will be holding several drills either with served agencies or among ourselves. Some of these will be "planned" or training exercises and others will be actual call outs. Either way, we need volunteers that are able to set up and pass messages. If you don't have an emergency go bag, it might be a good time to start to put one together. This month we'll focus on the non-radio items that should be thought about. All of us love to eat and drink. In fact, it is a necessary function of day-to-day life. When emergencies arise, usually the first thing to be forgotten is our normal nourishment patterns and needs. When I first entered into emergency services volunteering, I expected the agency that I was assisting to provide the meals. That was fine, except it was usually done at a time much past what I was accustomed, Sometimes the meal was even non-existent. What has become easier is to prepare for providing for myself. As radio operators, we sometimes expect that a served agency will provide for us.

That doesn't always happen. I am not suggesting that each of us go out and purchase a second kitchen or even invest in large quantities of perishable items. The next time that a grocery list is made, take a look at it. Is it possible to purchase similar items that could easily be prepared with a limited kitchen or cooking facility? My Family Disaster Supply Kit has, in the past been made up of simple items like a can or two of chili for one meal. Another meal has been a can of soup with a can of vegetables. Simple meals like that can get us the nutrients that our body needs to survive over a few days until a feeding routine can be established. My current FDSK contains freeze-dried meals that have a shelf life of several years. All that is needed to prepare them is hot water. In a pinch, I have tried hot coffee instead. While the flavor is somewhat different, I still am able to "cook the meal" and have it be eatable. There are several things to take into consideration when planning what type of meals to plan. One of the first that I use is planning drinking water. I have four 2.5-gallon water jugs that I rotate out every three months. These are my cooking, cleaning and drinking water. I plan one-gallon per-person per-day for cooking and cleaning. I plan a second gallon per-person per-day for consumption. While you may not drink a gallon of water each day, you will most likely need extra water for cooking and cleaning. I figure that I drink at least eight 8-ounce glasses of water a day. That's half a gallon! Second I look at the amount of salt that is in the foods that I am planning to eat. The more salt, the more water that will be consumed. Third, is there portability? Are the meals that I have planned "portable", can the ingredients easily be moved from their storage location to an alternative site. Cans get to be heavy. Especially when I had a limited amount of room in my storage container.

They were also pretty solid in their shape. Finally, I looked at preparation time and cooking supplies. The meals that I first planned all required some sort of pot or pan to prepare them. Also cooking utensils such as spoons or spatulas were necessary. That's a lot of extra "stuff" to carry and store when you stop to think about it. To begin with, my FDSK was awkward, bulky and constantly being rotated out. The main point was that I had something that I knew where it was and what it contained. It would get me through the first few days until things calmed down. That is what it is designed to do. The items that you put in are easy to find around the house. That though is not the point. When a crisis evolves, you don't have time to go raid the cupboards. By taking a few moments now to plan and prepare, you'll save time when seconds count in the end.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY SECTION,

Report for the month of December, 2003: 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.

I hope that every one had a great holiday season and a Happy New Year. If your club would like news of their activities and events listed here, please send the information to your SM, w6dpd@arrl.org. Emergency Coordinators are needed in Mono and Calaveras Counties. Contact K6IN, k6sec@mercednet.com, or W6DPD (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. The International DX Convention will be

April 23-25, 2004 at the Holiday Inn at Visalia. Check sdcxc.org/visalia2004 for information. The 2004 Fresno Hamfest will be April 30 to May 2, 2004, at the Ramada Inn University in Fresno. This will also be the San Joaquin Valley Section Convention. As plans are completed, announcements will be placed on websites. The ARRL invites nominations of exceptional young Amateur Radio operators for the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award. Nominations are due to ARRL section managers by March 31, 2004. Details are available on the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award Web page

<<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/awards/hpm.html>>, which includes a link to the nomination form. Those nominating HPM Award candidates should include their contact information and forward the form to their ARRL Section Manager

(w6dpd@arrl.org). Section managers also may nominate young hams for this award. For additional information, contact Jean Wolfgang, WB3IOS (jwolfgang@arrl.org). Thanks to the volunteers who hold leadership and field organization appointments for the job done in 2003.

Keep up the good work. Officers of the Central California DX Club for 2004 are Pres W6FRH; first VP KN6YD; second VP WA6YEE; Sec/Treas W6DPD;

Past Pres W6PSQ. W5NH qualified for WAS. The following became Silent Keys in December: KF6LGQ and ex K6GTI.

The Fresno ARC ham of the year for 2003 was WS6X. WB6VRJ won the Boner Award and N6DBH got the Alligator Award.

AC6WS won the ICOM handheld radio. AD6W built an 80-160 meter vertical and is having fun with it. WO6T operated W6S for "Santa". APRS is alive and well in the Indian Wells Valley. Fresno ARC conducted "Operation Santa" so patients at Children's Hospital of Central California could talk to Santa by Amateur Radio.

K6IXA arrived in Israel after 51 days at sea. W5VWN/6 was first in the SJV section in the 2002 ARRL 10 meter contest using QRP. The Kern County Central Valley ARC operated the Road and Weather Net on both Christmas and New Years travel times. Traffic for November: W6MSU 7. PSHR K6RAU 47. Traffic for December: Zero. PSHR K6RAU 40

The Clovis Amateur Radio Pioneers:

The Clovis Amateur Radio Pioneers is offering a free beginners Amateur Technician Licensing class. The Class will be held on Tuesdays at 6:30pm beginning January 20th at the Clovis Senior Center, 804 4th Street in Clovis across from Clark Middle School.

Morse Code is not a requirement to get a license, but a class will be offered for those wishing to learn the Morse Code.

For those who need help with the Extra, there will be an informal study group with instructors present as well.

For further information please contact Ray Harkins KB6LQV at 559-270-0520

Happy Birthday To:

BILL STENGER K6QOG DECEMBER
FRANK DEVIN KE6UKK DECEMBER

DEDDI QUINN JANUARY
FLOYD MORRIS KA6VEC JANUARY
JOSEPH SIMONS WB6MUD JANUARY
SARAH CORUM WD6FUF JANUARY
GARY EVANS AA6R JANUARY
HAL CLOVER KC5LU FEBRUARY
GLENN RICKETSON K8GR
FEBRUARY

Happy Anniversary To:
RAY KF6KMY and Debbie QUINN
FEBRUARY

Equipment; Sale/Trade/Seeking:
None to list at this time

Next Meeting:
Will be January 22, 2004 at Supervisors Chambers, 2800 W. Burrel in Visalia, CA 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.

**73 KF6PCV
de KAREN
Your Editor**

**TULARE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME _____ NAME _____
Self Family Member

CALLSIGN _____ CALLSIGN _____
Self Family Member

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

LICENSE CLASS _____ LICENSE CLASS _____ RES PHONE _____ BUS PHONE _____
Self Family Member

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