



# TARC Groundwire Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 01, 2008  
Published Monthly

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I would like to remind everyone that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has designated September as National Preparedness Month. Now I admit that it doesn't generate quite as much excitement as National Pizza Month or National Bass Fishing Month. But, if you have ever been involved in an earthquake or tornado or hurricane or wildfire or other disaster, you can appreciate the need to be prepared for the next one. I personally experienced the confusion and chaos that followed the Loma Prieta earthquake near San Francisco in 1989. We lived about 30 miles east of San Francisco at the time. Our power was out for about three days and our phones were useless for over a week. With no power there was no water. My home experienced only a small amount of damage. But, the earthquake occurred in mid October and it was unseasonably cold that year. The good news was that natural gas service was uninterrupted. The bad news was that all our natural gas heaters still needed electricity to work ... so we were pretty cold for a few days.

One of the things I learned that week was how totally unprepared I was for such an event. The next week I went about the business of gathering an emergency stock of food and water, making copies of important documents, strapping my gas water heater to the wall and the myriad other things that come to mind after such a disaster. Of course, that was about a week too late.

Here in East Texas we don't have a lot of earthquakes. But we are known far and wide for our weather disasters such as tornados, ice storms, hail storms and the occasional hurricane. Take it from one who has been there. Take the time to prepare for the next disaster. It's not a matter of if there will be severe weather ... it is a matter of when and what kind. One of the really good sources of information on emergency preparedness can be found at [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). This site is maintained by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and will give you lots of ideas of things that you can do to be prepared in the event of a disaster. Check it out!!!

73's

Paul Paulsen – K5PFP



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## NEW MEMBERS / LICENSE UPGRADES

There were no new members added to the TARC Roster this month. Current paid membership roster stands at 43.

11 yr. old Alexander Berne from Tyler passed his Tech exam and Marvin Morgan, KC5IZF upgraded to General last month. Congratulations guys!!!

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## TARC MONTHLY MEETING INFO / UPCOMING EVENTS

The Tyler Amateur Radio Club meets every third Thursday of every month at the Shiloh Road Church Of Christ at Shiloh and Paluxy Tyler, TX at 7:00 p.m. Club meetings are open to all interested persons, ham and non-ham alike, regardless of club membership.

A free drawing is held each meeting for an Amateur Radio related item.

Texas QSO Party

Date: Sept 27 & 28, 2008

More information at: <http://www.txqp.net/>

Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)

Date: Oct 18, 2008

Location: Pollard United Methodist Church @ 3030 Copeland Road

Radio operation will begin at 12 noon – we will need to arrive on site at 8:00 am to set up antennas and stations.

More information at: [www.arrl.org/scouts/jota](http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota)

<http://www.scouting.org/International/highlights/22-218.aspx>



KA5RHZ from Arp (Amateur Radio People)



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2008 TARC Election Banquet - Photos by K5LOW

### HAMFEST INFO

Arkansas State Convention (Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest) Sept 5-6, 2008

Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest Association

<http://www.qwha.org>

**Talk-In:** 146.79- (PL 100.0)

**Contact:** Randy Baggett, KG5NE

PO Box 188

Mansfield, AR 72944

Phone: 479-928-5845

Email: [kg5ne@arrl.net](mailto:kg5ne@arrl.net)

### VE TESTING INFO

VE testing is conducted on the second Sunday of each month at 2:00 PM at the American Red Cross building on Rieck Road in Tyler, Texas unless otherwise changed for special reasons, such as holidays.

Listen to the TARC net each week @ 8:00 PM Monday, on the 147.000 repeater for any necessary changes. Mac McGraw, AE5FH is the Contact VE contact. His e-mail is [bnmcgraw@suddenlink.net](mailto:bnmcgraw@suddenlink.net)

His phone Number is 903-839-7916.

### ITEMS FOR SALE

Richard Ramzy K8RMR from Edgewood, Texas has several Ham related items for sale. If interested, please give him a call at 903-896-7799. Some of the items for sale are: Rohn 25 Tower, Mosley Tribander, Cushcraft antenna, and (2) rotators. Also he has some Drake equipment.



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## TARC WEEKLY NET

The Tyler Amateur Radio Club also conducts a weekly net on Mondays at 8:00 p.m. on the club's 147.00 MHz repeater, - offset and 88.5 tone. The net is open to all licensed hams regardless of club membership.

## CURRENT TARC OFFICERS

President	Paul Paulson	K5PFP
Vice President	Art Sharp	K5LXK
Mark Taylor	Secretary/Treasurer	W5MCT
Board Member/Net Control Chairman	Don Simonton	K5LOW
Board Member/Groundwire Editor	Alan Luce	KE5RFR

## TARC WEBSITE LINK

[www.Tylerarc.org](http://www.Tylerarc.org)

## ARRL WEBSITE LINK

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

## FROM THE EDITOR – ALAN LUCE - KE5RFR



I had originally planned to write a short article about QSL cards this month. I have decided to move that article into the October newsletter due to another topic that came up today. At 11:15 a.m. Sunday August 31, 2008, First Baptist Troup was notified that approximately 200 hurricane Gustav evacuees were heading our way. We immediately started preparations. Around 1pm one bus arrived and about 3pm a second bus arrived. 196 total people, Huh? Am I ready for this? I had no idea what to expect. My wife and I assisted in evacuee check in, quilt/pillow distribution, and food preparation. Most of the evacuees were from the Beaumont area with ages ranging from infants to older adults.

I couldn't imagine myself having to go home, get a bag of belongings, get on a bus and travel 8 hours to somewhere to be dependent on other people for food and shelter. This was really a humbling experience for me. Everyone was orderly and very appreciative just to have the basic necessities.

I had one teenage guy walk up to me and tell me he really appreciated all that we were doing for them. That guy really made my day. At this writing Gustov is predicted to make landfall in about 8 hrs.

The next couple of days should be interesting.....



## TARC Groundwire Newsletter

If anyone has any suggestions, news, technical articles, advice for newbies, pictures, bio's, funny stuff, or anything else related to amateur radio that you would like to submit for entry into the Groundwire Newsletter, please email it to me at [groundwire@suddenlink.net](mailto:groundwire@suddenlink.net).

73

Alan Luce - KE5RFR



A few more Field Day 2008 pics