



TARC Groundwire Newsletter

January 01, 2009
Published Monthly

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



By the time most of you read this, all the presents will have been opened, the decorations are coming down and the trash collectors are working overtime trying to clear the debris. Now might be a good time to reflect a little bit and think about making some New Year's resolutions. Let me see ... I already quit smoking so I can't use that one again. I also have the old standards about losing weight and exercising more. No ... they are like Roman candles ... burning brightly for a short time but inevitably fizzle out. Here's one I haven't tried before.

"I resolve to recruit at least one new ham radio operator into our fraternity in 2009."

Now resolutions are nice but I am also a realist. That resolution implies a lot of time and personal commitment ... things like (1) finding someone who shares my interest in radio communications, (2) showing him/her my shack ... maybe even giving them a little "mike time", (3) directing him/her to the tools needed to prepare for the tests, (4) coaching and answering questions along the way (5) prepping him/her for the tests and, probably (6) helping him/her set up a shack and antennas to get on the air.

All this sounds like a lot of work. So, what is the payback. Well, for one thing, our great ham radio fraternity isn't getting any younger. Our lists of "silent keys" seem to be growing faster than the list of "no code newbies." Over the long term, that could spell the demise of our hobby because there are always others who covet our valuable spectrum. And if we aren't using it, we could someday lose it. But there is another reason. New and younger hams bring with them new and more innovative ideas that can help in lots of ways. No, they weren't around during the days of Marconi like some of us. But they grew up in the age of Steve Jobs and Bill Gates. And that gives them a leg up on a lot of us who get all "fumbly fingered" around computers and software.

So I guess my resolution means that I must be willing to do some teaching in order to bring a new ham operator into the fraternity. But, I bet it also means that if I listen closely enough, I will probably learn some things along the way.

Now that sounds like a New Year's resolution worth keeping. Maybe I won't be the only one to adopt it (hint hint).

Happy New Year
Paul Paulsen
K5PFP



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NEW MEMBERS / LICENSE UPGRADES

Current TARC paid membership roster now stands at 48.

The following passed their Technician tests at the December VE Test session:

Pamela Ryman - KE5YNC & Shawn Markmann - KE5YNB



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 a Ham related item. You must be present to win.



HAMFEST INFO

Cowtown Ham Fest Date: Jan 9-10, 2009

Lockheed Martin ARC

<http://cowtownhamfest.org>

Talk-In: 147.28/147.88 (PL 110.9)

Contact: Bill Penny, WM5U

3532 Guadalupe Road

Fort Worth, TX 76116

Phone: 817-992-1379

Email: c.penny@sbcglobal.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

His phone Number is 903-839-7916.



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ITEMS FOR SALE

There are numerous items for sale this month. The TARC Webmaster, KD5KIZ, Gaylen Gage has provided a "For Sale" link on the website. Please visit www.tylerarc.org/forsale.htm

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.

Good repeater info for new Techs: www.hamuniverse.com/repeater.html

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

ARRL WEBSITE LINK

www.arrl.org

LICENSE PRACTICE TEST WEBSITE

www.qrz.com/p/testing.pl

CONTEST WEBSITE LINK

www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/

FROM THE EDITOR – ALAN LUCE - KE5RFR



Alan Luce – KE5RFR

My 2009 Goals:

1. Attend all TARC Meetings
2. Check in to every Monday night net
3. Cook the best chili in February 2009
4. TARC to place in the top 10 of the NTX Section during Field Day.



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5. Recruit at least one new ham operator
6. Make one HF contact with China
7. Get a new tower in the air with a beam on top of it
8. Publish the Groundwire on time each month
9. Be available for tower parties
10. Take more photos

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 or Txlaflash@aol.com



TARC 2008 Christmas Meeting Photos (Page 5 also)





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