

January, 2021 Issue of the Newsletter of the

Tri-County Amateur Radio Association

Los Angeles – Riverside – San Bernardino Counties – Since 1927

P.O. Box 75, Claremont, CA 91711

Web Site: <http://www.tcarclub.net> Email: k6agf@arrl.net

President: Bruce Bolton AG6YS
Vice President: Kurt Dodge KK6WGT
Secretary: David Wilkie K6EV
Program Director: Tim Adams N6DLC

Board Members:

Treasurer: Ken Barto N2HL
Publicity & Web: Ken Mixon KC6WOK
Past President: Brad Rachellies KC6NNV

K6AGF Trustee: Doug Barcon K6AHTJ
ARRL Audio News: Jim Eagon K6JFE
QRM Editor: Dave Wilkie K6EV
Net Control: Bruce Bolton AG6YS

Appointments:

Hospitality: Richard Schultheiss KG6HLA
Field Day Chair: Kurt Dodge KK6WGT
2nd Century Comte. Dave Wilkie K6EV

NEXT REGULAR CLUB MEETING DATE:

Wednesday, Jan 13, 2021 -- 7PM Zoom Video Conference

Invitations will be sent to all members to the email address on file. Guests are welcome to join us – please contact us at the email address above a few days ahead of the meeting so that we can collect your information and arrange to email you an invitation. Check the ROSTER later in this issue to confirm your email is correct (it probably is if you have received QRM). You can also verify that your dues payment status is correct. If you think there is a problem, contact the club Secretary at k6agf@arrl.net and describe the problem.

PAST MEETING MINUTES

December Club Meeting and Holiday Celebration Minutes – Dec. 9, 2020:

1. Call to order 6:04PM. President Bruce Bolton welcomed attendees and reviewed raffle rules.
2. By voice vote, the President was required to sing 'White Christmas' (Moved by Dave Wilkie, Seconded by Jim Eagon). Despite oncoming illness, Bruce exceeded all expectations with a stunning un-accompanied solo rendition. Thunderous applause.
Dave Wilkie recorded the roll of all in attendance as: Doug Barcon K6AHT, Mark Arlotti KM6AHY, Keith Reeves KM6AVK, John Shelton KA6CHX, Tim Adams N6DLC, Dave Wilkie K6EV, Ken Barto N2HL, John Slayton K6IGF, Frank Mayancsik KB6IQ, Jim Eagon K6JFE, Dave Okey KO6KEY, Grace Clark KM6LJL, Lori Wilkie K6LRY, Michael Pearlman W6MAP, Jerry Grzelak KG6MN, Brad Rachellies KC6NNV, John Wetzork KN6QX, Art Aslesen W6TPG, Laurel Wetzork KM6VOA, Bruce VanBuskirk KM6WBI, Ken Mixon KC6WOK, Marida Slobko

KK6YJM, and Bruce Bolton AG6YS for a total of 23 attendees. It was further reported that payment of 2021 dues had been received from 36 members, making them eligible for the raffle. Bruce noted that members Kurt Dodge KK6WGT and Jack Sklar KM6UNQ were both unable to attend as they recover from hospitalizations but both have renewed for 2021 and would be treated as though present (in the end this had no effect upon raffle).

3. Bruce invited Brad Rachielles to install the new officers. It was noted that because the position of Program Director was vacated after nominations closed, the new board would appoint that member in January per the by-laws. The installed officers were:

President: Bruce Bolton AG6YS	Vice President: Kurt Dodge KK6WGT
Treasurer: Ken Barto N2HL	Secretary: Dave Wilkie K6EV
Publicity Director: Ken Mixon KC6WOK	Program Director: To be appointed
Past President: Brad Rachielles KC6NNV	

In addition, the club recognized these important appointed volunteers for 2021:

K6AGF Trustee: Doug Barcon K6AHT	Refreshments: Richard Shultheiss KG6HLA
ARRL News: Jim Eagon, K6JFE	QRM Newsletter Editor: Dave Wilkie K6EV

Finally, the club expressed appreciation to the outgoing officers and volunteers.

4. Club President Bruce Bolton conducted the raffle. The winners were:

- a. \$100 no presence required: Kurt Dodge KK6WGT
- b. \$100 attendance required: Marida Slobko KK6YJM
- c. \$75 no presence required: Grace Clark KM6LJL
- d. \$75 attendance required: Bruce VanBuskirk KM6WBI
- e. \$50 no presence required: Richard Shultheiss KG6HLA
- f. \$50 attendance required: Doug Barcon K6AHT
- g. \$25 no presence required: Mike Pearlman W6MAP
- h. \$25 attendance required: Laurel Wetzork KM6VOA

Note: Due to pandemic conditions, the club decided to issue the prizes as bank checks drawn on the club account. This minimized face-face handling, both at HRO and with members. These were mailed to the lucky winners in late December. Our thanks to Kurt Dodge.

5. A survey of holiday/ugly sweaters and or headgear was made and John and Laurel Wetzork were the winners of this coveted recognition.
6. Holiday Zoom Backgrounds were highly competitive and it was determined that we had a three way tie between Bruce VanBuskirk, Ken Mixon and Tim Adams. Well done.
7. Jim Eagon presented a recording of the Amateur Radio version of The Night Before Christmas.
8. The formal portion of the meeting adjourned at 6:46pm. An informal chat round-table followed, wrapping up at about 7PM.

Summary Minutes: TCARA Board Meeting – January 6, 2021, 7PM

The board remains highly focused on improving club operations and programs.

1. Motion appointing Tim Adams N6DLC to the vacant board position of 2021 Program Director made by Dave Wilkie, seconded by Ken Barto and carried unanimously.
2. December minutes approved.
3. Secretary's report by Dave Wilkie: QRM will reinstate buy/sell/trade section with disclaimer. Club email address for general public correspondence is K6AGF@ARRL.NET and directs to the club secretary. Secretary and President will update club information at ARRL and with LA ARRL Section. Additional member renewals were received after the Holiday Celebration and paid membership is now up to 42 as of Jan 1.
4. Treasurer's Report by outgoing Treasurer Kurt Dodge: Net funds of 5008.79 including petty cash. One raffle price check for \$25 still outstanding. Records, codes, keys etc. will transfer to Ken Barto N2HL as 2021 treasurer during January. The board was delighted with Kurt's recovery and thanked him for getting the raffle price checks out in December.
5. Tim will report on revised 2021 program at the next board meeting. The January club meeting agenda was discussed and the results are expressed later in this newsletter.
6. Publicity Director report by Ken Mixon. Huge upgrade to website in the first three weeks since credentials delivered. Ken requests inputs and contributes from club members. The board expressed it's thanks to Tim Adams for his support to the underlying technology.
7. Old business: End of year handoff. Bruce will arrange a joint visit to bank with former president to update account authorizations and codes. PO box key will transfer from Kurt to Ken. Bruce will work with Jim Eagon regarding administrative privilege for any 'cloud drive' facility held by the club. Dave and Bruce will inventory the equipment stored at Bruce's house after the pandemic eases. There is no urgent demand except that Ken M. will take the club 'banner' to Quartzfest in January. Brad holds the club projector.
8. Kurt Dodge was nominated as chair of the 2021 Field Day committee by Ken Mixon, seconded by Ken Barto and carried unanimously. Kurt reminded the board that enthusiastic member participation was crucial to success.
9. Dave Wilkie was nominated to head the TCARA Second Century committee by Brad Rachiell, seconded by Kurt Dodge and carried unanimously. The committee will review general club operations to address problems that threatened the club's existence in 2020 and will work on archiving club records of interest including photos, docs, etc. Eventually the committee will move towards developing ideas for celebrating our centennial.
10. Dave Wilkie moved and was seconded by Brad a motion to shift the board meetings to be one week earlier, thus leading the club meeting by two weeks allowing for better preparation for future club meetings and fresher integration of results from past club meetings. Passed unanimously, board meetings are now the last Wednesday of the month.
11. Board reviewed HAM-COM and LAACARC status and probable future with Brad. No HAM-COM in 2021 and diminished likelihood going forward. Pandemic and venue cost problems.
12. Topics for the next board meeting include developing hybrid Zoom/in-person meeting capability for later in the pandemic, program plans and Field Day planning.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

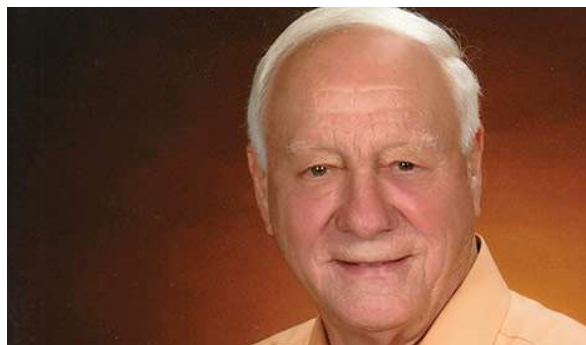
JANUARY CLUB MEETING! – Wednesday January 13, 7PM on Zoom

Topics include:

- Brief reports from Treasurer and Secretary. Funds, membership levels and renewals
- QRM solicitation and deadline.
- Vastly improved website now on line – input welcome. Thanks to Ken Mixon.
- Congratulations to raffle winners
- Appointment of Tim Adams to fill the vacant role of 2021 Program Director and board member. Solicitation of relevant and interesting program content suggestions AND volunteers.
- New Committees:
 - Field Day – Kurt Dodge- chairperson. Planning, Volunteerism, Issues.
 - TCARA Second Century – Dave Wilkie as chairperson. Operational review and improvements. Solicitation/archiving of historical material. Celebration plans (later).
- **Special Guest Presentation: A Walk-Through of On-Line License Exam Testing by an active VE. (It works and it's not that tough). How to set it up (new licenses or upgrades) and what it looks like.**
- Member Questions and Answers – Technical or otherwise.

SILENT KEYS – TCARA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Donald L. Obert – KR6S of Claremont. Don served in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific, later graduating from Cal Poly Pomona as an electronic engineer. Don worked for many years at General Dynamics in Pomona and, later, at the U.S. Naval Weapons Center in Norco. Don was a former TCARA officer and longtime Extra Class Amateur Radio operator. He passed away on October 23, 2020. Don is survived by his children, Lianne Adama, Thomas Obert and Michael Obert as well as his dear wife Bobbie, three grandchildren and a large extended family.



Jack R. Swank – W6FAM of La Verne. A long time TCARA member, a member of the La Verne CERT team and a Master Mason. In addition to his Extra Class Amateur Radio license, he held a 1st Class Radio-Telephone license and GROL. Jack was a long-time member of TCARA' VE testing team and a volunteer with the La Verne Police Department. Jack served in the U.S. Army, followed by a career in aerospace including involvement in every Gemini launch from 1965-1966. Jack passed away on Christmas Eve. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne and daughter, Judy.



REMINDERS - IMPORTANT RECENT CHANGES AND RECURRING EVENTS

Reminder – The Weekly Net Moved to a New Repeater in October 2020. Due to technical problems with the N6USO repeaters that had reduced coverage to some TCARA members, the club decided to move the weekly net to a new repeater. The net continues every week on the WA6FZH repeater located on Johnstone Peak in San Dimas. This repeater is at 446.400 MHz with a negative offset of 5 MHz (441.400) and a PL tone of 103.5Hz. Results have been great – Please join the net. We are also encouraging a more conversational net so bring your news, ideas, jokes and questions. We are very grateful to WA6FZH for maintaining this as an open repeater for the benefit of the local Amateur Radio Community.

Starting Wednesday January 13th, regular club meetings start at 7PM (Not 7:30) on Zoom.

Starting Wednesday January 27, board meetings will be on the LAST WEDNESDAY of each month, still at 7PM, on Zoom

Zoom at Noon – Continues Every Saturday at 12 Noon. You should be receiving an email reminder periodically. If you are NOT, contact the club Secretary via K6AGF@ARRL.NET.

Thank-you all for the improved attendance at all of these events!

FEATURED STORES FOR THIS MONTH:

A MESSAGE FROM CLUB PRESIDENT BRUCE BOLTON, AG6YS:

Greetings and Happy New Year to members and friends of the Tri County Amateur Radio Association!

I hope the New Year finds you healthy and looking to the upcoming year with a positive outlook that things will get better and better in time!

Our Club is going through much renovation and work to bring us to a more fleet and nimble way of conducting club business. This change will entail being more oriented to the member's needs and input as to how we are functioning as an organization!

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at our Zoom at Noon Meetings on Saturdays, and our Monthly Club Meetings at the new time of 7:00 P.M. on the second Wednesday of the month. Remember to check in to our newly reformatted Sunday Night Roundtable Net at 7:00 P.M., and check out the newly upgraded website tcaraclub.net for a vast amount of ham related information! Have a great day! -Bruce AG6YS

CHECK OUR MEMBERSHIP ROSTER IN THIS ISSUE! Please take a look at the club roster summarized towards the end of this issue of QRM. If you think you belong there and are missing, please contact Dave Wilkie, K6EV our club Secretary via K6AGF@ARRL.NET. Similarly, if you find your contact information is incorrect – please let Dave know. With so much of the club's business being done electronically as we move towards our second century, it is really important that we have a correct email address – and hopefully the correct telephone number. Please include your call sign and a callback number. For privacy reasons, we've not published addresses and phone numbers for all members – but if you think those may have changed please send us updates for that info also. The membership application/renewal form provides a convenient format to provide all of this info.

QRM Monthly Newsletter CONTENT WELCOME:

The club is always looking for suitable and interesting materials as well as news and announcements for the newsletter. If you have something, please contact the QRM editor. The newsletter is emailed monthly to all members in good standing.

RE-BUILDING TCARA'S HISTORICAL ARCHIVE:

PLEASE – take a look through your old records and files. We are on the lookout for old copies of QRM, club photos, brochures, even old meeting minutes and copies of old versions of by-laws. Please take a few minutes and see what you have in old email archives, file folders etc. If you find some things, please contact the club secretary, Dave Wilkie K6EV. We can help with scanning paper records and, depending on size, identify convenient means of delivery. If you know of past members or officers who may have items of interest, let us know. Thanks in advance!

TCARA CLUB INFORMATION:

TCARA General Contact Information:

Business Address: Tri-County Amateur Radio Association, PO Box 75, Claremont, CA 91711

Web Site: WWW.TCARACLUB.NET Club Email: k6agf@arrl.net

Weekly Net: Sundays at 7PM Pacific Time. 446.400 MHz, (-) PL 103.5

Zoom—at–Noon: Zoom meeting every Saturday at 12 noon. Invitations sent to member's email.

2021 Officers:

President: Bruce Bolton, AG6YS	626-335- 5606	1bcbolton@gmail.com
Vice President: Kurt Dodge, KK6WGT	909-593-1772	kwdodge1@msn.com
Treasurer: Ken Barto, N2HL	909-908-0155	numbrpushr@gmail.com
Secretary: Dave Wilkie, K6EV	909-625-5921	d33wilkie@gmail.com
Publicity Director: Ken Mixon, KC6WOK	909-917-4450	kc6wok@gmail.com
Program Director: Tim Adams, N6DLC	626-203-3315	tim@wnbnet.net
Past President: Brad Rachielles, KC6NNV	909-816-7333	bradrachielles@gmail.com

Appointed Offices:

Net Control: Bruce Bolton, AG6YS	626-335- 5606	1bcbolton@gmail.com
K6AGF Trustee: Doug Barcon, K6AHT	714-393-8238	dougbarcon@gmail.com
Refreshments: Rick Shultheiss, KG6HLA	626-327-4134	schultz204@msn.com
QRM Editor: Dave Wilkie, K6EV	909-625-5921	d33wilkie@gmail.com
Field Day Chair: Kurt Dodge, KK6WGT	909-593-1772	kwdodge1@msn.com
ARRL Audio News: Jim Eagon, K6JFE	951-212-1970	jeagon@gmail.com
2 nd Century Comte: Dave Wilkie, K6EV	909-625-5921	d33wilkie@gmail.com

Membership:

TCARA welcomes new members. Dues are \$20 dollars per year (\$10 for the balance of the year if joining after June 30th). Spouses and children are also members. Voting members are those holding active amateur radio licenses, and whose dues are not in arrears. Payment is due by January 1st of each year. Make checks payable to TCARA. Please use the attached renewal/application form and follow the instructions on that form.

Monthly Club Meeting:

Beginning in January, 2021 the Monthly club meeting will now begin at 7:00PM (not 7:30) on the second Wednesday of each month, except for the December Holiday Celebration. Normally the club meets in the Pilot's Lounge at Bracket Field Airport, 1615 McKinley Avenue, La Verne, CA. (Building containing 'Norms Hanger' coffee shop). However, during the pandemic the club meets via Zoom video conference and invitations are sent to members via email. Visitors are welcome. Contact the club Secretary a few days ahead of the meeting to obtain an invitation.

Board of Directors Meetings:

Board meetings are held to plan general meeting activities and other matters consistent with the by-laws. Board meetings are open to members who wish to attend but please advise the board a few days in advance so that any modification to the venue can be arranged to assure adequate space or other capacity. During the pandemic the board meets virtually via Zoom video conference. If you would like an invitation, please send your particulars to the club Secretary at K6AGF@ARRL.NET Meetings are the last Wednesday of the month at 7PM.

Zoom at Noon – Every Saturday:

Each Saturday at noon the club holds an informal social and technical chat via Zoom Video conference. Invitations are emailed to all club members. Drop in for a moment or for the whole session. Tell us what you've been up to or just say hi and listen in. Members should be receiving a reminder and login link periodically. If not, contact the club Secretary via K6AGF@ARRL.NET.

Field Day:

The club generally plans and executes a Field Day operating plan at a site and in a configuration developed by the members. ARRL Field Day is Amateur Radio's signature annual operating event and is a lot of fun. Field day occurs on the last full week-end of June. Planning generally begins in the fall and winter of the previous year.

Amateur Radio License Testing

TCARA members offer ARRL VEC testing that provides license examinations for all classes of Amateur Radio License (Technician, General and Extra). Testing is generally on the last Saturday of each month and is at 1PM. The testing location is held at the Bracket Field Airport Administration Building, 1615 McKinley Avenue, La Verne, CA. 91750. (The same building that holds 'Norms Hangar' coffee shop). While walk-ins are usually accepted, we recommend that you contact Mr. Frank C. Westphal in advance and advise him of what license level you will be testing for. You may contact Frank by email at k6fw1@verizon.net or by phone at (909) 257-7205. Frank will advise you as to what to bring or not to bring to the testing session. Testing fee is \$15.00. TCARA members are also available to help you as you study for your license. To date, **testing sessions have been suspended during the pandemic**. Contact the club or an officer for information about other remote test sessions that may be available to you on-line. **Testing is available** for either new licensees or upgrades.

BUY/SELL/TRADE/FREEBIES SECTION

RULES:

TCARA's QRM newsletter provides an opportunity for ham radio operators to connect for the purpose of buying, selling or gifting Amateur Radio related equipment. QRM will not include ads for equipment not reasonably related to Amateur Radio. Included items are those used for regular station operation including radios, antennas, power supplies, test equipment, radio cabinets, parts, supplies and related literature. Computers, furniture, consumer electronics and household items may not be advertised. Buyers may not post items that are not legal to possess or sell in the U.S. or California or radios and equipment which may not be sold per the FCC. QRM will not, accept adds for commercial sales for this section of the newsletter nor for services-for-fee or trade. Advertisements for weapons are not acceptable.

TCARA accepts no fee or percentage of any kind for transactions between participants. TCARA will not be held liable or responsible IN ANY WAY for ANY transaction that takes place between the participants of this forum. TCARA does not guarantee the identity or authenticity of any member who posts items for sale, nor for the authenticity of goods. **TCARA provides NO WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE of any kind** and no guarantee of satisfaction. TCARA makes no guarantee of availability. TCARA will fully cooperate with law enforcement agencies when requested by officials. **ALL TRANSACTIONS ARE ENTIRELY BETWEEN THE BUYER AND SELLER.** No money and no goods should ever be sent to TCARA.

All listings must be accompanied by a telephone number and an email address. You may specify whether you want the telephone number published.

Listings are accepted from club members in good standing only. Photographs are recommended.

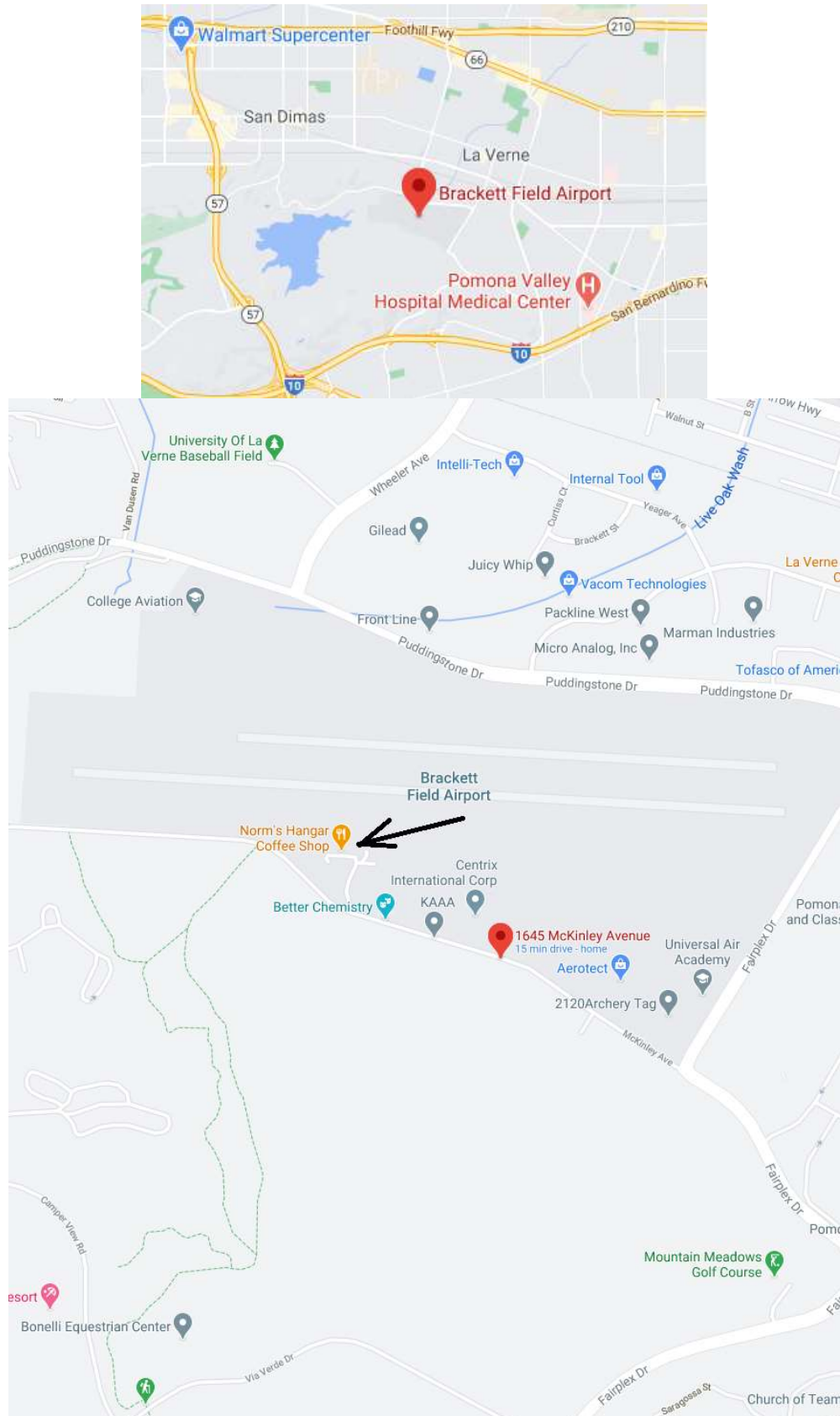
TCARA reserves the right to refuse to publish any listing for any reason at its sole discretion.

If you have questions or items you wish to list, please contact the QRM Editor.

BUY/SELL/TRADE/FREEBIE LISTINGS:

Jerry Grzelak, KG6MN has available a 2 meter (144MHz) two element cubical quad antenna available to any interested ham at no charge. If you are interested, contact Jerry at jerrykg6mn@hotmail.com for more information.

Map to Club Meeting and Test Session Location at Brackett Field Airport in La Verne

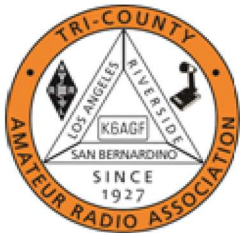


Membership Roster/Dues Status: PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR INFO IS UP TO DATE. IF YOU SEE ERRORS OR OMISSIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE CLUB SECRETARY AT K6AGF@ARRL.NET. As of 1/1/2021.

[illegible]

Past members still outstanding as of January 1st 2021. (If payment has arrived in the past few days it may not yet have been collected from our PO box as visits are less frequent than would otherwise have been the case due to the pandemic). Contact the club with any questions.

43	KK6BCY	Campbell	John	campbellcompound@gmail.com	due
44	KD6DKV	Embrey	Bob	kd6dkv@verizon.net	due
45	K6DOJ	Pimentel	Marco	pimentelmarco@hotmail.com	due
46	KG6FGZ	Shewman	Steve	invalid email – bounce	due
47	KM6IQQ	Francoeur	Alain	AJF463@gmail.com	due
48	W6JDR	Robertson	James	w6jdr.james@gmail.com	due
49	AF6TT	Dabbs	Leon	lwdabbs@gmail.com	due



Tri-County Amateur Radio Association

Los Angeles – Riverside – San Bernardino Counties – Since 1927

P.O. Box 75, Claremont, CA 91711

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION – WELCOME!

***REQUIRED FIELDS – PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY**

*Date: _____ *Call Sign or 'None': _____ *License Class: _____

*First Name: _____ *Last Name: _____

*Street Address: _____

*City: _____ *State: _____ *Zip: _____

*Email: _____ *Phone: (____) _____

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:

*** APPLYING FOR MEMBERSHIP YEAR:** _____

Memberships: ARRL____ ARES____ RACES____ MARS____ OTHER_____

Interests: DX____ VHF/UHF____ HF____ DIGITAL____ CERT____ PROJECTS____ CW____

SATELLITE____ MICROWAVE____ FOX HUNTING____ EMERG. PREP____ Are you a VE?_____

Other Interests/Skills/Goals: _____

Other licensed Spouse or Children (Names/Callsigns) _____

Membership Dues: \$20/Year Due upon joining, renewals due Jan 1. \$10 if joining after June 30.

Note: Only licensed members with dues not in arrears may vote. Only members with valid amateur radio licenses whose dues are not in arrears may vote. There are no age limits. **Make checks payable to TCARA.**

By signing this application I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Tri-County Amateur Radio Association. I agree that the club may share my stated email address with club members and in the monthly QRM newsletter.

*Signed: _____ *Date _____

PLEASE Include required initial dues payment (\$20 or \$10 after June 30th) so that we can process your application.

FOR TCARA USE ONLY:

TREAS: Dues Received \$_____ Date: _____ By: _____

TREAS: Form of Dues (Cash, Check, etc.) _____ Date App. Forwarded to Secty. _____

SECRETARY: Date added to Member DB _____ New Member Packet Emailed _____

You may hand deliver your application at any TCARA meeting (see web site for details) or mail it to the P.O. Box above. Feel free to contact us at the email address above or per the contact info on our website with any questions about the club, membership or Amateur Radio in general. Visit us during our weekly net or at any meeting.