



MARC Beacon

Volume 5, Issue 3

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

March 2016

President's Message

Hello everyone. Can you believe it is March already? Time to change the clocks and the beginning of spring.

I want to make this club fun, with people sharing ideas and bragging about their projects. No project is too small or too simple to share with the rest of the group. I hesitate to say this but, I want to start a "show & tell" session where people bring a HAM related item or subject to the club meeting, that they would like to share with the group. We can still have our scheduled presentations and mini classes, but instead of putting people on the spot, I would like to open up the floor, at every monthly meeting, to allow members to talk about what they made or discovered that they would like to share with the rest of the group.

CHIRP is free computer software for programming your radio. What I discovered is that you must first download from a new radio to get a compatible template before uploading your favorite frequency settings to the new radio. If you upload an image from a different radio model then you may damage the firmware of the new radio, preventing the radio from properly transmitting. Visit the following website for more information: <http://chirp.danplanet.com/projects/chirp/>

Field Day is only a few months away. Scheduled for the fourth weekend of June. Please make plans to be there and to assist Chris Nichols, WB6CDF, to make this year a very successful one. Visit the following website to learn more about Field Day. <http://www.arrrl.org/field-day>

Rob
KK6JHI
Joshua Tree
760-401-6666



Linked Repeaters

Yucca Valley, W6BA

146.790 MHz (- shift = 146.190 MHz) 136.5 Hz PL/CTCSS

Twentynine Palms, W6BA

147.060 MHz (+ shift = 147.660 MHz) 136.5 Hz PL/CTCSS

Landers, WB6CDF

447.580 MHz (- shift = 442.580 MHz) 173.8 Hz PL/CTCSS



Test Session

At our last meeting, we held a test session at 8PM. We now have four new hams:

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Paul Kempf | WH6FBL |
| Trevor Claypool | KM6ASO |
| Christopher Fritcher | KM6ASP |
| Joshua Wilbourn | KM6ASQ |

Paul and Trevor are in the Marine Corps, Christopher and Joshua are government workers on the base. Congratulations to them, and we hope to hear them on the air soon.

Many thanks to the Volunteer Examiners (VEs), Glenn Trexler, Will Harner, and Ray Salaiz, for helping out at the session. This was a special session to accommodate the Marines, who have been busy in the field.

We can hold a regular Saturday test session as soon as there is a need.

Glenn Miller N6GIW
VE Coordinator for the Morongo Basin

Borges Associates

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New Repeater

The new Yaesu DR-1X Digital/FM repeater is now in operation. It is a privately owned repeater, and is open for use by any ham. The frequency is 449.440, with a negative offset of 5 MHz (444.440), and the CTCSS is 131.8. The repeater identifies in Morse code only, and there are no voice announcements.

You do not need a new radio to use it, unless you want to utilize its digital features. Yaesu radios that are capable of digital voice are the FT1-DR and FT2-DR handhelds, the FTM-400DM mobile, and FT-991 all-mode HF/VHF/UHF transceiver. The repeater automatically detects whether you are using standard FM or C4FM (Yaesu) digital voice mode. If you listen to the frequency and hear a buzzing sound, that is digital communications, and it means the repeater is busy. If the frequency is quiet, feel free to key up, identify, and see if anyone is around.

Many thanks to Chris WB6CDF for putting up the antenna, obtaining a frequency pair for the repeater, and tuning the duplexers. Also thanks to Sandy Samuels of the Hi Desert Repeater Network for loaning us the frequency, which is an inactive frequency assigned to their organization.

Glenn N6GIW

Club Meeting

Every 3rd Thursday of the month at 7 PM.
St. Christopher of the Desert Catholic Church
61261 Sunburst Dr., Joshua Tree, CA

Popular Science

This may be of interest to some of the club members. I found a post on the QRZ.COM forum page stating that Popular Science magazine has placed their entire 140 year magazine archive on the internet for free browsing. They have a lot of articles on ham radio that are interesting from a historical standpoint.

The link to the post is:

<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/popular-science-magazine.512628/>

The link to the archives is:

<http://www.popsci.com/archives>

73

Andy Frees

Nets

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Mon @ 1915
Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club (MARC), Tue @ 1900
Narrow Band Emergency Message System (NBEMS)
145.645 MHz, 2nd & 4th Thursday @ 1900

HAM Radio Extra Class

Hosted by the Desert R.A.T.S. Monday evenings 7-9 PM,
28 March – 2 May. Testing on Saturday 7 May, 9-12 AM.
Cost = \$20. Using the Extra Class Book by Gordon West.
You may order your own book from www.w5yi.org or
800-669-9594. Pre-Registration is appreciated.

Palm Springs City Yard Conference Room
425 N. Civic Drive
Palm Springs, CA 92263

Lee Obermoeller
619-228-4475
leeobermoeller@yahoo.com

Social Media,

Club web page:

<http://www.w6ba.net>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/MorongoBasinAmateurRadioClub>

W6BA Live Feed:

<http://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/10199/web>

Upcoming Events

The Emergency Communicator Course: Mar 2, 9, 16, 19,
Chris Nichols, WB6CDF, 760-285-3560



SAT. MARCH 12, 2016 • 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

PALM SPRINGS PAVILION • 401 S. PAVILION WAY

NEXT TO PALM SPRINGS STADIUM • PALMSPRINGSHAMFEST.COM

Extra Class: Starts Mar 28, <http://desertrats.am/classes/>
International DX Convention, Visalia, 15-17 April,
<http://dxconvention.org/>
Scottsdale ARC's Spring Hamfest, 19 March
Tucson Spring Hamfest, 26 March
Hamfest at DeVry, 9 April
Cochise Hamfest, 7 May
Oro Valley ARC Hamfest, 12 Nov
www.arca-az.org

Editor Point of Contact (POC)

Rob Cloutier, KK6JHI, 760-401-6666, KK6JHI@ARRL.net
Submission deadline is 2 days before the 1st of each month

March 2016

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|--|--------|----------|
| 28 | 29 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | ARES Net 7:15pm | MARC Net 7:00 pm | | ARES Meeting 6:00 pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley | | |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| | ARES Net 7:15 pm | MARC Net 7:00 pm | | NBEMS Net 7:00 pm 145.645 MHz | | |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
|  | ARES Net 7:15 pm | MARC Net 7:00 pm | | MARC Meeting 7:00 pm St. Christopher's Catholic Church Joshua Tree Happy St. Patrick's Day | | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
|  | ARES Net 7:15 pm | MARC Net 7:00 pm | | NBEMS Net 7:00 pm 145.645 MHz | | |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
|  | ARES Net 7:15 pm | MARC Net 7:00 pm | | | | |