



MARC Beacon

Volume 7, Issue 5

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

MAY 2018

President's Message

Hi everybody,

This month I'm going to open by introducing a new ham in our group. On April 21st Lucio Menegon passed his exam for the Technician Class license. Welcome to the hobby and congratulations on taking the first step. I also want to recognize Keith Board N6GKB, Alan Helmadollar KK6RHH, Cathy Simpson KK6QLZ and Sam White KK4BFU for their hard work and study. They all passed the General Class license exam. Congratulations to everybody. A special thanks goes out to Glenn Miller N6GIW and his crew of VEs who made it all possible.

Keith N6GKB, deserves an extra round of thanks for the presentation at our April meeting. He told us quite a bit about Amateur Television (ATV). Keith brought his tv equipment and set up a link with another ATV ham in the LA area for a long distance video question-and-answer session. Thanks for the work and a great presentation Keith.

Field Day is less than 60 days away and it looks like we're going to have a great time at Joshua Tree Lake RV & Campground on the weekend of June 23rd & 24th. The next Field Day planning committee meeting will be on Wednesday June 9th at 6:00pm at Apache Mobile-home Park in Yucca Valley. Anyone needing directions can email me at ai6af@arrl.net or reach me on the W6BA repeater.

Our next club meeting is on Thursday May 17th at 7:00 pm at St. Christopher of the Desert Catholic Church in Joshua Tree. The agenda is open at this time, but I'd like to be able to present our new General Class hams with some information about various entry level HF radios.

I hope to see everybody at the next meeting, until then,
73

Andy Frees

AI6AF

Yucca Valley

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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

Nets

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Mon @ 1915
Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club (MARC)
Tue @ 1900

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>

Club Meeting

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



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TOM MEDLIN W5KUB WEEKLY WEBCAST 100% HAM RELATED. TUESDAY NIGHTS AT 8PM

<http://tmedlin.com/> OR <http://w5kub.com>

W5KUB to Stream Hamvention® 2018 Worldwide

04/19/2018

“Amateur Radio Roundtable” Host Tom Medlin, W5KUB, will once again **livestream** selected activities from the 2018 **Hamvention®** in Xenia, Ohio, during what he calls the “Hamvention Marathon Webcast” — more than 40 hours of live video from the annual show. This will mark Medlin’s 17th year covering the show for those unable to attend Hamvention.

“Our motto is ‘*Bringing ham radio to you,*’” Medlin said. “We want to give everyone the experience of feeling like they are part of this ham radio event.” Medlin said viewers can not only see what’s going on at Hamvention, but they can also use the chat room to communicate directly with the W5KUB group.

“Astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, is scheduled to be with us again for the 5th year as a co-host,” Medlin noted. “Amateur Radio Roundtable” is webcast Tuesday evenings (Wednesday at 0100 UTC). Medlin invites radio amateurs to join the **W5KUB Facebook group**.



HAMNATION IS A WEEKLY HAM RADIO RELATED TV SHOW WITH FAMOUS HOSTS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW LIKE, GORDON WEST, BOB HEIL AND OTHERS. WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 6PM

<https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>

GR9RW will be the Royal Wedding Special Event Call Sign

04/25/2018

To celebrate the marriage of Great Britain’s Prince Harry to American actress Meghan Markle, special event call sign **GR9RW** will be on the air May 19 – 23. It’s believed that this will mark the first use of a GR9 call sign prefix in the UK.

The **Royal Wedding** will take place on May 19 at St. George’s Chapel in England’s Windsor Castle. Members of the Cray Valley Radio Society (**CVRS**) will operate from their club station in Eltham. **GR9RW** will primarily use SSB and CW, with the addition of FM on VHF and UHF. Two HF stations and one VHF station will cover all bands from 80 meters to 70 centimeters. The Club’s well-equipped station will be augmented with additional antennas allowing simultaneous operation from all three stations.

Logs will be uploaded daily to Clublog and a colour QSL card will be available on request, either via our regular QSL manager Owen, G4DFI or via OQRS.





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Former “Coast to Coast AM” Radio Show Host Art Bell, W6OBB, SK

04/14/2018

Former “Coast to Coast AM” and “Dreamland” radio host Art Bell, W6OBB, of Pahrump, Nevada, died on Friday, April 13, at his home, the Nye County Sheriff’s Office announced. He was 72. A KSNV news report indicated that Bell’s family was with him when he died. The Sheriff’s Office said an autopsy would be performed.

“The cause of Bell’s death was yet to be revealed,” is how International Business Times put it in its obituary of Bell, lending an air of mystery to its account, much as Bell himself enjoyed doing on his long-running radio show that trafficked in conspiracy theories, the paranormal, and “dark matter.” Ham radio came up too, from time to time. In early 2004, Bell aired an extensive, live interview with then-ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP (SK). “Coast to Coast AM” was syndicated nationwide in the early morning hours and, at its peak, was said to have reached 50 million listeners. A decidedly unconventional yet distinctive radio host, Bell produced the show from his own studio in the High Desert of Nevada. Often, after his show was over, he would get together on 75 meters with a group of friends. He used the phonetics “Old Broken Bottles” for his call sign.

Bell retired from “Coast to Coast AM” in the early 2000s, although served as a guest host as recently as 2010. The show’s current host is George Noory. Bell briefly returned to the air with “Art Bell’s Dark Matter,” which lasted several weeks on the SiriusXM satellite network, but subsequently got involved with another radio program, “Midnight in the Desert,” streamed via the Internet. He quit that show in 2015, however, citing “security concerns” at his home, reporting gunfire and repeated home intrusions; Bell said he believed someone wanted him to quit his shows.

Bell was born in Jacksonville, North Carolina, to US Marine Corps parents. He served in the US Air Force and was a medic during the Vietnam War, according to International Business Times, which also reported that Bell once operated a pirate radio station at Amarillo Air Force Base, playing anti-war music.

Bell was the author of the books, *The Arts of Talk*, *The Quickening*, and *The Coming Global Superstorm*.

His wife and a daughter survive. Bell also held the Philippines call sign 4F1AB.

— Thanks to KSNV and International Business Times

More than 30,000 New Ham Licensees & 7,000 Amateur Radio Exam Sessions in 2017

04/04/2018

For the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks, and the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator (VEC) conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions, serving some 35,350 candidates for a new or upgraded license. At the end of December 2017, the US Amateur Radio population stood at 748,136. At nearly 378,000, Technician licensees represented the largest segment, with General (174,206), Amateur Extra (145,034), Advanced (41,938), and Novice (9,056) trailing. Licensee numbers showed continued growth across all classes except Advanced and Novice, which the FCC no longer issues; those numbers continue to drop.

“I’m hopeful that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year,” ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said. “I would love to see this trend continue!” Somma said topping the 7,000 mark in ARRL VEC-sponsored exam sessions since 2014 was “an important milestone for us.” In 2017, the ARRL VEC administered 7,075 sessions.

Despite the optimistic influx of 32,196 newcomers last year, the net growth of 5,349 — about 0.72% over December 2016 — reflects some 27,000 expired or cancelled licenses in the FCC database over the past year. In making the case for changes to the entry-level license, the ARRL Board’s Entry-Level License Committee referred to “the large number of Baby Boomers (roughly born 1945 – 65) [who] will soon be aging off the licensee rolls.” The committee predicted the likelihood of “a significant decline in the number of hams, unless we take steps to reverse it.”

Somma said that, in addition to exam session administration, ARRL VEC also processed and electronically transmitted 8,765 address changes and license renewals to the FCC for ARRL members in 2017. “This free service to members continues to be a strong draw,” she said. She further pointed out that, as one of three FCC-authorized Club Station Call Sign Administrators (CSCSA), ARRL VEC processed and transmitted 1,761 club license applications for the FCC in 2017, of which 338 were for new club licenses.



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On April 21, 2018 6:38:56 PM PDT, Glenn Miller <deacon733@msn.com> wrote:

We had a test session this morning. The following local hams upgraded to **GENERAL CLASS**:

Sam White KK4BFU
Allen Helmadollar KK6RHH
Keith Board N6GKB
Cathy Simpson KK6QLZ

A new ham passed the technician test:

Lucio Menegon (no callsign yet)

BUT Can't wait to hear you on the air soon!

*I WANT TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO
ANDY FREES FOR HIS WORK AND DEDICATION
TO HELP OUR CLASS PASS!*

From Keith Board

Congratulations to all.

Thank you to all the volunteer examiners who helped out.

Jim Nagle AB0WM
John Campbell AG6QM
Ray Salaiz AG6SB
Wil Harner KD6ZED
Andy Frees AI6AF

A special thanks to everyone involved in holding classes to help these hams prepare for the exam.

73
Glenn Miller N6GIW
VE Coordinator for the Morongo Basin

What Is **ATV** ?

(In Ham Radio it's NOT an **All Terrain Vehicle**!)

It Is **Amateur Television**

Amateur television (ATV) is the transmission of broadcast quality (Fast Scan) video and audio over the wide range of frequencies of radio waves allocated for radio amateur(Ham) use. ATV is used for non-commercial experimentation, pleasure and public service events. Ham TV stations were on the air in many cities before commercial television stations came on the air. It is also called HAM TV or fast-scan TV (FSTV), as opposed to slow-scan television (SSTV).

The **Amateur Television Network (ATN)** is a series of amateur television repeater systems located at various locations in the United States. ATN was started in Southern California and now has several ATV repeaters linked to cover almost all areas from Santa Barbara to Cathedral City and from Las Vegas, Nevada to the southern areas of Riverside and Orange counties. ATN will soon be linked to the ATN Arizona chapter repeater system in Phoenix. For more information about ATN please go to the following link: <http://atn-tv.org/>

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US:

**FOR INFO TO WATCH OUR TUESDAY NIGHT NETS
RIGHT AFTER OUR LOCAL NET JUST EMAIL ME
n6gkb@live.com AND I WILL SEND YOU THE EASY
INSTRUCTION AND LINK TO JOIN IN.**

"HAMS SHOULD BE SEEN AS WELL AS HEARD"



**Amateur Television
Network**

On the Air to Everywhere



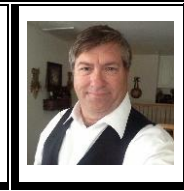
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Editor Point of Contact (POC)

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Submission deadline is 4 days before the 1st of each month




MAY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS GLEN		ARES Meeting 6:00 pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley		CINCO DE MAYO
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ROB 	FIELD DAY MEETING 6PM APACHE PARK			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS FRED OR NICKI		MARC Meeting 7:00 pm St. Christopher's Catholic Church Joshua Tree		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ANDY				



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27	28	29	30	31		
	ARES Net 7:15 pm 	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS MANUEL				