



MARC Beacon

Volume 11, Issue 10 The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

OCTOBER 2022

Hello radio operators and welcome to

fall! It's finally cooling off a bit. Pretty soon we will be complaining that it's too cold. We finally received some much needed rain in the past month, hopefully we will get more before the end of the year.

During this month's MARC meeting, on Thursday 27 October, **we will be celebrating Halloween.** See my email with Judy's details, and please email me or Judy if you plan on attending or if you did not get the email.

Also during this month's meeting, we will be nominating members for club officer positions and board members. If you would like to become the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, or a board member, then please contact me so I can add your name to the ballot. During November's meeting, we will be casting our votes.

Please schedule time to check in on the 7 PM Tuesday net, and if you can, please join us on the "Cawfee Tawk" net everyday from 1000 to 1100 AM.

Take care of yourself and enjoy each day. If you're not having fun, then you're doing something wrong.

This is WO4ROB, Rob from Joshua Tree.

Rob Cloutier
WO4ROB

Joshua tree
Club President
(760)401-6666

rob_cloutier@hotmail.com



Nets

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)
Mon @ 1915
Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club (MARC)
Tue @ 1900
MARC Daily informal Kawfee Talk
1000-1100 DAILY

Social Media,

Club web page: <http://www.w6ba.net>

Facebook:

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

Club Meeting

Every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6 PM. At the church of the Nazarene in Yucca Valley at 56248 Buena Vista Dr

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

OTHER AREA REPEATERS

IRLP Node KD6DIQ 145.770 pl 67.0

San Jacinto TRAM one 145.480 (-) pl 107.2

ALLSTAR NODE on the mesa 147.705 pl 146.2

ALLSTAR NODE in Y.V. 446.120 pl 131.8

448.580 pl 146.229 PALMS rpt linked to KELLER peak



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US Amateur Radio Band Chart

<http://ham.band>

- Easy to remember link
- Easy to use on desktop or mobile
- Light-mode/Dark-mode switchable
- Familiar layout

Send feature requests to Aaron@KM6IAU.net



The weather station on Paxton Hill at the W6BA repeater site is working great. It will show accurate wind speed and direction measurements for the top of the mountain .

<https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KCAJUCCA57>

{Please NOTE: The weather station at our Paxton hill repeater site has a problem with the wind direction reading, but all other readings are accurate. A repair project will be done to replace some parts. The anemometer is stuck, usually pointing north.)

Glenn N6GIW

KEN HENDRICKSON, W6BZY



Some helpful you tube videos from Ken W6BZY about Linux and raspberry Pi.



Search **W6BZY** on YouTube.

OUR CLUB MEETING!!!!

THIS MONTH OUR LOCAL CLUB MEETING WILL BE

AT: 6:00 P.M. ON:

"OCTOBER 27TH" At Church of the Nazarene in Yucca Valley at 56248 Buena Vista Dr.

NEW CLUB FACEBOOK GROUP FOR THE MARC CLUB

I have created a Facebook "Group" for the Club. We currently have a FB "Page" which only allows Admins and Moderators to post directly on the Posts section.

Here is the link to the new "Group" - so if you are on Facebook, please click on this link and LIKE our new Group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/577155023327981>

The new Group will be must more user friendly. Feedback is most welcome. Thanks, Judy, N6JLL

THANK YOU JUDY N6JLL

Hello everyone,

This is Judy KK6NWG a board member of MARC. I will be having a Halloween party on October 20th right after our club meeting, which starts at 6 pm. We had so much fun at last year's Halloween party, some people dressed up, I will be dressing up along with others, this is not mandatory, but is fun. I will have veggie and fruit



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plates along with sandwiches and chicken platters. I will have punch bowls that are with and without sugar, so those who can't have sugar can still enjoy a fruit punch at our halloween party. I will have sugar and sugar free desserts. There will also be water, hot chocolate and coffee. I will have prizes for the best and worst dressed. I will also be given out gifts for those who answer the trivia questions right. Come have fun with us at our yearly Halloween party. If you are coming to the party, please send me an email to let me know so I can have enough food for those who are coming. Hope to see you October 20 it will be fun. Food is free to all members.

Judy KK6NWX

KAWFEE TALK

The Cawfee Tawk net started on Monday 30 March 2020 when we were restricted to our homes because of the Covid-19 outbreak, and some of us were concerned about our fellow ham operators. It was initiated by Roger Sherwin KF6BIG, and hosted by Rob Cloutier WO4ROB. The net ran every day, 7 days a week, from 1000 - 1100. I am officially announcing that I will no long host the Cawfee Tawk Net on the weekends. I will continue to be the host when I am in town Monday - Friday. So, if anyone wants to be the host on Saturdays and Sundays, then please do so.

Thank you Rob W04ROB for your service during this time and I think you deserve the break now.

Amateur Radio Activities During 2 Weeks Of Hurricanes

The VoIP Hurricane Net, the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN), and the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center, WX4NHC, contributed hundreds of hours tracking and taking reports for hurricanes Fiona and Ian.

Amateur radio operators from Puerto Rico, Florida, and the US east coast worked for almost 2 weeks, making sure damage reports and requests for assistance were dispatched in a timely manner.

HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, reported that their

activation for Hurricane Fiona lasted 39.5 hours. There were 109.5 hours on-air manpower and 246.5 total man-hours. "The HWN was activated four times for Fiona: twice on its approach to Puerto Rico, and twice on its landfall," said Graves. "We collected and forwarded 23 surface reports to the National Hurricane Center in Miami by way of WX4NHC."

For Hurricane Ian, HWN Assistant Manager Stan Broadway, N8BHL, added, "Our activation for Ian lasted for nearly 5 full days, with a total of 83 hours. There [were] a total of 383.5 hours of on-air manpower and 1,014.5 total man-hours. We collected and forwarded 164 surface reports to the National Hurricane Center."

The VoIP Hurricane Net reported that, over the entire course of Ian, from its tropical storm





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force effects in Grand Cayman, major landfall in Cuba and southwest Florida, and landfall in South Carolina into North Carolina, they sent approximately 150 reports.

"An approximate volunteer man-hour count for this hurricane is estimated to be over 150 hours, including the planning, execution, and release of activation information, also accounting for those stations in the affected areas or stations that were relays into the affected area reporting storm damage," said Graves.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, had previously reported that many ARRL [Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#)® (ARES®) volunteers and



their groups were involved across Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina. Johnston said that there were ARES members, at the request of the Florida Division of Emergency Management, serving in the state Emergency Operations Center. Many ARES groups were also operating in several shelter locations.

The NHC continues to monitor activity in the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico.

Sights and Sounds

The [Pacific Northwest SOTA Newsletter](#) is like an outdoor travelogue, but with radios. In the October-November-December 2022 edition, in addition to some great pictures of radios being used in the outdoors, we learn that many [geographical features on public lands are going to be renamed](#), which will impact Summits on the Air (SOTA) reference manuals, as well as future contests and events. Also in this issue: Some summits have commercial TV or FM

radio transmitters that provide so much RF that amateur band receivers in close proximity are overloaded and rendered nearly useless. Tim Sherry, N7KOM, compares two models of bandpass filters for use with amateur-band transceivers, and finds that both would reduce signals outside of the amateur bands.

Barry Hansen, K7BWH, notes on the Pacific Northwest VHF Society email list, that Scott Farrell, KE4WMF, has put together an "excellent" video entitled, "[VHF Contest Rover - A Beginner's Journey](#)," showing his VHF contest rover setup in his Volkswagen GTi. He's indexed the over 27-minute video, which makes it easy to get to the part you're interested in. Barry also notes: "If his VW GTi looks familiar, you may have seen it on page 18 of [the] October 2022 [issue of] QST."

Upcoming Contests - Things to Do

ARRL EME Contest

It's never been easier to complete the Earth-moon-Earth circuit. October 15 - 16 is session three of the ARRL EME Contest, for frequencies between 50 MHz and 1296 MHz. Lance Collister's, W7GJ, "[6 Meter EME Today](#)" document from 2010 talks about the minimum frequency you'd need to decode signals from the moon, which can be boiled down to a good antenna, reasonable radio, and appropriate software. Activity also helps. With a "regular" 6-meter antenna, it should be possible to copy signals from the moon at moonrise, taking advantage of ground gain.

State QSO Parties

[New York](#) and [Illinois](#) QSO parties are November 15 and 16, respectively. Changes for New York include a new portable class, and county-line operation for portable and mobile entries. Mobiles and portables can also self-spot, which is handy when popping up in a new place as a new multiplier. You'll have to scroll



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down a couple of pages on the Illinois QSO Party website to see the information specific to the QSO Party.

ARRL School Club Roundup

This takes place DURING THE WEEK!
Everyone is encouraged to participate and send in logs, but the focus is to encourage activity by school clubs. [Check out the scores from the event that ran in February of 2021](#), and you'll see that most of the contacts in this contest are made on phone.

Technical Topics and Discussion

Telnet cluster sites for *N1MM Logger+* are crowd sourced! According to a recent post by Larry Gauthier, K8UT, to the *N1MM Logger+* Groups.io group, "There is no method by which clusters get manually added to the telnet Live Cluster list... When users successfully connect, their N1MM desktops notify the server, which adds the site to its database. Sites with at least 10 reported connections and a connect/fail ratio of at least 75% are presented to users in the drop-down list." For further information, see the [N1MM Logger+ telnet cluster documentation page](#).

Contest/Event Organizers: Make it just a little bit easier for potential participants by publishing a calendar event (a file ending in .ICS) for your event on your website. Participants can load the ICS file into their calendar(s) ahead of time and can even set reminders. To find out how, use your favorite search engine to search: "how to create an ICS file."

Most of the amateur radio devices and accessories that we use with computers have USB ports. Over the years, the standard for USB has evolved, and the physical connectors along with it. Today's USB-C ports can handle multiple data streams, and [even provide up to 240 W of power](#) in either direction! [Learn more about USB 3.1 \(actually called 3.2\) and USB-C in this article](#).

In a [QRP-Labs Groups.io](#) discussion of PIN diodes, and the suitability of certain 1N400X parts for RF switching at certain frequencies, Sverre Holm, LA3ZA, recommends "...a [very instructive video on the use of diodes as switches](#). From W2AEW and only 15 minutes."

That's all for this time. Remember to send contesting-related stories, book reviews, tips, techniques, press releases, errata, schematics, club information, pictures, stories, blog links, and predictions to n6gkb@live.com.



"A ham - pod?"



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS KEITH		ARES Meeting TODAY 6:00 pm		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS FRED				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS GLENN				
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ROB		CLUB MEETING AT 6:00 PM HALLOWEEN		
30	31					
	ARES Net 7:15 pm					