



MARC Beacon

Volume 8, Issue 1

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

JANUARY 2019

President's Message

Greetings fellow hams,

I'm Aaron KM6IAU (Yucca Valley), the 2019 Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club president. It's a privilege for me to wish you and your family a happy new year on behalf of the club. I'm looking forward to being of service to the radio club in 2019 and working alongside other folks enthusiastic to help our club have a great year.

I'd like to thank Andy NS6V for his service and dedication as the 2018 club president. Between Andy and Rob WO4ROB (our 2017 club president), I'll have some big shoes to fill in leadership and character. Their virtue substantial, I'm glad to have the opportunity to follow after their dedication and hard work.

I am glad to see many familiar faces at our Christmas potluck. Thanks for your patience while we got through the meeting formalities before digging-in and enjoying the generous amount of food that you guys brought.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the club's president this year.

Sincerely,

Aaron B. Chesney

KM6IAU

Yucca Valley

210-632-3444

Aaron@km6iau.net



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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>



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>



The weather station on Paxton Hill at the
W6BA repeater site has been repaired. It will
now show accurate wind speed and
direction measurements.

<https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KCAUYCCA57>

Glenn N6GIW

I also have A weather station by the high
school in Yucca Valley N6GKB.

<https://www.wunderground.com/weather/us/ca/yucca%20valley/34.114512399999995%2C-116.4194904>

Keith N6GKB

PLEASE NOTE :

- January /17@1730 -Board Meeting
- January /17@1900- Club meeting
- February/09 @1000-Test Session

HERE IS THE EXECUTIVE BOARD LINEUP FOR THE NEW YEAR:

President: Aaron Chesney KM6IAU

VP: Patrick Mathis KN4LKZ.

Secretary: Paul Edwards AA6SM
(*and club W6BA website editor*)

Treasurer: Manuel Borges AE6SG
(*re-elected*) (Thank You)

Board of Directors:

- Andy Frees NS6V – (Past President)
- Sam White - WB6SEW
- Keith Board - N6GKB
(*and editor of the MARC newsletter*)
- KM6QQP - Loren McCorkle
- KA6CMJ - Jesse Lyon
- N6GIW - Glenn Miller
(*Repeater chairman and club license [W6BA] trustee*)(Thank You)

*Thank you all and looking forward to
another great year.*



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⚡ JS8Call by KN4CRD

FT8 has taken over the airwaves as *the* digital communication mode for making QSOs over HF/VHF/UHF. The mode has been widely popular as the latest offering in K1JT's WSJT-X application. FT8 is based on the same foundation as JT65, JT9, and WSPR modes for weak signal communication, but transmits faster with only slightly reduced sensitivity.

While FT8 is an incredibly robust weak signal mode, it is designed heavily to take advantage of short band openings on HF/VHF/UHF and only offers a minimal QSO framework.

However, many operators are using these weak signal qualities to make successful QSOs on the HF bands where other modes fail.

JS8Call is an *experiment* to test the feasibility of a digital mode with the robustness of FT8, combined with a messaging and network protocol layer for weak signal *communication* on HF, using keyboard-to-keyboard style interface. It is not designed for any specific purpose other than connecting amateur radio operators who are operating under weak signal conditions. JS8Call is heavily inspired by [WSJT-X](#), [Fldigi](#), and [FSQCall](#) and would not exist without the hard work and dedication of the many developers in the amateur radio community.

JS8Call is a **derivative** of the WSJT-X application, restructured and redesigned for message passing using a custom FT8 modulation called JS8. It is not supported by nor endorsed by the WSJT-X development group. While the WSJT-X group maintains copyright over the

original work and code, JS8Call is a derivative work licensed under and in accordance with the terms of the [GPLv3 license](#). The source code modifications are public and can be found in *js8call* branch of this repository:

<https://bitbucket.org/widefido/js8call/>

JS8Call is and will always be **free** software (free as in beer and free as in speech, do with it what you like, for sum of exactly \$0).

You might be asking...why is this named **JS8Call**? Why was it renamed from FT8Call? Why not something else, like BACON or HF Messenger? Good question! It is named this way as an homage to its heritage:

- JS8Call was previously named FT8Call.
- JS8Call uses a custom FT8 modulation called JS8 (Jordan Sherer designed 8-FSK modulation). This is the base RF transport.
- JS8Call has a "directed calling" protocol laid over top the base RF transport to support free-form and directed message passing.

Hence JS8 + Directed Calling = **JS8Call**.

And in case you didn't get that:

- The app is: **JS8Call**
- The mode is: **JS8**

FOR MORE INFO GO TO WWW.JS8CALL.COM

[OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY WAS GREAT!](#)

It was great to see everyone that attended the December meeting and potluck dinner. It all went great with good food and a white elephant with some great and unique gifts.

THANK YOU to everyone that brought the food and drinks.



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HAM RADIO Operator RV'ers/Tenters...



QUARTZFEST IS COMING SOON.



IT WILL BE JANUARY 20-26 2019.



A Very Unique Ham Radio Gathering

QuartzFest is special in part because it comes to life each year, rising from nothing in a remote area of the Sonoran desert in the southwestern USA. Hundreds of Hams and their families and friends choose to unplug from their daily lives, travel to and setup this desert community, and immerse themselves in this week-long one-of-a-kind ham radio, camping, learning and living event.

The educational classes at QuartzFest offer something for everyone including those new to ham radio or even the most seasoned veteran. They give participants the chance to put hands-on the latest

technology, learn ham radio for the first time, study advanced radio theory and to even take a glimpse into the future of radio science. The learning also continues well-beyond the technical lectures all the way from morning coffee... through social events, music, arts and crafts classes during the day... and into the evening while sitting around the campfire or while star-gazing.

We hope you will decide to join us in 2019 which promises to be one of the most exciting editions of this very unique and special ham radio gathering.

73,

The QuartzFest Planning Committee

QuartzFest Ham Radio Activities

The educational classes at QuartzFest offer something for everyone including those new to ham radio or even the most seasoned veteran.

They give participants the chance to put hands-on the latest technology, learn ham radio for the first time, study advanced radio theory and to even take a glimpse into the future of radio science.

Some typical classes include:

- [Antenna Shootouts](#)
- [Satellite Internet](#)
- [Baluns](#)
- [Portable Antennas](#)
- [APRS](#)
- [HF Mobile](#)
- [Wifi](#)
- [Foxhunts](#)
- [Winlink](#)
- [Antenna Tuners](#)
- [Emergency Communications](#)
- [PSK31](#)
- [Global Positioning System](#)
- [Anderson Connectors](#)
- [Noise Elimination](#)
- [Tools for the Ham](#)



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CHECK OUT ALL THE QUARTZFEST INFO AT www.quartzfest.org

Editor Point of Contact (POC)

Keith Board, N6GKB, 760-401-5124, N6GKB@live.com

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



Winlink is...

...a worldwide radio email service that uses radio pathways where the internet is not present, and is capable of operating completely without the internet--automatically--using smart-network radio relays. Winlink provides its users email with attachments, position reporting, weather and information bulletins, and is well-known for its role in emergency and disaster relief communications. Licensed Winlink operators/stations use both amateur radio and government radio frequencies worldwide. The system is built, operated and administered entirely by licensed volunteers.

More information is available at <https://winlink.org/>



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS GLENN		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 NCS FRED				
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS CHRIS		MARC Meeting 7:00 pm Board meeting at 5:30pm In J.T.		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
QUARTZFEST STARTS	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS AARON				QUARTZFEST ENDS
27	28	29	30	31		
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS JOHN				