



MARC Beacon

Volume 7, Issue 2

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

February 2018

President's Message

Hi everybody,

Well, we're already starting into the second month of our new year. The "Cold and Flu Season" has hit pretty hard but I hope everybody is in good health and can enjoy the warm weather that February is giving us. It's a great time to do some ham shack cleaning or maybe an antenna project.

Speaking of antenna projects, our ARES hams are building some 2 meter j-pole antennas as a group project. I hope they can meet in one of our local parks in March and do some "testing and tweaking" on their new gear. If you don't have a chance to build one with them, you can come to the park and see their antennas in use. The date, time and location will depend on the weather but everybody will be notified.

Unfortunately, the Desert R.A.T.S. annual "Palm Springs Hamfest" won't happen this year. The 2018 "Yuma Hamfest" is going to be held on February 16-17 at the Yuma County Fairgrounds. It's a longer drive but definitely worth a weekend trip. Yuma is the largest hamfest in the Southwest and the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention will be held there too. You can get more details online at www.yumahamfest.org.

This month's MARC meeting will be on Thursday Feb 15th at 7:00 pm in our usual meeting hall. (You can still go to the Yuma Hamfest the next day...) This month, we plan to have Todd (KD6DIQ) share information about his IRLP node and how internet linking can provide world-wide QSO's for even the most antenna restricted neighborhoods.

I hope to see you all at the MARC meeting and talk you on the repeaters.

73,

Andy Frees
AI6AF
Yucca Valley
760-369-7388
ai6af@apachepark.org



Linked Repeater

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

Borges Associates

Tax Consulting / Preparation Service

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Yucca Valley, Ca. 92284

(760) 365-2652

Bonded and CTEC Registered Tax Preparer

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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



ANNOUNCING A GENERAL CLASS LICENSE GROUP
I would like to contact all that wish to join our group .

PLEASE CONTACT ME ASAP TO JOIN IN SO WE CAN ALL BE ON THE SAME TRACK TO GETTING THAT GENERAL CLASS LICENSE. ONCE WE FEEL THE GROUP IS READY WE WILL BE SCHEDULING A TESTING DATE!

If interested in joining
Contact Keith Board ~ N6GKB
760-401-5124 or N6GKB@live.com

HAM RELATED WEBCASTS AND SHOWS :



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>



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

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



If anyone is interested in monitoring frequencies for **KING OF THE HAMMERS**, the following is the plan:

COME TO THE LUCERNE VALLEY DRY LAKE BED AND ENJOY HAMMERTOWN 2018.

- Fire Command 151.1375 (Repeater) Fissure Mtn.
- Fire Tac 153.830 (simplex)
- BLM Command 166.375 (Repeater) Fissure Mtn.
- BLM Law 166.750 (Repeater) Fissure Mtn.
- BLM Law Tac 172.575 (simplex)
- BLM/Fire Interop 853.4125 (simplex)
- Race Relay 151.625 (simplex) busy on race days!!!
- Race Ops 151.700 (simplex)
- Race Logistics 151.5125 (simplex)
- Race Production 153.230 (Repeater) Fissure Mtn.
- Race Medical 158.4075 (simplex)
- Med Air Ops 156.075 (simplex)
- SAR Command 155.160 (Repeater) Onyx Peak
- UHF link to Race Relay 461.6125 (simplex) busy!!!
- 800 link to BLM Law 853.0125 (simplex)
- 800 link to BLM Law Tac 851.5125 (simplex)

This is public so please feel free to share.

<https://ultra4racing.com/>

Chris Nichols
WB6CDF
Yucca Valley, Ca.
DM14TE



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Greetings, fellow hams, and welcome, new club members! I'm excited to grow in the hobby alongside a group of good folks.

While we share a common set of skills with radio, many local hams are doing some unique and really cool things with their license. Some of you may know that I have been prototyping a controller circuit with the goal of having a field-configurable telemetry/tele-command station that can provide synthesized voice feedback.

I'm excited about its development. It's a really cool thing to be a part of a good-natured community that is a treasure trove of knowledge, skill, and zeal for electronics. I enjoy sharing what I'm doing in radio with the club.

I'm also very interested in what others are doing with their license. Whether it's linking this-to-that, doing more-with-less, creating infrastructure, solutions, or community, there is someone in the club that will be interested in seeing how you are using their licenses. I am definitely one.

On behalf of the club, I invite you to show us the unique things you're doing with radio at our club meetings. We can take 5 minutes, or--with a little planning--we can take some more time to look at your projects.

If you've got a project you'd like to share with the club (and I encourage you to!) let me know what we can do to help you present it. You can give me a call on the W6BA repeater or email me at aaron@km6iau.net <<mailto:aaron@km6iau.net>>.

Until our next QSO, 73 de Aaron KM6IAU



Z60A Fielding Three Stations to Handle Huge Pileups for New DXCC #1

02/02/2018

Three **Z60A** stations are up and running with DL3DXX, DL5CW, DJ5IW, IK0FVC, and VE7NY handling operating duties. The special activation to mark the addition of the Republic of Kosovo to the DXCC List has reached **50,000 contacts and counting**.

Z60A is operating split and is not listening on its transmit frequency! Pay attention to operators' instructions!

The **Z60A** activation will culminate on Kosovo's 10th anniversary of independence, Sunday, February 18, the weekend of the **ARRL International DX Contest (CW)**. Visiting operators will team up with locals to wrap up the project and salute the ARRL and the US contesting community, as credit for working Z6 now is accepted for ARRL awards.

The February 10-11 weekend will showcase local radio amateurs as they take the helm at **Z60A** on CW and SSB.

Man-made noise in the capital city of Pristina has been problematic. Plans call for using donated equipment to set up a "clean receiving site" outside of Pristina.

The European DX Foundation (EUDXF) has made a cash donation to Kosovo's IARU member society, SHRAK, and the Yasme Foundation has presented a series of ARRL publications to the SHRAK Headquarters library at the Technical University of Pristina.

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

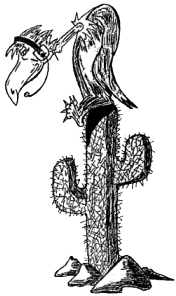




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2018 Yuma Hamfest SITE OF THE ARRL Southwestern Division Convention



Feb. 16-17, 2018
Yuma County Fairgrounds
2520 E. 32nd Street, Yuma, AZ 85365
<http://www.yumahamfest.org>

ARIZONA'S *QUARTZFEST* BREAKS RECORDS

In Arizona, another much-celebrated gathering of amateurs, has just concluded and it was quite a finish.

Quartzfest 2018 is now in the history books -- and what a year we had. The all-time attendance record was not only broken but it was smashed with **853** people. The previous record, set in 2016, was 820.

There were 118 activities on the schedule ranging from antenna building, Winlink, A Ladies Circle, Raspberry Pi, a four-by-four off-road trail ride and even a Pet Parade. At night, lots of people would gather around one of the RVs where they had a movie night. The WIN-System group was in charge of making the coffee during the event and we all were thankful for that on the chilly mornings. The WIN-System group even had a 440 MHz repeater linked into the network all week long. Many people checked in and got on the air to talk to people all over the U.S. and around the world via VoIP.

On Tuesday afternoon the Western Country Cousins put on a Pot Luck dinner that had lots of side dishes and 40 pounds of brisket.

The Laurel Amateur Radio Club on Wednesday and the ARRL on Saturday held VE sessions that together passed nine new Technicians, 7 Generals and 5 Extra class operators. During Happy Hour we gathered all the new technicians to make their first VHF 2 meter contact with Gordon West WB6NOA and receive a First Contact Certificate.

Every morning and night we all gathered around the campfire for a fireside chat, on Wednesday night we had the Burning Ham-Man activity.

On Thursday Rick-W7RAP held the annual Hobo Stew and again we all had full bellies by nightfall.

On Thursday night we had a Hootenanny at the fire circle and enjoyed lots of great music that was put on by Russell-KB6YAF, Michele-K7MGO, and Kevin-NB7O.

The Salome High School did a project with the kids to build QRP Fox Hunt transmitters, we had tiny spiders, dinosaurs and even a flower in a pot to hide in a garden. The projects were used for the Fox Hunting activities during the week.

The **W7Q Special event station** was on the air all week long and made 244 contacts with James-KB7TBT - that would be me! - winning the most contacts award at 125.

Kristyn Weed-KR1SS has been coordinating the event for six years now, she worked endlessly to make the event one of the best ever, we all thank her for the spectacular job that she has done.

We also give out a special thank-you to all the volunteers who took care of us.

We hope to see you all again January 20-26, 2019



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FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				ARES Meeting 6:00 pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS GLEN				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ROB	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	MARC Meeting 7:00 pm St. Christopher's Catholic Church Joshua Tree	YUMAHAMFEST	YUMAHAMFEST
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	ARES Net 7:15 pm  PRESIDENTS DAY	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS NICKI or FRED				
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ANDY				