



MARC Beacon

Volume 7, Issue 4

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

APRIL 2018

President's Message

Hello all,

It's April already. Spring has sprung and it's time for outdoor projects before Mother Nature turns on the "broiler" this summer.

One of the projects at the top of our club's bucket list is upgrading the backup power systems at the Paxton and Donnell repeater sites.

A crew of volunteers consisting of Glenn N6GIW, Chris WB6CDF, Jeffrey KJ6BOI and Brian KF6YGK have already met at Paxton hill on March 28th and installed 3 new backup batteries (another new battery will be installed at Donnell). Thanks to a generous donation from Chris, a Samlex power supply will be keeping the new batteries charged at Paxton. This is an ongoing project and will include rewiring the equipment racks and cleaning up and relabeling cables at both sites.

More details and pictures will be published when the project is completed.

I want to give a sincere "Thank You" to the entire crew for a well done job.

At last month's meeting we had 2 more volunteers. Jake W6JOD and Ken W6BZY used their talents to give us a fascinating "double header" presentation about ham radio gear. Jake showed us some great radios and gear from the past and Ken described and passed around some beautiful examples of his talent for radio and antenna building. Thank you both for a very entertaining evening.

At the next club meeting on April 19th we plan to have a special presentation by Keith Board N6GKB about Amateur TV. It will definitely be another great evening for hams. Don't miss it!

Hope to see you all at the meeting . 73's Andy

Andy Frees

AI6AF

Yucca Valley

760-369-7388

ai6af@apachepark.org



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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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ANNOUNCING A GENERAL CLASS LICENSE GROUP

I would like to contact all that wish to join our group .

IF ANYONE WANTS TO JOIN US TO BRUSH UP BEFORE TEST TIME FEEL FREE TO JOIN US. WHEN THE GROUP IS READY WE WILL BE SCHEDULING A TESTING DATE SOMETIME IN MAY!

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>

What Is IRLP ?

It Is

The Internet Radio Linking Project

IRLP - Keeping the Radio in Amateur Radio

The IRLP uses Voice-Over-IP (VoIP) custom software and hardware. Coupled with the power of the Internet, IRLP will link your repeater site or simplex station to the world in a simple and cost effective way.

IRLP operates a worldwide network of dedicated servers and nodes offering very stable worldwide voice communications between hundreds of towns and cities. All this with unsurpassed uptimes and the full dynamic range of telephone quality audio.

For more information about IRLP please go to the following link: <http://www.irlp.net/>

Todd Yucca Valley NODE IS ON 145.770 PL 67.0 no offset.

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/>



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JAKE HALL W6JOD:

He did a great job showing us his collection of 1940 – 1960 era radio gear, and what is “really awesome” is they are all in “working condition”! It was amazing to hear and see such vintage items. From Paper reels for CW training, Heathkit radios to Civil Defense Gear. *Who doesn't love the good old Boat anchor stuff.*



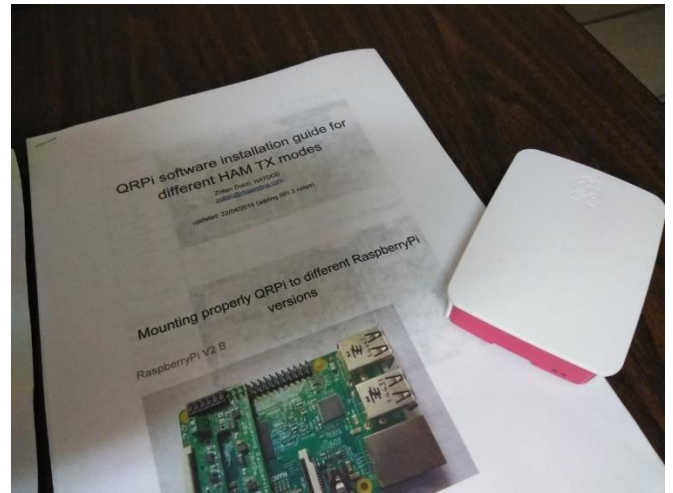
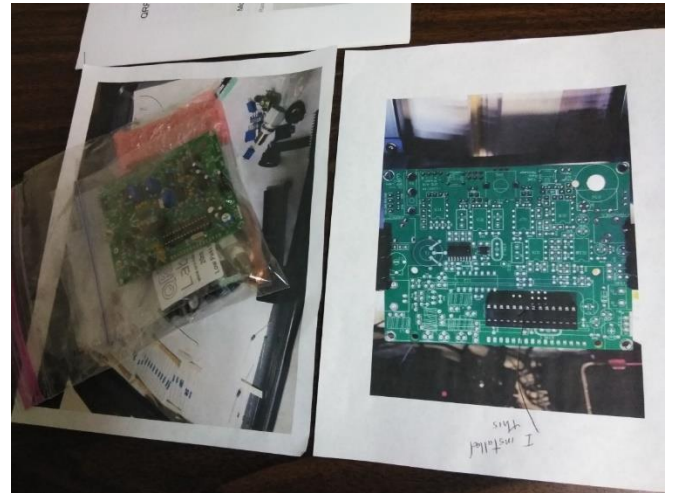


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Ken Hendrickson W6BZY:

Did a presentation on newer radio and computer items and how we have come from the large bulky items in electronics to very small handy size items like the Rasberry pi computers that are no bigger than a pack of cigarettes, available through Amazon or eBay, and also other kits for the kit builders out there, available through www.qrp-labs.com. Thank you Ken for the items and ideas that are out there.



Space Station's Slow-Scan Television System to be Active in April

The Amateur Radio Slow-Scan Television (SSTV) system on the International Space Station (ISS) is expected to be active in April on 145.800 MHz (FM). The Russian segment's MAI 75 SSTV has announced transmissions on Monday, April 2, 1505 – 1830 UTC, and on Tuesday, April 3, 1415 – 1840 UTC.

SSTV images will be transmitted in PD-120 format on 145.800 MHz (FM) using the Kenwood TM-D710 transceiver in the ISS Russian Service Module. ISS transmissions use the 5-kHz deviation FM standard. It's possible to receive SSTV transmissions with only a handheld transceiver and appropriate SSTV software: connect the audio output of the transceiver or a scanner to the soundcard of a Windows PC or an Apple iOS device. The free Windows application MMSSTV can be used to decode the signal.

For more information, go to: <http://www.arrrl.org/news/>





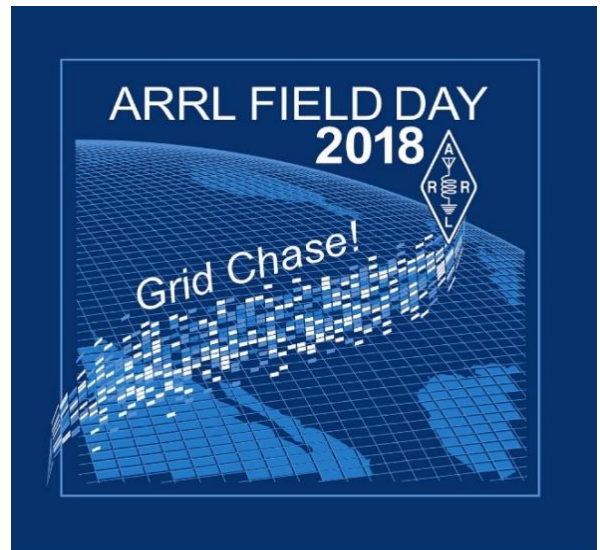
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Arron Chesney KM6AIU:

The club had a great show of club members last week for field day meeting, led by Arron KM6AIU. They will be going over possibilities and new ideas for Field day this coming June. More details will be coming at the next club meeting of any new ideas and findings for making another great field day event for the club this year.





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Amateur Television Network

On the Air to Everywhere

Hello all,

My name is Keith Board, N6GKB. I am an active member of the Amateur Television Network. I would like to encourage anyone that might have the slightest interest in Amateur Television to view our weekly net on-line.

Our nets are every Tuesday at 7:30 PM. The website to view our LIVE net is located at:

http://www.batc.tv/ch_live.php?ch=2&id=139

When you get to the **BATC** website at the above link you may need to scroll down to **W6ATN** in the listing and click on it. Then click on the box that says: **WATCH >>** That should activate any live broadcast that might be going on and the chat room box. (If there is no activity, the screen will just show the **W6ATN** color bar screen saver.)

Net control will ask for check-ins by repeater site. You will usually see me when they ask for **SNOW PEAK** check-ins. This is the repeater site that we get into from the desert area out here.

Please login to the chat room by entering the following: **/nick N6GKBkeith** just as you see here **BUT With Your Call letters and Name.** (No space between your call letters and your name.) Towards the end of the net, the net control will see your name in the list and will acknowledge you, over the air, as a visitor and welcome you to the net. Enjoy.



<https://www.arnewsline.org/>

* **First USA - EU amateur QSO on 2200meters, used QRP Labs Ultimate3S transmitter at both stations**

It's always nice to be able to report unusual uses of the well-established [Ultimate3S QRSS/WSPR/etc transmitter kit](#). The majority of constructors use the kit for WSPR. But it can transmit lots of other modes too! CW, FSKCW, DFCW, QRSS, Hell, Slow-Hell, JT9, JT65, ISCAT, Opera, & PI4. In all their various flavors. DFCW is very slow CW, sending Morse characters but with both "dit" and "dah" having the same duration; to differentiate between them there is a frequency shift so that the "dah" is typically 5Hz higher than the "dit". It has a very high signal to noise ratio when long symbol durations are used.

Chris 2E0ILY and Paul N1BUG report the first ever USA to EU amateur radio QSO on 2200m band (136kHz band), on 26-Mar-2018. They used DFCW mode with 60 second dits and a frequency shift of 0.25Hz permitting a very high signal to noise ratio. 60 second dits in normal CW would mean about 1 word per HOUR!

Chris and Paul both used their [Ultimate3S](#) kits to transmit the DFCW messages. Antennas are necessarily electrically short on 2200m, and so typically high powers are used. Paul N1BUG says he uses a home-made single FET Class E power amplifier, with 175-200W output; the EIRP is estimated at no more than 0.5W. His antenna is a 27m tall vertical with 3x 33m parallel top hat wires spaced 1.5. The receiver is a 9m tall low noise vertical feeding home-made band pass filter, pre-amp and Software Defined Radio. Paul says:

"We used an old technique of night by night transmission sequencing and completed the QSO in four nights which is the minimum possible with this method. This QSO would not have been possible without Chris's kindness and dedication nor without my trust U3S!"

"The receiver is a modified Softrock Lite II. The oscillator has been reworked to provide a suitable LO for 2200m reception, the front end filter reworked and significantly augmented. It is preceded by a 2N5109 preamp and BPF."

Congratulations to Paul N1BUG and Chris 2E0ILY on this achievement!

** The above article was copied from the QRP Labs March 2018 newsletter.*

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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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS Nicki or Fred <i>General class meeting 10 am</i>		ARES Meeting 6:00 pm Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley		
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS Andy <i>General class meeting 10 am</i>	Next Meeting for Field Day Apache mobile home park.			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS Manuel TAX DAY DUE TODAY! <i>General class meeting 10 am</i>		MARC Meeting 7:00 pm St. Christopher's Catholic Church Joshua Tree		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<i>EARTH DAY</i>	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS John <i>General class meeting 10 am</i>			<i>ARBOR DAY</i>	
29	30					
	ARES Net 7:15 pm					