



MARC Beacon

Volume 9, Issue 7

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

JULY 2020

President's Message

Hello Morongo Basin Radio Operators! It's July, one of the hottest months of the year. Make sure you stay in the shade and drink lots of water. It's time to celebrate living in this great country on the 4th of July.

Field Day 2020 went really well. It was a little warm on Saturday but the wind and rain did not visit us. Speaking of visitors, a big thank you to everyone who visited the site. Hopefully everyone had a chance to set up their HF rig and make some contacts. 40 meters (7 MHz) was really busy! There were a lot more operators on the air than I expected.

We are still not certain when we will have the next monthly meeting. The conditions are constantly changing. We will announce updates during the morning **Cawfee Tawk** net and during the Tuesday evening MARC net.

I am currently updating my Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) controller so that the remote radio transmits a response when you send it a DTMF code. More details in next month's news letter. Please share your radio related projects with us and consider writing a short article about it for the news letter. I just discovered a website called AmateurLogic.TV. 40 minutes into episode 123 is a video on a DTMF project.

Please schedule time to check in on the 7 PM Tuesday net and if you can, please join us on the **Cawfee Tawk** net every morning at 10 AM on our local repeater. 146.790

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



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>

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



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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 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=KCAYUCCA57>

Glenn N6GIW

I also have A weather station by the high school in Yucca Valley N6GKB. Showing the temps and wind speeds in the center of Town.

https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KCAYUCCA35?cm_ven=localwx_pwsdash

Keith N6GKB



We are having an informal DAILY net, that started Monday May 30th. Join us with your own cup!

For right now it's called the "**CAWFEE TAWK**" net at 10:00 am till 11:00. It's just a way for any and all hams to check in, say good morning and see what everyone is up to. With all the things going on in this world we would just like to stay connected and be sure our local community of hams are ok. A little meet and greet with your coffee and donuts in the morning is a great start.

More like ice coffee now that it has warmed up!



These Vehicle magnets are still available from Rob, WO4ROB. They 12" long. I believe they are \$10 each. Contact him with your order.



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The winners of the soft coolers from field day will be notified in the next couple weeks. If you participated in the club field day from home you need to let me know with your log by July 15th. Thank You Keith N6GKB

Field Day 2020

We all had a great time and made a few contacts! Bands were fair on 20m and 40m. We did have about 12 visitors on Saturday through out the day. Rob brought his solar powered golf cart for us to see. There was 3 of us that stayed 48 hours from Friday to Sunday. We had good food and plenty to drink. We did have a small scare Friday as we went to set up, a small cell with plenty of wind rain and lightning past to the north of us. But it helped to keep the rest of the day and evening cooler.



THE 48-hour Crew

Ryan WA6HXG Rob WO4ROB Keith N6GKB
We spent our time there from Friday to Sunday.



N6GKB Station I ran my station on house power.



N6GKB Antennas A vertical Comet SCH-250b and Comet GP-6 2m/440 then an inverted V Modified G5RV.



Rob WO4ROB Station



MARC Beacon

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Rob WO4ROB Ran a fully solar/battery station outside the weekend.



And Robs solar powered Golf Cart



Ryan WA6HXG doing satellite contacts.



DTMF Remote Control by Rob



DTMF Remote Control

Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) is also known as touch tone. The DTMF system uses a set of eight audio frequencies transmitted in pairs to represent 16 signals, with numbers 0 through 9, the letters A to D, and the symbols # and *. See chart below. The signals may be generated on your ham radio by pressing the push to talk (PTT) button and one of the keys on the key pad. The audible signals can be transmitted to another radio to control an action such as turning on a lightbulb miles away.

Decimal	Binary	Key
0	0000	D or Exit
1	0001	1
2	0010	2
3	0011	3
4	0100	4
5	0101	5
6	0110	6
7	0111	7
8	1000	8
9	1001	9
10	1010	0
11	1011	*
12	1100	#
13	1101	A or up
14	1110	B or down
15	1111	C or Menu

As depicted in the photo, I used a Baofeng radio with a 2.5 mm audio plug connected from the radio speaker jack to the input of the MT8870 DTMF Voice Decoder Module. (See the enclosed pin out diagram for the positive and negative speaker connections.). The Q1 output pin from the DTMF decoder is connected to the input pin of the Relay Module. The common (COM) and the normally open (NO) connections on the Relay Module are connected to the severed "hot" smooth wire of the AC extension cord. The DTMF Decoder Module and the Relay Module requires a 5 Volt Direct Current (VDC) source. I supplied the 5 VDC with a 9 volt battery and a Step Down Buck Converter to reduce 9 VDC to 5 VDC. You can also use any USB connector for the 5 volt supply.

When you press the PTT button and the number "1" key on the local or remote radio, the relay will be energized, turning on what ever is plugged into the electrical cord, like a 120 VAC light bulb. Pressing the "Exit" key will turn it off.

Parts List at Amazon.com

- MT8870 DTMF Voice Decoder Decoding Module, \$7 for 2
- 5V One Channel Relay Module Relay Switch, \$6 for 2
- MP1584EN DC-DC Buck Converter Adjustable Power Supply Module , \$11 for 6
- TRS Male Plug 3 Pole Stereo 2.5mm Connector, \$7 for 4

Next month I'll add an Arduino Nano microcontroller to set a password and create CW Morse Code transmission to confirm when a circuit is turned on or off.

If you have any questions, then please contact me. WO4ROB, Rob from Joshua Tree



13 Colonies Special Event July 1-7 2020

12th Annual 13 Colonies Special Event
July 1st - July 7th, 2020
Independence Week Celebration

SYMBOL OF FREEDOM
The American Bald Eagle

K2A-New York
K2B-Virginia
K2C-Rhode Island
K2D-Connecticut
K2E-Delaware
K2F-Maryland
K2G-Georgia
WM3PEN PHILADELPHIA
K2H-Massachusetts
K2I-New Jersey
K2J-N.Carolina
K2K-N.Hampshire
K2L-S.Carolina
K2M-Pennsylvania
GB13COL Gr.Britain

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT ARS: **KU2US** HAS PARTICIPATED
IN THIS FOURTH OF JULY WEEK CELEBRATION HONORING THE
ORIGINAL 13 COLONY STATES, THE INDEPENDENCE OF OUR
NATION IN 1776, & OUR ACTIVE MILITARY•VETERANS.

CONTACTS
13
ALL 13 COLONY STATES
CLEAN SWEEP

73'
An On-Air
Amateur Radio Event

XEN VILLONE, KU2US EVENT MANAGER *Xen Villone*
GOD SAVE AMERICA

<http://www.13colonies.us/>

Here are photos from Roger's Antenna Party, KF6BIG, at his house in Joshua Tree on Saturday 20 June 2020. Glenn N6GIW, Larry WA6FSJ, and Rob WO4ROB, helped

Roger KF6BIG install a new Diamond X-300 bidirectional antenna and a 2 meter directional antenna on his house in Joshua Tree.





FOR SALE

Kenwood TM-742A transceiver
with the following bands: 144 and 440 MHz.
Radio includes mic. and power cord

You can add 220 or 50mhz or 1200mhz
to this radio and will make it a TRI-BANDER.

Technical Specifications -

144 MHz Band

- HI Power: 43 watts
- MID Power: 13.2 watts
- LOW Power: 4.6
- Frequency Error: -0.011kHz (-11Hz) [Kenwood specification = +/- 100Hz]
- Deviation (with my voice): 4.2 kHz
- RX Sensitivity: better than 0.15uV for 12dB SINAD

440 MHz Band

- HI Power: 34.7 watts
- MID Power: 15.5 watts
- LOW Power: 5.0 watts
- Frequency Error: -0.690kHz (-690Hz)
- Deviation (with my voice): 4.2 kHz
- RX Sensitivity: better than 0.15uV for 12dB SINAD

It is in excellent condition
and includes mount and manual.

The radio has been modified to allow
communications with the SCORE
off road race frequencies.
I'm asking \$250.00 OBO
Thank you for the help.

Best,
Rich (KE6DIY)
richandbarb@roadrunner.com



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
KAFEE TAWK 10AM DAILY CLUB REPEATER				ARES Meeting 6:00 pm		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS JOHN				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS FRED		Club meeting 6:00 PM		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS KEITH				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS GLENN				STAY SAFE STAY HEALTHY STAY IN TOUCH