



# MARC Beacon

Volume 9, Issue 8

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

AUGUST 2020

## President's Message

President Message 20200801

Hello Morongo Basin Radio Operators! Can you believe it's already August? We had some hot days so far this year and more to come this month. Make sure you drink lots of water. I do not know when we will have a regular monthly meeting, but I would like to meet outdoors sometime this year. All recommendations are welcomed.

Most likely once it starts cooling off a little.

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

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

This is **WO4ROB**, Rob from Joshua Tree.

**Rob Cloutier**

**WO4ROB**

Joshua tree

Club President

(760)401-6666

[rob\\_cloutier@hotmail.com](mailto: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

**(Cancelled Until Further Notice)**

**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](https://www.wunderground.com/dashboard/pws/KCAYUCCA35?cm_ven=localwx_pwsdash)

Keith N6GKB



**We are having an informal DAILY net, that started Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 a cooler are:

Larry Mollica WA6FSJ  
Chris Nichols WB6CDF  
Ken Hedrickson W6BZY  
Rob Cloutier WO4ROB

Anyone that still needs to pick theirs up, contact me next time you're in town (YV) and we can meet or you can stop by and get it.

Thank You Keith N6GKB



## Guy "Gee" Cartier, K6TUX, from Twentynine Palms, CA

He became a **Silent Key** when he was found at his home on Thursday 9 July 2020. He was 93 years old and died from a heart attack.

Please email me any photos or information about Guy so that we may honor him on our website.

Keith N6GKB [n6gkb@live.com](mailto:n6gkb@live.com)

## ANOTHER GREAT PROJECT BY ROB, WO4ROB

### DTMF remote control with voice confirmation

This project uses a Baofeng radio, a Dual Tone Multi-Frequency (DTMF) decoder, and an Arduino to control 4 relays and transmit a voice confirmation message. The dual tone is transmitted from a distant radio to the local radio via the push to talk (PTT) button and the key pad. The tone is decoded by the MT8870 DTMF module and translated to 4 digits, displayed by 4 light emitting diodes (LEDs). The output from the DTMF module is fed into the Arduino where it determines which relays to turn on. The Arduino sends a voice message through the local radio to the distant radio informing the user which relays were turned on.

A male 2.5 mm tip, ring, sleeve (TRS) stereo audio plug is used to connect the output from the radio speaker to the input of the DTMF decoder. A male 3.5 mm plug is used to connect the radio's PTT button and microphone to the Arduino. A PC817 opto-coupler, and a 200 ohm resistor, are used as an electronic switch for the radio's PTT button. A 1uF capacitor is used to connect the voice output from the Arduino to the microphone input of the radio via the 3.5 mm plug.

The voice comes from the Talkie Library at: <https://github.com/going-digital/Talkie>. The website explains how to download the code and include it into your Arduino libraries folder.

Check out the video at the following YouTube website to see a demonstration on how it works: <https://youtu.be/b9nXncWf5vg>

For a copy of the schematic and Arduino code, or for more information, please email me at: [WO4ROB@gmail.com](mailto:WO4ROB@gmail.com)

(Parts List and Photos on next page)





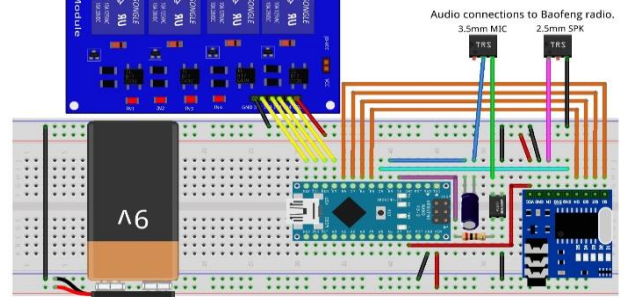
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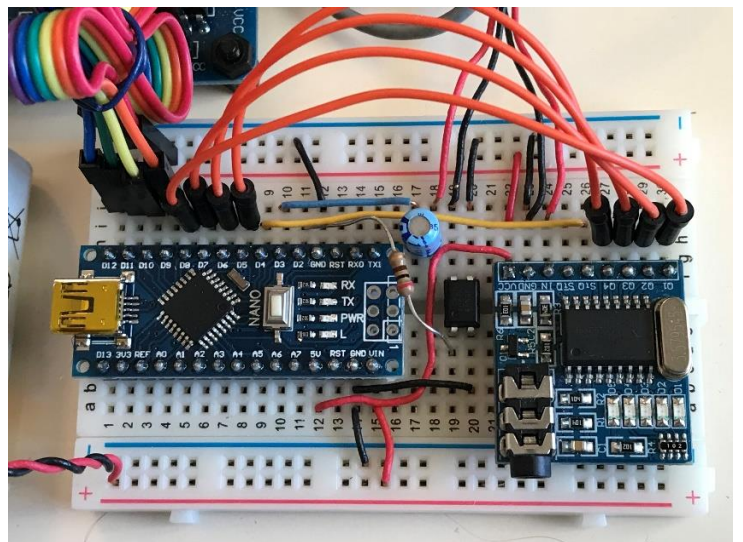
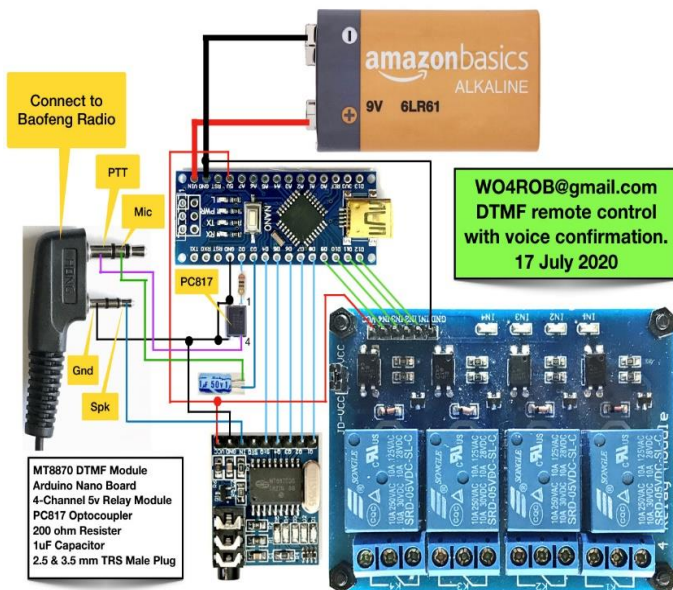
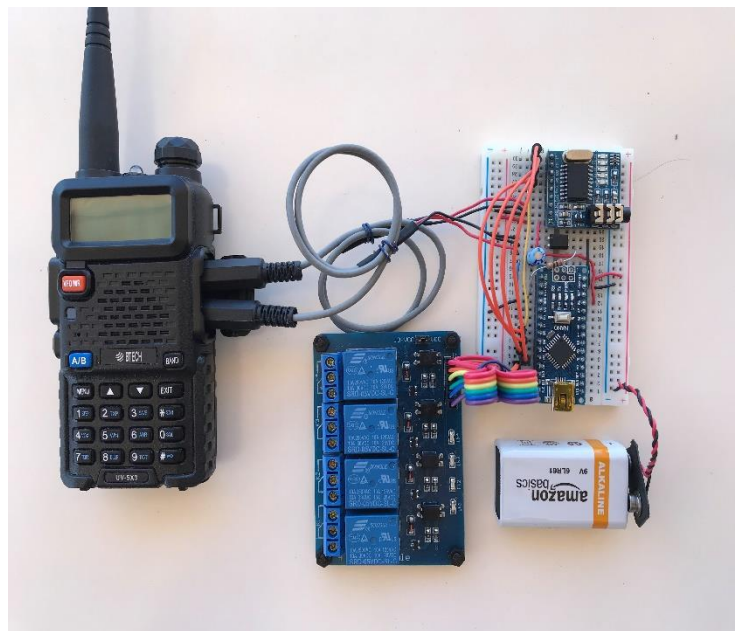
## Parts List at Amazon.com

- MT8870 DTMF Voice Decoder Decoding Module, \$12 for 10
- Arduino Nano, \$20 for 4
- 4-Channel 5v Relay Module, \$8 for 1
- PC817 Opto-coupler, \$5 for 10
- TRS Male Plug 3 Pole Stereo 2.5mm Connector, \$7 for 4
- TRS Male Plug 3 Pole Stereo 3.5mm Connector, \$9 for 10
- 200 ohm resister, \$5.50 for 25
- 1uF capacitor, \$4 for 50
- 9v battery, \$11 for 8

DTMF Remote with Audio  
WO4ROB@gmail.com



fritzing





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## Schedule of Upcoming ARRL Webinars

### HF Wire Antennas

George Cooley, NG7A, ARRL Life Member

Thursday, August 6, 2020, 12:30 PM PDT /  
3:30 PM EDT (1930 UTC)

### Introduction to Digital FM Modes

Korey Chandler, Sr., WA5RR

Tuesday, August 11, 2020, 5 PM PDT / 8 PM  
EDT (0000 UTC on Wednesday, August 12)

### Introduction to Computer Logging

Steven Lott Smith, KG5VK

Thursday, August 13, 2020, 12:30 PM PDT /  
3:30 PM EDT (1930 UTC)

### Capture the Magic of 6 Meters

Jim Wilson, K5ND

Tuesday, August 18, 2020, 10 AM PDT /  
1 PM EDT (1700 UTC)

### The Sport of Finding Hidden Transmitters on Foot

Robert Frey, WA6EZV, ARRL Amateur  
Radio Direction Finding Committee

Thursday, August 20, 2020, 12:30 PM PDT /  
3:30 PM EDT (1930 UTC)

## W5KUB

The last one w5kub-18 made it  
around the world 3 times.

[W5KUB](#)'s high-altitude balloon went down around July 21 between Greenland and Norway after 72 days aloft and more than three trips around Earth. "It got stuck in the Arctic for several weeks, making loops," Tom Medlin, W5KUB, said. "We are getting ready to launch W5KUB-21, an [SBS-13](#) balloon with lithium polymer (LiPo) battery. Testing on ground is showing that we are getting 24-hour tracking. We hope to launch that in the next week or two."

<https://tmedlin.com/balloon-3-2/>



Ham Talk Live is BACK Thursday night at 9 pm EDT with Eric Guth, 4Z1UG from the QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo! Eric will tell us about the speakers, exhibitors, and all the happenings at this virtual hamfest, and as always take your questions LIVE.

Tune into Ham Talk Live! Thursday night at 9 pm EDT (Friday 0100Z) by going to [hamtalklive.com](http://hamtalklive.com). When the audio player indicates LIVE, just hit the play button!

If you miss the show live, you can listen on demand anytime also at [hamtalklive.com](http://hamtalklive.com); or a podcast version is on nearly all podcast sites a few minutes after the live show is over. Some sites include Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Play, SoundCloud, and iHeart Podcasts; and it's also available on YouTube. A replay is also broadcast on WTWW 5085 AM on Saturday nights at approximately 3:30 pm Eastern.

Be sure to CALL in with your questions and comments by calling 859-982-7373 live during the call-in segment of the show. You can also tweet your questions before or during the show to [@HamTalkLive](https://twitter.com/HamTalkLive).

## SOME USEFUL INFORMATION



Since these times of being at home not wanting to deal with the store and running around and wearing a mask. I have been staying home and using these two apps, [Instacart](#) and [Doordash](#).

[Instacart](#) I use to get my grocery usually, they will go to any store of your choice, I use Stater Bros. The Instacart driver will do the shopper for you, all you do is the shopping on your phone and he will take your list and shop for you. Its pretty much live time. [Doordash](#) is really cool to get your prepared meal picked up and delivered from almost any fast food or restaurant, for those times you just don't want to go out and drive to get it.



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>KAFEE TAWK</b> <b>10AM DAILY</b> <b>CLUB</b> <b>REPEATER</b>						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS JOHN		<b>ARES Meeting</b> 6:00 pm		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS ROB				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS FRED		<b>NO MEETING</b>		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm NCS KEITH				
30	31					
				STAY SAFE STAY HEALTHY STAY IN TOUCH		