



# MARC Beacon

Volume 10, Issue 9

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2021

Hello everyone!

**(this was from Rob in August)**

Sorry, I don't have much to say this month. Judy and I are enjoying our travels to Texas, Florida, Minnesota, and Wisconsin to visit family and friends. Hopefully you are all staying cool in the high desert.

The 2020 Tokyo Olympics finally started. The United States athletes are doing an outstanding job. Unfortunately there are few to no spectators in the audience seats to watch the events. I am very interested to see how well the United States does in skateboarding since it was invented in California during the 1940s and this is the first time it's in the Olympic Games.

At 1800 Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September, we will hold our fourth physical meeting at the Church of the Nazarene, 56248 Buena Vista Dr, Yucca Valley, since the pandemic started 1.5 years ago.

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.

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

**Rob Cloutier WO4ROB**

**Rob Cloutier  
WO4ROB**

Joshua tree  
Club President  
(760)401-6666

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



## Nets

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)  
Mon @ 1915  
Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club (MARC)  
Tue @ 1900  
**MARC Daily unformal Kawfee Talk  
1000-1100 DAILY**

## 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**

## 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

## OTHER AREA REPEATERS

IRLP Node KD6DIQ 145.770 pl 67.0

ONYX Peak N6LXX 446.880 (-) pl 110.9

San Jacinto TRAM one 145.480 (-) pl 107.2

Snow Peak 445.160 (-) pl 67.0

ALLSTAR NODE on the mesa 147.705 pl 146.2

29 PALMS rprr linked to KELLER peak  
448.580 pl 146.2



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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

## Hurricane Watch Net, VoIP Hurricane Net Reports Valuable to Forecasters During Ida

The Hurricane Watch Net ([HWN](#)) and the VoIP Hurricane Net ([VoIP WX](#)) were busy gathering ground-truth weather observations from



radio amateurs as Hurricane Ida slammed into the Louisiana Gulf Coast on August 29 as a powerful Category 4 storm. ARRL

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES®) teams in Mississippi activated. Ida wrought extensive damage, especially in Louisiana and

Mississippi, and left some 1 million customers in New Orleans and elsewhere without power -- and some communities without water. Downgraded to a tropical depression, Ida continued its path up the eastern seaboard, causing further flash flooding and damage and even spawning a few tornadoes in the mid-Atlantic states. The storm shut down New York City's subways as well as rail and air traffic in New Jersey before moving into New England. At least 10 people died in the region as a result of the storm.

For the HWN, it was all hands on deck on Sunday, August 29, as the net resumed operation on both 14.325 MHz and 7.268 MHz. "We had

a great number of reporting stations throughout the day and well into the evening," HWN Manager Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, said. "Unfortunately, there were times in which propagation completely disappeared."



All told, the HWN was activated for 26 hours over the weekend, fielding reports ranging from mild winds to very high winds and torrential rainfall.

The VoIP Hurricane Net activation for Hurricane Ida wrapped up on Monday, August 30 after handling [dozens of reports](#) from stations in the affected area of Hurricane Ida that were sent to WX4NHC, the National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio Station.

VoIP Hurricane Net Manager Rob Macedo, KD1CY, said radio amateurs on the N5OZG



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repeater system "provided constant ground truth from areas in and around New Orleans," with N5OZG relaying numerous reports of damage to trees, power poles, and structures, as well as flooding. "Many

other amateurs on the N5OZG repeater system provided ground truth into the VoIP Hurricane Net despite dealing with direct and significant impacts to their communities and property," Macedo said. "All of these reports were also sent to WX4NHC, the amateur radio station at the National Hurricane Center, as well." Net control stations across the US also assisted with reporting and monitoring.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) in Mississippi activated on August 29 with several nets.

Southeast Mississippi District Emergency Coordinator Justin Gleason, KF7DLW, was

contacted by WDAM-TV in Moselle,

Mississippi, to set up a station that would be available to help [keep WDAM personnel updated](#) on Ida's progress through HWN and VoIP traffic, state traffic, and digital nets in the event of a power or internet outage at WDAM.

On Sunday, August 29, VHF ARES nets were activated around the state for the purpose of passing weather reports, health-and-welfare traffic, and damage reports as needed.



Both the Mississippi ARES Emergency Net and the Mississippi Winlink Net activated on August 29. The Winlink Net operated until 1800 on August 30, passing 80 messages, which were copied to KM5EMA, the Winlink station at the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

"While Mississippi avoided major catastrophe, the ARES teams were well equipped and prepared to provide the communication support that we count on them for," Mississippi Public Information Coordinator Caleb Rich, K5RFL, said. Read [an expanded version](#).

## FEMA Announces HF Interoperability Activity on 60-Meter Channels 1 and 2

Channels 1 and 2 on 60 meters will be available starting on August 30 for interoperability between US government and US amateur radio

stations involved in Hurricane Ida emergency communications. This situation will remain in place until the storm has passed and the need for these channels no longer exists, or on September 6, whichever comes first.



These frequencies will be used: Channel 1 Primary voice traffic 5332 kHz channel center, 5330.5 kHz USB voice; and Channel 2 digital traffic 5348 kHz channel center, 5346.5 kHz USB with 1.5 kHz offset to center of digital waveform.

Stations on 60 meters are asked to yield to operational traffic related to Hurricane Ida. The federal government is primary on 60 meters, and amateur radio is secondary, on a non-interference basis.





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## FCC Grants 60-Day Waiver of Part 97 Data Rate Rules for Hurricane Relief Traffic

In an August 30 [Order](#), the FCC granted a temporary waiver sought by ARRL to facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The waiver also applies to relief communications directly related to any future hurricane within the next 60 days. The waiver permits radio amateurs handling hurricane relief communications on HF to use any protocol that would comply with the FCC's rules but for the symbol rate limits.

In its request, ARRL said that Section 97.307(f)



of the FCC's Amateur Service rules prevents the use on HF of certain protocols capable of higher data rate emissions that many amateur

stations are capable of using while active in emergency communications preparedness. ARRL asserted that higher data rates can be critical to timely transmission of relief communications, such as lists of needed and distributed supplies. ARRL noted that radio amateurs are working with federal, state, and local emergency management officials to assist in the communications efforts.

On August 28, the FCC orally [granted](#) ARRL's request to immediately facilitate relief communications related to Hurricane Ida. The FCC has granted temporary waivers in the past to allow faster protocols to be used for disaster relief communications, including Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Maria, typhoon relief communications in Hawaii, and Hurricane Dorian.

The Commission noted that the waivers are necessary because Section 97.307(f) limits the symbol rate at which the carrier waveform amplitude, frequency, and/or phase is varied to transmit information for HF amateur radioteletype (RTTY)/data transmissions to 300 baud for frequencies below 28 MHz (except on 60 meters), and 1,200 baud on 10 meters: "The digital code used to encode the signal being transmitted must be one of the codes specified in section 97.309(a) of the FCC's rules, but an amateur station transmitting a RTTY or data emission using one of the specified digital codes may use any technique whose technical characteristics have been publicly documented, such as CLOVER, G-TOR, or PACTOR."

"We conclude that granting the requested waiver is in the public interest," the FCC said. "Hurricane Ida has caused significant damage, including disruption to electricity and communications services. Thus, to accommodate amateur radio operators assisting in the recovery efforts, we grant ARRL's waiver request for the period of 60 days from the date of this *Order*. The waiver is limited to amateur radio operators in the US and its territories using publicly documented data protocols that are compatible with FCC rules, with the exception of the data rate limit waived here, for those directly involved with HF hurricane relief communications."

## KEN HENDRICKSON, W6BZY



Some helpful you tube videos from Ken W6BZY about Linux and raspberry Pi.



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Search **W6BZY** on YouTube.

## HAM.BAND

Ham.band, the easy to remember site that shows you the US amateur radio band plan!

Check out ham.band ... Easy to read on desktop and mobile!

Just type ham.band into your browser!

**Aaron C. KM6IAU**

## OUR CLUB MEETINGS!!!!

**IN THE MONTH OF JULY OUR LOCAL CLUB MEETINGS WILL BE BACK.**

**6:00 P.M. SEPTEMBER 16TH**

**At Church of the Nazarene in Yucca Valley at 56248 Buena Vista Dr**

## Newspaper Article Boosts Interest in Net Aimed at Visually Impaired, Disabled Amateurs

In June, Gerald Gaule, KE7GGV, of Vancouver, Washington, announced that he was launching a new net in the Portland, Oregon/Vancouver, Washington Metro Area for the visually impaired, blind, and disabled. The net runs on the fourth Sunday of each month at 8 PM Pacific Time on the W7RAT repeater on 440.400 MHz. Some publicity about Gaule and the net in *The Columbian*, a regional



newspaper, has boosted attendance, Gaule said, as well as a request for help.

"Within a few minutes after the article came out, a mom approached me about helping her son, who is

visually impaired and autistic, and interested in becoming a ham," Gaule said. "I am planning to help him every step of the way, even becoming a mentor after he gets his license." Gaule said that ARRL Western Washington Section Manager Monte Simpson, W7FF, was providing material and working to come up with a plan involving the 25-year-old's parents that would help get him licensed.

"He's a very nice young man and very confident in himself," said Gaule. "We had a 2-hour meeting yesterday at a local coffee shop. I've offered my help to read the material and get him the right sources to get him on the way to becoming a successful amateur radio operator."

Earlier this year, Simpson appointed Gaule as an Assistant Section Manager for Inclusivity.

As a result of the newspaper article, Gaule reports receiving more than 50 calls from amateur radio operators, as well as people who are interested in amateur radio. He's also gotten more than 100 emails about the story -- all positive.

As the newspaper article explained, "Gaule, who was disabled in 2007, said he worked for commercial radio stations for many years and has been a ham operator for about 20 years. He decided a few months ago to try to include more blind and disabled people in ham radio because it is versatile, educational, and entertaining."



Gaule serves as the Public Information Officer for Region 4 ARES/RACES in Western Washington.

## Calif. Man Gets Alarming Call from Friend on Ham Radio — and Jumps Into Action to Save His Life

"I thought it was a prank call at first," said Bill Scott, whose wife was the one to realize that his friend was having a stroke

By [Maria Pasquini](#)

August 16, 2021 04:42 PM

[FB](#)[T](#)[weet](#)[More](#)

Sometimes a call to the wrong number can end up going to the right people.

Bill Scott, a resident of California's San Joaquin County, helped save his best friend's life earlier this summer thanks to his trusty ham radio, [CBS station KOVR](#) reported.

Back in June, Bill — who has been an amateur radio operator for four decades — received an unusual call.

"I thought it was a prank call at first," he told the outlet.

Eventually, Bill figured out that his friend Skip Kritcher, who lived 500 miles away in Oregon,

had mistakenly dialed his number — and was in need of help. Bill's wife, a retired nurse, was the one to realize Kritcher was having a stroke.

"The speech that he had was slurred and my husband couldn't seem to keep him on task, he was skipping all over and confused," Sharon told the CBS affiliate in Sacramento.

After realizing what was going on, Bill and his wife called 911. They were able to get Kritcher the help he needed.

Afterwards, one family member told the couple that they saved the Oregon man's life.

"She said that the EMT told her that he would've died within a couple of hours," said Sharon.



## PACIFICON<sup>SM</sup> 2021

**San Ramon Marriott  
2600 Bishop Drive  
San Ramon CA 94583**

**IN PERSON!  
Friday through Sunday  
Oct. 15-17, 2021**





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## Pacificon<sup>SM</sup> Registration is Open!!

See our [Registration Section](#) for Attendee, hotel guest room, and other registrations.

### COVID-19

Pacificon is committed to keeping our guests and staff as safe as we can during our convention. We will follow the recommendations and mandates from the Contra Costa County health officials that are in effect at the time of the convention. Currently, these officials strongly recommend full vaccination against COVID-19; and require that properly worn masks completely covering the nose and mouth be worn at all times when indoors with people not from your household. As such, the Marriott Hotel and Pacificon Committee will require that everyone attending Pacificon wear a mask while indoors. The hotel will gladly provide a mask for anyone that needs one. Anyone not wearing a mask will be asked to put one on. If our request is refused, the person will be asked to leave the premises. The science and worldwide experience show that the combination of vaccination and mask wearing lowers the risk of infection substantially. Please join us in keeping everyone safe, and thank you for your understanding.

#### Update:

The State of California has recently issued a new mandate, effective September 20, requiring that all public gatherings of 1,000 or more people verify that all attendees were either 1.) fully vaccinated at least two weeks prior to the event, or; 2.) had a negative result on a COVID test taken no more than 3 days prior to the event. Since Pacificon typically has over 1,000 in attendance, this mandate will most likely apply to us. We will continue to monitor the situation and post any updates here.

**Pacificon<sup>SM</sup>** gives you three great days of activities for one low cost:

- \* A full slate of outstanding Forum presentations about a wide range of amateur radio topics
- \* Gordon West
- \* A large Vendor Expo filled with exciting products and exhibits
- \* An outdoor Swap Meet
- \* Youth Activities
- \* Electronics kit building and soldering instruction
- \* A One Day License Prep Class to prepare you to pass the amateur radio Technician license examination and get your first amateur radio license
- \* A One Day License Prep Class to prepare you to upgrade to the General Class level.
- \* Two days of License Testing
- \* A Special Events Station where you can operate and contact other hams worldwide, even if you don't have a General or Extra Class license
- \* A wonderful Banquet with Keynote Speaker
- \* Our annual Wouff Hong Initiation ceremony
- \* A chance to hear about and discuss important national amateur radio issues with top ARRL leaders
- \* A chance to win radios and other great prizes throughout the convention

And perhaps the best part - *a chance to interact and share information with lots of other amateur radio enthusiasts to further (or begin) your own knowledge and to advance the hobby.*

**SAN DIEGO HAMFEST  
AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS  
OCTOBER 3RD 2020  
LAKESIDE ROBOE GROUNDS  
SPONSORED BY LAKESIDE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

*San Diego Hamfest 2020*

***This Event Has Been Canceled due to  
Covid-19***

***Reschedule for Oct. 2, 2021***



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**Time of the Event 7AM—3PM “Old Radio Trade Show” Starts at 6AM Hamfest Cost: \$5 Trading Post: “Consignment Booth” “Old Radio Trade Show” in parking lot! Set-up a table and sell your unwanted Old Radio Gear ONLY \$5 a space!**

All Local Ham Clubs Welcome • Button Hole “QSO’s” with other Hams • Visit Ham Club Booths • ARRL Forum • Ham Radio Vendors • 1st, 2nd, 3rd & Door Prizes • VE Testing • T-Hunt • Speakers 1st Place Prize Sponsored by: Lakeside Amateur Radio Club Visit us on the Web at

**WWW.LakesideARC.org For the most up to date information Please visit:  
WWW.SDhamfest.org Google Maps 2019  
Location 12584 Mapleview Street Lakeside  
CA**

We have Vendors! Need that hard to find feed line part, power cable connector, or radio? We have it! San Diego Amateur Radio Clubs from all parts of the county will have a table set-up, so you can visit them, and acquire more information about them. Sit down and hear one of our many Speakers talking about interesting topics about Ham Radio! Oh yes, there will be Door Prizes too! Want to upgrade or know someone who is ready to get their Ham Ticket? Well, we will have VE’s standing by to administer the test! So pencil in the date October 5, 2019 Hamfest at the Lakeside Rodeo Grounds! So come on out and let’s Ham it Up!

*There are lunch tables in the shade. So Bring your lunch!*

**\*\*\*Food or drinks provided at this event\*\*\***

*Help us get the word out!!!!*

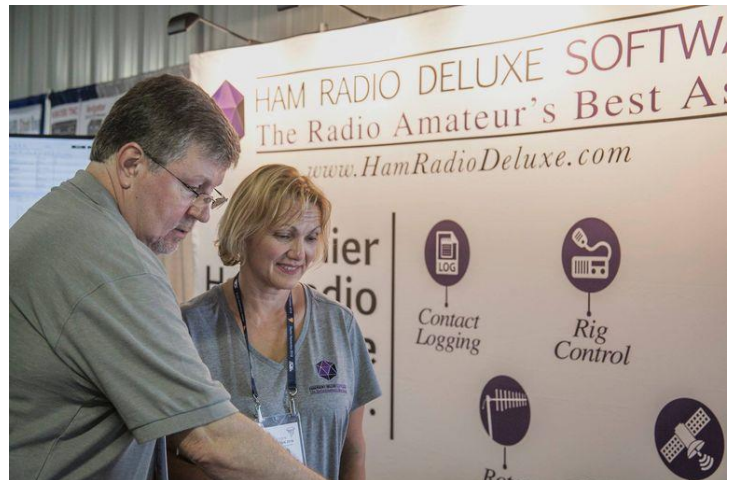
## HRD Software, makers of Ham Radio Deluxe, Ownership Change

Prosper, TX; Saint Paul, MN

Headline: HRD Software, makers of Ham Radio Deluxe, ownership change

We are at once happy and sad to announce the departure of our admired and respected partner, Randy Gawtry.

As of July 31, 2021, HRD Software has acquired Randy Gawtry's equity in the company, leaving Dr. Michael Carper, WA9PIE as sole owner of HRD Software.



As you may know, the company began in 2012 with three partners after acquiring the rights and intellectual property of Ham Radio Deluxe from its original author; Simon Brown (HB9DRV, now GD4ELI). With the departure of one partner at the end of 2016, Randy and I have made substantial improvements in the way we serve our customers and





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develop Ham Radio Deluxe.

Randy seeks to focus on new commercial interests with his company - Timewave. He's been an important asset to HRD Software. We're grateful for his partnership.

"Over the past few years, Mike and I have transformed HRD Software, LLC. into a solid, cloud-based organization with the help and support of our outstanding employees, our partnerships with technical resource vendors, and our marketing and sales partners," Gawtry said. "This multifaceted foundation enabled us to improve Ham Radio Deluxe and move it into the market-leading position that it is today. As the owner of Timewave Technology Inc., new product ventures are consuming my time just as Mike is well poised to lead HRD Software, LLC into the next phase of its growth."

HRD Software is stronger than ever - our customer base has grown 28% year over year. We average eight releases annually comprised of new features and performance improvements. In fact, we've made 825 software improvements since January 2017.

HRD Software is the premier in ham shack automation - taking the work out of your hobby with its integrated suite of software products for amateur radio. The five modules in the suite provide rig control, logging, digital communications, satellite tracking, and rotator control. Read more at [www.hamradiodeluxe.com](http://www.hamradiodeluxe.com).

Lindy Southwell, KB9PIE  
Director of Operations  
HRD Software, LLC

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## **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

**Hello Keith here N6GKB**

**As some off you know I have been very busy with family and moving during the last month or more. Resulting in NO newsletter in August and late this month. I am slowly getting my office and HAM shack back together at my new QTH still in Yucca Valley. So hopefully I can get back on track here. I THANK YOU all for your patients during my transition.**

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## SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
	<b>KAFEE TAWK</b> <b>10AM DAILY</b> <b>CLUB</b> <b>REPEATER</b>			<b>ARES</b> <b>Meetings</b> <b>begin !!</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm <b>NCS JESSEY</b>				
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm <b>NCS ROB</b>		<b>CLUB</b> <b>MEETING</b> <b>BEGIN</b> <b>TODAY!! 6PM</b>		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm <b>NCS GLENN</b>				
26	27	28	29	30		
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm <b>NCS LARRY</b>				



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