



# MARC Beacon

Volume 12, Issue 8

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

AUGUST 2023

Hello radio operators! Summer is over, time for cooler weather.

We will have a HAM radio booth at the Landers Orchid Festival, 1000 - 1700 Saturday 7 October and 1000 - 1500 Sunday 8 October. Contact me if you are interested.

We will have a Halloween Party during the Thursday 19 October MBARC meeting. Everyone is encouraged to wear a costume, but it is not required. Small prizes will be given to the best costumes. Snacks will be provided. Contact Judy KK6NWG for details.

Study for your next license so you can take the exam on Saturday afternoon, 27 January 2024 at the Yucca Mesa Community Center.

Please schedule time to check in on the 7 PM Tuesday net, and if you can, please join us on the "Cawfee Tawk" net everyday from 1000 to 1100 AM. Take care of yourself and enjoy each day. If you're not having fun, then you're doing something wrong.

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 informal 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  
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  
ALLSTAR NODE in Y.V. 446.120 pl 131.8

**WWW.W6BA.NET**



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## KEN HENDRICKSON, W6BZY



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



Search **W6BZY** on YouTube.



**LOCAL REPEATER ON PAXTON HILL**  
**WESTERNSTATESDMR.COM**

## OUR CLUB MEETING!!!!

**IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, OUR LOCAL CLUB MEETING WILL BE :**

**6:00 P.M. OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>**

**ONE WEEK LATER FOR THIS MONTH ONLY**

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

## NEW CLUB FACEBOOK GROUP FOR THE MARC CLUB

I have created a Facebook "Group" for the Club. We currently have a FB "Page" which only allows Admins and Moderators to post directly on the Posts section.

Here is the link to the new "Group" - so if you are on Facebook, please click on this link and LIKE our new Group.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/577155023327981>

The new Group will be must more user friendly. Feedback is most welcome. Thanks, Judy, N6JLL

**THANK YOU JUDY N6JLL**

# Membership Dues

We are doing our club dues round up each month just to be sure no one is lapsed .

If you're not sure if your dues are up to date, please check with **Glenn N6GIW** and he can let you know if they are due or when they are due.

Not everyone is due at the same time of the year





## Solar Eclipse QSO Party Seeks Amateurs and Radio Enthusiasts for Global Experiment

ARRL is proud to partner with HamSCI to help promote participation in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party (SEQP). SEQPs are a series of global experiments -- and you can be a part of them. Solar eclipses will pass across the continental United States on October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024. During these celestial



events, you can join thousands of fellow amateurs as part of the largest crowd-sourced event for ham radio scientific exploration. The SEQP is part of the Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science and is for learning more about how the ionosphere works.

All radio amateurs need to do is operate using any mode and any band for all or part of the day, then upload their logs. Participation can be from anywhere; you don't need to be near the path of the eclipse to contribute valuable data. You don't even have to be a licensed ham to participate in the experiment (only to transmit).

- For SEQP contest and rules, visit [www.hamsci.org/contest-info](http://www.hamsci.org/contest-info).
- For information on the Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge using CW, WSPR, and FST4W, go to [www.hamsci.org/contest-info](http://www.hamsci.org/contest-info).
- If you're an SWL or AM DXer, you might be interested in the Medium Wave Recording Event. Go to [www.hamsci.org/mw-recordings/](http://www.hamsci.org/mw-recordings/) for more information.

Or just get on the air and help provide data to better understand the ionosphere.

The first SEQP is on Saturday, October 14, 2023, from 1200 - 2200 UTC, and participants may use any band or mode (except WARC bands). Researchers will take the submitted logs and work to derive meaningful observations from the data.

ARRL members can find out more about the SEQP by reading "The Solar Eclipse QSO Party: A Fun Way to Support Radio Science" in the September/October 2023 issue of *On the Air* magazine. The On the Air podcast will feature the article's author, Gary Mikitin, AF8A, talking about the event. The episode will go live on October 12.

## Students Wanted: Talk to an Astronaut via Amateur Radio in 2024!

There's an opportunity for STEM education via amateur radio that will put students in contact with astronauts. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is seeking formal and informal education institutions and organizations, individually or working together, to host an amateur radio contact with a crew member aboard the International Space Station (ISS). ARISS anticipates that the contacts will be held between July 1 and December 31, 2024. Crew scheduling and ISS orbits will determine the exact contact dates.



To maximize these radio contact opportunities, ARISS is looking for organizations that will draw large numbers of participants and integrate the contact into a well-developed education plan. The voice-only radio contacts are approximately 10 minutes long and allow students to interact with the astronauts through



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a question-and-answer session. Students also have an opportunity to learn about satellite communication, wireless technology, and radio science.

The deadline to submit a proposal is November 10, 2023. Proposal information and more details, such as expectations, proposal guidelines, and the proposal form, can be found at [www.ariss.org](http://www.ariss.org). An ARISS proposal webinar session will be held on October 5, 2023, at 7 PM ET. Visit <https://ariss-proposal-webinar-fall-2023.eventbrite.com> sign up.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Laboratory -- Space Station Explorers, [ARRL](http://ARRL.org), and AMSAT.

Additional information is available at [ARISS.org](http://ARISS.org).

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## AMI Jamboree Scheduled for November

The 2023 [Amplitude Modulation International \(AMI\) Jamboree](http://Amplitude Modulation International (AMI) Jamboree) will be held over the Thanksgiving weekend, starting at dusk on November 24 and ending at dawn on November 27.

AMI Executive Director John C. McGrath, N9AMI, said the jamboree is not a contest but rather an AM-only operating event.



"Everyone is welcome to participate, and there is a certificate available for those who contact 25 stations and submit a log," said McGrath. "Each class winner will receive a certificate, and a short biography will be posted on the AMI website. While the age of the equipment doesn't matter, there must be an AM mode selection on the radio," he added.

The preferred AM bands for operation are:

- 160 meters: 1.885, 1.900, 1.945, 1.985
- 80 meters: 3.870 to 3.890
- 40 meters: 7.175, 7.290, 7.293, 7.295
- 20 meters: 14.286 and the upper end of 20 meters

According to the club's history, AMI was formed in 1993. The name was taken from a west coast amateur radio club that was no longer in operation. AMI is now dedicated to the enjoyment, promotion, and preservation of AM. Club memberships include numbered membership certificates, an organization of 10 regions with directors, annual operating events, local club support, and the monitoring of activities that affect AM operations. While the FCC reduced the peak-envelope power measurement for AM, they also issued a statement in support of continuing the mode's important place in amateur radio.

More information is available on the [AMI website](http://AMI website).

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## The annual simulated emergency test (SET)

The annual simulated emergency test (SET) will take place Saturday at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center, Monroe Red Cross, field stations and the homes of members of Monroe County Amateur Radio Public Service Corps.

Local ham radio operators will take part in on-air emergency preparedness activities. The same drill will be conducted in other U.S. communities in October.

"The primary goal of the Simulated Emergency Test is to test communications facilities between amateur radio operators, county



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emergency operations centers and counterparts nationwide. The SET drill is an opportunity designed to test operators' abilities and skills in passing messages between served agencies and the local communities. We want the community to know that in the event of an emergency, amateur radio is there 'when all else fails,'" said Lance Charter, Monroe County emergency coordinator Lance Charter.

The SET drill is sponsored by the American Radio Relay League, the national association for amateur radio.

Ham radio operators provide emergency communications for various relief agencies, Department of Homeland Security, Citizens' Corps, FEMA, RED CROSS, state and local agencies and other organizations in disasters. They also provide supplemental communications when normal systems are rendered inoperable or overloaded and assist the National Weather Service as storm spotters through the SKYWARN program.

"While people often think that cell phones or other communications technologies have replaced ham radio, we can provide an important communications service that others can't. As we see yearly in areas hit by large hurricanes, loss of communication infrastructure is a critical hindrance in rescue and recovery efforts. In these and other situations, ham radio still works when cell, internet and public safety communications don't. Amateur radio is not dependent on a backbone-type system, or even commercial infrastructure, such as commercial power. An operator with the proper radio and a wire antenna strung between two trees can hook up to a car battery and be communicating across town or around the earth in short order when no one else is able. These loss of power situations will be the type of assistance operators will practice for on Oct. 2," said organizers.

"Amateur radio volunteer operators from across the country respond to the calls for aid when needed. They provide their services and

equipment freely to their communities. They are called "amateurs" because they are not paid, but their service in a crisis can be priceless," said organizers.

Today there are more than 700,000 amateur radio operators in the U.S. and more than 2.5 million worldwide.

To find out more, including how to get started, contact Monroe County ARPSC at [KE8BYC@yahoo.com](mailto:KE8BYC@yahoo.com) or <https://monroearpsc.wordpress.com>.

Information also is available from the American Radio Relay League at (800) 32-NEW HAM or [www.arrl.org/newham](http://www.arrl.org/newham).

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## Upcoming Contests - Things to Do



### 2023 AM QSO Party

The 2023 AM QSO Party, hosted by the Antique Wireless Association, begins Saturday, September 30 at 2200 UTC, and concludes Sunday,

October 1 at 2200 UTC. Any type of transmitter may be used provided it's capable of transmitting in the AM mode. Any frequency on the 160-, 75-, 40-, and 20- meter bands that's legal for voice communication may be used. For more information, visit <https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/am-qso-party-details/>.

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### California QSO Party

The California QSO Party (CQP) begins on Saturday, October 7 at 1600 UTC, and concludes on Sunday, October 8 at 2200 UTC. There are rule changes taking effect this year that participants should familiarize themselves with. This year, the event organizers have



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added the CQP 2023 Video Challenge, which encourages participants to take videos of themselves and their stations to post after the event. Links to the best videos will be included as part of the CQP 2023 results. Email your video links to [cqp.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:cqp.chairman@gmail.com).

Complete information about the event, including an updated 2023 operating guide, a county activation list, and audio and video recordings from previous events is available at <https://cqp.org>.

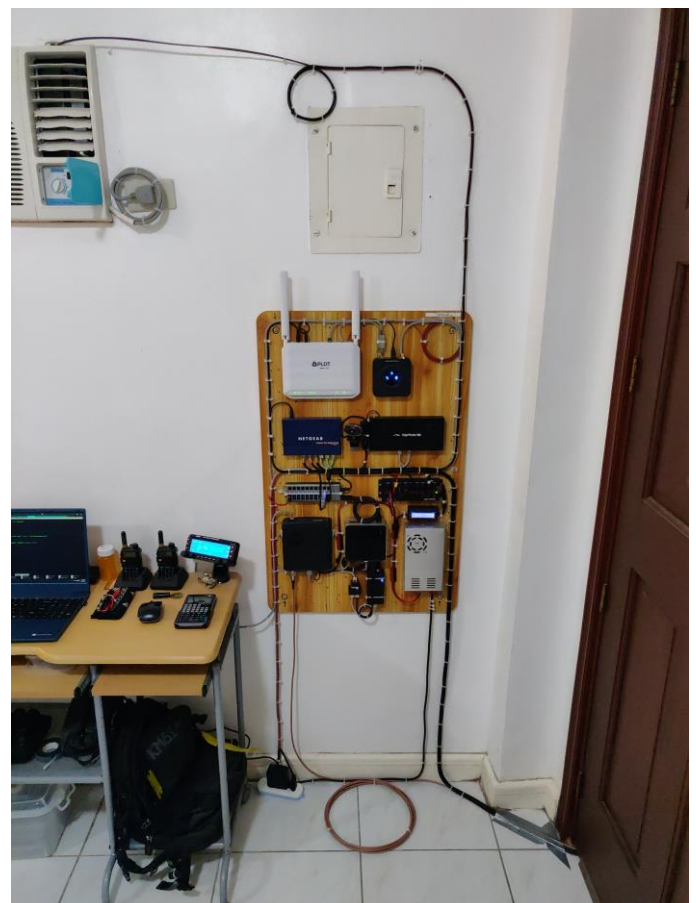
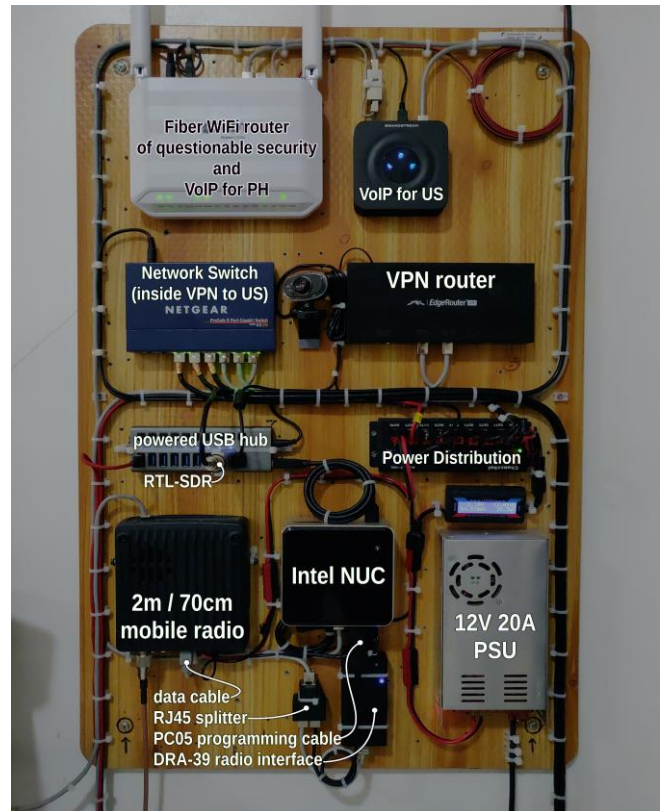


The yearlong ARRL Volunteers On the Air event, recognizing the support and contributions of ARRL volunteers, continues. Get on the air and make contacts with as many ARRL volunteers or members as possible. There will be week-long activations of portable W1AW/# stations in all 50 states, and in several US possessions/territories. For a schedule of W1AW/# portable operations, see the [W1AW Portable Activations Schedule](#). Be sure to upload your logs to LoTW and check your score online. Check out the full details at <http://vota.arrl.org>

## AAARONS PHILIPINO HAM SHACK.

As a lot of us heard at the last meeting , Aaron had described to us his experience of putting his networking services and his radio gear up and running with what ever he could find. With a Do what you brung attitude at best and he did I think quite well ( even Mc Giver ) would be proud of you !!

So here are some visuals to see what it was that he was explaining.





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## Fair Season Puts Ham Radio on Exhibition

It is autumn across the United States, and with the season draws changing colors, pumpkin spice everything, and agricultural fairs. Many amateur radio clubs and groups use the fairs as an opportunity to get ham radio in front of new and curious audiences. In New England, The Big E is a multi-state fair in West Springfield, Massachusetts, from September 15 to October 1, 2023.

Located inside the Better Living Center is "Project Big E". It was conceived in 2021 by Larry Krainson, W1AST, and other members of the

[Hampden County Radio](#)



Greg Bonaguide, WA1VUG (left), Christy Bonaguide, KF4UXP (middle), with Ray Lajoie, AA1SE (right), Section Manager of the ARRL Western Massachusetts Section. [Section Manager of the ARRL Rhode Island Section, Nancy Austin, KC1NEK, photo.]

Order this [radio communications banner](#) for your club from the ARRL Store.

[Association](#) (HCRA), who envisioned a booth that would demonstrate the many aspects of modern ham radio and provide an avenue to sign up for information and courses in their local area.

This year's event includes an EmComm display; D-STAR and other digital mobile mode demonstrations; digital HF modes on a big screen; SSB, CW, and other digital modes, and demonstrations of portable stations for field operations like Parks on the Air and Summits



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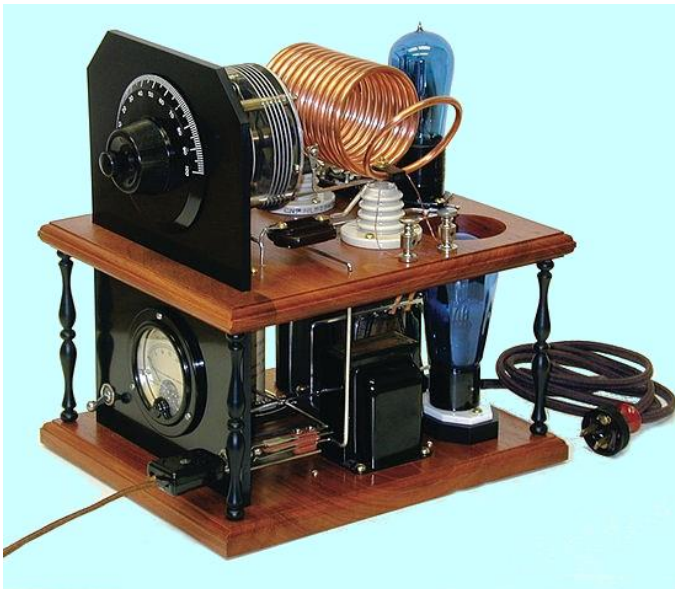
on the Air. The exhibit will also highlight youth in ham radio.

The Project Big E booth (#103) is staffed 12 hours each day by 10 clubs and over 80 individuals from across New England. At the booth table there are two hand-made telegraph keys. Visitors are shown how to print and send their name in Morse code.

## This is giving me many ideas!!

A good 15 years or more ago I was involved with a multi club event with many other ham radio clubs from around southern California and we put on a huge HAM RADIO DISPLAY for the LOS ANGELES COUNTY FAIR IN POMONA ,it was a week long event and each club brought there own specialty's and put on display. It was great for the public as well as all the ham that were there.

It would take a very large undertaking to get clubs together and it all coordinated for sure to get something like that for the indio fair or Victorville fair.



## Telephone Pioneer QSO Party 2023

Greetings to all friends and participants of the annual Telephone Pioneer QSO (TPQSO) Party. The **59th annual TPQSO Party** will take place on **Friday & Saturday, October 20-21**. Details are posted on this website and can be provided via email or postal mail, if desited.

The Telephone Pioneer Amateur Radio Club of Alabama (TPARCA) invites all Telephone Pioneers, including former and current employees of the telephone related companies, and all other licensed amateur radio operators to participate.

We welcome contacts from non-pioneers as well.

The Telephone Pioneer QSO party combines Telephone Pioneering and Amateur Radio. It is a great chance to renew old friendships. Help us celebrate the Annual Telephone Pioneer QSO Party.

<http://tpqso.tparca.org/>







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## Winlink ShakeOut Exercise Next Month

The Winlink Development Team (WDT) continues its successful collaboration with the US Geological Survey to provide real event and exercise "Did You Feel It?" (DYFI) earthquake intensity reports via Winlink. All Winlink users are invited to send Exercise Winlink DYFI reports on October 19, 2023, at or after 10:19 local time with Exercise ID: 2023SHAKEOUT. For [step-by-step Winlink DYFI Exercise instructions](#) and additional information see the [Winlink ShakeOut Website](#) and the details below.

### What is ShakeOut?

The Great ShakeOut is the world's largest earthquake drill. It is held annually on the third Thursday of October, and millions of people participate all over the world. In 2022 over 45.6 million people registered their participation. The goal of the ShakeOut is to teach people how to protect themselves during an earthquake.

Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills across the U.S. are coordinated by the Southern California Earthquake Center in partnership with ECA, CUSEC, state and national emergency management partners, with support from FEMA, NEHRP, NSF, and USGS.

The ShakeOut drill is simple. At the designated time (or whenever works for you or your organization), participants practice [self-protective actions such as "Drop, Cover, and Hold On"](#) or "Lock, Cover, and Hold On" if they use a wheelchair

## Where Was ARES for the Maui Fires ?

An Editorial ---- Jim, KH6HTV, Boulder, Colorado I may be wrong, but I feel that something serious was missing from the emergency response to the recent, devastating Fire Storm which destroyed the entire town of Lahaina on the Island of Maui, in Hawaii. What was it you say ? -- it was ARES ! Where were they when the "#^T@%R hit the fan" ??? The press releases sent out by the ARRL section manager, Joe, AH0A, and ARRL headquarters simply talked platitudes. Only talking about the available amateur repeater network available on Maui for use by later, after the fact, relief personel. No mention anywhere of ARES. Why? -- Because it really didn't exist on Maui. It was there in name only, a paper organization. A paper tiger with no teeth. You say, how can you a fella in Colorado point your finger at them? I speak from first hand experience having lived on Maui. Note my KH6 call sign. Our son, Steve, lives and has worked on Maui since 1995. After retiring in 2001, Janet and I became "snow-birds" living on the island of Maui for six months every year. We owned a home there on the island. I was a member of the Maui Amateur Radio Club ( KH6RS ) and attended regularly their meetings and also gave several technical talks to the club. We really felt like residents of Maui, not tourists. We actually had a much larger circle of friends on Maui, than we did in our original home of Boulder, Colorado. In 2019, we sold our Maui home and left the island for good. Why? I had some serious medical issues and the deciding factor was the lack of quality medical care on the island. The ARRL prides itself to the general public as being a viable emergency communications service. This is done via ARES. However, it is really up to the local radio amateurs to actually make ARES

work - or not. The national ARRL can't force it to work without the locals. It works in Boulder, Colorado --- It didn't work on Maui. I know from



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personal experience that ARES can be effective locally. My background in ARES dates back almost 50 years to the founding in Boulder, Colorado of our local ARES group, BCARES (Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services). BCARES became a real organization with lots of active members, required member approval from the Sheriff, actual meetings and training sessions, field exercises --- and most importantly -- We actually were called upon (via Sheriff's pager) to respond to real bonafied emergencies. When we were called, we came. We actually have an office of our own in the county emergency operations center (EOC) and a storage cache there for a lot of specialized communication equipment with 24/7 access. Plus a 2 meter repeater using the Sheriff's radio sites and their microwave network for a back-bone from remote receivers. In addition to the normal 2 meter FM voice gear and HF voice, BCARES also had capabilities for digital messaging via packet radio, more recently Win-Link, and (important for this newsletter) -- Amateur Television (ATV). We added ATV capability in 1991, including an ATV repeater at a Sheriff's radio site. Analog NTSC TV in the early days. We converted to hi-def. digital DATV in 2016. ATV was the most requested communication service BCARES provided. work - or not. The national ARRL can't force it to work without the locals. It works in Boulder, Colorado --- It didn't work on Maui. I know from personal experience that ARES can be effective locally. My background in ARES dates back almost 50 years to the founding in Boulder, Colorado of our local ARES group, BCARES (Boulder County Amateur Radio Emergency Services). BCARES became a real organization with lots of active members, required member approval from the Sheriff, actual meetings and training sessions, field exercises --- and most importantly -- We actually were called upon (via Sheriff's pager) to respond to real bonafied emergencies. When we were called, we came. We actually have an office of our own in the county emergency operations center (EOC) and a storage cache there for a lot of

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## OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm NCS FRED				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm NCS ROB				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm NCS KEITH		<b>MEETING NEXT WEEK!</b>		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm NCS LARRY		<b>CLUB MEETING AT 6PM</b>		
29	30	31				
	<b>ARES Net</b> 7:15 pm	<b>MARC Net</b> 7:00 pm NCS GLENN				