



# MARC Beacon

Volume 7, Issue 10

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

OCTOBER 2018

## President's Message

Hi Everybody,

It's Fall season already and only 3 days until the first of October. October looks like a pretty productive month so far.

We have several activities on schedule but they all sound like fun things to do. Here's just a sample of what is in store for the month.

On Saturday October 13th, the Yucca Valley ARES in cooperation with the San Bernardino County Fire Department, Yucca Valley ARES and MARC, and the California State Militia will be turning out for our annual "Preparedness Fair" in the parking lot of Tractor Supply and Harbor Freight. It's always a lot of fun and this year, ARES will be simulating an Emergency Drill.

On Thursday October 18th at 10:18 am (California dst) is the official "California Great Shake Out" Because it's in the middle of the work week, the organizers are allowing any participating group to reschedule activities during any October weekend in order to increase public awareness and attendance.

Here's what our October schedule looks like so far:  
Saturday, October 13th (starts at 0800)  
Yucca Valley "Preparedness Fair" in the parking lot of Tractor Supply and Harbor Freight.  
Sponsored by MARC and Yucca Valley ARES, Yucca Valley CERT, the San Bernardino County Fire Department, and the California State Militia.

Thursday, October 18th (officially starts at 10:18 am)  
The official "California Great Shake Out" No matter where you are, or what you're doing, at 10:18 am "duck" "cover" and "hold on". That's what "Earthquake Survival" is all about.

Friday, October 19th thru Sunday, October 21st  
(weekend event)

The Boy Scouts of America will hold "2018 Boy Scout Jamboree on the Air".

The Jamboree on the AIR (JOTA) is a regular annual Amateur Radio weekend campout and has been celebrated for well over fifty years.

Saturday October 20th

This year on October 20th the Salvation Army Team Emergency Response Network (SATERN) in Twentynine Palms will conduct a coordinated Simulated Emergency Test (SET). The exercise will be "real time" on the air using coordinated emergency frequencies and will involve Riverside County, Orange County and San Bernardino County. This is one of the largest coordinated emergency drills that I've seen in years and everything should go exactly as planned.(After all, that's what testing is all about....)

Well, as usual when I start talking I don't know when to quit. I hope to see you all at the meeting this month. The Summer heat has backed off and it looks like a Great October is in store for all.

73

**Andy Frees**

**NS6V**

Yucca Valley

760-369-7388

[ai6af@apachepark.org](mailto:ai6af@apachepark.org)





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## Borges Associates

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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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WEDNESDAY NIGHTS AT 6PM**

<https://twit.tv/shows/ham-nation>



Hi!

**The American Legion Post 519** Palm Springs will again be participating in the October 18, 10:18 AM -- **The Great California ShakeOut Drill** as an Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

We will be operating from the the Jack Benny Room in the Legion contacting individuals, groups and organizations throughout the Coachella Valley. We will be using local Amateur Radio Repeaters and Communication equipment during the Drill.

Members of the American Legion Post 519 are encouraged to Learn, Participate, and review Earthquake Safety Guides in the Nationwide ShakeOut Drill in preparation for the "BIG ONE". See Resources links in this article.

<https://www.shakeout.org/california/>

Regards

**Tom McLean KJ6DZT**



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The ShakeOut Drill is scheduled for 10:18 a.m. on October 18, 2018. This means that wherever you are at that moment—at home, at work, at school, anywhere—you should Drop, Cover, and Hold On as if there were a major earthquake occurring at that very moment, and stay in this position for at least 60 seconds. There will not be any freeway closures, power outages, or other simulated effects of the hypothetical earthquake, unless your local government or utility company specifically notifies you about something of this nature. The ShakeOut is not something you need to leave work to participate in—in fact, participating at work is encouraged! Businesses, organizations, schools, and government agencies can register and have their employees practice Drop, Cover, and Hold On or have a more extensive emergency drill.

The main goal of the ShakeOut is to get Californians prepared for major earthquakes, so use the ShakeOut as an opportunity to learn what to do before, during, and after an earthquake.

Visit [www.earthquakecountry.org/sevensteps](http://www.earthquakecountry.org/sevensteps) for tips on how to prepare, protect, and recover.

Anyone in California can participate, from a single individual at their home to a major company at the office. Talk to your coworkers, neighbors and friends about the ShakeOut and encourage their participation.

Sign up for free at [www.shakeout.org/california/register](http://www.shakeout.org/california/register) to be counted in the ShakeOut Drill, get email updates, and more.

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## THE LANDERS EARTHQUAKE 1992

At 4:57 a.m. local time (11:57 [UTC](#)) on June 28, 1992, a [magnitude 7.3](#) earthquake awoke much of Southern California. Though it turned out it was not the so-called "Big One" as many people would think, it was still a very strong earthquake. **The shaking lasted for two to three minutes.** Although this earthquake was much more powerful than the [1994 Northridge earthquake](#), the damage and loss of life were minimized by its location in the sparsely-populated [Mojave Desert](#).

## THE LANDERS EARTHQUAKE 1992



A friendly reminder of OUR Landers Quake of 1992 I was here and I remember it well!

These are pictures of the east side wall of the yucca valley bowling alley.



Old woman springs road/Hwy 247 took a hit on many places like this, as well as the epicenter at Aberdeen just east of Hwy 247.





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## California QSO Party



**53rd Running Of The CQP!**  
1600 UTC October 6, 2018 to  
2200 UTC October 7, 2018



This is one of the best contests of the year!  
Best way to Work All States in a single weekend!

The California QSO Party (**CQP**) is held every year on the first weekend of October. The first CQP took place in 1966. Since 1974, the Northern California Contest Club (**NCCC**) has sponsored CQP. CQP has traditionally opened the annual contest season by providing an opportunity for contesters to prepare for the ARRL November Sweepstakes since the format is similar.

Stations outside of California, worldwide, work stations in California only. The 58 counties of CA are the multipliers. California stations work all stations in or out of CA. The 50 US states and 8 Canadian areas are the multipliers (58). Stations outside of Canada and the US add to one's QSO total but do not count as multipliers. See the full set of CQP Rules for more details.



The weather station on Paxton Hill at the W6BA repeater site has been repaired. It will now show accurate wind speed and direction measurements.

<https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KCAYUCCA57>

Glenn N6GIW

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I also have A weather station by the high school in Yucca Valley N6GKB.

<https://www.wunderground.com/weather/us/ca/yucca%20valley/34.114512399999995%2C-116.4194904>

Keith N6GKB



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## Scouting's 2018 Jamboree on the Air Set for October 19 - 21

Scouting organizations are still [registering](#) to participate in the 2018 Jamboree on the Air ([JOTA](#)) over the October 19 - 21 weekend. With about 1 month to go, JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, told ARRL that registration is "probably on target" at this point. US registrations stood at 235 as of the end of last week. Right after JOTA 2017, 489 US locations had signed up, although that included both Jamboree on the Air and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) participants, which, Wilson said, the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) have "remained steadfast" in considering JOTA and JOTI as separate events, although, he noted, this is not the case at the world level.

"Our goals are primarily to grow participation," Wilson told ARRL. "The World JOTA-JOTI Team has set a goal of 3 million participants by 2021; 2017 saw 1.5 million worldwide. [Sign-ups at the world level](#) right now are at 1,428 locations. Wilson said that, in the US, many locations wait until the last minute to register their participation. In 2017, some 7,900 Scouts took part in JOTA, down by nearly 10,800 participants from 2016, but topping participation for 2014 and 2015. Total radio contact numbers were down from 2016 and 2015.

"We've also put in place a number of aids to help people improve their on-the-air experience, which will be challenging without sunspots," Wilson pointed out. "We've provided a [video](#) of how to work HF for JOTA. We've also provided a [quick reference card](#) to help Scouts during the QSO." [Recommended JOTA frequencies](#) are listed on the K2BSA website. "Operators should note that these frequencies are starting points to find QSOs," Wilson added. "They can also turn the dial to find other stations on the air. It's not like a repeater." A [list of Girl Scout activities](#) supported by JOTA-JOTI has also been posted.

Held each year on the third full weekend in October, JOTA is the world's largest Scouting event. JOTA uses Amateur Radio to link Scouts and hams around the world. Scouts of any age and gender can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts and Venturers.

Radio amateurs at the local level are encouraged to work with a scout council or unit to set up a JOTA station or arrange to have Scouts visit their shacks. "You can also participate just by making QSOs with the many JOTA stations that will be on the air," Wilson said.



### **Editor Point of Contact (POC)**

Keith Board, N6GKB, 760-401-5124, [N6GKB@live.com](mailto:N6GKB@live.com)

Submission deadline is 4 days before the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month





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## AMSAT Reports: Digital Mobile Radio Hotspots May Be Interfering with Satellite Uplinks

This week, AMSAT News Service (ANS) cited an August 27 report from AMSAT Vice President-Operations Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, saying that a digital mobile radio (DMR) signal has been interfering with the AO-92 (Fox-1D) satellite's 435.35 MHz uplink frequency. Glasbrenner said hotspots, repeaters, terrestrial simplex, and "anything not satellite" should never transmit in the segments 145.8 - 146.0 MHz or 435 - 438 MHz by international band plan.



Well-known satellite enthusiast Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK/VA7EWK, told ARRL that one DMR hotspot operating on the AO-92 uplink frequency in the St. Louis area has shifted to another frequency. But, he added, "I think there are still issues, since not all hotspots will report their frequencies and positions to websites such as [BrandMeister](http://BrandMeister) or via APRS, where they appear on other sites such as <http://aprs.fi>."

"There are others surely operating near satellite uplinks," Stoddard added. "For many, the 435 - 438 MHz satellite sub-band is a big piece of quiet real estate in a busy part of the 70-centimeter band for weak-signal work, repeater links, amateur TV, and other possible uses."

Stoddard points out that FCC Part 97 addresses Amateur Radio operation in these segments, although regulations in many other countries may not be as detailed. §97.3(a)(7) defines auxiliary stations as, "an amateur station, other than in a message forwarding system, that is transmitting communications point-to-point within a system of cooperating amateur stations."

Stoddard said this would include remote bases, EchoLink and IRLP nodes, and hotspots used for digital voice modes, as well as stations using these hotspots and nodes. Auxiliary stations may not transmit in the 145.8 - 146.0 and 435 - 438 MHz satellite sub-bands (among others in the 2-meter and 70-centimeter amateur bands), per §97.201(b). Further:



**Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK, does a satellite demonstration at the Palm Springs Hamfest in 2017.**

- §97.3(a)(40) defines a repeater as, "an amateur station that simultaneously retransmits the transmission of another amateur station on a different channel or channels." Stoddard said that because most hotspots operate on a discrete frequency, they would not qualify as repeaters, even if they operate like a repeater, per §97.205(b).
- §97.101(a) stipulates, "In all respects not specifically covered by FCC Rules, each amateur station must be operated in accordance with good engineering and good amateur practice." Stoddard remarked, "Whether the hotspot is interfering with a satellite downlink in a particular area, or it is interfering with the satellite uplink affecting a much larger area, this would not be good amateur practice."
- In addition to sub-bands where hotspots are not permitted, Stoddard said, §97.101(b) is also relevant. It states, "Each station licensee and each control operator must cooperate in selecting transmitting channels and in making the most effective use of the Amateur Service frequencies. No frequency will be assigned for the exclusive use of any station."

Stoddard noted that frequencies used by satellites are usually incapable of being changed and are coordinated in advance of launch, while hotspots typically are frequency agile, and the frequencies used by those systems can be changed to avoid potential interference to satellites and other stations.



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-- Thanks to AMSAT News Service, Patrick Stoddard, WD9EWK/VA7EWK

## ARRL Releases Limited Edition 2019 *Handbook* Six-Volume Ultimate Boxed Set

The 2019 edition of [The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications](#) is now available as a six-volume boxed set in a handsome hard slipcase in addition to the traditional, soft-cover print edition.

"For many years, users have suggested that the *Handbook* would be easier to read and browse if it were divided into more manageable volumes," said ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "We did it! This is the first-ever *ARRL Handbook* in a multi-volume set. This means you can grab just the volume you need without having to retrieve the entire *Handbook*. It's one of the biggest improvements we've made to *The Handbook* in decades." The six volumes are divided by major topic areas:

- **Volume 1:** Introduction and Fundamental Theory
- **Volume 2:** Practical Design and Principles -- Part 1
- **Volume 3:** Practical Design and Principles -- Part 2
- **Volume 4:** Antenna Systems and Radio Propagation
- **Volume 5:** Equipment Construction and Station Accessories
- **Volume 6:** Test Equipment, Troubleshooting, RFI, and Index



Since its first edition in 1926, *The Handbook* has been a trusted Amateur Radio mainstay -- a comprehensive reference and guide to the understanding and practice of radio communication, electronics, and wireless technology. Key topics include electronics theory and principles, circuit design and equipment, radio signal transmission and propagation, digital and analog modulation and protocols, antennas and transmission lines, and construction practices. *The Handbook* is updated every year, and this new edition includes [many new projects and topics](#). These include:

- A simple SLA float charger project by John Boal, K9JEB
- Amateur Radio data platforms by Paul Verhage, KD4STH, and Bill Brown, WB8ELK
- The latest information on the *WSJT-X* digital suite by the *WSJT*Development Team
- Filter and circuit design software by Tonne Software and Jim Tonne, W4ENE
- Low-noise VHF and UHF oscillators by Ulrich Rohde, N1UL, and Ajay Poddar, AC2KG
- Update on Solar Cycle 24 by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA
- Updated SSTV practices and technology by Larry Peterson, WA9TT
- Designing dual-band loaded dipoles by David Birnbaum, K2LYV
- Latest transceiver survey by Joel Hallas, W1ZR
- Updated component tables
- State-of-the-art guidelines for SDR (software-defined radio) design

Both editions include a unique download code, so you can download and install a fully searchable digital edition of the printed book, as well as expanded supplemental content, software, PC board templates, and other support files.

*The Handbook* [Six-Volume Boxed Set](#), ARRL Item No. 0895, ISBN 978-1-62595-089-5, is \$64.95 retail. *The Handbook* [soft-cover edition](#), ARRL Item No. 0888, ISBN 978-1-62595-088-8, is \$49.95 retail. Order from the [ARRL Store](#), from your [ARRL Dealer](#), or call (860) 594-0355 or toll-free in the US, (888) 277-5289. Shipping in early October.



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The Handbook Kindle edition comes in six separate volumes, automatically delivered to your Kindle, starting on October 8, \$9.99 per volume ([Vol 1](#), [Vol 2](#), [Vol 3](#), [Vol 4](#), [Vol 5](#), [Vol 6](#)).

## Ode to Silent Key

*The dials on your radio are unmoved, the speaker silent, and the ash tray clean for all time to come.*



# 73

*All those hours you sat in that old green chair, talking to unseen voices, filling the ash tray to overflowing. You talked near and far, and had friends you never met. You traveled the world over from your chair. You've become a silent key now, gone on to meet those unseen voices from the past. Yet in the stillness I can hear your chair squeak, smell your tobacco, and hear faint voices calling from afar.*

- Foundation for Amateur Radio

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Jake W6JOD reported today that **Harry Tanzer, W6CYK**, passed away recently. He was a World War II veteran and longtime member of our radio club. He was known for his friendly manner and was an "Elmer" (teacher) to many hams. Harry would have been 94 later this year.

Rest in peace Harry.

~~~~~

I also regret to inform the radio club that **John Campbell, AG6QM**, passed away at his home in 29 Palms on Thursday afternoon. John was 74. His family was all with him.

John was active in many aspects of ham radio, including Volunteer Examiner and ARES.

He could always be found at any public service event where hams were needed.

By Glenn N6GIW



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## Emergency Services Man Is Honored by Peers



San Bernardino County Communications Services member and retired Navy Master Chief John Campbell receives a plaque for his service. From left are Campbell’s son, John Campbell (seated), emergency communications Representative, Dennis Teeters and town of Yucca Valley Emergency Manager, Jessica Rice at a First Responders meeting held at the Combat Center Fire Station, August 15.

MCAGCC – John Campbell received a plaque for his services to emergency planning and first responders during a semi-annual meeting of first responders at the Combat Center Fire Station August 15.

Emergency Communications Service representative Dennis Teeters and town of Yucca Valley emergency services manager Jessica Rice presented the plaque to Campbell.

A retired Navy Master Chief, Campbell works with the San Bernardino County Emergency Services and was an

Amateur Radio Emergency Responder.

The meeting where he was honored was held to discuss training for the Morongo Basin emergency responders and included representatives from other emergency services areas.

“There were representatives from Rialto and as far away as Las Vegas,” said Teeters. “We meet every six months to help keep the Morongo Basin safe.

The Emergency Communications Service is a volunteer group providing front-line communications, technical and

logistical support to the San Bernardino county fire department and Office of Emergency Services.

Their primary mission is to support fire, county government and other local agencies in the time of disaster.

The volunteers coordinate disaster communications between city and county agencies, provide a communications link to the California Office of Emergency Services and ensure backup communication channels are kept open in times of a major disaster.

*The above article is from the August 25, 2018 issue of the Hi-Desert Weekender*



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm <b>NCS GLENN</b>		<b>ARES Meeting 6:00 pm</b> Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Yucca Valley		<b>CQP</b> California QSO Party
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>CQP</b> California QSO Party	ARES Net 7:15 pm <b>COLUMBUS DAY</b>	MARC Net 7:00 pm <b>NCS NICKI OR FRED</b>				
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm <b>NCS ANDY</b>		<b>MARC Meeting 7:00 pm</b> back at St. Christopher Joshua Tree	<b>JOTA</b> Jamboree On The Air	<b>JOTA</b> Jamboree On The Air
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>JOTA</b> Jamboree On The Air	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm <b>NCS MANUEL</b>				
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
NATIONAL CHOCOLATE DAY!	ARES Net 7:15 pm	MARC Net 7:00 pm <b>NCS JOHN</b>	<b>HALLOWEEN</b> 			



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