

MBARC Beacon

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Newsletter



JULY 2025 EDITION

w6ba.net

[Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club](https://www.facebook.com/MorongoBasinAmateurRadioClub)



Clifford **KK6QMS** (on tower) and Larry **AD6G** prepare to pull up the eastern end of the 80m, 20m, 15m, and 10m end-to-end dipole array. – Photo by Lis Schwitters **N6NDC**

MBARC Hosts ARRL Field Day 2025

By Maja Chesney **KO6DAV**, submitted on June 29, 2025

The Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club hosted the ARRL Field Day from Saturday, June 28, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. through Sunday, June 29, 2025, at 10:59 a.m., at the Yucca Mesa Community Center in Yucca Valley, California.

Larry Mollica **AD6G** was this year's **MBARC** Field Day Coordinator. The club operated as a Class D station under the call sign **W6BA**, using the networked ... [COVER STORY, p. 4](#)

Information At A Glance

Upcoming Club Meetings

Monthly club meetings are on the 3rd Saturday, every month, at 1400.

Date & Time Location

Jun 21 @ 1400 [Yucca Mesa Community Center](#)

Jul 19 @ 1400 [Yucca Mesa Community Center](#)

Aug 16 @ 1400 [Yucca Mesa Community Center](#)

Local Nets

Net Name	Day & Time
Amateur Radio Emergency Service	MON @ 1915
MBARC Weekly Net	TUE @ 1900
MBARC “Cawfee Tawk”	DAILY @ 1000

MBARC Linked Repeater System

For more info, see the [2nd to last page](#) for detailed diagram of the **MBARC** Linked Repeater System or visit w6ba.net.

Site	MHz	kHz	T
W6BA Yucca Valley / Paxton Hill	146.790	–	136.5
W6BA Twentynine Palms / Donnell Hill	147.060	+	136.5
WB6CDF Landers / Fire Station	447.580	–	173.8
AD6G Pipes Canyon	446.120	Ø	146.2

Local VoIP-to-RF Nodes

System	# Node	RF Link
AllStarLink	503088	KM6IAU to W6BA YV
EchoLink	KM6IAU-L	KM6IAU to W6BA YV
EchoLink	WO4ROB-L	WO4ROB to W6BA YV

Local RF-to-VoIP Nodes

Site	MHz	kHz	T	System	# Node/TG
KD6DIQ YV	145.770	Ø	67.0	AllStar	28855
WB6CDF YV	447.000	–	10	DMR/BM	TS1: TG 3106 TS2: TG 2

MBARC Board of Directors

<i>President</i> --- Paul Edwards	AA6SM
<i>Vice President</i> --- Larry Mollica	AD6G
<i>Secretary</i> --- Jake Jakubowski	N6XIV
<i>Treasurer</i> --- Glenn Miller	N6GIW
<i>Board Members</i> --- Aaron Chesney	KM6IAU
	Bryan Heveron
	KF6YGK
<i>Repeater Trustee</i> --- Glenn Miller	Rob Cloutier
	WO4ROB
	N6GIW

MBARC Beacon --- JUNE 2025 EDITION

<i>Editor</i> --- Aaron Chesney	KM6IAU
<i>Contributors</i> --- Maja Chesney	KO6DAV
	Paul Edwards
	AA6SM
	Jake Jakubowski
	N6XIV
	Larry Mollica
	AD6G
	Lis Schwitters
	N6NDC
	Steve Harrison
	KØXP

Table of Contents

MBARC Hosts ARRL Field Day 2025.....	1
Meeting Minutes – June 2025.....	3
Member Birthdays – July 2025.....	3
MBARC Field Day 2025 Event Summary.....	4
MBARC Field Day 2025 on KCDZ 107.7 FM.....	4
MBARC Field Day 2025 Preliminary Score.....	4
MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos from N6NDC.....	5
MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos from KO6DAV.....	6
MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos from N6XIV.....	7
Plan C Orion Antler Spread, KØXP – June 2025.....	8
Linked Repeater System Overview.....	10
Calendar – July 2025.....	11
KD6DIQ AllStarLink Node#28855 Schedule.....	11

Your Newsletter, Your Voice.

If you have material you'd like to share in a future newsletter, [get in touch](#).

 Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU**
 [442-205-1873](tel:442-205-1873), extension 5
 Aaron@KM6IAU.net

President's Message

MBARC Field Day 2025 was held at the Yucca Mesa Community Center June 28 ~ 29. We shall provide you with our standings as they become available.

A special thanks to Larry **AD6G** for all of the work that he did making this a successful event. Another special thanks goes to Kathie, Maja, and all of the people who kept us fed during the event.

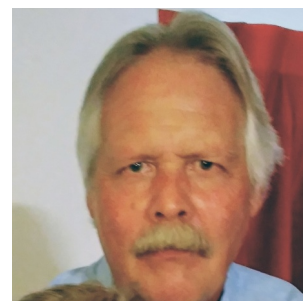
It is good to see new faces at the club meetings! If you have been around for a while (and even if you haven't), let's make them welcome and included.

Please support our nets – ARES Net at 1915 local every Monday, the MBARC net at 1900 local every Tuesday and the “Cawfee Tawk” Net 1000 local every day on the Morongo Basin Linked Repeater System.

Suggestions as to where we want to go and what we want to do as a club are always welcome. I can be contacted at the club's email address w6ba.condition765@slmail.me and I will always respond to any serious query. After all, this is your club!

73s,

 Paul Edwards **AA6SM**
 [262-412-7323](tel:262-412-7323)
 w6ba.condition765@slmail.me





Larry AD6G gives a presentation on the N1MM logging software at the June 2025 club meeting. – Photo by Maja KO6DAV

Meeting Minutes – JUNE 2025

Submitted by Jake Jakubowski N6XIV, Club Secretary

*Editor's note: This is an edited version.
For the official record, contact the club secretary.*

Kathie Edwards set up a coffee and sweets bar for members to enjoy ahead of the general meeting.

President Paul AA6SM opened the meeting at 1400 and announced the club officers.

Then, club members and guests stated their names, call signs, and town of residence.

As Treasurer, Glenn N6GIW reported a club treasury balance of \$3,063.67.

As Repeater Trustee, Glenn N6GIW further reported that the club repeater system has been working properly after a recent repair.

Larry AD6G gave a presentation on N1MM logging software the club is going to use for Field Day.

Jim KI6WTI won the \$18 from the 50/50 raffle.

The secretary counted 20 attendees at the May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1440. A number of members remained after the meeting to get more instruction on N1MM logging software.

Member Birthdays – JULY 2025

Regular Section by Maja Chesney KO6DAV

On behalf of the club, I want to extend our warmest birthday wishes to all our cherished members celebrating a birthday this month.

May your special day bring joy, love, and peace. Stay happy and blessed.

If you'd like your birthday to be included for recognition here and on the club's [Facebook page](#), [get in touch](#).



Maja Chesney KO6DAV



442-205-1983, extension 6



maj.chesney@gmail.com



MBARC Field Day 2025 Event Summary

Submitted by Larry Mollica AD6G, June 30, 2025

Editor's Note: Larry, rest-deserving and exhausted after a very long Field Day weekend, graciously provided this blurb under duress of the newsletter editor's deadline. Thanks, Larry.

Hi all. I'm just dashing this off quickly to make the newsletter deadline. I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's Field Day. By next newsletter I'll put together the names of everybody who worked on either setup or tear down but if I try to list them right now I know I'll be missing some. For now I'll just say you know who you are and thanks for showing up and putting in the hard work. Thanks Kathie Edwards for organizing

the food effort. I know Maja KO6DAV and Lis N6NDC brought in foodstuffs as well. If you missed FD you missed out on Maja's slushies – think about that next time around. :)

Preliminary total is 835 contacts (eliminating dupes and including 9 FT8 contacts by Lis N6NDC not shown in the graphic numbers, that will be manually added to the log submission). May I say Steve KØXP is a CW demon who was literally up all night on the key and keyboard, and this after working on setup the previous day. And THEN helped tear down as well.

Anyway thanks all. ---

MBARC Field Day 2025 on KCDZ 107.7 FM

MBARC Field Day Coordinator Larry Mollica AD6G sat down with Robert Haydon at KCDZ "Z 107.7 FM" for an interview ahead of this year's Field Day event. The interview and transcript can be found on KCDZ 107.7 FM's website:

<https://z1077fm.com/morongo-basin-amateur-radio-club-field-day-2025/> ---

COVER STORY, continued

logging software N1MM Logger Plus. Five end-to-end dipole antennas were set up for the 80- through 10-meter contest bands.

Fueling the event was Food Committee Coordinator Kathie Edwards, who made sure members and guests stayed energized with meals and refreshments throughout the 24-hour operation.

Field Day also served as a social gathering for MBARC members. Attendees came together to operate radios, exchange knowledge, and enjoy each other's company. The event welcomed several guests and visitors interested in learning more about amateur radio and the purpose of Field Day.

The ARRL Field Day is an amateur radio exercise and contest. Amateur radio operators participate to practice technical skills, engage in community outreach, and enhance emergency preparedness. ---

MBARC Field Day 2025 Preliminary Score

Operator	CW QSOs (2 Pts/QSO)				LSB QSOs (1 Pt/QSO)		USB QSOs (1 Pt/QSO)		FT8 QSOs (2 Pts/QSO)		Operator QSOs	Operator Pts
	80m	40m	20m	15m	80m	40m	20m	15m	20m	15m		
AD6G					15	164	17	5			201	201
AE6SG							3				3	3
KØXP	29	262	126	53							470	940
KF6BM							6	8			14	14
KK6QMS						134					134	134
KM6IAU							4				4	4
N6NDC									2	7	9	18
All Operators	29	262	126	53	15	298	30	13	2	7	835	1314
All Operators Points												1314
All Transmitters ≤ 100W: 2× Multiplier on QSOs (FD rule 7.2.3):												+1314
Media Publicity (FD rule 7.3.2):												+100
Social Media (FD rule 7.3.16):												+100
Web Submission (FD rule 7.3.14):												+50
Points, Grand Total:												2878

MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos

Photos by Lis Schwitters N6NDC



MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos

Photos by Maja Chesney KO6DAV



MBARC Field Day 2025 Photos

Photos by Jake Jakubowski N6XIV



Introduction

Welcome back to the monthly Plan C Orion Antler Spread Activity Report! For those who are not familiar with this column, every month I present a report on what was worked on the HF CW bands out here in Wonder Valley. I presently have antennas covering all bands from 160 meters through 2 meters, but have big plans for bigger (and more potent!) antennas including, the 222, 432 and 1296 MHz bands. All of the QSOs mentioned here took place on CW. I no longer operate voice modes due to my hearing loss and lack of understanding of voices heard on the radio.

Activity Report

This month, there was only one DXpedition with significant activity on bands open to North America. The one was TX5U to Tikehau Island of the Tuamotu Archipelago in French Polynesia. I did manage to work him on each band on which he was active from 40 meters through 10 meters. However, he was unable to erect antennas for 160 or 80 meters as there was only himself on the DXpedition, so he had limited help available.

Another station I’ve been able to work on two bands is KH7AL/KH9, on the very rare (and extremely ergonomically-sensitive) island of Wake, an American possession in the Pacific. Most of the old-time America-possessed islands, such as Palmyra, now restrict visitors to prevent more upheaval to their native environment. During WWII, however, many of these islands were used as “stepping stones” for aircraft and naval ships during the war with Japan. Operator KH7AL/KH9 is living on Wake for a few months to perform work, but is able to operate limited hours from time to time. He mainly concentrates on digital modes but is also doing great on CW. I don’t know whether he’ll ever have the opportunity to get on the lower HF bands, however. You can bet that the pileups for Wake on 80, and especially 160 meters, will be something to behold... if they ever happen, that is!

When I closed this column last month, I had just admitted that although I did not intend to participate seriously, I would watch for and work some DX

that could be found on the various bands during the CQ WorldWide CW WPX Contest. I actually listed a number of QSOs I had completed before (and while) writing the report.

As it turned out, however, as I continued working more DX stations, I got further interested in actually operating the contest. So I opened a new log in N1MM+ (my logging program of choice which I also use for daily logging, although it was never intended for such purpose) for the CW WPX contest, then began working DX galore throughout the weekend. By the time the contest ended Sunday at 23:59:59Z (4:59:59PM local), I’d worked the following numbers of stations on 80 through 10 meters:

Band	QSOs	Pts	WPX	Pt/Q
80m	22	107	7	4.9
40m	89	369	61	4.1
20m	33	89	22	2.7
15m	102	249	80	2.4
10m	67	182	46	2.7
Total	313	996	216	3.2
Score	215,136			

The point of this contest was to work as many ham callsign prefixes as possible throughout the world, rather than how many different countries you could work (thus, its name of CQ WW CW WPX Contest).

Here is a brief explanation of each column above:

- * **Band:** Which ham band, of course.
- * **QSOs:** How many QSOs I was able to complete and log.
- * **Pts:** How many points, according to the contest’s scoring scheme, I was given for all the QSOs made on that band.
- * **WPX:** The number of callsign prefixes I worked (for example, W1XXX, PY2YYY, W1ZZZ, and DL3ZZZ would be three different prefixes although four QSOs).
- * **Pt/Q:** A running average of how many points a QSO was worth on each of the indicated bands.

I should have spent much more time on 20 meters; however, the late-night pileups of JA stations just wouldn’t stop!

Don’t be fooled by that extraordinarily-high-looking score of 215,136 points; that’s just a result of the scoring scheme that the contest sponsors use for this contest! The top operators of this contest likely scored in the 10- or 20-MILLION range, and the vast majority of stations similar to mine scored significantly higher than I did, many of them over one million points! I likely came in something like 40th or 50th in the W6 area alone; we’ll see when the contest results are published later this year. I was actually surprised and pleased to have done as well as I did, considering the antennas I have with which to play, and the band conditions prevailing during the contest.

During the following week, however, the HF bands basically seemed to crash... ’ole Sol hiccuped and emitted several CMEs which impacted Earth, causing some HF bands to essentially blackout. Propagation temporarily became so poor that one could hardly be heard across town on some bands! I did, however, work a number of DX stations on various bands from 80 meters up through 10 meters, as the following log shows; ZP6WX in Paraguay was one I was particularly interested in working especially on the low bands. However, I’m not sure whether he ever operated 160 meters.

But the month of June is traditionally one of the “hottest” months for 6 meter propagation (typically “sporadic Es”); and sure enough, we had openings on 6 meters just about every day, all the way up to and through the ARRL June VHF Contest, which took place on June 14 – 16. In this contest, the point is to work as many people as you can, in as many grid squares as possible, on as many V/UHF bands as possible. In the long-ago past, the location multiplier used to be ARRL Sections, such as Orange, LA, San Diego, or Santa Barbara sections. However, during the 1980s, a major change was made to count the number of “Maidenhead” grid squares worked as the multiplier, instead. As you can see from the log, I worked a bunch of stations, mainly in Texas, Colorado, and other Midwestern states up to the day of the start of the VHF contest. 6 meters did not disappoint during the contest, however; although I mostly stuck to 6 meters, I still worked 35 stations in 21 grids. I heard much more, however, including a few that were coming into

Southern California via double-hop sporadic-E propagation from such grids as FM07 and FM19 in Virginia and Maryland, **W8FJ** in, I think, Ohio, and **KJ4I** in Florida. I was unable to work any of those, however. I was also on 2-meter CW with 450 watts, but despite literally hundreds of CQs, I was unable to interest anybody else into working me. *Perhaps when I get my 2m yagi up higher...*

The following describes what can be worked on HF CW, 160 meters through 6 meters, within one month or less, with very modest, low wire antennas from the hi-desert: specifically, Wonder Valley. My activity is 100% CW. Right now, I mainly chase DX, especially new countries. I try to work as

many new countries as possible on any band (except 60 meters) from 160 meters to 6 meters (and 2 meters, during contests), as well as other interesting stations from time to time. I'll work anything on 6 meters however.

Note that almost always, I received a weaker signal report on 6 meters than I was able to give. I've just bought a brand-new 4 element quad antenna, and will put it up after Field Day. Initially, it's likely to only be up 20 feet or so but, ASAP, I want to get my 40-foot Rohn 25 tower up with the whole stack of VHF/UHF yagis adorning it 8-D. That would give me gain and directivity on 6m, 2m, 1.25m, and 70cm. At some time in the future, I'll also add 1296

to the top of the stack. (I already have the transverters for 222 and 1296 MHz, but I'm looking for high power amplifiers.) Also, I'm presently looking around for a 6 meter amplifier, something like a converted SB220 or perhaps a Command Tech VHF-1200, or something with a small footprint like either of those, at least 1000 watts.

This concludes the Plan C Orion Antler Spread activity report this month. If you would like help or advice on CW operation on HF, just drop me a note at k0xp@k0xp.com and I'll get right back to you.

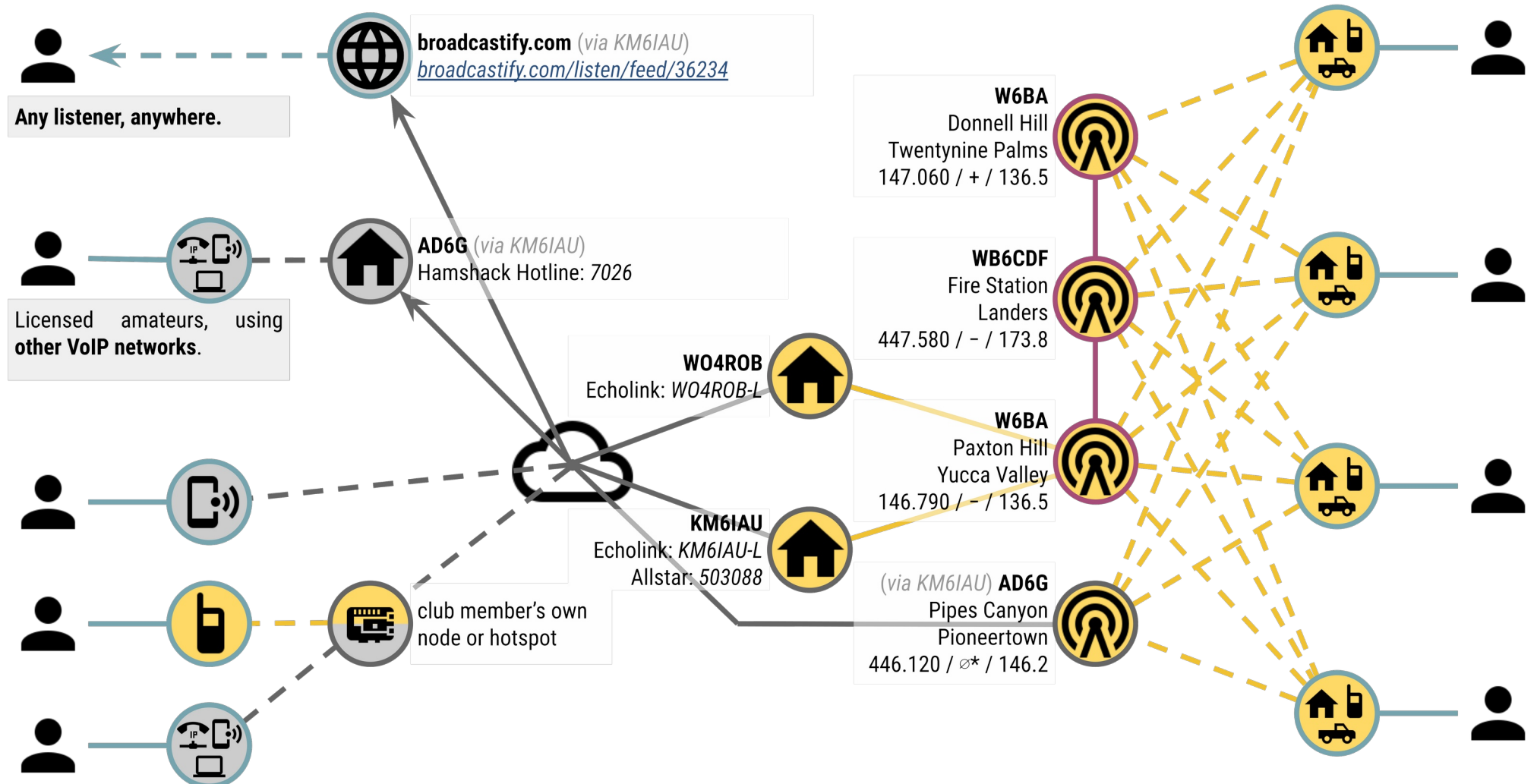
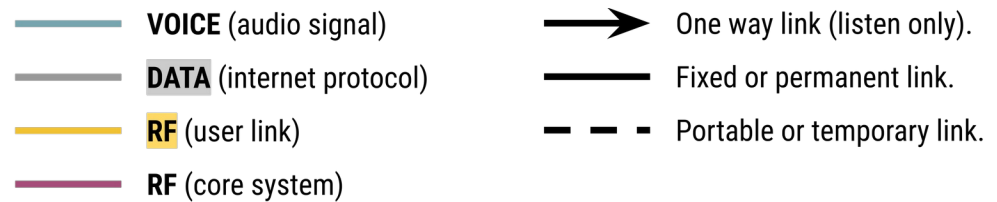
73, Steve **KØXP** (/6) ---

Date and Time UTC	Freq KHz	Callsign	RST		Country	Comments
			Sent	Rcvd		
2025-05-26 14:32	18 072.0	0H0TXF	599	599	Aland Islands	
2025-05-26 16:15	50 098.5	AD5HQ	599	599		EM10
2025-05-26 16:38	50 098.5	WA6HBR	599	579		EM10
2025-05-27 23:15	18 085.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	1st band
2025-05-27 23:17	18 072.1	VP9/VE3DZ	599	599	Bermuda	
2025-05-28 03:03	21 035.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	2nd band
2025-05-28 18:01	50 098.5	AC5RN	599	579		Mark, EL09
2025-05-29 03:23	3 523.0	ZP6WX	599	599	Paraguay	
2025-05-29 16:08	14 027.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	3rd band
2025-05-29 23:54	50 098.5	W6KK	599	529		DM12
2025-05-30 04:11	10 103.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	4th band
2025-05-30 20:02	28 037.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	5th band
2025-06-01 01:15	14 019.0	ZP6WX	599	599	Paraguay	
2025-06-01 03:29	7 027.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	6th band
2025-06-01 08:31	10 128.0	KH7AL/KH9	599	599	Wake Island	Op is working there for a few months
2025-06-02 16:28	50 098.5	AD5HQ	339	449		EM10
2025-06-02 17:06	50 098.5	WA6HBR	559	529		EM10
2025-06-04 14:46	50 098.5	AC5RN	579	519		EL09
2025-06-05 19:18	24 897.0	TX5U	599	599	French Polynesia	7th band, but he doesn't have 160/80
2025-06-07 03:08	18 087.0	ZP6WX	599	599	Paraguay	
2025-06-08 03:15	50 098.5	N7BYD	599	559		DN26
2025-06-10 03:39	50 098.5	KG7CW	599	579		DN14
2025-06-13 18:38	50 098.5	W5GCX	579	559		EM00
2025-06-13 18:55	50 098.5	K5AND	599	579		EM00
2025-06-13 19:00	50 098.5	KE5FN	579	539		EL19
2025-06-13 19:03	50 098.5	K5GN	559	559		DM62
2025-06-13 19:04	50 098.5	W7RF	549	549		DN70
2025-06-13 19:23	50 098.5	AK5X	579	579		EM12
2025-06-17 00:11	50 098.5	K9PPY	599	599		EN51
2025-06-17 01:01	50 098.5	AL7RT	599	579		DN28
2025-06-17 01:24	50 098.5	KG9N	559	559		EN50
2025-06-17 01:46	50 098.5	VA6DV	599	599	Canada	Dave, DN39
2025-06-18 06:16	14 007.0	T30TTT	599	599	Kiribati Islands	
2025-06-19 22:22	18 070.0	KH7AL/KH9	599	599	Wake Island	2nd band
2025-06-21 01:40	50 098.5	W5SWV	599	599		EM13
2025-06-21 01:45	50 098.5	WD0GTY	589	449		EM15
2025-06-21 02:32	50 098.5	AG6M	599	539		Jeff, DN70

Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club

Linked Repeater System Overview

As of June 2025



Licensed amateurs **with** club membership, using **Allstar**** or **Echolink****.

Please use restrictive access, such as PL tone and low-gain antenna for RF links, or password for IP links. Do not link-in broad-access systems, such as other repeaters or reflectors, where such linking could transmit onto our club's system. Thank you.

Licensed amateurs **with or without** club membership, using **RF**.

Please do not link-in broad-access systems, such as other repeaters or reflectors, where such linking could transmit onto our club's system. Thank you.

* This is a simplex node, not a repeater. You must wait for the carrier to drop before transmitting.

** Allstar access needs to be manually set up. Contact linkrequest@W6BA.net to submit your request.

** Echolink access may need to be manually set up. Contact linkrequest@W6BA.net to submit your request.

Calendar – JULY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Jun 29 1059 – FD ended	Jun 30 1915 – ARES net birthday: Kathie Edwards	1 1900 – Club net ctrl: Glenn N6GIW	2 birthday: Steve KØXP	3	4 birthday: Perry KO6DLJ	5
6	7 1915 – ARES net	8 1900 – Club net ctrl: Fred W06C	9	10	11	12
13	14 1915 – ARES net	15 1900 – Club net ctrl: Aaron KM6IAU	16	17	18	19 1400 – Club mtg , Yucca Mesa Community Center
20	21 1915 – ARES net	22 1900 – Club net ctrl: Larry AD6G	23	24	25	26 birthday: Bryan KF6YGK
27	28 1915 – ARES net	29 1900 – Club net ctrl: Paul AA6SM	30 birthday: Ellie Sherwin	31	Aug 1	Aug 2

KD6DIQ AllStarLink
Node#28855 Schedule

YV: 145.77MHz, Øshift, ☐67.0Hz

EVERYDAY

0000 – 0100 WIN System #2560
2200 – 2400 WIN System #2560

SUN

No additional program, system open.

MON

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332

TUE

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332
1700 – 1900 East Coast Refl. #45225

WED

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332
1700 – 1930 East Coast Refl. #45225

THU

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332
1700 – 1930 East Coast Refl. #45225

FRI

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332
1820 – 2400 WIN System #2560

SAT

0400 – 0730 East Coast Refl. #45225
1000 – 1300 Alaska Morning #29332
1700 – 1720 Newsline
2000 – 2200 East Coast Refl. #45225