



Repeater committee maintaining the Paxton Repeater. (file photo)

Paxton Repeater

Larry Mollica AD6G

Just FYI to all; the Paxton Hill (Yucca Valley) repeater is having issues with receiver sensitivity. The sensitivity is varying greatly, at times suffering a drop in sensitivity amounting to around 20dB, which is quite a bit.

The inside hardware was tested Tuesday, February 24, mostly looking for mechanically related type problems (loose connections, etc.) using the basic “smack around everything in sight” method. The trouble could not be duplicated. The issue may be outdoors; feed line or antenna.

I will be doing doing more on-air weak signal testing, please excuse the occasional noises heard. I will announce these tests as they are conducted. ---

A Look Back

Maja Chesney KO6DAV has collected some older club photos from an old social media account and arranged them into collages.

The collage on [page 6](#) is a collection of photos taken at St. Christopher of the Desert Catholic Church during a few regular meetings in 2015. The radio club used to meet every third Thursday of the month at 7pm.

The collage on [page 7](#) is a compilation of pictures that were posted (but not necessarily taken) in 2019 and 2020. ---

Next Club Meeting

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2:00 PM
[Yucca Mesa Community Center](#)

Local Amateur Radio Info At A Glance

Local Nets

 Net Name	 Day	 @	 Time
Amateur Radio Emergency Service	MON	@	7:15 pm
MBARC Weekly Net	TUE	@	7:00 pm
MBARC “Cawfee Tawk”	DAILY	@	10:00 am

MBARC Linked Repeater System RF Links

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

 Site	 MHz	 +/-	 [dB]
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

MBARC Linked Repeater System VoIP Links

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

Other LocalLinkedSystems

 Site	 MHz	 +/-	 [dB]	 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> --- Jim Stewart	KI6WTI
<i>Secretary</i> --- Aaron Chesney	KM6IAU
<i>Treasurer</i> --- Glenn Miller	N6GIW
<i>Board Members</i> --- Bryan Heveron	KF6YGK
Judy Cloutier	KK6NWG
<i>Repeater Trustee</i> --- Glenn Miller	N6GIW

MBARC Beacon --- MAR 2026 EDITION

<i>Editor</i> --- Aaron Chesney	KM6IAU
<i>Graphic Designer</i> --- Maja Chesney	KO6DAV
<i>Contributors</i> --- Larry Mollica	AD6G
Paul Edwards	AA6SM
Aaron Chesney	KM6IAU
Maja Chesney	KO6DAV

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President's Message

Paul Edwards AA6SM, President

It was good to see new faces at the club meeting – one is a new ham and the other new to this area. Let's make them feel welcome!

We have a couple of events coming up that we need to start preparing for. Firstly, on Saturday 11 April 2026 at 0900 to 1300 (0800 setup) in the Walmart parking lot in Yucca Valley, the *Eighth Annual "Help Yourself, Help Your Neighbor" Emergency Fair*. Secondly, ARRL Field Day. This is the biggest event of the year sponsored by the ARRL. Field Day is always the fourth full weekend of June, beginning at 1800 UTC (1100 Pacific) Saturday and running through 2059 UTC (1359 Pacific) Sunday. ([source](#)) Field Day 2026 is June 27-28.

Please support our nets – ARES Net at 1915 local every Monday, the **MBARC** net at 1900 local every Tuesday, and the "Cawfee Tawk" Net at 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. The Board can be contacted at the club's email address w6ba.condition765@slmail.me and any serious query will receive a response. After all, this is your club!

73s,

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



MBARC Regular Meeting Minutes – FEBRUARY 2026

Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU**, Secretary

The regular meeting took place at the Yucca Mesa Community Center on FEBRUARY 21, 2026.

The meeting was called to order by President Paul Edwards **AA6SM** at 14:00.

The President welcomed attendees, new hams, and new-to-us hams. Counterclockwise around the table, attendees introduced themselves with some combination of name, callsign, location, and/or relationship to another.

Secretary Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU** referred attendees to the JANUARY 2026 meeting minutes distributed before the meeting.

Treasurer Glenn Miller **N6GIW** orated the treasury report:

Description	Income	Expense	Pending	Balance
Starting balance			0.00	3742.26
Membership dues/renewals	120.00		120.00	3742.26
Proceeds from 50/50 raffle	26.00		146.00	3742.26
Bank deposit			0.00	3888.26
Food for holiday party		500.00	0.00	3388.26
Venue, 4 meetings		60.00	0.00	3328.26
Membership dues/renewals	70.00		70.00	3328.26
Ending balance			70.00	3328.26

Membership Chair Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU** orated briefly about the membership report, referring to the printed report distributed before the meeting. He thanked attending members for keeping their membership current. He reminded members to let him know about any contact info updates.

The President called for presentation volunteers for the MARCH 2026 and APRIL 2026 club meetings. Aaron **KM6IAU** volunteered for the MARCH 2026 meeting. Larry Mollica **AD6G** volunteered for the APRIL 2026 meeting.

The President mentioned the need to start thinking about Summer Field Day.

The President brought up the 8th Annual “Help Yourself, Help Your Neighbor” Emergency Fair. Rob Cloutier **WO4ROB** said he would be out-of-town. Aaron **KM6IAU** mentioned that he has the club’s pop-up tent, table, and chairs available to whomever planned on attending. There was not broad appeal at this time. The President decided to approach the matter later.

The President called for old business. None was presented.

Paul **AA6SM** gave a brief presentation on VHF contesting. He talked about signal propagation characteristics of the VHF amateur bands. He also mentioned that most VHF contesting occurs using sideband and CW modes. Members asked questions, including about antenna gain.

After the presentation, the President called for any other business. Several items were mentioned: Barbara Gustavson **K6BRB** offered a **G5RV** antenna; Aaron **KM6IAU** expressed interest. Paul **AA6SM** asked members to keep spouse Kathie Edwards in their thoughts and prayers while she cares for her mother. Similarly, Rob **WO4ROB** mentioned that spouse Judy **KK6WNG** dispatched to care for their son. Manuel Borges **AE6SG** mentioned he is downsizing; electronics and various astronomy equipment would be available to club members. He said he would provide a list to Webmaster Paul Edwards **AA6SM** for the website. Newsletter Editor Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU** mentioned that he would be happy to include it in the newsletter, also.

Rob **WO4ROB** conducted the 50/50 raffle. The winner was Dean Caldwell **KE6VIA**, who donated it back to the club, thus making the proceeds toward the club \$53.00.

The head count was 21. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 14:30. ---



MBARC Membership Report – MARCH 2026

Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU**, Membership Chair



Overview

This is the membership report for the **Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club** as of February 23, 2026. This report is accompanied by the current roster when distributed to members at club meetings. If you are a current member, cannot attend meetings, and require an up-to-date copy of the roster, you may send your request by [email](#).

License class and expiration data is pulled from the FCC database based on the callsign we have on record for members. An expired license is counted as 'unlicensed'.

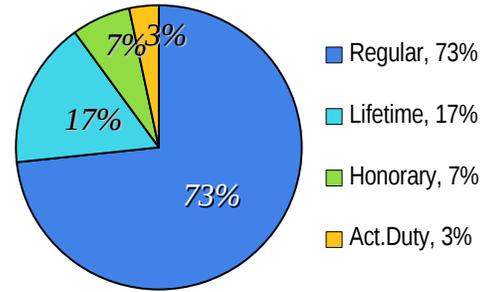
Statistics

60 Members Total

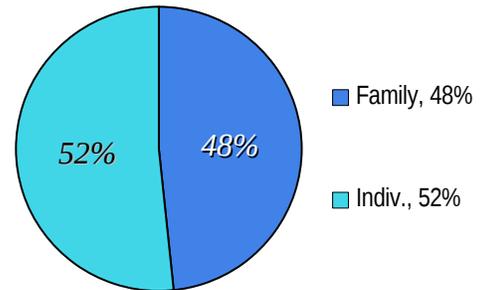
44 members have Regular membership	100% of all members
42 Regular members have current membership	73% of all members
2 Regular members have expired membership	95% of Regular members
0 Regular members have membership expiring soon	5% of Regular members
2 members have Active Duty membership	0% of Regular members
10 members have Lifetime membership	3% of all members
4 members have Honorary membership	17% of all members
29 members are part of a Family membership	7% of all members
31 members have Individual membership	48% of all members
50 members are currently licensed	83% of all members
13 licensed members are Technician class	26% of licensed members
22 licensed members are General class	44% of licensed members
1 licensed member is Advanced class	2% of licensed members
14 licensed members are Extra class	28% of licensed members
10 members are currently unlicensed	17% of all members

Charts

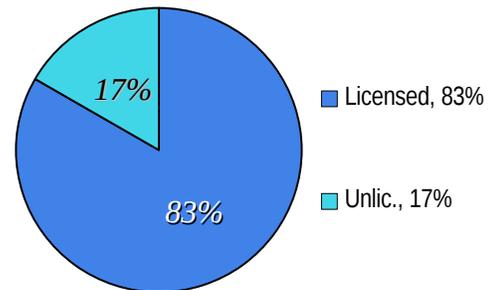
Membership By Class



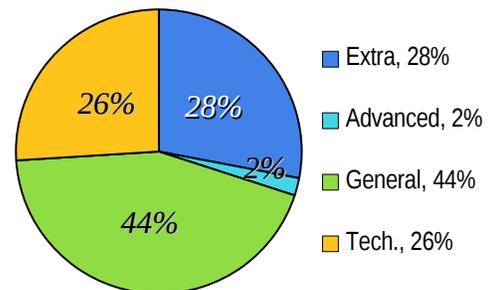
Membership By Type



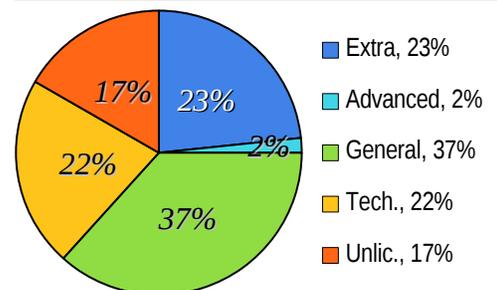
Licensed vs. Unlicensed



License Classes (Licensed Only)



License Classes (All Members)



Established Membership Policies

Family Membership

Family Membership is limited to the immediate family members of the primary member.

Honorary Membership

Honorary memberships are automatically Family memberships.

Members with 5 years of continuous membership upon turning 90 are eligible for Honorary Membership.

Lifetime Memberships

Lifetime memberships are automatically Family Memberships.

Expired Membership

There is a two-month grace period for expired memberships. If a member renews their membership during the grace period, the membership is treated as continuous. *For the computation of the included **Statistics** and **Charts**, they are counted without exclusion.*

Contact

Send your membership inquires and updates to Aaron@KM6IAU.net.

MBARC Documents with QR Codes

Aaron Chesney **KM6IAU**

You may have noticed QR codes appearing on some **MBARC** documents.

“A QR code, short for quick-response code, is a type of two-dimensional matrix barcode [...] [Read on Wikipedia](#)

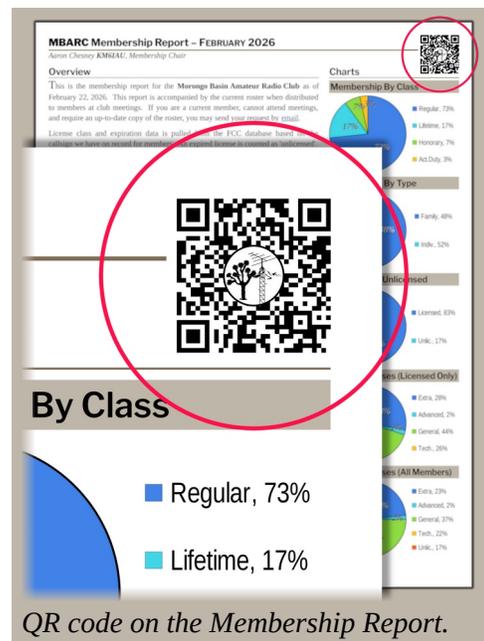
If you scan them with your phone, tablet, or laptop, you'll get a link to the document as a PDF. This has several benefits:

- * The linked material is up-to-date. The link points to the most current version of the document. For instance, the QR

code on this month's membership report is always good for the most current version – next week, next month, or next year.

- * Infinite zoom – you can zoom in and read the document at your convenience.
- * Form fields – When a document is a form, such as the membership application, those documents can then also be filled out *before* printing.

Club members have already reported using these features and find them valuable. ---



MBARC Birthdays – MAR 2026

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
- maj.chesney@gmail.com



MBARC Personalized Name Tags

Most regular attendees of club meetings already have theirs – do you have yours? **MBARC** personalized name tags are a great way to showcase your radio club spirit to newcomers and long-timers alike. Order your name tag today!

- * Size: 2.95 × 2.16 inches (7.5 × 5.5 cm)
- * Thickness: 3mm – Durable and sturdy
- * Backing: Magnetic – No pins, no hassle!
- * Price: Only \$8!

- craftedbymaja@gmail.com
- [Crafted by Maja](#)

Personalized Magnetic Name Tag \$8

Maja Chesney
KO6DAV
MORONGO BASIN
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
YUCCA VALLEY, CA

(SAMPLE)

MAJA

For orders, please send an email to craftedbymaja@gmail.com or visit [Crafted by Maja](#) on Facebook.

Club Photos Posted in 2015

Collage by Maja Chesney KO6DAV



Club Photos Posted in 2019, 2020

Collage by Maja Chesney KO6DAV

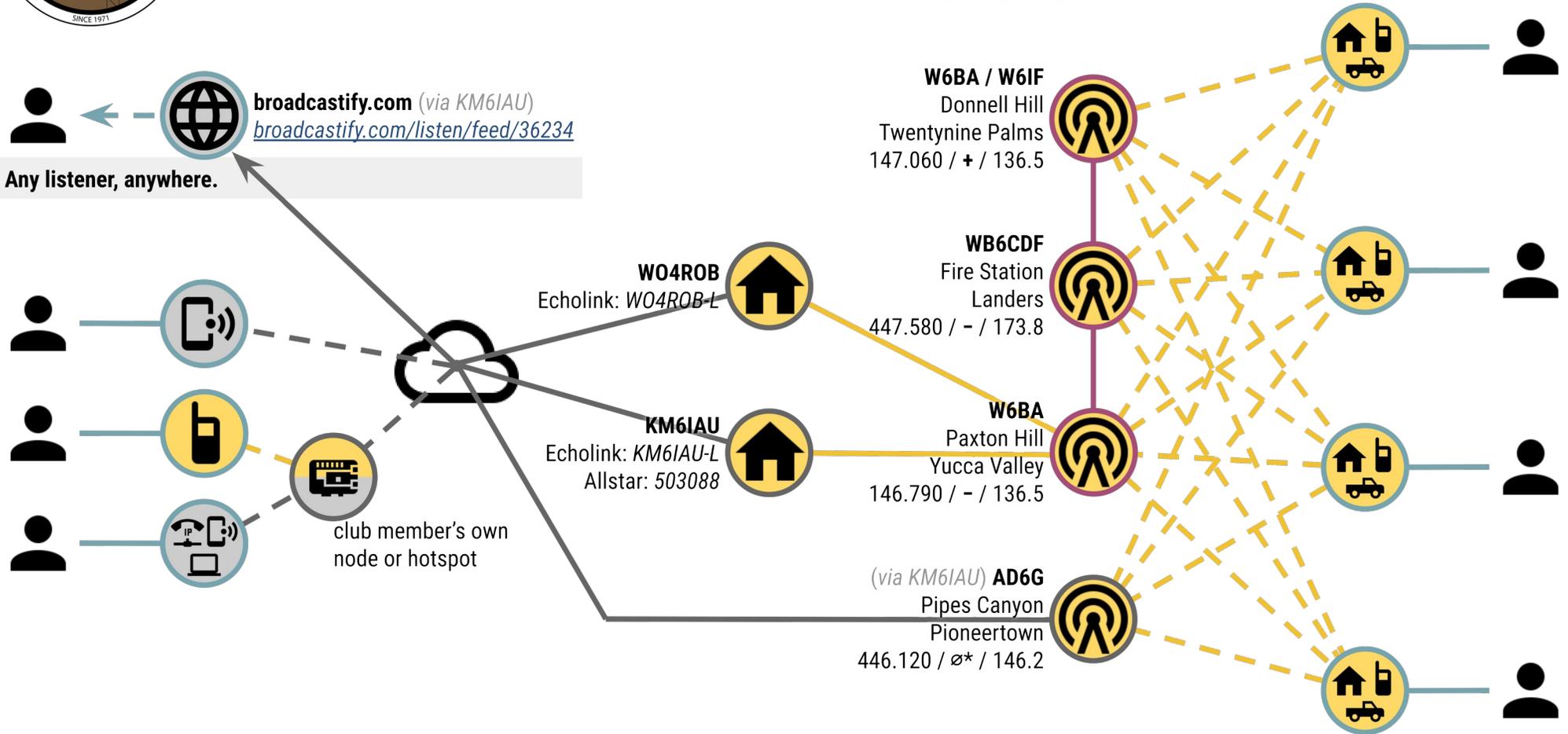




Morongo Basin Amateur Radio Club Linked Repeater System Overview

As of October 2025

- **VOICE** (audio signal)
- **DATA** (internet protocol)
- **RF** (user link)
- **RF** (core system)
- One way link (listen only).
- Fixed or permanent link.
- - - Portable or temporary link.



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.

Any licensed amateur 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. There is no transmit frequency offset. 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.

MBARC Calendar – MARCH 2026

KD6DIQ AllStarLink Node#28855 Schedule

YV: 145.77MHz, Øshift, ☐67.0Hz

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 1915 – ARES net	3 1900 – Club net ctrl: Judy KK6NWG	4	5	6	7
8	9 1915 – ARES net	10 1900 – Club net ctrl: Rob WO4ROB	11	12	13	14
15	16 1915 – ARES net	17 1900 – Club net ctrl: Larry AD6G	18	19	20	21 1400 – Club mtg, Yucca Mesa Community Center
22	23 1915 – ARES net	24 1900 – Club net ctrl: Paul AA6SM	25	26	27	28
29	30 1915 – ARES net	31 1900 – Club net ctrl: Aaron KM6IAU	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4

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 Amateur Radio Newslines
2000 – 2200 East Coast Refl. #45225