



## **Morgan Amateur Radio Newsletter**

June, 2019

Vol. 3, No. 2

### **Introduction**

This newsletter of the Morgan Amateur Radio Club (MARC) is distributed at no cost every other month to members of the club and others with an interest in ham radio. Please feel free to share it with others but without altering the content.

We hope the newsletter will inspire more hams to come join us in our activities and inspire others with a passing interest in ham radio to follow up on their interest and become licensed. All are welcome to attend our meetings. Our club is focused on radio for emergency communications, support of community activities needing radio communications and just having fun learning and using ham radio. We gather on the third Wednesday of even numbered months at the Morgan Search and Rescue Building to learn new ideas about all forms of radio communication and have a fun time visiting and discussing radio topics. Learn more about the Morgan Amateur Radio Club at [www.MorganARC.net](http://www.MorganARC.net).

### **What is MARC?**

MARC is the acronym for Morgan Amateur Radio Club. Its purpose is to support Morgan area amateur radio operators to enable them to use their radios in case of emergency when normal methods of communication are overloaded or unavailable. MARC meets on third Wednesday of even numbered months to conduct club business and receive special training or learn about topics of interest. Meetings are open to anyone whether a member or not. You do not have to be a ham radio operator to join or participate.

Many club members are also affiliated with and have training for RACES and ARES, state and federal agencies respectively, with the same purpose in assisting with communications during various levels of emergency situations when called up by those state or federal agencies. MARC is also associated with the Wasatch Back Tri-county Radio Group, a group formed of radio operators in Wasatch, Summit and Morgan counties with the purpose to provide mutual radio support if an emergency situation affected one particular county's ability to provide radio communications.

### **Review of April 2019 MARC Meeting**

Kevin Barjenbruch from the US National Weather Service Office in Salt Lake City for the presentation on Sky Warn gave us an exciting presentation on SkyWarn, a weather spotter program sponsored by the National Weather Service. We also received some training about types of weather

phenomena and weather safety. If you missed his presentation, he said the presentation could also be accessed from the website: [www.weather.gov/saltlakecity](http://www.weather.gov/saltlakecity).

Becoming a weather spotter is encouraged. There are three reasons for this important service: (1) ground observers can overcome Doppler Radar limitations. (2) They provide ground truth and can motivate people downstream to take action. (3) They can be used for training simulations.

Kevin encouraged all to sign up to participate in Sky Warn as a weather spotter. He then explained weather hazards as they applied to Utah examples: severe thunderstorms with hail on land and over water; super cells, winter storms, tornadoes, flooding, and other weather events.

Marine forecasts are available on the website for various lakes and reservoirs in Utah.

Kevin said that the National Weather Service is the wholesale part of weather information. They only reach 15-20% of people and thus need the weather media to assist (weathercasters).

Additional training for weather spotters is free.

We thank Kevin for his informative and interesting presentation. We hope club members or others will choose to help out as weather spotters.

### **June 2019 Meeting**

We will have a presentation by Steve Lyon(KN7OYL) about electrical connectivity of our various pieces of equipment. A particular focus will be on Anderson Powerpoles. Anderson Powerpoles have become a *de facto* standard for connecting DC electrical equipment, although in recent years there have developed some other competitors. ARES manuals recommend them for use in emergency operations. Having a few on hand with attached wires is a good addition to your “go kit”.

### **Rocky Mountain Division Convention**

The Rocky Mountain Division Convention will be held on August 8th, 9th, and 10th 2019 on the campus of Weber State University, in Ogden Utah. You can register online at [utahhamfest.org](http://utahhamfest.org). Those who register before July 16th are automatically entered into a drawing for a Yaesu FT70D dual band handheld.

Over 60 forums and presentations are scheduled. Popular topics include, HF, Digital modes, High Altitude Ballooning, Raspberry Pi Hot Spots, Antenna building, Antenna modeling, Getting rid of QRM in the shack, Solar Cycle information, and many more. It is a great opportunity to connect with the experts.

A Swap meet, Wouff Hong, license testing session, food, presentations, vendors, and DX University are all part of this years convention.

Bob Heil K9EID, CEO and founder of Heil Sound and host of the Ham Nation podcast, will be the keynote speaker on Saturday August 10th. Howard E. Michel (pronounced Mickel) the CEO of the ARRL will be the Friday keynote speaker.

A highlight of the convention is DX University, an all-day workshop taught by some of the best DX operators in the Rocky Mountain West. DX University will be held on Thursday August 8th and requires participants to register in advance.

You can register and learn more about the 2019 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention by visiting [utahhamfest.org](http://utahhamfest.org).

### **Status of 147.100 Repeater**

If you haven't noticed, our 147.100 repeater has been repaired and is back to work for us. We are still investigating getting battery backup for the repeater to allow it to continue to function during AC power interruptions.

### **Bike Races Being Suported by MARC**

We provided radio support for the East Canyon Bike Race this April 13 and things went very smoothly. On August 17<sup>th</sup> we will provide radio communications support for the Wildflower Pedalfest race. This year Pedalfest will be using different routes due to construction activity on Highway 65 and Highway 66. Annette Laughter (K7ALL) is our club coordinator for these bike rides and is still looking for radio operator help. Text her at 702-321-0997 if you would like to help and haven't been contacted yet. These are great opportunities to enhance your radio operating skills as well as support some local activities and get out to enjoy some outdoor weather. Annette Laughter (K7ALL) is still looking for some volunteers to help with these races.

If you would like to participate, but are unsure about your radio skills, you can partner up with a more experienced radio operator and learn more about radio skills. Even if you don't yet have your license, you can participate and use the radio if you are with a licensed ham. If you would like to participate in such an event, but cannot on these days, there are many other similar opportunities to use your radio skills at other times.

### **Podcasts**

ARRL (American Radio Relay League) is an important organization for ham radio operators and provides many services to ham radio. Today I would like to highlight one of those services, podcasts. ARRL sponsors two special podcasts: *The Doctor Is In* and *So Now What?* They occur on alternating weeks. New episodes are published on Thursdays.

*The Doctor Is In* is a Q&A type podcast where a ham radio "guru" answers questions on technical topics for which people have requested information. It is an audio extension of the very popular column published monthly in *QST* magazine. Some recent topics include: *Handheld Transceivers*, *Log Periodic Antennas*, *SWR Simplified*, and *Do Dipoles have to be Straight?*.

*So Now What?* is a new podcast focused on the needs of new ham radio operators or those getting back into ham radio after a long absence who may have basic questions. Some recent topics include: *Rules on Calling CQ*, *New Ham Radio Starter Pack*, *All About Safety*, and *Getting in On Field Day*.

Links to the podcasts can be found on Apple itunes and Stitcher as well as on the ARRL website [ARRL.org](http://ARRL.org). These could be an informative "listen" while commuting.

### **Field Day**

This year we are not participating as a club for ARRL Field Day. However, you can participate as an individual or visit another club which is having an outdoor club Field Day activity. If you have time, get on your radio June 22nd and 23rd and listen or answer a call for CQ. Either way you will learn something.

## **Club Website**

Please check the club website at [www.MorganARC.net](http://www.MorganARC.net). Here you will find updated rosters, net protocols, copies of the newsletters and minutes from our meetings and activities. The previous meeting minutes should be checked on the website for correctness, because we seldom have extra copies at the next meeting.

## **The “Ifs”**

If you have any ideas or news for the newsletter or topics for future MARC meetings please share those thoughts with any of the MARC leadership listed at [www.MorganARC.net](http://www.MorganARC.net)

If you need help with a radio matter, check out the list of “Elmers” on the MARC website. If we don't know the answer, we will help find someone who does.

If you would like to write a short article for the newsletter, on a ham radio topic, please contact one of the MARC leadership. We would love to hear from you.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter as an e-mail, respond by email or contact any of the MARC leadership and ask to be dropped from the e-mail list. Their contact information can be found on [MorganARC.net](http://MorganARC.net).

## **Calendar of Events**

Please continue your support of the weekly nets, or begin if you have not participated. Also please look at the list below of upcoming events and consider participating in some of them. That is an important way to improve your radio skills and knowledge. The list of events is not comprehensive, but shows what I know about at the time of the newsletter. If you have a calendar item you would like to have in the newsletter, just send me the information.

Hope to hear you on the radio soon! - Forrest (KG7NJJ)

## **Upcoming Events**

### **June**

-Jun 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> – ARRL Field Day

### **August**

-Aug 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>-Utah ARRL Rocky Mountain Convention @ WSU Shepard Union Bldg.

Registration and more info at [rmdc2019.org](http://rmdc2019.org)

-Aug 17<sup>th</sup> – Wildflower Pedalfest bike race. See information above.

### **September**

-Sept 14<sup>th</sup> - Wasatch Back Tri-County Radio Group Eyeball. Morgan County will host, more info later.

## **Recurring Events**

--Morgan ERC net: Sunday evenings @ 9 PM on Morgan repeater on 147.100 MHz.

Temporarily on 147.100 Simplex only.

Visit [www.MorganARC.net](http://www.MorganARC.net) for more information.

--Wasatch Back Tri-County net: Thursday evenings @ 9 PM Lewis Peak repeater on 147.360 MHz. Visit [www.wasatchbackhams.net](http://www.wasatchbackhams.net) for more information.

--Utah State RACES VHF net, third Thursday of even number months @ 8:00 PM on an intertie repeater you can reach.

--Utah State RACES HF net; third Saturday of odd number months @ 8:00 AM on 3.920 MHz

--Hardscrabble Canyon FRS/GMRS radio net. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month @ 8PM

**To join or renew membership (\$10/yr single or \$18/yr family) with the Morgan Amateur Radio Club, please fill in the application on the next page and bring it with appropriate dues to a club meeting or mail it to:**

**Sue Cogger, 73 North River Cove Circle, Morgan, UT 84050**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check bands and modes that you can operate or are interested in:

MODE	HF	6M	2M	222 MHz	440 MHz	Others
SSB						
CW						
FM						
DATA						
PACKET						
Other modes (specify below)						
Mobile Operation						

Are you a member of the ARRL? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Can your home station be operated without commercial power? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Are you interested in emergency preparedness/communications? Yes [ ] No [ ]

What subjects would you be interested in learning about?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there a topic you could share info about or elmer (help) others on?

\_\_\_\_\_

I am applying for membership in the Morgan County Amateur Radio Club and agree to abide by its Constitution and Bylaws. (Current annual membership fee is \$10 single or \$18 family)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR TREASURER'S USE:** 1Yr 5Yr Single Family Pro-Rated  
Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Cash Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Initials \_\_\_\_\_