



High-Country Static

October 2015
 News and Information Concerning
 Amateur Radio in Northern Arizona and
 Beyond

Welcome to the Coconino Amateur Radio Club (CARC) Monthly Newsletter. CARC is a non-profit club devoted to providing communication services to local volunteer agencies and events. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at the East side Sizzlers Restaurant Highway 66 at Fanning Dr. Flagstaff, at 7:00PM. All persons interested in amateur radio, whether licensed or not, are welcome to attend.

Coconino SkyWarn meets 1900 every Monday evening on the 146.98 repeater and at 1930 on the Navajo Mountain CACTUS repeater and 146.480 simplex.

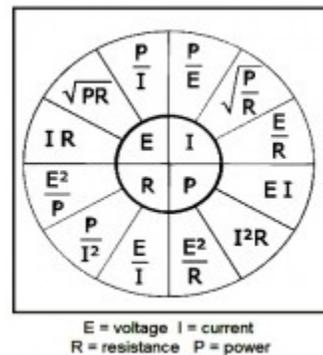
Coconino ARES meets 1900 every Wednesday evening on the 146.98 repeater and at 1930 on the Navajo Mountain CACTUS repeater and 146.480.

Calendar of Events for 2015:

10/10	Soulstice Run	Bob Meadowcroft
11/14	Girls On The Run	Sandy Meadowcroft
12/4	Statewide Emergency Drill	Joe Hobart
12/5	Skywarn Recognition	Mike Clever
12/6	Christmas Party	Meadowcrofts

Officers:

President: Sandy Meadowcroft KF4JHC
 Vice-President: Tom Shehan W7TGS
 Secretary: Erv Perelstein, KE7QFI
 Treasurer: Pat Traber, KE7QFG
 PIO: Janice Enloe, KI6WCK



Reminders:

Thank you to all who have run the Monday and Wednesday night nets:
 Flagstaff: Tom W7TGS, Erv KE7QFI, Mike KD8RQV
 Page: Lee KF7YRS and Vince WB7UWW

If anyone one would like to help with the nets, please let Tom know. It is good practice for radio skills and the script is written for you to use.

Licensing Exams for 2015:

Remember to bring your license and a copy, a government issued picture ID, a black ink pen, and fifteen dollars.

17 October North Country Healthcare, 4th St, Flagstaff

<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

Arizona Newsletter: <http://www.arrl.org/>

Tutorials: <http://www.arrl.org/tutorials>

http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/flagstaff-az-86004-1221-2

Next Business Meeting:

Our next business meeting will be October 8, 2015 at the East side Sizzlers at the corner of Highway 66 and Fanning.

Upcoming Events that May be of Interest to Club Members:

MARS Invites ARES/RACES Participation in Coronal Mass Ejection Disaster

Exercise

A disastrous coronal mass ejection (CME) will be the focus of a national Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) communication exercise in early November, and MARS is hoping to collaborate with Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) groups. The MARS exercise will get under way on November 8 and continue into November 10. It will be a quarterly contingency HF exercise in support of the US Department of Defense.

"The exercise scenario will simulate a CME event and focus on actions that radio operators should take prior to and following a CME event," explained Army MARS Program Manager Paul English, WD8DBY. "One thing we want to continue to work on is the interface with the greater Amateur Radio community."

CMEs are huge explosions of gas, plasma, and electromagnetic radiation from the Sun, which are responsible for geomagnetic storms. Solar flares can accompany CMEs, but they are not the same thing. A CME can take anywhere from 1 day to 3 days to reach Earth. CMEs occur all the time, but most bypass Earth with minor effects. A major CME that hits Earth directly could damage or destroy satellites as well as terrestrial communication and electrical power infrastructure.



English said the November exercise would simulate a radio blackout as well as infrastructure damage. "During the exercise, we will simulate the blackout with a 3 hour pause, and then we will bring stations back on air and begin handling requests for information," he told ARRL.

Training objectives for this exercise will include understanding what a CME is and how much forecast lead time can be expected; the effects associated with a CME, and what precautions radio operators take to protect their equipment prior to a severe CME.

After the simulated CME, operators will assess its effects and begin reporting that information. This will involve "interoperation with Amateur Radio operators and groups to assist in assessment."

Individual radio amateurs as well as ARES and RACES teams are encouraged to participate in this exercise. [Contact](#) MARS and provide your contact information, if your organization is interested.

From the CARC President:

Thank you to all who helped with this year's Flagstaff to Grand Canyon Stagecoach Line 100 Mile Race. It was a great success! A very special thanks to **Bill Smith** who did a superb job in organizing CARC's support for the event. Also, a very special thanks to **Joe Hobart** and **Janice Enloe** who did a spectacular job as net control for the full 30 hours of the race.

The race organizer was especially pleased with the support given by our volunteer organization, recognizing that the event wouldn't be possible without the contributions of numerous volunteer groups.

Our participants were:

Bill Smith

Joe Hobart

Janice Enloe

Pat and Al Traber

Phil and Bobbi Brunner

Ron and Betty Gerlak

Bill and Mary Lou Hagan

Jody Packard

Mike Clever

Ken Held

David Schaubert

Jason Bennett

Chad Eastman

Bob and Dinah Gillette

Bob and Sandy Meadowcroft

Sandy KF4JHC

And from Bill Smith:

I am still in sunny St. Louis today, heading back to Flagstaff this week.

Thank you ALL for helping out with this challenging event. Planning will begin soon for next year's event. I hope each of you enjoyed yourselves and will participate again!

Thanks!!

Bill

Minutes of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club 9/10/2015

Meeting Started: 7:00 pm

Guests: None

Secretary's Report: Since the minutes of the Aug meeting were published in the newsletter there was no need to read them. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Traber, our club treasurer, gave the treasurer's report. The closing bank balance as of 9/9/2015 was \$3,225.06. Membership is 59 members, consisting of 55 paid members and 4 lifetime members, probably the highest membership in many years. Ken Held moved and Joe Hobart seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Unanimously accepted.

President's Report: After Introductions, (we welcomed several new attendees, again), Sandy Meadowcroft, on behalf of the CARC, thanked Bill Smith for arranging for training space and VE Testing space with North Country Health Care.

Sandy brought up the request that Jack Lunsford made last meeting that CARC join the ARCA organization because they do so much good for Ham Radio and it's members. After a short discussion, Ken moved that CARC join ARCA, Marylou Hagan seconded the motion. Ken's motion was unanimously approved.

As a result of our discussion last month of the recent Jacob Lake search for a 5 year old boy who wandered away from their family campsite, Tom Shehan asked the club if we should be volunteering additional Emergency Services to the city and county, for example: should we try to provide more communications support to Search and Rescue and CERT missions. He reminded us that we would probably need training in other organizations' procedures and operations. It was decided to table further discussion and ask Sgt Aaron Dick, the County SAR Coordinator, to be a guest speaker at one of our meetings. He then could discuss SAR's needs and requirements with us. Sandy said she would invite Aaron to come to our next meeting.

Sandy gave a quick calendar update of upcoming events:

Sep 26-27 100 Mile Run, Bill Smith reviewed volunteers to date, frequencies to use, etc. Joe offered to provide a 3-element HF Beam antenna to install near the IMAX in Tucson. Chad said he had a 4-element beam that we could borrow. Joe/Janice will be NCS for the race. Bill will be out of town for the race, Sandy will take over as coordinator.

Oct 10 Soulstice Run, Bob Meadowcroft had no additional information at this meeting.

Nov 14 Girl's - On -The - Run, Sandy and Dawnelle Shehan co-coordinators, need volunteers,

Dec 5 Skywarn Recognition Day, NWS Belmont, Mike Clever/Scott coordinating. Mike asked if anyone can bring their HF radio to the Recognition Day. The NWS personnel offered to provide antenna hook-ups for additional radios so that we can make more contacts with other NWS offices throughout the country. He said

that personnel there asked if we could provide additional HF operators at their offices during the bigger disasters as they are short handed with HAM operators during those times.

Dec 6 Christmas Party, Sandy & Bob Meadowcroft hosting in their home, @ 2:00 pm.

ARES Report: Joe told us that the KNAU Simulcast station is still off the air and the ARES repeater

continues to be excellent. We were reminded to keep checking the 146.980 repeater during any type of emergency or potential problem with lightning or flooding. Joe said the Williams repeater seems to be working pretty well. The repeater folks spent a lot of time up there getting things in order. We will need to use that repeater during the 100-mile Run and were happy to hear it is working. We discussed the need to make a donation to the repeater maintenance. It was recommended that we give them \$50.00 a month through the rest of the year. Scott motioned, Bill Smith seconded, Unanimously approved.

Joe told us about the State-Wide Disaster Exercise scheduled for Nov 4th and that CARC was asked for support with both HF and VHF during the exercise. The exercise will feature a natural disaster event, most likely the loss of all commercial communications and internet connectivity. We will be providing VHF and HF connectivity to the State EOC, activate the new alternate EOC near Buffalo Park and maybe simulate assisting with a simulated Red Cross shelter activation. Emergency Management would like to try Digital Messaging this year for the first time. Anyone having experience with Digital is requested to try and participate in the exercise. Please let Joe know.

We will hold VE Testing sessions on Oct 17th, Jan 16, 2016 and April 16th. All three sessions will be held at North Country Health Care on 4th Street.

OLD BUSINESS: Sandy told us that the new technician licensing class will run from Saturday 10/3, to Saturday 11/21 at the North Country Health Care Facility. Joe said he will schedule a VE Testing day very soon after the class is over. The class information is on our new website.

Ken Held updated us on the status of the new Yaesu Repeater. He called Yaesu to check and they have accepted our application but the repeaters are backordered. Expected delivery date is the end of October or beginning of November. Ken would like to have it working before escaping to the valley and missing all our beautiful snow. It will be operated on UHF, (smaller size duplexer) for now. Joe already has a coordinated pair of frequencies approved and has offered to let us use a pair of duplexers for UHF .

Ron announced that the Route 66-On-The-Air weekend is coming up from September 12-20. There is a need for volunteers to operate the Route 66 radio station from 11 am - 11 pm during this time. He reminded the club that, even though HF will be the main frequency, all volunteers are welcome. The call sign will be W6T. The HF station will initially be in Williams, (at the Chamber of Commerce under the ZIP Line) for the first week and then moved to Belmont. More details, including frequencies, are available at QRZ.com. In general the will be on 20 m during the day, 40 m in the evening and 80 m at night.

Janice told us that the CARC Library listing of available material will be on the website.

Sandy reminded everyone that CARC Name Tags can be ordered from Flag Stamp & Engraving, 2534 E 7th Street on the corner of 7th and 4th Streets.

Bob Meadowcroft told us he still has CARC Hats, T-Shirts, and Vests for sale

NEW BUSINESS: No new business this month.

50/50: Dawnelle Shehan won the 50/50 raffle.

There being no further business, Bill Smith moved and Ken seconded a motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Meeting Ended: 8:30 pm.

Presentations: No additional presentations this month.

Soulstice Run:

Greetings everyone - this is the announcement of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club's communication support for the Soulstice Race to be held Saturday morning, Oct 10th. While we do have minimal acceptable staffing already, there are always spots for more folks to assist in this spirited event held just off Schultz Pass Rd which will give folks an opportunity to practice their communications skills.

Race start is 8 am; show time for us to be at the base area is 6:30. The event will complete well before noon. Weather forecast at this point is favorable. There is hiking involved to reach some of the locations that we staff, but there are also base area positions available. We'll review final details at the club meeting on Oct 8th.

If you're interested, and I haven't confirmed your participation at previous club meetings, please contact me to have any questions answered / provide further details, etc. This is a fun event which supports a great cause - the Big Brothers / Big Sisters mentoring program. Hope to see you at the event!

Bob Meadowcroft, CARC coordinator for this event [928-660-8324](tel:928-660-8324)

Girls on the Run November 14:

We are once again supporting the Girls on the Run race in Buffalo Park. This is a fun/easy event. We arrive around 9 AM and the race is over before noon. If you can assist with event, please contact Dawnelle, KG7LTR at dawnelle@shehans.net or [505.715.3121](tel:505.715.3121) (cell) [928.526.5580](tel:928.526.5580) home.

Upcoming Hamfests You May be Interested in Attending:

CopaFest: Maricopa Amateur Radio Association. October 17, 2015. 7:00AM-3:00 PM, Free
copahams.com

Kingman Hamfest: Mohave Amateur Radio Club, October 24 & 25 2015.
www.kingmanhamfest.com Admission \$5

Oro Valley Hamfest: Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club, November 7, 2015. Marana, AZ
hamfest@tucsonhamradio.org

HARKfest: Hassayampa Amateur Radio Klub, Nov. 14, 2015. 8AM-Noon, Congress, AZ. Free.

Superfest 2015: Superstition Amateur Radio Club, December 5, 2015. 7:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ. Admission \$5.

Oct 10 1600Z to Oct 11 0600Z and Oct 11 1400Z to Oct 11 2359Z the 2015 Arizona QSO Party, sponsored by the ARRL Arizona Section and Catalina Radio Club. www.azqsoparty.org/ Phone, CW and Digital modes on 160/80/40/20/15/10/6/2 meters. Single-Op, Multi-Op, Arizona Multi-Multi, Arizona County Expedition and Mobile categories. If any Arizona clubs are interested in hosting the Special Event Station, please contact ke7dx@marketemporium.com.

17 October 2015 CopaFest : Maricopa Amateur Radio Association, Harrah's Complex, located on Ak-Chin land, Ultra Star Multi Tainment Center 16000 Maricopa Road, Maricopa AZ 85139 <http://www.copahams.com>

October 23 2015 - October 24 2015 Arizona State Convention
kingmanhamfest.com Location: Mohave County Fairgrounds 2600 Fairgrounds Blvd. Kingman, AZ 86401 Website: <http://k7mpr.net> Sponsor: Mohave Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 147.240 (PL 123.0) Public Contact: William Smith, KD7MIA 1530 Ellerman Drive Kingman, AZ 86401 Phone: 928-529-2299 Email: bill1021@gmail.com

Hanging out on the HF bands.

From Arizona Desert Air Waves Newsletter, October 2015

As I write this, we have geomagnetic storms underway that are affecting the ionosphere and making a hash of the HF bands. Yesterday was much different with great propagation on 20 and 40. The lesson here is if you tune to the amateur HF bands and find mostly noise and just a few signals, wait 24 hours and try it again (www.spaceweather.com will give you up to date info on flares and geomagnetic storms).

But just to show you how rewarding a trip to the HF bands can be, last Saturday and Sunday was an All Asian DX contest with everyone over there trying to work the numerous stations in the US. As it turned out, I managed to fall asleep in front of

the TV Saturday evening, waking at about 3:30 a.m. Remembering a tip from club member and DXer N9NA, I decided to turn on the rig and check 40 meters (where I only have an attic dipole for an antenna).

To my surprise I worked two Japanese stations who were calling CQ. These are my first and only trans Pacific contacts ever on 40 meters. Fun!

I am not recommending you get up in the middle of the night for hamming, but if you do find yourself wandering around the house in the wee hours, you might give it a try.

You can always email the Short Skip Editor with tales of your HF adventures and share your stories with the rest of us in the pages of Short Skip. Have fun!

Hello everyone!

I approached the group last spring about submitting an application for an ARISS contact, but I got overloaded with work and wasn't able to complete the application on time. The next round of applications is open until Nov. 1 so I was going to move forward with the application over the next month.

The contact dates over the ISS are slated for July to December of 2016 so we would have quite awhile to plan for this. Since, we have done this before we have an idea of our needs and the setup.

I will work on the proposal this month and have a complete draft for CARC to review in October. If you need me to come to another club meeting I will be happy to make those arrangements. On a side note we received a grant from the National Weather Association to fund another high altitude balloon launch with the students in March 2016. We hope you will want to be involved again, because last year was amazing!

I'll be in touch!

Warm Regards,

Kaci Heins

Northland Preparatory Academy

6th Grade Science