



Coconino Amateur Radio Club
www.cocoradio.club

High-Country Static

June 2017

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.

Officers:

President: Tom Shehan KY7WV

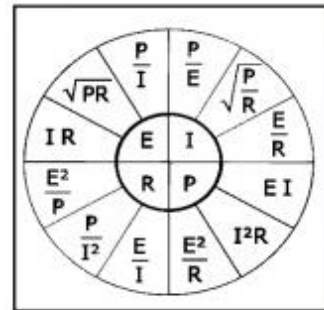
Vice-President: Sandy Meadowcroft KF4JHC

Secretary: Erv Perelstein, KE7QFI

Treasurer: Pat Traber, KE7QFG

PIO: Vacant

Newsletter: Janice Enloe, KI6WCK



E = voltage I = current
 R = resistance P = power

Calendar of Events for 2017:

July

22 Amateur Radio License Exams at North Country Health Care

August

- 5 Toys for Tots/Fat Tire Bicycle Ride
- 12 Big Brothers/Big Sisters Run for the Magic
- 27 Arizona Trail Marathon at North Rim

September

- 4 Williams 10K Labor Day Run
- 23-24 Flagstaff to Grand Canyon 100 Mile Run

October

- 14 Soulstice Mountain Trail Run
- 21 Amateur Radio License Exams at North County Health Care
- ?? MARS COMEX

November

?? Arizona ARES/RACES Full Scale Exercise

11? Girls on the Run

December

2 SkyWarn Recognition Day at NWS Belmont (UTC date)

10? Christmas party

Thank you and Help Wanted:

Thank you to all who have run the Monday and Wednesday night nets:

Flagstaff: Tom KY7WV, Erv KE7QFI, Mike KD8RQV, Bob KF4RKS, Mary Lou Hagan, KG7TPK
Mike Clever, KD8RQV, Phil Brunner, AE7OH

Page: Eric Kg7UNI, Nancy KG7WKS 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 2017:

Remember to bring your HAM license and a copy (if you are upgrading your license), a government issued picture ID, a black ink pen, calculator with memory erased and fifteen dollars (exact change is appreciated).

July 22 Amateur Radio License Exams at North County Health Care

October 21 Amateur Radio License Exams at North County Health Care

<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 July 13, 2017 at the East side Sizzlers at the corner of Highway 66 and Fanning. Dinner @1800 and meeting starts @1900.

Minutes of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club 6/8/2017

Meeting Started: 7:00 pm

Secretary's Report: Since the minutes of the May meeting were published in the newsletter, there was no need to read them. Erv pointed out that the minutes for last month would be modified to include the correct name of the location of our CARC Picnic as Foxglenn Park, instead of Fox Run Park which is in Colorado Springs and would be too far to travel for our picnic. He claimed the cause of the error was a "Senior Moment" on his part. Mary Lou Hagan made a motion to accept the minutes and Ken Held seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Traber, our CARC Treasurer, reported that the closing bank balance is \$4,226.00. Membership is 49 members, consisting of 45 paid members and 4 lifetime members. Bob Meadowcroft moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Janice Enloe seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

President's Report: After Introductions, Tom Shehan, our CARC President, announced that he was planning on providing a PSK-31 digital communications demonstrations at the upcoming CARC picnic on June 10th.

Vice President's Report: Sandy Meadowcroft, our CARC Vice President, reminded us that the CARC Picnic is scheduled for this Saturday 6/10 at 12:00 to 4:00 pm in Foxglenn Park Ramada #3.

Sandy provided a review of the Sacred Mt. Prayer Run which was held on 6/3. She thanked all that participated and said the run was safe partially because we were there. Communications was good and the race management was very appreciative of our volunteer work

Old Business: Sandy reminded us that the position of Public Information Officer for CARC is still unfilled and he asked for volunteers. She pointed out that the position can be shared to reduce the burden on one person and that ARRL has an online class for the PIO position. Nominations should be sent to Sandy or Tom.

Janice offered to teach a Basic Life Support class for club members who are interested. The course will need the purchase of a book for \$20.00, (which is her cost to purchase them). Anyone interested please let Janice know so she can order the books. She also suggested that club members purchase a respiration bag to keep at home or in their car. Pat Traber made a motion to have the club pay for the bags which cost \$9.99 + shipping. Erv Perelstein seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Sandy asked those members who taught classes during the Technician License Classes to provide feedback about this year's class. She is compiling a report to including what went well and what needs tuning. Ron suggested that we contact ARRL, who is creating a new power point for the classes by next June, and ask them to include slides covering ALL of the questions in the review for each topic. She thanked all the support people that provided another successful teaching session.

Tom told us that the Memo to Race Directors has been edited and is finished. He will sign, scan and send the memo to race directors and to club members.

Tom directed our attention to Presentations for our monthly meetings. He is planning on providing a talk on power supplies. Erv is still working with DX Engineering to provide a presentation, via the internet, on Station Grounding and Antennas. Joe is planning on providing a presentation on Software Defined Radios (SDR). Tom asked anyone else who would like to make a presentation to please contact him to add them to the schedule.

Tom gave us a review of the Overland Expo this year. We administered 15 tests of which 10 new licenses were earned. Tom said this year's Overland Expo was the largest we have seen. The move to Ft. Tuthill was obviously a good move for the expo but not too good for our club. The location of our trailer was not conducive to making many contacts with the public. The expo will be held at Ft. Tuthill again next year and we will try to get a better location. Ft. Tuthill is planning on improving the electricity and road paving by next year.

Tom told us that the new CARC trailer is still awaiting work. He reminded the volunteer team that with Field Day approaching, it would be nice to have the new trailer available.

Ron Gerlak reviewed plans for the upcoming Field Day. Set-up will start on Friday 6/23 at 9:00 am. He asked that all involved members arrive at 9:00 am on Saturday 6/24 so that we will be ready to start the competition by 11:00 am, which is the official start time for our time zone. Competition ends at 11:00 am on Sunday 6/25 and we will need about 3 hours for take down of equipment. Dinner on Saturday evening will be served at about 5:30 pm. Scott reminded us that we need to bring tables and chairs since there are very few available at the market.

Safety - Bob Meadowcroft - is working through a safety checklist. Bob asked all members in charge of setting up stations to reread information on station grounding requirements, (Ron will have grounding info at the talk-in station), and Janice is sending info on tower safety by email. He also reminded us to coordinate with Scott prior to driving stakes into the ground so that we

do not hit any electric or water pipes buried there.

PIO - Dawnelle - notices and emails have been sent to outside organizations. Diane Martin is working on posters for this FD.

Operations - Tom - Reminded us that we are in competition with the Oro Valley Amateur Radio Club (OVARC) this year for an actual trophy. He encouraged anyone wishing to participate in HF SSB, CW or VHF to sign up for a time slot during the competition. Tom has made arrangements for equipment for all stations. Bob Wertz said that the NADX club welcomes the competition and will lead the HF SSB and CW stations. He also welcomed any members to sign up to operate the stations, as well. Bob also recommended that all stations have a 2m Hand Held so that inter-station communications can be speeded up. 146.480 simplex was proposed as the best frequency to use.

Planning - Mary Lou Hagan - will be monitoring the member and guest logs.

Finance - Pat - Ready for FD.

Logistics - Erv - GOTA Station Equipment is ready, Food - Sandy has arranged catering from Big Foot BBQ this year for the Saturday evening meal. Joe said that he will provide and operate the TELESCOPES again this year. That station is always popular with visitors to Field Day. He also said that Janice distributed by email government guidelines for tower and antenna safety.

50/50 Drawing: Betty Gerlak won the 50/50 raffle. Mary Lou won the drawing for a free meal.

New Business: Bob Meadowcroft informed us that two of the race directors we have worked with, Ian and Emily, are getting married. They will be helping to organize the 100 mile run coming up soon.

Ken Held gave us an update on the club's UHF Repeater. He has procured new battery backup for the repeater. Thanks to Ken for taking care of the repeater for us.

Scott informed us that the Boundary Fire on Kendrick Mt is spreading with smoke being blown toward Cameron and necessitated closing Hwy 180. It is up to 550 acres at the last report.

Schedule:

June

10 CARC Picnic. Foxglenn Park, 12 pm to 4:00 pm, Ramada #3.

23-25 Field Day, Ron Gerlak coordinating. Set-up Friday 6/23, 9:00 to 12:00, Open Air Market on Hwy 89.

July

4 Munds Park Parade, Pat coordinating. Show up at 8:00am.

22 Amateur Radio License Exams - North Country Health Care, Eric Community Room. Joe coordinating.

August

5 Toys for Tots/ Fat Tire Bicycle Ride, Tom and Mike Clever coordinating.

12 Big Brothers Big Sisters Half Marathon, Bob Meadowcroft coordinating.

27 AZ Trail Marathon at North Rim, Tom coordinating. Still need additional coverage.

ARES Report:

Joe reported that Rick, (our ARRL Section Manager), is pushing to install an additional Linked Repeater on Mingus Mt. at 146.82 MHz which will be linked to Phoenix. Joe recommended that anyone who is interested in following the State RACES activity should monitor or join the RACES NET on Sunday mornings at 7:30 on 3990 KHz.

Joe commented that the WL2K (WinLink) system is good but, unfortunately for disasters, it uses the internet for connectivity so would probably not be available during big disasters. HF Digital modes still provide the most reliable comm. for disasters. are preformatted messages such as County Status Reports, Weather Observation Reports and ICS reports on FLDIGI.

Ken reported that he has FLDIGI working on a Raspberry Pi microcomputer which makes a very efficient mobile or portable system.

Joe reminded us that now we are in the heart of the fire season, we should be checking our

backup power; battery, solar, generator, etc., as a very important part of being disaster ready.

Joe also reminded us that repeaters are good but will probably not be available during cyber denied disasters.

There being no further business, Scott moved and Ron seconded a motion to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Meeting Ended: 8:26 pm

Presentations: No additional presentations this month.

Boundary Fire - A multi Agency Effort

The Boundary Fire was caused by lightening on June 01st, 2017 at approximately 02:02 PM on Kendrick Mountain 17 miles northwest of Flagstaff. It burned 17,788 acres.

During the early stage of the fire the National Forest Service requested ADOT, Arizona Department of Transportation, to close Route US180 between Flagstaff and the Grand Canyon. ADOT dispatched one employee and truck to each of the two road blocks, mile post 236 and mile post 248 on US180.

Their assignment was to work 12 hour shifts with relief covering the next shift for seven days a week for an undetermined length of time. ADOT requested help from CCSO, Coconino County Sheriff's Office, to monitor the road blocks. CCSO activated their Citizens Emergency Response Team, CERT, to provide this service.

The CERT call out team went into action and contacted it's volunteer members requesting that they work 8 hour shifts at the road blocks to support ADOT. The CCSO CERT team dispatched their utility trailer with support equipment to the road block at MP236 and the operation was underway. Soon the Munds Park CERT group dispatched their trailer loaded with support equipment and set it up at MP 248. Many of the CERT volunteers were ham radio operators from CARC, Coconino Amateur Radio Club, and of course they took radios with them. Immediately the ARES, Amateur Radio Emergency Service, was activated and began monitoring the communications from the ham radio operators that were at the road blocks. The vigilant ARES volunteers monitored the radio frequency all day and all night for the duration of the event. On June 20, 2017 the road was reopened at noon. During the closure the road was kept clear for emergency vehicles and there was no accidents caused by the poor visibility from the smoke that covered the road.

It was amazing to see these multiple agencies activated and working together. Their dedicated employees and volunteers provided an important service during this event while gaining valuable experience for future situations.

For more information:

Incident Information System (Fires) - <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5209/>

Coconino County Sheriff's Office CERT - Jon Paxton: [928-226-5089](tel:928-226-5089)

Munds Park CERT - Chip Murphy: [602-867-7790](tel:602-867-7790)

Coconino Amateur Radio Club - Pat Traber, KE7QFG: [619-977-8409](tel:619-977-8409)

Amateur Radio Emergency Service, ARES, Joe Hobart, W7LUX, [928-525-9222](tel:928-525-9222)

Smoke snaking its way across the road late in the incident



Many thanks to all those who worked this event.

Best 73's,
Ron, KG7OH

Upcoming Solar Eclipse

On August 21 there will be a total eclipse of the sun by the moon. The path of totality (complete coverage) will be a narrow band extending from Oregon to South Carolina. Here in northern Arizona the moon will cover approximately 70% of the solar disk at about 1030. The event will last from about 0915 to noon.

Many citizen-science projects are planned; here are some studies related to amateur radio:

<http://www.hamsci.org/basic-project/2017-total-solar-eclipse>

<http://hamsci.org/projects/2017-total-solar-eclipse/2017-eclipse-experiment-description>

<http://www.hamsci.org/articles/2017-total-solar-eclipse>

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/citizen-science>

CAUTION: Staring at the sun without protection will cause eye damage and possible blindness. Here are ways to safely observe the eclipse:

<http://www.skyandtelescope.com/total-solar-eclipse-august-2017/>

Airgas, Phoenix Welding, and Praxair all sell #12 and #14 arc welding glass.

Hopefully our summer rainy season will allow viewing in the morning.
