

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: Dan Shearer, N7YIQ

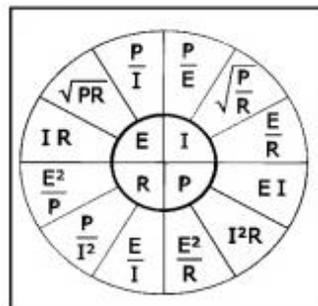
Vice-President: Janice Enloe, KI6WCK

Secretary: Erv Perelstein, KE7QFI

Treasurer: Pat Traber, KE7QFG

PIO: Dan Shearer, N7YIQ

Newsletter: Janice Enloe, KI6WCK



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

Calendar of Events for 2018

April

- 12 CARC Meeting - Radio Equipment Operation <-----
- 21 Amateur Radio Examinations at North Country HealthCare

May

- 10 CARC Meeting - Field Day Planning <-----
- 18-20 Overland Expo: Demonstrations and Amateur Radio License Examinations
 At Fort Tuthill
- 21-24 Arizona State & Coconino County Exercise; EOC activation 21 May

June

- 2 Sacred Mountain Prayer Run
- 9?? CARC Picnic
- 14 CARC Meeting - Field Day Planning <-----
- 23-24 Field Day (KG7OH & Team)

July

- 4 Munds Park Parade
- 12 CARC Meeting -
- 21 Amateur Radio License Exams at North Country HealthCare

August

- 4 Toys for Tots Marine Bike Ride
- 7 National Night Out
- 9 CARC Meeting -
- 11 Big Brothers/Big Sisters Run
- 26 Arizona Trail Marathon at North Rim

September

- 3 Williams 10K Labor Day Run
- 13 CARC Meeting -
- 22-23 Flagstaff to Grand Canyon 100 Mile Stagecoach Run

October

- 11 CARC Meeting -
- 13 Soulstice Mountain Trail Run
- 20 Amateur Radio License Exams at North Country HealthCare
- ?? MARS COMEX

November

- ?? MARS Comex
- 8 CARC Meeting -
- 10? Girls on the Run

December

- 1 SkyWarn Recognition Day at NWS Belmont (UTC date)
- 9 Christmas party- Janice KI6WCK home.

Next Business Meeting:

Our next business meeting will be April 12, 2018 at the East side Sizzlers at the corner of Highway 66 and Fanning. Dinner @1800 and meeting starts @1900.

Meeting Agenda/May 10, 2018, 7:00 PM

Call to order

Introductions

Secretary's Report. Minutes from newsletter

Treasurer's Report

Vice President's Report

President's Report

Old Business – Continuing Business:

- HAM classes @ Northland
- Upcoming Statewide exercise 21 and 22 May – Alternate EOC on Gemini
- Bylaws – Revisions & voting
- Hopi Point Repeaters –update
- Field Day Discussion
- Overland Expo – Event & Staffing – Test Session
- Net Control Schedule
- Winlink – WINMOR
- Sacred Mountain Prayer Run – June 2nd

50/50 Raffle

New Business:

- Forest Conditions – Summer updates
- Meeting Time Change request – 1800 hours
- CARC Trailer –Ken KF7DUR
- Picnic – June 9th
- Code Class
- Election Reminder

ARES Report– Joe

Tinder Fire: Practice session > Activation
Repeater battery and thanks for minimum usage
Ready-Set-Go
Overland Expo license exams Sunday morning 20 May
EOC (Gemini) activation 21-22 May
Winlink Practice
Home station
Fires and Go Bags

Adjourn 8:30 PM

From Dan, N7YIQ, CARC President:

What's in a name?

The Tinder Fire caused the activation of the EOC this last month. We made it work this time thru and I thank all of you who staffed our radio room. Many “Thanks” go out to Bill, Mary Lou, Glen, and Joe for getting all of the antennas and radios up and running. I learned a lot about what we do at the EOC now having spent Sunday afternoon watching and learning. I had 15 years working in the Operations portion of an incident so this was different. I saw how much of a difference we made during this event. The small part we played was actually a big thing.

I spent many days fighting such fires and communications have always been an issue. If it wasn't for portable repeaters that the Forest Service would deploy, we would have had nothing more than simplex to talk around on. This is not good for large incidents and especially when you need to talk to someone when you need something and they are too far away to hear you.

For those that might have been monitoring the nine eight repeater on Saturday and Sunday, the small part we played was huge. Because communications via cell phone was poor at best down in the Blue Ridge area, we were one of the links from the fire to the County officials at the EOC. We offered real-time communications when the other links just didn't work. Now that's what we are about.

Getting back to the title of my article and why it's about a name. Everyone at the EOC was wearing a vest. On those vests was that person's title. This was a really big review for me and the whole ICS structure. I remember from the AUXCOM class we took that communications falls under the logistics. Logistics is one of the 5 main branches in the ICS tree. Anyway, if you haven't taken your ICS classes, now would be the time.

Even if you don't, go ahead and Google the ICS structure. It gives you a good idea of all of positions that are part of the bigger picture and how we fit in. I suggest you review the ICS structure because I think we are going to be seeing it a lot this summer.

When all else fails, there is always Amateur Radio!

Dan – N7YIQ

Thank you and Help Wanted:

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

Flagstaff: Erv KE7QFI, Dan N7YIQ, Mary Lou Hagan, KG7TPK,

Glen KG7YDJ

Page: Eric KG7UNI, Nancy KG7WKS and Vince WB7UWW

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

Licensing Exams for 2018:

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).

April 21

May 20 at Overland Expo- entrance fee required

July 21

October 20

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

Tutorials: <http://www.arrrl.org/tutorial>

Minutes of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club 4/12/2018

Meeting Started: 6:45 pm

Secretary's Report: Since the minutes of the March meeting were published in the newsletter, there was no need to read them. Marylou Hagan made a motion to accept the minutes and Gary Loving seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Traber, our CARC Treasurer, reported that the closing bank balance is \$3,446.54. Membership is 47 members, consisting of 43 paid members and 4 lifetime members. Ken Held moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Marylou seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

President's Report: Dan Shearer, our CARC President, opened the business meeting with an introduction of all members

Vice President's Report: No report tonight.

Old Business: Dan asked for a review of the status of Technical Classes CARC is offering. One Technician Class has completed, led by Glen Davis. Glen asked about holding a General Class session. Dan requested that we think about that and bring it up again during the May meeting.

. Dan then reminded us that May 21-22 was scheduled for the Mass Care Emergency Exercise this year and that we would be using the Alternate EOC on Gemini. We will be using

the radio room in the AEOC which has coax cable installed to the outside of the building. We will have to bring our own antennas and install them during the exercise. Joe is working on a new antenna for use during the exercise. Joe also reminded us that Emergency Management has directed that all personnel working in the EOC or AEOC must have taken ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800. They are on-line courses and free through FEMA. He suggested that if you want to participate in the May Exercise, you should get those courses finished and send a copy of the Certificates to him.

Emergency Management would like to start using digital for exercises and for real world events. Members who are interested in starting or improving their digital capabilities can practice on the SATERN net training on Saturday mornings and Tuesday Evenings or the S. Utah Hospital Group Training. We will try to set up a one evening (maybe Thursday) practice session with WINLINK, using VHF, UHF, HF and Voice. Ken and Marylou volunteered to organize and run this training. Watch for announcements on the CARC List Serve.

Bobbie Brunner and Dawnelle Shehan have been reviewing our CARC By-Laws and presented the changes they are recommending. Bobbie said we had to incorporate security protection and the duties of the Treasurer. We should also expand our voting to include accepting votes for CARC Officers by email, especially for elections in the Jan-Feb time frame when so many members are not in Flagstaff. We should also expand the terms of CARC Officer terms of office to a 2 - year term instead of the current 1- year term. There was a discussion about the current requirement for voting members to be 18 years old or older. Ken made a motion to remove the age limitation on voting members and Marylou seconded the motion. Unanimously passed.

The next discussion was about the Hopi Point Repeater at the Grand Canyon. Joe reviewed the conditions he found on his trip to Hopi Point repeater site which used to be a part of the North Link System. Joe found numerous problems including: the VHF antenna needs to be replaced; there are too many antennas mounted in a small space causing intermod problems; the UHF YAGI link antenna was for a link that no longer exists and the VHF Controller needs to be replaced. ARCA asked CARC if we would be willing to take over maintenance and day-to-day operation of the repeater. Our answer to ARCA was that we would under the condition that major funding be supplied by ARCA. They initially agreed but in a later meeting said they had no funds to support this repeater system. Ken added that probably the biggest problem is the intermod because we have no authority to force other users to put isolators on their systems. After further discussion, it was decided to ask Dan to write a letter to ARCA stating that we would provide staff assistance if ARCA would provide the funds needed to bring the repeater up to ARA standards. Dan agreed.

50/50 Raffle: Andrew Gissel won the 50/50 raffle.

New Business: The location of the Field Day may move to NAU this year due to building problems at the Outdoor Market near Silver Saddle Rd. We still need to settle the Digital Communications interference problem with SSB. Ken suggested we set up the club trailer a sufficient distance from the SSB DX antenna. This might be difficult on the grounds of the Outdoor Market. We will discuss this further at the May meeting.

May/18-20 The Overland Expo is coming up next month at Ft. Tuthill and we will be providing License Exams again this year. Joe might need some extra VA's for the testing period.

June 2 - The first race of the year will be The Sacred Mt Prayer. Dan is coordinating and he needs some additional volunteers.

June 9 – The annual CARC Picnic at Raymond Park in Kachina Village. Joe and Janice

coordinating.

ARES Report: We will hold License Testing again on April 21st at the North Country Health Care facility starting at 9:00 am.

Once again, Joe asked for increased participation in the ARES net on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. He said that lots of good information about CARC can be obtained by checking in. It is also good practice to try digital check-ins. Joe suggested if members has some interesting information for the net, like Go-Kit info, quick blurbs on something you read or safety tips for around the house we should present that at ARES Nets. He asked people to think about this and present some good ideas at the May meeting.

Joe asked members to help with being Net Control. Glen Davis said that he has scripts and information for NCS. Dan suggested we have a sign-up list. Joe suggested we try emergency power sign-ins and Simplex sign-ins from time-to-time just to keep in practice.

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

Meeting Ended: 8:30 pm.

Coconino ARES support for the Tinder Fire

In preparation for the May 21-22 Arizona State Exercise, Coconino ARES was scheduled for practice setup and operation Saturday, 28 April, at the Alternate EOC. The Saturday session started with routine equipment setup and antenna erection and measurement. It did not end that way.

About noon Saturday we received word of a fire near the Blue Ridge Reservoir. By evening the fire had grown to about 500 acres and about 600 acres by Sunday morning. Despite the efforts of a Type 1 firefighting team, a strong southwest wind Sunday drove the fire rapidly toward nearby communities, growing to 8,000 acres in one day.

Coconino ARES had provided Mark Christian, WB8VWC, with a VHF/UHF radio for backup communications. That radio and the Mount Elden 146.980 repeater proved critical to relaying emergency evacuation orders for Blue Ridge and the other communities on the east side of Highway 87. At that time, amateur radio provided the only communications between emergency management officials at Blue Ridge and the Coconino Alternate EOC.

Although 33 primary residences and 54 minor structures were lost, all residents evacuated safely.

All ARES and CARC members who helped with equipment setup and operation during this activation deserve a huge thanks for a job very well done.