



**Coconino Amateur Radio Club**  
[www.cocoradio.club](http://www.cocoradio.club)

# High-Country Static

November 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

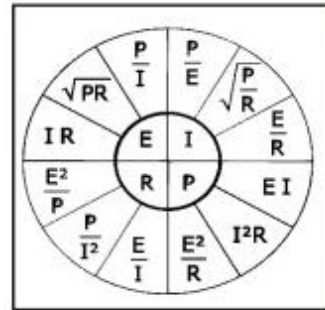
Vice-President: Dan Shearer

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:

November

11? Girls on the Run

December

2 SkyWarn Recognition Day at NWS Belmont (UTC date)

10 Christmas party- Janice Enloe, KI6WCK

## Next Business Meeting:

Our next business meeting will be Nov 9, 2017 at the East side Sizzlers at the corner of Highway 66 and Fanning. Dinner @1800 and meeting starts @1900.

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## **From Our Club Vice President- Dan Shearer-**

I write this after returning from the Solstice Run. Well, it's been a whirlwind 60 days since being elected vice-president. I had a great time at the event and I had a blast talking to the people in the club as well as many who participated in the run. A good day it was. The learning curve was not as steep as I expected. And you know what, I really didn't work that hard.

To make this club better, I have many ideas that I've shared with Tom. We have such a diverse club membership from new HAMs up to and including DXCC members. We have a lot of talented people. I liked the ideas of recruiting new members and getting them involved in the club. The club has changed much since I held this position 20 or so years ago. We moved from a club to a "Public service" club. A good change for supporting us, our hobby, and the people and area we live in.

I took on a challenge when I got elected to this position. I've loved this hobby since I got HF privileges and as I said in my biography I am an HF person. However, as a member and now vice-president I have to support all of HAM radio and every event we work with as a club and not just my love of HF. I also have to support you. I am just one person and I don't represent the club unless the club says I do. The club works for all of us and we get to be a group that forwards our interests and what we like to do, but that doesn't happen unless we get the support we need.

Now that I've said all of that, I need to ask everyone a simple question. Do you know of someone who is interested in radio? Is the neighbor down the street looking in getting involved with something? Recruitment. We get stronger if we have numbers. We work smarter and not harder with the more people in our club. We are looking to expand our membership levels so that we all can participate without having to use the same people every time. So I will ask you to bring all and any ideas on how we can recruit more members to our club. Bring a friend if you can to our meetings. Have them over to look at your shack. Show them the many ways they can communicate to other parts of the world on less power than it takes to run a lightbulb. I will have an agenda item to discuss this at the November meeting.

Again, I want to thank every member regardless of your participation. Without you, we are not a club.

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## **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, Glen Davis, KG7YDJ

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.

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## **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).

November 17 Amateur Radio License Exams at Munds Park- more information available through Joe, W7LUX

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

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

**Tutorials:** <http://www.arrrl.org/tutorials>

## Minutes of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club

### Minutes of the Coconino Amateur Radio Club 10/12/2017

Meeting Started: 7:00 pm

**Presentation:** Tom Shehan, our CARC President, shared some of the details of an HF antenna he made for field use. It is based on a Carolina Windam antenna which is an off-center dipole. He used # 14 wire cut for 80 meters and the ratio of the two sides is about 30/70 for a total length of between 120' to 130'. After tuning the short side came out to be 49' 5" and the long side 81' 5" inches. He utilized a 4:1 balun to balance the impedance and a 1:1 choke to keep RF off the outside of the RG - 58 coax. It rolled up into a very small package which makes it easy to transport. Tom said when tested with an Antenna Analyzer it was very broadband and works well with multiples of 3.5 MHz but not 4.0 MHz. Thanks to Tom for explaining this antenna.

**Guests:** Ian and Emily Torrance from the 100 Mile Stagecoach Race. Ian thanked the club for our participation in the race which had 197 participants and over 100 volunteers keeping the race safe and moving along on schedule. There were no life threatening incidents and the use of the Internet based "Living Time" kept everyone up to date on each runners location and speed. There was a discussion about how to improve getting and recording individual times and getting that info to the finish line (Ron Gerlak). One suggestion was for Ian to try to convince some of the other volunteers to get a HAM License to help out, since it is difficult for us to get enough volunteers from the club. He said he would try. Ian also said he understood the problem with bib numbers and would address that before the next race. Ian finished by once again thanking us for the hard work we performed to support the race.

**Secretary's Report:** Since the minutes of the September meeting were published in the newsletter, there was no need to read them. Mike Clever 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 \$4,458.70 Membership is 51 members, consisting of 47 paid members and 4 lifetime members. Joe Hobart moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and Gary Loving seconded the motion. The report was approved unanimously.

**President's Report:** After introductions, Tom Shehan, our CARC President, announced that he would not be present at the November meeting. He again introduced Dan Shearer to the members as our newly elected Vice President and said that Dan will be running the meeting in November.

Tom told us that Janice Enloe has volunteered to provide a training session to members on the details of participating in the many races we support. This will be especially valuable for new HAM members and members who have no experience with the workings of race support. Thanks to Janice for this training.

Tom reminded us that once again there will be a Winter Field Day event in January. It can be entered as an individual from their home station or as a club. To find out more, Google "Winter Field Day". It's a good opportunity to sharpen up our skills for the ARRL Field Day Event.

**Vice President's Report:** Dan had no VP Report but said he had quite a few HAM books and offered them to new members at no cost. Please get in touch with him if you are interested.

**50/50 Raffle:** Tom won the 50/50 raffle.

**Old Business:** The CARC trailer build-out is moving along. Thanks to Ken's help, the cabinets, shelves and solar panels are installed. Joe donated a battery for the solar panels. The generator appears to be working well with the small radios we currently have. Ken said that the current inverter we have is an 800 watt and it draws 80 amps of current. We need a smaller inverter, in the 300-400 amp range. Most of the wiring is in and hookup is underway. Ken made several suggestions about additional equipment we need: he suggested an FT-8800 (@\$300) for dual band VHF/UHF capability which can also operate as a cross-band repeater, an FT-450D (\$700) for HF, an HF antenna and a SignalLink USB CODEC sound card for digital communications (\$300).

Janice made a motion to that effect, Craig Bowman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Tom reminded us once again that the position of PIO is still open and that it can be shared among 2 or 3 people, if desired. Anyone interested please get in touch with Tom.

**New Business:** Tom suggested that the club needs a recruiter for events and for new club members. He said that getting in touch with individuals who have just passed their license exams to discuss the advantages of joining the club might result in a greater number of members for the club. Ken suggested we waive the club dues for new members for the first year and if they are interested in assisting at races, to give them an inexpensive VHF radio to get started. Tom said we should think about this and discuss it at the next meeting.

#### **Schedule:**

##### **October**

14 Soulstice Run, We need a replacement coordinator for Bob Meadowcroft. The race starts at 7:30 am so volunteers should be on-site by 6:30 am.

19 EOC full scale deployment test. Joe coordinating.

21 VE Testing at North Country Health Care, Eric Community Room, Joe coordinating.

##### **November**

11 Girls-On-The-Run, at Ft Tuthill again this year. Glen Davis volunteered to coordinate this fun run. He needs additional volunteers.

##### **December**

2 Skywarn Recognition Day, Mike Clever coordinating. Please let Mike know if you can bring your HF radio to make contacts.

10 Club Christmas Party at Janice's house. We will invite the NADX Club as well.

#### **Presentation Schedule:**

**November** DX Engineering Skype Presentation on Antennas and Grounding

**January** Joe and Janice Digital Communications (part 1)

**February** Joe and Janice Digital Communications (part 2)

**March** Radio Propagation

**April** Janice The Anatomy of Race Support

**May** Field Day Operations

**June** Field Day Operations

**ARES Report:** Joe reported that the 100 Mile Stagecoach Race went very well but there were a few things that could be improved for next year. We needed a few more volunteers. Several members had to leapfrog from their first location to fill in at another location. He thanked them for doing this but it would be better to have each position filled, especially on these cold nights.

Joe showed us a small device called a Long Code Zero decoder which mutes the radio until someone holds the zero key down for 3-4 seconds. This turns the audio back up again. It's very valuable if you are monitoring people out in the field at night and you are trying to sleep. When the audio comes back up, it wakes you up so that you can provide the assistance required. The device costs about \$100.

Joe reported that the first of the EOC test sessions went very well. Participants were Joe, Gary, Mark, Ken, Jodi, Lena and Joe supervised. They ran RF through the new coax cables that were installed. They put up an Alpha/Delta Antenna and tuned it. They discovered that 40 meters was not good, they need a 60 meter dipole. Joe said they are ready for the full scale test on 10/19 which will start at 8:00 am and be finished by 12:00 or 1:00.

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

Meeting Ended: 8:34 pm.

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Meeting Presentation schedule:

November

January

February

Joe & Janice

Joe & Janice

DX Grounding Presentation

Digital Communication (part 1)

Digital Communication (part 2)