

High-Country Static

April 2016

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:

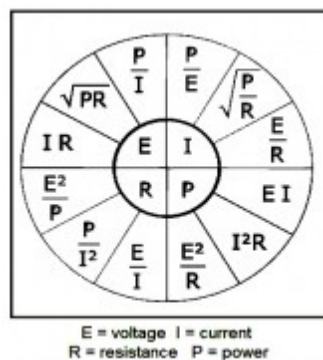
President: Sandy Meadowcroft KF4JHC

Vice-President: Tom Shehan W7TGS

Secretary: Erv Perelstein, KE7QFI

Treasurer: Pat Traber, KE7QFG

PIO: Janice Enloe, KI6WCK



Calendar of Events for 2016:

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|--------|-------|--|
| April: | 16 | Amateur Radio Examinations at Northern Country Health Care |
| | 22 | PFAC Exercise – Backup date May 6 |
| May: | 20-22 | Overland Expo: Demonstrations and Amateur Radio License Examinations |
| June: | 4 | Sacred Mountain Prayer Run |
| | 25-26 | Field Day (KG7OH & Team) |
| July: | 4 | Munds Park Parade |
| | 17 | Snow Bowl Hill Climb (KF4JHC) |
| | 23 | Amateur Radio License Exams at Williams Hamfest/Arizona State Convention (W7LUX) |

August: 6 Toys for Tots/Fat Tire Bicycle Ride (Mike, Ron & Tom)
13 Big Brothers/Big Sisters Run for the Magic (Bob Meadowcroft)
28 Arizona Trail Marathon at North Rim
**Northland Preparatory Academy to ISS amateur radio contact during
Aug-Sep-Oct

September: 5 Williams 10K Labor Day Run
24-25 Flagstaff to Grand Canyon 100 Mile Run(KQ1S)

October: 8 Soulstice Mountain Trail Run (KF4RKS)
15 Amateur Radio License Exams at North County Health Care (W7LUX)
?? Northland Preparatory Academy solar observing (W7LUX)

November: ?? Arizona Division of Emergency Management Exercise
?? Girls on the Run (KF4JHC)

December: 3 SkyWarn Recognition Day at NWS Belmont (UTC date) (KD8RQV)
11 Christmas party- Sandy and Bob Meadowcroft's home

Thank you and Help Wanted:

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

Flagstaff: Tom W7TGS, Erv KE7QFI, Mike KD8RQV, Bob KF4RKS

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 2015-2016:

April: 16 North Country Health Care on 4th Street

May: 20-22 Overland Expo: Demonstrations and Amateur Radio License Examinations

July: 23 Radio Exam at Williams Hamfest

October: 15 Radio Exam at North Country Health Care

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).

<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 April 14, 2016 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

3/10/2016

Meeting Started: 19:00

Secretary's Report: Since the minutes of the February meeting were published in the newsletter, there was no need to read them. There were no changes recommended so Sandy Meadowcroft moved and Marylou Hagan seconded a motion to accept the minutes as written. They were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Traber, our club treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report. The closing bank balance was \$3,685.82. Membership is 41 members, consisting of 37 paid members and 4 lifetime members. Bob Meadowcroft moved and Bill Smith seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as written. Unanimously accepted.

Guests: We had no guest speakers this month.

President's Report: After Introductions, Sandy told us we had 8 students for our current Technician Licensing Class. She wanted to thank Bill Smith for arranging the use of the North Country Health Care facility to hold the classes.

Vice President's Report: Tom Shehan told the club that the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) coalition held another successful exhibit on Monday, March 7th at the NAU Dome. Tom and Sandy provided an exhibit table concerning Amateur Radio. They had many attendees stop by the CARC table and showed a lot of interest in the Packet Radio demonstration that Tom set up.

Tom, Sandy and Joe Hobart told us about the successful Balloon Launch for the Northland Preparatory Academy, (NPA), that CARC helped with on Wednesday, March 9th. The balloon reached a height of over 106 K ft and was captured by our chase teams quite a distance from launch, Pumpkin Center. The GPS data was not available for the first part of the flight but started working about half way up and the balloon was tracked on APRS for the rest of the ascent and all of the descent. We provided club members at the school, 2 chase vehicles and 1 chase aircraft. Thanks to all who helped.

National Weather Service,(NWS), personnel at Camp Navajo have offered to teach a Basic SKYWARN Training class for our club and any guests on Thursday evening, March 31st at the East Sizzler in the same room we hold our meetings. Everyone who is interested is welcome to attend. The class will start at 7:00 pm. NWS has also offered to teach an advanced Weather Spotters Class at a later date but they do not have a canned advanced class available so they are asking us to think about what topics we might be interested in. Tom suggested we take until the April meeting to think about it. All agreed.

New Business: Tom told us about a Ham Radio project being sponsored by the National Park Service in celebration of their 100th birthday this year. It is called National Parks On The Air, (NPOTA). Some volunteer ham operators, (called activators), will set up stations on National Park Lands and all other ham operators, (called chasers), will try to contact as many parks as they can. The project will last the entire year 2016. Bill Smith has been acting as an activator and said it's almost like Field Day with many hams trying to make contact. He will be setting up in Grand Canyon on April 17th and has invited club members to meet him there and help handle the traffic. You can find the entire schedule on NPOTA.ARRL.org . Bill will post his schedule at least 1 month in advance.

Sandy reminded us that Elections are coming up in August and it's not too early to start thinking about nominations for President and Vice President.

Old Business: Before starting a review of upcoming projects, Tom suggested that there was little use in going through the entire list of projects since some are pretty far in the future. We, therefore, will discuss those near term projects:

3/ 24 Special Amateur Radio Exam for Flagstaff HS students. Joe coordinating.

3/31 NWS Basic SKYWARN Class, 7:00 pm at Sizzler

4/2-3 AUXCOMM Class. We need 15 attendees, must have ICS 100b, 200b, 700a, 800b to enter.

4/ 16 Amateur Radio Exam at North Country Health Care. Joe coordinating.

4/22 PFAC Wildland Fire Exercise, Backup date is 5/6. Joe coordinating.

5/ 20-22 Overland Expo: Demonstrations and Amateur Radio Exams , Tom coordinating.

6/4 Sacred Mt. Prayer Run, Janice/Bill Smith helping coordinating.

6/25-26 FIELD DAY 2016. Ron Gerlak & team coordinating.

7/4 Munds Park Parade. Pat Traber coordinating.

7/17 Snowbowl Run, Sandy coordinating.

7/22-23 Williams Hamfest, VE Testing on 23rd.

8/6 Toys for Tots, Mike Clever coordinating.

8/13 Big Brothers Big Sisters Run, Bob Meadowcroft/Phil and Bobbi Brunner helping.

8/28 AZ Trail Run Jacobs Lake, Sandy /Tom & Joe coordinating.

ARES Report: Joe reported that work was needed on the Mt Elden APRS Repeater prior to the recent balloon launch since the repeater was not picking up the balloon call sign. He led a group up to Mt Elden and wound up replacing the transceiver and the antenna. Thanks to Joe and his team, the repeater was working well during the launch.

Joe also gave a report about the Mt. Ord Repeater which was turned off. He told us that the backup batteries were in really bad shape, cases cracked, etc. because of the many years they were up there. He made a motion that CARC donate a sum of money not to exceed \$500.00 to help with the battery replacement. Sandy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Joe reminded members that the two VHF nets we run; (SKYWARN on Monday night, ARES on Wednesday night) provide a good opportunity for members to practice being the Net Control Station (NCS). NCS is a skill which may be very valuable to each of us during a real disaster. There are two different formats for net registration. The SKYWARN net asks people to call in with their name, call sign and location. The ARES net has a list of call signs that the NCS calls. The SKYWARN format is a little more difficult than the ARES format because of having to listen to the call sign and write it down. This one needs more practice in the methods of asking for repeats, louder and slower transmission. Our nets are a good place to practice those skills rather than winding up NCS in a disaster and not having practiced. Everybody will understand initial mistakes and will help when they can. Please think seriously about giving one of the two nets a try. Both VHF nets also give members a chance to check out their radio equipment, get familiar with other members voices, hear any information being passed and participating in a Directed Net.

50/50 Raffle: Marylou Hagan won the raffle this month.

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

Meeting Ended: 20:30.

Presentations: No presentation this month.