



Coconino Amateur Radio Club

High-Country Static

March 2020

News and Information Concerning Amateur Radio in Northern Arizona and Beyond

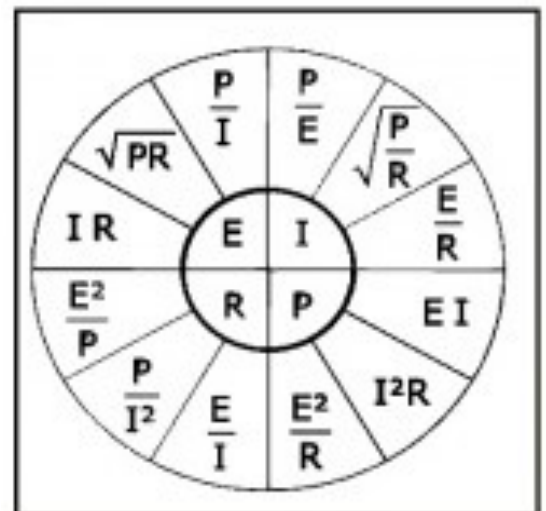
Welcome to the Coconino Amateur Radio Club (CARC) Monthly Newsletter. CARC is a non-profit club devoted to providing communication services to local volunteer agencies and events. Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at the Eastside Sizzler Restaurant, Highway 66 at Fanning Drive, Flagstaff, at 7:00 pm. 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: Janice Enloe KI6WCK
Vice-president: Phil Brunner AE7OH
Treasurer: Ken KF7DUR
Secretary: Dan Sherer N7YIQ
PIO: Dan Sherer N7YIQ
Newsletter: Bobbi Brunner W6HQJ
VE Testing: Scott Martin KY7A
Training Officer: Glen Davis KG7YDJ
Mailing List: Gary Loving KG7ZXM
Web Page: Ron Gerlak KG7OH



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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On February 20, the club leadership team (Dan, Phil, and I with Ken attending by telephone) met to discuss the direction we feel the club should take for the coming year. Our discussion focused on engaging more members in learning/training and operating opportunities, DIY antenna construction, and mentoring (aka elmering). As a club, we should focus on promoting amateur radio within our membership and to the community. To accomplish this, we have decided to change the focus of Field Day from a competition focus to one of mentoring and training on additional radios and emergency operations. New operators will be mentored to become good or better operators and good operators will be mentored to be exceptional operators. Sharing knowledge and skills with others is what a club is about.

To facilitate this, I met with NADXA, the club we work with each Field Day. The DX club has the focus of making contacts with distant locations using HF, digital radio, SSB, and CW. In our discussion, I asked them to mentor our operators in the use and proficiency of the various forms of amateur radio. What better way to learn about operating modes than to sit at a radio with an exceptional operator to coach you? The DX club has agreed that mentoring is vital to the continuation of HAM radio and offered to mentor others during Field Day.

Within one year, 50% of new technician operators fall away from the hobby. By forming a mentoring relationship with experienced operators, the newbie is coached on how to operate on various modes for a more enjoyable experience. Remember how you felt when you first earned your license- intimidated by the microphone, concerned about making mistakes? Mistakes are okay, they happen but the mentor will be there to coach and guide them for their start. Even technician operators can get on HF, digital, and CW when an appropriately licensed operator is there with them.

Our plan for Field Day is one of training and fun. I and the leadership team invite every operator to join us on Field Day (June 26-28) and train on every radio there. We need trained operators for emergency operations and local community events. How do you get the training and experience alone? I won't say you cant, but it is much more difficult. As a group we learn from each other and develop working relationships along the way. Please plan to come out for a few hours to rotate through the stations and learn to work them. For CW, Ken has suggested a monitor to show the message while the learner is hearing it in Morse Code. Learning CW begins with learning to listen for the dits and dahs. It is like a foreign language.

We also need help erecting antennas on June 26 in the morning. I am still working on securing Ft. Tuthill and have asked the emergency operations manager, Todd Whitney, to help us with that arrangement. Last year we had use of the carnival area gratis as we provide emergency communications for the county. Hopefully, I will have an answer before the meeting Thursday night. If Ft. Tuthill is not available gratis, I may look at the Cinder Lakes OVH area. If you have other suggestions, please let me know.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (cont.)

On another topic, we would like to restart the presentations at the monthly meetings. I have tried to trim the business portion to a minimum to leave time for technical presentations. If you have one that you could do for the club, please let me know. I know Glen has made arrangements for the weather service to present a refresher course for Skywarn at the July club meeting- just in time for monsoon season. This week, we plan to have a "round table" discussion of operating issues you may be having. Antenna issues, transmission noise, radio questions? Bring your questions and problems to the group and we will try to solve them or make suggestions for you to try. What equipment do you have? What special contacts have you made?

Do you have a topic you could present for the April meeting? If you could give a 15-20 minute talk to the group, please let me know when and what your topic will be. Joe and Lee have been experimenting with loop antennas. Some have been successful, others not so. What have you been experimenting with? Have you tried grayline transmission? Have you found a radio net that you enjoy? Come share your experiences with the group.

All for now, hope to see you Thursday at the meeting. If you want to have dinner with some social time, come at 1800. Meeting begins at, or about 1900. If a good discussion is going, I have no problem with delaying the meeting for a few minutes.

Janice Enloe

K16WCK

COCONINO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SCHEDULE 2020

March

- 12 CARC Meeting – Officer Elections

April

- 9 CARC Meeting – Preparation for Public Service Events
- 18 Amateur Radio Examinations at North Country HealthCare

May

- 11-15 FEMA Binary Blackout Exercise
- 14 CARC Meeting – Field Day Planning
- 17 License exams at Overland Expo- Joe Hobart

June

- 6 Sacred Mountain Prayer Run
- 11 CARC Meeting—Field Day Planning
- 13 CARC Picnic
- 27-28 Field Day - Antenna installation Friday morning

July

- 4 Munds Park Parade- Ron Gerlak organizing
- 9 CARC Meeting
- 18 Amateur Radio License Exams at North Country HealthCare- Joe Hobart

August

- 1 Flag2GC Bike ride (formerly Toys for Tots) Andrew Gissel
- 8 Big Brothers/Big Sisters Run for the Magic
- 13 CARC Meeting –
- 23 Arizona Trail Marathon at North Rim

September

- 7 Williams 10K Labor Day Run
- 10 CARC Meeting
- 19-20 Flagstaff to Grand Canyon 100 Mile Stagecoach Run- Joe Hobart, Janice Enloe
- ?? Weather Forecast Office open house (Possibly early October)

October

- 8 CARC Meeting
- 10 Soulstice Mountain Trail Run
- 17 Amateur Radio License Exams at North Country HealthCare

November

- Army MARS Exercise
- 7 Girls on the Run—Bobbi & Phil Brunner organizing
- 12 CARC Meeting

December

- 4-5 SkyWarn Recognition Day at NWS Belmont
- 12 Christmas party

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR SHORT PRESENTATIONS

Antennas

How to help with a public service or emergency event (what to expect)

Review of FCC regulations, especially third-party traffic.

Software Defined Radios (SDR)

Contest operating

Available repeaters

Educational projects (home experiments)

Computers and programs for communications

Mobile operations and installation

Portable operations

Current propagation conditions

Have club members describe their current interests, their capabilities, their equipment (especially antennas), etc. This may give new members ideas and possibly foster assistance/collaboration.

A round table discussion of antennas - what works, what did not work well, what to do differently, etc.

Next Business Meeting

Our next business meeting will be March 12, 2020 at the Eastside *Sizzler* at the corner of Highway 66 and Fanning. Dinner @1800 and meeting starts @1900.

THANK YOU AND HELP WANTED

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

Flagstaff: Erv KE7QFI, Glen KG7YDJ, Ron KG7OH, Bob KF4RKS

Page: Eric KG7UNI, Nancy K7WKS and Vince WB7UWW

If anyone 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.

ARIZONA NEWSLETTER: <http://www.arll.org>

**Proposed changes to Section D of Article 2
of the Constitution.**

Section D. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Part 1. Nominations

Section a. Nominations for all offices will be taken from the floor at the **second-to-last meeting of the calendar year.**

Section b. Any member may nominate any other member, including himself or herself.

Part 2. Elections

Section a. Election for all offices shall occur at the last meeting of the calendar year.

Section b. Election of officers shall be only by written ballot, which shall include paper ballot and e-mail ballot.

Section b. Election of an officer requires a quorum of one-third (1/3) of the voting membership.

Proposed changes to Article V of the Constitution.

ARTICLE V. FISCAL YEAR AND ANNUAL DUES

Section A. The fiscal year shall be the same as the calendar year.

Section B. The annual dues for membership in the Club are payable **on January 1 of each fiscal year.**

Section C. The dues amount shall be established by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of the voting members present at any regular Club meeting.

Section D. A new member's dues will be prorated based on the following:

Section 1: A new member will pay the full amount of the dues during the first half, or six months, of the fiscal year.

Section 2: A new member who joins during the third quarter of the fiscal year shall pay the $\frac{1}{2}$ (one-half) the dues for the fiscal year.

Section 3: A new member who joins during the fourth quarter of the fiscal year shall pay the full amount of the dues for a fiscal year, applicable to the following entire fiscal year.

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

Meeting called to order at 1901 hours

President's Report: CARC President, Janice Enloe, did not attend. Phil Bruner was running the meeting and introductions of all members and visitors - present 7 total. Thanks to all that have attended tonight.

Vice-President's Report: Phil Brunner reported that Pat Traber's service will be on Sunday. If anyone did not get the email with the date/location, Phil would email it again. The CARC website is now encrypted and will hopefully reduce SPAM and further problems.

Treasurer's Report: Phil gave the treasurer's report since Ken was not attending. We have a forward balance of 3469.30. The remainder of the report was posted in the email with the newsletter.

Secretary's Report: The minutes were included in the newsletter and were sent to each member by email. Bobbi Bruner moved to accept the report, 2nd Glen Davis - No discussion - the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Phil stated that we will not be doing STEM this year. A lack of volunteers caused us to miss the deadline. We still need an organizer for Field Day. Glen has stepped up to run the Sacred Mountain Prayer Run since Dan will not be in state. Phil stated that Ron Gerlak was willing to Co-chair the Field Day event and we still need people to step up and assist with organizing the event. Please look at the CARC calendar for upcoming CARC events.

New Business: Several changes to the By-Laws have been proposed to make things clearer. An election date needs to be defined, the closing of nominations needs to be set and a date when they close, and a discussion of how dues should be prorated or adjusted as new members pay towards the end of a year. A definition of a term of office and a fiscal year were discussed as January to December. All terms and the fiscal years would run during that period. Please see the email with the newsletter for further clarification.

Glen stated the Technician classes went well for this year and we had a good passing rate. He still needs instructors for the classes. There is a break during June for Field Day as the students can see operations during that time.

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

(CONTINUED)

Nominations were accepted for all positions:

Janice stated to Phil that she would nominate herself for President

Ken was nominated for Treasurer

Phil for Vice -president

Dan for Secretary

ARES – No report as Joe is out of town.

50/50 – No drawing this month.

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Bobbi Bruner – 2nd Keith Moser – Passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Dan Shearer – N7YIQ

Secretary