

SUMMER HAMFEST

During the ARCA meeting at the Tucson hamfest, the location of the summer hamfest was discussed. Several people would like the hamfest to return to Ft. Tuthill near Flagstaff.

Williams costs about \$2000 for a three day event. No entrance fee. Hotels and restaurants are very close by. Nearby attractions include historic Route 66 and the Grand Canyon train. Williams wants our hamfest and are continuing to improve their facilities. Plans are already made for July 18-20, 2008

Ft. Tuthill will cost over \$6000 for a two day event. This cost is about half of the cost that it was back a few years ago. One reason for the cost difference is that this would be a two day event Friday/Saturday. This would include the large building for commercial vendors as well as two buildings for VE testing and programs. A new requirement is that Tuthill requires a full time EMT during the event. Tuthill has made minor improvements like painting, pavement patching and removing several awnings that were falling apart. No new construction has taken place.

ARCA can not afford to move the hamfest back to Tuthill without financial assistance (>\$6,000). ARCA would have to charge at least a \$3-\$5 entrance fee per person to help pay back the loan.

It was decided to have each of the ARCA member clubs vote on their preference for the Summer Hamfest. ARCA is sending a ballot to each club and is requesting that each club vote and return the ballot by December 1st or by hand at the Mesa Hamfest. The 3 choices are: Return to Ft. Tuthill starting July 2008, return to Ft. Tuthill starting July 2009, or continue to hold the Hamfest at Williams. It's a good time to go to your club meetings and let your opinion be heard.

YOUTH AND SCOUTING

The Cochise Amateur Radio Association in Sierra Vista opened their doors to 280 Boy Scouts and their leaders during the weekend of October 13th. Grant Hays WB7OTS and Lee Ilse KD7OED invited the Spanish Trails District Camporee to camp on their 44 acres. The big hit was when Grant and Lee let Tom Fagan, WB7NXH, and Dave Holman KE3HF help the boys with their radio merit badge. Part of the radio Merit badge was getting the boys on the radio and explaining all about Amateur Radio. Many hams spent several minutes talking to the boys. At last count over 38 boys took part. Several of the boys are very much interested in Amateur Radio and will continue to learn more and hopefully get their license. Thanks to Grant and Lee for letting us use your facility.

October 20, 2007 was the 50th anniversary of Jamboree on the Air. Hope you got on the radio and talked to a scout. Special 50th anniversary patches are available. Let me know if you want more info. Jim Fagan KE7IDC Assistant Section Manager (ASM) Youth and Scouting ke7idc@arrl.net

SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION CONVENTION 2008

The Southwestern Division Convention planning is well underway. I expect next month we will announce the prize package and with some luck, we will have the online registration system functional. We have more than 20 confirmed speakers, and expect this will be a very notable event. The Mesa Marriott will be offering a limited number of rooms for \$99/night but I expect these rooms will be picked up quickly so if you are going to be staying at the hotel, make your reservations early. Reservation information will be updated on the web when we have completed our negotiations with the Marriott. www.azhamcom.org Rick Aldom W7STS

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

It's been a busy month. TOPOFF 4 came and went, early indications are it was a success. I don't know how long before any official reports hit the street. From our standpoint, we didn't have many boots on the ground, but we did simulate having hams in area hospitals, and many EOCs actually did put ham stations on the air. The Arizona ARES Database picked a number of folks, probably 5 or 6 directly, and

another 15 or so who kept hearing the rest of us discuss it. I sure wish some of the more remote counties would utilize this resource to help manage their programs.

In addition to TOPOFF, the Public Service Event (PSE) season has arrived for the southern half of the state. PSE's are a great way to exercise your emergency communications skills, not only for tactical communications but for relationship building. Each requires coordination with the host organization, coordination with the hams and generally some form of directed net operations.

The Arizona ARES database had 46 operators take the time to record their hours this month on a single event! That event was TOPOFF 4. I had a lot of questions about how to log the time, but many folks monitored the Arizona Emergency Net - Maricopa for much of the 4 days the net was active. While this wasn't boots on the ground, it did keep these operators current on the situation as it changed, and is notable for hours reporting. 693 hours were logged from around the state!!

www.az-arrl.org/secure Rick Aldom W7STS SEC Arizona

NEW HAMS

The following Arizona hams just received their FCC license, Congratulations!

Philip Heppel-kennard KE7ORT, Augustus Creecy KE7ORW, Cynthia Hernandez KE7OSA, Guy Deluca KE7OSB, Aaron Murray KE7OSQ, Brian Rasmussen KE7OSR, Daniel Laprevote KE7OSS, David Islas KE7OST, Kevin Prodromides KE7OSU, Terry Deuel KE7OSV, Edward Islas KE7OSW, Richard Purdy KE7OSX, Yasunori Iitsuka KE7OTF, Ronald Milloy KE7OWI, Craig Petrie KE7OWJ, Karen Forrester KE7OWK, Steven Connet KE7OWL, Joseph Barter KE7OWM, Christopher Barber KE7OWN, David Guggisberg KE7OWO, Philip Patricki KE7OWP, Joel Corwith KE7OWQ, Richard Hornbaker KE7OWR, Janet Blake KE7OWS, John Blake KE7OWT, John Dean KE7OWU, Gloria Shepard KE7OWV, Pati Dye KE7OWW, Donald Peyton KE7OWX, Linda Navasaitis KE7OWZ, Lorin Mcrae KE7OYI, Nathaniel Stephens KE7OYJ, Thomas Eberhard KE7OYK, Janice Prew KE7OYL, Robert Bowman KE7OYM, Dale Crockett KE7OYN, Karla Crockett KE7OYO, Lawanda Hill KE7OYP, Mark Collins KE7OYQ, Gregory Spieth KE7OYR, David Jensen KE7OYY, Howard Grodsky KE7OYZ and Donna Chapman KE7OZE.

HAMFESTS/CONVENTIONS/SPECIAL MEETINGS

December 1, 2007 Superstition ARC at Maricopa Community College 1833 West Southern in Mesa, AZ. Talk-In: 147.12 (PL162.2) contact Ron McKee, AJ7T AJ7T@cox.net or <http://wb7tjd.org>

January 12, 2008 WestFest hosted by the Thunderbird ARC will be held at the Thunderbird School of Global Management at Greenway and 59th Ave in Glendale. The first all indoor hamfest for Arizona. <http://www.w7tbc.org>

January 20-26, 2008 Quartzfest 2008, A gathering of Amateur Radio Operators in RV's near Quartzite Arizona. For more information go to www.quartzfest.org

February 15-17, 2008 Yuma HamExpo at the Yuma County Fairgrounds www.yumahamexpo.com

September 12-14, 2008 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention Mesa AZ Come check us out at www.AzHamCom.org Mesa Convention Center Rick Aldom W7STS 2008 SWD Chair natecf@gmail.com.

LICENSE EXAM SESSION SCHEDULE CHANGE

The West Valley Amateur Radio Club and the DeVry Amateur Radio Club sponsored license exam session at DeVry University is held on the first Saturday of the month (Oct-Jun) at DeVry University, 2049 West Dunlap Avenue, Phoenix. Sessions are coordinated by ARRL-VEC. Exams start at 8:30 AM and all tests must be concluded by 10:30 AM. Check-in at the Library on the second floor, Southeast corner of the School. Please update your webpages and newsletters. <http://westvalleyarc.org/>

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about ARRL. If your club or group has an activity or event that would be of interest to other hams throughout our section please email me with the specifics.

73, Tom Fagan WB7NXH

ARRL Section Manager Arizona

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<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=AZ> or <http://www.az-arrl.org/>