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Mid-November 2018

QUARTZFEST - NEWS FROM GORDO & KRISS

Quartzfest 2019

Quartzfest mid November 2018 Newsletter

GOT A PET? Every year we have a **PET PARADE**, plus judging, to see who brings the most fancy pet to the main fire ring! It can be two legged birdies, or 4 legged woofers or meowers, all welcome on leash with fancy garb! See the schedule for the evening Pet Parade at sundown.

BEAM ME UP! Bring your hand held **PORTABLE** battery operated flashlight for our fun **LIGHT IT UP** contest. One evening, those with any type of portable battery operated flashlight/searchlight, will line up, and we have a judge who will award a great prize to the furthest beam that can illuminate a distant target. 1,000 lumens, ho hum. 2,000 lumens, we can see across the wash. 4,000 lumens, now that's a lot of light! But can it beat one of those 1,000,000 candle power search lights?? We all will **SEE**. See the schedule for our evening 30

WHERE IT'S AT ON .550 Yes, talk in on 146.550 simplex. This same 146.550 frequency comes alive at daybreak every morning for our 7:45 am wake up call and a ton of this-day NEWS , plus 146.550 for nooner activity updates. Also, 146.550 for schedule modifications for added seminars.

At night, 146.550 with an encode tone of 103.5 Hz is used for an emergency call. At night, some of our net controllers will set their radios for 146.550, but with CTCSS decode only with a 103.5 PL tone, so you ONLY encode the PL for an emergency call up. If ever you dial 911, be sure and tell dispatch that you are near Quartzsite at the Roadrunner BLM campground so they know which EMS or Fire Service to send out from Quartzite. Then call out, with tone, for one of our volunteers to meet up with the responders to get to YOU.

STROBES, no strobes at night, please. We use strobes ONLY for directing emergency responders to a call down within the Quartzfest campground. Even a small blinking light may delay an emergency response. NO STROBES except to mark an emergency situation.

Yes, seminar areas will have public address amplifiers and speakers. If the seminar presenter can't be heard well, simply ask the seminar presenter to close talk the mic - we are talking Gary and Russ SUPER SOUND amps and speakers , so they will be heard !

The Quartzfest site will also be covered with a cross band remote. You don't need to do a thing to your own radio - 146.550 with no tone, and you will automatically come out on another band locally monitored by Kris, our fearless leader and seminar scheduler. Kris is glued to her radio, so a call to Kris, KR1SS, will get answers, questions, suggestions and compliments quickly handled!

" I DIDN'T KNOW THAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN...." Well, if you regularly walk with your HT on 146.550, you would know everything that is going to happen!! "

Here is what our volunteer organizers need, as of November.....

ring.

OMNI HF BASE ANTENNA, like a MFJ Cobweb 10m through 40m, or 5 BTV with short radials needed at its base.....or..... WE NEED ONE for our Special Event Station W7Q. Our Icom rig 9100 has an autotuner built in, but the antenna must still be somewhat resonant with SWR below 3:1 . We also encourage everyone to bring in their own HF to the special event station, tied in to this omni-directional antenna. Anderson connectors recommended for plug and play.

The swap meet starts on the final Saturday, January 26th, near the welcome tent. Set up before any hint of sunrise. Wheelin' and dealin' is in full gear at sunrise. NO COMMERCIAL activities permitted by BLM rangers. Keep it cool on your "exchanges" of gear and stuff. NO COMMERCIAL SALES permitted at Quartzfest.

YES, good/reasonable cell coverage and internet at our remote Quartzfest site. However, keep in mind that thousands of other RVers are in town at the town of Quartzite, and we all share the cell airwaves. Long downloads may not make it!

Check out the quadrant map on the Quartzfest.org web site. If you arrive early, fine, but mind where the registration tent is going to go, and the select seminar sites we have planned.

Make sure the schedule of activities is the 2019 version, seen at the top of the topic area on the 'puter readout.

And now.....here is Kris with more.....

Hi y'all, we're down to just 2 months before kickoff (opening Ceremony) and planning for Quartzfest 2019 is just about complete. Just a few items of info and a few things to tell you about places where we need volunteers once we hit the desert floor.

As Gordo mentioned, we'll be holding our 7th annual Pet Parade this year and

Luck. That being said, we need an MC to introduce pets and owners and to keep things rolling. You'll also be responsible for determining the winner based on applause from the audience and awarding our Pet Parade prizes.

If you've attended Quartzfests of the past, you've probably noticed that activities for our YL's who aren't interested in HAM stuff have been limited. Well, this year in addition to Marcia teaching Basket Weaving, Nancy's Beaded Bracelet making and Judy's talk about the YL System, Pax will be hosting a craft and game tent where you'll find things to do like playing Mexican Train Dominos, Scrabble, Mahjongg or Yahtzee. We hope to have at least 4 card tables set up all week for games and crafts (you'll have to bring your own chairs).

As in years past, beginning Thursday January 17th, we'll be setting up our welcome and seminar tents, Bulletin Boards plus our Special Event Station Pop-Up and our Game and Craft Tent (formerly our HOBO Stew Tent). We'll need a crew of folks to make this happen. We'll also need a crew to put together and get in the air, our antenna for our W7Q Special Event Station. If everything is set up by the end of the day Thursday, we'll be able to begin registrations as early as Friday morning.

I've had a number of you ask why HOBO Stew is missing from the schedule this year. Well, our past HOBO Stew Crew has been performing this task since 2007 but due to attrition from age and health issues, the Crew dwindled down to just a small handful of folks who are simply overwhelmed with the tasks required to put on the HOBO Stew by themselves. For the past couple years they've been asking for folks...or a team of folks to step forward and take over HOBO Stew responsibilities but have had no takers. So, last year I announced at our Closing Ceremony that if nobody steps forward to take on the HOBO Stew as a new crew, the existence of our annual Quartzfest Thursday night HOBO Stew would be no longer. Sadly, that is the case now...no more HOBO Stew. If you're interested in taking on this task, the past Crew donated the propane burners and pots and utensils necessary to get the HOBO Stew going again.

Gordo also mentioned that we need everyone to bring Firewood for our daily

mind loaning us to use in the Game and Craft Tent, I'd really appreciate it. We also need to borrow 6' plastic tables for our seminar areas so our speakers have a place to put their Demo items as well as the projector and computer and accessories for talks. We'll also need extra tables at the main fire ring this year for our daily show and tell items that will be displayed for viewing after our Happy Hour announcements each afternoon.

Lastly, I need a few of you campers to block the wind for us. One location will be on the north west corner of our Seminar tent. The other, we need 2 RV's to block wind for our Seminar area #3 which will be located right next to Roy and Nancy's Motorhome where Bracelet Beading takes place. If you choose to take one of these spots, you'll be right downtown Quartzfest where it will be a short walk for you to any of our seminar areas. If you can help out by parking (camping) in any of these areas, please drop me a note:

kristynweed@gmail.com

Our updated schedule is almost complete and will be sent to our webmaster very soon. Also, our updated Quartzfest 2019 site map will be up on the website in the next week or two. Check our website www.quartzfest.org often for updates. We do realize that a few items on the website are outdated and we're making a list that we can get to our webmaster for correction.

Lyn and I are so looking forward to seeing y'all this year. We'll be arriving in town on the 7th of January to have our new solar system installed at Discount Solar on our new to us fifth wheel. After the installation is complete, we'll spend a week or so at the Long Term camping area before showing up at our Quartzfest campsite next to the Welcome tent on Tuesday January 15th.

Until then,

73,

Kris – KR1SS and Lyn

(Lyn will be taking her Tech exam at Quartzfest)

kristynweed@gmail.com

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