

SEMINAR DESCRIPTIONS

"Starlink 101: A Practical Guide for Amateur Radio Operators and Emergency Communicators

Monday January 20th, 10:30 am Area 3

An informative session designed to introduce amateur radio operators to the benefits of Starlink's high-speed satellite internet. This presentation will cover essential topics such as choosing the right Starlink dish, understanding the service plans, and exploring how Starlink can enhance emergency communications, remote field operations, and digital mobile radio (DMR) support. Attendees will learn about mounting options, cost considerations, and practical ways to integrate Starlink into their amateur radio setups, providing reliable connectivity even in the most remote locations. This is a basic session. It's not at all designed to dive into the tech behind how Starlink works.

Work the Space Station Repeater

Date and time TBA

WORK THE SPACE STATION REPEATER Learn, with a live demo, how to talk through the International Space Station cross band repeater with Gordo! Bring your hand held on 437.800 MHz FM in the VFO mode!

Radiosonde Recovery Fun

Tuesday, January 21st, 9:00 am Area 1

John, KE7JYP will explain how to do a FOX HUNT where you can keep the spoils. From a few minutes after launch, to above 70,000' and back to earth. The launch groups don't want the balloon parts or the still transmitting Sony back. Shown is the equipment and techniques used to receive the tracking signals and learn how to retrieve the Radiosonde's sent up by NOAA and various entities to obtain weather for reporting to weather forecasters in the local area, the US and worldwide.

Stop the Bleed

Tuesday, January 21st, 8:00 pm Area 3 again on Friday, January 24th, 6:30 pm Area 3

With three quick actions, you can be trained to save a life. The number one cause of preventable death after injury is bleeding. A bleeding injury can happen anywhere. We've all seen it happen too often – on the news or in everyday life. Life-threatening bleeding can happen to people injured in serious accidents or disasters. Instead of being a witness, you can become an immediate responder because you know how to STOP THE BLEED. You'll learn three quick techniques to help save a life before someone bleeds out: 1) How to use your hands to apply pressure to a wound; 2) How to pack a wound to control bleeding; 3) How to correctly apply a tourniquet. These three techniques will empower you to assist in an emergency and potentially save a life. Participants will get a completion certificate after the course. Presented by Michelle Pelkey, KA7OQQ a Stop The Bleed certified instructor.

Bunny Hunt (aka Hidden Transmitter Hunt)

Tuesday, January 21st, 2:00 pm Area 3

Come find the lost Bunnies! We will have two hidden transmitters, one easy, one harder to find. There will be a brief training session before we start so beginners are welcome. They will be transmitting on 145.59 and 147.50 MHz. It is best to use an HT with a highly visible S-meter and be familiar with operating your HT in VFO mode so you can easily vary the frequency. Yagis and attenuators help a lot but using just an HT with some good shielding techniques can also find you a bunny! Even if you do not have an HT or optional antenna come and join the fun and help someone with an HT find the hidden bunny.

GMRS for Ham Operators

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2:00 pm Area 1

In this presentation we'll do a quick overview of Part 95 Personal Radio Service radios focusing on GMRS. We'll look at the radios, license requirements, repeaters and the growth in this radio service. The goal is for you as a ham to be able to help someone interested in radio communications to make a smart choice between ham and GMRS to best meet their communications need.

Get the Word Out & Generate Interest for Hams

Thursday, January 23rd, 2:00 pm Area 1

Ham Radio is facing a generational cliff as new hams fail to replace old. What can we do to increase interest in Ham Radio? I will discuss how SPECS is reaching out to younger audiences, aligning with their interests, and bringing them onboard. I will also discuss how you as an individual Ham can make a difference, regardless of experience.

SOTA Presentation & Hike To Cunningham Mountain

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2:00 pm Area 2 (Presentation), Hike is on Thursday 8:30 am

Join us as we discuss what is SOTA, how to get started & some survival tips. A current SOTA set up will be shared. An informal casual briefing will also be given for the hike to Cunningham Mountain. All are invited to the 1,800 foot steep hike to Cunningham Mountain. Everyone hikes at your own pace. For those interested, SOTA, a group photo & a raffle will be conducted on the summit.

Lost and Need Help? - Try What3Words

Thursday, January 23rd, 2:00 pm Area 2

Discover how to simplify navigation and location sharing with What3Words! This presentation offers amateur radio operators a practical, easy-to-use solution for pinpointing precise locations, even in the most remote areas. Learn how it can enhance field operations, streamline emergency rescues, and eliminate the confusion of vague directions or GPS errors. Whether you're tracking equipment, coordinating meetups, or exploring new tools for communication, this session will provide valuable insights and hands-on tips to make your operations smoother and more efficient.

EmComm: Offgrid Plug-and-Play Comms Platform

Monday, January 20th, 8:00 pm Area 3

The EmComm Tools Community is a platform built on a customized version of Ubuntu Linux, designed for seamless offgrid digital communications. It offers an offline-first, plug-and-play experience that simplifies switching between radios, communication modes, and operations in austere environments. The system is pre-configured with optimized software, supports hardware standardization, and runs from a bootable USB drive or hard disk for air-gapped use. With its turnkey setup, users can quickly configure their callsign, radio, and communication mode, making it an accessible solution for field expedient communication.

Making 200 Contacts Per Hour Operating an SES

Tuesday, January 21st, 2:00 pm Area 1

A typical POTA operation does well to log 100 contacts. Many Field Day adventures yield even fewer! Imagine how much fun it is to make 200/hour! That is possible when operating a Special Event Station (SES). Bill Mader, K8TE, has done so on many occasions operating as W6H for Route 66 On the Air and W1AW/5 for numerous events.

He will explain to us how it is possible to do this by following specific guidelines including using electronic logging (N1MM+), self-spotting, digital voice/CW keying, controlling the pileups, and more. All these skills are easily practiced during various contests. Learn how to have tremendous fun on-the-air along with some humorous experiences at Bill's always interesting presentation.

Counterpoise vs. Radials--Practical Uses

Wednesday January 22nd, 6:30 pm Area 3

One sub-topic, often misunderstood, among many antennas discussions is the need for and how to use a counterpoise or set of radials. With 65 years of experience and learning, Bill Mader, K8TE, will explain the reasons these two parts of an antenna system can improve performance when used properly and the differences between the two.

A frequent portable operator for POTA, SOTA, County Hunting, and Field Day, Bill will cut through the mounds of misinformation available on the WWW with facts, understandable explanations, and useful examples of what works plus explaining why many assertions are no more than typical antenna myths. Want a better on-air signal? Join Bill for his interesting dive into counterpoise vs. radials.

RV Refrigerator Safety and Trouble Shooting

Wednesday, January 22nd, 10:30 am Area 1

Fridge Defend, teaching how to prevent fridge failure, troubleshooting of fridge, and safety. This seminar is on Dometic and Norcold RV gas/electric absorption refrigerators. It is important to keep your fridge from failing in light of the fact that both Dometic and Norcold are phasing out these great refrigerators. The absorption refrigerator has no mechanical parts to wear out, we own 2 c1937 absorption refrigerators that work to this day because they are not in a mobile application. Paul and Mao are professional mechanical and controls systems engineers that are experts on the gas/electric RV fridge.

Nancy's POTA Journey, Equipment, Logging & More

Monday, January 20th, 2:00 pm Area 2

Parks on The Air (POTA) is currently one of the most popular ham activities. It is good for new and veteran operators. It is great fun for those that go out and set up portable operations at a state, provincial and nationally managed public land, and for those that contact those that have set up portable operations. This talk will discuss what POTA is, POTA terminology, how to get started, equipment, record keeping, public and park relations, lessons learned and resources.

Onan Generators, LiFePO4 batteries, solar and inverter systems Q&A

Monday, January 20th, 10:30 am Area 1

This will be a Q&A session where Jerry will answer questions about power systems. He has extensive experience in Onan generators, LiFePO4 batteries and integrations with solar power and inverters.

Mesh Presentation - Monday, January 20th, 6:30 pm Area 3

Mesh Workshop – Tuesday, January 21st, 2:00 pm Area 2

Orv is an AREDN Project Manager. His presentation is about Using AREDN Software To Create a Ham Radio IP Network. A Q&A session will follow.

Meshtastic Presentation – Tuesday, January 21st, 6:30 pm Area 3

Meshtastic Workshop – Wednesday, January 22nd, 9:00 am Area 2

Dave is an innovative member of the Arizona Mesh Organization. His presentation will provide basic information about Meshtastic, describing the software and hardware and how you can set up a simple and effective license-free communication network that allows you to send encrypted text messages. A Q&A session will follow.

Ladies should learn how to protect themselves?

Wednesday, January 22nd, 2:00 pm Area3

We can learn how to protect ourselves! A Girl and A Gun Women's Shooting League is a club by women for women! Our girl- friendly events have been successful stepping stones for thousands of women into shooting sports and fostered their love of shooting with caring and qualified instructors to coach them. Kathy, an NRA Pistol Instructor will be joined by a few other members from Mohave County.