

Quartzfest 2025 Newsletter  
January 19-25, 2025  
December 2024 edition

Hi all, Quartzfest is right around the corner and I hope you've made plans to join us.

Now is the time to begin collecting firewood for our nightly campfires. If everyone brings a bundle or two, we'll have plenty of wood to keep our campfires going every night of Quartzfest.

As I do every year, I'll be arriving a week before Quartzfest's kickoff to tape off our seminar and tent areas. If you arrive early as well, hopefully, you'll be able to assist in the retrieval of our equipment from storage in town and then help set up our welcome tent and bulletin boards. About 5 trucks with empty beds will be needed for this venture. Be sure you monitor 146.550MHz for updates.

Our welcome tent will be open for you to register with us Saturday morning about 10am. Lyn can't get off work to join me at Quartzfest this year to work the computer for registrations, so, I'll need volunteers to help out with this.

Quartzfest 2025 will be Quartzfest's 28<sup>th</sup> year and I've been Quartzfest's Organizer for 14 of those years. I'm still enjoying this position but will one day want to pass this responsibility on to a successor. If you're interested in getting your feet wet learning the processes of Organizing the show to one day take the helm, please drop me an email at [kristynweed@gmail.com](mailto:kristynweed@gmail.com). Also, our Quartzfest committee members have been in their positions since 2015 and, let's face it, they're not getting any younger. If you're interested in learning about putting together our seminar and event schedule...or have Audio/Visual experience and want to join our planning committee, please also, let me know.

Every year at Quartzfest on Thursday evening, Russell, KB6YAF, heads up our annual Hootenanny. So, if you play a musical instrument, bring it with you and join in the fun. Russell holds a jam session the day prior in preparation for the Hootenanny.

Tuesday afternoon and evening are busy for us starting with our Cast Iron Cooking, afternoon Potluck dinner, followed by our Tuesday evening Pet Parade. Bring your furry or feathered friend, dress them up in their finest and enter them in the pet parade.

Amateur Radio licensing exams will be held every day of Quartzfest. Sunday thru Friday will be given by Stephen WM7X and on Saturday by Rick W7RAP.

As we've done for many years, we'll need RV's to park near our seminar areas and by the welcome tent to block the wind. If you're interested in setting up very close to our center of

operations, let me know. I have to ask though, if you take one of these positions, you not run your generator during the day while seminars are going on.

A new change this year is that according to our BLM permit, we have to get rid of the donation jar and start charging \$5.00 per individual to attend Quartzfest. This covers you for the entire week of Quartzfest...that's just .75 cents per day. That \$5 per individual for the entire week should cover the cost of storage for our Quartzfest equipment, insurance, Porta potties, BLM permit and website which total a little over \$3000 per year.

In Quartzfests 27 years of existence, it's been a free event and we've survived on donations only. It hurts me to have to charge our attendees but we don't have a choice if Quartzfest is to continue.

Additionally, BLM does not permit a ham radio swap meet nor do they allow T-shirt sales..so, those two things have to be scratched from our schedule. I am however, working with a T-Shirt vendor (who's also one of our ham Quartzfesters) who is setting up his website where we can order shirts online and have them delivered to you before Quartzfest. Hopefully the shirts will be available for order in the next week or so.

This said, if you have amateur radio items you want to sell, post a note on the back of the bulletin board at Quartzfest with your phone number so folks can contact you. Don't forget, the Yuma Hamfest is back on the schedule for February 14 & 15 and they will be holding a ham radio swap meet. No country store this year though

Speaking of which, yes, it's true, the Yuma Hamfest is back on...it's been revived!! They are looking for volunteers to help out in a variety of ways. If you can help them, drop Rick a note at [w7rap@arrl.org](mailto:w7rap@arrl.org) and he can point you in the right direction to get on the volunteer list.

Lastly, we ask that you help us enjoy the night sky by not running your bright strobe lights

That's about all for now. I'm looking forward to seeing y'all in January.

Kris – KR1SS

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