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December 2018

QUARTZFEST - NEWS FROM GORDO & KRISS

Quartzfest 2019

December 2018 Newsletter

TEES FOR YOU

Yes indeed, we have Quartzfest T shirts available for 2019! We also have some stock of last year's Q favorite t-shirt, too. When you arrive and register at the Welcome Tent, place your shirt order.

W7Q STATION

Our special event station will be located near the big Win System RV and just west of the Welcome Tent. We will have the big ICOM 9100 HF transceiver, along with heil headsets. Feel free to bring your own operating accessories, too.

For many years, we have used different types of antennas for the operating station. This year, we're looking for innovative antennas from you. We will have on hand a 5-band off-center-fed windom antenna, and the radio will tune it up quite nicely. But what we do need is a tall antenna telescopic mast. If you have one, please let us know, and bring the mast so we can get the feed point up nice and high. If you want to put up something more exotic with gain, have at it.

HOOTENANNY

Our hootenanny will again be on Thursday evening, right after our afternoon greeting and announcements. Thanks to Russ and his "hoot team" for all the hard work going into this great afternoon and evening event. If you have a musical instrument that you can bring, bring it! We're looking to get everyone involved and playing at the hootenanny.

After the hootenanny with the sun setting, we will have a fabulous light show. Plus, we'll see who has the brightest handheld light for a fun prize. On hand will be Rodger and Kim of Wired Communications. They can assist you with getting the right light for what you may want to do that evening, plus they will keep the hoot musicians well lit.

And now here is more last-minute news. We hope to see you soon.

Thanks Gordo...speaking about the Hootenanny, here's a word from Russell:

Quartzfest 2019 Hootenanny - Thursday, January 24th @ 5:30pm

As Quartzfest 2019 approaches, you might be looking at the calendar of events and planning which seminars and activities you don't want to miss. Most of you that have been to a Quartzfest know that besides all the ham radio related topics offered, there are many other meetings/seminars too. One of the week's favorite events is the Thursday evening "Hootenanny". A 'hootenanny' is like a music show with a "spin". For the last few years, the 'show' is organized and led by Russell, KB6YAF; Kevin, NB7O; and Michelle, K7MGO. We have also had many other musicians join in with their instruments and voices, so each year is a bit different.

For the Hootenanny this year, we are looking for more musicians to help out. If you play drums, keyboard, guitar, ukes, flute, fiddle, mandolin, bass, vocals, or any instrument suitable for the show, and would be willing to join in, we will welcome you!! Most of our 'songlist' is posted on the Quartzfest website as PDF downloads. Go check out the list. The songs are listed as lyrics and chords only. If you want to help out, please email Russell at: kb6yaf@arri.net and let him know! If we have an unused channel on the mixer board, you can plug in.

On **Wednesday, January 23rd @ 4:30pm**. (The exact location - TBA @ Quartzfest.) We are planning a **"Pre-Hootenanny Music Jam"**. This "Jam" is open for EVERYONE - musicians and spectators.

At this "Jam", we will explain a little bit about how we play our songs and maybe touch a bit on some music basics. As we go around the "Music Jam" circle, we will give an opportunity for any players/singers to "strut their stuff" in a song. So, if you are a musician and have that one special song you'd like to perform in a smaller group setting, here is your chance! Remember, we just want to have fun with music! Also, feel free to create your own music 'get togethers' and announce it on 146.550 in the morning. The more, the merrier!

Now, go to the website (quartzfest.org) to view, download, and print the lyrics and chords to the songs. Many past participants have created a 3-ring binder for their own songbook. You can also buy those clear plastic sheets and insert the lyric sheets, so they don't blow away. Remember to bring paper clips or binder clips to keep the sheets from moving around. For you techie-types, you can even download the songs into your tablets and use a PDF reader to display the songs. That's what we do for the "Hootenanny".

73 de Russell, KB6YAF

***Have you heard about the DX Distance Challenge we're trying this year?
Here's a word from Bob:***

2019 Quartzfest Distance Challenge Event

Are you going to Quartzfest 2019? Be sure to bring along a HF radio and your

Challenge event to see if you can make the longest distance contact from the Quartzfest site! This barefoot (100watts or less) & QRP challenge will include both SSB & CW but no digital. You don't have to make lots of QSOs, just the longest one. January 22nd will be the first day of the possible two day event. The Northern Arizona DX Association is sponsoring this and if you want more details, just e-mail NF7E (use his address on QRZ.com) for all the information, rules and restrictions . Now we can see just who has the best portable antenna and luck to become the Quartzfest's First Distance Challenge Champ!! GOOD LUCK!!!!

Now it's my turn

Can you believe that our wait for Quartzfest 2019 is almost over? Kickoff is just one month away and we're looking forward to seeing and meeting all of you as you sign in at the welcome tent.

As Gordo mentioned, we'll again have this years Quartzfest T-Shirts. Our LOGO this year will be our little trailer with antennas and solar panels that we had on our 2013 T-Shirts. We listened to you so this year our shirts will have pockets. Shirts will be available all week but only during a 2 hour window each day...probably between 10am and noon. We don't have a cost yet but they should be at a comparable price as we've had the past few years. Be sure to buy your shirts early because once they're gone, they're gone.

We're going to hold our 4th annual photo contest this year. Categories haven't been selected yet so stay tuned. That information will be announced at our opening ceremony, during each day's afternoon announcements around the main fire ring and on the morning net.

There is no trash pickup at Quartzfest. As you normally do when camping... pack it in/pack it out. There is a transfer station on the north end of Quartzsite that accepts trash Sunday thru Wednesday...I think from 7am – 2pm. If you need to dump trash, please take it there.

There are a few places in the town of Quartzsite where you can get propane and a few RV parks where you can pay to dump your tanks but the most convenient place in town is called the "Pit Stop". It's a one stop shop where you

tanks. They're located on US95 about 6 or 7 blocks north of Main Street (north of the I-10 bridge on US95) on the east side of the road. Be aware though that they are **CASH ONLY!!**

We need to borrow your tables. If you have 6' plastic tables that you don't mind letting us use at our seminar areas, our special event station and at our game and craft tent, please let me know as soon as you can after you arrive. We ask that you mark your tables with your call sign or an identifying mark so *your* tables get back to you.

Reminder, we will have porta potties again this year but they are specifically for our tent campers and those visiting us for the day. If you have an RV, please use the toilet in your RV. There will be at least one company working the desert dumping tanks...usually for about \$35, cash only. Once I arrive at Quartzfest I'll get all the information you'll need to contact them in time to dump your tanks before they overflow.

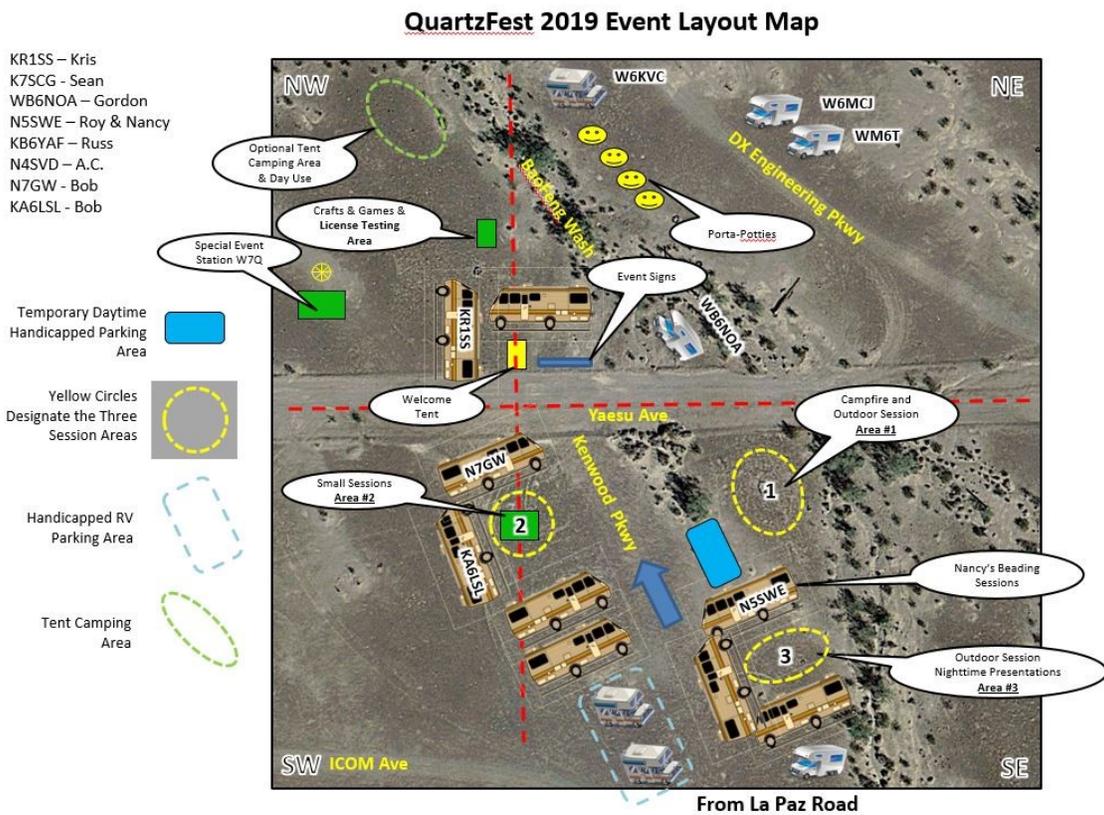
During Quartzfest we have campfires both morning and night. To keep these campfires going throughout the week we ask that everyone bring firewood. If everyone brings a few pieces or a bundle, we will almost be guaranteed to stay warm around the fire ring the entire week.

We'll be setting up our welcome tent, seminar tent, special event station tent and our game and craft tent as well as our bulletin board (we have an auger to drill the holes) on Thursday. We'll need a bunch of you to volunteer to get these set up. Before we can set up the tents though, we'll need 5 to 6 pickup trucks (and drivers) to drive to our storage building in Quartzsite to load our equipment and bring it back to our Quartzfest site. Strong bodies are helpful (but not required) as the tents are fairly heavy.

Last month I mentioned that we need a few RV's to block wind for our seminar areas. A couple folks have volunteered so far but we still need a couple more. If you're handicapped, this would be ideal for you as you'll be right in the center of operations. I need one RV on the north side of the welcome tent and the other on the west side of seminar area 3. If you'd like to take one of these spaces, please shoot me an email kristynweed@gmail.com If you'd like to camp in one of the spaces we ask that you not need to run a generator all day long.

As a courtesy to others camping near you, we ask that no generators be run between the hours of 10pm and 7am (quiet hours). We do understand that some of you have medical equipment that you use at night where running your generator is a requirement. We ask that if this is the case, you not camp real close to others. If you don't have solar, you'll most likely need to run your generator to charge your batteries before you head off to bed for the night. We ask that you plan your charging period so you can have the batteries charged and genset powered down before 10pm.

Lyn and I are so looking forward to seeing y'all,
 73 for now,
 Kris – KR1SS



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