

# Quartzfest 2020

## *early December Newsletter*

Hi Quartzfesters...I hope that you had a good Thanksgiving...we did. We smoked a turkey and baked a ham and boy were they delicious. We spent the day with 12 of Lyn's family members who drove down from Phoenix to our place in Tucson for dinner.

Now that we're in to December, we're less than 2 months away from our opening ceremony kickoff. That said, I'm hopeful that you all have gotten your RV's, tents and car campers ready to roll, solar panels dusted off and generators checked out. It's always frustrating to find out at the last minute like I did a few years ago when I went to hook up my fifth wheel that all of my batteries were dead. Replacing 6 batteries that afternoon isn't what I'd had planned. Make sure this doesn't happen to you too.

You'll be happy to know that this year at Quartzfest the RV Pump out truck will visit us twice during the week. Probably Monday and Thursday but the actual days will be announced as we get closer to kickoff. They'll pump out our Porta Potties first and then pump out the RV's of folks who have signed up for pump out.

One of our Quartzfesters did some checking around Quartzsite for us and this is what he found....

*"We called around to the city and the LTVA ranger and they came up with a source for fresh water.... JACK POT Portable... which is authorized to do business and provide services on BLM Land...*

*928-680-0804*

*The gent said that they will need notification and credit card no... two days prior to service the RV. I think he said he was servicing your porta potties also... but they use a area designation instead of the Quartzfest...*

*He said the price for the pump out is \$35 bux...*

*He also said that the water wagon truck was up and running but still needs to be inspected and permitted to use down their also... but the water is non potable and **not** for drinking etc....*

*Prices for dumping at the old RV site have gone up.. Now \$15 instead of \$10...*

*Also if you want to go into one of the RV parks for the night... to use their facilities... you will now have to stay for a min of 2 days... (if you can find a spot) LTVA said that they will not allow people to come in with a RV ....on a day pass and use their facilities to dump, water and trash... You must be registered there to use the facilities... again... illegal dumping will be met with fines and tickets... for those who think they are going to sneak in.... also the trash issue has come up once again... and it seems there were lots of complaints from the businesses last year with people dumping in their bins.... this year is going to see a hefty fine for those who don't secure a place to dump their trash legally... " a lot of businesses*

*have installed cameras to catch the ones who violate the new ordinance...."according to the people at the BBB...*

*The BLM ranger again said that dumping 'ANYTHING' on the BLM is illegal and they will be looking for wet spots and leakers... to cite this year... (fine start at \$250 and up..) seems last year they had a problem with people dumping and not respecting the land... and leaving garbage in the fire rings... etc..."*

Our tents need to last us a long time so to protect them, again this year, we'll need to park RV's close to the tents to block the wind as best we can. If you want to be camped near the center of Quartzfest operations and be a wind block for us, please let me know.

[kristynweed@gmail.com](mailto:kristynweed@gmail.com)

We also need help assisting Gary in keeping things running during the week. He needs help especially with gassing up the generators each morning and firing them up so our PA's and computer projector have power for our seminars. If you can help with this, again, please let me know.

Volunteers are needed to start our morning and evening campfires, help in the welcome tent registering folks when they arrive and volunteers to introduce speakers before seminars. If you're a safety conscious person, do you have an interest in being our safety person to let us know if you see anything that's unsafe? Are you a medical professional who could be available in the event someone gets hurt or has a serious medical issue..until EMT's arrive? Again, if so, let me know [kristynweed@gmail.com](mailto:kristynweed@gmail.com)

As you know, we have a morning eyeball QSO campfire and a relaxing evening campfire. In order to have these twice daily campfires, we need everyone to bring a few pieces of wood (no pallets please) to add to the woodpile. If everyone brings 3-4 pieces of wood, we'll have plenty to last the entire week.

Although all of our computer presentation seminar time slots are taken, we still have a few time slots open for outdoor seminars. If you have an interest that you'd like to share with the group, please let me know so I can get you on the schedule. [kristynweed@gmail.com](mailto:kristynweed@gmail.com)

Speaking of the schedule, If you're one of our speakers this year we have a special page on the website for you...but we need your input to make it complete. It's a page that lists speakers bio's and topic descriptions. If you haven't gotten that info to either me or Kevin our webmaster yet, please do so soon. This will give attendees an idea of what you're going to discuss.

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, MFJ has graciously said they will donate a Cobweb antenna to Quartzfest. Unfortunately, they're backordered right now and so it hasn't shipped yet. They're expecting to be able to ship it soon. We do need a mast to set it up on though. If you have a 30' or taller collapsible mast that you can bring with you for us to use at our special

event station, that would be awesome. I believe the mast will need about 1 to 1 ¼" diameter at the top of the top section. Please let me know if you have one that you're bringing.

Our 20'x40' tent has been ordered and should have already arrived in Quartzsite. I'll be checking on this tonight to be sure. It's made of PVC and is a heavier material than our old tent so should be much darker inside during the day than the old one. It does have clear windows but we'll be wrapping the tent with tarps to help darken the inside.

Our T-Shirt order will be made in the next week so they'll be available at the Welcome Tent at the beginning of Quartzfest...and all week long until they're sold out. Last year we ordered 150 shirts and they sold out within the first 2 hours after they arrived. This year we're ordering 300 which hopefully will be enough for all those who want shirts to get them.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, we're planning on setting up tents, etc.. Friday January 17<sup>th</sup>. If you can help out with manual labor setting them up, it would be greatly appreciated. We'll start out by running in to town to pick up our tents, auger and supplies first so if you have a pickup truck and don't mind using it to load supplies in to, that will be appreciated as well. At the same time we're setting up tents, we'll be putting together our new Cobweb antenna and getting it in the air. Help with an antenna party will also be needed.

Lyn and I plan on arriving on site around the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> and will be monitoring 146.55 simplex after we arrive. If you need to get in touch with us, give a holler..or drop by. We'll be camped next to where the Welcome Tent will be set up. Beginning late Thursday and thru the weekend, we'll need folks to help out with talk in for our first timers who don't know exactly where our Quartzfest location is. If you want to operate talk-in, please let me know once on site so I can set up a schedule. It doesn't make sense for a multitude of you to be working talk-in at the same time as that would just cause confusion.

That's about all for now...Lyn and I are looking forward to reuniting with old friends again this year as well as meeting 1<sup>st</sup> time Quartzfesters

73/88

Kris KR1SS and Lyn KJ7DSE