

Quartzfest 2020 Fall Newsletter

Heeeeres Gordo....

QUARTZFEST 2020 PLANS IN HIGH GEAR!

Quartzfest 2020 dates are January 19 (Sunday, 2 pm opening, main fire ring) through the 25th (Saturday, afternoon close-down celebration). Come early, stay longer (up to 14 days free on BLM land), and get set for FUN! Yes, you can come days early to Q2020!

Coming early then?bring gloves and tools, and we will put you to some light work with our team setting up our venue on Friday and Saturday before the Sunday 2pm official kick off!

Dave and Heather will be bringing their radio-kids on opening Sunday and Monday mornings, to kick off each day of seminars. This year, the kids are bringing their home built Fox Hunt transmitters, and talk about tricks to finding the Hound! These kids captivated us last year with their video robots controlled via ham radio!

With concurrent seminars and action-packed adventures taking place every day at Quartzfest, we have open 1-day (or more) leadership opportunities galore, and you may find one of these 1 dayer positions right down your alley:

- Daybreak main fire ring fire starter (we have the wood if everyone will bring a couple of logs +)

- Physical Trainer each daybreak to get the blood flowing

- Win System assistant to help with daybreak coffee and hot water for tea (we have the water) at the welcome tent

- Seminar site (3 or 4) greeters, with radio. The 2m radio for calling on a special frequency to Q management if something is needed

Talk in for a day, on 146.550 MHz. Radio and base antenna will be provided if needed.

PowerPoint computer specialist for making sure the show will go ON in the new tent.....

SAFETY OFFICER, with First Aid training, to monitor for a safe venue, and minimizing trip hazards.

Photo/video specialist to document the fun we will be having, and posting pix on the bulletin board

W5YI VEs for the Wednesday test session

Special Event Station now-and-then check up

Night ops star gazer specialist. Telescopes this year?

Porta pottie checker, in the afternoons

Tent camping area monitor

You get the idear - become a Q2020 lead-fur-a-day at a fun job you might want to take on! Or.... let Kris know if you want more than a day, with your 2m/440 radio, on the inside channel to Q management!!

Exercise your voice! This year, Russ, our Hootenanny organizer and player, promises even MORE singalongs for everyone to participate - brings bongos, tambourines, flutes, moroccos, (I butchered that word), and other accompaniments, and be part of the hoot on Thursday evening! Roger and Kymmers, the LED folks, will provide the lights!

We want your show and tell! Every year, we try and outdo ourselves with seminars - live action seminars, that involve real gear and props, to add to your discussion. Bring stuff to your seminar for show and tell!

Send your seminar ideas to Kris: kristynweed@gmail.com .

Just write a short note to say what day might be best for you, PowerPoint tent shade needed or not, 12 volts from the BioennoPower battery for your live demos, and any other "factos" to promote your 50

minutes live-action presentation. But send your seminar ideas in to Kris soon, as seminars spots and slots fill up quick!

And now, a word from Tracy....

While there is a great need for volunteers to step up and help with some of the activities at Quartzfest we also are in need of speakers or presenters.

In particular we prefer more of the hands-on presentations but PowerPoint is okay as well. And if you are planning on a PowerPoint presentation we need to know right away because we only have one venue we can make dark enough for such presentations.

About 60% of our presentations are specifically amateur radio related. The rest are just general in nature such as about RV issues, camping, drones, ancestry, crocheting and whatever you might want to speak about.

So please let us know if you have a subject you would like to present at Q2020 so you can get you on the list. Also, if there is a specific day or time then let us know that too.

And now it's my turn....

Lyn and I are back home in Tucson and not enjoying the heat. We had a blast in the White Mountains fishing, off roading, sightseeing and going to the rodeo. We also spent a week in Cortez CO where we took in a number of National Parks and Monuments in SW Colorado and SE Utah. We visited Petrified Forest Natl Park and Meteor Crater on the way home. The fifth wheel served us well and we're happy to be back home but darn it's hot...

Did you notice that Gordo mentioned our new tent? During closing ceremony back in January I mentioned that we need to replace our seminar area 2 tents that are falling apart. Well, we'll soon be ordering our new tent that will give us close to 800 sq ft of space inside so everyone will be able to fit inside during seminars...no more sitting in the sun and squinting trying to see what's on the screen. The tent is PVC with heated seams so it won't leak. Total weight including the galvanized supporting structure will be close to 400 lbs so we'll definitely need lotsa help Friday the 23rd of January picking up our stuff from storage and getting the tents set up.

Speaking of setting up, remember our bulletin boards? We bought an auger last year that makes drilling holes for the sign posts so much easier.

This year as in years past, we'll be administering Amateur Radio Licensing Exams twice during the week. Gordo and Suzi from "Gordon West Radio School" will be giving W5YI exams on Wednesday and Rick, our ARRL Arizona Section Manager will be giving ARRL exams Saturday. Please go to the FCC's website (<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/support/universal-licensing-system-uls-resources/getting-fcc-registration-number-frn>) and request your Federal Registration Number (FRN) prior to arriving at Quartzfest. You'll need the FRN to fill out your exam forms. There are several ways to study for your exam both in print and online. You may want to go to <http://hamradio.com> for HRO or GigaParts at www.gigaparts.com and order your study guide for the particular exam(s) you'll be taking.. Over the years I've used both ARRL and Gordon West manuals and I much prefer Gordo's study guides.

Our DX Challenge sponsored by the Northern Arizona DX Association is back again this year. Categories right now look like SSB 100w, SSB QRP, CW 100w and FT8. More details and rules will be in our next newsletter.

For our Off Road Trip this year, I'm shooting for 2 separate runs. One where you can take your car and the other for high clearance and 4x4 vehicles. This is a very popular event for Quartzfest. Last January we had a record number of vehicles and folks who participated.

I'm working on the 2020 seminar, event and activity schedule and want to have the schedule posted to our website by the end of September. As Tracy and Gordo have mentioned above, we're looking for speakers to present seminars on a variety of topics. I still have room for speakers in both outside seminar areas and in our tent for PowerPoint presentations. If you're interested in being one of our speakers, please drop me a note at kristynweed@gmail.com.

That's all for now, Lyn and I are looking forward to seeing y'all in January.

73,

Kristyn KR1SS and Lyn KJ7DSE