

Club Address: EAARS P.O. Box 398 Solomon, AZ 85551 http://www.eaars.com

June 2013

Repeater News

The Jacks Peak Club had a couple of work days over Memorial day weekend, so the microwave link to the Little Florida's by Deming is working. EAARS plans add a repeater there using that microwave link, probably this summer.

BTW: Heliograph to Jacks Peak is already on that microwave link.

The contract is FINALLY signed for the West Peak communications site. EAARS hopes to add another repeater there this summer. Thanks to Ben, *N7XL*, for all his hard work dealing with the Forest Service.

Field Day?

IF we can get at least 8 people committed we will do another small field day out at Cluff Ponds.

www.azgfd.gov/h_f/waters_cluff_pond.shtml we'll take the bus out, set up about 3 antennas and camp, swim, fish, maybe burn a burger or two and, "oh ya" play ham radio for 24 hours. Right now there are only 4 people committed, contact Dave *N7AM* by **June 7** if you would like to participate.

EAARS is always open to suggestions, would you like to try some other contest, do a special event, or maybe just get together for lunch with some of the locals? Let the us know

Sunday Night Net Control Operator Needed

EAARS is looking for a volunteer to act as net control for the Sunday Night Net one week a month. Please contact Grace, *KB7CSE*, if you can help out.

EAARS OPEN REPEATERS

PL IS 141.3 UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE HELIOGRAPH PEAK: 146.860, 440.700 LINKED 146.900 ECHOLINK AND IRLP 145.010 PACKET 447.825 WITH CLOSED REMOTE BASE PL 100.0 OR 141.3

JACKS PEAK, NM: 145.210 LINKED

PINAL PEAK: 145.410 LINKED

South Mt at Alpine: 145.270 Linked

GREENS PEAK: 146.700 LINKED

MULE MT: 147.080 LINKED

MT. LEMMON: 147.160 LINKED

GUTHRIE PEAK: 147.280 LINKED

Final 7th Area QSO Party Report

or is it?

What can I say? MOTHER NATURE RULES, as many of you know and receive further emphasis each year in Amateur Radio.

And when MOTHER NATURE finishes with you and MR. MURPHY decides to pay a visit, the best laid plans of men and mice go to pot in a hurry.

I could stop right there, present some statistics to go along with the score, and call it THE END. However, I believe the effort by the *K7EAR* group deserves an additional accounting of what actually happened and what effort resulted in the best score we could muster with the hand that was dealt to us.

The prep of the radios and networked logging computers in the two operating buses was enhanced by the installation of the latest effort in the N1MM software upgrade. The logging of contacts for both our counties in a County Line Expedition mode was like sliced bread and canned beer. What a treat to do the test logging and see everything work as advertised. This year was going to be FUN, especially working other expeditions on county lines or mobiles on 2 or 3 county locations. Just watch the Qs add up.

The transfer of the buses from home base to the 7QP site on the Graham/Greenlee County line together with the two trailers of towers, antennas and accessories transpired without incident.

But what to our amazement at daylight on Friday morning (tower erection and antenna mounting day) there are high winds blowing from the southeast and visibility is limited to ~ 2 miles due to Texas migrating across New Mexico into Arizona. And it didn't get better.

2013 Officers and Staff

eaarsofficers@eaars.com to email all officers.

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Long story made short;

Only one tower was erected to the normal full height of 60' and only three of the normal 4 antennas were mounted. The other three tower were erected to TWENTY FEET only and a single antenna per band was installed.

The final antenna configuration = 60' tower has the 15 Meter beams for SSB, one each to the NE and NW, plus the Stackmatch. This tower also carried One 10 Meter beam for SSB oriented (*Continued on page 4*)

Ham License Testing

There are four monthly VE test sessions in the **Tucson Area**. *Lighthouse YMCA/ARRL:* First Thursday Contact Matt, *AC7IL*, veregistration@ac7il.org

Oro Valley/ARRL: First Saturday Contact David, AK2L, ak2l@arrl.net

RST/ Laurel (No Fee): Second Monday Contact Diane, *AA30F*, dzimmerman2002@gmail.com

Jacobs Park YMCA/ARRL: Third Saturday Contact Fred, K7OFA, k7ofa@arrl.net

Graham / Greenlee County Area For VE testing on request, please contact Dave, *N7AM*, and he will arrange it.

Technician License Class - Tucson Every Tuesday, 6:30 - 9:00pm at TMC. Contact Dan, *KC7VDA* for info. *kc7vda@gmail.com*

Coming Events Near and Far...

- White Mountain Hamfest: Jun 1 www.kachina-arc.org
- ARRL Field Day: Jun 22-23 www.arrl.org/field-day
- Williams Hamfest: Jun 19-21 www.arca-az.org/main/july_hamfest.html





www.arrl.org

Send Event and Calendar additions to newsletter@eaars.com NE.

One 20' tower with one 20 Meter beam for SSB oriented NE and the center of the 75 Meter Double Extended Zepp.

One 20' tower with one each 10 Meter and 15 Meter beams for CW oriented NE.

One 20' tower with one 20 Meter beam for CW oriented NE and the center of the 80 Meter Double Extended Zepp.

Fortunately we were able to deploy the 4 Squares for 40 Meter CW and SSB, and the digital stations' antennas (4-Square for 20 M and the Hustler 5BTV for the other bands).

So ended Friday with a start of the generator, all radios and computers on, unctioning and the network fully operational. Off to bed and an early rise to "Rock and Roll" at 6 Bells local time.

Enter Murphy. Trumpet fanfare please.

1. One of the digital ops decided to turn off his computer Friday night unbeknownst to the network gurus. That PC had to be booted up Saturday morning AND it wouldn't communicate with the network. The 20 Meter SSB op on duty was the main network person and lost the first prime hour of operating while diagnosing and correcting the digital station PC networking problem.

2. 30 minutes or so into the contest the 20 CW PC decides it is old and slows down to an 8 second response to each keyboard entry. The 20 CW operation was then moved to the 6 Meter CW setup as no 6 Meter signals had been heard. Off and running with 30 minutes of prime time lost.

3. An hour or so later, all of a sudden; no CW keying on the 6 Meter turned 20 Meter CW position. It appeared that PC had decided it would go on strike. Absolutely no communication on the USB for the WinKeyer or the serial port for radio control. All the normal gyrations could not restore the two comm ports. So, I moved the 20 Meter CW operation to the 10 Meter CW position where 10 CW had made only 16

contacts. That left us with 3 operating CW positions; 20 M, 40 M and 15 M.

4. The very low antennas caused some interstation interference that we had in previous years been able to overcome. Some juggling of filters caused most of the interference to be abated to an acceptable level. You have to remember that we operated THREE stations in two bands simultaneously; CW, SSB and Digital. Making it all play has been a challenge

One or more of the operators threatened Murphy with his life if he hung around any longer, so the gent quietly went away after inflicting much prime operating time displeasure.

Now back to the rest of the story. Operating continued with the 15 Meter SSB ops grinning ear to ear because they could see the handwriting on the wall; they were going to be the position winners among the EAARS group. Other years it has always been a knock down, drag out fight between the 20 Meter SSB and CW positions to see who could work the most Qs. But with the limited antennas on the two 20 M positions vs the 15 SSB, and the above mentioned prime time fiascos for both 20 Meter positions, it was NO CONTEST. 15 Meter SSB conditions were very good and the ops at that position took full advantage.

20 M played as well as could be expected with single, low antennas (20' AGL) and minimized operating time.

40 Meters played well as always with the 4-Squares.

15 M was the best we have enjoyed during the years of 7QP participation. The CW op had sparse contacts late in the afternoon when every signal that called was LOUD and CLEAR. There just were not enough stations on the band at that time.

The 10 Meter SSB ops stayed with it all day and managed just 110 Qs. Limitations of one antenna at 10' AGL and one azimuth certainly did not enhance the contact possibilities.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4) 10-15 MPH.

The 75 Meter SSB operation was unable to dig up any contacts in the evening. The 80 Meter CW station managed 224 contacts. Both of these stations were limited with the center of the DEZ's just 20 feet AGL and the ends a couple of feet off the ground. There are no trees at this site and we depend on the towers to get the center of the DEZ's up in air enough to be effective. With just 20' max it didn't work so well.

We wrapped it all up at midnight local. Here are some stats from this limited operation.

The DX total of which only 10 count as multipliers: 6Y, A7, AP, CE, CM, CT, DL, EA, EA8, EI, F, FR, G, GI, HI, HK, I, JA, KH4, KP4, LU, LY, OK, ON, PA, PY, S5, SM, TG, UA, VK, XE, YB, and YV.

Worked all 50 States except ND. Worked all VE Sections except NL, NS, NT & NU. Missed the max total of multipliers by 5.

The Top 5 QSO providers by State were CA=310, FL=238, IN=224, TX=224 and OR=204. The bottom 5 States were RI=10, DE=14, WV=16, VT=18 & ME=20. Total VE Qs was 120.

The hourly totals of Qs in Zulu time were: 13=328, 14=330, 15=276, 16=220, 17=324, 18=236, 19=206, 20=162, 21=244, 22=366, 23=294, 0=238, 1=310, 2=280, 3=148, 4=156, 5=122, and the last hour, the 0600 hour, we dropped below the 100/hour to just 96.

Back at 5:30 AM to start the disassembly and loading of all the paraphernalia. Due to an ever more trained and experienced crew, plus the fact that three towers were only 20' high, everything was loaded and ready to travel at 10:00 AM.

A police call was made of the area and we left it as we found it; extremely dry (no cactus flowers for photos this year) and a westerly breeze blowing at

Did we have fun? YES!!! Did we work hard? Yes. Did we accomplish what we set out to do? Yes, on all points except the final score. We had a goal and the intent of bettering our 2012 record of 1.1+ million points. Didn't happen.

This was a going away party as EAARS had previously made the determination that this would be the last 7QP operation of this magnitude. EAARS members and the hired guns will participate in some other operation starting next year. So, the field is wide open for someone else to step up and do a County Line Expedition in the Multi-Multi class.

It has been a load of fun for 6 years. As the EAARS 7QP Chairman I want to personally thank all the 2013 participants who assisted as a team to make this operation a success.

They are, in no particular order, John-*KF7JCJ*,Larry-*N5BG*, Rick-*W5CF*, Robyn-*KF5SOF*, Joe-*K7JEM*, Jim-*W7AZY*, Marie-*W2AZY*, Larry-*W7LLE*, Beth-*AA7NW*, Dave-*N7AM*, Rick-*KF7YOU*, Warren-*N15L*, Sonney-*K5IWA*, Ted-*AD1N*, Steve-*A17AZ*, and Grace-*KB7CSE*. Oh, and then there is the tailender, Milt, *N5IA*.

> 73, y Hasta La Vista. Milt, *N5IA*



"We MAY try 7QP again but with 20 or 30 foot towers that can be raised by hand. With the wind we only got one tower up to full height and not all the antenna's on it and we still seem to have done fairly well (final on that when the scores are announced)."

7th Call Area QSO Party

Call: K7EAR

Operator(s): KF7JCJ N5IA N5BG W5CF KF5SOF K7JEM W7AZY W2AZY W7LLE AA7NW N7AM KF7YOU NI5L K5IWA AD1N AI7AZ KB7CSE

Station: K7EAR

Class: Cnty Exped M/M LP QTH: AZGHM / AZGLE

Operating Time (hrs): 18

Summary:			
Band	CW	Phone	Digital
	QSOs	QSOs	QSOs
160:			
80:	224	4	
40:	562	380	
20:	564	802	114
15:	496	1000	40
10:	16	110	24
6:			
2:			
Total:	1962	2296	178
Mults = 69			
Total Score = 735,540			