



EASTERN ARIZONA AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



EST. 1974

INC.

Club Address:

EAARS
P.O. Box 398
Solomon, AZ 85551

<http://www.eaars.com>

May 2012

7th Area QSO Party is here!

This is it folks! The **7th Area QSO Party** is this weekend, May 5th!

This is one of, if not the, major operating events put on by EAARS. I can not encourage you enough to attend this event. I guarantee you will enjoy it!

The contest runs from 6 AM to Midnight, with set up on Friday and tear down on Sunday.

Traditionally the club has provided a late afternoon/early evening Saturday meal for everyone, in particular the operators who for the most part cannot leave their operating positions for very long. It has been decided to provide Pizza as the main dish. The club will also be furnishing the beverages.

Come out to join with us for one, two or three days. Observe, participate and learn techniques for layout, assembly and construction of towers. See how stations and accessories are put together to make them perform. For those of you who are computer literate, you can learn how to utilize the logging program and networked stations in a competitive environment.

If anyone has any questions, contact Milt, *N5IA*. Just plan to spend some time with club members at the largest activity of the year, you will enjoy it! See the following map for location.

(Announcement by N5IA)



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

462.625 GMRS PL 123.0

MT. LEMMON:

147.160 LINKED

PINAL PEAK:

145.410 LINKED

GUTHRIE PEAK:

147.280 LINKED

SOUTH MTN AT ALPINE:

145.270 LINKED

GREENS PEAK:

146.700 LINKED

JACKS PEAK, NM:

145.210 LINKED

MULE MTN:

147.080 LINKED



Meet the Staff...

Editor: Steve Lane KY7K

I've been fascinated with electronics since I was very young. My Mom tells stories of me tearing apart her appliances when I was little to see how they worked. Seems I never put them back together, but I don't remember any of it. I plead the 5th.

I got hooked on radio in the late 60's when my Dad got a CB radio. From there I got involved in scanner monitoring in the mid 70's. In High school two of my friends held ham tickets and tried to help me with the code so I could get licensed but I just could never get it.

About this same time personal computers started becoming available and I became heavily involved in computers for a number of years and Ham radio was pushed to the background, although I was still very active in scanner monitoring. I used to love to listen to the "Zia".

Fast forward to 2005 when I heard about this wonderful thing called the No Code Technician license and received my first ticket, KE7CVB (worst call ever issued!) and I've been in over my head ever since. (*Tangent alert! Mild OCD coupled with my motto of "It's easier to ask for forgiveness than permission" tends to lead to things like becoming editor of the EAARS Newsletter, former President of Radio Society*

2012 Officers and Staff

eaarsofficers@eaars.com to email all officers.

President

Dave Wells
N7AM

Technical Adviser

Milt Jensen
N5LA

Vice President

Quentin Kavanaugh
N7QK

Newsletter Editor

Steve Lane
KY7K

Secretary/Treasurer

Larry Griggs
N5BG

Net Manager

Grace Wells
KB7CSE

Helio Site Trustee

Joe Montierth
K7JEM

Net Control Ops

Rick KE7EDP
Pink K7ILA
Richard N7DZH
Grace KB7CSE

of Tucson and other positions I'm absolutely unqualified for.

I also tend to speak my mind, never a good thing. If you read something in the Newsletter that makes you go "What the..." please keep this in mind. Thank you.)

In May of 2005 I upgraded to General and received the vanity callsign of N7SCL, my initials. In 2007 I became very interested in contesting and the Radiosport.

In July of 2009 I upgraded to Amateur Extra and applied for and was granted KY7K for the sole purpose of a better contesting callsign.

I've since become very interested in SOTA (<http://www.sota.org.uk/>) and QRP operations which has led me back to my old nemesis Morse code. There is no other mode better suited for low power operation than CW so here I am back where I was 30 years ago struggling to learn the code, all help and encouragement welcomed! My current operating activities are mostly centered around contesting at AK7AZ/12 Toes where I maintain my K3 contest station, SOTA, QRP (just picked up a K2 for home), VE testing with the RST VE group, heading up the RST repeater SIG (Special Interest Group) and of course the EAARS Newsletter.

Repeater News...

Greens Peak has a link dropping problem, however it is still snow bound so no work has been done to locate and fix the problem.

Guthrie Peak has intermittent bouts of deafness. Joe, *K7JEM*, and Larry, *N5BG*, have been working on it as time allows.

Pinal Peak, Joe, *K7JEM* and Larry, *N5BG*, found some loose screws in the antenna and it now seems to be working fine.

Tucson Ham Radio Picnic Report

On Saturday April 14th, we held the Tucson Ham Radio Picnic out at Christopher Columbus Park on the west side of Tucson. We had a smaller than normal turnout at this spring picnic due to a rapid change in the weather. The day started off with some early morning rain and cooler temps along with some high winds. By the time the picnic started at noon, the rain had stopped and it warmed up a little and skies were clear overhead. However, the winds remained for most of the day. I believe the rain in the morning kept a lot of people away. But all in all, the 25-30 that came to the picnic, had a great time.

There's always great food at this potluck style picnic and we all munched some great stuff.

These Eyeball QSO picnics are always fun as it brings us Hams along with their family and friends together for an afternoon in the park. We always try to promote this picnic to the public.

Demo stations attract the public's attention allowing us to promote our wonderful hobby but also demonstrate the great value that Ham Radio brings to the community during emergencies along with providing communications for public events.

Our next picnic is already scheduled for Sunday, October 14th at Reid Park in Central Tucson. It's never too early to sign up and mark your calendars.



**News and Stories
NEEDED!**
newsletter@eaars.com

Information on the next Tucson Ham Picnic along with photos of our most recent picnic, can be found at

www.tucsonhampicnic.com .

We always look forward to having our friends of the EAARS system attend.
73.....

(Submitted by Chris - N7JND & Angie - N7EMB)



Are you a ARRL member?

Did you know that EAARS is an ARRL affiliated club?

Did you know that you can join or renew your ARRL membership through the club and the club will retain part of your ARRL membership fee? Yes, the club gets \$15 for each new ARRL member and \$2 for each renewal.

The club also gets many more benefits for ARRL affiliation such as free mailing lists of all Hams in the club area and referrals on new Hams, club liability insurance, equipment insurance and many more benefits.

Please consider joining ARRL!

Field Day 2012

Field Day 2012 is just around the corner, if you have not made your plans yet it's time to make them!

I know there are some hams out there, new licensees and long timers, that have never attended Field Day. I would like to encourage you to join one of the following open FD events, I guarantee you will not be disappointed.

If you are unfamiliar with Field Day, it is the biggest operating event in Amateur Radio. It is billed as a Emergency Preparedness event where participants are encouraged to go into the field and set up temporary stations, like you might set up in an emergency, and and contact as many other stations as you possibly can.

This is a great excuse to get out and meet fellow hams and/or go camping. Some head for the mountains to get out of the heat. Some work from County or State Emergency Operations Centers. Some work from home, but they are really missing out.

Field Day Sites Open to Everyone!

I sent a request out to a number clubs requesting information on their Field Day activities and if non-club members are welcome to attend. Only two have responded so far. I hope to have more by the next newsletter. The following are the responses received.

I leave the contact information as an exercise to the reader (*qrz.com!*). Email newsletter@eaars.com if you need help.

Cochise Amateur Radio Association:

Sierra Vista Area

Yes Field Day at CARA is open to everyone. We plan to run three stations at our Green Acres club site. One voice, one digital and one CW. If we get enough operators we plan to run 24 hours. I would refer you to the *K7RDG* CARA web site for directions. Our next club meeting is Mon. May 7th when we plan to sign up operators. If anyone is interested please have them contact me with info on what mode they would like to work and when they would be available.

Bill, *N7BIL*

Kachina Amateur Radio Club:

Show Low Area

The Kachina Amateur Radio Club is having one. It will be at Fools Hollow Lake State Park in Show Low.

All are welcome to attend. If they plan on participating in the dinner they will need to bring a dish.

Thanks for passing out the word on these Field Day events.

Contact person is Lori Gurk, *KF7GDU*

Mike Elders, *AD7W*

Ham License Testing

There are now three monthly VE test sessions in the Tucson Area:

Lighthouse YMCA: First Thursday

RST/Laurel (No Fee): Second Monday

OVARC: First Saturday

If you know of any other monthly VE sessions in the EAARS coverage area please let me know.

Contact Dave, *N7AM*, if you would like a VE session in the Graham/Greenlee area and he will arrange it.

MAY						
sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

Coming Events

Near and Far...

- **VE Testing - Lighthouse: May 3**
http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/tucson-az-85748-7505-51
- **Cochise Hamfest: May 5**
www.k7rdg.org/HamfestFlyer2012.html
- **7QP Contest: May 5**
- **VE Testing - OVARC: May 5**
<http://www.w0hf.com/>
- **VE Testing - RST: May 14**
<http://rstclub.org/testing.html>
- **EAARS Club Meeting: May 15**
- **Dayton Hamvention: May 18-20**
- **CQ WW WPX Contest: May 25**
<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>
- **White Mountain Hamfest: June 2**
www.kachina-arc.org
- **ARRL June VHF QSO Party: June 9**
<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf-qso-party>
- **ARRL Kids Day: June 16**
www.arrl.org/kids-day
- **ARRL Field Day: June 23-24**
- **Extra Class Exam Pool: July 1**
New question pool in effect. Better Upgrade NOW!
- **Williams State Hamfest: July 20-22**
http://www.arca-az.org/main/july_hamfest.html
- **EAARS Picnic: Date undecided.**
(Editor: I urge the officers to set a date soon.)

Send Event and Calendar
additions to
newsletter@eaars.com

Graffiti

newsletter@eaars.com

(This page contains items that are the opinion of the author ONLY. They do not reflect the views of EAARS or the officers of EAARS. If you have something to ponder, please submit them.)

Ramblings and other Stuff...

This new back page feature is like a Editorial page, except not as intelligent. If you have something to say send it in, good or bad.

The idea for this came about as I was trying to figure out how to explain the (large?) amount of items that some might consider non-EAARS or outside the clubs home stomping grounds.

I know when I think of the club I usually consider it a SDV (Safford, Duncan, Virden Metroplex) club. That's where it began and that's where the officers and "core" members are.

However it's really more than that. Did you know that the majority of club members are from outside the SDV? Yes, currently 61% of members reside outside SDV and in the greater coverage area of the EAARS Network. What a wonderful thing this network is!

With this in mind I've started to include activities and news from the greater network coverage area. This will include events and news from other clubs, unless the officers decide that it does not belong in this newsletter. But I believe it is of benefit to the membership.

I hope this does not ruffle to many feathers and explains some of the content in this issue.

I received a number of very positive comments regarding the April newsletter and I want to thank everyone that wrote in with comments. I had a lot of fun putting the April newsletter together. I had never done anything like this before so everything was fresh and new to me.

Did I have fun with this month's newsletter? Ummm... Not so much, now it just feels like a job. I don't know how Dave, *N7AM*, did it for so many years. If you see him or talk to him on the radio you really should thank him for all those years as the editor of the newsletter.

The following are short blurbs that didn't fit in elsewhere, or I was too lazy to make into a complete story.

As noted on the Events page. The new Extra class exam question pool will be in effect starting July 1. If you have been putting off upgrading to Amateur Extra please contact Dave, *N7AM*, to schedule a test session in the SDV area or see the Event page for Tucson area sessions.

Don't forget the next club meeting is May 17th in Thatcher at the Search and Rescue building.

The club is working on setting up Logbook of the World (LOTW) for *K7EAR*. This will allow the club to easily send out QSLs.

The club is **not** planning any Field Day activities (*See Open FD sites elsewhere in this newsletter*) However the President mentions that FD and other contests are doable **if** there is enough interest. Contact Dave, *N7AM*.

There's a lot going on in the area, join in and get involved! Join us for EAARS activities and join other EAARS members at events hosted by other clubs too!