



RAINBOW CANYONS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
CEDAR CITY, UTAH 84720

Issue 5

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7QP

By the time you read this the 7QP QSO party will be history. Other major events will be just beyond the horizon. Hope you had an opportunity to work 7QP. Any QSO party is a fun, relaxed way of contacting many people looking for Utah.

Unfortunately, K7ZI was unable to join the fun as I had business that took me out of town and away from anything resembling a radio shack. I guess I could have put a mag mount and mobile HF antenna on the top of the school bus as I sat in the parking lot of BYU field house, but I didn't think that far ahead. Hum— Have to keep that thought in mind for future trips!

NEAR FUTURE

Two major events coming up that need your attention are; Scout Expo, this coming Saturday, May 9th, at the Soccer field east of Cedar High School. RCARC has again been asked to support Scouting Expo with a booth involving youth and ham radio.

We are planning 2 booths, each using PSK31 as the mode for demonstration. This closed circuit operation will allow youth to talk to each other via the computer, which they know better than we do. With two stations, one on each end of the field, the youth can actually communicate with each other, then compare notes after their visit to the booths. It makes extra work for us who will be setting up but makes for better understanding for the participants.

Start time will be around 9:am. Bring your family and enjoy several hours of fun and games for the entire family.

Food and refreshments will be provided by the Order of the Arrow. The “Candy Cannon” will be there. Lots of booths with a variety of activities will be on hand so fun and good times will be enjoyed by everyone, especially the younger children.

If you wish to sit down, bring along a folding chair. If its sunny, wear a hat. If its rainy, a rain coat. See you there!

Our annual club Field Day is also rapidly approaching! It is always held on the last full weekend in June. This year I understand it will be on the mountain again (with food). Final plans have not been discussed but will be a topic of the next presidency meeting.

Circle your calendar now so something doesn't crowd it out or cause a conflict.

MEETING RECAP

Trever Pollock, N7TBP, was our guest speaker. Trever always brings a wealth of knowledge with him for his employment with the State of Utah as their regional Communications Engineer. Thats a fancy title for the guy who installs, maintains and trouble shoots all the radios and site locations for the State of Utah—and well deserved!

Trever talked about solar panels, controllers, and batteries, which are part of a solar system. Many technical aspects of an installation were also discussed, such as, amp hour ratings, battery size and type, wire size and resistance and the effect it has on a 12 volt DC system. Following his presentation, many questions were asked and he was able to answer them with authority. His practical application experience caused us to

rethink our visioned future installations.

Thank you, Trever, for your updated insight into solar panel systems and the interesting state of the art controllers now available.

Other members of the club talked about various activities, training opportunities and classes on ICS available to those who could attend day-long classes on the same. What great opportunities are placed before us if we could only partake of them all!

SCOUT EXPO RECAP

Interesting how things turn out. The Expo was a success but numbers were down this year not only in visitors but also in Club members helping out. Bill Rankin, K7BTE and Russ Chaffee, N7BO were the **two** that made this years Club effort work.

Bill decided to spend the day on Iron Mountain instead of at the other end of the park. Aside from some equipment failure prior to the start of the Expo, things were pretty slow. All total, there were about 8 individuals who stepped inside Russes mobile ham shack to see what “digital” was all about.

If we are going to do this again, we **got** to think of something more *lively* than what we have done in the past. So far, all our efforts have been pretty poor in attendance—even with the help of the local PA system encouraging people to stop by.

Thank you, gentlemen, for the hours you spent, the equipment you donated and the sleepless night you went without on behalf of Scouting and what they do.

AND NOW FROM YOUR SPONSOR--

Summer is rapidly approaching—seems like just yesterday we were huddled indoors trying to stay warm in the mist of a long, cold winter. Just as fast as the weeds grow, Summer will turn into Winter and we will wonder where it went!

Field Day is an event every ham should schedule as a **must do**—even if you don't *work* Field Day. Circle the last full weekend in June, **NOW**, on your calendar, as a date nothing else supersedes. Put the wife and kids in the car and travel to the mountain (exact location to be determined) for a day and night of fun, food, and ham radio activity. The lawn will wait one more day to mow, the weeds in the garden will still be there when you get home, the kids need a place to run and yell, the wife needs a day away from the dishes, and you need a break from whatever has been occupying you time, so no more excuses. **Just be there!!!**

A LOST RADIO

Some years ago, a dual band radio (handheld) was donated to the club for a gentlemen who lost everything he owned in a house fire. He didn't use it much, poor health took his desire to be active. It was returned to me (for whatever reason) and I have no idea whose radio it belongs to.

If it happens to be yours, please contact me. It still works, batteries are still alive, and there are several accessories that go with it. Don't let this become like the cowboy doll, Woody, in Toy Story, and become a *lost toy!* Please claim it or I may be forced to donate it to the club as a door prize—I have too many handhelds as it is.

FOX HUNT

The month of May has been National Fox Hunt month. Had we (the club Presidency) known that we would have planned one and got it on the calendar. Its not too late to have one, daylight is in our favor and its not too hot from Summer heat.

I'm sure our Club president would love to have someone volunteer to chair a club event. Will you be the one to step forward, plan and execute the event? It does not need to be on meeting day, but possibly on a weekend? Surprise him and let him know when it will be. Food is always welcome with an event like this!

NEWS WORTHY ITEMS

I am still looking for short biographies of club members and other newsworthy articles. Your input would be much appreciated.

As you can see from this short, 2 pager, we need more things to put into a newsletter to make it worth the effort. Anything will do. Recent, interesting contacts or other radio related "happenings" that may not interest you may inspire others to be more active. Send them to your newsletter editor or drop a hand copy in the mail or even via Email. Thanks!