https://www.facebook.com/groups/spiritmountainarc

73 ––··· ···–– The Inaugural Issue May 2023

WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT!

Hello, and welcome to the Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club! We greatly appreciate your time and willingness to participate in this club and help get us moving. Every person counts, and we enjoy spending time with each other furthering both personal knowledge and the hobby itself.

My name is Paul Jameson WB7N and I'm the club president of the Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club. My time as an amateur radio operator started in late 2019 when I lived in Hayward, CA engaging with local hams and barely comprehending the thought of being able to talk to someone across the world. I was 20 years old at the time, and lived in the East Bay Area of the San Francisco Bay Area where amateur radio was thriving and local clubs met frequently.

I passed my general class license exam no more than two months after my technician exam, and I've been on HF ever since… with the help of those licensed around me of course. At the time, I was working for Caltrans in Oakland, CA as a dispatcher. I moved to Bullhead City, AZ in November of 2020 when an opportunity came up to become a public safety dispatcher at the Bullhead City Police Department helping 911 callers receive assistance from police, fire, and EMS. During my short time there I was able to achieve an understanding of the area's need for communications as a tucked away community in one of the most western areas of Arizona.

In January of 2021, my wife and I got married in our now front yard in Mohave Valley, AZ after being engaged for 2.5 years and knowing each other for 5 years before that. So much changed in our first year of marriage which lead us to Mohave Valley and myself to Mohave Community College working as a Financial Aid Technician. We now have a 1 ½ month old daughter who is the light of our lives, and who continues to be one of the reasons why I strive every day to keep learning, communicating, and engaging with the community in a way I would have never thought was possible.

This club started with an understanding that our area, known as the Mohave Valley, is under-served with old clubs falling to the wayside and not many people having an opportunity to join a thriving group that really cares about its membership. I was previously a Volunteer Examiner for the Aurora Amateur Radio Group where our mission was "Serving North America's Under-served" and I feel like we did a wonderful job at just that with online fully remote testing, of which I joyfully partook for my amateur extra exam. That sparked a desire in me to create my own club in the area that could do its own version of serving our community's under-served population of amateur radio operators.

We have so many Technician class operators in our area that aren't active on the bands and who don't have elmers to help them grow. That is being changed as we grow each day. I would love for our club to be the life of the community where we engage with those around us, meanwhile enjoying our own group of fellow amateur radio operators for a whole world of fun. Between attending inviting and informational club meetings, experiencing fun and encouraging events, and building projects together, I see this as an opportunity to bring the community together and revive amateur radio in this valley.

Be it someone's first thought of being able to have a conversation with another person across the world, or another's 1,000th contact, communication and community are key factors in our charge as amateur radio operators to learn from the past while elmering the present and future life of ham radio.

I look forward to the many events, meetings, parties, and overall joy we get to share together in the coming times, and I wish everyone the best for now until we meet again. Thank you for reading!

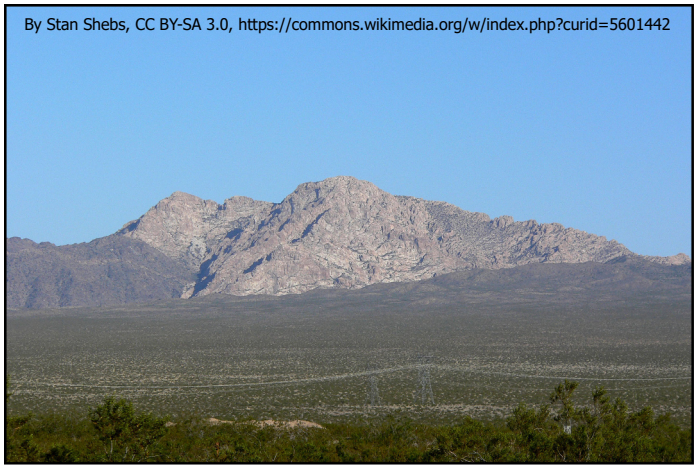
73, Paul Jameson, WB7N
Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club President

The Spirit Mountain Name

This new Amateur Radio Club is called the Spirit Mountain ARC. What is Spirit Mountain, you ask?

"Local to the Mohave Valley, Spirit Mountain, and the area around it is considered sacred by ten Yuman speaking Indian tribes as well as the Hopi and Southern Paiute tribes.

For the Yuman tribes, the area is tied to their creation, cosmology, and well-being. Spirit Mountain, called Avi Kwa Ame by the Mojave Tribe, is



located on the eastern boundary of the newly created Avi Kwa Ame National Monument. It is designated a Traditional Cultural Property on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its religious and cultural importance."

From what I could gather from the Internet on the location of Spirit Mountain, if you're driving north on Hwy 95 at the bridge that crosses over the river to the casinos in Laughlin, Spirit Mountain is ahead to the NW at about a 45 degree angle.

Mark Melvin AE6MP

CLUB GENESIS

The founding members of the newly formed Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club.

President
Paul Jameson WB7N
Mohave Valley

Vice-President
Timothy Adams N6DLC
Fort Mohave

Sec/Treas/Editor
Mark Melvin AE6MP
Bullhead City

Board of Directors
John Cartlidge KG7BZZ
Bullhead City

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Larry Palmer KJ7JJT
Fort Mohave

Roger Wright KC7ITI
Bullhead City

Gerald Lyons KN6QIR
Needles

Robert Lyons KC6ZTB
Needles

Richard Ortloff KE6DUG
Bullhead City

Patrick Coker N6RMJ
Bullhead City

Dennis Kromer KR3U
Bullhead City

Patricia Kromer KB3IDQ
Bullhead City

EDITOR'S NOTES

Hello everyone. This is the first newsletter issue for the newly formed Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club in the Mohave Valley. As time moves on the newsletter will evolve and change as needed to support the communication of club interests and activities.

My goal this month is to just set a format for the newsletter, post some initial pertinent information about the club, get the first newsletter done and distributed, and go from there.

I've done a few newsletters for over 15 years for two different clubs. In the early days of one club newsletter all articles and content had to be printed on to a sheet of paper, then cut with scissors, fitted, and pasted onto an 8.5x11 page, taken to a print shop where they printed the final product. The last step was to fold in half and staple the newsletter, then peel off and place mailing labels on the newsletter along with a postage stamp and take to the post office.

At one point I was doing over 200 newsletters a month. Mailing labels were a whole deal to manage itself. After the first mailing label master sheet was created, future lists required once again printing the information onto paper sheets, then cutting with scissors and pasting with glue. It was all very labor intensive.

Life got much easier when home computers in the late 80's got out of their infancy stages, and databases, word processor, and desktop publisher programs really increased the pace of newsletter preparation. For years now file servers (NAS) for home use have been mainstream and allow work to be saved indefinitely. The first newsletter masters I created on paper in the 1980's got dumped in the trash monthly. Now I can go back in time to any copy of a newsletter for reference. Good times!

The Spirit Mountain ARC newsletter will be published monthly and distributed electronically through email and its Facebook page initially.

Current and new club members alike are invited and encouraged to submit content to be published in the club newsletter, whether it be a report on a new radio you have, or photos of a new station antenna you built, or an interesting tech article you read, etc.

The deadline for content submission is the 20th of each month for the following month's issue. Don't worry about grammar or spelling. I can take care of those issues if you're worried. Email your content to editor@smarc.club. I'll take it from there. Thank you!

Mark Melvin AE6MP
SMARC Newsletter Editor

CLUB MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Get your own custom SMARC membership badge from Ham Badgers. Several members have ordered their badges with quick results. Order using the redirect link listed below.

https://bit.ly/smarcbadge

SMARC Membership

Are you ready to become a member of the Spirit Mountain Amateur Radio Club? Use the link below. It will redirect you to the online membership form. Fill out the requested information and click on submit. A PayPal request will be sent to your email address for payment.

The cost is listed at the top of the membership form, $20 for individuals and $30 for families of up to three members. Thank you.

https://tiny.cc/smarcjoin

ZOOM Video Club Meetings

The SMARC Club has a monthly online ZOOM meeting on the first Saturday of each month at 2pm MST. The next one is May 6. If you're new to online video meetings, it's simple, and fun. You need just a microphone and web cam. Most laptop computers already have the mic and cam built in. If you need a camera/microphone combo unit for your desktop computer search Amazon and you'll find a nice unit for just $25-30+.

You can install the software on your phone but you and the others in the video meeting will all have a better experience if you use your desktop or laptop computer on your home or business Internet connection. There's a meeting client to download before your first online meeting. Use this re-direct link: http://tiny.cc/zoomclient.

A suggestion is to add your callsign to your display name, so it'll be displayed to everyone else during the video meeting. You do this in your account settings before entering the meeting. Give yourself extra time before the meeting to prepare.

Contact Mark Melvin AE6MP at mightypilot@gmail.com for help getting set up. Use the link below.

From time to time the meeting schedule may need to be adjusted to accommodate member's schedules. The change will be announced on our group Facebook page.

—>USE THIS MEETING RE-DIRECT LINK TO LAUNCH THE ZOOM CLIENT!
http://tiny.cc/smarczoom

"Would you believe, my horoscope said that today I would have an unexpected close encounter!"

Stan & Cliff have been working all day on installing my clothesline, Mary.

Why are radio-amateurs called hams?

In 1908, members of the Harvard University club created the world's first amateur radio station. Their names were Albert S. Hyman, Bob Almy and Peggy Murray, and their first callsign was HYMAN-ALMY-MURRAY. Translating it into Morse code is hard, and it was shortened to HY-AL-MU. But a Mexican steamship used a similar callsign, HYALMO, and they began to mix on the air. Then the American pioneers abbreviated theirs to capital letters.

In those years, radio operators chose their callsigns, and the signal of amateur radio stations was often better and stronger than professional ones. It got to the point that a special committee of Congress in Washington created a law project that severely limited the activities of radio amateurs. In 1911, Albert Hyman proposed his version of the law on the telegraph without wires in his dissertation for Harvard University. The reviewer sent a copy to senator David Walsh, a member of the relevant congressional committee. The theses impressed the lawmaker so much that he invited the author to a commission meeting.

With tears in his eyes, Albert Hyman told the members of Congress how much effort and labor it took to build their small amateur radio station. If the commission's project is accepted, they will be forced to close their radio station, as they will not be able to pay for the license and meet other stringent requirements. During the debate, HAM became the symbol of all the small amateur radio stations in the country, desperately resisting the pressure and threats of powerful professional radio stations. During the discussions, all speakers came to the defense of hams. The project was rejected, and the abbreviation became the symbol of all amateur radio stations.

We found this beautiful story in the "Radio Amateur magazine. HF and VHF" article by the Polish shortwaver K. Slomczynski (SP5HS) for 1983. Although the first interpretations, as it turned out, appeared much earlier.
In 2009, members of the Harvard Wireless Club started investigating the veracity of the claim. "We could find no record of Mr. Hyman appearing before congress… We could not find those three guys in our alumni directory either… We must admit, though, it's a very entertaining story!" – was their answer.

Alternatives
The "clumsy" version says that the naming of ham could have come from the shortened "ham-fisted."

Indeed, early amateur radio stations transmitted in Morse code using a manual telegraph key. This manner is referred to as the "operator's fist." And one could call "ham-fisted" someone who did poorly.

However, in 1909, Robert A. Morton already mentioned the term, consisting of only one word, as a well-established definition of all radioamateurs in the "Electrician and Mechanic" magazine. Once, he overheard an amateur broadcast: "Say, do you know the fellow who is putting up a new station out your way? I think he is a ham."

There is an explanation that HAM is the abbreviation for the name of the magazine "Home Amateur Mechanic." Allegedly, a trendy magazine widely covered the topic of radio. However, there is no confirmation of the existence of such a publication.

The most spirited version of the radio says that HAM is formed by the capital letters of the last names of Heinrich Rudolf Hertz, Edwin Armstrong, and Guglielmo Marconi. Unfortunately, Armstrong was still an unknown student when the term originated. So, a beautiful guess cannot be true.

"Ham: bad operator. Fork" – perhaps the most realistic version
This definition of the word is given in J. M. Dodge's "Telegraphy Instructor" before the advent of radio. The definition has never changed in wire telegraphy. Fixed telegraphers were the first wireless operators. They left their offices to go to the sea or work at coastal stations. They also brought most of the traditions of their old profession. Each station occupied the entire spectrum with its wide signal. Government stations, ships, and all amateur operators competed for time and signal superiority in each other's receivers. Many amateur stations were powerful. Two amateurs working on the opposite side of the city could drown out the rest of the operators.

In this case, furious professional operators made phone calls to the serviced radiostation to report the situation, and the most polite word was "ham". But the brave radioamateurs of the time applied it to themselves in true "Yankee Doodle" style and wore it with pride.

Over the years, the original offensive meaning has completely disappeared.

https://rigexpert.com/news/why-are-radioamateurs-called-hams/

Hualapai Amateur Radio Club - WB6RER

First Annual Swap-Fest

Bring your own tent & table or just open your trunk!

May 13, 2023 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

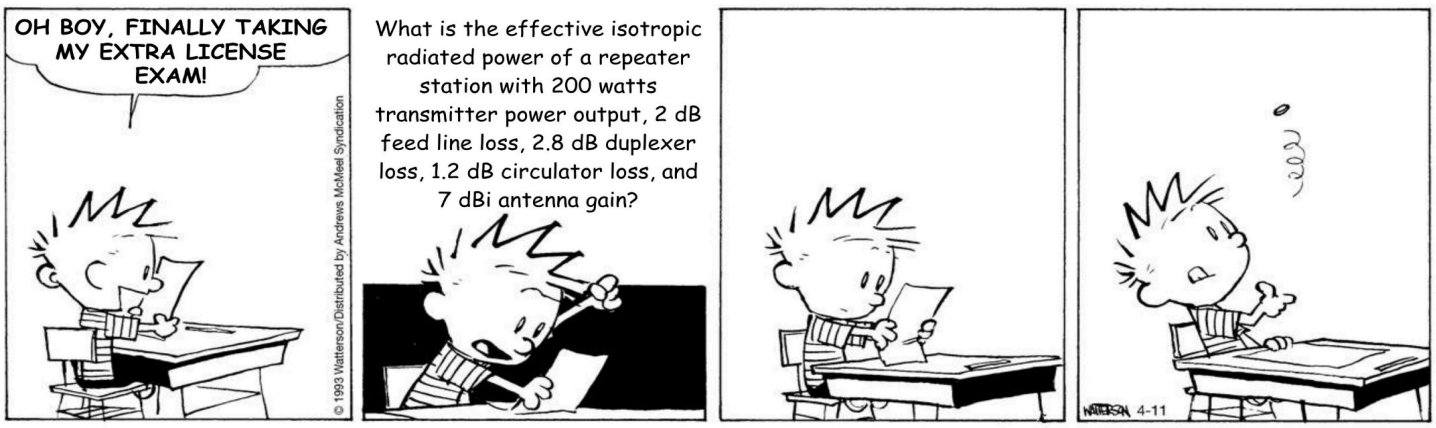
>>> Free Admission <<<

(Shoppers and Sellers)

Location:
4220 N. Van Nuys Road, Kingman, AZ, 86409
GPS (lat, long): 35 14 44.8N / 114 01 46.5W
(Talk-in 145.190 -600 131.8 and 146.580)

Directions from 1-40:
Take Exit #51 (Stockton Hill Road)
Turn north on Stockton Hill Road and proceed 1.5 miles and turn right (east) onto Gordon Dr.
Continue 0.4 miles on Gordon Dr. and turn left (North) onto N. Van Nuys Road.
Continue north on N. Van Nuys Road 0.4 mile to arrive at 4220 N. Van Nuys Road.

Directions From Route 66:
Turn (west) onto Gordon Dr.
Continue Gordon Dr. for 2 miles and turn right (north) onto N. Van Nuys Road.
Continue N. Van Nuys Road 0.4 mile to arrive at 4220 N. Van Nuys Road.

For More Information:
Website: wb6rer.net
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/AZHARC

Call or email Rick Cooper 928 530-1671 chs-rick@live.com