

Target audience: Dain Webster, Larry Bailey, John Lynn, John Perlick, Tom Smith, Rick Rogers, George Degon, Tom Lang, Ron Phillips, Bob Newkirk, Dave Bowers, Bob Junke, Bruce Tewksbury, Ed Toal

I miss Field Day!

It has been well over two years since I have participated due to a number of reasons. I rarely missed for the first 15 years I was in the club. I loaned my HT to another member, we moved and I am off the air at home. Most of you will have to agree that I am one of the least radio-technical members of GVARC.

At the August GVARC Board meeting, I offered to coordinate 'Field Day' next year. That got turned into coordinating all contests for the club this next year. Oh, and there are four of them, the first one in October. [Arizona QSO Party (October), Winter Field Day (January), 7QP (May), Field Day (June)].

My caveat was that I want to identify all the equipment the club has accumulated in the past, which can be used for a contest or special event with up to two very similar HF Stations, antennas, cables, logging stations, power supplies and mark them as keepers, BEFORE IT DISAPPEARS. Once identified, I am hoping to set everything up, test it and note how it goes together and what is missing. Once this is done, we should be able to set up for any special event, contest or disaster in any configuration, quickly.

The intention of GVARC leadership is to liquidate what we do not need, and soon! John Lynn would like to wait until our snow birds return to re-start the Country Store. I need your help to identify any equipment in the inventory which we should mark as a keeper. I have requested a copy of the club inventory. I plan to send you a copy and have you note the items we should mark for keeping. Once everything is identified, I will need your help to set it up and make it run!! Think, 'Test Contest', or would that be a 'Very Special Event'. Remember, what we keep has to have a safe home when not in use!

In my way of thinking, contests and special events are the ideal way to get our new members or really rusty members together and involved with our experienced operators. These events minimize the chit-chat or "rag chewing" due to their nature. Power is not nearly as important as well tuned, grounded and oriented stations. Experienced members can demonstrate and coach the rest of us how to use the gear. Then we novices can join the experienced operators to practice our new skills. Even logging for another operator will help us learn to hear the calls through the clutter. Hopefully, learning some new technologies. If the set up is standardized, we should get good at setting up, using the gear, taking it down and not reinventing the process each time. And, we have at least four times a year to practice. Perhaps, those of us in town during the summer can keep the process going. Let's keep it 'simple' and not let *best* get in the way of *good* or *better*.

NOTE: Coordinate does not mean taking over - I still need help from more technical and less technical helping hands to be successful. If you ran an event in the past, I would appreciate a repeat! I get to be the "planner ahead."

Gear to identify:

- HF Radios (Icom 7300?) - Power Supply
- Antennas - HF Dipole/Icom AC-7000 discone
- Cables for two radios to two antennas - Cable Switch
- S-Meters
- Filters (CW or using multiple radios on a single antenna)
- Head phones, microphones, speakers, etc.
- Off Grid Power - Genset(s), Batteries, Solar Panels - Fuel Tank for Gen-Set(s)
- Computers for logging, remote control and digital - We have a license for all n3jfp networked logging software for all contests and just logging
- GVARC Banner
- Canopy(s)
- Tables, chairs, multi-plug power strips, extension cords
- UHF/VHF/6 Meter talk in or GOTA Radio, power-supply & Antenna
- ?????