



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

EXPLORER POST 599

The Ham Radio Club for Teens

Tom Sharp, Advisor



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For Immediate Release

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<tonks.com/PressInvite2017.pdf>

Dear Sir or Madam,

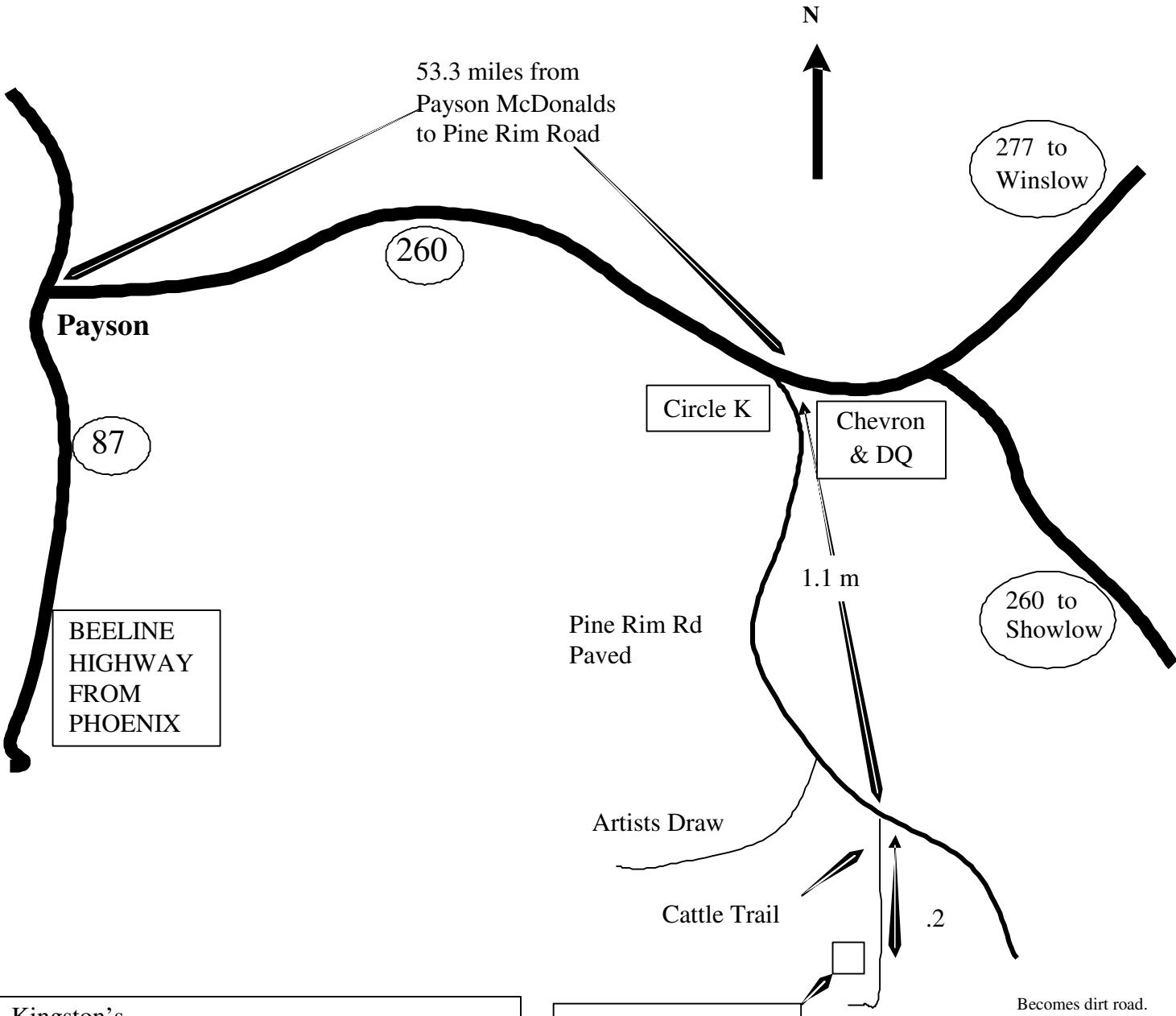
I would like to officially invite you to join Explorer Post 599 for Field Day 2017. Explorer Post 599 is an amateur radio club devoted to helping teenagers learn the basics of engineering and ham radio. We have weekly meetings filled with hands-on activities and educational programs. We also have provided emergency communications for public service events such as bike races and triathlons. Currently there are about five active youth members, but we have had many more in the past.

On the fourth full weekend of June every year, we participate in the American Radio Relay League Field Day. Field Day is an annual amateur radio contest that is designed to test emergency preparedness and emergency communication abilities. This event started in 1933 and has grown to become one of the biggest amateur radio events in existence. Using only generators, batteries or solar power, hams set up emergency stations in parks, shopping malls and back yards to test their skills under less-than optimum conditions. The slogan, "Ham radio works when other systems don't!" is more than just words to hams as they prove they can send messages in many forms without the use of phone systems, the Internet or any other infrastructure that can be compromised in a crisis. A total of 37,729 amateur radio operators operating in 2735 groups across the country participated in last year's event, an all-time record.

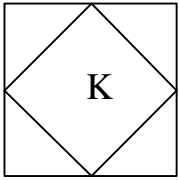
The Explorer Post participates on Field Day from the back porch of a cabin in Heber, Arizona. One of our members lets us use this location for the weekend event. On Friday we set up the stations and by Saturday at 11:00am we begin exchanging information with as many stations as we can in the next twenty-four hours. Several of the members will stay up and operate all twenty-four hours without sleep. Last year we placed first in the state of Arizona in our class, making 1526 contacts with other stations all around the United States and Canada. We also placed first in our division, which includes four very active southern California sections. This year, 2017, is a special year for Field Day. While it is the 17th Explorer Post 599 Field Day held in Heber, it is the 50th consecutive Field Day for our FD chairman.

On the weekend of June 24-25, 2017, local residents will have a chance to meet and talk with ham radio operators and see for themselves what this "radio service" really is about. The public is most cordially invited to come, meet and talk with the hams. They might even help you get on the air! The Get On The Air station (known as GOTA) is specifically for unlicensed and inexperienced operators to have fun at Field Day by getting their feet wet and making a few (or many) contacts on the radio. Please stop by and help us celebrate 50 years of Field Day fun and learning!

Scotty Cowling, WA2DFI
Explorer Post 599 Field Day Chairman
(Map Enclosed)



Kingston's
2864 Cattle Trail
Box Diamond K Ranch



Kingston's
2864 Cattle Trail
4th house on right

GPS at Kingston's
34-24-23 110-34-54