

# **ARIZONA DECOMPRESSION 2013**

**GATEWAY RANCH, AZ**



# **AFTERBURN REPORT**

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# Introduction – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

## Introduction

Arizona Decompression 2013 was held outside Flagstaff, Arizona on October 10-13.

Creating a successful 4-Day campout for over 250 of your closest friends can be a daunting task. Since Burner events are created by those same friends, some you have worked with before and some for the first time, it is a wondrous experience to watch & be part of; the creative process blossoming from individuals and committees alike. I thank each and every person who had a hand in making Arizona Decompression 2013 the most incredible Family Reunion ever!

Our combined work ethic is created for our love & dedication to the [Ten Principles](#). They are guidelines for us to follow – a code of conduct – a standard to live up to; an instructional platform to teach the next group to take on the task. As a group of Leads & Leaders we facilitated an atmosphere where our fellow Burners could come together and create their Post-Burn Utopia – share in the creative space - build a community that for 4 Days embodied those principles. I hope that for each attendee that 'Family' feeling is still within your soul & within every breathe you take.

Tickets for Arizona Decompression 2013 went on sale June 1, 2013 with a single ticket price of \$35. When sales ended on October 6<sup>th</sup> – 269 tickets were sold.

A full [Financial Disclosure](#) is listed here-in this AfterBurn report.

Special callouts to Event Leads:

- **Co-Event Lead** - Conchita
- **Placement/Financial Lead** - Mr. Mom
- **Medical Leads** - Queen Sol & Housecall
- **Ranger Leads** – Hermione – Smitty - Sista Turtle Dove
- **Fire Safety Lead** - Rjag
- **Flame Effects Lead** - Coop
- **Gate/Greeter Leads** – Serpico - Spyder
- **LNT Lead** - Pleasure
- **Sound Lead** - Thumper
- **Art Lead** – Chita

Thank you all for your efforts to make a very successful Decompression. I hope to work with you all again soon.

Scotto

- Co-Lead Arizona Decompression 2013
- AZ Regional Contact
- Burning Man Lifer/Geek/Zealot

## Lead Notes – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Lead Notes

#### **Notes from Scott Platsky aka 'Scotto'- Decompression Co-Lead**

Finding a travel convenient location to host a 300-person 4-Day campout within the Great State of Arizona can be a challenge. It was very gratifying to again open up discussions with Gateway Ranch, an amazing space, for us to gather as Family, Friends & Burners.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Mark & Kismet for allowing us to use Gateway Ranch for Decompression 2013; we very much appreciate your hospitality. You are both such wonderful hosts & friends. We hope that as the last participant departed, Gateway Ranch is once again alive with a renewed energy & spirit.

It was an awesome experience for me as Decompression Co-Lead & Arizona Regional Contact to be able to take a step back and allow many other fellow AZBurners take Lead Roles in creating our annual Post-Burn gathering. Many of those that stepped up and made things happen for months pre-event were first-timers in those positions; they did amazing working as individuals & as collective committees. I am very proud of all of them; honored to call them my friends & colleagues. I hope to be able to work with each of them again on future Arizona Burner Regional Events.

**Special Call Out to Conchita!!!** I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you so very much for taking the LEAD role in all things Decompression 2013! We have worked together in your role as Art Committee Lead and all things Art for [Saguaro Man](#) – It was a pleasure to see you shine as a true LEADER – I appreciate YOU!!! Look forward to many great things from you in the future.

I let them tell their story about the experiences & Post-Burn assessments here-in this Arizona Decompression AfterBurn Report.

## **Lead Notes – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### **Notes from Shelley Tait aka 'Conchita'- Decompression Co-Lead**

For many years Decompression has been referred to as "our little family reunion". Up until 3 years ago, it has been held at Gateway Ranch in Flagstaff, where it grew to epic proportions. Not only did we have more participants each year, but the art multiplied in numbers and size. In 2010, the main art installment was so large that we held our breath while gargoyles breathed fire into the most massive burn to date. For minutes, days and months to follow, our dear landowners caught their own breath and eventually decided to take a break from hosting decompression. Not because of the size, but for the purpose of expanding on the use of the ranch. During this time, the Temple of Life well, came to life! After a few years of breathing new energy into the ranch, it once again seemed right to hold decompression at Gateway, where the temple is now a permanent installment and was not burned!

We worked with the landowners Mark and Kate Sorenson for a number of months discussing how to assimilate what we do as a community into their visions for the ranch. There was agreement about going back to the roots of AZ decompression, and keeping with the feeling of a family reunion. The main focal point was how to combine recent changes to how we structure our regional events, with what has always worked for us in the past. My experience of this process was a gradual unfolding that led to an effortless and smooth production. Although leading such an event has never been my calling, I joyfully gave it my time and energy and I am honored to have been in such a position.

The size of the event was right where we hoped it would be, with room for more and room to grow. It was wonderful to see a number of families and children, new and veteran burners, and people from other states. A key group of participants were invaluable to pre-event preparation. We had several specific work parties over the months leading to the event that cleaned and cleared the land for camping, restored art from prior events, continued the process of building and adding artistic details to the temple, and set up for the weekend. I would like to send out a special thank you to all of you that helped! There was also a small group that stayed behind to ensure that we not only 'left no trace', but contributed to leaving a more beautiful trace.

The success of decompression was dependent upon the event leads. Each lead has written their portion of this report, and we leave it to them to share what we did right, and where improvements could be made. Without the support of leads in various roles, I could not, would not, have taken on the responsibilities of co-lead. In no particular order, I would like to thank RJag for being our steadfast Fire Lead. His dedication keeps us warm by keeping the fires burning. Not to mention that his presence alone at our regionals remind us that we are "home". Coop, our Fire Effects Lead, took his job seriously, ensuring that poofers poofed within safety standards. He was also instrumental in welding parts that needed TLC, contributing to an art project, and generally being happy and silly throughout the event.

## **Lead Notes – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

Rangers are always a huge part in making our events a safe and reasonable place to roam. Hermione was instrumental in her role as Ranger Lead, by ensuring that we had trained rangers on duty at all times. Her amazing energy, bright wit and willingness to step up to a very time consuming role is essential to our regionals. Ranger Co-lead Sista Turtle Dove brought extra attention to detail - provided support and put a smile on everyone's face! Sista is active in making changes to how we operate with Medical Lead, Queen Sol. They are both working hard to establish new ideas that will encourage participants to take care of themselves during our events. Queen Sol, it goes without saying that your mere presence is a gift to all (especially in the hot tub and behind the waffle maker).

Moving along to our Greeter Leads, as we now refer to as "Graters", Serpico and Spyder. You guys did a spectacular job gathering volunteers who welcomed and informed participants as they came through our will call process. The entrance is a crucial part of regional events, in that it sets the stage for what to expect and what is expected. Your personalities combined made "grate" a friendly place to come through and return to during decompression. A special thank you to Yardz, for your contribution to the fire effects art and willingness to set up, hold things down, and stay through to the end.

Our beautiful Earth Guardians, or LNT Leads, Audel and Pleasure were inspiring. They offered guidelines for "leaving no trace" before and during the event. Thank you for interacting with participants throughout decompression, and for MOOPing along the way! Who could ignore two gorgeous women like yourselves? Our Placement lead, Mr. Mom shared his boundless energy with our community by clearing the way and placing campers as they arrived. Behind the scenes you shine and we would be lost without you. Last, but certainly far from least are kudos to our Sound Lead, Thumper, who threw himself into the fire for the sake of music. He took on often overlooked role of managing all things sound. It wouldn't be decomP without music and dancing. Thanks to your dedication there was no shortage of dust being kicked up all around the ranch.

Overall, it was great to be back at the ranch! Gateway is home to many of us where we can truly decompress. Although there are always challenges, they were not so great as to color my experiences as anything but positive.

## Land Owner Notes – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Land Owner Comments submitted by - Kate Sorenson aka 'Kismet'

**Event size:** excellent. I think everyone who really wanted to be there got a ticket and with the guest list we were probably right in the range of 300 or so that we aimed for. Based on how well this went, I'd say we could handle a somewhat larger crowd in the future, maybe 50-100 more. Especially if more weeds got cleared.

**Kids:** All of the families who brought kids seemed happy, although kids' experiences often have more to do with other kids than what we old folks do. Maybe we can think of things more specifically for kids in the future, esp. if parents are willing to organize it. Just having a cozy kids hang-out (e.g. Bus), and enough of a similar aged pack to hang out with, could help.

Gratitude level was off the charts. If I had doubts about whether people were willing to drive this far and risk chilly weather, those are put to rest. AZBurners are tough, we know that! I'm sure plenty of people froze in their tents but we heard no whining. What I did hear repeatedly was that Decom=Gateway in a lot of people's minds.

YOU, Chita and Scotto, were fantastic to work with!!! There are so many places where an event like this can get sticky, but it was a delight to do it together. Thank you for hanging in there through the times that Mark and I had to "think about it". I'm glad all of our thinking ended up with an open door that our beautiful family poured through.

## Financials – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Financials

#### Revenue:

Ticket Sales (269)	<b>\$9,426.00</b>
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#### Expenses

Land Maintenance & Upkeep	\$2,273.00
Event Insurance	\$557.50
Ticket Processing Fees	\$443.62
PayPal Processing Fees	\$324.84
Porta Potty Rental & Service	\$1,641.00
Firewood	\$750.00
Propane	\$304.64
Radio Batteries	\$139.05
Gate Shirts	\$268.35
Sound Support	\$150.00
Event Gasoline	\$250.00

<b>Total Costs of Event:</b>	<b>\$7,102.00</b>
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<b>Total Event Revenue:</b>	<b>\$2,324.00</b>
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#### AZBurner Working Fund

<b>Balance AZBurner Working Fund as of 8/1/13</b>	<b>\$686.97</b>
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<b>Addition to AZBurner Working Fund 2013</b>	<b>\$824.00</b>
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<b>Balance AZBurner Working Fund</b>	<b>\$1,510.97</b>
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The remaining balance of **\$1,510.97** will be used by the Arizona Regional Contacts to further the AZBurner Community during the year including Town Hall Meetings, Annual Newbie Event, and Annual Party Support as well as be used as seed money for AZ Decompression and Saguaro Man 2014.

## **Art Fund – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### **AZBurner Art Fund / Art Grants**

The AZBurner Art Fund was created with the following Mission Statement:

The AZBurners Art Fund promotes artistic expression by providing financial support for art projects at the AZ Regional Events, Saguaro Man and Decompression. The goals of this fund are to attract a wider range of artists, inspire creativity, and foster diverse works of art that reflect the values within our community.

Regional events revolve around artistic expression, we all benefit from the artist's endeavors. In order to establish the opportunity for art funding, the Art Committee has established an Online Art Grant Request process.

The AZBurner Art Fund gets its monies from 'Profits' of Arizona's two Regional Events – Saguaro Man & Decompression. Distributions from this fund via the Art Grant Registration Process go directly towards Art materials, assisting the artist in taking their imagination & talent from the drawing board to fruition.

#### **Art Grants / Art Fund Balance - 2013**

**AZBurner Art Fund Balance – 6/1/13 \$5,996.56**

**Art Grants – Decompression 2013 \$1,990.60**

**Decompression 2013 Allocation - AZBurner Art Fund \$1,500.00**

**Final Balance: \$5,505.96**

The Art Committee is responsible for receiving submissions from Artist for monetary reimbursement, then making decisions of how the available monies from the Art Fund will be dispersed and coordinate Art & Art Placement at Saguaro Man & Decompression.

# Site Management – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

## Site Management

**Gate/Greeters - Submitted by: Tim Genenbacher aka 'Serpico'  
Matthew Hinman aka 'Spyder'**

My initial thoughts are that GaYte was F'ing awesome! We had a great crew and great volunteers. I feel we did our job within the restraints that we had to work with. The space was good. The music was better and the party was always going at gate! I also feel that there are some things that need to be different at Saguaro Man gate/greeters. As I'm sure you do as well.

### **The things I liked and worked out:**

- Great crew
- Amazing fire effects
- Great set up and layout
- Nice that we could have a place for volunteers to hook up their sound
- We were able to offer the volunteers cool swag

### **What I feel didn't work out:**

- Proper orientation of volunteers. (Before and during the event)
- Our ability to turn away non-ticket patrons. (We could detour this with a "D lot" holding pen as well as HOLDING TO OUR POLICIES!!!)
- Our ability to offer a map for camping and placement. (Even if it was one laminated map at gate to show them)
- We need more table space. (The gate stuff and mixing equip was very crowded on one table)

### **Things I'm concerned about:**

- I do not want our AZ Burners gate/greeters to turn into DPW Gate/Greeters
- The party at gate is VERY welcome but I feel there needs to be some discretion...

## Leave No Trace – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Leave No Trace

#### Submitted by - Audel Snow

I was the LNT Lead for Arizona Decompression this year. My co-lead was Heather Kadar and she was amazing. She ended up taking on the site clean-up on Sunday and did a wonderful job.

The theme camps and non-theme camps seemed to be doing a good job at keeping MOOP to a minimum. I walked the road and stopped in a few camps and noticed people being aware of their MOOP and responded well to me and what I had to say.

The stage areas continue to be the worst MOOP areas. I am not sure why people feel they can leave their garbage; beer cans, water bottles, cigarettes near the stages. This was where the most clean-up had to be done. Trey Butler worked hard on Sunday in the big dome cleaning up MOOP. There was garbage left on the Stoop that Heather cleaned up and Greg used the magnetic rake to remove the nails/screws left behind by the burn.

The porta potties seemed to be much better than in the past. I did not notice a bunch of MOOP in or around the porta potties, which was great. The Temple was clean and most areas looked great. I believe there were many people in the community that just took it upon themselves to gather MOOP.

I would like to continue to work toward better LNT around the stage and dance areas in the future. I believe making some signs might help remind people to not leave anything in those areas. I am also thinking of creating some swag to help remind people about MOOP as well.

Overall, I think the MOOP was minimal except for the stage areas. No matter how many times a person goes to Burning Man or a regional event, it is good to be reminded about LNT and I think we need to find a way to reiterate this for future events. I actually had someone ask me why we don't provide garbage cans. I look forward to brainstorming about LNT and MOOP signs and swag for future regional events, as I think this will help newbies and veterans remember what you bring in, you also take out.

**Notes from Heather Kadar** - As far as the last day of Decompression, I was late to get started too (around 11AM). By the time I had my garbage bag and gloves on, most of the large MOOP was taken care of. Trey did an AMAZING job cleaning the Dome (I think he mentioned that he was in there for over 1 hour, and I can believe it!). There was some garbage at the Stoop. The Temple was mostly clean (I think someone was in there cleaning...it seemed a bit too clean by the time I got there). I returned a lot of the lighting back to the straw bale house (since the lighting was Kismet's). Gregg spent a lot of time with a magnetic rake to remove all of the screws/nails from the large burn area (again, another great set of hands).

## Leave No Trace – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

By the time I got to the main house/front porch area, it was clean. Otherwise I was picking up little stuff here and there. I organized and packed up most of the recyclables and garbage and took them home.

The area that could use the most improvement was the dome. For the future, it would be great to have a few signs at the Dome about LNT and a few other signs spread around the event.

**Notes from Kismet** - MOOP: very good. I didn't see much MOOP at any point, and noticed people clearing their own areas and more. The amount I picked up after everyone was gone easily fit into my pocket. One of the best years ever (don't think we'll ever beat the one-butt-one-beer-bottle-top record).

**Lost and Found:** hardly anything. I think there are a few items of clothing around here somewhere. Also, I still have a phone that was left behind.

**Bush destruction:** pretty light. I think most people have the idea and are very careful. A few areas got run over but should grow back. I watched the firewood guys drive over some bushes but that's because I forgot to terrorize them. They won't do it again :-)

**Leave It Better:** Yes! The whole place is better— stuff moved where it belongs; fire sculptures (Toaster, Globe, and Trees) are fixed, Temple taken to the next level, signs repainted. Lots of tumbleweeds cleared out. Great energy around here! There's always more to do, but the love and work put into this place really shows.

## **Art of Decompression – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### Art of Decompression

#### **Submitted by Shelley Tait aka 'Conchita'**

Traditionally, decompression has not been what I would consider an organized art event. Rather, more of a time and place to create art as an expression of our Burning Man and post-burn experiences. With the onset of the AZ Burners Art Fund, grants have been offered to offset the cost for artists who wish to share their experiences with the community. On one hand, this gives artists the financial resources at a time when funds are low for most of us. On the other hand, accepting an art grant requires months of pre-planning and completion. This can be problematic because it takes the spontaneity out of art as an "expression of our burn experience", and it requires completion at a time when our physical resources are often low.

Decompression 2013 funded 6 art grants, and the event itself contributed to the ongoing construction of the Temple of Life. For various reasons, of the 6 projects were present at the event. Funding for the Juxtaposeur was rolled over to propane costs for art at the greeters station. The Fortune Teller will be competed for Saguaro Man 2014, and the cost for the balloon project has been reimbursed back to the art fund. In Tension We Trust was incomplete as originally conceived but presented in part. It will be returning to and evolving over the course of future events in an iterative fashion.

The Tree of Life/Globes, and The Temple of Resonance both provided a color changing experience and spectacular entrance point to the Temple of Life. The Temple of Resonance provided a solidly build, stunning and comfortable chill space, where the Tree of Life provided a well lit pathway that invited participants to the top of the hill where they could contribute to or enjoy the Temple of Life. This temple is a collaboration art piece that is being constructed with mostly recyclable materials, and is meant to provide a space for contemplation. An example of this are the mosaics that were created during this event, and future plans for completing the four directions inside of the temple.

Non-funded art arrived in the old fashion tradition where artists showed up and surprised participants with their designs. Among them were: Mr. Mom and Clayton who created the Man Wore Panties, Arthur Rudiak, of the Negative Image Men, Christian of the Giant Spinning Eye, Admiral and Sista's Peruse it or Loose it, Library, and Paul of the Vortex that was placed in Temple of Life. Other art pieces were also present at camps and along the road, such as flame effect art, as well as art from previous events, such as the Fire Globe, the Toaster, the Dome and the Urban Stoop, aka the Coop Stoop. A big thank you to Gary Gibson for helping clean up the burn scars. In the future it would be wonderful if there was more participation on Sunday morning with this task.

## **Placement – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### Placement

#### **Submitted by Robert Tait aka 'Mr. Mom'**

Placement went fine. Participants drove up the road and parked. The only issues were related to getting through to open camping, and properly placing theme camps once camps were set up. We had to create a space to route cars around the back of rangers to open camping. The rangers facilitated this well; however, in the future we may want to create access lanes before the event fills up.

## **Rangers – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### Rangers

#### **Submitted by Stephanie Woods aka 'Sista Turtle Dove'**

Decompression 2014 went very smoothly for us at Gateway Ranch this year. Many Rangers agreed most participants were happy, safe and comfortable...there were few incidents that required any Ranger interaction at all, other than a friendly hello or offering a warm seat by the fire. Several new additions and changes to the way Heliotropic Rangers function were added to this event, including four hour shifts (which were much appreciated by everyone involved).

Another addition was a log of shift events, which has been positive for the most part. The only negative of the log was having records of shifts out where anyone could read it, the log book in the future should probably be held by a ROD or Khaki instead of left out at HQ due to sensitive information within it. Adding to the ranks of Heliotropic Rangers was an exciting part of this event, and we gained around five to six new Rangers this event. Several new leads were in attendance at this event also, including Ranger Housecall, one of our new Medical Leads, and Ranger Smitty, new to the Heliotropic Ranger Council. Having additional lead resources was MUCH appreciated by the rest of the Council, and it is great to know the do-ocracy grows at the same rate our events grow.

Interaction with Gate was excellent this burn, and several Rangers had both a gate and ranger radios on shift, this proved to be useful and is something we should continue to have in the future. Rangers having more direct contact with gate solves the problem of having a Ranger at gate, although it is still useful to have Rangers check in with gate....especially because they have the best stories to tell...and are some of the only other people awake at sunrise. Gate shifts switched off two hours into Rangers four hour shifts, and it is helpful to check in with both the gate crew on at the beginning of the shift, and then again with the shift coming on two hours later so everyone knows each other.

Set up and tear down went incredibly smoothly. Having people sign up to help with set up and tear down should continue to be something we do in the future - Rangers HQ was very visible, and our fire burned bright throughout the evening. Our location across from the main dome was convenient for people to know where we were.

Radios worked well for the most part. We had some problems with shoulder mics at the end of the week, and one radio did go missing, but was found again. In the future it would behoove us to have a radio sign in and out sheet of paper, so all radios are accounted for at all times. This should also be something that is held on to by either a ROD or Khaki.

## **Rangers – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

There was some question of when Heliotropic Rangers should be wearing their "Khaki" when off duty. Rangers should continue to be educated that when dressed in Ranger "costume" they should conduct themselves in Rangerly manner. Fellow Rangers can assist in this education though letting someone know if it is time to do a costume change. One Heliotropic Hat was also found at the clothing exchange, and this is something we would like to educate people about more in order to avoid it the future.

Perimeter was slightly disorganized for this event, and more solid plans should be made in the future. Fortunately we only had two burn pieces and there were enough Rangers to form a perimeter. The Ranger in charge of the Perimeter shift (working underneath Fire leads) should be designated before the event. That person should also have contact with Fire Leads before the event in order to plan accordingly.

Overall this very mellow event gave Heliotropic Rangers a chance to try out new methods that were for the most part successful, and we look forward to implementing those and more in the future. New plans for both Medical Organization, and Green Dot Sanctuary were discussed at meetings during this event, and those plans are starting to fall in place for future regionals.

The [Heliotropic Ranger](#) council would like to Thank both Conchita and Scotto for being amazing event leads this burn, knowing you are there if we need you always makes things easier for us! Also a shout out to the Gate Leads, our comrades in black! Cosmic Sea, Serpico and Yardz you were all amazing! It's nice to know someone else is "on shift", especially on those cold dark nights! Finally an extra big hug to RJag as Fire Lead, you are the wind beneath out burning wings!

## Sound – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Sound

#### **Submitted by Shane Brandoline aka 'Thumper'**

Overall, I feel that sound went well during the event. However, this is because the leads acted in the moment. The preplanning for much of the sound placement and diplomacy was not successful. As Sound Lead, I had more challenges than I anticipated. First of all, I think our community has grown faster and larger than we expected. The response for "Sound" camps and Live music was last minute and unregulated; Matt Dunn, Kalliope, Buddha Lounge, Pink Floyd tribute band etc.

There were several obstacles that were beyond my control; the Pink Floyd live tribute was organized by Kate without my knowledge (and they had a complete melt down regarding setup), the small sound camp in the middle of the event (with the loud-ass generator), Gordon bringing his Buddha Lounge Pre-event (without my consent).

So, the questions I have are:

- 1.** What is the vision for sound, sound camps, and live music at Gateway (Decompression)? - We cannot help artists contribute without a plan to welcome them and place them. Decompression need to have Sound/ Theme Camp registration "guideline" and "deadlines" that are followed by everyone wanting to bring their sound/art.
- 2.** Will there be a permanent budget for sound, power, and the Artists who contribute to music? - When Artists ask for money to bring their music, there needs to be clear communication regarding power usage and grant funding (if any).
- 3.** What are the duties and obligations of the Sound Lead? - The sound lead needs to have clear pre-defined guidelines to follow, so as to not be running to the event leads with every question about what is or is not permitted.

## **Fire Safety – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

### Fire Safety

#### **FIRE - Submitted by: Ronald Martinez AKA 'RJag'**

I really don't have much to add other than the burns went off without a hitch. Everything fire was "cool" no pun intended.

#### **Flame Effects – Submitted by Craig Cooper aka 'Coop'**

Everything went smoothly, and flawlessly this event. The online application process that Scotto set up is working great! Fire installations seem to be increasing and I am excited to see that. I look forward to being the flame effects lead for future events.

Thank you to all the leads that made this such an amazing and successful event.

## Moving Towards the Future – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report

### Moving Towards the Future

**Looking towards 2014:** We look forward to again working with Gateway Ranch and of course continue to look for alternative locations within the Great State of Arizona to hold our annual 4-Day campout Decompression event; with Ticket Sales & the Art Grant Cycle June 1<sup>st</sup>.

**AZBurner Art Committee & Art Fund:** We continue to appreciate the efforts of Conchita and the Art Committee who continue to come up with inspiring Themes for our Regional Events. The Art Grant Cycle went live June 1, 2013. Through this process the Art Committee granted almost **\$2,000** to fellow artists to bring their creations to Decompression 2013.

With the addition of [Decompression 2013 'Profits'](#) the Arizona Art Fund now has a balance of **\$5,505.96** moving into 2014 for Art Grants for Saguaro Man & Decompression. This amount represents **\$2,505** more than was available at the start of the 2013 Art Grant Cycle; pretty Freakin AMAZING!!! I for one cannot wait to see what incredible pieces of permanent & burnable art will be created in the coming year.

The Art Committee will soon be announcing the Theme and opening the Art Grant process for [Saguaro Man 2014](#) - scheduled for April 30 – May 4, 2014 @ Double Dolphin Farm outside Snowflake, Arizona. Ticket prices will remain Two-Tier @ \$50 & \$65 with tickets sales starting February 1, 2014. Portions of the Saguaro Man profits will go to replenishing the Arizona Burners Art Fund for Art Grants for Saguaro Man & Decompression 2015.

**Gate/Greeters:** There were several post event questions from [Gate/Greeters](#) that should be addressed.

- We certainly need to do a better job as Gate/Greeters to orient our volunteers so that they know the proper procedures for checking-in new participants.
- We need to stick to the established policy of NO GATE SALES – Do not want Gate/Greeters to deal with CASH EVER!
- Have a 'This is the Camping Area' Map when people check-in cause finding a spot in the dark can be difficult

**Communication via Radios:** From Rangers: [Radios](#) worked well for the most part. We had some problems with shoulder mics. The event radios give Leads & Land Owners the ability to instantly communicate 24/7 during the event and are a vital part of the infrastructure of our Regional Events. All radios will be tested post-event, defective radios & shoulder mics will be replaced and be in working order for Saguaro Man 2014.

## **Moving Towards the Future – Arizona Decompression 2013 - AfterBurn Report**

**Sound:** There were several post event questions from [Sound](#) that should be addressed.

In the [Saguaro Man 2013 AfterBurn Report](#) Tacky had addressed some issues dealing with Sound and the need for a Sound Marshall as the intermediary between Sound Camps and the enforcement of the [Saguaro Man Sound Policy](#).

In the past we have not used monies from the AZBurner Art Fund or had a line item within the event budget for supporting or subsidizing Theme Camps; in particular Sound Camps. For the future - the Art Committee & Regional Event Leads should start discussions regarding direct monetary assistance of Sound Camps.

Due to issues in dealing with multiple Sound Camps; there does appear to be a need to have more than a One-Person Sound Lead. In the future we should look to have multiple persons involved in pre-event Sound Camp planning & coordination as well as dealing with on-site compliance with the established Regional Event Sound Policy.

**Conclusions:** Together as AZBurners each year we create our own distinctive Post-Burn wonderland. Decompression 2013 was incredible & amazing and brought together many different individuals discovering within themselves and others the collective ethos that binds us together. Within this AfterBurn Report are stated many areas in which we can still do better, learn & grow together. I know I am up for the challenge; my fellow Arizona & Regional Burners - How about ALL OF YOU?

**Look forward to even better things for 2014.**