

ARIZONA DECOMPRESSION 2014

WITCH WELLS, AZ



AFTERBURN REPORT

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Introduction – Arizona Decompression 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Introduction

Arizona Decompression 2014 was held @ Witch Wells outside Sanders, Arizona on October 9-12.

Post TTITD aka Burning Man there are many Decompression type event options available to AZBurners and for that we are forever grateful. A tribute to the folks who decided to come out to Witch Wells and enjoy our version of Post-Burn Utopia – share in the creative space - build a community that for 4 Days embodies the [Ten Principles](#). Those principles 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. I hope that for each attendee that 'Family & Community' feeling is still within your soul & within every breathe you take.

Tickets for Arizona Decompression 2014 went on sale June 1, 2014 with a single ticket price of \$35. When sales ended on October 5th – 104 tickets were sold.

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

Special callouts to Event Leads:

- **Co-Event Lead** - Conchita
- **Financial Lead** - Mr. Mom
- **Medical Lead** - Housecall
- **Ranger Leads** – Corvus & Grateful
- **Gate/Greeter Lead** – qqtpie

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 2014
- AZ Regional Contact
- Meta Committee Member
- Burning Man Lifer/Geek/Zealot

Lead Notes – Arizona Decompression 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Lead Notes

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

We are blessed in the Great State of Arizona for having private land options to host our 4-Day campouts. It was awesome to again open up discussions with Jerry & Virginia Meixner & Witch Wells (The home to TOAST 2002-2010), an amazing space, for us to gather as Family, Friends & Burners.

A very BIG THANK YOU to Jerry & Virginia for allowing us to use your property for Decompression 2014; we very much appreciate your hospitality. You are both such wonderful hosts & friends. We hope that as the last participant departed, Witch Wells is once again alive with a renewed energy & spirit.

Securing Portable Toilets, Insurance & Firewood for a Regional Event is easy and does not take much effort on my part – the magic of any Burner gathering is the people that attend; they create the experience – they create the community that binds us – the community that we all seek to be part of.

The success of the event is thus the smiles on faces – the connections made – the community created by building & growing together.

You never know with Mother Nature what is going to happen in October in the Northern part of the Great State of Arizona. September & October saw three hurricanes come up thru the Baja with the last storm dumping rain 2 days before our event. The rain made the dirt road access to the site a bit challenging for many especially at night but other than one or two stuck vehicles all participants made it to the site without issue. We thank the Witch Wells neighbors for assisting us in making sure everyone got unstuck and made some makeshift signs to head around some huge water obstacles.

Huge thanks to Spaghetti Taco & Bliss Pad Theme Camps for opening up your space & your hearts to all Decompression participants and so many other campers that created makeshift spaces for us to enjoy.

Thank you to Corvus & Grateful for Rangering – walking the beat and making sure that we were all safe throughout the weekend.

Thanks to Conchita for Co-Leading with me – There was not much for you to do as the participants are the creators of the event we love – but just having you there to chat with and compose the narrative of things we will look to do in 2015 is and was priceless.

Thank you to Housecall for being there if any medical issues arose – we appreciate your commitment to our medical well being in the wilderness of Northern Arizona.

Financials – Arizona Decompression 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Financials

Revenue:

Ticket Sales (104)	\$3,306.35
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Expenses

Land Maintenance & Upkeep	\$400.00
Event Insurance	\$163.61
Ticket Processing Fees	\$175.75
PayPal Processing Fees	\$121.00
Porta Potty Rental	\$1,200.00
Firewood	\$500.00
Onsite Supplies	\$88.56

Total Costs of Event:	\$2,648.92
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Total Event Revenue:	\$657.43
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AZBurner Working Fund

Balance AZBurner Working Fund as of 8/1/14	\$1,149.46
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Addition to AZBurner Working Fund 2014	\$657.43
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Balance AZBurner Working Fund	\$1,806.89
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The remaining balance of **\$1,806.89** 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 2015.

Art Fund – Arizona Decompression 2014 - 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 - 2014

AZBurner Art Fund Balance – 6/1/14 \$6,828.31

Art Grants – Decompression 2014 \$225.00

Decompression 2014 Allocation - AZBurner Art Fund TBD

Final Balance: \$6,603.31

There may be a disbursement to the Art Fund from the remaining balance of **\$1,806.89** in AZBurner Working Fund for additional Saguaro Man 2015 Art Grants after all end of year AZBurner expenses have been allocated.

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 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Site Management

Gate/Greeters - Submitted by: Pam Whitney aka 'qqtpie'

When I left my house for Decompression, only two other volunteers had signed up for shifts. My initial crew came through even better than expected. Other volunteers quickly filled the gaps. We had greeters on shift almost constantly.

The things I liked and worked out:

- Great crew that pulled together to fill in the gaps.
- A clear table, free from other uses.
- Good lighting.
- Easy access to support when questions arise, by having the Rangers right on hand.
- Not having a trash can.

What I feel didn't work out:

- Recruitment options can be broadened for future events.
- A log for volunteers to sign in on when their shift starts would ensure everybody gets credit.
- Having a map that includes general areas for sound camps and other activities will help us direct people to where they want to camp.

Huge thanks to our Gate/Greeters Crew including:

Virginia Platsky, Nathan, Wendi & Raven Goulette, Pat Montrreuil, Nicolas Black, Justin Blair, Faith Frost, Lauren Berry & Lars Olsen.

Lars was left in charge of gate for the midnight shift on Friday because he fell asleep there and everybody awake voted that he was officially the gate shift.

Art of Decompression – Arizona Decompression 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Art of Decompression

Submitted by Scott Platsky aka 'Scotto'- Decompression Co-Lead

Only one Art Grant submission was received for Decompression 2014 – we thank Tattletale Frum for bringing back Ignis Fatui to light up the streets of Decompression.

Ignis Fatui (pronounced ig-nes fat-u-i) - Artists (Tattletale Frum) - Arising from the desert like a mirage, Ignis Fatui, from Medieval Latin meaning "foolish fire" are atmospheric ghost lights seen by travellers at night, especially over bogs, swamps or marshes. It resembles a flickering lamp and is said to recede if approached, drawing travellers from the afar. Created to bring light and continuity to the main street of Saguaro Man. By adding motion and dancing, changing and swirling light, it not only brings excitement and energy to the boardwalk at night, but brings the length of the road into focus as well, inviting walkers to further explore out into the darkness.

Burners are always creative with leftover parts and parts of previous art projects that fall apart – we thank Arthur Rudiak & Justin Blair for bringing pieces of art from Double Dolphin Farm (The site of [Saguaro Man](#)) to create an effigy worthy of Burners! Thank you to all the folks that helped move firewood and create such an awesome structure for us to gather around and BURN together.



Moving Towards the Future – Arizona Decompression 2014 - AfterBurn Report

Moving Towards the Future

Looking towards 2015: We look forward to again working with Jerry & Virginia & the Witch Wells property for our Decompression 2015. The Witch Wells site is in such close proximity to our Sister Region New Mexico – we will be working towards a joint AZ/NM 4-Day Decompression event – you never know what amazing & incredible Art & Community can be manifested when we combined our efforts.

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, 2014. Through this process the Art Committee granted monies to only one submitted Art Proposal for **\$225.00** to a fellow artist to bring their creations to Decompression 2014.

The Arizona Art Fund now has a balance of **\$6,603.31** moving into 2015 for Art Grants for Saguaro Man & Decompression. There may be a disbursement to the Art Fund from the remaining balance of **\$1,806.89** in AZBurner Working Fund for additional Saguaro Man 2015 Art Grants after all end of year AZBurner expenses have been allocated.

We all look forward to seeing 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 2015](#) - scheduled for April 29 – May 3, 2015 @ Double Dolphin Farm outside Snowflake, Arizona. Ticket prices will be \$65 with tickets sales starting February 1, 2015. Portions of the Saguaro Man profits will go to replenishing the Arizona Burners Art Fund for Art Grants for Saguaro Man & Decompression 2015.

Conclusions: Together as Arizona & New Mexico Burners each year we create our own distinctive Post-Burn experiment in community. Decompression 2014 was incredible & amazing and brought together participants from as far away as Lake Tahoe discovering within themselves and others the collective ethos that binds us together.

We look forward to collaborating with our New Mexico neighbors in creating an incredible Decompression experience in 2015. As we proceed into the new year we will start the recruiting process for leads and community leaders to construct a post-burn utopia we know as Decompression. I hope you will be part of the process!!!

Look forward to even better things for 2015.