WESTERN PYROTECHNIC ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

Western WinterBlast®

2026

"Hearts over Havasu"

Feb 11–15, 2026

Sara Park · Lake Havasu City, AZ

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration

7 DAYS

150 SESSIONS

62 PRESENTERS

The live schedule

Tuesday, February 10

2 sessions · times are MST

TIME	SESSION
9:00 AM	**Site Setup** until 5:00 PM · **Sara Park**
6:00 PM	**Preglow** until 9:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie**

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Wednesday, February 11

19 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	BLEACHERS	SARA PARK	HOSPITALITY TENT	PIT TENT	TENT 3	AROUND THE SITE
8:30 AM		**Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 12:00 PM *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*				
10:00 AM	**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 10:30 AM					**Burst: Black Powder Coated Rice Hulls** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:00 PM · **Tent 2** *Mike Garrett*
12:30 PM	**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 1:00 PM			**PIT Skylighter Turbo Pyro** BEG PPE until 2:30 PM *Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel*	**Skylighter Screen Sliced Stars** BEG PPE 18+ until 3:30 PM *Matthew Nubbe*	
1:00 PM		**Trade Show** until 10:00 PM **Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 6:00 PM *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*				**Class C Vending** until 10:00 PM · **Class-C Tent**
3:00 PM				**PIT Inventory and Choreography Discussion** BEG PPE until 5:00 PM *Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel*		
3:30 PM					**Skylighter Comets** BEG PPE 18+ until 5:00 PM *David Tanner, Mike Garrett*	
4:00 PM	**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:30 PM					**WASP Orientation** BEG until 4:30 PM · **WASP Tent** *Matthew Nubbe*

Wednesday, February 11

19 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	BLEACHERS	SARA PARK	HOSPITALITY TENT	PIT TENT	TENT 3	AROUND THE SITE
4:30 PM			**Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer)** BEG 18+ until 5:00 PM *Darrell Fiss*			
5:00 PM						**Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells)** BEG PPE 18+ until 6:00 PM · **Safety Tent** *Darrell Fiss*
6:00 PM			**2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)** until 6:30 PM			**Open Shooting (No salutes after 9PM!)** PPE until 10:00 PM · **Firing Lines**
10:00 PM						**Afterglow** until 11:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie** *Lonny Ross* **Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party** until 11:55 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Thursday, February 12

30 sessions · times are MST

TIME	TENT 2	TENT 1	HOSPITALITY TENT	PIT TENT	SARA PARK	AROUND THE SITE
8:30 AM					**Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 12:00 PM *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*	
9:00 AM			**New Member Orientation** BEG until 9:30 AM *Dennis Miele*	**CPR/AED & First Aid Certification** BEG 18+ until 12:00 PM *Matthew Bergondo*		**Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 1)** BEG PPE 18+ until 10:30 AM · **Tent 3** *David Rippe, Noye Balmer III, Ocean Williams*
9:30 AM		**5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 1, Lecture** BEG 18+ until 11:00 AM *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson*				
11:00 AM						**6" Double Petal Ball Shell Contruction (Group 1)** PPE 18+ until 2:00 PM · **Tent 3** *Ellen Webb*
11:30 AM	**5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 1 of 4** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:00 PM *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel*	**Building the Boom - A Day in the Life of Crafting A Sky Bound Spectacle** BEG until 1:00 PM *Michael Tockstein*				
12:00 PM	**5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 2 of 4** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:30 PM *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel*					

Thursday, February 12

30 sessions · times are MST

TIME	TENT 2	TENT 1	HOSPITALITY TENT	PIT TENT	SARA PARK	AROUND THE SITE
1:00 PM	**5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 3 of 4** BEG PPE 18+ until 1:30 PM *Bill Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel*			**PIT Tie-Dye T-Shirts** until 3:30 PM *Acacia Tanner*	**Trade Show** until 10:00 PM **Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 6:00 PM *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*	**Class C Vending** until 10:00 PM · **Class-C Tent**
1:30 PM	**5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 4 of 4** BEG PPE 18+ until 2:00 PM *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel*	**Pyrophile Brothers** BEG until 2:30 PM *Tom Calderwood, Chris Spurrell, Mark Devon*				
2:00 PM						**6" Double Petal Ball Shell Contruction (Group 2)** PPE 18+ until 5:00 PM · **Tent 3** *Ellen Webb* **Open AA Meeting** until 3:00 PM · **Bleachers** *Friends of Bill*
2:30 PM	**PIT Pattern Shell Construction (Hearts over Havasu)** BEG PPE until 3:00 PM *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel*					
3:00 PM		**Introduction to Pixel Displays** BEG until 5:00 PM *Tom BetGeorge*				
3:30 PM	**Pull Cord Igniters (Group 1)** BEG PPE 18+ until 4:30 PM *Invention Incarnate*					

Thursday, February 12

30 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	TENT 2	TENT 1	HOSPITALITY TENT	PIT TENT	SARA PARK	AROUND THE SITE
4:00 PM				**PIT Introduction to Class C Fireworks and PyroCrate Scavenger Hunt** BEG until 6:00 PM *Farns Farnsworth, Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel*		**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:30 PM · **Bleachers**
4:30 PM			**Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer)** BEG 18+ until 5:00 PM *Darrell Fiss*			
5:00 PM						**Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells)** BEG PPE 18+ until 6:00 PM · **Safety Tent** *Darrell Fiss*
6:00 PM			**2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)** until 6:30 PM			**Open Shooting (No salutes after 9PM!)** PPE until 10:00 PM · **Firing Lines**
7:30 PM						**PyroCrate Fireworks** until 8:00 PM · **Race Track** *Farns Farnsworth, PyroCrate Fireworks*
10:00 PM						**Afterglow** until 11:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie** *Lonny Ross*
						Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party until 11:55 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Friday, February 13

39 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	PIT TENT	TENT 3	RACE TRACK	AROUND THE SITE
8:00 AM	**Daily Site Cleanup** BEG until 10:00 AM					
8:30 AM						**Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 12:00 PM · **Sara Park** *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*
9:00 AM	**New Member Orientation** BEG until 9:30 AM *Dennis Miele*			**Jackie Whedby-Mattingly Memorial Set Piece Construction** BEG PPE until 12:00 PM *Lynden King, Ron Fuchs, Gregory Thomas*		**Lift and Leader Segment for Ball Shell Workshops** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:30 PM · **Tent 2** *Bill Stevenson, Ellen Webb, Darrell Fiss, Violet Stevenson*
						PGI Shooter Certification Course BEG PPE until 5:00 PM · **Quality Inn** *Will Scott, John Steinberg MD, Josh Lazarus, Daniel Suttkus*
10:00 AM		**Black Powder Rockets - Part 1: Lecture** BEG until 11:30 AM *John Steinberg MD, Kurt Medlin, Leo and Silas Covarrubias*	**PIT Hand Fountains** BEG PPE until 11:30 AM *Peggy Purner*			**Welcome Orientation** until 10:30 AM · **Bleachers**
11:30 AM		**Passfire: Supercharged** until 12:30 PM *Jesse Veverka*	**PIT Walking Tour of B Line** BEG PPE until 12:30 PM *Darrell Fiss*			**Walking Tour of Shooter Lines (Meet at entrance to firing lines)** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:00 PM · **B-Line**
12:30 PM				**Skylighter 3" Ball Shells (Group 1)** BEG PPE 18+ until 2:00 PM *Matthew Nubbe*		**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 1:00 PM · **Bleachers**

Friday, February 13

39 sessions · times are MST

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	PIT TENT	TENT 3	RACE TRACK	AROUND THE SITE
1:00 PM		**Transitioning from Hand Firing to Electric Firing** BEG until 2:00 PM *Jim Acker*	**PIT Gerb Workshop** BEG PPE until 3:30 PM *Leo and Silas Covarrubias*			**Black Powder Rockets - Part 2: Workshop** BEG PPE 18+ until 5:00 PM · **Tent 2** *John Steinberg MD, Kurt Medlin, Leo and Silas Covarrubias* **Class C Vending (closed during Public Displays)** until 10:00 PM · **Class-C Tent** **Jackalopian Pinwheels for Adults** BEG PPE 18+ until 2:30 PM · **J-Line** *The Jackalopes* **Trade Show** until 10:00 PM · **Sara Park** **Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 6:00 PM · **Sara Park** *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*
2:00 PM				**Skylighter 3" Ball Shells (Group 2)** BEG PPE 18+ until 3:30 PM *Matthew Nubbe*		
2:30 PM		**Intro to Multi-Modal Displays** BEG until 4:00 PM *Tom BetGeorge*				
3:30 PM			**PIT Giant Soap Bubbles** until 5:00 PM *Tom and Eunice Pingenot, Terrie Schweitzer*	**Reloadable White Screening Smoke Canister** PPE 18+ until 5:00 PM *Invention Incarnate*		**Wasp Orientation** BEG until 4:00 PM · **WASP Tent** *Matthew Nubbe*

Friday, February 13

39 sessions · times are MST

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	PIT TENT	TENT 3	RACE TRACK	AROUND THE SITE
4:00 PM	**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:30 PM	**Intro to Cobra Firing Systems** BEG until 5:00 PM *Zachary Gilbert*				**Free BBQ @ Fireworks America campsite** until 6:30 PM · **Fireworks America Camp** *Fireworks America*
4:30 PM	**Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer)** BEG 18+ until 5:00 PM *Darrell Fiss*					
5:00 PM						**Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells)** BEG PPE 18+ until 6:00 PM · **Safety Tent** *Darrell Fiss*
5:30 PM						**2026 WPA Wine Tasting & Foodie Competition** until 7:45 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**
6:00 PM						**Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display)** PPE until 10:30 PM · **Firing Lines**
6:30 PM	**2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)** until 7:00 PM					
7:30 PM					**Precision Fireworks Display** until 7:50 PM *Precision Fireworks, LLC / Precision Drones, Inc., Jesse Williams*	
7:50 PM					**Memorial Display for Jackie Whedbee Mattingly - Pyro Musical** until 8:10 PM *Rich Bader*	

Friday, February 13

39 sessions · times are MST

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	PIT TENT	TENT 3	RACE TRACK	AROUND THE SITE
8:10 PM					**Pyro Spectaculars - a Sky Concert!** until 8:30 PM *Pyro Spectaculars*	
10:00 PM						**Afterglow** until 11:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie** *Lonny Ross* **Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party** until 11:55 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Saturday, February 14

40 sessions · times are MST

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	RACE TRACK	TENT 1	TENT 3	TENT 2	AROUND THE SITE
8:00 AM	**Daily Site Cleanup** BEG until 10:00 AM					
	Pancake Breakfast until 10:00 AM *Lake Havasu Sea Scouts*					
9:00 AM	**New Member Orientation** BEG until 9:30 AM *Dennis Miele*					**PGI Introduction to Professional Use Only (AP)** PPE 18+ until 2:00 PM · **Quality Inn** *Daniel Suttkus*
	Welcome Orientation Meeting until 9:30 AM					**PIT Cereal Ball Shells** until 10:00 AM · **PIT Tent** *Acacia Tanner*
						Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In) until 12:00 PM · **Sara Park** *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*
9:30 AM				**Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 2)** BEG PPE until 11:00 AM *David Rippe, Noye Balmer III, Ocean Williams*	**Reloadable Colored Smoke Canister** PPE 18+ until 11:00 AM *Invention Incarnate*	
10:00 AM			**Cobra Ignite** BEG until 11:00 AM *Zachary Gilbert*			
10:30 AM						**PIT Jackalopian Pinwheels For Kids** BEG PPE until 12:00 PM · **PIT Tent** *The Jackalopes*
						Walking Tour of Manufacturing BEG PPE 18+ until 11:30 AM · **Manufacturing** *David Tanner*

Saturday, February 14

40 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	RACE TRACK	TENT 1	TENT 3	TENT 2	AROUND THE SITE
11:30 AM			**Working With Your AHJ** until 12:30 PM *Dennis Miele*		**Pull Cord Igniters (Group 2)** BEG PPE 18+ until 12:30 PM *Invention Incarnate*	
1:00 PM		**Shooting Displays From Trailer-Mounted Racks** BEG PPE 18+ until 2:00 PM *Kerry Welty, Ron Fuchs, Gregory Thomas*	**Passfire: Supercharged** until 2:00 PM *Jesse Veverka*	**Colored Flame Effects** BEG until 2:00 PM *Matthew Nubbe* **PIT Crew Set Piece Construction** BEG PPE until 4:00 PM *Lynden King*	**Mines for Beginners** BEG PPE 18+ until 3:30 PM *Gina Papini*	**Class C Vending (closed during Public Displays)** until 10:00 PM · **Class-C Tent** **Trade Show** until 10:00 PM · **Sara Park** **Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)** until 5:00 PM · **Sara Park** *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*
2:30 PM			**Pyrotography** BEG until 3:30 PM *Tom Calderwood*	**Public Display Operator Roundtable: Tips, Tools, and Best Practices** BEG until 4:00 PM *Stephen Yoss, Jr*		
4:00 PM	**2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:30 PM **Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:30 PM		**Fireworks: The First Milliseconds at the Molecular Level** BEG until 5:00 PM *Tom Perigrin*	**How to Become a PGI Trainer** 18+ until 5:00 PM *John Steinberg MD, Josh Lazarus*	**Fire Dancing** BEG until 5:30 PM *Katie Gromlovits*	**PIT Mini Mines** BEG PPE until 5:00 PM · **PIT Tent** *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Aurora Tershel*
4:30 PM	**Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer)** BEG 18+ until 5:00 PM *Darrell Fiss*					
5:00 PM						**Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells)** BEG PPE 18+ until 6:00 PM · **Safety Tent** *Darrell Fiss*

Saturday, February 14

40 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	HOSPITALITY TENT	RACE TRACK	TENT 1	TENT 3	TENT 2	AROUND THE SITE
6:00 PM						**Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display)** PPE until 10:30 PM · **Firing Lines**
7:30 PM		**Memorial Display for Greg Dandurand** until 7:50 PM *Gregory Thomas*				
7:50 PM		**Skylighter Display** until 8:10 PM *Skylighter*				
8:10 PM		**Pyro Land Display** until 8:30 PM *PyroLand Fireworks*				
8:30 PM		**Fireworks America: Grand Public Display - Luminous: A Sky Reborn** until 8:50 PM *Fireworks America, J. Scott Danielson*				
10:00 PM						**Afterglow** until 11:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie** *Lonny Ross* **Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party** until 11:55 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**
11:00 PM						**Western WinterBlast Auction** until 12:00 AM · **Eagles Aerie** *Kief Adler, DJ Dutra*

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Sunday, February 15

18 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	SARA PARK	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	TENT 2	AROUND THE SITE
8:00 AM		**Daily Site Cleanup** BEG until 10:00 AM			
9:00 AM	**Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In) - On call, as needed** until 12:00 PM *Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye*	**Welcome Orientation Meeting** until 4:00 PM *Michelle Joye, Dennis Miele*			
10:00 AM					**WPA General Business Meeting, Election & Awards** until 12:00 PM · **Bleachers** *Board of Directors*
12:00 PM					**Members Showcase Deadline to Sign Up** until 12:15 PM · **Manufacturing**
12:15 PM	**Members Showcase Deadline to Deliver Product** until 12:30 PM				
12:30 PM				**European Christmas Crackers** BEG PPE until 2:00 PM *Jon Salzman*	
1:00 PM	**Trade Show** until 10:00 PM		**After it Clicks** BEG until 2:00 PM *Tom Calderwood*		**Class C Vending (may close during the PIT show & Members Showcase)** until 10:00 PM · **Class-C Tent**
					Cremora Fireballs BEG PPE 18+ until 3:00 PM · **Race Track** *Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson*
2:30 PM			**Meet the CA State Fire Marshall** until 3:30 PM *Vijay Mepani, Caleb Phillips*	**Rolled & Color Changing Stars** 18+ until 4:00 PM *Ellen Webb*	

Sunday, February 15

18 sessions · times are MST

WESTERN WINTERBLAST 2026

TIME	SARA PARK	HOSPITALITY TENT	TENT 1	TENT 2	AROUND THE SITE
5:00 PM					**Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells)** BEG PPE 18+ until 6:00 PM · **Safety Tent** *Darrell Fiss*
5:30 PM					**PIT Face Painting + Glow Dancing + Pizza Party** until 7:00 PM · **PIT Tent** *Acacia Tanner, Katie Gromlovits*
6:00 PM					**Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display)** PPE until 10:30 PM · **Firing Lines**
9:00 PM					**Closing Party | RV Camping Social & After Party** until 11:55 PM · **Pyro Pavilion**
10:00 PM					**Afterglow** until 11:00 PM · **Eagles Aerie** *Lonny Ross*

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Monday, February 16

2 sessions · times are MST

TIME	SESSION
8:00 AM	**Daily Site Cleanup** BEG until 4:00 PM · **Hospitality Tent**
9:00 AM	**Tear down and clean up at SARA** until 2:00 PM · **Sara Park**

Seminar · Workshop · Demonstration · Shooting · Display · PIT Crew · Safety · Social · Meeting · Vendor · Registration · BEG beginner friendly · PPE protective gear · 18+ adults only

Sessions

The schedule can change during the event; the latest is always at www.westernpyro.org/events/winterblast/schedule.

Tuesday, February 10

Site Setup
9:00 AM–5:00 PM · Sara Park · Social

Western WinterBlast Staff and volunteer members unpack the containers, transport the racks and do all the things that need to be done before we open the doors on Wednesday. Many hands makes for light work so come out early and give us some help.

Preglow
6:00 PM–9:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social

The Preglow is an annual event for all of us who arrive the day before Western WinterBlast actually starts, in this case, Tuesday February 13th. We all need to eat that night anyway so this is an opportunity to gather together, say...

Wednesday, February 11

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
8:30 AM–12:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration

Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Burst: Black Powder Coated Rice Hulls BEG PPE 18+
10:00 AM–12:00 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

Mike Garrett

Fireworks shells built during the workshops need burst in them so they open and display properly in the sky. In this workshop we will make all of the burst required to support the shell workshops. This year we will make two types of...

Welcome Orientation Meeting
10:00 AM–10:30 AM · Bleachers · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

PIT Skylighter Turbo Pyro BEG PPE
12:30 PM–2:30 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew

Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel

PIT Crew participants will explore the ten projects in the Skylighter Turbo Pyro Kit and make as many as time allows.

Skylighter Screen Sliced Stars BEG PPE 18+
12:30 PM–3:30 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Matthew Nubbe

Learn how to make screen sliced stars using a Skylighter kit. Stars will be incorporated into 3" shells in a seminar later in the week. Sponsored by Skylighter.

Welcome Orientation Meeting
12:30 PM–1:00 PM · Bleachers · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Class C Vending
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Class-C Tent · Vendor

Class-C Fireworks are now available! Swing by our vending area to add excitement to your celebrations with our top-quality fireworks. Enjoy them safely and light up your event with a bang!

Trade Show
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Sara Park · Vendor

Explore the bustling trade show at Western WinterBlast, where vendors from across the pyrotechnic industry showcase their latest products and innovations. Make sure to visit each booth for a hands-on experience with cutting-edge...

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
1:00 PM–6:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration

Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

PIT Inventory and Choreography Discussion BEG PPE
3:00 PM–5:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew

Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel

PIT Crew participants will inventory product donations and discuss how the fireworks can fit into the Sunday night display

Skylighter Comets BEG PPE 18+
3:30 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

David Tanner, Mike Garrett

Learn how to produce D1 gold glitter comets that will be shot in a Skylighter demo.

WASP Orientation BEG
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · WASP Tent · Demonstration

Matthew Nubbe

The club has a WASP (Widmann Automatic Shell Paster) machine available for members to paste round shells. If you intend to use the club WASP machine during Western WinterBlast, please attend this quick orientation workshop. In this...

Welcome Orientation Meeting
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · Bleachers · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer) BEG 18+
4:30 PM–5:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Safety

Darrell Fiss

The WPA and Western WinterBlast is run by volunteers and you are encouraged to volunteer for as many things as you can. The Safety Volunteer area in particular needs to be fully staffed or the shooting lines shut down until they are...

Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells) BEG PPE 18+
5:00 PM–6:00 PM · Safety Tent · Safety

Darrell Fiss

To light your product on the B-line you need a sticker on your badge. That sticker tells the line Safety that you are qualified to light your product. Attend this quick seminar and learn how to safely conduct yourself out on the B-line....

2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)
6:00 PM–6:30 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Open Shooting (No salutes after 9PM!) PPE
6:00 PM–10:00 PM · Firing Lines · Shooting

The skies are set to dazzle at the open shooting event—grab your fireworks and revel in the spectacle! Mind the curfew: no loud salutes past 9 PM. Enjoy responsibly and have a blast!

Afterglow
10:00 PM–11:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social

Lonny Ross

Join Lonny in winding down at the end of each day at the Afterglow, this year hosted by the Eagles, who have a fantastic spot for us, less than a mile from the Quality Inn at their Aerie. Food is available for purchase nightly at prices...

Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party
10:00 PM–11:55 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social

Gather with your fellow Pyro Winter Blasters for an enchanting evening social and campfire at the Pyro Pavilion, nestled in the heart of RV camping. Immerse yourself in a lively celebration beneath the starlit sky, where the dazzling...

Thursday, February 12

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
8:30 AM–12:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration

Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 1) BEG PPE 18+
9:00 AM–10:30 AM · Tent 3 · Workshop

David Rippe, Noye Balmer III, Ocean Williams

Have you never actually made BP? Then this class is for you! We all know what it's made from. This seminar is to get people to understand the different methods that it takes to achieve fast lift powder. We'll start with a discussion of...

CPR/AED & First Aid Certification BEG 18+
9:00 AM–12:00 PM · PIT Tent · Workshop

Matthew Bergondo

This classroom-based course is designed for individuals with limited or no medical training that needs to complete a CPR/AED course for job, regulatory (ie. OSHA) or other requirements. The focus of the course will be on basic CPR...

New Member Orientation BEG
9:00 AM–9:30 AM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Dennis Miele

Are you new to the WPA or a first timer at Western WinterBlast? This seminar is just for you. Attendees will be given a brief history of the WPA, an overview of our policies and safety procedures. Time will be given for individual...

5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 1, Lecture BEG 18+
9:30 AM–11:00 AM · Tent 1 · Workshop

Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson

This session provides an overview of the components and construction of a 5" round ball shell, a fundamental part of most fireworks displays. First, we will walk through the "chain of fire" that starts with lighting the visco fuse and...

6" Double Petal Ball Shell Contruction (Group 1) PPE 18+
11:00 AM–2:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Ellen Webb

In this hands-on workshop, participants will build 6" round double petal chrysanthemum shells. Using the traditional Japanese method, the inner petal will be formed with only black powder-coated rice hulls and tissue paper. It is...

5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 1 of 4 BEG PPE 18+
11:30 AM–12:00 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel

Part 2 of 3: Shell Assembly - In this session, participants will fill their shell with stars and burst and prepare it to be wrapped and dried overnight.

Building the Boom - A Day in the Life of Crafting A Sky Bound Spectacle BEG
11:30 AM–1:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar

Michael Tockstein

Ever wonder what really happens before the first shell lights up the sky? Step behind the barricade, where we will introduce you to the professional display side of pyrotechnics. You'll get insight into every spark of the process:...

5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 2 of 4 BEG PPE 18+
12:00 PM–12:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel

Part 2 of 3: Shell Assembly - In this session, participants will fill their shell with stars and burst and prepare it to be wrapped and dried overnight.

5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 3 of 4 BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–1:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

Bill Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel

Part 2 of 3: Shell Assembly - In this session, participants will fill their shell with stars and burst and prepare it to be wrapped and dried overnight.

Class C Vending
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Class-C Tent · Vendor

Class-C Fireworks are now available! Swing by our vending area to add excitement to your celebrations with our top-quality fireworks. Enjoy them safely and light up your event with a bang!

PIT Tie-Dye T-Shirts
1:00 PM–3:30 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew

Acacia Tanner

PIT Crew attendees can make their own fireworks-themed t-shirts!

Trade Show
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Sara Park · Vendor

Explore the bustling trade show at Western WinterBlast, where vendors from across the pyrotechnic industry showcase their latest products and innovations. Make sure to visit each booth for a hands-on experience with cutting-edge...

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
1:00 PM–6:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration

Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2, Group 4 of 4 BEG PPE 18+
1:30 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel

Part 2 of 3: Shell Assembly - In this session, participants will fill their shell with stars and burst and prepare it to be wrapped and dried overnight.

Pyrophile Brothers BEG
1:30 PM–2:30 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar

Tom Calderwood, Chris Spurrell, Mark Devon

This seminar will discuss safety aspects of handling and manufacturing pyrotechnics, featuring engaging discussion by experienced practitioners. While targeted at beginners, this talk has something for everyone!

6" Double Petal Ball Shell Contruction (Group 2) PPE 18+
2:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Ellen Webb

In this hands-on workshop, participants will build 6" round double petal chrysanthemum shells. Using the traditional Japanese method, the inner petal will be formed with only black powder-coated rice hulls and tissue paper. It is...

Open AA Meeting
2:00 PM–3:00 PM · Bleachers · Social

Friends of Bill

Open to all "friends of Bill"

PIT Pattern Shell Construction (Hearts over Havasu) BEG PPE
2:30 PM–3:00 PM · Tent 2 · PIT Crew

Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Darrell Fiss, Aurora Tershel

Part 2 of 3: Shell Assembly - In this session, PIT Crew participants will fill their shell with a heart-shaped pattern of stars and prepare it to be wrapped and dried overnight.

Introduction to Pixel Displays BEG
3:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar
Tom BetGeorge
Learn the equipment, tools, and techniques necessary to incorporate a dynamic pixel display into your holiday lighting or other scenes.

Pull Cord Igniters (Group 1) BEG PPE 18+
3:30 PM–4:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Invention Incarnate
This hands-on workshop breaks down how pull-cord igniters work and how to build them for reliable use in pyrotechnic setups. We'll cover the basic theory, materials, and assembly process, focusing on what actually matters for...

PIT Introduction to Class C Fireworks and PyroCrate Scavenger Hunt BEG
4:00 PM–6:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Farns Farnsworth, Garrett Tershel, Aurora Tershel
Learn about Class C Fireworks from PyroCrate Fireworks and then go on a scavenger hunt in the Class C tent

Welcome Orientation Meeting
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · Bleachers · Meeting
Get the low down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer) BEG 18+
4:30 PM–5:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Safety
Darrell Fiss
The WPA and Western WinterBlast is run by volunteers and you are encouraged to volunteer for as many things as you can. The Safety Volunteer area in particular needs to be fully staffed or the shooting lines shut down until they are...

Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells) BEG PPE 18+
5:00 PM–6:00 PM · Safety Tent · Safety
Darrell Fiss
To light your product on the B-line you need a sticker on your badge. That sticker tells the line Safety that you are qualified to light your product. Attend this quick seminar and learn how to safely conduct yourself out on the B-line....

2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)
6:00 PM–6:30 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting
Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Open Shooting (No salutes after 9PM!) PPE
6:00 PM–10:00 PM · Firing Lines · Shooting
The skies are set to dazzle at the open shooting event—grab your fireworks and revel in the spectacle! Mind the curfew: no loud salutes past 9 PM. Enjoy responsibly and have a blast!

PyroCrate Fireworks
7:30 PM–8:00 PM · Race Track · Display
Farns Farnsworth, PyroCrate Fireworks
PyroCrate Fireworks C Extravaganza. A display including a section of preferred class C products from Pyrocrate. Available for your purchase at the C tent.

Afterglow
10:00 PM–11:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social
Lonny Ross
Wind down at the end of each day at the Afterglow, this year hosted by the Eagles who have a fantastic spot for us less than a mile from the Quality Inn at their Aerie. Food is available for purchase nightly at prices so low, you might...

Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party
10:00 PM–11:55 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social
Gather with your fellow Pyro Winter Blasters for an enchanting evening social and campfire at the Pyro Pavilion, nestled in the heart of RV camping. Immerse yourself in a lively celebration beneath the starlit sky, where the dazzling...

Friday, February 13

Daily Site Cleanup BEG
8:00 AM–10:00 AM · Hospitality Tent · Social
About Daily Cleanup, Deposits, & Refunds: Want to get some money back and more? We all pay a $35 cleanup deposit as part of our event registration fee - including staff, board members, and sponsored guests. After everything is done and...

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
8:30 AM–12:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration
Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye
Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Jackie Whedby-Mattingly Memorial Set Piece Construction BEG PPE
9:00 AM–12:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop
Lynden King, Ron Fuchs, Gregory Thomas
Set pieces, also known as brightwork, have been made for hundreds of years to augment fireworks displays. In this workshop, we'll build a set piece honoring Jackie Whedby-Mattingly, a true set piece artist. (Though we have the tent...

Lift and Leader Segment for Ball Shell Workshops BEG PPE 18+
9:00 AM–12:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Bill Stevenson, Ellen Webb, Darrell Fiss, Violet Stevenson
A workshop devoted to adding leaders to the ball shells constructed in the 6" Double Petal and 5" Ball Shell workshops. Participants of those workshops should attend this session to add lift and leader to their shells to complete them....

New Member Orientation BEG
9:00 AM–9:30 AM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting
Dennis Miele
Are you new to the WPA or a first timer at Western WinterBlast? This seminar is just for you. Attendees will be given a brief history of the WPA, an overview of our policies and safety procedures. Time will be given for individual...

PGI Shooter Certification Course BEG PPE
9:00 AM–5:00 PM · Quality Inn · Seminar
Will Scott, John Steinberg MD, Josh Lazarus, Daniel Suttkus
Western WinterBlast is sponsoring the PGI Display Operator Certification course. Learn how to set up a commercial fireworks display. If you are pursuing PGI Display Operator Certification, you must attend all parts of the class and pass...

Black Powder Rockets - Part 1: Lecture BEG
10:00 AM–11:30 AM · Tent 1 · Seminar
John Steinberg MD, Kurt Medlin, Leo and Silas Covarrubias
The goal of this presentation is for you come away with a practical understanding of the factors that control the performance of a traditional core burning black powder rocket so you can adjust and adapt the information to your tools...

PIT Hand Fountains BEG PPE
10:00 AM–11:30 AM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Peggy Purner
Learn how to roll a hand fountain you can take to the C-line using simple supplies. All Ages. PIT kids can participate for free. Adults can participate by paying a $10 fee to cover the cost of the materials.

Welcome Orientation
10:00 AM–10:30 AM · Bleachers · Meeting
Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

PIT Walking Tour of B Line BEG PPE
11:30 AM–12:30 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Darrell Fiss
PIT Crew attendees will enjoy a private tour of the B-Line and get to see an exciting demonstration of the different burning speeds of a Visco fuse, a line of black powder, a piece of black match, and a piece of quick match. We'll meet...

Passfire: Supercharged
11:30 AM–12:30 PM · Tent 1 · Vendor
Jesse Veverka
The next installment of Passfire is here with Passfire: Supercharged, the all-new fireworks documentary series that cranks up the pyrotechnic excitement with a fresh look at fireworks around the world. Supercharge your fireworks fun...

Walking Tour of Shooter Lines (Meet at entrance to firing lines) BEG PPE 18+
11:30 AM–12:00 PM · B-Line · Safety

This walking tour gives participants a look behind the scenes not normally afforded to the public. If you plan to do open shooting in the evening but haven't been out on the firing lines this orientation is perfect for you to attend....

Skylighter 3" Ball Shells (Group 1) BEG PPE 18+
12:30 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Matthew Nubbe

Participants will each build two 3" ball shells: one that will be shot in a Skylighter demo and one that they can shoot themselves at the B-Line. This seminar is a great choice if you've taken shell building courses before and want to...

Welcome Orientation Meeting
12:30 PM–1:00 PM · Bleachers · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Black Powder Rockets - Part 2: Workshop BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop

John Steinberg MD, Kurt Medlin, Leo and Silas Covarrubias

In this hands-on workshops, participants will produce a one pound black powder rocket that can be shot at the rocket line.

Class C Vending (closed during Public Displays)
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Class-C Tent · Vendor

Class-C Fireworks are now available! Swing by our vending area to add excitement to your celebrations with our top-quality fireworks. Enjoy them safely and light up your event with a bang!

Jackalopian Pinwheels for Adults BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–2:30 PM · J-Line · Workshop

The Jackalopes

Core to the Jackalope modus operandi is the approach of looking at a bunch of Class C product and wondering how the entertainment value can be improved. This is our home turf and where our wily horns first sprouted. Come join us on an...

PIT Gerb Workshop BEG PPE
1:00 PM–3:30 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew

Leo and Silas Covarrubias

An overview of gerbs and the manufacturing process. Students will work in pairs and choose between gold glitter or silver spark glitter.

Trade Show
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Sara Park · Vendor

Explore the bustling trade show at Western WinterBlast, where vendors from across the pyrotechnic industry showcase their latest products and innovations. Make sure to visit each booth for a hands-on experience with cutting-edge...

Transitioning from Hand Firing to Electric Firing BEG
1:00 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar

Jim Acker

Many shooters start their career by manually lighting each device in their display. As skills improve, so do thoughts of producing more complex displays that require the use of electrical firing systems. This class will discuss the...

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
1:00 PM–6:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration

Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Skylighter 3" Ball Shells (Group 2) BEG PPE 18+
2:00 PM–3:30 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Matthew Nubbe

Participants will each build two 3" ball shells: one that will be shot in a Skylighter demo and one that they can shoot themselves at the B-Line. This seminar is a great choice if you've taken shell building courses before and want to...

Intro to Multi-Modal Displays BEG
2:30 PM–4:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar

Tom BetGeorge

Overview of the practical and artistic considerations involved in creating a display that integrates multiple technologies such as lighting, lasers, water effects, and pyrotechnics into a choreographed tapestry of effects.

PIT Giant Soap Bubbles
3:30 PM–5:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew

Tom and Eunice Pingenot, Terrie Schweitzer

Learn how to mix up giant bubble juice using easy-to-find ingredients, and make a bubble wand you can take home using strips of t-shirts and chop sticks. You'll be amazed at the giant bubbles you can make!

Reloadable White Screening Smoke Canister PPE 18+
3:30 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 3 · Workshop

Invention Incarnate

In this workshop, participants will build a reloadable smoke device that disperses thick white smoke using a granulated TPA-based composition. Techniques for effective ignition, high density coverage, and safe operation will be...

Wasp Orientation BEG
3:30 PM–4:00 PM · WASP Tent · Demonstration

Matthew Nubbe

The club has a WASP (Widmann Automatic Shell Paster) machine available for members to paste round shells. If you intend to use the club WASP machine during Western WinterBlast please attend this quick orientation workshop. The WASP...

Free BBQ @ Fireworks America campsite
4:00 PM–6:30 PM · Fireworks America Camp · Social

Fireworks America

Come on down to the FA camp for a free BBQ hosted by Fireworks America, your 2026 WPA Grand Public Display provider!

Intro to Cobra Firing Systems BEG
4:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 1 · Vendor

Zachary Gilbert

Participants will learn how to use the COBRA wireless fireworks firing system, a professional-grade platform trusted by over 35,000 customers worldwide . The session will cover the 18R2 and 18R3 controller and modular hardware (18M,...

Welcome Orientation Meeting
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer) BEG 18+
4:30 PM–5:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Safety

Darrell Fiss

The WPA and Western WinterBlast is run by volunteers and you are encouraged to volunteer for as many things as you can. The Safety Volunteer area in particular needs to be fully staffed or the shooting lines shut down until they are...

Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells) BEG PPE 18+
5:00 PM–6:00 PM · Safety Tent · Safety

Darrell Fiss

To light your product on the B-line you need a sticker on your badge. That sticker tells the line Safety that you are qualified to light your product. Attend this quick seminar and learn how to safely conduct yourself out on the B-line....

2026 WPA Wine Tasting & Foodie Competition
5:30 PM–7:45 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social

"It might (not) get better, but it still won't go away!" While the baton has been passed to the Yoss family, we are going to keep this multi-decade tradition of taking a break from the serious business of fire & light to test the fruits...

Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display) PPE
6:00 PM–10:30 PM · Firing Lines · Shooting

The skies are set to dazzle at the open shooting event—grab your fireworks and revel in the spectacle! Mind the curfew: no loud salutes past 9:30 PM. Enjoy responsibly and have a blast!

2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting (if missed the 4:00 time)
6:30 PM–7:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory for one session to get your wristband.

Precision Fireworks Display
7:30 PM–7:50 PM · Race Track · Display
Precision Fireworks, LLC / Precision Drones, Inc., Jesse Williams
The night will begin with the National Atheum, presented by the Texas-based Precision Fireworks. The display will also include a choreographed, integrated drone segment.

Memorial Display for Jackie Whedbee Mattingly - Pyro Musical
7:50 PM–8:10 PM · Race Track · Display
Rich Bader
Rich Bader will lead an all-star team of WPA members to remember long-time WPA contributor Jackie Whedbee Mattingly. Please join us as we celebrate the amazingness of Jackie, a dedicated WPA member and a dear friend.

Pyro Spectaculars - a Sky Concert!
8:10 PM–8:30 PM · Race Track · Display
Pyro Spectaculars
Pyro Spectaculars honors its legacy by handing the torch to its next generation of innovators. Watch as new leadership reimagines what is stylistically possible, utilizing cutting-edge ShowtimeFX 1.4G Pro, blended with the best 1.3G...

Afterglow
10:00 PM–11:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social
Lonny Ross
Wind down at the end of each day at the Afterglow, this year hosted by the Eagles who have a fantastic spot for us less than a mile from the Quality Inn at their Aerie. Food is available for purchase nightly at prices so low, you might...

Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party
10:00 PM–11:55 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social
Gather with your fellow Pyro Winter Blasters for an enchanting evening social and campfire at the Pyro Pavilion, nestled in the heart of RV camping. Immerse yourself in a lively celebration beneath the starlit sky, where the dazzling...

Saturday, February 14

Daily Site Cleanup BEG
8:00 AM–10:00 AM · Hospitality Tent · Social
About Daily Cleanup, Deposits, & Refunds: Want to get some money back and more? We all pay a $35 cleanup deposit as part of our event registration fee - including staff, board members, and sponsored guests. After everything is done and...

Pancake Breakfast
8:00 AM–10:00 AM · Hospitality Tent · Social
Lake Havasu Sea Scouts
Come out and support this Lake Havasu Sea Scouts fund raising event. They typically have pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee and juice all for a modest donation towards their Sea Scout activities. It beats making your own breakfast and it's...

New Member Orientation BEG
9:00 AM–9:30 AM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting
Dennis Miele
Are you new to the WPA or a first timer at Western WinterBlast? This seminar is just for you. Attendees will be given a brief history of the WPA, an overview of our policies and safety procedures. Time will be given for individual...

PGI Introduction to Professional Use Only (AP) PPE 18+
9:00 AM–2:00 PM · Quality Inn · Seminar
Daniel Suttkus
A PGI Introduction to Professional Use Only (AP) class. While not specifically geared for 1.4Pro purchase, many suppliers accept this training/certificate. Literature is provided and a Certificate is emailed to students after the class....

PIT Cereal Ball Shells
9:00 AM–10:00 AM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Acacia Tanner
The PIT Crew will make a "bowl shell" out of cereal and then eat it to fuel themselves for a busy day of display setup.

Welcome Orientation Meeting
9:00 AM–9:30 AM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting
Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
9:00 AM–12:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration
Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye
Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 2) BEG PPE
9:30 AM–11:00 AM · Tent 3 · Workshop
David Rippe, Noye Balmer III, Ocean Williams
Have you never actually made BP? Then this class is for you! We all know what it's made from. This seminar is to get people to understand the different methods that it takes to achieve fast lift powder. We'll start with a discussion of...

Reloadable Colored Smoke Canister PPE 18+
9:30 AM–11:00 AM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Invention Incarnate
In this workshop, participants will build a reloadable smoke device that disperses a cloud of colored smoke. Techniques for effective ignition, high density coverage, and safe operation will be discussed and implemented. Participants in...

Cobra Ignite BEG
10:00 AM–11:00 AM · Tent 1 · Vendor
Zachary Gilbert
Participants will learn how to use IGNITE, a wireless, app-based fireworks firing system designed for hobbyists and consumer displays The session will cover the i18 and i36 modules, which allow users to ignite fireworks from an iPhone...

PIT Jackalopian Pinwheels For Kids BEG PPE
10:30 AM–12:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
The Jackalopes
Core to the Jackalope modus operandi is the approach of looking at a bunch of Class C product and wondering how the entertainment value can be improved. This is our home turf and where our wily horns first sprouted. Come join us on an...

Walking Tour of Manufacturing BEG PPE 18+
10:30 AM–11:30 AM · Manufacturing · Meeting
David Tanner
Take a guided walk around the Manufacturing area and learn how to join their ranks. We have many very talented fireworkers who are happy to share what they are building.

Pull Cord Igniters (Group 2) BEG PPE 18+
11:30 AM–12:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Invention Incarnate
This hands-on workshop breaks down how pull-cord igniters work and how to build them for reliable use in pyrotechnic setups. We'll cover the basic theory, materials, and assembly process, focusing on what actually matters for...

Working With Your AHJ
11:30 AM–12:30 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar
Dennis Miele
Any public display of fireworks will include a dialogue and an inspection from an AHJ (Authority Having Jurisdiction), which can include a State Fire Marshal and other officials. Many points about the safety and execution of the display...

Class C Vending (closed during Public Displays)
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Class-C Tent · Vendor
Class-C Fireworks are now available! Swing by our vending area to add excitement to your celebrations with our top-quality fireworks. Enjoy them safely and light up your event with a bang!

Colored Flame Effects BEG
1:00 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 3 · Seminar
Matthew Nubbe
Learn how to take a methanol, a fuel that burns nearly invisibly, and add color agents to color the flame.

Mines for Beginners BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–3:30 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Gina Papini
In this workshop participants will learn about mines, a mid-level firework device that sprays lit stars into the sky. This workshop will concentrate on the basic bag mine which is simple, effective, and easy to build. Since there are...

PIT Crew Set Piece Construction BEG PPE
1:00 PM–4:00 PM · Tent 3 · PIT Crew
Lynden King

Set pieces, also known as brightwork, have been made for hundreds of years to augment fireworks displays. In this workshop, we'll build a set piece for the PIT Crew Display.

Passfire: Supercharged
1:00 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 1 · Vendor
Jesse Veverka

The next installment of Passfire is here with Passfire: Supercharged, the all-new fireworks documentary series that cranks up the pyrotechnic excitement with a fresh look at fireworks around the world. Supercharge your fireworks fun...

Shooting Displays From Trailer-Mounted Racks BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–2:00 PM · Race Track · Demonstration
Kerry Welty, Ron Fuchs, Gregory Thomas

See first-hand how trailer-borne mortars can be incorporated into a display to quickly scale it. We'll meet at the Hospitality Tent and walk over to where the trailer is set up to check it out.

Trade Show
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Sara Park · Vendor

Explore the bustling trade show at Western WinterBlast, where vendors from across the pyrotechnic industry showcase their latest products and innovations. Make sure to visit each booth for a hands-on experience with cutting-edge...

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In)
1:00 PM–5:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration
Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye

Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

Public Display Operator Roundtable: Tips, Tools, and Best Practices BEG
2:30 PM–4:00 PM · Tent 3 · Seminar
Stephen Yoss, Jr

The Fourth of July may be months away, but a flawless show is won during the preparation and the load-out long before the first shell is dropped. We have all been there: troubleshooting a stubborn firing module at T-minus ten minutes or...

Pyrotography BEG
2:30 PM–3:30 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar
Tom Calderwood

A lot of pyros shoot fireworks and some also shoot fireworks - with their camera. Tom will show off some of his work as well as tips for getting that “perfect” fireworks picture. This discussion will include camera and related equipment...

2nd Welcome Orientation Meeting
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory for one session to get your wristband.

Fire Dancing BEG
4:00 PM–5:30 PM · Tent 2 · Seminar
Katie Gromlovits

Learn about the techniques, equipment, and chemistry involved in delivering a mesmerizing fire dance.

Fireworks: The First Milliseconds at the Molecular Level BEG
4:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar
Tom Perigrin

The talk will cover issues of ignition and propagation. Participants will get a better understanding of how to better control desired (and undesired) ignition of fireworks.

How to Become a PGI Trainer 18+
4:00 PM–5:00 PM · Tent 3 · Seminar
John Steinberg MD, Josh Lazarus

Learn what is involved with delivering PGI Training, such as the Display Operators Course and Articles Pyrotechnic Course

PIT Mini Mines BEG PPE
4:00 PM–5:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson, Aurora Tershel

PIT Crew attendees will build a Class C sized mine that launches colorful stars into the air.

Welcome Orientation Meeting
4:00 PM–4:30 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting

Get the low-down on what is happening at Western WinterBlast this year. Attendance is mandatory to one session to get your wristband.

Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer) BEG 18+
4:30 PM–5:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Safety
Darrell Fiss

The WPA and Western WinterBlast is run by volunteers and you are encouraged to volunteer for as many things as you can. The Safety Volunteer area in particular needs to be fully staffed or the shooting lines shut down until they are...

Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells) BEG PPE 18+
5:00 PM–6:00 PM · Safety Tent · Safety
Darrell Fiss

To light your product on the B-line you need a sticker on your badge. That sticker tells the line Safety that you are qualified to light your product. Attend this quick seminar and learn how to safely conduct yourself out on the B-line....

Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display) PPE
6:00 PM–10:30 PM · Firing Lines · Shooting

The skies are set to dazzle at the open shooting event—grab your fireworks and revel in the spectacle! Mind the curfew: no loud salutes past 9:30 PM. Enjoy responsibly and have a blast!

Memorial Display for Greg Dandurand
7:30 PM–7:50 PM · Race Track · Display
Gregory Thomas

This memorial display pays tribute to Greg Dandurand, 2025 Western WinterBlast Convention Co-Chairman, a Longtime WPA Board member, and Safety Chair. Greg wore many hats in the club and will be missed on so many levels. Presenting this...

Skylighter Display
7:50 PM–8:10 PM · Race Track · Display
Skylighter

This Skylighter Display will feature a showcase of a selection of pyrotechnic devices that were manufactured at Western WinterBlast, exclusively with Skylighter products, by members in seminars that were sponsored by Skylighter. During...

Pyro Land Display
8:10 PM–8:30 PM · Race Track · Display
PyroLand Fireworks

Pyroland Fireworks, a musical display featuring a variety of shell types. Enjoy!

Fireworks America: Grand Public Display - Luminous: A Sky Reborn
8:30 PM–8:50 PM · Race Track · Display
Fireworks America, J. Scott Danielson

Luminous is a hauntingly gothic, music-driven fireworks experience that reimagines classical compositions through dramatic pacing and striking visual intensity. Bold colors and precise choreography immerse audiences in an emotional...

Afterglow
10:00 PM–11:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social
Lonny Ross

Wind down at the end of each day at the Afterglow, this year hosted by the Eagles who have a fantastic spot for us less than a mile from the Quality Inn at their Aerie. Food is available for purchase nightly at prices so low, you might...

Nightly RV Camping Social & After Party
10:00 PM–11:55 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social

Gather with your fellow Pyro Winter Blasters for an enchanting evening social and campfire at the Pyro Pavilion, nestled in the heart of RV camping. Immerse yourself in a lively celebration beneath the starlit sky, where the dazzling...

Western WinterBlast Auction
11:00 PM–12:00 AM · Eagles Aerie · Social
Kief Adler, DJ Dutra
Get ready for a night of excitement and giving at the Western WinterBlast fundraiser auction, happening on Saturday night at the Afterglow! From the moment you step into the room, you'll be surrounded by a buzz of anticipation and...

Sunday, February 15

Daily Site Cleanup BEG
8:00 AM–10:00 AM · Hospitality Tent · Social
About Daily Cleanup, Deposits, & Refunds: Want to get some money back and more? We all pay a $35 cleanup deposit as part of our event registration fee - including staff, board members, and sponsored guests. After everything is done and...

Welcome Orientation Meeting
9:00 AM–4:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Meeting
Michelle Joye, Dennis Miele
Registration is closed! Please contact: registration@westernpyro.org with your inquiries.

Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In) - On call, as needed
9:00 AM–12:00 PM · Sara Park · Registration
Dennis Miele, Michelle Joye
Secure your spot for the Western WinterBlast event hosted by the Western Pyrotechnic Association and get ready for an unforgettable experience! Check in, collect your badge, and immerse yourself in the world of pyrotechnics, where...

WPA General Business Meeting, Election & Awards
10:00 AM–12:00 PM · Bleachers · Meeting
Board of Directors
WPA General Business Meeting, Election & Awards. Please click here to view the meeting's agenda.

Members Showcase Deadline to Sign Up
12:00 PM–12:15 PM · Manufacturing · Shooting
The Members Showcase is a chance for our member manufacturers to show their week's work on dark skies with an eager audience. All entries must be member-made devices - not purchased. Typically we see fabulous displays of craftsmanship...

Members Showcase Deadline to Deliver Product
12:15 PM–12:30 PM · Sara Park · Shooting
The Members Showcase is chance for our member manufacturers to show their weeks work on dark skies with an eager audience. All entries must be member made devices - not purchased. Typically we see fabulous displays of craftsmanship and...

European Christmas Crackers BEG PPE
12:30 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 2 · Workshop
Jon Salzman
Christmas crackers are a holiday favorite novelty in the UK and Commonwealth countries. Christmas crackers were invented in the 1840s and have been a tradition since. I prefer to call them celebration crackers as these little devices...

After it Clicks BEG
1:00 PM–2:00 PM · Tent 1 · Seminar
Tom Calderwood
Learn how to further process pictures using the techniques covered in the "Pyrotography" class. We will be using Lightroom, and some knowledge of that application will be helpful. We will only deal with Lightroom superficially for the...

Class C Vending (may close during the PIT show & Members Showcase)
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Class-C Tent · Vendor
Class-C Fireworks are now available! Swing by our vending area to add excitement to your celebrations with our top-quality fireworks. Enjoy them safely and light up your event with a bang!

Cremora Fireballs BEG PPE 18+
1:00 PM–3:00 PM · Race Track · Workshop
Bill Stevenson, Violet Stevenson
Learn how to create a giant fireball using little more than a bucket, some black powder, and coffee creamer. Participants can assist with building Cremora devices for the Sunday PIT Crew Display. Meet on the race track.

Trade Show
1:00 PM–10:00 PM · Sara Park · Vendor
Explore the bustling trade show at Western WinterBlast, where vendors from across the pyrotechnic industry showcase their latest products and innovations. Make sure to visit each booth for a hands-on experience with cutting-edge...

Meet the CA State Fire Marshall
2:30 PM–3:30 PM · Tent 1 · Social
Vijay Mepani, Caleb Phillips
Meet the CA State Fire Marshall and get answers to your questions about licensing and other areas surrounding their mission.

Rolled & Color Changing Stars 18+
2:30 PM–4:00 PM · Tent 2 · Demonstration
Ellen Webb
In this demonstration and discussion techniques for starting and rolling stars will be covered. Some attendees will get a chance to try their hand at starting stars core using the pan method. Once the cores are formed they are enlarged...

Class B Safety Class (How to safely fire your shells) BEG PPE 18+
5:00 PM–6:00 PM · Safety Tent · Safety
Darrell Fiss
To light your product on the B-line you need a sticker on your badge. That sticker tells the line Safety that you are qualified to light your product. Attend this quick seminar and learn how to safely conduct yourself out on the B-line....

PIT Face Painting + Glow Dancing + Pizza Party
5:30 PM–7:00 PM · PIT Tent · PIT Crew
Acacia Tanner, Katie Gromlovits
After a big day of setup, the PIT Crew will enjoy a tasty pizza dinner and have the opportunity to have their face painted and to practice glow dancing before the big display.

Open Shooting (No salutes after 9:30PM! Lines closed during Public Display) PPE
6:00 PM–10:30 PM · Firing Lines · Shooting
The skies are set to dazzle at the open shooting event—grab your fireworks and revel in the spectacle! Mind the curfew: no loud salutes past 9:30 PM. Enjoy responsibly and have a blast!

Closing Party | RV Camping Social & After Party
9:00 PM–11:55 PM · Pyro Pavilion · Social
Gather with your fellow Pyro Winter Blasters for an enchanting evening social and campfire at the Pyro Pavilion, nestled in the heart of RV camping. Immerse yourself in a lively celebration beneath the starlit sky, where the dazzling...

Afterglow
10:00 PM–11:00 PM · Eagles Aerie · Social
Lonny Ross
Wind down at the end of each day at the Afterglow, this year hosted by the Eagles who have a fantastic spot for us less than a mile from the Quality Inn at their Aerie. Food is available for purchase nightly at prices so low, you might...

Monday, February 16

Daily Site Cleanup BEG
8:00 AM–4:00 PM · Hospitality Tent · Social
About Daily Cleanup, Deposits, & Refunds: Want to get some money back and more? We all pay a $35 cleanup deposit as part of our event registration fee - including staff, board members, and sponsored guests. After everything is done and...

Tear down and clean up at SARA
9:00 AM–2:00 PM · Sara Park · Social
Volunteer to help with clean up and get some or all of your clean up deposit refunded.

Presenters

Jim Acker
Transitioning from Hand Firing to Electric Firing

Kief Adler
Western WinterBlast Auction

Fireworks America
Free BBQ @ Fireworks America campsite · Fireworks America: Grand Public Display -...

Rich Bader
Memorial Display for Jackie Whedbee Mattingly - Pyro Musical

Noye Balmer III
Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 1) · Black Powder Chemistry and...

Matthew Bergondo
CPR/AED & First Aid Certification

Tom BetGeorge
Introduction to Pixel Displays · Intro to Multi-Modal Displays

Friends of Bill
Open AA Meeting

Board of Directors
WPA General Business Meeting, Election & Awards

Tom Calderwood
Pyrophile Brothers · Pyrotography · After it Clicks

Leo and Silas Covarrubias
Black Powder Rockets - Part 1: Lecture · Black Powder Rockets - Part 2: Workshop · PIT...

J. Scott Danielson
Fireworks America: Grand Public Display - Luminous: A Sky Reborn

Mark Devon
Pyrophile Brothers

DJ Dutra
Western WinterBlast Auction

Farns Farnsworth
PIT Introduction to Class C Fireworks and PyroCrate Scavenger Hunt · PyroCrate Fireworks

PyroCrate Fireworks
PyroCrate Fireworks

Precision Fireworks, LLC / Precision Drones, Inc.
Precision Fireworks Display

PyroLand Fireworks
Pyro Land Display

Darrell Fiss
Safety Training (How to be a Safety Volunteer) · Class B Safety Class (How to safely...

Ron Fuchs
Jackie Whedby-Mattingly Memorial Set Piece Construction · Shooting Displays From...

Mike Garrett
Burst: Black Powder Coated Rice Hulls · Skylighter Comets

Zachary Gilbert
Intro to Cobra Firing Systems · Cobra Ignite

Katie Gromlovits
Fire Dancing · PIT Face Painting + Glow Dancing + Pizza Party

Invention Incarnate
Pull Cord Igniters (Group 1) · Reloadable White Screening Smoke Canister · Reloadable...

The Jackalopes
Jackalopian Pinwheels for Adults · PIT Jackalopian Pinwheels For Kids

Michelle Joye
Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In) · Welcome Orientation...

Lynden King
Jackie Whedby-Mattingly Memorial Set Piece Construction · PIT Crew Set Piece Construction

Josh Lazarus
PGI Shooter Certification Course · How to Become a PGI Trainer

Kurt Medlin
Black Powder Rockets - Part 1: Lecture · Black Powder Rockets - Part 2: Workshop

Vijay Mepani
Meet the CA State Fire Marshall

Dennis Miele
Western WinterBlast Registration (Pre-Registered & Walk-In) · New Member Orientation ·...

Matthew Nubbe
Skylighter Screen Sliced Stars · WASP Orientation · Skylighter 3" Ball Shells (Group...

Gina Papini
Mines for Beginners

Tom Perigrin
Fireworks: The First Milliseconds at the Molecular Level

Caleb Phillips
Meet the CA State Fire Marshall

Tom and Eunice Pingenot
PIT Giant Soap Bubbles

Peggy Purner
PIT Hand Fountains

David Rippe
Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 1) · Black Powder Chemistry and...

Lonny Ross
Afterglow

Jon Salzman
European Christmas Crackers

Terrie Schweitzer
PIT Giant Soap Bubbles

Will Scott
PGI Shooter Certification Course

Lake Havasu Sea Scouts
Pancake Breakfast

Pyro Spectaculars
Pyro Spectaculars - a Sky Concert!

Chris Spurrell
Pyrophile Brothers

John Steinberg MD
PGI Shooter Certification Course · Black Powder Rockets - Part 1: Lecture · Black...

Bill Stevenson
5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 1, Lecture · 5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2,...

Violet Stevenson
5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 1, Lecture · 5" Ball Shell Construction - Part 2,...

Skylighter
Skylighter Display

Daniel Suttkus
PGI Shooter Certification Course · PGI Introduction to Professional Use Only (AP)

David Tanner
Skylighter Comets · Walking Tour of Manufacturing

Acacia Tanner
PIT Tie-Dye T-Shirts · PIT Cereal Ball Shells · PIT Face Painting + Glow Dancing + Pizza Party

Garrett Tershel
PIT Skylighter Turbo Pyro · PIT Inventory and Choreography Discussion · PIT...

Aurora Tershel
PIT Skylighter Turbo Pyro · PIT Inventory and Choreography Discussion · 5" Ball Shell...

Gregory Thomas
Jackie Whedby-Mattingly Memorial Set Piece Construction · Shooting Displays From...

Michael Tockstein
Building the Boom - A Day in the Life of Crafting A Sky Bound Spectacle

Jesse Veverka
Passfire: Supercharged

Ellen Webb
6" Double Petal Ball Shell Contruction (Group 1) · 6" Double Petal Ball Shell...

Kerry Welty
Shooting Displays From Trailer-Mounted Racks

Ocean Williams
Black Powder Chemistry and Techniques (Group 1) · Black Powder Chemistry and...

Jesse Williams
Precision Fireworks Display

Stephen Yoss, Jr
Public Display Operator Roundtable: Tips, Tools, and Best Practices