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The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

October 2015

Meetings

Multnomah County ARES

Every 4th Thursday

7:00 P.M.

Portland Fire & Rescue CTR

4800 NE 122nd Avenue, Portland

<http://www.multnomahares.org/>

PARC Meeting

Every 4th Friday

7:30 P.M.

One Liberty Center

650 NE Holladay Street, Portland

<http://www.w7lt.org/>

HARC Meeting

Every 3rd Thursday

Mount Hood Comm. College

Room 1001

<http://www.wb7qiw.org/>

Nets

Multnomah Co. ARES Net

Wednesdays at 7:00 P.M.

146.84 (no Tone)

District 1 ARES Net

Daily at 7:30 P.M.

147.320 (PL Tone 100.0)

Northwest Oregon Traffic

and Training Net

Daily 6:05 P.M.

145.27, 145.43, 145.47, 146.84,

443.150 & 442.275

(All have a PL tone of 107.2)



Trailer Interior Build Progress

Upcoming Events

Oct. 22 ARES General Meeting

The National Weather Service Portland Office will conduct Weather Spotter Training for us.

Nov. 19 ARES General Meeting

(Note: this is the THIRD Thursday due to the Thanksgiving Holiday) HF Party. We will have several HF stations set up around the county. Pick the one nearest to you and do some hands-on HF operating. Don't have a General license? No worries, there will be a licensed control operator there to get you on the HF airwaves.

NO DECEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The leadership team will have its annual all-day planning meeting to prepare for 2016 training and operations.

Trailer Project Update

The trailer build has really kicked into gear. Our thanks to Will KG7LPW for all his hard work in building the cabinetry. John KF7ZWX has done an amazing job installing all the electrical. Both of these men have transformed this trailer into a work of art that we can all be proud of.

The equipment grant has arrived from the state to the county and Adam KF7LJH has been very busy fine tuning the purchase list. We hope to have a completion/show and tell party early 2016. We will also begin the process



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of training operations around that time.

There is still much to do. Thanks to all our members for their support in turning this dream into a reality. The trailer is such a great asset for our mobile communications, training, public service and promoting ham radio.

73,

The Trailer Project Team

Nate, Adam, Deb, Robert and Brian



John KF7ZWX installing Electrical

Summer Wrap Up By Eli W7ELI

It has been a very busy summer! Lots of opportunities to practice your skills. Every event is a training event. MCARES members participated in the Rose Festival

Grand Floral Parade, Field Day, Oregon International Airshow, HF Radio Campout, Race for the Cure, Portland Marathon, Quake Ex II, and we will wind it all up with the Disaster Relief Trials (DRT) this Saturday. Whew! Did any of our members work the Providence Bridge Pedal? If so, or if you worked any other communications event, please let me know at eliza.pride@gmail.com

I hope you all also had some fun away from the radios this summer.

In preparation for the fall and winter stormy season, our October 22 meeting training will be SKYWARN Weather Spotter. See you there!

Equipment for Sale

Equipment for Sale All in excellent functional condition.

Icom 7000 with Microphone and remote connect kit: \$ 800.00

Icom 7100 with microphone \$1,000.00

IT-100 Automatic Antenna Tuner \$100.00

Buddipole with 10mtr Beam upgrade \$250.00

Astron 30 Amp Hour Switching Power Supply \$75.00

Buyer pays freight on all items.

Payment requires cashier check. No personal checks or credit cards accepted.

Will not accept less than the asking price plus freight for any item.

Please contact me at 602-614-8363 or by email at charles.t.dennis@outlook.com

Chuck Dennis WA5ZTD in Hillsboro OR

Of course anyone in the Portland Oregon area I could deliver or it could be picked up at a mutually agreed location so there would not be any freight.

Membership News By Deb KK7DEB

Welcome to our newest members Eric KG7GCQ and Matthew K7MWS.

Thank you to all who have filled out the Member Survey and John K7TY for putting it together. New this year all who fill it out can view all the replies. There is still time to reply if you have not had a chance yet. This information will help the leadership team plan for the future and prepare the 2016 training schedule.

Oregon Food Bank A MCARES Served Agency By Steve hall W7SRH

The primary mission of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services unit is to ensure that qualified amateur radio operators (ARO) are ready to provide communications support to organizations (served agencies) that have requested these services in times of emergency.



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Currently, MCARES supports six “served agencies”. They include Multnomah County Emergency Coordination Center, Portland Bureau of Emergency Management, Oregon Food Bank, Portland Red Cross, Lewis and Clark College, and Gresham / East County Emergency Coordination Center. MCARES also works closely with the Portland Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) program.

Each of these organizations is supported by a group of MCARES members who have committed to staff emergency ham radio operations during times of emergency. Members are trained on the radio equipment at their respective served agency sites. Members are also encouraged to cross-train at as many other served agency sites as practical. This enhances MCARES members’ ability to respond in case they are needed at locations other than their “home” served agency. In August we featured Lewis and Clark College.

This month we learn about the Oregon Food Bank.

According to the OFB web site, “Oregon Food Bank helps nearly one in five households fend off hunger by distributing food from a variety of sources through a statewide network that includes its four branches (in Beaverton, Ontario, Portland and Tillamook), 17 independent regional food banks and approximately 960 partner agencies. These local programs provide food directly to people who are hungry in the form of emergency food boxes, which provide a 3-5 day supply of groceries, hot prepared meals, or supplemental food

parcels. The Oregon Food Bank Network serves an average of 900,000 people a year. Last year, Oregon Food Bank distributed 44.2-million pounds of food to hunger-relief agencies”.

Visit the OFB web site at oregonfoodbank.org for more information.

The following is a Q and A with the MCARES Oregon Food Bank Team Leader Kiri K7KAH

Q. Where is the OFB located?

A. We are stationed at the OFB HQ on NE 33rd in PDX, a couple miles from the airport. There are additional OFB locations in Washington Co, Tillamook, and Ontario with radio equipment.

Q. How long has the OFB been a served agency of MCARES?

A. I believe we fired up in late 2013. Adam KF7LJH was originally the team lead. I joined as team lead when Adam moved into current position in mid-January 2014. Essentially 2 years.

Q. How will MCARES Served Agency Team support the OFB during an emergency?

A. Provide backup communications between OFB sites, and OEM and other agencies if there is a grid-down situation, or landlines are clogged. I envision most of the traffic will be passed relating to movement of food stuffs around the state between OFB sites. OFB operates in emergency situation under the national response framework. So whatever they are mandated to do under the emergency support function we would be helping passing traffic.

Q. Who are the OFB Team members?

A. Kiri - K7KAH, Chris - KE7OSH and John - KF7ZWX

Q. How long have you been Team Leader?

A. Since Jan, 2014.

Q. What kinds of Ham equipment do you operate at OFB?

A. Each OFB site has a portable set that was put together by Garrett AF7RF and Dean (OFB liaison).

UHF/VHF: Yaesu 8900

HF: Yaesu FT897-D

Commercial: 800 MHZ for county communications (Emergency use only)

Antennas: horizontal dipole for HF, I don't know the brand of VHF antenna.

We have headsets, no desk mics, just the mics that come with the radios.

No TNC.

Q. Do you have Winlink/Winmor capabilities?

A. Not yet.

Q. What are some of your operating challenges?

A. We are at a low point in the city, so sometimes getting to places over the hills on simplex can be a challenge. We also have challenges reaching our Ontario and Tillamook stations on HF when the propagation is bad. They are getting ready to install a massive generator at our



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location. We will have to see if that introduces any interference to our operations. When they test the generator out we will need to fire up the station, so that's on the to-do list.

LEADERSHIP@multnomahares.org for technical and operational issues
TRAILER@multnomahares.org to offer your services and donations to

Q. Has the Team done separate training apart from regular MCARES drills?

A. I try to meet with Dean on a monthly basis to test the radios. We have done HF calls to Ontario a few times. Eventually we'll want to get tests out to all the stations, if possible on a monthly basis. And get the rest of the MCARES team and OFB hams in on these meetings when possible. Our next big challenge is testing the Washington Co. location which has not been operated at all - hopefully some time in November.

Q. Are there other facts or statistics that you feel may be of interest to the general MCARES membership?

A. We need more people on our team, so if you are not on a team yet and you live in NE and you're interested in food safety, movement, and volunteering with a great organization for a great organization, let us know!

This space is for you. Please submit a short article, your own Featured Member Profile Story, ads for items to sell or trade, or pictures of anything radio or ARES-related.

Email to:
newsletter@multnomahares.org
Thanks!

More Ways to Stay in Touch

NET net Mondays 8:00 P.M.
147.040 Mhz (Note: This is a time and frequency change)

Email Focus Groups:

NEWHAM@multnomahares.org
For questions from new or prospective members