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The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

May, 2019

Meetings

Multnomah County ARES

Every 4th Thursday
7:00 P.M.

Informal Q&A begins 6:15
Portland Fire & Rescue CTR
4800 NE 122nd Avenue, Portland
<http://www.multnomahares.org/>

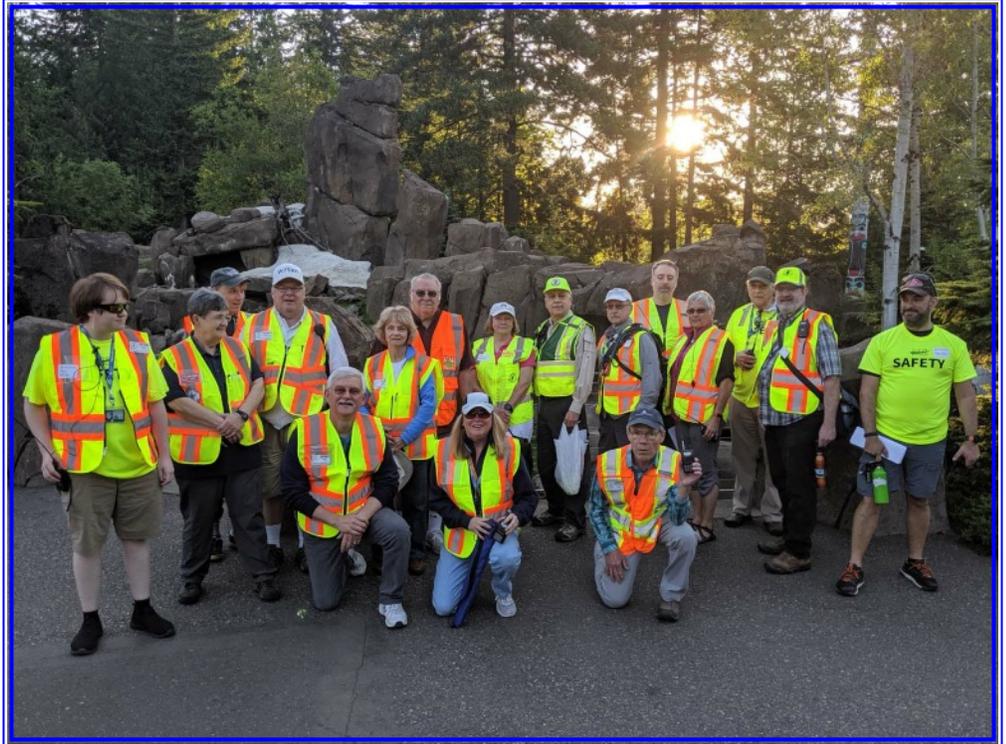
PARC Meeting

Every 2nd Monday
7:30 P.M.

4415 NE 87th Ave., Portland
<http://www.w7lt.org/>

HARC Meeting

Every 3rd Thursday
Mount Hood Comm. College
Room 1001
<http://www.wb7qiw.org/>



WALK MS 2019

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)

Digital Modes Training Net
1st Tuesday at 8:00 P.M.
440.400 (PL Tone 123.0)

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 19—Cars for a Cause

Thursday, May 23: General Meeting. Subject is Field Operations in preparation of Field Day.

Saturday, May 25: 9:00 a.m. To Noon: Cable Workshop. Power poles, types of coax, connectors. Contact John KI7LYP at leadership@multnomahares.org to register.

Saturday and Sunday, June 1-2-
Sea-Pac

Saturday and Sunday, June 22-23-
Field Day

Friday-Sunday, September 13-15:
MCARES Annual HF Campout:
Pine Point Campground

News from Around the County
By Deb KK7DEB

Thanks to all our members for a great turnout for the Spring Statewide ARES SET! We are working on correcting the technical issues we had for the SET but overall we did receive a good number of Damage Assessment forms via Winlink



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and the portable digipeater really helped with the process. Ralph AF7FE and the Alpha team had their hands full at the County EOC. They were able to complete all the state required tasks. Way to Go Alpha Team! We had an amazing 48 simplex net checkins on Friday and 36 operators on Saturday.

The Walk MS was held at the Oregon Zoo this year and was quite a change from the past. Brian KE7QPV did an amazing job organizing and adjusting to the new needs of the event organizers. There were over 2000 walkers this year and our 23 ARES operators were flawless in keeping the flow of communications on track and providing eyes and ears for safety for the walkers. The Walk MS organizers expressed a deep appreciation for the service that we provided. Note: The page one group photo was taken after some of our "Shadow" operators were dispatched so Carrie, Rochelle and Matthew are not in the photo. Also missing is sweep operator Robert, and net control Neil. Adam, our Communications Leader, was the photographer. Great job everyone!

Now we look forward to SeaPac on May 31st and June 1st where the MCARES trailer will be on Display. Please let leadership know if you would like to sign up for a shift at the outreach table next to the trailer.

June 22nd and 23rd is Field Day at Willamette Park. We hope you will be visiting and operating with us this summer. More details will be coming soon along with an opportunity to sign up to work a station or bring a dish to the Saturday pot luck.

Membership News By Deb KK7DEB

Join me in welcoming our newest members. Kim K7IMA will join the Delta Team and Dave KI7WXX has joined the Charlie team. This brings our active member count to 108. I recently saw the official State ARES roster and Multnomah County ARES continues to have the largest membership in the state!

Training News By Eli W7ELI

Fifteen members have completed the IS-800 class and sent in their certificates. Thank you!

Here is the link to the class: <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-800.c>

We hope to have all active members complete this class by Halloween.

Weekly Net News By Deb KK7DEB

The changes to the weekly Wednesday night net have gone well so far.. Checkins are now by team instead of by callsign suffix. This encourages members to learn to recognize their team members. Also training gems, traffic and announcements are before checkins, so please try to tune in on time at 7:00 p.m.

How I Run an Efficient Simplex Net By Eli W7ELI

Our goal in all we do as ARES volunteers is to get the job done as accurately and efficiently as possible. A simplex net that covers a large geographical area is a particular challenge. Our monthly second Wednesday simplex net gives us the chance for net control and other net members to learn how to keep it simple and quick.

After a brief preamble, net control calls for checkins by team. As net control, after acknowledging the stations I hear, I ask the station with the strongest signal for any callsigns he has heard that I didn't recognize. After acknowledging those stations, I then ask the relay station to call for any other team members who have not checked in or been recognized to try again. Before moving on to the next team I make one more call for any station to relay in any other stations they may have heard that I have not recognized.

All net members should copy all stations they hear and mark each callsign when it is recognized by net control. Not only is this good practice for when it's your turn to be net control, it also means you will be ready if you are the station net control asks for relays. By marking callsigns when they are recognized, you won't be relaying in stations already checked in and you will be able to relay in for that last call for any missed stations.



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One key to keeping it efficient is for net members to NOT try to relay each scratchy station as it comes in. Be patient and wait until net control asks for relays. I have heard helpful-minded stations offer relays before being asked and this can be confusing to net control and cause undue delays. Remember that what may be very difficult for you to hear may be perfectly clear to net control and that net control will ask for relays. Wait for that ask. Another key is for net control not to agonize over each scratchy signal. Just recognize the clear ones first and then ask for relays. That's what the relay stations are for.

This is a different procedure than the weekly net on the MC-1 repeater. There net control can ask a station with a poor signal to make adjustments and try again. If the signal is still not readable, net control can ask other stations to listen on the reverse and then ask the scratchy station to try once more. Then if someone did pick it up on reverse, they can offer the relay. Relays are not held to the end of each team's checkins.

One last note: If you try to tune into the simplex net and cannot hear net control intelligibly or at all, don't give up. Wait until you hear someone ask for your team's relays. If you are on Delta, Echo or Mike teams, you will be waiting longer than those on the Alpha or Bravo teams. And of course Charlie Team is right there in the middle and often has the most relays thanks to those west hills.

Additional Nets

District 1 ARES Net:

Daily at 7:10 P.M.
147.320 Mhz and 147.04
Both with PL Tone 100

NTTN:

Daily at 6:05 P.M.
145.27, 145.43, 145.47
146.80, 442.875, & 107.2

Portland NET Net:

Sunday 8:00 P.M.
147.040 PL tone 100.00

More MS Walk Photos



2019 MS WALK-2



2019 MS WALK-3



2019 MS WALK-4



2019 MS WALK-5