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The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

April 2017

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)

Digital Modes Training Net

First Tuesday 8:00 P.M.
443.300 Mhz (PL Tone 100.0)

MCARES Traffic Training Net

Second and fourth Tuesdays
8:00 P.M. 147.180 (PL tone
103.5)
Net Manager: Eli W7ELI



Walk MS 2017 Trailer Team

Upcoming Events

Thursday, April 27: General Meeting. Traffic Handling Practice

Saturday, April 29: RMS Packet certification. Contact Brian KE7QPV@arrl.net

Thursday, May 4: ARRO Basics Workshop 18:30-21:00. Preregister with Eli at eliza.pride@gmail.com

Saturday, May 13: Delta-Charlie Team Drill

Thursday, May 18: ARRO Traffic Workshop 18:30-21:00. Preregister with Eli at eliza.pride@gmail.com

Saturday, May 20: "HF-101" Workshop on Sat May 20th. At the

MCARES trailer at Gresham City Hall. Register with Robert at RGAnglin@gmail.com

Friday - Sunday, June 3-5: Sea-Pac Ham Fest. MCARES Trailer will be there

Saturday - Sunday, June 24-25: Field Day. PARC at Kelly Butte. HARC at Larch Mountain

Friday - Sunday, July 28-30: HF CampOut at Aquila Vista in the Molalla River Recreation Area. See article below

News from Around The County By: Deb KK7DEB

What a beautiful Spring day we had for the 2017 Walk MS. Thanks to all who participated for another successful Walk MS public service



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event. The event organizers really appreciate our eyes and ears along the course to keep everyone safe. Multnomah County ARES thanks you too for keeping your radio skills sharp.

This year Tom Mynes from ABJ Drones was able to demonstrate the benefits of streaming live video to the ARES trailer from the drone flying above the Willamette River (see photo on page 4). We hope to add this video and pictures to the ARES website soon. As you can imagine, this has sparked a renewed interest in having an ARES drone. Adam has his thinking cap on to figure a way to raise funds.

We did have several visitors at the trailer and all were very impressed with the live APRS tracking map on one large screen and live drone video on the other. Several ARES members stopped by for their first peek at the trailer.

The Antenna Build Workshop on March 25 was a booming success! We built 30 ladder-line J-pole antennas in under three hours and each participant took one home. It's great to know that many of our members now have a workable portable 2-meter antenna to add to their go-kits. Thanks to those who offered their technical skill and expertise to make this fun event successful.

The SeaPac organizers have approved our request, so the trailer will be on display again this year. We are looking forward to showing the completed project this time and hopefully we can rustle up a few new members with our

promotional materials. Contact Steve W7SRH if you would like to join the outreach team hallstr@hotmail.com.

Robert has been in touch with the BLM folks about reserving Aquila Vista for our yearly HF Campout on July 28th and 29th. Aquila Vista is available for overnight group camping. The site is located in the heart of the forest next to a large beaver pond. There is plenty of hiking and natural beauty to be seen at Aquila Vista including a small water fall. Amenities include restrooms, a group picnic shelter with multiple picnic tables and a metal fire ring. There is no running water at Aquila Vista, ensure that you bring plenty of drinking, cooking and sanitation water. There is no firewood at the site or firewood collection allowed, please bring your own firewood if you wish to have a fire. The campsite is nestled next to a large beaver pond so there can be mosquitoes in the summer, don't forget bug repellent. Dust off your tent and sleeping bag and join in on the fun. Contact Robert WX5TEX for more information and reservations:

Robert6594j@gmail.com
For more on Aquila Vista, go to the BLM website.
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/50169152@N06/32517063363>

Membership News By Deb KK7DEB

Welcome to our newest member Ralph AG7FE. Ralph will join the Alpha team. A big congratulations to Leslie KG7VGL and Pete KG7MRZ who were recently married! Steve W7SRH tells us his wife, Elaine, recently passed the technician test and is now KI7LAF.

Training News By Eli W7ELI

If you are or would like to be working on getting your HF, RMS Packet or Net Control certifications, please email me at eliza.pride@gmail.com. I'll will get you hooked up with the appropriate trainers.

The Basics and Traffic Workshops in May are for those members who are not yet ARRO certified. If you have not already registered, please email me at eliza.pride@gmail.com

The Amateur Radio Public Service Handbook is now available at Multnomah County Library. If you have a library card, you can go on-line and place a hold on it at: www.multcolib.org

General License Classes

Hoodview Amateur Radio Club provides structured classes so that it becomes easy for you to pass your General class exam. We have had great success in helping students with the Technician material and now we are starting a General class. General classes will start on May 6th and will continue on May 13th, testing on May 18th at Mt. Hood Community College's Fisheries building. Classes are from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. We will have a VE session on the last day at 9:00 AM. Classes are free, but the book is \$22 and the VE test is \$15. Textbook: "Ham Radio School" by Stu Turner (available online, be sure to get the General book) A limited number of books are available from Cory, call 503-781-9095 to get your book prior to class. To register call Cory or email: ka7iug@rontier.com.



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Featured Member Profile Coming Out and Coming Home By Emily N7EMH

I was originally licensed in Cleveland, Ohio in the early 1970's as WN8QEB. With a Heathkit HW-101, homebrew antenna and a dipole in the attic crawl space 8 feet above me, I managed to make some contacts. After moving to Boston I charged through the license class tests up to Extra, and the call signs evolved with me, ending in K1XJ. Sing that one in Morse code if you want to get your feet tapping.

I got into the hobby because I was deep into depression, not nearly ready to come out as a transgender woman, and amateur radio was a way to get myself out into the world, and outside myself. I soon volunteered for public service, mostly ad hoc; work on parades, charity walk events or going out with fire fighters who were pumping water out of cellars in late winter. I had little training; mostly I watched what others did and tried to use my common sense.

One year for the Boston Pops July 4th concert, a family not far from me expressed alarm as some nearby youth set off small strings of firecrackers. I called in the situation to net control hoping a police officer might come over and mediate.

The Esplanade was extremely crowded. Even the walkways, which were supposed to remain open, were filled with people sitting on blankets hoping to be near the orchestra. Another ham near them began ordering the youth to stop. I called net

control to report what was happening.

No police officers showed up; there were medical emergencies to take care of and the crowd was enormous and tightly packed. I then went over, empathized with the complaining family and asked the youth to wait until they went home before setting off any more firecrackers. The fireworks stopped, but it could have been because they just ran out of things to light off for all I know.

The other ham and I were both acting on our own instincts. Although I think I did the right thing at first in just reporting to net control, I believe I still went beyond my role in playing mediator, as the other ham did in playing cop, in essence. We both did the best we could with what we knew.

When I did come out, my life got very complicated. I lost paid work, had heavy health care expenses out of pocket, and a lot of people didn't know how to react to transgender women. I forgot to renew my license in the confusion.

I got my license back in 2016 for the express purpose of participating in emergency preparations for my cohousing community, neighborhood, city and state. I studied by myself using the ARRL's license manual and online practice tests, and the Portland Amateur Radio club made it easy to take the test.

I wasn't sure how people would react to me, but I've been very

blessed. The most delicious story was when I went to Ham Radio Outlet to purchase my HT. I walked in the store to see every person behind the counters busy with other customers. I slowly wandered along the counter, when a gentleman appeared from the back, tall and with a shock of white hair. "How can I help you, young lady?" he said. I hope all hams get what that meant to me. He properly gendered me as a woman at first sight; that made my heart sing by itself. But in the ham radio world YL, young lady, was a signal that he accepted me as part of the amateur radio hobby, one of the gang. That's happened to me a couple of times since, and it is one of those small things that for me has made my life easier. Not everyone out there in the world is friendly to transgender women, and not every place is safe. To come back home to this hobby I love with that kind of greeting is wonderful. I've had the privilege this time around of participating in classes held by Multnomah County ARES, and by the online nets, including the MCARES Tuesday traffic handling and digital modes training nets, and the Northwest Oregon Traffic and Training Net nightly sessions. I've had wonderful mentors and dedicated hams to learn from and feel grateful for all the time others have put in so that hams like myself can get up to speed, and learn the important protocols.

This is a big improvement from the first time around when I jumped into some situations with so little training or practice. I feel much more confident and ready to serve when the real disaster happens. To have a



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structure and solid group of mentors is, I think, an important part of making us a true resource for our communities. I hope to spend many happy hours volunteering with the good-hearted hams of the greater Portland area. Thank you.

Photos of Interest to *Connected* readers

Other Nets

District 1 ARES Net

Daily at 7:30 P.M.

147.320 MHz (PL Tone 100.0) and
147.040 MHz (PL Tone 100) MC
6

NTN

Daily 6:05 P.M.

145.27, 145.43, 145.47, 146.80,
442.875 & 442.275 All with PL
Tone of 107.2

Portland NET Net

Sunday 8:00 P.M.

147.040 MHz (PL Tone 100)

