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The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

July 2016

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, 146.80,
442.875 & 442.275
(All have a PL tone of 107.2)

Upcoming Events

July 28 General Meeting:

Go Kit Show and Tell at Sellwood Park

Aug. 14 Providence Bridge Pedal:

Contact Jim Schaeffer 503-504-0272

Aug. 5-7 Hillsboro Air Show:

Contact Cathy Amerson
Catherine.Amerson@hillsboro-oregon.gov or 503-681-5266

Sep. 23-25 MCARES HF

Campout: Contact Robert
robert6594j@gmail.com

News from Around The County By: Deb KK7DEB

July ARES meeting location Change! The Thursday July 28th meeting will be at Sellwood Park at picnic area I (India). Our annual Go-Kit Show and Tell will include a BBQ. Nate will be grilling burgers and Deb will serve chili dogs. YUM! Water and soda will also be provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

The ARES trailer will be on display for those who have not yet seen our awesome new Mobile Communications Unit. Adam will be telling you about all of its amazing features.

Bring your family and/or friends who are interested in ham radio to feast and see all the innovative go-



June ARES Meeting

kits that our members have put together. If you don't have a go-kit yet you will be inspired to build one!

Annual HF camp out date set! Mark your calendars for September 23 and 24 and join us at Fort Stevens for our 2nd Annual HF camp out. This year we will be operating as a National Park On The Air (NPOTA) station to help celebrate the 100th anniversary of our National Parks. This will be a great event to learn more about HF operations and have some fun and fellowship with other members. Robert WX5TEX is taking reservations for those who would like to get their HF certification, give him a shout at: robert6594j@gmail.com

We have reserved several campsites so if you plan to attend let Robert know so we can make sure there is room for all. Last year's spaghetti and meatball dinner was a real hit so there could be an encore performance if Marino KG7EMV will bring his favorite Italian pasta.



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Congratulations to John Core KX7YK, who is the new ARRL Oregon Section Manager. He replaces retiring Everett Curry W6ABM.

Sadly, we received word that Race for the Cure will no longer be using amateur radio for their communications. I personally will miss this yearly event. I have worked this event every year since I first got my Technician license in 2005.

Membership News
By: Deb Provo KK7DEB

Please join me in welcoming our newest members, Sean K2CRW, Phyllis W6STZ, Mark KI7FJA, Emily N7EMH, and Ernie KI7EFT

Our recruiting efforts are paying off. We have gained 28 new members since January. Thanks to everyone spreading the word.

Field Day 2016
by Adam KF7LJH

Again this year McARES joined the Portland Amateur Radio Club (PARC) on Kelly Butte for ARRL Field Day. Field Day is an annual amateur radio event, encouraging emergency communications operations and contesting among amateur radio operators. It is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country, with over 30,000 operators participating each year.

It's also about outreach and education, letting new hams experience HF contesting and demonstrating ham radio to the



Field Day 2016

public. But mostly, it's a fun chance to camp out and play with radios for 24 hours.

Since the new McARES trailer was going to participate again, Deb KK7EB and John KF7WZX did some tree pruning near its traditional parking spot early in the week. Then Pete W7PR spearheaded cleaning the operating area and hanging the dipole antenna support ropes in the trees on Friday.

As always, Pete's use of the pneumatic tennis ball launcher system was a big attraction.

Antenna hanging started early Saturday morning. Pete is so experienced with hanging these antennas over the years his team did short work of it. The station in the trailer used the venerable, 25+ year

old extended zepp 192ft twinlead-dipole again this year, which is cut a little longer than a half wave dipole on 75m to increase its directionality. Lee's CW station used his 20m ZL Special, which is a pair of phased folded dipoles made of 450ohm twinlead set up with directional gain pointing east. In the evenings it's reconfigured with radials as a top loaded vertical to operate on 80m and 40m. Pete also hoisted an Alpha Delta DC-CC up about 75', which is a commercial 10-80m 82' dipole.

Deb arrived early with the trailer and had it set up in no time. Its propane fueled generator powered everything in the camp except the radios for 24 hours without a hitch, including battery recharging duty.

The trailer also furnished area wifi for all the logging stations used by



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the radio operators. PARC has been using the Field Day edition of a contesting software package called AC Log for years, and it has excellent multi-operator network capabilities. But the wifi couldn't reach even one station, so Brian KE7QPV configured one of his mesh nodes as a repeater. You could get a signal in Salem with his outdoor, high-gain antenna.

Brian also brought his amazing HSMM Mesh display and did a bunch of experimenting over the evening with all his different hardware configurations. Deb brought the new MCARES solar generator display which was very popular and a big draw with the visitors. Nathan N9VCU grilled up a storm during the day and the evening potluck was delicious!

With three stations operating over 24 hours, over 300 contacts were made covering 45 states by 21 operators. Over 70 visitors came by and signed the log, a jump from last year. Amazingly, Adam KF7LJH wasn't told mysterious secrets by a coyote in his tent this year (the story gets exaggerated with each telling).

If you couldn't make it this year, definitely put it on your calendar for next year – it's the most fun you'll have with ham radio short of a DX expedition!

See the adjacent screenshot of the cool worked-states map.

More Ways to Stay in Touch

NET Net: Sundays 8:00 P.M. 147.040 Mhz, PL 100.0 (Note: This is a time and frequency change)

Email Focus Groups:

For questions from new or prospective Members:

NEWHAM@multnomahhares.org

For technical and operational issues LEADERSHIP@multnomahhares.org

To offer your services and donations for the trailer project:

For Sale

Yaesu FT-857D mobile all-band, all-mode radio, in great condition. No modifications except for Anderson power pole connections added -\$675

Also, Gator 3U rack bag, model GR-RACKBAG-3U Soft sided with rigid internal frame, perfect for radio go-kit. Never used -\$100.

Contact Robert at: robert6594j@gmail.com or 503-747-8696

