



# Connected



The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

February, 2015

## Meetings

Multnomah County ARES

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday

7:00 P.M.

Portland Fire & Rescue CTR

4800 NE 122<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Portland

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

PARC Meeting

Every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday

7:30 P.M.

One Liberty Center

650 NE Holladay Street, Portland

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

HARC Meeting

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

Mount Hood Comm. College

Room 1001

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



7' X 14' Continental Cargo trailer we purchased to become the ARES Communications trailer

## 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)

## Upcoming Events

**Feb. 26, 7:00 P.M. Informal meet and greet** starts at 6:30. Hands on the served agency radios.

**Apr. 11-12: Communications Academy.** Two days of training and information on various aspects of emergency communications.

<http://www.commacademy.org>

**Apr. 18: MS Walk.** We will need lots of volunteers to work this event.

**Apr. 25: Spring SET QuakeEx1.** All day practice for Cascadia Rising in June 2016.

**June 5-7: SEA-PAC Ham Fest** at Seaside

## From the EC Desk



A hearty congratulations to the trailer committee on their excellent and successful efforts thus far!

I hope you all have heard from Adam that the trailer for the communications trailer project has been acquired, and we get to move on to the difficult work of fitting out our new resource.

None too soon either, as the results from our February drill demonstrate the need for our command and control to be supported with a centralized



# Connected



operating hub. Anyone who can make themselves available to help is encouraged to contact the team at [trailer@multnomahares.org](mailto:trailer@multnomahares.org).

Speaking of the February Deployment Drill, a great thanks to all those who participated. We had well over 80% turnout, including a fair number of NET compatriots. As a reminder, our cardinal rule is that we don't self-deploy. ARES members must sit tight until you receive and acknowledge a deployment order from the EC or my representative!

I look forward to seeing all of you at our February general membership meeting, which will be a hands on demonstration of equipment you are likely to find in our Served Agency Stations.

Finally, thanks to all those that have contributed to our trailer and operating success, and lets continue on the path of another great year!

73,  
Nate

## Membership News

Welcome to our newest members, Carrie KG7NZP, Michael W6CUJ, and Ron KG7LPS! Welcome back to Bob KM7Q. It is really great to see our membership growing.

Thanks to all who returned the membership information update survey. There is still time for those of you who have not done so. Go to <http://goo.gl/forms/YhFIQYp5bc>

We will be closing the site soon, so please take a few minutes to get it done. **All members including inactive and supporting members need to update their information.**  
73, Deb KK7DEB

## Training News

Hoodview ARC is offering a Technician Licensing Class March 7 & 14, and a General license Up Grade Class on the same dates. Contact Ed Clulow at [503-257-4822](tel:503-257-4822) or [n7tl@comcast.net](mailto:n7tl@comcast.net)

March 19<sup>th</sup> will be another Third Thursday Workshop on traffic handling at 6:30 P.M. at Fire Station 2. This is open to anyone who needs to get checked off on traffic handling and ICS 309 Communication Log for their ARRO certification. Space permitting, others who just want more practice with ICS 213 and NTS radiogram traffic are welcome. Please register by contacting me at [eliza.pride@gmail.com](mailto:eliza.pride@gmail.com)

## PARC February 2015 Meeting Announcement

Mountain Wave Emergency Communications is planning a presentation for the PARC February 27th meeting at One Liberty Centre. We want to extend an invitation to

MCARES and NET members to join us for the evening. The presentation will begin by 7:40 PM to allow plenty of time for the program and questions.

The PARC February 27th program is by Russ Gubele, K7RLG. Russ's presentation will inform us about Mountain Wave Emergency Communications. Mountain Wave deploys people and equipment to overcome geographical challenges, and to link together all responding organizations, regardless of their standard radio equipment.

Mountain Wave uses mobile communications assets to enable communications between all organizations responding to a rescue event and generally operates on public safety frequencies of supported agencies.

The meeting is in the Lower Level Auditorium at One Liberty Centre. 650 NE Holladay Street Portland, near Lloyd Center. The entrance is on the south side of the building (opposite the Holladay St light rail). Press the intercom button on the column to the left of the entry doors for access. Security will buzz you in. Sign in with security, and then take the elevator to the Lower Level (LL). We meet in the Auditorium.

All are invited and welcome. Info at [www.w7lt.org](http://www.w7lt.org).  
Pete W7PR, Portland Amateur Radio Club



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## More Ways to Stay in Touch

NET net Mondays 7:30 P.M.  
\*146.94 MHz  
\*Note the frequency change.

PSK Digital net Fridays 8:00 P.M.  
3.579 Mhz +1500 cycles

Email Focus Groups:

[newham@multnomahares.org](mailto:newham@multnomahares.org)  
[digital@multnomahares.org](mailto:digital@multnomahares.org)  
[Technical@multnomahares.org](mailto:Technical@multnomahares.org)

## Featured Member Profile Michael Schilmoeller, AE7XP



My fascination with the magic of electronics and physics began early. Some of my first memories are of sitting in a used refrigerator shipping box lined with camera flashbulbs. These were my spaceship's indicator lights. Discarded wall switches and Romex completed the effect. Sometimes it was a spaceship propelled by antigravity; occasionally, it moved through time. They told me I had trouble with attention. I was so active, my desperate parents falsified my birth certificate to enroll me in kindergarten a year early. Who

could blame them? Our house had about 200 square feet.

Self-reliance was part of growing up in Alaska. At 40 below, an ill-prepared and unlucky motorist could be dead from exposure in an hour. The 1964 Alaska earthquake hit when I was 13, and I remember five minutes of watching earth and buildings heave like ocean waves. Alaskans were not well prepared for the event, but they were so accustomed to helping each other out, living off the land, and making and repairing what they needed, that they managed remarkably well. I learned that with preparation, you never had to be uncomfortable, hungry, or afraid.

Ham radio operators were the heroes of the day, providing the only communication most Alaskans had with the outside world. To this day, Alaska provides free registration and vanity plates to licensed amateur radio operators as a gesture of gratitude for their service during the earthquake.

Neither of my parents had money nor went to college, but both of them put a high premium on saving and on formal education. I worked as an audio-visual technician for a small business that rented out movies and projectors around the state and then for the Anchorage Borough School District. I repaired television sets. I got my first ham radio license at 16, but didn't do that much with it. I built all of my own Heathkits but didn't have any guidance or test equipment, and I did not succeed in getting them to

work properly. It was also around this time that I won a local competition and received a grant to travel through Europe with a dozen other teenagers, chaperoned by a local schoolteacher and an Alaska State Representative. The experience made a lasting impression.

For the two summers before attending Stanford to study mathematics, I was a technician in the Communications Division of the US Bureau of Land Management. I flew around Alaska servicing BLM equipment and running radio nets. I spent several weeks holding down a night shift; picking up weather reports from around the state. I made enough money to cover half of my Stanford room, board, and tuition.

While at Stanford, I studied physics under three Nobel laureates, and I survived all of this work by promising myself that when I graduated, I would indulge in my first "bucket list," which included learning scuba diving, getting a private pilot's license, and returning to Europe to study languages. My travels had taught me that knowing other languages was important.

After graduating, I followed a high school sweetheart to Portland and got my first job as a childcare worker. After a year I concluded that I was a better mathematician than I was a childcare worker and went to work for Portland General Electric in what became their Analytical Laboratory. I had a lot of fun at PGE, helping them build a



# Connected



precision measurement lab. I also worked as an environmental scientist, maintaining programmable field instruments for tracking air quality and metrology.

By the time I was 27, I had done skydiving and everything else on my bucket list except study languages. I sold everything and moved to Germany, where I enrolled in the language and culture program with the Goethe Institutes at Ulm, Baden-Württemberg, and then Boppard am Rhein in Germany. I spent another year with Alliance Francaise in Paris and L'Institute de Touraine in Tours.

When I got back to Portland in 1980, the lady I mentioned earlier introduced me to my future wife, Katie. I got hired by Portland General Electric again, this time in generation and financial planning. I moved to Phoenix, Arizona, in 1982, so that Katie could finish a Master's in Industrial Engineering in Tucson. I worked at the Salt River Project for seven years in corporate and strategic planning, picking up an MBA along the way. Katie and I got married and our two boys arrived shortly thereafter. We moved back to Portland in 1989, and I put out a consulting shingle and started working on the Masters and PhD in mathematics at Portland State University. I got hired into Portland General Electric again in 1997 (when will they ever learn?), where I soon joined the Research and Development Group at Enron to do valuations and teach financial mathematics.

I put in about four years with both Enron's and Portland General Electric's power and natural gas trading floors

and operations. (Oh, I have such stories....) In 1982, I was hired into the Northwest Power Planning Council, now the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, where I served in a nine-person team developing energy policy for the governors of the four Northwest states. Much of my work after finishing my PhD in 2000 has consisted of developing decision-support computer models. Among the tasks of this federal interstate agency is developing an electric power plant acquisition plan that is environmentally and economically consistent with existing generation in the Columbia River drainage basin. The Council's Regional Planning Model (RPM) is my legacy, and it is currently being commercialized by Navigant Consultants, an international consulting service.

I retired in October 2012. I volunteer for our fellowship. I am also a Portland Bureau of Emergency Management's Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET) team leader and a member of their citizen's advisory Leadership Committee. I got my General amateur radio license in August 2012 and my Extra (AE7XP) that October. My radio interests are currently in antenna design and signal propagation. Katie recently launched her new career as a Unitarian Universalist minister. Katie and I want to do more travel and kayaking. My boys Scott and David are now men in their late 20s, and we are fortunate to have them and their girlfriends over for dinner from time to time. I'm hoping to pick up my French horn again after forty years and maybe even learn to sing. I want to start meditating regularly and to get back into shape. I think it would be fun to learn a couple more languages. I still have research interests in high-performance computing and certain areas of abstract mathematics. I have a dozen electronics

books and projects sitting unfinished on my desk. Maybe I'll finally get back to that anti-gravity drive. Glad I finally got that hyperactivity thing under control. Now, if I could just find my way out of this cardboard box.

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:

[dprovo@yahoo.com](mailto:dprovo@yahoo.com)

or

[eliza.pride@gmail.com](mailto:eliza.pride@gmail.com)

Thanks!