



# Connected



The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

February, 2017

## 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/>



## Team Exercise Alpha

## 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

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, Feb. 23:** 6:15 Q&A and social time; 7:00 **General Meeting:** Field power and operations by Adam

**Saturday, Feb. 25:** 9:30 a.m. to noon. **ARRO Basics Workshop.** Preregister with Eli at [eliza.pride@gmail.com](mailto:eliza.pride@gmail.com)

**Saturday, Mar. 11:** 10:00 to noon; **Echo and Bravo Team Drill**

**Saturday, Mar. 18:** 10:00-2:00; **HF Certification Workshop.** Preregister with Robert at [robert6594j@gmsil.com](mailto:robert6594j@gmsil.com)

## News from Around The County By: Deb KK7DEB

Our first team exercise was last Saturday with the Charlie and Alpha teams. The Mike (ARES Trailer) team also participated as a field station for the Alpha team. The focus was on sending ICS 213 messages both by voice and Winlink, and image transfer via MMSSTV. Logging on the ICS 214 and ICS 309 was also a top priority. The primary planning was done by the Charlie team and they did a great job. The County ECC was activated by the Alpha team and Lewis and Clark was activated by the Charlie team. Both teams had one field team acting as



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shelter locations. In all we had 18 AROs active for the 2 hour exercise.

The feedback from the teams was extremely positive. Team members really appreciated the opportunity to get hands-on experience. Everyone felt this was time well spent and they learned a lot. Mother Nature was even cooperative and seemed to approve by giving us mild temperatures and clear skies. Thanks Charlie and Alpha team members for spending a few hours to sharpen your skills.

All members are strongly encouraged to participate in their team drills. The next one is March 11th with the Bravo and Echo teams.

## Digital Modes Net Explores Fldigi By Matthew AF7PV

The members of the monthly Digital Modes Net have begun experimenting with Fldigi. This "Fast Light Digital" application runs on several different OS platforms and uses your sound card (e.g. a Signalink) to send digital information over the air. No TNC is required for this mode.

The Fldigi application provides a chat interface in which text is sent as you type it, but there are additional applications that allow more sophisticated data transfers. Flmsg is one such program; it works in cooperation with Fldigi to send form data, and there is a built-in template for the ICS-213 message form as well as the ARRL radiogram. Flmsg applies a checksum to the form data to detect

transmission errors. Similarly, the Flwrap application cooperates with Fldigi to send arbitrary file data, also with a checksum.

There is an overlap in functionality between Flmsg and Winlink, but one interesting difference is that whereas Winlink is more or less for communication between two stations, Flmsg can be used to send a message to multiple stations simultaneously. That's also true for Flwrap -- it might be used to send file data from the EOC to all field stations in a single transmission, for instance. The data rate is rather slow, so this might be done simplex rather than via a repeater.

Join the Digital Modes net on the first Tuesday of the month if you'd like to give it a try. Time and frequency details are on the MCARES website and on the front page of this newsletter.

## MCARES Outreach Update By Steve Hall W7SRH



## January 28<sup>th</sup>, Fix-It Fair

2017 has already been a busy time for MCARES outreach. Here's a quick look at what's been happening.

**Fix-It Fair:** On January 28, 2017, Adam (KF7LJH) and I staffed a

"Fix-It Fair" event at George Middle School. We estimate that several hundred people were in attendance!

One of the primary reasons for attending these types of events is to recruit new ARES members. We had the good fortune to be set up right next to our partners from Portland NET. There was a steady stream of folks interested in learning what we do to support Multnomah County. Conversations with a number of attendees may well lead to some new members.

We introduced two new "twists" to this event. Adam demonstrated a digital go-kit, which proved to be a big draw to our display. We also brought along a continuous loop slide presentation, featuring many of you at past MCARES events. Our slide presentation needs a little more work, but it provided a great source of activity at our table.

There were over 60 different organizations represented at this Fix-It Fair! They addressed more topics than I can remember, but I do recall exhibits and hourly workshops on the following:

- Water and energy savings
- Safe and healthy home
- Food and nutrition
- Neighborhood and community resources
- Recycling
- Weatherizing your home
- Gardening and growing your own food
- Yard care and composting
- Transportation



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The next Fix-It Fair is February 25, 2017, at Madison High School, 2735 NE 82nd Ave, Portland from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

You can learn more about "Fix-It Fairs" at [portlandoregon.gov/bps/41892](http://portlandoregon.gov/bps/41892)



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16/02/2017, 11:48:07

## PacTrust Presentation

**PacTrust Presentation:** On Feb 16 Joe (WA7FWC), Eli (W7ELI), and I made a presentation to about 35 employees of PacTrust. PacTrust is one of the Pacific Northwest's largest real estate developers and investment property owners. We were invited to talk about the MCARES organization and how we support the emergency communications infrastructure. Joe also demonstrated both image transfer and Winlink messaging.

**Looking Ahead:** Our next scheduled outreach event will be on Saturday Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. Rolf (KI4HOP), Bob (N6ZKL), and I will provide a MCARES presence at the Overlook Sustainability Summit. The theme of this event is "Putting Preparedness into Action." The event will run from 9:45AM – 2PM at Beach Elementary School Auditorium, 1710 N Humboldt St., Portland. If you have some free time that day, stop by and say hello. You can learn more about this at <http://www.sustainableoverlook.org/>

If you are interested in helping out at an outreach event, contact Steve W7SRH at [hallstr@hotmail.com](mailto:hallstr@hotmail.com) and get on the Outreach Roster. No presentation expertise required, just come along to learn and share your own experiences with MCARES.

## Membership News By Deb KK7DEB

Welcome to our newest member Mark KC7DTE. Mark will join the Delta Team. My apology to new member Kathi as I misstated her callsign last month. Her correct call is KA6TND.

## Training Updates By Eli W7ELI

Due to weather and other issues, the ARRO Basics Workshop that was scheduled for Feb. 11 had to be cancelled. It will happen on Feb. 25 and the ARRO Traffic Handling and Logging Workshop will be on March 18. Both workshops are from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Portland Fire & Rescue CTR where our monthly general meetings are held. To attend these workshops you must have a membership form on file and have submitted completion certificates for the on line FEMA classes IS 100, 200 and 700. Preregistration is also required to ensure there are enough trainers present to get everyone through by noon. To register, contact me at [eliza.pride@gmail.com](mailto:eliza.pride@gmail.com)

## 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

### NTTN

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)