



# Connected



The Newsletter of the Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Services

February, 2018

## Meetings

Multnomah County ARES  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday  
7:00 P.M.

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

PARC Meeting  
Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday  
7:30 P.M.

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

HARC Meeting  
Every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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)

**Traffic Handling Training Net**  
Fourth Tuesday 8:00 P.M.  
148.180 (PL tone 103.5)



## Winlink Training

## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, February 22:**  
**General Meeting:**

Radio Operations split session. Intro to VHF/UHF simplex and repeaters. Advanced session focus on HF propagation, MUF, SSB and a bit of digital HF modes Saturday,

**February 24: Hardware workshop:**

What Do I Need and How Do I Use It? Noon to 4:00 Saturday,

**March 10: Charlie/Mike Team Drill.**

These teams will be hearing from their team leader for details

**Thursday, March 22: General Meeting:**

Antennas, split session

## News from Around the County By Deb KK7DEB

Our January 25th General Meeting had a record attendance of 74 persons! What a great way to start the New Year.

The Winlink training was well received and prepared us for the Saturday Drill from home on January 27th. We were burning up the air waves with Winlink traffic all around the county. We were very interested to see how the Winlink email forwarding would work from the ARES trailer. The messages sent to Nathan through the N7MCU gateway were held and then forwarded via pactor to HF gateways in Nevada and Utah. This demonstrates our ability to get the messages out if no local internet is available. Thanks to everyone who participated and a special thanks to our team leaders and shelter leaders who had their hands full replying to all the traffic.



# Connected



In all we had 45 members working from home and in the field.

The next weekend, Saturday February 3rd, was the copper J-pole build held by our training manager John KI7LYP. In all 14 people went home with a new antenna all tuned and ready to go. There was much excitement as everyone learned to cut and solder simple copper pipe into a nifty new antenna ready to boost their radio signal. We hope to hear these new antennas in our next simplex test. If you missed out on the February build session John is keeping a list of interested folks for another weekend workshop. You can contact him at: johnkh6xg@gmail.com

Finally we have received all the materials for the repeater kits and the build process has started. There will be one full-on portable UHF repeater and two portable VHF/UHF kits that can either cross band repeat or be digipeaters. These kits have robust power options with big 105AH batteries, solar charging and propane converted Honda inverter generators. The antenna and mast systems are also robust with Diamond X50 antennas and tripod masts that can reach over 30 ft. in height. Testing with these kits should start this spring. Look for the picture in this newsletter of the mountain of equipment.

Welcome to our newest members: Cory KI7RMG will join the Alpha team, Edie W7ELC joins the Charlie team, Paul KI7ADC joins the Delta team, and Ryan KI7QBR and Chris KG7ADQ both join the Echo team.

This brings our total of active members to 85. WOW! Perhaps we will reach the magic number of 100 this year.



**Repeater Equipment**

### **Net Manager Profile Rachel KI7NMB**

An eighth-generation Oregonian, I was born and raised here in Portland. Keeping it local, I spent eight years working my way through college to graduate debt free from Portland State University. While at PSU I was introduced to argentine tango dancing; through tango I met Kenny. Both Kenny and I have a passion for emergency preparedness and we became involved with CERT, NET, and then ARES.

Years ago my dad gave me an old radio, my first radio, but never told me its story. The display didn't work, but it looked cool and had quite a few accessories so I tucked it away in my closet. Several years later when

Kenny suggested I get my license I remembered the forgotten radio. Kenny worked his magic and got the display working and coaxed a few connectors into the right places so that I could operate off battery power again. With the display working we saw a call sign pop up, KC6OAM, and discovered that the radio used to belong to my grandfather! After several months of listening to chatter on the K7RPT repeater on that Kenwood TH-79A I started to study for my technician exam. Today my daily carry is a Baofeng BF-F9, and I'm looking at purchasing an affordable antenna to go with it, either a flexible HT antenna or a mag mount or my car.

Most recently I've worked as a business systems analyst in an IT Finance department until December 2016. My mom was diagnosed with breast cancer that December and I've been fortunate enough to have quality time with her as she's gone through treatment. Her chemo should be wrapping up sometime in June. Currently I'm in a two-year program to become a fertility awareness educator with my internship in teaching menstrual cycle charting starting soon. I'm greatly anticipating supporting people in their journey towards body literacy, natural birth control that is 99.6% effective, and helping to optimize their fertility journey if they are trying to conceive.

Right now I'm about to start some seeds for my family's annual vegetable garden. Nothing beats homemade marinara sauce made with homegrown tomatoes, basil, and garlic. Being vegan, I get really enthusiastic about my homegrown veggies, but I also





# Connected



have a weakness for chocolate; I highly recommend the salted caramel truffles from Missionary Chocolates. Other ways I spend my time include reading, knitting (my next big project will be an afghan made from alpaca yarn sourced within the Pacific Northwest Fibershed), and making my own soda from water kefir grains.

As a relatively new radio operator I've really enjoyed the supportive learning environment that ARES has created. Having so many knowledgeable people and such a robust training program is a real asset, especially when one is just getting started in radio. I'm looking forward to continuing to learn about ham radio and emergency management as I serve as your net manager.



N7MCU at Mt. Tabor

**Net Content Coordinator**  
Profile By Patti KB7GMM

I have been licensed since October 2017. Although I have only been licensed for a few months I have been exposed to HAM Radio for the past 38 years. My husband, John, has been operating since he was 13 years old. I did not have much interest in talking with Russia, etc. so my interest in amateur radio was low. My experience before this was CB and I found no real use in that. Since John joined ARES I have found my place in HAM Radio. It has been a great experience. ARES goes beyond talking to Russia and I embrace the Emergency Services portion of amateur radio. Looking forward to many more years of training and learning about the equipment, antennas and operations of ARES.

**Net News**

The monthly Simplex Net has moved to the second Wednesday of every month. The Traffic Handling Training Net (THTN) will be once a month on the fourth Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. 147.180 (PL Tone 103.5)

**Other Nets**

**District 1 ARES Net:**

Daily at 7:30 P.M.

147.320 Mhz (PL Tone 100.00)  
and 147.040 (PL Tone 100.00)  
MC 6

**NTTN:**

Daily at 6:05 P.M.

145.27, 145.43, 45.47, 146.80,  
442.875, & 442.275. All with PL  
Tone of 107.2

**Portland NET Net:**

Sunday 8:00 P.M.