



Mercer Island Radio Operators



## MIRO Newsletter for February 2019

### EMERGENCY PRACTICE NET

Thursday, February 14th, 7:00 PM

**Bob Tykulsker KM6SO - NET CONTROL – from his home QTH**

The net will start on the VHF MIRO repeater frequency of 147.160 MHz + offset, with a CTCSS tone of 146.2 Hz for business and check-ins. It will then shift to the UHF repeater on frequency 440.150 MHz + offset with a CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz. In the event of a repeater failure, first try the other repeater; if that has failed, shift to the Mercer Island Simplex 147.440.

This is a reminder that if, for any reason, Net Control loses contact with the Net, the MIRO member who is prepared and steps in to substitute until Net Control is able to solve the problem and return to the net, will receive 10 chances on the BaoFeng radio. You need to have been keeping a log of members on the net, recognize that something has happened, and make a trial call to determine if Net Control is still on the frequency, and take charge if they don't return the call.

***PLEASE SPEAK SLOWLY AND CLEARLY ON THE NET! Information being sent over the net is recorded by hand in the Radio Room. Practice Prepares!***

### MIRO MEETING at Mercer Island Community and Event Ctr.

**Thursday, February 21st, 7:00 PM:** We will convene at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center (MICEC) Room 104 for a presentation by Leslie Rosenthal Ph.D. about The Axion Dark Matter Experiment that is being conducted at the University of Washington and managed by DOE's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. ADMX is an axion haloscope — essentially a large, low-noise radio receiver, which scientists tune to different frequencies and listen to find the axion signal frequency. Axions almost never interact with matter; but with the aid of a strong magnetic field, recently-deployed superconducting quantum amplifiers and a cold, dark, properly tuned, reflective box, ADMX can "hear" photons created when axions convert into electromagnetic waves inside the detector. This is physics and radio combined at its very best. Leslie Rosenthal is a UW Professor of Physics and Chief Scientist for ADMX. With an expected record turnout for this meeting, we have moved to a larger venue than the Fire Station. Jon Conrardt, N7OOB, who recruited Dr. Rosenthal to speak, will be chairing the MIRO meeting that evening. We are extending an invitation to all the Mercer Island Emergency Volunteers. Guests are welcome.

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**1. MIRO Meeting, January 17<sup>th</sup>:** With record attendance of 26 in the FD91 meeting room, we were first entertained by Dave Uhler W7DDU, Director of MIRO's support of the Mercer Island Half Marathon on March 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>. This is our annual support of Mercer Island Rotary in their execution of the 13.1-mile race & walk around Mercer Island,

coupled with both 5K and 10K events. An Incident Command center will be set up in the parking lot of Race HQ at MICEC. We will possibly man the radio room at W7MIR and MICEC and will have at least 9 hams at the water stations around the race course. The current estimate is that we will need 20 or more hams to participate in order to provide relief during the event. This event is the closest we come to simulating what life might be like in a real emergency. It is excellent practice participating in an active event. We will send a special email later in February to recruit participants.

Our next focus was on WINLINK and its use on Telnet. Bob Tykulser KM6SO taught us how to install WINLINK on Windows 10 computers and to start sending emails using the internet (called Telnet.) This is the first step to being able to send emails over the ham radio frequencies. In actuality, if the internet is still operating at the early stages of an emergency, Telnet is the best way to get your information to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the W7MIR Radio Room without burdening the few WINLINK Gateways that are available to us. After you've inspected your neighborhood and noted all the issues that are present, a WINLINK message describing the conditions, sent by Telnet, will quickly get the information to where it can be of use in directing actions from the EOC. Bob also taught us about the ICS Forms provided by Winlink for easy reporting of information. His final step was to tell us of the incentives to use WINLINK on Telnet for each of our monthly 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Emergency Nets, measured in BaoFeng Radio Raffle chances. Paragraph 10 below summarizes the several ways to earn "chances."

## **2. March 9<sup>th</sup> Mike & Key Ham equipment swap at WA State Fairgrounds in Tukwila:**

Go to <http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.php>

## **3. March 15, 16, & 17 Technician Exam classes followed by license exams on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

We are fortunate to have American Red Cross DST instructor, David Okrent W7DAO, teaching the class. He has a terrific presentation style and sense of humor (including some awful puns). You will understand radio waves and electrical current as you never have before! We'll be holding the free class at the North Fire Station, 3030 – 78<sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Mercer Island, next to the main post office.

Classes:	Fri., 3/15	6:00 – 9:00 pm
	Sat., 3/16	9:00 – 5:00 pm
	Sun., 3/17	9:00 – 4:00 pm
Exams:	Sat., 3/23	1:00 pm

The exams (Technician and General) will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 4001 Island Crest Way, Mercer Island at the intersection of Island Crest Way and 40<sup>th</sup>. Their activity room allows us to spread out for test-taking. There will be an optional review in the morning at 10:00 AM. If you are interested in taking the General Exam, let Pat Hackett, K7PTH, [pat@pathackett.com](mailto:pat@pathackett.com), know in advance.

## **4. MIRO Meeting, March 21, 2109:** This meeting, to be held at the North Fire Station, is the final preparation for the Mercer Island Half. We will be prepared to check out all handhelds, CHIRP if necessary, and work through the assignments and actions. All volunteers for The Half should plan on attending. To the extent there is extra time in the meeting, we will continue to work on WINLINK Telnet, if you bring your laptops.

**5. ARRL Comm Academy, April 13-14, 2019:** Comm Academy, presented at the South Seattle College, is a weekend-long training workshop for volunteer and other Emergency Communicators. The theme of this year's Academy is: "**Communications Response to Catastrophic Events.**" Each morning starts with a plenary session followed by a series of multi-track breakout sessions on radio, emergency and technical communications and new operator training. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about ham radio and emergency protocols. Put it on your calendar. More information and the registration link will be in the March Newsletter.

**6. Stop the Bleed Classes:** Evergreen Health, Kirkland, presents a regular class called **Stop the Bleed**. No matter how rapid the arrival of professional emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within three minutes. "Stop the Bleed" is a nationwide campaign to empower the layperson/bystander to act quickly and save lives. The following link presents two upcoming classes for registration. [www.tiny.cc/StopTheBleed1](http://www.tiny.cc/StopTheBleed1). Dates fill quickly.

**9. MFJ Antenna Analyzer:** MIRO has purchased a Model MFJ-269C Antenna Analyzer for use by members. If you need to use it, it can be checked out through Woody Howse [whowse@me.com](mailto:whowse@me.com) or Bob Tykulsker [rtykulsker@gmail.com](mailto:rtykulsker@gmail.com).

**10. Earning raffle chances on the 2019 BaoFeng radio:**

- 1 chance for each CEMNET operator service
- 1 chance for each pre-Emergency Net WINLINK message to W7MIR & KM6SO
- 1 additional chance if that pre-Emergency Net message uses form ICS-213
- 1 chance for a post-net, reasonably complete and accurate Net Log emailed to [rtykulsker@gmail.com](mailto:rtykulsker@gmail.com)
- 1 additional chance if the emailed Net Log is a "100% solid copy" Net Log
- 2 chances for submitting the net log by WINLINK to [KM6SO@winlink.org](mailto:KM6SO@winlink.org)
- 1 Additional chance if the Winlink net log is 100% solid copy
- 1 Additional chance if the Winlink net log uses the ICS-213 format
- 1 Additional chance if the log is a .csv or .xlsx attachment to the ICS-213 format
- 1 Chance for each hour of volunteering for the Mercer Island Half Marathon

**(2019) PROJECTS:**

- 1) Increase MIRO use of Winlink.
- 2) Continue MIRO training and qualification program starting with Net Control Operators, Radio Room Procedures, Winlink, CEMNET and WEB EOC.
- 3) Technician License exam classes

**MIRO December Activity Report:**

During December 2018, 22 MIRO members, driving 163 miles, gave 117 hours of volunteer time in support of 3 public service events and 8 drills, meetings and exercises.

73, Woody Howse – K7EDH, MIRO Volunteer Chairman  
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## MIRO Current Schedule

2019

Date	Topic
Feb 14	Emergency Net & Valentines Day NCO Bob Tykulsker KM6SO
Feb 21	<b>WHX</b> MIRO Mtg Dr. Leslie Rosenthal Dark Matter expert at UW
Feb 26	Last Tuesday
Mar 14	Emergency Net NCO Judit Crow KI7LPQ Scribe Pat Hackett K7PTH
Mar 21	MIRO Mtg – MI HALF BRIEFING
Mar 24	Mercer Island Half Marathon
Mar 26	Last Tuesday
Mar 30	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Apr 11	Emergency Net NCO Bill Ellis KF7PB Scribes -
Apr 13-14	ARRL Comm Academy, South Seattle College, <b>6000 16th Avenue S.W., Seattle</b>
Apr 18	MIRO Mtg NORCOM – Deputy Chief Mike Mandella, MIFD
Apr 30	Last Tuesday
May 9	Emergency Net NCO Jon Conradt N7OOB Scribes -
May 16	MIRO Mtg ??
May 28	Last Tuesday
Jun 13	Emergency Net NCO Harlan Feinstein W7HIZ Scribes – Jamie Feinstein K7IWI
Jun 20	MIRO Mtg ??
Jun 22	MI Emergency Preparedness Day & ARRL Field Day
Jun 25	Last Tuesday
Jun 29	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Jul 11	Emergency Net NCO ??
Jul 18	MIRO Mtg ??
Jul 30	Last Tuesday
Aug 8	Emergency Net NCO Eva Banbury K7EVA Scribes -
Aug 15	MIRO Social Mtg and BaoFeng raffle
Aug 27	Last Tuesday
Aug 31	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Sep 12	Emergency Net NCO ??
Sep 19	MIRO Mtg ??
Sep 24	Last Tuesday

## Unassigned Topics:

- Dave Jokinen – Police & MIRO
- WINLINK
- Optimizing HT radios – Introduction of Tiger Tails counterpoise.
- Hands-on soldering
- Antennas
- Packet Radio FLDigi
- “*Summits On The Air: An Overview*” by guest presenter Tim Nair KG7EJT.  
<https://www.wta.org/news/signpost/meet-the-trail-community-ham-radio-operator>
- **WHX = Woody out of town**

