



Mercer Island Radio Operators



## MIRO Newsletter for March 2019

### EMERGENCY PRACTICE NET

Thursday, March 14th, 7:00 PM

Judit Crow KI7LPQ - NET CONTROL

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 the North Fire Station, FD91

**Thursday, March 21st, promptly at 7:00 PM:** 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.

### Volunteers Still Needed for The Half!

**Important!** We still need several volunteers during the weekend:

Saturday, 3/23            four volunteers needed to help with setup

Sunday, 3/24            4 - 5 volunteers for race day

Please email Dave Uhler [davidu@slalom.com](mailto:davidu@slalom.com) with your name, availability, and desired position. If you can help on both days, please indicate that. Currently the following have indicated intention to participate: Jon Conradt N7OOB, Bill Ellis KF7BP, Pat Hackett K7PTH, Mike Hansen AC7UR, N. Michael Hansen KG7MX, Woody Howse K7EDH, Charles Johnson W4TQH, Elliot Matteson KI7QGM, Tom Norris KI7DTL, Toni Okada KI7UZL, Chris Peeters K8RY, Jeff Petersen KJ7CVJ, Bob Tykulsker KM6SO, Dave Uhler W7DDU, Kendra Uhler KG7MFR, Bob Welsh KI7ELH, Dan Witmer K6DRW.

### NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**1. MIRO Meeting, February 21<sup>st</sup>:** Over 40 people from MIRO and the general community welcomed Dr. Leslie Rosenberg to MICEC for his presentation on Dark Matter. It was a fascinating evening, highlighted by a photo showing a huge wrench

permanently attached to a magnetic cylinder, the result of a wayward tool having been left in the vicinity of an extremely powerful magnetic field! Dr. Rosenberg graciously provided a PDF of his presentation that is now posted at the top of Member Information section of the MIRO website and will be available for viewing until April 15. This section of the MIRO website requires member password. If you have forgotten your member password, under Login on the website landing page, click on “forgot Password” and enter the email address that MIRO uses to send you information. You will receive a link from MIRO that will allow you to reset your password. Enter your desired password in the provided block. After you press return, you should be able to sign in with the password that you provided.

**2. March 9<sup>th</sup> Mike & Key Ham equipment swap at WA State Fairgrounds in Puyallup:** For details, go to <http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.php>. Anyone interested in carpooling, please contact Bob Tykulsker, [rtykulsker@gmail.com](mailto:rtykulsker@gmail.com).

**3. Did you miss the MIRO meeting on “Winlink Without Radio”?** If you did, or if you want to mentor (“Elmer”) a new ham in the joys of Winlink, Bill Thomassen, N6NBN, will be presenting a training session on **Wednesday, March 13**, at 6:30 p.m. at the American Red Cross, 1900 – 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. S., Seattle. Bring a Windows laptop!

**4. 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. Test fee is \$15.00. If you are interested in taking the General Exam or if you know someone who would like to take the Technician class, contact Pat Hackett, K7PTH, right away: [pat@pathackett.com](mailto:pat@pathackett.com).

**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. More information and registration at: [www.commacademy.org](http://www.commacademy.org).

**6. MIRO Meeting, April 18th, 2019:** We will be welcoming Mercer Island Deputy Fire Chief Mike Mandela as our evening speaker. Chief Mandela's duty station prior to coming to Mercer Island was as Deputy Chief for NORCOM which is Mercer Island's provider for 911. Norcom plays a critical role for the Island and in an emergency when MIRO has been activated it will likely be completely overwhelmed with demands. The purpose of the talk is to help us understand our job better and what, if anything, we can do to be supportive of the system.

**7. 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.

**8. MFJ Antenna Analyzer:** MIRO has purchased a Model MFJ-269C Antenna Analyzer for use by members. If you need to use it, you may check it out from Bob Tykulsker [rtykulsker@gmail.com](mailto:rtykulsker@gmail.com).

**9. 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

**10. ARES Announces New Training Opportunities:** As you all know, MIRO is an ARRL/ARES organization. The ARRL and ARES have been criticized for the lack of rigor in the training of its members. Recall Dave Wilma's presentation to MIRO about the debacle surrounding the response to Hurricane Maria. The ARRL has responded with a new ARES plan with 3 levels of training. As the details are a bit long for this newsletter, Bob Tykulsker will talk about it at our March general meeting. You may also contact him directly at [rtykulsker@gmail.com](mailto:rtykulsker@gmail.com).

**(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 January Activity Report:**

During January 2019, 30 MIRO members, driving 191 miles, gave 119 hours of volunteer time in support of 3 public service events and 9 drills, meetings and exercises.

**73, Woody Howse K7EDH – MIRO Volunteer Chair**

**Email: [whowse@me.com](mailto:whowse@me.com) Phone: 206-849-5370**

## MIRO Current Schedule

2019

Date	Topic
Mar 14	Emergency Net NCS – Judit Crow KI7LPQ
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 NCS – Bill Ellis KF7PB
Apr 13-14	ARRL Comm Academy, South Seattle College, 6000 16th Avenue S.W., Seattle
Apr 18	MIRO Mtg NORCOM – Deputy Chief Mike Mandella, MIFD
Apr 30	Last Tuesday
May 9	Emergency Net NCS – Jon Conradt N7OOB
May 16	MIRO Mtg ??
May 28	Last Tuesday
Jun 13	Emergency Net NCS – Harlan Feinstein W7HIZ
Jun 20	MIRO Mtg Preps for MI Emergency Preparedness Day
Jun 22	MI Emergency Preparedness Day & ARRL Field Day
Jun 25	Last Tuesday
Jun 29	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Jul 11	Emergency Net NCS
Jul 18	WHX MIRO Mtg ??
Jul 30	Last Tuesday
Aug 8	Emergency Net NCS – Eva Banbury W7EVA
Aug 15	MIRO Social Mtg and BaoFeng raffle
Aug 27	Last Tuesday
Aug 31	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Sep 12	Emergency Net NCS
Sep 19	MIRO Mtg ??
Sep 24	Last Tuesday
Oct 10	Emergency Net NCS
Oct 17	MIRO Mtg ??
Oct 22	WHX 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

