



Mercer Island Radio Operators



MIRO Newsletter for April 2019

EMERGENCY PRACTICE NET

Thursday, April 11th, 7:00 PM

Bill Ellis KF7-PB - NET CONTROL Scribe: Pat Hackett K7PTH

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.

If 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. If the VHF repeater is down, you'll have to check on UHF or Simplex.

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, April 18th, promptly at 7:00 PM: We will be welcoming Mercer Island Deputy Fire Chief Mike Mandella as our evening speaker. Chief Mandella's duty station prior to coming to Mercer Island was as Deputy Director of NORCOM, Mercer Island's provider for 911. Prior to that duty, he served as Fire Chief and Director of Emergency Management for the Port of Seattle. Andrew Johnson, responsible for NORCOM IT, will be joining Chief Mandella for the presentation. Norcom plays a critical role for Mercer Island. But in an emergency, when MIRO has been activated, 911 will likely be completely overwhelmed with demands. Their service area is all of Region 1 – Mercer Island and the eastside down to Renton. The purpose of the presentation is to help MIRO members understand how ham radio tactical reports to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) fit into the picture of responding to the public's needs during an emergency. This is central to MIRO's mission, making this meeting an important one for all of us. Please attend.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. MIRO SURVEY: Your MIRO Executive Team is working hard to plan the future of MIRO and would like specific input from all members. To-date only ___ members have completed the survey. It will take you no more than 2 minutes, maximum! PLEASE complete it to help us in our quest. Click here to take the survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeouR0xBOVPkShjqWhSdjrVDErXFt7VfUDtXv0Fm3t9MU9SCO/viewform>

2. MIRO Meeting, March 21st and Mercer Island Half Marathon: With 22 in attendance, Dave Uhler W7DDU prepared the MI Half Volunteers for their service on March 23rd & 24th. He even recruited several additional participants. Several of the attendees were going to take their Technician exam on Saturday March 23rd and chose to assist on Sunday for the Half. The race went very well, with praise from both the Rotary Race officials and the Mercer Island Police Department. The radio room at MICEC was the primary Net Control station for the race, and we also briefly brought W7MIR at the City Hall onto the net. This, as in the past, was excellent hands-on practice for a real emergency. Many thanks to the 17 participants: Jon Conradt N7OOB, Bill Ellis KF7BP, Pat Hackett K7PTH, Mike Hansen AC7UR, N. Michael Hansen KG7MX, Vik Harinau AD7HC, Woody Howse K7EDH, Charles Johnson W4TQH, Elliot Matteson KI7QGM, Tom Norris KI7DTL, Toni Okada KI7UZL, Jeff Petersen KJ7CVJ, Bob Tykulsker KM6SO, Dave Uhler W7DDU, Kendra Uhler KG7MFR, Bob Welsh KI7ELH, Dan Witmer K6DRW. The aggregate volunteer time for the group was 104.5 hours.

3. Technician Class and Licensing Exams: David Okrent W7DAO presented the Technician classes at the North Fire Station on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, March 15th – 17th. David did an extraordinary job making the material interesting and retainable (at least through the exam). Those experienced hams who sat through the class were unanimous in their conclusion that these classes were considerably better and more useful than those that we provided the last two years. We will do our best to attract David back for our next Technician Class. David is planning to run both General and Extra classes in the future at the Red Cross offices in Seattle. Any who are interested should consider these classes as an excellent way to prepare. We will post the information when David establishes the dates.

Twelve (12) people took the exams on March 23rd at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints resulting in 7 New Technician, 3 General and 1 Extra licenses. Two (2) of the 3 General recipients also passed their Technician exam that morning.

Huge congratulations to Pat Hackett K7PTH, MIRO Vice Chair for Training and Recruitment, for the success of the classes and tests.

4. March 30th Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC exercise: Bob Tykulsker KM6SO, Pat Hackett K7PTH, Elliot Matteson KI7QGM and Toni Okada KI7UZL conducted MIRO's participation in the quarterly Fifth Saturday exercise. Under the direction of Scott Dakers W7SGD at Camp Murray, the exercise practiced using WINLINK to submit resource requests from the City's Emergency Manager to Camp Murray. Since Jennifer Franklin was unavailable, Toni served as a Virtual Emergency Manager and made the requests to Bob, Pat and Elliot, who then used Winlink Form WA ICS-213 RR to submit the requests to Camp Murray. As usual, a lot was learned and lessons will be implemented. We can expect much more interesting and demanding Fifth Saturday exercises in the future.

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.

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. Dates fill quickly.

7. 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.

8. 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
- 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
- 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 February Activity Report:

During February 2019, 35 MIRO members, driving 261 miles, gave 104 hours of volunteer time in support of 2 public service events and 8 drills, meetings and exercises.

73, Woody Howse K7EDH – MIRO Volunteer Chair

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MIRO Current Schedule 2019

Date	Topic
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 Mandela, 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 John V. Mertel WA7IR, Founder & CEO STEPPIR Comm Systems
Sep 24	Last Tuesday
Oct 10	Emergency Net NCS
Oct 17	MIRO Mtg ??
Oct 29	Last Tuesday
Nov 14	Emergency Net NCS
Nov 21	MIRO Mtg ??
Nov 26	Last Tuesday
Nov 30	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC
Dec 12	Emergency Net NCS
Dec 19	MIRO Mtg ??

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