

MIRO Newsletter for June 2024

News and Announcements

From the Chair:

Hello MIRO members and friends!

Emergency Preparedness Day is upon us. Join us on **Saturday, June 22nd** in a new location: **Mercerdale Park! The event will be open to the public from 10:00 AM to 3:00 P.M.**; and the expectation is that there will be more foot traffic at Mercerdale than we typically saw at Luther Burbank. **Including setup and tear-down, the volunteer hours will be from 9:00 – 4:00.**

There are many ways to help with this important event. You can assist with ham radio communications and demonstrations; and there will be HF, VHF, and UHF setups. We need people to pass out emergency preparedness information and answer questions.

Please use this link that Amanda has created for volunteer sign-ups

<https://forms.office.com/g/UGuD26X4i0> - she broke the day into two shifts, but that can be somewhat flexible if you can't commit to an entire shift. I signed up for the first shift and added a note that I will be there all day. You can come for any part of the day that works for you.

Here is the link to the event on the City calendar:

<https://www.mercerisland.gov/emergency-management/page/emergency-prep-miro-field-day-0>

AND Woody shared this note with me from the ARRL monthly letter: The ARRL monthly letter for May 30 includes a link to an interesting 46 minute You Tube video entitled "Ground is a Myth." Here's the link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvE570NPmml&ab_channel=ARRLHQ

May 9, 2024 net follow-up

Carl Erickson (K7CGE) was Net Control from his home. He ran the Net and scribed for himself.

12 members checked in; no visitors; 4 announcements; and 8 Winlink messages were reported.

If you haven't taken a turn as Net Control before, there is a great script to guide you. If I can do it, you can, too. Pat would be happy to sign you up. We have availability for the rest of 2024, starting in August (8/8). See Pat's contact info at the end of this newsletter

May 16, 2024 General Meeting follow-up

We had an excellent hybrid meeting with both Zoom and in-person participation. Conner Webster gave us an inside look at his marvelous Go Bag. He is prepared for just about anything. We might need an encore presentation to hear some of Conner and Bob's experiences where they actually made use of their Go Bags to assist people who needed help, and we did not have time to see Dr. Hal's Go Bag. I would be interested to see what the doctor carries.

There were 12 MIRO members in attendance: 7 in-person and 5 via Zoom.

April 2024 Activity Report

Pat reports that 16 members, driving 46.6 miles, gave 79.8 hours in support of 3 public service events and 8 meetings, drills, and exercises.

Upcoming MIRO Activities

Light at the End of the Tunnel Marathon, Sunday, June 9, 7:30 AM. To 2:00 PM

On Sunday June 9, Eastside Fire and Rescue is looking for a few more HAM volunteers to assist with their support in the Light at the End of the Tunnel Marathon. Time frame would be from about 7:30am to ~ 2:00pm. The marathon is run along the section of the Palouse-to-Cascadia trail between Hyak (Snoqualmie Pass) and North Bend. Radio operators would be at water stops on the trail to provide information on race progress and report any issues with runners. No need for an elaborate setup; an HT with a good antenna should be sufficient to hit the repeater used.

For more information, check the marathon website, [The Light at The End of the Tunnel Marathons](#).

If you are interested, or have questions, please email George at gthiel@esf-r.org

Emergency Net, Thursday, June 13, 7:00 PM.

Toni Okada (W7TDO) is scheduled to be Net Control.

Please complete an ICS309 log and send it to Bob Tykulsker - rtykulsker@gmail.com, Pat Hackett - pat@pathackett.com, and Mike Post – mpost23@outlook.com after the net. PDF format is best. In the past Woody suggested that the fillable word document from the link below works the best. Most Word programs have the choice of saving as a pdf.

Links to download the ICS309 log form:

word: <https://miro.cmivolunteers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ICS-309-Word-document.docx>

pdf: <https://miro.cmivolunteers.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/ICS-Form-309-fillable-1.pdf>

Immediately following the close out of the Net on the UHF repeater, Bob (KM6SO) invites everybody to join in test of Vara Chat, similar to what we did with Rattlegram. I will attach Bob's PDF that describes the connections to Vara Chat.

MIRO General Meeting, Thursday, June 20, 7:00 PM

The MIRO meeting will be a hybrid meeting by Zoom and in-person at the LDS Church at 4001 Island Crest Way, MI 98040.

We are hoping that Bob Tykulsker will speak about his experience supporting the June 9 “Tunnel Marathon”, and he will have information about the upcoming August 11 and September 8 marathons and how volunteers can participate. Bob will also be asking for feedback about Vara Chat and what we want to do about ongoing digital training. We will wrap up with another HT programming exercise led by Bob.

ZOOM LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8656593928?pwd=TIIERIUybDICT2E1Sm1nVUpaK0JZZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 659 3928 Passcode: MIRO

MIRO Working Meeting, Tuesday, June 25, 7:00 PM

This is our usual end-of-month planning session. Everyone who wants to help out with upcoming activities and plans for upcoming activities is welcome to join us.

ZOOM LINK (same as General Meeting link):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8656593928?pwd=TIIERIUybDICT2E1Sm1nVUpaK0JZZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 659 3928 Passcode: MIRO

Emergency Preparedness Day, Saturday, June 22nd

We are emphasizing Mercer Island Emergency Preparedness Day this year with Ham Radio Field Day taking a secondary role as we demonstrate our emergency communications capability.

See Page 1 of this newsletter for more information! More details will be available as we get closer to June 22. Save the date and get involved!!

Well Training, Friday, June 28th

Come learn how to direct traffic and distribute water from the well in the event of a water emergency. We had a water emergency last year, and narrowly missed another one in April. We can't have enough people trained to help with this!

More details will be available as we get closer to June 28. Save the date and get involved!!

SUMMER CELEBRATION, JULY 13th

Come march with MIRO in the parade, and hand out candy to the kids, young and old, lining the street. In addition, MIRO will join the Mercer Island Police Department booth display and provide information about Emergency Preparedness and Ham Radio. This is an excellent opportunity to meet people who are interested in volunteering and emergency preparedness. It is also an entry route for recruiting people for CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) classes, ham radio classes, and ham radio licensing.

August MIRO Social, AUGUST 15th

Our regularly-scheduled August 15th General Meeting will be pre-empted by the annual MIRO Social-party. Don Sandstrom W7VXS has invited us all to his home at 7206 93rd Ave SE, Mercer Island. We will meet on the deck behind his home. Instructions will be provided in the August Newsletter. Put the event on your calendar and plan to attend. We will send a Please RSVP email several weeks before the event so we can provide sufficient seating for all attendees.

As we have in past years, all attendees will have their names put in a bowl and the winner of a drawing will receive a valuable prize for ham radio use. In addition, we've had members bring several of their surplus items and attending members have the opportunity to bid on them; proceeds going to the MIRO Foundation. Our plan is to execute that fun part again.

Don Sandstrom was one of the original members of MIRO when it was formed in 1993 after the January 20th (Clinton presidency) Inaugural Day Storm that caused an island-wide power outage for a week. Stalwart, he has served as Volunteer Chair, as Repeater Officer and as a strong Elmer. On the radio front, DX is one of his favorite sports. He is also very active in the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society (known as the BEARS.)

WINLINK CORNER – Mark Feuerstein N7MMO

Where Resiliency and Proficiency Meet

Welcome to Winlink Corner. If you are interested in becoming an active “Winlinker”, or need Winlink help, let me know - mark.g.feuerstein@comcast.net.

Winlink Exercise Summary

Last month's MIRO Winlink exercise, with seven participants, was a quick local weather report.

A Short Description of Incident Action Plans and Associated Messages This month's edition of ARRL's QST magazine has a short discussion about Incident Action Plans (IAP) and basic Incident Command System (ICS) messages, the same ones commonly sent via Winlink. The article is found on pages 65-66 of the June edition. ARRL members can view the article on line.

If you are not an active "Winlinker" and would like to learn how Winlink can help you and your neighborhood in the absence of internet service, please let me know. Your fellow Winlinkers can help get you started.

Thanks for reading. Mark, N7MMO

Here is a list of some of the Favorite Winlink Gateway Results is on the following page:

Call	Band	Mode	Submitted by	Submit Count
Telnet	na	na	W7TDO	1
AG7NA-10	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
KE7ARH-10	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
KF7ZYF-12	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
KG7WFV-10	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
W7EFR-10	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
W7EFR-12	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
W7EFR-14	2m	Packet	K7CGE	1
AI7HH	20m	VARA	K7CGE	1
AJ7C	20m	VARA	K7CGE	1
K6SDR	20m	VARA	K7CGE	1
KL7ZK	20m	VARA	K7CGE	1
N0DAJ	20m	VARA	KM6SO	1
K6SDR	30m	VARA	KM6SO	1
N7LEW	30m	VARA	K7CGE	1
KF7RSG	40m	VARA	K7CGE	1
KG7AV	40m	VARA	K7CGE	1
N7LEW	40m	VARA	KM6SO;N7MMO;K7CGE	3
N7LOB	40m	VARA	N7MMO	1
VE7RBH	40m	VARA	N7MMO;K7CGE	2
WA7ROY	40m	VARA	K7CGE	1
N7LOB	80m	VARA	KM6SO	1
KM6SO-10	2m	VARA-FM	KM6SO;K7CGE	2
W7MIR-10	2m	VARA-FM	W7VXS;K7CGE	2
K7NWS-10	70cm	VARA-FM	W7VXS;K7CGE	2
KD7WDG	70cm	VARA-FM	N7MMO	1
W7ACS-10	70cm	VARA-FM	W7VXS;K7CGE;W2RDW	3
W7MIR-11	70cm	VARA-FM	N7SSM;K7CGE	2

73,

Mike Post KJ7FIF, MIRO Chair, mpost23@outlook.com

Phone: 206-235-7309

Pat Hackett, K7PTH, MIRO Vice-Chair, pat@pathackett.com

Phone: 206-972-2724

Woody Howse, K7EDH, MIRO Chair Emeritus 2023, whowse@me.com

Phone: 206-849-5370

Bob Tykulsker KM6SO, MIRO Chair Emeritus 2022, rtykulsker@gmail.com

Phone: 206-232-8049

MIRO Current Schedule 2024

(All MIRO meetings at 7 PM **SHARP** unless otherwise specified)

2024	
June 9	Light at the End of the Tunnel Marathon
Jun 13	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: Toni Okada (W7TDO)
Jun 20	MIRO General Meeting: Bob Tykulsker on the "Tunnel Marathon" and Vara Chat
Jun 25	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Jun 28	Well Training
Jun 29	Fifth Saturday EOC-EOC: tbd
Jul 11	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Jul 13	Summer Celebration Parade and Volunteer Booth
Jul 18	MIRO General Meeting: Pat Hacket, Mike Sedgwick – installing Pat's antenna
Jul 30	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Aug 8	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Aug 15	MIRO General Meeting: tbd
Aug 27	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Sep 12	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Sep 19	MIRO General Meeting: tbd
Sep 30	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Oct 9	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Oct 16	MIRO General Meeting: tbd
Oct 28	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Nov 14	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Nov 21	MIRO General Meeting: tbd
Nov 26	Last Tuesday Working Meeting
Dec12	Emergency Net Practice: NCS: tbd
Dec 19	MIRO General Meeting: tbd
Dec 31	New Years Eve – no Last Tuesday Working Meeting, Happy New Year!

Other Resources

Training Links

Below are some links for **ongoing**, third-party training and/or testing

- Not training, per se, but online ham testing when you are ready to upgrade your Technician or General License: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions>
- Online CERT training:
<https://i.slcc.edu/emergency-prepare/docs/CERT/online-cert-course.pdf>
- FEMA IS-100C. Introduction to the Incident Command System. A requirement for being badged as a City Volunteer:
<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c>
- FEMA IS-700B. Introduction to the National Incident Management System. Another requirement to be badged:
<https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-700.b>

Regional Radio Nets

What better way is there to improve our radio capability than by participating in available nets easily found in the [Mike & Key Amateur Radio Guide](#). Following are some of available opportunities. I highly recommend that our new hams actively participate.

- Daily: 0900: 146.960: - 103.5: PSRG Nine O'clock net
- Daily: 1200: 146.960: - 103.5: PSRG Nine O'clock net
- Daily: 2100: 146.960: - 103.5: PSRG Nine O'clock net
- SUN: 2000: 147.080: +110.9: King County ARES/RACES Net
- MON: 1900: 146.960: - 103.5: Seattle ACS
- WED: 1930: 146.820: - 103.5: Mike and Key Technical Net
- SAT: 2000: 146.550: SIMPLEX: See how well your signal is heard and who can hear you

RATPAC Videos

Great videos the Radio Amateur Training, Planning and Activities Committee:

- Published Format- <http://tiny.cc/ratpac-list>
- Menu Format- <http://tiny.cc/ratpac-ss>

Winlink Nets

Can't get enough Winlink practice from our monthly nets? Try any or all of the following:

- The "original" <https://winlinkwednesday.net/>. Once a week, send a text message. Once a month, send a Winlink form. Option to check in via HF Winlink Peer-To-Peer.