

McARCS – 7/2/08 – Minutes

Jim Nosera K6PUF, John Lemmer, Frank McGarvey W6UME, Annie Robinson, Liz Heath K16RJA, Chuck Heath Z6ZIZ, Jin Cline W6JRC, Marcella Chandler KI6MJC, Cynthia Snider, Cody Snider, Tim Hanna

Debbie Covey, MCHC clinics disaster coordinator 472-4655 – asked that people not contact the operators at that site – go through her

Field Day

- Had a check in prior to event – all gave respectful opinions o a directed net (Tim NC)
- General consensus was to cancel
- Lots of work went into this event – do we want to do something else
- John – (SET) another emergency practice event is coming up
- Tim – County Fair – Boonville – far enough out, yet perfect timing; smaller venue, more personal
- Jim – would like to do it local (Ukiah); either @ the Redwood Empire Fair or the annual Fire Dept thing in the Pear Tree Center; appropriate to get local attention
- Pear Tree Fire Dept event - Chief Yates might be the contact or Dan Grabiell (?) – Jim will talk to them
- Can still do tickets and prizes for this event – use same format as FD – only no overnight, no food issues
- Contact others afar to hopefully have them be on the air when we demo
- Have brochures already too – courtesy of Chuck

3 things we're considering

- Boonville Fair (Suzy Miller)
- SET (John Lemmer)
- Fire Dept thing in Pear Tree (Jim Cline)

- If we generate interest – how do we follow up? Do we prepare for a class locally, and/or give them info on other local classes / tests?
- If WARS gets interest for more than 5 people, they will consider holding a test
- Have enough VEs for a test

Announcements

- Annie – grant funding gone; duties redirected; stepping down from committee administration (agenda, minutes, mass communications, etc.)
- Consider restructuring to a different time / venue
- John – seems like we're transitioning into a private radio club – most all agreed
- WARS having trouble sustaining itself – membership declined for the most part; John sees WAR disappearing due to lack of interest and participation; problem with WARS is many people associate it with Willits specifically
- Merge / morph into a larger Mendocino group; structure as an organization with a budget, officers, etc.

- Biggest expense is the insurance policy – about \$400 a year – general liability; unwritten
- Newsletter used to be an expense, but it's now emailed and on line
- Some ARRL publications
- PO Box 73
- Governance – board, secretary, treasurer, minutes, etc. – for smaller group, maybe not necessary, larger group more needed – do we want to move toward a more structured group – general consensus is toward yes
- WARS to maintain license if only in name
- EOC and PH is still available off hours
- Vote – keep at noon – 3, the rest in the evening or no preference
- Next month still meet @ EOC at regular time/place; take next month to think about
- John will come up with a draft by laws
- Cynthia will get out mass email – agenda items
- Ukiah valley.tv – most up to date info on fires
- possible longer meeting time if we meet after work hours

Lightning caused fire

- disservice by not immediately starting a local net / communications thing
- observed lightning – thought it would cause problems – done nothing
- heard emergency vehicles and turned on radio
- contacted Janet (CERT) –told her that a fire was about ½ mile away from here
- still did not activate a net or any formal communications
- those in this room should use these opportunities to practice for events for which we should be involved
- in general – all of us did not take the initiative to communicate or get more involved; need to be more tuned in or get more involved
- ad hoc network for drill – make it ore meaningful
- come up with a plan to self activate; tune into the 39 repeater good way to start, then activate a local net
- be prepared
- modify existing County wise script? Revise every couple of months to mix it up? Current net script is open ended?
- If you encounter an event for which emergency traffic might occur, and the possible need for HAMS, or for us to keep informed, monitor the repeater; invest in a scanner?
- A matter of awareness and take some initiative

Topic of a phone tree for next meeting or during the next net check (are you interested in participating in a HAM emergency phone tree?)

Talk about more @ next meeting

Website updates

- John described some errors on website; Cody thought he fixed many of these

- Frequencies / repeaters listing
- Excel works
- Scripts
- Cody – how do we get the scripts back from people who do the nets?
- John has sent the Sniders revised stuff; did not get
- From now on, only send info in text format – wordpad
- There's a couple of things – info to Cody in a format that he can use / alter if necessary; info can/will be translated to PDF; posted as HTML or a link
- Would like to see each week's check in kept track of; chart
- Continue to discuss next month