

M c A R C S

Mendocino County Amateur Radio Communication Service

Thursday, June 6th, 2013 ~ 1800

Minutes

Introductions and Announcements

Present: Tim WB9NJS, Marcella KI6MJC, Nick KI6RIT, Jim W6JRC, Alan WA6JBK, Steve KJ6EIF, Dirk KJ6TNY

Events

- **Health Care facility EmComm exercise**

- Very productive post-exercise meeting at the DOC. Good ideas for improvements for the next exercise, items to purchase with grant money, etc.
- Steve Francis (aka MHOAC) adopted a situation report (sit rep) form for the exercise. Streamlined reporting on immediate needs, facility status and information, etc.
- More training/heads-up needed for the sit rep form, as there were some issues with using it (some not at all, some packaged it inside of a radiogram, local facility staff routing issues).
- Some coastal facilities that were iffy in committing to participate ended up doing so with assistance from local hams.
- Lots of issues with people cutting off the beginning of their transmission when using the repeater and not clearly saying when they were at the end of their transmission.
- Radiogram format was good for clarity, but bad for speed. Ideas for streamlining it, or selectively using it...
- One of the topics mentioned at the post-exercise meeting was using digital modes to speed up the process and make it more accurate. Fldigi/flmsg doesn't work too well for "set up and go" usage by the average person.
- Tim will investigate D-Star capabilities as a "turnkey" solution. The new ACS radios are all D-Star capable.

- **Mendocino Monster**

- Marcella is struggling to get enough confirmed volunteers (10 so far). Very first Mendo Monster had over double the volunteers.
- 3 routes this year, hoping to get around 200 riders by the day of the event (~150 now).
- Net Control opens up at 6 AM, riders starting around that time as well.
- One SAG or radio-only vehicle for the short route, allocating a nearby SAG if needed.

The next meetings are scheduled as follows

August 1st, 2013

September 5th, 2013

<http://mcarcs.org/>



McARCS

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- **Boonville Bite Hard – June 29th**
 - Fast-paced event, fewer SAGs needed, less radio communications.
- **Field Day**
 - Dirk can do a digital HF setup, Buddipole and TS-480 radio.
 - Steve will contact NCO for insurance documentation.
 - Museum has OK'ed McARCS using their site.
 - Invite Sheriff Allman and other local officials – Jim will contact him
 - Sharon Sue will coordinate food. BBQ grill?
 - Jim suggested using the EOC HF radio, good test/break-in for that radio.
 - Teen CERT trailer will be available again for an operating position.
 - Tim will ask George if he will participate and/or bring his trailer.
 - Tim has a couple of deep-cycle batteries.
 - Alan has a 100w solar panel.
 - Nick will bring a wifi router/AP and a laptop, Steve/Alan/Tim have extra laptops for logging.
- **NARC Picnic/Foxhunt – June 15th**
 - At Pomo B day use area at Lake Mendocino
 - 10 AM - 3 PM
 - Contact Kristine KI6YYW (ki6yyw@gmail.com) to sign up.

Other notes

- **McARCS July meeting**
 - First Thursday of the month is July 4th.
 - Present members have voted to skip the July meeting rather than reschedule as a break from the several June events.
 - The next scheduled meeting is on August 1st.

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