

SQUAKBOX

Issaquah Amateur Radio Club

Volume 29, No. 7

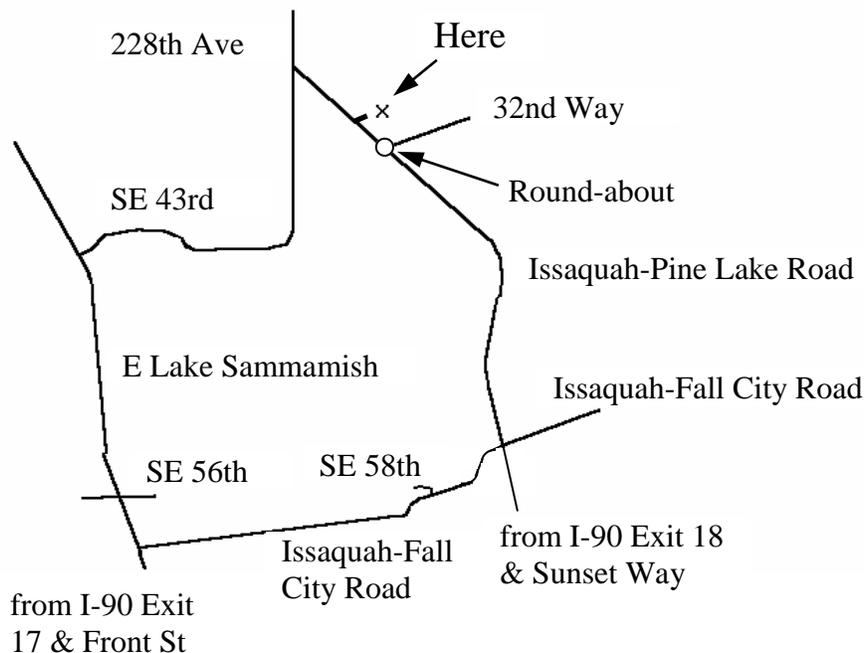
Issaquah, Washington

July 2007

Field Day Special Issue

We will be holding Field Day exercises at the Sunny Hills Elementary School again this year. That is on Saturday June 23rd and Sunday June 24th. For the new people, the address is 3200 Issaquah-Pine Lake Road. Here is a map.

and radios hooked-up and tuned up. Our goal is to be all ready so we can get on the air at 11:00 AM. We will then stay in operation until 11:00 AM Sunday morning. We get to operate for 24 hours, so if we are late starting, we can continue until we



We will NOT be setting up on Friday this year. We decided that with the antennas we have planned, we can do all the setup on Saturday morning.

In the morning, plan to arrive about 8:30 - 9:00 AM. There is still much to do to get antennas

reach the limit. However, since most every other station is doing the same thing, the available contacts go almost to zero after 11:00. So we try to do the best we can.

See you Saturday. - S

The Nature Of Disasters And Implications For Amateur Radio

Part 1 of 6, from a lecture presented at the Communications Academy, 2006

Disasters And Emergencies

Disasters are not simply big emergencies. They are unique and distinct. In trying to learn how to prepare for disasters, we make the mistake of looking at the disaster in retrospect. This leads to the same mistakes being made almost every time and the same "lessons learned" being written for almost every disaster report.

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What Is It?



A t t h e l a s t m e e t i n g . . .

June 6, 2007

President Del Marker, AC7QS, called the meeting to order at 7:30. Seventeen members and one guest were present. Our guest was Bill Hurt, KE7HMS, of Sammamish.

A motion was passed to accept the minutes of the last meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Petty Cash -- \$42.30, Checking -- \$1457.91.

John Black, W7HIL, told us he recently saw a memoriam notice for Pat Buller, W7RQT (SK), in a Radio Club of America newsletter.

There was some discussion concerning our relations with the Senior Center. We received a letter from the executive director of the center asking us to sign a rental agreement. Peter Rosenberg, AC7SB, was concerned that this apparently innocuous request was an attempt to redefine the roles (established over the last 20 years) of the club and the Senior Center. Chuck Dorian, W3JPT, noted that many of our members were dues paying members of the Senior Center. Therefore he said, our use of the Center should not be seen as use by an outside group but rather a normal Senior Center activity not requiring any special rental agreement. Rod Johnson, WE7X, said he would try to get more information from the former Senior Center director.

Flash Parlino, N7TCW, reported that 11 Issaquah city employee hams and Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group members participated in a recent drill. All communications paths functioned well and the EOC was fully staffed. One result of the drill was the realization that attention needed to be paid to incorporating more detail into the content of the messages being communicated.

Flash also talked about the difficulties in interfacing WINLINK into the emergency communications systems.

Del gaveled the general business portion of the meeting to a close, after which the meeting reconvened for a Field Day planning session led by Bruce Helbert, KG7OI. Bruce outlined some strategies for increasing the club's Field Day contest score by earning as many "bonus points" as possible. Club members approved a motion to reimburse up to \$150 in expenses for Field Day activities. Through a show of hands nine members indicated they would participate in the club's Field Day effort. 73 de Peter -- AC7SB – S

Emergencies are what the emergency services train for and respond to every day. A disaster is something that they rarely train for and may only happen once or twice in a lifetime.

Dictionary definitions for emergencies usually include "a sudden, unforeseen happening which requires action to correct or to protect lives and/or property."

Dictionary definitions for disasters are very similar. For example "A disaster is a tragic event that disrupts the normal routine of life, causing loss of property and life and suffering". There may also be a statement "overwhelming local resources."

The legal definition might humorously be stated as "It isn't an emergency until the government says it is" (Declaration of a state of emergency).

A declaration of a state of emergency is usually done for disasters – not emergencies.

To show the unique character of a disaster, try throwing more police, fire or ambulance personnel and see if that would make any difference. If not, you are looking at a disaster.

Fast developing local disasters are caused by explosions and tornadoes. Slow developing local disasters are caused by sink holes and water main breaks.

Fast developing regional disasters are caused by earthquakes and tsunamis. Slow developing regional disasters are caused by hurricanes, wildfires and pandemics.

2007 IARC Officers

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Del Marker (AC7QS) - (425) 392-1857 (Issaquah)

Vice President

John MacDuff (KA7TTY) - (425) 392-7623 (Issaquah)

Secretary-Treasurer

Peter Rosenberg (AC7SB) - (425) 222-9255 (Fall City)

W7BI Trustee

Rod Johnson (WE7X) - (425) 392-8497 (Issaquah)

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Disasters Cont.

Characteristics Of Disasters

While the characteristics below are almost invariably found with all disasters, an important caveat must be added that it is possible that some of these things will not occur with any particular disaster.

It is an unusual event. Society learns quickly to cope with usual events and it becomes either routine or an emergency. Disasters, by their nature, are distinct from emergencies because they do not happen all the time. [Unusual, but not unexpected. It is common knowledge that California has frequent earthquakes and Florida has hurricanes.]

Communications fail. This is one of the defining characteristics that separate an emergency (communications still work) and a disaster. The problem is that there are over 40 different ways that communications fail - many of which Amateur Radio cannot solve or is only of limited assistance. For example:

- Equipment failure - repeater off the air, tower destroyed, dispatch center collapse.
- Frequency overuse - listening to dozens of firemen calling "Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!" all at once during 9/11/2001 clearly illustrates that nobody's Mayday were being understood. Very little information, aside from "Mayday! Mayday! Mayday!," got over the radios.
- Battery failure - batteries get used up at an incredibly fast rate during disasters.
- Inability to reach specific or-

ganizations, individuals or sites.

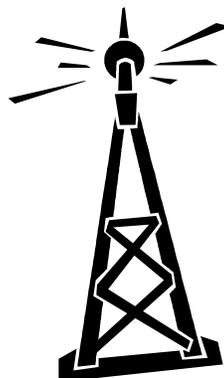
- Radios for agencies are not frequency agile and couldn't talk to one another.
- Passing of incorrect or partially correct information.
- Misunderstanding the information presented or not acting properly upon it.

Phones work. They may not work 100%, but they work. If they don't work, they will be fixed soon. If they do work, people won't use Amateur Radio.

The scope or extent is uncertain. With unusual events occurring compounded by communications failure, it is no surprise that disasters invariably result in nobody knowing the full extent of how bad things are.

The worst hit areas are the last to be responded to. Areas slightly affected scream the loudest because they still have phones working or alternate forms of communications. The worst hit areas lose all forms of communications and are simply forgotten do to the noise from elsewhere.

This will be continued next month.- Tom Cox VE6TOX - Communications Academy, April 1, 2006, Burien WA - S



FCC Cites Distributor For Marketing Unauthorized RF Device

The FCC has sent an official Citation to Tower Products Inc of Saugerties, New York, for marketing an unauthorized RF device capable of operating on 70 cm Amateur Radio frequencies. The FCC contends that the product in question, the "Laird Telemedia model LTM-WAVE-AG Wireless Monitoring System (LTM-WAVE-AG), requires FCC certification. As an "intentional emitter," the device cannot be operated legally under Part 15 rules. The device is not a Part 97 transmitter, which would not require FCC certification, because it can transmit on spectrum not allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. Additionally, the devices, the FCC said, bore an FCC identification number assigned to another device. The FCC said Tower has acknowledged that the LTM-WAVE-AG is not certified and that it marketed the device in the US, apparently in violation of §302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and §2.803(a) of the FCC rules. In addition, the FCC asserts, Tower apparently violated §2.2304(a) of the rules by importing an RF device that did not meet one or more of 10 specified import conditions, and §2.1204(b) by being unable to document

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SQUAKBOX

This newsletter is published monthly for the members of the Issaquah ARC W7BI. Items for publication must be received by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. end items to:

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Material may also be sent via landline modem to (425) 392-7623 (prior voice contact required). Modem speeds of 1200 to 56K baud supported. Internet address: w7bi@qsl.net

The IARC is a nonprofit organization registered in the State of Washington and is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). Visit our WEB page at: <http://www.qsl.net/w7bi/>

Membership is open to anyone regardless of age, sex, race, national origin, religion, or amateur radio license status. Dues are \$20 per year for a family membership, free for those under 19 years of age.

A two-month courtesy mailing of this newsletter will be made to meeting visitors and others upon request.

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- Coming Events -

- **June 23-24, 2007 – ARRL Field Day**
- **June 25, 2007** - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group - NO MEETING this month.
- **July 11, 2007** - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting at the Issaquah Valley Senior Citizens Center, 75 NE Creek Way, Issaquah. Doors open at 7:00 PM, the meeting begins promptly at 7:30 PM and the program begins at 8:00 PM. Refreshments are provided.
- **July 21, 2007** - Bandon Hamfest. Bandon, Oregon. (20 miles south of Coos Bay on Hwy 101). Southbound take a right at S.W. Eleventh St. (The stoplight in the south part of town) and follow the signs to "The Barn", aka "Bandon Community Building." Contact Ron W7VU (541) 572-5546, w7vu@arrl.net or CCRC, PO Box 698, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420.
- **July 23, 2007** - Issaquah Ham Radio Support Group meeting, Police Station, Issaquah, talk-in 146.56 MHz at 7:00 PM, Meeting at 7:30 PM.
- **July 28, 2007** - Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Hamfest. Lewis County Fair Grounds, Chehalis, WA.
- <http://cvars.org/swapmeet.htm> . Contact John Ellingson, K7OSK, k7osk@boatanchor.com .
- **August 1, 2007** - Monthly Issaquah ARC meeting. See July 11th for time and location.
- **August 11, 2007** - Radio Club of Tacoma Hamfest and Electronics Fleamarket. 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., Bethel Junior High School, 22001 38th Ave E., Spanaway, WA. www.w7dk.org

Unauthorized Cont.

compliance with import conditions. The FCC warned Tower that future such violations could lead to fines of up to \$11,000 "for each violation or each day of a continuing violation." - The ARRL Letter, Vol. 26, No. 21, May 25, 2007 - S

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 11, 2007 - 7:30 PM

Talk-in frequency: 146.56 MHz

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE ---
TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

Field Day Special

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