

5 June 2022

## **FIARC Meeting Minutes – 28 May 2022**

### **Attendees:**

N7NW – Hal Goodell	K7NP - Jim Christianson
KJ7RVR – Jane Tollett	KJ7JCB – Paul Thorpe
W7JC – Jerry Cerny	AC7QN – Chuck Kemmer
K7CRZ – Jeff Ferguson	N7BRR – Brian Hevly

The May 28 FIARC meeting was convened at 10am - thanks to all for attending and to Gail Ferguson for the cookies.

### **1. Minutes from the last meeting, April 23, were unanimously approved.**

#### **2. Updates from President Hal Goodell**

- June is Field Day month. Started years ago as a get-together and is good practice for emergency communications. Everyone is on emergency power, with extra contest points for solar power and satellite contact. There is a contest to see how many contacts are made over a 24-hour period. Tacoma Radio Club Field Day will be at the Western State Hospital; Mike and Key will be at Fort Flagler State Park. Starts at 11am Saturday June 25. There will be a HF GOTA available (High Frequency Get On The Air). GOTA is a means by which potential Hams with little or no HF experience, and even unlicensed visitors, can give HF communications a try. While HF can be challenging due to tuning, faint/unstable signals, mysterious Q codes), it can be enjoyable and motivating. There will be a horizontal antenna on the bluff, vertical on the beach for communications as the saltwater provides a good ground. More information is in Attachment A.

Tacoma Radio Club Field Day info -

[https://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=224&Itemid=342](https://www.w7dk.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=224&Itemid=342)

Here is a link to Mike and Key field Day <https://www.mikeandkey.org/fday.php>

- Did get the donation of four computers from the State thanks to Rob Allen of ARES. We will be paying Jerry Knight to set them up.

- The additional antennas have not yet been ordered, and Hal is thinking we should not be combining personal orders with orders funded by the grant.

#### **2. ARES Drill Learnings - Jeff Ferguson**

- The LAN messenger to chat and share messages worked great without any internet or server support which are key characteristics during a disaster. BeeBeep worked great, needing only our NCC wireless router. As far as we know it works just as well when internet service is functional, but EMCOMM wouldn't be needed much or at all if that were the case. Someone suggested we tape the router PW to the router. Remember it can be installed on flash drives, etc. and that it should be updated every six months or so.

- The welfare message system also worked well. Al Zuck relayed them to Canada then out. We now have a way to communicate off the island in a catastrophe.

- ARES is working to use VARA FM instead of Packet. It can make any station a "digipeater" and works if repeaters are down.

- Apparently, we could not reach PMACC (Peninsula Multi Agency Communications Center), although someone from Wauna was able to. PMACC is an operations center where representatives from emergency response entities such as Fire, Police, Infrastructure, Logistics, EMCOMM, will attempt to gather during recovery from a disaster to coordinate activities. It is physically located at the Fire District 5 HQ building.

- Hal suggested we get a dedicated radio for digital communications.

### **3. Secretary – Jane Tollett – HAM Lingo**

- A question was asked if you go to another country do you need a license to operate Ham radio and the answer is possibly YES unless you are in Canada. The US has a reciprocal operating agreement with Canada, but other countries/regions have different requirements. Best to check before you travel. Also, if not in your home district, it is courteous to let the people you are communicating with to know that.

- A list of HAM radio lingo was passed out and discussed (Attachment B).

\*Flutter – signal vacillation due to ionosphere, trees

\*Frosty – a Jim Braden special which everyone felt should be adopted (means high signal Noise, possibly due to location)

\*Marine Mobile – Waaaay out on the water

\*QRS – send more slowly

### **4. Sunday night NET operations**

- Hal has asked that the first check-ins be from people using the Repeater. This allows us to test range.

- PSRRG (Puget Sound RTTY Repeater Group) has had the Tiger Mountain repeater site since the 1970's. The group is small and is looking to turn their assets over to a larger group. They have approached Mike & Key. The lease for the repeater sites is transferable (and is currently a 10-year lease) but DNR who owns the land may be looking instead for the more profitable commercial lease for the property instead. If the Mike & Key ARC does take over the repeater sites on East Tiger Mountain and Gold Mountain, there may be a possibility for the FIARC 440 repeater to be located on Gold Mountain. This would possibly provide better coverage of Fox island as well as a wider coverage area. More will be known on this in the next couple of months.

- Our (and Hal's) interest is that Hal's property may not house the antennas forever and long-term we need a more reliable set-up. Given the island geography it has been difficult to find a suitable property that will host the antennas. Gold Mountain might be better and will require some testing to determine the extent of coverage from Gold Mountain.

### **5. Next meeting July 23 due to Field Day in June.**

Respectfully submitted,

***eJ Tollett*** – KJ7RVR

~~Attachment A – ARRL Field Day~~

~~Attachment B – HAM Radio Lingo~~

~~Attachment C – Revised Roster~~

Term	Meaning	Example
7 3	Cheers / best wishes	Thank you for the QSO and 73 from W6BSD
Boat anchor	old radio	I am replacing a vacuum tube on my boat anchor
HT	handheld transceiver	I am only carrying my HT when I travel
PTT	push-to-talk button	Press the PTT and wait a second before talking
QRM	interference	I had a lot of QRM during your last transmission
QSL	acknowledge / confirm	QSL on your signal report
QSO	contact	Thank you for the QSO
QST	announce	QST – an announcement is coming
QSY	change frequency	Let's QSY on 652
QTH	location	what is your QTH?
QRZ	Who is calling me	
clear	off the air	73 all from W6BSD, clear
copy	understood	100% copy on your last transmission
double	talk simultaneously	There was a double on the last transmission
elmer	mentor	My elmer told me about your club
final	end of transmission	I will be clear after your final
full-quieting	no background noise	you are full-quieting into the repeater
homebrew	home made	I am using an homebrew antenna
jump off	leave the radio	diner is ready, I need to jump off
kerchunck	short press on the PTT	someone is kerchunking the repeater
key up	transmit	key up when you are ready
mobile	traveling	This is W6BSD mobile, or this is W6BSD bicycle mobile
net	on-air gathering	The club net is Wednesday at 7:30 pm
picket <a href="#">fence</a>	fluttering transmission	I hear picket fence noise are you mobile?
ragchew	long discussion	Yesterday I had a ragchew with W6IPA
relay	pass a message	Can you relay that information for me?
roger	agree	Roger that Wyatt
rubber duck	short inefficient antenna	how am I getting into the repeater? I am on a rubber duck
shack	radio room	I have a boat anchor in my shack
silent key	passed away	Mike, K4LUY is a silent key
stand by	wait	Ok John take your time, W6BSD standing by
step on	talk over / double	Sorry Larry I stepped on you
unkey	stop transmitting	unkey your microphone before sneezing on the air

