

Special points of interest:

- Club Meeting November 12th at 7pm
- Weather Spotter Training
- Winter Weather Information
- Items of Interest
- FCC Issues Public Notice

The LAST TEARS Meeting This year anyway! December 10th, 2009

TEARS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING

Anyone Interested In Ham Radio
Is Welcome To Attend

**THURSDAY, Dec 10th
7 P.M.**

**TILLAMOOK 911 Center
Conference Room**

2311 3rd St, Tillamook.
Entrance is on the East side of the
building.

Social Evening/Refreshments And lots of prizes

**A fun social hour expected
(By ALL Attendees)**

There is an informal pre-
meeting gathering at Main Street Pizza in
Tillamook around 5:30 p.m.

No reservations, no host, just drop
in. Anyone headed for the TEARS meet-
ing is welcome.

The TEARS ARES Net is on the 147.220
repeater every Thursday at 7 p.m.,
except on club meeting night.

The net is open to visitors and out of
county check ins

About 50 Tillamook Co Residents now certified Skywarn Weather Spotters

At our November meet-
ing's the NWS Portland
Office provided our ama-
teur community the oppor-
tunity to become members
of a network of volunteer
weather spotters nation-
wide, as well as refresher
training for existing
weather spotters in the
area. There were over 30
local HAMs that attended
and became certified
Weather Spotters. The

next week about 20 more
Tillamook Co residents,
which included some more
HAMs were trained and
became certified. This
training enable this entire
group to become the
"ground truth" eyes as to
what is actually occurring
near their home during
winter storm or other
weather events events! I,
and the NWS thank you
for attending!

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Winter Weather is HERE!

Each year, dozens of Americans die due to exposure to cold. Add to that number, vehicle accidents and fatalities, fires due to the dangerous use of heaters and other winter weather fatalities and you have a significant threat. Threats, such as hypothermia and frostbite, can lead to the loss of fingers and toes or cause permanent kidney, pancreas and liver injury or even death. You MUST prepare properly to avoid these extreme dangers. You need to know what to do if you see symptoms of these threats. A major winter storm can last for

several days and be accompanied by high winds, freezing rain or sleet, heavy snowfall and cold temperatures. While things may be fine here along the coast, all the passes could hold a completely different set of dangers. People can become trapped at home or in their car, without utilities or other assistance. For Tillamook county, extremely cold temperatures, heavy snow and coastal or inland flooding can cause hazardous conditions and hidden problems.

One very useful item is a portable generator. One good example of an emer-

gency generator is the Honda EU-3000i. Very quiet with an output of 3Kw, it is well regulated and stable from an inverter which can help protect your radio gear.

If you do have a generator you should look for a supplier that can provide Ethanol Free gas. There are several locations through the county that offer this. By using this type gas you will hopefully be making fewer trips to the engine repair shop. Remember also to add fuel stabilizer and most of all, follow all safety precautions including CO2 concerns!

FCC Issues Public Notice regarding Amateur Radio Comms during Government Disaster Drills

KEEP AHEAD OF THE STORM by listening to NOAA Weather Radio, TV, and radio for the latest winter storm warnings, watches and advisories!

There has been a lot of chatter lately regarding the use of Amateur Radios by persons working for the fire or police departments, emergency medical personnel including those employed by hospitals, National Weather Service and even Emergency Management personnel, during drills, while on duty. Sometimes we are our own worst enemy. Because of the concern by some amateurs, the FCC was asked to clarify its rules concerning this. It ap-

pears there are also several conflicting rules and many, many opinion that muddied the waters. The ARRL also issued its opinion on the matter in their September 2009 issue of QST titled Pecuniary Interest". Well, on October 20, 2009, the FCC released Public Notice **DA 09-2259** titled, "Amateur Service Communications during Government Disaster Drills." In the notice it recognized that state and local government public service agencies occasionally conduct emergency pre-

paredness/disaster drills using Amateur Radio. In the notice they provide a "clear process for requesting a waiver, and the information that is required in order to consider issuing such a grant." Remember, in an actual emergency, amateur stations may use ANY means of radio communications at its disposal to provide essential communications needs concerning immediate safety of human life and protection of property when normal comms are not available.

Ready to take the test now? AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE TESTING

VE License Exams are available in Lincoln City on Saturday, **January 2nd.**

Lincoln City Community Center, 2153 N.E. Oar Place, Lincoln City.

Turn East off Highway 101 at N.E. 22nd St., and then take the first right on to Oar Place.

Senior Center area on south side of building, has its own entrance, and opens early.

Main entrance opens at 8:30 a.m.

Testing starts at 8:30 a.m.,

however, applicants need to arrive **no later than 9 a.m.** Walk-ins are ok and advance reservations also accepted. Tests are normally scheduled at this location on the first Saturday of every month.

Exam test fee in 2009 is \$15 for one or more elements taken on the same day.

Photo ID is required.

New applicants will need their Social Security number.

Bring two copies of your existing license if upgrading. The FCC requires

your FRN number in place of the Social Security number on any application for an upgrade.

Contact VE, Carl Somdahl, W7LI, 503-965-7575
carl@oregoncoast.com

CONGRATULATIONS to the new *Generals* who successfully completed all requirements and passed the FCC test on December 1st. I, and the 6 new General Class and 1 Technician Class Ticket holders want to thank Gary, Michael and any others that participated in their recent training and testing.

Injuries related to Cold:

50% happen to people over 60 years old

More than 75% happen to males

About 20% occur in the home

Upcoming Events and News

TEARS ARES Net, Thursdays, 7pm, 147.220. This is a roll call net. Visitors and non-ARES check-ins welcome!

The Lincoln City K7AM Radio Breakfast Group meets at Sambo's Restaurant in Lincoln City on Saturday, January 2nd, at 7am.

REMINDER

HB-2377B goes into affect on January 1st, 2010. Cell-phone use by a person operating a vehicle will need to be hands free, and texting while driving is prohibited. One local judge has advised that the Class D infraction

could result in fines near \$150. Amateur Radio mobile operations are not affected by the new law.

QCWA, Oregon Chapter 175 Annual Holiday Luncheon is December 12th, 1pm at the Wildflower Grill in Lincoln City. Contact Roger Lincoln, W7HH, ro-glinx@inbox.com if interested. You are eligible for QCWA membership if licensed in 1984 or earlier.

Latest OCRG Weather Station is in Pacific City right along the beach, and in Astoria. See the link at www.ocrg.org/telemetry_feed/ocrgwx.html

147.160 Repeater

This repeater is currently giving us some problems. Daron (N7HQR) has made a recent trip to the hill (Cape Meares) to assess the problem and will be making another soon to finish resolving the issue. While there he also repaired the rain gauge that had been damaged somehow. Thanks Daron!!!!

Some Winter Statistics

Injuries Due to Ice and Snow—About 70% result from vehicle accidents, about 25% occur in people caught out in a storm and most happen to males over 40 years old!