

Seaside Tsunami Amateur Radio Society

The WA7VE



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Helpful Hams

Aleutian Earthquake

The STARS ARES net meets on the STARS repeater on 145.490 Mhz. at 7:00 PM Wednesday evenings.

The WHONet (Women Ham Operators) meets on the W7BU repeater on 145.450 Mhz. at 8:00 PM Sunday evenings.

The monthly STARS membership meeting is scheduled for Saturday September 10th. at 5pm at the Seaside campus of Clatsop Community College, 1425 North Roosevelt (Highway 101).

The Clatsop County 10 Meter Net runs at 7:00 PM every Tuesday evening on 28.305 Mhz. Chuck (NN7U) usually operates as net control. Technician class operators may use this frequency. It is a good way to break in to the HF world.

This is not an ARES check in. You check in and tell the net what you have been up to in ham radio for the week and then rag chew a bit.

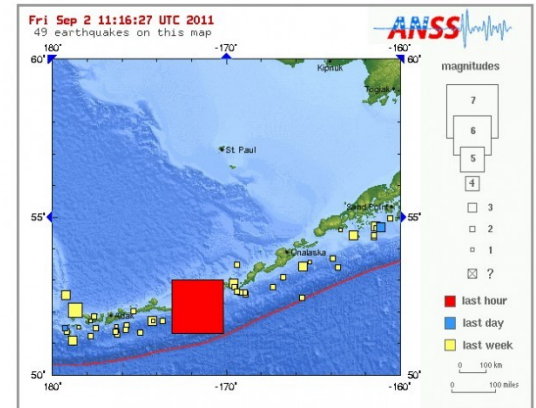
On September 1st, Hal (WA7FIV) and Scott (WA7SS) arrived at the parking lot of the new Klahowya Café on 1st street in Seaside for our Hams and Eggs get together. Upon exiting their vehicles they heard a woman calling for help. They ascertained that the voice was coming from a nearby home and responded immediately. They found a woman that had fallen out of her wheelchair. As a bilateral amputee she was not able to get herself back into the chair. She was stuck. Of course, Scott and Hal responded immediately and assisted the woman. Hams: always vigilant and always ready to help.

Hood to Coast

I exchanged emails with Don (WA7TEM) regarding results of the support provided by ARES for the Hood to Coast race. The After Action Report was not complete. He did estimate we had 24 Clatsop County hams participating between 5:00 AM and 10:00 PM on Saturday. He advised me we needed 15 additional hams to cover all positions on Friday night with no one working a 24 hour shift that weekend. Give some thought to volunteering next year.

Upcoming Tech Class

On Oct 14th & 15th there will be a Technician License training class and a testing session afterward. The class will run from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Friday and 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Saturday. The test will be given at 4:40 PM on Saturday. The class will be held at the Clatsop Community College South County Campus in Seaside.



By Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska -- A 6.8-magnitude earthquake in the Pacific Ocean prompted a brief tsunami warning early Friday morning for Alaska's Aleutian Islands.

The warning was canceled after only a small wave was recorded in the community of Atka, Alaska.

"In Atka, they had a little bump of a wave, but nothing of any kind of a destructive power. Just a wave," said Jeremy Zidek, a spokesman for the Alaska Department of Homeland Security.

The earthquake struck at about 2:55 a.m. AKDT, and there were no initial reports of injuries or damage, according to the United States Geological Survey.

The tsunami warning was issued for coastal areas of Alaska from Unimak Pass to Amchitka Pass, remote and not heavily populated areas.

Aleutian Earthquake Cont'd.

Residents were evacuating to higher ground in Atka but then stopped at the cancellation, Zidek said.

A woman who answered the phone at the city hall in Unalaska, Alaska, but declined to give her name said people at Dutch Harbor, Alaska, were awakened by sirens.

"We have some people on high ground, but not a lot," she said before the warning was canceled. "Sirens woke us all up - everybody's moving."

The state emergency response center was staffed early Friday morning.

The preliminary measurement was that it was a 7.1-magnitude quake, but the USGS later put the official size at 6.8.

In June, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.2 in the same area of the Aleutians also prompted a tsunami warning.

Are you ready???? Really ready??

Got an Old Unused Cell Phone??

If you have an old cell phone laying around collecting dust and cluttering up your house or the glove box of your car, Give 'em to STARS! We can turn your old junk phones into cash to support your club. I actually found two in the house, one in the car and another in storage. Just hand them to a STARS board member and let them do the rest.

Special Event Station K5B

Plano, TX Balloon Festival

September 16, 2011 – September 18, 2011 – Plano, Texas
Celebrating the 31st annual Plano Balloon Festival, members of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) and area amateur radio operators will be QRV as K5B during the festival. Frequencies plus or minus QRM: 7.255, 14.255, 21.355 and on the club repeater, WD5ERD on 147.180 + PL 107.2 and via Echolink at K5PRK. QSL with SASE to K5PRK. For more information go to www.k5prk.net.

Lost and Found

We still have a red camping chair that was left at the beach during our August membership meeting/potluck. If the chair is yours contact Pat Haggard (KE7DOX).



Nuggets for Newbies

How do I check my battery?

Generally, measure the voltage with a digital voltmeter or better yet check the specific gravity with a hydrometer. First make sure a battery charger is not connected to the battery and the battery is not under load. In other words, disconnect the battery.

Using a Voltmeter — Measuring voltage with a voltmeter has its advantages; in fact, if you have sealed batteries your only choice is to use a voltmeter. Measuring voltage can give you a quick picture of the batteries depth of discharge so you know when they need to be recharged. To measure the voltage you need a good auto-ranging digital voltmeter. If the meter is not auto-ranging begin your measurement with the meter set at a voltage range higher than you expect to find and work your way to a lower setting to obtain more accuracy.

Set the meter on DC voltage and connect the red lead to the positive terminal and the black lead to the negative terminal. A 12-volt battery that is charged should read 12.5 to 12.7 volts. Readings less than 12.5 indicate the battery state of charge is less than 70% and the battery needs to be charged. The battery should not be tested if it has been charged or discharged in the last 6 hours and preferably 24 hours.

Using a Hydrometer — A Cautionary Note: The electrolyte is a solution of acid and water so you need to wear safety glasses and gloves and avoid any skin contact.

The preferred method for testing an unsealed battery's state of charge is to check the specific gravity reading of each cell. You can purchase a hydrometer at an auto parts store for about ten dollars. Remove the vent caps and check the electrolyte levels. There has to be enough electrolyte in the battery cell for the hydrometer to pick it up. If you need to add any water you will have to charge the battery and let it sit for at least six hours before testing. Fill and drain the hydrometer at least twice in each cell before taking a sample. Take the reading and record it and drain the fluid back into the cell. Test all of the cells and replace the vent caps. Specific gravity readings for a charged battery should read between 1.235 and 1.277. Specific gravity readings below 1.235 indicate the battery state of charge is less than 70% and the battery needs to be charged. If there is a .050 or more difference in the specific gravity reading between the highest and lowest cell, you have a weak or dead cell in the battery.