



# CENTRALIA AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM

JULY, 2015

*Amateur Radio is a hobby... Amateur Radio Emergency Services is a commitment!*



**Chehalis Valley Amateur  
Radio Society's  
Electronics Swapmeet,  
Saturday, July 25, 2015  
9:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Southwest Washington Fairgrounds,  
General Admission - \$3.00**



Last year, our communications vehicle, "Comm II" was just an empty shell at Field Day. This year, it was outfitted with its equipment and fully functional. We "owned" 40 meters!



James, AE7TF, demonstrating the digital modes to Chief Mike Kytta, KG7GQT and Diane Kytta, KG7QV at Field Day.

### *Go Bag Changes*

As the seasons change, so do your go bag needs. Out with the warm gloves. In with more water and suntan lotion. Time to check flashlight batteries and spares as well.

**Lewis County Burn Ban has been in place since June 19th due to extreme weather conditions and substantial fire risk. Use Caution and Stay Safe. Call 911 to report fires immediately!**

### *Summerfest Thanks!*

Thanks to all the team members who braved the hot weather to help with Summerfest at Borst Park on July 4th and the downtown Independence Day parade. You really do make a difference!

### *It's Antenna Maintenance Time!*

100 foot tower or two meter J-pole, it is time to do your annual maintenance while the weather is good. Check coax and replace as necessary. Seal connectors against nasty weather and make sure the antenna will withstand those winter winds. Vehicle antennas deserve the once over as well. Everything tight? Good! Now you can relax by the pool without a single worry.

### **Summertime Means ARES Drill Time**

As the summer turns warm, we ramp up our outdoor training drills. Map drills, evacuation procedures, forward staging areas, Comm II setup procedures and communications checks keep our training nights busy. July 20th, August 3rd and 17th will all be outside training drills. August 29th (9am-noon) will be a 5th Saturday communications drill - also probably outside.

Check go bags and equipment. Be prepared. Make sure you have your map, HT's programmed, note taking materials and Field Resource Manuals ready. Think about where you live and alternate routes to the EOC.



Bill McGowan  
W7FQQ

Centralia ARES team advisor, Bill McGowan, W7FQQ is a very generous guy. He also has a very generous son-in-law , Steve Szombathy, W7UDI. Steve has a real talent for repurposing used Land Mobile radios into amateur radios. He previously provided Centralia ARES with two great VHF and two UHF radios. Now he is bringing eight more radios and a full 2 meter repeater for use in our communications backbone system. He is even going to install the repeaters for us.

Our 440 repeater was previously owned by Steve Smith, W7HDO (one of our Members-At-Large) who gave it to Kim Aiken, AC7YY (another of our Members-At-Large) who generously donated it to the Centralia ARES team. Nobody can say hams aren't generous people.

Now both repeaters will be installed together at Riverside Fire Authority's Cooks Hill fire station. With the antenna at 70 feet, the coverage maps look pretty good for the area.



Firefighters Casey McCarthy, KG7GQL and Jade Gross KG7AQJ who volunteered their time to run the RFA ladder truck.



Carol, KE7YZB, Lyle, KB7PI, Teresa, N4MBA, Bill, W7FQQ, Ricardo, KE7YYY and Linc, K0ZCO



Chief Mike Kytta, KG7GQT



Firefighter Jade Gross, KG7AQJ and Lewis County Radio Technician Scott Mattoon, WA7SM

*Thanks to everyone involved in this antenna project.  
You are GREAT!*