

Emergency Contact Sheets

On-Air Training

29 April 2015

Welcome

Welcome to tonight's training. If you are sitting next to a computer, I would encourage you to login to the ERC website. The address is www.idahoerc.org [say again phonetically]. While you're getting there, let me share a few statistics.

Statistics

On April 23, I gathered some statistics about amateur radio operators within the four regions around the Idaho Falls Bishops' Storehouse.

Total licensed amateur radio operators: 1236

Total registered ERC operators in the IF Storehouse area: 560

Operators that have never checked into a net: 389 (nearly 70%)

Operators that have an emergency contact sheet: 252 (45%)

Operators that have no contact sheet: 308

Operators that HAVE checked into a net and have NO contact sheet: 153

Operators that have never checked into a net and have no contact sheet: 154

I like looking at the numbers. I know this is not a contest, but it is interesting to me to think about why people don't check into our nets. I haven't dug in too deep yet, but I'm sure there are some who have moved away or maybe were licensed but have no radio or any number of reasons. I'm not trying to be critical or judgmental in any way. This is just gee whiz information.

Instructions

Okay. Let's get to tonight's training. For the past two years, we have periodically conducted some training around or at least mentioned emergency contact sheets. Tonight, we are going to put that into practice. Let me give you an overview of what we're going to do and then I'll give some detailed instructions.

You will change back to your regional net frequency. You will log into the ERC website, if you haven't already done so, look up the contact sheet for an operator in your stake, and contact them TONIGHT using only the information on their contact sheet. Once the contact has been established, you will report to your net control station. You may not use LDS Tools or a telephone book or a memorized phone number or an email address in your contact list. You must use only the information posted on the contact sheet. If you happen to select one of the

308 operators that do not have a contact sheet, back up and select another one. If there is not another operator in your stake, contact someone in a neighboring stake.

Let me tell you how to find the emergency contact sheets on the website:

1. Login to the ERC website. The website is www.idahoerc.org.
2. Along the left hand side of the page is a list of links. Click on "Reports".
3. Some new links will appear along the left hand side of the page. Click on "Emergency Contact Sheets".
4. Now there are two links referring to emergency contact sheets. The first (Listed by Region) will give you contact sheets for priesthood leaders. The second (Listed by Net) is contact sheets for operators in your region. Click on "Emergency Contact Sheets – Listed by Net"
5. Select your regional 2 meter net from the list. [*Point out possible confusion with the Idaho Falls and Rigby nets.*]
6. Click on one of the names of the operators from the list.

If they have a phone number listed, you may call them. If there is a cell phone, you can text them. If there is an email address, you may use it. If there is a mailing address (and they are close to you) you can run next door and meet them at the door. The goal is to contact them and get a response. You can't just send them an email and call it good. They would have to reply to the email, too.

Because this is practice, an exercise of sorts, contacts only count one way. If I look up Mark Orchard's contact sheet and call his cell phone, I can count the contact, but he cannot. He may look up my contact sheet, but he will need to initiate the contact.

If a contact sheet exists for one of your priesthood leaders, you may also contact them. Just let them know you are conducting an exercise using the contact information you have on file for them.

Net control stations are exempt from this exercise. Net control operators will be receiving reports from their region. Once operators have made a contact, they will report to net control. Net control will tally the contacts.

You may report to your net control simply by stating your call sign and the phrase "successful contact." Net control should acknowledge by saying your call sign and the word "Roger". Other operators should listen for net control to acknowledge the reports and quickly relay stations not heard.

At exactly _____ [*time*] all stations will return to this frequency. I will call the net control stations from each region to receive a report—simply the number of contacts that were made. You have only 10 minutes to complete this exercise and report to net control. At

the end of 10 minutes, return to this frequency, regardless of whether you have made a contact or reported to your net control station.

To summarize...

1. Change to your regional frequency.
2. Look up a contact sheet for another operator in your stake.
3. Attempt to contact them using only the information on their contact sheet.
4. Once you have made contact, report to your net control station.
5. Return to this storehouse frequency when instructed to do so by your net control or no

later than _____ [time].

All stations now change to your regional net frequency and proceed with the exercise.

Reports

I will now call each region. Regional net control operators should respond with their call sign and the number of contacts made.

Idaho Falls North: _____

Idaho Falls South: _____

Rexburg: _____

Rigby: _____

Conclusion

This exercise is not meant to embarrass anyone or single out one region above another. The purpose of this exercise is to get you more familiar with the web site and emergency contact sheets.

If your contact sheet needs to be updated or has no information, this is how you fix that:

1. Log in to the ERC website.
2. Click on "Update Profile". The link is located in the upper right-hand corner of the main page.
3. Click on the link in the Task column "Edit my emergency contact sheet".
4. Fill out your information as thoroughly and completely as is reasonably possible.
5. Click the "Update" button at the bottom of the page.

Let me give you a few examples of "thorough and complete"...In my spouse's information, I state that she works at a dentist office a few days a week and I list the street address and the phone number of her office.

I work at BYU-Idaho. I list not only my office number, but the main contact number for the department I work in and also the general phone number for the university.

In the schedule section, I list my work schedule, my church schedule and the fact that my family spends many Sunday evenings in Rigby for family dinner. I list the address and phone numbers of Alisa's parents.

For other ways I can be contacted, I list a couple of different email addresses, my children's cell phones, and the radio frequencies I monitor when I'm in my vehicle.

I hope each of you will take some time to update or fill out your own contact sheets. Then, encourage your priesthood leadership to do the same.

Are there any questions or comments? Please call now with your call sign.

This concludes tonight's training. I sincerely appreciate your participation, your comments, and your questions. 73 to the net. This is N7TMS, back to net control.