



'The Rag'

COARECT'S Online Monthly Newsletter – April 2025



COARECT.COM. Take the time to go online and see what it looks like. Paul, K7PIL, is updating the website weekly with new features. There is now a **BUY - SELL - TRADE** section on the COARECT website. Contact Paul if it interests you.

QST, QST, QST, Emergency Set, Sunday, May 4th, 3pm. This is the second Emergency Set of 2025. How can the COARECT team be better equipped and prepared for emergencies? We learn from our failures as well as successes and move forward. Each Emergency Set needs to be designed to test us in the basics of amateur radio and build confidence that we can handle the unknown when all else fails.



The May Set consists of an exercise using Echo Link, VHF Simplex, UHF, and an HFcheck in. The newly formed Emergency Set Task Force is working hard to make sure all the components are ready for the Set. Now, it is time for COARECT team members to get your radios ready. More information will be coming as we approach May Set. **Get Ready, Set, Go!**

2nd Annual COARECT Ham Radio Banquet, May 17th, 4pm, at The Door Church (Right behind Ray's grocery store). Fantastic Food, Silent Auction, Games, and Fun. Menu: Smoked NY steak with choice of garlic crusted or coffee-chili marinade, roasted potatoes, grilled veggies, spinach & strawberry salad with poppyseed dressing, potluck dessert. \$20 per person.



Last year we raised funds to purchase equipment for the MICU and we hope to do the same this year. If you have an item (doesn't have to be amateur radio related) that you would like to donate for the event, please contact Marc Mirrasoul, KK7KGN, and let him know. COARECT, Inc. is a 501(c3) non-profit corporation and anything you donate to the banquet is tax deductible. Please get your reservation in, don't wait. Any board member can accept your dinner reservation at Fishy Friday or May's General Meeting.

Introduction to Amateur Radio, sponsored by COARECT. We have a new handout introducing Amateur Radio to the public. This pamphlet is available at COARECT general meetings and Fishy Friday. Pick up one or two of them and have them on hand should someone ask you a question about getting started with Amateur or Ham Radio.

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Alan Gabbert and Paul Lamb are heading up **The Learning Center**. The **Learning Center** is an amateur radio workshop set up for people to learn more about amateur radio by building antennas, electronic kits, testing antennas, fox (radio) hunting equipment and anything to do with the basics of ham radio. The **Learning Center** is normally open on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 11am. Contact Alan Gabbert, KK7MKQ, if you have any questions.



Tools for the MICU. We are asking for tool donations to go into the MICU. Most of us have some extra tools around that would like a home in the MICU. The MICU needs to be prepared for different road conditions, situations, and emergencies. Here is a list of MICU equipment needs: US / Metric wrenches, Screwdrivers, Pliers (regular, water pump, electrical), Trouble light, Assortment of Hammers, Tow Strap, and Jumper Cables. Please contact Mike, KK7NBQ, if you would like to donate any of these items.

Start looking at WinLink in your spare time. New technologies can be difficult to get your head into. Remember the old adage, “To eat an elephant, take it one bite at a time”. Digital use of amateur radio is a growing segment of emergency communications. COARECT will be starting classes to help team members with WinLink in the near future. There are also plans about starting a monthly WinLink check-in. The more we use it the easier it gets!



Your Friendly Ham Radio Ragchew Group

COARECT team members host a variety of **Rag Chews** and nets throughout the week. There is a regular daily Rag Chew at 8am and 1:30pm each day and a LAN Net every Thursday evening at 7:00pm. All licensed Hams are welcome. In addition, Cliff Hill, NC7CH, will be starting up his ‘Tech Chew’ again, talking about technical aspects surrounding amateur radios. Again, check the COARECT website

calendar for the Tech Chew dates/times.

Thanks to all the COARECT team members who contributed to the lengthy Bylaw discussion at the last General Meeting. The Constitution and Bylaws are part of the building blocks as COARECT, Inc. moves forward. The Board is going over the final drafts and preparing to send them out to members.

COARECT has a new **‘Tech Committee**, headed by Jeff Scott W7JST. Contact Jeff if this part of amateur radio interests you. The ‘Tech Committee’ will be working on the MICU and other projects throughout the year.



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