



# 'The Rag'

COARECT'S Online Monthly Newsletter – August 2025

**EMERGENCY EXERCISE** – The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Emergency Exercise has no written instructions, ahead of time, just as there are no written instructions in real life emergencies. Instructions will be given in a QST announcement. Listen to your radio on Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at **7:00 pm** to hear the instructions. This QST announcement will be on our normal Walker Repeater frequency. Don't be late and be prepared to follow the instructions given in the QST announcement.



**RUBBER DUCK** – Short inefficient antenna, “How am I getting into the repeater? I'm on a rubber duck”



**Winlink** –The Winlink Elmer Team's goal is to build up a group of Winlink users within COARECT who are comfortable using it on a regular basis. A Winlink check-in has been added just before the Thursday night LAN Net at 6:30pm – 7:00pm. Winlink instructions are sent out to COARECT Team members via email and announced during rag chews. The first check-in took place on July 10<sup>th</sup> with more than 8 people checking in and we had a high of

20 COARECT Team Members checking in two weeks later. This is a great start!!! COARECT Team members, during a disaster or emergency, need to be prepared to communicate via Winlink. Contact Paul K7PIL or any Winlink Elmer for help. We will get you operating on Winlink before you know it. **NOW**, there is a Winlink help station during Fishy Fridays at Ponderosa Pizza. Bring your laptop in and we can download Winlink as you eat!

**SHOW AND TELL** – It is fun and informative to have 'Show and Tell' items or ideas at each general meeting. What is the Show and Tell item(s) for the next General Meeting? Show up and find out, it might be worth your while. There are great radio equipment ideas out there that many of us would like to see, not to mention other fun ideas. Let Mike, KK7NBQ, know if you have an item, idea or invention that you would like to share with the COARECT Team at an upcoming General Meeting. Next month come and see what **Jim Williams and Paul Lamb** have for show and tell.



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## NEXT GENERAL MEETING – SATURDAY, September 6<sup>th</sup>

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM**



**NET CONTROLLERS AND RAG CHEW HOSTS** – Why would you want to be a Net Controller or Rag Chew Host? During emergency situations we need as many trained net operators as possible. It takes time on the air to feel comfortable hosting a net or rag chew. It is not hard but it helps to have some practice. Issues pop up with poor transmissions, new visitors, questions, relays and “pileups”. These issues are nothing compared to operating a net during a disaster or emergency. NOW, is the time to get on the air and get comfortable with directing a net or a rag chew. Give Beverly Irwin, N6DFW, a call. She is the COARECT Net Controller / Rag Chew Host coordinator.

**SHOOTING / RADIO BENCH** – This shooting bench idea was one of the ‘Show and Tell’ items at August’s General Meeting. Due to the amount of member interest, we have put together a BENCH Building Party. **WHEN:** Monday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 10am. **COST:** \$30 for the plywood. **LOCATION:** Kirk Selby’s house, 17027 Deer Run Lane. **BRING:** 2 sawhorses, 2 pencils, battery powered drill, jigsaw (if you have one), skill saw. **RESERVE A SPOT:** Contact Mike, KK7NBQ, [cascadecarry@outlook.com](mailto:cascadecarry@outlook.com), 503-339-5654. **QUESTIONS OR TOOL NEEDS:** Contact Mike. He will be picking up the plywood for everyone and you can pay him at the building party. **DEADLINE TO RESERVE:** Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.



### **STEP ON – Talk over / double, “Sorry Larry I stepped on you”**



**GENERAL MEETINGS ON ZOOM** – Future General Meetings can be viewed on ZOOM for Team Members who are out of the area or unable to attend in person. We always want to see COARECT members in person at General Meetings. Nothing can replace the Team atmosphere when everyone is at a General Meeting. The door opens at 9:00am and the coffee is ready. General Meetings start at 9:30am. The ZOOM meeting number and password will be posted on the COARECT.COM website in the ‘Members’ area, prior to the General Meeting. **Remember, if you are using Zoom for a General Meeting, you have to provide your own coffee and donuts!**

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