

2016 – Mid Year Northwestern Division Report  
To  
The ARRL Board of Directors

Director Jim Pace, K7CEX ----Vice Director Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ

**Committee Memberships:** In January Director Pace was appointed chair of the Administration and Finance Committee, along with serving on the Amateur Radio Legal Defense & Assistance Committee and the ARRL Foundation Board. Vice Director Altus is serving on the Sub-Committee on Education.

**Hamfests and Club Meetings:** Director Pace and Vice Director Altus continue on an aggressive travel and meeting schedule within the division. From the Mat-Su Hamfest in Alaska to the Billings Montana Hamfest, meeting with members and advocating new and renewed membership is paramount in their presentations.

The Division Convention at Seaside Oregon, Idaho State Convention, Oregon Rickreall Hamfest and the Mike & Key Hamfest in Puyallup, took up a good portion of the first part of the year. Fairbanks, Washington State and Montana Conventions will be visited in the second half of the year. Rounding out the major travel will be the Pacific Northwest DX and VHF conferences.

One notable Field Day operation was from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, B Reactor, which is one half of the National Park System's remembrance of the Manhattan Project. (the other half is at the Oakridge Laboratory). With permission of the Department of Energy and National Parks, members of the Eastern Washington Section, operated from the Reactor site and Visitor's Center, at Hanford.

**Cascadia Rising 2016:** After a two-year planning process with FEMA and the State/Provincial Emergency Management Offices in – Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, British Columbia and the Yukon Territories, the exercise known as 'Cascadia Rising' began June 7, 2016. The scenario for the exercise was the 9.0 earthquake, which is expected in the Cascade Seduction Zone, that runs from Northern California through British Columbia. The predicted quake is likely to

trigger a huge Tsunami that would be devastating to Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and Alaska coastlines.

Although the exercise included Amateur Radio Operators from ARES and NTS teams in the Northwestern Division, it was not just an *Amateur Radio* event. This was a FEMA directed and evaluated exercise, which included National Guard, Coast Guard, Fire/Rescue, Law Enforcement, Department of Health and many other State Agencies. NGOs, such as Salvation Army and American Red Cross, Hospitals and other community based organizations also participated.

Certainly no exercise is expected to receive a 100% on the score card, and such was the case with Cascade Rising 2016. Although there were some disconnects between local communities and State/Federal Agencies, the local teams stood up and performed well beyond anticipated levels. The specific areas of ‘disconnect’ are already being addressed in the mitigation phase of the exercise.

**Membership:** The Northwestern Division continues to maintain an emphasis on new ARRL memberships. Our goal is to lead the Nation for the 5th year with new and renewed memberships. This emphasis is accomplished by the commitment of the Division Staff and the 6 Section Managers, as they work in a cooperative effort at Hamfests and Club meetings.

The Northwestern Division continues to foster the cooperative relationships between Division and Section leadership, with periodic contact via email, newsletters and conference calls. Such communications are paramount in the Division working as a unit.

Certainly a busy year thus far, and an anticipation of more activity as the year progresses.

Respectfully Submitted

James D Pace, K7CEX  
ARRL Northwestern Division  
Director