

Lesson Learned from GMRS Net meeting 6/23/2017

6/22 GMRS Net, Lessons Learned (Ann will share in 6/29net)

- Talking depletes battery much faster than listening
- There was some kind of programming problem, possibly specific to Zone 4 (Channel 104), in which radios tuned to 104 heard 119 as well – major interference!
- Bruce and I need more specifics about the location of the person being interfered with. And an opportunity to test the radio.
- People in difficult locations should be sure to use long antenna. ALWAYS!
- **Update:** If people cannot hear you, turn your volume up, (Transmit signal volume is not affected by the volume control. Speak directly into the microphone to improve transmit sound level. Only use the volume control to hear what you want to receive.) if they cannot hear you, move 10', use your long antenna (it is not the volume)
- **In order of importance:**
 - **1. Long antenna.**
 - **2. Reduce obstructions. Go outside where you can see in the direction you want to communicate.**
 - **3. Increase your height. Go upstairs, again, looking out a window toward the direction you want to communicate.**
 - 4. At our frequencies 24" will usually do fine to find a better local signal. Move your hand until the noise is reduced on an incoming signal.
- Doubling (talking over each other) is a BIG issue
 - Do not push PTT when anyone else is talking.
 - If Net Control doesn't acknowledge your call-in, you weren't heard. Try again. Be patient.
 - This is the most frequent problem. We are hearing distortion caused by Doubling rather than weak signal static most of the time.
- If Net Control can't hear you on 119, try to reach someone in a nearby Zone and ask them to relay your sign-in.
- Cape Mears can call in on 119. Hope they create their own Zone.
- Zone 9 is a difficult, can hear not be heard. Would a better antenna help?

- If any in zone 9 have ham licenses they should be calling in on Ham Channel 6 which is the Ham repeater (Channel 5) repeated from NCRD. It is the best coverage for zones 6, 7 and 9.
- If there are 2 or more radios in a single location, first check and make sure they are programmed correctly, then turn off all but one radio

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