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## Local Ham Radio Operators Help Out with Lamorinda's 4th of July Parade

Submitted by Dennis Rein



From left (back row): Bruce Macler, Chris Breller, Diana Wilde, Keith Riley, Dennis Rein, Lamorinda's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Jack Paulus; (front) Cindy Petrini, Patti Young, Carol Bergren, Matthew Vurek; (not pictured) Wesley Ayres, Larry Olson, Michael Whitfield.

No, it wasn't an out of control wildfire or a major earthquake, but it could have been! About a dozen amateur radio operators from around Lamorinda answered the call. This time it was to help the Orinda Association, organizers of Lamorinda's July 4th parade, keep things moving. The emergency communications function at the City of Orinda's Emergency Operations Center was activated before parade participants and observers began to arrive. The "Hams" took their posts and assisted with controlling parking, reuniting lost kids and parents and relaying information to the parade's reviewing stand. The event was an opportunity for the radio operators to practice functions they would be called upon to perform in a major emergency. All of the communications volunteers are members of the Lamorinda Amateur Radio Interest Group better known as "K6ORI." The group meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month in the Sarge Littlehale room in the Orinda City Offices. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio or communications in emergency preparedness is welcome to attend.

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<u>back</u>

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