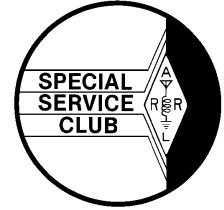




Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society



June 2004

Website: cvars.org

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

kd7own@arrl.net

Official Record Executive Board Meeting May 12 2004

The CVARS Executive Board met on Wednesday May 12th at the home of Johnny Jackson, KQ7JJ. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.

Present were: Kim Aiken, AC7YY, President; Bob Willey, KD7OWN, Vice-President; Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer and board members Johnny Jackson, KQ7JJ, Jim VanderMeer, KC7ASV and John Bertels, WA7LFJ.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Pack, the club Treasurer, noted that the club took in six orders for club jackets at the meeting. Those orders have been given to Terry Neumann, KQ7K for ordering. Since last month, the club has received three renewals and one family renewal. Expenses out were limited to a \$150 donation to the Mt. St. Helens Repeater for operations assistance.

Old Business: Board Member Jim VanderMeer gave an update on Field Day preparations. Things are coming together in good order but he has several assistance requests for the membership. See "Field Day" later in the newsletter for that information.

New Business: President Kim Aiken asked board members to consider ideas on how to encourage all members and especially the new members to join ARRL. As a Special Service Club, we must maintain a majority membership in ARRL. It was decided that ARRL information brochures would be given to new members as they join and we as a club would encourage all to consider membership in the League.

Vice President Bob Willey advised the club has received several videos from Dick Wheelock, AA7NI. It was decided to leave these with Johnny Jackson for loan to any club member who would like to see them. Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Just A Thought

Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?

Videos Available

Dick Wheelock, AA7NI, has recently donated a selection of video tapes to the club for your enjoyment. Many are a little dated (80's & 90's) but the information has not changed and they are fun to watch. Videos include:

1. ARRL Audio Visual Library – The AH1A DXpedition to Howland Island – 1993.
2. Operating Modes & Interests: What are those crazy sounding signals saying; This is amateur television; Packet radio; AMSAT Phase 3D – 1996 – 70 min
3. Educational – Spark Gap.
4. Everything you wanted to know about antennas but were afraid to ask. 1 hr
5. Fastnet Force Seven DXpedition – 1 hr
6. Peter I Island DXpedition "close to the edge" – 1 hr.
7. Contesting – "winning on the hill" – 1 hr.
8. The South Sandwich Saga DXpedition & Journey to the Peter 1st Island – 55 min.
9. Packet radio primer – 30 minutes.

The Executive Board has determined the videos will be kept at Johnny Jackson's home. He will have the videos on loan to any club member who wishes to see them. For more information, call or email Johnny Jackson, KQ7JJ. Thanks for your generous gift, Dick.

Good Stuff For Sale!

- 1) ICOM 706MKII RTTY/CW 400 Hz filter. New. FL-232. \$75.00
- 2) HAMKEYER electronic keyer with AUTRONIC paddle. Both for \$75.00.
- 3) MFJ Model 1026 Indoor Antenna \$25. (150w) with 6-ft. antenna.
- 4) FREE! 2-300 feet of 75 ohm 10 KW hardline. Bring your truck! Last roll.
- 5) Russian GU-43b tube and socket. (Same tube as Svetlana 4CX1600). A cool Kilowatt. \$150

Call Hillar N6HR at (360) 678-3408

Subject: Wife 1.0

Dear Tech Support:

Last year I upgraded from Girlfriend 7.0 to Wife 1.0. I soon noticed that the new program began unexpected child processing that took up a lot of space and valuable resources. In addition, Wife 1.0 installed itself into all other programs and now monitors all other system activity. Applications such as Poker Night 10.3, Football 5.0, Hunting and Fishing 7.5, and Racing 3.6 no longer run, crashing the system whenever selected. I can't seem to keep Wife 1.0 in the background while attempting to run my favorite applications. I'm thinking about going back to Girlfriend 7.0, but the uninstall doesn't work on Wife 1.0. Please help!
Thanks, A Troubled User.

Reply:

Dear Troubled User:

This is a very common problem that men complain about. Many people upgrade from Girlfriend 7.0 to Wife 1.0, thinking that it is just a Utilities and Entertainment program. Wife 1.0 is an OPERATING SYSTEM and is designed by its Creator to run EVERYTHING!!!! It is also impossible to delete Wife 1.0 and return to Girlfriend 7.0. It is impossible to uninstall, or purge the program files from the system once installed. You cannot go back to Girlfriend 7.0 because Wife1.0 is designed to not allow this. Look in your Wife 1.0 manual under Warnings- Alimony/Child Support. I recommend that you keep Wife 1.0 and work on improving the situation. I suggest installing the background application "Yes Dear" to alleviate software augmentation. The best course of action is to enter the command C:\ APOLOGIZE. Because ultimately you will have to give the APOLOGIZE command before the system will return to normal anyway.

Wife 1.0 is a great program, but it tends to be very high maintenance. Wife 1.0 comes with several support programs, such as Clean and Sweep 3.0, Cook It 1.5 and Do Bills 4.2. However, be very careful how you use these programs. Improper use will cause the system to launch the program Nag 9.5. Once this happens, the only way to improve the performance of Wife 1.0 is to purchase additional software. I recommend Flowers 2.1 and Diamonds 5.0!

WARNING!! DO NOT, under any circumstances install Short Skirt Secretary 3.3. This application is not supported by Wife 1.0 and will cause irreversible damage to the operating system.

Best of luck, Tech Support.

Are You An ARRL Member?

If not, Why Not? The League supports all hams and represents us to several important groups. The \$39 membership brings with it QST magazine every month which is worth the price all by itself!. Membership in ARRL is important. Amateur Operators need the league and it needs you!

CVARS Public Information Officer

Bob Willey, KD7OWN has applied for and been appointed an ARRL Public Information Officer. As such, he will be tasked with gathering photographs and information for presentation to the media on any club or local ARRL activities. In addition, PIO's provide items of interest to the League about club members, club activities, awards or news in our area. Finally, timely information of interest to hams from the ARRL is passed on by the Public Information Officer through the club's newsletter. Let's work together to get CVARS information out to the public. Everyone should know what an important job hams do!

Interested In A "Special Event" Station From The New Veteran's Museum?

As you may be aware, the local Veteran's Museum is building a beautiful new facility just off I-5 Southwest of Exit 77 in Chehalis. The museum's purpose is to honor those men and women who serve or have served in our nations armed forces. The new museum will be large enough to hold a large selection of equipment, uniforms, books, photos, and even a recording library where you can hear the veteran's story in their own words. The facility may even have a real fighter plane hanging from the ceiling!

Several HF "Special Events" are held at military locations to honor veterans or historical sites. I have worked the USS Hornet, a floating aircraft carrier museum, several submarine historical sites and Pearl Harbor and Veteran's Day "Special Events".

Now we have a chance to do our own series of "Special Events" from the museum. The museum Director Lee Grimes has approved the idea to set up a small HF station within the museum to allow our club a special event station. During museum functions or on holidays like Veteran's Day, club members would be able to put the station on the air benefiting both the museum and our club.

The CVARS Executive Board has approved the initial proposal and we are in the planning stages. Still to be determined are station location, QSL cards, antenna location and a few other details. The museum's grand opening is scheduled for Veteran's Day, 2004 and we hope to be ready when they are. What a great way to honor our military, our local museum and our hobby. We'll keep you posted.

More Of Life's Little Questions

- If Wile E. Coyote had enough money to buy all that Acme crap, why didn't he just buy dinner?
- Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp which no decent human being would eat?
- Why do people point to their wrist when asking the time, but don't point to their crotch when asking where the bathroom is?
- Why ARE Trix only for kids?

Field Day Is Almost Here!

Jim VanderMeer, this year's Field Day Coordinator reminds us all that Field Day is near and he still needs some important items. He would like assistance from anyone who has the following:

- Coax in 25, 50 and 100 foot lengths with connectors
- HF radios (looking for 5 or 6)
- RV's to house a station
- Helpers for the potluck
- Antennas

Jim will be signing up people to help with the specifics including the potluck at the June meeting so come prepared to volunteer! The club is planning a 5 alpha Field Day with a satellite station and a "Goto" station. Field Day does not happen by magic. It takes determined volunteers willing to help provide equipment, set up and take down and work the radios. Feel free to give Jim VanderMeer a call at 245-3794 and volunteer equipment or time.



QSL Tips Of The Month

Here are a few more tips to help you get that important QSL card back from that fantastic DX station;

- If you must include a folded envelope for QSL return, keep the fold down in the bottom of the sending envelope and the open part at the top. Many DX stations who receive lots of cards use a sharp letter opener for speed which can rip your return envelope to shreds.

- One DXer I know loosely tapes a return stamp to the return envelope. That way if the DX station needs to send a larger envelope for his QSL, he can still use the stamp.

- Nesting envelopes (outer envelope to send your QSL and an inner envelope for them to send their card back to you) are really worth the money. Ron Hill, W7NN, at "Hamstuff" in Olympia sells a nesting envelope that fits in a standard larger envelope you buy locally. In addition, Bill Plum, 12 Glenn Road, Flemington, NJ sells a great set of nesting envelopes for a decent price. Check out his website at plumdx@msn.com.

- In warm, humid climates near the equator, slide a piece of wax paper between the envelope and the sticky strip on the flap. Otherwise, your envelope may arrive already sealed which discourages a return QSL.

Trivia Works For Me!

- The only city whose name can be spelled completely with vowels is Aiea, Hawaii. It is located 12 miles west of Honolulu.
- Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2nd but the last signature wasn't added until five years later!

A Visit To The Past In Bellingham

By Hillar Raamat, N6HR

After receiving some announcement from the American Museum of Radio and Electricity – and having nothing much on the social agenda a few days ago – I went and visited this museum in Bellingham. WOW! The location is somewhat overwhelming in it being smack downtown in the Metropolis of Bellingham, WA next to some governmental offices and buildings (thus a bit of limited parking selection) – but adequate parking is available – two bits will even buy you an hour on the curb meter!

Once inside the door I contributed my \$4 for the good of the situation and declined the "tour" – being sort of a doing-it-yourselfer... YeGads! This is like entering the Pharaohs Tomb! The first exhibit consisted of Atwater-Kent Radio Kits – about a dozen versions thereof – in perfect condition! Triple tubes for the audio outputs! Then came the various Radiolas and the horn speakers! Followed by 1920 radios and more stuff than I can even imagine having read about in the old radio magazines. It's all there!

One has to remember though – this is not a 'ham radio' museum, although old Hammarlund and Hallicrafters receivers are on display (even up to a Collins S-Line). This is the world of the 78-RPM Victrolas and needle boxes, Galena xtal whiskers and variometers! From the commercial telegraph end, there is a working American Morse Code Telegraph station on display complete with 'sounder' box and a manual key – as well as a sample of Vibroplexes, keyers and even a modern iambic keyer/paddle...

I met the Curator John Winter and his crew of people who are experts in restoring some of the antiquated hardware. On the "electricity" side – there are some Tesla Coils and even a small VandeGraaf generator (?) both of which can make a racket to raise the roof! Operational are also some spark-cap transmitters, several Marconi Radio displays and a complete commercial Marconi Radio Room...

Additional displays center on vacuum tubes, microphones, commercial transmitting tubes and other components. One of the interesting displays is an old 'clock radio' – a genuine grandfather's clock with a radio built into the pendulum housing! And on and on—

The facility is a bit cramped and could use much more space to display the unique exhibits and John tells me he is trying to expand as much as the resources will allow... So, if you are up Bellingham way and have an hour or two to spare, this museum is definitely a worthwhile visit for any radio buff! Location:

American Museum of Radio and Electricity!
1312 Bay Street
Bellingham, Washington

Take I-5 Exit 253 going West. The museum is open Wed-Sat from 11 AM- 4 PM. 360-738-3886 or find'em on the web at www.americanradiomuseum.org.

- Life teaches you that there is always one more imbecile than you counted on.
- Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

Definitions

From David, ZL3AI via the OARS Newsletter

- **Adult:** A person who has stopped growing at both ends and is now growing in the middle.
- **Beauty Parlor:** A place where women curl up and dye.
- **Cannibal:** Someone who is fed up with people.
- **Chickens:** The only animal you eat before they are born and after they are dead.
- **Committee:** A body that keeps minutes and wastes hours.
- **Dust:** Mud with the juice squeezed out.
- **Egotist:** Someone who is usually me-deep in conversation.
- **Handkerchief:** Cold storage.
- **Mosquito:** An insect that makes you like flies.
- **Raisin:** Grape with a sunburn.
- **Secret:** Something you tell to one person at a time.
- **Skeleton:** A bunch of bones with the person scraped off.
- **Toothache:** The pain that drives you to extraction.
- **Tomorrow:** One of the greatest labor saving devices of today.
- **Yawn:** An honest opinion openly expressed.
- **Wrinkles:** Something other people have. You have character lines!

Word Count

Also from ZL3AI and OARS Newsletter

- **Pythagorean Theorem:** 24 words
- **The Lord's Prayer:** 66 words
- **Archimedes' Principle:** 67 words
- **The Ten Commandments:** 179 words
- **The Gettysburg Address:** 286 words
- **The Declaration of Independence:** 1,300 words
- **U.S. Government regulations of the sale of cabbage:** 26,911 words!

Important Dates To Remember:

- June 2nd – CVARS General Meeting 7:30 PM
- **June 12/14 – ARRL VHF QSO Party**
- June 18/20 – SEAPAC Hamfest – Seaside, OR
- June 19 – “Kid's Day” event on HF
- June 26/27 – Field Day - Stan Hedwall Park

Special Events

- June 4-14 – USS LST-325 Amateur Radio Club W2T, 4,119 mile trip up east coast of U.S. in a WWII era “Landing Ship Tank”.
- June 6th – Several “on air” special events commemorating the Normandy D-Day Invasion.
- June 6th – Battleship New Jersey ARC – 50th anniversary of the four Iowa class battleships last sailing together. 14.250, 7.250.

June's Program

June's program speaker will be Bill Vodall, WA7NWP. Bill will be giving a basic short course on Packet for those of us that are real “beginners” on this subject.

Bill was recently named a TAPR (Tucson Amateur Packet Radio) Board member. TAPR is well known as one of the mover and shaker groups in digital amateur radio communications and supports packet research and development efforts (check out TAPR on the web). This is a very prestigious appointment and is well deserved considering Bill's knowledge of the digital modes. The TAPR newsletter said this of Bill Vodall: “He is a long time packet experimenter who's helped develop high(er) speed full duplex repeater networks (he's one of the folks behind the Seattle area WETNET system), he's an APRSer, and he's one of those Linux hams who has helped make Linux a cool place to play with ham radio. He brings both experience and enthusiasm to the TAPR Board.”

So bring your digital questions and put Bill's knowledge to the test.

How To Stay Young

- Remember, there is no way you can look as bad as that person on your driver's license.
- Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay them.
- Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.
- Keep learning. Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever. Never let the brain idle. “an idle mind is the devil's workshop.” And the devil's name is Alzheimer's.
- Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath.
- Enjoy the simple things.
- The tears happen. Endure, grieve, and move on. The only person who is with us our entire life, is ourselves. Be ALIVE while you are alive.
- Surround yourself with what you love, whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, hobbies, whatever. Your home is your refuge.
- Cherish your health: If it is good, preserve it. If it is unstable, improve it. If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.
- Don't take guilt trips. Take a trip to the mall, to the next county, to a foreign country, but NOT to where the guilt is.
- Tell people you love that you love them, at every opportunity.
- Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
- And always remember.....Humpty Dumpty was pushed!

Remember

Reputation is character minus what you've been caught doing - Michael Iapoco

-73's. Bob

