

# CVARS



Website: [cvars.org](http://cvars.org)

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

January, 2006

## Special Executive Board Meeting December 14, 2005

The Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Executive Board met on December 14, 2005 at the home of John Jackson. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM.

Present were: Bob Willey, KD7OWN, President; Jerry Cunning, KN7VFO, President elect; John Jackson, KQ7JJ, Vice-President; Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer and Toby Vice, KD7JPK, Board Member.

Executive Board business: The board met with President elect Jerry Cunning to transfer responsibilities, plan future programs and review this year's events.

Other business: Club Volunteer Examiners were present to provide testing to Toby Vice, KD7JPK.

The December Executive Board meeting closed at 9:30 PM with no further business to discuss.

## 59 and Pregnant

A woman went to the doctor's office where she was seen by a young, new doctor. After about four minutes in the examination room, the doctor told her she was pregnant. She burst out, screaming as she ran down the hall. An older doctor stopped her and asked what the problem was, and she told him her story. After listening, he had her sit down and relax in another room.

The doctor marched down the hallway to the back where the first doctor was and demanded, "What is the matter with you? Mrs. Terry is 59 years old, she has four grown children and seven grandchildren and you told her she was pregnant?"

The new doctor continued to write on his clipboard and without looking up said, "Yes, but does she still have the hiccups?"

## Bunny On The Loose

Bill Harwell, AC7SR, advises that the bunny is on the loose and it's time to get your RDF (Radio Direction Finding) gear out and help find it. Date: January 2<sup>nd</sup>. 11am - 1pm.

Grab your handheld and any RDF antenna and come on down for the fun. Hunters are given a photocopy of a section of a city map. The bunny is hidden somewhere in that area. It usually takes about 45 minutes for everyone to find the bunny, then it is hidden again. There is usually time for two separate hunts. For more information, contact Bill at 360-748-8086. Come on down and enjoy an hour or two outdoors. If you

don't have the equipment, come anyway and ride with someone else. Always room for one more. We will meet in the parking lot next to the Lewis County Law & Justice Center. To get there, take exit 77 off of I-5 and proceed into town. The Lewis County Law & Justice Center is located on the corner of Chehalis Avenue and Main Street just a few blocks from the freeway. Talk in frequency will be on the Bawfaw repeater, 147.06 MHz with an access tone of 110.9.

## Raised Security Levels

The British are feeling the pinch in relation to recent bombings and have raised their security level from "Miffed" to "Peeved." Soon, though, security levels may be raised yet again to "Irritated" or even "A Bit Cross." Londoners have not been "A Bit Cross" since the blitz in 1940 when tea supplies all but ran out. Terrorists have been re-categorized from "Tiresome" to a "Bloody Nuisance." The last time the British issued a "Bloody Nuisance" warning level was during the great fire of 1666.

Also the French government announced yesterday that it has raised its terror alert level from "Run" to "Hide." The only two higher levels in France are "Surrender" and "Collaborate." The rise was precipitated by a recent fire that destroyed France's white flag factory, effectively paralyzing the country's military capability.

It is not only the English and French that are on a heightened level of alert. Italy has increased the alert level from "Shout Loudly and Excitedly" to "Elaborate Military Posturing." Two more levels remain: "Ineffective Combat Operations" and "Change Sides."

The Germans also increased their alert state from "Disdainful Arrogance" to "Dress in Uniform and Sing Marching Songs." They also have two higher levels: "Invade a Neighbor" and "Lose."

Belgians, on the other hand, are all on holiday as usual, and the only threat they are worried about is NATO pulling out of Brussels.

## Sad Moment...

With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at this moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week. Larry LaPrise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey" died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family

was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in, and then the trouble started.

Yes, you know you know it!

### **DX From Tanzania**

Received an email the other day many of you may have also received saying the F6KOP Amateur Radio Club team will soon be on the air from Africa. A team of 9 operators will operate 5H1C from Zanzibar Island, Tanzania. This will be IOTA (Islands On The Air) AF-032 and will be fairly rare. They will be on the air from January 24 – February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 with five stations operating CW / SSB / Digimodes from 160 to 10 meters.

### **A Can Of Worms**

A minister decided that a visual demonstration would all emphasis to his Sunday sermon. Four worms were placed into four separate jars. The first worm was put into a container of alcohol. The second worm was put into a container of cigarette smoke. The third worm was put into a container of chocolate syrup and the fourth worm was put into a container of good clean soil. At the conclusion of the sermon, the Minister reported the following results:

The first worm in alcohol – dead.

The second worm in cigarette smoke – dead.

The third worm in chocolate syrup – dead.

The fourth worm in good clean soil – alive!

So the Minister asked the congregation – what can you learn from this demonstration?

A little old woman in the back quickly raised her hand and said, “As long as you drink, smoke, eat chocolates and don’t eat dirt, you won’t have worms!”

Don’t you just love little old ladies?

### **Interesting Website for Hams**

Steve Pack, WB7VAS, found an interesting website for hams. You simply plug in your zip code and it will list all hams in your zip code area AND includes a map showing where they are located! The site is very cool and worth checking. The website is [www.perconcorp.com/google\\_ham.html](http://www.perconcorp.com/google_ham.html). When I plugged in Centralia’s zip code, I found 81 hams. Chehalis’ zip code produced 112 hams. Try your own zip code and see how many fellow hams you recognize. Unfortunately, there were a lot of hams who were not members of CVARS, Recruiting possibilities? I did notice several Silent Keys still listed as well but the site is fun to look at and interesting to read. Try it out. Thanks Steve.

### **Very Deep Thoughts**

All you need in life is ignorance and confidence, then success is sure - Mark Twain.

Some people are worried about the difference between right and wrong. I’m worried about the difference between wrong and fun. – P.J. O’Rourke

Computer dating is fine, if you’re a computer – Rita Brown.

### **Old Geezer**

While on a road trip, an elderly couple stopped at a roadside restaurant for lunch. After finishing their meal, they left the restaurant and resumed their trip. When leaving, the elderly woman unknowingly left her glasses on the table. She didn’t miss them until after they had been driving for twenty minutes.

By then, to add to the aggravation, they had to travel quite a distance before they could find a place to turn around in order to return to the restaurant to retrieve her glasses.

All the way back, the elderly husband became the classic grouchy old man. He fussed and complained and scolded his wife relentlessly during the entire return drive. The more he chided her, the more agitated he became. He just wouldn’t let up for one minute.

To her relief, they finally arrived at the restaurant.

As the woman got out of the car and hurried inside to retrieve her glasses, the old geezer yelled to her.....

“While you’re in there, you might as well get my hat and credit card too.”

### **21 Ways To Kill Your Club**

Terry Neumann, KQ7K, found this list for us. These are good reminders for everyone. Many of us are guilty of more than one.

1. Don’t attend meetings, but if you do, arrive late.
2. Be sure to leave before the meeting is over and make sure everyone hears you leave.
3. Sit in the back so you can talk with other members during the meeting.
4. Never have anything to say at meetings; wait until you get outside then always be negative.
5. After meetings, find fault with club officers and fellow members.
6. Hold back your annual dues as long as possible or don’t pay at all.
7. Never accept an office or serve on a committee. It is much easier to criticize than to do.
8. When everything else fails, abuse the club’s officers.
9. Don’t bother enlisting new members; let others do it.
10. At meetings, agree to everything, then go home and do nothing.
11. Don’t tell the club how its policy can help you, but if it doesn’t help you, tell everyone else it’s useless.
12. Do nothing more than what’s necessary, but when other members roll up their sleeves and willingly use themselves to help matters along, complain that the club is being run by a clique or dictator.
13. Talk cooperation but never cooperate.
14. Get all that the club has to give but give nothing in return.
15. Threaten to leave the club if something isn’t the way you want it.
16. If you’re asked to help, always say you don’t have time.
17. Never read any mailings or seek information. You might find out what’s going on.

18. If appointed to a position, never devote any time to it. Let someone else do it all.
19. Overlook your own shortcomings and concentrate on what they are not doing.
20. Repeat all the unpleasant things about your club to anyone who will listen.
21. Always criticize club officers whenever the opportunity arises.

### Quote Of The Day

"I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned most people die of natural causes!"

### Great News!

On Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, Toby Vice, KD7JPK successfully passed his General Class license examination! Toby studied hard and passed his code test just a few weeks earlier. Congratulations to Toby! Great job.

### Weather Stations

WorldRadio Magazine's January 2006 issue has a pretty good article on APRS Weather Stations, written by Jim Wades, WB8SIW. It discusses temperature & dew point sensors, barometers, rain gauges, wind sensors, lightening protection and care and calibration. If you don't already take WorldRadio, their website is [www.wr6wr.com](http://www.wr6wr.com). Many times this magazine has some great articles that CQ or QST don't have available.

### DX World January 2006

Several DXpeditions will be up and running during the first part of the year. Here are three:

#### Spratly Islands (1S)

Spratly Islands DXpedition (AS-051) has now been scheduled for January 5-19, 2006. with the special call of DX0A.

#### Marshall Islands (V7)

Randy Young, N5LE, is presently on Kwajalein Atol (OC-028) for two years and signing with V73AX.

#### Penang Island

Penang Island (AS-015) will be active from December 28 – March 08. Look for him to sign with 9M2/PA0RRS for an official 9M2 call. He may also be able to take a trip to Langkawi Island (AS-058) as well so listen up.

### Signs That Old Age May Be Creeping Up...

Your favorite section of the paper is "25 years ago today."

The parts that have arthritis are the parts where you feel best.

A big evening with your friends is sitting around comparing living wills.

Your clothes go into the overnight bag so you can fill the suitcase with your pills.

Somebody you consider an old timer calls you an old timer.

Your idea of a change of scenery is looking to the left or right.

Your knees buckle but your belt won't

### Birthday Barbie

One day a father gets out of work and on his way home he remembers that it's his daughter's birthday. He pulls over to a toy store and asks the sales person, "How much is the Barbie in the display window?"

The sales person answers, "Which one? Work out Barbie for \$19.95, Shopping Barbie for \$19.95, Beach Barbie for \$19.95, Disco Barbie for \$19.95 or Divorced Barbie for \$265.95?"

The amazed father asks: "What? Why is the Divorced Barbie \$265.95 and all the others are only \$19.95?"

The sales person annoyingly answers:

"Sir, Divorced Barbie comes with Ken's car, Ken's house, Ken's boat, Ken's furniture, Ken's computer and ...one of Ken's friends!"

### More Interesting Websites:

Steve Pack, WB7VAS, has come up with two more interesting websites for hams. The first, [www.arrl.org/locate/locate.html](http://www.arrl.org/locate/locate.html), will give you, when you plug in your city and state, your grid square, longitude and latitude, ARRL section and ARRL division.

Another ARRL website, [www.arrl.org/sections](http://www.arrl.org/sections), gives information about area testing, section news, elected officials, news items, club notes, ARES / RACES notes, public service announcement and interesting web links.

ARRL does a great job with their website. You don't have to be a member to see most of them but, why aren't you a member anyway?

### Speaking of Being A Member...

It is that time of year again. Annual CVARS dues are due NOW! The club bylaws say dues shall be payable by the January meeting and shall be delinquent by February 28<sup>th</sup>. Dues for a voting member are \$15.00. A family rate is \$15.00 if more than one family member is in the Society. Student members are \$7.50

Help the club out and bring your dues to the January meeting. It takes considerable time and effort to track down and drag dues from so many members.

Dues should be paid to our Treasurer, Steve Pack at any meeting. Dues may also be paid to your newsletter editor when taped to the back of a brand new in the box Icom 7800 and delivered directly to my home (just kidding).

### Perspective

The fact that we live at the bottom of a deep gravity well, on the surface of a gas covered planet going around a nuclear fireball 90 million miles away and think this is normal is obviously some indication of how skewed our perspectives tend to be. – Douglas Adams

If you hear a voice within you saying "you cannot paint", then by all means paint and that voice will be forever silenced – Vincent Van Gogh

I like work: It fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours – Jerome K. Jerome

### Winning Bumper Stickers

- I get enough exercise just pushing my luck.
- My wife keeps complaining I don't listen to her... or something like that.
- Sorry, I don't date outside my species.
- As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in public schools.
- Laugh alone and the world thinks you are an idiot.
- When you do a good deed, get a receipt, just in case heaven is like the IRS.
- Give me ambiguity or give me something else.
- If at first you do succeed, try not to look astonished.

### Radial Plates

Terry Neumann, KQ7K, recently installed a steel radial plate designed by DX Engineering to his vertical antenna. The radial plate attaches at the bottom of the antenna and allows one to install many radials without the problem of trying to get them all on one tiny bolt. The cost of the plate is \$49.95 plus shipping. Check out "DX Engineering" on the web.

Terry also reports that during the recent 10 meter contest, he got 23 contacts in 13 states and 3 DX countries. He received good signal reports and was impressed with the radial plates ability. He attached the radials and simply pinned the wires to the grass. Before long, you could just mow right over the wires without problem. (P.S. - Steve Pack got 19 contacts during the 10 meter contest. I got Zip!)

### BIG Trouble!

A husband was in big trouble coming up to his wedding anniversary. His high spending, forever nagging wife told him "OK you good for nothing ape, tomorrow is our anniversary and there better be something in the driveway for me that goes from zero to 200 in 2 seconds flat!"

The next morning, the wife found a small package in the driveway. She opened it and found a brand new bathroom scale.

Funeral arrangement for the husband have been set for Saturday.

### Ah, Memories...

When my three-year-old son opened the birthday gift from his grandmother, he discovered a water pistol. He squealed with delight and headed for the nearest sink.

I was not so pleased. I turned to my mother and said, "I'm surprised at you. Don't you remember how we used to drive you crazy with water guns?"

Mom smiled and then replied, "oh yes! I remember very well."

### Ethical Question:

In light of the news of the so-called human cloning going on, we have to ask ourselves the hypothetical question:

If you pushed your naked clone off the top of a tall building, would it be:

1. murder?

2. suicide?
3. merely making an obscene clone fall?

### Some Special Events

January 1 - January 31: Fessenden Amateur Radio Society with 100<sup>th</sup> year commemoration of transoceanic 2-way communications. They may be found on 18.075, 14.055, 10.118, 7.055 (yup, all CW locations. Guess what? That's what they used 100 years ago!)

January 28<sup>th</sup> 1400Z - 2100Z, Punxsutawney PA Amateur Radio Club commemorating Groundhog Day 2006. Look for K3HWJ on 14.240, 7.240, 7.125 and grab their certificate.

### ARRL Straight Key Night

I know, I know. It's code! But everyone on the air will be using an old straight key and will be working much much more slowly than with a bug. Good time to give it a try. New Year's Eve on almost every available band.

### Other Events On The Air In January

Kids Day - 1800Z-2400Z January 8<sup>th</sup>. Don't have to be a kid or have a kid, just talk to a kid on ham radio.

Worldwide QRP Federation QSO party - 0000Z-2400Z January 6<sup>th</sup>. This is CW, SSB and Digital so listen hard and give a QRPer a chance.

Hunting Lions On The Air, sponsored by the International Association of Lions Clubs in South Africa. 0000Z January 14 - 2400Z January 15<sup>th</sup>. Got Africa yet? Here is a great place to try and make a contact.

North American QSO Party - Phone. 1800Z January 21<sup>st</sup> - 0600Z January 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a fun contest with LOTS of available contacts. Great place to grab those missing states for your "Worked All States" certificate.

### Unplugged

A man and his wife were sitting in the living room and he said to her:

"Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state dependent upon some machine. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife got up and unplugged the TV.

### Longevity

Married men live longer than single men do, but married men are a lot more willing to die.

### Discussion Technique

A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

Happy New Year. I wish you all many contacts, upgraded license privileges, easy antenna installations, and health.

73's and best wishes - Bob KD7OWN