



# Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society



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

February 2006

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

## Official Record

### Executive Board Meeting January 8, 2006

The Executive Board of the Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society met on the air after the Sunday evening net on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

Present were: Jerry Cuning, KN7VFO, President; Bob Willey, KD7OWN, Secretary and Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer.

Old business: none

New business: Jerry advised that the next CVARS meeting will be a soldering / de-soldering class by John Ellingson, K7OSK. John will bring several small project kits for the members to work on. Members may purchase a kit to solder for \$2-\$3 each or may bring a project of their own to work on.

The idea for a second club raffle was brought up after the successful raffle last year. Several radios were discussed and the membership will be polled at February's meeting for ideas.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Steve Pack let the board know that membership currently stands at 55 members, including nine renewals for current members. Steve reminded us that the club donated \$100 to the church as a thank you for the use of their facility.

Having no further business for the board, the meeting was closed at 2100 hrs.

### Dues Are Due

As the club by-laws state, dues are due at January's meeting and are considered delinquent at the end of February. This means if you haven't paid 2006 dues by the end of February, you will not receive the newsletter or be allowed to vote, so bring some money and support your club. Treasurer Steve Pack will have a new roster for those members renewing their dues and for other members currently paid up through 2006. Dues are \$15. An extra \$5 can always be added to the "Bob Willey Icom 7800 Radio Fund" for those who have way too much money.

Not sure if you are paid up through 2006? Mr. Pack will gladly check on that little detail for you.

## Spring 2006 Club Radio Raffle

Last year's overwhelming success with the spring radio raffle has spurred us to offer another great radio. Which radio you ask? Come to February's meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> and help us decide. There is a good chance we may have a pretty fancy radio for you to see and touch but if not, we will certainly decide which radio will be offered during this spring's raffle. Bring money because if we have a radio available, we'll start selling tickets immediately.

## Did You Know?

More than half of the coastline of the entire United States is in Alaska.

The Amazon River pushes so much water into the Atlantic Ocean that, more than one hundred miles at sea, off the mouth of the river, one can dip fresh water out of the ocean.

Ninety percent of the world's ice covers Antarctica. This ice also represents seventy percent of all fresh water in the world.

Canada has more lakes than the rest of the world combined.

## True Love

A woman's husband had been slipping in and out of a coma for several months, yet she had stayed by his bedside every single day. One day, he motioned for her to come nearer. As she sat by him, he whispered, eyes full of tears, "You know what? You have been with me all through the bad times. When I got fired, you were there to support me and when my business failed you were there. When I got shot, you were by my side and when we lost the house, you stayed right here. When my health started failing, you were still by my side....you know what?"

"What dear?" she gently asked, smiling as her heart began to fill with warmth.

"I think you're bad luck!"

## 10-10 Winter Phone Contest

The 10-10 International Winter Phone Contest will be held on the first full weekend in February beginning at 0001 UTC Saturday and running until 2359 UTC Sunday.

### Mike & Key

The 25<sup>th</sup> annual Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club electronics show and flea market will be held March 11, 2006 beginning at 9am at the pavilion exhibition hall at the Western Washington Fairgrounds, in Puyallup. Two floors with 44,000 square feet of exhibition area (over 300 tables) will be available. Radio gear, computers, parts, club information, snack bar and free parking are available. The club will be offering licensing exams as well. Mark your calendars. This is a great show.

### F16 vs. C130

A C-130 was en route on a mission when a cocky F-16 pilot flew up next to him. The fighter jock told the C-130 pilot, "watch this!" He went into a barrel roll, followed by a steep climb, then finished with a sonic boom when he reached the speed of sound. The F-16 pilot asked the C-130 pilot what he thought.

The C-130 pilot responded "That was impressive, but watch this."

The C-130 droned along for about 10 minutes then the C-130 pilot came back on the radio and said "What did you think about that?"

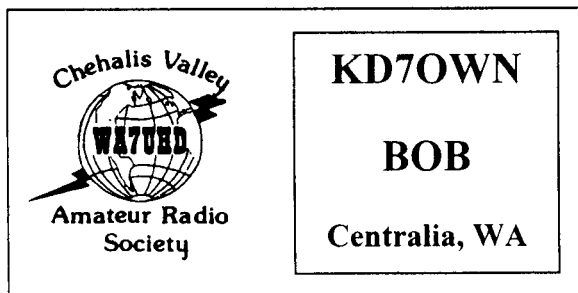
The F-16 pilot asked, "What did you do?"

The C-130 pilot responded "I got up, stretched my legs, went to the back, poured a cup of coffee and used the bathroom."

"Any questions?"

### Club Name Tags Available

President Jerry has reminded us all that we should be wearing name tags for the benefit of new members and visitors. The name tag seen below, measuring 2 1/2" X 3 3/4" can be purchased at Awards West in Centralia for \$8.50 each. Mine happens to be blue with white lettering but you can get them in several different colors and styles. Come on, show your support.



## February QSO Party Month

February seems to be THE QSO party month with at least seven states wanting to contact you and give you their county contact. The list includes Vermont (Feb 4-5), Minnesota (Feb 4<sup>th</sup>), Delaware (Feb 4-6), New Hampshire (Feb 11-13), Louisiana (Feb 11-12), Mississippi (Feb 25-26) and North Carolina (Feb 26-27).

### Baseball In Heaven

Two ninety year old men, Moe and Sam, have been friends all their lives. It seems that Sam is dying and Moe comes to visit him every day.

"Sam", says Moe, "You know how we have both loved baseball all our lives and how we played minor league ball together for so many years. Sam, you have to do me one favor. When you get to Heaven, somehow you've got to let me know if there's baseball in Heaven.

Sam looks up at Moe and promises to do exactly that. Shortly thereafter, Sam passes on. It is midnight a couple of nights later and Moe is sound asleep when he is awakened by a blinding flash of white light and a voice calls out to him, "Moe...Moe...Moe, it's me Sam. I'm in Heaven and I've got good news and bad news."

"So tell me the good news first," says Moe.

"The good news is that there is baseball in Heaven. Better yet, all our old buddies are there and we're all young men again and it's always spring time and it never rains or snows. Best of all, we can play baseball all we want and we never get tired!"

"Really?" says Moe, "That's fantastic, wonderful beyond my wildest dreams! But, what's the bad news?"

"You're pitching next Tuesday!"

### N3FJP Logging Software

If you haven't tried a logging software or just are not satisfied with what you currently have, you might try Scott Davis' N3FJP product. Several of us have the software and have used it to log contacts for several years. I find it very easy to use.

Also, Scott specializes in contest logging and has software covering over 50 programs for contesting, general logging, upgrading your license and other amateur related applications. The whole package is available for \$39 or you can get it with a CD for \$50.

Scott constantly upgrades his products and the upgrades are free. The programs allow for easy contest logging and keep track of your awards such as countries needed or counties already worked. For more info, go to [www.n3fjp.com](http://www.n3fjp.com). Take a look. Ask John Jackson, Steve Pack or myself if you have questions.

### **Surviving Miner A Ham**

The only surviving person of the January 3<sup>rd</sup> mine explosion in Tallmansville, West Virginia is Randal McCloy Jr, KC8VKZ of Philippi, West Virginia. At the time I am writing this, Randal is still in the hospital but has been upgraded somewhat.

If you would like to send a note of support to Randal, you may address it to:

Randal McCloy Jr., KC8VKZ

P.O. Box 223

Philippi, WV, 26435

### **Amish Virus**

You have just received the Amish Virus. Since they do not have electricity or computers, you are on the honor system. Please delete all of your files immediately.

Thank Thee

### **2006 Communications Academy**

This year's Communications Academy is scheduled for the weekend of April 1-2<sup>nd</sup> and will be held in a different location this year at the Criminal Justice Training Center in Burien. At least we miss most of the Seattle traffic this time. Communications Academy registration will open around February 15<sup>th</sup> and you will save some money if you sign up early.

### **One For The Ladies**

One day my housework-challenged husband decided to wash his sweatshirt. Seconds after he stepped into the laundry room, he shouted to me, "What setting do I use on the washing machine?"

"It depends," I replied. "What does it say on your shirt?"

He yelled back, "University of Oklahoma."

And they say blondes are dumb!

### **I Always Wondered...**

Know why female black widow spiders kill their males after mating?

To stop the snoring before it starts!

Know what you call an intelligent, good looking, sensitive man?

Why does my wife say "A rumor?"

### **Looking For A Screwdriver Antenna?**

Members of the Radio Club of Tacoma are building screwdriver antennas for sale at \$125 each. The club receives a portion of each sale for their treasury.

The HF screwdriver antenna tunes 80 through 10 meters, high Q, and handles 200 watts all modes. The antenna weighs 6lb, less whip (103 inch recommended) and no external tuner is required. They say no matching network is

required either. The antennas are tuned by adjusting the antenna length to match transceiver output frequency using an external SWR meter or internal transceiver meter. Mounting hardware is not included and whips and interconnecting wire is not included either. The base of the antenna fits into a 2 inch pipe and you will need a spring loaded double pole double throw center off switch they say can be purchased at Radio Shack for motor control. If you want more information, contact Steve Blacksten, KD7UBE at P.O. Box 536 Spanaway or call 253-847-9884.

### **Horse Sense**

- One reason why horses and birds are not unhappy is because they are not trying to impress other birds and horses.
- A horse is dangerous at both ends and darn uncomfortable in the middle.
- Horse sense is the thing that keeps a horse from betting on people.

### **Darwin Awards – Again**

Somehow, people keep doing what it takes to receive the Darwin Award honors...

When his 38-caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California, would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder. He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked!

A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his car to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

A teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, he told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit. (Duh! It's a TRAIN!)

When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to the motor home. A police spokesman said the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline and plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the motor home declined to press charges saying that it was the best laugh he had ever had.

There, don't you feel much more intelligent now?

## Presidential Library Destroyed

Crawford, Texas – A tragic flood this morning destroyed the personal library of President George W. Bush.

The flood began in the presidential bathroom where both of the books were kept. Both of his books have been lost.

A presidential spokesman said the president was devastated, as he had almost finished coloring the second one.

The White House tried to call FEMA but there was no answer.

(even when you like George Bush, this is funny)

## Did You Know?

- Although covered with ice, Antarctica is the driest place on the planet, with an absolute humidity lower than the Gobi Desert.
- There are more Irish in New York City than in Dublin, Ireland; more Italians in New York City than in Rome, Italy; and more Jews in New York City than in Tel Aviv, Israel.
- 28% of Africa is wilderness. 38% of North America is wilderness.
- There are no natural lakes in the state of Ohio. Every one is manmade.
- There is a city called Rome on every continent.
- The deepest hole ever made in the world is in Texas. It is as deep as 20 Empire State Buildings but only three inches wide.
- The Eisenhower interstate system requires that one mile in every five must be straight. These straight sections are usable as airstrips in times of war or other emergencies.

## Your Chance At Culinary Fame

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ of Newington Ct is the ARRL Affiliated Club/Mentor Program Manager. While it is a bit early for thinking about Field Day, Norm is putting together a list of favorite recipes used at Field Day potlucks. If you have a favorite, just send it along to [clubs@arrl.org](mailto:clubs@arrl.org). Be sure to put the work *Recipe* in the subject line.

## Working Punxsautawney?

The Punxsuatawney Amateur Radio Club, K3HWJ, will be commemorating the 2006 Groundhog Day on January 28<sup>th</sup> 1400 UTC to 2100 UTC. (6am – 3pm PST for those of you with sundials)

Look for (and work) the Special Event Station K3HWJ on 14.240, 7.240 or 7.125. A special certificate will be available from "Phil" – shadow or no shadow!  
- Thanks, Hillar, N6HR

## Worked The Space Station Recently?

The best time to catch International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, on the air from NA1SS is during a weekend. Now about halfway through his six-month duty tour, McArthur already has more than 300 casual contacts in his log, and he's eager to up the count.

Weekends have few scheduled activities so the crew may operate anywhere from 0800 until 2200 UTC. McArthur also operates in his free time on weekdays and that includes his lunch hour scheduled around 1200 to 1400 UTC.

McArthur recently completed Worked All Continents (WAC) from space including the "traditional ARISS" requirement to work Antarctica.

He is still trying to earn Worked All States (WAS) and DXCC from space and as 2005 drew to a close already had logged 37 states and 38 DXCC entities.

The NA1SS worldwide voice and packet downlink frequency is 145.800 MHz. In regions 2 and 3 (the Americas, and the Pacific), the voice uplink is 144.49 MHz. The worldwide packet uplink is 145.99 MHz.

When NA1SS is in crossband FM repeater mode, the worldwide downlink is 145.80 MHz and the uplink is 437.80 MHz. The Science@NASA website provides location information for the ISS<<http://science.nasa.gov/temp/StationLoc.htm>>.

## Lawyer Jokes

"In the past, when I've talked to audiences like this, I've often started off with a lawyer joke, a complete caricature of a lawyer who's been nasty, greedy and unethical. But I've stopped that practice. I gradually realized that the lawyers in the audience didn't think the jokes were funny and the non-lawyers didn't know they were jokes.

-Chief Justice William Rehnquist

## A True Buddy

"Hello, is this the RCMP?"

"Yes, how can I help you?"

"I'm calling to report my neighbor, Mike. He's hiding drugs inside his firewood."

The next day, the RCMP SWAT team descended on Mike's house, searched the shed and using axes, busted open every piece of wood but found no drugs. They finally left. The next day the phone rang at Mike's house...

"Hey, Mike did the RCMP come to your house?"

"Yeah!"

"Did they cut up your firewood?"

"Yep"

"Happy Birthday Buddy!"