



Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society

April 2006

Website: cvars.org

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Next CVARS Meeting:

Wednesday April 5, 2006

First Baptist Church, 1866 S. Market Blvd, Chehalis

Doors Open 7:00 PM – Meeting Starts 7:30 PM

Join us every Sunday evening at 8:00 PM on the Mt. St. Helens Repeater for the Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Net.

BawFaw Repeater

147.06+ PL Tone 110.9

Mt. St. Helens Repeater

145.43- PL Tone 110.9



The Darwin Awards

*The Darwin awards salute
the improvement of the
human gene pool by
honoring those who choose
to remove themselves in
really stupid ways!*

- In Detroit, a 41-year old man got stuck and drowned in two feet of water after squeezing his head through an 18 inch water sewer grate to retrieve his lost keys.
- A 49-year old San Francisco stockbroker, who "totally zoned when he ran" accidentally jogged off a 100-foot high cliff on his daily run.

- Santiago Alvarado, 24, was killed in Lompoc, CA as he fell face first through the ceiling of a bicycle shop he was burglarizing. Death was caused when the long flashlight he had placed in his mouth (to keep his hands free) rammed into the base of his skull as he hit the floor.
- Sylvester Briddell, 26, was killed when he won a bet with friends who said he wouldn't put a revolver loaded with four bullets into his mouth and pull the trigger.

Communications Academy 2006

It is not too late to attend the 2006 Communications academy in Burien, scheduled for April 1-2nd. This is a great place to learn everything from basic antenna design to APRS to weather spotting. You can still sign up on the web or just pay at the door. If you need a ride, Bill Harwell, AC7SR has offered space in his van.

Do you have your name tag yet? You'll need it at the next CVARS meeting or be prepared to pay the 25 cent fine. They can be purchased for under \$10 at Awards West.

Executive Board Meeting Sunday, March 12th

March's Executive board meeting was held "on the air" after the Sunday evening net and was called to order by President Jerry Cunning, KN7VFO, at 8:26 pm.

Present were: Jerry Cunning, KN7VFO, President; John Jackson, DQ7JJ, Vice-President; Bob Willey, KD7OWN, Secretary, Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer; Nicholas Bratina, KD7YUF, and Loyann Munyun, KC7KCJ, Board members.

New business: John Jackson is attempting to schedule our old friends Hillar and Elsie Raamat for April's club meeting. Hillar has another great DXpedition program ready and we hope to hear their tales once again.

Steve Pack introduced the subject of buying meals for speakers when they do a program for the club and travel from out of town. In the past, the club has usually taken the speakers out to dinner prior to the meeting. After discussion, it was decided to continue this program but to be sure the club pays only for the guest speakers. Any club member is welcome to attend the dinner but is responsible for his/her meal.

Old business: Field Day preparations were discussed. While President Jerry has agreed to oversee the event, we are still looking for a few club members to help with smaller projects such as the potluck dinner, tents, and some equipment.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Steve Pack, reported two membership renewals in March and \$104 in raffle ticket sales at March's meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 9:01 pm by President Cunning.

Bob Majoros, KD7RTL, Wins Award

As noted in the March 15th Chronicle, Bob Majoros was recently awarded the 2005 Volunteer of the Year award during the annual American Red Cross awards banquet. Bob received the award for his "tireless efforts assisting the chapter with a myriad of efforts, from keeping the vehicles running to general office tasks."

Congratulations Bob. We see that same volunteerism every month as Bob prepares and presents the meeting room and snacks for CVARS and everyone appreciates what you do.

Irish Pub

Two men were sitting next to each other at a bar. After a while, one guy looks at the other and says, "I can't help but think, from listening to you, that you're from Ireland."

The other guy responds proudly, "Yes, that I am!"

The first guys says, "Why, so am I!"

"And where about from Ireland might you be?"

The other guy answers, "I'm from Dublin, I am."

The first guy responds, "Sure and begorra, and so am I! And what street did you live on in Dublin?"

The other guy says, "A lovely little area it was, I lived on McCleary Street in the old central part of town."

The first guy says, "Faith and it's a small world, so did I! So did I! And to what school would you have been going?"

The other guy answers, "Well now, I went to St. Mary's of course."

The first guy gets really excited and says, "And so did I. Tell me, what year did you graduate?"

The other guy answers, "Well, now, let me see, 1964."

The first guy exclaims, "The Good Lord must be smiling down upon us! I can hardly believe our good luck at winding up in the same bar tonight. Can you believe it, I graduated from St. Mary's in 1964 my own self."

About this time, a woman walks into the bar, sits down and orders a beer. Brian the bartender walks over to her shaking his head and mutters, "It's going to be a long night tonight!"

"Why do you say that?" asks the woman.

"The Murphy twins are drunk again."

The CVARS Raffle Gets Better!

A little bird has mentioned that in addition to the brand shiny new Kenwood TM-D700A mobile radio the club is raffling off and the nice wall clock Bill Harwell has donated for the same raffle, a NEW item has been brought in to add to the raffle. Yup, I hear it is a brand new.....well, I really shouldn't tell you what it is. I'm thinking you should just find your way down to the next CVARS club meeting (Wednesday, April 5th) and see for yourself. It's bigger than a bread box, smaller than a Volvo, more expensive than a subscription to this newsletter and can be carried by two people.

Soooooo...bring a few dollars to buy a few more tickets and maybe, if you're really good, we'll show and tell! See you on the 5th!

The Navigator Knows!

The scene is sometime in the past when cockpits had round dials plus flight engineers and navigators. The old time captain is breaking in a new navigator. The captain opens his briefcase, pulls out a .38 and rests it on the seat next to him. He asks the navigator, "Know what this is for?"

"No, sir," replies the newbie.

"I use it on navigators that get us lost!" explains the captain, winking at his first officer. The navigator then opens his briefcase, pulls out a .45 and sets it on his chart table.

"What's THAT for?" queries the surprised captain.

"Well," replies the navigator, "I'll know we're lost before you will!"

Know The Answers To These Riddles?

1. A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose among three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of assassins with loaded guns, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten in three years. Which room is safest for him?

2. A woman shoots her husband. Then she holds him under water for over 5 minutes. Finally, she hangs

him. But 5 minutes later they both go out and enjoy a wonderful dinner together. How can this be?

3. What is black when you buy it, red when you use it and grey when you throw it away?

(Answers on page three)

On The Radio In April

April is a well rounded month on the radio on the HF bands. Missouri's QSO Party is scheduled for April 1- April 2nd. Georgia's QSO Party will be April 8-9th. Michigan's QSO Party runs April 15-16th and Florida's QSO Party is set for April 22-23rd.

In addition, Kid's Roundup will occur on April 1-2nd and the European Spring Sprint (SSB) is happening April 8th. No big contests or spectacular events this month, but some great chances to make a few contacts and gather a few new QSL cards. Join the "MACAD" club. "Make A Contact A Day!" Those radios really DO work!

Riddle Answers

1. The third. Lions that haven't eaten in three years are probably dead.
2. The woman was a photographer. She shot a picture of her husband, developed it and hung it up to dry.
3. Charcoal...starts black...turns red when you burn it...and ends up grey when you throw it away.

April's Program

April's regular CVARS meeting, scheduled for Wednesday, April 5th, will bring our friends Hillar and Elsie Raamat back for another great program. They'll present "An IOTA DXpedition to Pribilof Islands – The Islands of the Seals" and discuss the 7th area QSO party scheduled for May 6-7th.

Hillar and Elsie's programs are always interesting and entertaining. Come and enjoy a great evening.

From The Mouths of Babes

One day a little girl was sitting watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast to her normally brunette head.

She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked "Why are some of your hairs white, Mom?" Her mother replied, "Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white."

The little girl thought about this revelation for awhile and then said, "Momma, how come all of grandma's hairs are white?"

At Last

At last, a bumper sticker for both parties. Finally, someone has come out with a 100% bipartisan

political bumper sticker. The hottest selling bumper sticker comes from New York State and says:

"Run Hillary Run"

Democrats put it on the rear bumper. Republicans put it on the front bumper.

CQ Magazine's "WAZ" Award

For those hunting awards, check out CQ Magazine's Worked All Zones award on the CQ Magazine website. This award is one of the longest running in ham radio, having its start prior to WWII. There are 40 CQ Zones worldwide. Work all 40 zones and gather the required confirmation of contacts (QSL Cards) and fill out the application.

If you really want a challenge, try working all 40 zones on all five regular bands (80, 40, 20, 15, 10) for a total of 200 contacts.

I have heard that our friend Hillar Raamat has worked 199 out of the 200 and is one short of the coveted Worked All Zone award.

Balance In All Things...

God was missing for six days. Eventually, Michael, the archangel, found him, resting on the seventh day. He inquired of God, "Where have you been?" God with a deep sigh of satisfaction, proudly pointed downwards through the clouds, "Look Michael, Look what I've made."

Archangel Michael looked puzzled and said "What is it?"

"It's a planet," replied God, "and I've put life on it. I'm going to call it Earth and it's going to be a great place of balance."

"Balance?" inquired Michael, still confused. God explained, pointing to different parts of Earth. "For example, northern Europe will be a place of great opportunity and wealth, while southern Europe is going to be poor. Over there, I've placed a continent of white people, and over there is a continent of black people. Balance in all things," God continued to point out different countries. "This one will be extremely hot, while this one will be very cold and covered in ice."

The Archangel, impressed by God's work, then pointed to a land area and said, "What's that one?"

"Ah," said God, "That's Washington State, the most glorious place on earth. There are beautiful mountains, rivers and streams, lakes, forests, hills, plains, and coulees. The people from Washington State are going to be handsome, modest, intelligent, and humorous, and they are going to be found traveling the world. They will be extremely sociable, hardworking, high achieving and they will be known throughout the world as diplomats, and carriers of peace."

Michael gasped in wonder and admiration, but then asked, "But what about balance, God? You said there would be balance."

God smiled, "There is another Washington.....Wait until you see the idiots I put there!"

CVARS Newest Ham

Congratulations to Ted Denton who joined CVARS just a few months ago. Ted attended a few meetings, studied for his ham license and took the test at the recent Mike and Key gathering at Puyallup...and passed his Technician Class licensing exam. Ted is now KE7GZN. Give Ted a hearty "Congratulations" at April's meeting and listen up for our newest ham on the air.

Street Names

Some of the strangest roads in America are:

1. Tater Peeler Rd in Lebanon, TX
2. Shades of Death Rd in Warren Co., NJ
3. Bucket of Blood St. in Holbrook, Az
4. The intersection of Clinton & Fidelity in Houston
5. Divorce Court in Heather Highlands, PA
6. Psycho Path in Traverse City, MI
7. Farfrompoopen Rd in Tennessee (the only road up to Constipation Ridge)

Poor Tex

Tex's wife left him and he just doesn't understand why. After the last child was born, she told him they had to cut back on expenses. Tex had to give up drinking. While not a big drinker, Tex put away a few beers on the weekend.

Anyway, Tex gave it up but noticed the other day that his wife came home from grocery shopping and when he looked at the receipt, Tex saw she had purchased \$45 in makeup.

Tex said, "Wait a minute...I've given up beer and you haven't given up anything!"

His wife cheerfully replied, "I buy that makeup for you, so I can look pretty."

"Heck," said Tex, "That's what the beer was for!"

OK, there might be a reason why she left and I'm betting she isn't coming back anytime soon.

Ham Radio During WWII

Some of you more "mature" hams already know the history of our hobby during WWII but a few "youngsters" need to have a little history lesson.

First a little background: In 1939 there were 51,000 US hams. In September of that year war came to Europe. Of the 250 DXCC countries, 121 of them immediately went off the air (including Canada and the UK). The US maintained the strictest sense of neutrality. This was re-enforced by the ARRL, which came up with a neutrality code for amateurs. Hams were asked by the ARRL to voluntarily abide by the code which they did. In an effort to streamline its operation in preparation for possible US involvement in the war, the FCC at this time introduced multiple – choice testing.

By June 1940, the US invoked the Telecommunications Convention prohibiting US amateurs from contacting hams elsewhere; at the same time all portable and mobile operation below 56 MHz was banned (except the ARRL Field Day). At the request of the ARRL, the ban was modified to

allow the League's Emergency Corps to continue work on the lower frequencies for training and drills. All licensees were required to send a set of fingerprints, a photo and proof of citizenship to the FCC.

The FCC needed 500 radio operators to man listening and direction finding stations. The League put out the word in QST and within days, the FCC had their 500 operators. Of the 51,000 hams mentioned above, 25,000 enlisted and 25,000 remained at home to teach radio and electronics, serve in the communications industry or serve in the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS).

By June of 1941, tubes and other components were in short supply. Hams gave willingly and a Civilian Technical Corps was formed to operate and repair British radar equipment. Because the Army needed the 80 meter amateur band, the FCC gave hams 40 meter phone privileges for the first time.

December 7, 1941, the US entered World War II and hams were immediately ordered off the air for the duration of the conflict. By special FCC order, the ARRL's W1AW was to continue its transmissions. The War Emergency Radio Service (WERS) was the only place a ham could continue to operate outside the military. WERS enabled amateurs to prove their ability before enlisting in the armed services.

After the war ended in 1945, hams were given authorization to begin operating again on the 2 ½ meter band. On November 15, 1945 the FCC released bands at 10, 5 and 2 meters for amateur use again. Slowly, the rest of the ham bands returned to civilian use.

(information thanks to Jeffrey Herman, KH6O)

Gotta Love An Irishman

An Irishman who had a little too much to drink was driving from the city one night and, of course, his car was weaving violently all over the road. A police officer pulls him over. "So," says the cop to the driver, "Where have ya been?"

"Why, I've been to the pub of course," slurs the drunk.

"Well," says the cop, "its looks like you've had quite a few to drink this evening."

"I did all right." The drunk says with a smile.

"Did you know," says the cop, standing with his arms folded across his chest, "that a few intersections back, your wife fell out of your car?"

"Oh, thank heavens," sighs the drunk, "for a minute there, I thought I'd gone deaf."

Did ya know? The very first baseball catcher's mask was used in a game in 1876.
More importantly, do you care?

Politically Correct

It is important, today, that we are politically correct as Americans. To that end, here are a few suggestions:

- No longer can women be called dumb blondes. They should rightfully be called “Light-haired detour off the information superhighway.”
- Your wife no longer nags you. She is simply being “verbally repetitive.”
- Men do not have beer guts. He has simply developed a “liquid grain storage facility.”
- He is not a bad dancer – simply “overly Caucasian.”

You Know You’re From California If...

- Your coworker has eight body piercings and none are visible.
- You can’t remember...is pot illegal?
- It’s barely sprinkling outside yet you leave an hour early from work to avoid weather-related accidents.
- Both you and your dog have therapists
- If you drive illegally, they take your license. If you’re HERE illegally, they give you one.
- You take a bus and are shocked at two people who are carrying on a conversation in English.
- The Terminator IS your governor!