

# Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society

November 2006 – cvars.org



## Next CVARS Meeting:

Wednesday November 1, 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**  
45.43- PL Tone 110.9

## Elections...Elections...Elections

November is election month at Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society. At November's meeting club members will be voting for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and two Executive Board positions. In addition, a new newsletter editor will be needed as of January, 2007.

A few have stepped up to assist. President Jerry Cuning, KN7VFO, has said he might be interested in another year as president. Club member Doug Skaggs has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer, at least through the end of the year. Others will be needed, however, if the club is to continue.

According to the club by-laws, only those who have paid their 2006 club dues may vote or run for office during this election process. Only paid club members can receive the monthly newsletter.

2007 should be a great year with the solar cycle on the mend. CVARS has been an active, energetic club for many years and only you can continue to keep it that way. Run for office and vote often!

## Special Events On The Air In November

Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald: The Stillwater Minnesota Amateur Radio Association will be participating November 3-5, 2006 in the "Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald Special Event" using the call sign W0JH operating from Split Rock Lighthouse located on the NW shore of Lake Superior. Frequencies will be 7.260, 14.260, 21.360

and 28.360 (+/- QRM). QSL certification requires a 9x12 SASE.

The Edmund Fitzgerald was an iron ore carrier that went down with her crew of 29 on November 10, 1975 in Lake Superior.

And....

The USS Kidd Amateur Radio Club will again be on the air November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day. Most activity will be on the 20 meter band between 14.250 and 14.320. QSL card available.

## Hmmm....

A man and his wife were dining at a table in a plush restaurant and the husband kept staring at a drunken lady swigging her drinks as she sat alone at a nearby table.

The wife finally asked, "Do you know her?"

"Yes," sighed the husband, "She is my ex-girlfriend. I understand she took to drinking right after we split up seven years ago, and I heard she hasn't been sober since."

"My gosh!" said the wife, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

## Did You Know?

Wal-Mart sells more food than any other store in the world!

Wal-Mart is the largest company in the history of the world.

At Wal-Mart, Americans spend \$36,000,000 every hour of every day!

## Subject: COLORFUL LANGUAGE

Every year, English teachers from across the country can submit their collections of actual analogies and metaphors found in high school essays. These excerpts are published each year to the amusement of teachers across the country. Here are last year's winners.....

1. Her face was a perfect oval, like a circle that had its two sides gently compressed by a Thigh Master.

2. His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free.

3. He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse

4. She grew on him like she was a colony of E. Coli, and he was room temperature Canadian beef.

5. She had a deep, throaty, genuine laugh, like that sound a dog makes just before it throws up.

6. Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

7. He was as tall as a six-foot, three-inch tree.

8. The revelation that his marriage of 30 years had disintegrated because of his wife's infidelity came as a rude shock, like a surcharge at a formerly surcharge-free ATM machine.

9. The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't.

10. McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty bag filled with vegetable soup.

11. From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and Jeopardy comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30.

12. Her hair glistened in the rain like a nose hair after a sneeze.

13. Long separated by cruel fate, the star-crossed lovers raced across the grassy field

toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph.

14. They lived in a typical neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth.

15. John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met.

16. He fell for her like his heart was a mob informant, and she was the East River.

17. Even in his last years, Granddad had a mind like a steel trap, only one that had been left out so long, it had rusted shut.

18. Shots rang out, as shots are wont to do.

19. The plan was simple, like my brother-in-law Phil. But unlike Phil, this plan just might work.

20. The young fighter had a hungry look, the kind you get from not eating for a while.

21. He was as lame as a duck. Not the metaphorical lame duck, either, but a real duck that was actually lame, maybe from stepping on a land mine or something.

22. The ballerina rose gracefully en Pointe and extended one slender leg behind her, like a dog at a fire hydrant.

23. It was an American tradition, like fathers chasing kids around with power tools.

24. He was deeply in love. When she spoke, he thought he heard bells, as if she were a garbage truck backing up.

### CQ Worldwide DX Contest

Arguably the most fun contest of the year, the CQ WW DX comes the weekend of October 28-29<sup>th</sup>. Everyone from everywhere will be on the air looking for you! The exchange is RS(T) "59", "57" or whatever is correct and your CQ Zone (for us it is zone 3). That's it!

This is the contest to do if you're looking for DXCC (100 confirmed countries) or you just want to put that far off land in your log.

Get on the air this weekend and throw your call out. Some pretty interesting and amazing locations around the world will be listening.

### A Very Deep Hole

Two guys were walking through the woods and came across a big, deep hole.

"Wow...that looks deep." Said the first guy.

"Sure does...toss a few pebbles and see how deep it is." Said the second.

They picked up a few small rocks and threw them in and waited...no noise.

"Geeez. That is Really deep...here..throw one of these great big rocks down there. Those should make a noise."

They picked up a couple of football-sized rocks and tossed them into the hole and waited. Nothing.

They looked at each other in amazement. One gets a determined look on his face and says, "Hey... over here in the weeds I saw a railroad tie. Help me carry it over here. When we toss that sucker in, it's GOTTA make some noise."

The two drag the heavy tie over to the hole and heave it in. No sound comes from the hole.

Suddenly, out of the nearby woods, a goat appears running like the wind. It rushes towards the two men, then right past them running as fast as its legs will carry it. Suddenly it leaps into the hole.

The two men are astonished with what they've just seen, when out of the woods came a farmer who spots them and came over.

"Hey, have you guys seen my goat out here?"

"You bet we did! Craziest thing I've ever seen! It came running like crazy and just jumped into this hole!"

"Nah", says the farmer, "That couldn't have been my goat. My goat was chained to a railroad tie."

### G5RV Antenna

The G5RV is a very popular antenna for the HF bands today. As popular as it is, some will tell you "that antenna simply cannot work." Others swear by the wire antenna.

The G5RV was invented by Louis Varney, G5RV, of West Sussex, UK and is a multiband center-fed antenna capable of efficient operation on all HF bands from 3.5 to 28 MHz. It is approximately 102 feet long and can be set up in several different configurations.

The antenna is not designed as a half-wave dipole on the lowest frequency of operation, but as a 3/2 wave center-fed long-wire antenna on 14 MHz where the 34 ft. open-wire matching section functions as a 1:1 impedance transformer. This enables the coax to see a close impedance match on that band with a low SWR.

The antenna does not make use of traps or ferrite beads.

I have used this antenna for a little over a year as a backup to my 20/15/10 meter yagi and specifically for the CW bands on 40 meters and 80 meters. I have found it to be slightly better than the Butternut vertical antenna I had been using. I have it set up as more or less an inverted vee from my tower but you could use a tree in the yard just as well.

As I recall, the antenna runs about \$59 from HRO and is pretty easy to install since it is basically a long wire antenna.

For more information on the G5RV, just do a Google search on "G5RV Antennas" and you'll get more reading material than you could ever digest.

Ward Silver, N0AX, has told me on several occasions that a good long wire antenna is hard to beat - especially for the price! While I would not give away my Yagi and tower, I used a Alpha-Delta DXCC multi-band wire antenna for the first year I was on the air and was pretty impressed with the ability of a wire antenna.

So if you need a good basic antenna and just don't have the money for that 100 ft. tower and monster hunk of aluminum in the sky, try the G5RV or any other long-wire type antenna. I think you'll be impressed at its efficiency for the money. Besides, sitting at home with a radio and no contacts is NOT an option. Get on the air and have some fun!

### Homeless Woman

A woman was walking down the street when she was accosted by a particularly dirty and shabby looking homeless woman who asked her for a couple of dollars for dinner.

The woman took out her billfold, extracted ten dollars and asked, "If I give you this money, will you buy some wine with it instead of dinner?"

"No, I had to stop drinking years ago." the homeless woman said.

"Will you use it to go shopping instead of buying food?" the woman asked.

"No, I don't waste my time shopping," the homeless woman said. "I need to save my time trying to use my time just trying to stay alive."

"Will you spend this on a beauty salon instead of food?" the woman asked.

"Are you nuts!" replied the homeless woman. "I haven't had my hair done in years!"

"Well," said the woman, "I'm not going to give you the money. Instead, I'm taking you out for dinner with my husband and myself tonight."

The homeless woman was astounded. "Won't your husband be furious with you for doing that? I know I'm dirty and I probably don't smell too good either."

The woman replied. "That's OK, it is important for him to see what a woman is like after she has given up shopping, hair appointments and wine."

### **Confused**

Sitting on the side of the highway waiting to catch speeding drivers, a police officer saw a car puttering along at 22 MPH. He figured this driver was as dangerous to other motorists as a speeding vehicle so he turned on his lights and pulled the driver over. Approaching the car, he saw it was filled with five little old ladies.

The driver, obviously confused, said to him, "Officer, I don't understand. I was doing exactly the speed limit ... what seems to be the problem?"

"Ma'am," the officer replied, "you weren't speeding, but you should know driving slower than the speed limit can also be a danger to other drivers."

"Slower than the speed limit? No sir, I was doing exactly the speed limit... 22 miles per hour." The old woman said proudly.

The police officer, trying to contain a chuckle explained to her that the "22" was a highway number, not the speed limit.

A bit embarrassed, the woman smiled and thanked the officer for pointing out her error.

"Before I let you go, Ma'am, I have to ask... is everyone in the car OK? The women in the back seem awfully shaken and they haven't made a peep this whole time." The officer asked.

"Oh, they'll be all right in a minute officer, we just got off highway 120."

### **CVARS QSL Card?**

If you collect QSL cards, the written confirmation of a ham radio contact, like many of us do, you may have noticed that several clubs or groups have their own "Club QSL Card". The Western Washington DX Club has their own card with the totem logo. Quarter Century Club has their own version and FISTS, the CW organization used the old brass pounder key on their club cards.

How about the Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Club? A club or organization wishing to make a club card usually decides on a style, color and design, perhaps with the CVARS logo on it, and then once accepted by the membership takes orders and has the cards made up by one particular card company so all cards look alike. Of course, your particular call sign, name and address are added to the card but the general "look" of the card is a club decision.

This doesn't mean you have to use that QSL card. If you have a card you like, stick with it.

Any interest in a club QSL card? You never know... it could become a highly prized collector's card... worth... pennies at least!

### **Love Story**

A census taker in a rural area went up to a farmhouse and knocked. When a woman came to the door, he asked her how many children she had and their ages.

"Set's see," she said, "there's the twins, Sally and Billy, they're thirty two. And the twins, Seth and Beth, they're twenty six. And the twins, Penny and Jenny, they're twenty four..."

"Hold on!" said the census taker, "did you get twins every time?"

"Heck no," the woman replied. "There was hundreds of time we didn't get nothing."

### **Blondes Are Special**

A blonde decides one day that she is sick and tired of all these blonde jokes so she decides to show her husband that blondes are really smart.

While her husband is off at work, she decides that she is going to paint a couple of rooms in the house. The next day, right after he leaves for work, she gets down to the task at hand.

Her husband comes home at 5:30 and smells the distinctive smell of paint. He walks into the living room and finds his wife lying on the floor in a pool of sweat. He notices that she is wearing a heavy parka and a leather jacket at the same time. He goes over and asks her if she is OK. She replies yes. He asks what she is doing and she replies that she wanted to prove to him that not all blonde women are dumb, and she wanted to do it by painting the house.

He then asks her why she has a parka over her leather jacket. She replies proudly that she was reading the directions on the paint can and it said...

For Best Results. Put On Two Coats.

### **Christmas Party Coming UP**

The annual CVARS Christmas party is just around the corner. As you will recall, the club does not have a December meeting but substitutes the Christmas party instead.

Last year's potluck was held at the church and we've held them at the Virgil R. Lee building as well. The decisions on location, food and table arrangements all need to be made at November's club meeting.

Can you help with this event? Can you think of some fun "gag" gifts to make the party special?

Bring your ideas and especially your willingness to step up and help to the meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>. With elections and big decisions, it looks like we'll be very busy that evening.