

Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society



cvars.org

December 2006

Edited by Bob Willey KD7OWN

Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Christmas Party

Wednesday December 6, 2006

Virgil R. Lee Building, 13th & Cascade, Chehalis

Doors Open 6:00 PM – Potluck Starts 7:00 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

Happy Holidays

It is that time of year again. The Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society will present its annual Christmas Potluck at the Virgil R. Lee building located at 13th and Cascade Avenue in Chehalis on Wednesday, December 6th. No regular club meeting will be held in December but bring a potluck dish and come to the party.

Bob Majoros, KD7RTL, will once again head the event. Doors will open at 6:00 PM with the dinner starting at 7:00 PM. As usual, this event is a potluck dinner so bring your favorite meal, salad or dessert. Nobody goes home hungry at these parties so bring your appetite and prepare to have a great holiday party.

Tarot Cards

A woman visited a psychic of some local repute. In a dark and gloomy room, gazing at the Tarot cards laid out before her, the Tarot reader delivered the bad news: "There is no easy way to say this so I'll just be blunt: Prepare yourself to be a widow. Your husband will die a violent death this year.

Visibly shaken, the woman stared at the psychic's lined face, then at the single flickering candle, then down at her hands. She took a few deep breaths to compose herself. She simply had to know.

She met the Tarot reader's gaze, steadied her voice and asked, "Will I get away with it?"

2007 CVARS Board

Elections for 2007 club officers were held at the November general meeting. Thanks to everyone who agreed to serve

during 2006 and congratulations to those elected to the 2007 CVARS Board. Results were as follows:

President: Jerry Cuning, KN7VFO

Vice-President(s): Bill Harwell, AC7SR

Jim VanderMeer, KC7ASV

Secretary: Jeff Mayfield, KE7ACE

Treasurer: John Ellingson, K7OSK

Board Members: Loyann Munyan, KC7KCJ

Ed Denton, KE7GZN

Holiday Eating Tips

1. Avoid carrot sticks. Anyone who puts carrots on a holiday buffet table knows nothing of the Christmas spirit. In fact, if you see carrots, leave immediately. Go next door, where they're serving rum balls.

2. Drink as much eggnog as you can. And quickly. Like fine single-malt scotch, it's rare. In fact, it's even rarer than single-malt scotch. You can't find it any other time of the year but now. So drink up! Who cares that it has 10,000 calories in every sip? It's not as if you're going to turn into an "eggnog-alcoholic" or something. It's a treat. Enjoy it!!! Have one for me. Have two. It's later than you think. It's Christmas!

3. If something comes with gravy, use it. That's the whole point of gravy. Gravy does not stand alone. Pour it on. Make a volcano out of your mashed potatoes. Fill it with gravy. Eat the volcano. Repeat.

4. As for mashed potatoes, always ask if they're made with skim milk or whole milk. If it's skim, pass. Why bother? It's like buying a sports car with an automatic transmission.

5. Do not have a snack before going to a party in an effort to control your eating. The whole point of going to a Christmas party is to eat other people's food for free. Lots of it. Hello?

6. Under no circumstances should you exercise between now and New Year's. You can do that in January when you have nothing else to do. This is the time for long naps, which you'll need after circling the buffet table while carrying a 10-pound plate of food and that vat of eggnog.

7. If you come across something really good at a buffet table, like frosted Christmas cookies in the shape and size of Santa, position yourself near them and don't budge. Have as many as you can before becoming the center of attention. They're like a beautiful pair of shoes. If you leave them behind, you're never going to see them again.

8. Same for pies. Apple. Pumpkin. Mincemeat. Have a slice of each. Or, if you don't like mincemeat, have two apples and one pumpkin. Always have three. When else do you get to have more than one dessert? Labor Day?

9. Did someone mention fruitcake? Granted, it's loaded with the mandatory celebratory calories, but avoid it at all cost. I mean, have some standards.

10. One final tip: If you don't feel terrible when you leave the party or get up from the table, you haven't been paying attention. Reread tips: start over, but hurry, January is just around the corner. Remember this motto to live by:

"Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways, chocolate in one hand, martini in the other, body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO what a ride!"

The Final Exam

At Duke University there were four sophomores taking chemistry and all of them had an "A" so far. These four friends were so confident that the weekend before finals, they decided to visit some friends and have a big party. They had a great time, but after all the hearty partying, they slept all day Sunday and didn't make it back to Duke until early Monday morning. Rather than taking the final then, they decided that after the final they would explain to their professor why they missed it. They said that they visited friends but on the way back they had a flat tire. As a result, they missed the final. The professor agreed they could make up the final the next day.

The guys were excited and relieved. They studied that night for the exam. The professor placed them in separate rooms and gave them a test booklet.

They quickly answered the first problem worth five points. Cool, they thought! Each one in separate rooms, thinking this was going to be easy. Then they turned the page. On the second page was written...

For 95 points: Which tire?

ATTENTION:

The aliens are coming to abduct all the good looking and sexy people.

You will be safe; I'm just sending this along to say good-bye.

Antenna Party

OK, it is January. What else do you have to do? Need something to get rid of a few holiday calories? Well, you're in luck! Ken Wages, KH6CQH, needs some help erecting an antenna tower.

On Saturday, January 13th, beginning at 9:00AM, join us to throw some aluminum into the air. Ken lives at 127 Twin View Lane, Winlock. Call for directions, if you need them at 785-3393. Pssst....Ken said something about barbeque! See you there.

Church Bulletins

We should all say a "thank you" to the little ladies who screw up church bulletins on a regular basis. They're so much fun to read:

- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help!
- Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.
- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
- Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

BPL Coming To Centralia?

At their October 24th meeting, the Centralia City Council agreed to continue looking into the possibility of creating a broadband over power line system in the Centralia area. As most hams know, this can be potentially disastrous, creating extreme noise levels on ham radio frequencies.

At November's general meeting, President Jerry Cuning agreed to form an advisory panel to seek ARRL assistance and hopefully educate the council on possible problems.

If you would be willing to help, contact Jerry at 748-8213 or at any club function. We need to work together to save our ham frequencies and need your help.

Did You Know?

- Apples, not caffeine, are more effective at waking you up in the morning.
- When you sneeze, all bodily functions stop, even your heart.
- Only 7% of the population are lefties.
- The average person over 50 will have spent 5 years waiting in lines.
- The toothbrush was invented in 1498.

- 40,000 Americans are injured by toilets each year.
- The only two animals that can see behind themselves without turning their heads are the rabbit and the parrot.
- Michael Jackson owns the rights to the South Carolina State anthem.
- The first Harley Davidson motorcycle built in 1903 used a tomato can for a carburetor.
- Humphrey Bogart was related to Princess Diana. They were 7th cousins.
- If coloring weren't added to Coca-cola, it would be green.

SKYWARN Recognition Day

December has a couple of fun "on the air" activities everyone can enjoy. One is the annual SKYWARN recognition day. On December 2nd, from 0000 UTC - 2400 UTC lots of SKYWARN stations will be on the air from almost every state. All you have to do is give your callsign, a signal report, location and one or two words about our local weather. Recognition day will be on all the regular bands. This is a great event just because of the QSL cards! Almost every SKYWARN station has a beautiful weather related QSL to send you. Have a good time with this one and don't forget to send them your QSL.

My Style Of Cooking

Most everyone remembers Gracie Allen, wife and co-host of the famous Burns & Allen comedy team. Well, here is her recipe for Roast Beef.

- 1 large roast of beef
- 1 small roast of beef

Put both roasts in the oven. When the small one burns, the big one is done.

The FCC Has Made Some Changes

In a recent omnibus rule change affecting Amateur Radio, the FCC made several changes that will become effective on December 15, 2006 because of changes to the Novice CW segment of the ham bands.

1. 80 Meters: top end of the CW / RTTY / Digital band now will be at 3600 kHz (formally 3750 kHz). Phone will now begin at 3600 kHz for Amateur Extras; at 3700 kHz for Advanced; and at 3800 kHz for General class licenses.
2. 40 Meters: top end of the CW / RTTY / Digital band will now be at 7125 kHz (formally 7150 kHz). Phone will begin at 7125 kHz for Extras and Advanced and at 7175 for Generals.
3. 20 Meters: no changes.
4. 15 Meters: bottom of the General class phone band moves to 21275 kHz. The bottom of the phone band for Extra will remain at 21200 kHz and 21225 kHz for Advanced.
5. 10 Meters: Novices and Technicians with CW credit will now be able to use CW / RTTY / Digital from 28000 kHz to 28300 kHz in addition to the unchanged Novice privileges from 28300 kHz to 28500 kHz. In addition, for Novices and Technicians with CW credit, there are now privileges for CW use

only on the same frequencies as General and Advanced licensees on 80,40, 15 meters: 3525 kHz to 3600 kHz; 7025 kHz to 7125 kHz; and 21025 kHz to 21200 kHz. Amateur Extra licensees have full CW privileges on all bands. For more information, check out the ARRL website.

Olympic Skier

The famous Olympic Skier Picabo Street (pronounced Pee-Ka-Boo) is not just an athlete. She is now a nurse currently working at the Intensive Care Unit of a large metropolitan hospital.

She is not permitted to answer the hospital telephones any longer. It caused too much confusion when she would answer the phone and say Picabo, I.C.U.

2006 Straight Key Night

Time to dust off that straight key and try to remember the difference between the letter "B" and "V". For many, this is THE night when they can be assured of a code speed they can handle.

Time for the ARRL Straight Key Night held every year on December 30 - January 1. From 0000 Z to 2359 January 1, calling "CQ, SKN" should bring lots of easy contacts. Come on, this is the night to be a CW Guru. Don't miss the opportunity to impress your friends and family. Happy SKN.

Thought You Knew Everything?

- Winston Churchill was born in a ladies room during a dance.
- Women blink nearly twice as much as men.
- A can has 32 muscles in each ear.
- A "jiffy" is actually a unit of time for 1/100th of a second.
- Al Capone's business card said he was a furniture dealer.
- Butterflies taste with their feet.
- Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds while dogs have only about ten.
- February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.
- In the last 4000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.
- If the population of China walked past you in single file, the line would never end because of the rate of reproduction.
- It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.
- No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver or purple.
- On a Canadian two dollar bill, the flag flying over the Parliament building is an American flag.
- Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
- "Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only your left hand while "lollipop" is the longest with your right hand.
- The cruise liner, QE2, moves only six inches for each gallon of diesel that it burns.

A Love Story

I will seek and find you.
I shall take you to bed and have my way with you.
I will make you ache, shake and sweat until you
moan and groan.
I will make you beg for mercy, beg for me to stop.
I will exhaust you to the point that you will be
relieved when I'm finished with you.
And, when I am finished, you will be weak for days.
All my love,
Signed.....
The Flu.

Heaven

On their way to get married, a young Catholic couple were involved in a fatal car accident. The couple found themselves sitting outside the Pearly Gates waiting for St. Peter to return. While waiting, they begin to wonder: could we possibly get married in Heaven?

When St. Peter showed up, they asked him. St. Peter says, "I don't know. This is the first time anyone has asked. Let me go find out", and he leaves.

The couple sat and waited and waited. Two months passed and the couple was still waiting. As they waited, they discussed that if they were allowed to get married in Heaven, what was the eternal aspect of it all. What if it doesn't work? Are we stuck together forever?

After another month, St. Peter returned, looking somewhat bedraggled. "Yes", he informed the couple, "You can get married in Heaven."

"Great!" said the couple. "But we were just wondering, what if things don't work out? Could we also get a divorce in Heaven?"

St. Peter, red-faced with anger, slams his clipboard onto the cloud. "What's wrong?" asked the couple.

"Oh come on!" St. Peter shouted. "It took me three months to find a priest up here! Do you have any idea how long it will take me to find a lawyer?"

The Lone Ranger and Tonto

The Lone Ranger and Tonto stopped in the desert for the night. After they got their tent all set up, both men fell sound asleep. Some hours later, Tonto wakes the Lone Ranger and says to him, "Kemo Sabe, look towards shy. What you see?" The Lone Ranger replies, "I see millions of stars."

"What that tell you?" asked Tonto.

The Lone Ranger ponders for a minute then says, "Well. Astronomically speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets.

Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo

Time wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past one in the morning. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, Tonto?"

Tonto is silent for a moment, then says, "Kemo Sabe, you dumber than buffalo dung. It means someone stole tent!"

Christmas List

That Icom 7800 can be located on page 6 of the HRO catalog if you're looking for something for me for Christmas. Call for the price. 1-800-854-6046. Please deliver by SKN night.

Time To Say "Goodbye"

I have been your CVARS editor for the past three years. In my second issue, I had the unfortunate duty to tell of the untimely passing of Fred Mason, K7OVN. What a way to start. Jim VanderMeer was President. I just wanted to add a little interest and humor to the club newsletter.

Since that time, I've served as your President, Vice-President and Secretary.

December will be my last newsletter. It is time for the club to have another voice and President Jerry Cuning is looking for someone who might want to take over. If you're interested, call him and volunteer your time.

Several friends have participated and helped with the newsletter by sending articles and jokes for your enjoyment. If I tried to name them all, I'd miss someone, I'm sure. Steve Pack, WB7VAS, has worked hard to keep the club and newsletter going and we miss him still. My long distance friend Hillar Raamat, N6HR, who came to my rescue (several times) when I needed a club program, has sent jokes and interesting articles almost every month. Finally, Howard Mayhew, KB7RYJ, has been extremely helpful sending five to ten jokes EVERY DAY. Thank you, Howard, for all your help.

Ham radio is an amazing hobby. I was first license at age 21 with as a Novice but I let it expire without ever being on the air. Life moved in other directions for the next 30 years until Terry Neumann, KQ7K, sparked my interest once again in the hobby. Gary Litter's wonderful classes got me to Amateur Extra in six months and I've been having a blast ever since. Rarely a day goes by that I'm not on the HF CW or SSB bands. As I said, ham radio is an amazing hobby.

CVARS has some very talented people as members. I wonder if you know, however, just how close we came to disbanding the club this year. With no one stepping forward to take the several executive board positions, plans were necessarily made to do the impossible - disband CVARS. At the last possible second, some stepped forward to keep it going. While many members have given of their time, others have not. No, serving on the Executive Board is not always convenient. And, yes, everyone is "busy" these days. No club, however, operates for long without those willing to give of their time. Please make time in your life to keep CVARS alive. Share your knowledge. Club programs are very tough to keep interesting to all. Learn everything there is to know about ham radio. You'll be a better person for it.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your newsletter editor. Please assist the next editor with stories, jokes and newsworthy items. Your participation makes the job much easier and much more fun.

Happy Holidays and may 2007 be a safe and prosperous new year for you and yours. 73 Bob Willey, KD7OWN