

CVARS



Website: cvars.org

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

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Official Record

Executive Board Meeting August 13, 2003

The CVARS Executive Board met on August 13th at Kim Aiken's office at 205 S. Tower Ave. in Centralia. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

Present were: Kim Aiken, AC7YY, President; Bob Willey, KD7OWN, Vice President; Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer, and Loyann Munyan, KC7KCJ, Secretary. Guests included John Jackson, KQ7JJ and John Bertels, WA7LFJ.

President's Report: It was noted that the last official meeting, due to lack of a quorum, was May 2003. Last official minutes were read and approved.

Vice President's Report: The program for September's general meeting will be on Search & Rescue by Gene Seiber of the Lewis County Sheriff's Office.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Pack advised the board that six individuals had renewed or become new members. Expenditures for the September CVARS Swapmeet were discussed. Balance & totals for club finances were reported. Treasurer's report was voice approved.

Old Business: It was suggested at January's Executive Board meeting that the club should become involved in Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Discussion on this matter had been tabled as Jim Kruger, who brought up the idea, had not been able to attend meetings since that time. It was decided to appoint John Jackson and Bob Willey to look into the event and report back to the Board at September's Executive Board meeting.

New Business: The Board approved reimbursement to the newsletter editor for postage stamps through the end of the year. President Aiken brought up the subject of including club Visitor's names and call signs in the newsletters hoping club members would make them welcome and respond to them when on the air. In addition, it was decided to send one complimentary copy of the newsletter to any visitor who comes to a club mtg. Other New Business included an amendment to the club by-laws. For further information on this, see the article discussing the topic elsewhere in this newsletter.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 PM.

Amendment To CVARS By-Laws

Proposed amendment changes to the by-laws were submitted to the officers of the Executive Board who reviewed the proposals for form and validity. The proposed changes were discussed at the August General membership meeting. It was determined that written notice of the proposed amendment should be sent, via the newsletter, to each member prior to the September general meeting. A vote will be taken on these changes at the September meeting.

Article III, Section 1 of the CVARS by-laws currently reads: "The executive board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and 2 at large board members." Under the proposed changes to the by-laws, this Section would now read: "The executive board shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and 4 at large board members."

Article III, Section 4 of the CVARS by-laws currently reads: "The two at large board members shall be elected on opposite years." Under the proposed changes to the by-laws, this Section would now read: "Two of the at large board members shall be elected on opposite years."

Article VI, Section 1 of the CVARS by-laws currently reads: "At the October meeting of the executive board the president shall appoint a nomination committee. Nomination committee shall submit to the newsletter editor a list of nominees and offices in a timely manner to be published before the November meeting. At the November meeting additional nominations may be made by the members at large." Under the proposed changes to the by-laws, this Section would now read: "At the September meeting of the executive board the president shall appoint a nomination committee. Nomination committee shall submit to the newsletter editor a list of nominees and offices in a timely manner to be published before the October meeting. At the October meeting additional nominations may be made by the members at large."

Article VI, Section 2 of the CVARS by-laws currently reads: "The election of new officers to the Executive Board shall take place at the December meeting, with the new officers taking office in January." Under the proposed changes to the by-laws, this Section would

- continued on page two

Amendments – continued:

now read: “The election of new officers to the Executive Board shall take place at the November meeting, with the new officers taking office in January.”

A vote to accept the proposed by-law changes will be taken at the general September club meeting. Copies of the amended by-laws will be available to members.

Items For Sale

Ameritron AL-811 Amplifier – three tube 600 watt unit. Very good condition (like new). Tubes have less than 5 hours service time. Reason for selling the AL-811 is I have a solid state Ameritron amplifier. Suggested retail price new is \$649.00. My asking price is \$400.00. For more information, contact Charles Wieland, AB7WB, at (360) 748-7803

New or Renewing Members

Nick Coloff, Jr., KA7MRU
Steve Smith, W7HDO
John Ellingson, Jr., K7OSK
Jon Jeschke, KD7SXV
Charles Wieland, AB7WB

New E-Mail Address For WA7UHD

Take note, everyone. WA7UHD now has a new e-mail address. It is wa7uhd@arrl.net. Comments to the e-mail will be reflected to the localaccess account for Steve Pack, WB7VAS, Treasurer.

LXpedition II A Success!

Were you there? Did you participate? Did you get the card (sorry, no T-shirt) and / or the certificate? Well, if you didn't, you missed a great time. Steve, WB7VAS and Bob, KD7OWN organized this edition of the LXpedition to include transmission from all six Timberland Regional Library locations in Lewis County. During the all day event, they took check-ins while at Packwood, Randle, Salkum, Winlock, Chehalis and Centralia. The event generated 203 check-ins from 71 individual operators! They even had some DX! (Well, it was a DX call sign but the voice sounded like the Litteers who, I understand are also license in VE land) . What a fun day. The weather was grand and a wonderful time was had by all involved. QSL cards have been sent out and for those who checked in at all six library locations, the additional certificate should already be in your hands. Thanks again to all who participated.

Happy September Birthday!

Dick Wheelock, AA7NI
Howard Mayhew, KB7RYJ
Jim VanderMeer, KC7ASV

September QSO Parties

OK, you county hunters. Or how about those of you who are still looking for a few states for your “Worked All States” awards? In September, there are several QSO parties. These are a great place to get a contact from a particular state. This month, they are:

- Alabama – last Saturday in September
- Indiana – second Saturday in September
- Louisiana – last Saturday in September
- Tennessee – third Saturday in September
- Texas – last Saturday in September

Washington Salmon Run Weekend

Don't forget, Washington has its own version of a QSO party. It's called the “Salmon Run” and it will be the activity of choice on September 20th and 21st. This is your chance to be on the good end of a pile-up! Stations all over the world will be on the air that weekend looking for contacts from Washington State. Lewis County doesn't have as many hams as some Washington Counties so they will be looking for you!

Salmon Run begins at 1600Z Saturday, September 20th and runs thru 0700Z Sunday the 21st. 23 hours in total. You may work 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 and 6 meters. The WARC bands and VHF bands higher than 6 meters do not count. Simply call “CQ Washington Salmon Run” and stand back! Your exchange will be RST and your county. Looking for more information? Check it out at: <http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun/rules.htm>.

If you want to make this a real contest, there are rules and scoring on the website. Plaques, trophies and packages of smoked salmon are available to the highest scores in several categories. Give the Washington Salmon Run a try, but share any salmon you win with me! (Please).

Olympia's Wild West Pro Road Rally

On September 6th and 7th, Olympia's Amateur Radio Club will be assisting in this very large international road rally. The event will require about 36 hams on both Saturday and Sunday and you are invited to help! Ken Dahl, K7TAG, has put out the request for help. Hams will be used to close off all access roads along the event course. You need a mobile or handheld radio (probably with extra batteries) and can be in a car. Around 80 cars will be involved in the rally leaving the starting gate one minute apart. Bill, AC7SR and Mike, AC7UP have done this event in the past and say its great fun. Ken says the event will last all day and you should bring a lunch. Dress for the weather just in case. If interested, contact Bill Harwell, AC7SR as soon as possible. Come and join in on the fun!

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Amateur Radio Emergency Services members, mark your calendars for Saturday, October 4th. Its time again for the annual Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Get the equipment together and “lets roll!”

Stolen Packet Equipment

Eric, KD7CAO, found this information on the Oregon ARES/RACES website. The following equipment was stolen from Walker Mountain Repeater Site:

- 146 Mhz radio – Alinco, model DR-112T with a serial number of 0002426
- 223 Mhz radio – Alinco, model DR-235T with a serial number of T101539
- Terminal Node controllers (2) – MFJ model 1270C with serial number 01032739, X1-J4 firmware, callsign W7SLA-11 and serial number 01032828, X1-J4 firmware, callsign W7SLA-1
- 12 volt power supply – Astron model 20M marked with “W7ZQD” engraved on the bottom
- Antenna duplexer – Comet, model 4160
- RF Filter – DCI, model 145-2H

Total replacement value \$995.00. Should you locate any of this equipment, contact Joe Brown, W7ZQD – joe@clipper.net. You can also contact Bob, KD7OWN and it can be handled through Centralia Police Department.



In Search Of An IOTA – by Hillar Raamat, N6HR
One of the nice things about being a ham in these Northwestern parts of the continent is the natural proximity to hundreds of islands. We live near the waters carved by ice ages which also piled up rocks and fjords and sandbars galore. The Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) long ago recognized another opportunity for us hams to be special QSL “collectors” and thus the IOTA Programme (Islands On The Air) was initiated by Mr. Geoff Watts. Nowadays the IOTA Program issues beautiful certificates attesting to individual prowess to have confirmed contacts with as many islands in the world as one can muster.

Even for non-wallpaper collectors, it is nice to sometimes chat with such people as Jim Smith VK9NS of Norfolk Island (remember the Norfolk Is. Pines?) – to Tom Christian VR6TC of Pitcairn Island (descendant of the original mutineer) to Pat FR5FD of Reunion Island to Ruben C21RK of Nauru (phosphate mines) to hundreds of other ‘islanders’ on all continents.

RSGB created a contest – held the last weekend in July of every year – to encourage hams to go and transmit from various islands which may or may not have a ham population. It is sort of a ‘field day’ in

many ways – go with your gear, set up, do the contest and then count the points and come back home to reply to the QSL requests. The various islands (or rather island groups) are listed in an IOTA Directory and are assigned numerical designations – such as NA (North America); EU (as in Europe) etc. Now try to zero in on North America – which includes most of the Caribbean islands, the US islands and the Canadian islands and one can see that we are dealing with large numbers! Even with island groups such as Bahamas or the US East Coast. Here in the US Northwest, we have the NA-065 Group (the San Juans and the Puget Sound islands) and the NA-169 Group of Tatoosh and other Cape Flattery islands. In the western Canadian waters we have Vancouver Island (NA-036), the BC North group which includes Queen Charlotte Islands and the BC South group which includes the Gulf islands and the BC ‘Sunshine Coast’.

So it has become a ritual that end of July we go to some island, set up a radio camp and do the IOTA Contest. This year Andy VE7AHA organized an outing to Texada Island (NA-091) and so that’s what we did. Now what and where is Texada Island? Well, it’s close to the town of Powell River in BC – across the inland passage from Comox on Vancouver Island. The Texada Island itself is about 30 miles long and 5-6 miles wide and its principal business these days is a huge limestone quarry on the north end of the island at Blubber Bay (what a name!) The rest of the island is sparsely populated but has numerous outstanding campgrounds. A good place to go away from it all. A hundred years ago, however, it was a different story!

Besides the limestone, the island had mining of iron, copper and even some gold was found. The population of the island swelled to some 30,000 people and Van Anda the ‘capitol’ city even boasted an opera house! At that time it was the only opera house north of San Francisco. The mines played out circa 1915, by that time most of the old growth lumber had been cut and three devastating fires in the city of Van Anda just about erased the town from the map. As a monument to the past, today only the iron smelter still stands amongst the mine tailings... With the call VA7CW the three of us, Andy VE7AHA, Elsie N7YX and yours truly participated in the Multi-Single category and made some 700 QSO’s from Texada. Considering the conditions, not too bad. We were happy to provide a ‘first NA-091’ to lots of hams and the perennial quiry was ‘where in the darnation is Texada? Is it a Texaco Station in Nevada?’ (Quiry from Dan K7SS). So if ya worked us, QSL VA7CW via VE7AHA. – de Hillar, N6HR

True Sayings!

Experience is something you don’t get until just AFTER you need it!

The problem with the gene pool is there is no lifeguard!

Dates To Remember!

Sept 3rd – CVARS regular meeting – 7:30 PM
Sept 6 & 7th – Wild West Pro Road Rally-Olympia ARC
Sept 10th – CVARS Executive Board Meeting, 6:30 PM
Sept 17th – Lewis County ARES meeting, PUD bldg.
Sept 20th – Washington's "Salmon Run" QSO Party
Sept 27th – CVARS Swapmeet – Fairgrounds
Oct 4th – ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET)

More "Stupid Criminal" Stories

A pair of Michigan robbers entered a record shop nervously waving revolvers. The first one shouted, "Nobody move!". When his partner moved, the startled first bandit shot him.

An Arkansas subject wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze and run. So he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. It seems the liquor store window was made of Plexiglass. The whole event was caught on videotape.

Gary Litteer's New Repeater

Gary, K7PG, has a new repeater up and running. Currently, it is located on top of his tower while he is looking for a new site. The repeater frequency is 444.075 with a sub audible tone of 123.0. Gary would like to locate the repeater somewhere in the Centralia, Chehalis area generally on the west side up on top of a hill. "Free" would be the site rent he is looking for so put your minds to work and let's find a spot. He also is looking for an outdoor mounting cabinet for the repeater in case he has to leave it outside. Something around 4 ½ feet tall with a 19" rack inside would do nicely. Certainly the more waterproof, the better.

A 6 meter repeater is also available to our area. This repeater, owned by K7CH, has a frequency of 52.930 (input 51.230) and a tone of 100.0 Hz.

Special Events

Check out these special events during the month of September:

- Hellgate Amateur Radio Club, W7PX. 1500Z September 13 – 0200Z September 15th. 198th anniversary of Lewis and Clark Expedition on Lolo Pass. 28.365, 21.365, 14.265, 7.265. QSL and certificate
- Pottstown Area Amateur Radio Club, W3H, 1400Z-2000Z September 20th. 12th annual East Coast Hobo Gathering, "Hoboes On The Air". SSB on 15,20,40meters. Certificate awarded.

Hey! Last Page! More next month!

Logging Software by N3FJP

For several months, I have been looking for a computer logging program that will "do it all". As I asked around, I found that there are a million of these programs and that none are perfect.

Finally John Jackson, KQ7JJ, suggested I try one produced by Scott Davis, N3FJP called ACLog 2.3 (version 2.4 has just now come out). While I was thinking about it, both Steve Pack, WB7VAS and Terry Neumann, KQ7K, mentioned that it was a good logging program.

Scott will give you a free workout of the program for 45 days at no cost. Now, you can't beat that! For permanent use of the Amateur Contact Log, a \$19.00 registration fee is required. A software CD which contains AC Log call book data and installation files for all Scott's software programs will run you \$32.00 (shipping and handling included).

Besides the AC Log, he also has software programs to support most if not all of the common contests (22 of them) plus an Emergency Manager Network Log, a Ham Club Database and a Field Day Contest Log. AC Log is a great program. It tracks all your contacts as well as your files for "worked all states", "worked all counties", grids, zones, IOTA's, Lighthouses and many others. It will even print QSL label strips and address labels. You can plug a QRZ CD or Buckmaster CD into the computer and it will look up your contact and plug it into the information in a few seconds while you're still on the air with the other ham!

Anyway there are several great programs out there. This is just one of them. If I get any feedback on the other programs, I'll include something about them later. Paper logs are OK. No logs are OK too, but I like to keep track of my contacts and AC Log seems to do the job for me. –Bob Willey, KD7OWN

CVARS Hamfest & Swapmeet

Its time! Its almost here! Are you ready to spend \$\$\$? The famous (and only) Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society Hamfest & Swapmeet is scheduled for Saturday, September 27th from 9AM – 1PM at the Southwest Washington Fairgrounds. Lots of great stuff. VE sessions (by reservation). Talk in frequencies are 147.06 and 146.46 Admission is \$3 with tables (in advance) \$15 or tables after September 14th for \$20. Come one, come all. Take a look, we're in QST this month in the hamfest calendar section. For more info, call Bill Harwell, AC7SR. See you there!

Final Humor!

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me!

I used to have a handle on life, but it broke.