

CVARS

Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society

2003 – 2004 “Highlights”

By: Bob Willey KD7OWN

CVARS Meetings

Everyone is welcome to the monthly Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society general meetings. CVARS meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the First Baptist Church, 1866 S. Market Blvd. in Chehalis starting at 7:30 PM.

CVARS Executive Board Meetings

Executive Board meetings are being held the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the home of Johnny Jackson, KQ7JJ, located at 1877 Bishop Rd., Chehalis. Everyone is welcome as a guest to these meetings as well. While they may not be as fascinating as our regular programs, we'd love to hear your advice on the “weighty” issues discussed. If you need directions, call John Jackson any time.

2003 Executive Board Members

Kim Aiken, AC7YY – President
Bob Willey, KD7OWN – Vice President
Steve Pack, WB7VAS – Treasurer
Loyann Munyan, KC7KCJ – Secretary
Bill Hughes, KD7OWO – Board Member
Jim Kruger, KK7AB – Board Member
John Jackson, KQ7JJ – Board Member
John Bertels, WA7LFJ – Board member

2004 Executive Board Members

Kim Aiken, AC7YY – President
Bob Willey, KD7OWN – Vice President
Steve Pack, WB7VAS – Treasurer
John Jeschke, KD7SXV – Secretary
John Bertels, WA7LFJ – Board Member
John Ellingson, K7OSK – Board Member
John Jackson, KQ7JJ – Board Member
Jim VanderMeer, KC7ASV – Board Member



ARRL Affiliated Club

The Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society is an ARRL Affiliated Club. This means that more than 51% of our club's voting members are licensed amateurs and belong to the ARRL. Your ARRL Section Manager is Ed Bruette, N7NVP, 305 NW Paulson Rd., Poulsbo, WA 98370 (360-698-0917) n7nvp@arrl.org. The ARRL is always looking for information or emails from members about what is going on in their clubs.



Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Your club supports an active ARES group headed by Bill Harwell, AC7SR and his support staff. ARES members participate in the Lewis County Historical Bike Ride, the annual SET drill and Search & Rescue activities. If you're interested in community service, this is the group to belong to. See Bill for more information at ac7sr@arrl.net. Your ARES Section Emergency Coordinator is Jim Pace, P.O. Box 1602, Centralia, WA 98531 (360-736-2221) wwaares@quik.com



Special Service Club

CVARS is an ARRL Special Services Club. This is quite an honor as it means we as a club are active in many amateur radio areas such as testing, classes, Field day, training and elmering. Not every club has the right to put the “Special Services Club” logo on their newsletter.

CVARS Club Activities

The Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society participated in the following during 2003:

- Amateur Radio Information Guide
- Amateur Radio Emergency Services
- ARRL Affiliated Club
- ARRL Special Service Club affiliation
- Bunny Hunts (RF Direction Finding)
- By-laws restructure
- Christmas Party
- Club history project
- Club visitations (Olympia & Shelton)
- Communications Academy
- CVARS member interest survey
- Door Prizes at club meetings
- Elections
- Elmering Program
- Executive Board meetings
- Field Day
- Greeter at club meetings
- Ham classes & testing
- Hamfest & Swapmeet
- Lewis County Historical Bike Ride
- Local Government Liaison

Club Activities - continued

- LXpedition II
- McKinley Stump special event W7A
- Monthly club programs
- Newsletter
- Road Race Rally - Olympia
- Search & Rescue Conference
- SET Drill – ARES
- Sheriff's Day participation
- Southwest Washington Fair
- Sunday evening CVARS Net
- Visit to the 911 center
- Web page (CVARS.org)
- Weekly CW code practice

Monthly Club Programs

During the year, club meetings consisted of several interesting programs which included:

- Satellites – By Kim Aiken
- DXpeditions - by Hillar Raamatt
- Antennas – by Gary Litteer
- Earthquake preparedness by Bob Willey
- Search & Rescue – by Lewis County Sheriff's Office
- Cleaning and repairing old equipment - by John Ellingson

CVARS Member Interests

Club members are interested in all facets of Amateur Radio. If you're looking for information on any of the following, we'll put you in touch with someone who can get you started in the right direction.

- Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society
- Antennas
- APRS
- ARES
- Contests
- County Hunting
- CW
- DXing
- Islands On The Air (IOTA)
- Kid's Day
- Logging programs
- Net operations
- Packet Radio
- Paperchasing
- QSLing
- Radio equipment
- Ragchewing
- Repairing radio equipment
- Repeater operation
- Satellites
- Search & Rescue
- Slow Scan TV
- Ten-Ten International
- VE program

Ideas For 2004

President Kim Aiken has asked for information from the membership concerning any ideas for new activities for the club this year. Hams are an adventuresome group and generally seem willing to try any activity once – as long as it includes a radio. Some help us out with an idea for a program, for a LXpedition or some "off the wall" special event. It's your club. Let us know what you would like to go and set the direction for this year. What a great year it is going to be!

How Do You Like The Meetings?

Since the formation of the Executive Board, we have changed the format of the regular membership meetings of CVARS. Generally, they begin with an introduction of all members followed by some brief event notices for anything in the upcoming month. A program is scheduled each month except election month followed by refreshments and some time to "swap lies".

If you would like to see any of this format change, feel free to talk to any of the Executive Board members and suggest a change. We want you to enjoy each and every meeting and need to hear from you if a change is necessary.

Cvars.org

Our Treasurer, Steve Pack, WB7VAS has been putting some solid time into the website and has made some pretty amazing changes. If you have not checked them out in the last few weeks, take a gander at the site.

Steve would like to know what other information you would like to see included on the website so feel free to email some suggestions or catch him at the club meetings. A website should fill the needs of club members and non members alike so let him know how you like it.

BawFaw & St. Helens Repeaters

This is the time of the year both these fine repeaters need out support in the way of dollars. Repeaters don't come free and usually the cost is quietly covered by the repeater owners. We all use the repeaters and are glad when they work as they should so be generous (you have all your Christmas bills paid don't you by now?) and spread your wealth to these two great projects.

CVARS Dues Are Due!

Last but not least by any means is a friendly reminder that, for most, your Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio dues have expired.

Steve Pack has gently reminded one and all to pay up and the January meeting is a great time to do this. Drag out the checkbook and give!