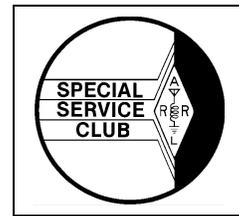


# Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society



Website: [cvars.org](http://cvars.org)

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

[May, 2005](#)

## Official Record Executive Board Meeting

President Bob Willey, KD7OWN, was out of town on vacation the week of April 11<sup>th</sup>. The Executive Board, having no immediate business to discuss, elected to postpone the meeting until next month. May's Executive Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

## Useless Statistics

They may be useless but they are interesting. Here are some of the latest numbers concerning hams in the United States as of March, 2005:

- 665,022 FCC licensed hams in U.S.
- 28,889 currently hold a Novice class license.
- 316,675 hold a Technician's class license.
- 136,712 have a General class license.
- 76,663 hold an Advanced license.
- 106,083 currently have an Extra class license.
- 24,110 hams live in Washington State

## Things I Must Remember To Be A Good Dog

1. I will not eat cat's food before they eat it or after they throw it up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc. just because I like the way they smell.
3. I will not munch "leftovers" in the kitty litter box.
4. The diaper pail is not a cookie jar.
5. My head does not belong in the refrigerator.
6. I will not bite the nice police officers hand.
7. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear while he's on the toilet.
8. I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before I come into the house.
9. I will not throw up in the car.
10. The cat is not a squeaky toy. When I play with him he makes noises but its usually not a good thing.

## Lewis County Historical Bike Ride

The annual Lewis County Historical Bike Ride will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2005. Bill Harwell is looking for hams interested in participating in this year's event. Those wishing to take part should meet at Stan Hedwall Park just off I-5 at exit 76 at 6:30am. The event should be completed by no later than 5:00pm. If you can't attend the whole day, come for just a couple of hours. Bill promises to keep you busy.

Equipment is minimal. A handheld portable radio and a gain antenna (magmount, J-pole, etc.) batteries and a lunch are all that is needed. A folding chair is good too! The rest is up to you. Please let Bill know if you would like to help or if you have any questions. Bill can be contacted at 360-748-8086. See you there.

## Intelligence Of Youth

My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandpa, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo while I asked, "No, how are we alike?"

"You're both old," he said. (listen to that bubble burst)

When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied "I'm not sure."

"Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised. "Mine says I'm four."



Mount  
St Helens

Call in sick. Take the day off. Whatever it takes, plan on being part of CVARS Special Event Station, W7A, on May 18<sup>th</sup>. It is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the big blow and we're going to tell the world – or as much of the world as we can contact. It is plenty cool at almost 4000 ft. so plan on dressing for the weather and bring your own vehicle, HF radio and a lunch. We'll have more information on times and locations at May's CVARS meeting.

## Poem For Women

He didn't like the casserole,  
And he didn't like my cake.  
My biscuits were too hard...  
Not like his Mother used to make.

I didn't perk the coffee right,  
He didn't like the stew,  
I didn't mend his socks  
The way his Mother used to do.

I pondered for an answer,  
I was looking for a clue;  
Then I turned around and smacked him...  
Like his Mother used to do!



## 2005 Washington State Search And Rescue Conference

This year's SAR conference will be held in beautiful Leavenworth Washington and will be hosted by the Chelan County Sheriff's Office. Dates are May 16-22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a great place to get the required training needed by ARES members and Leavenworth is a great place to be in the spring. For more information, check the web at [www.chelansar.org](http://www.chelansar.org) or call Sgt. Bruce Long at 509-667-6999 x 1709.

## Vehicle Prowl Prevention Tips

OK, time to put on my other hat for a moment. As most of you know, I am the Patrol Commander at Centralia Police Department. Over the last few months, thefts from vehicles, both locked and unlocked, have skyrocketed. Time to take a few minutes to make yourself less of a victim.

Most theft from cars (called Vehicle Prowls) are drug related. Those who have a drug habit of anywhere from \$10 - \$100 per day need money. Most do not work because drugs control their lives and punching a time clock just doesn't fit their lifestyle. Where does the money come from? Stealing from you. When the car prowler breaks your car window and rips your \$200 stereo from your car, he pawns or sell it usually getting about \$15-\$20. It used to be they only hit unlocked cars parked in dark areas but the trend of late has been going towards day time jobs and they are much more likely to break a car window if they see something they like inside. Not only do you have the cost of replacement but now you have the cost of the window! By the way, most insurance companies won't replace radios.

So how do you prevent this from happening? Use some common sense. Park your vehicle in a well lighted area. Don't leave anything of value visible in your car ( this includes CD's, loose change in a console, purse, checkbook, camera, backpack, or radio). Place items in your trunk. Very few car prowlers will attempt your trunk. If you must leave things visible in your car, throw a blanket over them making them less obvious. If you must leave a ham radio in your car, at least make it so

the police can have a chance at recovering it "when" it is stolen. Copy the make, model, and serial number down and keep it at home. IF you have that information, your stolen radio can be entered into a nationwide database as a stolen item. Then if an officer finds some "less than honest person" (I'm being polite here) who has a ham radio in his possession, he can simply run the numbers and you will most likely get your radio back. Without the make, model and serial number, it stands very little chance of being recovered as it can not be entered into the database. Engrave a mark or your initials somewhere, like the inside of the battery cover, so you can identify the radio as your own. Keep a photo of your radio or a sales advertisement with a picture so you can show the officer what your particular radio looks like.

Ham radio equipment is expensive and the guy who steals it doesn't know its ham radio gear. He just takes it because he figures he can get a few bucks for it somewhere.

If you do experience a theft, call the police. We'll make the information available to other officers who may run across it and we'll provide a case number to give to your insurance, if they will cover the loss. If your window is broken, they should at least cover that.

Criminals are opportunists. Don't make it easy for them. They don't need your ham radio.

## A Poem From Doug, KC7TPK

*There once was a man from Nantucket  
Who kept all of his cash in a bucket  
But his daughter, named Nan,  
Ran away with a man  
And as for the bucket, Nantucket.*

## Lewis County Veteran's Museum

The brand new Veteran's Museum is almost finished. Have you seen it from the freeway near Chehalis? It is really going to be beautiful and it will be opening very soon. The museum has set Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> as opening day with some very special events planned. These will include dedications of the flagpole, unveiling of the "wall of honor", ribbon cutting ceremony into the building, dedication of the American Flag from the USS Abraham Lincoln and several guest speakers.

Some interesting events for the day include television coverage from Seattle, Portland and Spokane, a special cancellation stamp at the museum by the Chehalis Post Office **and our own CVARS amateur radio club special event station!**

We've been invited to participate in this very special ceremony. We hope to be on 2 meters and HF (maybe more if we can find the help) and will have special QSL cards and certificates for contact confirmations.

Set aside Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> for some special time to honor our country's heroes. We'll be using our regular WA7UHD callsign and can use as many volunteers as we can get.

More information will be available in the CVARS June newsletter. In the meantime, drive by and take a peek at this wonderful facility. It is incredible from the outside. Think what the inside will be like!

## Redneck Book Of Manners

1. If you have to vacuum the bed, time to change the sheets.
2. Even if you're certain that you are included in the will, it is still considered tacky to drive a U-Haul to the funeral home.
3. A centerpiece for the table should never be anything prepared by a taxidermist.
4. Dirt and grease under the fingernails is a social no-no, as they tend to detract from a woman's jewelry and alter the taste of finger foods.
5. Always have a positive comment about your date's appearance such as "Ya'll sure don't sweat much for a fat girl."
6. Generally speaking, livestock is a poor choice for a wedding gift.
7. For a groom, at least, rent a tux. A leisure suit with a cummerbund and a clean bowling shirt can create too sporty an appearance.
8. Though uncomfortable, say "yes" to socks and shoes for any wedding.

## Keep Your Fingers Crossed

Psssst....keep your voice low and watch who you're telling this to but.....Leon from Ham Radio Outlet says he thinks he can make it to May's CVARS meeting. Shhhh...keep the cheering down! Keep your fingers crossed and we'll hope he makes it to beautiful Lewis County this time.

## June 21<sup>st</sup> with the Scouts

Kim Aiken, AC7YY, has been approached by the Boy Scouts again this year and asked if the club would be willing to participate in their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual trek from Chehalis to Raymond on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Kim led about 10 club members in this activity last year with about 75-80 scouts.

Basically, the scouts want a demonstration of amateur radio. Last year club members set up an HF station, a VHF to repeater station, an APRS / Packet station and had several hand held portables operating simplex while at the park at Pe Ell.

If you are available and interested in this worthwhile project, contact Kim and give him your support.

## The Doctor Said So

A Doctor was addressing a large audience in Tampa recently:

"The material we put into our stomachs is enough to have killed most of us sitting here, years ago. Red meat is awful. Soft drinks corrode your stomach lining. Chinese food is loaded with MSG. High fat diets can be disastrous and none of us realizes the long-term harm caused by the germs in our drinking water. But there is one thing that is the most dangerous food of all. Can anybody tell me what it is?"

After several seconds of quiet, a 75-year old man in the back raised his hand and softly said...

"Wedding Cake."

## Bob Hope

Here is a tribute to one man who really did make a difference during his lifetime. And his one-liners prove it: On his family's early poverty: "Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother."

On going to Heaven: "I've done benefits for ALL religions. I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality."

On turning 70: "You still chase women, but only downhill."

On turning 80: "That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing."

On turning 90: "You know you're getting old when the candles on your cake cost more than the cake itself."

On turning 100: "I don't feel old. In fact I don't feel anything until noon. Then it's time for my nap"

On never winning an Oscar: "Welcome to the Academy Awards or, as it's called in my family, 'Passover'."

On Presidents: "I have performed for 12 presidents and entertained only six."

On receiving the Congressional Gold Medal: "I feel very humble, but I think I have the strength of character to fight it."

## Al Jorgensen's 50<sup>th</sup>

By now, you should have received your reminder to attend the festivities for Al Jorgensen, W7ZLR on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>.

We will be celebrating Al's 50<sup>th</sup> year as a ham radio operator with a barbeque, some potluck, a cake and some work to put Al's two meter and HF rigs back on the air. We'll need to stand up his tower, attach his antenna and change out some old coax.

Bring your tools, talents and tenacity and meet us at Al's home at 11:00AM on Saturday. If you need a ride or if you've lost your directions, call me (Bob, KD7OWN) at 736-9633. Hope to see you there!

## Blondes!

Two blondes living in Oklahoma were sitting on a bench talking. One blonde says to the other: "Which do you think is farther away.....Florida or the moon?"

The other blonde turns and says "Helloooooooo, can you see Florida?"

There's this blonde out for a walk. She comes to a river and sees another blonde on the opposite bank. "Yoo-hoo!" she shouts, "How can I get to the other side?"

The second blonde looks up the river then down the river and shouts back, "You ARE on the other side."

A girl was visiting her blonde friend, who had acquired two new dogs, and asked her what their names were. The blonde responded by saying that one was named Rolex and one was named Timex. Her friend said, "Whoever heard of someone naming their dogs like that?"

"Helloooooooo....," answered the blonde, "They're watch dogs!"

## Visalia DX Convention

Ever been to Visalia, California's famous DX convention? No? Well listen to what our friend Hillar, N6HR has to say on his recent trip.

From the freeway, it looked like an ordinary yagi, albeit a bit misplaced next to a hotel building. At a closer look, however, the antenna seemed a bit bigger – and bigger – until it turned out to be a MONSTIR on a 102-foot towable trailer tower. 3 elements on 40 and 4 elements from 20 to 6 meters. By the SteppIR folks.

Following the coax indoors, it terminated in an Icom 7800 operated by a 10 year old ham sending 20+ wpm CW on a Bencher, the Visalia International DX Convention special event callsign being N6V...Several other young DXers were also present representing the 'new generation'.

We had a "full house". 700+ DXers! The biggest luminaries being Mrs. Bharathi VU4RBI of the recent Andaman DXpedition transformed into a ham radio emergency situation by the tsunami, Marti OH2BH, Reinaldo YV5AMH of the Aves Island DXpedition, "roaming" Roger G3SXW, UA3AGW and other visitors from Finland, Germany, Italy and several other countries. A truly international gathering.

Numerous forums, Q & A periods and specialty repasts (IOTA, FOC, etc) were followed by attitude adjustment periods and banquet chow. ARRL headquarters were represented by Wayne N7NG and K3MMH (publicity and fundraising).

Mrs. Bharathi was the main banquet speaker. Her talk emphasized the behind-the-scenes logistics involved with setting up the VU4 DXpedition. The two VU4 stations were located well away from the actual tsunami damage areas and they only felt the earthquake(s). After the tsunami, several other VU stations were rapidly set up, but their main task became passing traffic to India mainland. It was interesting to note that this was a purely India amateur operation. The government of India is now well aware of amateur radio capabilities in support of emergency communications.

Reinaldo's YV5AMH talk showing the slides of the Aves Island situation showed the hurricane-proof structure now erected on the island for scientific research which will be operational in the near future.

Hopefully their communications center will have amateur-band capabilities. Lugging generators in a Zodiac is not the exercise one needs. So it appears Aves Island will no longer be just an uninhabited strip of sand in the middle of nowhere – thanks to the scientists and the native green turtles!

In the commercial exhibitors room one could bend the plastic and pick up all kinds of serious toys. The aisles were full of 'mini-meetings', chit-chat and the showing off of recent purchases.

Our Western Washington DX Club was well represented with about a dozen of us 'showing the colors'. It was a fun convention – as always- and we'll meet again next year – hosted by the Southern California DX Club.

## Throw In Some Religious Humor

While driving in Pennsylvania, a family caught up to an Amish carriage. The owner of the carriage obviously had a sense of humor, because attached to the back of the carriage was a hand printed sign which read..."Energy efficient vehicle: Runs on oats and grass. Caution: Do not step in exhaust."

There was a very gracious lady who was mailing an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country. "Is there anything breakable in here?" asked the postal clerk.

"Yes," answered the lady. "Ten very fragile commandments."

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humor out of life,  
And pass it on to other folk!

## More One-Liners...

The speed of time is one second per second.

All I ask is a chance to PROVE that money can't make me happy.

Is Marx's tomb a communist plot?

Is it my imagination or do buffalo wings taste like chicken?

How can there be "self"-help "groups"?

Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

I used to be indecisive. Now I'm not so sure.

I had amnesia once--- or twice.

If swimming is good for your figure, how do you explain whales?

Everyone is entitled to be stupid, but some abuse the privilege.

## Uncle Billy-Bob

Billy Bob's sister is pregnant and is in a bad car accident which caused her to fall into a deep coma. After nearly six months, she awakens and sees that she is no longer pregnant.

Frantically, she asks the doctor about her baby. The doctor replies, "Ma'am, you had twins – a boy and a girl. The babies are fine. Your brother came in and named them." The mother knows her brother is an idiot and asks what he named them.

"Denise" said the doctor. "Wow, that's nice," thought the mother. "What did he name the boy?"

The doctor replies, "Denephew."