



Chehalis Valley Amateur Radio Society



Website: cvars.org

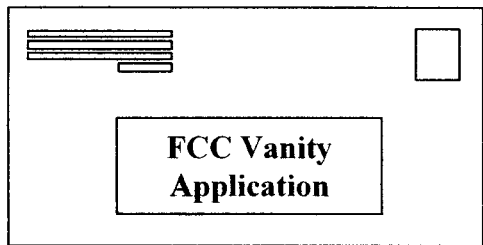
September 2005

Edited by Bob Willey, KD7OWN

Official Record

Executive Board Meeting August 10, 2005

As several Executive Board members were out of town on this date, and having no immediate business to discuss, the meeting was postponed until September 14th.



The application fee for an Amateur Radio Vanity call sign rose to \$21.90 effective August 23, 2005.

The FCC raised the application fee for 2005 from \$20.80 to \$21.90 for the 10-year license term. The FCC said it had adjusted 2004 "payment units" for each service to better reflect expected 2005 payment liabilities. The fee went up from \$16.30 to \$20.80 only a year ago.

A reevaluation in the number of anticipated vanity call sign applications – or "payment units" – accounts for this latest fee hike. The FCC says it anticipates 7,600 vanity applications – up only slightly from a year earlier.

More information on vanity call signs is available, should you need it on the ARRL Website, www.arrl.org/arrlvec/vanity.html.

It's Simple Geography!

A lot of folks can't understand how we came to have an oil shortage here in our country. Well, there's a very simple answer. Nobody bothered to check the oil. We just didn't know we were getting low. The reason for that is purely geographical. Our oil is located in Alaska, California, Oklahoma and Texas.

Our Dipsticks are located....in Washington DC.

BawFaw Maintenance Project

The BawFaw maintenance project is scheduled for Saturday, September 3rd. Kim Aiken, AC7YY, is still looking for a few good helpers. He could also use some equipment such as saw horses, painting stuff and wire brushes. Join us and help make BawFaw sparkling clean for the winter season. For more information, contact Kim at ac7yy@amsat.org.

Oh Oh!

A guy was sitting quietly reading his paper when his wife walked up behind him and whacked him on the head with a magazine.

"What was that for?" he asked.

"That was for the piece of paper in your pants pocket with the name Laura Lou written on it." She replied.

"Two weeks ago when I went to the races, Laura Lou was the name of one of the horses I bet on." He explained.

"Oh honey, I'm sorry," she said. "I should have known there was a good explanation."

Three days later he was watching a ball game on TV when she walked up and hit him on the head again, this time with a frying pan, which knocked him out cold.

When he came to, he asked, "What was that for?"

She replied, "Your horse called."

For Sale, For Sale, For Sale...

Our friend Hillar Raamat has a couple of items for sale.

- Two 20-foot fiberglass poles suitable for 14 MHz ¼ wave verticals. \$50 for both (so you can phase them...)

For more information, contact Hillar at hraamat@whidbey.net. PS...Hillar promises to give a presentation on their DXpedition in the Pribilofs very soon. Should be interesting to hear more about this trip. Both Hillar and Elsie had a good time.

Think You're Having A Bad Day?

In a hospital's Intensive Care Unit, patients always died in the same bed, on Sunday morning, at about 11:00 a.m., regardless of their medical condition. This puzzled the doctors and some even thought it had something to do with the supernatural. No one could solve the mystery as to why the deaths occurred around 11:00 a.m. so a worldwide team of experts was assembled to investigate.

The next Sunday morning, a few minutes before 11:00 a.m., all of the doctors and nurses were waiting outside the ward to see for themselves what the terrible phenomenon was all about.

Just when the clock struck 11:00 a.m. the part time Sunday janitor entered the ward and unplugged the life support system so he could use the vacuum cleaner.

Still worried?

The average cost of rehabilitating a seal after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska was \$80,000. At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were being released back into the wild amid cheers and applause from onlookers. A minute later, in full view, a killer whale ate both of them.



Summer Time Is Radial Time

Our friend Ward Silver, editor of the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet sends this tip for

those of us working on antennas.

For those working on planting antenna radials, farm supply stores stock 14-gauge galvanized electric fence wire in ¼ mile lengths at very reasonable prices. For holding radials down, Phil, KB9CRY suggests folding a short length sideways over one's hand so that it looks like a bobby pin and can be used for pinning the radials down. Once the grass grows over them, radial and pins will simply disappear into the grass.

News Flash!

You know you're getting old when the bank sends you their free calendar...one month at a time!

And There Must Be A Groaner!

Mother lion and Father lion had gone off hunting and told their two offspring not to wander away. However, a couple of small gnus wandered by and the baby lions couldn't resist. They ran out, chasing after the gnus just as their parent lions returned. One baby lion turned to the other and said: "That is the end of the gnus. Here are the head lions" (think about it...it'll come to you)

Blue Star Highway Markers

When traveling US Highway 12 near the Mossyrock Dam, have you ever noticed the "Blue Star Marker" placed at the dam? Do you know what this symbolizes?

The Blue Star marker program was started in 1944 by the New Jersey Federation of Garden Clubs as a memorial to U.S. veterans of World War II. The goal went far beyond the placing of markers. The project was organized as a demonstration of roadside beautification, to show what could be accomplished through united strength. The Garden club planted 2,000 dogwood trees along the route and dedicated them to returning veterans by erecting a "Blue Star Marker".

The idea caught on and now every state in the Union has Blue Star highways.

The oldest Blue Star Memorial Highway marker in Washington State is located on the east side of Main Street (old US 99) at a roadside park in Vancouver. The marker was sponsored by the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs in 1950. According to the internet, there are actually twelve Blue Star markers in Washington. They are located at:

Vancouver on Main Street (erected 1950)
Seattle on SR99 / Aurora Ave. N. (1952)
Moses Lake near I-90 (1958)
Near Liberty Lake on I-90 (1963)
Kitsap County on Tracyton Blvd (1988)
Mossyrock Dam on US 12 (1989)
Arlington on I-5 (1993)
Tumwater Historical Park (1993)
Near Eatonville at Dogwood Park (1994)
Tacoma on SR 16 (1995)
Forks on US 101 (1999)
Vancouver on I-5 near Gee Creek (2001)

What a great way to honor our veterans. When traveling our great state, keep an eye out for the Blue Star Memorial Highways.

All-Asian DX Contest

The all-Asian DX Contest (phone) is scheduled for 0000Z September 3 – 2400Z September 4th. Frequencies will be 80-10 meters. The exchange will be RST (599 for you lazy lids) and a two digit number denoting the operator's age (75 for Terry, KQ7K). YL (Young Lady) stations may send 00 instead of an "actual" age. This is a great time to get some of those rare Asian contacts or even some of the more common Japanese QSL's

- Lars: "Ole, stand in front of my car and tell me if da turn signals are working."
Ole: "Yes, No, Yes, No, Yes, No"

Bet You Didn't Know This!

You may not know this but many nonliving things have a gender.

- Ziploc Bags are Male, because they hold everything in but you can see right through them.
- A tire is Male because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.
- A hot air balloon is Male because to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it and, of course, there's the hot air part.
- A hammer is Male because it hasn't changed much over the last 5,000 years but it's handy to have around.
- An hourglass is Female because over time the weight shifts to the bottom.
- A remote control is Female. (bet you thought it would be Male) because it give man pleasure, he'd be lost without it, and while he doesn't always know the right buttons to push, he keeps trying!

Overworked And It's Your Fault

For a couple years I've been blaming it on lack of sleep, not enough sunshine, too much pressure at work, earwax build-up, poor blood or anything else I could think of. But now I found out the real reason:

I'm tired because I'm overworked and here is why:

The population of this country is 273 million. 140 million are retired. That leaves 133 million to do all the work. There are 85 million in school, which leaves 48 million to do all the work. Of this, there are 29 million employed by the federal government leaving 19 million to do all the work. 2.8 million are in the armed forces preoccupied with Iraq which leaves 1.4 million to do all the work. At any given time there are 188,000 people in hospitals leaving 1,212,000 to do all the work. Now, there are 1,211,998 people in prison and that leave just two people to do all the work. You and me! And there you sit on your rear end reading this dumb newsletter. Nice, real nice!

Some Interesting Statistics

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration advises motorcycle fatalities and injuries have risen each year since 1997. In the past 6 years, motorcycle rider fatalities have increased by 73% - 1,545 more fatalities. Alcohol is involved in fatal motorcycle crashes at a rate higher than any other motor vehicle. Of those 1,545 fatalities 63% were age 40 and older. Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for age 3-33. On average, one person is killed every 32 minutes as a result of alcohol

related crashes and one person is injured every two minutes., every day of the year.

Remember, school is just about to start again.

Drive safely



HEY!
Are Ya Goin?

2005 Pacific Northwest VHF Society Conference

QST magazine's "World Above 50 MHz" Editor Gene Zimmerman (W3ZZ) will be the keynote speaker at the 2005 Pacific Northwest VHF Conference in Seaside, Oregon on the weekend of September 30-October 2nd.

Included in the conference will be a full day of presentations, demonstrations and activities on Saturday, along with a no-host dinner at Pizza Harbor.

VUCC checking will be available on site during the conference. Cost run \$30 for advance registration or \$40 at the door and that includes a buffet lunch on Saturday and a copy of the conference proceedings on CD-ROM.

The Shilo Inn and Oceanfront Resort in Seaside Oregon will be the official conference hotel. Special room rates of \$69.95 per night at the main hotel and \$59.95 at the Shilo Inn East are available. Shoot you haven't been to Seaside since SEA-PAC in June anyway, so come on down and enjoy the weekend before winter sets in on a full time basis.

California

Chuck was sitting in an airplane when another fellow took a seat beside him. The new guy was an absolute wreck...pale, hands shaking, biting his nails and moaning in fear.

"Hey pal, what's the matter?" Chuck asked.

"Oh man...I've been transferred to California," the other guy answered. "There's crazy people in California...and they have shootings, gangs, race riots, drugs, the highest crime rate..."

"Hold on," Chuck interrupted. "I've lived in California all my life and it is not as bad as the media says. Find a nice place and settle down. Raise your family and find a good school. It's as safe as anywhere in the world."

The other passenger relaxed and stopped shaking for a moment and said, "Oh, thank you. I've been worried to death but if you live there and say it's OK, I'll take your word for it. What do you do for a living?"

"Me?" said Chuck, "I'm a tail gunner on a bread truck in Oakland."

For Sale...For Sale...For Sale...

- Icom IC720A All band transceiver
- Icom IC515 Power supply
- MFJ Versa Tuner 3 Kilowatt series roller inductor model MFJ 989B
- Heathkit keyer
- Key
- Butternut antenna
- Headset
- Miscellaneous gear, parts, etc.

Contact Art Williams, N7EIK. At 736-7358 for more information. Art would like to sell all the equipment as a package if possible and is asking \$550. The Butternut antenna is standing and anyone buying it will need to take it down. This would be a nice HF station for someone who needs it.

What Was Your Answer?

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what is the criteria that defines a patient to be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "after we fill up a bathtub, we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask the patient to empty the bathtub."

Here are the choices:

Would you use the spoon? The teacup? The bucket?

"Oh I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would choose the bucket as it is larger than the spoon or the teacup."

"Noooooo," answered the Director, looking at the visitor with new interest. "A normal person would pull the plug."

(you are not actually required to tell anyone YOUR answer)

Do Cops Really Say This Stuff?

(But at times, We would like to)

- "If you run, you'll only go to jail tired.
- The answer to this last question will determine whether you are drunk or not...Was Mickey Mouse a cat or a dog?
- I'm glad to hear the Mayor is a good personal friend of yours! At least you know someone who can post your bail.
- Take your hands off the car and I'll make your birth certificate a worthless document.
- Relax, the handcuffs are brand new. They'll stretch out after you wear them for awhile.

(and the best one)

- You didn't think we give tickets to pretty women? You're right, we don't. Sign here and press hard...five copies!

New Element Discovered!

A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science. The new element has been named Governmentium.

Governmentium has one neutron, 12 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons, and 224 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312.

These 312 particles are held together by forces called morons, which are surrounded by vast quantities of particles called peons.

Since Governmentium has no electrons, it is inert. However, it can be detected, because it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact. A minute amount of Governmentium causes one reaction to take over four days to complete, when it would normally take less than a second.

Governmentium has a normal half-life of 4 years; it does not decay, but instead undergoes a reorganization in which a portion of the assistant neutrons and deputy neutrons exchange places.

In fact, Governmentium's mass will actually increase over time, since each reorganization will cause more morons to become neutrons, forming isodopes.

This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to believe that Governmentium is formed whenever morons reach a certain quantity in concentration. This hypothetical quantity is referred to as "Critical Morass."

When catalyzed with money, Governmentium becomes Administratium – an element which radiates just as much energy as the Governmentium since it has half as many peons but twice as many morons.

If My Body Were A car...

If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish and my paint job is getting a little dull, but that's not the worst of it.

My fenders are too wide. They were once as sleek as an MG but now they look more like an old Buick. My seat cushions have split open at the seams and are sagging. Seat belts? I gave them up when Krispy Creames opened a shop near my house. I have so many miles on my odometer and my headlights are out of focus and my whitewalls are stained with varicose veins. It takes me an hour to reach anywhere near my maximum speed. But, really, the worst of it is that almost every time I sneeze, cough or sputter...my radiator leaks and my exhaust backfires

73's...Bob, KD7OWN