

# CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



#### **BV RAMBLES:**

A good day to you all. Time to get those last minute outdoor projects wrapped up as the fall rains are upon us. Oh the powers to be have removed the burn ban so those of us who have piles to burn now have to figure out how to burn them in the rain.

As we creep closer to sunspot minimum it is important to take the time to wonder how far scientists have come with predicting the suns activities and propagation. Spaceweather.com today states "CHANCE OF STORMS TODAY: NOAA forecasters say there is a 75% chance of minor G1-class geomagnetic storms today, Oct. 8th, as Earth passes through a fast-moving stream of solar wind." Whether this actually happens, it is nice to know the possibility, where as 10-15 years ago it all would have been a surprise!

There is a lot of talk about the new ICOM 7610 transceiver, Icom's newest which packs a lot of punch for \$3000. I know it isn't cheap but that is the world we live in today.

Rosemary and Jeannine report on pages 3, 4, & 5, what it was like to operate the Salmon Run. They were laughing so much at times I wondered whether they actually remember to log the contacts. They did and as you can see on page 5 they did well. What they learned will benefit themselves and the club Field Day efforts.

Rosemary and Jeannine are raring to go in the CQ World Wide SSB contest, 0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28, 2018 that is starting on Friday evening and ending late Sunday afternoon. https://www.cqww.com/rules.htm

If you would like to join in let us know.

### Get Your License Here!

#### Next Scheduled Training Courses Sprint 2019 Dates TBD

#### Chuck Jones N7BV ARRL VE-L

#### October Program

#### **Bathtubs, Slinkies and Mirrors**

Using common experiences to visualize wave physics in antenna feed line systems Waves are waves, whether waves on water, undulating slinkies, sound waves, light rays or electrical magnetic waves in a wire.

This presentation will demonstrate some wave behavior on springs and strings, and point out many common wave phenomena you most likely have experienced.

It will use these experiences to explain what goes on in your antenna tuner and antenna feed-line between your radio and your antenna.

Bill Peterson / K7WWP

We need articles for the QTC newsletter. This is your newsletter.

Tell us how you became interested in Ham Radio. What did you do over the summer (just like school) huh!

Did you put up a new antenna, buy a new radio? Tell us about it.

Did you try a new mode again tell us about it.

The more you submit the less blank space we will have!

Thanks, the staff!

#### **CCARC QTC Newsletter**

#### Just a little background on the QTC.

We use ccarcqtc@yahoo.com as a repository for information for the newsletter. So if you have something for the QTC, please send it to the yahoo address. Do not sent it to one of the editors as they will just have to turn around and resend it to the yahoo address.

Please make sure the article or information is complete. As we rotate editing the newsletter you cannot be sure which editor will be piecing the newsletter together.

Please remove as much formatting from within whatever program you are using if you know how, before sending it to ccarcqtc. We do not edit, except to change fonts to a standard nonserf font (Arial which is easer to read than Times Roman). We will run a spell checker.

When first conceived the editors were given free license, it still is that way. It was understood they would endeavor to include everything submitted, within reason. For instance, off color jokes etc. are not going to be printed. Thanks,

Have an idea for a club program? Pass them along to the members of the program committee.

Thanks.

#### **2 METER NETS**

#### CCARC:

Every Thursday 7:00 pm on the W7FEL Repeater.

#### ARES/RACES:

Every Tuesday except 1st Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm on W7FEL Repeater.

**W7FEL Repeater:** 146.76 MHz, offset down 600 KHz, with a tone of 100 Hz.

#### Salmon Run Contest

On September 15 & 16th I participated in a DX contest with Jeannine and Chuck Jones at his house.

I haven't done a contest like this in awhile. The contest was the Western Washington DX club Salmon Run, especially designed for our State. Hams were trying to contact all 39 counties in Washington. We may have contacted 11 or so. The prizes were smoked Salmon.

Chuck had us come over the day before and give us instructions on how to contest. We started on 20 meters searching and pouncing, up and down the frequency. Chuck, Jeannine and I took turns using SSB voice. Chuck worked mostly on CW. Chuck encouraged us after a while to call "CQ" ourselves.

We found an open frequency with difficulty, as there were lots of CQ'rs.

Most of the contacts were eastbound, because Chuck had his antenna pointed in that direction, a few were around Washington state. We did manage to screw up on the Q' signals occasionally. Some of the contacts were more difficult to understand. As Jeannine and I traded spots, we helped each other with the call signs and Chuck backed us up. A "K9" call sign threw us for a loop. We couldn't figure out his call sign and Chuck had to interpret. One guy from New York said I had a very "young" voice and asked me my age, I said "old enough to know better", we both laughed.

It was a lot of fun, I did have a hoarse throat by the second day, calling so much voice. We worked 9 hours on Saturday and 5 hours on Sunday. I see why lots of hams like CW and RTTY. It was more fun calling "CQ" than search and pounce.

Karen made a delicious stew which we shared for dinner Saturday.

Jeannine was a good sport as this was her first contest after just getting her General license. She hung

right in there!!

On to more contests!

Rosemary Day KI7MZH

#### **My First Contest**

Jeannine Tyler KI7WVD October 6, 2018

Rosemary Day and I were kindly invited to Chuck Jones's house for the recent Salmon Run contest. We were met by Riley and Foster, the two guard dogs, and finally settled into the ham shack to begin the event.

Chuck began by showing us the radio equipment, contest software, and we availed ourselves to copious amounts of blank paper. We taped up handmade notes on the monitor and on top of the desk to remind ourselves what information was absolutely necessary to be transmitted in order to be counted as a complete contact. It was amazing how the easiest details exited our brains when someone finally responded to our call of November Seven Bravo Victor. Perhaps the term 'mike fright' doesn't adequately describe the disconcerting feelings.

Tuning and pouncing is not my favorite thing. I had trouble tuning in the high-pitched sounding voices and was repeatedly told I was off frequency. It's harder than it looks and I can see I need much more practice to get better. Chuck took pity on us and showed us how to find a vacant frequency, call to make sure it wasn't in use, and finally set up camp and start calling CQ. I loved camping out as a youngster and apparently still love it as an adult. Let the people come find us, I say. Finally, no one came back with, 'you're off frequency.'

We were so excited about camping out on a frequency and not having to listen to the high-pitched helium filled lungs of off frequency voices that we got tongue tied about repeating call signs. We'd type them correctly into the contest software and then transpose letters when repeating them over the air. We couldn't figure out why these folks from clear across the nation kept saying their call signs over and over, with us saying them incorrectly back...over and over.

Part of the time one of us would take notes on the transmission while listening with the headphones on. We'd then talk super loud repeating the information in case the person recording it on the contest software hadn't heard it. If you've never experienced this, I highly recommend it. The first person wears headphones and shouts, the second person tries to type while simultaneously giving hand signals to quiet the first person.

Phonetics really do work. Who can spell Clallam after hearing it once on the radio over thousands of miles? Just think, hundreds of people now know the correct spelling of at least the first four letters (and we're keeping the spelling of the rest of it a well-guarded secret). One gentleman even asked how to spell my name: Juliet Echo Alpha November November India November Echo.

We talked with people who were from Oklahoma, Texas and South Carolina that had distinct southern drawls to their responses. Some were in the path of Hurricane Florence and we wished them well in the coming hours.

Some of the contesters seemed very interested in Rosemary's age. They kept saying how young she sounded. I told her to tell them she was 12. She didn't.

There were some responders who wanted to know why female voices were coming from N7BV. They were likely ready to turn us in to the ARRL for hijacking a well-known contester's call sign.

Our nearest neighbors, the counties in Washington, came through very quiet and fuzzy. We learned this was due to the signal being received from the rear of the directional antenna.

All in all it was a great experience. Karen, Chuck's wife, cooked a wonderful, belly warming stew for dinner, complete with garlic bread and salad. I think even Riley warmed up to us after a while. He eventually came into the ham shack without his ball in his mouth and nuzzled our hand as if to say, 'scratch me behind the ears, I'm the guard dog and I'm letting you stay.' Chuck even got comfortable enough to nap for a bit in the chair behind us.

It was scary, it was fun, and I'm willing to do it again.

Thanks Chuck.

CALLSIGN: N7BV
CLUB: Western Washington DX Club
CONTEST: WA-QSO-PARTY
CATEGORY: MULTI-ONE ALL HIGH MIXED
CLAIMED-SCORE: 75222

#### **Band Mode QSOs Pts Mul**

3.5 CW 25 75 1 3.5 LSB 12 24 9

7 CW 16 48 3 7 LSB 8 16 0

14 CW 149 444 51 14 USB 198 396 10

Total Both 408 1003 74 2.5

Score: 75,222

#### **CCARC Ham Meeting September 12, 2018**

Meeting opened by Vice President Chuck Jones.

Pledge of Allegiance

Information on Gunderson Mountain project presented by Doug Welker.

Antenna on Striped Peak may be broken. Will need to send up tower people to check it out. Chuck S. has been researching prices on new antenna. Price \$2000 plus possible shipping charges. Negotiated a better deal for the club of \$1292.00 and possible shipping charges.

Board requested approval by the club to purchase if needed. Takes 2-4 weeks to ship.

Club approved a motion to approve up to \$1500.00 to purchase a new one if needed.

Audit for 2017 was completed. Checked out OK. Next audit will be in January. Joe will collate numbers for budget for the year now that the audit is completed.

Fox Deltas were made by Mark and Rosemary at Dennis T.'s house.

Bill Peterson presented the Striped Peak repeater upgrade. There were 9 people on the team. Upgraded to support Gunderson. Possibly may need a passive repeater if not enough power since a mountain is in the way.

Check out details on the website. Very informative presentation. Lauds for the crew.

Break, then soldering presentations.

Demo soldering stations using guns and soldering irons. Chuck S had story of no solder and no guns and how they improvised. Use larger tip for this job. Can make a variable temperature outlet using a light dimmer in an electric box. Wood clamp to hold project, no heat transfer. Many pointers by elmers on how to make the antennas. 4-5 were made by hams.

Meeting closed 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Day Secretary KI7MZH

#### **CCARC Board Meeting October 3, 2018**

Present: Chuck S. EBH, Bill WWP, John JAB, Chuck N7BV, Rosemary MZH, Jeannine WVD, Ross WVG, Joe E. RBS.

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes approved as published in the QTC.

President absent, Vice-president had nothing to report.

Treasurer: \$9425 in checking account.

Chairman of the Board: Audit completed. Striped Peak up and running, a few issues corrected.

Waiting for hospital personnel to get into Gunderson so more pictures, earthquake protection, wiring, cable, solar wind power system can begin work on. Much to do.

Striped Peak, likely a bad antenna, ordered replacement antenna that Ham Club approved last month. Cost \$1502. Would like to repair current antenna to use at Gunderson or have as spare antenna. Insides of antenna most likely needs replacing.

Note to Groups IO for keys to gates at Striped Peak, who has extras?

QTC needs articles.

Website: Group invites being cleaned up by Bill P.

Possible program for next meeting: Satellites and Space station by Matt or Bathtubs, Slinkies and Mirrors--visualized antenna feed system.

Inventory records: John working on.

Wish to publish Groups IO Guidelines, want to publish as standards, copies available at next meeting. Bill P. to present.

No additional distribution of Business cards so far.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Day KI7MZH, Secretary

#### Ham Radio - an old man's hobby Paul Honore W6IAM

The question keeps coming up like a bad dinner -- "Why doesn't ham radio appeal to the young anymore? "The powers that be (FCC hand in hand with ARRL) have broadened operating privileges, eased licensing requirements and dumbed down examinations in an effort to recruit new members to the hobby.

They've succeeded to a certain extent. Membership has increased dramatically but not among the young. Part of the blame can be laid to social media. There's nothing ham radio can offer that email, twitter, Instagram, and a host of others can't provide without the hassle of obtaining a license. True if your goal is mobile communication and entertainment. An overlooked part of the picture is a lack of adventure.. Entry level equipment can be bought cheaply and it offers more options than could be imagined a few years ago but where is the adventure in opening a box, plugging the contents into a source of power and talking to someone a few miles away? You can do that with a phone and just about everyone carries a personal phone these days. Besides, communication by phone is not limited to people with a license to talk.

Let me tell you something of my own introduction to ham radio. It began when I was a nine year old kid mowing lawns for quarters in order to buy model airplane kits. Yes, kids used to do menial tasks to earn money so they could get materials to build something with their own hands they didn't know it at the time but it was part of their training. They were learning skills like dexterity, patience and pride of accomplishment. One day I fished a broken radio out of a dumpster and I took it apart, fascinated at the complexity of it and wondering what all the strange components did to make it receive "Captain Midnight" or "Terry and the Pirates."

Curious, I obtained a schematic diagram for a regenerative receiver and used some of the cannibalized parts along with others I retrieved from a trash bin behind Joe Prein's radio repair shop to assemble it. It worked! It worked too well!. Regenerative receivers work by feeding back some of the output signal in phase with the input to super-amplify the signal. If it is tuned too far into regeneration it becomes a crude transmitter. I could make all the radios within a half mile squeal. It didn't take long for the neighbors to figure out who it was that was causing interference with their listening pleasure and soon they were blaming me for malfunctioning toasters and vacuum cleaners.

I abandoned regenerative circuits and progressed to TRF (Tuned Radio Frequency) and super heterodyne circuits, learning how to modify components to receive short wave signals. They were mostly Morse code. This presented a new challenge, to learn code and become proficient enough to read what was being said. This took some time but WW-II was raging and ham radio transmissions were forbidden. Not so, listening. I continued to experiment with receivers and waited patiently for the war to end so I could obtain a ham license and put a real transmitter on the air. I reached my goal when I was a junior in High School. In the summer of 1949 I took the train to San Francisco and sat before a scowling FCC examiner for a 13 word per minute Morse code Test and a written examination on electronic theory. A few weeks later a document came in the mail awarding me General Class license W6IAM. General Class was the entry level license in those days, granting CW (Morse code) privileges on all bands. I had to wait another year to be allowed to test for Advanced Class, so I could transmit voice signals.

So where did all this hard work lead? On the basis of what I had learned by experimenting with electronics, I was hired as a full-time electronics technician at the Stanford High Energy Physics Laboratory to help construct the Mk III and Mk IV linear electron accelerators. From there, I worked as an Electronic Technician in the 7<sup>th</sup> fleet aboard the repair ship USS Hooper Island, and as a civilian Engineering Assistant at Alfred Electronics, prototyping and testing high power microwave systems. Not bad for someone who never finished college. It was a long and satisfying career that started when a 9 year old kid took apart a broken radio to see how it worked. Today's nine year olds are fixated on their I-phones and I-pads instead of building things with their own hands. They can graduate with an engineering degree, never having touched a soldering iron or constructed a working radio from scratch but where is the adventure?

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### What's new on Ham Nation?

http://twit.tv/hn

Check out the new format.

Have a cup of coffee, relax and watch one.



#### **FOR SALE or TRADE**

#### **FOR SALE**

SteppIR Vertical Antenna. BigIR with 80 meter coil, and Original Controller Worked fine when recently taken out of service. Partially disassembled. \$200.

Call Bill Carter, W7WEC at 360-582-7563 and please leave a message. (I don't answer from numbers I don't recognize)

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#### **CCARC Standing Committees**

VE Education and Training: Chuck Jones N7BV

Field Day Co-Chairs: Al Fisk KD7TFK, Sheldon Koehler N7XEI

**Health and Welfare**: Nita Lyman KE7DRT

**Membership Chair:** 

**Net Coordinator**: Mike Rice KF7VZZ

**Program Co-Chairs**: Andrew Rowland KF7QYL, Bill Peterson K7WWP,

Chuck Jones N7BV **Public Relations**:

**Publications (Newsletter):** Chuck Jones N7BV,

**Technical Committee Coordinator**: Doug Welcker, WB4KGY, Bob Sampson K6MBY, Bill Peterson K7WWP, Merrill Terpstra KA7FAM

Web Site Administrators: Bill Peterson K7WWP

#### **CCARC Special Committees**

**Roster:** Joe Edwards KI7RBS

#### **NEXT YL Luncheon**

**12 OCTOBER 2018** 

Paradise
703 No. Sequim Ave
Sequim

Find us on the web at www.olyham.net Check it out. Lots of information about ham radio in Clallam County!

## 2017 - CCARC Ladies Luncheon Schedule Reservations are made for 11:30 - 2nd Friday of each month

October – Paradise – 703 No. Sequim Ave – Sequim November - Chestnut Cottage - 929 E. Front - Port Angeles

December - Cedars at Dungeness - 1965 Woodcock Rd. - Sequim

| Description  | Time/Date                      | Location   | Contact                             |
|--|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Clallam County ARES/RACES meeting                  | 7 pm, 1st Tue of every month   | Clallam County Courthouse EOC, 223 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> St., PA      | Bruce Reiter KD7WBM<br>360-452-9851 |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club general meeting  | 7 pm, 2d Wed of every month    | Port Angeles Fire Station<br>5th and Laurel, PA                    | Chuck Jones N7BV<br>360-452-4672    |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club social breakfast | 8 am, 1st Sat of every month   | Bi-Monthly Joshua's Restaurant,<br>PA & Mariner Restaurant, Sequim | Chuck Jones N7BV<br>360-452-4672    |
| Clallam Country Amateur Radio Club YL social lunch | 11:45 am 2d Fri of every month | Rotates - announced on Thursday night Net (See QTC Newsletter)     |                                     |

**CC-ARC Welcomes new member/s:** 

#### **CLUB OFFICERS For 2017**

**President:** Mark Ellington K7DWE 360-460-4043 <u>gossamer765@gmail.com</u> **Vice President:** Chuck Jones N7BV 360-775-8201 <u>n7bv@yahoo.com</u>

**Secretary:** Rosemary Day KI7MZH 360-457-6895 <u>rosemaryday2000@yahoo.com</u> **Treasurer:** Joe Edwards KI7RBS 360-808-5282 <u>thesharpshark2011@gmail.com</u>

Board Chair Person: Chuck Stroeher WA7EBH 206-799-6551 cstroeher@wavecable.com

**Board Member:** Bill Peterson K7WWP 425-678-5753 billp@alaska.net Board Member: John Lehto N4JAB ponyexpress@olypen.com