



CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QTC

AUGUST 2006

President's Log

I hope all of you enjoy the best weather of the year for the next few weeks because once August is in the rear view mirror, things will go downhill until next February.

Last weekend was the Seattle Seafair celebration complete with parades, parties, fast hydroplanes and oh yes, my boys in blue and yellow, the Navy Blue Angels. Formed in 1946 (my birth Year – remember my comment last month?) and first performed on May 31st, 1946 (my birth Day), I have become very close to anything Blue Angel. The shows they fly are spectacular and if you didn't know, when they fly in either the diamond (4 jets) or the delta (6 jets) formations the separation from wingtip to canopy is only 36 inches. Not feet, INCHES! Even though I know what maneuver is coming next it is probably the most anticipated 45 minutes of my year. Do not interrupt me when the Blues are performing.

On a sad note, but with Amateur Radio and Blue Angel connections, Chuck Brady, N4BQW, became a Silent Key in July. Chuck was a Navy Captain last assigned to NAS Whidbey Island. Chuck was the Blue Angel's Flight Surgeon from 1988 through 1990. In 1992, NASA selected him to the astronaut program as a mission specialist in microbiology. His only mission was aboard Shuttle Columbia, STS-78, which launched June 20, 1996. The flight featured the Life and Micro gravity Space lab experiments lasting until July 7, 1996. For those of you who remember 3YØC (Bouvet) several years ago, that was Chuck. He was part of an experiment team and his operation was kept a secret until he showed up on the air. I was lucky enough to work him and about a year later he was in the Port Angeles area. I don't know how or why but he showed up at my door one afternoon with an autographed picture in his NASA flight suit, with 3YØC noted. This prized possession is hanging on my radio room wall. Please come and see this piece of history.

Rest In Peace, My Friend.

The Victoria Radio Club will be our guests on Sunday, August 20th for the annual exchange picnic. At issue time we are still putting plans together, so please listen to the net or contact me for the latest details. I hope to have final plans in place by the general meeting, Wednesday, August 9th.

Remember Amateur Radio is a contact sport.

See you on the bands.

73, Russ, K7INA

Get Your License Here!

Your club has scheduled another Technician Class for Aug. 12, 19 and 25 in the Training Room at Port Angeles Fire Department. The classes will run from 9 AM to 5 PM on the first two days and review will be conducted on the morning of the third day with tests and 1 PM.

If you know of anyone interested in taking this class please have the contact Tom Newcomb, KE7XX, at 452-8228.

We encourage the students to pick up the test book as soon as possible. These books are available from Tom Newcomb at the cost of \$24.95.

Clallam County ARES/RACES

Clallam County ARES/RACES is actively looking for new members and would like you to consider joining our emergency communications group.

This year we have planned quarterly field exercises.

Training is conducted at each general meeting the first Tuesday of each month. At the September 5th meeting Bob Martin, Clallam County Emergency Management Officer, will present the Clallam County Combined Emergency Plan.

All RACES members are required to take the FEMA training IS-100, 200, and 700 by the end of the year. These courses are free and have been mandated by Homeland Security. They are available on-line at <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/is/>.

Chuck Jones, N7BV, EC Clallam County



See www.Hello-Radio.org for information on the new ARRL 2006 public relation and marketing campaign based on the word "HELLO."

New Club Directory

The new club directory is hot off the press. Pick one up at the next Club function.

PROGRAM FOR THE AUGUST 9th MEETING

Judy Tordini, Director of Cardio Pulmonary Services @ OMC.

Thanks: AC7RK N7BV W7WEC

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.

Repeater Report

by Casey Hicks KJ7XE

No report from Casey this month...ED

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What Time Is It?

This is a simple and inexpensive, i.e. cheap, way to keep track of UTC/GMT/ZULU time. Head out to the nearest big-box store, go to the jewelry department and pick out a digital watch for ~ \$5.95. There is usually a huge variety available. Good ones to look for are sports or outdoors watches with large numerals. Try to find one that let's you set the time in 24-hour mode. Take it home (after paying for it) and remove the wristband or strap. Tune in the UTC (Universal Coordinated Time) time source of your choice, such as WWV, and set the watch according to the instructions. A bonus is that most watches also keep track of the date so set that too. Now, stick an adhesive backed pad of Velcro[®] (I like the round pads but the square ones work just as well) on the back of the watch and the opposite pad near your usual operating position. I prefer to use the hook pad on the equipment and the loop pad on the watch. Good places to attach the watch are front panels of equipment, clipboards, car dash panel, etc. Use your imagination! You now have a "ZULU" clock that gives you the correct UTC date and time. Great for logbooks and nets.

Paul, WB8BVK

FOR SALE OR TRADE

ICOM IC-211, 2 Meter SSB, FM, CW, 10 Watt Digital Synthesized Transceiver. Excellent condition with manual \$100.00

Contact Jim Cloud 457-9299

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Kenwood TS-830S transceiver, SP-230 speaker and AT-230 antenna tuner for sale. Package price is \$500, negotiable. All cosmetically great and in good working order.

Contact John Moore 681-2425 or email at k7nia@hotmail.com

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Nye Tuner MB-V-A. \$400 Burt KN7R. 457-4049.

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Your Ad Could Go Here

Please note:

Your ad will run for two months. If your item(s) sells or you want it to run longer, please E-mail the QTC Staff at ccarcqtq@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

Member Comments

NITA, KE7DRT:

Hello my far away HAM family, from hot, sizzling Arizona.

It seems so strange not to pick up my HT and check in, or listen to the familiar sounds of the repeater reminding me of it's call. Instead, it's been replaced by the sounds of my newest Grandson, Chaz Chambers, who came into the world one month early on July 20TH. He had a rocky start at first, and spent 6 days in the hospital, but he's now home and doing very well. What a delight it is to see that wee one smile, for a reason no one knows, or to hear that roar of I'M HUNGRY, and I mean NOW!! What a true gift, no doubt. Mother and baby are both doing very well, and Daddy is on cloud nine. Trying to pry Chaz away from him is like trying to put a ground rod in hardened cement...

This Grandmother is missing all the excitement of home, and will return at the end of the month. To my friends, thank you for 'staying in touch' with the happenings from home.

I want to thank you all for the kind words and wishes for my daughter and her 'new family'. Because of all the positive thoughts and prayers, this family will go on to be one of prosperous love and happiness, and I so appreciate you, as they do as well.

Until I return, be safe, be prepared, but most of all, BE HAPPY!!

73,

Nita

KE7DRT

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Joe, KC7LGT:

Joe reports he has a new UHF repeater on 442.125 MHz. with a CTCSS of 123 Hz. Currently the repeater is effective as far as Port Townsend to the East and Joyce to the West also North into Victoria. There are some expected changes soon to be made to the system such as adding Echo-link, IRLP and an 20 ft increase in antenna height

which will give better coverage in all directions. In the past Joe has had an EchoIRLP node on a VHF simplex frequency of 145.590 MHz. The EchoIRLP system will soon be moved over to the new repeater frequency on UHF.

This repeater is opened to anyone who wants to use it and Joe encourages stations to do so. Any questions about the repeater can be emailed to Joe at kc7lgt@olypen.com

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Burt, KN7R:

Burt is seeking a 12v 15-20 amp power supply for a Yaesu 2400 2 meter rig which he is donating to the Handiham organization (<http://www.handiham.org/>). Anyone having an old supply they are willing to part with hiding away somewhere should contact Bert at seaburt@peoplepc.com or at 457-4049.

Burt also has a large jar of Pentrox Anti Corrosion Compound that may be used by club members in their antenna building projects. Pentrox, or some other corrosion compound, should be used when connecting two aluminum or copper parts. It is most often used in construction of aluminum antennas. Slip joints between elements and, between elements and traps, as an example, are coated with Pentrox to prevent corrosion in the joint. Pentrox, Burt reports, can also be purchased at the CED on Prospect in PA off of Dear Park RD behind Wilders Auto.

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Bob, K6MBY:

Does anyone have the history of the Voice of America radio station was once in Sequim near the Dungeness Park? When was it built, when was it taken out of service, power, etc?

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Nita, KE7DRT:

Come September 11TH, across our country, people will be walking, holding signs reading: RE-MEMBER 9/11. The purpose is to establish a national tradition, to reflect on lives lost on 9-11-01,
(continued on page 7)

To crimp or not to crimp? That is the question.

After spending three frustrating days trying to isolate an intermittent electrical problem in my 1968 VW truck, the "Red Baron", it revealed itself, finally, as a corroded crimp terminal fiendishly hidden behind layers of dirt encrusted pipes and hoses in the way only automobile makers can hide things. Actually, I shouldn't blame the mechanics at Wolfsburg. Their original wire was probably attached securely enough, both electrically and mechanically, but it had been re-worked by a previous owner who used one of those Mickey Mouse crimp terminals that are sold at WalMart and the like.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not down on crimp terminals in general, just on an industry that tries to foist a poorly conceived imitation of a superbly designed product on a trusting and unsuspecting public. I buy the things by the bushel but I don't crimp them onto wires, I pull off the plastic sleeve and solder the terminals securely. Why? Well, let me explain.

The crimp terminal, in its original form, is a wonder of mechanical engineering. It was designed primarily for the aerospace industry and quickly adopted by the electronic industry in general and the military in particular as a way to achieve reliable solder-free repair in the field by semi-skilled personnel. AMP was among the first to develop a workable system. Even the name AMP, *Aircraft Marine Products*, conjures up visions of reliability under severe environmental stress. A modern aircraft has been described as "several million parts flying together in close formation," each of them trying its best to become an independent agent. And as a former Navy Electronic Technician and foul-weather sailor, I won't begin to describe what salt water can do to the best electrical connection! My hat's off to anyone who can overcome these difficulties with a product that actually works.

At the heart of the AMP system, and also all of its many copiers, is a hand grip of hardened steel with a compound ratchet that applies tons of pressure to its jaws and doesn't release until a precisely calibrated pressure has been achieved.

The working end of the device contains two pair of precision ground dies - one pair to crimp the terminal to the wire and a second pair to crimp a plastic strain relief at the junction between the stripped wire and the shoulder of the terminal. This ensures that the wire won't flex back and forth under vibration and break off.

Simple? Yes, but here's the catch: As I mentioned earlier, it's not just a hand-held crimping tool, it's a system. You have to have dies and precisely dimensioned terminals for each wire size you intend to crimp. That can get into some big bucks! The handle alone sells for \$238. at *Mouser Electronics* and the die assemblies are \$131 each. That's \$131 for each wire/terminal size. Why so much expense to accomplish a simple task? The answer is also simple - beautifully simple. With a precisely dimensioned terminal and the correct pressure, you can produce a "cold weld" of the terminal to the wire. The two literally fuse together into a single metallic mass with no gaps to allow corrosion. The connection is actually better than if it were soldered. It can't be done with the WalMart special. I doubt Gov. Schwarzenegger has enough strength to do it. Besides, the tool would probably break before the jaws reached a fraction of the pressure needed to weld a proper connection.

So, unless you can afford a professional set of crimping tools and can have them periodically calibrated and certified, stay away from crimp terminals altogether. They look pretty and work for a spell but they deteriorate with time and in our Northwest salt air environment that time is short indeed. Don't rush to throw away your old hand crimper just yet though. Most contain a nifty set of cutters for 4-40 through 10-32 machine screws.

Oh yes, I did get the "red baron" back in the air - well, taxiing along anyway. I replaced the faulty wiring with crimp terminals from WalMart, properly soldered of course!

Paul Honore' W6IAM

Since many of us here on the peninsula are ex Coast Guard but not currently employed by Homeland Security; I thought this appropriate for inclusion in this months QTC.
Semper Paratus Bob K6MBY

From: Secretary Department of Homeland Security
Sent: Friday, August 04, 2006 9:10 AM
Subject: 216th Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard

Message to: All DHS Employees

From: Michael Chertoff /s/
Subject: 216th Anniversary of the United States Coast Guard

Since August 4, 1790, the Coast Guard has stood vigilant watch over America's shores. The noble deeds of this country's oldest seagoing service have, for 216 years, served a most noble cause.

This was readily apparent over the last year as the Coast Guard, with its core values of honor, respect, and devotion to duty, contributed significantly to the safety and security of our Nation. In the last year, the Coast Guard removed an all-time maritime record 338,000 pounds of cocaine and over 9,076 pounds of marijuana, interdicted 9,500 undocumented migrants attempting to enter the country illegally by sea, conducted more than 268,000 port security patrols and more than 25,000 security boardings, and saved the lives of nearly 6,000 mariners in distress. In the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the Coast Guard embodied the charge of its motto *Semper Paratus* -- Always Prepared -- by helping to save the lives of over 33,000 hurricane victims in what was the largest search and rescue mission in U.S. history.

Coast Guard personnel have demonstrated superior mission execution across the full spectrum of operations and they continue to showcase the qualities that make them the world's best coast guard. In doing so they have reinforced our country's confidence in the Department of Homeland Security.

I am proud and humbled to serve as their service secretary and pleased to extend my best wishes to Admiral Thad Allen and to all the men and women in the Coast Guard on this, their service's 216th birthday.

Thanks to the Coast Guard for being *Semper Paratus* and for their unwavering dedication to duty, tremendous sacrifices, and untiring service to America.

The Rest of the Story:

Last month I relayed a story told to me by a CG Electronics Technician. The story was about a joke (oh, I did not mention it was a joke did I) played on a CG supervisor he worked for a number of years ago.

The story went like this:

"There was once a Coast Guard supervisor that directed one of his ET (Electronic Technician) staff to install a VHF transceiver in the wheelhouse of a buoy tender. The ET was having some difficulty finding a place to mount the microphone bracket but he soon found a place next to the VHF radio that was a bright, shiny, rectangular piece of copper tube. Perfect place for a microphone bracket. Opps, it was the wave guide from the bridge long range radar.

What do you suppose the supervisor's thoughts were when he came to inspect the job? Maybe the supervisor, who we will call Al, will write a short article on what his thoughts were and the outcome of the perplexing situation."

Well the supervisor who I called AL will not say what his thoughts were at the time (use your own imagination) and suggested I finish the story since I started it.

It seems the ET doing the installation was a bit of a prankster. He took the screws that were to hold the microphone bracket and cut them so that all he had was the screw heads.

He then took the microphone bracket, with the cut off screw heads showing, and, with a small amount of epoxy, "glued" the assembly to the wave guide. It appeared to supervisor Al that the mic bracket had actually been screwed to the wave guide.

A wave guide to a long range radar is like a piece of coaxial cable we are all familiar with and use on our HF or VHF antenna systems. You would NOT want to put a screw or nail in your coax, or anyone else's coax for that matter, as it will effectively short out the coax rendering it useless.

(continued top of next column)

The story has a happy ending as Supervisor AL was shown the bracket was not REALLY screwed into the wave guide and he did NOT have to go to the Captain and tell him the long range radar was out of service until the wave guide could be replaced.

73, Bob K6MBY

Jim, K7QCK, tells us another true story:

I will tell you one better that occurred at the Coast Guard radio station Ketchikan, Alaska. One of the large filter Caps went dry in an AN/FRT HF transmitter at the station. The E.T. hooked it up and turned the switch on. Lo and behold he had hooked it up backwards and the power fans scattered the aluminum foil all over the power supply and the entire transmitter.

Jim K7QCK

(continued from page 4)

and to renew our commitment to freedom and the values of our country, also to honor our Veterans, past and present. This is a non-partisan event. Yet an event to reflect and support all of us who were saddened on that horrific day. Texas, California, Colorado, Arizona, Florida, Michigan, Nebraska, N. Dakota, Utah and Oklahoma are participating. Are we in Washington going to do our part?? Will you join me in this effort to bring not only our communications group together, but also perhaps many in Port Angeles?

This is an invitation to all who would be interested in meeting at the court house on the morning of September 11, at 10AM, to walk downtown Port Angeles for an hour or two.

I'm also just now getting started on this project, and would love idea's and feedback from any and all who would be interested. E-mail me directly at nita_lyman@yahoo.com if you would like more information on this. It's still over a month away, so mark your calendars. More information to follow if I get an e-mail from those who would love to partake! I'll be there. Would you join me in this day of honoring, and remembrance?

Thank you,

73,
Nita
KE7DRT

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**Minutes of the General Meeting 7/12/06**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Roger, K7RGR.

Introductions were made.

There were no birthdays to acknowledge.

VE Coordination: Tom, KE7XX, announced that the next licensing class will be held on August 12th, 19th and 26th. Testing will be held on the 26th.

QTC Report: Nita, KE7DRT, reported that the July issue of "QTC" has been published, and is on the website. The editors want input from the members, reminding us that the newsletter is only as good as the input, per Bob Sampson, K6MBY.

Announcements: The next CCARC monthly meeting will be 8/9/06 at 7 PM.

Roger, K7RGR, announced that the club offices of President and Vice President will be open next year. Members are encouraged to consider running for office. Members of the Board of Directors will be needed also. It was recognized that the club has grown and improved over the last few years, due to the efforts of the officers and the support of the members.

The annual picnic (to be held in Port Angeles) with the Victoria Ham group will be 8/20/06. Folks are needed to work on it.

The program for the evening, "Optimizing Your PSK31", was presented by Clint Hurd, KK7UQ.

Other announcements: John, K7NIA, is the new Net Control Coordinator for the club.

Bob, AC7RK, advised that next month's program will be presented by Judy Tordini.

There were 28 members and guests present.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Minutes by Rich, N7NCN

Joke Corner

Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony was not much but the reception was excellent.

And finally, there was a person that sent 18 puns to her friends hoping that at least 10 of the puns would make her friends laugh. No pun in 10 did.

CLUB OFFICERS For 2006

President: Russ Fish K7INA 360-452-9195
k7ina@aol.com

Vice President: Roger Uhden K7RGR 360-681-7450
k7rgr@olypen.com

Secretary: Rich Golding N7NCN 360-683-9309
n7ncn@myfam.com

Treasurer: Frank Doherty KJ7SK 360-681-0691
kj7sk@arrrl.net

Board Member: Roger Steelman W7GRS 360-681-3534
w7grs@olypen.com

Board Member: Chuck Jones N7BV 360-4524672
n7bv@yahoo.com

Board Member: Tom Newcomb 360-452-8228
ke7xx@arrrl.net

TREASURERS REPORT

The balance as of 7/20 is 3738.51, with no currently outstanding checks.

VOC Frank Doherty ARRL ARES VE

QTC Editors: Nita Lyman, KE7DRT, Chuck Jones, N7BV, Bob Sampson, K6MBY
Please send submissions to the QTC via
ccarcqtc@yahoo.com

YL LUNCHEON

The next luncheon is August 11th
at the Oak Table in Sequim.

Time: 11:30 a.m.

COMING EVENTS

Victoria Short Wave Radio Club and CCARC annual picnic
August 20th. Location in Port Angeles to be announced at
the club meeting.

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Persaids Meteor Shower peaking August 12 @ 0012Z.

| Description                                        | Time/Date                       | Location                                                          | Contact                           |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Clallam County ARES/RACES meeting                  | 7 pm, first Tue of every month  | Clallam County Courthouse EOC,<br>223 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> St., PA  | Chuck Jones N7BV<br>360-452-4672  |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club general meeting  | 7 pm, second Wed of every month | Port Angeles Fire Station<br>5 <sup>th</sup> & Laurel Streets, PA | Tom Newcomb KE7XX<br>360-452-8228 |
| Clallam County Amateur Radio Club social breakfast | 8 am, first Sat of every month  | Joshua's Restaurant<br>Hwy. 101 & Del Guzzi Dr.                   | Tom Newcomb KE7XX<br>360-452-8228 |
| Clallam Country Amateur Radio Club YL social lunch | 11:45 am 2d Fri of every month  | Rotates - announced on Thursday<br>night Net                      |                                   |

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:**

Leah, KE7EVS, Aug 3rd  
Ken, KD7IZU, Aug 11th  
Al, KD7TFK, Aug 12th  
Casey, KJ7XE, Aug 14th  
Ed, W7VNT, Aug 15th  
Mike, KE7DRS, Aug 16th  
Wendy, XYL of Dan, N7DWA,  
Aug 22nd  
Wes, W7MAW, Aug 23rd  
Roger, K7RGR, Aug 26th  
Richard, KD7QPK, Aug 26th  
Chuck, WA7EBH, Aug 26th  
Dick, KE7Z, Aug 27th

*Happy Birthday!*

**NET CHECK IN HONOR ROLL:** Stations that  
have checked in more than half of the Thursday  
night net check ins (in alphabetical order)...they  
are...drum roll please....

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| N7BV, Chuck      | KC7LTW, Donald  |
| WB8BVK, Paul     | K5MTW, Don      |
| KE7BVZ, Jerry    | N7MXE, Bliss    |
| KE7CIA, Troy     | WA7NBF, Neil    |
| KA7CSZ, Marsha   | K7NIA, John     |
| W7DNA, Bruce     | KC7NMN, Bess    |
| KE7DRT, Nita     | K7PVZ, Bob      |
| N7DWA, Dan       | KN7R, Burt      |
| AE7EA, Steve     | K7RGR, Roger    |
| KG6EI, Carl      | AC7RK, Bob      |
| KE7EVS, Leah     | KJ7SK, Frank    |
| N7GAM, Gail      | K3SWH, Jerry    |
| N7HFL, Chuck     | AC7TZ, Howard   |
| W6IAM, Paul      | K7VQF, Ray      |
| K7KEA, Elizabeth | W7WEC, Bill     |
| WA7LDM, Jim      | KE7XX, Tom      |
| W7LG, Gil        | W7YLV, Al       |
| KC7LGT, Joe      | KC7ZQA, Shirley |
| W7LG, Gil        | W7YLV, Al       |
| KC7LGT, Joe      | KC7ZQA, Shirley |

Submitted by Russ K7INA