CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QTC

SEPTEMBER 06

President's Log

At this writing, Thursday evening, August 31st, I have learned that Chuck, N7BV, has taken over the license class organization from long-time icon Tom, KE7XX. The reason for this change has not been explained.

I was prepared to take over the VE Coordinator duties but have decided to decline. In addition, I have decided not to return as either an instructor or a VE in future club activities. It has been made clear by a few that my attitude toward club members is not acceptable.

YOUR CLUB also needs a net control co-coordinator effective immediately. Duties are only to ask for volunteers and assign net control stations for the weekly nets. As of now, there are no net controls assigned for September.

My future participation in club activities until year's end does not look promising, so I will take this opportunity to wish the club well in the future. As I have said before, I have done my best. To those of you who take exception, I am sorry I didn't fulfill your expectations.

Until next month……

73, Russ, K7INA

Get Your License Here!

The next Technician License class will run September 23, 30 and October 7th at the PA Fire Station at 5th and Laurel. Classes are 9 AM-5 PM the first two days with an hour off for lunch. A review is conducted the morning of October 7th, and testing at 1 PM.

Chuck Jones, N7BV

Clallam County ARES/RACES

Clallam County ARES/RACES is actively looking for new members and would like you to consider joining. This is a chance to prepare to be part of a solution during an emergency.

Training is conducted at the general meeting the first Tuesday of each month. Bob Martin, KE7ICQ, presented the Clallam County Emergency Plan at the September meeting. October's training is still fluid at the moment as we try to work out whether we would be able to cover some of the OPSCAN software, which will be online by that time.

All RACES members will be required to pass the FEMA/NIMS training IS-100 and IS-700. 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 available. If you need a copy please contact either Russ Fish, K7INA or Roger Uden K7RGR for a copy.

PROGRAM FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Chuck, N7BV will go over the basic's of the Antenna Modeling Program EZNEC with a PowerPoint presentation. A free version of this program can be downloaded at http://www.eznec.com/demoinfo.htm

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 the W7FEL Repeater.

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

Salmon Run 16-17 September

Please join us in the Washington State QSO party. The Western Washington DX Club is proud to sponsor this long standing tradition .

The Salmon Run QP is fun and a challenge to big guns, little pistols and new hams to get on the air and make some QSO's. DX, all states and Canadian provinces participate. With a little luck and propagation you can work all states.

There are nice prizes, plaques, certificates and the highly sought after boxes of Salmon. For county hunters, many rare Washington counties are put on the air by Rovers and Clubs during this weekend.

Rules and further information at:
http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun/

Para phased from Harry, K7LAZ,
Member WWDXC Salmon Run Committee

Information

The QTC newsletter staff uses the Email address ccarcqtc@yahoo.com and location on Yahoo to store articles and information that you send in. We also use it to send Emails back and forth between us regarding file formats. Thus we have limited the access to this Yahoo address to the three editors of the newsletter in-order to prevent mishaps with information.

However, as this site has a compilation of all the Email addresses of members, we occasionally have been used to relay breaking news to the group.

Please respond directly to the originator of the Email, as sending your response back to ccarcqtc@yahoo.com will not get to the originator of the message.

On another subject, please be aware due to spam fighting by Yahoo it takes four separate transmissions (limited to one per hour) to get the QTC Email out.

Thanks. *Da Staff!*

FOR SALE OR TRADE

Wanted:

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

For Sale:

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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 ccarcqtc@yahoo.com.

Thank you.

"Ms. Lyman...I'm afraid you will have to leave
The air for a while during this procedure."

Backward Sunspot 08.15.2006

From: http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2006/15aug_backwards.htm

August 15, 2006: On July 31st, a tiny sunspot was born. It popped up from the sun's interior, floated around a bit, and vanished again in a few hours. On the sun this sort of thing happens all the time and, ordinarily, it wouldn't be worth mentioning. But this sunspot was special: It was backward.

"We've been waiting for this," says David Hathaway, a solar physicist at the Marshall Space Flight in Huntsville, Alabama. "A backward sunspot is a sign that the next solar cycle is beginning."

Right: The tiny, backward sunspot of July 31, 2006. Credit: SOHO. "Backward" means magnetically backward. Hathaway explains: Sunspots are planet-sized magnets created by the sun's inner magnetic dynamo. Like all magnets in the Universe, sunspots have north (N) and south (S) magnetic poles. The sunspot of July 31st popped up at solar longitude 65^{o} W, latitude 13^{o} S. Sunspots in that area are normally oriented N-S. The newcomer, however, was S-N, opposite the norm. A picture is worth a 1000 words. In the magnetic map of the sun, below, N is white and S is black. The backward sunspot is circled: This tiny spot of backwardness matters because of what it might foretell: A really big solar cycle.

Solar activity rises and falls in 11-year cycles, swinging back and forth between times of quiet and storminess. Right now the sun is quiet. "We're near the end of Solar Cycle 23, which peaked way back in 2001," explains Hathaway. The next cycle, Solar Cycle 24, should begin "any time now," returning the sun to a stormy state. Satellite operators and NASA mission planners are bracing for this next solar cycle because it is expected to be exceptionally stormy, perhaps the stormiest in decades. Sunspots and solar flares will return in abundance, producing bright auroras on Earth and dangerous proton storms in space: full story.

But when will Solar Cycle 24 begin? "Maybe it already did--on July 31st," says Hathaway. The first spot of a new solar cycle is always backwards. Solar physicists have long known that sunspot magnetic fields reverse polarity from cycle to cycle. N-S becomes S-N and vice versa. "The backward sunspot may be the first sunspot of Cycle 24." It sounds exciting, but Hathaway is cautious on several fronts:

First, the sunspot lasted only three hours. Typically, sunspots last days, weeks or even months. Three hours is fleeting in the extreme. "It came and went so fast, it was not given an official sunspot number," says Hathaway. The astronomers who number sunspots didn't think it worthy!

Second, the latitude of the spot is suspicious. New-cycle sunspots almost always pop up at mid-latitudes, around 30^{o} N or 30^{o} S. The backward sunspot popped up at 13^{o} S. "That's strange."

These odd-isms stop Hathaway short of declaring the onset of a new solar cycle. "But it looks promising," he says.

Even if Cycle 24 has truly begun, "don't expect any great storms right away." Solar cycles last 11 years and take time to build up to fever pitch. For a while, perhaps one or two years, Cycle 23 and Cycle 24 will actually share the sun, making it a hodgepodge of backward and forward spots. Eventually, Cycle 24 will take over completely; then the fireworks will really begin.

Meanwhile, Hathaway plans to keep an eye out for more backward sunspots.

EDITOR'S NOTE: As of today September 9th there has been at least one other backwards sunspot observed and in K7RA's most recent propagation report for the ARRL he states: "Average daily sunspot numbers were down only slightly this week, from 27 to 25.3. There were two days this week when the sunspot number was 0, and we should see more zero sunspot days than we're currently experiencing as we move closer to the bottom of the sunspot cycle"

Date: Thu, 7 Sep 2006 19:41:11 -0400 (EDT)
From: Nicholas Filpula <va7naf@yahoo.ca>
Subject: something for newsletter
To: nita_lyman@yahoo.com

I know it is bit old but I think you people should know about something I did.

Hello Mr. Muir,

I'm hoping you might be able to help me locate a ham I contacted on your repeater on sept 28th 2005. On that day, in the early afternoon, I was on Glacier Peak, WA at about 8,000' elevation, repairing a seismology station for the University of Washington.

My colleague and I fixed the station, which we did not originally think we'd be able to do in one trip. We had no way to determine if the UW's seismology lab was receiving the telemetered data, so I used my handheld to see if I could contact any hams to make a phone call for me. After attempting many other repeaters, I was able to get into your repeater on 46.660 and got a hold of a ham, whose name was Nick, I believe. I had very low signal strength and we could barely hear each other, but he copied my traffic and made a phone call to the UW for me on his own dime and a nearby payphone. He got a hold of my lab and talked with someone there who said they were unable to receive the data from the station. He then relayed this information to me. I wanted to thank him, but was unable to copy his callsign. I also wanted him to
know that we have since been able to receive data from the instrument, which our director had previously thought was impossible The station's antenna and solar panel had blown down in 2003 as a flight over the station had shown. We
had assumed that the batteries were long drained and that we would have to replace the station with the assistance of a helicopter. When we arrived at the station, we found the panel to still be face up, possibly charging the batteries. When I flipped on my HT and heard the seismograph signal loud and clear, we tested the batteries and found them at 15.5V! It was simply a matter of getting the antenna/ panel mast upright and anchored securely, and we were back in business. I just wanted to
thank Nick for his assistance and generosity, though I have no way of getting a hold of him. If you happen to know this gentleman, and could please pass this message on to him, I would greatly appreciate it.

73's,
Graylan Vincent
KC7YVN

So there so something about me for the club's
newsletter.

Thank You!

I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone who helped make the Canadian Potluck a success. The food was amazing, as always! A special thank you to Karen, N7BV's XYL, who cooked the ham and to W7GRS, Roger, and W7PRS, Priss, for taking care of <u>all</u> the beverages.

Special thanks to W7DNA, Bruce, for making the beautiful gavel and striker which were given to the Canadian Club president.

Thank you to all those individuals who served on the set-up and clean-up teams, particularly KD7TFK, Al, and his wife Diane, who served on both set-up and clean-up and were the last ones out of the building, after cleaning the floors.

Of Microchips and Techno-babble

As a holdover from the era of vacuum tubes and high voltages, I find the digital age at once fascinating and frustrating. There seems to be no limit to what can be done with combinations of ones and zeros and component micro-packaging has given rise to equipment portability and flexibility that was unimagined a generation ago. In my previous existence as a 1950s teenager, a "portable" radio was about the size of a breadbox, weighed five pounds or more and contained a couple of large, expensive, short-lived and non-rechargeable batteries for vacuum tube filament and plate supplies. The charm of those relics was that they were hand-wired. That meant that every component could be salvaged. A kid with a limited income and a bit of ingenuity could retrieve discarded radios from a trash bin and rebuild them into test instruments, audio amplifiers, code practice oscillators; even new radios that would work on HF Ham bands.

Not so with today's flow soldered micro-circuitry. Few parts can be salvaged and if they can, chances are they are obsolete or proprietary circuits with denied access to technical data sheets. The result is that when a modern electronic gadget wears out we are expected to discard it and buy a more sophisticated piece of digital wizardry. Most folks don't even wait for their stuff to wear out before replacing it. Technology is advancing so fast that by the time we get a new piece of gear out of the box it's already obsolete and we crave the latest version as soon as it becomes available. Trouble is, each new piece of equipment comes with more and smaller pushbuttons to do things we don't want and don't need, and it takes an encyclopedia sized instruction manual to operate the thing. Case in point - My cell phone, which is primitive by today's standard, has a 138 page manual! Remember a time when you put the receiver to your ear, cranked the handle on the side of a rosewood box to get the attention of a human operator and said "Hello central. Give me elm 303?" Really! 138 pages of instructions just so you can say "Happy birthday" to your aunt Tillie in East Overshoe, Nebraska?

The development of programmable micro-chips has allowed us to manipulate our personal worlds in ways we never imagined but there's a dark side. they have made us slaves to mysterious "black boxes" whose inner workings we can never hope to fathom and few among us learn to operate properly. Moreover, the gadgets that free us from drudgery and connect us ever closer together are made even more mysterious by a language that appears to be conceived by R2-D2 to be spoken by Martians. Of course every profession has its unique technical vocabulary. We've come to accept that without question. Only a journeyman electrician could be expected to know what a Lakenhicky is used for and the runic scribbles that a doctor pens on your prescription make sense only to a pharmacist. The languages of these professions, however, were fixed in usage since time began and will doubtless remain so until time was. In contrast, the digital/information age, call it what you will, has spawned a technical dialect and subset of acronyms that is spiraling out of control. Moreover, the folks who write operating instructions bandy it about as if ordinary mortals were fluently conversant in it. They define little and omit critical steps. ***"Configure LPT 1 to a legacy I/O address. I.e. IRQ 7 and address 0378-103F. Check that there are no conflicts with other devices"*** It's enough to make a grown man cry!

Give me the warmth and soft glow of a vacuum tube; the muscle contracting jolt of a fully charged filter capacitor and a step-by-step instruction manual I can understand - - - but leave me with my compact, light weight, energy efficient, drift-free, firmware programmed, multi-function rig. Just omit the useless pushbuttons and make the rest large enough for my clumsy arthritic fingers!

Paul Honore' W6IAM

Pacific North West DX Convention 2006
Vancouver B.C.

The British Columbia DX Club hosted the Pacific North West DX Convention this year July 21 - 23. This was my first time to visit the convention in Canada, having already attended conventions in Western Washington three times and Oregon once. I have to say, for a small club they put on a tremendous convention.

Three northwest clubs, the Western Washington DX Club, the Willamette Valley DX Club and the British Columbia DX Club are joined together by a love of Contesting and Dx'ing. The Pacific North West Trophy, which goes to the club with the highest total score, of its members, in ten major contests is presented at the annual convention. This year the trophy returned to the Western Washington DX Club, by a slim margin.

Following are the programs starting Saturday morning:

1. Carl K9LA who writes the propagation segment for World Radio magazine and is Editor of the National Contest Journal, presented "HF Propagation: Where we are. Where we're headed, what is out there to help us."
2. K4XU, Dick whose topic was High Voltage Solid State KW Amplifiers. Dick presented the latest in manufacturing of these amplifiers, and backgrounds on the different types of transistors being used.
3. Next was a presentation by Bob W7YAQ and Bill N7OU describing their month-long Dxpedition to Rarotonga in the South Cook Islands (ZK1YAQ and ZK1NOU), followed by Fiji (3D2NB and 3D2OU), and finally Rotuma (3D2RX and 3D2RO).
4. The VE7CC cluster program: If you use this world famous "VE7CC Spider User" cluster program this session covered the packet cluster program which has become the de facto standard in Windows-based cluster programs. During this session Lee, VE7CC, the author demonstrated his program and answered operational questions. He passed on some hidden tricks in using this powerful program.
5. VE7SV, Dale presented his Dxpedition to St. Pierre et Miquleon FP/VVE7SV.

Saturday concluded with the annual banquet, door prizes (top prize an Icom 756 Pro III) and the trophy presentation. The Keynote speaker was K4UEE, Bob Allphin of the 3Y-X Expedition to Peter One Island.

Sunday was brunch, and a presentation on Kure Atoll Dxpedition by VE7CT and final prize presentations.

If you have the time and money try a convention – the programs are usually first class and you will meet many interesting people who you no doubt have heard on the air at one time or another.

Submitted by Chuck Jones, N7BV

REPEATER NOTICE

The Carlsborg remote receiver (PL 77.0) will be taken out of service this Sunday, Sep 10th until further notice. KC7LGT is moving his business to another location. When the equipment and antenna are re-installed, notice will be given.

73, Russ, K7INA

CONTESTING @ N7BV

As most of you know I set out to build a competitive contest station at my QTH off Deer Park Road. While I would like to say it is a little pistol in the world of big guns, I honestly think it is a derringer.

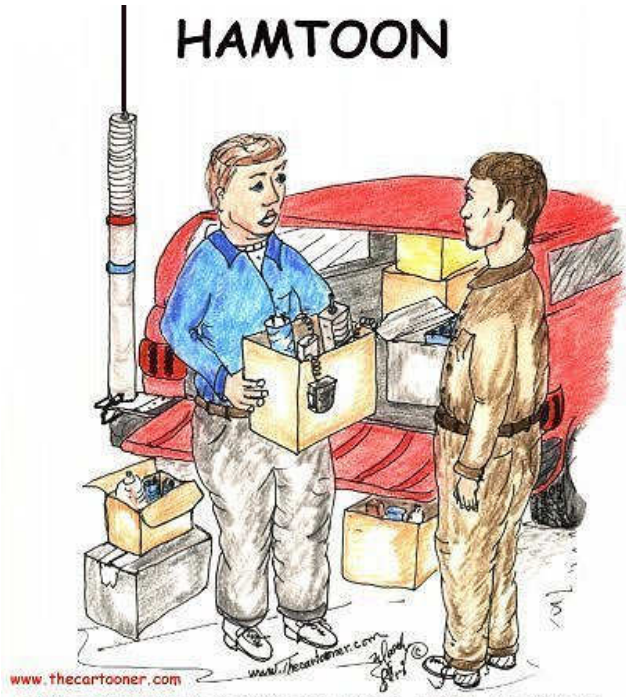
Here are some results: (note some of these contests are from last year, as it takes quite awhile for the results to be tabulated and published.)

ARRL International DX CW 2006: 10th Place USA 15m N7BV and in the same contest 10th Place USA 40m K7WA using W7DX the Western Washington DX Club callsign.

Salmon Run 2005: For the second year in a row N7BV took 1st place Washington in the Multi-operator Single Transmitter SSB category, piloted by N7BV, N7GAM and K6MBY (see announcement on page 3 for this years Salmon Run).

CQ World Wide DX Contest 2005: N7BV, K6MBY, K7WA, and NG7Z won the 7th call district Multi-operator Single Transmitter category.

Anyone wishing to operate with us in this year's Salmon Run please send an Email to n7bv@yahoo.com



Nobody knows when Amateur Radio operators were first called "hams," but we do know that Amateur Radio is as old as the history of radio itself. Not long after Guglielmo Marconi, an Italian experimenter, transmitted the Morse Code letter "s" from Newfoundland to England in 1901, amateur experimenters throughout the world were trying out the capabilities of the first "spark gap" transmitters. In 1912 Congress passed the first laws regulating radio transmissions in the U.S. By 1914, Amateur experimenters were communicating nation-wide, and setting up a system to relay messages from coast to coast (whence the name American Radio Relay League). In 1927, the FCC was created by Congress and specific frequencies were assigned for various uses, including ham bands.

Found on the web: N7BV

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Minutes of the General Meeting 8-9-06

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Russ K7INA, President.
Introductions were made.
August birthdays were acknowledged.
VE Coordination: Tom, KE7XX, announced that the Tech licensing class starts at 9 AM this Saturday (Aug. 12th), and will finish with testing on Saturday August 26th.

The program for the evening was given by Judy Tordini, Director of the Cardio-Pulmonary Services at Olympic Medical Center. She spoke about four major risk factors in heart disease, and how to avoid some of the problems.

Chuck W5RFL spoke about his 440 repeater problem, and advised that he hopes to have it fixed in a couple of weeks.

Discussion followed regarding the August 20th gathering with the Canadian short wave club at the Four Seasons clubhouse. Members were asked what they want to do, such as the Underground Tour in Port Angeles. Also, folks are asked to help Marian McGilvra get the clubhouse ready. Setup at the clubhouse will begin at 10 AM Sunday. Roger W7GRS will ask those who check in on the net to declare if they will attend the potluck, and who wants to go on the tour. Assignments for potluck food will be made via e-mail. There will be no particular theme for the gathering. There was discussion about one of the Canadian guests needing his electric "scooter" along, and it was decided that it could be transported in a pickup to the clubhouse. Russ and a few others will look at timing to see what will work as far as scheduling the meal, the tour, etc.

The next CCARC meeting will be held on September 13th at 7 PM, at the Port Angeles Fire Station.

The program for September will be on "antenna modeling". The October program will be presented by the Red Cross Disaster Team.

The Tacoma Hamfest is scheduled for this coming weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM (There were 27 members and guests present.)

Minutes by Rich, N7NCN

Treasures Report

Balance in bank minus outstanding checks plus cash not yet deposited is $3424.40

VOC Frank Doherty ARRL ARES VE

ELECTED 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@arrl.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@arrl.net

QTC Editors:

Nita Lyman, KE7DRT, Bob Sampson, K6MBY
Chuck Jones, N7BV

Please send submissions to the QTC via
Ccarcqtc@yahoo.com

YL LUNCHEON

The October 13th luncheon will be at the Dynasty Restaurant, Sequim.

Time: 11:30 a.m.

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

COMING EVENTS

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The Kitsap County Hamfest will be held October 14th at the President's Hall on the Kisap County Fairgrounds in Bremerton starting at 9:00am.

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

BIRTHDAYS:

Cathy, XYL of Bob, K6MBY, Sep 11th
Laurie, KD7ZXM, Sep 16th
Chuck, W5RFL, Sep 16th
Shirley, KC7ZQA, Sep 17th
Patty, XYL of Mike, KE7EZO, Sep 21st
Rosalie, XYL of Wes, W7MAW, Sep 23rd
Kline, W7CNN, Sep 24th
Larry, KC7PLK, Sep 25th
Dennis, W7DLK, Sep 25th
Shirley, XYL of Paul, W6IAM, Sep 26th

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 WA7NBF, Neil
KA7CSZ, Marsha K7NIA, John
AD7DG, Mike KC7NMN, Bess
AE7EA, Steve W7PRS, Priss
KG6EI, Carl K7QCK, Jim
KE7ENQ, Steve KN7R, Bert
KC7EQO, Matt K7RGR, Roger
KE7EZS, Leah AC7RK, Bob
W6FEH, Bob KJ7SK, Frank
W7GRS, Roger K3SWH, Jerry
N7HFL, Chuck KD7TFK, Al
W6IAM, Paul K7VQF, Ray
K7INA, Russ K7WZ, Bill
K7KEA, Elizabeth KE7Z, Dick
WA7LDM, Jim

Submitted by Russ K7INA