

## CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

# QTC

MAY 07

### BV Rambles:

This months meeting will include the vote on the Bylaw changes. Again a Thank You to Chuck-N7HFL, Leah-KE7EZZ, John-K7NIA, and Frank-KJ7SK for their work on this project.

Thanks to Nita for bringing those home made cookies that disappeared so quickly at the April meeting.

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Breaking News: Jody, KE7LKA won the \$20,000 college Scholarship, he wants to major in Technology. Congratulations, this is a HUGE accomplishment. I hope someone will write up a more detailed article on this for the next QTC.

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The Field Day committee met on 12 April, in attendance was Matt KE7EQO, Judie KE7EQP, Bob Sampson K6MBY, Johan KO6I, Al KD7TFK, John KE7AQT and myself. A lot was kicked around and some preliminary goals were set.

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The picnic with the Canadians this year will be Aug 19th 2007 in Victoria. This is an annual event where by the VE7's come over here for a picnic on the even years and we go over to Victoria on the odd years. These events are a great way to make new friends, and have a great time.

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Well some bad news on the Sunspot Cycle front. Quoted from <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/SC24/> "The Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel anticipates the solar minimum marking the onset of Cycle 24 will occur in March, 2008 ( $\pm 6$  months)." DARN, I was hoping this spring was the bottom and we would be moving on! Oh well, keep those low band antenna projects on the front burner.

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A paragraph from the new president of another club struck me as pertinent and is partially quoted here. I hope it will strike a chord with you to join in and actively work to make our club, as the Army says "be all that it can be"! "As time passes....opportunities....arise for us to step forward and volunteer. Yes, I know you have all heard the volunteer spiel over and over.....why do you think that is? ....it is because you are needed...you are the lubrication or grease.....that makes our engine or effort work smoothly...there will be opportunities through out the year for you to help." Field Day, Club programs (if you see or hear of an interesting presentation, please pass it along), and our Christmas potluck & party. It does not matter if you are new to the hobby, or an old-timer, we need your participation, thoughts and ideas. Get to know other club members, make new friends, consider supporting some of the ARES functions (Clallam County Safety Days, Sequim Safety days, Feast of Forks, the Clallam County Fair) even if you are not a member of ARES – you will be helping your communities. These events usually have live demos of ham radio and the County Emergency Management Office is supported directly by helping to staff their booth.

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Please look over <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=NO-9742> and decide whether you want a Tee-shirt or a Field Day Pin. We will soon be collecting orders.

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That's it for this issue. Thanks for the time and space. Chuck, N7BV





The CCARC field day committee is seeking Clallam County hams for set up and operation at our field day location at the Sequim Prairie Grange in Carlsborg. Field day set up will begin at 11:00 am local time on Friday,

June 22nd. Actual operation will take place from 11:00 am Saturday to 11:00 am Sunday with tear down immediately after.

If you are available to help set up, or operate, please reply to this special email address set up for field day..... [fieldday.ccarc@yahoo.com](mailto:fieldday.ccarc@yahoo.com).

Please respond with:

1. When you would be available,
2. How long you would be available to operate,
3. What mode you would like to operate, i.e., CW, SSB, Digital, etc.

We will do our best to honor your request but no guarantees.

While the complete configuration is yet to be finalized, we plan on having 80 and 40, both CW and SSB operating day and night, with 20, 15 and 10 meter CW and SSB operation primarily during daytime hours.

The committee is planning a May 19th dry run at the Sequim Bible Church on Sequim-Dungeness in Sequim. Antennas, towers and masts will be checked out to ensure success for the actual field day. We would like to try computer logging this year. The free N1MM program has been recommended. If we have time on the 19th we will discuss the N1MM rig interface and the possibility of wireless networking.

Expect more information at the club meeting on May 9th.

Matt, Bob, Steve, Chuck

## Remember Coffee!

We will break for coffee (decaf) and socialize for 15mins or so during the meeting. Several of us will bring coffee in thermoses or carafes to share. It would be helpful if people brought their own mugs/cups to minimize clean up'

## PROGRAM FOR May 9th

Video(s) of Field Days  
Past.

Field Day Discussion

### 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.

## Net Checkins

Here are the Net Checkin Honor Roll members for April. Note that those with an asterisk have attained 100% so far for the year.

N7BV Chuck *	KA7CSZ Marsha *
KE7DRT Nita *	W7GRS Roger *
WA7JEP Janet	KE7KWG Becky *
K5MTW Don *	WA7NBF Neil
K7NIA John *	KC7NPP Theron *
W7PRS Pris *	KD7TFK AI

Congratulations!  
John K7NIA Net Control Coordinator

The State House passed SB 5037 restricting the use of wireless communications devices while operating a motor vehicle. The bill contains the following wording that applies to Amateur Radio operators: "(3) Subsection (1) of this section does not restrict the operation of an amateur radio station by a person who holds a valid amateur radio operator license issued by the federal communications commission.

(4) For purposes of this section, "hands-free mode" means the use of a wireless communications device with a speaker phone, headset or earpiece" This bill will take effect 1 July 2007.

All operators should carry a copy of your ham license with you at all times. If you are stopped, without proof of your ham license you can/will be ticketed.

## Clallam County ARES/RACES

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

All RACES members are required to pass the FEMA/NIMS training IS-100, 700 and IS-200, 800. 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

## Amateur Radio Classes and Exams:

The Clallam Country Amateur Radio Club just finished a Technician Instruction class and VE Exam session on 5 May.

Congratulations to KA7YAK who passed Extra and Mark Rowland KC7EQL who passed General class. There will be two new Technician licenses in a couple of weeks.

Thanks again to our instructors and VE's for a great job.

To purchase books please call Tom Newcomb 452-8228.

To sign up for next class, Email [n7bv@yahoo.com](mailto:n7bv@yahoo.com). TBD

Thanks. 73, Chuck

## Reminder:

Board Meeting on May 10th.

## Where:

KO6I's shop in Carlsborg.  
280 Carlsborg Road

Time: 1330L

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

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

The more you submit the less we have to do, or think of. Or less blank space!

Thanks, the staff!

**Don't do as I do. Do as I say!**

As the saying goes: "Don't do as I do, do as I say." As a VE, I've been charged with presenting material on Electrical and RF safety to prospective licensees. That means I'm expected to practice what I preach but last week I became overconfident and stuck my fingers into a power supply before the capacitors were fully discharged.- It was a painful and humiliating experience but it could have been worse. I forgot that electrical circuits, even when they appear benign, can supply lethal charges of current to zap the unwary.

Bleeder resistors across filter capacitors and interlock switches on access covers, we are told, are good ways to reduce the risk of exposure to potential threats but, good as they are, experience has taught me not to trust them. To be absolutely certain it's safe to reach into a power supply or an RF amplifier, disconnect the power, discharge the filter capacitors and as an extra measure of safety, keep one hand in your pocket!

Many years ago, I helped to construct the Mk-III Linear Accelerator at the Stanford High Energy Physics Laboratory. Stuff there was *really* lethal - 400 KV with a service capacity of 1500 Amps and a soup of Gamma, X-rays and microwave RF energy. Much of the structure was surrounded with walls of lead and iron ore filled concrete. Just about everything you could think of was safety interlocked so that access to any part of the machine prevented its being switched on - or so we thought.

Back then, solid state components were new and untried. Most things were done with mechanical switches and relays. Every hatch, cover, door, gate, whatever, had a mechanical switch that activated a relay located at the operating console. An open contact of

any relay would interrupt the "power on" circuit to the accelerator. In addition, each relay would operate a pair of lights on a map - green for "safe" and red for "no-go"- indicating the location of the open interlock.

Some of you have heard me talk of a student who was killed because of a faulty door interlock. She was an Israeli exchange student working on her Doctorate in Atomic Physics. She had entered the end station to align an experiment prior to the evening's run, which meant peering through a surveyor's transit at an illuminated target at the electron-gun end of the 300 foot Accelerator wave guide. While she was so engaged, someone in the control room switched high voltage to the Klystron tubes and she took a 400 Megawatt burst of 3 GHz RF to the eyes. That should never have happened! The open interlock on the access door should have prevented the high voltage from being switched on. The interlock had worked flawlessly a hundred times before but this time it didn't.

It's burned into my memory - the day a two dollar and fifty cent switch failed and the life of a lovely young girl with a promising career ahead of her was exposed to a lethal dose of radiation. Six months later she died of a brain tumor. Her funeral plays over and over in my nightmares. You see, the installation and maintenance of the safety interlock system was *my* responsibility.

Safety is not a casual thing. It's a matter of constant concern and awareness, not only for yourself but for those who might be innocently about. Trust nothing. When things appear to be least harmful they are potentially the most dangerous. I got knocked on my butt the other day because I forgot. Be safe. "Don't do as I do. Do as I say!"

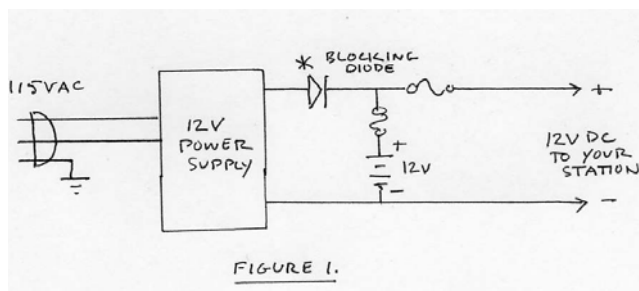
**Paul Honore' W6IAM**

## Storage Batteries for emergency backup

Several times, lately, the question has been asked, "How should I connect a lead-acid storage battery to supply emergency power to my rig?" The bad news is there's no single answer to the question. There are, however, as many opinions as there are hams who use batteries. The good news is that most of the opinions are valid. Over the years I've tried three different approaches and all work well enough so I'll outline them here and you can take your pick. If none of these appeal to you, additional methods can be found on the internet or in back issues of QST magazine.

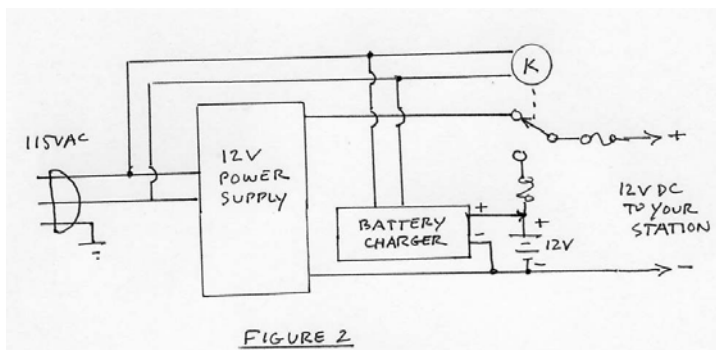
### **Method 1. "Float" the battery on the power supply**

You can connect the battery in parallel with your power supply. This will provide an automatic changeover from mains to battery power without any hiccup in operation and the power supply will charge the battery whenever it is turned on. There are some things to consider, however. Unlike your power supply, the battery has no built-in current limiting or short circuit protection. It is capable of delivering several hundred amps of current for enough time to melt down a lot of things. In fact a dead short across the output terminals is likely to cause the battery to self destruct, splattering bits of shrapnel and sulfuric acid all over the place. That could spoil your whole day! If you use this approach, be sure to include a fuse close to the Positive battery terminal to prevent this sort of catastrophic event from happening. Make the fuse slightly larger than the maximum current you intend to draw from the power supply. Make sure that your power supply doesn't drain current from the battery when it is turned off.. If you find a current drain you'll have to include a blocking diode in series with the supply output. The diode must be capable of handling at least twice the maximum current your station will draw and it will probably need a heat-sink. The diode will drop between .5 and 1.5 volts internally so you'll have to increase the power supply output voltage to compensate.



### **Method 2. Switch between the battery and the power supply**

Using this method, the battery and the power supply are kept independent of each other and a trickle charger keeps the battery topped off and ready for instant use. A mechanical switch can be used to make the changeover or you can make it automatic by substituting a 110VAC relay for the switch. This way, the power supply is connected to the station by default and switching to battery backup is automatic on power failure. Since the battery and the power supply are independent of each other, no steering diode is needed and the battery remains on "charge" whether the

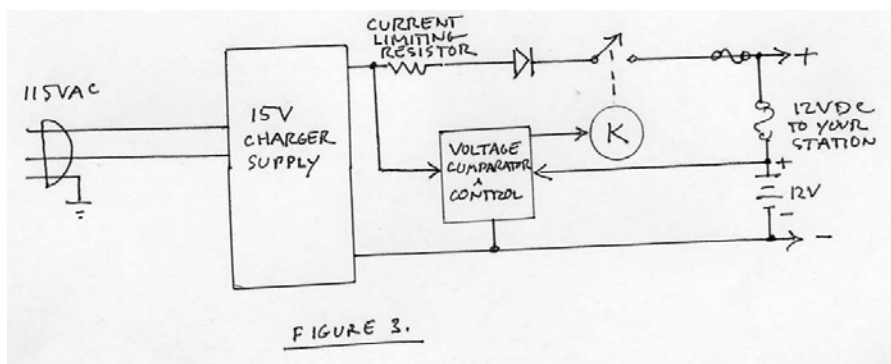




power supply is turned ON or OFF. If you don't have a suitable 115VAC relay you can use a small transformer to power a 6, 12 or 24VAC relay, if needed, add a rectifier diode to power a DC relay.

### **Method 3. Battery power only, with continuous charge**

Because we have so many power failures on the Olympic Peninsula and the fact that they usually occur when I'm likely to be operating in emergency mode, I chose to power my station on battery only. To maintain a full charge at all times, I built a rather unique voltage-sensing charger based on a design by Bob Lewis AA4PB and published in the ARRL Emergency Communications Handbook. I described the modifications in the March issue of CCARC-QTC ( **A continuous Charger for Lead-acid Storage Batteries.**) I prefer this adaptive charging approach because it maintains a full charge on the battery without overcharging it and the charger is left on-line 24/7 with no hash or switching transients in either transmit or receive mode regardless of operating power or frequency. It's not difficult build and I highly recommend it.



Be careful when handling or connecting storage batteries. Wear protective clothing and safety glasses and to avoid sparking and possible explosion always connect leads to the battery terminals first, and then to the load. To avoid acid spills and collateral damage, place the battery in some type of ventilated container. There are specially designed battery boxes available at automotive and marine supply stores. Keep the battery well away from your operating area, preferably OUTDOORS where hydrogen gas can be vented safely and harmlessly. Mine is housed in a freezer chest on a balcony outside my radio shack. Power is brought into the shack via heavy duty automotive cables through a bakelite panel mounted in a small window opening. Terminals made from 3/8 inch brass running-thread provide feed-through connections and a 100 Amp cutout switch in the positive lead provides a safety disconnect.

**Paul Honore' W6IAM**

Remember ham friends, I have a great library of QST's dating back to 1975, and since I haven't found a permanent home for them, I'm going to share a few articles or tid-bits each month with you. Anyone is welcome to them, one at a time, or several. All I ask is that they be checked out, taken care of, and returned in their original condition. Lets keep our hobby's past sacred. You'll find schematics, great stories, ARRL articles, YL news, and much, much more. Technology has changed, but Ham Radio lives on forever. Enjoy!

This article is copied from the April 1975 issue, titled, "It Seems To Us..."

#### IARU FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

"As this issue of QST goes on the press there will be convening in Paris a congress of delegates from the national radio societies of the world, meeting in accordance with a proposal made by the ARRL a year ago, to form the International Amateur Radio Union." Thus began an editorial in May, 1925, QST, commenting on the progress being made toward an organization to guard the interests of the radio amateur at the international level. This month, we mark the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the IARU by this congress.

In 1925, two-way transatlantic amateur communications had been an accomplished fact for a little more than a year. Already it was apparent that radio was by it's very nature an international medium, and that there was a need for a corresponding organization to represent the amateur. As it happened, the founding President of the ARRL, Hiram Percy Maxim, had a business trip to Europe scheduled for early 1924. Such an excursion was quite an undertaking in those days, involving as many days on the ocean liner as overseas trips today involve hours on a jet. Ever mindful of the economy in the management of the League's affairs, the Board of Directors asked him to represent the League in fostering international relations between amateurs while he was abroad. This, of course, he was delighted to do.

An informal meeting of distinguished amateurs representing nine nations was called for March 12, 1924, in Paris, to discuss the formation of the international organization of amateurs. There was considerable enthusiasm for the idea, and agreement was quickly reached on the name and on the calling of the International Amateur Congress during the Easter holidays of 1925 for the purpose of creating the Union. The full story of the congress is told in the QST's of the period and in *Two Hundred*

*Meters and Down*, by Clinton B. DeSoto, the definitive historical work on the early day of amateur radio.

This IARU anniversary is especially significant for two reasons. First, we are on the verge of another general World Administrative Radio Conference which will examine *all* of the international Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union affecting *all* services, including amateur. The all-important Table of Frequency Allocations which establishes our "ham bands" will be subject to revision, ostensibly to bring it into line with technical developments since the last general WARC in 1959. It is for just such a conference that the IARU was created, to provide a framework in which preparations can be made *before* and on-the-spot participation by observers can be provided *during* the conference.

Second, the IARU had just adopted a newly-revised Constitution which recognizes a comparatively recent development in it's structure: the regional organization. Three such organizations now exist, representing the interests of amateurs in the three regions of the world which the ITU uses for allocations purposes. The organizations were discussed in some detail in the QST for July, 1974, page 82. The advent of the regional organization has contributed significantly to the ability of the IARU to fill the varying needs of it's member-societies around the world and has made it possible for the delegates to participate in the face-to-face meetings that would never be practical on a world scale. The Region 1 Division, encompassing Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and USSR, is itself celebrating an anniversary this year--it's twenty-fifth.

That we can enjoy amateur radio on the scale we do today is due in no small part to the efforts of the far-sighted men who met in Paris just fifty years ago this month to ensure that the radio amateur would have a firm, stable, and durable voice at the international level. It is appropriate to pay them tribute at this time, and to remind ourselves that the existence of amateur radio in years to come is not a foregone conclusion; it's health and fortune depend on what we do *now*, just as we have depended on the work of those pioneers. The problems we face today are different, but are no less compelling. K1ZND

Respectfully dedicated to the author, K1ZND, 82 years ago this month.

KE7DRT

Bob Emails us on 11 March the following:

For 11 years I've been employed as a Senior Aviation Fueling Specialist at Sea-Tac. The picture is my hydrant truck hooked up to British Airways Flt 48 to LHR (London Heathrow), a Boeing 747-400 earlier this evening. I pumped 27,000 gallons jet fuel into it .

See more pictures and articles about airline safety at my web page: [www.avfueller.com](http://www.avfueller.com)  
73 , Bob Pensworth kc7hir





**CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR  
RADIO CLUB  
Minutes of the General Meeting  
April 11, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p. m. by Chuck N7BV, President.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, then introductions were made around.

Chuck N7BV talked about an FCC Consumer Notice concerning how things changed when code went away. Clarification is made that all Technicians now have "Tech Plus" operating privileges.

Chuck N7HFL spoke about the Bylaw review. Copies of the proposed new Bylaws are available at the meeting tonight. Copies were mailed to all paid-up members. He also asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Chuck N7BV asked for Field Day suggestions, and mentioned if folks came up with some, to direct them to members of the Field Day committee. There is a meeting tomorrow for Field Day planning.

Chuck also discussed Dxpedition, in anticipation of showing a video tonight. After the break the video of DXPedition to the South Sandwich Islands and South Georgia (2002) was shown.

Raffle tickets were offered with an additional prize of a 1942 Radio Amateur Handbook.

Bob AC7RK mentioned "HAM Radio Technical Culture" as an interesting book.

Chuck N7HFL won the raffle, taking cash, and Tom KE7XX won the book.

Chuck N7HFL asked those present if the (proposed) Bylaws are OK, and said we will vote on acceptance at the next meeting. Any serious concerns about them should be submitted by e-mail.

It was moved and seconded that last month's meeting minutes be approved as published. Motion passed.

Leah KE7EVS advised that Ham name badges etc. can be ordered from her.

Tom KE7XX mentioned that Jody KE7LKA was named for the chance at a \$20,000 scholarship. Tom also mentioned that several Club members will participate in demonstrations for about 120 kids at Stevens Middle School shortly.

Referring to the QTC article regarding budget, Roger W7GRS stressed that we need paid memberships in order to have a budget!

Chuck N7BV also stated we need donations to help cover the site cost of Field Day. It was moved and seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed, and we adjourned at 8:37 PM.

There were 33 members and guests in attendance.

Minutes by Rich N7NCN

**Around the bands**

Well, did you work Scarborough Reef? (BS7H 29 April to 6 May 2007) Yep, it is an ARRL DX country. Hummm, are you sure? See: <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/> for more information.

The first station for the 1995 Dxpedition was set up on this rock. Working under the intense mid-day sun, the station was quickly assembled, and



BS7H came on the air at 0928Z on 12 April, 1995.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE**

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HF TriBand Beam ant. \$100.00

Jim Cloud WA7LDM 457-9299

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MFJ-1700C

6-Position Antenna/Transceiver Switch  
with Surge Protection-New

1/2 Price: \$50.00

Contact Roger, W7GRS

Ph: 681-3534

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**WANTED:**One ten foot (10') tower section of Rohn  
25G.Contact Bruce Thompson, W7DNA  
@ 457-6134.

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**Free Books about Radio**

Here we go again. Something else to find on the internet. Project Gutenberg is a group that converts books with expired or no copyrights. These are Public Domain Books and are free to copy and distribute, but see the fine text for details. One book that I downloaded and read was "Radio Boys on the Mexican Border".

This book was published in 1922. You can experience what radio was like in the early days. Download the HTML version and it even has pictures and schematics. There are others in this series. You just search on Radio Boys and you'll find them.

Go to : WWW.Gutenberg.ORG and start you search.

73, Bill Carter, W7WEC

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**FROM OUR TREASURER:**

The bank balance as of Apr 20 is  
\$6,242.57

VOC Frank Doherty ARRL VE

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**COMING EVENTS**

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Stanwood Hamfest & Flea Market  
12 May 2007

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Northwestern Division Convention (SeaPac) 1-3 Jun  
Oregon Tualatin Valley ARC  
<http://www.seapac.org>

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Wenatchee Hamfest 8-10 Jun  
Apple City ARC  
<http://www.qsl.net/w7td>

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**CLUB OFFICERS For 2006**

**President:** Chuck Jones N7BV

360-452-4672 n7bv@yahoo.com

**Vice President:** Bob Sampson K6MBY

360-582-9116 k6mby@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:** Tom Newcomb

360-452-8228 ke7xx@arrrl.net

**Board Member:** Bob Kennedy AC7RK

360-457-6177

**YL LUNCHEON**

May 11th  
Downrigger  
Port Angeles  
Time: 11:45 a.m.

**Find us on the web at  
[www.olyham.com](http://www.olyham.com)  
Check it out. Lots of  
information about ham radio  
in Clallam County!**

**2007 YL Luncheons:**

May: Downrigger  
June: Danny's  
July: Café Garden  
August: Tarcisio's  
September: Sergio's  
October: Fortune Star  
November: Chestnut Cottage  
December: Petal's

Description	Time/Date	Location	Contact
Clallam County ARES/RACES meeting	7 pm, first Tue of every month	Clallam County Courthouse EOC, 223 E. 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 5 <sup>th</sup> & 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 County Amateur Radio Club YL social lunch	11:45 am 2d Fri of every month	Rotates - announced on Thursday night Net	

**BIRTHDAYS:**

Darlene, XYL of Jerry KD7TFL, May 7th  
Bill, W7WEC, May 14th  
Barb, XYL of John K7NIA, May 17th  
Jim, WF7W, May 19th  
Bob, KI7ZC, May 28th  
Herb, KA7PXL, May 31st

**Happy Birthday!**

**Call Sign Badges  
By WB8BVK**

Don't be a stranger at club meetings, hamfests or public service events. Wear a durable engraved name & call sign badge to let others know who you are. Available in 1" x 3" or 1-3/4" x 3" in as-sorted colors and finishes. Reasonable prices from a local source. Custom jobs up to 5" x 8" (custom front panels, door signs, desk plates, clipboards, etc.). See Paul, WB8BVK, at the CCARC meetings or email at [pbenadum@earthlink.net](mailto:pbenadum@earthlink.net).

**Buy local!**