CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

QTC

MARCH 09

DRT's Shack:

My thanks to all Club members who came to the February meeting. It was a full house, and as always, nice to see every ones smiles and participation in keeping our Club strong.

Janet, WA7JEP, introduced us to Jerry Kraft, who shared many wonderful ideas on how to write our memoirs. Our future generations can share our stories for years to come, so take advantage of his classes, his ideas, and let your remembrances be passed along! Thanks to the team who brings these wonderful guests to us monthly.

Field Day this June will be held at the Fair Grounds. Different locations were researched, which we can look into for future FD's, but with time being short, all being familiar with how each station sets up, monies involved with renting other facilities, it's logical and cost effective to remain at the Fair Grounds. No charge is a good price!

SALUTE to Clallam County Amateur Radio Emergency Services for backing us on this fun, once a year contesting event.

It's been agreed upon there needs to be signs made for Field Day to direct the public to us, With classes scheduled for this fall, here's a great opportunity to open the door for new Hams being introduced to our hobby. Having signs made professionally can become quite costly. Any input as to how this can get accomplished would be appreciated.
Rik, WX7RIK, and myself have offered our help in making these, so if we can purchase the supplies, stencils, board, paint, and gather more members, what a fun afternoon it would be to make them ourselves. We promise, no extreme make-overs of hair color, hi hi, but fun and artistic show offs are welcome!
Rik is working hard on the media releases, so let's work just as hard resolving this issue to guide interested visitors to a Field Day they will certainly be impressed with!

Strange humming and low volume output from the repeater has us in a whirlwind, and both Steve, W6MPD, and Bob, K6MBY, know of this situation, but until they can get up to Striped Peak, please be patient, as it is being looked into. It takes time to get up to get there, by this I mean 'personal' time. When they have that time, rest assured, all will return to normal. Keep the faith everyone, as we have the best technical team ever.
As requested, I've asked for their appearance at the Club meeting. If available, they'll attend. Don't forget to thank them for their time and effort, OK?

The CCARC is still looking for an Activities Chair. Three (3) events per year to prepare for.
1) Field Day 2) Annual Summer Picnic, 3) The Christmas Potluck Dinner.
We're not hosting our Canadian friends this year, as we go across the pond, so that's one less activity to prepare for this year. {If you plan on going in August, now might be the time to check your passport status.}
The Activity Chair forms a team to help purchase, prepare, and decorate. Can't get much easier then that! I can't imagine turkey and ham sandwiches for Christmas, can you?

Someone, please, step up and volunteer. It's always they same ones over and over doing it all, and we must give them a break. Contact me as soon as possible so we can work out the details. Red Cross has helped in the past with great success, it's just a matter of organizing this much needed position! Who can we count on...is it you?

We've been sharing information the ARRL has been sending out pertaining to antenna height restrictions. David, KE7TTT offered the letter he wrote to our Legislators to use, to get the SB 5655 enacted into law. Please familiarize yourself with this bill, knowing it's for the betterment of Ham Radio. Any questions you have please bring them to the meeting. Thank you David, for leading us in this effort!!

Did you remember to set your clocks ahead an hour? If not, you're already late for a few things...hi hi Spring is almost here, or is it, with this week end snow? That prankster ground hog Punxsutawney Phil was right. Looks as if he got his extra 6 weeks of rest after all. We loose an hour while he slumbers for six weeks? Something seems so wrong with that scenario!

73 All, and see you on the 11Th.!

Get Your License Here!

The CCARC Amateur Radio License Classes will be **April 18 and 25 and May 2** .

If you know of anyone who would be interested in a Technician or General Class license please have them call Chuck, N7BV 360-452-4672 or Tom, KE7XX 360-452-8228.

Thanks, Chuck, VE-L

Guess What!

It's dues time again. The By-laws call for dues ($20) to be paid in the first quarter of the year.

See our treasuer David, KE7JEJ at a meeting.

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!

The more you submit the less we have to think of.

Thanks, the staff!

CCARC QTC Newsletter

Just a little back round on how the QTC works.

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 (MSword, edit, clear, formatting) if you know how, before sending it to ccarcqtc. If you feel the creative urge to design a document—please open a design shop, but don't do it and then send it to us expecting to see your creative work transferred to the newsletter.

We do not edit, except to change fonts to a standard non-serf 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,
Chuck, N7BV Bob K6MBY

PROGRAM FOR March 11th

GPS

2 METER NETS

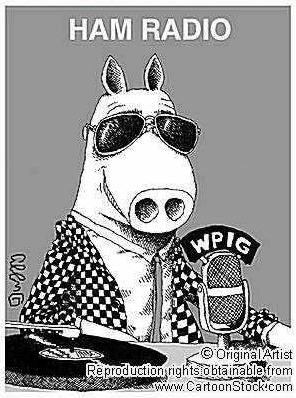
CCARC :
Every Thursday 7:00 pm on the W7FEL Repeater.

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.

PIO / PTT

by WX7RIK – Rik



Welcome to this month's column, the first of what I hope to be a regular feature of the QTC. As your club's Public Information Officer, I wanted to come up with a catchy bi-line, and thought PTT was spot on. Having registered as your PIO with the ARRL, I receive many emails each month (too many, actually) and will be passing along ones that I think might be interesting to club members.

Item 1: Here's a link to a short video clip from WFYI Public Television in Indianapolis. The story is about a fellowship of the airwaves that started 'way back 1914. Only this year, it has a little friendly competition to boot. Last fall, members of the Indianapolis Radio Club took to the hills in Morgan and Johnson counties to see which team could make contact with the most folks in the farthest away places. In an era of cell phones and iPods, using the shortwave might seem a bit old-fashioned. But old times are what we celebrate on our little show. And as you'll see, when you're talking to like-minded hams across the country, the result can be magic. http://www.wfyi.org/wvx/AIND.1907.4.wvx (Ignore the first 15 seconds, which is a teaser for a later story.)

Item 2: DTV – Have you ever wondered what television signals are being broadcast in your area? Perhaps you've recently purchased a new HDTV and you're looking for some High Definition content. Or maybe you're just looking for some additional sources to compliment your existing cable and/or satellite services. Well, here's a tool that can analyze your location to help determine what FREE broadcasts might be available in your neighborhood. This tool can help answer questions like:

- Which broadcasters are transmitting locally?
- How far are the transmitters from me?
- Which direction should I point my antenna?
- How strong are the signals in my area?
- What analog and digital channels are available?
- How will things look after the analog shutoff in Jun-2009?

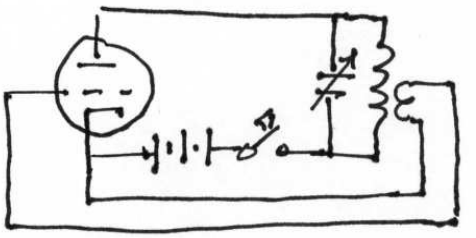
If you'd like to test your location, click here: http://www.tvfool.com/

Item last: The March 11th club meeting program will feature a presentation on a brief history of navigation, from celestial navigation through today's state of the art GPS. The featured speaker is Jerry Decker, a retired Electrical Engineer who worked for Magnavox on the U.S. Government Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver development program.

Electronic Fundamentals, Part-1 (*Analog Circuits*)
Unit 12 Oscillators

When Marconi made his first transatlantic radio contact, he used a spark-gap transmitter. It consisted of a high voltage source that was discharged into an LC circuit by a spark gap. The energy from the spark was transferred to a rather low Q, LC **tank circuit**. The resultant emission was a broad-band output spreading over many Kilohertz (**KHz**) of spectrum. Soon after that first Morse code transmission was confirmed, radio frequencies began to crowd with Marconi wannabes. It soon became necessary to clean-up and narrow the bandwidth of the emitted signals. The answer, which satisfied for more than 50 years, was the vacuum tube oscillator. For most applications, vacuum tubes have been displaced by transistors and other solid state devices, but the goal is still the same -- to generate a stable, high quality signal, using as little radio spectrum as possible.

The principle of oscillation hasn't changed much since the introduction of the vacuum tube. If some of the output signal from an amplifier is fed back, in phase, to the input, the amplifier will oscillate -- generate a sine wave output at a frequency determined by the distributed capacitance and inductance of the circuit. The frequency of oscillation and it's amplitude, can be specified by "tuning"' the LC tank circuit at the output.



(Fig 12-1)

The circuit shown here represents the simplest of CW transmitters. The tube amplifies any signal applied to its input, so when the key is closed voltage is applied through the tank coil to the plate. Some of the magnetic energy generated in the coil by the inrush of current is transferred to the secondary winding and from there to the vacuum tube grid. The voltage "spike" detected by the grid is amplified and used to start the tank circuit "ringing" at a its resonant frequency . When the key is opened, the tube quits conducting current and the oscillation damps to zero.

For optimum operation of this circuit, plate current should flow for a very short part of each cycle since the only power required to keep the tank circuit oscillating is enough to overcome circuit losses. A Class-C amplifier is the best choice. It is biased in such a way that it conducts for only a small part of each cycle and relies on the "flywheel effect" of the tank circuit to maintain oscillation. The frequency of oscillation is determined by the formula $\mathbf{F = 1 / 2 \pi (\sqrt{LC})}$ Where frequency is in Hz, L is in henrys and C is in farads. *Decreasing* any factor in the denominator of the equation will result in an increased frequency and any *increase* in the denominator will decrease the frequency of oscillation.

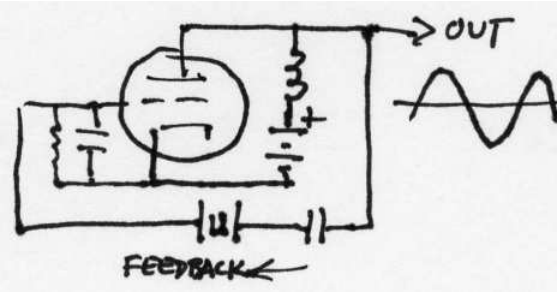
This is not the only way oscillation can be produced. Any amplifier can be

made to oscillate simply by feeding some of the output, in phase, back to the input. In this way, the tube amplifies the signal from the output, which is then fed back to the input where it is further amplified and fed back, etc. ad infinitum. The trick is to keep it under control.

Oscillators are not limited to transmitters. They are also used in receivers. In fact most radios contain several oscillators. Some of them are fixed in frequency and are often crystal controlled. Others are variable frequency oscillators **(VFOs),** and can be tuned electrically or mechanically. Frequency and amplitude stability are important. One problem of stability is the tendency of a circuit to remain stable and refuse to oscillate at all, or for it to take off on its own and oscillate at an unwanted frequency. Needless to say, oscillator design has been evolving as long as there have been radios and its an ongoing thing.

One of the earliest ways to control the frequency of oscillation was the quartz crystal but crystals were very expensive until the U.S. military decided to convert its radios to crystal operation in WW-II. The post war surplus market was flooded with cheap crystals and for many years crystal control was the method of choice for amateur transmitters.

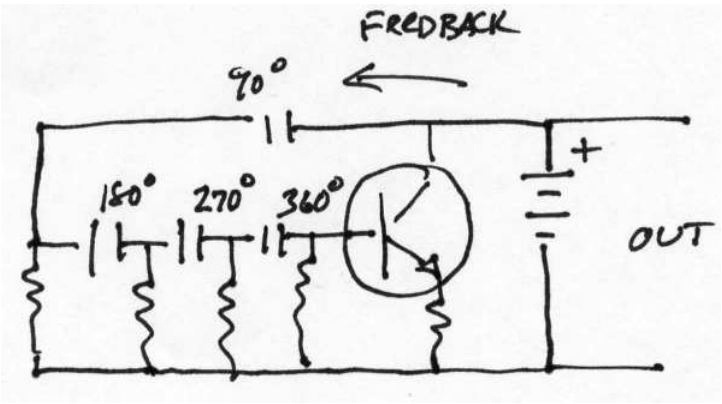
Crystals work on the **piezoelectric** principle, whereby an electric current causes the crystalline structure to stress mechanically. When the current is removed, the crystal relaxes back to its original shape. As it does so, it puts out a pulse of electricity. Because it is a mechanical device, the crystal has a resonant frequency determined by its structure and dimensions. If current pulses are applied at the crystal's resonant frequency, the crystal will vibrate-ring like a bell - generating a sine wave of electrical energy.



(Fig 12-2)

This circuit is called a **Pierce oscillator.** The crystal is inserted in a **feedback loop** from the output to the input of the oscillator to fix the rate of oscillation to the resonant frequency of the crystal. A capacitor in series with the crystal blocks flow of direct current and an **RF choke** at the plate prevents the oscillator output from modulating the power supply voltage. RF chokes are no longer in common use. Instead, you are more likely to find a bead of ferite material surrounding the wire from the power supply. It serves the same purpose as the choke and is much cheaper to manufacture.

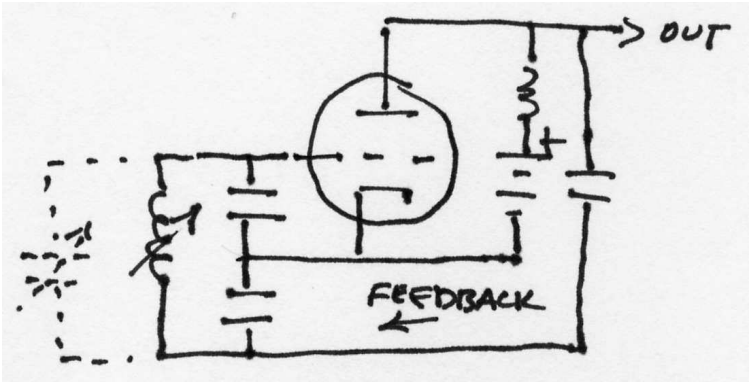
Another method of generating a stable oscillation is the RC coupled **phase shift oscillator**.



(Fig 12-3)

Each capacitor in the feedback loop introduces 90° of phase shift for a total of 360°, bringing the input signal in phase with the output. The frequency of oscillation will be determined by the values of the capacitors and resistors. The Q of this circuit is low but for many applications, especially in the audio range, it doesn't matter.

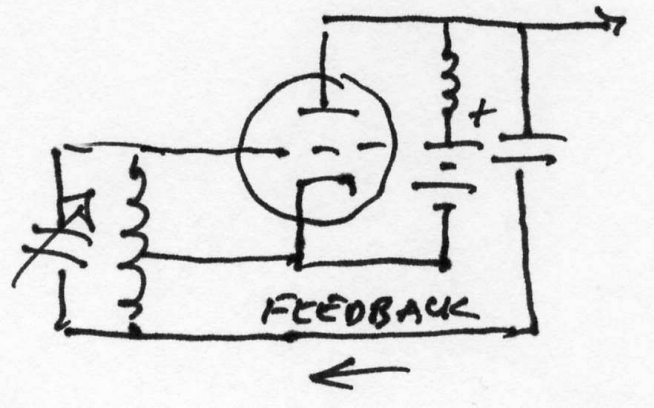
For many applications, a variable frequency oscillator, **VFO,** is needed. There are two basic VFO designs, the **Colpitts Oscillator** and the **Hartley Oscillator**. Each of them uses a parallel LC circuit to determine the frequency of oscillation. The designs differ mainly in the way feedback is provided to the tuning circuit. We'll take the Colpitts oscillator first.



(Fig1 12-4)

The tuning circuit in the Colpitts oscillator has two capacitors in series so, in calculating the resonant frequency, this must be taken into account. Feedback is supplied to one of the capacitors which forces the other capacitor to follow but, because the vacuum tube cathode is referenced to the junction between the capacitors, only a small part of the AC is fed to the tube, The LC circuit acts as a voltage amplifier to force the circuit into oscillation at the resonant frequency. Tuning can be accomplished by varying the inductance or by the addition of a parallel tuning capacitor.

In the Hartley oscillator, feedback is provided to a tap on the inductor.



(Fig 12-5)

Mutual inductance between the winding halves determines the correct amount of feedback for stable oscillation.

In these examples I've shown mostly vacuum tubes as oscillators but transistors and operational amplifiers work just as well. Anything that will amplify can be made to oscillate. In fact sometimes it's hard to get an amplifier NOT to oscillate! Tank circuits are a convenient way to obtain variable tuning but they are not necessary if the oscillator is meant to operate at a fixed frequency. Any means of obtaining feedback that is *in phase* with the output will do. In this unit, I've shown several ways feedback can be applied to an amplifier to obtain oscillation. In the next unit, I'll continue the discussion with some examples of function generators and the use of oscillators in switching mode power supplies.

Terms to remember

Positive Feedback	**Returning an output signal in phase to an amplifier Input**
Piezoelectric effect	**Bending of a crystal lattice by the application of an electric current or producing an electric pulse by bending a crystal lattice.**
RF choke	**Inductor to block the passage of radio frequencies**
Tank circuit	**LC resonator**
VFO	**Variable frequency oscillator**

Paul Honore' W6IAM
(rev-2 Feb '09)

Visalia International DX Convention 2009

The 2009 International DX Convention will take place April 17th, 18th & 19th, 2009 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center in Visalia, California. This is an ARRL sanctioned convention that is sponsored this year by the Northern California DX Club. It is expected to draw visitors from around the World and will feature programs from recent DX-Peditions and contest operations.

To celebrate this, the 60th year of this event, your Convention Committee has planned the following Special Attractions:

- Contest Academy by the Northern California Contest Club.
- Radio Arcala Project by OH2BH and OH8NC.
- Special Guest and Banquet Speaker: The Hon. J. Scott Redd (K0DQ), Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy (ret).
- Breakfast Program: The Desecheo, K5D DX-Pedition.

Other Convention offerings will include: DX, Top Band and Contest Forums, technical talks, many door prizes, both Friday and Saturday evening "attitude adjustments", Saturday Barbecue Lunch, Saturday night banquet, Sunday morning “power” breakfast, Vendors Exhibits and QSL card checking.

Current information and registration forms are available on the Convention web page, which can be found at www.dxconvention.org. Additional registration information can be obtained by contacting Convention Registration Chairman, Dick Letrich, W6KM via Email at dlw6km@aol.com.

If you’re interested in DX, DXing or Contesting, the Visalia International DX Convention is the place to be. We hope to see you there.

Fm N7BV: The following article was recently relayed on the Western Washington DX Club Email Reflector and is reprinted here for your information/enjoyment. See: http://electronicdesign.com/Articles/Index.cfm?AD=1&ArticleID=20689&bypass=1

Whatever Happened To Heathkit?

Louis E. Frenzel | ED Online ID #20689 | February 18, 2009

Whenever I mention to folks that I used to work at Heathkit, a few people actually ask, “What’s Heathkit?” Yes, I suppose that does date me a bit. Others will say, “Oh, yes, my dad used to build Heathkits.” Anyway, some of you do remember Heathkit, and fondly in most cases. If not, let me explain.

There once was a time in electronics when you could actually build circuits and equipment yourself. You needed a design that you could create yourself-or if not, get from one of many magazines, including Electronic Design. You could buy the resistors, capacitors, transistors, or tubes in the olden days, then put them all together on a metal chassis, a breadboard, or a finished printed-circuit board (PCB). It was quite a project but doable, and many hobbyists like hams built these designs on a regular basis.

In the late 1940s and 1950s, someone invented the kit business. Companies designed a product and sold it as a bundle of parts called a kit. You could buy the kit for a fraction of what a comparable wired unit would

cost and then build it yourself. The outcome was quite favorable-a workable electronic product and a great sense of accomplishment you got from the construction.

Heath was one of those companies that help started the kit business. Ed Heath founded the company in 1926 with, of all things, an airplane kit. He died in a test flight in one in 1935, but Howard Anthony kept the company going. Right after World War II, he bought a batch of electronic surplus. Out of that came one of the first successful kits, a small oscilloscope for $50, which was a real achievement in its time. With that success came many new products.

Heathkit probably succeeded more on its ham radio products than anything else. Most of the early kits were shortwave radios, transmitters, accessories like antenna tuners, and the famous Cantenna, a 1-kW non-inductive power resistor in a paint can with mineral oil for the heatsink. Heathkit went on to create an extensive line of small and large transceivers and big power amps, many of which are still operational today.

The Successful Years

Later in the 1950s and 1960s, Heathkit expanded into audio equipment, TV sets, and lots of other consumer products. The company even had a low-cost line of test equipment with scopes, multimeters, generators, counters, and other items. While Heathkit had competitors like Allied Knight, Lafayette, Eico, and a few other smaller companies, it essentially beat the pants off everyone else because it had a better product.

But Heathkit's good reputation really came from offering a better assembly manual than anyone else. A poorly executed step-by-step manual is a prescription for disaster for any kit company. If the customer can't build the kit successfully without massive telephone and mail support, it would die a quick death, and many did. Heathkit figured this out early and spent as much development time in the manual as it did engineering the product. Its primary marketing message was "We won't let you fail," and the company lived up to it.

I went to Heathkit in the early 1970s to start its education and publishing product line. The idea was to extend the concept that building a kit was an educational endeavor and that we could expand on that idea with more formal learning materials to supplement the kits. We built a line of self-instructional courses on electronic fundamentals and a wide range of other topics. A line of kit trainers accompanied the instructional materials. The first products emerged in 1974 and were instantly successful. We followed up with microprocessor learning packages, which were hot for their time. And, we developed the Hero robot kit that came out in 1982.

I was also involved with the development of the Heathkit computers. We created the H8 and the H11, not to mention the H9 terminal, and of all things the H10, a paper tape reader/punch. (What was I thinking?) The H11 kit used Digital Equipment Corporation's (DEC) famous LSI-11 board. We packaged that into kit form with some 8-in. hard drives (remember those?) and the RT-11 operating system with Basic-not bad for $1200 at that time. The all-in-one H89 and others came later.

The Beginning of the End

The success of the computer line attracted the attention of Zenith Corp., which went on to buy Heathkit in 1979 from the owner Schlumberger, an oil field service company that also owned Fairchild Semiconductor at the time. Zenith carved out the computer product line and started Zenith Data Systems (ZDS), and that company went on to build a several billion dollar business making Zenith computers and PC compatibles. Groupe Bull of France eventually bought that business, and ultimately it succumbed to the market forces driving the PC-compatible business with all its shakeouts, ups, and downs during the late 1980s and early 1990s.

In the meantime, the kit business suffered. Zenith didn't really want that business, but it came with the deal. It was neglected as ZDS grew, and so began its slow decline into oblivion. But a great deal of that decline had little to do with Zenith. It was also the time of great progress in semiconductor manufacturing. More and more equipment was being made of more and smaller ICs and surface-mount components, both of which were always a challenge for kit builders. It became harder to make a kit people could build at home with basic hand tools.

At the same time, wired products became cheaper thanks to Asian engineering and manufacturing. You could buy a great stereo or color TV set for less than what a kit cost, and you didn't have to spend three weekends building it. Everyone was into instant gratification in the 1980s, so nobody wanted to spend time building kits.

Heathkit discovered it could no longer compete in many markets like ham radio, audio, TV, and test equipment as it took as much time and money to create the manual as it did the product. With double the development costs and the technology making assembly more difficult, Heathkit eventually concluded it could not compete. This perfect storm of conditions led to the formal phasing out of the kit business in 1991 and 1992. There was lots of editorial coverage about that being the end of an era.

But Wait-Heathkit Really Didn't Go Away

Everyone thought that Heathkit was no more. Wrong! The education and publishing business now called Heathkit Educational Systems (HES) was still doing well. While the courses, materials, and trainers were sold to individuals, HES also developed a huge college and university business. HES was soon sold to a private buyer and continued as a successful operation. It still is today.

While its primary customers are educational institutions, you can still buy individual learning programs and even the trainer kits. HES also retained the rights to all those amazing kit manuals. The company still has many in stock. If you're looking for the documentation on an older Heathkit transceiver, scope, or whatever, you can get a copy of the manual. It's a nice little side business.

And despite the surface-mount components, ever smaller ICs, and challenging construction, you can still buy a kit today. Most of these kits are smaller products, but a few larger ones require some skill to build. An example of some of the smaller kits can be found at Ramsey Electronics (www.ramseykits.com), which offers a wide range of kits like power supplies and amplifiers that hobbyists love. Ramsey also has many ham radio kits and some commercial radio kits.

Jameco (www.jameco.com), which you might recognize as a mail order parts house, also has a line of small kits for hobbyists and educational institutions. Some of the ham radio companies offer kits as well, like Elecraft (www.elecraft.com) and TenTec (www.tentec.com). Other sources include Elenco Electronics (www.elenco.com) and Kelvin Electronics (www.kelviin.com).

Most kits go light on the newer parts and stay with older but still good ICs with the larger through-hole packages. When newer ICs are used, they're often pre-mounted on a PCB or the assembly using them will be pre-wired to prevent damage from poor construction.

It is still fun and satisfying to build a kit-at least to some people. And if you have the patience, you will actually experience that "Eureka" feeling one gets from building a particularly large and difficult kit. It works! It is a rare, satisfying experience that few enjoy any more. Next time you want to encourage one of your kids or relatives to enter the electronics field, give them a kit.

So despite the fact that almost everyone thought Heathkit died, it still exists and is still doing well. Check out its Web site at www.heathkit.com. The company's new address is 2024 Hawthorne Avenue, St. Joseph, Mich. 49085. Call 269-925-6000 or 800-253-0570. Many of the original Heathkit employees are still with the company, and that "we won't let you fail" attitude still prevails.

Acknowledgements
My special thanks to Chas Gilmore (W8IAI) of PPM Inc. as well as Doug Bonham and Randy Kaeding (K8TMK), both of Heathkit, for clarifying some of this information.

Pacificon 2009 to be hosted by EMCOMMWEST, May 1, 2, and 3, at the Circus Circus Hotel, Reno, NV

On February 15, I learned that the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club had decided not to sponsor the Pacificon Convention this year. They have done an outstanding job of running Pacificon every year since 1992, and this decision was made by their Pacificon Committee, based on the current economic downturn, and unsuccessful negotiations with the host hotel. Realizing the difficulty of finding a replacement for the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club, that with an experienced committee spends nearly a year planning this successful event, I decided to contact EMMCOMWEST, the second largest Amateur Radio Convention in the Pacific Division. They very kindly accepted, knowing the marriage of the two events would require an expansion of program matter, and the addition of Friday presentations. I am truly grateful to the entire EMCOMMWEST team for their decision. The Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club has been very supportive of this effort, and is making all of their speaker, vendor, and organizational information available to the EMCOMMWEST team. The keynote speaker will be Steve Ewald, WV1X, Field Organization Supervisor from ARRL HQ; and the banquet speaker will be Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who was in charge of Amateur Radio rules enforcement at the FCC when he retired. I hope many of you will be able to attend this year's Pacificon. More information is available at <pacificon.org>.

A special note to all club newsletter editors: Please feature this information in your monthly publications. I will be sending additional mailings as more news becomes available.

See you at EMCOMMWEST/Pacificon!

Thanks and 73,

Bob Vallio, W6RGG
Director, Pacific Division
ARRL The national association for AMATEUR RADIO

Clallam County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (CCARES)

The Clallam County ARES is organized in two levels; as an affiliate of ARRL/ARES and as the recognized RACES organization by the Clallam County Division of Emergency Management. Membership in CCARES is open to all licensed Amateur Radio Operators that are residents of Clallam County, who first register with ARRL/ARES through the Emergency Coordinator. They are not required to attend training meetings and function as a second response unit in emergencies.

CCARES members in good standing may register in the RACES program with the Clallam County Division of Emergency Management (CCEM) and serve as a primary responder during emergencies. RACES members are the core of the organization and are expected to attend training meetings and participate in drills and other events.

ARES/RACES News

Clallam County team members received the 2009 registration forms and had photos taken for new badges at their meeting. John Moore, K7NIA, gave a presentation on the new operations manual and EC, Dan Abbott, N7DWA, presented the annual hazardous materials training course. The W7FEL repeater was back online on January 11.

The SEC would like to say thanks to everyone for their support during the January weather activations and also to encourage everyone to attend the Communications Academy on April 4-5, 2009. http://www.commacademy.org/

FROM OUR TREASURER:

As of February 28th, 2009:

First Federal Savings & Loan of Port Angeles Balance:	$ 3,644.04
Outstanding Cheques:	- 28.18
Current Book Balance:	**$ 3,615.86**
CD at WestSound Bank (6-month, 3.40% APY):	+ 1,037.74
CD at WestSound Bank (18-Month, 5.13% APY):	+ 3,000.00
Total Cash Assets:	**$ 7,753.60**

Interest Income from FFSL for 2008:	$ 2.79
Interest Income from WestSound Bank for 2008:	191.97
Total Interest Earned for 2008:	**$194.76**

David R. McCoy,
KE7JEJ -.- . --... .--- . .---
CC-ARC Treasurer

BIRTHDAYS:

Birthdays for Mar, and the first week of Apr,:

Abbott, Dan, N7DWA, Mar-09
Smith, Michael B., K7MBS, Mar-09
Dove, Barry C., KE7WGO, Mar-20
Wheeler, Diane M., KE7TTI, Mar-23
Newcomb, Tom, KE7XX, Mar-24
Pearson, Robert B., W6FEH, Mar-28
Sipes, Gay L., KC7OEZ, Apr-03

YL's Birthdays:

Franklin, Patricia (Michael I., KE7SLI), Mar-05
Hutchinson, Paula (George B., W7TTY), Mar-14
Fisk, Diane (Albert, KD7TFK), Mar-18
Barrett, Kathleen C. (Warren E., KC7VXT), Apr-04

Happy Birthday!

FOR SALE OR TRADE

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FOR SALE: KENWOOD TS-850S HF Transceiver; WITH BUILT IN AT-850 ANTENNA TUNER 2 THRU 150 OHMS; KENWOOD PS-50 Power Supply, Included:- Instruction Guide - MIC, Condition: Very good condition. ALL FOR $750.00 Contact Ernie W7EWG 808-6668

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For Sale: Staco Variable Autotransformer Transformer Model 3PN1010 Input : 120 V, 10 A Output : 0-120/140 V Contact wx7rik@pobox.com or 360-460-2472

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Your Ad Could Go Here

COMING EVENTS

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21 Mar 2009 MicroHAMS Digital Conference
MicroHAMS Radio Club
http://www.microhams.com

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4-5 Apr 2009 * Communications Academy 2009
ARES of King County, Seattle Auxiliary Communications, WWA Medical Services Communications, & WA State ARES
http://www.commacademy.org

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9 May 2009 + 18th Annual Hamfest
Stanwood-Camano ARC
http://www.scarcwa.org

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CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Minutes of the General Meeting February 10, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by club president, Nita Lyman, KE7DRT.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Nita reminded us not to park in the First Baptist Church parking lot across from the Fire Department. They have been very nice about it but they have choir practice on Wednesday.

Self-introductions were made by those present. Nita said there was not much old business and called for the reading of the minutes of the Board Meeting held February 10, 2009 which was done.

Announcements:
Johan, KOGI, announced that he has arranged for a club trip to the Kitsap Submarine base on July 28. We will meet in the parking lot of the museum at 9:30 AM. In the morning we will tour the training facility including the simulator, hardware, and range. Lunch will be in the Officers Club and will cost about $10. After lunch we will go to the actual wharf where the boats are docked and tour an Ohio class nuclear submarine for between 2 ½ and 3 hours. We will not be allowed to view communications equipment or sonar gear. Minimum age requirement is 11. No photography or cell phone cameras, no alcohol, and no firearms are allowed. All must be U.S. citizens in good physical and mental condition, not subject to claustrophobic or panic attacks. There will be a lot of walking on uneven ground and you must be able to climb a 30 foot vertical ladder where you can look 4 or 5 stories straight down. Group will be limited to club members and one guest each. To sign up, send Johan an e-mail giving name, address, e-mail address, phone number, and the last four digits of the social security number for you and your guest. Group will be limited to about 25. Dress code is: jeans or slacks, collared shirts, no open toed shoes. No political or offensive T shirts. Photo ID proof of U. S. citizenship is required. Security is very tight now. Do exactly what the guards tell you. This is a unique opportunity that Johan has been working on for six months. The Navy does not give citizen tours there any more but we were approved because we are an educational group.

Update on possible contribution from Sureswift Memorial Day Yacht Race group. Steve DeBiddle W6MPD, reported that he talked to Peter Mills today about how CCARC can apply for some of the funds this group allocated to help amateur radio. They are offering this because they depend on amateur radio for communication during the Swiftsure sailboat race they hold in June each year. He will e-mail Steve with more information about how to apply

Nita introduced the special guest speaker, writer Jerry Kraft. His subject was: “How to Write Your Personal Memoirs”. He teaches a class in memoir writing and offered some tips for getting started: Focus on small incidents and you will weave a tapestry of your life. Why do it? Because someone wants, or will want, to know your story. Tell it in your own words without concern for spelling or grammar so the reader will “hear your voice” and get to know you. His class is on Mondays from 10 – 12 AM at the YMCA and is limited to 10-15 people. The next class starts in mid-March and the cost is $50 for six weeks.

Dennis, AD7TV, announced that an article by David Hannon, KE7TTT, was published in the March QST magazine. This is the annual antenna issue and David wrote about “My Freestanding 2 Meter J Pole Antenna.” Congratulations David! It’s a great article so turn to page 44 and don’t miss it.

The dates of Johan’s Kit Building/Soldering classes were changed to March 14 and March 28 to avoid conflict with the Puyallup Ham Fest. Participants in the class have a choice of building one of two power supplies and may also get into surface mounting. The class will begin by using vector board and practice soldering and removing components.

The YL luncheon will be at the Old Mill Café in Sequim at 11:30 Friday.

Chuck, N7BV, announced that Technician and General ham license classes will be held April 18 and 25. There will be a review the morning of May 2 and exams for all levels will start at 1:00 pm. Sign up with Chuck or Tom Newcomb, KE7XX, for the classes. Tom has manuals for sale.

Tom brought up the fact that Nita has been making and paying for the brownies we enjoy at our meetings. There is a now a "goody contribution" jar at the back of the room.

After the break there was a discussion about Field Day.
Rik Scairpon, WX7RIK, said he would make signs – maybe a dozen of them. Chuck said he personally preferred the Grange as a location and that the severe RFI problem there did not come from one source only. Steve observed that high power lines along Old Olympic Highway near the Grange made the whole area unusable due to RFI until about the intersection with Kitchen-Dick. Chuck said someone should verify that we have the Fairgrounds reserved. Mike McCarty, N7MLM, said that since this is a public event he is not sure that we get enough exposure at the Fairgrounds.
Steve said one point is advertising and an article in the paper should get attendance up. Tom said he and Chuck had been on KOMP several times with no problem and we should get PSAs going now. Chuck said last year Jefferson County got their information in to the paper first so ours did not get printed. A suggestion was made that, since they will make announcements, we send one to the new radio station in Sequim, KSQM 91.5.

Dennis reported that he and Matt Lawson,KC7EQO, got the old transmitters from KONP and announced that the speaker next month would be Jerry Decker who developed GPS for Magnavox.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:41PM

CLALLAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS METING FEBRUARY 10, 2009

Board members and officers present: Bill Carter W7WEC, Al Dawson W7YLV, Johan Van Nimwegen KOGI, Nita Lyman KE7DRT, Dennis Tilton AD7TV, Lee Diemer KE7TTY. Absent: David McCoy KE7JEJ.

The meeting was called to order at 1:40PM by Bill Carter, Board President.

OLD BUSINESS:
FIELD DAY: Currently we are signed up for the Fairgrounds but other location options were discussed. Sequim Grange has good facilities but nearby high power lines cause RFI. A disadvantage of having it at the Fairgrounds is that there are few visitors. It was noted that not many people showed up when it was held at the Grange either. We need to have more publicity regardless of the site. Nita will investigate a source of signs and what the cost would be. One more option: Elks Club in Sequim. It was noted that the Fairgrounds has water, electricity, restroom, security, receptacles for garbage, and tables. Lee moved, Al seconded, to confirm that the Fairgrounds will be the location of Field Day this year subject to change based on new information. The motion passed unanimously. Johan will investigate using the Elks Club, including the cost, on Thursday. The Board can change the location by mail vote if the Elks Club seems more desirable.

ARRL MEMBERSHIP LIST: Procedures for providing the annual information update, including verification of the 51% ARRL membership requirement, were discussed. According to the By-laws, the Treasurer has the only official roster list of club members which he should send to the ARRL annually so they can determine the percentage. That is the way it was done this year. The ARRL reports that at the present time, CCARC has 66.3% membership.

"STANDING ORDERS" LIST: A discussion was held on the need for a "Standing Orders" list of what has to be done annually, when it should be done, and who has done it in the past. Lee will research club records and compile the list. The discussion included how we could make procedure changes per the by-laws.

NEW BUSINESS:

ACTIVITIES:

Tour of Kitsap Submarine Base: Johan arranged for a July 28 trip for club members and a guest.

Roosevelt School Safety Fair May 28: EMD has requested that Amateur Radio support this event featuring law enforcement, medical , and fire department exhibits. A discussion was held about how we could participate. Suggestions were to ask Matt KC7EQO, about amateur TV and maybe CW. Dennis will talk to Rich N7NCN, about getting a "buddi-pole" antenna for HF. Al has a Honda generator.

YL Luncheon Feb 13: Will be at the Old Mill Café. Nita mentioned a need to get more members to the breakfasts and the YL luncheons.

Johan's Soldering Class: The next meeting of the class was changed to March 14 (and the following one March 28) due to a conflict with the Ham Fest in Puyallup on March 7.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: no items

PUBLICATIONS: The QTC should be published the Sunday before the board meeting.

MEMBERSHIP: no items

HEALTH AND WELFARE: Chuck will do this and Karen will make cards. Nita said that if you know of any members who are ill, send an e-mail to Chuck.

UPDATING THE REPEATER SYSTEM: There was a discussion using the possible $4,000 Canadian gift for this purpose. Todd Ordloft has a FM station at his house, a two transmitter site (Tom's old station) off Golf Course Road. We could negotiate with Todd Ordloff. The only reason for adding a repeater is to have a co-repeater as back up to Striped Peak. Al mentioned it would be nice to have 220 capability. Nita moved that the Technical Committee look into the possibility of adding a repeater at Todd Ordloff's site off Golf Course Road and other ways of using the possible $4,000 to improve our repeater systems. Johan seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

FLAG PURCHASE: It was agreed for Nita to purchase an American flag to use for the Pledge of Allegiance at meetings and other appropriate occasions.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM.

Minutes by Lee Diemer

A Trip Report

You may have missed it. I did. There was a short article in the PDN about a Ham Radio Open House. It was being held by the Jefferson County ARC. I was eMailing with Chuck N7BV and he told me about it. We decided to go see what the other half does in their ham radio world.

They have an annual open house and invite the public. This is on their regular meeting night and it becomes a sort of mix with the public and ham radio gab fest. There was a flow of people into and out of the building throughout the evening. Both the general public and Hams . At one point Chuck counted 38 people milling around the room. Maybe it was the home cooked treats and various juices and coffee that enticed them. Lots of neat conversations to snoop, er, overhear. Everything from boat anchors to "Olivia Mode" was being discussed.

There were about five stations set up with various modes of communication. Hams were at each station to talk about the rigs and modes. One station that was especially interesting to me was the PSK-31 demo. Clint Hurd KK7UQ, who is the major designer of the Navigator Interface, had set up two stations side by side. One was transmitting a digital signal and right next to it was another station receiving and decoding. I can picture something like that set up and demo'd during field day. What better way to show long distance text messaging to the younger crowd.
There was another station with their award winning ARES portable station. It's a Dual band radio built into a travel case. It contains a radio, antenna, battery, power supply/charger, mike and tools. They have two of them and are building a third one for HF.

I recommend you visit next year. Meet the neighbors. Talk with hams about new stuff and see how the other half of the North Olympic Peninsula does things. Watch the paper closely in early March. If I see it next year I'll mention on our net.

Respectfully Submitted.
Bill Carter, W7WEC

NEXT YL LUNCHEON

Gordy's Pasta and Pizza
1123 E. 1st Street
Port Angeles

Time: 11:45 a.m.

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

2009 YL Luncheons:

March - Gordy's Pasta and Pizza - 1123 E. 1st - Port Angeles
April - Oak Table - 292 W. Bell - Sequim
May - Downriggers - 115 E. Railroad Ave. - Port Angeles
June - Mariner - 707 E. Washington - Sequim
July - Joshuas - 113 DelGuzzi Dr. - Port Angeles
August - Tarcisios - 609 W. Washington - Sequim
September - Sergios - 205 E. 8th - Port Angeles
October - Fortune Star -145 E. Washington - Sequim
November - Chestnut Cottage - 929 E. Front - Port Angeles
December - Paradise - 703 S. Sequim Ave. - Sequim

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	Dan Abbott N7DWA 360-582-3824
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	

CLUB OFFICERS For 2009

President: Nita Lyman KE7DRT 360-457-5022 Nita_lyman@yahoo.com
Vice President: Dennis Tilton AC7TV 360-452-1217 3tiltons@wavecable.com
Secretary: Lee Diemer KE7TTY 360-683-5102 pathfindernorth@aol.com
Treasurer: David McCoy KE7JEJ 360-457-8550 mccoy.d.r@olypen.com
***Board Member* (Chairman):** Bill Carter W7WEC 360-6814375 w7wec@arrl.net
***Board Member*:** Johan Van Nimwegen KO6I 360-681-7300 jvn@olypen.com
***Board Member*:** Al Dawson W7YLV 360-457-0752 adawson@tfon.com