



# Watts News



Monthly Newsletter of the  
Olympia Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 2861, Olympia, WA 98507

August 2008  
email: oars@comcast.net

Edited by KB6LE (George Lanning) 360-866-2185  
website: <http://olyham.org>



From the  
Oval Shack

Hello Everyone

We have been presented with the opportunity to hold our meetings at the Olympia Red Cross facility. If you were at June's meeting, you may remember Jason Dean from the Red Cross. He also came to

Field Day. He told me he is interested in having us meet at the Red Cross to have an increased amateur radio presence there. He initially asked how attached we were to our Wednesday meeting nights as he was going to investigate moving us in before the end of the year. I was not certain about our meeting nights, and told him so.

Tom Bohon, KE7EJJ, graciously secured our use of the EOC on short notice when the South Sound Fire station became unavailable, and gains entry for us each month — including having found a way for me to borrow a key on evenings he is unavailable. Tom has suggested several times we find another place to meet — preferably someplace with less security than the EOC. I have no complaints with the EOC itself, but Tom has mentioned we could be “pre-empted” at the need or perhaps even the whim of people at the EOC. I have not been ignoring Tom about this matter,

but have found many different groups hold meeting on Wednesday evenings which definitely eliminates many potential locations.

Jason appears to have secured the Red Cross facility for our meetings beginning in January which at least at first glance seems to have solved our problems. It should also bring us to a closer relationship with the local Red Cross. I mentioned this meeting place on the OARS net July 29 and found we used to meet at the Red Cross years ago, but relocated when they were giving consideration to charging us for use of the facility. I am soliciting the opinions of everyone both pro and con to relocating

to the Red Cross facility. The Red Cross is located at 2618 12th Ct SW, Olympia, WA 98502. This is off the right side Black Lake Boulevard, between Cooper Point Road and Ninth Avenue SW for those unable to get to mapquest, or other mapping websites. I have not been able to get up to the meeting room to look it over primarily due to my work schedule (0800 - 1730 M-F, sometimes later). Anyhow, please give consideration to this meeting place and bring your thought both for and against to the August meeting. Thank you.

73

— Klaus, AC7MG

## Watts Inside

- ! 2008 Salmon Run ..... 2
- ! Tough Exam ..... 2
- ! Treasurer's Report ..... 2
- ! Ham, Son, Electrocuted ..... 3
- ! Terrorist Activities ..... 3
- ! Miracle of Toilet Paper ..... 3
- ! OARS Net Check-ins ..... 4
- ! CPRG Nets ..... 4
- ! Origin of Electricity ..... 4
- ! Field Resources Manual ..... 4
- ! AARP Q and A ..... 5
- ! Antenna Romance ..... 6
- ! Real Definitions of Words .... 6
- ! OM and XYL Differences .... 6

# 2008 Salmon Run

Are you into contests or someone who has never operated in a contest? Here is a great opportunity to operate and have fun in a local home grown contest.

Salmon Run (Washington state QSO party) sponsored by the Western Washington DX Club is coming up quick — September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>!

For more information go to <http://wwdxc.org> There are a few new categories and rule changes this year. Join the fun, even if you have contested before!!! What a good opportunity for clubs to get their young hams on the air. See you on the air.

73 and good Hamming,

— Jim Pace K7CEX

Western Washington ARRL Section manager



## License Exam Sessions

6:00 pm before each monthly OARS meeting  
 Walk-ins allowed  
 To apply contact Klaus Neubert 753-1493  
[oars-ve@comcast.net](mailto:oars-ve@comcast.net)

## Tough Exam

Four high school boys afflicted with spring fever skipped morning classes. After lunch they reported to the teacher that they had a flat tire.

Much to their relief she smiled and said: "Well, you missed a test today so take seats apart from one another and take out a piece of paper." Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down. Then she said: "First Question: Which tire was flat?"

— from *ajokeaday* via Internet



## Treasurer's Report

As of 7/31/08

### GENERAL FUND (checking account)

Previous balance . . . . . \$ 1,661.77  
 Income . . . . . 0.36  
 Expenses . . . . . 0.00  
 Ending balance . . . . . 1,662.13

### REPEATER / PACKET FUND (savings account)

Previous balance . . . . . \$ 1,015.98  
 Income . . . . . 0.00  
 Expenses . . . . . 0.00  
 Ending balance . . . . . 1,015.98

— Ed Fitzgerald, N7WW, Treasurer



### OARS OFFICERS FOR 2008

President	Klaus Neubert	AC7MG	753-1493
Vice President	Ken Julian	K7VOX	951-6352
Secretary	Paul Taylor	KC7LA	866-0683
Treasurer	Ed Fitzgerald	N7WW	491-2289
Member at Large	Mark Dempsey	KE7JTU	943-0165

### KEY CONTACTS

RFI Committee	Ghery Pettit	N6TPT	412-1340
Repeater Committee	Larry Watkinson	KC7CKO	943-4352
Club License Trustee	Duane Braford	WB7ROZ	412-1902
Information Net	Duane Braford	WB7ROZ	412-1902
ARES Net	Tom Bohon	KE7EJJ	456-6260
OLY Packet Node	Larry Ikenberry	K7APT	943-7208
	Rick Taylor	K7CAH	943-6793
Packet BBS	George Lanning	KB6LE	866-2185
Newsletter	George Lanning	KB6LE	866-2185
OARS Website	George Lanning	KB6LE	866-2185
Classes	Lee Chambers	KI7SS	866-0236
License Exams	Klaus Neubert	AC7MG	753-1493
Equip. Custodian	Larry Watkinson	KC7CKO	943-4352

REPEATERS: 147.36 MHz 224.46 MHz 441.40 MHz

PACKET: 145.07 MHz OLY Node 147.40 BBS

Membership is open to all interested radio amateurs.  
 Yearly dues are: \$20 for individual, \$25 for family.

## Kansas Ham, Son, Electrocuted While Erecting Antennas

While putting up backyard antennas on the afternoon of Sunday, July 13, Edward Thomas, KC0TIG, of Kansas City, Kansas, and his son Jacob were electrocuted. Edward, 65, was pronounced dead at the scene. Jacob, 27, was rushed to the hospital but died later that day. Initial reports suggest that the antenna they were installing came in contact with 7620 V power lines. Neighbors reported a "loud popping sound" and the electricity went out on the block.

Jacob's 7 year old daughter witnessed the tragedy and ran to the neighbor's yard, calling for help. Byron Kirkwood and another neighbor attempted to perform CPR on the men; the neighbor also called 911. Robert Mullendore, a spokesman for the Kansas City Board of Public Utilities (KCBPU), was quoted by Kansas City television station KSBH as saying it is rare to survive a shock as strong as the two men received.

"There are people who will survive — they're lucky by the grace of God, it's high energy, it's dangerous, that's why it's up in the air — you just have to be careful. Even those who survive have pretty wicked wounds and they are lifelong wounds." In the power business for more than 30 years, the spokesman said these accidents are "really rare," saying that he only sees something like this "every two or three years. If you're doing any kind of work like this, you just really, really need to be aware of your surroundings."

Chuck Kraly, K0XM, used to work for KCBPU; he built and maintained the substation that fed the circuit going to the Thomas home. "This is nothing to take chances with. In my almost 30 years as a ham — and 27 years in the power utility field — I have seen way too many 'accidents.' Stop and look. If it is close or seems that way — don't. Find another place. High voltage lines are not forgiving. Your life depends on it. Please follow the warnings. Anywhere close is too close."

Thanks to Larry Staples, W0AIB, and others who contributed to this story

— from the ARRL Letter

— . . . —

## Terrorist Activities

At New York's Kennedy airport today an individual, later discovered to be a public school teacher, was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a ruler, a protractor, a square, a slide rule, and a calculator.

The Attorney General believes the man is a member of the notorious Al-gebra movement. He is being charged with carrying weapons of math instruction.

"Al-gebra is a very fearsome cult, indeed," the Attorney General said. "They desire average solutions by means and extremes, and sometimes go off on a tangent in a search of absolute value. They consist of quite shadowy figures, with names like 'X' and 'Y,' and although they are frequently referred to as 'unknowns,' we know they really belong to a common denominator and are part of the axis of medieval with coordinates in every country."

"As the great Greek philanderer Isosceles used to say, there are three sides to every triangle." When asked to comment on the arrest, the president said "If God had wanted us to have better weapons of math instruction, he would have given us more fingers and toes."

— from W1GMF via packet

— . . . —

## The Miracle of Toilet Paper

Fresh from my shower, I stand in front of the mirror complaining to my husband that my breasts are too small. Instead of characteristically telling me it's not so, he uncharacteristically comes up with a suggestion.

"If you want your breasts to grow, then every day take a piece of toilet paper and rub it between them for a few seconds."

Willing to try anything, I fetch a piece of toilet paper and stand in front of the mirror, rubbing it between my breasts. "How long will this take?" I asked. They will grow larger over a period of years," my husband replies.

I stopped. "Do you really think rubbing a piece of toilet paper between my breasts every day will make my breasts larger over the years?"

Without missing a beat he says, "Worked for your butt, didn't it?"

He's still alive, and with a great deal of therapy he may even walk again, although he will probably continue to take his meals through a straw.

Stupid, stupid man.

— from *Eugene Mouncer*

— ... —

## OARS Net check-ins

The following stations checked in on the OARS General Information Net one or more times on the dates of July 1, 15, or 22:

AA7YD	AB7PS	AC7MG	AJ3N
K7TAG	KB6LE	KB7DFL	KC7CKO
KC7LA	KD6VPH	KD7CZN	KD7SQU
KD7YXY	KE7CQI	KE7EJJ	KH6XT
KI7CQ	N5MUR	N7JHJ	N7WW
NX6W	W7SAY	WA5ZTE	WB4LWQ
WC7I			

Net control stations reporting for the month were AC7MG, KB7DFL, and WC7I. Thank you for your support!!

The net meets at 7:30 every Tuesday evening on the 3 linked OARS repeaters: 147.36, 224.46, and 441.40 MHz. All Hams are invited to check in.

— ... —

## CPRG Nets

The Capitol Peak Repeater Information Net will be re-starting on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 p.m. every Sunday night and continue until the end of May. We need net control operators and backup net control operators. It's easy to do and fun. Contact Richard ad7kc@47repeater for further information.

The Capitol Peak Repeater Group will be starting a "new" tech net. It will begin on September 3<sup>d</sup> at 8 p.m. and run every Wednesday night. This net will be run on the entire intertie system and be immediately followed by an Intertie Information Net. The Tech Net will run for approximately ½ hour. Ken K7VOX has volunteered to be the primary net control operator. However, we need backup net control operators. For further information contact Kim ac7yy@47repeater.com.

73

Kim, AC7YY

President

— ... —

## Origin of Electricity

Electricity originates inside clouds. There, it forms into lightning, which is attracted to the Earth by golfers.

After entering the ground the electricity hardens into coal, which when dug up by power companies and burned in big ovens called "generators," turns back into electricity — where it is transformed by TV sets into commercials for beer, which passes through the consumers and back into the ground, thus completing what is known as a "circuit."

— from *W1GMF via packet*

— ... —

## ARES Field Resources Manual

EVERY SHACK SHOULD HAVE ONE: The ARES Field Resources Manual is now available online for FREE!!

go to:

<http://www.arri.org/FandES/field/aresman.pdf>

and print yours out.

## Update #1

Good Morning All:

Since my last email in regards to the ARES Field Resources Manual, I have received a number of responses pointing out the mistakes in some of the data. To that end, let me update you:

First of all, several years ago, we here in Western Washington chose to go to the "Anderson Power Pole" as our standard connector. Although the Molex Connector shown in the Manual is a very good connector, the Anderson meets our needs better. Please be assured that ARRL HQ is only suggesting and is not requiring the use of the Molex Connector.

Second, I have asked ARRL HQ to update the data in regards to the Washington State Emergency Net. The net meets on 3.985 with an alternate of 7.245 and the Net Manager is Mark, N6HYF.

Until such time as the data has been updated, you can pencil in the changes for your personal manual.

Please pass the word to others about updating their personal manual

73 and watch for some good band openings coming soon to your shack.

Jim Pace, K7CEX

## Update #2

Good Morning Western Washington:

I have been informed by Steve Ewald, ARRL Field Services Coordinator, that the new ARES Resources Manual is at the printer, and that most of our concerns have been addressed in the new printing.

The Anderson Power Pole connector is now shown along with the Molex Connector as suggestions for standards, within Sections. Of course as stated before, here in WWA we use the Anderson.

Updates to net frequencies have been addressed as well as "third party message agreements with other countries."

I don't have a date for the release of the new manual, but will let you know as soon as I know. Steve also advised me that he will speak with Web Sup-

port and see if we can't get a newer version of the manual up on the website.

Stay tuned for more info as I have it.

73 and good Hamming to all

— Jim K7CEX, Western Washington Section Manager

— ... —

## AARP Questions and Answers

Q: Where can men over the age of 50 find younger, sexy women who are interested in them?

A: Try a bookstore under fiction.

Q: What can a man do while his wife is going through menopause?

A: Keep busy. If you're handy with tools, you can finish the basement. When you are done you will have a place to live.

Q: How can you increase the heart rate of your 50+ year old husband?

A: Tell him you're pregnant.

Q: How can you avoid that terrible curse of the elderly wrinkles?

A: Take off your glasses.

Q: Seriously! What can I do for these crow's feet and all those wrinkles on my face?

A: Seriously? Go bra-less. It will usually pull them out.

Q: Why should 50+ year old people use valet parking?

A: Valets don't forget where they park your car.

Q: Is it common for 50+ year olds to have problems with short term memory storage?

A: Storing memory is not a problem. Retrieving it is a problem.

Q: As people age, do they sleep more soundly?

A: Yes but usually in the afternoon.

Q: Where should 50+ year olds look for eye glasses?

A: On their foreheads.

Q: What is the most common remark made by 50+ year olds when they enter antique stores?

A: "Gosh, I remember these."

— from W1GMF via packet

— ... —

## Antenna Romance

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

Since they were a perfect match, soon they generated harmonics. They wrapped the harmonics in dipoles, but later the harmonics turned out to be parasitic elements.

The true story — she was a tri-bander and he felt trapped, so they went on separate beam headings.

— from W1GMF via packet

— ... —

## Real Definitions of Words When Used by Women

- Fine — I am right. This argument is over. You need to shut up.
- That's okay — One of the most dangerous statements a woman can make to a man. "That's okay" means she wants to think hard and long before deciding when and how you'll pay for your mistake.
- Nothing — The calm before the storm. This means "Something" and you better be on your toes. Note: Arguments that start with "Nothing" usually end with "Fine" (See #1).
- Five minutes — If getting dressed, this means half an hour. Don't be mad about this. It's the same definition for you when it's your turn to do some chores around the house.

- Thanks — A woman is thanking you. Do not question this or faint. Just say "You're welcome," and let it go.
- Loud sigh — Not actually a word, but rather a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. It means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is standing here wasting her time arguing with you about "Nothing." (See #3)
- Go ahead — This is a dare, not permission. Don't do it!
- Don't worry about it, I got it — The second most dangerous statement a woman can make. It means that a woman has asked a man several times to do something and is now doing it herself. (This will result in you asking at a later date "What's wrong?" For the woman's response, see #3.)

— from W1GMF via packet

— ... —

## Differences Between OMs and XYLs

- An OM will pay \$2 for a \$! Item he needs. An XYL will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn't need.
- A YL worries about the future until she gets an OM. An OM never worries about the future until he ges an XYL!
- A successful OM is one who makes more money than his XYL can spend. A successful YL is one who can find such a man!

— from W1GMF via packet

— ... —

# September 2008

## OARS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
	<b>1</b> Labor Day Sprint CW	<b>2</b> 7:00 PM ARES Net 7:30 PM OARS Net Labor Day Sprint CW	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:15 AM Breakfast at Nickelby's 600 Trooper Rd All Asia Contest Phone IARU Region 1 Field Day																																																																																																									
<b>7</b> All Asia Contest Phone IARU Region 1 Field Day N Amer Sprint CW	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 7:00 PM ARES Net 7:30 PM OARS Net	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> ARES/RACES meet- ing at Thurston County EOC	<b>12</b> Deadline for Watts News Inputs	<b>13</b> ARRL Sept VHF QSO Party WAE DX Contest Phone																																																																																																									
<b>14</b> ARRL Sept VHF QSO Party N Amer Sprint Phone WAE DX Contest Phone	<b>15</b> ARRL Sept VHF QSO Party	<b>16</b> 7:00 PM ARES Net 7:30 PM OARS Net	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> QCWA Fall QSO Party WA State Salmon Run																																																																																																									
				YLRL Howdy Days Phone, CW																																																																																																											
<b>21</b> Classic Exchange Phone QCWA Fall QSO Party WA State Salmon Run	<b>22</b> Classic Exchange Phone Fall VHF Sprint Grid Square	<b>23</b> 7:00 PM ARES Net 7:30 PM OARS Net	<b>24</b> 7:00 PM OARS Meeting at EOC	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> CQ WW RTTY Contest																																																																																																									
<b>28</b> CQ WW RTTY Contest	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00 PM ARES Net 7:30 PM OARS Net Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint CW Fall VHF Sprint Grid Square	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; margin-right: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">August</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">October</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				August							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							October							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
August																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
				1	2																																																																																																										
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																																																																																									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																																																																																									
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																																									
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																																									
31																																																																																																															
October																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
			1	2	3	4																																																																																																									
5	6	7	8	9	10	11																																																																																																									
12	13	14	15	16	17	18																																																																																																									
19	20	21	22	23	24	25																																																																																																									
26	27	28	29	30	31																																																																																																										

