



# Watts News



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

March 2009  
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## President's Message

Hello

As I have been mentioning the past couple of weeks on the net, the annual MS walk is being held on Saturday, April fourth this year at Horizons Elementary

School.

We could use some operators, so if it sounds like something you might be interested in, please let me know. We will be meeting at the school at 0700, and last year the walk was done by noon. I will be bringing my bicycle and I think Ken, K7VOX, will be doing likewise. Hopefully we will have nice weather for the event. We will need a person at the end of the route and another at the school.

Rod, K17CQ, has stepped up and taken the net over the past several weeks (and then some) when no one else spoke up. Thanks Rod. If anyone is interested, the net control script is on the OARS web page and the job is pretty painless, so please try it.

Tom Gibb, W7TAG, is starting a Technician class this month, so if you know anyone interested, please contact Tom for details.

73,

— Klaus, AC7MG

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## March Meeting

James (Jim) Pace, K7CEX, ARRL Western Washington section manager, will present information on Lewis County flood operations in January, plus emergency preparedness tips, and give us an update on current section news.

Plan now to attend: Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. Let's show our spirit of support for our dedicated section manager.

— VP Ken K7VOX

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## SB 5655

Here is the latest on SB 5655.

As the bill was being passed out of the Committee on Government Operations and Elections, our

language was changed at the last minute, prior to moving it to the Rules Committee. These changes have given us a great deal of concern and our State Government Liaison Lee Chambers, KI7SS, has been working with the sponsor of our bill to once again amend and include the language we had asked for. NOTE: I have received many e-mails in regard to the language "health, safety, or aesthetic considerations" which is found in this bill; however this is not new language, it was already contained in the current law RCW 35.21.315.

Lee and the section staff will be working on this matter over the next several weeks, to bring the bill into a workable piece of legislation. In the meantime, please stand by as we hope to mobilize the Western Washington Ham community in an effort to obtain a clearer law in regard to Amateur Radio antenna support structures.

Stay tuned for updates as we have them. If you have any questions you may direct them to me, [k7cex@arrl.org](mailto:k7cex@arrl.org) or Lee Chambers, [ki7ss@gmail.com](mailto:ki7ss@gmail.com).

— ARRL Western Washington Section Manager:  
James David Pace, K7CEX



**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)

## Class and Testing Opportunity

MicroHams will be sponsoring three no-code Technician class courses in 2009 on February 27-March 1, May 29-31 and October 23-25. There will also be one General upgrade course the weekend of April 17-19.

Classes run 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Saturday and 9:00am - noon Sunday with testing to follow after lunch. The class is available to anyone, but we ask that you register in advance because we have limited seating and materials. Testing will start at 1:00 pm Sunday and is also open to the public by reservation.

The course will run \$40 and includes a textbook, handouts and the testing fee. The W5YI Technician Class book by Gordon West will be provided including a number of other handouts, even discount coupons for new radios. If you already have a book, the class fee is \$20. Testing is also open to anyone for any license class but those not enrolled in the class will need to pay the standard \$14 testing fee.

Class locations will be determined as the dates approach. To register, simply email your contact information (name, phone number(s), preferred email address) to [Classes@Microhams.com](mailto:Classes@Microhams.com) and state which class date you want. Letting us know how you heard about the class would be helpful.

— ARRL Western Washington Section Manager:  
James David Pace, K7CEX

[k7cex@arrl.org](mailto:k7cex@arrl.org)



OARS OFFICERS FOR 2009			
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
<b>REPEATERS:</b>	147.36 MHz	224.46 MHz	441.40 MHz
<b>PACKET:</b>	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.			

## The Italian Secret for a Long Marriage

At St. Mary's Catholic Church they have a weekly husbands' marriage seminar. At the session last week, the priest asked Giuseppe, who was approaching his 50th wedding anniversary, to take a few minutes and share some insight into how he had managed to stay married to the same woman all these years..

Giuseppe replied to the assembled husbands, "Wella, I've a-ried to treat-a her nicea, spenda da money on her, but best of alla is, I tooka her to Italy for the 25th anniversary!"

The priest responded, "Giuseppe, you are an amazing inspiration to all the husbands here!" "Please tell us what you are planning for your wife for your 50th anniversary?"

Giuseppe proudly replied, "I'm agonna go get her."

— from Klaus, AC7MG

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## The Cure

A woman burst out of the examining room screaming after her young physician tells her she is pregnant. The director of the clinic stopped her and asked what the problem was. After she tells him what happened, the doctors had her sit down and relax in another room and he marched down the hallway where the woman's physician was and demanded, "What is wrong with you? Mrs. Miller is 60 years old, has six grown children and nine grandchildren, and you told her she was pregnant?"

The young physician continued to write his notes and without looking up at his superior, asked, "Does she still have the hiccups?"

— from ajokeaday via Internet

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## Treasurer's Report

As of 2/28/09

### GENERAL FUND (checking account)

Previous balance .....	\$ 1,409.90
Income .....	365.31
Expenses .....	99.51
Ending balance .....	1,675.70

### REPEATER / PACKET FUND (savings account)

Previous balance .....	\$ 1,021.17
Income .....	0.00
Expenses .....	0.00
Ending balance .....	1,021.17

— Ed Fitzgerald, N7WW, Treasurer

— ... —

## Troposcatter

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Scott McCann, W3MEO, of Queenstown, Maryland, asks: I am fairly new to SSB and CW on VHF and was surprised during the September ARRL VHF contest to have worked W2SZ, the RPI Amateur Radio Club station on Mt. Greylock in Massachusetts. I was running 2 W CW to a homebrew four element beam 20 feet off the ground. The boys on the mountain were running a lot bigger station than I was.

This station was well over the horizon. I wonder what propagation mode supports this beyond line-of-sight (LOS) communication? I worked several other stations that were also well over the horizon.

The Doctor Answers — The propagation mode is most likely troposcatter, in which VHF signals are

scattered by the troposphere, the lowest region of our atmosphere extending about 7 miles to the border with the stratosphere. Troposcatter is in common use by the military and some commercial users for paths up to a few hundred miles — generally using high power and high gain antennas.

Troposcatter is also the mode that results in a commonly occurring type of long distance TV transmission. W2SZ — the Amateur Radio club at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York — uses big power and antennas from a fantastic location, making this mode a common occurrence. You can find out more about troposcatter and the other propagation modes supported by the troposphere at this Web site:

[www.oe1cwj.com/literature/troposcatter.htm](http://www.oe1cwj.com/literature/troposcatter.htm).

— from the ARRL Letter

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## OARS Net check-ins

The following stations checked in on the OARS General Information Net one or more times in the month of February 2009:

AA7YD	AB7PS	AC7MG	AD7XY
KB6LE	KB7STO	KC7CKO	KC7LA
KD6VPH	KD7LYY	KD7TQW	KD7UJH
KD7YXY	KE7JTU	KE7WSE	KI7CQ
KI7SS	N7JHJ	N7WW	NX6W
W7SAY	W7TAG	WB4LWQ	WC7I

Net control stations for the month were KI7CQ and AC7MG. 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.

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## W1AW to QSY on 160 Meters

Starting Monday, March 9, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be using a new 160-meter frequency for its CW transmissions. To accommodate increasing activity near the current bulletin frequency of 1817.5 kHz, W1AW will move to 1802.5 kHz to reduce the possibility of interference.

— ARRL Bulletin ARLB012

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## Obedience

This guy pulled into a crowded parking lot and rolled down the car windows to make sure his dog had fresh air. The dog was stretched out in the back seat, and the guy wanted to impress upon him that he must remain there.

The guy walked to the curb backward, pointing his finger at the car and saying emphatically, "Now you stay. Do you hear me? Stay!" The driver of a nearby car gave the guy a startled look "I don't know about you, man," he said incredulously. "But I usually just put my car in park."

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## New Words

*The Washington Post's Style Invitational asked readers to take any word from the dictionary, alter it by adding, subtracting, or changing one letter, and supply a new definition.*

*Here are this year's winners:*

- Bozone (n.): The substance surrounding stupid people that stops bright ideas from penetrating. The bozone layer, unfortunately, shows little sign of breaking down in the near future.
- Foreploy (n.): Any misrepresentation about yourself for the purpose of getting laid.
- Cashtration (n.): The act of buying a home, which renders the subject financially impotent for an indefinite period.

- Giraffiti (n.): Vandalism spray-painted very, very high.
- Sarchasm (n.): The gulf between the author of sarcastic wit and the person who doesn't get it.
- Inoculatte (v.): To take coffee intravenously when you are running late.
- Hipatitis (n.): Terminal coolness.
- Osteopornosis (n.): A degenerate disease.
- Karmageddon (n.): It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.
- Decafalon (n.): The grueling event of getting through the day consuming only things that are good for you.
- Glibido (n.): All talk and no action.
- Dopeler effect (n.): The tendency of stupid ideas to seem smarter when they come at you rapidly.
- Arachnoleptic fit (n.): The frantic dance performed just after you've accidentally walked through a spider web.
- Beelzebug (n.): Satan in the form of a mosquito that gets into your bedroom at three in the morning and cannot be cast out.
- Caterpallor (n.): The color you turn after finding half a grub in the fruit you're eating.
- Ignoranus (n.): A person who's both stupid and an asshole.

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## New Definitions

*And here are the winning submissions to the Washington Post's yearly neologism contest, in which readers are asked to supply alternate meanings for common words:*

- Coffee (n.): The person upon whom one coughs.
- Flabbergasted (adj.): Appalled over how much weight you have gained.
- Abdicate (v.): To give up all hope of ever having a flat stomach.
- Esplanade (v.): To attempt an explanation while drunk.
- Willy-nilly (adj.): Impotent.
- Negligent (adj.): Describes a condition in which you absentmindedly answer the door in your nightgown.
- Lymph (v.): To walk with a lisp.
- Flatulence (n.): Emergency vehicle that picks you up after you are run over by a steamroller.
- Balderdash (n.): A rapidly receding hairline.
- Testicle (n.): A humorous question on an exam.
- Rectitude (n.): The formal, dignified bearing adopted by proctologists.
- Pokemon (n.): A Rastafarian proctologist.
- Oyster (n.): A person who sprinkles his conversation with Yiddishisms.
- Frisbeetarianism (n.): The belief that when you die, your soul flies up onto the roof and gets stuck there.
- Circumvent (n.): An opening in the front of boxer shorts worn by Jewish men.

— from David, G4EBT, via packet

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## Kinky

A woman was sitting at a bar enjoying an after-work cocktail with her girlfriends when an exceptionally tall, handsome, extremely sexy young man entered. He was so striking that the woman could not take her eyes away from him.

The young man noticed her overly attentive stare and walked directly toward her. Before she could offer her apologies for being so rude for staring, the young man said to her. "I'll do anything, absolutely anything, that you want me to do, no matter how kinky, for \$100, on one condition." Flabbergasted, the woman asked what the condition was. The young man replied, "You have to tell me what you want me to do in just three words.

The woman considered his proposition for a moment, withdrew from her purse and slowly counted out five \$20 bills, which she pressed into the young man's hand along with her address. She looked deeply into his eyes and slowly, meaningfully said "Clean my house."

— ... —

## Just One More

A young executive was leaving the office late one evening when he found the CEO standing in front of a shredder with a piece of paper in his hand.

"Listen," said the CEO, "this is a very sensitive and important document here, and my secretary has gone for the night. Can you make this thing work for me?"

Certainly, " said the young executive, He turned the machine on, inserted the paper, and pressed the start button.

"Excellent, excellent!" said the CEO, as his paper disappeared inside the machine. "I just need one copy..."

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## Mourning

A man placed some flowers on the grave of his dearly departed mother and started back toward his car when his attention was diverted to another man kneeling at a grave.

The man seemed to be praying with profound intensity and kept repeating, "Why did you have to die? Why did you have to die?"

The first man approached him and said, "Sir, I don't wish to interfere with your private grief, but this demonstration of pain is more than I've ever seen before. For whom do you mourn so deeply? A child? A parent?" The mourner took a moment to collect himself, then replied, "My wife's first husband."

— ... —

## Deaf

A man is talking to the family doctor. "Doc, I think my wife's going deaf."

The doctor answers, "Well, here's something you can try on her to test her hearing. Stand some distance away from her and ask her a question. If she doesn't answer, move a little closer and ask again. Keep repeating this until she answers. Then you'll be able to tell just how hard of hearing she really is."

The man goes home and tries it out. He walks in the door and says, "Honey, what's for dinner?" He doesn't hear an answer, so he moves closer to her. "Honey, what's for dinner?" Still no answer. He repeats this several times, until he's standing just a few feet away from her.

Finally, she answers, "For the eleventh time, I said we're having MEATLOAF!"

— from *W1GMF*, via packet

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# April 2009

## OARS Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
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