



# K7LED RELAY

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

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The Mike & Key net meets each Sunday morning at 10 a.m. on 3,930 Khz with Novice check-in on 3,730 and VHF on 146.58 Mhz.

MEMBERSHIP: 86

## ACTIVITIES

January 22 Board Meeting 7:30 am OMNI Restaurant  
Business Meeting 10:00 am  
Program: Field Day Kick-Off

Welcome to the Following new members: Trisha Thompson, KA7EKU; Ralph Elkins, WB7WNF; and Anthony Alix, KA7CYY.

SANTA TALKS — IN THE SEATTLE AREA

Once again the Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club provided many hospitalized children with their first "radio" visit with St. Nick at the North Pole. Using hand-helds, several members of the club went into Puget Sound hospitals during the week of December 16 and provided the children with a direct radio link to the North Pole. Using the K7QMI 80/20 repeater, the "Santa Talks", program now in its 10th year, covered six hospitals.

The hospitals visited were: Valley General, Group Health, Harborview, Cerebral Palsy Center, Childrens Orthopedic, and The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center. The smiles and reports from all said "This is the best Christmas present ever." We agree, and we'll be back next year according to Tim, K7QMI, who was the coordinator for the program. Tim says "Thanks to all — you were just great."

Those who made "Santa Talks" so wonderful were: N7AMX Karl, N7AVO Debbie, WA7HQG Lil John, WA7HWX Jan, W7JIE Gib, W7KCX Dick, W7LFR Wayne, N7NW Hal, N7PK Dick, WB7QHO Max, K7QMI Tim, WA7TRI Bob, W7VIH Joe, WB7VLQ John, WB7VLW Ralph, and W7ZLW Vern. Of course there were many who helped by keeping the repeater quiet and free for the hour or so each night. It made the illusion so much more effective for the children. Thanks and join in again next year.

NEW SIX METER REPEATER NOW OPERATING

A new six meter repeater, K7LED/R, is up and well operating from the home of Ken, K7YR, in Issaquah. The antenna is 725 feet above sea level. On or about Jan. 19, 1980, the repeater will be moved to its permanent home at the new channel 11 transmitter site on Capital Hill in Seattle. The antenna will then be at 507 feet above ground and 917 feet above sea level.

On the technical side, the machine is a GE Progress Line. The power will be the maximum allowed for the antenna height. The antenna is a 3 db gain antenna fed with 7/8-inch coax. The transmitter and receiver are connected to the antenna through a six-cavity, Helical resonator duplexer, designed by Ken, K7YR, and Jim, W7GPW, and manufactured by Jim. The operating frequency of the repeater is 52.370 Mhz in and 53.370 Mhz out. The machine has carrier squelch with timer on the receiver input.

The repeater is open to all amateurs and by using the club call, K7LED/R, Ken hopes the repeater will become a focal point for M & K members. The control and operation of the machine are the responsibility of Ken, K7YR, and not the M & K Amateur Club. However, Ken said he will be responsive to any and all suggestions to its care and feeding. Some suggestions for future operation include a 29.6 Mhz remote, a 911 emergency autopatch, a 146.58 Mhz AREC remote, to name a few.

The following calls have been heard on K7LED/R: WA7TAI, WB7BOR, K7WTG, WB7AYU, WA7TBP, WB7NDO, W7GPW, K7MF, K7YR, WA7NAN, K7PUZ, K7IUT, WA7ELI, and W7QPZ.

73's Ken, K7YR

## APPOINTMENT NEEDED FOR A FCC EXAMINATION

Are you planning on taking an FCC examination soon? If so, you will need to make an appointment at least two weeks in advance. The exams will still be given on Fridays as before but not all Fridays of each month as the license examiner is out of town at least one Friday of each month conducting exams in other locations. Mrs. Williams, the license examiner, said that it is not the same Friday of each month so a schedule could not be set up for Seattle.

This change, which becomes effective January 1, 1980, is due to the decrease in commercial and amateur examinations which permits the consolidation of workload to one examiner. As a result, when Mrs. Williams is out of the office the exams cannot be given. The reduced workload is due to rule changes primarily affecting the commercial operators.

If you need an appointment call the FCC at 442-7653.

In a related development, the FCC's General Council declared that the Volunteer amateur examinations are illegal. The following appeared in HR Report, December 21, 1979.

"VOLUNTEER AMATEUR EXAMS ARE ILLEGAL!", the FCC's General Council declared at the Commission's agenda meeting Wednesday. The bombshell announcement came as the Commissioners discussed terminating Docket 20679, the Notice of Proposed Rule Making that would have required volunteer examiners to submit photocopies of their licenses when requesting an exam. The judgment appears to stem from recent Congressional concern that some government agencies were improperly expanding their staffs without approval of Congress, by use of volunteers and contractors. When the legal staff reviewed the volunteer program in connection with Docket 20679, they concluded it is illegal and thus must be terminated.

What Effect Termination will have on existing training programs and U.S. Amateur growth, not to mention the added burden on FCC's Field Offices, remains to be seen. For the first three years of the Novice program its exams were all Field Office administered; responsibility for Novice exams has rested with the Amateur Service since June, 1954.

No Date Has Yet been set for the termination.

## BROAD-BANDING THE MOTRAN RECEIVER

1. Cut ground end of C-803 loose, swing the capacitor around, and connect in parallel with C-801.
2. Add a 12 pf capacitor across L-801. (parallel CR 807).
3. Remove Q802 collector lead from coil tap and connect to top of L-810. Lead must be extended.
4. Balance L.O. injection between low and high frequencies using meter #6.
5. Tune L-801 thru L-811 for best balanced sensitivity on both frequencies. Should be better than 0.25 uv at 20-db quieting.
6. L-811 tap-ratio can be changed too, but may not be needed.

Al Jensen, WA7TIB

## NET CONTROL OPERATORS NEEDED FOR M & K NET

The Sunday morning Mike and Key Club net needs net control operators for 1980. So far, Les, WN7NXC, Debbie, N7AVO, and Karl, N7AMX, have volunteered. If you would like to handle this job one Sunday morning each month or be an alternate, contact the club radio officer Ken, K7YR.

## PHONE PATCHING HELP NEEDED BY USCG ICE BREAKER POLAR STAR

The U.S. Coast Guard ice breaker Polar Star will be leaving Seattle Feb. 12, 1980, for the North Pole and will return the end of July. Lt. Smith from the Polar Star has requested assistance in setting up phone patches for crew members back to the Seattle area. They will need 10 to 12 hams here to handle the traffic which will be mostly on 20 meters. The time is tentatively set for between 2000 and 2100 PST.

If you are interested in helping, contact Ken, K7YR.

## THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF LIDS

I shall not reveal how I met Phoebus Sharney, nor why I have chosen to distinguish him from the many others of his ilk by writing about him. Suffice it to say that I am acquainted with a gentleman who is, believe it or not, a typical radio nut.

During the day he is employed in a computer foundry. There has always been some question as to whether he simply tolerates the incessant pound, pound, pound of square waves on the shore, or just considers it something that any red-blooded American ham should do. For his spare time is spent in a like manner—sweating over a hot cathode, oblivious to anything but ham radio.

Recently, I spent a soul-wrenching Sunday morning with him before the cyclotron he sardonically calls his "linear amateur radio rig." "Let's try fifteen first," he said competently, although why he picked that particular number I will never know. He twisted the dials, read the cyclotron's meters, and then a speaker began to emit weird chirps and snorts. Finally, I began to distinguish voices speaking some odd language that seemed to make sense to Phoebus.

"There's a contest on," he explained, "a big phone contest."

I've heard of endurance contests where people line up outside a phone booth to wait for some teen-ager with a pocket full of nickels to get off the phone, but this phone contest was a horse of a different color. Some loudmouth was shouting something that sounded like "Seek you the axe, seek you the axe!", but this seemingly strange advice was actually given in a Brooklyn accent that came out "Seek you de axe!" I waited patiently for an explanation.

"You see," Phoebus began, "every so often an organization called the American Radiator Delay League notifies all the gang that a phone contest will be held on a certain date between such and such hours. There's one this weekend, and hams all over the world are trying to contact other hams. The one who makes the most and best contacts gets top honors. Some contacts count more than others, especially de axe. Sometimes a real operator wins, but there are a lot of accomplished fakirs in the ham world.

"What do they talk about?" I asked innocently. "They sound like they're fresh out of the funny factory."

"Just lissen," Phoebus commanded. "I'll explain as we go along."

He twisted something called a "gain control" and another knob that was supposed to multiply the Q, and a voice with a Spanish accent began shouting through the speaker.

"My number two you oh man is five zero, my report is are nine plus. Do you copy? Do you copy? See oh eight are hell with kay eight bloozy, doozy, choosy... Come in oh man!"

Phoebus turned off his standby in order to comment. "That's a Cuban ham talking with a ham in our eighth district. He gave a contest number and signal report. Notice how fast he's working. Wants to make as many contacts as possible before the show is over."

He turned on the kilocycle control, only to find the Cuban still spouting. "O.K. oh man. Thank you werry much. So long and best of lock in de contact. See oh eight are hell is cue are zed on de band looking for any possibles. Kay somebody please."

Phoebus broke in over the noise. "He's telling any possible listeners who might want to contact him that he's now ready to talk with them. That's what cue are zed stands for. Now let's get up on the American part of the band and listen to the lids up there....."

"Scratch, squawk, zzzz ... fine business zed ess two able baker. I'm running 50 watts on homebrew with a zepp outside the shack. How do you copy? Double you four umpty bumptsy whiskey over two zed ess two able baker victor."

Phoebus turned down the kilocycle control again and shook his head in disgust. "That joker is running with damn near a full keg. He always pulls that crud on some poor, unsuspecting foreigner. Last week he was bragging about his full keg and tribander on an eighty-foot mast."

All I could envision was some guy living in a shack and drinking home-brew-- a whole keg of it--but what was a zeppelin doing parked at the eighty-foot mast outside?

"...I'm writing out your cue ess hell card right now old man, be sure to send yours. Pea a zero alpha better papa. Your number is seventy-nine and your sigz are nine plus. Do you copy? Kay a seven papa please America two pea a zero alpha better papa. Come in on m."

"That louse," Phoebus muttered, "hasn't got any cue as hell cards. Never had any, but tries to collect all the foreign cards he can get. I heard him explain it on the air last week. Thinks it's funny but it gives the rest of us American hams a bad name."

The stand-near switch was thrown again, and Phoebus fiddled with the dials. Suddenly a voice, speaking in an obscure Choctaw dialect grated through the speaker. "Single Sideband," Phoebus observed.

I nodded in wonderment and awe, for how could he tell just by listening whether Mr. Sideband was married or single? The voice became intelligible, interrupting my thoughts.

"Seek you, seek you. This is whiskey baker two yellow banana peel. Kay somebody plz."

"I'll just give him a shout to see if the rig is working." Phoebus said hurriedly as he twisted dials, threw meters, and stepped on the accelerator.

"Whiskey baker two yellow banana peel, this is kay two brown spotted zebra. What say old man?"

"How do you know he's an old man?" I asked. "And is brown spotted banana peel a code name?" Phoebus just grimaced and looked pained as he listened to his microphone, waiting for a reply.

"Sorry brown spotted zebra," the voice came back. "I can barely read you—you're way down in the mud..."

Before I could ask him what this "mud" business was about, Phoebus went into action. "Cue are X there, I'm running in my bare feet. I'm switching over to the linear."

Phoebus' feet were not bare, but I thought it would be better not to remind him, for he was in a frenzy. Lights came on, dials began to spin, and the air smelled like ozone.

"How do you read me now, old man?" Phoebus asked the cyclotron.

"Sorry brown spotted zebra," said the voice. "Your sigz are three by four. Sorry I can't stick around as I have a sked coming up with Yankee victor three papa whiskey, and he'll be looking for me. Seventy-three. Kay two brown spotted zebra, whiskey baker two yellow banana peel is cue are zed."

"Three by four!" Phoebus raged. "He must be using a crystal set. Why that lid... I ought to..."

When I left, Phoebus Sharney was seated morosely before his monster, staring out into space and occasionally mumbling something that sounded like "lid!" I have pondered this term and the many others used during this strange, revealing session. Dictionaries do not seem to carry them.

I can only conclude that radio hams live in a world of their own, and have invented a special language to baffle casual intruders. To use their strange word of approval, I call it "The Wonderful World of Lids."

By Carroll Moon

The above was passed along by Little John, WA7HQG. He must spend a lot of time going through old magazines. Gives him something to do on these long winter nights.

Vern

.....FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....

RECENTLY, I complimented my wife on her resourcefulness in making a tasty sandwich spread by running leftover ham through the food processor.



"It is tasty," she agreed, "and high in fiber too."  
"Ham is not high in fiber, dear," I corrected her.  
"It is when you stir it in the processor with a wooden spoon."

The man who seldom finds himself in hot water is the one with a wife, several daughters and one bathroom.  
There has never been a smoke detector as efficient as the mother of a 14 year-old with his first cigarette.  
An exhaustive study of police records shows that no woman has ever shot her husband while he was doing the dishes.  
For parents of teen-agers: "Never send a boy on a man's errand-especially if the gas tank is full."

AMERICA UNQUESTIONABLY HAS THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF LIVING IN THE WORLD. TOO BAD WE CAN'T AFFORD IT, ISN'T IT?.....

Until next month. See ya!

SEX, SUSSEX, MIDDLESEX & OTHER NICE PLACES. by Elliottbay Bob.

COLLYUM NUMBER 5---A LONG TIME AGO REMEMBER WHEN YEW WUZ TRYIN SO HARD TO GITCHER HAM LICENSE AND YEW GOT ALL SCREWED UP WID THEM "QUE" SIGNULS? SHORE WUZ A MESS TRYIN TUH KEEP EM ALL REMEMBERED AND LARNIN THE CODE AND ALL THEM FCC RULS. BUT BIGARSH YAH DID IT AN YEW GOTCHER TICKET & NOW YEW IS A GENUWINE RADDIO HAM OPERATOR FELLAR...BUT YEW NO SUMPIN? LOTSA FOLKS ONNA HAM BANDS HAS FERGOT WHAT THEM "QUE" SIGNULS IS USE FER. THEM SIGNULS--"IS USED TO ABBREVIATE WORDS AND EXPEDITE COMMUNICATIONS WHEN SIGNALLING BY INTERNATIONAL MORSE CODE." (I FOUND THAT INNA BOOK SO AH NO HITS OK STUFF). THE TING YAH GOTTA REMEMBER IS THAT THEM "QUE" SIGNULS IS USED FER CW AND NO WHAR DO IT SAY THEY IS FER FONE. SO WHYINELL DO WE HEAR "QUE" SIGNULS ONNA FONE BANDS? DO HIT PROVE YAH LARNED THE THINGS & YAH GOTTA SHOW OFF? ER DO IT SET UP A PECKIN ORDER?? ER WOT? BUT YEW KNOW HIT SHORE SCREWS UP COMMUNICATIONS WHEN YUH USE A "QUE" SIGNAL ONNA FONE AND THE SIGNULS IS BAD AND NOISY AND THE GUY AT THE UDDER END CAINT HEAR YEW SO SMART. DIDJA SAY HIT DONT MAKE NO DIFFERENCE BUCKY? DURNED RITE HIT DONT IF THE SIGS IS GOOD AND YAWL TALK REEL PLAIN BUT WHEN SIGS IS BAD AND YAH MUMBLE HIT SHORE MAKES ERRORS CUZ PEEPLE DONT NO WOTCHA SAID IN "QUE" SIGNAL LANGWIDGE. HITS A DURNED SITE EASIER AND FASTER TO SAY HIT IN GOOD OLE AMERICAN LIKE I TALK THAN TO PUT A "QUE" SIGNUL IN THERE JIST TUH SHOW YAH KNOW A FEW OF EM. EVER HEAR A GUY SAY "QRX" WHEN HE MEANT "QRT"? ER THE GUY SEZ "MY QTH IS ---". DUM DUM DUM. LOOK EM UP & SEE WOT THEY REELY MEAN. AN DONT USE "QUE" SIGNULS ONNA FONE BAND CUZ HIT AINT GOOD OPERATIN PRACTICE ATALL.



## HR REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

REVISED AMATEUR LICENSE SYLLABI for Novice through Extra Class license exams have just been released by the FCC, but copies won't be available from Commission Field Offices before the end of January or early February. Copies are available now, however, from Ham Radio for an SASE. Be sure to specify the license class for which you wish to prepare.

NEW SSB-ONLY CB CHANNELS just above the present CB band came a long step closer to reality at the Commission's Wednesday meeting. The immediate result will be an NPRM proposing a 12-watt PEP SSB-only extension of the present CB service, but asking for comments on whether VXOs should be permitted, should the present 150-mile limit be eliminated, whether the expansion would cause more TVI, and whether operation on the new frequencies should require passing a special exam?

The Private Radio Bureau's staff proposal was for expansion into new 12-watt maximum SSB-only channels, VXO use permitted, no distance restrictions, but requiring a special license with an exam administered by an outside contractor. However, one FCC staff member recently returned from Geneva commented that the WARC had turned down proposals for a no-code HF Amateur license, but that what the Bureau had proposed "looks, feels and smells like Amateur Radio — and the rest of the world will know that's what it is, no matter what you call it!" Later in the discussion Chairman Ferris noted the principal difference between Amateurs and CBers is in what they talk about!

U.S.-CANADIAN RECIPROCAL "no prior permission required" Amateur operation could begin as soon as the last half of January. The FCC has sent a letter to Canada's Department of Communications proposing an agreement that's to become effective on January 21, and the DoC is reported to be drafting a favorable reply that could go out before the year ends. Thanks CARF News Service.

A NEW 432 MHZ ZL E-M-E DX RECORD was set November 25, when ZL3AAD worked I5MSH. Calculated distance between the two stations is 18,533 km or 11,516 miles, just 1,000 miles short of being half way around the world. Thanks SMIRK.

A SUCCESSFUL LAUNCH of the Ariane L01 launch vehicle was carried out December 24, from Korou, French Guiana, after a 24-hour delay due to bad weather. Launch took place at 1715Z, successfully putting a ballast payload into a highly elliptical Earth orbit similar to the initial orbit expected for the AMSAT Phase III-A spacecraft.

January 1-15 Propagation Forecast shows renewed activity as the lid pops off the solar pot early in the period to provide much better than average DX conditions. Look for possible upsets and a slump in conditions between the 11th and 13th, with a return to good DXing through the remainder of the period. W1XU

HELP ! ! ! ! !

I need your assistance to enable me to include additional material in the Relay. It has been suggested that four or more reporters could help gather information by contacting club members or writing on various aspects of ham radio. Some topics might be: operating/traffic/contesting; home brewing/modifications; SSTV/ ATV; Oscar; RTTY; VHF/UHF; Short Bursts(info on club member activities, etc.); anything else.

You do not need to be a polished writer — I am looking for information. Remember, this is your club paper, not W7ZLW's! Give me a call at 885-0473 with your ideas and/or the area in which you wish to help.

Vern

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS