



# K7LED Relay

## The Prez Sez Carolyn, WV7Q

We won't know who the official winners of Field Day are for several months, but I know that those members who attended the Mike & Key Field Day activities at Fort Flagler are Winners Already. As I reflect on the week end, I can not help but be amazed at the camaraderie and team work that unfolded right before my eyes. I only wish we could bottle that whole atmosphere and continue to have it available all year long. The common goal of Field Day success brought many unlikely people together. The strong bond of gaining national recognition for the Mike & Key crammed into a three day period is a great motivator. It tends to leave little time for negative thoughts and adversity. We're all headed in the same direction and there just is no time for side trips.



If you have a free hand and are willing (but everyone is willing at Field Day) you will find yourself assembling and raising towers and antennas, hooking up computers and radio gear, putting up tents, stringing coax, or just passing tools. One of my finest moments this year was when I was helping to raise the 2 meter tower. The hands raising that tower belonged to Techs and Extras, male and female, brand new members and long time members, young and old and everything in between.

In addition to that diversity, there also were Gerhard and Chiu, making it a real International effort. Even with the language barriers that we find so challenging, we were able to work together with no difficulty to achieve a common goal. One of the challenges of a group like ours is that we are so diverse. The only common thread that ties us together is an interest in Ham Radio. Our occupation, age, religious background, financial status, or our origins have no effect on our being a part of the group.

Our diversity, being one of our most valuable assets, can also serve to tear us apart if we are not careful to control our own individual prejudices. One definition of prejudices :an opinion formed without taking the time or care to judge fairly." At some time all of us have been misjudged. One of my favorites is "she's just a girl." Albert Einstein once said, "it is more difficult to overcome a prejudice than to split an atom." But, at Field Day we discovered something magical. Let's not lose sight of it.

If we all stay focused on the common goal of increasing our own personal knowledge through the advancement of Ham Radio, we will recognize that each and every member knows something that we need to learn. Welcome the new member, maybe he holds the key to your personal success. You may not learn it today, but tomorrow..... The Mike & Key is well on its way, we have become the world class club we wanted to be. Let's all keep up that Field Day feeling! We all still share a common goal, even though it is spread across 365 days. CQ (calling ALL members) 73, Carolyn.

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## CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the newest member of the Mike & Key ARC.

*Calvin Doss, KC7GZL*

## General Meeting 6/15/96

*Melissa, KB7TFF*

**Officers present:** President - Carolyn (WV7Q), Vice President - Frank (K7VMG), Secretary - Melissa (KB7TFF), Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH), Activities - Mike (N7GVQ), Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ), Trustee #1 - Tom (N7VDU), Trustee #2 - Mary (W7QGP), Trustee #3 - Al (KB7THX), Trustee #4 - Jeremy (WA7YGB), Trustee #5 - Chuck (N7STR), RELAY Editor - Jack (N7IHS)

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM.

### Officer reports:

**President:** Carolyn reminded everybody that the coffee fund is self-supporting, and to take breaks on the West side of the building so as not to be in front of the chapel entrance. She reminded everyone that there was a threat to 2m and 70 cm and encouraged Hams to write. Carolyn also reminded all that there were committee sheets on the tables with names of the people in charge you should go to if you wish to help with something. Carolyn reminded all to sign the roster, including the visitors, and asked new members and visitors to stand up and introduce themselves. New members present were: Darla Harris and Calvin (KC7IYP.) Visitors were Chuck (W7SRZ), Diane (KJ7QF), Dick (W7TWU), Charlie Starter from Alaska, Al (KC7DYL), Chuck (K4XHL), Chiu (KC7PXM). (The secretary apologizes if any names or calls are wrong, as she forgot the tape recorder). Carolyn asked for a motion to

approve the minutes as printed. Corrections were: Facilities chair, Doug (AB7IV) said his name was misspelled Dick.

The minutes were then approved as amended. Carolyn asked that all be responsible and join the ARRL as it is our liaison to the FCC, and also reminded all about the input box. Carolyn (WV7Q) then announced that Bill (KL7BB) would be rewarded a Certificate for Outstanding Service since he helped design, and execute the oscillators put together by the Ham Youth Project.

**Vice President:** Frank (K7VMG) presented Calvin Doss (KC7GZL) for membership. Calvin was voted in.

**Treasurer:** Chuck (WA7EBH) announced that the initial funds for next year's flea market (\$1,000) had been paid. He also announced that since the fairgrounds didn't charge us for elevator repair, we didn't charge for forklift operators. Chuck reminded everyone he had maps to Fort Flagler.

**Secretary:** Melissa (KB7TFF) displayed the beautiful certificate the club had received from AMSAT because of our generous contribution.

**Activities:** Mike (N7GVQ) announced that there were plenty of raffle tickets to go around, so please buy. He also announced that next month's program would be done by Chuck (W7SRZ) on repeaters.

**Chairman of the Board:** Al (KB7THX) announced that Spynet would give Mike and Key their own homepage free of charge if we could get 25 people to sign up for service. Mike and Key does not currently have a homepage, and several members would be willing to design it if we got one.

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) announced that he has the K7LED license for field day. Harry also told the club about 27 students who passed the code test, but could not get their licenses because they had no theory books. If anyone had any old *Now You're Talking* books they would be appreciated.

**ARRL:** Mary Lou Brown (NM7N) announced that the Northwest Division of the ARRL now has a homepage and that they are looking for pictures from clubs to post on it. She also talked about the 2m 70 cm threat, and if anyone wants to know more, they can contact her and she has pamphlets.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Field Day:** Chuck (KB7OS) announced that Field Day is coming very soon and to remember that the program today would be on Field Day.

**Public Service:** Jeremy (WA7YGB) announced that the Public Service Committee would be meeting at the Southcenter Dennys on Thursday, July 18 at 7:00 PM. Chuck (W7SRZ) announced the 16th annual Disabled Veterans Games would be in Seattle July 1-7. There will be a volunteer meeting June 29 at the Ole Country Buffet at 9:00 AM. Chuck also announced that all volunteers would be contacted soon.

**Input Box:** There is an informal Ham dinner the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Ole Country Buffet at 5 PM. Come for camaraderie! Also, that there is a traffic net on 146.82 at 5:30 and 10:30 PM.

#### **New Business:**

Carolyn (WV7Q) announced that Casey (W6PKW) was involved in the Sweepstakes contest and had won 1st place. Congratulations! Ray (WA7EKH) announced that he had someone's ARRL handbook, but that he forgot who's it was, so if they would please come claim it. Carolyn (WV7Q) announced that the next Board meeting would be on June 26 at 7:30 PM.

## Reflections of Field Day '96

*Chuck, N7STR*

It's the Thursday night before Field Day, it about 9:30 PM, and I'm all ready to go. It's Friday morning 6:59 AM, and I think I've forgotten everything. It's Friday morning 10:00 AM and we are pulling into the Wagon Wheel. Chuck (KB7OS) is standing there. Where is everybody?

It's 11:00 AM Friday, I'm standing with Carl (W7PRW) up at the site. Where is Everybody? It's 11:30 AM Friday, I get word that the Generator Truck hasn't left Bellevue yet, "Engine Problems". It's 12:00 Noon, Friday, Where is EVERYBODY?

It's 1:00 PM, 6 or 7 show up, they all look at me and say, "N7STR, Where is Everybody"? At 2:00 PM a few more show up, Chuck (WA7EBH) with a lounge chair, yelling at Jack (KB7ZS) and Ken (K7YR) to sit down and watch. My suggestion over the radio is that Chuck is sunning himself in a thong bikini, gets him moving.

At 2:10 PM everybody is involved with the setup. The teamwork begins, and it all just seems to flow. By 5:30 PM all the antennas, wiring, cables, and tents are in place. So what if the 15 meter SWR is 3.5 to 5.0, we're set up.

At 6:30 PM "well, where's dinner"? Usually everybody is at the site till 6:30 PM, now they are just glaring at me, while I start setting up the banquet, they look like starved children in front of an Ice Cream Parlor. Mike (N7GVQ) and Bill (KL7BB) start the Barbecue, and the lynch mob trade their ropes for plates. By 7:00 PM they all looked like little children that got the Ice Cream, and here comes the Generator, Yea. 11:30 PM, who are those idiots out by the fire, yelling and laughing? Don't they know we have to get started early? Carolyn finally comes in from the bonfire. I knew I recognized that laugh.

7:00 AM, where is every body? What do you mean their still in bed, don't they know we only have 4 hours to get this show on the road? The Bluff has been struck again! "CW Rules", signs everywhere, toilet paper, snakes, lizards, DINKLEMAN! At 8:00 AM a couple of folks wander into the operating site. More folks arrive a 9:00 AM and WA7EBH and K7YR are dangling from a tower retuning the 20 meter antenna. At 10:00 AM a whole bunch of people suddenly figure out what time it is, they start showing up and fire questions at me, like I'm sup-

posed to know something. Pure chaos takes over between 10:00 and 11:00.

11:00 AM, let the games begin. Carolyn (WV7Q) and I get off to a fast start on 15 meters, and then it happens. At 11:45 the generator quits, at 11:50 it starts, at 12:30 it quits, at 12:40 it runs. **The Mob Gets Ugly.** Thank you Ray (WA7EKH) and Ken (K7YR) for fixing it so quick. I could hear the Lynch Mob gathering the ropes again.

Who was the lame brain that put the old 15 meter antenna on the 10 meter tower? OOPS. The 6 meter computer is goofed up, 2 meter won't come in on satellite, we're out of gas, "We're out of gas"! I just put 15 gallons out there. Quick-Run to town, where on the radio we find out that the generator died again. Chuck (KB7OS) and I are afraid to return to the Mob. They got it started again. We can return, so we flip a coin, turn around and head back. I could give you more blow descriptions for the day, but it would just be more of the same.

It's late Saturday and Jeremy (WA7YGB) and I are just about to give up on 15 meters, when I get our last contact for the day #350, Hilo, Hawaii, Yahoo, a couple of High Five's and all that stuff. At 12:00 midnight I'm in bed exhausted, Carolyn comes in and tells me someone just came back from the bluff area and reported that a couple of 20 year olds are messing with the binary program on the computer at the 15 meter tent. I throw on my clothes, go tearing down the dirt road on my scooter, freezing to death, ready to take on these idiots messing with our computer programs, I screeeech to a stop, to find two "20" year olds, Hi Hi, in their dreams maybe, Dick (K7NEX) and Jeremy (WA7YGB) are working on a computer glitch, surrounded by a bunch of 22 years olds, Stephen (KB7WKK), Rick (KF7VG), and Pat (KC7CES). 12:15 AM I growlingly go back to bed. As I went back to sleep, I was heard muttering "20 Years Olds" giggle, giggle, my Zzzzzz.

3:00 something AM, rain drops, 3:30 something AM rain showers. 6:00 AM, "I don't feel good Mom, do I have to go to school"? Its still raining. 6:30 AM and I'm at the 15 meter tent, and all I can hear is Vic (N7YPB) down at 40 meters. All the other stations are quite. I decided to just turn on the radio, to see if the band was busy. All I can hear is **EVERY STATION EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI** being cornered by some guy in California. I frantically realized the reason you at least upgrade to a General. You Can Pick Up The Mike, when your all alone. This guy in California picks up 30 contacts while I frantically search for a General or Better. I finally bribe Vic away from 40 meters until we could find some to relieve him. It seems he had been up all night, and his wife was standing at the doorway, glaring at him. I told her I was holding him hostage, but would release him for a General or Better, awake or asleep. Guess who our first contact was, the guy from Hilo Hawaii, from the night before. We had calls from Puerto Rico, Florida, Maryland and all to ourselves. The first 20 contacts were bonus points for areas we hadn't worked. Now I know why the

call it Field Day. By the way, thanks to Stephen (KB7WKK) for keeping the generator full of gas, and filling in for security all night, when Pat was too tired to keep going.

9:00 AM, everything is going well, lots of contacts, lots of new hams experiencing Field Day, lots of jokes and stories. Lots of new friendships, lots of old friendships. New kids turned on to Ham Radio, Old kids turned on to Ham Radio. I honestly believe that everyone had a good time. If not, please call me.

11:00 AM, takedown time, a time dreaded by every Field Day Chairman from the past. Will there be enough people stick around to get it done quickly. Thank you everyone for helping, it was the quickest I have ever seen it done. 1:30 PM and time to go home. The last generator is picked up, the tower trailer is put away, and everyone goes back to their campsite to pickup the lasts of their stuff and head home.

I said last month, that Field Day is a **TEAM EFFORT**. I want to thank profusely from the bottom of my heart everyone who make this a TEAM. Chuck (KB7OS), Co-Chair, Wagon Wheel and manual creator. Mike (N7GVQ), Co-Chair, Barracks and Banquet. Sheila Holtan, non-Ham activities Co-Chair and computer expert, who helped Jeremy fix his computer problem at 3:00 in the morning. Karen (KC7ACX), computer expert, who helped Sheila fix the computer problem. (Lesson Learned: No Spaces in File Titles.) Read this twice Dean. Bill (KL7BB) Button Creator, Class Teacher, and assistant chef at the Potluck. Chuck (WA7EBH) Setup and Takedown expert, Ken (K7YR) all around fixit and Setup and Takedown expert. Carl (W7PRW), First Man on the Job, with all necessary tools, and always there with it when you need it. My nickname for him is Radar. Ray (WA7EKH) First Man on the Site, Generator expert, tower trailer mover, and all around support with the answers when you needed them. Jack (KB7ZS), Setup and Tear down expert and past Field Day Chairman with the answers to questions that aren't in the manual. Mike (WA7UVJ) DINKLEMAN, early morning entertainment director, computer whiz and analysis processor, who is the only person who knows how to produce results from his logging program. Vic (N7YPB, soda supplier, Paul (N7DOH), generator hauler, and along with Larry from MARS helped a very tired Chairman load up his trailer to go home. A special thank you to all the Band Chairpersons on a great job well done.

One very special thank you to Carolyn WV7Q, for patience and support through this whole event. Now I have probably left someone out that feels they should be mentioned, but I have been at this all day Monday and Im gttng tird, it 10 pm an I prmssed Jack N7ihs I wld kep it shrt. CQ Field Day, cq fld dy k7leD, Lts et drt qzzzzzzzzzzzzzz. 73 gd lk in th cntst!

## Club Picnic

*Al, KB7THX*

Saturday, August 24 starting at 12 noon is The Mike and Key 1996 Summer Fun Family Picnic and Dessert Contest. By popular demand, this year's picnic will again be at Chisim Beach Park on Lake Washington in Bellevue. There is a wading and splash beach for small children, a swim beach (both have life guards), fishing pier, boating, ball field, croquet, and heart stopping views of the Seattle skyline, sailboats and sunsets. There are two parking lots (upper and lower). The lower lot has handicap parking and easy access for strollers etc.

The club will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, pop and all the fixens. Each family attending should bring a pot luck picnic item. Again this year we will have a dessert contest with prizes for the winners and full tummies for the judges. (Hint: last year's winner had a chocolate and sex theme).

Remember to bring folding chairs or blankets to spread on the ground as seating is limited. Sign Up Sheets, directions and a map will be at the August club meeting please indicate how many in your family will attend so we can order enough stuff.

## U.S.S. Constitution Sails to Seattle

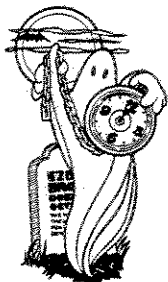
*Harry, W7JWJ*

Allan Ingram, KE6QCA, and Matt Rutschky, KE6PUU, will be aboard the sailing vessel U.S.S. Constitution when it arrives in Seattle in late July for Seafair week. Anyone QSOing the vessel will receive a multicolor QSL card post marked from the vessel. Look for a contact on 146.82 MHz and other major Seattle area Repeaters.

## Spirits in the Night

*Michael, WA7UVJ*

It was Field Day weekend and I was making my usual trek up to the Mike & Key site at Fort Flagler. Things were looking good until I crossed over the bridge from the mainland to Indian Island. Then... I felt it. You know what I mean?... one of those creepy feelings you get as when you know you are being watched? At that moment, a strange chill blew through the window. What was going on? I hadn't felt this scared and nervous since..... oh yes.... since my last run-in with the evil Soulless Spirit Bunch.



Who were the SSB? As only a few know, they are outcasts of the spirit world - refusing to become angelic Silent Keys due to their incompetence at CW while living on this earth. Now, as lost souls, they roam the earth

looking for new victims to join them in eternal misery. Field Day is their main opportunity to turn hearts down the endless road of ruin. Unfortunately, they had found Fort Flagler this Field Day.

As I got closer to Fort Flagler the feelings grew stronger and I knew that my worst fears were true. I began to formulate a plan. First, I purified myself in the smoke of a burning microphone. Next, I hung a straight key around my neck as a protective icon. Then I gathered up my tools and waited for dark. As with most bad spirits, strength and power are derived from the night - the SSB were no exception. Knowing that they would try to establish their influence on the bluff above (they like the view), I made the long and lonely journey up the road as the sun slowly set in the west. I shivered in the cold but knew my cause was just and that I would find victory.



My first action upon arrival on the bluff took me to the underground catacombs that abound upon the bluff. I knew the spirits would be concentrated there. Using sacred tracts nailed to the wall, fireworks on the floor (they hate 'em cause it reminds them of the old-time CW sparkgaps when they go off), and confusing barriers of white (for purity) streamers I drove the sprits out of the catacombs.

My next task was to drive the SSB from the bluff into the sea. Again, I hung white streamers from each station blocking the spirits entry. Just to be sure, I placed plastic representations of fierce mythical creatures inside the door of each station to scare them off (I never said the SSB were very smart). Finally, I hung the holiest of the sacred tracts "CW FOREVER" directly over the pit of evil so that the SSB would never be able to return. Exhausted, I returned to my truck hoping I had saved my fellow club members from ruin.

Upon waking up, I felt the creepy feeling I had known since my arrival the day before lift away with the sunrise. Yes, I had been victorious. My fellow Club members had been spared the plight of walking the spirit world endlessly in despair. The rest of Field Day passed in glorious splendor. Yet, we must never give up thinking we have won the war - only this battle. I know this for a fact. For even though I managed to drive away the evil SSB for this Field Day, they did return Sunday morning to the beach and my tent in an attempt to take me away. Fortunately, I was busy elsewhere and thusly spared (as I had used all my strength in the previous nights fight). Still they left me reminders of their visit.

Beware all yea that would be turned by the evil SSB. Stay pure of heart and true to the Continuous Wave.

## Field Day Help

Jeremy, WA7YGB

I was the band chair of the 15 Meter SSB station. I borrowed a headset/boom mike setup from Chuck, WA7EBH, for use during Field Day. It's really nice, with an intercom between the logger and the operator. The unit works on two 9 Volt batteries, which went dead several hours into the contest. When we figured out that the batteries were responsible for the failure of the headset, we put out a call for more batteries. Jed (KC7RIL) happened to be in the 15 meter tent at that moment. He asked what the problem was. I replied that we needed two 9 Volt batteries in the worst way. Jed reached into his coat pocket and pulled out a pack of two new 9 Volt batteries! Not only did Jed save the day immediately, but Ray (WA7EKH) followed up with another pack of batteries that he bought after hearing of the need. Good thing, since Jed's batteries were getting weak by the next day. Way to go, guys!!!

## Buy, Sell, Trade, or Wanted

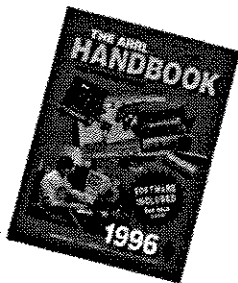
*This column is available members and relatives or friends of member (no dealers please) who have electrical/electronic equipment (including computers and software) related to amateur radio for sale or trade. Ads will be run for two months unless the editor is notified otherwise.*

For Sale: Kenwood TH78A, case, quick charger, and Comet 18" flexible antenna \$300 o.b.o. Contact: Riley or Peter Barton at 433-1188.

## ARRL Handbooks

Ray, WA7EKH

I have two (2) ARRL Handbooks left from the last order. There are two of you out there (you know who you are) that have paid for this and I wish you would claim them.



## Wilson Barracks Wrap-up

Mike, N7GVP

Well, as our memories fade of another rousing Field Day, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank all the folks who stayed at the Barracks. A directed, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves save for one small facilities problem. When the time came to "bug out" on Sunday everyone pitched in and we were done in short order much to the delight of Park Ranger, Mark Yanke.

A very special thanks goes out to Bill Balzarini (KL7BB) for conducting a very well-received code oscillator kit building sessions. Bill's careful and thorough style was just the ticket for the attendees. Very pedantic. My XYL, Diane, had an outstanding time constructing the kit and began practicing CW as soon as we arrived home. She was so proud when she showed me how she could send "CU"!

## Charlie's First Field Day

Michael, WA7UVJ

*Saw this on the Internet Contest Reflector (from Dave, K6LL) and thought those who have done Field Day would appreciate Charlie's observations. By the way... Charlie is 9 years old.*

Two of the operators at the K6LL Field Day this year were Charlie, KC7DBU, age 9, and his sister Catherine, KC7DBT, age 11. While most of the adults at Field Day were busy schmoozing, eating, and drinking, these two junior ops were constantly observing, listening on the spare headphones, and trying to get as much operating time as they could wrangle.

On Saturday, I noticed that Charlie was making some kind of a list, but I didn't pay much attention to it. On Sunday, after Field Day was over, he showed me the final list, which turned out to be a compilation of his observations of our FD participants, other FD stations heard on the air, and his personal on the air experiences. I thought some of you might get a kick out of it.

Charlie's (age 9) Field Day Hints:

1. Don't give up if signals are weak.
2. Don't drink too much beer before or during the contest.
3. Get on the air any chance you get.
4. Don't drink too much coke.
5. Get at least one hour of sleep.
6. Don't eat too much food.
7. It's Field Day - Have fun!!!
8. Make sure no wires are near water and make sure nothing is in a dangerous position.
9. Make as many contacts as you can.
10. Don't get too much sleep.
11. Ignore your wife's complaints.
12. If another contester comes on the frequency, get him off. Keep on talking/sending!
13. Put up a "No Smoking" sign.
14. Eat Something.
15. Try to set an alarm to wake up.
16. When somebody tries to steal your frequency, press the button! (The CQ button on the [voice] keyer.)

## Summer Blockbusters

*Mike, N7GVP*

Attention all you movie buffs if you haven't seen a couple of Hollywood's latest offerings, you may want to give it some serious thought. Phenomenon and Independence Day both feature Amateurs in action. I have seen Phenomenon and enjoyed it thoroughly. One of the key characters is a Ham, KB6QLF, apparently a silent Key as I did not see it in the Call Book, and his portrayal seems to be very genuine. My son told me about the Hams in Independence Day and how they helped immeasurably (par for the course!). My reason for informing you of this is that I think its great when Amateur Radio receives this sort of attention, even if it is in a fictional setting.

## Northwest DX Convention

*Michael, WA7UVJ*

The Willamette Valley DX Club Inc. announces the 1996 Pacific Northwest DX Convention to be held July 19-21, 1996 in Portland, OR. The convention will be held at the Monarch Hotel, 12566 SE 93rd Ave., Clackamas, OR 97015 - telephone 1-800-492-8700.

On hand at the Convention will be Bill Moore, NCIL from the ARRL to offer DXCC card checking. Also, the 7th District QSL Bureau will have envelopes and postage available for purchase. The cost is \$15.00 for the programs and \$25.00 for a Prime Rib dinner. Breakfast is available for \$10.00.

Please make checks payable to "Willamette Valley DX Club" and mail to: Ron Hylton (AD7L), PO Box 7296, Aloha, OR 97007-7296

## July Program

*Mike, N7GVP*

The July program topic will be "Repeaters" a subject I'm sure that everyone is familiar with, especially all you new hams. Our distinguished speaker, Chuck Northcut, W7SRZ, hardly needs an introduction. W7SRZ truly is synonymous with Seattle and VHF/UHV activities. Chuck will regale us with his fast experiences of owning and operating a repeater system. Please attend if you can, I'm sure that you will find it interesting.

## Contest Software on Net

*Michael, WA7UVJ*

WRITELOG- This is now freeware. It's for Windows. It can be found on Compuserve and FTP at 192.84.231.1 in the directory /pub/k2mm/w5xdwlog. Wayne WX5D will apparently still help you

out, which is VERY kind of him since he is no longer charging for the software.

N6TR- Has a Public Domain version, I think you can get a manual and the newest version really cheap (\$10 for the manual and \$10 for the newest version). This is also available at FTP 192.84.231.1 (maspar.maspar.com) in /pub/k2mm/n6tr-log. This is a DOS based program.

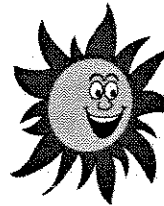
CT- Has an older version which is shareware. The country files are old, but can be updated with a text editor and also apparently can be downloaded. CT reflector is ct-request@eng.pko.dec.com.

SD (Super Duper)- This is from Europe. EI5DI says that it is available from his page at <http://www.iol.ie/~okanep>.

## SOLAR REPORT: CLEAN AS A WHISTLE

*Excerpts from the "ARRL Letter"*

Solar prognosticator Tad Cook, KT7H, in Seattle, Washington, reports that May had several periods of spotless days, where **no** sunspots were visible. Late



April and early May had 10 days with no spots, save for one day with a sunspot number of 13.

Following this was a four-day period of no spots, then an eight-day period after a two-day respite.

Now, he says, we may be headed into another spotless period. As we

reach the bottom of this solar cycle it is interesting to look at the rise in the number of spotless days per month. An early period of no spots was April 1995, which had over 10 spotless days. After that, the number of spotless days per month declined, but then has had a fairly steady rise since last August.

Since January of this year, every month has had more than 10 spotless days, and May had over 15. There is a good chance that it could be mostly spotless through June 25, since the predicted solar flux is headed toward the mid-60s and is not expected to rise above 70 until month's end. During this period of inactivity, the geomagnetic field is quiet, meaning that there is less absorption over high-latitude paths.

## Board Meeting, 6/26/96

*Melissa, KB7TFF*

**Officers Present:** President - Carolyn (WV7Q), Vice President - Frank (K7VMG), Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH), Secretary - Melissa (KB7TFF), Activities - Mike (N7GVQ), Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ), Trustee #1 - Tom (N7VDU), Trustee #2 - Mary (W7QGP), Trustee #3 - Al (KB7THX), Trustee #4 - Jeremy (WA7YGB), Trustee #5 - Chuck (N7STR), RELAY editor - Jack (N7IHS). Visitors

were: Dan (N7QHC), Dawn, Jack (KB7ZS), Bill (KL7BB), Ray (WA7EKH), Ellen (KB7EBC), and Mike (WB7AYU).

The meeting was called to order by Al (KB7THX) at 7:34 PM.

#### **Officer Reports:**

**President:** Carolyn (WV7Q) announced that oscillators had been shared with people in the Club. She also said that she received a flier from the Radio Club of Tacoma regarding their annual flea-market. The flea-market will be held this year on Friday, August 9, and that they were looking for extra hands to help.

**Vice President:** Frank (K7VMG) presented three applicants for membership. They were: Don (KC7RIT), Larry (AB7FI), Chiu (KC7PXM), and George (WA6MYU). The board approved the applicants for presentation at the general meeting.

**Treasurer:** Chuck (WA7EBH) suggested that we send the guy who drove all the way up to Fort Flagler to spray for bugs (after it turned out it was unnecessary) \$25 for his trouble. The board voted to do so. Chuck also said that he sent \$1000 to the Fort Flagler people to hold the site for next year.

**Secretary:** The board voted to approve the minutes as printed. Melissa (KB7TFF) passed around some club pictures that she might send to be put on the Northwest Division's Home-page. She also presented some QSL cards that had been received. Melissa said that she would QSL back to the people who parked please QSL on their cards. Mike (WB7AYU) said that he would help since some of the contacts were ones that he had made. Melissa also announced that she had bought some secretarial supplies to help keep the club files in order, but that somehow the receipt had managed to walk out of her box.

**Activities:** Mike (N7GVQ) gave a list of the upcoming club programs. Mike also asked if the club did ARRL renewals. Al (KB7THX) said no, because it was not worth the time or money required.

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) said that he would pick up the metric fuses this coming week. He also announced that the USS Constitution would be sailing into town, and that two Hams would be on board: Matt (KE6PUU) and KE6QCA (the secretary didn't get his name). If you QSO with them your QSL card will be postmarked from the ship.

**Chairman of the Board:** Al (KB7THX) congratulated Chuck (N7STR) and Carolyn (WV7Q) on their picture in QST.

#### **Standing Committee Reports**

**Public Service:** Jeremy (WA7YGB) announced that the Public Service Committee is looking for a charter from the board to define what the board wants it to do. Chuck (N7STR) said: (1) Disaster and Emergency response coordination, (2) Field Day coordination, and (3) Special operating events coordination. The public service committee prepared a listing of verified emergency numbers in King County, which they want to expand to Pierce and Snohomish

counties. The committee would like to keep track of public service events, and get together with education committee to put on a program after the club meeting on how to participate in a public service event/nets.

**Technical Committee:** Tom (N7VDU) announced that they didn't end up having a meeting, but if anyone wants to join, that they will be meeting before the general meetings. Also that an article should be going into the Relay. Tom suggested that the committee might be talking about items to stock our closet with.

**Education and Training:** Mary (W7QGP) announced that at New Option Middle School kids could have passed their license testing if they had books to study from. Mary asked that the next time books are bought for distribution, that some go to the teacher. Jack (N7IHS) suggested that the books not be given, but loaned. Bill (KL7BB) suggested that the club allocated \$1500 for technical projects that the club members thought up and executed.

**Relay:** Jack (N7IHS) said that he needs a list of visitors and new people so he can make sure he gets them Relays.

**Field Day:** Chuck (N7STR) moved that Ray (WA7EKH) and Carl receive MVP. The board voted to do so. There will be a critique after the next general meeting on how Field Day went.

#### **Old Business**

By-laws revision with Ray (WA7EKH).

#### **New Business**

Bellevue liked the way the club cleaned up after the annual Club Picnic, and offered a discount if we decide to hold the picnic there again.

Carolyn (WV7Q) suggested nominating Melissa (KB7TFF) as Newsline's Young Ham of the year. Carolyn, however, did not have the proper documentation. Bill (KL7BB) offered to find it on the Internet.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.



# K7LED RELAY

The RELAY is the official tabloid of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club. The Mike and Key is dedicated to the growth and betterment of Amateur Radio. We meet the third Saturday of every month at the Salvation Army Renton HQ, 720 Tobin St., near SE corner of the Renton Airport. The Club operates repeaters on 146.82 MHz (103.5 CTCSS) and 224.12 MHz under the call sign K7LED. The following nets meet on the 146.82 repeater: the Club net on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM and the Public Service net on Thursdays at 7:00 PM. The Club's mailing address is PO Box 2121, Kirkland, WA 98083. All persons interested in Amateur Radio are invited to participate in the Mike and Key ARC and it's activities. Yearly dues are \$12.00 for individual memberships and \$18.00 for family memberships.

Volume 24, Number 7

July, 1996

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**Trustee No. 4**

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**Trustee No. 5**

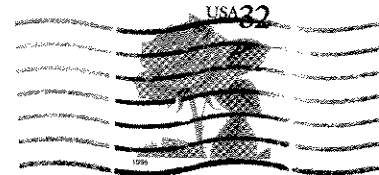
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**Return To**

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First Class Mail

**Next Board Meeting**

July 31st at 7:30 PM  
Salvation Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton

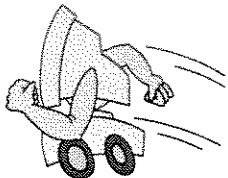
**Next Club Meeting**

Saturday, July 20th at 10:00 AM  
Salvation Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton  
Doors open at 9:30 AM for donuts  
Talk-in on 146.82 RPTR

Sam Sullivan N7RHE 7/98  
13826 - SE 232nd  
Kent, WA 98042

**July Program**

"Repeaters"  
Chuck Northcut, W7SRZ



**Check Mailing Label for Dues Status**

**Deadline for May RELAY Submissions - August 1st!!!**