



# K7LED Relay

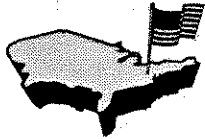
Volume 24, Number 11

Page 1 of 5

November, 1996

The Prez Sez  
Carolyn, WV7Q

"A society that gives up a little freedom for a little security will lose both and deserve neither." (Thomas Jefferson)



Do you believe that our government should balance the budget, and live within its means? Since deficit spending has gotten out of hand, the American public has spoken loudly and our Congress is desperately looking for ways to correct the problem. Recently, a budget resolution was passed by Congress and signed by the President. Did you know that it contained a section that **required** the FCC to sell 30 MHz of radio spectrum in the 2.3 GHz region? (2305-2320 MHz and 2345-2360 MHz) Included is a portion of the amateur allocation 2300-2320 MHz, which is authorized for all Amateur licensees, except Novices, for all modes. The FCC must put these frequencies up for

competitive auction no later than April of 1997. This action was completed without consulting with the FCC or the ARRL, and NO public input was sought. There is imminent danger for the long term existence of Amateur Radio (and the Mike and Key Club) if Congress is allowed to "sell" frequencies without considering any input from those who use them. This could just as easily have been the 2 Meter Band! We must do something NOW, or face Mike and Key meetings in the future when all we can do is reminisce about how much fun Amateur Radio WAS!

Please, protect your/our interests:

1. Draft a well thought out letter to your congressmen. No threats are necessary, just enlighten them with specific examples to make them better understand the value of Amateur Radio. Give them something to think about next time an issue like this one comes before Congress.
2. Seriously reconsider and join the ARRL. They are our means of Legislative Power.
3. Send whatever you can afford to the **ARRL Fund for the Defense of Amateur Radio Frequencies.** The ARRL still exists within the limits of a balanced budget, and the recent threats to our frequencies, worldwide, have become so frequent and widespread that this special fund has become necessary to keep the ARRL responses strong and immediate. There is truly no way to budget for the continuing, blind-sided attempts to take our spectrum.
3. Make full use of the frequency allocations available. Use them for more real communications and experimentation.
4. Budget more of your time to public service activities so that public agencies will have a reason to come forward and defend our existence.

Our choices are few. We must be responsible Amateurs today, or face having no reason for having a license tomorrow. 73, Carolyn

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## CONGRATULATIONS

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

*Vannessa Doss, KC7SFT*  
*Donald "Lee" Martenson, KC7SPJ*  
*Patrick Wintheiser, W0OPW*

## General Meeting, 10/19/96

*Darla (KC7SIT), Acting Secretary*

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Carolyn, (WV7Q) the President. After the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, she announced a donation of a case of Excedrin Ibuprofen by Doug (AB7IV) and Gerrie (KB7WSJ).

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

Changes and additions to August minutes were to change the Radio Officer's report to indicate Senator Freinwald not President Clinton introduced the bill to regulate Cbers. Mary (W7QGP) gave Gib (W7JIE) an award for being licensed for 50 years, not 25. The September minutes were changed so the starting date of the Christmas Beard Growing contest begins today, not in September. Both minutes were approved as amended following motions and seconds.

### Officer Reports:

**President:** Carolyn (WV7Q) reminded everybody that the coffee fund is self-supporting please put something in the donation can, and to take breaks on

the west side of the building. She asked that we all be responsible amateurs and join ARRL, our only voice with the Government. She also asked everyone to sign the attendance sheets. Since last month's introduction went so quickly, we repeated it. Carolyn asked visitors, new members, and officers to identify themselves.

Carolyn (WV7Q) explained that anyone wishing to bring up items of business at a General Meeting should let one of the board members know so they can be placed on the agenda. If this cannot be done in time, use the In-Box. The In-Box is for announcements such as for up-grades, requesting eye to eye meetings, births, etc. You can also place personal messages for individual board members that are not for general discussion in the In-Box.

Today is the last meeting to pay your \$20 for the direction finder kit that will be assembled following the November meeting. It was designed by our own Earl Palmer (N7EP). Give your money to Chuck (WA7EBH) to reserve your kit. After today's meeting and program, there will be a basic soldering class. Attendees will build a dead bug and a small circuit board.

The Mid Valley ARES in Salem will have its second annual Swaptober Fest at the Polk County Fairgrounds in OR on October 26.

**Vice President:** Frank announced he has some of the Gordon West tapes with him for members to check out. He has Novice Code, and 2 Extra Code courses. All others are currently checked out. Please sign the check-out sheet. He presented 3 people for membership: Vanessa Doss (KC7SFT), Patrick Wintheiser (W0OPW), and Donald "Lee" Martenson (KC7SPJ). They were all voted into membership.

**Treasurer:** Chuck (WA7EBH) reported that the club still has funds and that the books are available for anyone to view.

**Activities:** Mike (N7GVQ) told us that the speaker for today will be Betsy Wells telling us about salvaging p. c. circuit boards. Mike also still had some raffle tickets for sale.

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) reported that the repeater is OK. He has recently attended the QCWA Board meeting in Canada and they voted to keep code as a requirement for license internationally. They have requested a meeting with ARRL to form a common ground about this. They are going to propose a change in the rules so that all amateurs in any country will be examined for all modes of communication. They also want a change in third part communication international rules. The second gate for Vanity Call Signs should open on October 25.

**Chairman of the Board:** Al (KB7THX) has 6 Sprynet diskettes available for anyone who wants one. He reminded us that the proposed By-Law changes had been mailed out and that the Board has approved them, but there are two clerical errors. After some discussion of the exact wording of the changes the Board recommended approval with the submitted changes. The changes were to change the

wording on page 10, article III, paragraph 2 under Purpose from "to support the Amateur Radio Relay League" to read "to support the American Radio Relay League". The other change which is on page 19 under Treasurer was to the listing of officers who may sign checks. The wording ". . . President, Treasurer, and the two members of the finance committee" is to read ". . . The signatory shall be the President, or Treasurer, or one of the two members of the finance committee". The changes to the By-Laws were approved by the membership.

**Vice-President:** Frank (K7VMG) reported there were 63 members present, thus we had a quorum.

President, Carolyn (WV7Q) thanked everyone for the support given to the By-Laws committee for all the work they have done thus far. She also thanked all the board members and committee chairmen for submitting their reports to the RELAY editor and thus keeping the meeting short.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Public Service:** Jeremy (WA7YGB) announced the next meeting will be at the Southcenter Denny's on October 23, at 7:00 p.m. They plan to rewrite their pamphlet.

**Christmas Party:** Don (KC7MPI) announced the party will be at the Salvation Army on Saturday, December 7. Eating will start at 5:00 p.m. Come early to set out your food. There will be a gift exchange, limit your gifts to \$5.00 and have them wrapped, but do not put your name on it. He has three contestants for the beard growing contest. Pictures will be taken this morning for comparison the night of the party. Any one else who wants to enter, please let Don know. Bring canned food as a donation to the Salvation Army's food closet. You will get a ticket for each donated can. Every one who comes to the party will receive a ticket for another contest. There will be Christmas music and dancing will be in the west room after the meal. He needs volunteers to cook hams and turkeys, to do set-up, and to do clean-up. Katy (KC7MPH) talked about the sign-up poster for bring food.

**Flea Market:** Chuck (WA7EBH) announced the Committee meets at the Salvation Army building the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.. They need a trailer or motor home to serve as the talk-in station. There are sign-up sheets for being on the various committees. He needs volunteers to help with the Auburn Veterans' Day Parade on November 9 at 9:00 a.m..

**In-Box:** (1) Reminder that sign-up sheets for the Flea Market are on the side table. (2) If you enter the Sweepstakes held first and third weekends in November, don't forget to mention you are a member of Mike & Key when you submit your log. (3) Our Logo Committee made several suggestions for gifts for Christmas. (4) Mike and Key has a new home page on the World Wide Web. To see it use: [www.eskimo.com/~mydink/mkarc.html](http://www.eskimo.com/~mydink/mkarc.html).

Ken (K7PZX) reminded us that the purpose of the club when it was first started was to have fun and

promote amateur radio. The current efforts of some to build a personal empire is not good. He feels the Board is doing a good job. Amateur radio is not growing. He reminded us we all need to pull together and not promote individual efforts. He knows from experience that the By-Laws take a lot of time and effort. He feels the back-biting contained in recent RELAYs is not productive or necessary and only causes hard feelings and puts stress in our hobby which is supposed to be fun.

Bo (KC7GZI) told us that 911 is full and cell phones are not effective anymore. In case of emergency our radios will be needed even more. Keep your radios and batteries ready.

Nils ((WB7TJK) wanted to know why his In-Box submission had not been read. Al (KB7THX) said he was not ready to answer it at that time. (He did provide the answer to the membership immediately after the break when he had obtained the information.)

Carolyn (WV7Q) announced the Board meeting the last Wednesday of each month was open to all. The next meeting will be October 30 at 7:30 p.m.

Mary (W7QGP), reported the Education Committee needs volunteers who live in Tukwila or on the South Hill. The middle school for disadvantaged students there is interested in amateur radio for its students. Mary has received a promise from ICOM to donate a radio, but volunteers are needed to set up the station and antennas, help with the teachers and act as operators. If you will volunteer, please tell Frank (K7VMG) Education Committee Chairman.

Pat (W0OPW) wanted to remind us all about ladder safety. He recently fell from a ladder and shattered his heel. He said, "Don't use an extension ladder against a tree".

Meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

## 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.*

### Estate Sale

The following are from an estate sale. For further information or to see the equipment, please contact Charles Strocher WA7EBH at 392-5303. Prices are asking prices.

- \* Kenwood TS 440 with AT 160-10 Meters plus WARC low hours - \$950.
- \* Kenwood PS 50 12 volt at 20 amps power supply - \$150
- \* Yaesu FT101 160-10 Meters plus WARC low hours - \$400
- \* MFJ Versa Tuner for HF - \$175
- \* MFJ 259 Tuner - \$150
- \* AEA PK-80 Packet - \$125

- \* ICOM O2AT 2 meter Handheld - \$150
- \* Auto Tuneup scope - \$50
- \* VHF tuneable monitor receiver - \$25
- \* Public Address system - \$50
- \* Various clock radios and stereos - \$10 to \$50
- \* CB Radios - \$10
- \* Various Test Equipment and meters
- \* Various homebrew projects
- \* Power supply, HD HF tuners,
- \* A collectors Item Skyrider Receiver Good condition
- \* Lots of technical manuals and ARRL handbooks
- \* Icom 2 meter mobile

Note: If someone knows of a school that would like ham radio technical data books and reference material, please give me a call. The Hams widow would like to see a school have some of the good books for the students.

### Computer Sale

- \* 286 CPU
- \* 101 keyboard
- \* 612K ram
- \* 5 1/4 high density (1.2 Meg) floppy drive (A)
- \* 3 1/2 high density (1.44 Meg) floppy drive (B)
- \* 40 Meg hard drive (C)
- \* EGA color monitor (13 inch)
- \* Panasonic, KX-91180, 9 pin printer
- \* 1000 sheets of fan-fold paper
- \* MS-DOS V-4.01 with manual
- \* MS-Works V-2.0 Integrated Software with manual
  - wordprocessor
  - spreadsheet
  - database
  - communications
- \* MS mouse

All in working order!! Priced at \$300, you pickup and see the system working. Contact Vic Zumbrunnen at (206) 824-2098.

### Antennas/Mast

- For Sale: \* One 50 ft. telescoping steel mast. Must be guyed. Perfect for one end of an antenna system. Good condition - \$40.00.
- \* Two 10 meter stainless whip antennas. Screw-in mounts plus several spare whip antennas for 6 & 2 meters. Grab em all for \$10.00

Contact Gib (W7JIE) at (206) 226-4222

## Protecting the Amateur Radio Frequencies

*Chuck, N7STR*

I have recently heard about the congress selling off 30 MHz of the 2.3 GHz region of the Amateur Radio Band. My first reaction was to think in the area of defending these bands. What I later realized is that the Ham community as a whole needs to respond to this problem of selling of the bands, as an opportunity to protect our frequencies by asking each and

every one of our congressmen, senators, the FCC, the ARRL, the Vice President and the President to participate in enacting legislation to protect the Amateur Radio Frequencies as they now exist.

I don't mean to defend our bands, I mean to CREATE A LAW THAT KEEPS OUR BANDS PERMANENTLY IN THE AMATEUR SPECTRUM. If necessary a CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT guaranteeing the American Citizen the right to national and international communication during disasters and/or situations of regional insurrection. Frequencies protected from being stolen from us by cellular phone companies, TV interests, computer interests, freight companies, and any other future interest.

When we react to a problem we perpetuate the problem. When we turn that problem into an opportunity we turn our action into a solution and are responding to the situation not placing blame, but working on correcting the situation as we see it. Keep in mind that Technology has caught up with what many of us have known for a long time. Our frequencies are valuable assets.

It's time for every ham operator of every class of license to work as a well oiled team, not as a fragmented group just defending their favorite band. If you have e.mail capabilities, find out the addresses of your legislative officers. If you have fax capabilities find out the fax number of your legislative officer. If you have a post office and can write a letter, send it. If you don't give a damn, sit on it, but I don't want to hear one word of complaint later on, if you can't prove you tried to participate in the solution.

### Field Day '97

*Jack, KB7ZS*

The monthly update on '97 field day shows that we definitely have confirmation of both the Wagon Wheel and Camp Wilson (the barracks). The WW is set up for 30 RV and a max. of 100 personnel. The deposit and reservation fee of \$45.00 has been made, thanks to good old Visa, and at this time I am unable to pass on the actual charge of a RV or Tent setup. I will attempt to keep you all informed as time goes by.

### VHF/UHF Happenings

*Jim, K7ND*

The annual September VHF QSO Party was held September 14/15. Very good turn out on 2m for the area. 6m did its usual, no opening. VE7KBP was portable in DN19 which is just north of the Idaho panhandle. K7JRN from Spokane was portable in DN18 which is the NE corner of WA. KA7YOU was providing communications for a sports car rally near Omak. Afterwards he traveled south along the Columbia putting on more grids in the Rover Class.

He must have driven a 1000 miles that weekend. AA7VT put on grids in Western WA on both days. There was enough activity both days to keep busy. I managed a meteor scatter contact with K7VNU, DN50, in northern CO. Also, Sunday, N7EIJ in Portland made a very quick meteor contact with K7CA, DN26, NV.

The 1996 Pacific NW VHF/UHF Conference was held in Oregon City, OR, on September 21/22. About 42 die-hards attended. Speakers were W7PUA discussing DSP for weak signal CW reception; N7RTA with a primer on 6m E-skip; W7ZOI talked about filters and new MMIC products. KK7B showed off his portable station covering 2m through 3.4 Ghz. N6RMJ, Pat, was there representing the Western States Weak Signal Society and VE7XF, Ralph, came down from Vancouver, BC.

The Orionid Meteor shower took place in October. Its a relatively minor shower and I had run lots of fruitless schedules in the past. This year I managed to work K0GU in DN70, CO, for a new grid on 2m. Listening on 144.2, the calling frequency, produced little else. Lots of partial calls from the south until the shower activity ceased. The next meteor shower is the Leonids, November 17/18. This shower has a very consistent 33 year cycle. In 1966 there was a meteor storm of huge magnitude. 1999 isn't that very far away. QST had a timed photograph that showed thousands of meteor trails over NY It may put on quite a show in 3 years.

With the sun inactivity there hasn't been any 6m openings here that I am aware of. There have been a few unusual events in other parts of North America. S. CA had an opening to KH6 land. Rare for October. That's about it. The next expected 6m activity will center around Christmas time. Something usually happens the last week of the year. Two years ago 6m was open all day on December 31st. 2m also opened that day. Last year 2m opened to the south on December 25th.

### The King of Squeak Strikes Again

*Chuck, N7STR*

I have discovered a free e-mail service for all of those who have a computer, 386 or higher, windows 3.1, 4 MB of RAM, 10 MB free of disk space, 3.5" floppy, a VGA or SVGA monitor and a 9600 Baud Modem.

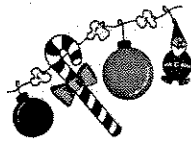
There are no monthly or hourly fees. The only drawback is that it doesn't attach files or receive attached files.

You may request a setup disk, from 1-800-654-JUNO. I have found it makes an excellent backup for my sprynet service, when it has problems. My Juno address is cbenefiel@juno.com for anyone who is interested in knowing.

### Christmas Party

*Don, KC7MPI & Katie, KC7MPH*

Once again the Christmas party is just around the corner. We will have the food sign-up sheet at the



November meeting. This will be your last chance to sign up. We are asking everyone to wear something *red or green* or a combination thereof. For those wishing to participate in the gift exchange, please try to limit it to a \$5.00 item.

We hope that the contestants in the beard growing contest are enjoying no shaving every morning. May the best beard win. Please remember to bring a food donation item the night of the party for the less fortunate. We hope that all of you are planning on attending the party on December 7th as we have scheduled a evening full of fun-filled entertainment. Bring your cameras.

### Long Range Planning Committee

*Chuck, N7STR*

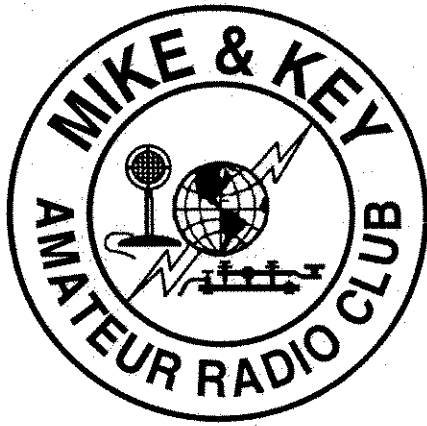
The Long Range Planning committee will be meeting after the November 16, 1996 General Membership meeting for approximately 30 minutes to discuss some issues that were raised at the last board meeting. The following people signed up to be members of the 1996 Long Range Planning Committee. Besides myself, there are Chuck Foltz (KB7OS) (Chairman), Ken Jackson (K7PZX), Rick Antes (KF7VG), Casey Angleoff (W6PKW), Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q) and Sam Sullivan (N7RHE).



I am asking that the above and any other interested members please try to be present. You may contact me at my e-mail: [cbenefiel@sprynet.com](mailto:cbenefiel@sprynet.com), or by phone (206)312-5341, if you have any questions.



**Happy  
Thanksgiving**



# 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 11

November, 1996

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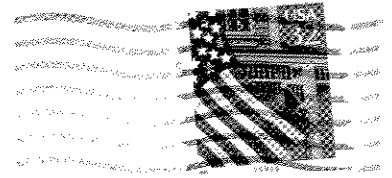
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First Class Mail

## Next Board Meeting

November 27th at 7:30 PM  
Salvation 5th Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton

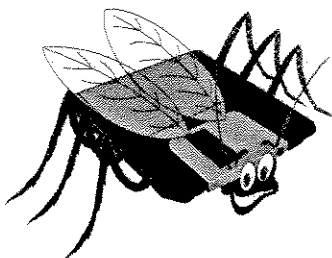
## Next Club Meeting

Saturday, November 16th 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

## October Program

Not announced

Sam Sullivan N7RHE 7/98  
13626 - SE 232nd  
Kent, WA 98042



**Check Mailing Label for Dues Status**

**Deadline for RELAY Submissions - December 11th Please!!!**

