



K7LED

Relay

Volume 25, Number 5

Page 1 of 5

May, 1998

The Prez Sez

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

Its happening again. As fast as life can possibly happen, it's May already. What happened to March and April? Did anybody see January go by? Is it me, am I the only one that time runs twice as fast for? I swear that I'm in some kind of time warp factor. Or maybe it's a dream. I'm going to wake up some day and be 25 all over again, with one catch. I will remember everything in the dream that I did wrong, and can correct the mistakes in my life. Yeah, maybe in Hollywood, but this is reality. Time does go by fast, mistakes are made, and life keeps right on going and never looks back. Mistakes are an interesting thing. It is my firm belief that the only failure in life is to not learn from our mistakes. I also know that a mistake left undone becomes a problem. A problem left unhandled becomes a disaster, and a disaster left undone can never be repaired.

We have a plan within the Mike and Key called our By Laws, which created a means for handling mistakes. It is the structure of our club that keeps the power of the club within the membership. For one thing the club elects it's officers, and the officers represent the club. This isn't the part that handles mistakes. Within the officers are the Trustee's. They aren't the part that handles the mistakes either. Mistakes are handled by the committees for which each of the Trustee's is a liaison. The Trustee is not the chairperson, the chairperson of a committee has to come from you, the participating membership.

You see, the Trustee position is only as viable as you the membership make them. If you don't participate in the committees, your ideas and voice aren't heard by the Trustee. He or she doesn't bring them to the board, and this club makes the biggest mistake of all. It starts letting the Board run the club. When the Board runs the club, talking behind the memberships backs takes place, at least it's perceived as that because of lack of membership participation, rumors start, and the mistake begins. It turns into a problem, the problem turns into a disaster, etc., etc., etc....

I love the Mike and Key. I love the people in it. I love the opportunities it, and they, have given me to grow. I have participated on every committee, and been a part of the board from the first year I was a member of this club. I have participated in every event possible within the club and many that are sponsored by other members of the club, such as parades, wheelchair games, and disaster relief. I have chaired many committees, and created manuals for all of the committees I have chaired so that the next chair person has some guidelines to follow. I have tried to take the FEAR out of volunteering for committees. The only thing I can't do, is make you Love the Mike and Key.

Now I want to share a secret. At the Flea Market, I started to see a whole bunch of you also Love the Mike and Key. At the Banquet a whole bunch of you were Loving the Mike and Key. At the meetings I

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am seeing you Love the Mike and Key. Do us all a favor, please don't Love the Mike and Key to death. Get in there and participate in the committees. Make this the best Club it can be.

The committee's aren't meant to stifle the input of club membership. They were created to take your ideas, and other members ideas beyond the mind into reality. They were created to promote discussion, participation, understanding and fellowship. What better place can you bring the old timers past experience, (I know, sometimes they say, "Hey we already tried that"), the mid-timers experience, (I know, they sometimes say "Nobody would get behind it."), and the newcomers enthusiasm, (I know, they say, "Get outa my way, there's a job to be done.").

Now, I want to point out someone within the club that has all three of the above qualities. He's an old-timer, 80 or so. He's been around Ham Radio lots of years, has a little of the clubs past within his experience, and just joined the club recently. He was voted MVP of the Flea Market. He was everywhere, dragging pallets at the beginning on Friday, Saturday at 5 AM and Saturday at closing he was still dragging them pallets. He just worked on the Banquet Committee, he's on the Public Service Committee, and there are rumors he's going to help out the Field Day committee. Some would call him a fool, I call him a Man that Loves his hobby, Loves His club and all that it gives him, by giving to it. He is a Man that knows the secret to life and success. As Jennifer James puts it, SUCCESS IS THE QUALITY OF THE JOURNEY. Thanks Buzz Thompson for stepping up and being an example. I don't mean to embarrass Buzz, and I don't want you to think that I don't notice the others that also participate. I used him as an example, because his attitude and participation represent the experience, strength and hope for the future of this club, and our hobby.

Sign-Up and Support Field Day '98!!

General Meeting Minutes, 4/18/98*Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW*

Officers present: President - Chuck (N7STR); Vice President - Jed (N7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Chairman - Larry (AB7FJ); Trustee #2 - Chuck (KB7OS); Trustee #3 - Pete (K7WTG); Trustee #5 - Adrian (KB7BVL); RELAY Editor - Jack (N7HIS).

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck (N7STR) at 10:05 AM with the Flag Salute repeated by all at the Salvation Army Building, Renton.

Chuck (N7STR) announced our prayers are with Lew (W7QMP), Ellen (KB7EBC), Al (KB7QQW), Eric (N7TQC), and Dan (N7QHC); who are all home now and improving.

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the March meeting as published in the RELAY. Members and visitors are asked to sign the roster. Paul Nim from Korea was introduced having passed Novice/Tech license for the US. Visitors are asked not to vote on issues requiring membership vote. The Salvation Army requests breaks be taken on the west side of the building only. The coffee and donut fund is self-supporting by contributions from users. Frank and Al could use more help with set-up and tear-down for the meeting.

Members and visitors introduced themselves.

The Mike & Key ARC is an ARRL affiliated club. Please be responsible members and support the ARRL.

This meeting is run from an agenda. For any further requests, please use Input Box to be read later in the meeting. ARRL license exams have been relocated to the Salvation Army building at 1:00 PM, the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Officer Reports

President: Our annual banquet was held April 4, chaired by Vic And Barbara Carter who did a great job. Some awards presented include Field Day MVP - Alan Hughes (KB7SVU); Flea Market MVP - Buzz Thompson (W7PZO), Life Members (25 years) - Ken Rau (K7YR) and Dick Lundstrom (WA7EUW); Pop Brown - Harry Lewis (W7JWJ) and Mary Lewis (W7QGP). Chuck (WA7EBH) has been appointed Flea Market Chairman for 1999, having had unanimous approval from committee chairs. The next Flea Market meeting is September 3, 1998.

Chuck (WA7EBH), presented various awards to members not at banquet. Those not present today will have certificates mailed to them.

Chrome Key was presented to the club, a gift from Ken Jackson. This key is for the club station in the Salvation Army building.

Vice President: A Quorum is present today. New member applications include Wayne Smith (KD7AYC), Issaquah, and Ruth Ashford (no call) Kent. These were approved by the Board and are presented today for vote by the membership. Both

applicants were unanimously approved for membership in the Mike & Key ARC by the general membership. Visitors may obtain membership applications from the Vice President. Every meeting a roster will be available for changes.

Secretary: No Report

Treasurer: Books, OK, looking good, solvent. Books are available for members to see.

Activity Chairman: Today's program to be presented by Harry Lewis, 'The Beginning of Ham Radio'. Raffle tickets available for door prizes at \$1.00 each. Prizes are \$30.00 and \$10.00 gift certificates from Radio Depot, a 1-year subscription to World Radio, and a Mike & Key mug.

Radio Officer: Harry (W7JWJ) presented a book of jokes to the president. The repeater is working fine.

RELAY Editor: The roster needs updated. Contact Jack (N7IHS) direct for changes. A new roster will be out the end of June.

Chairman of the Board: Pete (K7WTG) reports nothing in the in-put box. Next Board meeting is April 29, 7:30 PM, with a Field Day meeting to be held at 7:00 PM. Liaison committees have been changed. See RELAY for details.

Committee Reports

Education: Moving forward with license teaching program in need of teachers. See Mary Lewis or Ray Leslie.

Picnic: Tressie Hughes (KC7BAL) is chairwoman. Picnic to be held at Auburn Wilderness Area on August 29. She needs assistance in planning games. Is anyone interested in a Bunny Hunt? More details to follow.

Logo: Jackets are in for those who ordered.

Field Day: Check lists and sign up sheets are on the tables. Need a few more Band chairs. The weather will be sunny and warm!

Public Service: Sea Fair parades are coming up. The first is Ballard, May 17, 2:00 PM. Torchlight Parade is on Saturday, August 1 this year. King Dome parking lot is not available this year. Other arrangements are pending. Disaster training coming up this summer.

New Ham Meeting: Pat (W0OPW) reports meeting at 9:30 AM prior to regular meeting. 4 new Hams attended this morning. Pat stated his hometown was practically destroyed by a tornado on March 29.

Flea Market: Final report shows a profit to the club. Deposit paid to Fairgrounds for 1999. The price has gone up so a short committee meeting today during break to determine table and admittance prices for next year. Next year we must label broken tables during set-up or we will be charged for them.

Any other committee reports should appear in the RELAY on a monthly basis.

It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting. The program will follow the break.

Sign-Up and Support Field Day '98!!

1998 Hamfest Calendar

(Taken from the NW Division Newsletter)

May 16	Yakima Hamfest, Selah, WA
May 29-31	SeaPac, Seaside, OR
July 17-19	Glacier-Waterton Hamfest, MT
July 24-26	Northwestern DX Convention, Seattle, WA
July 31-Aug. 2	3905 Century Club, Bandon, OR
Aug. 1	Coos Bay ARC Hamfest, Bandon, OR
Aug. 8	Bend Hamfair, Deshutes Cty. Fairgrounds, OR
Aug. 8	Tacoma Fleamarket, Tacoma, WA
Aug. 8	Spokane Hamfest ?
Aug. 15	LCARA, Longview, WA
Sept. 19-20	Anchorage Hamfest, Anchorage, AK
Sept. 26-27	Fairbanks Hamfest, Fairbanks, AK
Oct. 3	Nampa Hamfest, Nampa, ID

Education Committee Report

Chuck Foltz, KB7OS

The Education Committee meeting was held on April 7 at 19:30 hours at the Denney's Restaurant in Lake City. In attendance were Mary (W7QGP) and Harry (W7JWJ) Lewis, Ray Leslie (WA7EKH) and Chuck Foltz (KB7OS) Trustee #2 Advisor. The goals and objectives of the committee were reviewed and defined for presentation to the Board of Directors. Ray Leslie was elected by voice vote to be Chairman. He will be responsible for reporting future committee status in the Relay.

An outline was presented and agreed upon to present a No-Code Tech course created by Ray Leslie that would consist of 3 consecutive Saturday, 4-hour audio-visual presentations with cross referenced copies of the book "Now Your Talking." The fourth week would be an examination for a license to operate. This course is proposed to be continuous for most of the year.

A request is before the Facilities Committee to clear times and dates with the Salvation Army for use of their facilities, but if that is not accommodating, then the course will be announced for alternate location(s). Interested applicants standby for further updates in this column. Also Harry and Mary Lewis are also looking for facilities to present a more detailed form of instruction toward various classes of licensing and testing for same. They are looking into a working site availability with the Boeing Employees Amateur Radio Society. Standby for further word of courses to be offered.

If you have any questions regarding the offerings and locations of the Education Committee please direct them to a member of the committee as follows: Those mentioned above as well as Pat Wintheiser (W0OPW) and Jed Clawson (W7JED). Presenters are needed by both education efforts, so volunteer

and attend our committee meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM primarily at the Denney's Restaurant in Lake City and alternately at the Denney's in South Center.

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

- 33 MHz Compaq Notebook computer. Runs Win95, 209 MB HD 12 MB Memory. 14.4 FAX Modem, Docking Station. Ideal for Ham add-ons. \$425.00
- 25 MHz Compaq Notebook computer. Runs Win95, 209 MB HD, 12 MB Memory. 14.4 FAX Modem, Docking Station. Ideal for Ham add-ons. \$375.00

Contact: Bill Balzarini at 253-927-1054 or e-mail: KL7BB@juno.com
253-927-1054

From the W7JWJ Notebook Operation Upgrade The Evolution of a Vertical Antenna Part One

In the design of transmitting/receiving antennas for Amateur Radio stations much emphasis has been placed upon communicating over great distances. This mind-set permeates the thoughts of authors of antenna handbooks. However, there are times, such as the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) where a near vertical angle of propagation is desirable in order for signal refraction from the ionosphere to occur over ground distances of less than 100 miles. We must ask, "Over what distance do we wish to communicate?"

In the standard AM broadcast band vertical towers are used that are seldom 1/4 wavelength, but usually are longer than a resonant section, namely 0.644 wavelength. This compares favorable to an amateur designed 5/8 wavelength antenna. The intensity of the radiation along the surface of the earth governs the primary service area of a broad casting station. Ionospheric refraction is not desirable because interaction with the ground wave will often produce selective 'fading'. The 0.644 wavelength is also used to bring the current node out of the ground system. An amateur 1/4 wave vertical will have a current node at the base of the antenna and in the junction to the ground system. Such a node induces electrolysis.

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Ground radial systems are generally buried and may consist of up to at least 180 radials for commercial stations and with each at least 1/4 wavelength and preferably longer. The difference in an amateur designed vertical with only 4 radials will be at least 8 decibels when compared to the more efficient commercial radial system. At the low end of the broadcast band, say 550 KHz, the optimum depth of a ground system will be less than 10 inches over average terrain. At 80 meters the optimum ground radial may be plus 10 inches. At higher frequencies the ground system may be optimized many wavelengths above the surface of the earth.

Commercial AM broadcast towers are frequently located in salt marches, although such is not always the most desirable location because the varying conductivity may cause current nodes to exist in the radials. This will cause electrolysis to occur and destruction of the radials.

The base impedance of a 1/4 wave vertical is less than 50 ohms and will require an impedance matching system located at the base of the antenna. Antenna tuners located in the ham shack usually treat the antenna and transmission line as part of the antenna system. In such cases maximum energy may not be transferred to the free space impedance of 377 ohms.

Events Calendar

May

- May 13th, Wednesday* - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater
May 14th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater
May 16th, Saturday - Mike and Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation
May 16th, Saturday - Technical Committee, 9:15 AM at Renton Salvation Army
May 16th, Saturday - Facilities Committee, 9:15 AM at Renton Salvation Army
May 20th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater
May 21st, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater
May 27th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Board Meeting, 7:30 PM Renton Salvation Army
May 27th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater
May 28th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

June

- June 2nd, Tuesday* - Education Committee, 7:30 PM (check for location)
June 3rd, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater
June 4th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater
June 10th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM

on 146.82 repeater

- June 11th, Thursday* - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater
June 17th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater
June 18th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater
June 20th, Saturday - Mike and Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation Army

Board Meeting Minutes, 4/29/98

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Board Members Present: Chairman of the Board - Pete (K7WTG), Trustee #3; President - Chuck - N7STR; Vice President - Jed (N7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 Al (KB7THX); Trustee #2 - Chuck (KB7OS); Trustee #4 - Mike (KC7UFT); Trustee #5 - Adrian (KB7BVL).

The meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Board Pete (K7WTG). It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the previous Board Meeting as published in the RELAY.

Chairman of the Board: No report.

President: E-mail from Mike Dinkelman regarding request from Lake Hills Library, Bellevue, for program presentations to youth on a Friday evening in August. Attendance could be anywhere from 0-100. This would probably be on UHF-VHF. Al Hopwood volunteered to help. Harry (W7JWJ) is making a 2-hour presentation for an Open House at Highline Community College the end of June.

Vic Carter (N7YPB), Chairman of Public Service, would like a new location for meetings in the Kent, Renton, or Tukwilla areas. Mike (KC7UFT) will contact him. E-mail from Harry (W7JWJ) regarding concerns over club not supporting education, i.e., radio classes. He wants a facility in which to conduct classes, more publicity in timely fashion in order to get more students. This will be covered under education report.

Chuck (N7STR) has sent e-mail to all trustees of descriptions of committees. Trustees are not the chairpersons, but liaisons between committees and membership. The Trustees are asked to submit articles regarding their committees to the RELAY each month.

Vice President: Two applications to membership presented. Douglas Stangler (AB7BU), Extra Class and Gary Martek (NR7G), Extra Class, and Lynette Martek (no call). The Marteks are applying for family membership. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve these applicants to be presented to the general membership in May. Jed will provide a membership list containing Name, Call, Class and Club interests to all committee chairmen.

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Secretary: No report.

Treasurer: Final bill for Flea Market paid.

Radio Officer: Repeater working fine. Back-up repeater being updated.

Technical Committee: Need brackets to attach antennas to the building. These will be done soon. Pete (K7WTG) needs definite dates to ask for use of the Salvation Army building from Capt. Halvorsen.

Public Service: No report.

Education: Chuck, KB7OS, requests to meet at Salvation Army building every Saturday from 10-2. The first 3 Saturdays would be for classes and the 4th for testing. Al will check with facility. It is noted the club has use of the building the third Saturday of every month for meeting and testing. Committee is asked to check with the Boeing BEARS as was discussed 2 board meetings ago about use of Boeing facility with the BEARS for education classes.

Strategic Planning: In preparing reports, Adrian needs secured dates for events.

Publicity: Some community newspapers publish events on a regular weekly basis. Suggest contact Web page, King County Library to publish events.

Field Day: Need Band Chairs for 2 meter and 10 meter novice/tech. 5 have signed up for Wagon Wheel. Packets for Band Chairs ready for May meeting. Ferry schedules also available next meeting. Jed suggests co-chair be in closer proximity in the future. Jed will be at site early in order to inform the spray man if needed in a timely manner.

Flea Market: Table prices increased by \$2.00. Front gate price will be \$6.00; inside worker \$6.00; and table helpers \$7.00. The increases are due to increased expenses and decrease in attendance this year and increased expenses for next year. The 1999 fliers will be ready to take to Seaside in May. The Fairgrounds may start charging for the full 2-day weekend, but this will be determined later. Next Flea Market meeting is September. Chuck (N7STR), tracked down and contacted the gentleman who left his purchase at the Flea Market. He lives in North Carolina where Chuck sent the purchase. The man is very grateful. Chuck (N7STR), requests an accounting of the Flea Market in writing from the Treasurer, to be published in the RELAY. This is a formal request based on By Laws Article VI, 6.02, D. 4.

Activity Manager: Larry is in Texas so Chuck (N7STR) reported for him. Program for May is Jeremy Donimirski (W7YG) on Cellular Technology. He also submitted a status report of the raffles and his properties to the Chairman of the Board.

Old Business

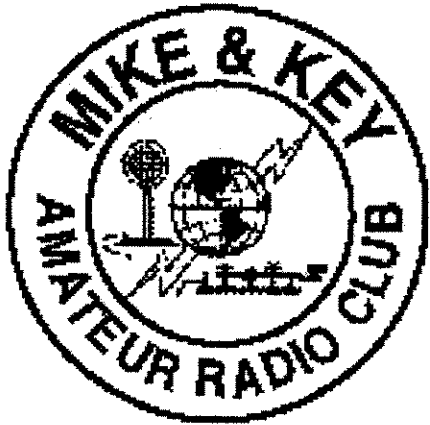
Each new officer is asked to submit a short article to the RELAY introducing himself to the club. Harry announced that Ross Purcell (W7AKE) will resume chair of ARES. Harry's phone number is listed in QST for radio classes. He now has 19 names for a class. He states license upgrades have decreased and there is a decline in new members of ARRL.

New Business

ARRL affiliations will now be registered every 2 years instead of yearly. It was moved, seconded to supply 3-part copies for roster changes and updates at meetings. 1 part to the RELAY Editor, 1 part to the Vice President and 1 part to the Treasurer. After discussion, motion passed.

It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Sign-Up and Sign-Up and Support Field Day '98!!



K7LED RELAY

The RELAY is the official tabloid of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club. The Mike and Key ARC 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., Renton, WA. The Club operates repeaters on 146.82 MHz (103.5 CTCSS) and 224.12 MHz under the call sign K7LED. Two 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. All persons interested in Amateur Radio are invited to participate in the Mike and Key ARC and its activities. Yearly dues are \$12.00 for individual memberships and \$18.00 for family memberships.

Volume 26, Number 5

May, 1998

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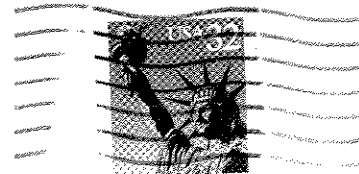
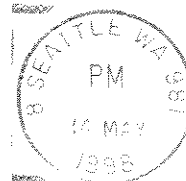
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First Class Mail

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, May 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

Sam Sullivan N7RHE 7/00
13626 - SE 232nd
Kent, WA 98042

Next Board Meeting

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

May Program

To be announced.



Check Mailing Label for Dues Status

Mike & Key ARC Web Page: <http://www.mike&key.com>