



K7LED Relay

Volume 25, Number 10

Page 1 of 5

October, 1998

The Prez Sez Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

It's August 25th, we're getting ready to leave on vacation, and I have to write an article for the October relay. It's 2 days after I had to write the September relay article. This job of being President has so many little responsibilities which you have to remember. Would you please pass the cheese to go with my whine.

I have to admit to a misconception about being President of the Mike and Key Club. Thinking back it has been a misconception with regard to all leaders of the many organizations of my many past affiliations. My misconception has been that the President is all powerful, nothing happens without his approval, or his consent, and that the President knows everything about everything that goes on in the organization, and is the ultimate source of all knowledge. Hogwash.

Oh, if the above statement were only true, but in fact it is quite impossible. What makes for a good President, I have learned from observing others, is being open to ideas, listening to what people are really saying, and attempting to meet the club's needs as a whole by delegating quality people to lead the club in the right direction. I have had several ideas, suggestions and comments over the last 1 1/2 years with regard to the direction that people feel the club should be going. I have followed some ideas and avoided others.

I want to make it perfectly clear, "I don't have a specific direction or idea of where this club should be headed", only "That we should have a good time getting there."

Any success that any of you attribute to me, has been a direct result of the support of many people within the club. One example would be the fun we have in the club meetings. Yes, I admit to having a sense of humor, and yes, I love being the straight man for Harry and Larry. So you are aware, my first goal as president wasn't to put "The Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club" on the lips of every Ham west of the Mississippi.

My first goal was to make our meetings entertaining. Harry & Larry's examples of making fun with me, make it OK for others to loosen up, and it becomes infectious. The meeting relaxes, whistles blow, and instead of bickering from the floor, we hear laughter. From the reports I hear, the attendance results, and new member applications, I feel my first goal was accomplished.

My second goal was to make participation at the club's outside activities & events something everyone could enjoy. After observing the camaraderie of the Christmas Party, Flea Market, Banquet, Field Day and the Picnic, (which was attended by 60 people this year) I would have to say that this has been accomplished. Not because of my efforts, but because of the members who took the initiative to run them.

My third goal was to keep the club headed in the direction of the purpose for this club, as defined within the Constitution and By Laws. Specifically Article III, #1 through #10, which directly relate to

perpetuating all aspects of the Hobby of Amateur Radio. That is the responsibility of the trustees, the committees & their chairpersons, and the club membership's participation.

The President, I have learned is the Spokesman for the club and the Target for mistakes and problems. That's why our emblem is a big circle. When you're the President up in front leading the club, you are fully aware that the Target is on your back for everyone to see. Sometimes he has no idea what underlying situation is going to bring up the next situation to invoke controversy. The President only knows two things. Everything isn't as it appears, and for every good thing we attempt to accomplish, there are at least 2 dozen potential obstacles just waiting to screw them up.

This rule doesn't just apply to Presidents, it applies to everyone, in every walk of life. The secret is to see the obstacles in advance by being prepared and turning them into opportunities. Quite honestly, for me, that is the secret of life as well. When the President sees a positive flow within the group, he jumps on. The hardest part of being President is having the Tact and the ability to say "No", to what others see as a positive flow, and the President sees as a negative flow. Members can get emotional about issues and ideas, the President must be realistic. My main point about this article is that I get a lot of credit for what many others do. This is our club, and it will head itself in the direction that we want to take it.

By the time you read this, Carolyn and I will be back from 6 weeks of vacation. Will we survive this test to see if we can be confined to a Motor home for that period of time, and return speaking to each other? As they say on the news, "Film at 11." (I don't want to hear about any betting pools, Larry.) We will quickly find out if we took into consideration all the potential obstacles, while planning for this vacation in advance. I hope you all had a great Summer and are all prepared for the Fall, and Winter seasons. See you at the October 17th meeting, that is if we come back, Hi, Hi.

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General Membership Meeting 9/19/98

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Officers Present: Vice President - Jed (W7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Manger - Larry (AB7FJ); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 - Al (KB7THX).

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM with all members and guests repeating the Flag Salute at the Salvation Army Building in Renton. Please announce your name and call clearly for the secretary.

Minutes: It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the August meeting as printed in the RELAY.

Introductions of members and guests were accomplished. Members are asked to take breaks on the West Side of the building at the request of Salvation Army. The coffee and donut fund is self-supporting. We are an affiliated club, please be a responsible member and join the ARRL. Please sign the rosters at the table. Visitors are asked to refrain from voting on club matters requiring a vote.

Officers Reports

President: Vice President, Jed (W7JED) reports that members need to contact Nils (WB7TJK) for Field Day camp site reservations. Radio Coaches at American Indian School in Seattle will begin on September 21. Radio Classes begin Saturday September 26th, 10:00 AM, Salvation Army. These will be for 4 Saturdays. See Ray Leslie (WA7EKH). "Now Your Talking" books available for \$19.00. The 2nd Flea Market meeting will be October 1st.

Vice President: Jed (W7JED) presented the following people to for new membership: Dick Butcher (KS7V); Bob Pasternak (KD7BVN); Paul Min (KB7BME); John Robbins (KC7ZQY). All applicants were approved as members by vote of the general membership.

Secretary: Joyce (N7JPW) requests members to notify her of serious illnesses or deaths so cards can be sent. Gib (W7JIE), Jim Monaghan (N7HKO) and Ellis Hammer (W7RQG) are all ill.

Treasurer: Chuck (WA7EBH) reports books are in good standing. Books available for members to see.

Activity Manager: Larry (AB7FJ) has raffle tickets available Will raffle at end of meeting. Today's program is Antenna Design and Safety by Jack, of ShoeString Antennas.

Radio Officer: Harry W7JWJ states all repeaters working well. Sound Shake '98 is will be held on September 22nd on 3970 Mhz. Washington State Emergency Net is 3987. W7TVA Jeri - NCS 0800 local time until noon.

Alligator: Dawn (KC7YYB) presented alligator to Frank (K7VMG).

Input Box: Kathy (KB7QMO) has batteries for sale at \$30.00.

Committee Reports

Flea Market: Chuck (WA7EBH) needs some new

committee chairs and all committees need members.

New Ham Report: No new hams at meeting today. Pat has a loaner receiver. He is also putting two books in Ham room: a study guide for Extra class and "200 Meters and Down".

Facilities: No report.

Net Control: Need more Net Control operators for Wednesday night net at 7:30 PM. Contact HYPERLINK <mailto:KC7IYP@aol.com>.

Field Day: The club needs a representative at Fort Flagler on October 3 at 12 noon to meet with the park rangers regarding the Barracks.

Web Page: www.mikeandkey.com. Please browse.

Good of the Order

Mary(W7QGP) reports ARRL Policy change as of 9-17-98: ARRL members must use membership number to access ARRL. Number is on QST address label. Mary is running for Vice Director of NWD ARRL.

Sound Shake '98: Alan Hughes is installing antennas with coax in fire stations in Pierce Co. They hope to have Hams at each station for drill.

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

The raffle drawing was held after the break.

Events Calendar

October

October 14th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 15th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 15th, Thursday - Public Service Meeting, 7:30 PM at Sharis Restaurant, exit #4 on I-405 (Maple Valley exit)

October 17th, Mike and Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation

October 21st, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 22nd, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 28th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 29th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

November

November 4th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 5th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 11th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 12th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 18th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 19th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

October 19th, Thursday - Public Service Meeting, 7:30 PM at Sharis Restaurant, exit #4 on I-405 (Maple Valley exit)

November 21st, Mike and Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation

Public Service Committee Report

Vic Carter, N7YPB

The last meeting was held on September 17th. Attending were Dave (KB7PSN), Dawn (KC7YYB), Dan (N7QHC), Barbara Carter, and Vic (N7YPB).

The format for the pamphlet is great. We need to update the contact list though. Most of the remaining pamphlets from 1998 we delivered to the Ham Radio Booth in the Hobby Building at the Puyallup Fair, September 12th.

The Public Service Committee meets the Thursday before the General Membership meeting at 7:30 PM at Sharis Restaurant off of I-405. Take exit 4 (the Maple Valley exit) in Renton. All interested members are invited to attend. The next meeting will be held on October 15th.

Colder Winter Ahead???

Jack Grimmert, N7IHS

I have received an e-mail from at least three different sources concerning the 1998 Winter ahead. This e-mail spells doom and gloom for the coming months. Apparently this e-mail is bogus. The people mentioned in the article were apparently quoted out of context. Oh to be sure the gloom will be there but the probability of doom is very low (I hope I don't have to eat my words later). I received following article from a very reliable source. It was provided in response to the Doom and Gloom e-mail.

La Nina information from the Seattle Office of the National Weather Service October 1, 1998

Last winter was an El Nino winter, one of mild winter temperatures and seasonal precipitation. Basically, we had the year off from inclement weather. El Nino is now over, and whether we have La Nina or a more common "neutral" season, *more usual inclement winter weather is likely* and we need to ensure citizens are prepared and not complacent since last winter was so tranquil.

La Nina is the cool phase of an oscillation in the equatorial Pacific sea surface temperatures between cool and warm anomalies. El Nino is the warm phase. Many years, the temperatures are normal and

neither phase is present. Last year we experienced one of the more extreme El Nino's of this century with a dramatic impact on west coast weather. Winter was rather stable and somewhat benign in the Pacific Northwest, but was very stormy and wet in California.

La Nina does favor a weather pattern that produces colder, wetter, and stormier weather in the Pacific Northwest. However, the pattern is somewhat unstable and frequent variations in the storm track and weather pattern is typical. As a result, the correlation's between La Nina and our weather is somewhat less predictable than with El Nino.

The Climate Prediction Center's (CPC) long-range forecasts are issued near the middle of each month and the most current outlook for western Washington this winter, as of September 17, 1998, is as follows.

For November 1998 through March 1999 the official forecast is for "normal" temperatures.

As far as precipitation goes, the forecast for most of the winter is for an increased likelihood of above normal or wetter conditions. Normal precipitation for the October through December time frame would be 14.7 inches. ***The CPC forecast is a 53.3% chance of SeaTac airport receiving more than 16.3 inches of precipitation during this time frame.***

Summary

The CPC is *not* forecasting the most severe winter in years. ***They are forecasting near normal temperatures with more than normal precipitation. On the other hand, this does not rule out severe winter weather and given the favored weather pattern during a La Nina the scales are tipped in the direction of colder, wetter, and stormier weather.*** It is just at this time the CPC doesn't feel the indicators are strong enough to shift the probabilities of occurrence more than 10% in that direction.

As a result, we have greater odds of experiencing one or more significant winter snow or ice storms, river flooding events, or damaging wind storms are enhanced, but not in any way certain. For example, the arctic outbreak in February 1989 was during a La Nina event. The December 12, 1995 wind storm was during a La Nina event as well as the November 1995 and February 1996 flooding events. However, the winter storm events during December 1996 and January 1997 were *not* during either a La Nina or El Nino event. This was true for the December 1990 winter storm events as well.

Fall Rosters

Jack Grimmert, N7IHS

The Fall Roster is in the mail. You should be receiving it around the time you get this month's issue of the Relay. The Roster is sorted by callsign suffix, that is my call is N7IHS and is sorted by 'IHS'. This sort format was agreed to by the, it was also sug-

gested that the Roster be sorted by last name every other time. I would like to know the membership's preference.

I believe that the Roster information is correct with the current data that I have. I hope that the people that have had latent incorrect data would have contacted me by now. I did receive some call sign updates that are not included, but they came to me after the Roster was in printing.

Six Lander Now a Club Member

Jack Grimmett, N7IHS

Recently the membership inducted Fred Roberts, W6TKV into the Mike & Key ARC. I was curious why a Ham who lives in California would want to join the M&K ARC so I asked Fred to supply me with some information.

It turns out the Fred has family here which he visits from time to time. About three years ago Fred was planning on being in Seattle over Field Day and was looking for the best club to visit using QST Field Day scores as a guide. He says, "when I saw the Mike & Key ARC score, I thought that's the club for me". He attended our Field Day and decided to join the Club even though he lives in California. Fred is a contester, a DXer, a County Hunter, a T Hunter, and says that he never met a face of ham radio he didn't enjoy.

Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Inland Empire Council of Amateur Radio Organizations (serving Riverside, San Bernardino and Inyo counties in California), Vice President of the Riverside County Amateur Radio Association, and holds many posts in the ARRL (Assistant Director, Official Observer, Assistant Section Manager - Special Projects, QSL Buro Worker, Awards Manager and Volunteer Examiner).

He is also a member of the Southern California Contest Club, QCWA, Corona Norco, Amateur Radio Club, MARAC, AMSAT and TAPR. Significant awards held by W6TKV include DXCC 300+, DXCC/QRP (4W-SSB), 8-Band WAS, WAZ and USA/CA (worked all counties).

Fred held two prior calls; K2AMN and F0TB. He has also operated from 4U1TU, 4U1WB, HV3SJ, W1AW, W1AW/6, W6RO and K7UGA. While in Seattle, Fred is RV mobile with an FT-890 and a 20M Hustler antenna on the rear ladder, and reports his most interest RV QSOs while in Seattle were with 9K2ZZ and later 9K2GS, both in Kuwait.

All of Fred's information is contained in the Fall Roster for those who might want to get a hold of him.

From the Editor

Jack Grimmett, N7IHS

As you can see the last couple of issues of the Relay have been kind of short we really could use more contributors. I have a couple of subjects that will provide some interesting reading as well as a source of information.

I plan on reviving the membership profiles that **Mike Dinkelman**, W7WA, did when he was the Relay editor. The first one **Fred Roberts**, W6TKV, appears in this issue. Next issue I plan on doing an article on **Ted Roubal**, KC7ZEO. Ted has a very interesting background in many things other than Amateur Radio. Members who would be interested in having their profile printed should contact me. I will also include a picture of you and your shack.

I would like a continuing article on all aspects of emergency preparedness and emergency communications. I'll need some help with this one. Anyone interested in participating in these articles would gladly be welcomed.

Technical articles are another interesting source of information. I would appreciate any of your that are building any home-brew projects and would like the information published, to contact me. I would be glad to help you write it, prepare schematics, and take digital pictures of it.

There are probably a lot of other topics that you as readers would like to see in the Relay. All I need is your suggestions and a little help and your dreams will come true. **To be published in the Relay.** The relay can be a vehicle by which we share information with others as well as telling the members what's going on in the Mike & Key ARC.

By way of closing, I haven't heard any good news about members activities for the past couple of months. That's not to say that there has been only bad news with in the Club, I just haven't heard the good news.

Board Meeting Minutes, 9/30/98

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Officers Present: C.O.B. - Pete (W7WTG); Vice President - Jed (W7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Activity Manager - Larry (AB7FJ); Trustee #1 - Al (KB7THX); Trustee #4 - Mike (K7JML).

Visitors: Dan (N7QHC); Dawn (KC7YYB); Ray (WA7EKH); Ellen (KC7EBC); Ronnie (KC7UFS); Mary (W7QGP); Mike (KD7BNG).

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Pete (W7WTG) at the Salvation Army Building in Renton.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as printed in the RELAY.

Officer Reports

President: Vice President Jed reports for President Chuck who is on vacation. E-mail received from Chuck include: 1) Widely published E-mail on Winter Weather for 1998-99.. 2) Rita Danielson (KD7CNU) would like job as 'Barrack Master' for 1999 Field Day. Nils will be notified. 3) To Hat Novelty regarding pin blanks. They have the set-up fee down to \$40.00 from Badge Boys. Design is possibly slightly different. This will be covered later in meeting.

Vice President: Jed (W7JED) has one new applicant for membership. He is Darrell Plank (WB7BSP), advanced class. He is approved to present to general membership for their approval. Jonathan Robbins is pending.

Secretary: Joyce (N7JPW) read thank-you letter from Captain Halvorson for monetary donation from the M&K ARC.

Treasurer: Chuck (WA7EBH) reports the books are looking good and up to date.

Activity Manager: Larry (AB7FJ) states Shoe-string Antennas was well-received last meeting. Tom Sanders from SETI will be the program for October. We as Amateur Radio Operators, can participate in this Global Adventure.

Radio Officer: Harry (W7JWJ) states we are out of QSL cards. Harry is asked to contact Jim Christianson (K7ND) and Mike Dinkelman (N7WA) to see if they have any. Board members are asked to ask around. There has been some QRM on repeater last week or so. Harry needs input reading. It sounds like these may be accidental lock-ons. Harry and Mary spent an afternoon at the American Heritage Indian School in Seattle. Teachers want kids to get involved in Ham radio. Harry will attend the Quarter Century Operators Convention. Last week participated in Sound Shake 198. There is a continuous decline of new Amateur Radio Operators. ARRL membership is also declining.

Committee Reports

Technical: Vertical Antenna for building not done. If unable to get it done, Larry (AB7FJ) has a friend who will do it at no charge.

Public Service: No report.

Education: Ray (WA7EKH) has 3 students in the new class. He has sold five "Now You're Talking" books. He needs instructors. The November and December classes will be in a different location because Salvation Army Building is not available. Paula (AB7ME) has not attended a meeting since her election to the Trustee position. Pete will contact her. The education committee needs more publicity and the club needs to get behind this committee.

Facilities: No report.

Field Day: Nils (WB7TJK) unable to attend meeting tonight because his mother passed away. We need a representative to go to Fort Flagler on Satur-

day, October 3 for a Barracks meeting at 1:00 PM. Nils is unable to attend. Larry (AB7FJ) will represent the club. Reservations are going for lower campground. Nils will meet with rangers regarding plans of campers. All reservations are under Nils' name. If members wish to stay additional nights, they need to make their own reservations for those nights.

Al (KB7THX) presented the idea of changing Field Day site to Auburn Park. He also suggested having another social Ham radio event at another time of year, i.e., Dxpedition. There is a Sweepstakes event in November.

Flea Market: Meeting is October 1, 7:30 PM, Salvation Army Building, Renton. Security and Traffic Control Chairs taken. Flea Market is March 13, 1999.

Logo: Regarding club name plate blanks - It was moved, seconded and passed for the committee to 1) retrieve the template from the company in Oregon, if possible; 2) Get more definitive price from prospective company; 3) Larry to investigate his source for making badges. The Board members want the exact logo no changes.

Long Range Planning: No report.

Relay: No report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Treasurer and Trustees need to meet in October or November to propose next year's budget. Chuck will notify them of the date.

Christmas Party: Larry (AB7FJ), chairman. Party is December 5 at the Salvation Army Building, Renton. Announcement will be put in the RELAY.

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Buy, Sell, Trade, or Wanted

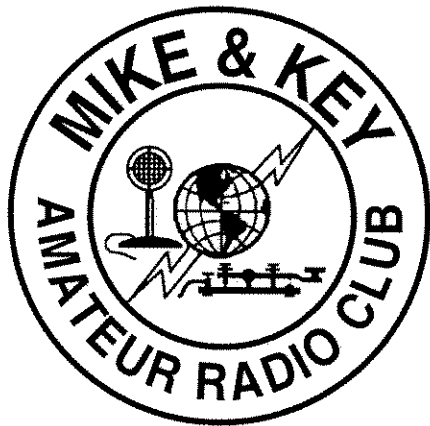


This column is available members and relatives or friends of member (no dealers please) who have electrical/electronic equipment (including computers and software) related to Amateur radio for sale or trade. Ads will be run for two months unless the editor is notified otherwise.

For Sale

- Kenwood model TX520 transceiver, best offer.
- Kenwood model VF052 VFO, best offer.
- Kenwood speaker, best offer.
- Cushcraft HF Beam antenna, best offer.

Please contact Floyd Boswell, N7GVX at 253-631-9394



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 it's activities. Yearly dues are \$12.00 for individual memberships and \$18.00 for family memberships.

Volume 26, Number 10

October, 1998

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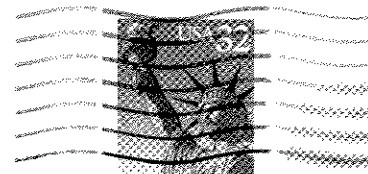
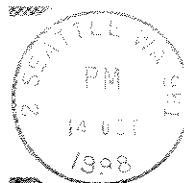
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Return To

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First Class Mail

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, October 17th 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

Wednesday, October 28th at 7:30 PM
Salvation 5th Army in Renton
720 Tobin, Renton

September Program

Tom Sanders from SETI



Check Mailing Label for Dues Status

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

98042+3278

