



The Prez Sez *Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

It seems like it was just yesterday I was writing about fall coming, and here it is. It's at times like this I like to reflect on how quickly life seems to go by.

Well there it went again, I just lost another 3 minutes trying to think about what to write.

It will always amaze me as to how an event that I am looking forward to suddenly comes and goes, and how quickly it becomes history. A good example for me recently is our trip of a lifetime, taking the motor home all over the country for 5 weeks. I could hardly wait for it to happen, and suddenly it is a memory. While it was taking place it was a bit scary. I'm sure the fear of being so far away from home and depending on such a large method of transportation to get from place to place, had something to do with it. Somewhere in the back of my mind there was also the unsettling knowledge that eventually the trip was going to end. By the time we were headed for home, we were ready to get here. There is nothing like living in an 8' x 33' motor home for 5 weeks with another person and 2 dogs, but "There is no place Like Home, Toto". Home also represents a lot of other things as well.

Home is where reality lives. Vacation is for living out fantasies, which become short bursts of reality. Home is not just a house, or a city, or a state. Home is where responsibility, safety, works and commitment exists. Home is where I get to write another column for the club newsletter, conduct and participate in meetings, make repairs, and keep the commitments to all of the organizations I participate in. Home is where I can help a neighbor in need, or get help from a neighbor when in need. Home is where my heart is, where I am comfortable and I don't have to worry about that scary feeling.

I have to admit that I had some apprehension about conducting the last meeting. Having been away for five weeks, and not knowing much about what had taken place while gone (except for a couple of e-mails), deep down inside I hoped the club and everything about it hadn't changed. I really enjoy participating in the changes that take place within the club, and to not be a part of the club changing concerned me. I realize all of this took place in my mind, (a very scary place at times), but for a short time it was a real concern. I say for a short time, because from the moment we that walked through the door, you all showed Carolyn and I that you missed us. We were all laughing and quickly enjoying the meeting, and it reminded me of a family getting together after being apart for a while. I learned a long time ago that your true relationships are those for which time doesn't exist. No matter how much time there is between visits, (be it measured in weeks, months or years), from the moment you see them, its as if it was yesterday. That's how I felt at the last meeting with all of you. You showed me that the club was still in good order, and that the Mike and Key is a large part of that home where my heart is, where I am comfortable and I don't have to worry about that scary feeling.

Many thanks to Tom Sanders for his presentation

on SETI after the last meeting, and for the large group that stayed to participate.

Don't forget December 5th, where this year's annual Turkey & Ham Potluck Dinners' theme is going to be Christmas. Be prepared to come and have a good time, and don't forget the white elephant gift swap. Sorry no fruit cakes from last year allowed. Rumor has it that certain board members are practicing 'The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies' in their Tu Tu's before the board meetings again. "Oh" the spectacle of it all.

General Meeting Minutes 10/17/98

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Officers present: President - Chuck (N7STR); Vice President - Jed (W7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Manger - Larry (AB7FJ); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 - Al (KB7THX); Trustee #2 - Paula (AB7ME); Trustee #3 - Pete (K7WTG); Trustee #4 - Mike (KC7UFT); Trustee #5 - Adrian (KB7BVL).

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.

Introductions of members and guests were held. Roger Terwilliger (WA7ANJ), President of Tacoma Radio Club was a guest this month. 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. The meeting is run from an agenda. Any additions are to be put in the in-put box to be presented later.

Minutes: One correction, the batteries available from the Martins sell for \$20.00. It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the Sep-

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tember meeting as corrected.

Officers Reports

President: Chuck (N7STR) is back from vacation. Ellis Hamer is quite ill and starting chemotherapy. Christmas party is December 5th. Nils Halstrom is taking reservations for campsites for Field Day. Public Service pamphlets are available. Melissa (KB7TFF) is getting mail via e-mail at school.

Novice -Tech classes going well. Ray (WA7EKH) starting new class next Saturday at the Boeing BEARS club and continue through November and December. ARRL handbooks will be ordered if enough people order them. Money to be collected next meeting and available in December. The price is \$21.34 if 10 or more ordered. "Now You're Talking" books available for \$19.00. Alan Hughes gave out certificates from the Radio Club of Tacoma Flea Market.

Vice President: Jed (W7JED) has applications for club membership and ARRL membership. The Club is reimbursed \$5.00 for each renewal. Errors in roster will be corrected. New member applicant: Darryl Plank (WB7BSP), Kent, Advanced Class, and member of ARRL. Darryl approved for membership into Mike & Key ARC.

Secretary: Joyce (N7JPW) sent cards to Gib (W7JIE), Ellis, and Jim Monaghan.

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

Activity Manager: Larry (AB7FJ) has raffle tickets available at \$1.00 each. The raffle will be held at end of meeting. Larry attended Fort Flagler meeting as representative from the Club and enjoyed it. The Christmas Party December 5th, at Salvation Army Building begins 6:00 PM. There will be a White Elephant gift exchange with a \$6.00 limit. He needs a few more members to help with set-up and decorations.

Radio Officer: Harry (W7JWJ) states all repeaters are working well. Nothing new on the Indian School project. Instructor not available yesterday, so will see later this week. QCWA board recommends several changes in the FCC licensure for Amateur Radio, including code requirements.

C.O.B.: Pete (K7WTG) reports that 38 amp batteries are available for sale from the Martins at \$20.00. Lew is operating slow-scan TV.

Alligator Award: Alligator Award will be presented to Lloyd (WA7HNY).

Committee Reports
Those committees not reporting in the RELAY are asked to report now.

Logo: Template for club logo secured by Dan and Dawn from person in Portland. They also secured Tacoma's for them. There is a cost of \$20.00 for expenses, which will be presented to the board for approval.

Flea Market: The preparation work is going well. There is still a need for a few chairperson positions. Next meeting the first Thursday in November, 7:30

PM, Salvation Army Building, Renton.

Public Service: Auburn Veterans Day parade, Saturday, November 7th, 9:30 AM at the Auburn Performing Arts. Seattle Marathon is November 29th in downtown Seattle. Contact Bob (WA7NUU), 425-745-4187 for further information.

New Ham Report: No new hams today.

Net Report: No net last week because there was not a control operator available. We need more net control operators. Contact Cal (KC7IYB) if you are available. Club net is every Wednesday evening.

Good of the Order: Bill Shimmer (W7GBC) from Radio Club of Tacoma passed away.

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

Christmas Party – '98 - Invitation

Larry Smith, AB7FJ



Who: All Mike & Key ARC Members, Families and Friends.

What: Invited To Attend The 1998 Mike & Key ARC's annual Christmas Party

When: December 5, 1998 at 6:00 PM.

Where: Salvation Army Renton HQ, 720 - Tobin St. (Normal Club meeting place).

Why: To have 'Fun - Fun - Fun until our daddy took the Rambler Away'.

RSVP: Sign-up during the November's general membership meeting or e-mail: ab7fj@juno.com or just show up the night of the party.

OK I was not so wealthy to afford a T-Bird — thus the Rambler — but the real issue is the Christmas Party. You do not have to be wealthy to have *Fun*. Come as you are. But if you want to be part of the competition for best dressed in holiday spirit - Dress up for Christmas — prizes for the winners.

There will be door prizes, singing, live music, gift exchanges, special presentation, and perhaps a visit by a mystery guest. Did I mention that there would be lots of food? If you wish to participate in the "White Elephant" gift exchange, limit the gift to an item under \$6.00 (special note - the gift exchange is meant to be fun — so no grand gifts - unless you want to buy me a T-Bird).

Remember to bring a food donation item the night of the party for the less fortunate, an extra door prize ticket for your donation. We will have the food sign-up sheet at the November Meeting. If you have a specialty but it is not listed let me know. We need some folks to help us cook stuff — trust me I am not your cook!

I hope all are planning on attending the party on December 5. It should be an evening full of *Fun*. Merry Christmas.

Field Day '98 Results

Jed Clawson, W7JED

Results for Field Day 1998 have been posted to the Members Only section of the ARRL website. The following is a listing of the top 15 participants in the 6A category. As you can see the Mike & Key Club placed 4th in the nation with a respectable 9,686 points. You may note that the 3rd place club had less QSO's that we but more points which indicates they had more CW contacts than we did.

There were a total of 31 entries for 6A. W6WC from Oregon took 9th place, KV6LI, from SJV (CA) took 13th place, W6SG from SF (CA) took 16th and WA6BMH from SB (CA) took 17th. That is a pretty respectable showing for the Mike and Key Club comparing those stations from 6 & 7 land!!!

Thanks to all who made Field Day 1998 such a great wonderfully successful experience. I believe that with the great leadership we have for Field Day 1999 we could be pounding that first place door! I don't know if any of the rest of you had any fun but I sure did!!!

Club Name	Call	Section	QSO's	Points
Cherryland ARC	K8XX	MI	5207	15,322
South Jersey RA	K2AA	SNJ	3596	10,768
Lake Co ARA	N8BC	OH	2654	9,738
Mike & Key ARC	K7LED	WWA	3174	9,686
Mount Tom ARA	W1TOM	WMA	2470	6,658
Wheaton Community RA	W9CCU	IL	1965	5,926
Kalamazoo ARC	W8VY	MI	1700	5,292
Gainesville ARS	W4SH	NFL	1481	5,204

ARRL Handbooks

Ray Leslie, WA7EKH

As in the past I will again take orders for the ARRL '99 Handbook. The price is still \$21.34. I will not order unless I get at least 9 more members to sign-up. I expect to have the books here for the December meeting. The money is up-front please, cash or check.

From the W7JWJ Notebook Operation Upgrade

An embarrassing moment spans new technology!

The place is the auditorium of the Royal Institute of Great Britain located in downtown London. The time is approaching 8:00PM and the year is 1843. A capacity audience has filled the lecture hall in anticipation of hearing the great inventor Professor Charles Wheatstone describe his latest invention. It was well known that Wheatstone was a poor lecturer. His volubility would sometimes forsake he when speaking before an audience. He was indeed extremely shy.

Charles Wheatstone was the inventor of the British system of telegraphy. Including the printing telegraph and punched paper telegraph. In other fields Wheatstone invented the solar clock which enabled navigators to determine the direction of the sun even on a cloudy day do to the fact that the sun emits polarized ray. Wheatstone also invented the stroboscope, the typewriter, and the stereoscope.

The time is now 8:00 PM. The audience is awaiting the anticipated lecture of the Society that always

lasts exactly until 9:00 PM. This evening the discourse will be on the electromagnetic chronoscope and recent inventions. Wheatstone peers out through the curtains, and being the shy man that he was, suddenly panics as he realizes that his new invention is so insignificant it should not be presented to such a prestigious audience. He quickly exits the building.

The embarrassed director of the Institute, Michael Faraday, steps to the rostrum and attempts to explain the invention of Wheatstone of which he knows little. There is no way he can fill the allotted hour and so Faraday begins to share his thoughts with the audience on electromagnetic vibrations. This led to the publishing of a letter on the subject that laid the foundations on which Maxwell based his work establishing the electromagnetic theory of light and the propagation of waves. From that embarrassing moment emerged the beginning. We call it wireless, AKA Amateur Radio.

November Board Meeting 10/28/98

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Officers present: President - Chuck (N7STR); Vice President - Jed (W7JED); Secretary - Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Manager - Larry (AB7FJ); Trustee #1 - Al (KB7THX); Trustee #3 - Pete (K7WTG); Trustee #4 - Mike (KC7UFT); Trustee #5 - Adrian (KB7BVL).
Visitors present: Ray (WA7EKH); Ellen (KC7EBC); Dave (KB7PSN); Dan (N7QHC); Dawn (KC7YYB).

The meeting was called to order by C.O.B Pete (K7WTG) at 7:35 PM at the Salvation Army Building, Renton.

The minutes of the September Board meeting were

approved as printed in the RELAY.

Officers reports

C.O.B. Pete will not be at the November board meeting. Al (KB7THX) will chair. Paula Cather resigned from Trustee #2 as of tonight. Election for this position will be held at November general meeting.

President: Badges will be \$8.00 as of November 1. No further report.

Vice President: New applicant, Rita Danielson (KD7CNU), approved for presentation to general membership at the November meeting. Jed printed up certificates at home. Ray has many of them and they are available at his house.

Secretary: No correspondence.

Treasurer: Looking good. Books balanced. Budget meeting at Chuck's house on Thursday, October 29, 7:30 PM. Fort Flagler wants \$10.00 more for the picnic area because there are more than 50 members expected.

Activity Manager: November's presentation will be Dave Wallace from ICOM. Hope to have the Fun-Mobile. Larry has \$411 in the raffle fund for the December raffle. Chuck (WA7EBH) asked Larry about having the National Weather Service for a program.

Committee Reports

Technical: No report.

Public Service: Auburn Veteran's Day parade is November 7th. Hams to meet at the Performing Arts Building 9:30 AM.

Education: Ray (WA7EBH). Classes continue. Place will be Bellevue EOC Center at Bellevue Police Dept. There are 3 people in this class. Ray will continue through December. No class in January.

Long range planning: Advertising the club meetings in the newspapers. Adrian is also updating the libraries.

Facilities: No report.

Field Day: Reservations are going quickly. There are no hook-up sites left. Larry attended the ELC meeting at Fort Flagler regarding the barracks. The annual work party is in January. Deposit for barracks is due November 30.

Flea Market: Next meeting November 5th, 7:30 PM, Salvation Army Building. Still looking for some more chairpersons.

Logo: Most supplies obtained and to start production soon on badges.

Christmas Party: There is a budget of \$250.00 for the party. Information will be available at the next meeting and in the RELAY. The party will be December 5th at 6:00 PM.

RELAY Editor: No report.

Old Business: Larry has information for badges in the event our current source is no longer available.

New Business: None.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned.

Club Member is Ill

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

Ellis Hamer, W7BQG, is undergoing cancer treatment at this time. I'm sure he would appreciate contact from all his old Ham friends at this time.

e-mail:

w7bqg@aol.com

Home address:

1402 - 22nd NE #310
Auburn, WA 98002

Telephone:

253-939-4895

He has a Commodore 64 computer with 2 screens and a printer he would like to donate to a youth in the club. Please contact Ellis direct if you know of someone who would qualify.

From the Logo Committee

*Dan & Dawn Humphrey
N7QHC / KC7YYB*

As with most things, production costs seem to escalate, so it is with regret that we announce that club badge prices will be \$8.00 as of January 1, 1999. We will honor all orders before that date at the \$6.50 price.

Novices/ Tech Classes

Ray Leslie WA7EKH

The Novice/Technician class for the month of December will start on November 28th at 10:00 PM in the Bellevue Emergency Operations Center, Police Annex, 11501 Main Street in Bellevue. This is just west of City Hall.



There will be three classes of approximately four hours. Additional classes will be at the same time on 5th and 12th December. There will be no class during the month of January 1999.

Events Calendar

November

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

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

November 25th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

November 26th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

December

December 2nd, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 3rd, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 5th, Saturday - Mike & Key ARC Annual Christmas party, 6:00 PM at the Renton Salvation Army HQ

December 9th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 10th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 16th, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 17th, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

December 17th, Thursday - Public Service Meeting, 7:30 PM at Sharis Restaurant, exit #4 on I-405 (Maple Valley exit)

December 19th, Mike and Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation

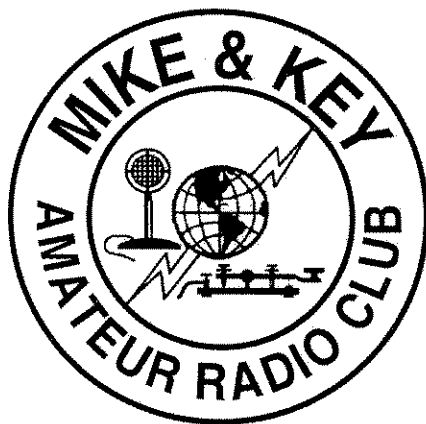
Buy, Sell, Trade, or Wanted

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 11

November, 1998

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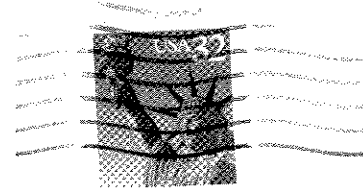
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First Class Mail

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, November 21st 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, November 25th at 7:30 PM
Salvation 5th Army in Renton
720 Tobin, Renton

September Program

Dave Wallace from ICOM



To Give THANKS



Check Mailing Label for Dues Status

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

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