



**K7LED**

# Relay

Volume 25, Number 12

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December, 1998

## The Prez Sez

*Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

I have a saying stuck up on my wall, which I read every day. It goes:  
"Acceptance is the answer to ALL my problems today. When I am disturbed, it is because I find some person, place, or situation - some fact of my life - unacceptable to me, and I can find no serenity until I accept that person, place, thing, or situation as being exactly the way it is supposed to be at this moment. Nothing, absolutely nothing happens in this world by mistake. Unless I accept life on life's terms, I cannot be happy. I need to concentrate not so much on what needs to be changed in the world as on what needs to be changed in me and in my attitudes."

Of course I follow this rule 100% of the time, and I have a lovely lake I'll sell you in Florida. The reason I have this posted on my wall, is that when I am in the middle of some internal crisis, it is where I will see it as a reminder. I have had to apply this principle of life, in moments of upheaval, too many times to count. In the end, it was my lack of acceptance of my part in creating the situation, that was at the heart of the conflict.

With all of the doom and gloom about Ham Radio, I have often wondered how many Hams could apply this with regard to their relationship to their hobby. Do we want to talk on repeaters, and on HF Nets just to be heard, or are we actively participating in the many opportunities and organizations affiliated with Ham Radio?

The fact that you are receiving this newsletter says two things. You belong to a Ham Radio Club, and you have an interest in Ham Radio.

Ask yourself the following questions, and answer them honestly:

- How many Ham Radio organizations, other than the Mike and Key Club, have you joined?
- In how many of these, do you participate in activities more than twice a month?
- In how many are you an officer, or have run for office?
- In how many do you volunteer to help put on their internal events?
- How often do you leave it for the other guy?
- How often are you too busy to help?
- How many public & community service events (Parades, River Watches, Sporting Events, Weather Watches, Sound Shake, etc.), did you participate in this year?
- How many Hamfests did you attend this year?
- At how many Hamfests did you spend more time shopping and visiting, than helping with set up and tear down?
- For how many events did you volunteer, and find yourself not keeping your complete commitment?
- Do you promote Ham Radio with Non-Ham friends and relatives?
- Are you a positive or negative example for

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Ham Radio? (Be honest with yourself)

- What would your life be like without Ham Radio?
- How much TV do you watch a day, a night, a week, a month, a year?
- How many hours do you spend playing video games, or surfing or chatting on the internet?

These questions are not directed at any one person in the club, and they are all questions which I ask myself on a regular basis, and yes, I flunk some of them also.

Someone once called me Mr. Mike and Key, because I knew more about everything that was going on within the club than anyone else. That was an assumption, not a fact. I am not Mr. Mike and Key. I am just a member who loves his hobby, it's participants, and his club. I have only been a ham since July, 1991. I would venture to say that 90% of the club knows more about the Technical Side of Ham Radio than I do. I just know that the best way for me to learn what You know, is by working with you at every possible opportunity. It is more active participation in all aspects of Ham Radio, Service, Social, and Technical, by Licensed and Non-Licensed Ham Radio Operators that will, in the end, save our hobby. You can throw all the money you want at a situation, but unless it fulfills a vital service outside of it's environment, you can never save it. In the end, it is the attitude and commitment of the participants that effects the final outcome.

It's not that much different than the relationships we have with our community, occupations, marriages and children.

The holidays are a wonderful time of year to give yourself a gift, and a change of attitude is the most important gift of all. No one else can give it to you, it's the gift only you can give to yourself.

I hope you all enjoyed the Club's Christmas Party. A special thank you to Larry and all of his helpers!

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all.*

## General Meeting Minutes 11/21/98

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 #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.

**Minutes:** It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the October meeting as printed in the Relay.

Please sign the roster at each table so a quorum can be determined. Introductions of members and guests were done. Gary Fiber (KF7XV) from ICOM will present the program today. 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 ARRL 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.

### Officer Reports

**President:** Results of Field Day published. M&K placed 4th in the nation, missing 3rd place by a few points. Thank you Jed Clawson for such a fine job. The Radio Coaches program on going. Harry (W7JWJ) won't be here today.

Novice and Tech classes moved location due to the holidays to the Bellevue EOC Center at Bellevue Police Department. Next class starts next Saturday, November 28. Rattle door to get in building. "Now You're Talking" books available for \$19.00. ARRL handbooks are available through Ray at \$21.34 if 10 or more are ordered. Otherwise, they sell for \$32.00. Upgrade class for Technicians to General is planned.

**Election:** An election was held for the position of Trustee #2 which is now vacant due to Paula's (AB7ME) resignation. Nominations for Trustee #2 were opened. Nils Hallstrom (WB7TJK) nominated. After nominations closed, a unanimous ballot was cast to elect Nils as Trustee #2 to fill the position vacated.

**Vice President:** Jed (W7JED) presented Membership certificate for Bob Pasternak (KD7BVN). One applicant for new membership, Rita Danielson (KD7CNU) was approved for membership into the Mike & Key ARC by the members present. There is a quorum present today.

**Secretary:** Joyce (N7JPW) has nothing to report.

**Treasurer:** Chuck (WA7EBH) reports books are in good standing. Books are available for members to review. Board has new budget proposal, which will be covered later.

**Activity Manager:** Larry (AB7FJ) has raffle tickets available. Raffle to be held at the end of the

meeting. Many nice prizes are available today. Program today is a presentation by Gary Fiber (KF7XV) from ICOM. December Raffle will be over \$400.00.

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) was not present.

**Relay:** Jack (N7IHS) has nothing to report.

### Committee Reports

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

**Facilities:** No report.

**Flea Market:** December 3 is next Flea Market meeting at Salvation Building at 7:30 PM. Fliers finished and will try to get out before postage increase. Date of Flea Market is March 13.

**C.O.B.:** Al (KB7THX), acting COB, has items from the In-Put box. New badges will be \$8.00 after the first of the year. So order badges now for \$6.50. Martins still have batteries for \$20.00. The proposed balanced budget will be presented at the next board meeting. After approval by the board it will be printed in the RELAY so members can vote on it at the December meeting.

**Alligator Award:** Frank (K7VMG) presented it to Lloyd (WA7HNY).

**DX Award:** Nils (WB7TJK) has nothing to report.

**Field Day:** Nils (WB7TJK) Budget increased for 1999 because the club is paying for campsites. Need people to sign up for campsites in the lower campground. Nils' E-mail is [wb7tjk@juno.com](mailto:wb7tjk@juno.com). Bar-racks sign-up sheet also available. Only one vehicle per campsite will be allowed. Individual must pay for second car.

**Christmas Party:** Larry states date is December 5 at 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Salvation Army Building. Sign-up sheets available for potluck portion. There will be a white elephant exchange for maximum of \$6.00. Bring can goods for donations. Larry needs help cooking turkeys and hams (3 of each). Let Larry know if you can cook a ham or turkey. Volunteers were secured to cook these.

**Public Service:** No report.

**New Ham Report:** Pat (W0OPW) New Ham today is Sally who is studying for ticket and needs equipment

**Good of the Order:** Larry has more tickets to sell. Must be present to win. Salvation Army needs help with security at their bell-ringing sites. Hams are needed to stand by the bell-ringers. See Frank (KA7QHG) if you can help. Help is needed in the evenings when it is dark.

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

## Relay Deadline

Submittals for the January Relay are due to the editor by January 6, 1999.

## Xmas Party

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR



Wow, what a party. If you missed the Clubs Xmas party, you missed one of the biggest laugh fests of the year. Larry Smith and his crew, really put on a great one. On top of that, the big winning item, an Alinco HT Radio that was given away in the drawing. The gift exchange run by Mike and Ronnie was just hilarious. Calvin Doss recorded the whole thing, so I guess if you come to the next meeting, during the social hour it will be film at ll.

We had some spectacular dishes brought to the dinner, but one of extreme honorable mention has to be a Korean dish prepared by Paul Min's wife Natalia. I personally went back for 3rds on that one, and there was still some left at the end. Thank you to all that contributed by cooking turkeys and hams, and to those that brought those amazing side dishes and deserts.

Many thanks to the Captain's Halversons of the Salvation Army for the many nice comments to the club and for coming to the dinner.

## We Need Your Expertise

Pete Hedberg, K7WTG

At the last board meeting a suggestion was made that the Technical Committee develop a list of members capabilities for use by other members when the need arises. This list will give others a contact source when they are just not sure how to proceed with a project or enter a new area of interest in ham radio. They would have someone to talk to who has *been there, done that*. I think each of us has wished for that more than once. I will be passing around a sign-up sheet at the next Club meeting and I urge each of you to consider adding your name to the list. Some of the categories that will be on the list are Antennas, Towers, Digital Communication, Code, Low Bands, VHF, DX, Computers and Programs. There are a lot of new and old hams that could use your advice.

## Audit Committee

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

At the next club meeting we will be re-selecting the Audit committee during the business meeting. The committee has changed due to members who have dropped from the club, and because of the last trustee election. Please be prepared to conduct an audit in January if you volunteer. If we get more than 3 applicants there will be a runoff. The same thing will apply at the Clubs Board Meeting with a selection of two new Trustee's to participate.

## Events Calendar

### December

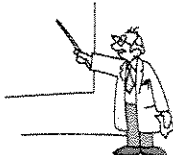
- December 9th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**December 10th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**December 16th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**December 17th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**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  
**December 23rd**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**December 24th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**December 30th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater **December 30th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Board Meeting, 7:30 PM at Renton Salvation  
**December 31st** Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

### January

- January 6th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**January 7th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**January 13th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Net, 7:30 PM on 146.82 repeater  
**January 14th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

## From the W7JWJ Notebook Operation Upgrade

### Television: Was there a beginning?

 It was a foggy London morning that day of October 30<sup>th</sup>, 1925 when John Baird briskly walked to a nearby newspaper office. This day he needed a little publicity. He politely asked the receptionist if he might see the news editor. The young lady soon conveyed the request. Upon hearing it the face of the editor turned ashen and he was obviously terrified. He summoned a large burly staff member and said, "for God's sake go down to reception and get rid of a lunatic who's down there. He says he's got a machine for seeing by wireless! Watch him - he may have a razor."

Now John Logie Baird was not the best of inventors. His invention for curing hemorrhoids had left the inventor himself in excruciating pain for over a week and his attempt to make artificial diamonds was a dismal failure. His neighbors claimed the inventor had trouble changing an electrical fuse. Yet

little did they or the news editor realize in October of 1925 that three years later Baird would use radio towers of the BBC to transmit television from London to New York to New York. Did I mention that in 1928 Baird was transmitting color images?

The many ideas for transmitting images via telegraphic means at a distance traces back to the discovery of light sensitive selenium in 1817 by Swedish Baron Jons Berzelius. Alexander Bain had invented a siphon recorder for producing the dots and dashes of the Morse code by passing a ribbon of litmus paper through an acid solution and activated by pulses of electrical current. In 1842 Englishman Bain proposed reproducing any letters, numbers or hand written documents. Thus the facsimile was born. By 1861 the Italian priest, Abbe Caselli, was using tin foil on facsimile to transmit images. The world would soon be ready for wireless. Inventor Tesla in 1894 would describe the method.

Unknown to that London newspaper editor was the work of the Russian immigrant Zworykin who had patented the 'iconoscope'. The editor had not heard of young Philo Farnsworth who at age 13 and in 1923 had developed a new camera tube that he called the 'kinescope'. Could he have known of the work Kenjito Takayangi the Japanese?

By the year of 1941 sales of television receivers with 3 inch viewing screens had skyrocketed in the United States to an unbelievable nearly 400. During that same year of 1941 NBC and CBS were granted commercial broadcast licenses and the United States adopted a 525-line television standard.

Today as we approach the millennium we are about to experience the new advanced television technology. Television stations are even now building and planning to soon introduce HDTV. Why is it not in three dimensions? Mr. news editor there is someone waiting in the outer office to see you!

## 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 or Trade

Enclosed 19-inch rack. Enclosure is 24-inches wide by 30-inches deep by 30-inches high with lockable doors, bottom casters, 3 top mounted muffin fans and power strip. Excellent for linear and power supply. \$150.00, obo, or trade for equipment. Contact Jim Hamlin (W7FKI) 253-838-8453, e-mail: w7fki@gte.net.

## Silent Key

*Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

I am sorry to announce that while traveling home from a DXpedition to Howe Island, Mary Lou Brown, NM7N, Northwest District Director of ARRL, passed away from a heart attack suffered at LAX Airport on December 3, 1998. Our prayers and support go out to her family at this extremely difficult time.

## From the Editor

*Jack Grimmert, N7HIS*

This month's Relay contains the proposal for the Mike & Key ARC 1999 Operating Budget that has been approved by the Board of Directors. At the December meeting the members will be asked to vote for the bottom line number of \$13,270.00. As you can see, the 1999 budget is really based on our recent history of expenditures and is highly dependent on our income from the Flea Market.

I am planning to publish the 1999 Winter Mike & Key Roster the first part of January. Again I solicit any corrections to the 1998 Fall Roster. I already have received a number of corrections, but there is one, which I need some help with. A lady sent me some correction information and that her husband had been left off of the roster. I would appreciate that lady to please send me the correction information again. Her e-mail was inadvertently trashed. Also I have been getting Relays returned for **Robert Crooker** (KB7PEC). He does not have a telephone listed so I am unable to get a hold of him. Would anyone who knows Robert please have him contact me with his correct address?

I just received my Field Day site reservation information for **Nils Hallstrom**, (WB7TJK), Field Day '99 chairperson. Nils is apparently really on top the planning for the Field Day next June. His wife **Jo** (KB7UFM) also signed the information sheet. I suspect that she is a major part of the planning. Good job Nils and Jo you are great assets for a club to have. I'm sure that Field Day '98 will rank among the best we have ever had. I do have one question. What happens 6 months from now when I'm getting ready to go to Field Day and can't find my reservation information?

The Flea Market Committee is also moving ahead with chairman Chuck Stroehrer (WA7EBH). I am sure that in the January Relay we will find out where they are and what kind of help they need. Participating in the planning of these two activities is a great opportunity for new members to really get to know other members and how the Mike & Key ARC works.

## Fun at Radio Free La Center

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

If you are into contesting, the big Multiple/Multiple stations are where "it's at". These are special locations where the owner has gone to great lengths to set up a station where a bunch of guys (and gals) can get on all bands at once using multiple radio's, amplifiers, and antennas. It's investment of big bucks and time - a labor of love. Most M/M's are on the Least Coast - back east where there is a population to support them. On the West Coast, M/M's have been limited to primarily to California.

Up here in the Pacific Northwest, Rush Drake, W7RM, has been the center of Multi/Multi activity back from his days on Foul Weather Bluff where many a seasoned contester gained experience. Since Rush's move to La Center a number of years ago (he was blown off the Buff by the same storm that got the Hood Canal Bridge) activity has been quietly regaining momentum. Poking out of the hills above La Center are 6 towers with yagi's for all bands from 10M through 40M. There is a 5 element quad for 20 meters. A four square is used for 80 meters and there are beverages and slopers for 160M. Beneath the ground, in the U shaped "Bunker" is a conglomeration of equipment and supplies. In the center of the "U" itself, sit ancient amplifiers capable of heating the bunker as well as the ionosphere. Members from the Western Washington DX Club and Willamette Valley DX Club in Oregon come together in La Center to provide the labor and radios.

This year, interest was high in doing the CQWW CW as a M/M. (We have special Internet mailing list to keep us all informed of activities at W7RM). It took a lot of brownie points and gnashing of teeth but I managed to get the weekend reserved (remember this is following Thanksgiving!) Chuck, W7CAJ also expressed interest and was brought on board. The weekend before, we ran down to do some cleanup and testing of the computer network. All appeared fine (except for a nasty virus that Chuck found) and we were ready for the big time the following week.

It wasn't easy getting up at 5:30AM on Friday evening. I had just returned from a Bellingham Thanksgiving around midnight. Yet, while millions in Puget Sound were turning their thoughts to Christmas bargains - my thoughts were on a couple acres of antennas a few hours south. Picking up Chuck, and Ward, N0AX in Tacoma, we were on our way to contesting Nirvana. When we arrived, the sun had barely been up an hour; it was dark and quiet but that was soon to change as we and other contesters started setting up for the 4:00 PM starting time. Incredibly, most of it was ready to go by 3:00 PM. Time for some strategy and pep talk. We practically had to pry David (KK7GW and 15 year's old), off a hot run of JA's on 10 Meters. Following strategy, the first crisis appears. The computers hang periodically for no reason - just by pressing a key and with no RF present. We quickly start swapping out the desktops

(all the same brand and configuration) for every available laptop. Then it happens, it's 4:00 PM and time to *play!*

Ten through twenty meters start out with a bang. David (who uses an old TS820 and dipoles at home) runs 190 JA's in the first two hours on 10M. 15M and 20M have good openings and rapid starts. Forty meters wasn't quite so fast out the gate. My stint on 40M (I was the 40M captain) became 4 hours of Search and Pounce. I could hear Europe but they couldn't hear me. I found multipliers but no runs. By the time Chuck relieved me at 8:00 PM, I was way behind in Q's and tired of listening to faint signals through the noise. 10M stayed open late and 15M and 20M were still alive. By the time I got back to 40M about midnight (following a nap). I was looking for some action. It was a good time to come back. After relieving Chuck, I ran two solid hours of JA's at 70 Q's an hour. We were catching up with the other bands in QSO totals. By the time I handed off 40M in the wee hours, we looked respectable - still low in multipliers but reasonable in Q's.

My return Saturday morning meant it was time to check out Long Path to Europe. (Kids, don't try this without 40M yagi's at 180 feet). Yes, Europe was in but weak. I managed to pick up a couple more of the missing Europe mults but nowhere as many as I heard. From then on it was grinding out Asians until the band died. When done, we were leading in mult and QSO totals but 20 through 10M were just getting warmed up as the sun rose over the NW.

Saturday evening followed the same path as the previous evening. Search and pounce through to midnight, run the JA's, Asia, and South Pacific until morning and do long path to Europe. Long Path to Europe was a bit better this time and I managed to pick up a few missing multipliers. Sunday morning I could listen to the sunset go across Europe as the signals started working their way across Western Russia, Eastern Europe, Western Europe, and finally the United Kingdom. (It's amazing what you can do with big aluminum and the power to back it up.) Then we were done for the day on 40M except for some sporadic signals.

When 4:00 PM rolled around, the 20 or so people that came down to Radio Free La Center had broken the 7th Call district record with  $\Pi$  million points to spare. It looked like this before cleanup.

Band	Valid QSOs	Points	Countries	Zones
160CW	226	254	24	15
80CW	370	883	51	29
40CW	769	2129	103	37
20CW	1595	4375	126	38
15CW	931	2670	122	36
10CW	810	2086	90	29
Totals	4701	12397	516	184

Score = 8677900 points.

Hope you didn't miss out on the fantastic conditions that came about on CQWW CW weekend. It was a blast - made more fun by the camaraderie of a team.

## Goodbye Mary Lou

*Michael Dinkelman, N7WA*

By now, you have heard that Mary Lou Brown, ARRL NW Division Director, became a Silent Key returning from a Contest DX-pedition - one of her favorite activities. Mary Lou was a good friend and I can't let the event pass without saying a few words.

I knew of Mary Lou but not much more before fate threw us together on a three week adventure back in 1990. Six of us, members of the Western Washington DX Club, were joined together on a trip the USSR. While things have changed a lot since those years, back then, we were all headed into a place that was still a mystery for most Americans. The only female and the eldest member of our group, Mary was a fully involved member of our merry band. She showed herself to be knowledgeable about radio and never shirked an opportunity (or the responsibility) to join in on any activity. Being the lone female, she represented all of YL America (female Russian Hams are very rare) and did an excellent job of it. She was a member of the VE testing team and this placed her in high standing among our hosts. Through it all, Mary Lou put up with some terrible conditions that many back home would never dream existed in a country that was deemed a superpower and came out smiling. It would not have been the same trip without Mary Lou and we all got to be good friends.

Since then, contact has been sporadic, usually limited to Club Meetings or Hamfests but if anything urgent came up, we could always chat via e-mail. Each time we did meet, it was a challenge to get all caught up again - usually between questions from ARRL members at the ARRL booth - but I always looked forward to seeing Mary Lou's motor home make that turn onto the Puyallup Fairgrounds. This year, we will not be doing that catch up job and I'll miss her dearly. Goodbye Mary Lou.

## Board Meeting Minutes 11/25/98

*Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW*

**Officers President:** Chuck (N7STR);  
**Secretary -** Joyce (N7JPW); **Treasurer -** Chuck (WA7EBH); **Activity Manger -** Larry (AB7FJ);  
**Trustee #1 -** Al (KB7THX); **Trustee #2 -** Nils (WB7TJK); **Trustee #3(COB) -** Pete (K7WTG);  
**Trustee #4 -** Adrian (KB7BVL); **RELAY Editor -** Jack (N7IHS).

The December board meeting was called to order by C.O.B Pete (K7WTG) at 7:30 PM at the Salvation Army, Renton

The 10-28-98 Board minutes should read "Pete (K7WTG) will not be present at the November general membership meeting at which Al (KB7THX) will give the C.O.B. report. The minutes were approved as corrected.

## Officers Report

**President:** Received a request for donation to Salvation Army, just a general mailing. Will pass a kettle at the General meeting. Wondering where the Special Service Club certificate is located.

**Vice Pres.:** Absent

**Secretary:** No correspondence.

**Treasurer:** Looking good. Books are balanced. The books are available for members to see. Budget was presented to the board members. Moved by Chuck (N7STR) to approve the budget as presented by the budget committee to the board. The motion seconded and passed. The Budget is to be voted on as a whole, at the General meeting. Questions answered as to how the budget works.

**Act Manger:** The program for next club meeting is a no-host rag chew. December raffle will have some nice prizes generated from the raffle proceeds totaling \$469.00. Larry will be purchasing tickets as he ran out.

**C.O.B.:** The door to the club radios is blocked. Members state the items can be moved easily. Not a problem.

## Committee Reports

**Technical:** Jack (N7IHS) and Pete (K7WTG) will meet 12/2/98 at the building to measure, etc. for the antenna for the outside of the building. Jack will then take it to be welded, etc.

**Public Service:** No report.

**Education:** No report.

**Long range planning:** No report.

**Facilities:** No report.

**Field Day:** Nils (WB7TJK) has application and permit for the barracks. The fees have been paid. 20 of the 40 campsites have been spoken for. Many have signed up for the barracks. Nils has a cover letter to go to the members who have signed up for campsites, which includes instructions. The board approved the cover letter. Mosquito spray will be done at operating site only. Two sani-cans will be at the operating sites only, one at the upper site and one on the beach. Rita Danielson is the Barrack Master.

**Flea Market Meeting** will be December 3 at 7:30 PM at the Salvation Army Building. The building has been arranged for meetings December through April on the first Thursday of each month.

**Christmas Party:** December 5 at 6:00 PM. Set-up will be 10:30 AM on that day. Committee meeting was held. Award will be given for best dressed "in spirit". There will be a \$6.00 White Elephant gift exchange.

**Relay Editor:** Not getting information on new members. These members are calling for their Relays. The Vice President should be giving the information on new members to Jack (N7IHS) and Chuck (WA7EBH).

## Old Business

Al (KB7THX) suggests that the Club start code classes, get the club station on the air, and make new members feel more welcome. Pete suggests that

board members spread out at the meetings, i.e., one at each table. Jack suggests new members be assigned to a sponsor (if no sponsor on the application for membership) for 2-3 meetings. This was done in the past and it worked. So far, new members have had sponsors on their applications, but do we need to expand on this. Chuck (WA7EBH) suggests that the president ask the membership, who wants to meet for a class to up-grade their licenses. The club can go from there. The Technical committee will generate a list of members with expertise that club members with questions can contact. There will be an article in the Relay regarding this list.

#### New Business

Larry moved that the Club purchase the roll of raffle tickets and that these not come out of the raffle proceeds. The motion seconded. Discussion: The raffle is self-supporting, so the tickets should come out of the proceeds. The raffle is separate from the Club treasury. Motion failed. Budget for the Christmas party is \$250.00. Chairperson is concerned that committee members should not be expected to spend own money. Chairperson can be issued the money in advance by giving the treasurer a budget estimate request and keep an account of expenditures.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

### Mike & Key ARC 1999 Budget Proposal

	1996 Actual	1997 Actual	1998 Proposed	1998* Actual	1999 Proposed
<b>Revenue</b>					
Dues	\$2023.00	\$2,006.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,723.00	\$2000.00
Flea Market	\$8,500.00	\$4,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,000.00
Interest	\$100.09	\$55.03	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$932.45	\$278.00	\$200.00	\$601.00	\$150.00
Logo Sales	\$13.00		\$100.00	\$20.50	\$20.00
CD Cash-out	see 1997	\$2,919.00			\$3000.00
<i>Total Income</i>	<i>\$11,568.54</i>	<i>\$9,258.03</i>	<i>\$11,400.00</i>	<i>\$10,894.50</i>	<i>\$13,270.00</i>
<b>Expenditures</b>					
<b>Field Day</b>					
Gas	\$21.29	\$29.57	\$40.00	\$64.00	\$40.00
Trailer and Tow Fees	\$33.62		\$50.00		\$50.00
Party Expense	\$185.01	\$118.78	\$200.00	\$171.36	\$200.00
Sani-Can	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$300.00	\$280.00	\$150.00
Other Expenses (Repair)	\$16.23	\$86.31	\$100.00	\$300.00	\$100.00
Park Reservation Fees	\$215.00	\$245.00	\$250.00	\$1,077.00	\$1,000.00
Capital Expenditures		\$491.00	\$500.00	\$15.00	\$250.00
Camping Fees for Everyone			\$600.00	\$416.75	\$1,000.00
Bug Spraying	\$25.00	\$300.00	\$360.00	\$300.00	\$200.00
<i>Field Day Total</i>	<i>\$756.15</i>	<i>\$1,530.66</i>	<i>\$2,400.00</i>	<i>\$2,624.11</i>	<i>\$2,990.00</i>
<b>Committees</b>					
Technical & Special Interest			\$200.00		\$200.00
Public Service		\$512.47	\$1,000.00	\$936.75	\$1,000.00
Education & Training	\$860.00	\$531.50	\$500.00	\$508.35	\$500.00
Strategic Planning	\$53.27		\$200.00		\$100.00
Facilities & Publicity		\$104.09	\$200.00	\$140.47	\$100.00
<i>Committees Total</i>	<i>\$913.27</i>	<i>\$1,148.06</i>	<i>\$2,100.00</i>	<i>\$1,585.57</i>	<i>\$1,900.00</i>
<b>Annual Picnic</b>					
<i>Picnic Total</i>	<i>\$199.72</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>	<i>\$114.50</i>	<i>\$200.00</i>
<b>Christmas Party</b>					
<i>Christmas Party Total</i>	<i>\$235.51</i>	<i>\$204.42</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>	<i>\$250.00</i>
<b>Awards Banquet</b>					
Awards	\$302.33	\$343.00	\$350.00	\$219.39	\$300.00
Prizes	\$500.00	\$519.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
Other Expenses	\$22.81	\$149.00	\$200.00	\$76.37	\$100.00
Food/Meals Sub.	\$196.32	\$313.00	\$400.00	\$335.65	\$400.00
<i>Banquet Total</i>	<i>\$1,021.46</i>	<i>\$1,324.00</i>	<i>\$1,450.00</i>	<i>\$1,131.41</i>	<i>\$1,400.00</i>

\* 1998 Actuals through December 1, 1998

	1996 Actual	1997 Actual	1998 Proposed	1998* Actual	1999 Proposed
<b>Relay and Roster</b>					
Postage	\$840.08	\$766.08	\$1,000.00	\$873.00	\$1,000.00
Printing	\$1,183.55	\$1,446.80	\$1,200.00	\$1,456.00	\$1,200.00
Supplies	\$81.48		\$100.00	\$31.77	\$50.00
Other Expenses	\$147.20				
<i>Relay Total</i>	<i>\$2,252.28</i>	<i>\$2,212.88</i>	<i>\$2,300.00</i>	<i>\$2,360.77</i>	<i>\$2,250.00</i>
<b>Facilities</b>					
Meeting Hall Rent	\$1080.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
<i>Facilities Total</i>	<i>\$1080.00</i>	<i>\$1,400.00</i>	<i>\$1,400.00</i>	<i>\$1,400.00</i>	<i>\$1,400.00</i>
<b>Repeater</b>					
Site Rental	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00	\$360.00
Repair		\$403.33	\$500.00		\$500.00
Other Expenses			\$100.00		\$100.00
Capital Improvement		\$47.92			
<i>Repeater Total</i>	<i>\$360.00</i>	<i>\$811.25</i>	<i>\$960.00</i>	<i>\$360.00</i>	<i>\$960.00</i>
<b>Miscellaneous Items</b>					
Officers Expenses	\$165.43	\$105.49	\$100.00	\$22.67	\$100.00
State Filing Fee	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00
Bank service Charges	\$24.00	\$24.00	\$50.00	\$102.48	\$50.00
Trailer Licenses (2)	\$49.25	\$41.00	\$45.00	\$53.25	\$58.00
Insurance		\$325.00	\$350.00		\$350.00
WWARA Membership		\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Printing (non-Relay)	\$80.58	\$522.04	\$200.00	\$108.06	\$300.00
Public Relations	\$787.42	\$1,070.11	\$1,000.00	\$118.60	\$500.00
PO Box	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
Unanticipated Expenses	\$247.00	\$120.27	\$250.00	\$10.08	\$250.00
Name Tags - Badges		\$6.25	\$50.00		\$50.00
Capital Improvement		\$845.00	\$500.00		\$200.00
<i>Miscellaneous Total</i>	<i>\$1,403.68</i>	<i>\$3,121.16</i>	<i>\$2,607.00</i>	<i>\$477.14</i>	<i>\$1,920.00</i>
<b>Expense Summary</b>					
Field Day Total	\$756.15	\$1,530.66	\$2,400.00	\$2,624.11	\$2,990.00
Committees Total	\$913.27	\$1,148.06	\$2,100.00	\$1,585.57	\$1,900.00
Picnic Total	\$199.72	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$114.50	\$200.00
Christmas Party Total	\$235.51	\$204.42	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Banquet Total	\$1,021.46	\$1,324.00	\$1,450.00	\$1,131.41	\$1,400.00
Relay Total	\$2,252.28	\$2,212.88	\$2,300.00	\$2,360.77	\$2,250.00
Facilities Total	\$1080.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
Repeater Total	\$360.00	\$811.25	\$960.00	\$360.00	\$960.00
Miscellaneous Total	\$1,403.68	\$3,121.16	\$2,607.00	\$477.14	\$1,920.00
<i>Total Expenses</i>	<i>\$8,222.07</i>	<i>\$11,952.43</i>	<i>\$13,667.00</i>	<i>\$10,303.50</i>	<i>\$13,270.00</i>
<b>Recap</b>					
Total Income	\$11,568.54	\$9,258.03	\$11,400.00	\$10,894.50	\$13,270.00
Total Expenses	(\$8,222.07)	(\$11,952.43)	(\$13,667.00)	(\$10,303.50)	(\$13,270.00)
Profit or (Loss)	\$3,346.47	(\$2,694.40)	(\$2,267.00)	\$591.00	\$0.00

\* 1998 Actuals through December 1, 1998



## A Ham's Night Before Christmas

*(Yet another corruption of Clement Clarke Moore's classic Christmas tale, this time distorted by Gary Pearce KN4AQ, and the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Raleigh, NC, December 2, 1996.) Submitted by Scott Castonguay, KC7UOC.*

Twas the night before Christmas,  
And all through two-meters,  
Not a signal was keying up  
Any repeaters.

The antennas reached up  
From the tower, quite high,  
To catch the weak signals  
That bounced from the sky.

The children, Tech-Pluses,  
Took their HT's to bed,  
And dreamed of the day  
They'd be Extras, instead.

Mom put on her headphones,  
I plugged in the key,  
And we tuned 40 meters  
For that rare ZK3.

When the meter was pegged  
by a signal with power.  
It smoked a small diode,  
and, I swear, shook the tower.

Mom yanked off her phones,  
And with all she could muster  
Logged a spot of the signal  
On the DX Packet Cluster,

While I ran to the window  
And peered up at the sky,  
To see what could generate  
RF that high.

It was way in the distance,  
But the moon made it gleam  
A flying sleigh, with an  
Eight element beam,

And a little old driver  
who looked slightly mean.  
So I thought for a moment,  
That it might be Wayne Green.

But no, it was Santa,  
The Santa of Hams.  
On a mission, this Christmas  
To clean up the bands.

He circled the tower,  
Then stopped in his track,  
And he slid down the coax  
Right into the shack.

While Mom and I hid  
Behind stacks of CQ,  
This Santa of hamming  
Knew just what to do.

He cleared off the shack desk  
Of paper and parts,  
And filled out all my late QSLs  
For a start.

He ran copper braid,  
Took a steel rod and pounded  
It into the earth, till  
The station was grounded.

He tightened loose fittings,  
Resoldered connections,  
Cranked down modulation,  
Installed lightning protection.

He neutralized tubes  
In my linear amp...  
(Never worked right before —  
Now it works like a champ).

A new, low-pass filter  
Cleaned up the TV.  
He corrected the settings  
In my TNC.

He repaired the computer  
That would not compute,  
And he backed up the hard drive  
And got it to boot.

Then, he reached really deep  
In the bag that he brought,  
And he pulled out a big box.  
"A new rig?" I thought!

"A new Kenwood? An Icom?  
A Yaesu, for me?!"  
(If he thought I'd been bad  
it might be QRP!)

Yes! The Ultimate Station!  
How could I deserve this?  
Could it be all those hours  
that I worked Public Service?

He hooked it all up  
And in record time, quickly  
Worked 100 countries,  
All down on 160.

I should have been happy,  
It was my call he sent.  
But the cards and the postage  
Will cost two month's rent!

He made final adjustments,  
And left a card by the key:  
"To Gary, from Santa Claus.  
Seventy-Three."

Then he grabbed his HT,  
Looked me straight in the eye,  
Punched a code on the pad,  
And was gone - no good bye.

I ran back to the station,  
And the pile-up was big,  
But a card from St. Nick  
Would be worth my new rig.

Oh, too late, for his final  
came over the air.  
It was copied all over.  
It was heard everywhere.

The Ham's Santa exclaimed  
What a ham might expect,  
"Merry Christmas to all,  
And to all, good DX."





# 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 12

December, 1998

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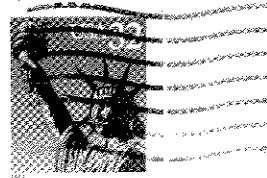
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First Class Mail

**Next Club Meeting**

Saturday, December 19th 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, December 30th at 7:30 PM  
Salvation 5th Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton

**December Program**

No Host Rag-Chew



Check Mailing Label for Dues Status

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

