



K7LED

Relay

Volume 28, Number 2

Page 1 of 7

February, 2000

The Prez Sez

Alan Hughes, KB7SVU

Time is going by fast, here it is February, and we have two very important events coming up. The first is our annual Flea Market will be held on March 11th. We need all club members to pitch in and help. Remember this is the clubs big money making event, without it can you imagine what our dues would be? Also we would not have some of the other events that cost the club money. I am not asking for you to work the entire time, but just a few hours, put in by many individuals will make it easier for everyone involved. So get involved come on down and help at the flea market. Not every job requires you to lift heavy items and we always have lots of fun.

The second event is election of club officers also at the March general meeting. Nominations will start at the February meeting and will continue at our March meeting prior to the election. I want to encourage everyone to think about running for a position. For those that are going to be nominated I would like you to take a few minutes and think about this question, what can I do to improve or help the club? Am I doing this just to say I have a elected position in the club or am I here to work towards the betterment of the Mike & Key ARC. Accept a nomination because you want put in some time and effort to help the club.

Along this same line we need to get more members get involved in the different standing committees. If you haven't gotten involved in the past, because you didn't know what to do, ask the officers and board members to answer your questions and help get you headed in the right direction. So start out the New Year and get involved.

At the Christmas party someone left a paper bag with two bottles of spaghetti sauce in it. Also a pair of bifocal glasses was found after the clean up was completed. If you are missing your glasses let me know and I will get them back to you.

General Meeting Minutes, 1/15/00

Joyce Stroehrer, N7JPW

Officers Present: President - Alan (KB7SVU); Vice President - Calvin (KC7IYP); Secretary Joyce (N7JPW); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Manager - Tressie (KC7BAL); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 - Jack (N7IHS); Trustee #3 - Jim (W7FKI); Trustee #4 - Mike (K7JML); Trustee #5 - Mike (KB7YXB).

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 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 December meeting as printed in the Relay.

Introductions of members and guests were completed. Members are asked to take breaks on the West Side of the building at the request of Salvation

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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.

Officer Reports

President: Alan (KB7SVU) - Gib Gibson (W7JIE) not doing well. He was awarded the Life Membership from the club. Nominations for officers will start at the February meeting. If running for treasurer, members must submit their name to the Board for approval before nominations. Elections will be held at the March meeting. We need three members from the general membership to serve on the audit committee. We need to form a scholarship committee ASAP to set up requirements. The first scholarship will be presented soon after. Letter not written to WWARA on behalf of the club because it was felt letters from individuals would be more effective. WWARA is addressing repeater owners and users only.

Vice President: Calvin (KC7IYP) - New member certificates were presented to those voted as new members previously.

Secretary: Joyce (N7JPW) - No report.

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

Activity Manager: Tressie (KC7BAL) - Raffle tickets are available. Will have raffle prizes at end of meeting. Program today will be a video on the USS Missouri. Alan (KB7SVU) is the star. Tressie has many prizes for the raffle today.

COB: Mike (K7JML) - Report is in the relay. Logo Committee has emergency equipment available.

Radio Officer: Harry (W7JWJ) - All repeaters are working well. As of 4/15/00 the FCC will not be involved in examinations. New Technician questions have been approved. The new General Class questions pool to be out 2-1-00. Another class is being held at the school in Seattle. All are expected to pass the Technician-plus Class

Relay Editor: Jack (N7IHS) - Rosters available

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today and will be available for the next two meetings.

Committee Reports

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

Education: Chuck (N7STR) - Technician class is half full. General Class to be run the first weekend in March. Sign up now. Will try to do it in two days with testing at the end of the session. Tech class will be February 25, 26, 27 at Boeing Recreation Center. General class will be held at Red Cross Facility in Renton (2700 block on 25th).

Public Service: No report.

Long Range Planning: No Report

Flea Market: Next meeting is February 3rd. Sign-up book is circulating.

Field Day: Will schedule a work party some time after the banquet to work on generators, etc.

New Ham: Al (KB7THX) - Welcomed all visitors today. Technician class in February 2 1/2 days. General classes to be held later. Classes are limited to 16. Last class brought us 17 new hams.

Alligator: No new recipient.

Good Of The Order

Mary (W7QGP) explained the new procedures to upgrade existing licenses. Tressie has more tickets to sell. Must be present to win.

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

Relay Deadline

Submittals for the March Relay are due to the editor by March 8th, 2000. Early submittals would be appreciated.

From the W7JWJ Notebook

Operation Upgrade

Passing the General Class Written Exam



When one enters a post-high school college one does not enter as a senior, but as a new beginner, a freshman.

And when one takes an examination from an instructor one expects that the exam will progress from the begin-

ning of learning in a discipline through the final concepts. Imagine a sample of all examinations and all disciplines studied lumped into one final examination with the questions shuffled randomly. That is what the Amateur examinations are all about.

In taking the average examination, right-handed people are nearly always influenced by what is written in the upper left of the examination sheet, and the very first question. Assume that the first question asks, "What is the maximum transmitting power an

amateur station may use on 3690 kHz?" Of course the correct answer is "200 watts PEP output." Now note that the question did not specify input or output power, whereas the answer does. One must know that 3690 kHz is within the Novice sub-band for 80 meters. Of course one needs to know that kHz stands for kilohertz, that kilo means multiply by 1000 and Hertz is the unit defining cycles per second, the definition of a watt and the definition of power, not to mention the definition of an amateur station. You are expected to know what a cycle is, and that PEP means peak-envelope-power. "Envelope", what is that? How does one measure output power? The question deals with all grades of licenses, not just the General class. Hopefully one will know that the preceding question also deals with alternating current.

The very next question may ask, "What type of circuit can have no current?" Is it really a circuit if there is no current? In this case the answer is "An open circuit." Let's examine a piece of wire about 19 or 20 inches in length. Can current flow in such a wire, certainly. Plug it into the BNC connector on your hand held and you have a quarter-wave antenna with maximum current at the base and no current at the tip. Should we state that BNC stands for British Normal Connector/ What is current? Does it flow? This second question deals with direct current concepts whereas the first question, about which one may still be thinking deals with alternating current. Whoops! Now we have to define direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC).

There are no simple questions; each may necessitate multiple knowledge requirements. Upon completion of an examination all right-handed people should check each question from the final question towards the first question. And did we mention the 10% of all applicants flunk the FCC form? No it's not a 610 form now, but the NC605 form. NC? National Council of VECs. VECs? FCC? You're on your own.

Ham Class for General License

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

The Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club will conduct a 3-day weekend class, beginning on Friday, March 3rd, and ending on Sunday March 5th, for the Element 3B General Class of License. The class schedule on Friday is 6 PM - 9:30 PM. On Saturday and Sunday it is 8 AM - 5 PM, and you should bring a lunch. VE testing will take place about 3PM Sunday. Anyone wishing to sign up should have a Technician Class and or Technician Plus Class of License. Although not required for the course, students should procure their own ARRL General Class License Manual to study prior to taking the class. These are available from your local Ham Radio Stores. There

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will be printed material supplied for the class.

The class will be taught at the King County American Red Cross, 1900 - 25th Avenue South, Seattle, WA. The cost is \$35.

Driving instructions:

From I-5 north, take the Dearborn St exit and proceed East 3 blocks. Take Rainer Avenue South to South Holgate and turn East on Holgate to 25th avenue. Turn right on 25th. The American Red Cross is on the left (East).

From I-5 south, also take the Dearborn St/James St exit (#164A) & proceed east two blocks to Rainer Avenue South.

Also from I-5 South one might take the ML King exit to Plum St and turn right on Plum to 25th avenue. (The American Red Cross grounds extend from Plum to Holgate)

From the East on I-90 take the Rainer Avenue South exit to Holgate - about 5 blocks, then East on Holgate to 25th

Signup will take place at the next club meeting, and or by Mail. You may register by sending a check or money order payable to: "Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club" for \$35 per person in the class

Please include you name, address, city, telephone number, and e-mail address.
Send to:

Chuck Benefiel - N7STR
Education Chairman
P.O. Box 166
Sumner, WA 98390

Thank you for your interest, and if you have any questions you may contact me, Chuck Benefiel, at:
cbenefiel@sprynet.com
Phone: 253-312-5341

or Harry Lewis at:

w7jwj@aol.com
Phone: 206-523-9117.

Silent Key

Claire Talltree, KB7GEW

It is with much sadness in my heart that I report to you that long-time Mike and Key ARC member Ward Weiland (W7GEY) is now silent key. He was my Elmer, my mentor, and my friend. He was always available and helpful to his fellow hams, and will be missed by all.

Technical Help Requested

Hello Club Members

I read about the FCC licenses for 100-watt FM stations that will be available for "community" radio stations and would like to put together a proposal to several organizations in the area for operating one of

these stations in the Eastside area. Would you be able to help me determine what equipment would be required and the like?

I am a technical communication student at the University of Washington College of Engineering so a return to my e-mail address at school is handy. Mail to:

lholbroo@u.washington.edu

Any help you can give would be appreciated and acknowledged. I never quite got the rhythm for Morse so haven't pursued a tech license for a while but am willing to try again (I understand I don't need that now?).

Thanks for the "ear", Lin Holbrook

Education Committee Meeting

Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

The Education Committee met Tuesday, February 8th at 6:00 PM at the Southcenter Denny's. In attendance were Ryan (N7TNI), Dick (KS7V), Jim KD7BAT, and myself. Subjects discussed were the schedule and preparation for the upcoming February 25th Technician Class which is sold out, scheduling our May class and the upcoming March 3rd General Class which has 12 signups so far. We also discussed the FCC Rules and License Class Changes and how they will affect our future teaching courses. The meeting ended at 7:00 PM.

Field Day and Other Trivia? NOT!!

Jan Van Allen, K7YH

We are in the planning stages for Field Day now, and I would like those who are going to participate to think about their involvement this year. You have the desire to be a band chair? OK great, and when we get to the point of signing up you will not hesitate. You see, my goal and Dean's goal is for this year to be as good or better than last year. We accomplished, as a club, our goal. First Place in 6A. That is the avowed goal every year, and so it is this year. In order to attain that goal is a problem though, to do it everyone needs to work hard. *Everyone!*

One of the concerns I have for the future of the club, is knowledge of the members. I realize that we are comprised of many interests, some like vhf, some uhf, and some HF, some are into CW, some are into satellite, packet, and some are into traffic. The one commonality between us is that we all went to the trouble of becoming operators licensed to communicate, and Field Day is the test and learning experience to teach less experienced operators new ideas, new concepts in a manner to prepare them for emergencies.

As I write this, the news is on and they are talking about an avalanche in Cordoba Alaska. I will bet the

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Hams in that area are on 14.292 MHz on the Alaska-Pacific emergency net. They may not be at this exact moment, but as soon as propagation allows, they will be.

Now having said that I hope to see you there in June. And I am going to move on and bring up some things that concern you as a Mike and Key member. You must have an interest in amateur radio to take the time and money to train, license, acquire equipment, and join a radio club. When I first joined the club I became a board member, working on our first bylaws in '93, or at least the first major revision. I served as vice president until work commitments forced me to resign. And even after I attended Board meetings until an unfortunate incident caused me to withdraw for a while. When I came back I promised I would be apolitical, and I would not make a motion, or be involved in any motion brought before the membership.

Tonight I attended a board meeting for the first time in 3 years. As in all clubs that I have held membership in there are a few members who work to make the club function. Yes your club, my club is such an organization. Then I was on the board we usually had 12 to 20 sitting on the sidelines at a board meeting. Committees were not only very active, but were there to make reports and to have input on what was going on and was proposed. I went to the board tonight as the Field Day Co-Chair. The board was there, the officers were there, and two non-board members were there, myself, and Harry's chaffer. What I learned tonight causes me great concern for the future of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club.

These few members who have your best interest at heart, took the time to attend a meeting to plan for the present and future of the club. The "Pop Brown" recipients were and are members who by their support and dedication to the club have been relied upon, in years past, to be a guiding influence on the Board. Those appointed by the President to be committee chairmen are asked to accept that responsibility before they are named to that position, or in some cases volunteer to work in that position. Neither was there.

Now I realize there are many who are working every day to make the club work. We are doing things never done before, in education, in scholarship consideration, in planning the Flea Market. In some areas we are above the best efforts of any other club on the West Coast. I have seen many members join the club, and move directly into positions of leadership. I have seen old and valued members (myself included) become non-participants, quit, go by the wayside, and I am sorry to hear of it, and even more sorry to see it.

There have been some who have become silent keys, great gentlemen who worked on the club, provided wise council and were valuable assets to the club, I speak of Carl Butler and Ward Weiland. Both I was proud to associate with. They have gone on, but YOU are still here. Your club needs you, your

board needs you and your Officers need you. Apathy is not an option folks. I resolved my personality problem. And I am trying to correct that mistake. If you have a problem, lets look for a resolution. If there is a problem hindering your participation in the club, let one of your officers know. They will strive to correct it. In March we elect new officers, and two new board members. There will be new ideas. There will be opportunities to make the Mike and Key even better.

I for one will stand up and tell you that I do not believe in the "*Box*". I believe the success of any organization is predicated on participation. Sometimes you can't wait for a month to say something, and all members should have a voice that is heard. To participate, you must be allowed to speak, and speak you must or it is not a club, **and your are not a member**. It started as a good thing, but my honest belief is that it stifles the member's voice. I will try to, "*I promise*", be a viable and useful member of the club, and rededicate myself to supporting the club, the board and the Amateur community in general. Because as the leader of clubs in the area, the Mike and Key needs all of us, we need to be involved to make it work. Won't you join me? Who ever accept the mantle of authority will have my support. I will support that person in every way I can. I am saying I will vote for anyone but me, I am not running for office. I am asking, imploring, and encouraging all of you to join me in making the Mike and Key the top club in the Pacific Northwest.

CW The Hard Way

*(Taken from the web site
radio-l@radio.rootsweb.comham-radio-
l@radio.rootsweb.com.)*

When I learned CW, I did not have a key or oscillator. No radio either, short-wave or amateur. Had no idea what it sounded like. Memorized it from a chart in a dictionary. Took the novice test Nov. 1976. Passed it. There was not a ham within 100 miles of me.

I drove 300 miles to a ham store and purchased a Swan 500 used for \$500.00 from CW Electronics, Denver, CO. Got home, hooked it up with a dipole and went to work on CW.

Before I could reply in a QSO, I had to write down my reply, look at it and send it. So there was always a pause. However I got good at it, over the years. Remained a novice for 17 years. Saw no reason to upgrade, as all I wanted to do was work CW. One day while in a conversation with 2 Extras at a club meeting, one of them remarked, "what would you know about it Charlie, you are just a novice." Made me mad. Was on a Thursday. I tested out to extra on a Sunday and then ask the Extra, "Now that I know something, would you like to continue our conversa-

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tion?" Never judge intelligence by the class of the license! All of my awards were earned with CW only.

Charlie Royall WB5T
West Texas Section Manager
San Angelo, TX.

Board Meeting Minutes, 1/26/00

Chuck Stroehrer, WA7EBH

Officers Present

President - Alan (KB7SVU); Vice President - Calvin (KC7IYP); Treasurer - Chuck (WA7EBH); Activity Manager - Tressie (KC7BAL); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 - Jack (N7IHS); Trustee #2 - Nils (WB7TJK); Trustee #3 - Jim (W7FKI); Trustee #4 - Mike (K7JML); Trustee #5 - Mike (KC7YXB).

Visitors

Mary (W7QGP) and Jan Van Allen (W7YH) were present.

The meeting was called to order by COB Mike (K7JML) at 7:30 PM at the Salvation Army, Renton. The minutes of the previous meeting approved as printed in the RELAY.

Officer Reports

President: Discussion on Scholarship committee. Discussion was held on the Treasurer replacement qualifications.

Vice President: New member applications approved for submittal to the membership were Brandon Burget (no call), and Curtis (N7MWC) and Dawn (N7VWH) Hanner (family membership).

Secretary: No correspondence.

Treasurer: Looking good. Books balance.

Activity Manager: February program is on Flea Market.

Radio Officer: In process of updating equipment lists.

COB: Discussion on missing MFJ-259 antenna analyzer.

Committee Reports

Technical: Nothing to report.

Public Service: Public Service booklet being published.

Education: Next class at the end of February on track.

Long Range Planning: Nothing to report.

Facilities: Nothing to report.

Field Day: Preparation will start after Flea Market.

Flea Market: Next meeting February 3rd, no meeting in March. The event is being held on March 11th.

Relay Editor: Nothing to report.

Old Business

None

New Business

Report on Gib Gibson (W7JIE) rehabilitation progress.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Visitor from Bulgaria

Nikolaj Entchev was recently visiting Seattle with a Bulgarian delegation - taking in some seminars. Holding the call LZ7G, he wanted to visit area hams so he made contact with us using Callbook addresses and his hosts contacted a few more.

Some of us invited ourselves down to a farewell reception just to say hello. LZ7G works mostly SSB contests and is an automotive engineer by training. Currently, he is Mayor of the central Bulgarian city of Karlovo.

When I think of how the world was aligned only 10 years ago, it's simply amazing that we can meet Ham visitors here from what was a country tightly shut out by the Iron Curtain. Even now, Bulgaria is difficult to get QSL's out of; I have only 2 for 25 years in operating. Maybe I can get some inside help now. (From left to right - Mike Hansow (KA7CSE), Mary Lewis (W7QGP), Mike Dinkelman (N7WA), Nikolaj Entchev (LZ7G), Harry Lewis (W7JWJ)). - Mike Dinkelman, N&WA



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Missing MFJ-259 Antenna Analyzer

Some where out there is the club's missing MFJ-259 antenna analyzer in a blue plastic case. Some member checked it out and forgot to return it. It's probably on a high shelf or buried under some equipment, out of site and unknown to the member.

This antenna analyzer is property of the Mike & Key ARC and should be available for all members to use. With summer coming and, especially Field Day, we are going to need it for our members to install and tune new antennas.

Please check around your shop or shack to see if you have it. Please check even if you are sure you don't have it just in case you have forgotten it.

If you should find it, contact one of the following people:

Harry Lewis W7JWJ
206-253-9117
w7jwj@aol.com

or

Jack Grimmett, N7IHS
425-271-7955
n7his@aol.com

No questions will be asked and you will hear a giant sigh of relief for the Board of Directors, especially Harry and Jack.

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MIKE AND KEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET

Saturday April 1, 2000

Location

HD Hotspurs,
315 South Washington, Kent.
Located near the SR 516 and SR 181 Interchange. (West of SR 167).
Located in the K-Mart shopping center, NW quadrant of intersection.

Time

5:00 PM Social Hour (No Host Bar)
6:00 PM Dinner
7:30 PM Program
8:30 PM Prizes

Menu - Northwest Harvest Buffet

Chef Carved Prime Rib	Steamed Vegetables
Oven Baked Halibut	Rice Pilaf
Smoked Baby Back Ribs	Parmesan Baby Red Potatoes
Shrimp Caesar Salad	Rolls
Chop Chop Salad	Pasta Salad
Beverages (Coffee, Tea, Soft Drink)	

Cost: \$15 per Person before March 26th. \$18 at the Door.

Reservation Deadline is March 26th.

Cancellation policy: Due to the fact that we are charged for meals that are not eaten there are no refunds after March 26th. (Phone in no shows will be billed by club.)

Number in party _____ X \$15 per person = \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

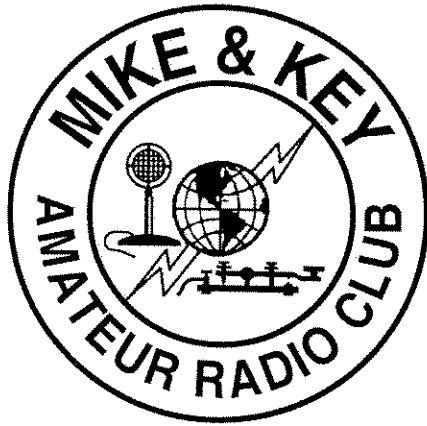
City: _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Mail completed form to:
Joyce Stroehner N7JPW
9415 SE 21st Street
Issaquah, WA. 98029-7466

Questions: (425) 392-5303

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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. 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.

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February, 2000

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k7jml@hotmail.com

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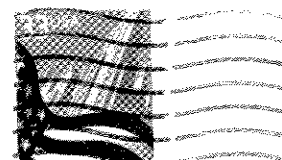
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First Class Mail

Next Club Meeting

Saturday, February 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 7/1/00
13626 - SE 232nd
Kent, WA 98042

Next Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 23rd at 7:30 PM
Salvation 5th Army in Renton
720 Tobin, Renton



Check Mailing Label for Dues Status

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