



# K7LED Relay

Volume 28, Number 3

Page 1 of 7

March, 2000

## The Prez Sez

March is a very busy time for the Mike and Key Club. By the time you read this article our largest and most important event will be over with for another year. As you probably guessed I'm talking about the flea market. I am sure that it went off without any major problems and that there was plenty of help where needed. The reason that I am so sure is because of the great job by the chairman, Chuck WA7EBH and by all the committee chairman's helping him. I want to take this time to thank Chuck for a job well done. I also want to say thanks to all the members that put in time helping before during and after the flea market. Without each one of you volunteering, your time and effort, the club would not be where we are today financially.

The other important event is the election of officers. At our February meeting there were quite a few good people nominated for the different positions, which I was glad to see. Remember that nominations will be open at this meeting and you have to be present to be nominated and voted on. I want to thank those people who have served this last year and will not be running this year for a great job. Thanks to our secretary Joyce (N7JPW) for helping me keep things strait during the meetings and to Chuck (WA7EBH) our treasurer for such a great job over the years. I can not forget the Vice President Calvin (KC7IYP), Trustee #2 Nils (WB7TJK), Trustee #4 Mike K7JML and Activities Manager Tressie (KC7BAL). I know that I have learned a lot this last year from these people so again I say thank you.

Talking about elections I hope that this is not my last article. I have learned a lot about this in the last year and now that I have some experience under my belt I hope to be your president for another year. But that decision is up to you the membership.

Don't forget April First is our annual banquet. This year it will again be in Kent at HD Hotspurs at 5:00 PM. This is a great event with lots of good food, awards and prizes. Contact Joyce Stroehrer (N7JPW) for your reservations.

Congratulations to the Education Committee and instructors who just finished another Technician class. A Job well done.

73 - Alan Hughes, KB7SVU

## General Meeting Minutes, 2/19/00

**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 #2 - Nils (WB7TJK); Trustee #3 - Jim (W7FKI); Trustee #4 - Mike (K7JML); Trustee #5 - Mike (KB7YXB).

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 January meeting as printed in the Relay.

Introductions of members and guests were made. Members are asked to take breaks on the West Side

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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.

## Officer Reports

**President:** Alan (KB7SVU) Jacket donated by Dan N7HIN to Country Store at Flea Market. Proceeds going to the club. Sign up for Flea Market. Help is still needed and will be handled under Flea Market report.

**Vice President:** Calvin (KC7IYP) presented new member certificates to those voted as new members previously. Prospective members: Brendan Burget (No call); Curtis Hanner (N7MWC); Dawn Hanner (N7VWH) all voted as new members by the general membership.

**Secretary:** Joyce (N7JPW) has no report.

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

**Activity Manager:** Tressie (KC7BAL) has raffle tickets available. She will raffle prizes at end of the meeting. Program today will be on Flea Market

**COB:** Mike (K7JML) - There will be nominations for officers today and Trustees numbers 2 and 4

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) states that the repeater making noise and is correcting the problem. Reviewed filling out FCC upgrade test forms. Must have proof of license and grade to register for test to upgrade. General Class will be held at the Red Cross building in Seattle.

**Relay:** Jack (N7IHS) no report. Relays and Rosters are available at the table for new members and visitors.

## Committee Reports

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

**Education:** Chuck (N7STR) reports can still sign up for the General Class. Class scheduled for the first weekend in March. Must pay the \$35.00 to be registered and save a place. Has manuals for those

taking the class.

**Technical:** Need more members on the committee. Contact Mike (KB7YXB). Analyzer in a blue box is missing. Mike has a list of the duties of the committee. Meet at 9:35 AM just before the general meeting.

**Public Service:** No report.

Long Range Planning: No Report

**Field Day:** No report.

**Web Master:** Jim (KD7BAT) - web site is looking good. Give him any information that you would like on site.

**New Hams:** No report.

**Contest:** No report.

**Alligator:** Frank (K7VMG) has not found a new recipient.

**Flea Market:** the Flea Market report, etc. will be reviewed as the program at the end of the meeting today.

### New Business

Steve (N7MUT) moved that we auction off the jacket at the Flea Market in March and raffle the mouse pads at the meetings. Motion seconded. Discussion held. Moved to amend the original motion to be a silent auction. Amendment seconded. Yes - 50; No - 0. Amendment passes. Main motion Yes - 51; No 0. Carolyn (WV7Q) and Tressie (KC7BAL) will handle the silent auction in the Country Store at the Flea Market. Mary Lewis (W7QGP) reviewed new forms available. They are much more complicated and very long. All elements must be taken in order.

A moment of silence was held for Ward Weiland who past away two weeks ago.

### Nominations for Officers

**President** - Alan (KB7SVU), Carolyn (WV7Q), Dick (N7YOB). Moved & seconded to suspend nominations. **Vice President** - Wayne (KC7ORB). Moved and seconded to suspend nominations for vice president. **Secretary** - Jim (KC7BAT); Marcos (WL7JS). Moved and seconded to suspend nominations for secretary. **Activity Chairman** - No nominations at this time. Moved and seconded to suspend nominations for Activities Chairman. **Treasurer** - Jim (KD7BAT), Chuck (N7STR). Nominations for treasurer will be presented to the board at the February board meeting. Moved and seconded to suspend nominations for Treasurer. **Trustees** - Dan (N7QHC); Steve (N7MUT); Dean (N7NKO). Carolyn (WV7Q); Fred (N7QBD). Moved and seconded to suspend nominations for Trustees. Final nominations will be held at the March meeting prior to elections. Dues must be current to hold office and to vote.

### Good of the Order

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. - *Minutes recorded by Joyce Stroher, N7JPW*

## Relay Deadline

Submittals for the April Relay are due to the editor by April 5th, 2000. Early submittals would be appreciated.

## Technician License Classes

The Mike and Key ARC Education committee will hold a class for those interested in obtaining a Technician Class amateur radio license. The class is scheduled for May 12, 13, 14, 2000 to cover just one week end:

- Friday evening, 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM, and yes that is Mothers Day Weekend.
- Saturday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (bring a lunch).
- Sunday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (bring another lunch).

### Cutoff Date

The cutoff date for registration will be May 6th, (or when class is full, which ever takes place first), with checks and registration in our hands.

### Class Size

The class size will be limited to first 16 students to sign up.

The class will be held at the Boeing Kent Recreation Center, 22349 - 83rd Ave. S. (West of East Valley Road near 224th), Kent WA.

The instructors will be using the book "Now You're Talking!" with additional class notes and videos. The cost is just \$45 and includes the book "Now You're Talking!", a copy of the class notes, sixteen hours of instruction, and one VE-license testing session Sunday afternoon.

To register, contact:

Chuck Benefiel (N7STR) at 253-312-5341

Or

Jim Etwiler (KD7BAT) at 206-633-1512

A copy of the flier announcing the class with schedule, location, and registration is available through the club WEB page at:

<http://www.mikeandkey.com/education.htm>.

Any questions about the class can be e-mailed to:

[info@mikeandkey.com](mailto:info@mikeandkey.com)

Or

[cbenefiel@sprynet.com](mailto:cbenefiel@sprynet.com)

You may register by enclosing a check or money order payable to the "Mike and Key ARC" for \$45 per person in the class along with your name, address (street, city, state, and zip code), telephone number and e-mail address. Mail application 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 e-mail me at

[cbenefiel@sprynet.com](mailto:cbenefiel@sprynet.com). - *Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

## Chairman of the Board Report

Hello to all.

This is K7JML making my final report as COB and Trustee #4. It has been my pleasure serving the club for the past two years. I want to thank all for putting up with me. I would like you all to know that even though I'm not running for any positions, I will retain the *Chief Whistle Blower* position as I ran unopposed hi hi.

Ok down to business. There are two nominees for Treasurer, Jim Etwiler (K7BAT) and Chuck Benefiel (N7STR). They were approved at the February Board meeting. At the March General meeting we will be taking more nominations for officers before we have our elections. I will list the nominees from the February General meeting

### President

Alan Hughes, KB7SVU  
Dick Bridges, N7YOB  
Carolyn Pasquier, WV7Q

### Vice President

Wayne Heath, KC7ORB

### Secretary

Jim Etwiler, KC7BAT  
Marcos Maranda, WL7JS

### Activities Manager

None

### Treasurer

Jim Etwiler, KC7BAT  
Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

### Trustees

Dan Humphrey, N7QHC  
Steve Kaney, N7MUT  
Dean Holtan, N7NKO  
Fred Lowell, N7QBD  
Carolyn Pasquier, WV7Q

Well that's all I have. I want to thank all my fellow officers that I have served with, it's been my pleasure. I even learned a thing or two. So until the March General meeting this is K7JML signing clear for now.

73 K7JML – COB,

Trustee #4,  
Public Service Committee,  
X Net Control,  
Chief Whistle Blower,  
And most important, *Club Member*

## Education Committee Report

Wow have we had a month for classes since the last meeting. At the Technician Class we had 16 sign-up, but 1 was a no-show. This was very frustrating because we had sent 4 applicants to other clubs for classes, since ours was full. We had one who was unable to pass the technician part of the VE Exam, and 13 who did. One of the students became ill on Sunday morning, and was unable to take the

test. He came back to the General Test session and passed the next week. So out of the 15 who took the class, we have 14 new hams. Oh yes, one of the instructors became a General at that test session also.

The following week Harry Lewis put on a General Class and as a result we have 17 new Generals. Four of those new Generals had taken the previous Technician Class in November, and one had just taken the February Technician class. On top of that we had one Technician, one Technician Plus, 3 who passed the Advance, and one who passed the Extra. Look out Nils, Jo is getting more dangerous every day.

I understand that if it hadn't have been for Darla Harris, Ruth Ashford, and David Givens bringing fruit and cookies everyone would have starved to death. Of course no session goes without its problems, the infamous, no show for opening the building on Sunday Morning took place. I understand that Harry Lewis held a 40-minute prayer and coffee service at McDonalds. Then one of the VE's couldn't come and the mad scramble was on again. The last thing heard from Harry was "I'm pooped, good nite!"

Congratulations to all, who passed, and to those who assisted with the teaching, mentoring, and the ever-important VE's. It's just more proof to me that this hobby is much more than a hobby, it's friends helping friends, and in life what's more important than that. – Chuck Benefiel, N7STR

## How Ham Radio Works?

Our Radio Officer, Harry (W7JWJ), alerted me to a nice article about ham radio on the web at <http://www.howthingswork.com/ham-radio.htm>. The article is written by Gary Brown, K4GPB an editor and writer for the "How Stuff Works" web site. Gary starts out with a brief history and then addresses the following questions:

- Why Would I Get Into Ham Radio?
- What Frequencies and Transmitting Modes Do Hams Use?
- What Are the Varieties of Ham Radio Activities?
- What are the License Requirements?
- What Kind of Equipment Would I Typically Start With?
- What Is the Power Output of an Amateur Radio?
- What Kind of Antenna Does An Amateur Radio Need?
- What Keeps Ham Operators From Transmitting On the Same Frequency?
- What is a Hamfest?
- How Do I Get Started in Amateur Radio?

Gary ends the article with a list of links for the interested browser to follow. This is a good article to read and then share if a neighbor or friend is beginning to show interest in your hobby. – Jim Etwiler, KD7BAT

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Or

cbenefiel@sprynet.com

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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 e-mail me at  
cbenefiel@sprynet.com. - *Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

### Board Meeting Minutes, 2/23/00

**Officers Present:** President - Alan (KB7SVU); 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).

**Visitors:** Mary (W7QGP) and Jim (KD7BAT).

The meeting was called to order by COB Mike (K7JML) at 7:40 PM at the Salvation Army, Renton.

The minutes of the previous meeting was approved as printed in the Relay.

#### Officer Reports

**President:** Alan (KB7SVU) expressed a concerned about lack of support for standing committees.

**Vice President:** The Vice President was absent.

**Secretary:** No correspondence, nothing to report.

**Treasurer:** Looking good. Books balance.

**Activity Manager:** Activity will be Flea Market critique during elections.

**Radio Officer:** Repeaters ok. Folks reminded to register with the FCC URLs; otherwise upgrades make take longer.

**COB:** Discussion on equipment sign-out. Designated to facilities committee.

#### Committee Reports

**Technical:** No Report

**Public Service:** Pamphlet complete.

**Education:** Training classes on schedule.

**Long Range Planning:** No Report

**Facilities:** No Report

**Field Day:** Suggested that band chairs be selected after March general meeting.

**Flea Market:** On track. No March meeting.

**Relay Editor:** Nothing to report.

#### Old Business

Trustees #1 and #3 were selected for the audit committee. Need 3 club members to complete the team.

#### New Business

Perpetual plaque for Ken Jackson award approved.

There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:55 PM.

### Education Committee Meeting Minutes

The Education Committee met on May 7th at 6:00 PM at the Southcenter Denny's. In attendance were Chuck (N7STR), Ryan (N7TNI), Harry (W7JWJ), Lewis (W7QMP), and Jim (KD7BAT). We discussed the recent Technician and General Ham classes that the club conducted. Both classes have had outstanding success rates, and ideas and suggestions were made for future classes. We also discussed the possibility of having a 5-WPM code class or another General Class in June.

Further discussion will take place at the next meeting. The new question pool has been adapted to the video tapes we have for the Technician Class, and we are ready to proceed with the May Class which already has 3 signups, and 3 more in the mail at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm. - *Chuck Benefiel, N7STR*

# Before there was the Web, there was shortwave

By Bill Husted  
Cox News Service

I'm an analog guy in a digital world.

At home, when I escape the two computers that sit on my desk here at work, I slide into a more comfortable seat. It faces

a sight that would make any 13-year-old quivery inside. On an 8-foot-long table there are shortwave receivers, ham radio transceivers, antennas, tuners, power meters, and even more mysterious black boxes that have names and functions too esoteric to try to explain.

About once a year, I take a break from writing about computers and spend a few minutes talking to you about shortwave listening and ham radio.

Years ago, when I first proposed writing one of these columns about an analog technology so old and basically unchanged that Marconi would still feel at home sitting at that table with me, my editors were aghast. No one cared about

shortwave radio, they said. But each time I've written about it, readers from all around the country have responded with memories and excitement.

My own theory is that there is a magic in the ghostly voices and music that we hear directly from the source amongst the static. The first question my friends have when I brag about talking via ham radio to another operator in some far-off country is about what I can do with ham radio that I can't do on the Internet.

After all, anyone with a computer and \$20 a month for an Internet service provider can instantly exchange e-mails and even voice messages with folks all over the world. And with ham radio — unlike the good-buddy world of citizens band radio — fairly demanding tests are required to get a license from the Federal Communications Commission.

So why go to all that trouble? Here's what I tell my friends — some of them understand immediately; others look at me as if I had confessed to a fasci-

nation with collecting matchbook covers. You'll have to decide for yourself:

The way the world is today, most of the information we get is filtered.

If you read newspapers, and I hope you do, the words you read have been selected by a reporter and edited by several editors before they reach your eyes. When you see and hear a big shot on television, those words and seconds of video have been selected based on an army of opinions and prejudices.

With ham radio, I am able to talk directly to people in countries that are in the news. Unlike with an e-mail, I can hear the tone of voice, sometimes even the family dog barking in the background.

And even when I use my radio to simply listen to the commercial broadcasts from these countries — something you can do yourself, no license required, with a \$100 shortwave from Radio Shack or other retail outlets — I can linger for hours. I don't just hear headlines on these foreign broad-

cast stations. I can hear the music, hear the commentary (most of the stations have English language services), hear the comedies, listen to the radio plays.... I get a more complete picture than I would ever have from newspapers or television alone.

All I can do here, because space is limited, is tell you what to do next, if any of this strikes a chord in your heart. If ham radio interests you, there's an excellent Web site maintained by the American Radio Relay League at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) where you can get licensing information free.

And, if shortwave listening appeals to you, look in your favorite bookstore for Passport to World Band Radio. It has reviews of commercial radios and frequencies of foreign radio stations.

Radio isn't the sort of hobby that will make you rich and famous, but — if you are wired just right inside — it will enrich your soul.

*Technobuddy appears on Mondays.*

## Still 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.

# 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 26<sup>th</sup>. \$18 at the Door.**

**Reservation Deadline is March 26<sup>th</sup>.**

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

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

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

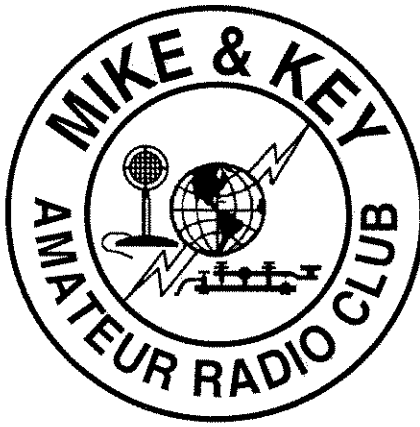
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form to:**

Joyce Strocher N7JPW  
9415 SE 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Issaquah, WA. 98029-7466

Questions: (425) 392-5303



# 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.

Volume 28, Number 3

March, 2000

**President**

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253-840-4947  
kb7svu@juno.com

**Vice President**

Calvin Doss - KC7IYP  
425-454-1626  
kc7iyp@aol.com

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4525-392-5303  
n7jpw@juno.com

**Treasurer**

Charles Strocher - WA7EBH  
425-392-5303  
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253-840-4947  
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**Radio Officer**

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206-523-9117  
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**Trustee No. 1**

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425-271-7955  
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**Trustee No. 2**

Nils Hallstrom  
206-242-8271  
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**Trustee No. 3**

Jim Hamlin - W7FKI  
253-838-8453  
w7fki@earthlink.net

**Trustee No. 4 (COB)**

Mike LaFerla - K7JML  
425-888-3696  
k7jml@hotmail.com

**Trustee No. 5**

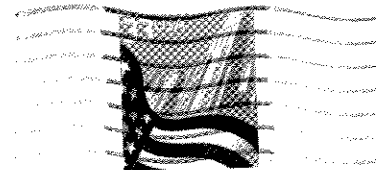
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Jack Grimmert - N7IHS  
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n7ihs@aol.com

**Return To**

Jack Grimmert  
10624 148th Ave SE  
Renton, WA 98059



First Class Mail

**Next Club Meeting**

Saturday, March 18th 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, March 29th 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>

