



# K7LED Relay

## The Prez Sez

If you haven't been keeping track, the next five months hold our four major events. Two of these events have a large effect on how the club is going to operate. The other two events are more of a social event but are still very important. I feel that each one needs to be talked about this month.

First and one of the most important takes place in both the February and March meeting is election of officers. The membership has the responsibility of choosing the people who will be making all the major decisions for the next year to two years. Being an officer of the club is not something to be taken lightly. It has responsibilities that you have to fulfill. When you nominate someone or you are nominated take a minute to think about it. Ask the following questions. Do I have the time to make it to all the meetings and at home to follow up on business and committees? Do I have useful ideas to give to this club? Am I doing it just for the prestige of being an officer? When voting for someone, are you voting for them because they are a good friend or a long time member or because they will do a good job? In another club I have seen people get elected because they are one of the good old boys. It didn't matter that they did absolutely nothing that was asked of them or that they would sleep during the meetings. All they wanted to do was spend money on their pet project. That caused that club to have to raise its dues. It's up to you the membership to elect officers that will keep the club growing, vital and alive.

The other big event is the flea market. This is our big money maker of the year to carry the club on. Please come out and help even if it can only be for a few hours. The more people that help the less hardship it is on everyone. It's not all hard work such as lifting tables or running a pallet jack. There are jobs like security, talk in, ticket taker and traffic control that you can sit or stand. So set aside some time to help out at our flea market.

The third event is our annual banquet that will be April 7. Bill Sommerwerck (KA3QXL) is the chairman this year. For new members this is where awards are handed out and the passing of the President's gavel takes place along with a great dinner. This is our only semi-formal event of the year. We have a great time so please come.

The last event is field day in June. If you haven't heard I have taken on the position as chairman this year. I will be asking for band chairman so feel free to volunteer. I will be giving out more info later. Be a responsible member of the Mike and Key ARC and become involved in the upcoming events.  
*Alan Hughes (KB7SVU), President*

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#4 Mary (W7QGP); and Trustee #5 - Dan (N7QHC).  
The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM with all members and guests repeating the Flag Salute at the Salvation Army Building in Renton. It was moved by Bill (KK7MC), seconded by Jim (KD7BAT), and passed to approve the minutes of the December meeting as printed in the Relay.

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

### Officer Reports

**President:** Alan (KB7SVU) reported that the donut and coffee fund, while being called self-supporting was in fact not. He asked the members to please be a little more generous in donations, and that the Board had replenished the fund with another \$50.00 infusion. He then asked if there was anyone willing to take over the Chairmanship of the Field Day activities. No one spoke up, and he then stated it would be his pleasure to perform this function himself.

**Vice President:** Wayne (KB7ORB) presented Mark Whitaker KD7KUN, Joe Vanderpool KD7HNW, and Kano Ngune KC2GQY for membership. They were unanimously elected to membership.

**Secretary:** No report, correspondence was newsletters from other clubs, and stated he would not run for the office next year due to health concerns and other commitments.

**Treasurer:** Jim (KD7BAT) used sign language to state that the books were in order. Jim later gave a full financial breakdown of the clubs assets during the discussion of the clubs budget.

**Activity Manager:** Tressie (KC7BAL) displayed new prizes for the raffle prizes and has raffle tickets available. She also stated today's program was a seldom seen film by silent key Gib Gibson (W7JIE).

**Radio Officer:** Harry (W7JWJ) gave a short dis-

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## General Meeting Minutes, 1/20/01

**Officers Present:** President - Alan (KB7SVU); Vice President - Wayne (KB7ORB); Secretary - Jan (K7YH); Treasurer - Jim (KC7BAT); Activity Manager - Tressie (KC7BAL); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #1 - Jack (N7IHS); Trustee #2 - Steve (K7MUT); Trustee #3 - Jim (N7FKI); Trustee

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sertation on members being lost due to license lapsing and losses from the ARRL ranks for the same reason, as opposed to the number of people becoming licensed.

**Relay:** Jack (N7IHS) requested more members consider submitting articles to the relay.

#### **Committee Reports**

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

**Facilities:** No Report.

**Public Service:** Reported a meeting would be held at Sherrie's restaurant on the Maple Valley highway today.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report.

**Education:** The next meeting is to be held at Denneys Southcenter restaurant on February 12 at 6:00 PM.

**Flea Market:** Hal (N7NWA) announced that several of the chairpersons involved need help, and the assignment book was circulating. Ronnie (KC7USF) asked for help in the ticket booth and Curtis (N7NWC) was introduced as the chairman of the Country Store.

**Banquet:** Chuck (N7STR) is assisting the Banquet Chairman William (KA3QXL) in setting up the Banquet

**Alligator:** Frank (K7VMG) unashamedly admitted that in order to keep the alligator on his mantle he had timed out the repeater while hosting the talk-in net this morning. Members and associates of the Mike and Key, I the Secretary think we will never see the alligator. Frank has grown so firmly attached to it he will never pass it on.

#### **Old Business**

No old business was presented.

#### **New Business**

The Board motioned the Budget for 2001. Chuck (N7STR) seconded the board's proposal and after a financial breakdown by the treasurer Dick (K7NEX), Jo (KB7UFM) and Chuck (N7STR) raised questions. The budget was approved by a 62:1 vote of the membership. Jack (N7IHS) then proposed a modification to the budget adding \$400.00 to the section Field day, for the purchase of ARRL Field Day pins to be issued to each member participating in the exercise. This was seconded by Barry (KC7YB) and approved by the membership 61:2. This concluded new business. Good of the Order

Alan recognized George Jacobsen (W7KSJ) to bring the membership up to date on the progress of the Bill to revise Washington's PRB1 law. Jan (K7YH) spoke about the letter being circulated about Jane Fonda, only to caution everyone that although the names are real the letter is a hoax.

There being no further business Bill KK7MC motioned adjournment, seconded by WA7HQG the meeting was closed at 11:10 am

Attested:

Jan M. Van Allen K7YH

Secretary

## **Field Day, the Family Vacation**

One of the unique glories of the Mike and Key Club is its orientation to family activities. The overall philosophy is that every family member is a potential Ham. Those die-hards that can't be enticed at home may find themselves involved just by socializing with our friendly group. The Flea Market, the Picnic, the parades, the Christmas Party are all planned with family participation in mind. But none is so strategically planned for family as Field Day. The Mike & Key doesn't do Field Day in a parking lot, or in a member's backyard, we go to a wonderfully fascinating State Campground. Fort Flagler on Marrowstone Island is marvelously laden with history and heritage, saltwater beaches (complete with shipping lanes), hiking and biking trails, abandoned cannon bunkers, and miles and miles of the pure outdoors. To accompany this great camping experience, the club brings along tents, antennas, towers, and ham equipment that all can help assemble into workable stations.

Whether you bring a tent, the station wagon, a motor home, or stay in the barracks, your family will experience the vacation of a lifetime. Traditionally, my family begins planning for Field Day as soon as the Christmas rush is over. It has become a traditional family get-together, much like Christmas, giving us two exciting times to look forward to each year. This year there will be seven of us, 4 Hams and 3 potential hams. (We kinda' figure the girls have to be able to read before they take the test, but even now, when the 4 year old builds or draws a house, there's always an antenna on it.) This year, Field Day is June 23 and 24. (We start building stations Friday, June 22) My challenge to you is to mark it on your calendar now, and start inviting your family members to join you. Don't stop there, invite your neighbors, your coworkers, your brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, anyone that has shown an interest in ham radio. It takes 2 operators per shift to handle the traffic, be sure to ask those non-hams to sign up and operate with you. If you're a new Amateur, you will learn in 2-3 days, what would otherwise take years. If you've been a Ham for a while, your experience will be welcomed. The atmosphere is electric, the food is terrific, and the camaraderie is unequaled. You'll have the time of your life, and your family and friends will thank you. *Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)*

### **A Fleamarket Primer**

Realizing that new members to the Club may be hesitant to jump into supporting this event- here is your blow by blow description of how the whole she-bag works. All you old timers can skip this.

Friday - at the crack of dawn, roosters crowing, Hal (N7NW) is going to drag himself down to the fairgrounds and start measuring the floor for tables and power drops. Everybody else - please sleep-in

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and have a nice leisurely breakfast. After all, you need to conserve your strength.

Friday 10:00 AM – OK, now you big and little brutes can show up to start setting up. Don't come much before 10:00 AM because if we start setting up too early, the tables and chairs just get in the way of the forklift while they put in the power drops. After 10:00, come on down - the more people who show, the easier the work. Be sure to bring gloves and real shoes – we don't want any smashed toes or fingers. We have about 300 tables to setup and probably 500 chairs. With 20 people, we can have the entire two floors done easily by noon. Remember, there is no need to come on to the fairgrounds itself unless you are bringing setup materials. Park out at the Gold parking lot and come through the Administration entrance just west of the Gold Gate. Badges will be available at the loading dock until 2:00 PM at which time they will move to and stay at the Gold Gate.

Friday 12:00 AM - At this point, the table skirts can be put on the commercial booths and the tables numbered. For those who just put up 300 tables, it's a good time to take lunch. Registration will be getting set up and the telephones will be going in if not already done so. Talk-in needs to start thinking about getting set up as well.

Friday 1:00 PM – One hour to go before we let the sellers in. Hopefully, the pallet jacks have arrived. The tables should be ready. Last minute details abound. Put up signs. Set up announcing. Country Store setup. Hang the signs out at the front gate. Test the phones. The clock ticks down.

Friday 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Open the gates to the selling hoards. They come in every type of vehicle. Small cars, big vans, and clunkers that don't even belong on the road. Each piled with the same junk... ah... I mean merchandise we saw last year. They race through registration, afraid of losing their place in line. They load pallet upon pallet and we pull each one to its place on the floor. The first two hours will be a mad house – everyone running every which way. It'll eventually slow to a continuous stream, hour after hour. As the sellers get setup, they start haggling between themselves. It becomes a social event as each gets caught up on the news from last year or the previous event.

About 7:30, we start pushing everyone out the door. The gate closes and the stragglers get unloaded. By 8:00 PM, we can lock the doors and think about a nice dinner and maybe a few hours of sleep... zzz...

Saturday 5:00 AM – BEFORE the crack of dawn and before any rooster in his right mind would crow we are at the Gold gate waiting to get in. We have 1/2 hour before we start letting sellers in again. Just enough time for a coffee, to unlock the loading doors, and remind ourselves about how much fun we are having. At 5:30 the loading process starts up again. Talk-in and announcing are busy, as is security. Someone needs to check electrical cords and make sure fire extinguishers are not blocked. Everyone has

a job to do. As 7:30 rolls around, the ticket booths are prepped and a line has already formed out at the corner. Come 8:00 AM, we are selling tickets and the line makes its way to our front door. Meanwhile, inside, you would think we had already let the crowds in as the floor gets packed with sellers making last minute deals among themselves. By 8:30, we have closed the Yellow gate - one half hour to show time. The last of the sellers are unloading and the Fire Department is making it's inspection. Get those pallets out of the aisles and stack 'em outside.

Saturday 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM – It's show time! What can I say – I just pick out a spot that overlooks the front door and watch them come in. I see a lot of friends, waving as they go by. As the buyers enter, they try to decide if their luck would be better upstairs or down. The floor is getting packed. The pallet, traffic, and registration crews get to rest while others on the team are just getting started. The ticket sellers will be busy for hours while announcing and talk-in are helping the lost and confused. Security is trying to keep the people from using the wrong doors and the Country Store is doing whatever it is they do. (Oh! sell – that's right!) Next door, the VE team will be setting up to administer tests. Small fires come up here and there - a load needs moving, a seller needs tending. But overall, it'll be another fine event.

Saturday 3:00 PM – Most of the crowd has cleared. The last of the buyers are trying to eek out deals with the last of the sellers. The door prizes were finally all given out about 2 hours ago. Empty tables have appeared as sellers have sold out or otherwise packed off and left for the day. It's been a long day and we are all tired of people and radio's. Yet, the great egress is just starting. At 3:00 PM the sellers can grab pallets and start loading out. As they race to their vehicles, we take away the tables and chairs and start stacking them back up. Over the next 3 hours we will move out all those people we moved in over 2 days. Tempers will flare, pallets run short, and the elevator will struggle with the load as we all sweat to move people and tables. But it'll all get done, the floors will be swept and we'll all marvel at the job we've accomplished. As we head for Chinese food, we'll rehash the past two-day's events, stuff ourselves silly, and pat ourselves on the back. Finally, after dinner, as we waddle our way to our cars we think - we did it! Another successful flea market... and next year it'll be even better. *Michael Dinkelman (N7WA)*

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### Friends via D-Xing

Let me tell you about Kate. She lives in Omsk Siberia and first we first met in November 1999. Her radio club RZ9MYL was celebrating 20 years as the most active YL club in the world. Few of the members are licensed operators but are language majors at the university in Omsk. Kate joined the club to meet

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and communicate with people in different countries. She wasn't really interested in ham radio but now, through our letters and pictures, she wants to take part in hamming if possible.

Kate is a very polite and personable young lady and will graduate in a couple of years. She does not have a personal call or a radio but uses the one, at the club. She said radio is a very expensive pleasure. You never know, she may be a future ham. Time will tell what her future is, but for now she enjoys talking to hams all over the world. After she graduates in a couple of years she must find employment, but for now while she is in school she considers herself very lucky.

I have sent Kate several pictures of a lot of us from this last Field Day 2000. Have also sent information about the Mike and Key ARC, pin from the club, a Field Day 2000 pin, and a small purse with all of the above in it. Hope to hear from her soon as Kate is also sending pictures to me. I will let you know when I hear from her. The MYL in RZ9MYL stands for "many young ladies". *Jo Hailstorm (KB7UFM)*

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### Renton Fire Department Emergency Operations Center Needs Hams

The Renton fire department has a brand new emergency operations center at fire station 14 on Lind Ave. just south of 405. Amateur radio plays an important part of the City of Renton's emergency operation plan as it does in almost all government and many industry emergency operations plans. Hams have traditionally played important roles in many major disasters and have been incorporated into most government agencies to supply emergency communications in times of emergency.

The Renton group is in the early forming stage and needs many more hams to help fill communications needs in emergency situations. Renton has just ordered its first two ham dual band VHF radios and antennas for the emergency operations center and will be increasing the equipment and support for the ham group steadily.

In November the ham group participated in a simulated pipeline disaster similar to the actual Bellingham disaster. A major green river flooding exercise is being planned for September.

The Renton EOC Hams meet on a net on Sunday at 7:00 PM on 147.46 simplex and the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at Renton fire station 14 on Lind Ave.

This is a very worthwhile group that could save many lives in a disaster, so if you live in the Renton area join us on the net, at a meeting or contact: Barry or Kim Wolborsky at a club meeting, at [KC7YB@arrl.net](mailto:KC7YB@arrl.net) or [KD7FYD@arrl.net](mailto:KD7FYD@arrl.net) or call us at 425 271-5799. *Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB)*

### From the Secretaries Desk

It's been a couple of months since I have said anything in the Relay, and I guess it is about time. Elections are coming up, so is the Banquet, and so is the Flea Market. And *all* need your help. The first thing we must do is to have a successful Flea Market. We cannot do this without everyone's support. Maybe that is why so many of the clubs old-timers have not been seen at club activities. They are for one reason or another not coming out anymore.

In every endeavor you undertake, you get out of it just what you put into it. As members of the Mike and Key ARC, you get out of it just what you put in. For the past few years we have put a lot into it and we are able to afford the shiny new repeater that was approved last month. And you are going to have a new antenna for CW beach. All of the other goodies that come with the work that is put into the flea market over the last few years will become a struggle unless everyone puts in a little time.

We need *you!* The club needs *you!* *You* need *You*. That's because the club is made up of *you*, and *you* and *you*. And if you do not work for yourself, and your club, guess what. You are going to struggle, and once we begin to struggle we loose. Last year Field Day was a struggle. Twenty-three people showed up for the start, and we struggled. And behold, we fell from 1<sup>st</sup> place in 1999 to 5<sup>th</sup> place in 2000. Proof positive that a few cannot do the work that needs many, and the flea market needs many. If everyone contributes a couple of hours, then no one is over-worked.

Last year we did well and shortly after the Elections we will have a new corps of officers and we will have our usual Banquet, with all of its prized, plaques and accolades. Most will go home with full bellies, and happy thoughts and an award or prize, maybe even both, but is there to be a banquet in 2002? Not if we don't work for the Flea Market. How about Field Day? Well it is funded for this year, and if you do not work for the Flea Market what about next year?

*If you are tired of that line of thought then consider the elections: in the March Business meeting you are going to elect new leadership. And some of the old leadership have indicated to me that they do not wish to keep working. Think about it. Whom ever you elect has to have the well being of the club at heart, and who ever is elected needs your support. Don't nominate any one for any office unless you believe they are capable, and will do the job, but remember also your nomination also means you are going to be there with them to keep the Mike and Key ARC successful!*

As I prepare my report to the club for March's meeting, I hope when it is all done, I can say I did a good job. However I am sure that someone will say I didn't, be that as it may I didn't do anything that I didn't make the club the prime objective. Anyone want my job? It's available! I am not going to con-

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tinue as secretary. My good news is the biopsies taken from my esophagus and stomach were negative, no cancer yet. I did have a stomach infection, and that has been controlled, but I do have Barrettes Disease. Is it stands I have no active cancer, however I will need monitoring, as Barrettes Disease is the precursor to cancer. They are cells that turn into cancer if not controlled. I thank you all for the concern.

For those who did or do not know Stitz W7BET lost his wife to a long illness weekend before last and I sent a card in your behalf. I am sure you share my feelings for Stitz's loss.

And to you who have served as committee chairmen and women, and the Board, please remember it is time to give Alan your yearly activity report, by the Board meeting in February, as they need to be presented to the club in the March Relay. Now I will shut up, and go watch the snow coming down. *Jan Van Allen (K7YH), Secretary.*

### We Need New Hams!!

At each meeting, Harry tells us about the decline of amateurs in Western Washington. We must act now to preserve our hobby so that there is something to pass on to future generations. Many in the community at large do not know that code is not required to get a ticket. They are also unaware of the many things done by amateurs across the country and locally. Amateurs receive attention when disaster strikes (if even then). When we are noticed, we are seen as a group of 50 – 60 year old men!

We need to reach out to the community and bring younger people into amateur radio. With this in mind, I propose a challenge to each member of the club, to introduce one person to amateur radio this year. We are responsible for the continuation of our hobby and cannot rely on others to do the job for us. Steven Cook (KD7IQL).

### Fleamarket Roster

*Michael Dinkelman, N7WA*

I just finished compiling the Flea Market roster. This is the list I'll be generating badges from. Frankly, I'm a little disappointed. At first glance, this list would indicate that around 50% of the membership will be participating in the most important event this Club sponsors every year. That wouldn't be too bad except that this list contains a significant number of people who are not Club members (wives, friends, and interested 3<sup>rd</sup> parties). Then there are a few names I've added either because I am hoping they might show or because they are true Club Elders and deserve the honor of having a badge available. That probably drops us down to 35-40% membership participation.

Granted, there are people in this Club that just can't make it. They work, run businesses, go to school, have family commitments, or have other valid reasons for not being able to support this event. (Myself, I had college finals last year during event hours and had to bug out.) However, I don't believe that over 50% of the Club members fall into this category. There was a time, that in order to join this Club, you had to come to 3 consecutive regular Club meetings. It was deemed a harsh policy but it proved your willingness to put some effort into being an *active* member of the Club. While I am not promoting a return to those requirements, \$12 a year does not represent much in the way of a show of support – especially when it doesn't even cover the cost of the Relay.

The Pacific Northwest doesn't have much in the way of Amateur Radio festivities. Our event is one of the largest, if not the largest, gathering of Hams in the region. However, it doesn't put itself together. It takes planning, it takes money, it takes teamwork - but mostly, it takes a team. (WARNING - sports analogy imminent!) Your Chairpersons have worked hard in a changeover year (we lost some important leadership) to make sure the 2001 event (our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) is as good or better than any before. Now it's time for the team to come out on the field and play the game. If we can't get enough players, we might as well forfeit, raise dues (I figure \$50 a year would do it), and follow a few other Clubs into the dustbin of time. Your ball.

Below is my initial badge list. If your name isn't on it, then you didn't sign up for the Flea market or you are not expected. If your friend's name isn't on it – ask him why. You can still sign up for the event at the next meeting but your badge will not be available at the February Club meeting and will have to be picked up at the Fairgrounds. If I erred and didn't get your name down even when you signed up, accept my apologies and let me know so I can get a badge made. Thanks to all who signed up.

Andrews, Virgil  
 Antes, Rick  
 Baskett, Joyce  
 Boessenroth, Ted  
 Brighton, David  
 Burget, Brendan  
 Carpenter, Jim  
 Cook, Steven  
 Dinkelman, Michael  
 Doss, Vanessa  
 Estes, Matt  
 Foster, Mike  
 Grimmitt, Jack  
 Hall, Bill  
 Hallstrom, Nils  
 Hanner, Dawn  
 Hansen, Michael  
 Harris, Darla  
 Heath, Wayne  
 Holtan, Dean

Antes, Chris  
 Barrows, Kevin  
 Benefiel, Chuck  
 Bridges, Dick  
 Brown, Dale  
 Burrell, Jack  
 Christiansen, Jim  
 Dinkelman, Diane  
 Doss, Calvin  
 Drynan, Gil  
 Etwiler, Jim  
 Goodell, Hal  
 Grote, Martin  
 Hallstrom, Jo  
 Hamlin, Jim  
 Hanner, Curtis  
 Hansen, Mike  
 Heath, Dianne  
 Henshaw, Frank  
 Holtan, Sheila

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Hughes, Alan  
 Hughes, Tressie  
 Humphrey, Dawn  
 Jones, Chuck  
 Konop, Jim  
 LaFerla, Mike  
 Lee, David  
 Leslie, Ellen  
 Lewis, Harry  
 Lowell, Dorothy  
 Lundstrom, Dick  
 Martin, Ryan  
 McGee, John  
 Morris, Jim  
 Parton, Loren  
 Pietrucha, Greg  
 Rehnstrom, Little John  
 Ross, Michael  
 Samboni, Aldo  
 Schumacher, Ralph  
 Smith, Larry  
 Stephan (QQW)  
 Stroehner, Chuck  
 Sullivan, Sam  
 Thomson, Buzz  
 Van Allen, Jan  
 Vyborny, Frank  
 Welch, Bob  
 Wolborsky, Barry  
 ZumBrunnen, Vic

Hughes, Bill  
 Humphrey, Dan  
 Irie, Brian  
 Jones, Karen  
 Krieger, Frank  
 LaFerla, Ronnie  
 Lee, Gail  
 Leslie, Ray  
 Lewis, Mary  
 Lowell, Fred  
 Martin, Kathy  
 McCall, Jack  
 Moddison, Wayne  
 Navarre, Lou  
 Parton, Scott  
 Radford, Dick  
 Robinson, Scott  
 Roubal, Ted  
 Sasaki, Atsushi  
 Smith, Dave  
 Smith, Steven  
 Storwick, Bob  
 Stroehner, Joyce  
 Sundberg, Charles  
 Vaclav, Sal  
 Vance, Dick  
 Walenceus, John  
 Whitaker, Mark  
 Wolborsky, Kim

costing thousands of dollars to simple one board kits (like a BFO board) for less than ten dollars. In between that rather large range are a wide variety of amateur accessories. Most items can be viewed online and specifications are shown. Also on this site, you can download the latest version software for many pieces of TenTec equipment. If you wish, you can even connect up to a TenTec 550 Pegasus virtual transceiver, in full remote operation in Boston.

The Web site uses a fairly easy-to-use button table for navigating the site. My only complaint here is that the buttons are fairly small and difficult to read (or am I just getting old?). The area is basically divided into assembled equipment, kits, and general info. Since TenTec doesn't distribute through dealers, you are offered many opportunities to buy online. Some of the offerings are pretty tempting – I am rather enticed by the large number of transverters available. Someday, you might find me above 30MHz using one of these. Low on coffee cups? TenTec has 'em – in the accessory department.

So, check out the TenTec Home page and it's Amateur Radio offerings. If you're really adventurous, you can check out their other divisions as well. You might be surprised as to what's available. *Michael Dinkelman (N7WA)*

## Web Page of the Month

Web surfing is one of the fun activities of the modern age. Personally, I find access and use of the Internet imperative to my work, school, and to the enjoyment of Amateur Radio. Occasionally, I (and maybe you) find pages that would be worth sharing with others. Well, that's the purpose of this column – to help share interesting links on the Web we might otherwise never find. So, if you find an interesting site that is well designed, has interesting content, and relevance to our hobby, let me know and I'll check it out. Or better yet, feel free write your own article and help our Relay editor out. –N7WA

*This month, we are going to Tennessee - to the last major producer of commercial Amateur Radio gear in the USA - TenTec Corporation. You can find their home page at <http://tentec.com/>. TenTec produces more than just rigs for Hams. That's good because it's doubtful they could survive otherwise. They also produce Commercial and Government equipment, the chassis you buy at the local shop for your homebrew equipment, tool and die services, and a commercial plastics casting division. Our interest lies in the Amateur Radio division.*

*In this division (<http://tentec.com/Amateur.htm>), you'll find that TenTec produces a large number of products from advanced transceivers and amplifiers*

## Board Meeting Minutes, 1/31/01

**Officers Present:** President - Alan (KB7SVU); Vice President - Wayne (KB7ORB); Secretary - Jan (K7YH); Treasurer - Jim (KC7BAT); Activity Manager - Tressie (KC7BAL); Radio Officer - Harry (W7JWJ); Trustee #2 - Steve (N7MUT); Trustee #4 Mary (W7QGP); and Trustee #5 - Dan (N7QHC).

**Visitors:** Brandon (KD7IKV), Steven (KD7IQL), Rick (KB7TBF), and Dawn (KC7YYB).

### Officer Reports

**COB:** Jack (N7IHS), being absent due to business out of town, the meeting was opened by Alan (KB7SVU) at 7:30 PM. The minutes being previously published in the Relay Tressie (KC7BAL) motioned the minutes be approved, seconded by Dan (N7QHC), the motion carried.

**President:** Alan (KB7SVU) reported that Jack (N7IHS), Wayne (KB7ORB) and Alan had traveled to Ft. Flagler, and retrieved the antenna trailer and antennas, after putting two new tires on it. It now resides at Wayne's home, awaiting work parties to arrive for the overhaul etc. A discussion ensued relating to storage of club property. Field day tents and other equipment is still being stored in a trailer at Alan's home, and there is concern about security from weather and accessibility. There was no resolution of this matter, and further discussion will undoubtedly ensue at a later date.

**Vice President:** Wayne (KB7ORB), presented an application from Dale Brown (KC7ICD), retired Army, his application was approved by the board,

**Support The Flea Market March 9th and 10th**

even though he was sponsored by Larry AB7FJ {hi hi}. Wayne also advised the Board that the supply of patches and pins denoting membership in the Mike and Key were starting to get low, Jim (KD7BAT) will investigate patch costs, and Dawn will investigate pin costs and report at the next Board meeting.

**Secretary:** Jan (K7YH) reported there was no correspondence, and reiterated even though the results of medical testing had proven negative, I still plan on relinquishing my position in the upcoming elections.

**Treasurer:** Jim KD7BAT reported that we were still in good shape financially, and that we are ahead of budget for the Flea Market in March.

**Activities Manager:** Tressie (KC7BAL) reported the Raffle results for the year were entirely successful, and the self-supporting aspect was in very good shape.

**Radio Officer:** Harry W7JWJ reported the new RF exposure law was in effect since last September and his concern for RF exposure at Field day. He recommended a safety officer be appointed for Field Day activities. He continues to research the demographics of Amateur Radio, as it applies to Washington and to the Mike and Key in particular. He pointed out several important and interesting facts: there are 24,000 Amateurs in the state of Washington, in this area alone we lost 56 due to license expiration this month. 75 will go beyond the grace period, and another 75 will go beyond the grace period in February.

The Mike & Key ARC now have an average age of 57 years among 75% of the club, we have only 3% under the age of 30. 3000 No Code Technicians will lose their licenses due to expiration in the State next year. The ARRL membership increased only 1.5% last year, while the QCWA lost 7% due to members becoming Silent Keys. Harry also discussed teaching CW for those upgrading to General. Since all of the club's tapes have disappeared. Harry moved that the club expend \$75.00 to produce new tapes that meet the new test standards, funds to come from the Public relations miscellaneous fund. Wayne seconded the motion, and it carried. Harry also recommended that the club form an Elmer program and Radio coaches program in a effort to retain more members.

Committee Liaison Reports

**Technical:** Steve K7MUT reported that the CW beach fellowship had submitted their preferences for antennas as proposed by Mike (N7WA). The antenna of choice and most economical is the Force 12 model C3MF. Steve motioned this model be purchased, seconded by Jan K7YH, the motion carried.

**Public Service:** Steve (KD7IQL) and Brandon (KD7IQV) reported the Public Service Pamphlet is nearly finished, however they were encountering printing costs increases. Budgeted for \$800.00, they have found the lowest cost to be \$2300.00. The pamphlet will be finished by the time this goes to press; however the search for a more reasonable printer goes on.

**Education:** No Report.

**Strategic Planning:** No Report

**Facilities:** Mary (W7QGP) announced although the Salvation Army was selling several of its assets in the Renton area, the present Chapel and our Meeting place will not be sold.

**Field Day:** Alan (KB7SVU) announced that since no one had stepped forward to be the Field Day Chairman he would assume this position himself.

**Flea Market:** No Report.

Old Business

Rick (KB7TBF) asked if anyone had heard any problems with the ARES nets on the repeater. No one reported any problems. Rick stated that the nets were going well. At the Wednesday January 24<sup>th</sup> Board meeting that wasn't, Rick reported that he had met with the new Salvation Army Communications officer, Lt. Meyers. The results of that meeting indicated that since Mr. Strand had left and there was no agreements passed on to him, he considered all previous agreements with the Mike & Key ARC to be void. Lt. Meyers stated as far as the Salvation Army was concerned, ARES could use the Repeater all they wanted, as he had no plan to use our system. Harry explained that the FCC was in fact phasing out the use of commercial television in the 49MHz band, and as they do, those frequencies will become available to emergency services, i.e. Red Cross, Salvation Army, FEMA, etc. This being the case, it is not anticipated that Salvation Army will have need for our assistance or equipment.

To clarify the comment about the Board Meeting that wasn't, on the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup> several Board members showed up for the published meeting, there were not enough to have a quorum, and no business was transacted. Imagine our disappointment when it was rescheduled for 31 January.

**New Business:** Jan (K7YH) motioned that the club set aside \$400.00 from the budget to form an extingency fund to allow publication of the Public Service Pamphlet, if a printer could not be found that would or could print it at last years price. This motion was seconded by Mary W7QGP and passed by the Board.

There being no further business a motion by Tressie (KC7BAL) seconded by Wayne (KC7ORB) to adjourn was made, President Alan (KB7SVU) closed the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Attested:

Jan M. Van Allen K7YH  
Secretary

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## Events Calendar

### February

**February 14th**, Tuesday - Valentine's Day

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

**February 17th**, Saturday - Mike & Key Net, 9:15 AM on 146.82 repeater

*Support The Flea Market March 9th and 10th*

**February 17th**, Saturday - Mike & Key General Meeting, 10:00 AM at Renton Salvation Army HQ

**February 18th**, Sunday - ARES Regional Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**February 19th**, Monday - President's Day

**February 20th**, Tuesday - ARES Damage Assessment Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**February 22nd**, Thursday - Washington's Birthday

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

**February 25th**, Sunday - ARES Regional Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**February 27th**, Tuesday - ARES Damage Assessment Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**February 28th**, Wednesday - Mike & Key Board Meeting, 7:00 PM at Renton Salvation Army HQ

**March**

**March 1st**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**March 4th**, Sunday - ARES Regional Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**March 6th**, Tuesday - ARES Damage Assessment Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**March 8th**, Thursday - Public Service Net, 7:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**March 9th**, Friday - Mike & Key ARC Flea Market Setup

**March 10th**, Saturday - Mike & Key ARC Flea Market

**March 11th**, Sunday - ARES Regional Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

**March 13th**, Tuesday - ARES Damage Assessment Net, 8:00 PM on 146.82 repeater

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

**March 17th**, Saturday - Mike & Key Net, 9:15 AM on 146.82 repeater

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## SETI Project

As many know, SETI is an acronym for the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence. This project requires a mind boggling amount of computer power ... so they came up with the idea of downloading software and data to be crunched to a number of volunteers all over the world. Recently, a message was received from one volunteer. In part, it reads, "I've got over 4,000 hours of computer time on the SETI project." WOW!!! *Fred Roberts (W6TKV)*

## Aurora Gallery

Quite frequently we hear about the aurora seen in the northern latitudes, but we have little appreciation for just how spectacular the skies really are. If you're on the Internet, take a look at [http://www.spaceweather.com/aurora/gallery\\_26nov00.html](http://www.spaceweather.com/aurora/gallery_26nov00.html). Pay a visit and be dazzled by the full-screen pictures. *Fred Roberts (W6TKV)*

*Support The Flea Market March 9th and 10th*



**Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club  
2001 Annual Awards Banquet  
Saturday April 1, 2000**

**Location**

**HD Hotspurs**

315 South Washington, Kent.

Take highway 167 to the Willis Exit and proceed West to the first main intersection, turn right and then turn left into the K-Mart Shopping Center, HD Hotspurs is in the southwest corner of the shopping center.

**Time**

6:00 PM Social Hour (No Host Bar)

7:00 PM Buffet Dinner

**Menu**

Ribs, Chicken, and Roast Beef

Vegetarian meals available

**Cost**

**Cost: \$15 per Person**

Limited to the first 60 to Sign Up

**Reservation Deadline is April 1st**

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

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

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

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

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

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

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Vegetarian Meals \_\_\_\_\_

Bring the registration form with a check for full payment to the next Mike and Key ARC meeting and give it to Bill Sommerwerck (KA3QXL) or Chuck Benefiel (N7STR) to receive your tickets.

**Or**

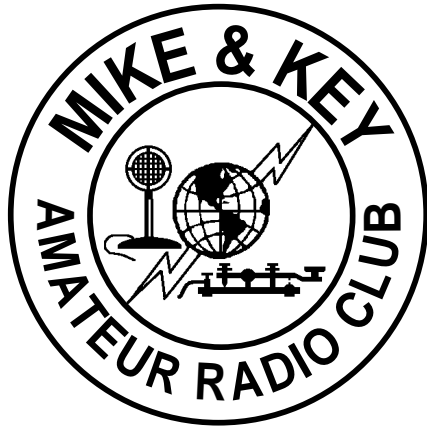
**Mail completed form to:**

Bill Sommerwerek, KA3QXL

17610 - 134th Lane SE

Renton, WA 98059-6817

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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 its activities. Yearly dues are \$12.00 for individual memberships and \$18.00 for family memberships.

**Volume 29, Number 2**

**February, 2001**

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**Return To**

Jack Grimmert  
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Renton, WA 98059

**First Class Mail**

**Next Club Meeting**

Saturday, February 17th at 10:00 AM  
Salvation Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton  
Doors open at 9:30 AM  
Talk-in on 146.82 RPTR

**Next Board Meeting**

Wednesday, February 28th at 7:00 PM  
Salvation Army in Renton  
720 Tobin, Renton

**Mail Dues To:**

Jim Etwiler, KD7BAT  
3935 - Interlake Ave. North  
Seattle, WA 98103-8131



**Check Mailing Label for Dues Status**

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