

K7LED RELAY



Volume 29

April 2001

Number 4

The *RELAY* is the official tabloid of the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club. The Mike and Key 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 Tolbin St., near the SE corner of the Renton Airport. The Club operates repeaters on 146.22-146.82 (PL103.5), and 222.52-224.12 under the call K7LED. The Club mailing address is: POB 4234, Renton, WA 98057. All persons interested in Amateur Radio are invited to participate in the Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club and it's activities. Yearly dues are \$12 for individuals and \$18 for families.

PRESIDENT	Jack Grimmatt	N7IHS	TRUSTEE #1	Brendon Burget	KD7IKV
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mark Whitaker	KD7KUN	TRUSTEE #2	Steven Kaney	N7MUT
SECRETARY	Curtis Hanner	N7MWC	TRUSTEE #3	Steven Cook	KD7IQL
TREASURER	Jim Eztwiler	KD7BAT	TRUSTEE #4	Mary Lewis	W7QGP
ACTIVITY MGR	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	TRUSTEE #5 (CoB)	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU
RADIO OFFICER	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ	WEBMASTER	Jim Eztwiler	
	KD7BAT				

The Prez says...

Submitted by Club President Jack Grimmatt, N7IHS



I want to thank the membership for electing me President of the Club for the 2001 – 2001 term of office. Our general meetings are currently very enjoyable to attend. There is lots of humor and the necessary business gets accomplished. I intend on keeping it that way. The meeting format will be much the same as it is now with a few subtle changes. I want to temporarily suspend the Input Box and try to give members more of an opportunity to speak from the floor. We have about one hour to conduct the meeting so I request that members keep their comments brief and to the point.

We are fortunate in the selection of the other officers and trustees in that we have a good blend of old and relative new members. Five members of the Executive Board have 3 years or less of continuous membership in the Club. These people have already have contributed immensely to the Club's success by their Field Day activities, working at the Flea Market, serving on committees, or working on the Public Service pamphlet. I look for the older members of the Board to maintain traditions and continuity and the newer

members to bring new enthusiasm, new ideas, and new innovations to the Club.

The real power in our Club lies with the Executive Board. This is where all of the policies and procedures are established and expenditures (within the membership-approved budget) are approved. The Executive Board meeting is where the action is. These meetings are held in the evening of the last Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00 PM at the Renton Salvation Army HQ and are always open to the general membership for comment and discussion.

I am sure that there are changes or improvements that each of you would like to see happen in the Club. Complaining to others will not get any thing accomplished. You need to attend the Executive Board meetings or contact any officer or trustee and discuss your ideas. The Mike & Key ARC cannot be all things to all people but in next months article I will present some ideas that get us closer to that idealistic situation.

Next Club Meeting
April 21, 2001 -10AM

Next Board Meeting
April 25, 2001 -7PM

Being Relay Editor, one has the power to make certain demands. (At least, until the fear of me runs out.) This month, I actually convinced most of the newer Board members to write something about themselves. That's good, cause I don't know who half these guys are. —editor

Introducing the New Club Secretary

Submitted by Club Secretary Curtis Hanner, N7MWC

Ham radio has been a persistent part of my life ever since I saw Frank N7DGO with his 2 meter hand held at the 1983 Northwest Computer Fair. The next year I found myself passing my Novice and getting the call KA7VKB. I then quickly upgraded to Technician, bought a 2 meter hand held, IC-02AT, and got on the air. The next year I started college at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. While living in the dorms I started to operate the KA7VKB Packet BBS. Packet Radio stung me hard and was a passionate interest for me for several years as a member of NAPRA. As my college years ended I felt like I needed a new identify so I changed my call sign to N7MWC and moved to Chicago. While in Chicago, I had my first Field Day experience in 1991 at McHenry, Illinois. This was a great experience that I will never forget and it started my love for contesting that is still in its infancy. Unemployed in Chicago, I returned to Seattle for a job at Seattle City Light, where I stayed for the next six years.

For my birthday in December 1991, my girlfriend Dawn was cooking up a surprise. She had no present for me, but knew that I loved ham radio. Two days before my birthday she started studying for the Technician exam. The next day she took the test and passed with flying colors. I was so surprised at my birthday party when she presented me with the certificate indicating that she was a new ham! We were now the team of N7MWC and N7VWH and started doing lots and lots of public service. We met up with Chuck WA7EBH and Joyce N7JPW in the summer of 1992 and have probably worked over 100 parades in the eight years since. In 1996, Dawn and I got married and we quickly added to the family with our son Bryan. In the summer of 1997, we continued helping out at parades with Dawn running net control out of Chuck's truck while 8 week old Bryan nursed on her lap!

In the summer of 1999 we took the family up to Fort Flagler to check out the Mike and Key Field Day. What an operation! We were so impressed that I knew I must be a part of this club. A few months later, we joined the Mike and Key and have been having a great time ever since. Last year at Field Day I ran SSB on 2meters, did an APRS demonstration station, and burned the midnight oil with Dean until we saw the morning sun.

Christmas 2000 arrived and so did my best present yet, an ICOM 746 complete with Power Supply, antenna and desk mic. Unfortunately, it was damaged in shipping and between the insurance claim and repairs I

didn't get the rig on the air until a couple weeks ago. But I was missing something, no paddle. So at the flea market I picked up a beautiful Bencher paddle and now I'm all set. I'm still getting started and have a lot to learn but boy am I looking forward to it!

Public Service Pamphlet Updates

Submitted by Jim Eztwiler, KD7BAT

The 2001 Public Service Pamphlet made it's debut at the Hamfest. The committee did a lot of work on this release and deserves a "Well Done". The pamphlet contains updated events information as well as all new articles. Get your copy at the next meeting.

As happens every year there are events that change after the committee confirms the information. Fortunately many check their entries and let us know through our web address of changes. Listed below is the first set of updates.

Errata for page 3, Repeaters:

Output=145.31, Input=144.71, add Tone=156.7, change Call=KC7IYE, change Location=Redmond.

Output=174.18 change 147.18, Input change to 147.78, Call=WA7LAW.

Errata for page 6 and 7, Northwest Hamfests:

Yakima Hamfest, change date to April 21-22, change location to Masonic Center, Yakima.

Lower Columbia ARA, Longview, change date to Aug 11.

Errata for page 6 and 7, Amateur Radio Exams:

Shelton, change contact to: Dave, N7HT, 360-275-9893, e-mail:dbbrooks@hotmail.net

Errata for pages 8 and 9, Public service Events:

MS Walk Tacoma, change date to May 5

Oregon Trail, add contact Ben, e-mail:bradley@reed.edu

MS Walk Seattle, add date May 6, looking for coordinator Daffodil Parade, change date to April 21

WA Special Olympics, revise date to June 2-3, revise e-mail to waltcoll@earthlink.net

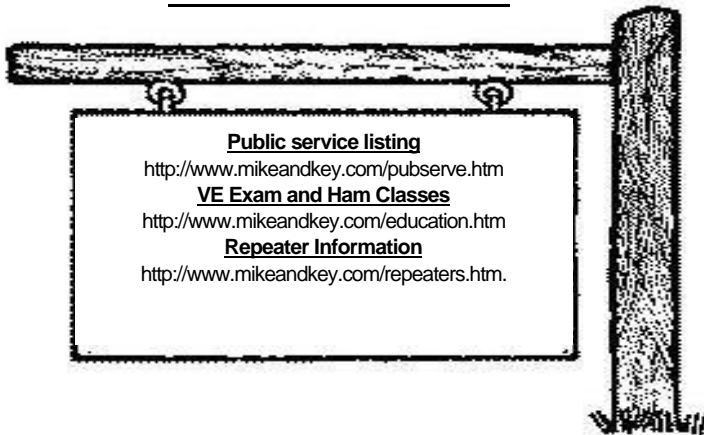
Errata for pages 10 and 11, Club Contacts:

Puget Sound AR TCP/IP User Group, change Central Ave to 22330 84th Avenue South, add e-mail: steve@strophpub.com

Several new events listed this year are:

SCCA Rallies (Sports Car Club of America). These include Oregon Trail, Shitpoke, Dryad Quest, Thurston Co Sprints, So'Wester, and Wild West.

All of these updates have been made to the Mike and Key Web pages. Check the web pages for new or updated events.



For most of us, the following gentleman doesn't need introducing but we do get a lot of new Hams' in this Club. For their benefit...

Introducing the Club's Radio Officer

Submitted by Radio Officer Harry Lewis, W7JWJ



I was born in British Columbia and raised in Northern Idaho. While a Junior in High School, I saw a copy of the American Morse code in a physics book. Since I thought it would be great for sending secret messages in study hall, I memorized it and built a homemade sounder and key.

I had a part-time school job running a projector for movies during school assemblies. One day, three of us were assigned the task so my buddy suggested we split and visit his ham station at his home across the street as only one projectionist was needed. We climbed through a hatch in the school roof, slid three stories down a drain pipe and made a 160 meter contact during which the rig caught fire. Something about using number 24 wire for filament leads. The knock on the door was the school principal telling us that we were coming in on the school sound system. I was hooked.

The following summer I was training for a State swimming meet, contracted polio, and was paralyzed from the neck down for the next two months. Finally, as motion returned to my arms, I would drag myself around our farm house like a walrus out of water. One day I managed to pull myself up onto a chair and there on the table was my home-brew sounder. The moment of truth had arrived. I realized that, even confined to a wheelchair, I could be a Morse Telegrapher and so I practiced until I could easily copy 55 to 60 wpm. The paralysis gradually left, at least

from the neck down, and my first job was as a Morse Telegrapher in San Francisco. That was 60 years ago. Time flies when you're havin' fun. 73

THE MIKE AND KEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
AND THE
BOEING BEARS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
ANNOUNCE A WEEKEND

**Ham Radio
Technician Class**

May 5th and 6th, 2001

Class will be held at the Boeing Kent Recreation Center
Room C, 22649 -83rd Ave S. Kent, WA.
(West of East Valley Road, Near 224th)

Class Times
Saturday Morning 8:00 am thru 5:00 pm
Sunday Morning 8:00 am thru 3:00 pm
FCC Examination 3:00 pm
(Bring a Sack Lunch both days)
Course Fee: \$45:00
Includes: Now You're Talking Text Book (\$19.00)
Class Study Materials
Exam Fee (\$10)

Contact:
Mary Lewis, W7QGP
Phone: 206-523-9117
E-Mail: W7QGP@aol.com
(Online Instruction begins upon registration)

Friends via DXing

Submitted by Jo Hallstrom, KB7UFM

The 6.8 earthquake we had on February 28 is over but many things happened that day to make us pause and think what may occur when the ground shakes around us again. And it will.

Our relatives called from Wyoming, Missouri and California and we assured them we were fine. Even Charley, our cat settled down! Then we received two emails --- from Japan! Haru, JA1CG, was quite concerned about our safety. He was quite alarmed and said, "I had not such an earthquake shaking the field???? Oh no! Not one!". I use his words.

I told Haru that Nils had just stepped off the 45 foot Rohn tower we are putting up when the earth started to roll. You never saw Nils run away from the tower so fast, especially as there was a one ton jack on the tower! Haru was really alarmed then and wrote that Nils was one lucky Swede! The fact that Haru waited over 8 hours to get through to us made us quite thoughtful of his concern. We have never met but have talked on 15 and 20 meters several times. He will be coming to this area this summer

so hopefully we shall have an "eye-ball QSO". You know who your friends are even when they are half a world away.
73

Introducing the new Vice President

Submitted by VP Mark Whitiker, KD7KUN



Hello, and welcome to AA (Amateurs Anonymous). My name is Mark (KD7KUN), your new club Vice-President, and I, too, am an Amateur going through the twelve-step program to achieve higher enlightenment through RF. During those hours reserved for obtaining compensation to pay for rent, transportation and HAM toys I am a mild-mannered financial Controller; the rest of the time...well, you all can figure that one out and call it what you want (but keep it clean for the sake of the kids!).

My interests are rather broad and varied; I enjoy archery (when I can find a nice outdoor range), music (I have done some singing in the past, but I will spare you all the punishment), reading, bicycling, hiking, bowling, computers, and of course amateur radio. I am involved with several different organizations including Puget Amateur Radio Society, ARES of King County, Eastside Amateur Radio Service, Seattle Tip Toppers, Cascade Bicycle Club, National Rifleman's Association, Nordic Heritage Museum, Leif Erickson Society and the Seattle Scottish Highland Games Association (yep, I am of Norwegian and Scottish descent, among others, and I do like lutefisk and haggis!!). I like animals and I currently have two cats, Duncan and Tavia, that claim ownership of me; they keep me around for the necessities of being fed, cleaning the litter box and of course ear scratching.

As for the future, I am studying Morse code and hope to upgrade to General by the end of June (with even bigger aspirations of making Extra by year end). I am working at getting myself into better shape with the goal of losing sixty pounds this year (not easy when there are doughnuts around!!) and to combine my latest hobby of radio with bicycling (if there is anyone out there that has ideas on this... the bicycling/radio, not the diet, please see me). I look forward to getting to know more of you at our events and on the air, till then 73

PSK-31

A high efficiency, narrow-band teletype mode

Written by Harv K2PI

Submitted by Chuck Jones, N7BV

PSK31 is an amazing thing. I first encountered this mode a little over a year ago, and spent some time listening and trying to cobble together a fairly clean interface for my sound card. What turned me off somewhat

at the time was the awful tuning indicator on the first PSK31 program, and the pain of trying to interface my sound card to the high impedance input of my rig. No fun.

All that has changed. I've just received a RIGblaster interface as a gift from my lovely XYL, and I gotta tell ya, this is a superb piece of equipment. Yes, the diehards of the world will tell me I could have built it myself, but I don't live in the U.S. much, and finding parts is always irritating, as well as expensive. For less than a hundred dollars, this neat little box handily interfaces all my stuff, and with clean output too. Check out the RIGblaster on the West Mountain Radio homepage here. I not only can use PSK31, but all the neat Software DSP, monitor Aircraft ACARS transmissions, even do SSTV, with naught but software to install. Just great!

I've started using a new piece of software called "WinPSKe" by KA1DT instead of Digipan. The reasons for this were several; The latest version of Digipan has a bug in the waterfall display code that causes the display to freeze and only update the first 10 or so pixels of the display. I know it's not a Video Compatibility problem, because I run a 32 MB TNT2 Ultra card, which is capable of amazing resolutions. It's not a constant problem, but happened often enough to send me looking. I found WinPSKe and have fallen in love with it. Reasons? Try these:

--The waterfall display is here, much like WinPSKe, but the ability to copy TWO PSK31 signals at once is added, along with the ability to switch between either QSO at any time with the press of your mouse.

--The program is much more structured, with an amazing variety of features, including the ability to make unlimited Macro buttons (limited only by screen real estate).

--The DSP is much better than WinPSKe, and the ability to pull out and work the really weak signals is enhanced.

--As with Digipan, this software is free! Pick it up here. OK, what's the big deal with PSK31? Just how good is this mode?

Should you want the raw technical information, the details are all over the web, but personal experience is always the most revealing. My first real long-term exposure to PSK31 has brought home several points:

--It's very spectrum efficient: Signals fit into just a few tens of Hertz, and multiple QSO's can be conducted within just a KHz.

--It's not enough to listen for signals: PSK31 is perfect for weak signal work, and, actually, most of the people you can work will not be audible, or covered up by other signals. That's where WinPSKe shines, since it allows you to view a sweep of spectrum and see the signals. With the click of a button, you can zero in on a signal and work the station.

You don't even need to move the VFO, since WinPSKe adjusts your AFSK tones to match those of the other stations. Park your VFO on 14.065.5 and work them up and down the width of your SSB filter!

--It's an extremely noise immune and robust protocol. Perfect for those in high QRM areas. My power line noise in Bulgaria is often S7, but I can work PSK31 without a care in the world right through the hash. Output power is not a factor. I have yet to meet someone running more than 100 watts. Most are in the 40-60 watt range. And you can't tell the difference.

--Most everyone is new to the mode: That means you can get in on the ground floor and be an old hand with the rest of them. How often does that happen for low cost in Amateur Radio?

--The equipment needed is sitting in 90 percent of the Ham shacks in the U.S. WinPSKe is free software, your PC and soundcard can be quickly wired up to the rig (or use the RIGblaster!) and you are on the mode. What could be easier?

If you've been holding off on this mode, download WinPSKe, connect your speaker output to your sound card input and just troll through those signals. I am willing to bet you'll be cobbling up an interface or ordering a RIGblaster before the week is out. 73

Communications Academy 2001

April 21- 22, 2001 Two days of training and information on various aspects of emergency communications. Anyone with an interest in the subject, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS), EOC Support Teams, Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES), REACT, and others, are invited to participate. Come to learn, network, and share your experiences with others. NOAA Auditorium, Building 9, 7600 Sand Point Way, Seattle



Online Registration and Info at:
<http://www.academy2001.org>

Mail- in registration:
King Co. Emergency Management
7300 Perimeter Rd., Room 128
Seattle, WA. 98108- 3848

Fax: 206-296-3838

By-Laws Committee

Submitted by Club President Jack Grimmert, N7IHS

The time has come to once again review the Club's by-laws for some necessary changes. We do not need to change how the Club operates but clarify some areas that have presented problems to the Executive Board in recent years. The Board actively refers to the by-laws during its deliberations and has found a number areas that need to be revised to enhance our current operations.

At the Executive Board meeting held on March 28th, Jan Van Allen (K7YH) was appointed to chair the By-laws Committee. This committee will be charged with gathering member inputs and meeting the requirements of Article XI, Paragraph 11.01 of the current by-laws. This should not be a one-person committee so Jan will be actively soliciting members to serve on the committee. We need a good representation of interested members to help accomplish this task.

Jan has also been asked to work with the new secretary Curtis Hanner (N7MWC) to prepare a 'Policies and Procedures' document. This document will include all motions approved by the Executive Board and the general membership and allow the Board to quickly review previous Board and membership actions before voting on current motions.

Introducing Trustee #1

Submitted by Brendon Burget, KD7IKV

Originally from Kansas City, MO., my family and I moved to Port Townsend and opened a Bed and Breakfast in 1988. After graduating from Port Townsend High school in 1990, I moved to Seattle. From 1990 to 1992, I attended Seattle Central Community College's Commercial Photography program. Shortly after graduating with an AAS in Commercial Photography I began working for Yuen Lui Studios. After six years and building a digital imaging department for Yuen Lui I moved on to my current place of employment at Digicolor Inc. Digicolor is a digital service bureau specializing in large-format reproduction.

OK, enough of the real boring stuff and on to the just plain boring parts. I got in to Amateur Radio a couple of years ago while researching different emergency communication forms. That's when I found the club web-site. From there I proceeded to slide down that slippery slope that I think each of us encountered after being introduced to Ham radio. Since then my apartment, with radios, kits and antennas strung here and there, as well as my free time has never been the same.

Banquet Report

Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA



This years edition of the Mike & Key ARC Club Banquet was the 30th annual and played to a full house at HD Hot Spurs in Kent. Highlights included recognition of the first members to reach the

30 year level, the passing of the gavel to new Club President Jack Grimmatt, plus many plaques and other "tributes" of recognition to those who have worked hard over the past year(s).

As outgoing President, Alan Hughes received a plaque recognizing his two years of service in the hot seat. The Field Day MVP award went to Loren Parton. Two Fleamarket plaques were given, one to Mark Whitaker and the other to Dorothy Lowell. The Ken Jackson Elmer Award was presented to Chuck Stroehner. The last award of the evening was the Pop Brown Award. Named after our founder, this award is given, not to recognize short term efforts, but a member's activities in and outside the Club over the long term. Please congratulate Carolyn Pasquier on this excellent and well deserved achievement.

A few items came out of the "Black Bag" this year. Be sure to ask Mike Laferla about his new non-singing fish-on-a-board. Just be sure to stand back or you might get wet. Tressie Hughes found out what real "Happy Feet" look like. Hal Goodell received a new accessory for his cell phone and Mark Whitaker should be a lot cooler come next Fleamarket. Jack Grimmatt received a device to help him make it through the next year and my genuine thanks for the work he has done as Editor. Finally, there were two new members inducted into the Mike & Key's dreaded and secret *Twisted Key Society_{tm}*.

Thirty year members that came to up to receive their certificates were Chuck Stroehner and Steve Tillet. Both had hair that was a bit grayer than that first Club Banquet 30 years ago. Our thanks to this years Banquet organizers Bill Sommerwerek and Chuck Benefiel, prize coordinators and go-fers Joyce Stroehner and Tressie Hughes, and Master.... opps! Sorry, make that AMATEUR Master of Ceremonies Bill Bridges for their efforts and the excellent results.

Introducing Trustee #3

Submitted by Steven Cook, KD7IQL

I was born and raised in Seattle. I am the oldest of three children and have two sisters out of state. My oldest sister has been in the Air Force for the past 14 years and is currently stationed in Alaska. My youngest sister is working for Wiley Publishing in New York. I graduated from Cleveland High School in the class of 1984. From there, I went to Lake Washington Tech

School where I took classes in electronics' and computer maintenance. I was hired by a local computer maintenance company out of school and have been working with them ever since (13 Years). In my line of work, I work on all types of computers and printers. I am specialized in SCO UNIX (a computer operating system).

In my free time I work with local science fiction/fantasy conventions doing operational work like event security. I have been working these conventions for the past 17 years. I also have helped out with local haunted houses doing event security. In past 2 years I have been working with another group of volunteers - converting an articulated 60' metro bus into a mobile communication and command center for special events.

Lower Vanity Fees Proposed

From the ARRL Letter

The FCC is proposing to lower the fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign from \$14 to \$12. The new fee, if approved, likely would go into effect sometime in September. The proposed lower fee was contained in an FCC Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for FY 2001 (MD Docket No. 01-76), released March 29. The FCC said it estimates 8000 applicants will apply for vanity call signs in the current fiscal year.

Applicants for Amateur Radio vanity call signs will continue to pay the \$14 fee for the 10-year license term until the FY 2001 fee schedule becomes effective. The effective date for the new FCC fee schedule will be announced later this year in a Report and Order or by a Public Notice published in the Federal Register.

A Reflector is just a list.....

Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

Within the next couple weeks, if you have a published e-mail address, you'll be receiving an invitation to join the Mike and Key reflector. A reflector is just an electronic mailing list of people with a common interest. We have a common interest called the Mike and Key ARC. In the past, it's been hard to get out short term news to the group. We have a 2 meter repeater but unless you are listening to it 24 hours a day, it's not a good way to disseminate Club info. It's also not very private. The *Relay* works good but has a lead time of several weeks. The Club Web page works good for archiving information but not for short term group reminders and involves a fair amount of burden on the Webmasters.

A reflector or list, on the other hand, works on a simple process best described as a "party line". You (or

anyone subscribed to the list) can send out one message to a central address and it gets reflected to every member of the group by e-mail. Obviously, this is a lousy way to hold a private conversation but an excellent way to let the group know of an event (Joe Ham went in to the Hospital last night), to ask a question (anybody know what time the Banquet is?), or to discuss an issue of importance to the Club (should we budget \$10,000 to the CW Preservation Society?). The new Board already has such a similar list going so we can keep each other informed and discuss things ideas in between the meeting's "Remember, Board meeting at 7PM this month!". It's way easier than a phone call and everyone gets the updates.

Of course, there has to be a few rules. 1) Keep the messages relevant to the group, else send direct e-mail. This list isn't for discussing vacation plans but as a Club communications tool. 2) Use plain text in your e-mail only -not everyone can read HTML encoded messages. Unfortunately, many mailers default to HTML and AOL6 doesn't even give you the option of plain text. (So keep a copy of AOL5 around if you are an AOL person.) Now, the plain text rule only applies if you are SENDING messages. You can read them any way you want. 3) Indirect addressing (like the ARRL forwarding service) works OK for incoming messages but not for outgoing. If you anticipate sending messages, give me your real address. Subscription will be voluntary and you can unsubscribe from the list at any time. I imagine the throughput of the list will be minor, on the order of a message a week on average, if that, so I wouldn't worry about overloading your mail box. Events such as the Flea Market or Field Day may generate more traffic.

I hope you will join the Mike and Key Reflector. I belong to several of these (antennas, contesting, towers) and find them extremely helpful to my hobby activities. If you have e-mail and don't receive an invitation in the next couple weeks, drop me your address at mwdink@eskimo.com and I'll make sure you get one.

Board Meeting, March 27th, 2001

Submitted by Secretary Jan Van Allen K7YH

Officers Present:

Pres: Alan KB7SVU
*Jack N7HIS***
VPres: Wayne KC7ORB
*Mark KD7KUN***
Sec: Jan K7YH
*Curtis N7MWC***
Tres: absent
Act Mgr: Tressie KC7BAL
*Michael N7WA***

Radio Officer: Harry W7JWJ

Trustees:

1: Jack N7HIS
*Brandon KD7IKV***
2: Steve N7MUT
3: Jim W7FKI
*Steven KD7IQL***
4: Mary W7QGP
5: Dan N7QHC
*Alan KB7SUV***

**Newly Elected Officers Present

(Note: Jim KC7BAT remains in office, absent due to business trip)

Visitors: Nils W7RUJ, Jo KB7UFM, Jim KC7EVY,

Officer Reports:

COB: Jack N7IHS opened the meeting at 7:20 PM stating that the start time was 7:00 PM, However the outgoing Secretary was late in arriving, hence the delay. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February Board meeting, motioned by Harry W7JWJ and seconded by Tressie KC7BAL, the minutes were approved.

Pres: Alan KB7SVU thanked everyone for their support during his year as President.

Vpres: Wayne KC7ORB, from Tyler Gill KD7MJO and Mitch Gill KD7CZR (Father and son), David (Greg) Wilson N7WJC, Miles Stock KB7OHO, Ruth SkeltonWL7CIQ, and Jasmine Ashford No Call. The Board approved all the applications.

Secretary: Had nothing to report. Jan K7YH introduced Jim Telegenhoff KC7EVY, Director of Communications for the Explorer Search and Rescue in King County. Jim spoke about the communications program in that group and invited anyone interested to join to assist in the communications duty officer positions. Jim will provide a guest speaker for the General meeting to address the club on the same subject.

Treasurer: Jim KD7BAT was absent due to business

Activities Manager: Tressie KC7BAL turned over the money from the door prize raffles. MIKE N7WA the new activity manager received the money and other items. Tressie also reported that the program for April would be on Amateur radio in Australia.

Radio Officer: Harry W7JWJ reported that the membership date of expiration for K7LED in the WWARA was erroneously reported as having expired. Mike and Key dues and membership are up to date and valid through 2003. Harry then motioned that Mike N7WA be approved as Relay Editor, Seconded by Jack, approved by the Board.

Committees: The newly elected trustees selected the committees, which they will serve a liaison for the coming year:

Technical: Steve N7MUT

Public Service: Brandon KD7IKV

Education: Contested by Steve and Alan, ballot elected Steve KD7IQL to education liaison.

Long Range Planning: Alan KB7SUV

Facilities: Mary W7QGP

Field Day: Alan KB7SVU stated that the tower sections and antennas all needed maintenance, and recommended procurement of new bolts and nuts.

Facilities Committee: Brandon and Steven will go to Alan's home for an inventory of the antenna equipment this weekend.

Education Committee: Jim W7FKI covered the education meeting and the upcoming Technician class at the Boeing Recreation Center May 5-6, 2001. Meeting Minutes attached. Mary W7QGP reported that the education materials have now been inventoried and accounted for. There were 7 now you are talking books remaining on hand. A new order will be placed to cover the upcoming class.

Old Business: The proposed bylaws changes will be held for another month, pending review by the new Board, and related to that the proposed annex to the officers manual with Policies and procedures will be held for the same reason. The ARES agreement is not finished, it too, will be held over.

New Business: Jack N7IHS opened nominations for Chairman of the Board, Mary W7QGP nominated Brandon KD7IKV, seconded by Steve KD7IQL, Alan KB7SVU nominated by Steve N7MUT and seconded by

Brandon, Alan was elected 5 to 4 with one abstention.

Wayne KB7ORB stated the Trailer for the towers needs a new license registration and approximately \$150.00 for repair parts. He will renew the registration. Further discussion was tabled.

Jan K7YH motioned that the meeting of the board in each month be considered the board meeting for the upcoming monthly General Meeting to clarify confusion concerning which meeting was dedicated to the month it was held. MARY W7QGP seconded this motion. Approved by the board, henceforth the meeting held on the last Wednesday of the month would concern business for the succeeding month. April's Board meeting is held on the last Wednesday of March ETC.

Mark KD7KUN stated he would not be here for the next General meeting. Alan and Tressie will be on Vacation in Germany during the May meetings.

Nils brought up the EM exposure calculations for Field Day Referred to Alan FD chair. He also discussed the weight limits on the tower trailer, Wayne will check on the limits when he renews the registration.

Having observed the Board meeting Jim KC7EVY requested an application for membership, and submitted it immediately, It was received and approved by the board.

As the new Chairman of the Board, Alan KB7SVU stated that Board Meetings would be held on the LAST Wednesday of each month.

Jack N7IHS, as President announced that Jan K7YH would chair a Bylaws Committee, to consider and review the bylaws, and recommend changes when and if necessary.

There being no further business a motion by Tressie KC7BAL seconded by Brandon KD7IKV to adjourn was made, and the chairman closed the meeting at 2100 Hrs.

General Meeting, March 17th, 2001

Submitted by Secretary Jan Van Allen K7YH

Officers present: Pres. Alan KB7SVU; Vice Pres. Wayne KB7ORB; Sec. Jan K7YH; Treas. Jim KC7BAT; Act. Manager Tressie (KC7BAL); Radio Officer Harry W7JWJ; Trustee #1 Jack N7IHS; Trustee #2 Steve K7MUT; Trustee #3 Jim N7FKI; Trustee #4 Mary W7QGP; Trustee #5 Dan N7QHC. The meeting was called to order at 10:00AM with all members and guests repeating the Pledge of Allegiance at the Salvation Army Building in Renton.

MINUTES: It was moved, Bill K7YH, seconded by Sam N7RHE, and passed to approve the minutes of the February meeting as printed in the RELAY.

Introductions of members and guests were made. 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.

OFFICERS REPORTS:

PRESIDENT: Alan KB7SVU announced that he was very happy to see Larry AB7FJ, out of the Hospital and recovering. Larry stated he had lost over 30 pounds, and Alan presented him with a pair of bright red suspenders. He then presented Dawn KC7YYB with the Picnic Chairman's book, as she is the chairman this year. Alan thanked the club for allowing him to serve as President for the last two years.

VICE PRESIDENT: Wayne KC7ORB, presented Hal N5CG and Jo KF6QDN Ingram for membership, and Dale KC7ICB Brown. All being approved by the Board, they were unanimously elected to membership

SECRETARY: Announced that the SETI group had mailed a brochure announcing the annual meeting in New York City, any one interested could read it

TREASURER Jim KD7BAT outlined the purchases made this year and that we were on the track and under budget.

ACT. MANAGER: Tressie KC7BAL stated today there would not be a program, that elections were the main order of the day.

RADIO OFFICER: Harry W7JWJ reported that he had received a letter from the Eastern Washington Section Manager about bad information in our Public Service handbook. (Unfortunately the information used in producing the handbook was faulty to begin with). Harry also announced the tower bill in the State Legislature was dead for this year, as the Earthquake interrupted the flow of business. He also reported the on line communications course had filled up the first evening of registration.

RELAY: Jack N7IHS announced that Mike N7WA would be the new editor of the Relay if approved by the Board.

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

FACILITIES:

PUBLIC SERVICE: Brandon KD7IKV and Steven KD7IQL received a big round of Applause for the fine job they did in producing the Public Service pamphlet. Well done!

LONG RANGE PLANNING:

EDUCATION: Mary W7QGP announced that the next class would be May 5-6 at the Boeing Recreation Center in Kent.

FLEA MARKET: Hal N7NW thanked everyone for their efforts at the Flea Market, especially the team leaders, Wayne KC7ORB, Curtis and Dawn N7MWC & N7VWH at the Country Store. Citing Mike N7WA, Ronnie KC7UFS, Alan KB7SVU, Frank KA7QHG, and Tressie KC7BAL, among the many whom produced this year Flea Market.

C.O.B: Elections today

PICNIC: Dawn KC7YYB CHM.

FIELD DAY: Alan KB7SVU CHM

CHRISTMAS: TBA

CONTEST: NONE

ALLIGATOR: Jan K7YH will keep it for a while.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Frank KA7QHG announced the VE team consisting of Bill N7YH, Mike KG7MX, Mike JR N7PGZ Scott AG7T and Fred N7PZ Lou W7QMP, with a couple of others had tested 49 candidates with only one failure, at the Flea Market.

Bill KA3QXL announced that the Banquet has been sold out and is set to go at HD Hotspurs in Kent on April 7th.

Nils W7RUJ announced that the cost of IRCs has gone up to \$1.75 effective June 7th 2001.

NEW BUSINESS: COB Jack N7IHS assumed the gavel for the purpose of conducting the elections for club officers for the coming year. The following nominations and elections were held:

President: Jack N7HIS - elected by unanimous ballot

Vice President Judy WB6OKE - withdrew
Mark W7KUN - elected by unanimous ballot

Secretary Curtis N7MWC - elected by unanimous ballot

Treasurer Jim KB7BAT elected by unanimous Ballot

Activities Jo KB7UFM - withdrawn

Mike N7WA, Nominated by Darla KC7SIT, seconded by Mary W7QGP,
Elected with 1 Abstention

Trustees Brandon KD7IKV - Previously nominated
Steve KD7IQL
Judy WB6OKC
Bill KA3QXL

Jan K7YH - By Nils W7RUJ
Alan KB7SVU - By Wayne KC7ORB

Ballots were cast and re cast in contested positions, final results of the balloting resulted in the election of the following Trustees

Trustee 1 Brandon KD7IKV
Trustee 3 Steven KD7IQL
Trustee 5 Alan KB7SVU

The Balloting being concluded and all positions filled, the election was declared final. The Officers Elected are

President Jack Grimmitt N7IHS
Vice President Mark Whitaker KD7KUN
Secretary Curtis Hanner N7MWC
Treasurer Jim Etwiler KD7BAT
Activities Manager Mike Dinkelman N7WA
Radio Officer Harry Lewis W7JWJ (Appointed)
Trustee #1 Brandon Burget KD7IKV
Trustee #2 Steve Kaney N7MUT
Trustee #3 Steven Cook KD7IQL
Trustee #4 Mary Lewis W7QGP
Trustee #5 Alan Hughes KB7SUV

The period of office is March 2001 thru March 2002

There being no further business Jan K7YH moved to adjourn and Sam N7RHE Seconded . Jack closed the meeting at 11:45AM

Dreaded and Secret *Twisted Key Society*™

submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

Did you know the Mike & Key ARC had a dreaded and secret society? It's the *Twisted Key Society*™. As founder and only voting member, I can tell you it isn't a society you can apply for and membership is only granted to a select few. The Society is made up of people I have decided have a love of CW that meets or exceeds my own and have demonstrated it repeatedly. I didn't say members were great CW ops, just that we love the mode. Current Club members who have been previous inductees into this society include Frank Krieger and Harry Lewis. This year, a first, there are two new inductees –which were announced at the annual Banquet - Atsushi Sasaki and Chuck Jones. Don't worry guys, there are no dues, no meetings, no secret handshakes, and no requirements –just keep the love of CW in your hearts. And.... when someone asks you about the dreaded and secret *Twisted Key Society*™

–just tell them..... it's a secret.

Introducing the Activity Manager and Relay Editor

Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

With all the new members in the Club, it's only fair I produce a basic biography myself. I haven't been exactly active over the past few years and many of the newer Club members may wonder just who the heck they unanimously voted into office last month. Add to that the fact that I'll be producing the *Relay* and you may wonder about my sanity.

My initial interests in radio began in Okinawa (as an Air Force brat) back in the 6th grade when a teacher's husband brought his rig to school and talked to other Hams around the Western Pacific. Unfortunately, Elmers' were in short supply, money was in shorter supply, and the study materials didn't make much sense to a 12 year old. Following my Father's retirement back at home in the Seattle area (I had never lived anywhere more than 3 years) I ran into a class being put on by the BEAR's at the Burien Library. Taught by Walt, WA7ACQ, I struggled, as we all did with the code and the technical information but managed to squeeze by after flunking the code test only once. It was December of 1972, I was in the ninth grade, and I was proud owner of the call WN7UVJ. Armed with \$80 worth of hard earned transmitter and receiver hardware, I proceeded to venture forth into this great hobby until.....

Fast forward to 1986. Gainfully employed as an Electronic Technician and married seven years, I had let Amateur Radio go dormant in my life as I went through slinging hash, college, girls, marriage, and a small house in Kent. After spending two years working on house and yard, I needed a real hobby and radio re-emerged from it's deep sleep. I had managed to keep the license renewed and there was an old Heath HW101 in the closet that didn't work very well. A visit to Amateur Radio Supply got me a Kenwood TS820 and a dipole in the yard got me back on the air. While at ARS, I noticed a flea market flyer for a Mike & Key ARC and decided to check them out. I was welcomed with open arms and haven't looked back yet.

Throughout the years I have been a Trustee, Activity Manager, President, and *Relay* Editor. I have always been heavily involved in the Flea Market and Field Day. I've ran my share of Banquets, Christmas Parties, and Picnics. Through it all, I received tremendous support from members of the Club. Then, a number of years ago, I decided to return to school and had to back off from a lot of Club responsibility. I tried holding onto the *Relay* for a while but even that became

too much. While I stayed involved in the Flea Market, there were many times I wasn't able to attend regular meetings for month's at a stretch. Somewhere in all that, my call magically changed from the staid WA7UVJ to the wondrous N7WA. Well..., that's all over. In June, I'll finally be finished with school and I'm already looking forward to an interesting year back in the Club. I hope you can join me in the adventure.

Flea Market 2001 Snaps!

Tired - but
Happy



2nd Floor
pallet



Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

The program for the Club's April meeting will be presented by Brian Spindorf, KA7KUZ. Brian has an

Australian license (VK2Zk) and will be coming to tell us about his Amateur Radio experiences in that country. In over six months of travel, he managed to see a wide variety of places which are chronicled at his web site <http://www.skybusiness.com/australianadventure/index1.html>. Check it out. He also has a Ham page at <http://www.skybusiness.com/vk2zk/> which indicates his operating schedule and modes. Come help welcome Brian to the Mike & Key.

Tentatively, the May program will be a visit from Ward Silver, N0AX. Ward attended the World Radio Team Championships (WRTC) in Slovenia last summer. (For those that remember the first WRTC held in Seattle back in 1990, this was the 3rd edition.) Ward was one of the judges this year but is working hard to be a participant in the actual competition next time around. Ward is a great QRP CW contester, Vice President of the Western Washington DX Club, and my boss. He is also an extremely entertaining speaker. You don't want to miss this program.

Finally, the June program will be Field Day preparation. The Event Chairperson (Alan Hughes) and his Band Chairs will be available to make those final decisions and answer questions about our Club event –a Fort Flagler Field Day.

Explorer Search and Rescue

Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

The Executive Board was treated with a visit from Jim Telgenhoff, KC7EVY during the April Board meeting. Jim is the Director of Communications for the

search parties, these jobs only require a minimum of training, which KCESAR provides, and you work out of a base station. If you are interested or would like more information, Jim is planning to attend the April meeting, or may be contacted at the following - Home phone: (206) 725-6249 e-mail: jwtesar@qwest.net.

From the Writer's Block

Two bits from the Editor



Wow!, it's been a few years. I did have a bunch to say but I'm running out of room so I gotta cut this off. I do have to mention one thing. You may have noticed something about your *Relay* this month –it

came in an envelope. I'm hoping to eliminate the mailing problems we have had –forever - with torn and crushed newsletters. There are other advantages to envelopes as well. Now, since the budget hasn't been allocated for the extra costs involved, I am eating the extra costs this month in hopes of getting some feedback. If I can get a consensus that the Club likes the envelope idea –we can go to the Board for more funds. I'll have a better idea of extra costs after this edition goes out. Let me know what you think.

and finally.....

As we transition to new officers, exchange databases, and get organized –things are bound to get messed up. Just remember that changes in membership info (addresses, e-mail) should go to Vice President Mark Whitaker. Make it easy on him and put it in writing. Of course, Treasurer Jim Etwiler still handles your dues and membership standing.

Officers and Chairs

PRESIDENT	Jack Grimmett	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	425-271-7955
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mark Whitaker	KD7KUN	mcw@nwlink.com	425-881-6260
SECRETARY	Curtis Hanner	N7MWC	curtis@hanner.com	206-915-6145
TREASURER/WEB	Jim Etwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512
ACTIVITY MGR/RELAY	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	mwdink@eskimo.com	253-631-3756
RADIO OFFICER	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ	w7jwj@aol.com	206-523-9117
TRUSTEE #1	Brendon Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	206-297-3022
TRUSTEE #2	Steven Kaney	N7MUT	n7mut@arrl.net	425-277-3933
TRUSTEE #3	Steven Cook	KD7IQL	kd7iql@arrl.net	206-781-2293
TRUSTEE #4	Mary Lewis	W7QGP	w7qgp@aol.com	206-523-9117
TRUSTEE #5 (CoB)	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU	kb7svu@juno.com	253-840-4947
Field Day Chair	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU	kb7svu@juno.com	253-840-4947
Picnic Chair	Dawn Humphrey	KC7YYB	n7qhc@juno.com	206-243-0163
Badges/Logo	Dan Humphrey	N7QHC	n7qhc@juno.com	206-243-0163
Fleamarket	Hal Goodell	N7NW		253-549-4178

King County Explorer Search and Rescue team (KCESAR) which is a program partner with the Boy Scouts of America. Jim is looking for some volunteers in the communications department. Unlike the actual