

- President**
Jack Grimmet N7IHS
- Vice-President**
Mark Whitaker KD7KUN
- Secretary**
Curtis Hanner N7MWC
- Treasurer/ WebMaster**
Jim Eztwiler KD7BAT
- Activity Mngr/ Newsletter**
Michael Dinkelman N7WA
- Radio Officer**
Harry Lewis W7JWJ

- Trustee #1**
Brendan Burget KD7IKV
- Trustee #2**
Steven Kaney N7MUT
- Trustee #3**
Steven Cook KD7IQL
- Trustee #4**
Mary Lewis W7QGP
- Trustee #5 (CoB)**
Alan Hughes KB7SVU

Inside this issue:

Volunteers?	2
Contest Trials	3
Mitch's Kids	4
A Fair Question	6
Minutes	7/8
Calendar	10

The Prez Sez

Club President Jack Grimmett, N7IHS



The next few months are busy ones for the Mike & Key ARC. The month of March is particularly important because of the Flea Market and the election of new officers at the March general membership meeting.

The Flea Market is the only event of the year that the Club needs strong support from its members. The 2002 budget that was approved at the January general membership meeting is based on the money that we received from the Flea Market activity. Not only do we have to put on this year's Flea Market and try and make a profit, but we also have to do an excellent job so we can attract the ven-

dors and the general public to next year's event.

We ask that all members commit to a few hours on the weekend of the Flea Market to help setup on Friday, support the various committees on Saturday, and help teardown Saturday afternoon. There will be other articles concerning this event and how you can help in this month's and the February issue of the Relay. You can also contact Mike Dinkelman for additional information.

At the March general membership meeting we will elect a new set of Cub officers and two Executive board positions. I will have more to say on this subject in next month's article but members should start think about who might lead

(Continued on page 2)

January Program

Submitted by Michael, N7WA



There will be no official program at the January meeting. This is a result of no real prospects and the busy Holiday season which kept me from really digging.

However, in lieu of a program, I think we need to devote a bit of Club time to active recruitment for the fleamarket. I'm rather disappointed in the signups at this time. There are 200 members in this Club and only 60 have signed up to work the event. Sixty sounds good to me, you say. Well, twelve of the 60, are the Chairpersons which means that less than 50 members at-large are planning to be involved. Specific areas in dire need are tickets

(only 3 signed up) and the loading dock (11) . Typically., the loading dock needs upwards of 30 people! In 1999 we had 110 workers signed up. Last year we had 95. It's not like this event is a surprise. We've been touting it since September. It's time to come together and support the main funding source for this Club.

In February, the program will be about the Fleamarket. It'll be a chance for new-comers and old-timers alike to review the process. In March, Club elections will take center stage. As Jack has mentioned, start thinking about who you want to run the Club. Be sure to include yourself in your list of candidates.

Finally, the tentative program for April will be a slide show about a recent local DXpedition to the North Cooks Islands.

(Continued from page 1)

From the Prez

the club during the next year.

Finally, Mike Dinkelman asked the Executive to devote the majority of its time at the January Board meeting to the subject of membership. I don't know what Mike

has in mind but I suspect that the discussion will cover the full spectrum of membership requirements, dues structure, and membership participation. Currently we have about 30% of the membership participating in Club activities and doing 90% of the work. It should be an interesting discussion. I would recommend that members who have a concern in this area should attend the Board meeting on January 29th at 7:15 PM.

Executive Board Meeting Changes

Submitted by Chairman of the Board Alan Hughes (KB7SVU)

During the months of January, February, and March the Executive Board will change its meeting times to the last Tuesday of the month. The meetings will start at 7:15 PM and will be held at the Salvation Army HQ in Renton. The January meeting will be held on January 29, 2002

Acrobat 5

Submitted by Sam Sullivan, N7HRE

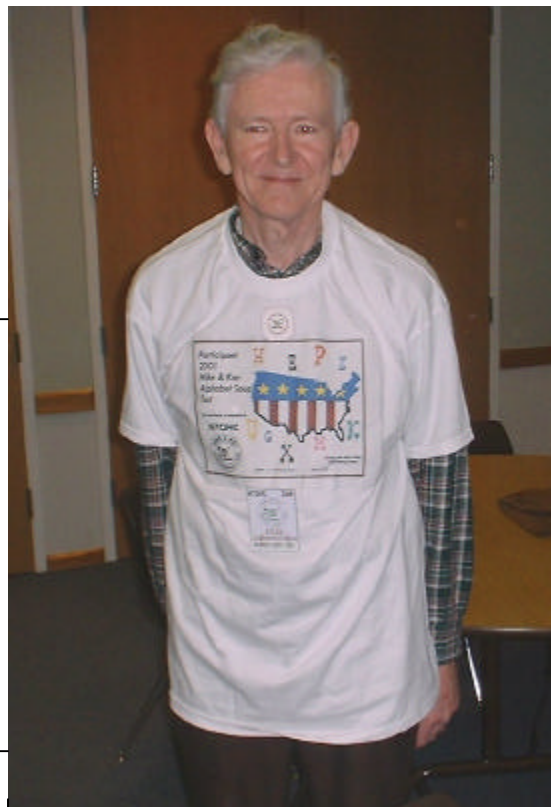
Those who receive the electronic form of the Relay may want to investigate Acrobat 5. This version allows the user to print files using every other page. That would allow you to print all your odd number pages, then reload your paper into the printer and print all the even numbered pages. Your Relay's and rosters would be double sided providing you did it right. (*I would probably reload my sheets upside down —ed.*)

Elections

It's January – there are only 2 months until you elect your new Board. That means it's time to start thinking about a slate of candidates. Instead of pointing that finger at someone else, maybe you'll consider pointing at yourself. Yeah, it'll cost you a few hours each month in meetings and you might have to speak up and be heard once in a while but generally, I have always found the experience to be a pleasant one.

Which offices are up for grabs? Everything except odd numbers Trustee positions (I think I got that right.) Mind you though, if you are interested in running for Treasurer, you must be pre-qualified by the Board first.

So, how about it? There isn't any finer Ham Club, that's why you joined the Mike & Key... right? Well, now it's time to step up and lead it.



Here, we have Dan Humphrey modeling one of the Alphabet Soup Contest T-Shirts. All participants in the contest (back in November) received one.

Banquet

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

Officers are not the only people we need. We need a volunteer to take on the organization of the Annual Mike & Key Awards Banquet. You can play it safe and follow the lead of previous organizers or you can go out on a limb and do something different. There is plenty of guidance available so new-comers need not shy away. See me or the Club President.

Confessions of a First Time Contester

submitted by Mitch Gill, K7TUT

I had made all preparations for the weekend. I advised my wife, Tyler and friends that I was to be unavailable for the weekend. You see, I had always played with contests but never seriously and I got the bug at the last Field Day. I had my log, my rig, my backup rig, and my microwave ready meals. I even brought in a small microwave and refrigerator. I then checked my two antennas. The vertical would work all bands through 40 meters and the dipole was set for 80. The generator was working also, in case we lost power as that tends to happen out here in the foothills.

As I progressed through my checklists, I got down to the essentials; coffee pot and coffee. Then it hit me. I had forgotten to check how far the bathroom was from my shack. I timed myself and found that I could get there in 10 seconds flat as long as no one was in the way.

The last items and most important items were the "DO NOT DISTURB" sign I placed on the Ham Shack's door and the lock for the inside of the door. I knew that Tyler could not stay away and I knew my wife was not keen on the idea so I had to take drastic measures. That was OK, wasn't it? I mean, wouldn't you do the same? I even disconnected the phone, took the phone line from the wall and placed it outside on my workbench. I then put a latch on the inside of the door as Tyler has found getting through the standard door lock was easy. I then searched for a lock and found an old combination lock that was not being used. I found the combination in a file, wrote it down and slipped it in my pocket. Everything was proceeding as planned.

Now, I know this all sounds drastic but you have to understand that Tyler and Jan were having a hard time with this. They just didn't understand why I was so intent on this contests and why I needed to be left alone. It was because I was going to work the CQ WW CW contests and I never had worked it before. My code speed, for a contests, was about 40WPM but just one interruption could screw up a contact with a new country. I was not going to take any chances.

The first evening went smooth as the contest started late in the day. All of my plans were coming together as I ate a horrible rice type of dinner with little things in it that the box said was meat and I didn't want to even imagine what kind of animal it came from. I was even able to stay up the entire evening with a lot of help from the coffee. Bathroom breaks became more frequent but were essential. Taking the lock off the door after the family went to bed definitely made the trip

faster.

About nine o'clock in the morning I heard the movement upstairs. I immediately put the lock back on, set my headphones on and continued to work stations from all over the world. This was great.

Ten o'clock that morning, I could hear, through my headphones, a pounding on the door. As I turned my head, a note was slipped under the door. I grabbed it and read it as follows:

Mitch,

We hope you are having fun but Tyler and I can't stand you being there and we are stuck here having no fun. Since you have another day left I have decided to take Tyler to Oregon to see my cousin. The number in Oregon is XXX-XXX-XXXX.

Jan

P.S. Take care of the animals

Ok, maybe I was being a little selfish but feed the animals? She knew that I did not want to be disturbed at all! She was doing this to spite me, that's it. So fine, I know that I will only lose about 20 minutes feeding the three cats, two dogs, horse, parrot and hamster if I ran fast. I also knew that I did not have to do it right away. I went back to operating.

I worked another two hours and kept myself alert by making more coffee. I knew that Jan and Tyler were in Oregon by now. Of course, nature called about an hour earlier but I was steadfast and willed myself to ignore it but you can only wait so long. Irritated, I gave in and went to the combo lock. I reached in my pocket and could not find the combination. Where was it? I looked all around the office. I began to panic and then remembered that Tyler knew the combination. I knew that they were at her cousins by now and grabbed the phone. No phone line. I then remembered that I took it out. Ok, don't panic yet, just get the screwdriver and..... Oh, man, the only screwdriver was one of those small pocket ones that were too small. Desperately I worked on the screws with the undersized screwdriver. I stripped two screws before giving up. At this point my eyes were beginning to tear up and my legs were rubbery. Lets not even talk about the pain. I had a decision to make and without even thinking any further I began to ram my body against the door, again and again, until finally not only did I get out but managed to bring the whole door down with it. With bruised knees I hobbled to the bathroom, just barely.

As I left the bathroom I realized that the dogs

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)
Confession...

were staring at me. I had forgotten to feed the animals. I ran out to the garage to get their food and there were the cats, meowing for their food. They were barn cats so I left the garage door open at the bottom so they could come in on those cold nights. I was unaware that they were right at my feet as I put food in the dog bowls. I turned and tripped over one of the cats. There went the dog food and now the cat is limping. Oh Lord, what do I do? Ignore it or take it to the vet? I chose to ignore it for now. I fed the dogs and the cats (the one cat was no longer limping but was now only using three legs) and then proceeded to the bird and the hamster. They were easy.

I then ran out to the gate to feed the horse. In my desire to quickly get back to operating and I forgot to turn off the electric fence and ZAP, I was knocked off my feet. After a few choice words, I completed the task. Noticing that it was windy, I did not lock the horse in his stall as it could be dangerous. Hey, I cared!

Ok, back to operating. I had lost over 40 minutes. I ran back into the garage where my office/Ham Shack was. I could see no wounded cat. I stepped on the door and went back to my rig. Just as I started to operate, the electricity died. I ran out of the shack and attempted to start the generator. No gas — no gas anywhere. I had forgotten to fill the gas can. Just then, out of the corner of my eye, appeared the cat. It did not look happy and its little leg seemed to be dangling rather than just swollen. Uh oh, I had broken its leg in the fall. Now what to do?

To make a long story a little shorter. I shot the cat, buried it, threw my rigs in the trash, destroyed the generator with the sledge hammer, kicked the dogs and went to bed. I have now decided that there can not be a single person out there working contests who has a family and animals. Now I could get rid of the animals but the family won't go for that. Unless.....!

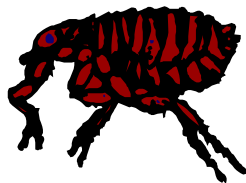
"Honey, have you seen the shovel?"



Mitch's Kids, December 2001
 (related article— starting page 8)

Fleamarket Committee News

By Michael Dinkelman, N7WA



Meeting: January 8, 2002

WHO has the table skirting material Dawn Humphrey bought this Fall?

Hal will make reservations for post-event dinner. Cost—\$10 a person. Main mailing of flyers ready to go (actually went out on the 9th).

Flyers mailed to all Clubs in Washington and most of Oregon.

Discussion of prize drawing. Will occur at Country Store. Two drawings only. Main one at 11AM. Redraw for left-

overs at 1PM. Any thing left after that—tough.

Approximately half of tables sold, and most of the booths. Registrations seem a bit slower than normal. May be the economy.

Has been a request by three groups to display vehicles at the event. There is no room on the grounds itself. However, we would be willing to rope off the portion of the Gold lot (with Fairgrounds permission) nearest to the fairgrounds and let vehicles be displayed there. Mike will inform prospects.

Worker signup is disappointing. Will have active recruitment at January meeting.

Hal to provide fleamarket program in February.

Next meeting, February 12th, 7:30PM, Salvation Army HQ.

Public Service Committee Minutes

PSC minutes December 15, 2001

Meeting called to order by acting chair Brendan. In attendance, Brendan, Dick, Pam, Gary, Ted, Dan, Dawn, Mark, Carolyn, Judi, and Richard.

- Brendan mentioned that Gene Underwood has been designated as the Public Service Coordinator for King County ARES.
- Discussion of how we can get newly licensed people from the classes that are held into the club.

Old Business:

Public service pamphlet:

-Mark reports that he has gotten good response from various ARES groups.

- Repeater directory should have a variety of listings, and bands covered, keeping in mind that we only have one page to do it on. Suggestion was that we include the local ones, and refer people to the web page for the rest of the listings.

- Ted has some of the work from page 6 and 7 done. Still missing some contact information, but is close to being finished. Gary reports that he expects to finish his part by the end of the week.

- Rhett is still working on his section.

- Dan, Dawn and Dick have plans to finish up with their section.

- Pam reports that 3/4 of her section is finished. Kim is going to put it all together.

- Barry has finished with the updated disaster and preparedness section.

-ARES info will be put into the club contacts

- Marketing committee has sold a page to Alinco, half a page free to Radio Dave, Dan and Dawn, and Hotpress. Need to sell 1 1/2 to 2 pages more.

- There was much discussion as to sharing of database information with other organizations. Topic was tabled until later.

- There was discussion of what to do about the Snowdog Super Mush. Further contact was advised to get more information.

- It was suggested that radio gear be added to the emergency kit information.

- It looks like this year's Public Service Committee budget is only \$300, but in reality there is also a line item that gives us \$1900 for the pamphlet. Dawn will write up an ad for the pamphlet that will provide contact information for people who need to get hams for public service events. Judi volunteered to be the contact for Pierce County events.

- Mark suggested a check-off box in the survey to allow people to volunteer to be a coordinator for an event. Carolyn suggested that we combine our survey with that of the Technical Committee so that people get surveyed once instead of repeatedly.

- We have lost our committee secretary due to time constraints. Dick is doing it for this week pending selection of a replacement secretary.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Next meeting is 1-4-02 1900 Yankee Grill.

PSC minutes January 4, 2002

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

Meeting called to order by Barry.

In attendance: Mark, Ted, Brendan, Kim, Pam, Gary, Barry, Judy, Richard, Dan, Dawn, Carolyn, and Dick.

Old Business:

- Need a new secretary; Dick will do it for now at least.

Booklet discussion:

- Mark reported on the repeater section of the booklet. He brought copies of his work for us to verify.

- Gary has hamfest information nearly ready. Brendan and Dick have copies

- Brendan will check with Rhett on examinations
- Ted's work is done; Barry and Brendan have copies for review.

- Gary will check Seafair dates with Colleen N7LEX

- Public Service events Dan and Dawn have some confirmed, and Dick has some.

- Pam and Kim are making progress working through their lists.

- Barry has the disaster information, but there is more than will go on one page. Plan is to abbreviate, and put the rest on the web site

Marketing committee:

- One page is sold (Alinco) Ted got the check and gave it to Jim Etzweiler, One and a half pages (three ads) are being given away to Hotpress, Radio Dave, and Dan and Dawn.

- January 15th will be the deadline for ads that will be included. Prices are \$225 for full page, \$125 for a half page, and \$75 for a quarter page.

-There was discussion about getting a single sponsor for the booklet. There was discussion about cover color. Electric Blue won the vote.

New Business:

- Ted and Mark will co-chair the Heart Association Walk

Next meeting will be after the January club meeting

Electronic vs Hardcopy

By Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

Last month, at the General Club meeting, a fair question was asked. "Why should the Electronic Relay get more material than the Hardcopy?" I think that was a fair question. I don't know that I answered it well then but I'll try to reiterate my feelings here.

- First and foremost, the electronic copy of the Relay will NEVER have any material pertaining to official Club business that is not also in the printed version.
- Two, the printed Relay is constrained by costs. I actually increased the postage for the printed version this year from one ounce to two ounces so they could be mailed in an envelope and we could start mailing rosters regularly again. Once I reach my limit though, I can't mail anymore without substantial cost. Of course, there is plenty of room for normal Club business and news, and the occasional roster within that limit. However, the electronic copy has no such constraints. In fact, I was able to mail electronic copies of the roster that took up 8 sheets (using a larger font) where I was stuck with a 4 page limit on the printed version.

- Third, I think it is reasonable that I should be able to use incentives to promote the electronic copy because it does save the Club a significant amount of money and me a significant amount of time. Such incentives include instant delivery, color, expanded pages (like the roster) and even additional material if that material has no bearing on the official business of the Club. Someday, maybe we can link sample software to be delivered along with the newsletter.

- Finally, the electronic version of the Relay is available to all – even those who prefer the hardcopy. Just hop on the Club Web page and Jim has them all archived up there. It might take a few days to get there but nothing is being kept from any member. (Note: the electronic roster is NOT kept on the Web page for privacy reasons but it is available simply by asking.)

Hope this helps dissuade the feeling that those receiving printed Relays are being slighted somehow. It certainly isn't my purpose or desire. However, I do think it electronic publishing will be the prevalent distribution method for all magazines and newsletters in the not-to-distant future. (see related article: QST and Contesting).

Thank You!

"To the individuals in the club who have donated equipment, offered assistance, moral support or given demonstrations to the kids at Russell Ridge, I can only say thank you and that is not enough. The kids have all written individual thank you letters at the Principals suggestion. I will be bringing those to the meeting."

K7TUT, Mitch

General Meeting Minutes, December 15, 2000

Officers present: President – Jack Grimmertt (N7IHS); Vice President – Mark Whitaker (KD7KUN); Secretary – Curtis Hanner (N7MWC); Treasurer – Jim Etwiler (KD7BAT); Activity Manager & Relay Editor – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA); Radio Officer – Harry Lewis (W7JWJ)

Trustees Present: Trustee #1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV); Trustee #2 – Steve Kaney (K7MUT); Trustee #3 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL); Trustee #4 – Mary Lewis (W7QGP); Trustee #5 – Alan Hughes (KB7SVU/AE)

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM with all members and guests repeating the Pledge of Allegiance at the Salvation Army Building in Renton. 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 and encourage to join and support the ARRL. Please sign the rosters at the table. Visitors are asked to refrain from voting on club matters requiring a vote.

Minutes: It was moved by Sam (N7RHE) and seconded by Steve (KD7IQL) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as amended. The motion was approved.

Officer Reports

Treasurer: Jim (KD7BAT): Disbursements made during the last month for the Relay, postage, PO Box, donation to Salvation Army, and part of the Christmas party expenses.

Activity Manager & Relay: Mike (N7WA): Christmas Party went well and we had a full house. 10-meter contest is today, so get on the air and participate. Flyers for the Flea Market are on the tables. Please sign up for the Flea Market we need lots of help.

Radio Officer: Harry (W7JWJ): If anyone is interested in being a repeater control operator please contact a board member.

Chairman of the Board: Alan (KB7SVU/AE): Next Board meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday December 19th at 7 PM.

Standing Committee Reports

Those committees not reporting in the RELAY are asked to report before the General Membership.

Facilities: Mary (W7QGP): Nothing to report.

Strategic Planning: Alan Hughes (KB7SVU/AE): Nothing to report.

Technical: Jack (N7IHS): Meeting will follow immediately after the general meeting.

Public Service Committee: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Meeting will be held at Noon at the Yankee Dinner. Carolyn ran the bell ringing at the Fred Meyer in Renton and we raised over \$500 for the Salvation Army.

Public Service Events: Gary (KG7KU): Public Service net: Thursday evenings at 7:30 PM on 146.82. For information please see www.mikeandkey.com/pubserve.htm or call Gary at 253-661-7882.

2002 Budget Discussion

Jack (N7IHS) makes a motion to approve the budget as printed in the Relay. Steve Cook (KD7IQL) seconds the motion to approve the budget. Much discussion followed concerning the details of the budget. The motion carries with two votes against.

Good of the Order

Mitch (K7TUT): Thank you for all the kids in his class for the donations from the members of the Mike and Key Club.

There being no further business Steve (KD7IQL) moved to adjourn and

Mike (K7JML) seconded the motion, Jack (N7IHS) closed the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Curtis Hanner, N7MWC, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes, Dec 19, 2001

Officers present: President Jack Grimmertt (N7IHS); Secretary – Curtis Hanner (N7MWC); Treasurer - Jim Etwiler (KD7BAT); Activity Manager – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA); Radio Officer - Harry Lewis (W7JWJ).

Trustees Present: Trustee #1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV); Trustee #2 - Steve Kaney (N7MUT); Trustee #3 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL); Trustee #4 - Mary (W7QGP); Trustee #5 – Alan Hughes (KB7SVU).

Motion made by Brendan (KD7IKV) to approve the minutes as amended and seconded by Jack (N7IHS). The motion passes.

Officer Reports

COB: Alan Hughes (KB7SVU): Membership application for KD7MKL, approved unanimously.

President: Jack Grimmertt (N7IHS): Need to schedule the audit. Jim will work on scheduling an audit committee meeting.

Secretary: Curtis Hanner (N7MWC): Nothing to report

Treasurer: Jim Etwiler (KD7BAT): Best rate for the CD renewal is much lower than expected. We are still looking around for a good rate.

Activities Manager: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA): No program yet for the next general meeting. Relay deadline is January 11th.

Radio Officer: Harry Lewis (W7JWJ): New repeater has been received.

Committees Liaison Reports

Technical: Steve Kaney (N7MUT): K7TUT is the new chairman. Had their first committee meeting at the last general meeting. Had 11 members attend the first meeting.

Public Service: Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Ad sales are going well. Hoping to get a 2-page ad from Icom. Moving forward with the public service database and survey. Database is ready and survey is being drafted.

Education: Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Nothing to report

Strategic Planning: Alan Hughes (KB7SVU):

Facilities: Mary Lewis (W7QGP): Nothing to report

Field Day: Alan Hughes (KB7SVU):

Old Business

Some discussion about names of budget line items. No changes deemed necessary.

Jim (KD7BAT): Would like to see membership duration awards given out monthly.

Discussed the details of life membership.

Alan (KB7SVU): Would like clarification of the sponsorship of ham classes when they are announced at the club meetings. Much discussion followed.

New Business

Brendan (KD7IKV): Have a request from Mitch (K7TUT) for books for his class of 28 students. Before we give out the books would like to have a

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

letter of understanding from the school on how the books will be handled.

Jack (N7IHS): Discussed the idea of having a club frequency defense fund that club members donate to. These funds will be sent to the ARRL Frequency Defense Fund from the Mike and Key Club.

Harry makes a motion to purchase the isolator for the 220 MHz repeater if it is under \$400. Jim seconds the motion. Motion passes.

Need to send dues expiration notices to members receiving an electronic Relay. Mike will take care of it.

Jack would like to change the regular board meetings to Tuesday or Thursday. Regular board meetings will now be the last Tuesday of the month at 7:15 PM (assuming the space is available).

There being no further business a motion by Steve seconded by Jack to adjourn was made, and the chairman closed the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Curtis Hanner, N7MWC, Secretary

QST and Contesting

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

As I write this, a debate has just exploded on the Contest Reflectors. It seems that Contesting may soon follow DXing and the DXCC program OUT of the pages of QST if a proposal before the ARRL Board is implemented. (Don't cheer too much contest haters – your favorite activity may be next.) It seems that the ARRL finds itself supporting a wider diversity of subgroups in QST including digital, vintage radios, QRP, you name it. However, advertising revenue is down and page counts can't really increase.

Still, contesters are a highly sought demographic when it comes to advertising. Many contesters spend significant amounts of money each year (*I can vouch for that – ed*) upgrading their stations so this could be a catch-22 that speeds up the downward spiral in advertising.

Suggestions that the National Contest Journal take up the slack are considered impractical as it is only published 6 times a year. All may not be lost though. The proposal is that basic contest information still be published (contest announcements, rules, and basic results) and that the standings be moved on the Web in a searchable database format. Still, will contesters want to pay for that privilege and retain ARRL membership?

This change may not be limited to contesting either. The ARRL "Sections News" may be headed for the axe as well. Personally, I believe the survival of QST, as the official journal of the ARRL, may be dependent on it going totally electronic someday. Already, many of us are already purchasing each years collection on CD-ROM and it becomes harder to justify the cost of paper and postage as our society moves further into the new millennium.

Just my 2 cents.

(compiled from e-mails to the M&K Reflector, related pictures on page 4—ed)

Status at Russell Ridge

By Mitch, K7TUT

The young lady on the far left is the daughter of a single Mom who is living in subsidized housing. Since we got a couple of handheld's for donations from some of you, I decided to sell my handheld to her Mom for 23 cents (she didn't have a quarter). This is not a "brag tape" as several in the club have donated equipment and my handheld was going to be donated anyway. It's just to show you that it is your generosity that has helped this young lady, not mine alone. It is also to make sure it is OK with those that have donated equipment that if I see a need, that I have your permission to fill that need. So let me know if anyone has problems with that. Some of the kids have parents that can afford radio but there are a few that I am not sure. This young lady I knew about from the beginning.

I sold it to the Mom so that she could wrap it and say it was from her. I did that for a couple of reasons, one

is that I don't need the thanks, it would be a wonderful surprise from her Mom that she could never afford, it would encourage this little girl, and I did not want any of the others in the classes to know as some may not understand.

Tyler has been instrumental in my being able to work with the 7-9 year olds in two of the classes. I have separated the kids and I teach the young ones and Tyler teaches the older ones. He makes the class fun and they are learning!

See you all at the next club meeting and we will see how many of the kids are ready for the test. I am not expecting them to be ready until February but I have a few that I suspect are ready now.

Thank you again for the equipment and from all others, thanks for the moral support and the many offers to assist. I will be needing help in the near future in the setup of antennas etc but am waiting until all of the antennas are here at the school and have been cleaned up or checked out.

Public Service Committee

By Barry Wolborsky

The Public Service Committee has been meeting every two weeks to get the 2002 Public Service booklet out. All contact information has to be verified and new articles written for the booklet. It is a very big job but we have a very hard working group of people helping make it happen. Due to the rising cost of publishing this booklet we have decided and the Board approved, selling advertisements in the booklet. This year, due to our late start we only have a couple of paid ads. We are, however, putting a sales letter in the vendor packets at the Flea Market and hope it will help us sell more ads for next year. Our goal is to eventually pay for the booklet.

We still have many other projects pending. One

of those is an event coordinators bureau. Recently amateur radio has been given a black eye due to a few event coordinators completely dropping the ball on some very important public service events (no one showed up, not even the coordinator). We are working with King County ARES on developing an event coordinator bureau. Our goal would be to put event committees in touch with qualified event coordinators. We have developed an event coordinators guide and will be looking into putting on classes for persons interested in being event coordinators.

Our next Public Service Committee meeting will be right after the general meeting. 1230 hours on Saturday, January 19th in the Yankee Grill at the Holiday Inn located at Rainier and Grady in Renton. Come join us for the tastiest meeting and the best fellowship in town.

From the Writer's Block

By Mike, N7WA

A pleasant surprise, I had too much material for this month—mostly because of the included Roster. Alas, it isn't material I can put in the electronic version and not the hardcopy. There is a good and provocative article from Mitch that will hold until February and I think I lost a couple articles from Jo Hallstrom (they are somewhere between work and home—lost in cyberspace). If I can recover them, I think they will be appropriate for next month (my apologies Jo). Now... when are the rest of you going to write something?

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 \$6 for each additional family member.

Club Contacts

PRESIDENT	Jack Grimmert	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	425-271-7955
VICE-PRESIDENT	Mark Whitaker	KD7KUN	mcw@nmlink.com	425-881-6260
SECRETARY	Curtis Hanner	N7MWC	curtis@hanner.com	425-829-1407
TREASURER	Jim Ezwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512
	(for dues: 3935 Interlake Ave North, Seattle, WA 98103)			
ACTIVITY MGR	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	mwdink@eskimo.com	253-631-3756
RADIO OFFICER	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ	w7jwj@aol.com	206-523-9117
TRUSTEE #1	Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	206-362-4807
TRUSTEE #2	Steven Kaney	N7MUT	n7mut@arrl.net	425-277-3933
TRUSTEE #3	Steven Cook	KD7IQL	kd7iqi@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
WEBMASTER	Jim Ezwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512
Badges/Logo	Dan Humphrey	N7QHC	n7qhc@juno.com	206-243-0163
Chair Fleamarket	Hal Goodell	N7NW	goodellh@gte.net	253-549-4178

January-February 2002

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
13 RN	14	15 DA	16	17 PSN	18	19 Club Meeting 10AM MKN
20 RN	21	22 DA	23	24 PSN	25	26
27 RN	28	29 Board Meeting 7PM DA	30	31 PSN	1	2
3 RN	4t	5 DA	6	7 PSN	8	9
10 RN	11	12 FleaMarket Meeting 7:30PM	13	14 PSN	15 Relay Deadline	16

RN – ARES Regional Net, 8PM, 146.82

DA – ARES Damage Assmnt Net, 8PM, 146.82

PSN – Public Service Net, 7PM, 146.82

MKN – Mike & Key Net, 9:15AM, 146.82

Contests

