

K7LED

RELAY

Volume 30, Issue 11

Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club - Seattle, Washington

November 2002



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Jack Grimmett
N7IHS

Vice-President

Jo Hallstrom KB7UFM

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Kim Wolborsky KD7FYD

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Activity Mngr/ Newsletter

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#2 Barry Wolborsky KC7YB

#3 Steven Cook KD7IQL

#4 Dick Radford WA7NIW

#5 Alan Hughes KB7SVU

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Reflector

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The Prez Sez

Club President Jack Grimmett, N7IHS



Last month, I discussed the on-going problem of lack of member volunteers to organize the Club's traditional activities. This year's Christmas Party was on the verge of cancellation because of lack of interest. Well, the immediate problem has been solved with Bill Sommerwerck (KA3QXL) volunteering to chair the Christmas Party. Bill is going to need some help to put this thing on so I hope that some of you will come forward and give him a hand.

Last year the Club helped the Salvation Army by collecting donations at a local department store. This an important public service that we can perform and help the Salvation Army who is allowing us to use their facility for many of the Club meetings and functions. Again we need someone to organize this activity. On very

short notice, Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q) chaired the activity last year and it was very successful. I will be calling for volunteer's at the November business meeting,

We had a good October business meeting and program. There was over 70 people attending the business meeting and about 50 people attended the program. Mike Dinkelman conducted a round-table discussion on designing and building dipole antennas. He had enough theory to bring everyone up to speed but mainly concentrated on the "how to" aspects of building a dipole and installing feed lines. At the end of the presentation, Dan Humphrey assembled a very clever 10-meter antenna that he had designed. It was an excellent presentation by Mike and Dan and I was very encouraged by the number of the more experienced members who stayed and participated in the discussion. I hope that we can have more technical programs like this in the future.

Programs and Activities

Activity Manager Michael Dinkelman, N7WA



First, I want to thank everyone who stayed around and participated in last month's program. Frankly, I was surprised. I figured the subject level to be somewhat basic (building dipoles). Yet, we had old Timer's and Novices alike sharing their tribal knowledge in a friendly and informative manner. It was fun.

For November, I had an APRS (Automated Positioning Radio Service)

program set up with Doug Wetzel, K7IP. Unfortunately, Doug had to reschedule, on short notice, for January which leaves me scrambling to find a program. I've got a couple irons in the fire, Stay tuned.

There will be no program in December. We do have the year end raffle and will devote some time to eyeball QSO's. Speaking of the year end raffle, there is about \$500 in the kitty. November will be the last chance to get in before we start a new raffle cycle in December.

Having found a Christmas Party Chair, it's time to start looking for a Banquet Chair. The Banquet is an April event. Please see me or any other Officer to volunteer.

I'm back, its November, and Christmas is coming submitted by Jan, K7YH

Well, its November already, another year nearly gone. It's time to get into the holiday spirit. I get this way about this time of year, every year. Then I watch the news and listen to the TV, and all of the commercials, and forget about it. We all feel somewhat that way, I think, and often we go out and do something that makes us feel better. Last year, as I was handling some messages at Christmas time I had one of the famous brain belches I have been known to have! It was really too late in the season, but this year is some what different, its nearly 6 weeks to Christmas, so here goes.

Many of you are interested in traffic; those that aren't can become involved. Every license grade can do it. You do not need a big HF rig to do it, I would even volunteer to do my traffic handling class again to aid you, if enough come forward and want to do it.

STEP 1: Review the necessary books to find out how to prepare a formal ARRL message. Make up some message blanks.

STEP 2: make up a poster on your computer: List those components you must have; name, address, zip and phone number of the addressee. Give several ideas for the text using the ARRL numbered guidelines, but be sure you list that the sender is not limited to your choices of text. Make one small change; add a block for the senders return address after the signature. This is for your file only so you can find the person who sent the greeting if for some reason it is serviced back to you.

List your name, address and phone so the persons can call you and give you the info, either that or go

back and pick up all the forms every couple of days.

STEP 3: Here is the good part: take the poster and forms to your nearest nursing home, as to see the administrator, and explain to Him/Her you are a HAM and one of the things HAMs do is send, FREE of Charge, 25 word messages to people all over Canada, USA and third party countries for those who would like to participate. People in nursing homes are often cut off from the world and with limited income. HUUUHAA. I'll be willing to bet their volunteer services would spread the word to the bedridden patients and your poster can go in the dining/recreation hall.

STEP 4: It's decision time. If you are a Tech, you take your handi-talkie or base station and listen to the K7LED repeater at 5:00 pm. When KA7TTY opens the Puget Sound Traffic Net, list your messages. If you cannot do that and you have high frequency privileges you can get on the noontime net at 7268.5 or 3970 and ask for an RN7 operator to send messages to. Some of the RN7 operators are K7BDU, AA7OX, KD7JOR, K7PMD, N7DRP, K7YH, W7TVA, and a few others. They will take it either to Pacific Area Net, or to Continental (TCC) a digital net. Usually within 24 hours it's gone AND DELIVERED! Failing all others, call 206 824-9039, and give the message that way, but if your phone does not ID, I do not answer, I don't know anyone named unknown or anonymous, and do not want to! FAILING ALL OTHER METHODS, SEND IT TO ME AS AN E-MAIL k7yh-jan@attbi.com

STEP 5: WHEN and only when you have accomplished steps 1 thru 4, you can sit back, have some warm egg nog and smile, because, even if no one else knows, you will know you brought a little light into an otherwise dull life waiting for the end. And I have waxed sentimental long enough. Think about it, you might enjoy the feeling.

Public Service Committee Minutes, October 19 2002

Meeting called to order by Brendan

In attendance: Ted, Carolyn, Brendan, Jim, Terry, Gary, Pam, Dan, Dawn, new member Paul, and Dick

Old Business:

Discussion of Booklet Project:

Brendan will be sending out the marketing letter once we get the final edit. There was discussion of advertising space and prospective advertisers.

Ted is continuing to contact people regarding exams. Terry reports that he is having trouble figuring out how to get all the emergency information on to one page. Bren-

dan suggested adding another page on a contingency basis.

No report from Mark on repeaters

Brendan has current Field Day photos

No report from Steve on Club Contacts.

New Business:

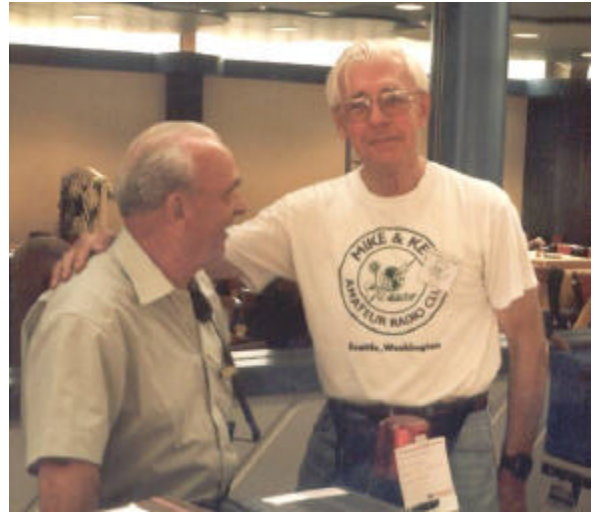
Dan was wondering if we could cut the list of repeaters about in half. Another item discussed would be to add whether a repeater has emergency power capabilities. Looks like we will be leaving the list length as it is.

Meeting adjourned.

BE A PUBLIC SERVANT AND YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO GET ELECTED!

Kick off the Holiday season with friends over lunch and help the Public Service Committee at the same time. Don't forget we meet at the Yankee Grill in the Holiday Inn in Renton. It's located at Rainier and Grady way and we meet starting between 12:15 and 12:30 right after the end of the Mike and Key general meeting. Lots of interesting projects on our agenda and the more folks we have involved the more we can do. Hope to see you there.

Did you know that one of our members, Gerhard Pantzer, is also a member of a German Club that sponsors the biggest Hamfest in Europe—**Friedrichshafen**. Here are some pictures Gerhard wanted to share from last summer's event.



Sights and Sounds by Sunrise

Submitted by Dawn, KC7YYB

The Christmas Party that almost never was

EVERYONE thought we ought to have a Christmas Party. NO ONE wanted to step out of their comfort zone to commit to coordinating it. ANYBODY who was asked, shied away from the thought of having to commit nearly a full day, the day of the thing, plus having to assemble helpers.

EVERYONE thought SOMEBODY surely would step forward and say they'd take it on. Finally, when nearly all hope was gone and the deadline for boldly assuming the responsibility, our procrastination was rewarded.

SOMEBODY bravely agreed to grab the apron, don the Santa cap, and see to it that the rest of us get to have our "traditional" Christmas party. Now all the rest of us have to do is decide what to bring to help load the banquet table with the usual abundance of tasty treats, or how we will help in the kitchen to make sure the club-provided meats will be gloriously added to the tables of delicacies that will tempt even the most picky appetites. We all need to thank Bill Sommerwerck for his willingness

to take on what NO ONE else wanted to do. Thankfully, that same SOMEBODY was also willing, two years ago to make sure that our awards banquet came off without a hitch too! ANYBODY could have done it, especially with all the willing "helpers" who come forward after an original commitment has been made.

So, how about it folks? In light of how close we came to NOT having a Christmas Party planner/facilitator this year, let's start realizing that we each have an opportunity to help do something beneficial for our club. Let's not let another occasion for heading up something go begging, because of fear, or whatever reason.

Go for it! That means being a chairperson. Not being a one-man show, but a coordinator, a planner, a delegator, a facilitator. As I said, we've got lots of people who will work with you and give you all the support you need. All you have to do is tell 'em what you need done.

I can speak from experience. I've had wonderful co-operation for the two years that I agreed to take on the picnic. I admit that it was with fear and trembling that I took it on. However; as I've stated above, I had lots of encouragement and help. If I can do it, I know that many of you out there are every bit as able as I am to be able to do whatever task you chose to take on. Again I say, GO FOR IT!!

(speaking of which—ed)

Christmas Party Announcement

Submitted by Bill Sommerwerck



The annual Mike & Key Christmas party is scheduled for either the first or second Saturday of December at the Renton Salvation Army Center. The date should be nailed down by the Club meeting and we'll post it to the reflector too. Dinner starts at 5 PM. I can handle most of the preparations on my own, but I need help with the tough stuff - especially the cooking.

The Mike & Key will supply turkey, ham, dressing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, rolls, and beverages. Our budget is big enough for real turkey. That means I need someone willing to prepare the turkeys for roasting (which can be done at the Salvation Army if you wish). The work would be a major imposition of your time, but if you're able to help out, let me know.

We also need people to help with the serving (carving, mashing, gravying). Signup sheets for the event

and for helpers will be available at the next Club meeting.

Potluck items are needed to complete the meal. It is suggested that members with names ending in A through R bring a salad or vegetable, and the others bring a dessert. If everyone would tell me a week ahead of time (or on the signup sheet) what they intend to bring, we can avoid unnecessary duplications.

We intend to have a centerpiece at each table. If anyone has ideas for "inexpensive-but-attractive," please pass them along.

I hope to decorate an hour or two before the party starts. If anyone would be willing to commit themselves to help, it would be appreciated.

There will be an optional gift exchange. If you want to participate, please bring a thoughtfully-chosen-but-not-overly-expensive gift.

The Salvation Army does not charge us for "the use of the hall." It would therefore be appropriate if everyone brought two or three non-perishable food items to contribute to their Holiday food drive.

The following administrative updates to the Articles of Incorporation were submitted at the last Board meeting.

Revision to Articles of Incorporation

Reason: The Radio Officer is the registered agent of the Club. Ken Rau (K7YR) has been elected by the Executive Board to replace Harry Lewis as Radio Officer. Revise *Article IV* to change the Club's registered agent to Ken Rau (K7YR). Revise "Consent to serve" paragraph and the signature block at end of the document.

Article IV Revision:
Current
ARTICLE IV
Registered Office and Agent of
 The registered agent's office and the office and address of the Corporation shall be the Radio Officer. The current Radio Officer is: HARRY W. LEWIS, 10352 Sand Point Way NE, Seattle, Washington, 98125.
Proposed

ARTICLE IV
Registered Office and Agent of
 The registered agent's office and the office and address of the Corporation shall be the Radio Officer. The current Radio Officer is: KENYON H. RAU, 5430 - Lake Alice Rd. SE, Fall City, WA 98024

Consent to Serve as Registered Agent Revision:
Current
CONSENT TO SERVE AS REGISTERED AGENT
 I, Harry W. Lewis, consent to serve as Registered Agent, in the State of Washington, for the following Corporation.
Proposed

CONSENT TO SERVE AS REGISTERED AGENT
 I, Kenyon H. Rau, consent to serve as Registered Agent, in the State of Washington, for the following Corporation.

Signature Block Revision:
Current
 S/HARRY W. LEWIS
 T/HARRY W. LEWIS
 M&K ARC Radio Officer
 Registered Agent

Proposed
 Kenyon H Rau
 5430 Lake Alice Rd. SE
 Fall City, WA 98024
 M&K ARC Radio Officer
 Registered Agent

John Smith
Steven Cook
Ken Rau



submitted by Jo, KB7UFM

Fall is finally here with the rain. Thank goodness. We're just not used to all that sun and very dry weather. It dries out the fungus and webs between our fingers and toes. Just glad to see the rain again.

As I started to say, Fall is here and that means CONTEST TIME is here also. Just about every weekend there is something going on for the contester. Contesting goes on all year but things get serious in September.

The last weekend in September was in high gear with several contests state-side as well as DX. The all Scandinavian get-together was great. It was a lot of fun and I was able to get 3 new entities, Aland Island, Kenya, and Liberia. I have received QSL cards Kenya and Liberia

and hopeful Aland Island will be coming soon. I realize the two African entities are a long way from Scandinavia but what the heck!

The contests are endless so there is something for just about everyone. There are CW (forever), PSK31, RTTY and PHONE just about every weekend. With the CW contests, I guess you know where Mike--N7WA will be. He surprised the heck out of me on October 26 on 20 meter phone. The CQ World Wide DX SSB contest was going on and I heard the call sign W7AL and after giving my call sign who should come back but Dinkelman. He said "Jo?" after giving the report and I came back intelligently "Who?"--- It's crazy the people you meet on the air!

(In my defense, I was checking out the station for the upcoming CQWW CW contest. The antennas at W7AL's are simply awesome and I needed some practice in their use. — ed)

General Meeting Minutes, 10/19/2002

Officers present:

President – Jack Grimm (N7IHS);
Vice President – Jo Hallstrom (KB7UFM);
Secretary – Kim Wolborsky (KD7FYD);
Treasurer - Jack Burrell (N7ZS);
Activity Manager & Relay Editor – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA);
Radio Officer - Ken Rau (K7YR)

Trustees Present:

Trustee #1 & COB– Brendan Burget (KD7IKV);
Trustee #3 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL);
Trustee #4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW);
Trustee #5 – Alan Hughes (KB7SVU);

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 are 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 Nils (W7RUJ) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the Relay, with one correction: Nils is NOT WA7RUJ! The motion was approved.

Officer Reports

President: Jack (N7IHS): Nothing special to report.

Vice President: Jo (KB7UFM): Three new members, James McDonald, John Long, Paul McElroy, and were approved by the club. Joan McDonald

Secretary: Kim (KD7FYD): Has Logger's Bark, Radio Club of Tacoma newsletter, and a contesting ad.

Treasurer: (Jack Burrell (N7ZS): Rec'd \$33,000, only spent \$28,000 so that covers last year's shortfall. Will do the job until next spring, elections will be in March, so be thinking about it. Has a sheet showing the club's current position.

Activity Manage & Relay: Mike (N7WA): Today's program will be on dipoles. Next month tentatively scheduled APRS program. Bill will be our Christmas party chairman; he needs help. Next flea market meeting is Nov. 12th.

Radio Officer: Ken Rau (K7YR): Trying for 4 or 5 months to get our TE systems amplifier—they are on back order, still 5 or 6 weeks out. Unless there are any objections he will put our new repeater on the hill without it (25 watts), as it is the best amp he knows of. May cause some degradation in the fringe areas, if talking 2db. Nils volunteered to help. 220 repeater is up and operating well. Still needs to bring the

rotators down. The three trailers are at the water tank in Issaquah, locked behind a chain link fence. Steve has the audit results.

COB: Brendan: Invited all to attend the board meeting in this building, last Wednesday of every month.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Facilities: Steve Cook (KD7IQL):

Strategic Planning: Carolyn (WV7Q): Please join the committee. There are 5 committee members already, but more are welcome. This committee is probably the most important of the club.

Technical: Jack (N7IHS): We need a new technical chairman. This is an important committee, please think about it and contact Jack if you are interested. This is a good committee for new members.

Public Service Committee: Brendan (KD7IKV): Please come to meeting at Yankee Diner at Holiday Inn, immediately after the presentation. We are working on the public

Education: Harry (W7JWJ) reported: Boeing Activities center hasn't been arranged, but anticipate announcing a class there in November.

Field Day: Alan (KB7SVU):

Awards: Michael (KG7MX):

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.): List of events Dick WA7NIW is the parade contact. Auburn Veteran's Day parade is a huge parade; can use all the help we can get. November 9th, check in time 9 am. Another major event: Sunday Dec 8th, Special People's Cruise. The December 7 date in the booklet is incorrect! Boaters volunteer to take special needs people on a cruise. Dick is heading this up also. Seattle Marathon needs lots of people. Many times just observing people as they run by.

Alligator Award: N7VIQ Ermmano has the alligator. Is getting attached to it.

Old Business

None

New Business

Audit committee needs one more member-at-large. Scheduled for after club meeting on 18th of January. Carolyn and Dick (not Radford) volunteered.

Putting together revised by-laws, please give any suggestions or comments to Jack. They will have to go through the board.

Good of the Order

Dan still has copies of the 10-10 news that tells about the organization.

Nils: This club has 3 signatories to the writing and signing of checks. The reason is that if our treasurer isn't here, they can sign checks. However, Chuck Stroehrer has now moved to the Olympic peninsula, so he isn't available. Would like to urge that the board assign the duty to someone who is in the vicinity of the club.

Jack Burrell: Chuck was removed from the list last week. Currently Jack and Jim E are on the list, but Jim is in California. Jack is waiting for the board meeting to get two new signers assigned.

There being no further business Darla (KC7SIT) moved to adjourn and Frank (KA7QHG) seconded the motion, Jack (N7IHS) closed the meeting at 10:45 AM.

Attested: Kim Wolborsky, KD7FYD, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes, 10/30/2002

Officers present: President Jack Grimm (N7IHS); Vice President – Jo Hallstrom (KB7UFM); Secretary – Kim Wolborsky (KD7FYD); Treasurer - Jack Burrell (N7ZS); Activity Manager – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA); Radio Officer – Ken Rau (K7YR).

Trustees Present: Trustee #1 & COB – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV); Trustee #2 - Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB); Trustee #3 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL); Trustee #4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)

Visitors:

Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ)

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm

Motion made by Barry to approve the minutes as amended and seconded by Jo, with the following corrections: minutes state: Brendan made an emergency declaration that the board approve Jack's appointment of Jack as treasurer to fill out the unexpired term of Jack Grimm's appointment of Jack Burrell.

Should say: Brendan made an emergency declaration that the board approve Jack's Grimm's appointment of Jack Burrell as treasurer to fill out the unexpired term of Jim Etwiler. . The motion passes.

Officer Reports

COB: Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Great showing at field day! Thanks everybody.

President: Jack Grimm (N7IHS): Nothing to report.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

Vice President: Jo Hallstrom (KB7UFM): 2 applications: Joan McDonald, XYL of K7JOM. Barry moved to accept, Jo seconded; motion passed. Hideki Saito, just got his call: KD7TCL. He is a tech and video game designer. Barry moved we accept, Kim seconded, board approved.

Secretary: Kim Wolborsky (KD7FYD): Nothing to report.

Treasurer: Jack Burrell (N7ZS) He will report under new business.

Activities Manager: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA): November program is rescheduled for January. No program in December, there will be a raffle. Relay deadline is November 8th. No bell ringers yet, we need an organizer. Christmas party chairman is William Sommerwerck. Next flea meeting is the 12th, worker signup sheets went around, not too many people signed up.

Radio Officer: Ken Rau (K7YR): Next week or 10 days will put the repeater on the mountain. Will put the one on the mountain on the water tank. Planning to run both repeaters indefinitely. Our name is on the list for the amplifier, but the factory is still behind.

Committees Liaison Reports

Technical: Alan Hughes: Not present.

Public Service: Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Well under way with the production of the book. SGC is taking a full-page ad. Making some revisions to economize on space. Looking for new field day photos. May cut repeater list

down, but may not. Approximate cost is 50 cents per booklet. Idea from Mike: hand out CD instead of book as a cost savings.

Redmond girl scouts want to do a thinking day on the air. Barry emailed their contact for information, hasn't heard back yet.

Education: Dick Radford (): Nothing to report.

Strategic Planning: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Carolyn has 5 people committed to the committee. She is getting the demographics together.

Facilities: Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Nothing to report

Old Business

None.

New Business

Articles of incorporation. Barry moved we accept the Revision to the Articles of Incorporation as presented, including with the correction as presented. Jack Grimmet seconded. Motion passed. Will be printed in this month's relay, and Kim will put a copy with the Secretary's records.

Brendan asked if we know of a good candidate for the King County ARES coordinator? No one could think of a name.

The board meeting would fall on the day before Thanksgiving, and on Christmas. Jack moved,

Barry seconded, moving the board meeting to November 20. Motion passed.

Budget: Jack Burrell handed out budget information and the board reviewed this year's budget and next year's proposed budget. Looks like we are behind on our payments to the Salvation Army, Steve will take care of it. There is \$1600 for this year that has come in for the flea market. Looks like we have extra money in the flea market account.

Jo will need patches year after next. She will find out what we paid last time, where we got them, and if artwork is still available.

Mike suggested changing the ARRL Frequency Defense Fund so that the club will match members donations at 100% (up to a total yearly donation of \$250.00). The board will discuss in December.

Mike suggested purchasing an LCD projector for presentations, flea market etc. The board will budget \$2000 for this. If approved, it will be stored in our cabinet here. The lock will need to be changed in the cabinet, and the projector should also be cable locked to the cabinet.

Jack will move this year's interest income from the CD to the general savings account. This would fund the projector.

There being no further business a motion by Jo seconded by Barry to adjourn was made, and the chairman closed the meeting at 9:25 pm.

Attested: Kim Wolborsky, KD7FYD, Secretary

Call for Education Committee Help

Somehow, I lost two articles this month. (maybe it's time for a break....) One I was able to get resent, the other was from the Education Committee Liaison—Dick Radford. Dick is looking for members and to get the Education committee reactivated. You can reach Dick at his via his listing on the Officer's contact page.

Hotpress

One of the local companies that supports the Mike & Key ARC is **Hotpress** in Sumner. Every year, it seems, they donate hats, jackets, and vests for give away or raffling off. They do this without even being asked. The past few months, they've supplied the hats we have been giving away at the Club Raffle.

This month and next, there will be a special raffle for a Mike & Key vest donated by Hotpress. Tickets will be sold at the next two meetings and the vest given away at the December meeting. It should make someone a very nice Christmas gift and will be available for viewing at the next two meetings.

In addition, Dan down at Hotpress called up last

week and said they wanted to do up a bunch of hats for our members instead of donating a single coat this year. These are great hats with your call and your city. They're quite popular and I hear Hotpress even sells them internationally through their Webpage.

So here is the deal. I am going to pick 20 names randomly from the Fleamarket worker list following the December meeting. This is an incentive to signup as a fleamarket worker by December. Hotpress will then fill the order here and there as they find the time. So, it might take a month or two to get your hat.

In the meantime, you might want to support this family run operation if you're looking for a embroidered hat, jacket, or vest. They're quite distinctive. Hotpress is located at 926 Main St. in Sumner, their Web page is <http://www.hotpresstshirts.com/>.

From the ARRL Letter

- The only two Amateur Radio operators in the US House of Representatives as well as the sponsor and most co-sponsors of the CC&R bill, HR 4720, were returned to office in this week's mid-term election. HR 4720 sponsor, Rep Steve Israel--a New York Democrat--beat back a challenge from Joseph Finley in that state's second congressional district. An original HR 4720 cosponsor, Texas Republican Rep Pete Sessions, of the 32nd congressional district, defeated Democratic challenger Pauline Dixon.

- ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, has called HR 4720 "probably the most important thing the League has done in a long time." The League's effort to secure a congressional solution to the issue of CC&Rs--deed covenants, conditions and restrictions as they affect the ability of amateurs to erect outdoor antenna systems--will restart after the new Congress is gaveled into session in January.

-The holiday season offers plenty of opportunity for good deeds by hams in general and members of the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) in particular. "Operation Holidays," sponsored by US Army MARS, marks its 12th year in 2002. The program offers the chance for families and loved ones to send US servicemen away from home free MARSgrams and phone patches. In addition, "any

service member" messages also will be delivered to selected overseas bases, and "any veteran" messages now can be sent to veterans in participating Veterans' Administration hospitals. The "any veteran" program inaugurated in Michigan and California two years ago is the newest wrinkle in MARS morale and welfare traffic.

- Solar maven Tad "Black Hole Sun" Cook, K7VVV, Seattle, Washington, reports: Sunspot numbers and solar flux increased last week. The average daily sunspot number rose nearly 31 points and the solar flux was up by nearly 11. Geomagnetic indices have been quite active of late, although this week was quieter than last. In general, HF operators appreciate A indices of 10 or lower, but November 1 was the only day in the past two weeks that the Planetary A index was ever as low as 10. Lately our planet has been inside a constant solar wind from a coronal hole.

A year ago, the sunspot numbers were a small amount lower than this week (fewer than 4 points) and the solar flux was about 60 points higher. The latest Preliminary Report and Forecast of Solar Geophysical Data show that smoothed solar flux should be about 44 points lower a year from now. The latest prediction for the next solar minimum is around September 2006 through April 2007 for solar flux and centered right around December 2006 to January 2007 for smoothed sunspot number.

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.

Club Contacts

PRESIDENT	Jack Grimmett	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	425-271-7955
VICE-PRESIDENT	Jo Hallstrom	KB7UFM	nazj.hams@juno.com	206-242-8271
SECRETARY	Kim Wolborsky	KD7FYD	bwolb@attbi.com	425-271-5799
TREASURER	Jack Burrell	N7HS	n7zs@aol.com	425-454-3617
ACTIVITY MGR	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	mwdink@eskimo.com	253-631-3756
RADIO OFFICER	Ken Rau	K7YR	ken@foss.com	425-222-7711
TRUSTEE #1(Cob)	Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	206-362-4807
TRUSTEE #2	Barry Wolborsky	KC7YB	bwolb@attbi.com	425-271-5799
TRUSTEE #3	Steven Cook	KD7IQL	kd7iql@arrl.net	206-781-2293
TRUSTEE #4	Dick Radford	WA7NIW	wa7niw@arrl.net	425-828-9791
TRUSTEE #5	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU	kb7svu@juno.com	253-840-4947
WEBMASTER	Jim Eztwiler	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
Christmas Party	Bill Sommerwerck	KA3QXL	williams@nmlink.com	425-235-9574

October – November 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 CQWW SSB	26 CQWW SSB
27 CQWW SSB RN	28	29 DA	30 Board Meeting 7:15PM	31 Halloween PSN	1	2 CW Sweepstakes
3 CW Sweepstakes RN	4	5 DA	6	7 PSN	8 Relay Deadline	9 Auburn Veterans Day Contact: N7LEX 425-488-0905
11 RN	12	13 DA	14	15 PSN	16	17 SSB Sweepstakes

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

