

K7LED

RELAY

Volume 31, Issue 3

Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club - Seattle, Washington

March 2003



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Jack Grimmett
N7IHS

Vice-President

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#4 Dick Radford WA7NIW

#5 Alan Hughes KB7SVU

Web Page

www.mikeandkey.com

e-mail

info@mikeandkey.com

Reflector

<http://groups.yahoo.com/mkarc>

Send dues to:

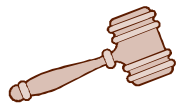
Jack Burrell N7ZS
108 130th Place NE
Bellevue, WA 98005-3361

Send Relay input to:

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA
22222 148th Ave SE
Kent, WA 98042-3147
mwdink@eskimo.com

The Prez Sez

Club President Jack Grimmett, N7IHS



Thank goodness this my last "Prez Sez" article. I seem to be suffering from permanent writer's block. At the March meeting we will elect a new set of officers and four new Trustees. We already have a number of good candidates nominated at the February meeting.

I would like to thank those members who took on the chairperson positions for the various Club activities and committees. These people contributed immensely to the success of the Club. I believe that the

current Board also has done an excellent job this past year and deserve the thanks and appreciation of all members.

It has become apparent that we are going to have to move our 2M repeater to a new location. Access has become a major problem with our current location. Nils Hallstrom and Ken Rau are currently working the problem. We should have a new site selection confirmed by the Board meeting held later this month.

Last, but not least, I have enjoyed being President for the past two years and will continue to serve the Club any way I can.

It's Over!

The Fleamarket Committee would like to express it's appreciation and gratitude to all who supported the 2003 running of the Club's Electronic Fleamarket. It takes a lot of help and people but, as a result, the event went on with nary a hiccup and looks to be a very successful and positive event.

*It's impossible to thank you all individually, but please take a moment to pat yourself on the back as a member of the **TEAM** that runs the friendliest, smoothest, most organized, and (I dare-say) biggest Ham event in the Pacific Northwest.*

Thank you!

Programs and Activities



What else can I say? It's March, the Fleamarket is done for another year and that means it's time for elections!

Time to sweep out the burned out tired leadership for

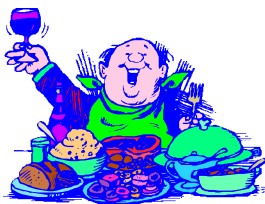
new enthusiastic leadership. Please consider taking your turn at the helm or supporting those who are willing.

March also means the Awards Banquet is imminent. You'll find out more info inside on that event.

Also, don't forget Field Day is just 3 months away. June 27-29

Spring Awards Banquet

By Dave, KB7PSN



It is that time of year again. On March 29, 2003, we will hold our annual event down at Barnaby's Steak and Ale Restaurant in Tukwila. Barnaby's is located at the intersection of Interurban Ave West Valley Hwy) and Strander Blvd in Tukwila, 16401 W Valley Hwy (a map and driving instructions are included at the Mike and Key web site under the "Club Events" tab (<http://www.mikeandkey.com/banquet.htm>).

A No-Host Social starts at about 5:00 PM, and the dinner starts at 6:00 PM. Due to size limitations at the

restaurant we have a seating limitation of 70 people. The main dishes are Prime Rib, New York Steak, Marinated Chicken, King Salmon, or Vegetable Fettuccini Alfredo. There is also a 29 item salad bar, and coffee, tea, or milk.

After the banquet we will have the traditional installation of officers and awards program. As with previous years' activities, this year we will recognize our newly elected officers and hand out club awards and door prizes.

I will be around at the March club meeting to take your \$16/person reservation. Please reserve early to guarantee this price as it will be \$20/person at the door. *(If there is any room left—ed.)*

If you have any questions or need any further information, feel free to contact me at 425-235-5095. Looking forward



By Jo, KB7UFM

I count myself to be very fortunate in my friends. Not just here where I know what I can and cannot do but around the world. I chat with Dudley --Z22JE in

Zimbabwe quite often and then turn the beam north and talk to Leif--LA2PA in Svalbard or in Norway, he always tells me to say "Hi to the Swede". Then there is Katya in Omsk, Siberia. Haven't heard from you in ages, dear Kate.

Without radio I would never have met these most gracious people and I would be the poorer for it. Chatting with Roy--DU9/G4UNL is always fun. He taught dancing. Then there is Victor--ZK1CG or ZK1USA in the Cook Islands whom we had the good fortune to host here in our

home last summer. What a Ham-a-Que that was! Then there is Bill--AH8A in American Samoa with his incredible atomic clock---it keeps on ticking!

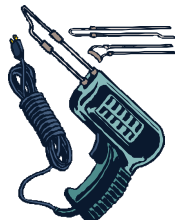
Rag-chewing with the various hams around this very small world makes me realize the magic of radio and the friends I can claim. The pictures, letters, and emails sent and received bring each person closer. Tony--BV7ID in Taiwan finally got his wish---a Taiwanese baseball player was finally signed by the Mariners. Tony, Masa--JE4JSV and Haru--JA1CG have become good friends just by being on the air so we can argue base ball!

How can I explain the enjoyment and excitement around here when a new country or entity is reached? One of the best things is receiving a QSL card from a place you'll never see except in your minds' eye. The very best are the friends you meet on the air and then meet in person. 73 Jo

Technical Committee

Submitted by Michael, N7WA

Wanted—Members!



My inquiries over the past couple of months, on the reflector and in the Relay, have garnered very little interest. I can only assume active interest in this Committee remains where it has historically lain. Barely a pulse.

Yet, I remain undaunted. If you have an interest in the technical side of the hobby and want to share that interest with others or learn something new; this is the place for you. Preferably, you have a pet interest and you would like to expand upon it to the Club. If not, I can certainly make some suggestions.

Last month, the Technical Committee sponsored a demonstration of a working Common Emitter Amplifier. While response was good, I may have jumped too far in

the first leap. Maybe we need to back off to basic components first... like what do resistors look like and what do they do? Capacitors? Inductors? Transistors? Seems many of us have taken those wonderful FCC exams but when it comes down to practical experience we may need some help. Maybe you would like to work on this specific project? I can provide help, materials, and guidance—if you feel you need it.

Other ideas? Software, Antennas, Repeaters, Homebrew projects, TVI/RFI, operating modes tricks and tips, Test Equipment... I can run my finger down the table of contents of the ARRL Handbook and see lots of ideas. When we procure our LCD projector, I can see the possibility of not only meeting presentations but building a library of Power Point presentation to distribute to members.

See me if you would like participate in these exciting possibilities.

Dr. Beldare to Speak

Submitted by Michael, N7WA



Through grace, good fortune, and a little bribery; I have convinced the amazing Dr. Beldare to speak as a guest at the Mike & Key Club's Annual Banquet later this month.

The good Doctor is known for his amazing Amateur Radio inventions and product ideas. Granted, you won't find too many on the market but that's not his fault. (After all, it's hard to find time to produce new equipment when you are trying to outrun the commitment authorities.)

The good Doctor has previously spoken at Dayton and the Northwest DX Convention so it should be an interesting evening.

April Relay

This isn't my idea (it came off the Contest Reflector), but we editors are always stealing each others stuff so it'll be OK. As I need to fill these pages somehow and April is just around the corner, I'm am soliciting Club members for limericks related to Amateur Radio, the Club, or members thereof.

- They must be clean; no "there once was a lass..."
- They have to be funny.
- They have to have SOMETHING to do with Amateur Radio, the Club, or members of the Club.
- They must be Originals—your creation
- Limericks only. Save the haiku and free verse.
- I get to be the final judge as to whether it gets published.

I can see it now.....

***"Chairman of the Board was he,
His wedding as yet to be.
Surrounded by ladies completely"***

Whoops.... almost broke my own rule.

Radio Classes submitted by Barry, KC7YB

The Renton EOC group is putting on a Technician class running from March 28th through the 30th of March. It starts Friday night at 7:30 PM and testing will be held Sunday afternoon. The cost is \$40 and includes books and testing. The class uses Gordon West materials. These will be held at the Renton Fire Station 14 at 1900 Lind S.W. Space is limited. For information contact Mike Eakins, K7OV, at 426-793-5074 or k7ov@attbi.com.

Memorial Service

As some of you may know, the mother of David Lee KC7FSR has been in the hospital for several months. David reports that she passed away last Tuesday, March 4th. Many of us knew her from all the times she has accompanied David to various Mike & Key events and meeting. David would like everyone to know there will be a Memorial Service next Saturday, March 15th and it's open to all that wish to attend. It will be held at the United Christian Church, 1707 Edmonds Ave SE, Renton phone 425 226 3038. The Service will be held at 2PM.



Practicality

Submitted by Jo, KB7UFM

The practicality of paper chasing, i.e. awards and certificates, is something we all should aspire to for very practical reasons. To find out about various awards, check out QST and CQ magazines as well as WORLD RADIO. There are loads of information and instructions in these magazines when in doubt.

The certificates are very useful in providing insulation in the radio shack. This means you can take down all

those pressed paper egg cartons and use said cartons in the fire-place to start a fire on these chilly evenings. While on the subject of awards and certificates, I'd like to know why all of them cannot be one standard size. Some are 9 "by 12" or 10" by 14" and on and on. I have one that is 24 inches wide and 12 inches high! Ridiculous, so as a result, it is still rolled up in its very own mailing tube and now I can't find it. Of course the Mike & Key certificates and awards are a perfect size and suitable for framing. So lets get out there put some insulation on the shacks' walls. By the way, Nils' article about other practical uses for Philips' Milk of Magnesia is coming along smoothly.

Reno Spring Ham Swap 2003

May 10, 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM. RAMS (Reno Area Metro Simplex) ARC and SNARS (Sierra Nevada Amateur Radio Society) are sponsoring the Reno Spring Ham Swap 2003 at The Salvation Army Headquarters, 1931 Sutro St. Reno. There will be a raffle, coffee, doughnuts, VE session and other activities being planned.

Email: Gary Grant K7VY, k7vy@netzero.net Map: <http://www.nvrms.org/Downloads/HamSwap2003Map.pdf>

CQ DX 220

Submitted by Hal, N7NW

No.... I didn't mean CQ DX 20! What do HB9ZCF, VR4HF, AF0WF, N6KMR and AD6UN have in common? These are all stations that I have worked in the last week via the K7LED 220 repeater while using my TH-F6A handheld from Fox Island. "How...", you might say "How can that be?" No these stations weren't just passing through the area. They were at their respective home locations.

Impossible you say? Well not with the current technology of the World Wide Web and the ingenuity of Hams.

Last year, after purchasing my triband TH-F6A handheld, I came across a radio link operating on 444.000 MHz simplex which was connected to the internet. I heard stations all over the US and several foreign stations. This intrigued me and got me to thinking about the possibilities of internet interfacing the K7LED 220 repeater. The objective would be to increase the activity on 220 and to provide some DX capability for those who could not operate on the lower bands.

By the way, in case you didn't know, K7LED does have a 220 MHz repeater. The frequency is 224.12 MHz. It is located on Tiger Mountain at an elevation of about 3000 feet. Coverage in the greater Seattle/Tacoma area is very good and extends well to the north and south. This repeater does not require a tone, runs 10 watts and is open to all.

There was a very good article in the February, 2003, issue of QST regarding VoIP and Amateur Radio. VoIP is Voice Over Internet Protocol. This article addresses several Amateur Radio VoIP systems. Echolink, iLink, eQSO, IRLP and WIRES-II are some of the systems discussed. I will not go into the details here as they are covered very well in QST.

Echolink is the system which intrigued me the most. Echolink was developed by K1RFD. Information and software can be downloaded at www.echolink.org. Echolink uses Windows^(tm) and works very well with a dial up access. However, a higher speed interface will allow more stations to be connected in a conference type mode.

You must have a Ham license to operate on Echolink and they must validate your call before you are allowed access. Each user is assigned a node number.

The Echolink server acts like a telephone switchboard in cyberspace. It maintains a directory of everyone who is connected at any moment. After browsing the directory, you can request a connection between your computer and that of another amateur.

Here's where it becomes interesting. You can connect an interface between the computer and a radio, which will allow you to remotely operate over the internet. I have installed such an interface and connected it to an IC-3AT, which is operating on the K7LED 220 repeater.

Basically, other stations can connect to my computer via the internet and transmit via my link over the K7LED 220 repeater. These stations may be at their PC's or they may be remotely operating via links or repeaters also. DTMF control codes allow users to connect directly to other stations. You can connect to a specific station if you know their node by simply dialing in the node number. You can also randomly select any station currently on the system by dialing in certain codes. Disconnection is accomplished by transmitting the # key.

Currently, to be legal, Echolink will be operational whenever I am at my home location and in local control. This will be most evening and during the weekends. Everyone is welcome to use the system. Contact me for the specific list of codes. If you hear someone who has connected via my PC, give them a call and meet some new friends. Other stations which have connected over the last week or so include stations throughout the US as well as England, Germany, Italy and Belgium. When a station connects or disconnects via Echolink, their call sign will be automatically announced.

My Echolink interface is limited to dial up and as such will only allow one internet connection at a time. Eventually, after I have DSL installed, I will increase the number of stations who can connect via internet. I also plan on providing remote control of my station, which will allow the Echolink interface to be operational for longer periods of time.

Enjoy the system and let me know what you think about it.

Estate Sale

The original owner of Amateur Radio Supply was Dick Aspinwald, W7PV. Dick is now 87, has Alzheimer's, and is confined to a care facility. His wife Elizabeth would like to dispose of his amateur station. The following items are available and the whole package is valued at \$465.:

Kenwood TS430 transceiver with hand microphone
Matching Power Supply PS430 and DC cable
Speaker PS130
Kenwood TH214 2M Handheld and Charger
Yaesu FC301 antenna tuner

Polarmar RX noise Bridge
J-39 Hand Key
Radio Shack Infrared transmitter and Headphones
Triplet 630 Meter

General Meeting Minutes, Feb 15th, 2003

Officers present: President - Jack Grimmert (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 #2 - Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB); 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 Bill, N7YH and seconded by Jim to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the Relay, with the correction that the Treasurer's name is JACK BURRELL! The motion was approved.

Officer Reports

President: Jack (N7IHS): Nothing to report.

Vice President: Jo (KB7UFM): New members John Long approved in October: New members to approve: Paul Donner, Perry Clisby was a member in 94, Timothy Garstens, The Doughertys: Caleb, Peter, and Ian. All approved. Also Tom Grate (not present),

Secretary: Kim (KD7FYD): Nothing to report.

Treasurer: - Jack Burrell (N7ZS): In the hole about \$2700, but no problem. As a matter of interest we have 139 current members, 10 due now, 25 late (Dec) , 25 expired (over 60 days). The label of your relay lists when you joined to help figure out when to pay dues.

Activity Manager & Relay: Mike (N7WA): Flea market coming up, today's program by Hal Goodell on the Flea market. We need all the help we can get, especially Registration and Tickets. Hot Press donated about 30 hats to the club, if you signed up early you might have gotten a hat. Mike handed them out today. Relay deadline is March 7, please get things in early because Mike will be at the flea market then.

Technical committee has a presentation in the lobby on common emitter amplifiers.

Radio Officer: Ken Rau (K7YR): Actively looking for another site for the 2 meter repeater. Looking for the best coverage, least interference at the best price. There was a complaint from someone in Tacoma about interference in

A2. Please let Ken know if you hear any complaints.

COB: Please attend and volunteer for the flea market.

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

Facilities: Steve Cook (KD7IQL): The antenna analyzer was not missing, is safely at Steve's garage.

Strategic Planning: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Nothing to report

Technical: Jack (N7IHS):

Public Service Committee: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): The Public Service Committee meets at Grady and Rainier after this meeting at the Yankee Diner. Today we are going over the booklet and looking at what we will do for next year, please come. Remember this club is not self-sustaining at all, please come help at the Flea market.

Education: Dick Radford (WA7NIW): Nothing to report.

Awards: Dave Smith (KB7PSN): Spring banquet is on the 29th of March, Saturday, Barnaby's in Southcenter. Dave is taking reservations today, \$16.00/person. Dinner will be prime rib, NY steak, fettucini alfredo, King Salmon, marinated chicken. You save \$4.00 if you pay before the door. No host bar, limited to 70 people.

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. Gary KG7KU. List of events for the next month on the tables. Also on the 12th of April the March of Dimes walk/run. Please let the contact person know long in advance if you can help, if possible.

WB7OUT Tom is a Seafair parade marshal, the prime coordinator for parade communications for this year. He brought WANTED posters - they are looking for ham operators to help at the torchlight parade and also the community parade. You can sign up on the Seafair website, www.seafairparademarshal.org.

You will receive a parking pass the first time you show up at a parade. Gary also noted it's important to work the community parades to hone your skills for torchlight.

Alligator Award: Calvin: John (KW7A) gets the alligator. Received certificate for shortest time-out ever. Dean spoke for a long time, John added two words and timed out the repeater.

Old Business: None

New Business

Steve Cook: The US house of representatives

has a new bill House bill 713, Amateur radio spectrum protection act. Please write your representatives for their support on this bill. The FCC would have to give us a replacement chunk of spectrum if they take one away.

Steve is looking for a co-chair for the VHF band. Will take pin and shirt orders next meeting.

Nils: Why don't we print our meeting time and VE exams in World Radio?

Harry Senate bill 5200 (Antenna/CC&R bill) has had first reading. Can check on ARRL home page, our section for more info. Communication academy will be held the 4th Saturday and Sunday in March. W7PV Dick Aspenwald is in a care facility, his wife has most of his wquipment for sale, including a TS400.

Nils: Email with regard to getting the relay by computer. It saves the club time and money if you get it by email. Contact Mike Dinkelman if you would like to receive the relay by email. Dawn (KC7YYB) suggested that we have a place, such as the sign-up sheet, where we can note whether we want the relay by email or hard copy.

NOMINATIONS:

President:
Brendan Burget, KD7IKV
Carolyn Pasquier, WV7Q

Vice President:
Sam Sullivan (tentative, not here to accept)
John Long Jr., KW7A

Treasurer:
Jack Burrell, N7ZS
Mark Whittaker, KD7KUN

Secretary:
Curtis Hanner, N7MWC

Activity Manager:
Dawn Humphrey, KC7YYB
Gary Bryan, KG7KU

Trustees:
Nils Halstrom W7RUJ
Jim Monohagn, N7HKO
Mark Whittaker, KD7KUN
Terry Dettman, WX7S
Dave Smith KB7PSN

Special Trustee:
Wayne Heath (tentative, not here to accept)
Dan Humphrey, N7QHC
Curtis Hanner, N7MWC

Any further nominations, bring them to the next meeting. Please volunteer if you are new.

Good of the Order: None

There being no further business Jim N7HKO moved to adjourn and Barry KC7YB, seconded the motion, Jack (N7IHS) closed the meeting at 11:00 AM.

Attested: Kim Wolborsky, KD7FYD, Secretary

Communications Academy 2003

March 22-23, 2003, Shoreline Conference Center, Shoreline, Washington
www.CommAcademy.org

Past keynote speakers have been Ross Merlin, WA2WDT, from US Public Health Service - Telecommunications, and Jerry Wellman, W7SAR, from World Radio Magazine. Online Registration will be available here for Academy 2003 about mid-February 2003.

For additional information or questions, or to request a mailed registration form, contact program chair Marina Zuetell, N7LSL at N7LSL@ARRL.NET.

Board Meeting Minutes, February 26, 2003

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

Trustees Present: Trustee #2 - Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB); Trustee #3 - Steve Cook (KD7IQL); Trustee #4 - Dick Radford (WA7NIW); Trustee #5 - Alan Hughes (KB7SVU).

Visitors:

Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ), Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:17 pm.

Motion made by Barry (KC7YB) to approve the minutes as amended (change Jack Burrell AGAIN) and add Dave to visitors) and seconded by Jack Burrell (N7ZS). The motion passes.

Officer Reports

COB: Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Not present. Asked Steve Cook to lead the meeting.

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

Vice President: Jo Hallstrom (KB7UFM): Two potential members: Tom Ramos, WB7OUT, extra class, retired engineer. Jo recommended, board passed. Also Paul Hay, board passed.

Secretary: Kim Wolborsky (KD7FYD): Has a copy of the Logger's Bark, gave Jack the tower trailer registration renewal form and a dues.

Treasurer: Jack Burrell (N7ZS): report for the month of January stands, \$420 in dues, \$9,423 from the flea market, we are at a loss of \$502 which is ok. Has a notice from insurance that we can buy terrorism insurance for the club. Costs \$16.00/year, Jack recommends. Jack Grimm moves, Alan seconds, passes. Ran the latest roster, 147 current, 11 due, 13 late, 35 expired.

Activities Manager: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA): Not present. March 8th is the deadline for the relay, early submissions appreciated, since March 8th is the flea market. Next program is elections. The two rotors are fine, controller meter control heads damaged by freezing, permanent magnets disintegrated, \$75.00 each for replacement meters. Nils gave him the numbers to buy parts. Will try to find control heads at

the flea market first.

Radio Officer: Ken Rau (K7YR): In the process of relocating the repeater. Handed out a letter he has written. It's a proposal to Tanner Electric for locating our repeater. Suggested cost would be \$300 for April to July, then the yearly fee of \$700 from August to August. (Their billing year begins in August). Alternatives: Could probably get in a DNR site for \$100/month. But other available sites have other 2-meter repeaters. Ken thinks it will be a better site than we have now. He also requests that we test for a short period without obligation to assure coverage and lack of interference. Nils noted that the site is secure, access road doesn't exceed 6% grade. It's on the south side of the ridge. Have to go through 2 gates to get to it. Access is off highway 18. Normal power is underground cable, have 1000 or 1500-gallon storage tank diesel generator for backup. Ken has his 6-meter repeater there, is a pretty good site. We can use the antenna from the current site.

Jack Grimm made a motion that we approve the site, and allocate \$300 out of the Capital Expenditures fund to cover expenses through July, pending a successful test. Barry seconded. Motion passed.

Tanner will put it on their agenda for the March 18th meeting. Ken proposes that if this works we get a 5-year lease. Nils will bring this up when he meets with Tanner tomorrow. Would like to give credit to Chuck Stroehner who created the text of the letter.

Committees Liaison Reports

Technical: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA): Asked Steve Cook to report for him: no response to request for help so will continue to try.

Public Service: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Book is at the printer, final number of pages of advertising was either 2 3/4 or 3 3/4, not sure. So generated somewhere between \$625 and \$1000 to help pay for the book.

Education: Dick Radford (WA7NIW): Barry noted that the Renton EOC is running a class in conjunction with the Microhams. Gordon West, who created the training materials they are using, is scheduled to attend. See Mike Eakins (K7OV) for information.

Strategic Planning: Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Nothing to report.

Facilities: Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Has a lock for the cabinet, but it's too short, will have to have it redone. Should be available at the next meet-

ing.

Flea market: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA): Mike mentioned the club received chemicals from Active Electronics. He will sell them at the country store, proceeds to the LCD projector. Barry (KC7YB) reported only 10 tables left, everything on schedule. In addition to the regular raffle the country store is raffling baskets. Tickets will sell for 3 for \$1.00. The Yellow gate is now the Orange gate. The worker dinner will now be \$12.00, but that will include tip. Alan noted the ticket takers want security at the gold gate. We will have two people from a security concern, will cost about \$80.00 per person for 5 hours. The committee will have new frequencies. Dorothy Lowell prepared a lovely poster, which has been laminated so we can use it for multiple years.

Field Day: Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Mike is looking at the rotors. Needs someone to co-chair VHF.

Banquet: Dave Smith: March 29th, at Barnaby's, 36 people signed up. The room holds 70. Gary Bryan (KG7KU) will be the emcee.

Old Business

Jo: Do we have a new wood Mike and Key logo for field day? We threw away the old one last year. Per Jack Grimm, we have some in the closet that may work.

New Business

Jack Grimm is the only candidate for treasurer. He runs Quicken, Jack Burrell will get him started with QuickBooks. Barry moves we approve Jack Grimm as the treasurer. Alan seconded. Motion passes.

Jack Grimm: Membership: First, define what is a family membership. The application says membership is \$18.00 for a family membership of 2, \$6.00 for each additional member. The relay says \$18.00 for a family membership. Jack submits a motion that the family membership be \$18.00. Alan seconded. Motion passed.

Jack Grimm: Asked Barry to bring his white board to the next General meeting.

There being no further business a motion by Barry seconded by Jack Burrell to adjourn was made, and the chairman closed the meeting at 8:35 pm.

Attested: Kim Wolborsky, KD7FYD, Secretary

Fleamarket 2003

Submitted by Diane, KB7DNE

WOW! What a grueling two days - fun to do but thankful when it's over. This article is for my crew, they all made Registration look good and run smoothly.

My crew! They come out in cold, wind, rain, and yes, even a little snow this year. They go to bed late and barely get warm before it's time to get up again (we need to be at our posts by 5:30AM). We have heaters that are trying desperately to warm up the state of Washington and we are thankful for them, as without them we would not have any heat at all. We have to listen to the horror stories of the poor folks working in the building that are sooooo hot that they have to strip down as far as the law allows. We go into the building and still are unable to remove the many layers of clothing because it takes a long time to get warm again. Despite all of this, we have fun. We joke and laugh amongst ourselves and with our customers. We get many, many favorable comments from them which makes our day and keeps us going. We are proud to be the first to greet our Sellers/Helpers. We try to put our best foot forward... even if it is frozen.

I would like to thank the following volunteers that covered our shorter shifts and breaks. Carolyn WV7Q covered breaks for the weary Registration team. Wayne K6DOW and Jim KN6TC at the Gold Gate. Mark KD7KUN braved the early 5:30AM to 9:00AM shift at the Gold Gate for us on Saturday. Tom WB7OUT and Greg W7HRC who helped us Saturday afternoon for load out at the dreaded Orange Gate. Tressie KC7BAL for getting up early Saturday morning to help the 5:30AM to 9:AM shifts at Registration. We all appreciate your help and time

Then there are my full-timers that work the many hours scheduled for them. Jim KN6TC and Wayne K6DOW who worked the Gold Gate. Jim KC7EVY worked Registration, the Orange Gate, and the Gold Gate. He

stayed way past his shift to help with Load out. Paul K7STQ, the "we can load off just about anything on to him because he was new", worked the Orange Gate and Registration. I hear that on his off time he worked the Country Store. Mike K7JML worked the Loading Dock Gate. Jim KC7EVY, Paul K7STQ, and Wayne K6DOW also strung up banners along the route from the Orange Gate to the Loading Doc Gate. Then they tore it down afterwards. There were our drivers of the shuttle know as the "Gator". Jack N7HIS the main driver. Having a shuttle was a first for us. Jack N7HIS not only drove us back and forth from the Orange Gate, but he drove some of our Seller/Helpers that had walked to Registration back to one of the Gates. Very good PR. Thanks also to Brendan KD7IKV and Steve KD7IQL who drove the shuttle for Jack when he was not available.

Then, of course, there is Dorothy KB7WSO, my right hand person. She goes above and beyond. She helps put numbers on the tables, does set-up, tear down and works Registration and Load out all day Friday and Saturday. Even staying when her husband Fred N7PZ tries to entice her away early. We were so busy Friday with the largest entry of Sellers/Helpers that we have had in many years, that she missed her break. A big thanks to her for all her help. By the way did you see the large picture poster that she did for Mike & Key? It was by the PA system. Good job Dorothy.

Of course my story would not be complete with out mentioning my husband Michael N7WA. He puts out fires, covers breaks, runs badges and packets between Registration and the Gold Gate, and marries up Sellers and Helpers who can't find each other. He brings us things to eat or drink and fixes everything that breaks for us as well as other groups. Without his support we would not be able to do the things we do so efficiently.

To a great crew, thank you all for what you go through to help at Registration. I hope you come back next year.

Fleamarket Musings

Submitted by Michael, N7WA

As I sit here doing the Relay, my brain keeps going back over the past couple cold days. I'm left with a good feeling over the work we all did. It looks like attendance was up. We had about 2500-2600 people in attendance over the course of the event. That breaks down to about 1800 adults through the door, 200 kids, 500 vendors and their helpers, and about 100 of us making it all work together.

Setup was about as smooth as smooth could go. By Friday night, two thirds of the vendors were on site. That makes Saturday morning a cake-walk; which is good because most of us are not awake for the first couple hours.

I saw a lot of money exchanging hands. Many vendors were surprised just how well it went. Maybe the slumping economy is bring out the bargain hunters.

One visitor, from New Jersey, told me he hasn't been to an event like this back home in years. They don't exist anymore. Another, from Santa Barbara, asked how we did it, referring to the smoothness of the operation.

The 3 programs upstairs seemed very well attended and member Terry Dettman participated in putting on two of them. Sure wish we had a better room but I think we're doing a good job of making lemonade out of that lemon. I've had suggestions for next year's program already. If you have one let me know.

The Country Store has come of age as a center of

attraction. I think Dawn and Curtis are starting to feel comfortable in job and making a mark. Heck, it's become a family affair with the folks coming in to help too. The Basket Raffle idea they came up flew high, straight, and true. I wouldn't be surprised if we net nearly as much from that as we do from consignment commissions plus I think everybody had a lot of fun with it.

Speaking of family affair, there were a lot of kids and grandkids running around. Love it. The last thing this Club needs to do it grow old. Even if they never become Hams, they are worth a smile and it was fun to watch the youngest want to help during teardown - trying to stack chairs. Then, there was Laura, David Lee's niece down for her second year. Gee whiz, it took 2 adult males to stay up with that young lady during table stacking. Oh well, I'm not proud.

We had several first-time vendors this year including the book-seller upstairs (from Nevada) and a gentlemen selling batteries and power supplies (from Los Angeles). I think they'll be back. We lost Am-Com (from Montana) this year due to weather but they said set 'em up for 2004. Alas, it will be the last time we see Dave Roddy from Radio Depot up on the second floor. However, we wish him well and hope to see him as someone walking the floor in the future.

Nice to see so many new faces along with the old-

timers working the many positions it takes to make this event run. A bit of bravado broke out at the post-event Chinese Dinner. We had Registration, Loading, and Announcing all claiming they had the better crew. Also, at the Chinese dinner, Brendan showed true Chairman of the Board leadership... he kept "the speech" down to 2 sentences. About 40 came to Chinese and nobody left hungry.

By the way, those pallets don't magically appear and disappear each year. Kevin Barrows (upstairs doing pallet crew duty) isn't even a Club member but transports and stores those things for us each year. Which reminds me, we need to buy a couple tarps and schedule a pallet work crew sometime in the next year. Time for some pallet upkeep. Else, we'll be working with splinters.

I know I've forgotten a bunch and have barely touched on those that should be recognized or highlights experienced. I hope that maybe others will step forward and write a bit up and fill in the gaps.

Please note down any suggestions that you feel help improve our event next year. It's hard for me to get too enthused about 2004 at this particular moment but we'll be wanting to look them over in about 6 months.

I walk away only with positive memories of this year's event. I hope you had fun too.

Electronic Media

Submitted by Michael, N7WA

Nil's reminded me (indirectly) last month that I have been a bit remiss in explaining to our new members the electronic media options available to them. For those who haven't heard, this publication is available in PDF format, by email, for those who would prefer it over the hardcopy. There are advantages to doing .

One, you get it days before anybody else. Two, it's in color and the pictures are certainly much better in color. Three, it saves the Club money - I figure about \$12 a year in printing and postage. Four, sometimes you get extra stuff, like event pictures, that isn't official Club business and couldn't be published in a hardcopy due to

space considerations (but are nice to get).

On the other side, I have to explain the main disadvantage - it's a big hunk of email and takes about 10 minutes to download. I know that's a consideration for some. Send me some email if you would like to subscribe or get a sample copy.

The Club also sponsors an email reflector (email list). Many announcements with a short lead-time get posted here as well as questions and information about Club members and happenings. It's not chatty (low mail volume) and is moderated. You can find out information about subscribing to that at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mkarc> or ask me to subscribe you.

Chemicals, Chemicals Everywhere

Submitted by Michael, N7WA

Those of you in who do electronics for living in the local area probably knew of Active Electronics. A Canadian firm, they had a store in Bellevue on Northrup Way. Despite being one of the better performing outlets, the Bellevue store was closed last month and everything was shipped away... except for several shelves of chemicals and aerosols.

Chuck, N7BV, had a sign shop next to Active and knew the operators very well. Thanks to Chuck's interven-

tion, we were donated that supply of goods (it filled the back of small pickup) which we took down to the Country Store and made available at bargain basement prices.

This did several things. First, we saved a lot of chemical from ending up directly in a land fill. Second, we provided a lot of happy customers with a real bargain. Finally, we made some extra money to put towards the LCD projector which is what the proceeds of this donation were slated for. Because of this, we should be able to get a LCD projector that meets our needs better than what we originally budgeted for. Way to go Team!

--- Annual Mike and Key Awards Banquet ---

--- Saturday, March 29, 2003 ---

Barnaby's Steak and Ale, 16401 W Valley Hwy, Tukwila, WA 98188-5527
(just SW of the old Longacres track)

Phone: (425)251-8341

The No-Host Social starts at about 5:00 PM, and the dinner starts at 6:00 PM.

Choice of: Prime Rib, New York Steak, Marinated Chicken, King Salmon, or Vegetable Fettichini Alfredo.

All dinners include 29 item salad bar, and coffee, tea, or milk.

Dinners are \$16 each and limited to the first 70 to sign up.

Following the dinner there will be the traditional installation of officers and awards program.

There will be some very nice door prizes. There may even be the traditional "Roast" of one or more of the prominent members of the club (a few even deserve it). Considering past Banquets, do not miss the "Roast".

Please sign up before March 25 to guarantee \$16 (per person) price as price will be \$20 (perperson) at the door.

To sign up, please fill out the following information and deliver (with payment) to Dave Smith, KB7PSN :

Name _____
 Callsign _____
 Dinner Choice _____
 Number of people attending _____
 Total Price enclosed _____

David Smith KB7PSN
624 - SW Sunset Blvd
Renton WA 98055
425 235 5095
kb7psn@yahoo.com

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

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Annual Banquet	Dave Smith	KB7PSN	kb7psn@yahoo.com	425-235-5095

March-April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9 RN	10	11	12	13 PSN	14	15 Club Meeting 10AM MKN
16 RN	17	18	19	20 PSN	21	22
23 RN	24	25	26 Board Meeting 7:15	27 PSN	28	29 Club Banquet (See Article)
30 RN	31	1 DA	2	3 PSN	4	5
6 RN	7	8 DA	9	10 PSN	11 Relay Deadline	12 March of Dimes W7AKA 425-226-4115

RN – ARES Regional Net, 8PM, 146.82

PSN – Public Service Net, 7PM, 146.82

MKN – Mike & Key Net, 9:15AM, 146.82

Contests

