

# K7LED

# Field Day Issue

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# RELAY

Volume 31, Issue 6

Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club - Seattle, Washington

June 2003



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Steven Cook KD7IQL

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**Web Page**

[www.mikeandkey.com](http://www.mikeandkey.com)

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**Reflector**

[http:// groups.yahoo.com/mkarc](http://groups.yahoo.com/mkarc)

**Send dues to:**

Jack Grimmett N7IHS  
10624 - 148th Ave SE  
Renton, WA 98059-4203

**Send Relay input to:**

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA  
22222 148th Ave SE  
Kent, WA 98042-3147  
[mwdink@eskimo.com](mailto:mwdink@eskimo.com)

**QSL Manager**

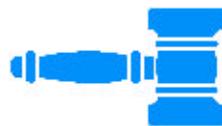
Jo Hallstrom KB7UFM

**Logo Committee**

Dan N7QHC and Dawn KC7YYB  
Humphrey

## From the Hot Seat

Club President Brendan Burget, KD7IKV



Well, since I get to go first, you won't be tired of hearing about Field Day 2003 yet. Those of you who have been to Field Day will no doubt be reminiscing about Field Days gone by. For you lucky folks who haven't been to one yet, you are in for a treat. The Mike & Key puts on a great Field Day, if I do say so myself. We always seem to

have a lot of fun.

However, without you we would have no Field Day at all. Yes, we do have a very competent Chairman this year. What was his name.....Scott...Dave... no that's not it.. Oh ya, it's Steve Cook KD7IQL. But I digress. Seriously though, we really do need you to participate. Whether you're a band chair, a barracks Mom (thanks Rita!), or you just want to come and operate, we NEED YOU!!!! So Come on out to Fort Flagler and spend Field Day with us

**Notice! - as of this writing, there is still a need for two people to take the Club trailers up to Field Day. These include the tower trailer and the equipment trailer.**

## Field Day! Field Day!

Submitted by Steve KD7IQL, FD Chair

Yes it's true. Field Day is nearly here again. Pack the kids, load the radios, and get yourself out to Fort Flagler on the 28<sup>th</sup>. We have all your old favorites and even a few new ones.

Yes, Dean will be operating 40M with his usual vigor. The Pasquier clan will be slugging it out on 15M again this year. New to the band chair scene are Curtis N7MWC and Dawn N7VWH Hanner. Eighty and 10M will be piloted by Terry WX7S. And let's not forget Mike K7OV on the GOTA station. There is

even a rumor running around that there will be some satellite work.

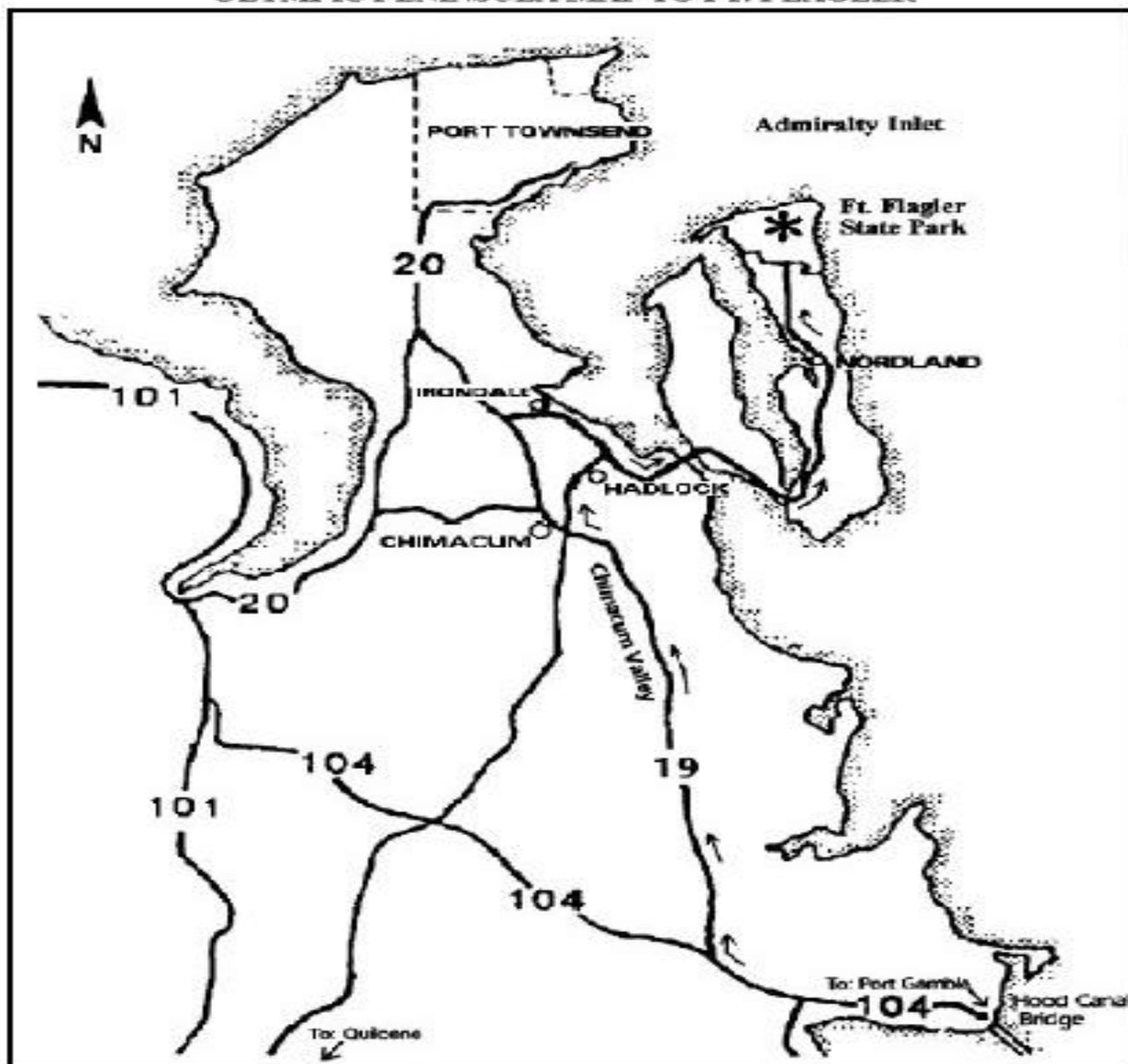
There are many more that I haven't listed here. The point is that Field Day only works if you participate. I know that some or most of you are excited about Field Day, but try not leave your XYL (or YL) standing in the drive when you leave.

**Things To Bring:**

Sunscreen, bug repellent, warm clothing, rain gear, extra blanket, flashlights, handi talkie, spare batteries (don't forget extras for your HT too), hard hat, sturdy shoes (for tower work), work gloves, food and snacks, ice, drinks, pot-luck dish for Friday night, food, camping gear (if needed), matches, first aid kit, XYL, and the rest of the family.



## OLYMPIC PENINSULA MAP TO FT. FLAGLER

**Driving Directions to Fort Flagler**

1a) Go north from Seattle and take the Edmonds-Kingston Ferry. From Kingston follow Hwy 104 through Port Gamble to the Hood Canal Floating Bridge.

or

1b) From Seattle follow I-5 south to Tacoma. In Tacoma take Hwy 16 exit and follow Hwy 16 North through Bremer-ton, connect with Hwy 3 and continue to the junction with Hwy 104 at the Hood Canal Floating Bridge.

2) From either direction above, cross the Hood Canal Bridge and proceed about 3 1/2 miles. Turn right at the sign for Ft. Flagler and Chimacum (Hwy 19). Upon reaching Chimacum turn right and go for approximately one mile until you reach Hadlock. In Hadlock turn right again (eastbound). In 3/4 mile there will be a road (going left) to Fort Flagler. Watch the signs carefully for Indian Island and Fort Flagler. (Everybody takes the wrong road at least once.) Take the left fork toward Indian Island and Ft. Flagler. The road will cross the end of Indian Island and onto Marrowstone Island where the road will swing northward toward Nordland and the Park.

# The List!

This is a good starting list for Field Day prep. You may not need it all but maybe it'll keep you from forgetting something. You might want to leave (at home) a contact number of a Ham not going to Field Day who can call up to the site in an emergency.

## Field Day Chair

- \_\_\_ Antennas
- \_\_\_ Antenna Analyzer
- \_\_\_ Copies of K7LED License
- \_\_\_ Equipment Trailer
- \_\_\_ Fuel
- \_\_\_ Generator
- \_\_\_ Log Sheets
- \_\_\_ RF Exposure Calculations
- \_\_\_ Tower Trailer

## Band Chairs

- \_\_\_ Transmitter/Receiver
- \_\_\_ Spare Rig
- \_\_\_ Power Supply
- \_\_\_ Spares Fuses
- \_\_\_ Computer
- \_\_\_ Extension cords
- \_\_\_ Patch cords / jumpers
- \_\_\_ Tuner
- \_\_\_ SWR Bridge
- \_\_\_ Operating Lights
- \_\_\_ Spare bulbs
- \_\_\_ Writing Paper
- \_\_\_ Pencils / Pens
- \_\_\_ Microphone (good paperweight)
- \_\_\_ Key
- \_\_\_ Keyer
- \_\_\_ Clock
- \_\_\_ Operating Table
- \_\_\_ Chairs
- \_\_\_ Headphones
- \_\_\_ Antenna(s)
- \_\_\_ Guyline
- \_\_\_ Rotor
- \_\_\_ Feedlines
- \_\_\_ Connectors
- \_\_\_ Mechanical Tool box
- \_\_\_ Electrical Toolbox
- \_\_\_ Outside lights
- \_\_\_ Ribbon for guys
- \_\_\_ Sledge Hammer / spikes
- \_\_\_ Tent
- \_\_\_ Hard Hats
- \_\_\_ Climbing Belt

- \_\_\_ 2M rig
- \_\_\_ Electrical Tape
- \_\_\_ Duct Tape
- \_\_\_ Multiple Plug Outlets
- \_\_\_ 100' Measuring Tape
- \_\_\_ Battery Charger
- \_\_\_ Spare TP for Decorating purposes
- \_\_\_ Snacks for your ops

## Personal Items

- \_\_\_ Food
- \_\_\_ Drink / Water
- \_\_\_ Utensils
- \_\_\_ Rain Gear
- \_\_\_ Warm Coat
- \_\_\_ Boots
- \_\_\_ Gloves
- \_\_\_ Change of clothes
- \_\_\_ Toiletries
- \_\_\_ Lantern
- \_\_\_ Stove
- \_\_\_ Fuel
- \_\_\_ Flashlight
- \_\_\_ Batteries
- \_\_\_ Matches
- \_\_\_ Sleeping Gear
- \_\_\_ Windup Clock
- \_\_\_ First Aid Kit
- \_\_\_ Trash Bags
- \_\_\_ Insect Repellent
- \_\_\_ Sun Block
- \_\_\_ Camera / Film
- \_\_\_ Cash for fees
- \_\_\_ Personal Medicines
- \_\_\_ Reading Material
- \_\_\_ The Spouse and kids

## Additions

- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_

**WANTED!**

**Picnic Chairperson—see the Activity Manager, John / KW7A**

*(Two months ago, one of our California transplanted members, W7YG, sent in a snapshot of his life down south. Then, I had computer problems and lost the second half of the article. We ended with the things Jeremy liked about living in California, we continue now, where we left off—ed.)*

## California—part two

Submitted by Jeremy Donomirski W7YG

What don't I like about California? The State income tax, for one. California has both a 7.75% sales tax and a 7 to 9% income tax (depending on income), plus all the other ones like property, alcohol and gasoline taxes. A resident of California has less spendable income than Washington State. People adjust to this by cutting down on their entertainment. I'll bet locals visit Disneyland less often than people from other states. Most locals do low cost things (like camping) on weekends, unless they're rich. Meanwhile, playhouses are begging people to attend their live performances.

I don't like the aggressive drivers for another. If you've heard news accounts of shootings on the freeway, there's a reason for it. While a Californian is always polite to you when you have eye contact, they are downright nasty and aggressive when in a car. They truly become furious that there are others sharing the roadway with them. As a result, they drive dangerously just to get ahead a bit. I've seen people "spin-out" on a crowded freeway because their weaving caused them to lose control and I saw one guy try to pass someone on a narrow elevated exit ramp. He scraped the side of his car on the concrete safety wall (because it was too narrow for 2 cars) but persisted in trying to pass.

One of their favorite freeway tactics here is to speed up to prevent you from merging. If you succeed, they nearly rear-end you, then honk at you. Makes me think that it's part of the culture, as the California Drivers Manual doesn't mention this tactic. Does any of this sound familiar? It's probably because you have ex-Californians living among you.

Traffic is another aspect I dislike, although the traffic in Orange County is really not as bad as Los Angeles or (especially) Hollywood. The traffic jams in Orange County are mostly centered on commute times and concentrated on the freeways. During commute times you can generally get there faster using surface streets, if the traffic signals cooperate. Some surface streets have 50 MPH speed limits and you can really make progress, if the traffic lights are with you.

None of the traffic signals in Orange County (I haven't explored this issue in other counties yet) are synchronized. That means that you never get one green light after the next. They change at random. Some days you

get all reds, but most days about half are red and half green when you drive up to them. Maybe that's intentional, to prevent surface streets from turning into freeways. The result of the frequent stop 'n go is a series of drivers who run red lights out of frustration, another potential for accidents. The local municipalities are starting to install video cameras to record violators in the act. Even that doesn't seem to deter them. Instead of obeying the law, these traffic signal violators are suing the municipalities and winning. I'm not sure where it will end.

During mid-day, I can scoot around on the freeways with no problems. From my workplace to Ham Radio Outlet, for example, takes only 15 minutes. I can get there, make a purchase, have lunch in a fast food place, then return to my office in less than one hour. From 4-7 PM, that same route is an impassible parking lot.

Hollywood is a different story, traffic-wise. All freeways anywhere near Hollywood are always packed, both weekdays and weekends and even very late at night. It's amazing. For this reason, I haven't yet explored Hollywood. Another reason is that gangs still rule parts of Hollywood (not the ritzy parts). There were news stories about drug dealers that totally take over that area at night, terrifying residents. As a result of those stories, the Police are now cracking down and trying to re-claim the neighborhood. Keep this in mind in case you ever go to Hollywood at night.

### Car ads

In Seattle, it's common to hear lots of Ford and Toyota ads on TV and radio. In Southern California, you don't hear those brands advertising that often. Instead, the airwaves are filled with ads for BMWs, Mercedes and Jaguar (pronounced "Jag-You-Are"). The message is always the same "Don't you deserve the luxury of a BMW/Mercedes/Jaguar?" And all the locals seem to think that way. Each seems to want one desperately and even knows the model he will buy as soon as he can afford it. Maybe this is true everywhere and I'm just out of touch. I probably am, as I still drive my Chrysler minivan.

### Low income families

Much to my surprise, despite the very high cost of housing in Southern California, there are LOTS of people working for minimum wage. I always wondered how they made ends meet. Then I learned, in a Red Cross class, that low-income families often share an apartment (without the landlord's knowledge). It is not unusual for Red Cross Disaster Teams to be told that 18 people live in a one-bedroom apartment. Mystery solved. Many of these low-income people speak no English but are sometimes very skilled. Their low cost skills allow businesses to offer quality products at competitive prices, despite a high cost of living.

*(Continued on page 5)*

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I have noticed that most fast food clerks are Hispanic and bilingual. They automatically speak English to me, but Spanish to Hispanics. Their English is excellent and they have good vocabularies, but speak with a Spanish accent. I learned that Hispanic people in Southern California speak Spanish to their infants at home. Those Hispanic children don't learn English until they go to school. This practice perpetuates the commonplace use of Spanish when doing business.

#### Ham clubs

The local Ham Clubs are very friendly. The members are even more outgoing than in Seattle. It's easy to make friends, both at the Ham Breakfasts and on the repeaters. The Ham clubs affiliate themselves with the Red Cross and provide communications. I'm now a Red Cross member and participate in drills. Club sizes range from very small to very large. One club, which Gordon West WB6NOA belongs to, holds their Field Day site in a public park and places huge numbers of transmitters on the air (like 16).

There are fewer public service events, like parades, to provide communications for. The Tournament of Roses parade needs and begs for Ham communicators, but they charge their volunteers money to serve in the parade, so most Hams stay away.

California is the home of some large scale repeater networks. The Condor network on 222 MHz and several 440 MHz networks cover from Mexico to well north of San Francisco. This is a great way to keep in touch when a family member takes a road trip. High mountaintop locations ensure excellent wide area coverage.

Overall, it's OK and the sunshine every day is nice.

If you're visiting Orange County, look for me on 145.220 MHz (PL=103.5) and I'll be glad to speak with you. This repeater isn't part of a linked network but it offers excellent coverage of Orange County because of its mountaintop location. It's kinda weak in the city of Los Angeles and at LAX airport, so pick a high spot if trying it from there.

*(Last month, I thought Mitch had written a very amusing article. You remember, "I'm here to help" which explained the plight of the married male Ham. Well, it was funny until my wife read it. The following is the distaff rebuttal—the only way to bring peace to the household. Mitch... you're getting me in trouble. —ed)*

### ***"I'm Here to Help" - rebuffed***

**submitted by Diane KB7DNE**

My name is Diane and I'm married to a Ham addict. My first question is where was this H.A.M. organization when I was being courted? I would like to tell you about the only Ham organization that I know of which has to do with marriage. It has no name but I call it "**THE STING.**"

#### **Step one: The courting period.**

No mentions of Amateur Radio, not even a peek at a radio or an antenna during the whole courting event. Just the wild whirlwind of endearments, how much I enjoy your company, and all the things that we can do together. Then comes the big proposal

"Will You Marry Me? Oh, by the way I'm a Ham".

"Oh honey, I didn't know that. What do Hams do"?

"We talk on the radio dear".

"Do you have a radio honey"?

"Yes dear but I haven't had much time to get on it. Maybe someday dear, when we have our own place".

Well, a nice hobby and at home that doesn't sound so bad

honey.

#### **Step two: Buying a house and setting up the ham shack.**

"I know you like this house dear, but I won't be able to use my radio because it's against a hill".

"No no dear, this place is too close to power lines".

"To many high trees dear".

"Not enough room for my antenna lines dear."

"Aha this place is perfect and don't worry dear, we can always fix it up later."

"I can use this bedroom, for my shack dear, and if we have company they can sleep on the couch."

#### **Step Three: Life of a Ham Widow that has henpecked another perfectly good ham to death.**

"Honey my brother and his wife has invited us out for dinner"

"I can't go dear because there is a contest this weekend, but you go if you want."

"Honey I have a load of beauty bark coming and the driver won't be able to dump it because of your half built antenna in the yard. Could you move it and maybe mow under where it was?"

"I will when I get time dear."

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“Honey it’s time for dinner.”

“Just dish up a plate dear and bring it in here, I’m on the air.”

“Honey come to bed.”

“I will later dear, I’m in the middle of something.”

“Honey I sure glad it’s the weekend, can we do something?”

“I can’t, I have to help my friend Joe tear down an Antenna. Then, we have to set it up at another ham’s house. Why don’t you go visit a friend for a while dear, it would do you good to get out of the house”.

“Honey why do I have to become a ham?”

“Oh my dear you will just love it, just try it and see what I mean.”

“Honey, you will be gone how long for Field Day?”

Honey, you are going to Dayton for a Ham event?”

“Honey, what’s in California?”

“Honey, Canada?!”

“Honey, you say that there is an Ham event in what

part of Europe”?

“Honey you have a Board meeting tonight, a Club meeting this weekend, and a contest over the next three days?”

“Honey, I remember how nice our car trips use to be before you got this ham radio in here, we could talk and...”

“Shsssss I’m listing to my ham radio dear.”

“Honey, here is another box for your QSL cards”.

“Just set it in the corner of the front room dear, that’s the only spot left.”

“Honey, could you put your antenna lines a little higher, I keep running into them while I’m mowing the lawn?”

“Honey you know we never do anything together anymore because you are always doing something with your hobby.”

#### **Step Four: The punch line**

“You ought to be glad that I have a hobby that keeps me home. I could be out sitting in a bar somewhere. I just don’t understand what the big deal is, I’m just in the other room, and you know I love you dear.”

## Len Westbo - W7MCU(SK)



It is with great sorrow that we witness the passing of long time Mike & Key ARC member— Len Westbo, W7MCU.

Len passed away, due to a heart attack, on Monday, May

26th. Len was born December 4th, 1931 and was raised in the Puyallup area where his family had deep roots - his Grandfather arrived as a First Mate on a Norwegian freighter back in 1898. After graduating from Puyallup High in 1951, he made an initial tour with the US Coast Guard. From there, he returned back to school and graduated from the UW as an Electrical Engineer before returning to the Coast Guard for a second tour. Following the USCG, he went to work for the FAA from 1961-1972. From 1972-1987, it was back to the Coast Guard as an Assistant Branch Chief for the 13th Coast Guard District. Somewhere in there, he also worked at local radio station KASY in Auburn.

An active pilot for many years, Len gained a bit of notoriety a few years ago when a plane he was flying crashed during one of his many fishing trips to Canada. Len was eventually credited with saving the lives of his three fellow passengers. In addition to the Mike & Key,

Len was a member of the WWDXC, American Pilots Assoc., the Pacific Northwest VHF Society, Seattle TCP/IP Group, WETNET - Washington Experimenters TCP/IP Network, an ARRL DXCC Field Representative, active on TopBand (160M), DXCC Honor Roll (347 as of 2001), the Astronomical League, and Tacoma Astronomical Society.

Len had no children or wife and is only survived by a cousin. Len will be buried at Tahoma National Cemetery in Kent on June 10th at 1PM. On June 21st, there will be memorial and all are invited. It will be held at Price Helton Funeral Chapel, 702 Auburn Way North on Saturday, June 21, 2003 at 1:00 PM. Following the service will be a potluck. The gathering will be held at: 3385 Scenic Dr SE, Auburn, WA 98092 - Maiya Andrews (253) 333-0879. Please bring a plate of hors d'oeuvres, a hot dish or a salad, and any photos you would like to share.

**Directions:** From I-5 or SR 167, take SR 18 Eastbound to the SR 164/Auburn Way/Enumclaw Exit. Take a left onto Auburn Way South. (Alternatively from Auburn Way North, head south until it becomes Auburn Way South). Continue on Auburn Way South approximately 2 miles beyond SR 18. Follow Dogwood until it ends and forces you to take a right onto Scenic Drive. **Take all available lefts** to stay on Scenic Drive. The house (3385) is grayish tan with rock around the bottom and a green mailbox by the street.

## General Meeting Minutes May 17, 2003

### Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)  
Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)  
Secretary – Paul McElroy (K7STQ)  
Treasurer – Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS)  
Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A)

### Trustees present:

No. 1 – Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ)  
No. 3 – Steve Cook / CoB (KD7IQL)  
No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)

**Visitors:** Tom Davis (N7AOP); Brenda Doss; Vera Doss; Brett Downey (KD7TBD); Phil Sheridan (KD7UX7); Brenda Sheridan; Alex White; Kenneth White.

President Burget called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. at the Salvation Army Building in Renton, Wash. All members and guests repeated the Pledge of Allegiance. The president made several announcements: The Mike & Key ARC is affiliated with the ARRL, which members are encouraged to join; everyone, including visitors, should sign the rosters; visitors are reminded not to vote on membership matters; smoking is allowed in the parking lot but not in front of the chapel. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Quorum present.

**Minutes:** Motion by Jim Monaghan (N7HKO) and seconded by Steve Cook (KD7IQL) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

### Officer Reports

**President** – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Nothing to report.

**Vice President** – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): New members for consideration: Mark Baratta (KD7VEY), a general; Tom Davis (N7ROP), a General; Chuck Griggs (KC7EOP), a Tech; Gerry Ortoli (KE4ZDY), a Tech. All approved.

**Secretary** – Paul McElroy (K7STQ): May edition of *The Loggers Bark* available.

**Treasurer** – Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS): Profit and loss statement issued. As of May 1, eight memberships expired for non-payment of dues and three new members were approved for a club total of 192.

**Radio Officer** – Ken Rau (K7YR): No report.

**Activity Manager** – John Long (KW7A): Raffle items.

**Chairman of the Board** – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Nothing to report.

### Standing Committee Reports

Those committees not reporting in the *Relay* are asked to report before the general membership.

**Technical** – Terry Dettmann (WX7S): Chairman Mike Dinkelman: The committee needs members.

**Education** – Dave Smith (KB7PSN): No report.

**Facilities** – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Nothing to report.

**Public Service** – Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): No report (no meeting this month because most members are working a parade in Ballard).

**Strategic Planning** – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q): The committee is working on survey questions. New members are invited to attend meetings at 9 a.m. before the general membership meeting.

**Public Service Communications** – Gary Bryan (KG7KU): Fliers listing upcoming events on each table and available on [www.mikeandkey.com](http://www.mikeandkey.com). Members encouraged to participate in events and the Jamboree on the Air, a cooperative event between hams and the Boy and Girl Scouts. More information available at [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org).

**Field Day** – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Day-trippers will have to pay a \$5 fee, but those who stay at the barracks or Wagon Wheel will be exempt. Volunteers needed to transport trailers on Friday for setup. Still looking for a chairman for 2 meter or VHF (must be Tech class or better). Antenna for 6 meters in hand. The June 21 general meeting will include a presentation on software and other info on Field Day. Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ): Questions why the club won't pay the fee for day-trippers, which is not fair to members who pay club dues. Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS): Issue raised at last board meeting, but no action taken. He suggests reimbursing day-trippers who present a receipt. The board will consider the matter at its May 28 meeting.

**Awards** – Ermanno Rusi (N7VIQ) received a 10-year membership award.

**Alligator Award:** Dean Holtan (N7NKO) retains the award.

**Picnic** – John Long (KW7A): A volunteer chairperson is needed. The deadline is so close the club is in danger of not being able to hold the event, scheduled for August 16.

### Old Business

Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS): Club bylaws stipulate that three members-at-large be appointed for the Audit Committee, which entails one meeting in January 2004. Sam Sullivan (N7RHE) is the chairman. Kathy Martin (KB7QMO) and Michael Ross (KB7YXB) volunteer. Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q) offers to serve as a backup.

### New Business

Jim Monaghan (N7HKO): Nineteen states have

enacted laws permitting antenna towers. Washington state legislators want to allow only ARES members to erect towers, which he believes is unfair to all other hams. He urges opposing the idea when it comes up for a vote next year.

### Good of the Order

Harry Lewis (W7JWJ): Interference (music) on Everett repeater traced to a 16-year-old ham, whose license has been revoked until the individual is 21.

Mary Lewis (W7QGP): The ARRL Divisional convention is June 13-15 in Seaside, Ore.

Pam Bryan (N7PRS): As vice marshal of the Seafair Torchlight Parade, she encourages members to sign up to help at the July 26 event. Contact Tom Ramus (W7OUT) or Dick Radford (WA7NIW) to volunteer. Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q): "It's absolutely the most fun you can have with a ham radio."

There being no further business, Steve Cook (KD7IQL) moved and Jim Monaghan (N7HKO) seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Burget closed the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ

## Board Meeting Minutes May 28, 2003

### Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)  
Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)  
Secretary – Paul McElroy (K7STQ)  
Treasurer – Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS)  
Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A)

### Trustees present:

No. 2 – Terry Dettmann (WX7S)  
No. 3 – Steve Cook / CoB (KD7IQL)  
No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)  
No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

**Visitors:** Jack Burrell (N7ZS); Dawn (KC7YYB) and Dan (N7QHC) Humphrey; Guy Molinari (N7ZG).

Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m. at the Salvation Army Building in Renton, Wash.

**Minutes:** Motion by Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) and seconded by Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

### Officer Reports

**Chairman of the Board** – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Nothing to report.

**President** – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Board approves refunding the cost of two tickets to the March banquet to Scott Castonguay (KC7UOC), whose wife and son planned to attend but were unable to find seating.

**Vice President** – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): New member applications recommended to the general membership for a vote: Guy Molinari (N7ZG), an extra; Phil Sheridan (KD7UXT), a tech. Several applications are pending from as far back as August 2002. Board agrees to enforce the 90-day limit on ratification under Article II of the club's bylaws. If an applicant does not attend a general membership meeting within that time, initial dues will be refunded and the application voided.

**Secretary** – Paul McElroy (K7STQ): Nothing to report.

**Treasurer** – Jack Grimmert (N7IHS): Current membership as of May 1 is 193. P&L report issued.

**Activity Manager** – John Long (KW7A): The program for the June 21 meeting will cover Field Day. Terry Dettmann will explain antenna modeling for the July 19 meeting. The \$1 raffle fund is doing well, but does not generate enough revenue to offer much ham gear. A separate \$5 raffle will be started on a trial basis for new ham gear costing \$100 to \$150. Two sets of tickets will be sold at general meetings. These more expensive prizes will not go into the end-of-the-year giveaway. The separate raffle will be discontinued in a few months if it doesn't pay for itself.

**Radio Officer** – Ken Rau (K7YR): No report.

#### **Committee Liaison Reports**

**Facilities** – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Looking for a case and permanent storage area for the club's LCD projector. Until then, Steve and Brendan (KD7IKV) have custody.

**Strategic Planning** – Sam (N7RHE): The com-

mittee plans to telephone members who haven't paid dues to find out why they've dropped out. They are assembling a standard list of questions to ask. The committee doesn't plan to do an involved survey (as in the past) because they don't anticipate learning anything new. They may re-evaluate if other committees submit suitable questions for a comprehensive survey.

**Technical** – Terry Dettmann (WX7S): No activity.

**Public Service** – Dick Radford (WA7NIW): The Cub Scouts will hold a camp July 15-18 at Royal Arch Park in Maple Valley. They will have about eight different activities. If the club wants to participate, a 35- to 40-minute presentation would be given multiple times during the event. The camp will be publicized within the club to determine if enough volunteers are available.

**Education** – Dave Smith (KB7PSN): Nothing to report.

**Field Day** – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Radio officer recommends replacing coax for the VHF station. Sam (N7RHE) moves and Dave (KB7PSN) seconds buying 500 feet of coax with a 10-pack of connectors for \$230. Approved. Board may require attendees to bring day use fee receipts to the August general meeting for reimbursement. Jack (N7ZS) will reserve Fort Flagler for Field Day 2004.

**Picnic** – John Long (KW7A): No one has volunteered to chair the event. Board agrees that the picnic will be canceled if no one volunteers by the June 21 general meeting.

**Logos** – Sam (N7RHE): He's been working with Dawn and Dan Humphrey to find an alternate source for patches and pins. Dawn (KC7YYB)

suggests that Hot Press provide an estimate for patches since they already have the club's logo and have been a good vendor. Also plan to talk to Hot Press about jackets.

#### **Old Business**

**Audit Committee** – Committee consists of Chairman Sam Sullivan (N7RHE), Kathy Martin (KB7QMO), Michael Ross (KB7YXB), and trustees Dave Smith (KB7PSN) and Nils Halstrom (W7RUJ). Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q) is an alternate member.

**World Radio** – Sam (N7RHE) filled out application for local club listing a few months ago. He recently spoke with magazine rep, who said a listing costs \$65 per year. Board agrees it's not worth the cost.

#### **New Business**

**Repeater** – Brendan (KD7IKV): Ken Rau is traveling a lot on business. He needs some help on the new repeater. The board agrees to consider appointing an Extra class member as assistant radio officer to help Ken now and take over when he retires at the end of the year. Board will assess members and discuss possible candidates at its June 25 meeting.

#### **Good of the Order**

There being no further business, Brendan (KD7IKV) moved and Jack (N7IHS) seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Cook closed the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ

*(Contrary to popular belief, there is a Technical Committee and we are doing our best to provide technical forums and fodder for the Club, this is a great example—ed)*

## **dB – What? Why?**

**Submitted by Technical Committee Member Jim Hamlin, W7FKI**

Invariably you will see references in the amateur radio literature about dB gains for antennas, amplifiers and attenuators. So what are they talking about, why is it used and how can you relate to these numbers?

Decibels, abbreviated dB, are named after Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone. Initially it was used to compare sound levels, and later as the electronics field developed, was used for comparing the power levels in amplifiers.

The decibel is derived mathematically, and is calculated from the logarithm (abbreviated log) of the ratio of two power levels. The main reason for the use of

decibels is that a linear scale for large changes in power is nearly impossible to represent and display on paper or on the screen of some test equipment. For example, if you wanted to show the change in signal level between 1 watt and 1000 watts using a scale of 1/8-inch per watt, it would require a length of 125-inches, or 10-feet, 5-inches! Comparing greater changes in a signal are even more mind boggling. To picture the same ratio of power levels using the decibel, it can be put on a standard 8-1/2" x 11" piece of paper. In fact, you can even compare a 1 megawatt signal (1,000,000) to 1 watt on the same sheet of paper.

Now let's look at the mathematical definition of the decibel. The logarithmic function is based on powers of a number, and in this case it is powers of ten. By definition, ten raised to a power of zero ( $10^0$ ), is equal to one. For other powers (sometimes referred to as exponents), the value can be negative as well as positive, and can even be a decimal value not just a whole number. In the following table you can see some of the ranges for the

*(Continued on page 9)*

(Continued from page 8)  
numbering scheme using whole numbers.

N	10 <sup>N</sup>		N	10 <sup>N</sup>
-2	0.01		3	1000
-1	.1		4	10000
0	0		5	100000
1	10		6	1000000
2	100		7	10000000

For the table above, the logarithm of each multiple of ten is the value N. That part is easy. But what happens when the N value is a decimal number? At that point, it is necessary to use a scientific calculator, or look up the log in a book of tables.

The mathematical equation for the decibel is:

$$dB = 10\log_{10}(P_2/P_1) \quad \text{where,}$$

**dB** is the gain (or loss) for the two power levels  
**P<sub>2</sub>** is one power level (higher one for gain) in watts  
and

**P<sub>1</sub>** is the other power level

**log<sub>10</sub>( )** is the logarithm of the power ratio

For the non-whole numbers, that is, decimal values mentioned above, some of the more common values are shown in this table:

N	10 <sup>N</sup>		N	10 <sup>N</sup>
.3	2		1.2	15.8
.47	3		1.3	20
.6	4		1.4	25
.9	8		1.5	31.6
1	10		1.6	40

Taking this information one step further, and using the factor of 10 that is in the equation for calculating decibels, *if you double the power (P<sub>2</sub>/P<sub>1</sub> = 2.0), then the log of 2 (as in the table above) is 0.30. Multiply this by 10 and the result is 3 dB. Each doubling of power results in an increase of 3 dB.* (First double = 3 dB; second = 6 dB, 4 times the power; third = 9 dB, 8 times the power).

Another convenience of using decibels is that you can just add them together to achieve comparisons for RF signals. This would be much more difficult mathematically if we were not using this system. Also, because most radio work is performed with a standardized impedance of 50 Ohms, these values of dB are easy to work with. (An exception is the television industry, which uses a 75 Ohm impedance standard. We won't dwell on this difference for our purposes).

Another formula used for calculating decibels is when comparing voltage or current values. Because the formula for calculating power is based on squaring the voltage or current (P = E<sup>2</sup>/R, or P = I<sup>2</sup>/R), then,

$$dB = 20\log_{10}(V_2/V_1), \quad \text{or } dB = 20\log_{10}(I_2/I_1)$$

for values of **V** in volts, or **I** in amperes

Also, because the calculation is based on a ratio, then you can use watts, milliwatts or microwatts when performing the calculation as long as the units are the same.

Now you know how to use decibels to compare amplifier power levels, antenna gains, or attenuators.

*If you have any questions about this, feel free to catch Jim at a Mike & Key meeting and I am sure he would be happy to talk to anyone personally. I hear a lot of Hams get confused about decibels and their use. While the formula's above can look daunting, they are the basis of many simple "rules of thumb" that can be used to describe power gain.*

## Barracks

This is your Barracks Mom speaking, are you signed up for your space in the barracks? I have a few more beds available. Please let me know by e-mail gamatoad@aol.com or k7ric@aol.com. There's a new jigsaw puzzle store at the Everett Mall I'm going to check out. They had some awesome puzzles of the Seattle skyline at night. How's that for a challenge?

There's plenty of room at the lounge table for you beaders, too. There's a whole recreation room available for those of you that want to do some crafting in some relative quiet. Breakfast? Haven't decided yet just what it will be, but I know you won't be disappointed. Don't delay, sign up now for all the comforts of home and good company and fellowship. Not to mention all the jokes.

73 Rita, KD7CNU - AKA Barracks Mom

## TorchLight Parade

Submitted by Pam Bryan, N7PRS

SEAFAIR Parade Marshals are asking you to come be a team member, part of the SEAFAIR family, and help with the Torchlight 2003 parade in downtown Seattle. Whether you have many years of Amateur Radio experience, or you're a brand new Ham, you can do this! It's a way to perform public service and have fun at the same time. Parade Marshals and Hams are there to assist parade units in assembly, on the route, and in dispersal.

Assembly is the pre-parade staging area located at 5th & Mercer. We begin in assembly at 7AM and keep going until the last unit has left the lot to enter the parade. The parade route basically runs south on 4th Avenue, beginning at Denny. Marshals and Hams are positioned at various intersections along the route, especially those with Metro crossings, fire lanes, and tow trucks. We are there to help insure that the parade units go down the route safely and in a timely manner. Also, along with the police and fire departments, help the ensure that the public enjoys a wonderful parade.

Dispersal is the end of the parade at the Seahawk stadium parking lot. Here we help to insure safety while the parade units dismantle and load into trucks and cars. The Torchlight parade is Saturday, July 26th, 2003 in downtown Seattle. From start to finish it takes all day; about 7AM to 11PM. The actual parade time down the route is 7:30 to 10PM.

We need whatever time you can spare in your busy schedules. 2, 4, 6 hours or yes, even all day. Just come and experience a very big part of the Torchlight parade.

Parking considerations have been addressed, and information on that can be given to you at any time. So please, sign up today. Fill out the lines below and mail to Tom Ramus, WB70UT. He is the Marshal in charge of communications for the parades. His address is: 8722 17th Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117. Also, you can e-mail him at bc994@scn.org. Thanks for your consideration. We hope to see you there.

Pam Bryan, Vice Marshal, SEAFAIR Parade Marshals

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Work preference area & time you could work:

## IMSuRT-West

My name is Matt Hickey. I work with the Tukwila Fire Department. I am the Communications Leader for a Homeland Security Team that is now forming. It is called IMSuRT-West (International Medical Surgical Response Team). We respond to medical disasters within 12 hours and setup a field hospital. Our communications consists of Amateur HF, satellite phones, government VHF & UHF and telephone. I am looking for any members in your club

that are fire department based or have a good knowledge of ICS (Incident Command System), Ham's, computer experts, telephone, or electronics. This is a volunteer position but some expenses are paid by the Government.

If interested, please send me a resume at W7TFD@msn.com or call me 253-435-8975

Thank You, 73  
Matt Hickey, W7TFD  
IMSuRT-West Communications Leader

## Hidden Interest or Hobby

Submitted by Sam Sullivan, N7RHE

Do you have a hidden talent, interest or hobby? Several members of the club have interests and hobbies beyond ham radio. I know this is hard to believe but it's true. We

have members interested in RVing, genealogy, film photography, and on and on. Let your interests be known. Write a letter for the relay. Contact the activities manager, John Long, KW7A. Maybe volunteer to give a technical program on your hobby. If your interest is technical and can be related to ham radio (even remotely) contact the technical committee, Mike Dinkelman, N7WA.

**ICOM IC-737 w/ accompanying PS-15 DC supply. This rig is in outstanding condition, no stains, scratches or blemishes. Nonsmoker. \$750.00/obo for the entire package. Butch KS7V (206) 246-3902.**

**Thirty-six foot crankup, used, \$400 and you haul away (it's on the ground)  
Mike, KA7CSE 425 255 7137**

## My Own Personal Field Day

Submitted by Mitch K7TUT

It occurred to me last month that there was an alternative for me on Field Day. As many of you are aware, I work Retail and as a manager I do not get the weekends off. However, there has been a slight change in my schedule and I will at least be on the air part of the time.

The alternative? After work on Saturday I was going to go to the mountains and work with Tyler's FT 817 after I hike a few miles in and set up camp. In order to do this, I decided to do a dry run two weeks ago. I packed a portable tent, food, etc. I was excited as I had never done this before but since Tyler and his Mom were visiting friends in Eastern Washington I decided that this would be a great opportunity to get away. Most of you know me. Most of you also know how my great ideas usually turn into great disasters. I promise that I will not disappoint you as I know that you all seem to enjoy seeing how much of a mess I can make.

I packed the truck and began up towards Crystal Mountain. After a few miles I spotted a logging road and turned in, drove a few miles, parked and unloaded my backpack. I began walking, what I believed, was North but who knows? I was not worried as I was only going to go a mile or two into the forest. After 2 hours of climbing I found a small meadow and set up camp. It was about 5 PM. I got the tent up, wood gathered, and 20 meter dipole up in the trees about 20 feet. I started the fire and sat on a log to have a nice meal before I got out the rig and began to operate.

Unpacking the rig, I began to monitor the 20 meter QRP frequency. Hearing nothing, I began to tune around the band. Nothing. No CW, no SSB, no nothing! Hmmm. I checked the antenna and the connection and they seemed to be OK. I then changed to 2 meters and I could hear people on several repeaters but the signals seemed to be weaker than usual. I tried to call out but I did not hit one repeater. It was at this time that I realized that I was more South of all the repeaters and I should have programmed a few more local repeaters into the rig.

So here I sat with darkness approaching fast, no propagation, and no local communications. Maybe I should have checked the MUF earlier to see if 20 was even open. I learned later that it was not. After having a fit and throwing a few rocks around, I decided that it was a beautiful night, a little cool but here was some time alone to recharge my batteries as I had been working a lot of hours. I threw a few more pieces of wood on the fire and began to relax. I decided to just enjoy the time. That is exactly the time that I heard the first of many sounds. I

did not need any coffee to get my adrenalin going, I had enough to go around for quite a few. The sounds I was hearing had my imagination running in full. I could see that huge cougar leaping into the meadow. Thankfully I had Courage this night (that's the name of my Winchester rifle) as I slowly backed myself into the tent with the barrel of my gun pointed out. The thought now occurred to me that I had not strung my food up into a tree as I had seen in so many TV shows. I debated, as the noise grew louder and closer, on whether to go back out and get the food up in the air or to wait and see what happens. Being brave can sometimes be seen as being stupid. I could lay here and wait or try to get the food up in the tree.

As you may recall from my past adventures, intelligence is not always my strong point. I crawled out of the tent and grabbed the food and then remembered that the rope was tied to the tree and to the dipole. Since I was not going to be on the air I decided to use the dipole to hoist the food up in the tree. Before I could do that, the noises were now all around me. There was not one but several all around. I slowly walked back to the tent or maybe I ran. As I did, I got a glimpse of shadows moving in the forest and they seemed huge. The fire seemed to be keeping them away but the fire was going down. What was I to now? I could fire off a shot from my gun to scare them! As I began to cock the Winchester, it jammed. I had the problem in the past but thought it had been fixed by a gunsmith. Little did I know that it had not been fixed properly.

I now had no gun, little fire, and animals roaming around the campsite. That's when the first one started scratching the back of my tent. I frantically started trying to ping a repeater, any repeater! In my mind I was thinking that if I talked to someone they would at least know where to find what was left of me but no luck. I put the radio down and tried to fix the rifle, no luck. I then decided to at least try to see what was out there. I cracked the flap on the tent and there it was staring right at me. It was a few inches away and it was huge! A female raccoon with about 4 younger ones. They were happily eating my breakfast and snacks and tearing up the backpack. What a relief as I knew there were no cougars and no bears around. With that, I fell asleep.

Upon awaking in the morning after about 2 hours of restful sleep I scouted the remains. Everything was all over the place. They had even chewed through the coax so no 20 meters this morning. With that, I began to pack up but could only take what I could carry as they had destroyed the back pack. I was going to gather up what I could carry when I heard another noise. Thinking it was the raccoons I ignored it until I heard a branch break. This was no small animal and it was coming my way. Instead of being curious, I decided that the best, most intelli-

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gent thing to do was to leave immediately. After a few minutes, the forest became quiet again and I continued the 2 hour hike back to the truck. After 3 hours, I decided that maybe I was not going in the right direction. Since I was higher, I decided to attempt to hit a repeater. I turned on the rig and nothing happened. I then realized that I had left the radio on all night. Stupid, stupid, stupid. I was now lost, had a jammed rifle, no food, no shelter and a little water. I had several choices to make and I could only imagine the Search and Rescue team having a good laugh over a Ham with a dead radio in the middle of the woods. I decided to change directions and continue on. Luckily an hour later I found the road and 2 hours later I

found the truck, which had a flat tire. I'm tired and the trucks got a flat. I changed the tire and went home. So, if you are traveling in the mountains near Crystal and come upon a dipole, tent and sleeping bag, take it as I am not going back to find it!

I have decided that even though my ancestors were Mountain Men in Oregon, that I did not get one drop of blood from them. So, if you hear me on Field Day and I tell you that I am portable. I guarantee you that it will be portable from my front yard!

Have fun and maybe we will get to be with you all on Field Day next year but if you plan on roughing it.....count me

(This "tongue-in-cheek" application of math skills is for your amusement but does address a bad habit newer members of our fraternity - and a few older ones - sometimes fall into.)

## An Algebraic Analysis of 73's

Submitted by Sam Sullivan N7RHE

What does the term "73's" mean? Is this more than one 73? By algebra,  $73's = 73 \times 73 = 73^2$  Since  $73 = \text{Best Regards}$ , then  $73^2 = (\text{Best Regards})(\text{Best Regards}) = \text{Best}^2 + 2 \text{ Best Regards} + \text{Regards}^2$ . A similar analysis can be done on the term 88's.

## The Wagon Wheel and Food!



If you are planning to attend the Field Day activities this year, you have your choice of staying in the the Wagon Wheel or the Barracks. The Barracks are usually full by now but Rita says a few spots are still open. Once the Barracks have filled up, the Wagonwheel will be your only resort. The Wagon Wheel is a large grassy circular campground with a covered picnic area in the center. You can camp out in an RV, trailer, tent, van, back of your pickup, or under the stars (providing we can see them). There are fresh water and toilet facilities. There is plenty of room for everyone and the Club pays the cost. The location in the Wagon Wheel is assigned on a first-come basis. Reservations are not required but we would like to have you sign-up so we have an idea how many people will be using the facility. Please contact Jack Grimet at [n7hs@aol.com](mailto:n7hs@aol.com).

One of the more important aspects of Field Day is EATING! The first event will happen on Friday around 6PM. This will be a potluck. The Mike and Key Club will furnish Hamburgers and Hot Dogs. Sometimes, our chef will augment those offerings with something special like a Ham. The Mike and Key Club will also furnish the condiments for the above-mentioned items along with sodas, the finest silverware, china, and linens that are available today (i.e. plastic forks, paper plates and paper

napkins).

You, as Club Members and/or Field Day attendees, should furnish what ever you deem appropriate but suggestions include hot and cold dishes, desserts, chips, and fruits and vegetables. Occasionally, there is the appearance of chili that will certainly light your fire.

The second glorious event will be on Saturday at the same time (that is 6:00 PM for those of us who have a short memory). This event is more commonly known as a LOPL (Left Over Pot Luck). In other words, what-ever didn't get eaten on Friday will be generously offered again. Did I make it clear that Saturday's LOPL depends on how much LO there are for the PL?

While we are at it, if Wayne brings down the BIG UNIT to cook on, it needs food itself, usually in the form of apple, cherry, maple, or plain 'ol alder.) Please bring some if you can.

Beyond that, you're all on your own though there is rumors of a breakfast that gets served up in the mornings occasionally. Then again, if you're a real Ham, you subsist on nothing but Cheetos' and Oreo cookies after the radios get cooking on Saturday at 11AM.



# CW Beach – the Ultimate Field Day Experience

Submitted by Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

The following fairytale... err, docu-drama was written to enlighten newcomers about the Mike and Key Field Day experience. Every year, there are new members that wonder about how a Mike & Key Field Day works, how it's organized, and to what part can they play. Set in a fantasy format, this story follows a typical CW enthusiast (our **Hero!**) as he prepares to experience his annual trek to CW Beach. (Similar but less exciting stories occur on the SSB side as well.)

## Thursday before FD weekend:

Our Hero has packed his truck with all the necessary instruments for Field Day. He sleeps soundly in his bed in preparation of the upcoming effort.

## Friday – early AM:

Our Hero sets off for Flagler. It'll take a couple hours to drive around but that's better than waiting in Ferry lines and he gets to stop for a leisurely breakfast along the way. He has timed his arrival for about 10AM which gives him plenty of time to drive around the park and wakes up the non-CW enthusiasts who are still sleeping off a night of worthless debauchery. Our Hero can't start setting up before 11AM but he'll be on CW Beach as that fateful hour arrives.

## Friday – 11AM:

At 11AM, Field Day preparations begin in earnest on CW Beach. The truck is unpacked and other CW enthusiasts arrive as well. Even a few CW wanna-be's will come down to help out because nothing is happening on SSB Bluff. As the tents goes up, we sweep out the garbage from last year, retrieve the equipment we thought we had lost, and set up this year's menagerie of radio gear. Stale Oreo cookies and Cheetos found in the sweepings used to bless and sanctify the site. Next comes the antenna's which are different every year but always effective. On 20-10M, this will usually consist of small beams and on 80-40M, verticals are the norm. By 4PM, it is hoped the generator will have been fired up and the first contact made. Up on the bluff, somebody is actually moving around!

## Friday night PotLuck:

Time to get cleaned up and ready for the Friday Night Potluck up in the Wagon Wheel around 6PM. New-comers are warned to avoid anything with the word "chili" –

especially if created by Little John. (Remember, many of the radio sites use open flame heat sources and the Porta-John's have a limited capacity.) These foods are actually meant to be ingested only by experienced Field Day members who will use the resulting indigestion as a means of staying up all of Saturday night. Otherwise, the sky is the limit as to gastronomical de-lights. Even if most of the Club can't tell a dit from a dah, they do a good job of cooking and now is the time to carbo up. Once our Hero returns to CW Beach, it's junk food until he gets home Sunday.

## Friday – dusk

As the sun goes down, our Hero and other CW enthusiasts return to CW Beach to fire up the generator for an hour to test out the equipment and make a few contacts.

As darkness takes over and the stars come out, the generator is silenced in favor of the waves and the breeze. In the past, we've been known to fire up the burn pit, drink a couple beers, and sabotage our neighbors on the bluff. Most years, we leave the poor creatures alone and fall asleep to the sounds of nature.

## Saturday – AM

On CW Beach, it's time for last minute tweaks after watching the sun rise over the water and taking a lei-surely breakfast. About 10AM, the generator is fired up as the operator schedule is finalized and everyone makes their final checks. Butterflies grow in the belly as 11AM approaches. Last minute grabs are made for beverages and nutritional supplements. The Chairman finally decides we are running 6A, not 7A, and our Hero has to dive into the computers to reset the CW keyers but it only takes a moment and when 11AM rolls around, the sweet sound of CW combined with generator noise fills the air.

## Saturday 11AM – Sunday 11AM

For the next 24 hours, it's eat Cheeto's, sleep, and play with radio's. Hopefully, the sun will shine and there will be few problems to fix. Each station becomes it's own entity. On SSB bluff, they usually run a radio operator and a duper at the computer. At the main CW station, one guy usually runs "full bore" by himself but others are welcome to sit in and assist. If you are beginner at CW or contesting, we have a secondary CW station where beginners are taught the ropes and allowed to proceed at their own pace. Two stations equals 48 hours of CW operating opportunity and we love visitors and beginners. We might even offer you a melting Oreo. It's during this period that it may seem like very little is going on. Operators are concerned about their own stations and the setup hubbub is

*(Continued on page 14)*



*(Continued from page 13)*

over. It's really a good time to go around and visit all the stations. Down on the Beach we watch the ships go by and the sun go down as the contacts mount up. Come dark, there is nothing but the glowing tents. The short night can seem like an eternity while listening to static on 80M but soon the eastern sky begins to glow and that sun finally comes up. By then, Field Day is almost over. After a bit a breakfast, we can start tearing down the low band antennas while walking around like sleep-deprived

zombies. Finally, at 11AM, the generator goes silent, and peace returns to CW Beach. Field Day is over.

**Sunday – 11AM**

Pack it up! Clean it up! It's a race to the gate. If we are lucky, it's on the road by 1PM. Our Hero is tired but home beckons – just 2 hours away and a stop for something more substantial than a pretzel. Another Field Day has come and gone. It was fun – can't wait for next year.

**Len Westbo—W7MCU  
1931-2003**

**Mike & Key Member  
November 1984**



**M&K Reflector and E-Relay**

Are you a member of the Mike and Key ARC Reflector? If so, you would have been getting regular updates about Club Activities and Events. The Mike and Key Reflector has over 60 members (a third of the Club) and continues to act as a central communications channel. Subscribers receive reminders for Club events, announcements, and a few people have used it for general information on Ham Radio. If you wish to join and see what this is all about, point your browser to the Home page at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mkarc> There is no cost to join, except annoying Yahoo ads, and you can unsubscribe at any-time. Also, don't forget the Relay is also available in electronic format. It arrives as soon as published (PDF format) and in color! It saves the Club about \$12 a year too, in postage and printing costs. You can check out past copies on the Club Web page. Send me mail if you are interested in either the reflector or E-Relay.

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**

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	206-362-4807
<b>VICE-PRESIDENT</b>	Sam Sullivan	N7RHE	svsullivan@attbi.com	253-631-0663
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Paul McElroy	K7STQ	k7stq@arrl.net	425-430-0007
<b>TREASURER</b>	Jack Grimmett	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	425-271-7955
<b>ACTIVITY MGR</b>	John Long Jr.	KW7A	john@thelongs.us	425-837-0802
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<b>WEBMASTER</b>	Jim Eztwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512
<b>Badges/Logo</b>	Dan Humphrey	N7QHC	n7qhc@juno.com	206-243-0163
<b>Field Day Chair</b>	Steven Cook	KD7IQL	kd7iql@arrl.net	206-781-2293
<b>QSL Manager</b>	Jo Hallstrom	KB7UFM	nazj.hams@juno.com	206-242-8271
<b>August Picnic</b>	<b>Volunteer needed!</b>			