



President

Brendan Burget KD7IKV

Vice-President

Sam Sullivan N7RHE

Secretary

Paul McElroy K7STQ

Treasurer

Jack Grimmett N7IHS

Activity Manager

John Long Jr. KW7A

Radio Officer

Ken Rau K7YR

Trustees

- #1 Nils Hallstrom W7RUJ
- #2 Terry Dettmann WX7S
- #3 / **Chairman of Board**
Steven Cook KD7IQL
- #4 Dick Radford WA7NIW
- #5 Dave Smith KB7PSN

Web Page

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Reflector

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

Send dues to:

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Send Relay input to:

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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



Field day has come and gone. The summer is quickly slipping away. This would be a good time to look at some of the things that are going on both in the club and the general ham community.

First up is the Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Your Public Service Committee is putting together a station at Fire Mountain Boy Scout Camp. If you are interested please, contact any member of the Public Service Committee as soon as possible. The Scouts will need to do a security check on all volunteers before they are allowed in to the camp. This is a small precaution when you consider that they are responsible for the well being of so many youth. This is an excellent opportunity for us to cultivate an early interest in Ham radio for these kids. This is a big project so please step up to the plate and help us out.

Another concern is the possibility in

the near future that the Morse code requirement will be dropped by the FCC. This is VERY early in the process, and it may never happen, but I think we should look at how many licensed amateurs there are out there regardless of class that don't know how to operate on anything but a repeater - much less the HF bands. We as a club have an opportunity to do a great service to our hobby.

IF the code requirement is dropped, and that's a BIG IF, those of you seasoned veterans out there will need to be guides for the "unwashed masses" so to speak. We are not only responsible for policing our own hobby, but for teaching and sharing the knowledge we gain as we go to others. This means we may need lots of ELMERING in the near future. This sounds like a job for both our education and technical committees. You can offer your assistance by contacting either Mike Dinkelman for the technical committee or Dave Smith for the education committee. Both of them have been looking for help for some time now. Listen folks, this club is only ever going to be what YOU make it. So make me proud!

Programs & Activities



The Mike and Key Annual Picnic will be held following the regular Club meeting on August 16th. The picnic will be hosted by Mike Eakins K7OV at the Falcon Ridge Club

House on Renton East Hill, about two miles from the meeting.

From the Salvation Army meeting place, proceed South past McLendons Hardware through the first light, and left

when the roads comes to a "T", this is S. 3rd St. Go to Main Ave S. and turn Right (south) and go through the first light until you come to the new City Hall, which will be on your left, and turn right at the street before it. It will be Benson Ave and will go up the hill southbound.

At the top of the hill you will come to a light where a Union 76 Station will be, turn left here on S. Puget Dr. and continue on up the hill until you come to another "T". Turn left at the "T" (this is SE 116th Ave.)

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2003 WASHINGTON SALMON RUN CONTEST, September 20-21

Kirk Bellar N7UK, WWDXC Trustee

Dear Fellow Amateur

The 2003 Washington State Salmon Run (our version of a state QSO Party) will be held during the weekend of September 20-21, 2003. This is the legendary contest that offers smoked salmon prizes. WA hams will be making a special effort to activate all 39 counties. Complete details are available at <http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun/>

Last year, we had the biggest turn-out ever with 38 of the 39 counties on the air. More logs were received from more participants in more locations around the world than ever before! We have exciting new plaques and certificates, as well. Of course, we'll be giving out the smoked salmon -one of the most popular state QSO prizes around.

Here are the basic rules:

Washington State Salmon Run, sponsored by the Western Washington DX Club, from 1600Z Saturday September 20 thru 0700Z Sunday September 21 and 1600Z thru 2400Z Sunday September 21, 2003. Phone and CW modes (CW in subband/no cross mode QSOs). Work sta-

tions once per band/mode, portable/mobiles can be worked again in each county. Washington stations work everyone, non-Washington work only Washington stations. Operating classes: Single op, multi-single, Washington Clubs, mobile, and county DXpedition. Power classes: QRP, Low Power (<200w), and High Power. Exchange: RST and WA county/state/province/country. 2 points for phone QSOs, 4 points for CW QSOs. Count each multiplier only once (no need to work on both phone and cw). W7DX is worth a 500 point bonus on both phone and cw. Send logs by October 31, 2003 to salmonrun@wwdxc.org or Western Washington DX Club, P.O. Box 395, Mercer Island, WA 98040. Smoked salmon prizes, a plaque for the top single-op, low-power non-WA station, certificates, and other prizes as available. Complete rules at <http://www.wwdxc.org/salmonrun/>.

Smoked salmon awards are given to the top score in each US call area and DX entity (plus lots of other "Special" prizes e.g. "Top Score in Iowa" "Rookie of the Year" "Benton County Top Score" etc). If you would like to sponsor a smoked salmon award or other prize, send an email to salmonrun@wwdxc.org for details (the salmon only costs \$10 and is great advertising!).

If you have questions, please send them to salmonrun@wwdxc.org.

DX Convention 2003

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA

While many of you were watching the great antenna modeling program at the last Club meeting, I was attending the 2003 NW DX Convention held in Vancouver, BC. This convention, which rotates between Seattle, Portland, and Vancouver was hosted by the British Columbia DX Club and featured an exciting number of interesting speakers.

Foremost on the list was Marti Lane, OH2BH, of Dxpedition and Contest fame. Marti has a 90 minute program where he fielded questions and he was also the Banquet speaker. OH2BH has been involved in opening up a number of closed countries such as Albania and North Korea as well as working from many a rare country. (I have his book Where do we go Next if anybody would like to borrow it.) In last year's World Radio Team Championships from Finland, Marti was one of the prime organizers.

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, Propagation Guru and editor of NCJ was on hand to give some tips on Space weather and propagation forecasting. Dave, VE7VR and Ramon, XE1KK gave talks on personal type DXpeditions - also known as vacationing with a radio. Ramon is working

on DXCC, not just working 100 countries but working FROM 100 countries. I think he has nearly 86 "worked from" at this point. His talk dealt with trips specifically to Iceland and Greenland which were quite a change from his native Mexico City - in both temperature and population density. Ramon carries a small handheld transceiver and handheld satellite antenna. As you can imagine, Greenland is rare enough on HF, never mind Satellite.

Personally, the best program for me was by Don, VE6JY. Don is a retired Electrical Engineer with 55 acres outside Calgary, Alberta. Currently, he has 14 towers in the air, most over 100' in height. These hold up a wide range of homebrew monoband yagis including a full size 3 element 80M specimen which weighs over 1000 lbs. It used to be on a 160' tower but when bought a crane that had only 150' of reach, he shortened the tower by 10' to make his life easier. By the way, the crane was only \$50,000 (Canadian). I know people with cars that cost more than that. Me, I'd rather have the crane. The weather in Calgary is rather severe so I asked the question as to how well that 80M yagi did in the wind. The next slide was a picture of the yagi with the elements swept back 30 degrees as it danced in a 60MPH gale. It does rather well. I spent a good amount of time talking to Don later on about building a homebrew 2el 40M yagi myself. He had some

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great tips - maybe I'll get up the nerve this winter. If I only had a brain... I mean crane!

I did something I rarely do at any kind of meeting. Having some Canadian dollars in the pocket, I knew they wouldn't be doing me any good once I hit the border coming home - so I bought some raffle tickets. (Actually, Dale, VE7SV, talked me into it.) Gee whiz, I won two prizes, a

balun and a DX newsletter subscription. Then, during the banquet, I won a chrome Bencher paddle. The guy drawing the tickets actually had the nerve to ask if I liked CW! Anyway, I think I came away with more than I arrived with - not my usual luck.

Next year, the convention will be in the Seattle area. I can't wait. (At least I won't need my passport to get home.)

New Editor in the Wings

Michael Dinkelman, N7WA



Last month I announced that the time has come for me to step down as the newsletter editor. After asking me a lot of questions, Paul McElroy, K7STQ has graciously decided to take over. Paul, as you may know, actually has a background in journalism and as a writer. I am hoping he will use the opportunity to take this publication to the next level. He is currently working on templates for the September edition. The bad news? You will need a new Secretary.

I hope you will continue in support of his efforts as you have supported mine. We have some really good writers out there. For me, writing is not about having perfect grammar or spelling, knowing a noun from a verb, or a great style. Writing in a organization like this is about expressing ideas, teaching others, and, sometimes, telling a good story. Many of the members of this Club can do these things but are afraid to put there thoughts down on paper.

I say let Paul worry about the grammar, the spelling, and all that other stuff and... "go for it". Write for your newsletter.

General Meeting Minutes July 19, 2003

Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)
Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
Secretary – Paul McElroy (K7STQ)
Treasurer – Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS)

Trustees present:

No. 2 – Terry Dettmann (WX7S)

Visitors: Vera Doss; Joshua Hayworth (KD7USN); John Traylor (KD7VLE); Bob Winter (KD7TQQ).

President Burget called the meeting to order at 10:02 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 Richard Pasquier (N7MER) and seconded by Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB) to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): Preliminary results from Field Day show that the club set a record on 20 meters with 1,344 phone QSOs (300 were from the GOTA station). Dean Holtan (N7NKO), chairman of the 40-meter band, set a personal record of 819. Special thanks to Hideki Saito (KD7TCL) and Mike Jurasek (KD7LAX) for operating the VHF station for many hours. Thanks to everyone who attended, helped set up and tear down equipment.

Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV), a tech, approved as a new member.

Secretary – Paul McElroy (K7STQ): July edition of *The Logger's Bark* is available.

Treasurer – Jack Grimmatt (N7IHS): Issued P&L report.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Public Service – Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): The committee meets every month after the membership program at the Yankee Grill in the Holiday Inn at Rainier Avenue and Grady Way. All are invited to attend.

Strategic Planning – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q): No report.

Public Service Communications – Richard Pasquier (N7MER): Help is still needed for the

July 26 Seafair Torchlight Parade. Volunteers for Renton River Days on July 26 are also needed.

Picnic – Mike Eakins (K7OV): The Falcon Ridge Community House has been reserved for Saturday, Aug. 16. Cooking facilities and A/C power will be available. The talk-in frequency will be 146.52 simplex. A local repeater (444.85) will also be available. Famed Field Day grill-master Wayne Heath (KC7ORB) will be present with his cooker. Attendees should bring a potluck dish to share. The club will provide meat, buns, condiments and drinks.

Alligator Award: After holding the esteemed award for three months, Dean Holtan (N7NKO) returns it to Calvin Doss (KC7IYP), who timed out the repeater in a QSO with Dean. The Gator Award, which is bestowed when a Ham times out the repeater, began years ago as a green inflatable alligator. The timeout period is 90 seconds, but it can be much less if a Ham clips onto the end of another transmission. John Long (KW7A) is believed to have set the club record with just two words.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

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(Continued from page 3) *Minutes*

Good of the Order

President Burget: Guy Molinari (N7ZG) is organizing a DXpedition for the IOTA contest July 25-27. The Makah tribe has given its permission for operations on Waadah Island off Neah Bay.

Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Jamboree on the Air in October is a worthwhile activity for club members to volunteer to help Boy Scouts earn badges for making QSOs. See Barry or Brendan for more information.

The coffee and doughnut fund is self-supporting. Participants are asked to contribute.

There being no further business, Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB) moved and Richard Pasquier (N7MER) seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Burget closed the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ

Board Meeting Minutes July 30, 2003

Officers present:

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

Trustees present:

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

Visitors:

Dawn (KC7YYB) and Dan (N7QHC) Humphrey; Mike Dinkelman (N7WA).

Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. at the Salvation Army Building in Renton, Wash.

Minutes: Motion by Sam Sullivan (N7RHE) and seconded by Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) 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): Field Day tally is about 1,000 points down from 2002, but the club did very well given band conditions. The GOTA station generated 300 points. Several hams from Jefferson County ARC attended.

Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): New member application recommended to the general membership for a vote: Teresa M. Vaughn (KD7WCJ), a tech. Policies and procedures: He has begun to assemble a document to elaborate on the club's bylaws and address various issues and officer responsibilities. Sam volunteers to maintain this "living and breathing document." Input is welcome. The board agrees this document should clarify how club officers do their jobs, but not include minutia nor duplicate the bylaws.

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

Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS): Issued P&L report. Categories are within budget.

Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A): Step-PIR Antennas will provide a demonstration for the September meeting program. The \$5 raffle made a minor profit at the June meeting. Terry Dettmann (WX7S) suggests approaching manufacturers to request a dealer discount when buying raffle items, given that the club is a public service organization.

Technical Committee – Terry Dettman (WX7S): Nothing to report.

Committee Liaison Reports

Public Service – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV): New member orientation handout is nearing finalization. Special Events & Information Guide: Seed money is needed for long-distance phone cards for people who seek ads from out-of-town vendors. They plan to send a letter to potential advertisers in August. They will follow up with a fax, then a phone call this fall. Plans are to have ads in hand by December. Production procedures have been revised to ensure that no ads are left out and that information throughout the guide is as error-free as possible.

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

Old Business

Radio Officer: Interested candidates should submit a resume in writing to the board. They will be interviewed at a subsequent board meeting.

Web Site: The board agrees that access to the site needs to be expanded to ensure that the domain name and Web hosting contract are kept current and that access codes are not limited to one person. Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) will approach Jim Etzwiler (KD7BAT).

New Business

Field Day: Jack Burrell (N7ZS) towed the club trailer from Fort Flagler back to Seattle because no one else was available. Jack had to spend \$300 to modify the hitch on his RV to do so. A commercial tower would have cost considerably more. Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) motions and John Long (KW7A) seconds a motion to offer Jack \$150 as partial reimbursement. Motion passed.

K7LED Relay Editor: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA) has announced his intention to resign. The board agrees a good newsletter is important because it is the club's face to members and outsiders. A natural synergy exists between the *Relay* and Web site regarding content and updates. Paul McElroy (K7STQ) volunteers to take over as editor, contingent upon someone replacing him as secretary. The board will seek a volunteer to take over.

Good of the Order

Terry Dettmann (WX7S): The national VEC committee has petitioned the FCC to eliminate the Morse code requirement and give technician-plus mode and frequency access to hams with technician licenses. The club has many members who may gain new HF privileges. Depending on what action the FCC takes, the club could have a chance to do something positive for the membership and ham community in general. The board agrees this offers various opportunities for the education and technical committees.

There being no further business, Jack Grimmett (N7IHS) moved and Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Cook closed the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ

Amateur Radio Classes

Microhams, the Microsoft Amateur Radio Club, is planning to start offering Technician and General class courses on a regular basis starting in October 2003. We have given these classes intermittently in the past and have had very positive responses from the students and high success rates. The Microsoft campus has excellent facilities and our club would like to help promote the

growth of amateur radio in the area.

The next offering will be a General class course on October 3-5. Details and course study materials can be found on our web site at <http://www.microhams.com/softcontent.aspx?scld=25>. Check back on our web page <http://www.microhams.com> for more information on our offerings. If you have any questions feel free to contact Scott Honaker, at N7WLO@arrl.net.

ARRL Bulletin

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT August 8, 2003
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB053
ARLB053 Two ARRL Sections to Get New Section Managers in October

New ARRL Section Managers will take the reins in San Francisco and Eastern Washington, while several incumbent SMs will start new two-year terms this fall. All candidates ran without opposition in the current election cycle

and were declared elected. All terms of office begin October 1.

In San Francisco, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, will succeed current SM Len Gwinn, WA6KLK, who did not seek a third term. In Eastern Washington, Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, will take over from Kyle Pugh, KA7CSP, who decided not to seek another term after 11 years as SM.

Western Washington got a new SM July 1 when Ed Bruette, N7NVP, was appointed to succeed veteran SM Harry Lewis, W7JWJ, who stepped down with three months remaining on his term. Bruette was the only candidate to file to succeed Lewis.

Club Member gets new Tower up and Running reported by N7WA

Club member Chuck Jones, N7BV recently built a new home on 5 acres near Port Angeles joining other club members that have recently set up in the area. Getting down to the important stuff, a small self-supporting 48' tower just went up over the past couple months with the assistance of club member Chuck Stroehrer.

At the end of July, John McGee KI7OT and I also went up and helped him place his SteppIR on top so he should be active in the upcoming contest season. Plans call for more towers in the future but it's a start and a far cry from the restrictions of condominium life. Welcome back to 'radio-activity' Chuck!



Chuck's XYL Karen on her first trip up a tower!

Roster, Reflector and E-Relay

You'll find the semi-annual Roster attached to this month's Relay. Please refer any changes or corrections to the **TREASURER**. In this Club, the Treasurer handles the official club roster and sending that data to the newsletter editor just makes it harder for everyone. Every month, the editor throws out the old roster and gets a new one from the Treasurer. So, if you don't update the Treasurer, your updates just get tossed.

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 the most active ones) 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.



(Continued from page 1) Programs and Activities

for that day.

and go one block to the next stop sign and turn left again. You are now in our private drive to the subdivision. Continue on and through the gate and you will run right into the club house if you don't stop. You are free to park anywhere in the club house parking lot as it will be reserved for us. Talk in will be on 444.85 Plus 5MHZ with PL tone 103.5 and 146.52 Simplex. K7OV will be the talk-in host

The scheduled program for September will be a presentation by SteppIR - a local (Issaquah) antenna manufacturing company. If you haven't heard of them, their products are unique, verticals and yagis with computer adjustable elements. (We used one on CW Beach a couple years ago.) Come see a local product taking the Ham community by storm.

Ben was a former member of the Mike & Key ARC and is an excellent CW operator and contester - ed.

The Hiram Percy Maxim Award

Picture and article from ARRL Webpage



Eighteen-year-old Ben Schupack, NW7DX of Sammamish, Washington is the winner of the 2002 ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Award. The HPM Award recognizes an exceptional ham under age 21. An avid CW operator, Schupack won first place in the 2001 World Wide WPX Contest in the low-power category, copying CW at speeds near 45 wpm. He also has assisted his father

in studying for an Amateur Radio license and has gotten his sister and a friend interested in ham radio as well.

An Extra class licensee and ARRL member, Schupack is the Northwest Division manager for the League of Young Radio Amateurs (LYRA). He belongs to several Western Washington radio clubs. He enjoys QRP radio construction and recently designed an HF bicycle mobile station. Accomplished at euphonium, trombone and piano, Schupack was accepted into the United States National Honor Band and the Washington All-State Honor Band. He is also involved with running and community service work.

In May, Schupack became the first recipient of the William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship. He will attend Whitman College this fall and plans to major in chemistry on his way to a career in dentistry. As the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award winner, Schupack will receive a cash award of \$1500 and an engraved plaque.

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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August Picnic	Mike Eakins	K7OV		