



Our club's vitality depends on you

Brendan Burget / KD7IKV

President

I've been extremely troubled since the last general meeting. Volunteerism in the club seems to be declining. Without the support of its members, any club will simply fade away. The Mike & Key ARC has been around too long and is too well respected in the Ham community to let this happen. As president, I must do whatever I can to prevent this.

I have a very close friend who is director of volunteers at one of our most active state parks. This park has one of the largest groups of volunteers in the state. Naturally, since my friend is so successful, I discussed our problem with her.

She asked me how the club shows appreciation for its volunteers. I told her about the wonderful Awards Banquet we have each year. The banquet is nice, she said, but what do you do throughout the rest of the year? After standing there scratching my head for a while she made an interesting suggestion.

Why not find some small way to recognize those who've made an extra effort to help or who have just done something nice for the club? Well, I have to admit that I may be good at computers and other technical stuff, but sometimes I miss the forest for the trees. What a great idea!

Starting at the November meeting, I'll periodically recognize such efforts by giving out a new certificate, called the "Extra Mile Award," to those who go the extra mile in support of your club. I will be watching, reading and listening for those members who have volunteered their time and efforts in support of the club. These acts could be as simple as arriving



From the Hot Seat

early to help set up tables at a general meeting or as enormous as organizing an annual club event like the Flea Market or Field Day.

This is only one way to encourage participation in our club. If you have ideas or suggestions I'd love to

hear them. Drop me an e-mail or give me a call. My contact info is on page 2 of every *Relay*.

There's an old saying that "many hands make light work." It's true, so please consider stepping up for the club's open trustee or secretary position.

While secretary may not be the most glamorous or exciting position on the board, it is absolutely vital to the proper running of the club. Without a secretary, how can we know what we've done or what we're doing as a club? A secretary is entrusted with keeping a record of and providing to all the members an account of actions taken at board meetings.

So, whether you're new to the club or have been a member for a few years, volunteer to be secretary.

For new members, I guarantee you will learn a lot about your club. Don't wait to be nominated—just jump up and volunteer.

One last note: Sam Sullivan, our vice president, has agreed to run the meeting this month as I will be attending a family wedding in Kansas, land of the zero call signs.

Cheers and I'll see you at the November meeting.

The Inside Story

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The *K7LED Relay*, published monthly, is the official newsletter of the Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club. Mike & Key ARC is an ARRL-affiliated club dedicated to the growth and betterment of amateur radio.

The club meets at 10 A.M. the third Saturday of every month at Salvation Army Headquarters, 720 S. Tobin Street, in Renton (near the southeast corner of Renton Airport). Anyone interested in amateur radio is invited to participate in the Mike & Key ARC and its activities. Annual dues are \$12 for individuals and \$18 for families.



Postal Address

P.O. Box 4234
Renton, WA 98057-4234

K7LED Repeaters

146.82 output / 146.22 input (PL 103.5)
Squak Mountain

224.120 output / 222.520 input (PL 103.5)
Tiger Mountain

Web Site

www.mikeandkey.com

E-mail

info@mikeandkey.com

Re actor

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

Send dues to

Treasurer Jack Grimmett
10624 148th Avenue SE
Renton, WA 98059-4203

Send newsletter submissions to

Relay Editor Paul McElroy
6947 Coal Creek Pkwy SE — No. 1000
Newcastle, WA 98059-3136
k7stq@arrl.net

Club Contacts

President	Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	206-362-4807
Vice President	Sam Sullivan	N7RHE	svsullivan@comcast.net	253-631-0663
Secretary	Paul McElroy	K7STQ	k7stq@arrl.net	425-430-0007
Treasurer	Jack Grimmett	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	425-271-7955
Activity Manager	John Long Jr.	KW7A	john@thelongs.us	425-837-0802
Radio Officer	Terry Dettmann	WX7S	wx7s@cfsystems.org	425-821-5832
Trustees				
No. 1	Vacant			
No. 2	Terry Dettmann	WX7S	wx7s@cfsystems.org	425-821-5832
No. 3 (CoB)	Steve Cook	KD7IQL	kd7iql@arrl.net	206-781-2293
No. 4	Dick Radford	WA7NIW	wa7niw@arrl.net	425-828-9791
No. 5	Dave Smith	KB7PSN	kb7psn@yahoo.com	425-235-5095
Logo Committee	Dan & Dawn Humphrey	N7QHC / KC7YYB	n7qhc@juno.com	206-243-0163
QSL Manager	Nils Hallstrom	W7RUJ	nazj.hams@juno.com	206-242-8271
Webmaster	Jim Etwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512

Several club resources are available electronically:

Web: The club's site at www.mikeandkey.com includes extensive information about club events, VEC testing, membership, past editions of the *Relay* and more.

Mike & Key Online

Reflector: The public message board offers an easy and free way to converse with club members. To sign up, surf to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/mkarc>.

E-Relay: Want the newsletter in color and a day or two before the print edition arrives in the mail? You'll also help the Club save money in printing and postage costs.

To sign up, send a message to the editor: k7stq@arrl.net.

Fond farewell to a member of the club who's moving on

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

I learned at the last club meeting that we are about to lose another longtime friend and club member: Vic Zum Brunnen, WB7TBR.

Vic joined the club just before I did back in February of 1985. He was an active participant in club affairs and held positions on the board. I think we even had a board or special committee meeting at his house once or twice.

With retirement and the need to take care of his wife the past few years, Vic hasn't been able to make many meetings, but it's always been a pleasure to see his smiling face come through the door when he could.

I remember fondly, in an earlier incarnation as *Relay* editor, taking many issues of the club newsletter to his house, where he and Tiley would do the folding and labeling for me.

With the passing of Tiley, though, Vic has decided it would be nicer to move south to Arizo-



Courtesy of QRZ.com

na to be closer to his kids. Can't blame him for that.

I only hope he'll stay in touch and let us know how it's going once in a while.

Good luck, Vic!

Turn a new leaf with fall contests

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

As we enter the fall, the radio contest season begins anew.

The first major test of the season is the CQWW SSB contest, which runs the last weekend of October. This is a contest where you have an excellent chance of working just about any country with a native Ham population.

The exchange is pretty easy: a signal report and our CQ zone. (Use 59 as a signal report—the report is useless and anything else will brand you as a real neophyte.) Our CQ zone in the Pacific Northwest is 3.

U.S. stations can only earn points by working stations outside the continental 48 states. You can work stateside stations to earn zone multiplier credit (that means you only need to work three per band: Zones 3, 4 and 5). Multiplier credit is also earned for each new country worked on a band.

If contesting isn't your forte, CQWW is still an easy way to get some new countries under your belt—especially if you connect to a DX packet cluster and follow the spots.

A warning though ... contesting can get pretty addictive. The crowds on the rarer stations are pretty heavy at the start on Friday and Saturday. By Sunday, though, some of these stations are begging for contacts and you'd be surprised what a dipole and 100 watts can do. Complete rules are available on the Web.

The first weekend of November brings the CW edition of the most popular domestic contest: ARRL Sweepstakes. Sweeps is pretty unique for its long exchange. It's a contest for stations within the USA and Canada only. Multipliers are ARRL sections and Canadian provinces.

A unique phenomenon of Sweeps is the "Sunday doldrums." Since you can only work a station once in the contest, the

bigger guns frequently run out of "meat" early Sunday—especially when the football games are running on TV. Sunday evening, the rates start popping up again.

The long exchange allows for a newer trend (in the last six to seven years): two-radio contesting. When the doldrums kick in, it becomes practical to call CQ on one band while doing "search and pounce" on another. It helps relieve the boredom and may provide enough contacts to give an edge.

Sweeps is a great contest for filling out your needs for Worked All States (WAS). It's pretty easy to work every state in the union (every ARRL section takes a bit more effort). Show up during the doldrums and you can be "fresh meat" and immensely popular. You can find the full rules on the ARRL Web page.

As usual, if you have any questions about these contests or contesting in general, drop me a line.

WX7S taking over as radio officer

Terry Dettmann / WX7S

Radio Officer

Some of you may have heard that Ken Rau, K7YR, is retiring at the end of the year and moving to Lake Chelan. The board asked for volunteers to take over as radio officer, and after interviewing the candidates and reviewing their knowledge and skills, I was selected.

So who am I and where am I planning to go with the radio officer position?

Some of you know me as the guy who used to push his son around at meetings and events in a wheelchair. Others know me from Field Day or public service events or other activities in the local area.

I've been a Ham since I was first licensed in the early 1960s. I finally went all the way to become an Extra in the 1980s.

I've been involved in many different areas of amateur radio, but my focus has always been on QRP operation and antennas. I enjoy HF digital, packet and other digital modes, and just about anything technical that I can get the time to play with. I've built rigs and torn them apart.

Generally, I just have a lot of fun.

Most of my operating is in support of public or emergency services. I'm active in search and rescue (both ESAR and 4X4) as well as King County ARES. I'm an OES and TS and am the national mentor coordinator for the ARRL.

I teach all of the ARRL's online courses and even help in development and editing. I love to teach and share information. My life is about helping.

In my day job, I'm a "profes-

sional amateur" since I work for SGC Inc. in Bellevue selling HF gear to professionals and amateurs alike. I handle technical service calls from around the world on a daily basis.

As the new radio officer, my first job is learning everything I can from Ken and anyone else in the club who will help me understand the job. I'm serious about my commitment to do the job right and a lot of my time right now is spent getting the technical details about the gear I'm responsible for.

I've spoken to the other volunteers for the radio officer position and asked them if they'd be interested in working with me. We'll become a core group around which I hope to get others involved in some of the more interesting aspects of amateur radio.

I see the radio officer as the CTO or chief technical officer for the club, and I hope to work from there to get people directly involved in what we have to do.

I don't care if you're a Technician, General, Advanced or Extra. If you'd like to learn more about repeaters and how they work, then let me know. I'm looking for people who want to get their hands dirty and help shape the club's technical direction for years to come.

Are there other technical aspects of amateur radio you'd like to get involved with? Then let me know because I'll be needing people with every sort of technical interest from building to operating and everything in between. I want to know who you are and what you'd like to get involved in.

I'll also be sending more technical articles to the *Relay* and

doing more presentations at club meetings on technical topics of interest to the club.

What about those of you who aren't particularly interested in the technical side of amateur radio? What if you just want to get on the air and ragchew? Two ways I can help.

First is to provide the technical help you need to get over whatever hurdle you're facing.

If you have a technical problem to solve, call me or drop me an e-mail. I may not be able to solve it myself, but I'll be glad to help you find someone who can. I do this sort of thing every day and nothing pleases me more than helping someone get on the air.

Got an antenna problem? Transceiver not putting out? Mobile installation that just doesn't work? Can't get your RF ground to work on your boat? Can't get your computer to do PSK31? These and many more are problems I solve daily. I'm here to help.

The second way I can help everyone in the club is by learning what I can about what the club really wants from its technical resources.

What do you want the 682 repeater to be? What should we be able to do with it? What about the 220 repeater? Where should we go with nets and public service? On all of these questions and more, I'm asking for your input.

My job as radio officer is not just to accept responsibility for the gear we've got, but to see that it's used in the club's interest, a job I share with the board.

I'm looking forward to hearing from all of you over time and learning more



Explorer Search and Rescue

Explorer Search and Rescue operations often involve rescuing injured hikers. Behind-the-scenes communications are critical to their success.

In the field or at home, you can help save a life

Terry Dettmann / WX7S

Radio Officer

Are you involved in emergency services, but don't get enough practice? Always wanted to help save lives, but can't get out in the field? Then you should think about volunteering to help out with ESAR communications.

What is ESAR? Explorer Search and Rescue is the largest unit in King County Search and Rescue.

It was founded in 1954 and its members are trained in wilderness navigation, outdoor survival, evidence

searches, first aid and search procedures. Advanced training includes SAR management, technical rescue, helicopter operations and downed aircraft search procedures.

Many members are EMTs or SAR instructors. ESAR is especially proficient in operations and injured person evacuations.

Just because you're too old to be an Explorer doesn't mean that you're too old to join ESAR. There is always a need for adults in both ac-

Talk around the world on VHF by learning how to use AO-40

At the October general meeting, Activity Manager John Long will make a presentation on conducting QSOs via the deep-space satellite AO-40.

Programs & Activities

For Technician-class Hams who would like to earn their Worked All States or DXCC awards, John's program will explain how you can extend your propagation around the world through the wonders of satellite communication.

Coming up at a future meeting, Icom representatives will be on hand to demonstrate the company's D-STAR System. This new technology combines analog and digital communications on 1.2 and 10 GHz.

DX is alive and well, despite lower sunspots

Even with lower sunspots, there remains plenty of DX on the bands.

Spin the dial around HF over the next month and maybe you can dig up one of these expeditions:

Now - Oct: S79MX, Seychelles

Now - Jan: C91Z, Mozambique

Oct. 6-24: T2ØMW, Tuvalu

Oct. 10-18: ZM8CW, Kermadec

Oct. 11-21: ZL8, Kermadec

Oct. 11-23: VK9C - Cocos Keeling

Oct 19 - Nov 13: 9M6OO, E. Malaysia

Oct 19-28: XU, Cambodia

Oct 20-28: 5JØX, San Andres (HKØ)

Oct 20-28: PZ, Suriname

Oct 20-29: ZK1, South Cook

Oct 21 - Nov 2: C5, Gambia

Oct 23-27: KHØAA, Marianas

Oct 23 - Nov 3: EN75ØWKD, Sp. event

Oct 26 - Nov 9: VK9XG, Christmas

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Good hunting!

Save a life from your own home

Continued from Page 5

tive and supporting roles. Many adult members are active in the field while others help behind the scenes.

ESAR communications is one of those behind-the-scenes support groups that makes it possible for the people in the field to do their job.

ESAR Comm can use anyone who is a Ham. You don't have to even leave your house to help. All you need is to be able to hit the 511 repeater and have access to a telephone. While that's enough, it's even better if you have access to the Internet for online paging.

You'll need maps of the King County area that you can develop directions from and the time to support missions in progress.

What's it like? Interesting, busy at times, and *very* satisfying. On typical days, you go the whole day without anything happening at all. But some days can be busy. Let's look at a recent very busy Sunday where three missions happened during my regular duty schedule.

Mission No. 1 — 10 A.M. Sunday: I answered the page to ESAR Comm and learned that a hiker on Tiger Mountain had a broken ankle. I got to work right away ... first change over the voice mail to announce the mission, then a general page to ESAR members looking for people who could respond, then changing over the 511 repeater to put it on "mission-in-progress" status.

I started monitoring the mission on the 511 repeater as well as the King County SAR frequencies and updated the operations leader (O/L) as people checked

in on voice mail. Over a period of several hours, ESAR personnel reached and transported the injured person to where they could be taken out by 4X4 Search and Rescue. When the mission was released, my job was to return everything to normal.

Mission No. 2 — Noon Sunday: With the ESAR responders having just stood down from the Tiger Mountain mission, another request for SAR assistance came in to locate an overdue hiker on a trip into the Cascades. Voice mail, paging, monitoring ... all repeated in a familiar process while I checked my maps to provide directions where needed.



Nothing is more satisfying than saving lives. That's why many of us get involved in ESAR.

Only a short time into the mission, though, the hiker reached the trailhead, having been injured along the way and helped out by her husband. A turnaround mission like this is frustrating, but alleviated by finding everyone OK.

Mission No. 3 — 11 P.M. Sunday: A lost hiker on his way back from Mason Lake called in on his cell phone requesting assistance. ESAR responded and the O/Ls at the trailhead were able to help the person by phone without actually going onto the trail. Most of the responders were turned around, but everything wasn't wrapped up until 2 A.M. Monday.



Explorer Search and Rescue

King County ESAR volunteers typically carry out 30 to 40 missions every year.

Nothing is more satisfying than saving lives. That's why many of us get involved in emergency services and search and rescue. For some of us though, it's hard to get involved because of work schedules or because we're no longer as agile as we used to be. That doesn't matter; ESAR needs you. You can help!

If you're interested, call Jim Telgenhoff, KC7EVY, at 206-725-6249 and get involved! If you just want to learn more, check out the ESAR Web site at www.kcesar.org.

You can also attend an ESAR general meeting. The next one will be at 7 P.M. Tuesday, Nov. 4, in Bellevue City Hall: The Leavitt Building, 301 116th Avenue SE, Room 1 A/B. From Interstate 405, take Northeast Eighth Street east to 116th, turn right (south) and continue to Main Street. The Leavitt Building is one block south of Main.

Cutting through the noise on BPL

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

BPL. No, we are not talking about the “Brass Pounders League.” In fact, it may be ironic that the same acronym used to designate that venerable amateur radio institution may be assigned to a technology that could possibly destroy amateur radio as we know it.

However, before we get too excited, let’s back up a bit and examine the issues.

BPL—or “Broadband over Power Lines”—as it is officially known, is a technology that is being examined by local power companies as a new revenue source in an industry known for little upside potential. Using their existing network of power lines, utilities would be able to join the competitive and possibly lucrative arena of providing high-speed Internet and communications access.

However, there is one major difference. While the majority of communications providers operate through shielded media or on special radio frequencies, BPL would operate from 2 to 80 MHz on unshielded power lines. Any Ham worth his salt knows that an unshielded line is just another word for antenna and those frequencies cover every amateur HF band except 160 meters.

So what is involved with BPL technology? There are two types. One is “in-house” and the other is “access.”

In-house BPL would be the creation of a network within your home to connect different computers using your existing home wiring. Similar products already exist and these probably don’t pose much of an issue with

Hams as they already fall within existing Part 15 rules and emission limits. If you install one and don’t like the noise (if any), you could always shut it off.

Access BPL is what the ARRL and Hams are worried about. This signal would be carried by the medium-level power lines that run along the street and provide electricity to our homes. The issues here are interference “to” and “from” these lines. The FCC believes that underground power lines would be sufficiently shielded to prevent problems, but acknowledges that overhead lines are an issue. (Frankly, the case is not closed as far as underground lines are concerned.)



**There has been lots
of heated talk ...
What’s missing are
scientific and controlled
studies.**

To address these concerns, the FCC has conducted a Notice of Inquiry over the past several months asking for comments. Unfortunately, there appears to be a bias toward approving these kinds of systems without regard to the consequences. Several field trials being conducted by BPL technology suppliers have been carefully chosen to provide favorable results.

The ARRL has made test measurements at some of these sites and the results are published on the ARRL Web page, along with some rather disturbing video clips. Also, Ambient Corp. recently received permission

from the FCC to conduct trials nationally without applying for individual permits.

There has been a lot of heated and emotional talk about BPL and there is even an e-mail reflector devoted entirely to the issue. What’s missing, from both sides, are scientific and controlled studies of the technology. On one side, proponents claim this is the best thing since sliced bread. And on the other side, critics contend amateur radio is dead in its tracks if it ever gets implemented. Possibly, the truth is somewhere in the middle.

BPL is not a slam dunk even if the FCC rolls over and plays puppy dog to business interests. Broadband is a very competitive industry (nobody is getting rich yet) and the power companies would have to compete against cable, the phone companies, even the cellular networks once 3G technology rolls out. These are powerful allies in the battle against BPL.

More likely, power companies would partner with existing ISPs or use BPL to provide a more intelligent electrical grid.

This is something Hams need to watch. If there was ever a reason to have a national organization like the ARRL, this is it. Even then, our clout is limited.

By the way, this is not an American phenomenon. BPL systems are already being installed in other countries. No one knows what will happen, but intelligent vigilance is called for.

If you have more interest in BPL, I would suggest the ARRL Web page. Also, a search on Google for “Broadband over Power Lines” will provide you with tons of insomnia-curing reading material.

The bottom line on Hams in Mike & Key and around the state

Paul McElroy / K7STQ

Relay Editor

With all the debate over changes to the Morse Code requirement and the consequences for Hams, I thought it'd be interesting to take a look at the makeup of the amateur radio community.

According to FCC figures (compiled by the good folks at QRZ.com), 637,404 Hams held licenses in the USA as of early October. That's just two-tenths of 1 percent of the nation's population, by the way, which makes us a pretty special group.

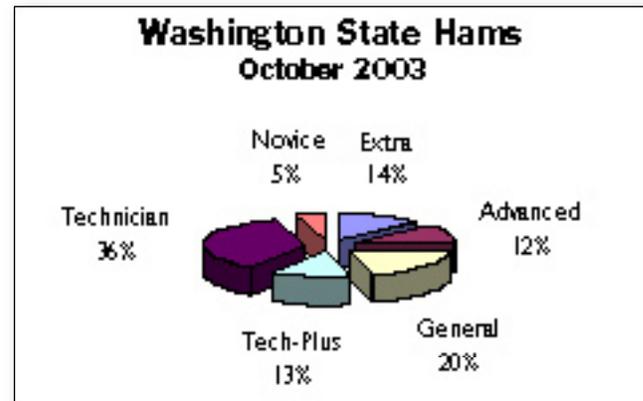
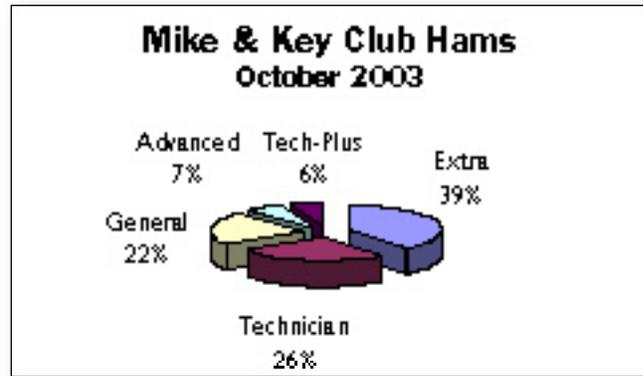
Washington state is home to 22,798 Hams. We rank No. 7 behind California, Texas, Florida, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

About half of us—Extra, Advanced and General class Hams—have access to HF bands right now. The accompanying pie chart shows precise percentages.

Another 18 percent—the Novices and Tech-Plus classes—can work CW and data on slivers of frequencies below 28 MHz. Of course, so can Technicians who have passed the CW test.

The bottom line is that fully half of all Hams could have much greater access to the bands, depending on what action the FCC takes regarding CW.

Since WRC-03 decided that individual nations



could determine their policy on CW, a dozen countries have taken action. Ireland, Luxembourg and Singapore are the most recent to summarily drop the code requirement.

Other nations that have or are expected to do so this year include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

No shortage of comment in the code debate

The FCC has received nearly 2,300 comments on proposals to change CW licensing rules. Your *Relay* editor asked club members to weigh in, and here's what two had to say. They stand on opposite sides of the keyer:

Chuck, N7BV: I believe, here in the United States, we have a trait to give in to those who yell the loudest and not consider the silent majority or traditions. CW has a place in Ham radio and should not be dropped by the wayside because it is difficult or

antiquated.

Let us not forget that this is, among other things, a hobby, and as such there are many aspects of it. Otherwise, why would there be bow and arrow clubs or flintlock rifle clubs?

Yes, for some it is difficult to learn, for others it is easy. Perhaps there needs to be a special class of license along with privileges to go with it (say, present CW portions of the bands can only be used by those who have passed this level of license) as an

incentive to learn and use CW.

There, I have said my piece, from someone who learned to like CW.

Mike, K7JML: I think dropping the code is an insult to those who worked hard to get it. I also think we will have a nice chicken band if it's dropped.

The code itself is not used internationally anymore, but I believe it's a matter of working for something you want.

In plain English, it pisses me off that it's even an option.



The word is getting out about 2004 Flea Market

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

It was a dark and stormy night and a delayed Flea Market meeting, but we finally got the ball rolling on Thursday, Oct 9. The original Oct. 7 meeting had to be canceled as one of the principals couldn't make it.

I did try to get the word out as much as possible; hope you didn't make a trip down for nothing (sorry, Kathy).

Initial business was a review of issues from last year—actually there were very few. Chairperson positions were reviewed and we look like we're in pretty good shape. The flyer design was also finalized.

Vendor letters will be going

out later this week to those who attended last year. We have already received ARRL sanctioning and the flyer address labels have been ordered.

I am looking for volunteers to label flyers sometime in November. The worker signup book should be available at the October club meeting and all meetings through February.

The next Flea Market Committee meeting will be the first Tuesday in November. We plan on taking December off.

Make your plans to be a worker at this event, which provides 95 percent of our working capital and allows us to have the cheapest dues around. Mark your calendar: March 5 and 6, 2004.



Public service is one of the hallmarks of Ham radio and local events are an easy way to get involved.

Public Service Events

All you really need is a handheld transceiver, spare battery and a willingness to donate a little time to a good cause. The typical parade talk-in and net control frequency is 146.58 simplex.

Saturday, Nov. 8
Auburn Veterans Day Parade
 Contact: Tom, WB7OUT
 206-784-9243
 bc994@scn.org

Sunday, Nov. 30
Seattle Marathon
 Seattle Center, Mercer Island, Seward Park
 Contact: Gene, W7AKA
 425-226-4115
 w7aka@arrrl.net

Sunday, Dec. 7
Special People's Cruise
 Seattle
 Contact: Dick, WA7NIW
 425-828-9791
 wa7niw@arrrl.net

Saturday, Dec. 20
Santa Talks / Seattle
 Contact: Tim, K7QMI
 206-368-3970
 tvschnee@eskimo.com

Board Meeting Minutes Sept. 24, 2003

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eral Way has requested a Net time to be held on our repeater. Group is willing to provide additional manpower and was formed as an inter-club coordinator for getting volunteers. Suggested time was Thursday, after the Public Service net. This should not be a problem. Motion by Brendan to "Recommend approval of requested net." Seconded by Steve and motion passed. Forwarded request on to Radio officer to help on arrangements.

Also, briefly noted other Nets on 682 Repeater. These include: Nightly Puget Sound Traffic Net; Sunday and Tuesday night ARES nets for King County; a potential for an FCC exercise Oct. 4.

Radio officer will talk to organizers.

Friendship Award - Awards Committee and the President have been approached to investigate possibilities for having some award in recognition for Jo Hallstrom as she was our ambassador of goodwill for the club, helped recruit members, and enjoyed having everyone as friends. After careful consideration, it was agreed the best way to recognize Jo was to promote DX. Jack moved to "rename club Friendship Award as the 'Jo Hallstrom Friendship Award.'" Dick seconded. Board approves and forwards request on to Awards committee to work on details.

Board Vacancies - The club will hold election for Secretary and Trustee No. 1 at the next General meeting.

Good of the Order

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Cook closed the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Attested: Dave Smith - Acting Secretary, KB7PSN

73 magazine shuts down

After completing 43 years of publication, *73 Amateur Radio Today* magazine is calling it quits. Plans to publish a joint October/November issue fell through last week.

— The ARRL

Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)
 Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
 Acting Sec'y. – Curtis Hanner (N7MWC)
 Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS)
 Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A)

Trustees present:

No. 1 – Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ)
 No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
 No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

Visitors: Eric Anderson (N9SX);
 Dave Archer (KA7RRA); Marco Miranda
 (WL7JS); John Parker (KD7KFT).

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: KD7IKV has a correction for the August Minutes: The August general meeting minutes noted that NSOAR wanted to have a net on our repeater. The correct acronym is NWSOAR.

Motion by K7OV and seconded by K7NKO to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as amended and printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): Voted in Teresa as a new member. Made an announcement about a seminar coming up on October 8th at the Convention Center.

Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS): Gave an update on the financial status of the club.

Radio Officer – Ken Rau (K7YR): The club continues to look for a replacement Radio Officer. If you are interested please attend the next Board meeting.

Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A): Many excellent raffle items on the regular red ticket raffle. 2-meter transceiver on the Ham Radio blue ticket (\$5) raffle. Blue ticket raffles do not go toward the Christmas raffle. Blue ticket raffles need to have a minimum number of tickets sold before it will be raffled off.

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If the minimum is not met the raffle will carry over to the next meeting.

SteppIR will be the presentation following the General Meeting today. They make a very unusual mono-multiple band three-element yagi.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Public Service – Barry Wolborsky (KC7YB): Public Service meeting will be coming up at noon following the General meeting at the Yankee Dinner. The committee is working on the Public Service Pamphlet and on a flier for new members.

Public Service Communications – Gary Bryan (KG7KU): Many public service events are coming up. See the list on your table.

Picnic – John Long (KW7A): Annual picnic was hosted by K7OV. A wonderful time was had by all attending.

Alligator Award: Calvin finds himself arguing with the alligator and wants to find a new home for the alligator. If you're interested, please see Calvin.

Flea Market: First Flea market meeting will be coming up Tuesday, Oct. 2nd at 7 p.m. Worker sign-up sheets for the Flea Market will be circulated at the next General meeting. March 5th and 6th are the days of the Flea Market; please schedule the days off work now.

Old Business

For the second month we will be taking nominations for the Secretary position and then we will hold elections. Nominations from the previous meeting Sandy Duckle (declines), Mike Dinkleman (declines). Curtis Hanner is nominated and declines. With no nominations, the issue will be tabled and discussed at the Board meeting.

New Business

Open the nominations for Trustee No. 1. Nominate Scott AG7T. Nominations will continue at the next General meeting and then we will have elections.

A beautiful memorial to Jo Halstrom was on the Everquest role-playing game. There is some interest in making the portions of the *Relay* available to others on the Internet. They will seek permission from the officers.

N7HKO: roadband technology is threatening Ham radio spectrum. Please read the article circulated here today and educate yourself on the issue. It is understood that this broadband technology will use the power lines and cause significant interference on 2 through 80 meters.

Several members are interested in Echolink. John Long will be meeting with them to help get up and running with Echolink. If all goes well, they will give a presentation to the club about their experience getting on the air with Echolink.

Good of the Order

Nils: Didn't get a chance to download the September *Relay* until last night. Upon reading it he took a two-page list of notes and he was going to give us a little sermon on Jo. He threw it in the trash can. The *Relay* said it all. Thank you Mike and thank you Brendan for your wonderful words in the *Relay*.

Jo and I met during the 1980 national convention here in Seattle at the Red Lion. When the lunch break came, Nils went across the street to the Travel Lodge restaurant. Then here came this angel to wait on him. They took one look at each other and thunder struck.

After the meal he said to his friends, "I'm going to marry that woman." His friend said, "You're as crazy as hell!" and Nils said, "You're invited to the wedding."

After six weeks of visiting the Travel Lodge, Jo finally agreed to go out with him. Before their first date Jo said: "Before we go out there is something you need to know. I'm epileptic." Nils responded, "Hell, you think you've got problems — I'm a Sweed." It has been 22 years, the happiest years of his life.

There being no further business, K7OV moved and K7SIT seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Burget closed the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Attested: Curtis Hanner – Acting Secretary, N7MWC



Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)
 Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
 Treasurer – Jack Grimmer (N7IHS)
 Radio Officer – Ken Rau (K7YR)

Trustees present:

No. 1 – Vacant
 No. 2 – Terry Dettman (WX7S)
 No. 3 – Steve Cook / CoB (KD7IQL)
 No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
 No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

Visitors: Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ), Dan Humphrey (N7QHC), Dawn Humphrey (KC7YYB), Scott Robinson (AG7T).

Chairman Cook called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m. at the Salvation Army Building in Renton, Wash.

Minutes: Motion by Sam and seconded by Brendan 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): We currently have no secretary. All open nominations made before the September General Membership meeting were declined. In the interim, the board members will be actively filling in (or recruiting) as needed until a replacement is found.

We also have a vacant trustee position on the board. Board is reminded to actively solicit volunteers amongst the club.

(Additional info in Activity Manager section below)

Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE): Hot Press is no longer doing patches. Information on other suppliers are being collected.

Three membership applications submitted to the board for approval: David Archer (KA7RRA), Marcos Miranda (WL7JS) and John Parker (KD7KFT). After briefly presenting application details, all three were approved by Board. Applications will be presented at October meeting for approval by General Membership.

There have been a growing number of people who have had their application approved by Board. Since they haven't been around to a subsequent General Membership, their membership is delayed. Many of these applications have been in the Sam's possession for a while.

A redesign of the membership application is in the works. A future meeting

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will present changes.

Secretary – Tonight's minutes being taken by Trustee No. 5

Treasurer – Jack Grimmer (N7IHS): An informal summary of August shows minimal income and expenses. Active membership roster contains 195 members. Flea Market activity will soon pick up.

Jack handed out a worksheet to help identify current 2003 budget and year-to-date 2003 expenditures. Worksheet included a column to enter expectations for 2004 budget. Each Board member is to review current expenditures, review upcoming expenses, and provide any comments, additions, and/or deletions. Suggests all input be e-mailed to him.

Important dates to note in cycle: At the November Board meeting, a budget will be approved; at the December General meeting, this budget will be approved by the membership.

Activity Manager – At our last General meeting, a fantastic 1½-hour program was given by the SteppIR Company in Issaquah. It was very educational.

Also, a small collection of members got together after the meeting to discuss EchoLink.

Technical Committee – Terry Dettman (WX7S): No report

Radio Officer – Ken Rau (K7YR): The 682 Repeater battery has been swapped out on the old machine up on Squak Mountain. This should help prevent the repeater from going on to carrier squelch every Wednesday at 4 a.m.

Flea Market – The next meeting will be Oct 9.

Committee Liaison Reports

Facilities – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Payment is soon due to the Salvation Army. A case for projector is being tracked down.

Strategic Planning – Nothing new to report. A survey is being finalized. It is to be sent out to contact people who have dropped out of club to identify why.

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

Public Service – Dick Radford (WA7NIW): Nothing to report. No meeting due to lack of attendance.

Education – Dave Smith (KB7PSN): After the last membership meeting, a brief Education meeting was held to discuss the purpose of the committee. Also, discussed potentials for a short-term planning session for the committee.

Field Day – Steve Cook (KD7IQL): Steve volunteers to run Field Day 2004.

QSL Manager – Nils Hallstrom (W7RUJ): In September, we received two K7LED QSL cards. A presentation in the Relay is in the works to help increase participation. During Field Day, a 40-meter contact from El Salvador — courtesy of Dean (N7NKO). Reminder: All requests for using K7LED call sign on the air should be approved by the radio officer.

Old Business

Jamboree on the Air – Mike (K7OV) is coordinating with group. It is noted that this will be held the same weekend as the next General meeting.

Web Site – Dave reports he has spoken with Jim Etwiler and can now get into the Mike & Key Web site, operating as his backup. Dave is looking into alternate hosting companies to see if there are any benefits to moving the Web site.

New Business

Radio Officer – Three people have submitted application for Radio Officer (Bing Clisbee / KG7SF, Alan Hughes / KB7SVU and Terry Dettmann / WX7S) along with final discussions. Terry excused himself from the room. Remaining Board members briefly reviewed all information submitted by the three candidates. Secret ballots were then handed out. Votes were collected and tallied by Dawn and Steve.

Terry was chosen as the new Radio Officer. Terry was called back and congratulated. Jack moved that "transition of Radio Officer position be handled between Terry and Ken." Also that "Ken resigns after a successful transition of duties." Motion seconded by ### and approved. Terry agreed to serve as Trustee No. 4 until his term expires in March 2004.

Request for New Net on 682 Repeater – Northwest Society of Amateur Radio Operators (NWSAR) out of Fed-

Continued on Page 9





Ham Events for October & November 2003

All nets are on 146.82 unless indicated otherwise
Send calendar items to the Relay editor: k7stq@arrl.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 8 P.M. King Co. ARES Regional net	13 6:30 P.M. ARES HF net for Washington: 3.985	14 8 P.M. Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92	15 8:30 P.M. WARFA swapnet: 3.908 (every Wed.)	16 7 P.M. Public Service net	17 8 P.M. Youth net: 145.33	18 10 A.M. Club meeting Noon Public Service mtg. JOTA (Sat. and Sun.)
19 8 P.M. King Co. ARES Regional net Asia-Pacific CW Sprint contest	29 6:30 P.M. ARES HF net for Washington: 3.985	21 8 P.M. Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92	22	23 7 P.M. Public Service net	24 8 P.M. Youth net: 145.33	25 CQ Worldwide SSB DX contest (Sat. and Sun.)
26 8 P.M. King Co. ARES Regional net	27 6:30 P.M. ARES HF net for Washington: 3.985	28 8 P.M. Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92	29 7:15 P.M. Board meeting	30 7 P.M. Public Service net	31 8 P.M. Youth net: 145.33	1 ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW) (Sat. and Sun.)
2 8 P.M. King Co. ARES Regional net	3 6:30 P.M. ARES HF net for Washington: 3.985	4 7 P.M. Flea Market mtg. 8 P.M. Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92	5	6 7 P.M. Public Service net	7 8 P.M. Youth net: 145.33 Relay deadline	8 Veterans Day Parade in Auburn
9 8 P.M. King Co. ARES Regional net	10 6:30 P.M. ARES HF net for Washington: 3.985	11 8 P.M. Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92	12	13 7 P.M. Public Service net	14 8 P.M. Youth net: 145.33	15 10 A.M. Club meeting Noon Public Service mtg.