



A rambling appraisal of the Flea Market

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

The 23rd annual Mike & Key Flea Market is history and, I feel, it went pretty well.

Final attendance figures align closely to last year's. We had a slight but statistically insignificant increase in paid gate attendance to 1,841. However, we gave away fewer Junior tickets—about 120 versus 200 from last year.

Because of fewer table sales, the seller and helper figures were smaller—489. When you add it all together, along with about 100 workers, we ended up with a total attendance of 2,430. (Last year, we were just above 2,500.)

Table sales were slow this year right from the start and selling out the first floor took several weeks longer than usual. Then, we failed to sell out for the first time in several years. In fact, we didn't even come close, having 20 tables left unsold.

Was it was the economy? Are we seeing the predicted decline

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All photos by Paul K7STQ unless credited otherwise

The 2004 Mike & Key ARC Flea Market drew a total attendance of 2,430, including 489 sellers and helpers. The “distance award” went to Atsushi Sasaki (left), W7KN/JRINKN, who drove a mere 5,821 miles from Tokyo to help out at the Registration area.

Below: Buyers swarmed the Country Store, where Eva Dalrymple (Dawn Hanner's mother) stood at the ready.

More photos and coverage on Pages 5-7.



The Inside Story

Our Triple Crown continues: elections and the Awards Banquet.

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Thirty-two years' worth of past club presidents and award winners.

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We're all losing our marbles—one at a time in the trek through life.

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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

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K7LED Repeaters

146.82 output / 146.22 input (PL 103.5)
Squak Mountain

224.120 output / 222.520 input (PL 103.5)
Tiger Mountain

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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 by regular 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.

Dues reminders going out to e-Relay subscribers

Sam Sullivan / N7RHE

Vice President

The *K7LED Relay* that you receive by mail notifies you of your dues renewal date on the address label. But if you receive your *Relay* by e-mail, your renewal date is not transmitted to you like the paper version does.

For those who receive the electronic *Relay*, I will begin notifying you by e-mail of your dues renewal date. I will also try to remind those who receive the mailed version if they haven't renewed their dues within the 60-day grace period.

Please give your payment to the treasurer at the next

club meeting. Or you may mail it to Jack Grimmett, 10624 148th Ave. SE, Renton, WA 98059-4203.

As a reminder, the bylaws require you to reapply for membership if your dues are more than 60 days past due. For example, if your renewal month is July, they would be past due at the end of September.

In addition to the requirement to reapply, tenure for longevity for life membership and milestone certificates would restart with the date of rejoining.

We are being very lenient on the grace period so that reapplication and longevity problems don't arise.

Club's Triple Crown continues with elections, Awards Banquet

Field Day notwithstanding, March is our club's busiest month.

The Flea Market is over, but elections will be held March 20—the next general meeting. Nominations are still open for president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, activity manager, and trustees no. 2 and no. 4.

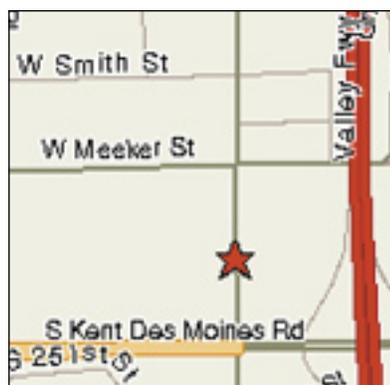
Please step forward and help our club stay vibrant.

Awards Banquet

The deadline for reservations is the next meeting. The banquet will be held Saturday, March 27, starting at 5:30 P.M. Tickets cost \$15.

HD Hotspurs is located at

Programs & Activities



315 Washington Ave. S (also known as the West Valley Highway) in Kent, just west of Highway 167 and north of Highway 516.

Club audit report for fiscal year 2003

Date: Feb. 21, 2004
From: Audit Committee
To: Mike & Key ARC
Subject: FY 2003 Audit

On Feb. 21, 2004, the listed members conducted an audit of the club's financial records for the purpose of preparing this report.

Revenue

Revenue was traced from receipt records, club meetings, Flea Market, etc., through recording and deposit. In addition, a review was made of the monthly bank reconciliations and the timing of deposits.

No discrepancies were noted.

Expenditures

In reviewing expenditures and associated disbursements, we took a monthly sampling of invoices and requests for reimbursements. In each case, the items were confirmed for authorization.

No discrepancies were noted.

Comments

It is the opinion of the undersigned that the financial records of the Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club represent a fair and accurate record of cash receipts, disbursements, and deposits for the fiscal year 2003.

Signed by members of the Audit Committee:

Sam Sullivan, N7RHE, chairman
Kathy Martin, KB7QMO
Michael Ross, KB7YXB
Dick Radford, WA7NIW, trustee
Scott Robinson, AG7T, trustee

It's all in a name: A look at our past

Past Recipients of the "Pop Brown" Award

1971	Ken Jackson	K7PZX
	Pete Policani	K7PP
1972	Steve Tillett.....	K7KOT
	Bill Baker	K7LHY
1973	Al Free	WA7LWP
	Pete Hedberg.....	K7WTG
1974	Chuck Stroehner	WA7RJT
1975	Ken Rau	K7YR
1976	Cathy Freinwald	WA7WMD
1977	Jan Hedberg	WA7HWX
1978	Chuck Stroehner	WA7EBH
1979	Jim Strang.....	W7GPW
1980	Ray E. Leslie	WA7EKH
	Clay Freinwald.....	K7CR
1981	Al Jensen.....	WA7TIB
1982	Hal Goodell.....	N7NW
1983	Mike Cross.....	WB7AYU
1984	Deborah de Jong.....	N7AVO
1985	Jim Christiansen	K7ND
1986	Jimmy Sutton	WM7A
1987	Michael Dinkelman	WA7UVJ
1988	Rick Beatty	NU7Z
	Vic ZumBrunnen	WA7TBR
1989	Joyce Stroehner	N7JPW
1990	Jack Burrell.....	KB7ZS
1991	Wayne Moddison.....	K6DOW
1992	Frank Krieger.....	KA7QHJ
1993	Diane Dinkelman	KB7DNE
1994	E. Ralph Schumacher	WX7T
1995	Nils Hallstrom.....	WB7TJK
1996	Carl Butler.....	W7PRW
1997	Michael Hansen	KG7MX
1998	Chuck Benefiel	N7STR
1999	Mary Lewis	W7QGP
	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ
2000	Carolyn Pasquier	WV7Q

2001	Wayne Heath	KC7ORB
2002	Sam Sullivan	N7RHE

Past Recipients of the "Ken Jackson" Award

1998	Ken Jackson	K7PZX
1999	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ
2000	Chuck Stroehner	WA7EBH
2001	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA
2002	Frank Henshaw	K7VMG

Past Presidents

1971	John Miller	K7TTQ
1972-73	Pete Hedberg.....	K7WTG
1974	Ken Rau	K7YR
1975	Pete Policani	K7PP
1976	Clay Freinwald.....	K7CR
1977	Dave Grant	WA7TOM
1978	Gib Gibson	W7JIE
1979	Steve Tillett.....	K7KOT
1980	Al Jensen.....	WA7TIB
1981	Hal Goodell.....	N7NW
1982	Harry Lewis	W7JWJ
1983	Deborah de Jong.....	N7AVO
1984-85	Chuck Stroehner	WA7EBH
1986	Jimmy Sutton	WM7A
1987-88	Rick Beatty	NU7Z
1989	Jack Burrell.....	KB7ZS
1990-91	Michael Dinkelman	WA7UVJ
1992-93	Chuck Stroehner	WA7EBH
1994	Nils Hallstrom.....	WB7TJK
1995-96	Carolyn Pasquier	WV7Q
1997-98	Chuck Benefiel	N7STR
1999-00	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU
2001-02	Jack Grimmett.....	N7IHS
2003	Brendan Burgett.....	KD7IKV

Help whip antennas into shape for Field Day

Steve Cook / KD7IQL

Field Day Chairman

As we get close to Field Day this year, we will have a couple of work parties to repair the 20-meter beam and do maintenance on the crank-up tower and generator.

The first work party will be April 3rd at Alan Hughes' house (KB7SVU). He can be reached at (253) 840-4947 for directions.

This first party will replace the cable on the crank-up tower and grind down some bolts. For the generator, we'll change the oil and water, and take care of

some other maintenance.

The date has not been set for the second work party to repair the 20-meter beam; I will inform all when we do.

A team of people is also looking for help to build a new 15-meter beam. If you're interested, contact Scott AG7T.

Badges of honor to our Hamfest

Well, folks, it is all done and over for another year. Oh, yes, for those of you who might have been vacationing off somewhere other than in Puyallup on the 5th and 6th of March, we did our grand electronics and Ham gear swap meet.

Each year, the Dinkleman and the Goodells and the rest of the Flea Market Committee meet once in September and then monthly prior to the event, usually skipping the holiday months of November and December, to make sure all bases are covered and all of the behind-the-scenes things are taken care of so the event will run smoothly.

If you are interested, look for the meeting announcement and join in to find out how much we have to pay for our spot, insurance and all of the other “extras” that go with the performance of something other clubs emulate.

March 5th was setup day with many volunteers handling everything from hanging phone lines to organizing the Country Store and announcing booth.

Wayne (our camp cook) the Captain, and Wayne’s daughter had their motor home set up outside the Pavilion to serve coffee and snacks both days for the workers. They had to battle a pretty stiff wind Friday and hustle to protect things from blowing away.

Where would we be without them? When the work needs doing, we can’t just drop everything and take off to the nearest café to assuage those hunger pangs. Thanks to Wayne and company, we’ll not fade away from lack of good things to nibble on!

Oh, yes, we must not forget the Friday pizza pork-out also. This year Atsushi contributed

Sights & Sounds by Sunrise

to the goodies by bringing along three types of snack foods. Two of them were made from peanuts that he explained were raised in his hometown in Japan.

Atsushi flew in from Japan just to help out with the Flea Market. Now that’s what I call a dedicated member. He also said that, if he “could afford it,” he’d try to make Field Day also. Wow! Whatta guy!

Addendum

It was really grand this year, if judging by how busy we were up in the TopHat Novelties and Engraving booth. This is by far the biggest and best of all the shows where we set up.

This is the one that our business cut its teeth on, yearly since 1995. Those first tentative years making name and call-sign badges for people were a wonderful learning experience.

We’ve expanded from one engraving machine to two for this show only. That’s not bragging. It was from necessity due to the wide range of engraving tasks we have taken on. Two machines cut down on changing setup time.

The smaller machine was set up to do just one size and type of badge. We ran a special on that size, so as to ensure that it would it keep busy. It was!

Since we still do our engraving the old way with a pantograph engraver, we aren’t able to produce badges as quickly as computer engravers. This is why we tell people who are standing and watching the process, “We furnish ‘entertainment value,’ though it takes a bit longer.” Most of the customers are con-

tent to see how it’s done—from picking and placing the characters to the adjustment of the router bit for depth and dimension on the item to be engraved.

We used to also do ball caps and “Aussie” hats until we sold our hot press machine a couple of years ago after Dawn had cataract surgery, which cut down on her ability to do acceptable close-up work under the pressure of waiting customers.

We recruited our daughter, Ruth, to come in for this show only, just because of the sheer volume of people needing either new or replacement badges. She’s been with us for five years, first helping with the hats and then on the machine.

This year we made license frames with call signs. We also did desk plates.

We have our ad in the *Mike & Key Special Events Guide* to help fund that project and perhaps generate some interest in our product(s) from people who pick up the booklet at the different Hamfests where we set up.

We’ve made a lot of great friends over the years. We’ve also been privileged to have been made the official club badge providers for our club and others.

Now that Dan has retired, a whole new world of adventure and service is on the horizon. We can spend more time doing our engraving and going to Hamfests without feeling rushed to get home in time to go back to the five-day-a-week routine.

Thanks to all of our fellow Hams and friends who we’ve made along the way. Here’s hoping that the next 10 years or so will go as well as the last 10.

73, KC7YYB Dawn

Hearty thanks to the front-line crew

Diane Dinkelman / KB7DNE

Relay Correspondent

Well, the Flea Market is over for another year. My feelings are mixed as I do enjoy doing it, but I'm happy for the break when it's over.

I would like to thank my crew for the great job they did, as usual. Two extra volunteers—Teresa Vaughn, KD7WCJ, and Tressie Hughes, KC7BAL—offered to help out this year.

They were needed very much. At the last minute, two of my volunteers were unable to make it.

Teresa normally works for Tickets, so when she found out that she could get Friday off she just showed up looking for something to do. I was looking for someone to attach the table numbers to the tables and she said she could do it—no problem.

She grabbed Tressie and, presto, it was done.

She also helped out at Registration when we got swamped. I asked Tressie if she could help out at the Gold Gate. She said she would be glad to and she did a great job both days.

Jim Etwiler, KD7BAT, found out that he would be in town during the event and immediately volunteered to help at Registration. Jim helped last year. He was glad to do it again and we were happy to have him again. I will be looking for help from these people next year.

Of course, there are my regulars who come back (I don't know why) year after year and they mean a lot to me. I really depend on their support.

Dorothy Lowell, KB7WSO, my second in command at Registration, has been with me for three



Among the attendees was a friend of a local Ham who flew in from New Jersey.



Michael N7WA

Mark Hagestad, K7RZ, takes a momentary break from selling.

to four years and is well versed on how things go and should go.

Wayne Moddison, K6DOW, who has worked with me for 11 years, is at the Gold Gate. He also helps set up for the Registration area. Wayne needs no direction, as he knows more about this event than he cares to admit.

Jim Telgenhoff, KC7EVY, and Paul McElroy, K7STQ, are in their second year and they worked at the Orange Gate. They

do a fine job directing traffic out there. They also help Wayne with setup for the Registration area.

This is also the second year for Tom Ramus, W7OUT. He covered breaks for the Orange Gate crew this year. Mike LaFerla, K7JML, has directed vehicles into the loading dock for two years and is doing really well.

Then there is my husband, Michael N7WA, who handles any problems that come up, untangles any confusion, runs badges back and forth, and brings coffee for the crew if needed.

This year I had an added surprise when I had a volunteer all the way from Japan: Atsushi Sasaki, W7KN / JR1NKN. This tells you how much fun Registration can be!

We get cold, blown, rained on and sometimes the sun shines on us. Still, everyone works hard and does a fine job of getting our vendors in and out. Everyone is cheerful and upbeat, knowing that we are the first to meet our vendors.

SWAP

Mike & Key Flea Market 2004



Michael N7WA



ARRL Division Director Greg Milnes, W7OZ, was on hand. **Left:** Mike, Pam and Sue on Announcing.



Wendy Spears sold estate items while Frank KA7QHG helped administer exams. In between, time for a snack.



Dan, Dawn and Ruth Humphrey turned out badges galore. Sellers, buyers and the Pallet Crew hauled gear to and fro.



Chairs are open to help direct next year's fest

Michael Dinkelman / N7WA

Senior Contributing Editor

At this point, I know of one and probably two chairs on the Organizing Committee that will need new members for the 2005 event.

Ronnie LaFerla, KC7UFS, who has organized the ticket sellers for the past three years, will be moving out of the area. While she says she can come back to sell at the 2005 event, there is no way she can organize the ticket sellers.

This job involves finding and scheduling people to sell and take tickets as well as stamp hands. If you have worked in the ticket booths before, please consider chairing this part of the committee.

Fred Lowell, N7PZ, hasn't told me that he won't be back next year as Pallet Crew chairman, but I have a sneaking suspicion the luring song of retirement travel will be calling him away, as well. Even if Fred decides to stay on, I think we need to prepare for the eventuality.

If you have an interest in the Pallet Crew, have worked the area and understand it, please consider volunteering to chair it (or help Fred if he decides to stay on).

None of these chairs works in a vacuum. You'll receive plenty of advice and support from the other chairs.

It does require attending two to three meetings in the October to February time frame and an involved presence at the event itself.

Appraisal

Continued from Page 1

of Ham Radio? It was a major contest weekend (ARRL DX SSB), so that could have played a factor. Then again, it could be just plain luck. We'll have to wait and see what 2005 brings.

Following the phone wiring and electrical cord drop, setup went without any problems and all the tables and chairs were in place by 11 A.M.

It was difficult to get the pizza for lunch, though. Seems the Pizza Hut in downtown Puyallup won't deliver without an address. It's the Western Washington Fairgrounds, for Pete's sake—that big fortress in the middle of town. How can you miss it?

After talking to the receptionist in the Fairgrounds Administration Office, it sounds like that Pizza Hut frequently has problems delivering when they order, too. Can anybody recommend another pizza place that delivers in Puyallup?

The 2004 event will be known as the year of the WIND. Boy, did it blow on Friday ... and from every direction. When the cyclone fence blew down, I told our guys to just leave it down but someone eventually put it back up. Well, it blew down again.

Watching the yellow caution tape was fun. It blew left, it blew right, and, according to Wayne K6DOW, it blew straight. When we unlocked the front gate to hang the banner, we were barely able to get it open, since it acted as a great sail.

Then there were our workers out at the gates and at Registration who had to stand in that wind for hours. Hats off to those ladies and gents for doing a job most of us shy away from.

This year, we replaced the "Gator" we used for on-site transportation last year with a golf cart. I think everyone involved with driving agreed the golf cart worked out much better (and was a hoot to drive!). Thanks to Jim KC7EVY for doing the initial legwork on that idea.

Another good idea from Jim was the use of Family Service radios. Maybe it was blasphemy to use them at a Ham Radio event but, unlike 2 meters, there was no interference from Flea Market patrons and their range was better than that exhibited by smaller handhelds.

So, who came the farthest to attend the 23rd Mike & Key Flea Market? Somebody from Montana? California? How about New Jersey?

Nope, it was our own Atsushi Sasaki, W7KN/JR1NKN, who flew in from Japan on Thursday, worked with us on Friday and Saturday, then flew home on Sunday. Now that's a dedicated club member! He also brought along some Japanese goodies for lunch, which I hope some of you got to try.

An interesting addition at the Country Store this year was the presence of the Hallstrom Ham estate. Jo's daughter, Lyn, and Nils' daughter, Wendy, neither of whom are Hams, came down and sold some mighty "strange stuff." I appreciate the help provided by the Country Store crew in this endeavor, but more importantly, I think Jo and Nils would have appreciated it.

We saw the presence of a new vendor this year in the form of the Elecraft company. They manufacture advanced kits for radios that are fully featured despite being kits.

While mostly geared toward QRP (did you see that small backpack radio?), they do have

radios in the 100-watt range, as well. Elecraft also did one of the scheduled programs, which was packed to standing room only. While interest seemed high in their equipment, only time will tell if they come back to Puyallup.

Teardown went very well as many people stayed around to help stack tables and clean up. There was one slight issue on the first floor as tables got stacked incorrectly, but I take the blame for that as I should have provided some instructions to the crew.

Still, with a bit of work, we got the tables restacked and we were headed for the Chinese dinner an hour earlier than expected.

As the title states, this was a rambling appraisal and I wrote items as I thought of them. By no means does it represent all the fine work done by all of you—that would take a book, even if I could remember just what I saw.

I'm really serious when I say this is a team effort. No job is too insignificant. Each one of you who got involved plays a part in the whole. Hopefully, you got a chance to enjoy the event, as well, by doing a little looking, buying or selling.

As a parting shot, I want to relate to you a story that was told to me by one of the sellers. This gentleman comes from New Jersey, but lives out here now. He has memories from his youth of the flea markets back home on the East Coast.

These days, many of those events no longer exist or are shadows of their former selves. Our event, though, captures the essence of those old flea markets so well that he has a friend who flies out from New Jersey to attend. Now, that's a testament to a job well done.

Thanks again.

We're losing our marbles, one by one

Editor's note: *This poignant story comes to us by way of Carolyn WV7Q, who found it circulating on the Net. While it doesn't relate to Ham radio, per se, it speaks volumes about life.*

Perhaps it's the quiet solitude that comes with being the first to rise or maybe it's the unbounded joy of not having to be at work. Either way, the first few hours of a Saturday morning are most enjoyable.

A few weeks ago, I was shuffling toward the basement Ham shack with a steaming cup of coffee in one hand and the morning paper in the other. What began as a typical Saturday morning turned into one of those lessons that life seems to hand you from time to time. Let me tell you about it.

I turned the dial up into the phone portion of the band on my Ham radio in order to listen to a Saturday morning swap net. Along the way, I came across an older-sounding chap with a tremendous signal and a golden voice. You know the kind: He sounded like he should be in the broadcasting business. He was telling whomever he was talking with something about a thousand marbles.

I was intrigued and stopped to listen to what he had to say.

"Well, Tom, it sure sounds like you're busy with your job. I'm sure they pay you well, but it's a shame you have to be away from home and your family so much. Hard to believe a young fellow should have to work sixty or seventy hours a week to make ends meet. Too bad you missed your daughter's dance recital."

He continued: "Let me tell you something that has helped

me keep a good perspective on my own priorities."

And that's when he began to explain his theory of a thousand marbles.

"You see," he said, "I sat down one day and did a little arithmetic. The average person lives about seventy-five years. I know, some live more and some live less. But, on average, folks live about seventy-five years.

"Now, then, I multiplied seventy-five times fifty-two and I came up with 3,900, which is the number of Saturdays that the average person has in their entire lifetime.



I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things.

"Now, stick with me, Tom. I'm getting to the important part. It took me until I was fifty-five years old to think about all this in any detail and by that time I had lived through over 2,800 Saturdays.

"I got to thinking that if I lived to be seventy-five, I only had about a thousand of them left to enjoy. So I went to a toy store and bought every single marble they had. I ended up having to visit three toy stores to round up a thousand marbles. I took them home and put them inside a large, clear plastic container right here in the shack next to my gear.

"Every Saturday since then, I have taken one marble out and

thrown it away. I found that by watching the marbles diminish, I focused more on the really important things in life. There is nothing like watching your time here on this earth run out to help get your priorities straight.

"Now, let me tell you one last thing before I sign off with you and take my lovely wife out for breakfast. This morning, I took the very last marble out of the container. I figure that if I make it until next Saturday, then I have been given a little extra time. And the one thing we can all use is a little more time.

"It was nice to meet you, Tom. I hope you spend more time with your family and I hope to meet you again here on the band. This is a 75-year-old man, K9NZQ, clear and going QRT. Good morning!"

You could have heard a pin drop on the band when this fellow signed off. I guess he gave us all a lot to think about.

I had planned to work on the antenna that morning, and then I was going to meet up with a few Hams to work on the next club newsletter.

Instead, I went upstairs and woke my wife with a kiss. "C'mon honey," I said, "I'm taking you and the kids to breakfast."

"What brought this on?" she asked with a smile.

Oh, nothing special. It's just been a long time since we spent a Saturday together with the kids. And, hey, can we stop at a toy store while we're out? I need to buy some marbles . . .

And so, as one smart bear once said: "If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you." — Winnie the Pooh.

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 – Scott Robinson (AG7T)
 No. 3 – Steve Cook / CoB (KD7IQL)
 No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
 No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

Visitors: John Allen (KD7SEE), Chris Altwegg (K7BRK), Joyce Baskett (KA7VXN), Michelle Baskett (WA7PVL), Mark Kicken (KD7JIY), Kevin Millar (KB7DYP), Howard Olsen (KD4ML), Larry Ortolini, Frank Tate (NA7O), Randall Tom (KD7OXQ).

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 N7HKO and seconded by Steve KD7IQL to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

President — Brendan KD7IKV: Anyone interested in the club is encouraged to run for election. He began serving on the board less than a year after joining the club.

Vice President — Sam N7RHE: Name tags are available for those who have ordered them. The annual audit will be conducted immediately after the meeting. New member applications: none present among pending applications.

Secretary — Paul K7STQ: Nothing to report.

Treasurer — Jack N7IHS: Issued P&L report.

Radio Officer — Terry WX7S: No report.

General Meeting Minutes Feb. 21, 2004

Activity Manager — John KW7A: Still need volunteers for the Flea Market. Today's \$5 raffle is for a telescoping mast. Assorted prizes for \$1 raffle, including a DVD of "The Lone Ranger."

Chairman of the Board — Steve KD7IQL: Nominations will be entertained for president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, activity manager, and trustees no. 2 and 4. See "Elections" under New Business.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Education — Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

Facilities — Steve KD7IQL: "Little John" repaired the 6-meter beam. Terry WX7S is looking for a replacement 15-meter beam. Alan KB7SVU has the boom for the 20-meter beam. The crank-up tower has been repaired and is functioning again.

Alan reports that the trailer is at his house (he was able to tow it at 60 mph). A trailer jack was lost and there is slight damage to several hooks. They will be bent back and welded.

Public Service — Barry KC7YB: The committee will meet immediately after today's program at the Yankee Grill in the Holiday Inn at Rainier Avenue and Grady Way to discuss *The Guide* and other matters.

Strategic Planning — Carolyn WV7Q: The committee is tabulating responses to the telephone survey and preparing recommendations.

Public Service Communications — Gary KG7KU: Volunteers are needed for upcoming events, which are detailed on listings at each table.

Field Day — Steve KD7IQL: An upcoming work party will be held at Alan's (KB7SVU) home. Watch the *Relay* for the date and time. Several band chairmanships are open as well as numerous other jobs for interested volunteers.

Awards Banquet — Alan KB7SVU: It

will be held at 5:30 P.M. Saturday, March 27, at Hotspurs in Kent. The menu was in the February *Relay*. Twenty of the available 70 tickets have already been sold. Cost is \$15 per person.

Alligator Award — Calvin KC7IYP is not present, but retains this prestigious award.

Old Business

Public Service survey — Barry KC7YB: Please fill out the survey that was included in the *Relay* and return it to Dick WA7NIW. The club is trying to assemble a database of its members' equipment and capabilities.

Antenna Bill Testimony — Jim N7HKO: Sen. Pam Roach was late, then cut testimony short during a late January hearing in Olympia. Thirty-five Hams were on hand, but only a few testified. Jim is coordinating with Harry W7JWJ and others to decide what to do next.

He encourages everyone to alert their congressmen to support House Bill 1478 (the CC&R bill).

Hawaii is considering a similar state bill, which could help the federal effort.

New Business

Ham exams at the Flea Market — Frank KA7QHG: VECs are needed to administer exams at the Flea Market. Anyone interested should contact Frank. The first session will start about 9:30 A.M., the afternoon session about 1:30. If there are enough volunteers, no one will have to spend all day administering exams. They have capacity for 35 people per session. Fifty-seven took tests last year.

Officer elections (accepted nominations) — President: Mike N7WA (tentative); Vice President: Sam N7RHE (incumbent) and Marcos WL7JS; Secretary: Marcos WL7JS; Treasurer: Jack N7IHS (incumbent); Trustee No. 2: Jim N7HKO and Mike KD7LAX; Trustee No. 4: Richard N7MER; Activity Manager: John KW7A. Further nominations will be accepted at the next meeting.

Good of the Order

John KW7A — A field trip is being organized after today's meeting to Boeing Surplus. He is also experimenting with software-defined radio.

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Officers present:

President – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV)
 Vice President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
 Secretary – Paul McElroy (K7STQ)
 Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS)
 Activity Manager – John Long (KW7A)
 Radio Officer – Terry Dettmann (WX7S)

Trustees present:

No. 1 – Scott Robinson (AG7T)
 No. 2 – Terry Dettmann (WX7S)
 No. 3 – Steve Cook / CoB (KD7IQL)
 No. 4 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
 No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

Quorum of officers present.

Visitors: Dawn KC7YYB and Dan N7QHC Humphrey.

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

Minutes: Motion by Sam N7RHE and seconded by Brendan KD7IKV to approve the minutes of the Jan. 7 meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay* with one modification (correcting Dave's call sign to KB7PSN). Motion passed. Motion by Sam N7RHE and seconded by John KW7A to approve the Jan. 28 meeting minutes as printed in the *Relay*. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

Chairman of the Board — Steve KD7IQL: The club has eight nominees for the upcoming election. Nominations close at the March general meeting, when elections will be held.

President — Brendan KD7IKV: He is pleased with the number of nominees, but would like to see more candidates to give club members a choice for any given position.

Vice President — Sam N7RHE: New member applications from Chris Altwegg (K7BRK), a Tech; Bruce Lane (KC7GR), an Extra; and Alan Shield (KD7NPH), a Tech. The board recommended all for consideration by the membership.

Secretary — Paul K7STQ: Nothing to report.

Treasurer — Jack N7IHS: The club is solvent. Sam N7RHE reports that Jack has done "a yeoman's service" to the club by fixing up the books. Steve KD7IQL reports that it was very easy to find receipts during the audit and compliments Kathy KB7QMO for her able participation. A third member of the Finance Committee

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needs to be appointed.

Activity Manager — John KW7A: The \$5 raffle went well. Several winners have donated their items back to the club. The telescoping mast prize in February was very popular and is the first time the club has made money on the higher-priced raffle.

Icom will make a presentation at an upcoming meeting once scheduling issues are resolved.

Radio Officer — Terry WX7S: There is occasional noise on the 682 repeater, but he hasn't been able to pinpoint the source because it's very random.

He has compiled a list of 15-meter beams. Rather than make a final commitment now, he is talking with Scott AG7T and others about the possibility of making a beam. However, if a design isn't ready in time for the antenna to be functioning by Field Day, he'll recommend that the club buy one. He plans to make a recommendation on building or buying by the next meeting.

Committee Liaison Reports

Facilities — Steve KD7IQL: He is working with Alan KB7SVU to repair the trailer and the crank-up tower.

Strategic Planning — Scott AG7T: The proposed e-mail reminder to members whose dues are about to lapse arose from the committee's telephone survey. The survey also determined that a greeting committee would be appropriate to make visitors and new members feel welcome at general meetings.

Technical — Terry WX7S: Steve KD7IQL reports that Mike N7WA is still working on the CD of useful programs and utilities for Hams.

Public Service — Dick WA7NIW: The committee has received 14 responses. More copies of the survey will be printed and made available at the March general meeting.

Education — Dave KB7PSN: He is awaiting word from BEARS about classes.

Field Day — Steve KD7IQL: Most previous band chairmen and the "Bar-racks Mom" have re-enlisted for 2004.

This includes: Carolyn WV7Q on 15 meters; Curtis N7MWC and Dawn N7VWH on 20; Dean N7NKO on 40; and Mike KD7LAX and Hideki KD7TCI on VHF.

New Business

Dues renewals — Sam N7RHE: The club includes membership expiration information on the mailing labels for the printed *Relay*, but no notification is given to those who receive the electronic *Relay*. He proposes that the vice president issue members a reminder by e-mail or phone at the beginning of the month their dues are scheduled to lapse. Club bylaws stipulate that members have a 60-day grace period in which to pay before they must reapply for membership. The board approved this proposal.

Sam also proposes that the club grant a one-time amnesty waiving the re-application process for electronic *Relay* recipients whose dues recently lapsed. Scott AG7T moved and Jack N7IHS seconded a motion to accept this proposal. Motion passed.

Treasurer — Based on Jack's (N7IHS) past performance and qualifications, Brendan KD7IKV moved and John KW7A seconded a motion for the board to approve his nomination for treasurer. Motion passed.

Good of the Order

There being no further business, Scott AG7T moved and Dave KB7PSN seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Cook closed the meeting at 8:39 P.M.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ

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Marcos WL7JS — He is trying to organize a bus trip to ARRL headquarters.

There being no further business, Jack N7IHS moved and Barry KC7YB seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Burget closed the meeting at 10:39 A.M.

Attested: Paul McElroy – Secretary, K7STQ





Ham Nets & Events for March / April 2004

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
14 2000 — King Co. ARES (weekly) 2000 — Amateur TV net: 147.08 (weekly)	15 0545 — Weather net: 145.33 (M - F) 1645 — Weather net (M-F)	16 2000 — Snoho. Co. RACES: 146.92 (weekly)	17 2000 — General Info & Tech net: 145.33 (weekly)	18 1900 — Pub. Service net (weekly) 1930 — Shoreline ARES: 440.3 (wkly.)	19 2000 — Youth net: 145.33 (weekly)	20 0900 — Club net 1000 — Club mtg. 1300 — Ham exams
21 2030 — Snoho. Co. ARES: 146.92 (weekly) Comm. Academy	22 1730 — Puget Sound Traffic Sys. (daily) 1830 — WA Emerg. HF: 3.985 (weekly)	23	24	25	26  CQ WPX SSB contest (Fri. - Sun.)	27 Awards Banquet Woodinville Parade
28 2200 — Northwest Astronomy net: 145.33 (weekly)	29 1800 — WARTS: 3.970 (daily) 1845 — WSN I: 3.658 (daily)	30	31 1915 — Board mtg.	1	2	3 Field Day Work Party
4	5 1900 — Elmer's net: 145.33 (weekly) 2000 — YL net: 145.33 (weekly)	6 2000 — Maple Valley ARC/ARES: 146.54 (weekly)	7 2030 — WARFA swapnet: 3.908 (weekly) 2100 — NWSOAR net (weekly)	8 2000 — Computer & Packet net: 145.33 (weekly) 2000 — Amateur TV net: 147.08 (weekly)	9	10 0900 — WA Emerg. HF: 3.985 (weekly)
11	12	13	14	15	Relay deadline	Georgia QSO Party
					16	17 0900 — Club net 1000 — Club mtg. 1300 — Ham exams Michigan QSO Party