



From the Hot Seat...

ARES, RACES, Which Is Which?

by Sam Sullivan N7RHE, President

ARES, RACES? I must admit I don't know anything about these emergency communications groups and activities.

For Races I believe you have to be a member of and licensed by a civil defense organization and can only communicate with other RACES stations and designated government organizations.

For ARES I believe you can communicate with any other amateur or ARES station. The section ARRL Emergency Coordinator (EC) is the contact and coordinator for these activities.

I'm sure that successful completion of the ARRL emergency communications courses would be desirable, probably mandatory for these activities.

Would someone in the club who is well versed in these activities volunteer to write articles for the *Relay* and present programs? I believe we all need to be better versed in emergency preparedness and communications skills.

For education ideas or to join the committees, contact Guy N7ZG. For the technical committee contact Dick K7NEX. If you have any ideas for a program or would like to present a program contact Dawn KC7YYB. To assist the radio officer contact Paul N7DOH. For field day, contact Brendan KD7IKV or Steve KD7IQL.

Zen and the Art of Field Day Equipment Maintenance

by Brendan KD7IKV, Chairman of the Board

After the fun, food and frantic operating of last years' Field Day it was time to take inventory and look over the equipment. There was the expected cleaning up and organizing of cable, ropes, tents and all of the other small parts of our Field Day setup. All in all things are in very good shape with a two major exceptions.

The first is our generator. It seems that the generator is finally ready to go to the great scrap yard in the sky. We knew we had trouble when the generator failed during the contest. It seems the low oil cut off kicked in and shut the engine down. So, back at the ranch, we topped off the oil and checked for any other signs of obvious damage. None were found until we fired it up. The small group of us who had come out to help were greeted with a loud very unpleasant knocking sound. The offending noise did not lessen as the generator warmed up. The consensus is that there is a major failure in the engine. Possibly requiring a total rebuild. Taking this in to account along with what amount of time has already been spent refurbishing the generator, then to only get 2 more years of use, we fear our generator is dead.

Several discussions with your 2006 field day chair and co-chairpersons as well as the board is to replace the old generator with a new one. A new RV type, gas powered 4-6KW generator seems to be a good fit. Preliminary research puts cost somewhere between \$2500-4000. Yes this is a substantial amount of money, but I ask all of you to take in to account how long our old generator lasted and to realize that our goal is to get a replacement that will be as long-lived as possible. Any *thoughtful* suggestions and comments will be welcomed. **[Continued Page 3...]**



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

Web Site

www.mikeandkey.org

Send dues to

Jack Grimmett, Treasurer
33 Peterson Road
Port Angeles, WA 98362-8102

K7LED Repeaters

146.82 output / 146.22 input
(PL 103.5)
Squak Mountain
224.120 output / 222.520 input
(PL 103.5)
Tiger Mountain

Email

info@mikeandkey.org

Send newsletter submissions to

Gary Bryan, *Relay* Editor
34033 33rd Ave SW
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Reflector

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

Club Contacts

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Vice President	Carolyn Pasquier	WV7Q	carolynp@sprynet.com	253-862-1157
Secretary	Gary Bryan	KG7KU	kg7ku@arrl.net	253-661-7882
Treasurer	Jack Grimmett	N7IHS	n7ihs@aol.com	206-437-2841
Activity Manager	Dawn Humphrey	KC7YYB	n7qhcdan@juno.com	206-243-0163
Radio Officer	Paul Roth	N7DOH	n7doh@arrl.net	206-550-9690
Trustees --				
No. 1 (CoB)	Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	kd7ikv@arrl.net	425-774-1946
No. 2	Dick Radford	WA7NIW	wa7niw@arrl.net	425-828-9791
No. 3	Guy Molinari	N7ZG	guy_molinari@hotmail.com	253-630-2992
No. 4	Dick Vance	K7NEX	k7nex1@juno.com	206-246-2924
No. 5	Frank Tate	NA7O		206-762-4732
Logo Committee	Dan & Dawn Humphrey	N7QHC / KC7YYB	n7qhcdan@juno.com	206-243-0163
Webmasters	Jim Etwiler / Dave Smith	KD7BAT / KB7PSN	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512

Mike & Key Online -- Several club resources are available electronically:

On the Web — The club's site at www.mikeandkey.org includes extensive information about club events, VEC testing, membership, past edition of the *Relay* and more.

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 will also save the club some money in printing and postage costs. To sign up, send a message to the editor: kg7ku@arrl.net.

Zen and the Art of Field Day Maintenance

[Continued from page 1]

Our other casualty is not from this past year's field day but from many years out in the elements. The trailer that housed the generator has been suffering for quite some time. Inspections were made and the findings are for a total rebuild or replacement. The costs of rebuilding would likely be greater than the value we would get back.

The expense needed for trailer repair or replacement coupled with the maintenance needed by our equipment trailer gave rise to a new plan. One that we think has a number of plusses. The proposal is to sell our current equipment trailer and buy a larger trailer to house both the equipment and the new generator. One of the large plusses of this idea is a reduction in the number of vehicles required to transport our equipment to field day or for use in an emergency, not to mention one less vehicle to maintain. Having the new generator built into a new trailer with weather proof access panels on the outside would offer safer hook up of power connections as well as easier setup.

The board is about to present the budget for the coming year. Please bear in mind while considering approval of that budget that these upgrades in equipment will enable the club continued enjoyment of field day and better emergency preparedness.

A Great Opportunity to Help at Fort Flagler

by Gary Bryan KG7KU

Field Day comes only once a year, but here is a great opportunity to make a contribution to the welfare of the Fort Flagler State Park. On February 4th and 5th, 2006, the Friends of Fort Flagler have scheduled a work party. Our own Rita Danielson and Rachelle met at the site for the October 8 2005 annual meeting, and report that there will be plenty of projects for everyone.

Aside from some of the outdoors type of projects, there are plenty of things to do inside for those unable to perform 'manual labor.' There is a fee of \$3 per person for dinner the night of the 4th, and overnight accommodations can be made.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Rita at 425-290-3440, or email gamatoad24@aol.com . Your willingness to help make the park better is appreciated.

Need a J-pole?

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

The Vashon - Maury Island ARC is looking to raise some funds. President Ward Silver, N0AX says they take a bunch of these down to the Fleamarket each year and always sell out.

If you are in the market for a good dual band (2M/440) antenna (base or portable), you may want to consider their offer. You can contact Ward at hwardsil@centurytel.net. The rest of the article is Ward's description of the antennas.

These are a dual-band, solid aluminum J-pole based on the design at <http://www.arrowantennas.com/j-pole.html>. We sell it without the U-bolt, since everybody has a slightly different way of mounting the antenna. Coverage is the entire 2-meter band and from 444-450 MHz - the center frequency is adjustable because the elements are threaded. All components are competently machined and assembled with anti-oxidation compound.

We have two versions. One has a one-piece 2-meter element, so it's 57-1/2" long. The other version has a two-piece 2-meter element that has a threaded coupling - this is better for portable and stowable applications, since it can be broken down to less than 3' long.

Lots of the Vashon hams have them, they look nice, the coax connector is somewhat sheltered from the weather (as opposed to the usual J-pole design), and they work FB. Someone using just a handheld will be amazed at the difference when they put one of these up. Cost is \$25, tax included, and I/we can deliver a batch to a meeting or to a club officer.

M & K Holiday Party a Rousing Success

by Gary Bryan KG7KU

If you did not make it to the Mike and Key Holiday Party on the evening of Saturday, December 3, then you missed a real 'happening.' Pam Bryan N7PRS was the Hostess, (a.k.a. coordinator) and put on a splendid night for the club. Very little can be compared with previous outings of this type, as the venue was the Larkspur Landing in Renton, a first, and instead of a potluck, finger foods were provided.

It provided everyone time to talk and get to know one another better...and engage in gift-swapping as a fun way to 'get to know the *nature* of one another better.'

Thanks go to Pam, who made the arrangements, performed the setup, and provided the games for the evening. "All I can say," Pam exclaimed, "is thanks everyone for making this such a special evening. I wasn't sure if it could be done — but I did it!"

December 2005

General Meeting Minutes - October 15

Officers present:

- √ President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
- √ Vice President – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
- √ Secretary – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)
- √ Treasurer – Jack Grimmert (N7IHS)
- √ Activity Manager – Dawn Humphrey (KC7YYB)
- √ Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

- No. 1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) Chairman(COB)
- √ No. 2 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
- √ No. 3 – Guy Molinari (N7ZG)
- √ No. 4 – Dick Vance (K7NEX)
- √ No. 5 – Frank Tate (NA7O)

President Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m. at the Salvation Army building in Renton, Wash.

All members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Sullivan 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 Dave KB7PSN and seconded by Mike N7WA to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

President – Sam N7RHE: The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is November 19.

Vice President – Carolyn WV7Q: New membership applicants Pete Bradley N7GBI and William Harris W7KXB were placed before the membership for approval, and were approved. Welcome aboard.

Secretary – Gary KG7KU: Nothing new to report at this time.

Treasurer – Jack N7IHS: The Club's books are in good order. Gave P&L and Balance Sheet summary.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Progress continues with the new Repeater.

Activity Manager – Dawn KC7YYB: Raffle items are available, please participate. Today, the program consists of Jim Telgenhoff KC7EVY, of the Mike & Key Club, giving us an overview of the Explorer Search & Rescue.

Chairman of the Board – Brendan KD7IKV: The Mike & Key Board meets October 26 at Galliano's Cucina in SeaTac.

Standing Committee Reports

Technical – Dick K7NEX: Nothing new to report at this time.

Education – Guy N7ZG: Prior to next meeting, come early for a 9am class, subject TBD.

Facilities – Brendan KD7IKV: Not present.

Public Service – Dick WA7NIW: Event listings can be found on the tables. Meeting following the presentation today.

Strategic Planning – Frank NA7O: Work continues on the club 'Mission Statement.'

Annual Picnic -- Dave KB7PSN: Some items left at the picnic, if not claimed, will be raffled at the Holiday Dinner.

Flea Market -- Mike N7WA: The first meeting was held October 4 at Mike's N7WA house. Still looking for a co-chair for ticket booth. The next meeting will be held November 1.

VE Exams -- Scott AG7T: VE Exams will be held following today's meeting and presentation.

Holiday Dinner -- Pam N7PRS & Adrian KB7BVL: Is scheduled for December 3 at Larkspur Landing Restaurant in Renton. White elephant gifts of less than ten (10) dollars. Attendees are asked to contribute two (2) dollars at the door. Details to follow.

Field Day--Steven KD7IQL, Brendan KD7IKV:Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Alligator Award- Calvin KC7IYP: Clad with 'gator headgear, Calvin spoke of perhaps elmering others to participate in the 'gator club.

New Business - No new business.

Good of the Order - Nothing for the good of the order.

There being no further business, Dick WA7NIW moved and Scott AG7T seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Sullivan closed the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

K7LED Relay

Attested: Gary Bryan KG7KU, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes - October 26

Officers present:

- √ President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
- √ Vice President – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
- √ Secretary – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)
- √ Treasurer – Jack Grimmert (N7IHS)
- √ Activity Manager – Dawn Humphrey (KC7YYB)
- Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

- √ No. 1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) Chairman of the Board
- √ No. 2 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
- √ No. 3 – Guy Molinari (N7ZG)
- √ No. 4 – Dick Vance (K7NEX)
- √ No. 5 – Frank Tate (NA7O)

Visitors in attendance: Jim KD7BAT, Dan N7QHC

Chairman Brendan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. at Galliano's Cucina in SeaTac, Wash.

Minutes: Board Member Sam N7RHE motioned, seconded by Frank NA7O to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

Chairman of the Board – Brendan KD7IKV: The next scheduled Board Meeting is November 30.

President – Sam N7RHE: Next General Membership meeting is November 19. The Club is in need of a *Relay* Editor, to work in tandem with Paul K7STQ. Gary KG7KU responded with willingness to do this.

Vice President – Carolyn WV7Q: No new applicants.

Secretary – Gary KG7KU: No mail. Be sure to review e-mails and e-files which may be of importance to file in the Club Secretary files. Please forward them to me.

Treasurer – Jack N7IHS: Introduced thoughts regarding the current Christmas Budget and plan, that \$100 be added to the current Christmas Dinner operating budget, and to not charge \$2 per head as previously announced. A motion was so moved and was carried.

Activity Manager – Dawn KC7YYB: Promoted a concept to have members bring electronic gear which, in a sense, would be a 'show and tell' for odd or old electronic items that members may have, and would be of interest to all.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Not present.

Committee Liaison Reports

Facilities – Brendan KD7IKV: Careful consideration is being given to determine the proper time and method for replacing the [Field Day] generator and trailer. The Club Asset Inventory database is also under construction.

Strategic Planning – Frank NA7O: Member interest surveys taken some time ago are unknown as to place. The Club Mission Statement remains in work at this time.

Technical – Dick K7NEX: Work continues on newly received radios.

Public Service – Dick WA7NIW: The committee is in early preparation of the Puget Sound Guide for 2006.

Education – Guy N7ZG: A future program is in the works for a session on 'Digital Modes,' to include a presentation by Ward Silver. And as usual, Guy is always open to ideas and suggestions from the membership.

Old Business-No old business.

New Business

Jack N7IHS: Provided the proposed M&K Club 2006 Budget. General discussion was held and opinions expressed, with progress toward a workable Budget for 2006. Notable items were: 1) consideration for the planned replacement of the Field Day generator and related trailer; 2) the Public Service Pamphlet [ad sales] income and expenses should become a separate item for better visibility and tracking.

Good of the Order

Jack N7IHS: The Club would be better served by showing greater foresight in the selection -- and grooming -- of its leadership positions.

There being no further business, Jack N7IHS moved and Dick WA7NIW seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Brendan closed the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

Attested: Gary Bryan KG7KU -- Secretary

General Meeting Minutes - November 19

Officers present:

- √ President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
- √ Vice President – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
- √ Secretary – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)
- √ Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS)
- √ Activity Manager – Dawn Humphrey (KC7YYB)
- √ Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

- √ No. 1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) Chairman (COB)
- No. 2 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
- No. 3 – Guy Molinari (N7ZG)
- √ No. 4 – Dick Vance (K7NEX)
- No. 5 – Frank Tate (NA7O)

President Sullivan called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m. at the Salvation Army building in Renton, Wash.

All members and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Sullivan 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: Sam N7RHE - The Editor of the *Relay* was overwhelmed by a contractual agreement for the publication of a book. The significance of this Professional endeavour superceded the ability to put the *Relay* together this month, and the efforts put forth by one of our members to excel in the [Book] Publishing ranks is applauded. Gary KG7KU has stepped forward to help in the transition of duties placed on the regular editor, Paul K7STQ. [Sec. Note- Paul's contributions have been outstanding and he has raised the standards of the *Relay* publication to a very high professional level during his editor-ship term. Please be patient as I attempt to approach that same high level of professionalism we have been graced with through Paul.]

Officer Reports

President – Sam N7RHE: The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is December 17. A letter was received by mail from the Salvation Army. Sam read the letter, which expressed thanks for the Club's contribution for Katrina relief.

Vice President – Carolyn WV7Q: New membership - Adam Koczarski KE7FDI was placed before the members for approval into the Club. Adam was approved by unanimous vote. Welcome aboard, Adam.

Secretary – Gary KG7KU: Nothing new in the mail.

Treasurer – Jack N7IHS: The Club's books are in good order. Gave P&L and Balance Sheet summary.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Progress continues with the new Repeater .

Activity Manager – Dawn KC7YYB: Raffle items are available, please participate.

Chairman of the Board – Brendan KD7IKV: The Mike & Key Board meets November 30 at Galliano's Cucina in SeaTac. The Board is finalizing the Club 2006 Budget, to be brought before the membership next month.

Standing Committee Reports

Technical – Dick K7NEX: Nothing new to report.

Education – Guy N7ZG: Not present, no report.

Facilities – Brendan KD7IKV: Report deferred to Field Day Committee Report, below.

Public Service – Brendan KD7IKV: Event listings can be found on the tables. Meeting following the presentation today. Early preparations continue toward the Puget Sound Guide. Efforts to sell Advertisement space is being met with success.

Strategic Planning – Frank NA7O: Not present, no report.

Flea Market -- Mike N7WA: The next meeting will be held December 6. Sign-up sheets are going around the room today, so consider your commitment to helping with this significant Club activity. Fliers are being prepared for mailing soon.

VE Exams -- Scott AG7T: VE Exams will be held following today's presentation. Still looking for VE volunteers.

Holiday Dinner -- Pam N7PRS & Adrian KB7BVL: December 3 at Larkspur Landing Restaurant (Home Sweet Hotel) in Renton. White elephant gifts of less than ten (10) dollars. Whereas previously there was suggested a \$2 donation at the door, this has been waived. All are invited to sign up and attend. Lets have some fun and get to know each other better.

Field Day -- Steven KD7IQL & Brendan KD7IKV: Field Day results were good: '6A' category - Second Place; 'WWA-' First Place; 'Nationwide-' 22nd Place.

Old Business -

Alligator Award- All quiet on the front, aside from... Dean N7NKO challenged Calvin KC7IYP to deliver the Alligator directly to Dean's house.

New Business - No new business.

Good of the Order -

Steven KD7IQL & Brendan KD7IKV: The Club has entered into consideration of a new Generator for the Field Day event. The old one was old and was running extremely poorly the last time it was started up. Also, a new trailer may be in order, as the old one was showing signs of chipping and de-laminating of the shell material. Further review of the options for this hardware as well as software for computer logging of entries is ongoing.

There being no further business, Brendan KD7IKV moved and Steve KD7IQL seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and President Sullivan closed the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Attested: Gary Bryan KG7KU, Secretary

Board Meeting Minutes - November 30

Officers present:

- √ President – Sam Sullivan (N7RHE)
- √ Vice President – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
- √ Secretary – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)
- √ Treasurer – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS)
- √ Activity Manager – Dawn Humphrey (KC7YYB)
- √ Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

- √ No. 1 – Brendan Burget (KD7IKV) Chairman of the Board
- No. 2 – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
- √ No. 3 – Guy Molinari (N7ZG)
- √ No. 4 – Dick Vance (K7NEX)
- √ No. 5 – Frank Tate (NA7O)

Visitors in attendance: Jim KD7BAT, Dan N7QHC, Dave KB7PSN
Chairman Brendan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Galliano's Cucina in SeaTac, Wash.

Minutes: Minutes will be published in the December *Relay*.

Officer Reports

Chairman of the Board – Brendan KD7IKV: The next scheduled Board Meeting is December 28. Following discussion, the Board voted to meet January 4, due to Holidays.

President – Sam N7RHE: Next General Membership meeting is December 17.

Vice President – Carolyn WV7Q: No new applicants.

Secretary – Gary KG7KU: No mail. As the newly appointed *Relay* Editor, I am in the process of collecting articles and determining resource for the December publication.

Treasurer – Jack N7IHS: Presented the proposed Mike & Key ARC 2006 Budget. Following discussion, Sam N7RHE made a motion to accept the proposed budget, Dawn KC7YYB seconded. Motion passed.

Activity Manager – Dawn KC7YYB: December's Raffle is the annual collection of all tickets, selected for door prizes.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Plans continue to move forward and testing of equipment continues, with anticipated work to occur in the April or May, at Tiger Mountain.

Committee Liaison Reports

Facilities – Brendan KD7IKV: The committee continues to accept ideas on improving Field Day, and is still considering the options for generator replacement. Gary KG7KU- The Friends of Fort Flagler is planning a work party at the park February 4th and 5th, please make note of this opportunity on your calendars. Sam N7RHE- Worthy of [Continued next page...]

December 2005

[Board Meeting Minutes - November 30, continued from prev. page]
consideration with regard to continuous power during Field Day is to use a set of Batteries as the primary source of power, which is in continuous recharge mode. Should generator power fail, the Batteries would continue to supply the necessary power until generator power is again restored.

Strategic Planning – Frank NA7O: The Club Mission Statement remains in the queue for publication in the *Relay*.

Technical – Dick K7NEX: Nothing new to report at this time.

Public Service – Dick WA7NIW: Brendan KD7IKV- The committee is making progress in the sale of advertising space in the 2006 Puget Sound Guide. Committee members have received assignments to review book content.

Education – Guy N7ZG: Clint Hurd KK7UQ is confirmed as the Guest Speaker at the January General meeting.

Old Business-

Dave KB7PSN- Suggested the sending of Holiday Dinner information on the Club's Reflector. It is to be held at Larkspur Restaurant on Saturday, December 3.

New Business-

Jack N7IHS- In order to achieve better results from members who reach 'Dues past due' condition, I propose a separate reminder be sent to each of the members who are in that category. The Board agreed.

Dick K7NEX- To improve the connection between Hams passing the VE provided exams, perhaps the names of those who have taken the exam be included in the *Relay*, and that at least a *Relay* be given to each one of the individuals taking the exam(s). General discussion followed, unable to resolve specifics regarding the nature of the sponsorship by the Club for the exams. Brendan KD7IKV agreed to check with the VE coordinators as to existing procedure.

Good of the Order-

Paul N7DOH- Asked about Club QSL cards, as there was a stack of mail which needed response via QSL cards. Guy N7ZG- Agreed to look into Club QSL cards and respond to the mail.

There being no further business, Sam N7RHE moved and Jack N7IHS seconded a motion to adjourn. Approved and Chairman Brendan closed the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Attested: Gary Bryan KG7KU -- Secretary

Public Service Committee Minutes - October

PSC minutes 10/15/05...Meeting called to order by Dick at 12:25
In attendance: Pam, Gary, Dave, Robert, Jim, Jim, Ted, Dawn, Dan, and Dick

Old Business:

Ad Sales update: Definite "Yes" from HRO, they will get the first ad page per verbal agreement with Pam. There was a suggestion that she get the agreement in writing. There will probably be no Mount Baker ad this year. KBARA was not interested this year. BEAR is interested, nothing definite at this time. Radio Club of Tacoma is considering, will have to be approved by their board. ARRL in WWA has been contacted, no reply as of this time. Still waiting to hear from ICOM. Curtis Hanner will attempt to contact them in person. Angle Lake Keys will definitely take an ad. Robert will contact AES. No word back from Stepp-IR as of this time, Ted will contact them again. Progress report on information updates. None at this time, in work. Event auto update progress: none. Waiting for information from Brendan

Public Service Net improvements? There was a suggestion that we solicit check ins to give the net a more dynamic feeling. Suggestion to start by asking for public service committee members and event coordinators. Then ask for visitor check ins. Discussion about moving the net to Tuesday evenings. Suggestion of having the event coordinators for events check in to the net and give updates as to needs for the upcoming events.

New Business:

Preparedness Expo is at Seattle Center next weekend.

Prepare *Relay* article announcing the change of format for the public service net.

Meeting adjourned at 13:15

Public Service Meeting Minutes - November

Public Service Committee Meeting Minutes 11.19.2005

In attendance: Ted N0YC, Brendan KD7IKV, Steve KD7IQL, Dawn KC7YYB,

Dan N7QHC, Steve KD7IQL, Pam N7PRS, Jim KN6TC, Robert KD7WNV, Gary KG7KU.

Meeting called to order by Brendan KD7IKV at 1258, at Cedar River Smoke House Restaurant, in Renton, Wash.

Pam reported that HRO has confirmed the commitment for an ad; asked about the current status of BearCom, no one was aware of any commitment;

Angle Lake is planning to move forward with an ad.

Ted reported that Mount Baker is probable for an ad; gave report of their recent Flea Market as being light in vendor showing.

Dan confirmed Top Hat is committed to an ad placement.

Robert will look into verification of Universal Radio for an ad; has anyone heard word from StepIR?

Gary suggested a possibility that SEAFAIR could be approached to place an ad.

Brendan proceeded with Book-Page-Assignments:

Nets...Gary, who will send draft to Robert for preliminary review

Repeaters...Robert, who will send draft to Gary for preliminary review

Hamfests...Dan and Dawn

Exams...Ted

Public Service...Pam

Club Contacts/Upper...Steve

Club Contacts/Lower...Gary

Brendan proceeded with Layout-Content review, the committee made several recommendations, Brendan made note of them.

The committee recommended another final review at Brendan's prior to publication, which was very productive last year.

Meeting adjourned 1327.

Attested, Gary KG7KU, Secretary, for Dick WA7NIW, in his absence.

Yule Love This --**Sent from Ward N0AX after Christmas 2004...**

Greetings from foggy, soggy Vashon Island - happy holidays to all and may 2005 put a New One in your log! -- 73, Ward N0AX

Stopping By The Station On A Snowy Evening

With apologies to Robert Frost...

Whose beams these are I think I know.

The shack above the street below;

Hiram won't see me stopping here

Imagining his tubes aglow.

My mobile rig must think it queer

I stop and do not signals hear

As daylight trades with night to make

The earliest grey line of the year.

I give the tuning dial a shake

Lest I for DX ghosts mistake.

The only other sound's the sweep

Of QRN from downy flake.

The towers lovely, cables steep.

But I have schedules to keep,

And piles of cards before I sleep,

And piles of cards before I sleep.

- FLEAMARKET: March 11-12, 2006-

Holiday Gift Wishes -- Can Come True

by Diane Dinkelman KB7DNE

Well here it is December and the Fleamarket comes upon us very fast after Christmas.

I have thought and thought of what I would like for Christmas and realized that I didn't have too many volunteers to help me at Registration this year. I need so many that I thought writing to Santa would help. He said put your plea into the *Relay* and tell them that Santa is behind you 100%, so that what I'm doing.

I need volunteers for Friday Between 2:00 PM and 7:30 PM. On Saturday I need volunteers between 5:30 AM and 9:00 AM. Then Saturday afternoon I need volunteers at 3:00 to closing for load out.

I usually have people work for two hours and take a hour break then back again if they want. It works out well because we do not work during the event leaving a lot of time for shopping or just looking around.

We are out a ways but Michael N7WA (Bicycle Boy) brings us drinks and goodies to eat. We have a golf cart to run back and forth in at our deposal.

The jobs consist of traffic control at the Orange gate and the pallet loading gate, handing out packets to the Sellers at Registration, and helping Sellers at the gold gate. We all dress warm and have heat to keep us warm. Last year was a beautiful day and we ended up being a little too warm. We can always hope.

We have a good time and interact with our customers, which is really fun.

If you wish to volunteer for Registration please contact me at 253-631-3756 or dmdink @ eskimo.com. You can sign up under Registration in the sign-up book also and I will contact you.

Please help to make my Christmas wish come true.

Fleamarket 25th Anniversary

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

One of the discussions at the Fleamarket Committee meeting was recognition that this is our 25th anniversary event. We are really looking for a way to celebrate that at the event but we have few if any ideas. How about the creative among you coming up with a few? Mind you – we don't have lot's of money to

spend and we can't do anything with food (fairgrounds rule).

Any ideas?

Item number two. It would be nice to put together a computer slide show presentation with pictures from many of the events. We could let it run continuously displayed against the wall down near announcing. You got funny and interesting pictures from way back when? How about old flyers? We have some but maybe you have others not in our collection?

Please see your friendly Committee member if you have inputs.

Finally, my thanks to Earl and Jean Swiney and Dick Vance for labeling flyers again. The Swiney's have done it for years with no hesitation and Dick is in his second run. It's a nasty job but it has to be done and it really helps when you can break it up. Thanks for stepping forward again.

Fleamarket Committee Meeting Minutes

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

The Fleamarket held it's meeting on December 6th at the Dinkelman residence. In attendance were Hal Goodell, N7NW, Pam Bryan N7PRS, Gary Bryan KG7KU, Jim Etwiler KD7BAT, Jim Aigner N7MU, Kathy Martin KB7QMO, Diane Dinkelman KB7DBNE, Jack Grimmet N7IHS, and Michael Dinkelman N7WA.

- Facilities, discussion of insurance forms and payment. Have found half sized white boards for loading crew. Discussion of 25th anniversary (see additional article)
 - Announcing, no issues, need more workers to sign up
 - Publicity, flyers are nearly done, maybe a couple hundred left. Will get to Hal before end of year because postage will rise January 1.
 - Tickets, Kathy and Jim Aigner will co-chair. Also looking to fill out worker schedule.
 - Loading Crew, need more out worker signups. Will be looking for Red/Green stickers.
 - Registration 5.5 booths and 74 tables paid for (20 still pending payment by end of year.
 - Treasury – report given, check issued for mailing permit.
- Next meeting, second Tuesday in January at the Dinkelman's at 7PM.
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From the left hand to the right

by Paul McElroy K7STQ, Relay Editor

As 2005 draws to a close, so does my time as *Relay* editor. I've had a wonderful experience these past two years getting to know our members, keeping you informed and helping our club present a good face to the public.

This issue represents a collaboration between Gary Bryan, KG7KU, and myself. Our intrepid secretary, Field Day co-chairman and public service Energizer Bunny has graciously stepped forward to take over the reins.

Each editor brings a unique perspective and look to the *Relay*. Accompanying this natural evolution is the constant source of information that all of you provide. Having read many other ham club newsletters, I'm proud (and biased) to say that ours is one of the best.

So keep those cards and letters coming. The time you spend sharing your insights will make Gary's job easier and help everyone in the club.

For those of you who aren't on the Reflector and wonder what happened last month, please accept my sincere apologies for missing the November edition. As someone who's put out many a *Seattle P-I*, it pained me to blow a deadline.

I'm used to chaos in my life, but this fall tested my limits. I grappled with a new position as technical writer at Boeing. Amy and I moved into a home in the Fairwood area of Renton. And we flung words and pictures during every spare moment to finish a 104-page history book for the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle.

Happily, our tornado is subsiding. I'm settling into the job, the Urban League unveiled the book at its annual breakfast Dec. 9, and Amy and I are finally starting to unpack a few boxes. One of these days, I'll mount an antenna to get back on the air.

Working with the Urban League, a service organization that helps people of color, was very special. Amy and I love doing books together, but there's a larger reason. Since 1930, a selfless group of Seattleites involved with the League have committed themselves to respecting and helping others, regardless of their heritage.

May their inspiring efforts motivate those of us in Amateur Radio to keep reaching out to people around the globe and break down the barriers of misunderstanding and distrust that separate us.

*From...*The ARRL Letter

Vol. 24, No. 48

December 9, 2005

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Propagation prognosticator Tad "Sunny Claus is Coming to Town" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This weekend is the ARRL 10-Meter Contest <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2005/10-meters.html>>. The event this year, as well as the ones in 2006 and 2007, probably will have very few sunspots, but sometimes 10 meters opens when we least expect it.

Sunspot numbers and solar flux declined as Sunspot 826 moved to the edge of the visible solar disk. Sunspot numbers peaked after the beginning of the month. Average sunspot numbers for the past week were almost 39 points above the previous week, at 72.6. Geomagnetic conditions were very quiet for the past few days. For this weekend, the predicted planetary A index from December 9-12 is 7, 12, 10 and 5. Predicted solar flux for December 9 is 85, with 80 predicted for the following five days.

There is a low probability of disruptive solar flares this weekend, although conditions are expected to be slightly unsettled compared with those of the past few days.

Sunspot numbers for December 1 through 7 were 79, 98, 75, 91, 85, 58 and 22, with a mean of 72.6. The 10.7 cm flux was 98.2, 106.3, 101.3, 95.2, 91.7, 89.1, and 89, with a mean of 95.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 13, 12, 11, 5, 2, 3 and 0, with a mean of 6.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 12, 10, 9, 3, 2, 2 and 1, with a mean of 5.6.

Ham Nets & Events -- December 2005 / January 2006

Nets are on 146.82 unless indicated otherwise

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11 2000 -- King County ARES (Weekly)	12 0545 & 1645 -- Weather Net 145.33 (M-F)	13 2000 -- Snohomish County RACES 146.92 (Weekly)	14 2000 -- General /Tech Info 145.33 (Weekly) 2100 -- NWSOAR Net (Weekly)	15 2000 -- Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly) 2000 -- Amateur TV Net 147.08 (Weekly)	16 2000 -- Youth Net 145.33 (Weekly)	17 1000 -- Club Meeting 1300 -- Ham exams
18 2000 -- Amateur TV Net 147.08 (Weekly)	19 2000 -- YL Net 145.33 (Weekly)	20	21	22 1900 -- Public Service Net 145.33 (Weekly)	23	24 0900 -- WA ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly)
25 2030 -- Snohomish Co. ARES 146.92 (Weekly)	26 1730 -- Puget Sound Traffic Sys. (Daily) 1800 -- WA Emerg. HF 3.985 (Weekly)	27	28	29	30	31 0900 -- NW Swap Net 145.33 (Weekly)
1 2200 -- NW Astronomy Net 145.33 (Weekly)	2 1830 -- WA ARES 3.985 (Weekly) 1930 -- PS Repeater 146.96 (Weekly)	3	4 1900 -- Board Mtg	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Relay deadline</i>	14