



From our Club President...

You May Be Your Neighbor's Keeper

by Dick Radford WA7NIW, President

This month's column is going to be a little bit different. One difference is that it was written about a month before you are reading it so I can't comment on things that may have happened since my last one, such as the repeater going up on the mountain.

This hobby is about communicating, but I'm going to take this month's column in a slightly different direction than you might expect. We communicate via quick signal reports during contests, and with longer exchanges during other activities, but how well do we get to know people? There was a member of this club who tried to have conversations with DX stations that would last for 15 minutes or so in order to get to know the person on the other end. That way the contact was a lot more memorable than "59 WWA".

On the other end of the DX spectrum, how well do we know our neighbors? You know, like, the people who live next door to you. When disaster strikes and "normal means of communication" are out, it will be up to each of us to keep the information flowing. Some will be handling requests for aid, some will be working in city EOCs, and others will be handling health and welfare traffic for those who are uninjured, which we hope will be the category of the majority of people. So, how well do we know our neighbors? These will be the people for whom we will be supplying that link to the outside world. It might be nice to get to know them better so they can be aware of how we can help them in the future. It is also good to have a few allies for when we want to put up that new tower.

Another subject to touch on is that we are nearing the end of our financial year and the Board will be preparing the budget for 2009. If there is something that you think the club should do that will cost money, now is the time to let the Board know your wishes for the future of the club.

-- Dick, WA7NIW

--Email received from ARRL WWA Section--

NOAA WEATHER RADIO MONTH

By proclamation of the Lewis County Board of County Commissioners, September has been designated as "NOAA Weather Radio Month". This proclamation supports the September statewide "National Preparedness and NOAA Weather Radio Awareness" observance.

The month-long campaign is to encourage local residents in preparing themselves for the winter storm season by purchasing and using a NOAA Weather Radio.

On September 24, 2008 at 3:00 PM the National Weather Service will be conducting a dedication ceremony for the new Randle/Packwood NOAA weather radio at Bennett Road. The location for the ceremony is the Randle Fire Station, located at 9978 US Highway 12. *[Continued on Page 3]*

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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.



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Web Site

www.mikeandkey.org

Send dues to

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Renton, WA 98057-4234

K7LED Repeaters

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

Email

info@mikeandkey.org

Send newsletter submissions to

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Reflector

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

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Webmasters	Jim Etwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat@arrl.net	206-633-1512
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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 activities and events, such as: VE testing, membership, past editions of the *Relay* and more.

Reflector — The Club's 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.

September 2008

Warning! Competition Ahead

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

The Mike & Key Clandestine Society of Contest Operators (MKARCCSCO) is going to offer you the opportunity to prove your radio skills in 2009 (with a warmup this September). There will be two competitions. The first competition is to see who can work all 50 States. The second competition is to see who can work 100 countries (based on the ARRL DXCC List).

The rules are similar for both competitions--

- 1) Only contacts from January 1 through December 31, 2009 (UTC) are eligible. This is a year-long competition and does not end once the first two prizes are awarded.
- 2) No QSL cards are required as this is on the honor system. However, a log of valid contacts is required.
- 3) Any mode or combination of modes. All contacts must be made via radio (no internet).
- 4) You must register for the competition and are expected to report in monthly so it can be reported in the Relay. Registrations are due by December 31, 2008.
- 5) Members of MKARCCSCO are not eligible and will be denied registration (you should know who you are). However, if you don't know whether you are a member of MKARCCSCO (it is a clandestine organization after all), try registering and find out.
- 6) Family Teams (OM/YL/Harmonics) are encouraged and may combine contacts into one log.
- 7) Prizes
 - a. A \$25 gift card will be awarded to the first to work the 50 States based on submitted log.
 - b. A \$50 gift card will be awarded to the first to work the 100 countries based on submitted log.
 - c. Certificates will be awarded at years end.
 - d. Other "devices of recognition" may be awarded as the MKARCCSCO sees fit, particularly for year end DX counts and "style" (i.e. We would really be impressed if you do it with QRP and a Budipole).

Warmup competition

Salmon Run (Washington State QSO Party) – September 20-21, 2008. Same rules except:

- 1) No registration required – just get on. You will need to submit me a copy of your log and summary.
- 2) First place (\$25 gift card) goes to the person who can make the highest combined State/DX total. In the event of a tie, the largest number of counties, then the largest number of contacts will be used as tie breakers.
- 3) You can find the rules for the Salmon Run at <http://www.wwdx.org/salmonrun/>

--All the best in Contesting, Mike N7WA

K7LED Relay

NOAA Weather Radio Month... [Cont'd from Pg 1]

Weather Radios enable you to monitor weather-related forecasts, watches, and warnings 24 hours a day direct from the National Weather Service. Weather Radios can have a warning alarm feature, instantly alerting the listener to fast-breaking warning information specifically related to our region. The warning alarm operates in a muted mode and is activated by the local National Weather Service when a warning message is transmitted. Some models activate serial warning features for the impaired, and have a battery backup system in case of power outage.

The system is part of the Lewis County Emergency Alert "all-hazards" warning system (EAS), that is used not only for immediate flood and weather related events, but also hazards like volcanic activity, hazardous chemical accidents, AMBER child abduction alerts and secondary hazards from terrorism and earthquakes

Under a 1975 White House policy statement, NOAA Weather Radio was designated the sole government operated radio system to provide hazard warning information direct to the American people. NOAA Weather Radio is the perfect complement to local broadcast weather news, as well as the Internet and other weather information sources.

Weather radios are available at most radio electronic retailers and internet outlets. For additional information on NOAA Weather Radio Month please contact Lewis County Emergency Management at (360) 740-1151.

--ARRL Western Washington Section, Section Manager: James Pace, K7CEX k7cex@arrl.org

Northwest DX Convention Synopsis

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

The 2008 edition of the Northwest DX Convention was held in Portland on the weekend of August 2nd. This annual event, which traditionally travels between the three major Northwest DX Clubs (Portland Seattle, British Columbia), is always a great event in which to learn from and mingle with DXers and Contesters from the region.

Highlights this year were talks by Rudi/N6LF on his experiments with radials on verticals, former baseball great Joe/NK7U on his contest station rebuild, and banquet speaker Tom/K5RC who described the various stages of DX/Contest disease in a manner that XYL's could understand. In addition to the usual DXpedition travelogues that leave you wishing for a trip to the Caribbean or South Pacific, there was a presentation by a professional tower installer (who does the BIG commercial stuff as well as bigger Ham projects) which made me rethink a few things about my own tower work.

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September 2008

NW DX Convention Synopsis... [Cont'd from Page 3]

The best parts of these conventions are the evening hospitality suites when you can sit and talk to your peers from across the Northwest. (The Friday night even actually included a chance to help sort the W7 QSL Bureau cards and pull your cards from the pile.) The worst part is getting up in the morning after staying up to 1 or 2AM.

Next years convention will bring change to this event. A fourth DX club has entered the rotation. The Spokane DX Club will be hosting the 2009 event and it will be held in Spokane. As such, I'm looking forward to a trip east of the mountains next summer. Maybe you'll come too?

Its... Fleamarket Time!

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

If this is September, it's time to start thinking Fleamarket again. Oh, no!... **Oh, Yes!** Mark your calendars, apply for vacation time and sign up to work the event. When is the event you ask? March 7th 2009 (and you might as well throw in March 6th to help with setup).

The first organizational meeting will be held October 7th. It'll be held at the Dinkelman residence at 7PM. All interested are welcome to attend. This first meeting is pretty much a review of last year and planning for next year. We also need to know which Chairpersons are coming back. Please let me know via email as soon as possible so we can fill holes if needed.

If you are new to the club, don't let this be a scary event. This is the most fun you can have in Amateur Radio and not get thrown in jail. (Some have said there is perhaps one caveat, though: It could threaten your marriage.) You'll be hearing more as the months go by. Just remember that it takes well over 100 people to run this thing and that's just about our entire 'active' membership. --Mike N7WA

Mike&Key General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held 08-16-2008

Meeting was called to order at 1000 hours

Pledge of Allegiance.

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; If you wish to go outside during the break, the Salvation Army requests that we do so on the West side of the building. This is a small room, and if you have conversations that must be carried out, please carry them out to the other room.

K7LED Relay

Members and guest introductions.

Quorum not present.

Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*? Steve KD7IQL makes the motion and Sam N7RHE seconds.

Officer Reports:

President – Dick WA7NIW: Nothing to report.

Vice President – Tim K7ANE: Two applications for membership were approved at the last board meeting. Choice Dalton KD7JQB, David Weirich KE7UYB were approved by the membership.

Secretary – Ivy WA7IVY: Nothing to report.

Treasurer – Carolyn WV7Q: The club's books are in order. The new repeater has been paid for. Flea Market audit was conducted this morning.

Activity Manager – Jack N7IHS: Tim will speak to us about the Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society

Chairman of the Board – Hal N3YX: Nothing to report.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Received the new repeater and will be putting on Tiger Mountain shortly. He has some free batteries available.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: Not present.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Robert KD7WNV: nothing to report.

Facilities and Publicity – Jeff KE7FRJ: not present. Steve reports that Jeff has sent

Education and Training – Hal N3YX: Tim K7ANE reports that we gave a class at the beginning of the month, 10 of 12 passed. There was a family of six who took the class, five of whom passed and the sixth will retest today. Next class has not been scheduled yet.

Public Service – Frank NA7O: Robert KD7WNV: There will be a meeting today at the Cedar River Smokehouse after the meeting.

Technical and Special Interest – Steve KD7IQL: The committee will be working with Paul in setting up the new repeater. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact

Other Committees (as appropriate)

VE Exams -- Scott AG7T: 23 people tested, 17 passed the technician exam, 3 passed the general exam, 1 passed the extra exam. Exams today at 12:30.

Field Day -- Steve KD7IQL / Brendan KD7IKV: If people are interested in securing the wagon wheel on the 22nd of September, Steve has information if anyone wants to be calling. Field Day is the fourth full weekend of June.

Audit Committee – Sam N7RHE: The audit committee did the Flea Market audit this morning.

Old Business: There is no old business.

Alligator Award – Dean N7NKN. No new awardee this month.

New Business – no new business.

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September 2008

General Meeting Minutes... [Cont'd from Page 4]

Good of the Order –

Mike wants people to think about the Flea Market and set aside this time in our calendar. March 7, 2009. This is when we make the bulk of our operating fund.

Tomorrow is the Sound Antique Radio Association flea market at the museum off of Aurora in Shoreline.

Next month is the Salmon Run.

We have EchoLink connected on our 220 repeater. Had an interesting connection from Tbilisi Georgia this week.

Paul explained the comment in the board meeting minutes about the 440 frequency.

The Mike & Key Board next meets on the September 3rd, at El Charro in SeaTac.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is September 20th.

Little John WA7HQQ made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned 10:40.

11 guests; 41 members present at the meeting.

Attested: Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY – Secretary

Mike&Key Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held 09-03-2008

Officers present:

 President – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)

 Vice President – Tim Kane (K7ANE)

 Secretary – Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY)

 Treasurer – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)

 Activity Manager – Jack Grimmett (N7IHS)

 Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

 No. 1 – Frank Tate (NA7O)

 No. 2 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL)

 No. 3 – Jeff Stevens (KE7FRJ)

 No. 4 – Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV)

 No. 5 – Hal Mueller (N3YX)

Visitors in attendance: Mike Dinkelman (N7WA)

Chairman Hal (N3YX) called the meeting to order at 19:04 p.m.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Ivy (WA7IVY) and seconded by Steve (KD7IQL). Motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Chairman of the Board – Hal (N3YX): nothing to report.

President – Dick (WA7NIW): not present.

Vice President – Tim (K7ANE): not present. Membership application was sent in the mail, Jeff McDonald (KA6TEM). He was approved by the board. Frank mentioned that we should vote in the general membership meeting for or against new members by a show of hand.

Secretary – Ivy (WA7IVY): nothing to report. Mail delivered to Treasurer.

K7LED Relay

Treasurer – Carolyn (WV7Q): The Club's books are in good order. Gave Balance Sheet summary. At the last general meeting she had a request for a roster from a general member. Carolyn will handle all such requests by email. Carolyn will be gone on vacation; Jack will cover for her during her absence. We need to start discuss the next year's budget. Requests for next year's budget: an increase in amount for repeater budget – primarily for test equipment, specifically a service monitor, not just for the radio officer but also of interest for the technical, education and public service committee.

Activity Manager – Jack (N7IHS): not present.

Radio Officer – Paul (N7DOH): not present.

Editor Reports:

Relay Editor – Gary (KG7KU): not present.

Webmaster – Jim (KD7BAT): not present.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Robert (KD7WNV): Spoke with Mike Hansen (KG7MX) about what he presented a few months ago. As far as setting up a foundation to accept donations. He asked Robert to write up a document as a starting point. This is still in progress. He didn't see much value in attempting to become a 501 (c)(3), but this shouldn't be a huge issue.

Facilities and Publicity – Jeff (KE7FRJ): Antenna analyzer MFJ-249 is in working order now. The MFJ-259 is not working at this time.

Education and Training – Hal (N3YX): nothing new to report.

Public Service – Frank (NA7O): Not much going on at this point. The net hasn't been held for the past month. Suggestion to have next year's pamphlet also available in .PDF.

Technical and Special Interest – Steve (KD7IQL): Two weekends ago the Motorola was placed on Tiger Mountain. They are having some difficulty with receiver sensitivity. We also had some issues with people "kerchunking" the repeater a lot. The Vertex is being looked at by Mike (K7OV). The treasurer has received some receipts for some miscellaneous equipment for the repeater (cables, connectors, etc.).

Until the recent problems with the repeater, it was getting good reviews from its users. Paul is not at the meeting tonight because he is working on the repeater.

Special Committee and Project Reports:

Field Day -- Steve (KD7IQL)/ Brendan (KD7IKV): Steve handed out information pages to people on requesting the wagon wheel this year. It needs to be requested on September 22th at 0800 hrs by someone who has a credit card.

Bylaws Review – Jack (N7IHS): not present.

Old Business - no old business

New Business –

Robert (KD7WNV): concerns that generator gas and trailer tow fees went over the budget. We may need to adjust

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September 2008

Board Meeting Minutes... [Continued from Page 5]

them for next year (primarily due to fuel prices).

Frank (NA7O): Harold (Hal) Zahl (W7QMW) was killed on his motorcycle in Pierce County. His Memorial Service at Tahoma next Wednesday at 11 am. The club generator has been winterized.

Mike (N7WA): We have applied for ARRL sanctioning of our event (Flea Market). Prices are currently slated to remain the same. Costs will probably go up; mailing prices will be up, but. Mike would like to add a couple of competitions for members of the club next year, and this would add to next year's budget.

Robert (KD7WNV) moved that we approve from the discretionary fund for a prize for the Salmon Run; specifics to be published in the next Relay, Jeff seconds. Motion carried.

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

Robert (KD7WNV) will not be present at the next general meeting.

There being no further business, Frank (NA7O) moved for adjournment. Motion Passed and Chairman Hal (N3YX) closed the meeting at 20:05 pm.

Attested: Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY) – Secretary

Celebrate our September members.

As of September 2008, these folks have been Mike & Key members for the number of years stated. Congratulations to all of you, and thanks for your participation and service.

Each of you makes us who we are--

Jack Burrell	N7ZS	28 Years
Betty Westby	N7UII	16 Years
John McGee	KI7OT	16 Years
Mike Foster	N7MF	14 Years
Robert Schweitzer	WB7QNB	13 Years
Charles Sundberg	KD7KFY	8 Years
Scott Robinson	AG7T	8 Years
Rachelle Danielson		7 Years
Teresa Vaughn	AD7CT	5 Years
David Dow	W7DOW	4 Years
John Saunders	KD7UI	4 Years
Joel Lichtenstein	W8CQP	3 Years
John Marthens	NU6A	3 Years
Kristie Ghioni	KE7MYZ	1 Year
John H. Keene	KE7OND	1 Year

K7LED Relay

'08 AK ARRL Ham Radio Convention

de Bill Balzarini KL7BB

The Alaskan State 2008 ARRL Ham Radio Convention had many activities and things to explore to keep the interest levels high.

The many events started with the Special Events station on the air, on Alaska's Arctic Circle 66° 33' North Latitude and the intersection of the Dalton Highway (Old Pipeline Haul-Road) on July 26th and ran for 14 days until August 8th. This station W1AW / KL7 was open to anyone traveling the 200 miles of open tundra and wilderness road to the operating station. Go to the Internet, online, to:

<http://akhamfest.com/arcticcirclespecial.php> for pictures and details.

From this location the Alaskan Ionosphere bounced the ham Radio signals all over the world for over 20 hours each day. The signal path was following the Sun-rise. Sun-set Gray-Line Terminator to almost every place on Earth. Not bad for ZERO Sun-Spots. The pile-ups were like listening to white noise coming out of Europe, just thousands of stations calling at the same time. This would go on for hours and hours until the VK-ZL came on board followed by the rest of Asia. We started the Weekend before the main convention to give everyone a chance to operate up on the arctic circle and still have time to drive the 600 miles south to Anchorage for the Convention on Aug 1-4th, 2008.

It was really a lot of fun to also have the IOTA contest going at exactly the same time. Most of the DX stations would quickly work you and move on, but one dx station after hearing our call sign *W1AW / KL7 on Alaska's Arctic Circle*, asked the question " so what Island are you on ? ". From out of the back of the WeatherPort operating tent, someone piped up and said " Tell him we are on that little Island off the SW Coast of California " that you see on your normal flat map presentation of the entire USA. Of course that set the entire crew of 10+ people into many minutes of having to regain a straight face from laughing so hard.

Between our CW-Digital Station and our SSB Stations we felt that there were enough contacts to have DXCC in the first 24 hours. Having worked so many stations over the entire day meant that you were up and talking for 22+ hours a day. It was nice to get a couple hours of sleep around 6AM so you could start the operation all over again.

On Friday August 1, 2008 the outside tours kicked off with a trip up to see KL6M's 30 foot Dish that he uses for moon bounce. See:

<http://www.qsl.net/kl6m/> for pictures. Because of his clever interchange of the feed horn, he operates many vhf and UHF bands from the suburbs of hillside Anchorage Alaska. While we were there he did a demo of a contact with another station live via moon-bounce.

One of Mike's Moose visitors made an appearance right outside his hamshack picture window.

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AK Ham Convention... [Continued from Page 6]

It was almost like he had the moose hiding out by the dish and he cued the moose to walk through the back yard and nibble on some of his flowers,, everyone enjoyed the moose in the tour of the KL6M Moose-Moon-Bounce Tour.

The rest of Friday was devoted to the BBQ on the Park Strip in downtown Anchorage hosted by the Mat-Sue Radio Club of Alaska. Lots of Burgers, Dogs and Fish made meeting the many old faces that came in to the Anchorage convention from all over the USA a lot of fun.

This was also the kick off of the main convention activities that went on for Saturday and Sunday. Late on Saturday night at O'dark 30 or thereabouts, our very own Wilse Morgan WX7P (ex KL7CQ) played the part of the old man in the Wouff Hong activities at the Sheraton Hotel. See the ARRL article online at: <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2002/04/01/1/?nc=1>

The Early Monday morning departure of the bus to see the HAARP 3.6 Mega-Watt station 200 miles to the east of Anchorage, took off for Glennallen and Gulkona Alaska. After a Brief stop in Palmer Alaska to pick up all of the Folks from Wasilla and Big Lake areas, the bus started pulling the up hill grade to the Alaska countryside and wilderness. We had a well deserved break at Glennallen to reload on drinks and snacks. It was then about a half hour to get to the gate at the Giant HAARP Facility. Many, many Acres of antennas feed with 180 power amps that each ran 10,000 watts linear. You can really thump the Ionosphere with this array of amps and antennas. See: <http://www.haarp.alaska.edu/> for a massive antenna array in the wilderness of interior Alaska.

Then for the week following the convention, the W1AW / KL7 Arctic Circle special events station, on the air continuously from July 26th, continued to be operated by the Fairbanks Alaska hams and travelers. On August 8th they shut down and started the long job of packing up and cleaning the site. They then hauled all of the trailers and equipment down the Dalton Highway to Fairbanks and cleaned all of the Road Mud and Slurry Mix off the Tower-Generator Trailer and secure travel trailer full of radios and gear.

The Team from Wasilla then drove up to meet the Fairbanks team coming south, in Cantwell Alaska. After A quick swap of the trailers the teams departed for home. Our Wasilla-Anchorage team was able to return by late Monday afternoon. This was the end of the long journey of over 1200 miles into the far out-backs of Alaska's remote wilderness for ham radio fun in the land of the Midnight Sun.

--73 and good DX even if the Sun-Spots are Zero de Bill KL7BB 206-400-1723 VoIP

Top Hat Novelties: Fleece Navidad
by Dan N7QHC & Dawn KC7YYB Humphrey

No, this is not Holiday Greetings come early, just a friendly reminder to everyone in the Club that now is the time for you to order and pay for your fleece vests, if you want to have the Mike & Key logo to sport. Thanks and 73 -- Dan N7QHC & Dawn KC7YYB.

Excerpt From The ARRL Letter, Sept. 12, 2008

ARRL, TAPR PREPARE FOR DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

Aficionados of digital communications are gearing up for the 27th annual ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference (DCC) <<http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>>. September 26-28 in Chicago, Illinois The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results, and practical applications.

The DCC is for all levels of technical experience -- not just for the expert. Not only is the conference technically stimulating, it is a week-end of fun for all who have more than a casual interest in any aspect of amateur digital electronics and communications; introductory sessions are scheduled throughout the conference to introduce new technical topics for both beginners and experts.

Topics at the DCC include, but are not limited to: Software defined radio (SDR); digital voice (D-STAR, P25, WinDRM, FDMDV, G4GUO); digital satellite communications; Global Position System (GPS); precision timing; Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS); short messaging (a mode of APRS); Digital Signal Processing (DSP); HF digital modes; Internet interoperability with Amateur Radio networks; spread spectrum; IEEE 802.11 and other Part 15 license-exempt systems adaptable for Amateur Radio; using TCP/IP networking over Amateur Radio; mesh and peer-to-peer wireless networking; emergency and Homeland Defense backup digital comm.; using Linux in Amateur Radio; updates on AX.25, and other wireless networking protocols.

QEX Editor Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, will represent the ARRL at the Conference. He will also be giving a talk "Writing for Publication -- It's Not Rocket Science (Even if You Are Writing About Rocket Science!)." Retired ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will speak on "SDR Outlook."

The DCC provides a separate (and lockable) room for participants to bring and show off their latest projects. Tables and power will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring their own equipment and display for all to see, learn, and ask questions about, as well as a small sign and/or flyer naming and describing their project.

D-STAR digital voice and data will be the focus of the DCC Friday evening session. Pioneers and leaders in D-STAR digital voice and data technology will be presenting the technical innovations in D-STAR and how it is being used worldwide. In addition to the Friday evening session, ICOM will be at the DCC demonstrating D-STAR radios in the demonstration room, and TAPR's 70 cm and 23 cm D-STAR digital voice and data repeaters (KT7APR) with Internet gateway will be on the air.

WINMOR, an HF digital protocol designed for use with the Winlink 2000 network, is set to be unveiled at the DCC. According to developer Rick Muething, KN6KB, WINMOR will effectively eliminate the need for external PACTOR hardware. "This new protocol is implemented through a Windows application that uses a computer sound card for all the analog-to-digital conversion. It provides error-free ARQ transfers within 200, 500 or 2000 Hz bandwidths," Muething said. In terms of throughput, Muething said that the 200-Hz WINMOR mode appears to equal the performance of PACTOR I. In WINMOR's 2000 Hz mode, its performance rivals PACTOR III. "WINMOR is a work in progress," Muething said. "We won't be pulling the wraps off a finished application at the conference. We're close, though. I'd like to see on-air testing in 3 to 6 months."

[--End of excerpt--]

Ham Nets & Events for 2008 -- SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
14 2000 -- King Co. ARES 147.08 (Weekly) 2200 -- NW/ Astronomy Net 145.33 (Weekly)	15 0545 & 1645 -- Weather Net 145.33 (M-F) 1730 -- Puget Sound Traffic Sys. 146.82 (Daily) 1900 -- Seattle ACS 146.90 (Weekly)	16 2000 -- Snohomish Co. RACES 146.92 (Weekly)	17 2000 -- General /Tech Info 145.33 (Weekly) 2100 -- NWSOAR Net 146.82 (Weekly)	18 1900 -- M&K Public Service Net 146.82 (Weekly) 2000 -- Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly)	19 2000 -- Youth Net 145.33 (Weekly)	20 1000 -- M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1300 -- Ham Radio Exams, Renton 2000 -- Amateur TV Net 147.08 (Weekly) Public Service-- -Wild West Rally, Shelton
21 1915 -- Kids Net Net 145.49 (Weekly) 2030 -- Snohomish Co. ARES 146.92 (Weekly)	22 1800 -- WA Emerg. HF 3.985 (Weekly) 1830 -- WA ARES 3.985 (Weekly) 1930 -- PSRG 146.96 (Weekly)	23	24	25	26	27 0900 -- WA ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly)
28	29 2000 -- YL Net 145.33 (Weekly)	30	01 OCTOBER 1900 -- Mike and Key Board Meeting	02	03	04 Public Service-- -Salmon Days Parade, Issaquah
05 Public Service-- -Kitsap Color Classic Ride, Kingston- Poulsbo Area	06	07	08	09	10	11