



From our Club President...

FleaMarket And Club Nominations

by Dick Radford WA7NIW, President

February? It's February already? Yes it is. That means lots of things are in the works for the Mike and Key. First, there is the Public Service Committee putting this year's Public Service Events Guide together. A lot of work goes into this publication and by the time you read this the whole thing will be at the printer getting prepared for it's release date at the Flea Market, which brings us to event number two.

Please, make sure you are signed up to help out at the Flea Market. This is the club's big fund raising event of the year and the single reason that we are able to participate in Field Day, have our annual banquet, picnic and other activities without a big out of pocket expense for each of us at each event, and of course our low dues. The more people work at the Flea Market, the less there is for each to do and the more fun each has, so if you are not already signed up, there is a place for you. Remember, not all the jobs require a lot of physical work, so there is something for everyone. Details will be presented during the program after this month's meeting.

Another thing that will be happening this month is that nominations for club offices continue. There are openings for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Activities Manager, and three Trustee positions. There is a lot of talent and ability out there among our members, and also ideas about what direction the club should go in the future. I'm sure each of us knows someone who would be good in at least one of the open positions. I'm also sure that some who would be great assets to the club are reluctant to nominate themselves and need someone to break the ice for them. Just make sure to get their permission before you nominate them, that way they aren't surprised and might be more likely to accept the nomination.

See you at the meeting on the 21st
--Dick, WA7NIW

FleaMarket Update

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

By the time you read this, we'll be less than three weeks from the largest Ham gathering in Washington State, our own Mike & Key ARC Electronic Show. We had our last organizational meeting a couple weeks ago. Table and ticket sales have picked up and the phones are ringing nightly in the Dinkelman household. It's looking good. It's a toss up whether the current economic situation will be good or bad – we'll just have to see what happens.

I have exactly one hundred people signed up to work the event. You might say that's good, more than half the membership. Well, not so. We have a lot of non-club volunteers buttressing that number. I figure only about 80 of those signed up are actual club members. I really could use about 20 more people. Areas still in need include Announcing, Tickets, and the Country Store. *[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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www.mikeandkey.org

Send dues to

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K7LED Repeaters

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

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Reflector

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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/groups/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.

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February Program Fun

by Daniel Stevens KL7WM, Activity Manager

Amateur radio is fun.

It is February, With Valentine Day and Presidents Day behind us, the days are getting longer and the weather is warmer. I'm thinking of tower and antenna projects. When I was younger I worked tower even in the winter in Alaska. Now I just put off the projects until better weather.

The great Mike and Key Club Flea Market is coming on March 7, 2009. It is time to clean your shack and garage for thing to exchange. If you don't find enough for a table, put your things at the county store. Mike Dinkelman, N7WA, will be the speaker for the February 21, 2009 club meeting. There are many jobs from a couple of hours at the ticket booth or pallet dock to setup and cleanup. Many hands make light work. If we all do something everyone will have another fun year. I have always enjoyed volunteering at the Flea Market.

There is a Flea Market 'Banquet' after the Flea Market. It will be at Main Garden Chinese Restaurant, at 1106 E. Main in Puyallup, about 6 PM after the Flea Market. The cost is \$12 which includes the tip. Drinks are extra. The tickets can be brought at the Announcement Table during the Flea Market.

During the March 21st meeting we will have the Club elections. This will take the place of the monthly program. Nominations will be taken during the February meeting. Help the club, make things happen, volunteer.

The Award Banquet will be Friday, March 27, 2009. The cost is \$15.00 per person. Tickets are available at the February meeting. No Host Bar is open at 6 PM. Diner starts at 7 PM. Children are welcome. Dawn Humphrey, KC7YYB, is the banquet chair person. She has arranged for the Elk's Lodge in Burien. The address is 14006 1st Avenue South, Burien. We had a lot of fun there last year. Be sure to reserve your place.

The summer picnic will be at Liberty Park in Renton right after the business portion of the club meeting on August 15, 2009. This park is in downtown Renton on the Cedar River at the library. We need a person to chair the picnic at this fun location. Come to the club meeting and plan to stay all day.

Several training events are coming up. The MicroHams Digital Conference is on March 21, 2009. Communication Academy is on April 4th and 5th. Plan to attend this great training event. There are lots of classes to attend and great Keynote speakers. I have had a lot of fun there each year. With many subject and great speakers it is hard to choose. For more information, go to <http://www.commacademy.org>. We will see you at the club meeting on February 21, 2009. The Monthly door prizes will be and Dual Band 2 M440 mag mount antenna and a 22 drawer parts storage container. These are some nice prizes so come with a few dollars... Amateur Radio is FUN!

FleaMarket Update... [Continued from Page 1]

Don't forget Setup. We'll also need a good turn out for setup on Friday morning. We have over 300 tables to set up and twice as many chairs. We have jobs for all physical types and no great mental acuity is required. (That's why I enjoy setup myself.) Plus it's a lot of fun to see those empty halls fill up. Of course, we'll be providing pizza at noon. Last year's pizza was really good (we dumped Pizza Hut) and we've scheduled an encore with Papa Johns). I promise I'll order more veggie pizzas this year.

Badges and schedules (if needed) for those who have already signed up will be available at the February meeting. If you sign up at this Club meeting or don't want to pick up your badge, they will be available on site at the event. Please don't take your badge and forget it. We don't have replacements.

The February program will be about.... yup, the Fleamarket! We'll review the schedule, the assignments, how it works, what to wear, the radio frequencies.... everything. Old timers and newbies alike; you are welcome to kibitz and/or ask questions. I put some new pictures from last year's event in Power Point – maybe you're in it? If you can't make it (or even if you can), please read the Hour by Hour article in this Relay.

Fleamarket – Hour by Hour

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

Realizing that new members to the club may be hesitant to jump in and support the Flea Market or wonder how it works, here is your blow-by blow description of a typical event. All you old-timers can skip this (you've probably read it before) but it's the easiest way I can think of to initiate the newbies.

Friday, March 6, at the crack of dawn, roosters crowing — Hal N7NW will drag himself down to the Puyallup Fairgrounds and start measuring the floor for tables and power drops. At the same time, Gil W7GIL and the phone crew will start hanging their wires. Everyone else: Please sleep in and have a nice, leisurely breakfast. Tables can't be set up until the wires are hung and the drops are in place.

Friday 9AM — You big and little brutes can arrive to start setting up. The more people who show up, the easier the work. Be sure to bring gloves and real shoes—we don't want any smashed toes or fingers. We have about 300 tables and 500 chairs to set up. With 20 people working in two-man teams, we can have the entire two floors easily ready in a couple of hours. Remember, there's no need to park on the Fairgrounds itself unless you are bringing in setup materials. Everyone else, park out at the Gold Lot and [Continued on Page 4]

FleaMarket Hour by Hour... [Cont'd from Page3]

come in through the Administration entrance just west of the Gold Gate. Badges will be available at the loading door before 2 P.M. and at the Gold Gate at all other times.

Noon — For those who just put up 300 tables, it's a good time to take lunch. The club will provide pizza and pop.

Friday 1PM — One hour to go before we let the sellers in. Hopefully, the pallet jacks have arrived. The tables should be ready. Last-minute details abound. Put up signs. Set up announcing and the Country Store. Hang the banner out at the front gate. Test the phones. The clock ticks down. Registration ramps up.

2 to 7:30 PM. — This is it. We open the gates to the selling hordes who have been lined up since morning. They come in every type of vehicle: small cars, big vans and clunkers that don't even belong on the road. Each piled with the same junk ... ah, I mean merchandise ... we have come to love and recognize from the previous year. They race through registration, afraid of losing their place in line. They load pallet upon pallet, and we pull each one to its place on the floor. The first two hours will be a madhouse - everyone running every which way. It'll eventually slow to a continuous stream, hour after hour. As the sellers get set up, they start haggling between themselves. It becomes a social event as each gets caught up on the news from last year or the previous event.

Friday 7:30PM — Finally, we start pushing everyone out the door. The gate closes and the stragglers get unloaded. By 8, we can lock the doors and think about a nice dinner and maybe a few hours of sleep ... zzzzzz ...

Saturday March 7, 5 AM, before the crack of dawn and before any rooster in his right mind would crow - we are at the Gold Gate waiting to get in. We have a half hour before we start letting sellers in again. Just enough time to start the coffee, to unlock the loading doors and remind ourselves about how much fun we are having.

Saturday 5:30AM — The loading process starts up again. Talk-in and announcing are busy, as is security. Someone needs to check electrical cords and make sure the fire extinguishers are clear. Everyone has a job to do. As 7:30 A.M. rolls around, the ticket booths are prepped and a line is already waiting at the corner.

Saturday 8 AM — We are selling tickets and the line makes its way to our front doors. Meanwhile, inside, you would think we'd already let the crowds in as the floor gets packed with sellers making last minute deals among themselves. By 8:30, we've closed the Orange Gate—one-half hour to show time. The last of the sellers are unloading and the Fire Department is making its inspection. Get those pallets out of the aisles and stack 'em outside.

9 AM to 3 PM — It's show time! What can I say? I just pick out a spot near the front doors and watch them come in. Lots of friends wave as they go by. As the buyers enter, they try to decide if their luck would be better upstairs or down. The floor is getting packed. The pallet, traffic and registration crews get to rest while others on the team are just getting started. The ticket sellers will be busy for hours while announcing and talk-in are helping the lost and confused. Security is trying to keep the people from using the wrong doors and the Country Store is doing whatever it is they do (oh, sell—that's right!). Next door, the VE team will be setting up to administer tests. Small fires come up here and there: a load needs moving, a seller needs tending. But, overall, it'll be another fine event.

Saturday 3PM — Most of the crowd has cleared. The last of the buyers are trying to eke out deals with the last of the sellers. The door prizes were finally all given out. Empty tables have appeared as sellers have sold out or otherwise packed and left for the day. It's been a long day and we are all tired of people and radios. Yet, the great egress is just starting. At 3 P.M. the sellers can grab pallets and start loading out. As they race to their vehicles, we take away the tables and chairs, and start restacking them. Over the next three hours, we will move out all those people it took two days to move in. Tempers will flare (but keep smiling), pallets run short, and the elevator will struggle with the load as we all sweat to move people and tables. But it'll all get done. As many of us head for a Chinese dinner, we'll rehash the past two days, stuff ourselves silly, and pat ourselves on the back and on the belly. Finally, as we waddle our way to our cars, we'll realize we did it! Another successful Flea Market. And next year it'll be even better.

Sunday — zzzzzzz ... [DST begins, Spring Forward]

M&K Club Challenge 2009- Update

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

This month, I have heard from five of our competitors. Most are making pretty good progress.

Michelle, WA7PVE checked on first with a nice spreadsheet showing actual call signs and states. The count was 39 states. Michelle doesn't seem to be doing anything towards the DXCC challenge.

Jeff, W7WWA is at 34 states with no DXCC entities reported.

Hal, N7NW seems to have made the most progress working 44 states and 80 countries. I know Hal has been having a lot of success on 30 meters. I know that's CW only but frankly, CW is where the action is.

[Continued on Page 5]

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M&KClubChallenge-Update...[Cont'd from Pg4]

I'm afraid the Hanner's (Curtis and Dawn) are looking to make a "come from behind" effort. (Their words not mine.) They've been busy with other activities (including making a living) so they have worked anything at all.

Looks like Erik, KE7UYC has 28 stations in January and 16 this month. The ones for this month break down into 3 DX and 14 stateside but not sure what the totals were for January.

Finally, Steve, KD7IQL, who has moved down into the land of the true Radio Op, has about 35 in the bag (I assume that's states).

Who will be the eventual winners? Stay tuned!

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also made progress on dates and contacts for the bike ride events.

Dick reports that he has contacted Seafair regarding updates on event dates and whether they want to run their ad again.

Ivy reports that there are bad email addresses in the booklet and is trying to get updated information. She will continue to work on it.

Brendan is working the top half of Club Contacts. Gary should be working the bottom half of Club Contacts and Hamfests but had no report.

Steve is working VE exams.

HRO has been contacted for advertising. Radio Club of Tacoma is being contacted for advertising

Top Hat is going to have an ad again.

Vetco and Cedar River Smokehouse will not be advertising.

Ivy will contact Hotpress regarding their ad. The City of Renton is taking a half page ad.

We still need someone to contact Icom, SteppIR, Fry's, Seattle ACS, Shoreline ACS, WWDX club, and the Communications Academy.

We will add contact information in the booklet for anyone who wants to purchase an ad next year.

February 8 is the deadline for having information submitted to Brendan for publication

The meeting to proof read the document and make final changes is February 14 at 1:00 at Brendan's home. We should be finished early enough that no Valentine's Day festivities will be interrupted.

New Business:

The Public Service net has been allowed to lapse again due to equipment problems at the Net Control station.

--Dick WA7NIW

Celebrate Our February Members!

By Carolyn Pasquier WV7Q, Secretary

As of February 2009, 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:

Hal Goodell	N7NW	35 Years
Harry Lewis	W7JWJ	35 Years
Mary Lewis	W7QGP	35 Years
Dean Holtan	N7NKO	19 Years
Ned Ackerman	N7PWR	18 Years
Sandy Dunkel	K7OZY	18 Years
Rick Danielson	K7RIC	15 Years
Lyman Fitzgerald	KA7OES	15 Years
Adrian Roth	KB7BVL	13 Years
Paul Roth	N7DOH	13 Years
Brendan Burget	KD7IKV	9 Years
Curtis Hanner	N7MWC	9 Years
Dawn Hanner	N7VWH	9 Years
Paul Donner	KD7SSD	6 Years
Chuck Richardson	N7LMT	4 Years
Tom Boldway	KE7PBB	1 Year
David Brinkman	N7UNN	1 Year

Public Service Committee

Meeting held 1-17-09

Meeting called to order by Robert at 12:43

In attendance: Dave, Dawn, Dan, Brendan, Talin, Robert, Ivy, Dick

Old Business:

Booklet reports.

Robert is doing Repeaters and Nets. Is monitoring nets and is sending for the new repeater directory. He has

Mike&Key General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held 01-17-2009

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.

Members and guest introductions.

Quorum present.

Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*?

Motion made by Mike K70V & Scott AG7T seconds. Motion passes. **[Continued on Page 6].**

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M&K General Mtg Minutes... [Cont'd from Pg 5]

Officer Reports:

President – Dick WA7NIW: The audit committee will meet before the February club meeting at 9:15 to go over the 2008 books. The Salvation Army gave us a “Bell Ringer Award” for our efforts this past December. The patch given to us was awarded to Mike N7WA. Mike re-awarded the patch to Jim KD7BAT.

Vice President – Tim K7ANE: We have several new additions for the membership library. We are collecting historical documents for the library as well. There is an open house today at the Red Cross in Seattle highlighting their amateur radio shack. Membership applications: Jerry Valentine W7OZX; Brian Cardoza NB2J. Both were voted into membership.

Secretary – Ivy WA7IVY: A letter was received from the Salvation Army in thanks for the club's efforts for Bell Ringing this year. The president read the letter to the membership. The club will be sending a letter of thanks to Ray Novak at Icom for his donations of various amateur radio periodicals. A card of condolences was sent to the family of member and SK Bruce Hulse, W7GML on behalf of the membership

Treasurer – Carolyn WV7Q: The club's books are in good order. The 2008 books have been closed. Our budget was not passed last month because of our cancelled meeting and we will vote for the new budget in Old Business.

Activity Manager – Daniel KL7WM: Raffles today: Year end and January raffle. Next month our program will be on the Flea Market. March meeting we will be holding Officer Elections. Today's program will be about D-Star.

Chairman of the Board – Hal N3YX: Elections are coming up and nominations will be opened up at this meeting during new business. Nominations will close just prior to the actual balloting.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: not present. Mike K7OV reported that several trips have been made up to the mountain this fall, the last walked up in the snow. Last week DNR re-cut a new road up to the repeater. Paul is working on some equipment for the Vertex repeater. The Motorola repeater has had several problems, and Paul is working on the problem.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: not present.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: The web is up to date. We have back issues of the Relay dating from 1990-current on the website, and other dating back to 1973 will be going up soon.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Robert KD7WNV: nothing new to report.

Facilities and Publicity –: Jeff KE7FRJ: We are reviewing the Club Bylaws. If anyone in the club has any commentary or questions about this, please bring them to the committee's attention.

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

Public Service – Robert KD7WNV. The committee is in the middle of preparing the next year's booklet, and is requesting assistance from the membership. There is a meeting at the Cedar River Smokehouse today at the conclusion of our meeting. The booklet will be compiled in the next few weeks. We do sell advertising in the program; prices are \$250 for a full page; \$150 for a half

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page; additional charges for prime locations. Please see Robert if you are interested in advertising.

Technical and Special Interest – Steve KD7IQL: nothing new to report.

Other Committees (as appropriate)

VE Exams – Scott AG7T: There were 9 people who attended the testing session in December; 4 Technician, and 2 General class licenses were earned. For the year of 2008, we tested 247 examinees and awarded 134 Technician; 55 General and 29 Extra for a total of 218 licenses.

Flea Market: Hal N7NW/Mike N7WA: This is our 28th flea market this year. We really need assistance to work the flea market. The flea market funds all the other activities that the club does during the year. Please sign up for a few shifts. The Country Store is a consignment shop where the membership gets 10% (if you work the flea market, you don't have to pay the 10%). The next Flea Market meeting is the 1st Tuesday in February at Mike's home. Activities start at 8am on Friday; set up in the morning and ready for vendors at 2pm. Open the doors 9am on Saturday and ends at 3pm. Then we do tear down, and have dinner at 6:15.

Field Day – Steve KD7IQL / Brendan KD7IKV: We have the Wagon Wheel for a week; if you want to come up early, you are very welcome to do so (as of 2:30 pm on Monday before Field day). Information on Field Day will be covered in our May program.

Picnic – Dave KB7PSN: The picnic will be on August 15th in Liberty Park (near the library) in Renton.

Old Business: 2009 Budget: Mike K7OV makes motion to accept the budget as written, Richard N7MER seconds. Motion carried.

Alligator Award – Dean N7NKO holds the award.

New Business

Election Nominations: President: Dick WA7NIW; Vice President: Tim K7ANE; Secretary: Ivy WA7IVY; Treasurer: no nominations; Activity Manager: Jim N7MU; Michelle WA7P, Little John WA7HQQ; Trustee #1, #3, #5: Michele WA7PVE; Jim N7MU; Brendon KD7IKV; Jeff KE7FRJ. Nominations will be open until just prior to the election

Good of the Order

Bruce Hulse's widow has contacted the President for the disposal of his ham radio equipment.

Club Challenge: proceeding in the usual M&K organized manner.

A British Columbia ham club is having a flea market, and it will be on the club reflector.

HRO is having some great specials at this time.

Tom Gibson has become a SK.

Does anyone know anyone who can help out the family of a SK in Utah?

Mike K7OV made a motion to close the meeting.

The Mike & Key Board next meets on the first Wednesday of the month, February 4th at 7:00 pm, at the Salvation Army in Renton.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is the third Saturday, February 21st, 2009.

Mike K7OV made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned 10:35.

-- 7 guests; 57 members

Attested: Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY – Secretary

February 2009

Mike&Key Board Meeting Minutes

Held 02-04-2009

Officers present:

x_President – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
_Vice President – Tim Kane (K7ANE)
_Secretary – Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY)
x_Treasurer – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
x_Activity Manager – Daniel (KL7WM)
_Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

x_No. 1 – Frank Tate (NA7O)
x_No. 2 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL)
x_No. 3 – Jeff Stevens (W7WWA)
x_No. 4 – Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV)
x_No. 5 – Hal Mueller (N3YX)

Visitors in attendance:

Chairman Hal N3YX called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Daniel and seconded by Robert. Motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Chairman of the Board – Hal N3YX: Nominations were opened at the January meeting.

President – Dick WA7NIW: Nothing to report

Vice President – Tim K7ANE: Not present

Secretary – Ivy WA7IVY: Not present

Treasurer – Carolyn WV7Q: There have been a number of people who expressed interest in being approved by the Board to be Treasurer. They are: Jim Aigner N7MU, Andrew Baze KE7RLJ, Alan Hughes KB7SBU, Kathy Martin KB7QMO, Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Theresa Vaughn AD7CT, Michele Cross WB7AYU. These people will need to attend a Board meeting to be interviewed. There was one member who renewed in September, and three that renewed in October who paid cash. The identities of these members were lost. If you renewed at that time, please contact the Treasurer. A letter will be sent to Seattle Central Community College regarding payment for the license class that was held for their employees in September of 2007. Treasurer, Carolyn Pasquier, WV7Q, brought up her inability to obtain payment of \$700 of Club moneys due from a Technician class held at Seattle Central Community College (SCCC) in November of 2007. Hal Mueller, N3YX, COB, had run the class in the Club's name. Carolyn had written him a Club check for \$628.27, reimbursement for books, shipping, and ARRL fees, which included the materials and testing for that class. Hal said he had presented the class with two others, Mark Shepard and Brian Daley.

The class was put on at the request of a College official, Betty Lunceford, District Telecommunications

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Manager, for SCCC employees only. The agreed price was \$50 per student, which included books and \$14 test fees for 14 students, 11 of whom passed. Hal said that Lunceford agreed that the College would pay the invoices Hal sent her, totaling \$700. Hal has not yet provided Carolyn with the emails he sent to Lunceford, nor the other documents needed to collect this account, but he agreed to do so within five days. Hal had taught another class, this one in April of 2008, at South Seattle Community College. He had given Carolyn all the students' checks payable to the Club in January 2009. One student had written a check for \$50 which her bank returned unpaid. Our bank charged us a \$5 bank fee. Hal agreed to help Carolyn track this person and try to collect.

Activity Manager – Daniel KL7WM: This month's program will be Mike Dinkelman and the Flea Market. The banquet will be March 27 at the Burien Elks club. Fred Lowell N7PZ won the top prize in the year end raffle.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: Not present, no report.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present, no report.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: The club received a request that we fill out a survey regarding non-profit organizations. We will look at the survey prior to decide whether to participate.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Frank NA7O: Nothing to report.

Facilities – Jeff W7WWA: Nothing to report.

Education – Hal N3YX: Nothing to report beyond what was covered in the Treasurer's report.

Public Service – Robert KD7WNV: Closing in on publication of the booklet. We have \$650 in advertising sold so far, which meets our budget expectation.

Technical – Steve KD7IQL: Unable to contact our QSL manager via email. Will attempt a phone call next.

Field Day -- Steve KD7IQL / Brendan KD7IKV: Going well, 15 meter antenna will be rebuilt.

Awards Banquet – Dawn KCYYB: The banquet will be March 27 at the Burien Elks club.

Old Business-

Hal reports that the address change will be taken care of in the next few days.

New Business-

Frank moved that we not publish email addresses in the annual edition of the roster. Motion failed. Email addresses will be published in the roster.

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

There being no further business, Hal adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

Attested: Dick Radford WA7NIW -- Acting Secretary

February 2009

Sights and Sounds by Sunrise

by Dawn Humphrey KC7YYB

CQ CQ CQ! Banquet Information ahead...

The positive resulting comments from last year's banquet by both former and current Activities Chairs, made this year's planning a snap. Thank You!

Gentlemen, and ladies, *if* you let Valentine's Day slip past you this month due to finances or loss of memory, here is your chance to take him or her out for a dual purpose. We'll be celebrating another **successful Fleamarket event**, AND *finally* S P R I N G ! You will want to put aside the dull and dreary colors of winter and dress up for spring if you haven't started already.

The event will take place on the last Friday of March the 27th at the Burien Elks Club, with dinner served at 7 PM. The tickets will be sold at February's mtg and your last chance during the March meeting.

We were able to negotiate the same price and selection with our agreement to do minimal clean-up afterwards, in order to hold down the cost.

We will have the same selection of chicken Cordon Bleu, Salmon, and roast beef, buffet style. The portions were limited to one choice each, unless there were something left after everyone had an opportunity. It worked very well last year.

We encourage you to get your tickets this meeting, because we will be offering the **2 for \$25** again this month, but we might not be able to offer it again in March. Even at that, **\$15.** per person isn't bad now days, considering the great choices. Late decisions will be **\$30** the evening of the event.

We're planning on at least 60, so see you there! This is meant to be a *family event*, so if you wish to have drinks with your dinner, you will need to have them in the bar, unless there aren't any children present, due to the Elks' adherence to the State liquor laws. Thank You.

*Just an aside...*for those of you who were curious why we had butter and NO rolls last year, we assure you that there **will be** rolls this year. It was my oversight in the final menu exam.

Remember, bring cash or checks with you to the March meeting.

FIELD DAY 2009 -- A Look Ahead

by Rita Richardson KD7CNU

Are you ready? I am getting there.

The reservation process will be different this year. Due to many people not showing up for their room in the barracks, we will be instituting a deposit system this year and will continue in the years to come.

Beginning in April, I will take your reservation and deposit of \$10.00 per person, per night. When you arrive at Ft Flagler, I will return your check to you. If you do not arrive, I will turn the check over to the club treasurer. The deposit will be for EVERYONE in your

K7LED Relay

party, adults and children alike. If you are not able to make a club meeting, please email me with your name and number in your party and mail the check to me. For those on the waiting list, we will need your deposit as well. Of course, it will be returned to you if we are not able to provide a room for you.

As always, I will provide and prepare breakfast Saturday and Sunday. You will provide for your own lunch and dinner potluck items. The kitchen will be available for your use. I will do all I can to make your visit a pleasant one, worry free so you can enjoy the park and radio activities.

Our reservation has been confirmed for Thursday, June 25th 3:00 pm through Sunday, June 28th, noon. I will be in the barracks Thursday afternoon getting everything ready for your arrival, if you would like to come over early for an extra night that would be great.

I will have more information for you as Field Day approaches. We needed to let you know about the new reservation process so you can be prepared. If you have any questions, please ask. The club board has given me the OK to institute the deposit system. I hope you understand the need. The club has to pay for you whether you are there or not. They do not mind when you are there, it is the or not piece that has everyone concerned. None of us likes to pay for something we do not receive.

Please feel free to contact me by phone, 425-359-3764, email, gamatoad24@comcast.net or rita4sparks@comcast.net or USPS, Rita Danielson, 9311 11th Ave W, Everett, WA 98204.

I am looking forward to another year of serving you in the barracks.

73 -- Rita KD7CNU *a.k.a.*-Barracks Mom

Something to Think About

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

Being the 'public face' of the Fleamarket as well as the Club Contact [phone] number, I get a lot of exposure to people who have absolutely no idea what to do when their Ham Radio spouse goes Silent Key. I've written about this before but this time of year just re-enforces the need to talk about this. This is when I get returned fliers with a plea not to send stuff anymore mail (it's a painful reminder) or questions about how to dispose of equipment. If you get hit by a bus tomorrow, will your spouse or estate have the resources necessary to handle your Ham estate?

The first thing you should have is instructions on how to cancel your license in your estate documentation. Licenses last for 10 years. If the license is not canceled, that can mean up to ten years of painful reminders from advertisers. For our flyer mailings, we use the FCC database. It's simply a dump of the available Hams in specified zip codes. It's up to

your estate to let the FCC know you are deceased. It's easy to do and I usually mail the instructions back to those who obviously need them. I've included a copy of the instructions in the article which follows this one.

[Continued on Page 9]

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Something To Think About... [Cont'd from Pg 8]

Then, there is all that equipment you own, plus the junk you're hiding in the shed, garage, and attic. Frequently we have no discussion with anybody in the family regarding the worth of our equipment. That new radio may cost as much as a small car but most people outside of Ham Radio aren't going to realize that when you can buy the latest whiz-bang consumer electronics for a few hundred dollars. That nice dual band hand-held may look like a child's walkie-talkie to the unknowing. I've heard horror stories of scammers coming in and offering pennies on the dollar because the estate didn't know what the equipment was worth and/or were just looking to clear the stuff out at any price. If you don't want to discuss your station's worth with the family, at least leave a document detailing the relative worth of your equipment.

Another tip; get rid of your junk! You may think you're going to use that stuff someday but if it's sat there for 2 years or longer and you haven't even laid eyes on it, sell it or dump it. (Some of this stuff may actually be considered hazardous material.)

Finally, determine someone who can be your advocate and put that in your estate documentation. Ask a good Ham friend or even a Club if they are willing to help provide guidance when it comes time to disposing of your estate. By the way, if you are asked to be an advocate, or to dispose of an estate, it's not an easy job and can take years if stuff is hard to sell. I also feel (personal opinion) you are ethically bound not to profit by handling another's estate. It's likely they need the money worse than you do. I'm not saying you should go into the hole but don't cut yourself a great deal on a piece of equipment when you know you could have sold it for more. Remember that golden rule, do unto others as you would have them do unto you (or if you prefer, store up some good Karma).

Canceling An Amateur Radio License With The FCC

by Michael Dinkelman N7WA

- 1) You may provide proof of death in the form of a copy of the death certificate or a copy of an obituary with the date of death listed.
- 2) Send this information (a copy is fine) via FAX or Mail along with a cover letter to the FCC requesting that the individual's call sign be canceled. A sample form of the letter follows:

(Your name)
(Your street address)
(Your City, State, ZIP)
Tel: (Your phone number)
E-mail: (Your email address, if any)
(Today's date)
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: Amateur Division
1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Re: Deceased Amateur License Cancellation

To whom it may concern:

K7LED Relay

I am requesting that you cancel amateur license (callsign) since the holder, (holder's name), died (date of death). A copy of the death certificate (or obituary) showing the required information is attached.

Thank you,
(Hand-written signature)
(Your name)

You can fax this information to:
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: Amateur Division
Fax number 717-338-2850
...or you can mail this information to:
Federal Communications Commission
Attention: Amateur Division
1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

You can also do this on-line. If you can scan and attach the required information, point your web browser to the FCC's help request page at:

<https://esupport.fcc.gov/online/request.htm> and submit the cancellation online. Simply fill in the requested fields with the subject of "Deceased Amateur License Cancellation" and paste the information as listed above into the "Problem Description" field. You can then attach the required supporting documentation by clicking on the "Add Attachments" link. Then submit your request and you should receive your tracking number which will allow you to track your progress.

MicroHAMS Digital Conference 2009

Contributed by Jim Etwiler KD7BAT WebMaster

Announcing the third annual MicroHAMS Digital Conference! The event will be held this year on the main Microsoft campus located in Redmond, WA on March 21st, 2009. The agenda this year will include a wide variety of topics around digital communications and Amateur radio. Lunch and snacks are included with the price of the conference and we'll have free Internet access.

Because of space limitations and parking requirements on the Microsoft campus, we are strongly suggesting pre-registering for the event.

Registration is \$20.00 if done prior to the event and will be \$25.00 at the door. We have a web-based sign-up form (details below) and have arranged pre-payment via the Paypal service (no Paypal account necessary).

Event Details

Date: March 21, 2009

Location: Redmond, WA (Main MSCorporate campus, Bldg 37)

Time: 9:00 to 17:00+

Lunch: Sub sandwiches and snacks (provided)

After Event: Pizza Gathering (local pizza place, TBD)

Cost: \$20.00 if pre-paid, \$25.00 at the door (To cover the cost of hosting the event and lunch)

Registration:

<http://www.microhams.com/digitalconference>

Registration Details

Due to the requirements for hosting the event on the Microsoft campus, we are required to register all the vehicles that will be parked on the campus. To make the registration process as easy as possible, we have a web-based registration form available at <http://www.microhams.com/digitalconference>. You will be able to register for the conference, provide your vehicle information and pre-pay via the MicroHAMS website.

For more information, contact ku7mradio@gmail.com.

2009 -- Ham Nets & Events -- FEBRUARY / MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>15 2000 -- King Co. ARES 147.08 (Weekly) 2200 -- NW Astronomy Net 145.33 (Weekly)</p>	<p>16 0545 & 1645 -- Weather Net 145.33 (M-F) 1730 -- Puget Sound Traffic Sys. 146.82 (Daily) 1900 -- Seattle ACS 146.90 (Weekly)</p>	<p>17 2000 -- Snohomish Co. RACES 146.92 (Weekly)</p>	<p>18 2000 -- General /Tech Info 145.33 (Weekly) 2100 -- NWSOAR Net 146.82 (Weekly)</p>	<p>19 1900 -- M&K Public Service Net 146.82 (Weekly) 2000 -- Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly)</p>	<p>20 2000 -- Youth Net 145.33 (Weekly)</p>	<p>21 1000 -- M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1300 -- Ham Radio Exams, Renton 2000 -- Amateur TV Net 147.08 (Weekly)</p>
<p>22 1915 -- Kids Net 145.49 (Weekly) 2030 -- Snohomish Co. ARES 146.92 (Weekly)</p>	<p>23 1800 -- WA Emerg. HF 3.985 (Weekly) 1830 -- WA ARES 3.985 (Weekly) 1930 -- PSRG 146.96 (Weekly)</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 0900 -- WA ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly)</p>
<p>01 MARCH</p>	<p>02 2000 -- YL Net 145.33 (Weekly)</p>	<p>03</p>	<p>04 <i>M&K Board Mtg</i></p>	<p>05</p>	<p>06 <i>FleaMarket ~9am - Setup 2-7:30pm - Load-In</i></p>	<p>07 <i>FleaMarket 5:30am - Load-In 9am - Show 3-6pm - Load-Out</i></p>
<p>08</p>	<p>09</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 <i>Relay Articles Due</i></p>	<p>14</p>