



Volume 37, Issue 5a

Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club – Seattle

May 2009

From our Club President...

Public Service Season Has Arrived

by Dick Radford WA7NIW, President

As I write this the rain is pouring down and it's hard to believe that the Public Service season is nearly upon us. For some of us it's a busy season, and for others it's an opportunity to see just what this is all about. There are a variety of events to choose from so take a look at the Events Guide and see what appeals to you.

Field Day is also nearly upon us, so now is the time to make your plans. Please contact the Chair for your favorite band about set up and operating. We have the Wagon Wheel for the entire week, so this is an opportunity to come early, enjoy the park, and get to know your fellow club members better. For those who wish to stay in the Barracks, remember that space is limited so please contact Rita Danielson, the Barracks Mom ASAP to make sure you have a place.

Please take the time to contact our Field Day chairs to let them know what you can do to make this year another outstanding Mike and Key event.

We also have great programs planned for the next couple of months, so come to the meeting and find out about the propagation results from last year, and maybe a prediction or two about this year. Who knows, this Deep Solar Minimum might have some surprises in store.

See you at the May 16th meeting.

-Dick, WA7NIW

I Caught the Bug

By Mitch Gill NA7US

Ham Radio has so many different ways that you can contact other stations. I was always amazed at those stations that were operating QRP but always assumed that they must have really high gain antennas up 200 feet. Even then I believed that it was still very hard to make contacts.

Recently I learned the truth. You don't need huge antennas, though it helps and making contacts is challenging at times but rewarding. The reason that I have committed myself to QRP is that making those contacts gives me the same feeling as when I was a Novice.

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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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Send dues to:

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K7LED Repeaters:

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

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

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.

May 2009

May Club Program And Activities

By Jim Aigner N7MU, Activities Chair

It seems like things are warming up again. The weather is nice enough for outdoor antenna work; the contest season is in full swing; and the new solar cycle is just around the corner (maybe). As your new Activity Manager, I look forward to serving up some interesting programs and activities in the fine tradition of my predecessors.

In April, Hal N3YX gave us an entertaining and informative presentation on digital applications such as APRS and Winlink. Incidentally, he is about to release an iPhone application for APRS that will be of interest to hams. His presentation included both slides and hardware for a demonstration. Being the Apple enthusiast that he is, he showed off his new Asus Eee network disguised with an Apple logo on the cover!

In May Scott Robinson AG7T reveals how propagation affects our Field Day performance. If you are a Field Day competitor or want to learn a thing or two about propagation modeling and modeling tools, this is one program you won't want to miss. And, as always, Scott is willing to share his knowledge and experience on any question related to propagation.

Scott AG7T, adds: "I will be talking on Field Day 2008 Propagation as shown by the K7LED and other logs submitted to the ARRL. There will be videos to look at the propagation we saw on HF and 6M. I'll also compare some log results with the most common modeling tools: VOACAP, REC533, and PropLab Pro. Propagation modeling can be tricky so come and learn about what tools can produce better results. I will also answer why K7LED has been unable to break into the top 10 overall these last 4 years, and other questions you have on propagation or modeling."

We had a good door prize raffle in April which we'll try to match this month. Among the prizes are the ARRL Emergency Communications Manual, a Field Day T-shirt (Large), a pair of silver PL-259 coax connectors with reducers for RG-58 and RG-8X, 100' of 3/32" UV resistant antenna rope, and thanks to our librarian, Tokuzo AD7JA, we also have five Yaesu hats, logbooks, and wall maps. So bring along a few bucks for the raffle...see you Saturday, May 16th.

-Jim Aigner, N7MU



K7LED Relay

May Flowers & Field Day

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

April showers bring May flowers. May flowers bring thoughts of CW Beach in June. It's time to start thinking about Field Day. This year Field Day is June 26-28th. We won't know if the Hood Canal Bridge will be open until we get closer to the date but we do know that the Wagon wheel camp ground will be open for members to use from Monday, June 22nd through the weekend.

So make your plans to attend Field Day. (It's very possible Fort Flagler may be closed next year.) Volunteer to help the Band Chair of your choice. Help setup a station on site. Sign up to operate. Make this a Field Day where you are part of the TEAM.

M&K Field Day -- Barracks Mom

By Rita Danielson KD7CNU

Hey, kids -- are you getting ready for Field Day? It's not too far away. Rain or shine, we will be nice and warm, dry and snug in the barracks. We have room for you. We'll even leave the outside light on for you.

But seriously, as of this writing we have 19 beds reserved for the barracks. 17 of which have paid their deposit. It's not too late to drop the deposit in the mail to me (address below). If you'd like to reserve your bed, please let me know at the meeting on Saturday. I think some are concerned about the deposit. You will get it back when you check in. The deposit has been instituted to save the club some money. The club has been very generous in covering the costs for both the Wagon Wheel and Camp Wilson.

It is my goal to make this a fun, stress free weekend for all those in the barracks. Breakfast will be provided Saturday and Sunday. Coffee will be available all day. Games, puzzles, jokes by Rachelle and Larry and the creations of the beading trio will be the entertainment.

Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please call, email or write: 425-359-3764; gamatoad24@comcast.net; Rita Danielson, 9311 11th Ave W, Everett, WA 98204.

-73. Rita KD7CNU, AKA Barracks Mom.

NA7US: I Caught The Bug... [Cont'd from Pg 1]

The excitement of getting a new state or a new country and then waiting for the QSL card. My first country using QRP was with the Virgin Islands. I was using the exact setup that you see on my QSL only the antenna was on the floor in my house next to me.

With the sunspots so low right now you would think that making contacts anywhere outside the continental US would be difficult running 100 or even 1000 watts but at 5 watts? Impossible! Yet I was able to break the small pileup and get a 559 report.

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NA7US- I Caught The Bug... [Cont'd from Pg 3]

Now I understand those that love contesting or seeking awards. It's the challenge. But, there is nothing sweeter than experiencing those first years as a Ham. The joy and awe of contacting another station without wires, the feeling of wow I did it and the confidence that there will be more and more to come. I never believed that I could get that feeling back but I did and now it has me interested in building some antennas.

Right now I am putting up a G5RV and soon I will be putting up a 3 element Bobtail. The best antenna is going to be the 80 meter square but I am hoping to get some help with that one. As you are aware, I am no builder and I can wreck about anything I touch. Some have green thumbs in this area but as for me; I have no thumbs at all! I do have an EZ Hang and it works great but it's all the wire and how to hook it up so that high winds wont destroy it easily.

There will be another 10 meter beacon coming out of Washington in the next few weeks. NA7US/B will be found on 28.222.5 running 5 watts to a vertical. Now that won't help any of you locals but for some outside of our area; it could.

We are looking forward to Field Day. Jan, Tyler and I are bringing our 27 foot Travel Trailer, our new puppy and our black German Shepherd. We are coming up on Thursday and look forward to seeing everyone there.



This is my new QSL card (photo, above). That is the portable antenna and the 703Plus that I am currently using. The pictures on the left are Jan and I on the coast during our anniversary and the picture of me when I was in Iraq.

7th District QSO Party At N7WA

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

The 2009 edition of the 7th District QSO Party was May 2nd. In this test, stations in the FCC's 7th district are the target for everyone else in the world. I like to use this test as an opportunity for others in the Club to get on using the Club call with a fairly powerful station. This year, two Club members came down and

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operated and another two came to visit. The two operators were Steve KD7IQL and Mike KM7F. Visitors were Gil W7GIL and Tokuzo AD7JA.

Conditions were neither great or awful. There was a steady stream of domestic contacts and a few contacts from Europe and South America spiced up the mix. I did most of the CW contacts.... (ok, I did all the CW contacts) and Steve and Mike filled out the SSB side. We looked for some RTTY but never found any operating the test. We made a total of 456 QSO's between the two modes and worked 37 states and provinces (plus the DX). When all the points are added up, it totaled 57,011 which was a nice increase over last year's 32,513. Not bad for a part time operation.

I thank all who came down to play and Paul N7DOH the Radio Officer for the use of the Club call. If you missed this year's event, look for us next in 2010.

Bow To Your King!

By Mitch Gill, NA7US, The King

I have decided that my minions (that's you) need to have some rules when they see their King (that's me). Rules help us define who we are and remind us of where we came from. Rules help to establish order and maintain ethics. We (that means you) must live by the rules or face the consequences. Everyone in my kingdom (that's you again) will have three chances before paying the ultimate price for disobedience. I anticipate only a few Morons from Moronovia to have this problem (you know who you are!)

Rule #1 - When the King (that's me) enters the room you must stop what you are doing and the President must bow and announce my entrance. Everyone must remain quiet during this time.

Rule #2 - Someone (that's one of you) needs to offer his seat to the King (me again) and brush said seat off before the Kings posterior ever touches the hard plastic.

Rule #3 - I speak, you listen and obey.

Rule #4 - At Field Day, I get the best area of the wagon wheel and I am first to eat at all meals.

Rule #5 - Carolyn must announce my presence during Field Day at all times that we come together as a club. She must say this exactly the way it is printed here. "All hail to the King who is our directional beam, the Master of the Ionosphere, the key to our future, whose continuous wave (this can be abbreviated to CW) of caring for his peons knows no bounds. He is the Upper to your Side Band, the amplitude to your modulation, and the RTTY to your PSK31. He is the most handsome, the most virile and a true stud in his personal harem of one. The one, the only.....KING TUT (now NA7US)."

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NA7US- Bow To Your King... [Cont'd from Pg 4]

Rule #6 - The Prince, KD7MJO, shall be addressed as His Lowliness, Head Moron but to the woman who has stolen his heart, you must address her as "me Lady" or "Lady Rachelle".

Rule #7 - The King can butt in front of anyone in line for food or to operate in any of the bands.

Rule #8 - The Queen shall be addressed as Jan. She is to be accorded all the rights and privileges of a non Ham radio operator who promises to study for her license but never does. She is the love of the King but she needs to get her license to become as nerdy as the rest of us. If she fails to get her license in the next 6 months, all of you will have strike against you!

Consequences

Failure to abide by these rules or three strikes and you will either be banished to CW beach during Field Day, whereas you will be required to listen the entire weekend (with headphones) to all the CW Dink can get OR the Prince (thats KD7MJO) will eat three large bowls of Little Johns famous chili. After completing those three bowls the Prince will retire in your domicile whereas we will lock the doors shut and nail the windows closed. We hold no responsibility for the outcome as I was unfortunate to have slept in the same room with the windows open with the Prince after two bowls of chili. Oh, trust me that you should obey the rules.

So my dear Moronovians, you now have rules to live by. Have a wonderful day and.....did I mention the tax? It's not cheap being up here on my pedestal!

Sights and Sounds by Sunrise

By Dawn Humphrey KC7YYB

Now that all the hoopla is over with the M & K Banquet - I just want to thank those *guilty parties* that thought I might be a fit for the roll championed by Zeta Jo Hallstrom (SK)-our greeter par excel lance! Thanks for the vote of confidence. Her charisma will be hard to match, but I'm up for the challenge. Thanks again.

As for next year, if I'm to handle the Banquet again, OR if someone else is the chair, the word is * * * * **more** people will be able to attend, **if** the event is planned for a **Saturday** night rather than on a Friday.

Seems we're all not as young as we used to be when Fridays were our night to howl. Chuckle!

That *might* have something to do with the fact that there are some who have just put in a good week's of work and would like to rest when they get home. Can you imagine that.

Oh, well! So be it! We'll go for it, if the subject is brought up at the meeting. The earlier we get the reservation in, the better chance of a Saturday night!!! That's providing that the Elks in Burien is a good and agreeable place for it to be again after 2 years. I didn't hear any complaints on the price or the food.

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Just a note: We'll be voting on prospective members this meeting, and we happened to see one of them up at Lynden this past weekend, who is also a **Ham Sam**. I'd like to welcome he and his wife, but unlike him and copious note-taking, I've forgotten their names. He'll know who he is, but hopefully, he'll forgive my bad memory. -Dawn KC7YYB

Celebrate Our May Members!

By Carolyn Pasquier WV7Q, Treasurer

As of May 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.

Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	24 Years
Eric Snyder	N7DLV	20 Years
Calvin Doss	KC7IYP	13 Years
Atsushi Sasaki	W7KN	10 Years
James Darby	NY1R	6 Years
Tom Davis	K9TXJ	6 Years
Chuck Griggs	KC7EOP	6 Years
Gerry Ortoli	KE4ZDY	6 Years
Mark Huffstutter	KB7WAL	5 Years
Frank Tate	NA7O	5 Years
Wayne Means	KI7XA	4 Years
Steve Rehnstrom	KE7KRT	2 Years
Jeff Wandling	NT7R	2 Years
Tom Cloonan	NL7FQ	1 Year

Mike&Key General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held 04-18-2009

Meeting was called to order at 1003 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*? Steve KD7IQL made a motion to approve the minutes as amended; Little John WA7HQG seconded the motion. Motion passed.

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

Officer Reports:

President – Dick WA7NIW: nothing new to report.

Vice President – Kathy KB7QMO: Membership applications: Tom Stevens KE7ZMJ; Brett Humphrey KB0HMP; Dick Bohannon W7CTR; All were approved by the membership.

Secretary – Ivy WA7IVY: mail was picked up and given to acting treasurer; (2 annual dues and correspondence concerning our liability insurance); nothing further to report.

Treasurer – Carolyn WV7Q: Jack N7IHS is acting treasurer this month. The club's books are in good order.

Activity Manager – Mike N7WA: Jim N7MU filling in today. The activity manager has resigned. Program for today is on VHF and UHF Digital Modes.

Chairman of the Board – Hal N7NW: not present.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH: not present.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present. Jim KD7BAT on behalf of Gary thanked people for their articles for the Relay but encouraged the membership to send in articles.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: the public service info will be updated in the near future; there are items on the swap page.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Robert KD7WNV: nothing to report

Facilities and Publicity –: Dave KB7PSN: Jim KD7BAT mentioned the ramp which was made by Dan Humphrey and painted by Loras Gassman. Jim also relayed the Thanks from the Salvation Army for the ramp.

Education and Training –: Tim K7ANE: There was a request for assistance from Camp Korey, and we are awaiting more information. Dave KD7TTI mentioned a youngster, Connor KE7YJL, who has been active in raising awareness and funds for this camp. Dave has nominated him for the Hiram Percy Maxim award with the ARRL, and encourages members to support this nomination and to write in to the ARRL.

Public Service – Hal N7NW - not present. Robert KD7WNV: Public service season is cranking up and Robert encourages the membership in getting involved; parades, walks, bike rides, all sorts of events.

Technical and Special Interest – Steve KD7IQL: nothing to report

Awards – Steve KD7IQL: Steve KD7IQL gave out awards for people who were not at the banquet, and membership awards. The awards that were presented at the banquet are listed in the Relay.

Other Committees (as appropriate)

VE Exams -- Scott AG7T: There were 17 people who attended the testing session in March: 4 Technician; 9 General and 1 Extra.

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Field Day -- Steve KD7IQL / Brendan KD7IKV:

Coming up in June. Hood Canal Bridge will be closed on May 1st, but may not be open by the time for Field Day. Need help for the band chairs and GOTA; Michelle WA7PVE is cooking, and Jack N7IHS will work on trying to get us a BBQ. See Rita KD7CNU if you need accommodations in the barracks, deposit is \$10. She is trying to get space at the hostel for overflow.

Banquet: Dawn N7VWH. Came in under budget.

Picnic – Daniel KL7WM: The picnic will be on August 15th in Liberty Park (near the library) in Renton; we have the site from 9am-2pm. A chair needs to be selected/appointed/drafted to coordinate the effort.

Flea Market: Hal N7NW/Mike N7WA: not present.

Old Business:

Alligator Award – Dean N7NKO still holds the award.

New Business –

Activity Manager Election: Jim N7MU was nominated. Gill W7GIL moved the nominations be closed, Greg W7HRC seconded. Robert KD7WNV moved that he be elected by acclamation, Scott AG7T seconded. Motion passed.

Good of the Order –

Gil W7GIL knows of someone looking for a radio class; Ivy WA7IVY mentioned a class on May 30 & 31 at Renton Technical College.

Dick WA7NIW mentioned a podcast called QSO Radio show that is available for download; Greg W7HRC mentioned Amateur Logic on U-Tube. Dean N7NKO mentioned the website Long Delayed Echos for a good history of Ham Radio. Michelle WB7AYU also mentioned some articles on the history of radio.

Michael KG7MX mentioned a radio program that mentioned tire pressure indicator lights can be affected by RFI, especially near military sites.

There was a brief discussion about the history of ham radio by several members.

The next Mike & Key Board meeting will be on the first Wednesday of the month, May 6th at 7:00 pm, at the Salvation Army in Renton.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is the third Saturday, May 16th, 2009.

Greg W7HRC made a motion to close the meeting. The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned 11:47.

14 guests; 48 members

Attested – Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY - Secretary

May 2009

Mike&Key Board Meeting Minutes

Held 05-06-2009

Officers present:

- X President – Dick Radford (WA7NIW)
- X Vice President – Kathy Martin (KB7QMO)
- X Secretary – Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY)
- X Treasurer – Carolyn Pasquier (WV7Q)
- X Activity Manager – Jim Aigner (N7MU)
- Radio Officer – Paul Roth (N7DOH)

Trustees present:

- X No. 1 – Tim Kane (K7ANE)
- X No. 2 – Steve Cook (KD7IQL)
- X No. 3 – Hal Goodell (N7NW)
- X No. 4 – Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV)
- X No. 5 – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)

Chairman of the Board Hal N7NW called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Steve KD7IQL and seconded by Dave KB7PSN. Motion passed.

Officer Reports:

Chairman of the Board – Hal N3YX: Need to review our tax status. Will discuss more during new business.

President – Dick WA7NIW – We have a lot of new hams who are using the repeater, and we might find value in starting an Elmer net to help them out. Tim K7ANE suggested that the new hams listen to the Red Cross net on our repeater because they have an Elmer's corner in the net. (Tuesday 8pm)

Vice President – Kathy KB7QMO – Went through the briefcase and found an application from 2007. Kathy contacted him and he's still interested, and hopefully he will be at the next meeting. Application for approval: Michael Holcomb KE7PLV; William Karle KG4UPN and wife Betty Tanner KE7NBL; Andrew Lengenfelder KE7ZGR; Bill Schneider KE7YFP; Doug Chada (no call); Dale Tongue AC7NP. All were approved by the board.

Secretary – Ivy WA7IVY – Mail was picked up and delivered to the Treasurer. Ivy notified the board that I would not be at the General Meeting in July, and will need someone to cover for me at the meeting. Robert KD7WNV offered to fill in. Ivy will send meeting template to the board.

Treasurer – Carolyn WV7Q – Carolyn asked someone on the board to help translating some data from Quicken for Apple to Quicken for Windows. Kathy KB7QMO offered to help. Carolyn asked if anyone had the invoice for West Coast Awards. Carolyn announced that we have received the money from the City of Renton for their ad in the Public Service booklet. Michael has been giving us legal advice in the past; but now that he is retired, we need to go through the organization called WAACO (a legal aid society which supports non-profit organizations) in order to continue using his services. She requests board approval this; Jim N7MU made a motion that the club apply to WAACO; Steve KD7IQL seconded; motion

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approved. We probably need to re-evaluate our legal tax status – it has been since 1992 since we looked at this. In the past we were referred to as a 501(C)(7) (a social club) but 501(C)(4) (a civic league) is probably a better category for us. Hal N3YX requested that we establish a special committee to look into and review our tax status, and asked the President to appoint this committee, consisting of Daniel KL7WM, Carolyn WV7Q & Hal N3YX and Dick WA7NIW so appointed. Robert KD7WNV restated a tax-status related issue he brought up to last year's board.

Activity Manager – Jim N7MU – May program is about Field Day propagation; June is Field Day; July's program has not yet been determined. Jim is requesting ideas for upcoming programs, and upcoming door prizes. Our librarian has some Yaesu hats that his is donating. Still looking for a picnic chair. Discussion concerning holding the meeting there as well; we will ask the membership at the next meeting.

Radio Officer – Paul N7DOH – not present.

Webmaster: The website is up to date with all the information from the booklet that he has. Salvation Army sent a letter asking for help to help on May 9th to help with picking up food from the Post Office (unloading the trucks, moving it into storage). The board approved Jim KD7BAT's request to put the information on the reflector.

Standing Committee Assignments:

Strategic Planning: Robert KD7WNV – nothing to report.

Facilities: Dave KB7PSN – Dave has received the keys, information and various equipment from Jeff KE7FRJ. Dave will review the inventory listing in the next few months and at Field Day; and find out the repair status of the antenna analyzers. Jim N7MU has the club projector.

Education: Tim K7ANE – Tim hasn't got any addition information about Camp Korey. The Boy Scouts contacted the club about getting ham licenses for the scouts. It's about time for the club to have another class, so this might tie into this request. Tim suggested we might want to give them some sort of price break. Tim left a message with the contact for Seattle Central Community College but has not heard from them about future classes.

Public Service: Hal N7NW – nothing to report.

Technical: Steve KD7IQL – Calvin Doss mentioned to Steve that the current location of the repeater works very well versus Cougar, although the current location is a borrowed location. Discussion concerning use of repeater.

Field Day: Steve KD7IQL – 15 meter beam is at Dean's house needing to be repaired; Steve approved the purchase of parts. There are no RV hookups at the Wagon Wheel.

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May 2009

M&K Board Mtg Minutes...[Continued from Pg 7]

Old Business- No old business.

New Business-

Steve KD7IQL asked that we might do a survey of club members of their skills as relates to creating an Elmer List as well as interests of the membership. There are some web-based tools that we might be able to use, but we would probably also do a hard copy survey as well. Steve will put a short article in the relay.

Tim K7ANE and Tokuzo AD7JA are going to extend our library loan period to one month to make it easier to check out and return materials at the meeting.

Good of the Order-

Nothing for the Good of the Order.

There being no further business, Hal N7NW adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

Attested: Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY, Secretary

Elmers On-the-Air

by Tim Kane K7ANE

All of us, when we were starting our ham "career" needed an "Elmer." We needed a mentor to whom we could ask basic questions, from whom we could seek clarification of unfamiliar technical concepts, or just try to better understand how to be competent operators.

Throughout the following years we tapped the accumulated wisdom of these oracles as we expanded and updated our skills and knowledge. The best of us still do.

To help our new and even long term members, the Board was considering setting up a new Elmer Net, to be held once a week on our repeater. However, on discussion we realized one already exists.

Every Tuesday night at 2000 hrs (8pm) local time the Seattle Red Cross Communications Team conducts their net on the 2m M&K repeater (146.82 MHz, negative offset, tone 103.5).

A regular part of the net is "Elmer's Corner," when all net participant are encouraged to ask questions about any ham topic. The net also announces area ham events and training opportunities.

Senior RC Comm Team members and visitors, many of whom are M&K members with wide experience, provide answers, suggestions, and recommendations, or just point in the right direction.

The net is open, and all amateurs are welcome and encouraged to join in each week. Even if you don't have a question, maybe you can help provide an answer. Please join us on the Net each Tuesday night.

New Library Loan Period

By Tim Kane K7ANE

Over the last couple months, Toku AD7JA, has been bringing the library books to each general meeting to make it easier for members to check-out any they find of interest.

We'd previously set book loans for current publications at two weeks. However, it seems to make sense to lengthen this term so members could return any books they borrow at the next meeting. The

K7LED Relay

period for book loans is now one month. We hope you'll all take advantage of the library.

Are there any Books you want? What ham books do we need in our library? Something new on digital modes? A great tome on contesting or DX work? The definitive reference on antennas?

We have a modest budget to buy new books, and want to get what you want and need. Please contact Tim (K7ANE@arrl.net) soon with your suggestions for this year's library purchase. Also, if you have any older publications in your personal ham collections that are excess to your current needs, the library welcomes donations.

Mike & Key ARC

Invites you to visit the NEW Club Reference & Lending Library

Volumes include the newest editions of:

- ARRL Handbook
- ARRL DXCC Handbook
- ARRL Antenna Book
- ON4UN Low-Band DXing
- Tech Class Manual
- Em-Comm Handbook
- General Class Manual
- HF Digital Handbook
- Extra Class Manual
- ARRL Operating Manual

Due to the gracious hosting of Tokuzo AD7JA, the library is located at his business, Skyway Radio & TV Service, 11818 Renton Avenue So., Seattle, WA 98178, in the Skyway neighborhood, across from Skyway Park Bowling. (Has 5-element Yagi & tower)

Club members can check-out books for two weeks at a time, or duplicate individual articles as needed, any time between 12 noon and 4 pm, Mon thru Fri, Saturday, 12 noon to 3 pm, except on Club meeting Saturdays.

Donations of select ham-related books, equipment operating and service manuals, etc., in good condition, and cash for library fund are gratefully accepted.

Driving Directions:

From the North or West: I-5 exit 158 (MLK), go east across MLK up hill on S. Ryan Way to end, turn R on 51st Ave S, turn L on So. Bangor St. (0.2 mi) then R on Renton Ave So. to shop (0.7 mi), on left.

From the South or East: I-405 exit 2A (167), north on Rainier Ave S, L on Renton Ave Ext. (Airport Way on right), continue up hill to shop, on right.

Please park at South fence, between shop&storage company.

Marque Marriott Memorial Grid Square Day

By Ken Lucke WA7PIX, V.P./Webmaster, SEARC

The Sunset Empire Amateur Radio Club (SEARC) of Clatsop County, Oregon- broadcasting from Grid Square CN76xf, at the mouth of the Columbia River So. Jetty. May 16th 2009, 0001-2359 hrs local. Call sign N7Q, in memory of Marque's call: N7LWQ. Frequencies: 446.000 Simplex / 146.580 Simplex / 144.240 USB / 14.040 CW / 14.270 / 7.275 / 3.975. More info: <<http://www.w7bu.org/mmm>> .

May 2009

Special Feature-- ARRL Newsletter Excerpt
The ARRL Letter Vol. 28, No. 18
May 8, 2009

K7LED Relay

ARRL GRASSROOTS LEGISLATIVE ACTION
COMMITTEE SOLICITS MEMBER SUPPORT FOR
HR 2160

One of the biggest challenges that amateurs face is antenna restrictions -- those implemented by local governments and those originating from deed restrictions and building development covenants. As many hams know, the FCC's PRB-1 limited preemption order

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/prb-1.pdf> offers amateurs some relief when facing zoning and building restrictions; however, PRB-1 does not extend to include covenants, conditions and restrictions (known as CC&Rs). These deed and property use restrictions strongly and negatively affect the ability of Amateur Radio Service licensees to perform valuable emergency and disaster communications. Finding a method to extend the PRB-1 protections is a key component of the ARRL legislative Action Program
<<http://www.arrl.org/govrelations/laprog-faq.html>>.

On April 29, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson-Lee (D-TX) introduced House Bill HR 2160 -- the Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009

<<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/04/30/10792/?nc=1>>. If enacted into law, HR 2160 would instruct the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study and report its findings to Congress within 180 days. The study would spell out uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief.

The study shall:

* Include recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts.

* Include recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives.

* Identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications -- such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations -- and make recommendations regarding such impediments.

* Include an evaluation of Section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat 56 [1996]).

* Recommend whether Section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications by means of effective outdoor antennas and support structures at reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose in residential areas.

The bill does not automatically extend PRB-1 to include CC&Rs, but it takes a first big step in that direction by determining the extent that things such as CC&Rs impede the Amateur Service in performing public and emergency service communications.

HR 2160 has been assigned to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. Getting the bill out of committee is the first major hurdle to overcome - - and that is where ARRL members play an essential role. As part of a phased campaign, members of the ARRL's Legislative Action Committee and Division Directors sent letters to some ARRL members earlier this week; these members reside in a congressional district whose Member of Congress serves on that committee. The next phase will include all ARRL members.

This first set of members was encouraged to send letters expressing their support of HR 2160 to their congressional representative via Chwat & Company, the League's Washington legislative consultant. Due to security measures imposed on mail sent to congressional personnel, representatives from Chwat will hand deliver the letters to the respective Member of Congress.

"Getting HR 2160 passed is going to be a challenging process -- and every ARRL member needs to be involved," said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. "The actions this week by the Grassroots Legislative Action volunteers are just the first step in our journey into getting the bill signed into law."

Amateur Radio operators across the US repeatedly demonstrate their commitment to public service and emergency communications. Through their work with Homeland Security activities, state and local Emergency Management offices, as well as with numerous private agencies, Amateur Radio operators make a difference. HR 2160 can go a long way toward assisting thousands of amateurs who are restrained unreasonably by CC&Rs, but it will take a concerted effort by all amateurs for this effort to be successful.

For more information on HR 2160 or the Legislation Action Program, please contact Henderson via e-mail <reginfo@arrl.org>.

Mike and Key helps the Salvation Army

Saturday, May 9th, was a beautiful day to be outdoors. Mike Dinkelman – N7WA, Al Hopwood - KB7THX, Becky Hopwood, and Jim Etwiler – KD7BAT joined about 180 other volunteers at the Renton food bank to sort and store 80,700 pounds of food collected by the National Letter Carriers Food Drive. We hope to get information about this event earlier next year and do a better job of letting the members know about this opportunity. Captain Terry of the Salvation Army noticed our participation and commented favorably about it.

2009 -- Ham Nets & Events -- MAY / JUNE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10 2000 -- King Co. ARES 147.08 (Weekly) 2200 -- NW Astronomy Net 145.33 (Weekly)	11 0545 & 1645 -- Weather Net 145.33 (M-F) 1730 -- Puget Sound Traffic Sys. 146.82 (Daily) 1900 -- Seattle ACS 146.90 (Weekly)	12 2000 -- Seattle Red Cross Communications Team (includes 'Elmers Corner') 146.82 (Weekly)	13 2000 -- General Tech Info 145.33 (Weekly) 2100 -- NWSOAR Net 146.82 (Weekly)	14 1900 -- M&K Public Service Net 146.82 (Weekly) 2000 -- Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly)	15 2000 -- Youth Net 145.33 (Weekly)	16 1000 -- M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1300 -- Ham Radio Exams, Renton 2000 -- Amateur TV Net 147.08 (Weekly) Public Service-- ADA Tour de Cure Ride, Redmond to Monroe
17 1915 -- Kids Net Net 145.49 (Weekly) 2030 -- Snohomish Co. ARES 146.92 (Weekly) Public Service-- Capitol City Marathon, Olympia Syttende Mai (Norwegian Ind. Day) Parade, Ballard	18 1800 -- WA Emerg. HF 3.985 (Weekly) 1830 -- WA ARES 3.985 (Weekly) 1930 -- PSRG 146.96 (Weekly)	19 2000 -- Snohomish Co. RACES 146.92 (Weekly)	20	21	22	23 0900 -- WA ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly)
24	25 2000 -- YL Net 145.33 (Weekly)	26	27	28	29	30 Public Service-- WA Special Olympics, Fort Lewis
31 Public Service-- WA Special Olympics, Fort Lewis	01 --JUNE--	02	03 M&K Board Mtg	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12 Relay Articles Due 23:59:59	13 Public Service-- Flying Wheels Bike Ride, Redmond to Monroe Juneteenth Parade, Seattle