Volume 39, Issue 6. Mike & Key Amateur Radio Club -- Seattle June 2011

View from the Podium…

Field Day is Around the Corner!

By Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY, President

Field Day is nearly here! My current tally is three Field Day-related nightmares a week now. But I know in reality it will be a great event and everyone is going to have a lot of fun!

I have checked the *Farmer's Almanac* on line and it gives the following weather report for our Field Day:

June 20th-23rd: *Changeable. (Mon-Thu. This is when our early birds will be at the Wagon Wheel)*

June 24th-27th: *Fair. (Fri-Mon – looks good for Field Day)*

Then I checked the *Old Farmer's Almanac* (a different publication), which reports:

June 20th-23rd*: Rain, then sunny, cool (Mon-Thu, hopefully the early birds won't get too wet)*

June 24th-26th*: Rain and mist, cool (Fri-Sun, I can live with this for field day)*

Either way, I'm sure we will all be prepared for anything. After last month's program, we are all ready for the contesting aspects of Field Day, and again I would like to thank Mike N7WA, Scott AG7T, Dean N7XS, and Michelle WA7PVE for being on the panel of experts. I think everyone enjoyed the discussion and best practices.

Field Day is one week after our General Meeting this month. June's program will be on Field Day, so bring your questions, and I'm sure someone can answer them.

Can't make it to the meeting? Let me sum up the Field Day presentation:

Bring Bug Spray & Sunscreen! If you bring a pet, keep it on a leash!! Be Safe!! Have Fun!!!!

See ya'll on the 18th… Ivy, WA7IVY.

Notes From The Wagonmaster

By Dick Radford WA7NIW

We have the Wagon Wheel camping area again this year. YEA!! First, a big round of applause for those who made the phone calls to secure it for us.

Now a reminder to those who plan to camp there, space is available on a First-Come, First-Served basis. That being said, I would appreciate knowing when you plan to arrive, and how many people, tents, RVs, etc. you plan to have, and how many nights you are going to be there.

The reason for this is so I can prepare an accurate report for our illustrious treasurer so he can pay the correct amount to the park. You can let me know by email, or in person at the Club meeting if possible, otherwise, when you arrive. ***[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:
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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

Email:
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VE Testing	Scott Robinson	AG7T	ag7t @ arrl.net	425-788-0452

Mike & Key Online – The following Club resources are available:

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, visit: *http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/mkarc* .**

E-Relay **– Help the Club save on printing and postage, Email the Relay Editor: kg7ku @ arrl.net.**

M&K Activities & June Door Prizes

By Kathy Martin KB7QMO, Activity Manager

The month of June means sunny weather, doesn't it? Well, maybe not around here. But it does mean that it's time to get out and do things. At the general meeting on June 18th, we will have a program on this year's field day with an opportunity to ask questions. You will learn everything you wanted or need to know about this year's Field Day at Fort Flagler. Field Day is on June 25th.

For July, we have two programs that we are working on. It will either be on Power Backup Systems for Home and Mobile Stations or Digital Modes for EM. Please stand by to find out.

The month of August gives us another opportunity to get outdoors with our annual picnic at Liberty Park. Please remember that our general meeting will be held at the park at 10:00 am with food to follow.

M&K June Door Prizes

Here's the line-up for June door prizes:

- ***2011 Field Day Knit Shirt (size XL) with Mike and Key logo embroidered on it***
- ***2011 Field Day Cap***
- ***(2) 24" Belden 8214 coax cables with PL-259s***
- ***2010 ARRL Handbook (softcover) donated by ARRL Eastern WA Section***
- ***Rhino Universal Ultra AC adapter 3v-12v 1.2A max for small digital devices***
- ***Twin Industries Solderless Breadboard***
- ***The Road Home by Andrew Baze AB8L (M&K Member) adventure story***
- ***6-Piece Cable Station organizer for cables around your desk***
- ***Yaesu Logbook and (2) Yaesu caps***
- ***(5) Silver PL-259 connectors***
- ***7 Function Multi-Tester (donated by Fred Roberts, W6TKV)***
- ***30-piece Ratcheting Screw Driver Set (donated by Fred Roberts, W6TKV)***

Notes From Wagonmaster… *[Cont'd from Pg 1]*

Also, a reminder that there are park rules posted on the shelter bulletin board regarding such things as pets being on a leash, quiet hours, and limits on when generators can be run. There are other regulations too, so please make sure that you read the posting and are prepared to abide by the rules so that everyone's camping experience will be an enjoyable one. We want the club to be able to use this park for many years in the future so our relationship with the park management is paramount.

One notable exception to the rules, is that the park has overlooked antennas. There seem to be no regulations concerning antennas in the camping area, so feel free to erect what you think will be appropriate for your camp site. Just remember that safety rules will be in effect, including RF exposure, so QRP would be a good idea.

See you there. Dick WA7NIW.

FD'11: CW Beach Primer

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

Yes, in two weeks, Field Day will be here and that means another edition of CW Beach.

Just what is CW Beach? For new-comers, the Mike and Key is unique in that we have a location that supports two radio sites within one. At Fort Flagler, on a 100' bluff overlooking the entrance to Puget Sound is the location of our SSB stations. Upwind (fortunately) and down on the beach itself is *CW Beach*.

On the beach, we set up one big tent, two CW stations, antenna's for 80-15M, and generally have a pretty good time of it. All are welcome. It's not just about CW (though you won't find any microphones around). You can learn about what goes into setting up an efficient station and the antennas we use. During the operation itself, we have headphones for visitors and invite questions. If you feel up to trying some CW, we'll even sit in with you and mentor. At night, we have a great view of the cruise ships gliding by at 2AM in the morning.

The fun starts at 11AM sharp on June 24th. If you find the action a bit slow on the bluff (it does take them a while to get going sometimes), come on down to the beach. Our goal is to have radios operational before the potluck starts on Friday evening. Extra help is especially welcome this year as we'll be short two of my usual partners in CW crime.

At the upcoming June Club meeting, you'll get to hear plenty about how Field Day works for the Mike & Key ARC. It's a class act on the bluff and the beach. But CW Beach… well, you just have to experience it for yourself to understand why I've invested so many years into it. See you there.

Countdown to Field Day 2011

By Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY, Field Day Co-Chair

Just one week from our general meeting this month, we'll all be at Fort Flagler! As you can see from the list that follows, it takes a lot of people to put on a successful Field Day, and the more the merrier!

Your 2011 Field Day Band Chairs are:

- ***Safety Officer – Scott Robinson AG7T***
- ***10/80/Digital, Scott Robinson AG7T***
- ***15m, Carolyn Pasquier WV7Q***
- ***20m, Robert Grinnell KD7WNV***
- ***40m, Dean Holtan N7XS***
- ***CW Beach, Michael Dinkelman N7WA***
- ***GOTA, George Thornton AE7G***
- ***VHF, Steve Rehnstrom KE7KRT***
- ***Bonus Point: Andrew Lengenfelder KE7ZGR***
- ***Information Table: Meredith & Dick Radford WA7NIW***
- ***Food Chair: Rita Danielson KD7CNU***
- ***Wagon Master: Dick Radford WA7NIW***
- ***Barracks Mom: Rita Danielson KD7CNU***
- ***Tower Pros: Alan Hughes KB7SVU, Hal Goodell N7NW, Steve Cook KD7IQL and Brendan Burgett KD7IKV***
- ***FD Co-Chairs: Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY and Richard Pasquier N7MER***

Accommodations

There are a couple of choices for members of the club: the Mike & Key Bed & Breakfast™ or the Wagon Wheel. **Rita KD7CNU**, is in charge of the B&B, completely and without equivocation; that is, you are expected to be on your best behavior and be considerate of your fellow residents; what Rita says is law. If you haven't made reservation, contact Rita ASAP!

For you campers, **Dick WA7NIW**, is our Wagon Master (no fancy new title here). Please check in with Dick when you arrive with your tent/RV. We expect everyone to be respectful to your fellow campers. Please remember that you, as club members, are responsible for the conduct of your guest. We want a happy, fun, and safe weekend for everyone!

When driving at the Wagon Wheel or near the B&B, please remember that many members have small children (future hams) who tend to run and play, so we need to keep the speed down! The Pasquier clan almost went home one lighter last year when a little one darted out from behind a parked car and in front of my not-so-parked car. ***Watch out for the kids!!***

Set Up

Starts 11am on Friday. This is the where we need as much help as possible. As you veterans know, setup (and tear down) has jobs for all levels of skill and physique. We need help with everything from raising towers to running power cables and setting up tents. The more people we have the faster, better and safer we can get set up.

Scott AG7T is our Safety Officer, and what he says goes for the entire weekend. **Alan KB7SVU** and the Tower Pros will be climbing towers. Remember to bring your hard hat on Friday for setup. *It is imperative that all helpers follow directions precisely as the Tower Lead specifies*. ***Safety is our first priority***.

One change for this year is that I will have the signup board for the operating shifts at the bluff during setup. This means that if you work at setup, you get your first choice of operating shifts. If you're at setup and aren't doing something, **Richard N7MER** will find something for you to do. After setup, the signup board will be taken to the potluck. **Mike N7WA** will handle CW beach as he usually does.

Friday Night Pot Luck

Held at the Wagon Wheel; in case of inclement weather, this event will be held at the B&B. Once everything is set up, join us at the Potluck for food, friendship, campfires, and stories of Field Days gone by. The club will provide the meat, general condiments and sodas. Please bring your favorite side dish or desert to share. Once we've enjoyed all of that great food, we will open the sign up lists for people to operate and log at the various stations. **Rita KD7CNU** (thank you so much for volunteering!) will be cooking and is looking for a few helpers. If we have anything left over, it will be available for Saturday evening's meal. Remember that you are responsible for feeding yourself for the weekend. After the Potluck Dinner, we will have bonfire at the Wagon Wheel. If everyone brings a little firewood, we have enough for both evenings.

Operation on Saturday and Sunday

We start operating on Saturday at 1800 UTC – 11am PDT – and continue for 24 consecutive hours. If you haven't been active on HF bands for the past year, or are a new Ham, or even a non-Ham, consider getting on GOTA first to learn/refresh your skills before going on to another station. **George AE7G** will need plenty of coaches for his operators. Consider taking an hour or two to sign up for GOTA coaching. Remember that if you are signing up for a shift at any station, please arrive a little early to ensure a smooth transition. If you have any questions at all, please ask the Band Chairs for more information.

Another change for this year: Each band chair will have a sign-in sheet for you to fill in when you report in for a shift as a logger or operator. Please fill this out, and if you are under 18 years of age, provide your age. This will help me tremendously when it comes to time for submitting our points for this year.

What to Bring

Bug repellent, firewood, **Sunscreen**, warm clothing, **Bug repellent**, rain gear, extra blanket, flashlights, handi-talkie, **Sunscreen**, spare batteries (don't forget extras for your HT too), **Bug repellent**, food for meals and snacks (you are responsible for your own lunches and breakfasts), ice, **Sunscreen**, drinks, pot-luck dish for Friday night, camping gear (if needed), **Bug repellent**, matches, first aid kit, xyl/om, and the rest of the family, **Sunscreen**. Did we mention **Bug repellent**? The State Parks have regulations in place prohibiting spraying of pesticides. So please bring your **Bug repellent**. And **Sunscreen.**

Tear Down

Similar to Setup, but reversed. What hasn't changed is the need for as many people as possible for teardown. Everyone can help and it will be greatly appreciated!

Getting to Fort Flagler

From the Hood Canal Bridge at the North end of Kitsap Peninsula:

- About five miles after crossing the bridge, turn right onto easily missed Highway 19 (Beaver Valley Road).
- Travel 10 miles to the Chimacum four-way stop. Turn right on Chimacum-Center Road.
- At the four-way stop in Port Hadlock, turn right onto Oak Bay Road.
- Go about one mile and turn left onto State Route 116. Fort Flagler is at the end of the road, about 10 mi.

Parking

The park rangers have asked that we please park in the lot at the beginning of the road leading to the bluff. Band Chairs only will be allowed to park on the bluff for setup/teardown. Remember, we are guests at this park with a very long and very positive relationship with the Fort. If you have any questions, please ask your friendly local Field Day Co-Chairs or the Band Chairs.

Pets

For many of us, our pets are a part of our family and we want to take them with us when we visit a beautiful place like Fort Flagler. But like the children and the OM, we have to make sure they behave, and in the case of pets, that means they must be kept on a leash no longer than 8 feet and be under your physical control at all times (Do not tie your pet to a tree or shrub). I will have copies of the *Fort Flagler Pet Information and Rules* available at the June meeting, and the Wagon Master, B&B Hostess and FD Co-Chairs will have several copies available at Field Day.

Miscellaneous

- ***Twitter***. I'm going to try the Twitter thing again, and any announcements we need to make will also be sent via our club Twitter site: @k7led. I changed the account name to K7LED Special Events so we could use it for both Field Day and Flea Market.
- ***Bicycles***. You are welcomed to bring a bicycle up to the site, but be aware that State Law requires that operators must wear helmets while riding. No exceptions. The rangers will cite you if you aren't wearing a helmet.

Honey Buckets. There will be two at the Wagon Wheel and one at the Bluff and they will be delivered sometime Friday morning. Please don't use the handicapped one ***[Continued on Page 5]***

Countdown to Field Day 2011… *[Cont'd from Page 4]*

unless you have to – it may be a big box, but it has a small tank, if you*]* know what I mean.

Fort Flagler Rules: (from their website)

Please observe State Park rules so that all park visitors may enjoy their visit. Please note that the following general park rules are not customized for each individual park, so not all rules will apply to all parks (for example, "campsites cannot be held for someone who might arrive later" only applies to parks with campgrounds). Please report disturbances to park rangers; they are trained to help you resolve issues and concerns.

- Park hours vary depending on weather and season. However, all day-use areas close at dusk. Campers may enter parks until 10:00 p.m.
- Campground check-in begins at 2:30 p.m. Check-out is at 1 p.m.
- Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m., unless otherwise noted at the park. Engine-driven electric generators may be operated only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 9 p.m.
- Please use the trash cans and dumpsters to help keep parks clean. Recycling is encouraged in all Washington state Parks. In parks with a pack-it-in/pack-it-out program, visitors must carry out everything they have brought in.
- Please do not harm wild plants or animals. Feeding of wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- Wildlife, plants and all park buildings, signs and tables and other structures are protected; removal or damage of any kind is prohibited.
- Horses are allowed only in designated parks.
- Pets are allowed in most state parks, but must be under physical control at all times on a leash no more than eight feet long. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets. Pets are not permitted on designated swimming beaches.
- Smoking is not allowed inside vacation houses, yurts, cabins or other rustic structures.
- Glass bottles or metal cans are not allowed on swimming beaches.
- Alcoholic beverages are permitted only in designated campground and picnic areas.
- Fireworks are prohibited on all state public lands, including state parks and beaches that front state park lands.
- All Washington state laws are enforced in Washington state parks.
- **Don't move firewood:** Please protect the Pacific Northwest from invasive species by obtaining or purchasing your firewood at or near your camping destination. Firewood can carry insects and diseases that threaten the health of our western forests. You can make a difference by buying and burning your firewood locally. For more information, visit online at www.dontmovefirewood.org or the Washington Invasive Species Council website.

--Ivy WA7IVY

FD'11: M&K – Bed & Breakfast

By Rita Danielson KD7CNU

As we get ready to enjoy the first weekend in June, it's great to have the sunshine and predicted warmer weather. Just a few more weeks and we'll be enjoying the weather at Ft. Flagler. But more than enjoying the weather, we'll enjoy being with fellow Hams and making contacts across the continent, and in some cases, around the world.

Speaking of being with fellow Hams, there are still beds available in the Mike & Key Bed & Breakfast. There are a few past visitors I haven't heard from yet. As of this writing, I have 21 on the guest list and we have 8 beds remaining. These are all beds for single guys as they are in the larger rooms. For a $10 deposit per person, per night, you can't beat the price. Your deposit will be cheerfully refunded when you arrive. Please make checks payable to M&K ARC. My contact information is at the end of this article.

As stated in early articles, you will need to bring just a few things for the weekend:

- ***Bedding for a twin bed, pillow.***
- ***Clothing for changing weather, I know we want it to be nice, but we do live in the great Pacific Northwest.***
- ***Toiletries (toothbrush/paste, towels, soap)***
- ***BUG REPELLENT (I understand those fan things work great)***
- ***Snack foods, lunch items, potluck items, soda/water for yourself.***
- ***Radio, chargers, each room has electrical outlets.***
- ***If any of you are snorers, (you know who you are) please bring earplugs for your roommates and/or your sleep apnea machine. We want everyone well rested for the main event.***
- ***Flashlights for those late night strolls up to the site to take your shift on the station.***
- ***If you'd like to take coffee up to the site, then bring your thermos. Coffee will be flowing all weekend.***
- ***Patience and flexibility.***
- ***What not to bring: Firearms, fireworks, pets(unless service animals)… and bad attitudes.***

Breakfast will be served each morning. This is for our guests in the bed & breakfast and a few invited guests from the wagon wheel. Since this is not a club financed meal, it's not open to everyone. On the menu for Saturday morning, biscuits/gravy, bacon, sausage and scrambled eggs, we will also have fresh fruit. Coffee, tea, juice and milk will be available as well. So please bring your appetite. Sunday breakfast will consist of bacon, sausage and French toast. This is my opportunity to serve the club by serving you, so please sit back, relax and let me serve you.

We are all responsible to clear out the room we will be staying in and help clear out the building we will be staying in. There will be a list of chores that will need to be completed on the bulletin board in each of the two buildings. Please make sure you sign up for one of the chores. With all of us working together, it won't take long. We have never had a bad report from the rangers when we leave. As a matter of fact, they like it when we're in the park, they know they don't have to worry about trouble and we leave the area cleaner than how we found it. Check out time is 11:00 Sunday morning.

The evening potluck will be at 6 Friday and Saturday evenings. Saturday evening, those working at the site will have priority going through the line, or they can ask someone to get their food and deliver to the site. We have a need for grills for the BBQ. At least 2, but more on hand if needed would be nice. The club will supply the burgers and dogs, buns, condiments and drinks. Besides your appetite, you get to supply the chips, salads, side dishes and desserts. If you bring enough for your family and maybe 4 more, we should have plenty for everyone.

For those of us who don't get on the radios, there are a few activities the park has to offer. Several hiking trails, biking is encouraged, MUST HAVE A HELMET, and tours are available through the park museum. This is a wonderful park to go exploring on your own. Wooded trails, strolls on the beach, bunkers and gun batteries to explore are just a few of the adventures you can have. ***[Continued on Page 6]***

FD'11: Bed & Breakfast… [Cont'd from Page 5]

All are great photo opportunities for all photographers in our group. There are even a few geo caches in the area.

Nearby, Port Hadlock, Port Ludlow and Port Townsend are all waiting to be explored. This area is loaded with history. My personal favorite place to visit is the James House in Port Townsend.

My parents lived in the basement apartment when they were first married in 1950 while my dad was stationed at Ft. Warden. If you visit Ft Warden, you can tour the Ft. Warden Lighthouse.

Invite your friends to come up for the day on Saturday. Expose them to our 'hobby'. Let them make a contact or two on the GOTA station. Maybe they'll get bitten by the radio bug. We don't want to be selfish, we want to share.

Contact information: gamatoad24@comcast.net, Phone-425-359-3764 (*after 5 pm please*).

Address: 9311 11th Ave W., Everett, WA 98204.

73's and 88's Rita KD7CNU
AKA Bed & Breakfast MOM.

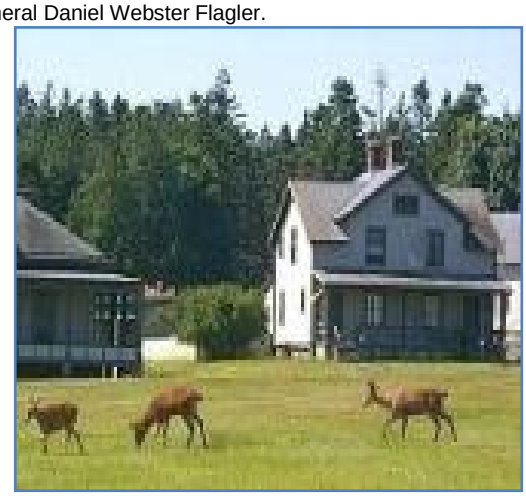
The following is from the Ft Flagler web site:

History

Fort Flagler, along with the heavy batteries of Fort Worden and Fort Casey, once guarded nautical entrance to Puget Sound. These posts, established in the late 1890's, became the first line of a fortification system designed to prevent a hostile fleet from reaching such targets as the Bremerton Naval Yard and the cities of Seattle, Tacoma and Everett. Construction began in 1897 and continued in one form or another until the fort was closed in 1953. The property was purchased as a state park in 1955. Fort Flagler is named after Brigadier General Daniel Webster Flagler.

Park Features

This historic fort offers gun batteries to explore and guided heritage tours. Panoramic views of surrounding mountains and Puget Sound add to the attractions.



Celebrate our June Members!

By Dave Smith KB7PSN, Treasurer

As of June 2011, these 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:***

Dawn Humphrey	KC7YYB	20 Years
Calvin C. Doss	KC7GZL	15 Years
Terry Dettmann	WX7S	9 Years
Daniel Stevens	KL7WM	9 Years
Guy Molinari	N7ZG	8 Years
Phil Sheridan, Jr	KD7UXT	8 Years
Ross W. Laine	W0RWL	7 Years
Ivy Nelson-Groves	WA7IVY	5 Years
Aaron Tate	KD7ZDZ	5 Years
Robert Murphy	KE7MER	4 Years
Andrew Baze	AB8L	3 Years
Gabriel Kangas	KE7TUS	3 Years
Lee Sherry	KE7NBN	3 Years

June 20-26 Is Amateur Radio Week

To: Washington State Amateur Radio Community

Governor Christine Gregoire has ploclaimed June 20 to 26 as Amateur Radio Week, in recogintion of the great service Amateur Radio has provided to Washington State Communities.

A PDF file of the Governor's Proclamation is available by sending me an email at: k7cex@arrl.org

73 and Good Hamming

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

All In The Family

By Mitch Gill, NA7US

"No wonder you're late. Why, this watch is exactly two days slow." – Mad Hatter, from Alice in Wonderland

I remember when I was a Novice back in 1968. I belonged to the Dade Radio Club of Miami and one of the older Hams who could drive brought me there. They were boring meetings for a 13 year old as they read the minutes and voted on things. Oh, that sounds like our club meetings! But that's not why you have not seen me at the meetings… *I love the business part of the meeting as much as I love watching my lawn grow.*

Ok, I miss all of you too but it's my maritime mobile station that is taking all my time as it needs a lot of work. But I digress. Back in 1968 it was rare to see a Ham family or a husband and wife who were Hams. I remember that there was one husband and wife who met at the club and got married.

I thought how cool that would be to have a Ham family until I encouraged Tyler to get his license and he almost broke my bank and drove me crazy. My wife Jan decided that she would get her license as soon as I returned from Iraq but that did not happen.

At the age of 15 or so, Tyler's interest changed to cars and at 18 he began to notice girls and at 21 he married Rachelle. Rachelle's parents, as you are all aware, are Hams. K7RIC is Ric and Rita is KD7CNU. Now there were four Hams in one family until Rachelle decided to get her license and she is now KF7QCN. All these years she went to meetings and she loved Field Day but never got a license and then one day she decided to get one. She studied and passed first time out.

So now everyone in our family are license Ham Radio Operators. Oh wait, that's not true as Jan, my loving beautiful wife of 24 years is not licensed. Oh did I tell you that she promised to get her license as a birthday gift to me back in 2007? ***[Continued on Page 7]***

All In The Family… *[Continued from Page 6]*

But time has always been a problem for her so don't blame her too much just try to nudge her a little.

She works, cooks and cleans and as much as I would like her to have a license in the event of an emergency, I don't want to discourage her by having all of you at Field Day having a little chat with her and telling her how bad I am feeling that my wife has not gotten her license.

And I don't want you reminding her that it was a promise nor remind her of how happy I was that she was going to get a license as I would feel safer with her knowing how to use the radio. And don't talk to her and tell her how much stress that she must be putting on this poor old disabled soldier. No, don't talk to her at all about it BUT, you can write to her, send text to her phone or send her a message over Ham Radio or a MARSgram.

I think it would be great if the club had a banner flown behind a plane during Field Day. It could say something like, ***JAN, IF YOU REALLY LOVE YOUR HUSBAND, GET YOUR LICENSE!*** Ok, maybe that's a little over the top but signs saying the same would be cool at all the stations during Field Day. Yeah, that would be so cool.

I really do want her to get her license but I really don't want to force her….so you do it!

I want it to be All in the Family.

WANDERING - INCOMING DX QSLs

De Fred Roberts - W6TKV

I suspect the first QSL cards were exchanged during the early days of broadcast radio. That is if John Smith who lived in San Francisco heard a Seattle broadcast station, he might well have mailed a letter to the station advising he heard them on a particular frequency and at a particular date and time. The station in turn, might have responded to John with a postcard acknowledging his message on having heard their station. By Ham standards today, they sent John a QSL card.

Hams use QSL cards to confirm a two-way contact with another station, and always expect one in return. I believe this practice actually started at the time of the first QSO - and has continued to the present day. Of course, in the days of penny post cards it was both reasonable and widely practiced (I do actually have a bunch of QSL cards with one-cent stamps on them - keep in mind, one has to be old to say that).

Nowadays, QSL cards are mostly mailed in 44-cent envelopes, rather than as a 29-cent postcard. That said, there are a lot of QSLs being mailed every day - especially in the pursuit of a wide number of awards ranging from *WAS* to *DXCC* - both ARRL awards ... WAS = Worked All States and DXCC = 100 countries (& entities). The idea of entities came into practice as a term covering locations which are not countries but are certainly DX targets due to being in a different location, eg. CA is attached to USA whereas Alaska and Hawaii are far from the USA. Whether we call them countries or entities, when you are talking DX everyone knows exactly what you mean.

So, that brings us to the QSL Manager. Suppose you contact a guy in Alaska, and he is your very first KL. Wouldn't you want a QSL from him? You bet you would! Now let us suppose that Joe, KL7ABC, spends a ton of time on the air and really doesn't have too much interest in sending QSLs to stateside stations. After all, he already has WAS (Worked All States) on all bands from 80M, 40M, 30M, 20M, 17M, 15M, 12M & 10M - so why would he want to QSL? Well, what are his options? 1: He says, "Sorry, I don't QSL any more." which will make you mad. 2: He says, "Glad to send you a QSL." – but never does. 3: He says, "My QSL Manager is W7XYZ."

That means you mail your KL7ABC QSL directly to W7XYZ, his QSL Manager, who happens to live in Oregon. W7XYZ checks for your call in KL7ABC logs, then replies to your QSL with a KL7ABC QSL card. The only thing you <u>must</u> do is to send an SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) along with your QSL to the QSL Manager. Bear in mind the QSL Manager has no equity in the exchanges of QSLs, he's just a Ham who is being friendly, and doing both you and KL7ABC a favor. (As M&K's QSL Manager, whenever I mail a K7LED QSL, I include a page-long letter which talks about our club being active in both Field Day and the 7th Call Area contest.)

In the past, I have served as a personal QSL Manager for - ***1) <u>Falkland Islands</u>*** - a British Marine and I had a long QSO one evening while I was driving home from Utah to Riverside - he was 59 for the entire QSO; ***2) <u>Uruguay</u>*** - a fellow on the U.S. Diplomatic Staff based in Uruguay whom I met on the air, and enjoyed a very interesting QSO; and ***3) <u>Ireland</u>*** - a good friend, N6CFQ, who lived in Riverside, CA prior to moving to Ireland for several years where he was EI4IS and very active on 20M. There are many Hams who serve as QSL Managers for DX or handicapped Hams whom they have met along the way ... but their invisible to you. There are also QSL Managers who serve their local clubs for QSOs on Field Day - something I am pleased to do for the M&K.

The nation's largest QSL Buro (for both outgoing and incoming QSLs) is the ARRL. For outgoing QSLs headed to a foreign country, there is a modest fee, and it pays to ship in bulk ... getting a couple of friends to send their QSL cards together does cut the cost. On the other side of the coin, incoming QSLs are processed in bulk, and are shipped monthly to each of 10 distribution locations in the U.S. That is one 6-land Ham receives all of the 6-land bound QSLs, one 7-land Ham receives all of the 7-land bound QSLs, and so on. Each Ham who manages one of these key points is in effect a "Segment Manager". To put all of this in a little better focus, let me share my 12-year experience handling the T-segment. I have. ***[Continued on Page 8]***

Wandering-Incoming DX QSLs… ***[Cont'd from Pg7]***

to share the fact that I first visited Mr.6-land just to see how it was done ... but I walked out being a part of it with the T segment.

QSLs were mailed to me on a monthly basis by Mr. 6-land who had sorted all of the incoming QSLs by the first letter of the suffi, i.e. WA6**T**AZ

Mr. 6-land had the biggest sorting bin I have ever seen - it was about 12' wide and 5' high. It had 26 sections labeled A through Z, of course, and each section was about 10" wide and 12" high - one of those was labeled "T". His team sorted, packed and shipped those labeled "T" to me for distribution to "6T" Hams.

I also had a 26 pocket sorting bin provided by Mr. 6-land, but much smaller of course, and it was mounted on a bench (6' long, 2'8" deep, and 3'6" high - which at one time was my RV operating bench during several contests). Whenever I received my monthly box of QSL cards, they were sorted by the letter after the "6T". i.e. W6T**A**x, KA6T**B**x, WJ6T**C**x, etc. As the "A" QSLs were sorted by call signs, they were packed into one of the Ham's envelopes along with a note (e.g. 3 envelopes & $2.20 postage left - my notes were always sign "T"). And then on to the "B" QSLs ... all the way to the "Z" QSLs. before saying, "Well, that's that."

Over the years, I learned several things:

1) Many QSLs were received for fellows not in my "T" file, so a letter was sent outlining how the Buro worked and soliciting their participation. Some answered, many didn't. As time when by, I came to realize most of these QSLs were busted calls.

2) After a few years, I realized the bulk of the incoming QSLs were for about 30 Hams, and so I sorted those calls onto my work bench rather that place them in the sorting bin. That saved some time due to less sorting.

3) As I became familiar with the 40 Hams who were really serious DXers, I shifted gears, sent a note to them each month, identified myself as W6TKV, told them when I might be on vacation or out of town and late with QSLs. Plus, I got to meet them in Visalia during the yearly DX Convention.

4) Over time, our Segment Managers changed from a long timer in Los Angeles to new comer Arlette-KO6IS aided by her husband Chuck-KD6WP - good folks. When they advised they would be at the Annual DX Convention in Visalia, I offered to provide a DXCC QSL Display using 100% busted calls which I had accumulated - that's 100 QSLs form 100 Countries in busted calls. I made a large display of the note, "DON'T LET THIS BE YOUR DXCC". Kind of reminds you to be sure the DX station gets your call right. 2 or 3 of the QSLs were ones that most of us have never seen before. Gives you pause, doesn't it?

5) I kept a computer record of several things .., call, name, number of QSLs sent, busted calls and over 11 years the total of calls logged was about 2,400 different calls.

From time to time, I have regretted passing the T Segment along to another. Maybe I should have kept it for another 5 years or so.

Prepare for the Worst, Pray for the Best

By Mitch Gill, NA7US

Life sometimes carries some unpredictability, like the resultant circumstance of a 'Sight-Unseen' On-Line Marriage contract.

Many of you know that I write columns for a couple magazines. One magazine is CQ VHF in which I write a column on emergency communications. Knowing that information I want to pass on some of what I have learned researching for my column to you. I want to ensure that you are as prepared as possible.

All of you, as licensed Hams are emergency communicators and in the event of an emergency, many of you will be able to provide a service to your neighbors. You have to be better prepared for any type of emergency than your neighbors. I believe we need to prepare for two types of emergencies; short term and long term.

A short term emergency in my mind is a major earthquake. In order to prepare for this you should have at least three weeks worth of food stored in your home and a three day emergency pack in your car. That pack should contain food, water for three days, matches or fire starter, AM-FM radio with batteries, a knife and a first aid kit (more information and suggestions can be found at ***www.ready.gov***). Three weeks is the worst case scenario for assistance to come your way after a major earthquake. Water will be a problem but if you are near any water it can be used. You don't need a filter. All you have to do is bring the water to a full boil and that will make the water as pure as using a filter. Don't take my word for it, research it on the internet.

A long term emergency is what 48% of the nation believes is going to happen; a great depression according to a CNN poll. ***[Continued on Page 9]***

Prepare/Worst,Pray/Best… [Cont'd from Page 8]

(Ref: http://www.moneynews.com/StreetTalk/us-economy-CNN-Poll/2011/06/08/id/399332). That alone should make you seriously think about a long term emergency. Personally I have purchased seeds that are non-hybrid and in the process, purchasing freeze dried food for a year.

The one I am getting, but in no way endorsing is eFoodsDirect. It was a company referred to me by a friend who told me that the food tastes great. I got a sample and it is good. In addition to food and seeds you look at solar panels and rechargeable batteries as well as car batteries. If the power grid fails or you are out of work and can't pay for the electricity, solar would be a good choice. I recommend at least 60 watts as it will charge the batteries faster. As for radios, a HF and VHF is best. HF you can use 10 watts on SSB and get out pretty far with a good antenna. Using 10 watts will allow your more time on the radio. 5 watts is all that is needed on CW. On VHF I would have at least two handhelds, one for you and one for someone else.

I could give you a long list but that would take up many pages of this newsletter listing books and websites that I recommend. If you have any Mormon friends, they are an excellent source of information about storing food or feel free to ask me and I will be glad to give an opinion here or there. As all of you are keenly aware, I do have opinions on almost anything! HA!

The bottom line is this, as both Ham radio operators and citizens we should be more prepared so that those of our neighbors who have not prepared can be helped. Store more food than what you need, more radios than you need and remember that only 48% believe we are headed for a depression. That leaves 52% who will not prepare at all.

Let us all pray that the 48% of us are wrong and that we will all have a lot of food that we will be able to donate to food banks.

See you all at Field Day!

GOING BATS FOR BATWING

By George Thornton AE7G

Recently I was introduced to the wacky, wonderful world of Motorola portables. Motorola radios are often referred to as "batwings" in reference to the Motorola M trademark. A well followed forum on Motorola radios is called The Batboard.

New Motorola portables are an order of magnitude more expensive than amateur HT's. Would you pay more than $4,000 for a single band HT? That is the going price for the XTS 5000, which is the latest top of the line model. Sounds like an absurd price, yet these and similar models are commonly used by many police, fire, military and other mission critical professionals.

What do you get for this much money? You get top quality and rock hard toughness.

These are large radios with thick cases and huge batteries. They make amateur HT's look like toys.

A common folklore is that Motorola portables can be used to hammer nails. They can be dropped, kicked, banged and smashed and they keep working. Accessories are built to last and stay attached in the most difficult working conditions. The kind of reliability you need if you are going to war in a bad place.

These radios also have top of the line performance. They have top quality receivers and are tightly filtered. They block out other radios near them and they can operate effectively in crowded places. They don't easily desense. They work where lesser radios fail. Their batteries are large and last a full day of heavy use. Great audio, well balanced and clear.

They are designed to be used in critical situations by people who don't know very much about radios. Everything is pre-programmed so all the operator needs to do is put it on the right channel and push the talk switch. The whole point is that they have to work whenever needed, without fiddling or fumbling. When you are under fire and need to call for help you don't want to worry about PL tones, squelch settings or offsets.

At the same time these radios are extraordinarily flexible. They have features far beyond what can be found in even the best amateur HT radios. The latest models can do digital as well as analog, Tone functions are almost infinitely flexible. They can be encrypted. They can be used in trunking systems. Since radios of this type are used by the military, I suspect some features possible in these radios remain classified.

Fortunately for the amateur radio community, prices for top quality older model Motorola portables are reasonable. A fully functional Motorola portable that sold originally for $4000 can be purchased today for about $200. Older model analog radios have all the features needed for amateur use. The older radios have become available when professional systems are upgraded to newer models with more features.

There is a dark side to Motorola portables. The systems are designed for use by agencies where security is important. Programming requires some technical skill and is usually performed in house by the agency. Many of the special features are installed using flashcode upgrades. Access to upgrade technology is even more closely guarded and limited to factory authorized maintenance facilities. Motorola has deliberately made it difficult for an individual to alter or program a single radio.

You need to know what to look for when shopping for a Motorola portable. This usually means knowing both the model number and the radio's flashcode. You need to know what models work for you and what flashcodes are required. For a newcomer, it is a good idea to find an Elmer before you embark on a purchase. [Continued on Page 10]

Going Bats For Batwing… *[Cont'd from Page 9]*

Motorola radios need to be programmed through a computer before they can be operated. To program you need the proper connecting cables for your radio and you also need the correct software. There are two versions of programming software, RSS and CPS. Interestingly, RSS software will not run on modern computers. You will probably need an older computer running DOS to make this work.

On the other hand, I have been able to run CPS software on a computer running Windows 7. Don't buy one of these radios until you have a programming solution. While there are shops that will program these for you at a small cost, you ultimately will want to be able to do this yourself. Get advice before you buy.

The programming process is logical but tedious. Everything is fully customizable, including most of the radio controls and menus. Frequencies and repeater settings, including offsets and tones, are set up as conventional "personalities".

One of the nice features of these radios is the ability to organize frequencies into zones. This allows you to customize frequency lists according to a particular project or location. You simply switch to the zone you need and you are ready to go. All of your frequencies, offsets and tones are pre-programmed and labeled. It is all tested out in advance so it simply works when you need it.

After creating all the personalities, each zone must be separately set up.

The scanning function works far better on these radios than on any amateur radio I have ever operated. You can monitor a group of frequencies and the radio automatically and quickly switches to the active frequency and stays there while it remains active. You don't miss anything and you don't have to wait while the radio samples its way down a scan list. Multiple scan lists can be created for custom solutions to your needs. You can quickly blank out a channel you don't want to hear. This is a reliable, practical and useful tool.

To maintain quality filtering and reception, these radios are typically limited to one band. Depending on the model they can be used on HAM frequencies including 144, 220 or 440 band. They can be set up to transmit on any frequency within the radio's range, so they can be used as dual service use radios.

This includes use in GMRS, marine or public service frequencies in addition to HAM frequencies. You will need to satisfy license or permission requirements to use them for a dual use, but the capability is there in one unit.

Want to use it in your car? Get a convertacom. The convertacom has a slot for the radio. It needs to be pre-installed in a vehicle. Slide the portable into the slot in the convertacom and you have an external speaker, microphone and antenna. You can even add an amplifier.

Want to feel like a secret service agent? You can get your own Surveillance Earphone kit, complete with transparent cords. If you buy yours used, chances are it was originally worn by a real secret service agent.

When fully set up these are really sweet systems.

You can probably tell that I have fallen in love.

My DX-Activity Update – Michelle Baskette WA7PVE

Just a note to tell the Club how my year is going. As you may know I have found myself smack-dab in the middle of not one, but two Marathon contests. The M&K club contest and the CQ magazine's DX Marathon contest. Joyce bought me a new FT-950 hf rig for my 60'th birthday and we purchased the makings of a 2 el. cubical quad at the flea market. I've been spending about five hours a day on the air. So here is how the year is stacking up: CQ Marathon Contest 101 countries, 31 zones / M&K Contest 1200+ points / VUCC & FFMA 45 states, 95 grids.

Mike & Key ARC – Elmer Contacts – By Jim Aigner N7MU

Area	Elmer Coordinator	Email	Phone	Also…
Homebrew, DX, antennas	Jeff Wandling, W7BRS	dew7brs@gmail.com	206-605-2278	New Hams, satellite work
Beams and Towers	Alan Hughes, KB7SVU	kb7svu@juno.com	253-840-4947	Beam antennas and towers, safety
Contesting	Mike Dinkelman, N7WA	mwdink@clearwire.net	253-631-3756	Contest operations
CW	Mike Dinkelman, N7WA	mwdink@clearwire.net	253-631-3756	Learn CW, operating proficiency
D-STAR	Steve Hatch, WA7DAD	stephen@hatch.net	206-851-8842	D-STAR technology and operation
Emergency Comm	Tim Kane, K7ANE	k7ane@arrl.net	206-251-7467	CERT, ARES, organizations & Eq't
HF Operation	Dale Tongue AC7NP	dale.tongue@gmail.com	425-432-4254	Eq't, Antennas, best HF operating practices
New Members	Dick Radford, WA7NIW	wa7niw@arrl.net	425-828-9791	Getting started, eq't selection and operation
QRP	Frank Qualls, AB7HA	franklin_qualls@hotmail.com	425-802-1837	Low power operation, design & construction
VHF/UHF Operation	Dave Smith, KB7PSN	kb7psn@yahoo.com	425-235-5095	6 meters and up; radios, antennas, modes

M&K-K7LED In-House Contest for July

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

K7LED In-House Contest Rules:

- ***Only special event stations listed in the Relay will be worth points.***
- ***Each QSO with a special event station is worth one, at least, point.***
- ***Some of the special event stations each month will be worth bonus points.***
- ***You can work a special event station with Voice, CW, and/or RTTY.***
- ***QSO's with multiple modes is allowed and additional points can be earned for each mode.***
- ***QSO's on multiple bands (same mode) will not count for additional points.***
- ***A multiplier effect will generated by working states. (Points earned by working special event stations multiplied by the total number of states worked in the contest will equal the total points.) A maximum of 50 multipliers (each unique State worked) is possible.***
- ***Participants are encouraged to report their progress to me (N7WA) each month so I can include them in the Relay.***

In the continuing saga of the Mike & Key year long in-house contest, here are your special event stations for July 2011.

July	Station	Time	Pts	Mult
01-05	K2A-K2M	0001-1259Z	10 /ea-Station	[13 Poss / 13 Orig States]
	Original 13 Colonies Independence Week - All HF bands			
06-10	NU5DE	2300-2000	10	TX – mult
	Nude Recreation Week - 28.465 21.365 14.265 7.265			
	(was going to give extra points if you worked 'em in the nude but… nahhh)			
09	KB2WXV	1400-2000Z	15	NY – mult
	Warbird Airshow, 28.400 14.250 7.200			
09-10	TM90LH	1400-2159Z	25	France – mult
	90th Anniversary of the Radio Club Le Havre, 14.190 7.090 3.690 14.070			
16-17	W0NOZ	1600-2200Z	10	SD – mult
	40th Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant 14.265 7.265			
21	W3C and W4C	1300-0100Z	20 /ea-Station	VA – mult
	Anniversary of the Battle of First Manassas – no frequencies specified			
23-31	W9IMS	1500-2200Z	15	IN – mult
	Brickyard 400, 21.340 14.240 7.240 3.840			

M&K General Meeting Minutes

Meeting held May 21, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 1003 hours by the President, Ivy WA7IVY.
President Ivy WA7IVY led the group in a moment of silence, in observance of the passing of the Madeline Sherry, wife of Lee KE7NBN.
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.
Introductions.

Officer Reports:
President – Ivy WA7IVY: Report was in the *Relay*.
Secretary – Robert KD7WNV: There was no mail today, but Dave KB7PSN picked up an item earlier. It is an invitation from the City of Bothell to host a booth for free at a Hobby & Volunteer Expo at their end-of-summer *Riverfest* on August 28th. Robert will present it to the Board for consideration, but asked if there was any particular interest from the membership in participating. None was forthcoming. Robert circulated a sympathy card for Lee KE7NBN.
Treasurer – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing special to report. See Dave if you wish to examine recent financial status reports, or have a receipt for reimbursement, or need to pay your dues.
Activities Manager – Kathy KB7QMO: We have twenty items for door prizes today, including several items from Japan, donated by Toku AD7JA.
Chairman of the Board – Tim K7ANE: Board meetings will now be on the first Tuesday of the month, at the Salvation Army Headquarters. The next meeting is June 7th.
Radio Officer – Hal N7NW: No snow but too slushy to make it to the top at the repeater site. Will probably get up there in the next 2-3 weeks to check the batteries.

Quorum present.
Is there a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as printed in the *K7LED Relay*?
Sam N7RHE made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Scott AG7T. Motion passed.

Vice President – Kathy KB7QMO (filling in for Steve KD7IQL): Membership application: John Dawson, KE7OXR. Approved by the membership. ***[Continued on Page 12]***

M&K General Mtg Minutes…[Cont'd from Pg 11]

***Relay* Editor –** Gary KG7KU: Thanked everyone who contributes to the newsletter. Reminded members that you can list items for sale.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: Not present. Robert KD7WNV passed along Jim's greetings and relayed that he had nothing to report.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Mike N7WA: Has scanned a lot of old pictures for the photo history project—is looking for more.

Facilities – Daniel KL7WM: As announced by the Chairman, the Board meetings will be at the Salvation Army HQ, now on the first Tuesday of the Month. We meet in the western room/foyer.

Education – Tim K7ANE: RC Tacoma, Snohomish Hams, Federal Way, and Sammamish Plateau all have Tech classes coming up this or next month, and Federal Way also has a General class. See their websites for details. Tim also mentioned his article in the May *Relay* on apps for smart phones, and asked members who have used relevant apps on smart phones to do a quick review and forward to Tim. He will compile and publish the results. Daniel KL7WM announced that the exam for the (Red Cross) Extra class went well. Six persons passed Extra, and there were also one Tech, one Tech & General, and two other Generals.

Public Service – Robert KD7WNV: The Tour de Cure is today. Several members—including Robert, Jim KD7BAT, Gene W7AKA, Fran N7FWZ, Gerald WT0F—are participating in the support, which is why most of them are not present. On behalf of Gene W7AKA, George AE7G noted a new public service event, the "See Jane Run" Half Marathon & 5K on July 17th, and appealed for hams to help support the event. George is also looking for a ham radio solution to moving some data files during RAMROD. Someone had suggested D-STAR. If anyone can help with that, please see him.

Technical – Alan KB7SVU: Not present.

Other Committees (as appropriate):

VE Exams – Scott AG7T: We had 18 people take exams last month. Awarded 9 Technician, 6 General, and 3 Extra.

Field Day – Ivy WA7IVY: Today's program is a panel discussion of contesting techniques to help prepare us for operating Field Day. Rita KD7CNU (who is already B&B Mom) has volunteered for Food Chair. Rita reminded people that we do need grills, preferably charcoal. She has article in the *Relay* regarding the Barracks. Deposit is $10 per person per night. Robert KD7WNV announced that the group order of Field Day shirts and merchandise has arrived and will be available for pickup during the break. John WA7HQG asked about a promise made last year that the rotators and control heads would be made serviceable. Ivy will check on status. Next month's program will be the Field Day orientation.

By Laws Review – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

Logo – Jim N7MU: Reminded members that you can get the Club logo added to your Field Day shirt for five dollars.

Contest – Mike N7WA: Nothing to report.

Picnic – Hal N7NW: The picnic is August 20th, the date of the regular monthly General Membership meeting. The meeting is held at the picnic site, with the picnic following. Hal is looking for some help with the grilling.

Audit – Sam N7RHE: The audit of the Flea Market will be conducted at 9:15 AM, the morning of the June General meeting.

Awards Committee – Scott AG7T: Nothing to report.

Old Business: (None)

New Business:
John NU6A reported that the FCC is aggressively pursuing serious violators.

Alligator Award – Dale AC7NP still holds the award.

Good of the Order:
Michelle WA7PVE asked if there is an ARRL-accredited WAS card checker in the area. An attendee indicated that he could do the check.

Mike N7WA mentioned that there is a ham in West Seattle with a neighbor that is having various TVI problems, if anyone feels qualified and available to help.

The next Mike & Key Board meeting will be on the first Tuesday of the month, June 7th at 7:00 PM, at the Salvation Army in Renton.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is the third Saturday of the month, June 18, 2011 at 10:00 AM.

John WA7HQG made a motion to close the meeting. Seconded by Richard N7MER. The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned at 1051 hours.

6 guests; 58 members, 52 ARRL members

Attested: Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

M&K Board Meeting Minutes

(Meeting Held June 7, 2011)

Officers present
X_President – Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY)
X_Vice President – Steve Cook (KD7IQL)
X_Secretary – Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV)
X_Treasurer – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)
X_Activities Manager – Kathy Martin (KB7QMO)
__Radio Officer – Hal Goodell (N7NW)
Trustees present
X_No. 1 – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA)
X_No. 2 – George Thornton (AE7G)
__No. 3 – Tim Kane (K7ANE) (CoB)
__No. 4 – Alan Hughes (KB7SVU)
X_No. 5 – Daniel Stevens (KL7WM)
Other officers (non-voting)
__Relay Editor – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)
__Webmaster – Jim Etzwiler (KD7BAT)

Visitors - None.

In the absence of the Chairman, President Ivy WA7IVY called the meeting to order at 1912 hours.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Steve KD7IQL, second by George AE7G. Motion passed.

Officer Reports

Chairman of the Board – Tim K7ANE: Not present.

President – Ivy WA7IVY: Nothing to report.

Vice President – Steve KD7IQL: New member applicants: Shelley Stark (no call); Mark Iler (no call); Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF and Nancy Araway, NK1A (family application); Joe Thomason, N2SI. All recommended for approval.

Secretary – Robert KD7WNV: The Treasurer checked the mail.

Treasurer – Dave KB7PSN: Now preparing for the audit of the Flea Market books, to be done just ahead of the June General meeting. It appears that we have about the same revenue, with slightly higher expenses than last year, so the net is down somewhat. ***[Continued on Page 13]***

M&K Board Mtg Minutes… *[Cont'd from Pg 12]*

Activities Manager – Kathy KB7QMO: The June program is the Field Day orientation. July's program will be either Matt Kozma, AE7MK, on backup power, or Curt Black, WR5J, on digital modes for EmComm. July door prizes include a Field Day polo shirt with the Mike & Key logo added; a Field Day cap; a book named *The Road Home*—an amateur radio adventure—by Club member Andrew Baze, AB8L; an electronic prototyping breadboard; a universal AC/DC adapter; a 2010 ARRL Handbook; coax jumper; and two Yaesu logbooks.
Radio Officer – Hal N7NW: Not present; emailed the following report: *Regarding the repeater, no news. All working okay. The road is now passable to get up there and will schedule a trip after Field Day, unless something pops up. Regarding Field Day, I have the large cooler and large tub. The other large cooler had broken hinges. I would suggest we purchase two smaller ones to replace one of the larger ones. Costco has the 62 qt for 39.99. Has wheels….Could be useful for picnic and fleamarket as well.*
Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present.
Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: Not present.

Standing Committee Reports
Education – Tim K7ANE: Not present. Daniel KL7WM reported that the Auburn class is just about over. There are a couple more classes in June. The General exam changes to a new question pool on July 1. Robert KD7WNV noted that there is a gathering of area license instructors on June 9th, coordinated by David Okrent, W7DAO, of the Red Cross. He also indicated that ESCA RACES will be moving to simultaneous, but separate, Tech and General classes, running eight weeks, this fall, then again next spring.
Facilities – Daniel KL7WM: Things are going well. No further word on construction at the Salvation Army.
Public Service – George AE7G: It's active season, extremely active right now. George is working on a D-STAR solution for a RAMROD need. Mentioned a new event, the "See Jane Run" Half Marathon and 5K on July 17, for which Gene W7AKA is organizing the ham support. On the EmComm side, George mentioned the development of community hubs, which use a combination of amateur and GMRS radio. He displayed a GMRS radio that will also work on ham bands.
Strategic Planning – Mike N7WA: Nothing to report.
Technical – Alan KB7SVU: Not present.

Other Committee Reports
By-Laws – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.
Logo – Kathy KB7QMO for Jim N7MU: Our Kent vendor put the Club logo on Field Day shirts as a contribution for this month's door prizes. The preparation and purchase of a Club flag will be put on hold until after Field Day.
Field Day – Ivy WA7IVY: Is starting to write articles for the *Relay*. Band chair notebooks are compiled and are being distributed. There will be an easel with board at setup, for operating signups. The Field Day orientation program at June General meeting will be similar to that of last year. Has met with Richard N7MER and reviewed how the Boy Scouts will be handled. Richard will help manage people during set-up and take-down. Robert KD7WNV is planning to make a trip Wednesday or Thursday, from the site, to bring up one of the trailers. Daniel KL7WM also now has a truck capable of towing one of the trailers (though no trailer brake controller, so would be limited to the equipment trailer). It is also possible that Alan KB7SVU will be bringing one of the trailers. Robert and Daniel will coordinate with Alan.

Old Business - None

New Business
Replacement Coolers: Consensus of the Board was to follow the suggestion of the Radio Officer and purchase the two smaller coolers to replace the broken cooler. Robert KD7WNV will coordinate with Food Chair Rita KD7CNU on who will make the purchase and how to get the new coolers to her if she cannot make the purchase.

Good of the Order
There being no further business, Ivy WA7IVY adjourned the meeting at 2034 hours.

Attested: Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

Wear the Mike and Key Logo

By Jim Aigner N7MU

Over the last several months, the Mike and Key Logo Committee has been working to make clothing with the club logo available to members at reasonable prices. We now have our logo digitized for the chest and suitable for embroidery on shirts, vests, and jackets. We also have a large scale version of the logo for use on the back of sweatshirts, vests, and jackets.

You can find your own supplier for putting the logo on your clothing or do it yourself. Or you can use one of the suppliers that we have contacted for this service.

In addition to the vendor whose samples are shown below, we expect to have another supplier set up a "virtual store" on the web so you can view your choices and order them online.

You can find just about everything - shirts, vests, sweatshirts, and jackets in the online catalog: http://www.sanmar.com .

If you have questions, see a Logo Committee member: Jim Aigner N7MU, Dawn Humphrey KC7YYB, or Dan Humphrey N7QHC. Let's wear the Mike and Key logo proudly at club meetings, the summer picnic, and Field Day.

'Toku' – AD7JA

M&K-K7LED Club Library

Time for New Library Materials

By Tim Kane – K7ANE

In just three years, with club purchases and generous donations and loans from many of you, and especially from Toku AD7JA, our club library has grown from nothing to nearly a hundred amateur radio books and scores of ham magazines and journals.

Our General Operating category is the largest. We have thirty-three *Radio Amateur Handbooks*, from the 1st edition in 1926 through the most current editions from 2007 through 2011, plus the 1991 and 2007 *ARRL Operating Manuals* and another eleven books on amateur operations.

The other categories include Basic Introduction (4 books), DXing (5), Digital Communications (5), Power Supplies (1), VHF/UHF Operations (3), Emergency Communications (1), Low Power (QRP) Communications (2), License Study (6), Antennas & Transmission Lines (8), People & History (3), Electronics (2), Callbooks 1939, '60, '66, '91 and '95 (6), and others.

Need to find a magazine or journal article from an old issue of QST or CQ to build that quad antenna you've always wanted? Or, want to settle an on-the-air discussion with your DX ragchew buddy in VK-land with info from QEX, the QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) Journal, or Popular Communications? The library olds hundreds of monthly issues of these magazines in either hard paper or CD electronic copies.

Each spring we review the holdings in the club's library, with an eye toward seeing what new publications we might want to acquire to meet the members' interests and desires. Last year we got the new 2010 ARRL Handbook, the ARRL General class Q&A manual, a QRP reference, as well as the ARRL HF and VHF Digital Handbooks. Universal Radio also donated some older references from the mid-1980s through the early 2000s, ranging from SWL to DXing to RTTY.

If you have any suggestions for the Library, please let me know. Among the books suggested so far are:

- ***ARRL Ham Radio (Technician) License Manual, 2010***
- ***ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners, 1st Edition, 2010***
- ***Stealth Antennas, 1st Edition, 2010***
- ***ARRL Technician Q&A Manual, 5th Edition, 2010***
- ***VoIP: Internet Linking for Radio Amateurs, 2nd Edition, 2009***
- ***Storm Spotting and Amateur Radio, 2010***
- ***FCC Rules & Regulations for Amateur Radio Service, 2nd Ed., 2008***
- ***GPS and Amateur Radio, 2007***
- ***Emergency Power for Radio Communications, 2005***
- ***Amateur Radio on the Move (on mobile installations and operation), 1st Edition, 2005***
- ***The Complete DX-er, 2003***
- ***QRP Basics, 2003***

One good suggestion that was just received is that we get the 3-volume ARRL "Basic" series, which covers electronics, radio, and antennas. It's an excellent resources for beginners, and more experienced hams who want to brush up on the fundamentals.

While it would be nice to get everything, our budget is limited, so we want to ensure we get the materials of greatest interest.

We'd also ask you to review your own Ham libraries for duplicates or other books and publications which you'd like to share with club members. While we have a few old Callbooks, it would be a nice resource if we had one or two from each decade, so people could look up their old callsigns or those of distant or silent friends. The library is happy to accept your donations, and there'll be a form for you to use. We're also pleased and greatly appreciative to accept donations from estates from the publication collections of Silent Keys.

I'd like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Toku, AD7JA, our volunteer library manager, who was honored at the just-held awards dinner, for providing space in his business for our library, as well as his hard work in checking out the books, and transporting the entire library to and from each general meeting. Many of the library books, perhaps a third overall, are loans or donations from his personal collection, which he makes available to M&K members. He's done a terrific job, and the library would not likely be possible without his efforts. His help is greatly appreciated.

If you'd like to donate to the library or you have any other ideas or suggestions, please contact Tim, k7ane@arrl.net.

Four Upcoming Events, Three Requesting Ham Radio Support

By Gene W7AKA & Fran N7FWZ Underwood

"See Jane Run", sponsored by the Seattle Marathon Association.

This is a race for female runners only. There are about 3000 participants expected for this race. The race runs around Lake Union with some extensions using some of the Burke Gilman Trail.

Need: About 60 Hams for this event. There will be a need for some Hams on bicycle, many will need chairs, some will be used as shadows for the race officials. About 6 Hams will be located at the Water Stations, four will need to have APRS mobile radios in cars that can transport at least 4 runners. Most positions will be near parking areas, but a few will be on the trail.

Contact: ***Gene W7AKA or Fran N7FWZ Underwood, 425-226-4115, or C/425-890-5752, w7aka@comcast.net***

"5K Kids Race"

This race is for kids only, will run concurrently with the ***"See Jane Run"*** and use elements of the same course as the ***"See Jane Run".***

Need: No additional Hams will be needed for this race.

There will be a training session at our home a few days before the event.

Both of these events run on Sunday, July 17, starting at 8:00 and 8:30 AM.

Good Dual Band (144/440MHz) 5 watt HT's should be work well for these two events. Always consider having a spare, charged battery and an extended antenna.

RAMROD (Ride Around Mount Rainier One Day)

When: Thursday, July 28, starting at 5AM. ***RAMROD*** will start and finish at the High School in Enumclaw. This is the 28th running of ***RAMROD***. Fran and Gene Underwood, N7FWZ – W7AKA have been the Ham coordinators for the entire history of ***RAMROD***.

There will be 800 of the strongest cyclists bicycling counter clockwise around the Mountain. This is the 28th running ***of RAMROD***. The ride goes 154 miles and has 10,000 feet of elevation rise and fall. This one of the 10 most difficult bicycle rides in the world.

As you probably can imagine, this is a very difficult ride to provide Ham radio communications for. Last year we were able to tie two 222 MHz repeaters together and link them to a 440 MHz repeater. We added two 144 MHz cross band stations to the 440 Mhz repeater to fill in some difficult areas within the Rainier National Park. The 440 Mhz repeater was also linked to a 144 Mhz repeater to give us better comm from Enumclaw to Eatonville. For the first time we were able to cover the entire 154 miles of the course with good radio communications.

Need: About 30 Hams with good multiband mobile radio units. Some will need bicycle racks to be able to transport bicycles and cyclists from the course. The last riders usually finish about 8PM and then the Redmond Cycling Club buys dinner for all of the Hams.

We will hold a training meeting at our home a few days before the event.

Contact: ***Gene W7AKA or Fran N7FWZ Underwood, 425-226-4115, or C/425-890-5752, w7aka@comcast.net***

"The Seattle Marathon 10K Race"

When: Saturday, August 27, 2011. It will start at 8 AM. The Seattle Marathon Association will be partnering with the Seattle Center and the event will be in conjunction with and leading up their 50th Anniversary Celebration of the start of ***"the Seattle World's Fair"*** to be held in 2012.

For those of you that are a little younger than I, there was a great Amateur Radio Station located in the Alaskan Pavilion. I had a lot of fun operating that station, (all top of the line, Collins 1KW station). There was a 40 Meter beam, and a 20, 15, 10 meter beam. Until the Fair's technicians shielded the sound systems on the Fair Grounds, we could decide which sound systems to mess up by which way we pointed the antennas. Several hundred visiting Hams signed the log book at K7USA.

The 10K course, starts at 2nd Ave N.& Mercer St. and then ends on the Seattle Center property on 2nd Ave N by the International Fountain. Most of the course is in downtown Seattle, with a segment going north on Aurora.There are about 3000 runners expected for this event.

Need: About 25 Hams. There will be a need for a Ham at the Start/Finish Line, some Hams on bicycle, several Hams will need chairs, and some will be used as shadows for the race officials. About 2 Hams will be located at the Water Stations. Good Dual Band (144/440MHz) 5 watt HT's should be work well for this event. Always consider having a spare, charged battery and an extended antenna. Three Hams will need to have APRS mobile radios in cars that can transport at least 4 runners. Most positions will be near parking areas.

We will hold a training meeting at our home a few days before the event.

Contact: ***Gene W7AKA or Fran N7FWZ Underwood, 425-226-4115, or C/425-890-5752, w7aka@comcast.net***

2011 -- Ham Nets & Events -- JUNE / JULY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
12 **1700** – **NWWA-LDS Net** 147.34 (Weekly) **2000** – **King Co. ARES Net** 147.08 (Weekly) **2015** – **Kids Net** 145.49 (Weekly) **2200** – **NW Astronomy Net** 145.33 (Weekly)	**13** **0545** & **1645** – **Weather Net** 145.33 (M-F) **1700** – **Evergreen State Traffic System Net** 145.19 (Daily) **1830** – **WA Emerg. HF Net-ARES** 3.985 (Weekly) **1900** – **Seattle ACS Net** 146.90 (Weekly)	**14** **2000** – **Seattle Red Cross Comm Team Net** *(incl. 'Elmer's Corner')* 147.080 (Weekly) **2000** – **Snohomish Co. ACS/RACES Net** 146.92 (Weekly)	**15** **2000** –**Evergreen Intertie Gen/Tech Info Net** 145.33 (Weekly) **2000** – **Educational Radio Net – PSRG** 146.96 (Weekly) **2100** – **NWSOAR Net** 146.82 (Weekly)	**16** **1900** – **M&K Public Service Net** 146.82 (Weekly) **2000** – **Computer & Packet Net** 145.33 (Weekly)	**17**	**18** ***1000 – M&K Club Meeting, Renton*** ***1230 – M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott-ag7t@arrl.net*** ***Parade – Strawberry Festival, Marysville – 4pm hamsignup@seafairparademarshals.com***
19	**20** **1930** – **PSRG Net** 146.96 (Weekly) **2000 –YL Net 145.33 (Wkly)**	**21**	**22**	**23**	**24** ***FIELD DAY [June 25-26]*** ***M&K Setup & Potluck Dinner*** ***Fort Flagler State Park***	**25** **0900** – **WA State Emerg. Net (WSEN) ARES HF Net** 3.985 (Weekly) ***SEAFAIR Rock&Roll Marathon – Genesee Park hamsignup@seafairparademarshals.com***
26	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**01** ***– JULY –***	**02**
03	**04** ***Have a Happy & Safe 4th !***	**05** ***Note – New Day*** ***M&K Board Mtg*** ***Salvation Army Bldg Renton, 7pm***	**06**	**07**	**08** ***Relay Articles Due – 23:59:59***	**09** ***Parade – Wallingford Kiddies, Seattle – hamsignup@seafairparademarshals.com***
10 ***Parade – Cornucopia Days – Kent – 12noon hamsignup@seafairparademarshals.com***	**11**	**12**	**13**	**14**	**15** ***Hamfest – (July 15-17) Glacier-Waterton International Peace Park www.gwhamfest.org***	**16** ***1000 – M&K Club Meeting, Renton*** ***1230 – M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott-ag7t@arrl.net*** ***Parade – LAKEFAIR, Olympia – Lee ki7ss@arrl.net***