



View from the Podium...

[Continued from Previous Column]



FD Success, Lots of Public Service

By Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY, President

As of this writing, Field Day was two weeks ago, and I've finally caught up on my sleep and the nightmares have ceased!

First, let me thank all of you who participated in Field Day this year, as a part of setup and tear down or as an operator. Everyone was safe, the worst injuries were some mosquito bites and some blisters, and no equipment was seriously damaged. For me, that makes Field Day a success.

Preliminary examination of the data show that we had 4598 contacts, including 155 contacts for GOTA (4th best year for GOTA). Digital contacts were up from last year (4th best year also). CW was within a few QSOs of last year, even with only 4 operators running two transmitters. 10M and 80M were up from last year, as were the totals for the VHF band; 15M and 20M were almost twice last year's QSOs. 40M had their second best year ever, and had the most contacts of any single band. All the band chairs should be congratulated on a wonderful year.

I would also like to thank Rita KD7CNU for a wonderful potluck and also for the great job she does with the B&B; Dick WA7NIW managed to fit all of us into the Wagon Wheel. Scott AG7T kept everything safe, and Alan KB7SVU made sure the towers were vertical and the generator running. Thanks to the excellent documentation by our Bonus Points chair, Andy W7ATL, I should be able to get our submission in during this next week, and can provide you with the submitted points total at the next meeting.

Richard N7MER did a really great job as co-chair this year, and I would sincerely like to thank him for everything! We both really appreciate feedback from those who went to Field Day this year -- what went well, what went wrong, what we can do better for next year. Feel free to email me or Richard or let us know at the next meeting.

For those who didn't notice the 44 foot travel trailer at the Wagon Wheel, we had a special guest this year -- the owner of QRZ.com -- Fred Lloyd AA7BQ, visited us from Phoenix, Arizona. It was a delight to meet him and his lovely XYL. And to top that off, he wrote a great article about Field Day with K7LED. It couldn't have been nicer if I wrote it myself. It is reproduced with permission on Page 6 of this Newsletter. Online: <http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?302840-Field-Day-Report-K7LED>.

Now back to summer in the Northwest. Public Service opportunities are abundant with a variety of SEAFAIR parades, bike rides and road races. Please take time to check the Public Service Pamphlet or the Club Website for events that you would be interested in helping with. Next to our weekend at Fort Flagler, I think Public Service events are one of the most enjoyable ways to spend a day with my radio!

Stay cool everyone, and see you on the 16th.

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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 – 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.

July 2011

M&K Activities & July Door Prizes

By Kathy Martin KB7QMO, Activity Manager

For all those that were able to attend Field Day, I hope you had a good time. Well, summer is well underway and I'm sure lots of you would like to be somewhere else about now. But, let's try to enjoy Washington while we're here. I personally like it when we get a hot day or two and then it cools off again.

This month's program will be a Public Service event with Robert Grinnell. He will let us know what events are coming up and how we can get involved. Robert has lots of other things to tell us. Hope you are able to catch this special presentation. It represents a culmination of several, real, 'Ham-Radio' challenges.

Please remember **August 20th** is the Club's annual **M&K General Meeting and Picnic**, to be held at **Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park**. The address is: *1201 Lake Washington Boulevard North*. Come early and stay late. The meeting will start promptly at 10:00 am but we have the shelter starting @ 8:30 am.

Online you can find more information about the Park: <http://www.ci.renton.wa.us/living/default.aspx?id=74>.

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

- **Ham HK5A Electronic Keyer (used)**
- **Paddlette QRP Paddle (used)**
- **120' of 450 Ohm Ladder Line**
- **The Road Home by Andrew Baze AB8L (M&K Member) adventure story**
- **6-Piece Cable Station organizer for cables around your desk**
- **(2) Yaesu caps**
- **Tube of 22 gauge No Clean Solder**
- **TenTec Project Enclosure (QRP Kit?)**
- **DC Emergency LED lighting for your station**



K7LED Relay

Another CW Beach Gone By

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

Another Field Day has passed us by and with it, another edition of CW Beach. This year's event was challenging as we were down 3 of our usual operators. That left really only four operators to man the 48 hours of operating (2 stations) schedule. That breaks down to basically two hours on and two hours off for the entire event and when you consider that all the CW ops are well over 50 and a couple have passed 70, it was kinda tough.

Still, we survived and next year, we hope to be at a full complement again. We totaled around 1560 contacts this year. Sounds kinda average. Our biggest challenge was on 15M as we were getting some phase noise off the bluff and the pre-amp for the 15M station was stuck on. We finally managed to get it to turn off after about 6 hours and that helped a bit but signals on 15 were weak and fading was prominent. Next year, we plan on mounting the 15M antenna more vertically to give us a bit more isolation. Twenty was the money band as usual, 40M did fine and 80M was down a bit.

I really want to thank all the non-CW ops who came down to help us setup and teardown. They got nothing out of the deal but the satisfaction of doing good work. We couldn't have done it without y'all. When Fred AA7BQ of QRZ.com came down and did some CW Saturday evening, I think he got a good sense of why we do CW Beach. There is no better view while playing with radios. See you in 2012.

M&K – B & B – Big Hug & Thanks

By Rita Danielson KD7CNU

Well, Kids, Field Day has come and gone. We had a good time in the Mike & Key Bed & Breakfast, although we didn't have as many stay with us as in years past. I hope it wasn't because of the name change, because after all, it's just a name. We can go back to using The Barracks, if you'd like. I missed a lot of you.

We had a nice surprise when we got to Camp Wilson this year. In the main building, there were new bunk beds in every room, increasing sleeping capacity from 17 to 29. New mattress, made sleeping much more comfortable. Although for someone of my height, the bunk bed was less than ideal for sitting on, but I made do. The smaller building, had new mattresses, but no new bunk beds, so sleeping capacity remained at 12. We won't use all 41 beds available since we have several couples staying with us. We had new dishes to use; Corelle instead of the old Melamine divided plates. And bigger coffee cups which held a lot more coffee requiring several refills of the coffee urn. Thank you, Monica for keeping an eye on the coffee.

I was able to invite my friend Melyssa & her son Maddox to join us for most of the weekend. They had never been to Ft Flagler, and they loved every minute. Already making plans for next year.

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July 2011

M&K – B&B – Big Hug... [Continued from Page 3]

Thank you, everyone, for making them feel welcome and part of the family, and thank you Melyssa for helping with the breakfast dishes. Maddox entertained us in the evening, especially Dave, KB7PSN, who had a good time teasing Maddox, or should I say his twin brother, Ox.

The weekend was very tiring and painful for me, but I won't let that keep me down. Taking on food chair put me close to the edge. Next year, I won't be able to do both. I can do the shopping, but not the actual grilling and such. So, I'll need a 'Grill Master'. Thank you, George, AE7G, you did a fantastic job Friday night manning the grill. The park supplied the fantastic grill. No more trying to wrangle grills from club members.

I don't know the points for contacts and such, but I do know the B & B fared very well. Clean up was quick and thorough. Thank you everyone who helped with the clean up, especially Jim, KD7BAT for stepping up and mopping in Larry's AB7FJ, absence.

Mark your calendar for next year, June 21—24. Reservations have been submitted.

Until next year...73's and 88's

Rita KD7CNU Mom.

(I'll see you at as many meetings as I can make)

Radio Officer's Report

By Hal Goodell N7NW, Radio Officer

Now that summer has finally arrived Steve Cook and I will be making some trips up the mountain to check on the repeaters. Do some maintenance and see about adding a third battery for the 220 repeater, which currently does not have battery back-up.

The repeaters are operating nominally and we have no current problems. Over the next month or so we do plan on making some changes to the controller commands.

Celebrate our July Members!

By Dave Smith KB7PSN, Treasurer

As of July 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:*

Jimmy Sutton	K7NQ	36 Years
Hap King	W7QCV	27 Years
Jim Maras	WA7FMT	24 Years
Dick Vance	K7NEX	22 Years
Sam Sullivan	N7RHE	20 Years
Ermanno Rusi	N7VIQ	19 Years
David Lee	KC7FSR	16 Years
George Hammel	KB7MYU	15 Years
Larry Smith, Jr.	AB7FJ	15 Years
Robert Grinnell	KD7WNV	8 Years
Tom Johnson	K7GOA	7 Years
Arlene Hand	KF7NDO	1 Year

K7LED Relay

Pacific NW DX Convention

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

Each year, the Pacific NW DX Convention rotates between Seattle, Portland, Spokane, and Vancouver BC. ***This year, it is the Western Washington DX Club that hosts the event. It will be held August 12-14 at the Everett Holiday Inn.*** This is the place to hob-knob with regional DXer's and Contesters. There are seminars to help you catch that rare one, up your score, or boost your station capabilities. I've learned something new from every one I've attended.

There is a banquet Saturday night and a breakfast Sunday morning. Both usually have interesting DXpedition type presentations. You can get your DXCC cards checked on site by ARRL card checkers (be patient). There are raffles and a hospitality room Friday and Saturday evening.

Check out the registration and event info at wwdxc.org but be careful. Since I started going to these things, I've only missed one in the last 12 years.

**WANDERING - 74 Years:
Richmond Hill to Riverside**

De Fred Roberts - W6TKV

Let's turn the clock back, and wander around in the past. How far back? Well, how about back to 1936 - that's just 75 years ago when I was about 9. My folks and I lived in Richmond Hill* which is part of Queens County in New York City.

My Dad got a phone call from a complete stranger who lived 10-15 blocks away, and this fellow said he was talking on his ham radio to Frank Lion, a good friend of my Mom and Dad. He asked if my folks would like to come to his house and talk to Frank. As an only child, I was automatically included. That time was just a handful of years after the Great Depression, but I now believe that money was probably still in short supply and so a "phone call" at no cost may have been very attractive to my folks.

This fellow's station was located in his 2nd floor bedroom. I remember sitting on his bed and I can still see his microphone - a big ring with the mike in the center and held in position by several wires. His transmitter and receiver were in two big black boxes.

This brief visit with exposure to ham radio lit a spark in my mind that never went out. As the years passed for me, I never met any hams, but I read ham books and listened to hams talking on 80M - using our living room radio (~4ft tall & 2ft wide). At the time, every ham QSO meant transmitting on one fixed frequency and tuning across the entire band while listening for someone calling you - that was the world of crystal controlled transmitters. That's why hams always ended their CQ with the phrase, "... and tuning the band." because that's exactly what you had to do. And, that's why as a kid, I could only hear one-side of any QSO on 80M.

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WANDERING – 74 Years... [Cont'd from Page 4]

The lowest level license required for passing a test at the FCC office in New York City, and passing both Written and CW tests (10 wpm). But not knowing any Hams, I never reached 10 wpm.

Hams shut down during World War #2, but I finally got my Novice ticket in 1951 which required a) passing the General Class written test, and b) copying 5 wpm CW. The FCC's deal, at the time, was I only had CW privileges - no phone. I was required to pass the 10 wpm test within 1 year to become a General. Failure to do that, my license would be cancelled - period. Thus, 4 months later, I visited the FCC office in New York City and upgraded from KA2AMN to K2AMN. And, I was off to the races on the phone bands - no more CW for me.

From that first spark of interest to my first license was 16 years, and from first spark of interest to the present is now 74 years... but then who's counting?

As a Volunteer Examiner, I rather think naming the Beginner's license *Novice* rather than *Technician*, might well inspire more beginners to quickly move up to General.

Post-Script – After writing this, I was absolutely astonished to discover my map shows Richmond Hill as being just 3 miles north of JFK Airport and just 6 miles south of La Guardia Airport. I have been in and out of both airports a great many times as an adult, but never realized how close I was to the old homestead. Neither of these two airports was built until many years after my family moved away from Richmond Hill. I also clearly remember that the street where we lived and played on, was paved with black wooden blocks. Sure wish I had dug up one as a souvenir.

“The Seafair Parade Marshals Need Your Help”

By Liz Budbill N7ZXH

Deputy Vice-Marshal (DVM), Communications, Seafair Parade Marshals

Beginning on July 17, 2011 the Seafair Parade Marshals need everyone, all those who can help, as we enter the bulk of our SEAFAIR Parade Season.

It is preferred (and greatly appreciated) to know that you are available for support of these events.

Please contact me at hamsignup@seafairparademarshals.org and let me know how many parades you can help with. I will reply with the specifics of each parade.

The following is a list of parades that we need every able body:

- July 17 9am – 12 noon White Center Parade**
- July 23 9am – 2pm Snohomish or West Seattle (one of these parades)**
- July 23 4:30pm – 8:00pm Des Moines**
- July 24 5am – 12 noon Benaroya Triathlon**
- July 24 5pm – 11pm Chinatown**
- July 27 4pm – 9:30pm Greenwood community**
- July 29 5pm – 10pm Mountlake Terrace**
- July 30 Varies by location TORCHLIGHT PARADE - Early arrival for assignment is a must. I really need most of you to help with ROUTE positions for this parade.**

You will need a 2 meter hand held radio with at least a speaker mic, but a headset is even better.

Typical Talk-In frequency is 146.58 simplex.

I have traffic vests if you don't have one. We are using the bright yellow ones this year.

Thank you so much for what you do to help support Public Service!

Liz Budbill N7ZXH
DVM of Communications 2011
Seafair Parade Marshals

[Ed.Note – More Public Service opportunities are listed on Page 17 of this Newsletter.]

QRZ.com: Field Day Report – K7LED

Article by Fred Lloyd AA7BQ Owner, QRZ.com

Online: <http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?302840-Field-Day-Report-K7LED>

Used by Permission



Fred AA7BQ,
Owner, QRZ.com

Field Day Report - K7LED

What do you get when you combine a dynamite location with an active, established and organized group of friendly folks? You get the best damn field day possible. At least that's what I was treated to this past weekend as I was fortunate enough to attend the [Mike and Key Amateur Radio Club's](#) annual field day event.

This club operates the 6A field day station under the call sign **K7LED**. They have been doing this event for more than 30 years and they are blessed with a superb location. Situated on a pre-WWI era military fort, now a Washington State Park, [Fort Flagler](#) is a location that truly has something for everyone. The group rents a 10 acre dry campsite for its members as well as a refurbished WWII military barracks building for those who don't care to camp. The park itself is a living museum and hosts some huge concrete bunkers and gun (cannon) mounts that are a well preserved piece of early 20th century military legend. The huge gun batteries were designed to protect the Admiralty Inlet, the entrance to Puget Sound and most of the principal cities of Washington, from enemy attack. Three such forts were built and staffed back at the turn of the last century so that their guns could triangulate any enemy ship that dared enter the waters. Not long after they were built, however, everything changed when military aircraft came onto the scene and by the 1930's the forts were

completely obsolete. The military released the lands to the Washington state park system back in the 1950's after having never fired a single shot at an enemy.

The park has several 100 foot high bluffs that overlook the water and the field day operation sets up right atop one of the 1899 battery locations. The view is unobstructed to the east and the south, making the location perfect for covering the entire United States with one or two antennas per band. Down below the bluffs at sea level, the CW team sets up a couple of transmitters that launch their signals right from the edge of the salt water, another great location. The 100 foot vertical

separation provides a good isolation between the phone and CW operations and it has become a tradition for the club in what they now call CW Beach.

I arrived there in the Zed on Thursday afternoon and was warmly greeted by the camp host, Dick - WA7NIW, a.k.a. the *Wagonmaster*. In no time he had us parked into a comfortable location in the club camping area which is just a short walk up to the operating positions on the bluffs.

Setup began at 11:00 AM local time on Friday and the team, now numbering in the dozens, spent most of the day erecting a number of towers and some very large and unique wire dipole antennas, the most notable of which was the two 40 meter strings. These wire Yagi antennas are built using a series of inverted-vee antennas that are supported by about 200 yards of



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QRZ.com: Field Day Report – K7LED... [Continued from Page 6]

rope that is strung over the top of a pair of 100 foot fir trees. The whole antenna was already built (having been used for the past few years) and came spooled in large hose reels for easy deployment. Two such units were built, one facing east and one facing south.

Last year the 40 chief, Dean - N7XS set a club record with over 1000 contacts on 40 with this setup.

I got to operate the 40 meter setup for a 2 hour stretch on Saturday and had a great time. At one point I achieved a QSO run rate of 147 contacts per hour which to be honest, I didn't know I was capable of. There's nothing like having a pileup no

matter what the situation and this one was as fun to operate as any.

The club also operated dedicated 15 and 20 meter stations with monoband beams as well as an 80 meter dipole. The 20 meter station operated literally underground in the soundproofed concrete bunker beneath the tower. It was like bringing life back to a 75 year old radio station. I got to operate the 20 meter station on Sunday morning and won't soon forget the experience. There was just something magical about it.

Also, back on top of the bluff, a great VHF/UHF station was setup, also with its own tower and stacked 6m/2m/440 Yagi arrays. I happened to walk in on them late Saturday afternoon and was truly impressed to hear them work sections in Georgia on 2 meters, more than 2000 miles away. Having never worked VHF sideband, my jaw just dropped. It was great.

There was also a GOTA station which introduced ham radio to a number of cub scouts. It's never too early to spark the interest and we certainly hope that the experience will leave an impression on these kids.



I also had the great pleasure to operate the 20 meter CW station down on CW Beach. Mike, N7WA was the chief operator and he quickly showed me the ropes at operating a contest CW station using the N1MM software. Even though I qualified at 20 WPM back in the 80's, it's been quite a while since I had to copy quickly. Mike worked right there along side me and helped fill in the numerous blanks in my mind as CW contacts came racing in over the headphones. Working together we did quite well topping out at around 60 QSO's per hour. The experience once again made me want to break out my Bencher key and go for some more.

Back at the campsite there was plenty of food, plenty of friends, families and kids everywhere. Nobody was in want of anything as everyone helped each other regardless of the task or need. The Mike and Key club treated us like family even though we'd never met any of them before and when we left the site we had quite a few new friends that we'd made over the short weekend.



What was the final score? Who knows... I'm sure it will be a great showing in the 6A class and I can't wait to see the results of the non-contest, as the ARRL likes to call it. These guys deserve all the recognition they can get for the hard work and dedication to the hobby. Regardless of the tally, however, the K7LED team managed to do it all and do it exceptionally well while making it a load of fun for everyone.

We certainly hope to join them again at a future Field Day.

[Click here to see our larger collection of 23 photos.](#)

Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ Publisher, QRZ.COM, aa7bq@qrz.com

Ham Radio Apps

By Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY President

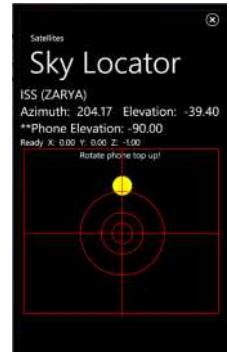
The Windows 7 Phone was released last November and since time, thousands of new applications, or apps, have become available. There's a hand full that are applicable directly to Ham Radio operators.

I'll start with the two that look like the most fun...



Satellites. Version 1.4.0.0. Release date 12/30/2011.
 Cost: 99¢. Free trial available
 This program allows for real time satellite tracking and prediction mapping of over 1200 satellites; displays the location and footprint of the satellite on a map; shows the location -- latitude, longitude, azimuth, elevation, height, range, orbit #, next rise, period and footprint radius. A couple of other goodies are that for a particular type of satellite, shows all that are in-view from your location simultaneously and for some satellites, it lists the frequencies.

I've downloaded this app, and have found it easy to use. One word of warning: be sure to have recently updated the Keplerian data – this caused my tracking to be off during field day. The picture on the right is one of the ways to find the satellites; you move the phone to get the yellow circle in the crosshairs, and that means your phone is pointing to the satellite.



Hf-propagation. Version 1.0.0.0. Release date 5/4/2011.
 Cost: Free
 This program advertises that can inform Ham Radio operators and Short Wave listeners about the current band conditions. It displays not only the current status of the HF and VHF bands, but also additional solar and terrestrial propagation related data. The information seemed pretty reliable at field day; band chairs evaluation of the band conditions were confirmed by the app.

Like many other free apps, there is some advertizing at the bottom of the page. That helps keep the app free. This program is also available in Android.



There are several Ham testing programs available:



Ham tests. Verison 1.0.0.0. Release date 12/4/2010.
 Cost: 99¢ No free trial available.

It advertises that it has all license elements: Technician, General and Extra, and that you can either run through a randomly generated test or through the entire question pool. It is written by Nick N3WG.



Ham tech exam. Verison 1.2.0.0. Release date 5/29/2011.
 Cost: \$1.99 Free trial available.

This practice test app for the Technician license generates exams similar to that of the actual exam and generates two kinds of practice exams: randomly generated and set exams. It is written by Mike Clark, WA7MC



Ham extra exam. Verison 1.1.0.0. Release date 6/6/2011.
 Cost: \$1.99 Free trial available.

This practice test app for the Extra license generates exams similar to that of the actual exam and generates two kinds of practice exams: randomly generated and set exams. It is written by Mike Clark, WA7MC

Others:



Hamlog. Verison 1.0.0.0. Release date 11/25/2010. Cost: \$0.99 No free trial available. Maintains contacts in chronological order giving the user the ability to quickly add new and edit existing contacts. It is meant for use when operating portable from the field. It supports exporting contacts via email as ADIF to your favorite computer based logging program. Note: this application is not meant to replace a more formal method of logging; it's intended for quick logging while portable or mobile. This program was written by N2WG, <http://n2wg.com>. The author says he will respond to feedback, entertain feature requests, and answer questions directly. This might get me to part with those 99 cents!



Amateur radio QSL information lookup. Verison 1.0.0.0. Release date 4/22/2011.
 Cost: \$4.99. Free trial available.

Lookup QSL information for amateur radio callsigns using the QSL information database of www.qslinfo.eu. The cost of the program helps support the website. Author: Frank, DL2CC



Dipole. Verison 1.0.0.0. Release date 1/31/2011. Cost: Free

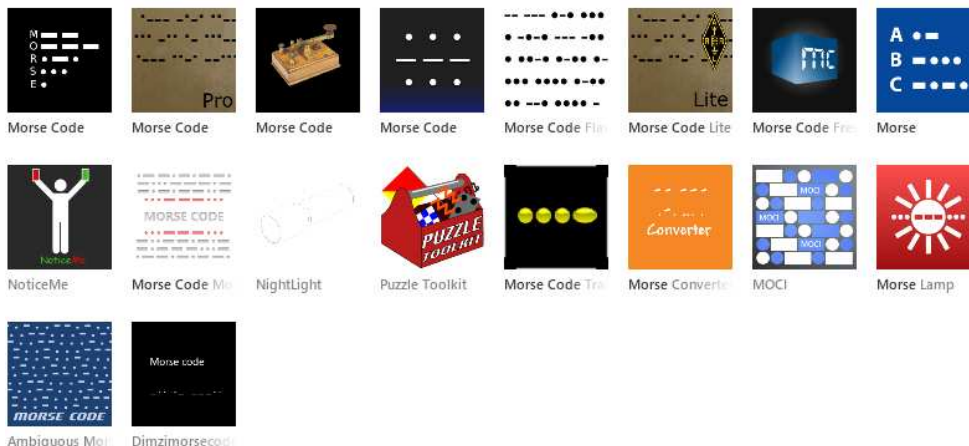
Very simple application for calculating the length of a dipole antenna using the standard formula. Output can be in meters or feet and inches (and fractions of an inch).

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There are 4 Ohm's Law calculators.

One is free, and the others cost \$0.99 each. I've used the free version and have no difficulty with it. It has ads at the very bottom of the screen. I'm guessing the paid apps don't have the ads.



There are some 18 apps (at this time) that have something to do with Morse Code programs of varying value to the amateur radio operator. I've tried some of these, and can't really recommend any of them yet. Some are free, some aren't. I'll review them at a later time.

What Is A HAM?

By Kathy Martin KB7QMO, Activity Manager

A **HAM** is someone with an Amateur Radio license issued by the Federal Communication Commission. When you have an amateur radio license you can operate two way communication radios and equipment using amateur radio frequency bands. The scope of the privilege depends on the level of the license.

There are a number of ways we use our licenses. Some of us do it solely for fun. Some of us participate in contests of skill and knowledge. Others of us use our licenses for public service. HAMS help support sporting events such as the Seattle Marathon and numerous cycling events. SEAFAIR uses HAMS to coordinate security. Many HAMS enroll in special programs that allow them to support police, fire and other emergency departments in case of an emergency or major disaster. Others are involved in Search and Rescue operations.

HAMS are strictly amateur. We are not permitted to accept compensation for our services.

There are currently three forms of license:

TECHNICIAN is the first, basic license. Technicians can operate on higher frequency bands involving shorter range communication. A technician license is all you need to be able to do local public service work. Radios are less expensive and very portable. Vehicle operation is common.

GENERAL: The General license opens up nearly all the amateur radio spectrum for your use. You can now get into long distance communication using larger antennas and HF radios. Nearly all HAM radio activities are open to the General class.

AMATEUR EXTRA: This is the highest class of license and all amateur frequencies and modes of operation are open to you. You can become certified to administer license exams.

To become a HAM you must take and pass a license examination for the class of license you are seeking. There are free or low cost training courses and materials available. All exams require some technical understanding.

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@arri.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@arri.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 August

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 August 2011.

<u>August</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Pts</u>	<u>Mult</u>
03	W7JVO	1500-2300Z	10	Oregon
<i>Deschutes County Fair and Rodeo – 14.240, 140,028, 7.080, 140,070(psk)</i>				
06	K1CG	1400-0400Z	21/ ea. Sta.	Varies*
<i>USCG 221st Birthday 21.052, 14.052, 70.52, 3.552</i>				
<i>*Operated by several stations across the country starting east and going west.</i>				
11-14	NU6DE	2000-2000Z	15	CA
<i>Another nude event – must be summer! 28.465 21.365, 14.265, 7.265</i>				
12	N7C	1400-0000	10	AZ
<i>Navajo Code Talkers, 14.265 7.265 (what? No code for the code talkers?)</i>				
15-17	W2S	0000-2359Z	42	NY
<i>42th Anniversary of Woodstock ('Peace, man!') 14.034, 7.034</i>				
20	Any Lighthouse	0000-2359Z	10-ea.max-10 (100 pts)	Varies**
<i>International Lighthouse weekend</i>				
<i>**Variety of States possible.</i>				
26	W0N	1400-2000Z	15	KS
<i>Kansas Sesquicentennial 21.340 14.240 7.24</i>				

July 2011 M&K General Meeting Minutes

By Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

Meeting held June 18, 2011.

Meeting was called to order at 1003 hours by the President, Ivy WA7IVY.

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: Nothing to report.

Secretary – Robert KD7WNV: Acknowledged receipt of a copy of the Flea Market audit, for the Club files. Treasurer picked up the mail; it was all for him.

Treasurer – Dave KB7PSN: The books for the 2011 Flea Market operation passed audit.

Activities Manager – Kathy KB7QMO: Door prizes drawing will follow immediately on the end of the business meeting. Program today is Field Day orientation. Field Day is next weekend. If you can't make it to Fort Flagler to join us, visit a closer operation. There are several in the area, go experience what it is all about. There are two possibilities for the July program, as reported in the Relay. The August meeting is with the picnic at Gene Coulon Park on Lake Washington. Site is available at 8:00 AM [subsequent correction: 8:30 AM—Sec.]; meeting is at 10:00 AM; lunch follows. Scott AG7T noted that VE Testing for August is still at the Salvation Army at the usual time.

Chairman of the Board – Tim K7ANE: The Pacific NW DX Convention is August 12-14, and will be held locally this year, in Everett. There are a number of seminars and it is generally a great program. If you are working on DXCC, they will have certified QSL checkers available. See www.WWDXC.org for information.

Radio Officer – Hal N7NW: Repeater is working fine. Road conditions are OK now, so will plan a trip up to the site after Field Day.

Quorum present.

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

Brendan KD7IKV made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded Scott AG7T. Motion passed.

Vice President – Steve KD7IQL: Membership applications: Ronald Snow, K7EB; Dale Baskin, KF7MOT; Joe Thomason, N2SI; Mark Iler (no call); Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF and Nancy Araway, NK1A (family application); Michael Mikuchonis, W7XTZ. All approved by the membership.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: Not present.

Standing Committee Reports:

Strategic Planning – Mike N7WA: Still collecting pictures of the Club's past, either digital, or physical to be scanned.

Facilities – Daniel KL7WM: Not present.

Education – Tim K7ANE: To his knowledge, there are no license classes coming up in July or August in the area (please make him aware if you know otherwise). The next classes start in September. The General License exam changes over to a new question pool as of July 1.

Public Service – Robert KD7WNV: There are many events on the calendar, after Field Day. No committee meeting today, due to Field Day prep. Liz N7ZXH appealed for help with Seafair parades, including Marysville tonight. July 9th is Wallingford and Mercer

K7LED Relay

Island; the 10th is Kent Cornucopia Days; the 16th is the Milk Carton Derby (an addition to what was in the booklet); the 17th is White Center; the 23rd is Kla-Ha-Ya Days in Snohomish and Hi-Yu in West Seattle—both in the morning, so take your pick of locations—and in the evening, the Des Moines Waterland parade; the 24th has the Benaroya Triathlon—which starts very early in the morning—and the Chinatown parade in the evening; the 27th is the Greenwood parade in Seattle; and the 29th is Tour de Terrace in Mountlake Terrace. The morning of Saturday the 30th is the Magnolia Kiddies parade, but the big event that day is the Torchlight parade. Almost 50 radio operators are needed, and hams are needed for various duties throughout the day. Please volunteer if you possibly can. There are many changes for the Torchlight logistics this year that will complicate matters. The 8K run starts and finishes at the Seattle Center, which is under construction, so Assembly will be really spread out. Fran N7FWZ commented on how each of the neighborhood parades has its own particular flavor, scenery and appeal. George AE7G mentioned the RAMROD bike ride on Thursday, July 28. Gene W7AKA appealed for help with the new "See Jane Run" Half Marathon, 5K, and Kid's Run on Sunday, July 17, and the Seattle Marathon 10K Race on August 27 (the beginning of celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the World's Fair held in Seattle in 1962).

Technical – Alan KB7SVU: Nothing on Technical, but needs to meet with the two persons (Robert KD7WNV and Daniel KL7WM) who will be towing the Club's equipment trailers to Field Day.

Other Committees (as appropriate)

VE Exams – Scott AG7T: We had 12 people take exams last month. Awarded 3 Technician, 5 General, and 2 Extra.

Audit:

By Laws Review – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

Field Day – Ivy WA7IVY: Will be covered in the program.

Logo – Jim N7MU: Nothing to report.

Contest – Mike N7WA: Nothing to report.

Picnic – Hal N7NW: Everything is in order.

Old Business – None.

New Business – None.

Alligator Award – Dale AC7NP still holds the award.

Good of the Order:

Fry's has 8GB thumb drives for \$10, but you have to ask for them.

Kathy KB7QMO – has free firewood, for Field Day or personal use.

Frank NA7O – thanks for getting the Relay out earlier.

Dave WA7DTM – Tim K7ANE is doing a presentation on ham radio for the convention of the International Municipal Signals Association. Dave is now seeking volunteers to man a booth on ham radio at the convention.

The next Mike & Key Board meeting will be on the first Tuesday of the month, July 5th at 7:00 PM, at the Salvation Army in Renton.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is the third Saturday, July 16th at 10:00 AM.

Steve KD7IQL made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Brendan KD7IKV. The motion was passed. Meeting adjourned at 1105 hours.

18 guests; 66 members, 58 ARRL members

Attested: Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

Doin' Somethin' Cool

By Gary Bryan KG7KU

Hey – ya doin' somethin' cool? Be sure to let others know. Ham Radio has got to be the coolest thing anyway. Send an article next issue.

July 2011 M&K Board Meeting Minutes

By Robert Grinnell, Secretary

Meeting held July 5, 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)

X Radio Officer – Hal Goodell (N7NW)

Trustees present

X No. 1 – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA)

X No. 2 – George Thornton (AE7G)

X No. 3 – Tim Kane (K7ANE) (CoB)

___ No. 4 – Alan Hughes (KB7SVU)

___ No. 5 – Daniel Stevens (KL7WM)

Other officers (non-voting)

___ Relay Editor – Gary Bryan (KG7KU)

___ Webmaster – Jim Etwiler (KD7BAT)

Visitors

Michael Hansen, KG7MX

Chairman of the Board Tim K7ANE called the meeting to order at 1907 hours.

Minutes: Approval of the minutes of the previous board meeting was inadvertently overlooked.

Officer Reports

Chairman of the Board – Tim K7ANE: Will be giving a presentation on amateur radio to the International Municipal Signals Association convention on July 11, at the request of Dave WA7DTM.

President – Ivy WA7IVY: Will be giving a presentation about the Club to the Renton Emergency Communications Service on Thursday.

Vice President – Steve KD7IQL: New member applicants: Scott Castonguay, KC7UOC; Monica Cook, KF7QLX; Earl Palmer, N7EP. All recommended for approval.

Secretary – Robert KD7WNV: Mail was picked up by the Treasurer.

Treasurer – Dave KB7PSN: Distributed current budget status by email. Starting to get bills in for Field Day—we are already over last year's actual expenses.

Activities Manager – Kathy KB7QMO: The previously-mentioned options for the July program are out: Matt Kozma, AE7MK, has moved, and Curt Black, WR5J, has been unavailable. Robert KD7WNV will present a program on participating in public service events in the area. Mike N7WA is working on a future program on Morse Code. Jim N7MU is looking for sources for a program on vintage radios. Tim K7ANE suggested a local group vintage radio group. As a fallback, we might have another elmering event, with specialty tables. We sold 132 door prize tickets last month. This month's prizes include: Yaesu hats, *The Road Home*, cable station, fire starter, solder, used Bencher paddle, used Hamkey keyer, and others to be purchased.

K7LED Relay

Radio Officer – Hal N7NW: Nothing to report; have not made it up to the site yet.

Relay Editor – Gary KG7KU: Not present.

Webmaster – Jim KD7BAT: Not present.

Standing Committee Reports

Strategic Planning – Mike N7WA: Received some pictures for the archives. Is writing an article for *Relay*. Hoping to get a bunch of new pictures from this Field Day.

Facilities – Daniel KL7WM: Not present.

Education – Tim K7ANE: Did not find any classes starting up during summer. Steve KD7IQL noted that the General pool has changed over as of July 1.

Public Service – George AE7G: There are many events coming up, especially the "See Jane Run" Half Marathon, 5K and Kid's Run on July 17, RAMROD on July 28, Torchlight Parade on July 30, and the Seattle Marathon's Anniversary 10K Run on August 27.

Technical – Alan KB7SVU: Not present.

Other Committee Reports

By-Laws – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

Logo – Jim N7MU: Nothing to report.

Field Day – Ivy WA7IVY: Still gathering and coordinating the data for tally of the score. Tim K7ANE mentioned the problem of fixing the rotor controllers. Mike N7WA is working on a microcontroller project that might produce a solution.

Picnic – Hal N7NW: Rita KD7CNU has considerable meat and some beverages leftover from Field Day--will have her do an inventory, then determine what else we need for the picnic. Dave KB7PSN indicated that we have the picnic grounds (Shelter 2) from 0830 to 1330.

Flea Market – Mike N7WA / Hal N7NW: Nothing to report.

Old Business - none

New Business

RC Tacoma Hamfest: Dave KB7PSN said that the Radio Club of Tacoma is holding its annual Hamfest on Saturday, August 13 (a week before our picnic). They have again offered us a complimentary table and two complimentary admissions, to set up a table for the Club. Jim N7MU and David KC7FSR did this for the Club last year. Will announce it at the general membership meeting and see if anyone is interested.

Bothell Fair Invitation: Robert KD7WNV mentioned that we received an invitation from the City of Bothell to set up a complimentary booth in a Hobby & Volunteer Expo at their end-of-summer *Riverfest* on August 28th. This had been previously mentioned at the May General meeting, and there was no indication of interest, but he thought it should be considered by the Board. It did not carry any interest with the Board, either.

Good of the Order - none

There being no further business, Tim K7ANE adjourned the meeting at 2050 hours.

Attested: Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

Wear the Mike & Key Club Logo

By Jim Aigner N7MU

Over the last few months you may have noticed the Mike and Key logo prominently displayed on fleece jackets and an assortment of shirts. Our logo was digitized in two sizes, a small version for the chest suitable for embroidery on the front of shirts, vests, and jackets and a large version for use on the back of sweatshirts, vests, and jackets.

You can buy new clothing with the club logo or have your own items embroidered by a vendor or do it yourself. There are a few vendors who have our logo and can do the work for you. You can find just about everything - shirts, vests, sweatshirts, and jackets in the online catalog: <http://www.sanmar.com>. Prices with the logo are about 10% less than catalog list prices.

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

MIKE AND KEY ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

“Let’s beat the heat and have a picnic at the beach!!”

When: Saturday August 20th, 2011

Where: Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park, South Shelter #1

Can you believe it, it’s almost time for the Mike & Key Annual Summer Picnic. And guess what, I think summer has arrived, FINALLY!! My fantastic wife, Annie, and I are again Chairing this affair.

We have the shelter from 8:30 am till 1:30 pm. However, we can continue at the park after 1:30 pm, just not in the shelter. So the plan is to arrive at 8:30 to setup. Since this is a club meeting date, the meeting will occur in the shelter at the normal time of 10 am. Arrive early for doughnuts and the normal ragchew, plus get good parking.

We will fire up the BBQ’s and begin cooking at around 11:30. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with all the trimming will be provided along with water and soft drinks. Please bring a side dish.

At 1:00 pm we will start to clear out the Shelter. Bring lawn chairs for setting up outside of the shelter area. We will continue to have snacks and drinks till 3:00 pm or whenever we decide to break up.

There is a Bathhouse and swimming beach and areas for walks and exploring the park. Remember “NO PETS” per park rules. There is plenty of room also for lawn games. If you have a game please bring it.

I’ll have a signup sheet at the July meeting. If you can’t make the July meeting and are planning on attending please contact me at n7nw.hal@comcast.net or 253-549-4178. If you can bring a side dish, that would be great but not mandatory. I want to be sure we have enough burgers and dogs for all.

Hope y’all come!!

Hal Goodell and Annie Rosello, Picnic Chairs

Introducing: Daniel Stevens KL7WM, Candidate for ARRL – Western Washington Section Manager



There is an election for the ARRL – WWA – Section Manager position this year.

ARRL headquarters sent the ballots out on July 1, 2011. The ballots must be returned to the ARRL headquarters office in Newington, Connecticut, 06111, by August 19, 2011, to be counted. This is not much time.

This is the first time in over twenty years Radio Amateurs get to choose who represents Amateur Radio operators in the ARRL Western Washington Section.

Please exercise your voting rights.

I am Daniel Stevens, KL7WM, I hold an Extra class license and have been licensed 29 years. I am also a Life member of the ARRL. I am an ARRL VE and teach Technician, General, Extra and EmComm amateur classes. I am a member of five clubs and also on the board of two clubs: Anchorage ARC, Federal Way ARC (Secretary), Mike and Key ARC (board member), Radio Club of Tacoma and Western Washington Amateur Relay Association. I have earned several college degrees including Business Administration, (BBA).

I am running for ARRL WWA Section Manager because I am a bridge builder and a leader. I build relationship between clubs and organizations. I did this in Alaska and continued building when I moved back into Western Washington in 1998. I have run my own business since 1999. My business travels take me throughout Western Washington. My college and business experience gives me good leadership skills. Leadership is listening.

I love to help people improve themselves. I have taught over 30 classes and have licensed hundreds of Hams. I have never seen a bigger smile than when one has passed their Extra Class Exam.

Amateur Radio is fun. Please Vote for Daniel Stevens, KL7WM for ARRL Western Washington Section Manager. Returning your ballot today ensures that your vote will be counted.

Visit my web site WWW.KL7WM.com

Daniel Stevens, KL7WM
206 228 9274

HamRadioBooks.com - *The Road Home*

By Andrew Baze AB8L



Now that Field Day is done, you may wish to take a few minutes to catch up with our heroes. Welcome back to the land of Ham Radio fiction!

By the way, in addition to Amazon & Kindle, you can also get "The Road Home" at the ARRL online store, at Ham Radio Outlet, Universal Radio, and more locations, coming soon... and also now in the Mike & Key Library!

I hope you love it! And if you know any young adults, or even older ones, who might be interested in learning more about amateur radio, emergency communications, and emergency preparedness, please feel free to recommend this book. Thanks!

73 -Andrew, AB8L

Lost!

"What is the first thing you are supposed to do when you get lost in the woods?" Robbie asked himself. His father's words from a previous hiking trip, when they'd realized that they had taken a wrong turn, echoed in his ears. "Stop moving and figure out where you are. Take a minute to use your brain, the most valuable tool you have..." But his dad wasn't there to help him reason through the problem now. He was waiting on the side of a cliff! Robbie needed to keep going. But if he continued without knowing where he was, he could get even more lost.

Robbie stopped running and wiped the sweat off his forehead. He breathed heavily and leaned forward with his hands on his thighs, trying to force more air into his lungs. He had to get to the truck, and this stupid mistake had cost him precious time.

In the back of his mind, a doubt surfaced. Would he be able to save his father's life? Had his mistake caused a delay that would somehow put his father in more danger? And what about his mother and sister?

Robbie shook his head and dismissed the doubt. He couldn't stop, and definitely couldn't give up. Everything would be OK. His mother and sister were probably fine, and his father would be out of danger soon, but he had to find his way back to the truck.

He walked over to a fallen log, sat down, pulled out his water bottle, and gulped down a mouthful. Then his stomach jumped into his throat — did he bring a map and compass? He opened his pack in a near panic, yanked out his jacket so he could see better and there they were. They were two of the first things he packed. He breathed a sigh of relief, then unfolded the map and set down the compass, making sure it wasn't near his radio or anything else metal.

"Where does the red part of the compass needle point, Robbie?"

"North, Dad."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, that's what you told me. Plus, I read it in the instructions."

"Watch this." Jeff took the compass and walked over to the oven. And as he held it close to the oven door, the needle swung wildly in the opposite direction!

It had been pointing east, and now it pointed west.

"What's going on, Dad?"

"The needle is magnetic, and usually it's only affected by the Earth's magnetic field. But if you put it near something with iron in it, it will be more attracted to that, and it'll move in that direction. The stove has some steel in it, so if you get the compass too close to the stove, it's more attracted to the metal in the stove than it is to the North Pole. So guess what you have to make sure of whenever you use a compass?"

"Keep it away from metal, so the needle points in the right direction."

Jeff smiled at him. "Smart boy!"

Robbie saw that north was back the way he had come. But not quite north — it was slightly northwest. Then he looked at the map. "Start with what you know," he told himself. He found where they started, where the truck was parked. He followed the trail upward to where they had stopped before the earthquake. He looked at it for a minute, thinking. He looked up and down the map, along the trail they had hiked on earlier. But where was he now? He followed the trail back downward, looking for the fork in the trail that he had taken. It must have been the wrong direction. But there were apparently several forks in this trail, and they were all near the area where he thought he had turned. He still wasn't sure where he was, or how he would get back. He could feel fear growing heavier and heavier. He took three deep, cleansing breaths in an attempt to clear it away.

[Continued on Page 15]

Wait a second, he thought. The creek — it had to be on the map, too. He looked at the map again, scanning for the thin blue line that would indicate a creek. And there it was. And he could see that trails came right up to the creek in two different places. One spot on the map was about two inches away to the west. Robbie double-checked the map legend. An inch was one mile, and there was no way he'd travelled two miles in the wrong direction in just the last twenty minutes; he wasn't walking that quickly. His location must be the other place where the creek bumped up against the trail.

He followed that trail upward and intersected with the main trail they had taken up earlier. That was the place he took the wrong turn. Now he knew where he was, and he sighed in relief. Robbie took another deep breath to calm himself and took another swig of water. He folded up the map with the path showing on the top and started walking briskly, back the way he had just come.

It only took a few minutes for Robbie to backtrack to the point where he'd taken the wrong turn. He was flooded with relief when he reached the original trail again. Now he was one hundred percent sure that he was on the right path. As he relaxed slightly, he suddenly realized that in his confusion he had forgotten to update his father!

He thought about his father sitting alone, trapped on a ledge, waiting for help, maybe even scared... Robbie quickly grabbed his radio and called "NM8J, this is KE7CTA, can you hear me?"

"KE7CTA this is NM8J. I can hear you clearly. Is everything OK? I was getting ready to call you. Do you have the rope yet?"

"Umm... I'm OK. I don't have the rope yet."

"What's wrong. Are you OK?" Jeff could obviously tell that something wasn't right. Robbie could hear the concern in his voice.

"Yeah. I took a wrong turn, but I figured out where I am now. It shouldn't slow us down much." He felt embarrassed — he should have paid more attention on the way down. His dad was depending on him and he was screwing it up. How could he be so stupid in such an important situation? Shaking his head to himself, he started down the trail again with the radio in his hand.

Jeff replied "That's good to hear. Good job keeping a level head and getting un-lost. Just let me know when you get back down. See if anyone else or any other vehicles are down there. If there are any other vehicles, see if you can find some paper in the truck and leave a note for someone, including my location, and tell them what happened. Let them know I'm injured. Maybe we'll get lucky and get some help."

"OK, Dad. I'm going now."

"See you soon."

Robbie continued down the trail. Since he was now on the main trail, it was a simple route back. He passed another fork in the trail, but this time he double-checked the map and compass, and was sure he was going the right way. He could tell he was getting closer when he saw a cluster of boulders on the side of the trail that he had seen earlier that day, right after they'd started up the mountain. He rounded the bend and there was the truck, sitting alone in the parking lot. It sat there like a loyal dog, waiting for his master. There were no other vehicles parked in the area. Robbie remembered that two vehicles were parked there when they had arrived earlier, but they had obviously left already, probably trying to get home. And there was no cliff nearby they could have fallen off of, Robbie thought wryly. He and his father were really on their own now.

Robbie was so excited and relieved to see their truck that he ran the last few yards to the truck. He dropped his pack and fished around for the keys. He found them right away and opened the driver side door. He unlocked all the doors, and then opened the rear door. He quickly scanned for the coil of rope Jeff had mentioned earlier. He didn't see it. Where was it? It had to be there. If it wasn't there, they would have a whole new set of problems, and they didn't need any more problems!

Robbie remembered what his father had said, and smacked his hand to his forehead. The rope was behind the passenger seat, not the driver seat. He ran around the back of the truck and opened the back door on the passenger side. He still didn't see the rope. Then Robbie moved a folded tarp that was lying across some gear on the floor. The rope was there, coiled up and ready for adventure. "Mission accomplished!" Robbie told himself. Well, this little part of the mission anyway. He quickly stuffed the rope into his backpack and looked around for anything else that he may need. He didn't need road flares or a tarp or a toolkit, and nothing else looked that important, so he closed the doors, locked the truck, and made another call on his radio.

"NM8J this is KE7CTA."

"KE7CTA, this is NM8J. Do you have the rope?"

"Yes, I have the rope and I'm headed back. Can you think of anything else we might need from the truck?"

"No. That's all we need. I'll see you soon. NM8J monitoring."

"KE7CTA monitoring," Robbie replied, as he started one more trek up the mountain.



'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 Call Signs 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.

Public Service Events Requesting Ham Radio Support

By Gene W7AKA & Fran N7FWZ Underwood

“See Jane Run”, sponsored by the Seattle Marathon Association.

When: Sunday, July 17, starting at 8am.

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”

When: Sunday, July 17, starting at 8:30am.

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.

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 -- JULY / AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10 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)	11 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)	12 2000 – Seattle Red Cross Comm Team Net (incl. 'Elmer's Corner') 147.080 (Weekly) 2000 – Snohomish Co. ACS/RACES Net 146.92 (Weekly)	13 2000 –Evergreen Intertie Gen/Tech Info Net – 145.33 (Weekly) 2000 – Educational Radio Net – PSRG 146.96 (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	16 1000–M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1230– M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott- ag7t@arri.net Parade – West Seattle Hi-Yu hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com Parade – LAKEFAIR, Olympia K7ss@arri.net
17 Half Marathon & 5K – See Jane Run, Gas Works Park, Seattle W7aka@comcast.net Parade – White Center Jubilee Days hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com	18 1900 – Seattle ACS Net 146.90 (Weekly) 1930 – PSRG Net 146.96 (Weekly) 2000 –YL Net 145.33 (Wkly)	19	20	21	22	23 0900 – WA State Emerg. Net (WSEN) ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly) Parades – West Seattle and Klaha Ha Ya Days, Snohomish- hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com
24 Triathlon– Benaroya Research Institute, Seward Park, Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com Parade– Chinatown, Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com	25	26	27 Parade – Greenwood SEAFAIR, North Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com	28 Ride– RAMROD, Enumclaw N7fvz@comcast.net	29 Parade – Tour de Terrace, Mountlake Terrace hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com	30 Parade – SEAFAIR Torchlight – Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com Parade – Magnolia Kiddies, Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com
31 Ride– Eurand Cycle for Life, Woodinville dan@esca1com	01 – AUGUST –	02 M&K Board Mtg Salvation Army Bldg Renton, 7pm	03	04	05 Ride– RSVP, Seattle to Vancouver BC jopeb@fftraining.com	06 Parade – Lake City Pioneer Days, Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com Ride– (Aug 6-8)– Courage Classic, 3-Cascade Passes dshaw@access1.com
07	08	09	10	11	12 Relay Articles Due – 23:59:59	13 Parade– Auburn Good Ol' Days hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com
14 Triathlon – Danskin, Genessee Park, Seattle hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com	15	16	17	18	19	20 1000–M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1230– M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott- ag7t@arri.net Parade– Celebrate Shoreline hamsignup@seafairparademarsals.com