



*View from the Bridge...*



### Fall Brings Service Opportunities

By Ivy Nelson-Groves WA7IVY, President

Welcome to Fall! It appears that our unusually mild summer weather has given way to our typical fall. Time to gear up for the upcoming club activities.

But first, I'd like welcome to our new board member Kathleen KF7MUD who takes the Trustee position #2 now that George AE7G is our new Activities Manager, and Kathy KB7QMO is our new Vice President. My personal thanks go to Steve KD7IQL for his many years of service to the club. We'll all still see Steve, but with his new family, his time and attention have a new focus.

And thanks to everyone who ran for the open positions. When I was new to the club, I found that the best way to get involved and find out what was going on was to run for office. I've found this all a very satisfying experience and I really enjoy it. I'd recommend it to all the members, and especially to our new members!

We have several upcoming activities.

- o *Budget time is coming up quickly. If there is an item you think needs to be added to the budget for 2012, please contact any Board Member.*
- o *Traditionally the club also does holiday bell ringing for the Salvation Army. This is one reason our rent for the meeting place is so low. I encourage everyone who is able to help out, volunteer for December 10<sup>th</sup>. Our club usually garners more donations than any other group who rings bells for the Salvation Army here in Renton.*
- o *In December, we have the Holiday party. It is tentatively planned for December 3<sup>rd</sup>, but won't get off the ground unless someone volunteers to head this committee. Remember, you don't have to do it alone; that's why it's called a Committee.*
- o *And last, but certainly not least, the planning meetings have started for the Flea Market. This would be a great place for new people to get involved, and we will need everyone on board when the Flea Market comes around in March!*

Lots of activities to fill the darker months here at the end of the year... See ya'll on the 15<sup>th</sup>!

### N7WA Salmon Run

By Michael Dinkelman N7WA

My efforts in this year's Salmon Run were born over a decade ago in my last Salmon Run which was also a mobile run through much of Eastern Washington. Ever since then, I've been promising myself that I would get back out there but something always came up and I only got to read about the efforts of others. This past winter, after replacing my '84 Mazda pickup and procuring an Icom 706, the stars appeared aligned for a swim upstream. I spent a good part of the winter installing the radio and the early summer building my mobile antenna. By the end of July, I was live on 20M and started planning for September. *[Continued on Page 4]*

### M&K Christmas Party: Coordinator Needed

By George Thornton AE7G, Activity Chair

*The Mike&Key Annual Christmas party has been scheduled for December 3. We hope to hold it again at the same location as our monthly meeting, details to follow. We will NOT be able to hold the party unless someone steps forward and agrees to coordinate the event. Please contact me immediately if you can take on this limited responsibility.*

### IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>View from the Bridge – Ivy WA7IVY, President</i>	1
<i>N7WA Salmon Run – Mike N7WA</i>	1
<i>M&amp;K Annual Christmas Party – George AE7G</i>	1
<i>M&amp;K Club Contact Information – K7LED</i>	2
<i>M&amp;K Activities– George AE7G</i>	3
<i>M&amp;K October Door Prizes – Jim N7MU</i>	3
<i>Celebrate October Members – Dave KB7PSN</i>	4
<i>Radio Officer Report – Hal N7NW</i>	4
<i>Salmon Run: Fishing in the Islands – Tim K7ANE</i>	6
<i>M&amp;K-ARC Elmer Contacts – Jim N7MU</i>	8
<i>K7LED In-House Contest: November– Mike N7WA</i>	8
<i>M&amp;K September General Mtg Mins– Robert KD7WNV</i>	9
<i>M&amp;K October Board Mtg Mins – Robert KD7WNV</i>	10
<i>Wear the Mike &amp; Key Club Logo – Jim N7MU</i>	11
<i>PNW – Hamfairs &amp; Events – N7CFO on Web</i>	11
<i>AMICA Seattle Marathon – Gene W7AKA, Fran N7FWZ</i>	12
<i>Own a Weather Radio – Jim K7CEX</i>	13
<i>PACIFICON Conference – <a href="http://www.pacificon.org">www.pacificon.org</a></i>	13
<i>M&amp;K Reference Lending Library – Tim K7ANE</i>	14
<i>HamRadioBooks.com-On The Way Out! –Andrew AB8L</i>	15
<i>Ham Radio Nets &amp; Events – October/November</i>	18



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.



**Postal Address:**

P.O. Box 4234  
Renton, WA 98057-4234

**Web Site:**

[www.mikeandkey.org](http://www.mikeandkey.org)

**Send dues to:**

Mike & Key ARC  
P.O. Box 4234  
Renton, WA 98057-4234

**K7LED Repeaters:**

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

**Email:**

info @ mikeandkey.org

**Send newsletter submissions to:**

Gary Bryan, *Relay* Editor  
34033 33rd Ave SW  
Federal Way, WA 98023-7724  
kg7ku @ arrl.net

**Reflector:**

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

### Club Contacts

<b>President</b>	Ivy Nelson-Groves	WA7IVY	ivy @ wa7ivy.com	425-269-3259
<b>Vice President</b>	Kathy Martin	KB7QMO	klsmartin1 @ gmail.com	253-631-5370
<b>Secretary</b>	Robert Grinnell	KD7WNV	r-grinnell @ comcast.net	425-398-1466
<b>Treasurer</b>	Dave Smith	KB7PSN	kb7psn @ yahoo.com	425-235-5095
<b>Activity Mgr</b>	George Thornton	AE7G	GTLAW @ seonet.com	206-920-7072
<b>Radio Officer</b>	Hal Goodell	N7NW	n7nw.hal @ comcast.net	253-549-4178
<b>Trustees --</b>				
<b>No. 1</b>	Michael Dinkelman	N7WA	n7wa @ arrl.net	253-631-3756
<b>No. 2</b>	Kathleen Weis	KF7MUD	kf7mud @ live.com	425-283-6545
<b>No. 3 (CoB)</b>	Tim Kane	K7ANE	k7ane @ arrl.net	206-251-7467
<b>No. 4</b>	Alan Hughes	KB7SVU	kb7svu @ junos.com	253-840-4947
<b>No. 5</b>	Daniel Stevens	KL7WM	KL7WM @ arrl.net	206-228-9274
<b>Logo Committee</b>	Dan Humphrey & Dawn Humphrey	N7QHC KC7YYB	n7qhc @ arrl.net	206-243-0163
<b>Webmaster</b>	Jim Etwiler	KD7BAT	kd7bat @ arrl.net	425-788-7887
<b>VE Testing</b>	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](http://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.

October 2011

## M&K October Activities

By George Thornton AE7G, Activity Manager

At the October meeting I was elected to take over as Activities Manager. I will be working closely with our former Activities Managers to continue our tradition of excellent programming at our Club meetings. I want to thank in particular Jim Aigner N7MU who has agreed to continue his work helping to plan and organize the monthly presentations. Jim will also help ease my transition by continuing to procure auction items.

**For the October meeting** our featured speaker is **Scott Currie NS7C**. Scott leads the Maple Valley ARES team, is the ARRL Emergency Coordinator for Maple Valley and does coordination for ECs in southeast King County. He is past president of the Maple Valley Amateur Radio Club and has been a presenter at COMM Academy. He works for IBM as a systems engineer. He's the key person in charge of Maple Valley ARES' D star repeater.

The D Star system is a newer ICOM VHF/UHF digital radio format. Digital radio is gaining increasing acceptance in VHF and UHF circles. D Star offers the ability to communicate data as well as voice using digital FM modes. Scott will give us an overview, show how it works under the covers and do a live demonstration.

We will have another set of door prizes for raffle at the October meeting. Last month we gave away \$129 worth of prizes and had \$126 in ticket sales.

Remember that your ticket purchases also go towards the year end raffle held in December. So far we have three good prizes to give away. One is a Signalink device for digital work. We will also be giving away a Wouxon dual band HT. Final option is an older but good quality 25 amp switching power supply built by Astron.

### Upcoming Meeting Programs

**For our November meeting** I am pleased to announce that **Lyle Johnson, KK7P**, one of the design people with Elecraft, will be present to discuss the latest trends and directions in transceiver design philosophy and engineering. He expects to bring a factory prototype of the latest Elecraft product, the KX3. The KX3 is going to be an ultraportable HF QRP rig with most of the capability of the larger K3. Here is a picture:



## K7LED Relay

**December:** Presentation on Salmon Days. This year some non-contesters participated for the first time from the San Juan Islands. Sharing experience from those both experienced and new to contesting. Come find out what fun can be had by all.

**January 2012:** **Gene W7AKA & Fran N7FWZ Underwood** will tell us how to organize a public service event. Gene and Fran have been doing this for decades and their experience and forms can make work easier for all of us.

**February and March 2012** are devoted to the Fleamarket and officer elections, so the next open date for a speaker is going to be April. We are looking at featuring emergency communications in the April meeting.

## M&K October Door Prizes

By Jim Aigner N7MU

**Here's the line-up for October door prizes:**

- 100' of 450 ohm ladder line, great for feeding wire antennas
- 220 MHz aluminum J-Pole antenna using the popular Arrow design
- EM-Tech Ladder Grabber for use with ladder line
- Wireless FM Headphones, listen wirelessly without bothering others
- Green Safety Glasses for your CERT Go Kit
- 10' of heavy duty ground cable with lug
- Perel telescoping magnetic pickup tool with LED light
- The Road Home by Andrew Baze AB8L (M&K Member) adventure story
- 12' length of #12 DC zip cord with a dozen Anderson Powerpole connectors
- Small external extension speaker



## October 2011

### Lets Celebrate our October Members!

By Dave Smith KB7PSN, Treasurer

As of October 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:*

Pete Hedberg	K7WTG	41 Years
Charles Stroehrer	WA7EBH	41 Years
Jim Christiansen	K7ND	39 Years
Prahlad Ayengar	KB7AFS	24 Years
Diane Dinkelman	KB7DNE	19 Years
Brenda Doss	(no call)	15 Years
Rita Danielson	KD7CNU	13 Years
Darrell Plank	WB7BSP	13 Years
David Mitchell	WA7DTM	11 Years
Greg Pietrucha	W7HRC	11 Years
Jim Telgenhoff	KC7EVY	10 Years
William Harris	W7KXB	6 Years
Erik Friele	KE7UYC	3 Years
Roy Heimes	N7AVN	2 Years
Russell Ralph	KF7AQR	2 Years
Marshall McKinney	KF7EHA	1 Year

### Radio Officer Report

By Hal Goodell N7NW

While the repeaters continue to operate normally, I have noticed a noise which occurs on the squelch tail of the two meter repeater after a transmitting station un-keys. It's sort of a buzzing sound.

Several stations have commented on the noise, which seems to be intermittent. I don't believe that this noise is induced by the repeater, but perhaps present on the input for the short time after a station un-keys. This is to let all know that I am aware of it and have been monitoring the repeater input and output with the IFR from here on Fox Island.

Steve, KD7IQL, and myself will be trekking up to Tiger on Sunday, 10/9, to do some checking and monitoring to see if we can determine the source of the noise. We have some other maintenance items to look at as well.

Thanks to all for your continued courteous usage of the repeater.

### N7WA Salmon Run... (Continued from Page 1)

Those plans meant getting well acquainted with Google Maps – something not available the first time I did this. The last time, it was a clockwise trip and those small counties in Southeast Washington seemed to get short shrift. This time I wanted to make sure I spent more time in that area.

However, I was limited by only having a single day for the effort. That and the realization that I just

### K7LED Relay

wanted to do too much (the spirit was willing but the flesh knew better) eventually got me to pare down the trip to what I thought was still possible. The plan became Klickitat, Yakima, Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, Whitman, Spokane, Lincoln, Adams, Grant, and Kittitas. Pend Oreille and Stevens were to be stretch goals.



Photo: Rig-stop at rest area.

With one week to go, I thought I was ready. Doing some testing the Sunday before, something just went bad. All the sudden, my antenna seemed to have become squirrely. All my band/coil combinations looked great on my analyzer but hooking up to the radio would give unreliable results. I checked connections, grounds, changed coax, and generally beat my head against a wall. What could have changed? Trip cancellation was imminent. Then it hit me. I had just been lucky before (and mostly on 20M). I had forgotten to install an RF choke on my original installation.

**Stupid mistake.** My coax was acting as part of my antenna. With the analyzer and the routing I was using for testing, it didn't seem to matter much but as soon as I routed that coax into the cab and put 100 watts into the system on different bands, it was now all messing up. Five turns of the coax through a big ferrite at the base of the antenna and all was well. Whew! Trip back on.



Photo: 15, 20 and 80 meters (in a box).

With family near Yakima, I drove over and spent the Friday night before the run on the eastside. Up early, we had breakfast in Toppenish on the way to Status Pass in Klickitat County.

(Continued on Page 5)

**October 2011**

***N7WA Salmon Run... (Continued from Page 4)***

Trying to explain just what we were doing (Ham Radio? Contest? Morse Code?) to the waitress was a lesson in frustration. All she could really tell us was the cell service wasn't too good up there so we probably wouldn't do to well. At Satus Pass for the contest start, I began on 40M hoping for some locals. One W6 and 15 minutes later I went to 20M. Finally, there was somebody to work. It was 20M the rest of the day until dusk.

Another 15 minutes at the pass, it was time to head east so we headed back to Yakima County. I should mention that my driver was not a ham so I was able to make contacts as we moved. As we came out of the hills we slowed down and I was wondering why. Looking up from the radio there was a cow in our path and it didn't want to move. Welcome to Eastern Washington? A blast of the car horn took care of that obstacle and off again.



***Photo: Lonely Status Pass.***

From my past experience, I knew we would develop a following from county to county but I needed a way identify where we were so the call quickly changed from N7WA/M to N7WA/WAL, then N7WA/BEN.

Unfortunately, I only had a WinKeyer and no computer. It was too much of a pain to update the WinKeyer for each county so my CQing changed from a push of the button to all manual. That made for some interesting mess-ups during my CQ's as the day wore on and I grew tired. I thought a break at the Benton County rest stop would be a good idea.

**Not!** There is some mighty nasty RF in the area and the noise floor rose to over S6. I found that to be quite common in our travels. Every power substation and most populated areas seem to include some high noise areas. I don't think my driver quite understood (it was all noise to him) but at least he moved when I wanted.

Travelling from Benton to Franklin County provided the worst surprise of all when my driver announced... "I think the Check Engine light is on." No, you're kidding me right? That put an immediate knot in my stomach that didn't go away for hours.

***K7LED Relay***

My mind covered the options. Should we try to find a Toyota dealer in Pasco on a Saturday? The truck was running fine. Maybe it was a sensor? Maybe it was RF into the computer? In the end, we decided to continue on but to truncate the trip. We would pass on Asotin and head north for I-90 by the most direct route from Walla Walla. We would still manage to hit most of the counties and others should be able to fill in what we missed. In the end, even without the Check Engine light, it was probably a good decision as we were really getting tired by the time we made it to I-90 and headed back west.

As I mentioned, you get a following as a mobile. Each county line produced a flurry of 10-15 stations that just followed us around. I eventually gave up on SSB as CW produced a better rate. Even when we went to 40M in Grant County at dusk, we were quickly found by our contingent. I was never so glad to see Ellensburg as we headed home towards Yakima. I started getting the usual "NEXT?" calls as we headed south again. I decided it was enough for one day and we had already given out Yakima that morning so I simply sent QRT. I got a nice 73 and TNX in return.



***Photo: Operating Position.***

Dropping off my driving partner in Yakima, I headed home to Kent. I made it just short of midnight. It made for a long day but there were nearly 300 Q's in the handwritten log including some DX. The mobile worked great and I was pleased at the performance. Some goals for next year: First and most important, make sure it's next year and not ten years later. Two, get a computer running in the mobile. Three, find a way to switch between a couple bands without having stop. (No, I don't want a screwdriver). Four, find a Ham operator to share in driving and operating. And last but not least, see if I can get out for two days.

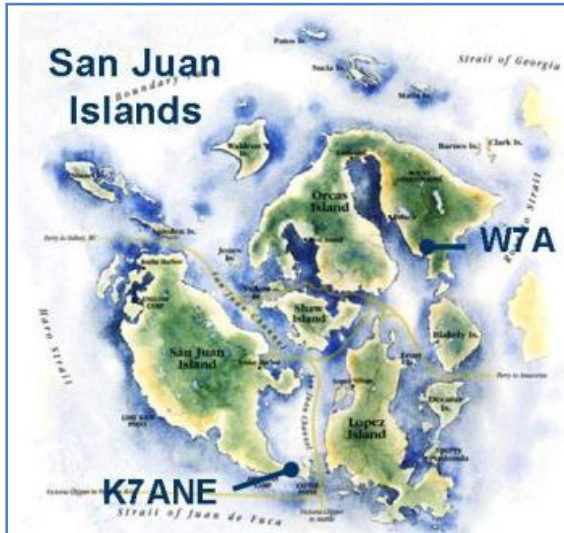
The Salmon Run as a mobile was everything I remembered. It was fun and I will do it again. By the way, that Check Engine light? It followed my all the way home. Yet, when I started the truck the next day – it was gone and I haven't seen it since. Murphy!!!

## Salmon Run: Fishing in the Islands

By Tim Kane K7ANE

The weekend of 17-18 September the salmon were running off the San Juan Islands, and some of our members were there to see what they could catch. While the Kings, Silvers, and Cohos streamed past in the Strait, our guys were angling the airwaves in the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary "Salmon Run," the annual Washington State QSO party, sponsored by the Western Washington DX Club. The contest was dubbed the "Salmon Run" for the sumptuous smoked salmon that is awarded to winners in the various classes and locations.

Some members and friends set up special events station W7A, at "Woodside Farm," on an 1880s family homestead farm in the Olga area on the southeastern end of Orcas Island, near Obstruction Pass. These included Mike W7XTZ, Lee KE7NBN, Roy N7AVN and his YL Donna, and Blake N7BLZ. In a separate operation Robert KD7WNV and Tim K7ANE set up a station on the hill above the Cattle Point lighthouse on the southern tip of San Juan Island.



The two teams crossed paths on Friday afternoon at the ferry dock in Anacortes, going out to their islands, but then boarded separate boats. Robert had some duties on Saturday morning, so Tim headed to Friday Harbor alone to set up their camp at Snug Harbor on the island's NW side. Taking advantage of the summer's remaining light, he then reconnoitered a couple of potential station sites on the southern end, some 18 miles away.

It wasn't that they relished the half-hour drive to/from camp, but a simple acceptance of there being no public campsites on the south part of the island. The two potential station sites were in the "American Camp" national historical park, one on South Beach and the other on an elevated outlook a couple miles further east.

Following a delicious cold pizza dinner at the camp site, Tim took a short sunset canoe paddle around Snug Harbor, enjoying the picturesque treed shoreline and the anchored and moored power and sailboats sharing the tranquil waters. Afterwards, just at sunset, he decided to check the radio bands to see if it looked as if the propagation gods might smile on the weekend's contest.

He fired up his mobile Kenwood TS-480SAT in the SUV and tuned the 20m hamstick on the bumper and listened across the band. There was a fair amount of activity, and quick successful contacts with Florida, Colorado and Ohio suggested at least the 20-meter band was going to be wide open. Then he heard US51FA booming in from the Ukraine. The DX station was working other US stations, one after the other. To Tim's surprise and pleasure, on the third or fourth try Nikolai answered Tim's call, and gave him a reasonable 5/5 signal report from central Asia. A good omen indeed!

On Orcas Island Mike and Lee set up much of their "expedition class, multi-operator, 2 transmitter" station, which included (only two at a time) a Yaesu FT-857D, an Icom IC-718, and a Kenwood TS-830S and TS-130, along with 80 and 40 meter dipoles set perpendicular, a 20 meter "yagi-in-a-bag" with rotor, and a mobile-mounted homebrew hamstick. Power arrangements included two generators and deep-cycle batteries. Set up in a roofed picnic shelter, they had a comfortable station from which to work two bands at a time throughout the contest, taking turns operating. Self-described "rookies," largely new to hamming and the contest, they were here to have a good time. Two stayed in a guest room at the family farm, two used a RV, and one day-tripped on Sunday only.

Back on San Juan the next morning Tim drove down to South Beach and at 0900 local he started calling "CQ-Salmon Run," activating their "two-op mobile class" station. From within his Ford Explorer, he worked 20, 40, and 75 meter SSB all morning and into the afternoon on his TS-480SAT, alternating between calling CQ and "search and pounce." Unfortunately, the open bands of the previous day had contracted substantially, and contacts were much more limited than hoped for. A big sea lion was having better luck just off-shore, however, repeatedly chasing large salmon into the air as he charged after his uncooperative luncheon entree.

In the early afternoon Tim heard on the club repeater from Robert, who was now on the road north toward Anacortes. Unfortunately, it seemed the highway traffic was a bit heavier than that on the air. As 2pm neared, Robert was caught in slow traffic on the connector road outside of Anacortes. The ferry departure, however, was right on time, and Robert was left like a bride at the altar, watching the groom ride away from the church. He caught the next ferry though, and sailed for Friday Harbor two hours later.

When he arrived Robert headed straight to Cattle Point, where Tim had relocated a couple hours before to try to improve the operation. They talked strategy for a few minutes and decided to try the beach again, but this time setting up a G5RV multi-band wire antenna from temporary masts in the sand.

(Continued on Page 7)

Salmon Run: Fishing in the Islands... (Continued from Page 6)



Photo: The W7A Team (l-r): Blake N7BLZ, Mike W7XTZ, Lee KE7NBN, Donna and Roy N7AVN, all in their Salmon Run t-shirts and hats, with guard dogs, Daisy and Sarah.

It was getting dark as they wrestled with the masts. Handicapped by an edict delivered by the park ranger that no stakes were permitted on the beach, they tried to secure the masts with guy ropes from flotsam logs on the beach. This didn't work particularly well, especially as darkness quickly fell, so they retreated to the earlier set up, using the vehicle-mounted hamsticks from the high ground nearer the lighthouse.

They worked the bands until contest break at midnight, and returned to the campsite. Robert set up his bed in his truck canopy. In the morning they broke camp early, then treated themselves to a hearty breakfast at Friday Harbor's "Hungry Clam," a favorite early morning café catering to outgoing fishermen, most of whom are after the aquatic kind of salmon. By 0900 Robert and Tim were again trolling the airwaves from the knoll above the lighthouse. Now they were augmenting Tim's truck battery with a parallel deep-cycle battery.

It had rained moderately during the night, but was now beautiful, with sun, blue skies and billowy clouds, thanks in part to the island being in the rain shadow of the Olympic Mountains to the west. Taking advantage of this lovely weather, they set up an outdoor table and chairs beside the trucks, ran control and power cables from the vehicles, put on some sun screen, and quickly got back to the contest.

Throughout the day curious individuals, families, bicyclists, in-line skaters, and others, dropped by the San Juan station to see what Robert and Tim were doing. One included Mike N7TLL, a neighbor ham, whose home QTH was just 1/4 mile away as the gull flies. On Orcas too they'd generated drop-ins due to Mike thoughtfully previously inserting a short descriptive and invitational article in the island's weekly newspaper.

This year several usually very difficult counties in the corners of the state (e.g. Asotin and Pacific) were easier to contact due to groups "activating" them with other expeditions operating in these counties, or even better, straddling a county line between two such counties, allowing stations to chalk up a QSO with each in a single exchange.

Photo: Robert WD7WNV (r) trolling 40 meters while Tim K7ANE logs the QSOs on the laptop computer.

Good-natured and supportive hamming was heard throughout the weekend with stations directing each other to difficult-to-obtain counties or states on another frequency or band. Especially on Sunday afternoon, as the contest wound down, stations were pointed to expedition stations to allow competitors to pick up these valuable and oft-rare "multipliers." Contesters demonstrated the best of ham radio principles rather than the sometimes cut-throat tactics found in other on-the-air contests.



Throughout Sunday, Robert and Tim alternated operating and computer-logging duties on San Juan, and caught up the manual log that Tim had kept before Robert's arrival on Saturday afternoon. On Orcas the group moved the Yagi to a more favorable location, which improved their operations.

By the end of the contest at 1700 on Sunday the W7A team on Orcas logged a total of 494 QSOs in 42 states and provinces, 34 (of 39) Washington counties, and 4 DX countries, for a total score of 83,324. The San Juan K7ANE team scored 18,248 points, with 174 QSOs in 20 provinces and states, 30 counties and EA3ELZ in Spain.

(Continued on Page 8)

**Salmon Run: Fishing in the Islands... (Continued from Page 7)**

Other Mike and Key members also spent the weekend working the Salmon Run contest in group and one-man expeditions, or seeing what they could catch from the comfort of home. Hopefully you joined in too.

**So, what are you doing next September?**

It's not too early to start planning. Think about a weekend fishing expedition to a national forest, a state park, a farm, or just a wide spot off the road in a rare county, and drop your own line in the water.



Custom-designed and printed K7ANE QSL card for this year's Salmon Run showing Cattle Point Lighthouse and the Cascade Mountains to the east.

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

Area	Elmer Coordinator	Email	Phone	Also...
Homebrew, DX, antennas	Jeff Wandling, W7BRS	<a href="mailto:dew7brs@gmail.com">dew7brs@gmail.com</a>	206-605-2278	New Hams, satellite work
Beams and Towers	Alan Hughes, KB7SVU	<a href="mailto:kb7svu@juno.com">kb7svu@juno.com</a>	253-840-4947	Beam antennas and towers, safety
Contesting	Mike Dinkelman, N7WA	<a href="mailto:mwdink@clearwire.net">mwdink@clearwire.net</a>	253-631-3756	Contest operations
CW	Mike Dinkelman, N7WA	<a href="mailto:mwdink@clearwire.net">mwdink@clearwire.net</a>	253-631-3756	Learn CW, operating proficiency
Digital Modes	Earl Palmer, N7EP	<a href="mailto:earl_palmer@msn.com">earl_palmer@msn.com</a>	206-818-9246	Digital modes, software, TNC's
D-STAR	Steve Hatch, WA7DAD	<a href="mailto:stephen@hatch.net">stephen@hatch.net</a>	206-851-8842	D-STAR technology and operation
Emergency Comm	Tim Kane, K7ANE	<a href="mailto:k7ane@arrl.net">k7ane@arrl.net</a>	206-251-7467	CERT, ARES, organizations & Eq't
HF Operation	Dale Tongue AC7NP	<a href="mailto:dale.tongue@gmail.com">dale.tongue@gmail.com</a>	425-432-4254	Eq't, Antennas, best HF operating practices
New Members	Dick Radford, WA7NIW	<a href="mailto:wa7niw@arrl.net">wa7niw@arrl.net</a>	425-828-9791	Getting started, eq't selection and operation
QRP	Frank Qualls, AB7HA	<a href="mailto:franklin_qualls@hotmail.com">franklin_qualls@hotmail.com</a>	425-802-1837	Low power operation, design & construction
VHF/UHF Operation	Dave Smith, KB7PSN	<a href="mailto:kb7psn@yahoo.com">kb7psn@yahoo.com</a>	425-235-5095	6 meters and up; radios, antennas, modes

**M&K-K7LED In-House Contest for November – 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 be 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.

**We are getting to the end of this contest. Here are your special event stations for November 2011.**

November	Station	Time	Pts	Mult
03-06	N8F and K8F	1700-1700Z	10 each	Michigan
	<i>Remembering the Edmund Fitzgerald – 21.360, 14.260, 7.260, 3.860</i>			
08-11	W5M	1300-2359Z	25	Oklahoma
	<i>Birthday of the US Marine Corps – 14.317, 7.260</i>			
10-11	Various	Varies	20 each	(By State)
	<i>Veterans Day Special Event Stations (but you gotta FIND 'em)</i>			
	<i>Some that are listed: KA9NLX, W4V, W5KID, K4NYC, K8V, W3UDX, and more...</i>			
17	K7NRA	1500-2359	10	AZ
	<i>Birthday of the NRA – 21.335, 14.250, 14.050, 7.250</i>			
26-27	WA1NPO	1300-1900Z	10	MA
	<i>Pilgrim Landing at Plymouth – 18.160, 14.260, 7.260, 3.860</i>			



October 2011

## M&K General Meeting Minutes

By Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary

### Meeting held September 17, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 1001 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: Ivy announced that VP Steve KD7IQL has resigned. We will have an election to replace him.

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

**Treasurer** – Dave KB7PSN: We have been notified that the fee structure at our bank is changing, so we are shopping for a better one. Please advise Dave if you have a recommendation. Also, at the request of the Salvation Army, we are updating our insurance liability coverage to include them.

**Activities Manager** – Kathy KB7QMO: The program today is an Elmering session.

**Chairman of the Board** – Tim K7ANE: Not present.

**Radio Officer** – Hal N7NW: The repeaters are working fine. We made it through the summer with the public service events. All public service event usage of Club repeaters is coordinated through the Radio Officer. There are also a couple of regular nets. Everyone has been courteous in allowing them to operate. Little John – reports of distant contact. Jim N7MU noted that the 222 MHz repeater is now used by King County for EOC-to-EOC communications.

**Relay Editor** – Gary KG7KU: Not present.

**Webmaster** – Jim KD7BAT: Not present.

### Standing Committee Reports:

**Strategic Planning** – Mike N7WA: Not present.

**Facilities** – Daniel KL7WM: As mentioned by the Treasurer, the Salvation Army has sent us a letter about rent and insurance. We are working on meeting their request

**Education** – Tim K7ANE: Not present. Robert KD7WNV mentioned that ESCA RACES will be offering simultaneous but separate Tech and General courses, running Monday nights 7:00 – 9:00 PM, for eight weeks beginning September 26. The courses are free, though the standard \$15 fee applies for the exam. Textbooks are available at the discounted price of \$25 through the ESCA office. See Robert for contact info.

**Public Service** – Robert KD7WNV: It's been a busy and successful public service season. Things are winding down now—there isn't much until November.

**Technical** – Alan KB7SVU: Nothing to report.

### Quorum present.

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

John WA7QHG made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Steve KD7IQL. Motion passed.

**Vice President** – Steve KD7IQL: Membership applications: Shelley Stark (no call). Approved by the membership.

**Other Committees** (as appropriate)

**VE Exams** – Scott AG7T: We had 9 people take exams last month. Awarded 2 Technician, 4 General, and 3 Extra.

**By-laws Review** – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

## K7LED Relay

**Field Day** – Ivy WA7IVY: We have been working on the tower trailer. It has been sanded and painted with primer. Ivy had members of the work party stand for recognition. A few days after the painting, Alan KB7SVU noticed brown spots, which were dealt with by Alan and Ivy. We'll need another work party to apply the finishing coat. This Monday is the first opportunity to reserve the Wagon Wheel for next year (June 18-25, 2012). We need a few people with a credit card to call and try to get the reservation. Details are in the *Relay*. The phone number is 888-CAMPOUT.

**Logo** – Jim N7MU: Reminded members that we can get the logo and your call sign on articles of clothing.

**Picnic** – Hal N7NW: Ivy WA7IVY thanked Hal for a wonderful picnic. Hal thanked Greg W7HRC and his wife, Linda, for grilling, and Toku AD7JA for the cooking he did, and everyone that helped unload/load Hal's vehicle.

**Flea Market** – Hal N7NW/Mike N7WA: Hal announced the first organizing meeting will be on the 2nd Tuesday of October at the home of Mike N7WA.

### Old Business:

Scott KC7UOC reported on staging a complimentary Club table at the flea market conducted by Radio Club of Tacoma. He noted that they received a number of questions from newly-licensed hams who felt intimidated about asking others. In response to that, we might consider providing such a service at our own Flea Market.

### New Business:

Election for Vice President, conducted by Alan KB7SVU. Steve KD7IQL nominated Kathy Martin, KB7QMO. There were no other nominations. Steve moved that nominations be closed and that Kathy be elected by acclamation. Seconded by Gil W7GIL. Motion passed. Kathy Martin, KB7QMO is elected Vice President. By virtue of her election, the position of Activities Manager is now vacant.

Election for Activities Manager. Stephen Luke, KB7FGV nominated himself. George Thornton, AE7G nominated himself. Steve KD7IQL moved that nominations be closed. Seconded by Gil W7GIL. Motion passed. George Thornton, AE7G is elected Activities Manager. By virtue of his election, the position of Trustee #2 is now vacant.

Election for Trustee #2. George AE7G nominated Stephen Luke, KB7FGV. Daniel KL7WM nominated Kathleen Weiss, KF7MUD. Gil W7GIL moved that nominations be closed. Seconded by Scott AG7T. Motion passed. Kathleen Weiss, KF7MUD is elected Trustee #2.

**Alligator Award** – Dale AC7NP is ready to hand off the award to Mike W7XTZ, who is not present.

### Good of the Order:

Greg W7HRC mentioned a 20-meter roundtable called Ham Nation (6:00 PM our time), which features many interesting or famous people. Info can be found on the Internet, search on "Ham Nation".

Liz N7ZXH announced that this coming Saturday, the Seafair Parade Marshals have been invited to Leavenworth for Oktoberfest. If you would like to accompany them, let her know. Also, October 1 is Issaquah Salmon Days.

The next Mike & Key Board meeting will be on the first Tuesday of the month, October 4 at 7:00 pm, at the Salvation Army in Renton.

The next Mike & Key General Membership meeting is the third Saturday, October 15, 2011.

**John WA7HQG** made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Vandy N7EAM. Meeting adjourned at 1106 hours.

5 guests; 45 members

**Attested: Robert Grinnell KD7WNV, Secretary**

October 2011

## M&K Board Meeting Minutes

By Robert Grinnell, Secretary

Meeting held October 4, 2011

### Officers present

- X President – Ivy Nelson-Groves (WA7IVY)
- X Vice President – Kathy Martin (KB7QMO)
- X Secretary – Robert Grinnell (KD7WNV)
- X Treasurer – Dave Smith (KB7PSN)
- X Activities Manager – George Thornton (AE7G)
- \_\_ Radio Officer – Hal Goodell (N7NW)

### Trustees present

- X No. 1 – Mike Dinkelman (N7WA)
- X No. 2 – Kathleen Weiss (KF7MUD)
- 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)
- X Webmaster – Jim Etzwiler (KD7BAT)

### Visitors

Michael Hansen, KG7MX

Chairman of the Board Tim K7ANE called the meeting to order at 1903 hours.

**Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes of the previous board meeting was made by Ivy WA7IVY, seconded by George AE7G. Motion passed.

### Officer Reports

**Chairman of the Board** – Tim K7ANE: Nothing to report.

**President** – Ivy WA7IVY: Nothing to report.

**Vice President** – Kathy KB7QMO: New member applicants: Paul Forsstrom, KF7MSQ, and Melody Adams-Forsstrom (no call) – family application; Aaron That, KF7JWO. All recommended for approval. Kathy asked the Board for re-approval of a number of applications still on hand after 6 months. Granted. Daniel KL7WM moved that any check over six months old (either an incoming dues/application check, or a refund check written by the Club) must be reissued; that we have the applicant fill out another membership form, and that the application then proceeds to general membership vote with the previous recommendation of the Board when the applicant appears at a general membership meeting. Seconded by Kathleen KF7MUD. Motion passed.

**Secretary** – Robert KD7WNV: There was no mail.

**Treasurer** – Dave KB7PSN: Distributed budget status by email prior to meeting. Notable expense activity in September included work on the trailer, Relay expense including restocking address labels, and check to cover reservation of Wagon Wheel. Next month we will begin developing the 2010 budget.

**Activities Manager** – George AE7G: Send out an report by email prior to meeting. Scott Currie is confirmed for October, presenting on D-STAR. November will be a presentation on the Navy's largest communications array. December will feature a presentation on this year's Salmon Run. January will be on public service, with Gene Underwood, W7AKA, and later we will have emergency communications. We're trying to have a couple of backup presentations available if we have a speaker cancellation at last minute: Scott AG7T will work up something of a technical nature, and George will work up a legal presentation. Also sent out a report of door prizes finances. Jim N7MU will continue to be involved in arranging program speakers. Solicited ideas for programs. Would really like to find someone to do a program on classic radio.

## K7LED Relay

**Radio Officer** – Hal N7NW: Not present. Prior to meeting, emailed the following report to Board members: *Repeater report, plan is right now to go to the site on Saturday or Sunday. Check out repeater status and installation of battery for 220. We probably won't install the battery but just to make plans for installation later before weather turns.*

**Relay Editor** – Gary KG7KU: Not present.

**Webmaster** – Jim KD7BAT: Website is up to date. There are probably some new classes to be added.

### Standing Committee Reports

**Strategic Planning** – Mike N7WA: Nothing to report.

**Facilities** – Daniel KL7WM: We have the certificate of insurance, and are working with the Salvation Army on the wording of the new agreement. Jim KD7BAT said he took the email thread (regarding wording of the document) and forwarded it to JD, but have not heard back from her. Dave KB7PSN is ready to write a check for the 3rd quarter meeting hall donation, pending resolution of this matter. Michael KG7MX warned that we do not have exactly what the Salvation Army asked for. What they asked for, we cannot give from our present insurer. (They want to be contacted in event insurance is cancelled. They also want to be listed as co-insured; ARRL will not do that.)

**Education** – Tim K7ANE: Many classes coming up. The previously announced Tech and General classes at ESCA (Brier) are under way, but would accept anyone who wants to join in if they feel they can catch up, per Robert KD7WNV. Radio Club of Tacoma will offer a weekend Tech class on October 8-9, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Federal Way ARC has a CERT course on Thursday evenings, running seven weeks beginning October 6. Ray Gross is the contact. Snohomish County Hams will offer a weekend General class October 21-23 and a weekend Tech class November 11-13; contact Grant Hopper. Michael KG7MX announced that the Mercer Island radio group will offer testing on Wednesday, October 12, at the Mercer Island City Hall, for people who have difficulty making it to weekend tests. Contact is Michael; Scott Honaker will be head VE.

**Public Service** – Kathleen KF7MUD: Robert KD7WNV said that there will be a committee meeting after this month's general meeting, to begin planning the 2012 booklet. Ivy WA7IVY relayed that WWA Section Manager Jim Pace, K7CEX, suggested that we send an email to him, and he will solicit updates and information from other groups for the booklet. George AE7G noted that the Seattle Marathon is coming up in November.

**Technical** – Alan KB7SVU: Not present.

### Other Committee Reports

**By-Laws** – Dave KB7PSN: Nothing to report.

**Logo** – Jim N7MU: Not present.

**Picnic** – Hal N7NW: Not present. Tabled until January (the first opportunity to reserve the Coulon Park site).

**Field Day** – Ivy WA7IVY: We have the Wagon Wheel reserved for 2012. There has not been another opportunity to apply the second coat of paint to the antenna trailer. Mike N7WA announced that we have been offered another 6-meter antenna, a 6-element beam.

**Flea Market** – Mike N7WA / Hal N7NW: The first organizing meeting is next Tuesday, October 11, but may be cancelled if prospective attendance is too small—will be announced on the Reflector. We need a Tickets chair.

(Continued on Page 11)

## October 2011

### **M&K Board Mtg Minutes... (Cont'd from Pg 10)**

#### **Old Business**

Mike N7WA asked that the Secretary send a thank-you to Peter Hedberg, K7WTG, for the donation of a 2-element 40-meter beam (destined for CW Beach) and the 6-meter beam mentioned under Field Day.

Jim KD7BAT brought to the meeting the equipment donated by Craig Leisy, WB7VTW. George AE7G took the equipment home to check it out. Robert KD7WNV will send a thank-you to Craig.

Dave KB7PSN sent out a report by email prior to the meeting, regarding the change in Bank of America fees. In summary, we will lose 2 of 9 accounts due to zero balances. (They were opened as linked savings accounts, and we haven't used them.) Otherwise, will probably stay with what we've got.

Tim K7ANE asked about the status of rotator control heads for Field Day. Mike N7WA said he is still tinkering with one. He suggested that we look for control heads at upcoming flea market. He also volunteered that he has two spares, and others may also have some, that could be loaned to the Club for Field Day. He suggested we put some money in the 2012 budget to buy a couple.

#### **New Business**

## **K7LED Relay**

Mike N7WA indicated that we need a chair for the Christmas Party, and because of that, we have no reservation at this point. He asked Jim KD7BAT to get us signed up for bell ringing on the first weekend after Thanksgiving weekend (December 3), at Fry's. Kathy KB7QMO suggested that we reserve the Salvation Army headquarters for December 10<sup>th</sup> for the Party. George AE7G will put a notice in the October *Relay*, soliciting a chair and describing what is involved.

#### **Good of the Order**

George AE7G solicited ideas for general meeting programs.

Tim K7ANE suggested a panel discussion on DXing, bringing in some prominent DXers from community. Robert KD7WNV requested a program on software-defined radio. Tim mentioned that Curt Black is still willing to do a presentation on digital.

Dave KB7PSN asked about the status of Elmer program.

Tim K7ANE responded that it is a list of contacts, published in the *Relay*. Dave mentioned that he would like to be removed from the list. Kathy KB7QMO gave a note to George AE7G with some deletions and additions for the list.

There being no further business, Tim K7ANE adjourned the meeting at 2031 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.

---

## **Pacific Northwest Hamfairs & Events**

**Source: PNW Hamfair webpage at <http://www.n7cfo.com/amradio/hf/hf.htm> .**

*(Used with Permission)*

**October 22, 2011. Swap-Tober-Fest. Mid-Valley ARES. Polk County Fairgrounds, Rickreall, OR.**

**Contact: Don Bruschi, [k7un@swaptoberfest.net](mailto:k7un@swaptoberfest.net) . [Flyer in PDF](#). (171K)**

**<http://www.swaptoberfest.net>**

**November 5, 2011. The Annual Federal Way D-Star Workshop, 2011. Federal Way Community Center,**

**Federal Way, WA. <http://www.wt0f.com/d-star-workshop-2011/>**

**November 6, 2011. Maple Ridge Swap Meet, Pitt Meadows, BC.**

**[http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event\\_ID=1491](http://rac.eton.ca/events/detail.php?event_ID=1491)**

**February 18, 2012. Salem Hamfair & Computer/Electronics Swapmeet. Rickreall, Oregon at the Polk County Fairgrounds. <http://www.w7sra.com> .**

**March 10, 2012. Mike & Key Swap Meet. Puyallup fairgrounds exhibition hall, Puyallup, WA. For information, contact [dmdink@yahoo.com](mailto:dmdink@yahoo.com) or [n7wa@arrl.net](mailto:n7wa@arrl.net) .**

**<http://www.mikeandkey.org/flea.htm>**

*[Statements as posted on the Website:] Please email any comments, corrections, questions, etc. to [n7cfo \[at\] n7cfo.com](mailto:n7cfo@n7cfo.com).*

*N7CFO-Disclaimer: I do my best to keep up with scheduling changes on these events, but there is always the chance that one will be canceled or re-scheduled and I will not find out about it. Please verify all dates and locations with the sponsor.*



## Seattle Marathon 2011

**Saturday, November 26, 2011 – Kids Staged Marathon & The 5K Run & Walk**

**Sunday, November 27, 2011 – Half Marathon Run, Half Marathon Walk, Full Marathon Run, & Full Marathon Walk**

Greetings,

As the year moves on so rapidly, (can you believe that we have completed the first decade of the new century) the time for the Seattle Marathon approaches. Again, this year, we, the public service oriented Hams of this area, have another opportunity to serve. I believe that this event utilizes more Hams than any other event in the Seattle area.

This year, we still have the AMICA Insurance Company as the major sponsor and the University of Washington Medical Center will continue to be the Official Medical Provider.

There should be over 16,000 participants in this year's Marathon. About two to three thousand volunteers are needed to make this possible. Of that number, we need over 150 Hams to properly cover the course. Each ham's effort will provide several services to both the participants and organizers.

This year, I want to recruit 25 to 30 or more additional Hams and I also need additional EMT's. Obviously, any Hams that are EMT or Paramedic trained would fill each new position with one person, instead of needing two people.

Some Hams will communicate for water stops, or monitor and possibly, Marshal intersections. We will assist the "split timers" with the event starter's gun sound. We will have Hams with the 3 water trucks, providing coordination.

About 10 APRS equipped Hams will communicate as the "Pooped Out Participant Pickup Patrol". Other Hams will staff the several Seattle Center communications positions, shadowing the event organizers, supporting the Recovery Area, etc. There will be a need for several Hams, with their radios, on bicycles, to provide coverage and assistance for the last several miles of the event. Handheld radios on the 440MHz band are almost always sufficient to support this event.

The Kids Staged Marathon will still be held on Saturday, the 26th of November. This is a 1.2-mile run around the perimeter of Seattle Center, with around 2000 or more kids and many parents participating. We need about 10 Hams for this short event. A 5K Run/Walk will also be held on Saturday, the 26th of November. We will need a few Hams for this event.

We hope that you will work with us this year. We will try to follow your wishes as to assignment. The position that you served last year is yours unless you ask for a change of assignments. We will work with new Hams to select an assignment that will meet their needs. We will try to make everybody happy – if possible.

There will be four meetings at our home – to orient you and to deliver the materials to you, that will make it possible to handle whatever assignment we ask you to take. (You will be asked to come to one of the meetings). As in past years, there will be ID badges, tee shirts and orange baseball caps for identification, as well as orange vests for your safety. Our next e-mail will give the details, but please reserve a couple of hours on Saturday, Nov. 19 or Sunday, Nov. 20. The PowerPoint presentation will shorten the meetings. There will still be apples and Krispy Kreme donuts for your enjoyment.

Gene is facing the probability of additional surgery soon (we will ask the surgeon to delay it until after the Marathon, but he may not agree). So we are asking that you ask your ham friends to be a part of this great event. Please confirm your participation as a member of the great ham radio support team for this year's Seattle Marathon as soon as possible so we can finish our recruiting before this probable surgery.

Thank you! – Gene Underwood W7AKA, & Fran Underwood N7FWZ

To learn more about the Seattle Marathon, look at this site: <http://www.seattlemarathon.org>

Please e-mail your reply as soon as possible – [w7aka@comcast.net](mailto:w7aka@comcast.net),

Home 425-226-4115, Gene's cell 425-890-5752.

**ARRL Western Washington Section – Section Manager – James D Pace K7CEX**

Date: September 19, 2011 11:02:14 AM PDT

**Subject: You Should Own a Weather Radio**

*Each September I make my pitch to the Ham Radio Community of Western Washington, to make sure you have a working Weather Radio in your home.*

*Throughout the United States, various alerts, for natural and civil emergencies – as well as AMBER Alerts - are broadcast over the National Weather Service Radio Network.*

*Why should you own a weather radio? Weather Radios offer two significant functions.*

*First, they are designed to receive the NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) service's broadcast of weather status and forecasts, providing regular, around-the-clock weather information.*

*Second, they are designed to respond to the FCC's Emergency Alert System (EAS), which has replaced the older Emergency Broadcast System (EBS), and the alert signals sent by the NOAA Weather Radio service. When the weather radio receives an alert signal, it will respond with an audible alarm to attract attention. Many of our weather radios also provide a display that indicates what type of alert is being sent. This allows the user to be alerted to any dangerous situation as soon as possible.*

*Additionally, there are the portable weather radios, which have long provided campers, hikers and other travelers with peace of mind and the ready ability to check on the current weather status.*

*Please consider purchasing a Weather Radio for your home.*

*Also please ask your local repeater owner/operator to consider installing Weather Radio on their system.*

**73 and Good Hamming – Jim Pace K7CEX**

---

ARRL Western Washington Section  
Section Manager: James D Pace, K7CEX  
[k7cex@arrl.org](mailto:k7cex@arrl.org)

---

**The American Radio Relay League Pacific Division & the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club Presents:**

## **PACIFICON 2011 Amateur Radio Convention**



### **PACIFICON 2011 Is Coming Soon!**

*Ham Radio Convention is Bigger & Better at New Santa Clara Venue*

**October 14-16, 2011, Santa Clara Marriott Hotel, Santa Clara, California**

For Details of Events, Latest Updates and Ticket Sales go to: [www.PACIFICON.org](http://www.PACIFICON.org)

**Tickets for the Antenna Forum, Breakfast, and Banquet are nearing capacity!!**

Call the Marriott Hotel Reservations Desk at **1-800-228-9290**, before September 28, 2011, to ask for the special Pacificon rate of \$109/night. **Rooms are selling fast - make your reservations soon!!**

#### **PACIFICON 2011 Events, Forum Topics, and Exhibits Include:**

- \*\* Friday All-Day Antenna Seminar \*\* Friday Legal Seminar \*\* Friday Evening Open MDARC Meeting
- \*\* Saturday Keynote Breakfast & Evening Banquet \*\* Outstanding Technical Forums \*\* Exciting Ham Equipment Exhibitors
- \*\* Great Saturday & Sunday Swap Meets \*\* Daily Radio Prize Drawings \*\* Transmitter Hunts, Beginner & Advanced
- \*\* ATV Activities \*\* HFpack and QRP Activities \*\* Ham License Exams \*\* Saturday All-Day Technician License Class
- \*\* Leo Laporte "The Tech Guy" Live radio broadcast \*\* Boy Scouts JOTA Station\*\* ARRL Forum
- \*\* Satellite Communication & Mobile Station \*\* KPH Marine Live \*\* HF RTTY Live \*\* HF Marine RTTY Press Transmissions Live
- \*\* Projects and Forums for Students and Young Amateurs \*\* Original Collins Radio Van \*\* WWII Mobile Radio Command
- \*\* Amateur Fire Communications Center

Go to [www.pacificon.org](http://www.pacificon.org) for more details.





'Toku' – AD7JA

## M&K-K7LED Club Library

### New Library Materials

By Tim Kane – K7ANE



If you drop by the club library at Toku's (AD7JA) TV repair shop in Skyway in the coming weeks or stop by the library table at the September general meeting you'll find five new books. (We'll have them in August, but they won't be at the club picnic.) The books were selected based on the preference survey we held at the general meeting a couple months back, plus input from the board and others.

The nice weather and the impulse to get outdoors seems to have influenced the results. Antennas are clearly the number one interest of club members at present, as reflected in the fact that three of the five new acquisitions relate to this key outdoor element of our stations. The other two publications focus on mobile amateur operations, by car, boat, and even airplane.

Based on what you told us the new books include:

- ***Stealth Antennas, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2010***
- ***Amateur Radio on the Move, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2005***
- ***GPS and Amateur Radio, 2007***
- ***ARRL Guide to Antenna Tuners, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2010***
- ***Small Antennas for Small Spaces, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, 2011***

If you don't see a book on your primary interest, don't worry. We'll put in another order or two later in the year, working from the survey, and member input. Let me know if there's something you'd like to see the club acquire, that's not already on the list.

In the meantime, take a look at the new books at the library at Skyway TV & Radio Service, 11818 Renton Avenue South, Seattle. Enjoy some of the benefits of your membership, expand your knowledge, or just have a nice summertime read.

## HamRadioBooks'dot'Com

By Andrew Baze AB8L



**News Flash →** *The Road Home* is now available at the Mike & Key library (as well as HRO, Universal Radio, and Amazon.com), and you can experience “the rest of the story”, which includes the adventures of a few more characters, and additional radio and emergency preparedness details (non-fiction).

**And whether you're only reading the shortened serial (the next installment is below) or the full book, I hope you love the story! And if you know any young adults or older who might be interested in learning more about amateur radio, emergency communications, and emergency preparedness, please feel free to recommend this book. Thanks!**

**Do you want more information on emergency communications? Take a look at [www.EmergencyCommunicationsBlog.com](http://www.EmergencyCommunicationsBlog.com)!**

**73 – Andrew AB8L**

### Driving and... Another Accident!

#### From last time:

The trip back down the mountain to the truck was slow because Jeff needed to use the crutch carefully. He eventually got into a good rhythm, and about an hour and a half later, they reached the end of the trail. They came out into the open area and saw the parking lot. Their truck sat there, untouched since Robbie had been there only a little while ago. Jeff opened the doors and Robbie loaded up their bags and the rope. They started to get into the truck to leave, when Jeff stopped and looked at Robbie with a thoughtful expression on his face.

“Robbie, we have a small problem. I should have thought of this earlier. I don't think I'll be able to drive...”

#### And back to our story...

Jeff looked down at his right foot. “If I try to drive using my right foot, I'll destroy my ankle. And even in a splint, I don't think I'll be able to put enough pressure on it to push the gas pedal down enough to get us going. Let's see what happens when I use my left foot.”

Jeff sat in the driver's seat, gingerly lifted his right foot up and around the floor pedals, and then attempted to press the gas and brake pedals with his left foot. He gasped in pain. Pressing the brake wasn't a problem, but when he tried to push down on the gas pedal, he couldn't do it without putting pressure on his injured ankle, which was wedged up and to the right. Because of the raised floor between the driver and passenger areas, there was no place to safely put his right foot without causing more pain.

“This is definitely a problem,” Jeff said.

“Then what will we do?” Robbie asked.

Jeff looked at him. “Guess.”

Robbie stared at him for a moment. “I'm driving, right?”

“Yep.”

Robbie felt a sinking feeling in his stomach. “Uh... But I don't know how to drive.”

“You're smart and you learn fast, so I'll teach you.”

Robbie beamed at the compliment, but didn't stop his questioning, and didn't make him any less worried.

“How will you teach me when you can't even show me?”

“I'll talk you through it,” Jeff said.

Robbie looked at him with wide eyes. “So you're going to talk me through an entire driver's education course in the next few minutes?” Robbie had been looking forward to taking a Driver's Education class, getting his learner's permit, and all the other stuff that came with getting ready to drive around like adults did. He never expected to learn like this.

“Yep.” Jeff nodded slowly.

“We don't have a choice, I think,” Robbie said. “We might as well get started.”

“Like I said, you learn fast. This is our only way out. Get in the driver's seat and let's get started.”

Robbie sat in the driver's seat and started by adjusting the seat so that he was comfortable and could reach the pedals. “Adjust your mirrors so you can see,” Jeff said. “You need to see what's happening behind you and on both sides.” Robbie adjusted the side mirrors, then the rearview mirror. Now he had a clear view behind the truck without having to crane his neck.

**(Continued on Page 16)**

*HamRadioBooks'dot'Com... (Continued from Page 15)*

Jeff quickly explained what the gas pedal and brakes did.

"Come on, Dad. I've been playing Gran Turismo forever. I know how those work."

"Sorry — just trying to be thorough," Jeff said with a smile. "Since the truck has an automatic transmission, you don't have to worry about shifting gears until we're on the highway, or if we want to go in reverse. That makes it easy."

"Like I said," Robbie repeated with exasperation, "I played the video game. Same thing."

Jeff took the interruption in stride and continued his quick lesson, still attempting to be thorough, talking Robbie through braking, turning and operating the gears.

"Now put the transmission in '3'. That's third gear," Jeff said.

"Drive over to the other side of the parking lot. On the way, brake gently, then accelerate again, then brake again when we get close to the edge of the lot. I know it sounds a little silly, but it'll give you an idea of how the truck feels when you brake and accelerate."

Robbie followed the instructions with no difficulties. Maybe video games were good for more than just developing hand-eye coordination, he thought. But this definitely wasn't the time to convince his dad to spend more time in front of the TV playing games, if they still even had a functioning TV. He kept the thought to himself.

Jeff showed Robbie how to drive in reverse, back to where they had started. That was enough for now.

Jeff smiled. "Ready to get moving?"

"Are you serious? Is that the course?" Robbie asked. "If I knew it was this easy, I would have been bugging you start driving a long time ago."

"It's definitely not this easy. We have a long way to go before you're a safe driver, but we have to get home as soon as we can. This means some of your training will be 'on the job'. You'll learn as we go. Now aim the truck down the road, and we'll very slowly take some turns so you can get the feel for that."

As Robbie slowly accelerated, Jeff said "Did I ever tell you about my first experience driving? I didn't have a good feel for how the car steered, and I drove it right into a ditch as soon as I needed to make my first sharp turn. No joke. My first turn ever, and I dumped it right into a ditch. I sure felt stupid. And here's the worse part," Jeff continued as Robbie drove carefully down the bumpy road. "My buddy, whose car I had just put in the ditch, called his brother to get a truck to tow it out. We wanted to hurry, before the sheriff came by to give him a ticket. He hooked a chain to the car and started pulling it out, and slid the back of the truck into the same ditch. We had to get another truck to pull them both out. And I got to stand there the whole time, feeling like an idiot. We laughed pretty hard once we finally got out of the ditch. And we were lucky — the sheriff never did come by." He paused for moment. "Let's make sure you don't do that. I'm sure you can easily do better than I did."

"Yeah, Dad. I think it'll be easy to do better than that," Robbie said with a laugh. Jeff's story lightened the mood for the moment.

Robbie did quite a bit better than Jeff on his first attempt at driving. He didn't drive into any ditches or hit any trees on the way out. When they reached the paved road, Robbie moved the transmission lever to "D" for highway driving. They were finally on their way home.

"Dad, do you think Mom and Lisa are OK?"

"I'm sure they are, and we'll see them soon."

"Can we call them on the cell phone?"

"Let me check the signal and see."

Jeff took his phone from the backpack and turned it on. He waited. No signal. "I think we had a signal when we were here previously. So this means that either the cell tower that covers this area has no power or the equipment is damaged. We can try again later. Maybe another tower is working. Let's try the radio."

Jeff listened and tried transmitting as Robbie drove. He heard nothing. The repeater they'd been able to access earlier in the day was apparently not working.

"Let's scan the other frequencies I have programmed in here." Jeff pressed a button, and the radio started switching from one frequency to the next. If it detected a transmission in progress on a frequency, it would stop and allow Jeff to listen further.

The radio stopped several times on frequencies that had people talking on them, but Robbie and Jeff couldn't make out what was being said; there was too much static.

They continued driving down out of the mountains. When they were about a mile from the highway, the radio stopped on a station they could hear.

"—lots of houses on fire in that area and I heard there was some kind of landslide."

"Are you OK?"

"Yeah, I'm OK, but I don't know what to do. It looks so bad down there."

*(Continued on Page 17)*



*HamRadioBooks'dot'Com... (Continued from Page 16)*

"I have to go. My wife needs me. Talk to you later. Stay safe."

Jeff pressed the transmit button, eager to jump in and talk to one of them before they left their radios.

At the same moment, as they rounded a bend in the road, Robbie slammed on the brakes. His short training session hadn't prepared him for anything like this, but he was able to act on instinct. The truck's anti-lock brakes kicked in and the truck stuttered forward as the wheels lost and regained traction several times per second. Robbie sat behind the wheel with his right foot locked forward on the brake, arms rigid and eyes wide, with the steering wheel locked in place. He could do nothing but wait. Wait. Wait... *Crash!* They hit the side of a fallen tree that lay across the roadway, blocking it completely.

Jeff had been focused on the radio and hadn't been paying attention to the road. The impact almost smashed his head against the dashboard. His seatbelt locked into place as soon as the forward momentum suddenly slowed, and it kept him from getting a bloody nose or worse. Robbie's seatbelt also worked as expected and he wasn't injured either. They both heard the tinkling sound of falling, broken glass, and they turned at the same time and looked at each other.

"I'm glad I was going slowly around that corner," Robbie said with a trembling voice, noticing that his hands and forehead were sweaty all of the sudden. He slowly pried his damp right hand off the steering wheel. It almost felt like it had been glued on because he was gripping it so tightly. He put the transmission in park. The engine was still running. Then he pried off his left hand and took a deep breath. "Wow. That was close."

Jeff took some deep breaths and relaxed his grip on the arm rest. "Yeah... wow." He paused and took another breath, trying to calm himself. "Thanks for driving slowly. You probably saved us both from a much worse accident. And since you were able to brake for a few yards, we didn't hit hard enough to make the airbags go off, which would have probably been a real drag. Let's take a look at the damage."

Jeff carefully got out of the truck, and using his crutch, hobbled to the front of the truck. Robbie came around the other side and looked at the front. The bumper was pushed slightly downward, and a protruding branch had cracked the headlight and crushed the turn signal on the passenger side.

"Go pop the hood," Jeff instructed. "It's the lever on the far left side, down low. Robbie pulled the latch, and Jeff pushed up the hood and looked inside.

"I don't see any branches sticking in here. Any on your side?"

"Nothing," Robbie said.

"This is good," Jeff said, "as much as crashing into a tree could be good. This could have been far worse. Let me check under the front real quick and see if anything else might be damaged." Jeff slowly lowered himself to the ground and looked under the front of the truck. Aside from the ends of some branches on the ground, it appeared to be clear of debris. He stood up and looked around a little more.

"This is odd," Jeff said. "Look at this." He pointed to the tree. "And this." He pointed to the ground nearby. There were long, fresh-looking gouges in the side of the tree, and broken glass on the ground, but about two feet away from where their truck had hit the tree. The glass wasn't from their truck.

"What's that from?" Robbie asked. "Oh wait — I bet I know."

"What?" Jeff asked.

"Someone else hit the tree." He thought for a second longer. "One of the other cars from the parking lot. Or both of them. They hit the tree, too."

"I think you're right," Jeff said. "But they obviously didn't keep going through here, so where did they go?"

"Let's look at the map," Robbie said. They unfolded their map on the truck's hood and looked at it.

"There," Jeff pointed at the map. "They must have backtracked to take this side road, and..." He traced his finger along the road, looking for where it would intersect with the paved road again.

"Wow," Robbie said. "That's a long way around."

Jeff consulted the legend and made a quick estimate. "Yeah, they probably had to go about fifty miles out of their way, assuming they want to go back to I-90 like we do. And that's a rough road, so they'll have to go slowly. At least two hours, probably three. And that's if the road isn't blocked up there, too. If there's a landslide or another tree, then they're in big trouble, especially if their gas tanks aren't full."

Three more hours? Robbie's heart fell. Would they ever get home?

# 2011 -- Ham Nets & Events -- OCTOBER / NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>09</b> 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)	<b>10</b> 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)	<b>11</b> 2000 – Seattle Red Cross Comm Team Net (incl. 'Emer's Corner') 147.080 (Weekly) 2000 – Snohomish Co. ACS/RACES Net 146.92 (Weekly)	<b>12</b> 2000 – Evergreen Intertie Gen/Tech Info Net – 145.33 (Weekly) 2000 – Educational Radio Net – PSRG 146.96 (Weekly) 2100 – NWSOAR Net 146.82 (Weekly)	<b>13</b> 1900 – M&K Public Service Net 146.82 (Weekly) 2000 – Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly)	<b>14</b> Relay Articles Due – 23:59:59	<b>15</b> 1000–M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1230– M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott- <a href="mailto:aq7t@arrl.net">aq7t@arrl.net</a>
<b>16</b> 1900 – Seattle ACS Net 146.90 (Weekly) 1930 – PSRG Net 146.96 (Weekly) 2000 – YL Net 145.33 (Wkly)	<b>17</b> 1900 – Seattle ACS Net 146.90 (Weekly) 1930 – PSRG Net 146.96 (Weekly) 2000 – YL Net 145.33 (Wkly)	<b>18</b> 2000 – Seattle Red Cross Comm Team Net (incl. 'Emer's Corner') 147.080 (Weekly) 2000 – Snohomish Co. ACS/RACES Net 146.92 (Weekly)	<b>19</b> 2000 – Evergreen Intertie Gen/Tech Info Net – 145.33 (Weekly) 2000 – Educational Radio Net – PSRG 146.96 (Weekly) 2100 – NWSOAR Net 146.82 (Weekly)	<b>20</b> 1900 – M&K Public Service Net 146.82 (Weekly) 2000 – Computer & Packet Net 145.33 (Weekly)	<b>21</b> Relay Articles Due – 23:59:59	<b>22</b> 0900 – WA State Emerg. Net (WSEN) ARES HF Net 3.985 (Weekly)
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>01</b> –November– M&K Board Mtg Salvation Army Bldg Renton, 7pm	<b>02</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>05</b> Parade- Veterans Day Parade, Auburn <a href="mailto:hamsgroup@seafairparade.marshals.com">hamsgroup@seafairparade.marshals.com</a>
<b>06</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>09</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Relay Articles Due – 23:59:59	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1000–M&K Club Meeting, Renton 1230– M&K Ham Radio Exams, Renton. Scott- <a href="mailto:aq7t@arrl.net">aq7t@arrl.net</a>