



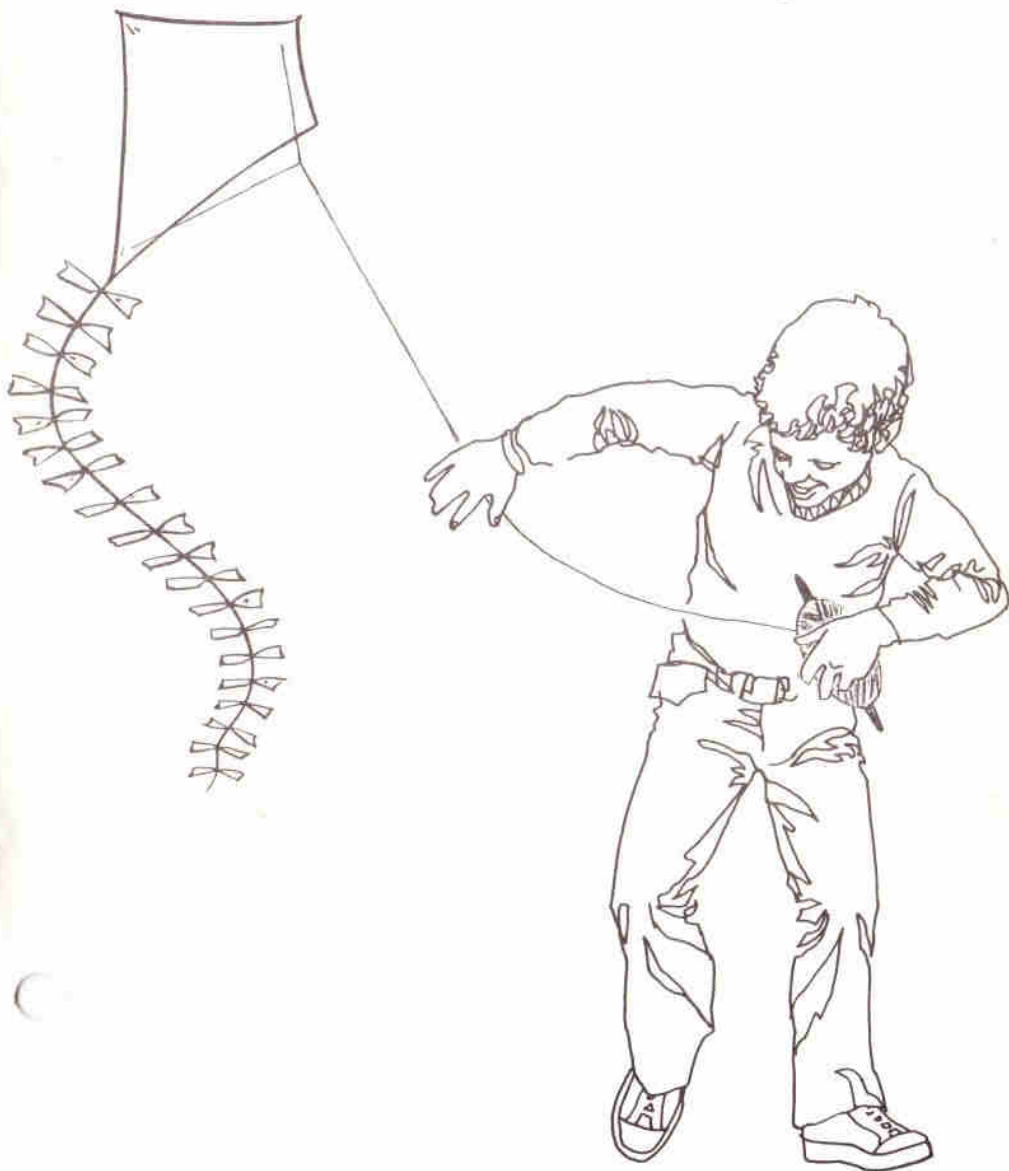
HAM HUM

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AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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Dues-Annual Basis

(Due and Payable each January 1.)

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NEXT MEETING

WHEN: FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1981

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: DOUGLAS/SARPY COUNTY CHAPTER
AMERICAN RED CROSS
38th AND DEWEY AVENUE
OMAHA, NE 68105

PROGRAM: JAMES ZOLLER, METEOROLOGIST-IN-CHARGE
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, WILL DISCUSS
MANY THINGS WE NEED TO KNOW FOR OUR
ACTIVITIES THIS SPRING.

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Held February 13, 1981, at the Red Cross Building at
38th & Dewey Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska**

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hours by President Jim Wilson, WBØJPN. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

New members — Steve H. Douglas, KAØHKY; Fred C. Genovesi, KAØKDJ; John R. McNaught, WBØWYI; Kelly A. Radford, KA7JHC; Nadean E. Reade, XYL of Sidney Reade, WØWWH; Darrell W. Stevens, WAØEAY; and Mae Sudduth, XYL of Donald Sudduth, WBØYAM. Motion by Ronald Faulkner, WDØCFC, and seconded by Robert Smith, KDØF, that the new members be admitted to the Club. Approval was unanimous.

Many new cards and certificates were handed out to those present.

Treasurer Dick Fehrman, KAØAAB, read the Treasurer's report.

Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, Chairman of the Education Committee, gave a report of the present classes and named the ones on his Committee. Assistant to Bob is Lloyd McElhaney, KØDKM; Novice Code, Charlie Peaker, KAØEBD; Novice Theory is Charlie Rodgers, WØQQN; Theory for Advance and Extra Class is Jim Sanford, NØAIH; and Secretary is Ellen Morrissey, WBØHWF.

Charlie Rodgers, WØQQN, gave a report on the ØQSL Bureau and all is running smooth as ever.

Thomas Thiessen, KØPQR, read several reports from the HR Report. Lou Cutler, WØVLI, presented his sketch of the Silent Key Plaque and it was moved and seconded that we do want the plaque.

The Auction will be on May 3, and we still do need some help. Some of the XYL's would be greatly appreciated in the kitchen — setting tables, etc.

The Club needs a set of tools to go on the antenna trailer. Nut wrenches, open end wrenches, screw drivers and the like, to put up antennas. Bring 'em along and put up on the front table. We thank you much.

Chuck Hoffman, WBØNVL, has approval to put the Club patch logo design on a decal which will be a pressure-sensitive type and may be applied on a car side window, hard hat, shack, or whatever. This will help to promote our image outside the Club. They may be available by our next meeting.

Motion and second that the business meeting be closed.

Program for the evening

Dick Eilers, WØYZV, gave a demonstration of the computerized Red Cross RTTY message system, with the aid of Dick Jugel, KØDG and Dave Hamilton, WDØDLN. The program was very interesting.

Doughnuts and coffee followed.

Program concluded at 22:15 hours.

Club Secretary,
Ellen, WBØHWF

NOTES FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING Held at the Red Cross Building on February 6, 1981, at 19:30 hours

Members present: Jim Wilson, WBØJPN; Ed Hofmann, WDØHBY; Mitch Gagne, NØAZF; Walter Brown, KAØDMB; Charlie Rodgers, WØQQN; Ellen Morrissey, WBØHWF; Chuck Hoffman, WBØNVL; Dick Fehrman, KAØAAB; and Mike Bruening, NØAON.

Absent: Thomas Thiessen, KØPQR; and Dick Jugel, KØDG.

Two guests: Louis A. Cutler, WØVLI, and Jim Sanford, NØAIH.

Dick Fehrman, KAØAAB, read the Treasurer's report and it was unanimously accepted.

Lou Cutler, WØVLI, presented to the Board a sketch of a plaque for our Club silent keys. The idea will be presented to the general membership.

Jim Sanford, NØAIH, and Scot Thompson, WBØWOT, have made a complete list of all our equipment and the location of each piece. The inventory has been accepted as correct and will be made a part of the Minutes.

Jim Sanford, NØAIH, reported on some of the pieces of equipment. It was moved and seconded that we dispose of our old generator. This was approved. It was moved and seconded that our old generator be put in the auction. This passed unanimously.

We have four — 8 wire rotors and rotor controllers — some work and some don't. It was moved and seconded that we send two rotors in for repair and that they be sent in in matched pairs, and if necessary, when we get the two back, we will send a third pair. Approval was unanimous.

It was moved and seconded that our Hy-Gain antenna be sold. Watch the "HAM HUM SWAP" column. This passed unanimously.

Our 100 foot power cord has been lost or misplaced. We did have our identification on it and it was last used in the Bike-A-Thon 1980.

President Wilson has appointed the members of the Finance Committee. Chairman, Dick Fehrman, KAØAAB; Lysle Renne, KAØDKO; Paul May, WDØHRG; Sam Kaplan, WDØBVH; Walt Brown, KAØDMB.

New decals for the club were discussed.

Motion and second to adjourn at 22:20 hours.

Club Secretary,
Ellen, WBØHWF

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them at all airmail radio stations between Elko, Nevada and Iowa City. These transmitters remained in service for several years until the Department of Commerce took over in 1927. The Omaha radio station was operated by Frank Barnhill. A 2-KW Federal Arc transmitter was used; that put as much as 20 amps into the antenna and ground — mostly ground.

Since I acquired the rubber-covered wire from the deserted Ak-Sar-Ben Field, I proceeded to put it to use. It was decided to string this wire to the house of another radio classmate of mine who lived about 2 blocks from me. The house where he lived is still there at 22nd and Binney Streets. The Sacred Heart Church was just across the street. We strung the wire on the poles that went down the alley to Locust Street near 24th Street. This made a very fine method of direct communication by code. After a few months of having our private line, however, it was discovered by the power company and this wire was removed from the poles.

Another good use of this wire was when it was decided to hold a picnic in Elmwood Park by our high school class. I decided to bring along my homemade radio receiver. It was a galena crystal type detector and had the usual Quaker Oats box for the tuning coil. I still have the original headphones made by "Brandes" and the galena crystal. The antenna was strung between two trees and a center lead line to my set. The year was 1922 and the only radio station broadcasting was WAAW, the Omaha

Grain Exchange. We also listened to the Code messages from the airmail transmitter located at Ak-Sar-Ben Field. Our location was certainly ideal, for the high ground and the short distance was not over a mile or two from the station.

I can still see the curious looks on the faces of the rest of my classmates when we picked up some voices. Of course, there was a lot of static. The entire receiver was carried in a small suitcase. The first portable in Omaha!

To be continued.

SILENT KEY

John A. Cook, KØWVF
Died 11-24-80 Omaha, NE

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

DONATION OF EQUIPMENT, ETC.

Charlie E. Rodgers, WØQQN

REPEATER DONATIONS

Lawrence F. Caccamo, WØNMN
Donald C. Sudduth, WBØYAM
Donald A. Eden, WBØVGB
Gary S. Drummond, KB9CG
Wm. A. (Duke) Humphrey, WDØEWH
Charles A. Michel, KØQVL
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Albert H. Maller, WØDCQ
John R. McNaught, WBØWYI
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HAM HUM

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QSL CORNER

By Charlie, W0QQN

The bomb was finally dropped yesterday by the post office. The rate increase was announced yesterday, February 19, that the first class rate would go from 15¢ to 18¢ for the first ounce and 17¢ for each additional ounce. A postal increase obviously puts the QSL Bureau in a turmoil. Right now we estimate we have about 20,000 envelopes in our files, mostly with 15¢ postage affixed. Since we cannot mail postage due, we must add 3¢ on each envelope we mail out after the new rate goes into effect. Since these envelopes actually belong to whom they are addressed, it becomes their

responsibility to up the postage. Since it seems unreasonable to spend 18¢ to send 2 3¢ stamps to the Bureau to up your 2 envelopes on file, yet it is just as unreasonable for us to spend \$600.00 to up the envelopes. So we work it out on an individual basis. We have survived this in the past and will probably survive it in the future. Our envelopes supplied by the Bureau will go to 4 for \$1.00, thus passing the postal increase on.

73's Charlie, W0QQN
Mgr Zero QSL Bureau

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Mae Sudduth, (XYL) of
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Phone: 393-1972

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Phone: 493-3489

PHONE CHANGE

Hugh L. Tinley, KØGHK
Phone: 397-3872

QUESTION AND ANSWER EDITOR

How do I tune up my exciter/amplifier for maximum output? With a two-tone audio oscillator and oscilloscope or spectrum analyzer into a 50 ohm dummy load that matches the antenna load impedance.

Most all of the present day HF transmitters and amplifiers use Class B or Class AB operated tubes in the final stage, so our remarks will be confined to this type of equipment.

Connect the 'scope as a linearity tracer or the spectrum analyzer to the output of the transmitter/exciter first. Then after that has been checked out, to the amplifier output. Feed the two-tone generator into the mike input at the normal mike level of about -50DB.

WITH THE CABINET CLOSED and the power on, gradually increase the drive and increase the loading while maintaining resonance until the point which "flattopping" is indicated on the screen. That is it, maximum output, if you are very lucky! If the spectrum analyzer shows the third harmonic distortion below -30DB of the two tones, or the "tracer" shows a straight line or if you have an envelope pattern on the 'scope that has a nice short cross-over you have a textbook case that does not usually show up without some added adjustments. Here the finals bias adjustment is the key to good linearity. Start with the bias voltage given in the instruction book or the tube manufacturer's spec. This is the "average" bias for new tubes and

HAM HUM SWAP

NO CHARGE FOR ADS (NON-COMMERCIAL) SUBJECT TO SPACE LIMITATION. MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO P.O. BOX 291. SEE COPY DEADLINE PAGE 2.

OR SALE: Heathkit Model 2021 Handy-Talkie. Has been factory overhauled and new final installed. Xtal for 34/94 wall charger, manual and case. Bob Wichman, WBØYUY 895-0645

FOR SALE: Panavise. 3rd and 4th hand for builders - \$22.
TT Desk Phone, new — \$30.
2M 8ch. scanr — 1 used \$70. — 1 new \$89.
7400 2M synth. rig. 35W — \$245.
8300 UHF rig w/xtals, new — \$285.
Rich, WAØZQG, 322-7775

FOR SALE: Hy-Gain TH6DXX Antenna — best offer over \$150.00. Send sealed bids to Treasurer, Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Box 291, Omaha, NE 68101.

(Continued from Page 10)

changes with tube aging to produce a minimum of distortion. The useful life with low distortion can be prolonged by adjusting the bias up to a point where the static plate current becomes excessive.

This is the way to test flea-market/pull-out "bargain" tubes to find that they are generally no bargain! With the zero-biased tubes used in some linear amplifiers, that adjustment is of course not available. When you have tubes in the exciter/amplifier loaded up with an acceptable amount of distortion, you are

business. No mention has been made of a wattmeter in the line to the dummy load, as it is not very useful in tuning up for the minimum of distortion and flat-topping. If you do have one in the

line that is peak-reading, it will give you your PEP output, otherwise multiply the reading by 2.45 to obtain it.

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—R. STÜBLER

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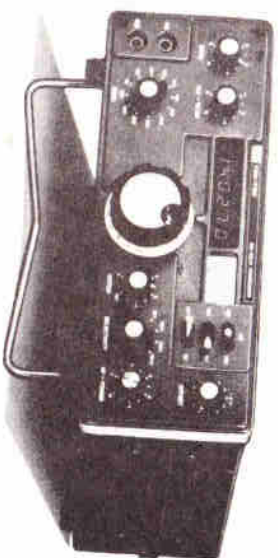
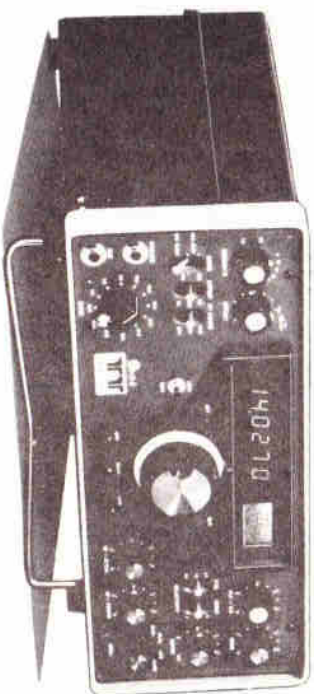
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NOTE: H.I. will be closed--Sat. March 21, 1981