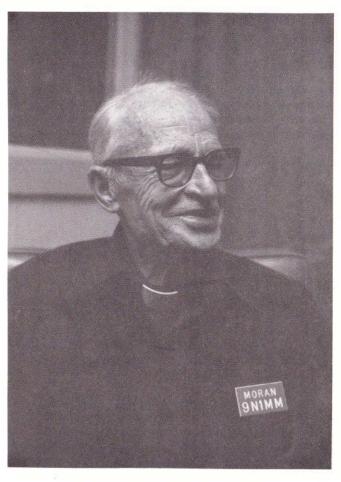


# HAM HUM

Published by AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Post Office Box 291 — Downtown Station Omaha, Nebraska 68101

October 1984





FATHER MARSHALL MORAN 9N1MM

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request.

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Copy Deadline for Nov. is Oct. 19

#### **Dues—Annual Basis**

(Due and Payable each January 1.)
New member initiation fee ....\$1.00
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Regular member and spouse ...\$12.00
Student member .....\$4.00

Dues—Quarterly Basis (For each quarter or part thereof for balance of calendar year.)

New member initiation fee ....\$1.00

Regular member ......\$3.00

Regular member and spouse...\$3.60

Student member .....\$1.05

# NEXT MEETING (PLEASE NOTE CHANGES)

WHEN: Tuesday, October 9, 1984

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Creighton Prep High School Auditorium

(Use West Entrance and Parking Lot)

72nd and Western Omaha, Mebraska

PROGRAM: Father Marshall Moran, S.J., 9N1MM

Presentation on the Country of Nepal

(PLEASE NOTE CHANGES)

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## PREZ SEZ

This month's meeting is going to be another great one, thanks to Walt Brown, KAØDMB. He has arranged for Father Moran, 9N1MM to be our guest speaker at our Club meeting. The meeting will be at Creighton Prep High School, on October 9, 1984 at 7:30 P.M. This is a Tuesday, so mark it down on your calendar. There will be a short business meeting before the program. This program should be real interesting to all so bring a friend.

Those of you who missed the River Boat Cruise really missed a fun evening with lots of music, food and drink. We went for a three-hour trip up the river with Captain Brown at the helm and Seaman Sanford as a navigator (Jim has a new technique of direction finding using a beer can and string.....). Well, it was a real success and I hope Sandy will volunteer to set this up again for us next year.

Those of you wishing to become Board Members or who would like to nominate someone for the upcoming election, please let me know before October 16th. There are four new Board Members to be elected this year.

Just a reminder that the Iowa State Convention is going to be held in Sioux City, Nebraska, at the Marina Inn on October 12 and 13th. All classes of amateur license exams wil! be given, but you must have pre-registered to take the exams.

CU at the meeting 73's Dave — NØCLW

# **FALL CLASSES**

Interested in upgrading?

If so, we need your help in scheduling classes. Take a moment and drop a postcard to the Education Committee at the Club address. Your card should indicate the type of study that interests you, i.e.: General Class Theory, 13WPM Code, etc.

The schedule will depend on your response so don't be bashful.

Your Board

# **UPCOMING HAMFESTS**

Saturday, Oct. 13 Sioux City Everybody knows this one Transient Mobile from KC (S. side of K.C.)
Sunday, Nov. 11 Lincoln Auction VERIFICATION Everybody knows this one Transient Mobile from KC (Transient Mobile from KC) Tim, QDX from Lincoln

(NET CTRL on .76)

de Rich, WAØZQG

October 1984 HAM HUM Page 3





JULY MEETING held at the Omaha, Douglas County E.O.C.

Photos by Mitch, NØAZF (except where noted)

















This photo courtesy Northern Natural Gas Co. — Photo Dept.



Bob O'Brien, Douglas County Civil Defense Director (standing) with Mitch, NØAZF at the VHF Operating Position

# AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB HOSTS FATHER MARSHALL MORAN, 9N1MM

It isn't very often that you are able to have an "eye-ball QSO" with a DX operator who is as elusive and rare to contact. However, our Ak-Sar-Ben A.R.C. has been chosen as one of the many stops on the 3 month itinery of Father Marshall D. Moran — better known to DX chasers as Nine November One Mickey Mouse (9N1MM). Father Moran will be the Feature Speaker at the Club's October meeting, which incidentally will be held on Tuesday evening, Oct. 9 instead of Friday, Oct 12. The meeting place will be at Creighton Prep High School Auditorium and the time will be 7:30 P.M. Father Moran promises a fine evening of slides tied into a presentation of happenings and events from the Country of Nepal.

Father Marshall D. Moran, a Catholic Jesuit priest, first arrived in India in 1929 to set up schools. He was one of the first foreigners in Nepal when it opened up after 100 years of isolation around 30 years ago. In his years in Nepal, he has helped set up and run three schools, now with over 3000 young Nepali boys and girls in attendance. His radio station 9N1MM is located at his newest boys boarding school located in Godovari, a small town about 8 miles south of the capital — Kathmandu. This 78-year-old priest has seen many of his students of the past 30 years become leaders and many now hold important positions throughout Nepal's government and business segments.

Once again, remember this will be the October meeting.

DATE: - OCTOBER 9, 1984 (TUESDAY EVENING)

PLACE: - CREIGHTON PREP HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

(use west entrance and parking lot)

TIME: - 7:30 P.M.

COME ONE—COME ALL—BRING YOUR GUESTS—A FINE EVENING IS PROMISED.

de "Walt", KAØDMB

# "METEOR BURST" COMMUNICATES FROM FIELD

This fall, Northern Natural Gas Company will become more entrenched in the era of "Star Wars" technology when its newest communications system is operational.

The system, called "meteor-burst communications," is an excellent example of natural and manufactured phenomena working in concert.

"The meteor-burst communications system uses ionized trails of meteors to reflect high-frequency radio signals," explained Virgil Flugum, telecommunications and control specialist, Operations Division.

As the meteors enter the ionosphere — the outer part of the earth's atmosphere — they burn up, creating the ionized trail. The radio signals, which have been transmitted toward the horizon, are reflected back to earth by the meteor trail.

At first glance, the system may appear to be an elaborate and expensive way to transmit information. Actually, it isn't. At many remote

Page 6 HAM HUM October 1984

sites, according to Mr. Flugum, the alternative of using leased telephone lines is more expensive than the use of the meteor-burst system.

A typical meteor-burst communications system consists of a master station and a number of remotes. One master station can transmit and receive information from up to 1,000 remotes, which can be located at any point between 300 and 1,200 miles from the master station.

Northern's master station will be located near Mynard, which is southwest of Plattsmouth, Neb. Remotes will be set up at 10 NNG compressor and town-border stations located in western Colorado, Michigan, northern Minnesota, eastern South Dakota, Wisconsin and southern Wyoming.

The system will be very reliable, Mr. Flugum said, but it is designed for specific uses. For example, it cannot transmit high-speed or voice

communications.

"Meteor-burst is a data-burst system. In other words, it will send very fast bursts of information on an average of every 15 minutes or so," Mr. Flugum explained. "The system is for applications through which data can be retained and transmitted at a later time. Oftentimes, this may be 30 minutes or more later.

"Construction sites and offshore-drilling rigs are excellent candidates for the system because information collected from those locations may not be needed immediately."

Despite its obvious advantages, meteor-burst technology has been used sparingly. In the 1940s and '50s, it was tested by the United States and Canadian governments. After that, interest waned.

Since the late 1970s, however, the system has been used by our

government to gather environmental data in the Rockies.

Today, governmental use of meteor-burst communication is increasing, mainly because the cost of obtaining data by satellite or other conventional means is becoming prohibitive. These escalating costs prompted Northern to consider the meteor-burst system. The company will use the system to obtain operating data, such as pressures and temperatures, which are used to monitor the pipeline.

"To use meteor-burst, Northern applied to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for a developmental license," Mr. Flugum explained. "The license gives us the authority to develop alternate uses of

radio frequencies.

"In addition, because there are no frequencies set aside for meteor-

burst, we had to apply for an exception, which was granted."

"We're especially proud of what we're doing," Mr. Flugum said. "Northern is the first private company to receive a developmental meteor-burst license."

Story provided courtesy of the Northern Natural Gas News (Copyright 1984 by Northern Natural Gas Company).

Photos on next two pages by Dave Hamilton, NOCLW



# OMAHA, DOUGLAS COUNTY E.O.C. AMATEUR STATION IS DEDICATED TO WALTER J. BROWN, KAØDMB



Walt Brown, KAØDMB (left) receiving Dedication Plaques from Ak-Sar-Ben ARC V.P. Jim Sanford, NØAIH.

# SEE OPPOSITE PAGE



# Know Ye Citizens of Douglas County Here Present

The Membership of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, in recognition of his counsel, fellowship, and service to the community, dedicate this communications facility to

Walter J. Brown Jr. KAPDMB

Presented by Unanimous Declaration of the Board of Directors This Thirteenth Day of July, Nineteen Hundred Eighty-four

David B. Hamilton, NØCLW

President

James E. Sanford, NØAIH

Vice-President

"THE PLAQUE"

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October 1984 HAM HUM Page 11

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Dick -

Just a note to let you know I will be operating portable VP9 from Bermuda Nov. 1 to Nov. 15, '84.

Will be on most days at 1700 GMT on, or near, 14.300 Mhz. And, a usual, will be looking for Ak-Sar-Ben Club members.

All the best & '73 Dave Benton, W2WSE

Dear Ham Hum Editor:

Just a note to thank the Club for the great August outing. My wife and I really enjoyed the Cruise on the Missouri River. We hope that something like this becomes a yearly event.

De Mitch, NØAZF June, KAØRYM

# THE TX HUNT

As usual on the Sunday after the Club Meeting, a transmitter hunt was held on September 16th.

Doug, BOY hid in a terrible place. Kim, BGT found him anyway in less than an hour. John, CMC took about 2 hours so as not to embarrass Rich, ZQG and Becky, OCB who each took over 2 hours to find Doug.

Come help us next month. All it takes is 146.52 receive. Brian, Y and Rich, ZQG don't even bother with directional antennas.

de Rich WAO ZQG

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#### **DEFINITIONS OR DAFFY-NITIONS**

- INTELLECTUAL—A person who can listen to the "William Tell" overture without thinking of the Lone Ranger...
- LUXURY—Something that becomes a necessity when you can get it with a Down Payment...
- CONTENTMENT—When you enjoy the scenery along the detour...
- SUCCESS—When you make both ends meet and overlap...
- ANTIQUE—An object that wouldn't be wanted by anyone if there were more of it...
- DIET—The penalty for exceeding the Feed Limit...
- TEENAGER—A young person who gets blamed for acting the way his parents did when they were his age...
- MIDDLE AGE—When the narrow waist and the broad mind begins to change places...
- EXPERT—One who avoids the small errors as he sweeps to the final mistake...
- GOOD ADVICE—Something your children disregard but save to give their children...
- WORRY—Interest paid on trouble before it falls due...
- DIPLOMACY—The ability to do the unpleasant thing in a pleasant way...
- TOMORROW—The greatest of all labor saving devices...

-Author Unknown-

## HAM HUM SWAP

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

WANTED TO

BUY:

Short wave receiver set.

Call Doug Goebel — Work: 294-2767 — Home: 733-9085.

FOR SALE:

Tempo S-1 w/charger BNC Duckie — works fine.

Mitch, NØAZF, 633-5040 days.

FOR SALE:

Regulated Power Supply. 15 volts 75 amps 102 lbs. \$65 U

pick up.

Rich, WAØZQG

# NOTICE

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Bellevue Radio Club Ham Radio Flea Market Sunday, October 21, 1984 10:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. 839 So. Polk Street Papillion, Nebraska

Talk in frequency 147.21

# LARSEN ANTENNAS TAKE ON SHUTTLE COMMUNICATIONS



"The operation was an unqualified success!", so said ARRL's general Manager Dave Summer, KIZZ reviewing the recent amateur radio operation of Owen Garriott, W5LFL, from the orbiting Space Shuttle Columbia. And so it was also for Carl J. Henniger, KA7GHR, who made his successful contact on an afternoon shuttle pass over Portland, Oregon.

"I did it with my mobile rig sitting in front of my garage with 45 watts of power feeding into a Larsen Kulrod Antenna", Carl said. "I was sure thrilled 'cause I was competing with the moon bounce boys with their yagis and big antenna arrays."

KA7GHR also uses a Larsen Kulduckie portable antenna on his handheld rig and monitored the space shuttle with that transceiver though he didn't try a contact. "It was just as good as you ever hear somebody talk on two meters", Carl concluded.

