

(Duties and Bios *continued from page 5*)

Time in Omaha soon was consumed making code practice tapes and burning and shocking his way through several years of teaching license classes. This led to a lackluster year at the helm of Aksarben ARC, a year of board meetings, then abandonment of the club for almost 20 years. After termination of his 30 year career in Information Technology, he settled quietly to the hills west of Blair to figure out how to get this radio thing going again. With the help of some really smart people he hopes to find out what button to push to make the voices listen to him.

*Bill True WA9ASD – AARC Secretary*

## Saturday Night Coffee

On February 19, 2011, members of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club met for the monthly coffee get-together at Perkins restaurant on the corner of 108th and L Streets in Omaha. For a change, the group sat in the south east area of the building as the northeast section (with the fireplace!) had been reserved for a convention. (This incidentally, effected our eating habits, as the conventioners had already consumed most of the restaurant's supply of desserts--including most cookies and chocolate.)

Attending the AARC get-together were Pat KØCTU, Dick KBØKJV, Shelley KCØKAY, Claudia KCØSQX, Bill KCØSVZ, Andrew NØCALL, Christina NØRIS, Mary NØTRK, Steve NØUP, and C.T. WXØD.

As usual, the discussion covered a mixed bag of subjects; including the weather, hamfests, bike rides, the Red Cross, siren tests, how to identify an unmarked car, and the FCC's policy for expired Ham licenses. We also talked about copyrights, trademarks, and software "look and feel" issues. Mary NØTRK pointed out that the AARC logo was the Club's common law trademark as it has been used by the club for over 47 years.

There was a brief interruption as Steve NØUP spotted a Boston terrier in the restaurant. Perkins employees were quick to converge upon it and removed it from the premises before some of us could see it. However, we saw it later as the owner was walking it on a lease outside in the parking lot.

The company was good, the food was good (even though there weren't many desserts), and the group didn't break up until around 10 PM or so.

(Note: The AARC Coffee event takes place on the third Saturday of the month at 6:00 PM at Perkins Restaurant, 108th & L Streets, Omaha, NE. Feel free to stop by.)

*Bill KCØSVZ*

## WBØM Injured in Crash—Now Recovering

Early last month, Jeff Beiermann, WBØM, was injured when his car was broadsided by a stolen vehicle. He was initially listed in critical condition with multiple internal injuries, but is now at home and recuperating. Jeff is an award-winning photographer for The Omaha World-Herald and an ARRL Assistant Section Manager for Nebraska.

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

# Ham Hum

Volume LXI, Issue 3

March 2011

*(Go Green. Switch to electronic delivery of the Ham Hum.)*

## The Haitian Experience



The program for the February meeting was "The Haitian Experience - Upgrading FM and TV facilities in Haiti," presented by former AARC President John Gebuhr, WBØCMC.

John has been providing technical help for a Christian ministry radio/TV station in Gonaives, Haiti for about 14 years. He originally set up a standby transmitter from WOWT in Omaha, then later a 30 kW solid state analog transmitter from WRTV in

Indianapolis, IN. (See also the July, 2010 issue of *Ham Hum*.)

This year, he returned to perform more work on the system and help set up a new TV tower. Luckily, there weren't any earthquake-related repairs to do, as the site escaped damaged caused by last year's disaster.

The transmitter is located on a mountain about seven miles from the station in Gonaives in northwest Haiti. The two are connected through a 7 GHz microwave link. The station provides programming on television channel 6 and FM



radio broadcasts on 107.1 MHz. (John mentioned that he able to get the FM transmitter from a Catholic organization in Omaha by trading some engineering time for it.)

Getting the tower (and the crane to hoist it) up the mountain was the toughest part of the project, as the access road was extremely rugged. However, actual installation went smoothly. Though there was minor damage to one of the bat wing elements (see above), it was soon repaired and reinstalled.

John's talk was entertaining and educational. When it was over, he was presented with a surprise gift of a JVC 700X Digital Camera Kit from an anonymous donor—this was in appreciation for all he's done for both AARC and the mission in Haiti.



[Above: Joe Francis of Omaha Telecom working on the antenna.]

HAM HUM is the official newsletter of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in Omaha, Nebraska. It is printed monthly and is distributed to members of the club, local disaster officials, local electronics outlets, and editors of other ham radio newsletters.

Articles about activities of members are solicited. The subject matter must be of general interest to radio amateurs and be understandable to a significant portion of the membership. No payment will be made to contributors and submissions will be subject to the usual editorial review. Articles containing statements that could be construed as libel or slander will not be accepted. No guarantee can be made that an accepted article will be published by a certain date. Send your contributions to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551 or email hamhum@aksarbenarc.org. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint anything appearing in the Ham Hum.

### Club Officers & Board Members

President	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Vice President	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-690-7965	ke0xq@cox.net
2011-2012 Board (Secretary)	Bill True	WA9ASD	402-426-2813	williamtrue@aol.com
2011-2012 Board (Treasurer)	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AEØEG@arrl.net
2011	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
2011	Claudia Peterson	KCØSQX	402-593-1950	kc0sqx@arrl.net
Immediate Past President	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net

### Standing Committee Chairs

Education	<i>(open)</i>			
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Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
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### Other Contacts

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Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	402-492-9156	ppjoseph@cox.net

### March Meeting

The next meeting of the AARC will be on Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. The location is the Heartland Chapter House of the American Red Cross at 81<sup>st</sup> and Spring (near 84<sup>th</sup> and Center). The topic is "Public Safety Communications Interoperability" by Neil Johnson, WBØEMU.

### AARC on the Web

**Club Web Site:** <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/main/>

**Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=325594348836>

**Yahoo! Groups:** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AKSARBENtalk/>

## Fractal Antennas: Hype or Hope?

*By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU*

QRZ.Com currently has a very interesting item on fractal antennas (<http://forums.qrz.com/showthread.php?t=277623>). While the idea of applying fractals to the design and construction of antennas has been around for quite some time, very few hams have actually built them, and there are currently no companies building commercial fractal antennas for the ham radio market. The question, of course, is why?

Those that are hyping fractal antennas—most notably W1YW, CEO of Fractal Antenna Systems—claim several advantages. These advantages purportedly include wider bandwidth and smaller size when compared to traditional antennas, such as verticals and dipoles. Those that are trying to debunk these claims contend that this is all just hogwash, and that there's no real scientific basis for these claims.

One thing that's confounding this debate is that there have been very few articles published on the topic. For commercial reasons, W1YW has made his articles unavailable. He says that he will be publishing something real soon now, but there is nothing definite at this point.

There is at least one article on the Internet that describes the construction of a fractal antenna for amateur radio use. "FYI:FYQ: Another look at the Fractal Quad Yagi" (<http://www.scribd.com/doc/18788401/FYIFQY>) was published in the October 1999 issue of 73 magazine. It describes the construction of a two-element, 10m antenna. Like most 73 articles, it's not incredibly technical, though, and doesn't really contribute to the technical debate, except to demonstrate that physically small antennas can be made using fractal design.

The PDF contains several photos of the antenna. It's a crazy contraption that looks relatively difficult to build. So difficult, in fact, that it makes me wonder if it's even worth it to try building one. After all, 10m antennas are not really all that big or all that difficult to build to begin with.

Even more interesting than the antennas are the personalities on both sides of the debate. The QRZ.Com discussion quickly devolved into a flame war, with neither side scoring a knockout.

Personally, I think the brouhaha is much ado about nothing. It seems to me that it's been demonstrated that you can build antennas using fractal design techniques. They are physically smaller than traditional antenna designs, but you really don't get something for nothing. Overall, they don't have as much gain as yagis or quads, and they're more complex to build.

My opinion on this is that if W1YW can build antennas that radiate a signal and can sell those antennas to someone, then more power to him. In the end, his company will live and die by how well, his antennas work and how much they cost when compared to antennas from other companies.

As for me, I think I'll stick with the more traditional HF antennas. If I need to make my antennas smaller, I'll use loading coils or designs such as the Moxon. I may not be on the bleeding edge of technology, but I'll certainly avoid a lot of headache trying to figure out who's right.

*When not avoiding flame wars on Q Z.Com, Dan, KB6NU, operates CW on the HF bands, writes and publishes license exam study guides, and teaches ham radio classes. You can find his ham radio blog at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com).*

## The Lost Art of Cable Lacing

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The Make: magazine blog is a wealth of information for amateur radio operators. Recently, they ran a post on what they consider to be on the "lost technology" of cable lacing <<http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2009/07/lost-knowledge-cable-lacing.html>>.

The blog post does a great job of explaining the technique and includes several illustrations. One of them <[http://cdn.makezine.com/make/blogs/blog.makezine.com/upload/2009/10/lost\\_knowledge\\_cable\\_lacing/cableLacing6b.gif](http://cdn.makezine.com/make/blogs/blog.makezine.com/upload/2009/10/lost_knowledge_cable_lacing/cableLacing6b.gif)> is a drawing from an old ARRL handbook. There are also a link to the Wikipedia page on cable lacing <[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cable\\_lacing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cable_lacing)>.

Nowadays, we mostly use zip ties to bundle cables, but there are disadvantages to using them. For one thing, to apply them properly, you should have a tool that controls how tightly the zip tie holds the wires. This is to prevent crushing the insulation.

Also, I've found that zip ties don't do so well when the cable has only two or three wires. They're just not designed to hold so few wires. I think that cable lacing would do a much better job of keeping a small bundle of wires together, say wires that connect front panel components to a PC board.

Cable lacing certainly looks much cooler than zip ties. This is the perfect technique for those homebrewers that want to make their projects look great as well as work great.

I asked on my blog, "Now, where can I find the 'wax-impregnated cotton or twine'?" and my readers came through. Hamilton said, "Apparently you find wax string here: <http://www.kitkraft.biz/product.php?productid=1496>. I remember using it for something as a kid, but I can't place it." Ron McKenz wrote, "I notice that a number of telco vendor sell waxed lacing cord. Here are a few URLs:

<http://www.sourcetelsupply.com/catalog/index.php?cPath=27>,  
<http://www.tessco.com/yts/resourcecenter/pdfs/clablelacing-FAQ.pdf>, and  
<http://www.oelsales.com/product.cfm/267/>.

Ned, WB4BKO, said, "I would suggest a large roll of dental tape and a large-diameter curves sewing needle for fabricating harnesses. I was told that this was the material of choice for lacing harnesses when I worked at Heath Company many years ago. Makes sense to me. Buy it at Meijer for an occasional harness, or a dental wholesale supply house if you are going into production. Also great stuff for kite rigging, vine lacing and many other things."

Mike, WA6ARA wrote, "What you want is Mil-T-43435. It is better than a cord, it is a flat weave tape, nylon, and waxed. It is made for cable lacing but is use now in the parachute industry as "super tack". Item T1050 at <http://www.paragear.com>"

So, there you have it. Links to show you how to do it, and a couple more links for where to find the lacing material. I now expect all of our homebrew to look a lot neater.

*When not worrying about how to lace cable instead of using zip ties, Dan, KB6NU, blogs about ham radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com), teaches ham radio classes, and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him around 7.030 MHz or e-mail him pictures of your beautifully-laced cables at [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).*



## Prez Sez

The days are getting longer, robins have been heard and seen, and storm spotter training is scheduled. All are sure signs of spring. Make the time to go to spotter training even if you don't plan on responding to a SKYWARN net. The things you learn can help you know when you should take shelter. Spring is also the beginning of community service season. There are many opportunities to give a little back for all the great radio spectrum we enjoy.

The ARRL has identified a very real threat to part of our spectrum. H.R. 607, the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011," has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee. This committee handles telecommunications legislation. Nebraska's Second District Representative Lee Terry serves on this committee. The bill addresses spectrum management issues including the creation and maintenance of a nationwide Public Safety broadband network. Part of the bill includes 420-440 MHz as part of a frequency swap and auction. Check the [aksarbenarc.org](http://aksarbenarc.org) web site to learn the best way to contact your representative. Don't rely on someone else to do it! Get on the air, use the bands. Isn't that why we all got our ham radio licenses in the first place? If we don't actively use our spectrum these threats will become harder and harder to defend.

Finally, invite someone to the next club meeting. Bring along a past member or someone who isn't yet a ham. The next time you talk to someone on the repeater, ask if they are coming to the next meeting. Make sure you let them know the day, time, and location of the next meeting. There are informative programs and fun activities planned for this year. Spread the word.

*73, Mary NØTRK, President AARC*

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## February Door Prize

This month, Rollie's "Things you never wanted but could afford" door prize box contained a hex key set, a digital timer, a utility cable wire stripper, and the Brown Bag Mystery Prize. Tickets sold for a dollar each, or six for five dollars.

Andrew Schmitz abstained from buying a ticket, so was selected to draw the winning numbers. The hex key set went to Dave NØJSB, while Claudia KCØSQX won the wire stripper. Winner of the digital timer was Joe KØNEB. Bill W5UZQ drew the Brown Bag prize, which turned out to be a set of cable cutters.

Note that the proceeds for each month's tickets go for buying next month's prizes. Left-over cash accumulates for the year-end Grand Prize. Also, each month's tickets are kept and included in the Grand Prize drawing—so the more times you buy tickets at the monthly meeting, the better your chances of winning something good at the end of the year.





## Veep Speaks

I want to thank John, WBØCMC for his informative presentation regarding numerous trips to Haiti to install TV and FM transmitters. This has been an ongoing project over a number of years.

I am pleased to announce that the program for March will be presented by Neil, WBØEMU on Public Safety Communications Interoperability. I want to thank Bill, WA9ASD for contacting Neil for this presentation. I am sure it will be interesting and informative.

Look at the calendar in the Ham Hums and get involved with club activities. Don't forget the Flea Markets/Hamfests that are coming up soon.

With gas prices on the rise, it is a good time to get in the "car pool mode" to help fight the higher prices at the pump.

Rollie will be at the meeting with door prizes and there might be an extra "brown bag mystery prize" at the meeting.

See you on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

73, Bill KEØXQ, Vice President AARC

*(Note: Mr. Johnson has been employed in the land mobile industry for over thirty years, including eleven years with Motorola as a Field Technical Representative and System Technologist. He is currently employed by Sarpy County as a System Technologist and is responsible for the Sarpy County 800 MHz public safety trunked radio system.)*

## Treasurer's Report – February 11, 2011

Main Checking	\$505.71
Repeater Checking	\$1,152.12
Savings	\$4,544.41
CD Life Memberships	\$8,214.56
CD Life Memberships	\$8,022.11
Repeater CD	\$2,325.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,763.91</b>

## Steve Peterson, NØXII, Silent Key

Steven W. Peterson, NØXII, passed away Monday, February 28, 2001, at Nebraska Medical Center from complications of multiple sclerosis. He was only 47, a tragic loss to the world and to the ham radio community. He participated in most weekly nets and was active on two- and ten meters. Funeral services were at the First Presbyterian Church and he was buried at Wolbach Cemetery in Wolbach, Nebraska.

## Contest Calendar

### March 2011

AWA John Rollins Memorial DX Contest	2300Z, Mar 12 to 2300Z, Mar 13
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 11
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 12
ARCI HF Grid Square Sprint	1500Z-1800Z, Mar 12
EA PSK31 Contest	1600Z, Mar 13 to 1600Z, Mar 14
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 12 to 1900Z, Mar 13
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Mar 13
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 13
UBA Spring Contest, CW	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 13
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 13 to 0100Z, Mar 14
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Mar 14
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 16
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 17
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	1600Z, Mar 18 to 1000Z, Mar 20
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 19
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 19 to 0200Z, Mar 21
Feld Hell Sprint	1200-1400 local, Mar 19
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 19 to 1200Z, Mar 20
Oklahoma QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 19 to 0200Z, Mar 20 & 1300Z-1900Z, Mar 20
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1659Z, Mar 19 (144) & 1700Z-1759Z, Mar 19 (432)
North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 19 to 1800Z, Mar 20
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 19 to 0100Z, Mar 21
UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 23
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 24
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 26 to 2400Z, Mar 27
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0600Z-1000Z, Mar 27
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 28

### April 2011

ARCI Spring QSO Party	1200Z, Apr 2 to 2359Z, Apr 3
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 2 to 1500Z, Apr 3
Missouri QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 2 to 0500Z, Apr 3 & 1800Z-2359Z, Apr 3
QCWA Spring QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 2 to 1800Z, Apr 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Apr 4
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 5
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 7

For details, check: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

## Address Change?

If you've changed your mailing address, or would prefer to receive the *Ham Hum* via email, please contact Mary NØTRK (Membership) or Bill KCØSVZ (Publications) with your new information.

## Corrections to the February Issue

Please note the following corrections to the February, 2011 issue of the Ham Hum:

Page 7 Under *Puzzle*, the statement should be changed from "...age you will be this year..." to "...age you will be **on your birthday** this year..."

Page 8 Under *Saturday Night Coffee*, second paragraph: The correct spelling for Christine NØRIS' first name should be "Christina." Our apologies to Christina.

**Note:** If you spot any errors in the Ham Hum, please don't hesitate to send an email to me with the correction. Thanks.

*Bill KCØSVZ*

## **Puzzle**

*This month's puzzle is from Bill True, WA9ASD, who has a problem keeping time.*

I have two working mechanical clocks at home that chime on the hour with the number of dings equal to the hour. They also ding one time at the half hour. They are in different rooms of the house so I practically never hear them chime at the same time.

After some effort involving a WWV receiver and running from room to room, I got them synchronized—at least briefly.

Then one day I walked into the house and heard the first clock chime once. The next time it chimed, it again sounded only once. The next time after that, it chimed a single time. Did I break the clock? If not, at what time did I enter the house?

Extra credit: Another day I heard the second clock chime nine times. The next time that clock chimed six times. Do I have another broken clock or is my hearing faulty?

I will only tell the answers if you promise to set my clocks.

*Bill WA9ASD*

*Answer next month. If you can't wait until then, you can attend the March meeting where WA9ASD might be persuaded to provide the solution without requiring you to go to his house and set his clocks.*

### Answer to Last Month's Puzzle

To summarize the question: During the year 2011, adding the last two digits of your birth year to the age you'll be on your birthday this year results in the number 111. What are the two exceptions to this statement?

Answer: Solving for anyone born before 1900 or anyone younger than twelve years will result in a different value. For example, if you were born in 1899, you'd be 112 years old on your birthday this year.<sup>1</sup> So  $112 + 99 = 211$ . Similarly, if you were born after 1999, you won't have enough digits to make the "111" category. An eleven-year-old (born 2000) would result in  $00 + 11 = 11$ .

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<sup>1</sup> You'd also be famous.

## **Club Committee Duties and Bios**

*Part Three of a series of articles about the various committees and services the AARC provides. This includes brief biographies of club officers and committee members.*

### AARC Secretary Duties

The Secretary serves as the official recorder for the club. This includes taking the meeting minutes, receiving and maintaining membership applications, and being responsible for all club correspondence. In addition, the Secretary keeps the bylaws (and all proposed/approved amendments) and ensures that the current bylaws are available to members at all club meetings.

The position for Secretary was vacant at the first of the year, until at the February meeting Board Member and former AARC President Bill True, W9ASD stepped up to take on the job.

### Secretary—Bill True, WA9ASD

Bill True was first licensed as WN9ASD some time ago. He progressed through his Novice year with a home-brew transmitter and a couple of different used receivers. After a painful several months he successfully upgraded to a Conditional Class license with the call of WA9ASD. Successful upgrading consisted of finding the ham in town who had the worst (slowest) impression of what 13 wpm sounded like. This led to a couple of years of confounding the 'Donald Duck' guys by zero beating his transmitter with their signals. Everything was fine until they discovered the other sideband and the evil carrier in their receivers. "EEEWWWW, AM!" His first interference complaint came from the next door neighbor who said she could hear him on her telephone. The complaint was that she couldn't hear the other side of the conversation. His foray into 2 meters experienced no interference complaints although some local hams said they could hear his super-regenerative receiver.

Family-time and apartment living reduced his activity levels for a number of years. A missed renewal date for his license led to several dreaded trips to the Federal Building in Chicago to sit before the steely-eyed examiners to see, if among other things, he could fake correctly writing down 65 consecutive letters in a five minute sending period. This effort briefly gave him some oddball WD9 call. Fortunately, the Commission decided people could request calls and his beloved WA9ASD was restored. In anticipation of moving to, of all places, Omaha, he bought a *73 Magazine* 25 wpm random letter code tape for relaxation while driving to work. After about two months of this another trip to the Federal Building allowed him to guess his way through the multiple choice code test (what a breeze) and fail the written test. (Oh, you mean I have to take both the Advanced and Extra tests?) A month later the written test was conquered and all was well in hamdom. During this period a number of CBs got religion on 10 meters AM and FM, foxes were not safe in hiding, and some serious 2M SSB work occurred. There was also a little public service work, some Field Days, VHF contesting, and actions detrimental to the well being of a radio club that shall go unnamed.

*(Duties and Bios continued on page 12)*

## Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes - February 22, 2011

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM .

Attendees included Mary NØTRK, Marv AEØEG, Claudia KCØSQX, Steve NØUP, Bill WA9ASD, Bill KEØXQ, and Bill KCØSVZ.

### Secretary's Report

- Secretary requested reporting of Board Meeting Minutes, Club Meeting Minutes, and Club Calendar. The Club Calendar will include the details of significant club events reported on by Chairpeople during the Board and Club Meetings in a single report, eliminating duplication and presenting events in sequence.
- Steve, NØUP reviewed the calendar and reported no additions or corrections.
- February Board and Club meeting minutes reviewed and motion made by Claudia KCØSQX, seconded by Bill KEØXQ to accept the minutes as presented. Passed by unanimous vote.

### Treasurer's Report

- Marv, AEØEG reported that the balances remained the same as reported on 2/11/2011.
- He requested approval to obtain documentation from First National Bank of transactions from 2009 through 2010. Motion by Bill WA9ASD, seconded by Claudia KEØSQX to approve \$80 expenditure for FNB documentation. Passed by unanimous vote.

### President's Report

- Board agreed location for Board Meeting was okay.
- Date for initial Douglas County Siren Test may change.
- No new Community Events are scheduled.
- No changes in Field Day plans.
- The repeater appears to be working fine.

### Membership Chairman

Reminders to club members late/past with dues will be sent in mid-March.

### Old Business

None.

### New Business

- Claudia reported that the club has received a donation for a memorial for N6KVA - a short discussion was had to identify a suitable club asset as the N6KVA "Memorial" unit. No decision was reached.
- The budget developed in the Budget Meeting before the Board Meeting was submitted to the board. Motion by Bill WA9ASD and seconded by Claudia to approve budget as submitted. Passed by unanimous vote. Note, in addition to all activities from 2010, the budget included a provision for both expense and revenue from a flea market. A Chairperson will be sought. In view of the revenue shortfall anticipated in the budget, efforts toward re-enlisting previous members of the club and to recruit new members are necessary.

Motion to adjourn at 8:24 PM by Bill WA9ASD and seconded by Claudia KCØSQX. Passed by unanimous vote.

## Club Calendar

- Mar. 11** 7:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross - 82<sup>nd</sup> and Spring Streets.
- Mar. 13-19** Severe Weather Awareness Week.
- Mar. 15** 7:00 PM Spotter Training - Boys Town Music Hall 13715 Flanagan Blvd, Omaha, NE. There are two free parking lots to the south of the building. Everyone should enter through the front doors. Parking on Flanagan Blvd is restricted and violators will be towed at their own expense. Contact information available from [brian.e.smith@noaa.gov](mailto:brian.e.smith@noaa.gov)
- Mar. 16** 10:00 AM (approx) - Douglas County warning sirens will sound. No formal net is planned, but any reports of sirens sounding (or not) are welcome. Please try to get the number of the siren (on the control box) if possible. Send any reports to [n0up@cox.net](mailto:n0up@cox.net).
- Mar. 19** Midwest Division Convention. [www.lincolnhamfest.org](http://www.lincolnhamfest.org) for details.
- Mar. 22** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge.
- Mar. 26** Douglas County Annual Siren Test. Net begins at 9:00 AM, first sounding 10:00 AM. Please volunteer by signing up at the Ak-Sar-Ben meeting in March, or the Spotter Training in March, or by emailing [n0up@cox.net](mailto:n0up@cox.net).
- Apr. 6** Regular Wednesday Douglas County Siren Test. Hopefully, all sirens will be checked and we are re-checking repaired ones.
- Apr. 8** 7:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross - 82<sup>nd</sup> and Spring Streets.
- Apr. 9** 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium and Family Weatherfest. East Campus of UNL, Hardin Hall, 3310 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, NE <http://snr.unl.edu.cpsws/>
- Apr. 26** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge.
- May 13** 7:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross - 82<sup>nd</sup> and Spring Street.
- May 20-21** State Track Meet - Burke High School. Contact Pat, KØCTU to volunteer and for information.
- May 20-22** Dayton Hamvention.
- May 24** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge.
- Jun. 3-4** Museum Ships on the Air - Freedom Park, Omaha.
- Jun. 10** 7:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross - 82<sup>nd</sup> and Spring Streets.
- Jun. 10-12** Contagion Outbreak Convention - Qwest Center - Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Forum Presentation and man a booth - The title will be "Communication in a Post-Apocalyptic world or How Hollywood got it wrong." It will be based on a nationwide zombie invasion. Suggested topics include: the magic of radio, remote control vehicles, flashing lights, etc. It will be OMMRS based. Anyone interested in participating should contact Mary, NØTRK.
- Jun. 21** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge.
- Jun. 25-26** Field Day - Freedom Park Omaha - The club should consider a donation to the ships - possibly an antenna for the USS Hazard. The food will be hot dogs and hamburgers for Saturday, Breakfast on Sunday will be brought in and lunch will be leftovers. Contact Claudia, KCØSQX.
- Jul. 8** 7:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross - 82<sup>nd</sup> and Spring Streets.
- Jul. (TBS)** License Class.
- Jul. 16-17** Dave Babcock Memorial Bike Race - May need workers for both the Time Trials and the race. Contact Pat, KØCTU for details.
- Jul. 26** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72<sup>nd</sup> and Dodge.
- Aug. 3** Douglas County Evacuation Drill (no other information available).
- Aug. 27** Air show in Lincoln on 8/27/11 - Offutt personnel will be participating due to the size of this event.
- Sep. 11** The Offutt Air Show. We've had no involvement in the past; probably not this year either.

**Unknown Details:** During the February AARC Club Meeting - There will be an OMMRS meeting about the August 13 Drill. The club was not involved last year but may be this year.