

Saturday Night Coffee

The event took place in "our" usual meeting room in the northwest area of Perkins Restaurant at 108th & L Streets in Omaha, NE. Unlike last month, there were no conventions that night, so not only was the room open for our use, but there were plenty of cookies for dessert.

Present were Arnold KA0NCR, Dick KB0JKV, Pat KC0CTU, Bill KC0SVZ, Virginia KD0BLG, Christina N0RIS, Mary N0TRK, Steve N0UP, and Greg W0AAI.

N0UP brought along a defective Kenwood TS-2000 transceiver to troubleshoot while waiting for the food to arrive. The 440 MHz and 1.2 GHz bands were good, but it wouldn't transmit properly on two meters. He also brought equipment to test it with—a Bird Wattmeter, dummy load, and power supply—but forgot one critical tool: a screwdriver. However, KA0NCR lent him a multifunction knife, thus saving a trip to the car.

There's not too much you can do to troubleshoot gear unless you have test equipment—and there's a limit to the amount of such equipment that you can drag into a restaurant. So most of the analysis was done with a calibrated eyeball and lots of free advice from the other hams. The general consensus was that the transmitter board was probably bad and that more work was needed—presumably on a well-equipped bench.

Besides the kibitzing going on around the radio, the group discussed several other topics: The upcoming siren test, the possibility of a contagion outbreak in Omaha this summer, military service, genealogy, distance bicycling through Iowa ("Ankeny" is pronounced "aching knee"), the Hamvention in Lincoln, GPRS in cell phones, and surface mount component replacement.

In sum, another entertaining and educational evening.

(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 KC0SVZ

Wanted

Laptops Windows 98 or better. Do you have an old laptop computer that you don't want? If it boots and has Windows 98 (or better) loaded, it can be put to use in area hospitals for Packet operation. Battery condition is not important. Contact Mary N0TRK if you can help.

MS Walk Volunteers are needed to help with the MS Walk which raises money for research and to help those with Multiple Sclerosis. The event is being held on Saturday, April 30, and will start and end at the Civic Auditorium. Volunteers will staff water stops and key intersections along the route to help insure the safety of the walkers. If you can help, contact Pat KC0CTU at k0ctu@arrl.net.

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LXI, Issue 4

April 2011

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

March Meeting



At the March meeting, Neil Johnson, WB0EMU gave a talk on Public Safety Communications Interoperability. Using brochures and slides, he described the need for first responders (such as police, fire fighters, and medical personnel) to be able to communicate during an emergency. He showed how interoperability is a complex system that is evolving to fill this need. This includes bringing together diverse technologies, agencies, and coordinating their activities so they can function smoothly.

Neil described in detail how this is coming about. This includes the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) which created a set of standards called Project 16 for addressing trunked radio systems and moving emergency services to the 800 MHz bands. Another APCO process is Project 25, which specifies digital voice systems while maintaining compatibility with existing analog radios. An organization called SAFECOM provides coordinating information for these and related groups.

Neil provided a lot of information during the meeting; more than can be covered here. For details and links to related information, check the following: APCO (<http://www.apcointl.org/>), SAFECOM (<http://www.safecomprogram.gov/>), ITS Boulder (<http://www.its.blrdoc.gov/>).

NEW MEETING TIME 7:00 PM

Ham Radio Goes Sci-Fi

On June 10 through 12, the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club will have a presence at the Midwest's newest pop-culture expo and convention. *Contagion: Outbreak* is a multi-genre science fiction convention that will be held at the Qwest Center. The convention will feature many science fiction and horror actors and writers as well as props from feature movies. There will be gamer activities as well.

Other organizations featured will be local rocketry clubs, paranormal investigators, and a group of R2-D2 builders.

AARC will have a 10 x 10 foot booth to promote amateur radio and will present a program on how ham radio responds to a disaster. The working title is *Communications in a Post-Apocalyptic World (How Hollywood Always Gets it Wrong)*. We will need people to help staff the booth and folks willing to help present in the forum.

This will be a great way to reach out to a community of tech-loving people of all ages and spread the word about ham radio. Contact Mary N0TRK to sign up to help.

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	WØ9ASD	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

Courtesy Committee	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-690-7965	ke0xq@cox.net
Education	<i>(Open)</i>			
Field Day	Claudia Peterson	KCØSQX	402-593-1950	kc0sqx@arrl.net
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Monday Night .94 Net	Rich Swig	WØ2QG	712-256-7774	wal2qg@yahoo.com
Prizes	Rollie Miller	ABØNN	402-333-1606	ab0nn@arrl.net
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Publications	Bill Wilkinson	KCØSVZ	402-397-8803	kc0svz@yahoo.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		k0il@arrl.net
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net

Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net
Vice Chairman	Darrel Swenson	KØAMB	402-690-0000	dswenson@wearne.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net
Member	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net

Other Contacts

ARRL Midwest Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Rod Blocksome	KØDAS		
EC Douglas County	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN		
Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
NE Section Manager	Art Zyguelbaum	KØAIZ	402-421-0839	KØAIZ@arrl.org
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	402-492-9156	ppjoseph@cox.net

April Meeting

The next meeting of the AARC will be on Friday, April 8th, at 7:00 PM. The location is the Heartland Chapter House of the American Red Cross at 81st and Spring (near 81st and Center). The topic is "Maritime Coastal Stations" by Vern Wirka, WØVMP.

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/>

AARC at the SAC Museum Air Show

On March 26th and 27th the Strategic Air and Space Museum near Ashland planned to host their first Indoor Air Show. Model and remote control air crafts would be on display and flying in the hanger areas of the museum. They had invited Omahawks and other remote control aircraft clubs. They also planned to have an amateur radio station on the air during the event, but due to a scheduling conflict the group they had invited was unable to attend.

On March 23rd, messages were left on the answering machine of AARC president NØTRK with the question: Could Omaha area hams step up to fill the void? The only issue was that hams in Omaha had a scheduling conflict as well; the annual Douglas County siren test—visual inspection was taking place on Saturday March 26th. After some discussion with museum employee and amateur radio operator Matt Anderson

KØBOJ, a compromise was worked out: Hams from Omaha would arrive after the siren test was completed on Saturday and work the afternoon. They would also come back on Sunday and operate as well.

Using an OMMRS HF go-kit, which includes an ICOM 706MKIIG all-mode transceiver (HF/VHF/UHF) and an Outbacker antenna, a quick station was set up on the upper level overlooking the atrium under the SR-71 Blackbird reconnaissance aircraft.

The only difficulty in the entire event was the contest that the operators had to compete with for operating space. But even without any publicity for the event and contest to the amateur radio world, the operators managed to make 30 contacts as a special-event station. The museum will be sending certificates to those hams that were contacted. The operators were also able to talk with the museum visitors about amateur radio and its ties to the Strategic Air Command.

The museum director was extremely happy that the Omaha area hams stepped up to help them out. While nothing was decided, there was some discussion about having us there for other events. Thanks to those who helped and those who expressed an interest in expanding the relationship between the Strategic Air and Space Museum and the Omaha Amateur Radio Community.



KØCTU Operating Beneath the SR-71

Club Minutes continued from page 6.

Community Events - for Pat, K8CTU (who was sick) by Mary, N8TRK - See calendar.

The MS Walk is scheduled for April 30th in downtown Omaha.

Field Day Committee - Claudia, KC8SQX - See calendar.

The Committee continues moving ahead with the location.

Repeater Committee - John, WB0CMC - No report.

Membership Committee - Mary, N8TRK

- Annual membership reminder cards will be sent out after the meeting.
- Donald Schwalm, WB0HGC submitted an application for membership. Motion by Steve, N8UP, seconded by John, WB0CMC to accept Donald as a new member. Motion passed by voice vote.

Courtesy Committee - Bill, KE8XQ - No report.

Publications Committee - Bill, KC8SVC

- New toner cartridges refills were purchased.
- Ham Hum has been distributed.

Prize Committee - Rollie, AB0NN

- The door prizes for the meeting are a Mystery Prize, the "Brown Bag Door Prize," a set of binoculars, a screwdriver set and a meat thermometer.
- Tickets are available for \$1 each, 6 tickets for \$5, or 12 tickets for \$10.

Old Business

- Report about new club public service signs - N7J00 not present.
- Mary reported that she has the existing club signs.

New Business

- Mary reported that Brian, KM8Y prepared and sent the Club's annual registration to the State of Nebraska.
- Mary reported a procedural note that Board Meeting Minutes will be published online with a summary in the President's report. Club Meeting Minutes will be published in *Ham Hum*.
- A discussion was held about the start time of monthly club meetings. Since Board Meetings are no longer on the same night as Club Meetings, we could move the Club Meeting start time to 7 PM. A moderate discussion followed.
- A motion was made to start the monthly Club Meetings at 7PM by AE0EG, seconded by Claudia, KC8SQX. The motion was approved by a show of hands of 10 in favor of the motion and 4 opposed.

There being no other business for the club, John, WB0CMC moved for adjournment seconded by Bob, NB0B. Motion carried at 8:07 PM.

Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC



Prez Sez

I hope you all had a chance to get to Lincoln for the Hamfest. I saw a lot of people that I don't normally see on a day-to-day basis. I even walked away with a couple of door prizes. The Lincoln Amateur Radio Club did a great job!

Just a reminder, at the March meeting it was decided that we would start the meetings at 7:00 PM. So plan on arriving a little earlier than in the past.

Be sure to visit the club's web site. It is undergoing changes all the time; most recently a calendar of area events as been added. Be sure to check it out. If you are aware of an event, Hamfest, VE sessions, area radio club meetings, or other event of interest, please let the club know by emailing calendar@aksarbenarc.org.

At the board meeting there was discussion about what to do with the memorials (for Dick Jones, N6KVA) that been coming into the club. The board is exploring some idea and the expenses involved in each. Dick was very involved in the club having served as vice president and as a board member. If you had thought about making a donation in Dick's memory, you can send them to the club's PO Box or you can bring them to a club meeting.

With the nicer weather come community service events. The first of the season is MS Walk coming up on April 30. Contact Pat, K8CTU at k8ctu@arrl.net to help out. The State Track meet is also coming up in May. Both events are always a lot of fun and participating in community service events like this is a great way to give back for the use of our bandwidth. Organizing communications support for these events is made easier if there are enough volunteers. Don't wait to be asked, step forward to help.

There are lots of ways to be involved in the club and this great hobby of amateur radio. Take a look at the calendar and see what might be of interest to you. The more involved you are in events the more fun you will find the hobby to be. There are of course the community service events, but there are operating events like Museum Ships Weekend and Field Day, and of course the presentation at the science fiction convention. There are a variety of things to get involved in. Again, don't wait to be asked, your help is always welcome. This is your club! If you aren't sure who to reach out to, contact me and I will be happy to point you in the right direction.

Don't forget to Get on the Air. After all, that is what the hobby is about.

73, Mary N8TRK, President AARC

New Member

Donald Schwalm, WB0HGC applied for membership into the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club and was unanimously confirmed at the March, 2011 meeting. Welcome to AARC!

Note of Thanks The AARC Publications Committee would like to thank Christina N8RIS for proof reading many of the articles in this issue. Any errors you find are in the articles she didn't review.



Veep Speaks

The March program was presented by Neil, WB0EMU. It was interesting to learn how agencies from different cities are able to communicate with one another.

The April meeting will be presented by Vern Wirka, W0VMP (ex WB0GQM). Vern was a Nebraska Section Manager for many years. He will be doing a presentation on Maritime Coastal Stations.

I hope to see you on the 8th of April.

73, Bill KE0XQ, Vice President AARC

Short Bio of W0VMP

Extra Class Amateur Radio License W0VMP
 Second Class Radio Telegraph Operator's Certificate
 General Radiotelephone Operators License

Amateur radio operator for 40 years with 40 years of experience in the broadcasting industry. Teaching radio, video, and a variety of communications related courses at the college level for the past 15 years. Currently an adjunct faculty member at Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska and part-time employee with Clear Channel Radio. Served as an assistant professor of communication at the now closed Dana College in Blair and also managed the Dana campus radio and television operations.

Amateur radio interest primarily focused on the maintenance and operation of vintage equipment, particularly Collins. Enjoy operating CW with my late father's J38 straight key and Vibroplex bug.

Avocation...ventriloquism.

Vern W0VMP

Treasurer's Report - March 11, 2011

Main Checking	\$781.34
Savings	\$4,544.75
CD Life Memberships	\$8,226.96
CD Life Memberships	\$8,033.30
Repeater Checking	\$1,196.12
Repeater CD	\$2,339.06
Total	\$25,121.53

Address Change?

If you've changed your mailing address, or would prefer to receive the *Ham Hum* via email, please contact Mary N0TRK (Membership) or Bill KC0SVZ (Publications) with your new information.

Coming Next Issue: More about John WB0CNC's trip to Haiti.

Contest Calendar

April 2011

Montana QSO Party 0000Z, Apr 9 to 2400Z, Apr 10
 JIDX CW Contest 0700Z, Apr 9 to 1300Z, Apr 10
 PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavors Contest 1200-1800 local, Apr 9
 New Mexico QSO Party 1400Z, Apr 9 to 0200Z, Apr 10
 EU Spring Sprint, CW 1600Z-1959Z, Apr 9
 Georgia QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 9 to 0359Z, Apr 10 & 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 10
 SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, Apr 10
 UBA Spring Contest, SSB 0600Z-1000Z, Apr 10
 Hungarian Straight Key Contest 1500Z-1700Z, Apr 10
 NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint 0030Z-0230Z, Apr 13
 CWops Mini-CWT Test 1100Z-1200Z and 1900Z-2000Z, Apr 13 and 0300Z-0400Z, Apr 14
 NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, Apr 13
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, Apr 13
 Holyland DX Contest 0000Z-2359Z, Apr 16
 TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest 0000Z-2400Z, Apr 16
 ES Open HF Championship 0500Z-0859Z, Apr 16
 CQ Manchester Mineira DX Contest 1500Z, Apr 16 to 2359Z, Apr 17
 Feld Hell Sprint 1600Z-1800Z, Apr 16
 EU Spring Sprint, SSB 1600Z-1959Z, Apr 16
 Michigan QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 16 to 0400Z, Apr 17
 Ontario QSO Party 1800Z, Apr 16 to 1800Z, Apr 17
 YU DX Contest 2100Z, Apr 16 to 1700Z, Apr 17
 ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB 1800Z-2359Z, Apr 17
 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest 0100Z-0300Z, Apr 18
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data 1900Z-2030Z, Apr 21
 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital 0001Z, Apr 23 to 2359Z, Apr 24
 SP DX RTTY Contest 1200Z, Apr 23 to 1200Z, Apr 24
 Helvetia Contest 1300Z, Apr 23 to 1259Z, Apr 24
 Nebraska QSO Party 1700Z, Apr 23 to 1700Z, Apr 24
 Low Power Spring Sprint 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 25
 SKCC Sprint 0000Z-0200Z, Apr 27
 QRP to the Field 1500Z, Apr 30 to 0300Z, May 1
 Florida QSO Party 1600Z, Apr 30 to 0159Z, May 1 & 1200Z-2159Z, May 1
 BARTG Sprint 75 1700Z-2100Z, Apr 30

May 2011

AGCW QRP/QRP Party 1300Z-1900Z, May 1
 RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB 1900Z-2030Z, May 2
 ARS Spartan Sprint 0100Z-0300Z, May 3
 MIE 33 Contest 1100Z-1500Z, May 4 and 2300Z, May 4 to 0300Z, May 5
 Araucaria VHF Contest 0000Z, May 7 to 1600Z, May 8
 10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW 0001Z, May 7 to 2359Z, May 8
 CQ-M International DX Contest 1200Z, May 7 to 1159Z, May 8
 7th Call Area QSO Party 1300Z, May 7 to 0700Z, May 8
 Indiana QSO Party 1600Z, May 7 to 0400Z, May 8
 ARI International DX Contest 2000Z, May 7 to 2000Z, May 8
 New England QSO Party 2000Z, May 7 to 0500Z, May 8 & 1300Z-2400Z, May 8
 SKCC Weekend Sprint 0000Z-2400Z, May 8
 NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint 1800Z-2000Z, May 9

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

Puzzle

Answer to Last Month's Puzzle

Christina NORIS was the only person who submitted an answer to last month's two-question puzzle. To summarize:

Question #1: Bill WA9ASD had two mechanical clocks at home that chime hourly with the number of dings equal to the hour. They also chimed once every half hour. They were in different rooms so he couldn't hear them chime at the same time.

Then one day he 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. At what time was the first chime?

Answer (NORIS): He heard the clock chime the half-hour at 12:30, then 1:00, then the half hour at 1:30.

Question #2: Another day WA9ASD heard the second clock chime nine times. The next time it chimed six times. Was his clock broken, or was his hearing faulty?

Answer (NORIS): He heard the clock chime 9:00 o'clock, went to sleep before 9:30 (and didn't hear anything because he was asleep) and woke up after 5:30 to hear the 6:00 o'clock chime.

Note that WA9ASD's answer to the second question was: *The clock that chimed nine times then six times was a "light sleeper" chiming clock that does not chime after 9:00 PM or before 6:00 AM. Both answers will work.*

April Puzzle

This month's puzzle is also from WA9ASD and is a variation on last month's.

As I walked in through the door, I heard the clock chime once. One half hour later, it again chimed once. On the next two thirty-minute intervals, it again chimed one time each—for a total of four dings in a two-hour period. What time was it when I walked in through the door?

Tune in next month for the answer.

March Door Prize

The March meeting was unique in that *two* unmarked prizes were awarded: The regular Brown Bag Mystery Prize, and another that was designated the Brown Bag Door Prize. Also in the drawing were a pair of binoculars, a screwdriver set, and an electronic meat thermometer fork (batteries included).

As with last month, Andrew N0CALL drew the tickets. Bill KE0XQ won the fork, Mary N0TRK got the binoculars, and Steve N0UP the screwdriver set. Brian KM0Y won the Brown Bag Door Prize; a seven-function digital multimeter. The Brown Bag Mystery Prize, an Ultra Steel nine-piece mini tool set, went to Claudia KC0SQX.

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; the more tickets you buy each month, the better your chances of winning something good at the end of the year.

Club Committee Duties and Bios

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

Publications and Web Services Committee Duties

This committee shall consist of at least three members. It shall be the duty of this committee to plan, publish and maintain the club monthly publication, *Ham Hum*, and the club's web site.

Ham Hum Editor/Publisher—Bill Wilkinson KC0SVZ

Bill wanted to be a writer ever since he was a kid and realized that Superman (starring George Reeves) wrote for a living. Later, in high school, Bill wrote articles for the school newspaper, the *Bentonian*. He also got interested in electronics; taking apart radios to see what was inside them and building projects from *Popular Electronics* and *Electronics Illustrated*.

After high school, he studied at United Electronics Institute in West Des Moines, IA, where he earned his 2nd class FCC Radio-Telephone Operator license w/Ships Radar Endorsement and wrote articles for the school newsletter, the *UEI Electron*.

Upon graduation, Bill was hired by Collins Radio to test commercial and military aircraft radios. But after four months, he got caught in a massive layoff due to Collins losing a large contract; so being young and highly draftable, he joined the Army.

Shortly before enlisting, he'd earned his first class Radio-Telephone license—which may have helped get him assigned to the Signal School at Ft. Monmouth, NJ, where he studied digital communications systems. After ten months, he was next assigned to the Army Security Agency in Frankfurt, Germany, installing and maintaining cryptographic equipment at sites along the border between East and West Germany.

Honorably discharged in 1973, Bill moved to Omaha and got a job working for the Heathkit retail store on 92nd and Maple Streets. During his time there, he repaired hundreds of Heathkit models, including most of the ham gear.

In 1979 he was promoted and transferred to the Heath factory in Michigan, where he wrote in-house service manuals and conducted service seminars. This lasted until the early 90s when Heath got out of the kit manufacturing business. So he returned to Omaha and got a job at U S WEST (later Qwest) writing documents in their IT department.

After spending more than a decade in various IT-related companies writing about Unix, Windows, and web-based applications, Bill got interested in electronics again. In 2003, he passed the Technician exam and received the call sign KC0SVZ. He joined AARC and got on the air a few times, but wasn't too active in club affairs. A few years later, he bit the bullet and took the General exam, passed it and so took the Extra the same night—barely passing it. However, he forgot to mark the little checkbox to request a new call sign, and so is still KC0SVZ. Though he can change it, he decided to keep the call sign; thus avoiding having to memorize a new number.

Bill is now retired, still doesn't get on the air much, but continues to write—this time, for the AARC *Ham Hum*.

Club Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2011

Club Calendar

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by saying the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 23 attendees. Introductions by name and call.

Officers and Board Members present included: Bill KE0XQ, Mary N0TRK, Marvin AE0EG, Bill WA9ASD, John WB0CMC, and Claudia KC0SQX.

Announcements:

- The Red Cross has reminded us that there is no smoking anywhere on the grounds of the Red Cross.
- Please put away Internet/Smart phones during the meeting. If you need to make a call, please step out to the hallway.

The Secretary read the minutes of the February Club Meeting. Motion by Claudia, KC0SQX and seconded by Steve, N0UP to accept minutes as read. Passed by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report – Marvin AE0EG – There were no changes since February – see report.

Vice President's Report – Bill KE0XQ

- Bill reported that the program for tonight's meeting will be by Neil Johnson, WB0EMU on Public Safety Communications Interoperability.
- Next month's program will be by Vern Wirka, W0VMP on Coastal Maritime Stations

President's Report – Mary N0TRK

- The 2011 Budget, as developed at the Budget Committee Meeting, was approved at the last Board Meeting.
- Bill, KE0XQ is now the Courtesy Committee Chairman.
- Mary summarized US House Bill HR607 that proposes to give away the Amateur Radio secondary allocation on 420 to 440 MHz, to move some public safety communications to those frequencies so it can sell frequencies to private broadband service providers that were previously allocated to public safety communications frequencies. Mary urged all interested parties to sign letters available at the meeting to Congressman Lee Terry who sits on the House Energy and Commerce Committee which is reviewing this legislation. A form letter is also available on the ARRL website.
- Mary requested that people who want to make announcements and/or Committee Chairperson reports be sent to her in advance of the meeting to insure that they are included in the club meeting.

Disaster Preparedness – Steve, N0UP – See calendar.

- Severe Weather Awareness Week 3/13 – 3/19
- Douglas County Siren Test date changed to 3/16

- Apr. 6** Regular Wednesday Douglas County Siren Test. Hopefully, all sirens will be checked and we are re-checking repaired ones.
- Apr. 8** 7:00 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross – 81st and Spring Streets. NOTE EARLIER START.
- 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. 9** Midwest HomeBrewers and QRP Group Meeting at OzarkCon, Branson, MO Contact Darwin (Dar) W9HZC for details, or go to www.hbqrp.org
- Apr. 9** Bellevue ARC Technician Class – Midlands Hospital – Smith Room 9:00 – 5:00 – Contact ladmclark@yahoo.com
- Apr. 16** Bellevue ARC VE Testing – Midlands Hospital – McArdle Room – Registration 12:30, Testing 1:00 PM.
- Apr. 26** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72nd and Dodge.
- Apr. 30** MS Walk – downtown Omaha – contact K0CTU for details.
- Apr. 30** Bellevue ARC General Class – Midlands Hospital – Smith Room – 9:00 – 5:00 – Contact ladmclark@yahoo.com
- May 7** Bellevue ARC General Class – Midlands Hospital – Smith Room – 9:00 – 5:00 – Contact ladmclark@yahoo.com
- May 13** 7:00 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross – 81st and Spring Streets.
- May 20-21** State Track Meet – Burke High School. Contact Pat, K0CTU to volunteer and for information.
- May 21** Bellevue ARC General Class – Midlands Hospital – Smith Room – 9:00 – 5:00 – Contact ladmclark@yahoo.com
- May 20-22** Dayton Hamvention.
- May 28** Bellevue ARC General Class – Midlands Hospital – Smith Room – 9:00 – 5:00 – Contact ladmclark@yahoo.com
- May 31** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72nd and Dodge.
- Jun. 3-4** Museum Ships on the Air – Freedom Park, Omaha.
- Jun. 10** 7:00 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross – 81st 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, N0TRK.
- Jun. 11** Bellevue ARC VE Testing – Midlands Hospital – McArdle Room – Registration 12:30 PM, Testing 1:00 PM.
- 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, KC0SQX.
- Jun. 28** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72nd and Dodge.
- Jul. 8** 7:00 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Meeting Red Cross – 81st 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, K0CTU for details.
- Jul. 26** 6:30 PM Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting at Borders at 72nd and Dodge.
- 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.

(Club Minutes continued on page 10.)