



# Membership Form 2013

# Ham Hum

This form may be used for any of the following purposes (check all that apply):

- Pay Dues ( New  Renew)
- Change of Mailing Address
- Update personal information (new callsign, upgrade, etc.)

**Personal Information**

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes  No

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Ham Hum Delivery:  Mail  Email

**Spouse Information (complete only for spouse applying at same time)**

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_ License Class \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL Member?  Yes  No

**Minor Dependent (complete only for minors applying at the same time)**

Call Sign	License Class	Name	ARRL Member?
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**New Member Application Signature**

I agree to conduct my activities in accord with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues (January thru December)		
For Club Use Only – DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA		
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Member	\$20.00 year	Amount: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanying Spouse	\$ 4.00 year	Amount: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Accompanying Minor Dependent	\$ 4.00 year times number of minors renewing	Amount: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Member (full time student)	\$ 8.00 year	Amount: _____
		Total Paid: _____

Make sure your information is correct and return this form to the Club with your dues. Dues are payable at any time and are considered in arrears if not received by Feb 28. Club members renewing within two years of their last year of paid membership must still pay the the full years dues. After two years, members must reapply for membership.

## Kit Building



Dar Piatt W9HZC

The speaker for the January meeting was Dar Piatt, W9HZC, who gave a presentation on building electronic kits. Using slides and a table holding an impressive variety of kits—including ham radio, robotics, test equipment, and some useful tools—he provided helpful information for both experienced kit builders and beginners.

Dar pointed out that it was easy to get started with kit building and that anyone could do it—from sixth graders to

pathologists. He stated that electronics expertise isn't necessary, just the ability to read and follow directions (RTFM, or Read The Fantastic Manual).

Dar showed a list of some of the more popular kit manufacturers and briefly described several of the kits that are available: transceivers, SWR bridges, antenna tuners, audio systems, robotics, and test equipment—to name a few. Kits are available in all price ranges from a few dollars at places like Ramsey Electronics ([www.ramseyelectronics.com](http://www.ramseyelectronics.com)) up to the \$1800 Elecraft K3 transceiver ([www.elecraft.com](http://www.elecraft.com)).

*(Kit Building continued on page 6.)*

## New Club Officer

Congratulations to Barb KCØHLB, who was elected to the position of Director at the January meeting. Barb will serve for the remainder of 2013 to fill the position vacated by Adam KDØMMG when he was elected to Vice President.

## BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The date, time, and place of the next AARC Board of Directors meeting has not been set yet. Check for an announcement at the next Club meeting, or on the AARC web page at <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>.

## February Meeting: Skywarn

This month's topic is Skywarn and will be presented by Brian Smith, KBØQXF, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Be sure to attend.

Friday, February 8th, 7:00 PM, Red Cross Building, 81<sup>st</sup> & Spring Streets, Omaha, NE.

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	Tomas Hood	NW7US	402-915-1771	nw7us@nw7us.us
Vice President	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	402-598-1521	akavan@gmail.com
2013-2014 Secretary	Bill True	WA9ASD	402-426-2813	williamtrue@aol.com
2013-2014 Treasurer	Dave Rice	NØJSB	402-571-8915	davegr@netzero.net
2013 2014 Director	Mitch Saure	WBØGBI	402-455-6205	skyking195@aol.com
2013 Director	Barb Westcott	KCØHLB	402-510-0308	barbwestcott@cox.net
Immediate Past President	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net

### Club Committees

Courtesy Committee	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-690-7965	ke0xq@cox.net
Education	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Field Day	Rob Buchholz	AI7Q	402-964-9960	ai7q@arrl.net
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Monday Night .94 Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7774	wa0zqg@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@gmail.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		k0il@arrl.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	402-492-9156	ppjoseph@cox.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	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net

### Other Contacts

ARRL Midwest Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Rod Blocksome	KØDAS	319-393-8022	k0das@arrl.org
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	K0AIZ@arrl.org
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-690-7965	ke0xq@cox.net

### 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.

### AARC on the Web

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

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/aksarbenarc>

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

## Club Calendar

<b>Feb 8</b>	7:00 PM AARC Meeting. Red Cross Building, 81 <sup>st</sup> & Spring St, Omaha, NE.
<b>Feb 9</b>	11:00 AM HBQRP, Bredeaux Pizza, 1425 Silver St., Ashland, NE.
<b>Feb 9</b>	1:00 PM Bellevue ARC VE Session, 11111 S 84th St., Papillion NE.
<b>Feb 13</b>	7:30 PM LARC Meeting, 4647 Superior St., Lincoln, NE.
<b>Feb 16</b>	6:00 PM AARC Coffee. Perkins Restaurant, 108 <sup>th</sup> & L Streets, Omaha, NE.
<b>Feb 20</b>	7:00 PM Heartland Hams, 403 Railroad Ave., Glenwood, IA.
<b>Feb 21</b>	7:30 PM BARC Meeting. Masonic Hall, 1908 Franklin St, Bellevue, NE
<b>Feb 28</b>	7:30 PM PARC Meeting. 1900 E. Military Ave, Fremont, NE.
<b>Feb 28</b>	7:30 PM SWIARC Meeting. 705 N 16 <sup>th</sup> , Council Bluffs, IA.
<b>Mar 2</b>	8:00 AM McClelland Hamfest, 107 Main St., McClelland, IA.
<b>Mar 8</b>	7:00 PM AARC Meeting. Red Cross Building, 81 <sup>st</sup> & Spring St, Omaha, NE.
<b>Mar 9</b>	11:00 AM HBQRP, Bredeaux Pizza, 1425 Silver St., Ashland, NE.
<b>Mar 13</b>	7:30 PM LARC Meeting, 4647 Superior St., Lincoln, NE.
<b>Mar 16</b>	8:30 AM Lincoln Hamfest. Lancaster Event Center, 84th & Havelock, Lincoln, NE.
<b>Mar 16</b>	6:00 PM AARC Coffee. Perkins Restaurant, 108 <sup>th</sup> & L Streets, Omaha, NE.
<b>Mar 20</b>	7:00 PM Heartland Hams, 403 Railroad Ave., Glenwood, IA.
<b>Mar 21</b>	7:30 PM BARC Meeting. Masonic Hall, 1908 Franklin St, Bellevue, NE
<b>Mar 21</b>	Douglas County siren test.
<b>Mar 26</b>	7:00 PM Storm Spotter training. Boys Town, 13715 Flanagan Blvd, Omaha.
<b>Mar 28</b>	7:30 PM PARC Meeting. 1900 E. Military Ave, Fremont, NE.
<b>Mar 28</b>	7:30 AM SWIARC Meeting. 705 N 16 <sup>th</sup> , Council Bluffs, IA.
<b>Mar 26</b>	6:30 PM AARC VE Session, Red Cross Building, 81st & Spring St, Omaha NE.
<b>Apr 7</b>	8:00 AM Upper Midwest Regatta, Carter Lake, IA.
<b>Sep 7</b>	AARC Flea-esta. Sarpy County Fairgrounds, Springfield, NE.

For more details and the latest updates, see the *Calendar* section of the AARC web site (<http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>).

## Area Nets

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<u>7:00 PM</u> 145.290 South-West Iowa ARES Glenwood, IA.	<u>7:00 PM</u> 147.360 QCWA Hams who have been hams for at least 25 years.	<u>7:00 PM</u> 146.670 Dodge Co. ARES Dodge Co, NE.
<u>8:00 PM</u> 144.250 NE Missouri SWOT.	<u>8:00 PM</u> 50.200 6m SSB Net.	<u>8:00 PM</u> 145.310 Saunders Co. ARES Saunders Co, NE.
<u>9:00 PM</u> 146.940 AARC Social Net. Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Omaha, NE.	<u>9:00 PM</u> 145.310 Washington Co. ARES Washington Co, NE.	<u>9:00 PM</u> 146.820 Pottawattamie County ARES Council Bluffs, IA.
Thursday	Saturday	Sunday
<u>8:00 PM</u> 144.250 2-Meter SSB Net.	<u>12:00 PM</u> 146.82 Swap Net Council Bluffs, IA.	<u>8:00 AM</u> 3.902.500 Swap Net.
<u>8:00 PM</u> 146.360 Heartland DX Association.	<u>8:30 PM</u> 3.921.000 QCWA Chapter 20.	<u>8:30 AM</u> 3.896.000 3900 Club.
		<u>8:30 PM</u> 443.925+ (103.5 tone) IRLP Net.
		<u>9:00 PM</u> 146.940- Douglas Co. ARES net, KØUSA repeater.

Please let us know of any updates or corrections to the above.

## January Door Prizes

After the giveaway extravaganza at the December meeting, it was business as usual for door prizes during the January meeting. Still, Prize Committee Chair Rollie ABØNN had brought in some neat stuff to give away: A three-piece magnetic tool set, two sets of 8-stackable storage trays, a roll of duct tape, the Mr. Reeh Door Prize (which was ominously heavy), and the Brown Bag prize.

Pat KØCTU drew the tickets and announced the winners. Mitch WBØGBI won one set of the 8-stackable storage trays, while Claudia K1AUD got the other. Dave NØJSB won the magnetic tool set, and Adam KDØMMG was the lucky winner of the duct tape. The Brown Bag Prize, consisting of Christmas lights, was awarded to Steve NØUP, and the Mr. Reeh Door Prize—a rectangular parallelepiped resembling an iron core neon light transformer (and weighing as much), but turned out to be an external in-line RF noise blanker—went to Brian KDØSVD.

Note that the proceeds for each month's tickets go for buying next month's prizes. Each month's tickets are kept and included in the Grand Prize drawing in December. The more tickets you buy each month, the better your chances of winning at the end of the year.

*Bill KCØSVZ*

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*You may be a ham radio operator if... You regularly carry one or more tools in your pockets at any given time.*

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## MISCELLANEOUS

**PARC Meeting Night Change:** After years of meeting on the 4th Friday of the month, in 2013 the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club (PARC) will switch to the **fourth Thursday of the month**, with the following three exceptions: Sep (no meeting, picnic TBD), Nov 21 (week early for Thanksgiving), and Dec (no meeting Christmas party TBD). For regular meeting times, dinner is at 6:30 PM, meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Gambino's Pizza/Hero Deli, 1900 E. Military Ave., Fremont, NE. *de Dave WØNRW*

**New Author:** I just wanted to say "way to go" to Ralph, WØSMY, for the nice story in the 2013 winter edition of the QRP Quarterly magazine. Looks like we have an author in our group! Good going! *de Arnie KAØNCR*

**McClelland Hamfest on March 2nd:** Located at the town hall on 117 Main Street, McClelland, IA starting at 8:00 AM. For more information, see the SWIARC web page at <http://swiradio.org/>.

**Lincoln Hamfest on March 16th:** The 2013 ARRL Nebraska State Convention/Lincoln Hamfest will be held at the Lancaster Events Center at 84th & Havelock in Lincoln, NE. Hours will be from 8:30 AM until 2:00 PM. For details, see the LARC web page at <http://k0kkv.org/>.

## Veep Speaks



I would like to thank Darwin Piatt W9HZC for coming out to our January meeting to show off his wonderful kits. I know I really enjoyed seeing his talk and spent several hours since then looking at various kits to build. I am looking forward to him returning to tell us more about the satellite he mentioned in his program.

Our speaker for February will be Brian Smith from NOAA who will talk about Skywarn. I have to admit that I don't know much about Skywarn, other than a general idea of what it does, so I am looking forward to hearing more about it.

If there is a topic you are interested in seeing done at a meeting, or if you have a topic you would like to present, please feel free to contact me and let me know.

*Adam KDØMMG, Vice President AARC*

## AARC President Wins Excellence Award

Congratulations to Tomas, NW7US, for winning the YASME Excellence Award for sustained education of the amateur community regarding propagation, solar, and geomagnetic physics. This award is given to individuals who have made a significant contribution to amateur radio through dedicated service, effort, and creativity. The YASME Excellence Award is in the form of a cash grant and an individually-engraved crystal globe.

The YASME Foundation is a nonprofit corporation formed to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio (including DXing) and the introduction and promotion of ham radio in developing countries. The organization was formed in 1960 and named after the boat used by the famous DXpeditioner Danny Weil, who traveled to remote regions to operate his ham station. For more information, see their web page at <http://www.yasme.org/>.



*YASME Excellence Award  
(photo by NW7US)*

*Bill KCØSVZ*



# Club Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2013

Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by saying the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 29 attendees. Introductions by name and call.

Officers and Board members present included: Tomas, NW7US; Adam, KDØMMG; Mary, NØTRK; Bill, WA9ASD; Dave, NØJSB and Mitch, WBØGBI.

Secretary's Report - A motion was made by Jim, KAØKCV, seconded by Barb, KCØHLB, to accept the December club meeting minutes as published in Ham Hum. There were no corrections required and the motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Marv provided a year-end report which Tomas read. Deposits for December were: refreshments \$19.05, J-pole antenna sale \$35.00, refund of fee from First National \$40.00 for a total of \$94.05. Dues of \$336.00 collected in December will be deposited in January of 2013. Bills Paid in December included: stamps for Ham Hum \$450.00, annual meeting grand prize, Kenwood TM281A \$119.95, meeting refreshments \$22.56, sandwich makings \$97.40, *Ham Hum* \$88.84, and USS Hazard Radio donation \$1,500.00 for a total of \$2,278.75. This leaves a total balance on all accounts of \$20,833.45.

President's Report - Tomas, NW7US - The Red Cross meeting room for the monthly club meetings has been reserved for the year. We need to elect an additional board member due to Dave, NØJSB volunteering to be treasurer.

Special thanks to Mary, NØTRK for her two years of service as Club President and all of her other activities in the club.

Vice President's Report - Adam, KDØMMG - The program for tonight's meeting will be by Darwin, W9HZC on Kit Building and QRP.

Public Service – ARES/SATERN/Community Events

- ARES - Steve, NØUP - There will be spotter training on March 26. On March 21 the Douglas County siren test will be conducted.
- COMMUNITY EVENTS - Pat, KØCTU - The State Track Meet will be May 17 and 18. Volunteers need to contact Pat.

Education Committee - Mary, NØTRK - There has been interest expressed in a class and we can always use more help.

Membership Committee - Mary, NØTRK - Don't forget to pay your 2013 dues.

Publications/Web Services

- *Ham Hum* - Bill, KCØSVZ - It's out.
- Web Services - Mary, NØTRK - The Club web site is there.

Repeater Committee - John, WBØCMC - The repeater is still working.

Field Day Committee - Rob, AI7Q is not here.

(Meeting Minutes continued on page 5.)

# Contest Calendar

## February 2013

ARS Spartan Sprint	0200Z-0400Z, Feb 5
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 6
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 8
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 8
YLRL YL-OM Contest	1400Z, Feb 8 to 0200Z, Feb 10
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10
YL-ISSB QSO Party, CW	0000Z, Feb 9 to 2359Z, Feb 10
SARL Field Day Contest	1000Z, Feb 9 to 1000Z, Feb 10
Asia-Pacific Spring Sprint, CW	1100Z-1300Z, Feb 9
KCJ Topband Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
Dutch PACC Contest	1200Z, Feb 9 to 1200Z, Feb 10
Louisiana QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 9 to 0300Z, Feb 10
OMISS QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 9 to 1500Z, Feb 10
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 9 to 0400Z, Feb 10 & 1200Z-2200Z, Feb 10
FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 9
RSGB 1st 1.8 MHz Contest	2100Z, Feb 9 to 0100Z, Feb 10
AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party	2300Z, Feb 9 to 2300Z, Feb 10
Classic Exchange, Phone	1400Z, Feb 10 to 0800Z, Feb 11
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 15
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0130Z-0330Z, Feb 13
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 13
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 13 & 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 14
PODXS 070 Club Valentine Sprint	2000 local, Feb 14 to 0200 local, Feb 15
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 15
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 15
Russian PSK WW Contest	2100Z, Feb 17 to 2100Z, Feb 18
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 16 to 2400Z, Feb 17
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Feb 16
NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint	1800Z-2000Z, Feb 18
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 20
AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening	1900Z-2030Z, Feb 20
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 22
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Feb 22
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 22 to 2159Z, Feb 24
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 23 to 1800Z, Feb 24
SARL Youth Day Sprint	0800Z-1000Z, Feb 23
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 23 to 1300Z, Feb 24
Mississippi QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 23 to 0300Z, Feb 24
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 23 to 0559Z, Feb 24
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Feb 24 and 1500Z-1700Z, Feb 24
SARL Digital Contest	1300Z-1600Z, Feb 24
North Carolina QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 24 to 0059Z, Feb 25
CQC Winter QSO Sprint	0100Z-0259Z, Feb 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Feb 27
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, 1900Z-2000Z, Feb 27 & 0300Z-0400Z, Feb 28

## March 2013

QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 1
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 2 to 2400Z, Mar 3
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0800Z, Mar 2
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 3
SARL Hamnet 40m Simu Emerg Contest	1200Z-1400Z, Mar 3
AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 5
QRP Fox Hunt	0200Z-0330Z, Mar 6

Sources: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> & <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>

## Saturday Night Coffee

More people appeared on the scene this time than last month: Rob AI7Q, Pat KØCTU, Claudia K1AUD, Jim KAØKCV, Dick KBØKJV, Barb KCØHLB, Bill KCØSVZ, Brian KDØSVD, Christina NØRIS, and Mary NØTRK. Quite a crowd, so they put us in the meeting room on the west end near the fireplace. Unfortunately, it wasn't lit and a cold breeze seemed find its way all the way to the room whenever somebody opened the door on the east end of the building. However, we persevered.

Dog racing, geocaching, graphics arts, end-of-the-world party at Hector's, American and British English, farmer's market, how to deal with frozen locks, Lapland humor, and matching shoe styles and coats to computers were some some of the topics. Ham-related subjects included Morse code software, radio operator protocol, the Hazard radio room restoration project, using Logbook of The World, and LoTW vs eQSL, among others.

The AARC Coffee event is held at Perkins restaurant at the corner of 108th and L Streets in Omaha on the third Saturday of the month, starting at 6 PM. Everyone is invited.

*Bill KCØSVZ*

### Four Volunteers Needed

I am trying to help Rick, KØHE drum up some volunteers to help out with the Upper Midwest Regatta, which is a women's rowing event. It takes place on Sunday April 7, 2013 from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Carter Lake. Terry Donahough, a biochemist at UNMC, is the head referee and is asking for four ham radio operators to assist at the posts for this event. His number is 402-680-0415. Dan Chipps, a coworker and also Creighton's womens rowing coach is also assisting in this event. Email Rick at k0he@cox.net

Thanks all for taking the time to help on this. It is just one more event to demonstrate our ability and gain community support.

*Tom WDØBFO*

### Want Ad

Wanted: Linksys Router Did you upgrade your router? Still have your old one in the closet? I am looking for Wireless Linksys Router Models WRT54G (version 1 - 4) WRT54GS (version 1- 4) WRT54GL (any version). If you aren't sure of the version, email me the first 4 characters of the serial number and I can tell you if I can use it. This is for a ham radio project. Willing to pay \$10 for complete and working units, Will still take them off your hands if they aren't working. Contact: Mary NØTRK at the next AARC meeting, or email n0trk@arrl.net

*(Meeting Minutes continued from page 4.)*

QSL Committee - no report

Technical Committee - no report

Courtesy Committee - No news.

Equipment Committee - Mary, NØTRK - The committee needs to meet.

- The loan agreement for the HTs is finished. Members who would like to participate in public service events can borrow an HT from the Club for the event.
- The committee needs to discuss equipment to sell and keep.

Trailer Committee - Mary, NØTRK - The trailer is in storage for the winter.

Flea-Esta - Pat, KØCTU - The Flea-Esta is planned for September 7, 2013. We will reserve the facility for Friday night and Saturday. The grand prize drawing time will be moved up to noon.

Old Business - There is no new information on the USS Hazard radio purchase since Peter, KE7DRM is on Christmas break. For the Red Cross tower grounding project we need to meet with Kevin.

New Business - For the open board position Russ, NØMNW and Barb, KCØHLB were nominated. Ballots were distributed to all club members, the vote was taken and counted and Barb, KCØHLB is our new board member.

### Announcements

- The next board meeting will be Thursday, January 24 at 6:30 PM at the Village Inn at 78th and Dodge.
- The Nebraska State ARRL Convention will be held in Lincoln on March 16.
- The next VE exam session will be Tuesday, January 29 at the Red Cross starting at 6:30 PM.
- Refreshments are available in the kitchen. Please donate to fund these.
- The door prize drawing will be after the break, before the program. Get your tickets now.

At 7:46 PM a motion was made by John, WBØCMC, seconded by Steve, NØUP, to end the meeting. Passed by unanimous vote.

*Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC*

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**Obscure Q Codes:** QFH -*This frequency is MINE! - go elsewhere / Is this frequency hogged?*

QNB? - *is supposed to mean "How many buttons does your radio have?" A reply of the form QNB 45/15 means "45, and I know what 15 of them do."*



**(Kit Building** *continued from page 1.*)

He described the tools needed. This included standard items such as long-nose and diagonal pliers, screwdrivers, and a small soldering iron. Other handy tools are curved diagonal pliers for clipping leads in difficult-to-reach places, a circuit board holder for that "extra hand", and a solder sucker. Also useful is a set of small storage bins for holding parts. The containers will vary with the kit builder: plastic trays, tin muffin trays, a Styrofoam block, or even left-over egg cartons. A magnifier/lamp combination can also be handy, though Dar stated that some lamps using white LEDs made it difficult to read resistor color codes.

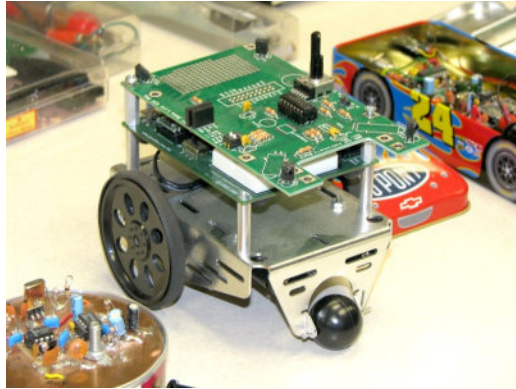
Dar recommended stocking a supply of spare parts. While a kit manufacturer may include all the necessary parts, it's sometimes more convenient to replace a missing or defective component from personal supplies rather than wait for a part to arrive in the mail.

Next, he described a procedure for building the kit. Sort the components into the above-mentioned trays and mark them off against a checklist to make sure they're all there. Once everything is ready, start installing components as described in the assembly manual. Dar gave some suggestions on how to install components such as placing resistors so that the color code positions are consistent, capacitor values are easily readable, and diode polarities are correct. For kits that have toroids, he recommended winding them first, as many kit builders will keep putting off that task and never get around to finishing the project.

Dar stated that good soldering techniques can be a problem for beginners. Using slides, he described how to recognize good and bad solder joints and how to make the good ones. To prevent damage to transistors and diodes, he recommended placing a small heat sink on the lead between the semiconductor and the connection being soldered. Also, surface mount components require their own techniques: add soldering paste (which has a lower melting point) to the location, stick on the part, then use an embossing gun to melt the solder. He also stated that a toaster oven works great for removing surface mount components from commercial boards.

Once the kit is built, what if it doesn't work? Dar provided some tips on what to do in that situation. First, check your work; see if everything is properly installed. Look for diodes in backwards, resistors swapped, and bad solder connections. Get someone else to double-check it. Sometimes they'll see something that you'll miss. Also, some manufacturers provide phone consultation. Check the Internet for a solution. Sometimes just entering the model number and a brief description of the problem will result in a list of URLs with possible solutions. If all else fails, and the manual has a troubleshooting section and schematic diagrams, you may be able to locate the problem using a voltmeter or oscilloscope.

**(Kit Building** *continued on page 7.*)



**(Kit Building** *continued from page 6.*)

Dar covered a lot of interesting material during the meeting, more than can be described here, but paraphrasing his summation probably says it best: Radios are fun, and building them from kits add to the enjoyment.

In all, it was an excellent presentation and, as stated in the beginning of this article, educational for both beginners and experienced kit builders.

*[Among his many accomplishments, Dar W9HCZ is one of the founders of the Midwest Home Brewers and QRP Group ([www.hbqrp.org](http://www.hbqrp.org)), which meets at the Bredeaux Pizza restaurant in Ashland, Nebraska on the second Saturday of the month. There, they build kits, eat good food, and discuss amateur radio. He's also an Assistant Section Manager for Nebraska, a leader in the Nebraska Elmer Squad, has conducted kit building seminars at various ham fests, and has consulted with researchers at Cornell University on satellite communications.]*

*Bill KCØSVZ*

## **Update From USS Hazard**

*[Email from Peter KE7RDM to AARC and forwarded by Corby KØSKW, 24 January 2013.]*

Dear Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club,

I apologize for the late nature of this letter, but still wanted to thank you all for your generous contribution to the USS Hazard Radio Room Project and the acquisition of the original in-the-crate TBS-7 radio. If you have followed our Facebook page at all, you may have seen that our site manager, Bill Lee, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly. As you might imagine, he left large shoes to fill and we have been scrambling to pick up where he left off. It has been very busy as we work to re-open the park without him. It is for this reason that this letter finds you so late. Regardless, we move forward and ever closer to re-opening. Every day noticeable progress can be seen.

In the spring, we will install the TBS, which is due to arrive from PA on Jan 20th! We continue to find and look for parts for the TBL and will begin installing new capacitors in the receivers shortly. Once restoration of the vintage equipment is complete, one or two feed lines for modern equipment will be installed to make it easier for hams to bring their own equipment and operate from the historic radio room as well. We at the park hope you will continue to be involved as we work to make this and other projects happen. The support the Ak-Sar-Ben club has rendered is more valuable than we can put to words. I look forward, as do my colleagues, to a long working relationship between our two organizations. Thank you for all you have done.

May you face fair skies and keep water beneath your keel,

*Peter Dalieri KE7RDM  
USS Hazard Radio Room Manager*