

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc
 P.O. Box 24551
 Omaha, NE 681240551
 KØUSA 146.940(-)/224.940
 Web Page: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>
 E-Mail: k0usa@aksarbenarc.org



Membership Form 2009

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

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

Personal Information

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member ? Yes No

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Spouse Information (Complete Only For Spouse Applying at Same Time)

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

Minor Dependent (Complete Only For Minors Applying at the Same Time)

Callsign	License Class	Name	ARRL Member?
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Annual Dues

(January thru December)

For Club Use Only – DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Full Member | \$20.00 year | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Accompanying Spouse | \$ 4.00 year | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Accompanying Minor Dependent | \$ 4.00 year x # of minors renewing | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Student Member (full time student) | \$ 8.00 year | Amount: _____ |

Total Paid: _____

Mail to:

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
 P.O. Box 24551
 Omaha, NE 68124

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LIX, Issue 3

March 2009

Siren Test 2009

Please mark your calendars, Wednesday April 8th and Saturday April 11th, 2009 will be the annual siren test in Douglas County.

The test will begin at approximately 10:00 am on Wednesday, and will be done by 10:20 am. The test on Saturday will also begin at 10:00 am, and most likely continue until shortly after 11:00 am. ARES and REACT will again be checking all the sirens in the county. The net will begin about 9:45 on April 8th and 9:00 am on April 11th. If you can assist, please contact Steve N0UP, n0up@arrl.net (402)306-2972

Steve N0UP

Nebraska QSO Party

April 25 & 26 Please spread the word!

Rules have been updated online at: <http://www.hdxa.net>

Changes this year include:

Only (1)one plaque awarded for overall.

Certificates will be awarded via log submission format.

New mailing address for snail mail submissions.



Spotter Training 2008



It is almost time for the annual spotter training. Brian Smith will be hosting the classes that run between 1 1/2 and 2 hours and provide a basic understanding of storm structure, reporting criteria and procedures. No registration is necessary simply plan to attend a class near by. In the Omaha Metro Area you can plan on attending:

April 1, 7:00 p.m. at the Sarpy County Fire Training Academy.

April 6, 7:00 p.m. at the Boystown National Headquarters Auditorium at 14100 Crawford Street.

For other locations and times please consult

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/skywarn/outreach.php>

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 (2009)	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net
Vice President (2009)	Dick Jones	N6KVA		
2008-2009 Board (Secretary)	Doug Rathman	NGØK	402-493-7369	dlrathman@cox.net
2008-2009 Board (Treasurer)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
2008-2009 Board	Dan Olsen	KD7GSW		
2008-2009 Board	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
2009-2010 Board	Greg Carlson	N7JOD	402-305-2009	
2009-2010 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AE0EG@arrl.net

Standing Committee Chairs

Programs	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Education	Open Contact	Corby Krick	k0skw@k0skw.net	for more information
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Publications	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7774	wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		eedwards@tconl.com

Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net
Vice Chairman	Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	402-690-0000	dswenson@wearne.net
Member	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net

Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Special Events Coordinator	Greg Ervin	KCØVTO	402-445-0317	gervin1@cox.net
ARRL Midwest Director	Bruce Frahm	KØBJ	785-462-7388	k0bj@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
NE Section Manager	Art Zygielbaum	KØAIZ		
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
Section EC	Jim Hitz	KCØDVG	402-642-2040	kc0dvg@arrl.net
EC Douglas County	Darwin Piatt	W9HZC	402-991-0412	w9hzc@cox.net
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN		
EC Washington County	Don Morgan	KBØVIY	402-427-7111	kb0viy@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net

Contest Calendar

March, 2009

North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
SARL VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z, Mar 20 to 1000Z, Mar 22
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 21
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2400Z, Mar 29

April, 2009

Missouri QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 4 to 2400Z, Apr 5
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 11 to 2359Z, Apr 12
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 18 to 0400Z, Apr 19
EU Spring Sprint, SSB	1600Z-1959Z, Apr 18
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 18 to 1800Z, Apr 19
QRP to the Field	1500Z, Apr 25 to 0300Z, Apr 26
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 25 to 2159Z, Apr 26
Nebraska QSO Party	1700Z, Apr 25 to 1700Z, Apr 26 For

Details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Upcoming Events

March 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 6:00 PM Red Cross
March 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
March 21	LARC End of Winter Hamfest/Nebraska State Convention Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln NE
March 28	Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium. University of Nebraska, Lincoln http://www.cpsws.unl.edu/ .
March 31	HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross
April 1	Spotter Training, 7:00 PM, Fire Training Academy, 3100 Cornhusker Rd Bellevue
April 6	Spotter Training, 7:00 PM, Boys Town
April 8 & 11	Douglas County Siren test, 10:00 am n0up@arrl.net for info
April 18	Ararat Hambash, KC, MO. www.hambash.com
April 19	MS Walk, Noon-5 pm UNO Campus kc0oyt@arrl.net for info
April 25 & 26	Nebraska QSO Party www.hdxa.net for info
May 2 & 9	BARC Technician License Class 9-3 McArdle Suite, Midlands Hospital, education@bellevuearc.org for info
May 2	Safety Expo, Westroads Mall, n0trk@arrl.net for info
May 15-17	Dayton Hamvention
May 15 & 16	Nebraska State Track Meet, k0ctu@arrl.net for info
May 26	HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross

Ham Hum Delivery

If you would like the Ham Hum delivered electronically by email, please let N0UP n0up@cox.net know. We will make sure your hum arrives when the mailed hum would arrive. This is an opt-out of receiving the Hum by mail only. If you do not request an emailed copy, you will continue to receive it by postal mail. Ed.

MS Walk

The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club will once again provide radio communication support for the Multiple Sclerosis Society during their fund raising Omaha MS Walk on Sunday, April 19th, 2008 from noon to 5 pm. Radio operators will be needed along the route to help coordinate the walk.

Operators will need, at a minimum, a 2m handheld (with an extra battery) or a 2m mobile. Some areas on the route may require the power/antenna from a mobile to hit the repeater reliably so your assignment may depend on your equipment. My 5 watt Kenwood D71A and G71 HTs with a 17" whip antenna worked very well. However, the stock rubber duck antenna did not.

For those new hams, this is a perfect way to get started with community service as well as practice some basic net control procedures. There are usually several experienced hams at the event as well, so there is something for everyone!

The walk will start at the Scott Conference Center on the UNO Campus, continue through Elmwood Park, cross over the pedestrian bridge into Memorial Park and then circle back.

The event this year has a new afternoon start time. Registration is open for the walkers beginning at noon. Lunch will also be served at noon with the walk starting at 1 pm. Radio operators should plan on arriving at 11:30 am, check in with net control, get their shirt, have some lunch and receive any last minute assignments, etc. The event should end around 5 pm.

If you can be a part of our team, or if you have any questions, please send me an e-mail or call me at 402-964-9960. Please let me know your contact information, shirt size and radio capabilities.

Rob Buchholz, KCØOYT
Callsign at arrl.net

ARRL Nebraska State Convention

End of Winter Hamfest

Hosted by Lincoln Amateur Radio Club

March 21, 2009

**Lancaster Event Center
84th and Havelock**

HOURS

Saturday 8 AM to 4:00 PM

EXHIBITORS

D & L Antennas; Burghardt Amateur Center

PRIZES

Great Hourly Prizes!

Grand Prize Drawing at 4 PM

FORUMS

D-Star; Forecasting Next Storm Season; County Hunting;
DX for Beginners; Kit Building; DXpeditions;
Stealth Antennas; Contesting

ADMISSION & TABLE PRICES

Entry for those 18 and over will be \$5.00 each,
no charge for anyone under 18.

TALK-IN

KØKKV 146.16/76

D-Star 145.25(-) WØMAO

APRS beacon on 144.39

MORE INFORMATION

For additional information you can go to

<http://www.lincolnhamfest.org>

Chairman – Joe Eisenberg, [KONEB](#)

General Manager – Reynolds Davis, [KOGND](#)

Treasurer - Carla Dawson, [KCODFR](#)

For sale

Drake TR-7 HF transceiver, TS-7 power supply, and MN-7 matching antenna network with manuals. All are in very good condition and operational. Asking \$1,000 for everything. Bob Lockwood WA0DHU, 592-9858, rlockne@msn.com

FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith Visits ARRL

FCC Special Counsel Laura Smith visited ARRL Headquarters on March 5 and 6, her first official visit as Special Counsel. Smith was named to the position earlier this year, filling the vacancy created when Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, [retired](#) in 2008; Hollingsworth served in that position for more than 10 years as the Commission's enforcement watchdog over the Amateur Radio Service.

While at Headquarters, Smith visited with various departments, such as the Lab, the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator ([VEC](#)), the Regulatory Information Branch and Membership and Volunteer Programs (MVP).

Spending all Thursday afternoon with ARRL Lab staff, Smith discussed power line noise and how it can affect Amateur Radio. "Since Riley had retired last year, very little had been done at the FCC with regard to the power line noise enforcement," said ARRL Laboratory Engineer and power line noise expert Mike Gruber, W1MG. "The Lab staff discussed the status of the [ARRL-FCC Cooperative Agreement](#) on power line noise with Laura and how best to proceed forward. While the ARRL is not in the enforcement business, the Cooperative Agreement was an attempt to help the FCC focus its limited resources in the area where they are most needed -- enforcement. The ARRL's goal is to help resolve as many of these cases as possible with technical and other help *before* they ever get to the FCC."

Gruber also briefed Smith on some power line noise basics, including a demonstration of some professional grade locating equipment. Using a Model T spark coil as a noise source, Gruber was able to show Smith how a utility can locate power line noise - in many cases, without too much difficulty.

According to ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, the FCC committed to Smith visiting the ARRL once she accepted the position. "I think this visit has been a very productive two days. We are getting to know Laura, and she is getting to know our organization and what we, as the ARRL, can do to help her make her job easier to help the amateur community as a whole," Henderson said. "I just kind of played tour guide and facilitated the visit, introducing her to all the departments here at Headquarters."

Smith, a lawyer, is no stranger to the FCC or Amateur Radio. She began her legal career with the Commission, working in the Mass Media Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau ([WTTB](#)), working with Senior System Analyst Bill Cross, W3TN; she also served as Deputy Division Chief of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division. Smith also knew Hollingsworth through her father-in-law Richard M. Smith, former Chief of the Field Operations Bureau, at the time responsible for all FCC field engineering and enforcement activities. Richard Smith led many investigations of illegal uses of the radio spectrum, including the successful apprehension of "[Captain Midnight](#)" who overrode a satellite television

broadcast signal. Smith also served as Chief of the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology ([OET](#)).

"Riley worked for my father-in-law for years," Smith said. "My father-in-law was the Chief of the Field Operations Bureau at the FCC for 25 years. So enforcement is actually something that is a long-standing family tradition. A member of my family -- the Smith family -- has worked at the FCC continuously since 1964: Myself, my husband and my father-in-law."

Calling Hollingsworth "irreplaceable," Smith said what he did for the Commission and for the amateur community was "amazing. He volunteered for that job. He stood up and said, 'I'm an amateur. I love this community and I want to give back to it.' This position needs to be filled by somebody who is interested in doing it long-term. This [job] is not a stepping stone; it's not a short term process. This wouldn't work if I were trying to be Riley. I'm not going to be Riley. We're very different people. But we both have the same goal: To make the amateur community better."

Smith emphasized that an Amateur Radio license is "a privilege, not a right. When you come to the FCC and you sign up for a license and you get that license, you have agreed to abide by those Rules. That is inherent in the application process. As an applicant and a licensee, you have said, 'I will hereby comply with the Rules that have been enacted by the FCC.' So you have said, 'I will adhere to that.' And if you choose not to, then you are subject to losing that privilege."

Smith is not yet a licensed amateur. She said that she will get her license "someday," but that she did not want to get her license just because her job involves Amateur Radio: "I didn't want to come into this job and become a ham, saying, 'I'm getting this job so I'm going to be a ham -- not because I'm interested in being a ham, but because it looks better on paper.' So ultimately I will become a ham." Smith said that her father-in-law, when stationed in the FCC's Field Office in Los Angeles, used to administer the Morse code test to prospective licensees: "So he has challenged me that before I can become an amateur on any level, I must learn Morse code and I must pass the test with him administering the Morse code. So I have a challenge. I am going to begin learning Morse code this summer. He is going to start teaching me, so once I have sufficient proficiency, then he will let me take the [Technician] test."

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Nebraska State High School Track Meet

May 15-16 at Burke High in Omaha. We will be on hand to use our radio skills to help the officials and athletes in case of emergencies or any other communications help that they might need. Events start at around 8:30 AM and run through the day.

For more info contact Pat Joseph k0ctu@arrl.net