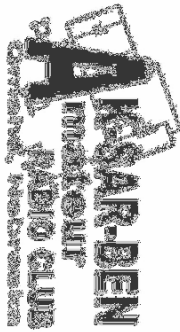


PO Box 24551  
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**AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.**

# Ham Hum

**Volume LVI, Issue 8**

**August 2006**

## **Prez Sez**

By Bill McCollum, KEØXQ

I hope all of you are able to cope with the high temperatures we have had over the last couple of weeks. Be sure to have plenty of water with you if you should venture out in this hot weather. It was great seeing the mobile installations at the last club meeting. I must get busy and install my IC-706 in my personal van, as well as my IC-2720 dual bander in my company vehicle. Six meters has been open recently and I have made about a dozen contacts on that band with my IC-746 PRO and Cushcraft R6000 vertical. The Boyer Valley ARC's Flea Market will be on September 17th. We can still use some volunteers for our club's Hamfest that will be held on October 8th. If you are interested in helping out, contact a club officer or board member. Hope to see you at the next meeting on August 11th.

### **What was your FIRST experience that got you into HAM RADIO?**

Mine was WØWRT who lived just a block away. He told me to persist in learning Morse and at 15 years old I DID and I did it in my parents living room with a Radio Shack 100-in-1 kit oscillator. (Drove my parents NUTS!) But I passed my Novice and was W"N"ØQPP then. Remember the "N"s when that meant "Novice", what got me interested was SWL.

73's (Amateur Radio for Best Wishes)  
Scott WBØQPP

Per Aspera, Ad Astra  
Through Our Efforts, To The Stars...

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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](mailto:hamhum@aksarbenarc.org). Please contact the editor for permission to reprint anything appearing in the Ham Hum

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Treasurer (2006-20057Board)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	<a href="mailto:bzdan@novia.net">bzdan@novia.net</a>
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## Standing Committee Chairs

Education	Mike Sullivan	KBØTHC		
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Repeater	Darrel Swenson	KØAWB		<a href="mailto:dswenson@wearne.net">dswenson@wearne.net</a>
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QSL Manager	Ed Edwards	KØIL		<a href="mailto:eedwards@tconl.com">eedwards@tconl.com</a>

## Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	<a href="mailto:bzdan@novia.net">bzdan@novia.net</a>
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ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Bruce Frahm	KØBJ	N/A	<a href="mailto:k0bj@arrl.org">k0bj@arrl.org</a>
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EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	<a href="mailto:ks0l@arrl.net">ks0l@arrl.net</a>

## Upcoming Events

August 11	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
August 15	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
September 8	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
September 12	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
September 17	Boyer Valley ARC Flea Market, Missouri Valley IA
September 26	AK-SAR-BEN ARC/HDXA VE Session, 7:00 PM, Red Cross
October 8	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Hamfest, Omaha NE

## Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to members. Send an email with the wording exactly as you want it printed to [hamhum@aksarbenarc.org](mailto:hamhum@aksarbenarc.org) or mail your ad to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha NE 68124. Ads must be received by the third Friday of the Month to be included in the next Ham Hum.

**For Sale**, Cliffdwellier slinky dipole antenna 80-10 must use tuner \$20.00, Isotron 15 & 20 Meter antennas \$35.00 Each. Contact Steve NØUP at [n0up@cox.net](mailto:n0up@cox.net) or call 402-306-2972

## Request for Ham Hum Articles

I am looking for some articles for publication in the Ham Hum. Some ideas are how did you get interested in Ham Radio, unique experiences you have had due to Ham Radio or anything else that is radio related. Articles can be anywhere from the length of this request to several pages. They may be published at any time (I might save it for a while).

Please submit articles to [n0up@cox.net](mailto:n0up@cox.net) and put Ham Hum in the subject line or mail to the PO Box listed in the contacts section.

Steve NØUP

## Ham Hum Delivery

If you would like the Ham Hum delivered electronically by email, please let NØUP [n0up@cox.net](mailto:n0up@cox.net) or WA6POZ [wa6poz@arr.net](mailto:wa6poz@arr.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.

## Contest Calendar

### August, 2006

WAE DX Contest, CW Maryland-DC QSO Party	0000Z, Aug 12 to 2359Z, Aug 13 1600Z, Aug 12 to 0400Z, Aug 13 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 13
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Aug 19 to 2400 local, Aug 20
North American QSO Party, SSB New Jersey QSO Party	1800Z, Aug 19 to 0600Z, Aug 20 2000Z, Aug 19 to 0700Z, Aug 20 1300Z, Aug 20 to 0200Z, Aug 21 0700Z, Aug 26 to 2200Z, Aug 27
Hawaii QSO Party Keyman's Club of Japan Contest YO DX HF Contest Ohio QSO Party Kentucky QSO Party	1200Z, Aug 26 to 1200Z, Aug 27 1200Z, Aug 26 to 1200Z, Aug 27 1600Z, Aug 26 to 0400Z, Aug 27 1600Z, Aug 27 to 0400Z, Aug 28

### September, 2006

All Asian DX Contest, Phone Russian RTTY WW Contest RSGB SSB Field Day IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB ARRL September VHF QSO Party Tennessee QSO Party FISTS Get Your Feet Wet Weekend South Carolina QSO Party QRP Afield QCWA Fall QSO Party North American Sprint, SSB 144 MHz Fall Sprint CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY Texas QSO Party	0000Z, Sep 2 to 2400Z, Sep 3 0000Z-2400Z, Sep 2 1300Z, Sep 2 to 1300Z, Sep 3 1300Z, Sep 2 to 1259Z, Sep 3 1800Z, Sep 9 to 0300Z, Sep 11 1800Z, Sep 10 to 0100Z, Sep 11 0000Z, Sep 15 to 2400Z, Sep 17 1300Z, Sep 16 to 2100Z, Sep 17 1500Z-2100Z, Sep 16 1800Z, Sep 16 to 1800Z, Sep 17 0000Z-0400Z, Sep 17 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 18 0000Z, Sep 23 to 2400Z, Sep 24 1400Z, Sep 23 to 0200Z, Sep 24 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 24
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint 222 MHz Fall Sprint CIS DX Contest Arkansas QSO Party	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 25 1900 local - 2300 local, Sep 26 1200Z, Sep 30 to 1200Z, Oct 1 1600Z, Sep 30 to 0600Z, Oct 1 1800Z, Oct 1 to 0200Z, Oct 2
FISTS Coast to Coast Contest	1800Z, Sep 30 to 1800Z, Oct 1

For details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

## **Veep Speaks**

This month, we have a very special guest joining us for the August AARC club meeting. Dr. Jim Newland, KØEMC will be giving a short talk on "Stealth Antennas." This should be very interesting as many Amateur Radio operators now have to hide their antennas due to covenants and restrictions. I hope that many of you will be able to join us for a fascinating look into the world of STEALTH!

As you're driving to the club meeting on August 11, turn your 2m radio to 146.94; the KØUSA repeater. Let's have some action on the repeater and talk up the club meeting. We should have a Talk-In coordinator that can even help people that are new to the area and don't know exactly how to get to the Red Cross. If you hear a new callsign come on the air, come back to them and make sure they know about the AKSARBEN ARC and the club meeting on Friday night!

I'm sure by now, all of you have Sunday, October 8 circled on your calendars. That's the date of the AKSARBEN HAMFEST at the Millard American Legion in Millard. I would like to thank those of you that volunteered to help out that day - it's only with YOUR help that we can make this HAMFEST a successful one! Do you want a table for the HAMFEST? Now is the time to order one, or two, or three! Email me [kk0dx@cox.net](mailto:kk0dx@cox.net) and I'll get you all of the information you need to get those tables to sell your goodies.

A few of you have expressed an interest in being a bit more involved in AARC Club activities! You are MORE than welcome to attend the monthly AARC Board meeting on Tuesday, August 15 at 7:00pm. A lot of ideas about club business are discussed and it's yet another good chance to get to know YOUR CLUB!

I hope to see you all at this Friday's club meeting. Bring a friend and learn about those "Stealthy" antennas!

-73, Todd - KKØDX

### **VANITY CALL SIGN FEE TO DROP SEPTEMBER 6**

The regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will drop slightly starting with applications received by the FCC on or after Wednesday, September 6, the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) said this week. The new fee will be \$20.80 for the 10-year license term. This year promises to be a big one for vanity call sign renewals, since the initial round of vanity grants under the current system occurred in 1996. Licensees who want to retain vanity call signs issued under the current (post-1995) system must pay the regulatory fee when renewing.  
From The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 31, August 4, 2006

# AK-SAR-BEN HAMFEST '06

**Sunday, October 8, 2006**  
**9:00am - 2:00pm**

**\*Large Vendor Area\***  
**Admission - \$3**

- ARRL VE Exams
- Kitbuilding Forum\*
- ARRL Forum\*
- APRS Forum\*

### Super Door Prizes

- Yaesu 1802M 2m Mobile
- Vertex VX-150 2m HT
- 144/440 Base Antenna
- 12v Switching PS
- And So Much More!

Talk-In on 146.94-  
K0USA/R



*An ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest*

**MILLARD AMERICAN LEGION HALL**  
**4618 South 139th Street, Omaha, NE**

*For more information contact*  
**Todd, KK0DX - [kk0dx@cox.net](mailto:kk0dx@cox.net)**

**<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>**

## Make a Wish Bicycle Ride

Jim, KC0SHZ is assisting Make a Wish with their bicycle ride this year. It is a good case that can use all of our help.

The ride will take place on Sunday 9/24 starting in Percival, Iowa and looping around the Missouri River bluffs and valley. I am recruiting Hams to help with communications on the ride. Anyone interested can contact me at [kc0shz@yahoo.com](mailto:kc0shz@yahoo.com)

## IN EARLIER DAYS

Before I got my ham ticket 5 meters was our high frequency band. While in high school a friend and I built a portable 5 meter rig. Neither of us were licensed. In fact there were quite a few unlicensed operations in Omaha at that time. The RI (Radio Inspector) made frequent visits to Omaha and when he did come word quickly got out and antennas came down and the band became silent. After a week or so our illegal activities resumed, and so did studies for licenses. At that time the code speed requirement was 13 wpm. The examination required written answers and drawn circuit diagrams. Des Moines or Kansas City was the closest place for taking the exam.

The thing I remember most about our first portable rig was it's weight. Since neither of us had a car we walked. Those old 1 ½ volt dry cells and 45 volt batteries were heavy. We were not mobile we were portable. A black suit case contained our receiver and transmitter which had to be opened to get on the air.

As I remember, the transmitter was a single 19 type tube in a tuned plate, tuned grid push pull circuit, and loop modulated. That is, a loop of wire from a telephone F1 microphone was carefully inserted into the plate tank circuit. Looking back, this form of modulation worked fairly well in low power rigs, but I wouldn't recommend it for KW rigs. I believe the receiver was also a one tube affair, and ear phones were the state of the art.

In my last year of high school I studied for my license. The examination was to be changed to multiple choice answers. Great. But a week before our planned trip to Des Moines for the exam we got word that the new multiple choice exam was delayed. Frantically we prepared to write everything out long hand. I made it, and in 1940 I received W9PHW as my call.

John, W0PHW

## News

The ARRL has announced that, due to changes in its definitions of political vs. geographic entities in the DXCC rules, **Swain's Island is now considered a separate DXCC entity**. The island is part of American Samoa, but is more than 350 kilometers from the main island group, so it qualifies under the geographic separation rule. Contacts made with Swain's Island on or after July 22, 2006, will be counted for DXCC credit.

**New Technician Class Question Pool is Effective July 1 (Jun 30, 2006) --** A significantly revised and updated Technician class (Element 2) question pool goes into effect for all Technician class examinations offered as of Saturday, July 1. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, says ARRL VEC is ready for the changeover.