



HAM HUM

March 1962

Vol. XII
No. 3



HEART FUND DRIVE

The annual Heart Fund drive was held on Sunday, February 25th, with ten mobile units participating and with a 2 meter link between Heart Fund headquarters and the net control station on 6 meters. The net control station is located in the Red Cross Building where we have a permanently located rig on 6 meters. This rig consists of a G50 and a Hy-Gain ground plane antenna. The antenna is not yet permanently installed as we are waiting for warmer weather. The 2 meter gear was brought in by

WØVLI, Lou Cutler
 KØKNJ, Jim Kilton
 KØIAN, Joe Stoupa
 KØPQP, Dick Grimshaw
 KØJBL, Dave McLaughlin
 KØUKN, Bill Dennis
 WØCES, Ernie Bowerman
 WØWRT, John Snyder
 WØCCD, "Grandma" Pickert
 WØCQX, Ed Gutmann

Particular emphasis was put on this drive to the problems of dispatching. Several fellows were in the net control station for the purpose of studying dispatching to see where we can make improvements. Should any of you have any suggestions to make regarding this

WØVLI and KØLYO as we do not have any 2 meter equipment at the net control station as yet. We do, however, have a 5 element Hy-Gain beam which also will be permanently installed with the coming of the birds.

Our response to the request for mobile operations was terrific. In fact, some mobiles were excused as we only needed 10 mobiles for this particular drive. The mobile operations are under the Mobile Committee, headed by WØVLI, Lou Cutler. Those participating in the drive were as follows:

WØYZV, Dick Eilers
 KØSCE, Ken Borchert
 KØETA, Fred Kajawa
 WØNKG, Gerry Armstrong
 KØGHK, Hugh Tinley
 KØLYO, Royal Enders
 KØKEO, Joe Roberts
 KØKCK, Larry Donnelly
 KØTVD, Chuck Sudds

type of operation, please forward them to P. O. Box 291 or to WØVLI or KØLYO.

Our thanks go to those who participated. If we have missed your name on the list our special thanks go to you too.

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DX BULL . etin

Oh, for the "good old days" when DX was so plentiful you could be choosy about the call you answered. Them days is gone forever the way 10, 15 and 20 have been the past few weeks. The boys who spend most of their time chasing DX on 40 and 75 have a different tune however. Both of these bands are gaining in popularity with each passing week, and more and more tall vertical antennas are springing up above the horizon to pull in the long skip signals from all parts of the globe. In fact some of the lower frequency addicts tell me they are working overseas with plain old folded dipoles and doublets, strung not too high off the ground either.

In tuning around the 20 meter band the other day I heard VP2GE calling CQ on AM and so I gave him a call. He gave his QTH as Grenada and a quick check of the log file system showed no Grenada contacts from my station. A check of the call book also showed that Grenada counts as a separate country for DXCC. In fact I noticed for

the first time (some guys are awfully dense) that those innocent looking VP2 calls can total up to a tidy sum of ELEVEN DX countries. What's more Al, VP2GE, mentioned that the first letter following the number 2 indicated on what island the operator was located. So next time you hear a VP2 on the band check and see if you have worked that particular island - it may be you can pick up a new country.

Bob, WØSFU
de--Splatter, Minneapolis

The Air Force Reserve Recovery Group at Ft. Omaha is looking for former servicemen to join their unit to help man the MARS Station and other communications units. Interested Generals are asked to contact Bob Miller, Major, AF Res. KØZLY at 553-7005 anytime. Not only are you serving your country, you have Reserve retirement coming and best of all you're doing work that is of prime interest to you as your hobby. The flag is out fellas, how about it!



PREXY

SEZ—



By Royal Enders, KØLYO,
1962 Club President

CQ CQ CQ de KØLYO

TNX for the many remarks and comments about last month's column. Your cards, land-line calls and QSO's are greatly appreciated, including those from fellow hams who are not as yet members of Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. We wish to issue a permanent invitation to both members and non-members to continue to comment and to give us your ideas.

Club members, this is YOUR club and the officers and board of trustees want to know what you want and need from YOUR club. Perhaps we can't put every idea or wish into our club activities this year, but we'll sure try! call or write "Prexy" or any 1962 officer or board member. The complete list was published in the January issue.

We are greatly encouraged by the membership applications we are receiving; it looks as though we'll be voting on new applications at about every membership meeting. Now - let's give the newly elected members a hearty welcome into the club's activities.

Board members: watch these new members for committee talent and let's put them to work!

Last month's Ham Hum was sent to the call book listings for Douglas, Washington, and Sarpy Counties. Let's encourage these hams in surrounding communities to unite with us in our goal of promoting the welfare, the hobby, the civic service, the art and the fun of Ham Radio. When you have a QSO - be sure to sign as "Member of Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, in the biggest livestock center in the world, Omaha, Nebraska Section." We can become the "On-the-air Chamber of Commerce."

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a report of the current activities of the CD-MARS-Red Cross-National Guard Committee. I know we can be of great civic assistance to our community, our county, our country. The work of this committee, headed by Dick Eilers, WØYZV, will help standardize our work in communications during any emergency, and enable us to work more efficient-

February 21, 1962

ly, to do a better job, and raise the status and prestige of our club and ham radio as a whole.

Our thanks to Lou Cutler, WØVLI, Club Secretary, and his mobile committee for organizing and assisting in providing communications and mobile pickups for the 1962 Heart Fund Drive on Sunday, February 25th. Nice job, Lou! In fact, you even had amateurs working who are not yet club members. (Membership committee, please note.)

Larry Schumacher, KØSJD, Club Treasurer, reports progress in the Code and Theory classes which are being held each Wednesday and Friday evening at Creighton Prep. Call Larry, 451-4725, for further information. Do you know someone who wants this coaching? Let's keep this educational activity in high gear.

In addition to voting on some new members, it will be necessary at the March membership meeting (and pancake supper) to ratify an action of the Board of Trustees. John Orr, WØPHW, because of the time involved in building a new home, was forced to resign as a member of the Board.

According to the Constitution of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., his resignation was submitted to the Board of Trustees who voted to accept it.

Larry Caccamo, WØNMN, was selected by the Board to fill the unexpired term, subject to ratification by the membership at the next membership meeting.

C U L at the pancake supper, Friday night, March 9th. More next month.

73 AR Royal

Mr. R. M. Enders, President
Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club
7625 Meredith
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Enders:

The Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club really went "all out" to help with the Eye Bank drive, and the Omaha Lions Club are deeply appreciative of what they did.

As you may know, there are ten persons who have had successful transplants at the University of Nebraska Hospital from eyes contributed through the Lions Club Eye Bank. We know that your people will share with us in the spiritual gratification that comes from making it possible for blind persons to have their sight restored. There can be no greater gift than the gift of sight.

The number of pledge cards now on file in the Nebraska Eye Bank office totals nine thousand of which about two thousand have been acquired in the Omaha area during January and February of this year. This accomplishment is due in great part to the fine publicity given to the Eye Bank drive by the radio and press. What they did for us was greatly accentuated and glamorized by the activities of your fine organization.

Again, may I say thanks to all of the fine people in the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club who worked so hard and effectively in our campaign.

Sincerely,
M. L. Mead
President
Omaha Lions Club

68 degrees, sunny
Hi gang, I just got my copy of Ham
Hum and was sure glad to receive it.
I will depend on it to keep in touch
with my Omaha friends. I am on the
air on 40 CW and am having a ball.

→ local QRM, I'm the only ham in
a radius of 50 miles. We are fringe
area TV here, and I have a 125' tower
in the back yard. My dipole is tied
about 90' up, and slopes to the garage
roof. Boy, does that get out! My
little 60 watt teapot roars like a lion
with that on the end. I am thinking
seriously of going 40SSB, but will
still spend most of my time on CW.
I would sure like to make some skeds
with those of you who still practice
the ancient art to brass pounding.
I will let you know what my new call
is as soon as I get my ticket back
from Washington.

73 and will be glad to hear from
the gang.

Dick Reimund, WOLF/5

FOR SALE

SX-101A with 6&2 meter converters.
Globe Champ 300A factory wired.
Also have some instruments to go.
Call or come see-

Joe Berounsky, KØQDB
3227 Seward Street
Phone 551-0647

FOR SALE

- 1 - Ham M Rotor and control.
- 1 - Hornet TB - 3 Beam.

Both brand new - for one or both call
Bill Kaiser, KØRQA
453-6470

Wud like to see u fellows at
LaCrosse on 7140 cw when band
is gud. 2000-2030 hrs. Sat.

Bob KQIAM ex K9LYO

FOR SALE

Heath DX1 apache mint con-
dition. Make offer. Also B1 Heath
Balun coil assembly, \$10.00. Both
nearly new.

Stephen Looney, KØOUL

4603 Greenwood, Lincoln, Nebr.

Phone: 453-1581

FOR SALE

Central Electronics 10B and
anti-trip mint condition, only used
2 to 3 hours, factory wired \$150.00.
Only one month old.

Johnson Ranger II, factory
wired, mint condition, only used
about 10 to 12 hours, about two
months old. \$300.00.

M. W. Costello
4714 No. 81st. St.
Omaha, Nebr.

Phone: 393-2087

WANTED: Eimac socket for 4x150A
or 4x250 tube, used or new. Will
pay reasonable cash price or willing
to swap various items.

John, WQWRT
3221 So. 45 St.
556-1538

FROM THE 27TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FCC

The Federal Communications Commission Report (for fiscal '60) shows 222,170 amateur stations authorized as of June 30, 1961, a substantial increase for the year. Operator authorizations numbered 216,720, up 10,720 on the year. Over two million pieces of mail were received or dispatched at Washington, an increase of 330,000 for the year. FCC's report (page 82) has this to say about amateurs:

"Public Service is the keynote of Amateur Operation. A large part of disaster emergency and civil defense communications service is performed through the Radio Amateurs Civil Emergency Service (RACES). In addition to peace time operation, RACES will function during wartime, when other amateur activities must cease, so that amateur radio may continue to furnish essential public service communications."

Technical developments within amateur radio were emphasized and exemplified by Project Oscar and the successful bouncing of U.H.F. signals off the moon. The 155-page FCC report indicates the scope of FCC authority and its full activities under the Communications Act. Besides the sections of special amateur interest, the report contains an FCC Organization Chart, data on the broadcast service, chapters on National Defense, Frequency Allocation and Space Communication. The work of the Field Engineering and Monitoring Bureau is covered

likewise and FCC's just released 27th Annual Report (for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1961) may be obtained from Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. for 45¢.

Our Amateur Division is part of Safety and Special Radio Services Bureau. This deals with the largest group of users (about 40 classes of radio operations) under FCC. One-fourth of FCC's 1396 employees are in the Field Engineering & Monitoring Bureau. There are 18 monitoring stations, 24 district offices, 5 sub offices and two marine FCC offices plus, of course, cars and monitoring units. FCC engineers made 11,600 inspections of stations (all services) resulting in issuance of 10,200 violation notices in fiscal '61. 247 cases of unlicensed radio operation were detected, 47,600 D.F. bearings given, 820 of these to ships and planes in distress. 90,500 signals were identified as to point of origin.

There were 20 station license revocation proceedings and 23 amateur operator's suspension proceedings which Safety and Special Services was concerned with in fiscal '61. Two of these cases involved the transmission of profane, indecent or obscene language, the overall FCC work report showing 23 such indecent language cases in '61. Incidentally, the first prosecution for using indecent language relating to the Citizens Band resulted in a court placing the licensee on

the new march of dimes

CERTIFICATE

of appreciation

for outstanding voluntary service

IS AWARDED TO

Ar-bar-Ben Radio Clubs

for generous and meaningful support, enabling the National Foundation to continue its efforts toward the complete conquest of poliomyelitis, and to move forward toward its new goal — the prevention and relief of human suffering from the impairments and indignities of other crippling diseases. For such service, the National Foundation is profoundly grateful.



Chairman

NFF

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Founder



President

Dear Gladys

Dear Gladys:

Sorry to hear Homer went to the asylum after learning code, but don't worry. When he starts operating nobody will ever notice.

Listen, Gladys, this is just between us girls. I don't suppose they had Field Day at Chattahoochee, but I'm warning you in advance. When it comes up next year, don't go.

The first I knew about it was when Clyde said it was coming up next week and he had told the club I'd make potato salad. He knows how proud I am of my recipe. (It's like what I make for the Bridge Club only for men I leave out the marshmallows and put in three onions.)

Clyde was suppose to stay out there all night, so I said I'd stay with him. This is what comes from reading "The Ladies Home Journal" and their articles on "Togetherness."

Gladys, we ended up in a shack ten miles from nothing, with mud, rain and flies, and men climbing around stringing wires and carrying all kinds of funny looking gear. They ran around like the Keystone Cops in silent movies. Why is it that a piece of equipment that has worked perfectly at home for two years decides to fade out in the wilderness on Field Day? (Gladys, dearie, you can stop figuring, I saw the Keystone Cops on a late, late, show.)

By ten p.m. we were through eating and everyone had gone home except the six club members who were going to be there all night and Florella and me. Florella is an XYL, too, and a real sweet girl. Before the night was over we knew each other like sisters, but she is not an

ideal person to sit through the long hours with. She has never had a really major operation.

My gallstones and two pots of coffee got us through until midnight but all she has had is an appendectomy, and you can describe that only so long. She did have terrible gas pains the second day and she got to going real well on those, but after that we ran out of conversation. Wish we'd had somebody there with a slipped disc or a complete hysterectomy. The symptoms alone take about an hour. Fascinating.

From 3:00 until dawn, all of us were going on coffee nerves alone except Clyde. His paper cup got soggy and the hot coffee fell out on his leg. It woke him up alright, but my, he was obscene.

You know how, in the movies, the radio operators are always bright-eyed and eager? Ours looked like Creatures. All those bristles and little red eyes. When they wanted coffee they held up their cups and grunted.

I don't think I'll have the heart to go on Field Day again. My illusions are shattered. Those good-looking men looked so repulsive that night. And phooey on "Togetherness" and "The Ladies Home Journal."

Speaking of magazines, we'd like to send a subscription to Homer. Which he likes best, "True Radio Adventures" or "Spicy Electronics?"

Love, Ma

P. S. Ask Homer to look through the wards for L. Q. Slopoth, will you? He's not in town --- he must be there!

de Florida Ski

THE DEAR MABEL AWARD

This is our way of giving credit to the XYL's who labor anonymously in the background of amateur radio. With kind hearts, willing hands and no licenses they work to keep the rigs operating.

Most of the time an XYL follows instructions with blind trust. If something needs soldering she'll help. Furthermore, if things go right she's happy, if things go wrong she's sad. She doesn't understand what is right what is wrong or what is shorted - but it's important to OM so it's important to her.

The wife who indulges a husband makes it possible for him to indulge in a hobby.

With all due respect to OMs everywhere (in fact with their enthusiastic cooperation) we offer DEAR MABEL XYL AWARD. Hang it in the shack or keep it in the kitchen. No matter where it is it means that you are recognized as a vital part of amateur radio.

Thank you for your support of "Florida Skip" and your response to the Dear Mabel column. We hope that you will continue to read us and that you enjoy reading "Skip" as much as we enjoy writing it.

Much love, Mabel

(Editor's note: OMs may drop a card listing XYL's full name and address to: Award Custodian, Anne Pitcher, K4RDX, RFD 2, Stuart, Florida for a beautiful 4-color certificate. P.S. Don't tell the XYL you are doing it - let her be surprised - for a change.

OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 834 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS WEST HARTFORD CONN FEB 5 1962 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The winner of the 1961 Edison Award is William G. Welsh WISAD/ of Burbank, California, and formerly of Cambridge, Massachusetts. WISAD's extraordinary work in conducting code and theory class from 1951 through 1961 resulted in over 2800 people becoming licensed amateurs. His booklet on teaching radio classes has been a guide to radio clubs throughout the country conducting these educational programs. Special citations were also awards to George Thurston W4MLE for his organizational leadership in forming the Florida AREC Plan, Eugene M. Link W0IA manager and NCS of the Colorado Amateur Weather Net that was an invaluable aid to the Weather Bureau in observations, and to Robert T. Herndon W5URW for his emergency communications in Hurricane Carla. Formal presentation of the Edison Award will be made a ceremonial dinner in Washington on March 1 AR.

You are invited to

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB'S

Annual Pancake **FRIDAY**
Supper **MARCH 9,**

at Riverview Park Pavilion
10th and Deer Park Blvd.
(Just East of Stadium)

7 to 9:30 P.M.

All you can eat but bring your
own silverware

DOING NOTHING IS THE OLDEST HOBBY IN THE WORLD

Editor's Note -- Here's the testimonial of a man who claims the most unsung hobby of all--yet the very oldest on earth. Readers persuaded to adopt the pastime are kindly requested not to begin its practice until they finish today's paper.

By HUGH A. MULLIGAN
AP Newsfeature Writer

The more I see of my fellow man at rest and at play, the more I become convinced that time is the perfect hobby.

Its negative values alone commend it to the earnest consideration of anyone seeking surcease from the woes of daily existence.

I don't stand hip deep in an icy stream trying to unsnarl a reel of soggy line in order to effect the demise of a fish that can be obtained frozen and eviscerated (the fish, not I) at any neighborhood supermarket.

SHOULD BE EXTINCT

I don't scamper like a demented orangutan about the rigging of a fragile craft that by any rights of reason should be as extinct as the Roman trireme and the Viking long boat.

I don't rise up early to pursue a ball of any size with club, cue, bat or racquet, and I don't labor into the night over a darkroom sink, a ceramics kiln, a hand loom, a spinning wheel, a metal lathe, a model railway layout or a do-it-yourself embalming kit.

I don't collect stamps, old coins, first editions, theater programs, Reo hubcaps, Confederate minnie balls or hotel towels. I don't watch birds or stars or bees or trees.

I don't play bridge, I don't play lacrosse. I don't play the horses.

I don't plant 'taters, and I don't plant cotton. No, nor peonies, begonias nor marigolds either.

COUCH IS BETTER

I just plant myself in a chair (or better still on a couch or a bed) and do nothing. Absolutely nothing, glorious, wonderful, delectable, enviable nothing.

There is nothing in the world like doing nothing. Nothing is quite so relaxing, quite so engrossing, quite so satisfying as doing nothing, absolutely nothing for hours on end.

The oldest hobby in the world (...and on the seventh day, God rested), mine is the only one that doesn't cost a cent, doesn't require a professional instructor or a fancy hat, and doesn't depend on the vagaries of the weather, the availability, or the density of local traffic.

DECEPTION ADDS SPICE

I don't have to wait in line to do nothing. I don't even have to wait for the weekend or summer vacation. As long as the boss thinks I am doing something (deception adds spice to the battle). I can practice my favorite hobby at all sorts of odd moments during the day, so much so, that it has taken me more

than a month to get around to doing something about this article on the virtues of doing nothing.

That's the way it is with doing nothing. You have to be firm, you have to really set your mind to it, or sooner or later someone will suggest doing something, which breaks the spell.

The true do-nothing perfectionist achieves in time the inner serenity and the outward torpor of a coral reef lying dormant in a lazy lagoon. His total lack of ambition, his utter unwillingness to bestir himself for any reason would make a Tibetan lama fidgety. Even a do-nothing administration would become envious of his singular talents and try to appoint him to some post or other. But, like the charming duke in Gilbert and Sullivan's "Iolanthe," his great gift to society lies in the fact that he does nothing in particular but does it very well.

TIME FOR THINKING

The wonderful thing about doing nothing, complete and all pervading nothing, is that it gives you all the time in the world to think about what you always wanted to do. Things like writing the great American novel, cleaning out the roof-gutters, translating Horace "Ars Poetica" the original Latin, reading the complete works of Ford Maddox Ford, mow the front lawn, writing a nasty letter to your congressman.

Since your rigid dedication to complete nothingness never permits

you to do any of these things, you are that much ahead of yourself in free time, time that might have been squandered doing something.

Once you get the knack of doing nothing, you'll never want to do anything anywhere with anyone. It's the one hobby you'll never have to lie about, and the worse your physical condition the better equipped you are to perform at the peak of your game.

STARTED IN ARMY

I first became engrossed in the hobby of doing nothing in the Army, where the art has been developed to a high degree of perfection. Given an evening off from the rigors of infantry basic training, I went down to the recreation hall among the ping-pong tables, the dart boards and the paperback reading collection and sat doing nothing at all. An exasperated Red Cross girl tried to interest me in something, first writing a letter home then, in desperation, a chat with the chaplain, but I held firm and proclaimed my intention of just sitting there. She retreated under a covering of fire of Freudian imprecation and left the world to darkness and to me.

From the frail beginning, I moved on to the advanced stages of my hobby, which entailed doing nothing. Actually I was supposed to be doing something. It takes a real pro to put in eight hours on K.P. duty, under the beady eye of the mess sergeant, and never touch a

plate. Contrary to what the service manuals have to say on the subject of gold bricking it puts a man on his mettle, brings out the true soldierly virtues of camouflage, deception, stealth and dedication of mind and purpose.

After 20 years of doing nothing, I still get a secret thrill when my wife tells everyone on the block that I am good for nothing.

de Pack Rats Cheese Bits
Mt. Airy V.H.F. Radio Club, Inc. -Phila.

OK, boys, now that you read the preceding, don't just sit there doing nothing, read the rest of the paper.

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 835
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD, CONN. FEBR.
16, 1962, TO ALL RADIO AMA-
TEURS BT**

One amateur was electrocuted and another had a close call recently, both caused by failure of bypass capacitors in the primary circuit of the AC power supply. These accidents could have been avoided by use of a common ground system linking all equipment chassis to a water pipe or other good ground. Send stamped self addressed envelope with a note to ARRL requesting copy of the Safety Code. Please indicate the station from which you copied this bulletin. Switch to safety and stay alive. AR

**OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 836
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS
WEST HARTFORD CONN FEB 23
1962 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT**

FCC has now officially proposed in Docket 14507 to charge fees for licensing services. Amateur applications would require a five dollar fee whether new, renewal, modification, or duplicate. Fees for other services range from two dollars for lowest grade commercial operator to two hundred fifty dollars for a television broadcast station. April QST will carry details to permit amateur comment by deadline of April 16 AR

(Continued from page 6)

probation for three years *on condition that he not use his station during that time.*

The Television Interference Committees (TVIC) of record numbered 618, an increase of 57 from the year previous. These groups include amateur operators, radio and TV repairmen and others voluntarily helping eliminate radio and TV troubles in their communities. The report mentioned that Class D licensees in the Citizens Radio Service top all other services *combined* in their rules violations. With respect to the Disaster Communications Service (1750-1800kc) 85% of the authorizations are civil defense (usually liaison purposes) and *of these* 76 percent use RACES.
