



HAM HUM

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AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC. - Omaha, Nebr. 68101
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September 1973

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No. 9

SEE YOU AT THE

HAM FEST AND STEAK FRY

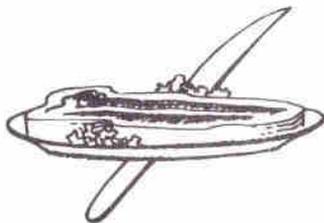
1:00 P.M. - SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 23, 1973

MISSOURI VALLEY PARK

MISSOURI VALLEY, IOWA

(Just off I-29 at southwest edge of city)



MAIL YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW

NO REGULAR MEETING IN SEPTEMBER

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request.



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Published by

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC.

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QST—ALL RADIO AMATEURS

You can participate in your Government! Help get a Ham in Washington as an FCC Commissioner. Send your letters and QSLs to your Senators urging the appointment of Tom Fifer, K8BKF, Saginaw, Michigan (EX-WØAQJ, W9AQJ - ARRL, QCWA, DXCC, etc.)

MEMBER NEWS

Mike McAllister's call has been changed from WNØDXA to WBØDXA. Congratulations, Mike!

Sunday

August 12, 1973

NOTES FROM READERS

August 4, 1973

Gentlemen:

I am enclosing a contribution for HAM-HUM. It is an interesting magazine. I have my reservation for the Mid-West Division Convention at Lincoln, Nebraska on October 5-6-7, and trust I will meet some of you fellows there.

Sincerely,

Chas. W. Boegel, Jr., WØCVU

1500 Center Point Road, N.E.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hi: Thought u shud know, the August issue of HAM HUM arrived on Sat., August 11th - also two (2) previous issues this year did likewise.

Murphy must be diverting his attack, by a double barrel method thru our postal service?

73,

Art Gaeth, WØFQB

(Ed. Note: Records indicate HAM HUM was mailed to you August 3rd. Postman probably reading old radio magazines and thinks across town is DX.)

AUGUST MEETING

The August 10th meeting was in two parts. Frank Taylor, WØGOJ, Chairman of the Repeater Committee, brought us up to date on the happenings of the repeater. The biggest news, of course, was that the 34/94 license had come through with our call WRØABQ. The license request had been returned to us once for a technical change and was resubmitted. We do not yet have a license verification for the 22/82 repeater. The FCC had previously extended the time to August 31st. At the time of writing this article (August 30th) I just received unofficial information to the effect the FCC had again extended the time and that a bulletin would be forthcoming from ARRL. Evidently the immense backlog of repeater license applications causes the delay in issuance of the licenses. Now that we have the call on 34/94 we can again get our identifier working.

Those present at the meeting were greatly appreciative of the work and efforts of our Repeater Committee, and the entire Club is grateful for the efforts of all those who have been and who are giving of their time and talents. We also appreciate very much the donations of both gear and money. Recent cash donors are acknowledged elsewhere in this issue.

The second part of the program was a discussion by John W. Orr, WØPHW, and Dick Eilers, WØYZV, of the Red Cross Communications Van which has been established by the Red Cross and the Downtown Omaha Rotary Club. It is operated by the Emergency Communication Team, Inc. which is the radio group operating station

WØCQX at the Douglas-Sarpy County Chapter House of the American Red Cross. For the benefit of you oldtimers, yes, WØCQX was the call of Ed Gutmann which, upon his death was established as a station known as the Edward Gutmann Memorial Station. (Ed was also a member of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. and a Past President.)

The Emergency Communication Team, Inc. is a limited membership radio club composed of the following members: KØGHK, WØPHW, WØEGP, WØYZV, WAØIIX and Bob Lefholtz, Disaster Chairman of the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

Briefly stated, this Communication Van has been established so that it can be driven to or transported to any disaster scene in the Continental U.S.A. Its primary purpose is to provide communications via amateur frequencies, including Navy MARS, of disaster emergency communications primarily for the Red Cross, secondarily for any other officials from the disaster area, and to receive emergency traffic for these same officials. The use of the communication vehicle would probably be limited to two or three days as by that time normal amateur communication facilities would be available locally to adequately take care of the traffic.

For communications the Van is equipped to operate on Red Cross frequencies, two-meter repeater frequencies, and HF frequencies. It carries two 110 AC generators and carries antennas for both mobile and portable operation. It will eventually have radio gear for all these frequencies but the current HF operation is on the basis of borrowed gear. ▶

It is intended the Van be operated by a crew of three or more, one of which is a crew leader, two of which must have amateur license (preferably all three), and one of the members must have general class license. If the crew carried with the Van is only three, relief operators would be recruited in the field. A request was made by the Red Cross that the Club through the offices of the Douglas County Emergency Coordinator recruit crew leaders and crew members and to determine availability. To be sure of this availability at any particular time it was suggested to attempt to recruit and train six crew leaders and twelve crew members. In addition to radio gear the Van would be equipped with emergency provisions and equipment sufficient for at least three days of operation. Transportation for the vehicle and crew has been arranged through the Air Force from air base to air base, then continuing on its own wheels to the point of emergency.

Hopefully many of you will be interested in further information or in volunteering your services. Please contact Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, who is Douglas/Sarpy County Emergency Coordinator, or any member of the Emergency Communication Team, Inc.

FORMER MEMBER NEWS

Just a note to say Hi and to let you know I miss the group. FB! on FD efforts and results--Good Show! My new QTH: 519 So. Lane Street, Blissfield, Michigan 49228

Ron Fulkerson, WB8PDJ

RECENT REPEATER CONTRIBUTORS

Robert D. Andrus, KØLUG
 Robert R. Beals, KØDBW
 Ernie Bowerman, WØCES
 John A. Cook, KØWVF
 Rick Cutter, WA3MKT/Ø
 R. D. Burghardt, WØWR
 Chester Garner, KØGZE &
 Jacqueline Garner, WAØCVE
 Alvin Hernes, KØINZ
 Lowell W. Jackson, WAØHKT
 *Mark Johns, WAØRGZ
 *John L. Lutter, WAØTWC
 Al McMillan, WØJJK
 Ronald L. O'Brien, WAØSCM &
 Beverly R. O'Brien, WAØSQP
 Harry Snyder, WØNVE &
 Pat Snyder, WAØTTW
 John Snyder, WØWRT
 Thomas L. Thiessen, KØPQR

*Auto Patch

The sailor began to talk to the man with whom he was sharing a seat on the bus. "Yes," he bragged, "I've traveled a lot. Been nearly all over the world, in fact."

"Nothing like travel to broaden the mind," commented his companion. "I suppose you must know a lot about geography?"

"Well, yes and no," replied the sailor, a bit hesitantly. "The ship I was on did put in there once. 'Tain't much of a place, though, from what I remember."

Sunshine Magazine

WORTH REMEMBERING

Amateur radio is a hobby which has permitted private individuals to discuss and expound their beliefs on an endless variety of subjects with fellow hams throughout the world. Today, "rag chews" can be found ranging from the whys and hows on current QRN and band conditions to just about any subject under the sun.

Civil rights, equal opportunity and race relations have taken a great share of the news in past months, but I have yet to hear anything of bigotry or bias (with exception of RF amplifier tubes) to ever cross the ham bands. We can take pride that amateur radio is truly a hobby for everyone from all walks of life.

On March 18, 1972, Air Force Brigadier General Daniel "Chappie" James, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs, addressed the National Convention of the National Association of Secondary School Principals in Anaheim, California. His address had nothing to do with amateur radio... the subject wasn't even mentioned. What General James did say pertains to each of us and is well worth reprinting in FEARL NEWS. What General James said was:

"My young life was filled with orders, advice and encouragement. I was told to eliminate one by one all the reasons some bigot might say I was (not) capable of standing beside him or deserving of equal opportunity. If he says you are dirty, make sure you are clean. If he says you steal, make sure you don't. If he says you are dumb, make sure you learn. If he says you are scared, make sure you are brave. And if there ever comes a time to fight for

your country, don't you run and hide. And don't you ever, no matter what the provocation or the invitation, turn your back on your God or your country or that flag.

"Remember, they said, you are not African. You are an American and this is your land. Many of those who will suggest you go back to Africa cannot trace their ancestors in this country as far back as you can trace yours.

"This is your nation and don't you get so busy practicing your right to dissent that you forget your responsibility to contribute. If she has ills you hold her hand until she gets well and then work for constructive change within the system. Let your own contribution to the problems of your race be a by-product of your achievement in your chosen field. You will prosper in proportion to your contribution to the Nation.

"Remember that with the heritage of being an American goes the responsibility for developing that heritage and passing it along to your kids in better shape than you got it in.

"Don't stop to argue with the ignoramus on the street who calls you nigger. You don't have time. Press on. Perform. Excel. And when you drive back by in the limousine of success, that ignoramus will still be standing there on the corner wrapped in his hate. The power of excellence is overwhelming. It is always in demand and nobody cares about its color."

de FEARL NEWS

Happiness is learning that your daughter's boyfriend had his electric guitar repossessed.

de FRESNO SKIP

This fantastic Ham detective story is reprinted from Phoenix SQUELCH TAIL and WCARS SENTINEL. It's too good not to reprint for those of you who missed it in the SENTINEL.

In case anyone might wonder why more than one year's solid work by the Interference Committee has not borne more fruit in dealing with the FCC, I submit the following reprint article as an indication of the "state of the art" in government action.

"HAM OPERATOR — DO IT YOURSELF KIT"

For the past nine months a colossal farce has been allowed to perpetrate on the two meter band here in Phoenix. From the offset, several local amateurs were aware that a bootlegger was operating through the ARA repeaters. He sounded good, was kind and considerate, and came on as wholesome as popcorn and Monday night football.

This homebrewed ham had better operating habits than many professed "professional amateurs." He assisted flood operations and at antenna raising parties. But what he doesn't have is a duly authorized license to operate. Let's start from the top.

Last spring, a local Valley resident using the call letters K7DKC, appeared on our 34/94 and 16/76 machines, and also on the 04/28 repeater. He purchased a touch tone pad from the club with a check that was returned by the bank for "insufficient funds." Then someone noted that K7DKC was not listed in the current Callbook. In fact, it wasn't to be found in any Callbook since since 1964.

Possibly an error, but one that had to be verified. A quick check with the Gettysburg office of FCC revealed that there was no record of that call being currently assigned. (The last holder of that call was a Raymond John Heaney of Salt Lake City — and that expired in 1963.)

The Los Angeles office of FCC was notified. They would listen to the two meter band on their next visit to Phoenix. But our bootlegger began operating almost exclusively mobile and the agent must, by law, record his original signal. Hearing him through a repeater was not legal. Hell, neither was DKC!

(It should be noted here that we hope all members operated according "to the letter" during 1972, as our repeaters were monitored for many days in an attempt to pick up DKC's transmissions. They would have then switched to the input for recording).

A blanket of quiet was maintained. The FCC advised ARA's trustee not to shut the repeaters down when he operated and suggested that we not avoid communicating with our do-it-yourself ham. The commission also carefully avoided stating that there might be an error, that K7DKC *could* be licensed. He was being given every benefit of the doubt.

Officers of ARA were informed of the situation at a meeting of its executive committee. They were agast, but the overall reaction was rational.

Tape recordings were offered to the FCC — but, no dice. They must record offenders themselves, live. I suggested that they phone me during their next visit and I would call K7DKC on the air. He'd come back, the agent would record him and we'd have him nailed.

Again, no dice. That constitutes entrapment. The law was doing its job of protecting the accused.

The silence worked. Our bootlegger, unaware that his charade was detected, had forwarded a copy of his "license" along with the money making good the check that bounced. An ARA officer, upon seeing it exclaimed, "As far as I'm concerned, he's legal," our long time, but thoroughly fooled friend told other officers.

There it was, a Xerox copy of a license, clearly showing K7DKC and the legal name of our illustrious bootlegger. Effective date was 09-05-69, with an expiration date of 09-05-74. The seal was there, so was Ben F. Waple's signature - and the signature of our now infamous, clandestine transmitter operator. This ticket looked almost perfect, almost!

But something was wrong. The license had a funny look to it. A comparison with other tickets bore out our suspicions, now well honed from weeks of long distance phone calls and careful analysis of tape recordings.

More searching revealed that the letters on the license were not generated by a computer, which prints ten characters to the inch. I.B.M. type ball "Dual Gothic, code 020, elite" matches the lettering exactly. But alas, the effective and expiration dates were indeed computer font. (Make the same check with your own license for comparison).

This provided us with a new lead. Another call to Gettysburg produced a printout, by dates, to indicate the number of issued licenses on 09-05-69. One of these belonged to a member of

our club who worked for a time with K7DKC.

What were we unveiling? The LA FCC office was immediately notified. Not only did we have an alleged bootlegger and forger of a federal document, but possible coercion by a fellow member. This potato was getting hotter. It was also becoming increasingly difficult to maintain the cloak of silence. Slips occurred. Some mumbling and undercurrent of comments were heard on the air from time to time. If the FCC didn't act fast, our whole case would fall flat. "Please do something," I pleaded with Lee Smith, Engineer-in-Charge at the FCC Los Angeles office.

The cold fact is that Smith is understaffed, incapable of sending an agent to Phoenix "on the chance" that our bootlegger might transmit while he was here. K7DKC's operating habits and mobile operation provided him with the shield of a Sherman tank.

We could send him a letter advising that the FCC had received reports that he is operating an amateur transmitter," Smith added. That would be great! He might cease operation, but what other problems could result from him retaining equipment? His gear would undoubtedly be confiscated should he be caught redhanded by the FCC.

But perhaps the letter would be better than nothing. Could it be sent? Could our club receive a copy so that we would know that DKC knew? "Sorry, we can't do that, but I'll see what can be done," was the kind but authoritative reply.

Suddenly the call K7DKC was absent from two meters. In the meantime, the ARA member whose

license was used in the alleged forgery was cleared of any wrongdoing. In deference to the abuse he has already suffered, we are not revealing his name. It seems that his license was framed and hung on the wall near his desk, readily available to anyone.

In an effort to conclude a nine month investigation, I contacted DKC and offered to meet with him. This was done with the knowledge of the FCC, who were at a loss to come up with sufficient evidence.

He was confronted with the facts. He was shown the letters. He admitted that he had been operating since 1967. It began as a kick and grew like topsy. It was easy, everybody believed that he was an amateur.

He agreed to cease operation, in fact he had not operated since September. He apologizes to the club and has donated his radio to ARA in exchange for the promise not to print his name in this report. We're not out to ruin a man who let a mistake run away with him. If you know DKC, be kind, don't reach for a stone.

Bob Dreste, K7VOR, Trustee,
WA7CEM

de FRESNO SKIP

FOR SALE

HQ 110 w/clock receiver in good condition - open to any reasonable offer.

Hallicrafters littlephones (two) set up on 34/94 - new batteries.

Contact

Mike McAllister, WBØDXA

Phone: 334-0871

Is amateur radio an obsession with you? Do you feel that DX is great? Do you feel that working to the ends of the earth is a truly great accomplishment? I know because I am up to my neck in it. To me, being the first amateur to work a new country is truly a great new kick, and to have a transmitter so good that one doesn't have to content himself with the modest ranges but can go after the more distant stations is no more than the normal desire of every normal amateur. Yet, when the craving for amateur radio reaches the proportions of becoming an obsession, when it blinds its possessor to the realization that there are no other forms of activities, our hobby then could develop into an activity just as bad as any other form of intemperance . . . and this reminds me of one element in the Amateur's code; "The amateur is balanced . . . radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school, or his community."

de Sparc-Gap, Florida

FOR SALE

Dear Friends: I have a 4-250A new, never used, for sale to highest offer.

73's

Alan Lee Fleming, WØBNY

Radio Telephone 1st Class

7/11/78 P1-17-11 822

1169 South St.

Blair, Nebr. 68008

COPS N ROBBERS

By Alan — WA4SVH

On Saturday, May 19th, about midnight, I pulled into the parking lot of my coin laundry to find two juveniles with my cigarette machine open. I tried to stop them and hold them until I could summon police but they got away. To make matters worse, I didn't get the license number of their Volkswagen correct and the police couldn't trace them.

For a few days I was checking every "bug" that looked like the one that got away.

Tuesday night, May 22nd, I finally spotted it parked in the parking lot of the store next door with one of the juveniles at the wheel. When he saw me he took off and I chased him.

I called for help on 2 meter FM over the Palm Beach Repeater. My call was answered by Larry Nurmi, WB4GWL, who was mobile. Larry went to a phone booth and directed the North Palm Beach Police while he talked to me on his TR-22. The chase got wild with speeds of 80 MPH out Prosperity Farms Road and then dirt roads into woods where he lost me.

This time I got the number correct and in a short time the police led me to the car at its home. The engine was warm and there was dirt and weeds under the running boards.

The juvenile was arrested and confessed to the break-in at my store plus others.

Larry, WB4GWL, had called for other land based stations to back him up and Chuck Ritchie, W4BUG, responded.

The North Palm Beach Police thanked me for my efforts and asked

me to thank the amateurs who assisted me. All I can say is I hope I don't have to do that again.

de FLORIDA SKIP

An amateur radio operator rarely makes the same mistake twice — the average is five or six times.

de FEARL NEWS

TECHNICAL QUESTIONS

Beginning next month the Technical Committee of our Club will attempt to answer via HAM HUM any questions you may have. There are two kinds of members in our Club — those who have the questions and those who have the answers. The questions and answers will appear in a column each month and we hope you will find the column interesting. We know you will find it interesting if you ask the question. Send your question now on the card enclosed so we can get the answer by next month.

This editor (WØYZV) is herewith asking the first question. I have a frequency scanning receiver. The channel indicator lights are incandescent and persist in burning out. To avoid this replacement problem, can I substitute LEDs? If so, can you tell me how to do it or even if they are available for this purpose?

WIFE... "You look all played out. What happened?"

HUSBAND... "Terrible day at the office. The computer broke down and everybody had to start thinking."

de FRESNO SKIP

GUEST EDITORIAL

By Bob P. Denton, WB4FGL

The 'mailing list' put out by the FCC recently produced an interesting catalogue from Henshaw's in Kansas City, Mo.

Fifty-eight of its 60 pages (including covers) profusely illustrates major brand transceivers, antenna station accessories, hardware, etc. It is a complete shopping guide for legal and illegal CB operator.

Almost two dozen (22 to be exact) linear amplifiers with up to 500 watts output power on AM, or 1,800 watts p.e.p. SSB are pictured and described, most of them containing the words "illegal on citizens band" or words with similar meaning. Three of the linears appear on one page with no mention on that page that they are illegal on Citizens Band. One does mention near the middle of the specifications that it was designed specifically for that manufacturer's Business Band equipment. I have never seen any Business Band equipment. I have never seen any Browning Business Band equipment, but judging from the pictures it is styled very similar to their CB equipment.

Remember the transceiver that Swan developed and put on the market a few years ago? As I remember, the hams howled so loudly that the unit was quickly withdrawn from Swan's advertising. Page 11 of Henshaw's catalogue features a 10 meter, 260 watt SSB transceiver that incorporates on 11 meter CB receiver. Although the dial, knobs, markings, and paint scheme appear the same as Swan equipment, this is really a Siltronix 1011B.

Another page advertises four accessory variable frequency oscillators that can be used with a number of transceivers. One maker does say his unit is intended for receiver use.

Rohn is building a "CB Tower" that "can go to 35 feet above such (house) bracket" or "under most guyed conditions" - 200 feet. Not to be outdone, Ascom has 30 to 50 foot towers.

Many people, of many interests, from many walks of life, chafe at how our government overregulates or overpolices our everyday activities. As long as there are unscrupulous, or immoral, or - (you supply the adjective) persons among us, there will be a continuing need for regulations and policing.

de FLORIDA SKIP

FOR SALE

Nova-Tech VHF rcvr. 108-130 MHz

Globe Chief Model 90-A Novice CW xmtr.

Craig Hinton, WBØIAH

Phone: 333-9521

Did you hear about the eleven-year-old girl who must be considered in the vanguard of Women's Lib. She rates boys below kitties and puppies, but potentially ahead of lizards.

de FRESNO SKIP

The only thing that operates well outside the band is a cigar.

de FEARL NEWS

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de FEARL NEWS

REPORTING DELIBERATE QRM--

The following letter to the editor was recently published in the RadioWatch and is reproduced verbatim. Although some references do not apply to us, the letter still gives good information on what should be done when you experience continuous deliberate interference. -- Editor

"I'm writing to inform all members of MWARS and any non-members, that when deliberate QRM is heard, please do not mention that you can hear this station; neither should you talk to him.

"I just had a lengthy landline QSO with the Grand Island, Nebraska monitor station engineer and he said the best thing to do is call your nearest monitor station. DO NOT mention on the air that you are going to call, nor that you have called. Keep running the Service and let the QRMer stay on as long as possible. (Portion of letter eliminated here as it applied only to MWARS).

"I was told I wasn't the only one who had called. A station had called just before me. Anyway, from the FCC, DO NOT engage in conversation nor make any remarks to the interfering station. Call the nearest monitor station immediately. Try as best you can to keep running normally. If you live close to anyone who the interfering station might be using his call (bootlegging), such as W9AR, call him and have him call the (monitor) station on the landline to confirm he is not the malicious interference station. And from me--grit your teeth, try to grin and bear it. The following list of (telephone) numbers
September 1973

of monitoring stations that MWARS would most probably be effected by."

ALLEGAN (616) 673-2063
GRAND ISLAND (308) 382-4296
DAYTON (513) 461-4830
HOUSTON (713) 462-4587

de WB8HVE/Ø
de THE GROUND WAVE

Remember, rag chewers, swallowing words is much better than having to eat them later.

de FEARL NEWS

MEMBER NEWS

August 15, 1973
Stamford Motor Inn
3305 El Camino Real
Palo Alto, Ca.

Dear OM Dick: I am currently out here attending a special school on Technician's Medical Information System.

Had a pleasant visit with former Omahan Millard Edgerton, WA6VZZ (ex-WØNRT). I visited with Millard and XYL Louise one evening and spent most of the time covering old times working at KMTV. Millard also took me on a brief tour of "Silicon Valley." We made an attempt to phone Bert Newkirk, WA6SIX but he was, unfortunately, not available. Maybe we'll get to contact him later during our stay. Bert had been WØRYG in Lincoln.

73,
John Snyder, WØWRT

CLOSED

FOR THE A. R. R. L. MIDWEST CONVENTION
IN LINCOLN, NEBRASKA--OCTOBER 5th & 6th.

See you at the convention--but any other time I
hope you can drop-in the store and see any of
these and other popular brands in "ham-gear".



When you need "ham" gear &
accessories..... call H. I. !

Hi *Hobby*
Industry

CALL: Tues./Sat. - Noon/5PM
A1 McMillan W4JJK
(712) 323-0142

WRITE: HOBBY INDUSTRY
Box 864
Council Bluffs, Iowa - 51501