



# HAM HUM

Published by

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC. - Omaha, Nebr. 68101  
Post Office Box 291 - Downtown Station



Vol. XXIV  
No. 3

March 1974

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE AND PLACE OF MARCH MEETING.

## AUCTION

- WHEN:                   FOURTH FRIDAY – MARCH 22, 1974
- WHERE:                 GENERAL MOTORS TRAINING CENTER –  
                              AUDITORIUM  
                              225 North 80th Street, Omaha  
                              (Plenty of free parking)
- AUCTION TIME:       Registration of gear will begin at 6:00 P.M.  
                              Auction will begin at 7:00 P.M. and stop at  
                              9:30 P.M.

VISITORS WELCOME

REFRESHMENTS SERVED  
DURING THE AUCTION



**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.



Next copy deadline: March 22nd

**Annual Dues:**

Regular member .....\$7.50  
 Regular member and XYL ..... 9.00  
 Student member ..... 3.50  
 (due and payable each Jan. 1)

**NEW CALL FOR HASTINGS CLUB**

WØWWV is the newly-assigned call of the Hastings Amateur Radio Club, replacing KØSOQ which has been heard on Field Days and other occasions for a number of years. The call WØWWV is a memorial for its original owner Everett (Benny) Carl. Benny became a silent key several months ago after a long career as a ham in Juniata and Hastings. Benny's booming bass voice will be remembered by many, particularly on 160 meters.

New officers for HARC for 1974 are: Darrell Kempf, WBØIIP, President; Bob Barfknecht, KØMRH, Vice President; Virgil Erickson, WNØKYD, Secretary-Treasurer; Tom Vaughan, WAØUJZ, Trustee; and Pat Patterson, KØFJT, resident agent for the corporation.

C. B. (Cy) Wolfe, WØLJO  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Published by

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC.  
 Post Office Box 291  
 Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Editor: Dick Eilers, WØYZV

Phone HOME: 391-2255  
 BUSINESS: 342-1402 - EX. 20

Associate Editor: John Snyder, WØWRT

Phone HOME: 556-1538  
 BUSINESS: 397-3000 - EX. 3761

Associate Editor: Ervan Heinz, WAØEEM

Phone HOME: 553-2033  
 BUSINESS: 553-4700 - EX. 331

New member initiation fee .....\$1.00

**Quarterly for balance of year:**

Regular member .....\$2.00  
 Regular member and XYL ..... 2.45  
 Student member ..... 1.00

**NOTES FROM READERS**

Hi Gang and Dick Eilers:

Greatly enjoyed your February 1974 issue with its summary of Prose Walker's talk in Las Vegas.

I took it to our Broward Co. Radio Club last night and had them read aloud the part about ham license test changes. Lots of discussion. In front of me was Irv Weston, K4NA, who for 39 years was in FCC. He said he hired Prose Walker as a radio operator many years ago. Hi!

73 to all,  
 Jim Wilson, W4GDK  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**SILENT KEY**

Donald W. Schoeppner  
 P. O. Box 114  
 Templeton, Iowa 51463

\*\*\*\*\*

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

By—Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU

Once again amateurs rose to the challenge of an emergency situation in Omaha.

A fire broke out early February 6th in a chemical warehouse at 17th and Nicholas sending clouds of noxious fumes over the downtown area of the city. It became necessary to evacuate many people from the area into temporary shelter until the threat subsided. The Red Cross and Salvation Army were on the scene and did a fine job.

The Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. supplied communications for the Red Cross with portable stations set up at the following points: Police Department; Creighton Gym; Gallagher Hall; and the control station at the Red Cross Chapter House. A mobile station was sent to the scene of the fire.

The net was conducted on the Omaha repeater frequency of 146.34/94. Bob, WAØDHU, was NCS with Larry, WØNMN, as relief NCS; Dick, WØYZV set up at the Creighton Gym; Larry, WØNMN at Gallagher Hall; Marty, WAØGEH, at the Police Department; Rip, WBØGAJ, at the scene of the fire; Cecil, WØRMB, relieved Rip at the fire scene; Hugh, KØGHK, manned the HF equipment at the Chapter House; Nat, WØOCZ, was on standby status in case he was needed. Also, many additional stations

were monitoring but were not contacted as the need for communications was adequately covered by those named above. Not only would they have been available in case of need, but all did refrain from using

146.94 Mhz during the net operation.

It was a privilege to work with the Red Cross in this emergency. We simply did what we were told to do. They organized quickly and efficiently and the communications link we provided them gave the Red Cross people the tool needed to achieve coordination and effectiveness. As one individual stated, "The phone lines into Red Cross Headquarters rapidly became jammed with calls and soon became inefficient. We are thankful for radio communications between Headquarters and the various centers. Without this link, we would be hurting."

As usual, this emergency came at a very bad time, but don't they always? It was again demonstrated that when an emergency exists, amateurs are there on the job. We sincerely thank all who took part for a job well done.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHANGING TIMES?

How many times have you heard someone say while making a phone transmission, "QRX one minute"? His meaning appears to be that he wants you to wait one minute. The puzzling thing to me is that every list of the Q code shows this: QRX - When will you call me again? or I will call you again at - hours. Any comments on this subject? . . . . Andy, W3OFM.

-from the Spark Gap

\*\*\*\*\*

Teeny-Bopper to saleslady: "I'm really crazy about this dress - but if my mother likes it, may I bring it back?"

\*\*\*\*\*



## FEBRUARY MEETING

By — Pat Scolla, WBØEGR

At the February 8th meeting, Russ, WAØVEE, took over the duties of President while Rip, WBØGAJ, and Dr. Roger Johnson, WBØGAI, set up the equipment for the program.

Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, briefed those present on the chemical plant fire that took place in Omaha the morning of February 6th. Bob was on his way to work when he was asked to go down to the site.

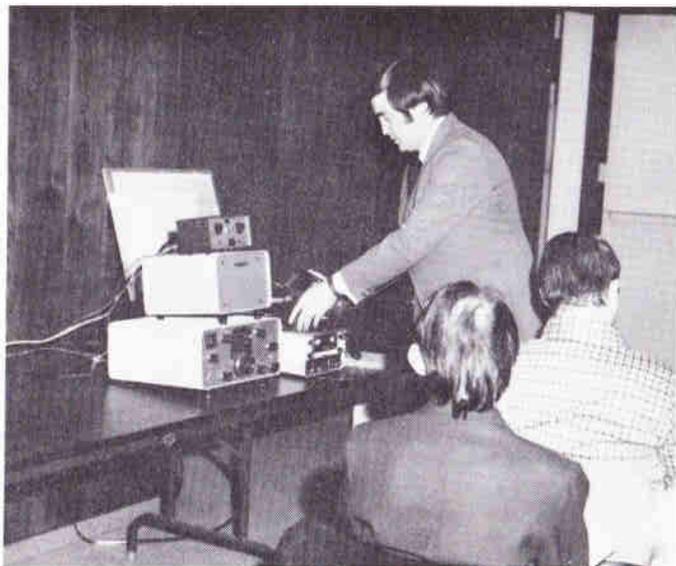
A vote on the proposed repeater rules, as published in the February issue of Ham Hum, will be taken at either the March or April meeting.

Marty, WAØGEH, and Cecil, WØRMB, accepted the offer to again  
Page 4

be auctioneers at the club auction which is to be held at the General Motors Training Center, 225 North 80th Street, on March 22nd.

Program at the February meeting was a demonstration of AMSAT's Oscar 6 amateur radio satellite, chaired by Rip, WBØGAJ, assisted by Dr. Roger Johnson, WBØGAI. At 8:30 P.M. Rip picked up some signals through Oscar 6 with the help of Lynn Blesh, WAØODH. After the live demonstration, Rip gave a slide presentation and answered questions about Oscar 6 and Oscar 7 which is to be launched during the second quarter of 1974.

Rip listening intently for the satellite.



Rip finding satellite direction. Kelly acting as easel.



Roger outside in the snow being programmed to aim antenna, via 2 meters.



Rip programming Roger.  
HAM HUM

## 1974 CODE AND THEORY CLASSES

By—Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU

The Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club Code and Theory Classes, being held at Creighton Prep, are midway through the 1974 season with the promise of another bumper year for the classes.

With 45 students in the Novice Class and 30 in the Advanced Class for a total of 75 students, the instructors have their hands full. It is quite a sight looking out over a class and realizing the effort these people are putting into their quest to reach their goals. Is it any wonder, therefore, that the staff works that much harder to reach out to these people — to do all it can to help in any way it can.

The instructor staff consists of many sincere people dedicated to this challenge. In the Novice Class the chief instructor is Chuck Juvenal, KØKKL, electronics teacher at Benson High. Working with him are Lloyd McElhaney, KØDKM and Hilton Norton, WBØHPP. Lloyd and Hilton teach the code and help Chuck in any way they can.

The Advanced Class staff consists of Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, theory instructor, with Jon Penner, WBØGQT, and Ed Eichler, WBØBCB assisting. Jon teaches the code. He is a past student of the class and at the age of 14, teaches the class. Ed is a great help working the demonstrations, etc. Among the students in this year's class are the XYL's of Ray Kydney, WAØWOT and Charles Kelly, WAØUZX. Good luck, gals!

The 1974 Code and Theory Classes have promise of being one of our best, thanks to the efforts of the students

and instructors. We are thankful to the staff for what they are doing to help in their own little way to promote amateur radio and its challenge. Keep up the good work guys... you're doing great!

\*\*\*\*\*

## RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

### Repeater Fund

Edward C. Eichler, WBØBCB  
Gary D. Maples, WØOXT  
Alan H. McMillan, WØJJK  
Loyson G. Troth, KØBRS  
Ronald L. O'Brien, WAØSCM

### Autopatch Fund

Lawrence F. Caccomo, WØNMN  
Edward C. Eichler, WBØBCB  
Alan H. McMillan, WØJJK  
\*\*\*\*\*

## MEMBER NEWS

Just a note to let you know I have moved to Owosso, Michigan and hope to be licensed soon with an 8 call.

Jim Kates, Ex-WNØEZK

(Ed Note: Good luck in your new location, Jim!)

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEW MEMBERS ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Chester L. Doll, KØPTG  
7806 Manderson Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68134  
Phone: 571-1254

Edward C. Eichler, WBØBCB  
308 West Highway  
Valley, Nebraska 68064  
Phone: 359-2713

\*\*\*\*\*

The following letter was received from  
The American National Red Cross,  
Heartland Division.

February 19, 1974

Mr. Bob Lockwood  
3711 North 56th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68104

Dear Bob:

It's presumptuous to start this on a first-name basis but I'm going to do it anyway. After the fire a week or so ago, I feel we are old friends and hardly need to be introduced. I can still hear your voice coming in over Dick Eilers' portable rig out there at the Creighton Gym.

We at Red Cross certainly appreciate the grand job you and your group did, not just for us but for the community. It was a flawless demonstration of how communications can be adapted to unusual situations.

Incidentally, I was a ham years ago and, if Hugh Tinley has his way, he is going to "recycle" me into this age of "repeaters" and side-band. I think I might get my old a.m. gear onto sideband by simply putting a couple of walnuts into my mouth but I'm afraid your repeater operations are beyond me.

I would appreciate it, Bob, if you would convey my personal thanks to the members of your two-meter net and particularly to those who helped us Wednesday . . . .

Dick Eilers, WØYZV -  
Creighton Gym  
Vern Riportella, WBØGAJ -  
at the Fire

Larry Caccomo, WØNMN -  
Gallagher Hall  
Hugh Tinley, KØGHK -  
Red Cross  
Cecil DeWitt, WØRMB -  
at the Fire  
Nat Perry, WØOCZ -  
Standby  
Marty Griffin, WAØGEH -  
Police Station

Hugh tells me you would like to have a simulated alert sometime and this definitely can be arranged. At the Red Cross, you worked closely with Dale Cox Wednesday and I would suggest you get in touch with him. In the event of need, you and the two-meter net are Omaha's number one communication link and the more we work together the better it will be for all of us. Inevitably in an emergency we at the Red Cross turn to the amateurs and they have *never failed us*.

I wish you would stop in sometime and let me meet you so I could extend my thanks in a more personal way than through a letter.

Thanks again, Bob.

Sincerely,  
E. C. Burtchard  
Division Manager  
\*\*\*\*\*

Two men were discussing the fact that they both had sons away at college.

"What does your boy plan to be when he graduates?" asked one.

"I'm not really sure," replied the other, "but judging from his letters he'll end up a professional fund raiser."

A Magazet

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE BONER

That infamous symbol, the BONER trophy, is about to find a new home for one year. Each year, at the cember dinner meeting of FARC, it is awarded to the member who pulled the greatest BooBoo while hamming during the preceding year. Archie WB6VSV is anxious to get rid of it.

We are reminded of some of the famous snafu's that it symbolized during the past few years. Such as the ham who put together a home-brew SSB transmitter, took it up into the mountains for testing...and forgot to take a microphone with him. Then, there was the OM who struck oil while drilling holes in his Volkswagen engine to mount a generator. How about the YL who asked for the Xtal frequency in her 2 meter transmitter...she pulled the Xtal out of the transmitter and read the frequency...into a dead microphone. Of course, there were the more ordinary goofs, such as the mobile operator who ran his car battery completely down while parked on a deserted beach one night by the Pacific Ocean, or the mobile ham who bent his antenna slightly by driving into the garage with the whip extended...then backed out and completely destroyed the antenna. YOU MAY BE NEXT.....

If you know of a boner that has been successfully "Watergated" call Archie and tip him off. He needs your help in giving the award to the most deserving member of the Fresno Amateur Radio Club.

de Fresno, Ca. SKIP

\*\*\*\*\*

## TIRED DRIVERS -- -- A DEADLY PROBLEM

The phenomenon of driver fatigue is "one of the most underestimated, least reported, but most significant, causes of traffic accidents on our rural highways."

James J. Gudinas, assistant director of A.A.A.'s Highway Department, made this statement while speaking before the American Association of State Highway officials in Los Angeles recently. He believes that driver fatigue further underlines the need for safety rest areas on those highways.

Rest areas "are one of the immediate and acknowledged means available to combat this problem," Gudinas said. "Unfortunately, some rest areas have been designed as monuments or memorials or showcases under the guise of providing a needed motorist service," he said.

The A.A.A. official called for a concerted effort "to make the motorist fully aware of the seriousness of this problem of driver fatigue" and he called upon the officials to examine the seriousness of this problem" in each of their states and to implement appropriate countermeasures to rectify the present situation.

A.A.A. Motor Club News

de C.B. 9er's Bulletin

\*\*\*\*\*

The class was discussing namesakes. Turning to one pupil the teacher asked, "And why were you named Bill?"

"My folks really didn't have much choice," was the reply. "I came on the first day of the month."

The Oklahoma Mason

\*\*\*\*\*

## PHOTOS OF FEBRUARY 11 CODE AND THEORY CLASS

Photos by Charles Kelly



Novice instructors — left to right —  
Lloyd McElhane, KØDKM  
Chuck Juvenal, KØKKL  
Hilton Norton, WBØHPP

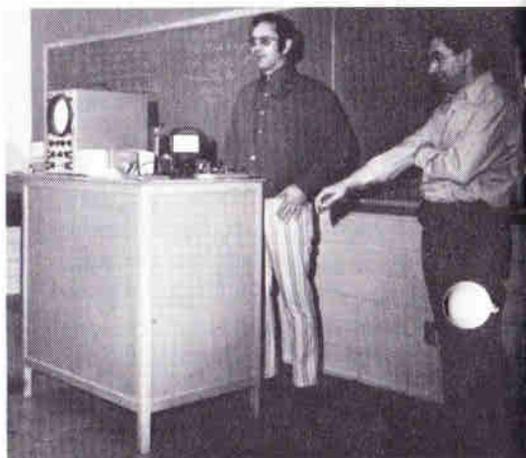


Novice Class

General and Advanced class instructors — left to right —

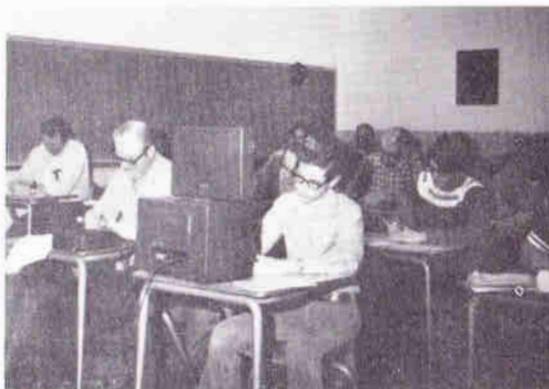
Ed Eichler, WBØBCB

Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU





Jon Penner, WBØGQT, instructor in  
General and Advanced Class



Jon Penner, instructor, sending  
code to the General and  
Advanced class



General and Advanced class

\*\*\*\*\*

## FCC HIGHLIGHTS

By Bill Grenfell - W4GF

A recent comment by an editor whose club magazine has included several reprints of my AUTO-CALL columns (thanks) indicates that I can't seem to quite make up my mind on the FCC's 224-225 Mhz proposal. I regret that my writing about the petitioners 1/ was not clear enough to avoid misunderstanding. The point I tried to make was that *two* of the *petitions* were intended to encourage more amateur occupancy of the 220-225 Mhz band and *did not* "propose . . . Citizens Radio use of a portion of the band . . ." contrary to the statement in the FCC's Docket 19759 proposal.

Being the beginning of a new year, it is a custom of some to "predict" what will happen in the next 12 months. I wish I could in regard to Docket 19759. The volume of comments far exceeds that of any previous rule-making affecting the Amateur Service since the Administrative Procedure Act was adopted (June 11, 1946). I recently saw 15 volumes and many comments had not yet been bound. The Amateur and Citizens Division staff advises that the comment is almost entirely against taking 224-225 Mhz from the Amateur Service.

Of the seven commissioners who voted for the proposal, (at this writing) six remain and it is no secret that the chairman was strongly in favor of it when it was adopted last June (6-6-73). Within the Commission's staff, the Chief Engineer, who favored the proposal, remains. The Chiefs of the Field Engineering and

the Safety and Special Bureaus, who were opposed to it, have since retired. I have not been able to learn how the Acting Chiefs of these two Bureaus feel about Docket 19759. Hopefully, the volume and thought of 1/ comment and the congressional man will impress the commissioners and the staff that the value and the influence of the Amateurs is not to be taken lightly. Let's hope it will convince them that there are some considerations more important than more dollars in the pockets of Citizens equipment manufacturers.

I wish I could predict a favorable decision for Amateurs on Docket 19759 and no more such attempts at Amateur bands in '74. However, the Amateur VHF and UHF bands represent tempting space for expansion of services now crowding the channels available to them and for new uses of radio communications. For example, on December 4, 1973, the FCC announced a Notice of Inquiry 2/ wherein it proposes an emergency type service to use 3 frequencies at the top end of the 420-450 Mhz *Amateur band* for medical paging and telemetering of medical data, such as from an electrocardiograph attached to an emergency patient enroute to a hospital in an ambulance, etc. The Notice includes quite a lot of text 3/ in support of the idea. I expect there will be a much more comprehensive presentation in future issues of AUTO-CALL and other amateur publications.

On the happier side, some recent changes and additions to the Amateur and Citizens staff should enhance the productivity and quality of the Division's work in this next year.

May your enjoyment of Amateur radio be even more in seventy four!

- Gf -

de AUTO-CALL

AUTO-CALL, September, 1973, page 7

2/ Notice of Inquiry, Docket 19880, Adopted Nov. 28, 1973

3/ (105 pages!)

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

P & H Transverter, 6 meter, 175 watts, AM, FM or SSB, internal P/S.

Drake receiving converter, 6 meter, with attached Drake P/S, Solid State. Warranty.

Parks receiving converter, 2 meter, with internal P/S. Used 10 months.

Would also let you look over my junk box of transformers, capacitors, plugs, insulators, chokes, panels, etc.

Look and make offer for converters. Help yourself to components.

Royal M. Enders, KØLYO

7625 Meredith Avenue

Omaha, Ne 68134

Phone: 571-0680

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

National NC-300 receiver in very good shape. Receives 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 11 and 10 meters. Needs converters r 6, 2, 1¼ meters. Make offer. Write: George Moore, WAØSMN, RFD #1, Plattsmouth, Ne 68048 or call 298-8350. Can be seen at 410 North 8th, Plattsmouth.

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

Heathkit DX 35 Transmitter

Ohmite 500 ohm Pot 25 Watt NEW

B & W Filament Choke Model FC-15A NEW

Thordarson Filter Choke 350H 5 MADC NEW

2/705 Tubes NEW

2/813 Tubes NEW

1/814 Tube NEW

Waveform 520A DB Voltmeter

2/866A Tubes NEW

Transformer pri 110/vac/sec 525 C.T. 575 C.T. 500 Ma. NEW

Tnx and 73

Arnie, WAØGUD

301 Washington

Audubon, Iowa 50025

Phone: (712) 563-2380

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

Hallicrafters SX-111 receiver. 80-10 meters plus 10 Mhz band. Fantastic condition - \$100.

Pat Scolla, WBØEGR

Phone: 393-1285

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

Heath DX-40 Transmitter

Knight VFO - 80 thru 10 meters

Dick Newsome, WØHXL

558-8855

\*\*\*\*\*

## OPINION

The questionnaire is a commendable effort. Because of recent travels nationwide and use of many repeaters, I am adding some further comments.

I have used your repeater since about August 15 of this year. In comparing ABY with other major repeaters in Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Dallas, San Antonio, Detroit, Cleveland, (usage during the past 60 days) I found most activity of the QSO type - lengthy conversations with advice on construction projects, roundtables, and in general, "constant identification." Without trying to cause any hard feelings, much of the time the activity sounds like 40 or 80 meters (on WR9ABY)!

My personal impression is that somehow the discipline is not very high; seldom have I heard users of ABY admonish others to make less frequent call I.D., keep transmission short. I do remember a few (a distinct minority) keep their transmissions efficiently brief.

When I became acquainted with two meter FM I was under the impression that a repeater is primarily for practical communications of brief duration - I thought 94 was a conversation channel. (Ed. Note: .52 in the Omaha area. J.D.S.)

When I am in the office I travel 100 miles round trip and often see stranded motorists, accidents which I would like to report. At times I have needed help myself. At least twice recently I have waited as long as 10 minutes somewhere on the toll road for an opportunity to break into rag-chew roundtables while discussions over the weather took place.

This past week I was on the O'Hare parking lot (just having returned from Cleveland) with a dead battery. While in the process of calling for help ( ABY, one station asked me for a signal report immediately following my request for help!

I don't agree on the new timer which was recently installed to discourage random key-ups. The person or persons who frequently key up do this for the purpose of causing annoyance. I am fully convinced that they must experience immense satisfaction to have disabled the repeater for the use of everyone. I am also certain that such deliberate key-ups are caused by a non-member. It seems that CFMC, with the aid of FCC, can identify the party (if you don't know already).

I am most discouraged by many of the methods used on WR9ABY. Moreover, I would be delighted to be of assistance if there is anything that I can do. If you decide to change frequency, it will be but a matter of time until interference has been transferred to a new channel. It seems you should eliminate your cause of interference...

73's, W9HOG

P.S. Before you enthusiastically decide in favor of PL, I have just returned from Detroit. They are having interference problems despite PL. (Blockage of the input while someone is talking.) PL is not insurance against malicious interference. Eliminate the cause!

de Squelch Tale

\*\*\*\*\*



*Hobby*  

---

*Industry*

Write: Box 864 X  
Council, Bluffs, Ia. 51501  
Phone: (712) 323-0142  
Al McMillan - W0JJK  
Tues/Sat, Noon/5PM



**HAM II** Regular ~~\$149.95~~  
H. I. SPECIAL \$129.95

\*\*\*\*\*

**CD44** Regular ~~\$99.95~~  
H. I. SPECIAL \$89.95

\*\*\*\*\*

THE HEAVY DUTY - HAM-II... 98 BALL BEARINGS,  
STEEL GEARS, POSITIVE LOCKING BRAKE.. (29 LB).

THE STANDARD DUTY - CD44... 50 BALL BEARINGS,  
STEEL GEARS, FRICTION BRAKE..... (22 LB).

CONTINUING THE TRADITION OF THE HEAVY-DUTY,  
CAST ALUMINUM, IN-LINE ROTORS, SUPPORTING BIG  
VERTICAL LOADS ON TWO SIX INCH RACES & BALL  
BEARINGS. BOTH MODELS HAVE A HUSKY 800 IN/LB  
TURNING TORQUE. THE STRIKING NEW CONTROL BOX  
HAS A FRONT PANEL CALIBRATION CONTROL WITH  
SEPARATE ON/OFF CONTROL FOR CONTINUOUS METER  
INDICATION AND INDIVIDUAL SNAP ACTION SWITCHES  
FOR EACH DIRECTION ROTATION. NORTH CENTER.

SEE IT AT



*Hobby*  
**Industry**



**V E N U S**

# S10-Scan TV monitor

The second generation of SLO-SCAN, with 10 years of space-age technology from VENUS—the culmination is the SS-2 TV.

**ACCU-SYNC:** A tuning and diagnostic aid—a flip of the switch gives you a visual picture of received and transmitted sync plus video content for precise tuning or signal analysis.

**SIMPLIFIED CONTROLS:** Function switch selects—receiver, tape, camera.....non-critical brightness and contrast controls too.

**EXTRAS:** Retrace select switch, voice—video switch, CRT burn protection, 4-7/16" long persistence screen, dark hood and camera attachment, multi-function rear panel jacks, collapsible stand, personalized call-letter I.D. plate.

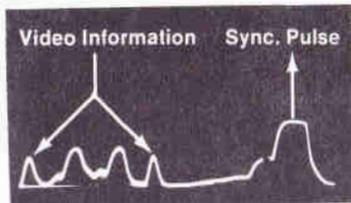
JOIN THE FUN WITH THE SSTV GANG AT A NEW LOW PRICE!



AL - W0JJK



*SSTV  
is a  
great  
way  
to "eyeball" a QSO!*



HOBBY INDUSTRY, 16TH & AVE. 'G', Council Bluffs, Ia. 51501  
 MAIL TO BOX 864, PH. 324-0142, NOON/5PM, TUES /SAT..  
 STORE HOURS ARE: TUES. -WED. -FRI. .... NOON TO 5 PM.  
 THURS. NOON TO 8 PM & SAT. .9 AM TO 5 PM.