



HAM HUM



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

Vol. XXIV
No. 4

April 1974

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: FRIDAY - APRIL 12, 1974

TIME: 8:00 P.M.

WHERE: FITZGERALD FRIENDSHIP ROOM,
COMMERCIAL FEDERAL SAVINGS AND
LOAN ASSOCIATION
4724 South 24th Street, Omaha
(Free parking in rear off 25th Street)

PROGRAM: TWO METER CLINIC (Program will be in several parts.)

Part 1 - Frequency and deviation check. We will have counters and deviation monitors on hand. Bring your rig, power supply and suitable screwdriver or tuning wand. Experts will be on hand to assist.

Part 2 - Demonstration and discussion of a portable repeater by Martin Griffin WAØGEH.

Part 3 - Discussion of proper method of reporting an emergency, information to be obtained before reporting, and how to report in a minimum time.

Part 4 - Other discussions of your choice. The panel of experts will be there.

REFRESHMENTS - EYEBALL QSOs - VISITORS WELCOME

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: April 19th

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 Regular member and XYL 2.45
 Student member 1.00

NOTE OF THANKS

Sincere thanks to Ned W. Valder, KØHRD/WBØFXK, Box 206, Missouri Valley, for furnishing the plastic "Basics Of Basic Electricity" cards which were distributed at a recent Code and Theory class.

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

Autopatch Fund

C. W. (Bill) Armstrong, KØEFR

Postage Fund

Donald J. Launer, KØRJE (Fremont)

FUTURE MEETINGS – SAVE THE DATES

MAY MEETING – MAY 10, 1974

See a crystal grown before your very eyes, plus discussion of insertion of impurities in the crystals, how they are inserted and why – by Dr. Charles F. Slagle, Professor of Chemistry, Buena Vista College, Storm Lake, Iowa.

JUNE MEETING – JUNE 4, 1974 (NOTE CHANGED DATE)

Lewis G. McCoy, W1ICP, Beginner and Novice Editor QST, and ARRL Staff, and Paul Grauer, WØFIR, Director Midwest Division ARRL, will be in Omaha to bring us up to date information on repeater regulations as well as any subject desired by the audience.

SUMMARY OF MARCH MEETING

Would you believe????? 400 plus items to be auctioned; 300 plus persons in attendance! The March meeting/auction was by most considerations an overwhelming success!

The meeting got under way just before 1900 and two important items of business were voted on. First, the membership confirmed the appointment of Edward C. Eichler, WBØBCB, of Valley, Nebraska, to the Board of Trustees to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Roger M. Johnson, WBØGAI, who moved away from Omaha. Ed's enthusiasm and initiative will, no doubt, be apparent in Board actions in the future. We thank Roger for his past contribution to the Club.

Next, the proposed Repeater Regulations were adopted with the proviso they be called "Directions For Use Of Repeater And Autopatch." No matter what you call them, however, in your President's opinion they represent a positive and affirmative step towards prescribing not only matters of statutory import, but of courtesy, demeanor and procedure in the use of WRØABQ and WRØACE. My congratulations to you, the membership, for having adopted these measures!

The Field Day Co-chairmen, Mike Wilczynski, WBØBMV, and Russ Minks, WAØVEE, were presented to the members and visitors; volunteers in support of Field Day were solicited.

Then on to the auction proper. Marty Griffin, WAØGEH, and Cecil DeWitt, WØRMB, again provided auctioneering services. Items on the block

spanned the spectrum of junk-junk to some excellent equipment like 2 meter handtalkies, HF transceivers, etc. etc. By the time 2130 rolled around there were still 100 items or so to be bid on.

Our sincere apologies to those who dragged their saleables out only to have the auction end before the items came up, but it does pay to get in early, I guess. We were completely overwhelmed by the quantity of material up for grabs, and frankly, unprepared for the turnout.

In this context I have taken under advisement and will commend to the Board the suggestion of many members and visitors that we do it "one more time." We will be evaluating the possibility of holding another auction at the annual Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club Hamfest late this summer at Missouri Valley. Your comments on this, pro or con (with supporting rationals) are invited. If sufficient support is evidenced, we could make it an all-day "Boat-anchor Exchange Festival" in addition to the usual Hamfest activities.

Our thanks to those who directly participated in the auction and to those whose participation was not immediately apparent, namely, Charles Kelly, WAØUZX, and family; Russ Minks, WAØVEE; Mike Wilczynski, WBØBMV; Ed Askew, WAØRDZ; Cecil DeWitt, WØRMB, and Junior Op David; Marty Griffin, WAØGEH; Jerry Denholm, a professional auctioneer who miraculously appeared on stage; and to the many others who pitched in!

One more thing — If you intend to attend the meeting/briefing at S.A.C., I MUST have the information

sheets back by 15 April. Mail or hand carry them to me or mail them to the Club's mailing address. No info sheets, no go!

Rip, WBØGAJ
President, A.R.C.

COMPLACENCY KILLS

"The National Weather Service had been issuing tornado warnings for hours before the twisters hit, but in many areas such messages are considered routine. In most cases, entire communities were caught unaware."

The above is quoted from the Omaha World-Herald, April 4, 1974. Over 300 persons were killed in the worst tornado day in nearly 50 years! I'm asking myself, and wish you would inquire of yourself, if anything could have been done to reduce this tragic toll.

Of one thing I'm certain. Persons whose lives have been irrevocably changed by the events of April 4, 1974 will never again ignore a weather warning of any kind - much less a tornado warning. The questions I would like you to ask of yourself are: How many times have you taken only passing notice of a weather warning or advisory? How many times have you thought of a tornado watch/warning as merely another in the procession of normal spring occurrences that warrants no concern?

I'm a relatively newcomer to the Midwest, so I have a healthy respect for the types of turbulent weather characteristic of this environment. (Tornados, though not unknown to my native New Jersey, are rare.) I have

not, therefore, through decades of experience with these matters, been lulled into complacency!

What strikes me broadside is that otherwise intelligent individuals choose to ignore an overt threat on their lives. This is incredible! I almost went to become pedantic on the subject, but I don't want to lose any of the many good friends I have been blessed with here and abouts - much less lose them to complacency. Complacency kills!

One final note. The National Weather Service and ESSA have advised that due to a northerly shift in the jet stream of the upper stratosphere, Omaha now lies dead center in Tornado Alley. I don't know how you "feel" about living and working on ground-zero, bullseye, but it certainly should be more than a "feeling" or emotion. You should have a rational, sound plan of action to account for the various contingencies with which you may be faced as regards severe weather. Think about it...but not too long...it's that season NOW.

Rip, WBØGAJ
President, A.R.C.

In this day of soaring prices, even the feather pillow makers are complaining that even down is up.

de HARC News

MEMBER NEWS

Robert P. Carrick, WBØDHR, has moved from Omaha to 414 Yale S. N. Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106.

Good luck in your new location, Bob!

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC.

P. O. Box 291

Omaha, Nebraska 68101

PROGRAM COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE

IN ORDER TO PLAN A SPECIAL MEETING FOR THE NEAR FUTURE,
REQUEST YOU PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

1. Would you participate in a group tour/briefing at SAC, Offutt AFB?

Yes No

(If no, skip remaining questions, sign and return questionnaire to P. O.
Box 291, Omaha, Nebraska 68101.)

2. Are you a U.S. Citizen?

Yes No

(If no, skip remaining questions, sign and return questionnaire to P. O.
Box 291, Omaha, Nebraska 68101. Sorry, only U.S. Citizens on this one.)

3. Can you provide your own transportation to Offutt AFB?

Yes No

4. What month would you like the tour/briefing to take place?

May

June

July

5. Who will be in your party? (List Names)

(Signature)

(Call sign, if any)

OPINION

A few weeks ago I had a lot of time on my hands with very little to do other than think while in the hospital. It was during this time that this letter was born. During this time I was able to see just how great this hobby of ours is. Many cards, flowers, and calls were received from the local fellas as well as places as far away as Germany, California and Pennsylvania...all from friends made via ham radio. It was an outpouring of concern that gave a great feeling of gratitude for all the care shown to one fellow amateur. I would like to thank you for all your well wishes.

It's funny when something like this happens we suddenly become really thankful and aware of the things going on around us, but when you really stop and think, even without such major occurrences there are always people to thank, but somehow they never are. One such group is own own technical committee made up of fellas like Don, DZS; Jim, BDS; Phil, TKA; Mike, BHM; Mike, JXT; and many more who have helped make CFMC and WR9ABY the outstanding repeater that it is. Many times the committee has had to spend long hours at the sites to assure you of the luxury of being able to press the mic button and talk. Sometimes almost at the expense of happy home life, or their jobs. Lunch times are taken up...evenings before going home from work are taken up...much more time and effort than most of us realize is involved.

I, for one, think that these fellas have done an outstanding job with the maintenance and upgrading of our system, and should be thanked for

their efforts. Don't let them burn themselves out as has happened in so many repeaters around the country. Let's all give a hand more often. You'd be surprised at the reasons that can be found for helping...the pride of personal accomplishment...pulling spirit...something to do...educating yourself...the list is endless. You can help with just an on-the-air thanks when it is obvious that the crew is working on the system and have finished their job. At meetings we can thank them personally with a handshake and a well done...It's the least we can do to say thanks...they deserve it.

Special thanks should also go out to another crew for the new SQUELCH TALE image. It looks just great. If we continue to give credit to authors and ideas (people like to see their name in print) the SQUELCH TALE can grow to the best newsletter...to match the best repeater, WR9ABY.

Also consider the number of people in CFMC, CFAR, SARA and other clubs that get their own bulletins and the SQUELCH TALE. Why not let each club submit its part (articles, printing, postage). If each club tried to outdo the other ones in quality of material submitted, this could make a VERY good incentive to get more and better articles for a bigger and better SQUELCH TALE. With all the clubs in the Chicago area, I'm sure we can find lots of talent and energy for articles, typesetting, etc. Articles needn't be limited to local topics. Repeaters all over the country have bulletins. Here at the store there are available many bulletins with excellent articles that we can reprint with credits.

Think about this...it might get a lot

of clubs and/or members together through a common communications media. It might even improve operating procedures if ALL of the clubs could see in print how they would like operation on their repeater. We do know that all the repeaters are different. Some like things done one way, others another. Such a common media could make our great hobby even better.

73,
Art Housholder, K9TRG

ART WAS RECENTLY THE VICTIM OF A MILD HEART ATTACK, BUT IS NOW UP AND ABOUT AND RECUPERATING VERY QUICKLY.

Editor of Squelch Tale
de CFMC, Chicago, Ill.

(WØYZV, Editor Ham Hum: The thoughts expressed above should not necessarily be confined to the Chicago area. It seems to me that any ham in the Omaha area could have sat down and given thought and arrived at the same conclusions and could have written the same article, substituting Omaha for Chicago, Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club for CFMC, and possibly even HAM HUM instead of SQUELCH TALE. We could all take time to write a similar letter unless, of course, we happen to be on the Repeater Committee in which case we are so busy keeping it running for the benefit of others that we hardly have time to thank those who volunteer their help.

If all of the repeater users of WRØABQ and WRØACE would right now write a thank you to the Repeater Committee on the card enclosed with this issue, we could have a thank you

note in this magazine every month for the next 10 years or more. But perhaps I am one-sided. There may be some who think the repeaters are not a good service to the Club members and the community. If so, let's hear from you too. Now go back and read the letter again. There's more to it than just thanking the Repeater Committee. This is a good hobby and radio amateurs are wonderful people to know and have as friends.)

March 27, 1974

Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club
P. O. Box 291
Downtown Station
Omaha, Nebraska 68101

Hi,

Enclosed check for the Repeater Fund from the auction of donated items - memorial to WØAW, Bill Mathemeier, here in Fremont.

Bill is missed both on the air and in person. His presence at any Radio Gathering was always marked by some "sage" comments along with a helping hand for anyone in need.

The Repeaters are a great asset to the furthering of amateur radio, a thing that Bill subscribed to throughout his life.

Vy 73,
Friends of WØAW

MEMBER NEWS

Chuck Michel, KØQVL, is now back in Omaha in Room 322 at the Medcenter, 7410 Mercy Road. He monitors 2 meters with a TR-22. He'll be glad to hear from any OM.

NEW MEMBERS ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Dewaine F. Beam, KNØHOT
2347 North 63rd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68104
Phone: 553-9329

Lois R. Beam (XYL)
2347 North 63rd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68104
Phone: 553-9329

Robert A. Conley, WNØLYU
2562 Bauman Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68112
Phone: 451-0707

Steve Conley
3028 South 45th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68106
Phone: 556-9141

Larry V. Donnelly, WØKCK
4127 North 61st Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68104
Phone: 451-6800

Ronald E. Hester
703 South 35th Street
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51555
Phone: 322-2386

James D. Lafferty, Sr.
3409 Burt Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68131
Phone: 556-6988

William A. Leatherwood, WAØZUR
907 Lemay Drive
Bellevue, Nebraska 68005
Phone: 292-0970

Alfred L. Lown
7037 North 54th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68152
Phone: 571-1644

Melvin M. Messer
R. R. #1, Box 218A
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048
Phone: (402) 298-8582

Ervin A. Petersen, WBØIQA
Avoca, Iowa 51521
Phone: (712) 483-2869

NOTES FROM READERS

Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club
Omaha, Nebraska

Dear OMs:

With increase in the postal rates, am sure the enclosed will help some on mail cost. I enjoy Ham Hum and thanks for sending it.

2 meters going great guns in the far north. When I got on air again on 2 up here, it was pretty lonesome; now the QRM is building up.

Repeater 25-85 on air at Watertown, S. D.; 22-82 at Sisseton, S. D. soon; 16-76 on air at Fargo, N. D.; 34-94 at Detroit Lakes on air in Minn. Bismarck, N. D. in works; also Grand Forks, N. D.

Now when you come up for some fishing, bring mobile gear and let some of us tell you some secret lakes. Also have some eyeball QSOs. Thanks again.

Doug Burghardt, WØWR
Battle Lake, Minnesota 56515

ANNOUNCING AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB TRANSMITTER HUNT

The big transmitter hunt will be held on Sunday, May 19, 1974, beginning at 1:30 P.M.

The transmitter will be located within the city limits of Omaha. Hidden transmitter operators: Lowell Jackson, WAØHKT, and Bill Terwilliger, WAØFPB, assisted by Bob Andrus, KØLUG.

The 34/94 repeater will be shut down during this transmitter hunt. The event is for mobile and portable equipment only; the use of base station equipment is prohibited.

A worthwhile prize will be given to the winner - the finder of the PHANTOM RIG.

Plan not to miss this one. Everybody invited to participate. A special invitation to the Lincoln A.R.C.

RESULTS OF ARNS PUBLICATIONS CONTEST

Again in 1973 the Amateur Radio News Service sponsored the ARNS Publication Contest.

Several 1972 issues of HAM HUM were submitted for judging as a Class A-1 entry. The results of the contest have just been received and we are happy to report HAM HUM received first place in photo and third place in technical articles.

K4NAA (NAV) NEWS

On-the-air amateur radio facilities will be provided by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Amateur Radio Station, K4NAA, during the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) convention to be held at the Sheraton-Park Hotel in Washington, D.C., from 11 to 13 June 1974. K4NAA is the official amateur radio station for the convention and will be operational from 1000 to 1800 EDST daily with two positions on the 10 through 80 meter amateur radio phone and C.W. bands. Licensed radio amateurs throughout the world are invited to establish contact with K4NAA during the AFCEA convention. A specially designed QSL card, personally signed by the Commander, Naval Telecommunications Command, Rear Admiral Jon L. Boyes, USN, has been prepared and will be sent to acknowledge all contacts. Amateurs desiring to utilize the K4NAA facilities will be required to show their original FCC license in accordance with Article 97.83 of the FCC Rules and Regulations. A facsimile or photostatic copy cannot be honored. The U.S. Navy and AFCEA invite all enthusiasts to visit the K4NAA exhibit.

One of our club members had a peach of a secretary, until his XYL canned her.

de HARC News

FROM THE GRAPEVINE

A recent issue of the WesCARS Sentinel informs us that for the first time since that 40 meter net was organized, membership and check-ins are down this year. This comes as no surprise considering all the problems they have had this year. The first problem is propagation. So often, especially during the summer, 40 was as much noise as signal and enough of this will encourage most hams to take up another endeavor or move to another band--for instance two meters. That is the second problem. Two meters is convenient and always dependable within its limitations that it is a pleasant change from washed out HF bands. Another culprit would have to be interference. At its best it is a nuisance, and at its worst it is disgusting. Recently I checked into WesCARS hoping to answer roll call, but found that some weirdo was wiping out the frequency with a loud and irritating sound. He had a distorted and perverted talent for synchronizing his transmissions with net controls so that control did not know he was being interfered with. What a waste of time and resources. Many people are concerned with making the world a better place for their presence; people of this ilk seem to be concerned with making the world a worse place. WesCARS can survive and prosper but it needs the support of decent hams who are willing to contribute something positive to it. Not too long ago it was the place to "hang out" on 40; it can be again.

Have you noticed a resurgence of 10-80 rigs with built-in AC and DC

supplies and solid state except for driver and final? The SB-34 was the first to capitalize on this format and was quite popular a few years ago. The rig was low in power and many of them had problems of poor construction, but rather than improve on Linear Systems decided to introduce a completely new line and drop the SB-34. Next Swan came out with the 260 and 270 series, but these were all tube type. The 270 is still in production, but Swan's big line in rigs of this sort is all solid state with power ranging from 15 watts to 200.

Some time ago Yaesu came out with the FT-101 and recently Henry Radio brought out the Kenwood TS-520. Hallicrafters has had the FMP-300 for about a year and is definitely competitive with the imports as is the case more and more often these days with the dollar devaluation. These new rigs with their low current drain should make mobilizing more efficient and effective. Two meter FM has many advantages for portable and mobile use so that many hams have dropped 10-80 and gone to Two. I believe the trend has run its course and will now reverse. Count me in--Two may be great at home, but I find it useful as a bucket of bolts out of town.

It was interesting to read of Wayne's problems with the IRS in the November issue of 73. He didn't have too much to say about them that was nice. Seems they have disallowed his trips abroad as business expense. Speaking of trips abroad, wonder how the Arab-Israeli war will affect his tour to Jordan?

November QST had an interesting article about the ineffectiveness of

repeaters in a major emergency. It suggests that we be prepared for simplex at such a time. How about a test with a net control with hand held gear on top of one of our tall buildings and other mobile and portable units at various points in the county? Might be as much fun as a transmitter hunt, huh Pat?

Happy Holidays,
 Berge, WB6OSH
 de Fresno Skip-Calif.

PINE RIDGE ARC HAMFEST

The Pine Ridge Amateur Radio Club will hold its 20th annual Hamfest on June 2nd at the Chadron State Park—Camp Norwesca (10 miles south of Chadron). Free registration at 10:00 A.M.; dinner at 12:00; coffee and pop furnished; bring covered dish and eating utensils.

Everybody welcome to attend.



TV MANUFACTURERS TOLD

From ELECTRONIC NEWS, we learn that Richard O. Simpson, chairman of Consumer Product Safety Commission, told a National Electronic Manufacturers' Association Convention in New Orleans that he could cite over 100,000 cases of television sets having potentially hazardous defects, due to poor quality control.

Whether the manufacturers looked up from their cocktails, we don't know. Mr. Simpson was only talking quality control — not inherent design defects. But we wonder if the Manufacturers Association meetings would not be a good place for the ARRL to scream for better TV front ends. For 25 years, that little item has been ignored.

from DARA Bulletin

Then there was the young Novice who thought God lived in his bathroom at home because every morning his OM stands outside the door and shouts "God, are you still in there?"

de HARC News

FOR SALE

30-foot galvanized triangle tower now standing (three 10-foot sections) with antenna for either 2 meters or business frequency. Antenna is approximately 20-foot large diameter mast, 4 vertically polarized folded dipoles.

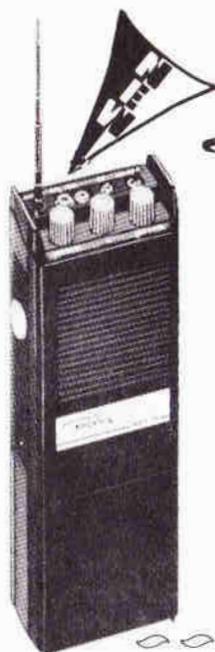
Buyer must disassemble and remove. Can be seen at 8910 Burt Street, phone 391-2865.

HRT-2 HAM HUM

Regency

1&2 WATT-5 CHANNEL
FM TRANSCEIVER

Size: 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$



BASIC UNIT (LESS BATTERY) \$179.00
includes factory installed transmit and receive crystals for 146.94 MHz.

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includes MA-50 Nicad battery and factory installed transmit and receive crystals for 146.94 MHz.

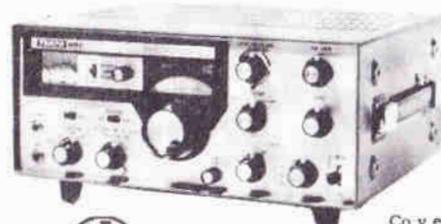
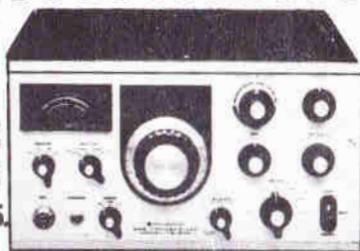
DELUXE PACKAGE \$295.00
includes MA-50 Nicad battery, BC-101 Battery Charger, MA-30 Flexible Antenna with adapter, MA-58 External Mike, MA-54 Leather Carry-Case, MA-52 Earphone, MA-29 DC Power Cord with cigarette plug, and factory installed transmit and receive crystals for 146.94 MHz.

A VALUE-LEADER IN AMATEUR RADIO EQUIPMENT. THE TS-511-S COVERS ALL HAM BANDS-80/10M, 35/15/10, WITH A KICKY 500 WATTS PEP, 300 WATTS CW. GREAT FEATURES TOO! VOX, CAL, BLANKER, RT (receiver incremental tuning), precise 1kHz DIAL calibration, 8 POLE-2.4 kHz FILTER, 10 TUBES, 1 IC, 4 FEET, 37 TRANSISTORS, 52 DIODES. BEAUTIFUL STYLING AND A GEAR DRIVEN DIAL THAT HAS THAT "SMOOOTH" FEEL. SPECIAL INCLUDES AC SUPPLY/SPEAKER.

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Modern design, superb performance, high styling, sturdy construction, outstanding reliability and truly EXCEPTIONAL VALUE!

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TEMPO/ONE Transceiver \$375.00
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DC/ONE Supply (12V) \$122.00



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