



# HAM HUM

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



Vol. XXIV  
No. 5

May 1974

## NEXT MEETING

WHEN: FRIDAY - MAY 10, 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)

WHAT: PROGRAM BY DR. CHARLES F. SLAGLE,  
PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY, BUENA VISTA  
COLLEGE, STORM LAKE, IOWA  
See a crystal grown before your very eyes, plus a  
discussion of insertion of impurities in the crystals, how  
they are inserted and why.

VISITORS WELCOME - EYEBALL QSOs - REFRESHMENTS

\*\*\*\*\*

**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: May 24th

**Annual Dues:**

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

**SUMMARY OF  
 APRIL MEETING**

The April meeting was billed as a "Two Meter Clinic" but really turned out to be a "potpourri" on several diverse subjects.

President Rip, WBØGAJ, called the meeting to order and after the Pledge of Allegiance presented certificates to new members and the Club voted to accept several applications for membership.

Announcement was made that the Board had taken under advisement the suggestion of many members to combine the annual Ham Fest at Missouri Valley with an auction/flea market.

Russ, WAØVEE, and Mike, WBØBMV, reported excellent progress in lining up personnel and equipment for Field Day.

Bob, WAØDHU, announced that an executive level meeting between the Douglas County AREC and the Omaha

**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

Chapter of the American Red Cross was planned.

Jim, WØYCP, announced that the response to recent work crew calls for WRØACE was scant and solicited help on the repeater to upgrade the facility.

Marty, WAØGEH, explained the operation and construction of the "Porta 'Peater" which he built. He related that, pending completion of documentation and finishing touches, the machine would be made available in times of emergency to amateurs in other areas as the need dictates.

John, WØYDV, an Omaha Public Safety Division Radio dispatcher and a "911" operator, explained what information was required when reporting an emergency to Police/Fire Departments.

John, WNØHTP, introduced a film he brought from his employer, the National Weather Service. The subject of the film was tornadoes and subsequent to the film, John answered questions and handed out literature on

severe storms and what information the N.W.S. would like to have from mobile radio operators through the AREC net.

Finally, all present were invited to align/adjust their 2 meter rigs on the equipment supplied and manned by Cecil, WØRMB, Jim, WØYCP, and others.

The attendance for the April meeting was again excellent and the room was filled to overflowing. This should be a good indicator to the "stay-at-homes" that the quality of the programs, under the chairmanship of Ham Hum Editor Dick, WØYZV, is on the upswing. No need to pine though if you've missed the last meeting or two - the best is yet to come. Don't miss the next few. They should be -- nay -- will be F.B.!

Rip, WØGAJ  
President A.R.C.  
\*\*\*\*\*

## RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

I am overwhelmed at the response to the editor's comments following the "Opinion" letter in last month's Ham Hum. A total of three were received, and lest you think I am being sarcastic, this is about five times our normal response. If your arithmetic works like mine, this means we normally receive less than one per month. I am so enthused that all three are being used this month. You will find them elsewhere in this issue.

In editing a magazine like Ham Hum, response such as this also indicates that 30 or 40 more people had the thought that they should sit down and fill out the card, all of which gives an editor some indication the Club paper is read.

This month let's turn our attention to the work being done on your behalf by the officers of the Club. In my dealings with them I feel their enthusiasm and particularly right now I am observing the energies they are putting forth in getting ready for Field Day. All of your Board is behind it but the ringleaders are Mike Wilczynski, WØØBMV, and Russ Minks, WØ-VEE. Time goes by so quickly that Field Day will be on us before we know it, so call one of these gentlemen (Mike or Russ) and let them know how you can help.

Your officers are also thinking ahead to September trying to work out a suitable format for the annual Hamfest. The turnout for the auction was so great and the time so short, their hope is to work out a change so as to perhaps establish an annual combined Auction and Hamfest. Any ideas you may have, please pass them along to President Rip or any of the Club officers or Board members.

And while you are thinking of people to contact to say "thank you," let's not forget those who handled the code and theory classes this year. What I am really trying to say is that we have enthusiastic officers and enthusiastic members who deserve your full cooperation and support.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEWS NOTE

Larry D. Martens, WØØHAL, Fremont, Nebraska, has just been appointed Emergency Coordinator for Dodge County. Congratulations on your new assignment, Larry! You can count on the support of members of A.R.C.

\*\*\*\*\*



Pictured is an antenna planned for use at the transmitter site.

\*\*\*\*\*

## TRANSMITTER HUNT

The next transmitter hunt will be held 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 prize will be awarded to the one who finds the phantom rig.

Everybody invited to participate in this transmitter hunt.

## RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

### Repeater Fund

Dale G. Diamond, WBØGXJ  
Joseph W. (Bill) Hendrix, WØFCE  
Jay C. McAleer, WAØLLQ  
George Moore  
Erwin A. Petersen, WBØIQA  
Claude R. Sauvain, Jr., W5GAQ  
Leroy D. Smith, Jr., WØQH

### Autopatch Fund

Dale G. Diamond, WBØGXJ  
Claude R. Sauvain, Jr., W5GAQ

Thanks to all of you for your contributions. Thanks also to Russ Minks, WAØVEE, and Jack Powley, WAØSAQ, who donated articles at the auction, with the proceeds going to the repeater fund.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FIELD DAY 1974

Plan now to participate in Field Day which will begin on June 22nd and continue through the 23rd. Your Field Day Chairmen are Russ Minks, WAØVEE, (phone 346-8629) and Mike Wilczynski, WBØBMV (phone 571-7932).

The site will again be the acreage of Norval and Connie Bowen, WAØNPF and WAØMYF, which is south of Papillion and overlooks the Platte River Valley. Map giving directions for reaching the site will appear in next issue of Ham Hum.

Call either of these OMs and offer your assistance to help with Field Day or for answers to any questions you may have. Plan to join in the fun!

\*\*\*\*\*

## THE 220 DECISION (From December 1973 QST)

Perhaps it is a normal procedure in the current federal bureaucracy, but we can't help noticing that in proposing a new Class E CB service at 224 Mhz, the Federal Communications Commission is pretty much ignoring the results of an extensive professional study of CB it has already bought and paid for.

The analysis, prepared for FCC by Advanced Technology Systems a couple of years ago under government contract, among other things shows that 70% of CBers find the present service quite satisfactory, and 20% more say it would be adequate if rules were enforced. Since the ATS study recommended a number of steps to curb misuse, it seems that if the Commission had followed the advice it sought — and paid for with public funds — 90% of its CB licensees would be perfectly content.

Where, then, is this need "of the general public for improved radio-communication services not now effectively provided by the Class D CRS," this "pent-up demand"?

It hasn't really been shown to exist, of course; there is only pure speculation by industry. The petition triggering FCC's proposal came from the Electronics Industries Association, not from the public; and much of the comment in support (a weak minority at that) is from the CB manufacturing industry, not primarily from users or would-be users. In these days of consumerism, it isn't hard to demonstrate that the interests of the manufacturers and of the general public do not always coincide.

EIA was quoted by the Commission as having predicted a potential of ten million (10,000,000) Class E licensees. FCC's notice requested more information on what kind of calculations produced this figure. EIA's response furnishes nothing but guesses — "projections . . . expected . . . should be . . . experience indicates . . . we feel confident in predicting . . ." But at least the manufacturers apparently realized the ten million figure was preposterous and quickly changed their tune. The current EIA comment says there "should be" a growth of 250,000 per year, and "it is not unlikely" that in ten years there will be three to four million. Now, how they get 4,000,000 from ten times 250,000 is arithmetic much too complicated for us, especially when it obviously assumes 100% renewal for ten years. Further, in 1972 EIA predicted Class E would be in one out of every 10 new cars sold. Perhaps with more morning-after second thoughts, today they predict one out of 15. Are Commissioners really persuaded by this kind of wildly changing speculation? Especially when FCC records show continuing **decreases** in CB licensees the past three years — 886,951 to 868,013 to 848,029 to 834,012\*

The ATS survey (emphasis ours): "No conclusions have been drawn relative to the need for more frequencies or a movement of the allocation for this service to a different place in the spectrum. The reason for this is a conviction that the service has problems for which **corrective action is necessary and can be successful without regard to the availability of additional channels.**"

Once more, FCC appears to have disregarded the advice it sought and paid for.

An examination of the comments in the FCC Docket 19759 file shows perhaps 40 to 1 in opposition to the 220 CB proposal. Such public opinion is certainly not infallible, nor does a "think tank" like ATS have all the answers. But it will be most interesting — and highly significant — whether the Commission's decision will be influenced by the results of a contracted professional study of the specific subject, along with an almost-unanimous expression of the public it serves; or whether it will be influenced more by purely economic considerations as seems to be so typical of the current administration.

\*Oh, those are just figures, the manufacturers tell us; CB is really growing fast — the newcomers just don't bother to get a license.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 1974 ARRL ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVISION CONVENTION

The 1974 ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention, sponsored by the Pueblo Ham Club, Inc., will be held June 7-9, 1974 at the Ramada Inn, Pueblo, Colorado. Pre-registration fee \$6.00 prior to June 1; \$7.00 at the door. Saturday breakfast, \$2.85; YL's luncheon, \$2.95; Saturday buffet dinner, \$3.50; Sunday banquet (prime rib), \$6.00. Majority of prizes will be awarded at Sunday banquet. Pre-registration prize a HP 970A Digital voltmeter.

\*\*\*\*\*

### NEW MEMBERS ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Willard A. Goll  
455 Beverly Drive  
Omaha, Nebraska 68114  
Phone: 393-8887

LeRoy Hilt  
5535 South 124th Street  
P. O. Box 988, D.T.S.  
Omaha, Nebraska 68101  
Phone: 333-0274

Clifford H. Ireland, WAØFIF  
4835 California Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68132  
Phone: 558-6735

Jerry D. Novotny, KØKKP  
5450 South 50th Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska 68117  
Phone: 731-0161

Josephine M. Novotny (XYL)  
5450 South 50th Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska 68117  
Phone: 731-0161

Glenn Pollock, WAØFMY  
6736 Laurel Avenue  
Omaha, Nebraska 68104  
Phone: 571-6230

Leroy D. Smith, Jr., WØQH  
6803 Hilltop Street  
Papillion, Nebraska 68046  
Phone: 331-1234

David A. Wells, K5QJG  
12332 South 35th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68123  
Phone: 291-5346

\*\*\*\*\*

## FROM FORMER MEMBER

April 12, 1974

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

Greetings to Everyone,

May I express my gratitude for the fine repeater operation that we enjoy everytime we come to Omaha. We regret that our business schedule prohibits us oftentimes from attending the club activities or seeing many of the fellows in person.

One point I would like to make is that in my travels over the midwest (85,000 miles a year) some of the 2 meter operations are beginning to degenerate to gum chewing, sarcastic radio services. We are proud to see that the Omaha team is working together to keep its repeater operation in a highly amateur oriented style.

After living 5 years in the Omaha area, we are delighted to feel a part of that repeater activity even though we live some distance away now.

My best wishes to you and your leadership for your fine operations.

Kindest personal regards,  
Bill Hendrix, WØFCE

(Ed. Note: Thanks, Bill for your generous contribution to the repeater fund.)

\*\*\*

4/12/74

Repeater Committee: I do use the A.R.C. Repeater Station WRØABQ, and am very glad we have it. I can complain about the users who have a "don't care" attitude about approved amateur practices and procedures. Phonetics are a mixture of right and

wrong. Some day the F.C.C. will monitor WRØABQ, and some members may receive a pink ticket. Why not ask all to abide by regulations?

Royal Enders, KØLYO/Ø Mobile  
\*\*\*

4/13/74

My thanks to those people who are responsible for the operation and upkeep of the Omaha Ak-Sar-Ben Club repeater.

Fred Fischer, WØEGP  
\*\*\*\*\*

## SILENT KEY

William G. Ahillen, WAØJAB  
Savannah, Missouri  
April 15, 1974  
\*\*\*\*\*

## FOR SALE

Motorola receiver strip low band model TA111V with AC power supply.

Arnie Krauel, WAØGUD  
301 Washington  
Audubon, Iowa 50025  
\*\*\*\*\*

## FOR SALE

Motorola HT-200 with case, 2 meter Handie Talkie 146.34/94, 16/76, 76/76, 94/94 4 channel charger - \$275.00.

John Ferrel, WØYDV  
6401 North 39th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68111  
Phone: 455-5451  
\*\*\*\*\*

Ohm: Watt did Dr. Frankenstein's monster say when he ran out of electricity?

Amp: AC come, AC go!  
\*\*\*\*\*

## THE WAY IT GOES---

Time was when you could drive behind a car on the expressway, see that it had a ham antenna on back, and beep out a "HI" on your horn, knowing that you'd get a wave or a "HI" right back. That was a long time ago (it seems) and those things don't seem to happen these days.

It led to good things and to embarrassment too. I remember on a trip from New York to Florida in the summer of 1951 or '52, getting behind a sedan which had what looked like a ten meter whip on the bumper and tooted a couple of "HI" calls at the driver. I should have looked at him instead of the antenna! When he pulled over to let me go by, the car turned out to be a local police vehicle (still using low-band radio)-and that happened to me more than once.

I didn't learn my lesson, which is just as well. The next year, driving through Hannibal, Mo. on a day with the mercury up around 100° or so, I got behind a WØ and signalled. The result was an invitation to his home, cold lemonade and a very pleasant visit. Once on a street in Montreal I met a VE2 the same way; we stopped to talk, were joined by a traveling VE3 and then picked up another VE2 to make it a street-corner hamfest.

But this doesn't happen anymore. I don't know if it is the general cool attitude of people these days-I would hate to think that hams have gotten that way-or it may be a lack of familiarity with CW. I know it is pointless to honk "HI," or any other signal, at a car with a ham license plate and a 5/8th wave two-meter whip on the deck. Many of these guys don't

recognize any call that does not come through the repeater! And did you ever try to send a 10 signal on an auto horn?

Likewise it isn't healthy from a law-and-order standpoint anymore with so many municipalities passing strict anti-noise ordinances.

By W9IWI

de Circuit Board

\*\*\*\*\*

19 Apr. 1974

Mr. Vernard Riportella, President  
Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club  
P. O. Box 291  
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Dear Mr. Riportella,

Please permit me to express my sincere appreciation for your assistance in resolving some of the radio interference problems we have experienced on one of the Strategic Air Command radio systems.

As a communicator myself, I am fully aware that our VHF band, especially the two-meter wave length, is extremely crowded and strict adherence to assigned frequencies is required. You and I in our respective duties share the common interest of policing our assigned frequency spectrum. It is gratifying that you are taking the interest and time in this important area.

Again, my thanks, and if I can be of assistance to you and your Club, please contact me. I can be contacted at telephone number 294-4115.

Sincerely,

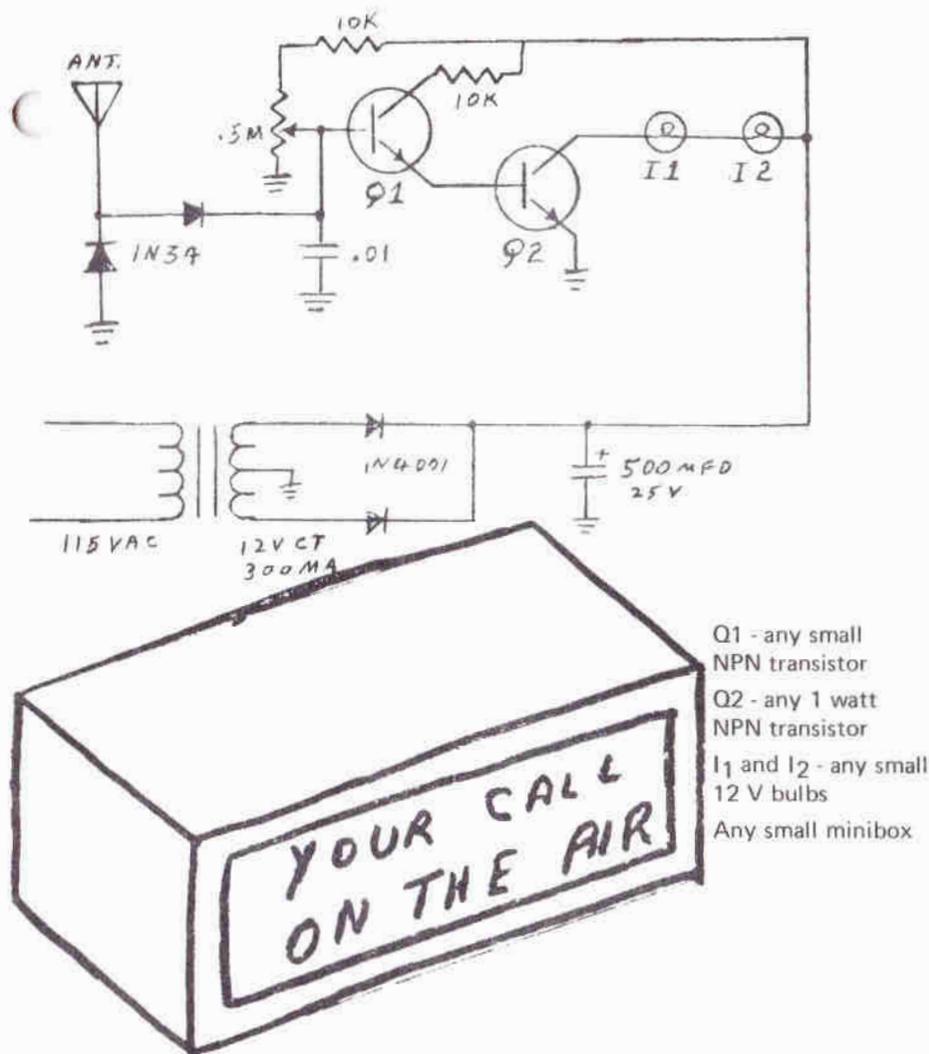
JOHN T. RANDERSON,  
Colonel, USAF

Director, Communications-Electronics  
Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

\*\*\*\*\*

## RF ACTUATED ON THE AIR SIGN

Bob Schriener, WA0UZO



- Q1 - any small NPN transistor
- Q2 - any 1 watt NPN transistor
- I<sub>1</sub> and I<sub>2</sub> - any small 12 V bulbs
- Any small minibox.

This is a cute little circuit that will show you are putting out RF when transmitting. It is a simple untuned RF indicator. Q1 and Q2 are connected as a Darlington Amplifier giving hi gain. The .5 m resistor is used to set the sensitivity of the circuit. Merely adjust until the lights just go out. Then RF will cause them to turn on.

Use a small piece of red Plexiglas with press-on lettering on the front of the minibox and mount the bulbs behind it to illuminate the lettering.

de Grid Leak, Pueblo, Colo.

\*\*\*\*\*

## CODE AND THEORY CLASSES

By — Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU

The 1974 Code and Theory Classes are now concluded and we feel this was one of our most successful years. We set a record with new novice operators; the general and advanced class also made gains over last year.

One of the main factors in this success was the use of classrooms at Creighton Prep. Thanks to the generous staff at Prep, many people were reached, their goals realized. Human success is priceless and the staff at Prep had a big part in it. We are deeply thankful for the use of the facility for this year's Code and Theory Classes.

Another factor in the success of the 1974 class is the devotion and hard work displayed by the instructor staff. Chuck, KØKKL, Lloyd, KØDKM, Hilton, WBØHPP, Ed, WBØBCB, Jon, WAØGQT, and Bob, WAØDHU teamed up to make this year's class the

most well-organized and effective we've ever had. Our most sincere thanks to these men for a job well done.

Still another factor in the success of classes this year was the students. As we looked at this class we were elated to see the keen desire to set a goal, work toward that goal with hard work and determination, and to reach that goal. It was a joy to work with these people, an experience we will never forget.

Yes, thanks for the use of good classrooms at Creighton Prep, the devotion, planning and hard work displayed by the instructor staff, and to the students and their determination, the 1974 Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club Code and Theory classes go into the record books as one of our most fruitful.

The following completed the 1974 Code and Theory Classes (January 7th — April 15th) for General and Above:

R. Harper	L. Longstreth
*John Curran	Mino St. Lucas
Jerry Miller	Marge Kelly (XYL)
**Frank Comisar	**David Farrand
Lloyd Burks	**Eldin Filley
**Tom Kelsey	Terry Novak
D. F. Beam	*Bill Dumbleton
Don Sudduth	Tom Mulick
Paul Garrett	Curt Armstrong
Steve Smith	*Bernie Chap

\* Passed Technician on April 18th

\*\* Passed General on April 18th

\*\*\*\*\*

## AHOY, OMAHA! HERE COMES THE SUBMARINE

During May the United States Navy submarine MARLIN will be heading the Missouri River to its final resting place in Omaha, Nebraska. This will be the farthest inland a submarine has ever ventured and Hugh Tinley, KØGHK, and Ed Askew, WAØRDZ will be riding it in. The FCC has picked a unique call sign for the occasion, WSØSUB/MO. The Navy is offering an attractive certificate to any of the amateurs around the world that work the sub. It's hard to tell just when it will arrive in Omaha but Ed

and Hugh should be operating sometime between May 15th and 25th. They will be using two rigs on 10, 15, 20, 40, and 80 and also will have something on two-meters. The sub is on a barge and is being pushed up the river by a tug. "I'm going to feel just like the rich folks," Tinley said. "A couple of years ago when we came up on the 50-foot aircraft carrier, we had a generator that fluctuated from 75 volts to 150 volts. I hear there is 110 volts AC off the tug."

### FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

April 23, 1974

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
7532

Mr. H. L. Tinley  
Farmers National Company  
4820 Dodge Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68132

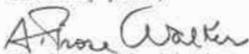
Dear Mr. Tinley:

This is in response to your letter request for a special event call sign assignment in connection with the Operation Submarine.

Pursuant to Section 97.51(a)(4) of the Commission's Rules, you are hereby granted Special Temporary Authority to operate an amateur station during the period May 6 through May 27, 1974, in connection with Operation Submarine using the call sign WSØSUB. This letter constitutes your authorization for the station and must be displayed at the central operating position. Station identification shall be WSØSUB/MØ, the MØ representing mobile operation in the tenth call area.

As trustee of the station, operating privileges are those of your own amateur license. You may designate any other Commission-licensed amateur of your choice to be a control operator, and, at such times, operating privileges shall not exceed those of his, or her, license. Non-amateurs may also participate under the limitations of the third party traffic rules. Identification of all emissions from the station shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 97.87 of the Rules. Within 30 days of termination of the special event operation, you are requested to submit to the Chief, Amateur and Citizens Division, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D. C. 20554, a written report of the specially authorized operation and a photocopy of the station logs.

Sincerely yours,

  
for Charles A. Higginbotham  
Chief, Safety and Special  
Radio Services Bureau



# HI SPIRE TOWERS

- \* Self-Supporting With A Tri-Bander (A)
- \* 32' - 40' - 48' - 56'
- \* 3 Mounting Bases
- \* Heavily Galvanized

(A) Limited to JR TriBander, unless guyed, on 56' towers.

HI SPIRE CONSTRUCTION

**\$79<sup>95</sup>**  
32 FOOT TOWER

"THE BEST TOWER VALUE!"



Heavy steel "beaded" channel design for exceptional strength—much stronger than tubular of same weight. "X" bracing & bridge type construction for exceptional torsional stability. Positive riveted construction & heavy galvanizing makes it exceptionally durable for minimum maintenance. Tapering design provides "nesting" shipment at lower cost to you, as well as lighter sections as you go higher, making it easier to erect.

**THREE BASES:** Rigid concrete (recommended base is 3x3x3' in firm soil, 32/40' models, and 4' deep on 48/56' models. Hinged concrete base provides option of lay-over, providing you have suitable "gin-pole" and tackle facilities. And the **EARTH ANCHOR** base requires no concrete and holds well in firm (clay, etc.) soil and may be relocated later.

A custom drilled rotor plate is provided that accepts all CDE rotors (AR22R, TR44, HAM-M) and also the HY-GAIN 400 with slight enlargement of bolt holes. A friction thrust (lateral) bearing is included.

## HAM HUM Special!

### TOWERS WITH RIGID CONCRETE BASE

69C091	32'	133 lbs.	\$ 79.95
69C092	40'	175 lbs.	104.95
69C093	48'	243 lbs.	144.95
69C137	56'	308 lbs.	189.95

### TOWERS WITH HINGED CONCRETE BASE

69C055	32'	147 lbs.	\$ 89.95
69C056	40'	189 lbs.	114.95
69C057	48'	248 lbs.	154.95
69C138	56'	313 lbs.	199.95

### TOWERS WITH EARTH ANCHOR BASE

69C094	32'	191 lbs.	\$119.95
69C095	40'	233 lbs.	144.95
69C096	48'	390 lbs.	239.95
69C139	56'	455 lbs.	284.95

59C100, "T" wrench to drive anchors (8 lbs.) . . . . . 9.95

Includes anchor base and anchors (anchor bases require no concrete). Earth anchors screw into the ground and hold well in firm soil. May be removed and relocated later.

10% Off  
HI-SPIRE tower prices shown here. ONLY good during May-74, and on CASH orders ONLY. Save!



Box 864  
Council Bluffs, Iowa - 51501