



HAM HUM

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

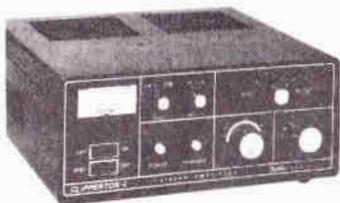


November 1978

Vol. XXVIII
No. 11

OMAHA AMATEUR CENTER

5347 No. 30th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68111 (402) 453-3344



The CLIPPERTON L

The SUPER TUNER PLUS



HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur 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 AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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 Omaha, Nebraska 68101

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Copy deadline for Dec. issue is Nov. 17th.

Dues-Annual Basis

(Due and Payable each January 1.)
 New member initiation fee \$ 1.00
 Regular member \$10.00
 Regular member and spouse \$12.00
 Student member \$ 4.00

Dues-Quarterly Basis (For each quarter or part thereof for balance of calendar year.)

New member initiation fee \$1.00
 Regular member \$3.00
 Regular member and spouse \$3.60
 Student member \$1.05

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1978

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
 333 South 132nd Street
 Omaha, Nebraska 68154

WHAT: PROGRAM on RTTY, to be presented by Dick Jugel, KØDG.

Here's an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about the inside and outside of a teletype unit, how it functions and how easy it is to get involved in this fascinating mode of communication.

CU there!

WBØPHP

VISITORS WELCOME - REFRESHMENTS - EYEBALL QSOs

THE PREZ SEZ

People are our most important asset. People who volunteer to do work or give ideas. I am proud of this organization and our people. To see amateurs at work in what we call our lobby. Monthly, it is illustrated to me how Club members are concerned that we, as a group, help our community and at the same time have fun doing it.

Without the idea that we need a place to store our trailer and tent, as forwarded by WBØHEU, Wayne, WBOYFX, Ray and WBØSGB, Ray, we would not have them under cover at Flightland Airport (not Bonacci).

WØNZ, Mark thought someone could make use of magazines and books he had as excess to his needs. Our Novice Class benefited as instructors WDØGNN, Dean and WBØYOD, Bob made sure the literature found new homes. General Class instructors NØAIH, Jim and KBØBW, Virg are also busy giving students ideas of upgrading. I suspect those learning from WAØIWF, Frank feel his idea of a class is the best thing since the invention of the integrated circuit.

A novel idea, that of having the Club participate in the ARRL Sweepstakes, came from WBØMNK, Jon. We will participate in the SSB portion only this year as it is a way most can participate. Hopefully next year we can enter the CW contest also.

It was suggested that we use the J.C.C. or the 24 hour event. All Club members are invited to sign up with WØMQ, Mike so he can assign operating times for the weekend of November 18-19. If you liked Field Day, you'll love this fun, and it's all

indoors and fair to use the alpha linear and 40 meter beam.

I regret that a couple of idea men are leaving Omaha. By the time you read this, WØAUH, Lyman and WAØGEH, Marty have left for North Dakota and Colorado, respectively. Besides several suggestions, Lyman provided a memorable Santa Claus on the air last year. Marty, Sharon and crew will be missed for their participation in many activities. Perhaps our greatest legacy from Marty is his porta-peater idea and useful product.

The Nominating Committee will have met by now, and a slate will be published in the December issue. The idea of new officers and board members is a good one, giving us the advantage of fresh thinking and offering opportunity to serve to many.

Last month's program by WØSBZ, Kaye kept us totally enraptured with flying. It gave me the idea I was ready to solo - Hi. Thanks again, Kaye, for giving a fine presentation.

In finishing I would leave you with some suggestions. Attend the auction in Lincoln on November 12. Remind your spouse of the need for cookies, etc. and set aside December 10th as family day as we enjoy our Christmas party. Details next month. Also please come to the December meeting to vote on the various matters and pay your 1979 dues. It will also be a cost saving for our Club as statements will not have to be mailed then.

See you on the 14th as KØDG, Dick goes into the mysteries of the "Loop Connection."

73s

Jim, WBØQGV

ARES Core Group Meeting

The ARES Core Group met at 9:00 AM Sept 30th, 1978 at the Red Cross Chapter House. We discussed the need to take advantage of the slack season to become better prepared for next Spring.

There is a need to update all ARES records. Many ARES applications are over six years old and people have new calls, phone numbers, equipment capabilities, etc. Each core group member was given blank forms and a portion of the existing applications with instructions to call each ARES member and verify/update all pertinent data. The updated records, when complete, will be automated to enhance our capabilities.

We reviewed our procedures for weather watches. The weak link in our entire system remains that of initial alerting. We are already behind the

power curve if our first indication of severe weather is the sounding of the Civil Defense sirens. This has occurred several times this year; we need to learn of the possibility, however slight of severe weather long before the weather watch is issued. This will give us the needed time to set up net control and other preliminary functions. We are still working on these procedures.

We discussed the need to further decentralize the various functions. When ARES had only 75 or so members a few years ago, the EC and AEC could handle the different tasks. With membership now over 175, additional delegation is necessary. The following job positions were created and these people volunteered to accomplish same:

TASK	PERSON(S) ASSIGNED	DESCRIPTION
Operations	Jim Sanford	Insure all aspects of weather watch operations are accomplished in a timely and efficient manner. Also develop checklists for ARES equipment.
Membership	Bob Neben Gerry O'Harrow	Manage all paperwork involved with ARES membership. Includes membership forms, individual folders, patches, and recruiting new members.
Training	Jim Peterson	Develop and maintain initial training package for new members and recurring mini-lessons for general membership.
Publicity	Chuck Hoffman	Provide a written record of ARES activities. Includes news releases, outbound correspondence, and photos.
Maps	Paul Wolfmeyer	Maintain annual currency of the ARES activities. Includes annual survey of all points in coordination with REACT, MARS, and CBC.

TASK	PERSON(S) ASSIGNED	DESCRIPTION
Roster	Chuck Hoffman Jim Peterson	Publish current roster each Spring and Fall. Develop automated file system and EDP program for same.
Equipment	John Gebuhr Ken Harrigan	Monitor installation and maintenance of all ARES equipment. Insure adequate security, operational capability, and future requirements are accomplished.

We discussed the method to fill Core Group vacancies. In the past, the EC and AEC solicited volunteers. This did not necessarily get the word out to all the people who would like to volunteer, so we decided to announce it to all members via the Sunday evening net, Ham Hum, etc. If you would like to be on the Core Group,

please let me or Gerry O'Harrow know. Also our Core Group meetings are open to anyone desiring to attend. These meetings will be announced on the Sunday evening nets.

73s,
Bob Neben, K9BL
EC

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

Ham Hum Postage

John Kasal, Jr., W0SPD
Max N. McKinney, W0YVV

Repeater 34/94

Wayne L. Goetz, W0OHEU
Albert H. Maller, W0DCQ
Joseph H. Niemann, W0FWB
Philip S. Trainer, W0WYE
James B. Wilson, Sr., W0JPN

Repeater 22/82

Wayne L. Goetz, W0OHEU
Albert H. Maller, W0DCQ
Joseph H. Niemann, W0FWB
Philip S. Trainer, W0WYE
James B. Wilson, Sr., W0JPN

Thanks to all!

NEED FORM 610?

If you need a F.C.C. Form 610, call Federal Information Center listed in your telephone directory under U.S. Government and you should have it the next day.

73,
Charlie, K0QVL

ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Ronald P. Faulkner, W0CFC
3919 North 22nd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68110
Phone: 451-6627

Elizabeth A. Faulkner, W0ZEX
(XYL of W0CFC)
3919 North 22nd Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68110
Phone: 451-6627

DISTRESS CALL HOAX

By Joe Niemann, WBØFWB

Many Amateur Radio operators, including one Omahan, spent long hours one recent weekend hoping to help the survivors of a ship-wreck. But after some 30 hours of radio communication, the Coast Guard wrote the transmissions off as a probable hoax.

It happened the weekend of September 30-October 1, 1978.

Omahan, Larry Hinsdale, WBØSMR, tuned to the Inter-America Traffic Net on 21415 MHz at about 2100 UTC, Saturday, September 30, with the idea of checking in. He quickly learned that a man, giving a K1 Amateur Radio call, had sent out a distress signal, saying he was on a life raft in the Pacific Ocean after a 40-foot pleasure yacht, The Phantom Blue, had sunk. The caller said he was among 12 survivors, but that three persons were dead.

Reception was difficult, Larry said, adding, "it took several of us to put the story together." Larry said the man, who had a mature voice, appearing to be an older individual, gave longitude and latitude coordinates. "The location he gave was indeed in the Pacific," Larry stated.

But then, slowly facts began to change. "The ship name became the Fathom Blue," said Larry. And on Sunday, the radio operator said he was 200 miles off Greenland, in the Atlantic, instead of being in the Pacific Ocean. His call sign also changed about three times.

Because of the difficulty in receiving his voice transmissions, hams

suggested he switch to whistled Morse code. "Reception improved when the man complied with the request," Larry stated.

The Coast Guard, in the meantime, had launched a search in the Pacific. But it was called off Sunday when suspicions arose. The Coast Guard believed the signal came from the mainland, not from either the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans.

At the request of the Coast Guard, hams cleared the frequencies between 21410 and 21420 MHz. Larry was one of the many hams, including those in Central and South America, who helped keep the frequencies clear of routine QSOs. (Author's note: It's surprising how many hams jumped in, calling CQ, without bothering to determine if the frequency was in use. For the good of ham radio, it should be noted they quickly QSY'd when they learned an emergency was in progress.)

Larry's role in the unfolding drama was the subject of several news stories. Omaha television stations KMTV and WOWT sent reporter-photographer teams to interview Larry. Both channels included the film story on the 10 p.m. newscasts Sunday night, and WOWT had a follow-up story on its Monday daytime news shows. The Omaha World-Herald also interviewed Larry, carrying a lengthy article in both its Monday morning and evening editions, pointing out the part ham radio operators were playing in the distress call hoax.

LADIES ONLY

Within the next month we will be losing a valuable XYL to the Denver area. Sharon Griffin (XYL of Marty, WA0GEH) will be joining her husband as soon as their house in Omaha is sold. Although Sharon is not a ham, she has been a real asset to the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club. She says that prior to 1976 she always attended special events and *never missed* an auction. However, in 1976 (as many of us can remember) when the OM accepted the chairmanship of the "Convention to Mention for Years to Come," Sharon was a natural to chair the ladies' events....which she did admirably. Yes, the ladies who attended the Omaha event in 1976 are still talking about it. Then 1977 dawned with the need for someone to spearhead the food detail and the children's games at the annual picnic. Again, Sharon was enthusiastic about assuming the responsibility...(uh, if she wasn't enthusiastic it was a "well-guarded secret.") This year she has even become a member of the Club. She and Marty recently returned from the Kansas City convention which will probably be the last ham-related event they attend as Omahans. They'll certainly be missed here, but we wish them the very best in their new home near the mountains.

—News flash—mark your calendars, ladies, for Sunday, December 10. Yes, that's the date for the Radio Club Christmas party. The location is the same as last year...South Omaha Boys Club. Ladies, the latest word from the "gourmet department" comes directly from Leona Chereck (XYL of Bob, November 1978

WB0TVP). She'd like each of us to bring a plate of Christmas cookies. Imagination is the key: plain or fancy cookies, peanut brittle, brownies.... you name it, she'll be happy to have you bring it for treats at the party.

Till next month.....33s,

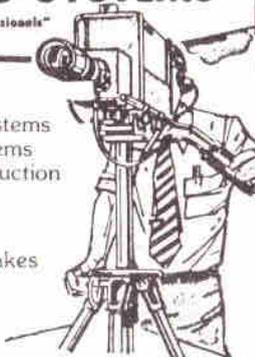
Jill, WB0NYH

MICRO-COMPUTERS, ETC.

Mid-America Electronics Conference sponsored by K. C. section IEEE November 15-16, Municipal Auditorium, Exhibition Hall, 13th and Wyandote, Kansas City, MO. \$25.00 registration. Call John Gebuhr, WB0CMC, at 553-6414 for further information.

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If you are thinking about running an Amateur Radio licensing course, or if you want a few tips on improving an existing one, you should request a copy of the "Instructor's Guide" published by 73 Magazine, Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458; the handling charge is one dollar. This guide provides a lot of information about setting up and conducting effective licensing programs. Swap Bulletin Editors would do their readers a favor by printing these items about the Coax Handbook and the Instructors Guide.

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WORKING WITH THE K-FACTOR

By Vern Riportella, WA2LOQ
Warwick, N.Y.

I recently read with interest the "Repeater Report" in *HAM HUM*, the monthly bulletin of the AK-SAR-BEN Radio Club, Omaha. The report authored by the Repeater Committee Chairman, John Gebuhr, WBØCMC, was informative and well-written. Having been President of the Club some years ago, I was particularly pleased to learn of the great progress made since then. In describing the present standby repeater, John employed a rather disparaging, albeit justified, term: "Clodge." The use of this term, variously spelled, but widely understood in Amateur circles inspired some research, comments and speculation. The following is the result.

Open Letter to John, WBØCMC

Dear John,

I certainly enjoyed your Repeater Report in October's *HAM HUM*. Omaha has certainly come a long way since I moved East. (I wonder now and then if there is a connection.) One observation I would make concerning your report is your spelling of the word "Clodge." The word is, I believe, spelled Kluge. In its original meaning, as best I can determine, it referred to a printing press more known for its mechanical contrivance than for any special fulfillment of its design objective. The word seems to have been absorbed into the Technical vocabulary of many disciplines to mean a device or system which is a virtual hodge-podge of components.

Thus when, for example, a computer program is called a Kluge (the context in which I first encountered the term) it is generally understood to be a rather ungainly contraption residing most distant from the elegant on an arbitrary scale of aesthetic value. A suitable synonym is a "Rube Goldberg" though I suspect Kluge's press predated Mr. Goldberg's marvelous mechanical monstrosities by several decades.

I should emphasize at this point that the above cited origin of the word is conjectural though it seems to have some merit. At least it seems a well-circulated rumor! The various references I consulted were of no help though I must confess my research was far from exhaustive. Five different dictionaries, including *Webster's Third International Dictionary*, had no such entry whatsoever. *Britannica II* did have an entry under Kluge, however. I found that a certain Field Marshall Kluge had led a Wehrmacht unit in a vain attempt to stem the allied invasion of Europe begun at Normandy in WW II. The entry contains, however, no hint of incompetence on Kluge's behalf that might lead to the use of his name metaphorically in reference to a contraption we might now call a Kluge or, in the adjective form, a Kluged system.

So much for the etymology of "Kluge," conjectural or otherwise. We have all seen Kluges of various sorts. In Amateur circles there are some examples we all can cite. In the hobby computer world, the apparent all-time champ was forever enshrined in a recent photo appearing in *Byte*. There were so many wires in such a jumble

between chassis, across the bench, along the floor, etc. it looked as though a spaghetti machine had run amuck or an explosion had occurred at AT&T Long Lines.

And this brings me to the main point of this digression (at last, I heard you say). Being an Amateur—radio, computer or otherwise—does not automatically and inevitably lead to Kluging a system. Whether the Kluger rationalizes his dilemma as attributable to fiscal constraints or technical immaturity, craftsmanship can and should, I submit, be evident at all levels of station complexity. I am saying that sound engineering by non-technical Amateurs is possible. Further it would seem a worthy objective to optimize the system performance of our stations (if but for pride alone) be they based on 6L6s or 4CX1500s, Dipoles or Log-Periodics, 2 Meter Repeaters or EME operations. On the other hand, Kluging your station, carried to its logical extremes can have enormous consequences.

What I am saying is that though we be Amateurs, the incentive to "clean up our act" should be a high priority. To help evaluate your own station's status, a scale has been devised. The scale, shown in the attached matrix, correlates various K (Kluge) Factors with various station attributes. The scale ranges from K_1 to K_{10} , is logarithmic and is correlated to five station attributes labeled A through E. The log scale means a value of K_2 is ten times greater than K_1 , K_3 is 100 times greater than K_1 , etc. The matrix appears on the next page. (See if you recognize your own station!)

73 and good DX, John.

(See charts — pages 10 & 11)

STATION ATTRIBUTES

K Factor	A Cluttered Station	B Effects of Xmsn Power	C RFI/TVI/EMC	D Technical Elegance	E Ops/Maint. Efficiency
K1	Occasional line cords visible; RTTY tape spools disorganized.	Just enough power for R5 QSOs.	NONE	Exciter, amplifier, LP filter, coax, antenna all well-matched and adequate for operational objectives.	Antenna selection switch unlabeled; log entries occasionally incomplete.
K2	Coax lines run over window sills; line extension cords used to excess; RTTY unspooled on floor; 40 meter dipoles coiled on floor.	Always get S9+ reports; house lights dim on modulation peaks.	Mild TVI with TV on bench tuned to distant station.	Amplifier over-powered for objectives; 80 meter pre-amp works great on enhancing QRN.	Rigs oriented poorly; stacked at random; rear access limited; log is lost.
K3	Numerous tripping hazards; cables run over, under, around and through operating position.	Your voice is heard on antenna traps; top of Cantenna embedded in ceiling; keying Xmtr puts dishwasher in dry cycle.	Heavy TVI to neighbors using rabbit ears; your TV experiences mild TVI with outside antenna.	Line circuit breakers hum noticeably; covers omitted from amplifier RC compartment.	ASR-14 doubles as garbage grinder; noise of fans like turbo-jet; occasionally scream into wrong mike.
K4	Have trouble finding rigs in shack; coax lines across lawn form obscene word when viewed from aircraft.	Keying Xmtr illuminates certain incandescent lamps around house; goldfish executes perfect Immelman turn when you're on 70 cm EME rig.	Your TV on bench grows legs and impacts wall at Mach 0.2; TVI at 1000 yards equal to WOWT at 1 mile.	Hot-standby bank of 4-1000s keeps slice of pepperoni pizza warm during contest ops; new 80 foot crank-up cranks down at 1G--40 meter yagi fails deceleration test at ground level.	Often shout into empty 807 cans; cannot reach controls due to macrame hanging in face; cat litter box under RTTY console occupied by your feet and indignant cat.
K5	XYL has difficulty locating you in shack; lawn grass is yellowed due to sun shadow of 160 meter phased array.	Keying Xmtr causes water meter to reverse and pet dog to court spare tire in garage.	NBC receives affiliate complaints about network feed quality. Refers problem to FCC.	Screwdriver falls into uncovered amplifier RF compartment and becomes anode for arc-welder.	Can work all bands at once without really trying; S9 Magazine calls for interview.
K6	Have difficulty finding self in shack.	Keying Xmtr causes ionospheric heating; dog and tire proceed with nuptials; meters spin like whirling dervishes.	Pentagon complains to FCC due to multiple failure of Communication satellites at 24GHz.	Pre-stressed 160 meter Rhombic element fails--resultant cross-bow launches support pole into low polar orbit.	Avalanche of equipment registers 3.2 on the Richter scale; malcontent geophysicist attributes tremor to Newington fault; CB magazine reports new earth-modulation technique invented at dental college--calls it plate tectonics.

STATION ATTRIBUTES

K Factor	A Cluttered Station	B Effects of Xmsn Power	C RFI/TVI/EMC	D Technical Elegance	E Ops/Maint. Efficiency
K7	Teenager appears from corner of shack--is instantly recognized as long-lost son last seen 6 years ago in same vicinity.	Corn in back 40 spontaneously pops when 30 dB horn is aimed west.	Noted Phycics report remarkable new contacts with animal kingdom--Loch Ness Monster wants Hollywood contract--will pose nude for Playboy promo.	28 meter parabolic dish you were excavating becomes duck pond by virtue of early monsoon which also invalidates your soil drainage calculations.	Bulldozer clears operating area but dozer blade strikes and fractures liquid helium coolant tank; resultant cryogenic cooling freezes your mustache which promptly crumbles and is sucked into turbo-fans.
K8	Screeching sound behind mound of equipment is identified as the 101st Airborne Division--eagle and all.	Field-induced psychosis affects large mammals at great distances--whales report to Polaris submarine for out-patient care.	Your SSTV image appears on Moscow TV--Moscovite engineer claims invention priority of technique.	Home-brew lightning arrest-or vanishes on side-flash discharge--subsequent return stroke vaporizes Winnebago counterpoise.	Breathing helium raises voice one and a half octaves and permits 500wpm SSB CQ calls.
K9	L.S.B. Leakey, Jr., Phd arrives from Africa with anthropological expedition--locates missing link at 16th strata below surface--comments that missing link was coupling at time of death.	New sunspots appear; aurora extends to equator; modulation bars visible in aurora at all latitudes.	Massive failure of National Power Grid--UFOs are blamed--Air Force scoffs at suggestion.	Rat-race circulator fails--cat has lunch on lazy susan.	Score record points in CQ World-Wide DX Comp.--unfortunately your now under-dampened tongue goes into self-oscillation.
K10	L.S.B. Leakey, Jr., Phd is trampled by herd of woolly mammoths (who subsequently play out their options with the Chicago Bears).	Spontaneous creation of Black Holes and Neutron Stars in the plane of the Ecliptic--fortunately same can be modulated by your parasitics.	UFOs complain to FCC.	Garbage can duplexers, not fully cleaned before use--resident horse fly colony, now radiation hybridized, carry off prize Appaloosa herd.	High Helium content causes you to float out of town at 1200 feet--unfortunately, flock of migrating geese has previous flight clearance at 1400--"Dropout" assumes new connotations.
	*NOTE: There are those (Existentialists I think they are called) who argue the entire Universe, beginning at The Big Bang, is in fact the Ultimate Kluge. If this is so, then K10 is already achieved. At any rate, we can all try for K1. Good Luck!				

NOTES FROM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Oct. 17, 1978

Present were: Jim, QGV; Tom, PQR; Jim, JPN; Bob, TVP; Butch, NGD; Bob, VQJ.

Treasurer's report was read by Jim, JPN, motion made to accept, by Tom, PQR, seconded by Butch, NGD and approved by the Board.

President Peterson reviewed with the Board the preliminary budget for 1979 that has been prepared by our budget committee. It is a picture of our income and annual expenses and a guide for the Board Members to allocate moneys for capital expenses.

A motion was made by Tom, PQR, to allocate up to \$20.00 for crystal for our GE 2 MTR rigs, seconded by Jim, JPN and approved by the Board.

The Board members were informed

that the South Omaha Boys Club, 22nd and P Sts could be used for the Club's annual Christmas Party, December 10th from 1pm to 4pm. Santa Claus will also make his appearance.

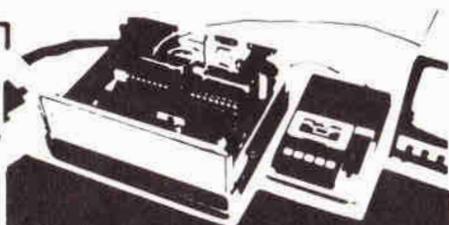
The Board promptly approved the site and Jim, JPN made out a check so it could be secured. More details will appear in Ham Hum.

There were three guests present at the meeting, CMC, John Gebuhr; LOQ, Mike Bruening; and UEB, Ted Ciurej. Guests are welcome at all Board meetings. If anyone would like to attend, feel free to do so.

Club Secretary

Robert R. Chereck, Sr. WBCTVP

- Appointments Calendar
- Shopping Lists
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TEN METER REPEATER

The following is a repeater status report for the almost-in-operation ten meter repeater.

Much work is still left to be done. A repeater would have been up long ago, but since I have personal things to take care of on weekends, there is little time for me to do any of the work.

At the receiver site a 5 X 7 inch aluminum bottom plate is needed for the bottom cover on the 220 MHz transmitter. Some minor 220 MHz antenna work is needed.

At the transmitter site a ten meter AM transmitter is needed since the one I had decided to blow up in my face. You just can't trust electronic CB gear anymore. A donation of one would be greatly appreciated, not only by me but also by those who plan to use the repeater once operational. Another 5 X 7 inch bottom plate is needed for the bottom on the 220 MHz receiver. A transmit antenna is needed for ten. Also, if anyone has any way of getting in contact with someone who can help me put the transmitter site on top of a building, call me. The Omaha Tower at 72nd and West Center is in my sites now.

All donations of work and/or gear will be greatly appreciated and everyone will be given full credit. In summation, this is what is needed:

1. Two 5 X 7 inch bottom plates.
2. 220 MHz antenna work (transmit).
3. A ten meter transmitter (or CB).
4. A transmit antenna for ten.
5. A good high transmitter site.

If anyone would like to help, call WBØWOT. He will tell me when I get

back each weekend and we will work out the details.

Also, if you heard the tape regarding this repeater, don't pay any attention to it. It was put in prematurely. All will be notified when the repeater is in operation.

73,
Scott, WBØQPP

Want to know all about coaxial cables, connectors and feedlines? You should order a copy of the "Coax Handbook" from the 73 Radio Bookshop, Peterborough, New Hampshire 03458; they cost \$1.50 each.

de W6LS, Burbank, CA



If you find a particular question or answer in an FCC Amateur Radio License examination to be excessively difficult to understand, you should bring the problem to the attention of Bob Kite, Federal Communications Commission, Personal Radio Division, Room 5114, 2025 M Street NW, Washington D.C. 20554. Naturally, he needs to know which specific questions, answers, or wordings you think are improper. W6LS has found Bob to be responsive in these matters.

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REPEATER COMMITTEE

By—John Gebuhr, WBØCMC

Now that there is a hang time (squelch tail) on 34/94, people have also become aware that there is a timer. The timer runs off of the transmitter and the repeater must shut off completely before it resets.

There is good reason for this. 34/94 is one of the most popular repeater frequencies in the country and nearly all transients have it. It is also the busiest machine in Omaha. As such, the likelihood is that emergency traffic, road condition requests, directions for travelers, etc., all of which have priority over rag chewing and chit chat, will come over it rather than any other machine in the area. Since the repeater's transmitter (Mike, take note) must drop to reset the

timer, it seems that a station with traffic should have time to break before the next person talks. Were it on the receiver, the next person in line could simply start talking without waiting for the machine to drop and a break station would have a hard time getting in as was the case when there was no hang time on the repeater. The old system worked this way; it always has and by reason of necessity, it always will. We must now go back to the old way of doing — let the transmitter drop. We will get used to this again as before the only time it got mentioned was when someone got long winded and timed it out. "Ah, ya timed it out, George, ya ol' windbag!"

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HELP!!!

As we rapidly approach the end of the year, it is time to start thinking about who is going to volunteer for all the various jobs that need to be done in the coming year for our Club. Are YOU one of the hardy souls who will step forth? In case you haven't noticed, our Club has experienced rapid growth this past year. With over 350 members now in the computer memory, we have begun to take on the aspects of big business. This will be evident when you study the budget sheet for next year, which all Club members will receive. The point I am trying to make here is simply that if our Club does not receive the number of people it requires, who give freely of their time, talents, and knowledge, then very little forward progress will be made. A few members have

indicated to me recently that would like to see "more things happen." To those I say, Volunteer! Apply your drive and ambition by serving on one of our many committees. This is where "things happen" anyway. The Board of Trustees can't do it all. The financial and legal matters of our Club have risen to a complexity level such that they occupy the majority of the Board's time and attention. It is at the committee level where everything else gets done. We have several members who fortunately unselfishly volunteer time and time again. Some of them would like a little relief. Won't you please consider helping us continue to be the Best in the Midwest! Contact the new Club officers, whoever they may be, and VOLUNTEER.

Tom Thiessen, KØPQR

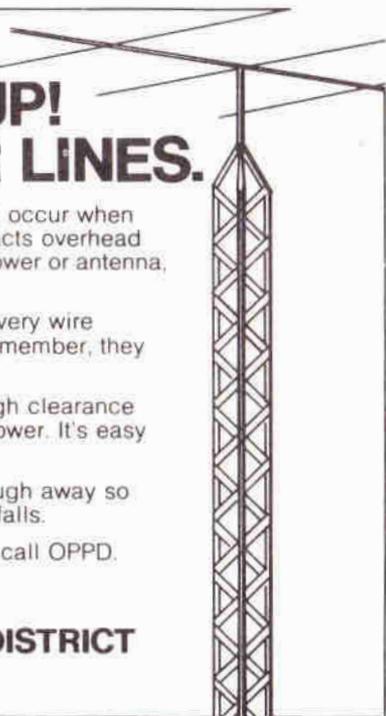
STOP! LOOK UP! AVOID POWER LINES.

Serious and even fatal accidents can occur when an antenna or any metal object contacts overhead power lines. If you are putting up a tower or antenna, observe these rules:

1. Check for overhead power lines. Every wire should be considered dangerous. Remember, they are not insulated.
2. Make sure there's more than enough clearance for carrying, raising or lowering the tower. It's easy to misjudge this clearance.
3. Erect the antenna or tower far enough away so that it will not hit any power line if it falls.

If power lines are a possible hazard, call OPPD. We are interested in your safety.

OMAHA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT



F.M.NEWS AND VIEWS

R. Gary Hendrickson, W3DTN

There is currently a lot of interest in converting C.B. radios to the 10 Meter band. When thinking about such a conversion, don't forget about 10 ter FM! This writer converted a 23 channel C.B. to 10 FM and worked Oregon and Arizona on 29.600 FM the day I had it on the air. I'm now working on conversion of a 40 channel PLL synthesized rig to 10—both FM and AM operation. It looks like it should be fairly easy — and fun!

Recently, there has been a lot of discussion about the 450 MHz band plan in our area. Until recently, nearly all 450 repeaters here have been "upside-down" compared to the national 450 band plan (in-high/out-low). At its Annual Meeting in September of 1977, T-MARC voted to coordinate 450 repeaters following the national band plan, or "upside-down" according to the wishes of the repeater operator.

Since then, several operators of proposed new 450 repeaters have chosen to coordinate their machines following the national band plan. In addition, several operating systems have decided to reverse their frequencies to coincide with the national plan. Others are seriously considering such a change.

Regardless whether we like the 450 national band plan, it should be obvious that it is pretty well "set in concrete." A comparison of the 1976 and 1977 ARRL Repeater Directories will reveal the increasing popularity of the national plan. All 450 repeaters in the CVRA area south of us, and the majority of those in Pennsylvania and New Jersey to our north follow the national plan. As a result, many of our

machines have experienced "lock-up" problems with co-channel repeaters outside our area when the band opens. Anyone who has listened to the squeals and time-outs that result from these lock-ups knows how serious the problem can be. Even though your favorite 450 machine may not be experiencing any problems now, there is no guarantee that there will never be a problem. Some day there may be a new repeater in, say northern New Jersey or eastern Pa, on the same, but opposite, frequencies. 450 activity is growing!

IN MY OPINION, I feel that the operators of 450 repeaters which remain "upside-down" may be doing their users a great disservice, for the following reasons: A. When our area users travel into another area, their mobile and portable equipment may become useless since they won't be able to use the available repeaters; B. Visitors to our area are unable to use our machines; C. Although it is not an inexpensive chore to re-crystal our equipment to reverse the frequencies, just think how much more expensive it will be if you wait a couple of years and then decide to change — more users with more pieces of gear that use more expensive crystals; D. Most local users will not be able to use all of the local repeaters.

Yes, there may be sound technical arguments in favor of remaining "upside-down." But I believe we Amateurs can overcome many such technical problems. Therefore, I believe ALL our area 450 repeaters should go along with the national 450 MHz band plan! What do you think?

73, Gary

de AUTO-CALL

HAM HUM SWAP

NO CHARGE FOR SWAP ADS (NON-COMMERCIAL) SUBJECT TO SPACE LIMITATION. MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO P.O. BOX 291. SEE COPY DEADLINE PAGE 2.

FOR SALE: RTTY equipment: Model 19 and typing reperforator; T.D. unit; 15 and T.D. mounted on table; extra parts and pieces - \$160.00
Fred Fischer, WØEGP, 836 S. 88 St.,
Omaha, NE 68114; phone 391-4193

WANTED: Hallicrafters HT-37 Transmitter, good condition.
Bob Hartung, WBØFZZ, 2939 S. 112 St.,
Omaha, NE 68144; phone 333-0810

FOR SALE: Tristro crank-up mast (MM-35) - \$100.00;
TR-44 rotor - \$25.00; Hygain Duo-Bander (10-15) with balun - \$50.00.
Dave Benton, KØVVO
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FOR SALE: HAM-M Antenna Rotor, with direction control - \$45.00
MFJ CWF-2 CW Filter, mint - \$20.00.
John Bruckner, NØAJU; 556-5325

FOR SALE: ICOM 245 FM/SSB-3 months old, mint condx.-\$450.00; KLM 160
160 watt 2M amp model 10-160 BL with Alda ps 130 30 amp power
supply, both 2 months old-\$295.00/pair;
Collins R390A receiver, excellent condx.-\$375.00
John Draus, WØEKB, 8301 Boyd St.,
Omaha, NE 68134; phone 571-4207

FOR SALE: 1 Motorola UHF base-\$75.00; 3 UHF mobiles-\$25.00 each; 1 UHF
base W ham xtals-\$50.00; 1 Motorola W 34/94-\$25.00; 4 - 6M or
10M Motorola mobiles-\$25.00 each; 1 TTY line printer-\$25.00; 1
EICO sig gen 150 KC-145MC-\$15.00; 400' TV eye cable beloten
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FOR SALE: Twenty-two years of QST: 1954-1975. Sixteen years are in
hard-cover QST binders; the balance are loose. All copies are in
excellent to good condition. Please call Brother Matthew, W4LBQ,
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(HAM HUM SWAP – Continued)

MUST SELL: Heathkit HD-1410 code keyer; Heathkit HR-10B 80-10 meter general receiver and speaker; Realistic 1.5 watt Rover 1500 3 chnl hand CB; large man's quality 10 speed bicycle; Rampar by Raleigh and much equipment; 3/4 student violin with bow and case.
Will take any *reasonable* offer for one or more of the above items.
Sherman Cold, Ex-WBØTEB; phone 291-4698

FOR SALE: Yaesu FT-101-EE, mint condition.
Don Launer, KØRJE, R. R. #3,
Fremont, NE 68025; phone 721-2731

FOR SALE: 300 Galaxie, free deluxe power supply;
Heath SSB 610 monitor scope; Model 28 TTY machine, lovely condition; 1972 Honda 350, 2100 miles, red, mint;
Retina 3C, mint; 520 VFO, like new, works with 820 also.
Bob Miller, KØZLY, 1624 N. 90 St.,
Omaha, NE 68114; phone 397-1217



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REMINDER: The next regular meeting (the annual meeting) of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be on December 12, 1978, 7:30 P.M., at the Jewish Community Center, 333 South 132nd St., Omaha, NE.



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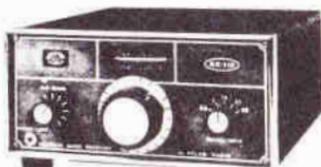
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- Memory channel with complete or separate (plus or minus 800 kHz transmitter offset) operation
- Digital frequency display (eight digit orange LED)
- (FM/DCX mode) an LED that indicates frequency protection when the frequency selector switches are improperly positioned or the PLL has malfunctioned
- 10 watt RT output (switchable to 5 watt low power)
- Lead upcoil for optional Remote Controller™, the TR-7600 gives you:
 - Full 4 MHz coverage (14.000 to 14.999 MHz) on 2 meters
 - 500 channels
 - Dual conversion, knobs for fast frequency change (100 kHz and 12.5 kHz steps)
 - 5 kHz offset switch
 - MHz selector switch for general band (14.3, 14.5, 14.6, 14.7 MHz)
- Mode switch for increasing amplitude on 1st switching the required frequency up to about 800 kHz for repeat operation or for switching the transceiver to the frequency you have stored on the TR-7600 & receiving while the memory channel on the frequency you have selected with the dual knob.

The optional **RM-76** with a built-in microprocessor.

TR-7600

... the radio that remembers



RM-76
MICROPROCESSOR
CONTROL UNIT



- Noise-reducing microphone
- Compact size (only 5.7" x 8" inches wide, 2.0" x 1.8 inches high and 9.3" x 1.6 inches deep)

- Provides more operating features to the TR-7600 2 meter FM transceiver than found in any other! With the Microprocessor Control Unit attached to your TR-7600, you can:
 - Select any 2 meter frequency

- Store frequencies in an memory
- Scan all memory channels
- Automatically scan up all frequencies in 5 kHz steps
- Manually scan up or down in 5 kHz steps
- Scan lower and upper scan

- Frequency limits
 - Revers scan to 14.4 MHz
 - Stop scan when HOLD button
 - Cancel scan (for transmitting)
 - Automatically stop scan on busy or open channel

- Operate on MARS (14.3-95 MHz)
- Select repeater mode (simplex, plus transmit frequency offset, minus offset, or no memory transmit offset)
- Select transmit offset (1 MHz, 500 kHz)

The RM-76's display indicates frequency even while scanning and functions such as autotune, lower scan, frequency limit, upper scan limit, scan, and call channel.

Contact me for a good deal on these new rigs - ALWJSK