



HAM HUM

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THE AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

CLUB AUCTION

May 2, 1982

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

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INC.

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

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 1982

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: HEARTLAND CHAPTER
AMERICAN RED CROSS
38th and DEWEY AVENUE
OMAHA, NE 68105

PROGRAM: **JOE EISENBERG WAØWRI PRESENTS —**

“CABLE TV INTERFERENCE TO AND FROM HAMS”

EVERY HAM BRING A NEW HAM — COME JOIN THE GANG FOR EYEBALL QSO'S, LOTS OF INFORMATION, HOSPITALITY, HOT COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS!

THE PREZ SEZ

Jim Zoller and crew from the National Weather Service again did a fine job in reviewing "The Genesis of a Tornado and Other Severe Weather." We can never see too much of what these storms look like or how and where they develop. Again, thanks for the program and the fielding of all the important questions. This aids in our weather spotting.

The program for April is of vital importance to the "Ham Community" inasmuch as both the Ham and Cable TV reside in the residential area of any community. Both March 1982 issues of QST and Ham Radio commented on this phenomenon. Joe WAØWRI is a member of the Communications Task Force for the City of Lincoln and they have been commissioned by the Mayor to take a hard look at both sides of the picture. So I welcome all to come, listen and add to the input of this important subject.

As I write this I am also reminded of all the events and programs that will be taking place in the future, such as the Club Auction, on May 2nd (let Jim NØAIH know if you will help either in the Kitchen or on the Floor); the 4th Region NAVMAR-CORMARS is holding their Annual Conference in Omaha on

May 15th & 16th at the Holiday Inn, 72nd and Grover Streets. All MARS members are cordially invited to participate. Further information may be obtained from our own Bob Conley WBØLYU.

An event in June will be scheduled away from our usual meeting place at the Red Cross. Our meeting on June 11th will be Visitors Night. This is where all our members are cordially invited to bring their XYL and their neighbor to InterNorth's Main Auditorium for a special program. (See other information this issue — more next month.)

As pointed out at our last meeting, Field Day and the National Convention are fast approaching. Be sure you sign up for both of these exciting events.

Remember, Your Club is like a Bank — The more you put into it, the more interest you have in it!!! Nuff said, see you at our April meeting.

73's
de Walt KAØDMB

Happiness is a state of mind. Abraham Lincoln once said, "We are as happy as we make our minds to be."

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING held on March 2, 1982, at the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building at 19:40 hours.

All Board Members were present: Walt Brown, KAØDMB. President; Bill Martin, NØANQ; Dick Fehrman, KAØAAB; Lysle Renne, NØCKH; Jim Sanford, NØAIH; Fred Genovesi, KAØKDJ; Jim Wilson, WBØJPN; Frank Bruner, KØSST; Chuck Hoffman, WBØNVL; Ray Fink, WDØGIL;

(cont.)

Mitch Gagne, NØAZF.

Minutes of the Board Meeting held in February, 1982, were approved.

Treasurer's January, 1982, report was approved.

Committee reports: Long Range Planning Committee, Awards Program, Social Committee.

Moved and seconded that a dance be held in September if the necessary arrangements can be made. Donation of \$1.00 per head suggested.

Moved and seconded that \$200.00 be allocated for the purchase of a stand-by 220 receiver link for the downtown 94 repeater location as proposed by John Gebuhr, WBØCMC.

There being no other official business to conduct, President Walt adjourned the meeting at 20:45 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Lysle Renne, NØCKH,
Secretary

Note: Unless otherwise noted, all motions passed.

DX ANYONE?

DX nets and list operations have, as we know, been around for quite some time and regardless of how some DXers feel about them, it sure looks like they will be around in the future.

Some DXers will never be found on a DX net; others will use a net occasionally, and some use nets constantly. How YOU get your DX is your own business and personal preference. For those that use nets and lists, I hope this month's column is beneficial.

A DX net (or any net) should be a learning experience, particularly for those of you who are new in the hobby (myself included). There are two things that participation in a net will give you aside from the DX you wanted.

- 1) Experience in listening and,
- 2) Experience in PATIENCE, especially when it might be hours before you get a chance to make a call or to get on the list. (Quite often, by the time you get your chance, the DX you wanted has left the frequency.) This is one of the things experienced DXers abhor about nets — spending a lot of time only to miss out because the DX you waited hours for went QRT.

DX hunting is much more profitable tuning the bands!

As for the LISTENING, here's an example: If the DX you called tells you, "I missed your suffix O.M." don't give your whole call. Give your suffix. That's what he asked for. LISTEN! It saves time and the net will go faster. LISTEN!. Follow the instructions given by the net control and/or the DX and use your common sense.

Here are a few helpful hints which, if everyone used, would reduce the time of a net or list by half.

- 1) Give the callsign of the DX only once. He knows HIS call.
- 2) Give your callsign twice and use different phonetics.

EXAMPLE: Kilowatt Charlie Ø Delta Bravo
 Kentucky Canada Ø Denmark Boston

Often when conditions are poor, the DX might pick out one particular phonetic easier than another. Use commonly accepted phonetics. Kumquat Cucumber Ø Dingle Berry would only get a lot of laughs and a possible "What the hell did you say?" from the DX.

- 3) Don't break or ask questions while the net is in progress. When net control says, "No Breaks!" please honor his request.
- 4) Don't give your name or state unless the DX asks for it.

The name of the game on DX nets and lists is to put as many stations as possible through to the DX in the shortest amount of time.

Remember, if you are going to participate on a DX net or list, play the game according to the rules established by net control and the DX. Here's a list of some (not all) recognized DX nets.

Net	Time	Freq.	Day	Comments
W7PHO Family Hour	0000	21.345	Daily	QNI 30 min. early
W7PHO Family Hour	0000	28.575	Daily	Winter Months
Brown Sugar Net	0300	14.310	Weekdays	WB6FBN Winter Months
40M DX Net	0200	7.080	Sunday	
CHDX Net	0200	14.298	Daily	
Arabian Nights	0500	14.250	Friday	JY3ZH NCS
Pacific DX Net	0600	14.265	Tue/Fri.	VK3PA NCS
80M DX Net	0630	3.795	Sat/Sun.	
P29JS	0630	14.220	Daily	VK9NS, VK5MQ, Vk2BKD
W7PHO Family Hour	1500	14.225	Daily	
Foreign Service	1500	21.416	Sunday	W1YY
Arabian Nights	1600	28.616	Sunday	
VE DX info Net	1600	14.173	Sunday	VE3EUP, QSX 14.273
Afrikaaner Group	1800	21.355	Daily	Winter Months
Safari Net	1800	21.292	Weekdays	W3WGS
W7PHO Family Hour	2300	14.225	Daily	

Hope everyone got some new ones during the ARRL DX Test. The bands were really jumping on March 6 and 7 and propagation was super, even if you only had inverted vees and went through a tuner (I wonder who that was?) the DXing was great (unless the relay on the amp went on the fritz, guess who?)

Gud DXing
 de KCØDB

FCC FAVORS AMATEUR TESTING BY AMATEURS W5YI REPORT from Dayton ARA

It is almost a foregone conclusion that sometime in the not-too-distant future the FCC will turn the job of examining and testing amateurs over to the

amateur community. Bills currently in the House and Senate Committees both contain provisions to allow the changes in administration. In introducing the

legislation, Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, said "Amateurs must be permitted through voluntary efforts, supervised by the FCC to supply the services, including examinations, to those who would benefit most from them. In that regard the FCC must insure that there are no conflicts of interest in the preparation and administration of amateur examinations and that no one is treated unfairly."

The FCC has already gone on record as favoring the move. It was the first to recognize that the present system is not working. First, it is too expensive for the
Continued on Page 14.

PAINTING YOUR TOWER? (or putting it off because of the work involved)

Putting a coat of silvery stuff on that rusty tower is really easy if you use a car washing mit. After dipping it in the paint, you can completely circle the tubing with your hand. Cover all surfaces with just one swipe. The mit also makes it easy to squeeze paint into the corner welds. I saw a guy do a 50' tower in one hour. (Good job too.)

PROGRAMS!

PROGRAMS!

PROGRAMS!

Here are some of the programs coming up for the next four months that you won't want to miss.

APRIL 9: Cable TV interference to and from Hams, by Joe WAØWRI.

MAY 14: Civil Air Patrol Emergency Communications.

JUNE 11: Maximilian's Journey (a really SUPER program). This one will be shown at InterNorth Auditorium.

JUNE 9: Tour of Cox Cable TV, with Frank WAØIWF.

Some even greater ones coming in the future but you won't want to miss any of these above.

de Jim WBØJPN

HAM HUM SWAP

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LIMITATION. MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO P.O. BOX 291.
SEE COPY DEADLINE PAGE 2.**

WANTED: Used tower, rotor and beam.
Dallas Sawyer, KAØKLA — 572-1453.

FOR SALE: Galaxy V Transceiver, Speaker Console, Novice Adapter,
14 AVQ. Make offer. Tim Ambrose, 605 S. 93rd Ave., 391-
3646.

HAMBOREE '82
By Dick Jusel, K0DG

Hamboree # 6, sponsored by the 3900 Club and Siouxland Repeater Association, was held on March 19-20 at the Marina Inn in South Sioux City, Nebraska. The event has been getting bigger and better every year, and this year was no exception! Ms XVL, Marlene, and I had decided to drive up on Saturday, March 20, and return the same day; this is a run-down on the fine day we spent, and the super time we had in Sioux City.

The alarm clock sounded off about 5:00 a.m. to begin the day. Marlene and I loaded the computer RTTY gear into the trunk of the Ford and set out to pick up Dave Hamilton, N6CLW. Then away we went, across the North Omaha Bridge and up I-29, headed for old Sioux City! A phone patch call to Frank Wolczak, WA0ILWF, got him out of bed and on the road behind us, where he was supposed to have been already anyway (Frank was to give a presentation on satellite I.U. reception at 9:45 a.m., and the only reason we were all leaving in the middle of the night like that in the first place was so he could have breakfast with us before his program)! Mitch, N0RZF, Charlie, KC6DB, and Fred, K0KDJ talked us North on .40/.00 until we moved out of range. Then we chatted with Frank on the Tekamah Ne. repeater, 146.625/146.025, until the outskirts of Sioux City. Needless to say, we arrived there a good bit before Frank, since Frank was still about 40 miles or so in our arrears (as usual).

We were treated to a special sight along the Missouri river on the trip up: We saw thousands of geese, migrating north, covering an entire field as though it were blanketed in snow, and circlins and landins and takins off and flyins; and, in general, announcing the comins of spring!

We had no trouble finding the Marina. We registered and checked out the flea market and exhibit area while we waited for Frank to show up. Well, after about 45 minutes or so, we thought Frank had probably been picked up by the fuzz, so we decided to set a table and order breakfast while we waited. We hadn't heard a peep out of him on .31/.91, our agreed-upon coordination frequency, and we thought a couple of eggs might put us in a better mood before we went to look for him and bail him out.

Then, just after we ordered, there he was on .31/.91, announcing his arrival in the parking lot! We ordered for him, and he just made it in time to chow down with us before his program hour. We had an excellent view from a table that looked out over the fast-flowing Missouri River, and we enjoyed leisurely breakfast watching a fisherman on the opposite bank trying to snag himself a bis'n!

Then we helped Frank haul in his microwave plumbing equipment for display and demonstration, and sat down with the crowd to watch his presentation. I took a few pictures of him during the show, but was very cautious to avoid damaging my new camera. If the camera makes it alright, the next time I shoot Frank I might take the lens cap off.

Frank's talk was very interesting and informative, as usual, and he kept his audience spellbound as he rambled on and on about path loss, attenuation, feed horns, Low Noise Amplifiers (LNA's), Parabolic dishes, Cassegrain dishes, vertical and horizontal polarization, geo-synchronous orbits, arosee, perisee, handline, phased lock loop tuning, and Bettes (thought we weren't paying attention, eh Frank?). I would say his program was a definite success! Good show, Wolczak.

Then we all wandered around the exhibition center and chatted with the other hams and looked at the "wish items" scattered everywhere. David bought a 450 Mhz handy, and we both bought fancy battery chargers for the Yaesu FT-208 144 Mhz handy talkies we bought in Salina last fall. Frank picked up lots of free manufacturer's literature.

We ran into Ed, W00HBY, and John, W0EKB with a disantic set-up in the flea market. Ed said they were doing pretty well, and that they had quite a few weekends lined up for conventions this year. So, lot's of luck guys, and we'll see you at some of them.

Doug, K0BOY, was standing at the entrance to the exhibit hall begging everyone who came in to buy some 450 gear so he would have somebody to talk to (guess he got to CLW). For those of you who haven't heard, Doug has a 450 repeater up now, and he's looking for people to use it! Doug reminds me of Daniel Boone. Remember how Daniel Boone used to pack up and move

whenever he could hear the neighbor's dog barking because then the neighborhood was getting too crowded? Doug seems to do that on UHF (heard any dogs barking on 228 lately?).

I saw John Click, W6BBUD, who had helped us at the Boy Scout Camporell last fall, and I talked with Larry Bock, KC6R, from Blair for a few minutes. Larry told me about how some thieves had carried off his vertical antenna in the middle of the night a while back, about three feet outside his bedroom window! Larry figured they must have been CB'ers, because surely no ham would steal another ham's antenna! Personally, I don't think even CB'ers would do a dastardly deed like that! For my money, I bet it was the Russians.

Next, I got a few action shots in the exhibition hall. This time I remembered to take the lens cap off (actually, Frank was in the background now, so I thought it was safe).

Then we were getting thirsty and decided it was time for lunch. Marlene was over helping out at the Zero-land QSL Bureau Booth during lunchtime, so Frank, Dave and I headed for the Bar. We thought we would have a quick one while we waited for Marlene, and we did just that. We watched two really big fish in a giant fish tank; an African Knife and a huge Black Piranha. They were sunning themselves under a fluorescent lamp and watching their dinners (small goldfish) swim by! Brrrrrrr.

The Bar was right outside the entrance to the dining room, so we could see people and hams going in and out, and who do you think we should run into but good old Mitchie-Poo, N6RZF, Walt-Babs, K6QDM, Charlie-Boy, KC6DB, and "Talking Banana" John, W6QMC (If you haven't seen John's talking banana yet, it's well worth a special trip!). We chatted for a while, then they quickly slinked off and pretended not to know us for the rest of the day. Oh well, I got a couple of compromising shots of them anyway (I think I even had the lens cap off).

John, W6QMC, served as the club representative on a question and answer panel that I did not get to attend, but I heard went very well. Good going, John!

Then came my Computerized RTTY program, so Dave, Frank and I unloaded the computer, printer, and associated gear about twenty minutes before show time. And then Murphy, KØKQ's, took over. The computer was too cold to operate properly after having been housed in the trunk of the Ford all day, and the thing went crazy thinking someone was hitting the keyboard and entering data all the time! However, it straightened out about 3/4 of the way through the program, so we recovered and got a fairly good demo in anyway. Dave helped me field questions after the formal presentation, and that seemed to work super well, as we could personally talk with twice as many people, and we were able to get some real interest going in computerized RTTY!

We generated some interest in the PIN capability, and after the program, we ran off some X-mated pictures for a few die-hards who hung around well after the last Mouff was Houns. Then we packed up the computer gear again, and hit the bar for one last cool one before the long journey home. Those fish were still at it, but it didn't seem like there were as many Goldfish as before.

The trip home was uneventful, except for a brief demonstration of WBCNC's new id'er on the .40/.00 machine. There is no place like Nebraska, you all know, now. We also were treated to the sight of more geese and ducks, winging there way northward, sometimes covering the sky as far as the eye could see. Cars were pulled off to the side of the road to watch them feed and rest in the fields on their way North.

All in all, a very enjoyable day, and I think I will add a new convention to my "must go to list" in the future. It is just a short haul up to Sioux City, and very much worth it to attend the Hambonee for a day or two, and I'm looking forward to an even bigger and better one next year! Hope to see you there.

RECENT CONTRIBUTORS

34/94 REPEATER

Larry Bock, KCØR
Albert Maller, WØDCQ
Wayne Goetz, WBØHEU
Mac McLaughlin, WBØBMJ
Jan Nelson, KBØYW

40/00 REPEATER

Larry Bock, KCØR
Albert Maller, WØDCQ
Lysle Renne, NØCKH
Wayne Goetz, WBØHEU
Jan Nelson, KBØYW

22/82 REPEATER

Albert Maller, WØDCQ
Jan Nelson, KBØYW

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Ed Doehling, WØHQE
Emil Von Bergen, WØNIK
Frank Beach, WAØOVU
E.A. Stenberg, KØORM
Mac McLaughlin, WBØBMJ

FOR ICOM-ADDICTS from Dayton ARA

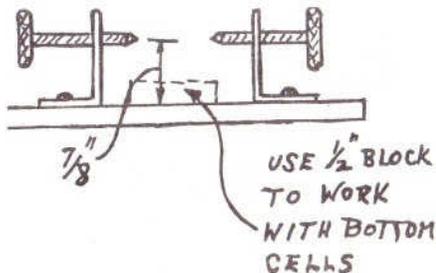
Some good news for those who own IC-2ATS. BP-4 cases are available again, so, if you have been waiting to build a battery eliminator per Al Torres, KP4AQI, article in the March R.F. Carrier, your wait is over.

If you have had Ni-Cad trouble with your BP-3, you will either have to work on the cells or buy a new BP-3. ICOM has no plans to sell the batteries separately.

On the bright side, rejuvenating cells that don't hold a charge is not difficult, anyone can do it. Jim Compton of ICOM Sales says that charging a defective pack and then rapidly discharging thru a

piece of heavy coax braid frequently helps. Recharge normally after the pack is completely discharged. If you use this method, watch the braid as it gets hot! John Horton also of ICOM suggests zapping defective cells with leads from a 12 volt car battery several times. This repolarizes the cell and destroys the "spider webs" that develop in the cell.

I had a BP-3 pack go bad. After consulting with some of your local pros, W8DWT and W8RKL, I zapped my bad cells several times with a 4000 mfd capacitor charged up to about 20 volts. The individual cells were then slow charged (25 ma) for about 16 hrs. and it did the trick. To solve the problem of working with individual cells, I built a jig as shown in the attached drawing. If you can't build one, you can borrow mine.



CHANGE IN PHONE

David H. Ahrendts, from 397-6453
to 397-6339

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Minutes of the General Membership Meeting Held March 12, 1982, at the American Red Cross Building, 38th & Dewey Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska

The meeting was called to order at 19:30 hours by President Walt Brown, KAØDMB. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance, after which each person present introduced themselves to the group.

President Walt welcomed the guests present, there seeming to be an unusual number at the meeting.

The minutes of the February, 1982 meeting were approved as printed in the March issue of Ham Hum.

Moved and seconded that Dick Fehrman's Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented by Dick, KAØAAB.

Committee Reports: ECO Report, Jerry O'Harrow, WBØPPF; Education Committee, Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, Program Committee, Jim Wilson, WBØJPN; Handi-Helps Committee, Andy Anderson, W9MEI; Repeater Report and DX Committee, Chuck Peaker, KCØDB; Membership Committee, Bill Martin, NØANQ; Auction Committee, Jim Sanford, NØAIH. No Courtesy Committee report was given due to the illness of Charles on Charles Street Michel, KØQVL.

New members accepted were: William Fiske, WØTUJ, General Class; Dave Bullock, KAØMHO, Novice Class; Dallas Sawyer, KAØKLA, General Class; John Hauner, WAØYPY, Extra Class, Don Renze, KØOM, Extra Class; Richard Flebbe, KAØJKX, General Class.

The Door Prize for the evening was won by Paul Eichler, Junior Operator.

Jim, NØAIH, and Jerry, WBØPPF, introduced Jim Zoeller and his crew from the Weather Bureau who presented the program for the evening, a movie on "How to Recognize a Tornado."

There being no further business other than coffee and doughnuts, President Walt adjourned the meeting at 21:10 hours.

Respectfully Submitted
Lyle Renne, NØCKH, Secretary

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

John E. Bruckner, NØAJU to
13956 Woolworth Cr.
Omaha, Nebraska 68144
Phone 334-7464

CHANGE CALL

Charles L. Carroll, KCØJP from
.J7API

Joseph H. Niemann, KCØKS
from WBØFWB

NEW MEMBERS

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12507 S. 33
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William A. Fiske WØTUJ
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Continued on page 14.

(cont.)

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Business 334-8200

Kevin W. Beam KAØMWY
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Omaha, Nebraska 68137
895-2880

John P. Hauner WAØYPY
1400 North 79
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505
Phone 464-2814

Continued from page 6.

government to give the tests in view of the ever shrinking budget. Secondly, it doesn't take long before those who know where to obtain the examination information get verbatim copies of the amateur tests. The First Amendment and Freedom of Information Rights being what they are, the FCC appears powerless to protect the security and integrity of its exams. In effect, the whole amateur radio examination program has degenerated into a farce. The feeling is that the amateur community would do a much better job of screening its membership than the government.

The ARRL is well aware of the above and has submitted a detailed proposal to the FCC for

implementation of a program of self-testing by the amateur fraternity. The League says their system will provide more opportunity for applicants to take the exams, improve the security of the exams and reduce FCC workload.

The League suggested a "Certification Program" in which the Commission would authorize "Certified organizations" meeting criteria to establish and coordinate a corps of Certified Volunteer Instructors and Examiners to assist the FCC.

Under the ARRL proposal:

1. The FCC will screen and certify qualified organizations.
2. Approve large pools of questions for each license exam level by each of the Certified Organizations.
3. Issue licenses based on the Instructor or Examiner's certification that the candidate has successfully demonstrated competence in all areas required by the FCC study guides.

At the Novice level, the ARRL proposed the FCC certify non-profit and accredited educational institutions and authorize these schools to certify instructors to teach an approved course of study that would culminate in the Novice exam.

For Tech and above, they suggested the examiner be at least 18 years of age and hold an Extra class license. To increase integrity of the written exam, propose use of a pool of 500 FCC approved questions. The code test at 13 and 20 WPM could be either the present "comprehension type" fill-in-the-blank test or the old "perfect copy" exams.

COMING ATTRACTION

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NEXT MONTH



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Frequency © guide

by Thomas P. Harrington

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With a **Mini-Reader** you can copy Morse code plus any shift of RTTY or ASCII at all the common speeds. The message is decoded and read out on 10

bright, 3/8"-high, fluorescent displays.

The **Mini-Reader** also features automatic speed tracking, code-speed display, 24-hour clock and a 250 Hz bandwidth filter.

Power is supplied by a 9 Vdc adapter that's included with the unit. Also included are all the connecting cables you'll need for immediate set up and a handy display stand.

If you're looking for a code reader, you should take a look at the multi-feature, compact **Kantronics Mini-Reader**.