



Ham Hum

July 14, 2023 Volume LXX, Issue 7

The June 2023 membership meeting was held in person and via Google Meet on Friday, June 9, 2023. There were eighteen members in person and two online. The meeting was called to order at 19:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance and a member roll call.

Secretary's Report - Terry KEØPB 1. Nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report - John ABØZT 1. Julie NØWAV was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a report that the club has combined funds of \$23,555.48.

Vice-President's Report - John ABØZT 1. Adam KDØMMG was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. There will not be a raffle or program this evening.

President's Report - John ABØZT 1. John reported that due to a lack of interest the club will not participate in the Ralston Independence Day Parade this year.

Committee Reports

Education - Mike WØLE 1.1. No report.

Field Day - Pat WØOJU Field Day is Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25 at Boys Town (follow the signs once you enter the village). Set up will start on Friday, June 23. Operators will start on Saturday at 13:00 and go for twenty-four hours. The Village of Boys Town will close down the road near the building, and will mark the underground utilities. The Boys Town Mayor will attend and has issued a proclamation for Field Day. Sign up to operate on the club website.

Publications - Brian WEØBEP Submissions to the HamHum are always welcome!

Special Events - Pat KØCTU The club summer picnic will be on Sunday, July 16, at Chalco Hills at the big pavilion. The club will provide brisket and a few sides, and a sign up will be forthcoming for sides and desserts. There will be a PoTA, a low-power rabbit hunt, and other activities. Tentative starting time for activities is 15:00 with food at 17:00. Stay tuned for details! Pat thanked everyone who volunteered this year at the Nebraska State Track Meet. It was another successful year.

Repeater - John WBØCMC The repeater is working normally with the exception of problems with Newsline, probably related to its transmit time length. The 146.82 KØSWI repeater is at a temporary site at about 40' high, which is why many of us cannot get into it. When the permanent location is installed the repeater will be at 200' high. The 446.225 repeater, which was formerly located at 36th and Farnam streets on the WOWT tower, has been relocated to Council Bluffs and is back on the air.

Courtesy - Bill KDØFJR Bill noted that John Snydermeier NØTJQ and James Sanford NØAIH are silent keys. James was a past president and had been quite active in the club. Cards have been sent to both addresses.

Membership - Mary NØTRK Mary is working on membership certificates, and membership cards should be going out in the mail next week.

ARES - Greg KCØVTO 8.1. No report.

Old Business None

New Business A question was asked about a FleaESta for 2023. Due to the cost of hall rental there will not be one in 2023, Dan NØPOT is researching sites for 2024. Remember that the August meeting will be our annual Parking Lot Flea Market.

Announcements John WBØCMC announced that he has his test equipment set up and is available to test club members equipment. He also announced that ATV analog and digital should be online for Field Day.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill KDØFJR and was seconded by Mary NØTRK. The motion was approved and the meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:

JULY 14th 2022

7:00 pm

American Red Cross at

2912 S 80th Ave—Omaha NE

The July Meeting Program will be An Antenna That Really Measures Up

The program for July will be one that all others will be measured against!

Pat KØCTU will be assembling the Tape Measure Beam using PVC, a metal measuring tape, and assorted small parts. This antenna is useful for the challenging activity of transmitter hunting (aka a rabbit hunt) It is easily tossed into your vehicle with out damaging the antenna as you race to find “the rabbit”. There will be enough parts provided to build 3 of these antennas, but you have to participate in the construction to get to take one home.



Below is a link to the construction plans complete with a parts list, if you want to bring your own supplies and “build along”

<https://tinyurl.com/tapemeasurebeam>

Join us for a fun filled hands on program for July!

This will be a great antenna to find the baby bunny transmitter at the AARC Picnic on 07/16/2023—details on page 7

2nd Annual AARC Parking Lot Swap Meet August 11 2023

Back by popular demand is our now, annual parking lot swap meet.

This will be a great time to come and enjoy browsing from trunk/tailgate to trunk. Our annual swap meet will take the place of our regular membership meeting Friday,

August 11, 2023 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm or until everything/everybody is spent/ out of cash. Refreshments provided.

**The American Red Cross building lower level parking lot
2912 South 80th Street in Omaha.**

ATV BACK ON THE AIR

All the equipment was put in the rack on July 3 and mostly hooked up. I discovered that there was only one outlet not used so had to go back on the 4th with a plug strip. I finished hooking everything up and re-checking all of it and turned it on. No breakers popped, an important test since the power supply for the amplifier has a .107 FARAD filter capacitor at 50 Volts and a .025 Farad at 16 Volts. Big in-rush.

The system still works pretty much like it used to but with some nice additions. One of the color bars (*) now has a 400 HZ tone audio with it at 25 KHz deviation. There is also a camera available with a mic that's hot when the camera is on (Lots of noise from the FM transmitter blowers). The camera is inside the building so it's just more a security thing.

There is an important addition to the receiver. It is either analog like it used to be or digital. The digital format is DVB-T, a European format used by nearly all US digital ATVers. It's a good format and one of the cheapest around for the equipment. Both receivers use the same antenna and input filter. There is a priority switch that selects the A-V signal (both analog) and transmits it in NTSC.

The repeater is running right at 200 watts sync power. The digi RX has an analog output: NTSC with stereo audio if desired (both channels combined, so watch audio phasing if you're using both audios).

The pattern generator (just a "jim-crack" but kind of neat) got a crystal controlled time base instead of the original R-C one. Control freq is still 444.95 but is only running 5 watts up the coax. NO PL required. If you want to see if you can receive it the access code is #3682 should get you color bars with ID super. Don't forget to ID on the voice repeater when you're done.



shuts every thing back off or it will time out in around 15 or so minutes as well. The repeater IDs itself every 10 minutes or so by a video super. With ATV a legal ID can be either audio (voice) or video (hold up a sign or put it in the back ground of your picture or use a super if you have the equipment) or both.

Take your pick. If anyone wants the digi format parameters I'll be happy to send them your way. For more on this and digi stuff see www.atn-tv.com and www.kh6htv.com . All 3 antennas are about 350 feet above ground and on the highest hill in the city limits so coverage should be good for quite a long ways away. It was before so coverage won't change much if at all.

- de John WBOCMC

Its here! Its Here! The long awaited

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club Picnic



Sunday July 16th, 2023

3:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Chalco Hills State Recreation Area

8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE

(A map is on the back of this issue)

The club will provide a choice of
a smoked brisket sandwich or hot dogs
for you and a guest
Cold Bottled Water will also be available

To ensure we have a selection of dishes attendees are asked to bring a side dish to share based on the first letter of their callsign suffix. Those with a suffix that starts with



- ◆ **A-H bring salads or chips**
- ◆ **I-R bring a dessert item**
- ◆ **S-Z bring sides dishes or vegetables**



If you would like something specific to drink, please feel free to bring your own non-alcoholic beverage of choice.

Planned Activities include

- ◆ An HF Parks on the Air Activation at the site from 3 pm to 7pm
 - ◆ Trivia contest entries from 3-6pm
 - ◆ A Transmitter Hunt at 4:30 pm
- ◆ Dinner will start after the hidden transmitter is found
- ◆ Conversation and socializing from 3pm to 7 pm

Please RSVP

This isn't required, just to give us an idea of the attendance at this link
<https://tinyurl.com/AARC-Picnic-RSVP>

Club Officers & Board Members

President	John E Fifer, Jr	ABØZT	president@aksarbenarc.org
Vice President	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	vicepresident@aksarbenarc.org
Secretary	Terry Begley	KEØOPB	secretary@aksarbenarc.org
Treasurer	Julie Leighton	NØWAV	treasurer@aksarbenarc.org
2023-2024 Director	Julie Leighton	NØWAV	board@aksarbenarc.org
2023-2024 Director	Dan Buchholz	NØPOT	board@aksarbenarc.org
2022-2023 Director	Terry Begley	KEØOPB	board@aksarbenarc.org
2022-2023 Director	Brian Pitchanau	WEØBEP	board@aksarbenarc.org

Club Committees

Courtesy Committee	Bill Snyder	KDØFJR	courtesy@aksarbenarc.org
Education	Mike Gallagher	WOLE	education@aksarbenarc.org
Field Day	Pat Connell	WØOUJ	
Flea-Esta	Open		
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	membership@aksarbenarc.org
Monday Night .94 Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	wa0zqg@hotmail.com
Public Relations	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	pr@aksarbenarc.org
Prizes	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	prizes@aksarbenarc.org
Publications (Ham Hum)	Brian Pitchanau	WEØBEP	hamhum@aksarbenarc.org
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL	qslmanager@aksarbenarc.org
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	community_service@aksarbenarc.org
Technical Assistance	Ed Edwards	KØIL	technical@aksarbenarc.org
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	web_master@aksarbenarc.org

Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Vice Chairman	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Club Call sign Trustee	Corby Krick	KØSKW	trustee@aksarbenarc.org

Other Contacts

ARRL Midwest Director	Art Zygielbaum	KØAIZ	k0das@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Dir.	Dave Propper	K2DP	k0aiz@arrl.org
EC Douglas County	Greg Ervin	KCØVTO	
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN	
Volunteer Council	Open		
NE Section Manager	Matt Anderson	KAØBOJ	ka0boj@arrl.org
VE Exams/ARRL Liaison	Open		
SATERN	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	wdsatern@gmail.com

AARC Ham Hum Post Office Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551

Area Nets (Updated 27 June, 2023)

Monday

- 7:00 PM 145.290 South-West Iowa ARES Glenwood, IA.
- 7:00 PM 146.940 Western Division HQ SATERN Net Omaha, NE.
- 8:00 PM 144.250 NE Missouri SWOT.
- 8:00 PM 147.390 Bellevue ARC Protocol Net
- 9:00 PM 146.940 AARC Chat Net. Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Omaha, NE.

Tuesday

- 7:00 PM 147.435 Simplex Net
- 8:00 PM 147.390 Bellevue ARC Tech Net
- 9:00 PM 145.310 Washington Co. ARES Washington Co, NE.
- 9:00 PM 146.820 Conspiracy Net

Wednesday

- 7:00 PM 146.670 Dodge Co. ARES Dodge Co, NE.
- 7:30 PM 7.122 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.
- 8:00 PM 3.564 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.
- 8:00 PM 147.390 147.390 KNOBSA Radio Scouting Net.
- 8:30 PM 7.122 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.
- 9:00 PM 3.580.5 PSK Four State QRP Comfortable Net.
- 9:00 PM 146.820 Pottawattamie County ARES Council Bluffs, IA.

Thursday

- 8:30 AM 7.122 CW Four State QRP 40M Morning Net.
- 7:30 PM 145.310- Lincoln/Omaha SATERN Net. Ashland, NE.
- 8:00 PM 28.350 SSB 10-Meter Net.
- 8:00 PM 147.360 Heartland DX Association.
- 9:00 PM 145.175 NE D-Star Net also on REF002C though internet.

Saturday

- 12:00 PM 146.82 Swap Net Council Bluffs, IA.
- 7:00 PM 145.290 Hartland Hams TechNet.
- 8:30 PM 3.921.000 QCWA Chapter 20.

Sunday

- 8:00 AM 3.902.500 Swap Net.
- 8:30 AM 3.897.500 3900 Club.
- 2:00 PM 50.200 6 Meter Net
- 8:00 PM 144.250 2-Meter SSB Net.
- 8:30 PM Locally IRLP and the Nebraska IRLP net is heard on:
 - 145.410 - 97.4 PL ABOVX Honey Creek
 - 444.800 + 97.4 PL ABOVX Honey Creek
 - 444.925 + 136.5 PL KOBVC Mondamin
 - 146.745 - 136.5 PL KOBVC Portsmouth
 - 223.580 (Simplex) 100 PL KOOQL North Omaha
- 9:00 PM 146.940- Douglas Co. ARES net, KØUSA repeater.

Field Day 2023 Report

Another Field Day is in the book! Having attended Field Day (FD) every decade since the 1960s, I reflect back on how things have changed but also have remained the same. In the 1960's field day was well attended by veterans of WWII and the Korean, and Vietnam Wars. They were serious operators accustomed to living and operating from tents. They were operating high speed CW, SSB, AM and tube radios were the norm. Their AC consisted of tents in the shade and waiting for when the sun went down. VHF contacts were few with much effort and were treated with amazement. The 1970s saw a plethora of new radios, electronic memory keyers and paddles. RTTY was becoming common at FD and it became a competition between clubs, while for others it became a time for socializing. I remember CW was relegated to a 20 CW shack, but with operators like Joe Nanos (K0KES) and Frank Brunner (K0SST) running at 40 to 60 WPM, they made more QSOs than all of the other AARC shacks together! I remember logging for them and struggling continuously trying to keep up with them. It was truly amazing.

Over the next decades, Field Day continued to evolve and then came that dreaded unnamed virus. New rules were implemented and we missed operating together in-person. It clearly was not the same! Last year we operated with modified rules and still with limited participation, and it clearly was missing the fun factor. This year's FD was a combination of all of the above.



The 2023 Field Day planning committee started meeting in early January. The planning committee consisted of Pat Connell W0OJU, Paige Hoffart KBOZ, Stephen Ivaškevičius N0SOX, Keith McKinney KE0AEP, and Jamie Pearson KF0FAP. The village of Boys Town provide us a unused site on their campus and were gracious enough to provide a

roof, security, safety, and environmental support (and air conditioning!!).

We operated as 2A plus a VHF and GOTA station. Emergency power was provided by the Club's generators. Modes used included SSB, FM, CW, and digital. The weather was hot for setup and, in addition to the above team, we were joined by Dave Rice N0JSB, his son, and Robert Nizzi. Dave Rice and his son assembled the club tower and beam in record time.

Paige Hoffart brought his portable and motorized 50 foot tower and installed Pat's 6 meter Yagi on top along with Page's wire antenna. Jamie and Robert helped Paige put up the tower. Robert got multiple blisters from pounding in ground anchors and he still got the job done. Keith put up his 43 foot guyed vertical by himself in 15 minutes without blisters

Senator John Arch (Speaker of the Nebraska Legislature) stopped by to observe the setup. He had many great questions about amateur radio's capacity to provide emergency communication and commended us on our efforts. Next year we will see if we can get him to be one of the GOTA station operators.

We had over twenty-five Boys Town Youth visitors with one young BT youth spending time behind the mike. Additionally, we had over 30 non-operator visitors, 10 plus GOTA operators, and 10 plus licensed operators. Back again this year was Ryley Herman (not yet a ham) who spent some serious and effective time on the air, especially on 20 meter SSB and FT. We appreciate her efforts! Additionally, we had the father/son team of Ronnie & Ryan Ruenholl and the brother's team of Pat & John Connell. At times, it was quite crowded in the spacious site and I would say a good time was had by all!

Band conditions started off slow, but really came alive Saturday evening. There was a great opening on 40 meters all Sunday morning. 20 meters was very consistent. Paige had a several hour great opening on 6 meters to the east coast, southeast and southwest.

Finally, we all need to thank Stephen Ivaškevičius for his fine grilling and taking care of refreshments. This year's MVP was Paige Hoffart and Keith McKinney. We have already started talking about how to make Field Day better next year and with greater participation. And thanks to all who came and their participation! Respectfully submitted. – Pat Connell W0OJU 2023 Field Day Chair



(left to right - Paige Hoffart KBØZ, Dave Rice NØJSB, John Arch, Pat Connell WØOJU, Keith McKinney KEØAEP, and Stephen Ivaskevicius NØSOX. Jamie Hanway KFØFAP another team member is taking the picture.



Our Field Day planning, setup, and take down team with Senator John Arch



**GOTA, Kansas City Tom Wheeler NØGSG
with a very young operator.**



**Paige's KBØZ
50' mobile tower**



Ryan Ruenholl & Ryley Herman on 20 SSB



**Pat WØUJO logging while brother
John operates GOTA**



**Dave Rice, N0JSB provided club's
portable beam antenna.**

From AARC Archives

Field Day 1953

Rain, wind, sunshine and "hams".

Again we braved the elements and moved from the security of our homes and entered the realm of chiggers and mosquitos to fight the QRM making contacts which bar rag chewing.

A last minute choice of the Ralston golf course for the location and the use of the new generators made the event quite successful. In spite of the decision to use 100 watt transmitters none shows up at the location. The tent fatalities were slight with only the CW tent suffering from the wind.

The most ironic happening of the weekend was the rain which fell Sunday afternoon. It was a very sad bunch of miserable guys who proceeded to dismantle the site just before closing time in a steady downpour of rain. But, alas, at five till four the rain stopped and we drove home in the sun under a clear sky.

Our club made a score of 2691 points with 274 contacts on phone and c.w. We operated in the two transmitter category with less than thirty watts. There were 36 states listed on the log and two countries.

Operation was reduced due to a severe electrical storm Sunday afternoon. But in spite of the elements there were 15 operators entered on the log and many remained at the key or mike long hours.

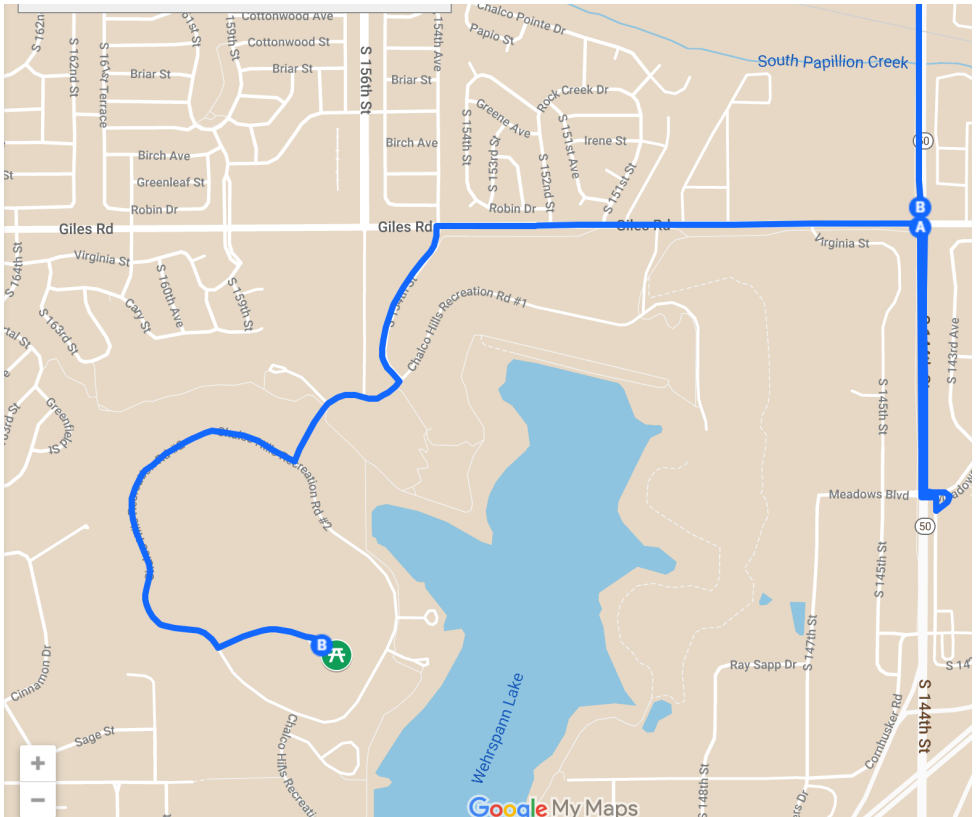
But a good time was had by all and many were missed. Will see you all next year.

We look forward to hearing how the 2023 AARC Field Day entry did on the points! .

Map to the AARC PICNIC

July 16 3PM to 7PM

Details on Page 7



Directions are from 144th Street

Go to Giles Road and turn west - look for signs for Chalco Hills/Wehrspann Lake

Turn West onto Giles Road

Near the top of the hill is 154th Street—the park entrance is marked

Turn South into the park

Follow the road to the first Right turn and Turn Right

At the T-Intersection ahead turn Right

Follow the road around until you find the first left hand turn and turn left! - the AARC picnic is at the end of that road

An interactive map can be found here

<https://tinyurl.com/AARCPICNIC>