



Ham Hum

September 11, 2020 Volume LXX, Issue 9

AKSARBEN ARC Club Meeting – August 14, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by roll call on the repeater and introductions on Zoom. There were 30 attendees.

Officers and Board members present included: Sean, AD0QG; Pat W00JU Dan, NOPOT; Dave, NOJSB; Brian, KE0GKB: Rea, N0REA.

Secretary's Report - Brian, KE0GKB - The minutes were posted in the Ham Hum. The minutes were approved with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report - Dave, NOJSB - - As of July 31 the club accounts had balances of: Main Checking \$4,757.05, Repeater Checking \$332.60 Savings \$6,993.32, CD Life Member one \$6,495.39, CD Life Member two \$6,746.96, and CD Repeater \$1,112.65 This leaves the balance of all the club accounts at \$26,437.97.

In the month of July there were deposits totaling \$268.00, this consisted of a \$200.00 refund of the Flea Esta deposit and \$68.00 membership dues.

In the month of July there were no expenses.

President's Report - Sean, AD0QG - The president had no report.

Vice President's Report -- Pat, W00JU Tonight's program will be on 3D Printing by Joe Eisenberg K0NEB.

Next month we will have a presentation on the "Sport of Amateur Radio Direction Finding" by Robert Frey WA6EZV, he is also a DX'er with contacts in 349 confirmed countries.

Disaster Preparedness:

SATERN - Mary, NOTRK - The Satern net is Monday nights and 7PM, you do not have to be a Satern member to participate.

ARES - No report

Community Service Committee - Mary, NOTRK- The Market to Market relay is October 3, 2020, I have put out feelers to people that have helped in the past and if you are interested or need more information please contact me.

Education Committee - Rea NOREA- There are no classes scheduled at this time due to Corvid. There is a testing session at the Red Cross in Council Bluffs on August 25, 2020, you must have a reservation to test and mask are required. If you would like to make a reservation contact me at NOREA@ar1.net

Membership Committee - Mary, NOTRK Three new members were presented to the club, KF0ALT Aaron Parsons, KF0AKA Richard Esquible, and KF0ALU Brenna Paulson. A motion was made by Rea NOREA with a Second by Kyle ADOZC, after a brief discussion all applications were approved by a unanimous vote.

Web Services - Mary, NOTRK/Adam, KDOMMG -The website is working fine.

Repeater - John- WBOCMC The repeater is working fine most of the time, There is a loose connection on the antenna so it works great when it is raining so KETV will contact me next time they have a tower crew going up.

Field Day - Mary NOTRK - We had two very good operators that had about 400 contacts each, one on CW and the other on Voice and we had one operator will get the prize for the furthest distance by talking to New Zealand. We will award prizes next month.

Courtesy Committee - Bill Snyder KD0FJR - Michael Donovan KU4ZD of Council Bluffs passed away on August 2, 2020.

Flea-Esta - Flea Esta has been canceled and we have received our deposit back.

There was no old or new business before the club, so a motion was made by Mary N0TRK with a second by Keith KE0AEP and the meeting was adjourned at 7:45

Area Nets

Monday

7:00 PM 145.290 South-West Iowa ARES Glenwood, IA.

8:00 PM 144.250 NE Missouri SWOT.

9:00 PM 146.940 AARC Chat Net. Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Omaha, NE.

Tuesday

9:00 PM 145.310 Washington Co. ARES Washington Co, NE.

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 145.310 Saunders Co. ARES Saunders Co, NE.

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 144.250 2-Meter SSB Net.

8:00 PM 147.360 Heartland DX Association.

Friday

10:00 PM 224.760- Tone 146.2 Promote the Band Net

Saturday

12:00 PM 146.82 Swap Net Council Bluffs, IA.

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.

8:30 PM 443.925+ (103.5 tone) IRLP Net.

2:00 PM 50.200 6 Meter Net

9:00 PM 146.940- Douglas Co. ARES net, KØUSA repeater.

Parks on the Air – Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historic Park Activation

Parks on the Air is an ongoing activity that took hold after the ARRL’s wildly popular National Parks on the Air. That event took place in 2016 as part of the Centennial Celebration of America’s National Park System. Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club’s KØUSA call sign was one of the few club call signs to be on the air regularly for that event. Since then, KØUSA has continued to be on the air from the great outdoors from time to time.

This activation happened after Kyle ADØZC had made a trip to Ashfall Fossil Beds State Park as a visitor, and seeing the expansive unobstructed view at the park, immediately thought about Parks on the Air and laid the ground work with the park superintendent, Rick Otto, giving him an overview of the Parks on the Air and what where the operations could be setup.

Kyle then reached out to the KØUSA regular activators, Pat KØCTU and Mary NØTRK to see if they were interested. Of course they were! So, on August 8th, the trio struck out early in the morning for the three hour drive to Royal, Nebraska to “activate” Ashfall State History Park for Parks on the Air.



Parks On The Air (Continued from Page 4)

The park is now open by reservation only, but the group was expected and were allowed access to the site before it opened for visitors for the day.

The site also has a large picnic area that borders a section of grass land that is left in its wild state providing a perfect location to set up a couple of radio stations and a place to keep the antennas and feedlines out of the way. ADØZC brought his setup and started out on 6 meters with a home brew 6 meter dipole, but soon moved to his 20 meter ham stick dipole. After a bit of troubleshooting to solve his high SWR, he was in business. 40 Meters was productive for a while, but soon died. KØCTU decided to set up for a couple of satellite passes and was successful on the second pass. But soon the group was back to it on HF and switched the antenna to a 20M ham stick on the AD tripod.

Band conditions were not the best, but all-in-all the group made 59 unique contacts, which more than met the 10 required for a park activation to be considered successful. It was also Kyle's first time setting up a station for a Parks on the Air activation. He learned a few tricks so his next trip should be more successful for him.

The stats for KØUSA are now a total of 26 activations at 10 different parks, and have over 4500 contacts from those various parks. (Parks on the Air, also counts our National Parks on the Air activities)

You can learn more about Parks On the Air at parksonethair.com.



Field Day 2020 was a Field Day like no other. Social Distancing requirements driven by the COVID-19 virus meant that many clubs and groups could not have the large Field Days that they normally hosted.



K0USA Field Day Site

But like so many situations, ham radio finds a way to stay on the air. The ARRL made some quick temporary changes to the rules to allow more stations to participate as individuals or small groups, and change the way that club scores get calculated. This last change allowed many groups to maintain social distancing as required, and still maintain their streak of participating in Field Day. Ak-Sar-Ben ARC has participated in every Field Day since 1946 (at least)

According to the ARRL Web site the AARC had 12 individual entries. 8 operating from their home using commercial power (1D), 2 operating from home using emergency power (1E or 2E), 1 went mobile (1C) 1 was a one person portable (1B1) - all of stations will have their scores added into the score for the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club. Those results are usually revealed by the ARRL in November.

Of those twelve, nine also correctly submitted logs to the club site for a bit of local competition. As one of those was the under KØUSA callsign there are eight who will be eligible for awards. And all eight are eligible for a random drawing for a \$50 HyVee Gift Card. The drawing will take place during the AARC September club meeting, so be sure to attend (via zoom, I am sure). The awards are still being determined and will also be announced during the AARC September meeting.

Thanks to our reluctant Field Day Captain Adam KDØMMG for once again organizing a successful Field Day. And for field day minion Mary NØTRK – for keeping Adam on track.



Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) - is an exciting branch of amateur radio activities, attracting people from youngsters and teenagers to experienced old timers and veterans. Participants of these events arrive at the spot announced by the organizer, with the RDF gear and running shoes. Their task is to take radio bearings to find four or five hidden low power transmitters in the area. The winner of the event is the amateur who discovers, visits all transmitters and gets to the finish line in the shortest possible time.

You can learn more about Amateur Radio Direction Finding from this month's guest speaker. Robert Frey WA6EZV. He is an avid ARDF competitor and was a member of the US ARDF National Team in 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006

The Annual **Market to Market Relay** will be held on Saturday October 3rd, 2020. Volunteers are needed at the Exchange Points of this 68-mile run from Omaha (okay its starts in Bellevue this year, Covid-19 is messing everything up) to Lincoln NE. The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club has been involved since the first year, providing communications services to keep the teams of runners on track and to call for any needed support. Its always a lot of fun to see the costumes and signs of each of the teams. There is a lot of information on the club's web site, and you can even sign up to help online, or you can reach out to Mary, N0TRK to get more information. (N0TRK@arrl.net)



Club Officers & Board Members

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| President | Sean Edwards | ADØQG | president@aksarbenarc.org |
| Vice President | Pat Connell | WØOJU | vicepresident@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2018 Secretary | Brian Sohl | KEØGKB | secretary@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2018 Treasurer | Dave Rice | NØJSB | treasurer@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2019-2021 Director | Dave Rice | NØJSB | board@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2019-2021 Director | Dan Buchholz | NØPOT | board@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2018-2019 Director | Brian Sohl | KEØGKB | board@aksarbenarc.org |
| 2018-2019 Director | Ray Blackburn | NØREA | board@aksarbenarc.org |
| Immediate Past President | Kevin Hill | KAØVNY | board@aksarbenarc.org |

Club Committees

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Courtesy Committee | Bill Snyder | KDØFJR | courtesy@aksarbenarc.org |
| Education | Ray Blackburn | NØREA | education@aksarbenarc.org |
| Field Day | Adam Kavan | KDØMMG | fieldday@aksarbenarc.org |
| Flea-Esta | Chris Rice | | flea@aksarbenarc.org |
| Membership | Mary Joseph | NØTRK | membership@aksarbenarc.org |
| Monday Night .94 Net | Rich Swig | WAØZQG | wa0zqg@hotmail.com |
| P.I.M.P. | Jim Westcott | KAØKCV | pr@aksarbenarc.org |
| Prizes | Open | Open | prizes@aksarbenarc.org |
| A.R.E.S. | Steve Schmitz | NØUP | n0up@arrl.net |
| Publications | 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 |

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|----------------------|-------------|-------|----------------------------|
| 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 |
| Member | Russ Hilton | ADØQH | repeater@aksarbenarc.org |

Other Contacts

| | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|--------|-------------------------|
| ARRL Midwest Director | Rod Blocksome | KØDAS | k0das@arrl.org |
| ARRL Midwest Vice-Dir. | Art Zygielbaum | KØAIZ | k0aiz@arrl.org |
| EC Douglas County | Steve Schmitz | NØUP | dcares@aksarbenarc.org |
| EC Sarpy County | Dennis Mitchell | KCØYKN | |
| Vol. Council | Brian Zdan | KMØY | testing@aksarbenarc.org |
| NE Section Manager | Matt Anderson | KAØBOJ | ka0boj@arrl.org |
| VE Exams/ARRL Liaison | Ray Blackburn | NØREA | testing@aksarbenarc.org |

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