

HAM HUN

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB
INC.

WØEQU

June 1957

P.O. 626

Omaha 1, Nebr.

Vol. VII No. 6

MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

CLOSES JUNE 14th!

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| | | | | | 1 |
| | | | | | 8 |
| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |



Ham Hum

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HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request. News and information of interest to amateur radio is gladly accepted. All items must be received at least two weeks prior to the second Friday of each month for inclusion in the current month issue. Submit all correspondence to P. O. Box 626, Omaha, Nebr.

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Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club memberships are open to all persons having an interest in amateur radio and its activities. Dues are 50¢ per month or \$5.00 per year when paid in advance. Students rate is 25¢ per month or \$2.50 per year. Initiation fee \$1.00. Special rate for OM-XYL, \$6.50 payable annually. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month.

JUNE PROGRAM A MUST..... DON'T MISS IT!

Every ham, whether he be interested in traffic, net operations, just plain ragchewing or any other phase of Amateur radio will want to make certain that he is in attendance at our June meeting. A program so important and certainly of vital interest to all of us has been arranged, in conjunction with ARRL headquarters, which will afford us the opportunity of securing first hand information on the top subjects in the widespread field of ham radio. To facilitate our guest speaker the meeting date has been changed from the usual 2nd Friday of the month to TUESDAY, JUNE 11TH.

By special arrangement Mr. George Hart, National Emergency Coordinator for the ARRL, will be our guest speaker. Taking time out of his already crowded tour itinerary, Mr. Hart will discuss ARRL matters in general, the importance of amateur radio in emergency traffic and the function of AREC, RACES in its newly revised form plus many of the pertinent subjects that confront us daily in our hobby. As an active op (WINJM) George Hart is fully aware of problems that confront each of us and will speak to us, not as an armchair General, but as an active member of the ham fraternity in all its many phases.

If you have not attended any other meeting of the year, gather up your bosom buddy, whether he is a member of ARC or not, and join with the rest of the clan to hear this outstanding speaker on Tuesday night, June 11th, 8:00 P.M. at the Ak-Sar-Ben Field house. Don't miss it!

6 METERS - by WØNRT

The VHF gang here in the Omaha area will be minus one very ardent member for some time to come. Byron Blanchard, WØFRR, has left for duty with Uncle Sam for six months. He did not give up VHF though, I sold him my communicator and he has built a take-down beam. Gud luk By, and hurry back!

Another of the staunch VHF gang is QRT, temporarily though. Bob Beck, WØFRN, is in the process of moving. QTH to be around 67th and Wirt. Welcome to the neighborhood Bob. WØTRK, Don an active two meter, and now six-meter man is recovering from an operation. Welcome to six-meters Don, and a speedy, complete comeback.

Yours truly is finally back on the air sporting a 3 element Gotham beam. Hope to get caught up on the gossip soon.
HL.

"MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO TUESDAY JUNE 11th"

In the next issue we hope to bring some of the news on activity on 220 mc. Deeply appreciate any info or comments on planned activity.

WRT, and I have signed up for "operation smoke puff" as described in the May issue of QST and CQ. Any body else interested, should send in their cards as per article and we would like to pass the results along in this column as they come in.

Along this same line, we would like to inquire if there would be

enough "Club Spirit" and "Ham Interest" and cooperation to set up a Mark II Minitrack system for the tracking of the earth Satellites? This may well be one of the most important events in the history of man! Amateur Radio can and will play a large part in these two undertakings, ie., Project Vanguard, The Satellite and "Operation Smoke Puff." Any work along these lines could increase our knowledge and help our National Security at the same time. Any Comments?

SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL HAMS FROM WAYNE GREEN, W2NSD

The need is desperate and the hour is upon us! As you know, the FCC has proposed taking the eleven meter band away from us and turning it over to the Citizens' Radio Service. This is outlined in their Docket 11994. (Send for a copy from the FCC if you don't have one.) The deadline for comments on this proposal is June 10th, and time is short!

Eleven meters is the only long-distance band where facsimile is permitted and the only band where duplex operation is permitted. It is also 270 kc of darned good frequencies which all of us should be using a lot more than we do. As we become

more crowded in our bands, these frequencies will become extremely important. And remember this, once we let them go we'll never be able to get them back nor will we be able to get any others to replace them. This is it...the start of losing our band!

But we can prevent this if we rally now and tell the FCC that we WANT eleven. Write to the FCC, Washington 25, D.C. (Amateur Division), and tell them we want and need these frequencies, for we may be able to hold them. If you really want to create an impression, a letter to your Congressmen could carry a lot of weight.

JUNE 8-9 CONTEST

To further influence the FCC and back up our claims for our need for eleven meters, we must be able to prove some occupancy. Thus, CQ is sponsoring a special Eleven Meter Contest on June 8-9. Details of the contest appear in the editorial June CQ. Essentially it is this: The contest runs from 0800 EDT Saturday, June 8th to 2000 hr June 9th, scoring one point for contacts in the same state, two for contacts in another state and three for foreign contacts. *Exchange* call letters and state or country. Logs should indicate the time of contact for cross-checking purposes. Send a copy of the log to CQ *immediately* at 300 West 43rd Street, New York 36, N.Y., so our Save Eleven Committee can have this information for the FCC at an early date. Winners in each state and country will receive proper recognition.

Let's "save" by getting on the air for this contest. Even if you only work a dozen stations, it will show that you are willing to get in there and help save the band. Every active ham should be able to get something fired up on eleven for this weekend. Talk it up on the air so that every active ham in the world will know about it.

Antenna Length: 17'-13" for eleven in case you want to cut

a dipole. The band runs from 26.96 to 27.23 mc.

So there you have it! The results are up to you. If *every* club and *every* member enters the contest and sends in a copy of their log, then Wayne Green will be able to appear before the FCC with several thousand logs proving to the FCC that eleven meters *is* in use.

OPERATION RAINCOAT

On Monday evening May 20th, the amateurs in and around Omaha had an opportunity to display their wares by participating with the Civil Defense authorities in maintaining a watchful eye on the Papio River as it runs its course through the City. However, if you read the daily newspaper in Omaha (and this is a one newspaper town) you would never had known that the hams were among the first to be alerted and in action in this very threatening situation. It all started about 5:30 PM when those big black clouds that had been hovering over the City started to pour out the aqua in quantities that were more than necessary. From George Winkler, State Communications Chief came the original alert that we could ex-

"MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO TUESDAY JUNE 11th"

pect a very heavy downpour to the extent that floods along the Papio were imminent and that if they did come, that the Karen addition in South Omaha was in danger.

The C D nets were immediately alerted and in a matter of minutes mobiles and fixed stations were in business feeding pertinent information to CD headquarters. As predicted, the rains came but even more so than had originally been expected.

10 and 6 meter mobiles patrolled the Papio from 10 miles north of Irvington to south of Offutt Air Force Base, giving their observations at fixed frequencies of the amount of rainfall in the respective positions, the amount

of rise in the river, and the seriousness of the situation, if it existed. This operation continued until the heavy rains had subsided and it was obvious that all persons in the path of the fast rising river were no longer in danger.

Our hearty congratulations to all the hams that participated in the activity. While you are the "unheralded" volunteers in this community service, there is no doubt that your efforts will not go unnoticed in the minds of those that benefited from your help. Keep your raincoats handy, fellows, for the way the weatherman is giving us the business you will very likely be needing them again.

HURRY, HURRY, HURRY, ... IT WON'T BE LONG NOW!

The membership drive is fast coming to a close and the results will be decided at the June meeting. Don't forget...you can get your dues paid for a month and possibly deal yourself in for a swell prize. The unofficial standings as of May 15th are as follows:

Rolly Johnson, 10 new members
Rolly Freed, 2 new members
Jack Larsen, 1 new member
Dick Eilers, 1 new member
Bob Burt, 1 new member
Dick Nystrom, 1 new member
Jack Harvey, 1 new member

6

Ed Nelson, 1 new member

There have also been several new members enrolled without a sponsor so that means there are still potential new members just awaiting to be brought in. Who will be the winner of the new member contest? Will it be you?

Emil, WØNIK, enclosed a buck and a request for a continuat of his HAM HUM subscription. Thanks, Emil, and rest assured, the old rag will be coming along as usual.

"MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO TUESDAY JUNE 11th"

MOBILE XMTR. HUNT

If you thought you smelled baked ham Sunday May 15, you were right. It was Windy, WQNP, the bunny in his den, hiding from all of the big ferocious Xmtr. bloodhounds and par-boiling in the then welcome sun.

I kind of expected Gary, NRS, to come rolling in first as usual, but I guess he got dust in his nose and lost the scent, for after about forty-five minutes, Bill McDonald came gliding in looking like a man from Jupiter with phones on his ears and his snooper loop in hand. Fifteen minutes later, Ed, YEV, clinched second place. A newcomer to the hunts, KØERI, Ken, aided only by his whip, came in third. Ed and Bill took their choice of a SSB handbook and a CK722 transistor as prizes.

Fay, ISV, was cussing his luck 'cause he drove past the bunny several times. Later, all participants retired to a nearby moo-juice for a malt or soda.

If you wish to participate, go to the Sears lot at 31st & Douglas by 2:15 P.M. on Sunday June 16. This is the official starting point and the bunny arrives on the air at 2:30, if late comer do not delay him.

After a few growing pains the hunts have become a real enjoyable activity.

We will be looking for you on the 16th.

ITS TIME FOR A CHANGE

For the past 18 or 20 months the recipients of HAM HUM have been subjected to the whims, temperament and attitude of your present editor and the only recourse you have had were your letters and cards. But, when the going was rough it was very simple to file the jillions of complaints in WB13, and that's the round file on the floor, you know.

All joking aside, it's been a lot of fun (and a little work on occasions) to keep the pages full, but with the helping hand of many, Ole Baldy has gotten quite a kick out of the assignment. So, this will be the last issue on which my two tired old fingers will contribute, for the man that pays my salary (working salary that is) has blown his whistle and that means that QMD is moving to a new hunting ground.

No longer will you have to contend with guff and gall and the controversial issues of this one person's opinion for you will have, starting in July, a real capable editorial staff with fresh ideas, much technical know-how, and the enthusiasm of eager beavers.

Thanks so much, Gang, for all the help, I've enjoyed the HAM HUM QSO's and will really miss them in the future. For now, 73its time for a change.

AMATEUR RADIOS POSITION IN PUBLIC SAFETY

The amateur radio operator is first of all a hobbyist. As such he is seeking a release from today's fast mode of living and the pressure of his occupation.

Amateur radio is a peculiar hobby in that it permits serving a dual purpose for the man who wishes to cooperate with his fellow operator for the relief of distress in times of disaster. In order to be of actual service under disaster conditions, it is desirable for the amateur to prepare in advance of that disaster in order that he might actually be able to help in the best manner possible.

RACES is a wonderful start toward preparing for a disaster.

The present Omaha-Douglas County Civil Defense networks now in operation are, in my opinion, as good as if not better than any other similar net in the country. There is still a great deal of planning necessary in order to be able to operate most efficiently when needed. At the present time there are too many unanswered questions. In the event of disaster in the past, the amateur has come through and found the answers to the questions but much time could be saved if we know them in advance.

8

The amateur should immediately know what to do in the event of natural disaster in any of the various state zones which I am preparing. They need know their duties should existing public safety facilities break down because of power failure or otherwise. The Police Agencies should know from whom they can obtain immediate emergency power supplies and additional mobiles to perform certain civilian emergency functions under Police direction. Who alerts the county RACES officer? Where does he go from there? How does he alert the amateur? Is there a chain alert system? How about alternates? Where do we go when the sirens sound an air alert? Do we ask questions on the air or do we maintain silence until we hear our number over the air which directs our course? What do we do if we do not receive orders? What do we take with us?

Amateur operators have an important job to do and I know from past experience they are certainly willing to do this job for the benefit of their community and their state and nation. Many of you will receive a letter from me containing questions and it is my sincere hope that you will answer that letter soon as you can. Please do not ignore it. If you are not interested in its contents, send it

Continued on page 13

"MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO TUESDAY JUNE 11th"

back to me with no comment. I need help - you can furnish it.

Need suggestions - you can furnish them. If I deserve your criticism, give it to me.

Of major importance is the great need to develop more activity on two, six and ten meters. We are particularly anxious to develop more activity throughout the state on two meters. This brings up the questions "If C.D. wants us to develop and work two meters, where in the h...is the equipment."

That's a good question. I know where the equipment is, I know how to obtain it, but I cannot recommend the purchase of equipment, crystals etc. for every amateur in the state. We should have centrally located equipment on a standby emergency basis in every county and major city where two meter links are necessary to our state control obligations. Certainly I believe we should furnish crystals to those who are active with FCDA and its subordinate RACES groups and have either a record of activity or that have a sincere desire to function with us.

Most of all I believe, especially here in Omaha, the amateurs need a permanent location which they can call home. A place to have a bench,

some equipment, good antennae, beams, power supplies and so on. Then we should have a system of test alerts, - local, county, state and national exercises much more often than once each month and certainly more than once each year on a national basis. These exercises should be on a more realistic basis to approach actual disaster conditions.

In order that we might all be in a better position to serve our communities, I cannot urge you too strongly to participate in the RACES program wherever you can and in return I can assure you of this - amateurs will be asked to sit on disaster communication meetings which I intend to call shortly. These meetings will be infrequent and short but they will be important.

Secondly, I will try very hard to furnish the editor of Ham Hum with regular news, such as changes in FCC matters, RACES frequencies, local operating procedures, test messages, etc.

Thirdly, I hope you will feel free to call on me at any time for a discussion about our common purpose in communications and public safety.

George Winkler
Nebraska State Chief of
Civil Defense Communications
and Warnings

FIELD DAY..... 1957

Are both your legs broken after having been hit by that express train last week? Are your feet still encased in concrete from that new sidewalk on which you walked? Did your mother-in-law chase you from your own home with a flat iron? Did you lose your voice from the recent DX contest? Did those \$45 bottles in your big final blow and is the arc vaporizing your receiver? Yeh? Well brother you'r in pretty bad shape, but don't worry, your fellow hams still like you and to prove it you are invited---urged---to participate in F. D. 1957.

Although you can't pound a key with foot or fist or babble happily into a mike, you can still reap the top benefits of Field Day fellowships. We're sorry to hear that you'r in no shape to help set-up Friday night June 21. That's usually lots of fun when some of the group get together ahead of time to set-up the gear and test it. I'm sure glad to know we can count on you to be with us Saturday and Sunday June 22 and 23, for that's when the corona starts to fly and we really start whopping it up. Of course we would be happy to use what's left of your Xmtr. and receiver. We need both--very badly--especially receivers.

So you think you might be in

good enough shape to operate by then, that's swell, and we're sure Gary, WØNRS, Ke. 4135 Gary Tighe, KN2VZN/O, R 4738, or Windy Larsen, WØNPA, Ke. 5233 will be happy to be notified of help or equipment of any kind you can offer. Bring any equipment available except your mother-in-law, we can't handle her either.

How do you get there? If you are driving, here are the directions;

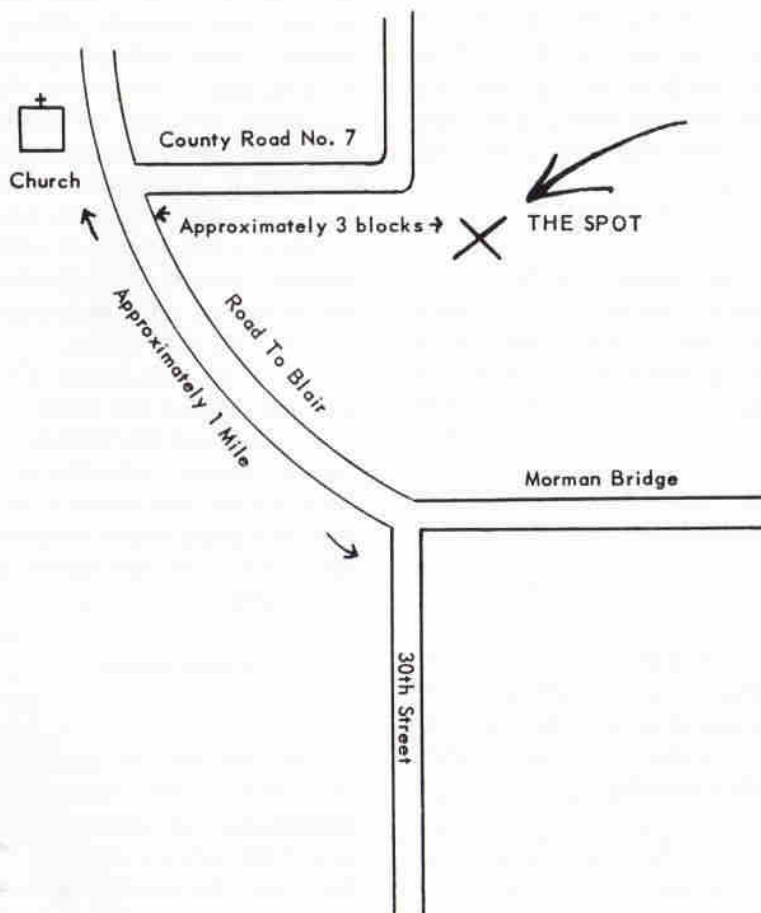
Our FB site will be at the "Erickson Acres". To reach the Field Day location, proceed as follows: Drive north on 30th Street. When you reach the Blair Road, continue in a northwesterly direction on highway 73 for approximately 1 mile. On the west side of the road is a church and on the east side is county road No. 7. Turn right on this road and continue for approximately 3 blocks. Do not make the first turn to the north! Our FD location is on the south side of County road No. 7, just before you make the turn.

If you don't have transportation, get on the bus and go to the end of the Florence bus line and transportation will be available to the Field Day site at the following times; 7 P.M. Friday, 8 A.M., 12 noon, and 7 P.M. Saturday and 8 A.M., 12 noon, and 2 P.M. on Sunday.

Bring along your chow-come as as early as you wish--stay as long as you like, for there will be plenty company.

Club will furnish lots of pop and the coffee pot will be

brewing. There will be a charcoal grill available for the Bar-B-Q experts. Come prepared for a good time but keep in mind that June 22 and 23 are the red letter dates. See you at the Field Day site.



"MEETING NIGHT CHANGED TO TUESDAY JUNE 11th"

ATTENTION ALL PHONE MEN!

John, SPD, in conjunction with the Northeast Nebraska Radio Club at Tekamah, Nebraska, has come to the aid of the phone men that have lost the touch of the straight key or bug. Novices or would-be hams are invited to tune 3745 daily and Sunday for code practice transmissions. If you haven't tried copying CW for awhile, spin the knob to 3745 and see what you can copy....you could be really surprised. Time 2000

No longer can Bob, OSE, claim his rig as his own! Donna has just received her ticket and is proud of the KNØJQU call. You've had it, Bob. Guess you'll have to set up another station if you want to operate. (PS. See if he can copy CW, Donna, and FB on the new ticket.)

Did you know that Frank Ladd, BPY, now carries a line of Johnson gear? Scuttlebutt has it that there are some good deals available.

QST...QST...QST...QST....
You just can't hold down that Northeast Radio Club. These

fellows are on the beam with activities of all kinds.

Prez, FYP, and gang are holding their annual picnic on Sunday, July 14th at the Stanton Fair Grounds and from the o line we have received, it sounds like this should be one to attend.

There will be a rig on the picnic grounds (75 meters) to talk you in to the Floral Hall on the Fair Grounds where a potluck dinner will get started at 1:00 PM. Considering that ice cream and pop will be on the house, and no registration fee, plus an opportunity to meet the gang, what can you lose?

If you have some swapping material, take it along, for there will be a swap table and auction to lend to the fun.

Pack up your lunch, XYL, and harmonics, for there are plenty of things for them to do, too. Swimming pool, plenty of trees, swings and slides to keep them occupied. Don't miss this one.....set July 14th aside for a FB picnic.

We hear that the Quad City ARC had a barn burner of a Hamfest on May 26th. We received the info too late for May issue, but our big ear tells us that the picnic was a dandy and that all that attended had a mighty fine time.

2 METER TALK...by WRT

Bank conditions are beginning to improve. Heard WØQDH, in Salina, Kansas on the night of May 17th of May, also two other stations to the south, one believed to be WØIAY at Pawnee City, Nebraska and the other signal unidentified.

Regarding two meter skeds. here is an item that may be of interest - For over 6 months now, WØPQP in Valley and his son Jack WØNOW, who is attending the University in Lincoln have been keeping skeds. via two meters. Regardless of weather conditions, the circuit between Valley and Lincoln has been 100% reliable and this is accomplished with low powered equipment. Ed, WØPQP is using an SCR-522 and his son Jack is using a Gonset Communicator.

During the next month, I am going to find out more information on the skeds. that KØBTZ and WØSSB have been keeping between Omaha and Topeka, Kans. using fixed freq. FM equipment on 147.96 mc. More on that next month.

A new station is operating in Lincoln, his call WØKNT and we'll be working him as soon as he gets his beam up in the air.

FOR SALE

Viking 2, low pass filter and Dow co-ax relay, NC300 and V72 vertical antenna 40 thru 2 meters by Antenna Engineering. All very good shape. Priced very reasonably. See George Havell, WØBJH, 1308 E. 30th St., Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

We learned via the snooping process that Frank, BFE, has departed from his QTH with ISV and is now located in his new home. Don't keep it a secret, Frank, let us know where it is. We won't tell anybody about your moving at midnight, having a flat tire and no key to get to the jack and lug wrench. (Why didn't you call CQ and ask some of the gang to come to your aid?)

There are now listed 21 mobiles in Omaha operating on 10 meters. We are confident that there are many more of whom we are not aware, and we know that there are quite a number of 2 and 6 meter mobiles too. We are trying to complete our list of all mobile stations in and around Omaha, so please send in the postage free, self-addressed card indicating that you are mobile and the frequencies on which you operate.

Had a card from Noel K8BEW. Just to refresh your memories he is ex-9BKT and formerly WØAPK. Noel is now practically a neighbor of Tim Fifer. Can anybody bring BEW up to date on the following queries: Do Doc Becker or Meg maintain sceds with any of the gang and if so on what frequency? Noel is running a half gallon on AM and CW and always on 7025 at 11 PM EST. Another question is...what has become of all the Omaha brass pounders like Dick Eilers, Art Gaeth, Al McMillan, Ed Nelson and Rudy Vaverka? How about somebody giving Noel a fill on these questions. (Thanks OB for the stamp neutralizer, that buck helps to keep the mail-room walking)

FOR SALE: Collins 75A1 with 3 Kc plug-in filter. This is an unmodified, real clean job in A1 condition. \$275 cash-no trade. Call WØJJK, Papillion, Nebraska.

Just before IOS departed for New Hampshire he brought home a real fussy HT32 single band rig. After all Frank had to say about side band operation, another AM op has gone with the ducks.

Could be that we will be hearing from JKE in the near future. He is now located in his new QTH at 308 W. North Street, Greensburg, Indiana.

In the past month we received 2 QSL's from Chas', WØCVU, over in Cedar Rapids! Does he do it up in a big way! Both cards in full color and all you can see is a lil ole KWS1, 75A4, Collins SC101 control unit, plus a stack of 2, 10, 15, and 20 meter telrex beams, plus 40 and 80 meter trap antennas. Oh yes, also 2 60-foot self-supporting towers. Maybe somebody has a slightly used UV201A that will help to keep this gear in operation.

Lee and Leona, better known as SRR and XYL just don't believe in standing still. Hasn't been very long ago that they moved from Omaha to Hartley, Iowa, and now we learn that they are in Estherville, Iowa. The SRR's are opening a paint, wallpaper, and gift store and we wouldn't be a bit surprised to see a line of ham gear sneaked into the picture. Good Luck, Lee.

**AK-SA BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
P.O. BOX 626
OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

**NEXT MEETING
AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD
JUNE 11, 1957
8:00 PM · SHARP**

Form 3547 Requested

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
Paid
Omaha, Nebr.
Permit No. 221