



HAM HUN

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB
INC.

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Sept. 1957 P.O. 626 Omaha 1, Nebr. Vol. VII No. 9



"Picnic"

September 15



Ham Hum

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
Post Office Box 626

Omaha 1, Nebraska

EDITORS

Alan McMillan, WØJJK

Dick Eilers, WØYZV

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. Student 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.

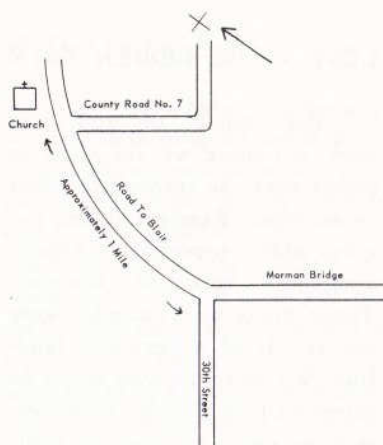


AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB ANNUAL PICNIC SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 15, 1957

We are going to a picnic and planning on a good time for all. The picnic is open to all. We invite all amateurs, be they North, South, East or West of Omaha. Even from Omaha. We have been saving up for this one and believe that you will remember this one for a long time to come: The fellows still remember the big picnic of 1948 and we're modeling this one along the same lines, but planning bigger and better things.

The food - of course, hot dogs and buns, potato salad, baked beans, ice cold watermelon, pop, brown 807's and coffee. And all this at Pre-war prices. Fifty (50) cents per adult, twenty-five (25) cents for child under 12 years of age.

Where - the Latenser Estates. North of Omaha on highway 73 to County road 7 and turn right, then follow picnic signs to the Iron gate.



(Map to the picnic area)

The program - 10 meter transmitter hunt, mobile judging, games and contests for young and old, special events for XYL's, special UHF xmtr hunt - make your direction finder and have some fun. (A dipole, or better, a folded dipole $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches, a germanium diode, or better, a silicon diode across the center and a .001 disc ceramic across it then your high Z headphones across the works. Maybe a reflector or director or both if you wish.) Little xmtr hunt will be on foot only - no vehicles - many, many, many prizes for all events and a prize drawing.

The time - one o'clock (1300 to you) eat at 1400. Games before and after, Gabfest before, after and during. If you come, you will get a prize. Don't be left out. Plan now to be there. See our scientific map on how to get to the picnic in the most confusing manner.

LOST - THE HIDDEN XMTR

For those of you who were not there we are sorry to report that the transmitter hunt is no more. Wendy Larson, the chief hider, reported an almost complete lack of interest. Those hunts well attended were the result of a personal land-line call to those who might be interested by Wendy. However, this is quite a chore in addition to being in charge of the hunt itself. So, the members present voted to discontinue for the balance of the year. It seems a shame to give up a good Ham activity, but the word activity implies participation and it was reported that only two or three Hams showed to find the bunny. Don't get

rid of your direction-finding gear yet, though. A hunt will be a part of the annual hamfest on September 15. Look for an announcement elsewhere in this issue. If you like to hunt the xmtr, talk it up with your buddies and who knows, the idea may be revived. One thing good about a club is that it does those things its members want. If, however, you might have wanted to continue and were not there to speak your piece, well, you still are not lost. Let your wishes on this or any other idea be known to any member of the board, any officer, any committee member or send in your ideas on the card included in Ham-Hum.

H-HOUR 2000

Having heard much grumbling and growling, our Pres, AMM asked the members what time they wanted to start the meetings. They formally decided that the show should get on the road at 2000 hours and not a second later. So if you want to hear the minutes of the last meeting, be there at 1959 hours or you will miss it. If you enjoy a gab-fest before the meeting, gear up your schedule a half hour. We will be there and have the door open early.

WE ARE NOT ALONE

MidWest Chirps, edited by Robert Summers, KØBXF, reports that they may have to fold up their paper unless contributions of information is forthcoming. While we have to admit the information received lately is a major improvement, in past times we have come very close to the point of little or nothing to print. Keep the post cards and articles rolling in (and women).

FROM WØRMB

The 50 M.C. boys wish to welcome KØJBR, Bill Kent, to our band. JBR uses a 2 element me-brew, WRL converter, and WRL #680.

WØVLI plans to have a 50-foot tower up by the time you read this.

For the last few weeks the 6 meter band has been rather sparsely populated. How come??? You fellows are in town most of the time, but we don't hear you on the air.

Heard on the air have been several carriers, but no identification. Audio in the background sounded like broadcast radio. F.C.C. doesn't like that!

Understand KØDXS hooked some good fish. One would make a good 2 meter dipole.

Several fellows are thinking about 440 M.C. ham TV transmitters. WØRMB has more information if you want to join the fun.

To make a 6AK5 tube takes about 300 pounds of water.

To get another certificate for your shack, all you have to do is 12 contacts in 12 cities or towns in either Iowa or Nebraska - not mixed - on 50 M.C. Write the call letters on a post card and mail to WØRMB, 24 Jackson. By the way, mobile contacts don't count. And it looks like DXS will receive #001 for Nebraska.

WØMGZ is the latest mobile on 6 meters.

SWITCH PUZZLE

How often have you seen a circuit containing a double pole single throw switch which had the two sections of the switch wired in parallel? Had you wondered why the waste of contacts? Wouldn't one set do the job? I'll stop asking questions long enough for you to jog your brain cells and think of a reason why the switch shown in figure one might be insufficient. Figures 2 and 3 do the same job, at first glance but why are they used?



Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

Figure two, you no doubt have realized, will provide greater contact life and switch higher currents than the switch shown in figure one. (Providing that the individual switch contacts are of the same type of construction) Is figure three a puzzler? It was to me the first time I ran across it. The reason for using the contacts in series is to provide a double opening which will open twice as fast. This is often very necessary in circuits with an inductive load where the arc may be great when the circuit is opened.

ANY VOLUNTEERS?

One phase of past club meetings that appears to have made an impression and which members have expressed a desire to see again is the lecture and demonstration of a common subject. While all of us like to have an engineer speak to our group on super calculating machines, receivers that follow signals that have excessive doppler shift and such, most remarks indicate that the simple down-to-earth discussions that cover familiar, but not thoroughly understood parts and equipment in everyday use by amateurs. For the most part, those that have given a talk on a common phase of amateur radio are only a bit better versed on the subject

than the average amateur of several years experience. So many of us take a little blabber box available from some company and hook it to our equipment without really ever knowing just how it performs. A simple discussion on an electronic part or piece of equipment, with a few drawings can open many a newcomers eyes and permit them to really understand the function of a piece of gear. We hope that there may be among you in the membership one or more that are familiar with a certain piece of gear of circuit that will oblige us by being a speaker at a future meeting. How about dropping a line on that free post card that comes with your Ham Hum?

POSTMAN PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Our old pal Art, WØQMD has a new QTH picked out and is ready to settle now. The new QTH in Minneapolis is 6845 Point Drive. Art says "if nearby water makes a good ground, his should be excellent". We understand the QTH is only about 2 blocks from a sizeable lake and if you stub your toe, you just dug a well. That ought to make for good DX.

DOWN DALLAS WAY

A letter received from our good friend, "Chuck" Vanderpool tells us that he is now in Dallas. More over, Chuck is a happy bridegroom as of recently. A batch of stamps were also received to "help the cause", thanks Chuck, and lots of luck, For those desiring to set up a QTH is, Charles Vanderpool, 5964 Burgundy Road, Dallas, Texas.

MONEY FOR THE KITTY

Here is a letter that we would like to receive every day.

Addressed to the Board of Trustees - Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club.

I am returning the \$15.00 that I won in the membership contest so that it may be put to use to help provide enjoyment for the membership of the AK-Sar-Ben Radio Club. I feel that I had an advantage over the rest of the membership in the contest, due to my work on the Novice Committee, and therefore, I feel that the money should go to the club. If the board feels it proper, I would like the money to be put in a special fund that could be used if Ham Hum expenses go over the usual amount. If it is not needed before December the first, the money would then be transferred to the Christmas party fund. If the board has a better use for the money, please use it as it is needed. I hope it will bring added enjoyment to the club members that provided the money in the first place.

I will be back around the first of September and will be looking forward to seeing you all then. . . Rolly Johnson, WØSPQ

The editors certainly feel that Rolly's gesture is a fine one, which the members appreciate very much.

OUT IN THE WORLD

A card arrived from our former member Frank Cooper with all the information we had been eagerly awaiting. The card was addressed to Ed but Frank knows the editor isn't named ED--anyway, Frank tells us that he has a real DX location all picked out, second to none. Knowing Coop, we believe it! Room for rhombics galore, on the highest hill in the N.H. area. The FCC has promised that Frank will retain the same call, just dropping the zero from around the one (a lazy one laying down on the job) A WRL vertical will do temporary duty this year, until Frank can put up all the big beams etc. Put your HT-32 on the air Frank, we can copy SSSSSB here. For those that can't, the mailing QTH is F. Cooper, RFD 1--Reeds Ferry, New Hampshire.

GOING EAST

A card from Dick Silon, K2SZD tells that he enjoys reading Ham Hum and that he and friend Joe Lofreddo, K2PVB are going to build amplifiers to increase power. Diagrams for the amplifiers are available by writing Dick. Thanks for the news out East Dick. We like to hear from our readers everywhere.

RUMORS ARE FLYING

Contrary to some rumors running rampant, this column will continue as long as there are rumors running rampant. These rumors are unfounded and not founded on the rumors we started. Such rumors are dangerous, even when true, as our rumors are not true and after all, we feel entitled to rumor our own rumors without a lot of rumor-mongers rumoring that we don't know how to rumor. (Borrowed in part from Midwest Chirps).

Wow! Or should we say WOOOO (WOOOO) I never thought that one would be issued, but it was, to a fellow up in Minn. A dot and sixteen dashes. When he signs off the fellows probably think his electronic key is stuck. The only one better I can call to mind is HH5HH on 20 CW.

CQ and QST will not be found on the newstands in the future, so better get your subscription entered now (Through the Club).

ARRL OB 609

Says all about the high scoring stations from 1957 field day. No-our club was not on top of the list, but for information on those that were see Oct. QST for all the details.

We hope to have a new and correct roster available in October, to be distributed at the regular meeting for that month. It is planned that the roster be distributed rather than included as a part of Ham Hum.

HAMFEST

The Huron, S.D. club is sponsoring a convention (So. Dakota State) to be held Sept. 21-22. For full program and details, write Huron ARC--box 1234--Huron, S.D. While we are sure this is going to be a nice convention, with regret we notice the dates are the same as the Mid-West convention to be held at Kansas City.

ARRL OB 610 (in Brief)

The ARRL frequency measuring test will be held on September 18 at about 2130 EDST, and September 19 about 0030 EDST. Frequencies the 18th will be about 3539kc, 7044kc and 14095kc. On the 19th they will be about 3667, 7015kc and 14056kc. Further details to appear in September QST, page 80.

Newton, Iowa
July 19, 1957

Dear ARRL Member:

At the recent Board of Directors meeting it was voted to oppose FCC Docket 11994 which proposes to discontinue amateur operation on the 11 meter band. The League has sent its protest to the FCC. If you feel that amateur operation in the 27 Mc. Band should continue, please write the FCC in Washington, D. C. giving your comments in opposition to Docket 11994. Let's let them know how we feel about frequencies being taken away from amateurs.

I am happy to say that my motion instructing the Secretary to continue to seek additional privileges on 160 meters was passed unanimously. It appears that it would be wise for us to make more use of the segments of our 160 meter band. Its propagation characteristics make 160 meters the best band we have for ground wave and state wide emergency work by both fixed and mobile stations. In its comments regarding 11 meters FCC mentioned that little use was being made of the band for normal amateur operation. Let's make more use of 160 and the bands so that the same can't be said about them.

The request of ARRL members in Western Nebraska to

transfer to the Rocky Mountain Division was not acted upon in view of the Communications Department's unfavorable report on the matter. New Mexico was transferred from the West Gulf to the Rocky Mountain Division.

Thanks very much to all who sent me letters and messages before the Board meeting. I appreciate getting your views and wishes.

I would like to invite all clubs who have not already done so to become affiliated with ARRL because of the many services offered to affiliated clubs. ARRL Headquarters will be glad to give you information concerning affiliation.

Having recently been appointed a member of the Board's Membership and Publications Committee, I would appreciate receiving any comments and suggestions you would care to make as to how QST and other League publications can be improved and membership increased.

Don't forget the ARRL Midwest Division Convention at the Town House in Kansas City, Kansas, September 21 and 22. It's going to be a good one.

73,

Bob Denniston
Director, Midwest Division
ARRL

Q&A

NOVICE

Why is it desirable to generally avoid antenna configurations that are high impedance at the transmitter end of the feed line?

GENERAL

Assuming that you were in operation on the 40 meter band with a properly matched antenna and feed line, but had excessive second harmonic and wanted to attenuate the harmonic by making a change or adjustment only in the antenna system What would you consider being one of the easiest and most economical ways?

ADVANCED

I have a piece of 50 Ohm coax line going to the feed points of my antenna. The antenna end of the feed line is arranged in a special manner so that the RF is delivered in quadrature. How is the antenna end of my feed line arranged and what is the impedance at the antenna feed points, assuming that I have my antenna properly matched?

The answers to Q & A will be found on page 12, but think about it a while before looking.

WE'RE SSSSSSSSSSSORRY

SSSSS and much etc. SSSS
That's to make up for some of the S's we left off the address label of our paper addressed to Midwest Clix(s). Mert, WØKXL says that some phone man is swiping the S's to use when he says "Best 73(s)". We don't doubt it a bit, Mert, from listening to the bands. Thanks for the info and Best Regards(S).

John Ferrel, WØYD and a V (where do you get those dragged out call letters, John?) spent a vacation up in the land of 10,000 lakes (count'em) recently and says that he worked 2 meters, of all things. We thought that John was a confirmed low frequency addict. We even hear that some stations over 100 miles distant were worked. John also had a small pocket radio (surplus) that covers 40 meters, and reported hearing Leo, KØCYJ on 40 phone. Leo confirms that he was on for about 5 minutes testing one evening, but that was all he was on the entire time John was in Minn. From that you can see that John really keeps one ear in the receiver all the time.

AUGUST IS GONE

Yes, the August meeting is past, as are many fine memories of amateur Radio in the early days. Mr. Otto Schmidt brought back those memories for a time at the August meeting and anyone that missed the meeting should be sorry indeed. First licensed about 1916 and active in radio earlier, displayed his early wireless gear at the August meeting for all to see. Yours truly learned what is meant by a "Quenched Gap" and many other terms unfamiliar to the ears of us, still wet behind the ears in the field of radio, comparatively speaking. The apparatus displayed along with the publications issued in 1916 and later were to fabulous to describe. Mr. Schmidt gave a short talk on the problems of his day, which as in ours, included "jamming" and thoughtless testing. De-

scribed was an incident that he recalled where a fellow out in Papillion, Nebr. (that didn't have a license) used to test all the time on 200 meters, preventing the fellows in Omaha from working anyone. A bunch of the Omaha fellows got together one night and decided that they had had enough of the Papillion fellow running just to hear his spark tone and they set out to put him off the air. Unfortunately for them, a storm came up and washed out the bridge to Papillion so they never did get their revenge. It's probably for the best, since they would most likely have tried to cut down his antenna (as our neighbors try these days) which we understand had about 2KW running in it. Our thanks for your fine demonstration, Mr. Schmidt.

DEW LINE

DEW line was turned over to the USAF recently. The 3,000 mile long northern first line radar defense was started in 1952.

One firm has licked the sky signal. With the use of an electronic computer telephone exchange, the connection will be made as soon as the line is clear - if you can wait that long.

The Department of Agriculture is one of the new users of the ohmmeter. With the help of this instrument, the moisture in plants is checked; as the plant needs water the resistance goes up, and as the plant gets the moisture, it goes down. If the ohmmeter was hooked through controls, it could "talk" by turning on its own water.

Q & A-ANSWERS

NOVICE

A high impedance is difficult, if not impossible to match with link and Pi Net type transmitters. Pi Net transmitters can appear to load such a system, however, more often than not, the power remains in the Pi Net and burns it up. TVI becomes more difficult to surpress and often poor operation of the rig occurs, due to RF on the chassis, causing instability of RF and audio.

GENERAL

With a low impedance feed line properly matched to the antenna I would use a stub. A stub is normally a short section of transmission line, the same as used for feed line. The stub is made to be a short at the harmonic frequency and attached at the proper point on the feed line so that it simply acts as a dead short at the harmonic frequency but produces negligible effect at the fundamental frequency. Such procedure is discussed in detail in the ARRL Handbook and is simple but effective.

ADVANCED

The device used at the end of the feed line is a simple balun. The impedance is 200 Ohms. The center wire of the end of the coax goes to one feed terminal on the antenna. The center wire of the coax that is located back along the feed line, one half electrical wave length from the end goes to the other antenna feed terminal. The $\frac{1}{2}$ wave distance between the two feed points are said to be in voltage quadrature stepping up the impedance four times and giving 180 degrees phase difference between the two feed points.

MID-WEST CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 21-22

Pre-registration must be submitted before September 7th. Send your \$10.00 (per person) to Jim McCoy, WØLQV--4844 Booth St., Kansas City, Kansas.

"Back to School Days" Drive Safely

W-H PROGRAM

It is hoped, that in the near future we will be able to present a club program titled "Watch Harmonics". The ARRL reports that 30% of all QO notices are for second harmonic reports to operators on 80 meters that have a harmonic on the 40 meter band in the frequency range of 7400-7500kc. Many of them relating to the newer licensees. The desired program will be devoted to the short-comings of typical station installations and ways of reducing or eliminating harmonic problems. There is really no reason for not having all harmonic signals suppressed at least 50 DB. All transmitters do not have this kind of suppression built in when used with poor antenna systems. A transmitter that has 50 DB suppression, when operating into a good flat 50 ohm coax line may have as little as 20 DB suppression when the antenna is a bad match. The Pi net used in transmitters so commonly is not a cure-all or antenna tuner and has very definite limitations. Tuning out a very large amount of reactance from a high impedance load destroys the attenuating characteristic of a Pi network, to a great degree.

SAFETY

Every station owner should review the ARRL safety code, for operator and equipment switch to safety and other principals that may save a life (yours). The League's by-laws were ammended at the last board meeting, as reported in July QST. The secretary has a revised copy for those that may wish to read them at the club meeting.

TRAFFIC MEN

Anyone that has been working on traffic should report this information the SCM. The club secretary has form cards ready to fill out and be mailed. Several are on hand now and if more are needed, we'll get them. Keep your SCM posted by sending him your traffic count and net affiliations.

NUMBER PLEASE

Bob Burt informs us his new phone number is TE 4949. No doubt we'll be getting many phone changes since the phone company changed many phones to the TE exchange.

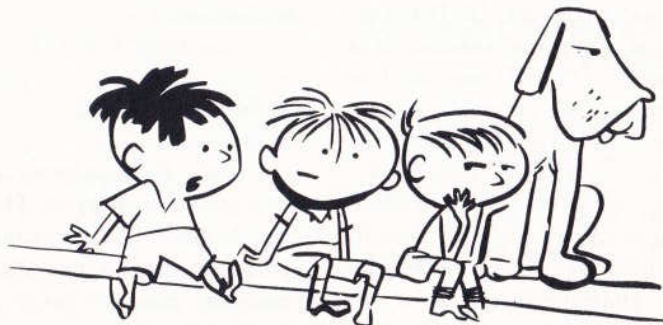
GENERATOR TRAILER

John Orr, WØPHW, gave us a report on the generator location. By request it has been relocated. It now rests, temporarily, at the Lueder Construction Co. To gain access to it in an emergency it is necessary to contact Curt Hicks. We are looking for a permanent spot for it. We are also in need of an additional trailer for the second generator. Please look around for one. The requirements - must be Two wheeled and able to carry about 400 lbs. Also, must be low cost. If it has good running gear we can fix up the rest. Help us find this trailer. Send the address of any seller on the enclosed card. The board will carry on from there. We would like to get

this generator going before winter sets in.

2 IS HOT

There seems to be more activity on 2 than we DC band boys have been aware of. We have to read about it in another club's publication. We are informed that there is a regular nightly schedule between Omaha and Topeka, about 160 miles by crow. These fellows have been using the 2 meter band though, rather than crows. They are using FM on 147.96mc. We understand that WØBTZ is on this end and WØSSB is one of the Topeka boys. They report nearly 99% solid contacts on the link.



"You know, a Radio. It's like a T-V with a busted tube."

GET YOUR QSL'S WHILE THEY ARE HOT

We have several unclaimed cards that we would like to deliver to the owners. We would be happiest if they were picked up at the regular club meeting so we can meet you fellows, but we will settle for addresses. QSL cards are on hand for Hugh-KØGHK, Harold-WØBQP, Larry-KNØKQD, Harold-KNØJBC. Several cards say "first Nebr. worked", so lets pick up the cards and make the fellows happy.

OUTSTATE

The new officers for the Grand Island Amateur Radio Society are: President-Louis Bald, 1423 No. Grand Island Ave., - KØHJY; Sec.-Treas.-Eugene Budde, 1123 So. Lincoln-KNØJGY. Thanks for the info and hope to receive more as time permits.

IT'S GOTTA GO

GLOBE SCOUT 40A TRANSMITTER---S40B RECEIVER---
EATH VFO

Get in touch with Gary Lambert by calling TE 1934, QTH 2606 No. 81st.

OUTSTATE

The newest op out Alliance way is Kendrick Graham, KNØ-KPY. Operation is CW only on 7191 Kc. using a home-brew 807 pumping 70 watts into a dipole. Kendrick is trying out several receivers before making a final choice on an inhaled. Guess Kendrick has to watch the \$\$\$, being the ripe old age of 15 and a Sophomore this coming school term. (via-Martin Johnson, WØRJA)

OUTSTATE

The Homesteader Amateur Radio Club of Beatrice, Nebr. was host to the Crete Club at a steak fry Wed. July 10 at the Chatauqua Park, in Beatrice. 38 Hams and XYL's attended. Steaks, tossed salad, pie, Vienna bread, coffee and pop were served. (Sorry we missed it. Ed.)

The Beatrice Club welcomes into the fold four newly licensed Amateurs. Two General class: KØCBJ; KØKKJ, and two Novice class: KNØKDM and KNØKJH, the latter being the club president's XYL. (via the president - Louis Fink, KØCBV).

**AK-5 2-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
P.O. BOX 626
OMAHA, NEBRASKA**

NEXT MEETING

PICNIC

SEE MAP ON PAGE 3

TIME: 1300

SEPTEMBER 15

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

Form 3547 Requested