

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc
P.O. Box 24551
Omaha, NE 68124-0551
KØUSA 146.940(-)/224.940
Web Page: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>



Membership Form 2010

This form may be used for any of the following purposes (check all the apply):

- A. _____ Pay Dues _____ Renew _____ New
B. _____ Change of Mailing Address
C. _____ Update personal information (new callsign, upgrade, etc)

Personal Information

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member ? Yes No

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Spouse Information (Complete Only For Spouse Applying at Same Time)

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member Yes No

Minor Dependent (Complete Only For Minors Applying at the Same Time)

Callsign	License Class	Name	ARRL Member?
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
_____	_____	_____	- <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Annual Dues

(January thru December)

For Club Use Only – DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

Full Member \$20.00 year Amount: _____

Accompanying Spouse \$ 4.00 year Amount: _____

Accompanying Minor \$ 4.00 year x # of minors Amount: _____
Dependent renewing

Student Member (full time \$ 8.00 year Amount: _____
student)

Total Paid: _____

Mail to:

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 24551
Omaha, NE 68124

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LX, Issue 1 & 2

January & February 2010

Letter from the Editor-

Ham Hum News

There was not a ham hum published for January. This was due to the editor getting very busy about the time I should have been working on the hum. The good thing is I don't have to tear out my whole driveway, the bad thing is I have to tear out some of the driveway this spring.

The AARC is looking for a new newsletter editor, after a little over 4 years, it is time for me to move on to other projects. Please let me (N0UP) or Corby (K0SKW) know if you would like to try out newsletter editing.

Club News

Corby K0SKW and Travis KD0HCE have been elected to partial terms as president and vice president.

Field Day, please give any input for field day 2010 to Claudia KC0SQX. Things like suggested locations, food and operating activities are needed.

Towers and antenna trailer, the trailer needs refurbishing and possibly converting to an easy set-up system. If anyone knows of a short crank-up tower for sale, let Steve N0UP know.

Hamfests - Both SWIARC and Lincoln are coming up in March

ARES - Spotter Training, Siren Test and the Weatherfest are all coming up soon

Thanks

Steve N0UP

Upcoming Events

- February 12 AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:00 PM Red Cross
February 12 AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
March 6 SWIARC Flea Market, 8 to past Noon Town Hall. McClelland IA
March 20 Lincoln Hamfest and ARRL Nebraska State Convention
March 22 Spotter Training, Douglas County, 7:00pm Boys Town Music Hall, 13715 Flanagan Blvd. Park in the Lot South of the building. Enter through the Front Doors. NO Parking on Flanagan Blvd. violators will be towed at their expense.
March 24 Wednesday Siren Test, Douglas County, n0up@cox.net for info
March 27 Weatherfest, Lincoln NE
April 1 Spotter Training, Sarpy County, 7:00pm, Fire Training Academy, 3100 Cornhusker Rd.
April 3 Saturday Siren Test, Douglas County, n0up@cox.net for info

HAM HUM is the official newsletter of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in Omaha, Nebraska. It is printed monthly and is distributed to members of the club, local disaster officials, local electronics outlets, and editors of other ham radio newsletters.

Articles about activities of members are solicited. The subject matter must be of general interest to radio amateurs and be understandable to a significant portion of the membership. No payment will be made to contributors and submissions will be subject to the usual editorial review. Articles containing statements that could be construed as libel or slander will not be accepted. No guarantee can be made that an accepted article will be published by a certain date. Send your contributions to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551 or email hamhum@aksarbenarc.org. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint anything appearing in the Ham Hum.

Club Officers & Board Members

President	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net
Vice President	Travis McArthur	KDØHCE	402-408-9593	travis@travisbsd.org
2009-2010 Board (Secretary)	Greg Carlson	N7JOD	402-305-2009	revgreg1@gmail.com
2009-2010 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AEØEG@arrl.net
2010-2011 Board	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
2010-2011 Board	Dick Jones	N6KVA		n6kva@arrl.net

Standing Committee Chairs

Programs				
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Education	Open Contact	Corby Krick	k0skw@k0skw.net	for more information
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Publications	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7774	wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		k0il@arrl.net

Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net
Vice Chairman	Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	402-690-0000	dswenson@wearne.net
Member	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net

Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Special Events Coordinator	Greg Ervin	KCØVTO	402-445-0317	gervin1@cox.net
ARRL Midwest Director	Bruce Frahm	KØBJ	785-462-7388	k0bj@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
NE Section Manager	Art Zygielbaum	KØAIZ	402-421-0839	K0AIZ@arrl.org
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
EC Douglas County	Darwin Piatt	W9HZC	402-991-0412	w9hzc@cox.net
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN		

Ham Hum Delivery

If you would like the Ham Hum delivered electronically by email, please let NØUP n0up@cox.net know. We will make sure your hum arrives when the mailed hum would arrive. This is an opt-out of receiving the Hum by mail only. If you do not request an emailed copy, you will continue to receive it by postal mail. Ed.

Contest Calendar

February, 2010

Louisiana QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 13 to 0300Z, Feb 14
OMISS QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 13 to 1500Z, Feb 14
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 20 to 2400Z, Feb 21
Feld Hell Sprint	2000Z-2200Z, Feb 20
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 26 to 2159Z, Feb 28
Mississippi QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 27 to 0300Z, Feb 28
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 27 to 0600Z, Feb 28
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1100Z, Feb 28
	1500Z-1700Z, Feb 28
North Carolina QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 28 to 0300Z, Mar 1

March, 2010

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 6 to 2400Z, Mar 7
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 13 to 1000Z, Mar 14
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 13
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1800Z, Mar 13
EA PSK31 Contest	1600Z, Mar 13 to 1600Z, Mar 14
Elecraft QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 13 to 1800Z, Mar 14
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 13 to 1900Z, Mar 14
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 14 to 0100Z, Mar 15
NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 18
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 20
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 20 to 0200Z, Mar 22
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue Contest	1000Z, Mar 20 to 1000Z, Mar 21
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 20 to 1200Z, Mar 21
Oklahoma QSO Party	1300Z, Mar 20 to 0100Z, Mar 21
	1300Z-1900Z, Mar 21
North Dakota QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 20 to 1800Z, Mar 21
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 20 to 0100Z, Mar 22

Details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Siren Test 2010

Please mark your calendars, Wednesday March 23rd and Saturday April 3rd, 2010 will be the annual siren test in Douglas County.

The test will begin at approximately 10:00 am on Wednesday, and will be done by 10:20 am. The test on Saturday will also begin at 10:00 am, and most likely continue until shortly after 11:00 am. ARES and REACT will again be checking all the sirens in the county. The net will begin about 9:00 am on April 3rd. If you can assist, please contact Steve NØUP, n0up@arrl.net (402)306-2972

Steve NØUP

Where are the Ham Radio Hackers?

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

On the Ten-Tec Omni VII Yahoo Group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Ten-Tec-Omni-VII/>), one ham wrote:

"If I was 17 years-old I would be hacking I-phones and other items like George Hotz, the 17 year-old from New Jersey who was able to unlock the Apple I-phone so that it could be used on other cell service networks.

"When I was his age, I was hacking dial telephones. Then one day the phone company showed up at my house. My parents were not impressed with my technical abilities.

"This morning there is a story that George has just hacked the 'un-hackable' Sony 3 Play Station. He says the hack was 95% software and 5% hardware.

"A quick check of the modifications site run by that guy over in Denmark, shows that there are NO MODS for the O7...interesting. I just wonder how many strange and wonderful things can be done with those 36 buttons/switches on the front panel. Can the O7 be made even better?"

In my reply, I asked, "Why stop at pressing some buttons on the front panel? Why doesn't someone really hack the Omni VII and develop a completely new software package for it?" Rigs like the Omni VII and the Elecraft K3 would seem to be perfect candidates for this kind of hacking.

Sure, there is an order of magnitude difference between a \$300 iPod and a \$3,000 radio, but we're big boys, aren't we? Besides, aside from overdriving the finals, what real damage can you do to the radio? It seems to me that even if you manage to screw up the software in the rig, you can get back to square one by simply re-loading the manufacturer's software.

Ham radio operators have a long history of modifying their radios. Page through any stack of QSTs or CQ Magazines from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, and you'll find many articles describing modifications to the popular radios of the day. About the only thing hams do to their rigs today is to clip a diode to allow it to operate out-of-band.

What does it say about the technical capabilities of today's hams that we haven't yet done with our gear what some 17-year-old kid has done with the iPhone and the PlayStation? Why don't we have any third-party software for Omni VII or the K3? I think if a manufacturer actually encouraged third-party software development, they'd quickly gain a following and make their brand even stronger, don't you?

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, blogs about ham radio at www.kb6nu.com, teaches the infamous One-Day Tech Class, and operates a lot of 40m CW. E-mail him your comments and questions at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

Weatherfest

10th Annual Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium and Family Weatherfest!

Saturday, March 27, 2010
Hardin Hall

9 a.m.-4 p.m.
3310 Holdrege St., Lincoln NE.

Hosted by UNL's School of Natural Resources
<http://www.cpsws.unl.edu/>

- Free, all-day family event with free parking
- Weather and science-related exhibits
- Presentations on weather and storms
- Hands-on activities for kids of all ages such as: "Be Weather-Wise with Weather Whys," "Observing the Weather," "Clouds All Around Us," "Weather Hit or Myth," "Severe Weather," "How the Weather Works," and "Lore of the Tree Rings"
- Meet local TV weathercasters
- See spectacular storm videos
- Community weather photo display
- Weather presentations in the auditorium
- Spotter Training
- Balloon Launch

Lincoln Hamfest ARRL Nebraska State Convention

March 20, 2010

Lancaster Event Center

84th & Havelock, Lincoln, NE

- **Cathy Zapotocny**, WBØZAP. National Weather Service – Valley, NE, Storm season predictions from the National Weather Service
- **Lonnie Rech**, WDØAOP, Logbook of the World
- **Jon Morris**, KAØJGG (Nebraska SEC), Emergency Communications
- **Bob Allison**, WB1GCM (ARRL HQ) A look inside the ARRL Lab
- **Joe Dawson**, KBØLQR (Assistant Chief Engineer, KLKN-TV), Tower construction and safety demonstration
- **Art Zygielbaum**, KØAIZ (Nebraska SM), ARRL appointees meeting and ARRL Forum
- TWO VE Exam sessions. Stop in anytime between 8 and 10 AM OR 1 to 3 PM.

Lincoln Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 5006
Lincoln, NE
68505-0006

Phone: 402-484-5530
Phone: 402-430-8338

www.lincolnhamfest.org

Prez Sez

First, I'd like to announce that there will be NO club meeting in January. Why? Well, it was suggested to me during the December meeting that perhaps the board needs some transition time, and a chance to focus on some of the things before it currently. I thought about this, and feel it's a good idea -- the weather is horrible in January anyway! So, no club meeting, but there will be a board meeting in January.

During the December meeting, ballots were handed out to those in attendance to vote in a fresh batch of officers to the club. We had many openings: two board positions, President, and Vice President. Great, huh? We had Dick N6KVA and Jim KC0SHZ both running for board positions, and they were voted in by acclamation. Next the president spot was to be filled. I was not seeking re-election due to my impending graduation and uncertainty of where my job hunt would take me. So I called for nominations for president, and the room was silent. After much silence, it was suggested that I retain my position as president until March, and the board of directors was to find someone to take the position. I was then voted in by acclamation. With that settled, we moved on trying to fill the position of vice president. Silence, and no takers. After some time, Travis KD0HCE announced he would be willing to serve as vice president under the same conditions. He was voted in by acclamation.

I'm going to be honest, here. I was disappointed by the turn-out at the last meeting. In the past few years I've been involved with the club I've seen attendance at the meetings steadily drop -- it's the same few people that come every month. This says to me that the club is in need of some serious revitalization if it is to remain an organization going in to the future. If you've been frustrated with what the club has been doing, or what the club has not been doing, HERE IS YOUR CHANCE!

First and foremost, I am making myself available for feedback on the club. Good, bad, or otherwise. What would you like to see the club do? If you haven't been to a meeting in a while, why not? More of the "less talk, more action" kind? Perfect. Got a project you want the club to do? Bring it up at the meeting and seek out people to help. Want to be in a leadership position? Ask the board to consider you for president or vice president!

This is your amateur radio club. If it's not up to your specifications, let's work on that. Call me at (402) 431-2672 or e-mail me at k0skw@k0skw.net, and let's get the ball rolling. Thanks once again, and let's hope for a great 2010!

Veep Speaks

Hello All,
I'm sure most if not all of you know me, Travis, KD0HCE, I was elected vice president last month, and figured I'd post a quick summary of the happenings as well as provide my contact details.

For those of you who weren't present, the annual meeting went mostly well.

I accepted a nomination for vice president and was elected as such, on the condition that I be replaced prior to my leaving the state (moving away) which will happen in July.

Corby accepted another term as president under those same conditions.

KC0SHZ AND N6KVA were both also re-elected and elected respectively to the board.

If you guys ever need to get a hold of me urgently, my phone number is (402) 408 9593, my cell is (402) 237-8728, and my email is travis@travisbsd.org (the one checked most frequently). If you ever need to get in touch with Corby and can't, I may have some luck as I live pretty much right next to him, and similarly if you need to get in touch with me and can't, he can probably help with that. I think most of you know me as I said, but just some details, I'm currently a student majoring in computer science and mathematics at UNO and am happy to serve the club. I'll be moving to Denver in July, but still hope to keep in contact with people in Omaha and visit on occasion.

I think that's all I really have to say, if you have any concerns, questions, or whatever, feel free to contact me using one of the methods listed above.

Thanks,
Travis

For Sale

Kenwood TH-D7A G H-T in original box w/BC-17 charger and manuals.
Accessories : MAHA Universal Drop-in Rapid Charger and Conditioner MH-C888; W & W battery designed to be used w/ rotatable belt clip/2 clips included; Kenwood PG-4W PC connection cable kit; SMC-34 spkr mk; and SC-47B soft carry case; extra bullet antenna. Package deal-\$200.00

Yaesu VX-150 H-T w/ NC-72B Charger; Manuals- \$70.00

Kenwood TH-215 A H-T w/charger and spkr mk – \$5.00

Contact-
Gayland Holloway KC0IPO
gaylandholloway@cox.net