

Letter From the Editor

I've replaced Steve Schmitz, NØUP, as editor of the *Ham Hum*. After four years as editor, Steve is moving on to other projects. Thank you, Steve, for doing such a fine job!

I'm still learning this task, so things might be a little rough at first. If you've been sending articles to Steve for publication, please send them to me at kc0svz@yahoo.com. If you've been routing them through somebody else, continue doing so until told otherwise.

Note that during the March 12th AARC meeting, the Club voted to continue publishing and mailing paper copies of the *Ham Hum*.

If you have any comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please let me know.

Thanks.

Bill Wilkinson, KCØSVZ

Want Ads

Looking for Zenith Radio

I saw a cool radio at the Lincoln Convention on Saturday (March 20th). Does anyone know the call sign of the gentleman that was selling his "Zenith Chairside" radio. He had it turned on and tuned to KFAB. Thanks

Pat, KØCTU

Free to a Good Home

I have several year's of *QST* and *CQ* magazines FREE to anyone that wants them. I will bring these to the club meeting on April 9th. These are bundled by year and magazine. So far I have 2007 and 2008. I may even have 2009 to give away as well. If no one claims them, I will put them out with the newspapers for recycling.

73, Bill, KEØXQ

Want to Trade ICOM 703

I have an ICOM 703+ I'd like to trade for an ICOM 706 MkIIIG or similar rig. This 703 is in mint condition and I'm looking for a rig in similar shape. I might consider a Yaesu or Kenwood providing one has detachable face plate and can be mounted in a mobile.

I've determined my lifestyle does not favor QRP right now and I'm more interested in getting on the air mobile with at least 50 watts. If anyone is interested, please get in touch with me (rcdevillier@gmail.com). Thanks & 73.

Rodger, ABØYW

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LX, Issue 4

April 2010

The Future of the Club

Bill McCollum, AARC Vice President

When I joined the AKSARBEN Amateur Radio Club over 20 years ago, it was a general interest club. Over the years, that has changed to primarily a club that is interested in ARES and public service activities. Also over the past eight to ten years, the same people have been doing all the work it takes to run the club.

On March 12th, the club could have disappeared forever. No one was willing to step up and try to save it. John, WBØCMC, accepted the nomination for President and yours truly (KEØXQ) accepted the nomination for Vice President. Jim Harper, KCØSHZ, indicated at the February meeting that he would be willing to be President, but stepped down when John was nominated. John and I are going to attempt to once again make the club a general interest organization.

How is this going to be done, you ask? With the involvement of all AARC members. I am appealing to the membership for help in saving the club. If you don't like something about the club, don't complain. Do something about it or keep your opinions to yourself.

We aim to have activities that are fun and educational, relating to ALL aspects of the hobby. The meetings will be informative and a program will be presented at each meeting. If you have any ideas on how you can help, please let me know. My email address is: ke0xq@cox.net or you can call me at 402-734-3316.

73, Bill, KEØXQ

Upcoming Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| April 9 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Red Cross |
| April 9 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Red Cross |
| April 9-10 | OzarkCon QRP conference, Branson, Missouri |
| April 17 | OMMRS Packet Radio Exercise |
| April 17 | Saturday Night Coffee, 8 p.m. at Perkins, 108th & L Streets. |
| April 18 | ARRL Rookie Roundup (SSB), 1800 UTC-2359 UTC. See http://www2.arrl.org/news/stories/2010/02/18/11349/ for details. |
| May 1 | Ashland ARC Flea Market, 635 East 1st Street, Wahoo, NE
Saunders County Fairground. Contact Matt Anderson, KAØBOJ
E-mail: ka0boj@arrl.net |

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	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net
Vice President	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-690-7965	ke0xq@cox.net
2009-2010 Board (Secretary)	Greg Carlson	N7JOD	402-305-2009	revgreg1@gmail.com
2009-2010 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AE0EG@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

Public Service/Emergency Education	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Membership	Open Contact	John Gebuhr	wb0cmc@cox.net	for more information
Publications	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Web Services	Bill Wilkinson	KCØSVZ	402-397-8803	kc0svz@yahoo.com
Club Net	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
QSL Manager & Technical	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7774	wa0zqg@yahoo.com
	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	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	402-492-9156	ppjoseph@cox.net
ARRL Midwest Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Rod Blocksome	KØDAS		
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		

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the AARC will be on **April 9th** at 7:30 p.m. The location is the Heartland Chapter House of the American Red Cross at 81st and Spring (near 84th and Center). Club Vice President Bill McCollum, KEØXQ, will be giving a presentation on the Official Observer program.

Official Observers are affiliated with the ARRL and are responsible for monitoring Ham radio activity for FCC rules violation. Their purpose is to provide a service by notifying amateurs of operating errors or technical problems before it comes to the attention of the FCC.

Bill is the Assistant Section Manager – Official Observer Coordinator, for the Nebraska Section.

(Club Meeting Minutes continued)

Flea market 2010: Discussion about doing it this year. If so, step up! Discussion ensued. Steve, NØUP will chair this.

Electronic Ham Hum brought up again. MOVED to reinstate hard copy. PASSED.

Other:

- VE exam March 30 at 6:30 p.m. at Red Cross (contact will now be K9RZ, Bill Jackson) - many other sessions around this month.
- QRP club tomorrow at 11 a.m. at Bread Dough Pizza in Ashland, NE.
- Spotter Training 22 March at Boys Town Music Hall (7 a.m.) (check web site about parking) or March 27 in Lincoln, or Bellevue on April 1st at Fire training Academy
- State ARRL and Lincoln Hamfest Saturday 20 March.
- Other items as per the *Ham Hum*.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m. for program followed by coffee at Perkin's on 108th and L.

Greg Carlson, N7JOD, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary

Contest Calendar

April, 2010

Missouri QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 3 to 2400Z, Apr 4
JIDX CW Contest	0700Z, Apr 10 to 1300Z, Apr 11
EU Spring Sprint, CW	1600Z-1959Z, Apr 10
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 10 to 2359Z, Apr 11
Montana QSO Party	0000Z, Apr 10 to 2400Z, Apr 11
Holyland DX Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Apr 17
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 17 to 0400Z, Apr 18
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 17 to 1800Z, Apr 18
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, Apr 24 to 2359Z, Apr 25
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 24 to 2159Z, Apr 25
Nebraska QSO Party	1700Z, Apr 24 to 1700Z, Apr 25

May, 2010

7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 1 to 0700Z, May 2
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 1 to 0500Z, May 2
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 1 to 0700Z, May 2
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 1 to 0400Z, May 2

For details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.

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

Club Meeting Minutes — March 12, 2010

The meeting started at 7:30 pm with approximately 25 in attendance.

President's Report – Corby, KØSKW

Pledge to the flag. Attendance by call sign. Minutes approved as read.

Vice President's Report and Programs – Travis, KDØHCE

No program tonight. Travis was not in attendance. (Spring Break at UNO)

Next month: Official Observers by Bill, KEØXQ

Treasurer – (report as of January, 2010)

Checking	761.53	
MM Acct	5,038.92	Int. \$0.64
Repeater	1,152.12	
Repeater CD	2,258.20	
CD	16,081.80	
Total	25,292.57	

Repeater – John, WBØCMC – working well.

Public Service – Pat KØCTU

State track meet 21-22 May. Babcock Memorial Bike Race 10-11 July near South Bend. MS 150 Bike race the same weekend. (see George, KBØEET). MS Walk Saturday, April 24. Pat will call around. 9a.m. registration.

Publications – Steve, NØUP (outgoing) – Ham Hum out. Now Electronic only. But will still be hard copy for new hams and others.

Education – Mary NØTRK – Currently teaching around 10 folks for REACT

Membership – Mary, NØTRK – Needs current membership info – We're now on Facebook and Twitter looking for content

Field Day, 2010 – Claudia – KCØSQX (@ar1.net) is looking at (in order) Standing Bear, Seymour Smith, and Walnut Creek Parks.

Unfinished Business

- Election for President: Jim, KCØSHZ nominated last month. Asked for nominations from the floor. John, WBØCMC was nominated. Motion that we vote by show of hands. VOTED John, WBØCMC.
- Election for Vice President: Bill, KEØXQ nominated. Motion he be elected by acclamation. VOTED for Bill, KEØXQ
- Bill, KCØSVZ volunteered to do the Ham Hum. Bill's e-mail address is kc0svz@yahoo.com

New Business

Moved to submit Jim, KCØSHZ as candidate President and vote on him at the March meeting. PASSED. Notice for VP position will be on the web site, reflector and Ham Hum. Agreed to do one more paper edition of Ham Hum. Discussed nets on our repeater.

(continued next page)

Prez Sez

Unfortunately, I don't have an article for this month. I've been out of the country but should have something next month.

John, WBØCMC – President AARC

Veep Speaks



At the March club meeting, John (WBØCMC) and I were voted in unanimously as president and vice president. I want to thank Jim, KCØSHZ, for volunteering to run for President at the February meeting.

We will attempt to resurrect the club. It doesn't take a handful of members to make a good club. It takes involvement of *all* members. This is your club, I am asking that all members be involved. Over the years, I have heard many complaints on how the club is ran. If you don't like what is going on in the club, get involved or keep your opinions to yourself. The club membership is down to around 120 members, of which about 20 are the working force behind the club. I am calling on members for presentations at the meetings. I would like to see the majority of the programs deal with all aspects of the hobby. This could include antennas, DXing, different modes, kit building, etc.

The presentation for the April meeting will be on the Official Observer program. Yours truly and hopefully with the help of WBØCMC will present the program. A video will be shown of an incident that happened in the mid 1990's that got national publicity in the now defunct *73 Magazine*. After the video presentation, there will be a question and answer period.

I hope to see many of you at the April meeting and the meetings to follow. If you have any ideas on how to make the club prosper, feel free to call me on my cell phone 402-690-7965. I have this phone on most of the time and if I don't answer, please leave me a voice mail.

73, Bill, KEØXQ – Vice President AARC

News and Events

Hams Provide Emergency Communications in Lincoln

As mentioned by Roger Devillier, ABØYW, on the Yahoo! Groups AKSARBENtalk board (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AKSARBENtalk/>), the first of April was a good day in Lincoln for Ham Radio. Earlier that day, a phone switch (and its backup) belonging Windstream Communications failed and cut off phone service to 32,000 people in a 15-county area of southeastern Nebraska. This included the 911 Emergency Communications Center in Lincoln.

Although alternate numbers were provided for emergency communications, Ham Radio operators played a significant role by being stationed at twelve major intersections in the Lincoln area and relaying several emergency calls to the 911 Center. According to the online version of the Lincoln Journal Star (<http://www.journalstar.com/>), they remained on duty until 11 p.m. Thursday, when phone service was coming back up.

Storm Spotting Equipment

There were some people asking if we can use amber lights during storm spotting at the ARES meeting a few days ago. The answer at the meeting was NO, but there was LB719 to possibly change that to a YES. However, LB719 was indefinitely postponed. I have an email from Nicole Kanne, the Legislative Assistant to Senator Bill Avery with details if you would like to read. Just let me know.

Mike, KCØWQH

OMMRS Packet Radio Exercise

On Saturday, April 17th, there will be a disaster exercise at Epply Airfield which will activate the OMMRS system. This is NOT a full scale activation, but it is a good time to go to those hospitals participating and exercise the equipment.

Specifically, since we will not be providing communications, we will be playing Packet Radio. We will setup packet and pass several messages between the EOC and the hospital.

Start time will be 09:30 a.m. with everyone on site by 10:00 a.m. We should be done by noon.

We need volunteers for the EOC as well as various hospitals. To volunteer send me an email at n0trk@cox.net with **OMMRS April 17** in the Subject: line.

Mary, NØTRK

AARC on the Web

Club Web Site: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/main/>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=325594348836>

Yahoo! Groups: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AKSARBENtalk/>

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes — March 12, 2010

Roll Call

[x] Corby–KØSKW

[x] Jim – KCØSHZ

[x] Dick, - N6KVA

[] Marvin–AEØEG

[x] Greg – N7JOD

[] Travis – KDØHCE

There being a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 6:34pm.

President – Corby – KØSKW

Addressed the need for the V.P. position. What if there is no response? Corby is willing to be treasurer when he finishes as President. Jim, KCØSHZ agreed to accept nomination for Club President for 2010.

Vice President/Programs – Travis – KDØHCE

No program tonight.

Treasurer - (*position open*)

Latest report available: (from January)

Checking	761.53	
MM Acct	5,038.92	Int. \$0.64
Repeater	1,152.12	
Repeater CD	2,258.20	
CD	16,081.80	
Total	25,292.57	

Unfinished Business

- Discussed a club station at Salvation Army.
- Field Day will either be at Standing Bear, Seymour Smith, or Walnut Creek (same as last year). Need to check availability from Parks and Recreation departments.

Public Service – Jim – KCØSHZ

Publications – Steve – NØUP – Final hard copy of the Ham Hum is out.

New Business – Corby – KØSKW

- We need to make a good show at state convention next Saturday, the 20th from 8-4pm at the Lincoln Events Center.
- Hamfest 2010 – we must have a chairperson tonight before we vote the idea in.
- Need to talk about club assets and inventory of such.

Other (*No other business.*)

Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be in *executive session* Friday, April 9th at 6:30pm.

Greg Carlson, N7JOD, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary