

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.

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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

November, 2009

Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, Nov 14 to 0200Z, Nov 15
CQ-WE Contest	1900Z-2300Z, Nov 14 (CW/Digital)
	0100Z-0500Z, Nov 15 (Phone)
	1900Z-2300Z, Nov 15 (Phone)
	0100Z-0500Z, Nov 16 (CW/Digital)
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	2100Z, Nov 21 to 0300Z, Nov 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Nov 28 to 2400Z, Nov 29

December, 2009

ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z, Dec 4 to 1600Z, Dec 6
ARRL EME Contest	0000Z, Dec 5 to 2359Z, Dec 6
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z, Dec 12 to 2400Z, Dec 13
Feld Hell Sprint	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 12
NA High Speed Meteor Scatter Winter Rally	0000Z, Dec 12 to 0200Z, Dec 16
International Naval Contest	1600Z, Dec 12 to 1559Z, Dec 13
SKCC Weekend Sprint	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 13
CQC Great Colorado Snowshoe Run	2100Z-2259Z, Dec 13
Russian 160-Meter Contest	2100Z-2300Z, Dec 18
OK DX RTTY Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Dec 19
Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party	001Z, Dec 19 to 2359Z, Jan 3
Croatian CW Contest	1400Z, Dec 19 to 1400Z, Dec 20
ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint	2000Z-2400Z, Dec 20
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Dec 21
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Dec 23
RAC Winter Contest	0000Z-2359Z, Dec 26
DARC Christmas Contest	0830Z-1059Z, Dec 26

Details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Sweepstakes at the SATERN Station

On November 21, 2009 from 3 to 7 pm, the SATERN station at the Salvation Army HQ will be on the air at the beginning of the ARRL Sweepstakes. This will be an opportunity for Hams to see the station and use our 500 foot horizontal loop antenna as well as to see the station and learn about the SATERN mission.. We will be operating under the club call sign, KØTSA, and this will be an opportunity for techs or other Hams to get on the air.

Location: 38th and Cuming
 Talk in: 146.580 MHz (simplex) or 146.940-

outside of the airflow recirculation regions near the open windows reduced carbon monoxide entry.

In the next phase of the study NIST will model a two-story house that researchers believe will interact with the wind differently. NIST researchers also have worked with the Consumer Product Safety Commission on related work. (See: "NIST to Study Hazards of Portable Gasoline-Powered Generators," NIST Tech Beat, March 5, 2008.)

The generator study can be downloaded at <http://fire.nist.gov/bfrlpubs/build09/PDF/b09009.pdf>.

* L. Wang and S.J. Emmerich. Modeling the Effects of Outdoor Gasoline Powered Generator Use on Indoor Carbon Monoxide Exposures. (NIST Technical Note 1637,) 2009.

The Blue Smoke Theory

The Blue smoke theory was first proposed by D.A. Aikens and B.K. Downtin around 1990. The theory is that computer chips are not powered by gates and transistors, but in fact are secretly powered by a rare blue smoke. And further, it is the escaping of this smoke that causes chips to fail.

The authors had observed this phenomenon on many occasions prior, when installing pc components, frequently, when the power was applied, a small puff of blue smoke would arise from one of the chips on the card being installed. They had not made the correlation between the appearance of blue smoke and the death of the chips. But in a burst of insight, D. Akiens postulated that perhaps the smoke was significant. B. Downtin added that perhaps the smoke was not from a burnout as they suspected, but was pre-existent in the chip. Aikens further postulated that if that was the case then it must be the true and most fundamental mechanism at work in electronics.

This has fathered the whole science of blue smoke technology. And the sincere efforts to reveal the truth about electronics. Why would science lie? Why not admit that it's blue smoke and not gates? It is obvious that they think the public would not understand and would be far less impressed by smoke than by gates and switches.

It is believed that in each chip is a complex machine through which this Blue Smoke runs, and the key to most circuits is keeping the smoke inside the chip, which explains why chips are sealed in ceramic or epoxy. Even EEPROMS with a 'window' only expose a fraction of the area of the chip. The remainder is believed to house the blue smoke technology.

This theory is substantiated by any electronic/computer - if ever a component dies or is zapped. Smell - the tell-tale odor of the blue smoke will always be present. If you are fortunate enough to work directly with electronic hardware, you may witness the escaping of the blue smoke firsthand.

There are years of research left to be done in this area and the authors have devoted considerable amounts of time (and money) to studying the mechanism of the blue smoke and its implications.

Give Your Generator Some Space

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the same folks that bring you WWV, publish a monthly newsletter called NIST Tech Beat. Here's an item from the 10/6/09 issue of NIST Tech Beat that will be of interest to radio amateurs:

To subdue the steaming heat of hurricanes or to thaw out during a blizzard, gasoline-powered, portable generators are a lifeline during weather emergencies when homes are cut off without electricity. But these generators emit poisonous carbon monoxide—a single generator can produce a hundred times more of the colorless, odorless gas than a modern car's exhaust. New research from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) shows that to prevent potentially dangerous levels of carbon monoxide, users may need to keep generators farther from the house than previously believed—perhaps as much as 25 feet.

Up to half of the incidents of non-fatal carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning reported in the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons involved generators run within 7 feet of the home, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Carbon monoxide can enter a house through a number of airflow paths, such as a door or window left open to accommodate the extension cord that brings power from the generator into the house. While some guidance recommends 10 feet from open windows as a safe operating distance, NIST researcher Steven Emmerich says the "safe" operating distance depends on the house, the weather conditions and the unit. A generator's carbon monoxide output is usually higher than an automobile's, he says, because most generators do not have the sophisticated emission controls that cars do.

"People need to be aware that generators are potentially deadly and they need to educate themselves on proper use," Emmerich says. With funding from CDC, NIST researchers are gathering reliable data to support future CDC guidance.

NIST building researchers simulated multiple scenarios of a portable generator operating outside of a one-story house, using both a test structure and two different computer models—the NIST-developed CONTAM indoor air quality model and a computational fluid dynamics model.

The simulations included factors that could be controlled by humans, such as generator location, exhaust direction and window-opening size, and environmental factors such as wind, temperature and house dimensions. In the simulations the generator was placed at various distances from the house and tested under different weather conditions.

"We found that for the house modeled in this study," researcher Leon Wang says, "a generator position 15 feet away from open windows was not far enough to prevent carbon monoxide entry into the house."

Winds perpendicular to the open window resulted in more carbon monoxide entry than winds at an angle, and lower wind speeds generally allowed more carbon monoxide in the house. "Slow, stagnant wind seems to be the worst case because it leads to the carbon monoxide lingering by the windows," Wang explains. Researchers determined that placing the generator

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2009

Roll Call

[x] Corby–KØSKW	[x] Greg–WØAAI	[x] Jim – KC0SHZ
[] Dan–KD7GSW	[x] Brian–KMØY	[x] Dick, - N6KVA
[] Doug – NGØK	[x] Marvin–AEØEG	[x] Greg – N7JOD

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm. The September meeting minutes were accepted as given.

President – Corby – KØSKW

Vice President/Programs – Dick – N6KVA

No program tonight.

Treasurer - Brian Zdan – KMØY ---currently unavailable as the bank website is down---

Checking	1668.92	
MM Acct	5036.73	
Repeater	1132.12	
Repeater CD	2258.20	
CD	16,027.64	
Total	26,139.32	

Unfinished Business

Hamfest- Brian, KMØY – The event was held on Sunday, October 4th at Nebraska Crossing off I-80, with approximately 168 in attendance (good considering advance communication hassles). There was no testing because of testing within days of this event. Breakfast was served. Location was good and workable. Silent auction the best fundraiser. Brian and Marvin to be commended!!

Public Service – Jim – KCØSHZ

George, KB0ZZT has medical issues.

Publications – Steve – NØUP – Ham Hum for this month is out.

New Business – Corby – KØSKW

Other

New officers for 2010. Corby is unsure of his plans after graduation and needs to leave his options open. Brian has been treasurer for four years. Two new board positions. New VP. New publications person too. Will put an article in the Ham Hum.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Friday, November 13th at 6:30pm. The meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Greg Carlson, N7JOD, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary.

Club Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2009

The meeting started at 7:30 pm with approximately 15 in attendance.

President's Report – Corby, KØSKW

Club minutes were printed in the Ham Hum.

Vice President's Report and Programs – Dick, N6KVA

There is no program tonight. Went around the room to see what each did or got at the Hamfest.

Treasurer – Brian Zdan - KMØY

Checking	1,668.92	
MM Acct	5,036.73	
Repeater	1,132.12	
Repeater CD	2,258.20	
CD	16,027.64	
Total	26,139.32	

Repeater – John, WB0CMC – working well.

Public Service – Jim – KC0SHZ

- George Blair, KB0ZZT has personal medical concerns
- Market to Market (Old Market to Haymarket) Relay, October 10th. Will be monitoring 145.235 See the HamHum for a web link. Hundreds of runners!
- Crop Walk on Sunday a maybe

Publications - Steve, NØUP – Ham Hum out.

Education – Mary NØTRK – Technician classes will be in January.

Membership – Mary, NØTRK –

Hamfest – Brian, KMØY Was held on Sunday, October 4th at Nebraska Crossing off I-80 (exit 432 by the Flying J). Thanks to Marvin and Brian. Big sign by Design A Sign on 24th and Farnam. No testing because of testing nearby within days of this event. Breakfast food items available again.

Brainstormed publicity venues.

Field Day, 2010 – Claudia – KC0SQX looking at possibilities. Suggestions welcome.

Unfinished Business

Elections: Board or Officer positions, please let Corby know. President, VP, Treasurer and a couple board positions available. Publications too. Get items to the Ham Hum by Oct 31.

New Business

Other

- VE exam November 24th at 6:30pm
- QRP club tomorrow at 11 am at the Bread Dough Pizza in Ashland
- Fleamarket tomorrow 10:30-2pm at 6409 Capeheart Road
- Getting back to breakfasts at 90th and Center at 8am on the 1st Saturday of the month
- Dinner on the third Saturday at 108th and L at Perkins

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm for program and then coffee at Perkin's on 108th and L

Greg Carlson, N7JOD, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary