

point of noting this, he said "This is an ongoing investigation. I can't comment any further.

ChickEN had been reported missing from the AARC Field Day location at approximately 0200 CDT on June 25th 2000. The unidentified kidnapers left a ransom note demanding "\$100 Billion in small unmarked coins." Several club members were organized to apprehend the kidnapers, but have been unsuccessful." In July a small percentage of ChickEN was anonymously returned in the form of chicken nuggets. Sources stated "the mass of the recovered nuggets was not large enough to account for the entire remains of the weather chicken." Including today's discovery only about 30% of ChickEN's remains have been recovered.

Further details will be reported as they develop.



Office of Mr. Edwards



ChickEN found wedged behind an electrical box



Digitally enhanced close-up of office building sign

Siren Test Thanks

I just wanted to say "Job Well Done" to all who participated in the siren tests on Saturday. I was very impressed during my first exposure to the emergency volunteers. I feel much more comfortable about our sirens; I already felt comfortable with our radio capabilities. I am emailing this to the coordinators of Saturday's test, but if you could pass this along to all who participated it would be appreciated. Thanks again and let's have a great summer.

Eric J. Plautz, Asst. Director
Douglas County Emergency Management Agency

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LVIII, Issue 4

April 2008

ChickEN Remains Found

OPPD Repeater Site, Nashville, NE <http://www.weatherchicken.net/>

The remains of ChickEN (N0EGG) the [AK-SAR-BEN](#) Amateur Radio Club's faithful Field Day weather researcher were found near an OPPD repeater site not far from Nashville. The partial remains of ChickEN were discovered wedged behind an electrical box by club members touring the site. Un-named sources are quoted as saying "Hey, look at that!" and "Eewwww, I think it's dead, oh no... It's ChickEN!"



Club members remembered ChickEN saying "There has never been a better weather chicken, we'll miss him."

Forensic [experts](#) called in to examine the crime scene positively identified the remains of ChickEN saying "it seems to have been tossed over this fence." Across from the fence, only a short distance away, stands an office building where club member and tour guide Eddie Edwards (K0IL) has a private office. Officials speculated that someone may have attempted to dispose of "the evidence" by tossing it over the fence.

Witnesses from the tour group stated that Mr Edwards was seen "scarfing down some kind of food" when they arrived. However, they could not agree on the exact nature of what he was eating. "Edwards cannot be ruled out as a suspect, but we don't know why he would invite fellow amateurs to the crime scene without cleaning it up better" said an official. A witness who asked to remain anonymous stated "Eddie did such a good job organizing Field Day, I don't know how it could be him. He's just not that kind of guy." [Mr. Edwards](#) was questioned and released pending further investigation.

An official also noted that ChickEN (N0EGG) is not related in any way to any amateur radio operator in Minnesota. When asked why he made a

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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2008-2009 Board	Dan Olsen	KD7GSW		
2008-2009 Board	Jim Harper	KC0SHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com

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EC Washington County	Don Morgan	KB0VIY	402-427-7111	kb0vivy@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KS0L	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net

Contest Calendar

April, 2008

Radio Maritime Day	1200Z, Apr 12 to 1200Z, Apr 13
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 12 to 0359Z, Apr 13
	1400Z-2359Z, Apr 13
	0700Z-0759Z, Apr 19
	0800Z-0859Z, Apr 19
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 19 to 0400Z, Apr 20
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 19 to 0500Z, Apr 20
	1200Z-1800Z, Apr 20
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 26 to 0159Z, Apr 27
	1200Z-2159Z, Apr 27
Nebraska QSO Party	1700Z, Apr 26 to 1700Z, Apr 27

May, 2008

10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 3 to 2359Z, May 4
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 3 to 0700Z, May 4
Indiana QSO Party	1600Z, May 3 to 0400Z, May 4
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 3 to 2400Z, May 4
FISTS Spring Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, May 10
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z, May 25 to 0300Z, May 26

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

Upcoming Events

April 11	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
April 13	MS Walk, Contact KC0OYT for more info
April 19	ARARAT Hambash, 8:00 to 2:00, Kansas City, MO
April 19 & 26	BARC Technician License class 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM contact Bruce, KY0Z , education@bellevuearc.org
April 26	Nebraska QSO Party http://www.hdxa.net/negso/
April 27	Des Moines Radio Amateur Association Hamfest
May 2 & 3	Hamboree 2008 and Midwest Division Convention
May 6	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross
May 9	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
May 16-18	Dayton Hamvention
May 16 & 17	Nebraska State Track Meet, Contact K0CTU for more info
May 28	HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross
May 31	All Communicators Picnic, at Halleck Park in Papillion
July 12 & 13	Dave Babcock Memorial Race

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2008

Roll Call

[x] Greg – WØAAI [x] Mary – NØTRK [x] Brian – KMØY
[x] Doug – NGØK [x] Marvin – AEØEG [x] Jim – KCØSHZ
[x] Steve - NØUP [] Corby – KØSKW [] Rollie – ABØNN
[x] Todd – KKØDX [] Dan – KD7GSW
Also John - WBØCMC.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. The February meeting minutes were accepted as submitted.

President - Greg Babbitt - WØAAI – No report.

Vice President - Mary Joseph – NØTRK - The March program will be on the digital television conversion by Warren Behrens, KØWMB.

Treasurer – Brian Zdan - KMØY

Checking	3394.81	
MM Acct	5106.25	Int 9.00
Repeater	1132.12	
Repeater CD	2059.45	
CD	14,700	
Total	26,392.63	

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Greg WØAAI - The club has been asked to support the Venturing group which is a division of the Boy Scouts.

Committees

Public Service – Jim KCØSHZ – SATERN station is moving forward with a \$2000 budget. Weather spotter training 3/24 at Boys Town. Severe weather symposium 3/29 in Lincoln. MS walk is 4/13. The MS-150 ride is in May

Education – Mary NØTRK – Ham class to be offered, possibly in May.

Membership – Mary NØTRK – The Ham Hum will include a reminder to those needing to renew their membership.

Publications – Steve NØUP – Ham Hums were mailed as of this meeting.

Field Day – Corby KØSKW – Not present.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday, 4/8 at 7:00pm
Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Doug Rathman, NGØK, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary.

DTV Program 03/14

Report and Photo by Rich Swig WAØZQG



Warren Behrens, Chief Engineer at Ch. 7, holds an Extra Class license, KØWMB. He showed up at our Friday night March meeting with his laptop computer, LCD projector, and DTV receiver card for the PCM slot. All the local channels have digital signals now on the UHF band, and Warren's Ch. 7 is on Ch. 20. After midnight on February 17th next year you won't be able to find a signal on Ch. 7, and if you don't have a Digital TV or converter, you won't find anything on Ch. 20 either. (The old analog sets want a carrier and AM sidebands and the digital stuff just doesn't compute. No carrier.)

The official reason for the switch to Digital is freeing up some UHF channels for other services, radios and phones, but as you've noticed the manufacturers are going to make some bucks selling thousand dollar TV sets also. (You can buy a 13 in. CRT type Digital at Wal-Mart for \$94, but the tube means you're limited to 480i resolution. 'Real' Digital sets offer 720p or 1080i resolution.)

The Digital revolution will use channels 2-51 with the remainder through 83 sold off to those other services. (Also, Ch. 37 will remain off limits, used for Radio Astronomy.. Channel 55 has already been sold to Qualcomm - nationwide.)

Besides resolution on the main video stream, one other advantage to Digital is the ability to send out more than one program on the same channel. Ch. 7 currently uses 16M of the 19.4MB/sec data capability on Ch. 20 for a Digital version of their main program, and another 2MB for a continuous weather report. The educational channels around here send out three (3) video streams, each one a totally separate program.. Limited to the same 19.4MB overall data rate, they must necessarily reduce resolution to something like 6MB, 6MB, and 5MB (for the 3rd program). At my house in So. Council Bluffs there are currently twelve (12) old style channels and nineteen (19) digital video streams available for free over the air. (Hey, if you taped even half of that and watched it you'd never get any sleep. Maybe we could uh, **drop the cable** connection and still have a pretty good selection of programs for FREE.)

Field Day 2008

We need people to help organize this thing -- I simply can't do it myself. We need someone to head up food. There are grill-ish things out here. I vote for doing a potluck or something, and perhaps grilling dogs and burgers out there. FYI, There's a HyVee on 370, east of the park. Keep in mind, however, that we need to take out any trash that is brought in or created at the site!

We need people to be in charge of shacks. That begs the question, what bands? What modes? UP TO YOU! I'm still green, HF is still a bit of a mystery to me, so I need LOTS OF HELP here.

There are some caveats to our using this site. The ones I've not mentioned here can be found on my site, along with PICTURES!
<http://www.k0skw.net/articles/article.php?artid=4>

Please consider coming this year, it's going to be a lot of fun! And, consider* being part of the organizing staff. This is YOUR Field Day, after all!

* Volunteer, or someone may volunteer you, so let's make this easy!

Corby Krick
(402) 540-5483
K0SKW - Amateur Radio (General)
WQHN833 - GMRS
AFT3CK - USAF MARS
Omaha, Nebraska



MS Walk 2008

We are looking for volunteers!

The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club will be providing radio communication support for the Multiple Sclerosis Society during their fund raising MS Walk on Sunday, April 13th, 2008. We've gotten a few volunteers so far, but we need several more for our radio team. We will need operators stationed along the route to help during the event. We will relay information about the walk progress, identify supply needs for water stops and most importantly assist with any safety and health concerns for the participants. The event will run from about 8 am until the last walkers have returned (usually around noon).

As was the case last year, the walk will start at the Scott Conference Center on the UNO Campus, continue through Elmwood Park, cross over the pedestrian bridge into Memorial Park and then circle back.

If you can be a part of our team, or if you have any questions, please e-mail or call me at 402-964-9960.

Rob Buchholz, KCØOYT
kc0oyt@arrl.net

Cecil's Flea Market

"On April 12th and 13th, we will be having a Flea Market from the Radio's Messiest Basement. W0RMB (Cecil DeWitt), collected "stuff" throughout his lifetime and it all seemed to end up in the basements of the garage and the house. There is plenty of equipment to look through and prices will be pennies on the dollar. RMB's family would like to extend an open invitation to the members of all the area radio clubs to come and see what might show up for sale. The times will be from 9am to 5pm each day."

While I can't answer a lot of questions, 'cause some of the stuff down there is, uh, foreign to me, I can be reached at katdidi@cox.net or my cell phone is 681.5866. Thank you.

Kathy Handley, WB0QPV
(Cecil's daughter)

Cecil's basement location
5124 JACKSON
OMAHA NE 68106-1330