Sunday, October 5 – Millard American Legion
4618 S 139th Street – Omaha NE 68137

OMAHA HAMFEST 2008

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, KØUSA
Omaha, Nebraska

Burghardt's Amateur Center
D&L Antenna • Flea Market
Door Prizes • Forums
Refreshments • VE Session
ARRL Sanctioned

Admission $3 - Doors Open 09:00 to 13:00

Talk in 146.940(-)

www.aksarbenarc.org

Name:_____ Call Sign: _____

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

Phone: _____ eMail: _____

1st Table ____ x $7 Each Additional Table ____ x $6 *Additional Admission: ____X $3
Total: _____

Dealer Setup 8:00 a.m. - One Free Admission with 1st Table Only
Only Pre-Paid Tables Guaranteed

For More Info: Greg Babbitt, WØAAI, w0aai@cox.net 402-598-3030
For Table Rental: Pat Joseph 1821 Robertson Dr, Omaha, NE 68114 402-492-9156
k0ctu@cox.net

WGU-20

WGU-20, also known as "the last radio station," was a radio station operated by the Defense Civil Preparedness Agency (predecesor of the Federal Emergency Management Agency) in the mid to late 1970s. Operating 24 hours a day on a longwave frequency of 179 kHz from Chase, Maryland, USA, the station's programming consisted of pre-recorded announcements and time checks.

Utilizing the world's first all solid state, 50,000 watt, radio transmitter built by Westinghouse, the signal covered much of the eastern seaboard and reception reports from as far away as Texas were greated with a special QSL card featuring Paul Revere on a horse raising the alarm.

The broadcast had a mechanical-like sound of early speech synthesis systems but the message could be clearly understood, with time ticks in the background and a continuous announcement akin to the Speaking clock: "Good evening. This is station WGU-20. Eastern Standard Time seventeen hours, twenty minutes, twenty seconds. Good evening. This is station WGU-20. Eastern Standard Time seventeen hours, twenty minutes, thirty seconds. Good evening. ..."

The station was quite a mystery for a while with thousands of ham radio operators and radio hobbiests speculating about the nature of the station. It wasn't until a small news article in Popular Electronics magazine outlined what WGU-20 was designed for.

WGU-20 was originally designed to be part of the Decision Information Distribution System (DIDS) that would be used to alert the public of an enemy attack (along the same lines as the then-current Emergency Broadcast System). As originally envisioned, many home devices, including radios, TV and even smoke detectors, would have inexpensive longwave receivers built into them ensuring the that attack message would get out. A long wave frequency was chosen both because the extended groundwave signal it produced was supposed to be relatively immune to the effects of a nuclear detonation.

The DIDS system was never implemented and the job of attack warning in the US remained with the EBS (now the Emergency Alert System). However the 179 khz frequency range was used by the government's Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN) which, instead of notifying the public of a war, was supposed to be a (nuclear war) survivable communications network linking various military installations.

Club Officers & Board Members

President (2008)	Greg Babbitt	WØAAI	402-598-3030	w0aai@arrl.net
Vice President (2008)	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
2007-2008 Board	Rollie Miller	ABØNN	402-333-1606	ab0nn@arrl.net
2007-2008 Board	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net
2007-2008 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AE0EG@arrl.net
2007-2008 Board	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@cox.net
2008-2009 Board (Secetary)	Doug Rathman	NGØK	402-493-7369	dlrathman@cox.net
2008-2009 Board (Treasurer)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
2008-2009 Board	Dan Olsen	KD7GSW		
2008-2009 Board	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com

Standing Committee Chairs

Programs	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Education	Open Contact Greg Babbitt w0aai@cox.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	712-256-7775	wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		eedwards@tconl.com

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 Opperator	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	Matt Anderson	KAØBOJ	402-944-7488	ka0boj@arrl.org
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
Section EC	Jim Hitz	KCØDVG	402-642-2040	kc0dvg@arrl.net
EC Douglas County	Darwin Piatt	W9HZC	402-991-0412	w9hzc@cox.net
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN		
EC Washington County	Don Morgan	KBØVIY	402-427-7111	kb0viy@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net

Contest Calendar

September, 2008

WAE DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Sep 13 to 2359Z, Sep 14
Swiss HTC QRP Sprint	1300Z-1900Z, Sep 13
SOC Marathon Sprint	1800Z-2400Z, Sep 13
North American Sprint, SSB	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 14
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 20 to 2400 local, Sep 21
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 20 to 2400Z, Sep 21
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Sep 22
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 27 to 2400Z, Sep 28
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 27 to 2000Z, Sep 28

October, 2008

SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Oct 2
TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 4
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 4 to 2159Z, Oct 5
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 11 to 1559Z, Oct 12
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 11 to 2200Z, Oct 12
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Oct 11
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Oct 12
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z, Oct 18 to 1459Z, Oct 19
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint, CW	0000Z-0200Z, Oct 19
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 19 to 0100Z, Oct 20
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 25 to 2400Z, Oct 26
10-10 Int. Fall Contest	0001Z, Oct 25 to 2359Z, Oct 26

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

Upcoming Events

September 12 AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
September 13 & 20 Bellevue ARC Technician Class 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
        Allan WAØFIP education@bellevuearc.org for info
September 14 Spokes for Folks Bike Ride, Pat K0CTU for info
September 21 BVARC Flea Market, Mo Valley, IA   http://www.bvarc.net/
September 27 River City Round-up Parade, Dar Piatt W9HZC for info
September 28 Make-A-Wish Bike Ride, George Bellairs KBØZZT for info
September 30 HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross
October 5   AK-SAR-BEN ARC Hamfest, Millard NE
October 7   AK-SAR-BEN ARC Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross
October 10   AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – August 5, 2008

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

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

President - Greg Babbitt - WØAAI
See unfinished business.

Vice President/Programs - Mary Joseph - NØTRK
The program for Friday will be on radio wave propagation.

Treasurer - Brian Zdan - KMØY

Checking	1315.99	
MM Acct	5149.08	
Repeater	1132.12	
Repeater CD	2170.16	
CD	15,471.02	
Total	**25,238.37**	

Unfinished Business
Hamfest – D&L Antenna will be a vendor again this year. The club is looking into renting rectangular tables instead of using the existing round tables.

Public Service – Jim - KCØSHZ
OMMRS drill was held last Saturday. The Make-a-Wish ride is in September. The SATERN radios have arrived and will be installed in the near future.

Publications – Steve – NØUP
The Ham Hum is on schedule for this month.

Other
Steve Rasmussen, N0WY, became a silent key.
There were 16 at the last VE session.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday September 9th at 7:00pm.
The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

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

Hurricane Information

With the Hurricane season seeming to be in full swing, here is a partial list of Hurricane watch net activation & other related frequencies found on the mailing lists or the net.

The Hurricane watch net will be on 14.325 as late as the 20 meter band will support us.

Here is a list of active military/government frequencies monitored in association with emergency operations on the Gulf active with Gustav.

- 3349.0 DoD Tri Service MARS HF ALE Network:- WWLNNN USN/MC MARS Unknown location
- 4490.0 SHARES SCN Ch 3:- AAT3BF USA MARS Newark DE / KNY58 NTCN-HF Gadsden AL
- 4765.0 DoD Tri Service MARS HF ALE Network:- WKCNNN USN/MC MARS IL
- 4780.0 IN NG Primary:- INDOPS NG Indianapolis IN / FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 5015.0 USACE:- WUK Unknown location
- 5135.0 US Secure:- MA1NC NH EMA Manchester NH / NA1SH NH EMA Nashua NH / SEM003 NY EMA Glen Falls NY
- 5140.0 US Secure:- 0041MT Montana
- 5158.0 DoD Tri Service MARS HF ALE Network:- WKCNNN USN/MC MARS IL
- 5378.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 5402.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 5711.0 SHARES SCN Ch 4:- AAT3BF USA MARS Newark DE / KTQ313 US EPA Montgomery AL / ZLSNNN USN/MC MARS Yorktown VA
- 5817.0 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA / RLD NG Richland VA
- 5821.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 5847.0 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA
- 5878.5 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA
- 5961.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 6020.0 US Army Corps of Engineers:- G323 unknown location
- 6049.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 6106.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 6151.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 6785.0 USACE:- FCJ UV5 Unknown locations
- 6800.0 SHARES SCN Ch 9:- KTQ313 US EPA Montgomery AL
- 6803.0 SHARES:- KTQ313 US EPA Montgomery AL
- 6806.0 CAP ALE:- 0011ARCAP CAP AR / 0011OKCAP OK / 0048FLCAP CAP FL / 054NHQCAP CAP HQ Assignment / 101NCRCAP - CAP North Central Region Unit / 100SWRCAP Southwest Region Unit
- 6809.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 7348.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 7428.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 7480.0 US Secure:- 0041MT Montana
- 7642.0 DoD Tri Service MARS HF ALE Network:- OARNNN USN/MC MARS Bloomington IL / WKCNNN USN/MC MARS IL / ZLSNNN USN/MC MARS Yorktown VA

- 7806.4 US Secure:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 8012.0 CAP ALE:- RIC CAP Region 2 MER/CAP National Technology Center Richmond VA / 0004WICAP CAP WI / 0011ARCAP CAP AR / 0011OKCAP OK / 0048FLCAP CAP FL / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 8037.0 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA
- 8047.0 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA / L060AN - NG Baton Rouge LA / HQ703N - NG Readiness Center Arlington VA / T3Z238 - NG 2-238 AVN Shelbyville IN
- 8050.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 8093.0 NG STARC Net:- NRK NG Norfolk VA
- 9025.0 USAF HF-GCS Scope Command ALE HF Network:- ADW Andrews AFB MD / DMLS Unknown station / MCC West Coast McClellan CA / OFF Offutt AFB NEMexican Army Net:- Jupiter / Venus
- 9106.0 SHARES SCN Ch 5:- AAT3BF USA MARS Newark DE / BF741 DOMS Washington DC
- 9143.5 NG STARC Net:- NGTROOPCMD - NG Columbus OH / NRK NG Norfolk VA / RLD NG Richland VA / VAB NG Virginia Beach VA
- 9224.0 DoD Tri Service MARS HF ALE Network:- 2PBAFA USAF MARS Arlington VA
- 9462.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 10194.0 FEMA FNARS:- 473FEMAUX Unknown location / FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865) / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 10202.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8 FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 10588.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 10816.5 NG STARC Net:- T060XN Camp Mabry (Austin) TX / A040LN Montgomery AL
- 10899.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 11108.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 11217.0 SHARES SCN Ch 6:- 043NCS US NCC Unknown location / AAT3BF USA MARS Newark DE UK DHFCS TASCOMM ALE Network:- XSS Unknown location
- 11801.0 FEMA FNARS:- FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 11226.0 USAF HF-GCS Scope Command ALE HF Network:- 290062 USAF C-17 Aircraft #99-0062 / ADW Andrews AFB MD / AED USAF Elmendorf AFB AK AQC Send D4QCDM
- 12087.0 NG STARC Net:- T1Z147 NG 1-147 AVN, Madison WI / R27069 US Army aircraft
- 12216.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR3FEM Unknown location / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 13242.0 NIPR:- DL0005DAT Unknown
- 13446.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO / FR5FEM FEMA Chicago IL (WGY9865)
- 13568.0 NG STARC Net:- T060XN Camp Mabry (Austin) TX / A040LN Montgomery AL
- 13935.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX
- 14450.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX
- 14776.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC6 FEMA Region 6 Office Denton TX / FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO
- 15094.0 SHARES SCN Ch 7:- 043NCS US NCC Unknown location / PR13 unknown location / USARC5 - American Red Cross Unknown location
- 15708.0 FEMA FNARS:- FC8FEM FEMA Region 8 Denver CO

More may be found at http://hurricanefrequencies.com/
Hurricane Watch Net Information can be found at http://www.hwn.org/
A list of radio related links http://dxworld.com/hurr.html

Spokes For Folks Bike Ride

This will be the second year for the Spokes For Folks charity bike ride, and we have been asked to help again. The ride will be on Saturday, September 13th. If you can come out for a few hours on Saturday, reply to k0ctu@cox.net and I'll put you on the list.

The ride will start from St. Patrick's church in Elkhorn, NE. The riders will be registering starting at 7:30. They will be serving a pancake breakfast starting at 7:30 also, so if you want to come early and eat, that's an option. The web page for the ride states that ride support won't be on the route until 9:00 AM. They may not need us on the route until 8:30 or so. I'm not sure if they plan to have a mass start. I'll know more in a couple of days.

The riders have the option of riding four different distances. The routes for these distances are all extensions of the shorter routes. The riders will be traveling as far East as 168th St, and as far North-West to Highways 36 and 275.

Here are some web page links for the ride.

The first one is the main page.
http://www.spokes4folks.com/RideDetails.htm

This one has links to maps of the route.
http://www.spokes4folks.com/RouteMaps.htm

We would like to provide a few folks to patrol the route in vehicles keeping an eye out for folks who are in need of assistance.

Thanks,
Pat Joseph, K0CTU

Undocumented feature for Yaesu VX-7R

From the email reflectors

Turn on your VX-7R while holding down BAND key. Now your radio is in special mod (programed chanels only).

Large digits on the display, may be used only BAND mode, user can change only squelch(press MONF an key under PTT- Monitor/Burst switch) and TX power (press MONF and TX\PO\LK-internet key) . No more! VFO, the preferences and other features are blocked. You can give it to your friends for simple use.

To cancel: turn off, turn on while holding BAND. You have your VX-7R back for normal use.