

Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to members. Send an email with the wording exactly as you want it printed to hamhum@aksarbenarc.org or mail your ad to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha NE 68124. Ads must be received by the third Friday of the Month to be included in the next Ham Hum.

FOR THE TAKING

A 42 foot crank down, tilt over tower. Self supporting. Tilts at 5 foot point at hinge on mounting post. Two post mounted winches, one lowers tower the other tilts tower. One person operation.

John Orr, W0PHW, 402-571-3422

Ham Hum Delivery

If you would like the Ham Hum delivered electronically by email, please let N0UP n0up@cox.net or WA6POZ wa6poz@arr.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.

AARC Hamfest Silent Auction

The AK-SAR-BEN ARC will be selling the following items at silent auction at the AARC Hamfest. I am also taking other items on consignment for this auction. For further information contact Steve NØUP, n0up@cox.net

Items are subject to change.

- Kantronics KPC3
- Genesys Duplexer SY-25D (HF-144/440)
- DAIWA 2 position Antenna Switch
- AEA DSP-1232 Multi Mode Data Controller
- MFJ-812B VHF SWR/Watt Meter
- MFJ 1272BYV MIC/TNC Switch
- Astron VS-35M Power Supply
- Yaesu VX1 (bad battery)
- Radio Shack External Speaker
- Forbes Active SWL Ventenna Controller
- ALtec Lansing Computer Speakers
- Sony VAIO Speakers
- LOTS of misc cables, wires, etc...

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LVII, Issue 8

August 2007

Hamfest Door Prizes

The Raffle and Door Prize items have been received

The Grand Prize is a YAESU FT2800M 2m Mobile.



Other Prizes Include an MFJ 25amp Power Supply,

2 G5RV Antennas

2m Mobile antenna

MFJ clocks and coffee mugs!

Hamfest News

Pre-sale Admission and door prize/raffle ticket sales will begin at the August club meeting.

Each purchased table will include one admission and door prize ticket.

Tech, General and Extra Books

Are you looking to upgrade to General or Extra? OR - Do you know someone that wants to get their Technician License? We are ordering ARRL Study Books and you can get the book for the cost of the book - no tax and no shipping! If you're interested, let me know and we'll get your books ordered.

Todd - KKØDX

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 (2007)	Todd LeMense	KKØDX	402-216-8633	kk0dx@cox.net
Vice President (2007)	Greg Babbitt	WØAAI	402-598-3030	w0aai@arrl.net
Secretary (2006-2007 Board)	Doug Rathman	NGØK	402-493-7369	dlrathman@cox.net
Treasurer (2006-2007 Board)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
2006-2007 Board	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net
2006-2007 Board	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
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

Standing Committee Chairs

Education	Open Contact	Todd LeMense	kk0dx@cox.net	for more information
Government Relations		Jeff Reynolds	NEØDX	ne0dx@arrl.net
Membership		Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156 n0trk@arrl.net
Programs		Greg Babbitt	WØAAI	402-598-3030 w0aai@arrl.net
Publications		Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972 n0up@arrl.net
Public Relations		Greg Babbitt	WØAAI	402-598-3030 w0aai@arrl.net
Disaster Preparedness		Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102 kc0shz@yahoo.com
Repeater		Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	402-690-0000 dswenson@wearne.net
Technical	Open Contact	Todd LeMense	kk0dx@cox.net	for more information
Club Net		Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7775 wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager		Ed Edwards	KØIL	eedwards@tconl.com

Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.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	Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@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	Ray McNally	N5SEZ		n5sez@arrl.net
EC Washington County	Don Morgan	KBØVIY	402-427-7111	kb0vivy@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net

There are two local HF nets Sunday Evening

At 1900 local time the area 10 meter net is on 28.400
At 2100 local the Area ARES HF net is on 3982 (or close).
Please try out one or both of these HF nets.

Contest Calendar

August, 2007

10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 4 to 2359Z, Aug 5
National Lighthouse QSO Contest	0001Z, Aug 4 to 2359Z, Aug 5
ARRL UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 4 to 1800Z, Aug 5
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 4 to 0600Z, Aug 5
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 11 to 0400Z, Aug 12 1600Z-2359Z, Aug 12

Keyman's Club of Japan Contest	1200Z, Aug 18 to 1200Z, Aug 19
Russian District Award Contest	1400Z, Aug 18 to 0800Z, Aug 19
North American QSO Party, SSB	1800Z, Aug 18 to 0600Z, Aug 19
New Jersey QSO Party	2000Z, Aug 18 to 0700Z, Aug 19 1300Z, Aug 19 to 0200Z, Aug 20

Hawaii QSO Party	0700Z, Aug 25 to 2200Z, Aug 26
Ohio QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 25 to 0400Z, Aug 26

September, 2007

RSGB SSB Field Day	1300Z, Sep 1 to 1300Z, Sep 2
IARU Region 1 Field Day, SSB	1300Z, Sep 1 to 1259Z, Sep 2
Arkansas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 8 to 0600Z, Sep 9 1500Z-2400Z, Sep 9

ARRL September VHF QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 8 to 0300Z, Sep 10
Tennessee QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 9 to 0300Z, Sep 10
ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest	0600 local, Sep 15 to 2400 local, Sep 16
South Carolina QSO Party	1300Z, Sep 15 to 2100Z, Sep 16
Washington State Salmon Run	1600Z, Sep 15 to 0700Z, Sep 16 1600Z-2400Z, Sep 16

QCWA Fall QSO Party	1800Z, Sep 15 to 1800Z, Sep 16
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	0000Z, Sep 29 to 2400Z, Sep 30
Texas QSO Party	1400Z, Sep 29 to 0200Z, Sep 30 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 30

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

Upcoming Events

August 7	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross
August 10	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
August 10, 11, 12	10-10 Convention, Omaha NE
August 18	BARC VE Session 1:00 PM, Midlands Hospital, Papillion
August 26	MS-50 Bike Ride
September 11	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross
September 14	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
September 16	BVARC Flea Market, Missouri Valley IA
September 25	AARC/HDXA VE Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross
October 7	AK-SAR-BEN ARC 2007 Hamfest 9:00 to 1:00

I Love Twin Lead!

Twin lead, ladder line, TV lead in, window line: by what ever name you may know it by it is the most versatile feed line that you will find. It is inexpensive, at least as compared to coax, and it is forgiving of poor engineering practice. The normally available configurations are 300, 450, and 600 ohm line. Used to feed a random length dipole it makes a very efficient all band antenna. For a ham on a budget it is the answer to most of problems that antenna selection can present.

In my mind, for many years, there was the idea that balanced line was cranky to work with. Then I slowly realized that there must be several hundred thousand miles of 300 ohm twin lead in use in the country feeding several million TV sets which have been in service for many years. If twin lead is so dog gone cranky how is it that these people have watched Ed Sullivan, Johnny Carson, Walter Cronkite , and Oprah for so long with so little trouble? This prompted some reading and re-examination of some of my prejudices.

Within limits twin lead is tolerant of the environment in which it lives. It should be kept clear of metals but is not influenced by non conductors that it comes in contact with. It is very low loss, the answer to a QRPer's dream. Compare the loss factor of 100 feet of ladder line with that of 100 feet of the best quality coax you can find. Pretty surprising isn't it? Yes, it needs a an Antenna Tuner, and no, the tuner does not present much loss in the antenna receiving circuit. Tuners can be as cheap or as expensive as your junk box, technical know how and check book can stretch. For the ham with room for a single antenna, particularly one that does not conform to standard engineering practices, a twin lead feed dipole offers an efficient all band antenna in almost any location.

A word about antenna tuners. Yes, it does tune your antenna – and your feed line. The tuner sees a lumped constant made up by the all of the characteristics present in the feed line and antenna and presents them to your transceiver as a 50 ohm load. That's all your transceiver asks of you that you give it a 50 ohm load to work into. Your transceiver does not care if it is feeding an expensive beam on a 150 foot tower or a wire dipole strung between the back porch and the garage. All it wants is a 50 ohm load.

Dollar for dollar a twin lead feed wire dipole is the cheapest most efficient antenna available. No matter how cramped and confined your available space is it will take a twin lead fed random length dipole! Bend it a little, it will fit! And it will radiate!

Ralph W0SMY

AKSARBEN HAMFEST '07

OCTOBER 7, 2007

Speakers
& Forums

ARRL
SANCTIONED
HAMFEST

ARRL VE
Exams

\$3
Admission



Millard American Legion Hall
4618 South 139th Street
Omaha, Nebraska

9:00 am - 1:00 pm

LARGE VENDOR AREA

TABLES AVAILABLE \$7 each

Great Hourly Door Prizes

Breakfast & Lunch available

Talk-In on 146.94 - K0USA/R

Information - <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>
Todd LeMense, KK0DX - kk0dx@cox.net

Some Local Web Links

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org/> Homepage of the AK-SAR-BEN ARC

<http://www.mdares.org/main/> Homepage of the Douglas County ARES

<http://www.nstar.org/severewx.html> This site has accumulated weather info for eastern Nebraska from a variety of different sites (meso scale discussion, radars, forecasts, etc).

<http://nstar.org> Homepage of the Nebraska Stratospheric Amateur Radio Group

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – July 10, 2007

Roll Call

[x] Todd – KKØDX [x] Greg – WØAAI [x] Brian – KMØY
[x] Doug – NGØK [] Bill – KEØXQ [] Marvin – AEØEG
[x] Gerry - WA6POZ [x] Jim – KCØSHZ [x] Steve – NØUP
[x] Corby – KØSKW [] Rollie - ABØNN

The board meeting was started at 7pm. The meeting minutes from the last meeting were not available.

President's Report - Todd, KKØDX Todd reported that he will be an ARRL assistant, working with Congressman Lee Terry on HR462. This is the Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act. KA0VXK will also be a liaison. Letters have gone out and they are waiting for replies.

Vice President's Report and Programs - Greg, WØAAI Greg was asking for program suggestions for this coming Friday

Treasurer's Report - Brian, KMØY

Money Market	5024.06	Includes 10.18 Interest
CD	14,700.43	New CD getting 5.2%
Repeater Acct	1,186.12	
Repeater CD	2,059.45	Getting 5.35%
Checking Acct	3,474.11	
Total	26,444.17	

Old Business

Hamfest – Todd plans to use free coupons from Office Max to print flyers. He will be taking some of them to the North Bend Hamfest. Todd will be buying some door prizes and plans to spend approx. \$350. Steve, NØUP will print the door prize tickets and pre-admission tickets, so that they can be sold at the upcoming club meetings. Steve also is preparing a table for a silent auction at the event.

New Business

Education – The club will be teaching a technician class sometime in September. Greg, WØAAI and Corby, KØSKW have volunteered to teach it. Steve, NØUP moved that we purchase 15 tech books, 7 general books, 7 extra books. Gerry, WA6POZ seconds the motion and the motion passed.

Mass mailing – Todd is preparing a mass mailing in the Omaha metro and Council Bluffs area for ARRL members. This will be a promotion for the hamfest and also as a club recruiting tool.

Continued next page.

D-Star – Greg, WØAAI proposed that the AARC take a look at D-Star to see if this is a project that might be worth doing. Lots of discussion took place but no plans or decisions were made to move forward.

Surplus repeater equipment – Jim, KCØSHZ moved that the repeater committee investigate what surplus repeater components can be sold and report back to the board of directors. Gerry, WA6POZ seconds the motion. The motion passed.

Publications – Steve, NØUP The Ham Hum was a little late but would be mailed out within the week.

Public Service – Jim, KCØSHZ Jim reported that MS Walk was successful. Over \$160,000 was raised. The MS150 cycle ride was also held. The Dave Babcook ride is also coming the 28th/29th of August. The Make-a-wish ride is September 30th.

Field Day – Corby, KØSKW Field Day was at the EOC and was a success.

Disaster – Jim, KCØSHZ Jim announced that N9XTN has a new webpage up and running. It is a weather page that will be useful for storm spotters.

There will be a VE Session 7/31 at the Red Cross
The next meeting will be Tuesday 8/7 at 7pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.

Doug Rathman, NGØK, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary

The AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring a Hamfest on Sunday, October 7, 2007. We will have ARRL VE Exams, a couple of excellent forums, great door prizes, vendors, and tables available for YOU to sell your equipment! At this time, we are selling tables - only \$7 each and there are a limited number of tables! If you want a table or a number of tables, email me and then send \$7 per table to **AKSARBEN HAMFEST, PO Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124**

You will receive a confirmation which will admit you to the HAMFEST along with your table. At this time, only 8 foot round tables are available. We will also be selling tables, pre-admission tickets, and raffle tickets at the August and September AKSARBEN ARC meetings. The August meeting will be on Friday, August 10 and the September meeting will be on Friday, September 14.

As they did last year, tables will be going quick. Email me to get your tables!!

-73, Todd - KKØDX