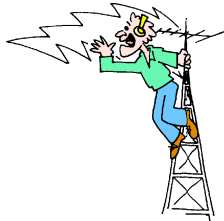


# Ham Hum

Volume LIV Issue 3

**The Prez Sez**

Welcome to March. Hopefully the latest storm will be the worst for the month and everyone's antennas survived the wind. Along with March comes the annual budget, if all goes as planned, it should appear in this issue along with the financial statement for the previous year.



The Board of Directors voted in February to turn off the tone decode as a test to see if it was still really needed, the decision then would be evaluated at the next Board Meeting. So as of now, the PL tone on the main 146.94 receiver (156th and Maple) is off. This receiver uses carrier squelch only. The remote receivers still require a PL tone of 131.8 Hz, these are located in Bellevue and in North East Omaha. Hopefully the removal of the PL requirement will increase the traffic on .94 and put us in a better position to move to KETV.

Just a reminder, the dues are due. With the general membership having voted to reduce the dues last year, every member counts more now than ever. If you haven't renewed, I ask that you consider renewing, if you aren't a member, I will encourage you to join.

Next club meeting is on March 12, 2004 at the Red Cross, 80th & Spring starting at 7:30 pm. The program will start after introductions (the presenter requested the early option), the business meeting will resume following the program.

Steve  
NØUP

## Next meeting information

*March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 7:30 p.m.  
Red Cross at 82<sup>nd</sup> & Spring Streets.*

This month's program will be presented by past president Dick Newsome (WØHXL). The presentation regarding the role of Official Observers in Amateur Radio will be at the start of the club meeting.

March 2004

**Veep Speak**

Greetings from the Vice President. For the March program Dick Newsome will be giving a presentation on "The role of Official Observers in Amateur Radio". This presentation will happen at the beginning of the meeting.

For those of you that are interested in severe weather you will want to check out the Severe Weather Symposium in Lincoln on March 20<sup>th</sup> (more detail can be found at <http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/nebraska/cpsws2004.html>) If you missed Mark Conner's (N9XTN) presentation on NSTAR at the January meeting he will be giving a presentation at 9:30am at the Symposium. Then at 11:00am they will be launching another balloon just outside the building. For those of you that have capabilities to receive SSTV they will be sending Slow Scan pictures back from the balloon this time. I believe the frequency that they will use for SSTV will be 147.585. I will double check on that and send out an email to AksarbenTalk once I know for sure.

My time is going to be limited in the next couple months with our new addition to our family which is due to arrive the first part of April. This is our first child so will be a fun and learning experience for us.

73's from your Vice President  
Kurt Kettelson

## ARES Happenings



The training this month was on the Incident Command System. The Incident Command System (ICS) is recognized as an effective system for managing emergencies. Several States have adopted ICS as their standard for emergency management. It is important for us as hams to understand the ICS, not because we will be reporting directly to the Incident Commander, but so that we understand the structure in which we will be taking part in. FEMA offers training online for the ICS at the following web site:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is195.asp>

This is a free online, self-study course.

**Official Record  
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting  
Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc. -  
February 2004**

The Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board of Trustees met on February 3, 2004 at the Red Cross Emergency Services building at 80th Avenue and Spring Streets in Omaha, Nebraska. President Steve Schmitz, N0UP, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Roll Call of Officers and Board Members** Present: President Steve Schmitz, N0UP; Vice President Kurt Kettelson, KC0HMI; Secretary Ken Noel, AJ0A; Treasurer Mary Joseph, N0TRK; and Board Members; Kevin Hill, KA0VNY; Geri Norris, N5RIG; Steven Wisnieski, KC0LOD; and Marvin Taylor, AE0EG. Unable to attend: Sam Belami, KC0NWL; Bill McCollom, KE0XQ; and Jim Westcott, KA0KCV.

**Visitors Present** Wm. "Duke" Humphrey, WD0EWH; and Pat Joseph, K0CTU. The Secretary noted there were four past presidents in attendance tonight. Duke, WD0EWH; Ken, AJ0A; Mary, N0TRK; and Pat, K0CTU.

**Secretary's Report** The January 2004 Board minutes was presented to the Board. No additions or corrections were noted. Geri N5RIG moved to accept. Kevin KA0VNY second. No discussion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** The January 2004 Treasurer's report was presented to the Board. The following balances were reported:

Total Assets of \$29,569.96 were comprised of the checking account \$1,155.60 (includes \$39.00 in repeater donations to be transferred to the repeater account); repeater account \$100.26; savings account \$4,588.49; life membership CD \$13,827.97; and club property \$9,897.64.

Total Liabilities of \$20.00 were comprised of two free memberships.

Equity \$29,549.96.

Total Liabilities and Equity \$29,569.96.

Income \$606.43; Expenses \$262.23; Net Income \$344.20.

**President's Report** Steve N0UP handed out the proposed budget for 2004. This will be reviewed under "New Business."

**Vice President's Report** The February program will be on APRS and will be presented by Bill Newman, K0NSA; Geri Norris, N5RIG; and Pat Joseph, K0CTU. Other Club programs in the works include HF Mobile, PSK and Tower Safety. Please contact Kurt KC0HMI with your program ideas and/or if you would like to be a presenter.

**Standing Committee Reports** The following committees had reports:

**Membership** N0TRK: Newly licensed amateur radio operators may still apply to the Club for a first year free Club membership. Dues reminder postcards will go out in March for members that have not renewed for 2004.

**Flea Market K0CTU:** Sarpy County has been contacted for use of facilities at the county fairgrounds. Flea Market has been confirmed for Saturday September 11, 2004. Refundable deposit of \$200 is required. Rent is \$400.

**Old Club Business** None.

**New Club Business K0USA 146.34/94 Repeater:** Discussion on removing the PL tone requirement (131.8) from the main receiver to encourage use of the repeater by local hams and hams passing through the area especially in consideration of the approaching severe weather season. Issues of potential interference from fringe areas were noted particularly when the repeater moves to the 650' level at KETV this summer.

Kevin KA0VNY moved to remove the tone for a 30-day trial period to be re-evaluated at the March 2004 Board meeting. Mary N0TRK second. Motion carried with one opposed. Steve N0UP will inform the call sign Trustee, Bill K0NSA, of this action.

**Advisory Board:** Duke Humphrey WD0EWH (AARC president 1987) offered to assemble an advisory board of past presidents to counsel the Club on matters of finance, life membership, general membership and other areas of concern. Duke would also consider polling the remaining life members for their thoughts on closing the life membership fund since the original purpose for the fund no longer exists (acquiring or building a club house) and that earnings from the fund no longer cover the equivalent in annual dues for life members. Funds would be held in a reserve account for Club purposes. Steve N0UP will visit further with Duke on setting up an advisory board, and Mary N0TRK will provide Duke with a list of remaining life members.

**Donation:** Club member Mitch Gagne N0AZF approached Ken AJ0A about donating the following items to the Club for use by Douglas County ARES: 1) used Cushcraft A3 tri-band beam, 40 meter add-on and extra traps; 2) used Ham IV rotor; and 3) new GAP DX vertical antenna. The beam and rotor to be made available for the NWS Skywarn station. The consensus of the Board was to accept the donation and to send Mitch a letter acknowledging the same.

**2004 Budget:** Steve N0UP handed out a second draft of the 2004 budget. Initially it was planned to approve the budget at this (February) Board meeting; however, additional changes and revisions were necessary. Therefore, it was decided to finalize the budget tonight and present

**Adjourn**

Kurt KC0HMI moved to adjourn. Geri N5RIG second. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Ken Noel, AJ0A – Secretary

**Official Record  
Minutes of the Business Meeting  
Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc. –  
February 2004**

The Ak-Sar-Ben ARC met on February 13, 2004 at the Red Cross Emergency Services building at 80th Avenue and Spring Streets in Omaha, Nebraska. President Steve

Schmitz, N0UP, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and the standard announcements. There were 34+ members and visitors present (appears the list did not make it all the way around).

**Secretary's Report** Motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2004 Club meeting as printed in the February 2004 Ham Hum. Moved by Bill K0NSA and seconded by Geri N5RIG. Motion carried.

**President's Report** Coffee and donuts will be available! Thank you Emily K0MNT for bringing the donuts tonight.

By action of the Board, the PL tone (131.8) on the main receiver of the K0USA 146.34/94 repeater was turned off but will remain on the output. The tone will still be required to access the remote receive sites. The purpose was three fold: 1) encourage use of the repeater by local hams and hams passing through the area that may not be "tone enabled"; 2) assess readiness for the approaching severe weather season; and 3) revisit issues of potential interference from fringe areas now and when the repeater moves to the 650' level at KETV this summer. The Board will re-evaluate this action at the March 2004 Board meeting and subsequent meetings thereafter.

The Board accepted the donation of a beam, rotor and assorted antennas on behalf of Disaster Preparedness/ARES from Mitch Gagne N0AZF. These will be installed at the NWS Skywarn station W0NWS.

Money is tight in the Club right now but not real tight. The Life Membership fund currently earns enough interest where each Life Member annually could almost buy a sandwich. The original intent behind Life Membership was to eventually fund the purchase of a Clubhouse. One thing to think about and this is all that will said is, had the Club purchased a Clubhouse, how would the Life Member's dues get paid?

**Vice President's Report** Tonight's program on APRS will be presented by Bill Newman K0NSA, Geri Norris N5RIG, Pat Joseph K0CTU and Kurt Kettleon K0HMI. The following programs have been lined up so far: May-PSK and other HF digital modes by Bill Duffy KA0VXK; June-HF Mobile by Todd LeMense KK0DX; and August-Contesting by Eddie Ed-ward K0IL. Ideas and suggestions on programs are welcome. Let your Vice President know!

**Treasurer's Report** Full copy of year end (2003) books are available for inspection

The January 2004 Treasurers report was prepared by Mary N0TRK and read by Ken AJ0A. The following balances were reported: Total Assets of \$29,569.96 were comprised of the checking account \$1,155.60 (includes \$39.00 in repeater donations to be transferred to the repeater account); repeater account \$100.26; savings account \$4,588.49; life membership CD \$13,827.97; and club property \$9,897.64. Total Liabilities of \$20.00 were comprised of two free memberships. Equity \$29,549.96. Income \$606.43; Expenses \$262.23; Net Income \$344.20.

Question was raised at the last meeting about how much in donations the Club has received as a result of its non-profit (IRS 501c3 status). Total cash donations of \$745.05 in 2003, and \$392.43 YTD 2004. In kind (i.e. non-cash) donations include, for example, repeater and tower space, installation of repeaters and antennas at KPTM by a professional tower crew and equipment.

**Standing Committee Reports** **Disaster Preparedness** report by Bill K0NSA. Midlands ARES will meet this Sunday February 15 at the Red Cross from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Program on the Incident Command System and tour of Red Cross Communications Center.

Events, exercises and drills requesting Amateur Radio communications:

1. TBA - Douglas County EMA siren test.
2. April 17 - Red Cross table top exercise.
3. May 1 - Eppley Airfield exercise (250+ participants). Communications to support Red Cross, Hospitals and OMMRS to name a few.
4. Month of July - Lewis and Clark re-enactment. The USCG Auxillary is requesting amateur radio support from Brownville north to Decatur, NE. Shore and marine stations will be used. Contact your county EC to volunteer. To be considered for a marine assignment you must have Boater Safety Training that will be offered by the USCG after March 15 for a \$10 nominal fee. You MUST preregister for the course with your county EC by March 15.
5. July 31 - Offut AFB/NDMS drill.

**Education** report by Kevin KA0VNY. Tech class planned within next 60 days. Still deciding on whether to make it a weekend class or 6 night class. Will probably be held at the Red Cross. Need to confirm.

**Public Relations** report by Barb, KC0HLB. Younkers fund-raiser event is February 28. \$5 packets available tonight. Club clothing orders are being taken now.

**Membership** report by Steve N0UP. About 50 invitations to join the Club were mailed to new hams in the area and past members. Dues are in arrears and the end of this month.

## END OF STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**New Members** Steve N0UP read a new membership application for Jim Jirousek, KC0RPC. Motion to accept Jim into the Club. Moved by John WB0CMC and seconded by George KB0ZZT.

The following new member certificates can be picked up tonight: KC0RFI, KCOMLH, KC0FRG, KA0ZBE and Andrew Schmitz (Steve and Shelly's little guy). **Old Club Business**

None.

### New Club Business

None.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Rollie AB0NN and seconded by John WB0CMC. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Noel, AJ0A Secretary

# WANTED:

Part of the fun of any hobby and being a part of an organization is participation. There is always something that someone can do, no matter how busy that someone is. Take the time to get involved in the club by helping out with one of the following jobs.

**Door Prize Wrangler:** Involves procuring amateur radio related door prizes for monthly meetings, including the December meeting.

**Don't wait for someone else to do it!** Get involved and make a difference! Contact Steve NØUP at n0up@arrl.net or call him at 402-597 – 8666.

## SKYWARN Spotter Training

Area SKYWARN Spotter Training information from the NWS web site check there for updates  
<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/news/spottersched.shtml>

**March 16, 2004** - 7:00 p.m.  
 Region 5-6 EMA Saunders, County  
 Wahoo Fire Station  
 Wahoo, NE

**March 16, 2004** - 7:00 p.m.  
 Cass County EMA  
 Cass County EOC,  
 144th St. and Hwy 1,  
 Weeping Water, NE

**March 20, 2004** - 2:00 p.m.  
 Lancaster County  
 Emergency Managers Lancaster  
 North Star High School  
 5801 N. 33rd St.  
 Lincoln, NE

**March 21, 2004** 1:00 p.m.  
 Midlands ARES Annual Storm Spotter Training  
 American Red Cross  
 2912 South 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Omaha, NE

**March 24, 2004** 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
 Sarpy Co. ARES SKYWARN Spotter Training  
 Bellevue Vol. Fire Dept. Training Center  
 3102 Cornhusker Rd  
 Bellevue, NE

**March 23, 2004** - 7:00 p.m.  
 Mills County EMA  
 VFW Hall  
 Glenwood, IA

## Upcoming Events

**March 27, 2004** 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
 OMMRS Training Session,  
 Methodist Hospital, Centennial Rm.  
 Training for newly recruited radio operators for the OMMRS, (Omaha Metro Medical Emergency Response System) including an update for those who took the training last year.

**April 17, 2004** 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
 Ararat ARC HamBash 2004  
 5100 Ararat Drive, Kansas City, MO  
 FREE Parking  
 Handicapped Accessible  
 Hourly Door Prizes  
 Seminars and Tech Sessions  
 Talk-in on 145.130 MHz  
 Details are available at  
<http://www.aksarbenarc.org/hamfests/hambash2004.php>

**April 24, 2004** 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
 Des Moines RAA  
 VE Testing  
<http://www.qsl.net/dmraa/>

**June 11 & 12, 2004**  
 Iowa State Convention  
<http://www.3900club.com>

**September 11, 2004** 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
 AARC FLEA-ESTA  
 Sarpy County Fairgrounds  
 Springfield NE  
<http://www.aksarbenarc.org/flea>

**September 24 & 25<sup>th</sup>**  
 Nebraska State Convention  
 Norfolk, NE  
<http://www.qsl.net/evarc>

### Donors For 2004

The following people have donated to the AARC into the mailing, repeater and / or general fund for 2004. Your generous support is greatly appreciated.

WA0FIF	KC0IZR	W0AAI
KA4ZZQ	W0OXD	W0NRW
N9ARX	KA0DYE	KB0OVQ
AJ0A	KS8K	WA4MQY
W0RMB		

### For Sale

Heath 220 linear, the big one.....	\$450
Heath 200 Linear.....	\$250
Realistic 10m Transciever .....	\$95
Icom IC-2AT Handheld.....	\$40
Kenwood 7950 2m Transciever.....	\$100

Contact: Bob Miller @ 397-9610

**Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc**  
**2003 Financial Statement**

	Income	Expense	Net
Book Sales	10.00	0.00	10.00
Clothing Sales	369.50	166.84	202.66
Donations	745.87	0.00	745.87
Door Prizes	906.00	830.00	76.00
Dues	3110.00	0.00	3110.00
Education	200.00	452.99	-252.99
Flea Market	1435.47	1115.62	319.85
Interest	21.64	0.00	21.64
Picnic	435.53	209.88	225.65
Refreshments	175.67	157.96	17.71
Bank Charges	0.00	85.49	-85.49
Disaster Preparedness	0.00	318.70	-318.70
Equipment Purchases	0.00	53.32	-53.32
Field Day	0.00	965.26	-965.26
Awards/Donations	0.00	331.66	-331.66
Ham Hum Expenses	0.00	1967.28	-1967.28
Insurance	0.00	413.00	-413.00
Memberships (Free)	0.00	20.00	-20.00
Membership Committee	0.00	58.27	-58.27
Postage	0.00	95.00	-95.00
Registrations	0.00	48.50	-48.50
Repeater Updates	0.00	2712.42	-2712.42
Web Site	0.00	89.50	-89.50
	7409.68	10091.69	-2682.01



**Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
2004 Budget**

	Income	Expense	Net Income
<b>Book Sales</b>	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>Donations</b>			
Non Repeater	50.00	0.00	50.00
Repeater	250.00	0.00	250.00
<b>Dues</b>	2,103.00	0.00	2,103.00
<b>Flea Market</b>	1,520.00	1,200.00	320.00
<b>Interest Income</b>	10.00	0.00	10.00
<b>Younkers Event</b>	300.00	0.00	300.00
<b>Ham Hum</b>			
Advertising	100.00	0.00	100.00
Printing	0.00	130.00	-130.00
Postage	0.00	271.00	-271.00
<b>Insurance (Liability)</b>	0.00	450.00	-450.00
<b>PO Box Rental</b>	0.00	60.00	-60.00
<b>Registrations</b>			
Corporate	0.00	20.00	-20.00
Trailers	0.00	32.50	-32.50
<b>Meeting Room Deposit</b>	0.00	100.00	-100.00
<b>Web Site</b>	0.00	135.00	-135.00
<b>Awards</b>	0.00	50.00	-50.00
<b>Safe Deposit Box</b>	0.00	30.00	-30.00
<b>Clothing</b>	0.00	110.00	-110.00
<b>Courtesy Committee</b>	0.00	80.00	-80.00
<b>Disaster Preparedness</b>	0.00	200.00	-200.00
<b>Education</b>	0.00	50.00	-50.00
<b>Equipment Maintenance</b>	0.00	300.00	-300.00
<b>Field Day</b>	0.00	610.00	-610.00
<b>Membership Committee</b>	0.00	150.00	-150.00
<b>Public Relations</b>	0.00	50.00	-50.00
<b>QSL Cards/Mailing</b>	0.00	45.00	-45.00
<b>Repeater Maintenance</b>	0.00	150.00	-150.00
<b>Total Operating Budget</b>	4,433.00	4,223.50	209.50
<b>Capital Expenses</b>			
Move of Repeater to KETV		1,700.00	-1,490.50

## 2004 Club Officials

President (2004)	Steve Schmitz NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@arrl.net
Vice President (2004)	Kurt Kettleson KCØHMI	402-676-7571	kc0hmi@arrl.net
Secretary (2004-2005)	Ken Noel AJØA	402-592-2338	knoel3@cox.net
Treasurer (2004-2005)	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
2004-2005 Board	Kevin Hill KAØVNY		ka0vny@arrl.net
2004-2005 Board	Sam Bellami		
2003-2004 Board	Bill McCollum KEØXQ	402-734- 3316	ke0xq@arrl.org
2003-2004 Board	Geri Norris N5RIG	402-721-1592	n5rig@arrl.net
2003-2004 Board	Steven Wisnieski KCØLOD		kc0lod@hotmail.com
2003-2004 Board	Marvin Taylor AEØEG		
Past President	Jim Westcott KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net

### Club Contacts & Committee Chairs

Badges/Clothing	Darrel Swenson KØAWB	402-330-3010	k0awb@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Bill Newman KØNSA	402-498-0077	k0nsa@arrl.net
Courtesy Committee	Diane Edwards KCØDXI	402-496-3415	kc0dxi@qsl.net
Door Prizes	Open		
Education	Kevin Hill KAØVNY		ka0vny@arrl.net
Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Field Day Coordinator	Steve Schmitz NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@arrl.net
HF Contest & DX	Todd LeMense KKØDX		kk0dx@lemense.com
Membership/Web	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@qsl.net
Newletter Editor	Mitch Miller KCØMXV	402-861-9407	kc0mxv@arrl.net
Public Relations	Barb Westcott KCØHLB	402-397-2306	kc0hbl@arrl.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph KØCTU	402 492-9156	k0ctu@arrl.net

### Repeater Committee & Authorized Control Operators

Chairman/Chief Eng	John Gebuhr WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@radiks.net
Control Op/ Engineer	Steve Schmidt NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@arrl.net
Control Op/Engineer	Jamie Saker WØJRS	402-933-1521	w0jrs@arrl.net
Control Op/Callsign Trustee	Bill Newman KØNSA	402-498-0077	k0nsa@callsign.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Control Operator	Ken NoelAJØA	402-592-2338	aj0a@arrl.net

### Area ARRL Appointees

Midwest Director	Wade Walstrom WØEJ	N/A	w0ej@arrl.org
Midwest Vice-Director	Bruce Frahm KØBJ	N/A	k0bj@arrl.org
Asst. Midwest Director	Todd LeMense KKØDX	402-397-7465	kk0dx@arrl.net
NE Section Manager	Bill McCollum KEØXQ	402-734-3316	ke0xq@arrl.org
Section Emer Coordinator	Reynolds Davis KØGND	N/ A	k0gnd@arrl.net
District Emer Coordinator	Jim Sanford NØAIH	402-238-3271	jim.sanford@nngco.com
EC Douglas County	Jim Westcott KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net
EC Sarpy County	Doug Eubanks KAØO	402-291-1968	ka0o@arrl.net
EC Washington County Ray	Ray Polley KØJDB	402-456-7852	polley@gpcom.net
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley KSØL	402-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net
Official Observer	George Bellairs KBØZZT	402-291-0960	kb0zzt@arrl.net
Net Manager	Doug Eubanks KAØO	402-291-1968	ka0o@arrl.net



Omaha, NE 68124-0551

PO Box 24551



## The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League since its founding in 1945, the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club of Omaha, Nebraska is a general interest amateur radio club with over 300 “radio-active” members. Our members are involved in virtually every aspect of amateur radio from electronic circuit design to worldwide communication via voice and Morse code, satellite and space station communications, meteor scatter, computer assisted digital modes, amateur television, and even severe storm spotting for the National Weather Service.



We make a special effort to provide public service communications support for events such as parades, charity fund raisers, emergency preparedness drills, and disaster relief operations. The club offers amateur radio classes to the public for those who wish to obtain an amateur radio license or upgrade their license privileges. For more information contact us via email at

k0usa@qsl.net. If you have a scanner you can listen to the clubs main wide area repeater at 146.940 Megahertz.

We're on the web at  
<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>