



# HAM HUM



Volume LIII, Issue 3

March 2003

## Special Points of Interest:

- Loss of Columbia
- Storm Spotter Training Update
- New Field Day Entry
- The Magic of Amateur Radio
  
- Next Club Meeting - March 14—730pm Red Cross Membership cards will be available

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## Amateurs Mourn Columbia Loss



*The seven STS-107 crew members during training: Seated in front are astronauts Rick D. Husband (left), mission commander; Kalpana Chawla, KD5ESI, mission specialist; and William C. McCool, pilot. Standing are (from the left) astronauts David M. Brown, KC5ZTC; Laurel B. Clark, KC5ZSU; and Michael P. Anderson--all mission specialists--and Ilan Ramon, a payload specialist representing the Israeli Space Agency. [NASA Photo]*

The flags of the United States, the ARRL and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) flew at half staff as the Amateur Radio community joined the rest of the world in mourning the loss of the seven shuttle Columbia astronauts. Through the Space Amateur Radio EXperiment (SAREX) and, more recently, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) programs, amateurs have enjoyed a special relationship with the astronaut corps, many of whom are licensees. Three of the Columbia astronauts were Amateur Radio operators, and the ARISS program is a joint effort of ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

"The world has lost seven great heroes," said ARISS International Chairman Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, a NASA employee, in extending condolences to the families and friends of the STS-107 crew. Bauer said the Columbia catastrophe "clearly demonstrated the challenging and sometimes sobering aspects" of human space flight. "Our quest for space must continue despite these tragic losses," he said.

ARRL and the ARISS Team received condolences from all over the globe. AMSAT-NA President Robin Haighton, VE3FRH--one of two Canadian ARISS representatives--expressed his great sadness at learning of the Columbia disaster. "AMSAT has always been a strong supporter of the shuttle program and of ARISS," he said "Their understanding of the risks taken on this and other missions did not prevent them from performing at the highest level and, unfortu-

*(Continued on page 3)*

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 540304, Omaha, NE 68154 or email to Linda Newman at [w0nsa@arrl.net](mailto:w0nsa@arrl.net). Please contact the editor for

## Club Officers & Board Members



President (2003)	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	402-397-2306	<a href="mailto:ka0kcv@arrl.net">ka0kcv@arrl.net</a>
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Past President (2002 Term)	Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	<a href="mailto:w0hxl@cox.net">w0hxl@cox.net</a>
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## Club Contacts & Committee Chairs



Badges/Clothing	Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	402-330-3010	<a href="mailto:k0awb@arrl.net">k0awb@arrl.net</a>
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Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	<a href="mailto:bzdan@novia.net">bzdan@novia.net</a>
Field Day Coordinator	Ed Edwards	KØIL	402-496-3415	<a href="mailto:k0il@arrl.net">k0il@arrl.net</a>
Membership/Education	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	<a href="mailto:n0trk@qsl.net">n0trk@qsl.net</a>
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## Area ARRL Appointees

Midwest Director	Wade Walstrom	WØEJ	N/A	<a href="mailto:w0ej@arrl.org">w0ej@arrl.org</a>
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EC Washington County	Marlene Harper	KBØKXG	402-426-5376	<a href="mailto:kb0kxg@hotmail.com">kb0kxg@hotmail.com</a>
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Public Information Coord	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	<a href="mailto:wa6poz@arrl.net">wa6poz@arrl.net</a>

## Amateurs Mourn Columbia Loss (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

nately, paying the ultimate price," he said of the lost crew.

Built in 1981, Columbia was the oldest shuttle in NASA's fleet and was the first to carry Amateur Radio. Retired astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, became the first ham to operate from space in November 1983. Thousands heard W5LFL, and hundreds had direct QSOs with him on 2 meters. Refurbished in 1999, Columbia was on its 28th space mission. Columbia carried no Amateur Radio gear on its last mission into space, however.

### HAMS ASSIST IN SEARCH FOR COLUMBIA DEBRIS

In Texas this week, Amateur Radio Emergency Service and SKYWARN volunteers have been assisting federal, state and local officials and relief organizations in their search for shuttle Columbia debris and remains of the crew members.

"Ham radio has proven to be the only reliable communications options during the recovery effort," said Public Information Officer Tim Lewallen, KD5ING, of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club. "The communications systems used by other federal and state organizations cannot penetrate 'The Pine Curtain' as we know it in East Texas," he said. He said even local authorities were having problems with their radio gear. Lewallen says federal authorities have requested that every survey team have at least one Amateur Radio operator along to help keep the recovery efforts coordinated and organized.

Lewallen also cited the reliability of EchoLink connections among the various groups as key to getting the operation up and running and keeping it running smoothly. He suggested that prospective volunteers visit the North Texas Section Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=NTX>> for additional information.

### SHUTTLE LOSS IMPACTING AMATEUR RADIO IN SPACE



The Expedition 6 crewmembers in the Zvezda Service Module--the crew's living quarters on the ISS. (L-R) Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB; Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP; and Don Pettit, KD5MDT. The trio could now be in space until June--possibly longer. [NASA Photo]

The future of Amateur Radio in space--at least in the near term--could depend on how fast NASA pins down the cause of the February 1 shuttle Columbia disaster and fixes the problem. With the shuttle fleet grounded until it does--and further International Space Station construction on hold as a result--attention is turning to the well-being of the all-ham ISS Expedition 6 crew of Commander Ken Bowersox, KD5JBP, Don Pettit, KD5MDT, and Nikolai Budarin, RV3FB. Under normal circumstances, a shuttle mission next month would have brought a fresh crew to the ISS and returned Bowersox and his crewmates to Earth. With a Progress 10 cargo rocket delivery February 4, the Expedition 6 team now has sufficient supplies to sustain the crew until late June or early July if necessary, NASA said this week.

What happens beyond that remains up in the air, although NASA has said it would not mothball the ISS and leave the spacecraft without a crew. The extended stay could have an unintended consequence for Amateur Radio, however, since the temporarily stranded crew would be likely to have more spare time on its hands.

NAISS onboard the ISS represents the first permanent Amateur Radio station in space. The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) International Team recently announced plans to expand NAISS to include, among other things, separate stations for 2 meters and 70 cm and SSTV capabilities. ARISS is an international program with participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 06

## Prez Sez



Ah March - the 21st will soon be here and with that SPRING. I hope that the winter has been kind to all of you, and fervently wish that Mother Nature will give us the spring showers that are so desperately needed in our state.

The February meeting was sparsely attended, but with a snowstorm and valentines day all rolled into one, what can one expect. We did however have enough members to conduct business so we "mushed on" in a manner of speaking. The motion brought forth by Cecil DeWitt (WORMB) to limit the purchase of raffle tickets was defeated at the last meeting, however the subject was well discussed and many ideas were forthcoming. Only time will tell what, if any, form of raffle we will continue to have.

Springtime is, as usual, a busy time for our club. With the Yonkers Sale 'Event on the 1st or March, Club meeting on the 14th of March, the Public Safety Expo on the 15th of March, and who knows what else the Special Events Chair will come up with all happening in this month. As with all events, it takes team work. When the Special Events Chair asks if you can help, please step up to the plate and lend a hand. It is good training and will give each and everyone of us a chance to give back to our community.

I would ask that each and everyone of us keep the members of our military in their prayers as our country goes through this very trying period. Remember also those who serve here on the home front, the Police, Firefighters and others who help keep us safe and sound. Bone up on your code speed. Make sure you are ready to deploy to the field if necessary on a moments notice. Keep your antennas well grounded and your R-F ready. Homeland Security is not unlike Neighborhood Watch - it's something that we all can, and need, to do.

73's, Jim Westcott, ka0kcv  
thanks Frank

**NEBRASKA 2003 A.R.R.L. STATE CONVENTION**  
**MARCH 21 & 22, 2003**

**ELKHORN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**Lifelong Learning Center**  
**801 East Benjamin Ave. Norfolk, NE**

A rarat A mateur Radio Shrine Club  
presents...

**HAMBASH 2003**

Saturday, A pril 19, 2003 8am-1pm

A rarat Shrine -5100 A rarat D rive  
K ansas City, MO  
T alk-in 145.13-

# Storm Spotter Training

**SKYWARN & WEATHERNET TRAINING FOR STORM SPOTTERS**

**Sunday, March 16, 2003 - 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm**

**American Red Cross - Kiewit Room - 2912 S. 80th Ave - Omaha, NE**



Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the 2003 National Weather Service Storm Spotter Training course sponsored by Douglas County ARES.



The 3 hour course will be presented by Brian Smith (KBØQXF), Warning Coordination Meteorologist for the National Weather Service office in Valley, NE; and Bill

Newman (KØNSA) and Jim Westcott (KAØKCV), EC and Deputy EC for Douglas County ARES.

Whether you're new to spotting, or a seasoned veteran you'll find Brian's presentation educational and fun. Every year scientists studying weather phenomenon discover valuable new information which helps in the prediction, estimation-of-severity and tracking of severe weather. Much of this information is valuable to storm spotters in the field and could help you make crucial decisions that save the lives of others and even yourself.

New to spotter training this year will be a class in advanced spotter training. Advanced spotter training will be held Sunday April 27th at the same time and place. This year's basic spotter training class is a pre-requisite to attend the advanced spotter training class.

Also, we have updated the spotting location maps and will make those available to ARES members. We will also be using the meeting opportunity to update our member's ARES information. In the event that you are unable to attend the March 16th spotter training, visit [www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/spottlk.html](http://www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/spottlk.html). This site lists other times, dates and locations that will be offering basic spotter training around the area.

We hope to see everyone there!

For more information contact:

- Bill Newman (KØNSA) at 402-498-0077 & k0nsa@arrl.net
- Jim Westcott (KAØKCV) at 402-397-2306 & ka0kcv@arrl.net



## New Field Day Entry

Field Day will gain another entry class for the 2003 running of this highly popular operating event June 28-29. "Class F" stations will operate at emergency operations centers--or EOCs. The change renews the emphasis of Field Day's 1933 origins as an emergency preparedness exercise as opposed to a routine contest--what former ARRL Communications Manager F. E. Handy, W1BDI, called "a test of the emergency availability of portable stations and equipment." In Handy's view, Field Day would focus attention "on the subject of 'preparedness' for communications emergencies." Given the increased emphasis on emergency communications since September 11, 2001, ARRL Contest Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says, the ARRL Board's Membership Services Committee asked that the Contest Branch come up with a way to accommodate stations wanting to operate from the local EOC. The new Class F station, operating from an EOC, is the result. This is a major change," Henderson said. "Class F has been established to encourage groups to test and further their working relationships with established emergency operations centers." The updated rules and a list of frequently asked questions in the new 2003 Field Day Packet <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms>> spell out the details. A Class F entry station must set up at an "established EOC" activated by a club or non-club group. An EOC is defined as a facility established by a federal, state, county, city or other civil governmental agency or administrative entity or by a chapter of a national or international served agency. The latter could include the American Red Cross or The Salvation Army, with which the Field Day group "has an established operating arrangement." Class F EOC operation must take place in cooperation with the EOC staff.

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 22, No. 06

## Volunteers Needed!

Both Douglas and Sarpy County requests ARES assistance with the Siren Test on Saturday, April 5, at 10 am. For more info or to sign up to assist contact Bill Newman, EC Douglas, at [k0nsa@arrl.net](mailto:k0nsa@arrl.net) or Ron Clark, EC Sarpy at [ronc2807@earthlink.net](mailto:ronc2807@earthlink.net).

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society Walk in our area will be on Sunday, April 27th starting at Rowher Elementary at 177th & F Street. The walkers will take a tour around Lake Zorinsky and back. Anyone wishing to help with the walk contact Pat Joseph, NØHPP at [n0hpp@arrl.net](mailto:n0hpp@arrl.net), or call him 146.94 any time in the evening.

Celebrate Cycling, the Nation Multiple Sclerosis Society bike ride, will be held on Sunday, May 4th starting at Waterloo High School, with 13, 35 and 55 mile routes. Help is needed so contact Doug Eubanks, KAØO at [ka0o@arrl.net](mailto:ka0o@arrl.net) if you can assist.

The MS-150 Ultimate Bike Tour will be held Sat-Sun, July 12-13 this year and goes from Wahoo to Seward, NE and back. Each day riders can pedal 45, 75 or 100 miles with overnight lodging at Concordia University. For more information or to volunteer for this event, contact Doug Eubanks, KAØO at [ka0o@arrl.net](mailto:ka0o@arrl.net).

The Nebraska State High School State Track Meet will be Fri-Sat, May 23 -24. This will be after the Dayton Hamvention. Volunteers will be needed to run communication between the officials on the track and field events and the officials in the announcement booth. Anyone wanting to help out with this even should talk to Pat Joseph, NØHPP at [n0hpp@arrl.net](mailto:n0hpp@arrl.net) or call him on 146.94 any time during the evening.



## Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act Reintroduced

NEWINGTON, CT, Feb 14, 2003--The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act has again been introduced in the US House of Representatives. The measure is an ARRL legislative initiative. Florida Rep Michael Bilirakis put the latest version of the bill, HR 713, into the legislative hopper on February 12. It has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. When last introduced in 2001, the measure was known as HR 817.

HR 713 is aimed at ensuring the availability of spectrum to Amateur Radio operators. It would protect existing Amateur Radio spectrum against reallocations to or sharing with other services unless the FCC provides "equivalent replacement spectrum" elsewhere. Bilirakis, a Florida Republican, has twice before sponsored similar legislation at the League's recommendation. A Senate version of the bill is pending.

The measure would amend the Communications Act to require the FCC to provide "equivalent replacement spectrum" to Amateur Radio and the Amateur-Satellite Service in the event of a reallocation of primary amateur allocations, any reduction in secondary amateur allocations, or "additional allocations within such bands that would substantially reduce the utility thereof" to amateurs.

The ARRL is urging members of the Amateur Radio community to contact their representatives in Congress and request that they cosponsor HR 713. Experience has shown that, while most members of Congress understand and appreciate the benefits of Amateur Radio, some may be reluctant to sign onto a technical piece of legislation without some indication of support from their own constituents. A sample letter is available on the ARRL Web site.

The 2001 version of the measure attracted 53 cosponsors in the House but last spring became one of many pieces of legislation caught up in the so-called "Enron logjam," during which the Internet and Telecommunications Subcommittee did not meet, although its full committee, Energy and Commerce, held numerous hearings concerning Enron.

From [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) website

## Public Safety Awareness Expo

Make it a point to stop by Crossroads Mall on Saturday, March 15th to check out the Public Safety Awareness Expo being held there. Amateurs will be manning a booth from 10am to 3pm highlighting the use of Amateur Radio in Disaster Preparedness and Weather Spotting.

This is an event where different Public Safety officials, like the DC Sheriff, Neighborhood Watch Associations, Omaha Police Department, Omaha Fire and Rescue, and more, put up informational booths to let the public know what they do. This is a great opportunity for Hams to introduce Amateur Radio to the public by using the ARES side of the hobby with emphasis on storm spotting and disaster communications. Come see the variety of Emergency Vehicles that provide a public service to the community and check out the Ham Radio display booth! Anyone with interest in helping out for this event contact Jim, KAØKCV or Bill, KØNSA at the numbers on page 2 of this publication.





# FIELD DAY 2003 Merchandise Sold Here!



**OFFICIAL FIELD DAY T-SHIRTS  
IN SIZES FROM MEDIUM TO 2XL  
\$15.00 EACH—INCLUDES SHIPPING**

**OFFICIAL FIELD DAY PINS—ONLY \$5**

**OFFICIAL GOTA T-SHIRT  
IN SIZES FROM MEDIUM TO 2XL  
\$15.00 EACH—HAS "GET ON THE AIR" PRINTED ON THE BACK**



## FIELD DAY CLOTHING ORDER FORM

**Make checks payable to:**  
Aksarben ARC  
P. O. Box 24551  
Omaha, NE 68124-0551

**Orders should be in by April 30th.**

**Merchandise will be available for pickup prior to Field Day.**

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Date Ordered:</b>		
<b>Call Sign:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>		
<i>Qty</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Unit Pr</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>Field Day 2003 T-Shirt</i>		<i>\$15.00</i>	
	<i>G.O.T.A. Shirt</i>		<i>\$15.00</i>	
	<i>Field Day 2003 Pin</i>		<i>\$5.00</i>	
	<i>Subtotal</i>			
	<i>Misc</i>			
	<b>Balance Due (enclosed)</b>			



## The Magic of Amateur Radio

From Eham.net— by Don (AE6AT)

It's all magic I say... Having been a Ham for almost a year now I am still in awe of the ability to communicate over such long distances with such seemingly inadequate equipment.

The other night I was listening to the radio and heard a guy calling CQ. After each call he would talk to someone for a short time, give a signal report, and then call again or say quearezed. There were a lot of people all talking at once and he just answered one at a time like he could hear what they were saying. I decided he would be able to hear me too, somehow, so I called him by saying my call sign like everybody else was doing only I gave my whole call sign. To my immense surprise he answered me immediately by saying my call sign and giving me a signal report something like five-nine and saying his queteaich was Tasmania. Tasmania? Tasmania? TASMANIA! That must be where he is. Can you imagine a more exotic sounding place than Tasmania? Maybe Hollywood or Palm Beach, but still very exotic. This is truly a magical thing. I put up a couple hundred feet of twenty-two gauge magnet wire and connect it to the back of my radio thru a tuner, like the guy in HRO said, and people on the other side of the world can hear me.

Not only that but it apparently doesn't take any time for the sound to get there or get back. And imagine if he was standing next to me. I would be staring at his feet and he at mine. I can visualize him holding a mic in some rain forest (read Jungle) with snakes and vines dangling around him and an antenna stuck against a tree and, oh man, talking to me upside down. Is there a better definition of magic?

I feel like I mastered the Ham radio thing now but there are some things I don't understand. Let me give you a little background. Last October I took the Technician and Code tests, in November I took the General and in December I took the Extra... got a radio for Christmas (thanks Rose Marie for indulging my foibles) and listened to it for a couple of weeks and then put up the aforementioned antenna. The signal quality improved and I tried transmitting to someone named Russ in Washington, he answered me and gave me a signal report and said something like queesoh that sounded like a question. So I answered it by saying queesoh. Now that I have listened to more people, I think he said queesel and I think it means: Did you get that? I think queesel is a card so I am not sure if this is right. Maybe one of the people on this web site would know. This language that is apparently used and understood only on the radio is another of the many magical things about Hamdom.

After I talked to Gerry in Tasmania I went outside and looked for my antenna, I couldn't see it at night but I imagined it there in front of the star filled black sky and thought of Tasmania, so, so far away, and that I had just talked to someone there. The feeling was one of awe, incredulity and disbelief. It just has to be magic.

Submitted by Mary Joseph, NØTRK

## Douglas County Siren Test - April 5th

Contact Bill Newman - KØNSA to help with this years Douglas County Siren Test on April 5th. First sounding will be at 10:00am and the second sounding shortly thereafter. If you are available and willing to help, send an email to k0nsa@arrl.net or call 402-498-0077 in the evening.

## Official Record

### Board Meeting Minutes for January 2003

#### Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting

#### AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – February 2003

The AkSarBen ARC Board of Trustees met on Feb. 4, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the mtg to order at 7:10 p.m.

Present were: Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary & Board Member; Wayne Joyner, KØBWJ, Treasurer and Board Member; Dick Newsome, WØHXL, Immediate Past President; Board Members: Dave Rice, NØJSB and N5RIG, Geri Norris. Others attending were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; Bill Newman, KØNSA; Linda Newman, WØNSA; Pat Joseph, NØHPP and Bill Jackson, K9RZ.

President's Report: Budget requests have been finalized and will be presented at the March Club meeting. Cecil presented a motion to change the format on door prizes at the Dec. Club meeting and Jim led a discussion on Cecil's motion.

Vice President's Report: Volunteers and ideas needed for upcoming meetings. Please contact Dick if you want to help or have ideas.

Secretary's Report: Dick, WØHXL made the motion to accept the Jan. 2003 Board minutes as printed in the *HUM*, NØJSB seconded, voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: Wayne, KØBWJ presented the YTD Balance sheet and the P/L Statements, both are available for viewing by club members. Contact k0bwj@arrl.net for more information. Wayne also brought forth a resolution to close the Midstates Bank Business Checking account and place the monies into a Commercial Federal Savings account. Wayne KØBWJ made a

motion to accept this resolution and N5RIG seconded, voice approval. A copy of this resolution has been retained in the club records.

#### Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: Several training sessions are upcoming... February 16, 2003-Net Control Training Session-1:30 p.m. the Red Cross Building; March 16, 2003 -Storm Spotter Training - 1:30 p.m. the Red Cross Building; April 27, 2003-Advanced Storm Spotter Training -1:30 p.m. the Red Cross Building;

Education: N/A

Public Relations: A new brochure for the Club has been made and will be available at the public events, such as Younkers March 1 and the Crossroads Safety Day March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Government Relations: N/A

Repeater Committee: N/A

Publications: & Technical: N/A

Membership: & Field Day: N/A

Additional Committee Reports: None

Old Club Business: N/A

New Club Business: All badge and clothing purchases will be run through the club, i.e. checks will be presented to the treasurer and deposited. Barb KCØHLB, will be responsible for ordering and accepting delivery of said badges and clothing.

Announcements: There will be a Flea Market the first weekend in May.

NEØCQ moved to adjourn at 8:28 p.m., N5RIG seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

## Official Record

### General Meeting Minutes for January 2003

#### Minutes of the Business Meeting

#### AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – February 2003

The AkSarBen ARC met on February 14, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:31pm

# Official Record

## General Meeting Minutes for January 2003

with the pledge of allegiance and the standard announcements, there were 27 members and visitors present.

Secretary's Report: NEØCQ asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the Jan. General meeting. WBØCMC motioned to accept the meeting minutes as printed, WAØJYD seconded, voice approval.

President's Report: Jim, KAØKCV noted the inclement weather and the fact it was valentines day and thanked everyone for attending this meeting.

Vice President's Report: Dick, N6KVA is looking for ideas for upcoming club meetings.

Treasurer's Report: N/A

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: Bill, KØNSA noted there will be a net control training session at the Red Cross on Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Red Cross Building at 1:30 p.m. Storm spotter training will be held the third Sunday of March (March 16) at the Red Cross Building at 1:30p.m. and on April 27<sup>th</sup> there will be an advanced spotter training session, again at 1:30 p.m at the Red Cross Building.

Education: A class will be forming in the near future, watch for upcoming information.

Public Relations: There will be a Public Safety Day at the Crossroads Shopping Center on March 15<sup>th</sup> to recognize March as Public Safety Awareness Month. Younkers will have another fundraiser on March 1, 2003 for non-profit organizations.

Government Relations: N/A

Repeater Committee: N/A

Publications: There was an intentional "typo" in the last *HUM* and the first person to notice it received a prize.

Technical: N/A

Membership: Ask Mary, NØTRK for a membership form and pay your dues, they are now DUE. Robert Buchholz, KCØOYT applied for membership into the club, WBØCMC made a motion to

accept Bob and WØNSA second, voice approval.

Field Day: There is a new class of operation at field day this year, Class F or EOC Operations. If you are interested in working field day at the EOC this year contact Steve, NØUP advanced notice is required.

Additional Committee Reports:

VE Testing: On January 27 six applicants passed, one extra and five tech. The next testing session is March 24.

Clothing: Barb, KCØHLB is now in charge of club clothing and any orders are to be sent to the club P.O. Box.

Old Club Business: Cecil, WØRMB would like to change the format for door prizes at the Dec. Club Meetings and made a motion during the Jan. meeting. At the Feb. meeting there was a discussion about Dec. door prizes, noting that it is a fun thing to do but wasn't a money maker for the club. After additional discussion, WBØCMC Called the Question and WØNSA seconded, voice approval. By voice vote, Cecil's motion failed.

New Club Business: N/A

Announcements: There will be a hamfest in Council Bluffs on March 2, \$3 admission, \$5 per table. March 29<sup>th</sup> there is a flea market in Sioux City and March 21 & 22 is the Nebraska State Convention. In April there is the K.C. Shrine Hamfest. Pat, NØHPP is looking for volunteers for the State track meet in May and for the MS Walk which is on Sunday April 27. Charlie, KØQVL is in the nursing home. Charlie is a long time member of the club, if you're in the **neighborhood stop by and see him!**

WBØCMC moved to adjourn at 8:03 p.m., N5RIG seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

## Area Club Meetings

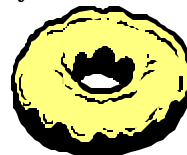
## DoNets

Day	Club Name	Location
1st Mon	NE City	NE City Fire/Rescue
2nd Tue	BVARC	Courthouse Annex Bldg Logan, IA
2nd Wed	Lincoln ARC	Sheriff's Assn Bldg, State Fairgrounds
2nd Fri	Aksarben ARC	Omaha Red Cross 2912 S. 80th Ave
3rd Mon	Sacmarc	Wendy's Galvin Rd
(Mar,Jun,Sept only/Dec-TBA)		
3rd Thu	Bellevue ARC	Great Western Bank
3rd Fri	HDXA	Backstr eets, Omaha
4th Thu	QCWA	Old Country, 76thDodge
4th Thu	SW Iowa ARC	CB Red Cross, N 16th
4th Fri	Pioneer ARC	Coffee Pot Café'-Fremont
Last Sat	Plattsmouth ARC	Moms Café
Last Sun	Ashland ARC	Ashland Volunteer Fire Hall, 24th & Silver

Day/Time	Talk-in	Location
Tue 08:00	146.82-	Main St Café, CB
Fri 20:00	146.390+	Wendys Galvin Rd
Sat 08:00	146.82-	HyVee, 16th St, CB
Sat 08:00	146.94-	HyVee, 132nd Dodge

DoNets are unofficial, casual gatherings of Hams that occur between meetings. Everyone is invited to join in the fun, food and camaraderie each week at any of the locations listed above.

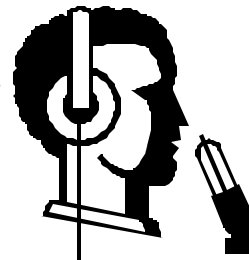
Give a call on the talk-in frequency before the scheduled rendezvous time and have 'em save you a seat!  
Please send any changes to w0nsa@arrl.net.



## Popular Nets

Day	Time	Frequency	Net	Day	Time	Frequency	Net
S-S	07:30	3.982	NE Morning Net	Thu	20:30	443.450	Plattsmouth ARC
S-S	18:30	3.982	NE Storm Net	Fri	02:00z	434/431.25	ATV Net
M-F	12:30	3.980	Cornhusker Net	Sat	12:00	146.820	Swap Net
M-F	20:30	147.090	Dennison, IA	Sat	21:00	50.300	LCS SSB Net
M-F	21:00	146.760	East NE ARES	Sun	08:00	3.901	Swap Net
Mon	00:00z	28.400	10m Phone Net	Sun	09:00	3.896	3900 Club
Mon	01:00z	145.090	Packet Net	Sun	19:00	28.125	Slow Speed CW
Mon	02:00z	434/421.25	ATV Net	Sun	19:00	146.730-	NE City ARES
Mon	20:00	145.115	Sarpy Cty ARES				
Mon	21:00	146.940	Douglas Cty ARES				
Mon	19:30	145.130	Boyer Valley ARC				
Mon	21:00	146.940	AARC News & Info				
Mon	21:00	145.290	Mills Cty, IA				
Tue	19:00	147.360	QCWA				
Tue	20:00	144.250	2m SSB Net				
Wed	20:00	145.310	Ashland ARC				
Wed	21:00	146.820	Pott. Cty, IA ARES				
Wed	21:00	146.730	Nebr City ARES				
Thu	19:00	28.200	10m CW Net				
Thu	20:00	146.940	HDXA				

\*Note that all nets with start times listed in Zulu time are now listed on the correct day for that time. For example, the Sunday night 8:00pm CST DC Ares et listed as starting on Monday morning at 02:00z.



## Classifieds

Radio Shack HTX-202, 2m handheld, \$90  
 Radio Shack PRO- 51 200ch handheld scanner,  
 \$120. (29- 54, 108- 174, 406- 512, 806- 956)  
 Radio Shack PRO- 2026 100ch mobile scanner,  
 \$120. (29- 54, 108- 174, 406- 512, 806- 956) new in  
 box  
 Radio Shack PRO- 2004 300ch base scanner, \$170  
 (25- 520, 760-1.3GHz)

George, KB0QMN, H: 592-3629, O: 444-4549

Classifieds are free to members. Send an email with the wording exactly as you want it printed to: wOnsa@arrl.net or mail your ad to: Ham Hum, P.O. Box 540304, Omaha, NE 68154. Ads must be received by the 3rd Friday of the month in order to be published in the next Ham Hum.



### What is YahooGroups?

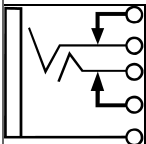
YahooGroups is an email service that offers a convenient way to connect with others who share the same interests and ideas. From HF to APRS there's an amateur radio group that speaks to your interests!

Check out the addresses listed below for more information on some popular local area groups...

### Point your browsers to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/aksarbentalk>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hdxa>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dcares>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/midwestaprs>  
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/knsp>

## FCC License (VE) Testing



Amateur radio license testing sessions are held every other month at the Red Cross at 2912 South 80th Avenue in Omaha.

For all examinations you must take your current FCC license and a copy (if upgrading), photo identification, any certificates of successful completion of previous examination and the testing fee of \$10.00.

For more information contact Brian Zdan KMØY via email at [bzdan@novia.net](mailto:bzdan@novia.net) or call 553- 2610.

Did you know that amateur radio exam question pools and Practice exams are available on the web? Check out [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) or [www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com) for more information and get that new license now!



## Advertise in the Ham Hum!

Your company or organization can advertise in the Ham Hum. With a monthly distribution to over 350 technology hungry consumers your ad is bound to "spark" some interest.

Photo ready ads must be received by the editor on the third Friday of the month to make the next month's issue. Advertisers will receive the Ham Hum while their ad is running.

Aggressively priced advertising rates are as follows:

Number of Months	→ 1	6	12
Business Card (2"x3.5")	\$10	\$40	\$60
Dbl Bus. Card (2"x7")	\$15	\$60	\$90
Half Page Ad (4"x7")	\$25	\$100	\$150

Contact the editor for more information

# March 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 ARRL Intl DX Contest/ Youunkers Sale
2 SWIARC Hamfest	3	4 AARC Board Meeting	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Lincoln ARC Meeting	13	14 AARC Club Meeting	15
16 Skywarn Training	17 SACMARC Mtg	18	19	20 Bellevue ARC Meeting	21 HDXA Club Meeting	22 ARRL Nebraska State Conv
23	24 AARC VE Test Session	25	26	27 SWIARC Meeting	28	29 Sooland Flea Market
30	31 Severe Wx Awareness Week					

## Ham Happenings

March 1-2—ARRL Intl DX Contest (Phone) 0000 Sat-2400 Sun

March 4—AARC Board Meeting, Red Cross 7:00pm

March 14—AARC Club Meeting, Red Cross 7:30pm

March 16—Skywarn Wx Training, Red Cross 1:30pm

March 21-22—ARRL Nebraska State Convention, Northeast Community College-Norfolk

March 24—AARC VE Test Session

# April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 AARC Board Mtg/Severe Wx Awareness Week	2 Severe Wx Awareness Week	3 Severe Wx Awareness Week	4 Severe Wx Awareness Week	5 DC and Sarpy Siren Testing 10am
6	7	8	9 Lincoln ARC Meeting	10	11 AARC Club Meeting	12
13	14	15	16	17 Bellevue ARC Meeting	18 HDXA Club Meeting	19 Ararat Hambash KC
20	21	22	23	24 SWIARC Meeting	25	26
27 Advanced Skywarn Wx Training/MS Walk	28	29	30			

## Ham Happenings

April 1—AARC Board Meeting, Red Cross 7:00pm

April 5—DC/Sarpy County Siren Testing 10:00am

April 11—AARC Club Meeting, Red Cross 7:30pm

April 19—Ararat Hambash, Kansas City, MO

April 27—Skywarn Wx Training, Red Cross 1:30pm



## AARC CLUB CLOTHING ORDER FORM

	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Call Sign:</b>			
	<b>Address:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>		
	<b>City:</b>	<b>State:</b>	<b>Zip</b>		
<b>Qty</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Color</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Total</b>
	AkSarBen Club ID Badge		Green/Yellow	6.50	
	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Call:</b>		0.00	
	AkSarBen Baseball Style Jacket/flannel lining	S-M-L-XL	G-B-N-R-RB-P-M	34.00	
	G=Kelly Grn, B=Black, N=Navy, R=Red,	XXL	G-B-N-R-RB-P-M	36.00	
	RB=Royal Blue, P=Purple, M=Maroon	XXXL	G-B-N-R-RB-P-M	37.00	
	<b>Embroider Name:</b>			5.00	
	<b>Embroider Call Sign:</b>			5.00	
	AkSarBen Baseball Style Jacket/quilted lining	S-M-L-XL	B-R-RB-N	40.00	
	B=Black, R=Red, RB=Royal Blue, N=Navy	XXL	B-R-RB-N	42.00	
	<b>Embroider Name:</b>			5.00	
	<b>Embroider Call Sign:</b>			5.00	
	AkSarBen Fleeced Lined Jacket with Hood	S-M-L-XL	F-B-N-R-RB-BG	40.00	
	F=Forrest Green, B=Black, N=Navy, R=Red	XXL	F-B-N-R-RB-BG	42.00	
	RB=Royal Blue, BG=Burgundy	XXXL	F-B-N-R-RB-BG	44.00	
	<b>Embroider Name:</b>			5.00	
	<b>Embroider Call Sign:</b>			5.00	
	AkSarBen Club T-Shirt	S-M-L-XL	W-A	15.00	
	(Short sleeve with tri-color shield logo on front)	XXL	W-A	17.00	
	W=White, A=Ash	XXXL	W-A	18.00	
	AkSarBen Club Sweatshirt	S-M-L-XL	W-A	22.50	
	(Long sleeve with tri-color shield logo on front or back)	XXL	W-A	24.50	
	W=White, A=Ash	XXXL	W-A	25.50	
	AkSarBen Club Hooded Sweatshirt	S-M-L-XL	W-A	26.00	
	(Hooded with tri-color shield logo on front or back)	XXL	W-A	28.00	
	W=White, A=Ash	XXXL	W-A	29.00	
	<b>Embroider Name:</b>			5.00	
	<b>Embroider Call Sign:</b>			5.00	
	AkSarBen Club Zippered Hooded Sweatshirt	S-M-L-XL	W-A	29.00	
	(Zippered/Hooded with tri-color shield on front or back)	XXL	W-A	31.00	
	W=White, A=Ash	XXXL	W-A	32.00	
	<b>Embroider Name:</b>			5.00	
	<b>Embroider Call Sign:</b>			5.00	
			<b>Subtotal:</b>		
	<b>Make Checks Payable to: AkSarBen ARC</b>		<b>Shipping:</b>		
	<b>Send orders to: AkSarBen ARC/Club Clothing</b>		<b>Grand Total:</b>		
	<b>P. O. Box 24551</b>		<b>Amount Paid:</b>		
	<b>Omaha, NE 68124-0551</b>		<b>Amount Due:</b>		



# The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club

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.



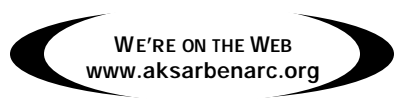
lic service communications support for events such as parades, charity fund raisers, emergency preparedness drills, and disaster relief operations.

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.

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](mailto:k0usa@qsl.net). If you have a scanner you can listen to the clubs main wide area repeater at 146.940

We make a special effort to provide pub-



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