



HAM HUM



Volume LIII, Issue 5

May 2003

Special Points of Interest:

- 94 Enhancement Project
- Ham Babble
- Field Day Update
- Next Club Meeting - May 9 — 730pm Red Cross

Inside this issue:

<i>Club Info</i>	2
<i>Prez Sez</i>	4
<i>Veep Speaks</i>	5
<i>Official Record</i>	12-15
<i>Classifieds</i>	17
<i>Activity Calendar</i>	18
<i>Field Day Stuff</i>	19

146.94 Enhancement Project

Background:

Since last fall the Aksarben ARC repeater committee, in consultation with the AARC board and others, has been discussing ways to increase the coverage area and reliability of the 146.94 repeater. The following is meant to be a high level overview of our current plans which have been divided into four major steps. No time frame has been established for the completion of these four steps as much of the work is dependant on the donation of time and materials from volunteers. Our ultimate goal is to enhance both the transmit and receive coverage area of the 146.94 repeater for both mobiles and handhelds.

Current Condition:

The club is fortunate in the respect that while we lost our former great location high up on WOWT's television tower at 72nd & Crown Point, we have been able to secure space on two very good sites in Omaha. The clubs primary repeater now broadcasts from the top of the ATS tower at 156th & Maple, and our secondary repeater broadcasts from WOWT's auxiliary transmitter tower in downtown Omaha. This change has resulted in a net loss of approximately 250 - 300 feet of antenna height, and has correspondingly reduced the repeaters coverage area making it harder for the repeater to hear you and vice-versa.

Additionally, the downtown repeater is becoming harder and more expensive to keep in operating condition due to its age. Currently the finals are completely bypassed and the repeater is running on the exciter only. This repeater also doesn't handle the high RF noise floor, present in the downtown area, very well causing it to repeatedly key-up and inadvertently transmit bursts of static.

Steps Forward:

1. Step one of this project is to replace the 20 year old SpecComm repeater and controller located downtown. This machine has served us well, but has become a patch work of repairs over the years with important parts now bypassed just to keep it functional at a basic level. Replacing this old system with a more modern machine that does not automatically turn itself on after a power outage is a critical step to improving the reliability of the 146.94 system. Purchasing an identical controller to the one now in use at the "west" site will enable us to duplicate the west sites programming. This will simplify management of the system and permit us to maintain the continuity of emergency messages and alert tones when circumstances require that we run from the backup repeater site downtown. While not absolutely necessary, having an identical repeater would make technical support easier as an engineer would only have to be proficient on a single system to support both sites.

(Continued on page 2)

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. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint anything appearing in the Ham Hum.

Club Officers & Board Members



President (2003)	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net
Vice President (2003)	Dick Jones	NØKVA	402-593-1950	n6kva@arrl.net
Secretary (2002 - 2003 Board)	Bob Boetcher	NEØCQ	402-393-6263	ne0cq@arrl.net
Treasurer (2002 - 2003 Board)	Wayne Joyner	KØBWJ	402-491-0086	k0bwj@arrl.net
Past President (2002 Term)	Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@cox.net
2002 - 2003 Board	Dan Olsen	KD7GSW	402-319-4950	kd7gsw@arrl.net
2002 - 2003 Board	Dave Rice	NØJSB	402-571-8915	davegr@netzero.net
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	Kurt Kettelson	KCØHMI	402-676-7571	kc0hmi@arrl.net
2003 - 2004 Board	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@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
Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Field Day Coordinator	Ed Edwards	KØIL	402-496-3415	k0il@arrl.net
Membership/Education	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@qsl.net
Publications	Linda Newman	WØNSA	402-498-0077	w0nsa@arrl.net
Public Relations	Barb Westcott	KCØHLB	402-397-2306	kc0hlb@arrl.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	NØHPP	402-492-9156	n0hpp@arrl.net
Repeater	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@radiks.net
Door Prizes	Sheri Joyner	KCØHFT	402-491-0086	kc0hft@arrl.net
Webmaster	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@qsl.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	402-740-0302	jim.sanford@nngco.com
EC Douglas County	Bill Newman	KØNSA	402-498-0077	k0nsa@arrl.net
EC Sarpy County	Ron Clark	NØPOM	402-291-6774	ronc2807@earthlink.net
EC Washington County	Marlene Harper	KBØKXG	402-426-5376	kb0kxg@hotmail.com
Official Observer	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@radiks.net
Net Manager	Doug Eubanks	KAØO	402-291-1968	ka0o@arrl.net

146.94 Enhancement Project (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Step two of this project is to link the East and West repeater sites. Success of this step is predicated on completion of step one. Linking the two repeater sites will require the building and testing of a full duplex link and voting system. The voters and cabinets needed to accomplish this are already in possession of the club having been donated to us by Douglas County ARES. These cabinets need cleaning and painting but the mounting locations already have tentative approval. Still needed are two full duplex radios with requisite duplexers, antennas and feed line which would have to be purchased, built, donated or otherwise acquired.

3. Step three builds on step two and involves the addition of remote receive sites to increase the repeaters ability to hear weaker signals from handhelds or more distant mobile stations in currently "marginal" areas. These sites will be generally located around the metro area to the South East, South West, North East, North West and East. While some receive sites have been identified, others are generalized locations at this stage. Each remote receive site will require a VHF receiver, UHF transmitter, controller, power supply, antenna, feed line and link receivers. Douglas County ARES has made a donation of link receivers to support this step of the project, but other items will have to be purchased, built, donated or otherwise acquired to complete this step.

4. Step four of the project would link the downtown .94 repeater to a 70cm repeater. This would enable amateurs in downtown's "intermod alley" to access .94 via a clearer 440 repeater frequency. Ideally this would be a full time link and would require the club to either purchase a 440 repeater and locate free tower or roof space, or that we partner with an existing 440 repeater owner in a good downtown location.

Budget and maintenance requirements:

There are no budget figures included in this article because they are unknown. This project will seek to acquire equipment donations for each step as available. Obviously, if at any time during the project a financial outlay is necessary, a proposal for that step including costs will be presented to the club for approval.

As with any repeater system, ongoing management and maintenance is a concern. In a effort to simplify both we have proposed the purchase of duplicate repeaters and controllers. Having as much duplicating at both sites will reduce the complexity of the system overall and make changes and technical support easier and faster. Also, an integral part of the management and maintenance would be the thorough documentation of the entire system and acquisition of service manuals for critical components. All of the already donated equipment is from well established commercial gear that uses discrete components so it can be repaired and modified easily.

Summary:

For 20 years the club enjoyed the luxury of having a wide area 2mtr repeater located in a great location up 650 feet on a commercial television tower. But economic realities have forced us to seek other accommodations. While we greatly appreciate the current tower space donated to us by ATS and WOWT, .94s coverage area is not what it once was. How many hams have left .94 and turned to other more local repeaters due to our reduced coverage area? Aksarben's Repeater committee has developed a stepped approach for increasing .94s coverage area, serviceability and reliability.

This project will not happen overnight. Each of the steps builds on the previous step and for the most part is dependant on the philanthropic donations of time and equipment. The project was designed to that is can be stopped at any step with the club realizing the benefits introduced up to that point, but of course the fullest benefit will be achieved by seeing this through to it's completion.

All of the plans are fluid and subject to change based upon the equipment available at the time, worker availability, site owner approval, and technological innovations. If anyone has any questions, items they wish to donate, creative ideas or comments, please contact me at n0up@arrl.net

I would like to thank WBØCMC, KØNSA, KØIL, KAØKCV, KCØHLB and all the members at the April meeting for their input to this article.

**Thanks & 73,
Steve Schmitz – NØUP, Aksarben ARC Repeater Committee**

Prez Sez



Spring has sprung and fall has fell - - - It's time to put away the snow stuff and break out the lawn mowers. Unless you live in an apartment then you just have to call maintained to do their "stuff!" And while waiting for them to show up, think a moment about the fun aspects of our hobby. Field Day – coming faster than Eddie would like to think about however I'm sure that with his perfect planning, poor performance will be permanently banished from our site. The exact site has been kept a secret (sort of) but directions will be forthcoming. A menu has been presented and ALL are welcome to attend. Remember when you are at the food shack, donations are always welcome!

The planning for the second Annual ANTS AREN'T THE ONLY CRITTERS WITH ANTENNAS, all ham picnic is under way. Admission to the "must attend" event is only \$4.00 per person and well worth the paltry expense. The menu will be the same as last year. All you can eat hamburgers and all meat hot dogs (tube steaks?). The club will provide the burgers/dogs condiments & buns. You will need to provide \$4.00 for everyone in your family attending and a side dish. That can be either a dessert, salad, or ???

Fleasta is also coming. Pat (k0ctu) has promised a special event for this years extravaganza. While I have some knowledge of this fun event I have promised not to tell anyone what it is so . . . I'll give everyone a clue - - - think flea dip!

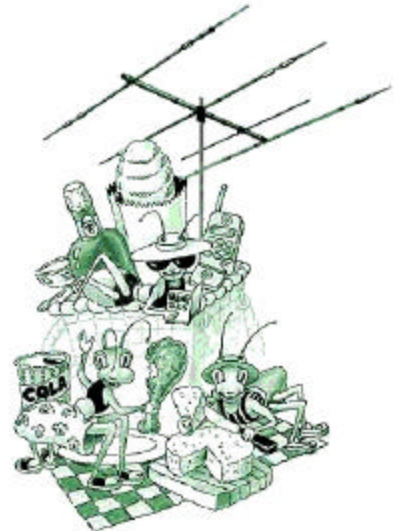
Till next time – stay safe

73's— Jim Westcott - ka0kcv
Thanks Frank

*Aksarben ARC 2nd Annual
Ants Aren't The Only Critters With Antennas Picnic*

**Saturday, May 24, 2003
11:00 am
Mahoney State Park**

**Contact Barb Westcott, kc0hnb, for
more info at
picnic@aksarbenarc.org**



Veep Speaks



After the April meeting, I was having a discussion with a member about repeaters. This person stated that no one used repeaters any more and wondered why the club needed a repeater at all. I asked what the alternative was if repeaters were to go away, and what would we use for weather nets, emergencies etc. Their answer was e-mail and the internet. I was somewhat surprised by this and my initial response was to say that the first things to fail in an emergency or natural disaster are wired services like power, telephone, cellular phone, cable TV; and the internet requires both power and telephone or cable service. Of course, on my way

home, my hindsight kicked in and I thought of a number of things I wish I would have said. Primarily, if you accept the member's argument, why be a ham at all? Most of our communication, with the exception of talking to the Space Station or moon bounce and a few other things, could be accomplished over the internet. Why spend all the money on an HF station and fighting with the zoning people over your antenna if you can buy a computer for a few hundred dollars and chat with people all over the world? Then chasing that elusive DX would amount to trying to find a valid e-mail address in North Korea. No thanks, not for me. Second, I like many hams, started as a Technician and the only radio I could afford was an HT. There are still a lot of Novices and many Technicians out there whose only phone privileges are on VHF and UHF and that means repeaters. Working repeaters was my introduction to ham radio and effective treatment for mike fright. There can also be excitement, like hearing a ham call for help while trapped in her overturned car and the many hams who responded, like hearing a radio operator on a merchant ship 800 miles southwest of San Diego creating a pileup on the Palomar 2M repeater 60 miles northeast when a tropospheric duct opened up. I use the internet and find it a fun and useful tool within ham radio, but as a replacement for any part of ham radio, no. I also say "No" to the idea that repeaters are dead.

73 de Dick Jones N6KVA

Hamvention® 2003
Preserving Tradition...Providing Distinction



Celebrating our 51st year and our 52nd show, May 16 - 18, 2003, Dayton Hamvention® is the world's largest amateur radio gathering and trade show.

Held at Dayton, Ohio's Hara Arena Complex, you are invited to attend:

- **our Forums where you can meet and hear authorities on all facets of amateur radio**
- **500 inside exhibit spaces where the exhibitors are showing their latest equipment and are available to answer questions about their products**
- **our HUGE 2500+ space outdoor vendor area!**

Hamvention's 2003 Theme is "Year of the Youth". Our show's focus will be on the young ham and on bringing 12 - 18 year olds into amateur radio.

Experience amateur radio tradition...visit Hamvention®!

Ham Babble...making sense of what's said on the bands

Continued from the April Ham Hum

Taken in part from Peter Parker VK3YE - first appeared in Amateur Radio, October 2000

By and large, amateurs are an articulate, well-spoken and intelligent lot. However when tuning the bands, one sometimes hears some strange contortions of the English language. This twisted terminology perplexes the newcomer and grates on the ears of the experienced operator. Neither necessary to explain a technical concept nor useful to express a new thought, insight or observation, there are various terms and expressions unique to radio amateurs. Their inappropriate use makes amateurs sound strange to the uninitiated and hinder clear communication. If you've just got on the air, read this article and avoid the phrases listed unless you really mean them. If you count yourself as one of the uninitiated, treat this list as a guide to understand what the babblers on the bands are really saying.

I have attempted to go beyond a simple listing of words to identify specific patterns of communication unique to amateurs. For example you will be introduced to Amateur Action words, Intention Phrases and Sign-Off words. Many of the terms used by amateurs can be placed into one of these groupings. Their existence may tell us something about the personality of amateur operators, who have many more words to announce their intention to end a conversation than to welcome a station with which contact has just been established. Then there's specific patterns such as Lengthening words and Regurgitating Rogers. The topic is ripe for further study - is there a psychologist in our ranks who is willing to conduct a content analysis of amateur communication and report the findings?

The following list has been derived from both personal observation and suggestions from others. Additions would of course be welcome and can be sent to the author.

QSL question: We don't seem to send as many QSL cards as we used to, but QSL remains popular in amateur parlance. QSL is sometimes appended to yes/no questions to which the answer of QSL is desired. Example: 'Your QTH Perth, QSL?' When signals are poor, stations may go through several iterations of repeating callsigns to each other until 'QSL QSL', is heard, which means that stations have received each other's callsign correctly, or are too lazy to care. Given that the meaning of QSL relates to acknowledging receipt of messages, the QSL question is quite legitimate and is probably not true HamBabble. It only appears here because it's overused at times. A close relation is the roger question.

(Can I have a) Radio check?: A question asked by those who would like to know if they are getting out but are uninterested in holding a full conversation with those on the frequency. The usual response is 'you're working'. The question is common on CB, where it probably fulfils a useful role on a busy repeater. Use on the amateur bands identifies the questioner as either a pirate or someone who hasn't listened much before talking.

(the) Regurgitating Roger: It's a good idea to confirm salient details with your contact when conditions are poor, but occasionally people go overboard, even when signals are strong. Sometimes you hear almost a playback of your last transmission, punctuated by roger between each item. Example: 'Roger your name is Peter, roger on the QTH, roger that you're running ten watts, roger on the FT-301S, roger on the new antenna pole, roger on the 15 degrees, roger that you're off to work soon, et cetera'. It's boring, repetitive, and tells you nothing you don't already know. The 'regurgitating QSL', is used in a similar manner.

Roger: Message received and understood, but also used to mean yes or affirmative. It's not unlike the CBer's 10-4, use of which has diminished greatly since the 1970s. See also regurgitating roger.

Roger question: Like QSL, roger is used as a question if given a questioning intonation at the end of a transmission. This can sound quite odd, as in 'Your name is Justin, roger?' Those using the roger question

Continued on page 7)

Ham Babble...(cont.)

(Continued from page 6)

appear to invite their contact to reply by saying either roger, roger, affirmative or negative.

Roger dodger: A pretentious version of Roger. Let's kill this one off, roger?

See you: Unless you use amateur television, saying that I'll see you further down the log can't possibly be true. In radio talk, when you speak to someone, you 'see' them.

73s: 73 is an old telegraphic abbreviation for best wishes. Is 73s twice as good? If so, should we wish people 146 to save them from having to do the mental arithmetic themselves? A variant is 'seven-threes', to which the correct reply should be 21.

Sign-off words: Of any fraternity in the world, radio amateurs must be the one with the largest number of words that mean ceasing transmission or saying goodbye. These are often combined to result in a sign-off that is almost as long as the original contact. An example: 'Will let you go and I'll pull the big switch this end. 73s for now and see you further down the log'. This is repeated several times in turn until everyone signs. Strangely enough we don't have nearly as many initial greeting words. Does this imply that almost as soon contact is established

(confirming that equipment is working but without lowering oneself to ask for a radio check) most amateurs are itching to end the conversation ASAP?

This end: A crude telephone can be made with two jam tins and a piece of taut string. You talk into your end and your partner hears you at his end. Someone famous once said that radio operates the same way except there is no string. But the ends remain, and amateurs are incessantly talking about things happening this end. See place words.

This way: A similar place word to this end. According to Ron VK3OM the term appeared to originate with Australian amateurs, spread to New Zealand, and came in to use by UK stations about 5 years ago. If there is a this way, there must also be a that way. And indeed there is as in 'What's the name that way?.'

We: Hams should realize that they don't just mumble into microphones on the end of curly cords – they are actually in control of an Amateur Radio Station. See the Regulations if in doubt. And any self-respecting radio station must surely have a staff of more than one. If it doesn't, make it sound as if it is. Maybe that's why amateurs talk about their station activities as 'we', as in 'We are operating an FT-1000MP and homebrew linear running 400 watts to a five element monoband yagi at 25 meters. We will QSL via the bureau?'

Will let you go: Another intention phrase. A series of sign off words invariably follows. The implication is that your audience has just been given a long earbashing by you. You've run out of things to say, so want the contact to end in a dignified manner. What better than ostentatiously parading your consideration for others by generously granting your contact their freedom by uttering 'Will let you go?'

Will say 73: The most common intention phrase. Why do amateurs announce their intention to wish others best wishes more often than they actually give these wishes?

Will sign: Another intention phrase. When spoken, it sometimes sounds like a threat. See will let you go.

Conclusion

Well, we've exceeded the word limit this way, so will let you go, and pull the big switch this end. We'll give you best 73s, put it down for now and catch you further down the curly cord. Hope to see you on the device again some time soon, roger?

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Ron VK3OM and Keith VK3JNB for suggesting some of the phrases defined here. Also to the babblers on the bands without whom this article would not have been possible!

Submitted by Mary Joseph, NØTRK

Field Day 2003



"When All Else Fails... We'll take it from there!"

That's this year's Field Day Theme. First part is from ARRL-- The second part is ours!

June 27th- 29th is Field Day weekend this year. This is your chance to find out what happens "When All Else Fails" and it's our turn to roll into action. We decided at the last club meeting to ask permission to

again use Standing Bear Lake while exploring other options. The city after receiving my request telephoned to tell me that a wedding was scheduled (YES, A Wedding!) for that site, but they hadn't sent in their money and it'd been sometime since the reservation was made. So if we send our money first, we get to bump the wedding. On the other hand this could all get pretty ugly. (Some of you may recall the "Benson Hillbilly graduation party" incident our first year at Standing Bear. YIKES!)

So at press time, we have the reservation form from City Parks dept in hand (and no mention about the parking-on-grass issue from them either!), and we've inquired about availability and space at another possible back-up location-- a quick trip will determine if there's enough room for us or not. If not, then we'll grab Standing Bear Lake before the wedding group does. (Ya don't suppose the Benson Hillbilly graduate is finally gettin' married, do ya?!--Just a thought!)

One thing we'll need to do this year is be more careful not to leave vehicles parked on the grass any length of time. The park maintenance guy, has voiced his concern directly to me about the issue. So this year, the new rule is, unless your in-motion or un-hooking, no parking on the grass.

We should keep large campers near the edges or on the hard surface and go with pop-ups, trailers and tents more inside the grassy area. Also, we should do more unloading of vehicles from the parking areas and use 2-wheel carts to move heavier equipment around. I think that would help make Tom happy and keep us on good terms with park management as well.

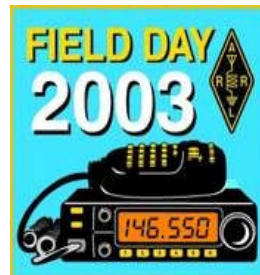
Now to the nuts and bolts. (Let me see, where did I put the nuts & bolts last year?) Here's this year's positions list. It's lookin' kinda thin right now. I'm hoping it fills out a bit more soon; otherwise we'll need to combine 20CW with 20 Phone and 15 and 40 also. That would make us 2A which isn't actually a bad thing unless lots of you show up to operate. Then we won't have enough radios!



Field Day 2003 (cont.)

2003 Field Day Positions

Co-Chairs	K0IL-Ed & N0UP-Steve
Public Relations	KC0HLB-Barb -100 bonus points for publicity
Press/Tour Guides	KONSA-Bill, EC & KC0HLB-Barb, PR
Elected/Served Officials	KA0KCV-Jim, K0IL-Ed & N0UP-Steve
FD Clothing/PINs	KC0HLB-Barb
Logs/QSLing	K0iL
Tower climbers	AA0H-Rick
Generator	K9RZ-Bill (AARC) & (?)
Alternate Power	(?) Solar power for 100 bonus points
Antenna Trailer	(?) Need a tow vehicle--pick up & put back
Night-time security	(?) Any campers out there?
Satellite	(?) - 100 bonus points!
Traffic Handling	(?) - *300 points
	* 100 pts - W1AW FD message rcvd
	* 100 pts - message to SM or SEC
	* 100 pts - originating/relaying 10 messages



Demonstration Modes (3 allowed)

ATV (3rd mode) (?) Bonus points!	
APRS	KONSA-Bill, Bonus points!
Slow Scan TV	N0UP-Steve, Bonus points!

SHACKS

Visitor Shack	NSAs-Bill & Linda - Another 100 points!
Cook Shack	N0WAV-Juli
Potty Shacks	K0iL (Eagle Svcs)
First Aid Shack	(?)

20 meter CW **Rig: K0iL-Ed PC: AB0FX**
Ant: Vertical in Ant Trailer or RZed's R7000 vert
Shelter: (?) HELP! Any camper trailers out there?

20 meter Phone **Rig/PC: (?)**
Ant: AARC antenna trailer
Shelter: (?)

15 meter **(?) Wide Open! May be combined with 40?**

Field Day

Ant: AARC antenna trailer

40 meter **Rig/PC/Ant:** K0CTU/N0TRK (?)
Shelter: N5RIG's camper

10/75 meter (?) OPEN

VHF shack (?) OPEN
Ant: AARC antenna trailer

GOTA Shack **Rig:** AARC's Icom 746 (could have 10/75 meters all to themselves)
Ant/PC: NSAs-Bill & Linda
Shelter: Club's Visitor's shelter



If you see an open position (there are many!) and feel you could help out, please contact me to volunteer.

And be sure to contact Barb Westcott-KC0HLB to order your Field Day T-shirts & PINs! Hope to see you at Field Day!

73, Ed Edwards -- K0iL
496-3415 home 552-5425 work



Field Day Menu— 2003
Friday Night (6pm—after setup is complete)
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chips, Pop, Tea, Lemon Aid



Early risers Saturday (6am-8am)
Donuts, Rolls, Coffee

Saturday Breakfast (8am-10am)
French Toast, Pancakes, Sausage Links, Fruit Salad

Saturday Lunch (1130a-130p)
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Chips

Saturday Dinner (5pm-7pm)
Grilled and BBQ Chicken, Campfire Potatoes, Baked Beans, Macaroni Salad

Saturday Midnight Chili and Brownies and Ice Cream (10pm-1230am)

Sunday Brunch (7am-2pm)
Biscuits and Gravy, Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Roasted Potatoes and...
What ever is left over from Saturday!



**This
Page
Intentionally
Left
Blank**

Official Record

Board Meeting Minutes for March 2003

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – March 2003

The AkSarBen ARC Board of Trustees met on March 4, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Present were: Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary & Board Member; Board Members: Dave Rice, NØJSB; Steve Schmitz, NØUP; and Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI. Others attending were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; Bill Newman, KØNSA; Linda Newman, WØNSA; Pat Joseph, NØHPP. There was a snow storm and wx conditions were tough so there was not a quorum and no official business could be held. Thanks to all that were in attendance.

On March 14, 2003 the Board of Trustees met a 2nd time for March. Held at the Red Cross Bldg in Omaha, the meeting was called to order at 6:51 pm.

Present were: Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Dick Jones, N6KVA Vice 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; Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI; Bill McCollum, KEØXQ and N5RIG, Geri Norris. Others attending were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; Bill Newman, KØNSA; Linda Newman, WØNSA and Pat Joseph, NØHPP.

President's Report: Budget requests have been final-

ized and were presented. Dick WØHXL made a motion to add \$25/Mo. to the budget for meeting room fees, Gerry, N5RIG seconded and voice approval.

Dick had a meeting with the Red Cross on the use of the facility for monthly meetings. As of now, we still have use of the facility, there may be a change in the future. A seating chart will be provided to AKSARBEN ARC giving us directions on how to set of the room after our monthly club meeting. This is to facilitate the next days meeting requirements.

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: The *Hum* had not arrived in the mail so the approval of Feb Minutes was postponed until the April meeting.

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@ar1.net for more information.

Standing Committee Reports: None

Additional Committee Reports: None

Old Club Business: N/A New Club Business: N/A

Announcements: N/A

Dick, K6KVA moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m., Dave, NØJSB seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

Official Record

General Meeting Minutes for March 2003

Minutes of the Business Meeting AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – March 2003

The AkSarBen ARC met on March 14, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance and the standard announcements; there were 51 members and visitors present.

Secretary's Report: The *Hum* had not arrived in the mail so the approval of February's Minutes was postponed until the April meeting.

President's Report: Jim, KAØKCV noted there may be a users fee for the use of the Red Cross facility. As of

now there is no fee. A seating chart will be provided to AKSARBEN ARC giving us directions on how to set of the room after our monthly club meeting. This is to facilitate the next days meeting requirements. The budget has been presented to the board and will be printed in the April *Ham Hum*. It will be presented to the membership for approval at the April meeting. The Spec Comm repeater at Channel 6 is in need of replacement and the 2003 budget has funds just for that use, along with a control board. Dick, WØHXL was presented an award for being the 2002 president of AKSARBEN ARC. Thanks Dick for your hard work.

Official Record

General Meeting Minutes for March 2003 (cont.)

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

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

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: Bill, KØNSA noted there will be a Storm spotter training session on March 16 at the Red Cross Building at 1:30pm. and on April 27th there will be an advanced spotter training session, again at 1:30 pm at the Red Cross Building. There is also a siren test on April 5 at 10 am., anyone wishing to volunteer contact Bill, KØNSA.

Education: , Government Relations: , Technical: , Club Clothing: N/A

Public Relations: There will be a Public Safety Day at the Crossroads Shopping Center on March 15th to recognize March as Public Safety Awareness Month.

Repeater Committee: John, WBØCMC noted there is a noise problem with the Spec Comm repeater at Channel 6, hence it is in need of replacement. A voting system is in the works for the 34/94 repeater more info. to follow and please remember all the help with the repeaters is volunteer. (Secretary's note: If you get a chance say thanks to all that help with the club and the repeater!) The 147.00 repeater is down. There is a plan to work on it on 03-15-03.

Publications: Gerry WAØPOZ was wondering if there is interest on publishing the *Ham Hum* on the internet or sending it to the membership by email.

This would reduce the annual budget of the *Ham* con-

siderably. Gerry WAØPOZ made a motion for the board of trustees to explore the issue of publishing the *Hum* on the internet or sending it via email to the membership, KKØDX seconded, voice approval.

Membership: Please send your email address to Mary, NØTRK so she can establish a mailing list. Terry Azeltine, KCØOYX; Mark Thomas, KCØOOU and James Gridley, KCØOUD applied for membership into the club, KKØDX made a motion to accept and Dick, WØHXL second, voice approval.

Field Day: Standing Bear site may be closed this year due to construction and/or renovation. Field day is the fourth weekend in June and the club is ordering pins and t-shirts, get yours ordered now.

Additional Committee Reports:

VE Testing: The next testing session is March 24 at 6:30 p.m., your photo ID is required.

Old Club Business: N/A

New Club Business: N/A

Announcements: The Nebraska QSO Party will be the last weekend in April. The HDXA website has more info. on this event. Volunteers are needed for the state track meet and MS Walk. Contact Pat, NØHPP for info. Gerry, WAØPOZ noted that the FCC Universal Licensing System is a VERY efficient way to renew your license, just log on via the internet. Todd, KKØDX announced that the Heartland DX Assn. Meets the 3rd Fri. of each month at Backstreets restaurant.

WBØCMC moved to adjourn at 8:32 p.m., KBØZZT seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher NEØCQ Secretary

Official Record

Board Meeting Minutes for April 2003

Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – April 2003

The AkSarBen ARC Board of Trustees met on April 1, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Present were: Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Dick Jones, N6KVA, Vice President; Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary & Board Member; Dick Newsome,

WØHXL Past President; Board Members: Dave Rice, NØJSB; Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI; Bill McCollum, KEØXQ; Steve Schmitz, NØUP; and Geri Norris, N5RIG. Others attending were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; Bill Newman, KØNSA and Linda Newman.
President's Report: Upcoming programs for the **club** include a program about the Dayton Hamvention for April and for May it will be about RF Direction Find-

Official Record

Board Meeting Minutes for April 2003 (cont.)

ing or Rabbit Hunting. There was a safety awareness display at the Crossroads; six members participated. The education committee needs a chairperson, anyone interested please call Jim. Siren Testing will be April 5, at 10 a.m., net starts at 9:45. On April 6, there will be an exhibition at the SAC Museum. Steve, NØUP noted that Douglas County ARES has some metal radio cabinets, Motorola radios (which could be used as a linking radio) and voting units, old RCA stuff and more cabinets. They would like to donate these items to the club and perhaps to be used in the repeater enhancement project. NØUP made a motion for the club to accept this equipment, N5RIG seconded, voice approval. Bill, KEØXQ noted that a linking project was started several years ago and cost the club a lot of money and the project was never finished. Bill wants to make sure there is a clear plan and expenses on the project be kept at a minimum.

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: The board minutes for February were printed in the Hum Bill KEØXQ made a motion to accept as printed, NØJSB seconded, voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: N/A

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: N/A. Education: N/A. Repeater Committee: N/A. Technical: N/A. Membership: N/A.

Public Relations: Siren Test and SAC Museum activities the first weekend in April

Publications: Linda, WØNSA noted at the last club meeting the membership wanted the board to check into publishing the hum online. A survey will be done to determine where the membership stands on this issue and a notice will be included in the April Ham Hum with instructions on how to vote, for online publication or "as is" hard copy mailed to each member.

Field Day: Reservations need to be made for Standing Bear Lake for this years event.

Additional Committee Reports: None

Old Club Business: N/A

New Club Business: It was noted there has been interference on the 34/94 repeater over the past few weeks, mainly the Grand Island repeater. One way to stop this is to require a CTCSS or PL tone on the input. Dick, WØHXL made a motion to put a tone on the repeater by April 14, 2003 if at all possible and an automatic voice announcement be made on the repeater giving notice to such change, Bill, KEØXQ seconded, by a show of hands it was approved. WBØPPF has noted that Aksarben ARC has loaned a Clegg 220 radio to the Sarpy Co. EOC. They do not need this any longer and want to know what to do with it. The Board would like to have it returned to the club.

Announcements: Club Picnic will be May 24 at Mahoney State Park. Pioneer ARC has a net on 146.67 Wed. at 1900 local time.

Dick, K6KVA moved to adjourn at 8:26 p.m., Gerri, N5RIG seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

Official Record

General Meeting Minutes for April 2003

Minutes of the Business Meeting AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – April 2003

The AkSarBen ARC met on April 11, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance and the standard announcements; 38 members and visitors signed the login sheet.

Secretary's Report: The February meeting minutes were printed in the February Ham Hum. No correc-

tions or additions were noted, WBØCMC made a motion to accept the minutes as printed, NØTRK seconded, voice approval.

President's Report: Tonight's program will be on the Dayton Hamvention, presented by KØNEB.

Vice President's Report: Dick, N6KVA is looking for ideas for upcoming club meetings. Next months program will be on IRLP presented by KF6SWL.

Treasurer's Report: Wayne, KØBWJ presented the

Official Record

General Meeting Minutes for April 2003 (cont.)

YTD Balance sheet and the P/L Statements, both are available for viewing by club members. Contact k0bwj@arrl.net for more information

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: Bill, KØNSA thanked everyone who helped with siren test on April 5th. There is **an** advanced Storm spotter training session on April 30th changed from the 27th.

Education: Dick, WØHXL will head up the education committee, he is currently waiting for new workbooks to be printed for the new question pool.

Public Relations: Barb KCØHLB is taking orders for field day shirts (\$15) and Pins (\$5). There is a special event at the SAC Museum on April 6th and the club picnic is on May 24th.

Government Relations: N/A. Technical: N/A

Repeater Committee: John, WBØCMC monthly test of the downtown repeater and noticed there is another problem with the system. He also noted that a CTCSS or PL tone will be implemented on the 34/94 repeater due to interference with the Grand Island repeater. The current required tone is 138.1. John is in contact with the Grand Island club to see if they can change frequencies and see if they can adjust the antenna of the interfering stations. Gerry, WAØPOZ wanted to know if the PL tone will be present 100% of the time? Some members were concerned that older radios don't have tone capability and John noted boards are available to generate tones for most radios. KØNSA noted for several summers the ARES net had to be moved to the 147.00 repeater due to interference with Des Moines and Grand Island. Availability of tones on the downtown repeater will be investigated prior to the next repeater test. Bill, K9RZ would like testing on the 34/94 site to be more expeditious. It was noted that the membership can override the board on the decision to use a PL tone on the 34/94 repeater. Steve, NØUP drew up a plan for improving the 34/94 repeater, several draft copies of the plan are available. The major steps are: 1) replace the 20 yr. old spec comm. at WOWT site. 2) Link east and west repeater sites. 3) Add remote receive sites. 4) Link 34/94 to a 70 cm repeater. 5) Possibly simulcast the east and west sites. It was also noted the ICOM repeater located at the west site is entrusted to the Aksarben club by

Douglas County Emergency Mgmt, we can use it but it is not our property. The largest expenditure in the project will be the purchase of the new repeater. John, WBØCMC noted the cost for the repeater and controller was around \$3000. Ongoing maintenance with this proposed project might be an issue. Bill, K9RZ asked who on the repeater committee are technically capable of maintaining the repeater? Per John, there are several in the club who could maintain the repeater if necessary. Pat, KØCTU wants to make sure if this new system is implemented that maintenance can be done in a timely fashion. Steve NØUP noted that all the new work done on the repeater will be documented and service manuals obtained, reminding everyone this plan is just a proposal or dream sheet, it is not written in stone. Gerry, WAØPOZ wants to know the status of the budget and said the budget printed in the Ham Hum was not in the form of a budget. Marv, AEØEG motioned to purchase a repeater with a controller for approximately \$3,000, Barb KCØHLB seconded, by a vote of hands 24 voted Yes and 14 voted no.

Publications: Linda, WØNSA—A survey is being done to determine where the membership stands on publishing the Ham Hum online or printing and mailing to each member. Members can cast their vote either on the club website or via a phone call to her.

Membership: Dues are due.

Field Day: Standing Bear site will be used again this year. There may be parking restrictions.

Additional Committee Reports:

VE Testing: N/A. Clothing: N/A

Old Club Business: None

New Club Business: Bill, K9RZ noted an audit of the organizations books hasn't been done for several **years**. It was suggested that Ken Noel head a committee.

Announcements: The Nebraska QSO Party will be the last weekend in April. The HDXA website has **more** info. on this event. Volunteers are needed for the state track meet and MS Walk. Contact Pat, NØHPP/KØCTU for info. The club flea market will be the first Sat. in Sept. Tables are still available.

KØNSA moved to adjourn at 9:56 p.m., WBØCMC seconded, voice approval.

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

Area Club Meetings

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 (Mar,Jun,Sept only/Dec-TBA)	Wendy's Galvin Rd
3rd Thu	Bellevue ARC	Great Western Bank
3rd Fri	HDXA	Backstreets, Omaha
4th Thu	QCWA	Old Country, 76th Dodge
4th Thu	SW Iowa ARC	CB Red Cross, N 16th
4th Fri	Pioneer ARC	Gambino's-Fremont
Last Sat	Plattsmouth ARC	Moms Café
Last Sun	Ashland ARC	Ashland Volunteer Fire Hall, 24th & Silver

DoNets

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.

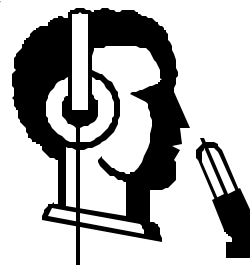
Give a call on the talk-in frequency before the scheduled rendezvous time and have 'em save you a seat!
Please send any changes to w0nsa@arrl.net.



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	19:00	146.670	Pioneer ARC				
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	147.360	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

FOR SALE:

3 element 10 meter beam by Maco. 11.5 Ft boom. Excellent shape, with instructions \$50 firm. Chuck KØTVD k0tvd@arrl.net or 642-4578.

Classifieds are free to members. Send an email with the wording exactly as you want it printed to: w0nsa@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?

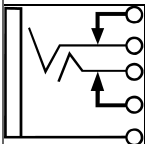
YahooGroups is an email service that offers a convenient way to connect with others who share the same interests and ideas. From HF to APRS there's an amateur radio group that speaks to your interests!

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 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 or 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
DbI Bus. Card (2"x7")	\$15	\$60	\$90
Half Page Ad (4"x7")	\$25	\$100	\$150

Contact the editor for more information

May 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 MS Bike Ride	5	6 AARC Board Mtg	7 Lincoln ARC Meeting	8	9 AARC Cub Meeting	10
11 Rabbit Hunt	12	13	14	15 Bellevue ARC Meeting	16 HDXA Club Meeting/Dayton Hamvention	17 Dayton Hamvention
18 Dayton Hamvention	19	20	21	22 SWARC Meeting	23 NE State High Track Meet	24 AATOCWA Picnic/NE State High Track Meet
25	26	27 AARC VE Test Session	28	29	30	31

Ham Happenings

May 4—MS Bike Ride

May 6—AARC Board Meeting, Red Cross 7:00pm

May 9—AARC Club Meeting, Red Cross 7:30pm

May 16-18—Dayton Hamvention

May 23-24—Nebraska State High School Track Meet

May 24—AATOCWA Picnic—Mahoney State Park

May 27—AARC VE Test Session

June 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 AARC Board Mtg	4 Lincoln ARC Meeting	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 AARC Cub Meeting	14 ARRL VHF QSO Party
15	16	17	18	19 Bellevue ARC Meeting	20 HDXA Club Meeting	21 ARRL Kids Day
22	23	24	25	26 SWARC Meeting	27	28 ARRL Field Day
29 ARRL Field Day	30					

Ham Happenings

June 3—AARC Board Meeting, Red Cross 7:00pm

June 13—AARC Club Meeting, Red Cross 7:30pm

June 14-16—ARRL June VHF QSO Party

June 21—ARRL Kids Day

June 28-29—ARRL Field Day



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 May 31st

Merchandise will be available for pickup prior to Field Day.

Name:		Date Ordered:		
Call Sign:		Phone:		
<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>			
	Balance Due (enclosed)			



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.

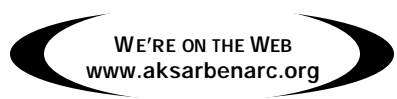


Our members are involved in virtually every aspect of amateur radio from electronic circuit design to worldwide communication via voice and Morse code, satellite and space station communications, meteor scatter, computer assisted digital modes, amateur television, and even severe storm spotting for the 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. 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-



PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
Paid
Omaha NE
Permit No. 718

Address Service Requested

Mai l i n g A d d r e s s L i n e 1
M a i l i n g A d d r e s s L i n e 2
M a i l i n g A d d r e s s L i n e 3
M a i l i n g A d d r e s s L i n e 4
M a i l i n g A d d r e s s L i n e 5