HAM HUM

Special Points of Interest:

- **Fleaesta Highlights**

- **Hurricane Tracker Hams**

- **Logbook of the World goes Live**

- **Get that DX QSL!**

- **Next Club Meeting - Oct 10 — 730pm Red Cross**

Inside this issue:

AARC FLEAESTA DRAWS RECORD NUMBERS

Over 200 hungry bargain hunters, amateurs and civilians alike, joined in the fun at the 3rd Annual AARC Fleaesta on Saturday, September 13th, at the Sarpy County fairgrounds in Springfield Nebraska. What has been billed as the largest "Flea Fiesta" north of the border, began at 8:00 am with a pancake breakfast, followed by burgers and chips after 10:00 am. Mariachi music and door prize winners names were heard throughout the event, with the grand prize—a $200 gift certificate from Burghardt's— going to, non other than, Pat-KØCTU, the chairman of the Fleaesta committee. The winning ticket was drawn by John, *(Continued on page 3)*

Special appearance by "Bandito" Jim Rogers, AGØD, from Douglas County Emergency Management.

Club Officers & Board Members

President (2003)	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net
Vice President (2003)	Dick Jones	N6KVA	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	K0BWJ	402-491-0086	k0bwj@arrl.net
Past President (2002 Term)	Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@cox.net
2002-2003 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	N/A	ae0eg@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
Door Prizes	Sheri Joyner	KCØHFT	402-491-0086	kc0hft@arrl.net
Education	Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@cox.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/Web	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 Committee & Authorized Control Operators

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

Area ARRL Appointees

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

AARC FLEAESTA DRAWS
RECORD NUMBERS (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

Klingman, WNØCKX. The weather was a little cold and the wind was a bit of a challenge for the "grillers", but overall a good time was had by all and a number of happy hams were seen exiting the building with their new treasures.

The "men of APRS" had a table setup for demonstrations and questions about APRS and NSTAR activities.

WØNSA, "the editor" enjoys a break with Bill "the sausage man" Jackson, K9RZ and Mary, "head Flipper" Joseph, NØTRK.

Admissions volunteer, Rodger Devillier, ABØYW, looks over some bargains.

Board member, Kurt Kettleson, KCØHMI was busy at his table.

The goods are off the ground this year; even the Tailgate area was standing room only, with tables available for those who reserved tailgate spots.

Prez Sez

No article received by press time.

Veep Speeks

No article received by press time.

Younkers Community Day Event
Saturday, November 22 7am–9pm

Once again the AARC, as a 501c3 organization, is participating in this fund raising event.! Tickets will be available for sale a the next 3 club meetings. Your ticket includes $5 off purchase (so you get your $ back), 20% off coupons, door prizes every hour including a trip to Disney World, entertainment, restaurant sampling, and children's activities.

DXPEDITION TO PETER I ISLAND

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From: K4UEE & K0IR
Re: Planned Dxpedition to Peter I Island, Antarctica
12 Sept. 2003

Bob Allphin, K4UEE, and Ralph Fedor, K0IR, are pleased to announce they
have organized a DXpedition to Peter I Island (3Y0/P). The Dxpedition is scheduled to occur during the upcoming Austral summer 2004. Their 15-person team is scheduled to depart from Ushuaia, Argentina on Jan. 3, 2004 and arrive at Peter I on approximately January 9th (+/- weather). They will build the camp infrastructure and install all antennas before going QRV. This will be a high power DXpedition with an international team of experienced operators and multiple stations on all HF bands covering SSB, CW, & RTTY modes.
The team hopes for a 3-week stay on Peter I. Weather, of course, may
dictate otherwise. Additional details including QSL information, website and the team roster will be forthcoming. Several operator positions are available.
Also, there are opportunities for ham or non-ham travelers to visit Peter I, the Antarctic continent, and the South Shetland Islands returning around Jan. 19th to Ushuaia, Argentina. Contact Bob, K4UEE at: k4uee@arrl.net for information.

VETERANS DAY 2003

SACMARC, KØAIR/KØGRL
P.O. Box 1292
Bellevue, NE 68005-1292

To recognize Veterans Day and General Curtis E. LeMay's birthday again this year, the Strategic Air Command Memorial Amateur Radio Club (SACMARC) will be operating both **KØAIR** and **KØGRL** on Tuesday, November 11th, 2003 from 1200 hours to 2400 hours Zulu (UCT). The stations will operate in the general phone bands on or near to the following frequencies ending in 47 (for 1947 when the Air Force became a single entity) 3.947, 7.247, 14.247, 21.347, & 28.347, whichever band seems to be open best to most locations. Also look for us on 51.47MHZ. We will also be on 146.46 simplex for local folks. You should also listen to the 3905 Century Club WAS Net in the evening. Please join us in celebrating this day.

Originally assigned by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) sometime during the Cold War, **KØGR**L was the personal amateur radio callsign of General Curtis E. LeMay when he was assigned to Offutt Air Force base as Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command, (CINCSAC) and was used by him until the late 1950's. (Offutt, near Omaha Nebraska, was the Headquarters base for the former Strategic Air Command or SAC, 1946-1992). The General received **K4FRA** when he went to Washington, D.C., to be the USAF Vice Chief of Staff (later Chief of Staff), and later retired in California with **W6EZV**. The original Nebraska callsign, **KØGRL**, had long since lapsed and was unassignable under FCC rules for several decades. Changes in FCC rules, including the adoption of a Vanity Callsign Program, offered the opportunity for SACMARC, made up of SAC veterans and other members of the local amateur radio community, to recover that callsign in memory of SAC and military communications history. With the gracious consent of the LeMay family, including the General's daughter, Mrs. Jane LeMay Lodge, **KØGRL** was taken down from history's attic, dusted off, and returned to active use in May of 1997.

Sometime during the Cold War, **KØAIR** was assigned to the "Elect. Maint. Section, 31st Comm. Sqdn., Bldg. 305, Offutt AFB", a military recreation station according to the 1963 Amateur Radio Callbook. Unfortunately, the license lapsed sometime afterwards (it does not appear in the 1980 Callbook).

To receive a KØAIR - KØGRL QSL card (after contact, of course), Please visit the SACMARC web site at **http://www.sacmarc.org.** Contact information and mailing address are listed there also. Please include a 'SASE' with your QSL card.

 Both **KØAIR** and **KØGRL** are good in the current call book and can be found at **http://qrz.com.**

Darwin Piatt **W9HZC**
President SACMARC.
e-mail w9hzc@qsl.net

Hurricane trackers turn to ham radio for help

From the ARRL PR Committee
By Lona O'Connor, Palm Beach Post Staff Writer
Wednesday, September 17, 2003
MIAMI -- At 6 p.m. today, a man will enter the National Hurricane Center in Miami. As he passes by the big open headquarters room with computer screens throbbing images of Hurricane Isabel, he will be ignored by the television crews readying for their live feeds. He will sit down in a small office and start dialing up his ham radio, a black box about the size of a VCR. He will be hailing his comrades who live within 50 miles of the area expected to be affected by Isabel, a massive storm aimed at the Mid-Atlantic states. They will relay messages about wind speed, rain and damage back to Miami. And if the storm is bad enough, they might be the only contact with the outside world for a while.

Take Hurricane Fabian, which hit Bermuda two weeks ago. The ham radio operators and their black boxes were the only link to the island after power went out. For all the computers, weather satellites, radar and other 21st century gadgetry used to measure Fabian, the hams, known as the Hurricane Watch Net, were the only ones in direct human contact with a few radio operators in Bermuda. On that Friday night, Julio Ripoll bent over his receiver, straining hard to hear the weak transmission from Bermuda. The eye of Fabian, five times the size of the island, just passed over.

Only one ham radio operator, Tony Siese, was relaying information to Ripoll. After the storm tore the roof off the building where Siese was transmitting on battery power, he radioed that he was moving out, destination unknown. "Oh my God," says Ripoll. "I can't believe they're trying to relocate in the middle of a hurricane. It would be nice to know if he is safe."

Ripoll, a Miami architect, is assistant coordinator for amateur radio at the hurricane center. He and coordinator John McHugh schedule 30 other volunteer radio operators, mostly from Miami-Dade and Broward counties, into three-hour shifts as soon as a hurricane rolls within 300 miles of land. They stay on duty, relaying information to the National Hurricane Center until the hurricane is no longer a threat. "Even a hurricane hunter (airplane) can't measure the wind on the ground," said Ripoll. "So they come to us." The National Hurricane Center, a long concrete bunker, is adorned only with an array of antennas and satellite dishes for ming a prickly spine along its roof. The hams have worked with the hurricane center for 23 years, moving into the center in 1995. The plain little office is the center of the hurricane-watcher's universe.

Ham radio operators were also on the air during last month's blackout in the Northeast, part of their new higher profile in the emergency-operations world.

Ham radios bounce signals off the ionosphere, which acts as a big mirror and bounces them back to Earth. Though hams can predict approximately where the signals will land, they cannot predict where they will be strongest. With the hurricane watch network on the air, any alert radio operator in the Western Hemisphere might be the one to relay information back to the Hurricane Center. He or she then relays information about barometric pressure, wind speed and damage to Ripoll in Miami.

Bounce, listen, relay: It's as simple as that. "It's old technology, but it works," says Ripoll. Thousands of hams may be listening to the Hurricane Watch Net, but only the anointed few can actually transmit. And they are all business. Among the 2 million ham radio operators around the world and the 600,000 in the United States, the Hurricane Watch Net is an elite cadre. The group that staffs the National Hurricane Center also must pass security checks, since they may also be called on by local authorities in other types of emergencies.

Ripoll demonstrates some of the intangible qualities of the hurricane-watching ham operator. He is hyper-responsible -- and still a bit in awe of it all. "All we have to do is hang a wire out the window," he says, pulling a roll of shiny copper cable out of a file drawer. "That's all it takes to get to the other side of the world."

For information, visit WX4NHC online at www.wx4nhc.org.

Submitted by Mary Joseph, NØTRK

"LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD" GOES LIVE!

The long-awaited QSL-cardless ARRL awards and contact credit system "Logbook of the World" (LoTW) officially opened for business this week. Within its first five days of operation, the system--which is open to all--already had attracted more than 1000 requests for a digital certificate, the essential pass key to LoTW.

"Although Logbook of the World is a tremendous resource for hams chasing DXCC, VHF/UHF Century Club (VUCC), Worked All States (WAS) and other awards, we hope it will appeal to hams who are not currently active in these awards programs," said ARRL Chief Operating Officer Mark Wilson, K1RO. "The proliferation of logging software has stimulated activity and interest in contesting, and submitting log data and verifying award credits online is a logical next step."

Data integrity has been a watchword of the LoTW since the project's conception, and that starts with a digital certificate. Obtaining a digital certificate involves a combination of on-line filing and good old-fashioned snail mail. The first step is to visit the ARRL Logbook of the World Web page <http://www.arrl.org/lotw>, download the LoTW software and request a digital certificate that ties the participant's identity to a digital key.

"We will need to verify you are who you say you are," ARRL Membership Services Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG, explains. "The security of the entire system depends heavily on the method used for verifying the user's identity." This first step is called authentication. Everyone who plans to use LoTW first must obtain a digital certificate. There are no exceptions. For US amateurs, this process relies on your mailing address in the FCC database, which must be current.

For non-US amateurs, authentication will rely on other documentation, primarily a copy of the participant's Amateur Radio license and another official identifying document. Mail these copies to ARRL, Logbook of the World Administrator, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA.

Assuming everything goes smoothly, US licensees requesting a digital certificate soon will receive a postcard in the mail that contains a password."The first batch of postcards has been mailed, and some people have uploaded their passwords," Wilson said. "Those will be checked, and the first batch of digital certificates should be e-mailed to users September 22."

Users then should go to the LoTW Web site and enter the password to complete the processing of their certificate request. Once the password has been entered, the digital certificate will be e-mailed within a working day or two. Non-US stations will receive their digital certificates via e-mail once their documentation has been received at ARRL Headquarters and authenticated.

Participants will use their digital certificates to "sign" and upload either Amateur Data Interchange Format (ADIF) or Cabrillo-formatted files. Participants also may use their primary digital certificates to obtain additional certificates necessary to submit log data and obtain award credit for contacts made under formerly held call signs.

At the heart of the Logbook of the World concept will be a huge repository of log data provided by operators--from individual DXers and contesters to major DXpeditions--and maintained by ARRL. Mills says the system will benefit big and little guns alike by providing quick QSO credit for ARRL-sponsored awards, especially DXCC.

Obtaining a digital certificate and uploading log data are free of charge. There will be a per-QSO charge for each contact credit used, but Mills expects it will be much less than the typical costs involved with exchanging paper QSL cards. When you use an LoTW confirmation for an award credit, the fee will be added to your account and shown in the user's record. The user will be able to pay for these charges on-line using a credit card.

Mills' article, "Introducing Logbook of the World," appears in the October issue of QST. LoTW news and announcements will be posted to the Logbook of the World Web site <http://www.arrl.org/lotw/>.

Wilson commended ARRL Web and Software Development Department Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z, and the other contributors to the project "for their dedication and hard work that made Logbook a reality."

Get That DX QSL!

It is one thing to tell a fellow ham that you worked a DX station, but we all know that the proof of contact requires the all-important QSL card. I have one main philosophy in achieving a high QSL return ratio: make it as easy and painless as possible for the operator or QSL manager to send a card back to you.

There are two main categories of direct QSLing: domestic and foreign. When the QSL manager is domestic, it saves postage expenses, which are heading ever higher. If the contact was an extensive DX operation, along with my self-addressed, stamped envelope (SASE), I make an effort to help with QSL printing or other expedition expenses by sending some extra money. We should not expect anyone to supply postage and envelopes and write addresses when there are hundreds or thousands of cards to send. But if my contact was with a ham casually operating in the Bahamas while on vacation, I will send only a return envelope. The minimum rule of all direct QSL requests is to send an SASE.

I do not send folded return envelopes inside another envelope for domestic mailings. Unfolding the envelope adds another step for the manager. I place a standard 6 3/4 inch peel-and-seal return envelope inside of a No. 10 (9 1/2 inch) business-size envelope. This allows me to send a flat, easy-to-seal return envelope for the convenience of the QSL manager. Envelopes are still fairly inexpensive and I use the privacy types to conceal the contents, especially when sending money.

Sending QSL cards directly to a foreign land requires some strategy. I have found that nested air mail envelopes (where the return envelope fits neatly inside the outer envelope) work very well, and they are available from a number of different sources. Nested envelopes have another nice feature: they are usually made in European sizes, allowing room for the occasional larger return DX QSL to be enclosed without folding. Then, like domestic mailings, the return envelope arrives flat and is easily accessible to the DX station.

I always insert the return envelope with the flap facing downward, so that the flap doesn't get cut off when the outer envelope is being opened. Most QSL managers will use some type of letter opener, and you want to avoid having any part of the return envelope damaged. I then place one or two dollars (sometimes more, if I'm helping with other DX expenses) in the crease of the return envelope flap and then insert my QSL card. When the manager removes my return envelope from the outer envelope, he or she pulls out the money and my card at the same time. The return envelope must have your return address prominently and neatly penned.

Currency, or an IRC, for return postage and my QSL card placed in the flap of the nested return envelope, ready to be inserted into the outer envelope.

Return Postage

Do not expect a response unless you have enclosed adequate postage for airmail return. There are a few ways this can be accomplished. One is to affix the appropriate number of postage stamps from the DX station's country.

Do not apply domestic stamps to the return envelope and expect it to be returned from a foreign land. US postage, for example, will not be honored in other countries. There are stamp brokers that can provide foreign stamps at reasonable cost.

Another method is to use an International Reply Coupon (IRC), available at post offices and honored by many nations. However, be sure the IRC is adequate to cover airmail postage back from the DX location--you may need to send more than one. Also, be sure the post office rubber-stamps the IRC in the correct area. IRCs are not a com-
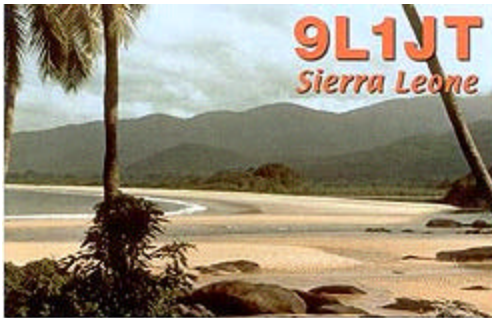
Get That DX QSL! (cont.)

mon postal purchase, especially in smaller post offices, and if they are stamped in the wrong area, or not stamped at all, the foreign post office will not accept them.

Probably the easiest and most economical way to provide return postage, at least for US hams, is to enclose one or two dollars. One dollar used to be enough return postage from just about anywhere, but that is no longer true. Postage rates have increased dramatically in some parts of the world. When in doubt, include two dollars or determine the current rate at the DX location.

Another thing to keep in mind is that sometimes a DX operator needs to pay a conversion fee at his local bank to exchange the dollar to their currency. That adds to their cost. So, even though one dollar may be enough for return postage, it may not pay for the other costs. I have used the one or two dollar method for almost all of my direct DX QSLs, and found that it works well and it is the most convenient for me. To make my mailing even more appealing, I enclose crisp, newer dollar bills. A wrinkled, torn or faded dollar may make the DX question its validity. It is my understanding that a few nations do not allow their citizens to possess American currency. In those situations, an IRC or foreign stamps can be used.

[*In some countries, it is illegal--and a jailable offense--to possess US or other foreign currency. ARRL discourages amateurs from sending dollar bills through the mail system, even to the ARRL Outgoing QSL Service in Newington. Those who send money in the mail do so at a considerable risk of theft, and could possibly place a fellow ham in legal jeopardy.--Ed.*]

The fruit of our QSL labor is to get that new one confirmed!

No Response?

No matter how hard we try, there can be times when we will not receive a response to our direct QSLs. Postal thieves can open envelopes and remove currency and even IRCs. In those incidents, the rest of your mailing may, or may not, get delivered, minus the money or IRC. Yet, if the recipient finds no return postage in your envelope, it is unlikely you will receive her card. This is a sad situation, but it does occur in direct QSLing. You can increase your chances of getting your card to its destination by sending the envelope by registered mail, but the postal fee makes this alternative very expensive. To help avoid postal theft, keep your envelopes as inconspicuous as possible *by **not** including call signs on the envelopes*. A call sign can be an instant alert that money may be inside the envelope.

There is always the possibility that the DX simply never sends QSL cards. If I don't receive a response to my original mailing within several months to a year, I may try one more time (depending on how badly I want the card). But I have learned to not keep pumping money into black holes! This is especially frustrating when it is your one and only contact with a certain DXCC entity. Sometimes we just need to bite the bullet and hope for another contact in that area. You can attempt to inquire about your mailing by e-mail, if the DX operator is equipped for it and a language barrier is not in the way.

The bottom line: if you want to see those DX QSL cards showing up in your mailbox, make it as convenient as you can for the QSL managers. They are doing you a favor by confirming the contact.

ARRL member Rod Vlach, NN0TT, enjoys DXing, mostly with Morse code. He has most of his 270 DX QSOs confirmed. Rod lives in Minnesota and can be reached at NN0TT@arrl.net.

Submitted by Bill Jackson, K9RZ

Official Record: Board Meeting Minutes
September 2003

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

The AkSarBen ARC Board of Trustees met on September 2, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

<u>Present were:</u> Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Dick Jones, N6KVA, Vice President; Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary & Board Member; Dick Newsome, WØHXL, Past President; Board Members: Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI; Steve Schmitz, NØUP; Geri Norris, N5RIG and Marv Taylor, AEØEG. Others attending were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; and Pat Joseph, KØCTU and Marv Taylor, AEØEG.

<u>President's Report:</u> Bill Newman KØNSA has resigned as EC for Douglas County and Jim KAØKCV has replaced him as EC for Douglas County. Marv Taylor, AEØEG needs to be approved as replacement board member. The fleaesta will be held September 13th at the Sarpy County Fair Grounds. There is talk of having a dunk at to help raise money for the club. Some board members are concerned over liability issues, however the club is covered by insurance if there is not a motor connected to the dunk tank. The major door prize at the flea market is a $200 gift certificate from Burghardt Amateur Radio in Watertown. Some members have shown interest in a Christmas dinner, any suggestions or comments are welcome. Steve Rasmussen, NØWY, is helping Brian Zdan KMØY with updating testing supplies for VE Testing. A Boy Scout Jamboree will be held at Mahoney State Park October 17, 18 & 19 help is needed with this event.

<u>Vice President's Report:</u> Ideas or suggestions for club programs are always welcome!

<u>Secretary's Report:</u> The board minutes for August were presented to the board. No additions or corrections ere noted. Dick N6KVA made a motion to accept, Steve, NØUP, seconded, voice approval.

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u> N/A

<u>Standing Committee Reports:</u>

<u>Disaster Preparedness:</u> N/A

<u>Education:</u> Dick, WØHXL reported on the last tech class held this summer, some students went to Lincoln and Sioux City to take the exam. Dick also noted that the ARRL has still not sent the "new" training tapes or the repeater directories as promised. Supposedly the "new" tapes will be ready in October. Ralph Erts, WØSMY and Earl Weisel, NØXPJ will be teaching the next tech class.

<u>Field Day:</u> N/A

<u>Government Relations:</u> N/A

<u>Membership:</u> N/A

<u>Public Relations:</u> Barb, KCØHLB announced the Younkers fundraiser will be November 22, 7am to 9pm. Volunteers are needed to help at the store on November 8 from 2-4 and November 15 from 12-2. The club will be selling coupons for $5 each to be used at the fundraiser on the 22nd.

<u>Publications:</u> N/A

<u>Repeater Committee:</u> Steve, NØUP reported that output power on 34/94 dropped sometime on 9-1 or 9-2, a duplexer might be out of tune. Other sites are still being sought for a new repeater location, hopefully no height will be lost and maybe we can gain a few feet. The new site will hopefully have an antenna height between 300 and 500 feet. Placing the antenna on some buildings downtown isn't possible due to intermod and others have high liability insurance requirements and leasing fees.

<u>Technical:</u> N/A

<u>Additional Committee Reports:</u> None

<u>Old Club Business:</u> None

<u>New Club Business:</u> The league (ARRL) is asking for donations from clubs to help fight BPL. The club has the option to "pass the hat" at the next general club meeting or just make a donation on behalf of the club.

<u>Announcements:</u> None

Steve, NØUP moved to adjourn at 8:04 p.m., Dick, WØHXL seconded, voice approval. .

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

Official Record: General Meeting Minutes
September 2003

Minutes of the Business Meeting
AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – September 2003
The AkSarBen ARC met on September 12, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance and the standard announcements and introductions; there were 25 members and visitors present.

President's Report: Jim, KAØKCV noted that a lot of club members were absent due to setup of the fleaesta. BPL will be an issue to recon with in the future if it is allowed. In the near future the club may have a program on this issue. There are three new applications for membership, they are James Gridley, KCØOOD; Mark Thomas, KCØOOU; and Terry Azeltine, KCØOYX. Mitch, KCØMXV made a motion to accept these three candidates, John WBØCMC seconded, voice approval.

Vice President's Report: N/A

Secretary's Report: The membership meeting minutes for August were published on the club website and printed in *Ham Hum.* No additions or corrections were noted, Jeff, NEØDX made a motion to accept as published, KCØHLB seconded, voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: N/A

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: N/A

Education: N/A

Public Relations: N/A

Field Day : N/A

Government Relations: N/A

Publications:

Repeater Committee: John, WBØCMC reported there was good news regarding the placement of the 34/94 repeater. Channel 7 has to replace their tower at Crown Point and they have invited us to place our repeater at their new location, at the 650' mark! It should be about 12 months before we can utilize this new site.

Technical: N/A

Additional Committee Reports: None

Old Club Business: John WBØCMC made a motion to accept Marv Taylor, AEØEG as the replacement board member for the resigning Dan Olson. Mitch, KCØMXV seconded, voice approval.

New Club Business: The ARRL is asking for donations from clubs to help fight BPL (Broadband over Power Line). This basically is a threat to HF from 2 Mhz to 80 Mhz. Jeff, NEØDX mad a motion to donate $250 on behalf of the club to the ARRL, with letters sent to the Midwest Director, Midwest Vice Director and Midwest section manager; L3eo, W9ZEC seconded, voice approval. John, WBØCMC would like to have a class on repeater systems. Specifically, the new 34/94 repeater system; there will be more information in the future. AkSarBen Talk will now announce the availability of new Ham Hums when online.

Announcements: There is the AkSarBen ARC flea market at the Sarpy County Fair Grounds September 13th; a flea market in Missouri Valley on September 21; and the Lincoln ARC auction will be held on September 28. Steve, NØUP moved to adjourn at 8:12 p.m., John, WBØCMMC 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	Wendy's Galvin Rd
(Mar,Jun,Sept only/Dec-TBA)		
3rd Thu	Bellevue ARC	Great Western Bank
3rd Fri	HDXA	Backstreets, Omaha
4th Thu	QCWA	Old Country, 76thDodge
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	147.390+	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.
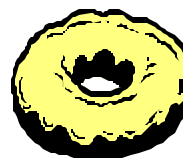
Popular Nets

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	08:30	?	QCWA Chap 25
M-F	20:30	147.090	Dennison, IA	Sat	12:00	146.820	Swap Net
M-F	21:00	146.760	East NE ARES	Sat	21:00	50.300	LCS SSB Net
Mon	00:00z	28.400	10m Phone Net	Sun	08:00	3.901	Swap Net
Mon	01:00z	145.090	Packet Net	Sun	09:00	3.896	3900 Club
Mon	02:00z	434/421.25	ATV Net	Sun	19:00	28.125	Slow Speed CW
Mon	20:00	145.235	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 Chap 210				
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				
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.
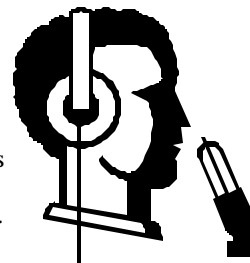
Classifieds

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.

YAHOO! Groups

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
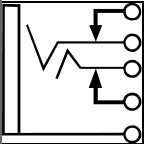http://groups.yahoo.com/group/knsp

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 $12.00.

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 you 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

October 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 NE City Club Mtg	7 AARC Board Mtg	8 Lincoln ARC Mtg	9	10 AARC General Mtg	11
12	13	14 BVARC Mtg	15	16 Bellevue ARC Mtg	17 HDXA Mtg	18 ARRL Intl EME Competition
19 ARRL Intl EME Competition	20	21	22	23 QCWA Mtg SWIARC Mtg	24 Pioneer ARC Mtg	25 Plattsmouth ARC Mtg
26 Ashland ARC Mtg	27	28	29	30	31	

Ham Happenings

Oct 7 —AARC Board Meeting, Red Cross 7:00pm

Oct 10 —AARC Club Meeting, Red Cross 7:30pm

Oct 18-19—ARRL International EME Competition

November 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes (CW)
2 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes (CW)	3 NE City Club Mtg	4 AARC Board Mtg	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 SPECIAL EVENT! BVARC Mtg	12 Lincoln ARC Mtg	13	14 AARC General Mtg	15 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes (Phone)
16 ARRL Nov Sweepstakes (Phone)	17	18	19	20 Bellevue ARC Mtg	21 HDXA Mtg	22
23	24	25	26	27 QCWA Mtg SWIARC Mtg	28 Pioneer ARC Mtg	29 Plattsmouth ARC Mtg
30 Ashland ARC Mtg						

Ham Happenings

Nov 1-3—ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW)

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

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

Nov 15-16—November Sweepstakes (Phone)

Nov 11— SPECIAL EVENT!
Bellevue, NE: Strategic Air Command Memorial Amateur Radio Club, K0AIR/ K0GR. 0600Z-1800Z **Nov 11**. To recognize Veterans Day and Curtis E. LeMay's birthday.

More Fleaesta Pictures!

WB0W returned this year with plenty of everything for shoppers to choose from. Bargains could be found everywhere!

Fleaesta volunteer alumni Ken Noel, AJØA was on hand to check out the selection of equipment and enjoy the pancakes and burgers.

Printed HAM HUM Request

Would you like to continue receiving the AARC monthly publication in printed form? Fill out the information below, and give it to a Board Member, Executive Officer, the Editor, or drop it into the mail to the PO Box address on the other side of this form.

I am unable to view the HAM HUM online and would like to request that a printed copy of the HAM HUM continue to be mailed to the address on the AARC club records. Include address updates below. One HAM HUM per household.

Name: _____   Call: _____
Complete below only if your address has changed:

Address:_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

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.

Our members are involved in virtually every aspect of amateur radio from electronic circuit design to worldwide communication via voice and Morse code, satellite and space station communications, meteor scatter, computer assisted digital modes, amateur television, and even severe storm spotting for the National Weather Service.
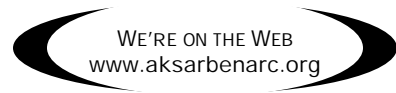
We make a special effort to provide public service communications support for events such as parades, charity fund raisers, emergency preparedness drills, and disaster relief operations.

The club offers amateur radio classes to the public for those who wish to obtain an amateur radio license or upgrade their license privileges.

For more information contact us via email at k0usa@qsl.net. If you have a scanner you can listen to the clubs main wide area repeater at 146.940 Megahertz.

WE'RE ON THE WEB
www.aksarbenarc.org

K-SAR-BEN
Amateur
RADIO CLUB, INC.
POST OFFICE BOX 24551 - OMAHA, NE 68124-0551

Address Service Requested

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