



HAM HUM

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB, INC. - Omaha, Nebr. 68101
Post Office Box 291 - Downtown Station



March 1973

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No. 3

NOTE CHANGE IN MEETING PLACE FOR MARCH

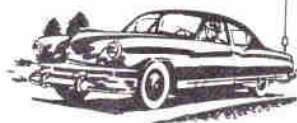
ANNUAL AUCTION

- WHEN: FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1973
- WHAT: ANNUAL AUCTION. Bring your gear and excess parts.
Terms: cash and carry. (See page 3 for details.)
- WHERE: AUDITORIUM - GENERAL MOTORS
TRAINING CENTER
225 North 80th Street - Omaha, Nebraska
(Plenty of free parking.)
- TIME: Auditorium will open at 6:00 P.M. to permit tagging
and registration of gear. Items will be auctioned in order
of registration. Auction will begin shortly after 7:00
P.M.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED DURING THE AUCTION

VISITORS WELCOME

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request.



Next copy deadline: March 23rd

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CLUB SIGNAL GENERATOR

As you all know, the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. has a signal generator that is intended for the use of the members. It is now in good condition and ready for use.

It is a: Boonton Model 80A
Range is: 10 mc. to 475 mc.
It has: Modulation-1000 cycle AM
And a: Calibrated attenuator.

Members may borrow the generator for 50¢ per day. This fee is NOT intended as a source of profit, but to try and speed up the return of the generator so that as many as possible may use it with a minimum of waiting.

The generator will be located at Frank Taylor's QTH, 4604 Hascall Street, Omaha. Phone Number 558-4227. Be sure to bring your Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club membership card for identification as only Club members may borrow it. Be sure to telephone before attempting to borrow it to make sure someone else hasn't already borrowed it.

Russ Minks, WAØVEE

REPEATER FUND CONTRIBUTORS

James R. Belt, WAØJIH
Frank Beach, Jr., WAØOVU

Thanks, fellows!

STATION WØCQX RECEIVES AWARD

ARRL has presented a Public Service Award to Station WØCQX in consideration of meritorious work in connection with the South Dakota flood disaster which began on June 9, 1972 as reported in September 1972 QST, pages 59-61.

WØCQX is the Red Cross Station operated by the Emergency Communication Team, Inc. This award is result of the work of the many people who handled phone calls as well as hams who operated the station during this emergency.

MARCH AUCTION

The annual auction will be held on Friday, March 9th, at the General Motors Training Center, 225 North 30th Street, Omaha. Check-in starts at 5:00 P.M. Auction starts at 7:00 P.M. Auction will stop at 9:45 P.M. sharp as the building must be vacated by 10:30 P.M.

To avoid confusion and to expedite handling, items for auction must be brought to the cafeteria to be checked in, and then taken to the auditorium. The first items brought in will be the first to be auctioned. Boxes of small items will be auctioned as a unit.

AUCTION TERMS: Cash and carry. A 10% commission will be charged on all consignments, with a maximum commission of \$10.00 on any one item. (Any item sold at over \$100.00, owner will pay only the

\$10.00 fee.) Minimum bids will be 25¢. No minimum price on any item can be specified; however, the owner may bid on his own item to protect himself. If the owner's bid is the final one, the fee will be 10% of the bid, with a maximum of \$1.00.

If you are the lucky bidder on an item, please pay for that item immediately rather than waiting until the end of the auction. This will eliminate a great deal of confusion at the end of the auction. All bidding will stop at 9:45 P.M. so we may clean up the auditorium and be prepared to vacate the building by 10:30 P.M. sharp.

As stated previously, the building must be locked by 10:30 P.M. so the auction will have to stop promptly at 9:45 P.M.

It's a fun night. See you all there.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF RADIO HAMS IN THE SATELLITE ERA

ISRAEL, JUNE 24-29, 1973

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ISRAEL
AND ISRAEL AMATEUR RADIO - AFFILIATE OF IARU

For a bulletin which includes information on the Symposium,
travel accommodation and sightseeing tours, please apply to:

ORGANISING COMMITTEE:
ISRAEL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB,
TEL AVIV, P.O.B. 16271

Tour packages available.
Contact Leo Meyerson, WØGFQ

FEBRUARY MEETING

At our February meeting, two 30-year membership certificates were presented, one to Art Gaeth, WØFQB, and the other to Rollie Fried, WØYMU. Both are charter members of the Club. President Russ also personally presented a 30-year membership certificate to another charter member, Henry Velte, WØABI, who was leaving town in advance of the meeting.

Our program was presented by Wm. Dean Noyes, Coordinator, Omaha-Douglas County Civil Defense. He discussed the various facets of civil defense and explained in detail some of the operation. He brought out particularly that he is only the coordinator, that we and the rest of the people are in reality civil defense. His position as coordinator is that of getting everyone in gear so a person who is hurt or in distress can be helped by those of us who are not. In providing for this emergency, as coordinator his organization must know the whereabouts of all manner of things and have prearranged ways of procuring these things and must have arranged with all concerned the manner of requesting needed items.

The first requirement of putting pre-planning into operation is one of communications. Dean Noyes complimented the amateurs on previous assistance in any emergency there has been and has been particularly impressed with our repeater operation for use under such conditions. He brought out that under stress conditions a community needs as much communication as possible and that all forms of communication are being coordinated so that

regardless of conditions, the message will go through. For example, a community may need doctors, nurses, ambulances, etc., but until communication can take place the doctors, nurses, ambulances, who are ready, willing and waiting won't know where to go.

As the result of his talk, a meeting is being arranged between Noyes and his staff and our Douglas County emergency coordinator, Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, for the purpose of determining a direction for the planning, preparation and training necessary to have coordinated communications possible on an instant notice basis. As the planning on this goes, we hope to have further information in Ham Hum. Information will be disseminated at Club meetings and information can be obtained by checking into the AREC Net on the 34-94 repeater Tuesday evening at 8:00 P.M. local time. If you do not wish to check in, at least monitor to keep aware of progress of AREC activities.

Our thanks to Dean Noyes for coming to our meeting to give us the story of civil defense.

After the meeting the 80 or so in attendance enjoyed refreshments and eyeball QSOs.

WANTED

2 meter converter capable of 21.5 MHz output. Prefer solid state or nuvistor.

R. M. Simonsen, WØCHV
2020 North 58th Street
Lincoln, Ne. 68505
Phone: (402) 466-7268

ANTENNA RESTRICTIONS

Last month we reported the antenna restrictions problems in Prince Georges County. This month Anne Arundel County amateurs are battling city hall on a comparatively new ordinance which appears to deny any amateur radio towers in residential areas.

The ordinance which was adopted 1 June, 1972 — reportedly without any hearings — says “radio, TV and industrial testing towers” will not be permitted in any residential area, and only in certain industrial areas! Ed Hayden, K3OKL, has been denied a permit to erect a tower in Annapolis on the basis of this ordinance and he has filed an appeal. Ed has been working closely with ARRL and attorney John Hansen, W3DHS, in preparing his case. Hearing date has not been scheduled yet, but it is expected early in November.

The Prince Georges County tower hearing was scheduled for October 24 and will have been heard before this issue of AUTO-CALL is delivered. A great many amateurs have devoted much effort on this case and all indications are that the offending ordinance will be amended to apply only to commercial antennas.

Another possible threat to amateurs appears in FCC Docket 19555 dealing with the National Environmental Policy Act. ARRL is preparing comments as to possible adverse effects on amateurs in the construction of towers and antennas.

These tower and antenna restrictions seem to be cropping up frequently, and it is important that amateurs make an aggressive, well

coordinated attack upon them. “Well coordinated” is the key word, however. ARRL has a carefully prepared “legal package” citing previous hearings and giving advice on how to approach new problems. Legal counsel Bob Booth is anxious to work with the spokesmen of amateur groups. But, PLEASE, let one person be the contact. Bob simply cannot go over the same material with umpteen different individuals who want to take an interest in each case.

Another bit of advice has been given about “over kill.” One or two good strong speakers at a hearing can accomplish much more than a dozen different speakers either repeating each other or going off on different tangents. Much as you may want to get into the act, select a leader and coordinate everything through him.

K4LMB Editorial
de AUTO-CALL

FOR SALE

BC-22 frequency meter W/AC supply.
Excellent condx. Average error is 10
p.p.m.

KØJFN

WANTED

304 TL's in gud condx.

Tom Bracket, KØJFN
1820 East 3rd St.
Fremont, Ne. 68025

Many thanks—enjoy your Ham Hum
being sent to our Pioneer Radio Club
in Fremont.

73,
Tom, KØJFN

(Ed. Note: You're right - there was a mixup and we did not know you left the Air Force and Omaha, so sorry about the statement for dues. Happy to change your address so you'll continue to receive Ham Hum in Michigan.)

NEW MEMBERS ADDITIONS TO ROSTER

Ronald L. O'Brien, WAØSCM
12273 Bel Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68144
Phone: 334-0533

Steve Sheeran
220 - 10th Avenue
Council Bluffs, Iowa 51501
Phone: 322-1127

ADVERTISING RATE SCHEDULE FOR HAM HUM

	<u>Per Issue</u>
Full page	\$15.00
One-half page	8.00
One-fourth page	4.50
One-eighth page	2.50
One-twelfth page	2.00

Specials

Front (three-fourths page)	20.00
Inside front cover	18.00
Inside back cover	17.00
Center spread	32.00

Above prices are for camera ready copy.

Ham ads free, subject to space limitation.

1973 COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Repeater Committee
Civil Defense Committee
Community Relations Committee
Public Relations Committee
Inter-Government Relations Committee
Publications Committee

Technical Committee

Membership Committee

Activities Committee (Field Day)

Refreshment Committee

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Dick L. Eilers, WØYZV
Dick L. Eilers, WØYZV
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Alvin (Al) Comisar, WAØSTK
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Delbert (Del) G. Gibson, KØUIV
James E. Garr, WBØCLU
Marion (Mike) Wilczynski, WAØBMV

NEWS NOTES

Ann Arbor, Mich.
January 31, 1973

Dear OM,

Help! A week ago I got the enclosed statement. I don't want to be an active member any more. I left the Air Force and Omaha on December 7, and sent you a letter resigning from the club on Dec. 20. Apparently there has been some mixup.

In my other letter I put in a buck and asked you to send the club bulletin as long as that would pay for costs. Please send it to me at home, 1421 Howard St., Port Huron, Mich. 48060.

Since coming back to Michigan I have gotten back into the University of Michigan (as a sophomore EE major) and gotten used to 2 meter FM in these parts. It isn't nearly as nice as in Nebraska. In Port Huron we use the 34-94 repeater in Sarnia, Ontario, which is a really nice machine. It has a range for mobiles of about 20 miles, and one or two people take care of it as a personal project. There probably aren't two dozen regular users.

Here in Ann Arbor we have WB8CSC, a split-site 37-97 machine. It is right now in the process of moving, but when it gets back on the air it should have a range in this flat country about equal to WØEQU. The local repeater club has at most 30 active members, and with a leased telephone line dues are more than double Ak-Sar-Ben's. The local CD net meets on 46 direct (!) and then moves to the repeater, and is neither as strong or as active as Omaha's net.

In the other cities in the southern Lower Peninsula there is pretty good repeater coverage. If you ever travel from Chicago to Detroit, you can work through machines in Indiana, Benton Harbor, Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, Jackson and Ann Arbor. Some of the smaller machines in the state are strictly 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. operations because of lack of control stations.

Detroit is in sad shape as far as FM goes. The "closed" repeater is parked on 16-76, while the "open" machine is on the less common frequency pair 04-64. I use quotes in describing them because both repeaters require 100 Hz PL (continuous subaudible tone) for access. The net effect is that the two Detroit repeaters are neither extremely strong (as in Chicago or even Omaha) nor especially helpful to transients. WØEQU, despite its crummy audio, looks like a better and better operation all the time.

One thing left to tell you about. If you're ever in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on a weekday, check out the Collins Radio surplus store. It's located at the Collins factory complex, and is strictly a 9-5 weekday operation. They offer odds and ends like teflon-covered wire for 50¢ per 100 ft., miscellaneous components at a buck a pound, boards with 3 and 4 dozen digital ics for \$1 and Eimac and RCA vhf power tubes for *the recovery value of the silver and gold plating* on them. The guys on the Cedar Rapids repeater were very helpful in directing me there. Be sure to look everywhere in the store for a bargain for everything you can.

I hope to QSO some of you in not too long on 40 or 6 meters. 'Til then,
Vy 73,

Wes Plouff, WA8CBN

FCC ACTIVITY

By Bill Grenfell — W4GF

On August 4, 1972, the Federal Communications Commission released a warning Public Notice No. 87468 to amateurs about improper use of their stations in handling "commercial" traffic, usually involving a phone-patch (on high frequency bands) or an auto-patch (on VHF). It said, "... that such operation may seriously jeopardize the evolutionary development of the Amateur Service... as a 'voluntary non-commercial communication service.'" (Section 97.1). Sections 97.3 (b), (f), 97.39 and 97.111 are also applicable.

Probably the limits of Section 97.111, titled "No remuneration for use of station," are the most comprehensive: "An amateur station shall not be used to transmit or receive messages for hire, nor for communication for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised." It should be plain that neither the licensed operator of the station nor the station licensee, if different, can use or permit a station to be used for such remuneration, hire or compensation for their own benefit. Nor can they use or permit the station to be so used for the benefit of any other individual or group, amateur or non-amateur.

If anyone has some doubts about the key words "remuneration," "hire," "material compensation," "pecuniary interest," etc., etc., a little session with the dictionary will be helpful. It should be obvious that a cash sale or a trade without cash is included. One FCC lawyer advised that even though you may actually lose on

a deal, that does not mean you are thereby exempt from violation of the rule (97.111). Of course a manufacturer or dealer in communications equipment or parts or in any other kind of goods should not solicit a sale or consummate a sale via his amateur station. Nor should an employee use his station for any communication regarding his employer's business. Unfortunately some amateurs find amateur facilities so handy that they stupidly engage in frequent communications which are pretty obviously prohibited. Besides endangering their own status, they may cause a very strict interpretation and application of existing rules or even encourage rule making leading to much tighter restrictions on amateur communications.

It is obvious that the Commission's staff has had cause for concern and has given the Notice in the hope that all concerned will take heed, examine their practices and mend their ways. With the use of good sense and a "when in doubt, don't" attitude, there should be so few violations as to make the need for Notices of the August 4th type unnecessary.

When considering this subject, most amateurs can think of many examples of communications between amateurs involving the trading and selling of equipments and parts on a sporadic basis. Some Commission correspondence has indicated that it did not consider that it was the intent to prohibit occasional transactions if neither party was making business of it. Rather than try to present examples of possible permissible communications, I will describe a few which have been going on and which are pretty plainly contrary to the

letter or the intent of the rules! 1) A doctor calls his office via a 2 meter auto-patch and asks if any emergency calls have come in. Even though an emergency might excuse a rule violation, this is obviously a subterfuge and the office then takes the opportunity to list all of the calls received while the doctor has been away. Other mobile radio communications services are available to doctors so that the only reason for trying to use the amateur service is to get it for free rather than paying the costs involved in using the other radio services. 2) An amateur whose work calls for his doing a lot of driving and calling on customers in an area covered by a repeater, develops procedures and some apparently innocent key words, phrases and sentences, which, when exchanged with a person at his employer's office, actually constitute conduct of business communications. This also violates the codes and ciphers prohibition of rule Section 97.117. Again, other, but much more expensive, radio services are available. Several other examples could be given but these should be sufficient to indicate the type of practices at which the FCC's Notice is aimed.

In conclusion, amateurs should take care to avoid business/commercial communications and to raise the question with others apparently out of line with the rules. If there are instances where improper practices persist, or there is a sincere difference of opinion on whether a practice is violative or not, the best bet is to make an informal telephone call to the nearest FCC Field Office for an interpretation. - Gf - de Auto-Call

MEMBER NEWS

Charles Michel, KØQVL, has been in Archbishop Bergan Mercy Hospital since January 5th as the result of his accident at Pamida. As of this writing (2-14-1973) he has been out of intensive care for about a week.

He can now have visitors in the afternoon only. Call before going and perhaps by the time you read this he might like to have visitors in the evening too.

Charlie enjoyed reading all the names on the card you signed at the meeting and I am sure he would enjoy receiving cards from all Club members. He is in Room 353.

Russ Minks, WAØVEE

Dear Dick:

We are including some chicken feed to help in Ham Hum work. We are moving to Conway, Arkansas, and would appreciate receiving Ham Hum.

Our new address is: Henry E. Velte, 1423 Garvin Street, Conway, Arkansas 72032.

Have enjoyed the Club from date of being a charter member. We will operate WØABI-5 until we get our new call.

73s to Gang,

Henry E. Velte, WØABI

(Ed. Note: Thanks, Henry, for your membership in and service to the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club since 1944-30 years - and best of luck in Arkansas.)

READERS' COMMENTS

As a subscriber to AUTO-CALL, I take great interest in the Editorial Column. I feel that is a valuable source of information and possibly even guidance for amateurs in the area. For this reason I would like to make a few comments on last month's "Guest Editorial."

It is unfortunate that a fellow amateur is at such a loss for meaningful comments that he compares "our" hobby with an uncontrolled flow of refuse. I have never heard anything on 2-Meter FM that remotely resembled "garbage," have you?

Is this man serious? Does he dislike what he hears so much that he really believes that 2-Meter operators are capable of nothing more than "meaningless prattle?"

The ridiculous example of a phone conversation was obviously intended to repress any tendency toward experimentation with antenna or equipment in 2-Meter ham radio. Or possibly confusion exists as to which service the 2-Meter band falls in — amateur or commercial?

It would be pure speculation on my part, but I believe that 99.9% of all radio amateurs on 2-Meter FM take a great pride in the equipment they operate, and continue to strive for perfection both in antenna structure and operating efficiency. The natural and intended use of the frequencies is to improve and test our equipment so that we maintain operational stations, always ready for local or national service and emergency.

In the past amateur radio had led the way in experimental use of two

way communications. It only seems natural that we should continue to experiment, and what more natural place to experiment than *on the air*.

It is noted with interest that there is a continuous analysis of conversation on 2-Meter FM. This is of no consequence. But the assumption that everyone has to be talking in highly technical terms to be performing legitimate tests is unfounded. This line of thinking is suppressant and defeats the very principles that ham radio represents.

I don't know whether the feelings expressed last month echo the feelings of the group or not, but I don't really think so.

Bob Rae — WB4WRH
de Auto Call

READING THE MAIL

John R. Griggs (W6KW) has been reelected Director of the Southwestern Division of the ARRL. Gary A. Stilwell (W6NJU) has been elected Vice Director of the Southwestern Division of the ARRL.

Want information on car batteries? If so, send 40¢ to Consumer Product Information Washington, D. C. 20407 with your request for a copy of "Auto Batteries."

It appears obvious that the FCC plans to go thru with the establishment of Class E CB operation on the 220-222 Mhz band. Hams may not have worked up enough to write objecting letters by the time the change has been made and that portion of the ham spectrum is lost. Too bad the letters won't be written until it's too late for

them to help prevent this tragedy. Those who are too lazy to fight to retain what they have deserve to lose it.

Earl Burdick (WA6BDN) had the following warning attached to the envelope he sent from Lake Arrowhead: WARNING. Use care when opening. Smogless, pine-scented mountain air enclosed - extremely intoxicating. We were very careful, Earl, because that's almost as dangerous as a mail bomb!

Estela Maria Azar, an 18-year-old Senorita from Mendoza, Argentina is recovering from a case of botulism which killed her 12-year-old sister when they ate a tainted can of beans. Argentine hams contacted American hams who reached Mount Sinai Hospital in New York and they sent the required anti-toxin.

de LERC Bulletin
Burbank, Ca.

FOR SALE

2 meter 5/8 wave Hy-Gain No. 263 no hole trunk lip mount - 3db gain - \$13.00.

J. R. Belt, WAØJIH
Phone: 397-5720

WANTED

AR22 or other light duty antenna rotor.

Royal Enders, KØLYO
Phone: 571-0680

A GOOD GROUND?

Hi: For those who have difficulty getting a good ground. An old-timer who had maintenance experience with single wire telephone lines through the sandhills told me that salt was too corrosive, gave other troubles, but they found by digging as deep a hole as possible, or practicable, and filling it with charcoal, they established a good ground that lasted for many years. The charcoal held moisture better for the ground than anything else they could find.

73,
Dayton L. Phifer, WØVEA
East Tryon Route
North Platte, Ne. 69101

FOR SALE

Drake 2C receiver - mint condition, one owner, low QSO special, operated only on Sunday afternoons by 80-year old lid. See it and bid at the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club annual auction.

WBØGAJ

FOR SALE

KWM2-A with round emblem, 8 months old - 516F.2 supply. All for \$750.00.

Dr. Coy Byrd
Rt. 5, Box 101, Dial St.
Kannapolis, N. C. 28081
Phone: (704) 857-9507



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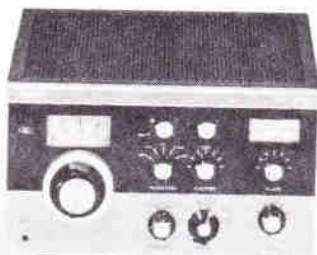
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