



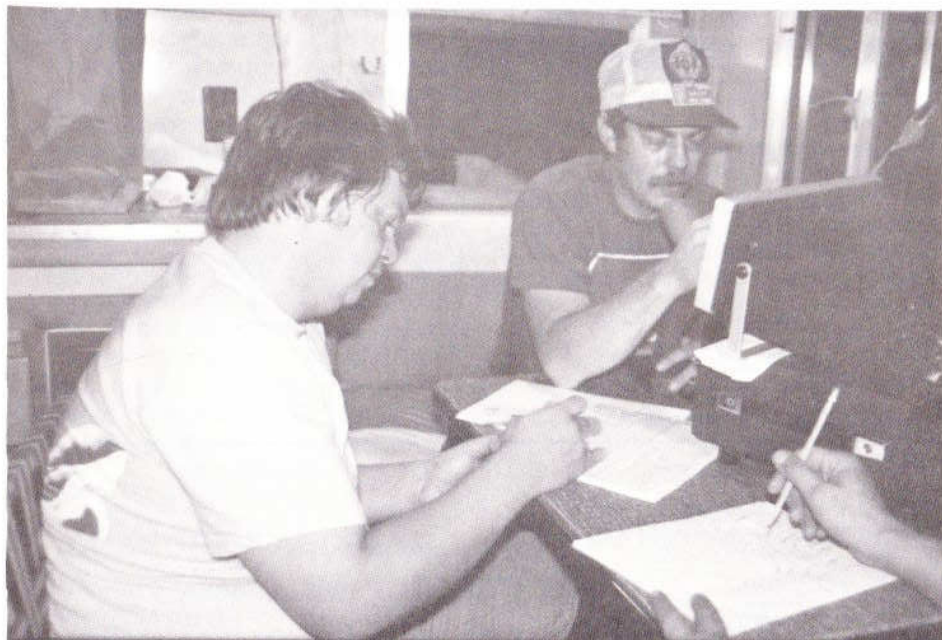
HAM HUM

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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Vol. XXXIII
No. 4

April 1983



*SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!
WATCH FOR FIELD DAY 1983*

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.

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(Due and Payable each January 1.)

- New member initiation fee \$1.00
- Regular member \$10.00
- Regular member and spouse . . \$12.00
- Student member \$4.00

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Copy Deadline for May is April 22.

Dues-Quarterly Basis (For each quarter or part thereof for balance of calendar year.)

- New member initiation fee \$1.00
- Regular member \$3.00
- Regular member and spouse . . \$3.60
- Student member \$1.05

NEXT MEETING

WHEN: Friday, April 8, 1983

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

WHERE: Heartland Chapter
American Red Cross
38th and Dewey Avenue
Omaha, NE 68105

PROGRAM: "Antenna Tuning Techniques for Your Handi Talkie"

John Nihart, KA0OKI
Ron Sundsboe, WA0MQM

PREZ SEZ

Isn't spring nice? All of that beautiful snow sticking to antennas and feedlines. Take heart — warm weather is just around the corner. And so is the Midwest convention in Sioux City.

The Club Auction is taking shape pretty well, although Chairman Jim Sanford has had to contend with several next to last minute adjustments in his plans. It's time to start cleaning out your junk boxes and dusting off all that gear that you want to get rid of. I usually start by getting out the things that I bought at last year's auction and all the flea markets I visited during the year.

Be sure and make it to the April meeting, as Dave Hamilton and Fred Genovesi have some news to talk about concerning a special summer program. Frank Bruner and group will also be talking about Field Day 1983.

See you there.

de N0ANQ

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

William J. Abbott N0ZX
241 S. 111th St.
Omaha, NE 68154

PFC Scot E. Thompson
508-92-4066
1 — 17th Cavalry
Fort Bragg, NC 28307

John McNaught KC0FM
Debra McNaught KA0HEO
Route 1, Box 56
Ivo, NE 68304
402-781-2965

John Lapsley WA0TIF
Apt. 20, Greenbriar
Council Bluffs, IA 51501

NEW MEMBERS

Clifford Williams W0ZQT
13607 S. 129
Omaha, NE 68138
253-2904

Emmet Tinley III N0CSD
30 Horizon Drive
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
323-4855

Ronald L. Smith KA0ONN
817 College Road
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
322-1704

CONTRIBUTIONS

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B. Sedlacek W0GKK
Matthew Beha

34/94

R. Dusatko W0SPL
Byron Anderson W9MEI
Duke Humphrey WD0EWH

40/00

Byron Anderson W9MEI
Duke Humphrey WD0EWH

22/82

R. Dusatko W0SPL

CALL CORRECTION

Roster Alpha Call List
From: WB0TYP
To: WB0TVP Chereck

ADD TO ROSTER

Joseph M. McNulty W0UIX
810 S. 58th
Omaha, NE 68106
553-0116

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
Blue Cross/Blue Shield Building
March 1, 1983

Present were Bill Martin, N0ANQ; Dave Hamilton, N0CLW; Walt Brown, KA0DMB; Ray Fink, WD0GIL; William (Duke) Humphrey, WD0EWH; Dick Fehrman, KA0AAB; Vern Wirka, WB0GQM; Frank Genovesi, KA0KDJ.

Meeting was called to order at 1905 hours.

Treasurer's report was given by KA0AAB.

Moved and seconded that the 1983 Auction budget be approved as presented but that the total amount be reduced by \$40.00 to \$545.00

KA0AAB reported that as of Feb. 28 there were 83 members with dues not paid.

KA0KDJ reported on the 1983 Field Day.

N0CLW reported on upcoming programs for the monthly Club meetings.

Moved and seconded to explore having the July meeting at the Bellevue Queen and then tour the KFAB transmitter site.

WD0EWH reported on possible sale of Club T-shirts, caps and jackets.

N0ANQ reported that bids are being secured for the Club's insurance.

Discussion was had on using the Club call sign W0EQU at the JCC radio station.

The Board directed the Secretary to write a letter to the JCC regarding the use of the Club call sign.

Moved and seconded to publish in the next Ham Hum a set of rules regarding the use of the Club call sign.

Moved and seconded that upon requested use of the Club call sign for special events or emergencies, the President may grant permission to use the Club call sign.

Moved and seconded to allocate a sum of \$150.00 for Special Recognition Awards.

Meeting adjourned at 2019 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Fink, WD0GIL
Secretary

RUSH HOUR RAG CHEWS

The incidence of rush hour rag chewing on autopatch repeaters is increasing. This is also the peak period for autopatch use, both for personal and especially 911 calls. I would like to discourage this chit-chat on 40-00 during approximately 1630 - 1830 local. Other times don't matter. I can't speak for the other autopatch repeaters but common sense should say the same should apply.

TNX — WB0CMC

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
American Red Cross Building
39th & Dewey, Omaha, Nebraska
March 14, 1983

Treasurer Dick Fehrman, KA0AAB, called the meeting to order at 1930 hours and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved and seconded that the reading of the minutes of the General Membership Meeting held February 11, 1983, be waived.

Moved and seconded to accept the following as new members:

Emmet Tinley, N0CSD
Clifford Williams, W0ZGT
Ronald Smith, KA0ONN

William (Duke) Humphrey, WD0EWH, showed the new T-shirts and jackets and asked for comments on colors and prices.

Brian Zdan, WB0AJI, reported on the interference the 34/94 repeater is getting. Reported that progress is being made on locating the source of interference.

Moved and seconded that meeting adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2000 hours.

The annual weather briefing was presented by Jim Sanford, N0AIH, and Mitch Gagne, N0AZF.

Refreshments and eyeballs were enjoyed by all after the program.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Fink, WD0GIL
Secretary

CLUB CALL SIGN ABUSE

It has been brought to the attention of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club Board of Trustees that there has been unauthorized use of the Club call sign.

At this time AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club does not have an official Club station. Any use of the Club call sign W0EQU must be approved by AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club Board of Trustees. The following examples may be used as a guide:

1. Club operating events.
2. Emergency exercises.
3. Disasters.
4. Public service.

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Board of Trustees

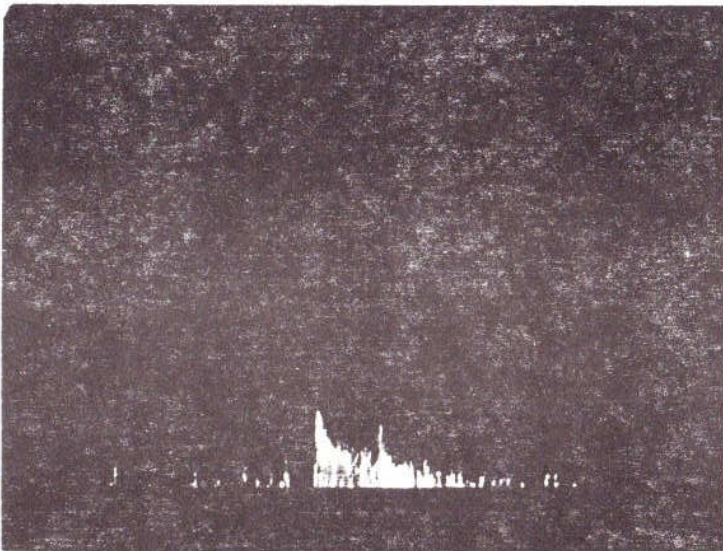
NOISE

Picture #1.

The first picture is the noise that has plagued 34/94. The tallest spike was at 146.293 when this picture was taken. The whole width is 1 Mhz and was a time exposure of about 5 sec (sweep time: .5 sec/cm). It originated from Skyline Manor. The analyzer was hooked up to a DX 120 at 64th and Lake Street, aimed at the Manor. Signal strength is approximately 1.3 MV (measured) in this picture.

The noise drifted up and down the band. The lowest we observed it is 146.20 and the highest 147.32. It seemed to predominate near 146.32 to 146.43. It also occasionally bothered the 40/00 Repeater.

It was directional and not likely to be heard straight East of the Manor or much to the West but North or South, look out!



#1

(Continued on opposite page)

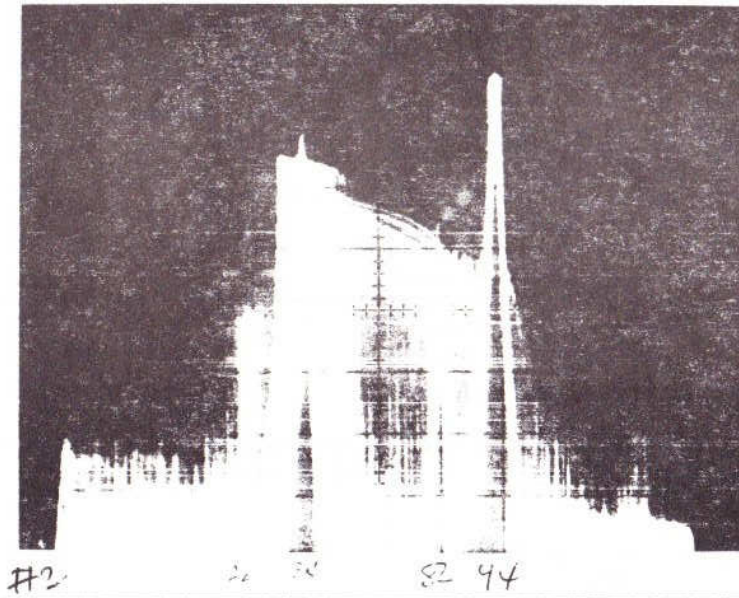
Picture #2.

The second photo was taken in the same building as the noise. The apartment of WØEN. The antenna was a 5/8 vertical with no ground plane. The signals are from left to right: 146.22, the noise spreading up to beyond 146.34 (the 3rd signal) and 146.82, 146.94 at far right. Noise amplitude is about .49 millivolts.

We finally tracked it down on the Ides of March in the next apartment to WØEN. It was a fire detection sensor in the ceiling---part of the building system. A beetle had crawled into the circuitry and caused it to oscillate on 2 M with a power of about 100 milliwatts. The detector has been replaced and the problem is solved.

Many thanks to Tom, KØPQR, for the many hours spent in initially finding the buildings and to Fred, KAØKDJ, for his assistance to me on several occasions including the one when we actually found it. And thanks to Bert, WØEN, for his assistance and letting us set up in his apartment to get some pictures of the six-legged monster.

de WBØCMC



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(K0ZLY)

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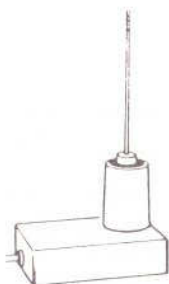
Mike Wilczynski, WBØBMV
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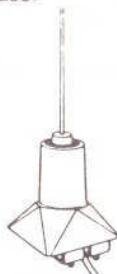
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(402) 341-1529

AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION

MAY 8, 1983

American Legion Post 374
4760 South 135th
Omaha, Nebraska

Check In: 8:00 A.M.

Auction: 9:00 A.M.

MIDWEST ARRL CONVENTION

APRIL 15, 16 & 17, 1983

MARINA INN

SOUTH SIOUX CITY, NEBRASKA

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION...

By Earl Spencer, K4FQU

One of Mother Nature's most awesome and damaging feats of power is the Lightning Strike. She delivers it without warning, striking hard and fast and leaves almost before we know she hit us. She does leave proof that she was here, usually in the form of damage to the house and/or contents. If the contents happen to be in the Ham Shack, it can be very expensive to say the least.

There is very little that can be done to prevent the happening but much that can be done to minimize the damage that results, especially with electronic equipment.

I have heard of more strikes on antennas and ham shacks this year than in all my 30 years here and one chap I know has been hit for the third time. There is not much that can be done to prevent a strike on your antennas because they are usually the highest structure in the area and are usually grounded via the supporting tower which makes them quite attractive to lightning.

There is much that can be done inside the shack to minimize and eliminate any damage and this should become a part of your operating habit; annoying, perhaps, but wise, indeed.

Disconnect all antennas from any equipment and let the leads hang loose, preferably as far away from any metal or gear as possible. Do not

(Continued on page 11)

HAM HUM SWAP

NO CHARGE FOR ADS (NON-COMMERCIAL) SUBJECT TO SPACE LIMITATION. MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO P.O. BOX 291. SEE COPY DEADLINE PAGE 2.

FOR SALE: 1 Kenwood R-1000 Matching Speaker and DC Cord. A-1 shape, \$325.
1 Swan 700 CX and A/C Power Supply new finals. \$375.
Ron Smith, KA0ONN, 322-1704.

(Continued from page 10)

ground an antenna lead!! Disconnecting them at the base of the tower is the best way to keep the lightning outside of the house. This method is not always practical and could be inconvenient if it is pouring down rain.

Disconnect all power lines from any source of AC. Lightning can strike a block away and still get into your shack via power lines. Remember with today's solid state rigs it does not take much to destroy something — especially computers. The easiest way to do this is to use multi-plug strips so you only have one or two plugs to pull to disconnect everything. Keep in mind the power load on a circuit when you use this method. For those of you that have rigs which have memory backup, use a battery with a trickle charger on the battery. Don't forget miscellaneous equipment such as the telephone, TV monitors, organs, etc. Most people don't bother with this type of gear but I know of two garage door openers that "went west" in the past month.

I am currently working on a couple pieces of interface equipment to do all this very quickly and easily and perhaps in the future will pass along the method used.

Remember that these precautions will save your gear as well as possibly your shack or home or life and is well worth thinking about before the next thunderstorms arrive. An ounce of prevention is worth a truckload of gear.

de Florida Skip

Sometimes the only way to get from here to there is to take the giant step. As David Lloyd George said, "You can't cross a chasm in two small jumps." If you try it, though, you can probably get on "That's Incredible."

de Hughs El Segundo ARC

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