



# HAM HUM

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JUNE 1986



To honor Armed Forces Day 1986, the Ak-Sar-Ben ARC set up a special events station at the Strategic Air Command Museum in Bellevue NE. Unusual? Hardly, except the shack location was the cargo bay of a C-133 Cargo Master aircraft. Seen here (L.Pix) is KDØEV, Mike at the control, with Tinker, KDØYS assisting-(R.Pix) Tinker, KDØYS at the control and Dale NØGFP assisting. 111 stations in 28 states were worked during the event.

## *Handbook Available*

Several thousand copies of the ARRL "Program for the Disabled" Handbook by former ARRL staffer Kitty Hevener, WB8TDA, have been distributed through an arrangement with the Courage HANDI-HAM System. The manager of the Courage HANDI-HAM System, Keith Graham, KØHJC, writes: "The book is a splendid effort, well conceived and executed...we'll be most happy to cooperate in any way we can on future editions." Copies of the handbook are available to disabled persons free from Headquarters.

Tnx Worldradio June 1986/ARRL Letter

## *FCC Notes*

The FCC urges the families of deceased Amateurs to send in their license, or a letter if the license cannot be found, requesting cancellation of the license. The Commission no longer deletes calls of Silent Keys unless its cancellation is specifically requested. Since the term of an amateur license is now 10 years, the family of the deceased Amateur could continue to receive correspondence, which is based on FCC records, for that period. The letter or license should be sent to: FCC, Consumer Affairs Office, Gettysburg PA. 17325.

Tnx World Radio June 1986/ARRL Letter  
3/28/86

**See You at Field Day, June 28-29**





# PREZ SEZ

**HAM HUM** is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members.

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### Dues — Annual Basis

Full Member . . . . . \$10.00  
Spouse . . . . . \$ 2.00  
Student . . . . . \$ 4.00  
Life Memberships Available

I received a very interesting comment the other day. And, the more I think about it, the more convinced I am that the originator is correct. I am speaking of fellowship and congeniality at the club meetings. We generally take the time to introduce new members, visitors and the "old timers", but, that seems to be the extent of it. New members and visitors express their amazement regarding the volume of club activities, and they are genuinely interested in becoming involved. It seems tho that we "old timers" simply don't take the time to break away from our own little groups and make the effort to personally welcome these people. I am guilty of this too. New members and visitors represent the future of our club, and it is very important to make them feel comfortable in their unfamiliar surroundings. I ask everyone to make an effort towards welcoming these very important people. Just walk up to them and say "HI:... They'll take it from there.

Preliminary results indicate Auction '86 was a success. A special thanks to several key people. Frank Ladd W0BPY and Al McMillan W0JJK for providing door prizes; Auctioneer Dave Shively N0GOZ; Frank Vondra W0QQK for furnishing security; and auction co-chairman N5DZZ and N0BTN, along with the entire committee for a job well done.

A tentative date has been set for the Annual River Cruise. Invitations are being extended to all area radio clubs. Details will be announced at the June meeting.

FIELD DAY set up will begin on FRIDAY June 27 at approximately 5:00 pm. Towers and antennas will be set up as well as long wire antennas as long as light permits. If you are planning to work Field Day please try to come out and help with the set-up.

### TRIVIA but not TRIVIAL

- \*\* Contact N0BTN for Field Day assignments
- \*\* It was good to see K0PQR at the auction
- \*\* June is vacation month - please travel safely
- \*\* Watch out TV fans! N5DZZ is on 6 mtr AM
- \*\* Next novice classes start June 16. Details elsewhere in this issue
- \*\* Nice to hear Marv Mahre, W0MGI working our special events station

DE N0AIH

CW NET CW NET CW NET CW NET CW NET

Frequency-----21.125 Mhz  
Time-----ø2øøZ (8PM CST)  
Day-----Thursday  
Net Control---WA9ASD

Check in and join the fun!!!!



# May Mystery Transmitter Hunt

This physical endurance test was engineered by Tim NØGKX. He hid the transmitter in Fairmont Park in Council Bluffs. All of the hunters are now well aware of the topography of that park, which includes, paved areas, flat grassy areas and other easily accessible areas. Features previously unknown to me and the other hunters include: gulleys, muddy spots, slippery inclines (followed by hard places to land), RF absorbing obstacles and trees with strange root formations. I am now intimately familiar with all these features. I also discovered what an insensitive clod I hunt with-but more about that later-back to the starting point.

Tim called the hunters to order at 3:00pm and a good signal was had by all-except the WBØWOT team who were waiting for Brian, KMØY, to arrive. He arrived shortly (or more correctly lately) and the hunters were off to the East at 3:08 in a cloud of smoke, (so my valve-guides leak a little oil into the cylinders-thats no reason to call an air pollution alert).

I saw no other hunters for 45 minutes. By then I was at the bottom of the cliffs on the west side of Fairmont Park, (he could't have hidden the transmitter in the park because John WBØCMC had hidden it there about a year ago-before Tim started transmitter hunting-wrong again!). Of course it was John I saw preceding me up the back streets into the park. For some reason however, I got to the parking area first.

As I abandoned my car, I first discovered that with my portable receiver (remember the insensitive clod?) I could not hear the hidden transmitter (now known to be behind RF absorbing obstacles). As I bemoaned the lack of signal, Tim, with uncharacteristic kindness offered me alone, a clue. He may have told other hunters but I don't know for sure. And here's the clue-are you ready for this? "At the end of the road there is a trail that leads South". GOLLY, is that a clue or is that a clue?

So off I went back down the road to the trail-down the trail 200- 300 yards-GOSH, a signal-GOSH there's John near the signal. As I got close to John, Tim called to say that I could tell John the clue in 2 minutes. The clue was given out to hunters at intervals equaling the intervals between their arrival times at the parking lot. I didn't give John the clue. John didn't need the clue! Instead the next time the transmitter came on I swung my beam around and around and said to John, "it's coming from the base of that tree." Now, John claims that he saw the transmitter at the same time I said this, but I'll never know for sure.

At this time I of course ignored my equipment and slid, tumbled and tangled my way down the 10 foot cliff beyond the tree, only to discover that the signal was now-surprise, surprise-behind me. I then clawed my way back up this cliff to discover a strange root formation at the base of a tree consisting of a blue and gray box (nice colors,eh?) sprouting a rubber duck.

Ah, time to head back up to the car; up the hill, up the trail and back up the road (why is there so much UP in this traveling on foot?)

A side benefit of transmitter hunting for me has been the discovery of a new mode of traversing uncleared land - tangling. Whoops my antenna is tangled in that tree - darn my coax is tangled in that bush - Rats! my foot is tangled in those vines.

The official results of the May, 1986 transmitter hunt are as follows:

WBØCMC	1 hr. 35 min.
WA9ASD	1 hr. 39 min.
WBØWOT with KMØY, WBØVGB	To be announced
NØGPD with former friend	Last to give up without finding it

The next hunt will be held Sunday June 15 at 3 pm. Starting point is UNO parking lot X (South side of Dodge St. at 61st St). On 146.52 Simp.

DE WA9ASD



# On Line

By Scott Persson WBOQPP (SYSOP)

Over 450 calls have been received by the Message Center in just over two months of operation! We are anticipating lower usage during the summer months, but plans for more and better features are still moving ahead.

One of the Message Center's features is the ability to store a file sent from your computer (Uploading) or send a file to your computer so you can store it (Downloading). Let's examine each of these two functions more closely.

## UPLOADING:

Let's say you have a file on the disk in your disk drive that you want to send to the Message Center. This is called Uploading because you are sending the file UP to the Message Center. The first thing to do is make sure your communications software has the ability to perform XMODEM file transfer. XMODEM is a method that two computers use to send files back and forth. Read your software instruction manual on how to use the XMODEM Upload feature. Now, call the Message Center (289-4658) and log on. You will have to use your password, read the bulletins and then you will see the Main Menu. Type "U" for Upload and press RETURN. You will be told how much disk space is available in 128 byte sectors (e.g. 100 FREE SECTORS means there are 100x 128 = 128,000 bytes of storage available on the disk). The Message Center will then ask you for a file name. This is the name that you want your Upload file to be called on the Message Center's disk. It can be up to 8 letters or numbers but must start with a letter. Then, you will be asked if you want to use XMODEM transfer? Type "Y" and press ENTER. The message center will tell you that the XMODEM upload is ready. Now follow the instructions on how to use your XMODEM Upload function for the file you want to send. You can abort the Upload at any time by pressing CTRL-X. The Message Center will return you to the Main Menu. When the Upload is complete, you will be told to document the file before you log off. This means that you should leave a Comment To The SYSOP and tell him a little about the file you just Uploaded so he can tell what it is.

There is another method of Uploading that does not require you to use XMODEM. The Non-XMODEM Upload feature of the Message Center is useful if you want to leave a very long message to someone on the system or if you want

to Upload text directly from your keyboard. To use this method, follow the procedures above but simply answer "N" to the XMODEM question. You will be told that two RETURNS will terminate the Upload and then you will get a "!" prompt. Now, just type whatever you want Uploaded directly from your keyboard just like a Comment To The SYSOP or like entering a message in the Message Subsystem. Enter your text line-by-line. When you are done, press RETURN on a blank line. This will terminate the Upload. All you have type d will be saved to the file name you entered above. This is a slow way to upload text but it can come in quite handy at times.

By the way, if you try to see the file you just uploaded by using the "F" File Listing option, you will be surprised to see that it is not there. The Message Center assigns your upload file the highest possible security level when you upload it. That is why you should tell the SYSOP what it is. The SYSOP will look at the file and reassign it a lower security level after he examines it, so if you Upload an article for HAM HUM you can be assured that level 5 is the normal level you should have if you are a ham (Being a club "Y" and press RETURN. The Message Center will tell you that XMODEM Download is ready. Now you should follow the instructions on how to use your XMODEM Download feature. To abort the Download, press CTRL-X at any time. You will be returned to the Main Menu. When the

*Continued...*



Download is complete, you should have want will be sent exactly like you see the bulletins when you log on to the system. Some communications software packages have a "capture" feature that allows you to capture anything that prints on your screen to a file on your disk drive. You can use this feature to "Download" a file without using XMODEM. Turn your capture function on before starting the Download. Everything that you see on your screen will also go to your capture file so you have essentially downloaded the file! Don't forget to turn "capture" off after the download. Look in your software manual for anything about a capture feature for your computer.

Up and Downloading are two of the three most important functions that a system like the Message Center has to offer. Play around with them. You certainly can't hurt your computer and your won't damage the Message Center help you. If I am not there, leave me a Comment To The SYSOP before you log off and tell me what happened so I can try to make things easier to use. Next time, we will take a look at the third most important function the Message Center offers - messages themselves! See you OnLine!

## Coming Attractions

### JUNE

10	R.S.C.B. meeting 7:30 pm	WA0ZQG
10	WIAW Qualifying Run 9pm	QST 5/86 p.89
11	Lincoln ARC meeting 7:30pm	WA0ASM
12	Bellevue ARC meeting 7:30pm	WA9ASD
12	CW net 21.125 Mhz 8:00pm	WA9ASD
13	Ak-Sar-Ben ARC meeting Red Cross 7:30pm	N0AIH
14-15	VHF QSO Party	QST 5/86 p.89
15	Transmitter Hunt UNO Parking Lot X 3:00pm	WA9ASD
19	CW net 21.125 Mhz 8:00pm	WA9ASD
23	WIAW Qualifying Run	QST 5/86 p.89
26	SWIARC Meeting 7:30pm	146.22/82
28-29	FIELD DAY Boys Town	N0BTN

### JULY

1	Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board meeting Red-X 7:00 pm	N0AIH
3	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
8	RSCB Meeting 7:30 pm	WA0ZQG
9	Lincoln ARC meeting 7:30 pm	146.25/85
10	Bellevue ARC meeting 7:30 pm	146.81/21
10	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
11	Ak-Sar-Ben ARC meeting 7:30 pm Red-x Omaha	N0AIH
13	Transmitter Hunt UNO parking lot X 3 pm	WA9ASD
17	CW net 21.125 Mhz 8 pm	WA9ASD
24	SWIARC meeting 7:30 pm	146.22/82
24	CW Net 21.125 Mhz 8 pm	WA9ASD

### Membership Updates

Raymond (Joe) LaBenne  
4009 Hunters Cove  
Omaha, NE. 68123  
291-3711

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xyl of WB0QPP  
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289-5426

Mark M Wiseman  
503 Chateau Dr. #4  
Bellevue, NE. 68005  
291-7842



# Repeater Talk

I was asked some time ago to write a note on what is or is not business communications as it applies to ham radio. Perhaps the best way is to simply state the rule and use a couple of examples.

97.3 Definition (bb): Business communications. Any transmission or communication the purpose of which is to facilitate the business or commercial affairs of any party.

97.110 Business communications prohibited. The transmission of business communications by an amateur radio station is prohibited except for emergency communications. (see 97.3 (w)).

97.114 (b)3 Limitations on third party traffic. (it is prohibited) Except for emergency communications defined in this part, third party traffic consisting of business communications on behalf of any party.

Thus, it is quite clear that one cannot use ham radio to call for reservations anywhere, make a doctor's appointment or order a pizza etc. Also, within the definition above, a call to such as 911 is a business communication since it is the normal business activity of the city services used at this number but it is also an emergency communication (or one would not call 911) and is therefore permissible. Any call to 911, the Sheriff, and ambulance service or other organization whose normal business activity is involved with the general safety of life and/or property is quite permissible. This includes calling a tow truck especially if it is to move or remove a vehicle from a road where it is a potential hazard. One should not discuss the price via the radio, however.

One can also call his wife to see if anything needs to be picked up at the store on the way home. Since the business involved is with the store and the store is not taking part in the communication, it's legal. Hams can swap equipment on the air. Since neither of them is normally in the business of buying or selling it, this is a permissible communication. Money can be discussed as well but out of consideration to those fellow hams who find this objectionable it might be best to do it over the phone.

The original request for this article was in connection with providing information to the National Weather Service. If the NWS calls or has an official weather watch in effect, they are in effect saying that there is a potential for damage to life and/or property (including the public trust in the sirens that may or may not be sounded based on ham information). The help ham radio gives here is well within the letter and spirit of the emergency clause and is not only permitted but desired.

It should be noted also, that business use of ham radio refers only to communications and transmissions over the air and in no way mentions the manufacture, construction, repair or sale of amateur equipment or off air services for profit, pay or other remuneration. Some time ago a couple of hams caused quite a bit of trouble because they thought building ham equipment for pay was illegal and I think one of them still believes it.

In summary, it has been said many times before and will doubtlessly be repeated many more, common sense is the watch word for grey areas. If you think it's too much like business to use the radio, then don't. Wait til you get to a phone or do it in person. Remember that by the international definition, communications via ham radio are suppose to be of such an unimportant nature that recourse to tariffed systems would not be used.

DE WB0CMC

**HELP WANTED:** The Lincoln Amateur Radio Club is looking for volunteer hams who can provide communications for the Cornhusker State Games to be held on July 18,19,20. Handhelds are a must. If you can provide a few hours (or a day or the weekend) of help please contact the Lincoln ARC via the 146.25/85 machine, or the 146.16/76 machine. If you cannot hit the repeaters than call Paul WD0HRG at 331-8508 for info.

## NEXT PROGRAM

VHF & UHF DXing Techniques  
Presented By:  
The Lincoln Communications  
Society



# THE WANT ADS

FOR SALE: 40 meter Hy-Gain monobander. Complete with balun and hardware. \$50.00

Call Jim NØAIH 571-2704 or .94 repeater

FOR SALE: YAESU FT-202R 2 meter handheld. 3 crystals: 34/94 - 16/76 - 52 simplex. Includes drop in charger. Best offer.

Call Kevin Beam NØEAK 895-2880 4 - 8 pm

FOR SALE: GLR-520 TVRO satellite receiver with downconverter. 6 MTR. homebrew Amp. Best offer.

Call Frank WAØIWF 731-3072 or leave message on club BBS-289-4658

THE NEXT NOVICE CLASS WILL BEGIN ON JUNE 16 AT THE J.C.C. BUILDING LOCATED AT 333 SO. 132 ST. OMAHA NE. CLASSES WILL START AT 7 pm. FOR FURTHER INFO CALL BILL WA9ASD 571-8516

Next Meeting June 13 — Red Cross, 7:30 p.m.  
Deadline for July Ham Hum . . . June 20



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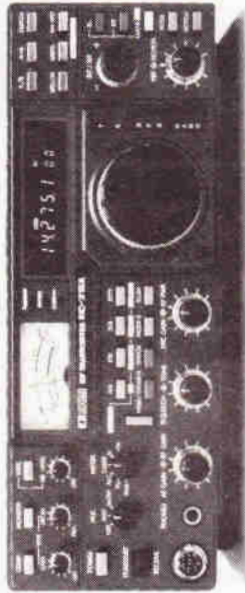
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