



HAM HUM

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AK-SAR-BEN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
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ATV In Omaha

I have had a couple of people ask me what codes were needed to access the ATV repeater. The answer is none. The codes are only used for special functions. To use the system as a repeater one need only to send video to it and it will repeat what it sees and hears. You must have a horizontal frequency fairly close to 15,750 Hz for the repeater to lock on to, since this is what tells the transmitter to lock on. The horizontal sync is in effect the "PL" for the repeater, hence, no timer is required. All of the special functions have timers on them, but the repeater does not. It doesn't have a nuisance beep either. So, all you need than, is a camera, transceiver, antenna, coax, a TV set, and maybe a VCR and your on the air on ATV. The most costly is a color camera if you want color, but B/W cameras of fairly good quality can be purchased for around \$75-100. The transmitter is the second most costly item and it depends on how far from the repeater you are and how much power you require. I live 2.1 airline miles from the repeater and two watts on a unity gain antenna at 20 feet above the ground is more than sufficient for a P5 picture. A 10 watt transmitter and a 27 element beam strapped to a stop sign south of Elk City, about 12 air miles away produced close to a P5 picture. So you see it doesn't take a lot of equipment to get started and it's loads of fun.

I have looked at two of the commercially available transceivers on the market and here are the results of a side by side comparison:

(Continued on Page 6.)

Membership Updates

NEW MEMBERS

Linda J. Welch
xyl of Bill WBØVGR
3505 Hamilton
Omaha, NE. 68131



Donald E. Osterhaus
KBØFR
Route 4, Box 3
Council Bluffs IA.
322-8544

Earnest A. Bowerman
KAØWFF
9181 Boyd
Omaha, NE. 68134

UPGRADES

Michelle A. Tourek KAØVYO to General
Allan L. Clark NØHFI to General

NEBRASKA CITY FLEA MARKET
OCTOBER 5, 1986

513 Central Avenue Novak Bldg.
(across from new post office)
Check-in 9 am
Talk-in 146.73
Bring your own tables
Contact John or Barb Nihart
1-464-5037

Area Hospitals Need Hams

On Thursday Oct. 9 a simulated emergency test involving all area hospitals will be held in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. This test will mark the first time that AMATEUR RADIO has been asked to participate. 22 HAMS will be needed. The test will start at approximately 12 noon and go until 4 pm. Assignments will range from covering Omaha and Council Bluffs hospital emergency room entrances, manning area emergency operations centers, to providing communications at Epply Air Field. Amateurs in Omaha/Council Bluffs are urged to volunteer for this very important test. All interested hams should direct their queries to Walt Brown, KAØDMB at 451-1072. Listen to the ARES Sunday evening nets on 146.34/94 for more details.



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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All articles or inquiries should be address to:

Editor, **HAM HUM**
4026 Nebraska Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68111

President:
Jim Sanford, N0AIH
Phone: 571-2704

Editor:
Mitch Gagne, N0AZF
Phone: 633-5040

Assistant Editor:
Dave Hamilton, N0CLW
Phone: 493-1390

Circulation Manager:
Bob Sanford, N0GFH
Phone: 571-2704

Dues — Annual Basis

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

Club member Dave Benton, W2WSE will be in Bermuda November 1-15, and in Montserrat from January 5 to April 4. Dave will be operating on all HF bands as W2WSE/VP9 while in Bermuda, and as VP2MDP while in Montserrat. He will be listening for fellow club members.

Dave also sent the Club a tape recording of a speech presented to the 1985 gathering of The Society of Wireless Pioneers, held in Colts Neck NJ. The guest speaker was the daughter of Guiliemo Marconi. Mrs Joya Baraga speaks about her father, and his contributions to wireless pioneering. A narrative by Pat Moran W2EM, describes Marconi's early experiments, and the wireless station built at Southwelfly on Cape Cod. I hope to present this most interesting tape at the September club meeting.

Your copy of the 1986 club roster is enclosed. Corrections or additions should be addressed to Ellen WBOHWF.

The Chairman of the Publications Committee has advised the Board that he will resign his position after the January 1987 issue of **HAM HUM** is mailed. This means that we have less than five months to find a replacement, and familiarize him or her with the ins and outs of **HAM HUM**. If you are interested in an exciting career as **HAM HUM** editor, please contact me right away.

The nominating committee for 1987 trustees will meet in October. Members wishing to have a member considered for nomination by the committee, should write a letter of nomination. The letter should include a brief statement of qualifications, and must be received prior to October 11. Send your nomination to me, at my home address.

DE N0AIH

Minutes of the Meeting

August General Membership Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by president Jim Sanford NOAIH. The pledge of allegiance was followed by introductions around the room. Among those attending were three Lincoln hams and one non-ham visitor from Paris, France.

Three new members were approved unanimously. Congratulations to Don Osterhaus KBOFR, Ernie Bowerman KAOWEF and Linda Welch (XYL of Bill).

John Gebuhr WBOCMC gave the Repeater Committee report. Several real unlicensed "foxes" in the general area have been interfering with repeater operations on several machines. If you hear someone who is obviously unlicensed:

1. DON'T encourage the person by talking to him or even recognizing his presence. This will only encourage him to continue since he thinks he is having an effect on someone.
2. DON'T mention that you have a fix on him or give him the impression that someone is looking for him because the DF team probably is!
3. DO remember that he may have a scanner and going to another frequency to talk about him might make him follow you there.

Jim NOAIH then presented John with a commemorative plaque recognizing John's superior ability in electronics and his long standing dedication to serving the repeaters in the area. Congratulations and thanks were given to John in a well deserved round of applause.

Jim Peterson WBOQGV gave the Special Events Committee report. The August 29th River Boat Ride will cost \$7.50 per person and all should be there by 7:00pm. Telephone soliciting for the Emmy Gifford Children's Theater will take place on August 25, 27 and 28. Operators are needed for the Offutt Air Force Base Open House. Interested operators should contact Sid Reade.

Club hats are still available from Duke Humphrey WDOEWH. Shirts are also available, but Duke needs six orders before he can get the shirts.

Bill True WA9ASD gave the Education Committee report. The Novice class is now in session and all are doing very well. The date of the next exam is not known at this time, but plans are for mid September.

Bill also reported that the next transmitter hunt will be held on 146.52 simplex on Sunday, August 17 at 3:00pm starting at the lot east of the old lot "X" which no longer exists.

There was a break for coffee and doughnuts at 8:15pm followed by a tour of News Star 6, WOVT-TV's mobile satellite truck.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Persson WBOQPP

On Line

By Scott Persson WBOQPP

Last month we looked at text files and how you can use them to contribute to the system. I would like to stress the point that if you are still having problems understanding any aspect of the system, please call me at home and I will work with you. You can only enjoy the features of any system when you understand how to use it.

FUTURE HISTORY

Looking back from several years in the future is not always an easy thing to do, especially when we are here in the present. Technology is racing ahead and it sometimes feels like the little guys get left in the dust. Will that 300 baud modem be of any use to you in two years? How about that fancy new QuadFet Turbo Enhanced XL-1000 Plus computer you just bought? You know, the one that makes a Cray look like a TI calculator and it even came with a Ginsu II and a lifetime subscription to Septic Tank Gazette?

It is safe to say that the equipment used for today's communications will still be around for years to come. Sure, the big boys may be using 92 MegaBaud, but we amateurs still have teletype gear around don't we? It must be remembered that it is not the type or "newness" of the equipment that counts, rather it is how the equipment you have is used.

"Will our system go to 300/1200 baud?" is a question that I frequently hear and one that I have considered many times. The 1200 baud modems are now priced in the range that the 300 baud boxes were a few years ago. It seems reasonable that our system should have that capability. It certainly would be nice for saving time while up and downloading.

"What about more disk space?" Currently, the system is running on one of my Atari 800 computers with 64K RAM and one disk drive with 88K available on its single sided, single density drive. You see, we put the system up with a minimum of expense, just the telephone line and BBS software cost, the computer equipment is mine. It is quite possible that the Digital Communications Committee of the club recommend that we purchase an IBM or compatible computer system with a hard drive and much more RAM for the system. It is also possible that I may purchase a 1 Meg RAM board and an extra drive or two for the Atari gear. I would like to know what you think.

"What about those #%&!*? line feeds?" Boy do I regret this one folks. There is a problem in one of the assembly language command files that the system uses. As you know, you can tell the system that you want line feeds until you are blue in the face and it will just laugh at you and continue to send carriage returns only. All I can say is that I am still working with the company on it and I sure hope I can correct it before Halley's comet returns.

"What happened to the packet radio plans?" Frank Wolczak WA0IWF talked to the friendly folks who wrote RBBS, a very good BBS system, and they said that interfacing packet radio to a dial-up BBS system was not a new idea. Shucks. They are working on modifying their program to do the job but it looks like about 9 months before a beta test version would be released.

RBBS runs on IBM and compatible equipment so there is a case for switching computers (but remember the cost).

THE HISTORIC FUTURE

In summary, there are plans, possibilities, premonitions and prayers for the following:

1. Fixing the #\$\$@!*? line feed problem.
2. Upgrading the present system to 1 Meg RAM and adding one or more disk drives.
3. Purchasing an IBM or compatible to run RBBS.
4. Interfacing packet radio with the dial-up system (RBBS).
5. Upgrading the present system to 300/1200 baud.

What happens really depends on use of the system. It is very hard to justify the purchase of a new computer to the club when the use of the present system is not slightly below capacity level. It is even harder to sell the idea of ANY purchase of computer gear for ANY reason to my wife! In other words, the more use there is, the better things will be in the future.

BUT FOR THE PRESENT...

Just for now though, I have heard tell that some users are disgruntled by the fact that there are not a lot of programs and "interesting" things available on the system for downloading. As I have mentioned in the system bulletins, I have quite a few Atari programs but there are only a few Atari users on the board so not many people will benefit from them. I hate to be blunt, but if you want something available on the system, either upload something yourself or leave a message in the message system about what you want to see uploaded. Sitting on your duff is not going to produce results. Get up and scream "I'm mad as...." Oh, I guess that idea is already taken. Rats.

But seriously, tell me what you want our system to be. What do YOU see for its future? What do YOU want to get out of it? How do YOU think we can accomplish it?

AND JUST FOR NOW...

By the way, I would like to thank all of you who expressed sympathy for my wife while she was in the hospital. She and I both appreciate your best wishes.

Next month, I really don't know what's in store for this column. I'll leave it up to you. What do you want me to talk about? (Assuming you want me to talk at all!) Drop me a line on the system or call me at home so until next month, see you OnLine!

Next Meeting . . . September 12 . . . / . . . Red Cross, 7:30 p.m.
Deadline October Ham Hum . . . September 19

Coming Attractions

SEPTEMBER

9	Radio Society of Council Bluffs meets 7:30 pm	WAØZQG
10	Lincoln ARC meets 7:30 pm	146.25/85
11	Bellvue ARC meets 7:30 pm	147.81/21
11	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
12	Ak-Sar-Ben ARC meets 7:30 pm Red-X Omaha	NØAIH
13-14	European phone contest	CQ 8/86 p52
14	Transmitter hunt 3pm UNO parking lot X 146.52	WA9ASD
18	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
20-21	CRRL Can-Am contest	CQ 8/86 p52
20-21	Scandinavian CW Activity	CQ 8/86 p52
25	Southwest Iowa ARC Meets 7:30 pm Red-X Co. Bluffs	146.22/82
25	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
26	Pioneer ARC Meets 7:30 pm Library, Fremont	KCØLG
27-28	Scandinavian SSB Activity	CQ 8/86 p52
OCTOBER		
2	CW net 21.125 Mhz. 8 pm	WA9ASD
4-5	IRSA World Championship	CQ 8/86 p52
4-5	VK/ZL/Oceana SSB Contest	CQ 8/86 p52
7	Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Board Meeting 7 pm Red-X Omaha	NØAIH

ATV (continued)

	P.C. Electronics	Wymen Research
Type	TC-1 Plus	WR-450
Power Out	10 watts	2 watts
Rx sens. (ch 2-5)	.5 microvolts (P1)	.4 microvolts (p1)
Sub car. AF	4.5 Mhz temp. comp. IC osc.	4.5 Mhz temp. comp. IC osc
On car. AF	No	Yes
Video mod.	2 stage @1 watt level	2 stage @2 watt level
Power source	115 a/c 12 volts DC	115 VAC w/mod 12 VDC
Sound/sync IMD	Some noted	some noted
Sound/pix car.	18-20db	30 db (It's weakest point)
Cost	\$399 delivered	\$275 Delivered
Cosmetic (1-10)	9	7-8
10 pin cam. con.	Newer mods-yes mine-no	Yes
Video mon. out	Yes	No

In my opinion the two units compare favoeably with each other with the main differences being price and power. the P.C. unit seems to have a bit better workmanship which, probably along with the higher power, accounts for the higher price.

P.C. also has a new model out with 1 watt PEP and a crystal controlled 4.5 Mhz subcarrier generator for \$289 delivered. I have not put one of these on the bench yet but it looks like a very close competitor to the Wyman Research model. There are two other manufacturers of ATV transmitters and receivers but, unfortunately i have no first hand knowlwdge of them. One of these two also makes a down converter which is sold by Hobby Industries. This model seems to work nearly as well as the P.C. model.

I hope that answers the questions. Some other things in the works and in progress: The ARES net is now televised on Sunday night live as time permits. A video tape feature is also shown at the end of the net. We covered the Bike Ride Across Nebraska as well as Field Day. (You've probably seen this stuff on the air by now).

Thats it for now. "See" you on the air. DE John. WBØCMC

THE WANT ADS

FOR SALE:

Icom IC-290A 2m ALL MODE \$250. Kenwood PS-20 Power Supply \$50. Wilson 2m Hand Held, TTP, MIC, CHGR \$85. Sony B&W Video Camera \$90.

Call 391-5479 Steve, WDØGSL or Dick, WAØFTH

FOR SALE:

Icom 251A 2mtr Multimode \$350.

Call Dave NØCLW 493-1390

FOR SALE:

Kenwood TS-930S W/Antenna tuner \$1070. Kenwood SM 220 W/BS8 panadaptor \$325. KPS-12 ps \$70. R2000 General Coverage RCVR W/CW filter \$425. PC-1 Phone Patch \$55.

DRAKE AC-4 p/s \$75. W4 Wattmeter \$55. FS4 Synthesizer \$249. MS4 Speaker \$45. MN7 Ant. Tuner \$120. TR5 XCVR W/10-160 coverage \$300. PS-75 p/s \$125. HAMMURLUND HQ-170 Ham Band RCVR \$150. HAMMURLUND HQ-180 Gen. Coverage RCVR \$220.

ATLAS 210X XCVR 80 thru 10 meters \$295. includes AC module and hand mic.

WANTED: Kenwood HC-10 clock.

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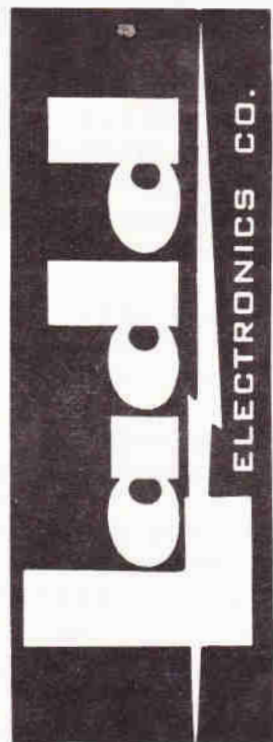
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