



# Ham Hum

March 2019 Volume LXIX, Issue 3

## The Program for February 2019

### Full Draw Antenna Hanging

The February program was provided by Kent from Full Draw Archery. Omaha's largest indoor public range, featuring all things archery, bowhunting, bow fishing, and target shooting. Kent provided some of the pros and cons of using a compound bow for sending line up and over trees to hang Ham Radio Antenna wire for events such as the annual Field Day Contest. There are some limitations to consider as Bows and Arrows are classified as Weapons and not allowed in some areas. In addition to some safety factors to be aware of. An alternative to air cannons as used by Pat-KOCTU in the bottom picture.



## **AKSARBEN ARC Club Meeting – February 8, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by saying the Pledge of Allegiance followed by introductions by name and call. There were 31 attendees.

Officers and Board members present included: Kevin, KA0VNY; Sean, AD0QG; Brian, KE0GKB; Dave, N0JSB; Dan, N0POT; Bill, WA9ASD

**Secretary's Report - Brian, KE0GKB** - The minutes of the previous meeting, as published in Ham Hum are accepted with one Corrections. The repeater donation was from ZQG instead of CQG

**Treasurer's Report - Dave, N0JSB** - As of January 31 the club accounts had balances of: Main Checking \$7773.28, Repeater Checking \$550.62 Savings \$1977.02, CD Life Member one \$6437.08, CD Life Member two \$6678.09, and CD Repeater \$1103.10 This leaves the balance of all the club accounts at \$24,519.19. In the month of January there were deposits of \$808.00 Consisting of: \$32.00 from Refreshments, \$776.00 from membership dues, and a 20.00 donation from KE0OPB to the repeater fund. Payments of \$894.29 Consisting of \$20.08 for meeting treats, \$10.00 for trailer plates, \$200.00 deposit for Flea Esta hall, and \$664.21 for Ham Hum Supplies (Forever Stamps) before the price went up.

**President's Report - Kevin, KA0VNY** - We still have a couple of openings on the Courtesy and education committees, we have someone that is interested in the position, but they do not know everyone like Bill did and they would need assistance for the rest of the membership with any information on who to send cards to.

**Vice President's Report - Sean, ADOQG** - Tonight Kent from Full Draw Archery will be giving a talk on methods to get our lines and antennas up in trees.

**ARES/SATERN/COMMUNITY EVENTS**

**ARES Steve NOUP** - On March 9 will be the Douglas county siren test. This is the same day as the Nebraska State convention and Ham Fest in Lincoln. The siren test will be at 11:00 and 11:30, I am seeking volunteers, please sign up online or on the sign up sheet that is being passed around.

Then February 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM we will have training on how to program your HT in the field, for example when you arrive on site at an event it may require PL Tone or the offset is different, we will go over programming the HT from the front panel. This will be held at Salvation Army building.

**OMMRS - Mary, N0TRK** - No Report

**SATERN** - No report

**Community Events - Pat K0CTU** - May 17 and 18 is Nebraska State Track meet, we provide communications from the field events back to the press box and communication to the medical tent for emergencies at the field events.

**Education Committee - Help wanted-** See Kevin

**Membership Committee - Mary, N0TRK** - Pay your dues.

**Publications/Web Services**

**Ham Hum - Brian, WEOBEP** - No updates

**Web Services - Mary, N0TRK/Adam, KDOMMG** - The website is working.

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**Repeater Committee - John, WBOCMC** - The repeater is working fine. Last week someone was keying up the repeater for more than three hours. A call was sent out for assistance in locating the offending radio. The transmission stopped before it could be located. This appeared to be a transmitter malfunction not a deliberate transmission.

**Field Day - Adam, KD0MMG** - 2019 field day will be June 23 and 24, More information will be coming.

**QSL and Technical Committee - Eddy, K0IL** - No report

**Courtesy Committee - Help Wanted** - This position is open please see Kevin.

**Trailer/Equipment Committee - Mary, N0TRK** - No Report

**Public Awareness** - No Report

**Transmitter Hunt - Dave, N0JSB** - no hunt this month.

**Flea-Esta - Chris** - A deposit has been put on the hall for this year's Flea Esta, also any ideas on prizes would be appreciated.

**Old Business** - No Old Business

**New Business** - No New Business

**Announcements** while looking through the FCC database searching for new hams in the area it was noticed that W0AEX was recently renewed. He has been a Silent Key for several years, We suspect that the call sign was setup on an auto-renewal through W5YI but please keep your ears open in case someone absconded with the call sign.

SWIARC will be holding their Ham fest on March 2, 2019 from 8:00 - 1:00 at the McClelland Town Hall 202 Main Street McClelland, IA

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**Door Prizes** - Door Prizes - Adam, KDOMMG - "Door prizes, we got em.". All tickets are retained until the December meeting for the big drawing.

Coffee and cookies are available in the break room before the program. Please donate to help offset the cost of these treats.

Also, support your local repeater. The club accepts donations for any area repeater and forwards the money to the appropriate owner.

There being no more business before the club a motion to adjourn was made by Ray N00IB with a second from Paul KE0CMA. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

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The next **Coffee and Conversation** is March 16th at the Village Inn --- 10770 M St, Omaha, NE

This is an Unofficial gathering of AARC members and other area ham radio operators to enjoy great food and talk about whatever.

Come on out... 6:30 PM — 9:30 PM.



## Area Nets

### Monday

7:00 PM 145.290 South-West Iowa ARES Glenwood, IA.

8:00 PM 144.250 NE Missouri SWOT.

9:00 PM 146.940 AARC Chat Net. Ak-Sar-Ben ARC Omaha, NE.

### Tuesday

9:00 PM 145.310 Washington Co. ARES Washington Co, NE.

### Wednesday

7:00 PM 146.670 Dodge Co. ARES Dodge Co, NE.

7:30 PM 7.122 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.

8:00 PM 3.564 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.

8:00 PM 145.310 Saunders Co. ARES Saunders Co, NE.

8:30 PM 7.122 CW Four State QRP Comfortable Net.

9:00 PM 3.580.5 PSK Four State QRP Comfortable Net.

9:00 PM 146.820 Pottawattamie County ARES Council Bluffs, IA.

### Thursday

8:30 AM 7.122 CW Four State QRP 40M Morning Net.

7:30 PM 145.310- Lincoln/Omaha SATERN Net. Ashland, NE.

8:00 PM 28.350 SSB 10-Meter Net.

8:00 PM 144.250 2-Meter SSB Net.

8:00 PM 146.360 Heartland DX Association.

### Friday

10:00 PM 224.760- Tone 146.2 Promote the Band Net

### Saturday

12:00 PM 146.82 Swap Net Council Bluffs, IA.

8:30 PM 3.921.000 QCWA Chapter 20.

### Sunday

8:00 AM 3.902.500 Swap Net.

8:30 AM 3.896.500 3900 Club.

8:30 PM 443.925+ (103.5 tone) IRLP Net.

9:00 PM 146.940- Douglas Co. ARES net, KØUSA repeater.

## BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The next AARC Board Meeting is scheduled for **27 March 2019 at 6:30PM**, Peony Park Hy-Vee on Cass Street, Omaha. Board meetings are held on the fourth **Wednesday** of each month.

## Club Officers & Board Members

President	Kevin Hill	KAØVNY	president@aksarbenarc.org
Vice President	Sean Edwards	ADØQG	vicepresident@aksarbenarc.org
2018 Secretary	Brian Sohl	KEØGKB	secretary@aksarbenarc.org
2018 Treasurer	Dave Rice	NØJSB	treasurer@aksarbenarc.org
2019-2021 Director	Dave Rice	NØJSB	board@aksarbenarc.org
2019-2021 Director	Dan Buchholz	NØPOT	board@aksarbenarc.org
2018-2019 Director	Brian Sohl	KEØGKB	board@aksarbenarc.org
2018-2019 Director	Barb Westcott	KCØHLB	board@aksarbenarc.org
Immediate Past President	Bill True	WA9ASD	board@aksarbenarc.org

## Club Committees

Courtesy Committee	(Open)	(Open)	courtesy@aksarbenarc.org
Education	Justin Tabor	KEØBHP	education@aksarbenarc.org
Field Day	Adam Kavan	KDØMMM	fieldday@aksarbenarc.org
Flea-Esta	Chris Rice		flea@aksarbenarc.org
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	membership@aksarbenarc.org
Monday Night .94 Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	wa0zqg@hotmail.com
P.I.M.P.	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	pr@aksarbenarc.org
Prizes	Adam Kavan	KDØMMM	prizes@aksarbenarc.org
A.R.E.S.	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	n0up@arrl.net
Publications	Brian Pitchanau	WEØBEP	hamhum@aksarbenarc.org
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL	qslmanager@aksarbenarc.org
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	community_service@aksarbenarc.org

Technical Assistance	Ed Edwards	KØIL	technical@aksarbenarc.org
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	web_master@aksarbenarc.org

## Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Vice Chairman	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	repeater@aksarbenarc.org
Club Call sign Trustee	Corby Krick	KØSKW	trustee@aksarbenarc.org
Member	Russ Hilton	ADØQH	repeater@aksarbenarc.org

## Other Contacts

ARRL Midwest Director	Rod Blocksome	KØDAS	k0das@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Dir.	Art Zygielbaum	KØAIZ	k0aiz@arrl.org
EC Douglas County	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	dcares@aksarbenarc.org
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN	
Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	testing@aksarbenarc.org
NE Section Manager	Matt Anderson	KAØBOJ	ka0boj@arrl.org

AARC Ham Hum Post Office Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551

## EQUIPMENT ADS

Items are sold by the Aksarben ARC and inquiries should be directed to

[equipment@aksardenarc.org](mailto:equipment@aksardenarc.org)

### Home Brew Amplifier

A superb construction of a full legal limit HF amp. by the book. Needs only a 3-1000Z tube and HV P.S. needs to be reassembled. See Aksarben eSwap for more details. just reduced to \$500. We deliver.

**Sinclair SRL-229 Base Station Antenna.** Gain 6.1 dB (8.3 dBi). Bandwidth 6 MHz (centered @ 144-148 MHz). (Also works 440) Power rating: 300 watts, polarization: vertical. omni-directional. Lightning protection: DC ground. Termination: N-male. Length: 258". Weight 25 Lbs. Rated wind velocity: 125 MPH. Rated wind with 1/2" radial ice: 105 MPH. Horizontal thrust @ rated wind and ice load: 190 Lbs. New price: \$1,338.75 + S&H. Your price: only \$500 (OBO) The antenna has had a minor repair and is in good working order.

## Club Calendar

- Mar 7** License Testing Lincoln ARC, 6:30 PM, 2701 N 48th St, Lincoln, NE
- Mar 7** Saunders County Spotter Training, Wahoo Vol Fire Dept 9:00PM
- Mar 8** AARC Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross, 81st & Spring St, Omaha, NE
- Mar 9** Lincoln Ham Fest @ Lancaser Event Center 84th and Havelock Ave.
- Mar 11** Harrison County, Iowa Spotter Tng, 301 N 6th Ave 7:00PM
- Mar 13** Lincoln ARC meeting 7:30PM LI-COR (4647 Superior St, Lincoln, NE
- Mar 16** AARC Coffee and Conversation, 10770 M St, Village Inn Omaha, 6:30 PM (Corner of 108th and L Streets)
- Mar 20** 7:00 PM Heartland Hams Meeting, 403 Railroad Ave, Glenwood, IA
- Mar 21** Bellevue ARC Meeting 7:30 PM, 1908 Franklin St, Bellevue, NE
- Mar 26** License Testing Omaha ARC, 6:30 PM 2912 S 80th Ave, Omaha, NE
- Mar 28** 7:00 PM SWIARC Meeting,, 705 N 16th, Council Bluffs, IA
- Mar 28** 7:30 PM PARC Meeting, 1900 E. Military Road, Fremont, NE
  
- Apr .4** License Testing Lincoln ARC, 6:30 PM, 2701 N 48th St, Lincoln, NE



The February Door Prizes, provided by Adam KDOMMG were a Tool Bag won by Brian-WE0BEP. Another Brian-KE0GKB won a Bungie Cable. Dan-N0POT pickup a cool Hole Saw to drill holes in walls to run coax through.



Bill-KD0FJR acquired a Dipole Antenna Kit. Finally there was the winner of the Brown Bag Prize which went to Pat-KOCTU. A Power Strip that you can plug in up to 4 things.



Finally shown below,

Brian-WE0BEP won the Mr. Reeh Prize.

An old security camera. Or at least the housing of one. He can mount this on his Front Porch to deter any Amazon Package Thief's.



Remember all tickets for Door Prizes are placed back into the “Jar” for the December Drawings for the rally great prizes. So buy some each month and build up your pot for December. One Dollar each or 6 for 5.

During the last membership meeting, Brian, WEOBEP asked if anyone would like to step up and be interviewed for a sort of member biography or special interest article interview for Ham Hum publication. Yes, a great idea so lets start with you (Brian) so here is the first article on WEOBEP below



My name is Brian Pitchanau, call sign WEOBEP. My interests in Communications goes back to the 1960's in Vestal New York where I grew up. A friend of mind used to run wire through the trees and tried to use Morse code to send messages to each other. After graduating from High School in 1969 the war in south

east Asia was a concern to me and I was not keen to having serving in the Army, because I also grew up with a more affordable hobby; flying model airplanes. So I was determined to enlist in the US Air Force. Learning code must have been what caused me to do well enough on a test I took in basic training and I was sent to Florida to train as a Morse Intercept. This is where I improved my

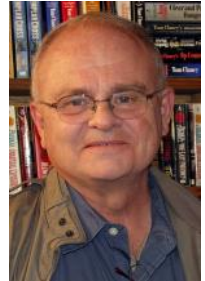


code skills as well as typing. Picture to the right is (not me) a radio operator at one of the AN/FLR-9 antenna sites. It is a very large circular Wulleneber antenna array, built at locations worldwide during the cold war for HF/DF direction finding of high priority targets. The worldwide network, known collectively as "Iron Horse", could locate communications almost anywhere on the planet. Because of the exceptionally large size of its outer reflecting screen (1056 vertical steel wires supported by 96 120-foot towers), the FLR-9 was commonly referred to by the nickname "Elephant Cage." as you can imagine looking at the pictures below.



Unfortunately for me, I was never given the opportunity to work in this field because the Air Force trained too many radio operators. Over 400 students upon graduation of “diddi bop” training as it was called, where then given the opportunity to further train in any career field of our choice or enter the administration field at any base of our choice. I was thinking of Air Traffic Control but due to the long waiting list decided to just become a Radar O’Reilly

So I was stationed in Boston, MA for a year but then again re-trained into the Procurement Field (later named Contracting) I spent over 44 years in contracting and spent billions of taxpayers dollars on all sorts of types of contracts. During my one and only



assignments overseas was at Clark Air Base, in the Republic of The Philippines in 1979—1982. The days of President Ferdinand Marcos (but that’s another story). This was the first time I got to see up front and personal to one of the Elephant cages I would have worked in. I used to scare the Filipinos by telling them that those were high powered Electro Magnets that would be turned on in the event the Soviet Union launched a missile at the US. The magnet would pull the missile off course and crash it in the Philippines. I think some of them believed me.

Well, since the end of the Cold War and the changes in technology and development of Cyber Space, Satellites, and such; the Elephant Cages succumbed to the wrecking ball. But not the one in the Philippines. Mt. Pinatubo took care of that one in 1991. So powerful was the eruption that it sent an ash cloud as far as Europe, and reduced the global temp by 0.5 degrees. Clark AB was destroyed and closed down. The Philippine Government took over and the old elephant cage was turned into a 35,000 seat fabric-covered amphitheater. You can still see the Hugh white pillars that surrounded the outer parameter of the antenna. Upon stationed at Offutt AFB, I decided to become involved in Ham Radio and joined AK-SAR-BEN-ARC in 2012.



## **Lincoln HAMFEST This Week End**

**Saturday, March 9, 2019**

**Nebraska State ARRL Convention Center**

**84th and Havelock Ave, Lincoln, NE**

### **Programs / Forums**

- T.H.O.R. Heartland Organization of Rocketry Presentation, Greg Rothman
- Matt Anderson, KAØBOJ, Nebraska Section Manager ARRL, "What's Happening in Amateur Radio"
- Joe Eisenburg, KØNEB, QRP HF Operating Set-Ups Including Power Supply, Radio and Antenna

**VE Exams offered from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm.**

### **Grand prize drawing at 2:30 pm**

- 1x – \$300 gift certificate to Associated Radio
- 2x – \$200 gift certificates to Associated Radio

## **Grand Island HAMFEST**

**CENTRAL NEBRASKA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB'S 58th ANNUAL  
VICTORIA SPRINGS STEAK-FRY**

**New Location: Bader Memorial Park [www.BaderPark.com](http://www.BaderPark.com)**

**Chapman, NE 10 Miles Northeast of Grand Island.**

**July 27th and 28th 2019**