



HAM HUM

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB

WØEQU

August 1953

P. O. Box 626

Omaha, Nebraska

Vol. III No. 8

LINOMA BEACH PICNIC

The all Nebraska picnic brought out a good number of hams and their wives. Approximately fifty persons were in attendance. Those who arrived early enjoyed a swim in the lake before noon. There was much to talk about for those who did not care to swim.

Just before noon the Ak-Sar-Ben Club's signals were heard from the picnic powered by the club's generators. WØEQU called the net at 12:30 pm. Many contacts were made from the local area.

The transmitter and receiver were brought to the picnic by Larry, NMN, and consisted of a Viking I and SX76. The antenna was supported by the club's forty foot masts.

The main attraction of the day was mobile equipment. There were approximately 15 mobile's in attendance.

A good time was had by all with an abundance of good food.

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MOVIES TO BE SHOWN

There will be movies shown at the next meeting of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club. The films will be of a semi-technical nature from the telephone company.

Keep in mind an auction to be held soon at a meeting. Line up your surplus gear and bring it down.

There will be refreshments as always at the next meeting. Come down and enjoy the fun and gab fests. We don't intend to please all, but we want to please you. Bring your YL or XYL.

HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION BANQUET

Houston, July 12. Under the direction of toast master and convention chairman Dr. Charles Fermaglich, the national convention banquet was held, starting in mid-afternoon, in the Emerald room of the Shamrock hotel. Following the meal, in which the Shamrock's caterers outdid themselves, there were short speeches by the wheels present -- both large and small.

Joe McKinney, local rep for the FCC, spoke on the importance of new Hams and emphasized that ARRL nationally should be boosting the novices.

Dave Middleton, Gulf Division director, mentioned the activities of his division and passed along bouquets to the QSL mgrs., VHF groups, DX group, the mobilers with their Caravan Club, the emergency groups and the gulf division teen age award which was made at the convention.

G. L. Dosland, WØTSN, ARRL Prexy, talked regarding the ARRL headquarters group and pointed out that the gang West Hartford was not an "Ivory Tower" group but just an ordinary group of hams and should be treated as such. He also made the ARRL Merit Award to Phil Rand, WLBND, for his outstanding TVI work during the past year.

"Soupy" Groves, Vice President of the league, gave a short talk during which he

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NEXT MEETING

Friday, August 14

Friday 8:00 P.M.

Fontenelle Hotel

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ABOUT TOWN

The moon has turned green and done nip-ups. Ed, CQX, long resident of the amateur ranks is back on the air. Taint the heat, just the humidity. Ed is sporting a 32V3 and a new NC183D. He can be heard on 20 and 40 phone. The real joker is the way Ed has been copying CW. Says he can keep up with the novices on 40.

We are pleased to note that Al, JJK, has squeezed a rig of great signal strength into his automobile. A novel type of final tank is employed by Al. The wip and loading coil is part of the final tank. The rig is mounted up front and feeds the antenna with only about 12 inches of coax. Nice job Al.

Johnny, PHW, handled some emergency traffic for a local mobile. Seems that Frankie, BTE, put out a distress call when the transmission of the car locked, with the help of PHW the trouble was cleared and BTE was again mobile and just in time to drag with a new Mercury.

At the recent picnic at Linoma we were pleased to inspect the installation of Rolly's, YMU, 75 meter mobile rig. The installation features quick installation and removal. Rolly can install and remove the equipment in less than five minutes, this is truly a need for three car families. Rolly puts out a nice signal with the BC654.

Frank, WQE, found that 75 can be a nice change from 20. The lack of sigs on 20 forced him to 75. Glad to see you there Frank. You have a nice mobile rig.

Have heard that Art, FQB, is going to drop in on the Montana State hamfest in Glacier National Park while on his vacation. (Hope the parachute opens Hi)

A new spinner can be seen towering above the residence of Roy, LGN, The beam is cut for ten and should stir up a little activity on ten. Lets get back on ten wid our mobiles. We're sure that Roy will be listening for you.

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VIEWS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION by WØAQJ

Frank Cooper, WØIOS and I left Omaha at 1600 on Wednesday July 8 traveling in my trusty '50 Nash complete with 10 meter mobile, ice box, sleeping equipment and assorted camping equipment. We headed directly south thru Topeka and made up the beds in the car somewhere near the southern border of Kansas. After four years of faithful operation the mobile transmitter quit working and 10 was really open too! We pulled in a taxi company garage in Fort Smith, Arkansas and got her back on the air just in time to listen to 10 fold up.

The second night out we camped in a state park near Marshall, Texas after working my old buddy W9QUV, Moline, Ill., and several other W9's in the states of Illinois and Wisconsin. Frank had some trouble sleeping that night and started to drive again about 0400 so we arrived in Houston about 1000, with the co-pilot (me) very rested, on the morning of Friday July 10. Very eager for the start of Convention activities.

The first disappointment of the convention was the lack of 10 M activity and no LOM welcoming committee which was in direct contrast to the Seattle convention that I attended in 1951. We called CQ Houston from 20 miles out practically all the way to Shamrock Hotel and worked only a WØ in St. Louis and another W5/M who was also trying to talk to a local about directions to the convention location-- the last I heard of this W5 was "isn't there anyone on 10 in this town except the WØ that I just talked to?"

Disappointment #2 proved to be the room rate at the Shamrock--we had made a reservation well in advance apparently for a \$9 room but we were informed that the lowest priced room left was a \$14 room--we accepted this reluctantly but still with enthusiasm for we still looked forward to the convention itself.

The first official meeting that we attended proved to be a failure since the PA system in the meeting room was strictly inadequate and no one could copy the speakers. One of the

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FROM OMAHA CONTINUED

Jerry, NKG, Johnny, PHW, and Marion, MJK, put the finishing touches on the club's power trailer before the Nebraska Picnic. Marion finished painting the trailer a bright metallic. Jerry and Johnny spent a Sunday morning re-working the tongue and springs.

Incidentally the trailers and generators operated very well at the picnic.

We owe a vote of thanks to Jerry for pulling the trailer to the picnic.

Ed, MKP, puts out a nice signal from his trailer home on west Dodge St. He can be heard on 75.

Johnny, PHW, hard as it may be to believe, is finally on the air with a Norwegian Collins II. After wiring a Johnson VFO he acquired a Viking II. Reports some success on ten, twenty, forty and eighty. Two contacts were made from PHW on two meter phone.

By the way Johnny wonders if there are any new stations on two besides R, WR and PHW? Any one interested in RTTY give Johnny a call.

Tom, AQJ, an ardent ten meter fan is looking for some activity. Tom is mobile on ten and did quite a bit of operating on his trip to Texas. Seems he set up and operated unofficially of course the ten meter station for the convention as there was no transmitter in Houston to guide the fellows in.

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A LETTER FROM KOREA

We were very pleased to receive a very nice letter from Al Demorest. The letter will be at the next club meeting.

What is new? Seems that Al is now residing like a gentleman repairing equipment. The letter makes mention of the Korean highway department as being a rather dubious organization. Guess he had to have his back side re-packed and is well settled now.

Drop Al a line, he will be very glad to hear from some of the old gang.

BANQUET (continued from page 1)

announced that Handy was elected president of the Conn. Wireless Association--which was news to him since he was in Houston at the time of their election.

In one of the most interesting talks, Mr. Handy mentioned, along with other items, that R. J. Coakley, ZL2RC, would be coming to the states and would be available to talk to clubs about ham radio in Zedell land. Club officers attn: to obtain this speaker for your club, address all requests through ARRL headquarters--they'll forward.

Other speakers at the banquet were Mr. Budlong and XELBT. Among the non-W hams attending were ZS6BW, KZ5WA, OA4AE and ZS6KD.

After the speeches the drawing was held with most of the prizes going to W5's except the Globe King which was won by a W6 and one of the receivers which was won by a YL W4.

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NEW TWIST ON BC (beer can) VERTICAL

On this sad occasion of the jumping words by the sad sacks, we were amazed when one of the eds crawled out from under the table jibbering about a 160 mil antenna (vertical) for 75 meters. With a rapid round we were all amazed to see that each can has a little label or coupon which states "worth 1 mil."

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FOR SALE

BC-458 on 40 or 20 meters--worked WAS on forty--complete with approximate 100 watt power supply. Earle Olson, WØJKE

Six foot open type rack panel--\$10.00
BC-696--\$5.00, BC-654 with PE-104 Vibrator--\$15.00, BC-1068-A VHF receiver--\$15.00 (less tubes) WØPXJ--KE-6314

GRAND ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY ELECTS

President--Arthur P. Lorenz WØKYU

Sect-Treas. - Dr. Carl H. Maggiore WØLEP

FROM HERE AND THERE

From a discussion recently heard on the frequency 3983 kc. we are lead to believe that one of the operators has \$7.20 worth of 4020 & 4080 rocks for sale. The Ham-Hum technical staff is working out the dope for regrinding those 4 plus megacycle rocks for 20 meters. They should be quite economical.

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OUT OF TOWN NEWS

We hear that WØRQK is active on 40 fone and he suggests mobile hams form their call letters with red fire-light Scotch tape on t' rear bumpers of their cars. (ed. note - a timely suggestion considering LB-29)

Things are going to pick-up in Kearney with WØFJU, MLB, BNF and KLB either operating or building for mobile at this time.

Received a note from Dr. B. L. Gainsforth, WØUHT, Ogallala, letting us know that the boys on the west end are alive and buying call letter license plates. Glad to hear from you Doc.

Lyman Longstreth, AUH, has moved to Columbus where he is employed as a draftsman by the Nebraska Public Power System. Lyman was the former Secretary of the GIARS.

FB note from Ed Kind, KYM, the other day, letting us know that he and Jack Webb, THF, were in Omaha mobile for two days. Ed has an RCA plane xmitter. Understand the boys traded Leo out of a Gonset Commander. Look out for that bid signal from Bloomfield.

speakers was apparently talking about the Texas State Guard radio system which was of no interest to outsiders at all and the next speaker was talking about speech clipping but his entire speech got clipped to no intelligence by the PA system and he was reading it anyway.

The real sad part of the convention was the financial gouging that took place. For instance --on Friday night at 1930 a "shamburger" supper at the pool (Shamrock Hotel swimming pool) was scheduled at \$4.00 per person and following that a dance in the Emerald room for "no charge to those attending Shamburger Supper" was scheduled. In the main convention hall beer sold for \$1.00 per bottle, coke went for 25¢ and a plain sandwiche for 75¢ each. This plus the original \$13.50 registration fee certainly was not conducive to the younger novice or anyone with a limited income. Or anyone with common sense as far as that is concerned.

On Saturday they had a charge for the VHF luncheon, the DX luncheon, the ladies breakfast, and all these in addition to the original registration. In fact everyone was trying to figure just what the registration fee provided for the convention since I believe all prizes were donated -- I know the Globe King was. In fact rumor had it that a brewery donated a huge number of cases of beer and this was sold at the Saturday night dance to those attending for \$1.00 per bottle.

While we were in Houston the Shamrock Hotel made headlines in the local papers by reducing the price of the Shamrock steak from \$11.00 to \$8.50 each!!!! They had a very nice swimming pool at the hotel--\$1.20 per head admittance charge even after paying the registration fee and a high room rate.

According to some other W5's and outstate Texans this convention did not represent "southern hospitality" -- just ask W5BDR a real southern gentleman from Arkansas way.

In the future Frank and I vote for conventions for hams--not Texas oil men.