



HAM HUM

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB

WØEQU

MAY 1952

P. O. Box 626

Omaha, Nebraska

VOL II NO. 5

HAM AT EASTER

The day before Easter was a day of anxiety for 30,000 people of the Omaha and Council Bluffs area, when the authorities advised immediate evacuation, due to the fury of the old Missouri River.

The task started for the evacuation of 30,000 people. This brought about a problem of communication between the Red Cross, Volunteer Transportation, evacuees, and also the great problem of policing the area against looting and pilfering.

The amateur answered the call.

For eight days and nights we dispatched messages to and from levee workers and to and from Red Cross installations. Assisted the National Guard, the Army Engineers, the C.A.P., the local police department and the auxiliary police.

As many as 52 mobile units reported for duty during the eight days. They came from all parts of Iowa, Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas, Yl's, Xyl's, Om's, and Ow's all doing their bit to whip the Big Muddy.

Operators worked up to 18 hours with no rest. Mobile ran for 36 hours and some rigs were switched from car to car so we could have continuous operation. We noticed many boys that forgot about eating but when reminded of it they would grab a bit of food which was furnished by the Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Sleeping quarters were provided in the different churches and when the desire for sleep came one could grab a few winks and be back on the job.

The cooperation between all units was marvelous and the few misunderstandings which are bound to occur were buried completely with the victory over the Muddy Mo.

PUT YOUR PENNEYS IN THE BANK

At the April meeting a very fine demonstration and lecture was given by Inspectors Carlson and Skarda of the Omaha Fire Department on fire prevention.

The demonstration was started off with a bang by Hart Jenks. He ignited a gasoline vapor container with a spark of static electricity. It was proven to us the power of only a few drops of gasoline. Also shown was the effect of vapors in free air. The vapors being $2\frac{1}{2}$ times heavier than air flow downward and when ignited the flame shoots upward to the source.

The event which stuck in our minds was the overloaded electrical circuits. Before our eyes we saw a heavy wire get red hot and ignite its insulation. The inspectors remarked that a person seeing a home which had undergone an electrical fire would never use a penny under a fuse. The house would be apparently ransacked but only for a good reason. The firemen trace the hot wires back to the fuse box chopping the plaster away and exposing the conduit or cable to eliminate any recurrence from hot wires. I know that those witnessing the lecture are much wiser and much safer.

NEXT MEETING

May 9th, 1952

Friday 8:00 P.M.

Fontenelle Hotel

FIELD DAY BRIEFS

We will endeavor to keep all of you posted with the latest informed on our Field Day setup.

At present we have two good locations available but are still on the lookout for others. So if anyone has a good location in mind, bring it up at our next meeting so it can be scouted in sufficient time.

The Council Bluffs Flood Emergency put a crimp into our Field Day transmitter building program so we will have to re-double our efforts in the month of May to make up for this lost time. The transmitters are all at Johnny Orr's house. Johnny has kindly consented to use his shack for construction of these transmitters. Work on these will be on every Thursday night starting May 15 until all are completed. Those of you who can make it just call Johnny at PL 5732 or drive out to his home at 4530 No. 56 St. by 7:30 PM.

Incidentally we need three VR-105 tubes, two 100 to 150 mil filter chokes and six max couplings in order to complete the Field Day rigs. Any one who has some of these as spares can bring them down to the club meeting or call Johnny and arrange for pickups.

Tenatively our food for Field Day is being scheduled on the same basis as it was last year.

We will have a special meeting to iron out all Field Day details on Tuesday May 20 so keep this date in mind. Announcement as to the place will be mailed to everybody in advance. All who are going to actively participate on Field Day are urged to be among those present on May 20. REMEMBER MAY 20 IS ON A TUESDAY

FOR SALE

COLLINS 32V-2 Practically brand new—never been used on the air except for a few checks. Call W00UC Walnut 1791

MODULATOR 20 Watt patterned from ARRL Handbook. Make offer. Al Fleming W0YOF
214 West Lincoln
Blair, Nebr.

OUT OF TOWN NEWS

W0JED, NVE, FVP AND DHO took an auto trip over to Cedar Rapids, Iowa to visit the Collins plant. Enroute they got stuck in a blizzard and took two more days to make the trip.....

Al Fleming, W0YOF, has been trying to get up an antenna between the rain drops in Blair. Al worked his second DX station on 40 meters the other nite, XELSX.....

Don Fields, W0GJI, now a cadet in the Merchant Marine on the good ship S. S. Ventura reports to Ham Hum that it is quite enjoyable going to sea after the months in school. Don is going to try to buy a receiver the next time he docks in L. A. so he can keep up with the Ham bands. We understand that the cadets are making terrific money and doing no work at sea. We are expecting to see Don much fatter and wealthier after his hair raising experience at sea.....

Noel Harmon, W0APK, of Denver mentions that if any one has any traffic going to Colorado, it can be cleared at 7:00PM Omaha time thru W0KHQ on 3560kcs.

Noel has been experimenting on various types of VFO circuits. He found the Hartley osc. to have the least drift but is at present using a Clapp which shows only a 200 cycle drift from a cold start.....

Gus Lynch, W0CC, of Grand Island mentions that activity is at a snails pace over there at present. He is working on a TV camera which should be completed in the coming years, he hopes.....

PRIVATE Al Demorest, who is now stationed at Camp Gordon, Ga. dropped a nice line to us, mentioning also his trip over to K4WAR and all the 75A2 rcvrs that are scattered around there.

Al is going to Ft. Monmouth, N. J. in the near future in order to take 52 weeks of Radar School.

Glad to hear from you Al, see if you can ship back some of those loose 75A2's....

Pvt. Allan F. Demorest
US 55250243
Co. 4 BTGSCRTC
Camp Gordon, Ga.

WANTED

TS-13 Type Handset. Contact Ed Gutmann.
W0CQX at Webster 3665

WØSEE REPORTS

Well after a hectic two weeks of solid confusion, with the flood, moving out and evacuating, and moving back again WØSEE is off the air for a while. We're taking advantage of the fact that the house is quite empty of furnishings and so we're remodeling the ham shack, putting in some new AC outlets, new flooring etc, so the dump will be presentable once again. WØSEE is building a 20 meter beam, a two element affair, two driven folded dipoles fed 135° out of phase. So won't be back on the air until that is also done. Got a letter from VE3AML who used to be a G2 in Middlesex England, and worked him about 3 years ago, and he has since moved to Canada and is coming to visit the middle part of the States and particularly Council Bluffs & Omaha area, so probably some of you fellows will be meeting him when he arrives this summer.

WØFWL, Mike, was patrolling the city with mobiles with the police during the flood, and there was a large number of hams present in Council Bluffs at that time from Omaha and adjoining towns. Certainly want to thank the fellows for their splendid co-operation and a wonderful job was done.

WØPDM was busy stringing wire and doing electrical work along the dikes, WØQFZ, UJL and GFQ had their hands full handling traffic. I wasn't in Co. Bluffs at all during the emergency and was located at 90th & Blondo. Had the receiver going and done a lot of listening though. The Co. Bluffs Club Power Supply was used by Union Pacific R. R. during the flood WØUQJ in charge. Bob had his hands full what with operating on the 75 meter net and for U. P. also. Vic, WØCCY was acting as relay station for all GAP work, and had a nice set-up going at his location high on a hillside. He was busy handling wx reports, etc. for GAP. WØUUV, VEY, NNP, & OOM were marooned at the KOIL Xmitter for the duration of the flood, but they were comfortable with cots to sleep on and food to eat etc, a boat with an out-board motor attached stood by at the back door ready to evacuate them in case the water got there (and Brother it could have)!

73 Orin, WØSEE

Summary of the meeting of April 11th

The Secretary was late for the meeting and hence missed a very excellent, and sometimes noisy, demonstration of fire hazards and fire prevention put on by two members of the Omaha Fire Department.

After the demonstration, with which the meeting opened attention was called to the closing of the top 50 kcs of the 20 meter band, effective April 1st, and the probable opening of 15 meters for c.w. only on May 1st.

Olson reported the success of the party at Benson Park Pavilion on March 29th. Field Day still needs a good location; several more prospects will be investigated. Kinsey's complete file of QST and other books have been acquired for the Club by John Leeder.

Most of the meeting was taken up with discussion of plans in preparation for the imminent flood. Olson, who had already contacted Civilian Defense and the Red Cross outlined the probable use to be made of amateurs, and therefore the expected need; he made a canvass of equipment available, especially crystals and portable or mobile equipment.

Some radio parts were auctioned while refreshments were being served.

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SAFETY SLOGAN FOR THE MONTH

WHEN
IN
DOUBT
DON'T

—•••—

Our card from Art reports,

WØFQB received membership and certificate for membership in the QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Assn.) which is awarded to all amateurs who have been operators for twenty-five years or more. He also has adopted an alias via a MON KEY.

WØFQB

CLUB QSL'S TO BE JUDGED

ROSES

We received only 10 QSL cards to be judged in our QSL contest for WØEQU's new card. These cards will be examined by the contest committee and the best three submitted at the May meeting for your vote on the best one.

TID-BITS FROM TOWN

Mig, WØCSN, we understand is having her phone disconnected in the event of another flood-----

PXJ is advertising for a scare crow to keep the birds off his 4 full waves-----

AQJ has a 40 foot steel pole to be put up for his beam also a new HRO-50 at that QTH-----

LRD has a Collins 75A2-----

NNW has increased his waist line with a plastered cast for his back---guess that is the answer to the rumor that Lee got plastered in a local hospital hi-----

FROM THE MID-WEST DIRECTOR

Gentlemen

The new proposal certainly seems to jump at us but am not worried as the conference still told me about both the novice and phone on forty. I will go ahead as the conference voted. Will, unless told differently, oppose the allowing all classes except novices and technicians in 20 & 75 phone. Information so far received shows that RTTY should be kept to a narrow portion of CW bands not spread all over. Advise me your opinion immediately. Must have them by May 2 at latest as leave May 4 for West Hartford.

Signed William J. Schmidt
WØOZN

Mid-west Director.

Another chapter in "ham" radio history was written recently during the Omaha and Council Bluffs flood emergency. The response from the fellows in Omaha and the surrounding territory was tremendous.

Our Omaha club was contacted by the Deputy in charge of Communications of Omaha Civilian Defense. At that time he had no information for us and apparently less after the meeting with the CD heads of the city. We contacted the Omaha Red Cross and were told that they would not operate in this city until after the dikes gave way. But our dikes held.

The Red Cross was active in Council Bluffs and used our services for evacuation. It was there that some 150 hams operated to help move 30,000 people from their homes in about four days.

From the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club about 65% of the membership were active. Five percent were busy with essential jobs. Of the sixty-five percent, one half had mobile rigs in their cars.

All stories told, the fellows did a splendid job of supplying the vital communication where it was needed most.

THE FCC PROPOSES

A new proposal by the FCC on April 18 would amend the amateur rules and open 75 & 20 meter voice bands to all amateurs except novice and technician. FCC also proposes to open 7200 to 7300 KC to voice and to open 80, 40, and 20 meter CW bands to FSK teletype. A new band 7175 to 7200 KC is proposed for novices, CW only.

YOU CAN BELIEVE IT

WØYMU had the privilege of introducing Marvin Olson, WØFYP of Oakland, Nebr. to Marvin Olson, WØMLB, of Kearney, Nebr. Also, after introducing FYP's XYL to MLB, we find they know each other when kids in school, and to further extend the coincidence, these two hams are good Swedes and an asset to the amateur fraternity.