



HAM HUN

AK-SAR-BEN
RADIO CLUB
INC.

WØ EQU

July 1957 P.O. 626 Omaha 1, Nebr. Vol. VII No. 7

VHF

It's coming!



MEETING

PROPAGATION -

- INFO -

ANTENNA IDEAS -

GADGETS

July 12, 1957

COME ONE

GET THE VHF INFO

COME ALL

Ham Hum

Published by
AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
Post Office Box 626
Omaha 1, Nebraska
EDITORS
Alan McMillan, W0JJK
Dick Eilers, W0YZV

HAM HUM is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request. News and information of interest to amateur radio is gladly accepted. All items must be received at least two weeks prior to the second Friday of each month for inclusion in the current month issue. Submit all correspondence to P. O. Box 626, Omaha, Nebr.

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Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club memberships are open to all persons having an interest in amateur radio and its activities. Dues are 50¢ per month or \$5.00 per year when paid in advance. Student rate is 25¢ per month or \$2.50 per year. Initiation fee \$1.00. Special rate for OM-XYL, \$6.50 payable annually. Meetings are held on the second Friday of each month.

Field Day Report

The time - June 22-23
1957---The place - Ericksons
acres, north of Omaha.

Once again Mr. Erickson was very kind in allowing the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club to use his property as a field day site. Mr. Erickson was more than cooperative and even mowed his alfalfa field so the club would have a nice clean site to use. The site was all a club could ask for in the way of an ideal location.

It was planned that some of the fellows would go to the site on Friday evening as usual to get things started, however, this was not done this year due to bad weather. Wendell, our field day chairman, tells us that Ed Gutmann, through his CD sources was able to tell him of the coming bad weather, and preparations were started Saturday morning. If tents and equipment had been set up on Friday night as usual, we probably would have had to retrieve our tents from out Fremont way, the way the wind blew Friday night.

Wendell had planned that there would be 8 transmitters operating in a 4 transmitter category, however, some of the fellows that had promised equipment failed to deliver,

and we ended up with fewer pieces of equipment, operating in the 5 transmitter category. If we may editorialize for a moment, we would like to say that we thought the field day was successful for the effort that was put forth, however, your field day chairman really counts on your cooperation and cannot deliver the anticipated results if the PROMISED cooperation is not forthcoming. It would be better that promises were not made if there is a chance that you will leave the chairman high and dry on promised help or equipment.

As yet, the scores have not been tallied, but it appears that about 250 contacts in all were made. The best all-around results were on 15 phone and 40 cw. In the past, 40 cw has usually been the most successful band, but the fellows operating 15 phone this year were really in there pitching for contacts.

The power was limited to 30 watts and under this year and several fellows even went to the trouble of modifying higher power equipment so 30 watts could not be exceeded. In all, we had equipment operated on 75 phone, 40 cw, 15

phone and cw, 10 phone and 6 meter phone. Surprisingly, quite a few contacts in the local area were made on the 6 meter band, for a number of points.

The antenna in use consisted of a beam on 15 meters, long wire on 75, dipoles on 40 and 20, a ground plane vertical on 10 and an unknown type of 6. The latter antenna is unknown because we didn't see it, not because we couldn't recognize it. The first attempt at raising the mast with the ground plane antenna for 10 was a failure, as the mast came crashing down. The second attempt was successful, however, the radials on the groundplane antenna had a distinct upward droop. Never the less, the ground plane antenna accounted for one nice bit of DX that we heard WØNMN working, a YV5 in South America. Another choice bit of DX was worked by Art, WØQMD, on 20 phone when he snagged a KM6 out in the Pacific on Midway Island, from a nearly dead band.

The boys that were working cw on Saturday night tell us that they didn't need much effort to send code. All they had to do was hold on to the key and control their shivers, due to the very cool weather. The cool weather had it's advantages, however, as there

were no bugs or insects to bother the fellows.

The club generator was a bit obstinate in starting, due to a rather poor battery, however, the day was saved by QMD when he hauled out his battery cables from his mobile rig stored in the trunk of the car and gave the 12 volt battery in the generator a boost. Other than the slight difficulty in starting, the generator ran over 28 hours without so much as a burp. A vote of thanks is due the fellows that have taken from their time to maintain the club generator and other club property.

During the activity at the field day site, $4\frac{1}{2}$ cases of pop and 40 pounds of charcoal were consumed. The old coffee pot was on the fire at all times to provide refreshment to the operators, and several fellows cooked snacks for for themselves.

As usual, we saw Fay, WØISV, taking movies of the proceedings. Perhaps Fay will let us see the shining faces that were present, at some future date.

A familiar face was seen at the site, in the person of Fr. Ray Strange. We are told of a gentleman there who identified himself as the first president of our club, which would be N. P. Nelson, presi-

dent back in 1945. Unfortunately, we can not bring to mind N. P. Nelson's call.

To touch on the black part of the situation, we are told of several fellows that thoughtlessly broke pop bottles and littered the grounds with trash. We certainly have no intentions of rewarding Mr. Erickson's cooperation by leaving the grounds strewn with broken bottles and trash, and therefore, the fellows that stayed to do the cleanup job had a harder time than was necessary.

A "Wouldn't you know it would happen" situation turned up when Windy's mobile receiver conked out just as KØAMM was trying to reach

Windy to tell him the XYL was leaving for the hospital to deliver the new baby. Fortunately, WØNRS, was monitoring and advised Windy so he could scoot for the hospital for the arrival of little Wendy.

Thanks to Wendell for his untiring efforts to make field day '57 enjoyable for those participating; to his chairmen, Gary Greenwell, phone chair and Gary Tighe, novice chairman. Thanks also to all the fellows that participated and labored to make field day a success.

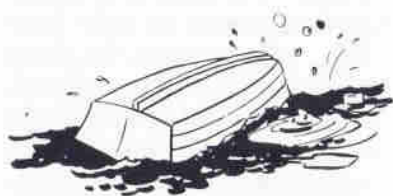
Yours for a bigger and better FD '58,

YE OLD EDITORS

OUR NEXT MEETING VHF GALORE

The technical aspects of our next meeting will be devoted to VHF. Several prominent VHF men of the area will contribute to the material and discussion. One of the featured speakers will be Frank Parsons, EMS. As you may know, Frank has long been an outstanding 2 meter DX man. WØEMS was located at Adair, Iowa, where he racked up his

large WAS total on 2 meters. We hope to hear words of wisdom on VHF from other leading VHF men of the area, such as WØWRT, WØNRT. Due to field day, vacations and other causes, your editors have not been able to get all the scoop on the VHF meeting for July, but it should be a dandy, with all the men having the know-how there to enlighten us. Don't miss it.



SOS ☆
SOS ☆

We Need Your Help

We do need your help. Ham Hum needs some regular contributors in all fields of Ham radio so our paper will be of interest to fellows in all phases of the hobby. You that operate SSB, let us know who is on SSB in the area, what's new in ideas and gear. We would like to have some novice let us know what's new in the novice world, who is working who, what the novices are working in the way of DX. What kind of gadget did you work out to make your station easier to operate? One fellow put a vernier dial on his Harvey Wells Z matcher to make it

easier to tune. What did you add to your station that may be of interest to others? A fellow took a regular phone plug, put a pilot bulb across it, tuned the receiver to the local BC station, plugged in the phone jack which silenced the speaker and the voltage across the bulb then made it glow, serving as a conelrad monitor. Did anyone put their tele-type unit into operation with a simple converter that some of the fellows can duplicate with a lot of work? What have you in the way of ideas, gadgets or what-have-you? Send in that good idea to Box 626.

6 m



The number of Hams who operate 6 m. and number of Ak-Sar-Ben 6m. hams are two widely separated totals. One of the reasons of course is the lack of interest the club has shown toward the VHF bands in past. With the fine cooperation of the VHF gang on the "dives" earlier this year, and awaking of many to the practicality of VHF in any and all of the plans concerning amateur radio in this area, the time has come for a general edification and indoctrination. As mentioned elsewhere in this issue, the meeting July 12, will try to acquaint the uninitiated to the greatest field for pioneering yet open to the ham operator. For those who might fall prey to our trap, we say "WELCOME"; and extend the glad hand. If you need help, equipment or suggestions let us know. By "US" I mean any VHF op, who will be glad to help you in any way you desire, except loan you money, Ha.

Six has been a busy band this last month. On June 20 for example, you could hear just about every state or hear them being worked. One personal

example, I was at FKG's QTH loading his Harvey Wells into a 20m doublet on 50.3 mc. A Kentucky ham gave a 40 over 9, then on the next go round asked for a repeat, Oregon was 60 over taking me out! The W A S is there, CHK needs two more, N. & S. Dakota. I worked a Utah SYL, after she had worked N. & S. Dakota on June 20. Good Luck Chuck.

On June 29, WORMB sponsored an antenna raising party. A small bit of trouble with the beam, but a grand time was had by all including the XYL's and Junior ops.

At this writing I have no more information on "Operation Smoke Puff", but will try to have something by meeting nite.

I had intended to have another VHF roster this time but it is incomplete so will try to furnish it in the next HAM HUM.

See you at the July meeting, remember VHF - the new sound in Amateur Radio.

73, Millard, W0NRT

2m

The VHF Contest of June 8-9th (QST) was a lot of fun and all stations who worked it had a good time, I'm sure.

The Lincoln fellows really put Omaha to shame from an activity standpoint.

There were almost a dozen VHF 2m. stns. in Lincoln on the air and working the contest. Bert, WØRYG, was using the KVON - TV tower on 2m. as the "big stick" in the contest and he really ran up an admirable no. of contacts.

Two different groups were heard working 6m. on the recent Field Day.

73, John - WØWRT

OUT OF TOWN

I wouldn't criticize your wife's judgement - look who she married. (HARC NEWS)

The 1957 civil defense Operation Alert will take place from July 8 through July 19 with most local activity on the dates of July 12, 13, and 14. All amateurs signed up in RACES should participate at appropriate local levels. Other amateurs may be called upon by local civil defense directors to assist as required. An FCC public notice calls upon all amateurs not in Operation Alert to avoid use of RACES frequency segments while such exercises are in progress and ARRL likewise urges your cooperation. See Section 12.231 of FCC rules for a list of RACES frequencies. Reports on amateur participation in Operation Alert will be welcomed by the ARRL Communications Department. Page 82 of July QST has further details AR



6m In Wisconsin

I have always known that it was a pleasure to associate with Hams, both on the air and in person. The hospitality I ran into in the vicinity of Beloit, Wisconsin was, I think, even unusual for Hams.

I installed the communicator in the mobile after I arrived there and while testing got a call from K9BOD in Beloit and shortly from W9NUC in Jamesville. Finding myself with considerable motor noise, and BOD being busy for the evening, drove to Jamesville and visited the QTH of W9NUC. Was picked up on the way by several other mobiles and wound up meeting eight or nine of them at NUC QTH.

Here I found out about the Rockford six meter emergency net operating on 50.4 with alternate frequency 50.7. The net operates Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 9:00 P.M. It consists of about forty six-meter stations in locations from Roselle, Illinois to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The next evening I proceeded to

the QTH of W9KBP, a net control in Rockford, Illinois, where I procured a 50.4 rock from the drawer full of surplus crystals maintained by KBP for the benefit of the net. Checked into the net and in a QSO following the close of the net found that by checking in I will be entitled to a certificate which is being prepared for all who check into the Rockford six meter emergency net.

This type of operation - QSO's, both on the air and eyeball - continued for the balance of my stay in the cheese country. For field day I had intended to operate as a mobile field day station and felt that with the multipliers I should be able to run up a very good score. However, this did not turn out to be the case as I spent all my time visiting three separate field day sites, all of which were operating on six meters as well as the DC bands. At each of these sites I prepared a message for delivery to W0EQU should they contact. Unfortunately, how-

ever, none of them copied our home field day station.

Before leaving I extracted a promise from each of them to give us a Wisconsin contact and Illinois for those that need it and found that the feeling was mutual as most of them need Nebraska.

Elsewhere in this issue you will read of our field day baby here. They likewise had one arrive to W9KLJ the day following field day.

Do not have the log here

but those calls I remember and wish to thank (hope I have not forgotten too many) are as follows: K9AQB, HYY, W9KBP, NUC, TRF, SRQ, KLJ, DC, K9CUS, CUG, 80D, and several others. The last named is a member of the Police Force of Beloit. I also met another member of the Police Force, whose call I cannot remember, but will mention because of all things, I would not want a policeman mad at me. My thanks to all of them.

- WØYZV



"Remember last summer, Henderson, when you were on vacation and Maxwell here took your place?"



GO AHEAD! PASS IT! NOBODY'S WATCHING

But note this: nearly 42,000 men, women and children will die in traffic accidents this year, if the present rate continues!

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NEW PRODUCT

General Electric now offers vitreous enameled resistors in all popular sizes through electronic distributors.

EUROPE ON SIX

SMSANY reports that Swedish hams have temporary permission to operate 6 during the period June 1 to Dec. 31, 1957, from 50 to 50.5 Mc. with 150 watts phone - CW. Polish station SP2DX also has permission to operate 6 and will set schedules on ten meters. (A. R. R. L. O. B. 600).

We want to welcome the following new members of the club.

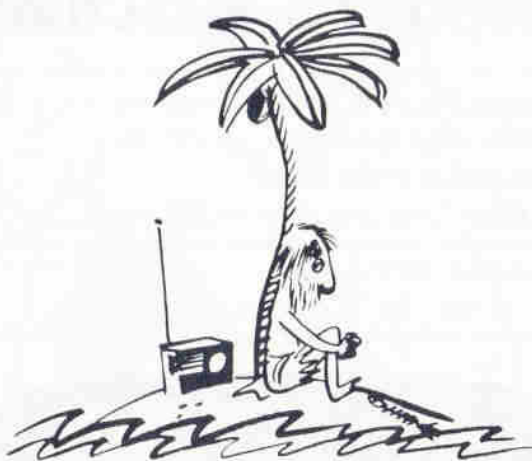
Doug Pendray - 7910 Leavenworth - GL 6051.

Elmer Brickman - 3329 Bridgeford Road - AT 0288, KØIUJ.

John McGovern - 1301½ South 32 Street - HA 4212.

OUT OF TOWN

Vic Nelson, WØCCY, tells us he has a new Ford and is putting in the mobile gear so it will have that "fully equipped" look.



"Friends—If you like gay good food, live entertainment, come to the Tropical Room, Ritz Hotel . . ."

OUT OF TOWN

W1BOM, John Abt, tells us of a 6 meter QSO with W0WVN. Frank Cooper had just left his shack prior to the QSO. Maybe we will have to go on 6 to work IOS if the DC bands won't make it.

Al Draper, now K3AKJ, reports that he is now a 2 meter addict, working DX with his CAP type Communicator. Al may be moving around a bit in the next few months and may be delayed getting on the HF bands.

Richard Bilon, K2SZD, tells us that he would like to see technical articles that may help those preparing to take their FCC exams. Be sure to make a meeting if you are ever out this way, Richard.

Don't forget the North East Nebr. Radio Club's picnic, July 14, at the Stanton Fairgrounds. The fun will start at 1:00 PM. No registration fee. Just fun and goodies for all. This info comes by way of the E. Nebr. Secretary, John, W0SPD. John has a RME 4300 to inhale your signal and is exhaling AM, CW, SSB.

LAST MEETING

Our feature speaker for the evening at the June meeting was George Hart, W1NJM. George started his talk by giving us a bit of his own background and how he came to be in his present position with the League. George's talk was very interesting not only to those that normally handle traffic, but also to all amateurs, as he pointed out how message handling can benefit all.

PAPILLION, NEBR.

K0AIN-KN0HJW, Joe and James Stoupa, are sporting a table full of new gear. They are covering all bands 80 to 6 meters with a new Globe Scout 680, HQ-150 and WRL 6 meter xtal converter. Only a 1/4 wave vertical is now being used on 6 and they have had to pass up some 6 meter DX heard, however, they will soon put a new Gotham 6-10-15 meter combination beam to improve results.

CORRECTION

John Snyder - 2402 South 43 -
(RE 1538) W0WRT.

LOCAL NEWS

The grapevine tells us that WORMV, Cecil, had an antenna raising party June 29th, which we hope was a big success. Wonder if that grand old tradition was followed? Der stein mit der stuff dot iss.

The birdie says Art, WØQMD may have a new buggy when settled in good old manny-apples. Something tells us the YL Sherry will be putting it to use now that she has her drivers license.

Rolly Johnson is out in the wild and wooley west during the summer, making a few bucks. (or taking a few?)



...hello CQ, calling CQ, CQ

Rumor has it that PHW and HZE were up in the Colorado mountains gasping for breath last week in June. Maybe John and Bob will give us all the scoop for the next edition.

We haven't heard a peep from Ken, KØAJE. Where are you hiding Ken? Don't let that nice B & W 5100 and 75A4 go to waste.

Short skip was real good on 10 recently. A station in Potter, Nebraska was heard very Q5 and S9 plus. We need more of those openings for the boys trying for WAS on 10.

Jack, WØEQK will now be sharing his rig with the XYL, Donna. The ticket reached Donna the day they left on vacation, KØKEN.

Congratulations are in order for Beth and Wendell Larsen. Windy had to leave field day a while to welcome the addition. As a note, Windy says there may be some confusion v Wendy reaches telephone age.

We may soon have that long awaited club PA system as members were falling over themselves at the June meeting volunteering mikes etc.

Doctor Joe Sobota is the proud owner of a new ticket, KØKKS as a sidelight, we hear Dr. wrote the FCC for the exam date in Omaha. When the fateful day arrived, Dr. was the only one present. It seems it had been the previous week they gave the tests. In the true spirit, Dr. went to Kansas City and took the test, passing with flying colors. We guess Dr. would have had to see a doctor if he had waited for the next regular exam.

One of your new Co-editors, Al, WØJJK took a nose dive out in Denver and dislocated the right wing. As fortune would have it, that was the day his vacation started. How lucky can you get!

Bob, WØOSE and Larry, WØNMN took on the Omaha relay (rtion of the Powder Puff rby. We can't imagine two more capable fellows whisper sweet words to those pilots.

Rolly Johnson walked away from the other contestants in the membership drive contest, winning \$15.00 and 2 years membership free.

John, WØWRT has a new air buster now that he has added another 8 elements for a total of 16. With 90 watts and 16 elements we expect John to apply for his WAC soon (2 meter WAC). We understand a new 400 watt final is in the mill but think that would make the WAC too easy John.

Keep your eyes and ears open for all the info on the ARC "Hampic" on Sept. 15.

Ed Gutmann accepted the position of Radio Officer for the area and the grapevine tells us that Ed is laying out plans for CD activities. It's a hard job, Ed, but we know you will do a bang-up job to keep CD alive in this area.

The ARC was very pleased to receive a certificate of commendation to the amateurs that participated in the Crippled Children fund drive. The certificate was presented at the June meeting.

AK-SAR-BEN RADIO CLUB INC.
P. O. BOX 626
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

NEXT MEETING
AK-SAR-BEN 4-H BUILDING
AK-SAR-BEN FIELD
JULY 12, 1957
8:00 P. M. - SHARP

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