

## February Door Prizes

At the February meeting, Rollie ABØNN bestowed an abundance of prizes to the crowd. A bag of rags was awarded to Brian KDØSVD. (These were probably quality rags, but my notes don't mention what they were, or who made them. The only photo of it shows a warning on the package about avoiding putting the plastic bag over your head and suffocating—good advice for any ham.)

Adam KDØMMG got an HFT 25 ft extension cord and a set of Pittsburgh Heavy Duty Booster Cables. Kevin KG4NNL won a Pittsburgh 7" locking pliers and the Brown Bag Prize, which turned out to be an analog timer with up to 48 on/off settings. Dave NØJSB received a Drill Master Cordless 3/8" Drill. Claudia K1AUD got a copy of the February issue of *Omaha Magazine*, which had an article featuring Bill WA9ASD discussing ham radio. Don WBØVGB received a set of Haul Master 15 ft Ratchet Tie Downs and—unfortunately for him—the Mr. Reeh Door Prize. Opening the package revealed a relic that, according to the club Reliquarian, Bill WA9ASD, is "the top half of a Yaesu FT727R. The smoke has been released." It will no doubt prove useful once the lower half can be found and a fresh supply of smoke pumped into the unit.

Note that the proceeds for each month's tickets go for buying next month's prizes. Also, all tickets are kept and included in the Grand Prize drawing in December.

Bill KCØSVZ

## Siren Test, Take 2

As we are approaching storm season 2015, it is time for the annual siren test. This is where ARES, REACT, and CERT get together and visually inspect and verify that all of the sirens in the county are functioning. It is one of our largest public service projects every year.

This year the sirens will sound on Saturday, March 14th beginning at 10:00 AM.

I am looking for volunteers to help with this project on February 21st at 9:15 AM and should be done by noon (way earlier if we can get enough people to do only two soundings of the sirens). If you can help please let me know, I will need your name, call sign, address or part of town (so I can assign close-by sirens), email address, and phone number.

Please pass this on to other hams too. Thanks.

Steve Schmitz, NØUP  
n0up@cox.net  
Cell 306-2972

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*You may be a ham radio operator when...any kinds of batteries go on sale, you get really excited.*

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AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

# Ham Hum

Volume LXV, Issue 3

March 2015

## Power Line Noise



Ed Edwards, KØIL

The speaker for the February meeting was Ed Edwards, KØIL, a Senior Engineer at OPPD and long-time AARC member. His topic was power line noise and what you can do before calling the power company.

Ed discussed how to analyze noise and identify the various types, plus techniques to determine if it was coming from inside the shack, the home, or somewhere else in the neighborhood. He gave examples of what some of the common forms of interference sounded like by playing recordings of them. Also, Ed listed some sources of information for learning more about interference, such as the *Interference Handbook* by William Nelson, WA6FQG, the *ARRL RFI Handbook*, and *AC Power Interference Handbook* by Marv Loftness, KB7KK.

Ed described some things that hams can do before calling the power company if they think the noise is coming in on the power lines. This includes logging the times, frequencies, type of noise, and related information.

Following the discussion was a lively question-and-answer period. Thank-you, Ed, for an entertaining and educational evening!

*[Note: Thanks to Russ NØMNW, a video of this talk is available from the AARC web site and YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uyhgz3d9SUY>]*

Bill KCØSVZ

## BOARD MEETING NOTICE - NEW LOCATION

The next AARC Board Meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2015, 6:30 PM at the Peony Park Hy-Vee restaurant, 7910 Cass Street, Omaha. Unless noted otherwise, Board meetings take place at that time and location on the fourth Tuesday of the month. For any changes to this schedule, check for an announcement at the next club meeting, or on the AARC web page at <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>.

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☞ **March Meeting: SSTV** ☜

This month, Mark Voris, NØVUB, will discuss a subject that hasn't been covered at an AARC meeting for many years, Slow Scan Television. This should be a very interesting evening. Be sure to attend.

*Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM, Red Cross Building, 81<sup>st</sup> & Spring Streets, Omaha, NE.*

HAM HUM is the official newsletter of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in Omaha, Nebraska. It is printed monthly and is distributed to members of the club, local disaster officials, local electronics outlets, and editors of other ham radio newsletters.

Articles about activities of members are solicited. The subject matter must be of general interest to radio amateurs and be understandable to a significant portion of the membership. No payment will be made to contributors and submissions will be subject to the usual editorial review. Articles containing statements that could be construed as libel or slander will not be accepted. No guarantee can be made that an accepted article will be published by a certain date. Send your contributions to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha, NE 68124-0551 or email hamhum@aksarbenarc.org. Please contact the editor for permission to reprint anything appearing in the Ham Hum.

### Club Officers & Board Members

President	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	president@aksarbenarc.org
Vice President	Mitch Saure	WBØGBI	vicepresident@aksarbenarc.org
2014 Secretary	Bill True	WA9ASD	secretary@aksarbenarc.org
2014 Treasurer	Dave Rice	NØJSB	treasurer@aksarbenarc.org
2014-2016 Director	Russ Rosenquist	NØMNV	board@aksarbenarc.org
2014-2016 Director	Barb Westcott	KCØHLB	board@aksarbenarc.org
Immediate Past President			board@aksarbenarc.org

### Club Committees

Courtesy Committee	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	courtesy@aksarbenarc.org
Education	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	education@aksarbenarc.org
Field Day	Tomas Hood	NW7US	fieldday@aksarbenarc.org
Flea-esta	Chris Rice		flea@aksarbenarc.org
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	membership@aksarbenarc.org
Monday Night .94 Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	wa0zq@hotmail.com
P.I.M.P.	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	pr@aksarbenarc.org
Prizes	Rollie Miller	ABØNN	prizes@aksarbenarc.org
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	pr@aksarbenarc.org
Publications	Bill Wilkinson	KCØSVZ	hamhum@aksarbenarc.org
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL	qslmanager@aksarbenarc.org
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph	KØCTU	community_service@aksarbenarc.org
Technical Assistance			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 Callsign Trustee	Corby Krick	KØSKW	trustee@aksarbenarc.org

### Other Contacts

ARRL Midwest Director	Rod Blocksome	KØDAS	k0das@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	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
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	oo_coordinator@aksarbenarc.org

### Address Change?

If you've changed your mailing address, or would prefer to receive the *Ham Hum* via email, please contact Mary NØTRK (Membership) or Bill KCØSVZ (Publications) with your new information.

AARC on the Web

**Club Web Site:** <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/aksarbenarc>

**Yahoo! Groups:** <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AKSARBENTalk/>

### (Contest Calendar continued from page 10.)

#### April 2015

QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 1
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z, Apr 2
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 3
LZ Open 40m Sprint Contest	0400Z-0800Z, Apr 4
Mississippi QSO Party	1400Z, Apr 4 to 0200Z, Apr 5
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 4 to 1500Z, Apr 5
UBA Spring Contest, 6m	0600Z-1000Z, Apr 5
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Apr 7
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 8
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Apr 10
Nebraska QSO Party	Apr 18-Apr 19

Sources: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> & <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>  
Check the above sites for last minute changes. If you know of an upcoming contest that should be published in the next *Ham Hum*, please notify the editor or an AARC officer.

## AARC Rabbit Hunt

The next rabbit hunt is scheduled for Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Starting location is the parking lot at Memorial Park near 57<sup>th</sup> and Underwood. Last-minute changes will be announced at the club meeting the Friday before. Also look for announcements on the AARC Internet sites (page 2). Everyone is invited.

## AARC Equipment Loaner Program

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club members who are in good standing and possessing an active FCC issued US Amateur Radio License may borrow one of two Icom HTs. Each radio is a basic two meter transceiver with an NiMH battery and charger. It is perfect for when you need to borrow a rig to help with that community service event, or if you are itching to get on the air as you shop for your new radio.

Other equipment includes an ARRL *Introduction to Morse Code* CD set and (in the near future) an MFJ-259B antenna analyzer. A policy for the antenna analyzer is still being set—see the AARC web page at <http://www.aksarbenarc.org/main/> for its status.

You can check out a radio for one month at any Club meeting and return it at the next. Alternately, you can contact the equipment committee at [equipment-committee@aksarbenarc.org](mailto:equipment-committee@aksarbenarc.org). For more details, see the AARC web page listed above.

*de AARC Equipment Committee*



# Contest Calendar

## March 2015

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint	0600Z-0629Z, 0630Z-0659Z, 0700Z-0729Z, 0730Z-0800Z, Mar 7
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	1800Z-2059Z, 2100Z-2359Z Mar 7 (Low Band) & 0800Z-1059Z, 1100Z-1359Z, Mar 8 (High Band)
UBA Spring Contest, CW	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 8
DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest	1100Z-1700Z, Mar 8
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 11
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 11 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 12
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 11
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 13
RSGB Commonwealth Contest	1000Z, Mar 14 to 1000Z, Mar 15
All Africa International DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1200Z, Mar 15
F9AA Cup, SSB	1200Z, Mar 14 to 1200Z, Mar 15
AGCW QRP Contest	1400Z-2000Z, Mar 14
EA PSK63 Contest	1600Z, Mar 14 to 1600Z, Mar 15
QCWA QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 14 to 1800Z, Mar 15
TESLA Memorial HF CW Contest	1800Z, Mar 14 to 0759Z, Mar 15
Idaho QSO Party	1900Z, Mar 14 to 1900Z, Mar 15
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
UBA Spring Contest, 2m	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 15
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0200Z-0400Z, Mar 16
Bucharest Contest	1800Z-2059Z, Mar 16
CLARA HF Contest	1700Z, Mar 17 to 1700Z, Mar 18 and 1700Z, Mar 21 to 1700Z, Mar 22
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 18
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 18 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 19
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Mar 19
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	2000Z-2130Z, Mar 19
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 20
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	0200Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 23
SARL VHF/UHF Analogue/Digital Contest	1000Z, Mar 21 to 1000Z, Mar 22
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
Virginia QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 21 to 0200Z, Mar 22 and 1200Z-2400Z, Mar 22
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1400Z-1700Z, Mar 21 (144) and 1700Z-1800Z, Mar 21 (432)
Feld Hell Sprint	1700Z-1859Z, Mar 21
UBA Spring Contest, SSB	0700Z-1100Z, Mar 22
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 25
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 25
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, 1900Z-2000Z, Mar 25 and 0300Z-0400Z, Mar 26
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Mar 27
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2359Z, Mar 29

(Contest Calendar continued on page 11.)

## How do we promote better operating practices?

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

A lament that I often hear is that many amateur radio operators either don't seem to understand the importance of good operating practices or just don't care about them. Just this morning, a reader sent me an e-mail saying, "I think there are too many hams out there that don't know how to call a station on split frequency. It's amazing that we have so many dummies out there."

I wrote back, saying, "Maybe we need another type of Official Observer, called the Operating Observer. This group would note when operators aren't following good operating procedures and send people gentle reminders." Of course, as soon as I hit Send, I knew this wasn't a very good idea. As my reader noted, this would be a thankless job, and chances are the poor operators would simply ignore the notices, anyway.

Even so, there must be some way to encourage good operating procedures. One effort to promote better operating procedures is the DX Code of Conduct (<http://www.dx-code.org/>). This is a list of 13 suggestions to make DX operation, particularly pileups, less chaotic. The website includes a small image that you're supposed to post to your website to show that you support the Code. While this is certainly a step in the right direction, I wish there was something that we could do to be more proactive in improving operating practices.

There is, of course, the ARRL Operating Manual. This publication is now in its tenth edition and is a valuable source of information about how to operate properly. The problem is only a fraction of the amateur radio operators on the air have a copy, much less read it.

Another attempt at promoting good operating practice is the ARRL's A-1 Operator's Club (<http://www.arrl.org/a-1-op>). While a noble effort, I think that this program really requires more promotion. In addition to being more aggressive about finding A-1 operators and bringing them into this "club," the ARRL should use it to promote better operation. Perhaps a series of videos with the A-1 Ops logo showing how to operate split or how to properly call CQ would help improve operating practices overall.

Talking about videos, I'd be surprised if there weren't already some YouTube videos that illustrate good operating practices. If you know of any, please e-mail me. It would be great to have a list of really good ones that I can send to people who want information on how to operate better.

What do you think? Do we need to be more proactive about encouraging hams to use good operating practices? If so, how do we go about it? What do you do to encourage better operating practices?

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*When not worrying about the state of amateur radio operating practices, you'll find KB6NU working on updates to his "No Nonsense" study guides, teaching one-day Tech classes, or blogging about amateur radio at [www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com).*

# Club Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2015

*Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC*

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by the President Adam, KDØMMG by saying the Pledge of Allegiance followed by introductions by name and call. There were 35 attendees.

Officers and Board members present included: Adam, KDØMMG; Mitch, WBØGBI; Dave, NØJSB; Bill, WA9ASD; Barb, KCØHLB and Russ, NØMNW.

Secretary's Report - Bill, WA9ASD - A correction was required for the January meeting minutes. The call sign of the person recovering from a broken hip is KBØANV. With that correction a motion was made by Mitch, WBØGBI, seconded by Jim, KAØKCV to accept the minutes of the previous club meeting as corrected. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Dave, NØJSB - In the month of January there were deposits of \$80 for donation to the Red Cross, \$55 from AEØEG toward the purchase of the radio for the USS Hazard, \$5 to the general fund from WIØDUG, and \$540 from dues payments. Payments consisted of \$48.16 for name tags, \$10 for the antenna trailer registration, \$15.47 for refreshments, \$25 as a thank you to our speaker, \$200 for the deposit on the hall for Flea-Esta, \$23 for the biennial Non-Profit Corporation fee, \$200 as a donation to the Red Cross and a \$3 bank fee. This leaves the balance of all the club accounts at \$22,159.34.

President's Report - Adam, KDØMMG - Adam announced that the next board meeting will be February 24 at 6:30 PM at the Village Inn at 78th and Dodge. People generally arrive early to eat before the meeting. Everyone is invited to attend. As is always the case, members are invited to contribute material for publication in *Ham Hum* and on our web site.

Vice President's Report - Mitch, WBØGBI - Tonight's program is on power line noise by Ed Edwards, KØIL, who works for OPPD. The March meeting program will be by Mark, NØBUB on SSTV. Mitch also announced that the 10 meter net is on Thursday evenings at 8 PM and is usually followed by SSTV activity.

## Public Service

- ARES - Steve, NØUP - The annual Douglas County Siren Test will be on Saturday, February 21 starting at 10 AM with a follow-up tests at 10:30 and another at 11 AM, if required. With over 100 sirens to check lots of volunteers are needed. See Steve to sign up.
- The will be Storm Spotter Training by the National Weather Service on March 24 at 7 PM in the Boys Town Music Hall.
- SATERN – Jim, KCØSHZ/Jim, KAØKCV - no report
- OMMRS – Mary, NØTRK - (by Steve, NØUP) There will be an OMMRS training session on February 17 at 7 PM at the Salvation Army facility at 106th and Burt Circle. The topic will be the Weapons of Mass Destruction. Please register beforehand with Mary if you plan to attend.

(Club Meeting Minutes continued on page 5.)

## 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

7:00 PM 147.360 QCWA Net, Chapter 210 (seasonal, October through March).  
8:00 PM 50.200 6m SSB Net.  
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 10-Meter Net.  
8:00 PM 144.250 2-Meter SSB Net.  
8:00 PM 146.360 Heartland DX Association.  
9:00 PM 28.305 10-Meter Net.

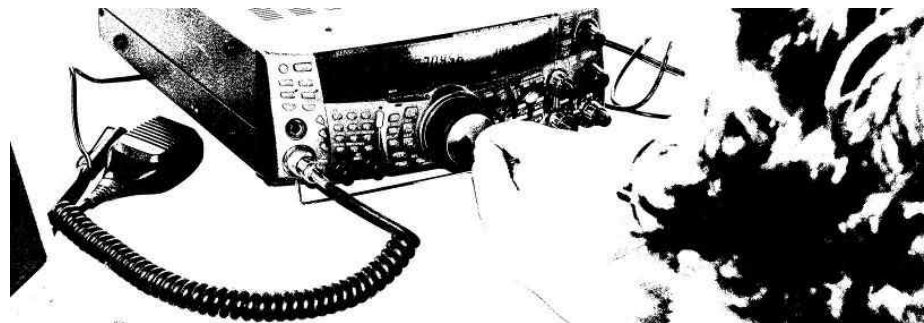
### Saturday

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.

Please let us know of any updates or corrections to the above.



## Want Ads

For Sale: Kenwood TS-870S AT (with DSP) HF Amateur band transceiver in VERY NICE shape with the original manual, matching PS-52 Power Supply, SP-31 speaker, and MC-80 desk mic. A great looking and performing radio! Read the details direct from Kenwood at this link: <http://tinyurl.com/km6cea6> Price: \$1,200.00. Contact an AARC officer at the next meeting, or send an email to the club web site at: <http://tinyurl.com/p55ckov>

Wanted: Byonics Tiny Tracker Looking for any version of a Byonics Tiny Tracker APRS device in good condition. If you have one you aren't using, I'll be happy to take it off your hands. Interested in TT3 or TT4. Other items considered as well. Price \$20.00. Contact Mary NØTRK at the next AARC meeting, or email <http://tinyurl.com/qbkwuuv>

For Sale: Anderson Power Poles I have some extra Anderson Power Poles (new). Too many to store in the parts drawers. These are the 30 amp variety. Price: \$1.00 per pair (1 Set of Black and Red connectors). Contact: Mary NØTRK at the next AARC meeting or email <http://tinyurl.com/q9jvsmf>

Job Opening: Ham Hum Editor Position available now. Please consider becoming the AARC newsletter editor. Contact any club officer at the next meeting, or email [hamhum@aksarbenarc.org](mailto:hamhum@aksarbenarc.org).

### ***Want to Use KØUSA 146.940 for Community Service Events?***

The KØUSA repeater is an open system and is available for any licensed ham radio operator to use. We welcome other clubs and organizations to use it for providing communications support for nonprofit activities. To avoid scheduling conflicts, the Club asks that you obtain permission from the AARC Repeater Committee *at least* 72 hours in advance. To submit your request, please click the *KØUSA Use Request Form* link on the AARC web site: <http://tinyurl.com/msodyvh>

### **NEBRASKA DMR-MARC [KØBOY] REPEATER SYSTEM**

KØBOY	442.650	(I-480 & Harney Street – Omaha, Ne)
KCØHYI	442.775	(Nebraska Highway 50 – Weeping Water, NE)
KBØZZT	442.275	(1500 Wayne Street – Bellevue, NE)
WBØQQK	442.425	(13 <sup>th</sup> & O Street – Lincoln, NE)
KIØPY	444.975	(105 <sup>th</sup> Street & I-80 – Omaha, NE)
WAØRJR	442.800	(Nebraska City, NE)
WØAAI	TBA	(158 <sup>th</sup> & West Maple Road – Omaha, NE)

(Club Meeting Minutes *continued from page 4.*)

Public Service (continued)

- Community Events - Pat, KØCTU - The State Track Meet will be May 22 and 23 and volunteers for this event should contact Pat.

Education Committee - Mary, NØTRK - We have one volunteer and we are planning a class, probably on Saturdays.

Membership Committee - Mary, NØTRK - Pay your dues early and often. We have two applications for membership: Cory Goesch, KCØONV who holds a General Class license, and Paul Martin, KIØRW who holds an Advanced Class license. There was a motion by John, WBØCMC seconded by Jim, KAØKCV to accept these two applicants for membership. The motion passed unanimously.

Publications/Web Services

- *Ham Hum* - Bill, KCØSVZ – The *Ham Hum* is published and it came out okay. Bill had to replace the battery used for resetting the page counter in the printer toner cartridge. He also reported that the January issue, which marked 65 years of publication of the *Ham Hum* took 13 hours to prepare. This was an abnormal amount of time due to the extra insert of the copy of the first issue. A more normal amount of time would be half that. The club needs an editor after the March issue. There will be a sign-up meeting after the club meeting.
- Web Site - Mary, NØTRK - The web site is functioning and we could use help from anyone who would like to work on the web site.

Repeater Committee - John, WBØCMC - It's working and we're still waiting for the antenna check for loose hardware.

Field Day - Adam, KDØMMG and Eric KBØLF - We have entered a request for the location at 156th and Maple; same as last year, and we do not have approval yet.

QSL and Technical Committee - Eddy, KØIL - We recently got a QSL card from a 1998 contact. If anyone has a KØUSA log from any year they should forward them to [k0il@arrl.net](mailto:k0il@arrl.net).

Courtesy Committee - Bill, KEØXQ - Thankfully, nothing to report.

Trailer/Equipment Committee - Mary, NØTRK - There is club equipment for sale. See the website and *Ham Hum*.

Public Awareness - Jim, KAØKCV, club P.I.M.P. is aware of the public.

Transmitter Hunt - The transmitter hunt will be Sunday, February 15 at 3 PM starting at Memorial Park. Pat, KØCTU and Mary, NØTRK will be hiding the transmitter. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

(Club Meeting Minutes *continued on page 6.*)

(Club Meeting Minutes continued from page 5.)

Flea-Esta - Chris, NØCALL - We have contacted several vendors and Associated Radio has declined to attend but the Flatwater Trading Post from Hastings will be there. Scheduled date is September 12 at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds.

Old Business - On behalf of the club, Adam KDØMMG issued a very sincere apology to Branden, KCØUSM for the recent mix-up concerning his repeater usage.

New Business - none

Announcements - The Southwest Iowa Hamfest will be held March 7 at McClelland, Iowa. Admission is \$4 and tables are \$6.

- Claudia, K1AUD announced that her Android app for Amateur Radio Practice exams has been published and is available online for a nominal fee. More exam practice apps are to follow.
- John, WBØCMC requested the donation of a small antenna rotator for his volunteer work in Haiti. They need a small rotator to turn a small dish to cover remote TV broadcasts from town to the transmitter site.
- Support you local repeater. The club accepts donations for any area repeater and forwards the money to the appropriate owner.
- Rollie announced the array of door prizes along with the famous Brown Bag Door Prize and the dreaded Mr. Reeh Door Prize. All tickets purchased are retained throughout the year and are eligible for the grand prize drawings at the Annual December Meeting.
- Rollie will be leaving the Door Prize committee in the near future. A replacement for his artful work in this area is needed.
- Coffee and cookies are available in the break room before the program. Please donate to help offset the cost of these treats.

At 7:33 PM a motion was made by John, WBØCMC to end the meeting. So moved.

*Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC*



## New Style Call Signs

I just answered an e-mail request from a ham in Australia. What caught my eye was his call sign, VK6FABC. It appears the Australians have eliminated their Novice and Limited class of licenses for beginners and replaced them with what are called Foundation licenses. They issue the distinctive call signs for that class of license only.

Is this an editorial comment by the government that the new licensees "just don't get it" by using a 2 X 4 call?

That would seem to me to be a little harsh.

*Bill WA9ASD*

## Club Calendar

- Mar 11** 7:30 PM LARC Meeting, 4647 Superior St., Lincoln, NE.
- Mar 13** 7:00 PM AARC Meeting. Red Cross Building, 81<sup>st</sup> & Spring St., Omaha, NE.
- Mar 14** 10:00 AM Douglas County siren test (details, pg. 9).
- Mar 14** 11:00 AM HBQRP, Bredeaux Pizza, 1425 Silver St., Ashland, NE.
- Mar 15** 3:00 PM AARC Rabbit Hunt. Memorial Park, 57<sup>th</sup> and Underwood.
- Mar 18** 7:00 PM Heartland Hams, 403 Railroad Ave., Glenwood, IA.
- Mar 19** 7:30 PM BARC Meeting. Masonic Hall, 1908 Franklin St., Bellevue, NE.
- Mar 21** 8:30 AM Nebraska State Convention, 84<sup>th</sup> & Havelock, Lincoln, NE.
- Mar 21** 6:00 PM AARC Coffee. Perkins Restaurant, 108<sup>th</sup> & L Streets, Omaha, NE.
- Mar 24** 6:30 PM AARC Directors' Meeting. *Peony Park Hy-Vee, 7910 Cass*, Omaha, NE.
- Mar 26** 7:30 PM PARC Meeting. 1900 E. Military Ave, Fremont, NE.
- Mar 26** 7:30 PM SWIARC Meeting. 705 N 16<sup>th</sup>, Council Bluffs, IA.
- Mar 31** 6:30 PM AARC License Exam, Red Cross Building, 81st & Spring St., Omaha NE.
- Apr 2** *Ham Hum* article submission deadline.
- Apr 2** 6:30 PM LARC License Exam. See <http://k0kkv.org/> for details.
- Apr 8** 7:30 PM LARC Meeting, 4647 Superior St., Lincoln, NE.
- Apr 10** 7:00 PM AARC Meeting. Red Cross Building, 81<sup>st</sup> & Spring St., Omaha, NE.
- Apr 11** 11:00 AM HBQRP, Bredeaux Pizza, 1425 Silver St., Ashland, NE.
- Apr 12** 3:00 PM AARC Rabbit Hunt. Memorial Park, 57<sup>th</sup> and Underwood.
- Apr 15** 7:00 PM Heartland Hams, 403 Railroad Ave., Glenwood, IA.
- Apr 16** 7:30 PM BARC Meeting. Masonic Hall, 1908 Franklin St, Bellevue, NE.
- Apr 18** BARC Flea Mkt., Bossard American Legion Hall, 230 W. Lincoln, Papillion NE
- Apr 18** DMRAA Ham Fest, IA State Fair, East Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA
- Apr 18** Hambash Ham Fest, Ararat Shrine Temple, 5100 Ararat Drive, Kansas City, MO.
- Apr 18** 6:00 PM AARC Coffee. Perkins Restaurant, 108<sup>th</sup> & L Streets, Omaha, NE.
- Apr 23** 7:30 PM PARC Meeting. 1900 E. Military Ave, Fremont, NE.
- Apr 23** 7:30 PM SWIARC Meeting. 705 N 16<sup>th</sup>, Council Bluffs, IA.
- Apr 28** 6:30 PM AARC Directors' Meeting. Peony Park Hy-Vee, 7910 Cass, Omaha, NE.
- Apr 28** 6:30 PM SWIARC License Exam, 705 N 16<sup>th</sup> St., Council Bluffs, IA.

For more details and the latest updates, see the *Calendar* section of the AARC web site (<http://www.aksarbenarc.org/>). If you know of an event of interest to other hams and want to see it here, please contact the *Ham Hum* editor or one of the AARC officers.