

Ham Hum

ARRL Field Day 2015

The most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Thousands of radio amateurs gather with their clubs or groups to operate and work (make contact with) as many stations as possible. The AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club (AARC) was categorized as a Class A Club consisting of 9 stations located on the grounds of the Forensic Services Division of the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, using temporary facilities such as tents, trailers, or other non-permanent structures. One of the primary purpose of Field Day is to set up communication capabilities under adverse conditions in the event of an emergency situation should it occur. In addition, displaying to the general public the capabilities of Amateur Radio. To read more on the Field Day Results for K0USA please checkout the AARC web site at www.aksarbenarc.org — Adam (KDOMMG) has posted all the statistics on how we did.



JULY MEETING:

Program is a trunk swap where you bring what you have to swap and take home what other people brought. The next meeting will be held on *Friday, July 10th, 7:00 PM, Red Cross Bldg, 81st & Spring Streets, Omaha, NE.*

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FIELD DAYS 2015



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 Brian KDØSVD (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/>

Veep Speaks

Well, Field Days was very successful this year. I enjoyed working 15 meters with Brian.



*Mitch WBØGBI,
Vice President AARC*

Saturday Night Coffee and Conversation

Bill KC0SVZ

Most of the people were already there by the time I arrived:

Pat KOCTU, Joe KONEB, Kevin KA0VNY, Mary N0TRK, and Steve NOUP. Arriving a few minutes later was John WBOCMC toting his HF-in-a-bag transceiver, an Elecraft KX3. We were sitting at a round table in the corner; if one more person showed, we would have had to commandeer a larger one. Topics discussed included the Tornado of '75, the Star Trek convention in Chicago, KONEB's Star Trek road trip to Dayton a few years ago, the fact that two members of the Dave Matthews Band are hams, the mesh network status (it's ready for Field Day), Field Day status, and phone flashers at the College World Series, among others. It was an informative and enjoyable evening, but we'd decided to leave early as it was a busy weekend for many of us. Notably, KOCTU was going to practice his satellite communications skills for Field Day and needed to set up his equipment and attempt to contact AMSAT SO-50 when it passed overhead later.

NOTE: *Beginning with the next Coffee and Conversation get-together, the starting time will be pushed back from 6:00 PM to 6:30 PM. If you arrive early, you may need to relocate from whatever table you're sitting at, To find out why, mark your calendars and be sure to attend.* The AARC Coffee get together is held at the Village Inn restaurant at the southeast corner of 108th and L Streets in Omaha on the third Saturday of the month starting at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited.



Club Meeting Minutes — June 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by the President Adam, KD0MMG by saying the Pledge of Allegiance followed by introductions by name and call. There were 22 attendees.

Officers and Board members present included: Adam, KD0MMG; Mitch, WB0GBI; Dave, N0JSB and Bill, WA9ASD.

Secretary's Report - Bill, WA9ASD - A motion was made by Pat, K0CTU, seconded by Fred, KBOLF to accept the minutes of the May club meeting as corrected. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Dave, N0JSB - In the month of May there were deposits of \$23 for meeting refreshments, \$40 from dues payments and a donation by W0AAI of \$5. Payments consisted of \$363.02 for a new Ham Hum printer, \$17.47 for refreshments and a \$3 bank fee. This leaves the balance of all the club accounts at \$22,280.15

President's Report - Adam, KD0MMG - Summer is starting and there are lots of good events and things to do. There's Field Day, possibly a picnic and transmitter hunts. Hope to see you all at Field Day.

Vice President's Report - Mitch, WB0GBI - Tonight's program will be by Adam, KD0MMG on Field Day.

Next month's program is a trunk swap where you bring what you have to swap and take home what other people brought.

Public Service

ARES/SATERN/COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Events - Pat, K0CTU - The State Track Meet went well with lots of good people helping out. Pat is putting together a video to show some of what went on.

The people from the Corporate Cup have contacted us about assisting with their event. It will be on September 13 starting at Stinson Park.

Education Committee - Mary, N0TRK - There is a class starting June 17 for 6 classes. There a 10 students and they have books. There may be a General class in the future.

Membership Committee - Mary, N0TRK - We can make you a member.

Publications/Web Services

Ham Hum - Brian, KD0SVD - no report

Web Site - Mary, N0TRK - The club's web site is up and we're looking for

Repeater Committee - John, WBOCMC - The repeater is working just fine now that it's wet.

Joe Francis will talk to their tower guy about getting up there and working on loose parts.

Norm, WA0JYD proposed that the club apply to buy a combination digital and analog dual band repeater from Yaesu for \$500 before their offer expires June 30. If after a year we don't like it we can sell it for \$1200. This is a way for the club to put \$700 in the treasury. Norm answered a number of questions including that the Yaesu digital method is not compatible with D-Star, DMRS, On-Star or Star Trek communicators.

Pat, K0CTU made a motion that the board evaluate the repeater with the assistance of the repeater committee and decide whether or not to buy it. There was no second. After considerable further discussion including that the membership should make the decision Pat withdrew his motion.

Field Day - Adam, KD0MMG and Eric KB0LF - There will be a Field Day planning meeting on June 20 at the Village Inn at 78th and Dodge at 1 PM.

QSL and Technical Committee - Eddy, K0IL - no report.

Courtesy Committee - Bill, KE0XQ - no activity.

Trailer/Equipment Committee - Mary, N0TRK - The trailer is wired for AC from the generator to the table.

Public Awareness - Jim, KA0KCV, club P.I.M.P. - The club operated during the Museum Ships On The Air event and made 340 contacts with the call K0USA. The best DX was Belgium and they were in several or caused several pile-ups and it was a lot of fun.

The USS Hazard is now righted and there is power to the ship.

Transmitter Hunt - The transmitter hunt will be on Sunday June 14 at 3 PM starting from Memorial Park.

Dave, N0JSB, will be hiding the transmitter. Come out and join us - there is always room for someone to ride along.

Flea-Esta - Chris, N0CALL - We need volunteers and there is a sign-up sheet on the front table. We have the drawing prizes and the grand prize is a Yaesu FT-60 HT. We also have a couple of clocks, a J-Pole antenna and some lightning arrestors. The scheduled date is September 12 at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Minutes (Continued)

Announcements -

Don is looking for suggestions for drinks for during the meeting break before the program.

There will be no door prize drawings since Rollie, AB0NN is unable to attend the meeting.

Rollie will be leaving the Door Prize committee in the near future. A replacement for him is needed.

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

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

At 7:43 PM a motion was made by John, WBOCMC to end the meeting. So moved.

Bill WA9ASD, Secretary AARC

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.

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. For more details, see the AARC web page .

de AARC Equipment Committee

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	NØMNW	board@aksarbenarc.org
2014-2016 Director	Barb Westcott	KCØHLB	board@aksarbenarc.org

Club Committees

Immediate Past President	Corby Krick	KØSKW	board@aksarbenarc.org
Courtesy Committee	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	courtesy@aksarbenarc.org
Education	Adam Kavan	KDØMMG	education@aksarbenarc.org
Field Day			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	Rollie Miller	ABØNN	prizes@aksarbenarc.org
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Westcott	KAØKCV	pr@aksarbenarc.org
Publications	Brian Pitchanau	KDØSVD	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

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

June Door Prizes

NONE

Rollie— ABONN, was not available this month.

EQUIPMENT ADS

Dentron MT-2000A Antenna Matching Unit

Legal limit HF antenna matching unit with 4:1 balun and bypass. No metering. See complete description here :

<http://wireless-girl.com/Projects/Transmatches/DentronMT2000A.html>
\$150 or best offer. Contact: equipment@aksarbenarc.org

HF Amplifier - Legal Limit - 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 meters.

Finest components in a superb home-brew amplifier. Built right from the Eimac/W6SAI design. Requires a 3-1000Z tube. Power supply is disassembled consisting of motorized variac for setting HV, broadcast quality plate transformer, diode stack, swinging choke, and filter capacitors. Includes metering panel for setting and monitoring line voltage and plate voltage, line circuit breaker, etc.

RF Deck is stand-alone with vacuum variable w/ turns counter, air variable, B & W tank circuit coupled to band specific input matching circuits, meters for plate current, drive level and directional coupler and Dow-Key transfer relay. 30"H x 29"D x 21"W See Pictures at: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org> \$700 or best offer.— We deliver. Contact: equipment@aksarbenarc.org

HF Dummy Load

You don't have a transmitter that will exceed this load's rating. Unit consists of 12 X 600 Ohm 375 non-inductive resistors in parallel with UHF connector. Not enclosed. 4,500 watts continuous rating. 21"L x 6 1/2" D See pictures at:

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>.

\$225 or best offer contact: equipment@aksarbenarc.org

EQUIPMENT ADS

(Continued)

Non-Inductive Resistors

600 Ohm, 375 watts continuous. 1" X 18" ceramic. Good for high power rhombic or Beverage antenna termination. Six available. See picture at:

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>.

\$20 each Contact: equipment@aksarbenarc.org.

Low Speed 120VAC Reversible Motor

Operates at 11 or 23 RPM in either direction. 1/4" output shaft. Simple to wire up. Includes capacitor for controlling direction. Great for a roller inductor or air variable in a remote tuner. Four available. See picture at:

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>.

\$25 each Contact: equipment@aksarbenarc.org

Samsung CLP-510 - Two Printers for the Price of One

Industrial strength color laser printer. One works good the other burned-up its line cord - unknown problem. Includes documentation, ink cartridges, ink cartridge refill tools and instructions.

\$65 for both or best offer. Contact equipment@aksarbenarc.org

Complete HF Setup

Kenwood TS-870S AT (with DSP) HF Amateur band transceiver in excellent condition with the original manual, matching PS-52 Power Supply, SP-31 speaker, and MC-80 desk mic. A great looking and performing radio photos available at:

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org> or email equipment@aksarbenarc.org for details

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

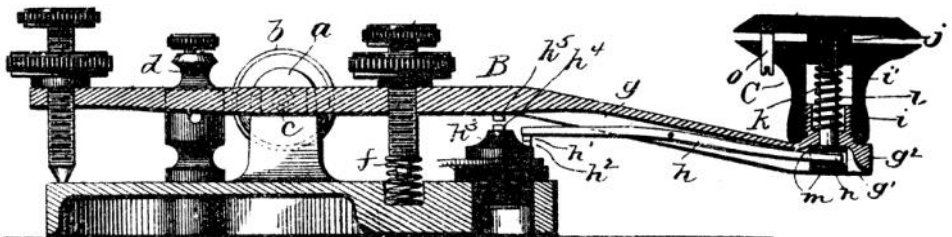
8:00 AM 3.902.500 Swap Net.

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.



Calendar

- Jul 10** 7:00 PM AARC Meeting Red Cross Building, 81st & Spring St, Omaha, NE
Jul 11 North Bend NE Hamfest run be warm hearted Hams, at the Church.
Jul 12 AARC Rabbit Hunt (Transmitter Hunt) — Memorial Park, 57th and Underwood, Omaha, NE—Starts promptly at 3:00PM Be early
Jul 15 7:00 PM Heartland Hams Meeting
Jul 16 7:30 PM Bellevue ARC Meeting
Jul 18 6:30 PM AARC Coffee and Conversation—Village Inn 108th and L St, Omaha.
Jul 23 7:30 PARC Meeting
Jul 23 7:30 SWIARC Meeting 705 N 16th, Council Bluffs, IA.
Jul 28 6:30 PM License Exam at American Red Cross at 81st and Spring Street unless otherwise noted
Aug 06 6:30 PM Lincoln ARC License Exam
Aug 08 1:00 PM Bellevue ARC License Exam, at Midlands Hospital Papillion, NE
Aug 14 7:00 PM AARC Meeting Red Cross Building, 81st & Spring St, Omaha, NE
Aug 15 6:30 PM AARC Coffee and Conversation—Village Inn 108th and L St, Omaha
Aug 16 AARC Rabbit Hunt (Transmitter Hunt) — Memorial Park, 57th and Underwood, Omaha, NE—Starts promptly at 3:00PM Be early
Aug 19 7:00 PM Heartland Hams Meeting
Aug 20 7:30 PM Bellevue ARC Meeting
Aug 25 6:30 PM License Exam at Council Bluffs
Aug 27 7:30PM PARC and SWIARC meetings (Separate locations)

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 an AARC officer.

Transmitter Hunt

The June Transmitter hunt started promptly at 3 PM on Sunday June 13. Unfortunately it was an auspicious start as neither Justin, KE0BHP nor I could hear the transmitter. After Dave, NOJSB manipulated the antenna, location and power level of the transmitter for about 10 minutes we both got a faint signal. Justin got a reading to the S SW and I got 2 readings, one S SW and another S SE. We decided “it was a go” so we both left the starting point. I headed SE and I have no idea where Justin went. After messing around in the vicinity of the VA hospital, including a period in the parking lot waiting for a transmission with VA Security watching me from about 100 yards away, I was starting to get readings to the west. As I wandered from high spot to high spot, hitting numerous branches on side streets with my antenna, I finally crossed into no-man’s land—west of 680 on Pacific. (Continued on Page 14)

Bill WA9ASD

Contest Calendar

For more details on contests visit: www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html

FISTS Summer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Jul 11
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 11 to 1200Z, Jul 12
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Jul 11 to 2400Z, Jul 12
CQC Great Colorado Gold Rush	2000Z-2159Z, Jul 12
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jul 15 1900Z-2000Z, Jul 15 0300Z-0400Z, Jul 16
RSGB 80m Club Championship, SSB	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 15
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Jul 16
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Jul 17
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jul 17
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jul 17
Trans-Tasman Low-Bands Challenge	0800Z-1400Z, Jul 18
DMC RTTY Contest	1200Z, Jul 18 to 1200Z, Jul 19
Feld Hell Sprint	1600Z-1759Z, Jul 18
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z, Jul 18 to 2100Z, Jul 19
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Jul 18 to 0559Z, Jul 19
RSGB Low Power Contest	0900Z-1200Z and 1300Z-1600Z, Jul 19
Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	0100Z-0300Z, Jul 20
SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Jul 22
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jul 22 1900Z-2000Z, Jul 22 0300Z-0400Z, Jul 23
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jul 23
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Jul 24
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jul 24
NCCC Sprint	0230Z-0300Z, Jul 24

RSGB IOTA Contest	1200Z, Jul 25 to 1200Z, Jul 26
County Hunters CW Contest	1400Z-2400Z, Jul 25
	1400Z-2400Z, Jul 26
ARS Flight of the Bumblebees	1700Z-2100Z, Jul 26
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Jul 29
	1900Z-2000Z, Jul 29
	0300Z-0400Z, Jul 30
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Jul 31
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Jul 31
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Jul 31

August 2015

TARA Grid Dip Shindig	0000Z-2400Z, Aug 1
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	0001Z, Aug 1 to 2359Z, Aug 2
European HF Championship	1200Z-2359Z, Aug 1
ARRL August UHF Contest	1800Z, Aug 1 to 1800Z, Aug 2
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z, Aug 1 to 0559Z, Aug 2
RSGB RoPoCo CW	0700Z-0830Z, Aug 2
SARL HF Phone Contest	1300Z-1630Z, Aug 2
ARS Spartan Sprint	0100Z-0300Z, Aug 4
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 5
	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 5
	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 6
NRAU 10m Activity Contest	1700Z-1800Z, Aug 6 (CW)
	1800Z-1900Z, Aug 6 (SSB)
	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 6 (FM)
	2000Z-2100Z, Aug 6 (Dig)
QRP Fox Hunt	0100Z-0230Z, Aug 7
NCCC RTTY Sprint	0145Z-0215Z, Aug 7
NCCC Sprint Ladder	0230Z-0300Z, Aug 7
WAE DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Aug 8 to 2359Z, Aug 9
SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	1200Z, Aug 8 to 2400Z, Aug 9
Maryland-DC QSO Party	1600Z, Aug 8 to 0400Z, Aug 9
	1600Z-2400Z, Aug 9
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z, Aug 8 to 0300Z, Aug 9
NAQCC CW Sprint	0030Z-0230Z, Aug 12
MMMonVHF/DUBUS 144 MHz Meteor-scatter Sprint Contest	0400Z, Aug 12 to 0359Z, Aug 14
CWops Mini-CWT Test	1300Z-1400Z, Aug 12
	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 12
	0300Z-0400Z, Aug 13
RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW	1900Z-2000Z, Aug 12

TRANSMITTER HUNT (Continued)

At this point, about an hour and 20 minutes into the hunt, Dave gave a clue - he said he was west of 90th Street and North of Blondo. I was getting a reading to the north so I headed up 120th Street to Maple and was finally getting signals strong enough to want some attenuation. To accomplish this I had to remove the antenna lead from the receiver, connect it to the attenuator and connect a jumper from the attenuator to the receiver, On the next transmission—no signal. What? Oh, I forgot to connect the jumper to the radio. At this point Dave gave another clue - he was South and East of 156th and Maple. Ah, Ha! The Field Day site!

From here on, I just headed to the 911 Center, pulled into the parking area and spotted Dave's car; a sure tip-off that the transmitter was near. After parking and looking around, I spotted the transmitter without my direction-finding antenna.

About 10 minutes after I got there, Justin showed up and wandered for a few minutes until we stood near the transmitter and he found it. The signal was too strong to get a directional reading on it.

Thus ended the hunt at about 5:25.

Be sure and come out in July when I'll be finding the transmitter and the hunt won't take as long.

Bill WA9ASD

6 MAY 1975 COMMUNICATION

John - WB0CMC

Around 2 in the afternoon of the 6th, NWS had called out the weather spotters to be prepared for some severe weather. I got off work shortly before 2 so when I got home I activated the amateur radio spotter network. . Initially there were only two or three other operators available. By 4 PM there were several more and it wasn't long till I had reports of a funnel over south west Omaha. (see Tornado, page 15)

TORNADO (Continued)

Shortly after that there were reports of damage coming in and I assigned Paul Sherrerd, a student at the time, now an ENT physician, to go to the Red Cross and set up a station. From then on things got fast and furious. It was obvious pretty quickly that this was going to be a big disaster. Gary Maples, a banker at the time had come over to help me with the running of the net. We were in my basement and Gary went upstairs to see what it looked like outside. He yelled "It's coming right for us" and I yelled back, "Get back down here". As it turned out it had gone about 4 blocks west of my house with only debris in the yard and plastered on the side of my house. When Paul checked in from the Red Cross, I turned over net control to him and Gary and I headed in his direction. We knew he was going to need help.

Once there I asked one of the Red Cross people if they had a board with a map and stick pins. He got one really quick and we started putting pins in the map where we were getting reports from. After about an hour or so (one loses track of time in situations like this) we had a pretty good idea where the damage was and where it wasn't. It gave enough information that we could tell inquiries whether their loved ones were in or out of the area. It also provided some of the necessary information for a presidential disaster area declaration.

By this time we had shifted to damage assessment and health and welfare traffic on some of our other frequencies. We had for a time, stations set up at the 911 center, National guard, Salvation Army and other places who needed communications with others doing disaster relief, feeding workers, traffic control etc. We were on the air for the next 7 days, 24 hours each till things had settled down somewhat.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

The school where I was teaching at the time turned the students loose to help with clean up or whatever they could do to help. There were so many amateur radio operators that were invaluable to the communications effort I can't name them nor, at this late date, remember them all. Several came in from as far as Grand Island and Des Moines to help. I had one of the Des Moines operators sleeping on my living room floor for a couple of nights.

I can tell many other tales surrounding the incident but this is the major part. I'll leave it to others to detail the destruction and human interest aspects of such a calamity.

John Gebuhr, WBOCMC