

Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc
P.O. Box 24551
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KØUSA 146.940(-)/224.940
Web Page: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>
E-Mail: k0usa@aksarbenarc.org



**Membership
Form
2009**

This form may be used for any of the following purposes (check all the apply):

- A. _____ Pay Dues _____ Renew _____ New
- B. _____ Change of Mailing Address
- C. _____ Update personal information (new callsign, upgrade, etc)

Personal Information

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member ? O Yes O No

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Spouse Information (Complete Only For Spouse Applying at Same Time)

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Email address: _____ ARRL Member O Yes O No

Minor Dependent (Complete Only For Minors Applying at the Same Time)

Callsign	License Class	Name	ARRL Member?
_____	_____	_____	-OYes O No
_____	_____	_____	-OYes O No
_____	_____	_____	-OYes O No

Annual Dues

(January thru December)

For Club Use Only – DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full Member | \$20.00 year | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accompanying Spouse | \$ 4.00 year | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accompanying Minor
Dependent | \$ 4.00 year x # of minors
renewing | Amount: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Member (full time
student) | \$ 8.00 year | Amount: _____ |

Total Paid: _____

Mail to:

**Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 24551
Omaha, NE 68124**

AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LIX, Issue 2

February 2009

Prez Sez

United we stand, Divided we fall

Corby Krick KOSKW

This week at work I made my usual round of web surfing. Of course, this included trips to a couple of the more popular ham radio websites not belonging to a club or organization. On one page, I read about a ham who created a new social networking website specifically for hams to use. And then I made a mistake: I read the comments.

Ham after ham berated this poor fellow for his hard work! They argued over the name of the site, and asked if social networking on the internet was really necessary – isn't that what you do on the air? Mind you, this was on an internet forum where hams all over the world gather to share their common interests – over the internet, not the radio!

After reading the comments, I was disgusted. Absolutely disgusted. If I didn't have my license and wasn't already involved with the hobby and I read that, it would have scared me away!

I want these sites to serve an example of how not to be a ham. Don't attack someone's hard work just because you don't see yourself using it. Isn't tinkering what ham radio is all about? And what's this about not being a "real" ham if you don't know code, or how to dump out a bin of parts and build a multi-band rig out of them?

In the last week, the Omaha area found itself with several new hams. Remember what it was like being a new ham? I'm willing to bet you didn't know everything there was to ham radio, and I'm willing to bet you still don't! How would you like to learn new things about this hobby? Through a place with a bunch of angry people, or some place that was welcoming and willing to learn along with you?

AARC Meeting

This month's program will be our new Section Manager Art Zygielbaum KØAIZ. Come listen to his vision for his upcoming term. This program is carried over from last month when the weather was not so good. The meeting is at the Red Cross, 80th and Spring, 7:30 PM Friday Feb. 13th

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 (2009)	Corby Krick	KØSKW	402-540-5483	k0skw@k0skw.net
Vice President (2009)	Dick Jones	N6KVA		
2008-2009 Board (Secretary)	Doug Rathman	NGØK	402-493-7369	dlrathman@cox.net
2008-2009 Board (Treasurer)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bxdan@novia.net
2008-2009 Board	Dan Olsen	KD7GSW		
2008-2009 Board	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
2009-2010 Board	Greg Carlson	N7JOD	402-305-2009	
2009-2010 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AE0EG@arrl.net

Standing Committee Chairs

Programs	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Public Service/Emergency	Jim Harper	KCØSHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com
Education	Open Contact	Corby Krick	k0skw@k0skw.net	for more information
Membership	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Publications	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Web Services	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Net	Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7774	wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager & Technical	Ed Edwards	KØIL		eedwards@tconl.com

Repeater Committee

Chairman	John Gebuhr	WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@cox.net
Vice Chairman	Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	402-690-0000	dswenson@wearne.net
Member	Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-306-2972	n0up@arrl.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net

Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bxdan@novia.net
Special Events Coordinator	Greg Ervin	KCØVTO	402-445-0317	gervinl@cox.net
ARRL Midwest Director	Bruce Frahm	KØBJ	785-462-7388	k0bj@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director	Clifford Ahrens	KØCA	573-221-8618	k0ca@arrl.org
NE Section Manager	Art Zygielbaum	KØAIZ		
Official Observer Coordinator	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ		ke0xq@cox.net
Section EC	Jim Hitz	KCØDVG	402-642-2040	kc0dvg@arrl.net
EC Douglas County	Darwin Piatt	W9HZC	402-991-0412	w9hzc@cox.net
EC Sarpy County	Dennis Mitchell	KCØYKN		
EC Washington County	Don Morgan	KBØVIY	402-427-7111	kb0viy@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net

Contest Calendar

February, 2009

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
REF Contest, SSB	0600Z, Feb 21 to 1800Z, Feb 22
UBA DX Contest, CW	1300Z, Feb 21 to 1300Z, Feb 22
High Speed Club CW Contest	0900Z-1700Z, Feb 22 CQ
160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 27 to 2159Z, Mar 1
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 28 to 0600Z, Mar 1

March, 2009

AGCW YL-CW Party	1900Z-2100Z, Mar 3
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 15 to 0100Z, Mar 16
SARL VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z, Mar 20 to 1000Z, Mar 22
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 21
Russian DX Contest	1200Z, Mar 21 to 1200Z, Mar 22
QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 23
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 28 to 2400Z, Mar 29

For details check the following web site the week prior to the contest.
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

Upcoming Events

February 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 6:00 PM Red Cross
February 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
March 7	Ommrs Training, 9-4, Josie Harper Training center 87 th & Burt n0trk@arrl.net for info
March 7	SWIARC Hamfest, McClelland IA,
March 7	BARC VE Test Session, 1:00 PM at Midlands Hospital. education@bellevuearc.org for info
March 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Business Meeting, 6:00 PM Red Cross
March 13	AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross
March 21	LARC End of Winter Hamfest/Nebraska State Convention Lancaster Event Center, Lincoln NE
March 28	Central Plains Severe Weather Symposium. University of Nebraska, Lincoln http://www.cpsws.unl.edu/ .
March 31	HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross
April 1	Spotter Training, 7:00 PM, Fire Training Academy, 3100 Cornhusker Rd Bellevue
April 6	Spotter Training, 7:00 PM, Boys Town
April 8 & 11	Douglas County Siren test, 10:00 am n0up@arrl.net for info
April 25 & 26	Nebraska QSO Party www.hdxa.net for info

OMMRS Training

March 7th from 9:00 to 4:00

Josie Harper Training Center 87th and Burt Streets
3rd Floor Conference Room - there will be a break for lunch.
Talk-in on 146.940

Topics include Ommrs info, Hospital environment before Lunch and Packet, Logging and Message Handling after lunch.

Nebraska QSO Party

April 25 & 26.

Please spread the word!

Rules have been updated online at: <http://www.hdx.net>

Changes this year include:

Only (1)one plaque awarded for overall.

Certificates will be awarded via log submission format.

New mailing address for snail mail submissions.

Radio Class A Success

The Ak-Sar-Ben ARC worked with the Latter Day Saints Church and hosted a 2 day ham class held on January 17th and 24th. About 22 church members attended the class that was taught by Corby KØSKW, Pat KØCTU and Mary NØTRK at the LDS Chapel on West Maple. Lou KA7BLG was the liaison to the church and arranged the location. The church promoted the class to its members and took care of the registration.

Not everyone planned on taking the test Tuesday, but most did, and a couple more even made General. Final numbers are not yet in, but based on email conversations we will be hearing a new group of hams on the air soon! All of them are interested in learning more and getting involved in community service.

We will be working with the church again to do a General class and another Tech Class. Make sure you welcome the new voices we will be hearing on the air soon.

3982.5 HF ARES Net

Please note the Sun- day night ARES HF Net on 3982.5 will be at 2045 hours (8:45PM) for the time being. This will allow 15 minutes for the HF net before the regular 34/94 net starts at 2100 hours. This time change was facilitated for those of us who have difficulty multitasking.

Thanks all..

Darwin (Dar) Piatt , W9HZC

Amateur Radio Emergency Service,

Douglas County Emergency Coordinator

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Rich WA0ZQG (712) 256.7774

7 year old COMPAQ laptop computer. XP system updated w/SP3 and IE ver 7. 20G hard drive, 256M RAM, 2 USB. Hi-Speed Ethernet port blown. Comes with add-on PCMCIA cards for Hi-Speed Ethernet port AND Wireless Wi-Fi (2 cards). 14 in display. \$95 w/cards, \$75 w/out.

The ads below are from the Swap Net 02/2009

FOR SALE: Robert KCOMUX (712) 767-2368

ICOM 718 HF transceiver \$425 ICOM AH-4 auto tuner. \$225, or both \$600 (2) ICOM 208H dual band transceiver 2M and 440 Like new in box \$275. Used \$250

ICOM 2100H 2M rig. Box, manual \$100

ICOM mike type HM-14 w/DTMF tone pad. \$35

CDR rotor type TR-4 \$40

CDE rotor 'Big Talk' model \$75

FOR SALE: Norm WA0JYD (402) 453-1930

KENWOOD 480SAT HF & 6M w/internal auto tuner 160 - 6M and incl. 60M Two mikes. Hand mike plus MC-60A desk type. \$900
YAESU FT-1000MP deluxe HF transceiver w/matching hi-power power supply combination runs 200W out on 160 thru 10M. Includes 2 mikes (MC-8A desk) make offer

FOR SALE: Call Ken K0BNL (402) 896.1131

LDG auto tuner 2-100 Like new. (12V @ 300mA) \$125

FOR SALE: Phil KC0QDG (402) 490.2168

20M 3-element Hy-Gain beam antenna w/balun. \$75

Hy-Gain Explorer 14 w/all parts, needs work. \$125 Call

FOR SALE: Steve N0ORU (712) 762.4214

BIRD model 43 Wattmeter w/four slugs. 2 VHF, 2 UHF

FOR SALE: Kelly NM7H, 402) 291.6521

YAESU 757 GX II HF All mode incl FM. Mic, manual and two (2) power cords. \$350

SWIARC Hamfest March 7th 2009

McClelland Hall, 170 Main St, McClelland IA

Interstate 80 to Exit 17, turn East on Magnolia Rd 500 feet, then South (right) on 265th St, 3.2 miles to McClelland IA

talk-in on 146.82R-

Contact Greg N0GR (712) 566.2698 n0gr@arrl.net

Tables Rick KE4YQD (402)932-9417 kendrickmeadows@hotmail.com

Class Projects

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

I have been teaching a General Class license class for the past five years. The first year, I had five students, the next year 35! This year, I have only five again.

Not being a pedagogical genius, it never really occurred to me until last year to give my General Class students a project to work on while we slogged through the material. Last year, some of them built little QRP kits. Not only was that fun, it was educational. Some of them had never even soldered before!

Since last year's project worked out so well, I am asking this year's students to do some kind of project, but one that they choose themselves. Here's the short list that I came up with:

- * Build a kit like my students did last year.
- * Build a 2m beam. At our first meeting, one of the guys noted that while he could hear a repeater about 30 miles away from his QTH, he wasn't able to hit it with the 5/8-wavelength vertical he was using. I suggest that he build a Cheap Yagi (<http://www.fredspinner.com/W0FMS/CheapYagi/vjbcy.html>).
- * Download some antenna simulation software and analyze a dipole or vertical antenna. MM-ANA (<http://mmhamsoft.amateur-radio.ca/mmana/index.htm>) is free and looks to be a pretty good program.
- * Learn Morse Code. Being the CW geek that I am, how could I not suggest this?

I wanted to give my students a bigger choice, so I asked the readers of my blog for more suggestions:

Kenneth, W6KWF, replied, "Hands down the most useful and most successful projects I've built have been 2m J-poles. I've built both the 1/2-in. copper tubing and TV line variants, and use both as my primary antennas. The TV line one is nice because I live in an apartment, so when I need a good antenna, I tie a magnet to the top of it and stick it to my upstairs neighbor's balcony. It's a very forgiving antenna."

Zeke also like the idea of building J-pole antennas. "You didn't mention the age group/groups you are working with," he said, "but have you thought about a hands-on project such as a j-pole for 2 or 6 meters. It would give them an opportunity to feel the pride that follows an involved project. Furthermore, the J-pole is a pretty good antenna."

John N8ZYA, said, "I like the [idea of learning CW].it's like learning to play the guitar or piano. A skill that can be used your entire lifetime!"

Robert suggested, "How about building a 20 meter delta loop? I am very

inexperienced when it comes to antenna building, but a friend suggested this for working DX on 20 meters and it worked out really well. In fact, my first contact on it was Spain!"

I would love to offer my students even more choices. If you have a suggestion, please e-mail it to me at cwgeek@kb6nu.com. Thanks!

Ham Hum Delivery

If you would like the Ham Hum delivered electronically by email, please let N0UP n0up@cox.net know. We will make sure your hum arrives when the mailed hum would arrive. This is an opt-out of receiving the Hum by mail only. If you do not request an emailed copy, you will continue to receive it by postal mail. Ed.

MS Walk

The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club will once again provide radio communication support for the Multiple Sclerosis Society during their fund raising Omaha MS Walk on Sunday, April 19th, 2008 from noon to 5 pm. Radio operators will be needed along the route to help coordinate the walk.

Operators will need, at a minimum, a 2m handheld (with an extra battery) or a 2m mobile. Some areas on the route may require the power/antenna from a mobile to hit the repeater reliably so your assignment may depend on your equipment. My 5 watt Kenwood D71A and G71 HTs with a 17" whip antenna worked very well. However, the stock rubber duck antenna did not.

For those new hams, this is a perfect way to get started with community service as well as practice some basic net control procedures. There are usually several experienced hams at the event as well, so there is something for everyone!

The walk will start at the Scott Conference Center on the UNO Campus, continue through Elmwood Park, cross over the pedestrian bridge into Memorial Park and then circle back.

The event this year has a new afternoon start time. Registration is open for the walkers beginning at noon. Lunch will also be served at noon with the walk starting at 1 pm. Radio operators should plan on arriving at 11:30 am, check in with net control, get their shirt, have some lunch and receive any last minute assignments, etc. The event should end around 5 pm.

If you can be a part of our team, or if you have any questions, please send me an e-mail or call me at 402-964-9960. Please let me know your contact information, shirt size and radio capabilities.

Rob Buchholz, KCØOYT
Callsign at arrl.net