

Ham Hum

YOUR Field Day is coming right up!

It's that time of year again – No, not baseball season! It's FIELD DAY! Field Day is the biggest party on the ham bands, and YOU can be a part of it! Field Day is a 24-hour event. Sure, there's a contest going on on-air, but it's much more than a contest. It's about honing your skills as an amateur radio operator. It's about having fun with other hams. It's about sharing this hobby with someone new. It's a chance to get out of the shack, into the breeze, and catch some fresh air – all without leaving the mic (or key, if you're into that sort of thing).

As always, Field Day is the last full weekend in June, 28th and 29th this year. We'll be out at the Walnut Creek Recreation Area in a picnic shelter over looking the water.

So far we have a few radios, a few antennas. Even a few Boy Scouts looking for a merit badge. There's still something missing though: YOU!

We need people on the radios, people to manage the people on the radios, people to log, people to get food together, people to help set up, tear down, etc. But it's not all work! You're here to have FUN, too!

Field Day is the meeting topic this month. We'll go a little more in-depth about what we as a club want this year's Field Day to be. Have something you want to see at Field Day? Bring it to the meeting. This Field Day is yours, after all!

If you need more information, let me know!

DE Corby K0SKW – k0skw@k0skw.net – (Lincoln) 402-540-5483

Please see the Field Day Map on the back cover.

Our next meeting is June 13th at 7:30 p.m. at the American Red Cross Heartland Chapter House at 81st and Spring Streets
This month's program will be about The Annual ARRL Field Day
Discover the History, Traditions and Rules of the Most Popular Ham Radio Event in the Country Learn How **YOU** can Take Part by Getting on the Air at this Nation Wide Event

<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>



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

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| President (2008) | Greg Babbitt | W0AAI | 402-598-3030 | w0aai@arrl.net |
| Vice President (2008) | Mary Joseph | NØTRK | 402-492-9156 | n0trk@arrl.net |
| 2007-2008 Board | Rolly Miller | ABØNN | 402-333-1606 | ab0nn@arrl.net |
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| 2007-2008 Board | Steve Schmitz | NØUP | 402-306-2972 | n0up@cox.net |
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| 2008-2009 Board (Treasurer) | Brian Zdan | KMØY | 402-553-2610 | bzdan@novia.net |
| 2008-2009 Board | Dan Olsen | KD7GSW | | |
| 2008-2009 Board | Jim Harper | KCØSHZ | 402-659-0102 | kc0shz@yahoo.com |

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 | Greg Babbitt | w0aai@cox.net | for more information |
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| Club Net | Rich Swig | WAØZQG | 712-256-7775 | 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 | bzdan@novia.net |
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| NE Section Manager | Matt Anderson | KAØBOJ | 402-944-7488 | ka0boj@arrl.org |
| 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 | kb0vivy@yahoo.com |
| EC Pottawattamie County | Terry Lindsley | KSØL | 712-325-0107 | ks0l@arrl.net |

Contest Calendar

June, 2008

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RSGB National Field Day | 1500Z, Jun 7 to 1500Z, Jun 8 |
| IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW | 1500Z, Jun 7 to 1459Z, Jun 8 |
| Alabama QSO Party | 1600Z, Jun 7 to 0400Z, Jun 8 |
| Portugal Day Contest | 0000Z-2400Z, Jun 14 |
| Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB | 1100Z-1300Z, Jun 14 |
| West Virginia QSO Party | 1600Z, Jun 14 to 0200Z, Jun 15 |
| ARRL June VHF QSO Party | 1800Z, Jun 14 to 0300Z, Jun 16 |
| BCC QSO Party | 1700Z-1900Z, Jun 25 |
| Digital Pentathlon | 1800Z-2200Z, Jun 27 |
| His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB | 1200Z, Jun 28 to 1200Z, Jun 29 |
| Marconi Memorial HF Contest | 1400Z, Jun 28 to 1400Z, Jun 29 |
| ARRL Field Day | 1800Z, Jun 28 to 2100Z, Jun 29 |

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

Upcoming Events

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|--------------|--|
| June 10 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross |
| June 13 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross |
| June 28 & 29 | Field Day |
| July 8 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Board Meeting, 7:00 PM, Red Cross |
| July 11 | AK-SAR-BEN ARC Club Meeting, 7:30 PM, Red Cross |
| July 12 & 13 | Dave Babcook Memorial Race |
| July 12 & 13 | MS Bike Ride |
| July 12 | PARC 11th Annual Flea Market, North Bend, NE |
| July 29 | HDXA & AARC VE Test Session, 6:30 PM, Red Cross |

146.94 Repeater Update

Over the past few weeks, the 146.94 K0USA Repeater has had a few issues. The repeater committee has been busy keeping up with the necessary repairs. First we noted a significant power drop, and found that the power amplifier module had failed, that was replaced when the new one came in. Most recently the audio output dropped off to almost zero. When we went out to trouble shoot that the first time, all the cards were reseated and that fixed the problem temporarily. It soon failed again, so on Saturday June 7th we returned to the repeater site and found that the deviation pot in the control module had developed a dead spot. It was repaired by adding a resistor to put the pot in a new adjustment location. At the same time the remote receive units were tuned and matched so they should be finding their way into the field soon.

Thanks, The AK-SAR-BEN ARC Repeater Committee

Board of Director's Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2008

Roll Call

[x] Greg–WØAAI [] Mary–NØTRK [x] Brian–KMØY [x] Doug–NGØK
[x] Marvin–AEØEG [x] Jim–KCØSHZ [x] Steve–NØUP [] Corby–KØSKW
[] Rollie–ABØNN [] Todd–KKØDX [] Dan–KD7GSW

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Secretary - Doug Rathman - NGØK

The April meeting minutes were accepted as read.

President - Greg Babbitt - WØAAI

The tech class started today as planned. Jim Newland KØEMC will be helping with the club's advanced education program activities which are tentatively planned for later this spring or summer.

Vice President/Programs - Mary Joseph - NØTRK

Jason Kruse from the Venturing Group will give a presentation at this Friday's meeting.

Treasurer - Brian Zdan - KMØY

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|
| Checking | 3314.82 | |
| MM Acct | 5123.54 | Int 8.30 |
| Repeater | 1132.12 | |
| Repeater CD | 2059.45 | |
| CD | 14,743.00 | Has matured |
| Total | 26,403.00 | |

The CD has matured and Brian will be shopping for a renewal or new CD

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

None

Public Service – Jim - KCØSHZ

An ARES meeting was held at the EOC last Wednesday. The state track meet is Friday 5/16 and Saturday 5/17.

Repeater

A remote site is being considered to help cover the southwest part of the repeater area.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be Tuesday 6/10 at 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Doug Rathman, NGØK, AKSARBEN ARC, Inc. Secretary.

Nebraska QSO Party

For the Nebraska QSO Party April 26-27, three Omaha hams activated Keya Paha County, Nebraska. Former Ak ARC board member Gerry Gross WA6POZ, Jim Kilby KGØRD, and Ak treasurer Brian Zdan KMØY operated NEØRC, the club station of the Nebraska Amateur Radio Club. ("Nebraska" is Ak-Sar-Ben spelled backwards.)

The QTH was a cottage overlooking the Niobrara River valley, near the county's southern border. Since no active hams live there, county hunters consider Keya Paha County to be "rare." Rancher Gale Larrington, who rented out the cottage to the NEØRC crew, moved his tractor exactly where the hams wanted it. The raised front loader attachment made a perfect end support for the operation's G5RV antenna. A tree near the cottage supported the other leg of the G5RV.

Using an Icom 718 transceiver on the cottage's kitchen table, the group operated 20M CW and sideband during the daylight hours. After dark, the team switched to 40M until that band died. Conditions throughout the contest period were poor to fair. Nevertheless, the operation's contest log shows contacts with a majority of states and three Canadian provinces. NEØRC racked up a tentative score of 10,432 points.

After the contest ended on Sunday, the three drove east into Boyd County on the way back to Omaha. There, just a few miles from where the Missouri River meets the state's northern border, lies the community of Gross, Nebraska. Gerry 'POZ finally got to visit the town with the same name as his. The official Department of Roads highway map lists the population of Gross as five. According to the sign at the edge of town, however, that figure is off by forth per cent.



2008 MS Bike Ride, Saturday and Sunday (July 12 and 13)

Once again the Bellevue Amateur Radio Club will be sponsoring the communications support for the 2008 Multiple Sclerosis Two Day Bike Ride.

This is a great chance for new hams to get involved in public service events. You need not be a member of any club, ARES, or RACES to volunteer your time and resources. No experience is required. If you are new to Amateur Radio public service events, we will give you hands on training in a practical and fun environment. This event gives us "old-timers" the chance to continue the tradition of helping others. So mark your calendars now, and spread the word around to your fellow hams and club members.

The MS Two Day Bike Ride will be Saturday and Sunday (July 12 & 13). This is the weekend before the Cornhusker State Games in Lincoln. Plans are to have the Two-Day bike riders start in Omaha Saturday morning and end in Lincoln Saturday afternoon. Locations of the traditional Saturday evening celebration party and awards dinner are still pending. The exact routes have not been determined at this time. The MS Society provides an official MS Society Bike Ride t-shirt, and meals both days to the volunteers.

Required resources will include a dual-band mobile radio and suitable antenna. Hand held dual band radios may also prove useful depending upon your assignment, and proximity to the repeaters. If you do not have dual-band radios, 2 meter radios will work. We will be using 2 meter frequencies as much as possible for primary communications, and 70cm frequencies for backup. Stations with APRS capability are encouraged to bring along their equipment and use it.

If you have a GMRS/FRS radio, you may want to consider bringing it with you. The riders will be encouraged to use channel 1 (without any PL tones) should they need help.

Amateur Radio operators are needed to staff water stops, SAG vehicles, bike repair vehicles, medical support vehicles, and last rider vehicles on the route. Specific duties for each will be provided at a later date.

If you would like to volunteer, or want more information, you may contact either of us in one of the following ways (NOTE that we prefer E-mail over phone calls):

- (1) George Bellairs: E-Mail: kb0zzt@arrl.net home phone: (402) 291-0960
- (2) Wayne Jorns: E-Mail: ke6dzd@arrl.net home phone: (402) 292-1727

I would prefer to use E-mail because it makes it a lot easier to keep everyone informed on our status. I realize that not everyone has e-mail so if we have to use phones, we will. You might also use a friend who has e-mail as a relay.

Cecil's Last Flea Market

Just so that the correct information gets out to as many folk as possible - my Father's last Flea Market will be at Southroads in Bellevue Friday, June 13th from 3-6pm for Hams, Saturday from 9-6 for everyone and then, as of yesterday (after the flyers went out), Sunday from 9-6pm. If you could let anyone know that inquires, I would appreciate it. Thank you. Kathy, WB0QPV

"We will be having a Flea Market from the Radio's Messiest Basement. WORMB (Cecil DeWitt), collected "stuff" throughout his lifetime and it all seemed to end up in the basements of the garage and the house. There is plenty of equipment to look through and prices will be pennies on the dollar. RMB's family would like to extend an open invitation to the members of all the area radio clubs to come and see what might show up for sale."

While I can't answer a lot of questions, 'cause some of the stuff down there is, uh, foreign to me, I can be reached at katdidi@cox.net or my cell phone is 681.5866. Thank you.

Kathy Handley, WB0QPV (Cecil's daughter)

Babcock Memorial bicycle race

Over the past few years we've been helping the Babcock Memorial bicycle races. The date for this year is Saturday, July 12, and Sunday, July 13th. This year the format will be a little different.

The races will consist of a time trial and two criteriums, but no road race. A time trial is a race against the clock where each rider is started on the course in one or two minute intervals. A criterium is a race held on closed city streets and lasts for a specific time or number of laps. The Saturday time trial will start at 8:00 AM and should run until 10:30 AM or so. The route starts at Mount Michael and heads north on 216th up to Bennington road and back to Mt. Michael. The Saturday criterium will be held in Papillion, and will start at 2:00 PM and will run throughout the day, and will end at 9:00 PM. The Sunday criterium will be the same downtown Omaha route that it has been for the past few years, and it will start around 9:00 AM and will run throughout the day. As soon as I know the exact location of the routes, the maps will be posted on our AksarbenTalk web page in the files section.

If you would like to volunteer for any of these races, send me a reply at k0ctu@arrl.net. Let me know which race and what time of day you can help. As soon as we get a few responses, we can let the race organizers know the amount of assistance we can provide.

Thanks and 73
Pat Joseph - KØCTU