



# HAM HUM

December 1961

Vol. XI  
No. 11



## DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting is the regular annual meeting of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. and its main purpose is the election of officers for the coming year. Each paid up member gets to vote in this election.

As usual this annual meeting will be combined with the Christmas party which will include the usual exchange of gifts by the members. Each member should bring a present for putting under the Christmas tree. This present should be worth a buck or more (we don't encourage the "more" but it sounds better than saying a buck or less) and should be something that someone will like to receive - not necessarily ham gear. The raffle money you have helped accumulate will be used for the purchase of additional gifts and we hope to have a number of donated items as well. Should you have an item you wish to donate or your firm

would wish to donate, please bring it to the Christmas party on December 8th, 1961.

This party will be held at the World Insurance Company cafeteria, 203 South 18th Street at 8:00 P.M. Guests are welcome and there will be a separate drawing for guests with one or more donated prizes. If the guests care to bring gifts for exchange, it will assist that much in the general festivities. So plan now to bring your friends, your wife, and your kids. This is our chance for a real family Christmas party and we have special movies lined up for the kids, the same as we did last year. For refreshments we will have coffee and ice cream and pop for the kiddies and thanks to some of the ladies, home made cake. As you know from previous years, these XYLS can come up with some very delicious cake.

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**HAM HUM** is the official organ of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc., of Omaha, Nebraska, mailed monthly to all members and to others upon request.



## NOVEMBER MEETING

Those of you who did not attend the November meeting who have talked to those who did, already know that you missed a good one. Myrven L. Mead from Northern Natural Gas Company talked to us about present and future uses of gas. He had a number of interesting gadgets with him which he operated by the use of gas, such as a non-electric fan and a radio which he operated by converting the heat from the gas flame to electricity. He also demonstrated a gas heater which heats without the use of flame and an alcohol cell for generating electricity.

He also told us of some of the future things to come from the gas industry and mentioned in particular the idea of generating electricity by the use of a fuel cell in the basement along side your furnace to provide electricity for the operation of the blower fan and thermostat and eventually to provide electricity for the entire house.

Our thanks go to Myrven Mead for a most interesting and informative meeting.

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## TRIBUTE TO A GREAT CLUB

(de Mismatch)

I guess when I get down to it I have only one gripe about the Midwest ARRL Convention held last October 6, 7, 8, and I'm sure the 687 registered hams who attended agree with me,--it just didn't last long enough.

In spite of the fact that Ak-Sar-Ben stands for Nebraska spelled backwards there is nothing backwards about that club's organizing ability. Continually going on all the time were programs of interest to everyone by people well versed on their particular subjects. And discussion periods in which we, the attending conventioners, could certainly get our questions answered.

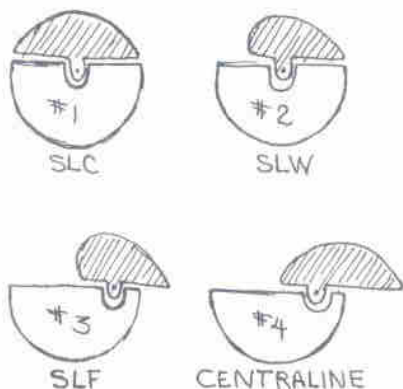
In a general summarization I must certainly go along with WRL in whose ad on the back page of this issue says 'hats off' to the Ak-Sar-Ben. The spirit, enthusiasm and all out work that you certainly must have put into this year's convention must likewise surely kindle even brighter intensity of interest in our hobby amongst the amateurs of our four state area.

by KØRUF

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FROM THE DESK OF K9KXP AND  
BARRACKS BUGLE (St. Louis)

Among the many condensers we deal with in radio work, there are our variables or tuning condensers which I think should have some publicity or a little explaining. To go into a lengthy explanation would take up too much space and as many good books on basic radio cover the subject well we will only touch on the subject at this time. As you know, there are many variations of the variable condenser, but there are only four basic ones. Below is a sketch of them.



No. 1 SLC - is the straight line condenser

No. 2 SLW - is the straight line wavelength condenser

No. 3 SLF - is the straight line frequency condenser

No. 4 is the centraline condenser

The centraline is the most used in modern radio work. It is used in the tuning circuit with an osc. condenser which is always connected to the same shaft as the tuning condenser so they move mechanically at the

same time, but move electrically, as predetermined by the circuit design. The first three types used for special applications, as in the case of the SLC. It is used where the one-fourth meshed condenser is one-fourth of the capacity, etc. In order to calibrate a dial so that one-half of a rotation or one-half mesh gives one-half of the total frequency of the band, an SLF condenser is used. Where the wavelength is desirable to use instead of frequency a condenser like the SLW is used. For further information on them refer to some good book on the theory of radio.

73 Andy, K9KXP

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1573 Clark Avenue  
Uuba City, Calif.

Dear OM's, YL's, XYL's, etc.

Greetings again from 6land. Enjoyed the convention issue of Ham Hum, sure looks like you had an enjoyable & successful convention. I would have enjoyed being there. I have not yet returned to the air, we have been busy here lately, and I expect for some time to come. Some of the tasks of moving and settling in a new home are behind us now, so we may be on the air before winter begins here. Weather now running in the 70's to 30's at night. Extend best wishes and Seasons Greetings to all my friends in the Omaha area. Have not found a Radio Club to match Ak-Sar-Ben, but will continue my search. Hope to work Omaha on skip someday soon.

73's

Millard J. Edgerton  
WØNRT/6

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## ON MODULATION

de Pack Rats - Cheese Bits  
(Mt. Airy, Pa.)

Speaking of modulation, the amateur transmitter is supposed to be modulated by the operator's voice frequencies and maybe those of his friends *but nothing else*. The ARRL states that one of the identifying features of an efficient station is *the absence of background noise*. Now we are all too aware of the budding electric genius, who somewhere in his travels has seen a BC announcer talking a foot or so from his mike. In his zeal to have his own station duplicate this "professional" look - he purchases the highest gain - no directional microphone available and turns up the amplifier gain so he can stand back several feet for the QSO. It could almost be described as mike fright, except that this guy loves to talk. He has forgotten some important considerations - namely, the BC announcer was no where near any blowers, loud speakers or other noise making devices, such as wifey shouting unprintables at the kids or a model airplane operating 3 blocks away. This operator's modulation usually consists of 50% noise and 50% speech and it is really a pleasure to sign with such a character. Of course there is also the individual who likes to roam around his shack during a QSO, doing odds and ends of various unfinished tasks while at the same time trying to maintain a smooth flow of conversation. - Nothing is so boring as to have to

listen to his blowers, TV or record player, to say nothing of his interrupted thoughts. - I always make a mental note not to QSO with him again.

Yours for better modulation,  
Smel

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## SSB ON SIX

Any of you who have an SB-10 Heath sideband converter and have an idea of using it on 6 meters, the "Pack Rats Cheese Bits," the monthly paper of the Mt. Airy VHF Radio Club, Inc., Philadelphia, carries an article by one of their members on using this apparatus on 6 meters. The article is quite lengthy and we did not have room to print it. Any of you who would be interested in it, please see WØYZV or drop a card indicating your interest to P.O. Box 291 and we'll send you a photocopy of the article.

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## YOUR MONTHLY REPORT

Each member of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc. should get his report in the mail no later than the 15th of each month. This report should list the most important things that have happened to you or that you have done something, but even if you just sat it out for the last thirty days you undoubtedly thought of some project that you plan to next month. Let us hear about that. The card is still enclosed for your use in making your report. If that isn't big enough, feel free to write us more information.

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## FOR SALE:

TRI-EX 54 foot crank up tower  
CDR Ham Rotor Heavy Duty Telrex  
el 10-15-20 Beam. Bring your  
smantling crew and \$100.00.  
Reason-moving.

Pete WØEWF  
Imperial Nebr.

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Just a word to say thanks so  
very much for your kind comments re  
the coming ARRL elections.

Everywhere I listen I hear con-  
gratulations on the fine convention -  
one of the Collins reps said the best  
he had attended in seven years -  
wish I could have been with you.

73

Sum WØGQ

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(de "Splatter", Yellowstone Radio  
Club - Billings, Montana)

I found a poem, don't know who  
wrote it, but here it is.

Novice operators can be embarrass-  
ing. They make the strangest  
queries.

Their questions fall like summer  
rain, in very rapid series.

You may explain as best you can....

They listen, then say, "WHY?"

It's odd how often you will find....

To that, there's no reply.

BEWARE of the Fool who has  
the answer to ANY question on the  
of his tongue, further investi-  
gation might prove him very wrong.  
The intelligent person occasionally  
will say, "I don't know, but I will  
be glad to look it up for you."

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Please change my address to:  
P.O. Box 1285  
Cocoa Beach, Fla.

I am now working on the Inertial  
Guidance system for the Atlas-  
Centour satellite launching vehicle,  
and have been busy. I do manage to  
get on 15 and 20 meters, A.M., every  
so often with the mobile rig. I will  
be looking for the Omaha gang.

73,

Harlan Bercovici

W4TAQ

ex KØBHT

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There are two new Hams on 6  
meters now - Mike, WAØAKI and  
Bert, WAØAIR. Their QTH is Park  
Avenue & Leavenworth. Running a  
TC-6. Look for them. Tnx

73's Bert

KØCFQ/Ø

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OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 823  
FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS  
WEST HARTFORD, CONN.  
NOV. 2, 1961 TO ALL  
RADIO AMATEURS  $\overline{BT}$

Effective November 22, 1961,  
amateurs of Bolivia and the United  
States will be permitted to exchange  
messages on behalf of third parties.  
The other fourteen countries with  
whom the United States has similar  
agreements are listed on the card-  
board insert, page 64A, of October  
QST  $\overline{AR}$

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When this was first printed in the Auto-Call in 1954, many of the Club paper editors picked it up for a quote. It's time for it to go around again.

Verily I say unto you, marry not a radio amateur, for he is a strange being possessed of many devils.

Though he seemeth "teched" he is harmless, and thou needst not be wary of him.

He speaketh eternally in ditdahs, and he spelleth his words without vowels.

And he weildeth a big stick which he calleth a slide rule, and he hath but one Bible - the Handbook.

He talketh always of QSO's and DX, and without end of his loading coil.

He knoweth countries only by prefixes; he learneth his geography by zones and his directions are great circle bearings.

He stayeth up late at nights, for reasons known only to him, and thou wouldst not believe his stories if he told you.

There is but one key dear to his heart and that is a Vibroplex, and the love letters for which he yearneth are DXCC.

Whilst others prefer swimming and boating, he prefereth to sit inside and work portable, and he braggeth forever of those he hath worked.

And when he courteth his damsel, he keepeth a log book, and when he maketh a trip he views not the scenery but looks for antennas.

He picketh his seat in the car by the rig therein, and not by the damsel beside him.

Always he carrieth his books with him, and he entertaineth his maiden with Ohm's Law.

Verily, though she expecteth chocolates when he calleth, she openeth the package to find fit chokes.

He holdeth a damsels hand only to measure the fist and he embraceth only to testeth the strength of the muscle.

He checketh the vibrations of her heart with WWV, and he reckoneth her strength of raising antennas.

For though he seeketh to acquire a second op, he attendeth the wedding ceremony only to record it on tape; he goeth on a honeymoon only to visit radio clubs, he returneth home only to pound brass.

He speaketh of his mate as YF and XYL and of the kids as harmonics.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow this man, for he will need it; there may be no improvement and he will need help forever.

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At a Russian election the voter entered the polls and was given a sealed envelope and told to deposit it in the ballot box. He asked, "How do I know who I am voting for?" to which he was given the answer, "This is a secret election."

de Auto-Call

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Season's  
Greetings

## DEAR MABEL

Dear Mabel,

My wife, a ham radio widow, wants to start a "Help Stamp Out 'm Radio" Club. What shall I do.

Norm, K4RBR

Dear Norm,

Never mind what you should do, where do we send our applications?

Dear Mabel,

Why do so many hams take my name in vain?

Cotton Picker

Dear Cotton Picker,

I dunno. But you're not the only one. I've received similar complaints from Roy Rogers and Charlie Charlie.

Dear Mabel,

Just built a home-brew transmitter and I thought I followed directions exactly, but my final is running too hot. What can I do?

Smokey Stover

Dear Smokey,

Find out if there's a market for large electronic cigarette lighters.

Dear Mabel,

I am a single, blue-eyed blonde. My measurements are 40-23-30. Why can't I get a date?

Sweetie Pie

Dear Sweetie,

It took me a minute there to remember you. You're not supposed to measure from the bottom up, doll.

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## OFFICIAL BULLETIN NR 824 FROM ARRL HEADQUARTERS WEST HARTFORD CONN. NOV. 10, 1961 TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

Amateurs who have two meter gear are reminded to keep their equipment in readiness for Project OSCAR. When launch time approaches, extra bulletins will be transmitted by WIAW at frequent intervals on its announced frequencies listed on page 64B of October QST. The OSCAR transmitter will operate with 100 milliwatts power on 145.0 Mc and will transmit the letters HI on CW  $\overline{AR}$

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### TIME CONVERSION TO GMT

EST	GMT	CST	MST	GMT	PST
1900	0000*	1800	1700	0000*	1600
2000	0100	1900	1800	0100	1700
2100	0200	2000	1900	0200	1800
2200	0300	2100	2000	0300	1900
2300	0400	2200	2100	0400	2000
0000*	0500	2300	2200	0500	2100
0100	0600	0000*	2300	0600	2200
0200	0700	0100	0000*	0700	2300
0300	0800	0200	0100	0800	0000*
0400	0900	0300	0200	0900	0100
0500	1000	0400	0300	1000	0200
0600	1100	0500	0400	1100	0300
0700	1200	0600	0500	1200	0400
0800	1300	0700	0600	1300	0500
0900	1400	0800	0700	1400	0600
1000	1500	0900	0800	1500	0700
1100	1600	1000	0900	1600	0800
1200	1700	1100	1000	1700	0900
1300	1800	1200	1100	1800	1000
1400	1900	1300	1200	1900	1100
1500	2000	1400	1300	2000	1200
1600	2100	1500	1400	2100	1300
1700	2200	1600	1500	2200	1400
1800	2300	1700	1600	2300	1500

Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) is time at the zero or reference meridian. Time changes one hour with each change of 15° in longitude. EST, CST, MST and PST are 5, 6, 7 and 8 hours "earlier" than the time at the Greenwich (0°) meridian. They correspond to 75th, 90th, 105th and 120th meridians.

\* or 2400. (2400 is associated with the date of the day ending; 0000 with the day just starting.)

ARRL Communications Department  
Operating Aid No. 10.

# ARRL SAFETY CODE

## SAFETY RULES FOR EQUIPMENT DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

**ONE DISCONNECT SWITCH:** A single plainly-labeled main switch should be provided to cut off all power from the equipment.

**POWER SUPPLIES:** All power supplies should be so enclosed or constructed that accidental bodily contact with power circuits is impossible.

All negative plate-supply and positive bias-supply terminals should be connected to the chassis and the chassis connected to a water pipe or other good ground connection.



Every power supply should use a conservatively-rated bleeder resistor. If it is placed on top of the chassis for ventilation, cover it with screening or perforated metal.

When using shielded wire for external power cabling, make sure the shielding is grounded to protect you in case of insulation breakdown.

**PANEL CONTROLS AND METERING:** Every control shaft extending through the front of the panel should be at ground potential.

The frames of key or metering jacks should be fastened to the grounded panel.



Meters, unless connected in the cathode or centertap, should be recessed to avoid danger of contact with the adjusting screw.

**R.F. UNITS:** Use parallel feed in all circuits where plug-in coils are used. If using series feed, use coil switching circuits.

All exposed terminals, tube caps, etc., should be protected by insulated coverings.

**AUDIO EQUIPMENT:** In addition to the construction rules set forth for power supplies, the following rule should be followed for speech equipment.

The microphone stand and enclosure should always be connected to the microphone-cable shield which, in turn, should be grounded to the chassis.

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**HANDLE EVERY CIRCUIT WITH CAUTION. THE LOWLY 115 VOLTS HAS CAUSED MORE ELECTROCUTIONS THAN ANY OTHER.**

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