



AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Ham Hum

Volume LVI, Issue 2

February 2006

Prez Sez

By Bill McCollum, KEØXQ

We had a great meeting for January. Thanks to Norm, WAØJYD for doing a head count of those in attendance. He counted 75 people! The programs were great and expect the same at future meetings. The following members have agreed to chair the following committees:

KØAWB	Repeater
NØUP	HAM HUM
KBØTHC	Education
NEØDX	Government Relations
NØTRK	Membership
KKØDX	Programs
WAØZQG	Club Net
KØIL	QSL Manager

I want to thank John, WBØCMC for his many years as the club's Repeater Guru. KØAWB works in the communications field and brings his expertise to the club. Be sure when you see or speak to John on the air, thank him for his dedication. My sincere thanks to our Section Manager, KAØBOJ for speaking to the club about what is going on at the ARRL. The Board and Officers have received many positive comments on the revitalization of the club. Please volunteer to help make a change.

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HAM HUM is the official newsletter of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club, Inc. in Omaha, Nebraska. It is printed bi-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 (2006)	Bill McCollum	KEØXQ	402-734-3316	ke0xq@cox.net
Vice President (2006)	Todd LeMense	KK0DX	402-216-8633	kk0dx@cox.net
Secretary (2006-2007 Board)	Doug Rathman	NGØK	402-493-7369	dlrathman@cox.net
Treasurer (2006-20057Board)	Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
2005-2006 Board	Dennis McMahon	KØOMA	402-333-6599	ixii@tconl.com
2005-2006 Board	Greg Babbitt	WØAAI	402-598-3030	w0aai@arrl.net
2005-2006 Board	Marvin Taylor	AEØEG	402-556-3668	AE0EG@arrl.net
2005-2006 Board	Rob Buchholz	KCØOYT	402-964-9960	kc0oyt@arrl.net
2006-2007 Board	Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net
2006-2007 Board	Jim Harper	KC0SHZ	402-659-0102	kc0shz@yahoo.com

Standing Committee Chairs

Disaster Preparedness	Open	Contact Bill McCollum	ke0xq@cox.net	for more information
Education		Mike Sullivan	KBØTHC	
Field Day Coordinator	Open	Contact Bill McCollum	ke0xq@cox.net	for more information
Government Relations		Jeff Reynolds	NEØDX	ne0dx@arrl.net
Membership		Mary Joseph	NØTRK	402-492-9156 n0trk@arrl.net
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Publications		Steve Schmitz	NØUP	402-597-8666 n0up@arrl.net
Public Relations	Open	Contact Bill McCollum	ke0xq@cox.net	for more information
Repeater		Darrel Swenson	KØAWB	dswenson@wearne.net
Technical	Open	Contact Bill McCollum	ke0xq@cox.net	for more information
Club Net		Rich Swig	WAØZQG	712-256-7775 wa0zqg@yahoo.com
QSL Manager		Ed Edwards	KØIL	eedwards@tconl.com

Other Contacts

Exams/Vol. Council		Brian Zdan	KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Club Callsign Trustee		Gerry Gross	WA6POZ	402-895-7367	wa6poz@arrl.net
Special Events Coordinator	Open	Contact Bill McCollum	ke0xq@cox.net	for more information	
ARRL Midwest Director		Wade Walstrom	WØEJ	N/A	w0ej@arrl.org
ARRL Midwest Vice-Director		Bruce Frahm	KØBJ	N/A	k0bj@arrl.org
NE Section Manager		Matt Anderson	KAØBOJ	402-944-7488	ka0boj@arrl.org
Official Observer Coordinator		Dick Newsome	WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@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		Ray McNally	N5SEZ		n5sez@arrl.net
EC Washington County		Don Morgan	KBØVIY	402-427-7111	kb0vij@yahoo.com
EC Pottawattamie County		Terry Lindsley	KSØL	712-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net
Net Manager	Open	Contact Jim Hitz	kc0dvg@arrl.net	for information	

Upcoming Events

February 10	AARC Meeting, Red Cross, 7:00 PM
February 14	AARC Business Meeting, Red Cross 7:00 PM
February 18	Midway Amateur Radio Club Hamfest, Buffalo County Fair Grounds Kearney NE Talk-in 146.625(-)(PL Tone 123.0) 147.315(+) 147.390(+) (PL T 123.0)
March 4	SWIARC Hamorama IV see page 3 for info
March 6	Storm Spotter Training, 7:00 PM see page 9 for info
March 10	AARC Meeting, Red Cross, 7:00 PM
March 14	AARC Business Meeting, Red Cross 7:00 PM
March 28	Storm Spotter Training, 3:00 PM and again at 7:00 PM BVFD Training Center 3200 Cornhusker Road
March 28	VE Session March 28, Red Cross, 6:30 PM
April 1	Siren Test 10:00 AM Douglas and Sarpy Counties

HELP WANTED

Committee Chairs, The Disaster Preparedness, Field Day, Public Relations and Technical committees are in need of chairpersons. Please contact Bill KEØXQ for more information

Ham Hum, I am looking for articles, photos, and other content for 2006. I am especially in need of technical articles and content. Please contact Steve NØUP.

Thanks, the Editor.

Classified Ads

Classified ads are free to members. Send an email with the wording exactly as you want it printed to hamhum@aksarbenarc.org or mail your ad to Ham Hum, P.O. Box 24551, Omaha NE 68124. Ads must be received by the third Friday of the Month to be included in the next Ham Hum.

Wanted Some ads for this space. Contact hamhum@aksarbenarc.org

Club Email Groups

To simplify club traffic on the Yahoo Groups, the board of directors has decided to close the AKTALK Group and rely instead on the older (and more subscribed to) AKSARBENTalk Yahoo Group.

Effective MARCH 1, 2006, the AKTALK Yahoo Group will be closed. If you are not already a member of the AKSARBENTalk Yahoo Group, please join that group for continued club information. (There are a lot of exciting things coming up in the next 6 months; you don't want to miss anything.)

Thanks
Jim Harper

Callsign Change

Newly elected Board Member and Secretary, also Vice President last year Doug KC0SOG has just selected his new EXTRA callsign NG0K.

Doug was licensed KC0SOG in 2004, and actually got his Extra in July 2005, but only now chose the call NG0K. It sounds OK on SSB and is decent on CW he says.

We first heard it Sunday night at 9PM 01/22, the day after the St. Joe Hamfest which Doug could not go to due to family duties.

info de Sunday Night Net

UPCOMING AKSARBEN ARC MEETING PROGRAMS

Remember, Mini-Programs
begin at 7:00pm
(Programs are subject to change)

February:

Mini-Program: Basic Electronics for the Amateur Radio Operator.

Main Program: Collapse and Rebuild of the Channel 7 Tower.

March:

Mini-Program: QSL that QSO!

Main Program: Electrical Noise Finding by OPPD

April:

Mini-Program: EZNEC Antenna Modeling.

Main Program: The Nebraska QSO Party.

May:

Mini-Program: How Repeaters Work.

Main Program: Digital Communications and interfaces

June:

TBA

July:

CAR SHOW! - Mobile & Antenna Installations on your vehicle
More information coming soon!

Veep Speaks

Todd LeMense, KK0DX

Last month's AKSARBEN Amateur Radio Club meeting was a great meeting! We had a full house for both of the programs! I hope that more of you will be able to attend the upcoming February meeting on Friday the 10th.

This month we're going to have 2 more excellent programs. The "mini- program" will be a "Basic Electronics for the Amateur Radio Operator" presented by Brian Zdan, KMØY. This will be a quick and fast paced lesson in the basics and is sure to refresh your electronics knowledge. Brian will begin the "mini-program" at 7:00pm.

The main program for the evening will be presented by the Chief Engineer of KETV, channel 7. Mr. Warren Behrens, KØWMB will be presenting the July 2003 collapse of the channel 7 tower at Crown Pointe and the subsequent rebuild. This should be a fantastic program that is sure to educate us on the REALLY "big towers." Look to see and hear, firsthand, about the old and new tower.

A lot is happening in the AKSARBEN Amateur Radio Club this year and each of you can again be a part of it. Come to club meetings, join in on nets, be a part of activities. This is a great club and we need you to be a part of it!

I would like to thank all of you that have been so very supportive of the AKSARBEN Amateur Radio Club this year. It has been so much fun getting to work with so many of you again and learning more about our hobby - AMATEUR RADIO!

SWIARC Hamorama IV

Saturday 4 March Starting at 9:00 AM at the Westside Community Center, 108th & Grover, Omaha Nebraska.

Five (\$5) bucks to get in the door and eight (\$8) dollar tables. Food will be available. Door Prizes

Info available from
Brian KMØY 402-551-5191 or Rich WA0ZQG 712-256-7775

Talk-In on 146.82 R- KØSWI

Board Meeting Proposals

Laser Printer

I have researched a color laser printer again and came up with the same results as last time. Most duplex capable printers require a duplexer that is just as expensive as the printer itself is, so I went back to the Samsung CLP-510.

The toner cartridges last about 7000 sheets for high yield black and 5000 for the high yield color. The toners cost \$100 for Black and \$120 each (X4) for color.

Estimated cost of operation for 1 year of Ham Hums.

Printer \$300.00 CDW special

Est. 4 black toner \$400.00

Est. 1 ea color toner \$360.00

Est. 20,000 sheets paper \$120.00

1/2 cost of a belt and OPC drum plus insurance should be added.

Adds an additional \$190 to cost.

Est. total \$1370.00

Estimate to have 20,000 sheets printed at Office Depot in the quantities we have them printed in. 20,000 Black & White copies at \$.058 each \$1160.00

The cost is a bit more in the first year to own a printer, but the second year and beyond it makes good sense. If we did it ourselves, the actual cost would be less due to no mailing labels and we would only print what we need. We could also save by buying aftermarket toner also.

Steve
NØUP

Generator

The other major proposal that came before the Board of Directors is the sale of the club's Generator. As storage has become more difficult to obtain and many of the club members simply do not have time to properly maintain this piece of equipment, the Board has decided that it may be time to sell the Generator. No action has been taken at this time to allow the membership to provide input.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact an officer or Board member.

Storm Spotter Training

Douglas County EMA and Douglas County ARES will hold its annual Severe Storm spotting class on March 6, 2006 from 7-9ish at the National Headquarters Auditorium at Boys Town.

This class is geared towards volunteer communications groups who work as a trained cadre of storm spotters however many other organizations have found this information useful for their decisions makers, Fire and Police Personnel to take.

Brian Smith from the National Weather Service, Valley Office will be presenting.

The training will cover:

1. Storm Safety
2. Development of Severe Storms
3. Tornado Development
4. Tornado Look Alike (common errors)
5. Night Spotting
6. Reporting Procedures to National Weather

The meeting will start promptly at 7PM. I look forward to see you all there. If you have any questions, email me at the address below.

Darwin (Dar) Piatt, W9HZC
EC Douglas County ARES
w9hzc@cox.net

Scheduled for this Friday (February 3rd) a new orbiting Satellite will be launched from the International Space Station. SuitSat- A Russian space suit will be fitted with a radio transmitter and will become an orbiting satellite. It will be in a decaying orbit around the Earth for about six weeks, before burning up upon reentry.

To listen to the satellites broadcast, tune in 145.990 MHz.

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

Board Meeting Summary

These guys endured 2 hours and 20 minutes of work, not radio fun, only getting loose 10 minutes before bedtime. Todd KKØDX, up front with his Apple notebook computer, and Bill KEØXQ, presiding, were recorded by Secretary Doug KCØSOG (who only used pencil and paper).

Subjects covered included buying a new Color Laser Printer for Ham Hum Editor Steve NØUP, a decision put off in favor of running it past the members first; By-Laws revision; change of Registered Agent (from George NWØM to Brian KMØY), and disposition of our 15kW trailer mounted generator (possibly to be replaced by smaller, cheaper to run units). Again, the decision to do anything financially significant was put off to allow input from the membership.

Todd listed several months of dual programs (two per Meeting). *Current list on page 10 ed.*

mini Summary by Ak
Member Observer, ZQG

Thanks to KCØSOI

Contest Calendar

February, 2006

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 11 to 2400Z, Feb 12
New Hampshire QSO Party	0001Z, Feb 11 to 0001Z, Feb 13
Louisiana QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 11 to 0300Z, Feb 12
FISTS Winter Sprint	1700Z-2100Z, Feb 11
British Columbia QSO Challenge	1800Z, Feb 11 to 1800Z, Feb 12
North American Sprint, CW	0000Z-0400Z, Feb 12
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 13 to 0100Z, Feb 18
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	0000Z, Feb 25 to 2359Z, Feb 26
Mississippi QSO Party	1500Z, Feb 25 to 0300Z, Feb 26
North American QSO Party, RTTY	1800Z, Feb 25 to 0600Z, Feb 26
North Carolina QSO Party	1700Z, Feb 26 to 0300Z, Feb 27

March, 2006

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 4 to 2400Z, Mar 5
Idaho QSO Party	0000Z, Mar 11 to 2400Z, Mar 12
Oklahoma QSO Party	1400Z, Mar 11 to 0200Z, Mar 12 1400Z-2000Z, Mar 12
North American Sprint, RTTY	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 12
Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 12 to 0100Z, Mar 13
10-10 Int. Mobile Contest	0001Z-2359Z, Mar 18
Virginia QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 20
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 25 to 2359Z, Mar 26
Spring QRP Homebrewer Sprint	0000Z-0400Z, Mar 27

April, 2006

Kids Roundup	1400Z, Apr 1 to 2200Z, Apr 2
SP DX Contest	1500Z, Apr 1 to 1500Z, Apr 2
Missouri QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 1 to 0500Z, Apr 2 1800Z-2400Z, Apr 2
EU Spring Sprint, SSB	1500Z-1859Z, Apr 8
Georgia QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 8 to 0359Z, Apr 9 1400Z-2359Z, Apr 9
Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest	2100Z, Apr 8 to 2100Z, Apr 9
Montana QSO Party	2300Z, Apr 8 to 2300Z, Apr 9
Michigan QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 15 to 0400Z, Apr 16
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z, Apr 15 to 1800Z, Apr 16
Low Power Spring Sprint	1400Z-2000Z, Apr 17
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 22 to 0159Z, Apr 23 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 23

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

AARC January Meeting



Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ
Nebraska Section Manager



Matt KA0BOJ and Dar Piatt
W9HZC EC Sarpy County



Matt KA0BOJ and Ray
McNally N5SEZ EC Sarpy
County

The January Membership Meeting of the AK-SAR-BEN Amateur Radio Club was held on January 13, 2006. The early program on HF-101 began at 7:00, lasting about half an hour. The program was well presented and very interesting. After the HF-101 program was complete, we took a short break, beginning the business part of the meeting about 7:30.

After a brief business meeting, we enjoyed a program by Matt Anderson KA0BOJ. Matt introduced the new ECs for Sarpy and Douglas Counties, Dar Piatt W9HZC for Douglas County and Ray McNally N5SEZ for Sarpy County.

We also heard about the "State of Ham Radio in Nebraska" and a few other topics. These included a brief discussion of BPL, recruitment including the I Got One Buttons.

After the meeting a good sized group of us went to Perkins to do some serious socializing and eating.



Photos courtesy of WA0ZQG and N0UP

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Web Page: <http://www.aksarbenarc.org>
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Membership Renewal Form

Personal Information (complete in full for corrections to our existing information)

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

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

Email address: _____ Are You A Member of the ARRL? Yes No

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Occupation: _____

Spouse Information (Complete Only if Spouse is Applying at Same Time)

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____

Email address: _____ Member of ARRL? Yes No

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Occupation: _____

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

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____ ARRL? Yes No

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____ ARRL? Yes No

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____ ARRL? Yes No

Callsign _____ License Class _____ Name : _____ ARRL? Yes No

Suggestion and Ideas:

(This is your place to have your suggestions heard.)

FOR CLUB USE ONLY - DO NOT WRITE IN THIS AREA

Annual Dues
(January thru December)

- Full Member \$20.00 year
- Accompanying Spouse \$ 4.00 year
- Accompanying Minor Dependent \$ 4.00 year
- Student Member \$ 8.00 year
- Amount Paid \$ _____

Please pass this form on to the membership committee

Dues are payable at any time and are considered in arrears if not **received** by Feb 28. Club members renewing within two years of their last year of paid membership must still pay the full years dues. After two years, members must resubmit an application for membership.