

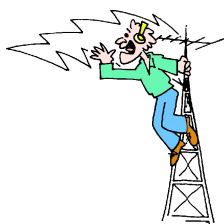
Ham Hum

Volume LIV Issue 1

January 2004

The Prez Sez

Hi, I am Steve Schmitz, NØUP, I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as president for 2004. With this opportunity comes a great amount of responsibility, however I am confident that I am up to the challenge. There are going to be many big tasks in the coming year such as finding a new Ham Hum editor, replacing the door prize and refreshment committees, installing .94 on the new KETV tower, appointing two new board members, balancing the budget, retaining the current members and attracting new ones. My officers and I will be working very hard to make 2004 a productive year.



Now for the business portion. During the January meeting we will be passing the hat for a donation to the Red Cross. They have been very supportive of the AARC and we should show our appreciation for the free meeting place. Speaking of the Red Cross, we will need to refrain from using the chairs in the other rooms, the folding chairs should be used instead. A decision will need to be made regarding door prizes, do we want to continue them or not? A new door prize committee will be needed if door prizes will be continued. The meeting refreshments also need a leader. As of this writing, the Hum is without an editor as Linda WØNSA resigned after the December issue. Even without an editor, the Hum will go on but will be a bit lean. If you have a bit of time and would like to help your club, please consider one of these jobs.

This should be an exciting year full of opportunities for the Ak-Sar-Ben ARC to excel. Our dues are one of the lowest in the area. By the end of the year we will have one of the premier repeaters in the area again, and if the initial list of programs is any indication, we will all know a lot more about the various disciplines of Ham Radio.

73 de NØUP
Steve Schmitz

Veep Speak

Well 2003 has come and gone and we are starting a whole new year. Hopefully everyone had a happy and safe holiday season. I would like to thank the club for electing me as Vice President. One of the things as Vice President that I am tasked with is to line up programs for all the meetings. I have arranged to have Mark Conner N9XTN come in and do a presentation on NSTAR (Nebraska Stratospheric Amateur Radio) balloon launches for the January Meeting

If you have internet access and have not already done so please visit the Ak-Sar-Ben web page (<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>) and vote for which programs you would like to see at a meeting. If there is one that you think would be good that is not listed please fill it in under other topics. Or if you have ideas or are interested in presenting a program please contact me directly. Please watch the web page and this section for more updates on upcoming programs.

73's
Kurt Kettelson
Vice President

Next meeting information

January 9th, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Red Cross at 82nd & Spring Streets. This month's program is on NSTAR, Nebraska Stratospheric Amateur Radio and will be presented by Mark Connor N9XTN. NSTAR uses helium-filled latex balloons to loft small payloads into the atmosphere, GPS to determine the position and altitude, and amateur radio to communicate the data to chase teams on the ground. Typical altitudes reached are from 10-20 miles and the balloon can travel 30-100 miles downwind over the course of 1-2 hours.

2004 Election Results

Officers

PresidentNØUP Steve Schmitz
Vice President.....KCØHMI Kurt Kettelson
Secretary.....AJØA Ken Noel
Treasurer..... NØTRK Mary Joseph
Board 2004-2005.....KCØNWL Sam Bellami
Board 2004-2005.....KAØVNY Kevin Hill

Still serving

Board 2003-2004..... KEØXQ Bill McCullom
Board 2003-2004..... N5RIG Geri Norris
Board 2003-2004.....Open due to election results
Board 2003-2004.....Open due to election results

(Both Steve NØUP and KCØHMI had one year remaining in their board terms resulting in two open board positions to be filled by the board)

Official Record
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting
AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – December 2003

The AkSarBen ARC Board of Trustees met on December 2, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. President Jim, KAØKCV called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were: Jim Westcott, KAØKCV, President; Dick Jones, N6KVA, Vice President; Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary & Board Member; Board Members: Dave Rice NØJSB; Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI; Steve Schmitz, NØUP and Geri Norris, N5RIG; also in attendance were Barb Westcott, KCØHLB; AJØA Ken Noel; Mary Joseph, NØTRK and Pat Joseph, KØCTU

President's Report: The annual election of officers and board members will be held at the December general membership meeting, traditionally, election tellers are the outgoing board members; any new members will be voted on after the election. The selection committee is still looking for volunteers for the board and club officers, please attend the general membership meeting, you can be nominated from the floor. I would also like to thank all the outgoing board members for their hard work the last two years. Also there will be a potluck dinner prior to the membership meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.

Vice President's Report: It's been a good year and I'd like to thank everyone who has helped with club programs, also thanks to all the club officers and board members for their hard work this year.

Secretary's Report: The board minutes for November were presented to the board. No additions or corrections were noted: Geri, N5RIG made a motion to accept, Kurt, KCØHMI, seconded, voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: N/A

Standing Committee Reports

Disaster Preparedness: Geri announced that December 5 is national Skywarn appreciation day, the event will be held from 6 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Saturday at the National Weather Service (NWS) at Valley, NE. A potluck dinner will also be held, contact Geri for more information. Mary, NØTRK noted that the NWS would be erecting a new tower at the Valley, NE location. Once completed antennas will be mounted and coax ran to the tower/ant/bldg. About 300' is anticipated for this installation. The club has 500' of RG-8x and Kurt, KCØHMI made a motion to donate as much of the RG-8x coax needed up to 500' to the Douglas County ARES to be used at the NWS site at Valley, NE, for an HF and VHF antenna installation on a 30' tower: Dick, N6KVA seconded, voice approval.

Education: N/A

Field Day: Steve, NØUP is the Field Day chairman for 2004 and has noted that since the dues have been reduced the field day budget may have to be reduced for the 2004 field day.

Government Relations: N/A

Membership: Mary, NØTRK has noted since dues have been lowered the board of directors may want to consider updating the by-laws with reference to life membership.

When life membership was originally instituted interest rates were considerably higher and the life membership fee was based on this high interest rate. Currently interest rates are less than 2% and with the lowering of dues the income from life membership fees/interest may not cover life membership fees. Several years ago a moratorium lasting three months was used to update the club bylaws with respect to life membership. Steve, NØUP moved to place a moratorium on life memberships as of 12-31-03, indefinitely; Bob, NEØCQ seconded, voice approval.

Public Relations: Barb, KCØHLB would like to thank all those who helped with this years Youngers fundraiser, the club sold \$95 dollars worth of tickets and it will receive a percentage of the overall sales.

Publications: N/A

Repeater Committee: N/A Steve, NØUP reported that a remote site for the 34/94 repeater (Apple Hill) was having problems and was turned off. The overall performance of the repeater has improved since. The Apple Hill remote site needs some adjusting and the Bellevue site is up and running. In August 2004 the repeater is expected to move to the KETV site. Because of recent events antenna mounts may have to be purchased from the tower manufacturer. Once installed connectors and possibly new antennas (UHF maybe VHF) will have to be purchased for this new installation; current estimates for this new installation are \$800. ATV and the UHF repeater on the KPTM tower are also in need of a little work.

Technical: N/A

Additional Committee Reports:

Special Events: N/A

Budget Committee: Steve, NØUP has been working on the budget estimates for 2004, with the recent rollback in club dues, the 2004 budget may be in the red based on 2003 spending.

Old Club Business: N/A

New Club Business: N/A

Announcements: N/A

Steve, NØUP moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m., Kurt, KCØHMI seconded, voice approval. .

Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

Minutes of the Business Meeting
AkSarBen Amateur Radio Club – December 2003

The AkSarBen ARC met on December 12, 2003 at the Red Cross Building in Omaha. Vice President N6KVA called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance and the standard announcements; there were 43 members and visitors present.

President's Report: N/A

Vice President's Report: It was a good year, a lot has happened and the club held and participated in many events. Nominations for the board and club officers will be taken from the floor tonight. Membership for 2004 is \$10. Since the club has rolled back membership dues, the board of directors has placed a moratorium on life mem-

berships. This will give the board a chance to reevaluate the club bylaws and the affect this rollback will have the financial viability of the current life membership program.

Secretary's Report: The membership meeting minutes for November were published on the club website and printed in *Ham Hum*. No additions or corrections were noted; Bill, K9RZ made a motion to accept as published and Gary, KS8K seconded, voice approval.

Treasurer's Report: Wayne, KØBWJ presented the YTD (12-12-03) Balance Sheet and P & L. Any member wishing to examine the Balance Sheet and P & L for 2003 YTD may do so; they are available during the meeting or you may contact the club treasurer directly. Also, the USPS bulk mail permit for the club is now due and the annual fee is \$150. With the publishing of the *Ham Hum* on the Internet the quantity of *Hums* mailed will not meet bulk mail requirements. Steve, NØUP made a motion to discontinue the USPS bulk mail permit; Leo, W9ZEC seconded, voice approval.

Standing Committee Reports:

Disaster Preparedness: Bill, KØNSA would like to thank everyone who helped with disaster preparedness drills, exercises and weather watches.

Education: N/A

Public Relations: Barb, KCØHLB announced the results of the Younkers fundraiser, the club sold \$95 in tickets and will receive \$120.43 as the club's share of the total sales. Thanks to all that helped with this event. There will be another Younkers fundraiser on February 28, 2004; more info. to follow.

Field Day : Steve, NØUP is the new field day chairman. Due to the rollback in club dues, there may have to be changes in field day to reduce expenses.

Government Relations: Jeff, NEØDX noted there has been some movement on BPL. The ARRL has been opposed to BPL, however, due to technical advances, BPL may be utilized over the 2-40 GHz range, rather than over the HF bands. If it is moved out of the HF spectrum supposedly there will not be much interference with the HF ham bands. Secondly, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has sent a letter to the FCC opposing HF BPL, stating it would severely hamper emergency communications.

Publications: December 2003 was the last month Linda, WØNSA will be the editor for the *Ham Hum*. Thanks Linda for all the hard work you've done on the *Hum*.

Repeater Committee: N/A

Technical: N/A

Additional Committee Reports:

Door Prizes: Sheri, KØSLJ announced that the "big" prize this year is a Yaesu VX-7R!

Membership: Mary, NØTRK inquired as to the necessity of club membership cards. In the current form, membership cards take a lot of time and work to prepare. After discussion, John WBØCMC made a motion to discontinue membership ID cards; Ray, WDØGIL seconded, voice approval. Mary would also like the membership to contact anyone who was a past member (and isn't a current mem-

ber) and ask him or her to renew his or her membership. AKSARBEN ARC has the lowest dues in the Omaha area! Mary also took questions on the life membership moratorium. Bill, K9RZ would like to challenge the board's decision to place a moratorium on life membership. Mary reminded the club that the membership has the ability to override any decision the board makes.

Special Events: Pat, KØCTU thanked everyone for their help with special events this year. No special events are pending.

Volunteer Exams: There will be an exam in January (2004) at the Red Cross headquarters.

Old Club Business: N/A

New Club Business: Linda, WØNSA is retiring as editor of the *Ham Hum*, the club is looking for a new editor. Anyone interested please contact a club officer or board member. Elections for Club Officers, nominations will be taken from the floor. Nominations for Board members-at-large: Rita, NØQXO nominates Sam Bellanti, KCØNWL for board of directors, Sam accepts. Marv, AEØEG nominates Kevin Hill, KAØVNY, Kevin accepts. John, WBØCMC moves to close nominations and accept the two board members by acclamation, Leo, W9ZEC seconds, voice approval. Nominations for Treasurer. Sheri, KØSLF nominates Mitch Miller, KCØMXV, Mitch declines. Sheri, KØSLJ nominates Mary Joseph, NØTRK, Mary Accepts. WBØCMC moves to close nominations and accept Mary by acclamation, Joe, KØNEB seconds, voice approval. Nominations for Secretary: John, WBØCMC nominates Geri Norris, N5RIG; Geri declines. Dick N6KVA nominates Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ; Bob declines. Dick, N6KVA nominates Mitch Miller, KCØMXV; Mitch declines. Mary, NØTRK nominates Ken Noel, AJØA; Ken accepts. Leo, W9ZEC moves to close nominations and accept Ken via acclamation, Claudia Jones seconds, voice approval. Nominations for Vice President: John WBØCMC nominates Kurt Kettelson, KCØHMI; Kurt accepts. John, WBØCMC moves to close nominations and accept Kurt via acclamation, Leo, W9ZEC seconds, voice approval. Nominations for President: Sam, KCØNWL nominates Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ; Bob declines. Sheri, KØSLJ nominates Steve Schmitz, NØUP; Steve declines. Wayne, KØBWJ nominates Bill Jackson, K9RZ; Bill declines. Barb, KCØHLB nominates Marv Taylor, AEØEG; Marv declines. Leo, W9ZEC nominates Dick Jones, N6KVA; Dick declines. Bob, NEØCQ nominates Dave Rice, NØJSB; Dave declines. Joe, KØNEB nominates Bill Newman, KØNSA; Bill declines. Sheri, KØSLJ nominates Steve Schmitz, NØUP; Steve accepts. John, WBØCMC moves to close nominations and accept Steve by acclamation, Julie, NØWAV seconds, voice approval. Ken, AJØA moves to close all nominations, Leo, W9ZEC seconds, voice approval. Since existing board members have been voted into officer positions, their board positions will have to be filled. Anyone interested in serving on the board of directors please contact the board or a club officer. N6KVA, KCØLOD, AEØEG and KCØHLB all noted they were interested in serving on the board of directors.

Announcements: Ken, AJØA noted there will be a damage assessment class held at the Red Cross building on Wed. Jan. 21, 2004, from 6 to 9 p.m. Contact the chapter office if you are interested in attending damage assessment class. Also the old communications van at the Red Cross has been sold. All the equipment was removed]

prior to the sale. There were talks on obtaining a new van and recommendations for new equipment were accepted. Bill, K9RZ moved to adjourn at 9:17 p.m., John, WBØCMC seconded, voice approval. .
Bob Boetcher, NEØCQ, Secretary

HELP WANTED

Part of the fun of any hobby and being a part of an organization is participation. There is always something that someone can do, no matter how busy that someone is. Take the time to get involved in the club by helping out with one of the following jobs.

Refreshment procurement — Involves picking up donuts and cookies and delivering them to the meeting, making coffee, preparing the refreshments for serving and cleaning the kitchen after refreshments have been served.

Door Prize Wrangler — Involves procuring amateur radio related door prizes for monthly meetings, including the December meeting.

Ham Hum Editor — Involves formatting monthly club newsletter, containing meeting minutes, articles from officers and club members. Collecting information about amateur radio and club activities. Delivering newsletters to membership committee for mailing and to web master for publishing on internet.

Don't wait for someone else to do it! Get involved and make a difference! Contact Steve NØUP at n0up@arrl.net or call him at 402-597 – 8666.

Thirty Years Ago

From the January 1974 Ham Hum.....

Annual Meeting and Christmas Party

The 1973 annual meeting and Christmas party of the Ak-Sar-Ben Radio Club, Inc, was held on December 14th in the cafeteria of the World Insurance Company with approximately 95 adults and 25 children in attendance. Treasurer Kelly, WAØUZX, greeted members and guests as they arrived and collected membership dues for 1974.

A welcome and greeting was given by President Russ Minks, WAØVEE, who is making a fine recovery after his recent surgery. He then called upon Dick Eilers, WØYZV, Chairman of the Nominating committee, to present the slate of officers for 1974. Following this, balloting took place for the election of officers with those selected by the Committee being unanimously elected.

President Minks called Dick Eilers, WØYZV, to the stand and presented him with a Lifetime Member Certificate which entitles him to lifetime membership in the Club. This presentation was made with the approval of the entire membership in appreciation of his many services in behalf of the club.

Reigning President Russ Minks, WAØVEE, then turned the gavel over to President-Elect Vernard (Rip) Riportella, WBØGAJ, which action was applauded by those in attendance. Past President Ed Askey, WAØRDZ, then took his place at the lectern and presented Russ Minks a plaque in appreciation of his service to the Club during his year as president.

After the business details were out of the way, the annual meeting turned into the Christmas party of the Club. Christmas carols were sung with Bob Lockwood, WAØDHU, leading. As usual, Bob did a terrific job.

The evening would not be complete without the gift exchange and the drawing for door prizes. Those who brought gifts participated in this exchange and, of course, were eligible for door prizes, which were distributed on the basis of drawing from the entire membership list.

While the annual meeting was in progress, the Junior Ops were entertained with movies and were provided with special Christmas treats, including crackerjacks and candy, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Everyone seemed to have a good time. To top off the party, ice cream, coffee, pop and homemade cake was served. The cakes were provided by the XYL's. Our thanks to them.

Upcoming events

January 17, 2004

Missouri Valley & Ray-Clay ARCs

Contact: Carlene Makawski, KA0IKS

3704 Meadow Oak Lane

St. Joseph, MO 64503

Phone: 816-279-3406

Email: nem3238@ccp.com



2004 Club Officials

President (2004)	Steve Schmitz NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@arrl.net
Vice President (2004)	Kurt Kettleson KCØHMI	402-676-7571	kc0hmi@arrl.net
Secretary (2004-2005)	Ken Noel AJØA	402-592-2338	knoel3@cox.net
Treasurer (2004-2005)	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@arrl.net
2004-2005 Board	Kevin Hill KAØVNY		
2004 2005 Board	Sam Bellami		
2003-2004 Board	Bill McCollum KEØXQ	402-734- 3316	ke0xq@arrl.org
2003-2004 Board	Geri Norris N5RIG	402-721-1592	n5rig@arrl.net
2003-2004 Board	Open		
2003-2004 Board	Open		
Past President	Jim Westcott KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net

Club Contacts & Committee Chairs

Badges/Clothing	Darrel Swenson KØAWB	402-330-3010	k0awb@arrl.net
Club Callsign Trustee	Bill Newman KØNSA	402-498-0077	k0nsa@arrl.net
Courtesy Committee	Diane Edwards KCØDXI	402-496-3415	kc0dxi@qsl.net
Door Prizes	Open		
Education	Dick Newsome WØHXL	402-451-1202	w0hxl@cox.net
Exams/Vol. Council	Brian Zdan KMØY	402-553-2610	bzdan@novia.net
Field Day Coordinator	Open		
Membership/Web	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@qsl.net
Publications	Open		
Public Relations	Barb Westcott KCØHLB	402-397-2306	kc0h1b@arrl.net
Special Events Coordinator	Pat Joseph KØCTU	402 492-9156	k0ctu@arrl.net

Repeater Committee & Authorized Control Operators

Chairman/Chief Eng	John Gebuhr WBØCMC	402-932-3443	wb0cmc@radiks.net
Control Op/ Engineer	Steve Schmidt NØUP	402-597-8666	n0up@arrl.net
Control Op/Engineer	Jamie Saker WØJRS	402-933-1521	w0jrs@arrl.net
Control Op/Callsign Trustee	Bill Newman KØNSA	402-498-0077	k0nsa@arrl.net
Control Operator	Mary Joseph NØTRK	402-492-9156	n0trk@qsl.net
Control Operator	Ken NoelAJØA	402-592-2338	aj0a@arrl.net

Area ARRL Appointees

Midwest Director	Wade Walstrom WØEJ	N/A	w0ej@arrl.org
Midwest Vice-Director	Bruce Frahm KØBJ	N/A	k0bj@arrl.org
Asst. Midwest Director	Todd LeMense KKØDX	402-397-7465	kk0dx@arrl.net
NE Section Manager	Bill McCollum KEØXQ	402-734-3316	ke0xq@arrl.org
Section Emer Coordinator	Reynolds Davis KØGND	N/ A	k0gnd@arrl.net
District Emer Coordinator	Jim Sanford NØAIH	402-238-3271	jim.sanford@nngco.com
EC Douglas County	Jim Westcott KAØKCV	402-397-2306	ka0kcv@arrl.net
EC Sarpy County	Doug Eubanks KAØO	402-291-1968	ka0o@arrl.net
EC Washington County Ray	Polley KØJDB	402-456-7852	polley@gpcom.net
EC Pottawattamie County	Terry Lindsley KSØL	402-325-0107	ks0l@arrl.net
Official Observer	George Bellairs KBØZZT	402-291-0960	kb0zzt@arrl.net
Net Manager	Doug Eubanks KAØO	402-291-1968	ka0o@arrl.net



The Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Affiliated with the American Radio Relay League since its founding in 1945, the Ak-Sar-Ben Amateur Radio Club of Omaha, Nebraska is a general interest amateur radio club with over 300 “radio-active” members. Our members are involved in virtually every aspect of amateur radio from electronic circuit design to worldwide communication via voice and Morse code, satellite and space station communications, meteor scatter, computer assisted digital modes, amateur television, and even severe storm spotting for the National Weather Service.



We make a special effort to provide public service communications support for events such as parades, charity fund raisers, emergency preparedness drills, and disaster relief operations. The club offers amateur radio classes to the public for those who wish to obtain an amateur radio license or upgrade their license privileges. For more information contact us via email at k0usa@qsl.net. If you have a scanner you can listen to the club's main wide area repeater at 146.940 Megahertz.

We're on the web at
<http://www.aksarbenarc.org>