

PARC News

August, 2007

Volume 17, Issue 8



PARC PICNIC

We have a Picnic to go to. That's right. The Annual PARC Picnic is next month.

Place: The Theophilus Home

Date: Sunday, September 23rd

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Board Meeting at 5 p.m.



The club will furnish the meat.

You bring a side dish.

The drinks and the utensils are furnished.

It's always a good time. And to quote the Commander: "We have the best food around!"

We also have lots of sharing and for some it might be the only time we see spouses and families.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OMAHA/VALLEY OPEN HOUSE

The National Weather Service in Valley is holding an open house. A brief 20 minute tour will be offered. Groups wanting a more extensive tour may arrange for one at another time by calling our office at (402) 359-5166. Join us for the weather balloon launch at 6 pm. To be here in time for the launch, guests should arrive by 5:45 pm.

Tuesday, September 4th, 2007

4 pm until 7 pm

6707 North 288th Street, Valley, Nebraska

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/oax/>

Tech Course Starting

The AARC will be hosting a Technician license course starting August 30 and will run for 4 to weeks at the Red Cross at 81st and Spring, Omaha, NE. There is no charge for the class. All study materials will be provided. Class size is limited, so if you know a potential ham, let them know to sign up. They can contact the Education Committee via beaham@aksarbenarc.org for more details.

Special points of interest:

- CLUB MEETING:
- Hero's—Gambino's
- Fremont, NE
- August 24, 2007
- Friday
- Supper at 6:30
- Meeting at 7:30
- Think Programs!!!

Pioneer Amateur Radio Club Minutes July 2007

The Pioneer Amateur Radio Club gathered for dinner at 630 PM on Friday, July 27, 2007, at Hero's / Gambino's in Fremont, Nebraska.

The meeting was called to order at 730 PM by President Steve Benke, KF0MS. 20 people present, who introduced themselves.

The minutes for the June 2007 meeting were approved as printed in the July 2007 PARC News.

The Treasurer's report was approved as printed in the July 2007 PARC News. Joe Roberts, WA0STV made a motion to pay the bills. The motion, which was seconded by Dave Bauer, N0LGU was approved.

...Committee Reports...

Field Day and Special Event Station – Larry Martens, K0SW thanked everybody for a safe and fun Field Day. Field Day statistics, as compiled by Lance Hoffman, WN0L, were printed in the PARC News.

Flea Market – Rich Mehaffey, KB0ARZ reported on the successful July 21 event. The preliminary statistics show a profit of \$181.27. Statistics for Darlene's Diner were not available yet, but Sharon Martens, KB0TVB thought the profit was around \$188.

After a discussion of how PARC could do something for St. Charles Parish, Jane Mehaffey, KB0ZUN made motion PARC purchase two can openers and an electric knife for about \$25 for St. Charles kitchen. WN0L seconded motion, which was approved.

Hospitality – KB0TVB reported she had sent a card to Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ, following the death of his wife.

Education – Nothing to report.

Picnic – Dave Theophilus, W0NRW reported the PARC picnic will be on September 23 at 530 PM. The Board Meeting will commence at 5 PM on the same date. Both will be at the Theophilus home.

Christmas Party – The party will be on Friday, December 7 at the Hoffman's home.

Public Relations – Nothing to report.

ARES – Dave Theophilus, W0NRW thanked people for sending in their rainfall reports each morning when it rains.

ARES Net Manager – John Beranek, KC0KKE passed around a sign-up sheet for Net Control Stations for the Wednesday night nets at 7 PM.

**Joe Roberts' name was
pulled for the pot. He won
\$7.45**

ARES Net Check-in—Wednesday's at 7 p.m. on the WNØL Repeater

...Old Business...

Nothing to report.

...New Business...

Saunders County Fair – Jim Sweeney, KB0DYY reported that the Ashland ARC would have a booth at the Saunders County Fair in Wahoo. PARC members were invited to participate. KB0ARZ said that they could use the ARRL material left over from the PARC Flea Market.

Repeaters – WN0L reported that he would adjust the deviation on the 67 machine. KF0MS is also working on the 105 machine.

Towers – Jack Powley, WA0SAQ reported that WOPHW has a tower that is available to anyone taking it down.

POT – In the drawing for the Pot, the name of Joe Roberts, WA0STV was drawn. He was present and received \$7.45.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 800 PM. Following adjournment, KF0MS read a humorous piece.

WN0L and Kathy Kneifl from Three Rivers Health Department presented a program on the Three Rivers communications package that Dodge County ARES has agreed to provide assistance to Three Rivers by operating the equipment in a real event. The package was on display along with a Power Point presentation. Three Rivers may also receive amateur radio equipment as part of the OMMRS program. *Recorded by Secretary Dave Theophilus, W0NRW.*

Tidbit

Dave W0NRW, Steve KF0MS, Bob W0ICE, Rex K0NO, Mac W0UVQ & Lance WN0L spent a Saturday in Omaha taking down a 50' tower belonging to Bob K0DBU. The tower was transported to W0ICE, Bob's place.

Pioneer Amateur Radio Club July 2007 Treasurer's Report

Savings.....	\$130.68
Checking	1,311.84
Petty Cash	10.00
TOTAL	\$1,452.52
INCOME:	
Dues	\$10.00
Drawing Pot80
Flea Market	181.27
Flea Market Food.....	188.40
Rental Church Reimb.....	50.00
Total Income.....	\$430.47
EXPENSES:	
Newsletter	\$18.35
Generator Gas	10.00
Total Expenses.....	\$28.35

Membership Dues: Dues are \$10 for first member of a family and \$3 each additional member per calendar year if paid between Jan. 1 and March 1. Dues are prorated at \$1 per month after March 1 for new members. Previous year member's dues remain \$10 whenever they are paid. Life membership is \$200.

SEND TO: Sharon Martens
2316 E. First St.
Fremont, NE 68025

Antennas & Stuff

Larry KØSW



We were reading through the August issue of Electric Radio Magazine the other day and saw where they have announced a “Honor Your Elmer” contest. That got me to thinking about all the “Elmers” that I have had the privilege to have know since 1963.

If you remember the Antennas & Stuff article last month in the PARC News, I had been introduced to ham radio by an ex Navy radio operator by the name of Tom Shires, WØFXH. He used a lot of his free time showing new prospective hams how to learn the code and theory so they could pass the novice class amateur exams. Tom was in the Navy Reserve training unit located on the Midland college campus. The building is not there anymore.

I believe Tom was the assistant chief radio operator for that Naval Reserve radio station that we used for our novice classes.

We learned the International radio code on the same training tables that the Navy had used for new operators. The first code I ever heard was at 16 words per minute. The Navy did not believe in starting out at 5 words per minute because too many operators would get hung up at speeds like 8 or 10 wpm. So we blasted away, desperately trying to learn this code in cipher groups, no plain text, just random letters and numbers. Wow, it was hard! I can remember thinking what in the world had I gotten myself into. We will never learn this new language. But, we finally did come to understand how to use the radio code.

This novice class had 10 people in it and went on for 2 months. One fellow was Bob Carlson, who had been a Coast Guard radio operator during WWII. Bob went on to be WAØHBS (sk) (High Button Shoes) and went on many Field Day jaunts with the Pioneer Radio Club. A couple of the other people in the class are also silent keys; WAØHAK, Ken Skoog and WNØHBF, Dan Bittinger. After I got my license, WNØHAL, I met up with Tom Bracket, KØJFN, who spent many an hour trying to help me get a station on the air that worked. Tom was a super nice guy and I spent a lot of time in his, and Cleo, KØJFO's ham shack listening to that fabulous HQ-170A receiver and watching Tom call the Nebraska Cornhusker Net on 3928 kilocycles. Tom enlisted me into the Navy MARS program, where I became NØZHN.

In the Navy MARS program I met several other hams, like Roy, WØUVU; Sherm, KØKQE (sk) and Don, KØRJE and Wilbur, KØSCN, who are still with us. Roy's callsign lives on through Mac, WØUVQ's son Chad, now WØUVU.

I will never forget the club generator, an old Navy surplus WWII vintage Onan. Tom and I had built up a 2 wheel trailer to put the thing on to move it around. It had a crank starter and each Field Day there would be hams out of breathe, and all sweaty from trying to start it. Tom's job at Field Day was to keep the generator running and add fuel when it needed it. During the middle of the night Bob and I were on 75 meter SSB when the generator coughed and died. It was pitch black out in that bean field and Tom had been napping in his car. We heard a door slam and someone running past the old Civil Defense trailer, the next thing we saw was the coax cables got pulled tight and it almost pulled the old Galaxy rig off the desk. Then we heard a muffled yell and thrashing sounds, Bob and I finally found a flashlight and went outside to investigate. We came upon our generator man hopelessly tangled in a mess of coax cables on the ground outside the radio trailer. It took quite a while to get Tom extricated from that web of old military stiff coax.

Once in a while, when I'm out at the Fremont Area Radio Transmitting Society club shack, I get the chance to call the Nebraska Cornhusker Net on 3982 kilocycles and sign with the Pioneer Amateur Radio Club's new call—KØJFN. That is an **honor!**

73 de KØSW

PIONEER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - Fremont, NE

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Colon, NE 68018 Call: NOLOP

President—Steve Benke Secretary—Dave Theophilus
V. President—Rich Mehaffey Treasurer—Sharon Martens

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Carl Johnson, Mel Cunningham , Joe Roberts, + 2 Officers

Committee Chairs

Field Day—Larry Martens Publicity—Kiel Eltiste
Flea Market—Rich Mehaffey Education—Steve Benke
Picnic—Dave Theophilus Net Manager—John Beranek
Christmas Party—Jane Mehaffey ARES Mgr.-Dave Theophilus

**Commander's
Corner**



Well, what has everyone been up to ? ? I think we should all come to the club meeting with something, ham related, that they have been doing this past month. I mean other than just setting there rag chewing. There's nothing wrong with it, I just think that we do other things also.

I see Dave, W0NRW, is getting involved in OMMRS more and more each day. Maybe we can talk him into being our program at the next meeting and do some education on OMMRS and what has been happening the last few weeks. How many of you are familiar with D-Star ? Maybe he can enlighten us on that also. Last month we saw some of the equipment that will be used for it. Now I think we should learn a little more about it. Maybe we can recruit a few more people that can make the meetings and help Dave out. We have a couple more that have been involved and I don't know just how much. Maybe we can find out more about that also.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting. Steve, KF0MS.

**Ak-Sar-Ben ARC
Hamfest
Sunday, October 7
Tables \$7.
ARRL VE Exams
Forums
Door Prizes
Contact Todd KK0DX
for more info.**

LOCAL REPEATER FREQUENCIES

K0ASH	145.310	Ashland
WN0L	146.07/146.67	Fremont
K0KKV	146.760	Lincoln
KF0MS	147.705/147.105	Fremont
WN0L	223.06/224.66	Fremont
W0UVQ	444.175	Fremont
KF0MS	449.375/444.375	Fremont
W0QOU	449.575/444.575	Logan View

<http://home.alltel.net/jlhoffman/index.htm>