

# THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB **Communicator** **March 2017**



NEBRASKA STATEHOOD 150 1867  
2017



## **Nebraska Turns 150! Hams Celebrate This Week!**

It's easy to participate in the Special Event for hams this week from February 25 to March 5. Go to the special web site: [www.NE150hams.org](http://www.NE150hams.org) to check out the rules and get more details. Certificates are available for participants and submitting your log may earn a special certificate. Special QSL cards are available (pictured above) and may be obtained from the club or from Fred.

It's not difficult to participate in this special event and you can continue to participate all year long. Check out the web site or last month's *Communicator* for more details. It's a really good reason to get on the air.

### **Meeting Calendar**

**8am, February 25, 2017**

**8am, March 25, 2017**

**8am, April 29, 2017**

**at Mom's Café**

**2016  
PAID MEMBERSHIP**

- AGØL .....Steve Loyd [E]
- AIØN..... Chuck Engberg\* [E]
- K3CRF.....Dave Smith [E]
- K5LBS ..... Jerry Gault [E]
- KBØFSI ..... Pat McCollum [T]
- KBØLF .....Fred Ericksen [E]
- KBØOGO .....Roger Behrns\* [E]
- KBØSJB.....Tom Katalenich [G]
- KCØHYD ..... John Titsworth [G]
- KCØHYE.....Shirley Titsworth [T]
- KDØNMD.....Dudley Allen [G]
- KDØBXB..... Kim Allen [T]
- KEØXQ.....Bill McCollum [E]
- KGØKR .....Beth Engberg\* [E]
- KIØPY ..... Kevin Faris [E]
- N5SEZ..... Ray McNally[E]
- WØDBW.....Derek Winterstien [G]
- WØZY .....Dave McLaughlin[E]
- WØZYD..... Debbie McLaughlin[G]

*\*Charter Members #New Ham*

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and many who have given additional donations. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please let me know of any corrections.

**Meetings are 8am the last Saturday of most months at Mom's Café in Plattsmouth.**

**Tuesday night get-togethers at Plattsmouth Burger King at 7 PM**



**P.A.R.C. Officers**

**President**  
**KBØOGO .....Roger Behrns**  
**rb55930@windstream.net**

**Vice President**  
**KCØHYD .....John Titsworth**

**Secretary**  
**N5SEZ.....Ray McNally**

**Treasurer**  
**KIØPY ..... Kevin Faris**

**Newsletter Editor**  
**KBØOGO .....Roger Behrns**  
**rb55930@windstream.net**  
**513 Vine St.**  
**Louisville, NE 68037**  
**(402) 234-6775**

**Repeaters:**

443.45<sup>+</sup> is located in downtown Omaha  
 443.225<sup>+</sup> is located in Murray.  
 147.48 Simplex is also in Murray.

**Web Site**  
**[www.kb0smx.com](http://www.kb0smx.com)**  
 Maintained by Derek

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**MINUTES of  
the  
MEETING**

The January 29, 2017 meeting was held in conjunction with the annual Dinner at Famous Dave's in Bellevue at 5 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 1750 by President Roger Behrns.

Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO) and Linda, Kevin (KIØPY) and Sandy, Derek (WØDBW), Lisa, Lexi and Stanley, Keith (KAØIJY), John (KCØHYD) and Shirley (KCØHYE), Bill (KEØXQ) and Pat (KBØFSI), George (KBØZZT) and Joan (KCØDTK), Ray (N5SEZ), Nick (KCØYKO), Bill (KDØFJR) George (KDØNME) and Joyce (KDØRNE).

The Minutes of the November meeting were approved on a motion by Keith and second by Derek.

The treasurer reported \$20 in Dues and donations which leaves \$260 in the repeater fund and \$737.85 in the general fund for a balance of \$997.85.

Advance ballots were distributed for the annual officers election with final balloting at the February meeting.

The meeting adjourned on a motion by John and second by Kevin.

**PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**

Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City		State	
E-Mail		Phone #			
Spouse Name		Call Sign		Class	
Membership Type <input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham		Additional donations are gratefully accepted. ● New Hams are free during the year they receive their first license. ● Please give this form and dues to the club treasurer or any club officer.		Donation for: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General	
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?		Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.			

**2017  
Nebraska QSO Party**

**April 22-23, 2017**

For Rules and Info:  
<http://www.qcwa.org/chapter025.htm>

The annual Nebraska QSO Party is scheduled for Saturday April 22 from 8am to 8pm and on Sunday April 23 from 8am to 5 pm. Check out the rules, but the objective is simple: make as many contacts as you can. The exchange is the call sign, signal report and county you are operating from. Collect their call, signal report and state, province or country or Nebraska County.

## HAARP Experiments Ran Feb. 20-23

(ARRL) On February 20, Alaska's High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) launched its first scientific research campaign since the facility was taken over by the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Geophysical Institute 18 months ago. UAF Space Physics Group Assistant Research Professor Chris Fallen, KL3WX, reported that he ran the experiments through February 23.

Many listeners were able to copy signals from Alaska's High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) early on February 20 (UTC). Professor Chris Fallen, KL3WX, said the Twitter and e-mail feedback from his first evening's run has been "fantastic." Fallen fired up the powerful HAARP transmitters again on February 21 starting at 0300 UTC (the evening of February 20 in US time zones) with a few tweaks.

Fallen is starting and stopping each experiment block with an audio broadcast, transmitting AM carriers on or about 2.8 and 3.3 MHz, with the resulting skywave signal — the "Luxembourg Effect" — being a mix of both frequencies. He has transmitted a simple piece of music, composed locally, specifically to help demonstrate the Luxembourg effect. Fallen said he got reports on the first evening from Georgia, Michigan, British Columbia, Southern California, and Finland — among other locations.

"The CW artificial aurora experiment that follows (weather dependent) is 90 seconds on, 30 seconds off, with the following sequence: 2.80, 2.80, 2.82, 2.84 MHz," Fallen said. "The ionosphere has been looking ratty all day, so I do not have much hope for the artificial aurora experiments."

He said his Twitter feed (@ctfallen) has included "a lot of great waterfalls, videos, and audio by hams and SWLers. It's quite an event, of sorts."

Fallen is working under a National Science Foundation grant. He's posting additional information on his "Gakona HAARPoon 2017" blog. He points out that exact times, transmit frequencies, and experiment modes "are subject to change in response to a variety of factors." Selected updates will be posted via Twitter.

Fallen encouraged radio amateurs and SWLs to record the events they heard and post reports to social media or e-mail him. Since the published reports, Fallen reported on Twitter that the equipment was being torn down but they may be back for another series this summer.

<https://twitter.com/ctfallen?lang=en>

<http://gi.alaska.edu/haarp-0>

<https://sites.google.com/alaska.edu/gakonahaarpoon/tune-in>

[https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=1702328&HistoricalAwards=false](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=1702328&HistoricalAwards=false)

<http://www.arrl.org/news/haarp-signals-widely-copied-experiments-to-continue>

<http://www.arrl.org/news/haarp-experiments-to-get-under-way-on-february-20-utc-reports-invited>

<http://www.arrl.org/news/alaska-s-haarp-facility-once-again-open-for-business>

## CIA Declassified Documents about Amateur Radio

(ARRL 01/25/2017) Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) reports about Amateur Radio in the former Soviet Union (including the Baltic States) and Warsaw Pact member countries have been declassified to a new searchable online database, the CIA Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Electronic Reading Room.

Documents include translations and assessments of Amateur Radio clubs, including Soviet DOSAAF (Volunteer Society for Cooperation with the Army, Aviation, and Fleet) groups; training; monitoring Sputniks; technology and equipment, and even QSL cards.

All documents have been declassified and occasionally "sanitized" and made available to the public for the first time in this archive. Some of these documents were only available previously in a closed system at the US National Archives. — Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via Andy Thomas, GOSFJ

<http://www.arrl.org/news/cia-declassified-documents-about-amateur-radio-available-in-searchable-online-database>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/search/site/20ham%20radio>

## VOA Celebrates 75 Years on the Air

(ARRL 02/06/2017) The Voice of America marked its 75th anniversary on February 1. Not 2 months after the US officially entered World War II, a live, 15-minute shortwave broadcast was transmitted into Germany from a small studio in New York City, introduced by "The Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Announcer William Harlan Hale then said, "We bring you Voices from America. Today, and daily from now on, we shall speak to you about America and the war. The news may be good for us. The news may be bad. But we shall tell you the truth."

That was the very first broadcast from what is today the Voice of America (VOA). By the end of the war, the VOA was broadcasting music, news, and commentary in 40 languages and has grown into an international multimedia service, with programming and content in 47 languages on multiple platforms, including radio and television.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/voa-celebrates-75-years-on-the-air>

### Lincoln Hamfest

ARRL Nebraska State Convention

**Saturday March 11, 2017**

Lancaster Event Center

84th & Havelock, Lincoln NE

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