

THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Communicator

September 2025

Introducing Radio Alpha, the ARRL Museum and Research Library

(ARRL 08/01/2025) There's a new resource from ARRL documenting the history of ham radio. Radio Alpha is the ARRL® Museum and Research Library. It is available for viewing at www.arrl.org/museum. Radio Alpha is envisioned as a Wikipedia-like project, administered by a trusted group of volunteers.

It aims to serve as a definitive repository of information, offering detailed descriptions and contextual data on pivotal figures, influential organizations, pioneering companies, transformative inventions, and iconic equipment that have shaped the amateur radio landscape. Radio Alpha addresses the critical need for a centralized, reliable, and easily navigable archive of amateur radio's past.

Recognizing the fragmented nature of existing historical data, this database will consolidate diverse information sources into a single, cohesive platform. Users will find meticulously researched entries, cross-referenced to provide a holistic understanding of the connections and evolutions within the hobby. A core principle of Radio Alpha is universal accessibility. Therefore, the database will be entirely free to access, ensuring that researchers, historians, enthusiasts, and the public can explore its contents without barriers.

Noted author, industrial archeologist, and historian Chuck Penson, WA7ZZE, is the principal architect who crafted the collection. Penson has published several books about the history of Heathkit and the Titan II missile. For him, it's a labor of love and necessity. "Somebody has to do this," said Penson. "Lots of people are doing it independently on their own – here's a website about the equipment I own, and here's some documents I scanned – there's a lot of that." The lack of a central location to compile those collections is the root of Radio Alpha. Penson hopes the research library will preserve the data long after individual contributors have passed away.

The platform is committed to being free of advertising, spam, and clickbait, prioritizing the integrity of its historical content and providing an uncluttered user experience. "This database will be a living resource, regularly updated and expanded through ongoing research

and community contributions, fostering a deeper appreciation and understanding of amateur radio's profound impact on communication, technology, and society," wrote Penson.

Radio Alpha seeks contributors and volunteers to help develop the content. Hams who have a passion for the history of radio, experience in writing, or extensive knowledge about a particular brand or mode of amateur radio are encouraged to volunteer. The museum also seeks materials that may help grow the collection. Those interested may reach out to Penson at radioalpha@arrl.org.

Penson hopes the data will be preserved forever. "ARRL has an organizational structure that allows it to take a long view on stuff like this. It is best equipped to handle a project like Radio Alpha."

Radio Alpha, the ARRL Museum and Research Library, may be enjoyed at <https://www.arrl.org/radioalpha> or <https://www.arrl.org/museum>.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/introducing-radio-alpha-the-arrl-museum-and-research-library>

ARRL Field Day 2025 Saw Growth in Participants and Entries

(ARRL 08/01/2025) The numbers are in and showing growth. 2025 ARRL Field Day showed an increase in both participants and entries, compared to 2024. According to ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, 4,369 entries detailed 31,785 people taking part in the event. That's up from last year.

"There's a growing interest in ham radio, especially after last year's hurricane season and other high-profile situations in which radio has been essential," noted Bourque. "ARRL Field Day serves as a great chance to get engaged with your local amateur radio community."

The overall growth is encouraging to ARRL. "I'm very pleased with the amount of active ARRL Field Day participants this year. It's nice to see more and more people participating!" said Bourque.

(Follow the link for additional information.)

<https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-field-day-2025-saw-growth-in-participants-and-entries>

2025 PAID MEMBERSHIP

- PAID MEMBERSHIPS are in **BOLD**
- AGØLSteve Loyd [E]
 - AION..... **Chuck Engberg*** [E]
 - KBØFSI..... **Pat McCollum** [T]
 - KBØLF **Fred Eriksen** [E]
 - KBØOGO..... **Roger Behrns*** [E]
 - KCØHYDJohn Titsworth [G]
 - KCØHYE Shirley Titsworth [T]
 - KEØTR.....Paul Stanek [A]
 - KEØPFQ**Justin Fader** [G]
 - KEØXQ**Bill McCollum** [E]
 - KFØFHH.....Erik Jamison [T]
 - KFØRMZ..Stanley Winterstien [T]#
 - KGØKR..... **Beth Engberg*** [E]
 - KIØPYKevin Faris [E]
 - N5SEZ..... **Ray McNally**[E]
 - NØLZH..... **John Harrington** [G]
 - NØPEU**Shawn Djernes** [E]
 - N8VCL.....**Scott Schreiber** [E]
 - WØDBW**Derek Winterstien** [G]
 - WBØWTF**Mitch Green** [G]
 - WDØCFC..... **Gary Bauersachs** [E]
 - WØJRN**Jim Nelson** [E]
 - WJØZ **Del Keene** [E]

**Charter Members #New Ham*

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and those 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 6 PM or so.



P.A.R.C. Officers

President

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

Vice President

KCØHYD John Titsworth

Secretary

WØDBWDerek Winterstien

Treasurer

KIØPY Kevin Faris

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Repeaters:

- 443.45⁺ is located in downtown Omaha
- 443.225⁺ is located in Murray.
- 147.48 Simplex is also in Murray.

Web Site

www.kb0smx.com

Maintained by Derek (WØDBW)

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The July Meeting was held at Mom's Café on Saturday, July 26, 2025. The meeting was called to order by President Roger Behrns at 8:18 am.

Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO), Kevin (KIØPY), Ray (N5SEZ), Gary (WDØCFC), Derek (WØDBW), Jim (WØJRN), Scott (N8VCL), Justin (KeØPFQ), Erik (KFØFHH), Dale, Jayden and Lexi.

The Minutes of the May meeting were approved on a motion by Jim and seconded by Derek.

The Treasurer reported \$45 in dues received and \$300 for liability insurance and \$45 to renew the club license. This leaves \$397.55 in the General Fund and \$315 in the Repeater Fund for a total of \$712.55. The report was accepted on a motion by Ray and second by Gary.

It was noted that some clubs are not publishing their bank balances to avoid being a target of online criminals. There was some discussion that this would be less transparent to members and that a small balance might not be attractive to criminals but club member opinions are sought.

A motion by Ray and second by Scott to give a donation of \$50 to Murray in appreciation for the use of the park for Field Day. Passed.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 on a motion by Gary and seconded by Jim.

PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM					
Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City	State	Zip	
E-Mail			Phone #		
Spouse Name			Call Sign		Class
Membership Type	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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:	Amount:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham			<input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General	<input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.	
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?					

Meeting Calendar

8am, Sat August 30
8am, Sat September 27
8am, Sat October 25
at Mom's Café.