

HAAM GROUP - Friends of Bill W.

HAAM News - No 7 Aug 2011 A History of the HAAM Radio Group

A couple of months ago we encouraged Robert K6LX to write up a short history of HAAM Group which he volunteered to do sometime. We are happy to report that the project has been started. Here is Robert's progress report. -----
-----[from Robert K6LX]

For some time, at least from 1987 up to 1993, Henry Kopecky N9KDW had been the "organization" of HAAM. Henry maintained a roster of anyone and everyone that sought information or participation in our group. This roster he would send out from time to time along with Henry an expense report covering expenses incurred in running a HAAM ad in World Radio - then a monthly print publication.

Henry seemed to be in some sort of communication with members of HAAM Group all the time. He would regularly check into our nets on Saturday or Sunday, usually late in the net having lurked through the beginnings. Things went pretty smoothly until Henry passed away in 1996.

It became apparent that HAAM had lost a important contributor and was in need for someone to take over the tasks that Henry had filled. I checked around and found that no one was prepared to take over Henry's tasks so I volunteered.

I sought to get any documents that Henry might have had in his file which documented the beginnings of the HAAM Group. This effort was only partially successful. A few documents were obtained from a neighbor ham (also in the program) who had helped Henry with computer stuff.

Over the years, I have added more and more documents to fill a shoe box, but it didn't shed much light on how HAAM got started. Gary, WØSDI, Maury, W9FBC, and Bud, WA8TGS sent in what they had to help.

Meanwhile, in the mid-90s, HAAM had fine on-the-air activity with Gary WØSDI as the principal net control on Saturdays and myself on Sundays. Gary added the weekday roundtable. We had help from many others, some of whom served as net controls all of whom I wish I could remember and thank

In that part of the HAAM History to be written later, I describe the lore that I had heard in 1987 to the effect that early on ship's radio officers (MROs) had been quite active in the early years. While this was true at some point, it is not the complete story as I now find it.

The well written story from 4-5-9 of 1992, refers to 1953 and 1954 Grapevine articles. I decided to go back to Grapevine via the Digital Grapevine Archives and take a look at what could be found to further document the start of HAAM.

I was surprised to find as much as I did. I made a print list of all the articles to put up on the website. HAAM has obtained copyright permis-sions from Grapevine to reproduce the lot with the restriction that their © statement has to be included with each, and that no partial quotations from the articles are allowed. The article has to be made available in it's entirety. Well, we'll do that.

Here is the URL:

<http://www.qsl.net/haam/HAAM-History/TOD.html>

Links from there will retrieve the documents themselves.

I plan to prepare a narrative history covering HAAM from the 50's on almost entirely based on these documents and others, the most important of which are linked to the above TOC file.

Let me make a pitch for you to subscribe to the Digital Grapevine. Not expensive, helps support their effort and very interesting. Searching is a breeze, very good.

<http://da.aagrapevine.org/> One month for 5\$

Try it out. 73 Robert, K6LX

From Doug, AB5FG -

Thanks to Robert K6LX for the tremendous amount of effort in research and putting this HAAM history together. We are getting settled after our move to Silver City, NM. A direct lightning strike took antenna down. Replace and back on air. I want to thank VE6SP Sig and the others for keeping it going and always being there. The solar cycle isn't doing well so hang in there. That's it from us. TNX 73 and 24

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