

PEAKS & NULLS



MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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MRC MEMBER MAKES QST

The September issue of QST has an article by Gordon Beattie W2TTT on the AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) support of the 2016 NYC Marathon. On page 66 there is a picture of the communications team in action and right in front is our very own Harvey WS2Q.

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THERE IS A NEW MODE IN TOWN

At the August Get Together Noel, Mark and Sid were talking about a new digital Weak Signal mode FT8. This mode has been added to the free software WSJT-X by Joe Taylor K1JT. WSJT and its various modes have been around for a number of years and are being used for VHF Meteor Scatter and Moon Bounce work. Joe has been adding new modes and JT9 has been used on the low bands with much success. The big advantage is that you can work stations that you cannot hear but, the disadvantage is that it takes a long time to make a QSO. FT8 has drastically reduced the transmission time to 15 seconds so a whole QSO with reports and 73's for each station can only take a minute and a half. How popular has it become? Just take a look at <https://pskreporter.info/pskmap.html>. As I am writing this piece there are 1115 stations on all bands using FT8 worldwide, including 205 on 6 Meters. There could be more seeing that not everyone running FT8 is reporting to PSK Reporter. You can select which band or bands you want to observe and also within what time frame. I have in the last 15 minutes selected. You can download WSJT-X from the WSJT Home Page at <https://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/>. If you are using Norton Antivirus you will have to turn it off before downloading and installing the program. Norton is giving a false positive and deleting the program on download. Because the Windows time synchronization is not adequate you will also have to download and install Meinberg NTP or Dimension 4. Be sure to also download and read the WSJT-X User Guide. After you have everything installed and hooked up just watch the left panel of the display. FT8 decodes the entire audio pass band and will display all signals decoded. It will even decode multiple signals on the same frequency. I have seen comments that it decoded four

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

September 18, 2017 Regular business meeting

October 16, 2017 Regular business meeting

November 20, 2017 Regular business meeting

December 18, 2017 Holiday Get-Together

SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z, Oct 7
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	0800Z, Oct 7 to 0800Z, Oct 8
California QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 7 to 2159Z, Oct 8
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z, Oct 10
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z, Oct 14 to 1559Z, Oct 15
Oceania DX Contest, CW	0800Z, Oct 14 to 0800Z, Oct 15
Arizona QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 14 to 2359Z, Oct 15
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z, Oct 14 to 2200Z, Oct 15
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Oct 16 to 2359Z, Oct 20
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	0001Z, Oct 21 to 2359Z, Oct 22
New York QSO Party	1400Z, Oct 21 to 0200Z, Oct 22
Illinois QSO Party	1700Z, Oct 22 to 0100Z, Oct 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Oct 28 to 2400Z, Oct 29



PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR OCTOBER 2016

*****SUNSPOT NUMBER*****

PREDICTED HIGH LOW
21.4 31.4 11.4

*****10.7 RADIO FLUX*****

PREDICTED HIGH LOW
78.3 87.3 69.3

AUGUST MEETING MINUTES

There was no August meeting. A Get-Together was held at Panera Bread in Parsippany in place of the meeting. There were 9 attendees.

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signals on the same frequency. Right now on 20 Meters I see QSO's with stations in France, Canada, the Canary Islands, Austria, The Netherlands and Italy among others. Download the software and give it a try. Below is a screen shot from 20 Meters on Monday.

The screenshot shows a radio software interface with two columns of QSO data. The left column is titled 'Band Activity' and the right column is 'Rx Frequency'. Both columns list UTC, dB, DT, Freq, and Message. Several messages are highlighted in green, including 'CQ KB8BIP EM88', 'CQ G1PPA IO93', 'CQ LU6UBM FF84', 'CQ IK2DJV JN45', 'CQ W5MCP EM22', 'CQ LU3HBO FF88', and 'CQ YV5KXE FK60'. Below the lists is a control panel with buttons for 'Log QSO', 'Stop', 'Monitor', 'Erase', 'Decode', 'Enable Tx', 'Halt Tx', and 'Tune'. A frequency display shows '20m' and '14.073 500'. A 'DX Call' field shows 'TA4LYL' and 'DX Grid' shows 'KM37'. A 'Report -15' field shows '2017 Sep 11 22:21:20'. A list of messages is shown on the right, including 'TA4LYL WA2VQF FN20', 'TA4LYL WA2VQF -15', 'TA4LYL WA2VQF R-15', 'TA4LYL WA2VQF RRR', 'TA4LYL WA2VQF 73', and 'CQ WA2VQF FN20'.

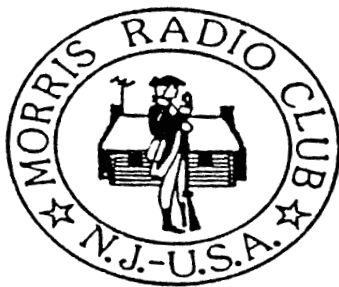


MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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THE MORRIS RADIO CLUB IS AN ORGANIZATION OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WHICH HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR OVER SIXTY FIVE YEARS. AS A HOBBY, AMATEUR RADIO SERVES AS A PUBLIC RESOURCE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE.

ALTHOUGH MANY WHO BECOME INTERESTED IN AMATEUR RADIO ARE INVOLVED IN AN ELECTRONICS RELATED FIELD, THE HOBBY APPEALS TO A WIDE VARIETY OF INDIVIDUALS.

THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MORRIS RADIO CLUB IS A DIVERSE GROUP MADE UP OF MEDICAL, BUSINESS, EDUCATION, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS, AMONG OTHERS, WHOSE COMMON INTERESTS ARE COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC SERVICE.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

Ocean-Monmouth ARC Fall Hamfest

09/23/2017

Location: Independent Fire Company No. 1
700 Sixth Avenue
Spring Lake Heights, NJ

Website: <http://www.n2mo.org>

MBARC FALLFEST 2017

10/01/2017

Location: Downstate Correctional Employee Recreation Center
83 Red Schoolhouse Road
Fishkill, NY 12524

Website: <http://www.wr2abb.org>

BARA Fall Hamfest

10/07/2017

Location: Westwood Regional Jr./Sr. High School
701 Ridgewood Road
Township of Washington, NJ 07676

Website: <http://bara.org>