



PEAKS & NULLS

MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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WHERE HAVE ALL THE SUNSPOTS GONE?

Out of the first eleven days this year only one day had one sunspot. As this is being written there are two groups with a total of five sunspots. It's only going to get worse. Cycle 25 is predicted to start in 2020 so we may have up to three years of months with very few or no sunspots ahead of us. The current cy-

cle, number 24 (the 24th cycle since counting began in 1755) was the weakest since Cycle 14 in 1906 and Cycle 25 is predicted to be even lower with Cycle 26 predicted to be negligible. I'm glad I worked the world on 10 Meters when I had the chance.

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WHY NOT TRY CONTESTING?

Except for Field Day I never liked contesting (yes I know Field Day is not a contest), until I found out that it was an easy way to work DX. One year I worked the 10 Meter contest on Phone and when I totaled it up at the end I had 60 countries logged. It took me a year to get the other 40 but, I ended up with DXCC, DXCC 10 Meters and DXCC Phone. Then I switched to CW and RTTY. Now I only need 30 more on 80 Meters for

5BDXCC. This may take awhile seeing I'm fighting a S9 noise level on 80. Here are some tips to get you started:

1. Get a contest logging program and interface it to your rig. There are many good ones out there and NIMM Logger+, the program we use on Field Day, is free. If you interface it the program reads the mode and frequency from your rig so you don't have to enter it

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 23, 2017 Regular business meeting

(Note: The meeting will be held on the 4th Monday of the month due to the Martin Luther King Holiday)

February 27, 2017 Regular business meeting

(Note: The meeting will be held on the 4th Monday of the month due to the Presidents Day Holiday)

March 20, 2017 Regular business meeting

2017 DUES

2017 DUES

Noel NO2EL is now accepting dues payments for 2017. \$15.00 for full membership, \$10.00 for associate. If you have a PayPal account, dues can now be paid by using Pay-Pal.

SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z, Jan 27 to 2200Z, Jan 29
Montana QSO Party	0000Z-2400Z, Jan 28
BARTG RTTY Sprint	1200Z, Jan 28 to 1200Z, Jan 29
Winter Field Day	1900Z, Jan 28 to 1900Z, Jan 29
YLRL YL-OM Contest	1400Z, Feb 3 to 0200Z, Feb 5
Vermont QSO Party	0000Z, Feb 4 to 2400Z, Feb 5
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	0001Z, Feb 4 to 2359Z, Feb 5
Minnesota QSO Party	1400Z-2400Z, Feb 4
Mexico RTTY International Contest	1800Z, Feb 4 to 1759Z, Feb 5
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	0000Z, Feb 11 to 2359Z, Feb 12
New Hampshire QSO Party	1600Z, Feb 11 to 2200Z, Feb 12
ARRL School Club Roundup	1300Z, Feb 13 to 2359Z, Feb 17
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	2200Z, Feb 24 to 2200Z, Feb 26

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by hand.

2. Pick an easy contest to get started. Maybe a State QSO Party and be sure to read the rules first so that you know the exchange and where they will be operating.

3. Listen First. Get a feel for the exchange and how many other stations are calling. If it's too crowded move on and come back later. I've worked many rare DX stations because I was tuning and listening and got them before someone posted them to the DX cluster. I would work them and when I cleared it sounded like everyone else in the world was calling them.

4. You don't have

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PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR FEBRUARY 2016

SUNSPOT NUMBER

PREDICTED	HIGH	LOW
26.9	34.9	18.9

10.7 RADIO FLUX

PREDICTED	HIGH	LOW
85.1	92.1	78.1

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

There was no business meeting in December. A Holiday Get-Together was held at the Brookside Diner in Whippany on December 19. Nine members were in attendance. President Ed K2EMJ was taking the picture and Kathy KT2F is hidden behind Noel.



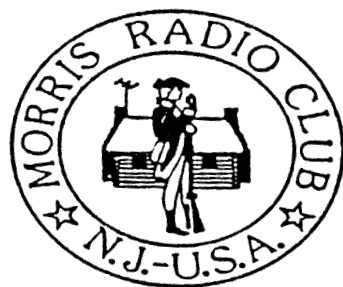


MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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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.

to work the whole contest. Just spend the amount of time that you can. A few weeks ago I got an email from the CQ contest group asking me to please submit my log from the CQ World Wide CW Contest in November. I didn't have much time that weekend so I only worked 101 stations over the 48 hour period. I was in the logs of over 95 of them so they wanted my log (as a check log) to check against the others for errors.

5. Remember that it may be a contest for the others

but, for you it's just having fun adding to your wallpaper collection.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

New Providence Amateur Radio Club Annual Auction

02/24/2017

Location: New Providence High School

35 Pioneer Drive

New Providence, NJ 07974

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

Long Island Hamfest and Electronics Fair

02/26/2017

Location: Levittown Hall

201 Levittown Parkway

Hicksville, NY 11801

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