



# PEAKS & NULLS



MORRIS RADIO CLUB

Volume II, Issue III  
March 15, 2012

## SKYWARN TRAINING CLASS

The Morris Radio Club is sponsoring a Basic Skywarn Training Class to be held in Room 112 at Morristown High School on May 9, 2012. This FREE class is open to all interested people, HAM or not, and will begin at 7:00 PM. For those spotters who have NOT attended a class in the last three years, this is their chance

to re-qualify. This is an entirely NEW program with a new book. Please pass this information along to any one who may be interested. Registration is required so that enough materials will be on hand. Please e-mail Kathy at [kt2f@arrl.net](mailto:kt2f@arrl.net) if you plan to attend.

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## WHAT IS SKYWARN?

SKYWARN is a program run by the National Weather Service (NWS) division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) a part of the U.S. Department of Commerce. It is charged with collecting reports of localized severe weather. The program was started in the 1970s and is a volunteer program with nearly 290,000 trained severe weather spotters. Although SKYWARN spotters provide essential information for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service and access to communication (such as HAMs) to join the SKYWARN program. SKYWARN has long been associated with amateur radio. Many NWS offices maintain an amateur radio station that is manned by amateur radio operators during times of severe weather. This allows amateur radio spotters to transmit their severe weather reports directly to the NWS even if regular communications are disrupted or overloaded by the weather emergency. Even if the local weather service office does not have a station or it is not manned, Ham radio nets can still gather the information and then relay that information by telephone or the internet. It is important to note that participation in the SKYWARN program does not require an amateur radio license. More than half of all SKYWARN spotters are not licensed amateur radio operators.

Those without radio communication capability can still make their reports via cellphone, landline telephone or the Internet when those are still functioning. SKYWARN spotters are not "Storm Chasers". While their functions and methods are similar the spotter stays close to home and usually has ties to a local agency. Some New Jersey Counties have web sites to support their SYWARN activities. Here is a list:

Bergen

[www.bergenskywarn.org](http://www.bergenskywarn.org)

Cumberland

[www.cumberlandskywarn.com](http://www.cumberlandskywarn.com)

Essex

[www.essexskywarn.org](http://www.essexskywarn.org)

Mercer

[www.freewebs.com/mercerskywarn/](http://www.freewebs.com/mercerskywarn/)

Warren

[www.wc2em.net/page3.html](http://www.wc2em.net/page3.html)

Most list the repeaters they use and other SKYWARN information.

## DO YOU CONNECT?

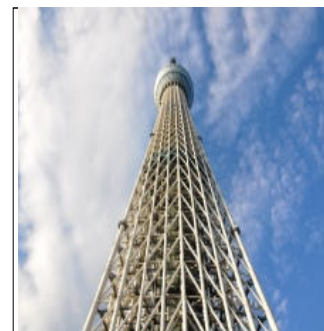
There are a ton of different types of connectors. RF, AC and DC Power, Digital Interface, etc. But do you know which type to use to get the most power to

your antenna with the lowest VSWR? At the March meeting Noel NO2EL will present a program on RF connectors

## NIMM LOGGER OVERVIEW

The Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) has posted a series of NIMM Logger Overview Webinars on its website ([www.pvrc.org](http://www.pvrc.org)) under the "Recorded Webi-

nars" link. Along with the NIMM webinars they list may more on Antennas, Propagation and contesting.



This is the Tokyo Sky Tree, at 2080 feet the world's tallest free standing Digital Broadcast Tower. Maybe someone in Hanover can put up a taller one in their back yard.



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

- March 19, 2012 Regular business meeting  
Program RF Connectors by NO2EL
- April 16, 2012 Regular business meeting
- May 21, 2012 Regular business meeting
- June 18, 2012 Regular business meeting & Field Day preparations

## 2012 DUES

### 2012 DUES

Noel NO2EL is now accepting dues payments for 2012. \$15.00 for full membership, \$10.00 for associate.

## SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

CQ WPX SSB Contest	0000Z, Mar 24 to 2400Z, Mar 25
Japan International DX Contest (CW)	0700Z, Apr 7 to 1300Z, Apr 8
ARRL Rookie Roundup (Phone)	1800Z, Apr 15 to 2359Z, Apr 15
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, Apr 28 to 2359Z, Apr 29



## PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR APRIL 2012

**\*\*\*SUNSPOT NUMBER\*\*\***

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

**PREDICTED HIGH LOW**

**PREDICTED HIGH LOW**

82.9 91.9 73.9

135.2 143.2 127.2

## FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

Morris Radio Club -  
Meeting Minutes  
February 27, 2012

Attendees (6) NO2EL,  
K2EMJ, KC2KNT, W2GM,  
WA2VQF, W2ZKE

Opening of Meeting  
President Ed Peters  
K2EMJ opened the meet-  
ing at 7:42 PM

**Reports:**

Secretary - Bill WA2VQF  
reported that the Janu-  
ary Minutes were issued  
in the February Peaks  
and Nulls Newsletter  
and that no corrections  
were received. RAY  
KC2KNT moved that the  
minutes be accepted.  
MARK W2GM seconded.  
The minutes were ac-  
cepted

Treasurer - Noel NO2EL  
reported the current  
account balances. The  
actual numbers are  
available directly from  
Noel NO2EL.

RAY KC2KNT moved that  
the Treasurers report  
be accepted. It was  
seconded by Mark W2GM

and unanimously ac-  
cepted.

**Old Business:**

The Skywarn class has  
been set for May 9 at  
Morristown High School  
Room 112. Sign up with  
Cathy KT2F. The secre-  
tary will send out an  
announcement to all the  
club members.

**New Business:**

A discussion was held  
about the upcoming Ham-  
fests in the area.

There are no changes to  
the Field Day rules this  
year. We are planning  
on running two stations  
again this year.

Motion to Adjourn Ray  
KC2KNT

Seconded by Mark W2GM.

Ed closed the meeting at  
7:59 PM

After the meeting Ed  
showed the tour of W1AW  
that is available on the  
league WEB site.

Respectively Submitted,

Bill WA2VQF  
MRC Secretary

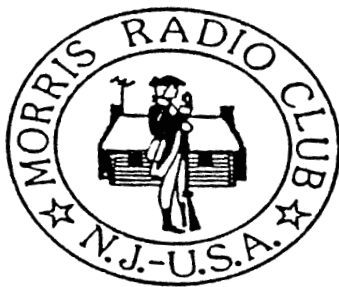


## MORRIS RADIO CLUB

K2EMJ ED PETERS PREDISIDENT  
KC2RDX ROB BRABANDT VP  
WA2VQF BILL LOFTUS SECRETARY  
NO2EL NOEL SCHEFFEN TREASURER

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[WWW.MORRISRADIOCLUB.ORG](http://WWW.MORRISRADIOCLUB.ORG)



**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

### North Jersey Hamfest

**03/24/2012**

Location: Roxbury Senior Center

72 Eyland Avenue

Succasunna, NJ 07876

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

Sponsor: Splitrock Amateur Radio Assn

April 21, 2012

OMARC Tailgate Hamfest

Project DANA Site

Wall, NJ

<http://www.omarc.org>