



PEAKS & NULLS



MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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May 17, 2018

NEWS FROM THE SUN

In looking over some propagation forecasts I saw a reference to an event that I had missed. The first sunspot of cycle 25 was spotted. The amazing part was that it happened a year and a half ago on December 20th 2016. A USET (USET is an automated solar observation system at the royal Observatory of Belgium in Brussels) observer saw a small patch of magnetic field at a high latitude in the southern hemisphere of the Sun. This magnetic field was reversed in polarity to Cycle 24. That is the telltale sign of a different cycle. The magnetic fields of the sunspots are reversed from the previous cycle. Another sign is that the sunspots are at a high latitude. The first observer notified other observers that looked at the Sun and they saw a sunspot where the patch of magnetic field was. It was assigned number AR 12620. Another high-latitude reversed polarity patch of magnetic field in the southern hemisphere was observed on April 8th of this year. It faded without forming a sunspot. Sunspot cycles do overlap so this is not an unusual behavior. As we approach the bottom of Cycle 24 there will be more of a mix of sunspots of both cycles until we come out of the bottom and Cycle 25 sunspots will become the majority. This has been predicted for some time now to happen in 2020. Meanwhile Frank Donovan, W3LPL says that spotless days are a much better indicator of progress toward a solar minimum and could actually predict the likely strength of the next cycle. Last year there were 104 spotless days or 28%. So far this year 56% of the days have seen no sunspots. Donovan says that if the long period of spotless days ends in about a year that could mean a stronger Cycle 25 and the reverse is also true. If it takes more than 2 years to end then Cycle 25 will be weaker as some have forecast. If there is any good news it is that another solar precursor is looking good. Donovan says that the intensity of the solar polar magnetic fields prior to the Cycle 24 solar minimum can indicate the strength of Cycle 25 and right now the magnetic fields are stronger than at the start of the last solar minimum which indicates that Cycle 25 will be somewhat stronger than cycle 24. Hopefully that means that 10 Meters will be back to where it was in Cycle 23.

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CONGRATULATIONS CRAIG

The results of the CQ World Wide CW Contest held last November are out and Craig WR2G came in number 2 in the Second Call Area, 11th in North America and 48th in the world in the Single-op Assisted, High Power, 20 Meters Category. Congratulations to Craig



UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 21, 2018 Regular Business Meeting

June 18, 2018 Regular Business Meeting / Field Day Setup Talk

June 23-24, 2018 Field Day

July - No Meeting

August 20, 2018—Annual Summer Get-together at 6 PM, location to be announced

SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 26 to 2359Z, May 27
10-10 Int. Open Season PSK Contest	0000Z, Jun 2 to 2400Z, Jun 3
SEANET Contest	1200Z, Jun 2 to 1200Z, Jun 3
Kentucky QSO Party	1400Z, June 2 to 0200Z, Jun 3
IARU Region 1 Field Day, CW	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1459Z, Jun 3
RSGB National Field Day	1500Z, Jun 2 to 1500Z, Jun 3
RSGB 80m Club Championship, Data	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 4
Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 9 to 1200Z, Jun 10
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 9 to 0259Z, Jun 11
RSGB 80m Club Championship, CW	1900Z-2030Z, Jun 13
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 16 to 2400Z, Jun 17
IARU Region 1 50 MHz Contest	1400Z, Jun 16 to 1400Z, Jun 17
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 16 to 1500Z, Jun 17
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 16 to 0200Z, Jun 17
ARRL Kids Day	1800Z-2359Z, Jun 16



PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR JUNE 2018

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

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

PREDICTED HIGH LOW

PREDICTED HIGH LOW

26.3 36.3 16.3

82.8 91.8 73.8

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

Morris Radio Club – Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2018

Attendees (7) K2EMJ, K3YAK, KA2HZZ, KD2NMX, KY2D, NO2EL, WA2VQF
A quorum was present.

Opening of Meeting
President Ed opened the meeting at 7:35 PM

Reports:

Secretary – Bill WA2VQF reported that the March Minutes were issued in the April Peaks and Nulls Newsletter. There were no reported errors.

Jim KY2D moved that the Secretary report be accepted. Fred KD2NMX Seconded.

The Secretary report was accepted.

Noel NO2EL presented the treasurers report for March.

Treasurer – Noel NO2EL reported the April account balances. The actual numbers are available from Noel.

Noel filed the IRS report on line. The state website was not accepting the state report. He will try again tomorrow.

Jim KY2D moved that the Treasurers report be accepted. Stu KA2HZZ Seconded. The Treasurers report was accepted.

Old Business

The web site was down for approximately two weeks because of a

computer failure. It has been repaired and the site is back up.

Noel is still waiting for the new Technician books to come out before scheduling the one day class.

The splitrock hamfest is this coming weekend.

Joe Taylor K1JT is speaking at the May 11th meeting of NJDXA. The meeting is open to the public.

New Business:

Noel reported that apparently Gene K2KJI is having some sort of a problem and he had a very difficult time getting in touch with Gene and the store is not open that often.

Stu KA2HZZ made five contacts in the 5 watt challenge.

After a discussion of past Field Days it was decided to go ahead with our Field Day preparations for Bee Meadow Park. Noel will get the permits for the field and Bill will list us on the ARRL Field Day Locator.

Noel reminded everyone that if you buy from Amazon use Smile.Amazon.Com and pick the Morris Radio Club as your charity.

Stu KA2HZZ moved that the meeting be closed. Noel NO2EL Seconded.

President Ed closed the business portion of the meeting at 8:28 PM.

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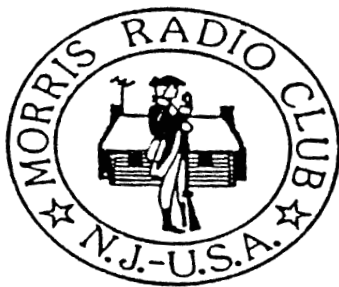


MORRIS RADIO CLUB

K2EMJ	ED PETERS	PRESIDENT
W2GM	MARK SUGARMAN	VP
WA2VQF	BILL LOFTUS	SECRETARY
NO2EL	NOEL SCHEFFEN	TREASURER

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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.

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WA2VQF
MRC Secretary

HAMFEST CALENDAR

BARA Spring Hamfest

05/26/2018

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

Website: <http://bara.org>

Ocean-Monmouth ARC Spring Hamfest

06/02/2018

Location: Spring Lake Heights Independent Fire Company #1
700 Sixth Avenue
Spring Lake Heights, NJ

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

W2QW Hamfest

06/16/2018

Location: Piscataway High School (Lots 11 & 12)
110 Behmer Avenue
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Website: <http://www.w2qw.org/hamfest>