



PEAKS & NULLS



ANOTHER CONTEST SEASON HAS STARTED

It's fall and that means one thing. It's Contest Season again. This weekend is the JARTS RTTY Contest and the CQ World Wide CW Contest is the weekend after Thanksgiving. In between are a bunch of Sweepstakes, Phone, CW, Digital and VHF contests and that is just the start. In December there is the ARRL 10 Meter Contest. Take your choice, CW, Phone or both in the same contest. The weekend before (December 7th) is the 10 Meter RTTY Contest sponsored by RTTY Contesting.com.

Whether you're out to show the world what a great operator you are or you're just looking for a few new pieces of wallpaper a contest is the perfect venue. If you've never tried contesting here's a few tips to help you get started.

1. Pick something you would be comfortable with. Try a state QSO party or another small contest where you will not be fighting the rest of the world for a contact.
2. Read the rules first and figure out the exchange. Contests usually have different exchanges although there are some common ones. Some exchange CQ Magazine zones. We are in zone 05. If it is the ITU zone we are 8. Some contests want the signal report and your age (YL's and XYL's can send 00). It could be your state or ARRL section. If you can't find the exchange then listen to what the other stations in the area are sending. In some contests we may send the state but DX stations send a power level report (KW, 500, 250 etc.).
3. Listen first. Get the feel of the contest and the exchanges.
4. Don't try for the big guns first. They're trying to run as many stations as fast as they can. Wait until closer to the end of the contest. Then when there are fewer stations to pick from they

5. will take time to work a beginner. They are looking for any QSO point they can find at that point in the contest.
5. If you and another station are tuning through the band in the same direction and end up trying to work the same stations, reverse your direction. Work to the end of the band and then start in the other direction again. That way you may have worked a few more stations and he is now far enough away so as to not cause you any problems.
6. If you're working USB phone start at the high end of the band and tune down. That way you don't have to tune through the Donald Duck sound of a station.
7. If you hear a DX station calling with no one coming back to him, or he is only working stations in a different area then propagation to that part of the world is probably poor. You can try one or two calls but don't waste your time on a station that probably will not come back to you.
8. Use a propagation program before the contest to see what bands will be open to which parts of the world and at what time so that you can plan your band changes.
9. Keep tuning. Many times I've worked a rare station that just came on the band before he was posted on a DX Cluster and whole world tried to work him.
10. Remember to have fun. You don't have to work the whole 24 or 48 hours of a contest. Come and go as you please or when it fits in with other things you have to do. The main thing is to enjoy yourself.

Inside this issue:

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| UPCOMING MEETINGS | 2 |
| UPCOMING CONTESTS | 2 |
| SOLAR FULX PREDICTION | 3 |
| SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES | 3 |
| HAMFEST CALENDAR | 4 |

A PROPAGATION PRIMER

I ran across an article by Barry Manz in Military Microwave Digest. Barry is a well known Editor and Publisher of publications for the Microwave and Communications industry. He also happens to be WB2TSY. The article is about High Frequency SIGINT. Signals Intelligence (often abbreviated as SIGNET) is intelligence gathering by interception of signals. The article

contains a very good description of HF Propagation for non technical people. The title of the article is "HF SIGINT: A Return from the Dead?" Here is a link(<http://www.mpdigest.com/Military/issue/2014/Sept/Barry2/default.asp>) if you are interested. Just don't drool too much over those antenna installations.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

October 20, 2014 Regular business meeting

November 17, 2014 Regular business meeting

November 24, 2014 FCC Exams Normandy Park School Library

December 15, 2014 December Get-Together Brookside Diner

SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW | 100Z, Nov 1 to 0300Z, Nov 3 |
| DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest | 1100Z-1700Z, Nov 2 |
| ARRL EME Contest | 0000Z, Nov 8 to 2359Z, Nov 9 |
| WAE DX Contest, RTTY | 0000Z, Nov 8 to 2359Z, Nov 9 |
| 10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital | 0001Z, Nov 8 to 2359Z, Nov 9 |
| ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB | 2100Z, Nov 15 to 0300Z, Nov 17 |
| Run for the Bacon QRP Contest | 0200Z-0400Z, Nov 17 |
| NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint | 0130Z-0330Z, Nov 20 |
| YO International PSK31 Contest | 1600Z-2200Z, Nov 21 |
| LZ DX Contest | 1200Z, Nov 22 to 1200Z, Nov 23 |
| RSGB 80m Club Sprint, CW | 2000Z-2100Z, Nov 27 |
| CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW | 0000Z, Nov 29 to 2400Z, Nov 30 |



PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR NOVEMBER 2014

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

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

PREDICTED HIGH LOW

PREDICTED HIGH LOW

74.8 84.8 64.8

127.4 136.4 118.4

SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Morris Radio Club – Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2014

Attendees (8) KC2EMJ, KC2KNT, KC2MFL, KU9C, NO2EL, KY2D, WA2VQF, WS2Q and one visitor KB2FVG
A quorum was present.

Opening of Meeting
President Ed opened the meeting at 7:34 PM

Reports:

Secretary – Bill WA2VQF reported that the June Minutes were issued in the July Peaks and Nulls Newsletter. Eagle eye Kathy KT2F noticed that Harvey WS2Q was not listed as attending but he motioned to close the meeting. Upon further review it was discovered that Sr. Irma KC2MFL was at the meeting but not listed in the minutes. The June minutes have been corrected. ED K2EMJ moved that the minutes be accepted. Jim KY2D seconded. The minutes were accepted

Noel NO2EL presented the treasurers reports for February.

The actual numbers are available directly from Noel.

Jim KY2D moved that the Treasurers reports be accepted. It was seconded by ED K2EMJ and unanimously accepted.

Old Business:

Noel reported that the 501(c) (3) has been reinstated to the original date. He will report the update in January of each year.

Ed received a check for \$57.00 from Atlanta Bread for our August Get-Together. The check has been given to the Treasurer.

No one went to the ARRL convention in Hartford.

Ed and Noel reported on the Sussex Hamfest.

New Business:

Ed brought up the fact that this will be an election year for the club. The President, Secretary and Treasurer agreed to stand for reelection. Ed will contact Rob KC2RDX to see if he is willing to continue as Vice President.

ED mentioned that this is Emergency Preparedness month and he will be attending the Emergency Preparedness Fair being held in Morristown this weekend.

There will be an advanced Skywarn class on Wednesday October 15 at Morristown High School. Noel has applied for the room with the club hosting.

We will look to see if we can still hold a class this fall. We will try to finalize plans by next meeting. Ray has two and maybe three people interested. Noel and Ray will put together a shorter course than we used to give.

Ed thanked everyone for their Field Day participation.

Jim KY2D has been elected chairman of the International Guide Dog Association. He was also interviewed in the January issue of CQ Magazine about the club station at the Seeing Eye.

Ed reported that no one will be supporting the MS100 bike ride this weekend due

to the background and financial checks now required.

Ray KC2KNT moved to close the meeting. Sr. Irma KC2MFL seconded. President Ed closed the meeting at 8:27 PM.

Bill WA2VQF

MRC Secretary

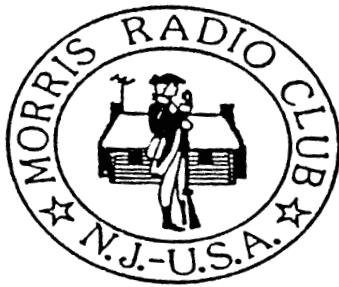


MORRIS RADIO CLUB

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

E-mail: morrisradioclub@gmail.com

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

JSARS HAMFEST BY THE SHORE

11/16/2014

Location: Riverwood Park

Riverwood Drive

Toms River, NJ 08753

Website: <http://jsars.org>