

FEEDBACK



APRIL 2002

VOLUME 47 NUMBER 4



APRIL MEETING

The meeting for the month of April will be held at the Massillon Senior Center on April 5, 2002 at 8:00 PM.

Ahhhh Spring at last!!! Since Spring's arrival on March 20, we have been experiencing some trying weather to say the least. But I am sure that we will be enjoying some beautiful weather in the near future! How do I know you ask? Well for one thing, at last month's meeting we started sending around sign - up sheets for the first of two Safety Breaks to be held this year. If that isn't a sure sign of spring, than nothing is!! The first Safety Break will be held on May 10, 11, 12 2002. That is just five weeks away from the meeting night! The second Safety Break of the year will not be until September 27, 28, 29 2002. If you did not sign up for the Safety Break than you still will have a chance at this month's meeting to get the shift that you want to work. Everyone enjoy's themselves at these events so be sure to sign up now!!

Thinking of Spring there has already been a flurry of activity in the community. The annual meeting for Skywarn was held on March 20. Many club members attended this very informal meeting. If you haven't volunteered for the Skywarn team than you have missed out on a very worthwhile event. Also on Tuesday March 19, 2002 Several members attended the Red Cross Disaster Services Classes, held at the Senior Center. These classes are held periodically so if you missed this class, others are soon to follow.

FEMA DISASTER TRAINING CLASSES

Club member Charlie Scherger, KB8STV will conduct FEMA Emergency Response to Terrorism Classes beginning April 23, 2002 at 7:00 PM at the Senior Center. All members interested in joining this class are urged to contact Charlie and request a seat for this class. There will be no charge for this class and the material that you collect is yours to keep for further reference. FEMA offers many courses and they are all free of charge. Charlie says that as they become available, he will try to have as many as he can in due time. (More on Page 3).

- SHORT SKIP -

ATTENTION HFers. There are many signs that sunspot Cycle 23 is past its peak and on the decline (sound familiar ? HI) Anyway, the main indicator is the sun's magnetic field has reversed its polarity, this happens near the peak point of a cycle. So get busy Bunky, work the DX NOW and "make hay while the sun shines ! "

73 DE WB80WM

THINK SPRING !!!



MARC MINUTES

March 1,2002

The March MARC meeting was held at the Senior Center with 35 members and guests present.

MARC President Gene W8KXR called the meeting to order at 8:00 P.M. The Pledge of Allegiance was given and a round of introductions was made. He then asked the February Minutes be accepted as stated in the FEEDBACK. They were accepted by Don W8DEF and second by Dennis N8UDL.

MARC Treasurer Anne N8GAF gave the financial report. A motion was made to accept it by Bruce AB8FB and second by Gary KC8IHR.

MARC Vice President KA8ZQH gave the correspondence report. He also said there would be a drawing for a Toledo Hamfest ticket after the meeting. He had newsletters from other Amateur Radio Clubs which he read some interesting highlights. He would make them available for anyone wanting to read them after the meeting.

Gene W8KXR then presented Charlie Scherger KB8STV with the Public Service Award for 2001. Congratulations goes to him for all his work in promoting emergency training.

OLD BUSINESS

Charlie KB8STV gave his emergency training report.

Jack N8LCS asked again for volunteers for the MS Walk to be held at Quail Hollow and perhaps at the Towpath. He will let us know at the April meeting.

Gary WC8W reminded members to get their dues paid so they can stay on the mailing list.

Perry W8AU, Gary WC8W, and Don W8DEA gave the update on the radio classes.

Perry W8AU handed out Certificates for contacts made at the Special Event held in December.

Bruce AB8FB reported he found the cartridge for \$50.00 for the copy machine.

NEW BUSINESS

Rich KA8ZQH needs volunteers for the Safety Break going to be held May 10th,11th.and 12th. A sign up sheet was passed around. Contact Rich if you can help.

Anne N8GAF needs to know how many more Dayton Hamfest tickets to order.

Don W8DEF made motion not to have printed financial reports passed around at future meetings. Anyone wanting to see the report can contact Anne N8GAF as in the past.

Byron KF8UN gave the DX report and showed cards of his contacts for the club.

Bruce AB8FB submitted in writing, (according to our Code of Regulations) a change in the by-laws and would like a vote at the April meeting.

Gary WC8W gave the report on the VE session held. Congratulations goes to all 7 who tested and passed.

The meeting ended 9:00 P.M. for refreshments. Then an interesting program was given by Jack N8LCS on scuba diving.

Congratulations goes to Doris WD8IKC for winning the 50-50 for \$19.50

**Minutes by Linda K8MOO Secretary
MARC**

..... 2002 STARK COUNTY DIRECTORY UPDATE

Just completed from Jeff McKinney - KC8KIX is the 2002 revision to the Stark County Amateur Directory. Chock full of the latest callsign, names and address changes, it also contains a list of the newly licensed hams to our area. This directory, originally conceived by Bill Parks - K8JZN (SK) in the fifties is now in the capable hands of Jeff. It still remains a common desk reference in many of the hamshacks in Stark County. The directory is in Microsoft Word format and is currently posted on the clubs website. If you do not have web access and would like a copy, contact us and we'll see if we can fix you up !

.... 2002 CLUB ROSTER AVAILABLE"

The 2002 MARC Club Roster is also just about finished. An updated copy should be posted on the website by the time you read this. Look for it on the Roster Page. A downloadable copy will also be available in Adobe Acrobat as soon as I have it ready. We traditionally wait until the end of March to make our final roster since most renewals usually come in by then. We will however, be continuously updating the roster as new members join or old renew throughout the year. Check the Roster page on the website to check your status, if you find an error be sure to let me know.

".... NEW TRAINING SPONSORED BY MARC"

By the time you read this the club sponsored Red Cross "Introduction To Disaster Services" class will have been presented. Watch for a wrap-up on the website soon and in next months newsletter. You do still have time to sign up for a FEMA Class we are presenting this month. The class will be "Emergency Response To Terrorism" and is scheduled to be presented on Tuesday - April 23rd at the Massillon Senior Center from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Setup and arranged by Club Training Coordinator - Charlie Scherger, the class is open to all club members. Contact us if you would like to participate in this important training class.

And speaking of training, ARRL President Jim Haynie noted during a recent trip to Washington that hams all over the country are increasing their training and certification to prepare them for future roles in public service. Thanks to Charlie's efforts, the MARC is spearheading an effort to provide training from a number of sources. Perhaps we can organize an on going program to present training programs covering a number of important topics throughout the year. Something to think about. You can read the complete story of President Haynie's Washington, DC trip on the club's website.

.... CHECKED OUT THE WEBSITE LATELY ?

Have you seen the club's website lately ? The Site Maintenance Team has been very busy updating the design to the new format and has been adding lots of new and interesting information to the Home Page. Current topics include the 2002 Stark County Ama-

teur Directory Update, The 147.18 Repeater Upgrade Story, Details of the "Super Multiclub Meeting" and the "Skywarn Training Meeting", MARC License Class Information, ARRL President Jim Haynie - W5JBP Visit to Washington, DC, DXCC Awarded to the MARC, plus a recap of the club's annual Awards Dinner. Whew !, All this on the site's home page plus a sampling of other recent club news as well as National Amateur Radio News.

Not Web Active yet ? Now is a good time to start. New information is being added weekly and we are always looking for good club pictures to post.

.... MS WALK VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED

The National Multiple Sclerosis Society will sponsor their annual MS Walk on Sunday, April 21, 2002 and the MARC will once again provide support communications for this now annual club event.

We think this years walk has been expanded to cover two locations both of which will be covered by the club. We are still waiting for confirmation on the second location. The existing Quail Hollow State Park location will remain the same with a new second location at the Canal Fulton Community Park. Bruce Putnam - AB8FB will be coordinator of the Quail Hollow location and overall event coordinator Jack Wade - N8LCS will handle the Canal Fulton walk. About six to eight volunteers per location are being sought to handle both checkpoint and transportation communication duties at both sites.

This low key Public Service event is a great way to begin your participation in this important community events. The Annual MS Walk is a fun-filled event while helping to make a difference in the lives of those stricken with multiple sclerosis.

Contact either Jack Wade -N8LCS at (330) 837-3826 or Bruce Putnam - AB8FB at (330) 837-0359 if you can volunteer a few hours to this event. It normally takes from about 8:00 AM till 2:30 PM. The Massillon ARC is coordinating this event.

That's all for this month, out of time and my fingers are tired !!!

73's till next time

Terry - N8ATZ

Project 25 Multiple Vendor Interoperability Tests Successful

MESA AND PHOENIX, AZ, January 4, 2002 - A set of tests long anticipated by Public-safety officials to ensure digital, trunked Project 25 compliant radios built by multiple manufacturers will interoperate with each other was successfully completed in early December.

The tests were performed on a radio communications network of systems designed for the Cities of Mesa and Phoenix. These systems were undergoing factory acceptance testing at Motorola's Customers' Center for Systems Integration in Schaumburg, Ill. At this facility, Motorola stages systems and runs them "live" as they will be installed for the customer.

Project 25 is the process that has overseen the development of the functional and technical standards for U.S. public-safety use of digital two-way radios. The standards themselves were developed by the Telecommunications Industry Association, and the documents have been adopted by the American National Standards Institute as American standards. The primary goal of the Project 25 process has always been to ensure direct communications among various public-safety organizations using digital radios.

Prior to interoperability testing, Motorola demonstrated that the Phoenix and Mesa system infrastructure met the Project 25 standard. Then, during the interoperability tests, E. F. Johnson and Motorola successfully used Project 25 manufactured radios on the system. IFR, a manufacturer of test equipment, also demonstrated that their service monitor successfully works on the infrastructure.

"This was the first time in a live communications system that multiple manufacturers could openly demonstrate that their radios work well and perform to the standard," said Don Pfohl, communications director for the City of Mesa and chair of the Project 25 Technology Interest Group (PTIG). "The tests went beyond our expectations in observing that manufacturers working in a standards environment can work with each other to assure direct interoperability for public-safety users in complex, digital systems."

According to Pfohl, Wulfsberg Electronics and Kenwood had expressed very strong interest in participating in these tests, but were unable to meet the timeline that Mesa and Phoenix had to work with. These two companies will work with Phoenix and Mesa to run similar tests within the next couple of months, once system installation begins.

The Phoenix and Mesa communications system, which will take about two years to install, will cover about 2,000 square miles area in central Arizona and will include the Town of Gilbert, City of Mesa and City of Phoenix police departments and some 17 fire agencies throughout the area. In addition, all of Mesa's and Phoenix's municipal departments also will use the system. Initial loading is expected to include more than 15,000 radio units.

"Interoperability is critical in large metropolitan areas with numerous surrounding communities," said Bill Phillips, telecommunications administrator for Phoenix. "Since the new system is built to a standard, we will have greatly increased ability to communicate with each other quickly and clearly."

In 1989, public-safety communications officials recognized that with limited airwaves or spectrum for public-safety

communications and increased communications demand for wireless communications, they needed to move to narrowband digital systems that would at least double the spectral efficiency of existing radio systems.

"When we began planning the Phoenix and Mesa communications system in 1995, we realized we would not be able to design or install the system using existing technology," Pfohl said. "Moving to narrowband digital technology gave us 41 additional channels that previously were not available in our densely populated area. This was just enough to allow these large systems to handle the projected traffic load."

In developing the standards for digital, narrowband radio systems, the Project 25 Steering Committee analyzed other communications needs of public-safety radio users.

"We knew that interoperability was the most critical issue we faced. In light of the absolute requirement to provide for homeland security, it is even more critical today," Pfohl said.

"We also have been frustrated for years by manufacturers with proprietary equipment, limiting our equipment choices. With standards, we will have interoperability and multiple vendors providing products.

"More than 47 companies signed the original agreement to participate in the standards process. The companies and agencies that have been involved in the Project 25 standards process have spent thousands of hours in technical committee meetings and millions of development dollars in preparing documents for approval. The tests validated the dedicated efforts of everyone involved in the Project 25 process."

"The December tests were the culmination of our planning and was the first tangible sign that what we envisioned will become a reality," Phillips said. "We have a tremendous partnership with Mesa that allowed us to design a system that will serve us well today, and allow for growth in the future. It is a great example of government agencies working together to enhance each city's ability to provide a communications system that goes far beyond what each city can do alone."

The Project 25 Interoperability Practices and Procedures Task Group will review the testing procedures required to meet the Project 25 standards and make recommendations and suggestions for standards testing procedures that will be submitted to TIA.

(Submitted by Jason, KC8LIN, for publication. thanks Jason!)



INTERESTING FACTS

* B&W co-founder John F. “Jack” Williamson, W3GC, SK: Jack Williamson, W3GC, of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania, died March 19. He was 95. Williamson was the co-founder of Barker & Williamson—B&W—once a well-known US manufacturer of Amateur Radio equipment. First licensed in 1921, Williamson in his youth earned a widespread reputation for his radio knowledge, and even radio manufacturer Atwater Kent and his engineers sought Williamson out for his technical advice. After leaving his electrical engineering studies at Drexel Institute when the Depression hit, he and long-time friend Barrie Barker, W3DGP, then out of work, launched a new business to manufacture RF coils for amateurs.

B&W did so well in the pre-World War II years that Hallicrafters engineers, frustrated in their attempts to design an antenna tuner for the BC-610 that could match short antennas to Signal Corps specifications, approached the fledgling company. B&W’s prototype was accepted, and a production contract was awarded for the tuner, known as BC-939. That led to additional contracts. After WWII, the company was successful in both the military and ham radio sectors. Most notable in the B&W amateur line were their coils and transmitter variable capacitor products and the model 5100 all-band transmitter. While Barker retired, Williamson continued operating B&W until its sale in 1964. He had continued as an active amateur until recently.

The B & W name is still active, but located in Florida and currently producing only a few HF antenna products.

THE AMATEUR’S CODE

Recent happenings in the area have caused some of the newer hams to condemn today’s Amateur Radio as not “being what it used to be,” in terms of friendliness, cooperation and support. In fairness to those newcomers, it could be said that their perception of events has not had the benefit of witnessing a wide range of amateur activities, and therefore can only judge on limited observation.

It could be said, also, that some newcomers from the 11 meter area have brought some of their own prior experiences with them, and are expecting, and then perceiving the same treatment. Ask any “seasoned” (over-ripe?) ham what their overall experiences have been in the area of “discontent,” and they will tell you it is almost always with the FCC, or TVI, or restrictive covenants against towers in the neighborhoods where they live. It is extremely rare to find discontent with fellow (local) hams, and it would make little sense.

Friendly, active support of all newcomers has been the hallmark of Amateur Radio since it’s inception, and it has remained constant. Even some long-time amateurs with narrow technical or operating interests, who may not be your every-year volunteer club instructors or even belong to any radio organization, do not go out of their way to discourage others, and will usually help someone if asked.

A good synopsis of what Amateur Radio operators ARE has been contained in every ARRL Radio Amateur’s Handbook from the early days on, just before page 1. It is “The Amateur’s Code,” and is summarized in six brief, short paragraphs. It contains not only the “spirit” of ham radio, but is there to let all first-time hams know what to expect from their fellow hams and what their fellow hams can expect of them upon entering this select group. Since the entrance into ham radio in these times has not always begun with the Radio Amateur’s Handbook, not everyone has had this thoughtful indoctrination as one of their first lessons. With due acknowledgement to the ARRL, we bring you this time-honored document, authored by Paul M. Segal many years ago. (paraphrased)

ONE. The Amateur is Considerate. Never knowingly using the air in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

TWO. The Amateur is Loyal. Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to fellow radio amateurs, the local club and to the ARRL through which amateur radio is represented.

THREE. The Amateur is Progressive. Keeping their station abreast of science, it is well built and efficient. Operating practices are above reproach.

FOUR. The Amateur is Friendly. Slow and patient sending (cw) when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others; these are the marks of the amateur spirit.

FIVE. The Amateur is Balanced. Radio is their hobby. It is never allowed to interfere with any of the duties they owe to their home, their job, their school, or their community.

SIX. The Amateur is Patriotic. Their knowledge and station are always ready for the service of their country and their community.

This is the standard of conduct in Amateur Radio. It hasn’t changed. After all, “right” is still right, and “wrong” is still wrong..... they haven’t changed, either. It’s time that us newcomers and oldtimers alike get acquainted or reacquainted with these standards and “expect” them, “see” them in action, “appreciate” them, and “express” them in all our amateur activities. They are still there, alive and well!

Don’t forget, WE are all in this together....WE really are a FAMILY, you know....let’s enjoy every minute of it.... our whole colorful “patch-work quilt” of abilities, personalities and functions..... all for the common good.

-- Tec Topics 01 --

- Cleaning Solvents for Real Radios - - Or -

Rescue a Boat Anchor and You'll Have a Good Day!

Cleaning up a boat anchor, or a piece of one, from that last trip to the 'Fest'? Or, how about a sorry looking 'rice box' encased in cigarette tar? Be very careful about the cleaning solution you use to remove dirt, old cigarette smoke, coffee stains, and other nasty sticky stuff that may have accumulated over the years. Some of the paints used in earlier times were not as durable as today's coatings, as in the case of the "World Radio Laboratories" series of transmitters, "E.F. Johnson" equipment and some high grade commercial equipment.

Some of the newer plastic boxes use plastic dial faces, bushings, and other lightweight parts that might not stand some of the most robust cleaners.

Many of the older rigs used steel panels and were prone to rusting when paint developed scratches and pits. If those panels were primed, it is not apparent, and paint peals easily and in some cases actually will 'dissolve' with cleaners such as "Simple Green, and 'Super 409,' and even WD-40.

If you are ready to start a serious cleaning project, use the principle of "mildest first" before you jump into the heavy duty cleaners...you might just avoid a major, very expensive, disaster with a hard to replace classic paint job.

Here is a partial list of some common cleaners used at W8KXR's "Salvage and Reclaiming Department." Solvents are listed roughly in order of mildest to heavy duty...with a bit of explanation along the way.

1. Warm water - good for first wipe down of dust and coffee spills.
2. Warm soapy water - dish detergent; mix various strengths to suit.
3. 80% Iso-propanol - common 'rubbing alcohol' - grocery store and pharmacy. It's similar to the stuff you put in your gas tank for removing water, except the gas tank stuff is not diluted with water. Note the really "cheap" dry-gas is methanol and not as effective as 'propanol' for gas lines, but that's another story.
4. Acetone - not too useful - it evaporates too quickly for easy use. Use very cautiously around plastics; e.g. meter faces and plastic knobs.
5. Window Glass Cleaner - "Windex" is a typical brand name and is a 'combo' of water based ionic solution consisting of additives (usually trace ammonia and a bit of soap and some perfume). This solvent is a boundary line type solvent, water based, but able to dissolve some light oils and tars. It is a moderate approach to cleaning and is a good place to start after getting first layers of dirt wiped off with warm water and mild soap.
6. Simple Green - powerful solvent damages several older paint systems e.g., E.F Johnson's maroon and the gray paint on Globe Scouts from WRL. Use with caution and experimenting before attacking that prize salvage job.
7. "409" - powerful solvent; and damages paint systems on WRL and E.F. Johnson gear - good on chassis when used on swabs and Q-tips to remove tar from the Cigarette/cigar smokers. It may take the

'shiny' surface off of some of the older plastic knobs. It attacks some of the older 'gray paints' used on steel chassis.

8. "Top Job" type cleaners - these use soap and heavy doses of ammonia. They do an excellent job on ceramic parts including switches, coils wound on 'ceramic type' materials. Be sure to rinse well after soaking/scrubbing to remove all traces of ammonia, which actually reacts with copper if not removed by rinse.

9. WD-40 - a powerful solvent, not really a lube, and not really a polish! Look out! In some cases it will act as a powerful paint softener.

10. "Goo-Gone" is a non-ionic solvent and works great on old 'dymo' label residue left after those 'disgustingly tacky' labels fall off. So far, I've found no damage to paint jobs, but always go cautiously. It may be rough on silk-screened lettering.

11. "Zoom" - non-ionic powerful solvent - can be diluted to various strengths with water, in spite of its claim to be non-ionic. Versatile because you can control the dilution.

12. "Paint solvents" - various - use "only" with experimentation and great caution! I've found that lacquer thinner is effective in removing enamels from spray cans e.g., Rustoleum and Krylon...I learned this from working on decommissioned military R-390A receivers and it is very effective with patience.

This list is only a starting point for those who might not know quite where to start on that next salvage job. Solvents are generally divided into two general categories, Ionic and Non Ionic, with the spectrum ranging from extremes through combos of both.

Generally, warm water is non-ionic and only moderately polar, and by itself is not always a very good solvent, until one puts some soap in it. Soap acts to 'couple' onto many items like tar and finger oil molecules that accumulate on control knobs and switches.

Once soap molecules couple to the oil, it is also designed to couple to water molecules at the same time, providing a link between water and oily material. Once this coupling between water and oil is accomplished, the nasty stuff is floated away in "solution." This simple explanation is the way in which stuff like '409,' 'simple green' and water based soap combos grab on to sticky stuff and pull it off a gooey radio knob, chassis, or panel.

Various soaps and water combinations are better or worse, depending on the nature of what is being 'removed.' The range of soaps are enormous and there for experimenting with.

There are many variations of this general theme, but for now the word is 'caution' and careful experimentation, before you dunk that latest prize in the bath tub with a gallon or two of your pet soap /degreaser!

Two final cautions; first, after any cleaning with solvents, be sure to thoroughly rinse and dry the gear...Start with tap water, non-softened preferred, then finally with distilled water. The unsoftened water, as first stage of rinsing is actually more effective in flushing away soap residues, then follow with distilled. It's like the 'spot free' rinse at the car wash. Those 'spots' can conduct electrically, and that is not a good thing!

Second, plastic knobs, meter faces, and dial covers, on some radios may be subject to reaction with many of the more powerful solvents, especially the older plastics. Remember to go mild first, then work up to more powerful stuff as needed, with testing on that valuable salvage job from the next 'Fest!

Finally, warm ovens, heat lamps, and your imagination will do the job. In any of the cleaning process avoid getting water in and around transformers and other delicate parts, but you will be surprised how well clean up efforts will work with a bit of attention to details.

Good Hunting (and cleaning)!

DE W8KXR

“Salvage and Reclaiming Department”

CLUB NEWS

WRITTEN SUBMISSION FOR ADMENDMENT TO M.A.R.C. CODE OF REGULATIONS

Submitted March 1, 2002

(Per Article VIII, 09/06/1996 Version, Code of Regulations)

This amendment for inclusion in M.A.R.C. Code of Regulations, Article VI, and so notated as “Section G.”

AMENDMENT:

1) The Executive Committee shall provide the membership with written minutes of any official meeting held concerning club business including but not limited to individuals present, any budgetary of fiscal matters discussed whether agreed to or tabled for future consideration, and any other matters concerning official functions or operations of the club.

2) Such report will include an annual listing of club assets, current disposition of these assets, current disposition of these assets, and any anticipated or desired addition to these assets.

This report will be presented to the general membership no later than the next regular club meeting following the Committee’s meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

**R. Bruce Putnam, AB8FB
March 1, 2002**

(ED Note: this article will be discussed at the meeting, It will not be voted upon until after discussion, which may or may not be until next month)

M.A.R.C. QUESTIONAIR RESULTS

	(Y)	(N)
1) Are you happy with the present status of the Club?	22	0
2) Are meetings conducted to your satisfaction?	22	0
3) Would you like them shorter?	12	4
4) Do you like balanced meetings?	21	0
5) What program subjects would you like to see? (build some projects, Radio oriented; Moor tech stuff		
6) Do you prefer Business only? (no program)?	20	2
7) Traditional Items: Do you approve of;		
a. Club Hamshack	20	1
b. Public Service	22	0
c. Club Repeaters	22	1
d. Club Hamfest	22	0
e. Field Day	21	0
f. Emergency Comm Trailer	22	0
g. Licensing Classes	21	0
h. Annual Awards Dinner	19	1
8) (Question concerns joining various committee’s)		
9) Do you approve of I-77 Safety Breaks?	22	0
10) What subjects would you like more attention given?		
CW (1) AM (1) FM (0) ATV (4) PSK (4) RTTY (2) PACKET (2) SATELLITE (3) DX (5) RC (1) EME (1) DF(1) TFC HANDLING (6) HOMEBREW (5) CONTESTS (1) BOATANCHORS (3) MOBILE (4) ANTENNAS/TRANSMIS- SION LINES (3) LF (2) MF (1) HF (6) VHF (1) UHF (1) MICROWAVE (1) OTHER QRP (2)		

**Again, Thanks for your help!
The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



ARRL NEWS
ARLP013 Propagation de K7VVV

ZCZC AP13

QST de W1AW

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 13 ARLP013

From Tad Cook, K7VVV

Seattle, WA March 28, 2002

To all radio amateurs

Average daily solar flux was down 10 points this week. Average sunspot numbers were up a bit, by 35 points. Sunday, March 24 was a very active geomagnetic day. Planetary A index was 47, with several periods of five and six K index, indicating a robust geomagnetic storm, the kind that causes dramatic auroral displays. The high latitude College A index, (from Fairbanks, Alaska) was 68, with K index at seven over two periods. Mid-latitude A index was 29. This activity was due to a coronal mass ejection on Saturday.

The outlook for the CQ Worldwide SSB WPX Contest this weekend is rather dicey, because there is the possibility of an eruption from sunspot 9878. The sunspot is earth-facing, and magnetic fields above this area have grown more complex recently. Next week earth will enter a solar wind stream from an unusual coronal hole. This coronal hole is odd because it has now appeared during four consecutive 27.5 day solar rotations. For the weekend, contesters will hope that any solar eruptions are later, rather than early. Because there is some delay (which can vary) with the different events that cause high geomagnetic activity, any solar activity this weekend might miss the contest.

Several readers requested path projections for the contest weekend, but it is far better if you download W6Elprop from <http://www.qsl.net/w6elprop/> and do one for yourself. This way you can see it from your own station location, and look at paths projected toward anywhere. W6EL has a slightly new version 2.60 on his site. A good solar flux number to use is the current one averaged with the previous four or five days or so.

The latest projection as of Thursday had solar flux around 170 for Friday and Saturday, then flux below 170 until April 5-6. Geomagnetic conditions will probably be stable through the weekend, but become at least unsettled on Monday and Tuesday.

Sunspot numbers for March 21 through 27 were 160, 194, 176, 169, 162, 145 and 179 with a mean of 169.3. 10.7 cm flux was 174.1, 171.6, 170.4, 175.3, 170, 165.7 and 169.1, with a mean of 170.9, and estimated planetary A indices were 8, 8, 9, 47, 5, 11 and 5 with a mean of 13.3.

NNNN
/EX

ARLD013 DX news

ZCZC AE13

QST de W1AW

DX Bulletin 13 ARLD013

From ARRL Headquarters

Newington CT March 28, 2002

To all radio amateurs

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by Tedd, KB8NW, the OPDX Bulletin, 425DXnews, DXNL, XE1KK, QRZ DX, The Daily DX and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Igor, RN3OA is active as 8Q7OA until April 10. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW and SSB. This includes an entry in the CQ WW WPX Phone contest. QSL to home call.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6. N2AA, OH2BH, S53R, T97C and CT1BOH will be QRV from the QTH of A61AJ during the CQ WW WPX Phone contest. They will be a Multi/Multi entry. QSL contest call via N4QB.

ETHIOPIA, ET. Paul, ET3PMW plans to operate in the CQ WW WPX Phone contest as a Single Op entry on 10 meters. QSL via W7KEU.

FRENCH POLYNESIA, FO. Sei, JF1SQC will be active as FO8DX from Bora Bora, IOTA OC-067, in the CQ WW WPX Phone contest. QSL to home call.

SCOTLAND, GM. Keith, GM4YXI will be active during the CQ WW WPX Phone contest as a Single Band entry. He will use the North of Scotland Contest Group's callsign, GM7V. QSL via ZS5BBO.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, HC8. Ramon, XE1KK and Trey, N5KO will be QRV as HC8N during the CQ WW WPX Phone contest. Before and after the contest, Ramon will be active as either HC8/XE1KK or HC8N on all HF bands, including 6 meters and possibly the FM satellites. QSL to home call. QSL contest call via AA5BT.

SVALBARD, JW. Torfinn, LA4OFA, Magnus, LA4PHA, Morten, LA9GY and Bjoern, LA9IY are active until April 1. They will be QRV in the CQ WW WPX Phone contest as JW8G. Outside the contest, they will be QRV as JW4OFA, JW4PHA, JW9GY and JW9IY, respectively. QSL JW8G via LA9GY. QSL all others to home calls.

NETHERLANDS, PA. Peter, DL4FCH is active as PA/DL4FCH from Texel Island, IOTA EU-038, until April 4. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters. QSL to home call.

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April 2002

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
	1 Sloppy Fist Net every Monday thru Friday at 9PM on 28.138	2	3	4 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	5 Massillon ARC Meeting	6 BD WD8CIB																																																																																											
7 Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM	8	9	10	11 7:30 PM QCWA (Chapter 21) Net, 147.180	12 West Stark Info Net 147.180 at 8:00 PM	13 VE EXAMS Maumee Toledo call Ross@419-693-3023																																																																																											
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28 BD KC8SQT Hamfest Athens, OH call Drew @740-592-2106 Hamfest Canfield, OH call Don@330-793-7072 Stark County Mutual Aid Net 146.520 11:30 AM	29	30	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <caption>March</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> <table border="1" style="border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <caption>May</caption> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td></tr> </table> </div>				S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
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