



R F Feedback

Volume 4 Issue 7

M. A. R. K. Sullivan Illinois

July 2005

Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting will be at 7:00 P.M., Monday July 18th 2005 at the club house in Bruce, IL. Amateurs and their guests are welcome to attend.

PROGRAM

- - - MORE ON SATELLITES - - -

Clint Parrish – KC9S

Specifically, Clint will talk about how to set up a relatively inexpensive satellite station and even how to work satellites with hand helds. He will also include more on the new ECHO (AO-51) FM satellite and on NOAA weather satellites.

H F CONDITIONS

When last month's report was put together on June 9th, we were at a Solar Flux Index of 117. That peak only lasted a couple of days and then gradually declined to nearly 75 about the 24th of June. That dip was followed in about a week by a rather abrupt peak that had SFI's greater than 100 for more than ten days. For six of those days the SFI was above 120. With a rather low Planetary A index (below 20) for most of this recent peak, DX conditions were good. Currently, however, conditions have slipped to a SFI of 96 and an A index of 32.

The "nice" sunspots that were on the Earth-facing side of the Sun have mostly rotated out of view and there do not appear to be any more coming. While not as active as I would like to have been during that recent peak, it was fun to work a Russian some 300 kilometers east of Moscow on 20 meters. Then on 17 meters, where I have been spending most of my time, it was good to catch the Balearic Islands, Belize, Bolivia, Ireland, and Portugal. The real thrill on 17 for me though was to chat briefly with ZL1AMO in New Zealand. Ron is an old timer and in the CQ DX Hall of Fame, whom I have known about for decades and may have worked from one or more of his many South Pacific Dxpeditons. de W9LYN

IARU CONTEST

When this contest began at 7 AM last Saturday(1200 UTC, July 9th), the SFI was beginning to decline. It was still just above 100, when the contest ended at 7 AM Sunday morning. The A index, was increasing during this period so conditions were going down hill.

Sam-K3BY and Bill-W9LYN had fun operating in it from the club house for a couple of hours Saturday morning and then for about three and one half hours during the late afternoon and early evening for a total of just over six hours, using the club call, W9BIL. Most of the contacts were with "stateside" stations on 15 and 20 meter SSB with the club's tribander although Sam made some contacts on 15 CW. Also, they put up a 40 meter dipole and made a contact with

NU1AW/3, the IARU station, operating in the Pittsburgh area, on that band. There was not much activity that they could work on 40. Incidentally, they were unable to turn the beam that is stuck heading west. Surprisingly, even with the beam to the west they were able to work more than a dozen Europeans and Africans off of the back and a dozen South Americans off of the side for a total of 110 Q's. As the propagation shifted toward the west in the early evening it became readily apparent that that is where the tribander was heading as many west coast stations and even an Hawaii station went into the log.

Despite the conditions, big time stations like WB9Z reported making more than 1,300 QSO's.

When he was at home between the times at the club house, Bill used his 20 meter Delta loop beam and old Hustler 4-BTV trap vertical to make about three dozen contacts on 40 through 15 meters. His best DX was a station in the Ukraine on 20 meters with the Delta loop beam. de W9LYN

MARK

Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub

Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at Bruce Club House

June 20, 2005

The June meeting was called to order at 7:03PM by President Bob KA9LRZ, there were nine members present. Two additional members arrived shortly thereafter bringing the meeting attendance to eleven members

The financial report was approved as submitted. The minutes of the April meeting were read by Bob KA9LRZ and approved on a motion by Bill W9LYN and second by Sam K3BY.

Old Business

Field Day: Previous tentative plans were abandoned because Bob KA9LRZ will be in the hospital recovering from surgery. Members planning to set up a field day site on the club grounds in Bruce are: Ralph WC9V, Sam K3BY, Bill W9LYN and Bob W9UFR. The setup is to begin about 10AM on Saturday June 25th and operation to start at noon. Ralph said that we will borrow KX9K's generator to provide "emergency power" for the site. Other members interested in taking part or just stopping by are urged to come as well.

A brief discussion of a possible club raffle was held with concerns about risk and tax ramifications the major items discussed. It was also noted that financially the club is in better condition than last year mainly due to the volunteer mowing program.

Ralph WC9V asked if he should reserve the Arthur Fairgrounds for next years Hamfest. It was agreed he should do this at the upcoming fair board meeting. Also he will continue to investigate the possibility of having an indoor hamfest at the New Arthur fire house. The indoor hamfest would be more appealing to all since it would remove the rain, wind, & cold factors from the planning.

The Mattoon 440 repeater is now back on full power. Ralph WC9V found a shorted MOV in the power supply and removed it. The system is now operating normally. The MOV is not essential since there is surge protection provided in the repeater power source.

The club antenna analyzer is not working. Ralph WC9V moved we contact MFJ for a quote on repair and if less than \$75 we send it in and get it fixed. SamK3BY seconded and the motion carried.

Ralph WC9V noted that the Cadwell 146 repeater still needs an antenna section replacement for the bent section on the roof of the Cadwell elevator. He stated that the sections are again available and suggested we order one and get the job done during warm weather.

Bill W9LYN questioned the need for a club table at the hamfest. The following discussion revealed several items sold from the table and a small profit was made for the club. The consensus was that the table was a success and should be considered for next year.

That ended the business for the evening and Vern K9SWY moved the meeting be closed. Bill seconded and the meetin adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Members in attendance were: Bill W9LYN, Sam K3BY, Vern K9SWY, Kenny KA9AHP, Jerry WX9D, Byron KB9BWS, Alan KA9Z, Bob KA9LRZ, Bob W9UFR, Ralph WC9V, Ron WB9ZCN

Minutes submitted by Bob W9UFR MARK Secretary.

IDEAS FOR M.A.R.K. PROGRAMS

Would greatly appreciate your suggestions for programs for the club meetings. If you have something you would like to present, or know a person who could give us a good program please let me know. I am running out of ideas.... de W9LYN <cfwsj@eiu.edu

From the Editor's Desk

Anyone having news events or activities for this newsletter Please contact me

Ka9lrz@consolidated.net

Bob KA9LRZ - Editor

Ham Radio Breakfast at D&W Restaurant Every Friday Morning 8 am

At The Ham Radio Breakfast Friday June 17th 2005 Lloyd White WA9FBI celebrated his 85th birthday with his Wife and other amateur radio operators at D&W restaurant in Mattoon IL Thanks to Alan KA9Z for the photos....



Coles County ARES will meet Fridays at the Forum from 6:30 AM to about 7:10 AM until further notice. This is located about four doors East of Gowins restaurant in Mattoon...

Don't forget to check into the Clark County ARES Net Wed nights at 9:00 pm on 146.520 N9YRX NCS

APRS Net following the ARES net 9:30 pm APRS will be on 144.390 Will use 146.520 Simplex to coordinate things until established Use N9YRX-3 to check in **N9YRX**

Weekly Nets

Saturday night ten meter net at 8 pm on 28400 USB with Ken KA9AHP NCS

Sunday night two meter net at 8 pm 146.655 tone 162.2 with Bob KA9LRZ NCS

Officers

President	Bob Olson	KA9LRZ
Vice President	Bill James	W9LYN
Treasurer	Alan Dickens	KA9Z
Secretary	Robert (Bob)West	W9UFR

Trustees

Ralph Zancha	WC9V	Term Ends September 2005
Ron Amex	N9GIF	Term Ends September 2006
Byron Abrams	KB9BWS	Term Ends September 2007

Correspondence & dues

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