

R F Feedback

Volume 7 Issue 3

March 16 2009

Next Monthly Meeting

Next monthly meeting will be held in Mattoon at Pagliaccis at 7 pm If you want a bite to eat come an hour earlier All amateurs are welcome

Not program is schedule at this time Subject to change

No minutes were submitted from the Feb 16th meeting at the Coles county airport

Weekly Nets

Emergency Net practice

1945 or 7 45 pm 146 655 tone 162.2 Saturday night 8 00 pm

Our Officers

KC9S Clint President

K3BY Sam Vice President

KA9Z Alan Treasure

Our Board of Directors

K3BY Sam 3 year term expires September 2009

K9BFA Byron 3 year term expires September 2010

WC9V Ralph 3 year term expires September 2011

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NASA Delays Discovery's Trip to ISS (Mar 12, 2009)

Due to a leak in the venting system outside the giant external fuel tank, NASA has decided to postpone the launch of a space shuttle headed to the International Space Station (ISS), originally scheduled for 9:20 EDT on March 12. The launch has been rescheduled for Sunday, March 15 at 7:43 PM EDT. *Discovery* will carry a crew of seven astronauts, including Flight Engineer Koichi Wakata, KC5ZTA; Wakata is with the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). He will stay on the ISS, replacing Flight Engineer Sandra Magnus, KE5FYE, who will return home on *Discovery*. Wakata is scheduled to return to Earth when *Endeavour* launches to the ISS in June 2009; Flight Engineer Timothy Kopra, KE5UDN, will replace Wakata. *Discovery's* 14 day mission, which has

four spacewalks scheduled, will deliver the fourth and final set of solar array wings to the ISS. With the completed array, the station is expected to be able to provide enough electricity when the crew size is doubled to six in May. The shuttle also will carry a replacement for a failed unit in a system that converts urine to drinkable water

The K7RA Solar Update (Mar 6, 2009)

There have been no new sunspots since the recent brief three-day appearance of quickly fading sunspot 1013 on February 24-26. It was another Solar Cycle 24 sunspot, but this is not too encouraging, considering how brief and weak it appeared. There are no predictions for new sunspots, but these events tend to occur suddenly. Sunspot numbers for February 26-March 4 were 12, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 1.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 69.9, 68.9, 70.6, 69.4, 69.2, 69.1

and 69.7 with a mean of 69.5. The estimated planetary A indices were 2, 8, 5, 3, 2, 5 and 7 with a mean of 4.6. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 7, 4, 2, 0, 5 and 5 with a mean of 3.6.