

# R J Feedback

Volume 7 Issue 11 Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub P O Box 91 Lovington IL 61937 November 17, 2008

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The November meeting will be at the Pagliaccis in Mattoon IL Meeting to start at 6.45 pm

All amateurs & their guests are welcome

## Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of the October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting will be attached to Members Only

## HF Conditions

During the last month, October 15, to November 13, 2008 the solar flux again varied about five points. The SFI low for the past 27 days was 66.7 on October 29<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup>, slightly higher than last month. It was 70 or above for five days with a peak of 71.9 on October 16<sup>th</sup>. That was one day more above 70 than last month and the peak was about one point higher. Also there were twelve days with sunspots this month versus only nine in the past month. Progress seems exceedingly slow but at least it is heading in the right direction....

In Tad Cook's (K7RA) ARRL Propagation Bulletin 46 he reports on his three month averages of Sunspot Numbers. Earlier he had mentioned that the time between the solar peak and the solar minimum varies. People, however, have been making remarks about there being an unusually long period between the peak of Cycle of 23 and any upturn of conditions. What it seems they may have forgotten is that there were two peaks in Cycle 23. Those peaks were separated by about twenty months. If one now looks at the time between Tad's two minimum Sunspot Number averages, the first at 3.0 in October 2007 and the second at 1.1 in August 2008 there is a period of ten months. Will we have to wait even longer for another Sunspot Number Minimum before things really start going up? Let's hope not!!!

There was some good news in Tad's report. A fellow in Chicago had sent him a note about his activity on 15 meters. In the CQ WW SSB (Oct 25-26) he "worked as many

countries, zones, and stations on 15 meters as he did on 20 meters." Then on the morning of November 2 he "worked all over Europe with many reports that I was 5/9 plus 20 and 30 – just like the good old days..... Most of the stations I worked were running 50 to 100 watts and were coming in on my TH7 beam 5/7 or better....." All of that was with the Solar Flux between about 66 and 67. It just goes to show that you have to be on the bands to really know what they are like!

Hope you have had reasonable luck in the M.A.R.K. DX competition despite our still being somewhere near the Solar Minimum.

Remember the CQ WW CW Contest is coming up the last full weekend of November..... VY 73, Bill – W9LYN

On Friday Mornings 8 am The retired amateur group meet at Pagliacci's in Mattoon IL on Logan street for breakfast All amateurs And their guests are welcome

## WEEKLY NETS

Tuesday 7 pm 80 mtrs Informal Net 3.825  
Initial contact 444.925 then over to 80 mtrs

Saturday Night 10 Mtrs Net 28.400  
USB 8 pm

Sunday Night 2 Mtrs Net Tone 162.2 8  
pm NCS KA9LRZ

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