

R J Feedback

Volume 7 Issue 10 Moultrie Amateur Radio Klub P O Box 91 Lovington IL 61937 October 20, 2008

The October meeting will be at the Public Library in Sullivan IL Meeting to start at 7 pm
All amateurs & their guests are welcome

Letter From President Clint -KC9S
To all members...

RE: Next M.A.R.K. meeting.
WHEN: Oct. 20, 2008 @ 7 p.m.
WHERE: Elizabeth Titus Library, Sullivan, IL

Topics to be discussed...
APRS Node
D-STAR
WX NET (perhaps ARES based)
Repeater Link Status
Christmas Dinner
Program

Hope you can make it!

Sam will give a talk on APRS. If you have a D-STAR radio, you are encouraged to bring your radio and give a brief talk on it. I have decided to postpone my program on the Martian ham radio probe until the November meeting. We will likely meet in the Mattoon-Charleston area for next months meeting.

73.

Clint Parrish, KC9S

M.A.R.K. President

Minutes of last Meeting

Minutes of Meeting September 15th at Coles Co Airport Steak House

Meeting was opened at By Clint KC9S
Order of business
checking to see if all received the newsletter No additions or corrections

Election of officers - Dave KD9AC term expiring so need to replace him
Nminations for Board of directors - Sam nominated Ralph WC9V

Motion to close -Sam - Ralph was elected
Sept 2008 - 2011

Motions for nominations for Sec Treasure - Alan KA9Z was willing to do another year of Treasure but did not want to do the sec - Dave KD9AC made a motion that we retain Alan as Treasure for the next year -Motion carried.

Nominations for secretary - Dave KD9AC said he would accept the positon but would be gone two or three months during this time Ralph WC9V said he would fill in while Dave was gone - Sam made the motion to agree to Dave doing the secretary duties and while he was gone Ralph WC9V could fill in for him - Motion carried Dave & Ralph were Elected

Nominations for Vice-President - Ralph nominated Sam - Sam was elected
Nominations for President - Ralph made motion & Vern K9SWY 2nd for Clint KC9S to continue as President for another term - Motion carried Clint was elected

Ralph discussed information about D-Star Club looking into possible purchase of equipment in near future for operation of digital voice Suggested we put uhf on now then 2 meters on at a later time To purchase the necessary equipment will cost about \$2800 Antenna, feedline, duplexers- New \$800 Hard line -estimate \$3.50 to \$4.00 per ft. Connectors \$35 ea. Next was location Lovington & Cadwell for est of feed line It is not going to be cheap to put on the air. Gate way to internet is most import item to make this system work Estimated cost for entire setup close to \$4,000.00 General concenses is to wait to see what takes place in the area before doing anything at this time

Need to address the purchase of another radio & controller to build a full repeater

Need to get another radio to replace the one that was being used for the link between our two repeaters...for the MARK machine so if it goes down we can slide the entire unit out, slide the other in, repair the downed unit for later replacement.

Subject Storm net with(A)mateur (R)adio (E)mergency (S)ervices protocol
ESDA Their spotters are Police & Fireman off duty
APRS was a suggestion During a storm or emergency it would be helpful
Sam made motion to close the meeting
Ralph seconded Meeting closed
7 45 pm

In attendance were: Bob KA9LRZ, Dave KD9AC, Tom N9PLB, Clint KC9S, Sam K3BY, Ron WB9ZCN, Vern K9SWY, Ralph WC9V, Bill W9LYN

Minutes by Bob ka9lrz

H F Conditions

During the last month, September 10, to October 15, 2008, the solar flux varied about five points. The SFI low for the past 36 days was 65.8 on October 1st. It was 70 or above from October 11th through the 14th with peaks of 70.8 on 11th and 13th. These are the first times the SFI has reached 70 or above since May 18th. Hence, the plot of the solar flux has edged upward slightly after a nearly flat squiggly line for nearly five months. FINALLY we have had a month with nine days of sunspots! Also, Dave – KD9AC reports that conditions may have been slightly better lately.

Tad Cook – K7RA in the Propagation Reports he writes for ARRL notes that two of the last three sunspots, although they did not last long, were Cycle 24 spots. He also mentions that NASA has announced that so far for 2008 it has been the “blankest year of the space age” with more than 200 spotless days.

He goes on to note that the minimum for Cycle 18 in 1954 had 241 spotless days. That was the minimum which preceded the greatest (highest) solar maximum on record in 1959. Let's hope that Cycle 24 resembles Cycle 19!

In the last program on “Early Radio” we talked about Dr. Hawley H. Crippen, an American doctor who was accused of murdering his wife, Cora and placing some of her body under their basement floor in England in 1910. You will recall that he was

caught because a very alert ship's captain noticed that a couple on board his vessel, who were supposed to be father and son were not behaving like father and son but lovers. The captain's ship was equipped with a Marconi wireless radio and he had a message sent to his ship's “White Star Line Offices” in London. They in turn notified Scotland Yard of Captain Kendall's suspicions and they sent Inspector Dew (of Jack the Ripper fame) on a faster vessel to Canada where Crippen and his girl friend were arrested and returned to Great Britain for trial. The girl friend was found to not have been involved in the murder. Crippen, however, who insisted that he was innocent to the end, was found guilty and hanged.

Over the years many have wondered about whether Dr. Crippen was really guilty. The first time I realized this was when seeing a PBS program in their series “Secrets of the Dead” titled “Executed in Error” that ran on November 1st about the crime allegedly committed by him. The PBS Program was based partly on DNA evidence. One test considered mitochondrial DNA from three grand nieces who were matrilineal relatives of Cora when compared with scar tissue labeled as Cora's on an old slide prepared by the pathologist for the prosecution. The DNA's did not match. Also, the supposed scar tissue which was a major point made by the prosecution showed hair follicles, which true scar tissue does not have. Further work by forensic scientist David Foran at Michigan State University when testing for the sex of the individual whose tissue was on the slide revealed that it was a male. A colleague of Foran's at MSU went to England and gained access to the old files of the prosecution and Scotland Yard. He discovered the prosecution failed to share evidence with the defense. He alleges that the police planted body parts at the scene to incriminate Dr. Crippen. In addition there are records in the 1920 Brooklyn, NY census of a woman using Cora's stage name listed as a “singer”, her desired profession, living with a relative of Cora's. Was an innocent man hung?

Remember that MARK will be running our Tenth DX competition based on your license class and that those members holding DXCC's compete in it as a separate group. The event begins the last full weekend of October and ends just before our Christmas party. That period includes the CQ DX SSB Contest October 25 & 26 UTC and the CQ DX CW Contest November 29 & 30 UTC. Perhaps there will be even a few more

sunspots by those times. Good Luck! 73,
Bill – W9LYN

On Friday morning the retired
amateur group meets at Pagliaccs
Logan Street 8 am 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

OUR OFFICERS

KC9S Clint President

Sam K3BY Vice-President

KA9Z Alan Treasure

KD9AC Secretary

WC9V Secretary/Helper

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

K3BY Sam 3 Year Term Expires
September 2009

K9BFA Byron 3 Year Term Expires
September 2010

WC9V Ralph 3 Years term expires
September 2011

[U S MAIL] Contact

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