

UP-LiNK



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II, INC.



August 1999

BOARD MEETING August 11
CRA II CLUB MEETING August 13
7:30 P.M.

NOTE:

NEW MEETING TIME
7:30 P.M.

Propagation Forecast Bulletin 31 ARLP031

>From Tad Cook, K7VVV
Seattle, WA July 30, 1999
To all radio amateurs

which he created to show solar information from a number of sources in one handy location.

Scott Craig, WA4TTK has an update to his solar plotting program. This freeware takes data directly from this bulletin and plots it on your computer. If you aren't running it yet, now is a good time to download it, because the data files have been updated through July 24. You can add to it by taking the data out of these bulletins, which the program can do automatically. Go to <http://edge.net/~scraig/sol.htm> for the download.

STS-93 SAREX SUCCESS! MAY BE THE LAST

Shuttle Columbia mission STS-93 was an Amateur Radio success story. During the short mission, crewmembers completed Space Amateur Radio Experiment contacts with five schools plus a contact with the cosmonauts aboard the Russian Mir space station. STS-93 returned to Earth July 27.

Launched July 23, STS-93 marked the 25th time the SAREX payload has flown on a shuttle mission. It also likely will be the last SAREX shuttle mission as future ham radio efforts in space will focus on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station--or ARISS--project.

To listen to the exchange with MIR, click on NASA's .wav file at <http://shuttle.nasa.gov/gallery/audio/shuttle/sts-93/wave/congrats.wav>.

ARLP031 Propagation de K7VVV

Sunspot numbers and solar flux took a big leap upward this week, and the trend continues until the weekend. Average sunspot numbers were up almost 55 points over last week, and average solar flux was up almost 42 points. The high solar flux reading of 197.8 on Wednesday continued on Thursday at 202.4. This is much higher than forecast last week. Solar flux on Friday is predicted to be around 200, and 190 and 180 on Saturday and Sunday. Planetary A indices for Friday through Sunday are predicted to be ten for all days.

Beyond the weekend, solar flux should drop to 170 around August 4, 160 by August 8, and 140 around August 12. Flux levels are expected to be back above 200 by August 19 and possibly 210 around August 21. By that date 10 meters should be quite exciting.

Many positive responses to last week's bulletin about the meaning of the solar and geomagnetic indices, and among the mail was a tip from K9MIF about <http://hamradio-online.com/1998/jun/www.html>, which was created by KC7LVZ. This web page has some nice explanations for the various solar numbers, and what they mean to hams. N6RT sent along a pointer to <http://dx.qsl.net/propagation>,

Did you see the Hunterdon Observer article on Field Day?

Check out the Observer article complete with photos of our site and operators, July 3rd issue I believe. Nice big write-up.

Sunday, August 1, Cherryville Repeater Transmit Site.

WB2NQV, N3MSK, N2QOR, N2VEK, and W2GD (there may have been additional helpers Sunday afternoon after I left at 12:30 p.m.)

A small work party checked out condition of 147.375 feedline and antenna. Both checked out perfectly, we're getting about 145 watts to the antenna with no reflected power. The 375 transmit antenna bracket/antenna (a station master array) was put back into its proper position, sticking straight out from one of the tower legs at 80', moving it away from the east face of the tower. Reports since the fix have been extremely encouraging, repeater signal strength in virtually all areas (especially EAST, NORTH and WEST) has been dramatically improved. For instance, we went from just one s-unit to full scale in Bethlehem, PA. Many of the "holes" have been filled in around the county and elsewhere.

On the same day, the old 4-bay dipole arrays mounted at about 45 feet and used on 444.850 (not sure if this is the right freq.) were removed from the county tower and replaced with a station master antenna at nearly 100 feet by N3MSK and WB2NQV. Coverage on this machine should be greatly improved too! Try it.

HAMFEST NEWS

Work is progressing on plans for next year, and with the Board various changes are being contemplated including a possible new site. Ever since we lost our 'option' on Hunterdon Central HS in Flemington, we have used the fairgrounds and there are a number of drawbacks there (luckily we have not run into the worst of our fears: a rainout!) Some new searching has been done, and the Board/Hamfest Committees are working on a decision. There may be some discussion or announcement at the next meeting.

"SQUASH THE CODE!"???

"SQUASH THE CODE!" was emblazoned in gold letters across the chest of a blue T-shirt a girl was wearing at the Inn of America in South Bend IN recently as I returned from a vacation in Wisconsin (visiting KJ9O and WB9EJE, my brother and father, as well as my son.) Shortly thereafter, another girl walked by wearing the same shirt: "SQUASH THE CODE!".

This time, I was closer and began to approach to find out what they have against CW, and saw the back of the shirt. "NATIONAL TAX REFORM CRUSADE", with a list of dates and places they were holding meetings (probably a prelude to the 2000 presidential campaign.) CW is safe for now...

73 KB5U

BY-LAWS CHANGES

By now, all members should have received the proposed new By-laws copy in the mail. Please read it carefully and follow the instructions at the end on the form as soon as possible.

1999 LEBANON JULY 4th PARADE

In spite of ;

- 1) July 4th fell on a Sunday (Parade was scheduled for the afternoon because off church services),
- 2) The extremely high temperature and humidity,
- 3) The shortage of help (because of #'s 1 & 2)...

...the parade worked without a hitch. In fact the command post was less hectic than any other year because we had two operators - Justin, N2QOR and myself. Thanks to Justin's expertise as an emergency service dispatcher for Hunterdon County, the heat related traffic for the rescue squads was handled with no strain. In fact, CRA received a few "at-boys" from the emergency medical technicians. The Rescue personnel are stationed around town in three ambulances and five bike teams.

A job well done as usual and I hope to see the full contingent next year.

73's, Charlie, WB2NQV

FCC REPLACING 610 FORM NEW ULS ELECTRONIC FILING SYSTEM

The FCC begins phasing in the Universal Licensing System for the Amateur Service August 8 at 4 PM Eastern Time. That's when the FCC will stop accepting batch files that contain new or upgraded licensee data from Volunteer Examiner Coordinators under the current amateur licensing system. Being phased out under ULS is the familiar paper FCC Form 610 series. A "universal" Form 605--primarily designed for electronic use but also available on paper--will take its place.

An FCC Public Notice July 23 says the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau will begin use of the ULS for the Amateur Service on August 16. The existing Amateur Radio licensing data will be transferred into the ULS database during a weeklong phase-in period. During the phase-in period, the FCC will not process new or upgraded licenses. Hams should not attempt to file renewal or vanity applications until the ULS comes up August 16.

Starting August 16, hams registered in the ULS may file the new FCC Form 605 electronically at any time of day, seven days a week. FCC Form 605 will be used for license renewals, modifications, cancellations, vanity call sign

application, application withdrawals and amendments, as well as requests for duplicate licenses and administrative updates (i.e., a change of address or other clerical license modification). Applications for new or upgraded licenses will continue to be filed through a Volunteer Examiner Coordinator.

Automated processing of electronically filed applications will occur nightly each business day, but five days a week instead of seven. There will be no ULS processing on weekends.

The FCC has warned that applicants should anticipate processing delays during the first weeks the ULS is in effect. One feature of the new ULS is a renewal reminder sent 90 days prior to a license's expiration date. ULS also will simplify the process of submitting fees to the FCC, and the FCC said it anticipates that the ULS will be capable of accepting credit card payments on-line in the near future.

Registration in the ULS is required. Applicants should use FCC Form 606 for both electronic and manual filing. To register online, visit <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/> and click on "TIN/Call Sign Registration." A paper FCC Form 606 is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> or from the FCC's Forms Distribution Center, 800-418-3676.

The FCC will not process future license grants, upgrades, modifications or renewals for any applicant not registered in the ULS. Individuals eligible to hold a Social Security Number must provide it to the FCC in order to be registered in the ULS.

A copy of the July 23, 1999 Public Notice is available at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>.

NEWINGTON NEWS WIRE -

Pedal the Petals

Reminder: Orders are due with payment at the August Club meeting for the Brecks BULBS fund-raiser. Bulbs should be received in time for the October Meeting. All checks should be made payable to you so that cash can be submitted. For more information contact Lisa France @ N3QDC @ ATT.NET or see me at the club meeting.

CALENDAR

HAMFEST

Aug 15 Bayville NJ., Jersey Shore ARC
Aug 21 Oakland NJ, Ramapo ARC
Aug 22 Mullica Hill NJ, Gloucester ARC

CONTEST

Aug 7-8 ARRL UHF Contest
Aug 7-8 NA QSO Party CW
Aug 7-8 10-10 Int'l Summer Phone Net Contest
Aug 14-15 Worked All Europe CW
Aug 21-22 NA QSO Party Phone
Aug 21-22 NJ QSO Party

CRA II CLUB INFORMATION

The Cherryville Repeater Association II is a non-profit New Jersey Corporation dedicated to Community Service Through Communication. **Meetings** are held on the second Friday of each month at **7:30 PM** at the **Flemington Baptist Church** unless otherwise announced. Visitors are always welcome!

Also, everyone is welcome on the Thursday Night Traffic Net, at 8 PM every Thursday, followed at 9:30 by the Swap-Net, and the ARES-RACES net at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday each month, all on the 147.375 repeater.

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UPLiNK A CRA II Publication

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Many thanks to all those who have contributed articles or information for this publication, including: The ARRL, ARRL Letter, QST, The Hudson Loop, N2FF, N2OCW, W2GD, WB2NQV and all not mentioned for their help.

This newsletter is an open forum for the Cherryville Repeater Association, II Inc. and its members, of general interest Club and ham radio related interest items. The opinions contained herein are those of the authors who have contributed their work. The officers and members if the CRA II Inc. are not liable for its contents. Articles and information are always welcome, and may sometimes be edited for content, punctuation, grammar, and newsletter space.

Deadline for submission for all issues is two weeks prior to the Board meetings.

UPLiNK

CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II, Inc.
P.O. BOX 308
QUAKERTOWN, NJ 08868

THE CHERRYVILLE REPEATER ASSOCIATION II

A non-profit New Jersey Corporation dedicated to Community Service through Communication.

Members actively participate in local emergencies requiring communications from tornadoes to blizzards to floods, as well as providing health and safety communications for events such as walk-a-thons, bike-a-thons, tri-athlons and parades.

Traffic Net, at 8 PM every Thursday, followed at 9:30 by the Swap-Net - 147.375 repeater

ARES-RACES net at 7:30 PM on the first Thursday each month- 147.375 repeater

	REPEATERS	
2 meters	147.375 +	147.015 + (5Z)
220	224.120 -	
440	444.850 +	446.475-
CLUB INFO LINE (908) 788-4080	WEBSITE www.qsl.net/w2cra	PACKET W2CRA 145.51

CRA CALENDAR EVENTS

Aug 11 Board meeting Skylands Triathlon September 19th
Aug 13 Club meeting 7:30 PM The Battle of the Bands will be around Oct. 23