

The HIARC Bulletin

March 2019 Edition

The Official Bulletin of the Harris-Intersil Amateur Radio Club

Club Meetings: Second Thursday of Every Month at Meemaw's Barbecue on Babcock Street between Palm Bay Road and Port Malabar Road. Supper is at 6:00 PM and a short business meeting is at 7:00 PM. Our programs start 7:30 to 8:00 PM.

Club Station: Building 15, Room 321. E-mail [Butch](mailto:Butch@hiarc.net) for access.

HIARC Website: <http://qsl.net/hiarc>

Repeaters: 145.47 Mc, tone 107.2 cycles, elevation 170 feet, Melbourne

HIARC Web Site: www.qsl.net/hiarc. Website administrator; Jim, KC7SSW

Officers: President: Francis ("Butch"), WA4AQV

Treasurer: Bill WA4EMU

Secretary: None, but sometimes Jim and Pat have help out

Repeater Chairmen: Bud W4HXP

Field Day Chairman: Open

Sunshine Officer: Open

Club Jester: Ken N8KH

Membership:

Dues are \$12.00 per year to:

Bill WA4EMU

Annual Events: Annual swap-fest at the October meeting. Field Day (always the fourth full weekend in June) at Grant Community Center Fairgrounds, Field Day web site link <https://sites.google.com/site/hiarcfieldday2013/>

Hamfests:

Stewart, March 16, 2019: <http://stuarthamfest.com/> friendly, free and an easy 1.5 hour drive from Melbourne

UCF, June 2019. Typically a UCF swap meet the weekend before Field Day but cannot find details. Anybody know?

Ham Radio Lunches:

- Every Friday, 10:30 AM till 12:30 PM or so, Golden Corral on Palm Bay Road in Palm Bay
- Every Friday, 9:00 AM till 11:00AM or so, Umpa's Diner, [1115 N Courtenay Pkwy, Merritt Island, FL](#) 3295, (321) 454-3422

President's Message

The Orlando Hamfest had strong attendance. It seems to be number two in the country now. The Stewart Hamfest is this weekend.

Please note the Florida Legislative bills potentially banning amateur radio mobile operation. Details later in newsletter. Please call or write.

Brevard are repeater guides attached. Several formats.

The next meeting is this Thursday March 14 at MeeMaws Barbecue on Babcock Street in Palm Bay. The program will be by Bud W4HXP on Heathkit and the SB104. There will be slides and show and tell. Bud worked at Heathkit in the early 1970's so he is quite the expert on this classic kit maker. Good Meemaw's food, friends and door prizes too.

73's

Butch WA4AQV

Sunspots Now

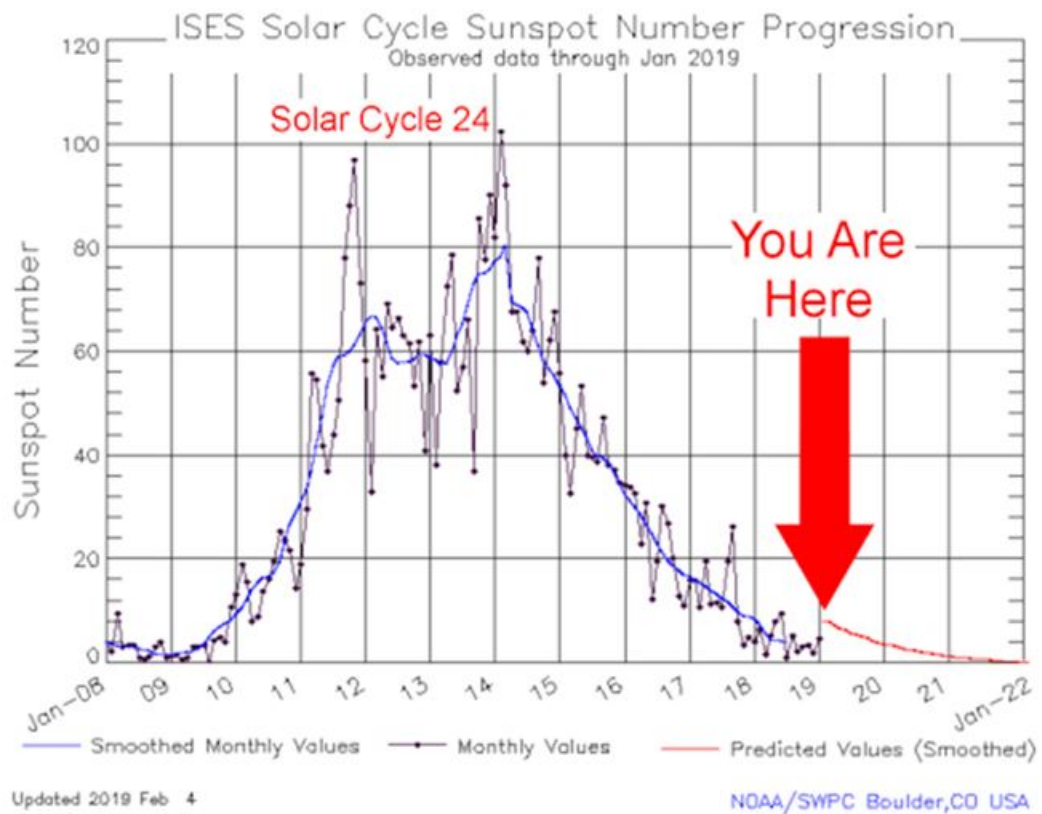
Attached is a plot of where we are now in the sunspot cycle. In the month of February there were no sunspots at all. This last happened in August 2008 a century class solar minimum. We are at solar cycle minimum now it looks like. More info:

<http://spaceweather.com>

<https://www.spaceweatheralerts.com>

Ken N8KH

Sunspot Cycle 25 Future Predictions



<https://earthsky.org/space/solar-cycle-24-25-sunspot-predictions>

Credit: John K9WT

FLORIDA LEGISLATIVE ALERT!: Potential Amateur Radio Mobile Operation Ban

Reposted from an email by Kevin, KK4BFN

ARRL North Florida Section Manager

From: KW1K Joe Pfeuffer

Hello Florida Hams! There is something brewing that everyone who operates a mobile 2-way radio should know... Text courtesy of Dave, N9HF. Edited for clarity.

“As you, all may, or may not be aware of, the friendly senators and representatives in Tallahassee are in the process of making texting or doing other distracting things while driving a motor vehicle a stoppable (primary) offense. We have all heard the stories from other states about how operating ham radio (or other two-way mobile radios) got sucked into the fray and the hams had to go through major hassles to get us exempted from the legal definition.

If the wording stands as “other distractions” we will be at the mercy of every [Law Enforcement Officer’s] interpretation of “distracting”.

NOTE: the exception is there in the law, now, but has been targeted for elimination (PR)

Contact your representatives and ask that the wording of the bill be such as to expressly exempt “AMATEUR RADIO!”

Republican Senator Wilton Simpson is the one who is pushing this bill. Simpson, who has been a member of the Florida Senate since 2012, represents the 10th District, which includes Citrus, Hernando and part of Pasco County. Previously, he represented the 18th District from 2012 to 2016.

I recommend everyone contact their representative and tell them that Amateur Radio and other two-way radios need to be exempted from this bill! You can find your Senate representative by going to <http://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/#Senators> and search for your county.

Florida House representatives Jackie Toledo and House Speaker Jose Oliva

are promising that a similar House bill that hasn't been heard in committee yet, will get a hearing. I would also recommend you contact your House representative and tell them to make sure Amateur Radio and other two-way radios need to be exempted from this bill! You can find your House representative by going to <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/.../Repre.../representatives.aspx> and search for your county.

The Senate bill is listed as CS/CS/SB 76 or S 76, sponsored by Senator Wilton Simpson. The House bill is listed as HB 107, sponsored by Jackie Toledo.

Please feel free to forward this!

Thank you!

73,

Kevin - KK4BFN
ARRL North Florida Section Manager

The Florida Senator for southern Brevard County is Debbie Mayfield:

<https://www.FlSenate.gov/Senators/s17>

You can send email to her from this page.

If you live in southern Brevard County, your Florida house district is probably 52 or 53.

Check the maps.

https://www.MyFloridaHouse.gov/contentViewer.aspx?Category=PublicGuide&File=About_The_Representatives_--_House_Districts_Maps.html

Then contact your Florida representative.