



SARA Newsletter

June 2007

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

Meeting:

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Bossier Main Library History Center

Local Amateur Information

Available at:

www.K5SAR.com

or

www.qsl.net/nw1arn/

SARA Repeaters:

145.050 - K5SAR

DX Packet Cluster

145.110 - N5FJ

146.700 - K5KDO

146.820 - K5SL

440.900 - N5FJ

SARA

PO Box 37632

Shreveport, LA

71133-7632

2007 Club Officers

President – [Steve Smith, KG5VK](#)

Vice President – [Rick Westerfield, KH2DF](#)

Treasurer – [John Stewart, AA5KV](#)

Secretary – [Glenn Pettiet, N5SH](#)

Strange Antenna Challenge

Special event set: Operation over Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28, by special event station K0S will highlight the 2007 Strange Antenna Challenge. Sponsors say K0S will employ out-of-the-ordinary antennas to promote Amateur Radio and making do with what might be available during an emergency. Individuals and clubs may participate as "satellite stations" by using anything but wire or pipe for a radiating element and adding "/K0S" to their call signs. Details are on the K0S, Strange Antenna Challenge Web site <<http://www.n0ew.org/k0s/>>. Strange antennas used in past events, dating back to 2002, have included folding chairs, paint easels, ladders, tape measures, dog kennels, fences, cots and chicken wire (photo) with a trampoline as an apparent ground plane. "More people share in the fun each year," says Erik Weaver, N0EW, a Strange Antenna Challenge founder. "I hope you give me a call this year with your very own strange antenna. Now let's play radio!" Maybe SARA should try this too.....

ARRL SOLAR UPDATE

Ra the Sun god Tad "Sunshine, Sunset" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This week saw a rise in sunspot numbers, with the average daily value up by more than 11 points to 29.3. On May 16, the daily sunspot number was 56, the highest daily reading since last December 5, when it was 59.

This week's average sunspot number was the highest since the January 4-10, 2007, reporting week.

Keep in mind that a tremendous day-to-day variation in sunspot numbers is normal, so this should not be viewed as an indicator that sunspot trends have turned around, and we're already into Cycle 24. Of course, increased activity may follow; this just isn't an indicator that higher sunspot numbers are due in the very near term.

The bottom of the cycle, late last year predicted for the past couple of months, has moved out as far as a year in the most recent general consensus of the scientific community. With predictions revised so often, it would be useful to keep an eye on each week's release of the Preliminary Report of Solar and Geophysical Data <<http://www.sec.noaa.gov/weekly/>>.

For the near term, we'll probably see sunspot numbers higher than the recent periods when it was 0 or 12, but declining a bit, with the next probable peak around May 25-30. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are forecast for the beginning of that period, and we may see some mildly unsettled activity around May 20.

Sunspot numbers for May 10 through 16 were 20, 24, 21, 18, 29, 37 and 56, with a mean of 29.3. The 10.7 cm flux was 71.2, 71.5, 71.4, 73.5, 72.9, 76.9, and 77.1, with a mean of 73.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 2, 3, 3, 3, 6 and 4, with a mean of 3.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 4 and 3, with a mean of 2.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>>.

DX from ARRL

This bulletin was made possible with information provided by NC1L, the OPDX Bulletin, DXNL, 425 DX News, The Daily DX, Contest Corral from QST and the ARRL Contest Calendar and WA7BNM web sites.

DX Continued

MONACO, 3A. Luc, ON4LUC and Paul, ON6DP will be QRV as 3A/ON4LUC and 3A/OP0P, respectively, from June 3 to 9. They will be active on 80, 40 and 20 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via ON6DP.

AGALEGA AND ST. BRANDON ISLANDS, 3B6. Look for a group of operators to be QRV as 3B6SP from Agalega Island, IOTA AF-001, from June 6 to 18. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via SP9SX.

TIMOR-LESTE, 4W. Members of the Korea DX Club are QRV as 4W6AAV from Dili, IOTA OC-148, until June 4. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via HL5FUA.

CYPRUS, 5B. Nick, G3RWF will be QRV as 5B/G3RWF near Polis from June 2 to 30. This will be a holiday operation so he will operate using SSB, RTTY and PSK during his spare time. QSL to home call.

TOGO, 5V. Robert is QRV as 5V7BR and has been active on 20 meters around 0700z. QSL via F2VX.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Franky, ON7RU will be QRV as EA8/OQ7R from the Gran Canaria, IOTA AF-004, from June 4 to 13. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL to home call.

IRAN, EP. Sadegh, EP3HF has been QRV on 20 meters around 1900z.

SCOTLAND, GM. Special event station GB1EPC is QRV from Glasgow until June 28 in celebration of the European PSK Club's 1st anniversary. Activity is with PSK only. QSL via MM0DFV.

ITALY, I. Giovanni, IK5BCM will be QRV as ID9/IK5BCM from Panarea Island, IOTA EU-017, from June 2 to 9. QSL to home call.

LEBANON, OD. Jean-Marc, ON4JM will be QRV as OD5/ON4JM from June 6 to mid August. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters, and possibly 160 meters, using CW, SSB, RTTY and various digital modes. QSL direct to home call.

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Martti, OH2BH and Pertti, OH2PM may be QRV as OH0B and OH0R, respectively, from Brando until June 3 while working on a new antenna project here. QSL to home calls.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. Bill, NZ5N is QRV as OM9ACA from Bratislava until July 9. Activity is on all HF bands, including 6 and 2 meters, using CW, SSB and possibly digital modes.

PALAU, T8. T88NN has been QRV on 20 meters around 2200z. QSL via J10NNM.

MARSHALL ISLANDS, V7. Neil, V73NS has been QRV using CW on the low end of 20 meters from around 0130 to 0400z. QSL via WD8CRT.

BRUNEI, V8. Ambran, V85SS has been active on 30 meters around 0900 to 1000z.

TURKEY, TA. Mill, LX1CC will be QRV as YM3CC from Selcuk from June

7 to 21 while on vacation. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

New Call Sign

ITU okays Montenegro, Serbia call sign prefix agreement: Although it became a country -- and a DXCC entity -- in its own right last June, Montenegro has not had an Amateur Radio call sign block to call its own until this month. According to The Daily DX, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) did not want to give Montenegro an entirely new prefix, so it required the states of Montenegro and Serbia to agree upon one or two prefixes from the five (4N, 4O, YT, YU and YZ) assigned to the former Serbia-Montenegro. An agreement was reached May 11, and the ITU now lists 4O (that's "four Oscar") as Montenegro's prefix. This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbia stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts, 0 through 9. The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment. The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to new call sign blocks as soon as possible. The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, recommends that DXers update their logging software carefully to reflect the changes.

Field Day

**June 23rd and 24th at the Red River boat ramp on the Teague Parkway in Bossier City.
Be there!**