

# PEAKS & NULLS



MORRIS RADIO CLUB

Volume VI, Issue IV

April 18, 2015

## WHERE HAVE ALL THE SUNSPOTS GONE?

Things aren't looking that good for 10 Meters on Field Day. Cycle 24 is entering the end of its cycle and the sunspot number is diving. Cycle 24 may turn out to be the lowest cycle since accurate records were started to be kept in 1750 and things aren't looking any better for Cycle 25. Some of the experts are predicting that Cycle 25 will only be half as strong as 24. Cycle 24 is strange in another way, it was double peaked. Double peaked cycles are not that uncommon but Cycle 24's second peak was stronger than the first which was unheard of. The first peak occurred in 2011 with a smoothed sunspot number of 99. The second peak was in 2014 with a SSN of 101.

If we look at a three month moving average of sunspot numbers centered on February of this year it is 49. That is the lowest since January of 2011 when it was 35.3. It's only getting worse. Last week the daily sunspot number dropped from 28.1 the previous week to 19.4. The big factor in the drop was that the daily sunspot number was 11 on March 31, April 1 and April 2. This is the lowest sunspot number possible unless there are no sunspots then it would be 0. Each sunspot group is counted as 10 points then the number of sunspots in that group counted as one each is added to the group, so a number of 11 means that there was just one group with one sunspot in it. Cycle 24 started on January 4, 2008 so if Cycle 24 holds to anywhere near the standard 11 year cycle we should see the start of Cycle 25 in about 3 years.

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## HAMMING IT UP IN THE MILITARY

After the February meeting Bill Hudzik W2UDT and I were talking to some of the visitors when he mentioned that he had been stationed at Kadena Air Force Base on Okinawa. When I asked him when, he replied 1966 to 1968. That's when I told him that in 1967 I was twelve air miles to the south of Kadena stationed at a Army Base in Naha next to the Air Force Base that was shared with the Navy, Marines and the Civil Air Terminal. For a year Bill was the operator at a Ham station at Kadena KR6SP that ran phone patches back home. I had been asked to do the same at KR6USA the 2<sup>nd</sup> Logistics Command Headquarters station at Fort Buckner which was about half way between us but, because I was only a Technician at the time I had to turn the position down. I still have the license that I was issued to be able to operate any station in the Ryukyu Islands with the station owners permission. Technicians were able to operate on 10 meter phone in that zone. Unfortunately we were at the bottom of a solar cycle just starting into cycle 20 so 10 was not

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 18, 2016 Regular Business Meeting

May 16, 2016 Regular Business Meeting

June 20, 2016 Regular Business Meeting—Field Day Discussion

June 25 -26 Field Day

## 2016 DUES

### 2016 DUES

Noel NO2EL is now accepting dues payments for 2016. \$15.00 for full membership, \$10.00 for associate.

## SELECTED UPCOMING CONTESTS

10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	0001Z, Apr 23 to 2359Z, Apr 24
Florida QSO Party	1600Z, Apr 23 to 2159Z, Apr 24
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 7 to 2359Z, May 8
ARI International DX Contest	1200Z, May 7 to 1159Z, May 8
7th Call Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 7 to 0700Z, May 8
Indiana QSO Party	1500Z, May 7 to 0300Z, May 8
Delaware QSO Party	1700Z, May 7 to 2359Z, May 8
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 7 to 2400Z, May 8
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 14 to 1159Z, May 15
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 14 to 1200Z, May 15
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 21 to 1200Z, May 22



## PREDICTED SUNSPOT NUMBER AND RADIO FLUX FOR MAY 2016

**\*\*\*SUNSPOT NUMBER\*\*\***

**\*\*\*10.7 RADIO FLUX\*\*\***

**PREDICTED HIGH LOW**

**PREDICTED HIGH LOW**

44.6 54.6 34.6

100.3 109.3 91.3

## MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Morris Radio Club – Meeting Minutes  
March 29, 2016

Attendees (7) K2EMJ, KC2KNT, KC2MFL, KC2HVX, NO2EL, WA2VQF, WR2G and one visitor Guest Speaker OH2NZP/AG6SN

A quorum was present.

Opening of Meeting  
President Ed opened the meeting at 7:33 PM

Reports:

Secretary – Bill WA2VQF reported that the February Minutes were issued in the March Peaks and Nulls Newsletter. There were no reported discrepancies.

Ray KC2KNT moved that the Secretary report be accepted. Irma KC2MFL Seconded. The Secretary report was accepted.

Noel NO2EL presented the treasurers reports for March.  
The actual numbers are available from Noel.

Noel also reported that he renewed the URL for the club web site and also paid the NJ Corporate fee.

Noel is going to change the PayPal account to show that we are a 501(c)(3) charity. We will get a discount and members will be able to pay their dues using PayPal. He will also register us with Amazon as a charity so that if people choose us as their charity we will get donations.

Ray KC2KNT moved that the Secretary report be accepted. John KD2HVX seconded. The treasurers report was accepted.

Old Business:  
There was no old business.

New Business:

Noel thanked Ed for picking up that the school schedule was changed to be closed on March 28th.

Noel will working on updating the Worked All New Jersey Award. He has found a way to make the forms fillable PDF's without using Adobe.

Craig WR2G brought up doing club entries for some of the major contests. We will make announcements if anyone is interested.

John KD2HVX reported that because we now have the 501(c)(3) settled the club will now be eligible for discounts from Microsoft. This may enable us to put the meetings on line for members that cannot physically come to the meeting.

Noel reported that the Hamfest at North Hunderton was very well attended with a lot of good stuff for sale.

Ray KC2KNT moved that the meeting be closed. Irma KC2MFL Seconded.

President Ed closed the meeting at 8:07 PM

After the business meeting Jyrki OH2ZNP/AG6SN presented a very interesting program about his involvement in the development of mobile communications and how it tied in with his life as a ham.

Bill  
WA2VQF  
MRC Secretary

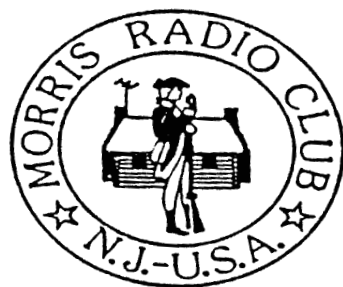


## MORRIS RADIO CLUB

K2EMJ	ED PETERS	PRESIDENT
W2GM	MARK SUGARMAN	VP
WA2VQF	BILL LOFTUS	SECRETARY
NO2EL	NOEL SCHEFFEN	TREASURER

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that active. It was a nice station with a Collins S Line along with a tower and beam next to the barracks. I did go up there from time to time and the fellow (call long forgotten) that got the job let me use the rig. He also ran a phone patch back home to Joan (N2XZZ) for me on our first wedding anniversary. I kept checking at Naha Air Force Base next to us but, never found the club station open. I recently found out that from 1949 to 1972 there were 562 individual and club station calls on Okinawa.

There was also the 6 Meter operation from the back of a M-151 in the shadow of Mount Ranier in Washington but, that's a story for another time.

**THE MORRIS RADIO CLUB IS AN ORGANIZATION OF AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WHICH HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR OVER SIXTY FIVE YEARS. AS A HOBBY, AMATEUR RADIO SERVES AS A PUBLIC RESOURCE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AS WELL AS AN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE.**

**ALTHOUGH MANY WHO BECOME INTERESTED IN AMATEUR RADIO ARE INVOLVED IN AN ELECTRONICS RELATED FIELD, THE HOBBY APPEALS TO A WIDE VARIETY OF INDIVIDUALS.**

**THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE MORRIS RADIO CLUB IS A DIVERSE GROUP MADE UP OF MEDICAL, BUSINESS, EDUCATION, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS, AMONG OTHERS, WHOSE COMMON INTERESTS ARE COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND PUBLIC SERVICE.**

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### Ocean Monmouth ARC Tailgate Hamfest

05/07/2016

**Location:** Infoage Learning Center, Project Diana Site  
2300 Marconi Road  
Wall Township, NJ

**Website:** <http://www.n2mo.org>

### Garden State ARA Hamfest

05/15/2016

**Location:** MOESC  
100 Tornillo Road  
Tinton Falls, NJ

**Website:** <http://www.gardenstateara.org/hamfest>