

The "Official Organ"

The official newsletter of the Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Inc

July 2018 edition

JARS Meeting This Thursday:

Our monthly JARS meeting is this Thursday, July 19th at Bernie's Southern Gourmet Buffet 10365 US Hwy 70, W, Clayton, NC July 19 at 6:30 PM.

This is a very important meeting as we will be voting on the revised constitution and bylaws. We will be taking nominations for officers for the next year.

In this month's "Official Organ"

Presidential Comments

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Life on the Farm

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Johnston County ARRL VE Team

Presidential Comments:

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

147.270 Nightly Net 8:30 PM|
JARS Prep Net Tuesday 9|Traders
Net Wed 9

Our Next Meeting will be Held at Bernie's Southern Gourmet Buffet

10365 US Hwy 70, W, Clayton, NC
July 19 at 6:30 PM.

Our July Meeting

We will be voting on the new proposed Constitution and By-laws to the group as required by our current constitution.

Meeting Attendance

April ——— 44

May ———- 24

June———34

NCS Needed

Stephen is still requesting new net controls. If we don't get enough volunteers the club may have an option of cutting the daily Net format to just a couple of nets per week

July JARSCOM News

Wendell Big Truck Day

The JARSCOM was exhibited at the annual big truck day event held in Wendell, NC earlier this month. We were the first big truck in line. Thanks to Scott Wilkinson KJ4TUC for his assistance in crowd control and providing answers to questions to the kids and adults as they came thru the exhibit. We had

about 40 kids come thru JARSCOM and about 20 of them accepted my offer to talk on the repeater using the newly installed Icom 7100. Thanks to all that



answered my call on the repeater for taking time to talk to the kids.

JARS 2018 Fieldday

Another great year in the books.

Thanks to Gail Adams for the use of her estate once again for Fieldday. Thanks to All that helped .

Van Lee will give us a full report at the meeting.

Officers Duties:

At our meeting this month, we will be nominating officers to be voted on at the August meeting. The positions that we will be taking nominations for are:

President

Vice President

Secretary

Treasurer

Membership Director

Net Whip

Media and Newsletter Director

Parliamentarian

Two at Large Directors.

To be eligible to hold an office in JARS, members must be at least 18 years of age and have been a member of JARS for at least one full year.

Below are the duties for each position:

President: shall be the chief executive officer of JARS, preside at all meetings according to the rules adopted, call meetings of the Board of Directors, represent JARS on public occasions, enforce the by-laws, and perform all customary duties pertaining to the office. The president shall appoint committees as deemed necessary.

Vice President: shall assume the duties of President in the president's absence. In addition, he/she shall be responsible for coordination of programs for regular club meetings and other club activities.

Secretary: shall keep a permanent record of the proceedings at all meetings of JARS and all sessions of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall keep a roll of the members present, conduct and report on all JARS correspondence, and transmit a monthly report to the ARRL Section Communications Manager. The Secretary will maintain on hand, a list of all current Standing Rules adopted at JARS meetings. In the event of the absence of the President and Vice President it shall be his/her duty to preside over the meeting and shall appoint a member to record the minutes of the meetings. Reading, correction, and approval of the minutes shall be at the end of the regular stated business meetings and not carried over to the next month for approval, if practical, and not an undue hardship on the secretary.

Treasurer: shall have charge of the funds of JARS. The treasurer shall make written monthly and annual reports of JARS activities and shall maintain an inventory listing of all equipment owned by JARS. He/She shall be bonded at the expense of the organization when total assets are in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00). In the event of the absence of the President, Vice President, and Secretary, it shall be his/her

to open and preside over the meeting and shall appoint a member to record the minutes of the meeting.

Membership Director: will accept and verify completeness of all membership applications and collect the appropriate dues per the dues schedule as determined by the membership. All dues will be accurately recorded and turned over to the Treasurer. The Membership Director shall maintain an accurate roster of the current membership to be available at all meetings to determine issues of membership including voting rights and the right to hold office. The roster will be made available to all members.

The Net Whip: shall be responsible for the selection and assignment of net control operator for the JARS 147.270 repeater. It shall be the duty of the Net Whip to ensure the JARS net is held every night at 8:30pm and that a Net Control Operator is in charge to coordinate the check-ins and conduct the business of the nightly net.

Parliamentarian: shall resolve disputes during meetings on matters of proper procedure.

Media and Newsletter Director: shall publish the monthly club newsletter, "The Official Organ", and hold the passwords and keys for social media and webpages. He/She is responsible for updating the same.

Member at Large: The purpose of the extra officers, not holding other elected offices, is to add oversight and diversity of views to the discussion during meetings. Further, they would be able to access the post office box and run errands.

There you have it, the duties of each of the officer positions that we will be nominating on this month and voting on in August. If you would like to nominate someone or volunteer to have your name listed on the ballot, please make it known at the meeting on Thursday.

Life on the Farm: To say that it has been hot would be an understatement. The trees are moving closer to the house and getting into fights to see which one the dog will wet on first. I did see a couple of things that I never thought I would see. One is a June bug break out in a sweat, and the chickens are now laying hard boiled eggs.

With all the heat and humidity, we have been pretty much staying on the cool side of the wall. We have a large dehumidifier that we run in the summertime to pull the moisture out of the air. That thing has been working overtime here lately. I have been dumping on average, three or more gallons a day of water out of the tank. Before we got the dehumidifier, 70 degrees was just about unbearable. Now, with it, 80 degrees is comfortably cool.

Velda is still going to therapy for her shoulder that was operated on in April. PT feels strongly that her shoulder is frozen. She has an appointment with the ortho doc this week to see what he thinks.

That does it for Life on the Farm for this month. 73 from Mike (KD4MC/C3PO), Velda (K4VJC), Remington (a.k.a. Hairy Hound) and Tabitha (a.k.a. Krazy Kat).

Ham Humor:



ARRL News:

FCC Administrative Law Judge Dismisses Radio Amateur's Long-

Standing License Renewal Application

A California man embroiled in a long-running license renewal proceeding has lost the next step in his fight to remain a radio amateur. In a July 9 [Order](#), FCC Administrative Law Judge Richard L. Sippel terminated the decade-old license renewal application of William Crowell, W6WBJ (ex-N6AYJ), of Diamond Springs, California, upon a motion by Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary C. Harold. Sippel's *Order* followed Crowell's refusal to appear in Washington, DC, for a hearing to consider not just his license renewal but related enforcement issues dating back 15 years or more.

in the hearing on his pending renewal application, i.e., he has waived his right to prosecute that application," Harold said in the Enforcement Bureau's June 12 motion to dismiss Crowell's license renewal application.

In his *Order*, Sippel said he agreed with Harold's determination. Crowell had asserted that the FCC was obliged to hold field hearings in the city nearest to a licensee's residence, but Sippel said that was incorrect. Crowell invoked financial hardship rules, but Sippel said those would not apply in an Amateur Radio case. Dismissal of the renewal application was "with prejudice."



"Crowell's decision not to appear at the hearing has the same practical effect as if he had initially failed, pursuant to Section 1.221(c) of the Rules, to file a written notice of appearance or otherwise signal his intent to participate

It has been 10 years since the FCC set Crowell's license renewal application for hearing, which was to center on whether he had violated FCC Part 97

rules in the early 2000s, in part by causing intentional interference, transmitting music, and "using indecent language," and whether he was qualified to have his renewal application granted.

Crowell raised the lengthy delay in his [response](#) to Harold's June 12 motion. "The more-than-10-year delay in holding a hearing herein (that's only since the *Hearing Designation Order* [was] issued; the pre-*HDO* part of the case goes back to 2000) violates my administrative due process rights," claimed Crowell, who is an attorney.

Crowell further claimed that most of the witnesses who might testify at a hearing are now deceased, and "the evidence is terribly stale." He said the Enforcement Bureau "has no excuse for not having taken this case to a hearing at a much earlier date, and, at this point, my ability to elucidate the truth has been fatally compromised."

Crowell was fined \$25,000 in 2016 for intentionally interfering with the transmissions of other radio amateurs and transmitting prohibited communications, including music. The FCC said Crowell did not deny making the transmissions but argued, in large part, that those transmissions were protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution. The FCC turned away that assertion.

Sippel said he had stayed the renewal case on the basis of the pending *Forfeiture Order* proceeding, but said he was

later informed that the US Department of Justice had decided not to prosecute the case.

Radio Amateur to Pay \$7,000, Face Restricted Privileges to Settle FCC Interference Case

The US Department of Justice and the FCC have reached a settlement with Brian Crow, K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, to resolve allegations that Crow intentionally interfered with the communications of other Amateur Radio operators and failed to properly identify. The core component of the settlement calls on Crow to pay \$7,000 to the US Treasury, the FCC and US Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Scott W. Brady announced in separate July 3 news releases. In addition, Crow's Amateur Extra class license will be restricted to Technician-class privileges for 6 months, and he has agreed to discontinue contact with the individuals involved in this case. Crow's Amateur Extra privileges will be restored after 6 months, "if no new violations have been found," the FCC said.



"Amateur Radio licensees know that the rules require them to share the airwaves, which means that bad actors cannot plead ignorance," FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said in an [FCC release](#). "This settlement is a significant payment for an individual operator, and it sends a serious message: Play by the rules in the Amateur Radio band[s] or face real consequences. We thank the US Attorney's Office for understanding the importance of this type of case and pushing it forward to ensure a resolution that included strong penalties for substantial violations of the law."

The settlement resolves a civil complaint (USA v. Brian Crow [No. 17-595]) in Federal District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania to recover an unpaid \$11,500 fine that the FCC imposed on Crow in a 2015 [Forfeiture Order](#).

The FCC recounted in its *Forfeiture Order* that it had

responded in March 2014 to "several complaints of intentional interference" on 14.313 MHz, and that Commission agents used radio direction-finding techniques to determine the transmission sources. According to the court complaint against Crow, FCC agents tracked transmissions to Crow's residence and monitored them for approximately 3 hours and heard him transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) signals and a prerecorded voice transmission of another Amateur Radio station on the frequency.

The FCC said it worked with Brady's office to craft the agreement with Crow arising from its *Forfeiture Order* "that found his behavior violated the Communications Act and the Commission's rules."

The advertisement is for Radio City's Super SAVINGS Event. It features a red background with a black banner at the top. On the left, there is a logo for Radio City with a globe icon. The main text in white and yellow reads: "Introducing MD-UV 380 Dual Band DMR/FM HT \$129.95* VHF/UHF, 3000 ch, 100,000 contacts". On the right, there is an image of the MD-UV 380 radio. At the bottom, there is small white text: "2663 County Road I, Mounds View, MN 55112 (763) 786-4476 Toll Free 1-800-426-2891 sales@radioinc.com" and "Offer expires 7-18-2018 Midnight L-7-12-2018".

World Radiosport Team Championship 2018 Formally Opens in Germany

Be ready to listen for call signs in the Y2A - Y9A series this weekend. Following 4 years of preparation, World Radiosport Team Championship 2018 ([WRTC 2018](#)) formally opened on July 12. Now attention turns to see

how the 63 competing teams fare in the 24-hour event, July 14 - 15 in and around Wittenberg, Germany. Observers will be able to follow their progress via social media or the [WRTC 2018 Live Scoreboard](#). Fourteen North American teams are on the



roster, including [defending champions](#) Daniel Craig, N6MJ, and Chris Hurlbut, KL9A. Several well-known US contesting personalities are among those serving as referees at each site. Even as the competition neared, WRTC 2018 organizers were searching for a last-minute replacement for a team leader who had to drop out.

A competition within a contest, WRTC 2018 takes place in conjunction with the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) [HF Championship](#), although with different or additional rules. Both events get under way on Saturday at 1200 UTC and conclude on Sunday at 1159 UTC, and all radio

amateurs may take part in the IARU event. The ARRL Headquarters station will be W1AW/4 in Georgia. The IARU HQ station will identify as NU1AW/9 from Illinois. These and other HQ stations count as multipliers in calculating IARU contest scores.

WRTC 2018 organizers have set up a program of awards and activities intended to "create big pileups for the WRTC stations" from those who will be on the IARU HF Championship side of the competition. Awards for outside participants include:



Worked All WRTC Stations (WAWRTC)

- Minimum one QSO with each WRTC station.
- No need to send in your log.
- Award will automatically be generated from competitors' logs.

Even if you are not sure that the WRTC 2018 team copied your call sign correctly, organizers

say to send in your log anyway, and they will follow up.

WRTC Sprint

- Work all 63 WRTC stations as quickly as possible on any band or mode.
- Separate scoring applies for each of the 29 WRTC 2018 qualification regions.
- Pick any time frame during the 24-hour contest.
- The winner of each region will receive a special prize.

WRTC Most QSOs (MQ)

- Complete as many contacts with WRTC 2018 competitors as possible (63 stations/5 bands/2 modes = up to 630 possible contacts).
- Separate scoring applies for each of the 29 WRTC 2018 qualification regions.
- The winner of each region will receive a special prize.

Assistant Judge

Special prizes will be offered to all operators sending in their logs by 1800 UTC on Sunday, July 15.

WRTC 2018 Distance Challenge

- This award is independent of geographic region.

- The distance in kilometers between you and the WRTC stations will be summed for all contacts.
- For a precise calculation, enter your grid locator in the Cabrillo log location field. WRTC 2018 will take place in grid square JO611s.

Propagation conditions could be a big factor, and to that end, Jari Perkiömäki, OH6BG/OG6G, has prepared what he calls "[a propagation starter kit](#)" for WRTC 2018.



"It will give you valuable insights into making propagation predictions in general, and a set of pre-calculated, point-to-point, band-by-band prediction tables, together with an extensive set of coverage area maps," he said. All predictions are for short-path propagation.

German telecommunications regulator *Bundesnetzagentur* (BNetzA) [announced](#) today that WRTC 2018 teams will use 1 × 1 call signs from the Y2A - Y9A series on a one-time basis. Y2 -

Y9 call sign prefixes were inherited from the former East Germany regulatory regime and have not been used for nearly 30 years -- since the reunification of East and West Germany. Specific call signs will be assigned by lottery. [Video updates and reports](#) are available on the WRTC 2018 website. Results will be announced and medals awarded in a closing ceremony on Sunday.



ARRL Urges Regulatory Regime to Keep Non-Amateur Satellites off Amateur Spectrum

ARRL wants the FCC to facilitate bona fide Amateur Satellite experimentation by educational institutions under Part 97 Amateur Service rules, while precluding the exploitation of amateur spectrum by commercial, small-satellite users authorized under Part 5 Experimental rules. In [comments](#) filed on July 9 in an FCC proceeding to streamline licensing procedures for small satellites, ARRL suggested that the FCC adopt a "bright line test" to define and distinguish satellites that should be permitted to operate under

Amateur Satellite rules, as opposed to non-amateur satellites that could be authorized under Part 5 Experimental rules.



"Specifically, it is possible to clarify which types of satellite operations are properly considered amateur experiments conducted pursuant to a Part 97 Amateur Radio license, and [those] which should be considered experimental, non-amateur facilities, properly authorized by a Part 5 authorization."

ARRL said it views as "incorrect and overly strict" the standard the FCC has applied since 2013 to define what constitutes an Amateur Satellite, forcing academic projects that once would have been operated in the Amateur Satellite Service to apply for a Part 5 Experimental authorization instead. This approach was based, ARRL said, on "the false rationale" that a satellite launched by an educational institution must be "non-amateur" because instructors were being compensated and would thus have

a "pecuniary interest" in the satellite project. ARRL said well-established Commission jurisprudence contradicts this view.

ARRL told the FCC that justification exists to expand the category of satellite experiments conducted under an Amateur Radio license, "especially those in which a college, university, or secondary school teacher is a sponsor." But, ARRL continued, a compelling need exists to discourage Part 5 Experimental authorizations for satellites intended to operate in amateur allocations by non-amateur sponsors, "absent compelling showings of need."

"There is no doubt but that Amateur Radio should be protected against exploitation by commercial entities, and there should be a compelling justification for a Part 5 Experimental license issued for a satellite experiment to be conducted in amateur spectrum," ARRL said.

ARRL noted that International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)) policy regarding satellites operated in Amateur Radio spectrum is only to coordinate satellites where licensees and control operators are radio amateurs, as well as having a "mission and operation" consistent with the

International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) Radio Regulations' definitions of the Amateur and Amateur Satellite services.

ARRL asserted that incorporating Amateur Radio in experiential learning using small satellites -- e.g., CubeSats -- is good for Amateur Radio, for students, and for the advancement of technology, and it urged the FCC to adopt a regulatory paradigm that encourages this approach.

AMSAT-NA [also filed comments](#) in the proceeding. The AMSAT remarks reflect several of the same concerns expressed by ARRL. Interested parties may file reply comments in the proceeding, IB Docket No. 18-86, by August 7, 2018.

Baker Island KH1/KH7Z DXpedition in the Record Books

All Baker Island KH1/KH7Z DXpedition operating positions went silent at 1200 UTC on July 5, and all logs are believed to have been uploaded to Club Log. The final contact was on FT8 with JA2FJP on 80 meters. The 14-member team, accompanied by a US Fish and Wildlife Service escort left the island on July 6 for the 6-day voyage across the International Date Line to Fiji.



"The team is very tired but proud of QSO totals, over 17,300 unique calls [28%] in the log, and the successful deployment of the new DXpedition version of FT8 that showed over 6,000 unique calls in our log," reported team member Don Greenbaum, N1DG. He said the team celebrated Independence Day with hot dogs and burgers.

The 9-day stay on Baker yielded 64,434 contacts, including more than 1,200 on 160 meters under midsummer conditions. Greenbaum said the DXpedition's use of FT8 allowed many hams with modest stations to put KH1/KH7Z in the log. The team began tearing down the stations and equipment on July 4.

KH1/KH7Z completed 15,289 contacts (28% of the total) on FT8 DXpedition Mode. Nearly 41% of all contacts were made on 20 meters, the "bread-and-butter band."

The team focused on giving out as many all-time new one (ATNO) contacts as possible.

Full band-by-band, mode-by-mode [statistics](#) are on Club Log,

where several stations posted their observations.

Bob Chortek, AA6VB, in California, commented, "Thank you all for hard work and sacrifice (time, money, time away from loved ones, having to endure 100+ degree heat, etc.) to make this DXpedition a reality. Great job!" Timothy Marek, K7XC, in Nevada, remarked, "What better way to finish off nine-band DXCC than to work Baker island on 160 for [the] last one! Thank you very much." Bob Marsh, K2RU, in Virginia, said, "Many thanks for an ATNO. Propagation looked bleak for the first couple days, but then SSB and CW within 55 minutes of each other! Nicely run operation."

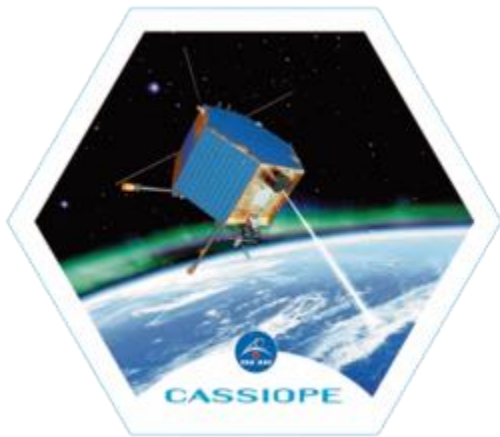
The KH1/KH7Z DXpedition team was headed to Fiji on the first leg of its trip home. The Dateline DX Association (DDXA) sponsored the Baker Island DXpedition.



CASSIOPE Spacecraft Listens In on 2018 ARRL Field Day

The Canadian [CASSIOPE](#) (CASCade, SmallSat, and Ionospheric Polar Explorer) spacecraft once again eavesdropped on ARRL Field Day activity. CASSIOPE's Radio

Receiver Instrument (RRI) was tuned to 7.005 MHz during six passes over the North American continent during Field Day 2018, although there was no advanced publicity this year. The RRI is a component of the spacecraft's Enhanced Polar Outflow Probe (e-POP), a suite of eight science instruments that study space weather.



"We're really happy with our results this year," remarked Gareth Perry, a physics and astronomy postdoctoral research associate at the University of Calgary in Canada, CASSIOPE's home institution. "RRI recorded plenty of chatter between Field Day participants, especially during our passes over the eastern and central United States on the evening of [June 23]."

CASSIOPE also had turned a close ear to activity during Field Day 2015 and 2017, and its activities last year were heavily promoted.

"It's been tough to sort out the 2017 data, so we decided to use a different tactic this year," Perry said. He and members of the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](#)) group coordinated with the Nashoba Valley Amateur Radio Club (N1NC) and with the Indianapolis Radio Club (W9JP) -- which operated Field Day as N9NS with the Hoosier DX and Contest Club (N9NS) and a coalition of other Central Indiana radio clubs -- to "direct traffic," asking their members to stick to pre-selected frequencies during the passes, and to record their transmitting logs.



"We figured that it would be easier to assign frequencies ahead of time, so that we [would] know where to look in post-processing, which seems to have paid off," Perry added.

Perry and the HamSCI group have been using ARRL Field Day as an opportunity to study space weather and HF radio wave propagation. He's hoping that CASSIOPE will continue to participate in Field Day. "We're

looking forward to next year already!" he said.

Perry is the lead author of the first publication to use data from the ARRL Field Day experiments, *Citizen radio science: an analysis of Amateur Radio transmissions with e-POP RRI*. The paper, which reports on CASSIOPE's involvement in ARRL Field Day 2015, is set for publication in *Radio Science*.

World JOTA-JOTI Registration Now Open

[Registration](#) is open worldwide for Scouting's Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) and Jamboree on the Internet. [JOTA-JOTI](#) take place October 19 - 21 -- always the third weekend of October. JOTA Coordinator Jim Wilson, K5ND, encourages JOTA groups to register as soon as possible.

"The



sign-up system this year is much simpler," Wilson told ARRL. "There is no need to first register an account at scout.org before signing in." Wilson said

JOTA-JOTI will generate "an explosion of communication across the Amateur Radio airwaves and the internet." He anticipates that more than 1 million Scouts and Guides will take part in more than 150 countries. A [JOTA-JOTI Participant's Guide](#) is available.

"JOTA began in 1957 following the World Jamboree that year, when the ham radio operators gathered over coffee and thought about doing the on-the-air part of Jamboree every year," Wilson recounted. This year will mark the 61st JOTA (and the 22nd year of JOTI). "Many JOTA Amateur Radio stations are also starting to use JOTI channels, like [ScoutLink](#), to more readily connect with Scouts around the world," Wilson told ARRL. "Other channels include Skype, YouTube, and social media."

Wilson said once groups have registered, other locations around the world will know to look for them. "Likewise, you'll be able to see at a glance all the rest of the locations from across town to the other side of the Earth," he added.



In Brief



AMSAT has issued its first call for papers for its 2018 Annual Meeting and Space Symposium. The event is set for November 2 - 4 at the US Space and

Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Proposals for papers, symposium presentations, and poster presentations are invited on any topic of interest to the Amateur Satellite community. AMSAT requests a tentative presentation title as soon as possible. Final copy must be submitted by October 15 for inclusion in the printed proceedings. Send abstracts and papers to Dan Schultz, N8FGV. -- Thanks to AMSAT News Service

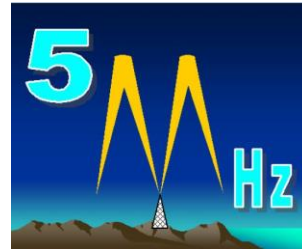
A radio amateur in Japan has Completed WAS on 6 meters.

Tac Hirama, JA7QVI, has fulfilled all requirements



for the Worked All States (WAS) award on 6 meters. New Jersey was the last state he needed to work, and he managed a moonbounce (EME) contact as well as a conventional ionospheric contact. It's quite possible that JA7QVI is the first radio amateur to earn WAS on 6 meters from Japan, although that cannot

be confirmed. Completing WAS on 6 meters was a major goal for him, Hirama said, and an Earth-Moon-Earth contact with Andy Blank, N2NT, on June 17 clinched the deal. He'd been working on achieving WAS on 6 meters since 1977. JA7QVI now has accomplished WAS on 10 bands, 160 through 6 meters.



Hungary has regained access to 60 meters.

The Hungarian National Media and

Infocommunications Authority (NMHH) has published an update to the National Frequency Allocation Table to provide Amateur Radio access to the band 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz at a maximum power of 15 W EIRP, per World Radiocommunication Conference 2015. Previously, 3-month permits were available to allow access to 5,350 to 5,450 kHz at 100 W, but these were discontinued in 2017. -- Thanks to Paul Gaskell, G4MWO/The 5 MHz Newsletter

A new Reverse Beacon Network (RBN) node is now operating in Liberia at the station of Richmond

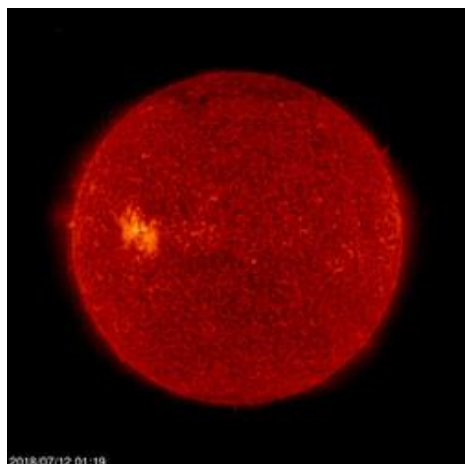
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| 3L3LAL | LR | 28.00 | DM | 0.00 | 0.00 | 20-sep-18 18:04 18 Jun |

Harding, EL2BG. The new node was established with funding from the Yasme Foundation, as part of

the RBN's effort to fill coverage gaps in its coverage in the developing world, following in the footsteps of VU2PTT and ET3AA. -- Thanks to Pete Smith, N4ZR

The K7RA Solar Update

Tad Cook, K7RA, Seattle, reports: No sunspots have been visible for 15 days (as of July 11). According to Spaceweather.com, to find an equally long stretch of no sunspots, we have to look back about 10 years, when we were emerging from the deepest solar minimum in a century and the sun was blank for 52 consecutive days. Spaceweather.com did report "a relatively small spot" on August 11-12, 2008, however, and it may have been so small that NOAA didn't record it.



Despite the lack of sunspots last week, solar flux rose from an average of 68.2 in the previous week to 71.5 in the July 5-11 period. Average daily planetary A index increased from 4 to 7.3, while average daily

mid-latitude A index increased from 4 to 7.9.

Predicted solar flux is 73 on July 12-19; 76, 74, 72, 72, and 70 on July 20-24; 68 on July 25 - August 2; 70 on August 3; 72 on August 4-6; 74 on August 7; 76 on August 8-16; 74, 72, 72, and 70 on August 17-20, and 68 on August 21-25.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on July 12-19; 15, 8, 10, 18, and 8 on July 20-24; 5 on July 25 - August 4; 12 and 8 on August 6-7; 5 on August 8-10; 16 and 8 on August 11-12; 5 on August 13-15; 15, 8, 10, 18, and 8 on August 16-20, and 5 on August 21-25.

Sunspot numbers for July 5 through 11, 2018 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, and 0, with a mean of 0. The 10.7-centimeter flux was 68.1, 70.5, 72, 71.6, 72.9, 72.1, and 73.3, with a mean of 71.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 17, 7, 5, 4, 3, 7, and 8, with a mean of 7.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 11, 8, 6, 6, 5, 11, and 8, with a mean of 7.9.

Just Ahead in Radiosport

- July 14 -- FISTS Summer Unlimited Sprint (CW)
- **July 14-15 -- [IARU HF World Championship](#) (CW, phone)**
- July 15 -- QRP ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint (CW)

- July 16 -- Run for the Bacon QRP Contest (CW)
- July 19 -- NAQCC CW Sprint

See the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more information. For in-depth reporting on Amateur Radio contesting, subscribe to [The ARRL Contest Update](#) via your ARRL member profile email preferences.

Johnston County ARRL VE Team:



The Johnston County ARRL VE Team will be hosting an amateur radio testing session on Monday, July, 23rd at 7pm at the American Red Cross located at 805-A S. Third Street in Smithfield. Walk-ins are welcome. If you are taking the technician class license and do not have an FRN, go to: <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home> and register for an FRN. That way, you will not have to disclose your SSN. You will need a valid photo ID, \$15.00 and a copy of your FCC license that we can keep. For more information, contact KD4MC at: mcallam@centurylink.net.

| JARS Officers | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| President | Mark Gibson | N4MQU |
| V.P. | Stan Disbrow | WA2KQY |
| Secretary | Peggy Lee | KJ4OPH |
| Treasurer | Paul Dunn | KD4BJD |
| Membership | Dianne Young | KE4CNX |
| Net Whip | Stephen Fowler | KJ4QNW |
| Newsletter | Mike Callam | KD4MC |
| Ham of the Year: Dianne Young KE4VNX | | |
| Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Inc. | | |
| PO Box 302 | | |
| Benson, NC 27504 | | |



That does it for another edition of the *"Official Organ"*. Don't forget our meeting Thursday and we will be taking nominations for officers and voting on the constitution/bylaws.

73 de KD4MC