

The Smokehouse

Where Country Hams Hang Out

October 2019



President, Larry Brumett, KN4IV

Vice President, Clayton Francis, KC4RGE

Sec/Treas, Herb Hess, KJ4CMG

MCARC Meeting, September 17th, 2019.

The meeting came to order in the basement of the City Hall Building located in Glasgow, KY.

KE4AIE made a motion, seconded by W4RRK, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Motion passed.

KD4SS gave the financial report. He reported \$xxxx.xx in the checking and the savings remained unchanged at \$xxxxx.xx KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by KN4WLS, to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Repeater Committee:
Everything is working so far. The repeater is weak towards Bowling Green. Still haven't heard from the

tower climber. KD4SS would like to repair the antenna on the tower at the West Main site.

Hamfest Committee: No report.

Field Day/Special Event Committee: No report.

Webpage Committee:
KC4RGE updated the information on the upcoming Turkey Trot Race. The race will be on October 7th, 2019. If anyone has Hamfest flyers for upcoming Hamfests, they can be sent to KC4RGE and he'll upload them to the website.

Old Business: No old business to report.

New Business: The City of Glasgow Recreation Department Annual Turkey Trot will be on October 27th, 2019 at 2pm

this year. The club sets up stations along the race route to report on any problems, if they happen. After the race, we will meet in the clubroom for a chili potluck supper.

KCARC Hamfest will be at the Knicely Conference Center in Bowling Green, KY on October 5th, 2019 at 8:30am. Setup from 10:30am to 8pm on October 4th.

No further business to come before the club, KC4RGE made a motion, seconded by W4RRK, to adjourn. Motion passed. The meet adjourned at 7:33pm with 18 members at the meeting .

**Radio station WWV
to celebrate 100 years**

Standard Time and Frequency station WWV celebrated its centenary on October 1. Radio amateurs were asked to participate by taking measurements and sharing their results

The Reporter Herald says: The world's oldest licensed radio station, which operates from a location just north of Fort Collins, will turn 100 years old on Oct. 1

That may sound like a long time for a radio station, but WWV specializes in time.

The radio station is best known for the broadcast of the national time standard —the atomic clock — which is closely synchronized with Coordinated Universal Time, the measure by which clocks are synchronized throughout the world.

It also has played an important role through the years setting frequency standards for other radio operators. In those early days of radio, “people didn't know where they were on the dial,” Dave Swartz of the WWV Centennial Committee said. Read the full story at <https://www.reporterherald.com/2019/09/22/radiostation-wwv-to-celebrate->

100-years/

WWV Centennial Festival of Frequency Measurements

As part of the WWV centennial, HamSCI and the Case Amateur Radio Club of Case Western Reserve University W8EDU request that all amateur radio stations, shortwave listeners, and others capable of making high-quality HF frequency measurements participate in the next "phase" of this experiment and publish their data to the HamSCI community on the opendata sharing site zenodo.org Details at <https://hamsci.org/wwvcentennial-festivalfrequency-measurements> 73, W4WTN

Ham Radio History: 1980 Russia launches first amateur satellites, destroyed in launch failure; three years to replace

ARRL Thanks Official Observers

As the September 30 date for the closing of the Official Observer program nears, ARRL has expressed deep appreciation to the hundreds of volunteers who

gave their time as Official Observers (OOs) to help preserve the integrity of the Amateur Radio frequencies.

The Official Observer program has served the Amateur Radio community and assisted the FCC Enforcement Bureau for more than 85 years. The OO program is giving way to the new Volunteer Monitor (VM) program, established as part of a formal partnership between ARRL and the FCC. ARRL and the FCC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) earlier this year that establishes the Volunteer Monitor program as a successor to the Official Observers.. The first Volunteer Monitors should be in place and ready to begin their duties this fall.

“Thank you for your dedication and service,” ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, said. “It was the good work of the OOs over many years that laid the foundation for the FCC to recommend this new agreement for enforcement.” The FCC proposed the program following the closures of several FCC regional offices and a reduction in field staff.

Last February, Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, who once handled Amateur Radio enforcement for the FCC, was named to oversee the development and implementation phases of the Volunteer Monitor program.

Under the new VM program, volunteers trained and vetted by ARRL will monitor the airwaves and gather evidence that could be used to correct misconduct as well as to recognize exemplary on-air operation. ARRL will refer instances of flagrant violation to the FCC for action, in accordance with FCC guidelines, and the FCC will give priority to enforcement cases developed by the VM program.

Official Observers were invited to apply to become Volunteer Monitors, and many did. The requirements for being a Volunteer Monitor include:

- + Ability to utilize state-of-the-art receiving equipment and to access no-cost remote receive sites; strong writing and communication skills

- + An understanding of the importance of thorough documentation

- + Basic word processing and data entry skills

- + The ability to send such information, including recordings, to ARRL electronically.

Applicants also must be ARRL members, have no history of FCC enforcement action, hold a Technician or higher license class, and been licensed for at least 3 years.

Applicants underwent a training and certification program administered by ARRL and were vetted by ARRL through at least one oral interview and a preliminary evaluation by ARRL staff. Volunteer Monitors will serve 3-year terms at the pleasure of ARRL.

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-thanks-officialobservers-as-volunteermonitor-program-is-set-todebut>

73,
W4WTN

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A SUMMER WITHOUT SUNSPOTS:

Could northern summer 2019 go down in history as "the summer without sunspots"? From June 21st until Sept 22nd, the sun was blank more than 89% of the time. During the entire season only 6 tiny sunspots briefly appeared, often fading so quickly that readers would complain to Spaceweather.com, "you've labeled a sunspot that doesn't exist!" (No, it just disappeared.) Not a single significant solar flare was detected during this period of extreme quiet.

The sun on Sept. 22, 2019- as blank as a billiard ball. Credit: NASA/SDO

This is a sign that Solar Minimum is underway and probably near its deepest point. For 2019 overall (January through September), the sun has been blank 72% of the time, comparable to annual averages during the century-class Solar Minimum of 2008 (73%) and 2009 (71%). The current Solar Minimum appears to be century-class as well meaning you have to go back to the beginning of

the 20th century to find lulls in solar activity this deep.

Contrary to the sound of it, "Solar Minimum" is not boring. During this phase of the solar cycle, the sun's magnetic field weakens, allowing cosmic rays to enter the solar system. This doses astronauts and possibly air travelers with extra radiation. The sun also dims, especially at extreme ultraviolet wavelengths, causing the upper atmosphere to cool and collapse. Space junk accumulates in Earth orbit as a result. Finally, streams of solar wind punch through the sun's weakening magnetic field, lashing Earth with gaseous material that can cause geomagnetic storms. (One such stream is due later this week on Sept. 27-28.)

Interestingly, the summer of 2019 also brought us a sign that Solar Minimum is coming to an end. One of the numbered sunspots that briefly appeared on July 7th had a reversed magnetic polarity: A magnetic map of the sun's surface (AR2744 inset) from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory According to Hale's Law, sunspots switch polarities from one solar cycle to the next. This small summertime sunspot was

+/- instead of the usual -/+, marking it as a member of the next solar cycle, Solar Cycle 25. Solar Minimum won't last forever!

Solar cycles always mix together at their boundaries. We can expect to see more new-cycle sunspots in the months ahead as Solar Cycle 24 dies out and Solar Cycle 25 slowly comes to life. If forecasters are correct, the next Solar Maximum will be in full swing by 2023. <http://www.spaceweather.com/>

**Lynyrd Skynyrd
Founding Member
Larry Junstrom,
K4EB, SK**

Southern Rocker Larry "LJ" Junstrom, K4EB, died on October 6. He was reported to be 70.

Junstrom was a founding member and bassist of Lynyrd Skynyrd, although he left the group before it recorded its first album. He's better known as a member of another Southern Rock band, 38 Special, with which he performed from 1977 until retiring in 2014.

"The Big Man on the Big Bass has left us," said a

statement on the 38 Special website. "He rocked arenas all over the world and succeeded in living his dream. He was truly one of a kind, a congenial traveling companion and a great friend to all with a humorous slant on life that always kept our spirits high — a kind man with a big heart for everyone who crossed his path."

Licensed in 1962 as WN2LKF, later becoming WA4LKF, he was a regular attendee of Orlando HamCation.

Junstrom was inactive in Amateur Radio during his busy years on the road but picked up Amateur Radio again in 1990 and became an avid DXer with 347 entities in mixed DXCC. He was a frequent check-in to the Musicians' Net on 40 meters. After retirement, Junstrom worked in real estate in north-central Florida.