

OLE VIRGINIA TIMES

August 2013

Next Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2012

PRESIDENT'S LETTER:

Hello to all and I hope this message finds you all healthy and well.

The month of August is upon us once again. For those of us with school aged children, it means that school is around the corner. Is there much interest from the club to try to put on some school and educational programs in addition to 4-H and license training classes?

The remaining month of August does not have a lot of nearby organized, ham related events, although there are still some hamfests at a distance. Also, the Virginia Beach Hamfest is coming up on September 14th at the Virginia Beach Convention Center and is the ARRL's Roanoke Division Convention. If you plan on going to any of these events, drive safely.

Earlier this month the OVH put on a program with 4-H at the Prince William County Fair. I'd like to thank the considerable number of OVH members involved and especially, Terry / WA5NTI, who headed up the effort.

I've been too busy to be on the air much lately but from what I understand, the club now has some active new JT65 mode operators. The excellent presentation on that subject given by Terry / WA5NTI at the July meeting is mostly responsible for this.

I hope all can attend the upcoming OVH meeting on Monday, August 19th at 7:30 PM, and I look forward to seeing you there!



73 Justin KJ4LAS

Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Post Office Box 1255
Manassas, Virginia 20108

OFFICERS

President:	Justin Anderle	KJ4LAS	571-221-3423
Vice Pres:	Clarence Meese	K4CNM	791-6424
Secretary:	Theresa Heartney	KG4TVM	257-3566
Treasurer:	Terry Erlacher	KC4DV	571-292-1490

DIRECTORS

Don (Butch) Blasdell	W4HJL	369-2877
Arthur Whittum	W1CRO	791-4330
Charlie Dale	WA4YGI	361-3091
Bob Zaepfel	K4HJF	282-2451

WEEKLY FM REPEATER NET COORDINATOR

Thurs - 8:00 PM Local Time	JOHN / KG4NXT	257-3566
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HAMFEST 2013

Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490
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FIELD DAY 2013

Randy	WB7RAV	393-1494
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CLUB ROSTER / DATABASE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
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EDUCATION

Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
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CLUB EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Meola	KI4AZX	393-6681
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ARES - EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

David Lane	KG4GIY	703-628-3868
	email:	KG4GIY@ARRL.NET
Prince William County ARES website		http://pwcares.org

FINANCE

Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Mark	WA4KFZ	818-8033
Terry	KC4DV	571-292-1490

GENERATORS

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Al	KB4BHB	368-4794

HISTORIAN

Theresa	KG4TVM	257-3566
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WEBMASTER — W4OVH.NET

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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EMAIL REFLECTOR — w4ovh@googlegroups.com

David Lane	KG4GIY	628-3868
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JOTA

Scott	KB8NUM	365-2642
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LEGAL

Bob	K4HJF	282-2451
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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Luther	KJ4FDK	361-4885
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NEWSLETTER

Paul	W4ZB	754-0910
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NEWSLINE FOR THE WEEKLY NET

John H.	KG4NXT	257-3566
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PROGRAMS

TBA

QUARTERMASTER

Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
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REPEATER CONTROLLERS

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Steve	N4OGR	361-0008
David	KG4GIY	361-3042
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Russ	WB4HHN	368-6435

W4OVH / W4PVA — TRUSTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
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SCHOLARSHIP

Jim	W4JTP	392-0150
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SUNSHINE

Theresa (Acting)	KG4TVM	257-3566
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Keith	KM4AA	909-1512
George	K4GVT	791-5956
Arthur	W1CRO	791-4330
Alan	KD4KBB	330-8844
Bill	N4SV	590-9562
Butch	W4HJL	369-2877
Karl	W4KRL	802-1527
David	KG4GIY	628-3868
Bob	K4HJF	335-1939

All telephone numbers listed above are for Area Code 703 unless otherwise noted. This is the official monthly publication of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club, Inc., a §501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Amateur Radio. Copyright © 2012 by the Ole Virginia Hams.

The OVH ARC regular monthly meeting is at 7:30 p.m. every third Monday each month at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House at 9930 Liberia Avenue, Manassas, Virginia. Members, prospective members and other interested persons are invited to attend. Local information can also be obtained through the OVH's FM repeaters on 146.970-, 224.660-, 442.200+ and 443.500+ MHz or D-Star repeaters on 146.865- and 442.5125+ MHz. Up to date information about OVH activities and its meetings is also available during the OVH's nets on its FM Repeater each Thursday night at 8:00 p.m. or on 80 meters (3710 KHz) LSB each Sunday night at 7:00 p.m. (8:00 pm in Summer) or through the OVH's web site at <http://w4ovh.net>

Articles and quotations in the OVH Times newsletter may be reprinted if credit is given to the OVH ARC and any other noted source. Proposed materials for publication including pictures, articles, letters to the editor, classified ads, notes about specific errors, complaints or the like are solicited from all readers. Forward such items to the OVH Times Newsletter Editor: PAUL@W4ZB.COM as soon as available at any time, but the cutoff deadline for the OVH Times each month (usually the second Monday of the month) may preclude publication/correction until the following month.

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Sunshine Corner:

Happy birthday wishes to Karl / W4KRL, Stu / W4PR, DC / WD4FOX, Jim / WD4OJY and Vern / K0LVS!

Good luck to everyone that will be going back to school!

A lot of our club members have been traveling this summer, if you have any pictures from vacation that include ham radio please send them to me!

It was good to see OVH members out at the Berryville Hamfest, I know they appreciated our support.

Since the July meeting there have been two MiniTri events, thanks to David / KI4AZX for chairing this; it is also great to have new club members come out and participate in this public service activity. Thank you to everyone who attended!

Thanks to Terry / WA5NTI for his continuing work with the 4H in promoting ham radio!

If you have any news for the Sunshine Corner, good or bad please send me an email at kg4tvm@hotmail.com or call me at 703-257-3566.

73 Theresa KG4TVM

Minutes of the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club Meeting July 15, 2013:

Justin KJ4LAS called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting was held at the Prince William County Red Cross Chapter House in Manassas, Virginia.

All present stated their names and call signs. There were 22 OVH members and 11 guests.

BUSINESS MEETING

Minutes from the June meeting were approved as read with a motion from John / KG4NXT; second by Joe / KI4OHR.

Treasurer's report – by Terry / KC4DV, approved as read, motion by Bob / K4HJF and second by Randy / WB7RAV

Membership – Luther / KJ4FDK presented the following applications to read in: Rick / KJ4ZIH, Gavin / KK4MXT, Robert / KK4MXU, Katie and Kristen; the following applications for vote: Robert / KJ4EOR, Zach / KK4RRD, Ron / N4RDZ, Ken / WB4ZOH and Jeffrey / WD6UIE; Luther / KJ4FDK made the motion to vote in all 5 applications, second by Bob K4HJF, approved

ARES – Steve / N4OGR announced that there is a meeting this Saturday and also discussed National Night Out on August 6th at Signal Hill Park; Steve / N4OGR also had Christine McGuirk attend Field Day and donated a radio from her father's collection to the club

Training – Mark / WA4KFZ is working on a class to start in October, more information later

Sunshine Corner – Theresa / KG4TVM announced the birthdays for the month; welcomed Alan / WA2GTT to the July meeting; Everett / KJ4OLF completed his Master's degree **Cont'd on page 4**

Repeaters – Keith / KM4AA asked for all club members to listen for interference on the repeaters and make a report to Keith; the quote for the tower work is in and will be discussed at the next meeting

Web Page – Paul / W4ZB reported the page is working.

Al / KB4BHB has donated another set of fishing rod lead weights that he has made to the club to be used with the sling shots based antenna launchers.

Presentation – Terry / WA5NTI presented certificates to Gavin / KK4MXT and Katie and Kristen for their work and participation in the Youth Lounge during the 2013 Manassas Hamfest; Terry / WA5NTI also gave the club a slide show on JT65.

Old Business – Terry / WA5NTI met with the 4H about the PWC fair, this year they are going to just work the last three nights of the fair – Thursday, Friday and Saturday with setup on Wednesday. Gavin / KK4MXT will have a presentation at the fair as a 4H project on ham radio, he described his project to the members in attendance.

New Business – Ken / WB4ZOH let us know that the radio he won at the Manassas Hamfest didn't come with documentation for the radio but he was able to get a handbook.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Reminders about some upcoming events / calendar dates:

HAMFESTS:

Saturday, August 17, 2013 - West Virginia State Convention, Weston, West Virginia. This is may be a relatively small hamfest, more info at <http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc>

Sunday, August 18, 2013 - Carroll County Tailgate Fest, Westminster, Maryland, more information at <http://www.qis.net/~k3pzn>

Saturday, August 31 - Sunday, September 1, 2013 - Shelby Hamfest, Shelby, North Carolina. More info. at <http://shelbyhamfest.org> See also the Hamfest Flyer later in this Newsletter.

Saturday, September 14, 2013 - Virginia Beach Convention Center - the annual Roanoke Division ARRL Hamfest. More info. at <http://www.vbhamfest.com>

OPERATING CONTESTS:

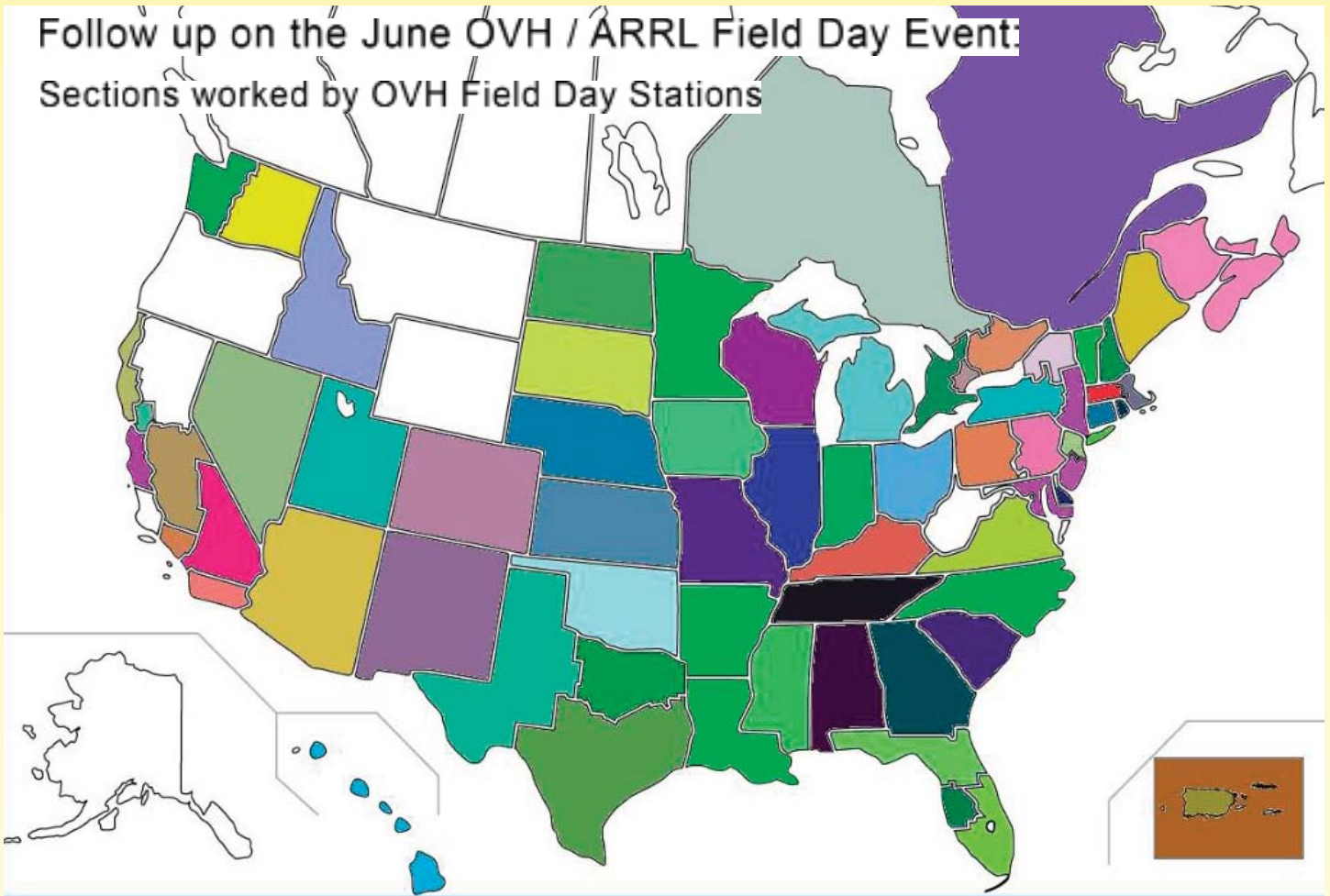
There a many operating contests almost all of the time. The excellent web site maintained by WA7BNM at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/> lists most of them!

PUBLIC SERVICE / TRAINING / ARES EVENTS

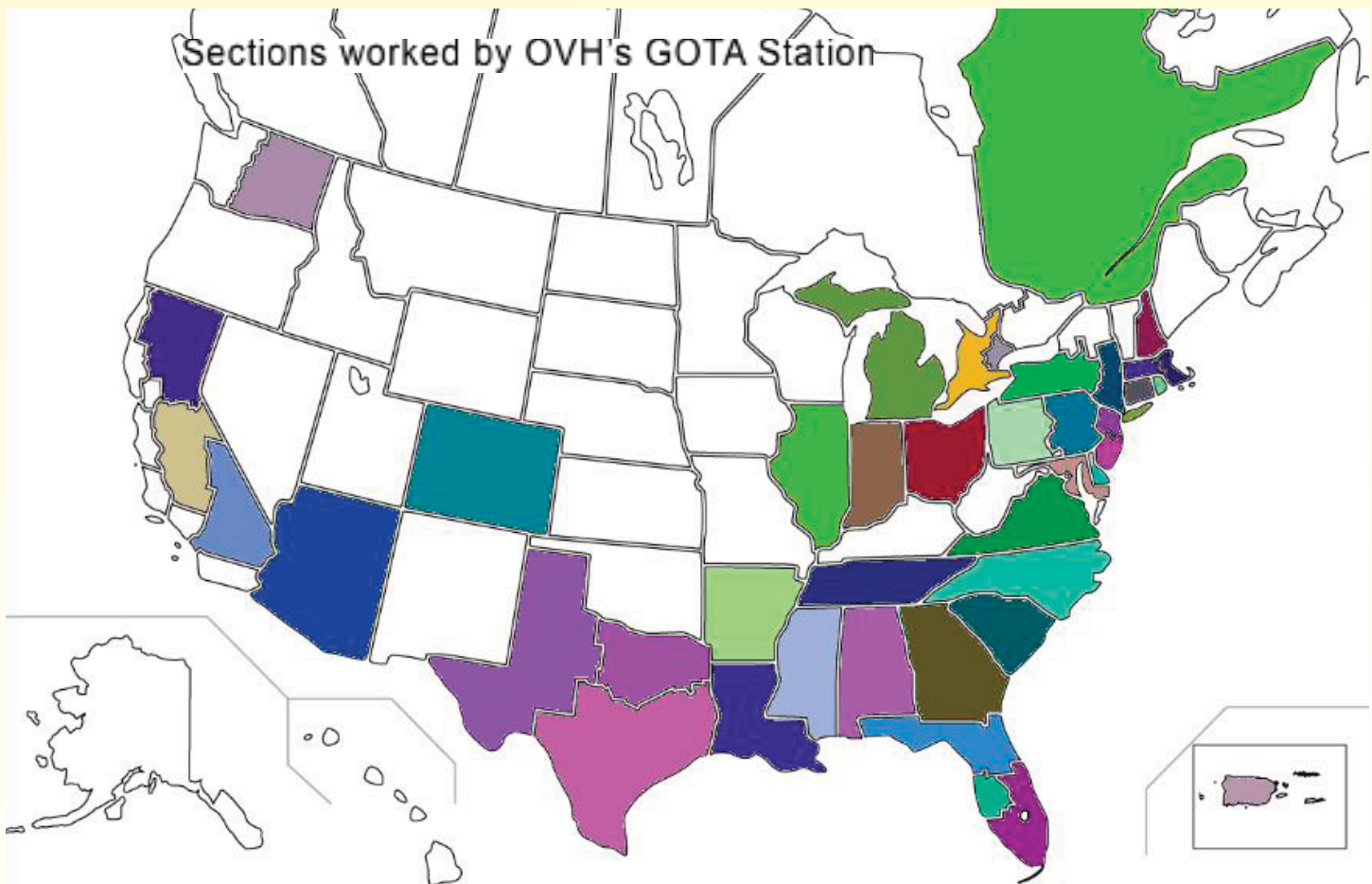
Check the online Calendar by David / KG4GIY at <http://www.pwcares.org> for latest updates. David maintains a comprehensive calendar for upcoming events at that web site. Complete direct contact information for David appears on page 2 of this Newsletter.

Follow up on the June OVH / ARRL Field Day Event:

Sections worked by OVH Field Day Stations



Sections worked by OVH's GOTA Station



At the July, 2013 OVH meeting as reported in the Prince William County 4-H Newsletter:



**Kristen Saul was officially recognized
For
Significant Achievement
By The Ole Virginia Ham (OVH) Radio Club
For Organizing, Promoting,
Managing, and Supervising
The First
OVH Youth Lounge!**

Her tireless effort brought together key individuals from numerous area Amateur Radio Clubs, Prince William County 4-H Clubs, and The Amateur Radio Relay League to successfully demonstrate the positive aspects of Ham Radio to youth attending the first OVH Youth Lounge, 2013 OVH Hamfest, at the Prince William County Virginia Fairgrounds.

Ham Radio personnel ham radio demoproject with 4-H at the 2013 Prince William County Fair:
affiliations noted: OVH, 4-H, WWI (Woodbridge Wireless), ARRL

Gavin Saul, KK4MXT 4-H

Katie Saul 4-H

Kristin Saul 4-H

Robert Saul, KK4MXU 4-H

David Lane, KG4GIY ARRL-ARES®/RACES

Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM ARRL

Thomas Fournier, Jr, W4PIO ARRL-PIO

Terry Mc Carty, Jr, WA5NTI Both Ham Clubs

Terry Erlacher, KC4DV Both Ham Clubs

Clarence Meese, K4CNM OVH

Jeffrey D. Fuller, WB6UIE OVH

Mark D Braunstein, WA4KFZ OVH

Stuart C. Gilman, W4PR OVH

Wayne D Phillips, N7QLK OVH

Charles E Helverson, KA3EHL WWI

Jay P. Hochstaine, K2YUB WWI

Lawrence A. Baters, K0LB WWI

Robert K. Tyson, KR4KF WWI

Sharen Bates WWI

Ervan E. Kuhnke, III, KC4BJE

Emmett Greenleaf, K2DJG OVH

Sharon Greenleaf

Hams are Cheap, Frugal or Smart -- which one in this instance?

Hams as group have a well deserved reputation for being frugal (or cheap). But sometimes being frugal can also be very smart and demonstrate concerns for fellow club members.

recently from Bill / N4SV on the OVH reflector:

"... I was looking for a top quality wall Ham Radio map for my shack; large size, full color, up to date DXCC listings. I think I found such a map at www.hamradiomap.com. These maps are printed in Europe on the 4 color, offset printing process, still about the best quality process in high resolution color printing. They are shipped from Maryland however, so should arrive soon after ordering. Check the map out at the web site indicated and read the reviews referenced there.

"If you want to see one of the maps live and up close, next time you are in HRO, make an immediate right in the door and look on the wall, one of these maps is displayed there. But they do not sell the map there, they can only be ordered directly from the web site.

continued on following page

“The maps are \$10 each and shipping is normally \$9 each, total of \$19 per map. However, if we make a bulk purchase of at least 10 maps or more the shipping is free! Compare the map and pricing to the ARRL #8804 World Map; just bought one directly from ARRL (HRO was out of stock) and it was \$23.25. If we bulk purchase from hamradiomap.com and order 10 or more we each pay only \$10, for what many feel is a superior ham map. In any event, if you are interested in getting in on this deal (a \$10 commitment from each if at least 9 others are interested) email me at my ARRL email, N4SV@ARRL.NET. I’ll place the order and pay for everything up front (only if I get a commitment from at least 9 others), then I’ll present your map to you at the first club meeting after they arrive and collect \$10 from each person.

“Note: I have no monetary stake in hamradiomap.com nor will I reap any monetary benefit from this order, other than saving the \$9 shipping like the minimum of 9 other hams will! I’ll wait to order until I have at least 9 others who are interested. I’ll notify everyone when that number is reached and that the order is about to be placed. I’ll wait a few additional days for slow responders then place the order. No late requests will be honored after that so respond quickly; and this is a one time offer by me. So respond as soon as possible so I can get the order in soon.”

Apparently, ten or more OVH members quickly accepted Bill’s offer!

Thus frugality (cheapness?) coupled with smarts and concern for fellow club members will benefit everyone who chooses to participate! Thanks by everyone to Bill. And if you didn’t participate and still want to, contact Bill - there still may be time to participate.

Some Hams question whether long distance HF Propagation is about to end?

From NASA - August 5, 2013: **The Sun’s Magnetic Field is about to Flip**

Something big is about to happen on the sun. According to measurements from NASA-supported observatories, the sun’s vast magnetic field is about to flip.

“It looks like we’re no more than three to four months away from a complete field reversal,” said solar physicist Todd Hoeksema of Stanford University. “This change will have ripple effects throughout the solar system.”

The sun’s magnetic field changes polarity approximately every 11 years. It happens at the peak of each solar cycle as the sun’s inner magnetic dynamo re-organizes itself. The coming reversal will mark the midpoint of Solar Cycle 24. Half of “solar max” will be behind us, with half yet to come.

Hoeksema is the director of Stanford’s Wilcox Solar Observatory, one of the few observatories in the world that monitors the sun’s polar magnetic fields. The poles are a herald of change. Just as Earth scientists watch our planet’s polar regions for signs of climate change, solar physicists do the same thing for the sun. Magnetograms at Wilcox have been tracking the sun’s polar magnetism since 1976, and they have recorded three grand reversals—with a fourth in the offing.

Solar physicist Phil Scherrer, also at Stanford, describes what happens: “The sun’s polar magnetic fields weaken, go to zero and then emerge again with the opposite polarity. This is a regular part of the solar cycle.”

A reversal of the sun’s magnetic field is, literally, a big event. The domain of the sun’s magnetic influence (also known as the “heliosphere”) extends billions of kilometers beyond Pluto. Changes to the field’s polarity ripple all the way out to the Voyager probes, on the doorstep of interstellar space.

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When solar physicists talk about solar field reversals, their conversation often centers on the “current sheet.” The current sheet is a sprawling surface jutting outward from the sun’s equator where the sun’s slowly rotating magnetic field induces an electrical current. The current itself is small, only one ten-billionth of an amp per square meter (0.0000000001 amps/m²), but there’s a lot of it: the amperage flows through a region 10,000 km thick and billions of kilometers wide. Electrically speaking, the entire heliosphere is organized around this enormous sheet.

During field reversals, the current sheet becomes very wavy. Scherrer likens the undulations to the seams on a baseball. As Earth orbits the sun, we dip in and out of the current sheet. Transitions from one side to another can stir up stormy space weather around our planet.

Cosmic rays are also affected. These are high-energy particles accelerated to nearly light speed by supernova explosions and other violent events in the galaxy. Cosmic rays are a danger to astronauts and space probes, and some researchers say they might affect the cloudiness and climate of Earth. The current sheet acts as a barrier to cosmic rays, deflecting them as they attempt to penetrate the inner solar system. A wavy, crinkly sheet acts as a better shield against these energetic particles from deep space.

As the field reversal approaches, data from Wilcox show that the sun’s two hemispheres are out of synch.

“The sun’s north pole has already changed sign, while the south pole is racing to catch up,” Scherrer said. “Soon, however, both poles will be reversed, and the second half of solar max will be underway.”

When that happens, Hoeksema and Scherrer will share the news with their colleagues and the public.

Dr. Tony Phillips

Below - Gavin / KK4MXT receives award at the July 15, 2013 OVH Meeting:

