

W9JOZ

Volume 14, Issue 1/2

January/February 2024

Meetings

January 18th at 7:00 pm.
Knox Community Center.

If you have something you would like to present a program or have a video to show, please email me at w9joz@w9joz.org



Meetings are at the Henry F. Schricker Library on the third Thursday of each month, with the exception of December.

The library is located on west Culver Road, two blocks west of Highway 35.



Are you on the air?

QSL CARDS

If you have QSL Cards that need to be checked for an ARRL Award, contact John and he will put you in contact with an ARRL Card Checker in our area. Steve, KD9HL is the card checker.

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Events

Meeting at Knox Community Center

Corner of Pearl and Lake Street

January 18th

Time will be 7:00 pm

Birthdays

January 15 – John, W3ML

February 1 – David, KC8OBH

If your birthday has not been listed, it is because I do not have the date for it. If you would like it to be included in a newsletter, please email me the date. Thanks w3ml@w3ml.com

**Starke County Amateur Radio Club Weekly 2 Meter Net is
on every Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Central time.**

DAY OF WEEK: Saturday 8:00 p.m. Central time

HOST: KN9OX Repeater

FREQUENCY: 145.410 - 600

PL TONE: 131.8

For Sale Items

**Palstar AT-Auto automatic tuner 6-160 with an 8-position
automatic antenna switch. Price is \$1400.00 plus shipping.
Contact John, W3ML w3ml “at” w3ml.com replace “at” with @**

See all the For Sale Items at

<http://www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm>

There are a lot of them there. Updated regularly.

See the For Sale Page on the Club website. If you have items to sell email me a list with prices and contact information.

Notice for 2024

****** Dues for 2024 remain at only \$12.00 a year. ******

Paid Members for 2023:

- 1. Jack, WA9ZTP**
- 2. Linda, KC8PKY**
- 3. Levi, WA9CAO**
- 4. Paul, N9QYK**
- 5. Ed, AD9AK**
- 6. David, KC9OBH - President**
- 7. John, W3ML - Secretary/Treasurer**
- 8. Tom, W9QN**
- 9. Bart, KC9FQA**
- 10. Steve, KB9GPW**
- 11. Bill, K9BZM**
- 12. Richard, K9ILU**
- 13. Nita, KC9PM**
- 14. Jim, WB9UAR**
- 15. Don, WA9KRT**
- 16. Mathew, N9LV**
- 17. Joseph, KD9WSL**
- 18. Jack, KC9WHW**

Please be a member, dues are only \$12.00 a year.

Dues may be mailed to:

**John Poindexter
204 South Main St.
Knox, IN 46534**

Checks can be made out to the Starke County Amateur Radio Club. \$12.00

John W3ML

Here is a site that seems to be quite interesting.

W1TP TELEGRAPH & SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENT MUSEUMS:

<http://w1tp.com>

and: ENIGMA MUSEUM: <https://EnigmaMuseum.com>

“These Online MUSEUMS are dedicated to the PRESERVATION of TELEGRAPH, RADIO and SCIENTIFIC History, Instrumentation: and Lore since time gradually makes familiar objects unfamiliar. “ Tom Perera - W1TP

From time to time, I get emails from people claiming to be helping youth out for Boys Scout Merit Badges. However, when I ask the to respond back to me showing they are who they are, I never get a response. Here is one of those emails that came in last week:

Olivia Ingram <olingram@fullerslibrary.com>

to w9joz

Hi,

I hope you're having a wonderful New Year so far! I'm a children's librarian who just wanted to get in touch with the Starke County Amateur Radio Club because you've been such a major help with a young gentlemen I'm currently assisting. His name is Ethan and he's working towards earning his Radio Merit Badge for Boy Scouts. While using the library's computer for research, we stumbled upon your page, <http://www.w9joz.org/morelinks.htm> and found it to be a great source of information to meet his badge's requirements from! Thank you so much! :D

Ethan also had the fantastic idea of passing along another resource to you that he discovered. It's <https://www.speedwaymotors.com/Info/All-About-Electronic-Circuits-for-Kids> and it's filled with information and resources on circuits. It really helped him grasp a better understanding on how radios work, so he hoped it could do the same for others using your page!

Do you think you could add Ethan's suggestion to your page if it's not too much of a hassle? He said he will be back later in the week, so I would absolutely love to show him that his suggestion was up and running! If you've decided to, he would be so happy, and that would really make my day as a children's librarian! Plus! I'm sure he would also be excited to show his troop leader that his suggestion was added to help other radio enthusiasts out. :)

Please let us know what you think!

Best wishes and thanks so much again,

Olivia Ingram

Status of CQ Magazine

12/22/2023

[ARRL](#)® has heard from many members concerned about their print subscriptions to *CQ* magazine. *CQ* magazine is not an ARRL publication, however ARRL members enjoy the ability to pursue earning the CQ Worked All Zones (WAZ) and Worked All Prefixes (WPX) awards through Logbook of The World (LoTW).

CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, acknowledged the delays in delivering *CQ* magazine. He indicated that the November and December issues are delayed but plans are to get them out to the readership as soon as circumstances permit.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/status-of-cq-magazine>

2024 ARRL National Convention to be at Hamvention

12/15/2023

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® and Hamvention® have announced that Hamvention will host the 2024 ARRL National Convention, May 17, 18, and 19 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Xenia, Ohio. Hamvention is the world's largest annual gathering of radio amateurs and has been sponsored by the Dayton Amateur Radio Association (DARA) since 1952.

"We are pleased to unveil our 2024 logo and theme," announced 2024 Hamvention General Chair Jim Storms, AB8YK, and the Hamvention team. "The theme is 'Expanding our Community'. This is in support of the growth of amateur radio worldwide."

Hamvention Awards Chair Michael Kalter, W8CI, also shared a reminder that the nomination period is open to submit nominations for 2024 Hamvention Awards, including the Amateur of the Year, Technical Achievement, Special Achievement, and Club of the Year awards. More information about the awards can be found on the Hamvention website, and nominations will close on February 15, 2024.

ARRL is building a program for its National Convention that will include presentations and forums, more than a dozen exhibits, and activities for young hams. Once finalized, the National Convention program will be published at www.arrl.org/expo.

Hamvention urged "everyone to purchase their tickets and make their room reservations early to avoid the rush." Visit the Hamvention website for more information and to order tickets at www.hamvention.org.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/2024-arrl-national-convention-to-be-at-hamvention>

Bandwidth Limits Replace Symbol Rates on the HF Bands, Other Bands Open for Comment

12/08/2023

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) [published new rules](#) adopted last month that replace the symbol rate restrictions on the HF bands with a bandwidth limit of 2.8 kHz. The new rules go into effect January 8, 2024.

The bands and band segments affected by the rules change are those authorized for data transmission between 160 and 10 meters, exclusive of 60 meters (where no change was made).

In adopting a bandwidth limit in place of the baud rate limit the FCC agreed with ARRL that some limitation is necessary because "without a baud rate or bandwidth limit, data stations using a large amount of spectrum for a single emission could do so to the detriment of simultaneous use by other stations using narrowband emission modes."

ARRL has advocated for this change for a long time. The move opens amateur data communications to faster and more modern modes and restores the incentive for amateurs to experiment with and develop faster and more efficient data methods. Previously, ARRL obtained waivers to the symbol rate rules on a case-by-case basis to facilitate communications during situations like hurricane responses. These delays will now be removed, permitting drills to be conducted with the faster modes and more timely responses when needed.

The FCC also requested comment on removing similar symbol rate restrictions in the rules governing 135.7 - 137.8 kHz (2200-meter band), 472 - 479 kHz (630-meter band), and the very high-frequency (VHF) and ultra-high frequency (UHF) bands.

The VHF bands with baud rates are the 6-meter band, 2-meter band, and the 1.25-meter band. The single UHF band with a baud rate is the 70-centimeter band (420 - 450 MHz). The [Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making](#) (FNPRM) proposes to maintain the existing bandwidth limits in the Commission's rules for these VHF and UHF bands but seeks comment on whether they should be kept, and if so, whether the bandwidths should be changed. The Commission also sought comment on whether bandwidth limits should be adopted for application to the 2200 and 630-meter bands, and if so, what an appropriate bandwidth limit would be. Public comments on these additional issues are sought in the FNPRM. The comment period is open until January 8, 2024. Replies to comments are due no later than January 22, 2024. If changes are later adopted, the rules will go into effect in the same manner as they did for the other bands -- after notice and publication in the *Federal Register*.

<https://www.arrl.org/news/bandwidth-limits-replace-symbol-rates-on-the-hf-bands-other-bands-open-for-comment>

NOAA Forecasts Quicker, Stronger Peak of Solar Activity

Cycle 25 Still Expected to be “Below Average”

The sun is expected to reach the peak of the current Cycle 25 in 2024, one year earlier than previous estimates, according to NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC).

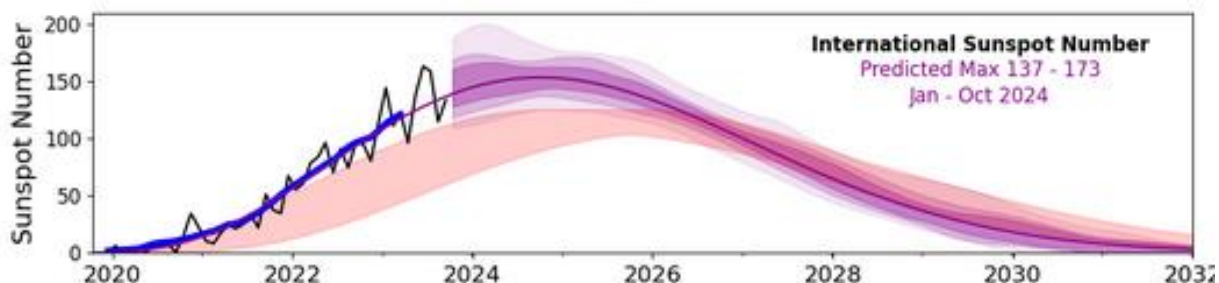
The NOAA prediction now places [Solar Cycle 25](#)'s peak of activity known as "solar maximum" between January and October 2024 with a maximum sunspot number between 137 and 173. The peak will be earlier, stronger and last longer than the estimates they previously made.

The solar cycle describes an approximately 11-year period of solar activity driven by the sun's magnetic field and indicated by the frequency and intensity of visible [sunspots](#) on the surface.

Predictions on when solar maximum will occur are based on long-term historical records of sunspot numbers, advanced statistics and models of the solar dynamo — the flow of hot, ionized gases within [the sun](#) that generate our star's magnetic field which in turn drives the solar cycle.

Solar Cycle 25 Prediction

Submitted by KD9HL



No two solar cycles are the same, Solar magnetic variability - measured by sunspot number - regulates the frequency and severity of space weather events and hazards, which can interfere with the electrical grid, degrade GPS signals, increase orbital drag on satellites, and pose radiation hazards to airline crews and astronauts. Stronger solar cycles produce more solar storms with greater intensity and therefore pose a larger hazard for these critical technologies and services.

Solar Cycle 24 was the weakest cycle in 100 years with sunspot number peaking at 116 for the solar cycle, well below average, which is 179. NOAA's new prediction, though larger than their original prediction and larger than Cycle 24, would still make the strength of Solar Cycle 25 below average.

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For Sale

Selling Everything - It All Must Go

Paul, N9QYK is selling off all his stuff he has collected over the years. If you are interested in knowing what he has, give him a call at 574-772-2021.

If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 25th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

73

John, W3ML

