



# The Blurb



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club  
Public Service Since 1949*

Volume 73 Number 07

[www.phil-mont.org](http://www.phil-mont.org)

# PLAY RADIO

and

Have an  
awesome  
Summer!



Solar Activity & Sunspots - Vince Pisacane - pg 7

# Get the Net!

There's no ham radio without YOU!

Get on the air and share! Operate, cooperate, & celebrate ham radio!

## Phil-Mont's Drive Time Net

Join us on the air every  
Monday to Friday 1700  
to 1800 EDT on:

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR 47970](#)

## CLUB REPEATERS

**VHF:** 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)

Bucks County and North PL 88.5  
(147.030)

**UHF:** 444.80 MHz Yaesu System  
Fusion WiresX

[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) &

[ALLSTAR 47970](#)

[EMAIL REPEATER COMMITTEE](#)

## Sunday Morning Nets

*Three Nets on three  
bands, all in a Row! Tune  
in on any or all for a  
Sunday morning 'Hello!'*

**0930 EDT:**

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- 2m, [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR 47970](#)

**1000 EDT:**

75 meter Net (3.993  
MHz LSB +/-QRM)

**1030 EDT:**

10 meter Net (28.393  
MHz USB +/-QRM)

## July Net Control Schedule

7/3 - NC3U  
7/10 - W3MHP  
7/17 - AJ3DI  
7/24 - AA3RC  
7/31 - N3QV

**CQ! CQ! CQ!**



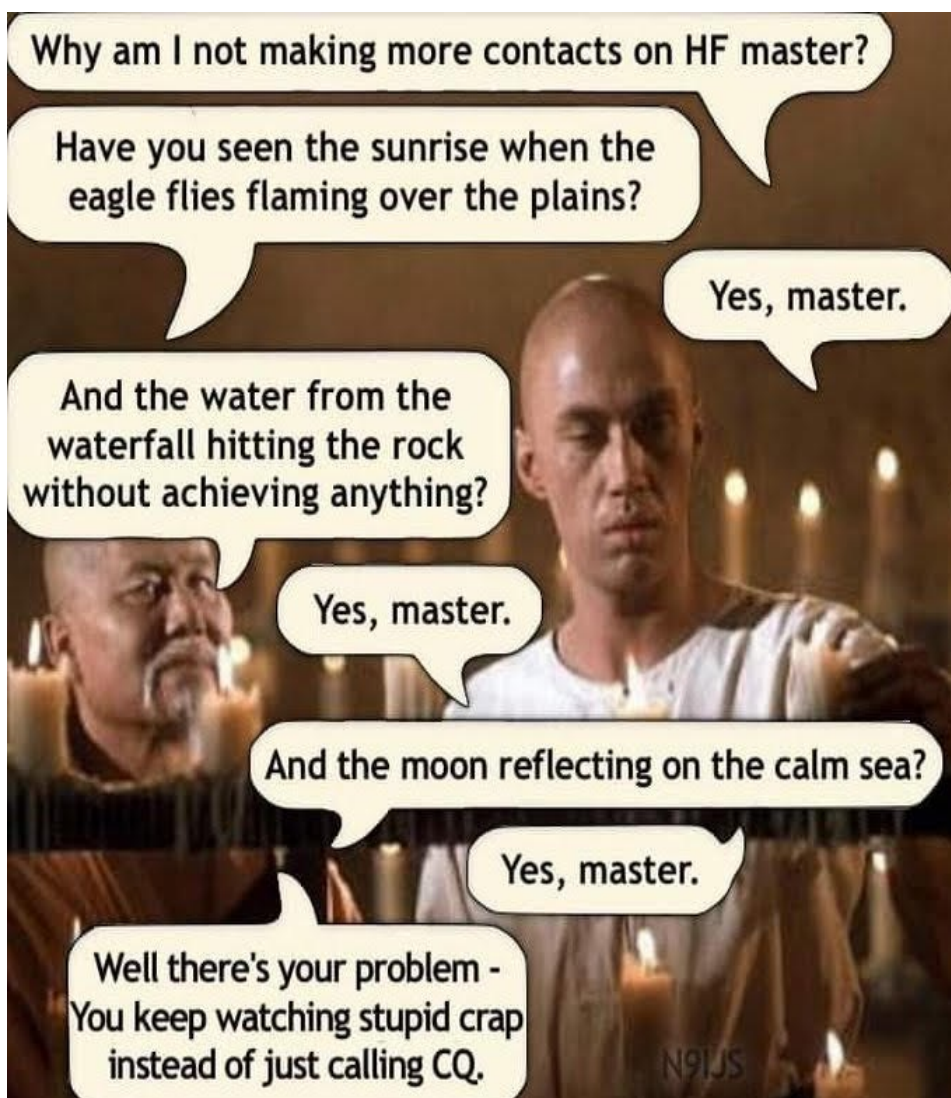
**Calling CQ for New  
Net Control  
Operators!**

[Click Here and Sign Up To-  
day! It's a Fun Way to Meet  
Our Members!](#)

# Club Business

## NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

See You  
in  
**SEPTEMBER!!**

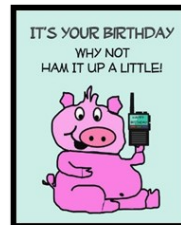


### New Member Applicants:

Ben Leace - KC3TWM - General  
Gary Mirkin - WA3SVW - Advanced  
Andrew Birden - KC3UKF -  
Technician

### July 2022 BIRTHDAYS

7/4 Abe Shaw, Jr. -  
AC3IY (was  
KC3QPB)  
7/5 John  
Christopher - KI3J  
7/10 Nat Gordon-  
WB3KOH  
7/14 Austin Seraphin - KA3TTT  
7/16 Michael Davis - KB1JEY  
7/22 Jim Foster - W3JNF  
7/23 Art Weiner - WX3PHI  
7/25 Jinny Haring - W3IIN  
7/29 Jim Larkin - KA2FFP  
7/31 Steve Hoch - WU3I



# Membership Stats

## Member Types Distribution (PMRC)

Stats via HamClubOnline

Member Type	Active Count	Percent
PENDING	1	1%
Additional Family Member (EACH)	5	4%
Honorary	2	1%
REGULAR Membership	126	94%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>134</b>	

Rank	Active Count	Percent
Board Member	7	5%
Honorary Member	2	1%
Member	121	90%
Officer	4	3%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>134</b>	

^^ THIS IS WHY IT'S ABOUT YOU! ^^

## License Class Distribution (PMRC)

License Class	Active Count	Percent
E	70	52%
G	32	24%
T	20	15%
A	10	7%
HON	2	1%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>134</b>	

## ARRL VE List (PMRC)

#	Callsign	Name
1	KE9TT	<a href="#">Walt Beattie</a>
2	WA3ADI	<a href="#">Vince Buono Jr</a>
3	K3DTC	<a href="#">Domenic T Cantarella</a>
4	KC3SMW	<a href="#">Gregory P Cheng</a>
5	N8BLK	<a href="#">Arthur F Clemons</a>
6	N1LC	<a href="#">Lamonte D Cuff</a>
7	N3PEG	<a href="#">Peg Daly</a>
8	KC3PTC	<a href="#">Timothy Dati</a>
9	K3FZT	<a href="#">Steve Davidson</a>
10	KB1JEY	<a href="#">Michael L Davis</a>
11	K3HIJ	<a href="#">E Michael Elmaleh</a>
12	W3AFV	<a href="#">Chuck Farrell</a>
13	AJ3DI	<a href="#">James G Fisher</a>
14	KC2PMW	<a href="#">Andrew J Furlong</a>
15	NS9G	<a href="#">Stephen P Getson</a>
16	W3FRB	<a href="#">William Hewitt</a>
17	K3JCP	<a href="#">Adam M Huffnagle</a>
18	K3JQH	<a href="#">Benjamin S Johns</a>
19	K3KC	<a href="#">William R Kennedy</a>
20	W3UP	<a href="#">Richard M Klein</a>
21	WA3ERQ	<a href="#">Jim Lanigan</a>
22	KA2FFP	<a href="#">James A Larkin</a>
23	WA3GM	<a href="#">Gregory J Malone</a>
24	NC3U	<a href="#">Salvatore Marandola</a>
25	KB3IV	<a href="#">Edward C Masarsky</a>
26	NS3K	<a href="#">James J Mc Closkey</a>
27	WB3IDW	<a href="#">Vincent L Pisacane</a>
28	W3AOK	<a href="#">William H Popovic</a>
29	AA3RC	<a href="#">Rich Roth Jr</a>
30	N3BKR	<a href="#">Kent D Simmons</a>
31	KZ3A	<a href="#">James P Smith</a>
32	W4GMN	<a href="#">Daniel T Wagaman</a>
33	NY3J	<a href="#">Ronald H Wenig Sr</a>
34	NW3T	<a href="#">Jerome Winbush</a>
35	KC3QFB	<a href="#">Laura A Wohlford</a>
36	N3ZP	<a href="#">Phillip J Zminda</a>

## We have moved the Club's Membership & Administration to \* HamClubOnline \*

You may access the private club roster, calendar and other member only information by visiting [www.hamclubonline.com](http://www.hamclubonline.com). **USE THE EMAIL ADDRESS** that received this email/is registered with the club.

**If it is your first time using HamClubOnline, click on the forgot password link to receive a password.**

You can update and add your membership info directly. Add your birthday for announcement on the Nets. Add ARRL skill if you are a member. Don't hesitate to ask on repeater or email the groups.io if you have any issues.



# The Prez Sez...

**Hello Phil-Mont,**

June....

General Meeting - see minutes. And WOW. Artwork.

Thanks Stefania.

PMRC Radio Labs - Antennas were built! Thanks Greg and all the lab assistants.

VE Session - CONGRATS to our 4 new Techs and upgrade to General in June

And as always PLOTA rocking it and assisting all with getting on the air and assisting the upgrade (General) with their FIRST EVER QSO!

**JUNE 24th 12 noon thru Sunday June 26th**

**Field Day Fort Washington State Park**

**The results are IN: Perfect**

**Score: Infinity**

Whenever and wherever we get together and DO; there is NO WRONG! THANKS TO EVERYONE who did anything at all at Field Day. I am sorry that I can't spend the entire event with everyone! I want you all to know how much your attendance and participation is acknowledged and appreciated.

More on Field Day next month. Hang in there! To be fair to the Blurb and all involved please understand that events after the middle of the month are hard to include.....

If you played Field Day at HOME, when you submit your HOME LOGS (it's in the dropdown menu) from Field Day USE Club/Group Name:

**Philmont Mobile Radio Club**

WITHOUT THE hyphen...Field Day name is different than Contest Club name...go figure...

EVERY SINGLE MINUTE remember, this is YOUR HOBBY, YOUR Club, YOUR repeaters. USE them. MONITOR them. BE A REPEATER GREETER. Answer calls when you can. Let's try to leave...

NO CALL UNANSWERED.

PLAY\*BREAK\*LEARN

jim fisher

AJ3DI

[www.aj3di.com](http://www.aj3di.com)

HamshackHotline ext: 14423

"Do, or do not. There is no 'try' "

-- Jedi Master Yoda

Philadelphia



ARES

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service are trained licensed amateur radio operators providing radio communications as a public service in disaster situations. All licensed operators are welcome to join. To get started fill out this [ARES Registration form](#) and [submit it to Cliff Hotchkiss](#) (KC3PGT), the Philadelphia Emergency Coordinator.

**Join the  
A.R.E.S.  
Training Net**

**Every Sunday  
evening at 2100 (9:00  
PM)**

**147.030 MHz**

## Were You Aware of It?

No, this antenna was not bent. No, no one sat on it either. This antenna was designed this way... by a computer. At right is an [evolved antenna](#) designed by an automatic computer program that starts with a basic antenna shape then adds or modifies elements in a somewhat random fashion and then compares each evolution until the ideal candidate is formed. This is the 2006 NASA ST5 Spacecraft antenna.



And you thought your antenna design looked a bit off.

## Login to the Phil- Mont 'Coders Corner'

Like to code? Sure you do! Join up with fellow hams who like to bite into the bits. Come early to the monthly meeting and talk shop with the group.

Check out [the repositories on GitHub.](#)

**Let's Get Geeky!**

## PMRC'S RADIO LABS

### *Hands on Ham Radio Fun!!*

Come out and join in the excitement of making your own stuff at Phil-Mont's next Radio lab. All the satisfaction of DIY without the worry that you will screw it up.

Our volunteer experts will be on hand to guide you along the way. *No tools required*, jut come out with your kit and a child like sense of wonder and leave with a working EFHW antenna.

### *NEXT PROJECT*

Lots of words about the next project. It will be fun. It will be cool. You will be there. Your friends will be there. Your children will be there. Their children will be conceived there. It's quite the event.

### **LINK TO NEW PROJECT KIT?**

***Next Radio Lab:*** Saturday June 11th  
10:00am to 2:00pm

***10am Social/Setup - 11am LAB START***

# SOLAR ACTIVITY AND SUNSPOTS

By Vince Pisacane, WB3IDW

## INTRODUCTION

Our Sun is a 4.5 billion year old yellow dwarf star with a surface temperature of 5,800 Kelvin whose energy sustains life on Earth. Through the complicated process of nuclear fusion in its core, each second 600 million tons of hydrogen are converted into 596 million tons of helium. The remaining 4 million tons of hydrogen are converted into energy. This energy is transmitted from the Sun in the form of electromagnetic or photon radiation and the emission of charged particles. Of the electromagnetic energy incident on the Earth, about 23% is absorbed by the atmosphere, 48% is absorbed by the surface, with the remainder reflected back into space. Figure 1 shows the solar spectrum incident on the top of the atmosphere and what reaches the Earth's surface. The energy absorbed by the atmosphere creates the ionosphere which is critical to skywave radio propagation.

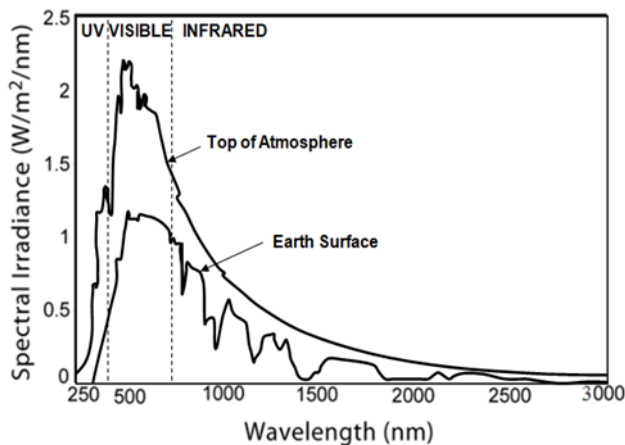


Figure 1 Solar electromagnetic spectrum  
©pisacane, 2022

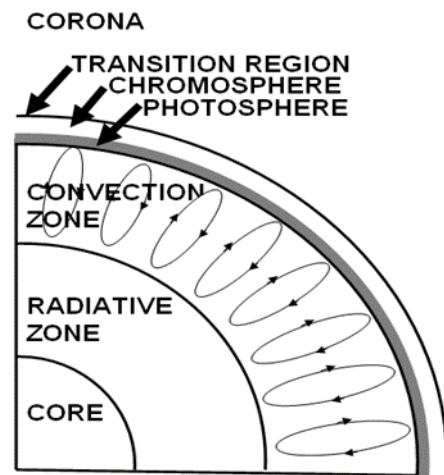


Figure 2 Sun's seven regions  
©pisacane, 2022

## COMPOSITION OF THE SUN

The seven regions or layers of the Sun are illustrated in Figure 2, consisting of 3 inner regions and 4 outer regions, all plasma, with the outer regions considered the Sun's atmosphere. The **Core** of the Sun is highly dense plasma that extends from its center to 0.25 solar radii. It is the hottest part of the Sun with a temperature of 15,000,000 Kelvin produced by nuclear fusion. The **Radiative Zone** is highly dense plasma under constant bombardment by gamma ray photons from the core. It extends to about 0.7 solar radii in which the temperature decreases to 2,000,000 Kelvin at its outer edge. The radiative zone is so dense that the photons can only travel a short distance before being absorbed or scattered, so that it takes an average of 170,000 years for photons from the core to exit the radiative zone. The outermost layer of the inner regions is the **Convection Zone**, a dense plasma in which energy is transported by convection through thermal columns that rise to the surface where cooling causes them to sink, establishing a continuous transport cycle, as illustrated in Figure 2. At any time, there are typically 2,000,000 convection cells evident, with a typical size of 2,000 km, that persist for about a month. These cells are seen as **Solar Granulations** on the photosphere, which is the first of the four regions of the solar atmosphere. The **Photosphere** lies on the surface of the convection zone where light (photons) is created and as a result is the visible surface of the Sun. It has a plasma thickness of about 300 km over which the temperature decreases from 5,800 Kelvin at its inner edge to 4,000 Kelvin at its outer edge and has a density about 1/6,000 the density of air at sea level on Earth. The **Chromosphere** is the second of the four regions of the solar atmosphere and is about 3,000 kilometers thick. Temperature increases from 4,000 Kelvin at the bottom to 10,000 Kelvin at its outer edge. Light from the chromosphere is usually too weak to be seen against the brighter photosphere. The **Solar Transition Region** separates the chromosphere from the corona and is only 100 km thick. Its temperature increases dramatically from 10,000 Kelvin in the upper chromosphere to over 1,000,000 Kelvin at the base of the corona. The **Solar Corona** is the outer region of the Sun's atmosphere and consists of hot plasma that

extends millions of kilometers out into space. It has a temperature of 2,000,000 Kelvin and an extremely low plasma density.

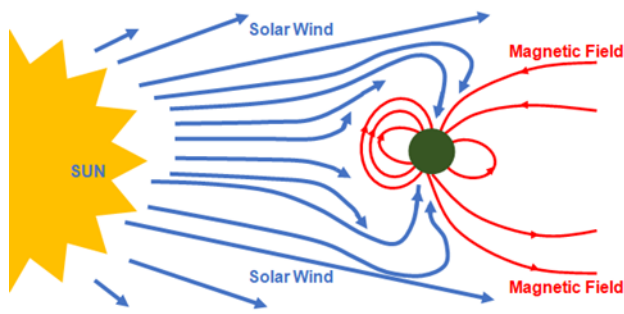


Figure 3 Solar wind  
©pisacane, 2022



Figure 4 Solar coronal loops  
Credit: NASA/SDO/GSFC

## SOLAR EMISSIONS

The primary source of energy from the Sun incident on the Earth is the electromagnetic or photon radiation illustrated in Figure 1. This is augmented by emissions of episodic electromagnetic radiation and steady and episodic emissions of charged particles from a variety of solar sources. **Solar Wind**, as illustrated in Figure 3, is a flow of charged particles, principally protons and electrons with smaller numbers of nuclei of heavier elements, accelerated in the solar corona to flow from the Sun. It consists of a near steady primary stream of charged particles with velocity of 800 km per second and a more sporadic secondary flow with velocity of 400 km per second and temperatures of 1,000,000 Kelvin. While it takes 8 minutes for light to reach Earth from the Sun, it takes about 3 days for charged particles to do so. **Solar Flares** are identified as sudden flashes of increased brightness in the chromosphere. They often occur in conjunction with ejections of material and magnetic flux from the Sun's atmosphere, known as **Coronal Mass Ejections**. **Coronal Loops** are bright, curving structures of hot plasma and magnetic fields that appear as arcs extending from the photosphere to the transition region or lower corona and back to the photosphere, as illustrated in Figure 4. The electrified plasma flows along curved magnetic field lines that give the coronal loops their characteristic shapes. They typically form and dissipate over periods of seconds to days and may span anywhere from 1,000 to 1,000,000 kilometers in altitude. **Solar Prominences** are plasma and magnetic field structures that extend outward from the photosphere into the corona. Solar prominences form over a period of a day and may persist out to 1,000,000 km for several weeks or months. Some coronal loops and prominences may give rise to coronal mass ejections.

## SUNSPOTS

Sunspots are phenomena that appear on the photosphere as temporary dark spots compared to the surrounding areas of granulations, as illustrated in Figure 5. They are regions of reduced surface temperature caused by concentrations of magnetic flux that inhibit convection and promote cooling. They were first observed telescopically around 1610 and subsequently systematically observed by Galileo Galilei and contemporaries. Sunspots change continuously and may last from a few hours to months. Continuous daily observations were started at the Zurich Observatory in 1849 and earlier observations have been used to extend the records back to 1610. The sunspot number is determined by first counting the number of sunspot groups and then the number of individual sunspots. The **Sunspot Number** is defined as the sum of the number of individual sunspots and ten times the number of groups. Observations show that sunspots do not appear at random over the surface of the Sun but are concentrated in two latitude bands on each side of the solar equator. A **Butterfly Diagram**, illustrated in Figure 6, shows that sunspots first form at mid-latitudes, widen, and then migrate toward the equator.





**ARRL  
VEC**

Since 1985, *Amateur Radio License Examinations* were held monthly by Phil-Mont until Covid-19 restrictions

**WE'RE BACK!**

Second Monday of the Month

IN PERSON VE SESSION

**July 11th at 6:30pm  
Giant Willow Grove**

[REGISTER/INFO](#)

[Where: Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.  
Willow Grove, PA 19090](#)

in the Community Room. Parking is available at no cost in the store parking lot.

The meeting rooms are on the second floor. From the parking lot enter through the rightmost store entrance, turn right and go through the double glass doors to the stairway leading to the second floor. There is also an elevator adjacent to the stairway if you need it. Turn right at the top of the stairs and proceed to the [conference rooms](#) down the hallway on the left.



[Map and directions from Google Maps](#)

[GET A COPY OF LICENSE](#)

[VE Handout](#)

**Won't You Join Us...  
in *The DENn!***

Phil-Mont's  
*Digital Education Net for newbies!*

**Tuesday Evenings @8:00pm**

W3QV Repeater: 147.030 MHz + 91.5  
Allstar Node: 47970  
Echolink: W3QV-R

**NET CONTROLS**

KC3SWM Greg  
NY3J Ron

*Don't let the name fool you!*

All are welcomed to join us and play. It doesn't matter if you are new to Ham Radio, new to digital modes, or are an already experienced ham and digital operator.

**We are here to play, learn,  
and test our equipment.**

With the digital modes if you can do it on the repeater you can do it pretty much everywhere,  
*including HF.*

*So come on out, test your setup, and*

***HAVE SOME FUN!***

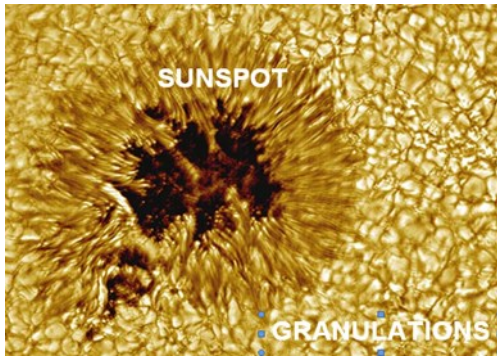


Figure 5 Sunspot 2005 Nov 6-A  
Credit: apod.nasa.gov

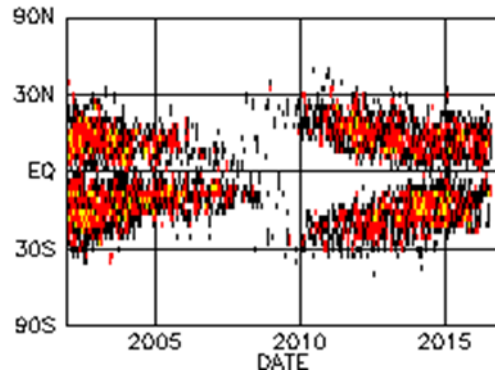
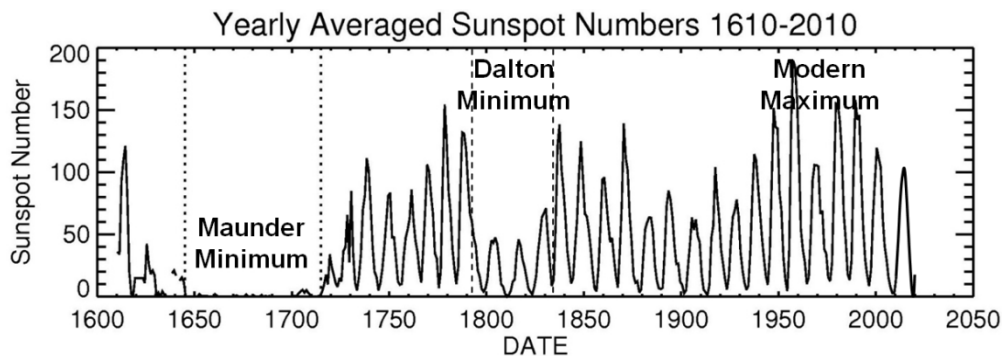


Figure 6 Butterfly Diagram  
Credit: Solar Physics NASA/MSFC

## SUNSPOT CYCLE

The Sun's cycle was discovered by the astronomer Heinrich Schwabe, who conducted observations of the Sun from 1826 to 1843 and determined that the Sun rotates on its axis once in 27 days and that activity on the Sun increases and decreases over approximately an 11 year cycle. The number of sunspots goes from minimum to maximum and back to minimum, as sunspots are absent, increase over time, and then decrease as illustrated in Figure 6. The period of rise from minimum to maximum number takes an average of 4 to 5 years and the decrease from maximum to minimum number takes an average of 6 to 7 years. Figure 7 provides the history of sunspot numbers from 1610. Solar cycles are assigned consecutive numbers beginning with solar cycle 1 in 1755 and the most recent being the completed cycle 24.

The **Schwabe Cycle** of 11 years is actually half of the **Hale Cycle** of solar activity of 22 years that includes the orientation of the solar magnetic field. Every 11 years, the Sun's magnetic poles change, whereby the north pole becomes the south pole and south pole becomes the north pole. The Sun's polarity reversal occurs at the peak of the solar cycle when the Sun's polar magnetic field diminishes to zero and returns with the opposite polarity. Thus, the Sun's polarity repeats every 22 years.



Sunspots are usually observed in pairs, or in groups containing two principal sunspots. One usually has the magnetic polarity of a north-seeking magnetic pole and the other the magnetic polarity of a south-seeking magnetic pole as illustrated in Figure 8. During an 11-year cycle, all leading sunspots in the Northern Hemisphere have the same magnetic polarity, while all leading sunspots in the Southern Hemisphere have the opposite polarity. In the subsequent 11-year cycle the polarity reverses, as illustrated in Figure 9. So every 22 years at sunspot minimum, the poles return to the relative positions where they started the cycle. A new sunspot cycle is considered to have begun when sunspot groups emerge at higher latitudes with the magnetic polarities of the leading spots opposite that of the previous cycle.

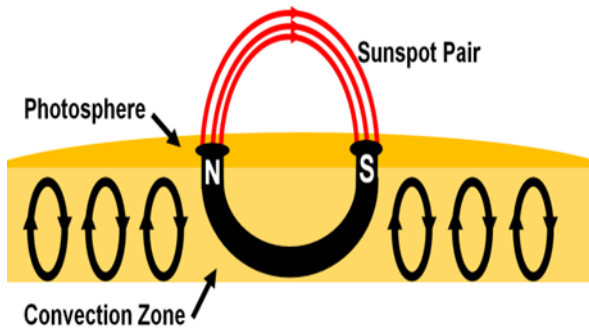


Figure 8 Sunspot pair  
©pisacane, 2022

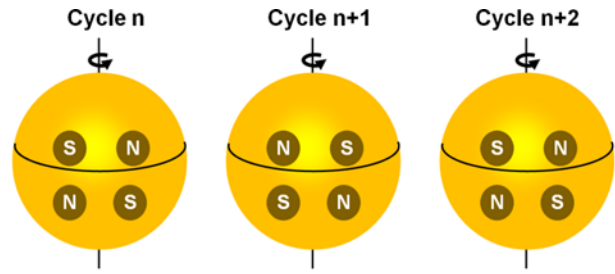
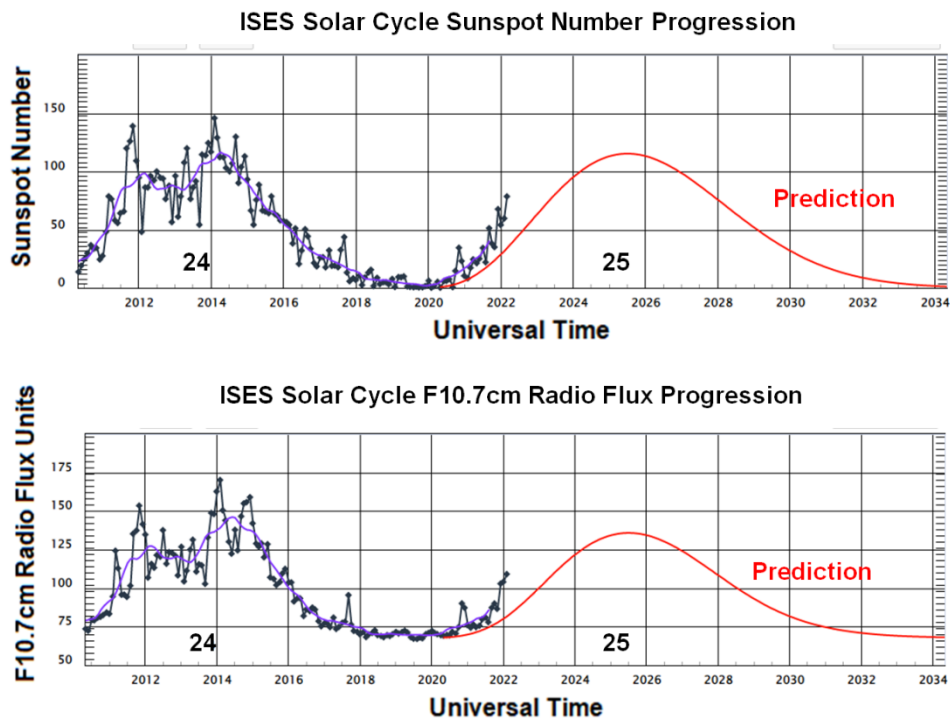


Figure 9 Hale's polarity law  
©pisacane, 2022

An alternative to quantization of solar activity by sunspot number is the solar flux density measurement at 2800 MHz (wavelength of 10.7 cm) that has been recorded routinely by radio telescopes, initially near Ottawa and later at Penticton in Canada, since the first of June, 1991. The **10.7 cm Radio Flux Units**, often called the **F10.7 index**, are derived from measurements of spectral power density in Joules/s-m<sup>2</sup>-Hz called **solar flux units (sfu)**. There is a strong correlation between the sunspot number and the F 10.7 index as evidenced in Figure 10 for our recent sunspot cycle 24. The F10.7 index can vary from 50 sfu to 300 sfu over the course of a solar cycle.



### SUNSPOTS and RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

The Earth's ionosphere is principally created by the ionization of the upper neutral atmosphere by ultraviolet radiation from the Sun. At night the ionization levels decrease due to the absence of the radiation and the recombination with previously ionized particles forming neutral particles. Images of sunspots show that they emit strong ultraviolet radiation from their outer edges. Consequently, the greater the number of sunspots the greater the amount of ultraviolet radiation that reaches the Earth and the more enhanced is the ionosphere. Direct measurements are uncertain, but estimates are that the Sun's radiant energy varies by up to 0.2% between the extremes of a sunspot cycle with most of the energy concentrated in the ultraviolet. In addition, during solar maximum there are increased numbers of solar flares, coronal mass ejections, coronal loops, and prominences that contribute to enhanced ionization of the iono-

sphere. Typically there can be an increase in the **Critical Frequency** of the F2 region of the ionosphere, **foF2**, by a factor of 2 to 3 from solar minimum to solar maximum. The **Maximum Usable Frequency, MUF**, is defined as the highest frequency for which a skywave communications path is predicted for two sites on the Earth for 50% of the days of the month. It is determined by dividing the foF2 by the cosine of the angle of incidence defined as the angle between the communication path and the angle to the normal to the ionospheric refracting layer. As a rule of thumb, the MUF is typically 3 times the critical frequency. To avoid the effects of irregularities in the ionosphere often the **Optimum Working Frequency, OWF**, is used that is defined as 0.85 times the MUF.

#### SUMMARY

The level of solar activity has a significant effect on the ionosphere and consequently on the conditions for high frequency skywave radio propagation.

Increased solar activity is represented by higher sunspot numbers and higher F 10.7 indices within the 11 year cycle important for skywave radio communications.

Sunspots produce ultraviolet radiation that intensifies the ionosphere.

During high solar activity, short-term phenomena such as solar flares, coronal mass ejections, etc can cause temporary enhancement of the lower ionosphere increasing absorption of radio waves and impeding skywave communications.

The sunspot numbers for the current solar cycle 25, from 2020 to 2031, are greater than the predicted cycle that was similar to cycle 24, the weakest in the last 100 years.

The higher the degree of solar activity the greater will be the appropriate MUF and OWF for skywave communication.

NOAA near-real-time MUF(3000) global maps to determine the OWF between two locations are available at the NOAA website: <https://prop.kc2g.com/>.

A rule of thumb is that during solar minimum the MUF(3000) varies from about 6 MHz at night to about 20 MHz during the day, while at solar maximum the MUF(3000) varies from about 12 MHz at night to about 40 MHz during the day.



These are the authors who contributed to our club newsletter in the past year.

Few of them know if you read their article or what you thought about it.

Let the people who provide so much amazing content freely for your enjoyment and education know that their contributions matter. That their time matters. That they are not talking into a vacuum. That if they aren't on the repeater to overhear your comment they can still know that you read their work, that you enjoyed it, (or not) and if you appreciated it, had a different opinion, or that you would like to read more.

**Get In Touch:**

[Start a Conversation on Groups.io](#)

[Send an email and let them know what you](#)

*Loved It? Hated It?*

# Let Them Know!

### “Woody” Brem - K3YV:

“I Believe in Amateur Radio” - June 2021

“Field Day Rules Updates” - April 2022

### Steve Davidson - K3FZT:

“A New 2m Winlink Gateway for Philadelphia Area Hams” - Jan 2022

### Bob Moyer - AB3GB:

“Some RTTY Ramblings” - April 2022

### Gwen Patton - NG3P:

“A Different Power Source for Field Ham Radio Operating” - April 2021

### Vince Pisacane - WB3IDW:

“The Ionosphere and its Effect on Radio Communications” - Feb 2022

“Frequency Selection for Skywave communications” - May 2022

### Bob Thomas - W3NE:

“How the Blurb Got Its Name” - May 2021

“Rufus P. Turner - A Most Remarkable Man” - Feb 2022



# From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month in Blurb history, June 1955.

## THE CLIQUE IN THE CLUB ( an editorial )

Word has been received by the officers of your club that it is run by a clique. Upon investigation we find this statement is true. Furthermore we find that this clique is composed of faithful members who are present at every meeting, who accept appointments to committees, who give willingly of their time, energies and efforts, and who sincerely believe that the more one puts into his club, the more he will get out of it. There is no question that the enthusiasm, responsibility and efforts of these members are of inestimable value to your club. And we would, therefore, suggest that you join this clique. It is not difficult to do so -- in fact it is very easy. Begin by attending meetings regularly; take a more lively interest in club activities; make helpful, constructive suggestions, and accept responsibilities to serve on any committees. Show a continual interest in all affairs pertaining to your club. Before you realize it, you will become a member of the clique and you would be surprised to know how anxious they are to have you.

## "DO YOU JUST BELONG"

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed.  
Or are you just contented  
That your name is on the list?  
Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the crowd,  
Or do you stay at home  
And crab both long and loud?  
Do you ever go to visit  
When the roads are wet and slick,  
Or leave this only for a few  
And talk about the clique?  
There is quite a program scheduled,  
That means success if done,  
And it can be accomplished  
With the help of every one.  
So think it over, member,  
Are we right or are we wrong  
Are YOU an active member  
Or do you just belong?

## FIELD DAY 1955

Last month we reported that Phil-Mont would enter the ARRL Club Aggregate-Mobile Contest on Field Day in addition to our regular field activity. This is natural, since we are a mobile club, but it can only be successful if every member with a mobile unit cooperates. Here is how you can help: During the FD Contest (June 25 and 26) take the car out for a short while and work as many stations as you can. Keep a log of all contacts. If you have multi-band equipment here is a chance to give it a work-out on some of the bands you seldom use, or tell your buddies on various bands to be on the look-out for you. Originate a Field Day message similar to the sample shown elsewhere in this month's Blurb. The message you send does not have to be a copy of the sample but it must have correct form, and it must contain at least all of the information contained in the text of the sample. At the July meeting bring a copy of your log, a copy of the message you originated, and a sheet with your score computation. We can only claim a Club score for the reports submitted to ARRL so all the operating you do on FD won't help us if you fail to give us the information for the ARRL. Complete details on scoring are in June QOT, but to help you a sample will be given here.

35 + 25 = 60	Points (35 Stations Worked + 25 for Message)
<u>  x3</u>	Power less than 30 watts
180	
<u>  x3</u>	Power independent of commercial mains
540	
<u>  x1.5</u>	Power from batteries
810	Total Score

Certainly 35 contacts is not a whole lot, especially since the bands will be loaded with other stations looking for calls. But don't stop at 35-- make as many contacts as you can. To stimulate the action, a five buck prize will go to the member submitting the highest score at the July meeting. Some of the guys who are likely to submit a high score are obvious, but don't let that stop you -- here is a chance for YOU to show the gang what a snappy operator you are.

Be sure to work the club station, W3RQZ/3. In fact, we will accept your FD message which will mean an additional permit for us. If you plan to come out to the field location (see map) you can transmit your FD message on the way. Use Channel 1 for calling and Channel 2 for yakking. Try to keep Channel 1 open as much as possible if you operate the home rig because cars coming to Fairview may need additional directions.

This year we will have the "upper forty" on the farm instead of the "lower forty" -- crop rotation, you know. This is good for us because the ground is higher and we won't have to worry about coo-coo-aiches truck dropping in the cesspool. We owe W3FPF thanks for obtaining the use of the field for us again after all the commotion we created last year. A friend of WOCDY, who is not a ham yet but who is obviously interested in ham radio, has offered to supply and help erect a mast and rotator for a 2 meter beam. W3QZO has a 2M beam and W3VSV has offered the services of his Communicator. There are plenty of stations on this band and the phone boys will get an opportunity for some solid operating.

Remember --- June 25 and 26  
Operate as much mobile as possible.  
Originate a FD message.  
Submit your log at the July meeting.  
Come out to W3RQZ/3 at Fairview and see how much fun you can  
really get out of ham radio!  
BCNU 1955 Field Day Committee



ARGUS: - Gosh! - I didn't think I was out of the band. I only wanted to be sure and hook the guy.  
R.I.: - Well Argus, that's not much of an excuse especially when you have a frequency standard all warmed up and ready to go. Just WATCH THOSE BAND EDGE'S closer boy, and don't let your field day enthusiasm run away with your common sense.

# The Last Page



*The Blurb* wants to hear from **YOU!**

Calling all Hams! The Blurb is looking for articles, editorials, and pictures from any and all. Funny, factual, or fascinating we are always looking for stories, essays and pics to share.

Click the big blue envelope and [become a contributor!](#)

## Put a Smile on Everyone's Face

It's easy! Every purchase you make through our club's Amazon Smile page donates part of that purchase to the club and helps us fund our scholarship, activities, and more. [Click the Amazon smile link and help us help](#)



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