

# CQ Chatter

AUGUST 2013

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## WOOD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

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[HTTP://WCARC.BGSU.EDU](http://wcarc.bgsu.edu)

### Huge Tracking Dish to Become Available for EME

The [InfoAge](#) Science History Museum in Wall Township, New Jersey, plans to make a 60 foot tracking dish antenna available to hams for moon-bounce, secondary to its function as a radio telescope. It was on the InfoAge site, then part of Fort Monmouth, that the US Army's "Project Diana" team in 1946 first received radio signals bounced from the moon.

According to InfoAge's [Martin Flynn](#), W2RWJ, Daniel Marlow, K2QM, an InfoAge board member who teaches physics at Princeton, wants to use the dish, currently under rehabilitation after being dormant since the 1970s, to pursue radio astronomy for instructional purposes. Marlow's primary goal is to restore the [TLM-18](#) dish antenna to working order and use it to see the 21 centimeter radiation from the

### Net Control Operators Wanted

Anyone who is interested in honing their operating skills may be interested in joining the WCARC Net Control rotation. Although the week-by-week operation of the Net appears to be routine on the surface, you never know when you might be called upon to handle a net during an emergency situation. This possibility is especially valid for ARES members.

If you are interested, please contact Bob, N1RB, at: [boughton@bgsu.edu](mailto:boughton@bgsu.edu), for further information. The net routine is straight-forward and a script will be provided to all volunteers. ■

Milky Way. But he also wants to observe radio pulsars, and since that activity can be performed at 70 centimeters, the TLM-18 will be made available to the Amateur Radio community for EME at 432 MHz on a secondary basis.

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## Net Check Ins

June 25

**N1RB** (NC)  
**K8BBK**  
**W8PSK**  
**WB8NQW**  
**WB8VUL**  
**KG8FH**  
**KC8EKT**  
**WD8JWJ**  
**K8OVO** (9)

July 2

**K8OVO** (NC)  
**KD8RNO**  
**WB8ABY**  
**WD8JWJ**  
**W8PSK**  
**WB8NQW**  
**K8BBK** (7)

July 9

**WB8NQW** (NC)  
**WD8JWJ**  
**N1RB**  
**WB8ABY**  
**KG8FH**  
**K8OVO** (6)

## Brain Teasers

1. What does a "Maidenhead" grid square refer to?
  - a.) a 2° longitude by 1° latitude square, as part of a worldwide numbering system
  - b.) a 1° longitude by 1° latitude square, beginning at the South Pole
  - c.) antenna made of wire grid used to amplify low angle incoming signals
  - d.) antenna consisting of a screen or grid positioned directly beneath the radiator
2. In a circuit with both inductors and capacitors, what happens to the reactive power?
  - a.) it is dissipated as heat in the circuit
  - b.) it alternates between electric and magnetic fields, but is not dissipated
  - c.) it is dissipated as kinetic energy
  - d.) it is dissipated in forming inductive and capacitive fields
3. What is the power factor of an R-L circuit having a 60° phase angle between voltage and current?
  - a.) 1.414
  - b.) 0.866
  - c.) 0.500
  - d.) 1.730

# August Contests

The contest lineup for the month of August is given below. Please note that the WARC bands (60, 30, 17 and 12 m) are never open to contesting.

<b>Aug 3-5</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Int'l Lighthouse `test</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Aug 3-4</b>	<i>1800 to 0600 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>North American QSO Party</b>		<b>CW</b>
<b>Aug 4</b>	<i>1300 to 1630 Z</i>	80 m to 20 m
<b>South African DX `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Aug 10-11</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>WAE `test</b>		<b>CW</b>
<b>Aug 10-11</b>	<i>1600 to 0400; 1600 to 0000 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Maryland-DC QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Aug 17-18</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 40 m
<b>Dominican Republic `test</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Aug 17-18</b>	<i>0000 to 0800; 1600 to 2400; 0800 to 1600Z</i>	80 m to 20 m
<b>SARTG WW RTTY `test</b>		<b>RTTY</b>
<b>Aug 17-18</b>	<i>0000 to 2359 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>North American QSO Party</b>		<b>SSB</b>
<b>Aug 18</b>	<i>1800 to 2359 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>ARRL Rookie Roundup</b>		<b>digital</b>
<b>Aug 24-26</b>	<i>0400 to 0400 Z</i>	160 m to 10 m
<b>Hawaii QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Aug 24-25</b>	<i>1600 to 0400 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>Ohio QSO Party</b>		<b>all modes</b>
<b>Aug 24-25</b>	<i>1200 to 1159 Z</i>	80 m to 10 m
<b>YO (Romania) DX `test</b>		<b>SSB/CW</b>

# HERE COMES THE SUN - THERE GOES THE SUN

from ARNewsline

Researchers say that this year's solar maximum is shaping up to be the weakest in some 100 years and the next one could be even quieter. This according to scientists who study the solar cycle as it affects our home planet.

One of these is David Hathaway of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. In an early July teleconference Hathaway told reporters that we are witnessing the smallest solar maximum we have seen in the Space Age. Also, the next one, cycle 25 could be even quieter.

About every 11 years, the Sun goes through a cycle defined by an increasing and then decreasing number of sunspots. The current cycle, known as Solar Cycle 24, has been underway since 2011. Its peak was expected in 2013 but there have been fewer sunspots observed this year compared with the maximums of the last several cycles.

Sunspots are the dark temporary regions on the surface of our home star that are thought to be caused by interaction between the Sun's plasma and its magnetic field. They are also the source of the solar flares and coronal mass ejections that in turn send charged particles into space. Those that hit Earth hold the potential of causing damage to satellites and producing surges in power grids. But they also affect radio propagation by causing short-term high frequency blackouts, while at the same time producing some dazzling auroras above the planet's poles that radio amateurs and others have long used for propagation experimentation. Ham radio operators on 6 meters and above have been

July 16

**N1RB** (NC)  
**W8PSK**  
**WB8NQW**  
**KG8FH**  
**KD8RNO**  
**WB8ABY**  
**WD8JWJ**  
**WD8ICP/M** (8)

July 23

**K8OVO** (NC)  
**WB8NQW**  
**WB8ABY**  
**N1RB**  
**W8PSK**  
**KG8FH**  
**KD8RNO**  
**WD8ICP**  
**N8VNT**  
**N8YAE** (10)

July 30

**WB8NQW** (NC)  
**K8OVO**  
**WD8JWJ**  
**W8PSK**  
**KG8FH**  
**KD8NJW**  
**WB8ABY**  
**N1RB**  
**N8VNT** (9)

Brain Teaser answers: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c

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# WCARC Weekly Net

Tuesdays at 2130 EDST

(0130 Z)

147.18 MHz 67 Hz PL

## Net Control Roster

Aug 6	N1RB
Aug 13	K8OVO
Aug 20	WB8NQW
Aug 27	N1RB
Sep 3	K8OVO
Sep 10	WB8NQW

## NEXT MEETING

**BUSINESS MEETING**

Monday, August 12th

TIME: 7:30 pm/EB 7:00

PLACE:

Sheriff's Training Room

E. Gypsy Lane and

Dunbridge Rd.

Bowling Green, OH

*sun---from p. 4*

known to make some amazing DX contacts by bouncing signals off auroral trails.

Giuliana de Toma, a scientist at the High Altitude Observatory in Colorado, says that the sunspots occurring during a calm maximum have the same brightness and area as the ones observed during a more turbulent peak. The only difference is that there are fewer of them and that's why low cycles like this one are considered as being weak.

Scientists seem to agree that a small Cycle 24 also fits in with a 100 year pattern of building and waning solar cycles. They say that they don't know yet the exact cause of

*continued---on p. 6*

**DON'T FORGET!**

**10 METER**

**INFORMAL NET**

**MEETS**

**SUNDAY**

**@ 2030 EST/EDST**

**ON 28.335 MHZ**

# August Hamfests

**Sep 8 Findlay RC-Findlay Hamfest**, Hancock County Fairgrounds, Findlay, OH. Contact Bill, N8ET, (419) 423-3402.

e-mail: [hamfest@kangaus.com](mailto:hamfest@kangaus.com)

web: <http://w8ft.org>

*sun---from p. 5*

this trend, but they note that there were weak solar cycles in the beginning of the 19th and 20th centuries as well as now in the 21st. For ham radio this means that while the various bands are far from dead, their full potential may not come about during this solar cycle. ■

## WESTERN ELECTRIC AND THE 300B TRIODE RETURN

*from ARNewsline*

The Western Electric name has been resurrected for a new vacuum tube manufacturing venture here in the United States. With its headquarters in Rossville, Georgia, operation will make vacuum tubes mainly for use in high-end audio components.

While tubes, or valves as they are known in Europe, were once the mainstay of the world's electronics, they were eventually supplanted by transistors and integrated circuits. Soon afterward most United States based manufacturers deserted the manufacture of tubes to follow the

solid state trend. In recent years vacuum tube manufacturing has become the domain of specialty companies mainly in Russia and China, but even they manufacture only the most popular tubes like the venerable 12AX7 and 6L6. These are used in high-end specialty audiophile gear and portable amplifiers preferred by some musicians.

The new incarnation of Western Electric is headed by Charles G. Whitener Jr. Initially it will sell only a handful of different tube types that are exact reproductions of Western Electric "classics," such as the 300B. The latter was a power triode audio output tube that was originally designed to be used in movie theaters sound installations. ■

### FOR SALE

HEATHKIT SB-102 w/matching

p.s. and spkr

asking \$200 OBO

contact: Mike

e-mail: [hmmaier59@hotmail.com](mailto:hmmaier59@hotmail.com)

*EME---from p. 1*

The dish, adjacent to the Ocean Monmouth Amateur Radio Club's (OMARC) N2MO at InfoAge, offers a gain of 35 dBi at 465 MHz. Project Diana occupied the building housing N2MO, Flynn noted. The after-effects of Hurricane Sandy continue to hinder the dish

rehab project; power on the InfoAge campus remains out since the storm last year, and the facility is running on generator power. "It has slowed down the efforts at putting the



TLM-18 back into service but has not stopped them," Flynn said, noting that OMARC members have been behind the project from Day One. It's hoped the dish will be ready for service next year. ■

## Flying With Spare Rechargeable Batteries May Require Preparation

*from ARRL Letter*

FAA regulations let you travel with dry cells in either your carry-on or checked baggage, but prohibit loose lithium batteries in checked baggage. But what about rechargeables in carry-on luggage? Stu Mar-

tin, K2QDE, reports that he ran into a small hitch when attempting to carry his spare hand-held transceiver battery in his carry-on bag. A notice within his boarding pass declared: "Lithium Batteries: Carriage of spare lithium batteries is not permitted in checked baggage. If you put a portable electronic device in checked baggage, you may still do so with the batteries installed in the device. Spare lithium batteries in carry-on luggage must have the terminals insulated and must be placed inside a protective case or plastic bag." Martin taped the battery's terminals and stowed it in a bag.

The FAA rules apply to "consumer-sized lithium ion batteries," including "larger, extended-life laptop batteries." The FAA adds this caveat, however: "Even if an item is generally permitted, it may be subject to additional screening or not allowed through the checkpoint if it triggers an alarm during the screening process, appears to have been tampered with, or poses other security concerns. *The final decision rests with TSA* on whether to allow any items on the plane." [More information](#) is available on the FAA Web site. ■



# 2013 WCARC Membership Roster

	FIRST	LAST	MEM	CALL	CLASS	STREET	CITY	ST	ZIP
1	Duane	Ashbaucher	SEN	K8NEA	E	12865 Five Point Rd.	Perrysburg	OH	43551
2	James	Barnhouse	REG	KD8NJW	A	1919 Hamilton Dr.	Perrysburg	OH	43551
3	Bob-Linda	Boughton	FAM	N1RB-N1LB	E/E	930 Champagne Ave.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
4	Lee	Boullis	REG	KD8QYM	G	12960 Bloomdale Rd.	Portage	OH	43451
5	Don	Buehrer	SEN	K8OVO	E	P. O. Box 65	Tontogany	OH	43565-0065
6	Jim	Davis	LIFE	K8JU	E	10990 Newton Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
7	Chuck	Dicken	REG	WD8ICP	E	1066 Carol Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
8	Hoot	Gibson	REG	WB8VUL	A	144 Stonegate Blvd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
9	Lou	Graue	LIFE	K8TT	E	1501 Blue Lake Circle	Punta Gorda	FL	33983
10	John S.-John W.	Gruber	FAM	N8MSU-KC8RBT	E/T	920 Melrose	Bowling Green	OH	43402
11	Larry-Ruth	Hasselmann	LIFE	N8VNT-KC8EKT	T/T	8656 Kramer Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
12	Bob	Johnson	REG	K3RC	E	P.O. Box 248	Stony Ridge	OH	43463
13	Stan	Klakkamp	REG	K8LL	E	415 1/2 N Prospect St	Bowling Green	OH	43402
14	Rex	Klopfenstein	REG	KC8PFP	E	605 S. Main St.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
15	Tom-Gerri	Kopcak	FAM	N8ETP-N8GTK	E/T	1497 Canterbury Rd.	Westlake	OH	44145
16	Jeff	Kopcak	LIFE	K8JTK	E	1497 Canterbury Rd.	Westlake	OH	44145-2440
17	Craig	Magrum	LIFE	NM8W	E	1100 Christopher St.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
18	Steve	McEwen	SEN	K8BBK	E	1053 Pinewood Ct.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
19	Alvin	Murray	REG	WB8ABY	T	P.O. Box 173	Haskins	OH	43525
20	Loren	Phillips	SEN	W8PSK	E	324 S. Grove St.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
21	Wil	Roudebush	REG	KC8IFW	E	1374 Clough St.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
22	George	Stossel	REG	W8GGS	G	19758 Sand Ridge Rd.	Weston	OH	43569
23	Roger	Swinney	REG	W8CJN	G	27484 Oregon Rd. Lot 271	Perrysburg	OH	43551
24	Bill	Wilkins	REG	WD8JWJ	E	11065 Lynwood Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
25	Bob	Willman	REG	WB8NQW	A	14118 Bishop Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
26	Eric	Willman	REG	WD8LEI	T	545 W. Poe Rd.	Bowling Green	OH	43402
27	Lynn	Wineland	REG	KD8RNO	T	202 Wendler Ln	Gibsonburg	OH	43431



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**WOOD COUNTY ARC  
P.O. BOX 534  
BOWLING GREEN, OH  
43402**

