

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Gerry Villhauer, W0GV

Hello DRC Members,

The Hot Weather continues but, it won't be to long before we are complaining about how cold it is and all that darn snow!

The COVID-19 and variants continue. I just don't see any end to it with so many un-vaccinated people. Cathy and I were to be in Iceland right now but, we chose to cancel the trip, mainly in fear of getting stranded out of country if people on the cruise started getting sick.

Congratulations to Larry Irons (K0LAI) our August meeting drawing winner of a \$25 HRO gift certificate.

We continue to have problems with our Bridgecom, 220 repeater. This is the second major failure of the system. We are waiting for a response from Bridgecom. The old standby 220 is back in service for the time being.

Thanks to Ward Silver (N0AX) writer and author of several ARRL and other publications, for a very informative presentation on Bonding and Grounding. Like Ward said, it was a fire hose presentation, but a lot of information was gleaned from his presentation. His books are available for purchase on the ARRL website and probably Amazon as well.

Our September program will be another interesting but, very different presentation. Alex Schwarz (VE7DXW) from British Columbia, will be presenting. His presentation will be exploring the possibilities that "RF Signatures" detected by a RF Seismograph propagation tool could also be indicating earthquakes. With this tool, earthquakes may be able to be predicted shortly before they occur. This is a project of Schwarz and the North Shore Amateur Radio Club in British Columbia. Mark you calendar for September 15th. This will be an interesting presentation subject.

Our September meeting is also our annual meeting and election.

Thanks to all of our new members who have recently joined the DRC. Your support is very much appreciated. Please come to meetings and events and stay active. Your name and call will be posted in this edition of the Round Table.

73 for now,

Gerry W0GV President



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Who's New In The DRC?

BY BOB WILLSON, KCOCZ

The DRC is a very active club in the Denver metro area and we'd like to have all of our members listen for these new calls and welcome them to the club and repeaters. Welcome to our newest members:

Brian Oneil - KF0BPU	Michael O'Neill - KD4SFA		
Christopher Nichols - KF0BVE	Stephen King - KD0LAF		

We have a number of activities throughout the year and we'd like very much for you to participate in serving your community. If you have questions please feel free to ask on any of the repeaters or see the contact information on the last page of this publication.

Also, please join us once a month at the regular club meeting on the 3rd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. For new hams we have the Elmer session which starts at 6:00 p.m. before the regular meeting.

LEARNING NET REPORT

BY FRED HART, AA0JK

Purpose:

We are here to help introduce, and promote, a variety of topics of interest to all amateur radio operators.

Our intent is to help participants get more active, involved, and engaged in amateur radio.

Topics of interest we encourage:

Personal Communications

-Getting started in the various modes, of communications.

Emergency communications

- Participation in public service.
- Training in emergency communication for volunteers.

Radio electronics, and technology

- Kit building, understanding signal propagation. and building antennas.

We strive to put experienced members / volunteers, at the forefront, as a regular source of knowledgesharing in the Denver Radio Club. We hope members participating in the DRC learning net will find it rewarding to share experiences, and learning, that will motivate more of our amateur radio community toward lifelong journeys as Hams.

If you have experience in, and have a passion for, any amateur radio related topics, please consider providing the DRC with presentations that will motivate other Hams to share your interests.

August topics we discussed:

- Home brew 2/6/7cm Yagis

 RF & Homebrewing a 6 Meter Yagi: <u>arrl.org/files/file/Antenna%20Book%20Supplemental%</u> 20Files/22nd%20Edition/6%20Meter%204%20Element%20Portable%20Yagi%20by%20W1VT.pdf

- Amateur Radio Antenna Projects (<u>ac6v.com</u>)
- Antenna aniliers
- NanoVNA Very tiny handheld Vector Network Analyzer
- Comet Ant Analyzer by Comet Antenna



- SDR / Software Defined Radio (<u>sdr-radio.com</u>)
- 10 Popular Software Defined Radios (SDRs) of 2021 (bliley.com)
- SDR Radios
- ARES (<u>arrl.org/ares</u>)
- SWR/WATT METERS
- Leadville Boom Days Pack Burro Race: Amateur Radio spotters race coordinators
- Copper Triangle Mountain Bike race. Amateur Radio participation
- Grounding and Bonding by Ward Silver, NOAX
- On The Air Magazine: Online Learning Center Podcast / Blog
- Learning how to get more active on the air.
- Emergency Communications
- Electronics and Technology
- Weather Spotting
- The art of Traffic Handling
- Personalized license plate application (Amateur Radio). DR2810-Form (summitcountyco.gov)

Great topics from our group. We certainly enjoy everyone's participation. Thanks to all.

If you are listening and don't yet have your license, you can contact us at the <u>W0TX web-site</u>, <u>w0tx@w0tx.org</u>, or <u>elmer@w0tx.org</u>.

If we don't have the answer here on the net, we have a lot of experienced Hams in the club that can help.

Getting that first Technician license? Upgrading to General or Extra? We're here to help. You may also find Dave Casler's Amateur Radio Licensing Guides helpful: <u>https://dcasler.com/ham-radio/</u>

We would encourage those who have been Hams for several years to also join us. Your experience and input is welcomed.

Finding your place in the amateur radio community - -> Are you looking to be more involved, learn new skills, find a mentor or friends to share your amateur radio interest? Check out your local Denver Radio Club, and start making the most of your amateur radio license.



arrl.org/public-service Use your communication skills to help keep your community safe!



weather.gov/marine/ham warrenares.org/home/skywarn-weather-spotting SKYWARN Spotter Training Updates: weather.gov/bou/spot_training



During severe weather events, amateur radio operators bring significant resources to storm spotting, including an established communications system that can function in an emergency. They provide real-time information to partners like emergency management and forecasters at the national weather service. The data received from hams helps issue weather watches, warnings, and advisories.

What topics would you like to discuss? Join us Wednesday nights, 7:30 PM, 145.490, 100 Hz PL tone & linked to 448.625, 100Hz PL tone.

73,

Fred AA0JK <u>elmer@w0tx.org</u>

SEPTEMBER PRESENTATION ANNOUNCEMENT

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

From the 02/28/2019 QST magazine: "Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW, in British Columbia, Canada, is exploring the possibility that "RF signatures" detected by the RF Seismograph propagation tool could also be indicating earthquakes, and may even be able to predict them shortly before they occur. A real-time HF propagation-monitoring tool developed by Schwarz and the <u>MDSR team</u>, the RF Seismograph shows both band noise and activity or band activity alone on six HF bands. It's a project of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club (<u>NSARC</u>)".

Alex is an advanced HAM and a graduate of the HTL, Innsbruck, Austria. He moved to Vancouver (Canada) in 1990 and has since been involved in professional communication systems (LDR trunking) and digital point to point wireless network systems. In 2005 he started work in the Biomedical Engineering Department at C&W Hospital in Vancouver.



Figure 1 - Alex, VE7DXW

In 2008, Alex explored the concept of a Bi-LIF (Bidirectional Low Intermediate Frequency) transverter. He developed an MDSR (Modulation –Demodulation Software Radio) to provide a cost-effective and easy to use interface between a computer's soundcard and a transceiver.

In 2016, Alex developed the RF-Seismograph for the solar eclipse experiment in August 2017. The RF-Seismograph was tested by a team of volunteers which Alex coordinated and managed. In the fall of 2019 Alex and his team found that the RF-Seismograph was actually able to record earthquakes by detecting propagation changes during 3 local quakes.

Alex is interested in finding low cost, easily accessible technological solutions for applications that

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would otherwise be overlooked or limited to specialized and expensive equipment and users.

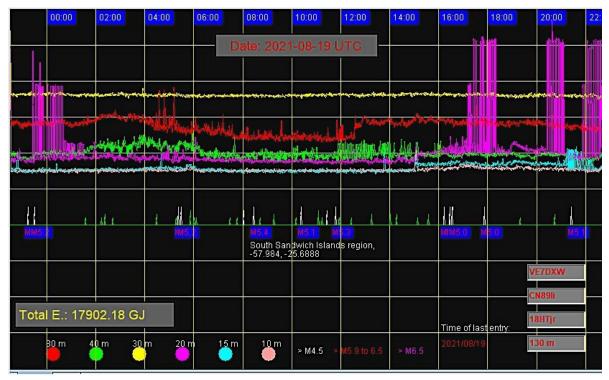
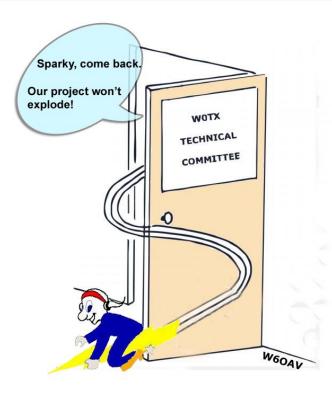


Figure 2 - Quakes that created propagation on 08-19-2021 and that were recorded by the USGS



COLORADO QSO PARTY - 9/4/21

PROVIDED BY GERRY VILLHAUER, WOGV FROM DOUG. NIELSEN, N7LEM

Please remind your club members that the Colorado QSO Party 2021 is coming up:

Saturday 4 September 2021. 0700 to 2200 MDT

This is the chance for Colorado stations to be the ones everyone else wants to contact.

More info at https://ppraa.org/coqp

Report your county coverage to coop-counties@ppraa.org

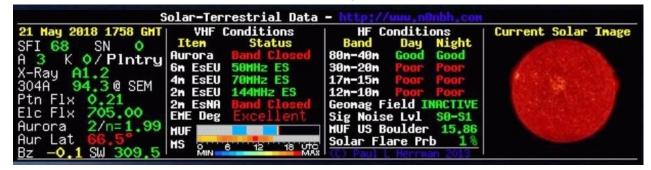
Check reported county coverage at <u>https://ppraa.org/coqp/co-counties</u> Currently only 9 counties reporting coverage.

Also consider supporting the Tennessee QSO party on Sunday 5 Sept. We get many contacts from TN as they warm up for their party. We've been paired together on this weekend for many years. Please support our sister party.

INTERPRET SOLAR TERRESTRIAL DATA CHARTS

BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

Many of us frequently check the Solar Terrestrial Data Chart shown below for the current propagation conditions. Some of the entries are a mystery to many of us. OH2BCE has a nice tutorial which defines all the chart entries at: <u>http://oh2bce.mbnet.fi/pdf/Propagation_Reports.pdf</u>



WYOMING HAMCON 2021—CANCELLED

PROVIDED BY R.J BRAGG, WY7AA, PRESIDENT OF SHY-WY ARC

The Wyoming ARRL Section Convention that was to be held on October 9th, has been cancelled. See <u>wyhamcon.org/site</u> for more details.



EXTRACT FROM THE *LINCOLN LOG* NEWSLETTER

PROVIDED BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV



Roger Ghormley, WØKK Highlights of RTTY History Radio Teletype

t started soon after World War II. Hams obtained

teletype machines no longer required by the military and commercial operators. Ham literature gave info on how to adapt the machine's DC operation to the Ham transceiver. Two-way Ham QSOs via teletype date from 1946. What one Ham typed on his teletype machine was printed on paper by the other Ham's machine.



Interest grew and techniques improved. The FCC modified some regulations to allow frequency shift operation, which was superior to make and break. The number of Hams with RTTY increased rapidly.

The first RTTY contest was sponsored by the RTTY Society of Southern California. Held in Octo-

ber, 1953, the contest had 29 entrants! Interest in the new mode spread beyond the USA. In June 1959 the British Amateur Radio Teletype Group, BARTG (now known as the British Amateur Radio Teledata Group) was formed. Similar RTTY groups were organized in other countries. Weekend contesting via RTTY drew hundreds of entrants. Then along came personal computers.

In the 1980s Ham programmers soon developed computer applications that did all the work previously done by the teletype machine. Except for a few "purists," teletype machines started disappearing from the Ham ranks. RTTY programs provided for automatic logging and macros.

A Ham could enter a weekend contest and via the mouse never have to touch the keyboard. Up through the 80s and 90s the Baudot code start bit, 5 code bits, stop bit—was the preferred code used for RTTY. Changing between Mark and Space was by **shifting the frequency** between two values, typically 170 Hz difference. Then along came a British Ham.

PSK31: A New Radio-Teletype Mode n December 1998 and January 1999 the journal RadCom, of the Radio Society of Great Britain, contained an article written by Peter Martinez, G3PLX. The article, "PSK31: A New Radio-Teletype Mode," described a completely new way of coding for RTTY - "Varicode." Details of Varicode are beyond the scope of this "History" (as well as the ability of this writer); but a few features are worth noting: Mark and Space are formed by a shift in phase. In text, characters are separated by "00," so no character includes a 00. The length of a character's code -2 to 10 bits – is roughly inverse to how often the character is used in the English language. The space between words occurs most often and the code is 1. For example, "at the zoo" is 1011 00 101 1 101 00 101011 00 11 1 111010101 00 111 00 111 1. The space-between-words code, 1, also means "end of character"; so no further need for the 00.

Ham programmers soon developed applications using PSK31. Hams found the new mode

able to copy weak signals that were lost to the old Baudot mode. It is getting hard to find a Baudot signal. RTTY has come a long way in the last 80 years. Where will it go from here? If this



writer were two score years younger and one score IQ smarter, he might try his hand at, say, "Voice Control of RTTY." That's likely better left to someone else.

—Roger Ghormley, WØKK [Roger is 95 and received his license in 1935.]

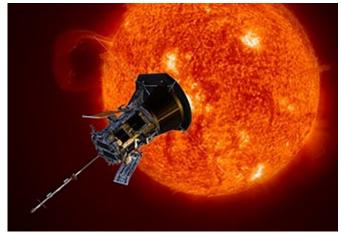
BRIEF COMPARISON BETWEEN ECHOLINK, IRLP AND ALLSTAR NETWORK

PROVIDED BY BILL RINKER, W6OAV

The following link is for a good article on the topics listed in the title, above. The article starts on page 5. http://w5nni.net/newsletters/2019/Airwaves 2019 08.pdf

SOLAR GEOPHYSICAL ACTIVITY REPORT

PROVIDED BY FRED HART, AA0JK

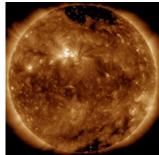


August 1st - The Sun was blank, no sunspots.

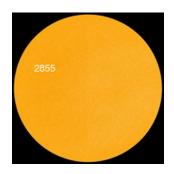
August 2nd - Dense solar wind sparked a geomagnetic storm. A dense wave of solar wind crashed against Earth's magnetic field on August 2nd, sparking a G1-class geomagnetic storm. It may have been a ripple from a passing CME, one of several "near miss CMEs", that left the sun in late July.

The following twenty four hours, solar activity was quiet. Coronal holes were to high a latitude to effect Earth. A bright active region was on the north, and the dark coronal holes were out ahead of it. The solar flaring was very low, and was expected to remain so unless the sun developed better sun spots. At the time there was just sparse surface magnetism beneath those arches of flaring. The solar wind was slightly variable, but still in the low intensity range. No major intensification, and geomagnetic conditions were quit.

August 3rd - Active regions were quiet as there were no sunspots beneath them. The solar wind was calming as well. There were two coronal holes slow to onset and reach moderate intensity. Plasma speed was coming down from their peak levels, and geomagnetic conditions were calm as well. Below image credit: SDO/AIA

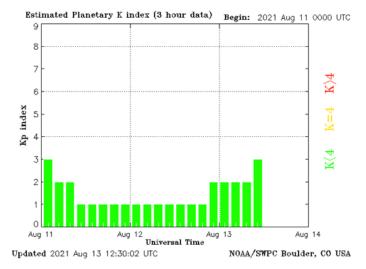


There were no significant equatorial coronal holes on the Earth facing side of the sun. Below image credit: SDO/HMI.

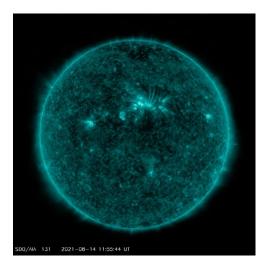


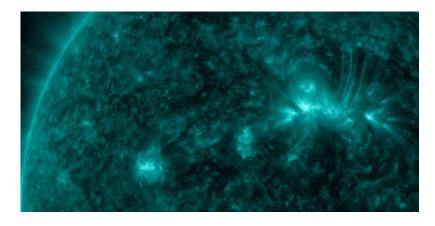
Decaying sunspot AR2855 was barely visible and posed no threat for strong solar flares.

Planetary K-index Kp was 3 and quiet Solar flux was at 74 sfu

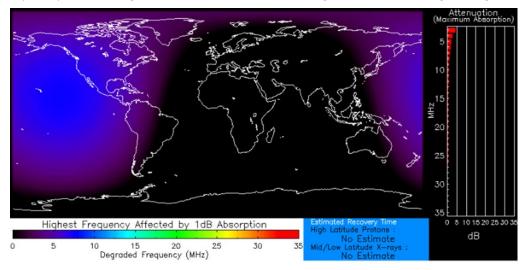


Spotless solar flare. On Friday, August 13th (2108 UTC), a spotless region near the center of the solar disk unleashed a C1-class solar flare. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory recorded the extreme ultraviolet flash.

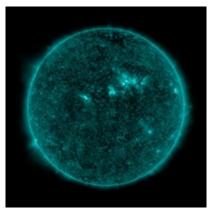


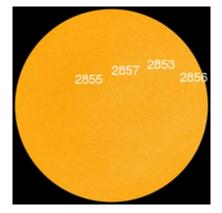


The impulsive explosion created a mild wave of ionization over the Pacific Ocean, altering the HF propagation of radio transmissions below ~5 MHz. That may have been the only Earth-effect. No coronal mass ejection (CME) had emerged from the blast site, zeroing the chance of a geomagnetic storm.



August 15th - The third week of August started out with a bang.





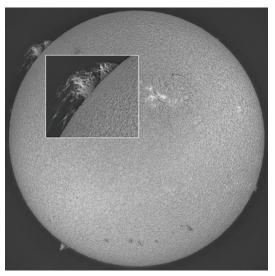
Images credit: SDO/HMI

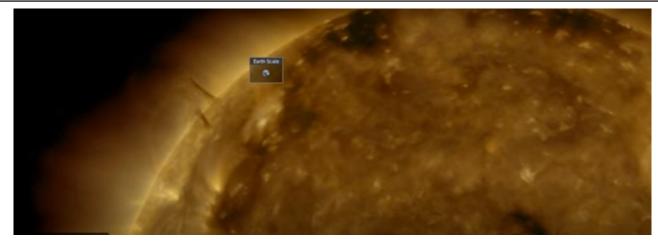
Boom! In less than 24 hours, the sun was transitioned from "blank" to "peppered with sunspots.

A huge prominence was on the sun's northeastern limb.

Solar prominence's are clouds of hydrogen gas held up by magnetic fields. This one was 10 times taller than Earth and at least 25 times as wide.

The prominence was very active, It seemed to be streaming downwards, not toward the sun, but drifting away like tendrils of smoke from a fire.

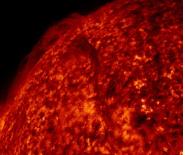




Plasma filaments were coming in on the north behind a coronal hole.

Over a 24 hour period they were mostly quiet. Active regions lacked sunspots, and focus was on the filaments and coronal holes.

August 20th - Huge solar filament. The biggest attraction here on the 20th, was not a sunspot, it was a dark filament of magnetism. NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory photographed the structure curling over the sun's northeastern limb.



Stretching more than 350,000 km from end to end, the structure dwarfed any sunspot. It was noteworthy not only for its size, but also for its explosive potential. Oversize filaments like this one can become unstable and collapse, sparking Hyder flares and hurling CMEs into space.

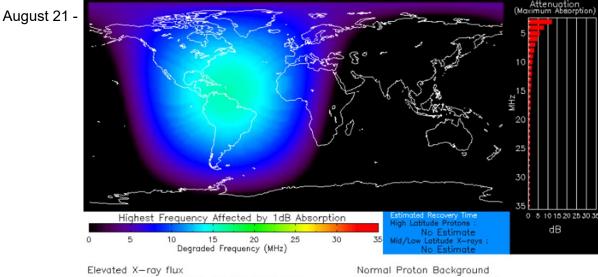
They have not caused any interference with Earthly communications like solar flares, and are rather weak.



A solid bottom eruption was seen on the lower left incoming limb.

While the flaring had been slowly on the rise we did not see anything significant.

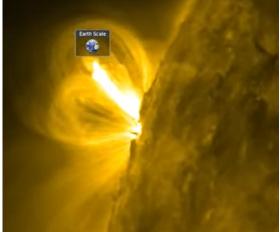
Multiple eruption areas were turning to face earth. Later in the week solar wind from the upper coronal hole was expected to reach earth as we monitored the dancing filaments erupting behind it.



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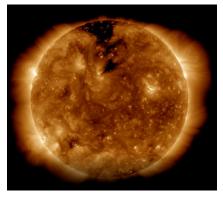
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

An active sunspot was emerging over the sun's northeastern limb. While it was still hidden, the sunspot unleashed a series of C-class solar flares. The strongest flare caused a low-frequency radio blackout over the Atlantic Ocean.



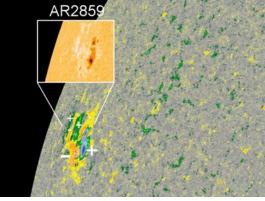
We saw a dark coronal hole forming on the northern face of the solar disc. The bright active regions near the limbs were starting the latest uptick in activity. This coupled with the C class flares, are a scary way for the sun to wake back up.

At the time, we were two to three days from a coronal hole stream flowing from a northern coronal hole reaching down to mid latitudes, and a plasma filament was still sneaking in behind it.



A stream of solar wind was approaching Earth. ETA, August 25th. The gaseous material was flowing from a northern coronal hole in the sun's atmosphere, and was a potential risk of polar geomagnetic unrest when it arrived.

August 22nd - Active sunspot AR2859 produced five C-class solar flares. Image credit: NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory.



coronal hole

The mixture of magnetic polarities, particularly in the trailing region of the spot, explained why AR2859 was active. Plus (+) and minus (-) polarities bumping together causes explosive magnetic reconnection.

At the time, the flares had caused only brief and minor HF radio blackouts affecting frequencies below ~10 MHz. Stronger explosions were in the offing as the sunspot turned toward Earth. Image credit: SDO/AIA

he polar regions don't often experience eruptions. On August 22nd the spotless southern pole erupted. The polar region, 71 degrees south, hundreds of kilometers from the nearest sunspot, an unstable filament of magnetism rose up and hurled plasma into space. The polar areas don't form sunspots, but this blast did not require a sunspot. SOHO (the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory) recorded the emerging filament blast.

NOAA Radio Blackout Activity and Forecast: No radio blackouts were observed over the past 24 hours. Radio Blackout Forecast for Aug 25-Aug 27 2021.

	Aug 25	Aug 26	Aug 27
R1-R2	1%	1%	1%
R3 or greater	1%	1%	1%

Rationale: No R1 (Minor) or greater radio blackouts are expected. No significant active region flare activity is forecast.

73,

Fred AA0JK



PAST ROUND TABLE PAGES

PROVIDED BY WOODY LINWOOD, WOUL

A page from the April 1958 edition.

We ask Denver hams to share their wisdom. The question arises about the pronunciation of "mobile". In all dictionaries we have seen the pronunciation is mobile. We cannot find mobile in any dictionary nor can the researcher at the Denver Public Library, yet mobile is commonly accepted by hams and is clearer on the air. Should we ask dictionary editors to change the dictionaries?

We often hear that the sweetest grapes are nearest the ground. At the last Denver Radio Club meeting we found this to be true. It was a pleasure to have the program committee present Swede, WØBON, who discussed TVI problems; Claude, WØIC, who played his tape recording of Explorer I; Bill, WØOWP, of the telephone company, who talked about interference to telephones by various radio transmitters; and Ed, WØRQI, who discussed some new equipment.

The YLs like the colorful new look of the Round Table in the last issue.

It is not too early to remind YLs of the ARRL Convention, Rocky Mountain Division, at Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 14-15.

We YL operators hope that the XYLs of the Denver OMs will join us during coffee time at the coming meeting of the Denver Radio Club (April 16th in the Sabin Hall of the Colorado General Hospital) to discuss plans for the annual Radio Club picnic.

CLUB AUCTION SET

The call of the auctioneer will be in order at the May meeting of the Denver Radio Club. A canvas of members will be made at the April meeting to determine how many desire to place items on the auction block.

Each owner will establish a minimum price for his article. The club and the seller will split everything over this minimum price.

It must be pointed out that this is not a donation of junk, but an opportunity for members to sell equipment which they are not planning to use.

Additional details of this sale will be forthcoming at the April meeting and in next month's Roundtable.

LETS GO MOBILE

Need a second car?

We will make you the best

DEAL in Colorado

All makes and models to choose from

LOOK THEM OVER

NEW & USED CARS

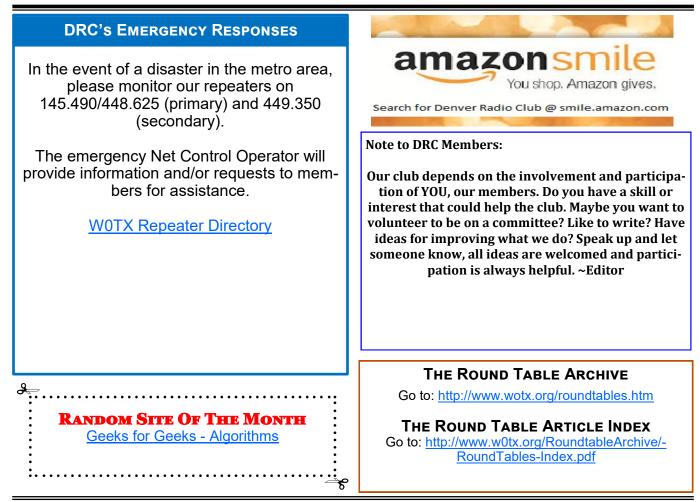
NEW & USED TRUCKS

Harry Groussman, Inc. Ford Jack Flavin WØSIN

SU 1-4474

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W0TX

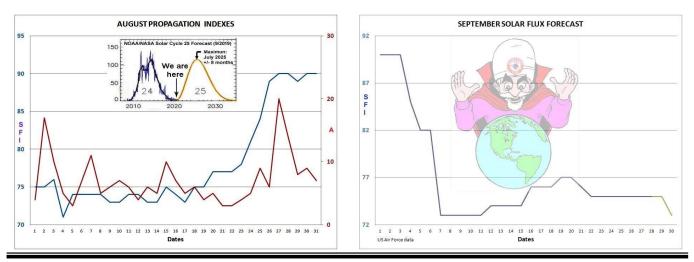


PAST & FUTURE PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

By Bill Rinker, W6OAV

The charts below show the Solar Flux and "A" indexes for last month and the forecast for this month's Solar Flux index.

Refer to the September 2010 *Round Table* for more complete information on interpreting these charts, which is available at: <u>http://www.w0tx.org/RoundtableArchive/2010-RoundTables/RT201009(SEP).pdf</u>



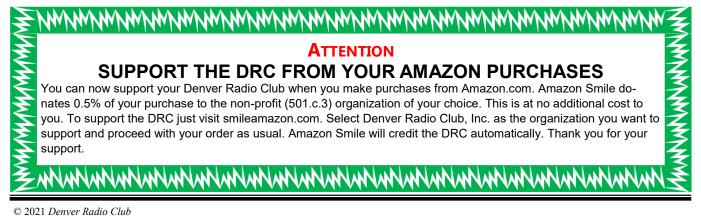
UPCOMING EVENTS HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS Event Date Location Sponsor Website

None

UPCOMING QSO PARTIES

The following are the Contests not sponsored by the ARRL. Please submit additions for future issues.

State/Province	Start Date	End Date	Sponsor Website	Notes
Colorado	09/04/2021	09/05/2021	Pikes Peak Radio Amateur Association	
Tennessee	09/05/2021	09/06/2021	Tennessee Contest Group	
Alabama	09/11/2021	09/12/2021	Alabama QSO Party	
lowa	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	Story County ARC	
New Hampshire	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	Port City Amateur Radio Club	
New Jersey	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	Burlington County Radio Club	
Texas	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	Texas DX Society	
Washington	09/18/2021	09/19/2021	Western Washington DX Club	
Maine	09/25/2021	09/26/2021	Wireless Society of Southern Maine	



BAND	Freq / Shift / PL Tone	Additional Information
6m	53.090MHz (-1MHz) 107.2Hz PL	
Packet	145.05MHz	Metro Denver Area Coverage
2m	145.490MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Linked to 70cm / 448.625MHz. Primary frequency during emergency net.
2m	147.330MHz (+) 100Hz PL	Local area. Has voting receivers. Does not TX a PL.
2m	147.330MHz (+) 131.8Hz PL	Test mode operation. Send signal reports to Tech Com- mittee.
1.25m	224.380MHz (-) 100Hz PL	
70cm	447.825MHz (-) DCS~073; NB 12.5; +/- 2.5	Saint Anthony's. Note: This is a narrow band repeater requiring DCS.
70cm	448.625MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Linked to 2m / 145.490MHz. 1° disaster net freq.
70cm	449.350MHz (-) 100Hz PL	Wide area coverage with Echolink, node # 4140. Second- ary frequency during emergency net.
70cm	449.775 MHz (-)	Yaesu digital, C4FM, Wires-X, DN, VW & Data. No analog FM. W0TX Room 40931.
70cm	446.7875MHz (-)	BrandMeister Repeater: Slot 1 – Wide Area Traffic, Slot 2 – Local Talk Group 310804

DRC REPEATERS



SEPTEMBER 2021 DRC Net Sundays at 8:30 p.m. on 145.490 / 448.625 (no PL)						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	2	3	4
5	6 New Moon	7	8 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	9	10	11 September VHF - Begins 1800 UTC
12 Sept. VHF Cont.	13 September VHF - Ends 0259 UTC	14	15 DRC Online Meeting Elmer 6 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.	16	17	18 10 GHz & Up - Starts 0600 Local
19 10 GHz & Up - Ends Midnight Local	20	21	22 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Learning Net 7:30 p.m. 145.490 / 448.625 (No PL)	30		

See arrl.org/contest-calendar for additional details about contests.

DRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	W0GV	Gerry Villhauer	303-467-0223	w0gv@hotmail.com
Vice-President	K0KPS	Kevin Schmidt	303-475-9234	k0kps@arrl.net
Secretary	WW0LF	Orlen Wolf	303-279-6264	owolf@mines.edu
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Please Let Us Know

Over the years we occasionally hear from hams who have read the Round Table in other states and countries around the world. We appreciate the comments and we would like to know where you are located. So if you live outside the Front Range or Denver Metro Area and read the newsletter either online, email or hard copy please send a short note via email with your *City, State* or *City, Country.*

We will publish it at a later date in our new regular feature called Round Table Round World. To respond to this request send your information to <u>discertion Canadi con</u>.

Subject: I'm located in...

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