



# Madison County Amateur Radio Club



www.w9vcf.org

August 2017



**The Next meeting will be at 7 PM on Monday , August 7, 2017 at the EOC at 200 N. Delaware Street, Anderson**

## President's Message

Welcome to the August edition of the Madison County Amateur Radio Club. I hope this finds everyone thoroughly enjoying their summer. Other than all the rain we've had, so far, it's been a good summer. I know several members have spent some time in the hospital or, at home recuperating. If anyone hears of a member that has been laid up, please let one of the officers know.

Saturday, July 15th, there was a work day at the EOC to work on putting up paneling in the new radio van, now christened MCU-2. The paneling is done. Now, it's the Design committee's turn to work their magic and see what they can come up with. More in the future. I'd like to thank the members that came and worked. Tim, KC9GBL, Bill, KB9ECQ, Lew, K9LBB, Jim, N9VRC, Doug, N9DR, Mike, KD9CDO, and Mike, KC9DJU. A big Thank You to Mike, KD9CDO for making several new, heavy braces for storing antennas in the barn! Good job, guys!

The week that I write this piece for the newsletter, The club will be represented at the Madison County 4H fair. We are planning on setting up the club's 2 meter mobile radio and listened on the 147.090 repeater to the IRLP system, and let fair-goers hear amateur radio from around the world.

We've been having pretty good group on Wednesday night at 8 pm for the MCARC net, on 145.390. I think most everybody seems to enjoy hearing the question of the day. Sometimes, it can be hard to come up with a question, but, mostly, they've been interesting to hear some of the answers. And, we've had several visitors drop in and check in.

Saturday mornings at Eva's have been a little sparse. They have good food, and good coffee. There is usually lots of radio discussion, plus, several different topics too!

The next meeting for the club will be August 7th at 7 pm at the EOC, located on Delaware Street, at the base of the big tower, near White River. Come support your club! At that meeting, we will be starting to plan for the Indiana State Parks on the Air, and other items.

In closing, get on a frequency that you normally don't get on, or listen, and check into a hf net that you haven't heard before and say Hi!

"73" to all. Mike, KC9DJU

## Events

Every Wednesday	MCARC 2M Net 8:00 PM - 145.390 pl 151.4 Followed by an informal ragchew on 28.465
Every Thursday	Donut Meeting 09:00 AM at the EOC
Every Saturday	Breakfast at Eva's 09:00 AM at 832 Broadway St, Anderson
August 1	EMA Communications Group Meeting 7:00 PM at the EOC, 200 N. Delaware Street
August 5-6	222MHZ and Up Distance Contest
August 7	MCARC Meeting 0700 at the EOC, 200 N. Delaware Street
August 12	Angola Hamfest 8:00AM - 12:00 PM
August 19-20	10 GHZ & up-Round 1
August 20	Rookie Roundup - RTTY
August 26	Owen County ARA Hamfest
Sept 9	State Parks on the Air
Sept 9-10	EME - 2.3 GHz & Up
Sept 16 -17	10 GHz & Up round #2
Sept 16	Hoosier Lakes Radio Club Tailgate Hamfest
Sept 23	Bloomington Indiana 2017 Hamfest & Tailgate

**MCARC – Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, July 3, 2017**  
**Location: EOC, 200 N. Delaware St., Anderson, IN**

7:00 Mike-KC9DJU called the meeting to order.

Minutes: Motion to accept minutes of the June 5, 2017 meeting by Dave-KB9NTG / Lew-K9LBB - passed.

Secretary Report: Received 2 QSL cards for club contacts and a plaque for club outstanding participation in INQSO

Treasurer, Jeff-K9DYR: Report from June meeting:

Restricted Funds (antennas)	Unrestricted Funds	Total	
\$547.87	\$1,625.81	\$2,173.68	Beginning of August
	\$ 20.00		Dues
	\$ <25.00>		Memorial Contribution
\$547.87	\$1,620.81	\$2,168.68	Beginning of June
	\$ 100.00		Sold antenna
	\$ <25.00>		Memorial Contribution
\$547.87	\$1,695.81	\$2,243.68	Beginning of July

Motion to accept by Mike-KD9CDO / Lew-K9LBB – Passed

Jeff-K9DYR stated that if there are no objections and due to the culmination of the purpose of the RESTRICTED ANTENNA FUNDS, the restricted funds will be returned to the general fund.

Officer Reports:

Trustee, Alan-KC9JWO: No report.

V-President, Mike-K9MI: No report.

Awards, Mike-KC9LWK: No report.

Newsletter, Mike-KD9CDO: No report.

Tech Committee, Doug-N9DR: No report.

Activities, Dale-KV9W:

- 7/7-8 Indy Hamfest
- 7/8-9 IARU HF World Championship
- 7/16-22 4H Fair, Alexandria. We are asked to have communications at the booth.
- 9/9 INPOTA
- 10/16-20 School Club Roundup
- 10/20-22 JOTA
- 10/29 Mounds Run

Sick report: Tim-KC9GBL – Wrist, Charlie-K9TZJ – Hip replaced, Rick-N9XQX – Knee replaced, Dave-KB9NTG – cataracts, Dick-WA9STB - Tests.

Old Business: Inventory committee – Hardline has been inventoried. UHF/VHF antennas have been inventoried. HF antennas need to be checked and inventoried. This Saturday after breakfast, Mike-KC9DJU will bring the Van to the EOC for work day. Work Day is scheduled for 7/15 from 11:00-2:00.

Motion to adjourn – Lew-K9LBB / Dave-KB9NTG - Passed

NEXT MEETING: August 7, 2017 at the EOC, 200 North Delaware St, Anderson, IN @ 7:00.

Respectfully Jeff-K9DYR

## Ham researcher to investigate effects of solar eclipse

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

August 21 is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for many in the U.S. to see a total eclipse. It's also an opportunity for a team of Virginia Tech researchers to study the effects of the eclipse on changes in the upper atmosphere that have an impact on HF propagation and the global positioning system (GPS). Backed by research funding from NASA and the National Science foundation, the team is headed by Dr. Greg Earle, W4GDE.

The Virginia Tech team plans to gather data from a variety of sources, including radar systems, transceivers, satellites, ham radio, and GPS receivers, in order to analyze the effects of the solar eclipse on the conductive region of the atmosphere. "Whether military radar, or consumer GPS signals, the eclipse is going to have effects on the medium that we would like to understand better, so that we can either mitigate them or use them to our advantage," said Earle.

Here are a couple of links to news stories on the research team and the experiments:

- [Virginia](#) [Tech team prepares for special project during total solar eclipse](#)
- [Virginia](#) [Tech expert to study August solar eclipse effects on radar, ham radio, GPS](#)

Let's party!

In conjunction with the eclipse, the Ham SCI and the ARRL are sponsoring the [Solar Eclipse QSO Party](#). (SEQP). According to an article in the August 2017 issue of QST, the goal of the SEQP is to "flood the airwaves with contacts, all measured by the automated receiver networks of the Reverse Beacon Network, PSKReporter, and WSPRNet." Once all the logs are in, researchers will analyze the data to see what effect the eclipse had on radio propagation. A YouTube video of a presentation at Dayton on the SEQP can be found at <https://youtu.be/3EviY2Cuxpo?list=PLihPo8xWmo8-xDYAtpP9BWX9QnhUoT7k4>

The SEQP will run from 1400Z - 2200Z on Monday, August 21. This is well before the eclipse is due to begin on the West Coast. The reason it starts before the eclipse is to establish a baseline for radio propagation conditions. SEQP organizers urge you to make as many contacts as you can on as many bands as you can operate. Like nearly every contest, contacts are not allowed on 60m, 30m, 17m, and 12m. CW, RTTY, and PSK31 are the preferred modes because automated receivers can record those contacts, but phone and other digital modes count, too. An interesting twist to this contest is that, like Field Day, you can earn a number of bonus points, including:

- Operating outdoors (100 points)
- Operating in a public place (100 points)
- Operating a wide-band automated receiver at your station (100 points)

Hams have had a long history of supporting scientific research. They provided communications for some of the early polar explorations and listened for Sputnik as it flew overhead. The Solar Eclipse QSO Party continues this tradition, and it's going to be a lot of fun as well. Visit the [HamSCI website](#) for more information.

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Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, blogs about amateur radio at KB6NU.Com, and is the author of the "No Nonsense" amateur radio license study guides and the CW Geek's Guide to Having Fun With Morse Code." You can reach him by emailing [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

## The K7RA Solar Update

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**Spaceweather.com** reported that at 0209 UTC on July 14 a powerful M2 class solar flare and CME erupted, so geomagnetic predictions in this bulletin for the next few days may already be out of date.

Average daily sunspot numbers were 28.3 during this reporting week (July 6-12) up from 8 during the previous week. Average daily solar flux increased from 71.7 to 87.

Average planetary A index increased from 7.1 to 9.1, and average mid-latitude A index increased from 8.3 to 9.6.

Predicted solar flux is 92 on July 14-17, 90, 85 and 78 on July 18-20, 85 on July 21-28, 90 on July 29-30, 85 on July 31 through August 5, 87 on August 6-11, 85 on August 12-24, and 90 on August 25-26.

Predicted planetary A index is 12, 18 and 10 on July 14-16, then 15, 10, 8 and 5 on July 17-20, 11 on July 21-22, 5 on July 23 through August 4, then 25, 18, 12, 15 and 10 on August 5-9, then 5 on August 10-13, then 12, 10 and 5 on August 14-16, 11 on August 17-18, and 5 on August 19-26.

F.K. Janda, OK1HH of the Czech Propagation Interest Group sent this geomagnetic activity forecast for July 14 to August 10, 2017.

“Geomagnetic field will be:

Quiet on July 17, 25-26, August 1-2

Mostly quiet on July 16, 24, 27, 30-31, August 4, 8

Quiet to unsettled July 15, 18-20, 23, August 3

Quiet to active on July (13 -) 14, 21-22, 28-29, August 7

Active to disturbed on August 5-6

Amplifications of the solar wind from coronal holes are expected on July 13-16 (-17), 20-21, (23-24, 28-29,) August 6-8

Remark:

- Parenthesis means lower probability of activity enhancement and/or lower reliability of prediction.”

Currently, solar flux values are running higher than earlier predictions. This is because of the emergence of 2665, the largest sunspot group of 2017, now in a state of decay. Solar flux reached a recent high on July 10 of 95.1, but a week earlier predicted solar flux for that date was only 71.

Predicted solar flux for July 14-17 is 92.

Story from twin-cities (Minnesota) TV about the largest sunspot of 2017: <http://kare11.tv/2tP87nJ>

*From ARRL Indiana Newsletter dated 07/14/2017*

## **For Sale List**

- #1 Eagle One with AH4 Icom Tuner \$100.00
- #2 VX-8 DR Handheld with all attachments-will trade for a FT-817 Yaesu  
N9XXV Terry Ph 765-615-7788
- #3 40 ft. Tower with Tri Band Beam (all items already down (ground level)) - Steve Arvin 317-847-6448

### **Hardline Cabling**

The Club has the following cabling for sale. The intent is to sell to anyone but active club members would have first priority. All cabling has been in service at a prior date and is in various conditions of weathering. All lengths are approximations. All identifying markings on the cable are worn and hard to read, as a result accuracy of the cable types recorded are to the best of our ability. As of this date no cables have been electrically tested, that responsibility will be the buyers. No reasonable offer will be refused, the starting price will be \$1.00 (one) dollar per foot.

There are seven (7) sections (coils) of cable

- #1 Approximately 280 Ft of FT LDF /550A (Black in Color)
- #2 Approximately 310 Ft of FT LDF /550A (Black in Color)
- #3 Approximately 354 Ft of FT LDF /550A (?) (Black in Color)
- #4 Approximately 154 Ft of FT LDF /550A (Grey in Color) 50 ohm gas block Andrew  
A3660-42 59674 07/84 Helax DOE-NV-RF-19 Rev 2
- #5 Approximately 168 Ft of (Black in Color) 503328-83 DOE-NV-RF-19 Rev 2
- #6 Approximately 251 Ft of (Black in Color) 503328-83 DOE-NV-RF-19 Rev 2
- #7 Approximately 155 Ft (Black in Color) unmarked ?(Chesterfield Water Tower)

Total is 1671 Ft

For more information contact Terry Zivney (N4TZ) [N4TZ@arrl.net](mailto:N4TZ@arrl.net) 1-765-520-1766, or Mike Hoggatt (KD9CDO) [hoggattm@hotmail.com](mailto:hoggattm@hotmail.com) 765-621-7319.

## Madison County Amateur Radio Club Contact Information

**Madison County Amateur Radio Club**  
**P.O. Box 3044**  
**Anderson, Indiana 46018**

-  [www.w9vcf.org](http://www.w9vcf.org)
-  [w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com](mailto:w9vcf.mcarc@gmail.com)
-  [www.facebook.com/w9vcf](http://www.facebook.com/w9vcf)
-  [@w9vcf](https://twitter.com/w9vcf)
-  **(765) 400-0426 -- 765-4000-HAM**

### Officer Contact Information

President	Mike Cook	KC9DJU	cook3909@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Mike Brown	K9MI	mbrown710@comcast.net
Secretary/Treasurer	Jeff Dyer	K9DYR	k9dyr@arrl.net
Activities	Dale Bales	KV9W	dibales@anderson.edu
Trustee	Alan Weber	KC9JWO	kc9jwo@outlook.com
Technical Committee Chair	Doug Rose	N9DR	n9dr@arrl.net
Newsletter Editor	Mike Hoggatt	KD9CDO	hoggattm@gmail.com

Meetings are at the Madison County EOC  
 200 Delaware Street  
 Anderson, IN 46016