

SHORT SKIP FROM THE PARADE STAND

By Tim McGillen/N9CA 2024 LCARC President

www.W9LJ.org

May 2024 issue

May's Club Meeting is Friday May 10th at 7:30 PM. Always the 2nd Friday of the month

Upcoming May Program - first of several - on how the LCARC Club will conduct our up-coming ham radio Fox Hunt in June.

<https://youtu.be/KeiccuExOY>

<https://youtu.be/yR2cpd0vQdM>

Joe K9KO and George KD9FCI along with yours truly Tim N9CA – weather willing – will head outside with homebrew 2 meter tape measure yagi antenna and demonstrate the art of Foxhunting from the parking lot of the EMA building.

It's guaranteed there will be ham radio fellowship, ham radio conversations, and pizza.



Club Meetings are now on the 4th floor of the 7 story EMA/Lake County health department building at 2900 W. 93rd Ave, Crown Point, Indiana.

Ample parking - Handicap accessible - You do not need to be a LCARC member to attend.

Don't be left out! 2024 Club membership is just \$20... or receive 3 full years of membership for \$50 Help support your local ham radio Club.

The LCARC Information Net

Wednesday's NET - 8:00pm 147.000 or 442.075 pl 131.8

Short 30 minute net. Get to know your local hams. All hams are welcome. You do not have to be a Club member to check-into the Net.

NCS Tim/N9CA will not available to "run the NET " May 15th and 22nd and is asking for a Club member to step forward and take the reins those 2 evenings.

LIVE EXAM SESSIONS

05/11/2024 | Jasper IN 47546-3425

Sponsor: Patoka Valley ARC

Location: Jasper Public Library, Hickory Room

Time: 10:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

- EXAM SESSION

05/11/2024 | Lafayette IN 47901-1141

Sponsor: Tippecanoe County VE Team

Location: The Bindery Artist Studios

Time: 9:00 AM (No Walk-ins / Register or Call ahead)

[Learn More](#)

- EXAM SESSION

05/11/2024 | Valparaiso IN 46383-4820

Sponsor: Porter County Amateur Radio Club

Location: Valparaiso Public Library

Time: 9:15 AM (Walk-ins allowed)

[Learn More](#)

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ARRL WEBSITE HAS TUTORIALS THAT TEACH YOU HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RADIO SPORT OF CONTESTING?

Plus, the ARRL also offers tips on how to improve your contest score! Visit www.ARRL.org search “contest”

For more information on upcoming contests, visit www.contestcalendar.com

T-Minus Two Weeks: 2024 ARRL National Convention at Hamvention®

The 2024 ARRL National Convention is just 2 weeks away, on May 17 -- 19, 2024. The event is being hosted by Dayton Hamvention in Xenia, Ohio.

ARRL has a significant amount of technical content planned for the convention program. (see the full rundown of classes at www.arrl.org/expo). There are also presentations planned to challenge and inspire attendees throughout each step of a radio amateur's journey in the world of wireless communication technology.



The April 8th, Solar Eclipse Affected Radio Propagation

The April 8, 2024 [HamSCI Total Solar Eclipse QSO Party \(SEQP\)](#) first results are in!



Over 52.7 million radio communications were observed over the continental United States using the [PSKReporter](#), [WSPRNet](#), and [Reverse Beacon Network](#) networks. Eclipse effects were observed between 18 to 21 UTC, particularly on the 1.8, 3.5, and 7 MHz bands. These bands all showed enhancement in propagation resulting from the eclipse, suggestive of a reduction Earths “D” layer.

The eclipse even shifted the WWV time signals a few HZ (which actually happens every night, when it happens so slowly as to not be noticed)

The Doppler shift occurred when the shadow of the Moon pierced [the ionosphere](#), creating a temporary hole where ionization was reduced. This, in turn, altered the "skip distance" from transmitters to receivers,

Because the skip point was moving, reflected radio signals were Doppler-shifted.

[Keeping in touch with Earth's Furthest Space probes](#)



Is largely done by a Satellite dish antenna DSS-42 built in 1965 and located in Australia. It has a 26 meter in diameter.

It is the currently the only antenna on Earth capable of receiving signals from spacecraft **Voyager 2** (launched in August 1977) which is now some 12.7 billion miles from Earth in deep space outside our solar system.

Interestingly, **Voyager 1** was launched 2 weeks later in September 1977 and is now 15.1 billion miles out.

Voyager 2 broadcasts using a 23-watt radio. But, by the time the signals traverse the multibillion-kilometer distance from the heliopause to Earth, their power has faded to a level 20 billion times weaker than what is needed to run a digital watch.

On the HR on-line newsletter AMATEURRADIO.com Issue # 327 has a 2 meter how-to meter scatter titled "Simple Guide to Meter Scatter MSK144 Contacts"

the author states... "if you are already using FT8, you are ½ way there

SOME SAD NEWS

April 25th, 2024

Dear Fellow Hams and Friends,

It is with a sad heart as I write this letter. As many of you have heard by now, MFJ is ceasing its on-site production in Starkville, Mississippi on May 17, 2024. This is also the same for our sister companies' Ameritron, Hygain, Cushcraft, Mirage and Vecronics.

We are going to continue to sell MFJ products past May 17, 2024. We have a lot of stock on hand. We will continue to offer repair service work for out-of-warranty and in-warranty units for the foreseeable future.

Covid changed everything in businesses including ours. It was the hardest hit that we have ever had, and we never fully recovered.

I turned 80 this year. I had never really considered retirement, but life is so short and my time with my family is so precious.

I want to thank all of our employees who have helped build this company with me over the years. We have many employees who have made MFJ their career for 10, 20, 30, 40 and more years.

Finally, a special thanks to all of our customers and our dealers who have made MFJ a worldwide name and a profitable business for so many years. You all are so much appreciated.

Sincerely Yours, 73s

Martin F. Jue, K5FLU

ARRL Field Day Coming Up

June 22-23. It's not too soon to think about it. Do you need new coax cabling and connectors? Thinking about deploying a new radio or a new antenna that might need time to order or work the kinks out of?

Hope to see you Friday May 11th at 7:30 PM

73, Tim/N9CA