

QUARAE

AUGUST 2008 EDITION



AUGUST MEETING...

Please be aware that the August Radio Association of Erie club meeting will be held Saturday, August 9th at 11 AM. Following the club meeting will be the club picnic.

Hotdogs and hamburgers will be provided by the club.

Anyone attending is asked to bring and share a dish.

Hopefully the weather will turn out nice and we hope to see all of you there.

RAE Field Day 2008

The RAE Field Day turned out to be a great success. Some minor rain in the evening, but other than that, everything turned out great.

A big thanks goes out to the Fairfield Hose Company for their hospitality and use of their facilities.

Some of the pictures from field day are to the right. Thanks to everyone for joining. A fun time was had by all who attended.

More photos can be found on the RAE website at:
www.w3gv.org



The 10/15 Meter Radio Communications Tent

Club President KE3V figuring out an issue with the TS-940.

An unoccupied radio communications tent for field day.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE

Club Repeaters	
146.6100	PL: 186.2
146.8200	PL: 186.2

- ANNOUNCEMENTS BOARD
- Remember that the August RAE Club Meet is August 9th at 11 AM.
 - Club picnic to follow after the meet.
 - Please consider submitting articles of interest for the newsletter!

Volume 08
Issue 08

INSIDE:	
Field Day/Club Meet	X
Solar Sunspot Activity	2
Meeting Minutes	3
Calendar / Schedule	5
Sunspot Activity (cont'd)	5

The Solar Sunspot Update...

For several days over the past week, we saw a couple of sunspots -- but just like other recent dying Solar Cycle 23 spots, they faded quickly. This group, lasting from July 18-20, was number 1000. No sign of Solar Cycle 24 in recent memory, just a couple of false starts.

There are no predictions indicating more sunspots for the upcoming week. Predicted planetary A index for the near future is 5, with a slight increase to 8 on August 1 and a large increase to 20 on August 8. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet geomagnetic conditions through the end of the month, except July 27, which is quiet to unsettled. Sunspot numbers for July 17-23 were 0, 11, 12, 11, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 4.9. The 10.7 cm flux was 65, 65.3, 66.4, 65.9, 66.2, 65.8 and 65.5 with a mean of 65.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 5, 3, 3, 6, 11 and 16 with a mean of 7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 5, 1, 2, 5, 9 and 12 with a mean of 5.3.

The autumnal equinox -- the beginning of the fall season -- is less than 60 days from now. I would like to suppose that cycle 24 will be in full swing by then, but we have no way of knowing.

We are still getting regular reports from readers about the continued Sporadic-E activity on 6 and 10 meters.

Going back a few weeks, Mark Lunday, WD4ELG, of Hillsborough, North Carolina, commented: "Amazing the stuff that happens at the sunspot lulls. Actually gives calmer conditions under which to observe phenomenon like gray line prop without the geomag disturbances." That's true; I can recall a couple of years when there was a fair amount of sunspot activity, but month after month we witnessed severe geomagnetic storms that made the HF bands nearly useless, especially at higher latitudes.

Back on July 7 at 0210 UTC, Mark accidentally switched to 12 meters and heard FO5RH (French Polynesia) calling CQ on CW. This was 90 minutes after Mark's local sunset. They exchanged S5 signal reports. Two days later at 2335 UTC, George Pituras, W8KQE, of North Olmsted, Ohio (EN91), worked CT9HZE (Portugal) on 6 meters CW, when George was running 100 W into an omnidirectional loop antenna. The next day he worked Utah on 6 meters, completing 48 states worked using the same

loop. He hopes someday to confirm Alaska and Hawaii on 6. He signs his e-mail, "Six meters forever!"

Doug Phillips, W7RDP, of Sammamish, Washington, reports that on July 12 he and a group known as PNW QRP used the call K7S for an annual outing to the Bowman Bay area of Deception Pass State Park on Fidalgo Island. (48.416 degrees N, 122.65 degrees W). In addition to HF, Rod Johnson, WE7X, ran 3 W on 6 meter CW and SSB into a halo antenna 15 feet above his picnic table and worked several Southern California stations in the Los Angeles and East Mojave Desert area.

Jim Henderson, KF7E, of Queen Creek, Arizona, sends us some provocative observations regarding the double solar cycle peaks and possible double minima, mentioned by W7TJ in the July 11 edition of the Solar Update: "The double peak was prominent on the last two cycle maxima. Last minimum showed slight double as well. But I have stated since about mid-2005 that the coming cycle will start after a protracted, double minimum (as in a dip, slight but obvious increase, then dip)."

...**MORE ON PAGE 5**

Meeting Minutes

Radio Association of Erie
General Membership Meeting Minutes
July 3, 2008

Board Members Present: KE3V, N3ZNP, N3NKV, KB3CAT, KB3BAM, AD4UL,

Not Present: KD3D, K3LD, KB3NAT

The meeting was called to order by President KE3V at 7:05 pm.

New Calls: KB3RIR Ed Brown and KB3RIT Chuck Kaufmann

Upgrades: None

Silent Keys: A moment of silence was taken in memory of AA3TE

Secretary's Report: N3NKV asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the June meeting as printed in the QUARAE. Motion to accept made by N3DBC. Seconded by KB3GYR.

Treasurer's Report: N3NKV gave report that was provided at board meeting.

Board Report: N3NKV gave a brief synopsis of the board meeting of June 18th, 2007. Topics Discussed: Field Day Planning, Public Service, Airport drill, Membership Directories, Membership Cards, Status of Purchase of Ham Club Software, Elections. Various Repeater topics and repeater controller, Discussed disciplinary action to be taken towards a control operator in regards to the use of verbal threats on the repeater. KB3CAT resigned as board chairman. AD4UL elected as new board chairman.

Committee Reports:

Membership: KE3V reported that the club has 115 members.

Repeaters: N3APP reported that 82 is ok. 61 has some issues. The Wagner Road voter needs to be aligned. The Saint Vincent Hospital receiver has some problems. The link receiver that is used to link to Union City has a problem in the COR Circuit.

Newsletter: KB3RDO reported that articles are needed.

Website: Nothing to report.

Directory: N3NKV reported that it should be online within the next week.

Public Service: AD4UL reported the next event is Paddle Erie on August 19th

Clubhouse: All is ok per AD4UL

...MORE ON PAGE 4

Meeting Minutes (cont'd)

Field Day: AD4UL gave update on Field Day. He was very impressed with location and hospitality of Fairfield Hose. AD4UL would consider going back. Nice thing about this site no interference like on Wagner. AD4UL would like to see more participation than the 8/115 club members who operated.

Clubhouse Stair Construction Project: N3ZNP mentioned that material is still needed for the stairs. WX3E has the pipe. N3ZNP to contact WX3E.

Education: Nothing

Old Business:

KE3V asked if anyone had any new designs for a new club logo for t-shirts. No one had any ideas. The old one will be used.

Red Cross Drill- KE3V mentioned the upcoming Red Cross Drill on Saturday July 19th.

New Business:

Purchase of LDG AT-100 Tuner: KB3CAT made a motion that the club purchase a new LDG AT-100 Tuner for the N3RKO FT-100 memorial station at a cost of 189.00 + Shipping and applicable tax. Seconded by AD4UL Motion Carried.

Purchase of 2 LCD Monitors: AD4UL made a motion that the club purchase 2 new or refurbished LCD Monitors not to exceed \$300. Seconded by KB3CAT. 1 Opposed. Motion Carried.

Club Picnic: KE3V brought up the idea of a RAE family picnic. All present decided that the date for the picnic would be Saturday August 9th. We would have a meeting first at 11 followed by the picnic. The club would provide the hamburgers and hot dogs. Everyone attending is asked to bring a dish to share.

Election Committee: KE3V mentioned that the election committee is starting to form. Nomination needs to be into the committee by the September meeting. At the October meeting, nominations can be taken from the floor.

50/50 Winner: Jerry K3GJK \$11.00

Motion to Adjourn made by AD4UL Seconded by KB3CAT at 8:15 pm

*Respectfully Submitted,
John Lis*

146.61 Repeater Note:

•No courtesy tone? Weird Morse Code? No problem! You're on the right frequency. The 61 repeater is currently using a backup. No linking, no codes, just plain old transmit and receive for the time being. Please be patient as the main repeater is being fixed from it's issues. Use a PL of 186.2 as usual.

07/26/08

August 2008 Area Events						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
RADIO ASSOCIATION OF ERIE CLUB MEETING SATURDAY AUGUST 9TH AT 11 AM - CLUB PICNIC TO FOLLOW					1	2
3	4	5 Radio Amateurs of Corry	6	7	8	9 RAE Club Meeting and Picnic
10	11	12 WWA Club Meeting	13	14 UCWA Club Meeting	15	16 WWA License Exams at 9 AM
17	18	19 Paddle Erie	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	MAKE SURE TO LISTEN TO THE LOCAL NETS FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS AND OTHER AREA EVENTS YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN!					

Contact the Editor: KB3RDO@yahoo.com

Schedule of Events

- Radio Association of Erie Club Meeting on the 9th of Saturday at 11 AM. Picnic to follow.
- The Wattsburg Wireless Association has it's monthly Radio Examinations for obtaining or upgrading a license. Exams start at 9 AM.
- Paddle Erie is the next public service event, contact Doug; AD4UL for more information.
- Erie International Airport Emergency Drill sometime in August. Stay tuned to local nets for more information.
- Your event can be posted on the calendar. Just contact the editor!
- Schedule is subject to change.

The Solar Sunspot Update (cont'd)

Jim continued: "Of inter- that of Solar Cycle 17 Yagi." est to me (besides the (approx 120) shows that admonition that this it was almost exactly 50 minimum is not a record percent higher. Pro- low) is the possible sup- tracted low, followed by port of Mausumi Dikpati, a bigger maximum. A bit et als, forecast that this of good news? It doesn't cycle will start late and prove anything, but I am be '30-50 percent more encouraged to continue intense' than is revealed placing my bet on Ms in the plots for the 1933 Dikpati. If I am wrong minimum at the end of about Dikpati's forecast this piece. While we need and we go into an ex- 200+ days of spotless sun tended period of low cy- to equal 1933, a compari- cles, I will be selling my son of the peak of Solar 10/12/15m antennas and Cycle 16 (approx 80) to installing a 160 meter

Article from the ARRL Newsletter.

**AUGUST 2008
EDITION**

**QUARAE
NEWSLETTER**

**THANK YOU FOR READING THE
ONLINE EDITION OF THE QUARAE!**

**QUARAE NEWSLETTERS THAT ARE
MAILED ARE PRINTED IN
GRAY-SCALE.**

**Editor:
Nicholas Seelinger
KB3RDO**

Radio Association of Erie Monthly Newsletter

*Radio Association of Erie
P.O. Box 844
Erie, PA 16512*

- PLACE MAILING LABEL HERE -