



President's Notes for May 2014

Well, here it is: May 2014. Our club was to have held elections last month, but we were unable to do so. While we did have a quorum, we only JUST had that quorum, and not all of the currently serving officers were part of that quorum. Because of this, we decided to postpone the elections until this month. I encourage all of you to come to the meeting on May 8 and cast your vote.

As it turns out, I will not be attending this month's meeting, as I will be traveling to see my nieces graduate from their respective colleges. I will be providing direction about whether I will accept nomination to any particular office. According to our bylaws, I am not eligible to be nominated to be President, having served for two consecutive terms. But there are circumstances that could see me remain in office.

This trip to see my nieces graduate from college means that I won't be going to Dayton this year. I missed going two years ago due to a different conflict. Family matters must take precedence here; graduations are rare events, while Dayton takes place every year. And I won't be missing out on a Dayton-type experience, as I'll be going to the ARRL Centennial Convention in July.

The Michigan QSO Party was April 19. I had planned to operate for some of the time, setting up the Buddipole on my driveway and hooking it up to my FT-857 in the Mariner, but that was before I made my first long-distance bike ride of the season. After that ride, I was exhausted and had no desire to operate!

The agenda for the May meeting isn't firm yet, but the likely presentation will be the ARRL Centennial video – 100 years of the

ARRL in 25 minutes. It should be an interesting presentation for all. And, of course, we'll have our rescheduled elections and discuss the latest in our plans to replace the landline at the repeater with a cell phone.

73,

Roger, KD8CSE



Ford Amateur Radio League (AKA: The Tin Lizzy Club) **Club Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2014**

Minutes, FARL Club Meeting – April 10th, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Roger, KD8CSE.

Reviewed agenda items, no issues.

Treasurers Report: Deferred.

Accepted Minutes:

- Discussed Bluetooth Cellphone Bluetooth replacement. Dave Treharne N8HKU has tested it successfully at home. Now needs a replacement Cellphone line.
- Ham Classes should be starting by the end of May. (Bill N8OZV)
- Bill Boyke will be making a 1 Day Trip to Hamvention May 17th. Spaces are still available.

- Bill Boyke informed the Club that MakerFaire Registration has opened and he will make reservations for this year. MakerFaire this year is July 26-27th.

Elections:

- Established Quorum (4 Ford Employees or Retirees)
- Voted to defer elections to May because of missing candidates.

The meeting was adjourned.

Bill Boyke, N8OZV



Bob Richards Ham Gear - Bill Boyke, N8OZV

The gear of our late member Bob Richards, N8JUH (SK) is now available for sale — please see the list below. If there are any questions, please contact me.

▪ Antennas	
2	Larson NMO-MM
4	2 meter Mag Mounts
	Assorted Mobile Antenna Tops
	Cushcraft Ringo Ranger
▪ Radios	
	Yeasu FT 757GX
	Yeasu FP 707 - Switch Broken
	Yeasu MP1 Desk Mike
	Icom 901A
	Uniden BC 100XL
	Yeasu FRG-9600

	Uniden BC 120XLT
▪ Amps	
1	KLM PA2-40C 40 watt Linear Amp
▪ Speakers	
1	Crystal Style Headset
3	Mobile Speaker
	Diamond Discone
▪ Many	
	Motorola Mobile Speakers
	David Clark Headset with Noise Shielded Amplified Dynamic Microphone h3310
	Bose Cinemate
▪ Accessories	
1	Bird SWR Meter & Assorted Plugs
	Calcom SWR Meter
	B&W Antenna Switch- 5 PI259
	KX12 Power Supply
2	MFJ 1702B Antenna Switches
1	Connect Systems AutoPatch
	Kenwood TH-F6A
	Assorted Power Cables
1	Pyramid Phase III PS-35



2014 Dues Reminder!

Club dues are due! \$15 per year.



Amateur Radio Propagation Guru Says Extended Solar Ebb May Lie Ahead - ARRL

Amateur Radio propagation and solar phenomena authority Carl Luetzelschwab, [K9LA \(k9la@arrl.net\)](mailto:k9la@arrl.net), said in an April 27 webinar, “Are We Headed into Another Maunder Minimum? What Does That Mean for Propagation?” that most solar scientists believe several low solar cycles lie ahead, ushering in periods of diminished HF propagation, especially on the higher bands. Luetzelschwab, who maintains [K9LA’s Amateur Radio Propagation Web Site \(http://k9la.us/\)](http://k9la.us/) and pens a regular “Propagation” column for [NCJ \(http://ncjweb.com/\)](http://ncjweb.com/),



stopped short of concluding that we’ll experience a Maunder minimum — an extended period of very few or no sunspots. As the Marshall Space Flight Center’s “Solar Physics” web page explains, early sunspot records indicate that the Sun went through an inactive period from about 1645 to 1715 — called the Maunder minimum after the scientist who discovered it — when very few sunspots were observed.

“Right now there’s nothing bulletproof to say we’re heading into a Maunder minimum, so we’re just going to have to wait and see,” Luetzelschwab told the webinar, sponsored by the World Wide Radio Operators Foundation ([WWROF \(http://wwrof.org/\)](http://wwrof.org/)). “It sure looks like something inside the sun changed

around the peak of Cycle 23. There’s lots of evidence that we’re entering a grand solar minimum. But I don’t think any of the solar scientists are 100 percent sure that we’re going to see a Maunder-type minimum.” A grand solar minimum, he explained, is an extended period of low sunspot activity but not as severe as a Maunder minimum.

Many solar scientists believe that Cycle 24 — the current solar cycle — is the weakest in years, and that this portends even less sunspot activity in the future. Some even have predicted outright that a Maunder minimum is around the corner.

In the hour-long presentation, Luetzelschwab reviewed the conclusions of research published by several solar scientists, raising various scenarios for what might lie ahead

in terms of sunspots and related HF propagation. If a Maunder minimum were to occur, he predicted “we’ll probably have some pretty good low-band propagation. Most everybody believes the low bands are better at solar minimum.” But he conceded that a lot of factors come into play when trying to foresee what will happen from one solar cycle to the next and how it will affect radio propagation.

In a period of extremely few sunspots, Luetzelschwab said, we might expect “spotty” F2 layer propagation on 15 meters and “probably 12 and 10 will be noise.” He said that if it’s a Dalton-type minimum, “we’ll probably experience propagation kind of like what we’re experiencing right now in this Solar cycle.” The Dalton minimum, from about 1790 until 1830, was another extended low-sunspot period that was not as severe as the earlier Maunder minimum.

Some of the factors scientists believe could predict solar conditions include “hemispheric asymmetry,” where the number of sunspots in the Sun’s northern and southern hemispheres differ. Prior to solar minima, more sunspots may appear in one solar hemisphere than the other, although Luetzelschwab pointed out that this does not always occur over the course of the solar record. “Cycle 23 had a second peak, because the southern hemisphere sunspots peaked,” he noted.

Another factor is the condition of the Sun’s polar magnetic flux field. “Note that the magnetic field of the sun reverses at solar max,” Luetzelschwab said. He told his audience that the solar polar fields are decreasing, but after the Solar Cycle 23 maximum, “They just did not pick up. They’re pretty low.”

“We need to gather some really good data” over the next 10 years, Luetzelschwab concluded, adding that the additional data will provide evidence one way or the other. “This would cover the decline of Cycle 24 and the ascent of Cycle 25 to maybe get a better idea of what the sun is doing,” he said.

“Are We Headed into Another Maunder Minimum? What Does That Mean for Propagation?” will be posted in the webinar archive on the WWROF website.



Club Repeater Information

The Ford Amateur Radio League operates 3 club repeaters under the club K8UTT license. All the repeaters are located in the Dearborn, MI area near the Southfield Freeway. All repeaters are open for members and guests to operate.

Repeater	Output Freq	Input Freq	Tone
2 M Repeater	145.270	-600 KHz	100 Hz PL
1 1/4 M Repeater	224.520	-1.6 MHz	100 Hz PL
70 cm Repeater	443.425	+5 MHz	107.2 PL

Club Net: 8pm on Sunday, 2 and 1-1/4 Meter Repeaters!



Classes and Exams

The following amateur radio clubs conduct license exams throughout the year. Many clubs allow walk-ins but pre-registration will insure an exam is available for you when you attend.

Club Name	Contact Person	Phone	Email
Ford Amateur Radio League	Bill Boyke	313-805-8877	wboyke@ford.com
South Lyon ARC	Christian Anderson	248-437-3088	K8VJ@arr.net
Motor City ARC	Don Novak	734-281-7030	K8THU@arrl.net
Hazel Park ARC	Jerry Begel	248-543-2284	w9npi@comcast.net
USECA ARC	Joseph Kennedy	586-977-7222	N8OZ@arrl.net
ARROW Assn	Roger Place	734-663-4625	merrogplace@aol.com

Some of the above clubs also conduct license classes. Please contact them for additional information.



2012-2013 Club Officers

Please contact any of the officers for information regarding the Ford Amateur Radio League, or go to the club website at www.k8utt.org for current events and activities.

President	Roger Reini	KD8CSE	734-728-1509
Vice President	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Treasurer	Pat Quinn	WD8JDZ	734-729-1993
Secretary	John Turowski	N8NWA	313-258-1996
Repeater Chair	Murray Scott	KE8UM	248-743-1704
K8UTT Trustee	Dave Treharne	N8HKU	734-476-1666
Activity Chair	Bill Boyke	N80ZV	313-805-8877
Bolt Editor	Rajiv Paul	KD8LHF	313-405-2573



Club Meetings

The Ford Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Thursday of each month, except for Christmas and the summer months July and August. The meetings are held at 6:30 PM at the Ford Engine Manufacturing & Development Offices (EMDO) building. EMDO (located at 17000 Southfield Rd, Allen Park, MI) is south of I-94 on the east side of Southfield just north of the Allen Park Municipal offices. Park in the front of the building and come into the main lobby at the side. Knock on the inside door on the right if no one is standing there to let you in.



Next Club Meeting: May 08, 2014 at 6:30PM
Topic: Roofing Filters, Dave, N8HKU

The Ford Amateur Radio League
PO Box 2711
Dearborn, MI 48123