



Lake Effect Operatin' Times!



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PropagationStats

HF Propagation Status

A:6 K:3 SFI:150

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19 September 2011 – Get'r done! Edition!

It's Action Time boys and girls! As you can see from the propagation stats and the new solar-terrestrial data exhibit, we're bumping on good radio conditions. Solar flux at / above 150 is a key indicator for good DX conditions during daylight hours, so it's definitely time to be shaking the cobs off your aerials and making sure you can still tune the bands you want to work the most. Same for the practical dimension – if you live in the snow belt, it might be getting too cold to be freelancing up on the roof (danger of cracking shingles, slipping on overnight frost, etc.) so strain your brain a bit a think through reasons you might need to go up there and take appropriate action while you can! Also: good time to be lining up your over-winter projects – putting new ends on those coax segments, re-running the mess of wires behind your operating desk, squirting pot cleaner in all your noisy controls and so on. My list of to-do's might be longer than yours, but I'm betting you have one!

Solar-Terrestrial Data
 2011 Sep 19 0005 UTC
 SFI: 151 SN: 138
 A: 6 K: 3 / 23 nT
 X-Ray: C1.1
 304A: 166.6 @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: 1.28e-01
 Elc Flx: 6.67e+01
 Aurora: 4 / n= 3.75
 Bz: 2.5 SW: 420.7

HF Conditions		
Band	Day	Night
80n-40n	Poor	Fair
30n-20n	Fair	Good
17n-15n	Good	Good
12n-10n	Good	Poor

VHF Conditions		
Aur Lat	Band	Status
63.9°	Aurora	Closed
	6n EsEU	Closed
	4n EsEU	Closed
	2n EsEU	Closed
	2n EsNA	Closed

EME: Moderate

MUF: [Bar chart showing MUF values from 0 to 18 UTC]

MS: [Bar chart showing MUF values from 0 to 18 UTC]

Geomag Field UNSETTLD
 Sig Noise Lvl S2-S3
 foF2 Freq 7.85 MHz

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Problems you're glad you don't have

department: (from QRZ.com): The Dxpediton to

the Spratley Islands has been cancelled due to the "situation in the South China Seas". The Spratlys between Vietnam, China, Malaysia, Brunei, and The Philippines is a much sought DX entity. Radio and pirates and kidnapping. Swell. And I thought having a hard time grounding a tower was a beef.

Awards Committee Notes: The Awards Committee met recently with the following nominations: **The Progress! Award** goes to Lucille, KD8PTE. Lucille took and passed Tech and Gen'l license exams in successive months this spring, and has equipped her shack at home and her car with good gear. She's working hard to get an HF antenna up before snow flies by trying out the antennas at the clubhouse with her new Kenwood TS-480 and she has volunteered for community service projects with two clubs. Lucille scored a contact with Slovenia from the clubhouse last week on the wire antenna. Not so shabby! **Progress! Award, 2nd Class** is awarded to Sarah, KD8PYT. She struggled with her radio-poor location (kind of in a bowl with hills all around) but got her tech ticket first try and is set up and operating comfortably both home and mobile. She also has worked events for two clubs in the area and is promoting amateur radio as a tool for people interested in the Transitions movement. A **Thumbs Up!** award goes to Brian, KB9ZPK for being the member with the most contacts with club sponsored special events in the past year. A **Leverage! Award** is presented to Marge, KD8AIL for her continued work in the background with project support activity, including designing and producing our collection of spectacular collector's quality QSL cards. Finally, the **Hey, Elmer! Award** goes to John, KC8ULE, for continuing to publicize and promote amateur radio through talks, the web site (and twitter and Facebook!), press releases and direct recruitment, coaching and support for new hams. It's been a busy, productive year for Lake Effect – we're grateful for the interest and support.

Solar-Terrestrial Data added to the Lake Effect website – As noted and shown above, a solar-terrestrial band conditions box has been added to the web page. This gives you a one-stop peek at band conditions. Make this a memory/top –level click on your browser for rapid check as you are powering up your shack for a session on the air.

Next up: National Wildlife Refuge Week from the Seney NWR.

This annual event closes out the formal club event schedule for the season. We'll be at the refuge three days this year – Thurs thru Sat, October 13, 14 and 15. We have a volunteer assisting on Friday, looking especially for some on-site assistance for Saturday. The Refuge visitor center is still open, and, with any luck, we can make our presence interesting enough to get some tourists to come over and chat with us about the event and about ham radio. An announcement is in the October QST magazine and at the ARRL special events on-line catalog, and a mailing is on the list for the end of September to a few hams in the Seney area who have helped out in the past. A place-holder event page is up at the web: <http://www.lakeeffectarc.info/Event-NWRWeek/index.htm> but operating specifics will change before the event so please check back. This is a fun event – you get to talk about nature and the great outdoors and about the national wildlife refuge system proper. There are a lot of hams out there who enjoy nature and who are very receptive to the message. As a bonus, both the California and Pennsylvania QSO parties are earlier in the month, so we have a shot at some open band space. As usual, volunteers of any license class are welcome. Lake

Effect founded this event six years ago and it has gone national – we had 15 refugees activated last year. Cool!

DX-ing the Broadcast Band Season is On! Department: Well, it's a little retro and it's a lot likely to get you the tin-foil hat award if you talk about it at the bar, but it's time to dust off the old AM radio and dial around and hear what you can hear. Starting about now every year, conditions for low-frequency radio getting really, really good. In the old days (like the '20's and '30's) it's how rural kids kept up on what was hot music (and slang!) in Chicago or Boston or New York. This probably outraged their parents and fired up at least a few cases of wanderlust. Anyway, with a basic AM radio and 50 feet of wire out the window (with a few turns of wire wrapped around the radio) you will be just astonished by what you can hear. Times have changed, and it's not as simple as it was in the days of clear-channel allocations, where a few stations really dominated the nation. With directional antennas common nowadays, most frequencies are target market assigned, so you might be able to distinguish 2 or 3 broadcasts going on for any frequency. Still, the AM band is very much alive and it's fun checking it out. If you have a wider tuning receiver, you can even dial down to 100Khz and tune up and hear some real oddments – Canadian airport beacons transmitting their call signs in Morse code and maybe even some of the new experimental and European ham stuff in the 500 Khz range. On the east coast, you may be able to hear European commercial broadcasts. Through the static crashes and QRM you'll hear Mexico and Canada for sure and check out what's happening a few states over. Give it a try. The cost and level of effort are certainly right, and it's just interesting and fun.

Speaking of Special Events – here are some selected events coming up in the next few weeks you might be interested in:

09/19/2011 | Day Out with Thomas the Tank Engine :

Sep 19-Sep 25, 0000Z-2359Z, K0T, Boone, IA. Tall Corn Amateur Radio Club. 21.310 14.260 7.250 3.980. QSL. Jim Moreland, 109 S Underhill St, Boone, IA 50036. www.qsl.net/kd0med

09/23/2011 | Celebration of Camp Kitchen Renovations :

Sep 23-Sep 25, 1700Z-1700Z, W1Y, Meredith, NH. Merrimack Valley YMCA and WA1VKO. 21.300 14.200 7.225 3.850. QSL. Michael Murphy, WA1VKO , Box 1024, East Hampstead, NH 03826. Will be operating on Bear Island on Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire. For US Islands we will be NH 17L.

09/24/2011 | USS Wisconsin-Final Decommissioning Special Event :

Sep 24-Sep 25, 1500Z-2130Z, N4WIS, Virginia Beach, VA. USS Wisconsin Radio Club. 14.264. QSL. N4WIS-USS Wisconsin Radio Club, PO Box 6682, Virginia Beach, VA 23456. www.n4wis.org

09/24/2011 | The Train Runs Through Clovis!!! :

Sep 24-Sep 25, 1400Z-2000Z, KA5B, Clovis, NM. Eastern New Mexico Amateur Radio Club. 14.285 7.180. QSL. ENMARC/KA5B, 208 Merrill Dr, Clovis, NM 88101. This event will be held in the telegraph station of the original Clovis railroad station. It will be manned with both club members, and Boy Scouts working on merit badges. www.ka5b.org

09/24/2011 | Historic Land Station 8ZU and WRK Hamilton Ohio's Radio History :

Sep 24-Sep 25, 1000Z-2200Z, W8WRK, Hamilton, OH. Butler County Amateur Radio Association. 28.410 14.245 7.220 3.838. Certificate. BCARA, PO Box 18968 , Fairfield, OH 45018. In commemoration of the early amateur radio and broadcast radio history of Hamilton, Ohio, Sep 24-25, 2011 (Sat-Sun), 329 North C Str, Hamilton, OH 45013. The event is being held at the original site of the Doron Brothers Electrical Co. amateur radio stations "D5" (pre-1911), "8AJT" (1912-1915), Special Land Station "8ZU" (1915-1919), and "WRK" (1922-1930) which was the first broadcast radio station in the City of Hamilton and our country's 57th licensed broadcast radio station. For QSL and additional Information bcara.net

09/24/2011 | "Wings & Wheels" Fly-in :

Sep 24, 1600Z-2200Z, K9HAM, East Alton, IL. The Lewis & Clark Radio Club. 14.245 21.250. Certificate. Rich Morgan, 329 Neptune Ln, Godfrey, IL 62035. 17th annual "Wings & Wheels" Fly-in at St Louis Regional Airport. Certificate available with SASE or electronically to your e-mail, richaz@charter.k9ham.org

10/01/2011 | Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta :

Oct 1-Oct 9, 1000Z-2300Z, W5B, Albuquerque, NM. High Desert Amateur Radio Club. 21.300 14.260 7.225. QSL. Via Bureau or direct to Theodore Zipes, 6833 Augusta Hills Dr NE, Rio Rancho, NM 87144. Operating times will vary 0800 to 1200 and evenings 1700 to 2100 due to weather and fiesta schedule. #10 SASE please. w4rcn@q.com or www.nm5hd.com

10/01/2011 | Lum and Abner Radio Program 80th Anniversary :

Oct 1, 1400Z-2200Z, W5HUM, Mena, AR. Ouachita Amateur Radio Association. Gen portion 20 40 80 m. Certificate. Don Thomas, 117 Dallas Ln, Mena, AR 71953. CD of Lum and Abner to first 25 contacts.

10/01/2011 | 23rd Annual Oliver Hardy Festival :

Oct 1-Oct 2, 1200Z-2000Z, W4O, Harlem, GA. Columbia County Amateur Radio Club. 28.360 21.290 14.260 7.260. QSL. CCARC W4O Special Event, PO Box 800, Evans, GA 30809. ccarc@hamradioman.com

10/01/2011 | Walt Disney World's 40th Anniversary :

Oct 1, 1400Z-2359Z, WD4WDW, Orlando, FL. Disney Emergency Amateur Radio Service. 28.360 14.260 7.260. QSL. DEARS, PO Box 22346, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830. www.wd4wdw.org

10/01/2011 | California QSO Party :

Oct 1-Oct 2, 1600Z-2200Z, N6A, Arnold, CA. Northern California Contest Club NCCC. 3.500-3.600 3.600-3.800 7.000-7.080 7.125-7280 14.000-14.056 14.150-14.300 21.000-21076 21225- 21350. QSL. Charles L. Word, W4UAT, 2184 Bluebell Dr, Livermore, CA 94551. Alpine County is rare. Be looking for us on all HF bands 80,40,20,15 & 10M Phone & CW Multi. One Station on Phone and CW all the time. w4wat@comcast.net or www.nccc.cc

10/05/2011 | St George Island Lighthouse, IOTA and US Island :

Oct 5-Oct 9, 2300Z-0400Z, K4L, Eastpoint, FL. Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club. 160 m - 6 m (conditions permitting). QSL. Kennehoochee ARC, PO Box 1245, Marietta, GA 30060. St George Island Lighthouse Special Event: Map Grid: EL791n * USA 140 * IOTA: NA-085 * US Island: FL075S. www.stgeorgelight.org/, www.w4bti.org or www.qrz.com/db/K4L

10/08/2011 | Transmitting from Nowhere, KS :

Oct 8, 1400Z-1800Z, W0UK, Nowhere, KS. Douglas County Amateur Radio Club. 20 m 146.760 tone 88.5. Certificate. Ken Blair, 1329 Kasold Dr D2, Lawrence, KS 66049. DCARC invites you to find us on 20 m. Transmitting from Nowhere, KS, a stop along Midland Rail Road. www.w0uk.net

10/08/2011 | US Navy Birthday Established 1775 :

Oct 8, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Radio Operations Room. SSB 14.320 7.250 PSK31 14.070 D-STAR 012C 2 m 70 cm SOCAL rpters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Radio Room, 910 N Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101-5811. kk6fz@arrl.net

10/08/2011 | 229th Anniversary of the Battle of Kings Mountain :

Oct 8, 1300Z-2100Z, NA4CC, Kings Mountain National Military Park, SC. Cleveland County Amateur Radio Service. 14.270 7.270 . Certificate. Cleveland County Amateur Radio Service, PO Box 864, Shelby, NC 28151. For more information on the battle of Kings Mountain, go to <http://www.nps.gov/kimo/index.htm>. Any questions about the event, email na4cc@ccarsnc.org. www.ccarsnc.org

10/08/2011 | Dempsey Challenge :

Oct 8-Oct 10, 0800Z-1000Z, N1D, Lewiston, ME. Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. 80 through 10. Certificate. Androscoggin ARC, PO Box 1, Auburn, ME 04212.

10/08/2011 | Trempealeau National Wildlife Center :

Oct 8, 1500Z-2200Z, K9P, Trempealeau, WI. Riverland Amateur Radio Club (WI) & Winona Amateur Radio Club (MN). 28.750 21.325 14.265 7.225. Certificate. Bob Seaquist, KC9IWE, 202 Zephyr Cir, La Crosse, WI 54601. Part of week-long National Wildlife Refuge Week special event. Multiple sites involved--see www.nwrweek-radio.info

10/08/2011 | Vibroplex Returns to Norcross :

Oct 8, 1400Z-2000Z, N4V, Norcross, GA. North Georgia QRP Club. 14.060 7.050 7.040 3.560. QSL. Brian Page, 1717 Tidewell Trace, Lawrenceville, GA 30043. The special event from the Norcross Visitors Center runs from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM EDT but the special event station, N4V, will be on the air all week near traditional HF QRP frequencies. QSL to N4TRB with SASE. Come out and see a historic Norcross Vibroplex or work one on the air. groups.yahoo.com/group/vibroplex_in_norcross

10/08/2011 | National Wildlife Refuge Week :

Oct 8, 1700Z-2100Z, KOHL, Lake Ilo, ND. KOHL. 14.260. QSL. Ken Muggli, KOHL, PO Box 489, Glen Ullin, ND 58631. Please send SASE and \$1 for QSL.

10/09/2011 | National Wildlife Refuge Week 2011 :

Oct 9-Oct 17, 0000Z-2359Z, N8W, Seney, MI. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club. 14.070 PSK31 14.225 7.180. QSL. Lake Effect ARC / NWR Week, 36 Southfork St, Marquette, MI 49855. Details/changes www.lakeeffectarc.info/Event-NWRWeek/index.htm

10/10/2011 | Warren Township Fire Department 75th Anniversary :

Oct 10-Oct 17, 1320Z-1320Z, W8F, Warren, OH. Trumbull County ARES. 14.310 7.280. Certificate. Gail Wells, 708 Delaware Ave SW, Warren, OH 44485.

10/14/2011 | Jamboree On The Air :

Oct 14-Oct 16, 1400Z-1500Z, K8B, Delaware, OH. BSA . 14.250. QSL. Thomas Richards, 17510 Devall Rd, Spencerville, IN 46788.

10/14/2011 | Alaska Maritime NWR celebrates Refuge Week & Refuges on the Air :

Oct 14-Oct 16, 0900Z-1200Z, K7P, Homer, AK. Alaska Maritime NWR, Friends of Alaska Refuges, Moosehorn ARC. 14.250 15 20 m SSB. Certificate & QSL. Jeff Williams, PO Box 1268, Homer, AK 99603. Help us celebrate over 100 years of managing YOUR Alaskan Wildlife Resources! We are World Flora and Fauna site KFF-143. Exact frequencies will be determined by band conditions. We expect to operate on 15 and 20 m SSB. www.qrz.com/db/k7p

10/15/2011 | Boy Scouts of America Ottawa District 4th Annual Unity Camporee and Jamboree On The Air :

Oct 15, 1300Z-2100Z, WB8BSA, Milford, MI. Clinton Valley Scout Radio Club. 14.290 14.060 7.190 7.030. QSL. Frank Maynard, NF8M, 44683 Mansfield Dr, Novi, MI 48375.

10/15/2011 | 70th Anniversary of Troop 104 :

Oct 15, 1200Z-2100Z, W2S, Wayne, NJ. Boy Scout Troop 104. 146.43 14.290 7.190. QSL. Jim Sadur, N2RBJ, 4 Hillcrest Dr, Wayne, NJ 07470. In parallel with the Jamboree-on-the-Air we celebrate 70 years as a Boy Scout unit. t104.org/jota

**10/15/2011 | Boy Scout of America Mount Diablo Silverado Council
Jamboree On The Air :**

Oct 15-Oct 16, 0700Z-0700Z, W6H, El Cerrito, CA. Boy Scout of America Mount Diablo Silverado Council. 28.390 21.360 14.290. Certificate. Boy Scout of America Mount Diablo Silverado Council, 800 Ellinwood Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

10/15/2011 | 54th JOTA :

Oct 15, 1300Z-2000Z, K4NPT, Port Charlotte, FL. North Port Amateur Radio Club. World Scout Frequencies. QSL. NPARC, PO Box 7714, North Port, FL 34290. www.w4npt.org

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Memberships are valid thru December, 2012.

See our website www.LakeEffectARC.info for our events schedule.

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