

"DRUMLINS RUMBLINS"- FEBRUARY 2024

WE'RE meeting at the WAYNE COUNTY SECOND FLOOR EOC ROOM

Wayne County Public Services Building 7227 Rte 31 Lyons NY 14489

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 21st MEETING START 7:30PM

REMEMBER: The front door and the EMO entrance will be unlocked from 6:30-7:30pm.

So arrive in this time period for an easy entry.



*****YOU HAVE A LITTLE LEEWAY TO GET IN UNTIL 7:55PM!

->->->->WINTER TIME !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

BAD WEATHER! WATCH THE CLUB EMAIL FOR MEETING CANCELLATIONS!!!!!!

I have at least all the Pumpkin Patrol DARC members' cell numbers in my cell directory. If for some reason you can't get to an email device you may text me on my **cell number** (315-871-8767), beforehand. I will get on the 685 (The leaves are

gone.), and 745 **repeaters** for **announcements** at least on the half hours, too. There is nothing important enough for a



DARC meeting for any members to go out in nasty WX.

We have been lucky so far!

During times of bad weather and driving conditions, keep an ear on the local repeaters in the area. Who knows there may be a ham needing help. <-<-<-<-<-<-



Bring some \$\$\$\$ for the 50/50! \$3.00 gets you 5 tickets for a chance to win. Pluck in some \$\$\$\$ for the scones, popcorn, coffee and soda drinks too. The **funds pay for the DARC annual August picnic.**



PRESIDENT'S KORNER

Hopefully Steve, KA1CNF, and Jeff, N2MKT, will be at the Wednesday meeting to tell us how their January **VHF Contest** on January 20-22, went for them. I know Steve mentioned it on the 715 morning weather-gab net at 7:30am weekdays. Jeff, I am sure with weekends off now at his job, was able to get out and play. Hi hi. (Hopefully I am correct. Jeff?)

KB2KBY, however, did have a nice time at the **Winter Field Day (WFD)**, at KB2NCI's QTH on January 27-28th. These pictures were taken on Saturday while I was present. I stayed to supper time and headed home.



Antenna party! KC2TCM, KB2NCI, KD2PER



Setting up! Lots of setting up and I can take pictures. (My **apologies** to Tom, KB2NCI! I was late getting these pictures to him in the time to print for his "Smoke Signals." I goofed. Sorry, Tom.)



Time for operating! Hi hi.



K2VJK on left

Unfortunately, I was not at the February SIARC meeting. (Valentine's Day! It is not what you think. Will, it so happened with a Saturday before grandson's 13th birthday party, a church "sweets and treats" dessert party before Lent, a Super Bowl pizza and dessert party and a Monday evening dinner out, my poor "Sweetheart" was not feeling well. So it was a stay at the QTH all day, exchanging "heart" cards and lazing around in our PJs.) I do not know what the final score was for the WFD. But KB2KBY had a chance to work some CW! I managed nine contacts!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! That is the most CW this CW op has done since the 2023 ARRL Field Day. (It gave me a little practice for my Army MARS CW net. MARS was wise to bring CW back. Lately MARS has been too computer driven. That is one reason the ham non-MARS community has not been involved in quite some time.)

You will recognize all of the participants for the WFD: Tom, KB2NCI; Pat, KD2PER, Vern, K2VJK, Jay, KC2TCM and Sabina, WD2STK. Those of you on the SIARC and WARECS nets will have "heard" those familiar calls. Hi hi. Tom, Jay, Sabrina and I are both SIARC and DARC members. We do a lot together between these two ARCs.

REMEMBER SAVE THE DATE !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Drumlins Annual Spring Fling

Saturday April 6, 2024

BLUE RIBBON DINER

5PM – Social Time

6PM – Dinner

Last year's Spring Fling was a hit,
So we're repeating again at the Blue Ribbon.

We will be ordering off their regular menu.
I'll email the menu closer to the dinner.

Cash ONLY, individual checks



RACES-ARES FEBRUARY 2024



WARECS NETS: ALL NETS WILL BE ON THE WA2AAZ REPEATER ON 146.745 UNTIL ?????

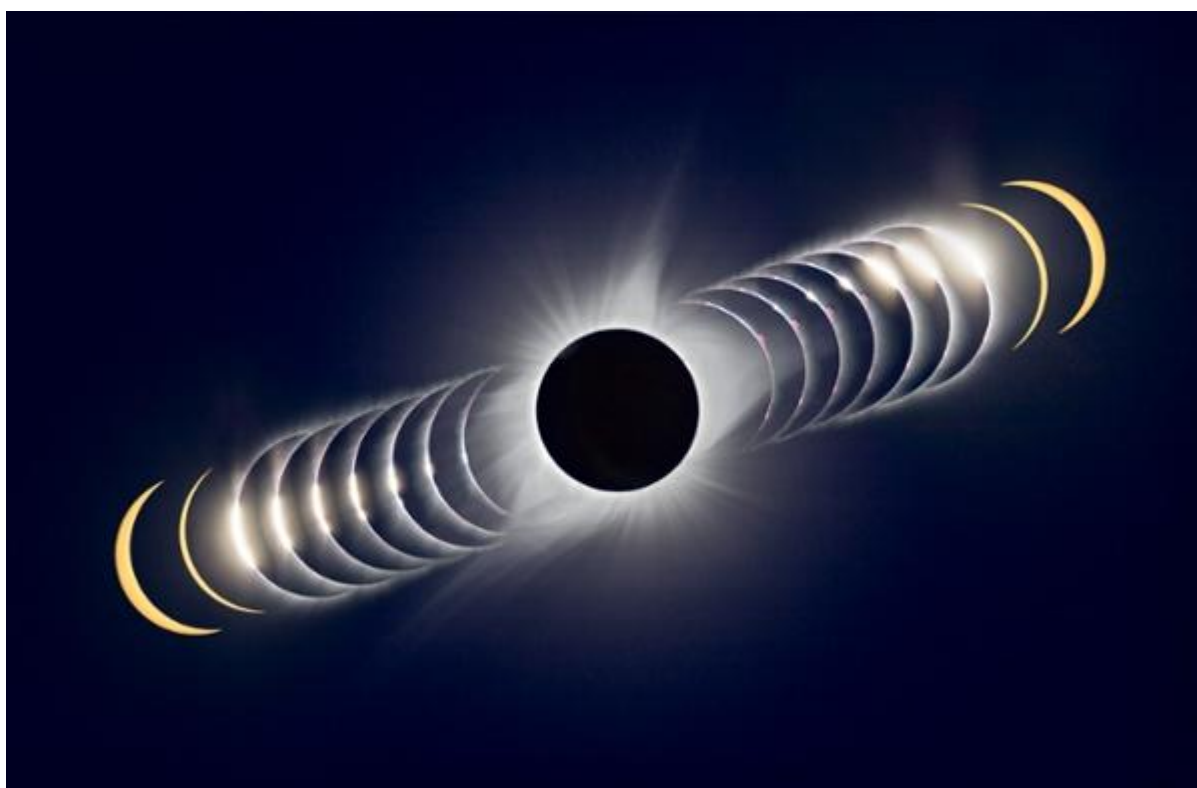
WARECS NET CHANGE REMINDER:

For your WARECS net DARC members and all other members, we started using the **ICS-213** form as the **digital** transmission using FIDigi MT63-2K Long. The ARRL Radiogram will still be used for the **voice** message. Those on the SIARC net as well as our own WARECS net know very well how it is done. I'll bring examples at this Wednesday's meeting. The one thing I have found not to forget is putting a "group" count (GP) somewhere in the ICS-213. It is technically not needed but personally I find helpful to know the message was received and heard correctly. Remember punctuation is not included in the count. Upper and lower case is normally used (Especially by non-ham and non-military types.), but all capitals may be used. More will be coming on this ICS-213.



Our **March** Drumlines **meeting** we will have an update how the Wayne County EMO and the various County agencies will be handing the **April 8th total eclipse** in which Wayne County is dead center. Hopefully we'll get new formation from George Bastedo and learn how us "hams" and RACES can be of service.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO PUT MARCH 20th ON THE CALENDAR



KB2NCI and the SIARC "HEALTH and WELFARE NET"



TOM IS NEARING 100 NETS!

STILL GOING STRONG!!!. Kudos, Tom! Get acquainted with some of our SIARC friends and the surrounding counties. **Thank you, Tom, for being so patient and sacrificing your time.**

Tom's SIARC health and welfare net is open to all hams that can hit the **146.820 repeater (tone 110.9)**, either mobile or from your QTH. Just listen to Tom's or the NCS's instructions always given first as the net starts like we all know as hams and used to a SOP. So listen for the SOP at the beginning of the net. Only the third Wednesday of the month, the SIARC meeting night, is there no net. (I try to check in once or twice a week.)



MEETING PROGRAM: Thanks to the !!!!!!!!!!!!!

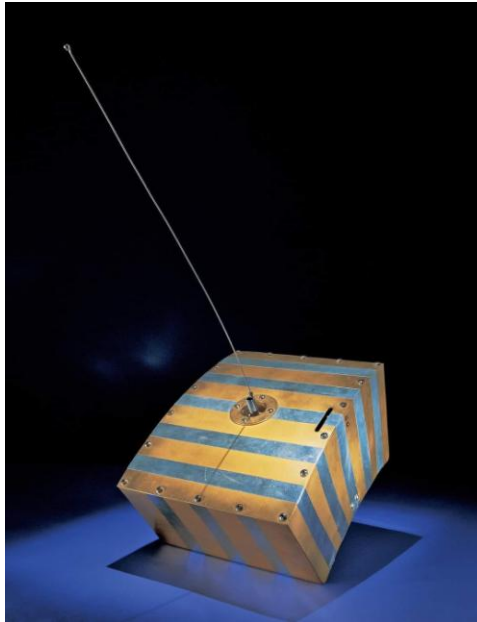


Vintage Law Enforcement Surveillance Radio

During Mike Murphy's, the video's narrator, career he had the opportunity to be involved with the design of law enforcement surveillance radios, and he met some of the colorful personalities who pioneered these controversial technologies. In this presentation Mike tells the story of the people and companies that created surveillance devices that remained secret for decades, some of which still haven't seen the light of day.

OSCAR 1 1ST HAM SATELLITE:

This is **OSCAR 1**, the world's **first amateur, non-government satellite**. It launched on [#OTD](#) in 1961. Built for only 63 dollars, it operated for nearly 20 days, during which thousands of radio operators in 28 countries detected the satellite's simple "hi-hi" **Morse code message**. It marks the beginning of amateur radio's journey to space. Today, AMSAT and amateur radio groups worldwide continue the legacy started by Project OSCAR.



The First Amateur Radio Station on the Moon, JS1YMG, is Now Transmitting

The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) successfully landed their **Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM)** on January 19, 2024. Just before touchdown, SLIM released two small lunar surface probes, LEV-1 and LEV-2.

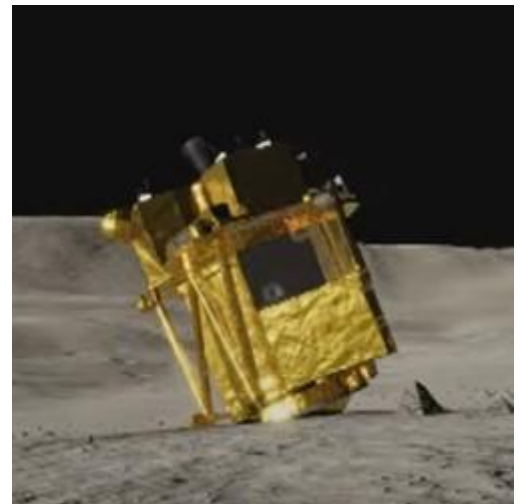
LEV-2 collects data while moving on the lunar surface, and LEV-1 receives the data.

The JAXA Ham Radio Club (JHRC), JQ1ZVI, secured amateur radio license **JS1YMG for LEV-1**, which has been transmitting **Morse code on 437.41 MHz** since January 19. The probe uses a 1 W UHF antenna with circular polarization and is transmitting "matters related to amateur business."

Radio amateurs have been busy analyzing JS1YMG's signal, with [Daniel Estévez's, EA4GPZ, blog](#) introducing the method and extraction results for demodulating Morse code from the signal, as well as extracting the code string.

It's unclear how long signals will be heard. JAXA has said that SLIM was not designed to survive a lunar night, which lasts about 14 days, and is due to return in a few days.

SLIM was launched on September 6, 2023, and landed on January 19, 2024, with the mission of analyzing the composition of rocks to aid research about the origin of the moon. SLIM's landing made Japan the fifth country to achieve a soft touchdown on the moon. The landing was achieved with exceptional precision -- within 180 feet of its targeted touchdown location.



A rendering of the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) on the lunar surface. [Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, image]

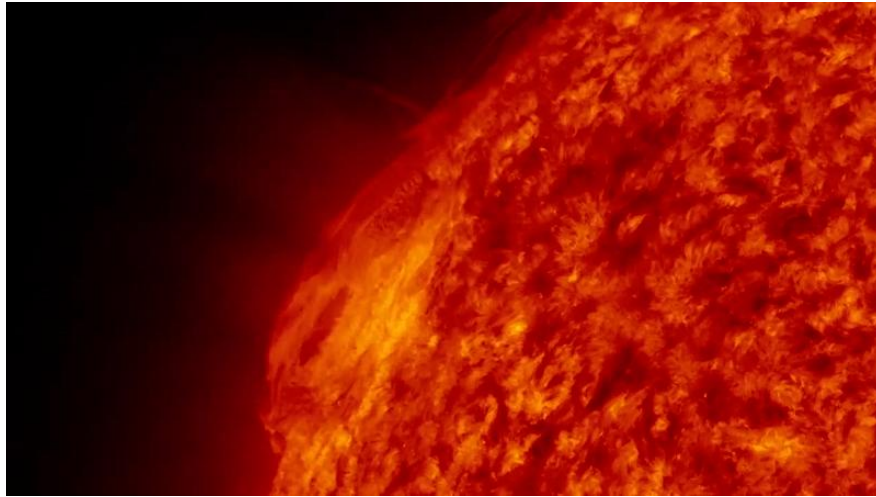
Solar maximum is coming, but we won't know it happened until 7 months after it's over

[News](#)

By [Daisy Dobrijevic](#)

published 1 day ago

Solar maximum is on the horizon, but when will it occur?



Solar maximum is on the horizon, but when will it occur? (Image credit: NASA/SDO/AIA)

The sun has been gradually gaining strength as it nears its highest rate of activity — solar maximum — during its approximately 11-year solar cycle.

The [solar cycle](#) describes a period of solar activity driven by [the sun's](#) magnetic field and indicated by the frequency and intensity of sunspots visible on the surface.

But, scientists won't be able to ascertain whether solar maximum has occurred until at least seven months after the fact. We asked ESA's Space Weather Coordination Center's (SSCC) solar expert center why this is the case.

"The maximum is computed (as a convention) with the 13-month smoothed sunspot number (which means that for each month you use the value of six months before and six months after)," Solar expert center scientists told Space.com in an email. "The exact value of this quantity for time T is known only 6 months later."

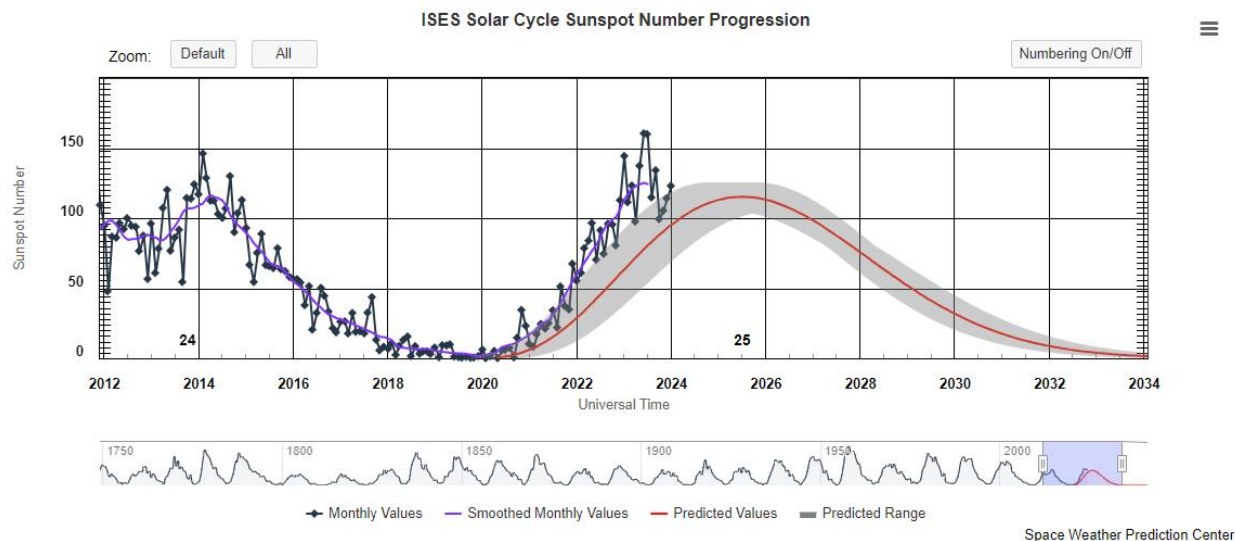
Scientists only know if the solar maximum was achieved in a particular month if the next month's sunspot numbers are lower, therefore it is impossible to know earlier than seven months after this decline happens.

For example, let's say solar maximum did occur in February 2024. Scientists would need [sunspot](#) number data from the previous six months, the month of February 2024 and the next six months which would take us to August 2024. So we would have to wait until September 2024 to be able to definitively declare that solar maximum had occurred in February 2024.

ESA's solar scientists add that sometimes the sun can fool us; even when we think we have achieved solar maximum, the increased activity turns out to be only what's known as a local maxima, not representative of the entire cycle. Sunspot cycles can also experience a "double maxima," called a Gnevishhev's gap, which means that the first peak might not be the highest and another large peak can follow.

All of this means we could have some time to wait before we know exactly when Solar Cycle 25's solar maximum has occurred.

As it stands, [predictions](#) from the World Data Center for the Sunspot Index and Long-term Solar Observations (SILSO) at the Royal Observatory of Belgium indicate a maximum between mid-2024 and the end of 2025. Meanwhile, NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC) [estimates](#) that solar maximum could occur between late 2024 and early 2026.



There is a good chance that solar activity is still on the rise according to the SSCC scientists. This is great news for those wishing to see the [northern lights](#), or aurora borealis, as their occurrence is dependent on solar activity. The more active the sun, the higher the chance of vibrant aurora shows making the [next few years](#) the best time to plan a trip to [see the northern lights](#).

Auroras are triggered when energized particles from the sun's [solar wind](#) are deflected towards Earth's poles by our planet's magnetic field. The energized particles then interact with [atoms](#) and molecules in our atmosphere, depositing energy, causing our atmosphere to fluoresce. The different aurora colors are dictated by the chemical composition of [Earth's atmosphere](#).

If you're unable to see the northern lights during the solar maximum period over the next few years, don't worry. Auroras never stop. They can be seen throughout the solar cycle even during periods of solar activity. This is because weak to moderate [coronal mass ejections](#) associated with filament eruptions persist throughout the whole cycle, and maintain the "background" geomagnetic activity that triggers auroras.

California Storms: Amateur Radio is Ready

Southern California continues to feel the effects of a significant rain event that began last week, bringing record rainfall, landslides, and hurricane-strength winds. The heavy rain is the result of two atmospheric rivers, referred to as "Pineapple Expresses" because of their origins near Hawaii. Nearly half a year's worth of rain has fallen in two days. Since Sunday, February 4, areas in Los Angeles County have seen nearly one foot of rain, which has now moved east into western Arizona, southern Nevada, and southwestern Utah, raising the risk of flash flooding in those areas.



ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, has been in contact with Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) leadership from throughout the affected area. "ARES member-volunteers are ready to be pressed into service when called upon by one of their local served agencies," he said.

The situation continues to evolve, Johnston has received several situation updates from ARES leaders.

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ARRL San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Section Emergency Coordinator Dan Sohn, WL7COO, wrote:

The SJV Section is experiencing electrical power outages caused by high winds affecting tens of thousands of homes and businesses mostly in the westernmost, lower-elevation Central Valley counties and elevations at or above about 3,500 feet above sea level... The incoming atmospheric river appears to be moving more to the north than the last two storms, so we'll see what that brings the SJV counties that are already saturated... and [we] hope that it lessens the life-threatening, ongoing damage throughout southern California.

Johnston also received this update from ARRL Nevada Section Emergency Coordinator John Abrott, KD7NHC:

Here in northern Nevada, a varying amount of snow was received. I received reports from Carson City of 10 - 11, inches, and reports of 10 - 13 inches in Carson Valley and parts of Reno. There are several feet of snow at higher elevations. I have not received any reports of ARES members being activated. Several counties were requested to be ready in the event that their services were needed. Major roads are clear, but residential streets still have snow.

ARES teams are ready when needed and will continue monitor the situations in California and affected neighboring states. Check [ARRL News](#) for the latest updates.

ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Winterfest

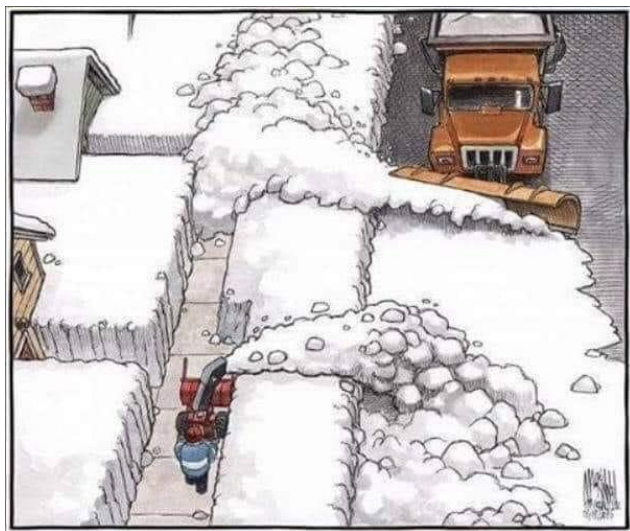
Newly licensed ham Charlie Hartley, KF0OOP, 18, is one of ARRL's newest members. He's majoring in sound engineering at Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri, and is an accomplished musician, playing both bass guitar and the upright string bass. Ham radio, live sound, and music run in his blood; he's the **grandson of Bob Heil, K9EID**.



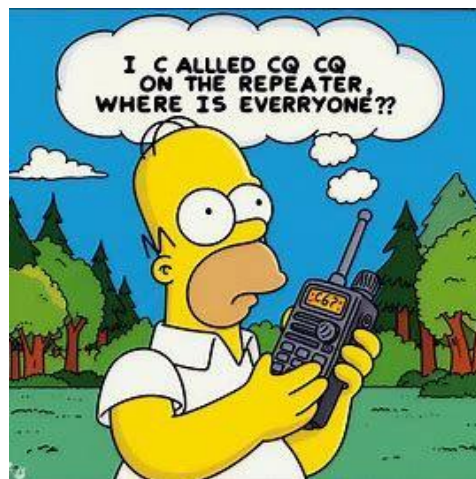
Charlie Hartley, KF0OOP, applies to be an ARRL member while his grandfather, Bob Heil, K9EID, smiles. [ARRL Midwest Division Vice Director Dave Propper, K2DP, photo]

Charlie had been secretly studying for his license. After passing his test, he revealed his new Technician-class privileges and call sign to his famous-ham grandpa as a birthday surprise. The pair joined many others at the ARRL Midwest Division Convention/Winterfest, which is organized and sponsored by the St. Louis and Suburban Radio Club.

ARRL Midwest Division Vice Director Dave Propper, K2DP, personally took Charlie's membership application at the event. ARRL



Got up at 5 am, ran 4 miles, came back, made a vegetable smoothie for breakfast, did 2 loads of laundry, mopped and vacuumed floors, and that's all I remember about my dream.





Was that “rodent” correct on February 2nd?

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH

