

# DRUMLINS RUMBLINS **MARCH 2024**

## **PIZZA-ECLIPSE MEETING PARTY**

**MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY**

**7:30PM**

HOSTED by the Drumlins ARC and the Wayne County EMO



### **WHERE:**

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

Wayne County **Public Services Building** 7227 Rte 31 Lyons NY 14489

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!**

**MAKE PLANS NOW TO PUT MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> ON THE CALENDAR!!!!!!**

**THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR DARC MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEER HAMS TO ATTEND!!!!**



**This is a very important meeting** for this month with the upcoming April 8<sup>th</sup> eclipse. George sent a flier out for all the 65 or so hams of Wayne County that volunteered to help. You got that flier just I did. You will notice the beginning of his March newsletter is pretty familiar at the top. I told George I would do a flier and he could add whatever he wished. I repeated part of the flier.

**I am with George** that the activation of the EOC manpower needed to cover emergencies for the eclipse will be able to take care of the public that will amass for the less than 4 minute event and the big bottleneck traffic jam afterwards. It has been pointed out to me, Ontario County RACES is helping their EOC by RACES members being located at strategic locations. Ontario County with its two large cities, two hospitals and a bigger wider spread of territory, this works for them. So, please, don't think asking the hams of Wayne County to monitor the traffic from their QTH is a silly way of doing things. All the Wayne County fire departments, Police, Sheriff, State Police and numerous EMT units will be activated at their normal locations or be assigned ones. All the necessary "units" that will be at the EOC room, which you are sitting in front of our monthly meetings, will be monitoring their prospective part of the eclipse event. The Wayne EMO EOC is far bigger and collectively centered to monitor any emergency. You know this when Wayne RACES is participating in a Ginna drill.

**The only RACES positions** that will need monitoring at the EMO is the DARC shack by the EOC room. I will be there early and Rus, N2IZV, has volunteered at this time to help me. Of course, anyone at the EOC and us two RACES in the shack will not be leaving to soon to go home after the eclipse is over. Even with cloudy weather the eclipse will be good although not perfect. The Buffalo NWS predicts April 8<sup>th</sup> has a 60% chance of perfect weather on this day recordwise. (Remember, I don't complain about sunny days since my Shemya in the Aleutian Islands when in the Army back in 1965-66. 10 days of average sunshine out of 365? So sticking put means less cars on the road and no delays getting home. You are home. Just Rus and I will have to worry about the getting home. Rus will have it far easier than I. Hi hi.

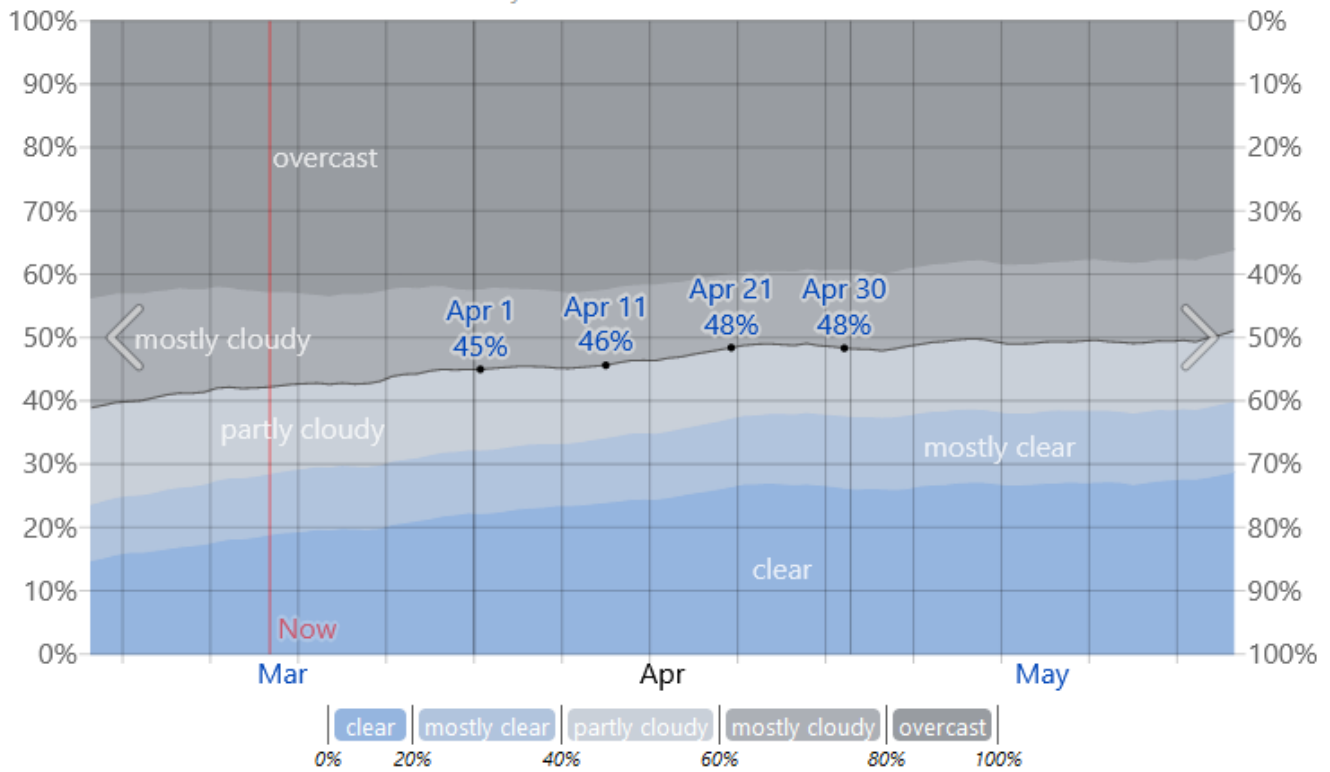
Of course an **email to all the volunteers** will have to be sent out the closer to April 8<sup>th</sup>. This email will finalize our RACES communication. Jeff, N2MKT, is working his guru tech team to judge the best use of the 685 and 745 repeaters, simplex frequencies possible and whatever. One fact is, the cell towers will most likely will crash just with the volume of everyone trying to use their cell phones at one time.

CU at the meeting. 73 & 88, Dave KB2KBY

P.S. Many thanks to KA1CNF, Steve; KB2FSB, Lloyd; KC2TNJ, Rich and XYL; KB2NCI, Tom, WD2STK, Sabrina and KC2TCM, Jay for attending the Summer SKYWARN training at the Fire and EOC Center on Cty Rd 46 this past Wednesday March 13<sup>th</sup>. I never expected the winter to be a no winter this year. The Summer SKYWARN all of a sudden pops up in Ontario County.

## Cloud Cover Categories in April in Rochester

[← Spring](#)
[🔗 Link](#)
[📄 Download](#)
[👤 Compare](#)
 Averages: J F M **Apr** M J J A S O N D  
 History: 2023 2022 2021 2020 2019



The percentage of time spent in each cloud cover band, categorized by the percentage of the sky covered by clouds.

<https://www.weather.gov/aly/NYS2024TotalSolarEclipse> (FYI if you as curious as I am. Keep our fingers crossed too.)



Don't forget to come for a pizza treat thanks to the EMO and George!

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**April 8th 2024 SEQP? What Ham Ops Need to Know**



Solar Eclipse By Matthew Schwartz

Date: [March 14, 2024](#) Author: [KE2YK 0 Comments](#)

### **When will the Solar Eclipse occur?**

***April 8, 2024; 1400-2400 UTC; is the official 2024 SEQP event period.***

*Why is this event historic?* The 2024 Solar Eclipse will be passing over North America and will **result in a full eclipse** (umbra) over certain parts of the United States and Canada. As a result, researchers are most interested in having North American Ham Radio Operators on the air. Since HF signals travel globally, Ham Radio Operators worldwide are also encouraged to participate in SEQP.

### **Why is a Solar Eclipse QSO Party being held?**

The **Solar Eclipse QSO Party** is an opportunity for amateur radio operators to get on HF before, during and after the eclipse passes over North America. [Click here for SEQP contest rules.](#)

Getting on HF during SEQP will contribute to scientific studies that focus on the ionosphere's reaction to the eclipse.

These studies will lead to a better understanding of the interactions between the Sun, the ionosphere and radio wave propagation. That research will benefit hams, professional broadcasters, satellite operators and many other users of radio spectrum.

### **What else do I need to know?**

SEQP begins a few hours before the eclipse and continues as it transits across the US mainland. That way, prior to the eclipse, baseline data can be gathered on how the ionosphere is reflecting and refracting HF signals.

Data gathering continues during the eclipse to study how HF propagation is affected during the eclipse. Past data suggests that ionospheric changes will be found in the data.

Data gathering concludes a few hours after the eclipse passes beyond the US mainland. By making contacts after the eclipse passes the mainland, data on the after effects to the ionosphere are also gathered for study.

You do not have to operate the full SEQP time period. If your time is limited, try to schedule your operating time when the path of the eclipse path is closest to your QTH. In this way, your signals will be most affected by the eclipse.

Click [here](#) for information about the path of the eclipse.

[Get Your Solar Eclipse Glasses 2024 Approved – AAS, ISO & CE Certified for All Ages](#)

### **What kind of equipment is required?**

Almost any ham station can participate. Got an HF radio and an antenna usable on one or more of the 160 through 6 meter bands? Then you are ready to participate.

*While propagating your signal is most important*, If at all possible, **have contest logging software available** to record your QSO data. That data will be submitted after SEQP. Scientists will use that data from you and other participants, to aid in their research.

### **What can I expect when I operate during SEQP?**

While SEQP is an event that mirrors the definition of a contest, SEQP encourages operating CW, SSB and all digital modes with the idea is to have as many hams as possible make as many QSOs as possible. Scientists want to collect QSO data and carefully study it for trends that indicate the distance, strength and propagation of HF signals in contrast to the actual path of the eclipse.

Each QSOs is short, and is set up to only provide your callsign, signal report and station location. Like any contest, the first few minutes can be a bit overwhelming, but listen in, get into the rhythm and join the craziness!

### **What if I am only a WSPR or FST4W enthusiast?**

SEQP is also for those interested in transmitting and receiving WSPR and FST4W signals. WSPR and FST4W transmitters will be on the air for the entire SEQP logging transmissions worldwide which, in turn will enable researchers to collect data on the propagation effects of the solar eclipse as it moves across the planet.

For more information visit: <https://hamsci.org/gssc-rules>

### **Is there a ‘fun factor’ to the SEQP?**

Yes! Operating events are supposed to be fun. One way to increase the fun factor of any contest is to *calculate a fun score for all your participants* based on the number of contacts made, their geographic reach, and how many receiving stations heard the signals.

### **How is the data processed?**

The HamSCI Team will gather all of the entries submitted on the SEQP website, visit propagation databases such as WSPRNET.org and PSKReporter.info and assemble millions of data points into a research database.

From that database the HamSCI Team will be able to assign everyone a score, which will then be published some months after the SEQP.

Need more information? Email HamSCI about SEQP at: [hamsci@hamsci.org](mailto:hamsci@hamsci.org)



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## April 8's total solar eclipse will make baseball history. Here's how

### [News](#)

By [Samantha Mathewson](#)

published 8 hours ago

The total solar eclipse on April 8 coincides with two Major League Baseball games being played in cities that fall within the path of totality.



In 2017, a minor league baseball game between the Salem-Keizer Volcanoes and Hillsboro Hops was delayed due to the total solar eclipse — the first "Eclipse Delay" in baseball history. (Image credit: Photo by Jonathan Ferrey /Sports Illustrated via Getty Images)

The total solar eclipse on April 8 will hit two cities that host Major League Baseball games that day.

During a [total solar eclipse](#), the moon appears almost exactly the same size as [the sun](#) in the sky, blocking the entire solar disk for viewers in the path of totality, which, on April 8, 2024, stretches from Mexico, across 15 U.S. states and into southeastern Canada. Along that path lies Arlington, Texas, and Cleveland, Ohio, two cities that will host MLB games on April 8. That's never happened before in the history of baseball or eclipses.

The Texas Rangers will face the Houston Astros at Globe Life Field in Arlington on April 8, while the Cleveland Guardians will host the Chicago White Sox in their home opener at Progressive Field. Although outside the path of totality, the Yankees, Cardinals, Pirates, Reds and Blue Jays will also host MLB games in cities where at least a [90% eclipse will be visible](#).

**Bob Heil, K9EID, Silent Key** (What a surprise after just having an article in February with his grandson.)

The man who defined the sound of live rock 'n' roll music and brought audio engineering principals into mainstream amateur radio use, Dr. Bob Heil, K9EID, has passed away at the age of 83.

He was an ARRL Life Member and in the ARRL Maxim Society. A Facebook post from Heil Ham Radio paid tribute to their founder: "Bob fought a valiant, yearlong battle with cancer, and passed peacefully surrounded by his family."

Heil founded Heil Sound in 1966, through which he created the template for modern concert sound systems for musicians like the Grateful Dead, The Who, Joe Walsh, and Peter Frampton.

The talk box used on iconic live record *Frampton Comes Alive!* was Heil's design. His audio engineering products have been featured in the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, and he was honored in 2007 with the Parnelli Audio Innovator Award for his impact on the live sound industry. "My life has been about achieving great sound, whether on the concert stage or in the amateur radio world," Bob Heil [recounted in 2022](#). "I've watched Heil Sound go from a regional sound company to a world-class microphone manufacturer. This company has been my passion," he said.

Parallel to his commercial and artistic success in live music, was his passion for amateur radio. He was active in ham radio from a young age, and he merged his expertise in audio engineering with his love for radio. Heil Ham Radio was founded to produce microphones, headsets, and other gear for radio amateurs with an emphasis on high-quality audio.

Heil was known as a mentor who enjoyed helping others find success in ham radio.

P.S. Our WD2STK, Sabrina, has a connection with Bob as you can see. This was at the one of the Dayton hamfests.



"RIP, man. I love you and miss you already. Sending love to Sarah and to the world of audioheads you leave behind," said rocker Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, in [a Facebook post](#). [Joe Walsh, WB6ACU, photo]



Thanks for the picture, Sabrina.

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I apologize for the lack of cute cartoons and goofy things I try to keep you awake in the newsletters. "Dodo Computer" Dave is having some "What the heck is going on?" with the March newsletter. So, I'll send the Word copy to KC2TNJ after I make a pdf file to send to the club members. I don't add anything more and what I have seems to be okay. (I think?)



You haven't got to convince me to come to the meeting for pizza! Hi hi.

My Dad always use to say, "If you want to see Dave invite him for dinner." Hi hi. He was right.

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DARC **"SPRING FLING"** HAD TO BE CHANGED TO **FRIDAY April 5<sup>th</sup>** !!!!!  
RICH, KC2TNJ, WILL SEND OUT ANOTHER EMAIL TO CONFIRM A FINAL  
COUNT. CHECK YOUR EMAIL!



