

RANDOM *Oscillations*

A Monthly Publication for the Members of the Radio Central Amateur Radio Club

From the President

Neil, KC2KY

Greetings again from the KC2KY keyboard. We have three big summer events on tap so far: Field Day (THIS weekend, June 27-29), Tesla Expo (July 12 with a July 19 Rain Date), and Lighthouse Weekend (August 16 and 17). We started the late spring with several consecutive rainy weekends but hopefully that will change for the upcoming events we have in store. I'd like to get at least one club POTA organized as well, but it's tough to think about additional club events at least until we get past Field Day.

June Meeting

Our June meeting will be a "Tips, Tricks, and Techniques" meeting. It's a member participation meeting. You will have the opportunity to ask questions about aspects of the hobby that a fellow member may be able to answer. Or, if you have a clever idea to share with the group, that's OK too. I emailed you about a week ago to start thinking about ideas - both questions and answers - to bring with you. We'll distribute index cards to write your ideas down. Let's see what comes out of this.

Field Day

Field Day with Radio Central will always have a special place in my heart, because it was at Field Day 1989 that I first got introduced to Radio Central Amateur Radio Club. The camaraderie and teamwork that I witnessed cemented my future as a die hard Radio Central member. Field Day is an opportunity to get involved with many aspects of Amateur Radio from setting up a station to operating - HF, VHF, satellite, and this year, digital modes (FT4 and FT8). We will have a GOTA (Get On The Air) station in operation for "rookie" HF operators - with experienced operators around to coach you along if you're not sure what to do. I hope to see a strong turnout of Radio Central members to pitch in with setup, teardown, operating, and hanging out with your friends and fellow RCARC members. We will be starting setup at 2:00 PM Friday afternoon, finishing up setup Saturday morning, operating from 2 PM Saturday till 2 PM Sunday, and starting teardown around 1:30 Sunday afternoon.

See "President", Page 2

Protect the Most Important Element of Field Day: The People

From the ARRL Web Page, Dateline June 21, 2025



That includes yourself! Late June holds the Summer Solstice, and in North America where Field Day takes place, that means a higher likelihood of long, hot, summer days. If it's not everyday you're working in the heat, you especially need to take care of yourself.

Dr. Carol Milazzo, M.D., KP4MD, is the Section Manager of the ARRL Sacramento Valley Section. She's also a practicing physician. She knows the danger of heat-related illness and shared some tips with members of her section ahead of Field Day:

- * Wear light colored, loose clothes that block the light. Use sunscreen of at least SPF 15.
- * Wear a wide brim hat to protect the neck, forehead, ears, eyes, nose and scalp.
- * Limit direct sunlight exposure between 10 am and 4 pm, when the sun's UV rays are strongest.
- * Drink lots of water or sports drinks, about 1 cup every 15 minutes.
- * Avoid alcohol, caffeinated beverages, or heavy meals — these adversely affect your tolerance to heat.
- * Rest regularly in the shade or a cool place.

Know the signs of heat-related illnesses. Monitor yourself and others for symptoms such as headache, light-headedness, dizziness or fainting, weakness, moist skin, muscle cramps, and mood changes such as irritability or confusion. Persons at greater risk from heat illness include young children, the elderly, persons with heavy build, and those with certain medications and medical conditions such as obesity, heart disease, respiratory disease, and diabetes.

ARRL wants you to have a good time and stay safe during the event.

Tesla Day

I had chat with Ed Wilson, N2XDD, our ARRL Hudson Division Director and he asked me if Radio Central is in for Tesla Expo. I gave him a Yes answer, confident that we'll have enough members to pull off another successful event. Ed wants to have a meeting between now and the Tesla event, presumably some time after Field Day, when we can work out the details of the event (probably similar to what we did last year). More details to follow.

Lighthouse Weekend

Lighthouse weekend is August 16 and 17. We have secured permission from the Town of Old Field to set up Saturday and Sunday - a full setup and teardown each of the two days, with the possible exception of leaving one or more antennas up overnight. Operating from the lighthouse location (in the parking lot, not actually in the lighthouse) is a lot of fun, and a beautiful setting overlooking Long Island Sound.

2025 Club Officers

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Neil Heft

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Treasurer: **W2EMN**

Ed Newman

Secretary: **AB2UW**

Bill Lynch

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Honorary Members

Frank Kiefer, K2PWG sk

Art Greenberg W2LH sk

Warren Bogin W2GZA sk

JoAnn Colletti N2IME sk

Club Resources

W2RC/R 145.150 MHz, 4Z PL

W2RC/R 449.525 MHz, 2A PL

Repeater Nets

Tuesday at 20:00 EST : Club Rag Chew Net

Club Web Page: <http://rcarc.org>

Important Upcoming Dates

June 25 - June General Meeting

June 27 - 29 Field Day

July 2 - July Board Meeting

July 12 - Tesla Expo

July 30 - July General Meeting

August 6 - August Board Meeting

August 16-17 - Lighthouse Weekend

Radio Central Amateur Radio Club's 2025 Meeting Calendar

DATE	TOPIC
January 22, 2025	ARRL News and Views - Ed Wilson, N2XDD
February 26, 2025	Chinese Auction and Membership Drive
March 26, 2025	Artificial Intelligence and Amateur Radio
April 30, 2025	Logbook of the World
May 28, 2025	Field Day Planning Meeting
June 25, 2025	Tips, Tricks and Techniques
July 30, 2025	
August 27, 2025	
September 24, 2025	Future Meeting Topics To Be Announced
October 29, 2025	
November 19, 2025	
December 17, 2025	

The ARRL Solar Report

From the ARRL Web Page, Dateline June 20, 2025

On Friday, June 20, Spaceweather.com reports that, in addition to it being the first day of Summer in the Northern Hemisphere, on June 19 the Sun produced another X-class flare causing a shortwave radio blackout over the Pacific Ocean.

Solar activity reached high levels when Region AR4114 produced the strongest event of the period, an X1.9 flare at 2350 UTC. The region remained the most complex on the disk despite being in a decay phase. The other numbered spotted regions on the visible disk were either mostly stable or in gradual decay. No Earth-directed CMEs were observed in available coronagraph imagery.

R1 to R2 (Minor-Moderate) radio blackouts are likely with a chance for X-class flares (R3-Strong) through June 21, mostly driven by the potential from Regions AR4114, AR4115, and AR4117.

Coronal Hole High Speed Stream conditions are expected to persist with waning influences into June 21. Unsettled conditions are expected to continue.

Solar wind parameters continued to reflect a positive polarity CH HSS (Coronal Hole High Speed Stream) regime.

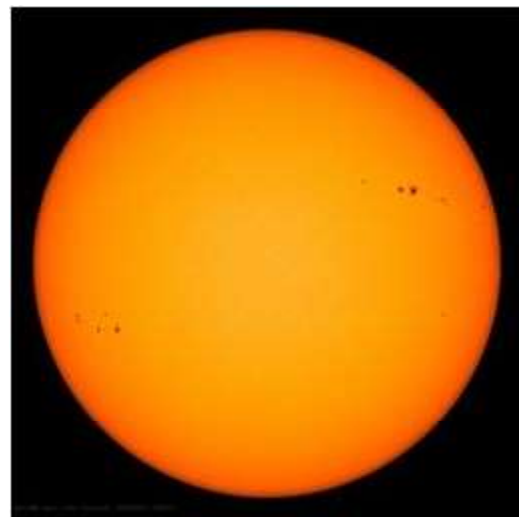
The geomagnetic field is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels on June 21, and at quiet levels on June 22. Geomagnetic field activity is likely to reach G1 (Minor) storm levels on June 25 and 26 due to negative polarity CH HSS influences.

Weekly Commentary on the Sun, the Magnetosphere, and the Earth's Ionosphere, June 19, 2025, by F. K. Janda, OK1HH:

"Solar activity is still at the peak of its eleven-year cycle, even though it reached its maximum last summer (with a monthly average of $R = 216$ in August last year and a smoothed average of $R_{12} = 160.8$ for October last year). The change from last year is the shift of sunspot activity from the southern to the northern half of the solar disc. The appearance of new sunspot activity in the southeast in recent days, close to the solar equator, came as a slight surprise.

"This Spring, especially in May and early June, we could not fail to notice frequent periods of solar wind intensification and, consequently, a number of geomagnetic disturbances, which caused the critical frequencies of the ionospheric F layer to drop to values corresponding to significantly lower solar activity. In recent days, there has been only a slight improvement.

"Most forecasts for future solar activity predict a continuing decline, but if we assume higher activity in the currently setting sunspot groups, we can expect an increase after their appearance on the north-eastern limb of the solar disc in July. Overall, calmer conditions can be expected during the coming Summer, although shortwave propagation conditions will continue to be slightly worse than would correspond to the level of solar activity."



[Photo Courtesy of NASA SDO / HMI]

The latest solar report from Dr. Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, can be found on YouTube at, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RXJT7qLT0A>.

For customizable propagation charts, visit the VOACAP Online for Ham

Radio website at, <https://www.voacap.com/hf/>.

For more information concerning shortwave radio propagation, see

<http://www.arrl.org/propagation> and the ARRL Technical Information Service web page at, <http://arrl.org/propagation-of-rf-signals>. For an explanation of numbers used in this bulletin, see <http://arrl.org/the-sun-the-earth-the-ionosphere>. Information and tutorials on propagation can be found at, <http://k9la.us/>.

Also, check this: <https://bit.ly/3Rc8Njt>

"Understanding Solar Indices" from September 2002 QST.

The Predicted Planetary A Index for June 21 to 27 is 5, 5, 8, 12, 25, 20, and 15, with a mean of 12.9. Predicted Planetary K Index is 2, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5, and 4, with a mean of 3.6. 10.7 centimeter flux is 138, 135, 125, 125, 130, 125, and 125, with a mean of 129.



THE DX CORNER

JUNE 2025

Although no new DX Peditions were active in June, there were plenty of DX stations to be worked. As an example, on 17M we saw AP2RAI, Pakistan, OD5ZF, Lebanon, YE4FNN, Indonesia, and A71AT, Qatar. On 15M we saw KH0/KC0W in the Marianas and plenty of stations throughout Europe and Japan. T30TTT, W. Kiribati was active on 20M. Generally, on almost any HF band, stations from Europe and the Far East were on throughout the day. South America opened at the crack of dawn and stayed open into the late evening. Tune into the bands and listen, listen, listen.

Yuris, ZS8W, reported QSL cards for those who worked the Marion Island DX Pedition, and requested a card, will be sent out by the end of June.

At the LIDXA meeting on June 17, Adrian, KO8SCA, reported the \$1.65M budget for the Bouvet (3Y0K) DX Pedition in Feb 2026 is very close to being achieved. Also, he indicated the Saint Peter and Paul Rocks (PY0S) DX Pedition, in October of this year, is only one minor permit away from being approved.

6 meters had several significant openings in June. There were many openings to the deep south, the Caribbean and Europe; as well as, propagation to the mid-west and western states, with opportunities into Idaho, Nevada, Colorado, Arizona and Mexico.

I see many of the club members working 6 meters and contests during my on air time, but none have reported their activity, so for this month all I have to report is my own activity.

I personally was able to work Bermuda, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Western Sahara, Malta, the Canary Islands, the Azores, St. Croix, St. Martin and several stations in Spain and Portugal; as well as adding Oklahoma to my 6M WAS count. (Now 39 states)

The following are some of the DX-Peditions or Lone Wolf stations that are currently active or will be activated in the next couple of months, as reported by DX World:

- 4U0ITU – UN ITU HQ Europe – 5/16 – End of year.
- JD1BMH – Ogasawara – 6-26 – 7/04.
- 3B9SP – Rodrigues Island – 7/28 – 8/01.
- 8Q7NI – Maldives – Currently active – length of stay unknown.
- V6D – Micronesia – 9/22 – 10/06
- V73HW – Marshall Islands – Currently active – early mornings and weekends.
- T88GF – Palau – 8/18 – 8/22
- VK0DS- Davis Station Antarctica – Operational until Nov 2025.
- St. Peter and Paul Rocks – October – November 2025 Firm date not yet announced.

See "DX Corner", Page 5

CLUB DXCC STANDINGS

Reported Club DXCC Standings are as follows: (Per on-line ARRL listing)

Call	ARRL DX Standings	Confirmed but not reported	Total
W2FDM	302V	1	303
W2EMN	300V	2	302
KB2ZPB	286V	0	286
N2WPT	239V	8	247
WB2NFL	207V	33	240

The ARRL List only stations with a DXCC of 100 or more verified entities.

V (Verified), NV (Not Verified)

DXCC application processing is back to typical processing times. The DXCC standings published appear to be up to date.

CONTEST PARTICIPATION & PARKS ON THE AIR (POTA)

No Contests reported

No other POTA or contests were reported.

Anyone interested in reporting any contests or POTA activity participated in, provide your results to me, and we will report them here.

Postal rates will increase, once again, starting July 13. A domestic letter will increase to \$.78 and an international letter to \$1.70. Time to start using LoTW!

Report your DX standings and activities to Frank W2FDM at frankfish4@optimum.net.

Also, you can scan posted upcoming DX events at DXWorld.net. There are many other activations, that I have not listed, in NA, SA, Africa, Europe, Asia and Oceania that may interest new and seasoned DX chasers

73 and Good DX

Frank W2FDM

frankfish4@optimum.net



Radio Central Amateur Radio Club June 4, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

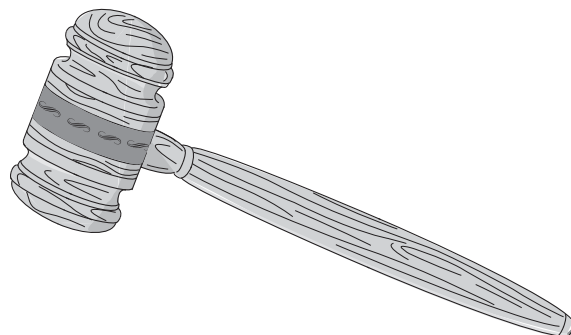
Bill, AB2UW, RCARC Recording Secretary

An asterisk () before each name indicates the Board Member has read the minutes and inserted any changes they may have had, if any.*

*Board Members Present: Steve, AB2EW; Bob, KC2FYZ; Winston, KD2WLL; Richie, KB2ZPB; Frank, W2FDM; *Neil, KC2KY; *Bill, AB2UW;*

Guests present: none

Board Members Absent: Ed, W2EMN; Bob, WB2NFL



June 25, 2025 Membership Meeting

"Tips, Tricks, and Techniques" - give out index cards for participants to write questions or ideas to discuss.

July 30, 2025 Membership Meeting

Bob, KC2FYZ - Talk on installing the fiber infrastructure for live TV events and also talk about the superbowl and the spelling bee.

Future Meetings

Late summer; early fall; Neil will invite Peter Portanova, W2JV, to speak about satellite contacts. Neil has previously put together "A History of Amateur Radio" that he could present.

Tesla Event

Neil will contact Tesla, N2XDD about the details.

Lighthouse Weekend

Neil will contact the lighthouse people for permission.

Repeater

The repeater is now working on both bands.

Executive Board Meeting Dates

July 2, 2025; August 6, 2025; September 10, 2025

Membership Meeting Dates

June 25, 2025; July 30, 2025; August 27, 2025

Newsletter Articles Wanted

Working on a new kit or homebrew project? Have you recently received a rare or interesting QSL card? Received a new DXCC award or band endorsement? Or just have a cool photo (ham radio related) or some soap box comments to share with other club members? Why not consider submitting an article for the Newsletter. We're always looking for material for the Newsletter and feedback from club members goes a long way towards keeping the Newsletter interesting as well as stamping the club "personality" on our monthly publication. Articles can be submitted electronically or on paper, whatever you feel comfortable doing. As RCARC's Newsletter editor, I particularly look forward to putting a new edition together when I have material submitted by members.

April General Meeting Announcement

Logbook of the World

Presented by Frank Mazovec, W2FDM

Wednesday April 30, 6:30 pm

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