
OFARC Monthly Meeting Minutes 2023_1028

Martin called the meeting to order. 0910

A show of hands expressed approval for Jackie's Kitchen for a breakfast meeting place. We'll continue to meet there before our meetings in the future until further notice. Most of us preferred the food variety, better value, and more customary 15% gratuity.

Discussion about the Tuesday net and problems with the Tuesday net. Net Runner is FreeWare available that they are going to try using on the Tuesday Net.

Solar Presentation was presented, and the presentation should be on the reflector by Ralph Phillips, KE5HDF. April 8, 2024, max eclipse 90% in Houston and the San Antonio area should be at 100%.

MUF Maximum Usable Frequency. If you broadcast just below that number you will get better transmission/reception. [SolarHAM.com](https://www.solarham.com) is a location to get sunspot information.

<https://www.solarham.net/index.htm> And the Space Weather enthusiast website.

<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/content/space-weather-enthusiasts-dashboard>

YouTube has a channel Dr Tamitha SKOV, she is a Space Weather Physicist

Current Solar Index. <https://www.hamqsl.com/solar.html> These will be listed on the REFLECTOR.

Mass ejections from the Sun take ~1.5 days to reach the Earth. They are particles and are not traveling at the speed of light, which gets here in about 8.5 minutes.

A 100-200 Solar Flux Index gives good propagation, and we have years ahead of us for good HAM radio.

Mark WB5ANN did a presentation about the Eclipse as he travelled to Padre Island. The eclipse in that area was around noon. The cloud cover broke as the eclipse started. HE ran radio tests using a Icom 706 MK2G with 102" whip. AH-4 auto-coupler 80-6M. 80 watts, SSB 40W FM Grid EL17jq. The radio reception was good, he contacted Europe during the eclipse event.

Martin is doing a HAM radio amateur radio satellites. The presentation will be on the Reflector. ISS has a Kenwood Transceiver on board. There have been a lot of Amateur Radio Satellites in orbit.

Talking about Parks on the Air for the future. At Brazos Band they had 4 transceivers going at the same time. Question about which call sign to use. Any ideas for future presentations or regarding Parks on the Air would be appreciated, email Martin.

End of Meeting 11:06

Minutes Recorded by Ken Wenzel, KW5KEN