

K7MPR.NET

April of 2017



NewsLetter

Arecibo RT Dish Picks Up Deep Space Echoes of 1970's Signals

Scientists at the world-famous Arecibo radio telescope, located in the heart of the Arecibo district of Puerto Rico, issued a cautious, yet somewhat perplexed statement that on the night of January 21, 2017 recordings were made of a transmission that, according to the data, may well have occurred during the peak of the CB craze. According to Dr. Matt Pulde, preliminary data analysis on the signal stream indicates that the signals did not originate in deep space at all, but from a 1976 Chevy van conversion, somewhere near Atlanta, GA. At a briefing held at the National Science Foundation headquarters in Arlington, Va., Dr. Pulde played a short snippet of the audio, on which could be heard a male individual identified only as "Smokin' Sam" advising a friend of "...Bears in the Air at the cloverleaf, so y'all keep it right on that Double Nickel, Good Buddy." Dr. Pulde explained that, as nearly as could be determined, a dark mass somewhere in the direction of the Proxima Centauri B, may well be acting as an antenna that is re-radiating the decades old signals that are captured by a process that is, as of yet totally unexplained. While the reaction in the scientific community has been one of curiosity about the strange phenomena, the general consensus was voiced by Dr. Michael Schmidt, when he was heard saying "This sucks, what's next, DISCO?"



The Editors' Voice

by Jamie West

The "Golden-Age(rs) of Amateur Radio"

While as entertaining and educational a hobby as Amateur Radio is, it has become, unfortunately, largely the preserve of people rather far removed from the "bloom of their youth." Now, before anyone accuses me of "ageism", I'm not exactly a kid myself at 60-something years on this earth, but my concern is not only realistic, but factual as well.

The ARRL has labeled the period from 2005 to the present "The Golden Age of Amateur Radio", and while this may well be true as far as the number of licensed Hams go, it should be noted that we are also living in the era of "The Golden-Agers of Amateur Radio" too. It seems that Amateur Radio is doing a lousy job of bringing young people into the hobby, and by Amateur Radio, I don't mean just the ARRL, I'm talking about me...and you, and this Club, and pretty much ALL of the Ham Clubs in the U.S.

Again, before I am the recipient of angry denials and nasty looks, I certainly have no clue as to how or why we have failed to engage the young kids, but the evidence is clear that we have failed, and miserably too.

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The failure of Ham radio to capture the fancy of the younger generations certainly isn't the lack of technical skill or ability of the teens, as many, if not most of them are highly adept with smart phones, tablets and computers.

I am aware that a relatively small number of kids are engaged in Ham radio, and those that do pursue it as a hobby do very well, but by and large, Amateur Radio seems to fail to capture their interest. In the 1950's, Amateur Radio was a regular feature of Boy Scouting, a number of church youth groups would sponsor Ham classes and youth clubs, and it was even featured as an "after-school" activity in many areas.

Beyond simply bemoaning the facts, I, along with many others am seeking some feedback as to WHY the current crop of teens simply has no interest in Amateur Radio as a hobby or vocation. Much more importantly than merely seeking the answers as to WHY, is the question of what must be done to bring them "into the fold" as it were. Engaging the younger people is critical to the future of this hobby, so if you have some ideas as to how to better engage them, NOW is the time to speak your mind. I am, as are the officers and membership of this club, vitally interested in YOUR feedback on this issue, so please drop me a line, or speak up at the monthly meetings. We want to hear your ideas, we need to hear from you, so now is not the time to be shy!



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DXPEDITIONS

6Y5/DJ7CF Jamaica

Helmut, DJ7CF will be active from Jamaica, IOTA NA - 097, until 28 April 2017 as 6Y5/DJ7CF.

He is working on HF Bands CW, SSB, Digital modes.

QSL via home call buro.

TG9/VE7VZ Guatemala

Douglas, VE7VZ will be active from Guatemala 21 April - 15 May 2017 as TG9/VE7VZ.

He will operate on HF Bands.

QSL via VE7BV, LOTW.

Ads for direct QSL:

Dwight Edward Morrow, 7135 Blackwell Rd, Kamloops, BC, V2C 6V8, Canada.

OY/MM0ZBH Faroe Islands

Paul, MM0ZBH will be active from Faroe Islands, IOTA EU - 018, 30 March - 6 April 2017 as OY/MM0ZBH.

He will operate on HF Bands.

QSL via LOTW, eQSL only.

7Z1ES Saudi Arabia

Ed, NI6S will be active from Saudi Arabia starting April 2017 as 7Z1ES.

He will operate on HF Bands.

QSL via IZ8CLM, LOTW, eQSL.

Ads for direct QSL:

Salvatore Rapacciuolo, P O Box 12, 84018, Scafati, Sa, Italy.

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STOCK PHOTO FOR ILLUSTRATION ONLY

For Sale

Yaesu FT 990 HF radio

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Jim Byrne KE6RFR 928-681-3220

OST...OST...OST AUTHORS WANTED!

If you have an idea for an article, or have ever wanted to pen an advice column to offer your help and experience to other Hams, the Newsletter is always looking for writers.

It's fun, it's helpful to others, and best of all, it offers a great platform for you to make your views on matters known to others. Contact me at JamieWest1@HotMail.com with your ideas, tips and stories. Any and all help is gratefully accepted!

Samuel F. B. Morse, the inventor of Morse Code, was far better known in his own lifetime as a painter than an inventor.



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DXpeditions continued

WW6RG/KH9 Wake Island

Randy, WW6RG will be active from Wake Island, (IOTA OC-053), starting 31 March 2017 as WW6RG/KH9.

He will operate on 20 and 40 m using 5 watts SSB.

Operating frequencies:
14,190 and 7,180 Mhz.

Randy is planning to start 04.00Z 31 March 2017.

Listen also on the ANZA Net 14183 after 05.00 GMT.

QSL via home call.

Ads for direct QSL:

RANDY W AVERY, 11395 CULEBRA ST,
CYPRESS, CA 90630, USA.

DXCC Country - Wake Island KH9.

HC8/LW9EOC Galapagos Islands

Tim, LW9EOC will be active from Galapagos Islands, IOTA SA - 004, in April or May 2017 as HC8/LW9EOC.

He will operate on 160 - 6m.

QSL via home call direct, LOTW.

More information soon.

DXCC Country - Galapagos Islands HC8.

PQ7MM Brazil

Joao, PP7JR will be active from Brazil in CQ MM Contest 15 - 16 April 2017 as PQ7MM.

He will be in SO Category.

QSL via PY4KL.

Ads for direct QSL:

Grupo Juizforano de CW (CWJF GROUP),
Rua Dr. Edgard Quinet 35 / apto 401,
36036-080 JUIZ DE FORA - MG, Brazil.



Radio Waves

by Jamie West

