

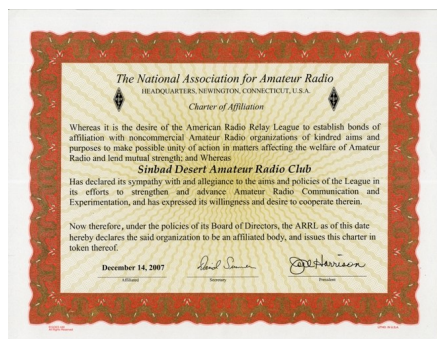
Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club



NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008

ARRL Club Affiliation



Certificate of Affiliation.

On December 14th, 2007 the Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club became an ARRL affiliated club. George Ingram K3RZD initiated the process last fall and presented the Club with the Certificate and Letter from the ARRL during the February club meeting in Orangeville.

With this affiliation the SDARC is able to take advantage of many benefits available from the ARRL. One such benefit being looked into is equipment insurance for some of the repeater system that the club maintains and owns.

Thanks to George Ingram for submitting the affiliation application and contacting the ARRL for updates throughout the process.

Special points of interest:

- ARRL CLUB AFFILIATION
- NEW CLUB OFFICERS
- NEW SDARC WEBSITE

2008 SDARC Club Officers

Club officers of the Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club for 2008 are as follows:

President

Bryan Anderson - KD7HSG

North Vice-President

Ross Sacco - KB7UZX

South Vice-President

Jim Anderson - KA7YIV

Secretary / Treasurer

Anita Mills - KB7GFV

Communication Officer

Jim Anderson - KJ7S

I would like to thank all of the previous year officers for their hard work and dedication towards the club.

Bryan Anderson

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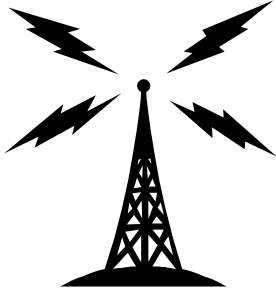
NEW WEBSITE **5**

Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club

Skyline Club's Repeater Status

Hi all,

I wanted to share the current status of local Ham repeaters with those who might be system operators, repeater operators, net control stations, radio techs, ect.



146.660 W7DHH, Ephraim, Works fairly well, Link is good, Power line noise is sometimes noticeable, I expect that will continue to be reliable unlike the power line itself.

147.100 N7GGN, Beesting, Is showing poor RX sens. since cold temps. Link is good.

146.860 KD7YE, Monroe, (Currently down) seems to be in time out. It came on last week for a few hours, then went into TX mode with no rx noise, then timed out.?

146.640 WA7HSW, Monroe, Seems to have poor RX, weak signals drop out. I am aware of broken contacts on the antenna N connector, possible source of noise. The UHF 447.450 link repeater (on the same antenna) seems to work much better. The 424.325 link to SINBAD (Bruin Pt.) is working great.

146.720 WB7REL, Manti, Is working good, installed preamp on RX. Link fades to Monroe at times? (I will replace feedline on link antenna when I can).

146.720 W7NRC?, Spencers Bench, Is working, Link seems to be off. Does anyone know the status? Is it no longer part of our system?

145.290 WB7REL, Barton Pk, Works good, Linked to 449.250 on High Top (turned off sometimes due to solar power).

447.300 WB7REL, Indianola, Off for winter, solar power limitations. (wind turbine is going up soon).

447.850 WB7REL, Sterling, Down for rebuild.

449.300 WB7REL, Beesting, Is working OK, Low power output, 6 meter works great.

448.275 KD7YE, Barton Pk, Is working , very low power output. (Just installed CD amp, it croaked)?

IRLP/ECHO, Manti node 3576. Is working good, Thanks to Bret's help. I need to put a better antenna on the uplink radio.

As can be seen, the winter has taken its toll on the bizz. If anyone has any ideas for improving this situation now or when Summer gets here lets get together. Replies welcome.

73, Barry WB7REL

SKYLINE RADIO CLUB

Central Utah's Amateur Radio Connection For News and Events

Cycle 24 is Here, Experts Say

“With the appearance of Sunspot 981 — a high latitude, reversed polarity sunspot — on Friday, January 4, experts at NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) said the Cycle 24 is now here. “This sunspot is like the first robin of spring,” said solar physicist Douglas Biesecker of the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC), part of NOAA. “In this case, it’s an early omen of solar storms that will gradually increase over the next few years.”

Solar physicist David Hathaway of NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama concurred, saying that new solar cycles begin with a “modest knot” of magnetism, like the one that appeared on December 11 on the east limb of the Sun: “That patch of magnetism could be a sign of the next solar cycle. New solar cycles always begin with a high-latitude, reversed polarity sunspot.” The region of magnetism that appeared back in December achieved high latitude (24 degrees North) and was magnetically reversed, but no supporting sunspot appeared until 25 days later.

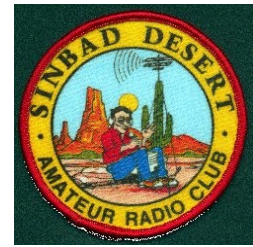
Reversed polarity describes a sunspot with opposite magnetic polarity compared to sunspots from the previous solar cycle. High-latitude refers to the Sun’s grid of latitude and longitude. Old-cycle spots congregate near the Sun’s equator; new-cycle spots appear higher, around 25 or 30 degrees latitude. Sunspot 981’s high-latitude location at 27 degrees North and its negative polarity leading to the right in the Northern Hemisphere are clear-cut signs of a new solar cycle, according to NOAA experts. The first active regions and sunspots of a new solar cycle can emerge at high latitudes while those from the previous cycle continue to form closer to the equator.

While experts vary in their predictions on when the solar cycle will peak and how

strong it will be, NOAA, in April 2007, in coordination with an international panel of solar experts, predicted that the next 11-year cycle of solar storms “would start in March 2008, plus or minus six months, and peak in the late 2011 or mid-2012.” In the cycle forecast issued in April 2007, half of the panel predicted a “moderately strong cycle of 140 sunspots, plus or minus 20, expected to peak in October 2011. The other half predicted a moderately weak cycle of 90 sunspots, plus or minus 10, peaking in August 2012. An average solar cycle ranges from 75 to 155 sunspots. The late decline of Cycle 23 has helped shift the panel away from its earlier leaning toward a strong Cycle 24. The group is evenly split between a strong and a weak cycle.”

NASA’s Hathaway, along with colleague Robert Wilson at a meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco last month, said that Solar Cycle 24 “looks like it’s going to be one of the most intense cycles since record-keeping began almost 400 years ago.” They believe the next solar maximum should peak around 2010 with a sunspot number of 160, plus or minus 25. “This would make it one of the strongest solar cycles of the past fifty years — which is to say, one of the strongest in recorded history.” Four of the five biggest cycles on record have come in the past 50 years. “Cycle 24 should fit right into that pattern,” Hathaway said.

According to Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, “As for improvement in propagation on the higher bands, we still have a way to go before that happens, and it depends on the magnitude of Cycle 24. The Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel has published predictions for Cycle 24, but unfortunately the panel did not reach one consensus prediction. If the larger of the two predictions comes true, we should expect consistent F2 propagation on 10 and 12 meters to start toward the end of 2009. If the smaller



SOLAR CYCLE 24

“LOOKS LIKE IT’S GOING TO BE ONE OF THE MOST INTENSE CYCLES SINCE RECORD-KEEPING BEGAN ALMOST 400 YEARS AGO.”

Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club

Cycle 24 (cont.)

prediction comes true, this will be delayed about one year.”

Luetzelschwab, who writes the column “Propagation” for the National Contest Journal (NCJ), continued: “While we wait for improved high band conditions, don’t forget the low bands. Around solar minimum and for the next year or so, the Earth’s geomagnetic field is at its quietest. This is good for low band propagation. Thus, right now is the time to start (or add to) your 80 and 160 meter DXCC efforts.”

According to NASA’s Tony Phillips, many forecasters believe Solar Cycle 24 will be big and intense. “Solar cycles usually take a few years to build to a frenzy and Cy-

cle 24 will be no exception. We still have some quiet times ahead,” said Hathaway.”

***From The ARRL Letter, Vol 27, No 1
(Friday, January 11, 2008)***

Upcoming Events

Here is a list of events to look forward to and plan for the next few months.

SDARC Spring Campout

April 4-6, 2008

Near the Wedge Overlook

ARRL Field Day

June 28-29, 2008

Utah Hamfest

ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention

July 11-13, 2008

Ruby’s Inn, Bryce Canyon

The next meeting of the SDARC will be held in Price, UT on March 6th, 2008. The location in Price is Los 2 Amigos Mexican Restaurant.

Also there is an informal net sponsored by the SDARC every Tuesday night at 20:00 hours local time on the local repeaters.

The Borderline Amateur Radio Club also has a net every Wednesday night at 21:00 hours local time on their repeaters. The SDARC repeaters are usually linked during this time.

Dues for the Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club are due for the 2008 year. Dues are \$25 for the year. Please use the form on the next page to mail the dues to the club treasurer.



Winter 2008



NEWSLETTER

The Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club is a general-purpose club that mainly serves the Carbon and Emery Counties but has members from all over Utah and surrounding states. The Club was formed by local Hams in Eastern Utah in 1982 by individuals with a common interest. Those interests range from a "ragchew" on one of the standalone repeaters or on the SDARC repeater system to the many different modes on the low bands.

SDARC
P.O. Box 1073
Castle Dale, UT 84513

Club's New Website

If you have not been to the club's website you might want to go and take a look. Over the last few months the website has taken on a new look and updated feel.

There you can download these newsletters, maps to get to campouts the club has throughout the year, and links to software and sites used by club members.

Repeater information is also now on the website such as frequency, tone, and coverage maps.

There is also a brief history on how the club was formed and also has the club

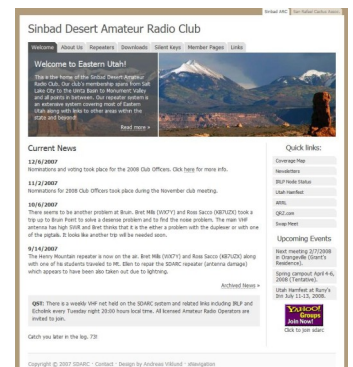
bylaws. Also please visit the Silent Key page for those that are not with us now.

The website will also contain news, upcoming events, and interests for anyone that visits the site.

Also take a look at some of our club members personal pages being hosted on the club's website.

Address:

<http://www.ecso.com/sdarc/index.html>



SDARC Website Welcome Page

Please use the following form to pay dues, to give a donation, and/or to update your contact information.

Please update your contact information below.

Address _____

City State Zip

Daytime Telephone

Evening Telephone

E-mail Address



Dues—\$25.00 (per year, per member)	\$
Donations (If any)	\$
Total	\$

Please make checks payable to below and send to:

Sinbad Desert Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 1073
Castle Dale, UT 84513

Check here to receive the newsletter by e-mail instead.