



# KARS KEY KLICKS



JOURNAL OF THE KANKAKEE AREA RADIO SOCIETY

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Editors: K9NR, N9IO  
Contributors: W9IE

February 2023

## DXing Program for February Meeting

The February KARS General Meeting will be Tuesday, February 14th, 7PM at the [Bradley/Bourbonnais Sportsmen's Club](#). Everyone is invited.

After a short business meeting, there will be a program on the very popular subject of HF DXing. In light of the stunning sunspot activity, this is a very timely subject! See you there!

### KARS 2023 DUES SCHEDULE

Regular Membership	\$30
Family Membership	\$40
Senior Membership	\$15
Senior Family Membership	\$20
Full Time Student Membership	\$15
Disabled Membership	\$15
Active Military	Waived

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

February 3	K9XI
February 4	K9QT
February 8	KK9R
February 11	N9ETT
February 14	K9BAC
February 15	NI9H
February 20	N9LYE

Let the newsletter editors know if we miss your birthday or get it wrong.

### NCS FOR FEBRUARY

The net meets every Monday at 2000 hours local time on the 146.34/.94 All stations with or without traffic are invited to check in.

February 6	KD9NPQ
February 13	K9XI
February 20	N9OE
February 27	K9NR

Don't forget the net!

Mondays at 2000 hrs. local time



Be sure to download the latest version of [WSJT-X \(2.6.1\)](#). There are additional operational features and even more improved decoding performance. Stay competitive and work even more DX!

### KARS KALENDAR

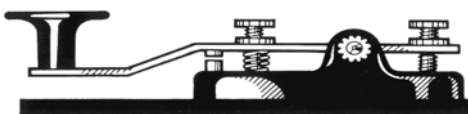
Feb 14.....	<a href="#">KARS General Meeting</a>
Feb 28.....	<a href="#">KARS Board Meeting</a>
March 14.....	<a href="#">KARS General Meeting</a>
March 28.....	<a href="#">KARS Board Meeting</a>
April 11.....	<a href="#">KARS General Meeting</a>
April 15.....	KARS Annual Banquet
April 25.....	<a href="#">KARS Board Meeting</a>

*The Kankakee Area Radio Society operates repeaters on:*

146.34/.94	107.2 PL Access
449.8/444.8	100.0 PL Access
145.130	107.2 PL Access

*Additionally, KARS sponsors:*

144.39 Two Wide Area APRS digi-peaters  
KARS DX Cluster [w9az.ddns.net](#)



# W9AZ

### SOFTWARE UPDATES

These are the latest versions of the following software...

<a href="#">WSJT-X</a>	2.6.1
<a href="#">JT-Alert</a>	2.60.5
<a href="#">Grid Tracker</a>	1.23.0206

**N1MM+** Contesting Software alerts you of an update every time you run it.

**DXLab** Logging Suite alerts you of updates to the applications and databases as they become available.

These five programs are considered by many to be the best and they are always available for free download...no strings attached.

### KARS BANQUET IS A GO!

Now that the genius's in Washington have declared the Chinese Communist Wuhan Plague to be officially over, we have scheduled the Annual KARS Banquet for Saturday April 15th at the Brickstone Brewery. Details to follow. Be sure to contact K9NR!

### KARS KONTEST KALENDAR

Feb 4-5.....	Vermont QSO Party
Feb 4.....	Minnesota QSO Party
Feb 4-5.....	British Columbia QSO Party
Feb 11-12.....	<a href="#">CQWW WPX RTTY</a>
Feb 13-17.....	<a href="#">ARRL School Roundup</a>
Feb 18-19.....	<a href="#">ARRL DX CW</a>
Feb 24-26....	<a href="#">CQWW 160 Contest SSB</a>
Feb 25-26....	<a href="#">South Carolina QSO Party</a>
Feb 25-26.....	<a href="#">NAQP RTTY</a>
Feb 26-27....	<a href="#">North Carolina QSO Party</a>
Mar 4-5.....	<a href="#">ARRL DX Contest SSB</a>
Mar 11-12.....	<a href="#">Idaho QSO Party</a>
Mar 11-12.....	<a href="#">Oklahoma QSO Party</a>
Mar 12-13.....	<a href="#">Wisconsin QSO Party</a>
Mar 18-20.....	<a href="#">BARTG RTTY Contest</a>
Mar 18-19.....	<a href="#">Virginia QSO Party</a>
Mar 25-26....	<a href="#">CQWW WPX Contest SSB</a>

## Don't forget your Hamvention Plans!

## ESTATE SALE

Equipment from the estate of W9HLQ:

Flex 6500 Radio	\$2500
Flex 1X3 Tuner Genius	1600
FlexControl Tuning Knob	100
Astron RS-20M Supply	100
Package Price	\$4000

### Accessories:

Timewave ANC-4 Noise Canceller	\$150
Timewave DSP-59+ Noise Filter	\$100

All in very good condition, Brian took great care of his equipment. Offered first to Hamfesters and KARS members.

Contact WA9FTU, Neal at  
[wa9ftu@comcast.net](mailto:wa9ftu@comcast.net)

## ARLB026 Rep. Bill Johnson Introduces Bill to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio

Congressman Bill Johnson (OH-6) introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R.9670) on Thursday, December 22, 2022, to eliminate private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of an Amateur Radio Operator from operating and installing amateur station antennas on property subject to the control of the Amateur Radio Operator.

## ARLB025 Rep. Lesko Introduces Bill to Replace Symbol Rate Limit with Bandwidth Limit

Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced a bill in the U.S.

House of Representatives (H.R. 9664) on December 21, 2022, to require that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) replace the current HF digital symbol rate limit with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit.

After being petitioned by ARRL, The National Association for Amateur Radio, in 2013 (RM-11708) for the same relief, in 2016 the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (WT Docket No.(16-239) in which it agreed that the HF symbol rate limit was outmoded, served no purpose, and hampered experimentation. But the Commission questioned whether any bandwidth limit was needed in its place. Most amateurs, including the ARRL, objected to there being no signal bandwidth limit in the crowded HF bands given the possibility that unreasonably wide bandwidth digital protocols could be developed, and since 2016 there has been no further FCC action.

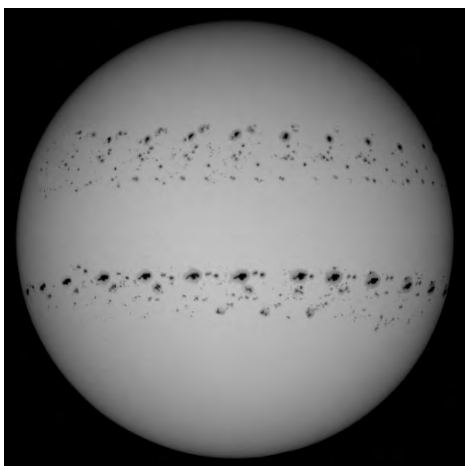
## SUNSPOTS HIT NINE YEAR HIGH! LIFE IS GOOD!



In a continued sign of strength for Solar Cycle 25, sunspot counts just hit a 9-year high. This plot from NOAA shows how the monthly sunspot number skyrocketed in January. In a continued sign of strength for Solar Cycle 25, sunspot counts just hit a 9-year high.

The monthly sunspot number of 144 in January 2023 was only percentage points away from topping the previous solar cycle, Solar Cycle 24, which peaked in Feb. 2014 with a monthly value of 146.

Originally, [forecasters thought](#) Solar Cycle 25 would be about the same as Solar Cycle 24, one of the weakest solar cycles in a century. Current trends suggest Solar Cycle 25 will surpass that low threshold, at least. Solar Maximum is not expected until 2024 or 2025, so it has plenty of time to strengthen further, perhaps far exceeding Solar Cycle 24. You can [follow the progression here](#).



This is a composite image created by Patricio Leon of Santiago, Chile. Almost every day in January, Leon photographed the Sun and stacked the images to show the march of large sunspots across the solar disk.

Article and photographs courtesy of...  
[Spaceweather.com](http://Spaceweather.com)

## KARS BOARD MEETING

The November KARS Board Meeting will be Tuesday February 28th at El Mexicano's Restaurant.

6PM to eat...7PM to meet

Attend at 7PM if you don't wish to eat.

## EMERGENCY PRACTICE NET

There is an emergency practice net on Thursday nights at 7PM on the 444.8 KARS repeater. (100.0 pl) Everyone is invited to check in!

## LIFE IS SIMPLE



EAT



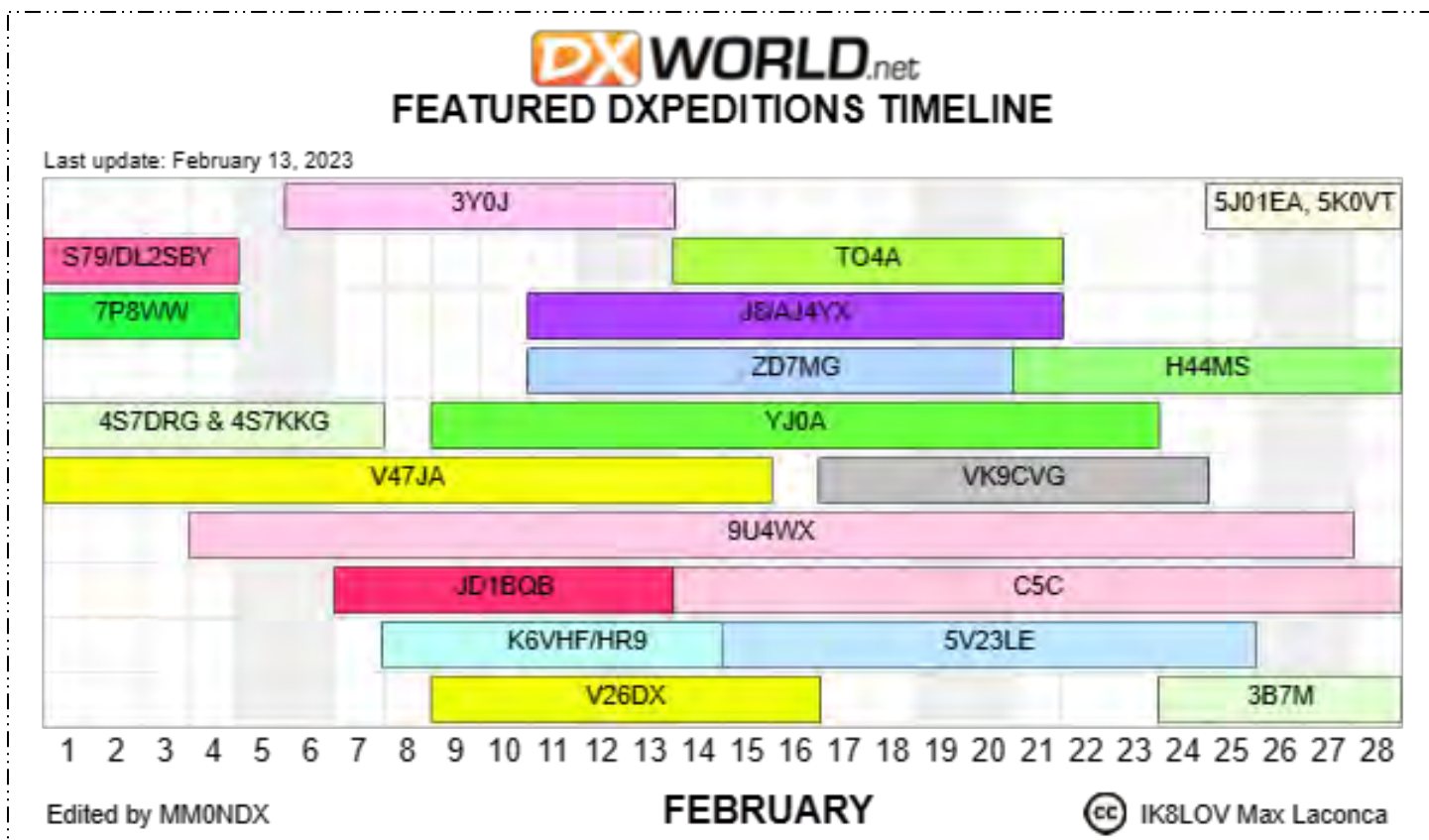
SLEEP



AMATEUR RADIO

[www.dxzone.com](http://www.dxzone.com)





### Good News Update!!!

An extension has been granted by French authorities for a further 3 weeks of operation by [Thierry FT8WW](#) on Crozet Island. This is for 20meters and up only (no more 30 meters).

*"I have received the new convention from the TAAF Prefect which allows me to resume my activities on the HF bands, under the conditions imposed by the IPEV. Therefore, I will be again on the air for 3 weeks starting today on 20 and 15 meters to begin with, in FT-8 and CW, and I will try SSB soon. Thank you for the TAAF people for writing this convention so quickly and allowing me to resume my activity, thank you also to the IPEV for the log analysis they have done, which allows them to agree with me being active again."*



### Now the Not So Good News...



Steve Hass

8h · 🌐

[Face Book Link to 3Y0J](#)



**3Y0J Bouvet Island 2023 Update:**  
From 3Y0J Team Co-Leader Ken LA7GIA

12 FEB 2023 18:20 UTC

"3Y0J will go QRT Monday at 12:00 to 15:00 UTC when we run out of fuel. We will start taking down the camp on Monday and transport the last equipment on Tuesday. There is another 60 knot storm coming this weekend. We have a wx window on Tuesday we will utilize now to return."

73, Ken

**Additional information:**

The 3Y0J log has been uploaded. However, FT8 QSOs did not upload. They will be uploaded when the laptops get back to the boat from the island. QSL manager Charles M0OXO says, "Its already on Clublog and those who donated over \$350 will also have recieved their LOTW."

73,

Steve N2AJ

Media Officer & NA East Coast Pilot  
3Y0J Bouvet Island 2023 DXpedition