

GM Net News

1948 Buick Streamliner

This class Buick Streamliner is in pristine condition, restored by David Crouse for the 2010 Concourse d Elegance. It's original construction took over 2 years, built with an aluminum body around a steel chassis. Not only is it unlikely you'll ever see this beauty on the road, it's likely that you will never see it on the auction block. A car like this is far too rare, to beautiful that any owner could want to pass it up no mater the price.



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The GM Nets meet daily Monday through Saturday on 7.277.5 MHz at 18:00Z and Tuesdays on 14.277 +/- QRM at 16:15Z.

Would you like to help out
with Net Control Duties?
Contact our Net Manager
George, KB9VF
kb9vf@Comcast.net

Sun Spots?



Net Control Stations:

George, KB9VF
Rick, WØPC
Ray, K1RAY
Verle, K8VW
Chuck, WA8IHI
Bill, WB9YUR
Denny, N8XLS
Bill, WD9AIH
Art, KC8JLC
Jim, WY8I
Walter, DF4IZ

The K7RA Solar Update 04/30/2010

Our Sun has again become very quiet. We saw 13 days with no sunspots, April 15-27, then new sunspot group 1063 appeared April 28, and on April 29 it was gone again. Although the sunspot number for April 29 is 0, early on April 30 I can still see group 1063 in a magnetogram, so perhaps it rises again. We watch the [STEREO mission](#), looking for bright hints of activity, but lately they just seem to be magnetically complex areas that don't turn into sunspots.

With no sunspot expected for today, the last day of April, this should be the second monthly decline in a row for monthly sunspot averages. Monthly averages of daily sunspot numbers for February, March and April are 30.5, 25.2 and 10.8. Sunspot numbers for April 22-28 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 12, with a mean of 1.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 76.1, 75, 74.2, 75.4, 76, 74.8 and 76.1, with a mean of 75.4. The estimated planetary A indices were 6, 13, 8, 3, 2, 4 and 4, with a mean of 5.7. The estimated mid-latitude A indices were 4, 7, 8, 2, 0, 3 and 2, with a mean of 3.7.

USAF/NOAA predicts solar flux of 76 for April 30-May 6, rising to 80 on May 7-8, 78 May 9 and 75 after that. They also predict higher geomagnetic activity for May 4, with planetary A index from April 30-May 7 at 5, 5, 5, 8, 18, 10, 5 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague says April 30-May 2 should be quiet, quiet to unsettled May 3, unsettled May 4-5 and quiet May 6.



Amateur solar observer Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, provides this weekly report on solar conditions and propagation. This report also is available via WIAW every Friday, and an abbreviated version appears each Thursday in [The ARRL Letter](#).



OMTA Antenna

The OMTA (Offset Multiband Trapless Vertical Antenna) by Robert Wilson, AK7KK. October 1995 issue of QST. Or go to the Web at

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/9510032.pdf>.

I built mine for 40, 20 and 17 meters. Works great on these bands using SSB and PSK. As you can see in the photo, I added PVC spreaders in addition to the triangular spacers for more rigidity. Is mounted to the swing set for now until I build another framework. Very much in need of this as we get very high winds at this Qth.

The interesting aspect of this antenna is that the 40 meter element is driven and the other two are driven by mutual coupling from the 40 meter element.

I have also been known to use it on the GM net when conditions warrant.

I also plan to bury the radials this spring using my electric sidewalk edger. I have used this in the past to make a neat trench 2 inches deep. A must in this hard clay soil!



73, Denny, N8XLS.

Note from the Editor: I love seeing articles and stories to share with our group. Keep them coming in. Send me and email to w0pc@aol.com. 73, Rick

GM Net Control Schedule

May 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z						1 KB9VF
2	3 KBVW	4 K1RAY	5 WD9AIH	6 NBXLS	7 KCBJLC	8 WB9YUR
9	10 WY8I	11 WAB1HI	12 WOPC	13 KB9VF	14 KBVW	15 K1RAY
16	17 WD9AIH	18 NBXLS	19 KCBJLC	20 WB9YUR	21 WY8I	22 WAB1HI
23	24 WOPC	25 KBVW	26 KB9VF	27 K1RAY	28 WD9AIH	29 KCBJLC
30	31 WB9YUR	Notes: Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz				

GM Net Control Schedule

June 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z		1 NBXLS	2 WY8I	3 WB8M	4 WOPC	5 KB9VF
6	7 KBVW	8 K1RAY	9 WD9AIH	10 NBXLS	11 KCBJLC	12 WB9YUR
13	14 WY8I	15 WB8M	16 WOPC	17 KB9VF	18 KBVW	19 K1RAY
20	21 WD9AIH	22 NBXLS	23 KCBJLC	24 WB9YUR	25 WY8I	26 WB8M
27	28 WOPC	29 KBVW	30 KB9VF	Notes: Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz		

GM Net Control Schedule

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz				1 K1RAY	2 WD9AIH	3 KC8JLC
4	5 WB9YUR	6 N8XLS	7 WYBI	8 WB8M	9 WOPC	10 KB9VF
11	12 K8VW	13 K1RAY	14 WD9AIH	15 N8XLS	16 KC8JLC	17 WB9YUR
18	19 WYBI	20 WB8M	21 WOPC	22 KB9VF	23 K8VW	24 K1RAY
25	26 WD9AIH	27 N8XLS	28 KC8JLC	29 WB9YUR	30 WYBI	31 WB8M

GM Net Control Schedule

July 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Notes: Nets on 7.277.5 MHz, 17:00 Z Schedule with DF4IZ (Walter), every Tuesday at 1615z on 14.277 + or - 5 kHz				1 K1RAY	2 WD9AIH	3 KC8JLC
4	5 WB9YUR	6 N8XLS	7 WYBI	8 WB8M	9 WOPC	10 KB9VF
11	12 K8VW	13 K1RAY	14 WD9AIH	15 N8XLS	16 KC8JLC	17 WB9YUR
18	19 WYBI	20 WB8M	21 WOPC	22 KB9VF	23 K8VW	24 K1RAY
25	26 WD9AIH	27 N8XLS	28 KC8JLC	29 WB9YUR	30 WYBI	31 WB8M



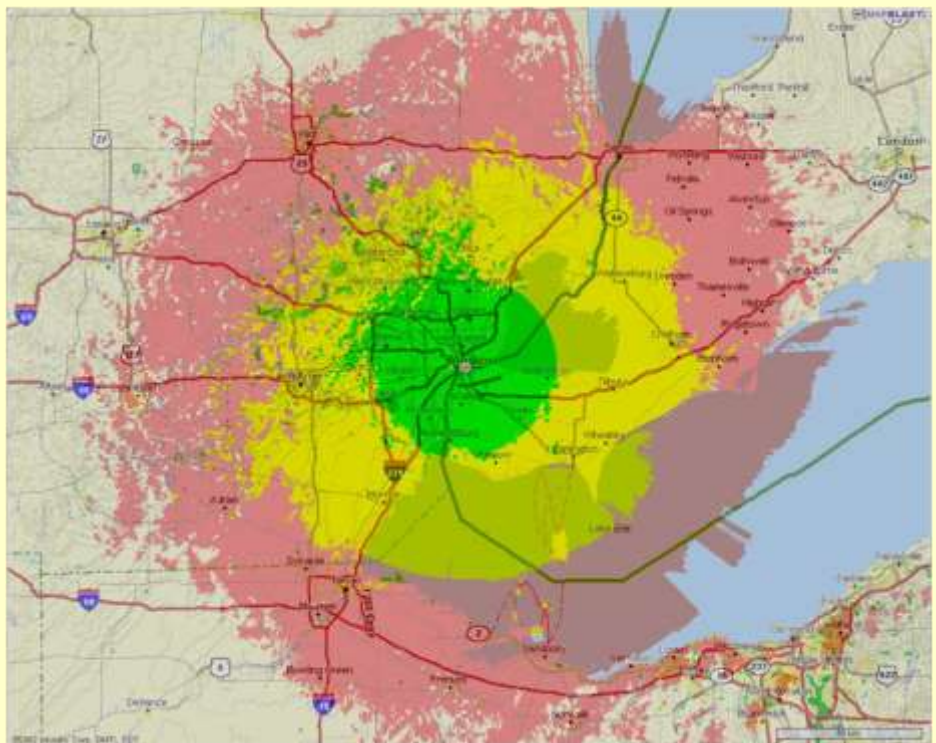
By: Ben WB9FJO

As compared to the Firebirds, which was a GM amateur radio club with a majority of members located all over the US, the GM Amateur Radio Club (www.gmarc.org) is a Metro Detroit based group (with some Australian and German members). Many of the members also belong to the Utica-Shelby “USECA” ARC and there are a few Firebirds as well in the membership. Its primary function is the operation of VHF and UHF repeaters (WW8GM) on top of the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit:

Repeater frequencies are 443.075 + 123Hz PL and 145.210- 123 Hz PL. Access by Echolink at 99846 (WW8GM) is also available. With the 775 foot elevation on top of the “RenCen” the coverage has been excellent, with hams as far north as Zilwaukee and as far east as Cleveland being able to access the repeaters. Calculated repeater coverage can be seen here:

However, there been operating issues with the repeaters that the club has been working to improve. We’ve found out (the hard way) that the weather environment on top of a very tall office building is rough on ‘regular’ types of antennas that work fine in a home environment. So the club is finalizing the purchase of a new commercial grade antenna for the UHF repeater, as well as other maintenance work for the 440 machine.

The VHF repeater machine was recently removed from the RenCen for repair work, and is currently operating in a temporary location to confirm the success of the repairs. After the club investigated potential alternative sites in Oakland County for the 2M machine, it will be returned to the RenCen. The Echolink computer interface is also being relocated as well.



GM ARC Continued

Both the VHF and UHF repeater work should be accomplished this Spring. The Club has a weekly net that meets every Monday evening on the 443.075 frequency at 8PM. The Club also meets every third Tuesday of the month (Sept thru June) at the Trinity Lutheran Church, which is located just north of the intersection of M-59/Hall Rd and Van Dyke Avenue in Utica, Michigan. All amateurs are welcome to check into the Monday night net or visit the monthly club meetings.

73
Ben WB9FJO
Firebird ARC
GM ARC



Here's a typical logic problem:

Joe and Richard decide to get together; so they start riding their bikes toward each other. They plan to meet halfway. Each is riding at 6 MPH. They live 36 miles apart. One of them has a pet carrier pigeon and it starts flying the instant the friends start traveling. The pigeon flies back and forth at 18 MPH between the 2 friends until the friends meet.

How many miles does the pigeon travel?

The pigeon flew 54 Miles... un-huh (18 mph for 3 hours). That must have been too easy

From Tyler, N7UWX:

You May Be A Ham If.....

1. When you look at a full moon and wonder how much antenna gain you would need.
2. When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, it turns in to an hour long rant on how ham radio is not CB radio.
3. When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
4. When you can look at a globe and be able to point to your antipode (and you know what an antipode is).
5. Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.
6. You have accidentally said your amateur radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
7. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
8. You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
9. You have driven onto the shoulder of the road while looking at an antenna.
10. Porcupines appear to be fascinated with your car.
11. If you ever tried to figure out the operating frequency of your microwave oven.
12. When you look around your bedroom of wall to wall ham gear and ask: Why am I still single?
13. The local city council doesn't like you.
14. You actually think towers look pretty.
15. Your family doesn't have a clue what to get you for Christmas, eve after you tell them.
16. Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station.
17. The wife and kids are away and the first thing that goes through your head is that no one will bother you while you call "CQ DX" a few hundred times.
18. When you pull into a donut shop and the cops there on their coffee break ask if they can see your radio setup.
19. You refer to your children as your "harmonics".
20. Your girlfriend or wife asks: "You're going to spend \$XXXX on what???"
21. You actually believe you got a good deal on eBay.
22. When you see a house with a metal roof, and your only thought is what a great ground plane that would be.
23. You have pictures of your radio equipment as wallpaper on your computer's desktop.
24. Every family vacation includes a stop at a ham radio store.
25. The first question you ask the new car dealer is: "What is the alternator's current output"?
26. You buy a brand new car based on the radio mounting locations and antenna mounting possibilities.
27. You have tapped out Morse code on your car's horn.
28. A lightning storm takes out a new laptop, plasma TV, and DVD recorder, but all you care about is if your radios are okay.
29. Your wife has had to ride in the back seat because you had radio equipment in the front seat.

30. Your wife was excited when you were talking about achieving that critical angle, but very disappointed when you finally did.
31. During a love making session with your wife, you stop to answer a call on the radio.
32. Your wife threatens you with divorce when you tell her that you are going on a "fox" hunt.
33. Talking about male and female connectors makes you feel excited.
34. You dream of big, comfortable, knobs, but not on women.
35. You always park on the top floor of the deck, just in case you might have to wait in the car later.
36. When house hunting, you look for the best room for a radio shack and scan the property for possible tower placement.
37. When house hunting, you give your realtor topographical maps showing local elevations.
38. The real estate agent scratches his head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium, or low.
39. You have ham radio magazines in the bathroom.
40. When your doorbell rings, you immediately shut down the amplifier.
41. Fermentation never enters your mind when "homebrew" is mentioned.
42. Instead of just saying no, you have said "negative".
43. You have used a person's name to indicate acknowledgement.
44. You become impatient waiting for the latest AES catalog to arrive.
45. You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.
46. You always schedule the last full weekend in June for vacation.
47. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being close-lined.
48. You have deep anxiety or panic attacks during high winds or heavy ice.
49. You and the FedEx/UPS men are on a first name basis.
50. You really start to miss people that you've never seen.
51. Your exercise machine is a Morse code keyer.
52. You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and see antenna parts.
53. Your neighbors thought you were nuts when you ripped up your lawn to bury chicken wire.
54. Your next door neighbor thinks that your wife is a widow.
55. Your wife has delivered meals to your ham shack.
56. If you sold all your ham radio equipment, you could pay off your mortgage.
57. Removing snow from the roof of your car requires working around the antenna and wires.

Silent Keys:

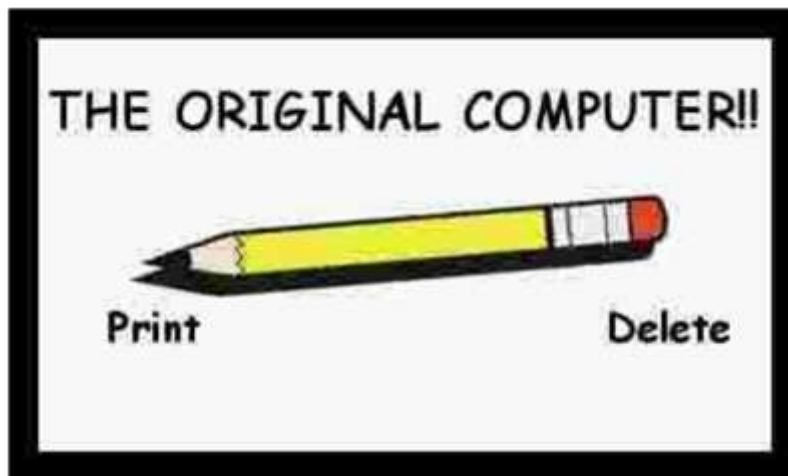
Glen Harrelson, KB8AHH PI# 1983

Glen became a Silent Key on April 25th. He was a former Firebird. Pin# 1983. Glen lived in Bay View, Oh. 3 miles from me. I have been to his QTH a few times. Was not very active the past year due to his battle with cancer. 73, Denny, N8XLS.

KD4IJK (Billy-Jack)

Bill J. Hope, 78, of Bowling Green, KY died at 6:55 p.m. Feb. 14, 2010, at the Hospice Center.

The Original Computer!!!!



Memory was something you lost with age, An application was for employment, A program was a TV show, A cursor used profanity, A keyboard was a piano, A web was a spider's home, A virus was the flu, A CD was a bank account, A hard drive was a long trip on the road, A mouse pad was where a mouse lived, And if you had a 3.5 inch floppy... You just hoped nobody ever found out!?!