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WATTS

11-2010

Year 80 + 11m

Monthly newsletter of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club
Maandelikse nuusbrieff van die Pretoria Amateur Radio Klub.



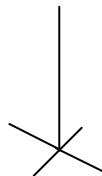
PARC, PO Box 73696 Lynnwood Ridge 0040, RSA



<http://www.parc.org.za> mail: zs6pta@zs6pta.org.za

Bulletins: 145,725 MHz 08:45 Sundays/Sondae
Relays: 1.840, 3.700, 7.066, 10.135, 14.235, 51.400, 438.825, 1297 MHz
Activated frequencies are announced prior to bulletins

Swapshop: 2m and 7.066 MHz Live on-air after bulletins
Bulletin repeats Mondays | herhalings : Maandae 2m 19:45



Roger ZS6RJ adds a 30/40m rotary dipole under his hex-beam an out-of-the-box combination!



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Next Meeting (after fleamarket)

Date: 10 Nov 2010
Time: 19:30 for 20:00

PARC clubhouse
University of Pretoria
S/E Campus

PARC Management team / Bestuurspan Aug. 2010 - Aug. 2011

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Minutes of the monthly club meeting of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club held at the South Campus of the University of Pretoria on 9 Oct. 2010.

Welcome / Verwelkoming. Pierre ZS6PJH declared the meeting open and welcomed all present.

Attendance / Bywoning. The meeting was attended by 13 members and 2 visitors.

Apologies / Verskonings. Roy ZS6XN

Personal Matters / Lief en Leed.

Bill ZS6KO is up and about again after being a ill for a couple of weeks. Pieter ZS6PA offered to attend to Bill's antenna in the near future. Sue ZS6SUE paid us a surprise visit and it was nice to chat to her again.

Matters arising from previous minutes / Sake voortspruitende uit vorige notule. None / Geen.

Approval of previous minutes / Goedkeuring van vorige notule. The minutes of the previous meeting as published in Watts were approved .Proposed by Graham ZR6GJR and seconded by Willie ZR6WGR.

Club Activities / Klub Bedrywighede.

Rallies / Tydrenne: Johan ZS6JHB. The next rally is scheduled for 15 and 16 October in Pretoria (Gerotek) and Babsfontein. Members who can assist with communications on this event,must please contact Johan ZS6JHB at cell number 0824923689.

Website / Webblad. Graham ZR6GJR. Graham reported that the club's website www.parc.org.za is up and running again .It was also decided to re- imburse Tjerk ZS6P for his expenses occurred .

Social / Sosiaal . Willie ZR6WGR. Willie reported that the next social will be at Veekraal near Brits in the North West province to give support to our members who will be participating in the SARL HF Field day competition on 19 November. Please bring the whole family and join us for a fun day as there is lots to do for young and old! For more information, please contact Willie.

Financial Report / Finansies. Richard ZS6UK.

In the absence of Richard ZS6UK, Johan ZS6JHB gave a brief rundown of the club's finances.

Technical / Tegnies. Craig ZS6RH reported that the only repeater site in use is Radcliffe and that the lights on the site are causing interference. Craig to install a day/night switch.

Fleamarket / Vlooiemark . Almero ZS6LDP. Almero thanked everybody who paid a visit to the fleamarket and reported that he collected R340 from vendors who rented tables. The next fleamarket will take place on 27 November at the PMC.

Contests / Kompetieses. Pieter ZS6PA. Pieter reported on the Heritage Day contest. It was a nice outing and 63 contacts were made.

Next meeting / Volgende vergadering. The next meeting will be on the 10th of November 2010 at the clubhouse. Starting time 20.00.

Closure / Sluiting. The meeting closed at 15.00.

Birthdays

Verjaarsdae

Nov.



- 03 Blaine, Son of Heather and Vince ZS6BTY
- 06 Brian ZR6BJS
- 06 Sollie ZS6SV
- 07 Andrew, seun van Lynn en Andre ZS6BRC
- 10 Luther ZS6E (94)
- 11 Peggy, sw of Ed ZS6UT
- 12 Fritz ZS6ASF
- 12 Emmerick, dogter van Erna en Whitey ZS6JJJ
- 16 Vlasta ZS6-2501, sw of Ivan OK1LL
- 16 Hendrik ZR6RPC
- 16 Jean, dogter van Lynn en Andre ZS6BRC
- 19 Joe ZS6TB
- 27 Janice, dogter van Ellen en Joe ZS6AIC

Nov.

Anniversaries

Herdenkings

- 04 Estelle en Simon ZS6AST (38)
- 11 Alletta and Alf ZS6ABA (43)

- 22 Caitlin, daughter of Heather and Vince ZS6BTY
- 22 Chris ZS6BGH
- 25 Tony ZS6CRO
- 25 Johan ZS6KZ
- 26 Bridge ZS6BJM
- 27 Karin, lv van Sarel ZS6EK

Joys and Sorrows | Lief en Leed

† Ivan Litster ZS6AUT passed away 8 October.

He was a long-time member of PARC since 1958 but let his membership lapse after becoming very ill some years ago.

Diary | Dagboek (UTC times)

- Nov** 06-07 Ukrainian DX Contest 12:00-12:00
- 13-14 WA Europe RTTY contest 00:00-23:59
- 13-14 OK / OM Contest CW 12:00-12:00
- 19 YO International PSK Contest 16:00-22:00
- 20-21 SARL Field Day Contest 10:00-10:00**
- 20-21 LZ DX Contest 12:00-12:00
- 20-21 Austrian 160m Contest 16:00-07:00
- 27-28 CQWW DX Contest CW 00:00-24:00
- Dec** 03-05 ARRL 160m Contest 22:00-16:00
- 11-12 ARRL 10m Contest 00:00-24:00

Notice

PARC Fleamarket 27 November at PMC
with braai afterwards

PARC end-of-year meeting 11 December
Social. lunch, braai etc. Details to be announced

BV100

100 Years of the Republic of China (Taiwan)


To operate in coordination with the Republic of China(Taiwan) Centenary Foundation, BV100 will be QRV from 2010/10/10 to 2011/12/31

BV100 will be QRV on all Amateur bands and all modes in the period. For operating schedule please refer to [\[Operating Schedule\]](#)

There is also a BV100 Award program to give the award to hams who work with BV100. Please refer [\[Award\]](#) Page.

Direct QSL : Bruce Yih/BV100 QSL Manager, P.O.Box 84-609 Taipei, Taiwan 100

Snippets | Brokkies

Heritage Day Sprint 24 Sept. was attended to by Pierre ZS6PH (left), Vincent ZS6BTY and his son Liam ZR6RAF (right) at the environs of Fort Kranskop.  Some 61 HF contacts were made on HF.

CQ Hou Koers

Johan ZS6JPL het ZS6VTS beman by die Voortrekker Monument en die Hoofleier Generaal Opperman het sy toespraak vandaar gelewer uitgesaai op 2m en herlei na 40m deur Hans ZS6KR. Vrae en boodskappe is op 40m vanuit die hele land ontvang vanaf die jong Voortrekkers (asook 20m vanuit ZS3) en weer beantwoord dmv radio.

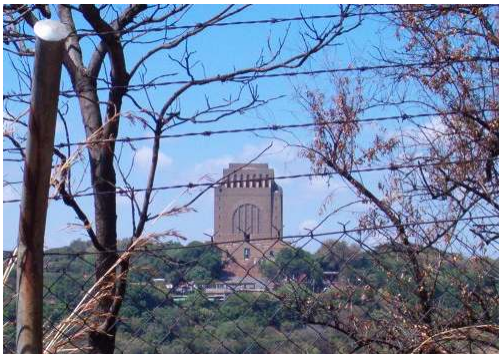
Die hele radio aspek het baie suksesvol verloop and alle amateurs is hartlik bedank vir hulle bystand.



PARC Fleamarket 9 October



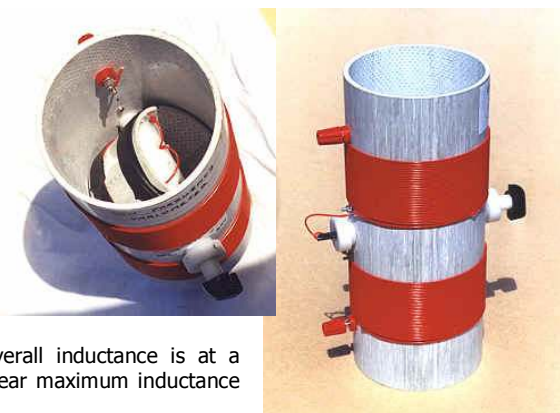
Have you ever been at the Keevykop repeater site? These photos were taken in June by ZS6APT



250 - 400 μ H Variometer. – Abridged from the website of G0MRF

Tuning an LF antenna can be tricky. An antenna that's much shorter than a $\lambda/4$ will have a high Q and consequently a narrow BW. A loading coil with a series of taps can be used, but a constantly adjustable inductor like a variometer will make tuning a lot easier. A variometer only contributes a small percentage of the total loading inductance necessary to tune the antenna. 5 - 10% is typical, a variometer is used in series with a conventional coil. Finally, it's possible to use remote control by using a small motor.

The variometer is an inductor which has an outer fixed winding and an inner section that can be rotated. The total inductance is at a maximum when the inner section is in a position that puts its magnetic field in phase with the field of the outer coils. As the inner section is rotated through 180 degrees the fields are in opposition and the overall inductance is at a minimum. For maximum Q the variometer should be used at a value near maximum inductance where the windings are in series not in opposition



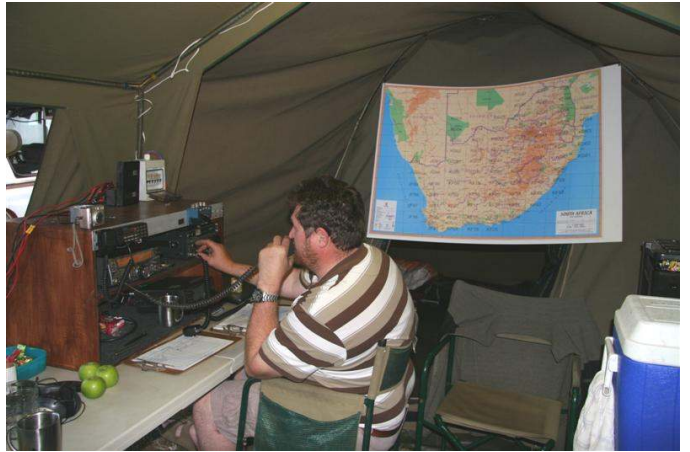
Construction. The pictures show the general arrangement. The two fibreglass tubes are standard sizes and are detailed below. The shaft is a plastic rod drilled so the wires can pass through to connect the outer and inner coils. Small collars with grub screws hold the shaft in place. The wire passed through the shaft is PTFE insulated with additional PVC sleeving over each of the two wires. The external coils are wound with standard PVC insulated stranded 'equipment' wire.

Outer tube 110mm OD 255mm long 102mm ID **Top winding (ext)** 2x 33t 16/0.2mm 55mm long 48mm apart

Inner tube 82mm OD 58mm long **Int. windings** 2x 9t 19/0.1mm with PTFE insulation covered with self-vulcanizing tape.

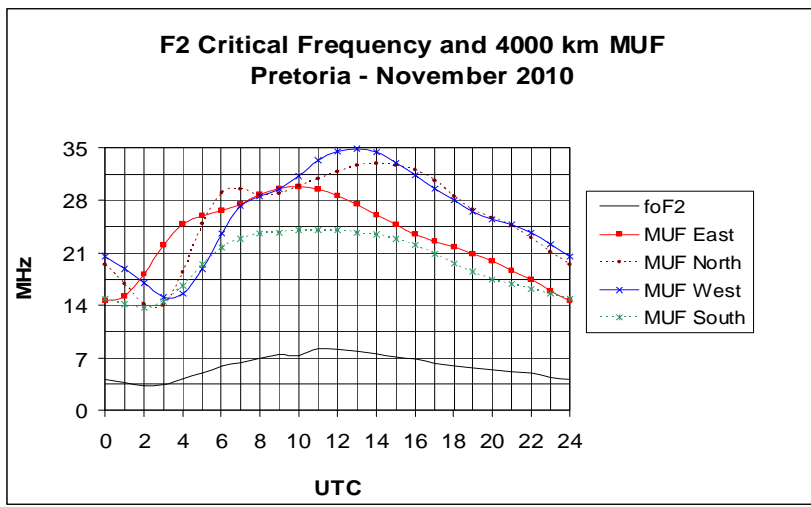
SARL VHF Contest

(Gemsbokberg naby Vrede)



But to get to the point of operating takes some effort....





Long Term HF Propagation Prediction for November 2010

courtesy ZS6BTY
(see also our website propagation tab)

DX Operating
The graph shows the 4000 km maximum useable frequency (MUF) to the East, North, West and South from Pretoria for the first hop using the F2 layer.

Local Operating
The F2 critical frequency (foF2) is the maximum frequency that will reflect when you transmit straight up. E-layer reflection is not shown.

- QRV Services offers the following expertise:**
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Contact Hans at 012-333-2612 or 072-204-3991




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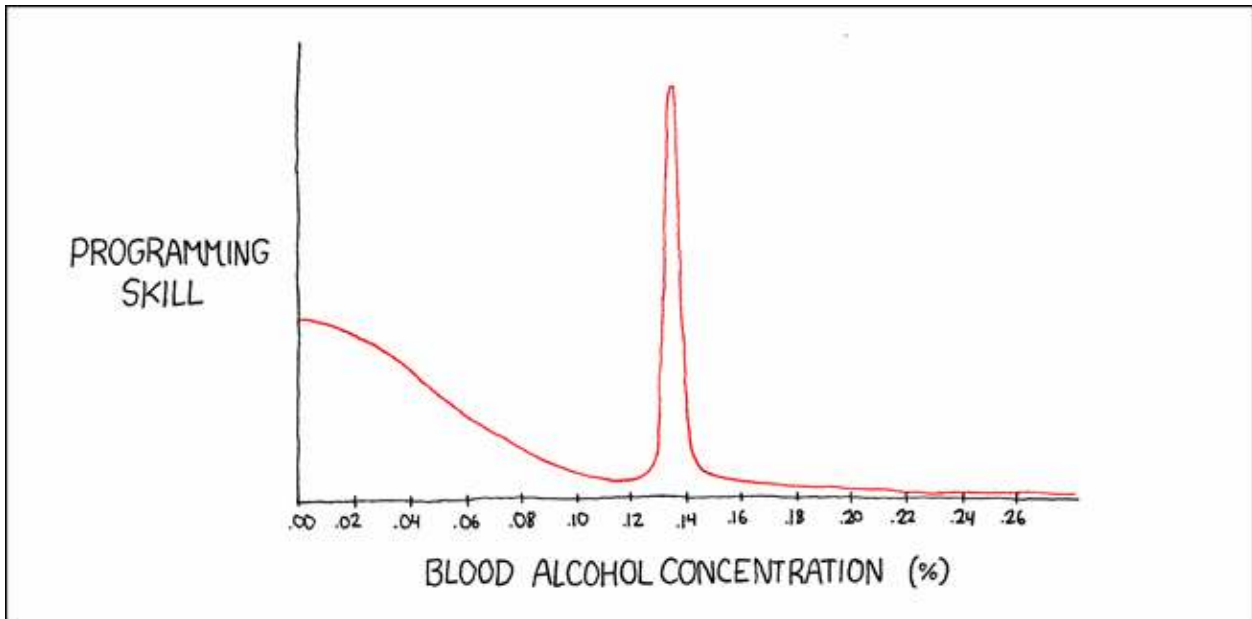





CABLE & INTERCONNECT SOLUTIONS
FOR TELECOMS, BROADCAST
AND MIL/AERO MARKETS



The Ballmer peak



CALLED THE BALLMER PEAK, IT WAS DISCOVERED BY MICROSOFT IN THE LATE 80'S. THE CAUSE IS UNKNOWN, BUT SOMEHOW A B.A.C. BETWEEN 0.129% AND 0.138% CONFERS SUPERHUMAN PROGRAMMING ABILITY.

A stick figure stands on a stage, pointing to a screen that displays the graph from the first panel.

HOWEVER, IT'S A DELICATE EFFECT REQUIRING CAREFUL CALIBRATION—YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE A TEAM OF CODERS A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF WHISKEY AND TELL THEM TO GET CRACKING.

A stick figure stands on a stage, speaking to an audience of three stick figures seated in chairs.

...HAS THAT EVER HAPPENED?
REMEMBER WINDOWS ME?
I KNEW IT!

A stick figure stands on a stage, asking a question to an audience of three stick figures seated in chairs.

Brooklyn Dad and Kid Send iPhone Into Outer Space

- 10/15/10 at 5:21 PM

In a burst of science-is-fun educational invention, a Brooklyn dad built a carrier for an iPhone (the current model) and an HD video camera, out of a takeout box, tied it to a weather balloon, and let it go with the camera running.

It reached a height of nineteen miles, or about 100,000 feet, which is high enough to show the earth's curvature and a black sky above the atmosphere. At that height, the low pressure means that the helium expanded and the balloons burst, whereupon the little cushioned capsule came down, down, down — and landed 30 miles outside New York, signaling to its owners via the iPhone's GPS, whereupon they went and picked it up. The resulting six minutes of rivetingly weird film are sure to make *Mythbusters* fans weep with joy.

<http://vimeo.com/15091562>

