

# CENOIS Wire

## Space News...

### SPACE STATION

**FLARES:** Lately, a growing number of observers are reporting intense "flares" coming from the International Space Station (ISS). A typical sighting begins with a normal, sedate flyby: The station soars overhead, cutting silently through the stars with no hint that something extraordinary is about to happen. Then, a startling explosion of light boosts the station's luminosity 10-fold or more. Some observers have witnessed flares of magnitude -8 or twenty-five times brighter than Venus. The bright flash is sunlight glinting off the station's enormous solar arrays. Earlier this year, on March 20th, astronauts unfurled a new pair of arrays on the space station's starboard side, adding 8000 sq. feet

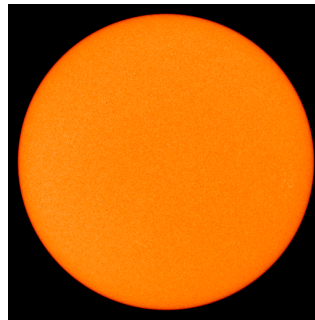
of light-catching surface area to the station's profile. The extra area increases both the chances and the luminosity of flares. [LINK](#)

### What's up with Mars?

Actually nothing. There is an Internet "hoax" circulating again that Mars will be super close and as bright and big as the moon. This is from Snopes.com: "It's yet another example of a widely-circulated e-mail containing information that was once true but which continues to be forwarded around year after year, long after the information it contains has become outdated." "Mars did make an extraordinarily close approach to Earth several years ago, culminating on 27 August 2003, when the red planet came within 35 million

miles of Earth, its nearest approach to us in almost 60,000 years. At that time, Mars appeared approximately 6 times larger and 85 times brighter in the sky than it ordinarily does." It was also close again in 2005. But not this year. Sorry to be the bearer of bad news. To read this whole article cruise on over to:

<http://www.snopes.com/science/astronomy/brightmars.asp>



**Sun is Blank!! No Spots**

## Mail Bag

I got a couple of emails this month that I thought I would share. Jean-Paul Louis (the French Guy) emailed to congratulate us on the newsletter design and to say **Hi!** He wanted to be sure that all of you knew he was reading up to see what was happening here. He's working on developing a mini receiver for HF bands using a digital multiplexer and the audio card of a PC for a mini DSR 100kHz-60MHz. He's going to keep me

informed of it's development. Tom Gover, N9PLB also wrote in to say, "I began my ham career on 444.275 and 146.655 and have been close with a number of folks from the Decatur area over the years... So, it is nice to hear the current news from there! "

I've gotten several nice emails about the newsletter format and structure. Thanks much!

Along those lines, keep in

mind that not only can you get the newsletter through the email list pointing to my website but you can also find a link to the latest issue on the [CENOIS Website](#) . George Garrett, N9IPO maintains that. Thanks George!

One last thing, Jerry N9RBQ sent a note about SVARC that had information on kits and their kit building efforts. They have a Yahoo group by that name - SVARC.

## CENOIS Amateur Radio Club

### Take Note:

- The fun night this month will be Field Day. We are planning on having a simple Field Day exercise on Saturday afternoon June 27th. Listen up for location details. We are planning a cook-out afterwards.
- Fourth Thursday of the month, June 25th is the business meeting. 7:00 PM at the Decatur airport, park district building just north of the airport tower.

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## Inside Story

June's already here and the year is almost half gone!

The newsletter is a little later than I wanted but I have the most up to date news from the May 28th meeting.

June 27th we will be having a simple Field Day event. Plans are for either Fort Daniels or Griswold Center @ Rock Springs. We will meet and setup sometime after noon and operate that afternoon. Afterwards we're planning a cookout. More information to come - listen to the net or come on to the 25th business meeting.

I'm planning on bringing a homebrew 20 meter SSB rig but the more the merrier!

I ran across some good web "items" that I thought I would share with you this month.

You may or may not know this but Google in its search box is capable of performing calculations. For example, if you type 2\*2 in a Google search box it will dutifully spit back at you "2\*2=4" and even allow you to search on "2\*2" But I want to make this radio related. So lets say you want to know the reactance of a 1µ inductor at 7 MHz using the formula  $2\pi\lambda\phi$ . Using scientific notation, just type  $2*\pi*7E6*1E-6$  into the Google search box and you'll get 43.9822972 and the results of a search on that calculation!

Another interesting site is from the programmers that brought us Mathematica. The site is called [Wolfram Alpha](http://www.wolframalpha.com/), <http://www.wolframalpha.com/>

For starters put in your first name - in my case, Danny. My name ranks 308th in 2007. 1 in 2070 people share my name. And it prints a nice birth distribution graph over time just in case I wanted to know that. I can see some term papers coming out of this site!

Another site that I've recently run in to is [QRPedia](http://www.qrpedia.com/), <http://www.qrpedia.com/> My favorite page here is the [Workbench](#) page. It is just chock full of little tidbits of wisdom. Of course this stuff isn't just QRP related!

How about a pretty [simple LC meter circuit](#)? <http://iron-bark.bendigo.latrobe.edu.au/~rice/lc/>

All for now!

## CENOIS Amateur Radio Club

### CENOIS OFFICERS

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## Nets & News — Where do I listen?

### DECATUR REPEATERS

444.525+ pl 162.2  
443-48125  
Sunday Eve. Net 9:00 PM  
D-STAR Repeater

443.800+ pl 123.0 10 meter  
link 29.600

147.105+ pl 103.5

442.250+ pl 103.5 Weather  
Spotters

444.175+ pl 100.0

144.390 S APRS digipeater

### LOVINGTON REPEATERS

(Cadwell, IL) - MARK  
<http://www.gsl.net/mark/>

146.655- pl 162.2  
Sunday Eve. Net 8:00 PM

444.275+ pl 103.5

### CHAMPAIGN REPEATERS

TCARC  
<http://www.w9seh.org/>

146.760- pl 162.2  
Thursday Eve. Net 9:00 PM

444.100+ pl 162.2  
ESDA Weather Spotters

444.650+ pl 103,5  
U of IL (Urbana, IL)

147.060+ pl 131.8  
ESDA alternate

144.390 S APRS

144.390 S APRS

### DANVILLE REPEATERS

VCARA  
<http://vcara.org/>

146.820- pl 88.5  
29.680R / 29.580T pl 88.5  
10 meter

### N9UWE repeater

443.450+ PL 88.5  
serving Danville & Western IN

### ALLERTON REPEATER

147.285+ pl 146.2

### CLINTON REPEATER

146.985= pl 203.5  
Sunday Eve. Net 7:00 PM

### BLOOMINGTON REPEATERS

CIRC  
<http://www.gsl.net/w9aml/>

146.940- pl 103.5  
Tuesday Eve. Net 9:00 PM

146.790-

442.700+ pl 107.2

444.350+ pl 107.2

### LINCOLN REPEATERS

145.390- pl 103.5

147.345+ pl 103.5

### SPRINGFIELD REPEATERS

SVRC  
<http://www.svrc.org/>

146.805- pl 94.8  
Sunday Eve. Net 9:00 PM

146.685- pl 94.8

444.4000+ pl 103.5

### TAYLORVILLE REPEATERS

146.955- pl 79.7

442.050+ pl 79.7

## CENOIS Web Page

<http://www.cenois.com/>

## Next Month

August 13th 7:00 Pm fun night - tour of NOAA Doppler weather station in Lincoln. Leave here approx 5:45. Chris Miller tour guide. Thanks Pat for setting this up. Listen to Net for details. We are also planning a kit building...

October 8th will be the chili supper in Spittler Woods. Stay tuned for details.

If you have something for the newsletter don't hesitate to contact me, Dan Reynolds, [kb9jlo@comcast.net](mailto:kb9jlo@comcast.net).

