

September 2018

August is almost over and that may be a good thing this year. It has been hot, humid and wet at my shack and propagation almost nonexistent. I guess that's the nature of the beast in south Mississippi.

Probably the most significant DX operation was TX5T from Raivavae Island, one of the Austral Islands in French Polynesia. I know many of our club members got them for a new one. Well done ladies and gentlemen.

There is not much to report by way of Club activity for August, the first Wednesday lunch meeting was well attended and very enjoyable, as was the Open House day. We have been getting several visitors at the Open House days who have been able to find out more about our club and hopefully become more interested in the hobby.



Here are Ben, W5SOF and George, W5GS, watching Charlie, WD5BJT, working a little FT8.

We have had quite a few visitors at the last couple of meetings who have wanted to learn more about operating FT8 and the Open House days are an excellent training opportunity.

This week Charlie and I took the time to cruise around the countryside, take in natures beauty and observe a variety of plants and trees growing in the wild. One of the more interesting plants we found was known as the Force 12 C49 XR tree. Although growing in the wild this tree had obviously been well fertilized, and we just had to photograph it.



Apparently, when fully grown it reaches a height of 89 feet. It has four 20 meter branches, seven 15 meter branches and a whopping fourteen 10 meter branches, all sprouting from a 49 foot main branch. The arborist said that pruning was not an option.

Two other similar trees were also observed close by.

We were invited to visit the arborists potting shed which was equipped with the most modern technology available to ensure that the tree would produce superior fruit.



Anyone else have a potting shed like this? Send me pictures!



OK friends, that's enough for this month, I am going to the backyard now with a bag of fertilizer.

The DX Dinner arrangements are well in hand, the Dickeys lunch meeting will be on Wednesday 5th September, the regular meeting at Garden Park Hospital will be on 15th September and the Hooterville Open House day will be the 22nd September.

So, if things don't change they will stay as they are.

Reminder: this Saturday, 1^{st} September we will get together at Dickeys Barbecue for Hooterfest, (I should have called it Hooterfeast!), around 6.00 - 6.30 pm.

I'm hungry already.

73, Mike, WM5DX.