

CLE232 CO-ORDINATOR'S COMMENTS

Last weekend, In CLE232, we were listening for NDBs in the range 320-334.9 kHz.

How many ways are there of summing up a CLE in which QRN was Boss?

Here are some of ours, all extracts from the reporters' CLE232 logs:

hh: Mother nature and Thor really gave us something to test us.

wb: Horrible conditions this CLE .. Static: severe/extreme.

bd: The worst receptions in a long time.

ds: A terrible noise in the ears, all through the CLE.

pn: .. heavy static and poor propagation had the old ears straining a bit ..

gl: .. very much thunder noise.

yk: Electrical storms all but wiped out reception ..

pt: .. constant unremitting wall to wall heavy static crashes ..

my: .. very strong QRN and local QRM ..

px: I could only hear the strongest signals.

me: Quite a challenge with Tstorms ..

rb: .. terrific static that plagued listeners ..

ji: .. conditions have conspired against me and I've only had this meager grab to show for it, account of a stormy weekend.

co: A line of active thunderstorms ..

dp: .. absolutely terrible CLE, very poor propagation, noisy band, light to heavy static day and night.

jc: Poor propagation and lots of noise from the violent storms ..

dt: .. noise from nearby thunderstorms and low propagation.

ge: Noise baseline on Perseus spectrum display had an average level ($\hat{A}\pm 2$ dBm) centered on -115 dBm, 20 Hz BW, 300-450 kHz range.

ac: .. heavy storm noise.

jb: .. poor propagation, static crashes and DGPS noise ..

sr: .. not an enjoyable CLE due to the heavy static and poor conditions.

dn: Had several T-storms during the w/e move slowly overhead ..

mu: I can only echo what others of said! No-prop and noisy!

mx: Ungodly local noise in the evenings ..

sm: Pretty messy all three nights ..

ha: Fri/Sat night and Sun/Mon night were next to useless here.
 bt: Lightning, QRM, short dark hours ..
 ri: Rough static this time!

Yes, probably one of the worst CLEs we've ever had for storms.

So what happened – everyone despondent? ... few logs??
 No, quite the reverse.. .

We had **40 logs**, a total only exceeded once in all 17 of our previous May CLEs!
 And several reporters added positive remarks, including “enjoyed the challenge”.
 Seven of us only managed 5 or fewer loggings, but they still sent a log – well done!
 Aren't we an amazing Group of enthusiasts?

The Combined Results (thanks, Joachim) show that, comparing our results this time with those in Feb. 2017 when we covered the same frequencies, all the statistics were very significantly down. No surprise there. The reduction was about the same amount for Europe and Rest of the World.

However the worst night was probably different between Europe and North America, as can be seen from the following:

EUROPE

NIGHT	NDBs	Exp.	+/-
Friday	250	229	21
Saturday	98	115	-17
Sunday	53	57	-4
Totals:	401	401	

NORTH AMERICA

NIGHT	NDBs	Exp.	+/-
Friday	128	110	18
Saturday	56	55	1
Sunday	9	28	-19
Totals:	193	193	

The 'NDBs' column shows how many NDBs were heard on each night and the total.
 The 'Exp.' column shows how many NDBs would normally be expected on each night for that same total (each night it is usually about half as many as on the previous one because there are fewer 'new' ones still remaining to be heard)
The '+/-' column shows how many more, or less, were heard each night than expected.

The results suggest that In Europe Saturday night was the worst, while in North America Sunday was probably the worst.

(Night-to-night changes can also be due to a special event - a celebration, etc. - that had affected several of us)

Coming CLEs:

CLE233 22-25 June **Normal**

CLE234 27-20 July '**Barn Door**' - for anyone who likes bringing to life **non-selective receivers** - basic home brews (e.g. regen), antique sets, simple portables, etc. Have you thought about what you will listen with for this one?

CLE235 24-27 Aug. **Normal**

(the above dates are provisional)

Good Listening

Brian

(CLE coordinator)