

Natural Radio

News, Comments and Letters About Natural Radio

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It seems like I was just planting my garden and now we are rolling into September. Remember that the times around the equinoxes are peak times for whistlers, so a fall excursion to a quiet site might be fun. The fall equinox is on September 23 this year.

The new issue of the INSPIRE Journal is available online in the .pdf format. INSPIRE has taken on a broader mission and the new INSPIRE Journal reflects that mission. Congratulations to Kathleen Franzen, president of Inspire and the Managing Editor of the Journal and to Fatima Bocoum the editor of the Journal.

I urge you to look at this month's edition of the INSPIRE Journal and read the article by Tom Becker of Cape Coral Florida. Tom details his construction of a live streaming receiver for Natural Radio signals. Find it at <http://image.gsfc.nasa.gov/poetry/inspire/>

Tom, Paul Nicholson, of Todmorden, UK, Mark Dennison and several others have been experimenting with the live streaming of Natural Radio signals since at least March of this year, and the experiments have been discussed online on the VLF_Group list on Yahoo. One of the more interesting parts of the experiment has been combining several streams from separated locations to provide a stereo stream. You can listen to Tom's stream at <http://67.207.143.181/vlf9.m3u>

Paul Nicholson, provided a common streaming server for this experiment, and has written excellent Linux software that makes it possible. His Live VLF Natural Radio website can be found at <http://www.abelian.org/vlf/> where the near-real-time VLF streams are available. Paul lists several other streaming sites at this location. Since these sites are experimental they may not be up 100% of the time as modifications are made to the receivers and software. You can usually find out the state of these streams and what experimenting is being done by reading the posts on the VLF_Group at http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/VLF_Group/

Other online receivers are the NASA stream at Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) in Huntsville, Alabama, at <http://spaceweather.com/glossary/inspire.html> and the University of Florida Radio Observatory (UFRO). UFRO streams Natural Radio signals as well as signals from Jupiter. (Streaming of Natural Radio signals is shut down during the "lightning season" in Florida which is from about June through October): <http://ufro1.astro.ufl.edu/INSPIREarc.htm>

For something a little different but natural, Wolf, DL4YHF, provided a link to this site <http://icecast.awi.de:8000/PALAOA.MP3.m3u> These are the sounds of the Antarctic sea and bear an uncanny resemblance to Natural Radio signals. The description of the research is at <http://www.awi.de/PALAOA>