

Solar Bulletin

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF VARIABLE STAR OBSERVERS - SOLAR COMMITTEE

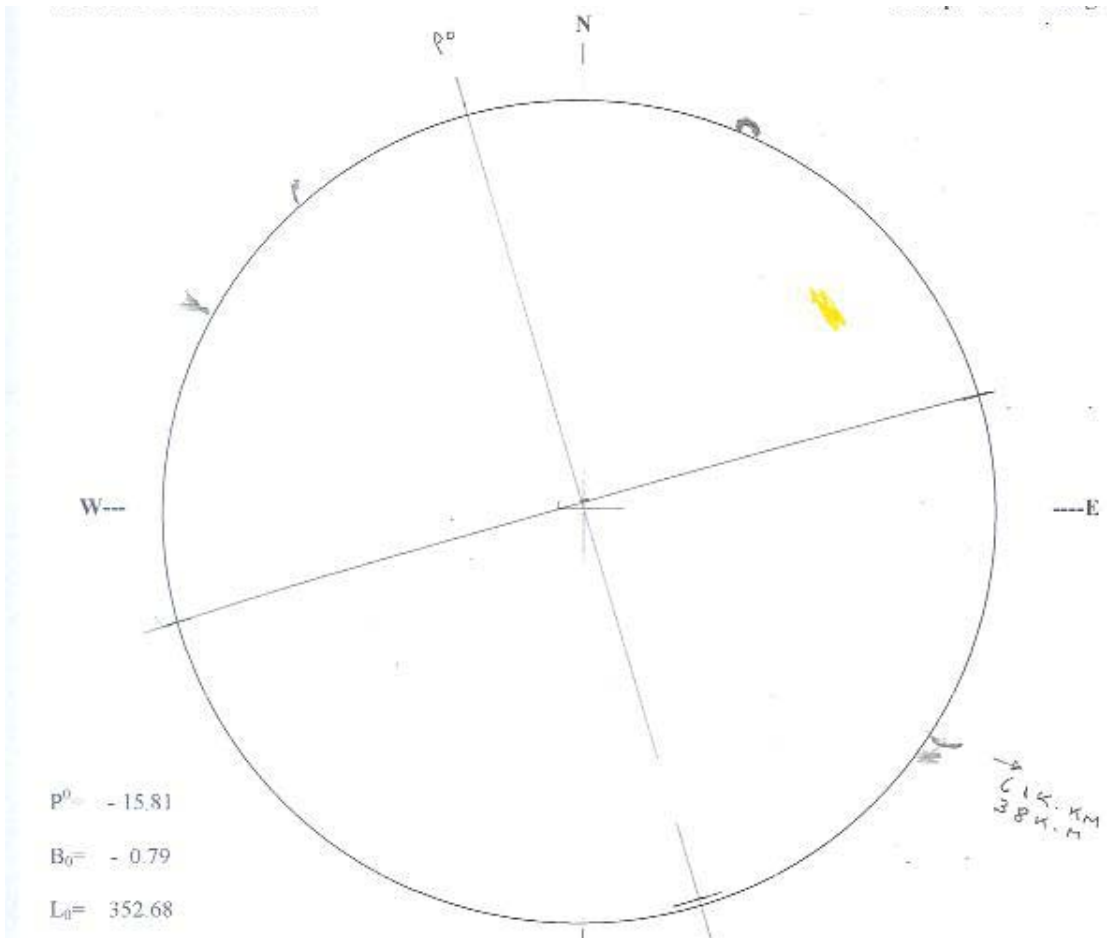


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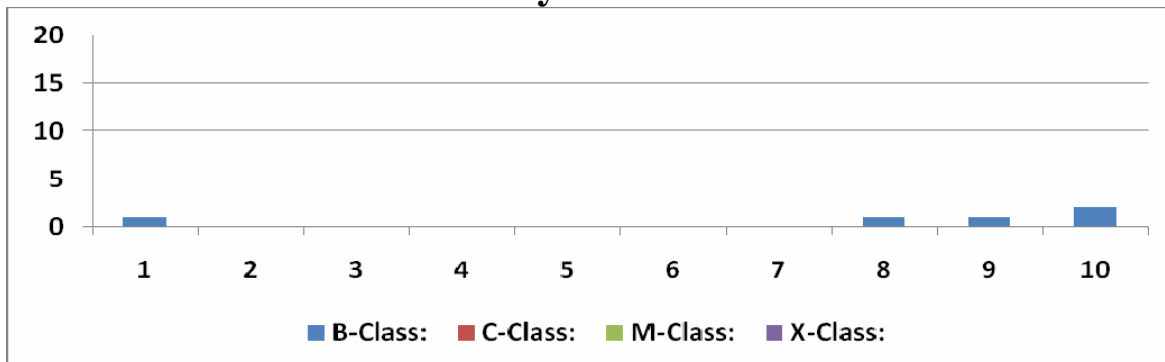
This wonderful H-alpha drawing by solar observer Monty Leventhal of the Sydney City Skywatchers, Australia was made on May 30, 2009. It clearly shows several interesting prominences occurring and some faculae. This should at least encourage those with H-alpha capable scopes to take a quick peek. I've received some other drawings and images that I'll include in the June bulletin.

Thanks again to all the dedicated observers who continue to patrol the sun and submit reports. Your data still counts and reflects the current status of this cycle. Don't forget to submit your images, drawings and SID plots to include in the bulletin.

Solar Events

Just the other day I was treated to an incredible view of the sun through a friends solar scope. The object of interest for most was the wispy prominence dancing on the limb of the sun. But for me the most striking aspect was the very evenly distributed tiny dark markings spread across the sun. They were like miniature filaments shimmering as if in constant motion. It gave the impression of a very active surface but on a miniscule scale. Like a pond that is evenly covered by tiny ripples raised by an almost imperceptible breeze. There is activity on the sun but it is so quiet, so calm. I wonder if this is the calm before the storm. I wonder what is going on below that surface. Monitoring for solar flares gives the impression that nothing is happening and indeed, from our vantage point that is true. But something is happening, and it is exciting to think about what is just around the corner or, should I say, the limb. Keep up the good work with your continued reports. Although there were zero correlated SID events this month, and only five B-Class X-Ray events recorded by the GOES-12 spacecraft, this doesn't mean we could not have a sudden eruption of activity anytime now. You wouldn't want to miss the first big one!

Solar Flare Summary Based on GOES-12 Data



American Relative Sunspot Numbers (Ra) for
May 2009 [**boldface = maximum, minimum**]

Day	N	Raw Mean	Ra
1	32	0	0
2	37	0	0
3	34	0	0
4	28	1	1
5	26	0	0
6	27	0	0
7	29	0	0
8	34	0	0
9	44	0	0
10	39	1	0
11	41	1	0
12	35	1	1
13	36	6	4
14	37	11	7
15	37	9	7
16	27	8	6
17	36	7	5
18	38	8	5
19	35	1	1
20	39	1	0
21	32	0	0
22	36	4	2
23	38	7	5
24	39	0	0
25	38	0	0
26	34	0	0
27	34	0	0
28	29	0	0
29	33	0	0
30	33	1	0
31	42	12	7

Means **34.8** 2.5 1.6

No. of Observers: 58

Total No. of Observations: 1079

Reporting Addresses:

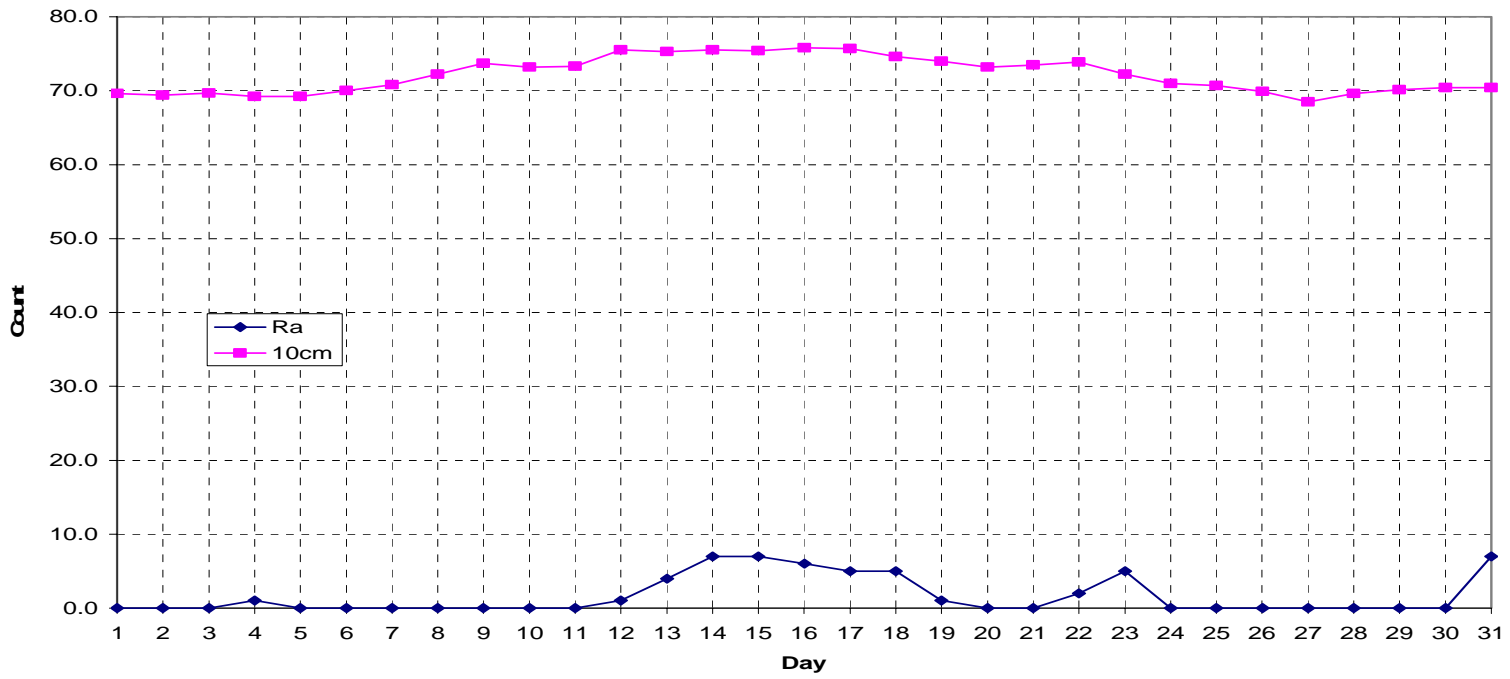
**Sunspot Reports – Email: solar@aavso.org Postal Mail: AAVSO,
49 Bay State Rd. Cambridge, MA, 02138 Fax: 617-354-0665**

**SID Flare Reports – email: noatak@aol.com Postal Mail: Mike Hill,
114 Prospect St., Marlboro, MA, 01752**

A. Abbott	AAP	17
J. Alonso	AJV	25
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C. Simpson	SIMC	11
G. Stefanopoulos	STEF	2
G. Stemmler	STEM	21
N. Stoikidis	STQ	27
M. Suzuki	SUZM	22
M. Szulc	SZUM	18
D. Teske	TESD	23
J. Temprano	TJV	20
P. Urbanski	URBP	29
A. Vargas	VARG	26
D. Vidican	VIDD	12
W. Wilson	WILW	22
P. Wirkus	WIRP	14
R. Wheeler	WRP	5
H. Yesilyaprak	YESH	29

10 cm Solar Flux and American Relative Sunspot Numbers (Ra) for May 2009
 10 cm source: ftp://lynx.drao.nrc.ca/pub/solar/FLUX_DATA/fluxtablerolling.text



Smoothed Mean Sunspot Numbers (Rsm) from January 2000 to November 2008
 (Waldmeier Method)

