

432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS DECEMBER 2003 VOL 31 #12

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THE NL WEB VERSION IS PRODUCED BY W6/PA0ZN AND AVAILABLE AT <<http://www.nitehawk.com/rasmit/em70cm.html>>

CONDITION: Another EME contest is now history. 2004 will probably be most remembered for the Spitzbergen dpxpedition during the Oct weekend. Conditions were not spectacular either month and despite some minority comments to the contrary, I felt activity was pretty good. There is no question on my part that the lack of sleep, investment of time and frustration over lost contacts was well spent. I am looking forward to some good stories at the up coming 2004 EME Conference. One issue that was awakened by the contest is the need for a separate microwave EME contest or at least separate times for the microwave EME bands. With stations active on 13, 6 and 3 cm, it is just not possible to operate these bands and also be a creditable competitor on 70 and 23 cm, not to mention 2 or any other band. It seems clear from the overwhelming response that a separate microwave EME contest is needed.

HIGH CONTEST SCORES: On 432 it appears that JW/SM2BYA still has the lead with 125 QSOs with just one weekend of operation, but this is special case with a non-amateur owned dish. HB9Q appears to have the top spot with 119x40. This is no small accomplishment as Dan's group although multi-operator class, operated multiple bands with 432 and 1296 on one dish. They are followed by DL9KR with 106x38. Nothing has been received from OH2PO who lead at the end of the 1st part with 84x35 or N2IQ who put in a major effort but has not divulged his score. On 1296 OE9XXI has retained the lead with 79x31 followed by HB9BBD with 75x31, OE9ERC with 68x30 and HB9Q's 1296 effort of 61x28. OE9ERC probably has the lead on 13 cm with 15x13 followed by F2TU with 14x12, and on 6 cm OE9ERC is tied with F2TU with 4 x 4. On 3 cm F2TU reports the biggest score with 11x9 followed by 15PPE with 10x7.

7M2PDT: Shu pdt_umesan@ybb.ne.jp is QRV again on 70 cm EME with 8 x M² 9 WL yagis (vertical pol), but notes that his sun noise is down a bit. He plans to replaces his array 16 x FO 25 el yagis this spring. He interested in skeds on both CW and JT44 at any time.



DL0SHF's 1296 9m Dish
(Only SWL in Nov, 700 W to be on soon)

DL0SHF: Chris, DF9CY cpe@df9cy.de fills us in on his contest efforts -- I haven't been on EME for a long time, but this year I planned to be back on and operated from DL0SHF (DK7LJ's EME station). We made great efforts and were QRV on 13 and 3 cm, but did not make it on 23 cm. Our new 1296 PA modules arrived 5 days before the contest, but the time was too short to get them running properly and mounted at the dish. They should deliver > 700 W into the feed of our 9 m solid dish. I spent some time listening to 23 cm, which sounded sometimes like the lower portion of the 40 m band. 13 cm and 3 cm were running well and the main focus. We managed to work on 13 cm on 15 Nov W5LUA (559/569), SM3AKW (549/549) and OZ4MM (559/559), and on 16 Nov OE9ERC (559/569) and G3LTF (449/579). Heard were OK1CA (559) and HB9SV (569). We used a 6 m solid dish and a transistor PA with 350 W at the feed point. Echoes were sometimes "crashing in". We had problems in the first leg of the contest, so no QSOs were made on 13 cm. Now we can receive on 2320, 2304 and 2424 MHz. On a separate 6 m dish, we ran 3 cm with 30 W at the feed. We worked on 18 Oct PA0EHG (559/559) and 19 Oct DL0EF (44/44) on SSB, IQ4DF (44/51) on SSB, OK1UWA (549/559), W5LUA (559/549), G4NNS (O/O), 15PPE (449/449) and F2TU (O/O), on 15 Nov F6KXS (O/O), WA7CJO (579/559) and LX1DB (559/559), and on 16 Nov OK1KIR (529/539) and DL0EF (579/559). 10 GHz was fun although I had expected more stations. Our echoes were consistently strong but sounded rougher at moon culmination and in the western part of the sky. I had to go QRT at about 0730 on 16 Nov. I got a phone call that my daughter was ill and had to drive her to the doctors. She is a lot better now. You should expect DK7LJ to become QRV on 23 cm very soon. I will operate DL0SHF (or DF9CY/p). Anyone wanting QSLs should send them to DK7LJ or me. I have set up a new DL0SHF site at www.qsl.net/dl0shf with a bunch of new images.



DL0SHF 3 cm Station (6 m dish and 350 w)
– A separate 6 m dish was used on 13 cm!

DL9KR: Jan's Bruinier@t-online.de contest results -- Activity was revived by JW/SM2BYA! kudos and thanks a million to Gudmund & crew. On the positive side were sometimes good conditions and 9 initials, but on the negative were vertically stuck Faraday for long hours - especially in the first part. I lost about 4 hours towards moonset due to encroachment by trees - no chance of killing them as the XYL is keeping a sharp lookout. The following random CW QSOs were made (dupes are not shown): on 18 Oct JW/SM2BYA for initial #785, S52CW, OE5EYM, DJ5MN, EA3DXU, UA3PTW, JH4JLV, JJ1NNJ, G4ALH, UT3LL, DJ3FI, SP6JLW, JS3SIM, JL1ZCG, DL1YMK, G4RGK, JA6AHB, RA3LE, JR9NWC, YO2IS, 7M2PDT, S53J, UA6LGH, UY5HF, HB9Q, DK3WG, SM3AKW, F6KHM, PA2CHR, DK3FB, OH2PO, OK2BDQ, HA1YA, DK5MV, K4EME, N1BUG, N9AB, DL7APV, CT1DMK, YO4FRJ #786, K9SLQ, KE2N/4, GW3XYW, SM2ILF, DJ6MB, OE3JPC, K2UYH, PA3DZL, K5GW, ON5OF, KU4F, WA4NJP, LU7DZ, W7MEM, VE6TA, KL7HFQ, SM2CEW, K6JEY, N2IQ, OZ4MM, K0RZ, KL6M, K1FO, OE9ERC, DL4MEA, F2TU, VK3UM, S51ZO, DL5LF, JA9BOH and VK4AFL, on 19 Oct (my 68th birthday), PA0PLY, YU1EV, JH0WJF, OH2DG, G3LTF, RW3PX #787, DF3RU, I5CTE, F6DRO #788, J3JHP, UA9FAD, DL8OBU, SM2LKW, DB6NT, DK8VS, SK0CC and G4YTL, on 15 Nov JA6DZI, DL7UDA, SM5IOT, FY5DG, OH3AWW #789, IZ2FOB #790, PA3AEF, DF6NA, DL0AO, DJ7GK, G3HUL, DG1KJG #791, VK5MC and F6HZZ #792, and 16 Nov OE5JFL, PA5DD #793, G3LQR and JA2TY for a score of 106x38 for 402,800 points.



FY5DG's 4 x 26 el BV Yagis Array for 70 cm

F2TU: Philippe F2TU.Philip@guidoe.fr found contest conditions good for Nov contest weekend -- My single operator score was on 432 40x26, 1296 54x25, 2300 14x12, 5670 4x4 and 10368 11x9 of which initials were PA0ESG #28 and IQ4DF #29, for a total of 123x76 = 934,800 points. This score is only 75% of my first contest with my 8 m dish in 2001, but I was more active on 432 then. This is proof that this contest penalizes activity on the microwave bands. QSO'd in first and second parts were on 432: DB6NT for initial #240, DF3RU, DJ3FI, DJ6MB, DK3WG, DL1YMK, DL7APV, DL9KR, EA3DXU, F6KHM, G3LTF, G4RGK, GW3XYW, HB9JAW, HB9Q, JL1ZCG, JW/SM2BYA, K0RZ, K1FO, K2UYH, K4EME, K5GW, KL6M, KU4F, N2IQ, N9AB, OE9ERC, OH2PO, OK2BDQ, OZ4MM, PA3CSG, RA3LE, S52CW, SM2CEW, SM3AKW, SM5IOT #241, SP6JLW, UA3PTW, VK3UM and YO2IS; on 1296: DF3RU, DK0ZAB, DL1YMK, DL4MUP, F1ANH, F5HRY, F5VHX, F6CGJ, F6KHM, G3LQR, G3LTF, G4CCH, HA5SHF, HB9BBD, HB9JAW, HB9SV, IK2MMB, IK2RTI, IK3COJ, JA6AHB, JA6CZD, JA8IAD, for initial JH1KRC #210, JH5LUZ, JR4ZZS #211, K0YW, K2UYH, K5GW, K5JL, K9BCT, LA8LF, N2UO, OE5EYM, OE5JFL, OE9ERC, OE9XXI, OH2AXH, OH2DG, OK1CA, OM6AA #209, ON5RR, OZ6OL, PA0SSB, SK0UX, #212, SM2CEW, SM3AKW, VE6TA, W2DRZ, W2UHI, W7BBM, W7GBI, W7SZ, WA6PY and

ZS6AXT; on 2300: G3LTF, HB9SV, IK2RTI, JA4BLC, JA7BMB, OE9ERC, OH2AXH, OK1CA, OZ4MM, SM3AKW, SM4DHN #35, W5LUA, WA6PY and ZS6AXT; on 5700: IK2RTI, OE9ERC, W5LUA and ZS6AXT; and on 10 GHz: DL0EF, DL0SHF, F6KSX, G3NNS, I5PPE, IQ4DF for initial #29, LX1DB, OK1UWA, PA0EHG #28, W5LUA and WA7CJO. I feel it is urgent that the rules of the EME contest be modified in order to encourage QSOs on 2300 and above. I also tested a 432 LNA from Graham, F5VHX. It was excellent with a NF of 0.34 dB. I gained 0.7 dB on the solar noise compared to my old DJ9BV design. See <http://www.rfham.com> for details.

F5SE: Franck kozton@easynet.fr reports on his dish project -- Instead of building a dish, I will use one built 23 years ago by F1JG, F1AAM and F1BLL. It is a 12 m dish located at F1JG's QTH near Marseille on the Mediterranean coast. F1JG is no longer active on any band and wanted to scrap the dish, but his colleagues knew about my project and asked me if I would be interested in using the dish. I said "yes". So the dish is presently being dismantled and despite WX delays is reported to be practically ready for shipping. Here, the mount base is giving us problems. After deeper soundings, it appears the soil is more unstable than previously thought. There are techniques to stabilize such kinds of ground. The problem is to choose the one best matched to the soil. As far as equipment is concerned, I have acquired an Hungarian made "spinach box" for 432 MHz. It is fitted with a Russian GS35B triode and can "quietly" deliver about 1200 W output. If the dish keeps going slowly, I will probably put up some yagis on my home tower and be back on 432 MHz EME.

G3LOR: Simon G3LOR@aol.com was active on 432, 1296 and 2300 in the contest -- During the 1st weekend I QSO'd on 13 cm just 3 stations: G3LTF, HB9SV and SM4DHN. I did better on 23 cm with 13 QSOs from HB9Q, OK1CA, F2TU, G4CCH, SM3AKW, K5JL, OE9XXI, HB9BBD, F6KHM, OZ4MM, K5GW, PA0SSB and G3LTF. 432 netted JW/SM2BYA, HB9Q, N2IQ and G3LTF. During the 2nd weekend, on 15 Nov I missed 0000 to 0125 due to high winds, but did work on 13 cm OZ4MM and OK1CA. As RX seemed poor, I went bed at 0230. I did hear JA4BLC, but guess I was too late to raise him. (I will try move to TX on 2424 next year as have new solid state TX with separate Los.) On 16 Nov, I unable to operate as I had contractors at the farm to lift sugar beet crop, so that prevented any 13 cm operation as the dish is near the roadway and the tractors might hit the dish. It was not worth the risk. I removed the feed during the day and moved to 23 cm where I worked F5VHX, K2UYH and OH2AXH. Others were heard, OE5ERC, K9BCT and OE5JFL, but always in QSO. I returned to 432 near moonset. Conditions seemed better and I worked KU4F and heard K1FO and N9AB. Moonrise Sunday to the contest end, I was on 432 and QSO'd OH2PO, DL9KR, VK3UM, UA3PTW for an initial and heard JR9NWC. I am using on 13 cm my 4.2 m dish with 90 W at my VE4MA feed and maybe 15 dB of sun noise at 92 flux (preamp has 0.3/0.4 NF); on 23 cm my 4.2 m dish with 200 W to a VE4MA feed with about 15 dB of sun noise at 100 flux (preamp has 0.3/0.4 NF); 432 8 x 8.6 lambda yagis with open wire feedline but VSWR of 2.1 - they need rebuilding, only 10 dB of sun noise at 100 flux (preamp has 0.6 NF - will try the 54143, which should give 0.3/0.4 dB). My dish has a very limited window. I can just reach JA, but it is blocked by my tropo tower and to the west I run out at an elevation of 30 degrees. KL and ZL are probably not possible. One day I will be also on 9 cm, but there is always something else to do. We now have a new station, G3IRQ, near me in JO02. He should send report soon.

G3LTF: Peter 100633.1656@compuserve.com reports for Nov -- Activity and conditions were down on 432 compared to last month. On 1296 activity was good and on 13 cm there was a lot of interesting stuff including 3 JAs. I also made good use of the dish on 2 m. I still don't understand why the activity in the US is so low on 13 cm, hopefully when WA6PY gets his bigger dish operational that will change. My final score was on 432 47x26, 1296 50x25 and 2320 13x12 and 144 8x8, which gives me 837.8 k points. I believe this is my highest ever. I know I missed a few multipliers on 1296 and probably some initials,

but the time on 144 was very productive in points. Overall I enjoyed the contest, my only gripe is the *weakies*, who only call the *biggies* and rarely call CQ, so us medium guys don't get the chance to have a go at them. I would be very happy to turn up for a "microwave" contest, 2300 and above. To the question of should the bands be split between the weekends, my answer is that we already have the DUBUS Contest in that format, so why not turn up for that and lets keep the variety of formats. I have now optimized the feed change over process and it is down to about 15 minutes or less. It keeps me fit! On 13 cm I worked on 15 Nov JA4BLC, JA6CZD for initial #24, ZS6AXT and OK1CA, and on 16 Nov DL0SHF #25 and OH2AXH. All contacts were crossband except OK1CA. CWNR were SM3AKW and IK2RTI. Heard was ON5RR. On 23cm I QSO'd on 15 Nov DK0ZAB, ZS6AXT, OE5EYM, K0YW, K2UYH, VE6TA, K9BCT, W7SZ, HB9JAW and JR4ZZS for initial #198, and on 16 Nov OE5JFL, SK0UX #199, JH1KRC #200, JA8ERE, JA8IAD and VA7MM #201. Heard were IK1BZN and W7BBM. On 70 cm I worked on 15 Nov KL6M (also heard him on long path next day!), DK8VS for initial #377, S51ZO, N2IQ, SM2CEW, G4RGK, VK4AFL, VK3UM, UA3PTW, JA9BOH, OZ4MM, K4EME, DF6NA and JJ1NNJ. CWNR were JF3HUC, JA6AHB, K6JEY, YU1EV and OK2BDQ. Heard were GW4DGU and G3HUL. We are making plans to come to the 2004 Conference.

GW3XYW: Stuart's gw3xyw@thersgb.net EME report -- My moonbounce activity for Oct and Nov were entirely on 70 cm and were as follows. I worked on 18/19 Oct DL9KR, N2IQ, KU4F, SM3AKW, DL7APV, DL1YMK, OH2PO, OZ4MM, HB9Q, UA3PTW, SM2CEW, HA1YA, F2TU, N9AB, OH2DG, DF3RU, K1FO, DK3WG and JW/SM2LTA, and on 15/16 Nov DK3WG, S52CW, YU1EV, HB9JAW, DJ6MB, G4RGK, F6KHM, DL7APV, OE5JFL, JA6AHB and JL1ZCG. After resolving a preamp problem I hope to QSY back to 23 cm by next month to test a new Septum feed on the Moon.

HB9BBD: Dominique dfaessler@bluewin.ch has many things are to report this time -- Thanks to all worked - I enjoyed the contest. My scoring was 75x31. I missed many. The case of IZ1BPN was particularly unhappy because I gave a hand to someone with RX trouble wishing to tailend one of my QSOs. In the process I lost the minute needed to listen for my report. From UR6LX I got a first HB9-Ukraine. All in all some 7 initials were made, which brings my score to 4,650 after omitting the two Germans operating with different calls from the same station in the first leg. The initials were PA0SSB for #196, ON4QQ #197, JH1KRC #198, JR4ZZS #199, UT3LL #200, SK0UX #202 and UR5LX #203. QSL cards can be printed at <http://www.hb9bbd.ch/qsqcard.php3>.

HB9JAW: Michel: HB9JAW@Bluewin.ch comments on problems in ARRL EME Contest -- In the first weekend, at the start of the contest my elevation readout had a water problem, and there was no way of fixing it at 2 in the morning. On the next moon pass, my 70 cm HV supply smoked, my 2 m preamp blown up and the 23 cm system was much down in performance. It was an absolute disaster. I only worked JW/SM2BYA for an initial and this was manually without readouts -- hi. The second weekend went a little better. I QSO'd on 432 the following new stations SM5IOT (549/579), OK2BDO (449/539), GW3XYW (539/559), N2IQ (579/579), KU4F (559/559), KE2N/4 (549/559) and DK8VS (559/559), and on 1296 I added initials with KA0Y (579/579), W7BBM (559/559), K2UYH (559/579), W7SZ (419/579), OE5EYM (579/559), DL4MUP (539/559), JH5LUZ (559/589) and JA8IAD (559/559). Just before the end of the contest UR5LX called, but he faded away before we could complete. I ended with an overall score of 43x27. My tnx to HB9BBD for help improving my RX. Before the second weekend, he tuned my IMU horn for the best possible performance. Now signals and echoes are much stronger than before, but there is still a lot of room for improvement.

HB9Q: Dan hb9crq@hb9q.ch very much enjoyed the contest -- Conditions seemed to be quite okay. Activity on 432 definitely was up compared to the last few years - thanks again to SM2BYA. 1296

seemed on the same level as last year. (Interestingly, activity on 144 was lower, possibly due to JT44). Final results were on 432 119x40, on 1296 61x28 for a total (with 144) of 300x106 for 3,180,000 points. All QSOs were CW and random! Detailed logs including comments can be found on our band pages at www.hb9q.ch. During the second leg of the contest we did work again several QRP stations on 432. We are interested in skeds with station running 4 yagis and >50 W, 2 yagis and >100 W, or 1 yagi and >200 W. We will be next active on 13/14 Dec at 2030 to 1100 switching between 432.020 and 1296.016 on a regular bases.

ISPPE: Alex, IK5WJD and Pietro, I5PPE ikcsg@tin.it report on their 10 GHz ARRL EME Contest activity -- We QSO'd on 19 Oct at 0805 IQ4DF (559/549), 0825 OK1UWA (529/539), 0834 DL0SHF (449/449), 0923 PA0EHG (O/O) and 0951 W5LUA (539/O), on 15 Nov at 0633 WA7CJO (569/569), 0648 F6KXSX (O/O), and 16 Nov 0635 OK1KIR (O/O), 0644 DL0EF (559/559), 0912 F2TU (O/O) and 0936 IQ4DF (569/559) -- dup for a total of 10x7 or 7,000 points.

JA6AHB: Toshio ja6ahb@nifty.com was active on 70 and 23 cm and ended with 42x24 on 432 and 38x20 on 1296 for a total 352,000 points. His station was a 7 m dish with 2 x 3CX800A7 PA on 432 and 8 x M57762 modules on 1296. On 432 he QSO'd on 18 Oct at 0011 OH2PO (559/559), 0017 UA3PTW (549/559), 0025 DJ3FI (549/549), 0106 OH2DG (339/449), 0119 DL9KR (589/579), 0127 HB9Q (579/539), 0147 DF3RU (339/559), 0158 SM3AKW (549/549), 0227 JW/SM2BYA (579/539), 1515 N2IQ (579/569), 1527 K1FO (569/549), 1539 KU4F (579/569), 1550 K5GW (559/559), 1557 N9AB (569/559), 1610 JR9NWC (559/449), 1619 JH4JLV (559/549) and 1632 WA4NJP (O/O), and 19 Oct at 0341 DK3WG (559/559), 0358 OE9ERC (579/549), 0424 HA1YA (439/449), 1609 K2UYH (559/559), 1712 VK3UM (559/549), 1721 JH0WJF (559/549) 1736 VK4AFL (449/449), 1803 VE6TA (559/559), 1809 KE2N/4 (559/339), 1821 KL6M (549/549), 1835 KORZ (569/539) 1859 K4EME (559/559) and 1936 JW/SM2BYA (579/539) -- dup, on 15 Nov at 0055 F6KHM (569/559), 0122 JA6DZI (O/559), 1606 JL1ZCG (569/559), 1625 JJ1NNJ (339/449), 1635 JA9BOH (439/449), 2321 DJ6MB (539/539) and 2343 ON5OF (449/559), and on 16 Nov at 0124 GW3XYW (559/559), 0137 G4RGK (439/449), 0145 S52CW (549/549), 0155 OE5EYM (559/559), 0211 DL7APV (559/559) and 1618 W7CI (559/449). On 1296 he QSO'd on 18 Oct at 0243 LA8LF (559/549), 0252 HB9BBD (589/579), 0258 F6CGJ (569/559), 0302 DF3RU (559/549), 0307 OH2DG (559/539), 0315 OZ4MM (569/549), 0327 SM3AKW (559/549) 0335 G3LTF (559/549), 1645 K5GW (569/569), 1650 K5JL (579/569), 1655 W2DRZ (559/339), 1733 W7SZ (O/O) and 1754 JH1KRC (559/559), 19 Oct at 0040 PA0SSB (O/O), 0052 G4CCH (559/559), 0101 OE9XXI (579/569), 0110 OE9ERC (579/559), 0122 OZ6OL (449/549), 0132 JH5LUZ (559/559), 0152 F6KHM (569/449), 0226 ON5RR (O/O), 0239 F2TU (579/569), 0302 DL1YMK (439/529), 0314 OE5EYM (559/559), 1625 K2UYH (559/569) and 1640 W7GBI (569/539), 15 Nov at 0000 HB9Q (579/559), 0012 HB9SV (579/569), 0017 DK0ZAB (559/559), 0039 F5VHX (O/O), 0155 IK2MMB (559/539), 1417 K0YW (559/569), 1422 K9BCT (559/449), 1431 N2UO (O/O) and 1514 W7BBM (449/449), and 16 Nov at 0016 JR4ZZS (569/569), 0048 OK1CA (549/559), 1748 VE6TA (449/449).

JJ1NNJ: Kouichi BYD01531@nifty.ne.jp sends his contest report -- I worked on 70 cm on 15 Nov F6KHM, K2UYH, JA6AHB, SM3AKW and DF3RU and on 16 Nov OE5JFL and G3LTF. My contest total was 24x18 or 43,200 points. I had very exciting QSO with G3LTF at end of the contest. I started calling Peter at 2347 then he responded with QRZ? several times. At 2357 Peter confirm my callsign and sent me "O", then I send "RO" and received "RRR" at 2359:20!

JR4ZZS: Yoshiro, JA4BLC ja4blc@web-sanin.co.jp reports on the JR4ZZS effort -- JR4ZZS is a club station presently set up for EME on 1296 using a 30' dish with a circular feed. QSLs are welcome and can

be sent to Ken, JR4AEP, Ken-ichi Watanabe, I-13 Nishi-mochida, Matsue 690-0815 JAPAN. Right before the start of the Nov contest weekend, we had a serious interference problem caused by local Radar that was solved by JR4AEP and JA4BLC. But, Murphy appeared just at the moonrise. Before the first transmission, we found that the water flow for the PA had stopped. We replaced the power supply of the pump. Next, just after our first transmission, we found an error message on the computer display, which was controlling the dish. We decided to track the moon without the automated system. Third, the pump of the PA stopped permanently. It happened after midnight and we could not get a replacement until after sunrise. We thus ran QRP for most of our operating time. We finished with a score of 25x12. The stations worked were HB9BBD, OE9XXI, OE9ERC, HB9SV, F6CGJ, G4CCH, K0YW, K5GW, K5JL, F2TU, G3LTF, OE5JFL, OK1CA, OZ6OL, SM2CEW, HB9Q, JA6AHB, DL1YMK, IK2MMB, JH5LUZ, F6KHM, OZ4MM, SK0UX, F5VHX and OE5EYM. We also had two partial QSOs with K2UYH and IK3COJ.



JR4ZZS 30' Dish used on 1296 in the contest

K0RZ: Bill K0rzeme@aol.com did not have good luck in Nov and reports high winds kept him off the air for most of the Nov contest weekend. He did QSO on 16 Nov on 70 cm SM5IOT, DJ6MB, OK2BDQ for initial #314, G4RGK, DL0AO #315, DB6NT #316, SP6JLW, K2UYH and F2TU. Bill ended with a final score of 38x23. This was the lowest in over 10 years. Bill also writes that his e-mail address "wmccaa@aol.com" has very tight SPAM control and will not pass an address that is not previously authorized. He suggests that stations trying to reach him use K0rzeme@aol.com as this address has no SPAM filters operating. Unfortunately the Nov NL listed wmccaa@aol.com as his e-mail.

K4EME: Cowles candrus@rica.net really enjoyed the ARRL International EME contest this year -- I worked with my 8 FO33 yagis 5 initials during this contest on 70 cm. They were OE9ERC, JW/SM2BYA, KE2N/4, EA3DXU and G4RGK. This year was much better than last when I only completed 17 QSOs. My preliminary QSO count is 33x22, so I have almost doubled my contacts this year over last! Sunday on the last leg of the contest it started to rain and I did not hear very well at all, but for the most part WX was good and I continued to make contacts. The weather right before the contest on both weekends was a different story. I had high winds that tented to realign my array, but nothing broke! I think a polar rotor and quieter RF environment might improve my weak signal reception a lot. I only made CW contacts and did not run JT-44 during the contest due to a noisy computer. I want to fix this problem before the next contest. I was wondering if anyone is using an RF screen room for their radio room? I am planning to quiet down the computer. My last resort will be to work on shielding the whole radio room. I have noticed that living on top of a high hill may not be as beneficial for EME as I once thought.

I think maybe those of you who live between hills may make up for the smaller amount of moon time with a quieter EM environment! Even the National Radio Quiet Zone in which I live is not as quiet as it once was due to all the new technology moving into the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. I am looking forward to the day when I can get my 20' dish up and move up in frequency. As soon as things around the house quite breaking, this will happen, Hi.

KL7FH: Frank <kl7fh@gsi.net> in BP51bb is QRV on 432 with 100 W to 16 x 12 el yagis with polarity rotation. He is looking forward to having his first EME QSO.

N2UO: Marc's lu6dw@yahoo.com report for the Newsletter -- The second leg of the contest was very interesting. I worked on 23 cm OZ6OL, ZS6AXT, F5VHX, DL1YMK, K0YW, IK2MMB, VE6TA, JA6AHB, SM3AKW, N2IQ, OH2AXH, OM6AA and WA6PY. My all-homebrew station performed very well and had no problems. My total score was 34x20 monoband 23 cm, which triples my 2002 effort. The difference is probably due to 6 dB more output power and a few more operating hours. On the technical side, I bought a large and cheap copper sheet at a scrap metal place, so I will probably try a W2IMU feed with septum polarizer some time in the future. I am looking for a reduction in system temperature. I am also experimenting with Crossed Field Antennas on HF, and I also moved some of my large equipment to a tall 19" rack cabinet.

OE9ERC: Erich erich@oe9erc.com sends news about DL3HRT -- I would like to clear up a misunderstanding. The calls DL3HRT and DL3HXS were operating from the club station of DL0ZAB and thus should be counted as the same as DB0ZAB [DK0ZAB?] both for contest contacts and for initials. In the first leg of the contest I worked on 432 32x20, on 1296 53x23 (not counting DL3HRT and DL3HXS as they were the same as DK0ZAB) and on 2300 7x7. I added initials on 1296 with PA0SSB for #276, JH1KRC #277, JR4ZZS #278 and ON4QQ #279. In Nov I increased my score to on 432 to 44x24 with 13 initials, on 1296 68x30 with 7 initials, on 2300 15x13 with one initial and on 5760 4 x 4.

OE9XXI: Peter riml@aon.at report for the contest follows -- In the ARRL EME Contest I achieved a final score of 79x31 on 1296 and 1x1 on 2300. In the 1st part on 18/19 Oct I achieved a score of 60x25 on 23 cm. Initial contacts were JH1KRC (559/589), JR4ZZS (559/579) for #300 and ON4QQ (439/559). In Nov initial contacts in Nov were SK0UX (549/549), VA7MM (549/559) - 2 kHz above my echoes, UR5LX (O/O) for DXXCC 51 and IZ1BPN (449/559). Many times I was troubled by heavy QRM from a neighbors TV SAT LNC radiating IF signals. I sent several QRZs to UT3LL, but I realized his callsign too late and he disappeared. I sent also several QRZs to GJ3Q? with marginal signal. On 1296 I made my first steps during the summer using JT44 to work ES8X and DL3OCH's dxpedition at all his portable locations in TK and ISO - many thanks to Tom & his crew and Bodo. My standings now are at initial #305 with 50 DXCC on 1296 EME, and on 2300 EME initial #63 and 23 DXCC. For many EMEers initial counting seems to be a problem because of the multiple callsign use of some stations especially during competitions. Also the callsign changes of the last few years and the use of unique callsigns for special activity/anniversary celebrations does not make it easy. In many cases there is no information available. I think some kind of info-box/list needs to be created and possibly posted on the Internet. Such a list would be helpful to keep the rules of initial counting agreed upon several years ago (remember that we count stations, not the number of different callsigns). The following are multiple callsigns I have found in the last few years: DD0SB = DL2SBY, DJ5MN = DL5MAE/DJ3MY/DK5MV/F4MAA/DO6ME (? Oct 14, 01), DK0ZAB = DL4DTU/DL1HRH/DL1HTT/DL3HRT/DL3HXS, DL6YDH = DH0OAH (? Oct 21, 00), F5VHX = F/G8MBI, F6ETI = F8COZ and IY4FGM = IY4ARI. Other callsigns appearing only once are DC3SAW (? Apr 20, 02) and DM3UH (? Apr 20, 02). Possibly these are also guest operators of any stations. The (?) indicates that it is supposed. All

others are confirmed. [This is a real problem with no easy solution. I try to highlight call sign changes and multiple operator station activity in the NL, but it is very easy to miss a change or duplicate call – see the comment in this NL by OE9ERC concerning DL3HRT. Station moves is another problem. Many stations consider that any move corresponds to a new initial. Stations must move to a new grid, country or state to count as an initial.]

OK1CA: Franta ok1ca@ges.cz sends his report for the NL -- I worked on 23 cm 4 initials in the Nov part of the ARRL Contest. They were JR4ZZS, JH1KRC, SK0UX and PY5ZBU to bring me to initial #119. PY5ZBU also gave me a new country and SA for WAC! I finished the contest with 53x28 on 1296. I was also active on 2.3 GHz and worked 6 stations there. I think more activity is needed on 13 cm and the other microwave bands and that a separate Microwave EME Contest would help increase this activity.

OK1DFC: Zdenek ok1dfc@tesmail.cz was QRV again during the 2nd part of the EME contest using his 38 el tropo yagi (horizon only) and worked SM2CEW (539/529) UFB sig and HB9Q (O/O) UFB (2nd time) with 559 peak and heard DL7APV. Stations also called on 012 and 017, but he never got the calls. Zdenek is interested in skeds. He is running 1.5 kW out and a 0.34 dB NF EME preamplifier.

OM6AA: Rasto om6aa@stonline.sk did well during the contest on 23 cm -- I took part in both parts of contest. In Oct I have worked G4CCH (449/449), OE9XXI (559/549), HB9BBD (579/549), F2TU (559/O), K2UYH (559/449), K5JL (559/549), OK1CA (559/O), F6CGJ (559/339), HB9Q (559/539), G3LTF (O/O), LA8LF (O/O), HB9SV (579/M), OE9ERC (569/449), OZ4MM (559/449), F6KHM (559/O) and PA0CSG (O/O). I heard IK2MBB, OZ6OL, OH2DG, W7SZ, JH5LUZ, PA0SSB, OE5EYM, W2UHI and K5GW. Between contest periods, I have tried to arrange some skeds for second part. It was not a very successful effort. I received only a few responds. It seems that EME enthusiasts are more technicians than DXCC hunters, or many published e-mail addresses are obsolete. In the second part I added K5GW (559/O), K0YW (559/339), OE5JFL (559/549), OZ6OL (449/449), SM2CEW (339/O) and OE5EYM (559/449) - all on random and one sked with N2UO (O/O). I CWNR or a QRZ OH2AXH, DF3RU, IK2MBB, JR4ZZI, JA8ERE, DF4PV and PA0SSB, and heard ZS6AXT and VE6TA. I am planning to tune my 70 cm TH 328 cavity PA to 23 cm during the winter. More information about my station can be found on my website www.webpark.sk/om6aa.

OZ4MM: Stig vestergaard@os.dk sends thanks for his QSOs in the EME contest -- I had several problems here, especially in the first part. I lost my AZ readout when I tried to extend my moon window too far west the first night. I lost several hours as I waited for morning to make repairs. The next night, I discovered I had low output on 432. The reason was a high return loss from the antenna. I found the same problem on the others bands, so I closed down again for the night and waited for the morning to make repair. I found the 1/2" flexible cable running around the tower was broken (the shield was burned away). Thus, lot of lost activity hours, but some good hours of sleep, hi. In the last part of the contest, we had to go to a party on Saturday evening, so I could not work full time in Nov either. Despite all the problems this year, it was still a pleasure to work all my EME friends again, and make some initials too. Condx were not too good here. I had problems with noise on 432 that caused fewer QSOs than last years. My overall total was 148x81 with on 432 61x29, on 1296 57x30, on 2300 9x8 and the rest on 144. Initials on 432 were JW/SM2BYA (many thanks Gudmund for a great expedition), SM2ILF and JA6DZI to bring me to #247. On 1296 I added PA0SSB, SK0UX, JR4ZZS, JH1KRC, UT3LL, G3IRQ, UR5LX and VA7MM to make initial #216. I hope we can find a way to change the microwave section (13 cm and up) of the contest. I am sure activity would be much higher on the microwave bands, if this section was run on a separate weekend.

SK0UX: Hans, SM0MXO, gustavsson.hans@bredband.net reports that his club, was active during EME contest on 23 cm with a 6 m dish. They also plan to become QRV on 70 and 13 cm (2320 MHz).

SM5IOT: Chris sm5iot@chello.se had everything going on 70 cm EME for the 2nd leg of the contest – I'm very pleased with the QSOs I made during the contest. Almost everyone was a new one! For me there were 5 or 6 "W5UNs" on 70, N2IQ, HB9Q, DL9KR, HB9JAW, OE5JFL, K1FO, OH2PO, K2UYH, and a couple of more perhaps 10 UFB strong signals. I tried with K4EME for an hour before I realized that it was one-way communication. The highlight of the contest was QSOing VK3UM. It was ashamed that I did not know the calls better. I recall copy of many strings with partial calls, i.e., XYW, 6OL, etc. For those who have worked 70 cm a long time it would be obvious that it was OZ6OL, etc, but in my case it is a real competition, hi. The system is now 8 x 26 el DJ9BV-opt yagis, GS23b PA and PHEMT LNA. I plan to soon replace my TX feed line with new 1-5/8" cable because I am loosing a great deal of power in my present coax.

SV1BTR: Jimmy vitorakis@intralot.com sends word that he has completed a new 2 m EME array. [It is a beauty]. This is good news for the 2 m gang, but it also good news for those of us on 70 cm, as he is now starting work on his 70 cm EME antenna that will consist of 8 x 39 el (13 wl) yagis. Jimmy hopes to be QRV again on 432 in the spring.

VA7MM: Mark ve7cmk@hotmail.com (near Vancouver) was active in the contest on 23 cm with an excellent signal. He is available for skeds on both CW and JT44 with a 3 m dish and 200 W at the feed.

VK3UM: Doug tikaluna@ycs.com.au contest results were down from last year -- I ended up with a total of 48x27. This is some 10 fewer than last year with the multiplier count down by 3. My total operating time was only 7½ hours some 8 hours less than 2002. This was due to the lack of Eur window and one NA window when I could not operate due to gale force winds. On both chosen weekends, I had moonset minutes after the contest period began. The second window was short and the Moon elevation was too low in Eur for many. Low elevations are not a problem for me, although I naturally suffer longer periods of ground noise. I QSO'd on 18 Oct at 0001 UA3PTW (54N/O), 2200 JW/SM2BYA (57N/55N), 2205 OH2PO (55N/55N), 2212 RL3LE (54N/54N), 2224 SM3AKW (55N/55N), 2232 DJ9MB (55N/53N), 2253 DF3RU (55N/55N) and 2327 DL9KR (57N/57N), on 19 Oct at 0000 VK4AFL (55N/55N), 0013 JL1ZCG (55N/55N), 0019 HB9Q (56N/54N), 0034 JH4JLV (44N/44N), 0040 HB9JAW (55N/56N), 1703 JR9NWC (54N/54N), 1710 K5GW (55N/55N), 1713 JA6AHB (54N/55N), 1719 N9AB (55N/55N), 1722 N2IQ (56N/57N), 1726 KL6M (55N/54N), 1729 K2UYH (55N/44N), 1735 KU4F (56N/56N), 1740 K4EME (55N/55N), 1750 JH0WJF (54N/55N), 1755 K1FO (55N/55N), 1817 K0RZ (55N/55N), 1829 VE6TA (44N/55N), 1849 JA9BOH (43N/O) and 1916 KJ7F (43N/54N), on 15 Nov at 2039 OE3JPC (44N/44N), 2100 DL7APV (54N/55N), 2107 UA9FAD (54N/54N), 2113 SM2CEW (54N/54N), 2120 PA2CHR (53N/53N), 2134 SM5IOT (53N/53N), 2140 SP6JLW (54N/55N), 2222 ON5OF (55N/55N), 2236 OE5JFL (55N/55N), 2245 OK2BDQ (44N/55N), 2256 F2TU (55N/56N), 2309 G4RGK (44N/54N), 2312 OZ4MM (54N/55N), 2315 G3LTF (54N/55N), 2325 DJ3FI (54N/54N) and 2358 DL1YMK (53N/43N), and on 16 Nov at 2227 YU1EV (53N/53N) and 2323 G3LQR (O/O). All contacts were completed without skeds, loggers, phone calls, spotting, digital modes etc. Just the good old fashion and most enjoyable 5 finger digit CW! Conditions for the second part were interesting. The NA window I would consider "normal" although I noticed Steve (K1FO) and Trevor (VK4AFL) were using polarization offsets way off the norm (for me) with greatly diminished signals (at times) indicating significant, but well defined shift angles. The Eur window was certainly different to normal - at times, there appeared a 90° shift with H being preferred where V is norm. SM2CEW and OE5JFL and I tried all polarizations and basically found all were equal and ill defined! From about 2230-2330 on the 16

Nov there were short periods of almost total black out followed by fast fluctuating polarization changes the likes of what I cannot previously remember experiencing. Libration also became predominate. These periods lasted for up to 5 minutes at a time and it was strange to hear someone calling on "your frequency" when you stood by. Conditions were coming and going so quickly as to confuse many of us! Well that's over for another year with a (sadly) seemingly lower level of activity. I hope next year will see us "down under" getting a better choice of weekend!

VK5MC: Chris cskeer@seol.net.au was QRV in the contest on both 70 and 23 cm -- I did make it on, even if it was for a short time. I came on at moonrise on 15 Nov on 1296 and worked K5GW (449/O) and K5JL (559/559) and at moonset 2142 HB9BBD (569/559). I also switched to 432 and had contacts with HB9Q (439/569) and DL9KR (559/569). I guess after such a long time away I gave some a surprise! I did not make a lot of contacts, but with only 100 W out at this end I suppose that there was not a lot of stations that could hear me very well. My situation is that I have moved QTH, but my 20' dish is still at the old location. Hopefully I will be on sometime next year with a new dish at the new QTH. I only moved 1.5 km, so it will not be a new station. It is taking a while to get organized again, but it should be worth it in the end.

W2DRZ: Tom w2drz@starband.net operated the 2nd part of the contest with K2DH. (K2TXB was back in NJ operating on 2 m). Tom removed some *dead* trees to improve his western window, despite much flak from his wife. She did not believe that they were dead as a result of a 100 mph windstorm that occurred the day before they were removed. He was disappointed that his effort did not net a ZL QSO. [I have seen not reports of ZL contacts]. His group effort ended with a 23 cm score of about 119 k - single band, multi op. Tom also reports that his new moon tracking software functioned throughout the contest without a hitch.



K2DH at operating position of W2DRZ during Nov

W2WD: Warren's wbutler@comcast.net contest plans were dampened by high winds before the contest weekends -- I was intending to put up the dish for the Oct weekend, but high winds changed my mind. The Nov winds were even worse. They knocked down my 2 m Rhombic and beat up my 9 w/ cp yagi for 70 cm. This was on Thursday before the contest. On Friday the winds were down, so I patched things up but nothing was working very well. VSWRs on all antennas were high, but I did get up in the middle of the night to see if I could hear anyone. Signals were considerably below normal, but here is what I heard. On 70 cm I copied DL9KR, JL1ZCG, K1FO, K2UYH, K5GW, KU4F and N2IQ. On 23 cm using a 35 el Tonna yagi with a JA4BLC LNA and Icom R7100 RX I copied HB9BBD, HB9Q and the W2ETI SETI beacon on tropo.

YO4FRJ: Adrian's yo4frj@xnet.ro Nov contest 70 cm activities (in KN34aw) were cut short after only a few hours of operation by the failure of his elevation jackscrew. He plans to be active on the moon again in Dec. Contact Adrian by e-mail for skeds.

ZS6AXT: Ivo zs6axt@global.co.za started the Nov contest on a bad note -- Since on Friday afternoon I underwent an hour operation by my dentist, I started after UTC midnight on 13 cm. While initially testing the rig I had flashover in the PA, but it recovered with just about 60% of the original power. Then I worked OZ4MM, OE9ERC, JA4BLC, G3LTF, IK2RTI and F2TU. During one my CQs I had another flashover, this time a fatal one. So went to 23 cm and worked DF3RU, IK2MMB, G3LTF, HB9JAW, SM2CEW, K9BCT, K0YW, VE6TA, N2UO, IK3COJ, K5GW and W7SZ. On the horizon I did miss VE7BBG and earlier CWNR IK2RTI and OM6AA. In the afternoon I replaced the PA tube for 13 cm and in the evening worked on 13 cm HB9SV, SM3AKW and OH2AXH. No more stations heard, so I went to 23 cm and called a weak OH3MCK, but SK0UX came back instead for my #189 initial. After that I prepared for 6 cm skeds. It was very cloudy, so I had to track the moon by moon noise. It worked well and I worked F2TU (O/O) and OE9ERC (589/559). Both QSOs were very short, less than 5 minutes. A sked with W5LUA was negative. Then I went to 13 cm for him and no result too. By then I was very tired, not sleeping for a second night, so I closed down the station. My contest observations are that activity was quite down on the higher bands and the mess with skeds proved again that we definitely need a microwave EME contest! Only the Eur contest comes close to this requirement, otherwise the activity is very fragmented between too many bands. My arrangement of horns for three bands at the feed, with 23 cm in center and 13 and 6 cm offset, works very well. It gives me quick change between bands. Guys with bigger dishes should consider it too. All what is necessary is to operate the preamp protective relays for all bands, while transmitting. So finally I wonder when somebody will organize the microwave EME contest again. I volunteer to do the logs evaluation, if necessary. BTW - the other ZS on 70 cm is ZS6JON, and is just about QRV.

K2UYH: I had a great time in the contest. This was in no small measure due to the company of some real contest pros. Gene, W3ZZ returned and was joined by Bob, N4HY and Joe, K1JT (the 2nd day). Gene and Bob did much of the operating. We had none of the equipment problems of last month and thus lost no operating time, although things got pretty quiet after the end of the Eur window on the 2nd day. I had worked on my 1296 PA and it was putting out around 500 W. The only hitch was the failure of my AZ drive motor when stowing the dish after moonset on the first day. I was able to fix the problem after a few hours of sleep, but because of the time consumed by the repair decided not to try any operation on the microwave bands. With the 23 and 70 cm feeds mounted offset we frequently switched bands. We QSO'd, starting on 15 Nov on 432 at 0426 SM5IOT (559/549) for initial #668, 0433 EA3DXU (559/559), 0446 DK3WG (559/559), 0508 F6DRO (O/O), 0512 YO2IS (449/449), 0545 K9SLQ (569/569) and 0600 SP6JLW (449/559), switched to 1296 at 0615 HB9Q (569/569), 0625 VE6TA (569/569), 0638 G3LTF (569/559), 0645 K9BCT (559/569), 0648 W0YW (559/579) and 0730 HB9JAW (579/559) for initial #217, switched to 432 at 0810 PA3CSG (569/559) and 0817 DJ3FI (559/549), switched to 1296 at 0844 OE5EYM (559/559) DUP and 0857 IKOUGB (449/559), switched to 432 at 0943 DK8VS (559/569) and 0946 S51ZO (449/559), back to 1296 at 1033 OE5JFL (579/579), back to 432 at 1200 FY5DG (O/O) #669, back to 1296 at 1236 VA7MM (559/559) #218, 1305 JA8ERE (559/559), 1313 JA8IAD (559/559) and 1327 W7BBM (569/559), switched to 432 at 1350 J1NNJ (449/O), 1420 JR4NWC (559/559) and 1426 JA9BOH (559/549), back to 1296 at 1504 partial JR4ZZS (O/-), 16 Nov on 432 at 0523 HB9JAW (559/559) and 0545 S52CW (559/559), back to 129 0615 UR5LX (559/559) #219 and DXCC 45, 0645 OH2AXH (579/579), 0656 G3LQR (569/569), 0700 DL4MUP (569/529) and 0708 IK3COJ (559/449), switched to 432 at 0746DL5LF (O/M) #670, 0807 DL0AO (449/549) and 0840 OK2BDQ (559/559), back to 1296

at 0940 DF4PV (569/569), 0943 PY5ZBU (569/569) and 1005 F5HRY (569/549), switched to 432 at 1056 DB6NT (559/559), 1112 K0RZ (559/549), 1158 F6CGJ (559/569) and 1508 W7CI (559/559), back to 1296 at 1539 N2IQ (579/569). We ended with on 70 cm with 59x31 and on 23 cm 58x28 for a total score of 690,030 points. Before the contest I ran a JT44 test with OK1DFC on 70 cm with near nil results and worked on 13 Nov at 0620 KM5A (O/M) on 432 CW for #667. After the contest I ran JT44 sked on 22 Nov at 1815 with VK3FMD. We have been trying to QSO for more than a year. This time I copied Charlie full calls (-23 dB S3) for the 1st time, but he heard nothing from me. In the past we have had the reverse.

NET/REFLECTOR NEWS BY G4RGK: WA4NJP
wa4njp@bellsouth.net is operational on 222 EME on CW and JT44. Ray has a 36' dish, 800 W PA and 0.3 NF LNA and interested in skeds.
PE1ITR pe1itr@amsat.org is QRV for 432 EME and interested in skeds. His preferred mode is JT44 but CW is also possible. Please reply to Rob by email.
RW3PF rw3pf@efremov.tula.net is QRV on 70 cm with 4 x 24 el OPT70 yagis and GS35B PA from KO93cd. He is looking for skeds and may be contacted by email.
RA4AOR and **UA4ALU** are QRV 432 with 12 x 29 el BV yagis (H) and 100 W.
FY5DG sylvie.albrieux@wanadoo.fr was active in the 2nd part of the contest on 432 with 4x 26 el BV yagis (G/T 5.5 dB) and 700 W from GJ35qd.
W4AD jomara@erols.com is QRV on 10 GHz EME with 24 w to 10' dish. Jack is receiving 11 dB of sun noise and 0.9 dB of moon noise. He is located in Virginia (FM18ip).
OH3MCK petri.kotilainen@nokia.com was QRV on 1296 during the Nov contest weekend from KP11wl with 25 dBi linear pol yagis array, 200 W TX and 0.6 dB NF LNA.
JH1EFA Bzz24342@nifty.ne.jp is now QRV on 23 cm with 120 W at feed of 3 m dish. He is interested in skeds.
DL4DTU is QRV on 23 cm from JO60tr with a 2.6 m dish and 200 W.
IQ4DF iq4df@crbr.it a club station in JN54vj was QRV on 3 cm for the contest and worked ON 15 Nov WA7CJO, OK1UWA and F6KXS and on 16 Nov DL0EF, F2TU and I5PPE.



FY5DG's Operating Position and 700 W 70 cm PA

FOR SALE: UR5LX ur5lx@sergej.kharkiv.com is looking for a notebook for use on JT44.
F1ODA F1ODA@AOL.COM is looking for documentation and schematic for a AILTECH 727 spectrum Analyzer.
DH5HV DH5HV@t-online.de is due to get a HP435 and a HP8484 and needs a HP11730A cable.
HB9BBD dfaessler@bluewin.ch has for sale 2 identical cavities for TH327/347 for 70 cm or 23 cm. The filter unit is different than R+S cavities, and removable by unscrewing for EUR 450 each.
K6JEY doughhelen@moonlink.net has a 10 MHz to 18 GHz Systron Donner spectrum analyzer model 763 for sale. It has a built in 1-18 GHz preselector and 10-1,000 MHz low pass filter, analog storage with an HP display, 3 digit digital frequency display, variable display marker, calibrated vertical sensitivity. It can be used to 40 GHz with external mixers. The unit is in excellent shape physically and electrically and comes with cord, extender cord for servicing and transit case. The manual is available for cost of copying. The unit is in a rack

mount configuration. He is asking \$850 plus shipping. **IK2MMB** ik2mmb@libero.it is looking for schematics and any additional info for the following microwave frequency counters: EIP351D (autohet) and EIP545A. **OK1DAK** vladimir.masek@volny.cz urgently needs a thermistor mount for an HP478A to use with the OK1KIR EME rig.
W6GHV kburt6@juno.com is looking for information on modifying the TH3639 for 10 GHz. He wants to know about the power supply configuration and if anybody has utilized CT1DMK's power supply for this function.

TECHNICAL: K1JT has released a new version of JT44, now called JT65. It promises more than 6 dB of improved performance by using a narrower bandwidth and improved error correction encoding (forward error correction). On the negative side, the narrow tone spacing may make it less tolerant to the libration and Doppler effects on frequency that are magnified at the frequency bands. It also has 1 minute periods that will cause communication to be slower. DL3OCH has already completed a 1296 QSO with DJ9YW using JT65. A new Beta release of WSJT is available for download at the WSJT home page, <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT>. A list of the features and technical specifications of JT65 is available at <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/WSJT4.TXT> and a "Quick Start Guide for JT65" may be found at <http://pulsar.princeton.edu/~joe/K1JT/UPD411.TXT>. Information on the other digital format being used on EME, LINRAD, can be found on W6/PA0ZN's web page at http://www.nitehawk.com/linrad_dat/ and <http://www.antennspecialisten.se/~sm5bsz/linuxdsp/linrad.htm>.

FINAL: I continue to receive questions about K1RQG. Joe has been overloaded at work. He is doing a lot of traveling, which is especially making things difficult for him. He hopes to catch up sometime next year and return to the 20 m, but he does not expect to have much time for ham radio for at least a year. He says he will try to make the EME Conference, but he cannot predict his travel schedule.

Without K1RQG's Netnews, Dave, G4RGK has done a great job searching the reflectors for EME news worthy items and come up with this month's Netnews and For Sale sections - tnx Dave.

The list of stations to attend the 11th EME Conference in New Jersey continues to grow. Among those indicating their plans to attend are G3LTF and F5SE. K1JT has agreed to be the Saturday night banquet speaker. The conference web site is <http://www.qsl.net/eme2004/index.htm>. Please let us know your plans. We are also looking for presenters and papers for the conference proceedings.

I receive considerable correspondence this month on organizing a microwave EME contest. Al, W5LUA wrote about a microwave EME contest that he has been trying to promot one for over a year without much success, but that the ARRL would suport one, if we we could find a good weekend for it without screwing up some other event! The general consensus is that the contest should be 13 cm and not include 23 cm. Many would favor adding a third weekend exclusively for the microwave bands as part of the ARRL EME Contest. I think at the least we need to chose a date.

In Dec we normally published G3SEK's Moon Calendar and this Dec is no exception. The 2004 Calanadar with ** indicating proposed Activity Weekends (Aws) is at the end of this NL. I need you feedback on these choices. 2004 is not a particularly good year. Apogee is near high north declination most months. I have tended to favor high northern declination over lower path loss. None of the proposed AWs are during southern declination. It shall be interesting to see the dates chosen for the 2004 EURWWEME Contest and ARRL EME Contest. The 2004 SSB Contest during the proposed Feb AW on the 7/8th.

That should do it for this month. Please keep the news, reports and technical material coming. I hope to hear you off the moon during the Dec AW! 73, Al - K2UYH

Lunar Weekend Calendar for 2004

by G3SEK

At 2400 Sat/ 0000 Sun	Declination (deg)	Signals (dB)	Sun offset (deg)	Sky temp (K, 432MHz)	Comments
Jan-03/04	22.0	-0.9	+140	29	Night .Apogee.
Jan-10/11**	16.7	-0.1	-141	14	Night .
Jan-17/18	-22.4	1.0	-53	66	Moon in south.
Jan-24/25	-9.9	-0.1	+41	19	Moon in south.
Feb-00/01	24.2	-0.9	+120	29	Day(PM) .Apogee.
Feb-07/08**	12.8	0.0	-160	14	Night .
Feb-14/15	-25.0	1.0	-71	66	Moon in south.
Feb-21/22	-6.4	-0.1	+21	19	Moon in south.
Feb-28/29	25.9	-0.9	+99	35	Day(PM) .Apogee.
Mar-06/07**	8.9	0.1	-176	15	Night .
Mar-13/14	-26.9	1.0	-88	166	Moon in south.
Mar-20/21	-2.5	-0.2	+3	20	Moon in south.
Mar-27/28	27.1	-0.9	+79	35	Day(PM) .Apogee.
Apr-03/04**	5.2	0.2	+161	15	Night .
Apr-10/11	-27.6	0.9	-105	149	Moon in south.
Apr-17/18	1.6	-0.3	-18	19	Sun noise.
Apr-24/25	27.6	-0.9	+60	29	Day(PM) .Apogee.
May-01/02**	1.5	0.3	+141	21	Night .
May-08/09	-27.2	0.9	-122	41	Moon in south.
May-15/16	5.9	-0.4	-36	20	Day(AM) .
May-22/23	27.4	-0.9	+42	20	Day(PM) .Apogee.
May-29/30	-2.3	0.4	+123	20	Moon in south.
Jun-05/06	-25.9	0.9	-140	41	Moon in south.
Jun-12/13**	10.2	-0.5	-53	20	Day(AM) .
Jun-19/20	26.4	-0.8	+24	20	Sun noise.
Jun-26/27	-6.5	0.5	+105	20	Moon in south.
Jul-03/04	-24.1	0.8	-158	24	Moon in south.
Jul-10/11**	14.2	-0.6	-71	24	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Jul-17/18	24.7	-0.8	+8	14	Sun noise.
Jul-24/25	-11.1	0.6	+88	21	Moon in south.
Aug-00/01	-21.8	0.7	-174	18	Moon in south.
Aug-07/08**	17.8	-0.6	-89	24	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Aug-14/15	22.4	-0.7	-13	14	Sun noise.
Aug-21/22	-15.7	0.6	+72	26	Moon in south.
Aug-28/29	-19.1	0.7	+164	20	Moon in south.
Sep-04/05**	20.8	-0.7	-108	24	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Sep-11/12	19.9	-0.7	-31	13	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Sep-18/19	-19.8	0.7	+55	29	Moon in south.
Sep-25/26	-15.6	0.6	+147	17	Moon in south.
Oct-02/03	23.3	-0.8	-127	24	Night .Apogee.
Oct-09/10**	17.1	-0.6	-50	14	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Oct-16/17	-23.1	0.8	+38	35	Moon in south.
Oct-23/24	-11.4	0.5	+130	17	Moon in south.
Oct-30/31	25.3	-0.8	-147	29	Night Apogee.
Nov-06/07**	13.9	-0.5	-70	14	Day(AM) .Apogee.
Nov-13/14	-25.4	0.8	+19	66	Moon in south.
Nov-20/21	-6.6	0.4	+112	19	Moon in south.
Nov-27/28	26.8	-0.8	-167	35	Night .Apogee.
Dec-04/05**	10.4	-0.4	-90	14	Day(AM) .
Dec-11/12	-26.8	0.9	-4	166	Moon in south.
Dec-18/19	-1.8	0.3	+94	20	Moon in south.
Dec-25/26	27.7	-0.9	+172	35	Night .Apogee.