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I was able to elevate it up to 65 degs. I was only able to operate for one Moon pass and worked on JT K2UYH, UA3PTW, 1NDF and DL7APV. All these were very easy QSOs in a minimum time period. Bernd’s CW ID was fully copyable. So maybe I will try and get my K2R2W down there next time, so I am no longer limited to 85 W. My grid is IL38BQ.

**432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS**

**FEBRUARY 2010 VOL 38 #2**

**CONDITIONS:** The end of Dec and beginning of Jan activity weekends (AWs) produced generally good conditions and good activity levels of 70 cm as a result of the DUBUS sponsored 70 cm SSB Contest on 2/3 Jan and the 70 cm CW activity still will not operate on 27 Dec. EA8/G4RGK, fen 9H1TX and DL2NUD noted some 70 cm EME -- I found some space to take some gear down to EA8 for 432. I operated single op, CW only and could not get my call but was close. I finally stopped TXing. I hope we have better luck next time. Signals here were very strong. I heard for the first time K0RZ (IO, JM, 47x31.) He also had a partial with VK7JG - not complete.

**1296 EME SSB CONTEST RULES:** This event is intended to be fun. You do not need to transmit on SSB to participate. CW to SSB and vice versa exchanges are encouraged and count for points. (Only one QSO between stations is allowed, i.e., you cannot work a station SSB to SSB and SSB to CW for extra points). The contest starts on Friday 26 Feb (Friday Z) at 2000 and end on 27 Feb at 2000. Everyone should have one common moon pass with operation moving from EU to NA, to NA to Asia/VK, and to Asia/VK to EU. Operation is on 23 cm only. Scoring is contact points times number of two letter Grid Sectors (IO, JM, FN, EM ...) worked. SSB to SSB contacts count as 2 points. SSB to CW (or CW to SSB) count as 1 point. The exchange is your Sector (IO, JM, etc.). Only the 2 sector letters need to be sent and copy by EME. The exchange of signal reports and/or 4 character grids is optional and not required. Operation may be between multiple or operators from one location. No distinction for scoring will be made. Assisted operation is not encouraged. All skeds/operational announcements should be made prior to the start of the contest. Logs should be sent to the "432 and Up EME NL" by email to a.katz@ieee.org ASAP after the end of the contest. The top scoring station will receive an attractively framed certificate that will be presented at the next International EME Conference (Dallas 2010).

**9H1TX:** Mike (J1HKRC) j1hkrc@svd.odn.de.jp reports that he expects to receive approval for operation of the big dish on 1296 very soon. The telco inspection is scheduled for 15 Jan and if all goes as expected will be followed by 23 cm exhibition QSOs with JA6CZD and JA6XED (probably ~ 1430-1500). Unfortunately the Moon is in far south and the window too small for either NA or EU QSOs. They will next be QRV for the SSB contest -- "A luxury SURE electret microphone is ready for SSB"! They also hope to receive a license for 6 cm but still will not operate on 6 cm until other issues are resolved. Look for them on 23 cm over the 23/24 Jan AW. Mike estimates a station with a 3 m dish or EU QSOs. They will next be QRV for the SSB contest – “A luxury SURE electret microphone is ready for SSB”! They also hope to receive a license for 6 cm but still will not operate on 6 cm until other issues are resolved. Look for them on 23 cm over the 23/24 Jan AW. Mike estimates a station with a 3 m dish and 10 W output could QSO them on CW.

**9H1TX:** David davcut@maltanet.net (JM75fu) writes -- I was QRV again on 432 as the band was clear from the power line noise. I worked SM4IVE in the Dec leg of the ARRL EME Contest. I also tried with NC11 but he could not get my call but was close. I finally stopped TXing. I hope we have better luck next time. Signals here were very strong. I heard for the first time KORZ and some others on 30 Dec. I worked DG1JKG and DL7APV on CW. It was frustrating to hear all those nice signals but not be heard due to QRP. I am looking for a bigger SSPA, maybe 500 W in future as my GS35 PA project has stopped. I am also thinking of upgrading to 8 yagis this year. I am presently running a 4 x 8.5 w yagis ,AT4F5143 LNA and 100 W SSPA.

**DK3WG:** Jurgen dk3wg@online.de worked on 70 cm JT65B initials with DL2NUD, RU4HU, IV3CYT and WA3QPX to bring him to initial #489. He also had a partial with VK71GJ - not complete.

**EA8/G4RGK:** Dave zen70432@zen.co.uk made good use of his holiday with some 70 cm EME -- I found some space to take some gear down to EA8 for 432. I have a fairly well established 2 m station down there, so I still needed to make up an antenna system from the bits I had down there and some welding rods. The antenna finished up around 7 w long. After a bit of a fight with the az/el support
KL6M: were initials. Bill also heard VE6TA on SSB.

two on SSB, I1NDP and NC1I, and the rest on CW. OK2POI and OK1TEH made a QSO with a single yagi station, OK1TEH (M/M). Overall he worked 12, and 100 W ES6RQ, RW3BP, RD3 DA, OK1DFC, ES5PC, OK1KIR and good activity on JT, but less on CW -- I worked using JT65c with my 2.4 m dish.

JA1WQF: good signal.

K0RZ: and JT. He uses the same dish on 10.450 GHz and has plans for 24 GHz too. On the higher bands he only has 1.8 m dish. On 5750 he is QRV on both CW and JT65c, but has an excellent signal.

K5OLQ: Andrea was active during the Jan AW and found quite good activity on JT, but less on CW -- I worked using JT65c with my 2.4 m dish and 100 W ES6RQ, RW3BP, RD3DA, OK1DFC, ES5PC, OK1KIR and LA9NEA. CW signals heard were OK1DFC and LA9NEA - Viggio had a very good signal.

K1RQG: on 70 cm, and on 23 cm W4OP on CW and N0OY on SSB. He also worked SP7DCS on 23 cm. I have just completed another GS-23B 70 cm high power amp and will be checking it out in next couple days. It loafs along at 1500 W out on 432.

N4GJV: Ron quitdbq@yahoo.com was QRV during the 27 Dec 70 cm CW -- I enjoyed swapping signal reports and New Years greetings with NC1I, SM4IYE, 1NDF, K0RZ and DL7APV. I called DF3RU without success and heard K2UYH, G3LTF and UA3PTW. Conditions seemed to be poor with rather severe libration QSB. I planned to be QRV during the DUBUS SSB contest to attempt some cross mode QSOs (no SSB contest) but was feeling a bit "under the weather" and I only remained on long enough to contact W8TXT on CW on 2 Jan. I also heard was NC1I. K7XQ! [Ron discovered that K7XQ is located in CA and gained an additional multiplier in the ARRL EME Contest].

N4PZ: Steve w9oji@yahoo.com was on EME during the Jan AW and worked K1RQG on 70 cm, and on 23 cm W4OP on CW and N0OY on SSB. He also worked SP7DCS on 23 cm. I have just completed another GS-23B 70 cm high power amp and will be checking it out in next couple days. It loafs along at 1500 W out on 432.

NC1I: Frank frank@nc1i.com reports on his end of Dec/Jan operation -- I was active for the 70 cm CW ATP on 27 Dec and worked at 2047 G3LTF (569/569), 2055 I1NDP (579/579), 2101 N4GJV (539/469) -- Ron was drifting down the band, 2109 DL7APV (559/579) - heard (589) later, 2118 K2UYH (579/589), 2123 DF3RU (549/559), 2127 DG1KJG (559/569), 2140 G4RGK (579/579), 2152 DL7EN (559/579), 2159 SM4IYE (589/589), 2226 K0RZ (579/579), 2247 K3MF (579/579) and 2308-2325 QRZ - at first I thought it may have been OK1TEH but just could not pull the call out. I started calling CQ around 1945 but did not hear anyone until working G3LTF at 2047. Also Europe pretty much disappeared around 2200, but he expects that I will only drift down the band late hour there on a Sunday night/Monday morning. I continued to call CQ off and on and up until around 0000 however no QSOs were added after K3MF at 2247. Conditions improved noticeably after local sunset. Receive polarity for Europe changed from horizontal to vertical at that same time. Transmit polarity remained horizontal throughout. Polarity seemed much sharper than during the Dec ARRL contest weekend. Signals also seemed stronger than during the Dec contest weekend. Overall conditions were very good, my own conds were consistently S7-S8 and peaked S9. G4RGK, K0RZ and K3MF were probably the strongest I have ever heard them. On 31 Dec I worked K7XQ (559/579) and had a 25 min chat with K1RQG on SSB. SSB Signals between Joe and I were between (57-58) but peaked (59)! At around 0130 on 1 Jan my CQ was answered by WB0QMZ (569/339) - he had rapid QSB that sounded like either power drift or an antenna blowing around in a strong wind. I have no info on this station but he did tell me (via EME) that I was his first 432 EME QSO.

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OK1DFC: Zdenek ok1dfc@seznam.cz sends news about his recent activity -- After long time off because of QRL related travel, I was QRV on 23 cm for a short time. Conditions were excellent and I had all of the time very strong echoes. Signals were also excellent. I worked on 2 Jan UN7GK on JT65c in Kazakhstan for digital initial [##81] and DXCC* 65 and the first OK-UN, Y08BFC JT65c [##82], VKA4CDI JT65c, Y08BFC (559) on CW for initial #266, RD3DA (9DB) JT65c, IK5QLO JT65c [##83] - Andrea has a problem with OCXO temperature stability but RIT and hand control help, LA9NEA JT65c, G4CCH (589/599) CW - excellent signal and SP7DCS CW - very good signal I also tested MAP6SIQ during weekend. Information about my results can be viewed at http://www.ok1dfc.com/EME/1296/map653map.htm and a related video on Youtube http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=la8tpcUC2T4.

OK1KIR: Tonda (OK1DAI) and Jan (OK1VAO) vladimir.masek@volny.cz report their clubs EME during the first 2010 AW -- We worked on 2 Jan 1296 using JT65c at 1954 UN7GK (20DB/17DB) for digital initial [##56], MN field and a new DXCC, 2021 DF3RL (19DB/21DB) [##57], 2149 RD3DA (8DB/6DB), 2247 IK5QLO (26DB/O) and 2317 LA9NEA (11DB/9DB) [##58], and on 1296 using CW at 2109 Y08BFC (549/559) for initial #92 new DXCC on CW and 2134 G4CCH (569/569).

OK1TEH: Matej ok1teh@seznam.cz bring us up to date on his activity – During the last 4 months I made in 70 cm JT65 initials with K7XQ, ESSPC, SM2A, DLSFN, UA4AQG (1 yagi to two yagi QSO!), K3MF, UT6UG, OK2POI, DL2NUD and DF3RJ, and on CW SM4IVE, NC1I and on 3 Jan K0RZ (O/M) for my mixed initial 42#* and #20 on CW/SSB). This last QSO wasn't easy but we finally made it thanks to incredible low degradation. Heard or saw were F6JFIP, W7MFM, UA4API, WA2IHM, WA2FGK, WA3QXZ, EA3XU, IK6E1W and LUT7DZ! I copied both LA9NEA and I1NDP during their signal I also tested MAP65IQ during weekend. Information about my results can be seen http://www.ok1dfc.com/Peditions/oh0/oh0.html FOR SALE: has a 6x7289 23 cm amp for sale. It loafs along at 1,500 W out. Pictures are available for anyone interested. Mail Steve w9oji@yahoo.com.

NETNEWS BY G4RGK: On4CBW has a new e-mail address, On4CBW@tele.net.uk, W2DRZ also has a new e-mail address, w2drz@ramcoinc.net. OH0DL1YMK exdpdton photos and final logs can be found at http://www.ok1dfc.com/Peditions/oh0/oh0.html – TXN OK1DFC, VE4SA, was QRV during the Jan AW on 23 cm and found a lot of activity. He heard N4PZ and LA9NEA with good signals. KABABR has a 16' and hopes to become QRV sometimes next year.

FOR SALE: K5JL has a 6x7289 23 cm amp for sale. N4PZ has for sale a GS-23B 70 cm high power amp. It loafs along at 1,500 W out. Pictures are available for anyone interested. Mail Steve w9oji@yahoo.com.

KIROG EDITORIAL: It never ends, I read again all about assisted vs. unassisted for the umpteenth time. Everyone thinks they are right. BUT, I remind the critics that EME lies BEYOND just 2 m and fortunately, the majority of 432 and above operators have more important things to do. I would say 90% of the grumbling comes from those that are not aware that EME exists above 2 m where there is a great deal of activity, primarily on CW, but also on WSJT. I will remind you that the number of logs submitted does not symbolize or reflect the attitude of all stations. I can remember about 5 years ago that only 17 logs were submitted for 1296, yet the count was near 90 contacts. At this time there was not the assisted issue. My point is to quit complaining about this stuff, send in your comments, and instead of spending all your time on the reflectors moaning about who has a "leg up", spend some time at your workbench and in your shack improving your skills and equipment.

FINAL: This NL was written as I am traveling and is not as complted as I would have liked. I will be traveling on business until 25 Jan and felt it was better to get the newsletter out than possibly missed the Feb issue. There are a lot of EME related activities coming up – please note the 1296 SSB Contest at the end of Feb.

There was an error in the Netnews lat month. EA3XU’s was listed as EA3DXU in error. My apology to Benjamin.

F1EHN has updated the EME data and calendar in his EME program with the help of Franck F5SE for 2010.

The Galileo satellites contract has been placed. This is not good news as the originally published signal structure had "commercial navigation" and "public regulated navigation" on channel E6 which is 1260-1300 MHz. For more details see http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/8442090.stm. TXN G3LTF for passing on this info.

It is time to start making plans for EME2010, the 14th International EME Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas on 12-14 Aug at the Weston Hotel near the Dallas Ft Worth Airport in Irving, TX. If you are interested in presenting, let AL, w5LUA know at w5lua@sbcglobal.net. ASAP. The deadline for papers is mid June. See www.ntms.org for more info.

I plan to be back on the Moon on the weekend of 30/31 Jan. I hope to CU off the Moon then. Very best for 2010 & 73, Al – K2UYH

N2OU's new 20' is nearing completion – Marc only needs to add the mesh.