CONDITIONS: Another EME contest is over. Conditions seemed reasonably good except on 70 cm where Faraday was not the most cooperative and activity seemed down. Most operators reported having a great time during the contest, but some were unhappy with the split between JT and CW and others having only one weekend for operation on all the microwave bands. I will not argue that the increasing use of JT modes is not affecting the contest, but it is interesting to note that many of the highest scores (on 432 and above) were achieved by stations that only operated CW. There were also concerns that activity and scores were down this year, but one of the biggest factors affecting scores is operating time, which was reduced by the lower declinations this year. I am concerned by the low level of activity on 70 cm. I wonder if part of this drop is associated with the increase in activity on 1296, which is a case of the grass being greener on the other side. Also, the turnout on 432 is something we all need to work on. (The next 70 cm CW AFP is on 25 Dec from 2230 to 0030 and 26 Dec from 0630 to 0830). Besides the contest there was very successful dxpedition activity – see the CE2/DK2ZF report below. There is plenty to keep interest high in the coming month. DL3OCH is planning activity on 23 cm from Taiwan and the Philippines, and DL8YHR and DL8LAQ will be QRV from 7X (Algeria) on 70 cm – see their reports below.

HIGH SCORES: SM4IVE worked a total of 117 QSOs for the 23 cm top spot – all on CW! OK1DFC on 432 had 55x32 for the 70 cm top spot, and was second on 1296 with 102x45. OZ4HM 70 cm QSOs were 49 for second place on 432.

7X/DL8YHR: Frank DL8YHR FRANK@x1 AOL.COM reports that he and DL8LAQ will be QRV on 70 cm EME from Algeria (J1M6) between 26 and 29 Nov. They will have a single yagi and 120 W. Because of the small station they will probably concentrate on JT65B operation. In the past they have operated both CW and JT on 432.050. I have no further information. EME operating time will be split between 144 and 432.

AL7RT: Dan @phantom@xalaska.net reports another great EME contest – The stations worked on 1296 were OK2DL, SP6LW, OK1CA, SM6HZ, SM4IVE, KJ1T, G4CC, N2UO, DL0SHF, G3LTF, PY2BS, W7JM, KQ1, K5GW, K2DH, N4PZ, VK3UM, OZ6OL, OK1DFC, VE6TA, VA7MM, W6YX, NA4N, W6PY, DL4AME and K1RQG. All QSOs were on CW. Four new stations were added to my initial stations worked list.

CE0Y/DK2ZF AND CE2/DK2ZE: Rolf (DK2ZF) niefndolf@x-ti-online.de and Martin (DK2ZB) despite problem pulled off a truly magnificent double dxpedition. Last month we reported on their 70 cm success from Easter Island (DG52du). This month we have their 70 cm results from Chile in FF47gi (Maitencillo). They QSOs on 25 Oct UA3PTW (21DB/O), OK1DFC (24DB/O), K2UYH (21DB/O), WA4NJP (25DB/O) and heard by no contact with OK1KIR (22DB) all on JT65B, on 26 Oct DL7APV (19DB/O), PA3CSG (20DB/O), DK3GW (23DB/O), E56RQ (23DB/O), G4RGK (23DB/O), DL2NUD (21DB/O) all on JT65B and OZ4MM (53OB/O) and UA3PTW (53OB/O) on CW, on 29 Oct HB9Q (19DB/O) on JT65B and DL9KR (42OB/O) on CW, and finally on 2 Nov OK1KIR (27DB/O), DF3RU (16DB/O) and DL5FN (22DB/O) all on JT65B.

DL3OCH DXpedition Activity: Bodo dl3och@xgmex.de is planning to be QRV from BW on 23 cm – I am planning my next 23 cm EME activity from here in Taiwan. Unfortunately my time schedule is pretty full, but I have identified two possible dates: Friday, 26 Nov, 1400-1530 and Sunday, 19 Dec, 0800-1000. Conditions on 26 Nov looks pretty nice. I don’t know yet the callsign. It might be BV2A and grid PL05. I am not exactly sure yet, but will let you know when. Other good news is that I got my license for the Philippines. Since I have all my equipment here, I will become QRV from DU. It is very possible that I go to Philippines between Christmas and New Years. The following proposed call will be DL3OCH from P18QL. I will try DX using JT65C on 1296.090, and will RX on my own echo freq. For NA: Saturday, 25 Dec 1330-1430 and for EU: Saturday, 25 Dec 2300-0100. After 27 Dec I should have more time for moon activity, but there is no window to NA anymore.

DL6SH: Sław. DL6SH@xonline.de is relative new to 23 cm EME (JN48sw), but did quite well in the contest -- I am pleased to announce a score of 78 QSOs on 23 cm. I operated alone during the first weekend, but was joined by OK3RM and DH2SAV for the second weekend. We made most of our QSOs on CW and only 13 were on JT. 46 of the stations worked were initials. The smallest station was SM0ERR with a single 55 element Tonna yagi. I am using a 4.8 m mesh dish with 270 W at the feed. I wish to thank all the moonbouncers that we worked, and am looking forward to working more new stations. Please don’t worry, if sometimes I need a little extra time to receive your call on CW. I am seriously working to increase my CW ability, and am interested in working weak CW stations.

CE2/DK2ZF yagis in Chile

ESSPC: Viljo sends the following result and comments on the ARRL EME Contest -- I was QRV in all 3 weekends and completed QSOs on all 7 bands where I’m currently QRV. This is one band more than last year (3.4 GHz), I worked both CW and digital modes as I did last year. I wonder if there were many other stations active on 7 or more bands in this year’s contest? I worked no station on all 7 or even 6 bands. Only K1JT and W5LUA were worked five bands, and a few more on 4 bands. During the last contest weekend I was not able to be QRV during most of the second Moon pass – primarily the NA window due to other commitments. In the first 50-1296 weekend I only worked on 144 and 1296 as my 432 yagi array had a problem with VSWR and I did not have time to take it down. Instead I decided to build a 432 dual-polarization patch feed for use with my 4.5 m dish. I got the feed ready just before the second 50-1296 weekend and worked 20 stations on 432. The feed seemed to work fine and was comparable if not better than my 4 x 9 wl array. My overall results were down from last year (204 vs 221 QSOs and 122 vs 132 multipliers). The number of digital QSOs was slightly higher this year (80 vs 71). My 144 activity was limited to Moon elevations below 35 degrees. Compared to last year, I found the activity on 144 CW much lower. Regarding the microwave part, I agree with many others about too many band changes and problems with coordinating the activity between several bands to maximize the number of QSOs. I think it was clearly too large a number of band changes for a single weekend, and more than I have ever done before! My QSO breakdown was on 144 53x30 (4 CW and 49 JT), on 432 20x15 (11 CW and 9 JT), on 1296 68x34 (48 CW and 20 JT), on 2300 40x23 (38 CW and 2 JT), on 3400 7x6 all CW, on 5760 9x8 all CW and on 10,368 7x6 all CW. My setup on 144 was 1 kW and 4 x 5 w M2 H-pol yagis, on 432 4.5 m dish H/V-pol and 1 kW, on 1296 4.5 m dish...
He, and on JT65C (69) 9JIM. UA3DHC called on CW after Feb. in March. The improvement in my echo strength was quite significant. Despite QRN from the local air-base radar, the contest ended up with a score of 60x29, but some stations never came back to my calls, including RW3PX, IK2RTI, EA2LU, OE9ERC, W4OP, DJ3FI and LX1DB. 9A5AA came back to my call, but then, faded away. “Big gun” stations were heard back off the Moon with tremendous signals. It was very hard to believe these were actually Moon reflected signals! Local WX was very poor during the contest with wind and rain on Saturday, and very heavy rain on Sunday. I noticed that at noonset, when the elevation was lower than 8°, tree attenuation becomes quite significant. Echoes were no longer heard, and only faint signals from the “big guns” could be copied. Towards west, the trees are a curtain extending over a few km deep. Towards east, the trees are just a few meters away from the dish, but they are only two or three trees thick, and do not seem to absorb as much as the “western” trees, although the Moon must still rise to > 15° in order to move above their effect.

**K3JT:** Joe k3jt@arrl.net sends info on 70 and 23 cm contest activity was from K2UYH’s QTH. Operation was primarily by K2TXB and K2BMI. I was only able to operate at the beginning of the first Moon pass because of a conflicting social/family activity. QSO’d on 30 Oct on 432 on JT65B were EA3XU (O/0), OK1TEH (21DB/22DB), OK1DFC (3DB/7DB), OK1KIR (O/16DB), OK2POI (O/20DB), ESSPC (O/14DB) and WA3QPX (O/11DB), on CW 11NDP (559/559), SV1BTR (449/559), SM2CZ (569/569) and DGTGK (559/559), on JT65B EA8/G4RGK (O/24DB), on CW DF3RU (559/559) and KL6M (559/549) 35-26, then on 29 CW W6YX (589/589), back to 432 JT65B K5QE (O/17DB) and on 1296 CW W7JIM (569/549), and on 31 Oct on 1296 CW F5SEF (559/559), LA0NEA (559/559) DUP, SP7DCS (569/559), IK3COJ (559/559), DL4MEA (569/569), L2ZUS (559/559) DUP, P9BCAM (589/579), 9A5AA (559/549), K1RQG (579/569), LX1DB (569/569), WA9RJF (529/529), DL1IHYZ (569/569), S99D (559/559) DUP, 1M5PK (579/549), VE5KRP (569/549), OK1DFC (559/549) and PAS3DL (559/549), and on JT65C PA0PLY (O/17DB), G5WQ (O/23DB), EA3XU (O/24DB), K7XQ (O/12DB) DUP and LL1UC (O/19DB), then on 432 JT65B KL7UW (O/29DB) and VA3GMT (O/22DB), back to 1296 JT65C VK4CDI (7DB/19DB) and 1705 JA1WQF (O/13DB) for at total on 70 cm of 38x28 and on 23 cm of 83x40.

**K1DS:** Rick rick1dsx@hotmail.com prior to the contest weekend, on 23 Oct, ran some EME tests on 432 -- I spent the entire day setting up for 432 EME using a pair of 9 WLG, yagi, vert pol on an AZ-EL mount with 180 W and preamp with only a 10° length of superflex feedline to splitter. I saw the Moon at about 7 degs of el, and I tried a JT sked with OK1DFC. I heard Zdenek, but he heard nothing from me. I discovered that somehow my WSJT was not working correctly. Despite going over all the connections, it would not turn on the TX. Another major issue for which I did not encounter on 23 or 25 cm is that the RFI noise generated by my computer on 432 is loud! We finally tried on CW and had a good QSO with several exchanges. This made my day and justified my effort setting up my portable station.
dish back, Gene left his test equipment as well as a 10 W 1296 transverter. I hope we can do some more EME work before the cold weather sets in.

**KJ6HZ:** John d oppeney boeing.com made his first 70 cm EME QSO during Oct 1st weekend. I was QRV during the ARRL EME contest, and logged CW QSOs with the following stations on 70 cm: OZ4MM, SM2CEW, G3LTF, OK1KFC, OH2PO, PA3DZL, DL7APV, K4EEM, SD3F, K5SO, UA3PTW, DF3RU, N8CQ, VE6TA, VK3JM, K1JT, W8TXT and W7AL during the first weekend. During the second weekend, I experienced some Murphy problems, but after correcting the problem I added DG1KJG, KL6M, J1NNJ, SV1BTR, P9CAM, WDSAGO, 11NDP, SP6GLW and SM6FHZ. Many thanks to all, for the fine contacts!

**N4GYY:** Ron godtmy.yahoo.com reports on his Oct contest activity – I was QRV during the ARRL EME contest, and logged CW QSOs with the following stations on 70 cm: OZ4MM, SM2CEW, G3LTF, OK1KFC, OH2PO, PA3DZL, DL7APV, K4EEM, SD3F, K5SO, UA3PTW, DF3RU, N8CQ, VE6TA, VK3JM, K1JT, W8TXT and W7AL during the first weekend. During the second weekend, I experienced some Murphy problems, but after correcting the problem I added DG1KJG, KL6M, J1NNJ, SV1BTR, P9CAM, WDSAGO, 11NDP, SP6GLW and SM6FHZ. Many thanks to all, for the fine contacts! Others heard (most called) include OZ6OL, JA0TJU, JA6AHB, WA6PY, ESSPC, K5GW, DJ7GK, SV3AAF, and JA9BOH. I was also active on 2 m EME during the contest.

**N9JM:** Jim n9jm6x@pachelle.com is back on 1296 EME again and writes – It took me until the last pass of the contest. I just finished installing everything on Saturday afternoon. On 1296, I am running a 3.3 m dish, 200 W and a 0.28 dB NF preamp. I woke up for moonrise at 1:30 am local and had lots of fun running up and down the tower to adjust the camera. Luckily the sky was clear. I couldn't hear my echoes, but heard lot of signals at just a few degrees up after moonrise. I used DL0SHF as a beacon and rocked the dish up/down/left/right to find the peak, then calibrated the antenna. I worked SM4IVE, DL0SHF, G4CGH, N2UO, OZ4MM, SP6GLW, W6XY and K5GW all on CW. I heard IZ1BPM, PY2BS, AL7RT (?) and JA6AHB (?).

**NA5G:** Greg na5gn@ Hughes.net writes that he worked a total of 49 stations in the two contest weekends on 1296 – I had a great time. Conditions were better here on the second weekend. I want to thank the following stations for contacts: PY2BS, OK1DFC, PI9CAM, OZ6OL, I, K1JT, W8TXT and W7AL during the first weekend. During the second Oct leg of the ARRL EME Contest, WAX allowed operation for the whole leg. On Saturday I was QRV on 1296 and on Sunday I followed up on 1296. It helped very much when looking for new stations. 1296 activity was great, but the situation was not as good on 432. I do not understand why so few stations were active. I remember in the 90’s, it was easy to work 100 stations with a much smaller set up than I have today. It is a pity that so few QRP stations call QRP. S57SU (28DB/O) – single 23 el yagi and 80 W, UA4API (21DB/O), UA4AQI (21DB/O), RU4HU (25DB/O), DL0SHF (18DB/O), OZ6OL (10DB/O), JD7GK (18DB/O), EBD3YS (20DB/O), WA3QPX (10DB/O), K5GW (24DB/O), DL6SH (5DB/O), UT5UAS (22DB/O), DL7APV (25DB/O), G3LTF (579/579), ba...
and will be looking for DL8YHR from Africa. Skeds for 432 are very welcome via my e-mail address.

OK1TEH: Matej ok1teh@seznam.cz Oct activity (prior to the contest weekend) -- I worked 5 initials on 432. They were all on JT65B and with ES6RQ (27DB/27DB) for mixed initial #53*, WA3QPX (26DB/27DB) #54* -- it took 2 hours to positive decode at Paul's side, VK4EME (29DB/18DB) #55, OZ6OL (25DB/20DB) #56 -- later speaker copy and F6FHP (27DB/27DB) #57 - worked after our 70 cm MS QSO. The QSO with VK4EME (100 W!) brought me my last continent for digital WAC (not mixed). Next target is to complete single yagi WAC on CW. Africa should not be problem with 2SZWAB, however PY1KK is still too small for CW contact by my station. I also heard K4EME and YO3DDZ.

OK1TEH's new SSPA

OZ4MM: Stig vestergaard@xos.dk reports a great weekend during the second part of the 50 to 1296 ARRL EME Contest -- The weather was excellent for EME and there were no visits from Murphy. Conditions seemed to be best on Saturday again. I got my 1296 G4DDKv2 LNA working and it seems very good. I added my 144 duall yagi feed, so I had a 3 band feed in the dish, which gives some degradation on 432 and 1296. As expected for a second weekend, the QSO rate was down compared to first leg. All contacts were done in CW mode. On 320 I worked JAA0JU, ES5PC, JA6AHB, J4HLVJ, EA4G/RGKL for initial #337, SM6HFZ, W7CI, KL7HFQ, KLM, JA5SNLS, DL7UDA, K7XQ, G3LRQ, P9PCAM and IK6EW. A big surprise was having G4RGK in EA8 call on random. On 1296 I added VK5MC, F8SSE, PA0PLY for initial #363, LZ1DX, E5MPK, PA7B #364, E6ZU, IK3COJ, WA8KPFJ, PA3DZL, W6YX, DL1HTZ, W6IX, W7TIM, PY2BS, OZ6OL, RW3XP, E3/1DAC #365, K1RQG, UT1EI #366, P9CAMA, 9A5AA, LX1DB, N9JM and K7XQ. I still have not counted the multipliers, but the QSOs are 49 on 320, 90 on 1296 and 21 on 144. In the microwave part I had 37 on 2304. Prior to the contest weekend I worked on CE0Y/DK2ZF and CE/DK2ZF, who have made and will be looking for DL8YHR from Africa. Skeds for 432 are very welcome via my e-mail address. Dick pa3dzl@pa0ply.nl had many other (family) obligations during the second Oct activity (prior to the contest weekend) -- I had everything prepared for this time for the CW mode on 23 cm this time. I was only on during the first Moon pass during the ARRL EME Contest weekend. I also worked PY1KK with a UFB signal from his summer QTH. In the microwave section, I made a brief visit to 13 cm and worked 4 QSOs. My CW is not very good, due to the fact that I made during the contest weekend)

PA7JB: New is a station and had a good weekend on 23 cm during the contest -- I made 19 QSOs on CW and 13 on JT65C. I tried to work more, but my output is to low (120 W at a RA3AQ feed). I can hear a lot, but I need more power. Sorry for the stations that came back with QRZ. My station also uses a 2.4 m offset dish and 0.3 dB NF preamp. The smallest station that I worked with JT was W7IUW, who was using a 2.1 m dish and 40 W.

RA3AQ: Dmitry ra3aq@vhfdx.ru was active on 3, 13 and 23 cm (CW only) this year. This was my first experience in a multiband contest. Thanks to all who worked me. I ended with scores on 3 cm of 3x3, on 13 cm of 10x16, and on 23 cm of 90x36. I missed about 10 stations on 23 cm. My station consisted of on 3, 13 cm 2.4 m offset dish with 10 W, and 13 cm 2.4 m offset dish with 300 W and 23 cm 3.4 m offset dish with 700 W. I was ORV from RW3BP's shack.

SA3DF: Carl SM3AKW sm3akw@xpray.se had problems on 432 during the final contest weekend -- I had a nice, enjoyable weekend, but unfortunately Murphy showed up in and killed my 432 drive before the contest start, which limited my operating exclusively to 23 cm. I made 20 contacts on 432 in the first part and 46 on 1296. The final leg brought my 1296 score up to 73 QSOs, all on CW. In the microwave section, I made a brief visit to 13 cm and worked 4 stations. Thanks to all the QSOs.

SM4IVF: Lars sm4ive@citelio.com reports on his super contest effort on 1296 with his new card. G4DDK was active on 3, 13 and 23 cm (CW only) this year. This was my first experience in a multiband contest. Thanks to all who worked me. I ended with scores on 3 cm of 3x3, on 13 cm of 10x16, and on 23 cm of 90x36. I missed about 10 stations on 23 cm. My station consisted of on 3, 13 cm 2.4 m offset dish with 10 W, and 13 cm 2.4 m offset dish with 300 W and 23 cm 3.4 m offset dish with 700 W. I was ORV from RW3BP's shack.

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SM6CSO (559/579), SV3AAF (559/579), LA9NEA (559/589), OK2DL (559/579), FK1SR (549/579), OH2DZ (569/589), SV1BTR (589/579), DL1YMK (569/599), JA1WQF (559/599), DL6SH (539/579), IK5QLO (539/599) and JAE8RE (579/579), on 3 Oct LU1C (O/O), OZ6OL (559/569), IK2MBM (579/599), W5LUA (579/599), SM2CEW (599/579), VE6TA (559/589), SM3QKJ (549/599), K2DH (589/589), ISMPK (599/589), PA2C5G (569/589), SP7DCS (569/599), SV1AOB (569/589), SP7ND (569/589), SP7IDP (569/589), SP7FD (569/589), SP7TD (569/589), JAE6CDZ (579/589), SDF3 (589/599), JF5HUC (579/599), OK1DFC (599/599) and URS3LX (O/O), on 30 Oct JA6XED (549/579), RW3PX (539/599), E2ALU (579/599), W7CS (569/599), WA8RFJ (559/599), F5VHIX (589/589), WG6Y (579/599), UAZ3HC (O/O), K1RQG (599/599), PA7JBM (599/599), IK3COJ (569/599), 9ASA (429/599), UT1EI (599/599), PA4MPY (549/599), LZ1DX (589/599), F5SEF (589/599), PA3DZL (589/579) and VK5MC (589/569), on 31 Oct WW2R (539/569), NJ9JM (O/O), P4CAM (589/599), W40P (569/579), OSEIRC (579/599), DL2DTU (559/579) and VK2JS (549/599).

SM6ILY: Andy’s spililw@wp.pl group (SP6JLW, SP6OPN, Q56OPG) ARRL EME Competition report -- We operated on four bands in multipoperator, CW-only category. On 70 and 23 cm we used the call SP6JLW, on 13 cm we used the call SP6OPN and on 6 cm the call Q56OPG. The contest was an experimental basis and the equipment is still in a test phase. During the three weeks we completed a total of 156 QSOs. This result is down from last year. On 432 we contacted VK3UM, OK1DFC, KLM6, OH2PO, SD3F, I1NDP, DL1YMK, G3LTIF, UA3PTW, DG1KJG, SV3AAF, VE6TA, SM2CEW, DL7APV, OZ6OL, K1JT, JA6AHB, AJ0TJU, ES3PC, PA3DZL, SM6FHZ, WA6PY, W8TNT and XG4V for a score of 27x19. On 1296 we worked HB9MOON, ES5FC, S95CD, L2ZUS, ZJ2IPB, UT5CWC, DL0HSPM, LF6DA, LM1P9A, H8BDQ, OH5PG, YO8BCF, JA6CZD, JAE6RE, SD3F, SP7DCS, G4RKC, JF3HUC, OK1DFC, HB9Q, OH2DZ, IW2FZR, SM6FHZ, SM2CEW, W5LUA, OZ6OL, ON4BCB, IK3COJ, LZ1DX, PY2BS, IK2RTL, MD4HIN, W6XY, VE6TA, UR5LX, F5SEF, ISMPK and K1RQG. I also QSO’d 9 stations on 144. I found relatively good conditions with some Faraday and multipath. Excluding the microwaves, I have the impression that traffic density was somewhat lower this year on the main bands. After the contest I was glad to work ON5TA on 6 cm for the first SV/ON QSO on this band. Eric has a small, but well optimized system as demonstrated by his nice echoes and precise tracking.

T12AEF: Armando aenollin@xieco.co.cr has made significant improvements (two M 9 yagis with 70 W at the antennas) to his 70 cm EME station, which he continues to work on. If not already, he will be adding an antenna mounted LNA very soon. His most recent QSOs were with DL7APV and I1NDP. He is interested in skeds.

T21AEFB’s shack

VE2ZAZ: Bert ve2zaz@xysyo.co.ca besides being QRV on 432 has now set up for 1296 EME and was listening during the contest -- I managed to complete a 3.2 m dish and RX setup before the ARRL contest. I was not capable of TX, but listened to the band in the CW portion for a total 3.5 hours. I copied on 30 Oct between 0930 and 1130 OK2DL, DL0HSPM, SM4IVE, W6XY, SV1BTR, NA4N, G3LTIF, W7IM and OZ4MM, and on 31 Oct between 1030 and 1200 DL4AEM, OK1DFC, VE6TA, LZ1DX, G4CCH, LZ7US, WA6PY, IZ1BPB, K1JT, OZ6OL and N2UO, plus many other uncertain calls. This was done with the bottom half of the dish covered with thick heavy snow! Another highlight was a pileup of 5 stations within 200 Hz, something I would have never expected to see on EME! The Sun noise measured over the weekend was 11.3 dB, which is pretty much in line with the VK3UM calculator. Considering that little effort was put in to feedpoint optimization, I am very pleased with the performance of my system! In a few weeks, I will be able to transmit and will let everyone know. Initially, it will be with only 25 W at the feed, so I will need help from the bigger guns to complete my first QSOs. [Where was your 432 signal during the contest?]

VE6TA: Grant’s ve6ta@xlearnclear.ca Oct EME report -- First I want to say that I had a great time at the EME Conference in Dallas, and really enjoyed meeting so many EMEers that I have worked over the years. I put my 2.5 GHz IMU feed in the dish for the ARRL microwave contest. This was my first real activity with the IMU feed vs. an older round septum scalar feed and I was quite impressed. Perhaps the HB 18’ dish is not quite to tolerance and the IMU provided better feed. I have worked on the IMU feed vs. an older round septum scalar feed, so many EMEers that I have worked over the years. I put my 2.3 GHz IMU feed in the TI2AEB’s shack.

SV3AAF: Petrox sv3aaf@xysyo.com operated the contest on 4 bands; his report follows -- Thanks to everyone for the nice QSOs during 2010 ARRL EME Contest. I operated single op, CW only. I worked 25 stations on 13 cm and 9 on 6 cm during the Microwave part - detailed are in a previous NL. During the Oct contest legs, I worked on 432: OK1DFC, OH2PO, UA3PTW, I1NDP, OZ4MM, SP6JLW, G3LTIF, DL7APV, DF3RU, VK3UM, D1G1KJG, SV1BTR and SM6FHZ, and on 1296: LZZUS, S95CD, DL0HSPM, JA6AHB, JA4BLC, HB9HD, OZ4MM, IZ1BPB, HB9MOON, DL4AEM, SM4IVE, SP6JLW, DF3RU, SV1BTR, E5MPK, OK2DL, UT5CWC, G4CCH, LA6FLF, F5UKUG, DL1YMK, KJ7, OK1DFC, KJ7, K5GW, RA3AQ, G3LTIF, LA9NEA, Y08BCF, UT2EG, PA3FEB, DL1YMK, PA0BAT, WA6PY, UA3PTW, VK3UM, JAE6CDZ, JAESER, SD3F, SP7DCS, G4RKC, JF3HUC, OK1DFC, HB9Q, OH2DZ, IW2FZR, SM6FHZ, SM2CEW, W5LUA, OZ6OL, ON4BCB, IK3COJ, LZ1DX, PY2BS, IK2RTL, MD4HIN, W6XY, VE6TA, UR5LX, F5SEF, ISMPK and K1RQG. I also QSO’d 9 stations on 144. I found relatively good conditions with some Faraday and multipath. Excluding the microwaves, I have the impression that traffic density was somewhat lower this year on the main bands. After the contest I was glad to work ON5TA on 6 cm for the first SV/ON QSO on this band. Eric has a small, but well optimized system as demonstrated by his nice echoes and precise tracking.
The first night and one new initial, JA0TU for #141. I found good conditions, but light activity. For the following 3 passes, I was on 1296 CW. I worked 65 stations and had initials with PA0BAT #215, PY3BS #216, F5EEx/p #218 and DL6SH #219. I worked Y08BCF in between the weekends for #217, hence the gap in the numbering. I am slowly acquiring parts to try sun noise on 5760, and will need to find a suitable power amplifier once I determine if my HB dish will perform at this frequency. My target is to be QRV sometime next spring on this band. My station is still a 5.5 m dish with 222 800 W, 432 i kW, 1296 600 W, 2.3 350 W and 3.4 90 W.

W3HMS: John W3HMS(x)ao.com reports on his ARRL EME contest activity on lower bands – I was QRV on 23-3 and 30-Oct. On 432 I QSO’d DG1KKG, DL7APV, G3LTF, 1NDFP, K1JT, KL6M, OH2PO, K1DFC, OZ4MM, SP6lw and UA3PTW. I heard N4GIV calling CQ and I called him, but unfortunately one of the birdsies slowly drifted on the top of N4GIV and I lost contact. My station on my side were very rapid polarization changes. Even during my qso with very strong OK1DFC, I was forced to switch polarization every 20 seconds, otherwise signals completely vanished. Sometimes my echoes were stronger on vertical polarization and few minutes later stronger on horizontal, but always returned with the same polarization. [Very strange – this seems to say there was a preferred linear pol]. On 1296 I QSO’d AL7RT (7DB/14DB) on JT65C with 1296. The winds went from 0 to > 100 kph in a couple of minutes. It took both of his 12 ton el rams at max to stow the dish! There was no damage apart from Doug’s nerves!

SOME THOUGHTS FROM K6JYE: During the last two EME Conferences there have been quite a few remarks about how old our group seems to be and questions as to how to attract younger or more members. I want to respond to this concern. I have spent most of my career developing programs for youth and adults that covered a variety of activities from ham radio clubs to youth conventions. I now teach teachers to be teachers at a local University, and particularly how to teach science and math. Much of that instruction is on how a teacher can develop outside resources to support their curriculum. I have also developed the Ovro project with a team from San Bernadino Microwave Society (SBMS). Some things that stand out that I have learned are: 1) People will rarely offer to help or get involved, but if asked will be glad to participate. 2) Strike while the iron is hot; If a group or individual shows interest, do all at the moment to make things happen. 3) Gather a group around your activity and see it as a way to socialize and to pass on skills so that they can carry the idea on. The K6JYE “sidewalk EME” group is an example. I suppose, I could set up an EME station in the house that was a one man operation. However, it is much more enjoyable to do it the way we do. In having to set it up each time we use it, I have to have other operators and helpers. They are usually different people each time, with the exception of W6SZ, who is of great assistance.

I email everyone a schedule of operation and work days and invite them to come over. My wife Helen, K16LQV, opens "Chez Helen's Cafe" and has food for us. Everyone participates as they feel inclined and I sort of manage things and also operate. Here is a website of some of last year's activities: http://www.nitehawkw.com/k6jye/ 4) Obvious sources of participants is local ham bands. I am a member of the EME QRP group and have a local school (Jr. Hi and Sr. Hi.). If you are lucky you may find an interested teacher. There are also the really interested people you know. In my case the daughter of the mail man, a local guy who likes radio, my brother in law, and a few others. We usually also have a telescope set up and do a little viewing as well. Helen likes to lead that. There is a bit more to it, but those are the essentials, to me. Some other questions to be asked about generating EME growth are as follows: 1) How do people find out about EME but not about local school freqs? 2) Strike while the iron is hot; If a group or individual shows interest, do all at the moment to make things happen. 3) Is there a profile of that person? 4) How do we get them information and connect them up to a local EME operator. 5) What activities do most new EMEers choose as their initial entry into EME? How do we encourage them to "move up". 6) How did we get here? We should take a survey to gather data on these questions. We can put up a website with pictures and stories, so that interested parties can see how we did it, and what we are doing. There may be enough information on individuals’ websites and face book videos, so that only a "Meta" website may be needed to act as sort of a portal. That website URL could be passed on to organizations who might want to publish it. These are just a few of the questions and a little of what is involved. If the EME group would like, I can develop a presentation for the conference in Cambridge and present both the findings on the questions and practical techniques for involving more people in EME that have only been hinted at here. In the meantime feel free to email me. I had a very good time in Dallas and look forward to seeing many of you in Cambridge.

FINAL: I have some sad new to report. Last month we lost Tom, KA2VAD. Tom has been a friend with mailing of this NL for longer than I can remember. He was critical back in the old days when we posted more than 30 NLs a month. He was also involved in some of the early EME contest activity and expeditions by K2UYH. I showed pictures of Tom at the 4U1UN expedition at his memorial service. Tom was killed in an automobile accident last month. He is greatly missed by all his many friends.

There was an error in G4RGK’s initials list in the last NL. The top 3 cm station was not even shown. It is of course WATCHO - our apologies to Jim.

We have this month, F5ESe’s 2011 Moon Chart. This chart shows at a glance why one Moon weekend is better than another. It also shows some of the problems choosing a good contest date.

F2TU has volunteer to compile the CW EME contest scores so that a clearer picture can be obtained of the relative standing of different CW stations – see Philippe’s report. I will publish the listings in this NL.

We also have copies of the 2010 WW EU EME Contest Results provided by DL7APV, and more CE0Y and CE/DK2ZF expedition pictures. There is a lot more that I could write. I wanted to discuss the impact of the digital modes and how we might increase CW EME and EME in general, but I am running (have run out of time) for this 29. CU off the Moon and via this NL next month. Keep the reports and tech info coming. 73, Al – K2UYH
Moon Ephemeris Overview for the Year 2011, by Franck F5SE

- Vertical blue bars show the overall "quality" of each week-end for EME. The higher the bar, the "better" the week-end.
- Figures below bars show expected signal improvement, in dB, referred to apogee path loss, for Sundays at 00:00 UTC.
- Full scale span: 2.4 dB. Scale step: 0.4 dB per division. 0 dB level = Band path loss figure at apogee, as quoted below:
  - 1.44 MHz: 252.8 dB, 1.32 MHz: 262.3 dB, 1.296 MHz: 271.8 dB, 2.3 MHz: 276.9 dB, 3.5 GHz: 280.4 dB, 5.7 GHz: 284.8 dB,
  - 10.4 GHz: 289.9 dB, 24 GHz: 297.2 dB, 47 GHz: 303.0 dB. Data computed for an apogee around 406500 km.
- To get the week-end path loss on a given band, subtract to band apogee figure the value printed under the week-end bar.
- The shading pattern below shows how close the Sun is to the Moon, at any time - the darker, the closer.
- Shading is only visible around New Moon date, appearing as a vertical gray bar.

Gray Scale calibration

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<tr>
<th>Sun to Moon Distance, in degrees</th>
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![Graph showing declination and distance for each month of 2011](image-url)
CE2/DK2ZF operating positions

Rolf (DK2ZF) and Martin (DK7ZB) with luggage!

CE0Y/DK2ZF antenna in Easter Island