**432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS**
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**CONDITIONS:** The 2014 23 cm leg of the DUBUS-EU EME contest has just ended, and there were great DX results. It was a great contest with conditions that did not find the best. The path loss to the Moon was near its worse and libration often made copy of weak signals difficult. What made this contest the spectacular turnout, 11NDP again has the top reported score of 78x69. He was followed closely by SP5JLW with 76x67 and many others with high scores! Results for the 10 GHz Up Contest leg, which occurred only a week early are not so impressive.

**4K/UT6UA:** Alex ut6uas@yahoo.co.uk has sent a preliminary report on the 70 cm part of the 4K dxpedition to Azerbaijan. [I apologize for not giving you warning of this dxpedition. This was because they were listed as only being active on 144.] They were QRV from a mountain village, Russkiye Borisy in LN30gk. They were on 432 only on one day, 19 June, the last day of their 4 day expedition. They were on for their full Moon window and with an excellent signal from 4 x 8 WL yagis and an 800 W QSS5B PA. Their extended operating time was very helpful considering the low Moon declination and uncooperative Faraday rotation. Several patient EU station worked them when the pol finally turned more favorable near moonset. Also DL9KR was able to get them on CW for their final QSO. I believe all of their other QSOs were on JT65B. 3 calls were used during the expedition: 4K/UT6UA, 4K/UT5UAS and 4K/4. Funds they expected to help with the cost of this expedition did materialize and they are now looking for donations for this expedition. They are grateful for any help, which should be sent by PayPal to ut6uas@yahoo.co.uk. QSLs can be sent via UT6UA QORS or direct. I hope to have a full report of stations worked on 70 cm for the next NL.

**6W/PE1L:** Rene (PE1L) hasperrene@gmail.com as promised has provided more information on the Senegal expedition – see the June NL – We made 25 QSOs on 432 with DF3RU (JT and CW), DK3WG, DL5FN, DL7APV, DL8GP, DL9KR (CW), ES3RF, ES5PC, G4E2P, G4FUF, G4RGK, HB9Q, 11NDP, K2UYH, LZ1DX, OK1KIR, OK1DFC (CW), OZ4MM, PI9CAM, UA3PTW, UX0FF and WA4NJP. On 1296 we worked 27 stations as follows: DF3RU, DJ9YW, ES6RQ, HB9Q, 11NDP, IK3CQJ, JA6AHB, K2UYH, LZ1DX, OES5JL, OH2DG, OK1DFC, OK1KIR, OZ4MM, PA0BAT, PA3CQE, PA3CSG, PA3FXB, PA7JB, PE1LWT, PY2BS, RA3AUB, RD3DA, RN3A, UA3PTW, W5LUA and YL2GD. On 13 cm (2320/2304) we made 7 QSOs with HB9Q, OK1DFC, OK1KIR, PA0BAT, PY2BS, UA4HTS and W5LUA (XB). All QSOs were on JT unless noted. We are already looking for a nice location for next year. We plan to upgrade our station with a preamp for 1296.

**DC9UP:** Hermann radio.dc9up@goolemail.com will be ready to TX on 23 cm soon with a 3.2 m dish from RF Ham Design and a 700 W BEKO SSPA — I am copying the ON0EME beacon at a promising 15 dB with a circular feed. My backend is a DSP-10. The next step is to connect the cable for TX. I hope to report success soon.

**DL2JY:** 48 el HB yagis used on 1296 EME

**DK3WG:** Jurg dk3wg@web.de is now up to DXCC 111 on 432 TXN to 6W/PE1L. He also had initials this past month with SM7GVF and F4DJK, and a partial with UA9ALA (20dB+) CWNR.

**DL9KR:** Jan Brunier@t-online.de sends news on his recent activity — My CW EME fun continues to be be enhanced due to many Jters’ willingness to try CW with me. On 2 Oct, I checked into the HB9Q logger for my first time ever and asked KD7YJ, K5DOG, WC7V, PY2BS and OH6UW for a CW attempt. Easy QSOs resulted with all. The same occurred with YL2GD, ES3RF, RU1AA and OH4LA (ex OH2BNH 1993). Of course, the dxpeditions were the salt in the soup. Huge thanks to
5B/OK5EME, FP/DL2NUD, TA/PE1L, GJ/DLYMK and 9Y4TBG. All had nice signals but I was not able to complete with 9Y4TBG. They saw my trace due to a carbonized preamp. Later I added on random 6W/PE1L, ZA/P2ACHR and 4K4K. This last contact just before moonset brings me to EME CW DXCC #127. I also worked SP/OK5EME for initial #944. I could put very little time into the contests this year, but made 17 QSOs in ARRL EME Contest part 1 and 4 more in second part. During the DUBUS 432 EME Contest weekend I worked 16 stations including JE1TNL #939. Knocking on wood, I practically no birdsie here on 432, but 160 m is continuously becoming worse due to PLC noise.

SFSE: Franck kozton@free.fr writes his experiences during the DUBUS 432 EME contest – This year, I was able to be active most of the time during which the Moon was available, mostly during the first part of the moonrise. The super signal station (4K4K) was active for a new station, RA3EC (539/579) #170, YL2GD (549/559) #171 + new call. They had #545 with excellent signals. On 21 May, still on 432, I worked UT5DL for the second time for some years. They treated me very well. During the contest, among them G3LTF receiving plaque (made by G8ACE) and I1NDP, OK1CS, OZ4MM and WA8RJF. Contests were enjoyable! I worked WA9FWD, VE6TA, OZ4MM and WA8RJF.

I5YDI, DG5CST, UA4AAV, UA4HTS, YL2GD, ISYDI, DG5CST, UA4AAV, YL2GD, HB9CW, and many very weak signals. Anyway I enjoyed the high activity from Japan, Russia and Asia. During the contest I enjoyed the high activity from Japan, Russia and Europe. The permanent simultaneous hammering of 20 to 30 calling stations was truly enjoyable! Possibly due to my absence during the

Saturday North American window, activity from across the pond seemed very poor. I logged 67 stations, among them was just 5 W or Ks. New stations were SP6MLK (569/569), TI2AEB (569/549), U9AYLU (529/559), PA3COE (569/569), VE4SA (559/559), SP3XBO (559/569) and RT7A (569/569). I applied for the call HB9CW some 20 years ago. Some friends and I used HB9CW on the occasions of National Field Days where we participated many times in the past. Since this fine call was mostly silent, I thought, from now forward, I will use it for my EME activities. Since counting initials and DX countries has become useless due to corrupted lists and scores (except G4RKGs!), I don't mind to abandon the #-counts. Furthermore this call is a perfect match to the DUBUS EME contest. You will find HB9CW off the moon in the future, also in contests where the rules are promoting CW in its original sense.

1NDP: Nando 1ndp.j1nndo@gmail.com reports on his 1296 contest results -- I was active during the contest on 23 cm, but my time was limited and I could not be on full time. There was good activity, especially on Saturday, but not many stations from the US. I ended with a score of 76369. Conditions were affected by deep libration fading that made it difficult to copy weaker signals. During the contest I noticed that my echoes were not as strong as they used to be. During a later investigation, I found a failure in my PA. It was still drawing nominal current, but the output power was only 200 W instead of the usual 1 kW. My TXN to the contest organizers and all the participants. I also want to mention the fantastic expedition to Senegal. They had exceptionally good signals on 23 and 70 cm. Congratulations to the team. I want to express my frustration with last year's ARRL contest results. I sent my log in for the CW class, but my classification changed from CW to mixed mode because I had 1 SSB QSO. I must admit that I did not read the rules very carefully. The DUBUS and the ARRL contests treat CW and SSB as the same class. Anyone familiar with EME skills understands why. The ARRL has a different interpretation, and instead of invalidating my one SSB QSO, they decided to put me in the mixed case. This changing the mixed mode rankings and put some stations at a lower position than they deserved, but I do not feel too guilty.

G3LTF: Peter's g3ltf@binternet.com reports on May/June EME -- On 31st May I was active in the DUBUS 1296 CW Contest where activity was extremely high. I worked UA3PTW, VK3UM, RA3AUB, OH2DG, HU4HTS, JH3EAO, OK1CS, JA1WCQ, HB9CW, JA4BLC, DL3EBL, P8CAM, JA5ABH, PA3COE, VK6MC, PA7AT, OH2FY. Contacts are dispatched as follows: 5PA, 5OK, 5U4A, 4XG, 3XSP, 2XES, 2XVK, 2XSM, 2xF, 2XOZ, 2xON, 2xSS, 2XOH, 1X1L, 1X1L, 1X0E, 1XHB, 1XLY. From the Americas, 6xW, 4xVE and 1xTI. As can be seen, activity was far much higher in Europe (60 stations all together) than in any other continent. I finished with a score of 73 x 66. New stations were worked, as follows: F6GJG (559/557) for initial #166, JH3EAO (559/559) #167, S53MM (429/459) #169, WA8FWD (539/559) #169, HB9CW (589/589) #170, JH3EAO (559/559) #170, YL2GD (549/559) #171 + new country, and SP6MLK (539/429) #172. The following stations were called for a new station, RA3EC (539/579) #170, YL2GD (549/559) #171 + new country, and SP6MLK (539/429) #172. The following stations were called with no reply: JA8ERE, ON5RR, WA8RJF and JH1KRC. Some station with YH or YL in the callsign (not YL2GD) called me many times, but I never managed to get the call. During this contest, I was using a GaAs FET preamp designed by F1OPA, which improves the sensitivity of the whole system by about 0.8 to 1 dB on a "hot/cold" test. This is the only change made since the Feb contest.

G3LTF receiving plaque (made by G8ACE) to commemorate 50 years of EME at a gathering arranged by G4NNS – see the last NL.

IK5QLO: Andrea's ik5qlo@gmail.com spring 23 cm EME report follows -- I am still using a 2.4 m dish. In the AR1 Digital EME Contest on 12/13 April, I found fairly good activity, and worked using JT65C JA6ABH, PA3XFB, 1NDP, HB9Q, UA4HTS, YL2GD, ISYDI, DG5CST, IA4AAV, YO2BC, IW5BHY, PA3COE, PA2DW, VE3XRF, W1AW/I, YO2LEL, IK3COJ, IK5VLS, DF3RU, OK2ULQ, OK1CA, DG5CST, OK2DL, SP7DCS, F6GJG, IK3COJ, DL4DUT, RA3EC, OK1KR, L22US, LK2CI. As can be seen, activity was far much higher in Europe (60 stations all together) than in any other continent. I finished with a score of 73 x 66. New stations were worked, as follows: F6GJG (559/557) for initial #166, JH3EAO (559/559) #167, S53MM (429/459) #169, WA8FWD (539/559) #169, HB9CW (589/589) #170, JH3EAO (559/559) #170, YL2GD (549/559) #171 + new country, and SP6MLK (539/429) #172. The following stations were called with no reply: JA8ERE, ON5RR, WA8RJF and JH1KRC. Some station with YH or YL in the callsign (not YL2GD) called me many times, but I never managed to get the call. During this contest, I was using a GaAs FET preamp designed by F1OPA, which improves the sensitivity of the whole system by about 0.8 to 1 dB on a "hot/cold" test. This is the only change made since the Feb contest.

G3LTF receiving plaque (made by G8ACE) to commemorate 50 years of EME at a gathering arranged by G4NNS – see the last NL.
Due to another conflicting event, I had only a several hours to operate in the DUBUS contest. On Saturday, I made 9 QSOs on SSB in 33 minutes of operation and on Sunday added 32 QSOs in 3.5 hours for a total of 41. I also worked on 10 June on 6 cm UN6PD (O/359) -- easy QSO and S59DCD (O/359).

N6OVP: David n6ovp@nashell.net is QRV on 23 cm with a 10’ dish and is looking for skeds -- I get about a 5 S unit increase in noise when I aim at the Sun. During the 1296 EME contest worked W6YX and VK3UM (559). I also OWNR K2UYH.

NC1I: Frank frank@NC1I.COM sends info April/May EME activity -- Neither W1OA or I have had much time to operate the NC1I station recently due to family activities, and some health issues. I did find a few opportunities to get on 23 cm in May. (All QSOs were made on 10540 unless noted.) On 6 May, I worked N6OVP (CW), PA3FXB, and T2IAEB. On 25 May I worked YO2BC, PA3FXB, PA2DW, DJ2DY, ON5GS, and WA9FWD (CW). I was only able to get on for about 3 hours during the DUBUS 1296 contest, but did work 18 stations on 31 May including UA3PTW, RA3AUB, G4RGK, OE5JFL, OK2DL, PI6CAM, SP7DCS, SP6LJW, ON5TA, OK1KIR, DL3EBJ, DJ2FYR, OH2DG, UA4HTS, G3CM, and OK1KIR on four bands (sorry no allocation on 9 cm in Japan).

K6M: Mike melum@alaska.net sends great news -- Here on 3 June, a crane hoisted my big dish back into place on a greatly strength rebuilt mount. There are still lots to do before I AM QRV. More details can be found at http://k6m.com/DISH/DISH.HTML. I am looking forward to picking up where I left off. Although my focus is changing a bit, until I can do something about the neighbor’s trees, I plan to do a lot more with 222 and trying to work terrestrial US/NA stations. I have heard many including a single 7 w yagi/5W on station on 222. They have had some trouble hearing me with my 350 W. I now have a 1500 W SSPA. Also I think that I have solved my 144 RFI problem and plan to do more there. Also I’m very close to being QRV on 902 EME. Of course I will still be working the other bands. I can always work NA/VK/SA, but my window to EU is getting smaller. (I’m trying to come up with a strategy for dealing with the trees. They actually have grown ‘dangerously’ high, and I’m hoping I can convince the neighbor to allow me to top them.)

KL6’;s dish lifted back in place on his new mount

OK1KIR: Tonda and Vlada vladimir.masek@volny.cz report on their club’s May/June activity -- On 432 we worked on 24 May at 0518 6W/PEP1L (24DB/21DB) on JT65B for digital initial (#10), 1st 6W-OK on 70 cm and JT65C, 559/579 via EME. Our bandtime on 1296 was more than 40 years. (The oldest tropo QSO was DJ5BV in 1971 and the oldest EME QSO was WA6LET in 1976). Many thanks to all who contributed to this achievement. It seems to be the first 70 cm DCC completed with small dishes (a 4.5 m, a 5.5 m and 6 m dishes were used). We also worked on 2 June at 0938 2A/PA2CHR (23DB/21DB) on JT65B (#110, for DXCC 161). On 1296 we QSO’d in the 2A/PA2CHR (23DB/21DB) on 1295 (O/359), 1048 on 23DB/21DB on 1295 (O/359), 1048 on 23DB/21DB on 1295 (O/359), 1048. OK1KIR reports a number of attacks of SSB which Decreaser decreased our output far below 300 W. With such low power, we stopped CQing and were just searching for stations. On Sunday we reassigned the SSPA and finished the contest with at least half power. Out of the contest we worked with JT65B on 10 June 5 May at 1205 ON5GS (25DB/O) for digital (#180), and on 1 June at 1142 DJ2DY (23DB/23DB) (#181) and on 1827 WHIS (11DB/16DB). On 10 GHz after resumption from 70 cm to 3 cm, we continued in the MW part of the DUBUS Contest and worked on 24 May at 0716 F1PYP (559/569), 0723 RA3EAC (569/579) (same RK3WVF), 0731 1W2FZ (559/559), 0759 F5JWF (569/579), 0760 OK1CA (569/579), 0763 F5OK (559/559) for initial #43, 0843 SP6LIW (569/569), 0850 IZ2DJP (100), 0855 LX1DB (579/579), 0910 IZ2DJP (549/569) DUP, 1004 PA0BAT (569/569), 1036 ESSPC (569/569), 1111 RA3EAC (569/579) DUB, 1117 H8BVS (569/579), 1135 H8BHU (559/579), 1140 OZ1LPR (569/559), 1212 VE4MP (549/559) and 1225 WA9MPY (549/569) and on 25 May at 0235 VK3NX (559/569), 0331 JANWQ (559/559), 0337 JA6CZD (569/569), 0345 JA4BLC (559/569) (all 3 JAs worked on 10450/10450), 0433 TM8BP (O/O) #81, 0453 S57NML (549/559) #82 and new DXCC, 0548 IK2RTI
(569/569), 0632 DL7YC (569/579), 0753 OH2DG (559/559), 1323 W6YX (559/449) #83, 1349 K2UYH (O/O) and 1404 W5LUA (569/569) for a total of 35. Being on 24 GHz, we missed PA7JB. Our contest was a total of 28x26. The DL0SHF beacon was unbelievably strong on CW/JT4G. We were heard by PA0EQH on only 50 cm dish! Congrats Hans for your very good RX! On 24 GHz on 25 May, despite high spreading, humidity and degradation on 2 m, we managed to have new DXCC (1st 24G EME QSO for Franta). Further we added at 1200 a FB QSO with W5LUA (549/O). Contest total was 2x2. Moon noise measured 2 dB and G/CS 3.1 dB. Outside the contest at 1230 we worked on JT4F W5LUA (11DB/15DB) for digital initial [#8]. Overall it was a hectic extended week with two weekends swallowed by EME! On 6 cm we contacted on 11 June at 1945 UN6PD easy and fast on JT6C (27DB/22DB) in MN69 for the 1st OK1CA (6cm) station. Nikolai uses a small 1.66 m offset dish and 60 W, but is currently only V pol with an RA3AQ feed. However, in a week or so, he plans to change to a new CP feed to eliminate the loss of 3 dB and allow CW QSOs.

**OZ4MM:** Stig vestergaard@los.dk fills us in on his recent EME -- Back in April I worked on 432 95STBG, who had a great signal. In May I added 6W/PE1L to my log. Both QSOs were on JT65B, but I am sure both could have been worked on CW. Both were also worked on 1296. On DOY 1236 in the DUBUS CW Contest I managed to operate only about 5 hours. My Sun noise was 2 dB and G/CS 3.1. I extended the activity as well as the DXCC #240. I am sure it was due to the excellent DX to be had on 6 cm. On 1110 OK1CA (6cm) -- I worked PA0BA 1.66 m dish in MN69 and K2UYH. My Sun noise was 2 dB and allow CW QSOs.

**PA0BAT:** Gerald pa0bat@amsat.org reports on 6 cm -- After several unsuccessful attempts, I managed to work UN6PD on 6 cm. This was the first ever 6 cm QSO made from Kazakhstan. Nicholas would be glad to QSO more stations. He can often be found on the HB9Q logger. He has a 1.8 m dish, about 30 W and uses V-pol.

**PA7JB:** John pa7jb@ziggo.nl reports on his 9 cm DUBUS Contest activity -- I worked OK1CA, G4CHC, SP6OPN, OH2DG, G3LTF, ES5PC, DL7YC, PA0BAT, K2UYH, G4NNS, OK1KIR, L8BF5, K5GW and HB9Q. All these stations were initial QSOs except for HB9Q. My station consists of a 2.4 m offset dish with 50 W at an RA3AQ feed and a 4GDK preamp. My Sun noise is 13.5 dB.

**PY2BS:** Bruce py2bs@me.com made his debut on 902 EME with a QSO on 8 June to W5LUA for the [1st 902 QSO between North and South America] during the month he also added 33 cm QSOs with VE4AM, VE6TA and K2UYH. Bruce also copy WA2FGK testing with 4 yagis on the horizon.

**SP/OK5EME:** Zdenek (OK1DFC) ok1dfc@seznam.cz had the opportunity to operate from SP on 432 with his portable system, a 3 m dish and 1.5 kW PA on 20/21 June. He worked many stations on JT, and also DL9KR and G3LTF on CW. He operated JT operating on 432.090. [TNX to G3LTF for providing this information.]

**SP6JLW:** Andy sp6jlw@wp.pl reports excellent activity in 1296 leg of the DUBUS Contest -- I found extremely high activity in contest. We worked 76x67. We also heard and called OZ6OL and SPMLK. This is the best results we have ever achieved in this contest. Thank you for a wonderful weekend at 23 cm.

**SP7DCS:** Chris sp7dcs@wp.pl sends his contest results -- W5KU on 23 cm EME. There was huge activity and the band was like HF. With help of SP7MC, we managed to work 73 QSO®, which is our best so far in this contest. It could have been more, but trees degrade my performance at elevations < 30 degs and I missed some stations during these periods. QSOs were UA3P7FW, OK1CA, JH3EAO, OH2DG, RA3JUB, VK3UM, OK1KIR, JA1WQF, IK3CQJ, JA4BC, UA4HRTS, SP6JLW, OH1LRY, VK5MC, PI9CAM, OK24X, ON5GS, 11DNP, F5SEF, W2FZ, LX1DB, J6A6AHB, RA3EC for an initial (#), G4RGK, G3LTF, RN3A, F6CGJ, DLJ8BU, DJ8FR, OK2DL, DG5DST (#), OK2ULQ, PA7JB, OES5JL, IK5QLO, L22US, ES5PC, OK1CS, PA3CQE (#), ON5GS (#), S53MM (#), ON7UN, NC11, SM7FZW, IK5VLS, PA0BAT, JZ1BPN, K2UYH, ON5TA, DL6SH, N4PZ, W6YX, VE6TA, W8M6Y, VE7MD, VA7MM, DF3RU, HB9CW, F5JWF, JH1KRC, DL0SHF, JABERE, IK6EWI, SP3XBO, SSS9DC, DL4DTU, HB9BDC, OZ6OL, I5MKP, IK1MTZ, PA3FXB, W9ASF (#), W4OP and S53MM (#). The contest total was 2x2, but I managed to operate only 45 min, as I had absolutely no reports on 1200. I also missed some QSOs (#83). On 3 cm EME, I had no reaction to the log. Both #83 were from OK5EME, and called OZ6OL and SPMLK. This is the best results we have ever achieved in this contest. Thank you for a wonderful weekend at 23 cm.

**TM8PP:** Guy (F2CT) F2CT@wanadoo.fr reports on his groups 10 GHz effort -- The DUBUS 3 cm Contest weekend was very sad for the TM8PB team. Due to bad weather with heavy cold rain and high winds, it was very difficult to work on the PB8 feed system at 20 m above the ground! We finish the setup on Saturday afternoon, but Moon was no more available - below 10 deg el. So we check the system on the Sun and the results were good with 33 dB of CS/Sun! On Sunday morning we checked on our Moon noise and had a bad surprise. We had only 3 dB instead of 12 dB expected and echoes were only at 4 dB. The system was definitely not working! After making a decision of QSOs, we decide to investigate the feed system. We discover that the waterproof jacket made with extruded Polystyrene was missing and that a lot of water had gotten into the feed waveguide and switch It was a real disaster! This is the sad story of our week end at PB8. Murphy was certainly spending holidays in Brittany!

**UA3PTW:** Dmitry ua3ptw@inbox.ru reports adding a new DXCC with 6W/PE1L on both 70 and 23 cm. He also added and an initial on 1296 with ON5GS using JT65C. [TNX DK3WG for relaying this report.]

**UA9YLU:** Rakov is operational from Asiatic Russia on 23 cm. This past month he contacted G4IDR, PA0BAT and ON5GS on JT65C. [TNX DK3WG for relaying this report.]

**VA7MM:** Mark (VE7CMK) and Toby (VE7CNF) va7mm@telus.net 1296 activity report -- We were QRV on 1296 EME for three hours in the DUBUS EME Contest on 31 May and 1 June. 11 contacts were made with G3LTF, SP7DCS, SP6JLW, OK1KIR, PI9CAM, 11DNP, K2UYH, F5SEF, J6A6AHB, VK3UM and W6YX. We have a weak triode tube in our OZ6OL cavity amplifier, so we were only running at about 100 W at the feed of our 3 m dish, about half of our usual transmit power. Our cavity amplifier uses Eimac type 7289/ 3CX100A5 ceramic/metal planar triodes. We have no more spares so if anyone has some surplus available please contact us. With acquisition of more triodes, we intend to overhaul our amplifier and will be running with a better signal in the ARRL EME contest this autumn.

**PY2BS’s 902 dish and feed**

**RU1AA:** Alex ru1aa@yanalex.ru is a new station on 432 EME from St. Petersburg. During the last month he worked DL9KR on CW, and HB9Q, OK1DCF, G4RGK and G4EZP on JT65B. [TNX DK3WG for relaying this report.]
W6YX: John (K2YY) johnhill5500@gmail.com has submitted his groups newsletter contribution -- Team W6YX was active during the 3 cm and 23 cm legs of the DUBUS CW/SSB Contest series. On 3 cm we took things slow and only operated the EU window the second night, making 5 contacts. It was very satisfying to aim our 4.5 m dish at the Moon, watch the noise floor in Limrad rise a few dB, hear our echoes, and start making contacts moments after our new station was assembled. The success of this project is highlighted by the broad range of contributors. Everyone from incoming freshman, graduate students, faculty/staff, alumni, and engineers from the local community played a role in this project's design and construction. Thank you for all the signal reports. Sorry we could not QSO with all of you, but this may have performed great, and the turnout was good. We made 32 contacts. Special thanks to our JA friends, we were pleased to work 7 of you, and hope you'll all be QRV again during the ARRL EME contest this fall. It was excellent to see the increased activity over the Pacific, and we hope more stations from all sides of the Pacific will continue this contest activity trend. Now that the CW and SSB legs of the DUBUS EME contest series are over, we plan to lay down our paddle and microphone, dust off our copy of MAP65 and get ready for this summer's 144 and 432 DUBUS EME digital events.

W6XY: Grant ve6ta@xplornet.com update us on his recent EME on 1296 and 902 -- In the 1296 DUBUS Contest I worked JA6AHB, W6YX, VK3UM, JA48LC, VK5MC, K2UHY, F5SE/P, UA3PTW, RA3AUB, OK1CA, OE5JFL, IK3COJ, ES5PC, G4RGK, DL3EBJ, SP7DCS, OK1CS, G3LTf, 1NDP, DL6SH, SP6JLW, OH2DG, DJ8FR for an initial (#), P19CAM, OK1KIR, RA3EC (#), W6APY, S53MM (#), VE4MA, OZ4MM, P19CPW, WA9FWD -- weaker than normal. JH3EAO (#), JA8ERE, JA1WOF (#), DL0SHF, LX1DB, UA4HTS, S95DDC, OK2DL, HB9CW, ON5TA, ES6RQ, W4OP, ON7UN, PA0BAT, F6CGJ, WB2BYP, YL2DG (#) and IS5MP. I ended with a score of 50x46. Good conditions and a decent declination really helped us out here in the boonies! On 1 June I also worked W5LUA again on 902. Al was stronger on vertical TX for me. I continue to see lots of polarity smearing at the high latitudes here on 902. It is similar to 432 polarity issues, but slower to come around. On 16 June I easily worked PY2BS on CW with good signals. Bruce was peaking S6 here on my meter at times. Bruce continues to shine on every band he gets on and 902 is not different. I believe we also set a new distance record for this band at somewhere around 10,706 km.

W3HMS: John W3HMS@aol.com makes his 100th EME QSO -- PA3FXB, and I have made many QSOs on 3 cm using JT. So it was a real surprise to discover that our totals were both 98 on the same day we made it 99. Jan said we must do something to celebrate and all we could think of was SKYPE. With SKYPE, we envisioned that we could each see the other's station and WSJT screen and actually see the signal come down in the Spec JT waterfall. Jan has a fine digital video recorder and it gave his super photos to me, so I see my signal in his waterfall. His shack tour was very enjoyable as well. He used Google maps to show us his QTH then my QTH. We compared ON3EME beacon signals as well. I used a lap top PC carried camera recorder and it gave super photos to me. I have noticed fading. Having now installed a new switch on my PY2BS dual polarity feed, I can say that there is some polarity shift due to araday rotation on 902. The fades are not as bad on 3 cm and 23 cm we operated for a score of 11 x 9. On 048 on both CW and JT I worked VE6TA on 24 May, I was also able to operate a little on 3 cm and worked VE4MA, ES5PC, PA0BAT, W6YX, SP6JLW, OK1KIR and K2UHY, in early June, I switched back to 902 and installed a relay so that I could switch between horizontal and vertical polarity. Although, I have always heard my echoes with fixed linear polarization on 902 (In other words, echoes have always been returned with the same linear polarization as I have transmitted), I have noticed fading. Having now installed a switch on my PY2BS dual polarity feed, I can say that there is some polarity shift due to Faraday rotation on 902. The fades are not as deep as on 3 cm, but on many occasions I do see my echoes coming back better when I shift the polarity 90 degrees on receive. I have also noticed that VE6TA and VE4MA, who are presently fixed horizontal, receive better signals from me when I transmit vertically polarized. I am also pleased to announce the first 33 cm QSO between North America and South America by me working PY2BS on 432. On 25 May I worked OK1KIR on 24,048 on both CW and JT. On 25 May, I was also able to operate a little on 3 cm and worked VE4MA, ES5PC, PA0BAT, W6YX, SP6JLW, OK1KIR and K2UHY. In early June, I switched back to 902 and installed a relay so that I could switch between horizontal and vertical polarity. Although, I have always heard my echoes with fixed linear polarization on 902 (In other words, echoes have always been returned with the same linear polarization as I have transmitted), I have noticed fading. Having now installed a switch on my PY2BS dual polarity feed, I can say that there is some polarity shift due to Faraday rotation on 902. The fades are not as deep as on 3 cm, but on many occasions I do see my echoes coming back better when I shift the polarity 90 degrees on receive. I have also noticed that VE6TA and VE4MA, who are presently fixed horizontal, receive better signals from me when I transmit vertically polarized. I am also pleased to announce the first 33 cm QSO between North America and South America by me working PY2BS on 432. We completed first on CW and then on JT65C. Signals were (549 to 559) on both ends. I ran a 5 m dish and 400 W at the feed and Bruce was running a similar sized dish and 200 W from a single Motorola SSPA. Switching back to 24,048 on 8 and 10 June, I had 2 QSOs with VK7MO. Rex was running a 1.2 m dish and has upped his power to 19 W. Signals were -16 to -17 dB using JT-4F. I am running my 2.4 m offset fed dish and 100 W at the feed.

W6APY: Paul pchomins@san.rr.com was QRV in the EU - DUBUS EME Contest on 3 and 23 cm -- On 10 GHz I QSO’d ES5PC, F1PYR, HB9BHJ, HB9SV, IW2FZR, OK1CA, OK1KIR, PA0BAT, SP6JLW, VE4MA and W6YX for a score of 11 x 9. On 1296 I was only during first EU window before going to the IEEE IMS in Tampa. I QSO’d DF3RU, DJ8FR, DL6SH, ES5PC, F5SE/P, G3LTf, G4CHC, 1NDP, IK3COJ, K2UHY, L2ZUS, OE5JFL, OH1LRY, OH2DG, OK1CA, OK1KS, OK1KIR, OZ4MM, PA0BAT, P19CAM, RA3AUB, RA3EC, SM7FWZ, SP6JLW, SP7DCS, UA3PTW, VE6TA and W6XY for a score of 28x23.

W69FWD: John jstelfi@wi.rr.com is QRV again on 1296 EME -- After an almost 14 year absence, I have returned to 1296. The bulk of my station is the same. I am using my old VE4MA feed with a WD5AGO hybrid on my 3.7 m dish. The new equipment includes a DEM transverter and a solid state amplifier that I ran at 500 W for the contest. The hybrid and phasing lines have left me with a receiver that is less than optimal. I was able to see only 12.4 dB of Sun noise. I haven’t done any optimizing of the feedhorn yet, so I may be able to gain a little, but I have begun work on a KLEM style septum feed that I hope to have ready for the ARRL contest. On 25 May 25 I did some initial testing of the system and found my echoes easy. I then caught NC1I for initial #53. During the contest, I worked OK2DL #54, OH2DG, P19CAM #55, OK1CA #56, OE5JFL, SP6JLW #57, L2ZUS #58, K2UHY, F5SE/P #59, UA3PTW #60, 1NDP #61, G3LTf, OK1CS #62, ES5PC #63, OK1KIR, IK3COJ #64, VE6TA, W6YX #65, UA3PTW dupe, DF3RU #66, SP7DCS #67, W4OP #68, OH1LRY #69 and LX1DB #70 for a total of 298. My new amplifier consists of a single device W6PQL amplifier driving four W6PQL two device amplifiers. With my old hybrid, the SWR is a bit higher than I would like,
so I did not drive the amp too hard, but I feel that there is more power to be had with a little more drive. I am using less than 2 W to generate the 500 W out. I missed a lot of time due to window limitations. There are trees that block the first hour and a half at moonrise and all of my western window, and my mount won't go higher than 63 degs elevation, which limits me when the moon is due south. My tropo tower causes me to lose sensitivity for another hour. I believe that I have found a way to elevate my feed a few degrees higher, but haven't figured out a way to trim my neighbor's trees that have grown considerably since I started on EME in 1987. I am open to skeds if anyone needs Wisconsin.

K2UYH: a.katz@ieee.org enjoyed the high activity during the 23 cm DXbeans contest. Unfortunately I had to QRT early on Sunday because of travel plans. Despite the last time, I QSLed the M0SLN. On the last day of the contest, OSO#358 was sent to M0SLN on 30 May. On 30 May were JA4BLC (559/559), JAAHBB (559/559), W6XY (559/559), V6ETA (559/559), UA4HTS (559/559), G3LTF (559/559), SP7DCS (559/559), OK1CS (559/559), OH2DG (559/559), DJ8FR (559/559), WA9FWD (559/559), SP6JLW (559/559), ON5A (559/559), OK1KIR (559/559), OK2UO (559/559), DL4DUT (559/559), OE5JFL (559/559), G4RGK (559/559), PA3CCQ (559/559) for initial #353 and mixed #468*, ESSPC (559/559), OK2DL (559/559), SP5XBO (559/559) and #355 and mixed #470*, ZZ2US (559/559), PI9CAM (559/559), RA3AUB (559/559), IC3COJ (559/559), S58DCD (559/559), PAOBAT (559/559), I1NDP (559/559), IK5LVS (559/559) #356, IK5QLO (559/559), 1803 S53MM (559/559) #357 and #471*, SM7FWZ (559/559), WABRFJ (559/559), 1907 WAGPY (559/559), VA7MM (559/559), G4CHC (559/559), YL2GD (559/559) #358, VE3KRP (559/559), T1AEB (O/O), NAMN (559/559), VE6G6 (559/459), J4BEPE (559/559), VE6H (559/559), KH3EO (559/559), and on 1 June VK3ULM (559/559), JA1QGF (559/559), VK5MC (O/O), VK4CDI (559/559), JH1KRC (559/559), F6CGJ (559/559), HB9CW (559/559), FJ5W (559/559), RA3EC (559/559) #359 and 472*, IK6EW (559/559), DF3RU (559/559), HB9BID (559/559), PA7J (559/559), OK2DL (559/559), LZ1DX (559/559) and W4OP (559/559). In preparation for the 10 GHz contest, I modified my 80 GHz feed by adding a Potter horn extension to cover the modes I was using. Since I have a tighter mesh in the center of my dish, this should have improved my 3 cm performance. With the modified horn I was seeing near 1.5 dB of Moon noise and almost 12 dB of Sun noise, which is not a significant change from what I was seeing with just the IMU horn. More importantly signals did not seem any better, possibly even a little worse. Because of expedition activity on this contest weekend, I was not able to get the 80 GHz equipment in place much before the end of the contest. On Saturday, 25 May I QSO’d only at 1127 SP6LJV (559/559) for initial #12, 1358 OK1KIR (O/O) and 1425 W5LUA (559/559) for a score of 3x3. I ran additional 10 GHz tests on 26 May and worked at 1228 VE4MA (O/O) #13, 1249 LX1DB (56A/569) – excellent signal and 1400 partial QZ1LPR (O/O) as Peter lost the Moon before we could complete. I should have more work to do on my 10 GHz system. Expediton was, I worked on 24 May on 432 at 1128 W4OP (62B/62B) on JT65B #666* and DXCC 115*. On 1 June at 1849 ZA1PA/3CHR (23B/23B) for #666* and DXCC 117*, on 19 June at 0612 4K4K (22B/22B) - great signal even in the trees #867* and DXCC 118* and 21 June at 1116 SP1OKDFD (12B/12B) #668*. Thanks to all who made these expedition QSOs possible and keep the excitement in EME. I was on for the 70 cm ATC on 22 June, but was more than an hour late because I misread (confused the May and June ATPs) time. I consequently only worked at 1136 OZ4MM (559/559) and 1140 G3LTF (559/559). I then switched to 902. Because of threat of rain, I had the rig consisting of a 100 W SSPA and AGO LNA in the shack with only the dipole fed at the dish. Despite the extra loss (~1dB), I easily found my echoes and QSO’d at 1311 VE6A (559/559), 1321 VE4MA (449/559) for initial #3, 1342 PY2BS (15DB/17DB) on JT65C mixed initial #4* and SA and 1357 PY2BS (O/559) on CW #4.

NETNEWS: K5OE was active on 432 EME during the ARRL VHF contest on 14/15 June but has given no details on his results. VK3NX was active in the 3 cm DUBUS Contest with 3.7 m dish that he says acts more like a 2.7 m ~ 3.0 m dish and 80 W. W2AFGK tried to use his 902 tropo system to work PY2BS on the horizon with JT65C. He was running 550 W to a 4 x 45 el loop yagi array primarily used for contesting. Herb was unable to copy PY2BS due to problem with local noise, although Bruce copied him. WDSAGO has been testing feeds again on 13 cm for best G/T. Currently he is seeing 16 dB of Sun noise @ SFU 117 with his 0.34 f/D 3.4 m dish.

FOR SALE: WDSAGO has for sale 222, 432, 1296, 2304, 3400 and 5760 LNAs. Gain depends on frequency, but all are dual stage. He also have extra CP round feed horns built up for 2304, 3400, and 5760. 10 GHz is in the works and also a 2424 MHz down converter board. Contact Tommy either by email wdsago@hotmail.com or phone 198-698-4554. VA7MM needs some 7289/3XC1000A tubes. If you have some available contact Mark (VE7CMK) and Toby (VE7CNF) at va7mm@telus.net.

Example of some of WDSAGO feed horns

TECHNICAL: BACKUP LNAs - I do not have much technical material this month so I will pass on a tip for those of you that operate multi band EME. Many LNA types are inherently broad band and give good performance on more than one band. Both WDSAGO’s and G4DDK’s present tuner LNAs are candidates for multiband use. When I needed a preamp for 902 EME, I checked the NF of my 1296 LNAs and found one of my 1296 WDSAGO preamps measured 0.25 dB on 902, slightly better than on 1296. I have found in a pinch, my 13 cm preamps often work very well on 9 cm and 23 cm. Try measuring your preamps on adjacent bands. You may be pleasantly surprised.

FINAL: I hope everyone has completed their travel plans for EME2014 in Brittany. This conference is one that you will not want to miss. In case you have not registered, it is still possible for you to do so and also book rooms at the conference hotel. The conference registration deadline has been extended to 15 July! – see http://www.eme2014.fr.

Regarding to the EME Conference, if you are thinking of hosting the next conference, EME2016, it is important that you prepare a proposal for presentation at EME2014. The decision on which conference the next conference will be held will be made before the end of EME2014. Since the last 2 conferences were held in Western Europe, it would seem the time is appropriate for another part of the World. But, EU has always drawn the largest turnout! I am looking forward to learning where we will go in 2016. I hope to CU all in Brittany.

An issue has been raised on what constitutes a valid QSO. The problem is when only a part of a call is sent, is this a valid QSO? The rules are clear that full calls must be copied; but what if only part of a call is being sent such as when the portable / is not included. The full sent call is copied, but it is not the complete assigned call... Not so clear? It seems all of us need to be careful to make certain that a proper call is always sent to avoid controversy.

I5WBE reports that the results of the 9th ARI EME Contest “New Modes” 2014 can be found at http://www.eme2008.org/ari-eme-contest.html. Enrico also reminds all that 13/14 Sept is the weekend of the XXI ARI CW/SSB EME Contest.

I am afraid 15 June was the deadline submission of DUBUS EME Contest logs. They were to be sent to http://www.marsport.org.uk/dubus/EMEContest2014.pdf.

Please keep sending in your report and especially technical material as the well is becoming dry. I shall be looking for you off the Moon. 73, Al – K2UYH.