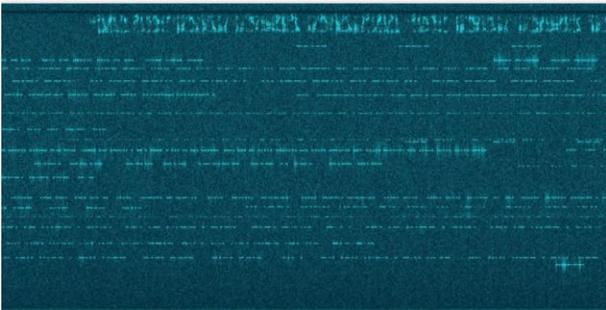


432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS APRIL 2016 VOL 44 #3

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CONDITIONS: The 23 cm EU/DUBUS CW EME Contest dominates this month's reports. Everything (timing, path loss, WX...) seemed to come together to make the contest exceptional. The level of activity seem to match and possibly exceed that during the ARRL EME Contest. Of course this was for one band and weekend. It certainly supports those that argue for one band per weekend contests. The top reported score is from the OK1KIR group with 89x72. HB9Q reports 97x74, but did not follow the contest rules. G3TLF ended with 75x67. In April the focus moves to 9 cm on the weekend of 16/17 April. The next 70 cm CW Activity Time Period (ATP) is on 10 April from 0830-1030 and 1630-1830. This weekend (9/10 April) seems ideal as it is also the ARI's Spring EME Trophy Contest weekend. A nice feature of the ARI's contest is that CW and JT contacts count as separate points. Perhaps some of the 432 JT operators will give CW a try on Sunday to improve their scores. To enhance the contest a special Certificate of Participation will be given to those who are active in the contest and are also present at the EME 2016 Conference in Venice. The JA's plan to come out in force during on 6 cm during ARI contest – see the NETNEWS section of this newsletter (NL) for more details. There was little in dxpedition activity in March – see the UR7D/UR7DWW report. However coming right up AA1KK will be on 432 from RI for the full moon passes on Friday 8 April, Saturday 9 April and most of Sunday 10 April – see their following report. The next dxpedition activity will be from D44TVD (Cape Verde Island) by Hermann (DL2NUD) from 12-22 May on 23, 13, 6 and 3 cm. The is also possible operation on 432 by 9A8DXG from Island of Palagrua at the end of May.



SDR Screen display at G3TLF during 23 cm Contest

9A5AA: Dragan dragan9a5aa@gmail.com sends news of his **results in the DUBUS 23 cm EME contest** -- I worked OK1CA, I1NDP, UA3PTW, HB9Q, ES5PC, OZ6OL, K2UYH, SP6JLW, OE5JFL, DL3EBJ, S53MM, DL1YMK, OK2DL, SP7DCS, IK3COJ, G4CCH, NC1I, SP6ITF, VE6TA, OK1KIR, WA6PY, UA4HTS, OK1CS, HB9CW, YL2GD, RA3EC, JA4BLC, JH1KRC, DF3RU, OK1YK, LA9NEA, OH2DG, G3TLF, IK5VLS, DJ8FR, PA3DZL, OK1DFC, S59DCD, JA6AHB, DL6SH, G4RGK, LX1DB, OZ4MM, F5SE/p, PI9CAM, SP2HMR, ES6FX, IW2FZR, WA9FWD and W4AF for a total of 49x43. I also heard OK3CM [?], PY2BS and HB9BCD. I had problems with strong wind during the contest and was forced to park my antenna several times.

AA1KK: Frank (NC1I) frank@NC1I.COM reports on the latest plan for their 70 cm Rhode Island dxpedition -- As noted previously we will be using the call AA1KK and our grid will be FN41. Operation will be 432 only. We plan to be operational on Friday 8 April starting at 1130 with CW from 1500–1530 and 1800–1830, and ending at 0030 on Saturday 9 April at moonset. We will begin again on Saturday at 1215 (moonrise) with CW around 1800–1830 and continue to moonset on Sunday 10 April at 0130. We will be on a third time on Sunday at moonrise at 1300 with

CW from 1700–1730 and QRT about 1800. We propose the following frequencies +/- local QRM, etc. For CW 432.035 and JT65B 432.090. Please check MoonNet for last minute updates. We will be using 4 x FO25's (horizontal) and have 800-1000 W at the feed point. Out of all of our US State dxpeditions RI has turned out to be the most challenging, and we have not even arrived yet. First we lost the use of the camper trailer for the second weekend of our planned activity and had to make the decision to operate 432 only this time around (with a possible second trip this summer for 1296). So we then planned on operating 432 from 7 to 10 April. In order to do this, we scheduled a trip to RI to set everything up on 3 April. As it turned out, we received several inches of snow on 3 April and had wind gusts exceeding 50 mph! We then scheduled setup for Friday 8 April, but long range forecasts for the 8th indicated heavy rain for the day. We moved setup to Wednesday afternoon 6 April. These are all difficult arrangements as W1QA, KA1QFE and I, all still work full time and it is difficult for all three of us to obtain the same time off from work. Hopefully in the end, our modified plan comes together and we can provide a new State to many stations.

DJ8FR: Juergen juergen.friedrich@dj8fr.de enjoyed the DUBUS 23 cm EME Contest very much – There were so many stations on CW, and condx were excellent with very low libration. After hard work before the contest, I was very happy to have 3.6 dB more power at the feed. My power is now 700 W to my 4.93 m dish. I worked 68x54, which is 2.4 times my score last year. The smallest station I worked has a 3 m dish with 100 W or about a 100 kW ERP. I added 13 initials with ES6FK, F5JWF, F6ETI, G4YTL, I5YDI, IK5VLS, OK1YK, PA3CQE, SP2HMR, SP3XBO, VK3NX, W4AF and WA9FWD.

DK3WG: Jurg dk3wg@web.de brings us up to date on his March EME – I worked on 432 using JT65B DL6SH (with only 15 W!), F6CPI, RX3A, SV6KRW (1x17 el and 50 W), OK2AQ (1x8 wl and 250 W), G8VYK (1x18 LFA and 250 W), IZ5TEP (1x19 el and 140 W) and OK1KIR; and on 1296 during made initials during the EU CW Contest with OK1CA (#), SP6JLW (#), HB9CW (#), WA9FWD (#) and WA6PY (#) for a total of 26 QSOs, and using JT65C with OH3LWP {#}, W2LPL {#}, G4DDK {#} and I7FNW {#}.

F5SE: Franck kozton@free.fr sends his report for the REF/DUBUS Contest's 1296 leg -- I could not be active on Saturday (12 March). I was only QRV for about 8 hours on Sunday, and not during the JAVK window. Anyway, I managed to make 60 QSOs with 51 multipliers. Activity was good from EU but poor from North America (NA). This time, only added one new station, G4BAO (429/539) for initial #190. John's signal was peaking about 6 to 8 dB above noise on the SDR. Stations CWNW were XE1XA (559), I7FNW (?) (549) and K4EME (539). Heard but not called to avoid QRM was SP3XBO (539). I thought I'd contact him later, but did not find him again.

G3TLF: Peter's g3tlf@btinternet.com main activity in March was the DUBUS 23 cm EME Contest -- Activity was the highest I have seen for many years. Important factors were that it was a daytime moon, approaching maximum declination with good separation from the Sun and close to perigee with reasonable weather. I had a TX connector problem (and tree blockage) that shortened my first moonrise (MR) window, and I had to miss most of the second NA window due to a social event conflict. But, I had a great time making QSOs at the rate of about one every 4.5 minutes for long periods using a mix of CQ and SDR assisted search and pounce. All QSOs were fully random, no logger usage as I intend to enter the contest. At times the screen was full of signals up to 1296.045. I worked on 12 March UA3PTW, OK1KIR, I5YDI, OE5JFL, RD3BA, IK3COJ, JA6AHB, F6ETI, RA3EC, IK5VLS, LX1DB

(SSB), PA3DZL, SP6JLW, OH2DG, DJ8FR, DL3EBJ, ES5PC, OK2JULQ, S53MM, SP3XBO, OK2DL, RA3AUB, YL2GD, DK3WG, HB9CW, LA9NEA, G4BAO, HB9Q, SP7DCS, G4CCH, SP6ITF, OK1CA, S59DCD, ON5RR, DF3RU, UA4HTS, IZ1BPN, F5JWF, I1NDP, SV3AAF, PE1LWT, OK1YK, HB9BCD, VE3KRP, WA9FWD, DL1YMK, DL6SH, OZ6OL, ES6FX, VE6TA, W6YX, WA6PY, K2UYH, N4PZ, VE4MA/7, W4AF, N8CQ and VE6BGT, and on 13 March VK5MC, OK1CS, JA4BLC, JH5LUZ, JH1KRC, 9A5AA, OK1DFC, SM2CEW, G4YTL, PI9CAM, ZS6JON for initial #417, OZ4MM, IW2FZR and VA7MM. CWNR were VE4SA and XE1XA. Heard but never found CQing were PA0BAT, IK6EIW, UA3XCR, SP3GWN, JR4AEB, JA4LJB, VK4CDI, VK3NX and PA3CQE. **In all 75x67 were worked and 11 more heard.** I suspect there were well over 100 stations active. On 15 March I was on 23 cm again and worked RD3DA, DF3RU, RA3DGP #418, F6ETI, PA3DZL, K4EME #419 and PA2DW. The next day, again on at MR, I worked VK3NX and VK5FA #420 - a QRP (1.9 m /150 W) station with an excellent signal. Later in the day, I called CQ and back came EA8FF #421 and I also worked G4BAO (another QRP station with a great signal) and SP6ITF. On 17 March, I worked OZ6OL. On 18 March, I was on 432 for the ATP and worked DL9KR, DL6SH for initial #459, LX1DB, OZ4MM, WA4NJP and DL8DAU #460. Heard was PA2V. Conditions were poor with very jumpy QSB. On 21 March, I was pleased to work N4PZ on 13 cm with a good signal for initial #124. It seems pretty clear from the write-up on the last ARRL EME contest that the ARRL will continue with the change to the rules that encourage the use of a separate side channel of communication to make EME QSOs. The activity levels and QSO rates in the last DUBUS contest demonstrates that this is clearly not necessary for CW QSOs and I really wonder why it is so essential for digital contacts when technologies exist that make it un-necessary there also?



Snow in dish at G3LTF

G4BAO: John john@g4bao.com had a wonderful time in the 23 cm CW contest -- This was my first experience on **23 cm in a DUBUS CW event.** I'm not sure why there is so much concern about the demise of CW? It seems alive and very well on 23 cm! If only we could encourage more activity outside the contest. My only surprise was the lack of NA stations. I didn't hear one the whole weekend! [How late did you stay on the Moon? My station and others were QRV]. I was running just 120 W (my power seems a little down) to a 1.9 m RF-Ham design dish with the excellent SM6FHZ patch feed and a 0.2 dB NF G4DDK VLNA23. **I worked 19 stations on CW** and 2 on JT. 23 cm Initials on CW (#) were HB9CW, SP7DCS, OK1CA, SP6JLW, OK1KIR, ES5PC, OZ4MM, F5SE/P on CW, plus on JT (#) G4DDK and ZS6JON. Notable *get aways* were PA3DZL, DL1YMK, DJ8FR and DL6SH. Jac was quite weak, but the latter 3 were stronger than many I worked, but they just didn't hear my many calls. Maybe, it was just QRM. I found that *search and pounce* worked much better than calling CQ. The slow QSB was very different from what I've experienced on 13 cm with the fade rate being "just right" to take out Morse characters! Over all, it was great fun, and made me think that the "demise of CW" on EME is the same problem as on the terrestrial microwave bands, namely a lack of people bothering to come on and transmit, instead of checking the Internet, seeing no activity and not switching the rigs on!

G4DDK: Sam moon@moonbounce.info comments on **the high 23 cm CW Contest activity** -- Among the various stations I worked on 23 cm on Saturday was a contact with G4BAO. This was a 1.9 m to 2.3 m size dish QSO on JT65. These were my first QSOs on 23 cm EME since just before EME2012! My dish had to be moved due to building work at my neighbor's property. It was pleasing to see so much CW activity and a few digital stations on the display.

G4RGK: Dave zen70432@zen.co.uk sends his report -- I hope everyone is doing better than me; most of my spare time this year has been taken up repairing storm damage. Only the 2 m array has survived without damage. The dish has now been repaired on three separate occasions. I was able to get on for the **DUBUS 23 cm CW Contest**, but only for a few hours on Sunday afternoon due to family issues. Conditions and activity were both very good. **I was able to work 40x37** in the few hours that I was able to be QRV. I came on around midday on 13 March, but by then I had lost the VK/JA window. Here is my log: DF3RU, G4CCH, OE5JFL, SP6JLW, OH2DG, DL3EBJ, UA3PTW, I1NDP, 9A5AA, PI9CAM, YL2GD, SP7DCS, S59DCD, SM2CEW, G3LTF, OK2DL, RA3EC, DJ8FR, HB9CW, OZ4MM, UA4HTS, F5SE/P, LX1DB, ES5PC, IK3COJ, OK1CS, SV3AAF, NC1I, OK1KIR, OK1DFC, DL6SH, HB9Q, K2UYH, SP6ITF, WA9FWD, N4PZ, DL1YMK, VE6TA, WA6PY and PY2BS. There was about another 10 stations that I heard, but didn't have time to call. I am unlikely to be very active until after Oct due to work commitments.

HB9BBD/HB9CW: Dominique dfaessler@bluewin.ch writes "wonderful CW contest" -- **The DUBUS EME contest** was again the highlight of the year. Although I did not have the opportunity to work after noon and therefore did not work any stations near moonset, **I ended with 70 QSOs.** Among them are rather small stations as at 1505 G4BAO (549/559) and at 1237 SP6GWN (529/O) with a 1.2 m dish and 10 W, and a big bunch of *possibly* never worked stations - I stopped counting initials due to the insane mix-up of modes. I just enjoy EME in its finest form: CW, ALL TRULY RANDOM, without worrying about new calls, and the absence of stress during the contest. The EME beacon, ON0EME was on during the whole time and was among the strongest signals! 10 days ago I had a bad lightning strike to a HV line just next to the dish. The farmer, who hosts my site, had to replace almost everything including his dishwasher, washing machine, audio and TV. The only damage to my rig was one of the sensor interfaces for EL control. It counted the wrong sense, so I had to mechanically turn it by 180 degs.

HB9Q: Dan (HB9CRQ) dan@hb9q.ch reports on his team's recent activity -- We were on the air **during the DUBUS 1296 EME Contest**, but not competing in the contest. We were QRV for about 2/3 of our moon window and **worked a total of 97 different stations with 74 multipliers.** We are very happy to add 5 initials with UA3XCR (539/559) for mixed initial #581*, F6KRC (529/519) #582*, N8CQ (559/599) #583*, VE6BGT (549/579) #584* and EA8FF (589/589) #585* and to initial #367 on CW/SSB. It was great to see that much activity! We will be QRV for the 3400 EME DUBUS Contest (again not competing in the contest). We hope there will also be a good turnout. As always, we are very keen to work any new stations on MW, QRP or QRO. If you like to work us, let me know by e-mail or look for us on the HB9Q EME loggers.

I0NAA: Mario mario.natali@gmail.com sends a few updates on his station enhancement progress -- I completed a 250 W SSPA, and now my signal is STRONG! I have already made 2 SSB contacts. I am now working on implementing automatic moon tracking, but am having some difficulty due to the incremental encoders that I am using. I hope to have all working before the EME 2016 meeting.

JA4BLC: Yoshiro ja4blc@web-sanin.co.jp sends his March EME report - - On 12/13 March 12/13, I **worked during the DUBUS contest on 23 cm** VE6TA, JA6AHB, JH1KRC, JA8IAD, JH5LUZ, RA3EC, UA4HTS, OH2DG, OK2DL, UA3PTW, VK5MC, HB9Q, OK1KIR, ES5PC, OE5JFL, SP6JLW, YL2GD, OK1CA, S53MM, G4CCH, SP6ITF, IZ4BPN, RD3BA for an initial (#), W6YX, NC1I, K2UYH, WA6PY, VA7MM, VE6BGT (#), SP7DCS, IK3COJ, PI9CAM, DL3EBJ, DJ8FR, 9A5AA, I5YDI, G3LTF and LA9NEA **for a total of 38x36.** On 5760, I worked on 15 March JA6CZD (559/539), JA6CZD (559/539) and JA1WQF (559/549), heard on 1 April JA8IAD (O) and JF3HUC (O), worked on 2 April JA8ERE (569/549), and worked on 4 April JF3HUC (559/549) for initial #37. JF3HUC is using 6 m mesh dish and 80 W SSPA.

JH1KRC: Mike jh1krc@syd.odn.ne.jp is another reporting that **the DUBUS 23 cm EME Contest** was really enjoyable -- Mostly signals were

strong and good copy. I also enjoyed making *off-line* random QSOs with some new stations. I have a hard time in some cases; I tried to copy S53DCD many times, but he sounded like HB9BCD or HB9DCD with the foliage noise at low Moon elevation (< 15 degs). TNX for trying to Silvo. I worked on 12 March VE6TA, JA6AHB, JA4BLC, HB9Q, ES5PC, OK2DL, RA3EC, HB9CW, UA3PTW, SP6JLW, OK1CA, DJ8FR, G4CCH, SP7DCS, UA4HTS for an initial (#), DK3WG (#), RD3BA (#) and DJ3EBL (#), and on 13 March W6YX, K2UYH, WA6PY, S53MM, OE5JFL, 9A5AA, VK5MC, LA9NEA, G3LTF, JH5LUZ, OK1CS, SV3AAF, I1NDP, NC11 (#), OK1YK (#), SP6ITF (#) and YL2GD (#) for a total of 35x31 and 8 initials. Heard were VK4CDI, JA8IAD, VA7MM and VE6BGT. I was using a 4.4 m TVRO dish with OM6AA feed and super choke ring, 500 W at feed and HB9BBD LNA.

K4EME: Cowles candrus@mgwnet.com had very limited operating time during the March 1296 contest -- I was surprised by the good reports and conditions during the 23 cm CW part of DUBUS contest. Even with my small 3 m dish that is not close to being optimized, my poor CW skills and my limited time, I had a great time! I worked the following stations: I1NDP, HB9Q, OK2DL, UA3PTW, OK1KIR and G4CCH for a total of 6x6. Everyone I tried to work came right back to me! After the contest I also worked on 15 March G3LTF and on 18 March WA9FWD.

KB7Q7: Gene geneshea@gmail.com is planning to be in Wyoming (DN54) on 70 cm (and 2 m) EME on 10 through 12 June (full moon passes). On 70 cm, I should have at least 500 W and 1 or 2 x 9 wl yagi(s).

N8CQ: Gary gabercr@gmail.com made it on for the DUBUS 1296 contest weekend having the flu and apparently only 50 W -- I worked the following stations: I1NDP, UA3PTW, SV3AAF, HB9Q, DL3EBJ, ES5PC, SP6ITF, DJ8FR, OK2DL, OK1CA, SP6JLW, WA6PY, OK1KIR, G3LTF, W4AF, G4CCH, W6YX, PI9CAM, NC11, OZ4MM, UA4HTS, DL3DBJ, OE5JFL, OH2DG, OK1DFC, K2UYH and F5SE/P for a total of 27x25. I hope to have my TX power issues resolved soon. I am working on an LDMOS PA. [See FOR SALE info on a moon tracking system Gary has available].

NC11: Frank frank@NC11.COM reports on his group's March activity -- W1QA and I spent much of the DUBUS 23 cm Contest weekend preparing equipment for our Rhode Island operation in April, so I had limited time to participate in the contest. I did however find activity and conditions quite good when I was able to be on. The following stations were worked on Saturday 12 March: OE5JFL, WA9FWD, OK2DL, UA3PTW, DJ8FR, DL3EBJ, SP6JLW, SP6ITF, PA3DZL, RA3EC, YL2GD, ES5PC, W6YX, I5YDI, OK2ULQ, SP7DCS, I1NDP, 9A5AA, W4AF for mixed initial #211*, K2UYH, VE6TA, DL1YMK #212*, VA7MM, and VE4MA/K7, and on 13 March JA8IAD, N6OVP, JH1KRC #213*, JA6AHB, JA4BLC, PI9CAM, N8CQ, OH2DG, G4RGK, OK1DFC, G4CCH, F5SE/P, SM2CEW, S59DCD, EA8FF #214*, S53MM, OK1CS, IK3COJ, UA4HTS, SP2HMR #215*, ES5PC, and F6ETI #216* for a total of 46x41. After the contest I added on 14 March using JT65C at 0030 VE6EME (22DB/8DB), on 16 March at 2209 SP5GDM (15DB/9DB) JT65C and 2221 G4BAO (O/O) CW, on 17 March at 1949 G4DDK (24DB/14DB) JT65C # 217*, 2334 DF4PV (20DB/O) JT65C and 2342 W2LPL (O/15DB) JT65C, on 18 March at 2125 PE1LWT (15DB/7DB) JT65C and at 2143 SP6ITF (539/569) CW, and on 19 March at 2144 RD3DA (13DB/6DB) JT65C, and 2209 LA3EQ (26DB/O) JT65C #218*. I will not be active from home during April. We will be operating from RI on 8-10 April on 432 - see AA1KK report, and the following weekend I will be attending the VHF Super Conference in Washington DC.

OK1CA: Franta strijavka@upcmil.cz was QRV in the EU 23 cm EME Contest -- There was very good activity and conditions. I was simultaneously seeing around 20 stations on my SDR screen the whole time. On Saturday 12 March, I worked 60 stations and added initials with DK3WG, G4YTL, G4BAO and VE4MA/K7 to bring me to #320. CWNR were VK5FA and XE1XA. On Sunday, I was QRV only 3 hours and worked 5 OSOs. My final score was 65 x 55.

OK1KIR: Vlada and Tonda vlada.masek@volny.cz report on their EME activity in March -- There was good conditions during 23 cm part of DUBUS contest and high activity allowed CW QSOs with 9A5AA, DF3RU, DJ8FR, DK3WG, DL1YMK, DL3EBJ, DL6SH, EA8FF for initial #399, ES5PC, ES6FX, F5JWF, F5SE/P, F6ETI #393, G3LTF, G4BAO #397, G4CCH, G4DDK, G4RGK, G4YTL #395, HB9BCD, HB9CW, HB9Q, I1NDP, I5YDI, IK3COJ, IK5VLS, IK6EIV, IW2FZR, IZ1BPN, JA4BLC, JA6AHB, JA8IAD, JH5LUZ, K2UYH, K4EME #402, K5DOG

#400, LA9NEA, LX1DB, N8CQ, OE5JFL, OH2DG, OK1CA, OK1CS, OK1DFC, OK1YK, OK2DL, OK2ULQ, ON5RR, OZ6OL, PA2DW, PA3DZL, PA3FXB, PE1LWT, PI9CAM, PY2BS, RA3AUB, RA3EC, RD3BA, S53MM, S59DCD, SM2CEW, SM6PGP #401, SM7FWZ, SP2HMR #396, SP3XBO, SP6GWN, SP6ITF, SP6JLW, SP7DCS, SV3AAF, UA3PTW, UA4HTS, VA7MM, VE3KRP, VE4MA/W7, VE4SA, VE6BGT, VE6TA, VK3NX, VK5FA #394, VK5MC, W4AF, W6YX, WA6PY, WA9FWD, WB2BYP, XE1XA, YL2GD and ZS6JON #398. Heard only were JA4LJB and OZ4MM. Overall we gained 8 initials and our total was 89x72 (we worked 8x K/W, 7x I and 6x OK). Outside of the contest, we worked using JT65C on 12 March at 1045 RA3DGP (15DB/6DB) for digital initial #238, 1636 VA6EME (18DB/10DB) #239, 1643 I7FNW (19DB/13DB) #240, 1649 OE9GLV (10DB/O) #241 and 1701 VE4MO (21DB/15DB) #242, and on 13 March at 1118 RWOLDF (16DB/9DB). On 3 cm we continued polarization tests on 16 March with G3WDG. An LP signal from G3WDG was received at OK1KIR while turning the LP in 10 deg steps. These results were quite interesting when comparing it with previous CP tests.

ON5RR: Marc moonbouncer@skynet.be updates us on his EME activity in 2016 -- During the past 3 months, we moon activity has been limited to not more than about 3 or 4 hours. In the 1296 SSB Funtest on 17 Jan, we made 14 SSB QSOs and added 1 initial, on 14 Feb we had 15 contacts and added 3 initials, and in the DUBUS 23 cm Contest on 12 March we had 18 QSOs and added 2 more initials. The station is running fine, and we are happy to take skeds on 23, 13 and 6 cm. A new version on an Arduino based Doppler controller for the Elecraft K3 has been added. Our TX freq is now updated automatically and follows the RX frequency. Guy (F2CT) will have a try on 10 GHz to check if it is also working in the digital modes. I also would like to express my thanks to the members of the EME community who have contacted us after the dreadful attack in Brussels on 22 March to offer comforting words and hope. They are very much appreciated.

OZ4MM: Stig vestergaard@os.dk has been busy at QRL, but managed to get on the moon for a few hours during the 1296 DUBUS CW contest -- worked 49 stations and found excellent conditions and very good activity. Initials was G4BAO and SM6PGP. The following weekend I was also on for the 70 cm CW ATP during the eastern moon window. I worked G3LTF, DL6SH and LX1DB. I had about a 90 deg polarity offset during these QSOs. Back in Feb, I worked on 432 KH6/KB7Q for DXCC 100, but still need to receive a few QSL cards. I also added on 432 digital initials (#) with RW4HW, DD0NM and DK4RC, plus N0IRS (#) on CW.

PA2DW & PI9CAM: Dick pa2dw@veron.nl was able to operate the DUBUS 1296 contest from his home for only a few hours -- I was on from my home on Saturday, and was on from PI9CAM on Sunday. When I came home on Sunday evening, I again made some QSOs. This was the first time I tried my new dish in a contest, but I must say it seemed to work very well. I made 16 QSOs from home; amongst which were 3 initials with WA6PY, OH2DG and LX1DB on SSB. I heard (and saw on my SDR!) many more, but CWNR VE6TA, PY2BS, NC11, G3LTF and more. I tried to lure them out by calling CQ but that was even less successful. I missed many stations, but hope to catch many of them next time. My home station consists of a 2.4 m mesh dish, 500 W SSPA, G4DDK LNA, TR1286H with Rb standard and K3 with SDR-IQ on IF. At PI9CAM activity was really good, especially from EU. I don't think I ever heard so many stations on 1296 before. We had huge pile-ups, but had an almost 2 hour time-out due to a broken LNA. We have no clue what caused it, but just after HB9CW called us, the preamp died. I guess that proves Dominique just runs too much power - Hi! We fortunately had a spare LNA, but exchanging it is not a trivial job on our 25 m dish. Imagine PA3FXB and me on a flimsy looking elevator, swaying in the wind as it moves slowly towards the feed box; taking the heavy box down, exchanging the LNA and then putting it back up again. It was very good that we had really nice sunny spring like WX. The new LNA kept working well till the end, even when Dominique called us again trying hard to bend our S-meter! I had a joyful weekend and found out that my favorite mode CW is *alive and kicking!*

PA3DZL: Jac pa3dzl@ziggo.nl also reports excellent activity on 23 cm in the contest -- Most of the signals were very nice, although some had deep QSB! I even checked the AZ and EL direction of the dish, but it was not the problem. I worked 55x53 with 51 on CW, 2 on SSB and 1 initial. QSO'd were UA3PTW, OK2DL, SP6JLW, DL3EBJ, HB9Q, SP6ITF, OK1KIR, ES5PC, I1NDP, RA3EC, G3LTF, LX1DB on SSB, SP7DCS, S53MM, OK1CA, OH2DG, LA9NEA, UA4HTS, ON5RR, G4CCH, HB9CW, IZ1BPN, S59DCD, NC11, JA6AHB, YL2GD, OE5JFL, I5YDI,

PE1LWT, DJ8FR, SV3AAF, IK3COJ, DF3RU, DL1YMK, 9A5AA, OZ6OL, IK5VLS, OK1YK, G4YTL for an initial (#), OK1CS, SM2CEW, PI9CAM in SSB, OK1DFC, OZ4MM, SP3XBO, WA6PY, K2UYH, F5SE/p, VE6TA, DL6SH, PA0BAT, SM7FWZ and WA9FWD. Heard were ZS6JON, IK6EIW, G4DDK, HB9BCD and two others on my CQ, but could not copy their call signs. The strongest signal both days was from HB9Q. Other big signals were OK2DL, I1NDP, OK1KIR, PI9CAM, LX1DB and UA4HTS. Most of the signals were (559) to (579). My rig is 3.7 m (f/d 0.34) Andrew solid dish, VE4MA feed, G4DDK preamp at feed and SSPA in the shack giving 700 W at the feed.

RX3A: Nikolay rx3a@mail.ru in Moscow is now QRV on 432 EME with 2 x18 el yagis and 75 W. He has worked in March using JT65B DK3WG, UA3PTW and HB9Q – (TNX DK3WG for this info).

T12AEB: Armando aebonilla@ice.co.cr is QRV again after several months of wind on the order of 80 KPH. I had to keep my dish parked at 90 degs. The wind is now quieting down, but when I turned my dish toward the Sun, the noise was only 0.5 dB! Although the LNA's noise increases when the power is applied, it appears to be bad. I have now fixed LNA problem and am QRV again.

UA3PTW: Dmitry ua3ptw@inbox.ru active in March during **the 23 cm DUBUS CW Contest** and added to his initial (#) list JA8IAD, F6ETI, W4AF, JH5LUZ, SP2HMR, SP6GWN, EA8FF and VE4MA/K7. He was also on with JT65C and added I7FNW, LA3EQ and G4DDK. On 432 he worked using JT65B RX3A, DL6SH and SV6KRW. (TNX DK3WG for sending this report).

UR7D/UR7DWW: Dmytro's uz5dx@ukr.net group is active on 6 cm -- Our 5760 system consists of 3.7 m dish with 85 W at the feed. We are measuring 11.2 dB of Sun noise and 0.65 dB of Moon noise. We were active on 5 days in Jan and Feb and worked using CW unless noted otherwise UA4HTS, PA0BAT, HB9Q, OK1KIR, OZ1LPR CW and JT4F, G3LTF, LX1DB, W5LUA, IK2RTI, JA6CZD, JA1WQF CW and JT4F, SP6GWN, F1PYR, ES5PC, VK3NX CW and JT4F and VE4MA/K7 JT4F.

VA7MM: Marc va7mm@telus.net reports on his team's recent activity -- We were active on **1296 EME 12/13 March for the EU EME Contest**, single operator category. In 10 hours of operation over 2 days, **we scored 30x28**. On the first day of operation, the cooling system water pump failed in the station's OZ9CR amplifier at the peak of our EU window. Fortunately a spare pump was on hand and the plumbing repairs were completed in about one and half hours, but a significant part of the EU window was missed. The station's water cooled OZ9CR cavity amp produces about 200 W of RF power at the feed of our 3 m parabolic dish. On receive our low noise preamp has a 0.33 dB NF and about 35 dB gain from three stages. Our next scheduled EME operation on 1296 will be on 9/10 April for the ARI EME contest. We are otherwise available for skeds; contact us by e-mail at va7mm@rac.ca.

VE3KRP: Fast Eddie eddie@tbaytel.net is still experiencing cold WX -- Winter is still here and doesn't want to let go. **Activity during the DUBUS 23 cm CW contest** was limited due to family commitments, and some high winds playing havoc here. I did manage to work UA3PTW, HB9Q, UA4HTS, OH2DG, SP7DCS, G3LTF, OK1CA, OK2DL, RA3EC for an initial (#), I1NDP, OK1KIR, OE5JFL, YL2GD, OK1DFC and F5SE/P **for a total of 15x13**. I did try to work many others but they were buried in the QRM. It was nice to see all the activity!

VE4MA/K7: Barry ve4ma@shaw.ca is back in AZ for the winter -- I had **a great time in the DUBUS 1296 contest. I worked 22 stations on CW**. The strongest station was HB9Q at 25 dB/N. The libration on the second night definitely made copy more difficult; but I worked many with lots of repeated calls. I may need to increase my power above 275 W in the shack! I only missed VE4SA and XE1XA. So far on 23 cm from AZ, I have worked 49 initials with 29 on CW. On 16 March, I worked HB9Q on 5.7 GHz for initial # 7. On 2.3 GHz, I worked 6 initials on the one night I was QRV. I am now back in VE4 until the middle of Oct, when I hope to activate AZ on 3 cm with digital (and CW of course).

VE6BGT: Skip ve6bgt@gmail.com writes -- I had a **good time again in DUBUS 23 cm Contest** weekend. I did have some problems when my one cavity amp's cooling water flow became slightly restricted and the automated control system sent me a warning. As I looked at it, the flow fell below my set point and it shut everything down. I was able to clear it enough to continue on with the contest. The next day, I seemed to have lost some RX sensitivity. I was told that there was a lot of people calling

me, which I could not hear - my apologies. Even with those few problems, I worked a good handful of stations: VE6TA, OK2DL, HB9Q (very strong), G4CCH, G3LTF, K2UYH, WA6PY, W6YX, JA6AHB, JA4BLC, ES5PC, OK1KIR and OE5JFL **for 13x13**. This may not seem a lot compared to some operators, but for me it was a good run and lots of fun.

VK5MC: Chris cjskeer@bigpond.com had an excellent time during the **23 cm EME contest** -- A friend, VK5NC made the comment that the signals were the best that he had heard in my shack. And the signal reports I was getting (579/589) were some of the best I have logged on EME. I decided to consult the VK3UM software. It showed almost minimum path loss as the moon was near perigee and also minimum libration. These combined with good operating times made for a memorable weekend. **I ended with 37x33** - my best ever on 23 cm. QSOed on 12 March were N0OY, VE6TA, JA6AHB, JH1KRC, K2UYH, UA4HTS, UA3PTW, RA3EC, RA3AWB, OK2DL, SP7DCS, OK1KIR, JA4BLC, SP6ITF, OH2DC, RD3BAR, ES5PC, HB9Q, G4CCH, SP6JLW, HB9CW, IZ1BPN and OK1CA, and on 13 March WA6PY, W6YX, VA7MM, JA6AHB, YL2GD, OE5JFL, IK3COJ, DL3EBJ, G3LTF, S53MM, OK1CS, JH1KRC and OK1YK. Heard was VE6BGT. I was also on 432 during 23 Jan and worked VE6TA, KL6M, OH2DG, OZ4MM, G3LTF, OK1KIR and SP6JLW. If anybody needs a QSL card from me, please let me know. I am looking forward to meeting some of you in Venice.

W1PY: Skip flathood@rcn.com is on 432 EME and wants to add 1296 -- I currently have an old Henry 3004 putting a kw into 4 x FOs yagis. I finally figured out how to stop blowing preamps by using a proper sequencer. The DX Engineering one is really for top band and the DEMI works much better on EME. With 2 and 432 properly set up, my next quest is 1296. I now have a 400 W amp. I also have access to a 55 el loop yagi that I may try for a few test QSOs, but plan to put up something bigger. I am trying to decide between a dish and a yagi array and would appreciate hearing from stations on 1296 EME. [I am very bias toward a dish with circular pol, even if small].

WA3LBI: James wa3lbi@me.com has been QRV on 3 cm EME but will also be on 23 cm soon -- I was **QRV on RX during the DUBUS 1296 Contest** with my 2.4 m dish and a septum feed (no choke). **I copied many CW and JT stations.** I plan to have TX going in April with 175 W at the feed. I see some birds on 1296.000, 1296.015 and 1296.075. Does anyone have ideas on possible sources? [There are so many possibilities that it is hard to guess. 1296 is pretty clean at my QTH. I do not see the ones you see. Of course there is the beacon on 1296.000].

WA6PY: Paul pchomins@san.rr.com sends his **23 cm EME contest results** -- **I made 58 QSOs** including new initials with HB9BCD, PA2DW, YL2GD, XE1XA, PA3CQE, UA4HTS, ES6FX and JH1KRC from his new QTH [station location has not changed]. Signals were very good; perigee definitely helps.

WA9FWD: John jstefl@wi.rr.com reports on his operation in the **DUBUS 23 cm Contest** -- **I worked 42x38** stations as follows: I1NDP, UA3PTW, DJ8FR, OZ4MM, OK1KIR, SP6JLW, UA4HTS, SP7DCS, RA3EC, HB9Q, DL3EBJ, NC1I, OK1CA, G3LTF, OE5JFL, OH2DG, OZ6OL, OK2DL, SP6ITF, VE6TA, G4CCH, ES5PC, DL1YMK, WA6PY, K2UYH, W4AF, W6YX, PI9CAM, IK3COJ, OK1CS, S59DCD, 9A5AA, DL6SH, S53MM, G4RGK, F5SE/p, YL2GD, OK1DFC, LX1DB, IK5VLS, PA3DZL, and VA7MM. I added on 15 March DK3WG for an initial, and on 18 March K4EME for another and finally W4AF. I am now up to initial #115 on 23 cm.

XE1XA: Max general.manager@corix.us lets us know what he has been doing this month -- On **1296 EME in the contest**, I QSO'd on 12 March OE5JFL (569/569), K2UYH (579/569) and HB9Q (589/579), on 13 March N6OVP (M/M), W6YX (559/569), JA6AHB (569/579), WA6PY (549/559), OK2DL (569/559), HB9Q (589/579) and (56/55) on SSB, UA4HTS (589/589), KA3C (549/559), OK1KIR (579/579), G4CCH (579/589) -- had problem with libration and had the wrong call but corrected before end of QSO and SP6JLW (569/579) for **a total of 14x14**. I added on 19 March RD3DA (539/549), IK3COJ (559/559) and SP3XBO (539/559). The contest was very FB for me. I worked on random with good signals many initials. At times there was up to three stations calling me at the same time and often on the same frequency! This made copy very difficult. We had very strong winds in Mexico City (gusts of 80 km/h) for the first time in the history of my EME activity (35 years!) that resulted in damage to the AZ gears of my dish mount. It is now partially repaired, but I will be QRT until April because of travel.

K2UYH: I alkatz@tcnj.edu had several conflicts in March, but K2UYH was able to be QRV for **23 cm DUBUS Contest** TNX to NE2U. George operated during the much of the EU window on Saturday. I operated during the rest of the time. We worked on 12 March at 0120 VK5MC (559/569), 0129 JA6AHB (569/579), 0135 QRZ [JH1KRC?], 1731 ES5PC (579/579), 1739 OK1CA (579/579), 1745 SP6JLW (579/579), 1750 DJ8FR (579/579), 1754 RA3EC (599/579), 1800 SP6ITF (579/579), 1806 S59DCD (579/579), 1818 OK2DL (579/579), 1821 W4AF (579/579), 1829 DL1YMK (579/569), 1933 DK3WG (549/579) for initial #368, 1837 G3LTF (579/589), 1937 UA4HTS (579/599), 1844 ES6FX (579/599) #369, 1846 SP7DCS (579/589), 1850 S53MM (579/569), 1852 9A5AA (579/589), 1859 UA3PTW (579/589), 1903 OK1KIR (579/589), 1907 XE1XA (569/579), 1913 OK2ULQ (569/579) #370 and mixed initial #532*, 1920 DF3RU (579/579), 1922 YL2DG (569/579) #371, 1931 WB2BJP (579/579), 1938 W6YX (559/579), 1942 G4CCH (579/579), 2009 OZ6OL (569/569), 2018 NC11 (569/569), 2044 DL3EBJ (579/579), 2047 IK3COJ (579/579), 2055 VE6TA (579/579), 2102 WA9FWD (579/559), 2125 VE4MA/7 (559/559), 2209 WA8RFJ (569/559) and 2214 VA7MM (559/559), and on 13 March at 0109 JA6AHB (579/589) DUP, 0118 VE6BGT (579/569), 0124 WA6PY (569/579), 0128 JA8IAD (579/569), 0132 VK4CDI (569/559), 0136 JH1KRC (559/579), 0214 JA4BLC (579/569), 0222 VK5FA (O/O) #372, 1754 OE5JFL (579/579), 1759 OK1CS (569/579), 1817 G4RGK (569/579), 1820 IW2FZR (559/579), 1826 SP2HMR (579/569), 1830 I1NDP (589/589), 1832 F5SE/p (579/569), 1838 I5YDI (559/549), 1842 IK5VLS (559/559), 1847 ES6FX (559/569) DUP, 1852 N8CQ (559/559), 1855 OH2DG (569/579), 1909 HB9BCD (589/579), 1920 SM7GEP (559/569), 1926 LX1DB (599/589), 1934 PA3DZL (579/579), 1940 F6ETI (559/589), 1955 N4PZ (559/589), 2003 SP3XBO (559/569), 2010 PA2DW (559/559), 2031 IK3GHY (559/559), 2040 SM7FWZ (559/559), 2056 PY2BS (579/579) and 2135 OK1DFC (579/579) **for a total of 65x63**. We were also on 6 cm on 14 March to work at 1826 UR7DWW (559/559) CW for initial #42 and DXCC 22 and at 1930 OZ1LRP (559/559) CW with his circular feed. We were unable to be QRZ for the 70 cm CW ATP the following week because of a conference we has chaired for many year. April is also busy, but I hope to be QRV for part of the ARI contest and the 9 cm DUBUS contest.

NETNEWS: N4PZ reports he is now setup for operation on 2304 and RX on 2320. Steve worked G3LTF (559/559) XB in March. **N1JEZ** will be talking at the Super VHF Conference on converting a pair of Ericsson 2110-2170 amps for 213 cm EME. He is getting 350 W on CW. **SK5AA**, active on 432, is the same as SM5DIC – [TNX SM4IVE for this info]. **SM2CEW** as active during the 20 March 70 cm ATP. **JA8ERE** (5760.050), **JA1WQF** (055), **JF3HUC** (.060), **JA4BLC** (.065), **JA6CZD** (.070), **JA8IAD** (.075) plan to QRV on 6 cm during the ARI EME Contest on 9 April 0000-0100 and 0800-0900, and 10 April 0100-0200 and 0800-0900 on frequencies shown to avoid interference. JF3HUC will miss EU window on 9 April 9. JA4BLC cannot be QRV for the NA window but has small window on 10 April from 0230-0300 - contact him personally if you wish a sked. **SM6FHZ** plans to be on 6 cm for the JA activity during the ARI contest and will stay on longer if activity is present.

FOR SALE: N8CQ has RazTrak I/O boards now available along with MABMPU I/O boards. The RazTrak I/O board plugs into a Raspberry PI 2 and is a complete tracking and control system. It includes auto Doppler control for popular rigs, SEI bus interface for US Digital A2/A2T encoders (Az/EI), and in conjunction with the MABMPU I/O board supports MAB 25/28 encoders along with MPU-6050, MPU-9150, MPU-9250 digital compass and accelerometers. MABMPU I/O boards also work without RazTrak on other controllers such as US Digital SEI Explorer software using an AD2B interface. Gary is currently working to ensure MABMPU is compatible with other popular controllers. RazTrak uses commonly available 4-channel relay boards and 4-channel PWM boards for controlling the dish motors. Raztrak also supports ADS1115B 4-channel 16-bit A/D converter for reading pots and analog sensors. Tracking of common astronomical objects is also included in the sources menu. With the Element 14 7" Raspberry PI touchscreen, a complete tracking computer with touch controls is achieved. RazTrak I/O boards mount perfectly on the rear of the Element 14 touchscreen. No additional PC is required. See Dropbox with details is at: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ogkpmushy66lvr/AAAsLi24TXvZC_p3sLKNkMPQa?dl=0. **DL1YMK** is looking for a Narda 90° hybrid coupler for 6 -18 GHz, type 4096. Anyone out there who has one, which they are willing to part with, contact Michael at dl1ymk@aol.com.

EME 35 AND 25 YEARS AGO BY PETER, G3LTF: In the March 1981 NL there was an interesting editorial piece on the advantages of open wire feeder on 432 yagis compared to coax showing that on a 16 yagi array improvements of 4 dB can be had (and that's with the 0.5 dB NFs of those days). The full report from the SK2GJ 32 m dish operation on 23 cm by SM3BYA shows about 20 stations worked with several on SSB. N6CA copied them on 4 loop yagis. There are pictures of JA1VDV's 23 cm preamp using V244 bipolar with 1.1 dB NF and 14 dB gain and details from the SK6AB team on how to make a high power coupler for 23 and 70 cm with 56 and 62 dB coupling ratios. 23 cm activity was steadily building; Al K2UYH worked PAOSSB for initial #7! The majority of reports in the NL are from NA stations, 13 in all, with 5 of the calls still active today, W5LUA, VE4MA, KA1GT, N4GJV and K2UYH.

In the Feb/March 1991 NL, JA4BLC describes his incremental encoder with digital readout and there are two 432 preamps described by GW3XYW and G3LTF. OZ4MM and OH2DG have both recently appeared on 23 cm creating a lot of interest. The standings columns are interesting; on 432 there are 67 entries, at the top is K2UYH with 437x54; on 1296 with 51 entries, K2UYH again top with 85x24 and on 2304 13 entries with OE9XXI on top with 19x10. Some big antennas are pictured; a 10 m dish built by RB5LGX, and a 16 x 14 el K1FO yagi array for 432 with full polarization rotation built by KB4WM and a detailed description of a 54 element "super yagi" on a 13 m boom by Tim Kirby W1EJ with a predicted gain of 22.4 dB - (In those days we were really "loaded for bear" on 432!)

WA9FWD ON THE ARRL CONTEST: I have some strong feelings about the ARRL contest rules that I would like to express. I believe that it is time for the ARRL to have separate weekends for the CW/SSB and digital modes. I have no problem with those that choose to use digital modes, but I believe that an EME contest is supposed to be a test of an operator and his station. By placing the same value on a digital contact as a CW/SSB contact, the operator's skill as well as a good part of the station's qualities are replaced by a computer. The ARRL contest is rapidly becoming a digital only contest. It is natural for stations in a contest to gravitate to the easiest and fastest method of making contacts, which in most cases is a digital mode. In the past, contests were an incentive for me to improve my station, and were a measure of those improvements. With so many stations looking for digital contacts, the CW/SSB portion of the band has much less activity. I actually worked more stations in two days of DUBUS contest as I did in four days of the ARRL contest. I also believe that allowing use of the Internet during a contest should be discontinued.

FINAL: The views expressed above by John (WA9FWD) are his own. I operate both CW and JT and see a place for both modes. But I feel there is plenty of room for improvement and that it is important that we communicate and express our individual ideas.

I am sorry to report that SV0EC, another 432 EME *old timer* has joined the ranks of the SKs. Hardy was my first SV on 70 cm EME and that of many others. He became QRV in 1990 primarily with HB equipment. He was a frequent participant in K1RQG's 70 cm net, too. RIP Hardy! [TNX to DL9KR for forwarding this news].

17th International EME Conference, Venice: Giulio (IW3HVB) iw3hvb@eme2016.org writes that registrations are now rolling in. If you have not received your quotation, PSE contact him. If you have not yet registered, please do so as soon as possible. It REALLY HELPS with the planning. Connect to <http://www.eme2016.org/index.php/registration/>. You can send a partially completed form, if you don't have all the requested data at the moment. There is no obligation to book your room at the conference hotel. The advantage of the conference hotel is that free transportation between conference sites will be provided. If you have your own car this may not be a problem. A good number of people have already registered, you can see how many and who they are at <http://www.eme2016.org/index.php/participants/>. Many have asked about extending their stay in Venice. We are happy to help! If you need any information just ask and we'll try to accommodate you. I've updated the schedule with the papers that have arrived within the deadline. Check what's what on: <http://www.eme2016.org/index.php/25-2/>. Remember that we can also host table-top presentations, or you can simply send a paper just to be published on the proceedings. (If you forgot to send your paper proposal for the conference, do it now!)

DL7APV refreshes our memory with regard to the picture on page 4 of Doug (VK3UM) from the 1992 EME Conference in the last NL. The

caption should have read left to right: Sally XYL K2UYH, K2UYH, VK3UM, DL7APV, DL9EBL, Mary Lou XYL N7ART, N7ART and DF3RU. Yes, it was a long time ago!

There seems to be general agreement on this year's microwave AWs. The dates will be 9 cm 11/12 June, 3 cm 30/31 July, 6 cm 27/28 Aug, and 13 cm 17/18 Sept. These AWs are to encourage activity on the higher microwave bands outside of contest weekends. There are no restrictions. If you wish to use the logger, telephone, HF or any other mode, it is OK. The AWs are not a contest. They are to encourage QSOs, help test new equipment, etc. There should be plenty of big signals for newcomers to look for. [TNX to Peter (G3LTF) for organizing them!]

The picture of VE3KRP's dish in the snow in the last NL says VK3KRP. Obviously this was an error. Eddie says he would have liked the warmed WX down under!

VK5DJ, a long time friend of Dough (VK3UM) - since they were schoolmates, is working to keep Dough's site running.

JH1KRC announces that the Annual JA-EME National Meeting will take place in Sapporo, Hokkaido (JA8) this year on 18-19 June. This time of year is very nice in JA8, the most northern tip of Japanese Islands. There are several international flights to Sapporo and it is only about 1 h 20 m from Tokyo/Narita international airport. The new Hokkaido Shinkansen Super Express train is running from Tokyo via Tohoku JA7 area. If you are keen train rider, this would be the best choice. Consider joining us for the All Japan EME meeting before Tokyo Olympic 2020. Contact ASAP JA8ERE, JA8IAD, or someone else in JA EME community!

The results of the 2015 ARRL EME Contest prepared by Rick, K1DS are online at http://www.arrl.org/files/file/2015%20EME%20Contest%20-%20Full%20Results%20-%20Version%201_1.pdf.

Want to know how to build your own prime focus dish? See DJ3JJ's video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MU-dCkFGdVQ>.

G4RGK has updated his CW/SSB Initial lists. G4CCH is in front on 23 cm by quite a margin, while OK1KIR leads on most of the rest of the Microwave bands. See <http://www.zen70432.zen.co.uk/Initials/>.

The VHF Superconference to be held 15-17 April at the Holiday, Inn Washington-Dulles Intl Airport will include a a short course on Getting Started in 70 cm and Microwave EME on Friday 15 April starting at 8:30 am. The will also be a workshop on Loop Yagi Design. The conference information is at <http://vhfsuperconference.com/>. There will be FREE shuttle service to the Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Museum. Early Bird Discount! Sign up before 15 March and registration for both days will be \$89. Saturday only attendance cost is \$65. Sign up for the banquet before 15 March and the cost is \$39. After, all registration costs above will increase by \$10.

Please keep the reports and tech info coming! I shall be looking you on 9 cm during the DUBUS contest and in the ARI contest. GL and 73, AI – K2UYH



WATCJO is still very much QRV on 3 and 1.25 cm EME



F2CT's 3.7 m dish for microwave EME



PI9CAM in Snow