432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS
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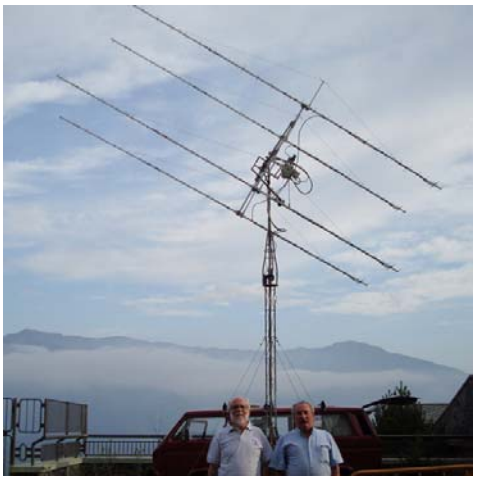
CONDITIONS: July was another great month with two very successful dxpeditions and reasonable of activity for mid summer. Zdenek (OK1DFC) and company produced a 5 band EME extravaganza from E77DX in Bosnia and C37DXU put Andorra back on the EME map – see reports below. Conditions were generally good, although Faraday on 70 cm often produced non-reciprocal propagation for fix polarization stations. The first PY 13 cm EME also occurred in July. PY2BS made the first 2300 EME QSO from Brazil with G4DDK - Congratulations to Bruce and Sam. Aug will probably be a little slower paced with no major dxpedition planned. There is a possibility of 70 cm EME operation from SV8, Los Island, (KM26pr) by SW1NZX/8 from 30 Aug to 11 Sept, but no firm details. A special 5.7 GHz activity weekend (AW) is planned for the Aug AW on 15/16 Aug. I am afraid we missed the Aug. 70 cm CW Activity Time Period (ATP), which was on 9 Aug – my apology. There are no ATPs planned until Dec. The dates for the ARRL EME Contest are 10/11 Oct for the first leg for 50–1296, then the Microwave leg on 7/8 Nov and the final leg on 5/6 Dec for 50-1296. The 12/13 Sept is the next AW and also the ARI's CW/SSB EME Contest as well the ARRL's Sept VHF Contest weekend (for which EME QSOs are valid with the exchange of grid squares). It is also the Weinhelm weekend.



C37DXU 70 cm yagi array with EX3XU and EA3BB (L-R)

C37DXU: Benjamin (EA3XU) bpaloma@telefonica.net reports that the Andorra dxpedition (JN02sk) was a big success – We made 27 QSOs on 432, but only 2 with NA and none with VK/ZL because of mountains that blocked our window. Conditions were very bad on the last day with H to V pol and very bad QSB, but better on the first day. Operation was on 432.069 with emphasis on JT65b, but we did accept a few CW QSOs. The station was 4 x 28 el 9 WL yagis (23.3 dBd), GS31B PA with about 1 kW and TS790/IC-910H. All QSOs shown are on JT unless noted. Worked on 26 July were I1NDP, OH2DG, UA3PTW, DL7APV, OK1DFC, G4RGK, DL7UDA, DL9KR on CW, HB9Q, ZS6WAB, K2UYH, SV1BTR on CW, DG1KJG on CW, OZ4MM on CW, LZ1DX, K2UYH and K7XQ, and on 27 July I1NDP, OH2DG, UA4AQL, UA4API, OK1KIR, OK1KIR on CW and G3LTF on CW. More info can be found at http://www.eme2008.org/c37dxu/. Send QSL to UNIO DE RADIOAFICIONATS ANDORRANS, P.O. BOX 1150, ANDORRA LA VELLA AD552, ANDORRA.

E77DX: Zdenek (OK1DFC) ok1dfc@seznam.cz writes that his dxpedition to Bosnia and Herzegovina with OK3RM and OK3VM was a great success with 94 QSO on 5 bands from 144 to 3400 –- QSO'd were made on 13 July on 3.4 GHz at 2111 OK1KIR (O/M) and 2340 OZ6OL (O/ M), on 14 July on 9 cm at 0645 G3LTF (O/O), 0657 W5LUA (O/O), 0706 OK1CA (O/O), 0736 G3LTF (O/O) and 0809 LX1DB (O/O), on 13 cm at 2125 IK3COJ (599/599), 2152 ES5PC (559/569), 2210 OK1CA (579/559), on 15 July at 0104 DL1YMK (O/O), 0116 OK1KIR (559/549), 0126 OH2DG (559/549), 0135 LZ1DX (O/O), 0528 OZ4MM (559/449), 0546 PY2BS (17dB/O) on JT65c and (O/O) CW, 0639 G3LTF (559/559), 0708 W5LUA (559/559), 0714 LX1DB (579/569), 0723 HB9Q (579/549), 0747 SV3AAF (559/559), 0804 WD5AGO (O/O), 0906 F2TU (559/549), 1001 OE9ERC (579/579), 1020 K7XQ (24dB/O) and 1039 OE9ERC (O/O) on JT65, on 23 cm at 2233 VK3UM (559/559), 22:52 SP6JLW (559/339), 2300 OK1KIR (559/539), 2311 OZ6OL (539/549), 2322 OZ4MM (579/549), 2328 JA4BLC (559/539) and 2350 ES6RQ (10DB/O) on JT65, on 16 July on 23 cm at 0004 ES5PC (14DB/O) on JT, 0006 PA3FXB (O/O) on JT65, 0027 LZ1DX (O/O), 0034 ES5PC (O/559), 0149 RD3DA (559/479), 0427 OE9ERC (579/559), 0433 DJ9YW (559/559), 0442 PA3CSG (559/559), 0446 DF3RU (559/559), 0502 PY2BS (13dB/O) on JT65, 0511 F2TU (579/559), 0518 K1RQG (579/559), 0530 IK3COJ (O/O), 0659 G3LTF (559/549), 0712 K5JL (579/559), 0723 IZ1BPN (559/529), 0735 K2UYH (579/559), 0745 G4CBW (17DB/O) on JT65, 0811 SV3AAF (559/339), 0818 DF9QX (O/O), 0831, LX1DB (579/569), 0844 G4DDK (18DB/O) JT65, 18dB 0903 G4CCH (559/559), 0907 K2DH (559/559), 0920 W5LUA (559/549), 0934 VE6TA (559/449), 0953 G4CCH (5DB/O) on JT65 and 1033 HB9Q (599/559), on 17 July on 70 cm at 0010 UA3PTW (O/O), 0017 DL7APV (559/559), 0024 OZ4MM (559/O), 0040 VK3UM (559,549), 0046 SP6JLW (O/O), 0057 DL9KR (599/569), 0104 OK1CA, JO70UR (O/O), 0123 OK1KIR (O/O), 0146 LZ1DX (18DB/O)on JT65, 0158 OK1KIR (20DB/O) on JT65, 0539 I1NDP (14DB/O) on JT65, 0608 PA3CSG (15DB/O) on JT65, 0713 I1NDP (O/O), 0728 G3LTF (O/O), 0737 PA3CSG (O/O), 0746 HB9Q (11DB/O) on JT65, 0816 F2TU (O/O,), 0847 K2UYH (23DB/O) on JT65, 0853 G4RGK (O/O) JT65, 1006 K2UYH (559/559) on CW, 1051 DF3RU (559/549) and 1221 SV8CS (28DB/O) on JT65, and on 18 July on 23 cm at 0117 SK6OSO (579/549), 0142 VK4CDI (28DB/O) on JT65, 0210 RD3DA (29DB/O) on JT65, 0218 JA6AHB (20DB/O) on JT65, 0707 OK1KIR (16DB/O) on JT65, 0730 PA3DZL (22DB/O) on JT65, 0831 SM5CFS (30DB/O) on JT65, 0845 K5GW (579/559), 0852 ON7UN (579/549) and 0859 SV1BTR (559/569). Additional dxpedition info can be found at http://www.ok1dfc.com/Peditions/E7/e7.htm.

E77DX dish and crew (OK1DFC, OK3RM and OK3VM)

G3LTF: Peter's pkb100@btinternet.com EME report for July -- Not a lot of activity this month and what there was mainly concerned Dxpeditions. On 14 July I worked E77DX on 3400 for initial #24, then on 15 July I worked E77DX on 2320 for initial #73 followed by LZ1DX and PY2BS #74. The next day, 16 July, I worked E77DX on 1296 for initial #306 and finally on 17July I worked E77DX on 432 for #424 - an excellent dxpedition by Zdenek and his crew. Everyone is grateful to them for all the new DXCCs. Its a real incentive to keep on improving the performance on 432 in order to work 3.2 m dishes! When the C37DXU 432 expedition was announced, I was a bit doubtful if I could get the dish on the moon at -13 degrees declination but I managed to find a window of about 90 minutes where I could get there between tree obstructions and the dish

colliding with the gearbox! I ran a sked and worked them (O/O) quite easily for #425 and DXCC #70. It was nice to work the old "DXU" call again. When I look at my DXCC list for 432, I am missing both EI and GM so if there is anyone there who can raise 400 W and a 3 m dish or equivalent, I'd like to try with them. I plan to be listening on 6 cm during the coming AW. I have built a transverter similar to my 3.4 GHz one where all the RF signals, LO and IF up/down go through one cable to the feed. I plan to use the center 4 m of my 6 m dish with a 0.5 f/d feed. I will probably use an RA3AQ design.

G4DDK: Sam jewell@btinternet.com reports on his 13 cm JT65C QSO with PY2BS on 9 July – My QSO with PY2BS was initial #13 and a new DXCC and continent on 2320. We believe this was the first 13 cm EME activity out of Brazil and certainly the first PY-G QSO on the band. Bruce has been working towards 13 cm EME since last fall and was able to receive his own echoes for the first time this week. Our QSO is even more remarkable because the initial attempt was made with the moon completely obscured by trees along the edge of my property. The moon is just passed minimum declination and is therefore very low in the sky here. With my small dish (2.3 m) I have a relatively high beamwidth resulting in the pick up of lots of ground noise. The moon path degradation was also near maximum. Although Bruce could copy my echoes through the trees the previous night, I could not see his. I went to bed and came back on the band at 0300. This time corresponded with the moon being in a gap between my trees, although a 1/2 hour earlier would have been even better. Bruce saw my echoes immediately and after several minutes of searching I was able to find his JT65c signal. We were then able to complete the QSO with peak signals of -23 dB. By the end of the QSO the moon was already setting in the trees at the end of my garden. We used the HB9Q logger to set up the sked, but then did not use it again until the QSO was complete. Bruce and I used similar Ex-Lucent iPAM 3G power amplifiers at 200 – 250 W output and G4DDK LNAs. I think Bruce will be relatively easy to work on CW when the moon is in a more favorably placed in the sky. My thanks to Bruce for his patience.

G4DZU: Doug doug.parker@btinternet.com has 23 cm now working well and writes -- I've finally managed to remove all of the gremlins from the station. I have been active on 1296 for the past couple of AWs using an SDR1000 to drive my transverters and 400 W PA to a 3 m dish. I QSO'd on 18 July SK60SO on CW, and on 19 July on JT65c GW3XYW, PA3DZL, K2UYH and WW2R. I have MAP65-IQ running with an SDR-IQ. This helps with seeing what's happening on the JT portion of the band. Yes, MAP65 is fantastic! I find it won't detect signals as weak as true WSJT, but all you do is let it run and watch what appears on the band. No more tuning up and down, missing the start of a minute to get a decode, then having to wait a couple of minutes for a decode and then finding it's some one who you've heard earlier. If some one pops their nose over the parapet, MAP65 decodes them, or if someone else calls them, there's a good chance there will be a decode and a message or callsign displayed. I can go off and search the CW end of the band, while MAP65 searches the JT portion of the band for me. Stations can call me 10's of KHz off frequency and I'll still get a decode, if they are above about -24 dB. The end result is more QSOs on all modes and less heart ache. In my opinion, if you've got the hardware then it's a no brainer. I hope to see you on MAP65 next month.

IK2DDR: Francesco frankddr@tele2.it is just about QRV on 23 cm with a mesh 3.7 m dish and a TH308 PA. He still needs to wait for a few pieces, but expects to be operational on 23 cm CW/SSB EME in the near future.

IV3GTH: Gigi iv3gth@iol.it is listening on 23 cm EME with JT65c -- My current station doesn't permit a 2way QSO on 23 cm due to very low power. I have about 10 W to a single 55 el F9FT yagi. I'm working to improve my power by modifying an ex GSM 900 MHz amplifier. I expect to around 55-60 W on 23 cm a 1.8 m dish. My target is to be ready for the EME in Oct. I am also working on 13 cm EME with a UMTS 2.1 GHz PA. I should have close to 100 W.

JH1KRC: Mike jh1krc@syd.odn.ne.jp is working to be QRV for 10 GHz EME. He is working on a TWTA that should give about 300 W out. He is presently only getting 100 W. He has permission to operate to on 10.450 and hope to be ready this year. He also has a 5.7 GHz TWTA running and hoped to be on for the 15/16 Aug AW. Mike is still working with 8J1AXA and hopes to be on 23 cm and 6 cm EME in Sep or Oct. They have very strict specs to meet before they can be QRV on these bands.

K1RQG: Joe K1rqg@aol.com sends additional info on his EoA activity and July activity – On 28 June I had a great time on the moon. During the EOA event, W4SC was visiting and taking part. Ben recorded most of our moon window on 23 cm EME from 1296.000 to 1296.100 MHz. It took many Gigs of data, but is quite informative. This was done with his SDR-IQ on my 32 foot home brew dish and associated receive equipment including a WD5AGO preamp. We worked 71 SSB QSOs on 23 cm and one SSB QSO on 70 cm. Of the 71 QSOs on 23 cm, there were obviously some from the same station using different call signs including the SRI dish, HB9MOON and possibly others. Regardless, it was a lot of fun and we hope that others are inspired to get on the moon. I worked on 12 July on 23 cm K2DH, SV3AAF and SV1BTR, but had to shut down early because of high winds and thunderstorms, but later added VE3KRP, and on 9 Aug K2DH, W7BBM on SSB, VE3KRP partial on SSB, but completed on CW and VE6TA.

K2DH: Dave k2dh@frontiernet.net was active on 23 cm in July -- I was on moon on 12 July and worked K1RQG (moon just out of the trees), SV1BTR and SV3AAF.

K8EB, Erv is now QRV on 23 cm with W2UHI's dish

LU1CGB: Adrian adrian.sinclair@multiradio.com.ar is QRV on 1296 on JT65 thus far. He made his first QSO with OE9ERC and has copied K2UYH and others. His station consists of a 3.6 m TVRO dish, f/d 0.38, RA3AQ feed with Icom AG1200 preamp, but only 15 W on TX.

LU7DZ: Ed LU7DZ@yahoo.com.ar is QRV on 432 with a new array of 8 x K1FO and looking for skeds. He is very satisfied with the new RX performance. Ed does not have regular access to the Internet, so any sked have to be arranged a couple weeks in advance. Ed does have a Ed`s page, www.lu7dz.com.ar.

LX1DB: Willi wbauer@pt.lu sends th following station information – I receive on 24 GHz 15dB of solar noise and 2,5 dB Moon noise (at flux = 71) using a 3 m dish with TX 42 W at feed, on 10 GHz 17 dB solar noise, 2.7 dB Moon noise (at flux 71) using a 3 m dish with TX 120 W at feed, on 5.6 GHz 13.5 dB of solar noise (at flux 68) and Moon noise of 1.3 dB using 3 m dish with TX 250 W at feed. On 9 cm and below I use my 10 m dish and receive on 9 cm (at flux 67) 15.5 dB of solar noise, 1.2 dB Moon noise with a TX power at the feed of 180 W. I have also a feed system for 9 cm with my 3 m dish using a circular septum with chaparral ring and the same RX system as 10 m dish. I receive 11,8 dB of solar noise and 0.4 dB Moon noise. Comparing my 10 m 0.48 f/d dish to my 3 m 0.3 f/d dish, the ground to sky noise on the 3 m dish (5.3 dB ground to sky) and on the 10 m dish 3.9 dB. This means that the reflector mesh lets pass 1.4 dB of ground noise from the back of the dish because the feed system gives practically the same illumination values. Using the round septum feed with chaparral ring and adjusted for a 0.48 f/d, I get about 0.8 dB less solar noise. But for ground noise measurements both feeds appear equal.

N4GJV: Ron qstdemb@yahoo.com reports on his 432 operation -- On 29 May I copied MI/DL1YMK for 2 hours prior to my sked time, but heard nil during my sked. I had transmitter problems that caused the power output to be well below par, so a QSO would have been unlikely in any event. On 2 June I again copied MI/DL1YMK, despite tree blockage problems, and called on random without any success. I was unable to be QRV during the June AW/ATP, but I partially repaired my transmitter problem prior to the July 70 cm ATP. I also did some tree trimming, which eliminated a tree blockage problem during the first hour of the ATP. The July ATP was at lower moon declination than usual. However, I was unable to improve the situation for the second hour as the trees were much too tall and too numerous to trim. On 25 July I logged QSOs with SV1BTR, DG1KJG, W8TXT, I1NDP, OZ4MM, SM2CEW and K2UYH. I also heard SV3AAF. On 26 July I heard a station that I believe was LU7DZ calling CQ on about 432.03. The signal was weak and did not persist long enough for positive identification. I also heard DG1KJG, DF3RU and C37DXU. I plan to be QRV during the August AW. I have located most of my logs from my past operations, but not my QSL records. If anyone needs a QSL card for a past (or present) QSO, please contact me vie e-mail. Please put "QSL" in the subject line, so that the message is not lost as spam.

OK1DFC: Zdenek ok1dfc@seznam.cz is already making plans for his next dxpedition -- I was traveling in Albania – ZA. It will very likely be the location for my next EME dxpedition in 2010. I had meeting with people in the Albanian Telecommunication Authority and they confirmed the possibility of a license for operation from 144 to 10 GHz including 9 cm. The call will probably be ZA1EME. Next week I should have QSL cards for the E77DX dxpedition and will send to everybody who has sent a QSL with envelope and SASE. I have more traveling, but expect to be QRV during the Aug AW. TNX to all who responded to my help request for the 10 GHz driver. The problem is fixed and I am expecting to try 10 GHz EME soon. I have an output of 30 W and a NF of 0.8 dB including the relay. For 6 cm I have available a 15 W SSPA and transverter, but still have more to do before I can be QRV on this band.

OK1KIR: Jan, OK1VOA ok1vao@post.cz reports on his club's July activity –- We worked on 432, on 17 July on CW and JT65 E77DX for CW initial #364 and mixed DXCC 70* and LZ1DX for JT initial {#7}, and on 27 July C37DXU (16DB/16DB) on JT {#8} and #365. We heard C37DXU all the time much better on vertical pol. On 1296 we QSO'd on CW on 15 July E77DX for #278 and the first 23 cm E7–OK QSO, on 18 July SM6FHZ and SK6OSO, and 19 July SK6OSO on SSB and 9A5AA #280 and CW DXCC 56, on 18 July on JT65C UA9UHN (NO33), E77DX and SM5CFS {#44}, and on 19 July GW3XYW. We QSO'd on 2.3 GHz on 11 July on JT65c PY2BS for JT initial {#2} and the first 13 cm PY–OK, and on CW PY2BS and E77DX #87 and DXCC 35. We contacted on 3.4 GHz on 13 July E77DX for initial 23 and DXCC 14 and the first E7–OK 9 cm QSO. LZ1DX heard us (O) in a test on 28 July, but we copied nil on our side. We would like to TNX the whole team of E77DX for a very nice expedition and lot of new CW and JT initials on 4 bands. Our TNX also goes to C37DXU as well. More info is on our new web page at www.ok1kir.cz.

PA3FXB: Jan jvmmap@bart.nl report on his final EME activity for the summer season -- On 20 July my dish went into "summer hibernation". I hope to put it up again in Sept. So no EME at PA3FXB for a short while… But the end of my third EME "season" was fantastic! Normally my "summer stop" starts in May, but because my wife was very busy with her study and did not have time to sit in the garden. She gave me special permission to leave the dish up a little longer. This gave me the opportunity to work MI/DL1YMK in May and E77DX in July. Two very nice dxpeditions - TNX to all! During the weekend of 18/19 July there was a lot of activity on 23 cm. SK6OSO was on with a strong signal - good show guys! But there were also quite a few new stations trying their luck on 23 cm EME. I added initials with UA9UHN and SM5CFS in JT65c. On CW I had QSO's with WA6PY and K2DH for initials. Other QSOs were GW3XYW, K2UYH and K7XQ on JT. So the last week of my season gave me the first E77-PA and 6 initials! This made me so enthusiastic that I did something I never did in my more than 30 years of being a radio amateur: I called CQ in CW for the very first time! My ability to copy CW was very bad, but it is slowly improving. After a few calls there was somebody answering me! Adrenaline was flowing through my veins. Luckily it was the very strong signal of OZ4MM. We had a solid QSO. Thanks Stig for this thrilling experience! A few hours later I tried again calling CQ, and again I got an answer! This time it was G4CCH with a big signal. Thanks Howard! This experience was very motivating for me to call CQ in CW more often. To conclude with some figures about my third season: From 16 Sept 2008 to 19 July 19 2009 I had 176 QSOs on 23 cm. 38 of them were initials. This brings the total initial score to #90. My setup is a 3 m dish with 300 W at the feed.

PI9CAM: Jan (PA3FXB) jvmmap@bart.nl reports Echoes of Apollo -- It is always very difficult to do long term planning at PI9CAM because we need to get TX permission for our EME activities in advance. For operation on 27 June, we got the "green light" at 22 June. This is the reason we could not organize lots of children or other visitors and certainly no VIPs. But most important was that we could be active and it was big fun! A few days before the event, Rex VK7MO asked us if we could try a low power JT65c QSO. That would be a nice experiment, so we were more than willing to try. Rex had access to the 26 m dish near Hobart, Tasmania (very nice dish!) and operated from it during the weekend. He started his transmission with 10 mW at the feed. His signal was very visible at waterfall spectrum and decoded by WSJT his signals were at a –22 dB level. We could even hear his signal sometimes! Rex then went to 3 mW. And again we had a successful QSO. This time we did not hear the signal, but it was still very visible on the screen and decoded at –26 dB. Rex even tried 1 mW, but that was just too little to see or decode. For all we know this is a world record 23 cm QRP EME QSO! After those QSOs we read a speech for the people at the Hobart dish about EME and Apollo, which included calling the names of the 12 Apollo astronauts that were on the moon and listening to the echoes. We had the feeling we did send those guys once again to the moon and let them return safely. The complete recording is at our website: www.camras.nl. Then it was time to have some QSOs with the children at HB9MOON. What a show that was! Christoph and his team did a great job with so many visitors at their dish. Afterwards we tried to work as many SSB stations as we could. We also worked nice small stations on JT65c. These included JH0TOG, RA0ACM, UA9FAD and UA9YLU. We missed a lot of the USA stations because we had to stop early. There is a site just next to the telescope with sensitive equipment. We must stay more than 20 degrees away from this site. The position of the afternoon moon was just in the direction of that site. It was a fantastic day! We wanted to activate the dish again at July 19, but due to measurements with a highly sensitive new radio astronomy device, we did not get TX permission. Now we hope to activate PI9CAM again on 16 August.

PY2BS: Bruce bruce@zirok.net reports on EoA and 13 cm EME – I had a very nice EoA day and made SSB QSOs on 1296 on Saturday with W1M, W5J, KJ9U, PI9CAM, HB9Q, OE9ERC, LX1WB and G4CCH, and on Sunday with G3LTF. It was fantastic to have this gathering of so many large dishes for real voice QSOs! TNX to all whom made it possible. I'm finally QRV on 13 cm EME and made my first QSO with G4DDK (21DB/23DB) on JT using my 4 m dish, G4DDK LNA and 120 W at the feed. The QSO was crossband (2320/2304). During the week following EoA, I QSO'd on 13 cm - W5LUA (CW), OK1KIR (JT & CW), OE9ERC (CW & SSB), LZ1DX (JT), ES5PC (CW), LZ1DX (CW), OZ4MM (CW), E77DX (JT & CW), HB9Q (CW), G3LTF (CW), LX1DB (CW), F2TU (CW), WD5AGO (CW) and K7XQ (JT). I believe this was the first 13 cm EME activity from Brazil, and thus the QSO with G4DDK was the first ever EME 13 cm with PY and firsts for each country worked. I now have the 23 cm feeder back in the dish, but plan to return to 13 cm by mid Aug. If anyone is interested on a sked, please e-mail me.

PY2BS dish with 13 cm feed

SM6FHZ: Ingolf ingolf.fhz@swipnet.se has confirmed (via SSB EME) that he is definitely an initial for stations that worked him during his previous 1296 EME activity, some years ago. Back then he was located in JO56, now he is in JO57xp, a new grid, and thus qualifies as a initial.

SK6OSO: Ben (SM6CKU) ben@parabolic.se reports that he has placed a 7 min video of their activities on 23 cm during 18/19 July EME AW on YouTube at www.youtube.com/turistkanalen.

SM7GEP: Hakan sm7gep@gmail.com is back on EME after many years of in activity (from 70 cm). He is now QRV on 23, 13 and 9 cm a 2.1 m dish. On 1296 he has 250 W at the feed, on 2320 400 W at the feed, and on 3400 50 W. He is using a ring feed on all 3 bands.

SV1BTR: Jimmy jimmyv@hol.gr sends bad news – I lost my new 5 m dish in a freak accident. About half of the dish and all of the steel mounting structure except the tower are completely destroyed. AZ – EL motors survived but the feed structure and interfaces were damaged. After working on the dish, I was lifting the dish on trolley when a wire was cut and the whole system collapsed to the ground within a 1 sec. Luckily, I had only minor injuries… A 200 kg counterweight missed my head by a few cm. This happens on my last available weekend before I am going abroad again for work. Last night my 13 cm IF transceiver went into smoke too due to a short circuit. I will find solution when I come back. This personal misfortune will not stop me, but I will now be more careful and work more safely on my 18th EME antenna in the fall. I plan to salvage as much of the dish as possible and make the rest from scratch. Before the disaster I was QRV on 23 cm and had really big echoes with the 16' dish and amazing signals from K1RQG (599/589), SV3AAF (569/579) and (55/55) on

SSB, K2DH (559/579), K7XQ (449/559) – Jeff's was 1/3 blocked by trees due to low declination at his moonrise. I am still QRV on 70 cm (12 x 15 el H and 12 x 15 el V yagi arrays and my main QRM problem reported on last month is solved, but similar smaller ones have popped up from other users. During the July DUBUS 70 cm activity event, I was only active for 40 mins in the first period as I had problems with a transceiver. I was testing and realized that my TX signal was distorted and with multiple tones – TNX FR5DN. In second period, I used my 20 year oldie but goldie "drifter transceiver," and was on for 1 hour as elevation became too low and the Moon was obstructed by trees, etc. My happiness over finding a solution to my QRM problem was dampened when I realized that there are many other QRM sources transmitting 24 hrs on 432.020 all around. I will have to locate the remaining ones in the future - a time consuming and demanding task. I am clear above 432.060, but receiving in the EME portion of the band is really troublesome for the ears – Hi. I worked on CW I1NDP, OH2DG, FR5DN, W8TXT, SM2CEW, DG1KJG, OZ4MM and outside the event N4GJV – FB signal from Ron. I also had an easy QSO with C37DXU after I discovered them 2 kHz down in freq. I will back on after QRL sometime in Sept and/or Oct on 70 cm and as soon as possible on 23 cm.

UA9UHN: Slav ua9uhn@mail.ru is now QRV on 1296 EME. He QSO'd in July on JT65c RD3DA, OE9ERC, LZ1DX, OK1KIR, GW3XYW, PA3CSG, ES5PC, G4CCH, K2UYH, JH6AHB and K7QX, and on CW OE9ERC and SK6OSO.

VE3KRP: Eddie eddie@tbaytel.net worked in July on 1296 K1RQG, LX1DB (CW/SSB), OZ4MM (CW) and SP6JLW (CW) for initial #53 and a new DXCC, but no go with E77DX. During the July AW he added SK6OSO #54 and SV3AAF.

W7MEM: Mark w7mem@msn.com is active on 432 JT and on 19 July worked UA4API, ZS6WAB and UA4AQL, but missed K7XQ. He has no CW yet on 70 cm. Mark looked for C37 with no luck. He is also working on 1296 EME

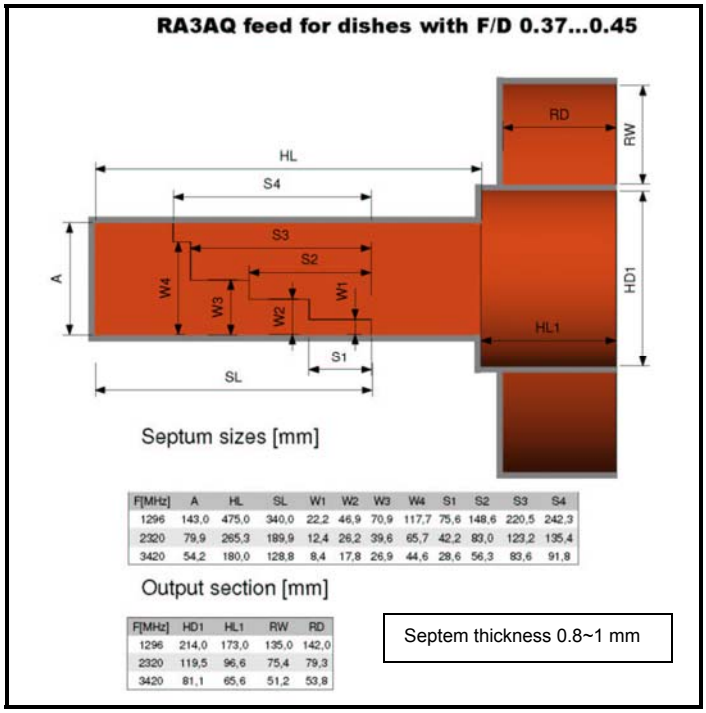
WA6PY: Paul pchominski@maxlinear.com reports on his July Moon activity – I was QRV on 1296 on 18/19 July and QSO'd on CW IK3COJ, G4CCH, LZ1DX, LX1DB on SSB, K2DH, IW2FZR, OE9ERC, PA3FXB, SP6JLW, OZ6OL, CT1DMK, SV3AAF, SK6OSO and N2UO. Heard was K2UYH and unfortunately I missed E77DX. I was too busy at work to be QRV during the week.

WA8RJF: Tony TEmanuele@kentdisplays.com writes on his recent operation -- I knew that the E7 Dxpedition would increase activity on the bands and so on 15 July I installed my 13 cm feed and worked LX1DB for an initial (#). On 19 July I had my best single day on the Moon. I worked on 2320/2304 G3LTF (#) and PA3CSG (#). I then changed feeds and worked on 1296 SK6OSO, OE9ERC, K2DH, K2UYH and K5GW – all were initials! I then swapped feeds one more time and worked VE6TA on 2304. I added 3 initials on 13 cm and 5 initials on 23 cm - not bad for my little 10' TVRO dish. I attended the Central States VHF Conference in Chicago this past weekend. A number of EME's were in attendance including W5LUA, W5ZN, K8EB, KL6M, W9IIX and WB2BYP.

K2UYH: I a.katz@ieee.org had a good month in July with two more 432 countries as I try to close in on DXCC and a bunch of initials. On 70 cm I added on 17 July at 0855 E77DX (12DB/12DB) on JT65b and a little later (559/559) on CW for initial #712, #766* mixed and DXCC 93* for Bosnia – TNX Zdenek, on 18 July at 1128 PY1KK (18DB/17DB) JT65c, 1157 PY1KK (O/O) CW #713 and 1240 I1NDP (6DB/6DB) JT65c, on 25 July at 1715 DG1KGJ (559/559), 1730 SV8CS (16DB/22DB) JT65b #767*, 1750 I1NDP (559/559), 1802 partial G4RGK (559/-) – lost, 1813 W8TXT (559/579), 1850 QRZ? – because of a tel call and 1910 N4GJV (559/559), and on 26 July at 1717 C37DXU (15DB/22DB) JT65b #768* and DXCC 94* Andorra, 1830 partial M0EME (-/21DB) JT65b and 1914 C37DXU (9DB/12DB) JT65b - out of the trees. I worked on 1296 on 16 July at 0735 E77DX (559/579) for initial #297 and mixed 349*, 18 July at 0940 SK6OSO (599/579) for initial #298 and mixed #350*, 0950 SM5CFS (16DB/6DB) JT65c #351*, 1015 UA9UHN (16DB/11DB) JT55c #352*, 1032 RD3RA (7DB/6DB) JT65c, 1044 EA3XU (23DB/18DB) JT65c, 1054 PA3FXB (9B/8DB) JT65c and 1106 GW3XYW (7DB/7DB) JT65c, on 19 July at 1055 9A5AA (559/559) #299, #353*, 1112 SV3AAF (569/599), 1120 WW2R (559/559), 1126 N2UO (559/559), 1148 G4DZU (9DB/9DB) JT65c and 1225 OK2KJT (14DB/O) JT65c, #354*, 1545 WA8RJF (449/529), 1600 K5GW (579/579), 1635 SM7GEP (O/O) #300, 355*, and on 26 July at 2031 VE7BBG (14DB/11DB) JT65c and CWNR.

NETNEWS: **UR3CTB** is trying to become QRV on 432 EME. He is currently using a single 23 el RHCP yagi and has copied signals from UA3PTW and DL7APV on JT. E-mail is ur3ctb@mail.ru. **WA9FWD** is now set up for 3400 EME and has been working on a TH-308 PA for 1296. **WA9KRT** is available for moonrise/moonset 70 cm EME skeds from 7 Aug to 17 Aug 17 - CW only. **K5JL** has a new e-mail address k5jl@att.net. **G4RGK** isrebuilding his dish after it was destroyed in a storm last winter. Dave hopes to be QRV again on 23 cm soon. **W5LUA** was on 2304 in July and worked PY2BS for a new DXCC on 13 cm. **VE4MA** was QRV for 5.7 GHz AW with 190 W TWTA using an offset W2IMU feed for both 5.7 and 2.3 GHz. **K4KIY** hopes to be QRV on 23 cm by the end of the year. **SM4IVE** is making good progress on his BIG dish. He had a group of hams help lift the dish onto the ring where it will be mounted. **VE6BGT** is just about QRV on 23 cm with 14' dish and 700-800 W PA – getting good Sun noise. **N4VOS** working on dish for 1296 from KY.

FOR SALE: **HB9JBL** has for sale a 16 x 15 el K1FO yagi array with H-frame, rotatable polarization and open wire feed line. It's all there. He also has available a "very high" power amplifier using a Thomson Cavity with TH293 and HV supply (8000V/4A if needed). He has lots of spare parts and several tested tubes. If interested please contact reto.ziswiler@zisi.ch. **WA9FWD** has for sale about 25 power supplies that are ideal for SSPAs. There are several types with voltage at either 24 or 28 V, and currents from 100 to 130 Amps. The weight varies greatly. If interested, e-mail John at Jstefl@wi.rr.com. **W7MEM** is looking for a feed for 23 cm. **NA4N** still has 2304 amps of varying power out (70 W, 50 W and 30 W) for sale. Contact Greg at na4n@hughes.net. **WB7UNU** is reported to has a few 33' dishes available – have no other info. **K1RQG** still has some of W2UHI equipment available including TS-870, FT-100D and a Luna-Link 2 m PA/PS as well as a couple of Astron 35M P/S. Contact Joe at k1rqg@aol.com. **OE9ERC** has more equipment to sell (PAs, preamps, transformers - see his homepage: http://www.oe9erc.com or contact Erich at e-mail erich@oe9erc.com. **VE3KRP** is looking for a 24 GHz wave guide switch.



FINAL: The newsletter is very late this month. (I already have reports for Aug activity). I will do my best to catch up and get back on schedule in Sept.

Ron, W3RJW, put together an excellent WEB page documenting the 1976 HK1TL 70 cm EME expedition to SA. This was one of the first EME dxpeditions on any band and the first 432 EME operation from South America. It is very well done and worth a look – see http://www.packratvhf.com/EME%20Expedition/eme%20expedition.html.

The 5.8 GHz EME group many be interested in participating in the UNITEC project. A group of Japanese universities have a plan to launch a small satellite as a payload of JAXA mission to Venus that will TX on 5.8 GHz downlink and are asking moonbouncers to receive the CW telemetry, 1-bps. The satellite has no stabilization system, so it will be spinning all the time until it reaches to Venus. More information can be obtained from JH1KRC, JK1KOE and JH0TOG/JAMSAT.

As predicted a number of EME's were in attendance at the Central States VHF Conference – see WA8RJF's report.

SM2CEW reports that a short but informative recording of the Standford dish EoA 1296 operation can be found at http://www.sm2cew.com/radiorecordings.html (bottom of the page).

Reminder that MUD is Oct 22-24, 2009, see www.microwaveupdate.org.

Please keep reports and tech info coming. I will be looking for you off the Moon. 73, Al – K2UYH