432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS
JULY 2014 VOL 42 #6

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CONDITIONS: The 2014 23 cm leg of the DUBUS/EU EME contest has received rave reviews! It was a great contest; not so much because of the conditions that I 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 was the spectacular turnout. I1NDP again has the top reported score of 78x69. He was followed closely by SP6JLW 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. This newsletter (NL) received only a few reported scores. The top score was from OK1KIR with 28x26 on 3 cm and 2x2 on 1.25 cm. This was also a good month for dxpeditions with 6W/PE1L finishing up their Senegal trip on 70 cm with 25 QSOs to nearly match their 27 QSOs on 23 cm and 7 on 13 cm – see their report. 4K/UT6UA in Azerbaijan using several calls and ZA/PA3CHR in Albania provided new 70 cm DXCC QSOs. SP/OK1DFC was also portable from Poland. As a result of this activity OK1KIR has now joined the exclusive 432 DXCC Club. 6W/PE1L was their 100th country. Congatulation to the OK1KIR team! Coming up is KG7HF on 5-11 July from Panama and 16-25 Aug from Colombia. See reports in this NL. In June W5LUA and PY2BS completed the first 33 cm QSO between North and South America. Congratulations to AL and Bruce. The coming month has no contests, so there is no excuse to miss the 70 cm CW activity time period (ATP) on 19/20 July from 2330 to 0130 and 20 July from 0830 to 1030.

4K/UT6UA: Alex ut5uas@i.ua 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 dxpedition. They were on for their full Moon window and with an excellent signal from 4 x 8 WL yagis and an 800 W GS35B 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 dxpedition: 4K/UT6UA, 4K/UT5UAS and 4K4K. Funds they expected to help with the cost of this dxpedition did not materialize and they are now looking for donations to help with this shortfall. They will be grateful for any help, which should be sent by PayPal to ut6ua@yahoo.bg. QSLs can be sent via to UT6UA OQRS 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 dxpedition – see the June NL –- We made 25 QSOs on 432 with DF3RU (JT and CW), DK3WG, DL5FN, DL7APV, DL8GP, DL9KR (CW), ES3RF, ES5PC, G4EZP, G4FUF, G4RGK, HB9Q, I1NDP, K2UYH, LZ1DX, OK1KIR, OK1DFC (CW), OZ4MM, PI9CAM, UA3PTW, UX0FF and WA4NJP. On 1296 we worked 27 stations as follows: DF3RU, DJ9YW, ES6RQ, HB9Q, I1NDP, IK3COJ, JA6AHB, K2UYH, LZ1DX, OE5JFL, 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@googlemail.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.

DJ2DY: Rainer microwave@gmx.net is a new station 1296 EME and recently made his first QSO. He is using a homebrew 48 el yagi and a > 300 W W6PQL SSPA. On RX he has a homebrew preamp and a Kuhne 23 cm transverter down to 144 MHz IF. Finally the backend is also a homemade DSP-10 transceiver developed by W7PUA. The good thing about the DSP-10 is the automatic Doppler correction as long as the locator of the QSO partner is known. He always will listen on the mutual Doppler of the other station and transmit on the agreed frequency. In the future Rainer plans to build a 2.3 m dish to improve his signal. So far he made 8 QSOs, all on JT. [TNX DC9UP for forwarding this report.]

DL2JY's 48 el HB yagis used on 1296 EME

DK3WG: Jurg dk3wg@web.de is now up to DXCC 111 on 432 TNX to 6W/PE1L. He also had initials this past month with SM7GVF and F4DJK, and a partial with UA0ALA (20dB/-) CWNR.

6W/PE1L 23 cm 67 el yagi by SHF used in Senegal

DL9KR: Jan Bruinier@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 KD7YZ, K5DOG, WC7V, PY2BS and OH6UW for a CW attempts. 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

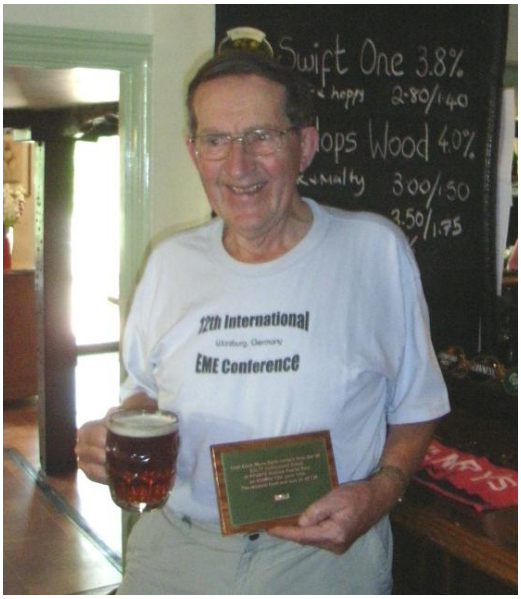
5B/OK5EME, FP/DL2NUD, TA/PE1L, GJ/DL1YMK and 9Y4TBG. All had nice signals but I was not albe to complete with 9Y4TBG. They saw only my trace due to a carbonized preamp. Later I added on random 6W/PE1L, ZA/PA2CHR and 4K4K. This last contact just before moonset brings me to EME CW DXCC #127. I also worked 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 birdies here on 432, but 160 m is continuously becoming worse due to PLC noise.

F5SE: Franck kozton@free.fr writes his experiences during the DUBUS 23 cm CW Contest -- This year, I was able to be active most of the time during which the Moon was available. As usual at moonrise, I had to wait for the Moon to be about 15 to 20° above horizon in order to get through the top of the trees. The sky just begins to be 100% "free of trees" when the Moon is about 25° high. Despite of that, it is possible to make contacts, even though the tree attenuation may range around 10 dB in average. At moon set, I have the same problem, but only when the Moon gets to 8° above horizon on average. Activity was good from Europe, mainly from Italy (9 stations) and Germany (7 stations). Other countries are dispatched as follows: 5xPA, 5xOK, 5xUA, 4xJA, 3xG, 3xSP, 2xES, 2xVK, 2xSM, 2xF, 2xOZ, 2xON, 2xS5, 2xOH, 1xLX, 1xLZ, 1xOE, 1xHB, 1xYL. 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. Several new stations were worked, as follows: F6CGJ (559/579) for initial #166, JH3EAO (559/559) #167, S53MM (429/549) #168, WA9FWD (539/559) #169, HB9CW (589/589) - callsign used by HB9BBD during the contest does not count 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: Peter's g3ltf@btinternet.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, UA4HTS, JH3EAO, OK1CS, JA1WQF, HB9CW, JA4BLC, DL3EBL, PI9CAM, JA6AHB, PA3CQE, VK5MC, PA0BAT, OH1LRY, F5SE/P, DF3RU, OK2ULQ, OK1CA, DG5CST, OK2DL, SP7DCS, F6CGJ, IK3COJ, DL4DTU, RA3EC, OK1KIR, LZ2US, IZ2DJP, G4RGK, DJ8FR, LZ2US, I1NDP, SP6JLW, IZ1BPN, ES5PC, OE5JFL, SM7FWZ, S53MM for initial #388, ON7UN, S59DCD, PA7JB, K2UYH, ON5TA, NC1I, VE4MA, G4CCH, TI2AEB, W6YX, IK5VLS, DL6SH, WA6PY, VA7MM, WA9FWD, VE6TA, OZ4MM and WA8RJF. Continuing on 1 June, I worked JH1KRC, DL0SHF, IK6EIW, IK5QLO, YL2GD, HB9BCD, F5JWF, IK1MTZ, PA3FXB, NA4N, W4OP, SD3F, LX1DB, WB2BYP, I5MPK and VE3KRP. Stations heard but never found calling CQ were SP3XBO, SP6MLK, EA3UM, N4PZ and PA2DW. My final score was 74x66. On 25 May I was QRV on 432 for the May ATP. I only worked OZ4MM, but later in the day I added F6HZL for initial #452 and in a test with ES3RF we heard each other but no QSO. I was active again on 432 on 20 June and found on the HB9Q logger SP/OK5EME operated by OK1KIR from JO80. Even though he had no morse key and was limited to 2.4 kHz RX bandwidth, we had a good CW QSO for #453. I then worked ES3RF #454 with excellent signals. On 21May, still on 432, I worked UT5DL for the first time for some years. During the ATP on 22 June, I worked OZ4MM, DL9KR, SM2CEW, DF3RU and K2UYH. CWNR was K5DOG and I also heard UX0FF very weakly. I measured 432 Sun noise at 14 dB with an SF102 and am trying some 432 feed modifications that I will report on next month. I am looking for CW skeds with new stations on any band 70 to 6 cm. I have a powerful station on all bands; please email.

HB9BBD: Dominique dfaessler@bluewin.ch operated the 1296 contest using the call HB9CW and writes -- I like the DUBUS CW/SSB Contest because of its uncorrupted ALL RANDOM rule. Furthermore, it is a party for those who love CW without chatrooms, loggers and more disturbing *assistants* and the like. HB9CW was QRV on Saturday on moonrise for 2 hours (unfortunately a friend's birthday party collided with the contest) and on Sunday from moonrise almost to moonset – with a 2 hour break in the afternoon. 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), UA9YLU (529/559), PA3CQE (569/569), VE4SA (559/559), SP3XBO (559/569) and RT7A (569/559). I applied for the call HB9CW some 20 years ago. Some friends and I used HB9CW/p on the occasions of the National Field Days where we participated many times in CW. 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 G4RGKs!), 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.

I1NDP: Nando i1ndp.nando@gmail.com reports on his 1296 contest results -- I was active during the contest on 23 cm, although my time was limitedand 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 78x69. 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 TNX 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 ARI 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 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 ARI Digital EME Contest on 12/13 April, I found fairly good activity, and worked using JT65C JA6AHB, PA3FXB, I1NDP, HB9Q, UA4HTS, YL2GD, I5YDI, DG5CST, UA4AAV, YO2BCT, IW5BHY, PA3CQE, PA2DW, VE3KRP, W1AW/1, YO2LEL, IK3COJ, IK5VLS, DF3RU and UA3PTW. I also QSO'd with JT65C on 03 May TI2AEB and PA3FXB, on 05 May SQ7DQX, and on 10 May RA3AUB. During the DUBUS 23 cm CW Contest, the apogee (-2.14 dB) conditions were unfavorable for small dish stations. I heard and missed many since I couldn't decode the many very weak signals. Anyway, I managed to work I1NDP, SP7DCS, OK1CA, OK2DL, UA3PTW, OE5JFL, F5SE/P, SP6JLW, LZ2US, K2UYH, DL6SH, G3LTF, DL0SHF(super signal, a real S7!), HB9CW, OK1KIR, OK1CS, DF3RU,

UA4HTS, IK1MTZ, OZ4MM, LX1DB and W6YX for a total score of 22x20. HRD/CWNR were OH2DG, PI9CAM, F6CGJ and DL3EBJ.

JA4BLC: Yoshiro ja4blc@web-sanin.co.jp was active in the DUBUS 23 cm Contest -- I worked 39 stations on CW. QSO'd were W6YX, VK3UM, K2UYH, VE6TA, JA6AHB, JA1WQF, UA3PTW, JH3EAO, OH2DG, OK1CA, OK1KIR, OK1CS, SP7DCS, VK5MC, F6CGJ, G3LTF, IW2FZR, IK3COJ, PI9CAM, OE5JFL, I1NDP, UA4HTS, OK2DL, RA3AUB, DL3EBJ, SP6JLW, F5SE/P, PA0BAT, OH1LRY, JH1KRC, YL2GD for an initial (#), HB9CW, DL6SH, RA3EC (#), IZ1BPN, S53MM (#), ES5PC, DJ8FR and SM7FWZ. My final score in DUBUS CW 2014 Contest was 39x36 on 1296, 11x10 on 2304,10x9 on 5760, and 6x5 on 10 GHz, resulting in 558,000 points. I was pleased to work ES5PC, OK1CA and OK1KIR on four bands (sorry no allocation on 9 cm in Japan).

KG7HF: Paul kg7hf@comcast.net is planning to be QRV from Panama as HP/KG7HF from 6 July to 11 July KG7HFat locator FJ08fx. He will operate first period using JT65B on 432.100 with 2 x 15 el yagis and 1 kw. Paul will then move his station Santa Marta, Colombia for operation from 16 Aug to 25 Aug. [He will also be on 2 m EME.]

KL6M: 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://kl6m.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 wl yagi/kW station on 222. They have had some trouble hearing me with my 350 W. I now have a 1500 W SSPA. I also 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/JA/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).

KL6M's dish lifted back in place on his new mount

LX1DB: Willi wbauer@pt.lu sends his 23 cm DUBUS Contest report -- Due to another conflicting event, I had only a several hours to operate in 1296 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/539) – easy QSO and S59DCD (O/359).

N6OVP: David n6ovp@pacbell.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 CWNR K2UYH.

NC1I: Frank frank@NC1I.COM sends info April/May EME activity -- Neither W1QA 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 on JT65C unless notes.) On 6 May, I worked N6OVP (CW), PA3FXB, and TI2AEB. On 25 May I worked YO2BCT, 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, PI9CAM, SP7DCS, SP6JLW, ON5TA, OK1KIR, DL3EBJ, DJ8FR, OH2DG, UA4HTS, G3LTF, DL4DTU, SM7FWZ, & OK1CS (all on CW). Conditions seemed about average, but activity was clearly very good. My noise seemed higher than usual until the Moon got to about 20 degrees in elevation at my QTH. Back on 5 April on 23 cm, we worked ZL2IP. On 6 April on 23 cm we added YO8RHI, PA3FXB, IK5VLS, PA2DW, I1NDP, PA3CQE, and LU8ENU. Using W1AW/1, we worked on 23 cm, on 10 April PA3FXB, YL2GD, LU8ENU and TI2AEB, on 11 April I1NDP (CW), OK1KIR (CW), OK2DL (CW) and DG5CST (CW), on 12 April VE3KRP, PA3FXB, K5DOG, TI2AEB, VA7MM, HB9Q, IK5VLS, UA4HTS, YO8RHI, I5YDI, YL2GD, IK5QLO, and PA2DW, and on 13 April IW5BHY and K2UYH. On 70 cm using the W1AW/1 callsign, we worked on 10 April DF3RL, DK3WG, YL2GD, OK1KIR and DF3RU, on 11 April LU8ENU, 9Y5TBG, KD5CHG, W7AMI, KE6ILX, G4FUF, OK1TEH, DL5FN, LU1CGB, PY2BS, K4EME, LU7HI, W7AMI, PA2V, ES3RF, YL2GD, and on 12 April W7MEM, K2UYH, and KE6ILX. W1QA did most of the operating with the W1AW/1 callsign. My activity will be off and on over the next few months, but I will try and get on both 23 cm and 70 cm for at least a few hours each month.

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/PE1L (24DB/21DB) on JT65B for digital initial {#109}, 1st 6W-OK on 70 cm and DXCC 100 (95 via EME and 5 QSO via tropo)! It took 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 DXCC 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 ZA/PA2CHR (27DB/26DB) on JT65B {#110} for DXCC 101. On 1296 we QSO'd in the 23 cm DUBUS CW Contest DF3RU, DG5CST for CW initial (#), DJ8FR, DL0SHF, DL3EBJ, DL4DTU, DL6SH, ES5PC, F5JWF, F5SE/p, F6CGJ, G3LTF, G4CCH, G4RGK, HB9BCD, HB9CW (same HB9BBD), I1NDP, I5MPK, IK1MTZ, IK3COJ, IK5QLO, IK5VLS, IK6EIW, IZ1BPN, IZ2DJP, JA1WQF, JA4BLC, JA6AHB, JH3EAO, JA8ERE, JH1KRC, K2UYH, LX1DB, LZ2US, NC1I, OE5JFL, OH1LRY, OH2DG, OK1CA, OK1CS, OK2DL, OK2ULQ, ON5GS (#), ON5TA, ON7UN, OZ4MM, OZ6OL, PA0BAT, PA3CQE, PA3FXB, PA7JB, PI9CAM, RA3AUB, RA3EC, S53MM (#), S59DCD, SM7FWZ, SP3XBO, SP6JLW, SP6MLK, SP7DCS, UA3PTW, UA4HTS, VA7MM, VE4MA, VE6TA, VK3UM, VK5MC, W4OP, W6YX, WA6PY, WA9FWD and YL2GD (#) for a total of 73x63. Unfortunately a failure of one of our coupled SSPAs decreased our output far below 300 W. With such low power, we stopped CQing and were just searching for stations. On Sunday we rearranged the SSPA and finished the contest with at least half power. Out of the contest we worked with JT65C on 31 May at 1205 ON5GS (25DB/O) for digital {#180}, and on 1 June at 1142 DJ2DY (23DB/23DB) {#181} and 1927 W3HMS (11DB/16DB). On 10 GHz after rearrangement from 70 cm to 3 cm, we continued in the MW part of the DUBUS Contest and worked on 24 May at 0716 F1PYR (559/569), 0723 RA3EC (569/579) (same RK3WWF), 0731 IW2FZR (559/559), 0759 F5JWF (569/579), 0820 OK1CA (569/579), 0833 F5IGK (559/559) for initial #80, 0843 SP6JLW (569/569), 0850 IZ2DJP (O/O), 0858 LX1DB (579/579), 0910 IZ2DJP (549/569) DUP, 1004 PA0BAT (569/569), 1038 ES5PC (559/569), 1111 RA3EC (569/579) DUP, 1117 HB9SV (569/579), 1135 HB9BHU (559/579), 1140 OZ1LPR (549/559), 1212 VE4MA (549/559) and 1225 WA6PY (559/579), and on 25 May at 0235 VK3NX (559/569), 0331 JA1WQF (559/559), 0337 JA6CZD (569/569), 0345 JA4BLC (559/569) (all 3 JAs worked on 10450/10450), 0433 TM8PB (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 . Being on 24 GHz, we missed PA7JB. Our contest total was 28x26. The DL0SHF beacon was unbelievably strong on CW/JT4G. We were heard by PA0EHG on only 50 cm dish! Congrats Hans for your very good RX! On 24 GHz on 25 May, despites high spreading, humidity and degradation, we worked on CW at 1110 OK1CA (M/O) for initial #19, 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 JT65C (27DB/22DB) in MN69 for the 1st OK-UN on 6 cm. 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@os.dk fills us in on his recent EME -- Back in April I worked on 432 9Y5TBG, who had a great signal. In May I added 6W/PE1L to my the log. Both QSOs were on JT65B, but I am sure both could has been worked on CW. Both were also worked on 1296. On 1296 in the DUBUS CW Contest I managed to operate only about 5 hours. My time divided between Saturday and Sunday. I had lot of fun and worked 58 stations with initials from ON5GS, RT7A and S53MM. I am not sure if all qualify as initials or are duplicate calls of stations previously worked. Prior to the June CW ATP on 432, I worked SP/OK5EME. I tried calling him on CW, but we ended with JT65B contact, as I had no reaction to my CW calls. I also worked UT5DL and ES3RF on CW and OH4LA on JT65B. During CW ATP, I worked G3LTF, SM2CEW, K5DOG for an initial (#), DF3RU, UT3LL, UX0FF and K2UYH. All in the second period. In the first period I called CQ for 45 min, but had absolutely no replies. (I also used the dish in the 144 ATP and worked 6 stations).

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, G4CCH, SP6OPN, OH2DG, G3LTF, ES5PC, DL7YC, PA0BAT, K2UYH, G4NNS, OK1KIR, LA8LF, K5GW and HB9Q. All these stations were initials except for HB9Q. My station consists of a 2.4 m offset dish with 50 W at an RA3AQ feed and a G4DDK 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 first 902 QSO between North and South America. This month he also added 33 cm QSOs with VE4MA, VE6TA and K2UYH. Bruce also copied WA2FGK testing with 4 yagis on the horizon.

PY2BS's 902 dish and feed

RU1AA: Alex ru1aa@yandex.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.]

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 to all for a wonderful weekend at 23 cm.

SP7DCS: Chris sp7dcs@wp.pl sends his 23 cm and 3 cm DUBUS Contest results -- It was great weekend on 23 cm CW EME. There was huge activity and the band was like HF. With help of SP7MC, we managed to work 73 QSOs, 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. QSO'd were UA3PTW, OK1CA, JH3EAO, OH2DG, RA3AUB, VK3UM, OK1KIR, JA1WQF, IK3COJ, JA4BLC, UA4HTS, SP6JLW, OH1LRY, VK5MC, PI9CAM, OZ4MM, I1NDP, F5SE/p, IW2FZR, LX1DB, JA6AHB, RA3EC for an initial (#), G4RGK, G3LTF, RN3A, F6CGJ, DL3EBJ, DJ8FR, OK2DL, DG5CST (#), OK2ULQ, PA7JB, OE5JFL, IK5QLO, LZ2US, ES5PC, OK1CS, PA3CQE (#), ON5GS (#), S53MM (#), ON7UN, NC1I, SM7FWZ, IK5VLS, PA0BAT, IZ1BPN, K2UYH, ON5TA, DL6SH, N4PZ, W6YX, VE6TA, WA6PY, YL2GD, VA7MM, DF3RU, HB9CW, F5JWF, JH1KRC, DL0SHF, JA8ERE, IK6EIW, SP3XBO, S59DCD, DL4DTU, HB9BCD, OZ6OL, I5MPK, IK1MTZ, PA3FXB, WA9FWD (#), W4OP and SD3F. The rig was a 6 m dish and 400-500 W SSPA. TNX to to SP9WY we had a new preamp. I also made some experiments on 3 cm EME a week earlier. I managed to put a rig into my 6 m dish, which is not suitable for this high frequency. Tracking was a real hell, but I managed to hear the DL0SHF beacon as well a few other stations. LX1DB gave me a QRZ with my 12 W. The system was totally temporary and not optimized. After the end of contest, SP6GWN explained that I had wrongly mounted the feed in H pol instead of V. What a shame! I hope to get back to experiments on this band later using my old 3m solid dish that I used on 23 cm few years ago. I made some movies of my 70 cm and 23 cm DUBUS contest activity as well as my 3 cm SWL efforts. You can access them from my website http://sp7dcs.vgj.pl/ in "EME Movies".

TM8PB: 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 the 12 dB expected and echoes were only at 4 dB. The system was definitely not working! After making a dozen 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, I1NDP, K2UYH, F5SE/5, JA6AHB, VK3UM and W6YX. We have a weak triode tube in our OZ9CR 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.

VE6TA: Grant ve6ta@xplornet.com update us on his recent EME on 1296 and 902 – In the 1296 DUBUS Contest I worked JA6AHB, W6YX, VK3UM, JA4BLC, VK5MC, K2UYH, F5SE/P, UA3PTW, RA3AUB, OK1CA, OE5JFL, IK3COJ, ES5PC, G4RGK, DL3EBJ, SP7DCS, OK1CS, G3LTF, I1NDP, DL6SH, SP6JLW, OH2DG, DJ8FR for an initial (#), PI9CAM, OK1KIR, RA3EC (#), WA6PY, S53MM (#), VE4MA, OZ4MM, WA9FWD, G4CCH - weaker than normal, JH3EAO (#), JA8ERE, JA1WQF (#), DL0SHF, LX1DB, UA4HTS, S59DCD, OK2DL, HB9CW, ON5TA, ES6RQ, W4OP, ON7UN, PA0BAT, F6CGJ, WB2BYP, YL2DG (#) and I5MPK. 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 18 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 23 cm EME 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 ON0EME beacon signals as well. I used a lap top PC carried camera for the tour of my shack, but I know the results were not as good as were his photos to me. All in all, for a spur-of-the-moment effort, it worked quite well. Now to get MGM to cover our EME QSO 200, HI!

W5LUA: Al's w5lua@sbcglobal.net June EME report -- I installed a new PY2BS patch feed for 432 on my 5 m dish. It has switchable polarity, which has worked out well. I run an 8938 at about a KW output. On 24 May using JT65B, I was able to work DL5FN, W7MEM, LU8ENU, KD5CHG and PY2BS. All with very good signals, but I had no luck with 6W/PE1L on 432. On 25 May I worked OK1KIR on 24,048 on both CW and JT-4F. On 25 May, I was also able to operate a little on 3 cm and worked VE4MA, ES5PC, PA0BAT, W6YX, SP6JLW, OK1KIR and K2UYH. 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 432, 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 8 June. We completed first on CW and then on JT65C. Signals were (549 to 559) on both ends. I run 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.

W6YX: John (K2YY) johnhill5000@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 Linrad 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 wet appetites and provide motivation not to go to sleep before San Francisco gets Moon during the ARRL EME Contest this fall. On 23 cm we operated our 8 m dish using our new ~500 W DIY LDMOS amplifier. The station performed great, and the turnout was good. We made 62 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's 5 m dish used on 3 cm

WA6PY: 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, HB9BHU, 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, G4CCH, I1NDP, IK3COJ, K2UYH, LZ2US, OE5JFL, OH1LRY, OH2DG, OK1CA, OK1CS, OK1KIR, OZ4MM, PA0BAT, PI9CAM, RA3AUB, RA3EC, SM7FWZ, SP6JLW, SP7DCS, UA3PTW, VE6TA and W6YX for a score of 28x25.

WA9FWD: John jstefl@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 KL6M 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 easily. I then caught NC1I for initial #53. During the contest, I worked OK2DL #54, OH2DG, PI9CAM #55, OK1CA #56, OE5JFL, SP6JLW #57, LZ2US #58, K2UYH, F5SE/p #59, UA3PTW #60, I1NDP #61, G3LTF, OK1CS #62, ES5PC #63, OK1KIR, IK3COJ #64, VE6TA, W6YX #65, UA3PTW dupe, DF3RU #66, SP7DCS #67, W4OP #68, OH1LRY #69 and LX1DB for a total of 23x21. 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 dish 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: I a.katz@ieee.org enjoyed the high activity during the 23 cm DUBUS contest. Unfortunately I had to QRT early on Sunday because of travel plans. Despite the lost time, I ended with 61x53. QSO'd on 30 May were JA4BLC (559/559), JA6AHB (559/579), W6YX (569/569), VE6TA (559/569), UA4HTS (559/589), G3LTF (569/569), SP7DCS (559/589), OK1CS (569/569), OH2DG (569/569), DJ8FR (569/569), WA9FWD (559/559), SP6JLW (579/579), ON5TA (559/569), OK1KIR (569/569), OK2ULQ (559/579), DL4DTU (569/569), OE5JFL (569/579), G4RGK (559/569), PA3CQG (549/559) for initial #353 and mixed #468*, ES5PC (559/569), DL3EBL(569/579) #354 and mixed #469*, OH1LRY (559/579), SP3XBO (549/559) #355 and mixed #470*, LZ2US (579/579), PI9CAM (589/589), RA3AUB (569/569), IK3COJ (559/569), S59DCD (559/579), PA0BAT (559/579), I1NDP (589/589), IK5VLS (559/559) #356, IK5QLO (569/559), 1803 S53MM (559/559) #357 and #471*, SM7FWZ (579/589), WA8RFJ (549/549), 1907 WA6PY (559/569), VA7MM (559/559), G4CCH (559/559), YL2GD (559/559) #358, VE3KRP (559/559), TI2AEB (O/O), NA4N (559/559), VE6BGT (559/459), JA8ERE (569/569) and JH3EAO (559/559), and on 1 June VK3UM (579/569), JA1QWF (559/569), VK5MC (O/O), VK4CDI (559/559), JH1KRC (569/579), F6CGJ (559/569), HB9CW (589/589), F5JWF (559/559), RA3EC (559/579) #359 and 472* , IK6EIW (559/569), DF3RU (559/559), HB9BCD (559/569), PA7JB (559/569), OK2DL (579/579), LZ1DX (579/579) and W4OP (559/569). In preparation for the 10 GHz contest, I modified my 10 GHz feed by adding a Potter horn extension to over illuminate my dish. 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 dxpedition activity on this contest weekend, I was not able to get the 10 GHz equipment in place much before the end of my Moon window on Saturday. On Sunday, 25 May I QSO'd only at 1127 SP6JLW (559/549) for initial #12, 1358 OK1KIR (O/O) and 1425 W5LUA (549/559) 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 OZ1LPR (O/O) as Peter lost the Moon before we could complete. I obvious have more work to do on my 10 GHz system. Dxpedition wise, I worked on 24 May on 432 at 1120 6W/PEIL (23DB/15DB) on JT65B #866* and DXCC 116*, on 1 June at 1848 ZA/PA3CHR (23DB/23DB) for #866* and DXCC 117*, on 19 June at 0612 4K4K (22DB/O) - great signal even in the trees #867* and DXCC 118* and 21 June at 1116 SP/OK1DFC (12DB/O) #868*. Thanks to all who made these dxpedition QSOs possible and keep the excitement in EME. I was on for the 70 cm ATP 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 (569/579) and 1140 G3LTF (569/569). I then switch 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 dual dipole feed at the dish. Despite the extra loss (~ 1dB), I easily found my echoes and QSO'd at 1311 VE6TA (549/559), 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: **K5QE** 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. **WA2FGK** 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. **WD5AGO** 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: **WD5AGO** 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 wd5ago@hotmail.com or phone 918-698-4554. **VA7MM** needs some 7289/3CX100A5 tubes. If you have some available contact Mark (VE7CMK) and Toby (VE7CNF) at va7mm@telus.net.

Example of some of WD5AGO 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 designs are inherently broad band and give good performance on more than one band. Both WD5AGO's and G4DDK's preamps 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 WD5AGO 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 where the next conference will be held will be made before the end of EME2014. Since the last 2 conferences were 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 "good" contact? 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