432 AND ABOVE EME NEWS
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EDITOR: AL KATZ, K2UYH; DEPT. ELECTRICAL/COMPUTER ENGINEERING, THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY, PO BOX 7718 EWING, NJ 08628, TEL (W 609-584-8424), (C 609-947-3889), E-MAIL alkatz((x))tcnj.edu
ASSOCIATE EDITOR AND REFLECTOR/NETNEWS MATEJ PETRZILKA, SIMUNKOVA 1609/21, 18200, PRAHA 8, CZECH REPUBLIC, TEL (+420 603 489 490), E-MAIL ok1teh((x))seznam.cz
CW INITIAL LIST G4RGK, DAVID DIBLEY, E-MAIL zen70432((x))zen.co.uk, AT: http://www.zen70432.zen.co.uk/Initials/index.html
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CONDITIONS: This month's EME was dominated by the first weekend of ARRL's 50 thru 1296 EME Contest and the A21EME dxpedition to Botswana. Although the weather (WX) was not the best in some places, and the overnight operating window discouraged participation, there was still plenty of contest activity, especial on 1296. SM6CKU reports working the most stations on 23 cm with a total 70 stations (43 on CW and 27 on JT65C) but does not indicate his multiplier (mults). G3LTF is not far behind QSO wise and has a score of 65x30. On 432 DL7APV is the leader without question. Bernd reports 86 QSOs (16 CW and 70 JT) and a score of 84x40! **The final contest weekend is coming up (16 and 17 Nov – you don't want to miss it.** The A21EME team lead by HB9Q and PA2CHR produced and absolutely spectacular dxpedition – see their reports following in the newsletter (NL). The is also a report from KB7Q on his State dxpedition results.

A21EME Team: PA2CHR, ZS6NK, ZS6JON, ZS6AVH, ZS4TX, HB9CRQ & YL and PA2CMC

A21EME: Dan (HB9CRQ) dan@hb9q.ch sends his final summary for 23 cm up part of the Botswana dxpedition -- After arriving, we spent a week doing EME at temperatures ranging from 35 to 42 degs C (at night, it was down to 25 degs C). We are very happy that our station, especially the PAs, did not have any problems with the very high temperatures. We could always operate at full power. We didn't encounter any serious problems during the operation. We enjoyed very much operating again with all our friends on 8 bands! There were 4 stations running simultaneously, with no problem at all! We are especially happy to have worked the very 1st WAC from the continent of Africa on 10 GHz! And at the same time the very 1st Africa-Africa EME QSO on 10 GHz! Of course, it was also nice to work WAC on 1296. Although we called for hours CQ with no takers (we could have worked many more stations!), we are very happy with our result. The're the best we achieved so far with our portable station. By the end of Nov, we will have added the full story and many photos of the dxpedtion to our webpage at https://hb9q.ch/2018/?page_id=1659. On 23 cm we made a total of 107 QSOs with 10 using CW and 97 with JT65C for a total of 95 initials in 28 DXCC on 6 continents. QSO'd on 1296 using JT65C unless noted otherwise were OK2DL (1st A21-OK), OK1KIR (also on CW), G4CCH (1st G-A21 and also on CW), ON4AOI (1st A21-ON), UA3PTW (1st A21-UA), OK1CA , RA3EC, RA3EME, PA3FXB (1.A21-PA), OK1DFC, ES6RQ (1.A21-ES), ES3RF, YL2GD (1st A21-YL), DF3RU (1st A21-DL), RA4HL, JA6AHB (1st A21-JA), ON4QQ, RD4D, LZ1DX (1st A21-LZ), DF2VJ, DJ9YW, SP5GDM (1st A21-SP), PE1CHQ, PE1LWT, DL4DTU, DL7YC, DK3WG, FR5DN (1st A21-FR), DL1RPL, KA1GT (1st A21-W), PY2BS (1st A21-PY), PA3CSG, HB9Q (1st A21-HB9 and also on CW), DJ2DY, OZ4MM (1st A21-OZ), W2HRO, ZS1LS (1st A21-ZS), OH2DG (1st A21-OH and also on CW), DL6SH, F1RJ (1st A21-F), VE3KRP (1st A21-VE), G4FQI, SM4IVE (1st A21-SM on CW), IK3COJ (1st A21-I), LZ4OC, PAØBAT, NC1I, WX4F, SM6CKU, DL8FBD, VA6EME, DK5YA, OK1IL, K5DN, OK1YK, EA8DBM (1st A21-EA8), ES1RF, PA2DW, SM4GGC, LA3EQ (1st A21-LA), PI9CM, W1PV, W5LUA, VK4CDI (1st A21-VK), DJ5AR, RN6MA, ZS6JON, ZS4TX, JA8SZW, DL3EBJ, ON5GS, I1NDP, OE5JFL (1st A21-OE and also on CW), RA3AUB, G4RGK, F2CT (CW), DC7YS (also on CW), ES6FX, I5YDI, G4YTL, DL7UDA, SP6ITF, G4DML, LX1DB (1st A21-LX on CW), IØNAA, DGØFE, G3LTF (CW), IK1FJI, PAØPLY, G4FUF, I7FNW, K2UYH, K5DOG, GMØPJD (1st A21-GM) and N5BF. On 13 cm we made a total of 24 QSOs, 5 using CW and 19 with JT65C for a total of 20 initials in 13 DXCC on 4 continents. Worked using JT65C unless noted otherwise were OK1KIR (1st A21-OK and also on CW), UA3PTW (1st A21-UA), OK1DFC, DL7YC (1st A21-DL), ON4AOI (1st A21-ON), JA6AHB (1st A21-JA), HB9Q (A21-HB9 and also on CW), UA3TCF, OH2DG (1st A21-OH and also on CW), PY2BS (1st A21-PY), OK1CA (and also on CW), PAØBAT (1st A21-PA), PE1LWT, PI9CM, G3LTF (1st A21-G on CW), W5LUA (1st A21-W), K2UYH, IK3COJ (1st A21-I), VE6TA (1st A21-VE) and DF3RU. On 9 cm we made a total of 19 QSOs, 8 CW and 11 JT65C for a total of 12 initials in 8 DXCC on 3 continents. Worked using JT65C unless

noted otherwise were OK1CA (1st A21-OK and also on CW), OK1KIR (and also on CW), DF3RU (1st A21-DL and on CW), DL7YC (also on CW), PAØBAT (1st A21-PA and also on CW), OH2DG (1st A21-OH and also on CW), PY2BS (1st A21-PY), HB9Q (1st A21-HB9 and also on CW), G3LTF (1st A21-G on CW), OK1DFC, W5LUA (1st A21-W) and K2UYH. On 6 cm we made a total of 29 QSOs, 11 using CW and 18 with QRA64D/JT4F for a total of 18 initials in 14 DXCC on 4 continents. Worked using QRA64D/JT4F unless noted otherwise were OK1KIR (1st A21-OK and also on CW), UA3PTW (1st A21-UA), JA1WQF (1st A21-JA), UR5LX (1st A21-UR), DL7YC (1st A21-DL and also on CW), HB9Q (1st A21-HB9 and also on CW), DF3RU (also on CW), OZ1LPR (1st A21-OZ), OH2DG (1st A21-OH and also on CW), PAØBAT (1st A21-PA and also on CW), OK1CA (also on CW), LX1DB (1st A21-LX on CW), G3LTF (1st A21-G on CW), SM6CKU (1st A21-SM and also on CW), PY2BS (1st A21-PY), W5LUA (1st A21-W), OK1DFC (also on CW) and K2UYH (also on CW). On 3 cm we made a total of 32 QSOs, 5 using CW and 27 using QRA64D/JT4F for a total of 27 initials in 17 DXCC on 6 continents. Worked using QRA64D/JT4F unless noted otherwise were OK1KIR (1st A21-OK and also on CW), JA1WQF (1st A21-JA), OK1CA, VK7ZBX (75 cm solid dish and 60 W, 1st A21-VK), OK2AQ, OK1DFC, VK7MO, OZ1LPR (1st A21-OZ), UA3TCF (1st A21-UA), OH2DG (1st A21-OH and also on CW), DF1OI (1st A21-DL), PAØBAT (1st A21-PA), DL7YC (also on CW), SM6CKU (1st A21-SM), OZ1FF, HB9Q (1st A21-HB9 and also on CW), LX1DB (1st A21-LX on CW), ZS1LS (1st A21-ZS), DC7KY, W3SZ (1st A21-W), F5VKQ (1st A21-F), MØEYT (1st A21-G), PY2BS (1st A21-PY), UR5LX (1st A21-UR), W5LUA, F4VTA and K2UYH. This gives us a grand total for the 5 bands of 211 QSOs, 39 on CW and 172 digital for a total of 172 initials. QSLs for the microwave bands please send direct with SAE to HB9Q, P.O.Box 133, CH-5737 Menziken. Many thanks to all our supporters, to all who have worked us and those who were looking for us! After a dxpedition is before a dxpedition… Stay tuned for more to come in 2020!

A21EME dish at Sun rise

A21EME: Chris (PA2CHR) post@pa2chr.nl reports on the 432 part of the Botswana dxpedition -- We just returned home from a very exiting dxpedition. The station was 2 x 28 el M2 yagis with a Rohde & Schwarz SSPA from ZS6JON running about 500 W. We worked 53 initials, which is more than ever before on one of my dxpedition. (3DA0MB: 47 / TD9CHR: 42 / E44CM: 40 / VP2EMB: 39 / Z21EME: 37). It was big fun running this dxpedition and our team was great. We QSO'd using JT65B unless noted otherwise on 22 Oct DL7APV (17DB), UA3PTW (12DB), DL8FBD (23DB), PA2V (23DB), UT6UG (21DB), LZ1DX (19DB), UT5DL (18DB), ES3RF (24DB), G4FUF (23DB), UX5UL (20DB), DK4RC (24DB), G4EZP (28DB), SM7THS (23DB), ES6RQ (25DB), ON4AOI (26DB), G4RGK (28DB), DL8GP (26DB), JE1TNL (27DB), OK1KIR (17DB), YL2GD (26DB), DL2HWA (21DB), HB9Q (10DB), PA3CSG (17DB), SM4IVE (559) on CW, DK3WG (17DB), DF3RU (20DB), DL5FN (18DB), OH2DG (14DB), OH6UW (30DB), UR7DWW (20DB), PA0BAT (20DB), DL9KR (O) on CW and DL6SH (17DB); and on 23 Oct JA6AHB (22DB), VK4EME (26DB), ZS4TX (26DB), DL1RPL (26DB), OK1TEH (28DB), 4Z5CP (25DB), DJ4TC (27DB), UX0FF (26DB), RN6MA (22DB), OK1DFC (24DB) – 38 el single yagi, PE1ITR (22DB), UA4AQL (27DB), PK100KLM (16DB), SM5EPO (27DB), G4YTL (23DB) and S57M (24DB); on 24 Oct S56P (26DB) and S51ZO (26DB), and on 25 Oct VK4CDI (26DB) and DL9DBJ (26DB). We were surprised to not work any station from NA. As usual for operation from Africa, we had a lot of polarization issues and had to try all possible polarities to copy stations (V, H, 45 left and 45 right) that were all changed by hand.

BV3CE: Tom tom33638998@yahoo.com.tw writes that he temporarily off 23 cm -- I took down my 1296 antenna to make space for 144 to use in summer tropo contests in Asia. I am not sure when the 23 cm antenna will be back up. I am planning to extend the master boom to allow me to set up for 2 bands, antennas for both 70 and 23 cm. I missed the Oct ARRL Contest weekend and not sure I will be QRV in Nov.

CT1BYM: Miguel miguel.pelicano@gmail.com is now QRV on both 10 and 24 GHz EME -- I did my first 3 cm QSO on 10 Oct and now have completed 5 QSOs. I am running a very small setup consisting of a 1.2 m prime focus dish, 10 W and a 0.74 dB NF LNA. On 1.25 cm I have the same antenna with 4 W and a 1.6 dB NF LNA. I am waiting for good conditions to try to make my first QSO. Some upgrades are planned for in the near future.

DK3WG: Jurg dk3wg@web.de reports on his recent activity – I had initials in Oct on 432 using JT65B with KB7Q in grids DN74 and 82, and A21EME for mixed initial #850; and on 1296 using JT65C RA4HL, K6MG (in CM87), W8MQW, ON4BCV, G0LBH and A21EME for DXCC 67.

DL3EBJ: Chris ***dl3ebj@t-online.de*** had a great weekend in the Oct EME Contest on 23 cm -- I worked 91 different stations, 50 on CW and 41 on JT.

DL6SH: Slawek moon@moonbounce.info was partly QRV in 23 cm in the ARRL Contest Oct weekend using CW – I

worked SP6JLW, DL7YC, F6ETI, G3LTF, W4OP, SP7DCS, DL3EBJ, DJ8FR, SM4GGC, SM6CKU, VE6TA, OE5JFL, OK2DL, DF3RU, 9A5AA, OK2ULQ, OK1DFC, OH1LRY, SP6ITF, OK1CA, F6CGW, LZ2US, KL6M, IK1FJI, RA3EME, JA4BLC, F5KUG, BD4SY and UA3PTW. All 29 QSO's in 17 mults were with good signals. Conditions were excellent. I heard several other stations during the pile ups, and tried to work WK9P. I heard him partly with good signals, but no success. My station is an 8 m dish with 500 W at feed, G4DDK 0.25 dB NF LNA and ICOM 1275.

DL7APV: Bernd dl7apv@gmx.de writes on his 432 activity in the ARRL Contest's Oct leg -- Condx were bad on Fr/Sat and improved during the 2nd pass, but with very deep QSB. Most 1st pass stations were also visible on my small 8x11 V pol array with good signals. On the 2nd pass nearly no one could be see on V pol. Despite the adverse conditions, I still made 86 QSOs (16 CW and 70 JT). My Score was 84x40; a bit down from last year as I had more sleep and did not look for other stations calling CQ. My focus was on new stations. I was really impressed by the US activity; 19 worked including 5 initials. Before the contest I added KB7Q in DN74 and DN83. In the contest I added GI7UGV (IO74) with 14 el and 60 W – his 1st EME, W7TZ (CN83) 1st EME, UA3MBJ/3 (KO94) with 20 el 9 w and 12 m of RG213 feedline and no LNA, OH3DP (KP10) 1st EME with 23 el yagi and 75 W on the hoz, SP9VFD, KB0HNN (EN25), KB7Q (DN82), KA0RYT (EN35) with 25 el yagi and 50 W, K8SD (EN52), DL5RDI (JN58), M0UKR (IO91) 1st EME, DM2TT (JO43) and SQ9CYD (JO90) 1st EME. I had lots of fun this weekend, and hope to make some more QSOs and initials in Nov.

F6ETI: Philippe f6eti@wanadoo.fr (JN05pg) reports on his ARI Trophy and ARRL Contest activity on 1296 using CW – In the ARI Contest because of the proximity of the Sun to the Moon on Saturday, I only participated Sunday and made only ten QSOs with DL3EBJ, SM4GGC for initial #74, LZ2US, LZ1DX, IK3COJ, SP6ITF, F5KUG, F2CT #75, OZ4MM and IK5VLS. An incomplete contact with IK1FJI was made, CWNR FR5DN and heard XE1XA in QSO with DL3EBJ and IK5VLS. I was active my whole Moon pass, especially between 0700 and 1630, always with good echoes. There was very low activity in the morning, and nothing during the whole afternoon. The presence of the ON0EME beacon (10-15 dB/noise) was much appreciated. In the Oct ARRL EME Contest I was only available for the first pass on19 Oct on Friday/Saturday. I made only one contact with DL7YC during the four hours between the 2000 and the start of the contest. Then in the contest 18 QSOs x 12 mults with SP6JLW, 9A5AA, SP7DCS, UA3PTW, OK2DL, SM4GGC, DL3EBJ, SP6ITF, F5KUG, OZ4MM, RA3EME #76, W4OP, SM6CKU, DL6SH, G3LTF, VE6TA, G4CCH and KL6/M. I used my 3 m dish, DF9IC 300 W SSPA, G4DDK 0.3 dB NF VLNA23. My Sun noise was 9.2 dB (SFI = 66). I plan to be activity again for the 16-17 Nov part of ARRL EME Contest.

G3LTF: Peter g3ltf@btinternet.com had a busy and enjoyable month of EME – I operated on all of my 5 bands. All my operation is on CW. In the ARRL contest on 19 Oct I delayed starting until 0330 (getting old!) and then worked on 23 cm RA3EME, SM4GGC, UA3PTW, W4OP, F5KUG, SK0UX, DL3EBJ, FR5DN, OK2DL, DF3RU, OZ4MM, SP6JLW, SP6ITF, RA4HL for initial #483, SP3XBO, IK5VLS, DL7YC, K8ZR, DJ8FR, DL6SH, VE6TA, K6MG, W5LUA, F6ETI, SM6CKU, OE5JFL, SP7DCS, WA6PY, KL6M, N4PZ, SM4DHN, OK1IL, IK1FJI, OK2ULQ and 9A5AA. At moonrise, I worked SM4IVE, OK1CA, OH1LRY, G4CCH, LZ2US, VK5MC, JA4BLC, F6CGJ, VK4CDI, JH1KRC, and continuing on 20 Oct JA4LJB, BD4SY #484 and DXCC 75, ES3RF, YL2GD, OK1DFC, EA8DBM, WK9P, PA3FXB, IW2FZR, PA2DW, VA7MM, LU1C, F6KRK, F5JWF, G4BAO, OH2DG, IK3COJ and K2UYH for a total of 65x30. With 1 hour 45 mins of moon time left, I changed the feed to 432 and worked SM2CEW, SM6FHZ, SP9VFD for initial #485, UA3PTW, I2FHW, UT5DL, PA2V and K2UYH for a total of 8x7. To work a new DXCC, China, completely random hasn't happened to me for a long time. I saw a weak signal on the SDR and I just caught the end of Zhu's all...4SY, sent QRZ and back he came! Next month, I plan to spend more time on 432. CWNR on 1296 were SM6PGP and JA6XED; Heard were N5BF and I1NDP. I had a great time with the A21EME microwave dxpedition, who were just very co-operative with my working on CW. Dan has the system organized to switch quickly from digital to CW and all my QSOs were made very quickly and efficiently using mainly (O / RO / R 73). A big thanks you to the team. On 23 Octr I worked them on 3400 for initial #75 and DXCC 30 and on 24 Oct on 5760 for initial #87 and DXCC 38, and on 26 Oct on 1296 #486 and DXCC 76. I had two attempts with the A21EME team on 432, and although I heard them at (539) on one test, we never made it, which is strange as I have full pol rotation available. On 23 and 24 Oct, I worked on 432 PA2V, SM2CEW and SM5EPO #486. Conditions were markedly better than on the Sunday of the contest. On 27 Oct on 23 cm I worked IK1FJI and ON5GS, and on 29 Oct LU5EWR #487 from their 32 m dish. So, after 51 years of EME, my 1296 initials have overtaken the 432 ones.

G4BAO: John john@g4bao.com reports on his Oct ARRL Contest activity -- After a slow start on Sunday morning beginning at 0545, I worked on 23 cm using JT65C KA1GT, PA3FXB, ON4QQ and OK2DL when I realized something was wrong! It turned out that I was only running 50 W to my little 1.9 m dish. This shows what can be done on JT. After some investigation, I found that my drive was low, After fixing it, I was back at 200 W. The extra 6 dB, from around 0820, enabled me to get on CW (my favorite EME mode) and for the next hour had a continuous stream of callers. I worked OK1CA (539/559), UA3PTW (539/559), G4CCH (539/549), G3LTF (539/549), OZ4MM (559/449), OE5JFL (O), KL6M (559/559) for initial #35 and SP6JLW for a total of 12x10. It was great to get KL6M on a second band, and a new 23 cm CW DXCC. We worked on 9 cm back in June. I encourage small system ops to have a go on CW. There are plenty of big stations to work on 23 cm. My setup is small with a 1.9 m dish with a SM6FHZ patch feed, 200 W and a 0.33 dB LNA. Email me or Tweet @g4bao if you want a sked.

G4RFR: John (G0API) john.g0api@gmail.com reports on his group's 3 cm activity on 25 Oct -- G4RFR (IO90) is a

club station. We have to setup the system on the dish and inside our meeting room when we want to operate EME. The day was damp with rising winds - ideal for deploying our TWT on the rear of our 3.4 m prime feed dish. We were QRV by 1215 using QRA64D in locked mode and an indicated 130 W output. Stations worked were OK1DFC (12DB/9DB), OK2AQ (17DB/11DB), W5LUA (9DB/8DB), K2UYH (17DB/10DB), PY2BS (13DB/8DB) for our first SA contact. We also received an SWL report from IK6KAC (12 DB). We had solid SSB echoes (549),which was very nice; we are working on the system to reduce our always on TWT noise output to below detectable, Our Moon noise is approx 1.5 dB. Unfortunately, the Moon EL and daylight will probably curtail operations for some months now.

K1DS: Rick rick1ds@hotmail.com reports on his Oct ARRL EME Contest operation from his portable location in FL -- I was just able to make three 70 cm JT65B QSOs with DL7APV, UA3PTW and K2UYH. Since Bernd was at (16DB), I asked him to go to CW and we completed quickly (559/O). I awoke in the middle of the night to see if there were additional QRO stations to try and work with my portable single vertical polarized 5 WL yagi and 150 W through 50' of LMR600, and preamp in the shack only to find the lawn sprinkler system going full blast and preventing me from making any manual antenna adjustments. Hopefully I will be on 23 cm for the last leg, using my WIMO 67 el yagi and 250 W with a 0.3 dB NF preamp at antenna and automated tracking control.

K4EME: Cowles candrus@mgwnet.com was QRV on both 70 and 23 cm in the Oct ARRL Contest weekend -- Conditions the first night were ideal as far as WX, but not as far as local QRM! On 70 cm I had a lot of QRM from the local 70 cm beacon. It continuously swept across the whole 70 cm EME band and generated birdies everywhere! I had to put up with this QRM both nights, making it much harder and tiring to work stations. After the contest was over, I was able to contact the beacon's owner, and hopefully this won't be repeated on the second leg of the contest! I also had tree blockage on both 23 and 70 cm. On 70 cm the blockage was very short lived and just at moonrise. On 23 cm, it was much worst and completely blocking me for hours on the moonrise, reducing signal strength far into the night. The Moon was very far north, which allows the large pine tree and one apple tree to block the signal until the Moon's elevation is relative high. This has not been much of an issue in the past, but this year, I guess due to the Moon's more northern position, it was indeed an issue! Time to trim some trees! On the second night, the WX was rainy, windy, and very overcast allowing no view of the Moon the entire pass. On 23 cm, I am using a 10' polar mounted dish with no auto tracking, so I just set the polar mount with my cell phone inclinometer application to the moon's zenith angle as a SWAG. It was close enough to pick up the ON0EME beacon, but it was far from perfection. During the night, it was raining so hard I did not go out and tweak the alignment, which only allowed me to work a few of the very large stations on 23 cm. I worked on both 432 and 1296; the first night KB7Q, DL9APV, K2UYH, ES6FX, SM7THS, K6MG, OH2DG, DL3EBJ, PA2V, UA3PTW, UT5DL, DL5FN, LX1DX, OK2DL, PA3FXB, YL2GD, WA3RGQ, SM5EPO, G4RGK, KN0WS, DF2VJ and VK4EME; and on the second nigh: KB7Q, N0ARC, SM4GGC, DF3RU, K2UYH, IK5VLS, UA3PTW and SK0UX for a total of 29 QSO on both bands. I spent about an hour on 23 cm trying to get SK0UX attention. I was trying to work him during a pileup and with my antenna not exactly on the Moon, I was probably his weakest station at that time; so it was a pleasure to complete! Also, I QSO'd KB7Q with a solid signal for a new state, Nebraska - another delight! I had no trouble hearing Gene with his 1 yagi station on 70 cm! I had several stations, one being KN0WS, just disappear after making the initial contact, to show up several hours later for a solid QSO! This may have easily been due to tree blockage or beacon QRM on my end, but it was very nice to complete! I also had several situations on 70 cm that did not respond to calls for close to an hour, followed by several stations trying to work me all at the same time, one right on top of the other in frequency, and at about the same signal level. I know one time I had at least 4 stations calling me and only worked two of them. My QSO count is down this year from last, but I think most of this was due to local factors, such as local QRM, tree blockage, lack of visible Moon for aiming on 23 cm, and just being fatigued because of just having IV Chemo injection hours before the contest started on Friday. Hopefully the local beacon will behave, or be off the air during the second leg. A better local Moon angle, and clear skies would be nice too! I plan to work some of the ones that I missed. Will be looking for you in Nov.

K8ZR: Tony temanuele@ebulent.com writes about his activity during the ARRL Contest -- It was great to be back "on the Moon" on 23 cm during the EME Contest after a two year absence. The WX was perfect and conditions seemed good. I worked using CW OZ4MM, G3LTF, OE5JFL, SM6CKU, KL6M and OK1CA. SM6CKU was the only initial as I have worked the others under my old callsign WA8RJF. CWNR were I1NDP, SM4IVE, RA3EME, OK2DL, SP6JLW, W4OP and G4CCH. Heard in QSO with others were VE6TA, WA6PY, WK9P, N4PA, W5LUA, K6MG and DL3EBJ. Working condx here are modest, just 150 W at the feed and a 3 m TVRO dish. It is unlikely that I will be QRV for the second weekend of the ARRL Contest as tentatively I will be with VE4MA and W5LUA in Arizona attempting to break the 78 GHz North American DX record.

KA1GT: Bob ka1gt@hotmail.com worked digital and CW over the Oct contest weekend – My most unusual contacts were with JA6AHB; once at moonrise and then later in the same day at Moonset! I also worked A21EME easily on 23 cm. I also copied and decoded them on 10 GHz peaking at (20DB) with my 85 cm dish. Average signal was around (22DB) but still decodes without AP assistance.

KB7Q: Gene geneshea@gmail.com brings us up to date on his latest State dxpedition results -- Joyce and I took off in the camper to get some late fall camping in and active three grid/States on 70 cm and 2 m. We hit DN74 in WY first and set the 70 cm yagi up for moonrise over a lake. On 15 Oct conditions were not great, but I worked seven folks, and knocked another State off K4QE's list. I worked DL7APV (25DB), OK1KIR (22DB), K5QE (22DB), SM7THS

(21DB), DK3WG (26DB), DL8GP (25DB) and DL9KR on CW (439). Next up was SD in DN83 the following evening. Twelve folks went into the log on 70 cm including a second CW contact with DL9KR. I logged UA3PTW (21DB), OK1KIR (18DB), K5QE (23DB), DL9KR on CW (429), DL7APV (26DB), SM7THS (18DB), DL8GP (25DB), YL2GD (22DB), PA2V (29DB), DF3RU (30DB), ZS4TX (23DB) and UT5DL (29DB). Finally, on 20 Oct I took advantage of the ARRL EME Contest to work 20 70 cm stations (and 16 mults) before the reflector on my yagi hit the ground (at around 50 degs el), which is an all time best result for my single 13 wl yagi/500 W pipsqueak station. Again DL9KR was worked on CW, so Jan managed to go 3 of 3, part of his success is that he knows exactly where to park his signal so I hear it as 600 Hz in my headphones. ZS4TX worked me by accessing his station remotely while driving north to the A21EME dxpedition at 75 mph – talk about dedication! I logged DL1APV (22DB), OK1KIR (24DB), UA3PTW (26DB), K4EME (18DB), SM7THS (24DB), ZS4TX (21DB), OZ4MM (12DB), UT5DL (26DB), HB9Q (10DB), DK3WG (26DB), DL9KR on CW (339), PA0BAT (23DB), W7MEM (23DB), UT6UG (30DB), PA2V (30DB), LZ1DX (20DB), G4RGK (28DB), UX5UL (21DB), N0AKC (27DB) and YL2GD (26DB). We got caught in a blizzard on the way home and I-25 closed; so we found a motel and watched football.

KN0WS: Carl carlhasbargen@q.com sends his Oct contest report -- M plan for the contest weekend is always to do 70 cm the first pass and 23 cm the second, then take my mesh off the 20 foot dish before winter. Because I had troubles with my 70 cm RX earlier this year, I went to my site several weeks ago and changed my preamplifier and cables. On Friday I set up my system and crawled into my sleeping bag to get some sleep before the moon rise. But, I was just worried enough that I got up and set up scaffolding and double-checked everything. I was at my station after moonrise waiting for the Moon to rise above one large tree when I saw a JT65 signal on my screen. I was pointing 25 degrees away from the moon. It turned out to be KB0HNN calling DL7APV from central Minnesota. Although only a small percent of signal gets through my 1 inch dish mesh, transmitting from 100 miles behind me was still enough for me to see. I was pleased to see another guy from Minnesota trying 70 cm EME. After the Moon got over the tree, I struggled all night to complete QSO's. I think I will have to tear down the feed next spring and figure things out. I also had the impression that conditions were very poor that night. Instead of my usual 14-18 QSO's in recent years, I completed 8x8 using JT65B. And for several of those, I had to climb my ladder to change polarity between each TX and RX cycle. They were DL7APV, LZ1DX, K2UYH, UT5DL, PA2V, SM7THS, K4EME and VK4EME. I heard OH2DG, PA3CSG, DF7KB, UA3PTW and SM5EPO. The next night, on 23 cm went much better. Using JT65C, I completed with OK2DL, DF3RU, F1RJ, OH1LRY, SM6CKU, FR5DN, RA3EME, DL3EBJ, KA1GT, WA3RGQ, K2UYH, SM4GGC, WA2FGK, G4FQI, OK1DFC, SK0UX, OZ9KY, ES6FX, ES3RF, PA3FXB, VA7MM, PA2DW, K5DOG, N5BF, WA3GFZ, VE3KRP, WX4F, VKCDI and JA6AHB for a total of 27x21. I had initials with RA4HL, K6MG, G0LBK, DK5YA, PA0PLY and W8MQW. I did a clumsy CW QSO with G4CCH and then did another one with K2UYH. These were QSO's bring me to CW initial #36 on 23 cm. My 70 cm results are down this year, but if the WX cooperates, I hope to be on 23 cm for both moon passes in Nov. I may pick up some folks that I missed this time and I may try to put a bit more time into CW, if folks are loud and slow!

KN0WS dishes used during contest

LU5EWR: Victor lu5ewr@hotmail.com with the assistance of LU1CGB, LU8DNO, LU8DQ, LU8ENU, and others arranged for the IAR's (Argentine Institute of Radio Astronomy) 30 m dish to be active on1296 every day form 29 Oct thru 3 March. They were on CW, SSB and JT65C -- see https://www.iar.unlp.edu.ar/. In addition to their big dish they used a Septum circular feed, 100 W SSPA and 0.7 dB LNA.

OK1CA: Franta's strihavka@upcmail.cz EME report -- In the Oct part of the ARRL EME Contest, I was QRV on 23 cm and worked a total of 66 CW QSOs and 30 mults. Initials were RA4HL, ES3RF, BD4SY (new DXCC), K8ZR, K6MG, WK9P and VK2FLR to bring me up to initial #366. Then, on Sunday evening the A21EME dxpedition started. I worked them first on 23 cm using JT65C with a report of (13DB) for digital initial {#53}. Next was Tuesday 21 Oct on 13 cm where we worked on CW for initial #153 and JT65C for digital initial {#17}. We next QSO'd on 22 Oct on 9 cm using JT65C A21EME (13DB/5DB) for digital initial {#10} and on CW (559/539) for initial #64. On Thursday morning after sunrise, I installed my 6 cm feed and without any problems we worked using QRA64D A21EME (11DB/14DB) for digital initial {#15} and on CW for initial #81. The QSOs on both 9 cm and 6 cm completed CW WAC for me. I was QRV on 3 cm on Friday 25 Oct and again worked A21EME (19DB/15DB) for digital initial {#35}. The same morning, I also QSO'd VK7ZBX with QRA64D (19DB/18DB) {#36}.

OK1DFC: Zdenek ok1dfc@seznam.cz reports on his ARRL EME contest participation -- I had following QSOs in CW and JT modes. I worked on 19/20 Oct on 1296 using CW G3LTF (559/559), IK1FJI (O/O), OZ4MM (579/569), G4CCH (569/569) and KL6M (579/569), and using JT65C VK4CDI (O/O), PA3FXB (O/O), ES3RF (O/O), RA4HL (O/O), IK5VLS (O/O), RN6MA (O/O), EA8DBM (O/O), OH1LRY (O/O), YO2LEL (O/O), UA3PTW (O/O), PA0PLY (O/O), JA6AHB (O/O), G4EZP (O/O), DL3EBJ (O/O), YL2GD (O/O), RA3EME (O/O), SK0UX (O/O), FR5DN (O/O), KA1GT (O/O), UA3TCF (O/O), DL7YC (O/O), ON4QQ (O/O), ON4BCV (O/O), WA3RGQ (O/O), W8MQW (O/O), SM4GGC (O/O), VA7MM (O/O), ES6FX (O/O), F1RJ (O/O), WA2FGK (O/O), LZ4OC (O/O), OK1YK (O/O), PE1CHQ (O/O), N5BF (O/O), DF3RU (O/O), G4FQI (O/O), KN0WS (O/O), OK1IL (O/O), DK0ZAB (O/O), SM6CK3}U (O/O), PA2DW (O/O), PA0PLY (O/O), VE6TA {(O/O), WA3GFZ (O/O), K2UYH (O/O), G0LBK (O/O), VK2FLR (O/O), RA3EC (O/O), ON4AOI (O/O) and **A21EME** (O/O) for DXCC 115. During the first leg I worked 61 valid QSOs and 10 initials all using the JT mode. I used my 2.4 m offset dish, septum feed, 500 W and 0.2 dB N/F LNA. I am expecting to be QRV in the second leg with the same setup and looking forward work many other stations on CW or JT. The week after the contest, I was daily QRV for the A21EME dxpedition. Thanks to dxpedition activity on so many bands, I had the chance to test my new MW system on 13 cm up to thru 3 cm. I QSO'd on 22 Oct on 13 cm **A21EME** (21DB/O) for digital initial {#53} and DXCC 52, DL7YC (4DB/O) {#54} – QRV with 2.5 m offset and 250; on 23 Oct on 9 cm OK1CA (599/559), OK1CA (1DB/O) for digital initial {#8}, KD3UY (O/O), A21EME (21DB/O) {#9}, DXCC 16, W5LUA (4DB/O) {#10}, G4BAO (O/O) {#11}, DF3RU (O/O) {#12} QRV with 2.5 m offset and 45 W, and on 70 cm A21EME (26DB/24DB} for digital initial {#478}, DXCC 134 with 38 el M2 yagi and 1 kW SSPA; on 24 Oct on 6 cm A21EME (13DB/14DB) digital initial {#26}, DXCC 21, G4BAO (22DB/13DB) {#27}, K2UYH (12DB/10DB), A21EME (O/O) CW for initial #19 and DF3RU (7DB/9DB) {#29} JT5C with 2.4 m offset and 100 W; and on 25 Oct on 3 cm using QRA64D A21EME (16DB/16DB) digital initial {#37} and DXCC 28, OK2AQ (14DB/14DB), UA3TCF (15DB/11DB) {#38}, M0EYT {13DB/12DB) {#39}, OZ1FF (9DB/11DB), PY2BS (10DB/11DB) {#40} and DXCC 29 for 3 cm WAC, DL7YC (10DB/10DB) {#41}, PY2BS (569 569) CW initial #32, DC7KY (9DB/11DB) {#42}, LX1DB (599 579) CW, G4RFR (9DB/12DB) {#43}, W5LUA (15DB/15DB)and, F4VTA (15DB/14DB) with 2.4 m offset and 52 W. I am now also QRV **24048** with 2.4 m offset, 22 W RF and 1.1 dB N/F LNA. My Sun noise with 58% humidity and low elevation is 11.2 dB. I am looking for 24 GHz activity and skeds soon. Maybe if WX allow us in Dec, looking forward to try CW or QRA64D with anybody interested on this band. I will be QRV and looking for all you in the next leg of the contest.

Single yagi used to work A21EME

OK1KIR: Vlada and Tonna vlada.masek@volny.cz write on their group's EME in Oct -- During KB7Q's dxpeditions on 70 cm using JT65B, we worked on 14 Oct at 2145 G6KHS (22DB/20DB), on 15 Oct at 0140 KB7Q (23DB/O) from DN74 for digital initial {#239} and 0311 KJ7OG (21DB/11DB), and on 16 Oct at 0240 KB7Q (19DB/18DB) {#240} from DN83. During the ARRL MW EME Contest weekend, we operated on 13 cm only, and will send our log as a check log but not as a contest entry. We are taking this action to protest the scoring of multi-band stations in such a way that their particular band results are presented off the score sheets for individual bands. Thus, we focused on searching for new stations. During the Oct contest weekend, we worked on 19 Oct, on 23 cm with JT65C at 0105 RA4HL (8DB/4DB) for digital initial {#341}, 0150 FR5DN (11DB(8DB) {#342}, 0217 OZ9KY (18DB(12DB) {#343}, 0732 K6MG (11DB/6DB) [the same as W6YX?], 0810 G0LBK (19DB/O) {#344} and 1001 WA3GFZ (12DB/O) {#345}, and using CW at 0029 RA4HL (559/559) for initial #452, 0239 FR5DN (559(569) #453 and a new DXCC and field, 0244 9A5AA (569/569) and 0928 IK1FJI (569/589); on 70 cm using JT65C at 2309 RD3FD (22DB/20DB) {#241}, 2315 UT5DL (11DB/15DB), 2323 DK1KW (22DB/20DB), 2347 BD9BU (27DB/26DB) and 2357 DF7KB (12DB/19DB); on 20 Oct, on 70 cm at 0003 SM5EPO (19DB/16DB), 0020 LZ1DX (12DB/12DB), 0444 KB7Q (25DB/24DB) {#242} DN82, 0736 N0AKC (17DB/8DB) {#243}, 0807 S51LF (16DB/14DB); and (new Moon pass) on 23 cm using JT65C at 2148 VK2FLR (14DB/3DB) for digital initial {#346} and 2312 A21EME (15DB/10DB) {#347} and using CW, 2232 VK2FLR (O/O) for initial #454. After the ARRL Contest, on 21 Oct we made on 23 cm QSOs using JT65C at 0101 ZS4A (12DB/11DB) {#347} and with CW at 0126 A21EME (O/449) #455. The

following four days we were QRV for A21EME dxpedition. We QSO'd them on 22 Oct on 13 cm with JT65C at 0020 A21EME (14DB/15DB) for digital initial {#71} as 1st A2-OK and with CW 0204 A21EME (449/439) #175; then a "fast" swap of feeds to 70 cm using JT65B at 0252 A21EME (16DB/17DB) {#244} again as 1st A2-OK 70 cm QSO; on 23 Oct on 9 cm using JT65C at 0356 A21EME (18DB/11DB) for digital initial {#35} and with CW at 0432 A21EME (O/O) for initial #82 as the last continent we need for CW WAC on 9 cm; on 24 Oct on 6 cm using QRA64D at 0122 A21EME (19DB/17DB) for digital initial {#44} and 1st A2-OK 6 cm QSO and with CW at 0221 A21EME (549/549) for initial #110; and on 25 Oct on 3 cm with QRA64D at 0224 A21EME (14DB/15DB) {#199} and 1st A2-OK 3 cm QSO and 0347 VK7ZBX (16DB/16DB), and using CW at 0312 A21EME (549/0) initial #131 and later on at bigger spread at 0727 again A21EME (449/439). After several unsuccessful 3 cm trials with CT1BYM, we finally contacted on 27 Oct when the spreading lowered below 70 Hz; first with JT4F at 1432 (21DB/14DB) for 3 cm digital initial {200}, best (18DB), and second with QRA64D at 1444 (21DB/12DB), best (20DB). Reports more or less relate to power difference as Miguel uses a 10 W PA with only about 8.5 W into his 1.2 m dish. WSJTX with all features was employed both sides. It was Miguel's 4th EME QSO on 3 cm! On 29 Oct, we ended the month with an easy 23 cm QSO with big dish demonstration station, LU5EWR at 1551 (589/559) {#456}, who was using 100 W to 30 m dish near Buenos Aires in GF15.

OK2AQ: Mirek mirek@kasals.com was QRV for the A21EME dxpedition and writes -- A successful EME dxpedition is always a good opportunity to work new stations. Since the microwave part of the A21EME dxpedition began on Monday and every day on a higher band; 3 cm was scheduled for Friday, 25 Oct. I was QRV already on Thursday afternoon and managed the necessary calibration with the Sun. When I arrived at my shack on Friday at 0230 A21EME was already working the big guns and had completed with VK7ZBX. We QSO'd right them, A21EME (18DB/21DB) for mixed initial #83* and DXCC 30. I was also able to contact VK7ZBX (21DB / 22DB) #84* without a problem. The rest of the month was also productive. I worked using QRA64D OK1DFC (14DB/14DB), W3SZ (14DB/15DB), PA0BAT (18DB/14DB), DL7YC (13DB/20DB), M0EYT (17DB/17DB), PY2BS (12DB/12DB). I came very close to close to completing WAC (five continents) in one pass! On Saturday, 26 Oct, again with QRA64D I added OZ1FF (13DB/16DB), UA3TCF (20DB/18DB), F5VKQ (15DB/15DB), PA0BAT (16DB/12DB) and W5LUA (11DB/15DB). My rig here is a 1.2 m offset dish, 42 W and 0.8 dB NF LNA.

OZ1SKY: Brian hougeman@gmail.com is QRV on 432 EME – I am now up to my 3rd EME QSO; in the ARRL contest, I added DL7APV and K2UYH. Previously I had worked NC1I. I am using 2 x 16 el Flexa yagis on the horz only (no elevation) and 60-70 W at the radio.

PA0PLY: Jan pa0ply@pa0ply.nl writes about EME in during the Oct leg of the ARRL EME Contest -- I hooked up my 23 cm gear at the feed of my 3 m dish, and starting Friday night worked on JT65C unless noted otherwise JA8SZW for mixed initial #129*, IK1FJI, RN6MA, PA3FXB, SP6JLW using CW, YO2LEL #130*, DL7UDA, SP5GDM, OK2DL using CW and SP7DCS using CW; and on Saturday starting at 0700 SV1CAL #131*, ON4QQ #132*, OH1LRY, RA4HL #133*, VA7MM #134*, N5BF, KA1GT, ES3RF #135*, K6MG #136*, WA3RGQ, G4CCH with CW and OZ4MM on CW. Stig was my last QSO before moonset. Actually, I lost them a bit earlier, which was caused by he could not keep dish on the Moon all the way to the ground. His signal degraded rapidly. By coincidence, the same happened the next night, but we had a good QSO. On my final Moon pass on Saturday night, I added SM4IVE on CW, OK1CA on CW, RA3EME, DL4EBJ, IK5VLS, OK1DFC, K2UYH, SM4GGC, OK1YK, SK0UX #137* and KN0WS #138. SM4IVE had problem copying me, which I did not expect. Later I learned Lars had RX problems. My general impression was that the activity was quite high, with some QSB from time to time. I concluded that with my 3 m dish and 250 W SSPA that I need to tailend stations more than call CQ. In any case, I enjoyed the contest. On 26 Oct I worked A21EME – terrific signal for such a small station, GM0PJD #140*, DF2VJ, G4FUF #141* - 2 X 49 el yagis and 400 W, and SM6PGP #142. On 1 Nov 1I was looking for LU5EWR, but the moon was very low here (13 degs) and was blocked partly by my house and a fence. Nevertheless, I worked UA6LCN for his first QSO on 23 cm EME. George initial indicated he was RX only, but suddenly appeared as a decode at (29DB). He was more then 1kHz off in frequency when the first decode came through, the next decodes were much further off but were found on my MAP-65 screen!

PA2DW: Dick gtc@kpnmail.nl was QRV in the ARRL Contest on 23 cm -- Signals were very good; my own echoes were speaker copy. I wanted to stay on CW, but after ten QSO's, I could not find more stations. QSO'd were SP6ITF, W4OP n initial (#), G3LTF, G4CCH, SM6CKU, SM4IVE, KL6M, DL3EBJ, OE5JFL and VE6TA. Apparently, I missed OZ4MM and a few more. As my window became more spoiled by tree blockage, I decided to have a look on JT and worked OK1DFC, PA3FXB, OK2DL, SK0UX for mixed initial (#*) and KN0WS. A QSO with N5BF failed as I had to go through trees and the chicken house of the neighbors. I guess the neighbors eat fried chicken, but the QSO with N5BF was not finished - sorry Cortney. I am thus far at 15x11.

SM4IVE: Lars sm4ive@telia.com was on CW only during the Oct contest weekend on 1296 -- I was on for the first moonpass from around moonrise up to about 10 degs, for 1.5 hours, but endless CQs did not yield any contacts. Its an US contest, but activity is mainly from EU. So Far, I have 57 QSOs and 3 Initials with RA4HL, G0LBK and FR5DN; and some missed as my RX does not seems as good as before. I did measure 5 dB CS/G noise, but the moonnoise was poor, so something is not OK with the dish. I still have some time left and hope to work some more.

SM4GGC: Stig stig.ake.larsson@gmail.com was active on 23 cm in Oct -- In the Oct part of ARRL EME Contest I

worked 64 stations (in 33 mults), 35 on CW and 29 on JT. Stations worked using CW were SP6JLW, F5KUG, SP6ITF, 9A5AA, UA3PTW, SP7DCS, F6ETI, OK2DL, DL3EBJ, OZ4MM, SK0UX, FR5DN, RA3EME, G3LTF, W4OP, SM6CKU, W5LUA, G4CCH, DL7YC, DF3RU, OK2ULQ, WA6PY, OE5JFL, DL6SH, N4PZ, SM4DHN, KL6M, VE6TA, SM4IVE, OK1CA, OH2DG, LZ2US, IW2FZR, F6CGJ and IK3COJ; and using JT65C were PA3FXB, RA4HL, OH1LRY, YL2GD, K2UYH, F1RJ, OZ9KY, G0LBK, WA3RGQ, DL7AIG, ON4BCV, LU1C, 4X1AJ, ON4QQ, PA0PLY, WA2FGK, K4EME, KA1GT, OK1DFC, N5BF, KN0WS, DK3WG, DL8FBD, OK1YK, VA7MM, LZ4OC, K5DOG, ES3RF and VK2FLR. The WX here during the contest was not optimal with rain on Saturday morning, which increased noise level 2-3 dB during the same hours that I was concentrating on CW, and more JT on Sunday morning. Spent 9 hours on Saturday on CW and 5 hours on Sunday mostly on JT. After the contest I added on 23 cm, on 21 Oct A21EME on JT65C, on 23 Oct PA2DW on JT65C and CW, on 26 Oct F5KUG on CW, on 27 Oct ON5GS on JT65C, IW2FZR CW and SM6PGP CW. I am very pleased to worked 2 new rather small stations such as PA2DW and SM6PGP on CW. My station is a 3.9 m dish with 500 W at feed.

SM6CKU: Ben ben@sm6cku.se reports on his operation during the Oct ARRL Contest weekend -- The WX was pretty good; and I spent 5-6 hours both on Saturday and Sunday on the Moon, but never before 0400. I am too old for night shifts. I worked 70 stations, 43 on CW and 27 on JT, and adding 12 initials. At the end, I found that my output power was reduced by perhaps as much as 30%. I have no idea why. Climbing the tower is not my best game, so I will accept the loss for the time being. Most stations on JT can also be worked on CW of course. All stations worked on JT were audible on loudspeaker.

SP6JLW: Andy (SP6JLW) sp6jlw@wp.pl (and SP6OPN and SQ6OPG) report on the Klodzka Grupa's activity during the ARRL Oct Contest weekend -- Traditionally, we have operated the contest under the callsign SP6JLW in the multioperator CW only category. This year we were QRV on 70 and 23 cm. Due to very low activity on 70 cm CW, we spent most of our time on 23 cm. The 70 cm band was monitored remotely from a 23 cm shack. The contact list for 70 cm includes only 4 QSOs with I2FHW, SM6FHZ, DL7APV and OZ4MM. On 23 cm we QSO'd 62 (and 31 mults) with SK0UX, F6ETI, RA4HL, F1PYR, SM4GGC, IK1FJI, SP7DCS, 9A5AA, PA0PLY, F5KUG, DL3EBJ, OK2DL, FR5DN, UA3PTW, SP6ITF, OZ4MM, W4OP, SP3XBO, G3LTF, W5LUA, DL7YC, RN6MA, SM6CKU, DF3RU, OH1LRY, I1NDP, DJ8FR, OK2ULQ, KL6M, F5JWF, WA6PY, LU1HKO, N5BF, YL2DG, VA7MM, SM4IVE, OK1CA, IK3COJ, LZ2USC, ES3RF, PA3FXB, OH2DG, SM6PGP, OK1YK, F6KRK, IW2FZR, RA3EC, OE5JFL, G4BAO, K2UYH and G4CCH. See you in the second round!

SP7DCS: Chris **SP7DCS@WP.PL** was QRV on CW during the ARRL EME contest on 1296. I was active the whole first window and about 3 hours in the second window. I scored 54. I worked on 19 Oct IK1FJI, SK0UX, SP6JLW, SP6ITF, F5KUG, F6ETI, OK2DL, DL3EBJ, SM4GGC, 9A5AA, UA3PTW, PA0PLY, OZ4MM, FR5DN, RA3EME, SP3XBO, W4OP, DF3RU, IK5VLS, DL7YC, W5LUA, G4CCH, K6MG, LU1C, VE6TA, DL6SH, DJ8FR, I1NDP, OK2ULQ, G3LTF, OH1LRY, OE5JFL, N4PZ, YL2GD, SM4DHN, WA6PY, SM4IVE, OK1CA, VK5MC, JA6XED, KL6M, JA4BLC, F6CGJ, JA4LJB, JH1KRC and PA3FXB and on 20 Oct EA8DBM, SM6CKU, F5JWF, SM6PGP, IW2FZR, OH2DG, LZ2US and K2UYH. Thank you all for great fun. Unfortunately, in the second round I will not be able to be QRV. Have fun everyone.

UA3PTW: Dmitry's ua3ptw@inbox.ru Oct report follows -- On 70 cm I added using JT65B KB7Q in both grids DN83 and 82, KD2LGX, DL5RDI, OZ1SKY, SQ9CYD, A21EME and RG3R; on 23 cm using JT65C RA4HL, ON4BCV, UA3RAW, UA6LCN, ES3RF, G0LBK and A21EME, on 13 cm using CW OM1TF (559/559), A21EME (and also with JT65C) and YO2BCT (559/559); on 6 cm using QRA64D A21EME, UR5LX and YO2BCT; and on 3 cm using QRA64D A21EME and with JT4F M0EYT. [TNX to DK3WG for forwarding this report].

UA3TCF: Alex **ua3tcf@mail.ru** is QRV on 3 cm EME – I QSO'd on 25 Oct on 10 GHz A21EME, OK1DFC (11DB/15DB), DF1OI (11DB/16DB), DL7YC (19DB/17DB), SM6CKU (18DB/18DB) and W3SZ (15DB/15DB), and on 26 Oct OZ1FF (11DB/17DB), OK2AQ (18DB/20DB), UR5LX (16DB/18DB), PAOBAT (16DB/5DB) All QSOs were using QRA64d except SM6CKU which was on JT4F.

VE3KRP: Fast Eddie eddie@tbaytel.net reports on his Oct EME – All my QSOs were using JT65C on 1296. I started in the ARRL EME Contest and QSO'd on 19 Oct OK2DL, VA7MM, K6MG (@ W6YX), N5BF, KA1GT, W8MQW, JA6AHB, JA8SZW and VK4CDI, on 20 Oct WA3GFZ, K2UYH, KN0WS, WA3RGQ and WX4F, on 21 Oct 21 A21EME for a new initial (#*) and new DXCC, 26 Oct ZS4A (#*), on 27 Oct G4FQI, ON4GS, DJ2DY and I7FNW, 29 Oct LU5EWR (#*), and 9 Nov VE2UG (#*) and new Canadian Province. Before this last QSO at first, I couldn't figure out why no echoes. I then realize that daylight savings time had ended - Hi! All was good after I made the necessary changes to the tracking program.

VA7MM: Mark's (VE7CMK) and Toby's (VE7CNF) va7mm@telus.net Oct contest report follows – We were active on 1296 in the ARRL EME Contest, multi-operator, all mode. This was our seventeenth year of operation in the event! We completed 57 QSOs of which 14 were CW and 43 were digital. The weekend's operation added nine initial contacts to our log, all digital: DF2GB, DJ2DY, DK0ZAB, ES3RF, G0BLK, I0NAA, PA0PLY, PE1CHQ and ON4QQ. These additions bring our mixed initials count to #251*. We're running a vintage water cooled OZ9CR cavity amplifier that produces about 200 W at the feed of our 3 m dish. On RX we have 0.33 dB NF preamp with about 35 dB total gain in three stages. We're planning to operate the contest in Nov. We are available for scheduled contacts anytime, contact us by e-mail at va7mm@rac.ca.

W5LUA: Al's w5lua@sbcglobal.net report for Oct -- I worked on 19 Oct [ARRL EME Contest] on 23 cm OZ4MM, SP6JLW, DL3EBJ, W4OP, SM4GGC, SP7DCS, F5KUG, DJ8FR, K6MG, SK0UX, SM6CKU, G3LTF, DL7YC, VE6TA, OE5JFL, KL6M, F5JWF, G4CCH, OK2DL and OH1LRY - all on CW. From 21 to 25 Oct, I worked A21EME on 23 cm, 13 cm, 9 cm, 6 cm and 3 cm. I also worked on 23 Oct on 9 cm OK1DFC, on 25 Oct on 3 cm G4RFR, OK1DFC, F4VTA, PA0BAT00 and OK2AQ, and on 29 Oct LU8DNO (599) on 23 cm CW.

WA2FGK: Herb (K2LNS) wa2fgk@yahoo.com has his system running again – Before the contest I had 4 QSOs on 1296 to check things out. I think I am optimized. During the EME contest, I worked 40 stations between both nights, which seemed pretty good for my small dish. I will be on in Nov looking for more QSOs – especially on CW.

WD5AGO: Tommy wd5ago@hotmail.com reports on his microwave activity and operation during the ARRL MW Contest in Sept – In the MW contest, I was on 13 cm. I QSO'd OK1KIR, OK1CA, G3LTF, K2UYH, and VE6TA for a total of 5x4. I believe this was my lowest scores for this band. Activity was just plain poor; however, having moonrise near 0200 LT and a neighbor's tree 20' in front of my dish did not help the cause. It may be time to relocate the dish. I tried to work A21EME on 13 cm using CW, but had no luck. I did QSO on 22 Oct DL7YC (559/559) XB for initial #104. During Dec, I will switch to 6 cm for several months.

WK9P: Tim tcherrone@yahoo.com made it on 1296 for the ARRL Contest with a good success – [see his report in the last NL] -- I was happy to be QRV Friday night and Saturday. I spent most of Friday trying to figure out what I was doing, while being very excited to be finally QRV. On Saturday, I was somewhat more relaxed. During this excitement, I contacted N4PZ, W4OP, G3LTF, OK1CA, OE5JFL, F5KUG and SP6JLW. All QSOs were on CW. I botched up a few calls. Looking back at my chicken scratched paper, I believe BD4SY and DL6SH were at least two such calls that I messed up; although both were good signals. My RX seems to be working well. I could easily hear my echoes. The dish also mechanically and tracking wise performed well. I'm running a temporarily fashioned final PA in order to be QRV, which became more efficient after hours of running. I enjoyed the activity and look forward to the second weekend in Nov.

OK1TEH: I [Matej] ok1teh@seznam.cz had a terrific month. I was QRV during whole Oct Contest weekend on 70 cm wi with my 1 x 23 el DK7ZB yagi. I made 23 contacts and 26 mults using JT65C unless noted otherwise with DL7APV, K2UYH, G4RGK, UT5DL, UA3PTW, LZ1DX, PA2V, OH2DG, DF7KB for mixed initial #131*, VK4EME, VK3NX #132*, DL8FBD, F6HLC, SM7THS, DL9KR on CW, DK3WG, OZ4MM on CW, DL2HWA, UB4UAA, S51LF and YL2GD. I heard and called was SM4IVE but I got only QRZs. I also decoded and called K4EME, LU8ENU (for the first time), R6CS, SM5EPO, N0AKC, K5QE, ES3RF, W7MEM, N0AKC and DF3RU. During the first window, I had a serious mechanical problem with my yagi. It was badly bent from strong winds, and thus wasn't able to be used at high elevation; and one of the directors was broken. Also, during the first night, there was terrible QRM, and 1-way Faraday conditions. The next day I spent 5 hours on antenna repairs. I was very happy with the results during the 2nd window. I monitored LiveCQ and DL7APV spotted me at (9DB) for a long time. I'm disappointed with low activity of many big guns from W/VE. Most of big guns seemed absent. The stations that were QRV were "small pistols" with only 1 or 2 yagis. Hopefully this will change during Nov part; I'll be QRV for sure. The highlight of contest was my QSO with VK3NX - TNX Charlie! AndT NX to all who tried to call me. After the contest I was very pleased to work A21EME on 70 cm (29DB/30DB). It was my 53rd DXCC and #133*. (30 min later I worked them on 2 m)!

K2UYH: Al alkatz@tcnj.edu reports on ARRL EME Contest and A21EME dxpedition – This year 432 and 1296 operation was from my QTH and 144 from K2TXB's QTH. Operators include K2QVF, W2ORH, W2TXB and K2YY. We worked on 19 Oct on 1296 at 0225 KA1GT JT65C (17DB/13DB), 0233 DL3EBJ JT65C (9DB/13DB), 0255 SP5GDM JT65C (17DB/11DB), 0249 RA4HL JT65C (13DB/14DB) for a mixed initial of #615*, 0333 YL2GD JT65C (8DB/O), 0337 FR5DN JT65C (21DB/17DB) #616*, 0352 OK2DL JT65C (6DB/O), 0358 PA3FXB JT65C (17DB/O), 0410 SV1CAL JT65C (O/O), 0419 YO2LEL JT65C (O/O) #617*, 0431 UA3PTW JT65C (1DB/O), and 0449 RA3EME JT65C (O/O); then switched to 432 at 0445 LZ1DX JT65B (13DB/15DB), 0450 UT5DL JT65B (14DB/O), 0458 SM7THS JT65B (6DB/9DB), 0502 OH2DG JT65B (3DB/5DB), 0508 DF7KB JT65B (7DB/16DB) for mixed initial #991*, 0514 LU8ENU JT65B (15DB/O), 0522 RD3FD JT65B (18DB/O) #992*, 0528 K4EME JT65B (6DB/O), 0532 YL2DG JT65B (O/O), 0537 4Z5CP JT65B (20DB/O) #993*, 0547 KN0WS JT65B (11DB/0), 0555 EA6/HB (?) JT65B (11DB/O), 0603 KD2LDX JT65B (9DB/O) #994*, 0615 PA2Y JT65B (15DB/O), 0634 I2FHY (559/559), 0641 G0JLO (559/559), 0645 PA3CSG (559/559), 0713 KJ7OG JT65B (19DB/14DB) #995*, 0720 DL5FN JT65B (O/O), 0728 DK1KW JT65B (O/21DB), 0730 OK1TEH JT65B (O/O), 0801 OZ4MM (579/569), 0827 SM4IVE (589/579), 0834 SM5EPD JT65B (O/O) #996*, 0840 UA3PTW JT65B (O/O), 0852 G4RGK JT65B (O/O), 0901 DL7APV JT65B (1DB/6DB),
0920 SM6FHZ JT65B (O/O), 0950 YL2FZ JT65B (O/O) #997*, 0958 S57LF JT65B (O/O), 1030 F6HLC JT65B (O/O), 1034 DL9LBH JT65B (O/O), 1101 DF2VJ JT65B (13DB/O), 1305 VK4EME JT65B (16DB/13DB) and 1513 BD9BU JT65B (O/O); and on 20 Oct back on 1296 at 0534 SM4GGC JT65C (3DB/7DB), 0554 ON4BCV JT65C (19DB/0) #618*, 0602 SP5GDM JT65C (7DB/4DB) DUP, 0612 F1RJ JT65C (9DB/5DB),
0619 YL2DG JT65C (7DB/7DB) DUP, 0624 UA9FA JT65C (12DB/11DB) #619*, 0630 OH2DG JT65C (1DB/4DB), 0634 PA0PLY JT65C (12DB/6DB), 0638 OH1LRY JT65C (1DB/8DB), 0644 VA7MM JT65C (15DB/18DB), 0653 ZS4A JT65C (18DB/15DB) #620*, 0700 KN0WS JT65C (16DB/17DB), 0710 ES6FX JT65C (3DB/9DB), 0716 IK8VLS JT65C (8DB/10DB), 0720 DF2GB JT65C (7DB/9DB) #621*, 0726 DK0ZAB JT65C (8DB/12DB),

0731 K4EME JT65C (17DB/O), 0744 G4FQI JT65C (2DB/7DB), 0748 WA2FGK JT65C (8DB/O), 0758 DL7AIG (16DB/17DB) #622*, 0842 G4CCH (569/579), 0848 SP6ITF (559/559), 0900 IW2FZR (559/559), 0907 KL6M (579/579), 0911 OZ4MM (589/579), 0916 VE6TA (569/569), 0K1CA (589/579), 097 G3LTF (589/579), 0934 SP6JLW (579/559), 0965 SM4IVE (559/589), 1017 IK3COJ (559/579), 1021 LZ2US (579/569), 1026 9A5AA (569/579), 1939 OK1DFC JT65C (6DB/10DB), 1050 EA8DBM JT65C (3DB/O), 1056 WA3GFZ JT65C (5DB/O), 1059 W1PV JT65C (6DB/15DB), 1108 SK0UX JT65C (4DB/6DB) and 1118 N5BF JT65C (2DB/12DB); then switched back to 432 at 1136 G3LTF (559/569), 1150 OZ1SKY JT65B (22DB/24DB), 1252 F6APE JT65B (13DB/O) and 1254 K1DS JT65B (24DB/24DB); switched to 1296 at 1326 WA3RGQ JT65C (2DB/O), 1035 VE3KRP JT65C (O/O), 1347 WX4F JT65C (1DB/3DB) #623*, 1405 WA9FWD (569/589), 1411 KN0WS (559/O) DUP but CW initial #412, 1431
W8MQW (O/O) on CW #413 and 1441 JH1KRC (569/579), then on 432 at 1502 JE2UFF JT65B (O/O) and 1508 N0AKC JT65B (O/O); and finally back to 1296 at 1537 JA6AHB JT65C (13DB/O) and 1602 K5DOG JT65C (O/O) for a weekend total on 1296 of 55x27 and on 432 41x27. Right after the contest I tried to work on the 21 Oct, but my friend Murphy visited and I blew my best 1296 LNA. It turned out that after more than 25 years of service a 28 volt transformer in my relay supplied had burnt up. By the time, I had the problem fixed, Dan had lost his Moon window. However, we were able to work them on 26 Oct for a clean sweep. A21EME was QSO'd on 22 Oct on 13 cm at 0801 JT65C (10DB/14DB) for mixed initial #117* and DXCC 33; on 23 Oct on 9 cm at 0914 JT65C (17DB/20DB) for mixed initial #62* and DXCC 33 along with at 0932 G4BAO JT65C (O/O), on 24 Oct on 6 cm at 1010 JT65C (10DB/10DB) for mixed initial #64* and DXCC 31, also on QRA64D (10DB/13DB) along with at 1032 OK1DFC QRA64D (10DB/13DB) #65* and 1041 G4BAO QRA64D (20DB/13DB); on 25 Oct on 3 cm at 1304 A21EME QRA64D (21DB/20DB) for mixed initial #45* and DXCC 24, along with at 1242 G4RFR QRA64D (10DB/17DB) #44*; and on 26 Oct on 23 cm a 1222 A21EME JT65C (19DB/O) for mixed initial #625* and DXCC 118, along with at 1248 IK1FJI JT65C (4DB/7DB), 1317 OK1YK (7DB/7DB) and 1346 partial with DL1DWI (O/-). We will be on again in Nov, if I am still awake after completing this NL.

NETNEWS: **DL1DWI:** Gerhard dl1dwi@gmx.de is new on 23 cm EME but has made several QSOs and intersted in skeds, -- K7ULS has added another state on 220 EME. Mike worked N0AKC in WI, who is using 2 x 23 el yagis and 1 kW. **PA3DZL** is working on installing his EME station at his new QTH. He says "It is a lot of work, so it takes time". Jac wanted to be QRV for the A21EME dxpedition, but could not make it, but hopes to be QRV soon. **RN6MA** worked A21EME on 1296 with a 3 m dish and 150 W. [TNX RA4SD for this info]. **DF1OI** is active on 3 cm with a 2.4 m dish and 75 W. **DL7YC** is using a 2.4 m dish and 90 W on 10 GHz. **W3SZ** has a 2.6 m dish and 175 W on 3 cm. **OZ1FF** is running on 10 GHz, **PA0BAT's** 3 cm station is a 2.4 m dish and 50 W. [TNX RA4SD for the 3 cm info]. **WA4NJP** reports he is coming back on 23 cm EME this winter. Rex is interest in CW and JT activity. **WA6PY** was pleased to catch LU8DQ (30 m dish) on 1296 during his lunch hour.

FOR SALE: **K4EME** has 432 MHz ExtrEMEly Low Noise Preamp for sale. See http://cowlesradio.webs.com/drrf.html

FINAL: The ARI has announced that 9A9B is the 2019 EME Trophy winner. Congratulations to Branamir. TNX I5WBE for sending the info.

► K1DS - PLEASE submit your logs after the contest to ARRL. The more logs submitted, the greater attention we get to this phase of a great hobby. If you have anything special that happened at your station, send me the detail so that I can include it in the QST and web-based contest reports. TNX!

► We very sadly, have news of another silent key (SK) to report. UA4WP, 72, died on 22 Oct after battling cancer. Stas was an active VHFer with big EME plans. He made a 6 m dish and was active via Moon on 1296. RIP Stas. [TNX RA4SD for this info].

► We apologize, but we had to cut this issue short. We wanted to send it out before the ARRL Nov EME Contest weekend. Travel and QRL responsibilities limited out time. We hope to be back to normal next time… And will be looking for you off the Moon during the contest. 73, Al – K2UYH and Matej – OK1TEH