

## 2022/07/21 Announcements - Operating Events, Propagation, DX and General News

These notes are posted to the SMARC website, <https://w4olb.org/>, after the Thursday Evening Net. Click on "Info" and then "Operating Events" on the drop down menu. The format is PDF and the highlighted links are directly clickable. Only the last four weeks of announcements are retained.

### \*\*\*\*\* Operating Events \*\*\*\*\*

From the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website come the following operating events or contests that may be of interest to SMARC members and other Amateur Radio operators. Links to the rules and regulations for each event may be found at <https://contestcalendar.com/>. Select the "8 Day Calendar."

***NOTE: All times are EDT (UTC - 4), although most are listed at the WA7BNM Contest Calendar website as UTC. Translations to the correct days have been taken into account.***

>>Weekly Sprints or Short Events:

NCCC (Northern CA Contest Club)

RTTY Sprint tonight (Thursday) 9:45 PM to 10:15 PM

CW Sprint tonight (Thursday) 10:30 PM to 11:00 PM

Website: (RTTY) <http://www.nccsprint.com/rtty.html/>

Website: (CW) <http://www.nccsprint.com/rules.html/>

Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest

Monday 9:00 PM to 9:59 PM

Website: <https://wwsac.com/rules.html>

Phone Weekly Test - Fray (SSB)

Tuesday 10:30 PM to 11:00 PM

Website: [http://www.perluma.com/Phone\\_Fray\\_Contest\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.perluma.com/Phone_Fray_Contest_Rules.pdf)

RTTYOPS (RTTY) Weeksprint

Tuesday and Thursday 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Website: <https://rttyops.wordpress.com/rtty-mini-contests/rttyops-weeksprint/>

K1USN Slow Speed Tests (SST – CW max 20-wpm):

Friday 4:00 to 5:00 PM and Sunday 8:00 to 9:00 PM

Website: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>

Operating events for the following 7-days:

>>State QSO parties: None. See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

>>Youth On The Air (YOTA) Contest: Saturday 07/23 6:00 AM 5:59 PM

Maximum operating time: No limit

Bands: 80M & 10M (legacy\* only)

Mode(s) / Participation / Output Power: CW, SSB / Worldwide / Maximum allowed

RX & TX Exchange: Signal report ("599," "5NN" or "59") plus age (as of Jan 01)

Website: <https://www.ham-yota.com/contest/>

>>Other weekend activities of interest: See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

- ARAM 50 MHz Contest (CW & Phone)

Heads up for the 07/29 to 08/04: No state QSO party, TN State Parks OTA plus the RSGB IOTA Contest (CW, SSB).

**General CAUTIONS:** Watch the band edges corresponding to the privileges of your license class and the phone edges with respect to LSB (160M – 40M) and USB (20M – 10M). Be aware of digital segment limits. The lower 100-kHz of 6M and 2M is reserved for CW only, i.e., NO phone.

\* “legacy” means *no* 60M, 30M, 17M and 12M operations.

\*\*\*\*\* **Propagation** \*\*\*\*\* [K9JU]

A very good source for articles on propagation may be found at K9LA, Carl Luetzelschwab's, website <http://k9la.us/>. A wealth of information on the conditions on the sun may be found at <https://www.solarham.net/>.

>>From the HF Clock, the [wm7d.net](http://wm7d.net), the <https://spaceweather.com/> and <https://www.solarham.net/> websites: The Solar Flux Index (SFI) on the HF Clock is 122.0 (161 last week and 133 this morning); the other three sites are 122, 133 and 122, respectively. The Wolf [Sunspot] Number (##) is 129 (101 last week) from eight Active Regions, only two of which have easily seen sunspots. The geomagnetic field is at minor storm level (G1) from the passage of a slow moving CME launched 07/15 with the Kp=5. Geo storm level of G1 or G2 is expected through Saturday due to increased solar wind speed, predicted to be as high as 800-km/s; the present speed is 435 km/s. Conditions on the HF bands may include higher absorption of signals and increased band noise. There is one small area detected by Stereo A that should rise in a day.

(#) Coronal Mass Ejection (CME) – a significant release from the Corona of the Sun of plasma (charged particles and the associated magnetic field) into a solar wind. See: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronal\\_mass\\_ejection](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronal_mass_ejection)

(##) Wolf (Sunspot) Number: See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf\\_number](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf_number).

(###) Radio blackout categories may be found at the SMARC website under “Files” and “Documents.”

\*\*\*\*\* **DX** \*\*\*\*\*

From the 425 DX News (<http://www.425dxn.org/>), DXNews.com (<https://dxnews.com/>) and the ARRL DX Bulletin <http://www.arrl.org/wlaw-bulletins-archive-dx> (ARLD029):

>>Once again, there are numerous DX SES (\*) on the air operating between various dates. See the 425 DX News and ARRL DX Bulletin for details. For example... not much this weekend!

>>4W/VK1AO, Timor Leste (East Timor, north of Australia and near Indonesia) is scheduled to be on the air 07/25 to 08/04 using SSB, FT8, JS8 and “maybe” CW. Operating bands are 40M to 12M, inclusive.

(\*) SES denotes a Special Event Station(s) including special call sign stations.

\*\*\*\*\* **General News** \*\*\*\*\* [K9JU]

Sources include: the ARRL Letter, copyright/published by the American Radio Relay League, Newington, CT; the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org/>) ; Southgate Amateur Radio News (SARN), copyright/published by the Southgate ARC (<http://www.southgatearc.org/>); and, other sources as noted.

>>The ARRL podcasts: [Listen to the podcasts with iTunes for iOS, Stitcher for Android and blubrry for desktop computers.]

Both podcasts continue: “On The Air” discusses the 222- to 225-MHz band; “Eclectic Tech” features W3IZ on downsizing your station and getting the most out of limited space antennas. (ARRL Letter)

>>Are you interested in learning the oldest form of digital communications? No, not RTTY but Morse Code, a/k/a, CW. The CW Operator’s Club just finished their Spring class with 314 graduates. More information at <https://cwops.org/cw-academy/cw-academy-options> . (ARRL Letter)

>>The national telecommunications agency of Brazil, ANATEL, is proposing to make it mandatory to use the ARRL LoTW (Logbook of The World) in order to upgrade. (SARN)

>>The present FCC Legacy “CORES” system was retired 2022 July 15. You should transition to the updated version of CORES. See the SMARC website, <https://w4olb.org/>, click on “Files” and select “Documents” on the dropdown menu. The email is titled, “New FCC Cores.” You need your FRN which is shown on the copy of your license. I would strongly suggest watching the videos from the FCC via the clickable link near the beginning of the email. (ARRL Letter)

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P.S.: The SMARC 2022 proxy form is available at the club website, <https://w4olb.org/>, under “Files” then from the drop-down menu select “Documents.” The form is titled “SMARC 2022 Proxy Form 2022-07-21.” Ensure that you date the form, select a person or persons for your proxy, then print your name, followed by your signature and your callsign. With very little time left for USPS, please scan the copy and email to [k9ju@arrl.net](mailto:k9ju@arrl.net).