

2022/05/12 Announcements - Operating Events, Propagation, DX and The ARRL Letter

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.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html/>

Website: (CW) <http://www.ncccsprint.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

RTTYOPS (RTTY) Weeksprint

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

Website: <https://rttyops.wordpress.com/rty-mini-contests/rtyops-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, Canadian Prairies QSO Party. See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

>>CQ-M International DX Contest (CW, Phone): Saturday 05/14 8:00 AM to Sunday 05/15 7:59 AM

Maximum operating time: No limit

Bands: 160 - 10M (legacy* only)

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

RX & TX Exchange: Signal report ("59," "5NN") + Serial number

Website: <https://cqm.srr.ru/en/rules/>

CAUTION: 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.

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

- Volta WW RTTY Contest
- 50-MHz Spring Sprint

Heads up for the 05/20 to 05/26: AR state QSO party, plus the UN (Kazakhstan) DX Contest (CW, SSB).

* “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/>.

>>From the HF Clock, the wm7d.net and the <https://spaceweather.com/> websites: The Solar Flux Index (SFI) on the HF Clock is 133.0 (the other two sites are 133 and 133, respectively). The Wolf [Sunspot] Number (##) is 62 from four Active Regions. There are two regions south on the eastern limb with sunspots. AR3007, just east (left) of center sun, is capable of producing M- (50%) and X-class 20%) flares. The geomagnetic field of the Earth is relatively quiet with the Kp=2. For the next 24-hours, radio blackouts of R1 (###) minor level may occur. Stereo A is showing one extremely large bright area in the northern hemisphere between -115 and -90 longitude which should rise over the next day to 3- days.

A wealth of information on the conditions on the sun may be found at <https://www.solarham.net/>.

(#) Coronal Mass Ejection – a significant release, from the Corona of the Sun, of plasma (charged particles and the associated magnetic field into a solar wind (*Wikipedia – ed*).

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

(###) Radio blackout categories maybe 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> (ARLD019):

>>Once again, there are numerous SES (*) on the air operating between various dates. See the 425 DX News and ARRL DX Bulletin for details. For example, GB0AEL between 05/13 and 05/30 to commemorate the 90th anniversary of Amelia Earhart’s solo transatlantic flight.

>>T88JH and T88SG (Palau, 7.5 deg N and 134-deg E in the Pacific Ocean) from 05/13 to 05/17 on the 160M - 6M running CW, SSB and digital modes.

>>C83YT, Mozambique (northeast of the Republic of South Africa, Africa) on the 17M to 10M using FT8. No mention of time of stay.

>>FW1JG, Wallis and Fortuna Islands (-15-deg lat/180-deg long in the Pacific Ocean) on 40M to 10M using SSB and digital modes including FT8. This is not a Dxpedition; FW1JG is a resident of Wallis.

He requests FT8 operators to please *send* their grid squares. [He was on 12M FT8 around 5:20 PM EDT the afternoon of 05/12. - *ed*]

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

***** **The ARRL Letter** ***** [K9JU]

From the ARRL Letter, copyright/published by the American Radio Relay League, Newington, CT.

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

“On The Air” discusses FM (Frequency Modulation) and the differences between the mode and AM. [This should be a good primer for new hams. - *ed*] “Eclectic Tech” continues with W9JJ discussing the new, upcoming ARRL International Digital Contest. The contest will occur in early June and supplements the CW and SSB versions in February and March, respectively.

>>The annual Armed Forces Day Cross-Band exercise is set for this Saturday, 05/14. For information concerning frequencies, etc. see <https://www.dodmars.org/mars-comex-information-website/armed-forces-day>.

>>One of the largest ham gatherings is next weekend, 05/20 to 05/22 in Xenia, OH (Greene County Fairgrounds and Expo Center). The hamfest originated in Dayton, OH in 1952, 70-years ago, and is still referred to as the Dayton Hamvention.

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