

2022/09/08 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.ncccsprint.com/rtty.html/>

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

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>

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/rtty-mini-contests/rttyops-weeksprint/>

Operating events for the following 7-days:

>>State QSO parties: AL and OH State Parks on the Air. See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

>>Weekend activities of interest: See links below or <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

- ARRL September VHF (all modes) Contest <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>

- Russian Cup Digital Contest (RTTY) <http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/93>

- WAE (EU) DX Contest (SSB)

<http://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/referat-conteste/worked-all-europe-dx-contest/en/>

Heads up for the 09/16 to 09/22: IA, NH, NJ and TX state QSO parties, Washington State Salmon Run Wisconsin Parks On The Air plus the ARRL 10-GHz and Up contest.

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, the <https://spaceweather.com/> and <https://www.solarham.net/> websites: The Solar Flux Index (SFI) on the HF Clock is 127.0 (116 last week and 126 this morning); the other three sites are 127, 126 and 127, respectively. The Wolf [Sunspot] Number (2) is 73 (42 last week) from five Active Regions. All is quiet on the visible solar disk with only a few very minor C-class flares yesterday and today. The geomagnetic field is active with the Kp=4, which may explain poor DX conditions on the higher HF bands. There is a new bright area just beyond the SE limb of the sun detected by Stereo A and is expected to rise in the next 24-hours. It may add to the flux to enhance propagation on 10M and 12M.

(1) 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

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

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

(4) Geomagnetic Storm categories may be found at the SMARC website under “Files” and “Documents.”

(5) Tamitha Skov, WX6SWW, <https://www.spaceweatherwoman.com/>

******* 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> (ARLD036):

>>Once again, there are numerous DX Special Event Stations on the air operating between various dates. See the 425 DX News and ARRL DX Bulletin for details. An example is DR100RY (Germany) will celebrate the 100th anniversary of RTTY until 12/31.

>>FH/OK1M, Mayotte (South Indian Ocean at 11S/45E), 09/13 until 09/25 using SSB, RTTY and possibly FT8 on 20M, 15M and 10M.

******* 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: “On The Air” continues with a discussion of the “Scan” functions of radios; “Eclectic Tech” has ended as 08/25. All episodes are available through the “Eclectic Tech Archive. The podcast appears to be replaced with “ARRL Audio News,” a summary of the top news for the week of ham radio and the ARRL. [Listen to the podcasts with iTunes for iOS, Stitcher for Android and blubrry for desktop computers.] (ARRL Letter)

>>The 5th “QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo” is next weekend, 09/17 and 18. Many topics are covered that should satisfy the desires of most. Cost is \$10 and allows watching any of the presentations for up to 30-days after the 18th. (ARRL Letter)

>>”Electricity shortage - how can we (hams) help,” refers to what Swiss hams can do during power outages expected next year. (SARN)

>>Keep in mind that from Friday 09/09 8:01 PM ET to Sunday 09/18 7:59 PM ET, the “Route 66 On The Air Special Event” will air to commemorate the history of the “Mother Road.” Route 66 ran from Chicago, IL to Santa Monica, CA. There will be 21 stations along the route with W6A through W6U calls. See https://w6jbt.org/?page_id=15 (ARRL Letter)

NOTE: There will be no announcements next Thursday, 0915, nor posting to the SMARC website.

***** **Request** *****

Please send an email to me at the email address below and let me know if I should continue with these announcements or provide them only through the SMARC website. “Voting” will continue until Thursday, 09/22. Thank you.

73 DE
Bob Loving K9JU
Maryville, TN
k9ju@arrl.net