

2022/09/15 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: IA, NH, NJ and TX. Also Washington State Salmon Run and Wisconsin Parks On The Air. See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

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

- Route 66 Special Event continues until Sunday, 09/18 https://w6jbt.org/?page_id=15 (ARRL Letter)

- ARRL 10-GHz and Up Contest <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>

- North American Sprint, RTTY <http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/93>

- ARRL EME Contest ("Moonbounce") <http://www.arrl.org/eme-contest>

Heads up for the 09/23 to 09/29: ME state QSO party, plus the CQ WW DX Contest, RTTY.

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 140.0 (127 last week and 144 this morning); the other three sites are 140, 144 and 140, respectively. The Wolf [Sunspot] Number (2) is 57 (73 last week) from three (5 last week) Active Regions. The geomagnetic field is quiet with the Kp=1, which explains fairly good DX conditions on the higher HF bands (20M to 10M). However, NOAA forecasters say a transition zone between slow and fast moving solar wind may hit the magnetic field of the earth on Saturday, 09/17, acting similar to a CME (1) causing bright auroras in the arctic regions. Effects on HF propagation may exhibit increased absorption on polar paths. Stereo A isn't showing anything just beyond the visible eastern (to the left) limb of the sun.

(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 HZ92ND, 7Z92ND and 8Z92ND (Saudi Arabia) are celebrating the Saudi National Day until 09/25.

>>FH/OK1M, Mayotte (South Indian Ocean at 13S/45E), worked last night on 15M FT8 at 10:20 PM ET, 09/14. Operations (using other modes) until 09/25, 20M, 15M and 10M.

>>FK8HM, New Caledonia (SW Pacific Ocean at 22S/166E) worked on 10M FT8 at 10:30 PM ET, 09/14!

>>NOTE: The Autumnal Equinox is on Thursday, 09/22, at 9:04 PM ET. The equinoxes are a very good for DX on the HF bands.

***** **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” is new with a discussion of “[Make a Two-Meter J-Pole Antenna from Lamp Cord](#).” Don’t forget about the new “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 this 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)

>>UK and Dependencies may use the letter “Q” after the normal prefixes of G, M and 2 to mark the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. The use is until the end of state mourning on Monday, 09/19. (SARN)

NOTE: There will be no announcements on Thursday, 09/29, nor posting to the SMARC website. This assumes nothing else goes wrong with the boat!

***** **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
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