

## 2022/09/22 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/rttyns.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](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/>

Operating events for the following 7-days:

>>State QSO parties: ME. See <https://contestcalendar.com/> for details.

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

- CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY (45.45-Baud/170-Hz shift) <http://www.cqwwrtty.com/>

- [WA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party](https://antiquewireless.org/homepage/am-gso-party-details/) <https://antiquewireless.org/homepage/am-gso-party-details/>

Heads up for the 09/30 to 10/06: CA state QSO party, plus the Collegiate QSO Party.

**General CAUTIONS:** Contests are not allowed on other than the "legacy" bands; i.e., **no** 60M, 30M,

17M and 12M operations. 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.

\*\*\*\*\* **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 137.0 (140 last week and 137 this morning); the other three sites are 137, 137 and 137, respectively. The Wolf [Sunspot] Number (2) is 70 (57 last week) from five (3 last week) Active Regions. The geomagnetic field is slightly unsettled with the Kp=2, which explains fairly good DX conditions on the higher HF bands (20M to 10M). However, NOAA forecasters predict possible minor geomagnetic storms (4) from high speed solar wind hitting the magnetic field of the earth on Friday, 09/23, causing auroras in the arctic regions. Effects on HF propagation may exhibit as increased absorption on polar paths. The Autumnal Equinox occurs tonight at 9:04 PM EDT; enhanced DX conditions typically surround the equinoxes by up to +/- 24-hours

(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](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronal_mass_ejection)

(2) Wolf [Sunspot] Number: See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wolf\\_number](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 9H6QE (Malta) celebrating the life of the late Queen Elizabeth II until 10/14 on 20M, 17M, 15M, 12M and 10M.

>>5H8HZ, Tanzania` (east coast of Africa with shoreline on the Indian Ocean at 8S/35E), worked 09/19 on 12M FT8 at 2:00 PM ET. Operations on 40M through 10M during his evenings and alternating Sundays. No length of stay is mentioned.

>>5K0 -T, -DX, -YD and -C, San Andres and Providencia Islands (Caribbean Sea at 13N/82W) until 09/26 on 160M – 10M (inclusive) using CW, SSB and FT8 (F?H).

>>NOTE: The Autumnal Equinox is on Thursday, 09/22, at 9:04 PM EDT. 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” continues with a discussion of “[Make a Two-Meter J-Pole Antenna from Lamp Cord](#).” New editions of the “ARRL Audio News,” a summary of the top news for the week of ham radio and the ARRL, seem to appear on Fridays. Also, W4KEV (Knoxville), broadcasts the audio news on 145.370 Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 8:30AM and 10:00 PM ET. [Listen to the podcasts with iTunes for iOS, Stitcher for Android and blubrry for desktop computers.] (ARRL Letter)

>>For you paranoids, this YouTube video may help setup electronic audio bugs in your house: [http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2022/september/is-your-house-bugged.htm#.YyzbLL\\_MLX4](http://www.southgatearc.org/news/2022/september/is-your-house-bugged.htm#.YyzbLL_MLX4) (SARN)

>>One of the two candidates for the post of ITU Secretary (top job) is US Amateur Radio operator, KD2JTX, Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin. (SARN)

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