

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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Issue 9/2009 30 Sep 2009

Crossing the Atlantic via Terrestrial Propagation

Regarding EME, this story is way off topic...however, since all of us have a focus on weak signal propagations in general, I believe it nevertheless is very interesting to most of the readers: Friedhelm "Fred" DM8MM had big plans this past summer when he travelled to Newfoundland and became QRV on 2m as VO1/DM8MM: Winning the Brendan Trophy. This trophy will be awarded by the Irish Amateur Radio Association to those who establish the first terrestrial contact on 144 MHz between Europe and America. There had been a number of tries to do this before but none were successful. To come to the point, also Friedhelm was not successful this time, but there are some very positive indications the win of the Brendan Trophy is not so very far away.



17 elements at the easternmost end of North America... (Picture DM8MM)

From 7 August to 22 August 2010 VO1/DM8MM was QRV from GN36MU right at the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, running some 400 to 750 Watts to a 17 elements yagi beaming to Europe. Since the meteor shower Perseids peaked during his stay, Fred had some hope that meteor scatter propagation together with some tropo enhancement on either side of the Atlantic would make it possible to bridge the some 3500 km. Therefore he conducted a number of meteor scatter skeds during the shower. During the other times he put his rig in beacon mode with the reduced 400 watts out.

Indeed, though the big distance was rather daunting some reflexions from VO1/DM8MM were copied in Europe. On 11 and 12 August Chris GW4DGU and Tim G4LOH listed some pings and bursts from VO1. Sadly not everything could be confirmed to indeed having been from VO1 because some Doppler spread made it impossible to decode. However, the coincidence of working frequency, antenna bearing and QRV times makes it look rather likely that those reflexions were indeed the sigs from VO1/DM8MM. G4LOH writes on his blog www.g4loh.com "During the Perseids shower my antenna was pointing to Newfoundland the entire time listening for VO1/DM8MM. Although several times the computer decoded letters and letter groups from callsigns i wasn't able to find anything that I can confidently say was a real burst." However, also from the Azores come reports of having copied pings from VO1/DM8MM.

It appears to be only a question of time that the Brendan Trophy will finally be awarded. With a little more luck (and some more activity from the European end of the path) the next dxpedition to Newfoundland might end up with a "mission completed". Maybe next time someone in Europe would be willing to try a coordinated attempt with Fred (if he plans to go to VO1 again). From the Western part of Ireland – IO41, IO42 grids – it is "only" some 3100 km.

Congratulations go to DM8MM for this try to win the Trophy. Fred uploaded two videos to the youtube platform. Have a look:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmoAjLn7Wi8>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDk1fNSc9t0>

Results of First DUBUS/REF Digital EME Championships

Alex RU1AA is the first winner of the new REF/DUBUS Digital EME Championships. With his 16 x 14 ele yagi array and 1.5 kW out he completed 126 QSOs during the two contest days 25/26 July, scoring 13356 points altogether. However, it was a close race because with only 356 points less Gio, IK1UWL, is listed on 2nd place. Congratulations to both!

The complete results list (24 entries) is available on <http://www.marsport.org.uk/dubus/eme.htm>

Upcoming DXpeditions in October

(For latest news on current and future dxpeditions check <http://www.mmmonvhf.de>)

Mongolia on 2m EME!

The first ever EME DXpedition to Mongolia will take place from 10 to 14 October 2010 when Jeremy W7EME will be working from the headquarters of the Mongolian Amateur Radio Society in ON37KW.

As Jeremy writes on his website: "This will be a short visit, with full attention being given to each moon pass of JT1UN. I will be operating from both the head quarters of the [Mongolian Amateur Radio Society, MARS, JT1KAA](#) and hopefully also from JT5 in the Tov or Selenge provinces. My call sign will always be JT1UN or JT1UN/JT5 when mobile outside the Ulaanbaatar province."

Moon Times in Ulaan Baatar:

10 Oct: MR 1410Z	11 Oct: MS 0630Z, MR 1530Z
12 Oct: MS 0700Z, MR 1650Z	13 Oct: MS 0730Z, MR 1810Z
14 Oct: MS 0750Z	

JT1UN will run a single MS XPOL long Yagi 2MXP32 and 400 watts out. Jeremy will have polarity selection, elevation and a very hot receiver.

JT1UN will be found at 144,143MHz, TX always second. Jeremy will also be watching and answering CQs in the CW portion of the band, during the contest. There is no internet at any of the planned operating positions. Any communication will be via email when the moon is below the horizon. No skeds except for small stations for QSO attempts on the 12-14th October moons, after the contest.

Jim KY70 will activate the 70 cm band on EME during the ARRL contest, using the JT1YO callsign.

W7EME will be leaving the 2MXP32 behind as a gift to JT1KAA for hosting him and with the hope it will aid in Mongolia and JT1KAA becoming a permanent 144 MHz signal on the moon.

Latest news on this event on <http://www.w7eme.org/ulaanbaatar> or www.mmmonvhf.de

HS0ZIL (OK16BQ)

Karsten DL2LAH will be back in Thailand from 9 to 24 October 2010 and might be QRV if he finds enough time. He should soon have a second 10 ele DK7ZB ready. Whenever there are time slots available for him to be QRV he will announce this at on ON4KST, N0UK and at MMMonVHF.

Time Table

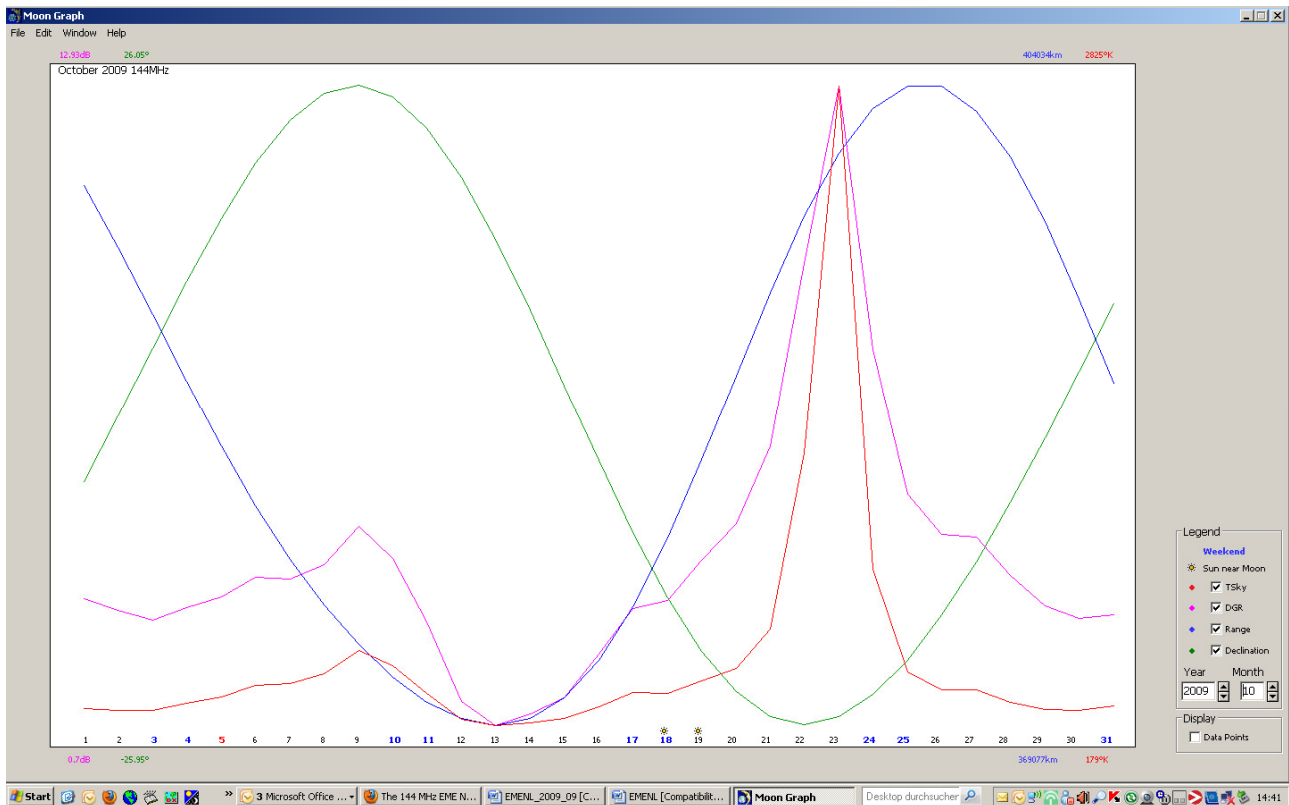
10/11 Oct 2009

ARRL Worldwide EME Contest

26 Oct 2009

October Issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter
ready for download at www.df2zc.de/newsletter

Moon Graph October 2009



(Courtesy of David GM4JJJ (www.gm4jjj.co.uk/MoonSked/moonsked.htm))

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