

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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Issue 12/2009 28 Dec 2009

Happy New Year 2010!

A happy new year 2010 to the readers of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter! I wish you all health, peace, joy and happiness, in other words: the best of everything.

vy 73 Bernd DF2ZC

A Historic Radio Transmission

(taken from Martin, KC3RE's site <http://cristoforifund.tripod.com/journal3.html>)

Alan Hovhaness' Symphony No. 11, "All Men are Brothers" was completed in its final form while the composer was living in Switzerland. I learned of Hovhaness' love of astronomy in 1971, after he had attended our Long Island Chamber Ensemble's Carnegie Recital Hall performance of his "O Lady Moon." Hovhaness had then counselled me to study astronomy, so that "in realising the vastness of all creation, I would comprehend my own insignificance and achieve true humility-the first step to becoming an artist."

Therefore, it seemed appropriate today, in 2009, to initiate a ceremonial two-way radio contact using the moon to reflect the radio signals between the Alan Hovhaness Memorial Station W1H and station HB9Q in Switzerland. The successful two-way transmissions took place on 3 May, 2009. A second successful EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) contact from W1H took place shortly thereafter with station LA8YB in Norway. Martin, KC3RE



W1H mobile EME radio station contacting Switzerland from New England. (Picture KC3RE)

Silent Keys

W5LBT SK

Bob Taylor, W5LBT, died on November 20, 2009 at the age of 78, after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Bob was a regular on 2 meter EME in the 80's and 90's, and had many ham radio friends. He hosted the EME conference in Baton Rouge in 1992, and the Central States VHF Conference there in the early 1980's. Moreover he administered the 144 MHz EME Directory by W5LBT. Bob and his 24 x 17 elements

array of EME antennas even made it to the cover of QST once - and not the least he put an excellent CW signal on the moon. He'll be badly missed.

Upcoming DXpeditions

2010 will bring a number of DXpeditions on 2m EME - some of them are already publicly known, some are still kept secret until everything is confirmed, and some we would not even think about yet. Definitely **8Q Maledives** will become QRV by Dan HB9Q and Pierre HB9QQ at the end of March. Moreover Karsten DL2LAH will be active again as **HZ0ZIL** from Thailand from 30 March until 30 May, first only with two 10 elements but later with four yagis as soon as he has completed assembling the second two antennas. **T7 San Marino** will be activated by a group of experienced VHF-DXers in April or May and most probably also **GJ Jersey** will pop up from where DF2ZC and DH7FB plan to be QRV from 20 to 24 April. However, finding an appropriate holiday cottage in Jersey proves to be much more difficult compared to Guernsey in 2008. And not the least - René PE1L also has plans for bringing a rare DXCC on the air. So there are many surprises waiting...

Miscellaneous

Where is the moon?

Every now and then hams which are new to EME ask for advice on software how to find out the moon's rise and set times of their QTH. There is a number of solutions, for example the TrakSM program by W4SM (www.keplerian.com), the Moon2 software by YU1CF (www.dual.rs/yu1cf/), both freeware as well as similar software by F1EHN (www.f1ehn.org), VK3UM (www.sm2cew.com/download.htm) and W7GJ (www.bigskyspaces.com/w7gj/). Of course most offer by far more than just simple moonrise and moonset calculations. XEARTH (<http://hewgill.com/xearth/>) displays the Earth as seen from the moon's perspective - so not really a MR/MS utility but yet very impressive.

And of course there is also a number of excellent pay software such as Moonsked by GM4JJJ (www.gm4jjj.co.uk), Skymoon by W5UN (www.w5un.net) or Nova for Windows (www.nlsa.com).

However, if you don't like to install this and that - the WWW has great offers. On www.heavens-above.com or on <http://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/AltAz.php> you can have the moonrises/moonsets calculated for your current QTH - and much more.

EME Conference 2010 Dallas, Texas

Al, W5LUA, one of the organisers of the 2010 EME Conference in Plano, TX sent the first call for papers: "This is a First Call for Papers for the 14th International EME Conference to be held in Dallas, Texas on August 12, 13, and 14th in 2010. The event will be held at the Weston Hotel near the Dallas/Ft. Worth airport in Irving. We just recently held Microwave Update at this hotel and the service, rooms and conference

facilities were excellent. Hotel details as well as website check-in details will be forthcoming after the first of the year.

In keeping with tradition, the conference will primarily concentrate on EME on the 432 MHz and above bands. At this point, I have several speakers already signed up but we are still actively pursuing talks and papers on various aspects of EME communication. This includes topics such as dish design and feed systems, yagi antenna design, low noise receiving techniques, higher power solid state and tube amplifier design, TWTs, EME expeditions, tracking the moon, evaluating system performance and EME QSO procedures just to name a few. We are also interested in articles for the proceedings even if you are not going to present it at the conference. The ARRL will be publishing the proceedings.

If you are interested in presenting, I would like to hear back from you as soon as possible. Please reply to w5lua@sbcglobal.net. The deadline for papers will be mid June.

The technical talks will be presented on both Friday and Saturday the 13th and 14th of August. While we are enjoying the technical talks, tours will be available by air conditioned buses for the spouses on both Friday and Saturday. We are also planning a tour of the Ft.Worth area on Thursday for both hams and spouses. So plan on arriving by Wednesday evening to take full advantage of all planned activities.

Further information as well as schedule information will be posted on the North Texas Microwave Society www.ntms.org by the first of the year.

Best Regards

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Tony Emanuele WA8RJF wa8rjf@arrl.net

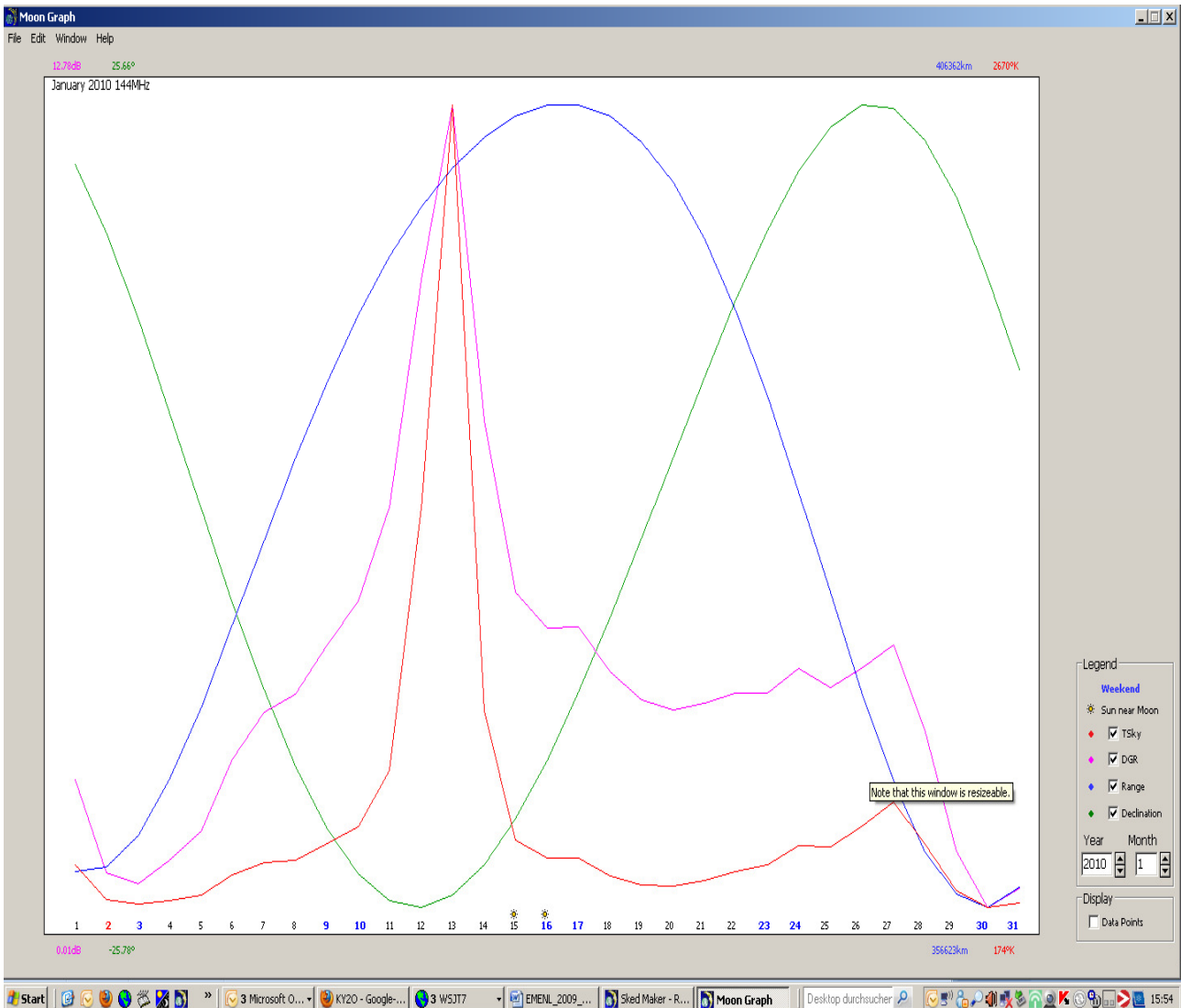
Barry Malowanchuk VE4MA ve4ma@shaw.ca"

[Time Table](#)

23 January 2010 Dubus EME CW Activity Event
1030-1330,1830-2030Z

25 January 2010 January Issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter
ready for download at www.df2zc.de/newsletter

Moon Graph January 2010



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