The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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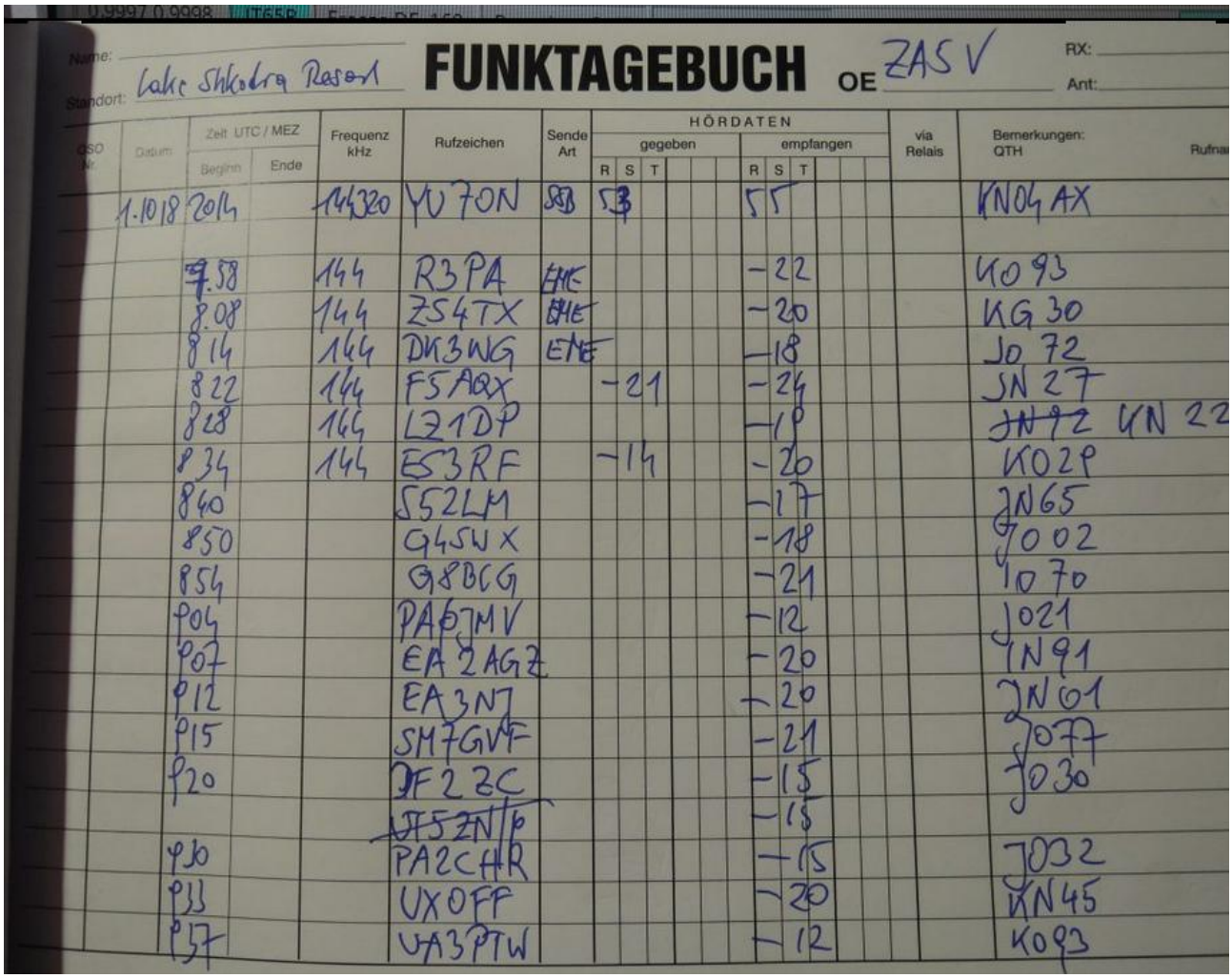
ZA5V QRV from Albania

The two 6 m yagis and the 2m array at lake Shkodra resort.

From October 1st to 6th a mixed team from Austria and Slovenia – members of the OE6V contest team (OE6FNG, OE6TQG, OE6YWD, OE6JUE, OE6WIG, OE6VCG, OE6KAE), of the Albanian Shkodra radio club ZA5V and of the national association of Albanian radioamateurs and S59A – were QRV from Albania. Their focus was on HF as well as on EME on 6m and 2m. On 144 MHz the set-up consisted of Elecraft K3, Kuhne TR144-H transverter, BEKO HLV-2000 sspa, WA2ODO lna and a group of four 9 ele yagis DK7ZB design.

On September 29th at 3 am local time the Austrians started their camper journey to Albania. After a night stopover South of Dubrovnik, the following day they successfully continued their journey to the final destination at the Albanian lake Shkodra,(JN92RD). Upon arrival the set-up of the stations began straight away. The 2m antennas were ready at October 1st. Shortly after start of operations the pile-up formed, with good signal strengths. No question, Albania was a wanted DXCC on 2m EME.



FUNKTAGEBUCH OE ZA5V

Name: Standort: Lake Shkodra Resort RX: Ant:

QSO Nr.	Datum	Zeit UTC / MEZ Beginn	Ende	Frequenz kHz	Rufzeichen	Sende Art	HÖRDATEN gegeben R S T	HÖRDATEN empfangen R S T	via Relais	Bemerkungen: QTH	Rufna
	1.10.18	2014		144320	YU7ON	SSB	53	55		KN04AX	
		7.58		144	R3PA	EME		-22		KO93	
		8.08		144	Z54TX	EME		-20		KG30	
		814		144	DK3WG	EME		-18		JO72	
		822		144	F5AQX		-21	-24		JN27	
		828		144	LZ1DP			-19		~~JN92~~ KN22	
		834		144	ES3RF		-14	-20		KO29	
		840			S52LM			-17		JN65	
		850			G4SWX			-18		JO02	
		854			G8BCG			-21		IO70	
		P04			PA0JMV			-12		JO21	
		P07			EA2AGZ			-20		IN91	
		P12			EA3NJ			-20		JN01	
		P15			SM7GVF			-21		JO77	
		P20			DF2ZC			-15		JO30	
					~~VE5ZN/p~~			-15			
		P30			PA2CHR			-15		JO32	
		P33			UX0FF			-20		KN45	
		P37			UA3PTW			-12		KO93	

25 2m stations worked during the first moon pass – this made the team happy.

In addition to the good radio results the team had also another highlight during the activity. Franz OE6TQG celebrated his 70th birthday. How much better can it be for a radio amateur having this event during a DXpedition?

While ZA5V was very successfully moon-bouncing the following days finally Murphy's law applied also with this DXpedition. On October 6th the sspa stopped working: apparently the input relay had failed beyond repair. So after some discussion about what to do the DXpeditioners decided to travel home two days earlier than the planned October 10th because 2m EME had been a major focus of the activity. So on the 7th the stations were broken down and everything was packed for travel. However, everyone is still happy about the results and while traveling through the beautiful countryside of Albania, Croatia and Slovenia already discussions of where to go next time took place. If you'd like to support this and future events the bank transfer details are on their dedicated website https://za5v.oevsv.st/

The entire Albanian/Austrian/Slovenian team *(Photos OE6FNG)*

F/DM2BHG Holiday Activity from Western France

DM2BHG's special construction to mount antennas on the roof of his Skoda Yeti (*Photo DM2BHG*)

Every year Heinz DM2BHG uses his summer holiday for some EME activity. This past July he spent three weeks in the French grid squares IN99, IN88 and also on the isle of Noirmoutier (EU-064) which is situated in the nearly water square IN86. Together with Peter DL6CGC who had joined him this year both managed to activate even two bands, Heinz on 2m EME and Peter on 6m. Equipment was 2x 8 ele hpol for which Heinz had made a special construction to place the antennas on his car's roof, sspa and lna.

Heinz' log shows 47 QSOs and definitely many hams are grateful now for one or more new squares on 144 MHz. Firm plans for next year are already being made. DM2BHG wants to travel to the North coast of Norway. There are also so many rare squares – the odds are good that he'll make many hams happy again.

Upcoming DXpeditions

For more information on current and upcoming DXpeditions please have a look at www.mmmonvhf.de from where most of the information here was gathered unless noted otherwise.

EME from the Roof of the World: Nepal

This year Kay JH3AZC and Taka JP3EXR want to be QRV from Nepal (Locator NL18XF). Together with four more hams they leave Japan on October 23rd. Plan is to be QRV EME from October 27th to 31st from the Hotel Anapurna View in Pokhara. System is FT991, Phoenix1000A and 2x9 ele LFA yagis. Frequency will be announced upon arrival.

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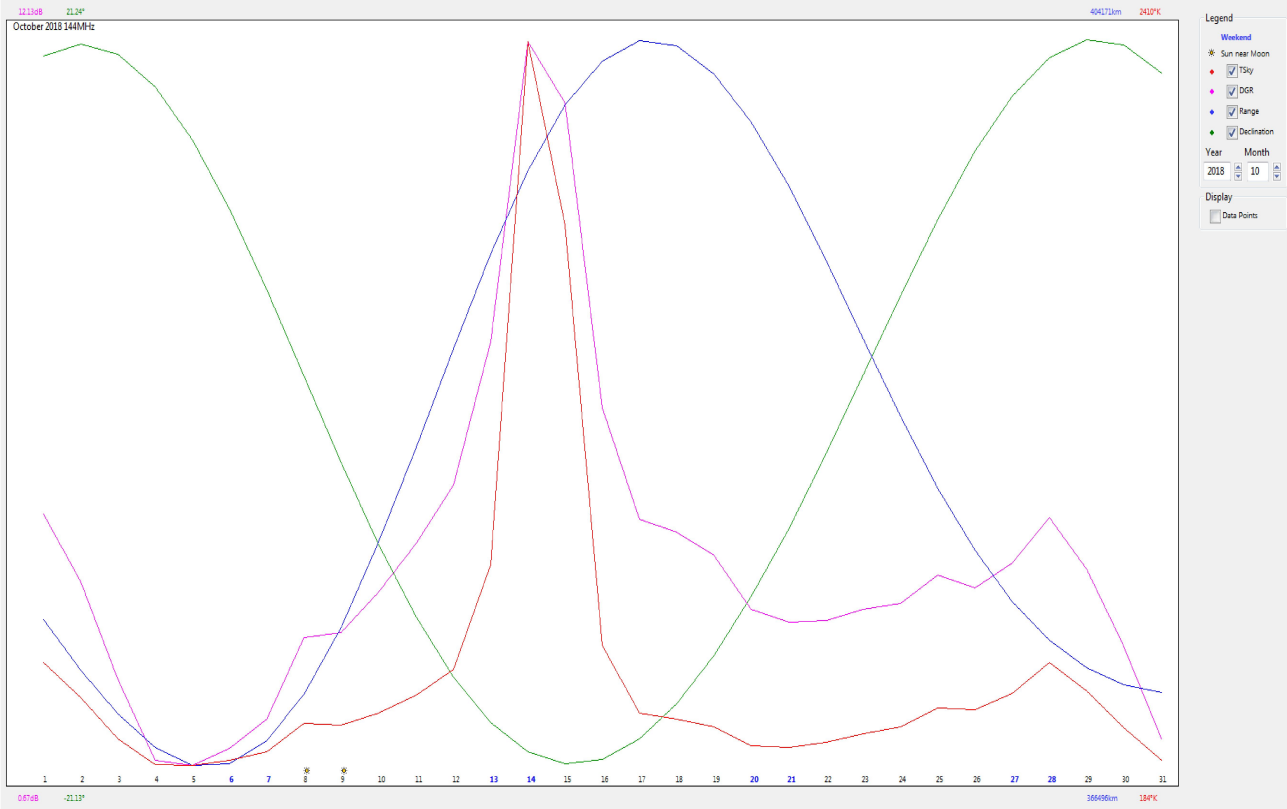
DXpedition infos courtesy www.mmmonvhf.de and other sources

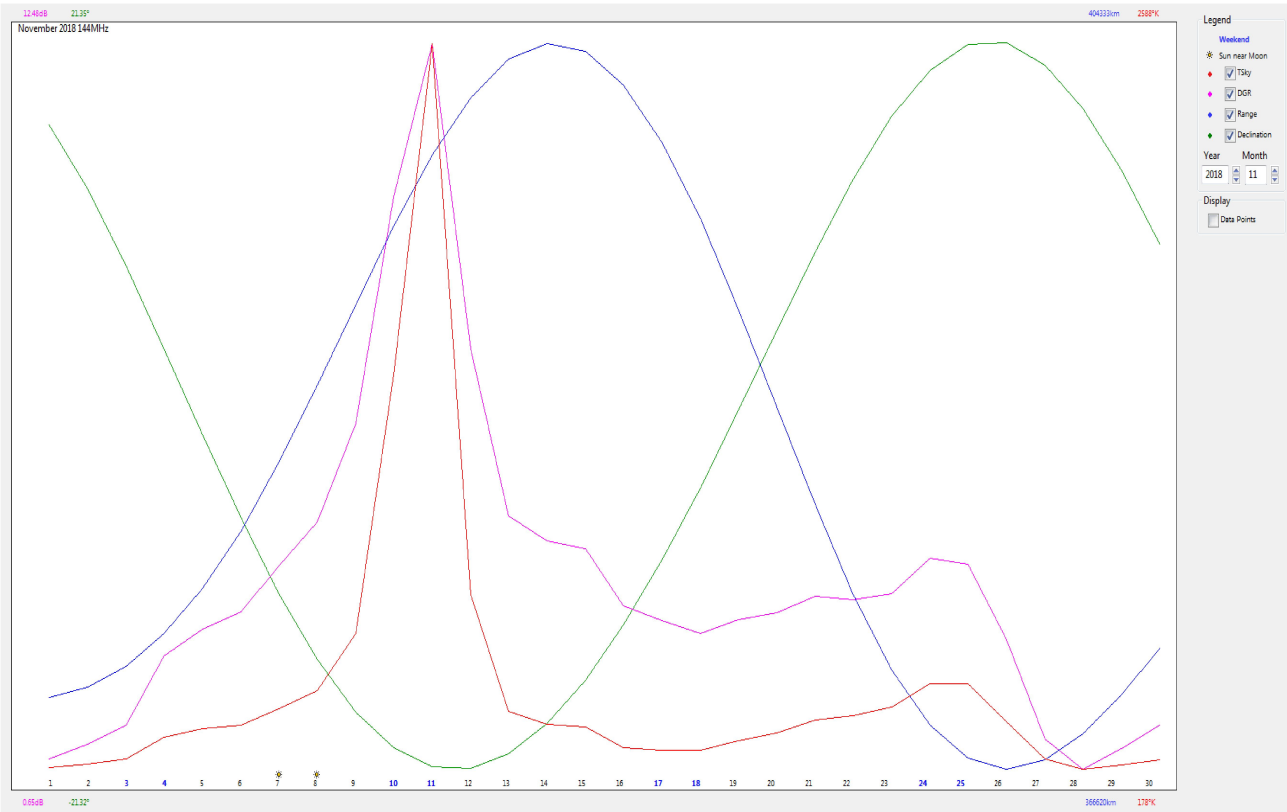
Time Table

27/28 October	00-24Z	ARRL EME Contest 1st leg
13 November		November issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter ready for download at http://www.df2zc.de
24/25 November	00-24Z	ARRL EME Contest 2nd leg

Moon Conditions



Moon Graph October 2018



Moon Graph November 2018

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