

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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KA6U QRV From EL79

Any grid square with little or zero 2m EME activity is a very interesting and wanted one. Sadly, last year COVID-19 more or less stopped all the then current DXpedition plans. Some were cancelled altogether, some were postponed, for example the Marquesas DXpedition by Gene, KB7Q. Gene now confirmed (see January newsletter): The new dates are October 31st to November 7th, 2021. The equipment import licenses and the TX7MB license have all been refreshed for the new dates and he now started booking the flights.



The KA6U station in EL79TX with antennas beaming straight to the Gulf of Mexico

EL79 is a nearly water grid South of Tallahassee, Florida. No surprise many stations still needed that one. On February 26th Peter KA6U completed with 57 stations from there so the “demand” for EL79 now is a little less. Peter had completely rebuilt his DXpedition setup: the 2 m MS and EME station now is in his truck. The equipment will remain set up there so when he arrives at a site he only needs seconds for the station electronics setup. The EME antenna setup will take about an hour. The MS station setup will require only about 10 minutes.



View into Peter's new shack in his truck. (Photos KA6U)

That DXpedition Peter had also planned to become QRV from EM61 and EM71 but with a heavy heart he had to cancel it. It was impossible to find a suitable location given the time remaining after leaving EL79. No question KA6U will bring these two grids on the air later this year.

Back home in EL87 Peter did not lose much time to prepare for the next activity: On March 14th and 15th he activated EM83 and EM82. From the latter he completed 55 EME QSOs, from EM83 it were 49 contacts, always within some roughly six hours, plus some MS contacts. Particularly from EM83 the conditions were not easy: Rapidly shifting polarization and deep QSB were a permanent challenge. One cycle a signal would be -18 on hpol and the next sequence there'd be no copy at all. Then it would show up on vpol. Many QSOs required switching polarization on Peter's end during the QSO. Lots of sun noise in the afternoon did not make things easier. At least sunny weather (28°C) added to an enjoyable stay. Peter is always busy planning for new activations: Please check his qrz.com information for updates: www.qrz.com/db/KA6U.

WSJT-X 2.4.0 Release Candidate 3 available

Joe K1JT reports the availability of release candidate 3 for WSJT-X 2.4.0 (functional until May 25th). The installation packages for Windows, Linux, and Macintosh are available at the usual WSJT website <http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/wsjsx.html>

Joe and the other developers Bill G4WJS, Steve K9AN and Nico IV3NWV ask to report on your Q65 experiences, successful and otherwise, on one of the WSJT forums. Bugs should be reported as detailed as possible, including program version, operating system, concise description of the problem and exact sequence of steps required to reproduce the problem.

Results of ARRL EME Contest 2020

The results of the 2020 ARRL EME Contest are out now. You can download the entire article including comments and pictures at <https://contests.arrl.org/ContestResults/2020/EME-2020-FinalFullResults.pdf>. The 2021 Contest takes place on 10/11 October and 28/29 November (2 m)

Time Table

5 April	April Issue of the 144 MHz EME Newsletter ready for download
24 April 0000Z -	7 th ARI EME Trophy Spring Session
25 April 2400Z	

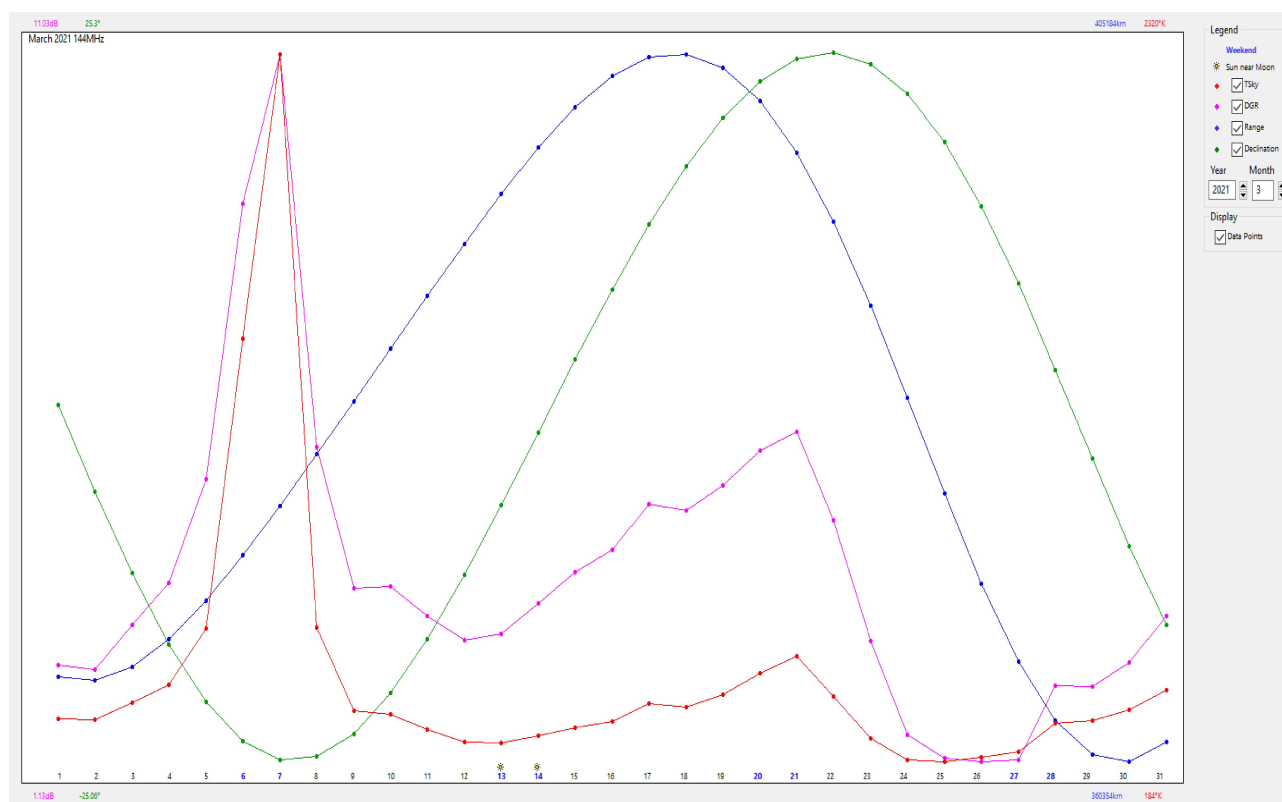
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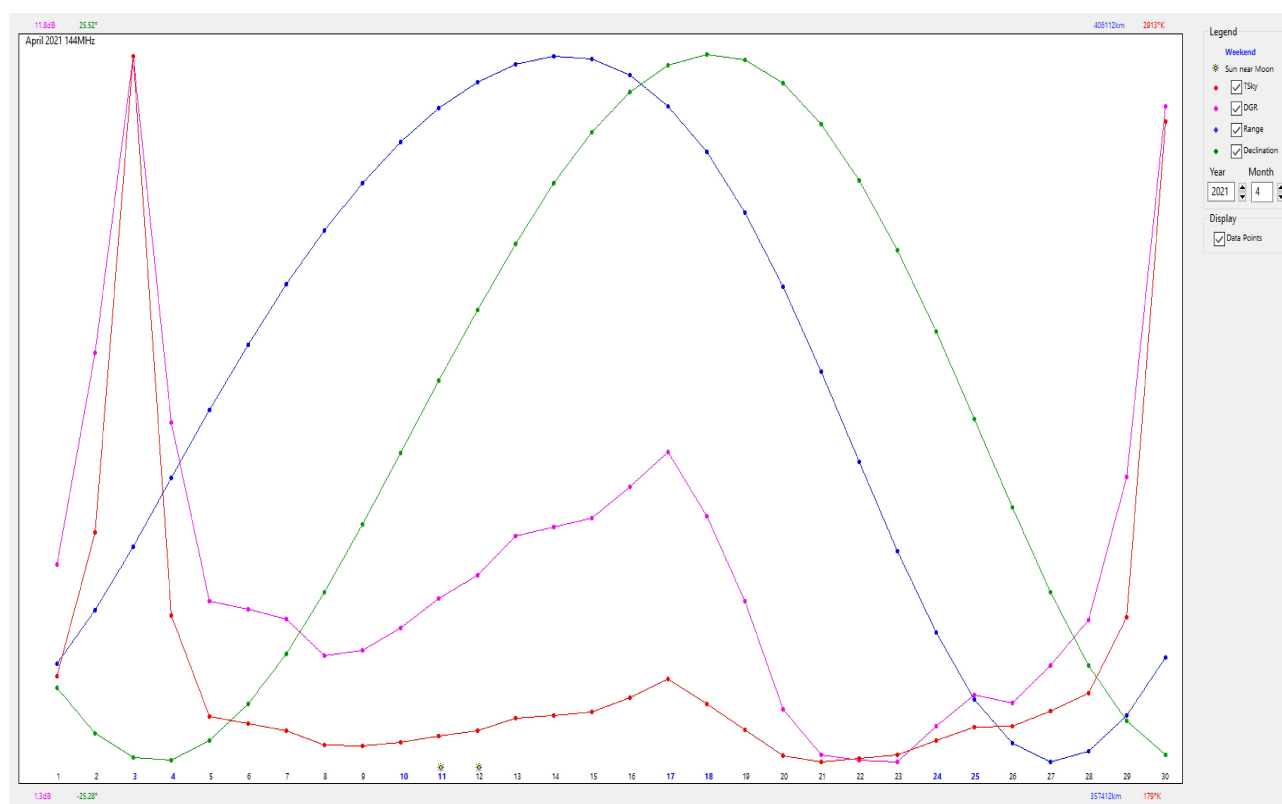
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Moon Conditions



Moon Graph March 2021



Moon Graph April 2021

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