

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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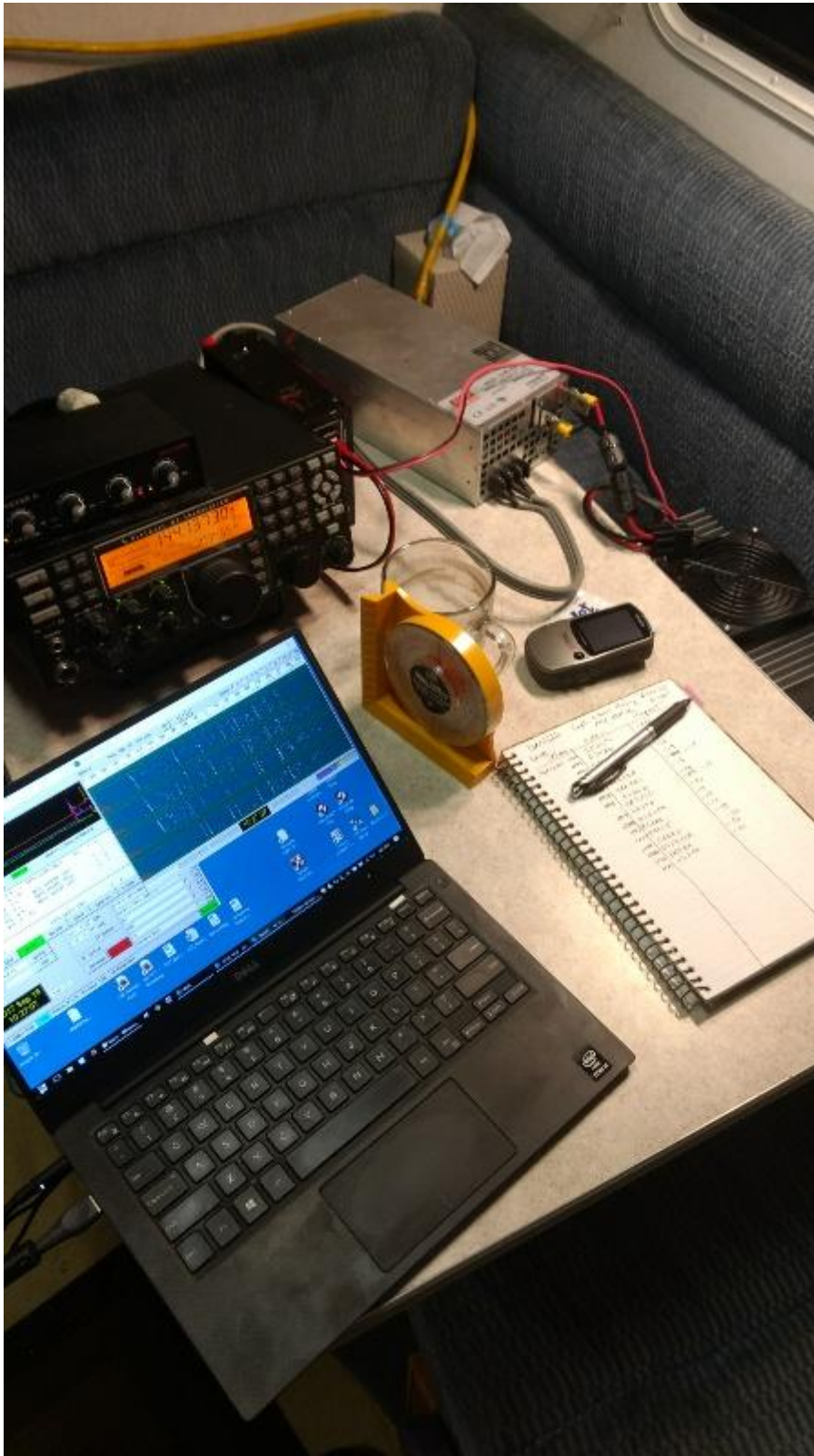
KB7Q QRV from DN66DB

Gene has definitely taken a shine to activating rare squares in the Western part of the USA. After a successful one-day tour to DN56 in July he recently spent one moon pass in DN66DB, on September 16th. The equipment was the same as in July: 2 x 9 ele yagis, 800 watts out, K3 with internal transverter, excellent pre-amp and a 2 kW generator. Only, the weather forecast did not look very promising: The first fall storm was moving through Montana when Gene rolled east to the operating spot on the Yellowstone River out past Pompey's Pillar. He figured this trip might turn out to be a soggy bust as it rained hard and even snowed on Bozeman Pass while traveling out.



Antennas and mobile shack at the banks of the Yellowstone river, at Captain Clark Fishing Access Site

It still rained a bit while Gene was setting everything up, but as he is pretty organized there was no wasted motion and before long he could make it inside the warm camper setting up the radio and amp. Only, the heavy rain made him concerned in case it would cause his SWR to shoot up. Luckily this never happened, which was a big relief.



The mobile KB7Q shack in the camper (Photos KB7Q)

Straight from the start this activity was somewhat different from the others before. Not only weather-wise, also re pile-up: There had always been times of only few or no callers at all during previous DX-peditions. This time however straight from his moonrise at 0900Z (3 am local time) for the next four hours Gene had a permanent -600 to +700 Hz pile-up going on. Now, that was fun and the best remedy against getting tired. When the dust finally settled ten hours later 70 (!) stations were in the log. Consequently this was the best one day effort ever at KB7Q. Sometimes what was expected going to be a slog turned out to be a maximum fun outing. And the Kp index was even at 4 that day.

The only glitch was that the K3 would sometimes produce no transmit power when going from RX to TX. Gene had to reach over to the radio and turn the power knob slightly to get the RF drive flowing again. This sure will be addressed until the next activity.

In the meantime Gene has added yet another successful one-day activity to his list, now from DN46. We'll report about that one in the next issue. Back home he's now preparing for his six week's stay at PJ2T early next year.

News flash: On November 11th Gene will be QRV again one moon pass, this time from DN55. See <http://kb7qgrid.blogspot.de/> for details

JN4GJK Activating Rare Japanese Square PM76

On August 19th a Japanese team – JN4JGK, JS3CTQ and JM3UGA – became QRV from the very rare grid square PM76. There is only a little part of land in that square in Fukui prefecture, about 100 km North of Kyoto. The rest of it is in the Japanese sea.

Using the callsign JN4JGK they set up two 13 elements yagis, vertical polarized, together with IC-7100 and SSPA. With that station a fair number of QSOs was made so that many ham friends were happy to work that square. Many 4 yagis stations copied JN4JGK's signal down to -18 dB or better – a good success.



From left: JN4JGK, JS3CTQ and JM3UGA celebrating their successful EME activity. (Photo JN4JGK)

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.

3DA0MB (KG53MN) currently QRV from Swaziland

Until October 18th the 3DA0MB team is QRV on a number of bands including 2 m. Setup is 4 x 9 ele hpol and 4 x 6 ele vpol (I3DLI design). CQ frequency is generally 144.112 MHz.

DL1RPL QRV from Cap Verde D4

No further update from last issue of the EMENL: Together with Hermann DL2NUD Peter DL1RPL will be QRV from Cabo Verde from Nov. 1st to 7th. Their focus lies on >430 MHz but Peter will also bring a 2 m set-up. As the QTH will be different from the X-Team's (DH7FB & DF2ZC) QTH past May (but still HK85) they may have less minimum elevation at moonrise, good for the VK/ZL boys.

DX7EME (PJ19VN) QRV From the Philippines

DK5YA, DL8FBD, DK5EW and DU1EV will be QRV from Panglao Island from October 31st to November 14th on 2 m and 70 cm EME. Moon condx will be very fine from November 1st until 14th with low degradation including the 2nd part of the 2017 ARRL EME contest on November 4th/5th. The team hopes for in excess of 300 initials on 2 m. Equipment on 144 MHz is 2 x 8 ele xpols by IOJXX, adaptive RX, circular TX and Elecraft K3 with diversity RX and a dual rx transverter by HA1YA. They have set up a dedicated website <http://dx7eme.de/>.

Time Table

4/5 Nov 2017	ARRL EME Contest
6 Nov 2017	November issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter ready for download at http://www.df2zc.de

The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

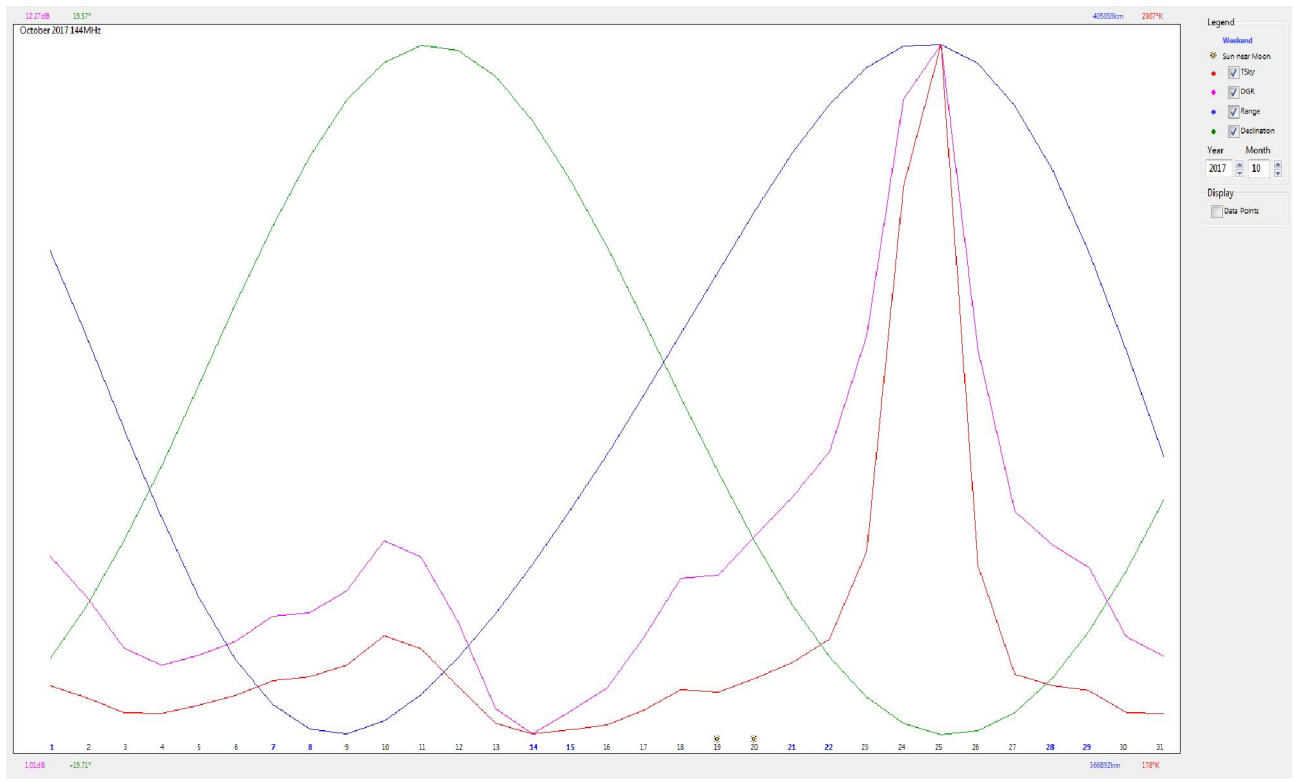
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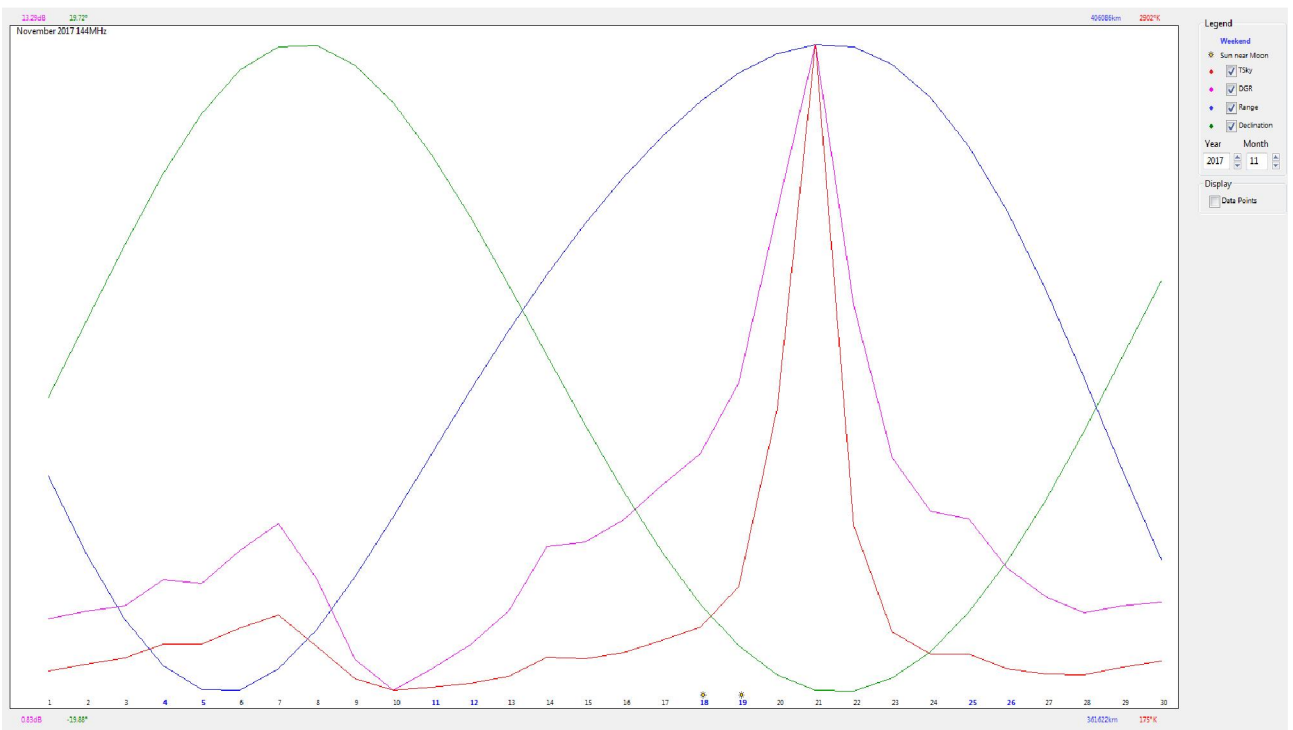
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DXpedition infos courtesy www.mmmonvhf.de and other sources

Moon Conditions



Moon Graph October 2017



Moon Graph November 2017

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