The 144 MHz EME NewsLetter

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9N7AP QRV from the Roof of the World

After a fair number of DXpeditions to much wanted locations in the Pacific area Kay JH3AZC together with JP3EXR, JA1PFP, JA3RVS, JH3QFL and JA3RVS became QRV from Nepal this October. Kay and Taka JP3EXR together with Taka JA1PFP and Katsumi JA3RVS focused on 2 m EME while the other team members gave 9N to those needing it on HF.

Their QTH was the hotel Annapurna view http://www.annapurnaview.com/ in Pokhara (NL18XF), close to the 8091 m high Annapurna. The equipment consisted of a FT991, a Phoenix1000A, 2x9 ele LFA antennas (hpol) and a LNA – it was more or less the same setup which was used in October 2017 from the T8EM Koror Island operation. Luckily the MoICT in Nepal had revised a license law for amateur radio on July this year and permitted 500 watts RF power for VHF EME operation.

The two 9 ele LFA antennas with Annapurna in the background

On October 23rd the group left Japan for the long journey to Nepal. And on October 26th – one day earlier than expected – the first signals from 9N7AP were copied on 2 m via moon: Sergey RX1AS was the lucky first station worked. Another 13 QSOs followed until 0216 UTC on the 27th. Of course it was no surprise that 9N7AP needed some minimum elevation at rise and set. Only, the conditions were not quite favorable because sometimes the signals from Nepal were copied well but nothing was received by the team.

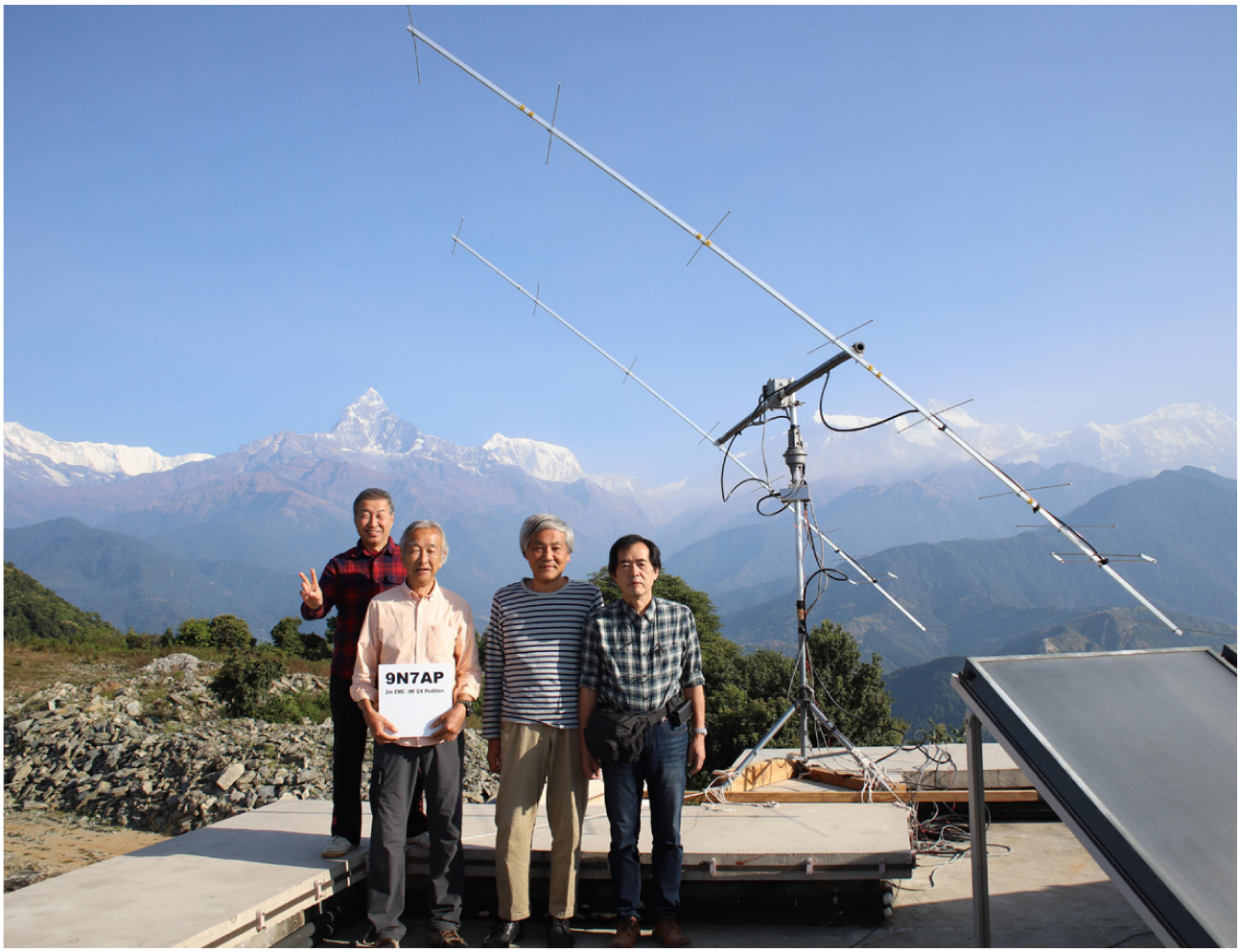
Kay JH3AZC and Taka JP3EXR in the 9N7AP EME shack

The following days the conditions changed for the better but still there were times when nothing was copied in Pokhara, also due to local noise, of course. At the end of the operations on November 1st 141 complete QSOs were in the log – with OH4LA being the lucky man having worked 9N7AP at the very last moment.

For those who did not succeed with working 9N7AP there is some hope: Satish 9N1AA is very interested in 2 m EME. The team left a 2 m LDMOS sspa built by JA1PFP with him so maybe in the near future there will be the first resident station starting EME from 9N land.

QSLs for 9N7AP are direct only via JH3AZC, with two US-$ or one IRC. The address in qrz.com is good. The QSL sending has just started. And if you would like to support this and maybe future activities you can do this via paypal to jh3azc@gaia.eonet.ne.jp

The team is very grateful for all the QSOs and will not forget this exciting Nepal trip with so many nice memories. Let us see if they turn up from yet another rare DXCC in 2019.



The 9N7AP EME team, from left JH3AZC, JA1PFP, JP3EXR and JH3VAA *(Photos JH3AZC)*

EA6VQ EME Calender 2019

Gabriel EA6VQ, master of the famous VQLog software and the dxmaps.com website, has drafted a special EME calender for 2019. It is available at https://www.dxmaps.com/emecalendar.html Here is just a short excerpt showing the best moon bounce days 2019:

EA6VQ's EME BEST DAYS - 2019 (DGRD < 2.0 dB)

Days	CONDITIONS on 144 MHz
Jan 20-24	Best DGRD = 0.1 dB on 21st (Best conditions of 2019)
Feb 17-21	Best DGRD = 0.1 dB on 18th (Best conditions of 2019)
Mar 16-21	Best DGRD = 0.3 dB on 17th
Apr 13-17	Best DGRD = 0.6 dB on 14th
May 10-14	Best DGRD = 0.7 dB on 11th
Jun 6-10	Best DGRD = 0.6 dB on 7th
Jul 3-7	Best DGRD = 0.5 dB on 4th
Jul 31-Aug 4	Best DGRD = 0.2 dB on 1st **BUT New Moon that day**
Aug 27-31	Best DGRD = 0.3 dB on 29th **BUT New Moon on 30th**
Sep 24-28	Best DGRD = 0.4 dB on 25th **BUT New Moon on 28th**
Oct 21-25	Best DGRD = 0.7 dB on 23rd
Nov 17-21	Best DGRD = 0.9 dB on 19th
Dec 14-19	Best DGRD = 0.8 dB on 15th

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.

T46MB QRV From Cuba

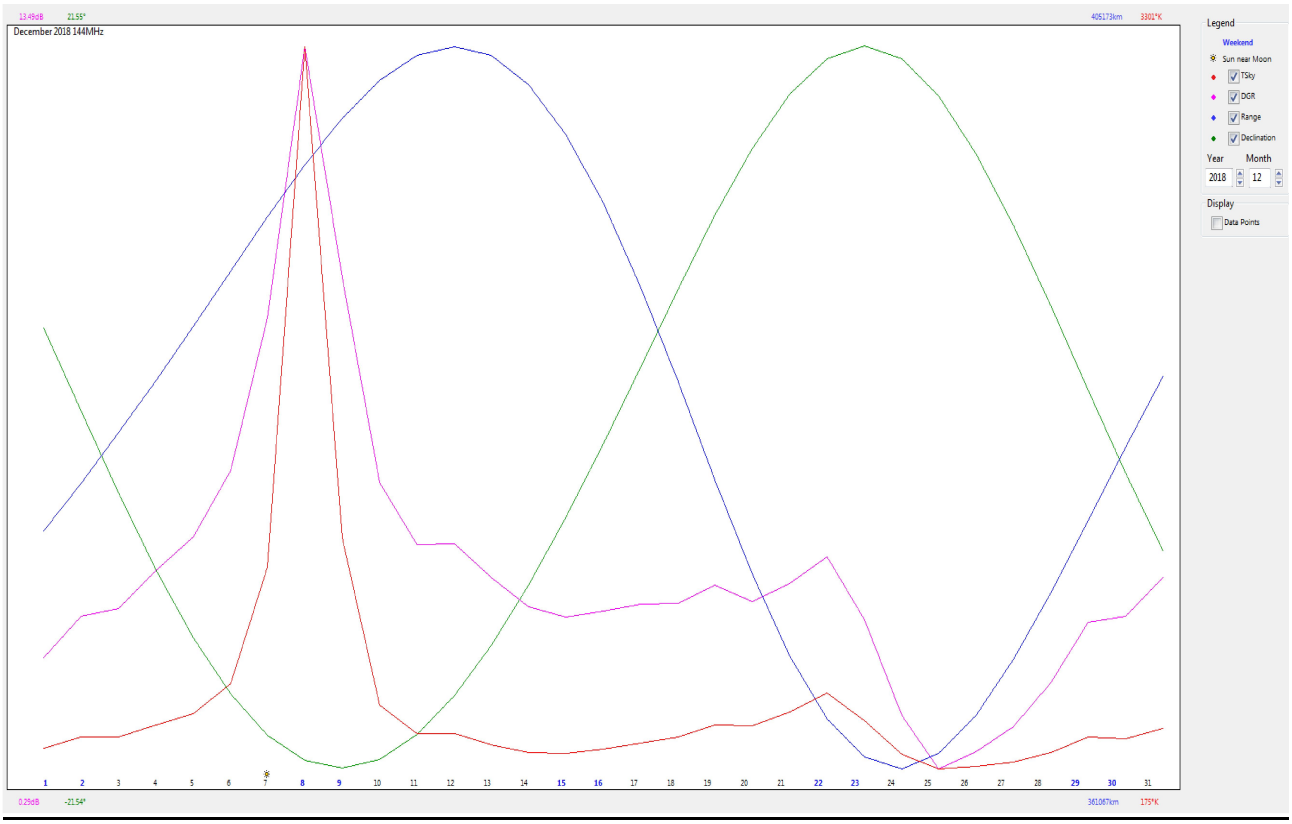
No news is good news? There is no update about the postponed 2017 Cuba DXpedition by the Verona DX Team, so it will probably take place as communicated, from January 17th to 27th, 2019 from FL02GN. The Cuban Ministry of Telecommunications has confirmed the call T46MB for the only authorized DXpedition to perform experiments via EME in Cuba, using digital modes and frequencies and powers suitable for the purpose. QTH will be in Santa Clara, FL02GN. Latest news are on http://www.ari.verona.it/veronadxteam/t46mb_2018.htm and on MMMonVHF.

The QTH of T46MB will be in Playa Ganuza at the North Coast of Cuba, some 200 km East of Havanna

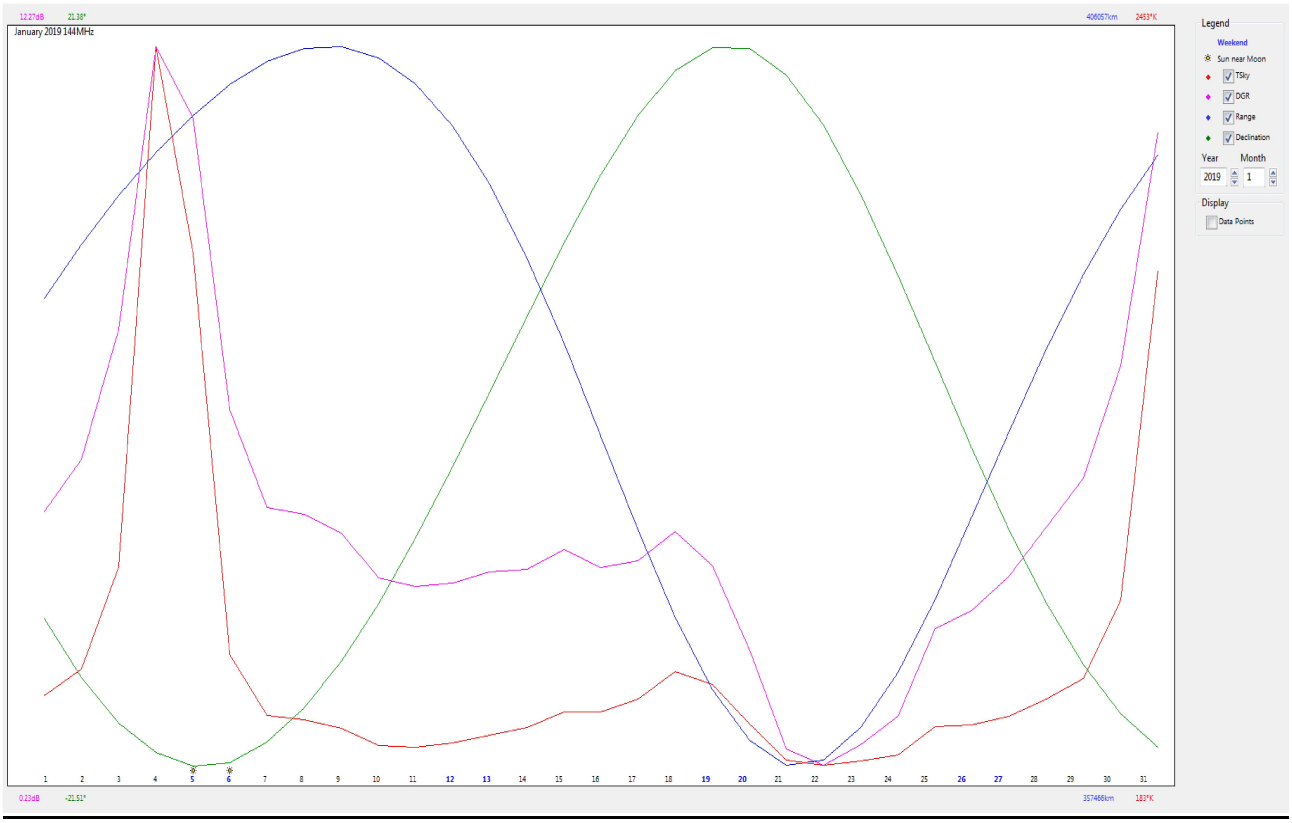
Time Table

14 January	January issue of the 144 MHz EME NewsLetter ready for download at http://www.df2zc.de

Moon Conditions



Moon Graph December 2018



Moon Graph January 2019

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