

# QUARTERLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Current Contests

### June—ARRL June VHF QSO Party:

The dates for this contest are June 9–11. Complete rules are in the May issue of QST. Rules can also be found on the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org>). Many are making plans to activate rare grids. For the latest information on grid expeditions, check the VHF reflector ([vhf@w6yx.stanford.edu](mailto:vhf@w6yx.stanford.edu)) on the internet. This is by far the most popular VHF contest. For weeks in the run-up to the contest postings are made on the VHF reflector announcing Rover operations and grid expeditions. It is a contest that will create for you plenty of opportunities to introduce the hobby to your friends who are not presently working the VHF-plus bands or are not hams.

**EADX 6 Meter Contest:** The EADX 6 Meter Contest is from 1000 UTC June 9 to 1600 UTC June 10. Single operators must have a minimum resting period of 6 continuous hours. Exchange is RST plus full 6-digit grid locator. All contacts must be direct and terrestrial. No repeater or EME QSOs are allowed. Paper logs are to be sent to EADX6M Contest, PO Box 68, E-08960 Sant Just Desvern, Barcelona, Spain. Electronic logs in Cabrillo format only are to be e-mailed to [eadx6mcontest@gmail.com](mailto:eadx6mcontest@gmail.com). For full contest rules see the SMIRK Klub website (<http://www.smirk.org>). Click on the Contest link in order to go to the EA6DX 6 Meter Contest link.

**SMIRK Contest:** The SMIRK 2006 QSO Party, sponsored by the Six Meter International Radio Klub, will be held from 0000 UTC June 16 until 2400 UTC June 17. This is a 6-meter only contest. Exchange SMIRK number and grid square. Score 2 points per QSO with SMIRK members and 1 point per QSO with nonmembers. Multiply points times grid squares for final score. Awards are given for the top scorer in each ARRL section and country. Please note that the rules have been changed for this year's contest. In particular, the .150 rule has been eliminated. Additionally, the person to whom you send your logs has changed. Please send a legal-sized SASE for a copy of the log forms. Logs and log requests should be sent to: Dale Richardson, AA5XE, 214 Palo Verde Dr., Kerrville, TX 78028. Entries must be received by August 1. For more information see the club's URL at <http://www.smirk.org> and click on the SMIRK Contest link at the top of the page.

## Quarterly Calendar

*The following is a list of important dates for EME enthusiasts:*

May 2	Full Moon
May 5	<i>Eta Aquarids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
May 6	Very poor EME conditions
May 10	Last Quarter Moon
May 13	Good EME conditions
May 15	Moon Perigee
May 16	New Moon
May 20	Moderate EME conditions
May 23	First Quarter Moon
May 27	Moon Apogee; Poor EME conditions
June 1	Full Moon
June 3	Very poor EME conditions
June 8	Last Quarter Moon
June 10	Good EME conditions
June 12	Moon Perigee
June 15	New Moon
June 17	Moderate EME conditions
June 21	Summer Solstice
June 22	First Quarter Moon
June 24	Moon Apogee. Poor EME conditions
June 30	Full Moon
July 1	Very poor EME conditions
July 7	Last Quarter Moon
July 8	Good EME conditions
July 9	Moon Perigee
July 14	New Moon
July 15	Good EME conditions
July 22	First Quarter Moon and Moon Apogee; Poor EME conditions
July 28	<i>Southern Delta Aquarids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
July 29	Poor EME conditions
July 30	Full Moon
Aug. 3	Moon Perigee
Aug. 5	Last Quarter Moon; Moderate EME conditions
Aug. 12	New Moon and <i>Perseids</i> Meteor Shower Peak; Good EME conditions
Aug. 19	Moon Apogee; Poor EME conditions
Aug. 20	First Quarter Moon
Aug. 26	Moderate EME conditions
Aug. 28	Full Moon and Total; Lunar Eclipse visible throughout most of eastern Asia, Australia, the Pacific Ocean, and the Americas
Aug. 31	Moon Perigee — <i>EME conditions courtesy W5LUU.</i>

**Field Day:** The ARRL's classic, Field Day, will be held on June 23–24. Complete rules for this contest can also be found in QST and on the League's website: <http://www.arrl.org>. In years past, tremendous European openings have occurred on 6 meters. Also, as happened in 1998, huge sporadic-E openings can occur. Certainly, this is one of the best club-related events to involve new people in the hobby.

**July—Six Club Contest:** The Six Club Contest runs throughout the month of July. All logs are due 30 days from the ending date of the contest and they go either by e-mail or snail mail to: Joey Fiero, W5TFW, 30155 Napoleon Circle, Denham Springs, LA 70726; e-mail: [w5tfw@cox.net](mailto:w5tfw@cox.net). For further information go to: <http://6mt.com/contest.htm>.

**CQ WW VHF Contest:** This year's CQ WW VHF Contest will be held from 1800 UTC July 21 to 2100 UTC July 22. Complete rules can be found on page 63 in this issue.

**August—**There are two important contests this month: The **ARRL UHF and Above Contest** is scheduled for August 4–5. Complete rules can be found in the July issue of QST. The first weekend of the ARRL 10 GHz and above cumulative contest is scheduled for August 18–19. The second weekend is September 15–16. Complete rules for this contest also can be found in the July issue of QST.

## Current Conferences and Conventions

**May—Dayton Hamvention®:** The Dayton Hamvention® will be held as usual at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio, May 18–20. For more information, please see the Hamvention®'s website at <http://www.hamvention.org>. Your editor is scheduled to be one of the speakers for the VHF forums, plus visit us at the CQ Booth in the main arena.

**June—**The annual **Ham-Com Hamfest** will be held June 8–9 in Plano, Texas. As always, the North Texas Microwave Society will present a microwave forum. For more information, see the Ham-Com website at <http://www.hamcom.org>.

**July—**This year's **Central States VHF Society Conference** will be held in San Antonio, Texas, July 26–29, at the Omni San Antonio Hotel. For more information, go to: <http://www.csvhfs.org/conference/lodging.html>. Also, please see the article written by former president Bill Tynan, W3XO, which starts on page 47 in this issue.

## Calls for Papers

Calls for papers are issued in advance of forthcoming conferences either for presenters to be speakers, or for papers to be published in the conferences' *Proceedings*, or both. For more information questions about format, media,

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hardcopy, e-mail, etc., please contact the person listed with the announcement. The following have announced a call for papers for their forthcoming conferences:

**Central States VHF Society Conference:** The Central States VHF Society is soliciting papers, presentations, and poster/table-top displays for the 41st Annual CSVHFS Conference to be held in San Antonio, Texas, on July 26–29. Papers, presentations, and posters on all aspects of weak-signal VHF and above amateur radio are requested.

Deadline for submissions—For the *Proceedings*: May 7; for presentations at the conference and for notifying them you will have a poster to be displayed at the conference: July 2. (Bring your poster with you on the 26th of July.)

Further information is available at the CSVHFS website (<http://www.csvhfs.org>). Contact Lloyd Crawford, N5GDB, e-mail: <n5gdb@austin.rr.net>; alternate: Thomas Visel, NX1N, e-mail: <Thomas@neuric.com>. Snail mail: RMG, PO Box 91058, Austin, TX 78709-1058.

**ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference:** Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the 26th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference to be held September 28–30 in Hartford, Connecticut. These papers will also be published in the conference *Proceedings* (you do *not* need to attend the conference

to have your paper included in the *Proceedings*). The submission deadline is July 31. Please send papers to: Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, or you can make your submission via e-mail to: <maty@arrl.org>. Papers will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights.

### Current Meteor Showers

**May:** May minor showers include the following and their possible radio peaks:  $\epsilon$ -*Arietids*, May 9 at 2000 UTC; May *Arietids*, May 16 at 2100 UTC; and *o-Cetids*, May 20 at 1900 UTC.

**June:** Between June 3 and 11, the *Arietids* meteor shower will once again be evident. This is a daytime shower with the peak predicted to occur on June 7 at around 2300 UTC. Activity from this shower will be evident for around eight days, centered on the peak. At its peak, you can expect around 60 meteors per hour traveling at a velocity of around 37 km/sec (23 miles per second).

On June 9 the *Zeta Perseids* is expected to peak around 2200 UTC. At its maximum, it produces around 40 meteors per hour. The June *Lyrids* is expected to appear between June 11–21, with a peak on June 16. The *Boötids* is expected to make a showing between June 27 and July 2, with a predicted peak on June 27,

around 2000 UTC. On June 28 the *Beta Taurids* is expected to peak around 2100. Because it is a daytime shower, not much is known about the stream of activity. However, according to the book *Meteors* by Neil Bone, this and the *Arietids* are two of the more active *radio* showers of the year. Peak activity for this shower seems to favor a north-south path.

**July:** This month there are a number of minor showers. The most intense, the *delta-Aquarids*, is a southern latitude shower. It has produced in excess of 20 meteors per hour in the past. Its predicted peak is around July 28. The  $\alpha$ -*Capricornids* are expected to peak on July 30.

**August:** Beginning around July 17 and lasting until approximately August 24, you will see activity tied to the *Perseids* meteor shower. Its predicted peak is around 0500–0730 UTC on August 13. A possible tertiary peak may occur around 1500 UTC. Amateur radio communications data could confirm or detect otherwise unobserved maxima. The  $\kappa$ -*Cygnids* meteor shower is expected to peak on August 18.

For more information on the above meteor shower predictions, see Tomas Hood, NW7US's "VHF Propagation" column beginning on page 76. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net/calendar/2007/>>.

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