

QUARTERLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Conventions and Conferences

Southeast VHF Society Conference: The seventh annual SVHFS Conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel, 5 Tranquility Base, Huntsville, Alabama, April 25–26, 2003. The room rate for conference attendees is \$75/night single or double occupancy. For reservations call the Marriott Reservations Department, toll free, at 888-299-5174, the hotel directly at 256-830-2222, or visit the hotel website at the special link set up at the Southeast VHF Society website: <<http://www.svhfs.org>>. When making reservations, mention the conference to get the special rate. Make your reservation by Thursday April 3 in order to qualify for the special rate. For conference registration, also use the special link set up at the SVHFS website, or contact Neal Sulmeyer, K4EA, at his callbook address or via e-mail at: <k4ea@contesting.com>.

Dayton HamVention®: The Dayton HamVention® will be held as usual at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio from May 16–18, 2003. For more information, see the Hamvention's website at: <<http://www.hamvention.org>>.

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, hardcopy, e-mail, etc., contact the person listed with the announcement. To date this year the following organizations or conference organizers have announced calls for papers for their forthcoming conferences:

Southeast VHF Society (see conference dates announcement above): Contact Dick Hanson, K4AND, e-mail address: <k5and@adelphia.net>. The deadline for submitting papers is March 11.

Central States VHF Society (conference dates July 25–27): Contact Joe Lynch, N6CL, at <n6cl@utulsa.edu>. The deadline for submitting papers is May 15, 2003.

Microwave Update (conference dates Sept. 25–28, 2003): Contact Jim Christiansen, K7ND, at <k7nd@att.net>. Deadline for submitting papers is July 1, 2003.

Quarterly Calendar

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

Feb. 1	New Moon.
Feb. 2	Moderate EME conditions.
Feb. 7	Moon apogee.
Feb. 9	First quarter Moon. Poor EME conditions.
Feb. 13	Highest Moon declination.
Feb. 16	Full Moon. Excellent EME conditions.
Feb. 19	Moon perigee.
Feb. 23	Last quarter Moon. Poor EME conditions.
Feb. 26	Lowest Moon declination.
Mar. 2	Poor EME conditions.
Mar. 3	New Moon.
Mar. 7	Moon Apogee.
Mar. 9	Poor EME conditions.
Mar. 11	First Quarter Moon.
Mar. 12	Highest Moon declination.
Mar. 16	Moderate EME conditions.
Mar. 18	Full Moon.
Mar. 20	Moon Perigee.
Mar. 21	Vernal Equinox.
Mar. 23	Poor EME conditions.
Mar. 25	Last Quarter Moon and highest Moon declination.
Mar. 30	Moderate EME conditions.
Apr. 1	New Moon.
Apr. 4	Moon Apogee.
Apr. 6	Poor EME conditions.
Apr. 9	First Quarter Moon and highest Moon declination.
Apr. 13	Very good EME conditions.
Apr. 16	Full Moon.
Apr. 17	Moon Perigee.
Apr. 20	Poor EME conditions.
Apr. 21	Lowest Moon declination.
Apr. 23	Last Quarter Moon.
Apr. 27	Moderate EME conditions.
May 1	New Moon.
May 2	Moon Apogee.
May 4	Poor EME conditions.
May 6	Highest Moon declination.
May 9	First Quarter Moon.
May 11	Very good EME conditions.
May 16	Full Moon.
May 16	Moon Perigee.
May 18	Very poor EME conditions.
May 19	Lowest Moon declination.
May 23	Last Quarter Moon.
May 25	Moderate EME conditions.
May 31	New Moon. Very poor EME conditions.

Contests

February: The second annual Six Club Winter (6-meter) Contest begins at 2300 UTC Feb. 7 and goes to 0300 UTC Feb. 10. **Rules:** Each QSO is worth one point in own country and two points for every contact made outside of own country. Hawaii and Alaska each are considered a separate country. **Scoring:** Multiply total QSO points by the total number of grids worked. All entries must be received by March 15, 2003, either by e-mail or snail mail. Web page address: <<http://6mt.com/contest.htm>>. Mailing address: Six Club Contests, c/o Wayne Lewis, W4WRL, 3338 South Cashua Drive, Florence, SC 29501-6306 (e-mail: <w4wrl@aol.com>). **Awards:** Will be given out to the first-, second-, and third-place winners in each country.

May: The Six Club WW Contest begins 2300 UTC May 30 and lasts until 0200 UTC June 2. **Rules:** Each QSO is worth one point in own country, two points for each contact outside own country, and one extra point for each Six Club member with whom you make contact and put his/her Six Club number in your log. Note all calls and numbers must be correct and complete to count. **Scoring:** Multiply total QSO points by the total number of grids worked. All entries must be received by June 30, 2003. The website and mailing address are listed above.

Spring Sprints: These short-duration (usually 4 hours) VHF+ contests are held on various dates (for each band) during the months of April and May. Sponsored in recent years by the East Tennessee Valley DX Association, sponsorship seems to have been taken over by the Southeast VHF Society. For more information, see the society's website: <<http://www.svhfs.org>>.

Meteor Showers

The **Lyrids** meteor shower will be active during April 19–25. It is predicted to peak at around 2220 UTC on 22 April. This is a north-south shower, producing at its peak around 10–15 meteors per hour, with the possibility of upwards of 90 per hour.

A minor shower and its predicted peak is **pi-Puppids** (peak around 0300 UTC on April 24). Another minor shower and its predicted peak is the **eta-Aquarids** (peak around 1130 UTC on May 6).

The above information courtesy the International Meteor Organization and their website at <<http://www.imo.net>>.