

QUARTERLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Quarterly Calendar

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

Nov. 2	Moderate EME conditions.	Jan. 6	Highest Moon declination.
Nov. 9	Full Moon. Poor EME conditions.	Jan. 11	Good EME conditions.
Nov. 10	Moon apogee.	Jan. 15	Last quarter Moon.
Nov. 13	Highest Moon declination.	Jan. 18	Poor EME conditions.
Nov. 16	Last quarter Moon. Good EME conditions.	Jan. 19	Moon perigee.
Nov. 23	Moon perigee. Moderate EME conditions.	Jan. 20	Lowest Moon declination.
Nov. 24	New Moon.	Jan. 21	New Moon.
Nov. 26	Lowest Moon declination.	Jan. 25	Good EME conditions.
Nov. 30	First quarter Moon. Moderate EME conditions.	Jan. 29	First quarter Moon.
Dec. 7	Moon apogee. Poor EME conditions.	Jan. 31	Moon apogee.
Dec. 8	Full Moon.	Feb. 1	Poor EME conditions.
Dec. 10	Highest Moon declination.	Feb. 3	Highest Moon declination.
Dec. 14	Good EME conditions.	Feb. 6	Full Moon.
Dec. 16	Last quarter Moon.	Feb. 8	Good EME conditions.
Dec. 21	Moderate EME conditions.	Feb. 13	Last quarter Moon.
Dec. 22	Moon perigee.	Feb. 15	Very Poor EME conditions.
Dec. 23	New Moon and lowest Moon declination.	Feb. 16	Moon perigee and lowest Moon declination.
Dec. 28	Good EME conditions.	Feb. 20	New Moon.
Dec. 30	First quarter Moon.	Feb. 22	Good EME conditions but near NewMoon.
Jan. 3	Moon apogee.	Feb. 28	Moon apogee and first quarter Moon.
Jan. 4	Poor EME conditions.	Feb. 29	Very Poor EME conditions.
Jan. 5	Full Moon.		

—*EME conditions courtesy W5LUU.*

Contests

November: The second weekend of the ARRL International EME Competition is November 15–16.

January: The ARRL VHF Sweepstakes will be the weekend of January 24–26, 2004.

Complete rules for the ARRL contests can be found in the QST issue the month prior to the contest or the month prior to the first weekend of contests extending over two months. Complete rules can also be found on the League's website, <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

Meteor Showers

November: While another peak in Leonids activity is two or three years

away, it is still important to pay attention to this shower, as it may produce a surprise ZHR in excess of 250, five days ahead of its predicted peak. It is predicted to peak at 0150 UTC on November 18.

December: Two showers occur this month. The first, the Geminids, is predicted to peak around 1510 UTC on 14 December. The actual peak can occur 2.5 hours before or after the predicted peak. It has a broad peak and is a good north-south shower, producing an average of 100–110 meteors per hour at its peak.

The second, the Ursids, is predicted to peak around 0100 UTC on 23 December. It is an east-west shower, producing an average of greater than

12 meteors per hour, with the possibility of upwards of 90 at its peak.

January: The Quadrantids, or Quads, is a brief, but very active meteor shower. The expected peak is around 0450 UTC on 4 January. The actual peak can occur three hours before or after the predicted peak. The best paths are north-south. Long-duration meteors can be expected about one hour after the predicted peak.

For more information on the above meteor shower predictions see Tomas Hood, NW7US's "Propagation" in this issue. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website, <<http://www.imo.net>>.