

QUARTERLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Contests

December: The third weekend of the **ARRL International EME Competition** is Dec. 4–5. This is the second weekend of the 50 MHz through 1296 MHz competition.

January: The ARRL VHF Sweepstakes is scheduled for the weekend of Jan. 22–24. 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 or three months. Complete rules can also be found on the League's URL: <<http://www.arrl.org>>.

Meteor Showers

November: While another peak in *Leonids* activity is one or two 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 0825 UTC on Nov. 18.

December: Two showers occur this month. The first, the *Geminids*, is predicted to peak at around 2220 UTC on Dec. 13. 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 on Dec. 23. 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 on Jan. 3, 2005. 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 column on page 67. Also visit the International Meteor Organization's website: <<http://www.imo.net>>

Quarterly Calendar

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

Nov. 2	Moon Apogee
Nov. 5	Last Quarter Moon
Nov. 7	Good EME conditions
Nov. 12	New Moon
Nov. 14	Moon Perigee; poor EME conditions
Nov. 17	<i>Leonids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
Nov. 19	First Quarter Moon
Nov. 21	Good EME conditions
Nov. 26	Full Moon
Nov. 28	Very poor EME conditions
Nov. 30	Moon Apogee
Dec. 5	Last Quarter Moon; moderate EME conditions
Dec. 12	Moon Perigee and New Moon; very poor EME conditions
Dec. 13	<i>Geminids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
Dec. 18	First Quarter Moon
Dec. 19	Moderate EME conditions
Dec. 21	Winter Solstice
Dec. 22	<i>Ursids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
Dec. 26	Full Moon; very poor EME conditions
Dec. 27	Moon Apogee
Jan. 2	Moderate EME conditions
Jan. 3	Last Quarter Moon
Jan. 4	<i>Quadrantids</i> Meteor Shower Peak
Jan. 9	Very poor EME conditions
Jan. 10	New Moon
Jan. 10	Moon Perigee
Jan. 16	Moderate EME conditions
Jan. 17	First Quarter Moon
Jan. 23	Moon Apogee; poor EME conditions
Jan. 25	Full Moon
Jan. 30	Moderate EME conditions
Feb. 2	Last Quarter Moon
Feb. 6	Very poor EME conditions
Feb. 7	Moon Perigee
Feb. 8	New Moon
Feb. 13	Moderate EME conditions
Feb. 15	First Quarter Moon
Feb. 20	Moon Apogee; poor EME conditions
Feb. 24	Full Moon
Feb. 27	Moderate EME conditions

—*EME conditions courtesy W5LUU.*
