

With Field Day and the 4th of July now over, it's officially summer. It's the logical time to be putting up or fixing antenna systems, although somehow it usually seems that summer is spent planning such work and the actual work is left until the weather turns cold and miserable in the fall.

It used to be that this time of the year meant the contest doldrums, but not any more! Four new contests, plus some good old ones, will provide plenty of activity. Namely:

- 1) The IARU Radiosport competition on July 8-9.
- 2) The NCCC Maxi Tests. This is a one hour long contest to be held the second Tuesday of each month, 0330 to 0430 GMT (Wednesday GMT), the next coming on July 12. The exchange is QSO number, section, and operators name. Operation is on 160-20 meters, suggested frequencies are 3530/3830, 7030/7230, 14030/14230, and 1810 up the last 5 minutes. Up to now this has been largely a West Coast affair, but word is now out back east, so it could be a hot little test.
- 3) The Can-Am Championship Contest, sponsored by the Canadian DX Association, to be held August 20-22. CW and phone are two separate 22 hour periods, with a four hour break between. This is open to U.S., Canada, and U.S. possessions, with both domestic and intercountry contacts allowed. For the first time in domestic contests, multipliers are on a band by band basis (160-10), for a maximum multiplier of 390. Complete rules, summary sheet, and sample log sheet are available from F8MR.
- 4) The North American Sprint, sponsored by the National Contest Journal, September 11, 0200-0600 GMT. This will be CW only, exchange is number/section/name, and includes a unique new rule: a station calling CQ, after finishing the contact resulting from that CQ, must QSY at least 5 kHz, i.e. no sitting on one frequency for the whole contest. There is also a club competition in this one, teams of not more than 15 people, to be picked and reported before the contest. A club can enter more than one team. Mad River will be in there fighting away, so enlist with K8MR soon. Don't be bashful about your CW skills - remember we can enter several teams.

Among the old contests are the WAE (Worked All Europe) and several state QSO Parties, including the return of the Ohio party, August 27-28, 1200-2200 LOCAL time each day. This is a good opportunity to stir up some contest activity by the Ohio MRRC contingent, to provide a good demonstration of the activity potential here in Ohio - let's turn out in numbers rivaling what the California boys do for their state QSO party. This also provides an excellent opportunity for you phone operators to get some CW contesting experience - there is moderate activity and CW speeds are usually less than say the SS or CD parties. Also, since out of state stations don't have all that many potential QSOs, they will be more patient with those moving along at less than hotshot speeds.

MORE NEW CALLS:

K1LT/WA1LKU K3TT/WA3GJU W8AU/W8VYU K8CX/WA8KEX K8LX/WA8LYF K8NZ/K8RMK

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

The next MRRC official in person meeting will be at 2pm Sunday August 21 at the Warren Hamfest in Warren, Ohio. Further details in the next Flash. Also remember the meetings at the Findlay and Cincinnati hamfests in September.

Several East Coast contest clubs will be holding a contesters meeting at the New England Division ARRL Convention in Hartford on September 23-25. Although attendance will be largely East Coast, MRRC members are welcome. Plans are for a get together along the lines of the annual Fresno meeting in California. Further info can be had from WB2CHO at ARRL HQ.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The FCC mentioned at their forum at the ARRL national convention in Toronto that their guesstimate of CB growth is for half the American population to become CB operators.

Old Sol has been showing new signs of life. The solar flux index for the Sunday of Field Day was 117 - and may have been higher other days when I missed the WJW reports - which is the highest in several years. DX conditions have been quite good - hope you are working your share.

FROM THE BIG FISH:

The Big Fish spent Field Day in the fields of WPA at K3LR/3, operating in 3A with a healthy representation of MRRC types. The Dupe sheets are still being worked on, but the score beat last year's winning 3A score. Let me know how YOUR group did, if possible with band by band totals, for publication in the next Flash.

MAD RIVER ON AIR MEETINGS - EVERY MONDAY _ 7:30p.m. LOCAL TIME - 3825 KHZ

73,

JIM K8MR

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opinions, gossip, scores, etc.!