



NEWSLETTER-AMSAT-EA

10/2018
OCTOBER

contacto@amsat-ea.org

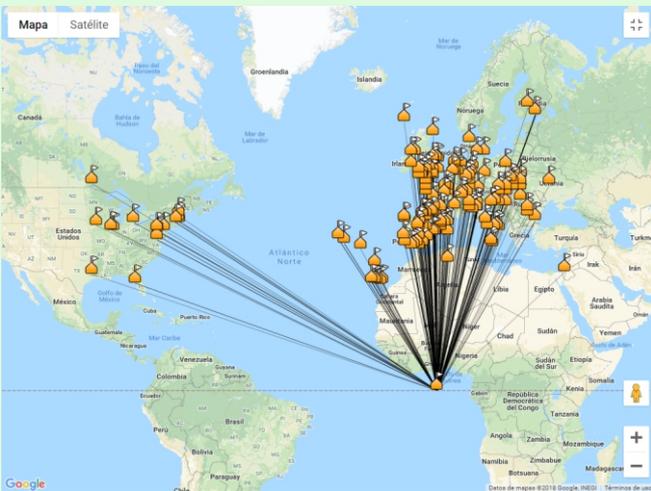
eb1ao@amsat-ea.org

Translation by Fernando EC1AME

AMSAT

AM1SAT

AMSAT-EA was on the air between september 10-17 celebrating the 4th edition of IberRadio the biggest Communications and Ham Radio Fair in Spain and Portugal. We did 640 contacts mostly in phone with 33 different DXCC entities, 162 different radio operators, 148 orbits and 14 different satellites worked. So the results of this special activation were very positive. AMSAT-EA put this special call sign on the air to celebrate the IberRadio fair held in the Spanish city of Avila. We thank you all for participating and a special mention goes to the stations operating during the whole week: EA4CYQ, EA1JM,EA4SG, EA7AFM, EA1BYA, EA5TT, EB2AT, EB2DJ, EA4GQS, EA4GSX, EA3AGB and EB1AO, who was the coordinator of the event.



A total of 13 Golden certificates and 27 silver certificates were achieved. Transmission were from these grids: IM66, IM78, IM89, IM99, IN51, IN52, IN60, IN61, IN62, IN70, IN71, IN80, IN81, IN83, IN93, JN00.

Thanks to all...!!!



From Avila IN70



From IM89



From Torrecaballeros IN71/IN81

AM1SAT CERTIFICATES

Golden and Silver AM1SAT Certificates are being sent to those operators who requested them. A total of 43 callsigns got one of these certificates, F4DXV being the first in the list with 15 grids worked. We'd like to thank **Manel Ruiz Trujillo** for the design of the certificate. He used an image of the oldie AO-7 (AMSAT NA).



PAST ACTIVITIES



F4DXV, during a demonstration JN04

AM1SAT, was active from IM66, IM78, IM89, IM99, IN51, IN52, IN60, IN61, IN62, IN70, IN71, IN80, IN81, IN83, IN93, Jn00. These operators were active: EA4CYQ, EA1JM, EA4SG, EA7AFM, EA1BYA, EA5TT, EB2AT, EB2DJ, EA4GQS, EA4GSX, EA3AGB and EB1AO.

EA4NF, Philipp taking advantage of some free summer days was active from Formentera, JM08.

EA8DGN, was active on sept 23 from II27.

F4DXV, Jerome gave a satellite operator "how to" demonstration at the Bergerac Radio club in JN04.

COMING ACTIVITIES

KL7/W4FS, Tucker, will be active from Juneau, Alaska CO28 from october 5-9.

NM3B, Wayne will activate FM13 from Kure Beach rover style between october 13-19.

VP9/N2YTF/P, Tom will be on holidays enjoying the island of Bermuda and will activate some FM and SSB satellites. He will be there November 12-14



EA4NF, in Formentera JM08

WELCOME TO THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SATELLITES

When and how to start?

Perhaps you are like me, you never take the first step because you think this is a very complicated world and you need a huge installation with expensive rigs to work sats. But then you read about it and learn that the first steps can be done with FM satellites working in portable with a walky talky and a small antenna, the arrow antenna, a Moxon etc... In my case, I begun with a dual band wt BAOFENG UV 5RA and a DX SRX 536 antenna , a magnet antenna base for the car and a DX-NR 770 H antenna that later I used as a base antenna. . So you can just beguine after reading this bulletin and discover the magic of doing a QSO using a speedy FM repeater in the space! It's something very thrilling !



Portable with a homebrew antenna

Questions and Doubts?

Sure you have a lot of questions in mind. But it's true that you have a lot of information on the internet, radio forums, whatsapp groups. In my case, these were very important for me:

AMSAT EA, URE and the Whatsapp group administrated by EA6RF

What kind of installation do you need to work SSB-CW_telemetry satellites?

No doubt, maybe the best of all is the installation you can afford. Money matters, but also space available and usual problems ham radio operators find.

But, as you can see in many internet videos, people get by on their own and enjoy this part of ham radio using different transceivers, portable antennas , many times homebrew... the only goal is to communicate and have fun.

After this short introduction and as requested by some AMSAT-EA buddies, let me tell you something about my first year in this exciting world of satellites.

As I said earlier, I became interested after reading a sat related article and after buying what needed for a very basic station. It was the moment to do it, summer time, spare time... it was around august 6 when I already had a sheet with the uplinks and downlinks, the tones, tracking apps.. So I got out with my 3 little kids around. Imagine myself in the middle of the street moving the ht up and down, my triplets asking me what the heck I was doing.... All of a sudden, while pointing the antenna to my feet, I heard a short locator exchange between a DL station and an Italian. I was so excited that I left the downtown and went to find a better place... learning how to control de Doppler effect. Those days I only had 2 FM sats available, AO85 (didn't make a single QSO on it) and SO50 which gave me a bunch of happy moments.. the first one on august 15, 2017 when I contacted Miguel, EA4GSX. I met him at IberRadio 2017. With a simple installation, every QSO is a great success and a personal goal.

Some of my best satellite contacts on FM were done with RW3XL, UX7LB/P, MI6GTY, LY1R, 7X3WPL, TA3LKU.

Many weekend night I go out with my Moxon antenna and the Baofeng to work SO50. Some times during chilly nights and with cars passing by and people looking at me with astonished face maybe thinking that I was some kind of crazy guy. But I keep trying and enjoying, and later I went further and decide to try satellites with linear transponders... I wanted to work SSB and CW satellites, so I bought an ICOM 706 MK2G. As the antenna, a vertical mobile whip on a magnetic base. I could only work east bound passes. Good for a starting point. I tried FO29. On many orbits I was no lucky but I was lucky to get TR8CA, my best DXCC so far with that antenna... I got hooked to that satellite after I picked up several interesting contacts like the one between EB5YF and UT1FG/MM in GN73UN, just west bound. I talked to Juanjo and he told me he was using a MiniLogo antenna by EA5JK In my area, close to the river Ebro winds are so destructive so mounting a lot of aluminium is not a good idea.

But I bought the antenna and installed it with the help of a local expert, Enrique, EA5EOR.. and what a difference! It's not a perfect installation, I just wanted something simple but it works great. It's incredible what you can do with a bit of patience and some hours devoted to FO29. And I always want more and more!

So I decided I wanted to do some transatlantic contacts, so I begun trying at night during low elevation orbits. I started calling on a fixed frequency on the uplink and search on the downlink.. After several attempts , with just 2 elevation degrees, FG8OJ called me ! My jump in the shack was memorable, I couldn't believe it! One of my sons asked what was happening.. What happens daddy?



Logoperiodic antenna used @ QTH

So, goal achieved.. and I wanted even more! On another orbit, I contacted K3SZH. It's important to understand that these contacts from EA to the east coast are not easy, they are very complicated. Contacts are done not always at first time , you have pile ups etc... Later I tried UA9 but no lucky yet. I get up early to try good orbits and one day I had a QSO with 4X1AJ, in CW.

The door was opened to start working some DXCC rarities and TTLOCATOR: UN, HZ, TR, TA, 7X, and finally I could work a UA9 station on september 2, just a year after my first satellite contact. After a very interesting year working satellites, I got more than 100 locators, 70 confirmed, some 30 DXCC with 28 of them confirmed and I hope many new to come.

Get your hands on satellites, I hope to hear you on the birds, Don't hesitate to do it, it's a lot of fun!

WHAT ARE U WAITING FOR?

**EA3AGB Javier Rubio
AMSAT EA # 377**

EA6/EA4NF Philippe - Formentera Island

JM08 IOTA EU004 (20/24 Sept. 2018)

Hi to all satellite lovers,

I was some days on vacations in the island of Formentera (JM08-IOTA EU-004) enjoying the amazing beaches and clear waters in this awesome small island in the Balearics. Last year I was also active from this place on HF but not very lucky due to QRM and poor band conditions.



This year I decided to grab my ultra-portable satellite set up: arrow antenna, Kenwood THD7 (full duplex FM up to 5w) . Some friends in the USA asked me if I'd try SSB sats but this year I focused only on FM birds, just to test the rig and to avoid extra equipment in the airplane.



With this set up it was easy for me to carry the gear by the beach, so I could enjoy summer life and radio. It was such a nice location for satellites (see pics) . I thought the grid JM08 was wanted by many but I realized many sat ops had it already contacted but not confirmed, so, after all, it was a very interesting activation.

I tried to be there in all the active FM birds: SO-50, AO-91, AO-92, and only had problems. It was not easy to be in all the passes as I had to pay attention to my family ... So, finally I got 29 contacts and 11 countries: EA, F, D, 4Z, OE, G, SV2, I, CT, OM, ON In Spain I had satellite contacts with: EA4GQS, EB1AO, EB5YF, EA5TT, EA1IW, EB2DJ, EA1EAK and EA7AFM . I hope I didn't forget any, if so, please contact me.

Thanks everybody for your patience during some of the passes and my QSL cards are already available in LoTW.

Cheers and till next activation

EA4NF Philippe

AMSAT-EA @ Iberradio

Amsat-EA was, of course, at the 4th Radio Communications Fair, IberRadio 2018. This year we had a small booth where we met one another. It was also useful to inform many newcomers about our association and our activities. We were also at the presentation of Pablo Cruz's (EA8HZ) book "Radioaficionados, Satélites y Naves Espaciales" (Amateur radio, satellites and space ships).



We also celebrated our annual members meeting where we talked about the association, activities done, budget and development of the EASAT-2 Project and activities proposals....

AMSAT-EA @ "La Nave"

On Friday September 21 the facility known as "La Nave" organized by the Madrid City hall, where we have our headquarters, organized the event "Barbac0d1ng 5G: the impact of technologies". Vodafone collaborated in the event. It was in an open air area with live music and several activities where they tried to set a meeting point to talk about the use of the 5G technology.



AMSAT-EA took part in the event as "residents of the space" and, even when 5G has no relation with our activities, some of our members had informal talks about how satellite networks could help cell networks in some cases.

We talked about it in our conference "Mixed 5G and satellite networks". We also showed up the use of SDR as a substitute of traditional systems.

If you want to share some experience don't hesitate to send us an email... You have available the AMSAT-EA bulletins

AMSAT-EA in the Engineering Day

At 5pm on october 5 we'll celebrate the Engineering Day at the ETSIST (Polytechnic University of Madrid, Carretera de Valencia km7). A meeting gathering several organizations with history, projects and too many to celebrate together.



- 25 years of AETEL - Asociación de Electrónica de Telecomunicación. Linked to the ETSIST (former EUITT). Spreading of electronics, Sphera conference, learning and eye catching projects are a must since their creation. <http://aetel.etsist.upm.es/>
- IEEE Day: Global event by the "Instituto de Ingenieros Eléctricos y Electrónicos". Every year, since 1884, they celebrate "Conmemora", the first time in history that engineers from all over the world got together to share their technical ideas. <http://www.ieeeday.org/>
- ***New organization, new location and new projects by AMSAT-EA Amateur Radio Satellites Association, Technicians and amateurs into satellite communications. <https://www.amsat-ea.org/>***
- 10 years since they founded the South Campus students' branch: Linked to AETEL and IEEE. Among its successful achievements is the celebration of the CNR and ISBC congress (Iberian Student Branch Congress).
- New team " Young Professionals España" – Organization that gathers engineers that have just ended their studies (< 15 years). They have some 944 members in Spain <https://www.facebook.com/yppspain/>

In this event they try to use engineering as the main role and they will pay tribute to individuals that had collaborated with these or other organizations.

One of the goals in this event is to join together different generations that have been part of these organizations thru the years. Persons with a lot of background and those just beginning their college. Both will share their knowledge and perception about engineering.