

Skyview Radio Society 2016 Digital Communication Challenge – Mode for June

Not everybody started out liking JT65 back at the beginning of February. But, by the end of February it seemed to be looking OK to everyone. And JT65 seemed to look a lot better in March during challenge of finding DX stations using BPSK31. And, JT65 was looking even better yet in April when it was time to try to find any of those elusive Olivia stations.

Well, June will be the final month of the 2016 Skyview Digital Challenge. And warm weather activities are starting to infringe upon playing radio time. So, we are going to go out a lot like we came in, with a digital mode that will allow us to easily get our ten or more contacts and leave lots of time for doing other things.

The digital mode of operation for June will be **JT9**. JT9 is another of K1JT's weak signal communications flavors. It is generally seen as an improvement over JT65 in that it uses less bandwidth, while still achieving the same performance. While there are a few less people using JT9 than there are using JT65, I have found JT9 stations to be readily available. And, like with the JT65 mode, you will find a fair amount of DX stations using JT9 without really trying too hard.

The only way that I know to use JT9 is with K1JT's WSJT-X software. Unlike with JT65, no one else has created 'a better JT9 interface'. The WSJT-X software is free to download and use. If you used it whenever we were doing JT65, then you already know it. If you did not, you will find that it is a bit different, but it is easily learned. The exact same messaging pattern is used, and the exact same timing is used. What is different is that you will find JT9 being used at 2KHz higher than where you found JT65 stations. Set your radio to 3.578, 7.078, 10.140, 14.078, 18.104, 21.078, 24.919, or 28.078 and leave it there.

We are all getting pretty experienced at this stuff by now, so no tutorial info is needed.

Post any questions on the K3MJW reflector. Or you may email me at: k3jzd-AT-nelis.net (please put "Digital Challenge" in the Subject). Tuesday nights at the Skyview Clubhouse is also a great place for discussion, comparing notes, and demonstrations. Good Luck !!!!

Jody - K3JZD