

DECEMBER 12, 1992 - VOLUME 30 - NUMBER 13 - EDITION 971 - ISSN 0899-9732

NEW MEMBER: RORY STRANG. **RENEWALS:** NICK HALL-PATCH, TONY BRATTON, TONY FITZHERBERT, KIETH SHORT. WELCOME TO RORY AND THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH....

PAGE 1: DX TEST BULLETIN AND ITEM FOR SALE. **PAGE 2 & 3:** BROADCASTING INFO **PAGE 3 & 4:** DX WORLDWIDE WEST. **PAGE 5 & 6:** WESTERN DX ROUNDUP. **PAGE 6 & 7:** CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP. **PAGE 8 & 9:** EASTERN DX ROUNDUP. **PAGE 10 & 11:** WESTERN DX FORUM. **PAGE 11 & 12:** EASTERN DX FORUM. **PAGE 13:** DX TECHNIQUES. **PAGE 14:** VERIFICATION SIGNERS. **PAGE 15 & 16:** TECHNICAL COLUMN. **PAGE 17:** R8: A THIRD LOOK, LAST PAGE OF THIS REVIEW. **PAGE 18:** RIBBON CABLE LOOP, PAGE 1 OF 3 OR 4 PAGES, MORE ON THIS NEXT DXM. **BACK COVER:** CLUB ADDRESSES AND OFFICERS. MEMBERSHIP DUES.....

ALL MEMBERS IN THE USA: COULD I GET YOU TO SEND ME THE ZIP + 4 ON YOUR ADDRESS. IF YOU DO NOT KNOW YOURS ASK YOUR POSTAL CARRIER OR CALL YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE. THEY ARE ASKING ME TO START USING THE ZIP + 4. THEY SAY IT WILL SPEED UP MAIL DELIVERY. THE POSTAL SERVICE DOES A GOOD JOB. THEY HANDLE TONS OF MAIL AND JUNK AND I THINK WE SHOULD HELP...PUBLISHER.....

1993 IRCA REGULAR ELECTIONS

Every two years the IRCA conducts Regular Elections to determine the President, Secretary-Treasurer and seven members of the Board of Directors. For the 1993 Regular Elections, nominations for the nine offices begin on December 1 1992 and continue through January 15 1993. An IRCA member is only allowed one nomination for each office. Once nominations close, the Election Committee Chairman (ECC) sends a list of those nominated to the Secretary-Treasurer who determines if those nominated are eligible (must be an IRCA member for at least one year). The candidates that are eligible will receive a letter from the ECC by February 1 1993 indicating their nomination and listing all other eligible nominations for the same office. Candidates must indicate to the ECC by February 20 1993 whether they intend to run for office and can submit a campaign statement at that time (candidates are not required to submit a campaign statement). The ECC will prepare and submit a ballot and campaign statements to the Publisher by March 1 1993 for inclusion in an appropriate March 1993 "DX Monitor". The ballots must be received by the ECC by 0001, Mountain Local Time on May 1 1993.

Since the By-Laws voting will be complete before the end of nominations, those By-Laws changes that are approved will be valid in the 1993 Regular Election.

Beginning December 1 1992, nominations are open for the positions of IRCA President, Secretary-Treasurer and the seven Board of Directors. Send all nominations to IRCA's ECC:

Albert S Lobel, PO Box 26762, San Diego CA 92196-0000.

Phil Bytheway - IRCA President

IRCA DX TEST BULLETIN

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992 - WDEA-1370, P.O. BOX 1129, ELLSWORTH, ME 04605 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 2:00 - 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE. POWER WILL BE 10.4 KW USING AN OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PATTERN. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: TRACY TARR. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992 - KNEB-960, P.O. BOX 239, SCOTTSBLUFF, NE 69363-0239 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 2:00 - 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S AND WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR MONTHLY FREQUENCY CHECK. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. LES PROCTOR - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992 - WABK-1280, P.O. BOX 1280, GARDINER, ME 04345 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 2:30 - 3:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S, AND MARCH MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. BRANT CURTISS - PROGRAM DIRECTOR (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992 - KNZZ-1100, P.O. BOX 969, GRAND JUNCTION, CO 81502 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 5:00 - 6:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S. POWER WILL BE 10 KW. KNZZ WILL SWITCH BETWEEN A DIRECTIONAL AND OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PATTERN DURING THE TEST. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. DWIGHT C. MORGAN - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1992 - KNED-1150, BOX 1068, MCALESTER, OK 74502 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 2:00 - 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S, AND MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. LEE ANDERSON (WB5RYX) - PROGRAM DIRECTOR. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1992 - WSMI-1540, P.O. BOX 10, LITCHFIELD, IL 62056 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 1:00 & 1:10 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S AND WILL BE PART OF THE STATION'S MONTHLY FREQUENCY CHECK. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. BRIAN TALLEY (N90VV) - CHIEF ENGINEER. MR. TALLEY REQUESTS AN SASE BE INCLUDED WITH ALL REPORTS. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1992 - WKGF-1480, P.O. BOX 794, ARCADIA, FL 33821 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 2:00 - 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, VOICE ID'S, AND CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. QUICK CODDINGTON (K8TRR) - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1993 - KNAK-540, P.O. BOX 636, DELTA, UT 84624 WILL CONDUCT A RESCHEDULED DX TEST BETWEEN 2:00 & 2:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. DOUGLAS BARTON - OWNER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1993 - WNTK-1020, P.O. BOX 2295, NEW LONDON, NH 03257 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 3:00 - 3:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, AND VOICE ID'S. POWER WILL BE 10 KW USING AN OMNIDIRECTIONAL ANTENNA PATTERN. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. ROBERT L. VINIKOOR - PRESIDENT. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 1993 - KEAN-1280, P.O. BOX 3098, ABILENE, TX 79604 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST FROM 3:30 - 4:00 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE, TONES, VOICE ID'S, AND COUNTRY MUSIC. RECEPTION REPORTS MAY BE SENT TO: MR. JAMES CAMERON - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

JD phoned me with this DX test.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1992 - KGWA-960, PO BOX 960, ENID, OK 73702 WILL CONDUCT A DX TEST BETWEEN 1:01 - 1:30 AM EST. THE TEST WILL INCLUDE MORSE CODE AND TONES. REPORTS TO: MR. SCOTT CLARK - CHIEF ENGINEER. (ARRANGED BY J.D. STEPHENS FOR IRCA CPC)

FOR SALE: JRC NRD-525, MINT, NOT A SCRATCH, HAS OPTIONAL 1 kHz FILTER & SERVICE MANUAL. \$800.00 SHIPPING INCLUDED. CONTACT ALAN MERRIMAN PO BOX 66 ANNANDALE VA 22003. PHONE 703-354-2135.

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BROADCASTING INFORMATION

EDITOR: ROBERT WIEN 1309 DENTWOOD DR SAN JOSE CA 95118

DEADLINES: 2nd & 4th Saturdays.

Compiled: 11/28/92

Much of this information was compiled from M Street Journal, DXM, and various other sources.

NEW STATION APPLICATIONS: NONE

NEW STATION GRANTS: NONE

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY: NONE

FACILITY & PARAMETER APPLICATIONS:

AL. Andalusia	WKYD-920	6000-W.
Atmore	WASG-550	25000-D
ID. Boise	KBSU-730	15000/84
MI. Kentwood	WGVU-1480	2500-W.
UT. Salt Lake City	KDYL-1280	10000/600 DA-2
BC. Bralorne	CBRZ-630	move to 1350 khz.
NB. Saint John	CHSJ-700	25000/10000
NWT Igaluit	CFFB-1230	1000-N
Yellowknife	CFYK-1340	2500-N
ON. Owens Sound	CPOS-560	7500-D

FACILITY AND PARAMETER GRANTS:

TX. San Antonio	KVAR-1160	5000-D
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CALL LETTER CHANGES:

CA. Rancho Cordova	KRDY-650	becomes KSTE
San Rafael	KAPX-1510	becomes KTID
GA. McRae	WDAX-1410	becomes WYIS
KS. Dodge City	KEDD-1550	becomes KDCC
ME. Houlton	WHOU-1340	becomes WHGS
MI. Ishpeming	WJPD-1240	becomes WIAN
MT. Wolf Point	KTYZ-1450	becomes KVCK
VA. St. Paul	WSPC-1140	becomes WXLZ

FORMAT CHANGES:

AL. Dothan	WAGF-1320	was silent, now black gospel/oldies
Oneonta	WCRL-1570	was AC//WKLD, now SMN C&W//WKLD
AZ. Window Rock	KTNN-660	was country, adds IRN trucker's net
AR. England	KLRA-1530	was country//FM, now silent
CA. Escondido	KSPA-1450	was stds., adds SMN stds.
San Rafael	KTID-1510	was KAPX, AS, now AC//KTID-FM
CO. Brush	KRGZ-1010	was country//FM, now soft AC//FM
Durango	KIUP-930	was AS, talk, adds EFM talk
FL. Eustis	WKIQ-1240	was silent, now SMN stds.//WTAR
GA. Cartersville	WBHF-1450	was SMN AC, now SMN oldies
McRae	WYIS-1410	was WDAX, country, now IBN talk
ID. Payette	KIOV-1450	was oldies, now Spanish
IN. Anderson	WHUT-1470	was oldies, talk, now SMN stds., talk
IA. Sioux City	KMNS-620	was country, adds SMN Real country
KS. Dodge City	KDCC-1550	was KEDD, silent, now variety (old/jz/clis rk)
Larned	KANS-1510	was AC, now SMN AC

FORMAT CHANGES (CONT):

MI. Ishpeming	WIAN-1240	was WJPD, country//FM, now AC//WDMJ
MN. Fairmont	KSUM-1370	was country, adds IRN trucker net
NV. Reno	KROW-780	was country, adds IRN trucker net
NJ. Florence	WIFI-1460	is new, religion //WIBC
NM. Roswell	KRSY-1230	was C&W//FM, talk, now SMN C&W//FM, talk
PA. Harrisburg	WKBO-1230	was silent, now rock AC//WRVW (may go sep. pgming in Jan.)
RI. Woonsocket	WNRI-1380	was AC, talk, now variety
SC. Easley	WELP-1360	was southern gospel, now urban //WLWZ
TN. Ashland City	WQSV-790	was country, now south. gospel, country (country mornings only)
Knoxville	WKGN-1340	was silent, now urban
TX. Cibolo	KBUC-830	was Spanish religion, rptd. silent
Livingston	KETX-1440	was country //FM, adds IRN trucker net
WA. Opportunity	KHDL-630	was nx, now Unis. Hot C&W //KKPL
WV. Fairmont	WMMN-920	was silent, to be nx/talk upon sale (to be back on air Jan. w/CBS, Unis. CNN nx)
WI. Rice Lake	WAQE-1090	was oldies, now SMN Real country
PQ. Temiscaming	CKVT-1340	was French //CKVM, now silent (license returned)

Tim Hall of Chula Vista, CA. passes on the following tip:

CA. San Diego KURS-1040 now on air, SS, "K-1040", "Su Estacion Estereo en Espanol", and "R. San Diego" slogans. First day 11/20. (note: I have this listed as KIRS).

Ye editor and Dennis Gibson of Goleta, CA. pass on the following tip:

CA. Santa Barbara KQSB-990 now using these calls ex-KKJZ, "Talkradio 990" slogans, to be nx/talk, w/Larry King, 24 hr NSP., to also carry ESPN wknds.

Thanks to the above contributors. Thanksgiving is over with, Christmas is just around the corner, just 27 more shopping days to go, you can get me a new antenna, hi. 73's.



PAT MARTIN P.O. BOX 843 SEASIDE, OR 97138

DX Worldwide - West

Time: UTC phone (503) 861-3185

DEADLINE: MONDAYS

Had a great time on the Big Island of Hawaii. I even got a chance to hear Brazil on 1280 KHZ over at Chuck Boehnkes. Quite abit of news to report this time along with a few tips. On we go: From DX Australia and R. Copeman, 2KO-1413 is now on FM, was due to switch off old freq. on 1413 on 11/8. 2KA-783 also has moved to FM and they will switch off their AM freq. in about 2-3 months. The translator on 1476 KHZ will be running another 12 months before closing down. Info from DOTAC also via DX Australia, the following stations plan to convert to FM: 3SR-1260, 3BO-945, 4SS-828, 4RR-891, 4TO-774 and 7HT-1080. Several have been heard in North America. If you don't have these, now is the time to try for them. 4RR and 4TO are heard here several times a year. 4SS can be heard from time to time too. A New translator for 4AM-558 should be on

the air by the time you read this at Port Douglas with 1KW directional North/South. 4QA-756-MacKay is still going to FM by June 1993. Then 4QD Emerald (1548 KHZ) is due to move to 756 and drop to 10KW. According to the 4QA engineer both 4QD and 4QA could be broadcasting at the same time for a while on 756 KHZ. This is by June 1993. 3CR-855-Melbourne has changed their address. It is P.O. Box 1277-Collingwood 3066. Carey Dell-Acting Manager for 3CR. Dunedins' 4XD-1305 celebrated its 70th birthday in October. 4XD was the first station to commence broadcasting outside North America. 4

PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 526 BAHAMAS, Stella Maras-11/22 0455 good beacon in clear (VAL-DX)
700 JAMAICA, Radio One-Montega Bay-11/22 0200 Poor w/Radio One ID accented talk, car. mxu/WLW-New. (VAL-DX)
760 CUBA, Guana Bacoa-CMBD 11/21 2337 Fair-usual format with clock and RR on the minute o/u WJR (VAL-DX)
770 COLOMBIA, Bogota-11/22 0033 Strong talk of Colombia and several "RCN" IDs Dominating freq.! (VAL-DX)
1610 ANGUILLA, The Valley-Car. Beacon 11/22 0048 Very strong with Rel pgm, sometimes had to compete with TIS-Wisconsin. (VAL-DX)
1685 COLOMBIA, Mercaderes-assumed the one with weak morse come ID as "EMER" (---...-) from 0339-0349 11/6. IRCA Almanas lists call as simply "MER" so is this a change? Mercaderes is located near Pasco, close to Ecuador border. (LG-MT)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 531 JAPAN, Morioka-Good with NHK 1 JJ talk at 1526 11/28 (PM-OR)
738 AUSTRALIA, Grafton-2NR 11/22 1240 v poor. Two men talking in DX accents. New. (VAL-DX) (Good catch guys.PM)
828 JAPAN, Osaka-JOBB assumed to one with fair signal 11/15 at 1400 w/NHK pips. No EE ID before or after. The only readable TP at this time. (LG-MT)

VERIFICATIONS

- 1620 AUSTRALIA, Canberra-1PPP-rec. nice letter veriein 6 months after f/up 2 months ago. Letter from Bill Wilson-Acting Mgr. ment. they are 500 watts, but plan to move to 1125 KHZ with 2.5 KW in the near future. Also sent several postcards. Adrs: Barton Hwy-Gungahlin ACT 2912 Australia. I have also the RPH stations QSL'd Now waiting for 5RPH or 6RPH. (PM-OR)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- VAL-DX SHAWN AXELROD AND WAYNE MCRAE-30 BECONTREE BAY-WINNIPEG, MB
DXing at Valhalla Beach DX Site w/R-70 w/Plan Board and 4KHZ filter Longwires West, NE and South.
LG-MT LARRY GODWIN-2390 CLYDES DALE LANE-MISSOULA, MT 59801
DXing with HQ-150
PM-OR YOUR EDITOR
Drake R8, SP-600, Term. 200' SW/NE Wire, 1600' NNW Beverage, Ground system.

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IRCA Reprints

The IRCA maintains a large file of articles which have appeared in past issues of DX Monitor. These articles cover a wide variety of topics, including: antenna theory and construction, tips for the foreign BCB DXer, how to improve your DXing skills, history of DXing and broadcasting, lists of stations by subject, construction projects and receiver modification, receiver reviews, medium wave propagation, and more. Copies are available for a nominal charge. For a list of reprints, send \$1.00 to:

IRCA Reprints, c/o Steve Ratzlaff, 1885 E Bayshore Rd Sp 90, E Palo Alto CA 94303.



WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Hardy
2301 Pacific Ave.
Aberdeen, WA 98520

DEADLINE FOR WDXR TIPS IS MONDAY, EXCEPT SATURDAY DECEMBER 19. PLEASE USE EASTERN TIME.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (BH) Bill Hardy-2301 Pacific Ave.-Aberdeen, WA 98520
FRG-7, Radio West loop
- (NH) Nancy Hardy-2301 Pacific Ave.-Aberdeen, WA 98520
FRG-7, Radio West loop
- (bp) Bruce Portzer-6546 19 Ave. NE-Seattle, WA 98115
Racal RA-17 with Radio West loop
(bp-WA1) DX on 1984 Ford car radio while driving to
Clallam Bay, WA and back
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
GE Superadio, GE long-range portable, SM-2

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1290 KPHP OR, Lake Oswego 11/19 0944 good with contemporary Christian music, "Portland's home of Praise KPHP" ID. Ex-KLVS.
(bp-WA1)
- 650 KSTE CA, Rancho Cordova 11/23 0200 o/u CISL with BRN program & legal ID, ex-KRDX. (bp-WA)
+11/23 0555-0600 ex-KRDX good over CISL/KMTI with ID on hour
"This is KSTE, Rancho Cordova-Sacramento-Auburn-Placerville-Davis" (thought they'd list every city in CA, hi), into ABC news. (RW-CA)
- 700 CKRD AB, Red Deer 11/23 0530 loud in KFAM null with jingle ID
"Radio 7, CKRD, Red Deer." (RW-CA)
- 830 CKKY AB, Wainwright 11/19 1115 while near Joyce, WA, with C&W,
local ads, "Key 83" slogan. (bp-WA1)
- 840 CJXX AB, Grande Prairie 11/19 1120 call ID. (bp-WA1)
- 920 CRCQ BC, Quesnel 11/19 1200 good with news. (bp-WA1)
- 930 KBFW WA, Bellingham-Ferndale 11/19 0835 under CJCA with C&W and
ID, while at Edmonds ferry dock. First time heard on night
pattern in Seattle area. However, I've heard them at night
in Port Angeles with near-local quality as far back as
early 1991, so must send their signal west at night. Not
sure why RW & JH started hearing them unless they were
having antenna problems or intentionally shifted their
pattern. (bp-WA1)
- 950 KTBR OR, Roseburg 11/19 1159 o/u KJR with adcon music & legal
ID. Odd skip conditions between Clallam Bay & Roseburg at
the time. All 3 Roseburg stations in well, even though few
signals heard from other nearby cities like Eugene &
Medford. (bp-WA1)
- 990 (KKJZ) CA, Santa Barbara per call to station 11/23, still KKJZ,
will be changing calls to KQSB "very shortly" (possibly
within week). (RW-CA)
- 1010 ?KTUR? UT, Tooele 11/23 0918 tent. in KIQI null over CBR with ID
that sounded like "This is KTUR, Tooele," then Spanish
programming, faded rapidly. Per call to station, power is
50kw daytime only (LSR +2 hours to LSS -2 hours), 2500
watts critical hours (for 2 hours after LSR and for 2 hours
before LSS). (RW-CA)
- 1090 KAJK CA, Fortuna 11/19 1208 in 3-way battle with KING/CHEC. No
ID, but popped up with ad for Fortuna, then C&W song.
(bp-WA1)
- CHEC AB, Lethbridge 11/19 1218 while at Clallam Bay, oldies
music and "10-90 Check" ID. (bp-WA1)

- 1230 KMUZ OR, Gresham 11/13 2030 atop with "Radio 1-2-3 KMUZ" SID. (bp-WA) **6**
- 1360 KRKK WY, Rock Springs 11/22 0900 atop with oldies & legal ID. This frequency and 1250 are relatively clear during the wee hours, now that KKMO, KUIK, and KKFY are no longer AN. Northwest DXers might want to check these frequencies for Wisconsin and other midwest targets. (bp-WA)
- 1390 KMIX CA, Turlock 11/29 0729 fairly good atop rumble of hets with SMN Real Country // KEED-1600. "Real Country" promo, "AM 1390, KMIX," more country music. Not heard in years since KCEY days. (BH-WA)
- 1400 KSPT ID, Sandpoint 11/27 1936 weather & road report then local ads. At 1950 ran Paul Harvey's "Rest of the Story." (NH)
- KJDY OR, John Day 11/19 2120 while in Port Angeles, atop with weather "currently 42 degrees at KJDY John Day," then lost in jumble. Rare catch. (bp-WA) (This is what I was trying for when I heard KSPT!--NH)
- KBCH OR, Lincoln City 11/29 0800 atop ending oldie "Our Day Will Come," then ID for KBCH and KCRF-96.7 and into Satellite News Network. KBCH and KCRF were formerly separate owners. (BH-WA)
- 1490 KBZY OR, Salem 11/29 0933 atop KLOG etc. with local weather and oldies. My local KGHO was off an extra hour this morning, bringing this and several other "old friends" to this receiver. (BH-WA)
- KRRR OR, Roseburg 11/19 1145 loud atop semi-local KVAC with C&W music. (bp-WA)
- KLOG WA, Kelso 11/29 0916 atop KBZY etc. with adcon, local time and weather. Local KGHO off. (BH-WA)
- KENE WA, Toppenish 11/29 0940 good with promo for Christmas Wish contest, giving address of KENE Radio, Box 350, Toppenish. Local KGHO still off t11 1000. (BH-WA)

DX TESTS

- 540 (KNAK) UT, Delta 11/23 not heard 0200-0245, nothing but XEWA & weak English talk after CBK s/off. (bp-WA)
+11/23 0220-0230 tried, not heard in KIEZ null, only XETIN. Suspect it wasn't on, as should have made it easily. (RW)
- 1470 (KMFJ) AZ, Sierra Vista 11/9 tried but not heard 0200-0300, just CUVB. (bp-WA)

UNIDS

- 580 11/23 0517 unID TT weak in KMJ null. (RW-CA)
- 1600 11/23 0642 TT good over KMNY. Suspect KGST. (RW-CA)

Thanks to our reporters this week!



Central DX Roundup



John C. Johnson
979 Neptune Boulevard
Billings, Montana 59105-2129

★PRODIGY
MPNN49A

FOR THE RECORD

REPORT ALL TIMES AS EASTERN.

DEADLINES: MAIL: SATURDAYS. PRODIGY: SUNDAYS.

RIDING GAIN

- [SA-MB] = Shawn Axelrod, 30 Becontree Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2N 2X9
Icom IC-R70 with PLAM board and 4kHz filter, 4-foot box loop, 100' wire.
- [JcJ-MT] = Your editor using an Icom IC-R71A with a ferrite bar loop.

DOWN THE DIAL

- 830 **CKKY** AB, Wainwright. 11/27 good to poor to good in tight WCCO null. 0345 with C&W music. IDing as "All Hit Country." 0400 with Broadcast News. No actual "CKKY" ID heard. First time heard, almost sounded like they were using 10,000 watts instead of night power of 3,500. AB#44. [JcJ-MT]
- 1090 **KBOZ** MT, Bozeman. 11/14 good in KAAV null. 0742 with KBOZ Weather into C&W music. [SA-MB]
- 1150 **KASM** MN, Albany. 11/14 good. 0750 with best times to hunt and fish. Spots for St. Cloud sports store. [SA-MB]
- KCUV** CO, Englewood. 11/14 fair in CKX null. 0800 with Mexican music, SS talk. ID "Que Sauve." New for me, EX-KFRR. [SA-MB]
- 1280 **KZBQ** ID, Pocatello. 11/23 fair to good in KOWB null. 0830 with C&W music, "Country 93.7" slogan. 0631 legal ID "KZBQ AM and FM Pocatello, Idaho Falls" into local news. Numerous spots. Needed for follow up report. Rare here. [JcJ-MT]
- 1300 **KBRL** NE, McCook. 11/23 good in CJME null. C&W music. "KBRL" ID. Not needed here. [JcJ-MT]
- 1400 **KBZZ** CO, La Junta. 11/15 good. 0748 with sign on "KBZZ AM and KBLJ FM." New time, not 0800 as per log. [SA-MB]
- 1440 **KKXL** ND, Grand Forks. 11/15 excellent. 1518 with modern C&W and IDing as "Double K Country." [SA-MB]
- 1480 **KKCQ** MN, Fosston. 11/15 excellent. 1509 with "KKCQ" IDs and a mix of MOR music. "Greatest hits of the 40s, 50s, and 60s." No longer A/C as per log. [SA-MB]
- 1510 **KDKO** CO, Littleton. 11/14 good. RAP music and "Power 15-10" slogan. Now back on the air. [SA-MB]
- 1520 **KMAV** ND, Mayville. 11/15 good. 0815 with C&W music, "KKZY Country" IDs. \FM. Not A/C as per log. [SA-MB]
- 1540 **KEDA** TX, San Antonio. 11/11 fair. 1745 with SS talk and Mexican music. "KEDA" ID in SS. New for me. [SA-MB]
- KXED** CA, Los Angeles. 11/15 fair in KXEL null. 0703 with Mexican music, lots of SS talk about Los Angeles. New for me. [SA-MB]

DX TESTS

- 540(KNAK) UT, Delta. 11/23 DX Test not heard here. Only CBK until 0210 sign off then just XEWA. Should have made it into Billings. [JcJ-MT]

25 YEARS AGO

December 16, 1967 issue of IRCA's DX Monitor...Bill Lipis reported from 60 miles north of San Diego stuck in a snow storm...George Tanner of Scottsdale, AZ said his most wanted states were SD, ND, and OR...Ernest J. Wesolowski of Omaha, NE was planning a New Years Get-together in Omaha...Greg Scheurman of Cheyenne, WY wondered if it would increase chances of verification if he would include some of his poetry with his reports.

OPEN MIKE

If your aim in life is nothing; you can't miss. KEEP IRCA AND DX MONITOR ALIVE! Billings '93. 73, John.

GO 'BOWS
AM 76 KGU

EDXR

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP 8
Leonard Hyde
1805 Whipple Dr #26
Blacksburg VA
24060-2436

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Reports this week from Mike and Karl, unID help from Bob and Gregory.
On 11/22, the editor noted very auroral conditions. The season is shaping up as a very good one for transcontinental reception. Meanwhile, is KNX-1070 becoming an East Coast regular? On - to EDXR...

* * * THE REPORTERS * * *

- (MB) Mike Brooker-99 Wychrest Avenue-Toronto ON-M6G 3X8
Sony ICF-7600D, Panasonic RF-2200
- (GVH) Gregory V. Henson-604 Plaza Drive-Circleville OH-43113
- (KVJ) Karl V. Jeter-2115 Scarbrough Road-Stone Mountain GA-30088
HQ-150, Sangean ATS-803A, Quantum Loop
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Drive-San Jose CA-95118
- (ed) The editor at home with modified Philco-Ford car radio,
DX-440, 2' box loop, Autek QF-1

* * * THE REPORT * * *

- 680 CFTR ON, Toronto 11/22 0315 poor w/CHR mx. Pests WPTF & WCAW totally absent. unID stn w/Talknet behind. KNBR? (ed)
- 780 ?WZZX? AL, Lineville 11/5 1813-1815 pr in fight w/nulled WBBM, w/ad for 1st National Bank of Clay Co. Into h/s football report w/many mentions of Clay Co. No ID noted other than "95WZ...780 local sports." I used my Rand-McNally Road At- to find that Lineville is in Clay Co. (MB)
- 850 KOA CO, Denver 11/22 0304 fr/gd w/nx, road cx in CO & WY. ID: "85-KOA." Not heard here in years. (ed)
- 880 WMEQ WI, Menomonee 11/7 0815-0817 pr in fight w/WRFD in WCBS null. C&W MX. ID as "THE COUNTRY OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY." Promo for U of Wisconsin-Stout Blue Devils football, hosting U of Wisconsin-River Falls. Kickoff at 1 PM. (MB)
- 890 WQIS MS, Laurel 11/10 1759 v pr in WLS null. End of sports, then "WQIS-LAUREL" ID. Buried u/WLS. (MB)
- 1070 *KNX* CA, Los Angeles 11/25 0445-0500 poor in WIBC/CHOK GRM. Two women having a discussion (talk show?) At 0500, "NEWS-RADIO 1070-KNX." (ed)
- 1080 WEEP PA, Pittsburgh 11/10 1700 fr o/WTIC w/ID: "CLASSIC COUNTRY IS AM 1080 WEEP - PITTSBURGH." Into C&W mx. (MB)
- 1150 WELC WV, Welch 11/11 1605 end of "WV News Network." Wx. (KVJ)
- 1160 WYRU NC, Red Springs 11/16 1713 "Community Calendar," church anmts. Lost at 1715 power cut. "POWERHOUSE 1160." (KVJ)
- ?KSL? UT, Salt Lake City 11/22 0200-0240 BYU vs Utah football. Pr/fr. Call to stn was unanswered. Late for football game but could be a rebroadcast. GRM from 3 NOS stns at once: WJJD, WAMB, WOBN made channel resemble a time warp. No ID, but who else would it be? Good cx to West tonight. (ed)
- 1180 WMLX KY, Florence 11/14 0800 "AM-1180, CINCINNATI'S MEMORY MAKER." Satellite News Network. (KVJ)

9 1190 WBDY WV, Bluefield 11/14 0733 C&W mx, "Y-106" ID. Local WGKA nulled. (KVJ)

1240 WHVN NC, Charlotte 11/16 0005 ABC Info nx ends. Promo for REL program. Into instr mx. (KVJ)

1490 WFKY KY, Frankfort 11/15 0830 gd w/end of "Message Of Grace" pgm from Grace Baptist Church. F/ancr. (KVJ)

1540 WYNC NC, Yanceyville 11/15 0744 Black gospel music, church anmts. (KVJ)

WRBN VA, Richmond 11/15 1745 business radio. "THE SOURCE." S/off. (KVJ)

* * * * f/c's * * * *

Please continue to listen for as many frequency checks as possible. The list published in DXM 963 needs updating. If a listed f/c is continually reported as not heard, it may be safely assumed it no longer exists, and may be stricken from the list. The club needs YOUR help.

* Following 3RD Monday f/c's tried, NONE heard. (KVJ)

0000-0020 WCBG-1590 0015-0025 WINX-1600 0030-0040 WCHE-1530
0030-0040 WVFC-1530 0040-0050 WMBT-1530 0045-0100 WFTH-1590

Karl mentioned he checked 1240 for the mysterious WCON, and also 1450 where there actually IS a WCON. Same results. Thanks, Karl.

A card from Bob Wien mentions that WCON IS on 1450, and that the 1240 listing was a typo. Thanks, Bob.

* * * * OTHER STUFF * * * *

ROBERT WIEN says the KY00-1200 logging a few weeks ago was a mystery to him, as well, since the LATEST info he has lists no night operation for this station. Probably was a test of some kind, Bob. Thanks again.

HELP WITH unIDs: Two interesting responses on the 1310 unID from a few weeks back:

* I strongly suspect the editor's unID Love 102.5/AM 1310 is WISE-NC. Only station with AM on 1310, FM on 102.5 (WMYI-Hendersonville) (RW)

* The 1310 unID in Vol. 30, No. 9 MIGHT be WHLV in Hattiesburg, MS. I used to live there, and it is in the heart of the Pine Belt. The FM is 104.5, "Y-104" contemporary pop and rock, maybe they changed their format. (BVH)

(Thanks for the help, guys. The name "Pine Belt" instantly made me think of Arkansas or Mississippi. I'm from NC, and I've never heard of a Pine Belt there: the whole state is a Pine Belt, hi. Both of these are possible, but both require a format change, and none have been reported. Perhaps someone else will hear this, and ID it. -ed)

* * * * EDITOR'S DESK * * * *

Thanks to MIKE B., KARL, and BOB for their support this week, and a big welcome to GREGORY. You may have reported before (is Greg OK?) but not since I've been the editor, so thanks, Greg, and don't be a stranger! Your help is appreciated, so report often.

Some of you may have noticed...after my longwinded rambling last week about abbreviations, I have reinstated them in the column. Yes, the more common ones are back. I LIKE abbreviations, and both typing and reading the column without them just hasn't seemed the same. We'll stay away from all but the common, easily understood ones.

References used for EDXR are the 1992 NRC Log and DX Monitor. Deadline here is FRIDAY 2 weeks before the DXM publication date. Times are ELT (Eastern Local Time.) 73 'till next time de LLH. (typed November 27)



Western DX Forum ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Reid Wheeler 5910 Boulevard Loop SE Olympia, WA 98501

Deadline: Saturday 2 weeks before publication

Randy Stewart, 4225 W. LaCasa, Springfield, MO 65802-5615

[11/16] Thanks are due to Dallas Lankford, Don Moman and Leonard Hyde for their recent reviews of (respectively) the Drake R-8, Icom R-72 and Radio Shack DX-390. Thanks for info on what we should (and shouldn't!) buy! I'm leaning toward the R-8 but I need to keep saving my pennies. (Ralph's "R-8 For Sale" notice in Vol.30 #9 broke my heart -- I just don't have the funds right now, despite the seductive price!) Many thanks also to J.D. Stephens for another excellent lineup of DX tests...NONE of which I've had a chance to hear, though the upcoming tests by WRIX-1020, KJR-950 and the two Maine stations are much-needed here! Now on to something extremely serious. No offense intended to Paul Swearingen, who I'm sure made his publishing offer in sincerity and good faith. But if DX Monitor is absorbed into DX News, not only will it mean the end of the magazine as Ralph has said ... it will effectively mean the end of IRCA itself as a club, a separate entity from NRC. Think about it: how many of us can take the time (or afford financially) to travel cross-country to the annual IRCA convention? Not very many -- less than 10% of the membership attended this year's, if my math is at all accurate. I know I couldn't go. I probably won't make it to Billings in '93 either. DX Monitor, for the vast majority of us, is our only link to the club, to fellow IRCA'ns. For better or worse, this little magazine you hold in your hand is basically what makes IRCA a "radio club." And if it disappears ... so does the club as we know it, and Paul's promise that certain "unique" features of DX Monitor would be retained won't change that. I know, I know, "if you're not part of the solution you're part of the problem." Sorry, but I am NOT volunteering to publish DX Monitor - I wish I had time to do it, but I don't. I sincerely hope someone else can... and does... and soon. 73.

John C. Johnson, 979 Neptune Blvd, Billings, MT 59105-2129

(406) 259-9210

[11/23] One new verie to report, that from KFMQ-1480 Lincoln, NE. I had KLMS (previous call) verified from Sheridan WY DX, but never logged the call change here until now. By the way, I recently reported this as being KYNN - my error. One forgets that you cannot assume a call change just because it's used in a legal ID! The change was for their FM only. So, KFMQ AM & FM is now KFMQ and KYNN. The KFMQ being the AM call and the KYNN the FM call. On air you only hear the KYNN call. Call letter buffs will remember KYNN was once used by Omaha's 1490. Format is now country. Even though we have not been officially selected, Larry Godwin and I are starting to work on convention plans. Station tours have already been scheduled for KCTR and KTVQ with more planned. We will be looking for a DX'pedition site for late Friday night and Shawn Axelrod of Winnipeg, MB suggested we schedule one for Sunday night/Monday morning too! Details will appear in DX Monitor later. Write if you would like Montana travel information sent to you. Keep IRCA and DX Monitor alive! 73, John. BILLINGS '93.

Bill Hardy, 2301 Pacific Ave., Aberdeen, WA 98520

[11/27] From the Nov. 21 issue, I see that initial reaction to the proposed merger of DX Monitor and DX News ranges from lukewarm to hostile! I've also has one letter from a member wondering if there has been much behind-the-scenes activity, and the answer is no. I first learned of the proposal on Sept. 2, when Phil circulated it to the Board, asking us for reaction and ideas before bringing it up to the membership, which he did on page 2 of the Nov. 7 DXM. I sent my comments to Phil with a copy to Paul Swearingen. Also, I had a fascinating 30-minute phone conversation on Sept. 4 with Paul, who went right from the phone to the business meeting at the NRC convention. Paul's proposal is his, not NRC's to date. He said it's an "open secret" in NRC and didn't plan to discuss it at their convention unless someone brought it up.

11
(Bill - do we yet know NRC's official position on merging the bulletins? - rcw) Now it's time for IRCA members to discuss the proposal in full. If someone comes forward to begin publishing DX Monitor next summer, IRCA can maintain its separate bulletin and its major identity. I think Ralph's statement on page 1 of the Nov. 14 DXM that "DX Monitor will disappear forever" is an overstatement. DXM would be a portion of the joint DXM-DXN. The By-Laws would need to be amended if we change the bulletin's name, and they require Board approval of any schedule other than 34 issues per year. I would favor Paul's joint bulletin over no bulletin, and over an unprofessional bulletin. But I do favor a separate DX Monitor unless there's a big outcry to do otherwise. Who among us can do the job? Let's hear from you very soon! 73 and good DX.

EASTERN

Richard C. Evans
P.O. Box 21883
Milwaukee, WI 53221-0883

DX

FORUM

Deadlines: Saturdays Phone: 414-ATLantic 2-9035

Mike Hardester, 3118 Gaitway Court, Jacksonville, North Carolina 28546-6973
GREETINGS! I've finally built up enough nerve to return to the typing/DX Room, and overdue correspondence should be handled soon. On Halloween, we had a "visitor" who wasn't doing the "Trick or Treat" routine: a 3 foot Copperhead managed to find its way into the spare bedroom, and nearly proved that "DXing can be hazardous to your health"! The snake was captured, and literally lost its head over the unceremonious forced exiting from the house. WHEW! What a day!! Now that I'm back in the room, I wanted to zip off the Forum Report regarding the proposal from Paul Swearingen to take over the publishing of the (former?) DX MONITOR. Personally, I'm against it. However, unless we have a volunteer(s) come forward, that is about the only choice we have. I helped briefly with the San Diego Publishing Group of YEARS gone by, and a serious commitment IS REQUIRED. Any takers? I hope so. Also, as one of your representatives on the Board of Directors, I've yet to receive a single letter, card, etc., regarding suggestions for improving the club, changes you'd like to see, and basically, anything you care to comment on about the club. Or, is everyone pleased at the current state of affairs? Operators are sitting by to read your letters. VERY 73 AND BEST OF DX! (Mike, you should be hearing me very shortly, before this hits print!-rce)

Gary Siegel, 2955-115th Street, Toledo, Ohio 43611
(cont. from last week) ...On 11/6 at 1915 I caught a loud oldies station blasting in on 1460. Many eastern KY mentions and dual IDs for WPRT-960 another LMA (apparently) and then the WBPA ID for Elkhorn City. Still another LMA merited me another goodie on 790. After hearing a WQSV mention over WJKZ-1030 in Tenn., I checked on 790 for a // and sure enough imbedded in the QRM was WQSV. These LMA's do come in handy for something. Gary, what is a LMA?-rce) Later that day, 11/7 caught an amazing football game involving 2 southern HS teams between Cairo and New Albany. Cairo scored on the 1st play of the game, a 99.5 yard runback which was followed by New Albany nearly the same and scoring 4 plays later. Cairo then scored again 3 plays later, 3 TD's in a game not even 10 plays old had the WGRA announcer going crazy--fellow didn't even have time to set the lineups and it was already 14-7! At 1930 on 11/11 caught the s/off for KAIN-1040 in LA, they refer to themselves as K-10 and had many Natchez, MS mentions in their s/off. So watch for this. At 1823 on 11/13 caught some QRM under semi-local WJYM-730 in EE. Not strong enough to be CHYR and besides they were still operating at 710 at the time so I decided to scope it out. Format was R&B and when they ID'ed it turned out to be KKDA in TX. They had an ad for MCD's and PSA for women safety tips while shopping then lost when CHYR popped onto 730 blowing the frequency off. Thanks a lot! On 11/14 at 1755 I hrd some MYL standards on 1170, soon after came the WPLX ID from Germantown, Tenn., these give me a total now at 3058 hrd. I should mention that during Hurricane

Andrew I hrd WLBE-790 and WDBF-1420 in FL on for special broadcasts loaded with storm info. Both were new. In that same time frame on an aural night I caught KGBC-1540 in Galveston with a high school FB game for a most wanted catch. Finally gave way to the Fort Worth 1540, no sign of usual QRM of KXEL and CHIN. Taped both Texans. Enough for now, really hope someone takes over the IRCA publishing, wish I weren't so busy. Let's keep IRCA alive and well. 73s.

Leonard Hyde, 1805 Whipple Drive, #26, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060-2436

Here's another little bit of Postal Service wisdom (or lack of it!) I recently gleaned. I took a letter to the post office that I was mailing to Carl Huffaker in Mexico. I had the address the way we would put U.S. address - the town, country, and postal code on the last line. It was explained to me that the new automatic scanners would read the 5 digit Mexican postal code (43500) as a U.S. Zip Code, and route the letter to somewhere in Michigan. The town and postal code should appear on a separate line, and the COUNTRY should appear by itself on the LAST line. The scanner scans the last line only for numbers; when it does not see them, it rejects the letter to be hand scanned by someone with brains.

Rick Evans, 4841 South 26th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221-2937

Was I the only one who had a problem with the current voting on By-Law changes? On question 3, the change reads that the EEC may not run for an elected office during the time he is the EEC, or if he becomes the EEC while an elected official, he must resign the office. BUT where one votes, the question reads "Should the EEC be permitted to also campaign or run for an elected office in IRCA, during the period in which he/she is the EEC?" (shortened slightly) Now, how do you vote to vote yes for the amendment? Do you vote yes to favor the change or do you vote no? If you vote the ballot the way it reads, you vote no because of the wording of the question, but a note from Albert Lobel tells me to vote yes because the question is not worded in the negative. I don't know who wrote the questions on the ballot, but I feel it probably wound up misleading a fair amount of members into voting opposite their feelings, whether it be in favor of the amendment or against it. I also wound up having my ballot returned to me because I used a photocopy of the ballot rather than using the original printed in DXM since at that point I no longer would have the page explaining the questions being voted on. Albert said the reason was because it prevented counting the ballot twice, but I thought that was the purpose of making us sign the ballot, which I don't remember ever having to do in IRCA in the 28 years I've been in it. There was nothing on the ballot which says that photocopies are not acceptable. I'll be asking the BoD to re-vote the question. I didn't do very much listening while I was in Michigan, but I did notice that WHEZ-1560 has a very easy listening format. Very enjoyable. While tuning the radio looking for a station to listen to while going to sleep, I caught the s/off of CBM-940, as well as good signals from WWJ-950, WHAS-840, WLS-890 and CHML-900; this was on a palm-sized receiver. The second and third nights I wound up listening to WCSG-91.3. Right now I'm listening to WGLB-1560 hoping that the station under them is WHEZ. As I type this, my wife handed me an envelope from WCCN-1370 in Neillville, WI. It's a v/l, but I can't read the signature. I asked them what power they were using when I heard them as the NRC Log showed them with 42 watts at night, but the person told me I heard them with 270 watts. He said they take "2 power dumps. One to 270 watts and overnights at 42 watts." They also sent a bumper sticker and a letter opener. By the way, the NRC Log shows a bad address for them--it should be PO Box 387, Neillville, WI 54456 per their letterhead. The bad address should get to them with no trouble, as the town is small. My report was dated 11/22 and the verie received on 11/30! 73.

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DX TECHNIQUES

Leonard Hyde
1805 Whipple Dr #26
Blacksburg VA
24060-2436

USING THE COMPUTER IN DXING - PART 2

Personal Computers and DXing
Mark Connelly - WA1ION - 17 NOV 1992

(continued from last column)

Remote control of receivers is another area of computer use; compared to what's been done daily in the automatic test industry and factory automation since the JFK era, hobby control software is still laughably primitive. Current programs use the RS-232 bus almost exclusively; this limits greatly the concept of combined control of receivers, antenna tuners, loops, recorders and antenna positioners. Precious little of the current software does any more than set the receiver to a preset list of frequencies at a preset list of times, much the way a programmable VCR does. Of course, many receivers cannot send digitized S-meter readings and digitized audio back to the computer; these outputs would be critical for true "artificial DXer" programs incorporating decision making. I'm talking about programs that could intelligently determine that if Algeria is in on 891, looking for other TAs could be worthwhile else "skip it" and see if Radio Paradise is booming in on 830 or PJB on 800 to decide whether the "Caribbean strategy plan" should be invoked instead. "Smart" DX programs need to know, at the very least, signal strength and perhaps something about audio content. I think programs that can tell Spanish from Portuguese under poor signal signal conditions are still a long way off, but not theoretically impossible. What PCs do today seemed impossible in the Altair, Timex-Sinclair, and Commodore days of just 15 years ago.

I've worked in automatic testing since 1978. The IEEE-488 instrument control bus, allowing many instruments to be operated together under one computer's control, goes back well before that. The VXI (VME) control bus does a similar job. As I stated before, use of this could allow receivers, loops, and recorders to all run under one program as a sort of "robot DXing station." If hobby manufacturer's woke up and incorporated IEEE-488, that would help. Most prefer to stick to quirky, limited, and incompatible control schemes, and canned software not easily customized by the end user. An IEEE-488 interface card for PCs, with Windows-compatible software, is typically sold for about \$500.00. That's cheaper than many other peripherals such as laser printers. Users, at present, are almost entirely commercial businesses testing circuit cards, mixing chemicals, drilling metal, etc. Hobbies such as DXing, ham radio, and even model railroading could benefit from the power of such control.

Of course, then there's the matter of unwanted RF emissions from the PC, a problem that hams running packet have apparently confronted and conquered - at least when outdoor antennas are used. I would recommend ARRL literature as a good starting point for solutions. I'm not sure a PC and a loop could ever function in the same room at the same time. A remotely tuned and turned loop on the roof could be the best bet.

In summary, there are many current uses for PCs in DXing, and there will continue to be more as time goes on. Still, one should focus on the DX first, and use the computer as more of a helper than as an end in itself. Otherwise, you could fall into the trap of never turning the receiver on! There are many such former DXers. A computer is definitely valuable, but it's not indispensable. People logged and verified thousands of stations long before computers became available. A DXer armed with just a Superadio or TRF can still be a success in this hobby. Serious computer hobbyists must be willing to part with much more money for an equivalent amount of fun.

DX Techniques, indeed! My paltry comments are that I use the computer and printer to generate listings sorted by call, frequency, and state. However, 95 % of it's use is for correspondence, and generation of my two DXM columns.

Any other comments received will appear next time, when a new format will be introduced. 73 and good DXing de LLH.



QSL

VERIFICATION

14

SIGNERS

Stephen S. Howe
9 Warner Drive
St. Albans, VT 05478-1575

Deadline will be the last Friday of the month during the weekly issues of the DX Monitor.

Contributors:

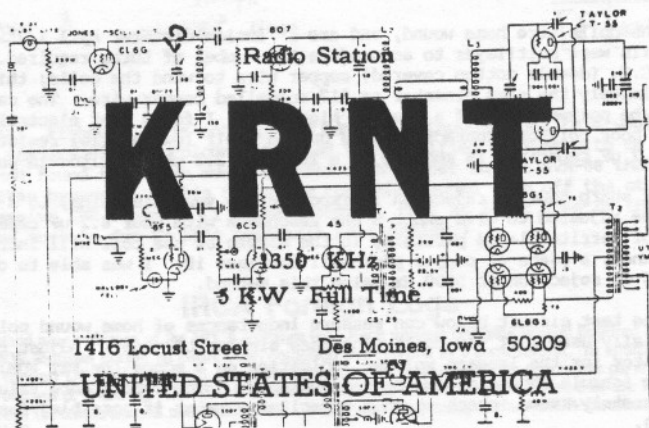
PM Patrick Martin, P O Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-0843
RW Robert Wien, 1309 Dentwood Dr, San Jose CA 95118

FREQ	CALL	NAME and TITLE	ADDRESS	WHAT	WHEN	WHO
540	KIEZ	Jerry Collins, GM	1188 Padre Dr # 202 Salinas CA 93901	L	14	PM
560	KMON	Michael P [*], CE	Great Falls MT	P	7	RW
765	2EC	Kirsty McFarlane	P O Box 471 Bega NSW 2614 Australia	LQ	32	PM
920	CKCQ	Brian Miles, GM	160 Front St Quesnel BC V2J 2K1	L	89f	PM
1008	4TAB	Van Richards Smith, CE	P O Box 275 Albion Q 4010 Australia	L	22	PM
1190	KXKS	Bob Henry, CE	Albuquerque NM	P	126	RW
1540	KXED	Frederick J Holub, CE	Los Angeles CA	LM	73	RW
1620	WNZA955	Suha Kilic, InfSysCoord	Forest Lake & Lopez Pebble Beach CA 93953	L	15	PM

WHAT was received: L = Letter; Q = QSL card; P = Prepared card supplied by DXer; R = DXer's letter returned with statement; M = Coverage map; B = Bumper or other sticker; + = Extra goodies
* [for this report] = Last name illegible

WHEN the reply came: Number of days elapsed; f = Follow-up

Remember to include the station's full mailing address when reporting. In future columns, if the full mailing address is not indicated the reader should use the address listed in the latest NRC log when sending a report. This column was prepared 11/27/92. 73, SSH





A Passive Audio Filter For Use With a Speaker

by Al Koppel

Owners of the NRD-525 are aware of the high frequency hiss on its audio output, even while using the NVA88 external speaker. In addition, I found it annoying to hear 5000 Hz hets when listening near powerful SW broadcasters while using the wide IF filter. As there is plenty of room inside the speaker enclosure, I decided to build a low pass filter which would eliminate these problems. In addition, the design would be useable for similar receiver/speaker combinations.

The desired cut-off frequency was 3000 Hz, with minimal ripple in the passband and high attenuation at 5000 Hz. A standard low-pass filter design with steep enough roll-off would involve numerous inductances and capacitances. Instead, I used information contained in the Radio Data Reference Book, 4th edition, from the Radio Society of Great Britain (pages 51-55 Table 1-5 #1). This showed an appropriate filter normalized to 1 Hz cut-off with a 1 ohm input and output impedance. Following the procedure in the book, I developed the following filter with a 3000 Hz cutoff and a 4 ohm impedance suitable for the speaker:

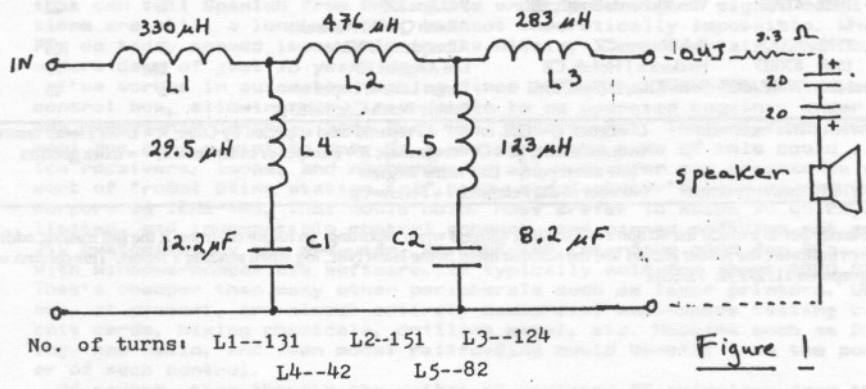
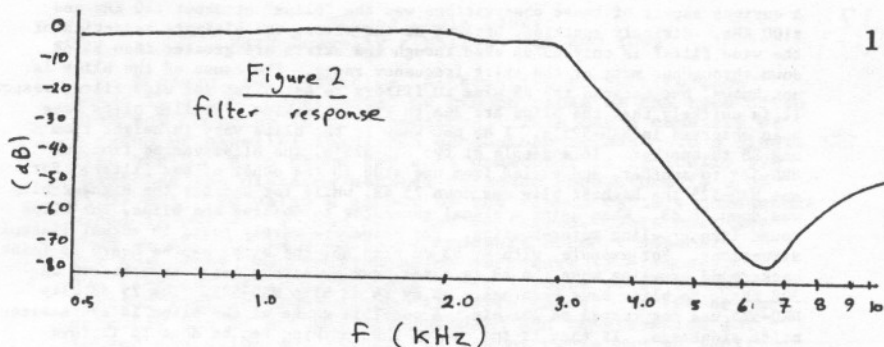


Figure 1

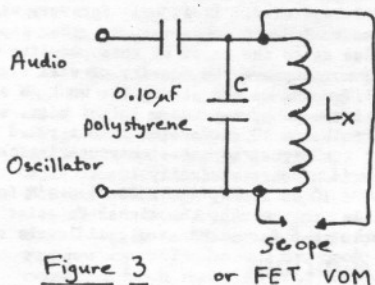
The coils were home wound, and are 1" inside diameter by 1 1/2" long. All coils were multilayer to accommodate the number of turns required. I used #19 D.C.C. (double cotton covered) copper wire to wind the coils; this has approximately the same diameter as #17 enamelled copper wire. The capacitors should be polyester or of a similar high grade; I found that electrolytics caused poor roll-off characteristics due to their low parallel resistance. The 12.2 uF capacitor is made up of a 10 and a 2.2 uF capacitor in parallel.

If sharp 5000 Hz rejection is important to your listening, L5's turns could be adjusted to give exact 5 kHz resonance with your 8.2 uF capacitor. A piece of ferrite placed partially in the middle of the coil will increase inductance, a piece of copper pipe will decrease it. I was able to obtain over 50 dB rejection at 5000 Hz using this method.

The test circuit below can measure inductances of home wound coils (especially useful if you can't wind ones similar to mine). Adjust the audio oscillator for the largest voltage indication on a scope (or FET VOM) and use the formula shown to give coil inductance. The capacitance value should be accurately known (check it on a capacitance meter if possible) for best results.



Incidentally, the NVA88 cabinet is poorly designed and has a resonant point of 160 Hz. When I mounted my circuit in the cabinet, I placed foam rubber in there as well to dampen this resonance. My cabinet has another resonant point at around 9 kHz, and the die-hard experimenter may want to design his filter to reject this frequency as well, because filter rejection tends to deteriorate again as the frequency goes higher. I tried a 3.3 ohm resistor in series with two 20 μF electrolytic capacitors placed back to back (see figure 1) between the output of the filter and the speaker, and noticed several dB further reduction at 9 kHz with little change to the overall filter passband.



$$L(\text{mH}) = \frac{25.33}{Q_{\mu\text{F}} \times [F(\text{kHz})]^2}$$

∴ using C of 0.10 μF

$$L_x = \frac{253.3}{[F(\text{kHz})]^2}$$

(ed note: Although Al is not an IRCA member, I thought that this would be of use to readers of this column. I tried this modified speaker with my Drake SPR-4 and found that even music sounded much better on the NVA-88 than with the filter bypassed. This certainly took the ragged edge off the otherwise unimpressive SPR-4 audio. I agree, however, that at least some of the audio problems must be due to this speaker's poor design.)

IRCA Foreign Logs

The IRCA has published nine volumes of the IRCA Foreign log. Each volume contains several hundred actual tips that were reported to the DXWW sections during an entire year, compiled and retyped in a book format. In addition, special features include: articles on foreign DXing (volumes 6, 7 and 8), utility lists (volumes 7 and 8), shortwave parallels (volume 8) and CCB propagation (volumes 6, 7 and 8). The IRCA Bookstore still has volumes 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 of the IRCA Foreign Log available for \$2.50 each (overseas airmail add \$2.50/book). Order your copy today from: IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117

A cheap, but effective, alternative to ferrite loop heads is a loop constructed of ribbon cable of the type often used for computer interconnections. This cable consists of a group of parallel insulated conductors formed onto a single flat strip. Wire gauge for each conductor is typically #28 (AWG) and the distance between adjacent conductors is 0.05" (1.27 mm). By using a number of the ribbon cable's conductors wired in series, a loop coil may be formed. This coil may then be mounted on a suitable crossarm support assembly. The customary loop configuration is square (/ diamond), but circular, triangular, and other layouts could be used instead with no great change in performance. If the support assembly can be quickly disassembled and re-assembled (or folded and unfolded) and if the ribbon cable can be easily detached and re-attached to the support assembly, an effective loop for DXpeditions and other travel can be made.

My experiments were done with a 5 ft. / 1.52 m. length of ribbon cable sold by Radio Shack (part number 278-772, US price \$3.59). This initially has 25 parallel conductors. Cut-and-try experimentation determined that a 10-conductor piece gives the correct inductance for a medium wave loop compatible with operation in Palomar, Quantum, and RTL-2 bases. These base units are characterized by fairly high tuning capacitances - on the order of 440 to 940 pF low band (e. g. 500 - 750 kHz) and 30 to 530 pF high band (e. g. 700 - 1800 kHz). Other tuning capacitances will mandate different ribbon cable lengths and/or different numbers of conductors.

Construction of the ribbon cable loop head assembly is straightforward. A "DB25" computer connector is used for the required junctions at the ends of the ribbon cable. Figures 1, 2, and 3 illustrate the necessary connections.

The support frame arrangement of Figure 4 was used for quick testing. My main application is remotely-tuned loops used in a phased configuration (loop vs. loop, or loop vs. whip, via the DCP-1 Dual Controller / Phaser). Nulls are established electronically; therefore, the need to tilt and rotate the loop manually is not a high priority. For easy tilting and rotation ("normal" loop use), a more sophisticated loop support assembly would be required. NRC loop antenna manuals and Ken Cornell's "Medium and Low Frequency Scrapbook" present many worthwhile mechanical construction details for loop support frames.

*** Test Results ***

Sensitivity, with the 10-conductor ribbon cable formed into a diamond approximately 15" (0.38 m.) on a side, was comparable to that of the Quantum and Palomar medium wave ferrite heads. I had thought that the close conductor spacing could wreck Q (tuning sharpness) and severely limit the tuning range. This did not seem to be the case: Q and tuning range were only SLIGHTLY greater with the ferrite heads. The cost-conscious should note that Palomar gets \$79.95 for its "BCB" loop head (Universal Radio catalogue 91-06); a ribbon cable head of equivalent, or better, sensitivity can be thrown together for less than \$10 - FAR less if you go to ham "flea markets".

The cheapness of this method allows for much experimentation including loops for other frequency ranges, tapped-down (low-impedance) outputs, etc.

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA (IRCA)

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the AM Broadcast Band (510 - 1630 khz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published 34 times a year, weekly from October to March, twice in September and April, and monthly from May to August. **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

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