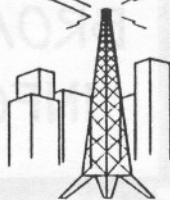


# DX MONITOR

THE OFFICIAL  
PUBLICATION  
OF THE



INTERNATIONAL  
RADIO CLUB  
OF AMERICA



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Loop Showdown: KIWA vs RSM-105 by Mark Connelly.....16, In The Center:  
The last part of the 'Newfoundland DXpedition', also 'More Of  
The World Above 1600' which is complete. Back Page: Club Officers.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**NEW MEMBER:** David Gasque of Orangeburg SC. **REJOIN:** Don Davis of Car  
son CA. **RENEWALS:** Ernest Cooper of Provincetown MA, Gary Penley of  
Rochester WA, Dave Williams of Astoria OR, Joseph Esser of Summit  
NJ, Thomas Reiser of Chicago IL, Dennis Gibson of Goleta CA. Wel-  
come to David and welcome back Don. Thank you all very much....Pub.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE:** R-390A in good shape and in a nice cabinet @300.00. Will  
deliver within a 250 mile radius. Will consider trade or partial  
trade for HF transceiver or other receiver. Randy Tomer, 50 Thistle  
Ridge, Eureka CA 95503. Phone 707-442-6631.....  
\*\*\*\*\*

**KEN ROMSTADT:** Former IRCA member Ken Romstadt passed away recently.  
He was 39 years old. Our sympathies go out to his wife Cheryl.....  
\*\*\*\*\*

For those of you who would like a simple explanation, with figures, of dynamic receiver specifications such as the *1-db compression point* and the *third-order intercept point*, pick up a copy of the August 1995 issue of "Popular Electronics" - Joe Carr's Ham Radio column is a good review of these topics.

# KERI

## AM 1180

# BROADCASTING INFORMATION



Editor:  
Robert Wien  
1309 Dentwood Drive  
San Jose, CA 95118

DEADLINES: 2nd & 4th Saturdays.

Compiled: 08/08/95

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

## NEW STATION APPLICATIONS:

CO. Gunnison 1490 khz. 1000/1000 ND  
NJ. Hackettstown 1510 khz. 900/230 DA-N

## CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

AR. Camden KAMD-910 dec. to 1000/125 ND

## FACILITY & PARAMETER APPLICATIONS:

NJ. Newark WXLX-620 inc. to 8000-N

## FACILITY & PARAMETER GRANTS:

NH. Derry WDER-1320 inc. to 10000-D  
NY. Canton WNYS-750 dec. to 1000/8.3 ND (CP)  
TX. Farwell KIJN-1060 inc. to 10000-D  
Humble KGOL-1180 8500/4700 DA-N

## CALL LETTER CHANGES:

AZ. Cottonwood KVRD-1600 requests KKL D  
CA. Costa Mesa KOJY-540 becomes KNNZ  
Victorville KCIN-1590 becomes KROY (named after Roy  
Rogers)  
GA. Hahira WSHF-810 becomes WWRQ  
KY. Louisville WRES-1080 becomes WHKW "Hawk"  
MS. Ridgeland WLRM-780 becomes WIIN  
NC. Raleigh WYLT-850 becomes WRBZ "The Buzz"  
TN. Maryville WCGM-1120 becomes WKCE  
WA. Colfax new-840 becomes KRAO (CP)

## FORMAT CHANGES:

AL. Thomasville WJDB-630 was C&W//FM, talk, adds JSN CD country  
CA. Mojave KVOY-1340 was stds., talk, now SMN Real C&W, talk  
Victorville KROY-1590 was KCIN, SMN stds., now SMN Real country  
CT. Brookfield WTNE-940 was nx, talk, now country  
DE. Milford WYUS-930 was nx, talk, now SS  
FL. Tallahassee WNLS-1270 was talk, adds 1 on 1 sports  
GA. Cordele WUWU-1490 was oldies, rptd. silent  
HI. Honolulu KIKI-990 was oldies, now silent (lost tower  
lease)  
ID. Couer D'Alene KVNI-1080 was soft AC, now SMN AC  
IL. Rantoul WBAN-1460 was AS, now silent pending sale  
IA. Burlington KCPS-1150 was talk, adds the Tub talk  
Indianola KXLQ-1490 was country, now nx/sports/talk  
(Bloomberg, Sports Babe, Dr. Laura,  
Westwood, Sports By-line)

KY. Danville	WHIR-1230	was AC, now talk
Louisville	WHKW-1080	was WRES, nx/talk, now C&W//FM, talk
MD. Havre De Grace	WASA-1330	was religion, now stds//WWLG
MI. Grand Rapids	WCUZ-1230	was country, to be talk Aug. 14
Kentwood	WKWM-1140	was urban, now SMN urban AC (adds Tom Joyner mornings)
MN. Ely	WELY-1450	was silent, now variety//FM
Monticello	KMOM-1070	was gold-based AC, now talk
Sauk Rapids	WVAL-660	was rock//FM, adds the Tub talk//FM
MS. Canton	WONG-1150	was urban, rptd. silent
MO. Washington	KSLQ-1350	was soft AC, talk, now JSN AC//FM
NH. Franklin	WFTN-1240	was country//WSCY, adds JSN CD country
NC. Camp Lejeune	WVOF-1580	was contemp. Xtian, rptd. silent pending sale
OR. Astoria	KVAS-1230	was country, adds After Midnight
PA. Canonsburg	WVCS-540	was ethnic, now variety (Tub Talk, BEC programming, brokered programming)
SC. Georgetown	WGTM-1400	was religion, now s. gospel
TN. Franklin	WIZO-1380	was oldies, adds talk 9 AM-3:30 PM
TX. Longview	KARW-1280	was urban, rptd. silent
San Antonio	KTKR-760	was talk, now sports "The Ticket"
WI. Hallie	WOGO-680	was s. gospel, now MGS Xtian country

Pat Martin of Seaside, OR. sends in the following tip:

OR. Lebanon                   KGAL-1580 currently testing, to come on air mid-August, 1000/1000, news-talk format.

Thanks, Pat! DX is still slow here, just turned 35 on Saturday so now I can be president of the U.S.! 73's.

DEADLINES: 2nd & 4th Saturdays.

Compiled: 08/21/95

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

NEW STATION APPLICATIONS:

NM. Farmington               1610 khz. 1000/1000 experimental

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

AZ. Marana                   KSAZ-580 changes to 320-N, DA-N

FACILITY & PARAMETER APPLICATIONS:

NY. Penn Yan               WYLF-850 46-N

FACILITY & PARAMETER GRANTS:

AL. Ozark	WQLS-1200	move to 1210 khz., 5000-CH, 4-N
FL. Mount Dora	WGBB-1580	dec. to 3500-D
KY. Middlesboro	WMIK-560	inc. to 2500-D, ND

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

AL. Montgomery	WLWI-740	becomes WMSP "Montgomery's Sports"
AZ. Tucson	KMXZ-1490	becomes KKND "The End"
CA. San Bernardino	KLFE-1240	becomes KKLA
NV. Las Vegas	KMTW-1340	becomes KRLV
Reno	KRCV-630	requests KNRC
Sun Valley	KHIT-1590	requests KIRS
NY. Cobleskill	WSCM-1190	becomes WDSC
Islip	WLIX-540	requests WLUX
OK. Ardmore	KKAJ-1240	becomes KVSO
Pawhuska	KXVO-1500	becomes KRIG
OR. Eugene	KZZK-1320	requests KNRC
TX. Wichita Falls	KWFT-620	becomes KAAM
WA. Seattle	KPOZ-1590	becomes KLFE "Life"

FORMAT CHANGES:

AL. Dothan	WDZS-700	is new, s. gospel
Montgomery	WMSP-740	was WLWI, talk/sports, now all=sports
AK. Anchorage	KYAK-650	was country, talk, now CSN Children's Net
AZ. Prescott	KNOT-1450	was country, talk, adds Sports By-line
CA. San Bernardino	KKLA-1240	was KLFE, religion, now Xtian talk
ID. Pocatello	KOUU-1290	was country//FM, now SMN Real country
IL. Mount Carmel	WYER-1360	was country, adds SMN Real country
KY. Florence	WKYN-1160	was country//FM, sports, now C&W//FM
ME. Monticello	WREM-710	was talk, now rock "Rock 71"
MS. Ridgeland	WIIN-780	was WLRM, talk, now country//FM, to become talk again soon, a fire forced the simulcasting)
MO. Lexington	KLEX-1570	was religion, rptd. silent
NE. Scottsbluff	KOLT-1320	was talk, adds JSN 2-Spanish (uses JSN Regional Mexican format weekends)
NJ. Newark	WXLX-620	was SS hits, now regional Mexican
NC. Wilmington	WWIL-1490	was religion, to be s. gospel (Oct.)
OK. Pawhuska	KRIG-1500	was silent, now SMN Real C&W//FM
Pryor	KMYZ-1570	was new rock//FM, now CSN Children's net
OR. Eugene	KEED-1600	was silent, now Christian country
SC. North Augusta	WGUS-1380	was talk, now classic hits//FM
TN. Harrogate	WRWB-740	was s. gospel, rptd. silent
TX. Plano	KAAM-620	was KWFT, silent, to be AS (Sept.)
San Angelo	KCRN-1340	was silent, to be religion soon
WA. Seattle	KLFE-1590	was KPOZ, Christian C&W, adds SRN talk
WI. West Bend	WBKV-1470	was gold-based AC/talk, adds PRN talk
ON. Sudbury	CHNO-550	was classic rock, now CHUM net. talk

Pat Martin of Seaside, OR. sends the following tip:

OR. Portland            KUPL-1330 to be religion by 1/1/96

Jim Hilliker of Monterey, CA. sends the following tip (confirmed by ye editor):

CA. Apt-s-Capitola    KMBY-1540 currently silent, to be back on w/SS "shortly" (still silent 8/21-ed)

Shawn Axelrod of Winnipeg, MB. sends the following tip:

ON. Hearst            CHOH-1-1340 asks to move to FM, go dark on AM  
BC. Parksville        CHPQ-1370 requests move to 1350, 10000/10000  
(this replaces CKEG which moved to 1570 from 1350 earlier this year-ed).

Well, the days are starting to get shorter slowly now, pretty soon it'll be Labor Day, so DX should pick up soon! 73's.

## IRCA Almanac Updaters 5.6 and 5.7 Are Now Available!

Two new updaters to the IRCA AM-FM ALMANAC are now available from the IRCA Bookstore.

Updater 5.6 features the most complete listing of Travelers Information Stations (TIS) ever produced. The 32-page listing includes every known TIS station in the US and Canada between 530 and 1710 kHz and even some on FM. Updater 5.6 also includes the FCC Allotment List for stations assigned to the new expanded AM band, 1610 to 1700 kHz. Stations are listed by new frequency, old frequency, and city/state. Those who DX the band from 1600-1710 kHz will find this reference indispensable.

Updater 5.7 features a complete 42-page AM and FM station slogan list, plus current station lists for the Tom Leykis, David Brenner, Pat Buchanan, and Larry King talk shows.

Special prices for these two updaters. \$3 each in the US and Canada, \$4 elsewhere. Order either or both updaters from the IRCA Bookstore, by sending the correct amount (in US funds) to:

**IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary N.W., Seattle, WA 98117-2334. Thank you!**



# DX Worldwide - West

PAT MARTIN PO BOX 843 SEASIDE, OR 97138

Time: UTC

Phone (503) 861-3185

DEADLINES: 9/4, 9/25

DX SEASON IS BACK!!! Yes conditions towards the Pacific and Asia have really improved. Lots of Auusies heard of late. Hopefully it will be a good year. A nice report this time from Shawn Axelrod. So away we go:

## PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 532 TURKS AND CAICOS, RVC 7/30 at 041 Poor signals solid with solid net, weak audio SS programming. (SA-MB)  
1020 TURKS AND CAICOS, CCR 7/30 0308 Good signals o/u KDKA People's Gospel Hour programming. (SA-MB)  
1180 CUBA, Radio Taino 7/30 0230 Good signals mixing with WHAM with lively mx and Radio Taino IDs. (SA-MB)  
CUBA, Radio Rebelde-7/30 0235 Good signals mixing with WHAM and Taino with BB game in SS. (SA-MB)

## TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 153 RUSSIA, Komsomolsk-good with pop mx in RR and woman ancr at 0730 on 8/16 (PM-OR)  
180 RUSSIA, Petropavlosk-weak // to 153 with RR pops at 0732 8/16 (PM)  
234 RUSSIA, Arman(presumed) with clas. mx not // to 153, man ancr in RR at 0745 8/16 (PM-OR)  
243 RUSSIA, Razdolnoye(presumed) w/ RR pops //153,180, but weaker at 0740 8/16 (PM-OR)  
279 RUSSIA, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk //153 with RR pops 0742 8/16 (PM-OR)  
531 AUSTRALIA, West Kempsey-2MC-fair w/Astoria TIS splat, pop mx and Kempsey spots, tc, at 0745 8/20 (PM-OR)  
NEW ZEALAND, Auckland-Radio Pacific Islands w/ what sounded like Samoan or sim. lang at 0812 8/17, some pop mx QRM presumed 2MC, TIS-Astoria splat. (PM-OR)  
540 AUSTRALIA, Longreach-4QL good with ABC nx at 1301 8/21, wx report at 1305, u/o others. (PM-OR)  
UNID, pop mx station u/o 4QL for a time, DU type ancr, Billy Joel mx at 1335 8/21. 7SD? (PM-OR)  
549 AUSTRALIA, Orange-2CR fair in 550 splat w/ABC nx at 1302 8/21.(PM)  
558 AUSTRALIA, Atherton-4AM-with rr mx and Quennsland ment. at 1320 on 8/17 (PM-OR)  
567 AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND, mix here in tuning past at 1326 8/20(PM-OR)  
576 AUSTRALIA, Sydney-2RN-very strong with African mx program and YL National program ment at 1334 8/21 (PM-OR)  
585 AUSTRALIA, Hobart-7RN fair //576 with same African pgm at 1336 on 8/21, but weaker. (PM-OR)  
UNID, weak pop mx pgm way under 7RN at 1340 8/21 (PM-OR)  
594 AUSTRALIA, Horsham-3WV-good w/ABC nx in passing at 1301 8/17.(PM)  
JAPAN,Tokyo-JOAK-fair w/JJ talk mixing w/Aussie at 1320 on 8/18(PM)  
603 AUSTRALIA, two stations here, presumed African type mx pgm //576 was 2RN-Nowra and other MOR maybe 2CH(?) at 137 8/21 (PM-OR)  
612 AUSTRALIA, Brisbane-4QR-very good with Doris Day song and man ancr at 1245 8/17 (PM-OR)  
621 AUSTRALIA, Melbourne-3RN-presume the clas. mx in passing at 1250 on 8/16 (PM-OR)  
630 AUSTRALIA, Townsville-4QN-good o/all at 1302 8/21 //540 (PM-OR)  
639 AUSTRALIA, Coffs Harbour-2CS mixing with presumed 5CK with pop mx and spots at 1326 8/20 (PM-OR)

5

- 648 AMERICAN SAMOA, Pago Pago-WVUV-fair on top of Aussie with U.S. ancr and rr mx at 1317 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 657 AUSTRALIA, Tamworth-2NU-fair u/o WVUV with ABC nx at 1302 8/19(PM)
- 666 AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND, mix here while tuning by at 1316 8/19 (PM-OR)
- AUSTRALIA, Canberra-2CN-good with disc. program at 1318 8/18, w/ UNID station in the background. (PM-OR)
- JAPAN, Osaka-JOBK good w/man in JJ at 1334 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 675 AUSTRALIA, Corowa-2CO fair in 680 splat, ABC nx at 1301 8/19 (PM)
- 684 AUSTRALIA, Kempsey-2KP // 675 at 1301.30 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 693 JAPAN, Tokyo-JOAB-good with JJ talk at 1335 8/19 (PM-OR)
- UNID, Possible DU here behind JJ at 1340 8/21, too much JJ (PM-OR)
- 702 AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND, mix here with tele talk at 1315 8/17 (PM-OR)
- 711 AUSTRALIA, mix of two stations here at 1320 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 720 tAUSTRALIA, Atherton-4AT thought to be the ABC station //684 o/u New Zealand at 1340 8/21 (PM-OR)
- tPHILIPPINES, Iloilo City-DYOK poss. station in filipino with ball game. This was the one I hrd most often last DX season here, same format hrd as last yr too. Was in from about 1325-1329 8/19, then lost u/New Zealand. Hopefully will be a great season, as this is really early for The Philippines. No other filipinos noted though, and this one was fair at best! (PM-OR)
- NEW ZEALAND, Invercargill-4YZ has been good lately in the mornings until about 1345 or so with MOR mx and man ancr (PM-OR)
- 729 AUSTRALIA, Adelaide-5RN good o/7PB with clas. mx at 1255 on 8/18, TCs and anmts. (PM-OR)
- AUSTRALIA, Hobart-7PB-good at times o/u 5RN with News format, talk-about the Bosnia situation, at 1331 a time check and "77B call, fade out by 1335 8/16. New (PM-OR)
- 738 AUSTRALIA, Grafton-2NR-fair with anmts under Tahiti at 1337 on 8/17 (PM-OR)
- TAHITI, best I have ever hrd them at 20+ /S9 with great island mx and FF anmts by YL at 1320 8/17. (PM-OR)
- 747 AUSTRALIA, Toowoomba-4QS good with ABC nx at 1303 8/15 (PM-OR)
- WESTERN SAMOA, Apia-fair with Three Dog Night song in KXL splat, 2AP-woman ancr in EE at 0730 4/18 (PM-OR)
- 756 NEW ZEALAND, Auckland-1YA-good with MOR mx //720 at 1337 8/19(PM)
- 765 tNEW ZEALAND, Napier, poss. Maori station here w/pop mx at 0816 on 8/18 (PM-OR)
- 774 AUSTRALIA, Melbourne-3L0-beautiful arm-chair copy of ABC News at 1300 on 8/15. Later hrd 4TO in there (PM-OR)
- 783 UNID, weak station in the background of hum 1315 8/17 (PM-OR)
- 792 AUSTRALIA, Brisbane-4RN-fair //576 w/Jazz at 1310 8/18 (PM-OR)
- 801 AUSTRALIA, Gosford-2RF-fair under KPDQ splash at times, other times non-stop Italian pop mx. This is part of a several station net. This one is the strongest here. At 1331 on 8/16, a woman gave quick ID "Radio Italia" back into mx. Sent taped report. (PM-OR)
- 810 tAUSTRALIA, Bega-2BA presumed the weak ABC programming //675 u/ KGO at 1345 8/21 (PM-OR)
- 819 AUSTRALIA, Glen Innes-2GL-fair //810 at 1346 8/21 (PM-OR)
- 828 AUSTRALIA/JAPAN, two mixing here at 1347 8/20 (PM-OR)
- 837 AUSTRALIA, Rockhampton-4RK-weak in 840 splat at 1245 8/20 (PM-OR)
- 846 AUSTRALIA, Canberra-2RN fair //576 at 1240 8/20 (PM-OR)
- 855 AUSTRALIA, Maryborough/Eidvoid-4QS/4QO fair w/mx and YL ancr // 837 at 1247 8/20 (PM-OR)
- 864 tAUSTRALIA, Hobart-7RPH-presumed the one mixing with 4GR at 1256 8/14 with talk on Bosnia and area, had a "Talking Book" slower talk. Matches format of 7RPH on 1620. At 1259 an anmt, ment. Tasmania(?) and then faded u/4GR. Tent. taped report sent. (PM-OR)
- AUSTRALIA, Toowoomba-4GR-fair on top of 7RPH(?) at 1357 with pop mx, "better music, 4GR" ID., 8/14 (PM-OR)
- 873 tAUSTRALIA, Sydney-2GB-presumed the talk in passing at 1319 8/17(PM)
- 882 AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND-mix here in passing 1320 8/17(PM-OR)
- 891 AUSTRALIA, Adelaide-5AN-very strong with ABC nx at 1300.30 on 8/18 One of the best this AM. (PM-OR)
- 927 UNID, pop mx weakly in splat at 1313 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 936 AUSTRALIA, Brisbane-4PB-good with nx at 1345 8/21 (PM-OR)
- 945 UNIDS, at least two stations here in splat, both sounded pop. One may have been DU at 1309 8/18 (PM-OR)

- 954 JAPAN, Tokyo-JOKR-good with JJ talk and short bits of JJ pop mx at 1310 on 8/19. (PM-OR)
- 963 UNID, weak mx in splat at 1312 9/18 (PM-OR)
- 981 UNID, weak CC Opera in splat. This sounds like the same mainland CC station I have been hearing the past couple of seasons. Too much splat to tell much at 1320 8/19. (PM-OR)
- 1008 AUSTRALIA, Brisbane-4TAB, good w/Sports talk at 1337 8/18, with another talk underneath. Was looking for 7TAB. (PM-OR)
- 1017 TONGA, fair w/YL in presumed Tongan at 0724 8/18 (PM-OR)
- 1026 tAUSTRALIA, Melbourne-3PB -may have been the station at 1331 8/17 running BBC programming. (PM-OR)
- 1053 KOREAS, the jammer in still there this season.
- 1098 tMARSHALL ISLANDS, Majuro-prob. the one playing U.S. pops in KFAQ splat at 0815 8/17. (PM-OR)
- 1143 TAIWAN, Penghu-BEL3-hrd fair in Cantonese w/YL anser at 1315 8/19. No sign on 738 so far. (PM-OR)
- 1161 UNID, possibly Taiwan here with CC pop mx weakly at 1319 8/19. w/other stations underneath. (PM-OR)
- 1179 JAPAN, Osaka-JOOR-fair w/JJ pops at 1308 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 1242 JAPAN, Tokyo-JOLF weak w/JJ talk at 1309 8/19 (PM-OR)
- 1630 UNID, I wonder if this was one of the same stations hrd by BP-WA at times, no audio, but a carrier popping on and off at 1320 on 8/19. Will keep checking. (PM-OR)

#### VERIFICATIONS

- 666 PHILIPPINES, Navotas,MM-FJE Bldg-105 Estaban Street-Legapsi Village-Makati, MM, Philippines-v/s Reysie F. Amado-News Dept. rec. friendly letter from DZRH and another package of several beautiful postcards. This is my 14th Filipino QSL, and this is after two yrs and several f/ups and phone calls. (PM-OR)

#### THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- SA-MB SHAWN AXELROD-30 BECONTREE BAY-WINNIPEG MB R2N 2X9 (CANADA) DXing from Turtle Mountain Provincial Park,MB w/Wayne McRae, and Lorne Chestnut w/2-ICOM r70s w/Filter mods and plam board, and Grundig 700-antennas: 6 longwires, 2-Quantum loops, 1-palomar Loop.
- PM-OR YOUR EDITOR  
Drake R8,Term.EWE(U) antenna(2 phased verticles-DU wire), Ground system.

### **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:

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### **A DXers TECHNICAL GUIDE**

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# WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Hardy  
979 Neptune Boulevard  
Billings, MT 59105-2129

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WDXR DEADLINES: Sat. July 1, Sat. July 29, Friday August 18, Please use Eastern Time.

## REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (LG) Larry Godwin-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59801  
Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop & KIWA loop
- (GJ) Gary Jackson-7735 Center Parkway-Sacramento, CA 95823  
FRG 8800, KIWA loop
- (JJ) Jef Jaisun-Seattle, WA
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843  
Drake RB, 2000' NNW Beverage, 1500' E Beverage, terminated 200' SW wire
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118  
GE Superadio II, GE long-range portable, Realistic TRF, SM-2  
(RW-ID) DX'ing from Owyhee Plaza Hotel, Boise, ID using GE Superadio

## OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1380 KMJI CA, Sacramento 8/6 2300 ex-KSMJ, KIMN, under KSRV. Announcer said "The Bob and Ted Show on KMJI, Sacramento's sports..." I phoned station; they switched calls from KIMN on 8/2. (LBG-MT)
- 530 CKHL AB, High Level 8/1 0456 fair way over Astoria TIS with country music, IDs as "CKYL-610 Radio" // with CKYL-610. Best northern conditions heard during the summer. "610-CKYL, 530 High Level" ID at 0459:55. (PM-OR)
- 540 KVIP CA, Redding 8/2 0800 even with CBK with legal ID. Power apparently 17 or 240 watts. (LBG-MT)
- 650 KYAK AK, Anchorage 8/1 0504 with "Classic Country, 650 KYAK Anchorage, playing a quarter century of great country music," C&W music. (PM-OR)
- KSTE CA, Rancho Cordova 8/4 0759 ended ABC's "First Light" program and announcer said "Talk 650, KST (no E)". (LBG-MT)
- 700 KBYR AK, Anchorage 8/1 0430 fair with sports talk, "K-7 KBYR" ID. (PM-OR)
- 710 KNWX WA, Seattle 8/5 1559 IDs, weather & traffic mixing with Mariners baseball on KIRO. Surprisingly clear considering mid-day reception (hi). 1607 IDs, weather, traffic sponsored by Sound Suzuki "I'm Tammy Kosh for KNWX All-News 10-90." (JJ-WA)
- 750 KFQD AK, Anchorage 8/1 0435 weak behind KXI with oldies and a "63 degrees at KFQD." (PM-OR)
- 780 (KKOH) NV, Reno 7/31 0338 totally off, KAZM/WBBM mixing. (RW-CA)
- 820 KCBF AK, 8/1 0441 fair under KGNW with oldies, "Classic 820 KCBF" ID into Stevie Wonder song. (PM-OR)
- ?KORC? OR, Waldport 8/5 0800 maybe the one with nostalgia program (big band jazz), then ABC news. Format & loop bearing suggest KORC. (LBG-MT)
- 850 KHLO HI, Hilo 7/31 0800 & 0803 dominated with C&W and IDs. (LBG-MT)
- 930 KTKN AK, 8/1 0355 quite strong with "Classic 930 KTKN," Fleetwood Mac song. (PM-OR)
- 940 (KFRE) CA, Fresno 7/23 2315 totally off for unknown reason, frequency a real mess. (RW-CA)

6



- 1100 KNZZ CO, Grand Junction 7/31 0802 good in KFAZ null with ID "Newsradio 1100, KNZZ." UnID talk show sounded like Rush Limbaugh, but not sure, started fading rapidly. They've been granted 36,000 CH, so maybe using that now? Long-sought call change, ex-KJYE for me (they've been KNZZ for several years!). (RW-CA)  
 +8/5 0559:30 very strong at s/on with instrumental America the Beautiful. (LBG-MT)
- 1190 (KEX) OR, Portland 8/7 0540 totally off, KEZY in weak. (RW-CA)
- 1260 KPOW WY, Powell 8/5 0559 very strong at s/on with instrumental SSB. (LBG-MT)
- 1400 KSRR UT, Provo 7/17 0230 briely over mess with ID "K-Star," then gone. (RW-ID)
- 1430 KYKN OR, Eugene 7/17 0200 good over/under KLO and others with ID "Newsradio 1430, KYKN," NBC news. (RW-ID)
- 1490 KRNR OR, Roseburg 7/17 0156 good over mess with ID, C&W, faded under mess. (RW-ID)
- 1510 KLLB UT, West Jordan 7/26 2300 tearing up KGA with religious program. Announcer said "KLLB, serving Salt Lake City, Ogden and Provo." (LBG-MT)
- 1637,93 "RR" CA, San Rafael received a card from medfer beacon Steve McGreevy that his beacon is temporarily off the air for a while. (GJ-CA)

#### UNIDS

- 940 7/23 2318 unID looping NE with ID "Unforgettable 94." Assume KGRL-OR? (RW-CA)
- 1450 7/17 0300 unID briefly on top with BN news, "GTO Oldies," faded out. BC? Any ideas? (RW-ID)
- 1470 7/30 at 2300 announcer seemed to say "Morgan County's news leader." (LBG-MT)
- 1580 8/7 0511 unID test tone looping N-S, over KBLA. Suspect KCWW. (RW-CA) (Could be KGAL, Lebanon, OR testing.—NH)

Thanks to all the reporters this time around. The new DX season is just around the corner!

#### WDXR REPORTERS FOR VOLUME 32

1 Larry Godwin	300/27	20 John C. Johnson	10/3
2 Patrick Martin	272/28	Gary Larson	10/6
3 Robert Wien	174/29	22 Jim Hilliker	9/1
4 Dan Sys	162/14	Roy Millar	9/5
5 Gary Jackson	106/24	Bill Nittler	9/1
6 Nigel Pimblett	101/10	25 Bill Hardy	8/4
7 Mike Sanburn	77/14	26 Steve McDonald	7/2
8 Frank Aden	75/13	Rod O'Connor	7/5
9 Bruce Portzer	57/8	28 Mark Schiefelbein	6/1
10 Ted Wendland	51/4	29 Tim Hall	5/3
11 Curtis McMenamin	37/4	30 Harry Helms	4/4
12 Rich Toebe	32/7	31 Steve Mittman	3/1
13 Pete Taylor	30/7	32 Phil Bytheway	2/2
14 Stan Weisbeck	24/2	Guy Kudlemyer	2/1
15 Dale Park	17/3	Mike Riordan	2/1
Art Peterson	17/4	35 Ralph Sanserino	1/1
17 Nancy Hardy	14/6	Randy Tomer	1/1
18 Eric Bueneman	12/3		
Jack Woods	12/2		



# Central DX Roundup

Editor: John C. Johnson

Internet: CDXR@aol.com

## FOR THE RECORD

ADDRESS YOUR REPORTS TO:

E-MAIL: JOHNJ53816@AOL.COM

SNAIL-MAIL: 979 NEPTUNE BLVD., BILLINGS, MT 59105-2129

AMERICA ON LINE: JOHNJ53816

COMPU SERVE: 74444,3075

PRODIGY: MPNN49A

REPORT ALL TIMES AS EASTERN.

DEADLINES: 9/23, 9/30, 10/7.

## RIDING GAIN

- [MB-DX] DX'pedition at Turtle Mountain Provincial Park, MB 7/29  
Receivers: Two Icom IC-R70's with PLAM boards and 4kHz filters, Grundig 700.  
Attending: Shawn Axelrod, Wayne McRae, and Lorne Chestnut.

## SPECIAL INTEREST

- 750 CJVR SK, Melfort. EX-1420. 7/29 good. 1833 with lots of country music and talk about Melfort and Prince Albert. "CJVR Today's Country" slogans. [MB-DX]

## DOWN THE DIAL

- 580 WKTY WI, La Crosse. 7/29 fair u/CKY. 2324 with Milwaukee baseball game. "WKTY" ID's. New for Wayne and Lorne. [MB-DX]  
590 KGLE MT, Glendive. 7/29 fair in CKY slop. 1822 with "Focus On The Family" [MB-DX]  
810 KBHB SD, Sturgis. 7/29 poor u/CKJS. 1841 with country music and local talk. [MB-DX]  
860 CKSB-2 MB, St. Lazare. 7/29 fair u/CKBF-2. 1844 with FF music and talk || 1050. Good for 40 watts and new for Lorne. [MB-DX]  
900(CKBI) SK, Prince Albert. 7/29. 1910 no sign of CKBI at all, even with all other SK stations heard in the area. Is CKBI off the air or was this a bad day? [MB-DX]  
950 KWAT SD, Watertown. 7/29 fair u/CFAM. 2340 with local weather and "KWAT" ID. New for Wayne and Lorne. [MB-DX]  
1200 WLXX IL, Chicago. 7/29 fair to good. 2221 with Mexican music and SS talk. "WLXX" ID in EE on the hour. New for all of us. [MB-DX]  
1240 KDLR ND, Devils Lake. 7/29 good. 1929 with local spots and news program. [MB-DX]  
1250 KBRF MN, Fergus Falls. 7/29 good u/WEMP. 2205 with local talk about Elbow Lake. [MB]  
1340 KXPO ND, Grafton. 7/29 very good. 1917 with SS music and talk. We wonder who they are targeting in ND with the SS format. [MB-DX]  
1420 KGIM SD, Aberdeen. 7/29 fair to poor. 1915 with country music and "KGIM" ID. [MB-DX]  
1490 KORN SD, Mitchell. 7/29 poor u/KVOC. 1927 with oldies. [MB-DX]  
KOV ND, Valley City. 7/29 good. 1920 with local spots, slogan "Dakota Country" into a baseball game. [MB-DX]

## 25 YEARS AGO

September 5, 1970 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor"...Michael B. Northam of Lake Grove, OR said his DX has suffered due to his hobby of sports car racing.... Jim Adams of San Jose, CA said he was 15 and a junior at James Lick High.... Final contest standings showed Rick Evans as winner with 712 points.... Larry Godwin won in the senior division of the foreign contest....The new Mexican station list was available for a SASE....Paul S. Lotsof of Tucson, AZ done a special report on how to arrange DX specials.

## OPEN MIKE

In a crisis, you will choose the worst possible course of action. Shawn mentioned this time a moose got their antenna wires tangled. Probably some new kind of beverage "termination" ?? 73, John.



# Western DX Forum ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Reid Wheeler 5910 Boulevard Loop SE Olympia, WA 98501

Deadline: Saturday 2 weeks before publication

## Frank Aden, Jr., 4096 Marcia Place, Boise ID 83704

[7/21] The 1995 IRCA Convention had about 35 attendees and from what I have heard most enjoyed it greatly. We had a busy schedule of tours and a fun quiz and auction. The auction raised over \$325. Some great door prizes were awarded such as a GE SuperRadio III won by Robert Wien. I hope to have a completed report for this issue now that I have more free time. I have a few IRCA T-shirts (club logo in full detail in red and blue), (large size) available and several IRCA baseball hats. I will sell both at the convention rate, \$14.00 and \$8.00 respectively plus \$2.00 postage each. If there are enough members interested, I can order another batch of Extra Large T-shirts (we sold out) and can also sell for \$14.00 if anyone is interested please drop me a line and we will see if we can get another order done. The Convention video is about 4 hours long and will be a 2nd generation VHS tape at LP speed. Cost is \$15.00 postpaid. Convention guides can also be ordered for \$3.00 postpaid. They contain an Idaho AM station list, Boise area TV-FM station list, Boise night time AM bandscan and an updated History of Idaho AM radio. I would like to thank everyone who came and especially Mark Campbell, Bill Frahm (KBOI) and Bill Hale (NRC) for helping out with the logistics. Will it be CA or AL next year? 73 for now!

## Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504

818-846-1600

[7/22] I tuned in to 540 KNNZ about 11:20 am my time and heard news! Format change done early - was to be 7/24 just past midnight. Also heard a legal ID at 11:30 mention XETIM. Prod.dir of KNNZ/KJQI said 540 Tijuana will simulcast with KNNZ. Will cover a wider area now since no Spanish on 540. As for 1590 here, I'd no idea it was reassigned to Santa Barbara. Also not aware 850 changed to KAHS. Better than KCTO. Couple evening ago attempted to hear KKGQ 1050 s/off but carrier seemed to cut off about 8:15 pm my time. Only XED + XEG left. I'll try to find out about its normal off time. 73

## Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707

Greetings. I was sad to hear of the death of veteran DJ Wolfman Jack. I'll never forget his scene in the movie "American Graffiti." If anyone has an aircheck of his final broadcast from June 30th, 1995, please contact me. For the third year in a row I attended the IRCA Convention and had a great time. Thanks to Frank Aden for the festivities. Also thanks to former member William Frahm for the thorough KBOI tour. I think I visited more stations in one weekend than I have in the last 10 years. Brought back a nice pile of promo goodies, too. We did a mini-beverage DXpedition on both Saturday and Sunday nights (or MM to be specific.) Now I know what the INE beacon sounds like. We sure had no problem picking up dozens of Mexican stations. Congrats to this year's TVA and RHA winners! As if one convention wasn't enough for me, on July 30th I went to an aircheck collectors get together at the LAX Marriott followed by BEATLEFEST. There were a handful of us radio types there so I passed out some IRCA brochures. Just then a guy named Marty explained that he had been a member of the club back in 1965! I will be interesting to see who shows up at NRC convention in Denver. As I've reported in WDXR, I have a new TIS right next door in Lakewood CA - WPG527 - gets out well (so long, 1620.) Also, KNNZ-540 (ex-KOJY) is most definitely simulcasting XETIN with news in English! I bought the most recent IRCA Mexican List so I'll be studying up on that. Many thanks to Ralph Sanserino for continuing on as publisher until a replacement is found. Here's hoping we all have a fantastic 95-96 DX season! P.S. - the rumor is true - famous O.J. houseguest, Kato Kaelin, now has his own talkshow on FM 97.1 in Los Angeles (that's about a likely as both NFL teams leaving SoCal and Disney buying ABC!) 73

## Larry Godwin, 2390 Clydes Dale Ln, Missoula MT 59801

[8/14] Greetings! The Spring NITRE News included some interesting comments on the expanded band. According to its CE, Anguilla-1610 plans to increase power from 50 ks to 200 kw, pending ITU approval. Implementation of the FCC's plan to license stations in the 1610-1700 kHz spectrum is on hold pending resolution of petitions filed by "about 16" of the selected commercial stations. Following that, the FCC

will probably make some adjustments, then there will be a 90-day period during which the selected stations can make formal applications to operate. There is a new HAR (*Highway Advisory Radio*) on 890 in Denver at Coors Baseball Field, addressing traffic and parking questions. IRCA members Pat Martin and Gary Jackson were cited in *NITRE News* for hearing the TIS stations in, respectively, San Diego-1700 and Channelview TX-1620. I poked around the tropical band a few nights ago and have two comments. First, it's immense! The 1721-4000 kHz section is 187% bigger than the MW band (510-1720 kHz). I believe most of the stations that operate there are foreign, so it might beef up the DXWW sections considerably. Second, my MW loops obviously don't do the job up there. What type of antenna is best? I have 3 excellent computer programs (Earthwatch, GeoClock and Suntimes) that compute LSR and LSS times. For one representative day (7/28/95) at Missoula, they differ by 1 minute on LSR and 2 minutes on LSS. That's close! Congrats to Ray Moore on the superb DU DX. DX here in mid-August is below par, but the season is just starting. Good DX and 73.

### A WORD FROM YOUR CPC

"Thank you" to the following people who made donations to the CPC during the '94-'95 DX season:

Frank Aden	C. Park Barton	Michael Bay	Tom Bryant	Larry Godwin
Tim Hall	Mike Hardester	Bill Hardy	Nancy Hardy	Bob Harrison
Lynn Hollerman	Stephen Howe	Tom Jazinski	Howard Kemp	Pat Martin
Tim Noonan	Mark Nicholls	Jim Pogue	T. Reiser	Mike Sanburn
J.D. Stephens	S. David Warren	R.C. Watts	Karl Zuk	

And, a special "Thank You" to Tom Bryant and Bill Hardy for helping to arrange a few DX tests, and to Lee Freshwater for arranging two DX tests.

As always, your donations in the form of stamps or checks (no cash, please) are solicited. Your donations pay for the cost of printing and mailing DX tests request letters, "reminder" phone calls to stations who have agreed to run tests, printing and mailing of Certificates of Appreciation, mailing of DX test Morse Code tapes, and other facets of the CPC operations.

Don't forget - if you would like to participate in our "CPC Newsflash" service to notify DXers of late-breaking DX tests (for which we are not given enough lead time to publish in DX Monitor and/or DX News), simply send a supply of self-addressed, postage-paid postcards to the CPC address below. We will use the cards to notify you of late-breaking tests, and we will let you know when we have used your last card (so you can send a new supply). To assist us, **PLEASE INCLUDE A NOTE TELLING US WHETHER YOU ARE A MEMBER OF IRCA, NRC, OR BOTH.**

Also, remember, **CPC TARGET LISTS ARE NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME.** This will give us an opportunity to catch up from last season. Thanks for your understanding.

Your donations, or postcards for our "CPC Newsflash" service, may be sent to: J.D. Stephens, IRCA CPC Chairman, P.O. Box 605, Huntsville, AL 35804-0605.

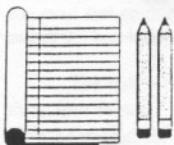
Thanks again for your support!

### Sunrise/Sunset Maps

12 maps showing 15 minute sunset and sunrise times for the US and 12 maps showing hourly sunset and sunrise times for the World. Explanation includes use of the maps and examples of DX made possible by a knowledge of SR/SS times. Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$2.25 (US/Canada/Mexico/seamail), \$2.75 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$3.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$3.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$1.00 to the above prices.

Order from the IRCA Bookstore, by sending the correct amount (in US funds) to:

**IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary N.W., Seattle, WA 98117-2334. Thank you!**



## Eastern DX Forum

Richard C. Evans  
P.O. Box 21883  
Milwaukee, WI 53221-0883  
Phone: 414-Atlantic 2-9035

Deadlines: 9/2 9/23 then each Saturday until March

R.C. Watts, 409 Graf Drive, Louisville, Kentucky 40220-3016  
Got a Radio Netherlands via CIS QSL card for Kaliningrad-1386. Heard in Europe, of course, but welcome anyway. I enjoyed the Boise convention very much. Thanks, guys! Would like to see one east of the Mississippi again in 1996. Let the BoD hear from you other Easterners. Had to get some insurance forms at Fort Knox so took time to visit the MARS station, AAR4USG. Jawed with the operator and listened in on the morning net. Visited the National Weather Service facility the following day to look at NOAA Weather Radio. lots of consolidation and privatization going on in that agency. Out in left field, I guess. Now on 530 kHz, on I-75 through Lexington, is KPD676 with information about Kentucky River bridge construction, courtesy of State Transportation Cabinet and Lexington-Fayette County Urban Government. WIRP-15 to Life, from The Radio Cage (studio) in Indiana Reformatory - Pendleton has been operating over 40 years. This carrier current station was featured on "Across Indiana" on our local public TV. Got a Ferrite Stick from C. Crane Co. in order to mate my outside antenna and Grove TUN-4 to the Sony IF-2010 portable radio. A world of difference so I am ready when the tests begin again. 73 de Col. DX.

Mike Hardester, 3118 Gaitway Ct., Jacksonville, North Carolina 28546-6973

Greetings! Hopefully everyone's summer is going great, and while you're out there traveling the highways and by-ways, please keep an ear and radio tuned for Travelers Information Stations and the like, and report your catches to Nancy, John or Lee (Fresh), or mention them in a Forum Report...I'm always looking for new information to keep the TIS/HAR List current. This includes college carrier current stations, MEDFERS, NDBs and other similar stations in the 510-1700 kHz range. Earlier this summer, I began gathering "Station Slogans" for submission to Rich Toebe (2550 Hilborn Road, #34, Fairfield, CA 94533-1062). Rich is working on the IRCA am-FM Almanac's "Slogan's List", and any input on your local AM and/or FM station's "slogan" (Q-105, KOOL-FM, etc) will be welcome. While gathering this information, I became aware of the very real need for the list. On quite a number of occasions, it took several tries to get a legal ID during checks during the 15 minutes before/after the hour during which I checked. Although a station slogan will not substitute for an ID for DX purposes, it may help give an idea of which station you heard. So, I'm certain that Rich would appreciate any and all input! Thanks. Very 73 and Best of DX de Mike!

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

Made it to Tim Noonan's get-together on 8/19 but could only stay an hour because of previous commitments down in Ill. I enjoyed it though. Last DXM, I mentioned going to Michigan, but forgot to mention an antique mall in Holland, Mich (Tulip City Antique Mall on the south I-196 Business Loop) which had two big booths of old SW radios, such as a Hallicrafters Sky Buddies, restored and guaranteed. I looked for an HQ-129x which I probably would have sprung for, but no luck there. A couple more EDXF's and we will be back to weekly issues again. Remember, IRCA does need a new publisher! 73.



## The Quantum Loop, A Great Little Antenna

By Shawn Axelrod

I have had the pleasure of using a Quantum Loop from Radio Plus+ Electronics for the last two DX seasons. The more that I use the loop the more I can appreciate not only the workmanship that went into the Quantum Loop, but how well it works as compared to my four foot box loop. This loop may seem small at first, but as you use it you will find that good things do come in small packages.

I will begin by describing the box loop I have. It is based on the design used by Don Moman many years ago. Don managed to almost eliminate metal in the form of bolts, screws, and suchlike when constructing a diamond shaped box loop, thus creating a less skewed pattern. There is a single pick up turn inside of the 9 turns of the main winding and a 365pf variable capacitor salvaged from a dead radio is used to tune the loop. No amplification is used on this model which helps cut down on overload in my urban listening area.

I live on the south side of Winnipeg, where all but one of our 10 to 50 kw stations have their transmitters and I can get excellent nulls with the loop, to the point where I can use the adjacent frequencies to all of my locals. The loop can rotate and swivel to effect the sharp nulls necessary at my location and is fine if you have lots of room in your listening area. However, taking the loop any place else to DX is a major effort. Between its (four foot wing span), 3 foot mounting post, and a base filled with 50 pounds of sand, this is not a portable loop by any stretch of the imagination.

This lack of portability and my love of DX'peditions lead to the purchase of the Quantum Loop. The QL(Quantum Loop) stands about 9.5 inches tall, 7 inches deep and has a 8.5 inch plastic loop head. The head and the base (which contains the amplifier) are all finished in black. Inside the loop head is a ferrite bar wound with heavy Litz wire which is balanced electrically to within a fraction of a microHenry. For those of us not too technically minded, that means you are more likely to get nulls 180 degrees apart. The loop is fed into a two stage JFET/MOSFET amplifier with a gain of 40 dB. The amplifier gain can be adjusted to your particular needs. Unlike others such as the Palomar loop. The loop is tunable using a variable capacitor. It can be powered using a supplied AC adapter or using a 9 Volt battery; a throw of a switch allows you to go from AC to DC. The battery installs on the back outside of the unit so you don't have to open up the QL to change it. The DC power and the small size is great for those like me who are out on DX'peditions wherever possible.

I feel that this is the best ferrite loop bar none. All of the components are top of the line heavy duty materials. The bearing surfaces are even coated with a special Teflon/Fluon compound for smooth tilting. Even the AC adapter was picked so it would not create AC hum that would kill the weak signals you are trying for. You can customize the unit by ordering it with a PL-259, RCA, BNC or Alligator Clips to input to your radio. Mine came with a high grade of coax and two well installed PL-259's. One final touch is the shortwave filtering that is installed. This will help insure that RTTY and CW stay out of the BCB band. Using the QL with my ICOM ICR-70 I have never had shortwave bleed through.

OK so it looks nice on paper but will it work? YES! YES! YES! I must admit I was sceptical at first, being used to my four foot beast. Local DX'ER Wayne McRae bought a QL first so I managed to see it in action before buying. He was using it with his three foot box loop and was very pleased with it. The first thing he discovered was that it did not pick up as much of the noise generated by the TV as did the old box loop. This was good news for me, as my two teenagers love their TV, and the noise from the TV would drive the ICOM nuts when it was attached to the four foot box loop. This noise immunity combined with its portability sold me on the QL. My DX time is up and the kids still can watch TV.

I have found that the QL compares variably in its signal pickup with the four foot box loop. The QL is not as quiet around sunset compared to the box loop, which corresponds with Wayne's

experience with his QL and three foot loop. But once it gets dark, look out, this little guy goes to town. There has been almost nothing that the big loop can pick up that the QL cannot get. They quite often run even and on occasion when increase the amplifier's gain, the QL will bring up enough signal to out match the box loop.

The nulls on the QL are great. They are almost as deep as the four foot and deeper than the three foot in many cases. You can really see it shine when you are on a crowded frequency and you swivel and tilt the QL's loop head to obtain a great null. The loop is full coverage from about 520 to over 1850 kHz, so you will be able to use it on the new expanded band. In fact mine tunes to about 1975 kHz so I can use it on the 160 Meter Amateur Band. You will be able to really tell which way a signal is coming from with the deep nulls you create. Mind you, materials around your radio area can still skew these nulls but that is not the fault of the QL.

Combined with the adjustable gain amplifier this ferrite loop has proven it can work anywhere, including motel rooms. The QL really is easy to set up when you are away from home and can be hooked up to your radio and have you DX'ing in five minutes or less. I have taken it over hill and dale and it still performs as well as it did the first day it arrived. By the way for those of you who may have found other loops have to be far away from your digital readout receiver, the QL can be as little as two feet from my ICOM ICR-70 and not pick up any receiver generated noise. Another good reason to own a Quantum Loop, for those of us who use it in close quarters. By the way my radio room is in the basement of the house and the QL does not mind being there at all. This little antenna will go anywhere.

I have managed to compare the Quantum Loop to a Palomar Loop. The QL walked away the winner in no time. The nulls were better and the adjustable gain amplifier made it superior to the Palomar model. In side by side tests with my ICOM ICR-70, the QL proved to be the better unit in every situation and with every station. In a few cases of very poor signals the QL brought them in while the Palomar was still giving me static. I know of another DX'er here in Manitoba using his QL with a G E Superadio who is also very pleased with its performance. In fact he is now looking at buying a better radio so he can get even more DX out of his Quantum Loop. This may be its only draw back HI!!!!

One more little add on for you Quantum Loop that will interest owners of radios with no antenna jack is that Radio Plus+ sells a unit that you can use by putting it close to your radio and attaching it to the Quantum Loop to couple the two units. This works just fine and at last pricing was well below the unit from Palomar. So as you see the QL will work with ANY radio you have no matter its age or bells and whistles.

As you see I am pleased with the Quantum Loop and feel it is the best ferrite loop around. If you would like a small but powerful loop this is the unit for you. You can write to the manufacturer in regards to pricing and more data on the QL at:

RADIO PLUS+ ELECTRONICS  
3635 CHASTAIN WAY  
PENSACOLA FL 32504  
USA

I am sure that you will be happy with this unit. Oh yes the price was good too. About half the cost of the KIWA loop and less than a Palomar loop as well. Tell them Shawn sent you. You won't get a discount but it sounded like a good way to end the article.

### IRCA Stationery

Red and black masthead with the IRCA logo and name. Great for using when writing for verifications. 100 sheets, \$5.00. Order from the IRCA Bookstore, by sending \$5.00 (in US funds) to:

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LOOP SHOWDOWN: KIWA versus RSM-105  
(with some comments on the Quantum)

Mark Connelly - WAIION - 23 AUG 1995

The Kiwa Medium Wave Loop and the RSM-105 are two of the finest loop antennas available commercially today to professional monitors and serious medium wave DX hobbyists. They are both excellent performers even though they represent two distinctly different design philosophies. A month before I did this study, I purchased an RSM-105 from its builder, Ray Moore of Key Largo, FL. Tom Walsh of the "Boston Area DXers" had just acquired a Kiwa Loop which he was kind enough to let me borrow.

Before going further, it must be stated that the RSM-105 is a passive antenna and cannot be expected to have "S-meter gain" comparable to that obtainable from the amplified Kiwa. The true measure of a loop's weak-signal performance is signal-to-noise ratio. An S-4 signal masked by amplifier noise may be less readable than an S-1 signal from a passive antenna as long as the S-1 signal is still above the receiver's own noise floor. The passive 1-meter-square RSM-105, on some very weak signals, gave SLIGHTLY better signal-to-noise than the physically-smaller (amplified) Kiwa. But these threshold signals were often fighting with the Drake R8's own noise floor. The best signal-to-noise ratios were obtained by running the RSM-105's output through a low input impedance (inductively-coupled) Mini-MWT-3 regenerative preselector. This homebrew tuner - as described in my DL-1 Delay Line Phasing Unit article - has a lower noise figure than the Drake R8 and can improve the signal-to-noise performance of the receiver on very weak signals whether from a wire, the RSM-105, or the output of a passive phasing unit. The Kiwa's signal-to-noise was very impressive considering that it has substantially less pick-up area than the RSM-105. The differences in weak-station audibility (not S-meter reading) between the loops were minimal. A couple of checks were made with a Quantum Loop. It, for its miniscule size, made a good accounting of itself: as a rule, output levels observed on the Drake R8 S-meter were equal to those from the Kiwa (slightly greater on some frequencies, slightly less on others, usually about the same). However, the Quantum was noticeably more "hissy" on weak daytime stations. This is to be expected because of the physics of a small aperture antenna coupled to a high-gain amplifier. On non-auroral nights, there would be very little difference noted in DXability comparing the RSM-105, Kiwa, and Quantum. The Kiwa's regeneration might give some desired extra selectivity and bandpass tuning in some circumstances. This would be particularly useful with receivers having less than optimum IF filter selections.

Nulling with the Kiwa was a breeze because of its silky smooth mechanical design. It is a thing of beauty. The RSM-105 and the Quantum required more work to get a null, especially when tilting was required. Two phased wires, or Q-spoiled loop versus wire or amplified whip, can still outperform any stand-alone loop, especially for DX in the direction opposite to stations to be nulled. Here in the Boston area, DX from Europe and Africa is noticeably better on a properly-constructed phased-wires system than on any loop that I've ever tested.

The RSM-105 is the ultimate urban loop as it cannot be overloaded. When either the Kiwa or Quantum is tuned to frequencies other than the receiver's frequency, intermodulation products can be heard and inadvertently peaked up. This can make peaking a bit dicey when operating one of these loops in less than optimum lighting - such as in the dark at a beach DXpedition site. This doesn't happen with the RSM-105 unless you're using a very poor receiver that causes intermodulation in its own circuitry.

At "nasty" RF-laden sites such as the New Jersey Meadowlands, active loops are likely to generate intermodulation products even when they are properly peaked for the receiver-selected frequency. These unwanted signals can be generated from FM, TV, SW, LW, and utility sources as well as from local medium wave AM stations. A passive loop is your only choice if you're in an RF "hot spot".



The RSM-105 is touted for its use in precision direction finding. Its balance is superb and I have no reason to dispute this claim. I did not find the Kiwa lacking in the symmetry of its nulls either. Both loops should give very good direction fixes - most likely superior to those taken with popular ferrite loops such as the Palomar, Radio West, SM-2 Space Magnet, Quantum, or McKay-Dymek.

The large size of the RSM-105 and the greater care required in its transportation rule it out for DXpeditions requiring air travel. A Quantum Loop and Sony ICF-2010 combination is probably your best choice on a plane trip.

For car-based DXpeditions, the Kiwa would be a better choice than the RSM-105 (or Quantum) because the control box can be located inside the vehicle while the loop is on the car roof. As one who has used homebrew remotely-tuned antennas on most of my car DXpeditions, I am glad to see a loop of this design now available commercially.

In August of 1995, I performed low-signal measurements from a field site in Tewksbury, MA near the Tew-Mac Airport / Route 38 / Shawsheen River. The site is away from power lines and it is about 4 miles / 6.4 km from my home in Billerica. Measurements were taken between 12:30 and 1:00 PM local time (1630-1700 UTC). There was no skip at the time: all signals were arriving via groundwave.

Stations selected were considered to be weak signals: at or below the noise level of typical consumer portable radios and marginal copy on many car radios.

The following antenna configurations were compared: Kiwa Loop to R8, RSM-105 loop to R8, and RSM-105 loop via (inductively-coupled) Mini-MWT-3 regenerative preamplifier to R8. The Drake R8, Mini-MWT-3, and Kiwa Loop were powered from the car battery. Amplified readings (Kiwa or RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3) taken represent minimum regeneration. Add about 15 dB to get readings taken when the given regenerative amplifier was adjusted for maximum level of understandable-audio signal just before oscillation. It was noted that the ratio of signal to adjacent station "slop" was often improved by using regeneration set for intelligible audio coming from the sideband opposite to the "pest" station channel. Regeneration had little effect (good or bad) on weak station signal-to-noise ratio.

The R8 S-meter showed an S-1 reading for zero signal in. The empty-frequency S-meter reading with the Kiwa peaked was about half an S-unit (3 dB) over S-1: e.g. S-1.5. All Kiwa readings were taken with the amp switch on "DX" and no attenuation on the control box.

#### RECEPTION DATA

Massachusetts Turnpike TIS - 530 / Weston, MA

Kiwa: S-6; good readability

RSM-105: S-2.5; fair to good readability, slight receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 5 dB; good readability

WLIX - 540 / Islip, NY

Kiwa: S-4; fair readability, slight amplifier hiss

RSM-105: S-2; fair readability, receiver noise floor only 6 dB down

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-8; fair to good readability

CHTN - 720 / Charlottetown, PI

Kiwa: S-7; good readability

RSM-105: S-4; good readability

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 10 dB; good readability

On all three set-ups, WRKO - 680 slop was a problem at times.

CFDR - 780 / Dartmouth, NS

Kiwa: S-3; audio in amplifier noise

RSM-105: S-1; in receiver noise, carrier only detectable with BFO on

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-3.5; audio in amplifier noise

On all set-ups, WCCM - 800 slop was a problem at times.  
This station is received at fair level on wire antennas via Mini-MWT-3.

WNYC - 820 / New York, NY

Kiwa: S-8; good readability

RSM-105: S-5; good readability

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 10 dB; good readability

WLAM - 870 / Gorham, ME

Kiwa: S-8; good readability

RSM-105: S-5; good readability

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 10 dB; good readability

CKBW - 1000 / Bridgewater, NS

Kiwa: S-5.5; good readability, slight amp noise

RSM-105: S-3.5; fair to good readability, slight receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-8.5; good readability, negligible noise

WINS - 1010 / New York, NY

Kiwa: S-8; good readability

RSM-105: S-5; good readability

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 10 dB; good readability

KYW - 1060 / Philadelphia, PA

Kiwa: S-2; carrier in amp noise

RSM-105: S-1 (not moving meter); carrier only detectable with BFO on

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-3; bits of apparent talk, in amp noise

CBA - 1070 / Moncton - Sackville, NB

Kiwa: S-6; good readability

RSM-105: S-2; fair readability with receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-8; good readability

The Plattsburgh, NY co-channel station was audible in the background:  
its strength was about 10 dB weaker than CBA; it could be isolated  
from CBA by nulling northeast / peaking northwest.

WJFJ - 1180 / Hope Valley, RI

Kiwa: S-7; good readability

RSM-105: S-2.5; fair to good readability over receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 5 dB; good readability

WLIB - 1190 / New York, NY

Kiwa: S-7; good readability

RSM-105: S-2.5; fair to good readability

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 5 dB; good readability

There was moderate slop at times from WKOX - 1200. The higher  
Q of the Kiwa gave it an edge over the unamplified RSM-105.

WGMP - 1210 / Philadelphia, PA

Kiwa: S-4; with audio but noisy, WKOX slop a problem until regen. tweaked

RSM-105: S-1.5; near receiver noise floor, bits of audio heard

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-8; better readability than Kiwa

WEZS - 1350 / Laconia, NH over WINY - 1350 / Putnam, CT

Kiwa: S-9; good readability

RSM-105: S-6; good readability, but WLYN - 1360 slop worse because  
of lower Q than Kiwa.

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 15 dB; good readability

6-dB-weaker WINY could be isolated by nulling north / peaking west.

WDJZ - 1530 / Bridgeport, CT

Kiwa: S-7; fair to good readability (some WNRB - 1510 slop)

RSM-105: S-2.5; fair readability with slop and receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-8.5; fair to good readability through WNRB slop

WLIM - 1580 / Patchogue, NY

Kiwa: S-5; fair readability

RSM-105: S-1.5; poor to fair readability with receiver noise

RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S-7; fair readability

CBJ (Chicoutimi, PQ) and another signal (NJ ?) were audible in the

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background. Multiple station slop (WNSH - 1570, WSMN - 1590, and WUNR - 1600) was a problem on each set-up some of the time.

Home "reference test" on WZNN - 930 / Rochester, NH (not a weak station)  
100 ft. / 30 m wire: S-8.5  
100 ft. / 30 m wire via Mini-MWT-3: S-9 + 35 dB  
Quantum: S-9 + 15 dB  
Kiwa: S-9 + 12 dB  
RSM-105: S-7.5  
RSM-105 via Mini-MWT-3: S9 + 20 dB  
Readability in all cases was very good.

Conclusions: The best loop choice for a given DXer will be determined by the receiver, location, and type of DXing to be done. Sensitivity is not critical for night use, except in auroral conditions or at exceedingly remote sites such as the Australian "outback". Strong signal handling is very important at an urban site, but less so in the country. The physical size of the loop is important to those who take it "in the field" or who have very small DX "shack" rooms. Good nulling is important to most of us, except perhaps for the steel-frame apartment dweller who can only receive stations with the loop pressed up against a window. And a not-insignificant factor is price. Some time ago, Elliot Straus contemplated the question "Is a Kiwa worth more than twice as much as a Quantum?". For some the answer is "yes", for others "no". The RSM-105 is about twice the price of a Quantum, and a bit less than the Kiwa. For city DXers, the RSM-105 will be the hands-down choice. It is "bulletproof". Active loops are much more likely to generate intermodulation distortion products in the urban environment. Those with less-than-ultimate receivers may want to use a low-noise / high-Q preamplifier (such as the Mini-MWT-3) between the RSM-105's output and their receiver inputs. For DXers who like parking at a beach, pier, or mountaintop for prime loggings, the Kiwa - with its remote tuning - wins. For the business or vacation traveller, the Quantum fits right in a suitcase when it's time to catch a flight somewhere. Some DXers will forego loops entirely and opt for phased wires. Those lucky enough to have land for Beverages will find them hard to beat.

As no one screwdriver can be used for every kind of screw, no single type of antenna is best for every DX situation. This article's discussions and test results should serve as a guide to allow DXers to make wise reception-improving choices for their specific circumstances. I hope that this article stimulates others to do similar testing and to publicize their findings.



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