

September 2 2000- Volume 38 - Number 1 - Edition 1202 -ISSN 899-9733

IN THIS ISSUE: Broadcasting Information(2), FCC, Western DX Roundup, Central DX Roundup, Eastern DX Roundup, DX World Wide - West, DX World Wide - East, Western DX Forum, Hearing it Through the GrapeVine, Technical Column, Geomagnetic Indices.

WDXF CHANGE

Reid Wheeler will be taking some time off as WDXR editor. Meanwhile, I will fill in for him.
Until further notice, please send all contributions to me via email: phil@radiodx.com, or via mail: 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334

TEST STATION FOR NAB CONVENTION (via Fred Vobbe/Larry Godwin)
SAN FRANCISCO IBOC: AM STATION APPLICATION FOR EXPERIMENTAL STATION ACCEPTED FOR FILING

BPEX-20000728ABM NEW 124967 LUCERT DIGITAL RADIO, INC.
1700 KHZ SAN FRANCISCO, CA

To conduct IBOC AM DEMO during NAB Radio Convention on 1700 kHz.
The NAB Radio Show will be held September 20-23 in San Francisco. I would think the station will be testing shortly before then, and for sure during those days. lg

2000 National Radio Club Convention, Lima OH
This year's NRC convention will be held in Lima OH on Labor Day weekend (9/1-9/4/00). Host is Fred Vobbe, 706 Mackenzie Dr, Lima OH 45805-1835. Complete details are available at the following Web site: //www.nrcdxas.org/convention

TIME TO START THE '00-'01 CPC SEASON...READ ON
CPC Chairperson (IRCA) - Lynn Hollerman - gmhollerman@mindspring.com

Right now Lynn is looking for TARGET STATION LISTS and stamps or money to help get the lists worked on. Lynn's mailing address is 204 Renwood Circle Lafayette LA 70503. Thank you Lynn... pb

Two non-IRCA DX tests have already happened... unfortunately no one took the time to inform me in time to get into print... sorry pb

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Editor: Robert Wien - 1309 Dentwood Dr - San Jose CA 95118
E-mail: rjwmail@webtv.net

FORMAT CHANGES: (8/1/00)

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|--|
| AZ Bullhead City | KFLG-1000 | was country//FM, talk, now AS (stds. format moves here from KBAS-1490, now KZZZ) |
| CA Costa Mesa | KKGO- 540 | was jazz//KJAZ, rptd. silent (will not return to air) |
| CA Fresno | KMJ - 580 | was nx/talk, drops Dr. Laura |
| ID Rupert | KFTA- 970 | was JRN ranchera, now JRN regional Mexican |
| MI Ironwood | WJMS- 590 | was country/talk, adds Bill Mack truck |
| NM Albuquerque | KXKS-1190 | was reg. Mexican//KEXT, now reg. Mexican |
| NY New York City | WKDM-1380 | was silent, to be SS nx (first NY. all-nx SS station, to be on in September) |
| NY Owego | WEBO-1130 | was modern rock, now nx/jazz (will add several blues shows to its format) |
| OH Ironton | WIRO-1230 | was talk/sports//WZZW, now cont. Xtian//WZZW |
| TN Knoxville | WHJM-1180 | was religion, now JRN stds//WKCE |
| TX Dumas | KDDD- 800 | was oldies//FM, now classic hits//FM |
| WA Selah | KYXE-1020 | was regional Mexican, now SS stds. |
| WV Huntington | WHRD-1470 | was talk/sports//WZZW, now cont, Xtian//WZZW |
| WV Milton | WZZW-1600 | was talk/sports, now cont. Xtian "Joy" |

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

TX Victoria KFYV-1410 inc. to 740-N, DA-N

FACILITY & PARAMETER APPLICATIONS:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|------------------|
| BC Hope | CKGO-1240 | move to 100.5 FM |
| QU Lac-Megantic | CKFL-1400 | move to 106.7 FM |

FACILITY & PARAMETER GRANTS:

NC Fairview WTZY- 880 inc. to 5000-D, ND-D

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

RI Pawtucket WLKW- 550 requests WICE

FORMAT CHANGES:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| CA Madera | KHOT-1250 | was JRN reg. Mexican //KZFO, now JRN SS hits |
| KS Lawrence | KLWN-1320 | was AC, sports, to be ESPN sports (8/14) |
| LA Lake Charles | KLCL-1470 | was sports, now SGN black gospel |
| LA Suphur | KEZM-1310 | was oldies, now 1 on 1 sports |
| NY Plattsburgh | WLFE-1070 | was WGLY, silent, now WW1 C&W//WLFE-FM |
| NC Tarboro | WCPS- 760 | was talk, now R&B oldies (airs black gospel show mornings) |
| NC Wilmington | WMFD- 630 | was silent, now rock//WRQR |
| NC Wilmington | WLSG-1340 | was WAHH, gospel//WWIL, now s. gospel |

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| NC Wilmington | WWIL-1490 | was s. gospel/black gospel, now black gospel (moves s. gospel programming to new sister station WLSG-1340) |
| PA Williamsport | WWPA-1340 | was silent, now CNN Headline nx |
| TN Lawrenceburg | WWLX- 590 | was country//WLLX, rptd. silent (tower down due to storm damage, hopes to return shortly) |
| TN Morristown | WMTN-1300 | was s. gospel, now talk |

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| TX Cleburne | KCLE-1120 | moves to 1140 khz., 850/710 DA-2, vice ND-D |
| TX Mineral Wells | KJSA-1140 | moves to 1120 khz. |

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

| | | |
|----------------|-----------|---|
| NY Plattsburgh | WGLY-1070 | requests WLFE |
| NC Wilmington | WAHH-1340 | requests WLSG "We Love Southern Gospel" |
| RI Pawtucket | WLKW- 550 | becomes WICE |

Michael C. McCarty of Plain City, Ohio reports the following on the demise of WMAQ-670 Chicago, IL.:

I am sad to report this. Please go to www.wmaqradio.com <<http://www.wmaqradio.com>> soon to read the lousy story.

Ye editor passes along additional information on the subject off the WSCR-1160 website:

WSCR to 670am, Infinity Broadcasting Corporation has announced that "The Score", WSCR-AM, will begin broadcasting on 670 AM effective Tuesday, August 1, 2000. The change in frequency represents a significant upgrade in signal for WSCR, which will now operate as a 50,000-watt station.

In order to meet federal stipulations stemming from the Viacom/CBS merger, Infinity Broadcasting is required to divest one radio station in Chicago. The company is currently seeking a buyer for the 1160 AM frequency now used by WSCR.

Infinity has also announced that Chicago Bears Football broadcasts are moving from 670 to WBBM Newsradio 780. The current play-by-play team of Gary Bender, Hub Arkush, and Tom Thayer and pre-game host Jeff Joniak will make the move to 780 along with the Chicago Bears. "The Bears game is always the biggest news on Sundays in Chicago," said Rod Zimmerman, Vice President and General Manager of WBBM and WMAQ. "The Chicago Bears fit well with WBBM's strategic position of providing live coverage of every major local event."

WBBM Newsradio 780 will launch its Bears coverage with four special reports daily from the Bears training camp in Platteville, Wisconsin beginning July 21, 2000. The Chicago Bears will also receive extensive coverage on The Score on 670, including updates at 8:30a and 5:30a each day, also beginning July 21, 2000. WSCR on 670 will also air the Dick Jauron Show and the Bears Management Report with Ted Phillips on Monday nights throughout the NFL Season, in addition to Monday Night Football, the NFL playoffs and the Super Bowl.

Chicago Blackhawks hockey broadcasts, featuring Pat Foley and Billy Gardner, will remain on 670 AM.

The transfer of WSCR and its programming to 670 AM retire the call letters WMAQ (We Must Ask Questions), which were assigned to the station on October 2, 1922 when the license was held by the Chicago Daily News.

"I'd like to express my deepest appreciation to the talented and

dedicated team at WMAQ who have represented the finest in news journalism for so many memorable years," added Zimmerman.

WMAQ will mark its final hours on the air July 31st with historic audio from the station's nearly 78 year history and a When Radio Was marathon, featuring many of the programs that first aired on WMAQ in the 1930's and 1940's.

Pat Martin of Seaside, OR. sends along the following from Mike Pietruk (locale unknown) concerning above subject:

WMAQ at this time (8/1/00-ye ed.) is still running "When Radio Was" and will until 6 AM local. While the official switch to "all sports" is supposed to happen at noon, supposedly the oldtime radio programming ends at 6 AM. So not sure what to make of that. Officially, the WMAQ call will be used for another 2 weeks or so as 670 and 1160 will be simulcasting the WSCR programming for that time and each frequency requires its own unique FCC identifier.

Pat also sends along the following from Kevin Redding (locale unknown) concerning above subject:

Chicago's oldest radio call letters to leave airwaves

July 31, 2000

CHICAGO (AP) -- The city's oldest radio station, where millions of fans turned the dial to hear "Amos 'n Andy" and "Fibber McGee and Molly" before television took over the night, is signing off this week for the final time.

On Tuesday, the frequency WMAQ-AM has held for nearly eight decades will become an all-sports station known as "The Score." Although WMAQ is based in Chicago, it was broadcast across the country.

"When one of the top 10 call letters in the history of the medium goes dark, it's a strong signal that times have significantly changed in the industry," said Bruce DuMont, founder and curator of the Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago.

WMAQ's demise stems directly from federal regulations and the marriage of broadcasting giants CBS Inc. and Viacom Corp. Federal ownership rules required that CBS subsidiary Infinity sell one of its eight Chicago radio stations. The company chose to get rid of a weaker frequency used by the sports station and move the sports station to the frequency held by WMAQ.

'We Must Ask Questions'

The station is all news now, but in its early years it was home to some of the most famous voices on radio.

Even its call letters had meaning -- We Must Ask Questions. They were chosen by then secretary of commerce and future president Herbert Hoover.

WMAQ began broadcasting on April 13, 1922, as WGU under the ownership of the Chicago Daily News and The Fair, a downtown department store where the original studios were located.

Six months later, the Daily News bought out the store's share of the station and renamed it WMAQ. NBC bought it in 1931 and boosted its power from 250 watts to 50,000 watts, enabling the signal to be heard nationwide.

Under NBC's ownership, WMAQ became the home of some of radio's most famous stars: Red Skelton, Dave Garroway, Garry Moore and Hugh Downs among them.

"Amos 'n Andy" premiered in 1928 and was broadcast each evening from WMAQ's studios. "Fibber McGee and Molly" followed in 1935.

"Those were the big ones," DuMont said. "Amos 'n Andy was probably the most important and most successful radio show of all time as far as a series is concerned."

Over the years, WMAQ switched to easy listening and then country music, but news always played a major role, said political reporter

Bill Cameron, whose 30 years at the station will end with the change.

"NBC News ran the local news department, and there was a big premium put on a professional approach to doing the news," he said.

When the station was sold to Westinghouse in 1988, it changed to all-news programming, putting it in direct competition with CBS. Then, in 1996, Westinghouse and CBS merged. "We still competed to keep each other sharp, but it wasn't as keen as it was when Westinghouse didn't own CBS," Cameron said.

Georgeann Herbert, who has managed the news operations of both stations for the past year, said all-sports WSCR was chosen over WMAQ to give the company one news station and one sports station, rather than two competing news stations. It will mean the loss of about 60 employees.

In the newsroom, the mood has been glum, said Mo Whalen, a former reporter for WMAQ. News reporters bristled as WSCR workers came in for computer training and installed screen savers with photos of the new station's personalities.

"I kind of liked the fact that there were two news stations. One was a little more formal and one was a little less," said Whalen, who now runs a public affairs program for another radio station.

Dave Sachs, a 47-year-old Union Pacific police officer from Chicago, has relied on WMAQ for quick news fixes for years.

"That's all we need," Sachs said, a bit dismayed at the change. "Another sports station."

(Article available at:

<http://www.cnn.com/2000/SHOWBIZ/Music/07/31/obit.wmaq.ap/index.html>)

Pat sends along the following in regards to when CKMO-FM Victoria, BC. Is moving to 900 khz. on AM:

Thanks for your interest in CKMO. We anticipate the frequency switch to happen sometime between September 1-15th, depending on how the technical details all shake out.

Clint Lalonde

Pat also sends along the website if you'd like more information on the subject above:

<http://www.crtc.gc.ca/archive/Decisions/2000/DB2000-214.htm>

Bill Laye of Grande Prairie, AB. sends along the following:

Grande Prairie's own country radio CJXX will be going head-to-head with some of Canada's best during Canada Music Week next month. The award-winning station has been nominated with eight others by fellow members of the Canadian Radio Association (CRA) for Radio Station of the Year and 'XX music director Bob Martineau is among seven in the running for the CRA Music Director of the Year honours - both in the secondary-market category. The winners are to be announced in Toronto during Canada Music Week, March 1-5. "I'm shocked - pleasantly surprised," said Martineau. Two years ago, Martineau won the Canadian Country Music Association's (CCMA) director-of-the-year award. But the CRA nomination is even sweeter, because it crosses all music genres and the nominations can even come from competitors. "With the CCMA's, to be nominated you have submit it yourself. With this, your peers vote on it," he said. "It doesn't even matter if we win. It just feels nice going in just to be recognized and be in the top few." Martineau also became a proud papa, as he and wife Val had their first child, daughter Paige Allison, this month. "She's better than any award I could ever be nominated for," he chuckled of the healthy eight-pound, 14 ounce girl, born at 9:20 a.m. Feb. 7. Another thing Martineau is gearing up for is the station's much-anticipated switch to the FM format. "The music that comes out of

Nashville is so slick and well-produced it's going to sound so great on FM, I can't wait," he said, adding the the station will still remain true to its substance. "People who love this station already won't be disappointed." The CRTC approved 'XX for FM with two others - one in Taber and one in Red Deer- in eight-station Monarch Broadcasting Ltd.'s Alberta chain this fall. CJXX station manager Ken Truhn says he expects work on the conversion to get going as soon as things warm up outside. "We're suspecting as soon as the snow melts and the ground is dry, we'll be working on the tower site up on the Saddle Hills," he said. As for the award nominations, he, too, is glad his peers in Radioland are listening. "It speaks well for a market our size. A lot of times I don't think people really realize just how good the two radio stations here in Grande Prairie are," he said.

CP BILL LAYE Herald-Tribune staff

Monarch Broadcasting Ltd., owners of Grande Prairie's CJXX radio, has been bought by The Jim Pattison Broadcast Group, the two companies announced Tuesday. Monarch president and CEO Bill Yuill said in this day and age of huge media conglomerates, selling the chain was the only viable option left for the family-owned business. "We'd gotten (Monarch) as large as we could - it will now take somebody bigger to carry the banner forward," he said from the company's Medicine Hat head office. The Jim Pattison Broadcast Group is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Jim Pattison Group. In addition to broadcasting, the B.C.-based company's varied interests include supermarket chains, financial services and outdoor advertising signs. Its current annual international sales figures are in the range of \$4.6 billion. Though Yuill said couldn't comment directly on the new owners' plans, he confirmed CJXX's FM conversion is still on schedule, and the country-format station remains one of the network's strongest. "I can't see (Pattison making) any major changes - it's a good healthy operation up there." Yuill, who took over Monarch from his father in 1972, said he's also glad Monarch's 275 employees will be fitting into a company that is growth-oriented and has the resources to do it. "It's a huge opportunity," 'XX station manager Ken Truhn said this morning. "It makes the whole company a significant player in the broadcast industry in Alberta and B.C.," he said. Monarch first signed on in 1946 with CHAT radio in Medicine Hat and, along with CJXX, now operates a total 15 radio and two television stations in B.C. and Alberta. Pattison currently operates six radio and one television station, all in B.C. "The Monarch stations are leaders in the markets in which they operate and their addition will significantly strengthen our Group," Rick Arnish, president of Kamloops-based Pattison broadcasters, said in a prepared statement. The sale of Monarch Broadcasting is subject to CRTC approval, which may come by the end of August at the earliest. Details of the cash sale were not released under the terms of a confidentiality agreement. And by the fall, Grande Prairie CJXX listeners will be changing their dials from 840 AM to 93.1 FM, Truhn said. "We'll be taking delivery of our new transmitter by the middle of September," he said, adding the 'flip' is scheduled for Nov. 1.

Pat Martin passes along the following (reply from Bill Hale of Dallas, TX.):

I read that KCIS-630- Edmonds, WA is applying to drop power from U2 5000/2500 to U1 2300/53. I can understand why they might want a U1 status at night, but why the drop to 2300 watts day? Maybe 53 watts on 630 will cover the Seattle area OK. Any ideas?

Bill replies:

KCIS is a two-site operation. According to the FCC database, the 'new' day facility of 2300 watts non-directional is at their old nighttime site, now 3 towers at N47-51-00 W122-09-38, and the 'new'

night facility of 53 watts non-directional is at their old daytime site, which has 1 tower at N47-46-06 W122-21-07. So the 'new' nighttime site is about 15 or so miles west of the 'new' daytime site.

Maybe they can make some \$\$\$ while selling the unneeded land and cut their electric bill at the same time. (??)

Dennis Gibson of Santa Barbara, CA. passes along the following:

What I presume to be KZPM-1100 Bakersfield, CA is on the air. I say presume because I did not hear an ID, but the format is SS, as rumored, and there are no other CP's on 1100 in California. KZPM runs 4.2 KW ND days and 800 watts directional at night. They are diplexing off KAFY-970. I am hearing them from Santa Maria, about an hour north of my home in Santa Barbara. I'm not sure when they signed on, but I was up here a week ago today and they were not on then. I will probably not be able to hear them from home due to splatter from XEPRS-1090, which is very strong. (Note: ye ed may have heard them good in KFAK-1100 null on 7/31/00!).

Dennis also passes along the following:

"CA Costa Mesa KKG0-540 was classical//XEBACH, now jazz//KJAZ (KKG0 is expected to go dark shortly (???-I thought they have been off the air for a long time. Can anyone in L.A. area confirm they are indeed on in Costa Mesa? I'd think they'd interfere with Tijuana's coverage area!-ye ed.)"

I was under the same impression as Bob (Wien, ye ed, that is) that they'd been off for at least a couple of years. About 3 years ago or so in many parts of the LA area, there was a *huge* overlap with 540 Tijuana.

Unfortunately, neither of our LA area experts (Mike Sanburn and Gary Larson) are online as far as I know (no they are not-ye ed.).

In the latest Soft DXM, Gary says "As I've been told, 540 KKG0 Costa Mesa to go dark, probably July (?)". Maybe someone who corresponds with either of them via snail mail or twisted pair could ask them? I know this topic has come up from time to time on the news group, but I don't think it was ever settled; I don't know of any LA area DX'ers active on the news group. (I don't know their current status, but latest info I have now shows them as 'silent'!-ye ed.) (addendum: latest M Street says they were //KJAZ-1260, but now silent).

Pat sends along the following from Bill Hale:

The long-awaited (?) swap of frequencies between KCLE Cleburne, TX and KJSA Mineral Wells, TX will occur Monday, July 24.

KCLE will be on 1140 and KJSA will be on 1120.

Although they will be licensed for nighttime operation, KCLE on 1140 will temporarily remain a daytimer with 250 watts until all the directional bugs can be worked out. So . . . you may catch them at LSR/LBS, or better still, check 1140 for them testing at night.

The new daytime facility will direct 850 watts (3738 watts ERP) at 320 degrees from Cleburne, and the night CP is for 710 (3138 watts ERP) watts at 330 degrees. (Both almost heading right at Denver!)

Pat sends along the following from Marc DeLorenzo of Auburndale, MA.:

(Pat): Here is another X Bander that is not going to move. I think we will see more of them not moving in the future too.

1620 unID R.Soleil Internationale JUL 10 0100 - "Ici Radio Soleil 1620 AM" and French Caribbean music, weak in WHLY null. JUL 13 0100 - Talk in French under New York City NOAA weather radio relay. JUL 17 0130 - "Ici Radio Soleil Internationale" ID, romantic music, over NYC NOAA weather station with WHLY

just starting to fade in, all this over an unID Spanish station.

Internet research in an attempt to identify this station produced the following info. According to e-mail from Radio Soleil D'Haiti broadcasting on WSKQ New York 97.9 FM SCA, it's not them. In an e-mail from WRRR US Virgin Islands, "DJ Wonder" says the station is staying on 1290. WRRR will not be going to 1620. Meanwhile Ron Gitachier on tour of duty the Caribbean reports no French Caribbean broadcasts heard on 1620. Perhaps this is another French-language Part 15 station in Boston, or did 1640 in Boston move to 1620?

[Conti-NH]

Hi Bruce & Gang, The 1640 Creole/French speaker is alive and well. At home in Auburndale (Newton) their signal is fair all day long about equal to Logan Airport-1650. On 1620 I get nothing at all. So, I believe that the 1620 station is NOT located in Metro Boston.

I was reading that CJOC (1220 Lethbridge, AB.-ye ed) has an APP into the CRTC to move to FM too.

Goodie! 1220 will be another good frequency to the East with many stations running low power and UL, plus a bunch of directional eastern Canadians. Hopefully CJOC will make the move soon. There is a 300 watt one in ME on 1220, plus Cleveland Ohio (50 KW U3) and many others from 100-300 watts. Hopefully more Canadians will move to FM without someone else taking the frequency.

Pat sends along the following from Pete Taylor of Tacoma, WA. (via Bruce Portzer of Seattle, WA.):

An interesting bit of trivia: Blaine, WA will probably have the largest frequency spread for a two station town (one on 550 & the other on 1600).

Pete Taylor wrote:

550 KARI Blaine: still mulling over whether or not to go through with the power increase. The main culprit remains the nearby FCC monitoring station.

850 KHHO Tacoma: still //KJR-950 but will split in November

950 KJR Seattle: new start date for 50kw from KHHO site is November 1

1070 KRAM West Klamath: is not on the air but will be about September 1

(Addendum: ye ed called KRAM-1070 Friday 7/28, found out station has actually been on the air but running very low power (about 15 watts or so), had been off 'last day or two' for repairs to xmtr, hoped to be back with full 1 kw. in about 10 days (about 8/8), but station has been on the air, just hasn't gotten out very well due to very low xmtr output.)

1300 KKOL Seattle: still 5kw U2. Their options are to move XR to KLFE-1590 or KIXI-880 but they are having legal and technical problems.

1600 KBLO Blaine: no construction yet but they definitely will be going on the air. They will be applying for different call letters.

1680 KAZJ Seattle: They are still deciding on whether or not to go through with it. I was told several months ago that they would be applying for KSEA but I haven't seen that happen.

Other than KARI and KRAM, these issues have been hanging around for a long time.

Lee Freshwater of Ocala, FL. sends along the following:

Looks like WEUP has made the move to 1700. Noted this morning (8-1) 0500 with blk gsp1 music, occasional ID as WEUP and "early

morning gospel on WEUP". Fair signal here in FL mixing with Miami's sports station.

Pat Martin sends along the following addendum:

1700 WEUP AL, Huntsville, hrd fair in jumble, but loud on top at times with Black Gospel, almost non-stop, with an ID after a stinger at 0625 EDT 8/1, just as "WEUP", back into more gospel. Thanks to Lee Freshwater for the tip. Don't know if they are operating with 10 KW or not at the time I heard them, but they were loud at times. New. Never logged on 1600 in the past.

FORMAT CHANGES: (8/14/00)

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| AL Huntsville | WEUP-1600 | was gospel & urban//FM, now black gospel |
| AL Huntsville | WEUV-1700 | is new, black gospel//WEUP |
| CA Eureka | KGOE-1480 | was nx/talk//KGO-810, now Imus, talk |
| CA Thousand Oaks | KBET- 850 | was sports//KXTA, now adult alternative (pgming moves here from KACD/KBCD-FM L.A.) |
| FL Avon Park | WAVP-1390 | was silent, now black gospel |
| IL Chicago | WSCR-1160 | was sports, to be adult alternative//WXRT (format debuts 8/15, remains till station sold, WSCR calls/pgming move to 670) |
| IL Chicago | WSCR- 670 | was WMAQ nx/sports, now sports "Score" |
| IA Waterloo | KXEL-1540 | was nx/talk/truck, adds Dave Nemo truck show |
| KS Iola | KALN-1370 | was country, adds WWI country |
| KS Kansas City | KCKN-1340 | was KFEZ, Sky cont. Xtian, adds religion |
| LA Lake Charles | KXZZ-1580 | was ABC R&B oldies, now ABC black gospel |
| LA New Orleans | WWL - 870 | was nx/talk, truck, adds Dave Nemo truck show |
| OK Clinton | KCLI-1320 | was oldies//KCLI-FM, now ABC oldies//KCCL |
| TN Harrogate | WRWB- 740 | was oldies, now talk, ESPN sports |
| TN Nashville | WLAC-1510 | was talk/sports/truck, adds Bozo truck show |
| TX Del Rio | KWMC-1490 | was oldies, adds JRN oldies |
| TX Midland | KJBC-1150 | was classic C&W, talk, now Catholic (becomes non-commercial) |
| TX Monahans | KLBO-1330 | was nx/talk, now WWI oldies |
| UT Salt Lake City | KSL -1160 | was nx/talk, truck, adds Dave Nemo truck show |

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| IL Vernon Hills | WNVN-1030 | inc. to 5000-D 3200-CH, DA-D vice ND-D |
| NC Greensboro | WWBG-1470 | inc. to 5000/5000 DA-2 |
| SD Sioux Falls | KWSN-1230 | dec. to 440/440 ND |

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| AL Huntsville | new-1700 | becomes WEUV |
| IL Chicago | WMAQ- 670 | requests WSCR "Score" |

FORMAT CHANGES:

| | | |
|------------------|-----------|---|
| AZ Sahuarita | KQTL-1210 | was regional Mexican, now Unica SS talk |
| AZ Williams | KYET-1180 | was classic country, rptd. silent |
| CA Banning | KMET-1490 | was sports, now JRN classic country |
| CA Hemet | KSDT-1320 | was oldies, rptd. silent (expects to return to air this fall) |
| ID Blackfoot | KBLI-1620 | is new, ESPN sports |
| ID Idaho Falls | KICN-1260 | was talk//KECN, now regional Mexican ("Radio Fiesta" airs w/satellite feed from Mexico, "Fiesta Mexicana" nights) |
| IN Knox | WKVI-1520 | was country//FM, now WWL soft AC//FM |
| MA Boston | WILD-1090 | was urban, to be ABC Tom Joyner |
| MN Aitkin | KKIN- 930 | was AS, adds JRN stds. |
| TN Greeneville | WSMG-1450 | was country, sports, now soft AC |
| TX Pflugersville | KOKE-1600 | is new, cont. Xtian (format temporary as station is for sale) |

CONSTRUCTION PERMIT ACTIVITY:

NY New York City WADO-1280 inc. to 50000/7200 DA-2

CALL LETTER CHANGES:

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|-----------------------|
| CA Torrance | KGXL-1650 | becomes KFOX |
| HI Honolulu | KISA-1540 | becomes KREA "Korean" |
| KY Louisville | WLKY- 970 | requests WGTK |

Gary Jackson of Sacramento, CA. passes on the following:

KEUT-1630, Tiajuana, Mexico does verify- beautiful certificate, QSL letter, folders, stickers. Really nice to receive it. Rare these days. Martha A. Marquez, Jefade, Radio Universidad UABC Radio, 233 Paulen Avenue, P.O. Box MSC 5163, Calexico, CA. 92231-2646

Pat Martin of Seaside, OR. sends along the following from Eric Floden (location unknown):

According to the NW Broadcasting web page, dated 08/00:

CJSU (Sun FM) 89.7 Duncan is on the air. This is a move from AM 1500 and change of call letters from CKAY. The AM will simulcast for about a month.

(More info at this website-ye ed.):

<http://members.home.net/nwbroadcasters/recentnews.htm>

Dennis Gibson of Santa Barbara, CA. sends along the following:

A couple of items of interest from the CGC Communicator:

RADIO STATION KSDT FALLS SILENT

KSDT(AM), 1320 kHz, Hemet, CA, has lost the use of its transmitter site and is off the air.

CALL SIGN CHANGES IN EFFECT

KGXL(AM), Torrance, to KFOX (heard this call MM 8/7/00 so is in effect-ye ed.)

Clarification from Dennis: Torrance is in California (for all of you not in the west or not familiar with Southern California).

Pat Martin sends along the following:

I received my WEUP QSL today (actually WEUV-1700 Hunstville-ye ed.) in the form of an E Mail. That was quick as I just sent the report yesterday. E Mail address: weup@hiwaay.net E Mail from: Steve Murry.

Pete Taylor of Tacoma, WA. sends along the following via Pat Martin:

In the August issue of the WFFDA's "VHF/UHF Digest," DXer Alexeis

Marrero Cruz of Holguin, Cuba says he heard "Radio Holguin, la nueva" on its first day of broadcast on 1500kHz and 96.1 FM. This was in May. Perhaps someone on the East Coast is in a position to hear this.

Bryan Hubert, DX-friendly CE of KCIS-630 Edmonds, WA, says the 53w/2300w powers some of you have read about are "last resort" auxiliary facilities only.

Larry Godwin of Missoula, MT. sends along the following;

I heard an interesting catch last night (8/11/00-ye ed.) at 2300 EDT that might be interesting for you: KVTK-1570-Vermillion, SD. Strong signal (500 watts?) with slogan "The Ticket" and ESPN programs.

Well, just 3 days till I leave for IRCA convention. Hope there's a big turnout! DX season is slowly kicking into gear... 73's.

FCC

Lee J Freshwater 414 SE 3rd St, Ocala, FL 34474
FAX 352-732-7223 E-mail ENGWTIRS@aol.com

The F.C.C. has started putting CALL LETTER changes in their computer data base... We will include them here as time and space permits.

A COMPLETE LIST IS AVAILABLE AT :
<http://geocities.com/amlogbook/main.htm>

PREPARED ON 8/18/00 0800

CALL SIGN CHANGES

| NEW CALL | CITY AND STATE | FREQUENCY * | FORMER CALL |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| WSCR | CHICAGO, IL | 670 | WMAQ |
| WWON | WAYNESBORO, TN | 930 | WTNR 1 |
| WGTK | LOUISVILLE, KY | 970 | WLKY |
| WXRT | CHICAGO, IL | 1160 | WSCR |
| KREA | HONOLULU, HI | 1540 | RISA |
| KFOX | TORRANCE, CA | 1650 | KGXL |
| WEUV | HUNTSVILLE, AL | 1700 | new |

1- INFO FROM G. DILTS GM WWON

* The F.C.C. does NOT list the frequency in their database. I have tried to supplement this with information from my own database, so look it over "carefully" before you change anything in yours.

We have put this information in order of frequency rather than location. Send any suggestions, changes AND corrections to the above E-Mail address.

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson - 265 Waterton Way - Billings MT 59102-7755
Electronic Mail: Internet: nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net
WDXR DEADLINES: Fridays Sept 1, Sept. 15, Sept. 29, Oct. 6.
Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (LG) Larry Godwin-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804
lbg@selway.umd.edu
Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop & KIWA loop
- (GH) Glen Hansen-105 McBride St.-St. Helens, OR 97051
HQ-145, 60' longwire E/W with MLB Balun, Radio Shack loop
- (GH-DX#2) Using Drake R8B, various songwires, Radio Shack loop
- (GL) Gary Larson-2806 Lincoln-Burbank, CA 91504
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843
Drake R8, 1500' E Beverage, 200' EWE antenna, 400' NNW min-Beverage term, ANC-4 phaser
- (CM) Curtis McMenamin-153 Calle Tepic, Vacaville, CA 95687
Sony ICF-2010 and Radio West loop
- (KR) Kevin Redding-Mesa, AZ
GE Superadio III barefoot
- (RW) Robert Wien-1309 Dentwood Dr.-San Jose, CA 95118
rjwmail@webtv.net
GE Superadio, Select-A-Tenna, HQ-180A, Radio West loop

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1570 KVTK SD, Vermillion a wonderful surprise as ESPN program ended on 8/10 at 2300. Man ID'd as "KVTK, The Ticket, Home of the Chicago Cubs." New. Ex-KOSZ. (LG-MT)

- 540 (KKGO) CA, Costa Mesa 7/19 called to ask when station will go off, was informed at sundown 7/13 it signed off officially. Towers will probably remain a while, equipment to go to other company properties. (GL-CA)
- 550 KFVR ND, Bismarck 7/31 fair on top of jumble with sports scores, tagged by "On 55 K-Fire" at 0420. I haven't heard this in years. (PM-OR)
- CKPG BC, Prince George 7/29 fair mixing with KOAC, until I phased out KOAC, then in the clear with OLD/AdCon and "CKPG" ID's at 1600, off northern Beverage. (PM-OR)
- 560 CKTK BC, Prince Rupert 7/30 fair mixing with AdCon music, mention of "T-K Radio" at 0330. (PM-OR)
- 580 KUBC CO, Montrose 8/19 fair mixing with other briefly on top with NOS music and ID at 0659:50 as "KUBC Montrose," into network news. KFXD unusually weak this morning. (PM-OR)
- 600 KNRO CA, Redding 8/7 was weak on top at 0800 with ID as "AM 600, KNRO" after ESPN program. Is this a format change? (LG-MT)
- 610 CKYL AB, Peace River 7/29 fair with C&W music and "YL" ID's at 1610. (PM-OR)
- 620 CJCI BC, Prince George 7/29 weaker than CKPG, but heard with C&W music with "CI" ID at 1615. (PM-OR)
- 840 TIS CA, San Jose (?) 7/17 0914 TIS located somewhere in the San Jose area, strong signal here during day, continuous 3-tone dial tone .-. , no ID's. (RW-CA)
- KMAX WA, Colfax 8/7 0600 fair in KVEG null with ID "AM 840, The Max, KMAX Colfax. serving northern Idaho, Washington, and even parts of Oregon." Wow, Oregon, hi. (RW-CA)
- 890 CJDC BC, Dawson Creek 7/29 weak at 1550 with pop music and CJDC ID. (PM-OR)
- 900 CJVI BC, Victoria 8/7 0555 with ID on hour as "AM 900 CJVI Victoria," not CKMO yet. Should be CKMO about 9/1 per PM-OR. (RW-CA)
- 940 ?KICE? OR, Bend 7/17 0853 again tentative with talk about Houston Astros at 0853, unID ad mentioned Park Avenue, NY, NY then ad for ESPN Sports at 0859, no ID. Poor in

KFRE null, faded out by 0915. (RW-CA)

CJIB BC, Vernon 8/12 2350 male announcer said "Hit after hit, 940 CJIB," fair signal with severe fade. (GH-DX2)

950 KJR WA, Seattle 8/13 2255 ID as Sports Fan Radio, with good signal on wire. Usually better during daylight, seldom heard at night. (GH-DX2)

990 KTMS CA, Santa Barbara 8/6 2358 with top of hour ID and ad for a financial program, then a Geico ad and ABC news. (KR-AZ)

1040 KLVP OR, Tigard 8/11 strong with "K-Love" ID at 0756 during contemporary religious music program. (LG-MT)

1100 ?KZPM? CA, Bakersfield 7/31 0928-1005 tentative in varying KFAK null with Spanish popping through. Faded up a couple of times with some comedy morning program (heard strange special effects noises like bells ringing, whistles, laughter, etc). Never faded up strong enough for ID. Will keep checking... (RW-CA)

1200 ?KOQI? CA, Soquel maybe the one at 2330 7/27 with jazz music, not the C&W normally heard. I wonder if they were testing with other formats? (PM-OR)

1260 KICN ID, Idaho Falls 7/31 fair on top with ID going into net news "... your talk station, KICN Idaho Falls and KBLI Blackfoot-Pocatello" at 0359:50. (PM-OR)

1280 KDYL UT, Salt Lake City was its usual dominant self at 0758 on 8/3 but with a new format and slogan: "Talk Radio KDYL." Was NOS before. (LG-MT)

1310 KIQQ CA, Barstow 7/31 0917 fair on peaks in KMKY null with ranchera-type music, several mentions of "Barstow" during spots, but no ID. Station had been silent. Still using these calls? Signal loud by 0920! (RW-CA)

(KMKY) CA, Oakland 8/14 0800-0900+ totally off, back on at 0906 recheck. (RW-CA)

?KBTK? NM, Corrales 8/14 0850-0900 tentative over/under unID Spanish with talk about the joy of reading, then talk about processing information, gave phone number 800-642-1558 for more info. Wiped out by KIQQ Barstow, CA going to day power at 0857, KMKY back on about 0905. Checked KBTK's website, they carry Imus at this time supposedly, tried looking up 800 number on internet but couldn't find it. Call to 800 directory didn't help either.... Tentative report sent for call change ex-KXAK. (RW-CA)

1320 KXRO WA, Aberdeen 8/8 0000 ad for Jim Bohannon show into news. Great signal on longwire. (GH-OR)

KGDC WA, Walla Walla 8/11 2010 Mariners baseball game and ID, fair signal on loop. Not often heard. (GH-DX2)

1330 KJLL AZ, Tucson 8/7 0540 fair with KWKW off, with promo for Imus in the morning, "Here on the Jolt, 1330 AM, KJLL." ID on hour "Tucson's Jolt, 1330 AM KJLL." (RW-CA)

(KWKW) CA, Pasadena 8/7 0537 totally off, KJLL in alone & weak. (RW-CA)

1370 KGNO KS, Dodge City 8/20 0400 with ID "The Godfather of Rock and Roll, KGNO Dodge City" and "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow." (KR-AZ)

CFOK AB, Westlock 8/10 0040 choppy signal on E/W wire playing country oldies. (GH-DX2)

1380 KHJJ CA, Lancaster 8/14 0820 blasting in with ID "We make memories, AM 1380, KHJ," NOS format, obliterating everything on frequency, heavy KZSF-1370 splash nulled out. (RW-CA)

1430 KBRC WA, Mt. Vernon 7/23 1155 jingle ID and oldies. Fair but drifty on longwire. (GH-OR)

1550 (KYCY) CA, San Francisco 7/31 0615-0700 noted totally off, came

back on at 0700 pronto. (RW-CA)

KCCF WA, Ferndale 7/31 0630 faded up nicely over GY-type pile with Gospel choir, ID at 0630 on tape "Christ is our love. Come with Jesus in his ministry... classic... Christian (?)... KCCF Ferndale" than faded under XEBM. Call change, ex-KNTR. Last heard in 1984. Actually audible under KYCY, when they came back on, but gone for good by 0715. Second time I've logged these calls, first time was for 1100 Cave Creek AZ (now KFNX)! (RW-CA)

1560 WRHC FL, Coral Gables 7/28 0407 popped out of nowhere with man announcer saying "1560 WRHC" with piano music in and around ID. Don't know if the music was from WRHC or not. Apparently they are still operating here. I was pleased to get the ID on tape, even though I already have a QSL from them. (PM-OR)

1570 KHPN CO, Loveland 7/27 2306 a powerhouse at break in Mariners/Bluejays game with legal ID. (LG-MT)

1650 KXGL CA, Torrance 7/17 0600 coming in fair-poor with music and mentioning Torrance/Los Angeles. (CM-CA)

?WHKT? VA, Portsmouth 7/17 0630 coming in very poor. Thought I heard WHKT ID but not sure. (CM-CA)

1570 WFRL FL, Freeport 7/28 with ABC news at 0500, and ID "WFRL" into NOS music at 0507, mixing with some station giving weather. (PM-OR)

1600 KUBA CA, Yuba City 8/12 0800 was weak but sat on top of the heap with no-frills s/on (no anthem). (LG-MT)

1610 HAR MT, near Lolo has boosted its signal and was quite strong at 2247 8/13, giving road conditions on U.S. Highway 93 south and Highway 12 due to forest fires. Man mentioned it's a "portable MT Dept. of Transportation radio station." (LG-MT)

1630 KCJJ IA, Iowa City 8/10 coming in fair to poor at 0600 with KCJJ ID. (CM-CA)

1650 KFOX CA, Torrance 8/7 0954-1000 call change ex-KCXL, with Korean programming, ID on hour "1650 AM, KFOX, Torrance, you're listening to southern California's all-Korean station in AM stereo." Usual good signal. (RW-CA)

1660 KRZX TX, Waco 8/12 had a very decent signal with ID for KRZI during break in ESPN program at 2352. KXOL had open carrier only at this time. (LG-MT)

1680 WTTM NJ, Princeton 7/30 good on top of WJNZ with Sports News at 0315, with tag "...you can hear it on WTTM..." (PM-OR)

1700 WEUP AL, Huntsville heard fair in jumble, but loud on top at times with Black Gospel, almost non-stop, with an ID after a stinger at 0625, just as "WEUP," back into more Gospel. Thanks to Lee Freshwater for the tip. Don't know if they are operating with 10kw or not at the time I heard them, but they were loud at times. New, never logged on 1600 in the past. (PM-OR)

UNIDS

1100 7/25 very weak station in Spanish under KFAX at about 2300, possibly Bakersfield, KZPM. Soon lost. (PM-OR)

1560 Oldies rock station here with Supremes "Come See About Me" and Sunshine Band "Keep It Comin' Love" at 0416 7/28. ID at 0415 like the old "Drake" ID's from KFRC in the 60's, but too much other QRM to ID. Who is old rock on 1560 and operates nights here? (PM-OR)

1560 7/28 0421 R&B station with what sounded like a southern accent, but hard to tell for sure. (PM-OR)

1560 7/28 EZ listening music at 0426. This may have been WRHC, no vocals, just background type instrumental music. (PM-OR)

- 1560 7/28 0419 unID Spanish there, buried, it may have been a religious, but hard to tell. (PM-OR)
- 1570 7/28 0507 station giving weather, sounded like "Junction City" or something close ??? City. Too much QRM from WFRL to ID. (PM-OR)
- 1630 8/10 0530 coming in under KCJJ with country music. Still need KKWY, one of my most wanted stations. I was wishing I could have heard call letters. (CM-CA)
- 1700 8/16 0755-0759 man in soft voice gave speed limits, then woman gave ID that began with "W." I'd guess this is Anaheim, CA HAR. Weak QRM from another station. (LG-MT)

Thanks to our WDXR reports this time. Details for the 2000-2001 IRCA Contest will appear in the next issue. There will be an entirely new format for the new DX season. The contest will run September 15, 2000 until May 15, 2001.
 Nancy 8/20/00 1700

 REPORTERS to WDXR FOR VOLUME #37

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|----------------------|------|
| 1. Patrick Martin | 217/26 | 15. Fred Eatlock | 19/1 |
| 2. Larry Godwin | 202/21 | 16. Kevin Redding | 19/3 |
| 3. Art Blair | 158/25 | 17. Gary Larson | 13/7 |
| 4. Pete Taylor | 137/17 | 18. Bob Pietsch | 9/7 |
| Robert Wien | 137/27 | 19. John C. Johnson | 6/2 |
| 6. Nigel Pimblett | 105/10 | Nancy Johnson | 6/2 |
| 7. Gary Jackson | 99/27 | Art Peterson | 6/1 |
| 8. Glen Hansen | 96/15 | 22. Bruce Portzer | 5/1 |
| 9. Curtis McMenamin | 49/11 | Rich Toebe | 5/4 |
| 10. Mike Sanburn | 46/10 | 24. Eric Bueneman | 2/1 |
| 11. Bill Nittler | 37/ 8 | Dennis Gibson | 2/2 |
| 12. Dan Sys | 31/11 | Nick Hall-Patch | 2/1 |
| 13. Frank Aden | 25/15 | Ralph Sanserino | 2/1 |
| 14. Craig Rathbone | 22/ 2 | 28. Mike Stonebridge | 1/1 |

The first number shows the total tips sent, the second number the number of issues a person reported to during the volume. Thank you to all the reporters! (I snuck in a tip or two too - pb)

 CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Editor: John C. Johnson 265 Waterton Way - Billings MT 59102-7755
 E-Mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net
 CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@prodigy.net

RIDING GAIN

- [TMJ-IL] Tom Jasinski, Shorewood, IL amdrex@core.com
 Drake RSA, Quantum loop.
- [NJ-MT] Nancy Johnson, Billings, MT nancyjohnson@uswestmail.net
 Yaesu FRG-7, "Radio West" loop.
- [TN-WI] Tim Noonan, Madison, WI DXing@webtv.net
 Kenwood R-1000, "Radio West" Loop.
- [JJR-WI] John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee, WI johnrieger@webtv.net
 Icom IC-R70, FRG 100, Kiwa Loop, MFJ-959B, DSP599zx.
 Radio Shack DX-398 stock.

SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1160 WXRT IL, Chicago. EX-WSCR. 8-15. 16:30 tuned in and found modern rock music. Sometime today they changed calls from WSCR to WXRT. ID on the hour mentioned WXRT, but no

mention of the 1160 and 93.1 simulcast. From news stories, I understand that this call and format is temporary until facility is sold. This is part of the ripple effect of WSCR call and format moving to 670 replacing WMAQ. The move to 670 gives WSCR full time coverage. On 1160 with U4 and 5kW nights at 40 miles away their signal was terrible. On 670 WSCR will have U1 and 50kW. [TMJ-IL]

DOWN THE DIAL

1370 KGNO KS, Dodge City. 8-13 fair. 06:30 with calls and oldies. Not common. [JJR-WI]
1450 KMRY IA, Cedar Rapids. 8-17 poor. 01:28 clear calls heard during satellite NOS. [JJR-WI]
WHTC MI, Holland. 7-26 fair. 06:12 with "...hometown station, WHTC." Not common despite being across the lake. [JJR-WI]
WKEL IL, Kewanee. 7-31 fair. 01:00 with "Newstalk 14-50" and a legal ID. [TN-WI]
WVON IL, Cicero. 7-25 fair in WCEV-WVON switch over. 23:00 with WVON ID and "The talk of Chicago" slogan. [TN-WI]
1470 WCFJ IL, Chicago Heights. 7-26 fair. I followed SS for 40 minutes into music and then an EE dual legal ID at 00:00 with simulcast WSBC-1240 Chicago. [TN-WI]
1490 KWAC CA, Bakersfield, CA 8-14. 22:58 with SS music, EE ID "KWAC 14-90 AM." [NJ-MT]
1610 IL, Shorewood. Talking House heard 8-13. 23:00 heard weak signal and bits and pieces of real estate spot and local phone number. My son and I drove around town 8-14 and located the house about 3/4 of a mile from my home. Signal is good for only a few blocks on the car radio and quickly fades away. Even then takes a beating from the Naperville, IL TIS. This is a bad sign as there are 13 different subdivisions going up around this rapidly growing area. Imagine if all of them started doing this! [TMJ-IL]

25 YEARS AGO

Because of fewer issues in 2000 than in 1975 we will double up on dates for 25 years ago. The August 2, 1975 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... We were told about the IRCA headquarters moving to Seattle, WA and that the new EIC would be Mike Worst and the new publisher would be Phil Bytheway ... Rob Keeney of Lawrence, KS told of his new HQ-180 and his logging of New Zealand ... Rick Heald of Castro Valley, CA logged Tarawa-844 and 1YC-880. Now let's look at the September 6, 1975 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... Gregg Allinson of Wilmington, NC said he was program director at WMFD ... George W. Jensen of Baltimore, MD told of his new a Zenith Trans-Oceanic portable receiver.

OPEN MIKE

Anger is one letter short of danger. This column is being typed on 8/19/00. It's less than a week to the Billings convention! 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Lee Freshwater - 414 SE 3rd St - Ocala FL 34471
E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com FAX: 352-732-7223

Upcoming deadlines - 9-3/9-17/10-1 then weekly on Sundays !!!!!

STARS OF THE WEEK

(LF-FL) your editor Drake R-8A / HQ180A, Potomac FIM-41
KINA Loop, 75' l.w. N/S
(WM-MD) William McGuire 2412 59th Place Cheverly, MD
DX-398 VIA U.S.P.S.

LOGGINGS

- 1070 WFLI TN Lookout Mountain 8/14 2020, Promo for trip to the Holy Land mentioning WFLI. (WM-MD)
- 1160 WCCS PA Homer City 8/14 2055, Pirates VS Astros BB heard (WM-MD)
- 1360 WNJC NJ Washington 8/14 2300 Spanish music, ID in English & Spanish, mention of New Jersey, strong signal. (WM-MD)
- 1400 WINC VA Winchester 7/21 0030, ID heard in mess, blk gosp mx heard (WM-MD)
- 1420 WCED PA Dubois 8/14 2326, After Monkees song, female heard saying "Classic 1420" (WM-MD)
- 1440 WGIG GA Brunswick 7/18 2200, Break in talk show, ad for Home Pregnancy test: "Your Home for the Georgia Bulldogs, news talk & information on 1440 WGIG- Brunswick." (WM-MD)
- 1460 WWKL PA Harrisburg 8/14 2340, Discussion of baseball, analysis of Arizona/Philadelphia game. Ad for A/C service. (WM-MD)
- 1700 WEUV AL Huntsville 8/01 0400 New x-band now on with Gospel Mx. Fair signal, mixing with Miami. (LF-FL)

SPECIAL INTEREST

720 WRZN FL Hernando is back on the air, after being off for a couple of weeks. They had been off due to storm damage (LF-FL)

UN-IDEN:

- 920 ???? 8/14 2155 The Michael Reagan show heard with ad for Hair growth into hourly news at 2200 (WM-MD)
- 1400 ???? 7/18 2307 CNN Radio news heard mixing with NOS sounding mx; then the Jim Bohannon show (WM-MD)
- 1490 ???? Sports Talk Show heard (WM-MD)

The tower site saga continues for WRKG 100.5. The tower crew the owner hired has not completed the job, so our station is still off the air. We posted a group of photos at:
<http://www.geocities.com/amlogbook/wrkg/wrkg.html>

This is being typed 8/21 0400, 4 days before we leave for Billings and the annual convention. Hope to see you there !!!!!!! Next issue in TWO weeks.....73's.....fresh

DX WORLDWIDE WEST

Patrick Martin
E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net
Drake R8, Term EWE Antenna

- 531 1XP1 NZ, Auckland, very good with woman in Samoan, no sign of 2MC at 1245 UTC 8/10. (PM-OR)
+good with woman in Samoan at 1245 UTC 8/12. (PM-OR)
- 540 1XC/2XV NZ, Radio Rhema, fair on top of others with prayers

at 1301 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)

540 2AP WESTERN SAMOA, Apia, good ontop of CBQX-LPRT with Drum mx and man in Samoan at 1040 UTC 8/12. I haven't heard this is quite a long time. Pretty much dominant. (PM-OR)

549 2XC NZ, Radio Rhema here // to 540, but weaker at 1302 8/10 +there w/soft Rel mx, later // with other outlets, 540, etc. at 1140 UTC 8/12 (PM-OR)

550 KMVI HAWAII, Wailuku, very strong with Sports Talk at 0828 UTC 8/12. Best heard in a long time. (PM-OR)

558 Radio Fiji FIJI, very good and nice Island mx with occasional man in Fijian from 1230-1330 UTC on 8/10 (PM-OR)
+there with Island (local) mx and man in Fijian at 1023 8/12.

567 GUAM, Agana, KGUM, presume the source of the U.S. sounding talk show at 1240 UTC 8/12, u/o 2YA 8/12 (PM-OR)

567 2YA NZ, Wellington (presumed) with the MOR mx in passing several times 1240-1320 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)
+presumed the MOR mx at 1149 UTC 8/12.

570 KQNG HAWAII, Lihue, good and dominant with talk at 0856 8/12, local spots and "KONG" IDs. Best heard in a long time too.

576 2RN AUSTRALIA, Sydney, was looking again for Southern Star-Hamilton, but only 2RN was there, mentioned Australian Eastern Time and the ABC at 1310 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)

576 UNID Fairly strong open carrier noted here most of the night from 0900-1300 UTC, finally some 2RN in there near local SR.

585 2XR? NZ, Ruatoria, prob the one with Maori type lang here at 1257 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)

590 KSSK HAWAII, Honolulu, very good and on top of KUGN with Beatles mx and "59, KSSK" IDs, Spot for Ala Moana Shopping Center good at several rechecks for 0915 UTC 8/12 (PM-OR)

594 3WV AUSTRALIA, Horsham weak with ABC News noted at 1303 8/10 in passing. (PM-OR)

594 UNID man talking with native type mx, Pacific Island stuff, but very weak in 590 KSSK splash at 0925 8/12. Is Niue on at this time? (PM-OR)

603 1XO? NEW ZEALAND, presume the source of the native talk, prob Maori at 0814 8/12. (PM-OR)

612 4QR AUSTRALIA, Brisbane, very strong, the best DU of the morning with discussion pgm at 1310 UTC 8/10. (PM-OR)

612 UNID w/Pop mx very weak at 0850 8/12. (PM-OR)

620 KIPA HAWAII, Hilo, very strong and totally dominant over KEWS with NOS mx, KIPA promo at 0930 UTC 8/12 (PM-OR)

621 T2U2 TUVALU, presume the source of the strong het on KIPA, with weak bits of Island mx and woman ancr in native lang at 0830 UTC 8/12. (PM-OR)

639 2CS AUSTRALIA, Coffs Harbour NSW, very good too with talk show at 1315 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)

639 UNID Station w/weak signal here at 1005 8/12. (PM-OR)

648 2NU AUSTRALIA, Tamworth, NSW, weak w/ABC News at 1304 UTC 8/10 in passing. (PM-OR)

657 Southern Star?, NZ, Wellington, presumed the soft Christian type mx at 1312 UTC 8/10. No anmts as usual. (PM-OR)
+presume "Southern Star" with soft Christian EZL mx in passing at 1046 UTC 8/12 (PM-OR)

666 NEW CALEDONIA, Noumea, weak FF talk at 0940 8/12 mostly in the mud. (PM-OR)

670 KPUA HAWAII, Hilo, good with ID at 1000 UTC 8/12 (PM-OR)

693 UNID Woman ancr in EE, but could not bring the signal strong enough to know what was being talked about at 1320 UTC-8/10 +Sounded like Telephone talk format at 1030 UTC 8/12, didn't sound like Sports though. (PM-OR)

702 2BL AUSTRALIA, Sydney, very good o/Radio Pacific with ARC Nx at 1301 UTC 8/10 (PM-R)

- +Prob the one with telephone talk as early at 0635 UTC 8/12.
- 711 Radio Pacific - NZ, Wellington //to 702 but lost in the splash at 1301 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)
+sounded // to 702 kHz 0748 8/12 (PM-OR)
- 720 KUAI - HAWAII, Eleele, good and totally alone at 0650 UTC 8/12, no sign of Las Vegas. Very strong AU CX. (PM-OR)
- 729 5RN - AUSTRALIA, Brisbane, weak with soft clas. type mx at UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)
- 729 UNID station here at 0836 UTC 8/12. (PM-OR)
- 738 Radio Tahiti, very very good and arm chair copy all morning with great island mx along with man and woman in FF at 1230-1330 UTC 8/10. This one can be a "powerhouse" when cx are good. Replacing their TX a few years back really made a difference! (PM-OR)
+"Gangbuster signal" here with great Island mx and woman in FF, all night. Heard as early at 0530 UTC to LSR. They sure are good after they got the new TX. (PM-OR)
- 747 No sign of Samoa here while checking after hearing 540. They must have been off. (PM-OR)
- 756 NEW ZEALAND, Auckland-1YA, fair in local buzz most of the night. My interference seems to peak in the 750-800 range. (PM-OR)
- 783 Samoan Capital Radio, NZ, Wellington, very good off and on with woman talking about Samoan language and where certain words came from in EE and Samoan at 1255 UTC 8/10. (PM-OR)
- 792 4RN AUSTRALIA, Brisbane, good //576 kHz at 1306 UTC 8/10 +good at 1300 with local anmt 8/12
- 819 UNID DU weak in splash at 1311 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)
- 830 HAWAII, Honolulu-KHVH, good with talk and "KHVH" IDs, noted several times in passing on 8/12. (PM-OR)
- 870 HAWAII, Honolulu-KAIM, another one all alone most of the night 8/12. (PM-OR)
- 882 UNID most of the night 8/12. No ID heard (PM-OR)
- 891 FIJI, Lautoka, good with Hindi mx and Hindi ancr at 1020 8/12. Best heard in a long time. (PM-OR)
- 891 2XW NZ, Wellington "The Breeze" good on top of 5AN with anmt about Wellington at 1322 UTC 8/10. Nice signal briefly. (PM-OR)
- 900 KNUI HI, Kahalui, very strong at 1245 UTC 8/10 with nice Hawaiian pop mx. Best heard in a while. No sign of CJVI at the time.
+Kahalui, very good and all alone from 0630-1000 UTC 8/12, great Hawaiian mx. After 1000 UTC I was getting a bit more CJVI in there. (PM-OR)
- 909 Southern Star - NZ, presumed the source of E2L Christian type mx at 1309 UTC 8/10 (PM-OR)
- 909 UNID, station in 910 splash most of the night, prob NZ I would guess. (PM-OR)
- 1017 TONGA, good in local buzz with man in presumed Tongan at 0912 UTC 8/12. (PM-OR)
- 1503 UNID, station with woman ancr in native type language of some kind at 0910 UTC 8/12. Lots of US pop mx and Rap stuff. Any ideas who is here now? Not NZ or Australia, a bit early for the Philippines I think, and the lang did not sound Tagalog. Has anyone else heard something like this here. I taped it and need to listen to it again. (PM-OR)

DX WORLDWIDE EAST

*** Summer 2000 Roadtrip DX Report #2 ***

[Connelly*E-MA] = Eastham, Cape Cod, MA (GC= 69.962 W / 41.819 N)
(Fort Hill Park)

[Connelly*G-MA] = Gloucester, MA (GC= 70.635 W / 42.604 N)
(Oceanview Inn: 171 Atlantic Ave.)

[Connelly*O-MA] = South Orleans, Cape Cod, MA (GC=69.991 W/41.735 N)
(Town Landing / beach, off Route 28, 0.3 km N of Tar Kiln Road)

[Connelly*R-MA] = Rockport, MA (GC= 70.622 W / 42.667 N)
(Granite Pier)

Receiver: Drake R8A

Antenna system: cardioid array with APW-1 active whip, BBL-1
broadband loop, and Superphaser-1 phasing unit

*** TRANS-ATLANTIC DX ***

- 531 ALGERIA Ain-El-Beida, AUG 6 0017 - // 549 with emotional Arabic male vocal; over Spain. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 549 ALGERIA Les Trembles, AUG 6 0017 - Arabic male vocal and strings; loud, over others. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 567 IRELAND RTE, Tullamore, AUG 6 0014 - Elton John or similar vocal with piano, then woman in English; good.
+ AUG 6 0019 - Bing Crosby or similar 1940's nostalgic vocal with big-band jazz; good. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 576 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN RNE5 synchros, AUG 6 0009 - man with Spanish talk // 738, then vocal music; fair. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 585 SPAIN RNE1, Madrid, AUG 6 0008 - // 738 with music, Spanish talk; good. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN RNE1 synchros, AUG 6 0002 - Spanish news // 1413; to good peak despite strong WZON-620. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 639 SPAIN RNE1, La Coruna, AUG 6 0015 - dreamy new age music, then Spanish talk; over CBN het. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 648 SPAIN RNE1, Badajoz et al., AUG 6 0021 - poor with tropical jazz // stronger 639. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 657 SPAIN RNE5, Madrid, AUG 6 0022 - // 639 with bongo-drum jazz; fair, some WFAN slop. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 666 PORTUGAL RDP, Lisboa, AUG 6 0023 - // 836 with vocal & piano; poor. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 675 NETHERLANDS R. 10, Lopik, AUG 6 0028 - '70s disco, then Dutch talk; to fair peak, through WRKO slop. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 684 SPAIN RNE1, Sevilla, AUG 6 0027 - jazz // 576, 774: fair signal, but tough WRKO slop at times. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 693 UNITED KINGDOM BBC, Droitwich et al., AUG 6 0026 - news interview mentioning Russians; poor to fair over jumble of others. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 711.04 WESTERN SAHARA Laayoune, AUG 6 0025 - bits of Arabic talk; slopped. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 738 SPAIN RNE1, Barcelona, AUG 6 0008 - // 585 with Spanish talk and musical interludes; fair over CHCM slop. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR, Sottens, AUG 6 0007 - romantic 1950's style vocal; to fair peak. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 774 EGYPT Abis, AUG 6 0005 - Arabic female vocal and violins; crushing Spain ! [Connelly*E-MA]

- 774 SPAIN RNE1 synchros, AUG 6 0024 - // 576 with tropical jazz with organ, saxophone. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 783 SYRIA Tartus, AUG 6 0044 - Arabic vocal, strings, and drumming; rolling over Spain & Portugal. Good opening to the eastern end of the Mediterranean at the time. [Connelly*E-MA]
+ AUG 18 0059 - presumed this with chanting, talk, then military-style march / anthem at sign-off; carrier cut at 0100. One of the strongest TA's noted on the dial this evening during generally marginal conditions. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 836 AZORES RDP, Pico da Barrosa, AUG 5 2332 - emotional (almost operatic) female vocal and strings; poor. [Connelly*E-MA]
+ AUG 18 0220 - Portuguese talk; poor with het from Canaries-837. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 837 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros, AUG 6 0052 - Spanish talk by woman // 1296; poor. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 855 SPAIN RNE1, Murcia et al., AUG 5 2330 - man with Spanish newstalk; starting to fade up. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 864 EGYPT Santah, AUG 6 0045 - stern, serious Arabic talk (sermon ?) by man. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 882 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros, AUG 6 0034 - Spanish talk; over/under UK. [Connelly*E-MA]
+ AUG 18 0113 - Spanish teletalk; fair. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 882 UNITED KINGDOM BBC Wales, Washford, AUG 6 0034 - English talk; mixed with Canaries-Spain. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 891 ALGERIA Algiers, AUG 5 2329 - female Arabic vocal; fair with WBPS phased. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA Radiodif. Algerienne, Algiers, AUG 5 2327 - Arabic male vocal in deep baritone; poor to fair, separated from 980 mess by using the regenerative output stage in the Superphaser-1 phasing unit. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1026 SPAIN SER synchros, AUG 6 0035 - // 1575 with teletalk; poor. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1044 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, AUG 5 2321 - Arab string music, drums, vocal; to good peak atop Spain. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN SER synchros, AUG 6 0036 - // 1575 with '60s-type light pop music, then woman in Spanish; excellent. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM Talk Sport synchros, AUG 6 0038 - sports talk; fair with jumpy fades, WBAL phased. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1098 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, AUG 6 0039 - // 576 with Latin American style jazz (brass, flutes, conga drums, piano); good / dominant. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1107 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, AUG 6 0040 - // 1098 with tropical jazz. There was also a substantial-strength unmodulated carrier and bits of an Arabic station mixing in. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1116 SPAIN SER synchros, AUG 6 0042 - // 1044 with fast Spanish talk by man. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1125 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, AUG 6 0047 - // 738 with Spanish talk; poor with WBEB slop. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1206 unID AUG 6 0050 - Koranic vocal. Suspected to be Morocco, per information from European DXers. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1251 LIBYA Tripoli, AUG 5 2314 - man in Arabic, then a group vocal; fair audio on strong carrier about an hour before sunset. [Connelly*E-MA]
+ AUG 19 2352 - Arabic music; in slop. TA conditions below average tonight. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1296 SPAIN COPE, Valencia, AUG 6 0052 - // 837 with woman in Spanish; fair. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1314 NORWAY NRK, Kvitsoy, AUG 18 0133 - rock music, then man and woman in Norwegian; to good peak. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1359 SPAIN Arganda, AUG 6 0053 - bits of female vocal, then Spanish talk; badly chopped by CKBC. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1377 unID AUG 6 0055 - Middle Eastern sounding music with strings;

- poor. European DXers have suggested Prizren (Kosovo) as a possibility with its Albanian programming. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1385.92 GUINEA R. Rurale, Labe , AUG 19 2348 - African-accented French talk by man; poor to fair with WPLM phased. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1413 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, AUG 6 0002 - // 621 with Spanish news; mixing with second station. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1422 ALGERIA Algiers, AUG 5 2357 - monster carrier with thin (almost non-existent) audio; Germany audible well under. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1485 SPAIN SER synchros, AUG 5 2356 - // 1575 with light pop American-style female vocal, then man in Spanish; to good peak. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1512 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Jeddah, AUG 18 0136 - Koranic recitation; fair through WNRB slop. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Duba, AUG 5 2252 - male Koranic vocal; already very loud more than an hour before sunset ! It was at least 20 dB stronger than any other Trans-Atlantic signal noted at the time. [Connelly*E-MA]
- + AUG 19 2247 - het fade-in. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1521 SPAIN SER, Castellon, AUG 5 2351 - // 1575 with man & woman in Spanish; very good (Saudi off at this time)[Connelly*E-MA]
- 1530 SAO TOME E PRINCIPE VOA Relay, Pinheira, JUL 29 0300 - good (way over WSAI) at sign-on with Yankee Doodle marching band music and ID by man "This is the Voice of America". News followed. This was heard outside the Oceanview Inn in Gloucester, MA during Ben Dangerfield's visit to the area. [Connelly*G-MA]
- 1530 VATICAN Vatican R., AUG 5 2350 - interval music, then a woman gave "Radio Vaticana" ID; dominant with WDJZ/WVBF (both to the west) in cardioid array null. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1539 SPAIN SER, Manresa/Elche, AUG 5 2347 - // 1575 with SER Spanish newstalk; mixed with unID station (Germany ?). [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1548 KUWAIT VOA, Kuwait City, AUG 5 2341 - US man & woman with an interview: talk about someone who "died of a broken heart", then mention of "large amount of federal funding"; fair. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1550 ALGERIA RASD Clandestine, Tindouf, AUG 5 2345 - male Arabic talk, then a Berber female vocal with accompaniment by what sounded like a ram's horn (or synthesized imitation). Signal was good and actually aided by WNTN's blank carrier being present at about equal level (de facto "exalted carrier" audio enhancement during fades). Het from VOA-1548 reduced by tuning to higher side. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1566 unID AUG 19 2343 - bits of Mideast-sounding female vocal at low audio level; jumpy signal with polar-flutter type fade pattern. Probably Iran, though possibly India on greyline enhancement. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1575 SPAIN SER synchros, AUG 5 2347 - // 1539 with man & woman in Spanish; over apparent Arabic music station. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1583.6 CEUTA RadiOle, AUG 5 2254 - pop vocal; fair, fading up, hetted by SER-1584. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1602 SPAIN AUG 5 2300 - EI Vitoria and SER net stations at about equal strength. [Connelly*E-MA]

*** PAN-AMERICAN DX ***

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS R. Vision Cristiana, AUG 6 0018 - psalm with response sequence: repeatedly a man said a short sentence, then a woman responded with a similar length sentence; loud signal. [Connelly*E-MA]

+ AUG 19 2200 - Spanish religion noted weak on groundwave; over Weston, MA and Atlantic City, NJ TIS stations. [Connelly*O-MA]

555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ, Basseterre, AUG 6 0016 - Caribbean English talkshow; fair. [Connelly*E-MA]

+ AUG 20 0017 - bouncy soca vocal and a Caribbean DJ who frequently talked over the music. Good signal. [Connelly*O-MA]

580 PUERTO RICO WKAQ, San Juan, AUG 20 0015 - jazz interlude, then WKAQ jingle and Spanish talk mentioning several cities in Puerto Rico; good, dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]

600 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, AUG 20 0010 - // 710 with operatic male vocal; huge. [Connelly*O-MA]

630 CUBA R. Progreso, AUG 20 0114 - // 640 with old-fashioned slow male Spanish vocal; under WPRO/WSKN. [Connelly*O-MA]

630 PUERTO RICO WSKN, San Juan, AUG 20 0020 - Spanish discussion of local municipal governments and regional affairs; good with WPRO phased. [Connelly*O-MA]

640 CUBA R. Progreso, Guanabacoa / Las Tunas, AUG 20 0114 - romantic old-style vocal // 630; dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]

670 VENEZUELA R. Rumbos, YVLL, Caracas, AUG 20 0009 - Venezuela news; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]

680 PUERTO RICO WAPA, San Juan, AUG 20 0005 - Spanish news including a report about the sunken Russian nuclear submarine, then "Wapa" jingle and spoken ID; loud, actually over WRKO some of the time. [Connelly*O-MA]

690 ANGUIILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, AUG 20 0007 - strong and alone on channel with preacher (// 6090) who referred to "National Enquirer type journalism". [Connelly*O-MA]

710 CUBA R. Rebelde synchros, AUG 20 0010 - // 600 with operatic vocal; under WOR. [Connelly*O-MA]

750 VENEZUELA RCR, YVKS, Caracas, AUG 18 0110 - Caracas newstalk, RCR ID; good. [Connelly*R-MA]

760 BRAZIL R. Record, ZYH888, Fortaleza, AUG 18 0102 - Portuguese preaching, folk-style hymn; briefly good over apparent Guyana. Later the channel became a total jumble. [Connelly*R-MA]

760 COLOMBIA RCN, HJAJ, Barranquilla, AUG 20 0126 - // 770 with news in Spanish about Colombia; atop Cuban Reloj and low growl. [Connelly*O-MA]

760 CUBA R. Reloj, Las Mercedes & Guanabacoa, AUG 20 0001 - Reloj ticks and beeps; in mess. [Connelly*O-MA]

770 COLOMBIA RCN, HJJK, Bogota, AUG 20 0127 - // 760 with Colombian news; under WABC. [Connelly*O-MA]

780 VENEZUELA R. Coro, YVMN, Coro, AUG 20 0112 - Radio Coro ID emerged out of a huge pile-up of Latin American signals. [Connelly*O-MA]

810 BAHAMAS ZNS3, Freeport, AUG 20 0111 - US-type soul vocal, then black DJ took phone calls from local listeners; over/under WGY. [Connelly*O-MA]

830 ST. KITTS & NEVIS TBN, Basseterre, AUG 18 0112 - // 7510 with black Baptist preacher; over WCRN/CFJR. [Connelly*R-MA]

910 VENEZUELA RQ-910, YVRQ, Caracas, AUG 20 0024 - 'erreh-coo' (RQ) slogan, Spanish talk; atop jumble. [Connelly*O-MA]

940 CUBA R. Reloj, AUG 20 0123 - Reloj program slugging it out with CINW/WIER/YVMN mix. [Connelly*O-MA]

1020 VENEZUELA Mundial Margarita, YVRS, La Asuncion, AUG 20 0031 - brassy salsa music; loud. [Connelly*O-MA]

1060.3 COLOMBIA unID city, AUG 20 0121 - news in Spanish with many Bogota mentions; to good peak over 300 Hz het from KYW and Cuba on 1060.0. I'm now 99% sure that this chronically-off-channel station is a Colombian, but the "which one" question still remains until a positive ID is heard. [Connelly*O-MA]

1080 VENEZUELA R. Barcelona, YVQJ, Barcelona, AUG 19 2357 - Radio

- Barcelona ID; fair, dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1090 VENEZUELA Union R., YVSZ, Caracas, AUG 18 0047 - Union Radio mention, fast newstalk; good, over WBAL. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1100 ANTIGUA R. ZDK, St. John's, AUG 18 0044 - Caribbean accent talkshow, local commercial; good, over low growl. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1110 VENEZUELA R. Carupano, YVQT, Carupano, AUG 18 0054 - "en Carupano !" mention, into romantic adult-contemporary vocal; excellent. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1140 VENEZUELA La Voz del Caribe, Porlamar, AUG 19 2335 - announcer said "Buenos noches Porlamar."; over growl from unID on 1139.59. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1170 COLOMBIA CARACOL, HJNW, Cartagena, AUG 18 0150 - Colombia news; dominant. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1200 VENEZUELA YVOZ, Caracas, AUG 18 0059 - Radiotiempo ID through nulled WKOX. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1210 VENEZUELA R. Anzoategui, YVZT, Barcelona, AUG 19 2324 - local ads; mixing with WPHT.
+ AUG 19 2337 - "Anzoategui AM" slogan; good with WPHT nulled. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1280 BERMUDA VSB2, Hamilton, AUG 19 2350 - hymn by choir; good, way over WADO/WFAU/WEIM pile. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1375.02 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO, AUG 6 0054 - Caribbean style (soca / zouk) music; good. [Connelly*E-MA]
- 1500 VENEZUELA R. Dos Mil, YVRZ, Cumana, AUG 19 2340 - romantic ballad, then a "Dos Mil" slogan; over WTOP. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1580 COLOMBIA HJQZ, Barranquilla, AUG 18 0140 - Spanish talk, Barranquilla mentions; mixed with 1 or 2 other Latin Americans. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1630 ARGENTINA R. Red 92, Buenos Aires, AUG 20 0117 - Spanish pop vocal, talk; slightly over unID US station. [Connelly*O-MA]
- *****

WESTERN DX FORUM

TEMP EDITOR: Phil Bytheway - 9705 Mary NW - Seattle WA 98117-2334
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Your WDXF Editor - I will be on an extended vacation from Labor Day thru the middle to late October and Phil Bytheway has graciously offered to handle the WDXF during that time - so send your WDXF submittals to him. Wife and I will be motoring across the USA and back. It's something I promised several years ago and now is the time.

Martin Greer, 38 Brougham St, West-Launceston, Tasmania 7250, Australia

[7/30] Hello from Down Under - I suppose the time is appropriate to send in a muse as it is some 47 days as I write until the 2000 Olympics in Sydney. An important part in this year's event will be the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's role communicating to Australia and also via Radio Australia to the world. For those who DX the medium waves, stations known as metropolitan and regional ABC networks (refer to current WRTH) lists what those stations are. Going on past Olympics, the ABC should be broadcasting around 24 hours a day starting from beginning of the event until its last day (The ABC is not the host TV broadcaster, but the 7 Network is to cover that). Trying to get a DX report to what ever station that may be listened to may be a bit of a problem as far as what its content

may be. The best address particularly during the games is to send reports to the ABC - Sydney address. The Parliamentary News Network may do some coverage also. As far as the commercial stations that may do some broadcasting of events; In Sydney 2GB on 873 kHz and 2UE on 964 kHz may be a couple to have a go for also. Before the Olympics - a couple of National Football Grand Finals will be played, these being the Australian Football League or colloquially known as Aussie Rules and also the National Rugby League. The Grand Finals of these events have been brought forward about a month earlier than usual as a direct result of the Games. That's all for now and good listening.

Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504 818-845-1744

[8/11] Hello. Just called Clear Channel here locally to inquire about an upcoming change. They're FM 103.1 KACD AAA format is being sold (to be Spanish) and in local audio story, mention was that format of KACD will be on internet plus on 850 KBET, Thousand Oaks. A sad note - I has a feeling to call Radio A Go Go hotline (818-623-7098) an found out KRLA has cancelled it, probably due to station being sold. Another note on 1500 KRCK - possible testing to take place on 1620, not 1500. Test would cause interference with 2 TIS stations, Beverly Hills WPDY857 and Anaheim WPIE851. In case anyone needs contacts for last 2, they are for Anaheim - John Lower, 714-765-5202, and Beverly Hills - 310-285-1025. Came across old DXms 1/89 + some 88's; sure brought back memories. Present job hours are F-Sun 10P-4A. No real dx time but I try. Saw a PO Box for Ted Flieschaker but unsure if it's valid. Have heard Greg Hardison mentioned on KFI. Just called to ask, was told he's on overnights weekends as a board op. 73

HEARING IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

Editor: Eric Bueneman (NOUIH), 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood, MO 63042-1347
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Welcome to another edition of The Grapevine! First of all, I'd like to thank those who have nominated me for the TVA, it's very much appreciated! Best of luck to all the nominees for the TVA and the RHA. In this edition of The Grapevine, our Featured Frequency is 1010 kHz, our Featured State is Ohio, and our Featured Province is Manitoba. In addition, our ten most productive U.S. states on the AM Broadcast Band is featured.

FEATURED FREQUENCY: 1010 kHz

Tim Hall, Chula Vista, CA

KSYG Little Rock, AR: Heard on a DX test (station now on 103.7 MHz)
KXEG Tolleson, AZ: Once a nightly catch, now rare
KCHJ Delano, CA: Pest
KPSL Palm Springs, CA: Occasional catch
KIQI San Francisco, CA: Rare catch
KSIR Brush, CO: Occasional sunrise catch
KDJW Amarillo, TX: Occasionally in the 1980s
CBR Calgary, AB: Once a nightly catch, now just occasional.
XEDX Ensenada, Baja California Norte: Pest
XELO Chihuahua, Chihuahua: Rare
XEVK Gomez Palacio, Durango: Rare

XEHL Guadalajara, Jalisco: Occasional catch
XEWX Culiacan, Sinaloa: Rare

Mike Sanburn, Bellflower, CA

KCHJ Delano, CA: Frequently since 1972
KCMJ Palm Springs, CA: Days in 1974
KIQI San Francisco, CA: Rare at sunset
KDJW Amarillo, TX: Heard in 1976
KXEG Tolleson, AZ: Logged in 1990
CBR Calgary, AB: Huge in 1973
CFRB Toronto, ON: Heard in 1976
XEDX Ensenada, BCN: Often day and night

John Tudenham (W0JRP), Joplin, MO (Welcome!)

KIND Independence, KS: Over KXEN days
KXEN Festus/St. Louis, MO: Strong at sunset
KSIR Brush, CO: Heard at Colorado sunset
KDJW Amarillo, TX: heard once in 1995
CFRB Toronto, ON: Heard frequently at night

Eric Bueneman (N0UIH), Hazelwood, MO

KXEN Festus/St. Louis, MO: Local station, nullable at night
KSIR Brush, CO: Occasional catch after KXEN sign-off
WGUN Atlanta, GA: Occasionally at sunrise before KXEN sign-on
KDLA DeRidder, LA: DX Test on January 15, 1994
WINS New York, NY: Occasional catch after KXEN sign-off
WFGW Black Mountain, NC: Heard December 30, 1993 before KXEN sign-on
WORM Savannah, TN: Regular catch after KXEN sign-off
CFRB Toronto, ON: Occasional catch after KXEN sign-off

FEATURED STATE: Ohio

Tim Hall, Chula Vista, CA

WLW - 700 Cincinnati: Once common, now rare.
WWWE/WTAM-1100 Cleveland: Audible with XEPRS-1090 off.
WGAR/WKNR-1220 Cleveland: Occasional catch in the 1980s.
WCKY/WSAI-1530 Cincinnati: Occasional catch
WCNW-1560 Fairfield: Heard on PSRA power at beverage site!

Mike Sanburn, Bellflower, CA

WLW - 700 Cincinnati: Occasionally on winter nights
WCKY-1530 (now WSAI) Cincinnati: Heard in the 1970s with KFBK off

Eric Bueneman (N0UIH), Hazelwood, MO

WLW - 700 Cincinnati: Fair days with KSTL-690 splash, dominant at night
WKVX- 960 Wooster: Heard November 18, 1993 at night
WONE- 980 Dayton: Occasional nighttime catch since 1999 through KSGM
WTAM-1100 Cleveland: Weak days, dominant at night
WKNR-1220 Cleveland: Good signals at night
WHIO-1290 Dayton: Nightly with WIRL/KKAR
WSAI/WAOZ/WAZU/WCKY-1360 Cincinnati: Good, sometimes dominant at night
WSPD-1370 Toledo: Heard December 20, 1993 at night
WING-1410 Dayton: Nightly with WIZM
WCKY/WSAI-1530 Cincinnati: Dominant at night

WVKO-1580 Columbus: Heard December 14, 1993 at night

FEATURED PROVINCE: Manitoba
Tim Hall, Chula Vista, CA

CKJS- 810 Winnipeg: Occasional catch in the 1980s with KGO off
CBW - 990 Winnipeg: Occasional catch in the pre-sunrise hours
CJRB-1220 Boissevain: Logged once at sunrise

Eric Bueneman (NOUIH), Hazelwood, MO

CKY - 580 Winnipeg: Occasionally at night
CKRC- 630 Winnipeg: Heard May 2, 1994 at night before KJSL signed on
CJOB- 680 Winnipeg: Occasionally at night with WJCE
CKLQ- 880 Brandon: Heard November 2, 1993 at night
CFAM- 950 Altona: Heard May 26, 1997 at night
CBW - 990 Winnipeg: Dominant at night
CKSB-1050 St. Boniface: Occasionally at night through XEG
CKX -1150 Brandon: DX Test on December 6, 1993 (now CKXA-101.1 MHz)
CJRB-1220 Boissevain: Occasionally at night through WKNR

TEN MOST PRODUCTIVE STATES ON AM

John Tudenham (WOJRP), Joplin, MO

1. Missouri (69 stations); 2. Texas (56); 3. Kansas (31); 4.
Arkansas (30); 5. Illinois (28); 6. Oklahoma (27); 7. Tennessee
(25); 8. Iowa (23); 9. Colorado (18); 10. Alabama (17).

Eric Bueneman (NOUIH), Hazelwood, MO

1. Illinois (63 stations); 2. Missouri (45); 3. Texas (32); 4.
Tennessee (28); 5. Iowa (27); 6. Alabama (26); 7. Georgia (22);
(tie) Louisiana (22); 9. Florida (19); 10. Wisconsin (18).

That's going to do it for another edition of The Grapevine...thanks
for your continued support! With John Tudenham's logs, there's a big
contrast from one end of the Show-Me State to the other. While
John's Joplin QTH favors more of the Midwest and Southwest, my metro
St. Louis QTH favors the Southeast, Midwest and Great Lakes. Believe
it or not, at my QTH, there's a three-way tie for eleventh position
(Indiana, Kentucky and New York, with 16 apiece).

Make sure you get to the IRCA Convention in Billings, MT the last
weekend in August! Unfortunately, I won't be able to make it because
of prior commitments. If you're in St. Louis on a Friday night this
summer, I will be heard doing a Modern Jazz show on WSIE (88.7 MHz)
Edwardsville, IL, 1900-2200 ELT (one hour earlier local time).

Continued from 37-21

SHORTWAVE

I mentioned previously that the directional characteristics of the an
tenna are noticeable all of the way to 5.100 MHz. I must say, though
that the terminated Beverage antennas, which are aimed directly at my
favorite Tropical Band targets, prove to be superior to the K9AY on
most occasions. However, since my Oklahoma beverages are over 500 fee
long and require significant portions of the cow pasture in which I
live, the fact that the Wellbrook K9AY works almost as well as my bev
erage array is really quite remarkable. In fact, the K9AY is the
first antenna, other than the beverages, on which I can successfully

DX the very unusual signals from Indian regional stations which may be heard here with great difficulty for about 30 minutes at dawn and dusk during the winter half of the year. Except for the Beverages, no other antenna, active or passive, has done as well as the K9AY at detecting these signals. In fact, the K9AY often "hears" the Indian signals as well as does the beverage array. The only difference is the K9AY tends to hear more band noise on these frequencies than does the very narrowly directional beverage. On the international shortwave bands above 5 MHz, the K9AY performs very well. It tends to be a very quiet antenna and does, I understand, offer some possibilities of nulling local noise even on these frequencies.

What I have not done yet, nor to my knowledge has anyone else, is cut a set of loops to the proper length to operate well on 60 meters. It is my understanding that the largest circumference loop that should be used for a particular frequency is 0.25 of the wavelength. For 60 meters, that would be about 49 feet or about 16 feet per side. My loop and most of the others currently in use are almost double that circumference. I look forward to some experimentation with smaller loops late this summer. Even using the oversized loops as at present, I likely would abandon my Beverages entirely, even for shortwave, were it not for my interest in the DXing the very difficult weak long-range signals from the Indian Subcontinent on the lower bands. I certainly don't expect to use my beverages here in Oklahoma for MW DXing in the future. I never thought that I'd say that.

THE "ULTIMATE" K9AY ANTENNA SYSTEM?

My use of the Wellbrook K9AY antenna here in Oklahoma rather closely models my use in the Pacific Northwest. In both cases, the DX signals of interest come from about 180 degrees of the horizon, while interfering signals almost all come from the back-side half-circle. Given that the deepest null of a cardioid pattern is fairly narrow, I began wondering if having four loops (eight directions) with one antenna for each 45 degrees of azimuth would be useful in real DXing situations. Despite laying myself open to further charges of obsessive/compulsive disorder, I figured that the additional cost would be worth it, if I could benefit from the additional directional choices at least ten percent of the time. Andy Ikin of Wellbrook was kind enough to provide me with an Operators Unit that can control two separate Antenna Head Units... one for each two loops. (All four loops are mounted on the same mast, making a nice Christmas tree.)

My only formal test of the 8-way vs. the 4-way system consisted of two pre-dawn hours DXing Mexican MW stations from here in central Oklahoma. I checked 12 different frequencies, most below 1000 kHz. Of those 12, having a choice at 45 degrees was a significant advantage on nine of the channels. The three where it "was not an advantage" were all stations which so dominated their frequencies that they were to tally dominant through 135 degrees of azimuth or so.

On the 9 channels where the 45 degree choice made a difference, it was ALWAYS the advantage of achieving a more complete null on the dominant signal to be able to hear the desired signal more clearly. It also seemed that this extra nulling capability was the most useful when trying to ID a station in the very worst pile-ups.

Assuming that the stations were evenly distributed around the horizon, the above leads me to believe that the extra two loops would make a difference on about 40% of my DX targets. In subsequent months, that 40% to 50% has proven to be the case. GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.

My findings make sense for people who DX MW, with the dense pile-ups coming from all angles of the compass. The cardioid pattern has a fairly sharp null and a very wide, more than semi-circular peak. I would guess that lowfers who DX NDBs would also find the extra null in control an advantage, though I don't know by how much.

OTHER NOTES

Both Bruce Portzer and I noticed a distinct directional "peak" in sensitivity while on our DXpedition. This was quite unexpected. The published horizontal (or azimuthal) sensitivity patterns of the K9AY antenna indicate a broad, even front lobe of almost 270 degrees of azimuth mated to a very sharp vee-shaped rearward null. That matches what we were hearing, except on weak signals which were otherwise in the clear. Sometimes, these stations were significantly stronger on just one wire. Since the wires were only 45 degrees apart in azimuth that really shouldn't have been happening. This effect was most noticeable on the 5 or so Russian long wave stations that we logged. Whether this was a unique effect of our superb ground plane or beach-front location, or whether this peak has been missed by DXers who are limited to only four directional choices, we had no way to determine. As other DXers with four-loop arrays gain experience, we should all be alert to this phenomenon.

Concerning the 4-loop array coupled with the DK9SQ antenna mast: the extra weight and downward tension from the extra two loops has caused my telescoping fiberglass mast to partly re-telescope during two of our storms here in Oklahoma. I had no such trouble when I had only two loops of 20 gauge wire up. After having the same thing happen the first night on the Washington coast, I secured each joint of the telescope with a stainless steel hose clamp. Problem solved.

I should also note that the experience with K9AYs at the Newfoundland DXpeditions, while good, do not appear to have been quite so wonderful as mine. My guess is that differing ground conditions may be to blame. The ground plane in Oklahoma was excellent: very moist clay. The ground in Washington was even better: Sandy soil completely saturated with brackish water. Ground conditions at the site in Newfoundland are a mixture of dry sandy soil and rock, as I remember. I am unsure whether the K9AYs in Newfoundland were amplified, as is the Wellbrook version. The Wellbrook amplifier seems to not be needed much when doing domestic/Mexican DX here in Oklahoma, but it made a world of difference in hearing weak trans-Pacific signals on the Washington Coast. Also, Jean Burnell noted that their 2500 foot beverage was always superior (on MW) to any other antenna for the direction in which it was pointed. I'm sure that is true. I don't ever expect to entirely give up my addiction to beverage antennas. When I have the opportunity to string out at least 1500 or more feet of wire toward an area of interest, I'm certainly going to do so. Unfortunately, those opportunities are very rare, even here in the world's largest cow pasture. CONCLUSION

The K9AY antenna as produced by Wellbrook Communications is a marvelous antenna for medium and long wave DXing. Even though I have not used a K9AY antenna cut for shortwave frequencies, my medium wave version is second only to my 500 foot beverage antennas when DXing the Tropical Bands. The Wellbrook units are very well built and appear to be optimized for the needs of serious DXers. I recommend the Wellbrook K9AY enthusiastically and without reservation.

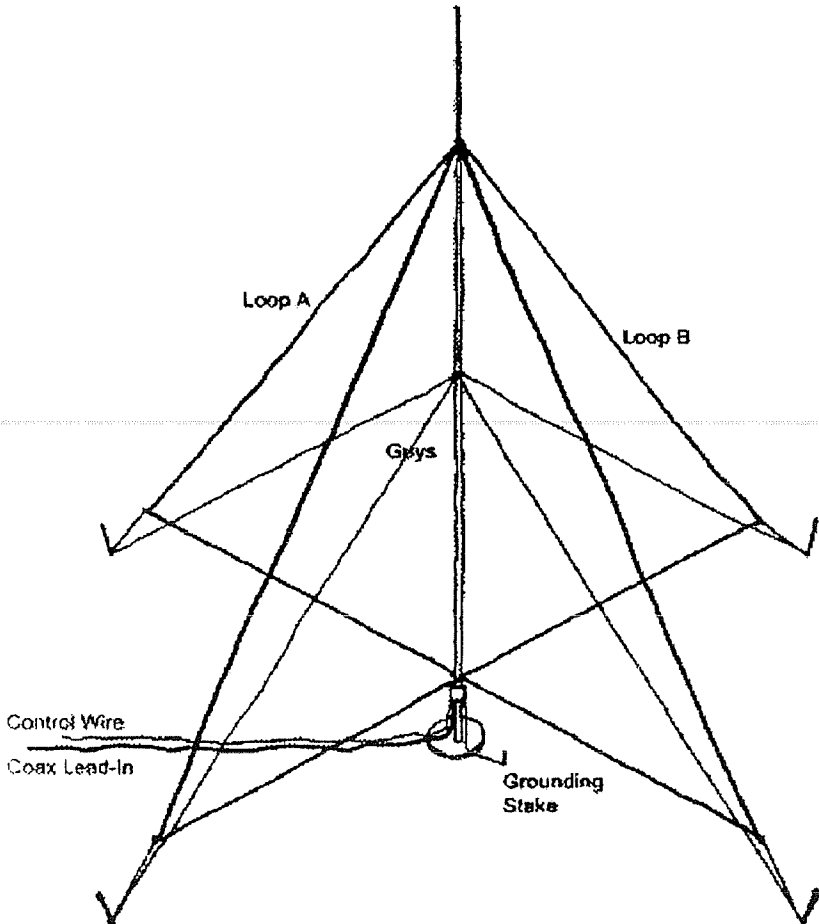
The only current source for the Wellbrook version of the K9AY Antenna is from the manufacturer:

Wellbrook Communications
Wellbrook House, Brookside Road,
Bransgore, Christchurch, Dorset
BH23 8NA. UK.

Tel. 01425 674174 (International: +44 1425 674174)
URL <<http://www.wellbrook.uk.com>>

The proprietor of Wellbrook is Andy Ikin and he is one of the "good
guys": e-mail sales@wellbrook.uk.com or aikin@globalnet.co.uk

The DK93Q telescoping mast may be obtained in North America at:
<http://www.bright.net/~kanga/kanga/dk93q.htm>



TYPICAL K9AY ANTENNA INSTALLATION

Nick Hall-Patch, 1538 Amphion St., Victoria, B.C., Canada V8R 4Z6

Using the A-index to predict good propagation?

As was mentioned in "Signal Strength Recording as an Aid to Propagation Studies" in DX Monitor, Volume 37, Number 5 and 6, I have been using a computer controlled radio to continuously record signal strengths of various DX stations from Victoria, B.C. So far, I have seriously analyzed only receptions from HLAZ-1566, and almost all receptions of that station over the period from September 1997 to March 2000 occurred in the hour previous to receiver sunrise.

In an effort to understand why sunrise enhancement occurs on some mornings and not others, I tabulated the dates of the strongest enhancements over this period, and attempted to correlate these dates at least with geomagnetic activity by using the planetary A index Ap. Other than the rather bizarre observation that the 30th of November seems to have been a good morning for East Asian DX for each of the last three years, I have not yet been able to find any obvious common circumstances behind each of these good openings. Table 1 doesn't really show us that these good DX mornings were related to geomagnetic activity or its lack, beyond the fact that no openings occurred as a major geomagnetic storm was taking place, i.e. the Ap index was not greater than 36 on the date of reception.

The rule of thumb that good high latitude conditions are preceded by prolonged periods of geomagnetic quiet has been popular among medium wave DXers, but is not borne out by this data. The rule is likely more applicable to paths through the auroral zone, such as those between western North America and Europe. It should be noted that the path from eastern Asia to the Pacific Northwest, although high latitude, runs to the south of that zone, so we really should not expect much absorption of signals from auroral activity except during geomagnetically stormy periods. However, that relatively clear path doesn't seem to guarantee good receptions. In fact, the last two weeks of December 1997 had quiet enough geomagnetic conditions to allow many receptions in Europe of western North American MW stations, yet good reception of HLAZ was limited to a single date during that period, so something other than a quiet geomagnetic field must determine reception of that station.

One could observe that the slightly fewer good openings in the last two DX seasons compared with the '97-98 season corresponded with increasing solar and geomagnetic activity as we approach the peak of the solar cycle, but it should also be noted that the strongest enhancement of HLAZ over the entire monitoring period was on 25 January 2000, after periods of minor geomagnetic storminess during the previous two days.

[Table 1 can be seen on the web edition of the column
<http://www3.telus.net/7dxr/ircatech/Ap4.pdf>]

Table 1-average geomagnetic activity for previous 3 days, and for each day of every major sunrise enhancement of HLAZ-1566 in Victoria, B.C. 1997-2000

About 75% of these openings occurred when the solar flux was decreasing, and there does seem to be a preponderance in the above data set of good openings that recur after approximately one month, but any relationship between solar activity and sunrise enhanced signals seems difficult to establish. For example, the one month repetition rate in good receptions seems to be closer to 30 days rather to the solar equatorial rotation period of roughly 27 days. Unless someone wants to argue for a lunar influence on radio propagation, it's not certain where that leads us.

Selections from the Internet

Vactrol replacements

Hermod Pedersen (hermod.pedersen@sydsvenskan.se) in a recent submission to the Topband Reflector (a 160 meter radio amateur group, information at <http://www.contesting.com/FAQ/topband/>), pointed out that the Vactrol optocoupler used in Steve Byan's remotely terminated Beverage antenna design (http://www.ultranet.com/~oakridge/Beverage_info/RCT_Beverage/RCT_Beverage.html) and in some versions of the K9AY loop, has been discontinued. The company told him:

"The VTL3A series incandescent optocouplers were discontinued about 5-7 years ago. We do not have a direct replacement part. The only optocouplers we are making today are LED units. You could try our competitor Clairex at <http://www.clairerx.com>. They have a part CLM310 that might be a close equivalent to our VTL3A27."

Unfortunately, there was no response from that group from anyone having experience with the Clairex unit. Mark Connelly describes how he is successfully using one of the LED style Vactrols for a variable termination of a Pennant antenna at <http://members.aol.com/DXerCapeCod/pennant.htm> I believe that Steve Byan originally specified the incandescent Vactrols because they were less susceptible to static discharge. The LED optocouplers are available from Allied Electronics (<http://www.alliedelec.com/>), and Hermod mentioned in his submission that they carried the following units: (Allied part no.) 980-0700 VTL5C1 (200 - 600 ohms for 40 to 10 ma input), 980-0705 VTL5C2 (200 - 800 ohms), 980-0715 VTL5C4 (75 - 125 ohms). Mark uses the latter one in his design.

Incidentally, Mark's Pennant article is very thorough and informative, so look at it if you have the chance. Mark also mentions that the July 2000 issue of QST has an article "Flags, Pennants and Other Ground-Independent Low Band Receiving Antennas" which provides more information on these antennas. (the Technical Column of Vol 37 #14 gave a rundown of them too)

Digital signal processing of recorded DX

Those of you with sound cards in your computers know that you can record and play back sound files; the exchange of such files with e-mail has enabled radio listeners to receive nearly instant identification of DX from listeners in other parts of the world. In a submission to Hard-Core DX

(<http://www.kotalampi.com/hard-core-dx/>), Bruce Portzer (bportzer@home.com) mentioned the following tip:

"I've been trying DSP software on some old DX recordings. The two programs I've tried are DARTpro32 (<http://www.dartpro.com/Products/New.asp>) and Pristine Sounds 2000 (<http://www.alienconnections.com/>). Both are loaded with audio processing features and sell for about US \$100. You can download shareware versions from their web sites, the evaluation versions limit you to 30 seconds per recording but you can try most of the other features.

Both programs are good at improving the subjective listening quality of the recordings, in terms of reducing tape hiss, adjacent channel interference, atmospheric noise, and possibly electrical noise. However, you have to experiment with the settings many times before you get decent results (it's a lot easier to make a recording sound worse than it is to make it sound better!) Although the programs do make the recordings sound "cleaner", I've found very little improvement in readability. Sometimes there's a word or two I wasn't sure about that's now distinct, but that's about it."

This was in reply to a question from Guido Schotmans, who said that he had tried the following software for this purpose: Chroma Sound (<http://www.siliconpixels.com>), Swezey DSP (<http://www.winternet.com/~swezeyt/dsp.htm>), and CoolEdit (<http://www.synttrillium.com/cep/prodemo.htm>)

Jari Lehtinen (jln@jln.pp.fi), also contributing to HCDX, had this to say:

"I have been using CoolEdit96 as well as Goldwave and created a small DX-multimedia by digitizing audio samples with both tools. I noticed one important difference between Goldwave and Cooledit. In my ears - and probably with other ears too - CoolEdit noise reduction doesn't remove the background noise - especially if the original noise level is quite high, as it is in many DX situations. Cool Edit introduces a kind of "musical noise" in the background. If you didn't know the circumstances of recording, you would say that another station has suddenly appeared in the background, instead of white/brown/insert-your-favourite-colour-here noise. With different settings the result might be different. I am not saying that I am an expert with CoolEdit functions.

With Goldwave, the passband function is very helpful, and unlike CoolEdit, the depth of noise blanking gives a real digital-like reduction here. Practical example was the recording of Radio Morobe that suffered from low level atmospheric noise and crashes, and also from about 1.4 kHz tone. After editing the recording with Goldwave passband, ie. removing everything under 500 Hz and over 1 kHz, the voice of female announcer was stunningly clear compared to the original. Naturally, with just 500 Hz of audio frequency left, the sound was "narrow", but the readability improved drastically.

I would recommend Goldwave. At least I found its functions easy to learn and useful in practical situations. Goldwave is available from <http://www.goldwave.com/> and various shareware download sites.

In another submission to HCDX, Vittorio De Tomasi (vdetomasi@tiscalinet.it) mentions:

"I did several experiments with homemade DSP systems and software to clean up DX recordings, with mixed results. The main reason is that the speech, music and so on that one wants to clarify is quite difficult to describe mathematically. The mathematical model of the signal used in much DSP is not sophisticated enough, and tries to describe the frequency spectrum of an incoming signal with a short polynomial approximation. The story is quite different if you want to process a CW signal; in that case you easily get very good results, because the signal model fits very well with the recorded signal!

I usually prefer to apply a properly cut band pass filter to the signal I receive. The sharp edges you can get from a DSP filter help a lot to remove noise without losing signal, and usually this is better than an adaptive noise reduction filter.

Adaptive noise reduction ("LMS" filters) work reasonably well on voice signals, but they need enough signal level to work, otherwise the filter will not be able to track the incoming signal. This type of filter works much better if a good AGC is placed in front of it (an audio AGC, not the RF one). [ed. note: "LMS", or "least mean square" filters work by comparing signal samples with previous digitally filtered samples to find the portion of the signal which is common to, or correlated, in all signal samples. The error signal generated by this comparison is then used to continually adjust the digital filter so that the error signal is minimized. The less error signal there is, the more the desired signal is in the clear]

I also tried frequency clipping (or spectral subtraction) filters

(so called Noise and Interference Reduction or "NIR" filters; a poor implementation is available in CoolEdit), but have found them inferior to adaptive filters, because they add too many artifacts to the signal (this is a consequence of the way they work).

Unfortunately, DSP noise reduction filters are not too effective when they are used after an AM detector."

Hans van den Boogert also has some info about recording off shortwave with CoolEdit, and cleaning up the resulting audio files; see <http://www.swl.net/radiochina/cooking/index.html>

One other piece of audio touch-up software is Diamond Cut Audio Restoration Tools; further information at <http://store.yahoo.com/tracertek/diamcutaudre4.html>

* * * * *

Continuing in a digital vein, for an overview of Digital Audio Broadcast proposals (yes, there is a proposal for the AM band; if you think sideband splatter is bad now...), see the EDN magazine article at http://www.ednmag.com/reg/1999/122399/26cs_sub2.htm More background information (bureaucratic perhaps, rather than technical) can be found at: <http://www.drm.org>

[Soft copy of the column is at:

<http://www3.telus.net/7dxr/ircatech/As&.pdf>]

FOR SALE - (send to phil b)

kevin redding - Mesa AZ - 1wdxer@juno.com

Superadio III's: I have two of the SRIII's for sale. One has the word "Superadio" on the front missing. It came off 100% during cleaning, otherwise its like it was new. The other is complete and fine.

GE Superadio III 7-2887 It is all there and all working. It has the dial calibrated as close as possible and works just fine. Have 6 D cells when it gets to your house for clean operation or plug it into the wall. AM /FM radio, black in color. Great on MW, good on FM. It runs a VERY long time on a set of batteries and sounds better than any other mono radio I have ever owned.

Price: \$30 +\$7 shipped in the USA. Canada may be a little more. The price is firm.

Radio Shack 12-656 TRF: [a real good set]

Radio Shack Realistic model 12-656A TRF radio. Working well and pretty sensitive. Black / tan color. AM only. Uses 4 C cells or AC.

Price: \$30 + \$7 shipped in the USA. Canada may be more. The price is firm.

I am not quitting DXing or anything like that, so don't ask. I just have lots of radios and don't use them. These are spares I have collecting dust. I am considering buying another radio but haven't decided yet. I figure there would be someone out there that can use them and would pay less than at the store or on e-bay where the price is bid way up so you can't afford to buy it.

Ping me at 1wdxer@juno.com if you are interested. First person who asks will get the first shot at it. I'll wait a week to see a check or money order and if I don't see it, then it goes back out for sale. If you live close enough and can pick it up, you can save on the shipping.

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

Tabulated from email status daily

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----|----|----|----------|------------------|------|
| 7/20 | 253 | 37 | 2 | mod-high | unsettled-mas | - 8 |
| 21 | 251 | 9 | 1 | mod-high | quiet-active | - 7 |
| 22 | 251 | 15 | 15 | mod-high | quiet-active | - 5 |
| 23 | 217 | 19 | 2 | moderate | quiet-active | - 7 |
| 24 | 225 | 7 | 2 | moderate | quiet-active | - 4 |
| 25 | 202 | 6 | 3 | moderate | quiet-unsettled | - 6 |
| 26 | 175 | 18 | 3 | moderate | unsettled-mis | - 10 |
| 27 | 162 | 7 | 2 | moderate | quiet-active | - 8 |
| 28 | 158 | 29 | 4 | low-mod | active-mis | - 6 |
| 29 | z | z | z | z | z | - 2 |
| 30 | z | z | z | z | z | - 2 |
| 7/31 | 148 | 17 | 3 | low | unsettled-active | - 5 |
| 8/ 1 | 149 | 13 | 4 | low | unsettled | - 8 |
| 2 | 151 | 13 | 3 | low | quiet-unsettled | - 9 |
| 3 | 154 | 11 | 3 | low | quiet-unsettled | - 6 |
| 4 | 154 | 19 | 2 | low | active-unsettled | - 8 |
| 5 | 159 | 29 | 4 | low | unsettled-active | - 7 |
| 6 | 166 | 18 | 2 | low | quiet-unsettled | - 8 |
| 7 | 167 | 8 | 2 | low | quiet-unsettled | - 7 |
| 8 | 170 | 7 | 2 | low-mod | quiet-unsettled | - 6 |
| 9 | 182 | 6 | 1 | low-mod | quiet-unsettled | - 4 |
| 10 | 181 | 26 | 5 | low-mod | active-mas | - 9 |
| 11 | 187 | 56 | 4 | low-mod | active-mas | - 6 |
| 12 | 189 | 64 | 4 | low-mod | unsettled-mis | - 7 |
| 13 | 186 | 13 | 2 | low-mod | quiet-unsettled | - 5 |
| 14 | 190 | 9 | 3 | low-mod | quiet-unsettled | - 6 |
| 15 | 194 | 12 | 2 | low-mod | quiet-unsettled | - 6 |
| 8/16 | 186 | 9 | 2 | low | quiet-unsettled | - 7 |

A DXers TECHNICAL GUIDE. Now in its 3rd edition (published early 1998), this 155 page book answers questions on receiver and antenna theory (how to improve their performance), how audio filters and loop antennas can improve DX (and hints on their construction), how to build a Beverage and phasing unit, and much more. Only \$10.00 for IRCA/NRC members, \$12.00 for non-members (overseas airmail add \$2.50).

IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334
(all checks payable to Phil Bytheway)

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Canada - DXM \$22.00, DXM/SDXM \$27.00

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Airmail (Central America, Caribbean) - DXM \$35.00, DXM/SDXM \$40.00

Airmail (Europe, North Africa, Middle East) - DXM - \$38.00,
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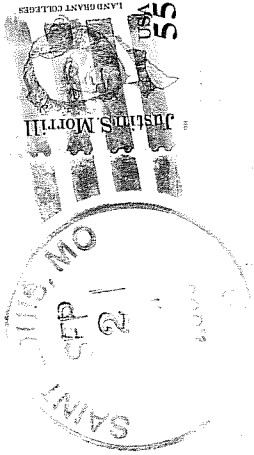
Airmail (rest of the World) - DXM - \$41.00, DXM/SDXM \$46.00

IRCA's web site check it out!!

<http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/5792/>

If you note any AM changes (call, format, slogan, etc), please send them to the NRC Log coordinator (Wayne Heinen) @ nrclog@aol.com

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THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA (IRCA)
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