



June 22, 2002 - Volume 39, Number 33b - Edition 1255b - ISSN 899-9733

Publisher's Notes

Congratulations to **Dave Hochfelder** and his bride, **Ann Pfau**, who are marrying today in Cincinnati, Ohio. No word as to whether he'll be DXing on the honeymoon... **Reid Wheeler** reminds us to get those ballots to him. Voting for the TVA and RHA awards ends July 1. If you didn't get your ballot, be sure and let me know ASAP... Welcome to new members **Roy H. Fisk** of Oakland, CA and **Lance Atchison** of San Francisco, CA. -- RT

A Get-together in Southern California

On July 20th 2002 at 6 pm there will be a casual all-radio-club get-together at the home of IRCA member **Steve Jarvis** (KG6GJM) at 9143 Belmont Street in Bellflower, California. The GTG includes backyard BBQ and DX and other activities... Bring snacks if you can. If you are planning on attending, contact Steve at stejarv@aol.com, and/or **Mike Sanburn** at mikesanburn@hotmail.com.

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Presidential MEMO

The following proposal is presented to the BOD for consideration:

20.1.6 Appoint **Brandon Jordan** Editor of the DXWW-E column. Brandon is rejoining IRCA and is the former editor of the column. Submitted by **Lee Freshwater**

PB	NHP	JJ	NJ	PM	MS	PT
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

PB- PHIL BYTHEWAY	NHP- NICK HALL-PATCH	JJ- JOHN JOHNSON
NJ- NANCY JOHNSON	PM- PAT MARTIN	MS- MIKE SANBURN
PT- PETE TAYLOR	Y= YES	N= NO
	A= ABSTAIN	

2002 IRCA Seattle Convention – Tukwila, WA August 16-18

The 2002 IRCA Convention will be held near Seattle WA on August 16-18th 2002. **Bruce Portzer** and **Phil Bytheway** will be your hosts.

The site is the "Towne and Country Suites", at 14800 Interurban Ave S, Tukwila WA 98168. Reservations at 1-800-545-2323; (be sure to mention IRCA discount). Room rates: \$69/night (single), \$83/night (double-triple). Registration will be \$30. Their web site is www.towneandcountryresuites.com.

Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334 will handle reservations (checks made out to Phil Bytheway). Ship auction items to: Bruce Portzer, 6546 19th Ave NE, Seattle WA 98115. If you have any questions/etc, contact Phil Bytheway (email phil_tekno@yahoo.com). More details as they happen. We look forward to seeing you here.

NRC Convention Labor Day Weekend in Lima, OH

Fred Vobbe is hosting this year's *National Radio Club* convention in Lima, Ohio. The convention starts Friday, August 30th, and runs until Monday, September 2nd.

Cost of the convention is \$40.00 per member, with a spouse or significant other at \$20.00. Both must register at the same time to take advantage of this special rate.

To book your hotel room, call the Hampton Inn direct at 419-225-8300. The Hampton Inn is located at 1933 Roschman Avenue, off the intersection of I75 and SR117/309. Mention "Code N.R.C." to get the special room rate of \$69.00 per night, plus 12% room tax.

If you have any questions or wish to register for the convention, contact Fred. His address is 706 Mackenzie Drive, Lima Ohio 45805-1835. You can contact him by telephone at 419-228-6223. The FAX number is 419-221-1609. E-mail him at fredv@nrctxas.org.

Auction goodies should be sent to Fred as well. More details, and an online registration form, can be found at <http://www.nrctxas.org/convention/02nrcccon/>.

WTFDA 2002 – Oklahoma City, July 26-28

John Zondlo, WTFDA 2002 Convention Host announces that WTFDA will hold their convention at the Hampton Inn, I-40/Garth Brooks in Yukon, OK. The special rate is \$55/night for 1 or 2 adults (kids stay free). You will need to call the Hampton Inn direct at (405) 350-6400 to make your reservation. Be sure to mention that you'll be there for the WTFDA convention. The reservation deadline is June 26 for this special rate!

For more info on the convention, check out the club website or FMDXWeb.com, e-mail him at Jzondlo@aol.com, send snail mail to 4009 Driftwood Circle, Yukon, OK 73099, or call me at (405) 354-1530.

Web Sites for AM DX Stuff

The **future of AM radio** is being debated in the UK as well as here; I found a link on the BBC web site on this subject. Should the band be used for specialized formats, community radio, or even for digital radio? Read the article "AM Radio Fights Back", http://newswww.bbc.net.uk/hi/english/entertainment/tv_and_radio/newsid_1944000/1944097.stm.

The **Canadian Broadcasting Company** has made its views known on the role digital radio will play, and for technical reasons, they do not see it happening on the AM or FM bands. In



particular, their view on why the United States is pursuing an in-band-on channel (IBOC) digital piggybacking on the existing AM and FM bands is enlightening. To paraphrase: *American broadcasters see a new "L" Band (1452-1492 MHz) digital service as competition to existing stations. Thus the intent to piggyback digital onto AM and FM bands.* They add: "Although it would be irresponsible to assume that a solution cannot be found, many radio people worldwide are skeptical that this American initiative can deliver significant improvements... As for AM?

Even the reduced bandwidth requirements of compressed digital radio signals may be more than this frequency range can reasonably provide, particularly if it is necessary to transmit both, conventional AM and IBOC digital in the same band. More over, local AM broadcasters are subject to severe interference from distant stations during the nighttime hours, which would seriously degrade digital radio Performance on this band. This means that any workable IBOC solution might only be usable in the FM band, which would effectively leave AM stations out in the cold. Thus, current disparities between AM and FM stations - which have devastated AM operators in the unregulated American marketplace - would only be heightened by such an approach." The report can be found at <http://radioworks.cbc.ca/radio/digital-radio/drri.html>.

On the other hand, it was announced June 12 that the **Digital Radio Mondiale** standard has been endorsed by the International Electrotechnical Committee. This comes in the wake of previous endorsements and certifications by the International Telecommunications Union in



April 2001 and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI). The DRM consortium is made up of 73 broadcasters, network operators, manufacturers and researchers. DRM is expected to be displayed at WARC (World Administrative Radio Conference) 2003 for use below 30 MHz. Read the press release at <http://www.drm.org/pdfs/newsevents/iecrelease2.pdf>.

2002 M STREET RADIO DIRECTORY (11th Edition)

The **IRCA Bookstore** is proud to announce that the 'M Street Corporation' has agreed to offer a discount on their 2002 'M Street Radio Directory' to DXers ordering through the IRCA Bookstore. The Directory contains a complete listing of over 15,000 radio stations (AM/FM, US/Canada) including the following information: facilities, ownership, formats, LMAs, station personnel, phone numbers (and FAX), addresses, ratings, as well as information on almost 400 radio markets in the US and Canada. Stations are listed by location (complete info), frequency (frequency, call, location, power and pattern) and call (call, frequency, location) and market (frequency, call, location, rating, format). It also includes a former call reference (old call, location and current call). Major network information (addresses/phone numbers/etc) and several interesting radio articles are included as well. Latest word is that the book will be published mid-July. This discount will be offered until the end of 2002. The price to DXers ordering through the **IRCA Bookstore** is \$70.00 + Shipping/Handling (\$7.00 to US, \$17 to Canada or \$25 to Europe). Retail will be \$79.00 + S/H. Checks and Money orders to be made out to: **Phil Bytheway**, and send to: **IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334**

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Editor: Lee J. Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St. – Ocala, FL 34471
E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com

COMPLETE LIST AVAILABLE AT [HTTP://WWW.GEOCITIES.COM/AMLOGBOOK/MAIN.HTM](http://www.geocities.com/amlogbook/main.htm)

CALL CHANGES

	OLD CALL	NEW
690	KQMQ – HONOLULU, HI	KORL
790	WSWL – PENSACOLA, FL	WPNN
1170	KVOO – TULSA, OK	KFAQ
1210	WWJR – KINGSLEY, MI	WLDR
1400	WABY - ALBANY, NY	WHTR
	KZEZ – PAROWAN, UT	KITT
1420	KBBX – OMAHA, NE	KHLP
1570	WRJQ – APPLETON, WI	WSCO

FORMAT CHANGES

FREQ.	CALL – CITY	NEW INFO
1090	KYCW – SEATTLE, WA	CL. C&W
1170	KVOO – TULSA, OK	KFAQ - TALK
1290	KIVY – CROCKETT, TX	STNDS - ABC
1370	KJCE – ROLLINGWOOD, TX	DROPS SPORTS
1420	KBBX – OMAHA, NE	KHLP - TALK
1460	WZNZ – JACKSONVILLE, FL	SPORTS - ESPN
1490	WTCS – FAIRMONT, WV	CONT. CHRISTIAN
1500	KDFN – DONIPHAN, MO	OLDIES – JRN
1550	KXEX – FRESNO, CA	SS. CHR

Send your Info to me at : ENGWTRS@AOL.COM73's to you all. 6/16 0800 fresh
Deadlines are SUNDAY @ 0800. 6/30, 7/14, & 7/28

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Editor: Nancy Johnson –265 Waterton Way- Billings, MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: June 28, July 12, July 26, Aug. 23. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (GJ) Gary Jackson-7735 Center Parkway-Sacramento, CA 95823
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
Drake R8, two EWE antennas, 1500' Eastern Beverage, 400' NNW mini Beverage
- (KR) Kevin Redding-Mesa, AZ amfmdx@fastq.com
Chris Cuff modified Delco car radio and 50' wire

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1170 KFAQ OK, Tulsa 6/2 2046 with C&W classics show. The stereo pilot was coming in and out. Unable to ascertain whether they are carrying stereo or not. (KR-AZ)
+6/6 0400 ex-KVOO logged quite good on top of KPUG with newstalk. Caught ID just tuning in "This is Newstalk 1170 KFAQ Tulsa," into CBS news. At 0404 broke away with spot then "Talkradio 1170 KFAQ is the talk station that does news." Local stories, many ID's. Really odd to hear this format on 1170 Tulsa. (PM-OR)
- 530 WPLS671 WA, Fauntlerroy (Preston) 6/12 0530 HAR station heard with repeat info on construction. (PM-OR)
- 540 CBK SK, Regina 6/10 1420 fair with CBC programming. (PM-OR)
- 550 CKPG BC, Prince George 6/12 0520 totally dominant of Northern Beverage with Art Bell program and "CKPG 550" ID's. (PM-OR)
- 560 CHTK BC, Prince Rupert 6/3 0540 fair mixing with KPQ with oldies music and a promo "Right here on TK Radio." (PM-OR)
- 580 KFXD ID, Nampa 6/10 fair to weak with ID going into news at 1400 "KFXD Nampa-Boise." (PM-OR)
- 590 KQNT WA, Spokane 6/10 1406 fair with some KUGN underneath with ID "KQNT News Talk 590." (PM-OR)
- 620 KMJC CA, Mt. Shasta 6/10 0305 on tonight for some reason with KTLK off. Spots for businesses in Yreka. They are // to 1490 Yreka. Does KMJC have night authorization? Did not sound like flea power, more like the 1kw daytime. (PM-OR)
- CJCI BC, Prince George 6/12 fair on top of KTLK-Portland with "Wild Country" ID's and "At home, at work, on in the car. This is Wild Country CJCI" at 0540. Best I have heard them in a while. (PM-OR)
- CKRM SK, Regina 6/3 0530 with KTLK off, over KWAL with C&W music. Several promos and "Your official country station, CKRM." ID's. (PM-OR)
- 640 KGVW MT, Belgrade 6/10 1415 fair with local spots. (PM-OR)
- 670 KBOI ID, Boise 6/10 1404 quite good with local news "KBOI" mention. (PM-OR)
- 690 KRCO OR, Prineville 6/3 1715 fair with ID "Celebrating 50 years of classic country, we're KRCO." (PM-OR)
- 700 KWLW UT, North Salt Lake City 6/10 1411 fair in 690-710 splatter with local news item for search of local area for missing person. (PM-OR)
- 710 KXMR ND, Bismarck 6/8 unbelievable signal totally wiping out KIRO at times (KIRO has about 80KW ERP at me at 125 miles too!). KXMR with Sporting News Radio at 0225, local break for some Museum and followed by ID "North Dakota's Information Leader, Newstalk 710" and "Newstalk 710, KXMR Bismarck-Mandan." Back into SNN. At 0235 still strong over KIRO. Several midwest stations are strong tonight with the Solar Flex and sun spots dropping. New! (PM-OR)

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

Editor: John C. Johnson

E-mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@prodigy.net

RIDING GAIN

- [EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood, MO
NOUIHEric@aol.com
Radio Shack TM-152 with Worcester Space Magnet 2. GE Superadio III,
National NC-60 Special with inverted "V" installed indoors.
- [LH-LA] **Lynn Hollerman**
gmhollerman@earthlink.net
Yacht Boy 400 with internal antenna
- [NJ-MT] **Nancy Johnson**, Billings, MT
NancyJohnson@prodigy.net
Icom IC-R71A, Kiwa loop.
- [JJR-WI] **John J. Rieger**, South Milwaukee, WI
JohnJRieger@webtv.net
http://DX-midAmerica.com
http://DXMW.com
Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, GE Superadio III, Terk AM 1000 loop.
- [JcJ-MT] Your editor using an Icom IC-R71A with Kiwa loop.
http://pages.prodigy.net/john_johnson

DOWN THE DIAL

- 900 WEAS GA, Savannah. 5-26 dominant over XEW, CHML. 04:22 with "Savannah's
Gospel Voice. AM 900 The Light" slogan, local PSA. 152W? [EB-MO]
- 940 WGMY MI, South Haven. 6-11 fair over WFAW. 21:27 with Tigers baseball PBP.
Spots, ID. Rare here. [JJR-WI]
- 1090 KNWS IA, Waterloo. 5-17 good to fair over KAAV. 21:14 noted with light
Christian music. "You're listening to Classic Praise on AM 10-90 KNWS."
Station promos. First new one on the inverted "V." [EB-MO]
- WAQE WI, Rice Lake. 6-8 fair. 21:39 with "Classic Country AM 10-90" slogans
and local PSA. [JJR-WI]
- 1170 KFAQ OK, Tulsa. EX-KVOO. 6-10 good to strong. 00:50 with "Swingin' Country"
program. Spot cluster. 01:00 ID "The new talk radio, 11-70 KFAQ Tulsa."
CBS News, 01:06 Jeff Rense talk show. Thanks to Pat Martin for the tip
on this call change. [NJ+JcJ-MT]
- WMRH WI, Waupun. 6-11 fair. 22:05. I've been hearing WMRH at night lately.
Thought they were a daytimer? [JJR-WI]
- 1190 KRFT MO, De Soto. 5-14 noted returned to air after being dark 2 years. Now
with Fox Sports Radio for the St. Louis area. "AM 11-90, the Sports
Explosion" slogans. Now 10kW DA-D. May apply for nighttime service.
The station is an LMA with KFNS 590. [EB-MO]
- 1230 WLLR IL, Moline. 5-20 poked through mess on the inverted "V." 02:40 noted
with "103.7 WLLR" jingle. Station shared 103.7 Davenport, IA.
Cyberjocked country format. [EB-MO]
- 1240 WSDR IL, Sterling. 5-20 good over mess on the inverted "V." 04:05 noted with
CBS News, calls, local news. [EB-MO]
- 1320 WMSR TN, Manchester. 6-3 good mono, fair stereo with full separation through
KSIV. 01:45 with local weather, "Your hometown station. AM 13-20
WMSR" into a Gold-based AC format. [EB-MO]
- 1340 WJYI WI, Milwaukee. 5-26 briefly atop mess using the inverted "V." 02:53 with
mention of Milwaukee in local spot. [EB-MO]
- 1440 KDDZ MN, Golden Valley. 6-8 fair, alone. 21:33 with Radio Disney. [JJR-WI]
- 1480 WABB AL, Mobile. 531 wavering signal, interference from others, but still
dominant on 1480. 22:02 with talk show, "Mobile's News, Talk WABB"
into CNN News at 21:59. [LH-LA]

- 1590 WTVB MI, Coldwater. 6-11 fair. No WAKR. 21:41. Never in this loud. [JJR-WI]
- 1600 WWRL NY, New York. 6-8 poor. 21:27 with clear calls into and after a spot.
WNBA game. Rare! [JJR-WI]
- 1630 KKWY WY, Cheyenne. 6-14 poor under KCJJ. 05:37 with old country format,
"KWY" slogans. [JJR-WI]
- 1700 WEUV AL, Huntsville. 5-26 fair to poor with KBGG, KTBK. 04:15 noted with
Urban Gospel music and calls. [EB-MO]

UNIDs

- 1490 unID 5/31 unID in with interference with lots of other stations. 22:56-23:01
with end of Braves vs. Reds game. Sounded like an ID at 22:59 ending
"...news-talk" into post-game show. Any ideas? [LH-LA]

25 YEARS AGO

June 11, 1977 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Phil Boersma** of Spring Lake, MI told about
WKJR's CP for a 7 tower array ... **Rich Segalas** of San Francisco, CA told about the progress
in taking over publishing duties ... **Randy Tomer** of Arcata, CA told about his moving and
working in Arcata again ... **Rich Eddie** of St. Louis, MO said he has logged 49 states and has
all 49 verified.

OPEN MIKE

The summer is here! As many of you know, I collect such items as music surveys, magnets,
and bumper stickers from radio stations. If you have items you don't want, I'd be happy to
take them off your hands. I'll refund the postage. This column was typed 6-15-02. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Editor: Lee J. Freshwater - 414 SE 3rd St. - Ocala, FL 34471

E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com

Deadlines are : 6/31 ; 7/14 ; 7/28 ; 8/11; 8/25

- | | | STARS OF THE WEEK |
|---------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (WM-MD) | William McGuire | 2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD
DX-398 |
| (HN-GA) | Herb Newberry | 405 JH Whittaker Rd, Newborn, GA 30056-3033
Kenwood R-5000, Quan.Loop , 300' N l.w., 300' W l.w. |

- | | | LOGGINGS |
|------|---------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 640 | TN WGO | Blountsville 5/31 2323-2340 Faded in w/ C&W mix. Good at
peak, 10 O/S-9 on top of slop on North wire, WGST under(HN-GA) |
| 1030 | TX KCTA | Corpus Christi 6/1 0629 A SRS catch, out of RR pgm, into contest
promo w ment. Of KCTA. 10 O/S-9 on W Wire.. New (HN-GA) |
| 1060 | GA WKNH | Tallahassee 6/1 0721 "PGA Tour Network", Local ads during break,
S-9 at peaks, with fading on W wire. Old/Tlk format (HN-GA) |
| 1230 | VA WAMM | Woodstock 5/30 2115 "Your Quality Music Station in the
Shenandoah Valley"; ID (WM-MD) |
| | VA WJOI | Norfolk 5/30 2129 ID after Carpenter Song (WM-MD) |
| 1330 | PA WYSN | Somerset 5/28 2347 "Sunny 1330"; ID (WM-MD) |
| 1370 | OH WSPD | Toddo 5/19 2305 "NewsRadio 1370"; ID (WM-MD) |
| 1390 | AL WHMA | Anniston 6/1 0812 AL Radio Network Sports News. Local ads.
10 O/s-9 on West wire. (HN-GA) |
| 1470 | PA WKAP | Allentown 5/30 2144 After Beach Boy song; ID (WM-MD) |
| 1490 | VA WBVM | Hampton 5/23 0020 Local ad "on Hampton Road" (WM-MD) |
| 1530 | GA WTTI | Dalton 6/1 0828 Local DJ out of S. GSPL mx. Peak S-9.
Best on W. Wire Full IF at TOH (HN-GA) |

UNIDEN

1240 ?? ??? 5/29 0000 "The Dennis Prager Show" hrd in mess (WM-MD)
 1320 ?? ??? 5/30 2224 Hrd ad mentioning Atlanta Braves (WM-MD)

Well, thats a wrap for this week..Thanks to **William** and **Herb** again this week.....73
 and see you all next time!!!.....fresh

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Editor: *Patrick Martin – P.O. Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138*
 E-mail: *mwdxer@webtv.net* all times UTC

Hope everyone is having a nice Summer. We have some interesting DX from **Nick Hall-Patch**, Victoria on a recent trip to Hawaii, and a really nice QSL from **John Bryant** from Indonesia. So away we go.

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- t702 **AUSTRALIA**, Sydney 2BL 1535 6/6. Fair to good signal, pop mx and DU talk by man. (NHP-HI)
- t738 **FRENCH POLYNESIA**, Papeete, 1520 6/6. Good signal with vocal mx by woman. Assumed this, as there was DU talk in its null. (NHP-HI)
- t792 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane 4RN, 1524 6/6. Likely this one with DU talk by man, nx of some sort with mentions of UN and Afghanistan. Fair signal. (NHP-HI)
- 1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS**, Majuro, 1548 6/5. Monster carrier here at this time, nulling 30 degrees North of 774 tentative Aussie. This is often hrd on the West Coast of the mainland also. (NHP-HI)
- 1224 **MARSHALL ISLANDS**, Kwajalien, AFN. Almost certainly the one with woman in American EE talking about hole in ozone layer, a NOAA information piece. Hrd 1555 6/6 with fair signal, faded down on the hour. (NHP-HI)
- t1287 **JAPAN**, Sapporo JOHR 1558 6/6. Likely the one with poor signals, JJ talk by man. Most signals hrd were DU this morning however. (NHP-HI)
- 1370 **HAWAII**, Pearl City, KIFO. A local signal of course, but definitely on 1370 as reported by Hawaiian DXers, stil NPR and classical mx. (NHP-HI)
- 1440 **UNID**, 1604 6/6. Who would have American accented nx and "CNN radio network" mention on this frequency? AFN Korea seems unlikely due to poor signals of tentative HLAZ-1566. (NHP-HI) *(Possibly 2PB, as the ABC does run all sorts of news type stuff. PM)*
- 1512 **AUSTRALIA**, Newcastle 2RN 1602 6/6. Man reading nx, fair and// much weaker 774. (NHP-HI)
- t1566 **REP. OF KOREA**, Cheju HLAZ, 1532 6/6. Weak oriental talk by man and woman. Much electrical noise and a SAH. This looped right at Korea. (NHP-HI)
- 1575 **THAILAND**, Bangkok 1539 6/6. Special English broadcast by woman, fair, including mention of www.voaspecialenglish.com. (NHP-HI) Nick mentions "I was working in Honolulu for a few days, and on the last day I was able to get up early and drive off to the leeward side of Oahu for some quick sunrise DX."

VERIFICATIONS

- 909 **INDONESIA**, Sorong RRI, received a very friendly letter. V/S: Umar Solle, Station Manager for S2 US postage. Correct address from station is: Radio Republic Indonesia Stasiun Sorong, Jl. Jend. A Yani No. 44, Sorong 98414, Indonesia. The reply was in EE, so no need to send your reports in Indonesian, as long as he is there. (JB-WA) *(A great catch John, and an even greater QSL! This makes the hobby all worthwhile. PM)*

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

JB-WA **JOHN BRYANT**, WA < bjohn@provalue.net >
 NHP-BC **NICK HALL-PATCH**, 1538 Amphion Street, Victoria BC V8R 4Z6
 < nhp@ieec.org > DXing on Oahu, Hawaii, Keeau State Park using ICF 2010 and KIWA pocket loop

DX WORLDWIDE - EAST

Editor: *Brandon Jordan – 4920 Park Ave. – Memphis, TN 38117*
 E-mail: *bjordan@nachash.com* all times UTC

Greetings fellow IRCA'ers! I would like to extend my thanks to Phil, Mark and everyone else who took up the slack when I became unable to keep up my duties as editor of DXWW-E few years back. Special greetings to **Mark Connelly** whom I had the pleasure of meeting a few years ago on a business trip to Boston. Mark and a couple of his BADx boys graciously hosted me to some Boston seafood and then I was taken upon a pilgrimage to a certain granite pier that extended out into the cool waters of the Atlantic Ocean, and treated to the ineffable mystical experience of Mr. Connelly's personal Trans-Atlantic DX tour at the controls of his trusty Drake R8 and phaser. It is one thing to read his logs, but it is quite another to be there sitting in the passenger seat experiencing it first hand.

It is definitely getting hot down here in the Mississippi Delta time to start moaning the summertime blues here on the humid bluffs along the banks of the Mighty Mississippi River. Hopefully the Memphis Pyramid will direct a cool breeze my way for a change; I've just about given up on any assistance from Elvis. Not much going on in the way of loggings for this issue, but perhaps next issue things may pick up. I've been busier getting acquainted with my new shack than getting down to serious DX'ing.

I've only recently returned to the hobby after quite a lengthy absence & have been sitting up a new shack over the past few months. Unfortunately I had to sell my beloved NRD-535D & Rascal RA6790 a few years ago, but now I have the superb Icom R75 and a Palstar R30C receivers, and for antennas a Quantum QX Pro loop for LW/MW and a Wellbrook ALA-330 active loop designed for 3-30 MHz. I quickly found out that my home QTH is a maelstrom of electrical QRN making DX on the tropical SW bands very marginal, and without the Quantum MW DX would be nil, and in desperation ordered the active loop from Andy Ilkin of Wellbrook Communications in the UK last week. Andy mailed it on Monday and I received it here in Memphis the next Saturday! This antenna is absolutely amazing in its ability to reject local QRN & has really opened up 49 meters & below for much more serious DX'ing. A Wellbrook K9AY goes up in July. I am really looking forward to the fall when I hopefully will be in a much more quieter QTH.

For the past few weeks I have been enjoying the wonders of the R75 (with a high stability oscillator) and a PC based audio spectrum analyzer and have been having a blast being able to visually navigate the spectrum and actually observe the signals, and especially to be able to accurately measure AM carrier signals to the single hertz. Wow, I've sure come a long way since the days of listening on my grandmother's old Zenith cheapie multiband portable back in the early 70's.

That's enough rambling. We have 2 interesting loggings from **Ray Moore** in Florida, our only contributor for this issue. Thanks Ray! Until next issue, cool breezes and good DX to all! 73, Brandon

*** TRANSPACIFIC DX ***

- 1475 **unID** Suspect Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia. Recapping my experience with this station during the 2001-2002 season, their signal has been very consistent here, producing at least a trace of carrier on 54 different mornings from August 26 when it first appeared to its last appearance on APR 19. Best signal was MAR 12, 1128-1130, with a good carrier on verge of audio. At first I thought this could be a deep South American but it can't be since all of South America was in sunlight during December and January when I often heard this carrier. The average of six direction finding bearings which I was able to make was 335 deg, close to the true bearing of 330 deg. The path may be skewed since it skirts the auroral zone on almost the same bearing as Japan (327 deg). I believe the consistency of this signal is because the station is beamed towards the Philippines from 1030 to 1300 which is exactly the bearing for

Florida from Sabah, meaning they are effectively pumping two or three megawatts in this direction. I'm confident that I will be able to pull audio from them next season as the sunspot cycle wanes and conditions improve. I hope others will try for this on a consistent basis around 1030 come September. I'm sure most of us need Sabah and at 10,000 miles it would make a nice addition to our logs. [Moore-FL]

1503 **AUSTRALIA** Unid Aussie produced audio for the third time this month JUN 9 1015-1024 with a good three minute peak 1019-1022 with two men discussing a sporting event, a brief burst of music and short comment by a woman, then a third man introduced as the "director of [liveright ?] boxing here" who spoke for a short time. All in Aussie accented English. A little further on, as the station was fading back into the noise, music could be heard in the background sounding like it was played in a stadium and then perhaps announcer starting to describe the action. Local sunrise 1034 this morning. This is by far the best "down under" signal this spring. 1512, 1629 and 1638 produced traces of audio back on APR 29 but nothing intelligible. [Moore-FL]

*** CONTRIBUTOR ***

[Moore-FL] = Ray Moore, N Ft Myers FL – Receiver: Drake R8 and Homebrew – Antenna: 23" Spiral loop, Comdel pre-amp

WESTERN DX FORUM
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Doug Pifer- 3410 Marion St. SE - Albany, OR 97321 oregon4wd@attbi.com
 Hi Gang, I felt a need to forum, since I've been hitting the dials fairly regularly lately. Admittedly, I am enjoying time off from regular employment due to knee injuries, whereas all my past work experience involved walking (a lot). Looks like some kind of retraining will be necessary up ahead. Anyways, I still get around sort of ok and I've been able to knock off quite a few hefty projects around the house, plus I've been able to do more of another hobby of mine and that would be ghost town exploring. Mostly Nevada, but most of the West is on my agenda too. Spinning the dial, or in this case pushing the buttons is always happening when I'm on the road. To move on, in a previous forum, I mentioned that I was having difficulty with some local noise, plus my old loop was giving me a hard time. Well, the power company took care of the noise, for now... and I also acquired a Kiwa Loop. Next, I think my rig will need an alignment, or... a new one? As you can see though, even though it is not the best season for DX, the above circumstances have lead to me DX quite a bit more lately. And having fun at it! Most of my input for WDXR have been new catches and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting back into this. I've been able to get under a few of my locals finally, plus I've done several all nighters recently, therefore allowing me to hear a few sign-ons and power increases. Usually, I'm wrecked for the rest of the morning though. Well, that's enough for now. Best of DX to all, doug

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES
Editor: Phil Bytheway
 E-mail: phil@radiodx.com

Geomagnetic Summary May 21 2002 through June 16 2002

Tabulated from email status daily.

Date	Flux	A	K	Space Wx	Today Space Wx	Forecast Etc.
5/21	186	10	4	minor	minor	5
22	181	9	1	minor	minor	5
23	180	43	3	strong	minor	5 geo storms

24	189	3	0	minor	minor	2
25	183	3	2	none	minor	4
26	183	9	4	none	minor	6
27	187	17	3	minor	minor	6
28	186	12	3	none	minor	5
29	185	8	2	none	minor	3
30	180	8	2	minor	minor	3
5/31	182	3	0	none	minor	3
6/ 1	179	5	4	minor	minor	6
2	175	17	3	minor	minor	6
3	170	11	2	none	minor	4
4	170	16	4	none	minor	6
5	159	8	2	none	minor	5
6	155	6	3	none	none	4
7	158	6	1	none	none	4
8	155	13	3	none	none	7
9	157	16	4	none	none	7
10	152	16	3	none	none	8
11	148	11	2	none	none	7
12	142	8	2	none	none	5
13	133	8	2	none	none	5
14	131	5	2	none	none	6
15	135	5	3	none	none	7
6/16	137	9	1	none	none	4

Sangean ATS-909 Review
 Article and Photos by Rich Toebe

Since 1986, I've been using the hallowed Sony ICF-2010 as my receiver when traveling. It's been with me to several countries in North America and Europe. The 2010 been a great performer for DX and general listening. It is fairly large and heavy by today's standards for a portable, especially when lugging it through airports. Age has put its mark on the 2010 as well—although it still receives well, the power receptacle is failing, and often when I turn the unit on, I get an "Error 3" message instead of the desired station. So, I decided, it's time

to look for a replacement. Should it be another 2010, or something new?

I was able to obtain a Sangean ATS-909 for evaluation from IRCA member **Dan Albertson**, president of **Radio Accessory Headquarters** in Sacramento, California. He is a dealer in ICOM and Sangean receivers, and he made his floor sample available to me over the Memorial Day weekend. This article describes my findings. I also put the radio into competition against the 2010 and the GE Superadio III.



Size and Weight

Per the photo, the unit is slightly smaller than a copy of the *World Radio TV Handbook*; weighed on a postal scale, with batteries it weighs 29.0 ounces (822 grams) compared to the Sony's 65.6 ounces or 1.86 kilograms. The ATS-909 uses 4 AA batteries total compared to the 2010's 3 C cells plus the 2 AAs for the memory. The size and weight of the titanium-colored unit are convenient for stuffing into a carry-on. A black leatherette case is included with the ATS-909; it should be well protected when taking it out and packing it back in the bag when going through airport security.

Tuning Methods

The ATS-909 has continuous AM tuning from 153 to 29999 kHz, divided into LW 153-519 kHz, MW 520-1710 kHz (covering both the low end European MW and the US X-band frequencies), and SW 1711-29999 kHz. FM runs from 87.5 to 108.0 MHz (no Japanese FM frequencies ala the 2010). Frequencies can be tuned in 4 ways. The bigger knob to the right of the unit is the manual tuning knob. It has detents, and can be adjusted to different channel spacing depending on the band you select. For MW, it can be set to a "fast" setting of 9 or 10 kHz per detent, and a "slow" setting of 1 kHz. SW is either 5 kHz or 1 kHz, LW is 9 kHz or 1 kHz, and FM either .05 MHz or .1 MHz.

The two largest buttons, at the lower right of the face of the radio, are the slewing buttons, and can speed tune across frequencies when keeping the button depressed, or can go up or down by one channel by a quick press. The frequency spacing again is dependent on the band you select. MW is 9 or 10 kHz, LW 9 kHz, SW 5 kHz, and FM .1 MHz. The 9 or 10 kHz adjustment is made on the right side of the unit, a recessed slider near the volume control, the smaller knob.



The other two methods use the keyboard; either by entering the frequency directly, hitting the "F" button, keying in the frequency (use a decimal point on FM!) and hitting the "enter" key, or by calling up a preset or "memo" channel by using the keys 1 to 9. This constitutes a "page" of 9 presets.

LW gets one page of 9, MW gets 2 pages for 18 presets, FM has 2 pages, and SW has 29 pages, for a total of 306 presets. Most but not all of the SW pages are assigned to international broadcasters; BBC gets 2 pages, for example. Some pages have some or all of the presets "permanently" programmed, but there are quite a few empty "memo" spots.

There's also the ATS function. The radio will scan the dial and find the most powerful signals to fill all the spots in the memory for the band (except those already selected at the factory).

Memo Function

When a frequency is set to memory, you can also enter the name of the station on that channel. Letters, numbers, and some symbols can be entered; for 1470 KIID, I entered "R.Disney". There are 8 spaces or characters total per memo. Tune to 1469 or 1471, and the memo disappears. The SW pre-programmed pages have the country names of the international broadcasters set, so "England" is shown for the BBC and "Ecuador" for HCJB. Unlike the user set memos, if you go to a page for England on SW, the name stays even when you tune away from an "England" frequency.

In the picture you'll note that 1470 is set on page 1, memo 7. All 9 have been filled. If you set less than 9, you'll only see that many numbers in that row. Note also that above the frequency it says "AM". There are also lower and upper sideband settings. To the right is the signal strength meter; when the set is turned off it becomes the battery meter for a few seconds. The screen can be lit up by pressing the button next to the lamp icon; it stays on when using AC, and turns off after a few seconds when on batteries.

Time

At the top of the screen is the time setting; note "Home" in the black box to the left, the sunburst to the upper left of "12:51" denotes Daylight Savings Time, and the bed symbol, which means the sleep function is activated. This can be set for up to 90 minutes. You can set your home time, and enter your city, but 42 world cities are also there, with their times popping up as you call up that city, accessible by the manual tuning knob to the right or the slewing buttons after you hit the "home" button. Cities' times seem to be offset by the correct number of hours from Home time, but not all cities come up with Daylight Savings or Summer Time. Berlin was a notable exception. There are three timers built in, and a snooze function.

The FM band is notable for the inclusion of stereo and RDS, the Radio Data System used heavily in Europe but beginning to be used here in the USA. When playing audio through the unit's built-in speaker, no stereo will be received, but when headphones or an external pair of speakers are attached, the stereo symbol of a set of headphones and "ST" appears. Audio response through headphones is excellent, and I had nice results playing the signal through a pair of powered Yamaha speakers I use with my PC.



Radio Data System

The RDS symbol appears when a station carrying the RDS signal is present. Local Sacramento classic rocker KSEG 96.9 is one of a handful of stations locally that has the RDS signal, as seen here. It does not instantly appear, and when I tried to detect the RDS signal from outlying stations with a weaker signal, it would take the radio several seconds or more to detect the message even though the RDS icon quickly appeared. KOIT 96.5 San Francisco, about 67 miles (108 km) away, carries the RDS signal, but the icon appeared and disappeared even though the stereo signal seemed solid. I also noted that when, after getting KOIT's RDS message ("KOIT"), tuning to KSEG 96.9, getting the "KSEG" message,

and then retuning to KOIT, the unit sometimes just brought up the "KSEG" message again, as if it wanted to put something there instead of waiting for a solid lock to KOIT's RDS.

So, how did the ATS-909 stack up?

In a nutshell, the 909 held its' own against the 2010 for sensitivity, but the 2010's sync detection allowed it to eliminate co-channel interference from strong AM signals more effectively. Conversely, the 909's FM section was better, not only because it could decode stereo and RDS, but was able to pull out distant stations co-channel to locals that the 2010 could not separate. On SW, results were comparable to MW. For further comparison, I also brought the GE Superadio III into the fray. No external antennae were used, although all 3 will accept input. The 909 and 2010 were set to the "wide" settings, the SR-III to narrow, as wide is really W-I-D-E. All used fresh batteries. Night time signals are noted as heard, not by the signal meters:

Station	ATS-909	Sony 2010	GE SR III
640 KFI	strong	strong	strong
(KSTE-650 local)	slight splash	slight splash	slight splash
660 KTNN	medium	medium	medium
	med. splash	med. splash	med. splash
1520 (KFBK 1530 local)	overload/KFBK	overload/KFBK	overload/KFBK
1540	overload/KFBK	overload/KFBK	overload/KFBK

Using the sync mode allowed the Sony to bring in some signal for 1520/1540, but there was still some splash. KFBK is 25 mi. or 40 km away, 50 kW, and difficult to null, or minimize signal strength, with the built in ferrite. The 909's wide setting seems geared more to audio response rather than bandwidth. Like the Sony, the Sangean has a gain control for AM. While the Sony has a slider, the 909 has a rotary knob (on the left side, not seen in the pictures) with a detent to lock it in the maximum position.

Although reception of selected stations below was roughly equivalent between the two receivers, signal readings from the meters didn't correlate to each other. Gain was set to maximum on both. All are noontime receptions:

Station	ATS-909	Sony 2010
540 KVIP	0	6
580 KMJ	4	6
740 KCBS	6	7
1100 KFAQ	6	6
1190 KDYA	6	5
1360 KFIV	0	3
1410 KMYC	4	5
1570 KCVR	4	6

FM receptions next to strong local signals:

Station	ATS-909	Sony 2010	GE SR-III
93.3 The Wave San Francisco	yes, \$	no	no
(93.1 Patterson-Modesto)			
101.7 KKIQ Livermore	yes, \$	no	no
(Kool 101.9 Shingle Springs-Sacramento)			
102.1 KDFC S.F. (classical)	yes, \$	no	no
103.1 KATM Modesto	yes, \$, RDS	yes	no
(103.5 The Bomb Sacramento)			
103.7 KKSF San Francisco	yes, \$, no RDS	no	no
104.1 KHKK Modesto	yes, \$, RDS	yes	no
(104.3 R. Romantica, Davis)			

KKSF carries the RDS signal, noted in SF on a car stereo with RDS; \$ = stereo

Overloading was noted from locals 90.3 KDVS Davis and 102.5 KSFM Woodland (their transmitter is seen from my back yard, less than a mile away), on all receivers. 104.3 Davis did not overload; their transmitter is ironically on the outskirts of Woodland! Interestingly, I was able to receive many of the above noted FM's on the 909 even with the telescoping antenna retracted.

Conclusion

I like the ATS-909 a lot. It's smaller and lighter than the 2010, has more memories, although the "memo" function is a bit eccentric. I prefer the detent rotary tuning on the Sangean; I can "feel" each channel go by. It has stereo + RDS reception on FM, with better reception and audio quality all around compared to the Sony and GE. AM (MW and SW) reception is about equal to the 2010 and SR-III, but the 2010's sync mode takes care of co-channel interference in DXing situations better. For regular listening, though, it's a wash. The lack of sync detection is a minus, but the ATS-909 is much kinder to the checkbook.

If you can find a 2010, they're running over \$350, and **Radio Accessory Headquarters** is selling the 909 right now for \$239.95—check out www.rahq.com and their online catalog for more information, or call them toll free at **888-438-7247**. Radio Shack's DX-398 version lacks the accessories the 909 offers, including the AC adapter and reel antenna for SW. I was going to hunt down a "new" 2010 to replace my 16-year-old model, but after trying the 909 out, why bother? This radio more than holds its own against the 2010.

THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA

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