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Publisher's Notes

We have Seattle Convention reports from **Phil Bytheway** and **Mike Sanburn**, as well as the results of the TVA and RHA Awards (congrats, Nancy!) I've included a few pictures here, but you can see more at the club website, which now is at <http://www.ircaonline.org>. Welcome to new members **Guy Atkins**, Bonney Lake, WA, **Jason Brose**, Shawnee Mission, KS, **Bob Coomler**, Cloverdale, CA (a rejoin), **Theo Donnelly**, Vancouver BC, **Tim Harding** of Greenwood, IN, **Stephen T. Powell** of Clemson, SC and **Sol Rundbaken** of Savannah, GA; Guy, Jason and Theo joined at the convention! This is the final issue for Volume 39; Volume 40 number 1 will appear in two weeks, September 14. The full publishing schedule will be released next time. -- RT

2001-02 TVA/RHA Election Results

For those of you who did not attend the IRCA Annual Convention, here are the election results from the 2001/2002 **Ted Vasilopoulos Award** and **Ric Heald Award** voting:

- ?? **TVA - Nancy Johnson**
- ?? **RHA - Rich Toebe**

Votes cast TVA - Nancy Johnson, 16; Nigel Pimblett, 2; Kevin Redding, 4; Rich Toebe, 14; Ernie Cooper (write-in), 1. Total votes cast = 37

Votes cast RHA - Rich Toebe, 19; Lee Freshwater, 18. Total votes cast = 37
Reid Wheeler, Election Committee Chairman

IRCA 2002 Convention Report

Phil Bytheway
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The 2002 IRCA Convention was held at the *Towne and Country Suites* in Tukwila WA on August 16-19 2002. Bruce Portzer and Phil Bytheway hosted the event.

Thursday. Mike Stonebridge, Mike Sanburn, Jason Brose and Dave Gordon arrived in the evening.

Friday. The meeting room opened at 9 AM. In addition to those arriving the day before, Jim Rustik, and Curtis McMenamin checked in before the tour. That afternoon, the early arrivals left for the tour of Clear Channel's Seattle facilities, including KJR-AM/FM, KHHO, and KUBE. Bryce Phillipy, VP of Operations, gave an excellent tour, with several staff members filling in the details. The visitors saw the stations' production center and engineering complex, outfitted with the latest digital technology. They were also able to enter the main control rooms for all four stations and watch the announcers at work (except for KHHO, which is all network feeds).

At 8 PM, Mike Sanburn had a very interesting slide show, which lasted about 45 minutes, that featured past convention tours and station antennas. We then gathered

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IRCA assault team prepares to take on another station. Jason Brose, Curtis McMenamin, John Adams, Bruce Portzer (back), Mike Sanburn.

50s, and a 1947 QSL card. The KIRO/KNWX reception report file was also on display. It included 3 or 4 reports each from the US, Canada, England, Japan, and Germany, plus about 40 gazillion from Sweden and Finland.

That afternoon, Nick Hall-Patch held a stimulating presentation and discussion on computer controlled radios and using your PC to record your DX... and then processing the audio files with various software packages. Reid Wheeler and Pete Taylor arrived after the session.

After a brief break, the IRCA business meeting was held. Phil Bytheway presented reports from Lee Freshwater, Lynn Hollerman and Phil Bytheway, while Reid Wheeler and Mike Sanburn presented their own reports. Club membership is up, finances are in the black, and the IRCA Technical Guide is nearly sold-out. Check out the DXM for the TVA/RHA winners!!

Following the meeting, Guy Atkins, Theo Donnelly and Jason Brose signed up as IRCA members. Three at one convention could be a record!!



L-R: Jim Rustik (head), John Adams, Patrick Martin, Phil Bytheway, Bruce and Evelyn Portzer

around the table for some lively discussions about CPC, X-Band, SDXM, etc. Guy Atkins, Nick Hall-Patch and Pat Martin arrived during the evening. The meeting room was shut down at 11 PM.

Saturday. The meeting room opened at 8:45. Stan Weisbeck checked in just before the tour group left for the morning's tour. This one covered one of Entercom's broadcast centers near downtown Seattle. John Price, from their corporate engineering department, showed the group through the KIRO newsroom and the KBSG studio, as well as the rest of the broadcast center shared by KIRO KBSG KQBZ and KNWX. For show and tell, he pulled out several bits of KIRO memorabilia, including many photographs from the 1940's and

After another break, 15 folks headed off to the IRCA Banquet at Barnaby's Restaurant in Tukwila. We all enjoyed an excellent meal, selecting off their "banquet" menu.

We then returned to the meeting room at 7 PM, and set up for the annual auction. The auction was held from 8 to 9:30 PM, with "the infamous duo" of Mike Sanburn and Phil Bytheway performing the "antics" and Tony Bytheway (and his wife Jennifer) keeping statistics. Total was \$245... excellent!!!

After the auction, several folks left for home and the remaining folks discussed various aspects of the DX hobby until the meeting room closed at 11 PM.

Sunday. The meeting room was open from 9 AM to 2 PM for informal discussions. Several attendees stopped in and said goodbye before heading home.

"Unofficial" IRCA photographer Dave Gordon used his new "digital" camera to capture all the activity during the convention. We will probably post some of his shots on the IRCA web site next week. Keep an eye out for 'em.

Thanks to all those that sent us comments via email... I presented them at the business meeting... and they were all appreciated.

Those attending the convention were: **John Adams** (Seaside OR), **Guy Atkins** (Bonney Lake WA), **Jason Brose** (Kansas City MO), **Phil Bytheway** (Seattle WA), **Tony** and **Jennifer Bytheway** (Seattle WA), **Theo Donnelly** (Vancouver BC), **Dave Gordon** (San Jose CA), **Nick Hall-Patch** (Victoria BC), **Pat Martin** (Seaside OR), **Curtis McMenemin** (Vacaville CA), **Bruce** and **Evelyn Portzer** (Seattle WA), **Karen Portzer** (Seattle WA), **Jim Rustik** (Kent WA), **Mike Sanburn** (Bellflower CA), **Mike Stonebridge** (St Isadore AB), **Pete Taylor** (Tacoma WA), **Stan Weisbeck** (Spokane WA) and **Reid Wheeler** (Olympia WA). Jason Brose was the farthest attendee... Jim Rustik the closest!

Mike Sanburn is planning to host the 2003 convention in Portland ME in June (pending BoD approval)... so plan NOW!



Banquet – Pete Taylor, server and Mike Stonebridge

IRCA 2002 Convention Report at Tukwila, WA

By Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707-1256
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The 2002 IRCA Convention in Tukwila WA was a great event. That's IRCA number 11 for me. Many thanks to Phil and Bruce for the great job hosting this one. I arrived on Thursday and ended up getting a real good bargain on my room, located right on the banks of the Green River. Phil and I had a great meal at Outback. Friday morning the meeting room opened up and there were no shortage of refreshments. Our balcony overlooked the swimming pool. There were 3 ISDN ports for guests who brought along laptops. Folks on the IRCA chatroom got an up to the moment report on all happenings. Our first station tour downtown



Preparing for the KIRO tour – Nick Hall-Patch, Theo Donnelly, Bruce Portzer and Karen Portzer

consisted of KJR-950 [One of the Northwest's premier original rock and roll stations - I still remember the slogan from the late 50's and 60's "KJR Seattle, Channel 95" – Reid], KJR-FM, KHHO-850, KUBE-FM, and KFNK-FM (The Funky Monkey). Dave Gordon, photographer extraordinaire, took literally hundreds of digital photos the entire time. We learned of the damage to KJR's tower site during the 2001 earthquake. Clear Channel has recently taken over this group of stations and is starting to bring in their own processing equipment, hard drives, etc. It was explained how KJR covers all local sporting events, while KHHO covers all national events (via Fox) so as not to compete with other. All were given bumper stickers as we left. More stickers were to be had in the goodie bags that were handed out in the convention room along with schedule of events, and station lists of locals, DX, and FMer's. Friday evening I showed my usual slide show. Later I noted the local TIS on 1650, WPUJ289 from nearby Kent, WA. Saturday morning we were up



IRCA Auction dynamic duo – (L-R) Phil Bytheway and Mike Sanburn

early for tour #2 at KIRO-710, KNWX-770, KBSG-1210, KBSG-FM, and KQBZ-FM (The Buzz). The vice president conducted our tour and started us off by displaying some classic items including transmitter site photos circa 1962 and a huge book of verification requests received from all over the world. Included was a letter from Pat Martin who was in attendance but not on the tour. That afternoon, Nick Hall-Patch gave an excellent seminar on DXing in the computer age. The sight of an R-8 hooked up to a laptop's inspirational. Our business meeting was next where we read reports regarding the status of the club. Member ship is up slightly and 3 new members signed on at the convention. Congrats to this year's TVA and RHA winners! The highlight was our banquet at nearby Barnaby's restaurant (I wish there was one down here). There was a choice of meals – I had prime rib with salad bar, red potatoes, carrots and a beverage (the kind you drink, hi). Finally our auction was a lively one and folks go to see Phil do his Foster Brooks impersonation. We raised about \$250 for the club. Both Bruce and Phil plan on hosting Seattle Get-Togethers in the future. Meanwhile I am working at my IRCA-Maine bid for June 2003. Conventions are unique opportunities that should be looked forward to and well attended. Any convention could be the first one for a novice DXer, or the last one for a veteran DXer. No two are alike. IRCA is First Class – thanks to all who make the club work. Good DX to all, 73

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

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

		CALL CHANGES	
OLD CALL			NEW
900	WMVU – NASHUA, NH		WOTW
940	KJPM – WAIPAHI, HI		KHCM
950	WBBF – ROCHESTER, NY		WROC
1180	WHJM- KNOXVILLE, TN		WVLV
1260	KVSF – SANTA FE, NM		KTRC
1300	KFLO – SHREVEPORT, LA		KSYB
1370	KIFO – PEARL CITY, HI		KMDR
1400	KTRC – SANTE FE, NM		KVSF
1450	WWRI- WEST WARWICK, RI		WLKW
1490	WTNI – HARTSVILLE, SC		WJDJ
1510	KJQI – SAN RAFAEL, CA		KTIM
1600	WKEN – DOVER, DE		WIBF
		FORMAT CHANGES	
FREQ.	CALL – CITY		NEW INFO
580	WLSE – LAWRENCEVILLE, VA		BLK GSPL
730	CJNW – VANCOUVER, BC		TALK
800	CHAB – MOOSE JAW, SK		OLDIES 50-80'S
900	WFRO – FREMONT, OH		SILENT
930	KSDN – ABERDEEN, SD		ADDS SPORTS - KFAN
940	KJPN – WAIPAHI, HI		NOW KHCM - C&W
970	WWIT – CANTON, NC		SILENT
	WATH – ATHENS, OH		OLDIES
	KNFX – AUSTIN, TX		SPORTS
1080	WWDR – MURFREESBORO, NC		SILENT
1090	WHGG – KINGSPORT, TN		CONT. CHRIST.
1140	KCLE – CLEBURNE, TX		OLDIES

1150 WMET – GAITHERSBURG, MD BIZ. NEWS
 1190 KPHN - KANSAS CITY, MO CHILDRENS - DISNEY
 WSDQ – DUNLAP, TN CL. C&W/BLK GSPL
 1230 KYSM – MANKATO, MN SPORTS - KFAN
 WCMA – CORINTH, MS SILENT
 1240 KQEN – ROSEBURG, OR NEWS/TLK/SPTS
 1260 KTRC – SANTE FE, NM TALK
 1270 KWEB – ROCHESTER, MN SPORTS -KFAN
 1280 KVOX – MOOREHEAD, MN SPORTS - KFAN
 1370 KMDR – PARL CITY, HI REPORTED SILENT
 KUND – GRAND FORKS, ND NEWS/CLASS. // KCND
 1380 WNNY – NEW YORK, NY REG. MEX.
 1400 WHBS – MOULTRIE, GA NEW - S. GSPL
 KVSF – SANTE FE, NM TRAD. C&W - ABC
 1410 WSTN – SOMERVILLE, TN RELIGION
 1420 CKPT - PETERBOROUGH, ON STNDS
 1440 KXXL – GRAND FORKS, ND SPORTS - KFAN
 1460 WLAN – HARRISBURG, PA SPORTS
 WKDV – MANASSAS, VA SS. RELIGION
 1480 KQAM – WICHITA, KS CHILDRENS - DISNEY
 WPWC – DUMFRIES, VA SPANISH
 1490 KOKC – GUTHRIE, OK RELIGION
 WESB – BRADFORD, PA AC/TALK
 1550 KCCF – FERNDALE, WA BROKERED ETHNIC
 1570 WGSR – FERNANDINA BEACH, FL URBAN GSPL
 1590 WDBL – SPRINGFIELD, TN SILENMT
 1600 WKKX – WHEELING, WV SPORTS – ESPN
 1630 KNAX – FT. WORTH, TX NEW // KENO SS REL.

TECHNICAL CHANGES

1360 WWLG – BALTIMORE MD NOW 1370 21K/6K

Send your Info to me at : ENGWTRS@AOL.COM73's to you all. 8/25 0900 fresh
 Deadlines are SUNDAY @ 0800. 9/8

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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NEXT WDXR DEADLINE: Wednesday September 4. Please use Eastern Time.

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OF SPECIAL INTEREST

 580 KIDO ID, Boise 8/12 heard "Newstalk 580 , KIDO" ID at 1040. Station switched at midnight MDT according to the website. 580 fair here days, ex-KFXD who is now on 630. (PM-OR)
 1030 KLLU OR, Reedsport apparently back on the air with "Real Country" and very loud at 2034 8/9 and 0540 8/10. Very strong, must be running 50kw. (PM-OR)
 + 8/12 0035-0045+ blasting in with C&W music over KTWO who had a preacher. (DKK-CA)
 + 8/15 0006 with C&W music and "Clue Country" ID's. Mixing with presumed KJDJ and KMAS with fairly decent signal. New here. (BP-CA)
 1400 KBCK MT, Deer Lodge ex-KDRG was barely atop the heap at 2300 on 8/19, ID'ing as "True Talk 1400, KBCK Deer Lodge-Anaconda." I couldn't determine format. (LG-MT)
 1510 KTIM CA, San Rafael 7/26 1755 noted with new calls KTIM, K-Time slogan. Still C&W, mostly contemporary but some classic. Is running until 0130 nightly with lower power. (DKK-CA)
 1630 KNAX TX, Fort Worth 7/30 fair in Spanish with ID at 0601, ID mentioned "14-40 KTNO Denton, Fort Worth..." No mention of KNAX calls. Did not sound relig., but ranchera type Spanish music. QRM from KKWY and KCJJ. New. (PM-OR)
 + 8/10 another surprise on top of KKWY at 2259, in Spanish with ranchera music. Man gave dual ID for KTNO-1440 "Radio Vida" and KNAX-1630 with slogan that sounded like "Radio Ayo." Assumed the Spanish speaker at 2255 on 8/22 atop KKWY. Probably running day power both times. (LG-MT)

 540 KNAK UT, Delta 8/5 0500 fair with "Thanks for listening to AM 540 KNAK Delta. Radio for the family, it's 3 o'clock." Followed by Information Radio News net Under total local KOAC splatter. (DP-OR)
 600 KGEZ MT, Kalispell 8/5 0523 OK with long fades. Rock, yelling rap with Andrew W.K. singing "She is Beautiful." While my son was identifying the song, I heard a "Z-600" slogan, ex-Classic 600." (DP-OR)
 630 CKVL BC, Kelowna 8/15 1150 with local affairs programming, several "CKVL-630" ID's heard. (MSt-BC)
 660 KZTU OR, Junction City 7/31 0310 above KGDP in KTNN null with woman hosting a talk show Better than KPAM-860. (DKK-CA)
 710 KFIA CA, Carmichael 8/22 was on top at 2255 with slogan "The Life," Sacramento commercial followed. (LG-MT)
 720 KDWN NV, Las Vegas had open carrier at 0756 on 7/29 with apparent s/on at 0800, but was not off at this hour any of the Mondays in August. (LG-MT)
 800 KPDQ OR, Portland was very strong at 0757 on 8/2 and 0756 on 8/20 with ID as "True Talk 800 AM." Michael Metvetz (spelling?) followed. (LG-MT)
 860 CBXJ AB, Jasper 8/14 1800 with Edmonton weather and CBC news. (MSt-AB)
 CBKM BC, Blue River 8/14 2030 with traffic report for Vancouver and CBC news. Soon lost in less than 5 miles from town. Listed as 40 watts. (MSt-BC)
 CBKZ BC, Clearwater 8/14 2214 with typical CBC current affairs programming. (MSt-BC)
 CBUP BC, Merritt 8/15 1208 with CBC current affairs programming // to CBU-690. (MSt-BC)
 930 KROE WY, Sheridan 8/5 0733 worked this one for a while and probably just got lucky. CJCA was dominating with some kind of talk and the ID snuck

between words. I was looped directly at one of my locals on 920, which seemed to provide clearer audio from KROE (all things considered). New. (DP-OR)

1000 KKIM NM, Albuquerque ran a short promotional tape loop on 8/22 from 2258-2302 with ID's, including "Your leader in Christian talk radio in New Mexico, KKIM." Slight QRM from KOMO. (LG-MT)

1030 KMAS WA, Shelton 8/16 1338 coming out of tune "Passionate Kisses," promo for SOTO-MOJO bumper sticker, weather and ID. (MSa-WA)

1060 KBGN ID, Caldwell 7/17 2325-2330 with religious program. Gone at 2330. (DKK-CA)

1070 KNX CA, Los Angeles 8/17 0240 good signal with regular ID's, AM traffic Report and temp. check. (MSa-WA)

CFAX BC, Vistoria 7/120300-0305 cutting thru KNX with news. (DKK-CA)

1110 KBND OR, Bend 7/12 0306 with ID "Newstalk Eleven-Ten KBND" atop nicely after news and ads. (DKK-CA)

1150 KAGO OR, Klamath Falls 7/12 0309 atop with "Art Bell." (DKK-CA)

1170 KFAQ OK, Tulsa (ex-KVOO) 7/9 0419 with KLOK off, syndicated talk show, ID "The New Talkradio 1170 KFAQ" 0419. Continued with nice signal next hour. 7/11 0325 with Rusty Humphries talk show in nicely, ID 0328. KLOK off. 7/12 with KLOK again off KFAQ mixing with KPUG at 0310. (DKK-CA)

KPUG WA, Bellingham 7/9 0445 atop with many local & national ads. 7/12 mixing with KFAQ 0310. (DKK-CA)

1210 KEBR CA, Rocklin 8/5 a surprise with relig. program ending at 0759. Man ID'd as "Listener supported family radio, 1210 AM KEBR and 89.3 KEBR-FM." (LG-MT)

+ 8/5 0815 relig. with "A Bible break from Family Radio." (DP-OR)

KBSG WA, Auburn 8/12 0045-0050+ atop with ads. ID 0049 and brief weather, "KBSG Oldies 97.3." Rare at this hour. (DKK-CA)

1220 KWKU CA, Pomona 7/17 0410 cutting thru KSFb with woman in Spanish // to KWKW-1330. Also 7/17 2337 noted below KSFb. (DKK-CA)

KCCS OR, Salem 7/31 gave local weather and call, plus "Christian Family Radio" slogan at 0758. Good signal. (LG-MT)

1230 KZZR OR, Burns 8/10 0205 atop briefly with weather & ID, then into C&W music. Second time heard. (DKK-CA)

KWIZ WA, Everett 8/15 0900 with 3 KSUH-Puyallup/KWIZ-Everett ID's in English spoken by 3 different people. Many "Radio Puyallup" ID's heard as well. Then back to ethnic programming. (MSt-WA)

CKYR1 AB, Grand Cache 8/20 1100 with full Yellowhead Network ID, CJYR 970 Edson; 96.7 FM CFYR Whitecourt; 1230 CIYR Hinton; 1230 CKYR1 Grand Cache and 1450 CKYR Jasper. This does not get out very far as I only started to hear it a few miles south of town. Listed as 50 watts. The NRC Log also lists this as having local programming from 0800-1300 MST, but at 0900 and again at 1000 it was definitely parallel to 970 CJYR. (MSt-AB)

CIYR AB, Hinton 8/14 1650 with full Yellowhead Network ID with CJYR 970 Edson; 96.7 FM CFYR Whitecourt; 1230 KIYR Hinton; 1230 CKYR1 Grand Cache and 1450 CKYR Jasper. (MSt-AB)

CJNL BC, Merrit 8/15 1140 with sports news and many "NL-Radio" ID's. I think this could have been a local broadcast as the commentator made two mentions of the Nicola Vally, which is where Merrit is situated. The NRC Log does not mention this and says it's parallel to CHNL-610 24/7. (MSt-BC)

1250 KLLK CA, Willits 7/25 0200-0300 with KEYT. New format is Spanish pop music. Heard often since. (DKK-CA)

1270 KAJO OR, Grants Pass 7/30 2344 atop with "AM 1270" and KAJO ID's. (DKK-CA)

1290 KBZN CA, Santa Barbara 7/15 0339 NOS format and ID through KPAY/KKDD. August has shown KAZA running AN and strong. (DKK-CA)

1310 KIQQ CA, Barstow 8/14 0810 Spanish fair. This stations' wake up call signaled it was time for me to go to bed. "Ciudad Barstow, Lancaster, Palmdale, Buenos Dias...Adelanto, Baker, Apple Valley, Hesperia, Buenos Dias..." I think they were finishing up the entire Inland Empire, when I called it quits. New. (DP-OR)

1330 KWKW CA, Los Angeles 8/14 0720 Spanish fair with local splatter. Sound bites of recent call-ins and an ad for "Tacos Clarita." No ID. LA mentioned many times amid ads. (DP-OR)

1340 KATA CA, Arcata 7/21 0300 TOH ID "ESPN for the North Coast KATA." (DKK-CA)

KAVC CA, Mojave 7/22 0240 with 3 different ID's while atop. Format was religion. KCBL beneath with sports. (DKK-CA)

KGLW CA, San Luis Obispo 7/20 2255 atop alone with talk. TOH ID 2300 "K-Glow KGLW" into news. (DKK-CA)

KLKI WA, Anacortes 8/15 1510 with oldies music and many "Music of your life, AM 1340 KLKI" ID's. (MSt-WA)

CINL BC, Ashcroft 8/15 1114 with oldies music and many "NL-Radio" ID's. (MSt-BC)

1350 KRLC ID, Lewiston 8/17 0913 out of Buck Owens song, "Win \$10,000" contest and ID. Good. (MSa-WA)

1370 KSOP UT, Salt Lake City 7/17 2348 cutting through KZSF with "You're listening to Gold Country," C&W music. (DKK-CA)

1380 KWJL CA, Lancaster 8/11 2300 atop with TOH ID after NOS music. Gone immediately after ID leaving KTKZ/KTOM. (DKK-CA)

1390 KRRZ ND, Minot 8/14 0651 poor to fair under KSLM. Almost ID'd it first try, but second ID finished the sentence. "Oldies? Radio, KRRZ, Minot." Preceded by Jay and the Americans and "This Magic Moment." Minot heard several times. My first ND station. Yahoo. (DP-OR)

1400 CHNL1 BC, Clearwater 8/14 2219 with "NL-Radio ID then back to oldies music. (MSt-BC)

CIOR BC, Princeton 8/15 1158 discussion about pollution coming from BC fishfarms. CKOR/CIOR/CJOR ID at top of the hour then into news. (MSt-BC)

1410 KWYO WY, Sheridan 8/14 0609 fair at times, competing mostly with CFUN. "Music variety, KWYO" into Elton John song. (DP-OR)

1450 KHIT NV, Reno 7/17 0414 with ID and into "Faded Love." 7/18 0306 with C&W music. This in local KEST's null. Format switch for KHIT from NOS to C&W. (DKK-CA)

KONP WA, Port Angeles 8/15 1609 with "1450 KONP" ID and back to live broadcast from a local fairground. (MSt-WA)

CKYR AB, Jasper 8/14 1805 with end of Broadcast News and "YR-Radio" ID. Several ads for Jasper heard. (MSt-AB)

1450 CBWI AB, Grand Cache 8/20 1120 with CBC current affairs programming // to CBX-740. This also did not get out very far. Listed as 40 watts. (MSt-AB)

1460 KUTI WA, Yakima 8/16 0653 ID "Yalima's Original Country, 1460 Country Cutie." Classic country tune "I Love Your For All the Wrong Reasons, other slogans include "Pure Country," promo for the Bull 92.9 FM. 0700 legal ID "KUTI Yakima, a Clear Channel Station," CBS news. (MSa-WA)

1470 KKFO CA, Coalinga 7/17 2327 popped up with "It's summer and the weather is hot and so is the music here on KKFO." Cut power at 2330. Long time since I've heard this. (DKK-CA)

KUTY CA, Palmdale 7/17-18 2315-0125 with Lancaster Jethawks BB net, Jethawks vs Giants(?). In/out with XERCN etal. ID 0118 followed by ad for Lancaster Firestone. (DKK-CA)

KELA WA, Centralia 7/18 0100-0105+ with news/ads/weather/ID in very tight null of XERCN et al. "Northwest Radio Network." (DKK-CA)

KBSN WA, Moses Lake 7/18 0105 with ID "Radio 1470 KBSN," many promos and local items. Atop briefly in XERCN null. (DKK-CA)

- + 8/14 2207 with an advertisement for a gardening center followed by a 1470 "KBSM" ID. Unsure what the programming was as there were at least two more stations on the frequency. At least the ID was clear. (MSt-BC)
- XERCN BCN, Tijuana 7/17-18 0100 with ID for Tijuana/San Diego and Radio Unica. Generally dominant here. (DKK-CA)
- 1490 KRKC CA, King City 8/12 0100 with clear ID way down in mush. (DKK-CA)
- 1500 KSTP MN, St. Paul 7/13 0402 noted under KSJX with news. (DKK-CA)
- 1510 KGA WA, Spokane 8/14 2200 with CBS news followed by a "Newstalk 1510 KGA" ID. This one really surprised me as I was a good 270 air miles from Spokane in central BC and it was still 2 1/2 to 3 hours before local sunset when I heard it. (MSt-BC)
- 1540 CBXD AB, Edson 8/14 1600 with CBC News followed by weather for Edmonton and "You're listening to CBC Radio One, 740 Edmonton." No local ID's heard, unlike it's FM sister in Hinton which did give a local one // to CBX-740. (MSt-AB)
- 1550 KCCF WA, Ferndale 8/7 heard with ethnic program. At 2300 a man superimposed ID as "Radio Punjab on KCCF" on top of program in progress. Gave location as Ferndale-Vancouver-Bellingham. Strong signal. (LG-MT)
- 1570 KTGE CA, Salinas 7/22 0243 atop in Spanish with "Radio Tigre" slogan. (DKK-CA)
- 1630 XEUT BCN, Tijuana 7/31 0220-0302 atop KCJJ with program of pop Spanish instrumentals, s/off announcement at 0257, National Anthem at 0258 and off at 0300. Open carrier off at 0302. (DKK-CA)
- 1650 WPUJ289 WA, Kent 8/16 0900 good signal with repeated tape loop regarding road closures. (MSa-WA)
- 1700 ?TIS? CA, Oakland assumed the one with man giving airport info, weak at 0754 on 8/13. Gave web address as www.??airport.com, but missing word was not "Oakland." QRM from another station with woman announcer. (LG-MT)

UNIDS

- 1020 8/15 0007-0100+ a preacher popping in & out through KTNQ, in English. KYXE in there also. No ID possible. (DK-CA)
- 1270 7/21 0304-0330+ overpowering KBZZ & KJUG with instrumental brassy songs, latino/big band/swing etc, no announcements or ID's. Very strong, looped NE. (DKK-CA)
- 1440 8/14 0800 two top of the hour ID's coming in at once. Heard "Newstalk AM 1440 KCMT..." The slogan is from KMED and the call letters are from who knows where, and they sounded fairly pronounced. (DP-OR)
- 1510 7/13 0330-0500+ strong atop KGA with Nancy DeMoss program "Revive Our Hearts" a Christian religious show. Would repeat after each 30 minute segment. No ID's or anything.. (DKK-CA)

Hope that everyone had a good time at the convention. Next WDXR deadline is Thursday September 4th! Nancy 8/23 2100

2002-2003 IRCA DX Contest

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

2002-2003 IRCA DX CONTEST RULES

This year's IRCA contest will be a combination of domestic and foreign DX. The goal will be to hear as many stations as possible from each U.S. state, Canadian province, Mexican state, and each foreign country. Stations located in the contestants home state/province will be ineligible to be reported by that contestant. All stations outside of your home state/province will count in this contest!

Scoring will be 1 point per station, double (2) points for each graveyard (1230, 1240, 1340, 1400, 1450, and 1490) station reported. Domestic and foreign stations will have the same point value. The combined total will determine the contestants rank in the standing. The contestant with the most total points at the end of the contest will be determined the winner. There will be one prize, a \$5.00 IRCA Bookstore credit.

The contest will be open to all IRCA members in good standing. Entrants will be disqualified if they cease to be members of the club. The contest will run from 0001 September 1, 2002 through 2359 May 31, 2003. You may join the contest at anytime during the year.

All loggings must be made within 25 miles of your main DX location. Normally, this is your home, for students this might be your college dorm. If a person moves during the contest they may start over at the new location.

The contest manager will have the final word on all station and interpretation of all rules, including disqualification of a station for scoring or a member from the contest.

Your contest report of stations heard in any particular month must be postmarked by the 5th day of the following month. For example, a station heard on October 12th must be submitted by November 5th to be eligible. Failure to do this will disqualify the item in question for points. Contest entries must not be sent along with WDXR DX tips as they easily become lost when filed away in the WDXR file.

Standings will be updated on the 15th of each month and results published in the next available bulletin subject to normal deadline delays. The final standings will be tabulated on June 15, 2003 and will appear in the July bulletin, subject to space in that bulletin.

The contest manager may join the contest, but will be ineligible for the prize. There is no entry fee for the contest.

Stations must be in the normal 530-1710 kHz band. TIS and utility stations are not eligible for contest purposes. Loggings may be first time heard, or relogs of stations heard before. If a station changes call letters it may be relogged and be counted. To count a U.S. station, you must hear the actual call letters. To count a Canadian, Mexican, or foreign station, you must hear the actual call letters or hear a recognized slogan plus location.

Contest entries must list station call letters, frequency, location, date and time of logging only. Reports may be sent via e-mail to the address listed above. E-mail entries must not be attached files nor mixed with a WDXR report. Postal entries are to be sent to the street address in the masthead of WDXR column.

Entry in the contest implies consent to all rules, including those which may appear later as necessity dictates.

Prize: One only \$5.00 IRCA Bookstore Credit for the contest entrant with the most final points. The object of this contest is to hear as many stations as possible. Each station logged is worth 1 point. There is a bonus point for each graveyard station logged, thus graveyarders are worth 2 points. The contestant with the most total points at the end of the contest will be determined the winner. Have fun! 73--Nancy

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
NUIHeric@aol.com

National NC-60 Special with inverted V indoor antenna. GE Superadio III.
Radio Shack TM-152 AM Stereo tuner with Worcester Space Magnet 2.

[LH-LA] **Lynn Hollerman**
gmhollerman@earthlink.net
Yacht Boy YB-400 with internal antenna
[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.

DOWN THE DIAL

1240 WIAN MI, Ishpeming. 7-25 poor. 22:00 with "WDMJ, WIAN Marquette Country's..." Fade out. Sporting News Radio. [JJR-WI]
WJIM MI, Lansing. 8-16 poor. 05:06 with promo, calls. [JJR-WI]
WTAX IL, Springfield. 7-21 poor. 06:06 with jingle, AC format. Thought this one was all news? Again on 8-17 with weather, calls. [JJR-WI]
1270 KPBA AR, Pine Bluff. 7-28 with interference that would sometimes destroy the signal. 20:40-20:48 with soul music. "Lock us in, we're pure Gospel 12-70." 20:45 with a promo for contests including a long list of rules and instructions for claiming prizes. [LH-LA]
1380 WTJK IL, South Beloit. 8-3 good to poor with others. Local KSLG off. 23:45 noted with Rockford area spots, ESPN Sports talk, "ESPN Radio 13-80 The Jock" slogan. [EB-MO]
1600 KOGT TX, Orange. 7-28 with interference. 21:06-21:15 with country music, some talk. [LH-LA]
1630 KCJJ IA, Iowa City. 7-28 with heavy interference. 21:21 with talk. [LH-LA]
KNAX TX, Fort Worth. 8-4 fair to poor under KCJJ. 06:10 with Christian music in SS. KTNO 1440 was not coming in. [EB-MO]
1660 KQWB ND, West Fargo. 8-1 good with KXTR on the National. 06:15 with trivia notes, local spots, "Star 16-60" slogan. [EB-MO]
KXTR KS, Kansas City. 8-1 good with KQWB on the National. 06:16 with classical music format. [EB-MO]

UNIDs

1630 unID 7-28 unID station with interference from KCJJ. 21:18-21:25 with SS music which may have been religious music. 21:22 with ID in EE and SS that sounded like "KMAH Radio Ab-dah" ID for station on 1440 in Dallas - Fort Worth. Most likely a simulcast. Any ideas? [LH-LA]
{Lynn, this is most likely KNAX which ID's as "KTNO 1440 Radio Vida and KNAX 1630 Radio Ayo." Believe this is in Fort Worth. Heard by Eric Bueneman on 8-4 and Larry Godwin on 8-10. John.}

25 YEARS AGO

August 6, 1977 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Neil Wolfish** of Toronto, ON said he was 15 and had heard 305 stations ... **Grant Manning** of Escondido, CA told about his new hours on 2.7 acres ... **Fred McClenaghan** of Scarborough, ON said he was 21 and was a computer programmer for Shell Canada ... **Steve Apel** of Douglaston, NY told about the 17 hour Con Edison power outage ... **Charles George** of Dallas, TX told about his Altec 906A tuner.

OPEN MIKE

Please report all your loggings in Eastern time. This column was typed 8-24-02. 73, John

Sunrise/Sunset Maps

12 maps showing 15 minute sunset and sunrise times for the US and 12 maps showing hourly sunset and sunrise times for the World. Explanation includes use of the maps and examples of DX made possible by knowledge of SR/SS times.

Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$2.25 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$2.75 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$3.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$3.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$1.00 to the above prices.

IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

(MH---) Mike Hardester STARS OF THE WEEK
3118 Gaitway Dr., Jacksonville, NC 28546
On the Road 2001 Toyota 4 Runner
(HN-GA) Herb Newberry 405 JH Whittaker Rd, Newborn, GA 30056-3033
Kenwood R-5000, Quan Loop, 600' T SHAPE

LOGGINGS

560 KY WMIK Middleboro 8/5 0050 Gospel MX, local ads (HN-GA)
TN WNSR Brentwood 8/5 0056 In with legal ID, ESPN pgm (HN-GA)
600 NC WCVP Murphey 7/28 0727 Local ads, wx, lots of "technical" problems
joined one show in progress. New in WBWL null (HN-GA)
610 AL WAGG Birmingham 8/5 0250 Gospel format "Heaven 610" Ids. (HN-GA)
770 AL WVNN Athens 8/04 0800 Full legal ID as the "talk monster", into relig.
Pgm Some fading, High noise level (HN-GA)
830 NC WTRV Kennersville 8/5 0314 Excellent, no sign of WCCO "AM 830, THE
Truth" (HN-GA)
920 SC WYMB Manning 8/5 0342 Ids as "Country 92.5" and "Wheels WHLZ
92.5. Local ads. (HN-GA)
990 AL WEIS Center 7/28 0819 "Gospel Jubilee" local annrc on "Wise Country
WEIS" Deep fades Good at peaks (HN-GA)
1050 GA WFAM Augusta 7/28 0831 "Quality Christain Radio" into church service.
Discovered in null of WPBS. New (HN-GA)
1060 GA WKNH Tallapoosa 7/28 0836. Good due to no sign of semi local WKGQ
All alone with Prayer Line" call in show. (HN-GA)
1090 SC WCZZ Greenwood 7/28 0844 Good on Loop LW had WCZZ and WBAF
equal. Oldies format. WBAF in with preacher. (HN-GA)
1180 FL VOA Marathon 8/8 0239 mixing with WHAM.. (HN-GA)
1230 GA WXLI Dublin 8/5 1159 Legal ID, back to C&W music. Dominant (HN-GA)
1270 FL WNLS Tallahassee 8/8 0307 w/ Art Bell, ID as "WFLA" (HN-GA)
1280 GA WLCC Macon 7/28 0906 Ex. On loop ant. //FM //1670 (HN-GA)
1340 VA WKEY Covington 7/12 0630 with local ads, oldies, canned ID as "Key
1340: Your Home For Good Time Rock & Roll" contest,
This along I 64W leaving Covington. (MH-KY)

TIS/HAR

(NOTE: ALL OF THE FOLLOWING COMES FROM MIKE HARDESTER DURING HIS TRIP)
The following TIS/HAR/BCB stns were noted during a recent trip to/from MO. Virtually NO TIS activity noted in Missouri, and Virginian stns were sadly lacking. I noted a sign along a stretch of I-77 in Virginia that didn't look good: "For Tourist Info Dial *511" A cellular Replacement ???

524 IL Mount Carmel Municipal Airport non-directional beacon noted
7/12 1730 w/ loop CW ID. Fair. Noted near Mt Carmel on I-64.
530 KY WNLN730 Illinois Department of Transportation HAR 7/13 0807 w/ male
annrc. Advising to drive carefully. Call sign form FCC database.
This HAR appears to consist of 3 xmtrs, covering a good 30-40
Miles and into Missouri.
530 KY WNPQ995 Greater Louisville Convention and Visitors Bureau. 7/12 1512
along I-64W approaching Louisville. Female with info on local
attractions, male with construction info. FCC says they operate
with 40 watts.

- 530 IN WPMG221 Indiana Department of Transportation HAR 7 miles east of Holland, IN 7/13 1512 on I-64 West. Female w/ road conditions, Construction info. Sign noted.
- 1200 IN At Black River Rest Stop, noted a sign that weather info was available on this freq. A check of 1190, 1200, 1210 yielded only weak audio from UNID stn. A defunct area AM or former HAR ???
- 1220 NC WPIZ762 Durham Visitor Info stn noted along I-40 W 7/30 1058 w/male annr w/list of attractions. Call sign per FCC
- 1610 IL UNID 7/13 0807 along I-64W near St. Clair County, IL Poor w/repeating code/ID message followed by tone of 1 1/2 sec.- that or mis keying. Not certain if a MEDFER or image from a local airport NDB
- 1610 NC WNBR325 Raleigh Durham Int. Airport TIS noted along I-40W in Raleigh w/ parking info, etc. Female annr. 7/30 1325 Half of sign still up advising to tune to 1610.
- 1610 NC WPHE255 Durham County Emergency Management noted 7/30 1308 along I-40W. Male annr w/directions to Duke Univ. Med Center. Female annr. W/ date & day anncmts.
- 1610 NC WPM328 NC State Univ. TIS 7/30 1345 w/female annr. Welcoming new students, parking info. Sopme QRM de WNBR326. Call via FCC
- 1610 NC WPED 201 Greensboro Area Convention And Visitors Bureau TIS 7/30 Routinely heard. Call via FCC
- 1620 VA NC border on I-77. Sign advising to tune to 1620 for traffic info but no stn noted there, 530 or X band.
- 1620 NC KNNH263 NC Department of Transportation HAR 7/30 @ 1220 along I-40W w/male annr giving road conditions.
- 1620 KY WPNS435 Anchorage City TIS 7/29 1600 along I-64E w/male annr giving info on local attractions and safety info Strong QRM from stn on 1600
- 1680 NC WPNY994 NC Department of Transportation HAR 7/30 at several locations along I-40W between Winston-Salem and Raleigh with construction info. Male annr.

As we get ready for the next volume, lets review some reporting tips.....Do not report your REGULARS...Only report DX...Be as BRIEF as possible. I replaced two lines of copy this week about signal strength, S-numbers, and type of antennas with ONE word: "Excellent"... That says it all. Do not list names of commercials, PSA, etc. I use TWO words : "local ads"...Think about how your entry will help someone else ID this station...Please list stations separately..If you hear two stns on the same freq, give us TWO listings..It takes too much time to separate them.....Also I have noted some reporters listing the same station every couple of weeks... That sounds like a regular to me.....Lets try to streamline our reporting a bit and help other DXers hear these stns. I also had one report this week with NO dates and/or times...I could not use it...Also remember that loggings over 30 days old will not be used during the regular DX season.

A big THANK YOU to Herb and Mike this week.....73 and see you all next time!!!.....
.....fresh8/25/02 1200.....

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Editor: Patrick Martin – P.O. Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138

E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net all times UTC

I had a fairly decent opening for DUs this morning (8/23). The best I have seen in months. I did have some pesky powerline noise though todeal with that happens once in a while. Not much above 1206 this morning, except a het on 1611. I may have been able to pull some other stuff out, but the noise level was a bit high from the powerlines.

- TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP
- 531 **NEW ZEALAND**, Auckland 1XPI, good on top of presumed 2PM, with Samoan talk and Island type mx at 1250 UTC 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 549 **NEW ZEALAND**, Kaitaia/Gisborne Radio Rhema presumed the source of the hymn and man talking at 1356 8/23. Lots of KMVI-550 splash. (PM-OR)
- 550 **HAWAII**, Wailuku KMVI, totally dominating 550 with Sports talk at 1320, spots of truck dealer on Maui 8/23. S9+ 30DB. (PM-OR)
- 558 **FIJI**, Naulu, Radio Fiji one with kind of a disco sounding island mx at 1340 8/23. Man in Fijian. (PM-OR)
- 567 **NEW ZEALAND**, Wellington 2YA, National Radio good at 1304 with News 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 570 **HAWAII**, Lihue, KQNG, good on top of KVI with Dr. Joy Brown show and "KONG" mention at 1315 8/23. Best heard in a long time. (PM-OR)
- 576 **NEW ZEALAND/AUSTRALIA**, a mix here at 1330 with Southern Star w/soft mx and a female talking on 2RN-Sydney. Southern Star was a bit stronger 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 590 **HAWAII**, Honolulu KSSK, very good on top with pop mx and "AM 590, Hawaii's KSSK" at 1335 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 603 **UNID**, pop mx station here with native talk at 1313 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 612 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane 4QR, very good with ABC News at 1303 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 620 **HAWAII**, Hilo, KIPA, very good with softer AC at 1333 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 630 **AUSTRALIA**, Townsville, 4QN // 4QR-620 mostly buried at 1303.30 UTC 8/23, ABC News. (PM-OR)
- 650 **HAWAII**, Honolulu KHNR, fair o/u KSTE with "Hawaii's only all news station, KHNR" at 1345 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 657 **NEW ZEALAND**, Wellington Southern Star //576 with soft mx in passing at 1321 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 670 **HAWAII**, Hilo, KPUA very good with Newstalk at 1317 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 684 **FIJI**, Labasa, Radio Fiji one //558 with mx at 1323 8/23. 680/690 splatter. (PM-OR)
- 690 **HAWAII**, Honolulu KORL, fair mixing with CBU with Radio Disney at 1343 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 702 **AUSTRALIA**, Sydney 2BL, good o/presumed NZ with ABC News at 1301 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 720 **HAWAII**, Eleele, KUAI very good and dominant with pop music "more music on 720 KUAI" Into local spot at 1341 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 738 **TAHITI**, very strong o/Australia with FF talk and Island mx, noted many times between 1245-1345 UTC 8/23 (PM-OR)
- 760 **HAWAII**, Honolulu, KGU presumed the source of the preacher mixing with KFMB at 1319 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 792 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane 4RN, good on top with woman in Aussie accent at 1350 8/23. Slight hum on channel. (PM-OR)
- 891 **AUSTRALIA**, Adelaide 5AN, good with talk show at 1300 8/23. UNID native talk underneath. Is Fiji back on? (PM-OR)
- 900 **HAWAII**, Kahului KNUI, very very strong. The best Hawaiian on the morning at S9+ 30+ DB with great Hawaii pops and many "AM 900 KNUI"IDs noted many times between 1250-1400 UTC 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 909 **NEW ZEALAND**, Napier, Southern Star // 576 in passing, soft mx, at 1308 8/23, 910 splatter. (PM-OR)
- 918 **UNID**, weak pop mx at 1347 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 936 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane 4PB fair with woman in discussion of crime at 1334 8/23. (PM-OR)
- t954 **AUSTRALIA**, Sydney 2UE presumed talk in splatter weakly at 1351 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 1008 **NEW ZEALAND**, Auckland 1ZB fair with News talk at 1256 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 1017 **TONGA**, fair at 0710 8/23 with woman in Tongan. (PM-OR)
- t1071 **AUSTRALIA**, Maryborough, presumed the soft EZL mx and spot at 1341 UTC 8/23. This one pops in often when cx are good running 5 KW with a lobe this way. (PM-OR)

- 1116 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane 4BC, very good holding on well even with splatter from KPNW-1120 with talk, mention by woman of "Talkradio 1116" gave phone numbers, 8/23 1352. They are much stronger than they used to be. Back in the 80s, 4BC was not all that common. With a signal like this, this will probably be one of the easiest commercial Brisbane stations. 5 KW with a lobe this way per the pattern book. A possible one to make it inland. (PM-OR)
- 1152 **FIJI**, Rakiraki Radio Fiji one at 1357 8/23. Fair with man in Fijian. (PM-OR)
- t1179 **AUSTRALIA**, Melbourne 3RPH presume the odd mx at 1339 but too much splatter and lost soon after 8/23. (PM-OR)
- 1206 **AUSTRALIA**, Grafton 2GF good with News at 1400 and "2GF" ID 8/23(PM-OR)

THIS WEEK'S REPORTER

PM-OR PATRICK MARTIN, PO Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net

DX WORLDWIDE - EAST

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

August has seen lots of solar activity but unfortunately I haven't been able to take advantage of any auroral openings due to work obligations which are slacking off at the end of the month. I'm looking forward to a move to a rural location in October and can hardly wait to set up my a newly acquired Wellbrook K9AY system. More great summertime loggings in from **Mark Connelly** this issue! First some words from Mark regarding the annual DX Clams gathering:

"DX Clams" ... Even though the 2002 version of the annual "DX Clams" gathering was held on one of the two or three rainy nights of the entire summer and, to boot, the DX was sub-par, I still enjoyed the outing in the company of Boston Area DXers including Tom Walsh, Bruce Conti, Paul McDonough, Gary Thorburn, Andy Wallace, and Paul Graveline.

I didn't get out of work early enough for the seafood dinner part of the activity, but went straight over to the DXing site at Granite Pier in Rockport, MA instead, arriving there just before 7 p.m. EDT / 2300 UTC (22 AUG).

Transatlantics were very limited, mostly those from the Canary Islands and northwestern mainland Africa: among the better ones were Mauritania-783 (the first one to fade in around 2300 UTC), and Canaries stations on 621, 747, 837, and 882. High band TA's didn't perk up until well after sunset when France-1206, Spain- 1521, and a few others made a showing. Bruce said that the A-index had been around 30, so the lack of more northerly Europeans was not a total surprise. Only a weak signal from Holland-675 represented Europe north of France.

With somewhat auroral conditions, in theory, one could turn the sights to Latin America and the Caribbean. Well before sunset, the eastern Venezuelan on 1140 was putting in a good signal, way over CBI/WRVA. Numerous other LA's did show, though the opening was slow to start and the aurora was not deep enough to suppress domestic short-skip QRM. One of my better catches was the Brazilian on 1100, decisively atop Antigua and a couple of Spanish-language stations with WTAM Cleveland in a 100% null off the back of the phased loop/whip cardioid array on the roof of the car. Some of the fun (though, at times, frustrating) channels were 640, 840, and 860 where numerous Caribbean and South American stations were duking it out. The three common Caribbean splits (535, 555, and 895) were all easily heard. Many of the islands were well represented and Venezuelans were good, too. Still, I would have gone for a more butt-kickin' aurora to sweep away the skip domestics. An aurora that still allows the Montreal stations on 690 and 940 to be pests isn't a very impressive one.

Some of the guys at the outing were doing shortwave broadcast and ham activities; I'm not sure how many others were into serious medium wave DXing. I do know that Bruce Conti got some good "unidentifieds" on tape for later analysis.

Even though this year's outing was somewhat of a "bust" compared to last summer's hugely-successful Rockport DXpedition, it was still a good get-together. I was interested in looking at the Elecraft K1 transceiver that Andy Wallace had assembled from a kit. Elecraft are to be commended for picking up where Heathkit left off. 73 / good DX ... Mark

*** TRANSATLANTIC DX ***

- 531 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 12 0155 - Spanish talk; fair over mess. + JUL 25 0205 - rapid-fire Spanish talk; slightly over others. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 567 **IRELAND** RTE R.1, Tullamore, JUL 12 0154 - Irish-accented woman mentioned the newscast to come in a few minutes. An interlude of folk music followed. Very good signal. + JUL 25 0205 - news in English; fair, over Spain. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 603 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Lyon, JUL 12 0151 - // 1206 with female soul vocal; excellent - surprisingly loud. + JUL 25 0204 - slow male vocal; good. Some slop from stronger-than-usual CBNA-NF on 600. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 612 **IRELAND** RTE 2FM, Athlone, JUL 25 0204 - dance-pop music; over Morocco. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 621 **CANARY ISLANDS** // SPAIN RNE R.1 synchros, Santa Cruz de Tenerife et al., AUG 22 2339 - fast Spanish talk by man; getting by WZON pest. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 639 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, La Coruna, JUL 12 0158 - mellow music with flute. + JUL 25 0203 - Spanish news; good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 675 **NETHERLANDS** R. 10, Lopik, JUL 12 0150 - "Could You Be Loved" by Bob Marley & the Wailers; fair. + JUL 25 0203- synthesizer-heavy '80s group vcl. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 684 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, Sevilla, JUL 12 0148 - bits of Spanish vocal; in WRKO slop. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 711 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Rennes, JUL 12 0142 - // 1206 with nostalgic vocal; poor to fair in WOR slop. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 711.05 **WESTERN SAHARA** RTM, Laayoune, AUG 22 2338 - bits of flute music through residual slop from phase-nulled WOR. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 738 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, Barcelona, JUL 12 0140 - "Hey Nineteen" by Steely Dan; fair to good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 756 **GERMANY** DeutschlandRadio, Braunschweig & Ravensburg, JUL 25 0200 - German news; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 765 **SWITZERLAND** RSR, Sottens, JUL 12 0140 - emotional French male vocal; through WABC slop. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 783 **MAURITANIA** R. Mauritanie, Nouakchott, AUG 22 2317 - // 4845 with news in Arabic; good. Carrier noted as early as 2245 UTC. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 837 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Nancy, JUL 12 0138 - // 1206 with vocal & piano; slightly over others. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 837 **CANARY ISLANDS** // SPAIN COPE synchros, AUG 22 2336 - festive music // to (loud) 882. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 855 **SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, JUL 12 0137 - Spanish talk & music; only fair. Lower band TA's weren't as good as those higher on the dial. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 882 **CANARY ISLANDS** // SPAIN COPE synchros, AUG 22 2319 - Spanish talk; coming up in strength over WCBS slop. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 891 **ALGERIA** Chaîne 1, Algiers, JUL 25 0158 - Arabic music at low audio level. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 891 **ALGERIA** Chaîne 1, Algiers, AUG 23 0209 - Arabic music; through combined Cuba/WBPS/WLS-890 slop. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 918 **SPAIN** R. Intercontinental, Madrid, JUL 25 0158 - fast Spanish talk by man; fair to good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 945 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Toulouse, JUL 12 0136 - // 1206 with Barry Manilow (or similar) slow vocal with piano; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 999 **SPAIN** COPE, Madrid, JUL 12 0134 - politically-oriented Spanish talk; good. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUL 18 0437 - // 1296 with teletalk; loud. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1017 **GERMANY** SWR-1, Wolfshiem, JUL 25 0153 - W in German; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1044 **SPAIN** SER synchros, JUL 12 0131 - fast Spanish telephone chatter; mixed with others. + JUL 25 0134 - teletalk; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1053 **UNITED KINGDOM** TalkSport synchros, JUL 25 0136 - talk mentioned the Tories; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** TalkSport synchros, JUL 12 0129 - TalkSport mention, then talk "A friend of mine just got a job at one of the greatest stations in the United States." To good peak. + JUL 25 0138 - talk mentioned BBC Radio One, caller said "I'm fed up with the media." Good signal. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1098 **SLOVAKIA** R. Slovensko, Velke Zaluzie, JUL 12 0124 - country-style Abba vocal, then a Slavic version of the Brotherhood of Man '70s hit "Save Your Kisses for Me"; loud, over Spain. + JUL 25 0139 - nostalgic big-band jazz, then classical music; strong, dominant. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1107 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 12 0122 - man & woman in Spanish; slight synchro echo, good strength. + JUL 25 0140 - echoey Spanish teletalk; over apparent English-language station. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0252 - SP talk; poor to fair. [Connelly*R-MA]

1116 **SPAIN** SER synchros, JUL 25 0147 - // 1179 with fast teletalk. Huge signal. This channel had been a jumble just a few minutes earlier. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1125 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 25 0145 - // 1107 with fast Spanish talk by woman; over presumed Croatia. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1134 **CROATIA** Hrvatski R., Zadar, JUL 12 0118 - Slavic folk-rock song resembling the Mister Mister oldie "Broken Wing"; gd + JUL 25 0141-soul vcl; exc.[Connelly*rw-MA]

1143 **SPAIN** COPE synchros, JUL 25 0142 - Spanish talk; mixed with unID music station. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1152 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 12 0113 - man & woman in Spanish; fair. + JUL 25 0143 - Spanish talk with synchro echo; over others. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0034 - telephone quality audio Spanish talk; poor. [Connelly*R-MA]

1161 **SPAIN** Euskadi Irratia, San Sebastian, JUL 25 0150 - // 1197 with Spanish talk, percussive music; poor. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1179 **CANARY ISLANDS** // **SPAIN** SER synchros, JUL 25 0147 - fast SER Spanish teletalk; mixed with Greek station. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1179 **GREECE** ERA, Thessaloniki, JUL 25 0147 - Greek music; over/under Canaries-Spain. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1188 **HUNGARY** RFE, Marcali, JUL 12 0111 - Slavic talk, then cool-jazz female vocal (style of Sade); in WLIB slop. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1197 **SPAIN** Euskadi Irratia, Vitoria, JUL 12 0110 - Spanish talk; poor, slightly over several others. + JUL 25 0150 - // 1161 with Spanish talk, music; poor. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1206 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Bordeaux, JUL 7 0347 - French talk, then a vocal that sounded like the French version of Mat Monro's "Let's Face the Music and Dance"; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA] + JUL 12 0017 - soul music, then woman in French. + JUL 12 0108 - song "Twist in My Sobriety" by Tanita Tikaram; good signal. + JUL 25 0018 - vocal in the style of John Lennon; good. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0033 - French male folk style vocal; fair signal (but considerably weaker than when heard at Rowley, MA in July). [Connelly*R-MA]

1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Virgin R. synchros, JUL 12 0023 - U2 song; poor to fair, slightly over Spain. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1251 **LIBYA** Libyan Jamahiriya, Tripoli, JUL 12 0034 - a cappella Arabic vocal; in slop. + JUL 25 0152 - newstalk by two men in Arabic; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1296 **SPAIN** COPE, Valencia, JUL 18 0426 - fast Spanish newstalk by man & woman, then fanfare music; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1332 **ITALY** RAI R. Uno synchros, JUL 25 0024 - Mario Lanza style romantic vocal; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1359 **SPAIN** Arganda, JUL 7 0420 - fast Spanish talk; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA] + JUL 12 0011 - het fade-up. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1377 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Lille, JUL 25 0117 - // 1206 with vocal similar to early '80s Christopher Cross; hacked-up by local WMYF-1380. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1413 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 25 0115 - echoey Spanish talk; to fair peak. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1422 **GERMANY** DeutschlandRadio, Heusweiler, JUL 25 0114 - piano music and operatic vocal; excellent. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1467 **FRANCE** TWR, Roumoules, JUL 14 0343 - musical box interval signal; very good. [Connelly*B-MA]

1494 **FRANCE** France Bleu synchros, JUL 25 0130 - oldie "These Boots are Made for Walkin'"; badly slopped by WBAE-1490 ME. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1502 **ANGOLA** EP de Benguela, JUL 12 0040 - Portuguese vocal; audio somewhat mushy. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1503 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, JUL 12 0040 - Spanish talk; hotted by Angola on lower sideband and splashed by WWZN on upper sideband. + JUL 25 0028 - man & woman in Spanish; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1512 **SAUDI ARABIA** BSKSA, Jeddah, JUL 25 0111 - Koranic male vocal; loud, well atop second station believed to be Greece. WWZN phased. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1521 **SPAIN** SER, Castellon, JUL 25 0110 - SP teletalk; to fair peak. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0155 - Spanish talk; fair. [Connelly*R-MA]

1530 **SAO TOME E PRINCIPE** VOA Relay, Pinheira, JUL 7 0359-0404 - // 7290 with piano music, then into VOA news by man & woman with items about the situation in the Middle East. To good peak over tightly-nulled WSAI. [Connelly*B-MA]

1548 **KUWAIT** VOA Relay, Kabd - Kuwait City, JUL 25 0030-0130 - I listened to this several times over an hour and was mystified by the same station playing Middle Eastern and Indian music along with western (US/Euro) pop hits. The female announcer was somewhat mumbly, so I wasn't sure of the language. I did hear an ID that Herman Boel in Belgium confirmed as being "Radio Sawa", an entertainment service being run on VOA Kuwait. The signal was very strong on peaks. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1557 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Nice, JUL 25 0044 - // 1206 with light rock male group vocal; to fair peak with WQEW phased. [Connelly*rw-MA]

1575 **SPAIN** SER synchros, JUL 18 0417 - Spanish talk by man, slight echo noted; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]

1584 **CEUTA** RadiOle, JUL 12 0003 - mellow Spanish vocal; fading up. + JUL 25 0045 - operatic male Spanish vocal; huge, way over SER talker. [Connelly*rw-MA]

*** PAN-AMERICAN DX ***

530 **TURKS & CAICOS** R. Vision Cristiana Internacional, South Caicos, AUG 23 0001 - female Spanish religious vocal; loud. [Connelly*R-MA]

535 **GRENADA** GBC, St. George's, JUL 12 0157 - rhythmic soul-jazz; poor to fair. + JUL 25 0206 - Caribbean English talk; fair, through CBT-540 slop. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0223 - soul music; poor to fair in heavy R.V.C.-530 slop. [Connelly*R-MA]

555 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** R. ZIZ, Basseterre, AUG 23 0221 - excited Caribbean male announcer; fair with WGAN-560 phased. [Connelly*R-MA]

580 **PUERTO RICO** R. Reloj, WKAQ, San Juan, AUG 23 0226 - Puerto Rico mentions in Spanish talk by man & woman; over WTAG. [Connelly*R-MA]

640 **GADELOUPE** Pointe-a-Pitre, AUG 23 0219 - French talk by several people in the studio; strong and generally dominant. [Connelly*R-MA]

640 **VENEZUELA** Union R., YVQO, Puerto La Cruz, AUG 23 0230 - several "Union Radio Noticias" slogans; good, over Guadeloupe. [Connelly*R-MA]

670 **VENEZUELA** R. Rumbos, YVLL, Caracas, AUG 23 0218 - Venezuela news items; over second Spanish talker that was probably the Cuban. [Connelly*R-MA]

690 **ANGUILLA** Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, AUG 22 2359 - // 6090 with preaching in both English and Spanish; mixing with Montreal station. [Connelly*R-MA]

750 **VENEZUELA** RCR, YVKS, Caracas, AUG 22 2357 - Spanish talk about Venezuelan politics, relations with Colombia; loud. Echoey-audio station, probably a Brazilian, under. [Connelly*R-MA]

- 760 **COLOMBIA** RCN, HJAJ, Barranquilla, AUG 23 0207 - // 1000 with Colombia-related newstalk, RCN and "la primera cadena radial de Colombia" slogans; mixed with several others and a low growl. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 770 **COLOMBIA** RCN, HJJX, Bogota, AUG 23 0238 - // 760 with RCN ID, Spanish talk; mixed with WABC. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 780 **VENEZUELA** R. Coro, YVMN, Coro, AUG 23 0243 - Spanish dedications to someone in Coro celebrating fourth birthday; mixed with CFDR. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 800 **NETHERLANDS ANTILLES** Trans-World Radio, PJB, Bonaire, AUG 23 0242 - slow religious Spanish vocal by man; over WCCM and Canadians. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 820 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** Trinity Broadcast Network, Charlestown, AUG 22 2353 - Caribbean English inspirational talk, then piano music; good with WNYC phased. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 860 **CUBA**, CMBL, Arroyo Arenas, AUG 23 0245 - Reloj program; mixing with one of the Venezuelans; CJBC phased. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 895 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** VON, Bath Village, AUG 23 0247 - talk about a local band; fair. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1000 **COLOMBIA** RCN, HJAJ, Cartagena, AUG 23 0207 - // 760 with newstalk and RCN network ID; over/under other Spanish speaker. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1039.6 **VENEZUELA** La Voz de Carabobo, YVLB, Valencia, AUG 23 0250 - most likely this with Spanish vocal: this has been 400 Hz low of nominal 1040 for at least 2 years. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1090 **VENEZUELA** Union R., YVSZ, Caracas, AUG 23 0251 - // 640 with Spanish newstalk; fair over others with WBAL phased. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1100 **BRAZIL** R. Globo, ZYK694, Sao Paulo, AUG 23 0142 - fast Portuguese sports-related talk, Sao Paulo and Globo mentions, slight reverb on audio. Very good: way over ZDK and others with WTAM completely phase-nulled. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1110 **VENEZUELA** R. Carupano, YVQT, Carupano, AUG 23 0037 - salsa music, R. Carupano ID and timecheck, then into ballad. Huge signal, way over WBT. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1140 **VENEZUELA** La Voz del Caribe, Porlamar, AUG 22 2322 - Porlamar mentions; good / dominant. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1209.55 **unID** JUL 25 0019 - low het against WPHT/YVZT/VOAR. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1210 **VENEZUELA** R. Anzoategui, YVZT, Barcelona, JUL 12 0106 - Barcelona, Venezuela Spanish adverts; fair with WPHT phased. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1375.02 **ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON** RFO, St. Pierre, AUG 23 0030 - jazz-rock; loud. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1500 **unID** AUG 23 0200 - Probably just the Venezuelan here, but ID / slogan sounded more like Radio Luz, rather than Radio Dos Mil. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1580 **unID** JUL 7 0405 - bits of Portuguese talk and music; in jumble. Possibly of domestic origin. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP, Fredriksted, St. Croix, JUL 12 0100 - WDHP ID; fair. + JUL 25 0049 - "Chariots of Fire" music followed by adverts including "Amigo Enterprises" used cars in St. Croix (tel. 719-8960) and Tom's Concrete and Building Supply (tel. 719-4554). 3-station ID given, then a promo for the Virgin Islands lottery. Good signal. [Connelly*rw-MA] AUG 23 0022 - old time country-western show with songs by Freddy Fender, Buck Owens, and others. Strong signal, completely dominant. [Connelly*R-MA]
- 1660 **PUERTO RICO** WGIT, Canovanas-Moca, JUL 12 0101 - SP talk with Puerto Rico local mentions; under partially nulled R. Unica, NJ. There was also a very weak drifting het on about 1661.8. + JUL 25 0052- fair with NJ phased. [Connelly*rw-MA] Spanish talk mixed with the second Spanish audio from nulled NJ station. Low growl of about 10 Hz noted. [Connelly*R-MA]

*** CONTRIBUTORS ***

[Connelly*B-MA] = Billerica, MA (GC= 71.221 W / 42.533 N) (home)

Receiver: Drake R8A, Antenna systems: sloper and flag antenna, Superphaser-2 phasing unit

[Connelly*rw-MA] = Rowley, MA (GC= 70.829 W / 42.745 N) (salt marsh)
Receiver: Drake R8A, Antenna system: two active whips, spaced 50 m (164 ft.) E-W axis, Superphaser-2 phasing unit
[Connelly*R-MA] = Rockport, MA (GC= 70.622 W / 42.667 N) (Granite Pier)
Receiver: Drake R8A, Antenna system: broadband loop phased against active whip; Superphaser-2 phasing unit

That's all for this issue. The DX season is on the horizon! 73, Brandon

WESTERN DX FORUM

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

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Greetings - The July 2nd SoCalGTG here in Bellflower was a pleasant success. There were half-a-dozen DXers attending, in alphabetical order: Frank Aden (of Idaho), Dennis Gibson, Jim Hilliker, Steve Jarvis, Gary Larson, and Mike Sanburn. All 6 of us were IRCA members. Five of us were California residents. Four of us were licensed ham operators. Three of us have hosted IRCA conventions. Two were cat lovers, and at least one of us thinks that there should be more get-togethers! [and a Beverage in a pear tree.] We had lots of burgers, sandwiches and ribs, then viewed photographs, classic radio memorabilia, equipment, etc. Dennis recorded the event on his digital camera. We discussed many topics including "Past members - where are they now?" and "What's up with KBOI?" Frank and I talked about the probability of having a 2004 convention in either Boise, Idaho or Salt Lake City, Utah. We had a brief demonstration of how easy it was to null locals such a XETRA-690 with a KIWA loop. Since conditions on the broadcast band were in the summer slump, we DXed a bit on the 20-meter ham band. The event continued until after midnight. Thanks to all who attended. My next project is the Seattle convention in August. I'll probably miss this year's NRC convention in Ohio - hope it's a hit. Rumors are that NRC 2003 will be in New York. I'll stay glued to their website... I've checked out the new IRCA website and it looks great. As always, thank to Lynn. I noted the new convention link and MP3 download for stations. It's sad to see so many stations have to give up their internet audio-streaming capabilities. Is this the latest legal nightmare? I guess we can all write our congressman, then again, we can hear our favorite station the old fashioned way - DX it! Speaking of which, good dx to all. 73

Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504

[8/8] Saw an interesting announcement in LA Times today about an FM call change using former 540 Costa Mesa call of a couple years ago - KKJS. On 8-9, 88.1 KLON Long Beach, jazz programs, will go to KKJZ. The station went on in '81 w/KLON call. Wonder where the KJAZ (ex-1260) call will end up? Pretty hot here currently. 73

EASTERN DX FORUM

Richard C. Evans - 7416 Hearthstone Way - Indianapolis IN 46227-7923
E-mail: REvans5435@aol.com DEADLINES: Sundays

Rick Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227 REvans5435@aol.com
I was up in Michigan over the weekend and had a couple of small chances to listen to the radio. On Sat. 7/27, I was driving from Kalamazoo to the Grand Rapids area and listened to WNWN-1560 for a few minutes. The last time I had heard the station, I think they were country but now they were running urban gospel. Radio-Locator says urban contemporary. They still had a strong signal north of Otsego on US131. Then I tuned down to 980 and

listened to WAKV-980 the rest of the way up and all the way back. They are still nostalgia (old standards). Sounded great. Probably satellite but I didn't care. They called themselves "Vintage Radio". I just checked and found a website located at www.vintageradio.com but it doesn't show WAKV-980 as a member. Sunday morning, just before leaving Kalamazoo to come back to Indy, I took my portable and tuned up to 1660 to catch WQSN with their sports programming. It is a new catch for me there, station #287, and the first new station in that log since 11/25/88. Of course, it had to be a local station, hi, but it's the first chance I have had to listen to any X-band station there. I thought my car radio would go up thru the X-band, but turns out it doesn't. It just goes up thru 1610 for the TIS stations. The Superadio II is too old for those stations as well. Gotta run. 73

VERIFICATION SIGNERS

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My deadline is the last Tuesday of the month. Next month's deadline will be moved up one week to September 17th to accommodate a short vacation.

CONTRIBUTORS

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PM Patrick Martin, P O Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-0843; mwdxer@webtv.net

FREQ CALL NAME, TITLE; ADDRESS; WHAT; WHEN; WHO

1220 KSFB [None]; 39138 Fremont Blvd, 3rd Floor, Fremont CA 94538; FB; 184; PM

WHAT was received: L = Letter with personalized statement; F = Form letter; Q = QSL card, commercially printed; C = Postcard or similar card supplied by station; P = Prepared card or form supplied by DXer; R = DXer's report returned with statement; cf = Certificate; E = Verification by e-mail; fx = Verification by FAX; M = Coverage map; B = Bumper or other sticker; bc = Business card; + = Extra goodies

WHEN the reply came: Number of days elapsed; f = Follow-up, by mail, FAX, e-mail, or visit; n = Return postage not used; r = Return postage returned

NOTES: * [For this column] = None

This column was prepared on 8/27/02. 73, SSH.

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

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

Geomagnetic Summary July 30 2002 through August 25 2002
Tabulated from email status daily.

Date	Flux	A	K	Space Wx Today	Space Wx Forecast	Etc.
7/30	227	9	2	none	minor	7 flares
7/31	209	9	2	minor	minor	4 flares
8/1	193	23	5	minor	minor	5 flares
2	180	30	5	moderate	minor	9 flares
3	168	18	2	strong	minor	6 flares

4	151	15	2	moderate	minor	5 flares
5	142	8	2	minor	minor	8 flares
6	145	5	2	none	minor	4 flares
7	136	7	2	minor	none	3 flares
8	135	6	3	none	minor	6 flares
9	140	15	4	none	minor	8 flares
10	148	14	3	minor	minor	5 flares
11	172	12	3	none	minor	7 flares
12	184	13	2	none	minor	5 flares
13	192	13	2	minor	minor	6 flares
14	208	13	3	minor	minor	7 flares
15	210	21	4	minor	minor	9 flares
16	214	19	2	moderate	minor	5 flares
17	227	11	2	minor	minor	6 flares
18	241	15	2	minor	minor	9 flares
19	237	22	3	minor	minor	10 flares
20	228	15	3	moderate	minor	10 flares
21	220	34	3	strong	minor	6 flares
22	220	9	2	moderate	moderate	5 flares
23	210	10	3	minor	moderate	7 flares
24	196	7	1	strong	moderate	5 flares
8/25	179	8	3	minor	minor	6 flares

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

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Phased Spaced Active Whips and Broadband Loops

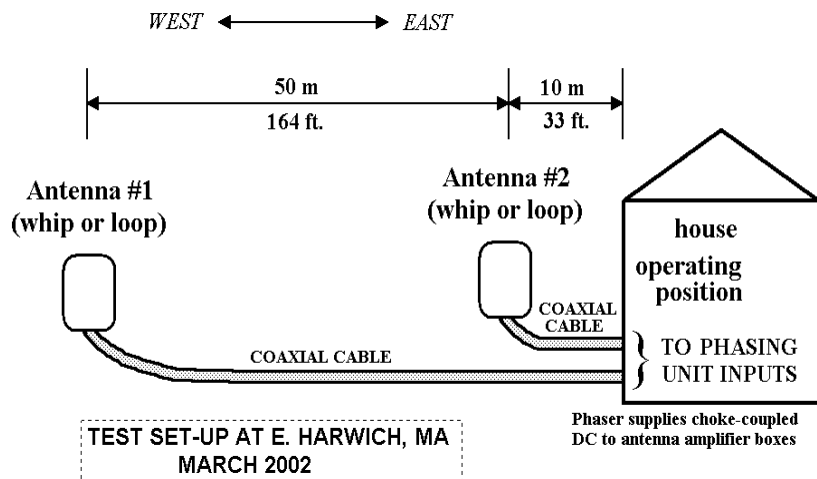
Mark Connelly, WA1ION – 30 JUL 2002

During March 2002, I did an extensive series of tests at East Harwich, MA on the phasing of two identical compact antennas (first active whips, then broadband loops). The spacing between the two spaced antennas was approximately 50 m (164 ft.) on an east-west axis.

A good rule of thumb is 1/12 wavelength minimum spacing, 1/3 wavelength maximum spacing. The ideal value for a cardioid pattern is 1/4 wave spacing (or odd multiples thereof) and +90 or -90 degrees of phase shift (as supplied by the combination of feedline lengths and phasing unit delay adjustments). 1/8 wavelength, requiring 135 degrees of shift, still works reasonably well. Closer spacings require more phase shift, going towards 180 degrees. If the antennas are too close, signals from all directions null together: not very useful! If the spacing is increased to a half-wave (or integer multiples thereof), 0 degrees of phase shift would be required and the pattern formed would have a bi-directional null (i.e. figure-of-eight rather than cardioid).

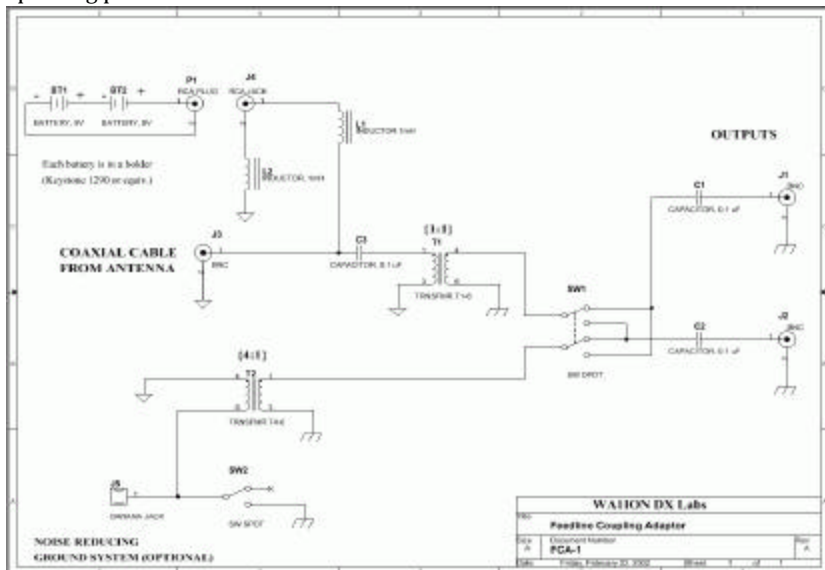
With the medium wave range of 500 to 2000 kHz, 1/12 wavelength at 500 kHz and 1/3 wavelength at 2000 kHz both equate to 50 m, so this is a good midrange spacing value. Separation in the 60-100 m range could work slightly better at the bottom of the AM broadcast band. The effect being exploited is that signals from the east arrive at the east end antenna before they reach the antenna at the western end. The converse is true for signals coming from the west.

The test set-up is shown below:



Field-site antenna amplifier boxes were TMB-1's (reference 1). These can be used in one configuration for active whip operation (I used a 1.83 m / 6 ft. telescoping rod) and in another configuration for broadband loop operation (using, in this case, a 2 m per side square loop of wire mounted in a vertical plane).

Besides bringing the signals of the two antennas to the phasing unit inputs, I tried an FCA-1 Feedline Coupling Adaptor (reference 2) on the feedline from the antenna farther from the operating position.



The FCA-1 allows the 60 m feedline going to the amplifier base of the farther antenna to be used as an antenna itself.

Any suitable phasing unit, such as the DXP-3 (reference 3), may be used.

Active Whip Tests

Two TMB-1 amplifier modules in active whip mode were used. The antenna element for each was a 1.8 m / 6 ft. telescoping rod (Radio Shack 270-1408) attached to a small plastic box fitted with a BNC-male connector to mate to the TMB-1's whip input jack. Commercial active whips, such as the MFJ-1024, could have been used instead.

Tests were performed with each of the following antenna combinations presented to the phasing unit inputs.

Set-up #	Phaser Input 1	Phaser Input 2
1	active whip 60 m from house	active whip 10 m from house
2	active whip 60 m from house	60 m feedline-as-antenna
3	active whip 10 m from house	60 m feedline-as-antenna

Set-up #1 gave good cardioid results with deep nulls of stations to the west (+/- 30 degrees) not causing reduction of signals from the north, northeast, east, southeast, and south. Similarly, if the station to be nulled was from the east (+/- 30 degrees), stations in westerly directions were affected to a very minimal amount. In fact, if anything, stations from directions opposite the cardioid null were often enhanced in strength slightly as compared to their strengths on one whip or the other used singly. Below 700 kHz, there were a few cases where opposite-direction signals went down slightly in strength during nulling. This problem would go away with a bit greater spacing between the active whips.

If set-up #1 was phased to null stations close to perpendicular to its axis, a bi-directional null results. Since there is no difference in time of arrival of a given northern or southern signal's time of arrival at the two antennas, two whips spaced on an east-west axis will produce an east-west peak / north-south null (figure-of-eight) if the phasing unit is adjusted for nulls of stations close in bearing to either north or south. This predicted behavior was found to be generally true during the East Harwich tests: south-bearing stations from the Caribbean (e.g. ZIZ-555 St. Kitts-Nevis) weakened when stations from the north (e.g. WGAN-560 Maine) were nulled. To null WGAN without weakening ZIZ, the better configuration would be to space the active whips on a north-south axis.

Set-ups #2 and #3, the phasing of the feedline against one or the other antenna, turned out to be useful. These two set-ups gave similar performance to each other, though - from the standpoint of local electrical noise - the preferred configuration would be the use of set-up #2 employing the active whip antenna farther from the house. Unlike the active whip's omnidirectional characteristic, the feedline-as-antenna has some inherent directivity. Some moderate amount of nulling occurs at a right angle to the feedline. The almost-on-ground "feedline antenna", as any low longwire substantially shorter than a Beverage, looks a bit like a loop in its pick-up characteristic: a loose figure-of-eight with shallow nulls (north-south in the E. Harwich test case) and slight peaks along the line of its axis (e.g. east-west). The peak in the direction away from the receiver end may be slightly greater. The antennas may differ in response to local noise sources. Another interesting observation is that, since the feedline is close to the ground, its low vertical angle pick-up is poorer (relative to short skip) than that of the active whip. Because of these differences in pick-up, useful nulls can be obtained with active whip versus feedline antenna phasing. Results are cardioid performance for east-west situations, much like the two spaced active whips. It's also rather like loop-versus-whip phasing, whether there's any spatial separation between those antennas or not. The feedline antenna, in this case already provides some nulling north and south. Any further nulling in those directions is provided by adding in a very attenuated

sample of phase-shifted RF from the active whip. The resultant pattern is still essentially a north-south nulling figure-of-eight, or something close to it.

More interesting is the diversity in skip angle pick-up in the vertical plane. Cancelling high-angle skip (such as Albany, NY on 1540 kHz and New York City on 1560) can be done with set-ups #2 or #3 without causing much degradation of lower angle more-distant skip even if it is coming from a direction not greatly different from that of the high-angle signal. That's because the feedline antenna is not picking up as much low-angle skip as the whip (relative to high-angle pick-up). When the high-angle component from the feedline antenna is shifted to be +/-180 degrees in phase relative to the pick-up of the same signal by the whip, less low-angle signal is cancelled even if it too is at a 180 degree phase shift. Some nulls of high-angle skip have been greater in depth and stability with set-ups #2 and #3 than with set-up #1. This initial observation during the E. Harwich tests was noted again with similar antennas during DXpedition activity at the salt-marsh site in Rowley, MA on several subsequent occasions. Sometimes set-up #1, the two spaced phased vertical whips, gave the optimum results in nulling US interference to European DX signals, sometimes set-up #2 or #3, whip-versus-feedline, did better. It is certainly beneficial to have the FCA-1 available to enable all of these approaches.

Broadband Loop Tests

Each active antenna consisted of a TMB-1 amplifier base in broadband loop mode with a loop head consisting of an 8 m (26.25 ft.) wire formed into a square 2 m (6.56 ft.) per side and supported on a wooden frame. This square was mounted in a vertical plane and was oriented either to null north-south (peak east-west) or to null east-west (peak north-south), as indicated in the set-up table below. Connections of the two ends of the loop head wire to the TMB-1's inputs were made at a break in the loop wire at the midpoint of the bottom side of the square.

There is no reason that a Wellbrook ALA-1530 or the Graham Maynard '6x6' broadband loop could not have been used instead. Results would be similar.

Tests were performed with each of the following antenna combinations presented to the phasing unit inputs.

Set-up #	Phaser Input 1	Phaser Input 2
4	Broadband loop (N-S null) (60 m from house)	broadband loop (N-S null) (10 m from house)
5	Broadband loop (N-S null) (60 m from house)	60 m feedline-as-antenna
6	Broadband loop (N-S null) (10 m from house)	60 m feedline-as-antenna
7	Broadband loop (N-S null) (60 m from house)	Broadband loop (E-W null) (10 m from house)
8	Broadband loop (E-W null) (60 m from house)	Broadband loop (N-S null) (10 m from house)
9	Broadband loop (E-W null) (60 m from house)	Broadband loop (E-W null) (10 m from house)
10	Broadband loop (E-W null) (60 m from house)	60 m feedline-as-antenna
11	Broadband loop (E-W null) (10 m from house)	60 m feedline-as-antenna

Set-up #4 is very valuable in that the loops separated on an east-west axis and aligned for north-south nulling will produce a tighter cardioid pattern than that produced by the two separated active whips. This is because the loops inherently remove some of the interference from the north and the south: something the whips don't do. When you adjust the phasing unit to place a null towards interfering stations to the west, stations coming in from the east are in a peak that is more "narrow nosed" than that produced by the phased whips of set-up #1.

The same applies to stations from the east being phase-nulled to hear stations from the west better. Since, right out of the starting gate, this set-up has less north-south pick-up than the whips, general levels of interference to the desired-direction DX will be lower.

Loops don't have quite as good low-angle pick-up (relative to high-angle skip) as the vertical whips do, so that might be somewhat of a drawback, especially with pre-sunset Transatlantic DX at receiving sites in eastern North America, or post-sunrise Transpacific DX from the West Coast.

Elevating the loops may offer some low-angle pick-up improvement. Hoisting one of the loops to the 18 m height level (rope over top of pitch pine tree) in a temporary experiment improved its low-angle pick-up a bit and reduced some local electrical noise relative to its pick-up at a nearby mounting location (base less than 2 m above ground). Conceivably you could get some interesting effects by phasing a highly-elevated loop (30 m minimum height) versus one near the ground, whether or not there is any horizontal separation. This was not tried for lack of time and support height: maybe one of the EZNEC experts could model it.

For many, phased loops schemes will be winners because loops pick up less locally-produced electrical noise than vertical whips do.

Set-ups #5 and #6, phasing the feedline antenna against the loop at one end or the other, was not terribly useful. The feedline's pick-up is somewhat like that of an east-west loop halfway between the two loops (because of the averaging of its pick-up). This would reduce its "effective spacing" to be about 25 m from either loop. Except perhaps for 1500 kHz and above, this isn't enough spacing to prevent a lot of desired-direction "collateral nulling" when opposite direction interference is being phased out. If the feedline was about twice as long, set-ups #5 and #6 would have produced more worthwhile results.

Set-ups #7 and #8, phasing orthogonally-oriented loops, gave good nulling results, particularly along the bisectors of the angles between them. In these cases, this meant that signals from the northwest could be nulled to reduce interference to signals from the southeast, and vice versa. Similarly, signals from the northeast could be nulled to reduce interference to signals from the southwest, and vice versa. When a station to be nulled was close in bearing to the inherent null of one loop or the other (due north-south and east-west in these tests), a small sample of out-of-phase signal from the other loop could be added to deepen this null, but opposite-direction signals would also be reduced (i.e. figure-of-eight produced) rather than yielding the single-side null cardioid results obtained with nulling along the bisector lines. The spacing between two loops at a right angle is not critical: they can be mounted very close to each other (as in a goniometer) and useful nulling can still be obtained since their pick-up patterns are different.

Set-up #9 produces a north-south peaking figure-of-eight that can be somewhat narrower than what is produced singly by each loop. Residual east-west pick-up that is not completely nulled by the loop elements themselves can be reduced further by phasing. With this configuration, even better results can be had with greater spacing (in the vicinity of a half-wave).

Set-ups #10 and #11 produce results akin to those of the two loops at a right angle (set-ups #7 and #8) except that you now have some diversity in the vertical skip angle and noise pick-up profiles between loop and feedline antenna types. This could yield some nulls that the two-loops schemes might not, especially if one's main focus is "noise-busting".

Horizontal Loop: any value to this ?

A horizontal plane square loop is omnidirectional like a vertical whip. It has inferior low-angle pick-up compared to the whip. It may, in some circumstances, reject local electrical noise better. Phasing such a loop against either a whip or a vertical-plane loop separated 50 m or so may yield beneficial nulls. I haven't tried this yet.

Broadband Loop versus Active Whip ... a few comments

A vertical-plane square or circular broadband loop can be phased against an active whip with excellent results. The spacing between these can be quite small since the inherent figure-of-eight pick-up of the loop is sufficiently different from the omnidirectional pattern of the vertical whip. This is the set-up I often use on the roof of the car at beach DXpeditions where there isn't any room for more space-hungry approaches. This configuration produces cardioid peaks-nulls along the two bearings of the loop's maximum pick-up (+/- 30 degrees or so) and enhances the loop's figure-of-eight nulls in directions close to those that the loop nulls on its own. Since most of my listening involves reducing stations to the west to improve incoming European, Middle Eastern, African, and Brazilian stations (on bearings between northeast and southeast), I orient the roof-mounted broadband loop to peak east-west and then phase its output against that of the active whip to reduce signals from the west (+/- 30 degrees). Many sunset listening sessions at coastal sites in the northeastern USA have validated the usefulness of this method.

Passive Versions of Broadband Loop and Whip for City-Dwellers

Even the best broadband amplifier designs are going to be challenged in the strong-signal urban environment. Intermodulation products and harmonics are apt to occur. Narrowly-tuned versions of the antennas are one way to mitigate the problem, but this leads to poor frequency agility and inefficient operation. To keep things broadband, passive matching transformer techniques can be used instead.

A whip can be coupled to coaxial line through a 36:1 or other high-ratio transformer. A hand-wound version on a large ferrite core of #43, #75/J, or #77 material is preferable to the small chip-sized Mini-Circuits equivalents (e.g. T36-1-X65). If the vertical antenna element is made appreciably large (at least 6 m), the signal transfer will be greater and the passive matching transformer ratio can be brought down to something like 16:1 or 9:1. The ground connected to the end of the high-impedance transformer primary winding (on the other end of the winding to the antenna) can be the coaxial shield's ground or, for lower noise, independent ground rods or radials near the base of the vertical. You could also use a transformer at the center of a vertical dipole: use a 16:1 or other high ratio if the overall dipole length is considerably shorter than a resonant half-wave.

As in the whip case, a broadband loop intended for passive coupling should be made physically larger than its amplified version. The two leads from a square 4 m on a side (16 m total wire) can be coupled via a 4:1, 2:1, or 1:1 transformer to the coaxial line. As noted before, use a large toroidal core if core-saturation intermodulation is likely with something smaller.

Passively-coupled antennas are more weatherproof than ones with outdoor "head-end" amplifiers. Amplification, whether broadband or tuned, can be applied in a controlled environment at the operating position if required.

References

Web links are current as of 30 JUL 2002. In future, if these are not valid, use a search engine to find the documents on-line. Alternately, it may be possible to procure them on paper from the National Radio Club or International Radio Club of America reprints services.

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