

January 18, 2003 - Volume 40, Number 18 - Edition 1275 - ISSN 899-9733

Publishers Note

Our Secretary-Treasurer, **Lynn Hollerman**, sends word that she's changing her e-mail address. If you need to contact her, especially when regarding renewing your membership or your change of address, it's now lynn@eatel.net. -RT

Notice of Elections for 2003/2004

NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN - *Lee Freshwater, President*

This is a somewhat belated notice to all members of IRCA that the election process for new officers for the 2003-2004 term is now beginning. Here is the revised calendar of events of importance to members.

From now thru March 1, 2003 nominations are open for President, Secretary-Treasurer, and the seven members of the Board of Directors.

Only one nomination each for President, Secretary-Treasurer, and only seven nominations for the Board shall be allowed each IRCA member. An eligible member may nominate him/herself. All nominations must be submitted in written form (letter, fax or e-mail) to the Election Committee Chairman (ECC) by March 1, 2003.

The ECC will notify all nominees of their nomination by March 15, 2003. Each nominee (unless it is a self-nomination) must reply in writing (letter, fax, e-mail) if they accept their nomination, and each acceptance letter may include a campaign statement, not to exceed 20 bulletin lines in an April issue of DX Monitor. Campaign statements aren't required. If a member is nominated for more than one office, he/she must decide which office they choose to run for and may include a campaign statement for office selected. All letters of acceptance and campaign statements must reach the ECC by April 10, 2003.

The campaign statements, in alphabetical order, and the ballot will be prepared by the ECC and sent to the Publisher by April 20 for distribution. All ballots must be received by the ECC no later than 0001, Mountain Local Time, June 15, 2003.

In addition to the balloting for the officers and Board of Directors, there will be voting for the 2002-03 Ted Vasilopoulos Award and the Ric Heald Award. As we get closer to the elections, there will be more information published on these two awards.

Also note that the Election Committee Chairman (ECC) is **Reid Wheeler**. His address is 5910 Boulevard Loop SE, Olympia, WA 98501-8408. Telephone 360-786-6756, fax 360-753-3824 and e-mail wma001@attbi.com.

If you have any questions on the election process, please contact Reid or myself.

In This Issue:	
Presidential Memo.....	2
DXer Meetings & Tests	2
Broadcasting Information.....	3
Western DX Roundup.....	4
Central DX Roundup.....	7
Eastern DX Roundup	9
DX Worldwide - West.....	10
Western DX Forum.....	11
Eastern DX Forum.....	11
Emerging DX Techniques	
Of Hi-Tech DXing Part I.....	12

Presidential Memo

The following proposal was submitted to the BOD for their consideration.

20.1.9 Proposal to hold the 2003 IRCA convention in Portland Maine. Convention will be held on June 27, 28, 29. Host will be **Mike Sanburn**

ALL BOD MEMBERS HAVE VOTED IN FAVOR OF THIS PROPOSAL

Lee Freshwater, IRCA president

Seattle Get-together Presidents Day Weekend

Bruce Portzer sends word: "Hello Everyone-- It's time for my annual DX Get-together. This year it will be on Saturday, February 15, beginning at 2 p.m. Here's a chance to meet other radio listeners and talk about hobby stuff - medium wave, SWBC, utility, TV/FM, or whatever flavor of listening you like to do.

"Feel free to bring stuff like receivers, QSL cards, antennas, and other paraphernalia to show off or demonstrate. Please bring a potluck snack or something to drink. At dinner time, we'll pass the hat around and order some pizzas.

"My address is 6546 19th Avenue N.E. in Seattle. It's not hard to find, since the streets are numbered and parallel around here. But if you need directions, let me know.

"If you have questions or want to RSVP, my phone number is 206-522-2521. See you there.

2003 IRCA Convention Advance Announcement

The **40th annual IRCA convention** will be held on June 27-29 at the *Best Western Merry Manor Inn*, 700 Main Street, South Portland, Maine 04106. Phone number for reservations is 207-774-6151 (mention the IRCA convention rate of \$69 per night.) We will have the usual events including the business meeting, station tours, auction, banquet, etc... All members or radio fans are welcome. Registration fee will be the usual \$35 (payable to Mike Sanburn). This covers meeting room rental, banquet, refreshments, etc... The hotel can be viewed at www.seenewengland.com/merrymanor. Tourist info can be found at www.visitportland.com. Specific questions can be directed to me at mikesanburn@hotmail.com. I'm looking forward to the event and will have more details forthcoming. 73 and good DX! **Mike Sanburn**, KG6LJU. My address is P.O. Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707-1256.

DX Tests

PLEASE NOTE: Even if you don't hear a test, be sure to contact the station, and thank them for going to the trouble to run a test! Please remember, what's listed as being on, say, Monday morning "may" be what you think of as Sunday night! (Test times are in the station's LOCAL time.)

Sunday, February 2, 2003 - WBMJ-1190, San Juan, PR and WIVV-1370, Vieques, PR will conduct a DX test from 12:00-2:00 am AST (11:00pm-1am EST). This test will be run simultaneously on both stations. At 11:59 pm AST, the stations will come out of a youth program - "Life on the Edge" - and then run a minute of DX information, including Morse code IDs. Then the stations will return to their regular programming from the Moody Broadcasting Network. The same procedure will be repeated at 12:59 am AST and 1:59 am AST. WBMJ will be broadcasting at 5 kW; WIVV at 1 kW. Reception reports (with return postage) may be sent to:

Bert Johnson
Operations Manager
WBMJ Radio/WIVV Radio
P.O. Box 367000
San Juan, PR 00936-7000
E-MAIL: bjohnson@cem-wbmj.org

If you try for (or hear) any of these tests, PLEASE post a message letting me know, and please, drop the station personnel a note, via e-mail or snail mail, thanking them for running the test!

(Arranged for the IRCA CPC)

Lynn (ircamember@ircaonline.org)

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
710 KUET – BLACK CANYON CITY, AZ	KMIA
770 KNWX - SEATTLE, WA	KTTH
1160 WMVI – MECHANICSVILLE, NY	WABY
1210 KBSG – AUBURN, WA	KNWX
1260 WWJQ – ZEELAND, MI	WPNW
1420 WCLV – CLEVELAND, OH	WRMR
1430 WRDN – DURAND, WI	WOOQ

FORMAT CHANGES		
FREQ.	CALL – CITY	NEW INFO
590	WLVA – LYNCHBURG, VA	AP NEWS
710	KMIA – BLACK CANYON CITY, AZ	SPANISH OLDIES
770	KTTH – SEATTLE, WA	TALK
1150	KXTA – SAN DIEGO, CA	// XETRA - SPORTS
1210	KNWX – AUBURN, WA	BUS. NEWS
1260	WPNW – ZEELAND, MI	RELIGION
1340	WRWA – READING, PA	OLDIES
1390	WPLM – PLYMOUTH, MA	CL. C&W - ABC
1530	WTTI – DALTON, GA	SILENT DUE TO FIRE
	WSAI – CINCINNATI, OH	OLDIES
1570	KYCR - GOLDEN VALLEY, MN	REL. TLK // KKMS
1580	WTTN – WATERTOWN, WI	OLDIES
1650	KBJD – DENVER, CO	NEWS-TALK

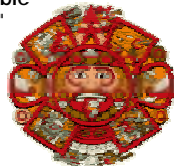
Fresh 1/12/03 0800

NEW 2002 VERSION! The IRCA Mexican Log 8th Edition



lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. The call letter index gives call, frequency, city and state. The city index (listed by state, then city) includes frequency, call and day/night power. The log has been completely updated from the 2001 edition and

carefully cross-checked by several IRCA members. **This is an indispensable reference for anyone who hears Mexican radio stations.** Size is 8 1/2" x 11" and three hole punched for easy binding. **Prices:** IRCA/NRC members - \$9.50 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$10.50 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$11.00 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$11.50 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.50 to the above prices.



To order the **IRCA Mexican Log** from the **IRCA Bookstore**, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to **Phil Bytheway**) to:

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

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Editor: Nancy Johnson –265 Waterton Way- Billings, MT 59102-7755
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WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

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DX-398 (except for KDUN & KJDJ - Sony ICF-2010 & Kiwa air core loop)
- (RT) Rich Toebe-2103 Sargent Ct.-Davis, CA 95616 richtoebe@jps.net
Grundig YB-305
(RT-CA1) Delco AM/FM stereo in Pontiac at South Lake Tahoe, CA
- *****

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 710 KSPN CA, Los Angeles 1/1 1156 legal ID "KSPN Los Angeles-Orange County, the station with bats and balls," back into LSU football. Ex-KDIS. (MS-CA)
+ 1/2 1930 with ESPN Radio, ID 1930 and into Iowa-USC at Orange Bowl. Easy on day pattern. (DKK-CA)
- 770 KTTH WA, Seattle was born 1/6/03 at 0800. "Talk 770 KTTH" features Mike Siegel, Bill O'Reilly, Michael Medved, and Michael Savage between 5am-7pm PST. Concurrently, the KNWX format moved to 1210. Of interest was a promo at 0255 about "KNWX 1210" even though it was still on 770 at the time. (PT-WA)
+ 1/6 1250 good as usual with talk and the O'Reilly Show. Ex-KNWX. Lots of "770 KTTH" promo ID's. At 1259 an ID by "The Buzz 100.7" and lots of local talk // 100.7 (PM-OR)
+ 1/9 0150-0305+ under KKOB. Missed ID at 0300, went into news till 0305, then big hype on new station and format followed by several KTTH ID's. Another talk show followed. (DKK-CA)
- 1110 KDIS CA, Pasadena 1/1 0600 atop with Radio Disney. Some KFAQ slop. Fair signal with some KBND QRM. Heard nightly now. (DKK-CA)
+ 1/1 1200 Radio Disney with Playhouse Disney. Songs including "Bicycle Built for two" and "Celebrate." Has indeed swapped with KSPN. Heard legal ID at 1216 "AM 1110 KDIS Pasadena-Los Angeles." (MS-CA)

1140 KNWQ CA, Palm Springs 1/2 0110-0240+ noted under/over KHTK with Coast to Coast show. 0200 KHTK gave ID and paused for several seconds and I heard "...KNWZ and Palm Springs KNW," apparently a multiple ID. At 0202 noted a local ad with Palm Springs mentioned, then news to 0206. Recheck at 0239 saw KNWQ solid atop KHTK for a few minutes. (DKK-CA)

1210 KNWX WA, Auburn fair to poor as usual, ex-KBSG, now KNWX. 1/6 0110 announcer had trouble as he wanted to call it "770 KNWX" instead of 1210 KNWX. Same news format as 770 had been. (PM-OR)
+1/6 1910-1945 in/out with KZTS. Was carrying Clark Howard syndicated talk show. 1917 ad break and KNWX Traffic Report at 1920. (DKK-CA)

550 CKPG BC, Prince George 1/10 1008 good and strong S9+30DB with spots for Prince George. Best I have heard in a while. (PM-OR)

560 CKNL BC, Ft. St. John 1/10 fair to good with ID at 0959:45 "This is 560 CKNL, a Standard Radio Station." (PM-OR)

570 CKWL BC, Williams Lake 1/10 1007 with "Wild Country Weather." (PM-OR)

580 CKUA AB, Edmonton 1/10 1009 fair to good with weather for different cities in Alberta. (PM-OR)

610 CKYL AB, Peace River 1/10 1010 good with sports, mentioning Peace Country HS basketball. (PM-OR)

710 ?KSPN? CA, Los Angeles 1/4 0955-1001 now noted with sports, then local traffic for LA area, gave "ESPN 710" slogan, but missed the legal ID thanks to KFIA. Fair signal with local KFIA very tightly nulled. (RT-CA)

730 CHMJ BA, Vancouver 1/2 0225 found atop KCBS slop which is increasingly rare in these parts. Talk, Mojo Radio. (DKK-CA)

800 KDFO CA, Bakersfield 1/2 0222 fair signal thru KGO slop with Fox Sports. (DKK-CA)

KPDQ OR, Portland strayed from the religious path with program "The American Advisor" sponsored by Gold Mines International, concluding at 2300 on 1/7. Man said it airs M-F at this hour, then ID'd as "True Talk 800, KPDQ." Dominant signal. (LG-MT)

KSOS UT, Brigham City 12/17 mixing with several others, concluded a program and ID'd at 0800. Announcer mentioned several stations, including KOVO-960, as part of "The Sports Zone." New format for me. (LG-MT)

840 WHAS KY, Louisville 1/6 0624 poor, caught bits and pieces. Heard ID at 0625 "84 WHAS," then backtracked to hear time check, Bloomberg's Money Update and deciphered another ID under KKNX and KXNT. Sounded like rush hour. New from here. (DP-OR)

880 KJJR MT, Whitefish 1/6 1900 thru KKMC/KWIP et al with "KJJR Whitefish, Kalispell, Columbia Falls" ID after ad break, then into news. Haven't heard them since 1988. (DKK-CA)

890 KLFE CA, Arroyo Grande 12/200957 was moderately strong with religious program. Gave URL as 890online.com At 1000 there were harp chords and call ID. New. (LG-MT)

900 CKBI SK, Prince Albert 1/2 1015 fair & alone with country music. (PT-WA)

910 KGME AZ, Phoenix 1/5 0940 on top of frequency with ESPN, ads with local references, then "ESPN 910" slogan, no call ID. New from Davis. (RT-CA)

980 KINS CA, Eureka 1/3 1010 in at fair level with news atop CKNW. Rare. (PT-WA)

KSVC UT, Richfield 1/5 0951 strong over KFWB with music, then promo with KSVC call ID. New from Davis. (RT-CA)

1000 KKIM NM, Albuquerque 1/4 1930-2000 faded up strongly in KOMO null with Black Gospel music, abrupt ID at 1945 "KKIM, the best in Christian Talk Radio" with monster signal, but was gone by 2000. Not needed but rarely heard. (RT-CA)
+1/4 2100-2113 running USA net then into old time radio, on top of KOMO and wiping them out! At 2113 they disappeared, must have realized they were still on day power? Thanks to tip by Paul LaFreniere. (FA-ID)

+1/5 2257 very strong atop KOMO, surely on 10kw day power. Announcer said it was "KKIM, the very best in Christian talk (or pop?) radio." (LG-MT)

1030 KDUN OR, Reedsport has been in at good level every night this week 12/30-1/3 at 2000 and 2100 but with no top of hour ID. Classic Country. (PT-WA)

1030 KJDJ CA, San Luis Obispo came in out of nowhere 12/31 2301 while I was tracking KDUN. Spanish and very rare. (PT-WA)

1040 KLVP OR, Tigard 1/3 0159 in over CKST and also again 1/3 around 2000. Unusual. (PT-WA)

1060 KGFX SD, Pierre 12/18 0956 very strong with local commercials. (LG-MT)

CKMX AB, Calgary 12/28 was on top with an oldie and ID "From Montana to Edmonton...CKMX." (LG-MT)

1080 KWJJ OR, Portland 1/3 0005 very tough to hear here due to brutal KYCW slop but cut a swath with a "Hot Talk" promo. (PT-WA)

1130 KWKH LA, Shreveport 1/10 0500 poor, "...KWKH, Shreveport/Bossier City, a Clear Channel (gap)... A Fox sports update." New from here. (DP-OR)

1170 KOWO MN, Waseca 12/26 in again with C&W this time, then call ID and ABC news at 0800. Very weak. (LG-MT)

1230 KOY AZ, Phoenix 12/1 0632 ID "AM 1230 KOY" into Christmas song by Child. Very good in KYPA null. (MS-CA)

KBOV CA, Bishop 1/8 2300-2330+ assumed the station carrying a high school basketball game between Bishop Union and someone. 2329 "You're listening to Bishop Union Basketball." Looped toward Bishop. If so, first time heard in 10 years or so. (DKK-CA)

KYPA CA, Los Angeles 1/8 2300-2400 in/out of has, ID 2400 after 3&1 pips was "Radio Korea KYPA Los Angeles." (DKK-CA)

KELY NV, Ely 1/8 2130-2300+ with oldies. ID 2300 "Oldies Radio KELY" with the call letters sung. Been over 15 years since this station has been heard too. (DKK-CA)

KLAV NV, Las Vegas 1/8 2330 ID noted clearly, while listening to KBOV. Believe the hot talk show that followed was KLAV. (DKK-CA)

KZZR OR, Burns 1/2 0241-0245 atop with long ad break, ID 0245. (DKK-CA)

1240 KMHI ID, Mountain Home 1/9 was weak but on top the jumble at 0800 with ID "KMHI, your home town country station." (LG-MT)

KGY WA, Olympia 12/19 weak but barely on top at 1000 with ID for KGY and KGY-FM. Announcer mentioned Olympia and Shelton. New. (LG-MT)

1250 KNEU UT, Roosevelt 1/8 0950 gal mentioned a café in downtown Roosevelt, fog mentioned next. Mostly under KEYT which is always strong here. New, UT #30. (AB-CA)

1290 KAZA CA, Gilroy 12/1 1005 huge with Radio Kaza slogan and song in Spanish. (MS-CA)

1310 KLIX ID, Twin Falls 1/9 0844 man with local time check "It's 6:44," "Newsradio 13-10" slogan followed by sports. New, ID #26. (AB-CA)

1330 KGAK NM, Gallup 1/2 1903 really pounding in with Navajo dance chants, similar to KTNN-660 at the same time. Lasted only about 3 minutes then in/out until 1930. (DKK-CA)

1340 KTPI CA, Mojave 1/2 0258 C&W song up to top of the hour ID and into ABC news. (DKK-CA)

KTSN NV, Elko 1/3 2000 atop with ID then into Fiesta Bowl football game. 1/9 0100 atop at top of hour ID with ID and ads. (DKK-CA)

1360 KPXQ AZ, Glendale 12/1 1000 coming out of PSA for Bible donations and spot for reading course. ID and station address: 2425 E. Camelback Rd. (Ste. 570?), Phoenix. (MS-CA)
+12/22 was quite strong and all alone at 1000. Woman ID'd as "AM 1360, KPXQ," then "The Sovereign Grace Hour" began. New. (LG-MT)

1400 KVTO CA, Berkeley 1/3 1000 "Voice of the Orient" slogan, New Year's greetings and ID. Nice surprise. (PT-WA)

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com

Deadlines are : Sunday 8 AM

STARS OF THE WEEK

- (HN-GA) Herb Newberry 405 JH Whittaker Rd, Newborn, GA 30056-3033
Kenwood R-5000, Quan Loop , 600' "L" shaped I.w.
(PW-NY) Owen "Pat" Wood 108 Hazel Ave., East Syracuse. NY 13057-1714
Drake R-8A 600' I.w.

LOGGINGS

- 590 FL WDIZ Panama City 1/1 2144 Fox Spts news with game update. Poor
in slop on loop. (HN-GA)
620 NY WHEN Syracuse 1/1 0600-0725 OC, 2 or 3 Unids under, but no one
broke through. While this seems to have been a planned silent
period, WHEN has sporadic XMTR cutouts at night, sometimes
for hours at a time. (PW-NY)
780 AL WZZX Linesville 1/1/ 2223 C&W mx, "Real Counry 95.5" No AM calls
given. On after hours ??? (HN-GA)
1030 GA WEBS Calhoun 1/1 2300 with WBZ in null, WEBS good. Legal ID at TOH
into CNN News. Deep fades. (HN-GA)
1150 TN WCRK Morristown 1/1 2315 Legal ID "WCRK" between AC mx.
Up and down in battle (HN-GA)
1160 IL WYLL Chicago 1/1 2328 Childrens Rel. Pgm, legal ID. Good (HN-GA)
1280 IN WGBF Evansville 12/14 0205 Local ads, "Newstalk 1280, WGBF", back
to Art Bell. New (HN-GA)
1560 KY WPAD Paducah 12/30 0106 Out of CNN Radio News, into JRN Oldies.
"Great Memories, WPAD Paducah"; Hrd while trying for WMRO
DX test. (HN-GA)
1580 TN WLIJ Shelbyville ½ 1609 with Trivia phone in contest. "15-80 AM
Stereo" Ids, CWM. Solid for about three minutes (PW-NY)
1650 IA KCNZ Cedar Falls ½ 1543 w/ID/Fox SP, way early for this one, faded
doen at 1546 (PW-NY)
1690 MD WMDM Lexington Park ½ 1600 Tentative with CNN H. News (PW-NY)

UNIDEN

- 960 ?? ???? 12/26 0132 Either WGRO-Lake City, FL or WSBT South Bend,
IN. "CBS Radio Networks, Channel 45," then a 1000 HZ tone
0140, abruptly gone. (this is caused by an automation accessing
the Satellite channel for CBS during a time when there is no
programming – ed) (HN-GA)

THANKS to Herb & Patfresh..1/12 0900

IRCA Stationery

Black/red masthead with the IRCA logo and name. Great for using when
writing for verifications. 100 sheets, \$5.00 (US and Canada), \$7.50
(rest of the world).

Order (in US funds payable to Phil Bytheway) from:

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



DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

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

E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net

all times UTC

Nice reports this week from **John Bryant** in Oklahoma and **Dale Park** in Hawaii.

PAN-AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 580 **MEXICO**, Chihuahua, Chih. XEFI 1/8 at 1510 UTC. First noted beneath XEMU just
before 1215. At 1220, they ran a choral version of the NA, followed by talk. At
1225 they rose enough for me to hear very clearly "Radio Mexana". This
presumed but as per John Wilkins log last week. (JB-OK)
580 **MEXICO**, Piedras Negras, Coah, XEMU 1/8 1205. Noted this old friend at just after
1200 UTC while antenna testing. The slogan is still "La Rancherita del Aire". Was
running usual morning program with good level. Noticed a second SS (XEFI)
signal beneath XEMU. (JB-OK)
610 **MEXICO**, Sabinas, Coah. XEBX 1/11 1208. Up and out of the mix briefly with a full
legal ID at 1208. Ads and morning romantica mixing with one or more other SS
speaking stations. (JB-OK)
670 **MEXICO**, Torreon, Coah. XETOR, 1/10 1315. Heard here at a moderate level with
typical AM talk. ID was pronounced in Spanish with the "X" given the EE
pronunciation. Was "Ex...Aye...Tore." that was heard several times. (JB-OK)
710 **MEXICO**, Cd. Cuauhtemoc, Chih. XEDP 1/10 1245. This old friend noted in passing
with usual excellent signal running ad strings for various businesses in Cd.
Cuauhtemoc and using the normal slogan "La Ranchera de Cuauhtemoc" (JB-OK)
t1060 **MEXICO?** Mexico DF, XEEP, SS two men talking with each other ment. "telefonica"
numbers, then a woman with talk or news. No ID or discernible slogan
mentioned. Noted in East Honolulu with good audio over KAHU-Hilo at 0356
UTC 12/10. (5P-HI)

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 750 **ALASKA**, Anchorage, KFQD very good over KXL at 1259.45 UTC 1/13 with ID "Stay
informed, stay tuned to AM 7-50, KFQD Anchorage. When you miss an hour, you
miss a lot." Into network news. S9+15 DB. Best hrd in a while. (PM-OR)
t780 **ALASKA**, Nome, KNOM. Mexican romantica music, then John and Yoko Ono
Lennon "Happy Christmas". Woman DJ with talk. Fair to poor with ripply signal,
underneath KKOH at 0845 12/17. Also noted EE talk underneath, WBBM? Noted
while parked by Hawaii Loa Ridge. (5P-HI) (*Seems strange format for KNOM.--PM*)
870 **HAWAII**, Honolulu KAIM. Back on the air after supposedly signing off for good Jan
1, 2002 at 1000 UTC. Noted 11/25 with praise mx (light Christian AC), plus
numerous PSA's and shortform features such as Dr. James Dobson. Slogans
include "Hawaii's Christian Music Station." Signal is strong in East Honolulu but
audio was weak, and in nearly buried by spurs in the Kalihi area and westward.
This may indicate that owner Salem Media was using the 50 KW transmitter on
Moloka'i but not cranking up the audio. Still have not got an answer why station
has returned. (5P-HI) (*I had heard that the transmitter site on Moloka'i was taken
down and that Salem has been using a local Honolulu site. A new site on Moloka'i?
PM*)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- JB-OK **JOHN BRYANT**, Stillwater OK
<bjohn@provalue.net>
5P-HI **DALE PARK**, Honolulu HI
<dxfool@aol.com>
DXing with Honda car radio

Emerging Techniques of High-Tech DXpeditioning

Guy Atkins John H. Bryant Nick Hall-Patch Don Nelson

January 2003

WESTERN DX FORUM

Reid Wheeler – 5910 Boulevard Loop SE – Olympia, WA 98501-8408

E-mail: WMA001@attbi.com Phone 360-786-6756 Fax 360-753-3824

Gary Larson, 2806 Lincoln, Burbank CA 91504

[1/6] Got issue 1273 today. Sent in half renewal for next year to Lynn. 710 here as of 1-1 is KSPN now and R. Disney now on 1110. And KXTA 1150 is // 690 XETRA as a "super station". Good to see RW back as a member. Pat Martin – sorry to learn of Bob Rusk's passing. I recall his name from 70s. Always sad to see radio dxers leave us. Our 570 here did return as planned to standards so now S. Cal. has some of these formatted stations on AM. Found out last week that Astor Br. Group (KSPA 1510) is selling their FM 94.3 in Orange County to Liberman Br. So now KBUE will be a tri-cast – "Que Buena". Just called the stn group here in Burbank but couldn't find out anything and an engr. I've spoken to in past wasn't in. In 1-5 Orange Co. Register, I see Gary Owens is now on KLAC, plus a mention KPLS 830 could be for sale. Presently winds are causing trouble here and while at job after 10P last night, I noted 106.7 FM off air probably due to power loss because of wind in Glendale. This morning a MetroLink train derailed here locally as wind continued to blow. A truck went across tracks as train passed a crossing; the driver of truck died. Some fires also are going in parts of S. Cal. Again, sorry to read of passing of Bob Rusk. 73

EASTERN DX FORUM

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John Tudenham, 2824 Missouri, Joplin, MO 64804

Happy Holidays to everyone. This is my first report in a long time. Seems like many broadcasters are doing their best to kill music on AM, going to talk sports etc. No wonder the drift continues to FM. There are a few bright spots however. KLAC 570 in LA owned by clear channel, after trying talk is going back to standards. Our semi local KDMO 1490 has changed to adult standards and doing well. Was tied with our leading news talk station KQYX in last ratings. KVOO 1170 in Tulsa was doing well with classic country and changed to news/talk KFAQ. Ratings dropped from 5.1% to 1.3%. The worse thing was dumping the call KVOO, a big mistake. KVOO was known as the "Voice of Oklahoma" many years and had been a successful country station since 1971. The same company "Journal", also dumped the call WOW in Omaha both on AM and FM. At least they run a music format on the new KOMJ 590. I wouldn't be surprised if next they dumped WTMJ in Milwaukee, their original station. Rick that was KKOW you heard on 860. They ID as Pittsburg/Joplin. Wishing everyone good DX in 2003.

Rick Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227

I finally got around to turning on the radio this year and have found the results interesting. First two new stations were from West Virginia and both on 1600 but a day apart. I also logged WKJV-1380, WGCI-1390 for an old Chicago friend, and WKLB-1290 KY, which is in the hometown of the husband of one of my trainees at work. These were across three mornings and it was worth the lack of sleep. John, that Kansas station was a new state for me down at my southeast Alabama location. I'm not sure how many states I have heard down there now. It's the first time I have heard KKOW-860 since at least 1978, a quarter century ago. It went into my Gary log as KOAM. That's it for this week. 73.

In the past several years, the DXing techniques of a number of us who congregate at the well-known Grayland, DXpeditioning sites have undergone a technical metamorphosis. Grayland is located on the beaches of the open Pacific in Washington State, about equidistant from Portland and Seattle. Those of us who gather there several times a year did not start out to become "high-tech DXers" or really to do anything except to continue to try to maximize our chances to hear rare radio stations from far away places across that huge ocean. However, as we continued to experiment with better ways of doing things and to share new techniques amongst ourselves, we each have slowly changed how we accomplish almost everything we do related to DXing in the field. Further, we have each taken many of the lessons learned at Grayland home with us and applied them to DXing from there.

Let this introduction lead you astray, let us rush to reassure you about several things. First, we each continue to DX with very individual styles of doing things. As our oldest regular member, John Bryant continues to play the role of Old Codger and DXes in the nearest fashion to the "traditional," despite sometimes using two laptops and two radios simultaneously. Don Nelson is probably at the other end of the spectrum, being the most high-tech among us. Don operates multiple sets of receivers, SE-3A's, digital audio processors and mini-disc recorders from a central laptop keyboard and multi-position data switch. Some of us have characterized Don's style as "Drift Net DXing" and wonder whether there will be any signals left over for the rest of us. So, despite now sharing a number of common high-tech techniques, we do each continue to DX quite differently. Secondly, we don't really think that we are doing anything terribly unique. Hobby articles in either the shortwave or medium wave DXing fields have documented many of the techniques that we use. Perhaps our contribution is how we individually combine those techniques to solve the unique problems of DXpeditioning.

The tool that has had the most impact on our techniques, collectively, is the laptop computer. We started lugging these things to Grayland primarily to display a full suite of the marvelous animated Geoclock sunrise-sunset maps while we were DXing. After that initial experience, laptops quickly grew in usefulness to now be an essential tool for any number of DXing tasks. Our high-tech devices are not limited to laptops, however. In recent years, we have adopted hand-held Cybiko units to communicate among ourselves during a DXing session. These wireless PDA-type devices are very inexpensive, are available on the internet auction market and have maximized the group's ability to share hot tips - even between motel rooms - while never having to look up from our own dials or remove our headphones.

We are also fortunate to have several "black-box" communications receivers among us and we often use the Hall-Patch developed software and an obsolete computer to drive these radios as "DX Radars." Nick's software allows us to spot potential DX targets on other frequencies, bringing them to our attention graphically, so that we may have a good idea "where to jump next" in the midst of those rare really excellent openings.

This collective article was prompted by the comments of several prominent DXers from the East Coast and Europe who expressed real surprise at some of the techniques that we have begun to take for granted. The article is not intended as an in-depth text for implementing the techniques discussed. Rather, we plan to introduce readers broadly to most of the techniques that we are using and plan to provide references, where they exist, to more detailed and specific articles elsewhere for those interested in adopting a particular technique or tool.

PORTABLE COMPUTERS

The tool that has most profoundly affected our DXing techniques is the portable computer. We are quite surprised that many senior DXers continue to believe that portable computers will add unwanted RF interference if used near communications receivers. We have found that there were very few problems of radio frequency noise being induced into receivers, lead-ins or antennas by these devices - be they palm-tops, notebooks, laptops or pen-tablet

type machines. This is despite having as many as ten laptops being used simultaneously (by 5 DXers) in one large motel room. We should mention, though, that we always use impedance transformers and coaxial cable for the lead-in from our antennas. The nearest bare antenna wire is about 30 feet from the motel room. We doubt that it would have been possible to use a desk-top loop antenna very well in such an environment.

Toward the end of this article, you will find several recommendations as to what kind of laptop we might suggest for DXpeditioning. At this point, you should know that most of our current Grayland machines are rather obsolete, 233 MHz or so and perform quite well when running most of the following software simultaneously. However, a couple of us have experienced some resource overload problems when running most of these programs (including ERGO) and such resource hogs as Acrobat 5, simultaneously.

What follows is a compilation of overviews of our favorite uses for our laptops at Grayland:

GEOCLOCK

As previously mentioned, we began bringing laptops to Grayland primarily to view Geoclock automated sunrise/sunset maps (see below.) Geoclock has been the standard of the sunrise/sunset software industry for quite a long time and is well known in many DXing circles. In case you are unfamiliar with this software, Geoclock utilizes multiple maps to illustrate sunrise/sunset and twilight in real time or at any other time that the user cares to specify. If you wish to know more, we suggest that you download a shareware version and then make a paid version your first investment. Available at <http://home.att.net/~geoclock/>

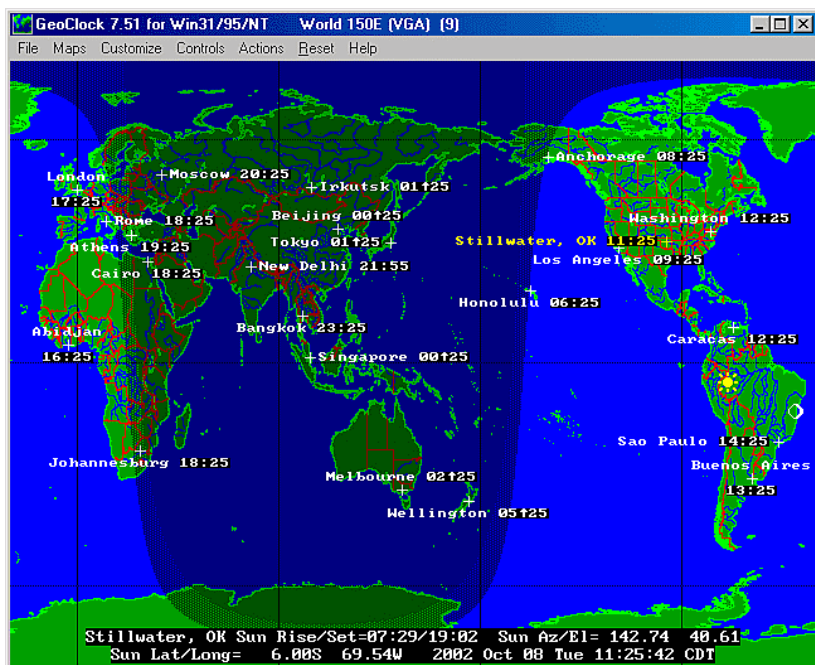


Figure 1. One of several world-wide Geoclock maps in the program.

Geoclock maps are clickable. Left clicks "zoom-in" by selecting ever more detailed maps from a large assortment that come with the program. Right clicks "zoom out" in the same fashion. All maps may be modified by the user to contain additional information, station locations, notes about likely frequencies, etc. Boxes showing the local time may also be attached to any location.

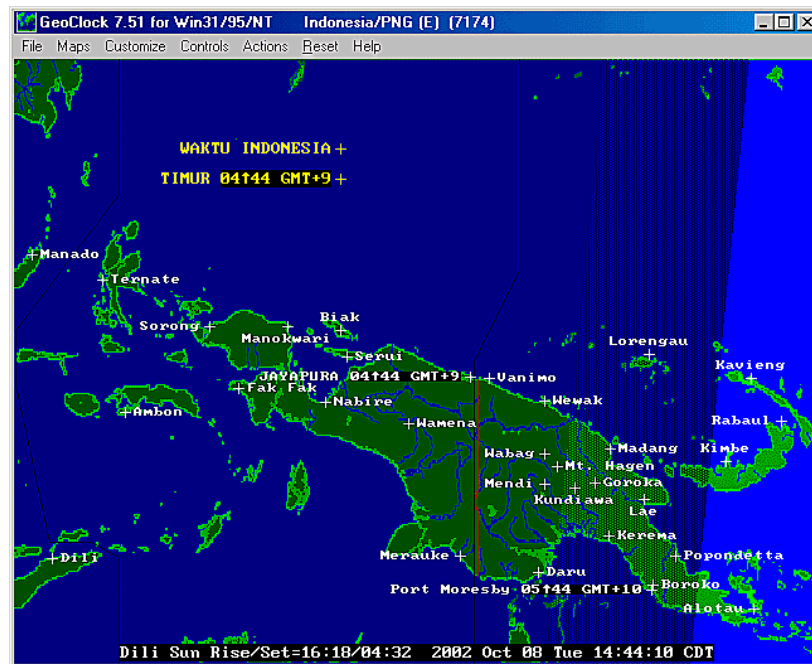


Figure 2. One of the more detailed Geoclock maps that has been modified by SWBC DXers for DXing Papua New Guinea, Timor and eastern Indonesia. Please also note the even more DXer-friendly Geoclock map of PNG that is shown in the Receiver Control section of this article.

INFORMATION/REFERENCE MANAGEMENT

Once you have a laptop beside your radio, it becomes second nature to use it to bring along all sorts of electronic reference material. We all bring tons of electronic references of various sorts (our current favorites are Bruce Portzer's incomparable Pacific-Asia Log for medium wave, available free at <http://www.qsl.net/n7ecj/> and the DSWCI Domestic Broadcasting Survey available at <http://www.dswci.org/>) While these electronic references have not completely replaced hard-copy documents, they have reduced the number that we must lug around significantly. As anyone who has surfed the 'Net much at all knows that there are a goodly number of references available at various DX sites as well as in various e-mail groups. Why leave that information at home??? Again, style has a great deal to do with it how one uses these e-references. John Bryant is just not happy unless he has the latest WRTH Pacific-East Asia listing clasped firmly in his left hand while MWDXing at Grayland. Some of the rest of us haven't brought WRTH along in years.

SEMI-AUTOMATED RECEPTION LOGGING:

B-LOG, A Logging program for the rest of us!

There have been automated logging programs available for radio hobbyists almost since the inception of the PC. Although many of us had tried such software over the years, none of the Grayland regulars had permanently adopted logging software until about two years ago, when Guy Atkins introduced us to "B-LOG." This oddly named freeware is one of the simplest and yet most flexible logging software that any of us had seen. Besides being quite easy to use, even for two-fingered typists, B-LOG can output loggings to the Windows Clipboard (and thus to other software) in any number of formats. It comes pre-configured to output Shortwave Broadcast loggings by country and then by frequency while, almost simultaneously, outputting MW loggings in "by frequency" format. You can also design any number of customized output formats of your own. Lastly, B-LOG is searchable and sortable

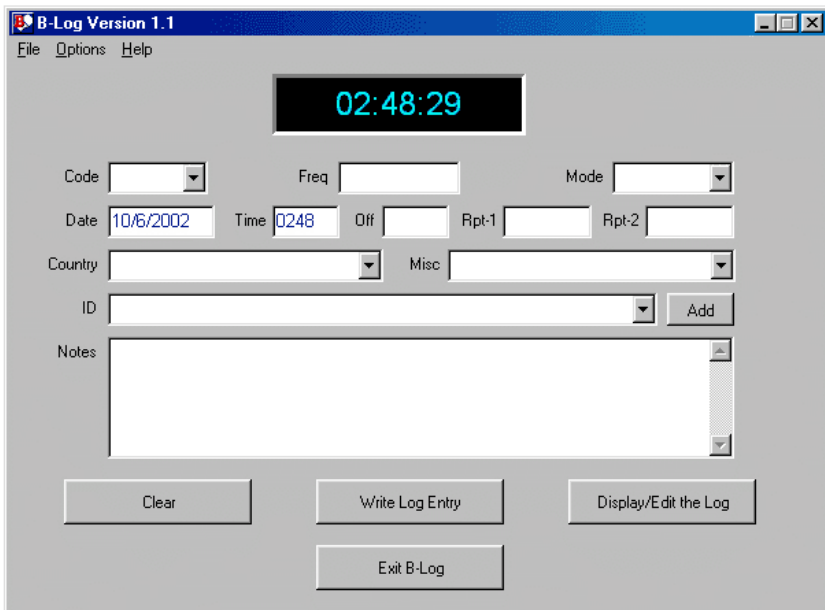


Figure 3. The main window of B-Log is used for station data entry. Some of the more repetitive data may be entered from pull down menus.

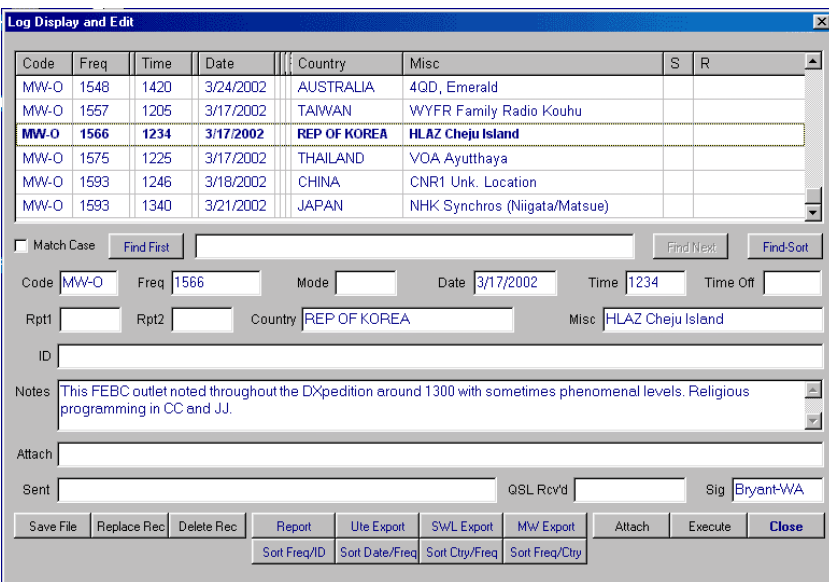


Figure 4. The second B-LOG window is used for editing and output. One can output selected loggings to the Windows Clipboard and thence to other programs (e-mail, etc) in a number of pre-defined formats or in custom formats designed by the individual DXer.

in many different ways. Although virtually all of the Grayland regulars now use B-LOG, again it is used in a wide variety of ways. Several of us have entirely eliminated the spiral notebook and stub pencil that have served us so well for so long. The more conservative of us still keep a rough log (and doodle) while the DX is rolling in but transfer and expand those notes in B-LOG immediately after the close of the DX session. Why? It makes reporting to the clubs and to the 'Net' incredibly easy and it creates a VERY searchable long-term record log for future reference.

Probably the biggest factor that led many of us to adopt B-LOG was its ease of use. If you, like several of us, must go months between DX sessions, B-LOG is so intuitive that - once set up - it may be used with very little secondary learning curve. We are collectively proud of this software because Guy Atkins assisted the designer in tweaking it for SWBC and MW DXing.

Editor's note: this article will be continued next week.

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the Broadcast Band (510-1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 40 times a year (weekly from September to April, twice monthly from May to August) and in printed form 35 times a year (weekly September to April, monthly May to August). **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.



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