



January 14, 2006 - Volume 43, Number 16 - Edition 1368 - ISSN 899-9733

This week, IRCA welcomes **Russ Edmunds** from Blue Bell, PA!!! Watch out for those GY tips folks!!

2005-2006 IRCA Slogans List

IRCA's James Niven has completely revised the IRCA Slogans List and it is now available from the IRCA Bookstore. This edition includes slogans from the US, Canada and Mexico and has over 3700 slogans.

Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$6.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/ sea mail), \$8.00 (rest of the Americas/ Europe airmail), \$8.50 (Australia/Japan/New Zealand airmail). Non-IRCA/ NRC members - add \$1.50.

To order, send your funds to: IRCA Bookstore, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334. (Make checks out to **Phil Bytheway** - funds not made out to **Phil Bytheway** will be returned)... or use PayPal to: **fokker_d8@yahoo.com** (please include an extra \$0.50 to cover the service charge).

Bruce Portzer's Annual DX Get-Together

Hello Everyone. It's time for my annual DX Get-together. This year it will be on Saturday, February 25, 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 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. The following link may be helpful <http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?searchtype=address&country=US&addtohistory=&searchtab=home&formtype=address&popflag=0&latitude=&longitude=&name=&phone=&cat=&address=6546+19th+Avenue+NE&city=&state=&zipcode=98115>.

If you have questions or want to RSVP, my phone number is 206-522-2521. See you there. 73, Bruce

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BROADCAST TEST COORDINATOR – DX TESTS

Les Rayburn: les@highnoonfilm.com (times are Eastern)

Daily	0300-0305	1620	WNAR	Lansdale PA	(David McCrork)
* 1/15-20/06	0100-0600	770	WVNN	Huntsville AL	(IRCA/NRC)
* 1/21/06	0300-0800	1680	KAVT	Fresno CA	(IRCA/NRC)
* 1/22-27/06	0100-0600	730	WUMP	Huntsville AL	(IRCA/NRC)

It's always a nice treat to see multiple DX tests listed in these posts. Thanks to the efforts of Patrick Martin, we've got a rare West Coast X-Band test to announce! See details below. Happy Holidays and Good DX!

WNAR 1620 KHZ Lansdale, PA is still conducting a DAILY DX TEST at 0300 ELT. The test consists of code ID's between 0300 and 0305 and will continue until further notice. Reception reports with RETURN POSTAGE can be sent to **David McCrork**, WNAR-AM, Box 18, Tylersport PA 18971-0018. WNAR operates with a power of 100 MILLIWATTS! (The station was heard almost 5 miles from Lansdale on a recent trip to the area so it does get out very well).

PS: Web page at www.wnar-am.com has full station info.

WVNN 770khz Huntsville, AL DX Test. Date(s): January 15-20, 2006 (Late Sunday Night starts the test). Time: 23:59 CST-0500 CST (0559-1100 UTC). Spots will air at 1 minute prior to the TOH, 2nd spot will air each hour as close to the half hour as possible for the schedule. :60 Second long tests in

duration. "Inventory Insert" format. Modes of Operation: Normal-"Inventory Insert". Night Power of 250 Watts. Pattern is a four tower array aimed SW to protect WABC.

A plot of the antenna pattern is available at: www.highnoonfilm.com/amdx
Programming: Morse Code ID's, Sweep Tones, Voice ID.

Notes: Reception reports are desired via e-mail (first choice) and snail mail (only if e-mail is not available) Station would prefer to received recordings of the test (MP3, CD, or cassette).

Submit reports to: les@highnoonfilm.com

Please put "WVNN DX Test" in the subject line. All standard mail reports should go to:

Les Rayburn
High Noon Film
100 Centerview Drive Suite 111
Birmingham, AL 35216

Thanks to Fred Holland and the staffs of WVNN for this test! Member Rick Shaftan arranged for this test and we're all very grateful.

KAVT 1680khz Fresno, CA DX Test. Date(s): January 21, 2006 (Late Friday night-Early Sat. Morning). Time: Midnight PST-0500 PST (0800-1300 UTC). Modes of Operation: 10KW ND. Programming: Normal Radio Disney Format ONLY. No codes, tones, etc. are permitted due to the stations contract with Disney.

Notes: Listeners are cautioned that WDSS, Ada MI also runs the Radio Disney Format. So ID's, local spots, etc will be needed for a QSL. A cassette or CD included with a report will be much appreciated, as it will be easier to tell for sure they heard KAVT, rather than WDSS. The use of Phasers or directional antennas such as loops will likely be needed by DX'ers in the Eastern US to null WDSS. Hopefully the long duration of the test (5 hours) will make up for the lack of Morse Code, etc.

Station is conducting maintenance at this time period.

Reception reports should be sent to:

Patrick Martin
PO Box 843
Seaside OR 97138-0843

Cassette recording or CD is preferred to a written report. Return postage appreciated. E-Mail via: mwdxer@webtv.net

Thanks to Paul, Patrick, and the staff of KAVT for making this test possible!

WUMP 730khz Huntsville, AL DX Test. Date(s): January 22-27, 2006 (Late Sunday Night starts the test). Time: 23:59 CST-0500 CST (0559-1100 UTC). Spots will air at 1 minute prior to the TOH, 2nd spot will air each hour as close to the half hour as possible for the schedule. :60 Second long tests in duration. "Inventory Insert" format. Modes of Operation: Normal-"Inventory Insert" 129 Watts, Non-Directional Programming: Morse Code ID's, Sweep Tones, Voice ID.

Notes: Reception reports are desired via e-mail (first choice) and snail mail (only if e-mail is not available) Station would prefer to received recordings of the test (MP3, CD, or cassette).

Submit reports to: les@highnoonfilm.com

Please put "WUMP DX Test" in the subject line. All standard mail reports should go to:

Les Rayburn
High Noon Film
100 Centerview Drive Suite 111
Birmingham, AL 35216

Thanks to Fred Holland and the staffs of WUMP for this test! Member Rick Shaftan arranged for this test and we're all very grateful.

WAPI 1070 kHz & WJOX 690 KHz Test Results

Recently our hobby had its first chance to test the concept of a sixty second long DX test that could be inserted into the commercial advertising inventory of a station and ran over several nights. This idea was the creation of former National Radio Club test coordinator Fred Vobbe...and by all accounts, it was a darn good one!

Our thanks again to Fred Giardina and the staff of both stations for this holiday treat.

TEST RESULTS

Test began promptly on December 27th, with the first report coming in from Steve Francis of Alcoa, TN who reported WAPI codes and sweeps.

Rick Shaftan in New Jersey reported the sweep tones on WAPI to be "booming in", followed by a successful reception of WJOX just eight minutes later. Les Rayburn of Birmingham logged both local stations, mainly to insure that things worked without a hitch.

DX'ers John Hunter in Rossville, GA pulled in the test, along with the first Canadian reception reported by Barry McLarnon of Ottawa, Ontario. Barry reported WAPI "in like gangbusters".

WAPI put an "excellent signal" into the home of Tom Jasinski in Shorewood, IL, and both stations were logged in Central PA by Brett Saylor on his Drake R8.

Dave Hochfelder in Highland Park, NJ logged WAPI using an unattended radio and his computer to do the recording. Bruce Winkelman logged the test in Tulsa, OK the old fashioned way using his ears and a Drake R8 with a Quantum Phaser to null the locals.

R.C. Watts pulled in "weak CW and sweeptones" from WAPI in Louisville, KY, adding Kentucky to the list of stations hearing the test. Texas wasn't going to be left out of the fun, with James Niven of Moody, TX logging WAPI despite a strong signal from nearby KFTL.

Peter Jernakoff logged WAPI from his home in Northern Delaware, adding a "new one" to the log. And Russ Johnson reported WJOX "very easy copy" from his home in Lexington, North Carolina.

Eric Breon caught "pieces of code and sweep tones" from WJOX in his Middletown, PA shack, and James Wallace pulled in the sports talk station from his home in West Virginia using only a Radio Shack AM loop.

The furthest catch for the test was that of Curtis McMenamin of Vacaville, California! This is a distance of nearly 2000 miles! His cassette recording revealed successful reception of both WAPI and WJOX, proving once and for all that the "inventory insert" concept has real merit. Great catch Curtis!

Also logging both stations during the test was Gerry Bishop of Niceville, FL. John Sgrulletta of Mahopac, NY copied WAPI despite lots of competition from WINA and CBA. Other loggings included George Sherman in MN, who logged WAPI, and Phillip Cheillo who pulled in the 1070 test from his shack in Elk Grove, WI.

And as would be fitting, Fred Vobbe of Lima, Ohio benefited from his own idea by logging the test successfully using a Yaesu FT-857D and a low band folded dipole.

By my count, that means that at least one of the two stations was logged in at least 17 states and a Canadian providence! Not bad for one minute worth of audio and night time power!!

Of course, there were DX'ers around the world who tried for the test without success...among those were Wade Smith of New Brunswick, who couldn't pull out WAPI over the dominant signal of CBA.

Martin Foltz in Southern California did combat with two powerful stations KNX and XETRA, but lost the war. While Martin Hall, editor of the UK publication, "The Medium Wave News" couldn't hear anything over dominant CBA from his shack in Clashmore, Scotland.

Pete Taylor used a Sony 2010 and a Kiwa Air Loop but couldn't find anything in the null of his locals on 1070 kHz. Tacoma, Washington would have been nice DX for this test. Better luck next time, Pete.

Also disappointed were Curt Deegan of South Eastern Florida, Scott Fybush of Rochester, NY, and Shawn Axelrod of Winnipeg.

It was a rare miss indeed for Patrick Martin of Seaside, Oregon who usually can pull in a milliwatt signal on that beverage antenna of his. Also no "Joy in Mudville" for Phil Bytheway, Bruce Portzer or Saul Chernos. Likewise disappointed with our holiday treat was Glen Hauser of Enid, OK, who heard the Marine Corp March (Unid) on 690 kHz, but no codes and sweep tones.

SOAPBOX

WAPI signal sounded like full day power! **-Tom Jasinski, Shorewood, IL**

Might have easily heard them [on the first night] if I hadn't fallen asleep! The last time I can remember looking at the clock it was 0043. **-John Hunter, Rossville, GA**

In like gangbusters here too. CW ID, sweeps, then one more CW ID. **-Barry McLarnon, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**

This was a great idea for a test, probably not very "invasive" from the stations perspective. **-Eric Breon**

No sign of the 1070 test in Seattle last night. Just the usual mix of KNX, CFAX, and electrical noise. **-Bruce Portzer, Seattle, WA**

Alabama is not particularly well heard in the UK - the only MW stations I've logged are 1590 WVNA (rare!), 1620 WPHG (not easy, now silent), and 1700 WEUV, which is the most common, being heard on several occasions each season. **-Martin Hall, Clashmore, Scotland**

To those who doubted 60-second tests, "see, told you so!" **-Fred Vobbe, Lima, Ohio**

The sweeps and tones really get out. The tests have also made me a believer in overnight recording. **-Dave Hochfelder**

Pounding in here in NW New Jersey with ESPN Radio, Sweep tones, code, etc. **-Rick Shaftan, New Jersey**

Conditions were best during the first day, which was characterized by many strong signals, low noise, and much flutter (rapid, shallow fading). **-Phillip Chiello, Elk Grove, WI**

Again, our sincere thanks to Frank Giardina for running this test. Don't forget our upcoming test with KAVT 1680 kHz in Fresno, CA on January 21st!

73 and Good DX!

Les Rayburn, N1LF (IRCA/NRC Broadcast Test Coordinator)

Proof of Concept Are Inventory Inserts the future of DX Tests?

By Les Rayburn, N1LF
Broadcast Test Coordinator

The "inventory insert" concept was the brain child of former NRC test coordinator, Fred Vobbe. Faced with more and more resistance to running traditional DX tests as part of scheduled

maintenance periods, Fred searched for a way to encourage more stations to run tones, Morse Code and other unique identifiers that aid DX'ers.

Fred's original idea was to create sixty second long recordings that would include the stations voice ID, Morse Code identifications, and the NRC sweep tones. No change in the stations power level or antenna pattern would be required. Instead, the engineer would simply insert the "test commercial" into their overnight inventory of available local spots. The test could run several times each night for a number of days.

While these types of tests will lack the advantage of day power and patterns, they possibly gain the advantage of providing a better chance for good propagation and/or low noise. We've all seen past tests that were ruined by aurora conditions, thunderstorms, or poor conditions.

Our first operational test of the this new concept came last week, when Chief Engineer Fred Giardina agreed to run the test on both WAPI 1070khz and WJOX 690khz for three nights.

In terms of what we hope for, this test was not ideal. Local inventory was limited to the spots airing only twice per night on each station...and the test period was limited to three nights. It's worth noting that the test occurred during one of only two periods of each year when Arbitron ratings are not kept for radio stations in the US.

Despite the restrictions, the test was very successful. Complete details of the test are available in this issue, but in summary the test was received in 17 states, and Canada. Best DX was nearly 2000 miles away in California, and in that case, both stations were received during the test period.

Test Format

The test consisted of computer-generated voice ID using text to speech software. A female voice was chosen, with a slight British accent. The Voice ID consisted of the following phrases:

"This is WJOX conducting transmitter testing. Whiskey Juliet Oscar X-Ray Testing".

This was followed by Morse Code ID's transmitted at ten words per minute, using a 1,000 Hz tone. The station identification was repeated three times.

Following these identifiers, we inserted about twenty seconds of the NRC "Sweep Tones". These tones are commonly used to test various parts of the audio chain in a transmitter system, and have proven to be the most effective audio source when heard at a distance. Outperforming Morse Code, marching band music, and other program material that has been tried in the past. In many cases, these were the only identifiable part of the transmissions. While DX'ers can debate if successful reception of just the sweep tones would qualify for reception of a station, I believe that if the tones can be correlated with exact time of transmission that would provide enough data to verify a successful logging.

What are the odds that any other station on that frequency would be running such a unique tone, at that given moment? I'd suggest so small as ruling out all other stations, and verifying the logging. That is for each station and/or individual DX'er to determine. In any event, the tones are very effective.

This pattern continues for the duration of the sixty second tests, and can be changed for each test to avoid people being able to "guess" what was transmitted. After creating the file, we further enhance the material for distant reception by boosting the 2-3 kHz range using Sony's Sound Forge 7.0 software. Compression is also applied to the file to insure maximum drive levels to the transmitter without clipping. We then send the file to the station as either an MP3 file or a .WAV file on a compact disc.

History

In recent weeks, it's come to my attention that the concept is not totally new. In the past, radio stations have added a single Morse Code ID to their normal top of the hour station identification. Sometimes this was by way of a "signature" for the station, and other times it was at the suggestion of DX'ers.

Even today, some stations transmit unique sound effects, tones, or other signature sounds at the top of the hour, which can aid identification. Fred Vobbe's concept really just expands on this idea.

Why change at all?

The relationship between distant listeners and broadcasters is changing rapidly, and no where that is more obvious than with tests. By law full power tests or nighttime operation on daytime antenna patterns can only be performed as part of a scheduled maintenance operation.

Station owners are more and more concerned about legal liability if such a test causes interference to other stations, and loss of revenue even at night if the station is not running its normal programming. In addition, many program providers such as Radio Disney have strict contractual agreements that preclude the station from running tests.

Add to that the need for an engineer to be on site or in the studio in the middle of the night, and a general lack of interest in our hobby among broadcasters, and you can see that the landscape is changing.

We've taken pro-active steps to help combat some of these issues. We regularly attend Society of Broadcast Engineering meetings in this region, and contribute posts to e-mail lists devoted to the broadcasting industry to help educate stations about our hobby. We've started relying more on telephone calls and personal contact with our members and less on random mass mailings to stations to request tests.

We post our cell phone number widely in engineering circles, asking them to contact us at anytime twenty four hours a day if they intend to be off the air for maintenance. And our formal requests are now accompanied with a CD of Morse Code ID's for the station, programming material, etc. to make it easier for stations to say "yes" to our requests.

We've also offered to handle reception reports, QSL's, etc for stations that agree to run tests. All these steps reflect a better understanding of the pressures that stations operate under now, and are designed to minimize our impact on their resources.

The Future of DX Tests?

Does this mean that we can't look forward to any future full power, daytime pattern tests? Quite the contrary, such tests are always our goal. The hobby remains fortunate to have a number of engineers and other station staff who are themselves active DX'ers, and enjoy putting on such tests when their stations have maintenance to be performed. And members continue to surprise me with their success in reaching out personally to their local stations to do such tests.

But I suspect that the "inventory insert" concept will be a popular choice for many broadcasters, and we can look forward to more of them. One test alone does not prove the concept, but if the WAPI-WJOX test is any indicator, these tests may rival their full power counterparts in terms of success.

These test results suggest that the greatest benefit will be for listeners within a 700-800 mile radius, where the change in programming may compensate for the low power or directional pattern. Results at greater distances are likely not to be as good as the full power/pattern tests, even if the DX'er concentrates on the test for an extended time.

But the nearly 2,000 mile reception of WAPI and WJOX indicates that long distance receptions will not be impossible, and are still aided greatly by the change in programming.

New techniques will need to be embraced by DX'ers to take full advantage of the test. Overnight, unattended recording using software like Total Recorder will be the best arrow in your quiver. Second to that will be the use of Phasers and loops to null other stations on the frequency, and possibly post recording audio processing to help reduce noise and pull out the desired signal.

The broadcasting industry is changing, and if we wish to be successful, we'll all have to embrace new technology and techniques to do so.

What can I do to help?

Individual DX'ers can do much to help the hobby in regards to DX Tests. We now encourage members to use their contacts at work, church, and civic organizations to get to know station managers, engineers, etc. If you ask around, you'll be surprised how quickly you can meet most of the people involved with radio in your area.

Find out if the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has a local chapter, if so, see if you can attend their meeting and give a short talk about our hobby. By contacting the NRC or IRCA, you can usually obtain plenty of back issues of our printed publications to hand out, and if you play some recordings of your best catches, you can give an entertaining talk for a half hour or so.

To find out if there is a chapter in your area, visit the SBE web site at: http://www.sbe.org/chapter_find.php

Usually these clubs struggle to find speakers for their meetings at least once or twice a year, and will welcome something that will be a change of pace from their usual material.

One little tip that has worked for me, if you're invited to speak at the meeting, ask to see which local AM stations have engineers that are members. Send me an e-mail in advance, and I'll supply you with CD's full of station ID's, inventory inserts, sweep tones, etc. for you to give them directly. You're not likely to be turned down flat if you request a test in this fashion!

Stop playing cop

Another way that DX'ers can help is by being very careful about all contact you have with the broadcasting industry. The majority of stations are now owned by groups, and any tales of a bad experience with a radio hobbyist quickly spreads throughout the industry.

Some of us seem to delight in reporting stations to the FCC if we suspect them of "cheating" on their daytime power at night. I've heard all kinds of justification for these actions, but frankly, none of them benefit the hobby enough to offset the potential damage.

Even the term should be banned from our language... usually a station that is running at daytime power at night is the result of an automation problem, human error, or other technical issues. We should presume that the situation is unintentional and innocent.

If such operation continues for extended time, other stations on the frequency will notice and either contact the offending station directly or file a complaint with the FCC. Such complaints are given much more weight than those of "hobbyists" and by allowing the industry to police itself we avoid any ill feelings towards DX'ers.

Recently, I had a DX'er who frequently takes it upon himself to "play cop" attempt to justify his actions by saying that he never identified himself as a member of the National Radio Club or the International Radio Club of America. Instead, he complained to the station's owner stating that he was a "radio hobbyist"... for me; this is a distinction without a difference. The damage to the hobby is done.

In the mind of that owner, radio hobbyist now equals pain in the rear end. How much luck do you think we'll have with that station if we approach them about a test or ask for a QSL?

Radio is a business. The people involved in it are motivated by a desire for profit... listeners outside their local market are not measured for ratings purposes, and as such they are not very interested in your concerns. Fewer chief engineers these days are amateur radio operators or even shortwave listeners, so our hobby can seem strange and foreign to them. A QSL card may be the most important thing in the world to you, but to the station it may just mean "more work, with no benefit".

Be polite always, and if you don't achieve the desired result, be that a reception verification or acknowledgement of a transmitter problem, then give up. Get out of your shack, take a walk around the block and cool off. Becoming rude, or worse reporting that station to the FCC can only do harm to all of us.

Frankly, I resent even having to write these words, but my brief tenure as BTC as taught me that our numbers contain more of these types of "sea lawyers" than you might suspect.

Final Thoughts

Fred Vobbe is to be congratulated for a novel approach to getting more stations to conduct tests that benefit all of us. I'm happy to report that Fred was one of the DX'ers fortunate enough to log a new one during the recent WAPI-WJOX test... it's only fitting that he directly profited from his own imagination.

Thanks also to the dedicated members who have volunteered to help us set up tests in their area. Most of the tests in the past two seasons are the results of their efforts more than my own.

73 and Good DX,

Les Rayburn, N1LF (IRCA/NRC Broadcast Test Coordinator)

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings, MT 59102-7755

E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

(BB) **Bill Block**-7716 E. Thelma Dr.-Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 billwblock@msn.com

R-390A, Quantum Phaser, EWE (20x50x20), 150' longwire

(LG) **Larry Godwin**-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804 lbg@mtwi.net

Hammarlund HQ-150, Sanserino air-core box loop

(GH) **Glen Hansen**-1925 Tualatin St.-St. Helens, OR 97051 skinner@columbia-center.org

R-390A, Drake R8B, R-388, Hammarlund SP-600, various longwires, amplified

Sanserino air core loop, Radio Shack loop

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

Drake R8, 1500' Eastern Beverage, Drake SPR4, WNW EWE antenna,

(DW) **Dave Williams**-Redmond, OR beansdad@bendcable.com

Grundig S350 and internal antenna for now

(RW) **Richard E. Wood**-HCR 3, Box 11087-Keaau, HI 96749

FRG-1000, 150' longwire

522 INE MT, Missoula this beacon can be heard most nights at my QTH. (DW-OR)

550 KUZZ CA, Bakersfield 1/3 0120 "The best of today's favorites and all-time country, KUZZ," over KOAC-OR. (DW-OR)

570 KSNM NM, Las Cruces 12/31 1849 with ID "KSNM" and ads. (BB-AZ)

580 CKXR BC, Salmon Arm 1/5 1832 very good on top of CKUA with weather, cluster of local spots, and many mentions of Salmon Arm and CKXR. (PM-OR)

600 KOGO CA, San Diego 12/31 2155 ad for American Shooting Center's gym training, San Diego home builders. (RW-HI)

KGEZ MT, Kalispell 12/22 1835 ad for Sportsman's Warehouse in Missoula, also 1/2 2340 with Fox Sports. (DW-OR)

620 KIPA HI, Hilo 12/29 0100 news, temps, ID, into elevator music, low power. 2000 same but medium power, 12/30 1600 off air; roughly half time on air, alternating low power & medium power (about 1/3 the strength of other locals KHLO-850 and KHBC-1060). This has been the practice for the last 6 months; seems to be testing but never announces as testing, never apologizes for long absences, interesting never mentioned in local newspaper Hawaii Tribune Herald, etc. (RW-HI)

630 KHOW CO, Denver 1/6 0926 with ID "On Denver's Hot Talk." (BB-AZ)

KFXD ID, Boise 1/6 0923 with KFXD ID. (BB-AZ)

640 KGVW MT, Belgrade 12/22 1830 daytime power (10kw) with ad for "Coffee-on-the-go" Belgrade, SRN news. (DW-OR)

650 WSM TN, Nashville 12/24 0030 "Nashville's Country Legend, " and "Your all-time country favorites WSM." (DW-OR)

CKOM SK, Saskatoon 1/5 very good on top with news, gave temp as -3C in Saskatoon, and website as ckom.com at 1835. (PM-OR)

680 KWKA NM, Clovis 1/6 0907 with KWKA ID, way under KNBR. (BB-AZ)

KKGR MT, Helena 1/5 1840 good with old rock and ID's as "KGR." (PM-OR)

CHFA AB, Edmonton 1/3 0525 while looking for KBRW, CHFA pretty much dominant with KNBR phased. CHFA was woman in French with pop tunes. (PM-OR)

690 CBU BC, Vancouver 1/1 2205 classical orchestra conducted by Charles Munch, very good, in clear at SSS and still on top throughout evening, // CFPR 860. (RW-HI)

700 WLW OH, Cincinnati 12/29 0100 news, 0105 ID simply as "WLW," in clear. (RW-HI)

710 KSPN CA, Las Angeles 12/31 2200 program from Sacramento Gospel Mission, ID "Sharing the good news, KSPN," over/under KIRO. (RW-HI)

+1/2 0145 Eastwood Insurance Service ad after Sports Center, in KIRO null. (DW-OR)

730 KEZK OR, Medford 1/5 0255 ID, standards, nighttime 70 watts. (DW-OR)

740 KRMG OK, Tulsa 1/6 0856 with weather and ID. (BB-AZ)

KTRH TX, Houston 1/5 1835 with a very weak "KTRH" ID. (BB-AZ)

+1/5 1835 on top of CBX with sports, tagged "KTRH." (PM-OR) (Wow, you two reported hearing the very same ID, that doesn't happen very often.—NJ)

750 KFQD AK, Anchorage 1/1 0206 "Alaskans ring in the new year form Anchorage to the Aleutians," 0208 DUI's, bus schedules, Anchorage Museum closed for New Year's, Elmendorff Air Force base, Channel 2 Weekend News; booming in clear, easiest Alaskan here. (RW-HI)

760 KKZN CO, Thornton 1/2 0250 "Progressive Talk, Air America." (DW-OR)

WWJ MI, Detroit 1/2 0350 ID, Midnight Trucking Network. (DW-OR)

780 KKOH NV, Reno 1/6 0934 with "KOH" ID, traffic and weather, on top of KAZM. (BB-AZ)

790 KGHM MT, Billings 1/2 0254 ID, Midnight Trucking Network. (DW-OR)

KJRB WA, Spokane 12/28 0055 female gave K-Fan ID in a whirling jumble with CFCW and KGM1? Really weak and soon lost. New. SP-600 on N-S wire. (GH-OR)

860 KTRB CA, Modesto 1/1 2207 ID "KTRB the Talk Station....," sports, over/under CFPR. (RW-HI)

970 KGET CA, Bakersfield 12/30 2127 ID "The Mighty 9-70, hit tunes of the 60's, 70's and 80's," into "Little Darling." Still good 2240 with ad for bakersfieldhelpwanted.com. (RW-HI)

1010 KSIR CO, Brush 1/4 0201ID into ESPN All Night in CBR null, nighttime power 250 watts. (DW-OR)

KCPW UT, Tooele 1/4 0215 BBC World Today in CBR null, nighttime power 148 watts. (DW-OR)

1020 KDKA PA, Pittsburgh 12/28 0300 "KDKA Newstalk 1020" into CBS news. (DW-OR)

1050 KTBL NM, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque 12/13 0800 had a fair signal, man said "Dr. Laura... on KTBL... Albuquerque." Rarely heard here. (LG-MT)

1060 KDUS AZ, Tempe 12/31 ID'd as "The Sports Authority, AM 1060, KDUS at 0800, then Sporting News Radio jingle. Heard only once before. (LG-MT)

KRCN CO, Longmont 12/31 aired a brokered investment program at 0951, and broke for local commercials. Gave promo for Radio Colorado at 0954. Excellent signal on car radio. (LG-MT)

KGFX SD, Pierre 12/31 strong and dominant at 1000 on car radio with C&W, then ID as "KGFX Pierre, a member of the Dakota Radio Group." Odd, no sign of regulars CKMX and KBGN. (LG-MT)

1100 KNZZ CO, Grand Junction 12/30 0105 ID coming out of Fox News under KFAX. (DW-OR)

WTAM OH, Cleveland 1/5 1830 totally dominant at S9+10 DB with "WTAM Traffic," "WTAM AM 12100." Best heard in some time. (PM-OR)

1110 KAGV AK, Big Lake 1/3 0545 heard once again with soft Christian music and many "Alaska's Gospel Voice" and "KAGV" ID's. After net news at 0600, into Unshackled at 0605. Lots of KBND QRM at times though, was hard to phase. (PM-OR)

KFAB NE, Omaha 12/30 0239 heard under local KBND with ID into "Coast to Coast AM." (DW-OR)

1120 KZSJ CA, San Martin regularly heard in the morning over 50kw semi-local KPNW, which is highly directional away from here (DW-OR)

1130 KRDU CA, Dinuba 1/4 0230 "Radio that changes lives, KRDU" under CKWX. (DW-OR)

1140 CHR8 AB, High River 1/2 0210 "Southern Gospel USA" promo. (DW-OR)

1150 KTLK CA, Los Angeles 1/4 0235 "LA's Progressive Voice," ad for Roll and Rye in Culver City. (DW-OR)

1170 KFAQ OK, Tulsa 12/30 0100 ad for Farm Credit Services of Eastern Oklahoma, also local station # of 743-7814. (DW-OR)

CKOC ON, Hamilton 1/5 0205 BN News into "Chase the clouds away; it's a sunny day on Oldies 1150." (DW-OR)

1200 ?KYAA? CA, Soquel 1/4 at 1930 surely the one in unID language on car radio. Mentioned Sunnyvale during commercials and gave phone numbers with 408 and 415 area codes. Strong and all alone. (LG-MT)

1230 KDAC CA, Fort Bragg 12/30 2230 ranchera music in Spanish, 2300 ID by OM in English "This is KDAC St. Bragg La Magica Musical" (last 3 words spoken with slight English accent), back into Spanish; all traditional ranchera. Dominates 1230 throughout hours of darkness now in winter. (RW-HI)

KJQS UT, Murray 12/13 strong at 1000 as "ESPN Radio, KJQS, Murray, Salt Lake." (LG-MT)

1240 KTIX OR, Pendleton a regular lately at 1000 with receptions 12/9, 12/16 and 1/5. ID'd as "Sports Radio, KTIX." QRM mostly from KWIK-ID. (LG-MT)

1260 KTRC NM, Santa Fe 12/31 1758 with a weak "KTRC" ID. (BB-AZ)

1330 KJLL AZ, Tucson 1/5 1835 with traffic and ID "Tucson's Jolt." (BB-AZ)

1310 KNPT OR, Newport 12/31 0030 male gave ID with talk show. Very weak in the static with one unID underneath, on R-388 with N-S wire. (GH-OR)

KWKW CA, Los Angeles 1/3 2259 with ID in English "KWKW 1330 Los Angeles." (BB-AZ)

KGAK NM, Gallup 1/5 heard at 1829 in Navajo. (BB-AZ)

KLBO TX, Monahans 1/5 1734 with "KLBO" ID then into oldies. This was 2 hours before local sunset. (BB-AZ)

1340 KATA CA, Arcata 12/28 2357 asthma PSA, 2358 ad for restaurant in Humboldt Center in Eureka, 12/29 0000 ID as "North Coast sports radio 13-40, KATA Arcata-Eureka" into San Jose game; loud and dominant for many hours thereafter and until dawn. Now the easiest mainland GY'er here with KVTO-1400 Berkeley the second easiest. KVEN-1450 Ventura, previously the easiest GY'er here, seems to have slipped, but this may be a seasonal thing, Arcata & Berkeley being further north than Ventura. (RW-HI)

KTCR WA, Kennewick 12/29 0035 female gave ID in a stacky pileup. Very weak, in for only 30 seconds or so. New GY'er, on R-390A with E-W wire. (GH-OR)

1350 KSRO CA, Santa Rosa 12/25 2300 ID and CNN news, ad for Riccola. Once a regular, it seems as though it seldom gets over KRLC anymore. R-390A with E-W wire. (GH-OR)

1360 KOHU OR, Hermiston 12/24 0030 ID and older country music. Poor and choppy blending with unID Mexican. About 200 miles away, I seldom hear this one with only 1000 watts. (GH-OR)

1380 KRKO WA, Everett 12/31 0200 ad for New Year's Eve celebration at Northern Lights Casino. Weak, fighting it out with unID oldies station, on R-388 with N-S wire. (GH-OR)

KTOX CA, Needles 1/5 1704 with ID "You're listening to KTOX Needles." (BB-AZ)

1400 KART ID, Jerome 12/26 0030 C&W music with female jingle ID. Extremely weak and sputtering in a mix with KEDO. Barely perceptible with R-390A on E-W wire. New log. (GH-OR)

1420 KMOG AZ, Payson 12/31 1806 with weather and "KMOG" ID. (BB-AZ)

1470 KYYW TX, Abilene 12/31 1821 with "KYYW" ID and ads. (BB-AZ)

1500 KSJX CA, San Jose 1/2 0104 Vietnamese ads, made out "Stevens Creek," "San Jose." (DW-OR)

1510 KCUV CO, Littleton 1/5 0305 True Oldies Channel, calls, in under dead air of pest KGA. (DW-OR)

1570 KCVR CA, Lodi-Modesto 12/31 1000 Spanish/English ID as "KCVR Lodi-Modesto," religious. In clear, my sem-local KAUA not on. (RW-HI)

1620 KSMH CA, Auburn 1/2 0231 "Catholic Radio Network." (DW-OR)

KBLI ID, Blackfoot 1/2 0240 ID out of Sports Center. (DW-OR)

KYIZ WA, Bellevue 1/2 0230 "Z Twins" radio. (DW-OR)

1650 KBJD CO, Denver 1/2 0232 ID'ing as "KNUS" with Michael Medved. (DW-OR)

1660 KXOL UT, Brigham City 1/2 0245 "Your true oldies channel, KXOL." (DW-OR)

?KTIQ? CA, Merced 1/2 0235 "Radio Exitos," Spanish talk, any other options? (DW-OR)

HELP WITH AN UNID

1690 UNID Rene Auvray NV's music from Hawaii or the S. Pacific with announcer who may be Hawaiian cannot be a HI station. There is nothing here on or near 1690! At the time of RA's reception (0025) I get KFSG Roseville- Sacramento, CA, which I have heard in Vietnamese (Viet. music may sometimes sound vaguely S. Pacific), Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Ukrainian and probably Romanian. (RW-HI)

UNID

1220 UNID What sounded like "You're tuned to Oldies 1220, KATK," ad for Crossroads Car Wash, California. May be KHTS. (DW-OR)

Welcome to WDXR Dave and Richard, we hope to hear from you often. In the Dec. 31, 2005 DXM KFAB was listed on 1120 by mistake, it does definitely belong on 1110. Thanks to all our reporters this week. Nancy 1/6 2100

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

John C. Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings, MT 59102-7755

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

RIDING GAIN

- [EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood, MO N0UIHEric@aol.com
GE Superadio III, Grundig S350, Realistic TM-152 AM Stereo tuner with Worcester Space Magnet 2.
- [TMJ-IL] **Tom Jasinski**, Shorewood, IL amdxe@core.com
Drake R8A, Quantum loop.
- [NJ-MT] **Nancy Johnson**, Billings, MT NancyJohnson@Prodigy.net
Drake R8B, Kiwa loop.

DOWN THE DIAL

- 710 WDSM WI, Superior. 1-3 good to poor over KCMO, KEEL. 17:14 with Sean Hannity, net and local spots, promo for high school hockey, call letters. [EB-MO]
- 740 CHWO ON, Toronto. 1-1 good. 16:59 with Scottish music, promo, "AM 7-40" and "Prime Time Radio" slogans. [EB-MO]
- 790 WMC TN, Memphis. 1-4 good. 17:56 with Classic Country, "Your Country Station" slogan, "The mid-south's country legends, WMC Memphis" legal ID. [EB-MO]
- 900 WCOR TN, Lebanon. 1-5 good to fair in CHML null. 17:36 noted with country music, female DJ mentioning Lebanon, "Real Country" slogan. #1000 from here. [EB-MO]
- 910 WHSM WI, Hayward. 1-3 good to fair with splash from WGNU-920. 17:23 with local spots and call letters. [EB-MO]
- 950 KJR WA, Seattle. 1-2. 20:58 with Seattle Supersonics web site spot, "This is KJR AM Seattle" legal ID. [NJ-MT]
- WXLW IN, Indianapolis. 1-1 fair to poor with KWOS, WORD. 17:42 with local spots, sports report, mention of the Indianapolis Colts' 14 win season. [EB-MO]
- 980 WAPF MS, McComb. 1-3 good to fair with WRNE, KSGM, WYFN. 20:34 with spot for Southwest Mississippi College and local basketball game. [EB-MO]
- WRNE FL, Gulf Breeze. 1-3 good to fair with KSGM and WYFN. 20:15 with Urban AC, local announcements, call letters. [EB-MO]
- 990 WNML TN, Knoxville. 1-1 fair to poor with CBW. 16:40 with talk on the NFL, Fox Sports Radio promo, local spots. [EB-MO]
- 1010 WFGW NC, Black Mountain. 1-5 fair to poor through KXEN. 1-5 noted with local spots, weather, call letters. [EB-MO]
- 1050 WTSJ OH, Cincinnati. 1-4 fair to poor in WDZ null. 16:58 with local announcements, promo, call letters. [EB-MO]
- 1090 KVOP TX, Plainview. 1-6 fair to poor under and with a nulled KAAY. 11:30 with Dallas Cowboys football. Thanks to **Bruce Winkelman** in Tulsa for the tip. [TMJ-IL]
- 1130 KWKH LA, Shreveport. 1-1 good with minor KMOX 1120 splash. 16:39 with New Orleans Saints post-game show, local spots. [EB-MO]
- 1170 KOWZ MN, Waseca. 1-4 fair to poor in KFAQ null. 17:03 state news, local spots. [EB-MO]
- 1200 WRTO IL, Chicago. 1-3 good to fair in WOAI null fading to KFNV. 17:46 with local spots in SS. [EB-MO]
- 1230 WJBC IL, Bloomington. 1-1 fair to poor with WHCO, KWIX, several others. 17:19 with local spots, "12-30 WJBC" ID. [EB-MO]
- 1240 WHFA WI, Poynette. 1-5 fair to poor through mess. 17:35 with sports, "Relevant Radio 12-40" slogan. [EB-MO]
- 1300 KKOL WA, Seattle. 1-2 topping 1300. 20:05 with "News talk 13-hundred KOL" slogan out of weather forecast. [NJ-MT]
- 1340 KLKI WA, Anacortes. 1-2 well above the jumble. 19:59 with ESPN Fiesta Bowl coverage. "AM 13-40 KLKI Anacortes" legal ID at 20:00. [NJ-MT]
- 1370 WSPD OH, Toledo. 1-1 good signal with spash from KSLG-1380. 16:01 with Kansas City Chiefs vs. Cincinnati Bengals game. "13-70" WSPD ID and local spots. [EB-MO]
- 1400 WGIL IL, Galesburg. 1-1 good to poor with KFRU and others. 17:21 with football talk, "Fox Sports Radio" mention. Local spots, National Sports Report, "News talk radio 14 WGIL" ID, WIC PSA. [EB-MO]



DX TESTS

- 690 WJOX AL, Birmingham. 12-28 poor signal under WIST, CINF and an unID SS. 01:58 with Morse code and sweep tones during DX test. Not needed as heard and verified years ago. [TMJ-IL]
- 1070 WAPI AL, Birmingham. 12-27 very good signal over WTSO and WIBC with DX test. 02:30 with female voice IDs, Morse code, sweep tones. [TMJ-IL]

UNIDs

- 690 unID 12-29 unID 00:58 to 01:30 with 5 seconds of tone and voice ID. Too weak to be readable. Repeated continuously during the WJOX DX Test. [TMJ-IL]

25 YEARS AGO

January 10, 1981 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... We were informed of the death of **Richard Pistek** ... **Mark Connelly** of Billerica, MA said he has a new job at LTX ... **Bruce McFadden** of Tulsa, OK mentioned he had logged 60 new stations during November ... **Ric Heald** of Vallejo, CA found KEST 1450 was nullable during the daytime. He logged KONE and KOBO easily.

OPEN MIKE

The 1-10-81 "DX Monitor" also included the 1981 Frequency Check List. Many of us planned our DX sessions around these weekly tests. I know a lot of my graveyard DX came from these tests. Congratulations to Eric on hearing his 1000th station from Hazelwood. This column was typed 1-7-06. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

E-mail: lfreshwater@cox.net

Deadlines: 0800 Saturdays!!

STARS OF THE WEEK

- (LF-FL) **your editor** Ocala FL
Drake R-8B, KIWA Loop, Potomac FIM-41, MFJ Phasor, LF ENG Active ant, MFJ 616 audio enhancer, OMT Auto Logging Software, Vox Pro E-2 editing software, GRUNDIG Satellit 800
- (WM-MD) **William McGuire** 2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD
DX-398
- (IEN-GA) **Ira Elbert New** Watkinsville GA
DRAKE R-8B, 135' N/S L.W., SANGEAN ATS 909
- (JP-TN) **Jim Pogue** P.O. Box 3777, Memphis TN
NRD-535. Wellbrook, LA-5030 Loop
- (WM-TN) **Willis Monk** Old Fort TN
Sony STR3800, 149' LW
- (CJG-KY) **Chris Gray** Lexington Ky KU4A@yahoo.com
Kenwood TS 2000, Gap Eagle Vertical & Terk Loop

LOGGINGS

- 540 PA WWCS Canonsburg 12/23 1715 Radio Disney Heard. (WM-MD)
- 550 MO KTRS St. Louis 1/3 2026 Local ads and promos, sports call-in program. Good. (JP-TN)
- 580 LA KJM Alexandria 12/29 1556 Holiday music, mention of Radio Maria then off abruptly at 1600 (pattern change?). Fair signal. (JP-TN)
- 590 NE KXSP Omaha 12/31 2301 Local ads and "Big Sports 590" IDs, then back to Fox Sports. Good signal with deep fades and QRM from Cuban. (JP-TN)
- 640 OK WWLS Moore 1/5/06 1900 fair with spots and ID, over WHLO. (RCE-IN)
- 670 PA WIEZ Lewistown 12/23 1635 "That's news on the News & information station"; ID. (WM-MD)
- 680 KY WCTT Corbin 1-4-06 2225-2345 "Your Station for Great Memories, WCTT" Almost MOYL format, good o/WPTF. (RCE-IN)
- MO KFEQ St Joseph 1-3-06 0738 in briefly w/ID. (RCE-IN)
- NY WINR Binghamton 1-2-06 0549 decent w/MOYL. (RCE-IN)
- 690 LA WIST New Orleans (Metairie) 12/27 2319 station ID mentioning new call letters. Fair. (JP-TN)
- 710 FL WAQI Miami 12-31-05 0702 strong in SS over WOR. (RCE-IN)
- 730 MB CKLQ Brandon 1-2-06 2128 fair/poor in WCBS null w/quick CKLQ ID, then C&W. (RCE-IN)
- 800 LA WSHO New Orleans 1/2 1618 Religious programming and "Sonshine 800" IDs... Fair signal. (JP-TN)

810 MO WHB Kansas City 01/06 1800 ESPN Sports news and scores. Good signal (20 over S9) with a mix of stations underneath. "Sports Radio WHB" & 810 Zone". (IEN-GA)

860 ON CJBC Toronto 01/03 1800 TOH ID and a call-in show with a couple of guys speaking French. Good, steady signal (30 over S9). "CJBC Toronto". (IEN-GA)

900 MO KFAL Fulton 1-5-06 1715 in briefly w/C&W, mixing with CHML and WCOR. (RCE-IN)

920 KY WTCW Whitesburg 01/03 1749 Oldies and a couple of station promos. Good signal (10 over S9) with slight static & slight fading. "Number One Oldies Station" & "Oldies Channel, WTCW". (IEN-GA)

940 TX KTFS Texarkana 1/5 1702 Reports on local impact on Texas wildfires then into Jerry Doyle Show. Good with deep fades. (JP-TN)

930 TX KLUP San Antonio 12/28 1601 End of SRN News and "New-Talk 930. KLUP"; ID. Fair. (JP-TN)

970 IL WMAV Springfield 1/3 1803 Local newscast, "Springfield's locally owned local news station, 970 WMAV News" ID. Peaked good with deep fades. (JP-TN)

1070 MB CBA Moncton 12/23 1700 "The World at 6"; CBC News. (WM-MD)

NC WNCT Greenville 12/29 0159 Caught TOH ID while logging for the WAPI Test. Poor. Mixing with WLFI. NEW. (LF-FL)

1090 MD WBAL Baltimore 1655 04/01/06 Ad for Hill Volvo; weather report by Pat ??? Weather ended with "Never more than 10 minutes from traffic and weather together, WBAL 1090, Baltimore". At 1700 just disappeared. They changed to their night pattern and power. (WM-TN)

1150 AL WJRD Tuscaloosa 1/6 1642 "Timeless classics" ID with Elvis songs and other songs and other oldies. Peaked well. (JP-TN)

1200 NC WXIT Blowing Rock 01/06 0752 Sports report. Good signal swapping places with WOAI in San Antonio, TX from time-to-time. "WATA, WXIT". (IEN-GA)

ND KFNW West Fargo 12-31-05 1725 strong over CFGO with end of Unshackled program. (RCE-IN)

1220 TN WRJZ Knoxville 12/20 1754 Religious programming, local weather and "Joy 62, WRJZ" ID. Fair-good. (JP-TN)

1330 VA WRAA Luray 12-29-05 0220 somewhat decent over WTRE w/C&W. (RCE-IN)

1350 PA WOYK York 1-5-06 0005-0100 fair/poor w/ESPN and Rose Bowl Game, mixing with WKCU. (RCE-IN)

1410 WV WSCW South Charleston 12-29-05 0636 decent for a couple of minutes w/rel. (RCE-IN)

1440 TN WZYX Cowan 01/03 1955 Oldies. May have been on day power?? (CJG-KY)

1550 MO KLFJ Springfield 12-29-05 0515-0520 decent w/nothing but spots for the Springfield/Battlefield area. (RCE-IN)

1620 FL WNRP Gulf Breeze 12/28 1854 Pensacola Ice Pilots hockey. Good. (JP-TN)

VI WDHP Frederiksted 1/05 0200 Poor w/ TOH ID. (LF-FL)

UN- IDEN

1260 ?? ????? 12/21 1915 Radio Disney Heard. (WM-MD)
(Lots of choices and they all RARELY ID. Could be WSDZ-Belleville, IL; WWMK Cleveland, OH; or WMKI Boston, MA – ed)

Welcome to Jim!!!! Report often!!! Thanks to you all. We had a GOOD turnout this week. More next week.....0800 1-07-06

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

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

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

Greetings everyone,

A lot of exciting news this time around. The big thing is the 2006 IRCA Convention will be in Seaside Oregon! I am your host and I hope many of you can come. It will be at the Comfort Inn, Sept 22-24th, 2006.

More TA DX this week around. So away we go.

TRANS ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

153 **NORWAY**, with a man speaking in NN. Good signal at times. 1/4 This along with 189 Iceland, is the most frequent TA heard here. (MS-AB)

162 **RUSSIA**, 0355 1/4, with a large group of people singing which followed by 2 men speaking in RR. There was identical programming on 171, so this was possibly the Radio Rossii Service. Good signal at times. (MS-AB)

162 **FRANCE**, with man reading the news in FF heard after the Russian faded out around 0400. Fair signal. (MS-AB)

171 **RUSSIA**, 0355 1/4 with identical programming to 162, though a much noisier signal. (MS-AB)

177 **GERMANY**, 0421 1/4 with man and woman in GG, Fair signal. (MS-AB)

180 **CARRIER**, no audio detected (MS-AB)

183 **GERMANY**, 2341 1/4 with 2 women speaking FF. This is the Europe 1 station at Saarlouis. Fair signal. Unfortunately I missed the closedown anmts at Midnight. (MS-AB)

189 **ICELAND** with an excellent signal 1/4 0330. (MS-AB)

198 **UNITED KINGDOM**, First noted 2333 1/4 with two men discussing family gene traits. At 0000, I heard the Westminster chimes from Big Ben and a BBC Radio 4 ID, Poor signal. (MS-AB)

198 **RUSSIA** assumed here at 0249 1/5. Music and singing heard and a male speaking what could have been RR, a very fadey signal, o/u BBC with a third station under these two. (MS-AB)

207 **ICELAND**, 0021 1/5 with faint mx under beacon noise. Could only be Iceland as it // 189, Poor signal. (MS-AB)

216 **RUSSIA**, at 0015 1/5. Radio Rossii here with Perry Como record. Identical programming to 171. Fair at times. (MS-AB)

225 **UNID**, 0347 1/4 with two men speaking in what sounded like the Russian language, Not // to 162 and 171, so possibly Poland. If so, then this is the first time I have heard it since I logged it back in November 1984 when it was on 227. (MS-AB)

252 **IRELAND**, Clarkestown 0251 1/6 with light Classical mx, followed by male voice speaking EE. In spite of an S-6 level, it was quite difficult to understand everything that was being said due to the low modulation level used. No ID at TOH, but right in to news read by a woman. At TOH + 2 minutes I heard "This is Radio 1 in ?? and Belfast". Good signal at times. (MS-AB)

279 **UNID**, faint audio heard here 0341 1/4. Too faint to get the language used. Possibly Belarus, though it could have been one of the 4 Eastern Russians on this frequency but not // to either 162, 171, or 225. (MS-AB)

PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

1180 **MEXICO**, Ciudad Delicias, Chih. XEDCH 1/6 1215-1300 UTC. Just booming in most of the time at armchair copy o/KERI with various romantic ballads, at 1240 ID "recuerdos con el corazon, en Radio Amor" (recordds from the heart, on Radio Love) SS version of "Where Oh Where Can My Baby Be" at 1252, full ID by woman at 1300 as "equis-eh-deh-ceh-ache" mention of Radio Amor and emisora (transmission)in "Ciudad Delicias, Chihuahua, Mexico" Best signal on this one to date. (RW-CA)

1560 **MEXICO**, Ciudad Juarez, Chih. XEJPV Radio Viva 12/25 0636 with KNZR 1560 running OC at lower power and heard this playing what sounded like rel. songs in SS. Radio Viva ID's. KNZR back on at 0657 and after was on/off running OC at higher power. Fair to poor signal. (MF-CA)

TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

780 **AK**, Nome KNOM quite good with KKOH off (For once I did not have to phase KKOH to hear KNOM.hi), Good with ID at 0900 UTC 1/8 As "This is KNOM AM & FM Nome Alaska." S-7 to S-9 in signal. (PM-OR)

1110 **AK**, Big Lake KAGV, fair with KBND QRM as usual with Christian mx and "Alaska's Gospel Voice" and "KAGV" IDs at 1045 1/3. (PM-OR)

VERIFICATIONS

1071 **JAPAN**, Obihiro JOWM, rec. a full detail QSL card, personal letter, sticker, program sked, and other goodies in 80d for letter with CD audio report also \$2 US rp. V/S: Y. Matsuzaki-Tech. Section. Really a nice letter with a lot of info on Obihiro. Address: The STV Radio Broadcasting Company Ltd., Nishi 8 - chome, Kita 1 - jo; Chuo-ku, Sapporo, 060-8705, Japan. Also a really nice QSL card showing all of their stations on the map on the front. This is my 4th STV station heard & QSL'd and the 111th JJ MW QSL. I am very pleased with this. (PM-OR)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

MF-CA - **MARTIN FOLTZ**, Mission Viejo CA martin.foltz@qlogic.com

DXing with HQ-180A and 1 foot box loop

MS-AB - **MIKE STONEBRIDGE**, Isidore AB stonbrdg@telusplanet.net

DXing with AOR 7030, Quantum Phaser, EWE's of 120 and 100', longwires at 750 and 300' and a 30' vertical

RW-CA - **ROBERT WIEN**, Fontana CA rjwmail@webtv.net

DXing with GE Superadio 2, Select-A-Tenna

PM-OR - **PATRICK MARTIN**, PO Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
DXing with Drake R8, Drake SPR4, Kenwood R1000, WNW EWE, SW EWE, 1500'
Eastern beverage term, 45 foot vertical, MW550P presselector, MFJ 1026 phaser, etc.

DXing on the Cruise! Walt Salmaniw

I hope that this is not being too far out of line, fellas, but I thought that I might share a little bit of my travels the past couple of weeks. We left Victoria on the 19th, and returned last night 1/1/2006. We spent a week aboard the Costa Mediterranea, a 980 foot, 85,000 tonne behemoth. Luckily our cabin had a small deck where I was able to do a modest amount of DXing. In tow with me was my most recent receiver, the Kaito 1103 portable. 99% of my listening was on the AM and FM bands using the built-in ferrite rod and telescopic whip. Despite this drawback, I was most impressed with the performance of this receiver. I brought along my i-River 795T MP3 player/recorder and taped some 10 to 15 hours of programming. Guy Atkins clued me into this receiver. I did find that it produced some noise in certain modes (when paused for instance) within a meter or so of the receiver, but while recording, this didn't seem to be much of an issue. I loved the fact that it would record up to some 80 hours or so at a bit rate of 16 kbps at 16 kHz Mono. What an advance over cassette tapes (what I used to use... the Sony 1000T), or MD recorders. The Costa Mediterranea set sail from Ft. Lauderdale heading south/south-east to Puerto Rico, and then to the US Virgin Islands, the British Virgin Islands before returning to Nassau and back to Ft. Lauderdale. Not at all as extensive a cruise as my last between Tahiti and the Marquesas a couple of years back, but nonetheless still fascinating from a radio perspective. I was unaware of the ship causing any significant RF to my reception. I focused especially with the split frequencies on the MW band, and was pleased with the reception, but rather peeved at the paucity of IDs. I found myself leaving the receiver and MP3 recorder on the balcony while going to dinner, shows, etc, in hopes of snagging an ID. I'm still having to review the recordings to see whether I was successful or not in this regard.

Regarding the three MW Bahamian transmitters, 810 ZNS3 was by far the easiest to hear, and was usually heard day or night wherever we were on the cruise. It ID'd as "810, the Service in the North" heard at 04:50 on Dec 24th. ZNS1 on 1540 was next easiest to hear with the following ID at 0259 on Dec 25th: "Covering the entire Bahamas, this is ZNS, Nassau". The final outlet, ZNS2 on 1240 was the most difficult to hear, except when in Nassau. This is a religious outlet, IDing as "Inspiration 1240", and "Excellence in Christian Broadcasting". I was not able to monitor this one very well outside of Nassau. I believe that all 3 of these stations are government owned and operated. I also heard many FM (mostly private) Bahamian stations.

As we sailed south the first 36 hours, I attempted to monitor AFN from Guantanamo. A few years ago, I recall picking them up quite well in the middle of the night as our Holland American ship sailed westward to the south of Cuba on our way to Jamaica. This time, the best I could hope for was sailing to the north of the waters separating Cuba and Haiti. Neither AM 1340, nor FM 102.1 or 103.1 yielded anything definite this time. Interestingly, as we sailed by Haiti, I did pick up an English language FM station from Port au Prince called Signal FM on 90.5. I wasn't expecting to hear any English, of course.

I then aimed my sites on the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico on the X-Band. 1660 from San Juan IDs only in Spanish as "Gigante 16-60". The legal call is WGIT, and the IDs were usually heard a couple of minutes after the top of the hour. WDHP on 1620 was quite a powerhouse in the Caribbean. They never ID'd at the top of the hour, but usually after cutting away from network news at 6 minutes past the hour, with a local ID, but not always. The news feed was always USA network news. The IDs were usually full legal IDs "1620 WDHP St. Croix, US Virgin Islands", but at least once instead I heard only "non stop jamming on your hometown radio station". I didn't bother with any other Puerto Rican stations, and instead concentrated on the US Virgin Islands which were all heard. 970 WSTX ID'd frequently, as did WSTA 1340 (one of the reasons that the tiny AFN Guantanamo transmitter was not heard, I think). WWWW 1000 was well heard but didn't seem to ID much (It was one of the stations I left my recorder running in hopes of an ID). I did hear ID's as "Radio 1 AM 1000". CBS news on the hour. 1090 WGOD was obviously also religious and well heard only in the immediate vicinity of the Virgin Islands. They were in parallel to a much stronger FM transmitter on 97.9 (50 kw vs 250 watts), and would ID as "98 FM, 1090 AM WGOD". 1290 WRRR rarely ID'd, and ran southern Baptist style religious programming. Christmas carols continued as well even 4 days after the 25th. There were times of open carriers up to 2 minutes, but no IDs. Gonna have to listen to the MP3 to find an ID there.

The British Virgin Islands, I believe, only have a single MW transmitter on 780, ZBVI. They were widely heard with totally local programming and Christmas greetings and mostly mentions of the "BVI". Ads for "Cable and Wireless", the "BVI Social Security Branch" and the like. The closest thing to a real ID is usually at the bottom of the hour when they present the "weather for ZBVI".

As we sailed towards the Virgin Islands, I also checked the various split frequencies and heard all of them to a greater or lesser degree. 895 from St Kitts, Nevis, and Anguilla was heard with a local ID at 00:30 on Dec 27th with "895, 10000 watts, The Voice of Nevis, covering the whole Caribbean". Well not quite, as they were quite weak at that point, but did improve later in the evening with local holiday greetings, carols, and Auld Lang Sye at 01:57, but no ID at the top of the hour (seeing a pattern yet?).

555 ZIZ Radio St. Kitts had rather weak voice modulation compared to music, and somewhat muddy audio. Despite listening for over an hour, not a single ID was heard. Mostly stronger than 895, and very good by 00:55 on the 27th. They would mention St. Kitts and Nevis, though. Splatter from 550 was a problem. Despite my 2005 WRTH saying they signed off at 02:00, they were still going strong after 03:05 on the 27th.

535 Grenada GBN ID's as Klassic (or Classic) Radio and was heard with the "Twelve Days of Christmas" at 01:43 on the 27th at mostly fair, but occasionally good levels.

As we sailed north to the Bahamas on our return leg, I switched over to check for Bermuda (our cabin was on the starboard side of the ship, and faced north on the cruise northward). I was able to hear the BBCWS co-channel and weakly on 1160, and possibly 1280 with "FRN news" at 03:03 on the 29th. No luck on ZFB 1230, ZBM 1340, or 1450 AM Gold.

So, as you can see, I didn't do a whole lot of DXing (too much happening on the ship and on shore for that), but still some fun in listening to something virtually impossible to monitor back home in Victoria. If you care to see the ship, here's a link:

<http://www.kreuzfahrt-reisen.de/costa-kreuzfahrten/images/00007464.jpg.jpg>

Our cabin was on the side facing you, and was about midship, and just above the life boats. Hopefully I'll be able to get something useful from the MP3 recordings, and possibly post them somewhere. Hope this brief travelogue was of some interest to you... Happy New Year... **Walt Salmaniw**, Victoria, BC.

DX FORUM

Richard C. Evans – 7416 Hearthstone Wy – Indianapolis IN 46227-7923

E-mail: REvans5435@yahoo.com DEADLINES: Sundays

Deadlines: Sundays - Anniversary Issue: 3/1/2006

Richard E. Wood, HCR3, Box 11087, Keaau, Hawaii 96749-9221

Haquoli Makahili Hou from the east side of the big island. To reintroduce myself, I am a native of Dundee, Scotland, U.S. citizen since 1984, and became a DXer in Newcastle upon Tyne, England in 1957, always primarily a MW DXer with SW second and occasional FM and TV third. I am a retired professor of European Languages and general linguistics and have also worked as an interpreter and teacher of ESL, mainly in Saudi Arabia (where I also DXed). For years, I commuted from East HI, a good DX location, over to Kailua-Kona, West HI, a poor DX location, where I operated Richard's Fruitstand in the Aewist capital, Kailua-Kona. I have now closed the physical stand and my main income is now from mail order sales of 100% pure Kona coffee, the world's best: www.richardsfruitstand.com (operated by a webmaster. I have no computer). After about four years' inactivity, I am now fairly active again, using the same FRG-100 as before, and a SW-NE shortwave here in the middle of Hawaiian Paradise Park, a subdivision 9 miles north of Hilo, where that fine DXer, Chuck Boehnke, also lived. The enormous real estate boom has brought big new houses on every side of me, and some of my longwires were cut by bulldozers. Man-made noise is also up. But my impression is that plenty of DX is still available, though I haven't heard Europe or Africa for the last year or two (but I didn't try hard then). Two stations which acted as beacons for conditions on the x-band seem to be absent now and I haven't seen lots of them in recent DXM's: the U. of Baja on 1630 and Winter Haven, FL on 1680. Are they off the air? But one addition with a powerhouse signal from BCN is XEPE-R. Cash-1700, with its many San Diego ads. Does anyone know what power it runs and whether it is directional nites? If it beams west from Tecate to San Diego, it would extend this way and explain its powerhouse signal, the loudest XE here. (Richard, the FCC website shows it as 1000 watts, non-directional day and night--rce) My most wanted North American stations are KBRT-CA-740, which is, I believe, my closest unheard active station, KRML-CA-1410, my closest unheard non-GYer, and KBRW-680. My most wanted graveyarders is KIFW-1230. They Grayland results are fascinating. Looking at Chuck Hutton's list on page 11 of DXM 43-14 (Dec. 17, 2005) of the AK stns which the combined Grayland team missed, have been heard, in the past, all of them here. This is based on memory alone, as many of my past logs are lost. But I will remember that I heard 910 on the morning it first came on the air, and the QSL conformed this fact. If 1230 is the only GYer in AK, a clean sweep of all AK stns should be possible here in east HI, though not at my current crowded, noisy mid-subdivision location. I am working on finding a less crowded place where beverages are possible. As I want to live there, not just do DXpeditions there, it takes money for real estate! It was good to note the last Bappahayden DXpedition heard West Coasters like KOMO-1000. I had noticed the absence of West Coasters on previous NFLD. Logs. Now on to the Pacific, the only global region not so far reported from Bappahayden! I have heard CBA-NB-1070 here, so it should be possible. It's not that far from arctic Sweden and Finland where numerous Hawaiians like KKON-790 and KHBX-1060 produce powerhouse signals. Recent DXpedition to Sheigra in NW Scotland produced KFI-CA-640 and other West Coasters, but HI hasn't been heard in the UK or Europe south of Scandinavia since 1945. (That's what it looks like--rce) Any tips on DX I should look for are welcome, now that I'm getting active again. Aloha and 73.

Richard Evans, 7416 Hearthstone Way, Indianapolis, Indiana 46227-7923

It's interesting what some of the memories are that get stirred by Forum reports. When we were looking for a place to live here in Indy, back in 1999, I had noticed line noise on the car radio perhaps four or five blocks from here on the main road along the east side of the subdivision. In here, though, the lines are buried and I don't notice the line noise. One thing Frank Merrill and I were commenting about when he was here in May was that my radio doesn't really react much to the computer being on, even though it is only about five or six feet from the CRT screen. The only frequencies it produces a buzz on are 580, 870, 920 and 970. It might once in a while on another but very seldom. Still hearing new stations. Seven new ones since the column last week. Details have gone out to Lee and EDXR. Best ones were probably WOYK-1370 PA with ESPN and the Rose Bowl and WWLS-640 OK with spots and ID during SSS. Seem awfully late for a football game as the Rose Bowl game was over around 0100 EST, but then I remembered it was played in California and the time difference is three hours. I'm told I will be working a lot more evenings at the tax office this year. So much for a lot of SSS these four months but then, looking back at last year, I didn't do much then and I was mostly days back then. I am listening to 1680 right now but it is mostly Radio Disney, with a SS looping east/west. Personally, I would rather it be the station out in Seattle, hi.

HEARING IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

Raymond Bauernhuber – 151-64 18th Ave – Whitestone NY 11357-3102

E-mail: DXRADIO@Webtv.net

Greetings fellow IRCAn's and welcome to another edition of "Hearing It Through The Grapevine." This one features the frequency of **590 kHz** and the State of **Connecticut**. Let's see what our members have heard recently and over the years.

Patrick Martin, Seaside, Oregon

Featured frequency of 590 kHz:

KHAR-Anchorage AK 1969
KFXM-San Bernardino CA 1967
KRRO-San Bernardino CA 1991
KTHO-S.Lake Tahoe CA 1968
KGMB-Honolulu HI 1970
KSSK-Honolulu HI 1990
KID-Idaho Falls ID 1980
WEEI-Boston MA 1970 (DX Test)
KGLG-Glendive MT 1995 (DX Test)

KUGN-Eugene OR 1967
KSUB-Cedar City UT 1998
KHQ-Spokane WA 1970
KLSN-Spokane WA 1985
KAQQ-Spokane WA 1986
KQNT-Spokane WA 2002
CFTK-Terrace BC 1995
CFNL-Ft. Nelson BC 1993 (Moved to FM)

Featured State of Connecticut:

1080 WTIC Hartford 1966

Mike Hardester, Jacksonville, NC

Featured frequency of 590 kHz:

590 KFXM San Bernardino CA 1969
590 KTHO S. Lake Tahoe CA 1970
590 KID Idaho Falls ID 1970
590 WGTM Wilson NC 1996
590 KUGN Eugene OR 1970
590 WMBS Uniontown PA 1987
590 WARM Wilkes-Barre PA 1996
590 KLBJ Austin TX 1976
590 KSUB Cedar City UT 1970

Featured State of Connecticut:

1080 WTIC Hartford CT 1982
1620 KPD581 Windsor CT 1994 10 watts @ 552 miles

Martin Foltz, Mission Viejo CA, Hammarlund HQ-180A & Collins 51J-2 with 1 foot air core loop

Featured frequency of 590 kHz:

KTIE CA San Bernardino ~ VR
KSUB UT Cedar City



Dale Park, Honolulu HI

From Honolulu:

Featured frequency of 590 kHz:

KSSK HI Honolulu Local
KUGN OR Eugene Once at night when KSSK off

From Evanston IL 1987-88

Featured frequency of 590 kHz:

WKZO MI Kalamazoo Dominant during day

Featured State of Connecticut:

1080 WTIC Hartford Once at night

Thanks to everyone for your reports!

For the next issue of the "Grapevine" let's see what's been heard on **1050 kHz** and in the State of **Wisconsin**, which was 1st settled in 1670 and was admitted to the Union on May 29, 1848. Their State bird is the Robin and their State flower is the Wood Violet. The 'popular' name for Wisconsin is the "Badger State."

The deadline for this will be Saturday, January 28th, 2006 at 1500 hours EST.

Until then be well my friends and, 73 de DX de NY, Ray



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 35 times a year (weekly from November through March, twice monthly from April to November) and in printed form 30 times a year (weekly November through March, monthly April to November). **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.



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