

January 12, 2008 - Volume 45, Number 17 - Edition 1429 - ISSN 899-9733
 IRCA welcomes Brian Chapel of Victoria, BC.

Nominations Are Open for the TVA and RHA Awards for 2007-2008

Ted Vasilopoulos Award (TVA)
 Ted Vasilopoulos was a charter member of IRCA who died in 1965, and was known for his high DX standards and contributions to the club. This award in his honor is presented to the IRCA member who has contributed the most to IRCA and the DX hobby during the past several years. The following persons have won the TVA in the last five years and are ineligible this year: Nick Hall-Patch, Lee Freshwater, Doug Pifer, Phil Bythefway, and Rich Toebe.

Ric Head Award (RHA)

Ric Head was an enthusiastic IRCA volunteer and contributor. In 1995, after his passing, the RHA was created to recognize the IRCA member who most benefited the club in a particularly noteworthy way during the previous year. The following persons have won the RHA in the last three years and are ineligible this year: Lynn Hollerman, Les Rayburn, and Art Blair.

All nominations, including a brief statement supporting the nomination, shall be sent to the folks listed below.

TVA Nominations:
 Nick Hall-Patch, 1538 Amphion St., Victoria, BC, Canada V8R 4Z6. E-mail: nhp@ieee.org

RHA Nominations:
 Lynn Hollerman, P.O. Box 60241, Lafayette, LA 70506 USA. E-mail: ircamember@ircasonline.org

All nominations must be received by the above no later than February 1, 2008.

Notes from IRCA's President - Doug Pifer

DX Monitor editorships of "Hearing It Through the Grapevine", "Website Wanderings" and "IRCA Sports Editor" are open. Please contact IRCA's President, Doug Pifer at: 7148 Marley Ln S, Salem OR 97306, or e-mail to dxer@desert4wd.com if you're interested.

IRCA Convention 2008 News

The 2008 IRCA Convention will be held at the Days Inn in Flagstaff, Arizona on Route 66 September 12-14. The room rates are \$65 for Single, Double, Triple or Quad. We will have station tours, auction and banquet. Flagstaff is in Northern Arizona at 7,000 feet so it should not be hot with a average high of 75. Start making your plans now for Flagstaff 2008!

Bill Block, 7716 E. Theima Drive, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 billwblock@msn.com

IRCA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Doug Pifer - 7148 Marley Ln S - Salem OR 97306
 E-mail: dxer@desert4wd.com

January 1, 2008

Board business:

Proposal 23.1.3: To Change the qualifying period for the Ted Vasilopoulos Award. Submitted by Nick Hall-Patch.

PB LF JJ PM JP MS RW
 Y Y Y Y Y Y Y Y

PB - PHIL BYTHEWAY, LF - LEE FRESHWATER, JJ - JOHN JOHNSON, PM - PATRICK MARTIN, JP - JIM POGUE, MS - MIKE SANBURN, RW - ROBERT WIEN, Y= YES N= NO A= ABSTAIN.

In a nutshell, this action was taken to lengthen the qualifying period for the TVA, allowing for the possibility of more nominations. For the last several years, this is the way it's been done and this proposal formally changes the wording.

Best of DX and 73- Doug Pifer

DX TESTS - BROADCAST TEST COORDINATOR

Jim Pogue, PO Box 3777, Memphis TN 38173-0777

Email: KH2AR@comcast.net (times are Eastern) <http://www.dxtests.info>

Sun 1/13/08 0300-0315 1360 KKMO Tacoma WA (Passmore)
 Tue 1/15/08 0000-0200-oh 960 CFXK Kingston ON (Cole)

KKMO 1360 kHz Tacoma, Washington DX Test

Date: Sunday morning (late Saturday night), Jan. 13, 2008. **Time:** 12 - 12:15 a.m. Pacific Time, 0800 - 0815 UTC. 5,000 watts using non-directional, antenna pattern. From 12:00-12:10 a.m. PST, programming will consist of 1,000 Hz tone at 0 db. From 12:11-12:15 a.m. PST, programming will consist of college football marching songs. No Morse code or sweep tones are scheduled at this time, but if this changes we will notify listeners ASAP. Reception reports may be sent to KKMO Radio, Attn: Mr. Monte Passmore, CE, 2201 6th Ave., Suite 1500, Seattle, WA 98121. E-mail reception reports may also be submitted to montep@kgnw.com. No eQSL service is being offered for this test. Recordings on disk in .mp3 or .wav format will be accepted as proof of reception. NOTE: All requests for verifications must be accompanied by return postage in order to receive a reply. Many thanks to KKMO Chief Engineer Monte Passmore for agreeing to conduct this test.

Chief Engineer Monte Passmore has provided a little more info on the format for his upcoming test. He provided some very specific details regarding times, but I have thinned some of this out to try and avoid giving away too much of what to expect. I know 99.99 percent of us are honest about this and I don't mean to offend anyone, but just one unscrupulous DXer could ruin this for all of us, and it HAS happened in the past.

"I will start with sweep tones followed by a quick station identifier then a tone at 1,000 Hz followed by another station identifier. I will repeat this sequence for ten minutes from 12:00-12:10 am and then follow with college football marching music for three minutes from 12:10am to 12:13am followed by the same station identifier sweep tones and a station identifier to conclude at approx 12:15am. We will then go back to our normal programming."

CFFX 960 kHz Kingston, ON DX Test

The BTC's Canadian Connection - Saul Chernos - and I have been working out some of the details on programming and QSLs for this test with chief engineer Roger Cole. To begin with, here are the basics:

DATE: Early morning of Tuesday January 15 (Monday night). **MODE OF OPERATION:** CFFX will test using its 10,000-watt daytime directional pattern. **PROGRAMMING:** Regular adult contemporary programming. Special test material will consist of three hourly voice announcements followed by special test material lasting several minutes. These will air roughly at the top of the hour, at approximately 0000, 0100 and 0200 EST, give or take a few minutes depending on the program log.

Here is what we've worked out on QSLs -

For those DXers who seek a traditional "paper" QSL card, please send your reception report, recording (mp3/wav on disk or cassette OK) directly to Saul at the following address:

Saul Chernos, 57 Berkeley St., Toronto, ON, M5A 2W5 CANADA

Regarding return postage, be sure to go with one of these options:

1. You may send Canadian stamps in an amount sufficient to cover postage from there to your location. For Canada to the U.S., I believe it is 93¢ Canadian.
2. Send \$1 U.S. to cover return postage costs.
3. DXers hearing the test outside of Canada and the U.S. may send 1 Euro. And DXers anywhere can send 1 IRC to cover return postage costs. If none of these options will work for you, please contact me via e-mail and we'll work something out.

Saul will work with Mr. Cole to review reports, issue and mail QSL cards, etc.

For those DXers who are happy with an eQSL, please send your reception report and/or recording in either mp3 or wav format to both Saul and Mr. Cole. Their e-mail addresses are respectively: schernos@sympatico.ca, roger.cole@corusent.com.

I hope this covers everything, but if you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask. Good luck to everyone on hearing this very special test.

Western Weekend DX Test Final Report

The long-delayed final report on the three DX Tests aired Dec. 15-17 is finally ready. My sincere apologies for taking so long to put this together, but work, family, travel, the holidays and life in

general have all conspired to keep me away from much hobby activity. Hopefully things have now returned to something close to normal – whatever THAT is. In any case, on to the results.

Not surprisingly, very few DXers on the eastern side of the Rockies heard much from these tests. As a matter of fact, it was just plain tough for some listeners right on the coast to hear them.

The first test of the weekend was Saturday morning the 15th from KLAAs-830 kHz in Anaheim, CA. Those definitely hearing the test include Martin Foltz in Mission Viejo, CA; Walt Saimaniw in Victoria, BC; and Art Peterson in Richmond, CA, who reports hearing only the Morse code IDs. Wayne Heinen in Aurora, CO, reports hearing some tentative Morse code, Mike Stonebridge in St. Isidore, AB, says he had some "fifty" sweep tones and possible Morse code. Dave Hascall in Indianapolis, IN reports a very tentative ID on KLAAs Morse code, but a definite ID on new logging WEEU in Reading, PA.

The list of those who tried without success to hear the test include Frank Aden in Boise, ID; Paul LaFrentiere in Grand Marais, MN; Phil Bytheway in Seattle; Pete Taylor in Tacoma, WA, with QRM from KIRO and CKKY; Patrick Martin in Seaside, OR; J.D. Stephens in Hampton Cove, AL; Saul Chernos in Burrill River, ON; Jim Gill in Bradenton, FL, with QRM from Radio Capital in Mexico City; Marc DeLorenzo in South Dennis, MA, with QRM from WCRN in Worcester; Steve Francis in Alcoa, TN; Les Rayburn in Birmingham, AL; Bill Dvorak in Madison, WI; and Nigel Pimblett in Dunmore, AB.

Sunday morning presented DXers with a real challenge when graveyarder KQMS-1400 kHz in Redding, CA, conducted a test. This "heard" list is pretty short, but I think most of us agree that any graveyard test heard by anyone is a good one.

Those lucky enough to add KQMS to their logs include Martin Foltz in Mission Viejo, CA; Bob Coomler in Cloverdale, CA, who reports hearing both Morse code and voice IDs; Walt Saimaniw in Victoria, BC, who heard only the Morse code; Bruce Portzner in Seattle and Mike Sanburn in Bellflower, CA, who also managed to add KENT in Utah to his log at the same time.

Quite a few other DXers tried without luck for the test, including Curtis Sadowski in Paxton, IL; Willis Monk in Old Fort, TN; Mike Stonebridge in AB; Barry McLarnon in Ottawa, ON; J.D. Stephens in AL and Wayne Heinen in CO who reports IBOC QRM from KGNU.

Tim Hall said he'd planned to try for the test but a changing work schedule messed him up and he forgot to try for it. Believe me Tim, you aren't the first person this sort of thing has happened to!

Finally, Monday morning brought what looks to be the most widely heard of the three tests with KEVT-1210 in Sahuarita (Tucson), AZ. Although no special tones or Morse code were used, the list of loggings is impressive. They include: Martin Foltz (3 for 3 for the weekend), Bill Block in Prescott Valley, AZ; Patrick Griffith in Westminster, CO, who heard them under KGYN; John Wilkins in Denver; a very tentative from Barry McLarnon in Ottawa, ON; John Sampson in northwest Phoenix who had them mixing with KGY; Curtis Sadowski in Paxton, IL, reports lively Mexican music for a tentative reception; George Sherman in MN; Art Peterson in Richmond, CA; another tentative by Bill Dvorak in WI with IBOC QRM from presumed WOAI; Wayne Heinen in CO with QRM from KHAT and KGYN; a very tentative report from Connie Rychalsky in southwest CT; Bill Nittler in Belen, NM; another tentative from Saul Chernos in Burrill River, ON; and Glenn Hauser in Enid, OK. I've also received postal reports from Curtis McMenamin in Vacaville, CA; Philip Chiello Jr. in Elm Grove, WI; and James Wallace in Charleston, WV.

Perhaps one of the most interesting reports received was from Frank Schuetting in Bali, Indonesia, who tuned in the test remotely via the DX Tuner in Tucson.

The list of those who tried for this one is about the same length as the other two, and includes largely the same cast of characters. Most of the QRM appears to have originated with KGYN, IBOC from presumed WOAI, CFYM, KTBK and WPHI.

Joe Miller has produced a beautiful QSL card for the test so as soon as I can get to it I'll begin sending them out – including a special one for Frank in Indonesia. Please give me just a little breathing room as I have some other BTC tasks that need to take priority over the QSL duties – including ensuring that all is in order for the upcoming CFFX test.

Thanks for your patience everyone, and I hope DX continues to be good for you. And by the way, I was 0 for 3 all weekend! Rats.

WIMA DX Test Final Report

After a weekend of tests from a trio of "West of the Rockies" stations, we returned to the Midwest for a test from the ever-popular WIMA in Lima, Ohio. Their fine rig got out quite well and put them in logbooks from Oregon to Vermont. Here's the list of those who have thus far reported or tentatively reported hearing the test:

Roy Barstow - Old Cape Cod, MA	Tom Jasinski - Shorewood, IL	George Sherman - Minnesota
Saul Chernos - Toronto, ON	Joe Miller - Troy, MI	J.D. Stephens - Hampton Cove,
Steve Francis - Alcoa, TN	Willis Monk - Old Fort, TN	AL
Scott Fybus - Rochester, NY	Nigel Pimblett - Dunmore, AB	Joe Wozniak - St. Louis, MO
Dave Hochfelder - Albany, NY	Steve Ratzlaff - NE Oregon	Mark ? - Markham, ON
Steve Howe - Saint Albans, VT	Curtis Sadowski - Paxton, IL	Herb ? - Hudson Valley, NY
	Brett Saylor - State College, PA	Shawn ? - Winnipeg, MB

In keeping with the latest craze to take over our hobby, quite a few veteran DXers heard the test on their new "Ultra-Light Radios," thus presenting a new challenge and achievement for them. Thanks to everyone who tried for the test, and congratulations to those who logged it.

And a very special thank you to Fred Vobbe and the engineering crew at WIMA for their special efforts on behalf of DXers and radio hobbyists. You've gone the extra mile and we are indeed grateful. Remember to keep checking the DXTESTS.INFO Web site frequently and listen to the BTC Podcasts for news and late-breaking developments.

BTC Podcast #7 is ready for listening thru i-Tunes or via direct download.

To download direct from the [DXTests.info](http://www.dxtests.info/podcasts/BTC_Podcast_7.mp3) website, here's the link to the latest edition: http://www.dxtests.info/podcasts/BTC_Podcast_7.mp3.

J.D. Stephens, Broadcast Test Committee

Jim Pogue - KHZAR@comcast.net, www.dxtests.info, www.ircanrc.com Joint BTC Coordinator

CANADIAN RADIO NEWS

Jan Sys-- dsysca@yahoo.ca

For December 2007 (January 1 2008 – next update February 1 2008)

FORMAT CHANGES

930 AB Edmonton C/JCA From Gospel Music to Christian Talk (remains **The Light**)

PROPOSED AM TO FM CONVERSIONS

600 BC Vancouver CKBD Move to 100.5 with 2,600 watts (11,000 watts E.R.P.)

690 BC Vancouver CBU Move to 88.1 with 8,900 watts (19,500 watts E.R.P.)

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:

(AB) **Art Blair:** 730 SW 3rd St.-Fruitland, ID 83619

NRD-515 & Kiwa loop

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

Drake R8, EWE (20x50x20)

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

Drake R8, SW EWE, WNW EWE, 500' Eastern Beverage, Quantum Phaser

(CM) **Curtis McMenamin-153 Calle Tepic-Vacaville, CA 95687-6530** Funkiecurtis@juno.com

Sony ICF-2010, Radio West loop, Kiwa loop

(MS) **Mike Sanburn-P.O. Box 1256-Bellflower, CA 90707** mikesanburn@hotmail.com

Sony M40W

550 KBOW MT, Butte 12/18 2026 man with weather for Idaho and Montana. "KBOW Butte" ID at 2029, Fair. (AB-ID)

+ 1/1 1138 good on top of KOAC with C&W and "Country 550" slogans. (PM-OR)

560 KMON MT, Great Falls 1/1 good on top of KPQ with KMON ID at 1755. (PM-OR)

580 KUBC CO, Montrose 1/1 with C&W music and ID at 1759:55 "KUBC Montrose." (PM-OR)

600 KSJB ND, Jamestown 12/29 2237 "Classic Country KSJB" ID, into Premiere Radio spot. (AB-ID)

CFFR AB, Calgary 12/15 2430 good using Kiwa loop with 660 News and weather for Calgary. (CM-CA)

620 WTMJ WI, Milwaukee 12/29 2249 man with WTMJ ID as KPOJ faded for a moment. (AB-ID)

650 KSTE CA, Rancho Cordova 12/30 1900 CNN News, "Talk 650 KSTE" ID at 1902. Good. (AB-ID)

740 CHWO ON, Toronto 1/1 0220 fair with KCBS phased with Tony Bennett's "Rags to Riches" and "Mrs. Brown You've Got a Lovely Daughter" by Herman's Hermits. It is nice to have my Beverage back up. (PM-OR)

820 WBAP TX, Fort Worth 12/15 0600 poor using Kiwa loop. "This is WBAP Fort Worth-Dallas." (CM-CA)

830 KNCO CA, Grass Valley 12/20 0926 "KNCO Newstalk 830." Les Schwab ad, ABC sports at 0927. (AB-ID)

?KLAAs? CA, Orange 12/29 possibly the one with infomercial talk show at 1935 under/over KNCO. At 1944 lost signal to presumed power change. Not a peep of the signal after that. (PM-OR)

870 WWL LA, New Orleans 12/15 0505 fair using Kiwa loop. "This is WWL" ID then into Coast to Coast program. (CM-CA)

900 CKBI SK: Prince Albert 1/1 1807 with spot for Prince Albert Treatment Center. (PM-OR)

930 KSEI ID, Pocatello 12/29 2205 college basketball - ISU vs Northwest Nazarene, local ads at 2210. (AB-ID)

980 KVLV NV, Fallon 12/18 1906 man with ad for an assisted living business in Fallon, C&W music at 1909. (AB-ID)

980 KINS CA, Eureka 12/18 1909 man with weather for Eureka as KVLV faded out briefly. (AB-ID)

1040 WHO IA, Des Moines 12/15 0400 in good using Radio West loop. IBOC from 1050 San Mateo, CA. (CM-CA)

1060 KDYL UT, South Salt Lake City 12/31 0652 man with KDYL ID, song "Secret Love" sung by Doris Day. 149w (AB-ID)

1070 KATQ MT, Plentywood 1/1 C&W music and ID as "KATQ Plentywood" into ABC news at 1700. (PM-OR)

1110 KFAB NE, Omaha 12/21 2252 KFAB ID then into Savage Nation program. (AB-ID)

1190 CFSL SK, Weyburn 1/3 fair mixing with KEX with spots for Weyburn, C&W music at 0025. (PM-OR)

1200 WDAI TX, San Antonio 12/15 0510 good with "New Radio 1200 WDAI" then weather forecast for the area, using Radio West loop. (CM-CA)

1220 KNTS CA, Palo Alto 12/22 0206 ID "Michael Medved on Newstalk 1220 KNTS." (MS-CA)

1230 KZZR OR, Burns 12/30 with ID at 0059:50 "Radio KZZR Burns." (PM-OR)

KSZN OR, Portland 12/29 fair on top of jumble with promo for Portland Trailblazers at 1959, ID in Spanish at 1959:50 "KSZN Gresham-Portland," promo for ESPN Deportes and mention of Busto Media (who owns station). (PM-OR)

KOZI WA, Chelan 12/29 good on top of jumble at 1947 with ad for restaurant in Twisp. KKEE is OC (not uncommon). (PM-OR)

KWYZ WA, Everett 12/30 0100:30 with "KWYZ Everett" in jumble. (PM-OR)

CJNL BC, Merritt 12/30 in jumble at 0059 with "N-L Radio" ID. (PM-OR)

1290 KOUU ID, Pocatello 1/1 excellent at S9+15DB C&W music, "The Country Cow" ID's at 1145. This one has a huge signal now going up in power. Not sure if they are using a full 50kw as yet, as a few weeks ago when I got the QSL, they were at 30kw. (PM-OR)

1310 KEIN MT, Great Falls 1/1 good on top with furniture store ad tagged "in Great Falls," into Glen Campbell song at 1150. (PM-OR)

1340 KLOO OR, Corvallis 12/29 1952 with ad for restaurant. (PM-OR)

KIHR OR, Hood River 12/29 food on top with promo mentioning both KIHR and KACI The Dailies (1300) at 1954. (PM-OR)

1350 KSRO CA, Santa Rosa 12/21 2222 string of ads, "Newstalk 1350 KSRO" ID 2224. (AB-ID)

KRLC WA, Clarkston 12/21 2229 "Home Town Radio" slogan and KRLC ID. C&W music followed. Co-frequency KSRO QRM. (AB-ID)

1360 KPXQ AZ, Glendale 12/22 0517 ID "...here at the Christmas Station KPXQ." (MS-CA)

1390 KHOB NM, Hobbs 12/29 1739 with "KHOB" ID. (BB-AZ)

1400 KENT UT, Parowan 12/24 0247 noted here again with Christmas song by Karen Carpenter, ID "Thanks for sharing your day with us, KENT 1400." (MS-CA)

1410 KWYO WY, Sheridan 1/2 good on top of jumble at 0206 with promo for kwyo.com website. (PM-OR)

1450 KNOT AZ, Prescott 12/24 0427 ID "Millie High Country KNOT," Merle Haggard song. (MS-CA)

KZNU UT, St. George 12/24 0500 ID "Fox News 1450 KZNU St. George, Southern Utah's Newstalk station." (MS-CA)

1470 KONP WA, Port Angeles 12/28 ID at 1059:50 "KONP Port Angeles, Sequim." (PM-OR)

KELA WA, Centralia 1/1 still quite weak here, apparently still on low power (1kw or less?), running // to KNMT 104.3 FM (C&W) but ID's on the hour as KELA, noted at 1200-1210. "KNMT Country" and "The New 104.3 FM" slogans heard. (PM-OR)

1490 KOWL CA, South Lake Tahoe 12/25 0900 ID "Newstalk Radio KOWL South Lake Tahoe," over KZZZ. (MS-CA)

1500 KSTP MN, St. Paul 12/15 0700 in fair with "KSTP St. Paul" ID using Kiwa loop. (CM-CA)

DX TESTS

830 KLAZ CA, Orange 12/15 0500 in good with Morse code, then "KLAZ Orange-Los Angeles, Southern California, 50,000 watt..." faded leaving KNCO Grass Valley. (CM-CA)

1210 KEVT AZ, Sahuarita 12/17 0200 in good with KEVT ID then "La Raza" slogan. (CM-CA)

Thanks to our five reporters this week for sending tips. Five reporters from four different states. Nancy 1/4 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

[LH-LA] Lynn Hollerman, Lafayette, LA lynnholerman@yahoo.com SRF-59
 [NJ-MT] Nancy Johnson, Billings, MT NancyJohnson@Prodigy.net
 Drake R8B and Kiwa Loop

DOWN THE DIAL

600 WREC TN, Memphis. 12-25. 23:14 with "News radio 6-hundred WREC" ID. [LH-LA]
 710 KEEL LA, Shreveport. 12-31 fair with interference. 09:39-09:45. "News radio 7-10 KEEL" ID into news, weather, traffic report. [LH-LA]
 1040 WHO IA, Des Moines. 12-28. 23:23 with "News radio 10-40 WHO" into "Call the naughty line or the nice line" Gave 800 numbers for each line. [LH-LA]
 1070 WDAI TN, Memphis. 12-28 strong. 23:15-23:20 with soul music, mentions of WDAI Memphis and a review of what WDAI did in 2007. [LH-LA]
 1330 KNSS KS, Wichita. 12-29. 23:06 with ID into Football Locker Room Show. Gave phone number to call into the show. 316-436-1330. [NJ-MT]

25 YEARS AGO

January 8, 1983 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Doug Pifer** of Santa Ana, CA noted KFI off the air on December 22nd ... **Paul Zehr** of Rock Springs, WY told about moving to Wyoming from Ely, NV ... **Bruce Portzer** of Seattle, WA said he added 60 new stations in 1982.

OPEN MIKE

It's an all ladies column this week. Local KGHL 790 has constructed a new tower and transmitter building about 8 miles east of their old location. The change over to the new transmitter and antenna takes place on Monday, January 7, 2008. They claim this will increase their coverage 30%. It's sad to see the 75+ year old self-supporting towers being abandoned. The two towers are about 3 miles south of our house and we have been able to watch them blink away from our living room window. Like many other cities, the antenna location has become very valuable property for commercial development. Currently the taller of the two towers is in the middle of a parking lot for a business on the land. No word on the removal date for the towers. This column was typed 1-5-08. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Lee J. Freshwater - 414 SE 3rd St. - Ocala, FL 34471
E-mail: lfreshwater@cox.net

Deadlines: Saturdays 8 AM!!

(WM-TN) Willis Monk
 (IE-N-GA) Ira Elbert New

STARS OF THE WEEK
 Old Fort, TN
 Drake R-4C, 149' LW
 Watkinsville, GA
 DRAKE R-8B, 135' N/S L.W., SANGEAN ATS 909

LOGGINGS

850 GA WPTB Statesboro. 0045 12/21. In the middle of an ESPN program, the ID "850, WPTB" just popped in, the program in progress continued without a pause. (WM-TN)
 920 ON CKNX Wingham, 0200 12/26. "AM 920, CKNX" was running a good S-5 to an S-8 on my Drake R-4C. Lots of QSB, but a good readable signal. (WM-TN)
 KY WTCW Whitesburg, 2232 12/27. C&W song, "Amanillo by morning" followed by promo for Kentucky National Guard; a short story by the GM about baseball player Earl "Colonel" Cobb, a true Kentuckian. ID "Country legend, classic country greats, WTCW, 920." (WM-TN)
 1010 FL WJXL Jacksonville, 12/31 2341. Sports news and scores. Good signal trading places with CFRB in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. "Jacksonville's Sports Radio, 1010 XL." (IE-N-GA)
 1300 AL WBSA Boaz. 1535 12/19. Women preacher talking about Abraham and his faith. Took the frequency from WMTN. (WM-TN)
 TN WMTN Morristown, 1520 20/19. "You're tuned to the greatest classic country, Morristown's own WMTN, 1300." Then an ad for a calendar put out by the local

fur department. Another ID, "WMTN, Morristown." Song at 1525, "On the wings of a Dove." QSBed. Back up on top at 1529 and the weather. (WM-TN) Chattanooga, 1545 12/19. IDs - "AM 1310, WDOD" and "RUBY 1310" Traffic report at 1547. (WM-TN)
 1320 GA WHITE Griffin, 1950 12/26. ID - "1320, WHITE" back into country music. (WM-TN) NC WKRK Murphy, 1606 12/19. "Serving the tri-state area since 1959, North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia, this is 1320, WKRK, Murphy." C&W format. (WM-TN)
 1340 TN WBAC Cleveland, 141012/19. Shane Hanney show "1340 WBAC Cleveland, 970 WXQK Spring City, and 1280 WDNT Dayton all part of the Brower Broadcast stations. (WM-TN)
 1380 TN WLRM Millington, 0301 12/26. Pastor Peter J. Peters. Promo to buy time on WLRM for as low as \$25.00 call 901 872 8862. (WM-TN)

DAYTIME LOGGINGS

920 GA WGKA Atlanta, 1436 12/30. "Talk radio for Georgia, WGKA" Michael Reagan show, talking about Obama. (WM-TN)
 930 AL WGAD Rainbow City, 1433 12/30. Song, "What a night" from the early 70's. ID "The new 930, WGAD." (WM-TN)
 940 TN WECC Wartburg, 1424 12/30. Song, "Angels watching over me" by the Fresh Anointing Group. Nice signal, around an S-5; rare here in the daytime. (WM-TN)
 960 AL WERC Birmingham, 1445 12/30. "24 hour news center, WERC, Birmingham. (WM-TN)
 970 TN WXQK Spring City, 1440 12/30. "1340 WBAC Cleveland, 970 WXQK Spring City, and 1280 WDNT Dayton all part of the Brower Broadcast stations. (WM-TN)
 980 GA WUUS Rossville, 1410 12/30. 60's Rock n' roll; ID "Classic hits, WUUS, the new 980." (WM-TN)
 990 TN WNML Knoxville, 1415 12/30. Football game - Saints vs Bears. ID- "the sports animal, WNML". (WM-TN)

 That's a wrap for this week. Penny and I leave in the morning for our annual Cruise. Again this year we are sailing on Holland America's MS VEENDAM going to Key West, Guatemala, Belize and Mexico. Back on January 13. Should be a great week. Taking a radio, although not a lot of time to DX. Thanks to Ira and Willis this week. fresh 1-05 0830

DX WORLDWIDE - WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

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

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

Queen Charlotte Island DXpedition

Well, not exactly the far north, but just south and west of Ketchikan, AK on the Queen Charlotte Islands (now known as Haida Gwaii). I DX'd for 4 days using 4 antennae: A permanent N/S mini 450' Beverage, terminated at the north end.
 A TP BOG (about 1000') aimed about 300 deg, but gradually slewed to about 290 degrees... an exceptionally quiet antenna... no noise at all, and right on the noise floor on the SDR-IQ, a 900' BOG aimed 40 deg initially, but later slewed 30degrees.
 Finally a 4th 350' elevated wire aimed about 340 deg, unterminated. I used 2 receivers... my hot AOR 7030+ (I love this one for DXing), a SDR-IQ 190 kHz "drift net" receiver... a fantastic performer too, and finally a back up NRD 535D receiver for SW //frequencies, but just not in the same league as the first 2. I recorded with ample back-ups this time to a 500 GB HD. Here are some of my best loggings. TA reception on the 31st was very very good. In fact, that night (New Year's eve) was about the only night that I received any kind of TA activity. Not nearly as good as September, but the best I've had it since. I've already posted an audio clip of the ultra rare (for North American DXers, anyway) 680 KBRW in Barrow, AK at Colin's great DX site, www.dxer.ca under the downloads section. I'll be posting more as they come available. Keep his website bookmarked! ...Walt Salmanniw, Victoria.
 281 **ALASKA** Point Barrow VIR, Dec 29 0213 - 2 CW aerobeacons audible here, with hopefully one at Point Barrow. Taped to my Editor for confirmation later. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 531 **AUSTRALIA** 4KZ Innisfail, Queensland, Dec 29 1520 - Good reception this morning from DU on this frequency with local ads for Innisfail during a call-in program. Cochannel JJ just started to fade-in. Earlier, not heard at all (the JJ that is). (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 570 **CANADA** CFWH Whitehorse, Dec 31 07:00 - Very good reception with ID just before TOH as 'CBC 990 in Carmacks', which is a 40 w retranlator in Yukon. Network news followed, and then the weather for southern Yukon. Nothing more specific to give a positive ID. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 610 **CANADA** CKRW Whitehorse, Dec 29 0227 - Nice ID as 'Your community radio station, CKRW'. Cochannel several stations including CHNL Kamloops, and earlier on, CKYL, Peace

River AB. Only heard on my N/S Beverage (a consistently excellent performer). Good to be back in Masset. Very quiet electrically, as one would expect with no one out here during the winter period. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 630 **ALASKA** KIAM, Jan 1 1610 - Central and far north Alaskan weather (Brrr!) over cochannel presumed KJNO Juneau, followed by 'AM' and Christian Net IDs. Not sure of why KJNO was so strong an hour or so ago, and now the weaker more distant Alaskans propagate better until local dawn. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 675 **VIETNAM** Voice of Vietnam 1, Jan 1 1602 - A strong signal. Unusual this season, compared to last, when this transmitter was heard daily at excellent levels at times. Best I've heard them in a long while (October) (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 680 **ALASKA** KBRW Barrow, Dec 30 1904 - A tentative logging on this one. I'm hearing 2 (possibly 3) stations with a church service with Christmas hymns in progress with fairly low modulation, usually under the dominant station with hit music. As is so common with Alaskans, the voice modulation is much lower than the music component, making iting more difficult. I think I heard the ID for the other station... KKGR (East Helena, MT). At least I heard KKGR. I'm going to let this one continue to see if I have any luck. Interesting, that I'm hearing it best on my 40 deg BOG. Yes, just heard the MT ID as '68 KGR'. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 + Dec 31 1612 - Halleluiah! Finally, good reception with Alaska news and then full ID and into local programming about the cancellation of the fireworks for tonight due to illness of the pyrotechnician! After a late evening at my Haida adoptive parents, I slept in until after 8:00 am. Damn! But this makes up for it, after years of trying, and several tentative loggings. Instead, celebrate at the roller rink tonight. Into northern Alaska weather at 16:20 UTC. High temps 5 to 15 below! They were gone when rechecked at 16:45 recheck (instead the usual KNBR). Perhaps someone could explain why this happens (seems to be consistent... Alaskans really peak at dawn enhancement, and then are replaced by stations to the south, even though those stations were in darkness, and now in broad daylight). (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 693 **GREAT BRITAIN** BBC Radio 5 Live, Jan 1 0355 - Good reception, except for some splatter from CBU 690 with talk program. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 711 **KOREA** HLKA KBS1, Jan 1 1558 - Good to very good reception with KK banter, but more interesting is a cochannel playing the old American tune, 'Close to You'. This might be an Australian station, although there wasn't any ABC fanfare at 16:00. On top of this, there is a jammer. Presumably CC against the Voice of Han? (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 720 **ALASKA** Russia, Jan 1 16:59 - Noticed Radio Rossi's IS while checking to see whether KOTZ was there (no luck on the latter. Inspirational music instead without a TOH ID, so not sure who that would be. Could still be KOTZ. I suppose. Will have to review the mp3 files for sure. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 720 **USA** WGN Chicago IL, Dec 31 0138 - Searching for KOTZ, instead I'm hearing Chicago with good reception except for some pretty fierce splatter from both above and below. Had to turn off the AGC for best results. Surprised, since Alaskans are coming in quite well tonight so far. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 + Jan 1 0514 - Still searching for Kotzebue, AK. Instead, I'm hearing the New Year's bash on WGN from Chicago with good reception except for the awful adjacent splatter. Still fun to listen to them, though! (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 810 **RUSSIA** Radio Rossii, Jan 1 1545 - Fair to good reception Razdolnoye on the Pacific coast of Russia. Radio Rossi programming. // to 279. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 819 **NORTH KOREA** KCBS, Jan 1 1540 - Very good reception, with clean audio, unlike so many of their other transmitters. Usual female operatic performances. North Korea particularly well heard on this trip to Masset. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 873 **KOREA (NORTH)** KCBS, Dec 31 1731 - With NHK2 off at this late hour, the North Korean is very well heard with KK operatic singing. Appears to be right on frequency with good modulation... a rarity with the North Koreans. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 909 **GREAT BRITAIN** BBC Radio 5 Live, Jan 1 0439 - Again, at times very nice reception with the same lovely modulation and clarity heard on 693 earlier. Some sort of a discussion program with some laughter, etc, but once again would fade down. Seems in // to 693. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 910 **ALASKA** Kiyu Big River Radio, Galena, Dec 29 1745 - One of my still to hear stations. Not ID'd yet, but NPR programming // to 870 KSKO, McGrath. Fair level to good. Not quite in sync with KSKO (satellite delay). Unfortunately starting to fade out before the TOH leaving CKDQ, Drumheller AB, and another station. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 1026 **PHILIPPINES** DZAR Soshine Radio, Dec 29 1533 - A very interesting morning. Initially, I heard a CNR jingle at 15:33, then almost immediately conditions flipped to a preacher in English and then inspirational music. This must be DZAR, Soshine Radio. A very good signal as I type this! (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)
 1089 **GREAT BRITAIN** Talk Sport, Jan 1 0251 - Surprisingly strong reception with call-in program, presumably about the sports highlights from the year. Excellent clean and strong modulation. (Salmanniw, Masset, BC)

reception, though! At 04:00, all that was said was, "It's 9:00", and into network news. Let's see if weather follows. Yes! At 04:05, they went into the Yellowknife weather. Sure wish they'd give a proper 'CBC Yellowknife' ID, though! At 04:59, they gave a CBC North ID, and a frequency of 105.1 at Cape Hope (I think), and then into the hourly CBC news. Then faded down to nothing again. Quite the night! (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1431 **JAPAN** unid STV, Dec 29 1620 - I'm not sure about this one. 1440 STV Sapporo is booming in, and I see that 1431 is in // to it, but my PAL does not reflect this. No STV JJ transmitters, just BSS, WBS, and GBS transmitters. Hmmm. Good reception. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1450 **ALASKA KLAM** Cordova, Dec 31 1639 - Although not Unalaska, which I really wanted, I'm still very pleased to hear this one with marine weather (synchs Alaska), and then mentions of Cordova followed by IDs and mentions of Cordova count down tonight. There is another weaker station cochannel... I can dream that this just might be KIAL! A VERY good morning! (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1503 **JAPAN** JOUK Akita, Dec 29 1609 - Very strong reception with NHK1 programming. Remarkable for a 10 kw station. Sure sounding more like 100! Traditional Japanese male vocal. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1592 **UNID** unid beacon, Dec 29 1544 - Very weakly heard, but there's a weak CW beacon on this frequency. Not listed in PAL. I'm suspecting a Russian FE location. Further checks necessary. Just barely audible, but with a significant het. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1602 **JAPAN** NHK2 low powered stations, Dec 29 1540 - Good reception with sign-off earlier than I had thought, but NHK2 has changed the times. This is a UTC Saturday. Surprisingly good. There are a lot of 0.1 and 1 kw stations. The most likely is probably JOCC in Asahikawa, Hokkaido with 1 kw listed, although there's another 1 kw Hokkaido station as well at Embetsu without a call-sign. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

DX FORUM

Richard C. Evans – 3908 Grand Oak Ave Apt 4 – Indianapolis IN 46237-4694
E-mail: REvans5435@yahoo.com DEADLINES: Sundays

Deadlines: 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/23, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19, 5/3, 5/17, 5/31, 6/14 and 6/28.

Mike Sanburn, P. O. Box 1256, Bellflower, California 90707-1256

Greetings. Hope everyone get everything that they wanted for Christmas and are having a happy new year as well. (It's Leap Year--you get a free extra day of DX!) (And--because the 29th comes on a Friday--I get eight pay checks in Feb. this year. hi--rce) This time of year always makes me miss the great old frequency checks that we used to all listen for each month. I had a good time hosting the 2007 IRCA convention in Salt Lake City. Thanks to Bill Block who will be hosting this year's 2008 convention the second weekend in September in Flagstaff, AZ! I hope everybody will attend that event and get your kicks on Route 66... The KQMS-1400 DX Test was heard well here in Southern CA. I have logged them once back in 1992, but this time I hope I have enough for a verie. The KEV-1210 DX Test was also copied here at an outstanding level. During the KQMS test, I finally heard several IDs from KENT in Parowan, UT, (in between the Christmas songs), if you ever drive through Parowan, you can't miss their tower to the west of Highway 15. In other Utahness, I caught a KZNU-1450 ID for a call change. I remember viewing their tower up on a bluff while eating a cheese sandwich at the Fairway Grill right across the street in St. George.... This new generation of ultra light radios including the Sony SRF59 has really become all the rage. I've seen that model for sale at my local Circuit City store. I still use my Sony M40W which I first bought in 1989. One "rig" that I really hope to have some year is the Win Radio that was well demonstrated for us at the Seaside convention. Maybe someday they'll have the technology for making it entirely contained within your computer. As for now, it's still a neat toy. Kudos to Pat Martin who logged KBRW-680 this season for northern Alaska. Continued good DX to all!! 73

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

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Audio Phasing
 By Kevin Schanilec

Background

For MW DXing, a new tool that may be effective at reducing or eliminating on-channel stations you don't want to hear is audio phasing. I re-discovered this technique recently after buying my second Sony SRF-59 receiver. The SRF-59 is a surprisingly sensitive and selective DX machine in its own right, and the fact that it is so small and inexpensive (\$15-20) makes it even more remarkable. This

1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS** V7AB Radio Marshalls, Jan 1 0824 - Poor to fair reception with islands music. I'm not usually up to hear the station, just the OC that's always present during dawn enhancement, so nice to hear them during their normal programming day. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1107 **UNID** unid, Jan 1 0425 - I'm hearing two transmitters on this frequency. Someone is on the high side... up to 50 Hz high, it seems causing a disturbing hum which destroys any chance of IDing the stations. The other is spot on, it seems. Any ideas? There is weak music in the background, though. I wondered about AFN. When stationed in Germany, I really enjoyed listening to them here. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1161 **UNID** unid, Dec 29 1723 - I'll need help on this frequency. I'm hearing an Asian language, perhaps Thai? The trouble is that most possibilities have signed-off, including the Thai and Filipino stations. Light-hearted bantering between a man and woman. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1170 **ALASKA** KJNP North Pole, Dec 31 0606 - Excellent reception tonight of many Alaskans tonight. PAL suggests that KJNP signs-off at 06:00 during the winter. Not so! They had a lovely full ID at 06:00, then news and extensive weather forecast followed by a syndicated program called the Voice of Hope. Not sure whether they're 24 hrs or not. Still on at 07:17 recheck. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1170 **ALASKA** KJNP North Pole, Dec 29 1711 - Very good reception with description of upcoming New Year's celebrations. Cochannel presumed HLSR, Korea. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1170 **KOREA (SOUTH)** HLSR KBS Liberty 2, Dec 30 1616 - A very interesting channel. At times, HLSR will be absolutely amchair, and then fade down into the mud to be overtaken by KPUG, Bellingham, and then fade right back up to dominate totally. Disturbed conditions today for certain! Rechecked them at 18:00 UTC (10:00 am local) and they still dominated the frequency completely with a very nice ID. Wonder when they'll fade out! (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1188 **UNID** unid, Dec 31 1725 - Presumably one of the CC stations with very exotic sounding traditional music with brief talk by a woman. Not exactly sure who this is. The last 2 days I've heard both FEBC and JOKP on this frequency, but much earlier. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1206 **FRANCE** France Info, Jan 1 0331 - Right up there with Virgin 1215's strength with French news, but suffering from serious adjacent splatter from both sides. Good when they fade up and then briefly fading down again. Weather at 0335 (heard mentions of the Pyrenees). ID at 03:36. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1215 **GREAT BRITAIN** Virgin Radio, Jan 1 0143 - Finally some good TA activity! Good reception with '2008 is here on Virgin Radio' into Boy George piece. Highly variable, though, so interesting things are going on with the ionosphere for sure! There at good level one minute and gone the next. Turning out to be the best TA evening in a long while for me, and surely by far the best (and only) TA night of this brief visit to the Queen Charlottes. Lots of Happy New Year from Virgin Radio, etc between songs. No signs of any other cochannel stations (like Russia or Spain) so far. Spoke too soon. At 03:26 started to hear some Russian as Virgin faded down, before they came blasting back. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1224 **SPAIN** COPE Albacete, Jan 1 0419 - A presumed logging, as I don't know who else this could be. A ballad sung by a male... sounded akin to an Irish ballad to me, then some weak speech. This night has really opened up. Earlier, only the upper half of the band was open to TA, but from around 03:45, the entire band opened (except for LW). Haven't seen it as good since September! (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

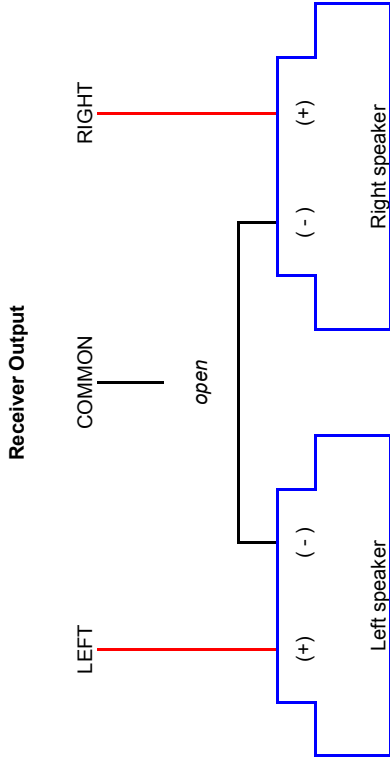
1230 **ALASKA** KVAK, Dec 29 0316 - A very interesting frequency with a number of cochannels. The dominant is an unid French language station, but slightly off frequency are 2 Alaskans. I heard a distinct KVAK ID (the station which is off, I think). About a minute later I heard 'KIFW.com'. KIFW is easily heard here during the day, but KVAK is a new one for me. Now to ID the other station! At 03:30, there was clear Korean, so that would be KWXYZ in Everett, WA. No longer hearing any French. One of the Alaskans in on 1229.95, so quite a way off! Got it! ID as 'KVAK Country' at 03:52. They are off frequency for sure. In fact, I think both Alaskans are off frequency on the low side. They take turns dominating the frequency. KVAK seems to be the most off at around 1229.95 while KIFW is about 1229.97. (Salmانيw, Masset, BC)

1340 **CANADA** CFYK Yellowknife, Jan 1 0235 - CBC Radio 1 programming. There are many transmitters listed, but this transmission was in the MT zone, and parallel to Calgary on 740, so clearly must be Yellowknife, and only heard on my North Beverage. Good at times, and then down into the mud. A new one to me. Let's hope it holds for the TOH. 2500 watts listed. Wonder why others don't report this one very often (if ever)? At 02:57 they said they'd take a break for news and local weather and then resume. As was my luck, they faded down at the top of the hour then returned about 1 minute past. Best heard on my 30 degree BOG, although a C&W station comes up to dominate at times. Good again at 03:03 about Benefiz Bhutto's assassination. Damn! It faded down again just as the forecast was given.... lots of minus 20s etc, and then back into dispatches at 03:05 (which then faded up again!). Next hour again! Into a comedy program at 03:30 until 03:58. I noticed that 740 had local weather for Alberta, but Yellowknife just had network filler music... not a good sign. Very good

great receiver is fully reviewed by Gary DeBock at <http://www.dxer.ca/content/view/5578/>, and was featured in the IRCA Technical Column of December 8, 2007.

Having two of them got me thinking about experiments I did as a teen in the 1970's with stereo audio sources. While rewiring a pair of headphones one night, I accidentally forgot to reconnect the common (negative) lead to the two speakers, meaning that only the respective positive leads were connected.

This resulted in the following circuit:



The result was a bizarre-sounding version of the music I was listening to, in which the lead vocals, bass and drums were absent, whereas all of the other instruments were still heard.

What makes this possible is that, when music is mastered, material common to both channels is EXACTLY the same on both channels. When hooked up like this, the common material EXACTLY cancels out. Electrically, anything common to both channels (i.e., lead vocals, etc.) has the same voltage both positive speaker terminals, and so cancels each other out across the voice coil. It is only audio that is NOT common to both channels that creates a differential voltage across the voice coils so that you actually hear it.

It got me thinking: if I had two DX audio sources, one that had only a dominant "pest" (i.e., point the antenna at a strong local and null the desired DX target) and one that had both the pest and the DX target, in essence I would have a pseudo-stereo source. By using the audio phasing technique described above, I should be able to make the pest disappear by injecting just enough of the first signal (pure pest) onto the second signal so that the pest just disappears, leaving the DX target. I had tried this with two different DX receivers a few months ago, but met with limited success, since the two receivers had slightly different filtering, bass/treble emphases, etc., which meant that virtually nothing in the two audio signals matched up. As a result, almost nothing was cancelled out.

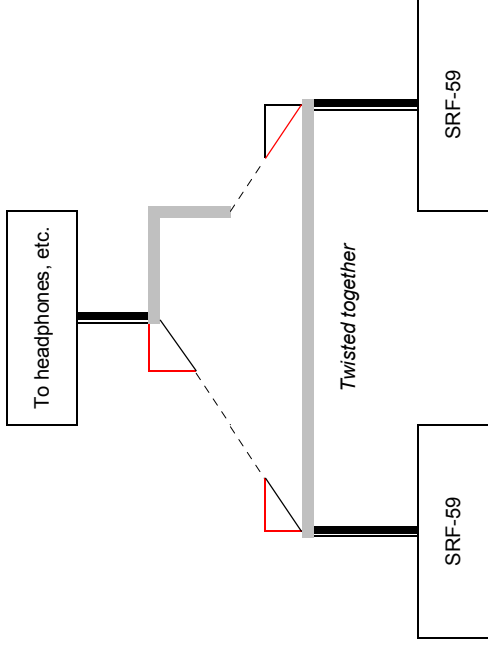
Enter the SRF-59! Since they are identical receivers, the audio from one set to another should be the same when tuned to a given station. With two of them in hand, I decided to give the experiment another try.

Making The Connections

I sacrificed an audio patch cable in order to effect the circuit described above. Specifically, the audio leads from the two receivers' headphone jacks consist of a 1/8" mini stereo male-male audio cable cut in half, with all 3 wires bared on each half. You will also need some way to connect up with your destination, such as a speaker, headphones, recorder, etc. I had a female end of an old 1/8" mini extension cable, which filled the bill.

1. On each half-cable, twist its two positive leads (represented in the drawing by the thin black and red lines) together, resulting in the "positive" lead of a mono source from that receiver (represented by a black dotted line).
2. Next, twist the two negative leads from each half-cable (often braided shielding) together and isolate this union with electrical tape or whatever (represented by the thick gray lines in the drawing).
3. Now take the two positive leads from each half-cable (black dotted line in the drawing) and connect those to either terminal of a single speaker; they form the two leads of a mono source. Alternately, this can be fed to a pair of mono headphones or, with a mono-stereo adapter, to stereo headphones. In the drawing I show it hooked up to the female stereo jack, and so I had to twist its black and red wires together as well.

4. Plug each of the 1/8" mini stereo male plugs into the SRF-59s, plug in your headphones, and you're ready!

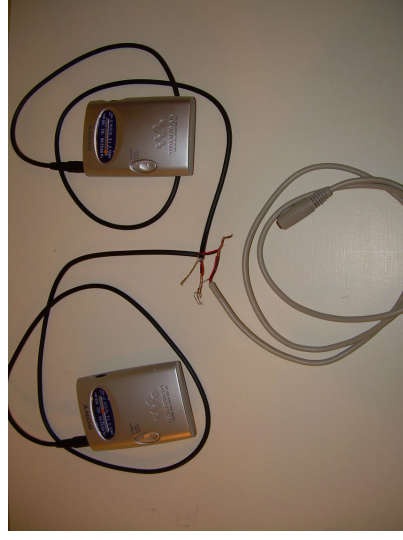


If you're going low-tech like me, your final result might look something like this picture.

The Audio Phasing Technique

OK, let's do some audio phasing!

1. Turn both receivers on with zero volume. Note that if both sets aren't on, you won't get any volume in the headphones.
2. Select a suitable frequency, one that you know to have a strong station which dominates and a weaker station which is audible in the background. Alternate turning the volume up on each receiver to tune them to the frequency, making sure you're dead-on.
3. Orient the two receivers so that one receiver is nulling the weaker target, while the other is pointed at the weaker target so that it has both stations. That way, one audio channel will have nothing but the dominant station, while the other will have a mix of the two.
4. Re-zero both volumes, and then adjust the volume of the dominant-only receiver so that it is at an appropriate level for listening.
5. Slowly increase the volume of the dominant/weak target receiver so that the audio signal of the dominant station starts to decrease and eventually reaches a minimum. It may even completely disappear! You should be left with whatever station was lurking underneath, or noise if there was nothing underneath. Increase the volume of both receivers if necessary.



Adjust the beam of one or both sets, since there may be a better pair of nulling directions than those chosen in Step 3. SRF-59s are great for this, since you can hold one in each hand and swing them around to your heart's content to find the best orientation. With my set-up, once I have the two receivers matched up on a given frequency, I ride one of the volume controls and compensate for any occasional fluctuations. Make sure you keep the two receivers away from each other so their antennas don't passively couple with each other. You can use onboard gear, such as a passive loop, but it has to be EXACTLY the same for both, otherwise the two audio signals will be slightly different.

To make things easier, consider plugging the two audio channels into something with a balance control (stereo receiver, etc.), which then feeds your headphones, making it a lot easier than constantly adjusting the individual volume controls on the SRF-59s all the time. A more sophisticated set-up which incorporates this is shown in this picture, where both SRF-59s are mounted on a tripod, and a balance potentiometer is inside the black box. (Thanks to Bruce Bacon)



My Results

In my initial tests, I was rewarded with some interesting results. I first selected my local 630-KCIS, which can be somewhat difficult to null or phase if I want to hear KXFD in Boise, which is usually noticeable in the background. I placed both of the SRF-59s into my two identical Terk loops to get some signal (again, you must have the EXACT same set-up), pointed one straight at my local 630-KCIS and one away from it – worked like a champ! KCIS essentially disappeared, and KFXD-Boise was sitting there virtually all alone.

At my QTH, beleaguered semi-local XPPA-1540 suffers from the IBOC hiss coming from 1530-KFBK. One receiver was pointed straight towards KFBK and was all hiss, and the other half-way towards XPPA, not quite nulling KFBK. Guess what – the IBOC hiss was virtually gone from XPPA! KXL-750 is essentially a semi-local from Portland. Because of it having both ground and sky wave components, neither electrical phasing nor passive phasing with two loops has ever really worked. However, audio phasing on the SRF-59s worked well enough that I could comfortably hear the conversation underneath from (I think) KOAL in Provo, Utah. KXL's audio null fluctuated a lot, but it was better than I could get with traditional phasing.

Finally, 1210-KWVG directs all of its 10,000 nighttime watts straight at me from about 20 miles away. Phasing with passive loops and electrical phasing has never been very effective with this station. Using the audio phasing technique, I was able to make KWVG almost disappear, and heard 1210-CFYM underneath, running only 1,000 watts almost 700 miles away. I had written off 1210 as a potential source of new loggings, but now there is definitely hope, since there was also another station underneath which faded before I could identify it: it was like having an open frequency! Note that both SRF-59s were barefoot here, testifying to the sensitivity of these little marvels.

Using Audio Phasing

It goes without saying that some stations are easily nulled or phased out of existence (remember, the SRF-59 is a great null producer) so you don't need to go to these lengths. However, this seems to be a valuable tool for many situations when an electrical/magnetic null isn't in the cards. Besides, it is a great excuse to buy another \$15 radio! You may not have the resources to buy two Drake R8Bs, but two SRF-59s (and maybe two outboard loops) is probably within reach of most of our pocketbooks.

I can't emphasize enough how the two audio sources have to be identical (same receiver, same antenna, etc.). For example, using one SRF-59 barefoot and the other with a Terk loop produced enough of a sonic difference that there was noticeable bleed-through of the pest - I think the Terk tightens up the audio bandwidth, and the higher frequencies from the barefoot receiver easily bleed through. Likewise, using an SRF-59 and my Sony 7600GR was a complete failure, given the markedly different audio characteristics of the two receivers' filters, audio circuitry, etc.

One thing to watch: if you directionally null the pest too well with one receiver, the null may cause the pest signal to flutter, or change/color its audio frequency balance, and it won't match the pest-only audio source very well, resulting in bleed-through of the pest. The technique seems to work best when I null the desired DX target with one receiver (not necessarily maximizing the pest, which still stands alone anyway) to produce the pest signal, and then have the other receiver with more of a mix of the two without necessarily fully nulling the pest: that way you have a similar pest audio signal in both channels, which will more nicely cancel each other out.

Yes, some stations work better than others: for instance, I couldn't do much of anything with some of my strong locals here in the Seattle area, stations which have also been resilient to passive and electrical phasing. In other cases, audio phasing a local out of existence left nothing to hear, since there were no other stations within listening distance that stepped up to take the local's place: using two radios with larger ferrite antennae probably would have worked better.

One advantage that traditional electrical and passive phasing has over audio phasing is the elimination of adjacent channel slop, especially when trying for transoceanic frequencies in between

domestic channels. I have had essentially no success in this area, since getting the slop to be identical on both receivers is virtually impossible. Therefore, don't throw away your phasers, Beverage and EWE antennas, and other gear! However, for on-channel interference, audio phasing can be very effective.

Good luck! January 2, 2008

(editor's note: Kevin has also written a comparison of the Sony SRF-59 with its big brothers, the ICF-2010 and ICF5W7600GR. It is posted at: http://www.dxer.ca/component/option,com_docman/task_cat_view/gid,87/Itemid,77)

* * * *

Gary DeBock provides an update to his "Ultraight Radio AM-DX Shootout-- Round One" (DXM December 8, 2007) in which the DT-200VX was somewhat downgraded for its lack of a 9 kHz-split capability. The procedure for switching to 9 kHz steps is described on the web, but was not discovered in time for the review. (Essentially: hold down the Tune-Down (V) button and press (and hold) POWER button to make the DT-200VX switch to 9kHz spacing.) Consequently, an erroneous "Verdict" was promulgated, to his sincere regret. Here's an update to his article:

Shootout Final Summary:

The top three units were very competitive in the sensitivity tests, but when overall DX capability is evaluated, only the DT-200VX excels in total performance. The SRF-59 is clearly far superior in selectivity, but most DXers would consider its analog tuning system (and a rather touchy tuning dial) somewhat burdensome. The SRF-M37V has superior digital tuning convenience (with memories), but it has a serious selectivity issue. Only the DT-200VX has good selectivity with great tuning convenience (with the most memories), and as such, it deserves the title of the best digital Ultraight radio in this shootout. The SRF-59, because of its superior selectivity and nulling ability, would still be the choice of the analog enthusiasts who are willing to tolerate (and even enjoy) somewhat touchy thumb wheel tuning.

DT-200VX Verdict:

This innovative radio is great fun to use, and has digital tuning convenience and selectivity surpassing that of the SRF-M37V. It is an excellent choice for both domestic and transoceanic DXers, and has class-leading memory capacity. Surpassed only by the SRF-59's selectivity and nulling ability, it is the suggested radio of choice for all except serious analog enthusiasts. It has great AGC, fine audio, a very well-behaved receiver almost completely free from images and spurs, and has the auto shut-off function. FM enthusiasts would also love this radio, which is clearly superior in FM sensitivity and selectivity. Urban DXers may also wish to consider this radio because of its immunity from images, and serious spurs (in my moderate-RF environment).

SPORTCHANNELS IRCA

Compiled by: Dale Park

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Aloha and Happy New Year. Hope everyone has survived the holidays and the weather that goes with them. Here's the college basketball, NHL and NFL info I have lying around as of 12/30/07—

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Clemson U. TIGERS	1050	WIQB-SC r	1460	WDOG-SC	FM:	Pete Yanity, Tim Bourret	
1240	WKDK-SC	1460	WBCU-SC	92.1	WBHC-SC	102.9	WQKI-SC
1340	WRHI-SC	1590	WRDW-GA	93.1	WZMJ-SC	103.9	WOLT-SC
1390	WLUA-SC			93.7	WXJY-SC r	104.9	WCCP-SC
1410	WPCC-SC			93.9	WICI-SC		
SYNDICATOR: ISP Sports							
Kansas U. JAYHAWKS	580	WIBW-KS	1540	KLKC-KS	93.9	Bob Davis, Chris Piper	
610	KCSP-MO	1550	KKLE-KS r	95.5	KNDY-KS	101.5	KIKS-KS
1240	KFH-KS	1560	WMBH-MO	96.3	KZDY-KS	103.9	KOMB-KS r
1320	KLWN-KS	1600	KMDO-KS	97.9	KWGB-KS	104.1	KGGF-KS
1340	KSEK-KS			98.5	KSAJ-KS	105.5	KKOY-KS
1400	KVOE-KS	FM:		98.7	KFH-KS r	105.9	KLZR-KS r
1400	KAYS-KS	92.5	KQMA-KS	99.9	KWKR-KS		
1450	KWBW-KS	93.5	KWME-KS	100.7	KHOK-KS		

Kansas SU WILDCATS

690 KCSM-MO
790 KXXX-KS
810 WHB-MO
890 KRSL-KS
1070 KFTL-KS
1150 KSAL-KS
1190 KVSU-KS
1270 KSCB-KS
1290 KWL5-KS

SYND: Learfield Communications

Atlanta THRASHERS

680 WGNM-GA
790 WFSN-GA
1050 WVIC-AL
1230 WFOG-GA
1240 WGGG-GA

Boston BRUINS

620 WZON-ME
1030 WBZ-MA

Buffalo SABRES

550 WGR-NY
1340 WKSJ-NY

Colorado AVALANCHE

690 KRGS-CO
740 KFOR-CO
950 KKFN-CO
960 KNEB-NE
1010 KSIR-CO

Columbus BLUE JACKETS

930 WEOL-OH
970 WATH-OH
980 WONE-OH
990 WTIQ-OH
1150 WIMA-OH
1240 WBBW-OH
1240 WHIZ-OH
1250 WCHO-OH

Ottawa SENATORS

1200 CFGO-ON
1220 CJSS-ON

x-Replaced 102.7 WBDR-NY during the season.

Washington CAPITALS

820 WWWB-MD r
1500 WWWT-MD

Indianapolis COLTS

860 WMRH-IN
990 KWAM-TN
1070 WIFN-IN z
1190 WOWO-IN
1230 WSAL-IN
1230 WTCJ-IN
1340 WBIW-IN
1340 WTRC-IN
1340 WXFN-IN
1370 WGCL-IN

Wyatt Thompson, Matt Walters
FM: 101.5 KMKF-KS
101.7 KVOE-KS
102.5 KKCS-KS
102.5 KBL5-KS
103.9 KNZA-KS
106.7 KQNK-KS
107.5 KZLS-KS

1350 KMAN-KS
1390 KNCK-KS
1420 KJCK-KS
1490 KKAN-KS
1530 KQNK-KS r
1550 KKLE-KS
1570 KNDY-KS

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Dan Kamal, Jeff Odgers
FM: 1410 WPCC-SC
1420 WRCG-GA
1450 WKEU-GA
1450 WMGV-GA
1600 WFIS-SC

Dave Goucher, Bob Beers
FM: 107.7 WTPL-NH

Rick Jeanneret, Harry Neale

FM: 101.5 WMXO-NY

Norm Jones, Mark Moser, Mark Bertagnoli-ST

1470 KEPL-CO
1480 KRAE-WY
1600 KEPN-CO b
FM: 96.9 KBGR-CO

George Matthews, Bill Davidge, Mark Wyant-ST

1390 WMPO-OH
1430 WLEL-OH
1450 WLEC-OH
1480 WBNS-OH
1490 WBEX-OH
1490 WMOA-OH
1490 WMRN-OH
1520 WQCT-OH

Dean Brown, Gord Wilson, Dave Schreiber, Steve Lloyd-ST

FM: 96.7 CHVR-ON

93.5 CKXC-ON x

Steve Kolbe, Ken Sabourin-h

FM: 104.3 W282BA-VA r

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Bob Lamey
FM: 96.9 WKLO-IN
97.1 WLHK-IN
97.7 WOZW-IN
98.7 WASK-IN
101.7 WURK-IN
102.3 WZOR-IN
103.1 WGBF-KY
103.3 WAXL-IN
103.9 WIMC-IN
105.5 WWVR-IN

105.9 WJOT-IN r
106.5 WWBL-IN

z-Replaced WIBC, which moved to FM, at the end of the season.

New England PATRIOTS

Gil Santos, Gino Cappelletti, Gary Tanguay-ST, Scott Zolak-ST, Andy Gresh-ST, Pete Brock-ST
790 WSKO-RI r
860 WSBS-MA
900 WGAM-NH
960 WEAV-NY r
1230 WNAW-MA
1250 WKBR-NH
1280 WEIM-MA
1340 WSTJ-VT
1350 WINY-CT
1370 WBTV-VT
1390 WEGP-ME
1420 WBSM-MA
1420 WBEC-MA
1450 WSNO-VT
1480 WSAR-MA

106.7 WYFX-IN
107.3 WRZQ-IN

1490 WIKE-VT
FM: 101.5 WEXP-VT
101.7 WVRR-NH
102.1 WAQY-MA
102.1 WSAK-NH
102.3 WXLN-CT
102.9 WBLM-ME
103.7 WPKQ-NH
104.1 WBCN-MA
104.7 W284AB-VT
105.3 WSHK-NH r
106.9 WCCC-CT
107.7 WTPL-NH

ABBREVIATIONS USED: a-away games only, b-backup or conflict station, h-home games only, p-partial schedule, r-relays another station, s-side line reporter, ST-studio host, "r"-personnel alternate. In network listings, flagship stations are in boldface. Data sources and station cities are available upon request from dxfool@aol.com. Folks, this feature for now is a one-guy effort, so any contributions regarding over-the-air radio play-by-play are greatly appreciated, even if it's Div. III college hockey. Until next time, Do svdnyana!

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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