



**July 18 2009 - Volume 46, Number 30s - Edition 1472s - ISSN 899-9733**  
 This issue, IRCA Welcomes Jim McMenamin from Vacaville CA (Curtiss' father). This will be my last SDXIM-only issue as EIC.

**DX MONITOR Editor-in-Chief Needed**

Effective the end of this volume (early August 2009), I will be stepping down as **DX Monitor** Editor-in-Chief. Anyone interested in the position, please contact me ([phil\\_tekno@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_tekno@yahoo.com)) or IRCA's President **Doug Pifer** ([dxer@deserrt4wd.com](mailto:dxer@deserrt4wd.com)).

**IRCA Slogans and IRCA TIS/HAR List Editors Needed**

Anyone interested in taking over either of these positions and preparing a new edition for this fall's DX season, please contact **Phil Bytheway** at the **IRCA Bookstore** ([phil\\_tekno@yahoo.com](mailto:phil_tekno@yahoo.com)).

**Pacific Asian Log AM Radio Guide**

The classic Pacific Asian Log of mediumwave [AM] radio stations on air across the entire region has now been updated at [www.radioheritage.net](http://www.radioheritage.net). Produced by Bruce Portzer in Seattle WA, this extensive radio guide covers literally thousands of AM radio stations and is hosted by the Radio Heritage Foundation. It draws on monitoring by many volunteers across the region, as well as information directly from broadcasters so it's accurate and up to date. You can search the database or download a pdf version for your own non-commercial use by visiting [www.radioheritage.net/PAL\\_search.asp](http://www.radioheritage.net/PAL_search.asp) today.

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**IRCA/DecalcoMania 2009 Convention**

The 2009 IRCA/DecalcoMania convention will be held Thu Sept 17, Fri Sept 18 and Sat Sept 19 at the Days Inn, 2120 Mennal Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM 87107 (Near I-40 and Hwy 25) [www.midtowndaysinn.com](http://www.midtowndaysinn.com). Guest room rates \$44.95 1 person, \$54.95 2 persons. Free shuttle within 5 mile radius (includes airport and train station.) Phone number for reservations is 505-884-0250 (events manager is Danita) Registration fee is \$25 (not including banquet) payable to Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707-1256. [mikesanburn@hotmail.com](mailto:mikesanburn@hotmail.com) The tentative convention schedule includes station tours on Friday beginning at 12 noon. A tour of KKOB and all sister stations has been confirmed!! On Saturday there may be an impromptu drive out to the KKOB tower site followed by the business meeting and banquet at the Golden Corral (\$10 all you can eat!!). Make your plans now and join in on the fun.

**Madison-Milwaukee Get-Together**

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Madison-Milwaukee Get-Together for DXers and Radio Enthusiasts will take place on Saturday, July 25, 2009 from 1:00 PM until 10:00 PM CDT. This year's venue is in Madison at Mark Taylor's house - 1114 Ellen Avenue. This is an informal event to meet and socialize with other radio hobbyists and enthusiasts. We will have dinner at a local restaurant about 5:30 PM and can return to Mark's after for the traditional cake and chat. If possible please RSVP to [markokpik@tds.net](mailto:markokpik@tds.net) or 608.225.2690. Come when you can, and leave when you must.

**NRC/DXAS/WTFDA Convention 2009**

**Friday September 4 - 6 2009.** This year's joint NRC-WTFDA Convention will be held in the Lehigh Valley of Pennsylvania, in Allentown, with members of WTFDA joining NRC members, too! Besides the regular events such as the auction, banquet, and quiz, the AAA Lehigh Valley Ironpigs minor league baseball team will be in town, in their last home stand of the season. It will be held at the Rodeway Inn 1151 Bulldog Drive, Allentown PA 18104. This hotel is conveniently located near Rts 22, 309, and the Northeast Extension of the PA Turnpike. It is also close to the Lehigh Valley International Airport.

1) To reserve your room call the Rodeway Inn at 1-888-395-5200. Make sure to mention you are with the National Radio Club for the \$69 rate (before Taxes). Up to 4 people can stay in the room. You can get 1 king bed or 2 double beds. The website for the motel is [www.rodewayinnallentown.com](http://www.rodewayinnallentown.com). This motel was formerly known as the Days Inn Conference Center.

- 2) Convention registration is \$45. Check is payable to "National Radio Club" and mail it to **Bob Smolarek** at 31 Mark Drive, High Bridge NJ 08829
- 3) Send any auction items to 31 Mark Drive, High Bridge NJ 08829
- 4) More details to follow concerning tower hunting, tours, and a guest speaker. So be in Allentown this Labor Day!

**CANADIAN RADIO NEWS**

Dan Sys - [dsysca@yahoo.ca](mailto:dsysca@yahoo.ca)

For June, 2009 (July 1 2009)

700 AB	Calgary	new	Will become CULJ
1550 ON	Windsor	CBE	Will become CBEW (when flip to 97.5 occurs)

**CALL LETTER DATA**

**AM TO FM CONVERSIONS GRANTED**

1230 NF	Happy Valley-Goose Bay	CFLN	Move to 97.9 with 1,000 watts
1340 NF	Wabush	CFLW	Move to 94.7 with 1,000 watts
1550 ON	Windsor	CBE	Move to 97.5 with 3,000 watts (19,000 watts Max ERP) (earlier grant for a CBC Radio One nested repeater in Windsor on 102.3 with 3,300 watts has now been rescinded)

**PROPOSED TECHNICAL CHANGES**

1690 ON	Toronto	CHTO	Increase daytime power from 1,000 watts to 3,000 watts
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I attempt to be as accurate as possible with this information. I visit many websites and message boards on a daily basis seeking the latest in Canadian radio news to report in this column. I trust this information to be worthy; however I can't be in all these places to confirm everything. If inaccurate information is reported I do apologize, but don't blame me... I'm only the messenger.

**BROADCASTING INFORMATION**

**Robert Wien - 5975 Nora Point Apt. #102 - Colorado Springs CO 80919-3744**  
**Email: [wienbob@aol.com](mailto:wienbob@aol.com) phone: 719-599-4454** Ham calls: **K6GRJW**

**Dale Park** sends along the following from the Chicago, IL Tribune dated 6/19/09:

Oak Forest radio collector opens his 'museum' to visitors, Oak Forest collector has accumulated antique radios with enough frequency that he has opened his 'museum' to visitors, By Joel Hood, Tribune reporter  
 You can keep your iPod and your satellite radio. MP3s? Jack LaVelle has no use for them. Enter the back room of LaVelle's Oak Forest house - the room built 15 years ago for one purpose - and step back 100 years to when radio was born and poised to revolutionize home entertainment. Radios by Edison, RCA, Emerson and many other pioneering companies line every wall; immense but beautifully crafted ancestors to the gadgets that fill our homes today. His collection includes antique and vintage pieces, most of which are working and restored to their original luster. And that dedication to detail has made the LaVelles popular figures in the growing community of radio collectors across the Midwest. "It's just like collecting old cars or records or anything else; people tend to gravitate to those things that were popular when they were growing up," said Ed Huether, 67, a radio collector who runs a repair shop out of his Forest Park home. "Jack is as passionate as any of us. Every time he sees a radio, he's reaching for his wallet to add another one to his collection." Antique radio collection is museum of sound in an era when the iPod and home computing reign supreme, LaVelle's collection - one of the most extensive in Chicagoland - provides an interesting and important reminder of the origins of audio transmission. While younger visitors might be stunned by the size and crude technology of these early machines, older generations are prodded to remember early childhood nights at home, listening to the latest episodes of "Captain Midnight" or "Terry and the Pirates." "I've seen old men get tears in their eyes when they enter this room," said Janet LaVelle, Jack's wife. "You can see up all these great memories rushing back to them." Jack LaVelle, 72, knows the feeling. As a boy growing up on Chicago's South Side, he followed popular radio shows such as "Captain Midnight", about an Army pilot who led a secret squadron of fighters during World War II. The long-running show, which originated in Chicago, reached millions of listeners at its peak in the 1940s. By the time LaVelle was a young man; he was tinkering with radios and early televisions and considering a career in electronics. He began installing roof-top antennas for television sets, and soon became an expert in how to restore and rebuild these cutting-edge devices. While working in Chicago's Mt Greenwood neighborhood in the mid-1950s, LaVelle stumbled upon a broken 1928 Kolster radio. He offered the owner \$5 and took it home, where he cleaned the dark wood finish and repaired the brass tube sockets inside. "It started working, just like that," LaVelle said. "The thing about these early radios is that they're all pretty simple when you get right down to it." After completing his education at a vocational school, LaVelle opened his own repair shop out of his new home in Oak Forest. His interest - bordering on obsession - with old radios blossomed. He joined numerous collectors clubs, including the Antique Radio Club of Illinois, where he met with others who shared his passion. He and his wife scraped together what little money they had to buy radios from flea markets, yard sales and estate sales. Each purchase filled a gap in the history of the medium, beginning with early 1900 radios from Atwater-Kent and diamond-tipped Edison phonographs, and on to table-top and pocket transistor radios from the 1950s. His collection has grown so big - about 600 radios, LaVelle figures - that he has opened it to the public for free viewings. The Antique Radio Museum, as he calls it, has no Web page (the LaVelles can barely work their home computer) and is not advertised any place that could be easily found. But it attracts a few dozen children and seniors each year, most who stop and marvel at a piece of history come back to life. "Some people walk in and they don't say a word," LaVelle said. "They just stop and stare, and you can tell it's taking them back in time." For more information about the Antique Radio Museum, call 708-687-3007. [jhood@tribune.com](mailto:jhood@tribune.com). (DP-HI)

**WESTERN DX ROUNDUP**  
**Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings MT 59102-7755**  
**E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net**

**NEXT WDXR DEADLINE:** July 24. Please use Eastern Time.

**REPORTER FOR THIS ISSUE:**

(AB) **Art Blair**-730 SW 3<sup>rd</sup> St.-Fruitland, ID 83619 **artblair1937@gmail.com**  
NRD-515, Kiwa loop

- 650 KMTI UT, Manti 6/26 0043 C&W tune, KMTI ID at 0045. Poor. (AB-ID)
- 790 KSPD ID, Boise 6/26 0854 "in the Process" program, "AM 7-90 KSPD" at 0857, SRN news at 0858. (AB-ID)
- 880 KRVN NE, Lexington 7/2 0040 C&W music, "KRVN AM & FM, Lexington" at 0042. (AB-ID)
- 1040 CKST BC, Vancouver 7/9 0209 "The Team 10-40" slogan followed by a promo for the Jim Rome program. (AB-ID)
- 1050 KBLE WA, Seattle 7/1 0000 EWTN programming for a moment just after KORE powered down, then KBLE gone as well. (AB-ID)
- 1210 KGYN OK, Guymon 6/26 2327 C&W music, KYGN ID at 2328. Huge signal! (AB-ID)
- 1450 KGRZ MT, Missoula 7/3 KGRZ under KIOV. New. (AB-ID)
- 1570 KPPO CA, Riverside 7/6 2332 gent with KPPO ID followed by female vocal group with religious tune. Very good. (AB-ID)

Thanks to Art we have a column. Nancy 7/10 2100

**EASTERN DX ROUNDUP**

**Lee J Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St – Ocala FL 34471**  
**E-mail: EDXR at AMLGBOOK dot COM**

**Deadlines:** 7/25, 8/22 8 am!

- (KK-VA) **Kraig Krist** **STAR OF THE WEEK**  
Manassas, VA  
NRD-545 rx w/134' multiband antenna NW to SE  
\*\*\*\*\*
- 740 NY WNYH **LOGGINGS**  
Huntington, 7/8 0525-0635. Mixing w/WPAQ, CFZM, WMBG and religious station. Adult standards. 0607 "WNYH" Playing adult standards. 0613 "WNYH Huntington New York". 1031 "...simply email us at info at wmbg radio dot com and we will..." (KK-VA)
- NC WPAQ Mount Airy, 7/8 0525-0635. Mixing w/WNYH, CFZM, WMBG and religious station. 0628 banjo music. 0629 "...against the grain..." WPAQ... weather forecast..." (KK-VA)
- ON CFZM Toronto, 7/8 0525-0635. Mixing w/WPAQ, WNYH, WMBG and religious stn. Adult standards. 0530 "Good morning I'm Tera Smith with the five thirty news on AM seven forty" into items of Canadian news. Canadian weather. 0539 "...right here on zuma radio AM seven forty." (KK-VA)
- VA WMBG Williamsburg, 7/8 0525-0635. Mixing w/WPAQ, CFZM, WNYH and religious station. Adult standards. 0552 "Hi. This is Mary... Williamsburg... radio station... WMBG..." Playing adult standards. (KK-VA)
- 750 MD WBMD Baltimore, 7/7 0525-0635. Mixing w/WBSB, WBMD with Family Radio religious programming. 0613 A reading from John 3:18. 0628 information on tuning into Family Radio from coast to coast. (KK-VA)
- 790 VA WNIS Norfolk, 7/3 0525-0635. Mixing w/R Rejo RR pips. WNIS with "America in the Morning". 0527 "AM seven ninety WNIS" into report on 4th of July celebrations. 0600 "Fox News Radio". 0606 "And WNIS news time is 6 minutes after six o'clock. Good Friday morning." (KK-VA)
- VA WAVA Arlington, 7/4 0525-0635. 0600 "AM seven eighty WAVA Arlington Washington and everywhere on WAVA AM dot com. A service of Salem Communications" into "Family News in Focus" with a look at Independence Day in 1776. (KK-VA)
- 800 ON CKLW Windsor, 7/2 0525-0635. Mixing w/WWSVS, talk, Gospel music, regular music and C&W songs. 0528 "Now a comment". Talking about Canada. 0536 "...top tip of the month call 519 253 9494...." Used to "net to search for the telephone number. This is CKLW." (KK-VA)
- VA WSVS Crewe, 7/2 0525-0635. Mixing w/CKLW, talk, Gospel music, regular music and C&W songs. 0600 all of a sudden strong signal. "Eight hundred AM WSVS Crewe's" into "AP Radio News". 0605 "WSVS weather... 30 percent chance of showers... thunderstorms..." (KK-VA)
- 810 NY WGY Schenectady, 6/30 0525-0635. Mixing w/WPIN, Gospel, singing and ESPN. "WGY breaking news": "Five forty five on WGY. Good morning." (KK-VA)

- 810 VA WPIN Dublin, 6/30 0525-0635 EDT. Mixing w/WGY, Gospel, singing and ESPN. 0601 all of a sudden strong signal playing "America the Beautiful". "News talk radio eight ten AM WPIN Dublin now begins its broadcasting day" into sports scores. (KK-VA)
- 820 VA WWFD Frederick, 6/29 0525-0635. Mixing w/R Rejo RR pips and Gospel singing. "America in the Morning" program. "WFED Washington WWFD Frederick Washington DC home of Navy athletics." into "CNN Radio News". (KK-VA)

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Thanks to Kraig, we have a column this week.... FM and TV DX has been hopping around here, so no time for AM. Best to all...  
fresh 7-11 0830

**DX WORLDWIDE – EAST**

**Brandon Jordan – 3443 S Perkins Rd – Memphis TN 38118**  
**E-mail: dxww-east@gmail.com**  
**all times UTC**

**\*\*\* TRANS-ATLANTIC DX \*\*\***

- 162 FRANCE France-Inter, Allouis, JUN 26 0118 – French female vocal, then talk by man; fair to good over static crashes. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 171 MOROCCO R Mediterranee Internationale, Nador, JUN 26 0119 – pop style Arabic vocal; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 198 UNITED KINGDOM BBC R 4, Droilwich et al, JUN 26 0118 – discussion about Michael Jackson, Motown Records; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 234 LUXEMBOURG RTL, Junglinster, JUN 26 0118 – man in French; poor in static. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 585 SPAIN RNER 1, Madrid, JUN 26 0202 – /621 with news by woman in Spanish; poor. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN RNER 1 synchros, Santa Cruz de Tenerife et al, JUN 26 0202 – /585 with news by woman in Spanish. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR Option Musique, Sottens, JUN 26 0100 – Option Musique jingle, French news by man; to fair peak over static crashes. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 783 MAURITANIA R Mauritanie, Nouakchott, JUN 26 0059 – man in Arabic with sermon or political harangue; fair through CFDR slop. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 837 CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN COPE synchros, JUN 26 0059 – /882 with woman in Spanish; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 837 + JUN 26 0200 – music fanfare, French news by woman; to good peak. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 864 FRANCE France Bleu, Villebon-sur-Yvette, JUN 26 0101 – folk style French male vocal; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 882 CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN COPE synchros, JUN 26 0059 – /837 with woman in Spanish; poor to fair in mix with UK. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 909 UNITED KINGDOM BBC R 5 synchros, JUN 26 0100 – woman reading news about Michael Jackson death; fair.  
+ JUN 26 0150 – US-accented woman; good.  
+ JUN 26 0200 – "This is Five Live News."; fair, relatively in the clear (less 910 slop than usual). [Connely\*R-MA]
- 945 FRANCE France Info, Toulouse, JUN 26 0157 – /837 with female group vocal like children's song; fair, best on USB. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 954 SPAIN Onda Cero, Madrid, JUN 26 0100 – news in Spanish; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 963 PORTUGAL Radio, Renascenca, Seixal, JUN 26 0100 – "Homeward Bound" by Simon & Garfunkel from '66, then pips followed by man & woman in Portuguese; poor. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA RTVA Chaîne 2, Algiers, JUN 26 0031 – string music and drumming; poor. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 999 SPAIN COPE, Madrid, JUN 26 0059 – man & woman in Spanish; to fair peak over WINS IBOC. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1053 UNITED KINGDOM TalkSport synchros, JUN 26 0101 – /1089 with Reverend Al Sharpton commenting on Michael Jackson; fair, Sharpton's booming delivery cut through the junk. + JUN 26 0148 – talk about guilt being assumed because of hearsay evidence; now better than /1089. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1088 ANGOLA R Nacional, Mulenvos, JUN 26 0031 – Portuguese talk by two people; poor. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM TalkSport synchros, JUN 26 0101 – /1053 with Reverend Al Sharpton commenting on Michael Jackson; good.  
+ JUN 26 0159 – "0800-186-187" phone number in advert for a business in Birmingham; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1098 SPAIN RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0031 – echoey Spanish talk by woman, then teletalk; fair. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1107 SPAIN RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0100 – news by woman in Spanish; fair, equal strength to off-channel RNE synchro on 1107.12 with one heck of a growl resulting. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1116 SPAIN SER synchros, JUN 26 0059 – piano music, "Radio Pontevedra" local ID.  
+ JUN 26 0102 – fast-Spanish news by woman mentioned Michael Jackson; to good peak. [Connely\*R-MA]
- 1125 SPAIN RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0100 – /1107 with extremely echoey newstalk by woman in Spanish. [Connely\*R-MA]

1134 **CROATIA** Glas Hrvatske, Zadar, JUN 26 0100 – Hrvatski Radio ID, lead news item about Michael Jackson death; to good peak. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1143 **SPAIN** COPE synchros, JUN 26 0100 – Spanish news by man & woman; through static crashes. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1206 **FRANCE** France Info, Bordeaux, JUN 26 0100 – Simon & Garfunkel "Sounds of Silence", top-of-hour musical fanfare, woman in French with news about Michael Jackson; fair. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Absolute R, synchros, JUN 26 0101 – good with talk "news of Michael Jackson's death was received by thousands of fans gathered for the weekend Glastonbury Festival". [Connelly\*R-MA]

+ JUN 26 0139 – "Watching the Wheels" by John Lennon; good. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1242 **FRANCE** France Info, Marseille, JUN 26 0058 – //1206 with "Sounds of Silence" by Simon & Garfunkel; poor. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1305 **SPAIN** RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0058 – woman in Spanish; to fair peak.

+ JUN 26 0140 – music //1314. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1314 **SPAIN** RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0140 – //1305 with fast Spanish talk, then music. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1377 **FRANCE** France Info, Lille, JUN 26 0109 – //1206 with female showtune vocal; good. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1413 **SPAIN** RNER 5 synchros, JUN 26 0141 – //1774 with woman in Spanish; to fair peak. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1422 **ALGERIA** RTA, Algiers, JUN 26 0030 – high energy electronic dance-club music; to good peak. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** BSKSA, Duba, JUN 26 0142 – a cappella chanting; fair to good. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1557 **FRANCE** France Info, Fontbonne, JUN 26 0148 – mood music, then French talk by man & woman; to good peak. [Connelly\*R-MA]

\*\*\* PAN-AMERICAN DX \*\*\*

720 **BRAZIL** R Guaiaba, ZYK276, Porto Alegre, JUN 26 0202 – rapid-fire sports report in Portuguese; to fair peak, noisy. [Connelly\*R-MA]

750 **VENEZUELA** YVKS, RCR, Caracas, JUN 26 0100 – RCR ID, Caracas mentions in sports coverage; good; over CBGY. [Connelly\*R-MA]

760 **COLOMBIA** HUAJ, RCN, Barranquilla, JUN 26 0100 – pip, Radio Suceso RCN ID; under YVQQ. [Connelly\*R-MA]

760 **VENEZUELA** YVQQ, R Puerto La Cruz, Puerto La Cruz, JUN 26 0100 – Spanish talk, "Doble Q" slogan; over HUAJ. [Connelly\*R-MA]

780 **VENEZUELA** YVMN, R. Coro, Coro, JUN 26 0159 – Spanish talk, Coro ID; under CFDR. [Connelly\*R-MA]

800 **NETHERLANDS ANTILLES** PJB, Trans-World Radio, Bonaire, JUN 26 0101 – man in Spanish with Radio Transmundial ID, mention of programming for "America del Norte, America Central, y America del Sur tambien"; slightly over mess.

+ JUN 26 0202 – US English talk, Trans-World Radio ID, hymn; in jumble with CHRC & CJAD. [Connelly\*R-MA]

820 **ST KITTS & NEVIS** Trinity Broadcast Network/R Paradise, Charlestown, JUN 26 0030 – Caribbean-accented preacher recalling the Biblical passage on the Great Flood; over WNYC.

+ JUN 26 0101 – talk "I am Pastor Joseph Dean from Trinidad and I encourage you to listen to Radio Paradise, 820 on your dial," then advert by a woman for a R Paradise lapel pin; good/dominant. [Connelly\*R-MA]

859.74 **unld** JUN 26 2348 – someone slightly off channel, putting weak growl against Brazil. [Connelly\*R-MA]

860 **BRAZIL** ZYJ459, R CBN, Rio de Janeiro, JUN 26 0059 – man & woman in Portuguese; poor, over Spanish-language station that was likely YVYE. [Connelly\*R-MA]

880t **BRAZIL** ZYL275, R Inconfidencia, Belo Horizonte, JUN 26 0031 – presumed this with Portuguese talk; briefly over WCBS. [Connelly\*R-MA]

895 **ST KITTS & NEVIS** V of Nevis, Bath Village, JUN 26 0159 – talk about freedom of movement; fair. [Connelly\*R-MA]

899.53 **unld** JUN 26 2348 – fragments of talk that was either Portuguese or Spanish; poor.

+ JUN 26 0059 – fast reverberated talk. [Connelly\*R-MA]

900 **VENEZUELA** YVMD, Mara Ritmo 900, Maracaibo, JUN 26 0101 – adverts for businesses in several Venezuelan cities; slightly over dogpile of others and 899.53 growl. CKDH not noted, so maybe gone (to FM).

+ JUN 26 0158 – local adverts. [Connelly\*R-MA]

960 **CUBA** R Reloj, JUN 26 0100 – Reloj top-of-minute "RR" beeps cutting through WEAV. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1000 **BRAZIL** ZYK522, R Record, Sao Paulo, JUN 26 0031 – man in Portuguese; poor to fair. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1100 **BRAZIL** ZYK694, R Globo, Sao Paulo, JUN 26 0031 – Globo and Sao Paulo mentions; way over WHLI.

+ JUN 26 0147 – Portuguese talk, local adverts; good. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1110 **VENEZUELA** YVQT, R Carupano, Carupano, JUN 26 0100 – BLASTING in with ID "En Venezuela, Carupano", then timecheck "ocho, treinta minutos". [Connelly\*R-MA]

1140 **BRAZIL** ZYH449, R Cultura, Salvador, JUN 26 0202 – Portuguese talk, female vocal; mixing with CBI. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1149.827 **unld** JUN 26 0059 – low growl against VWWDJ/others, couldn't hack much audio out of it. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1190.336 **COLOMBIA** HJCT, LV de la Costa, Barranquilla, JUN 26 0101 – Spanish talk occasionally separable from WLIB.

+ JUN 26 0202 – fast Spanish talk. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1210.22 **unld** JUN 26 0059 – weak growl against WPHT. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1220 **BRAZIL** ZYJ258, R Globo, Rio de Janeiro, JUN 26 0100 – something about Sao Paulo, then news in Portuguese about Michael Jackson; over WHKW/WSTL/WPHX mélange. [Connelly\*R-MA]

1309.68 **unld** JUN 26 0145 – low growl against WLOB. [Connelly\*R-MA]

\*\*\* CONTRIBUTOR \*\*\*

**Mark Connelly MarkWA1ION@aol.com**  
[Connelly\*R-MA] = Rockport, MA, USA (GC = 42.667 N/70.621 W) (Granite Pier)

**Receivers:** Microtecom Perseus, Drake R8A. **Antenna:** cardioid-pattern Micro-SuperLoop on car roof, square, 2 m per side, with 9:1 transformer on east bottom corner to speaker wire to 2:1 transformer to W7LUV transfer amp, and 9:1 transformer on west corner to speaker wire to 500 ohm null-adjust potentiometer. See [http://home.comcast.net/~dx\\_lab/pictures/micro\\_superloop.htm](http://home.comcast.net/~dx_lab/pictures/micro_superloop.htm) for a similar antenna.

73, Brandon.

## DX FORUM

**Richard C Evans – 3908 Grand Oak Ave Apt 4 – Indianapolis IN 46237**  
E-mail: [REVANS435@yahoo.com](mailto:REVANS435@yahoo.com) DEADLINES: Sundays

**Deadlines: 7:25 and 8:22**

**Mike Sanburn**, PO Box 1256, Bellflower, California 90707-1256 [mikesanburn@hotmail.com](mailto:mikesanburn@hotmail.com)

Greetings, I hasten to remind you of the upcoming IRCA convention in Albuquerque NM the third weekend in September. This year's convention will be dedicated to the memory of Ralph Sanserino. We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge his great contributions to our hobby. Plans for the convention are moving along. I wish to welcome any donations of station stickers for the goodie table and/or items for our fund raising auction: Hats, Shirts, Coffee Mugs from your local station are always a big hit with bidders. Best case scenario is to bring them with you (i.e. attend!) The registration form was included in the June issue of DXVI, but if you don't have one, just jot your info down and send it along to me. Try to get the hotel reservations made as soon as you can. The Days Inn has 199 units, but it can fill up fast. (Remember, the state fair is in town concurrently.) Speak with Danita the manager and she'll get you set up. If you're driving in the vicinity of the hotel near the hwy. 25 + 40 interchange, beware that the system of access roads can be a bit tricky. Pay close attention to the signs. Once you're on Menaul Blvd. you're in like Flynn. We will be officially welcoming Philly Bythways' **Decalomania** club as always. For info/bulletin sample copy write to Phil at 9705 Mary NW, Seattle WA 98117. Thanks to Bob Wien for helping with the convention. Good luck to this year's award nominees, and welcome to new electees. See you in ABQ. 73

**Eric Bueneman** (NOUIH), 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042-1347

It was sad to hear about the passing of Ralph Sanserino; his DX and technical expertise will be sadly missed. The biggest memory of Ralph I have was at the 2001 IRCA Convention in Woodson Terrace, MO, when we were in a bidding war for a Sony AM Stereo Walkman (which Ralph won). He was a big help when I was Publisher for DX Monitor from 1999 to 2001. God Speed, Ralph. In other news, WSDZ 1260 Belleville, IL has been sold by ABC/Citadel to a local owner. The station has been Radio Disney since 1998, and drove its FM competition, Fun Radio 95.5 (WFUN-FM Bethalto, IL), off the air. This will leave the St. Louis market without a Pre-teen station for the first time since 1993. Radio Disney will still be available on Charter Cable in the St. Louis area and on Sirius-XM Satellite Radio. I hope the new owners will switch off the "HD Radio" system, which has wiped out daytime DX on 1250 and 1270, drove KYRO 1280 Potosi, MO off the air, and causes moderate interference to stations on 1240. AM and FM stations should realize that "HD Radio" and all other digital broadcasting systems are spectrally inefficient, and should stick with spectrally efficient analog broadcasting. The Clear Channel cuts hit St. Louis as well; '48 people were laid off at its six-station cluster on Oakland Avenue KSLZ 107.7, for example, is down to just one live show: KSD 93.7's Craig Cornett has been heard in other markets on Clear Channel-owned stations. This is just one example of how deregulation has ruined radio. Rumors have been swirling at the station I work for, WSIE 88.7 Edwardsville, IL, for the past four months. The rumors have been pointing to adding more news programming, and maybe dropping the station's longstanding Mainstream Jazz format. The station has added a lot more sports programming in the past year, including Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Cougar sports and Gateway Grizzlies minor league baseball. From 2002 to 2006, the station also aired St. Louis Blues NHL hockey. Listeners and former employees have been voicing their displeasure with a possible format change through the internet. The station's owners, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, is considering going to a format that would appeal to younger demographics; the trouble is that nearly every FM station in the St. Louis market targets the 18-34 demographic. The station lost its grants from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in 2007, despite the fact that listener levels have remained steady over the past several years. One of the reasons why

I don't listen to most U.S. radio stations anymore is that they don't have much in the way of music programming that caters to an over-40 demographic. Only three stations target this demographic: WISL, along with KZQZ 1430 and KFJQ-FM 99.1. When I'm in Erie, PA visiting friends, for example, I tend to turn on the Canadian stations. Otherwise, I usually turn satellite radio on. I don't know about you, but it's high time that radio be deregulated. 73 and good DX from Erie.

**Richard Evans**, 3908 Grand Oak Avenue, Apt 4, Indianapolis, Indiana 46327-4694

CFZM-740 ON is now making comments that they are the only AM music station in Toronto. Over-40 programming wouldn't do much for me because it would probably a lot of the music from the early 80's on and I had already left pop music by then. One thing I have found on the internet is [www.theradio.com](http://www.theradio.com) which apparently has about 200 different music channels available. Not much advertising on it - at least on the channels I listen to - but it does tell you the song and artist which is running at the time one is listening. I tend to go with the Country Chapel (Southern Gospel) plus the 50's Country Gold, 60's Country Gold or 70's Country Gold, depending on my mood at the time. There can be a good deal of repetition at times, though. 73.

## IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

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### A loopstick transplant for the PL-300WT

by Gary DeBock

With nothing better to do on a relatively warm day off, I decided it was finally time for a competitive Shootout of the most sensitive and selective Ultralight radios ever used to chase TP's here, and at Grayland.

As most of the fanatics who enjoy this type of activity will recall, in the early days of the ULR boom, experienced TP DXers quickly became bored waiting for the rare propagation openings which would allow reception of Asian stations on their SRF-59's, and other modest units. Since some of these DXers had just enough technical knowledge to put their stock ULR's in serious jeopardy, a strange mission of transplanting monster loopsticks and narrow filters commenced in early 2008, with mixed results. Nothing much was really accomplished until sensitivity and selectivity improvements were made in combination, such as in the Eton E100, with the 7.5" Slider loopstick, and Murata CFJ455K5 narrow IF filter (a concoction of John Bryant, Guy Atkins and me).

Recently China's Tecsun company introduced their PL-300WT with the innovative Si473x series DSP chip, from Silicon Labs. Although Tecsun's manufacturing process unfortunately produced mixed results for AM sensitivity in their new model, the DSP chip has certainly succeeded in providing a quantum leap in selectivity for stock Ultralight radios. In testing against the Murata CFJ455K5 premium ceramic IF filter in modified E100 units, the DSP-enhanced selectivity of the PL-300WT was found to be competitive or superior on all frequencies. Accordingly, immediate efforts were made to transplant a 7.5" loopstick into the PL-300WT, and test the radio against other heavily modified TP-chasing Ultralights. Because of the design of the DSP chip's varactor component, a single fixed inductance from the loopstick (anything from 180-450 uH, depending on the individual varactor) is used to optimize AM sensitivity on all frequencies. This means that a fixed coil loopstick will provide maximum sensitivity throughout the AM band, once the correct inductance is found to match the varactor. Assuming that the radio's final sensitivity would at least match that of the E100 and C.Crane SWP Slider loopstick models, such a system would provide a significant increase in DXing convenience, by avoiding the need to slide a coil to peak the radio's sensitivity.

Today, such a full competitive Shootout was finally conducted, in which the new Tecsun PL-300WT with a 7.5" fixed-coil loopstick was compared with the Eton E100 (with a 7.5" Slider loopstick and CFJ455K5 Murata filter) and the C.Crane SWP (with the same 7.5" Slider loopstick and CFJ455K5 Murata filter). As modified, the cost of the PL-300WT unit was about \$85, while the other two units cost about \$150 each.

The Shootout was conducted in mediocre summer conditions, with the fringe stations quite weak. Despite this, an accurate evaluation of the radios' relative performance was possible.

In relative sensitivity, the fixed-coil Tecsun PL-300WT slightly outperformed the C.Crane SWP Slider model, which in turn slightly outperformed the Eton E100 Slider model. This was the judgment after all three radios were tested in the reception of four extremely weak fringe stations: KARI-550, KGWII-790, CFAX-1070 and Auburn TIS-1700. A large part of the PL-300WT's advantage was its ability to tune in the stations on their fundamental frequencies without muffled audio, a side-effect of the Murata CFJ455K5 narrow filter in the E100 and SWP models. In the Murata filter-modified models, tuning in the fringe stations 1 kHz away from the actual frequencies improved the audio, but slightly decreased their signal strength. This is unnecessary in the PL-300WT.

In the selectivity comparisons, three very tough fringe stations were tuned in adjacent to local pests: KPAM-860 in the shadow of KHHO-860, KFFX-1080 in the shadow of KPTK-1090, and KUTI-1460 in the shadow of KSUH-1450. This type of competition tested not only the sensitivity and selectivity of the modified radios, but nulling ability as well. To improve audio quality in the Murata filter-equipped radios, the stations were all tuned in 1 kHz farther away from the local QRM than their fundamental frequencies (i.e. 861 for KPAM-860, and 1079 for KFFX-1080). The DSP-enhanced PL-300WT once again proved to be competitive with the other units, providing excellent rejection of the spatter from the local pests. The adjacent-channel rejection provided by the DSP chip was almost exactly equivalent to that provided by the Murata CFJ455K5 premium IF filter in the modified E100 and SWP

units, and all three units were able to solidly receive the fringe stations without significant local spatter. The balanced-frequency audio provided by the PL-300WT, however, would have been preferable for the recording of MP3's in an actual DXing situation.

In summary, the DSP-enhanced AM selectivity of the new Tecsun PL-300WT (and presumably the Grundig G8) is a major breakthrough for transoceanic Ultralight DX chasers, especially in combination with effective external antennas. It looks like an exciting fall DX season is coming!

further editor's notes:

- The Grundig G8 seems to be the same radio as the Tecsun PL-300WT, and is available from various sources, including [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) and Universal Shortwave. As the PL-300WT is only available from China at present, with high shipping charges, purchasing the G8 is a cost effective option in North America. Strangely, some sellers are using misleading pictures and descriptions in their advertising, and even an enquiry to Eton Corporation resulted in claims that the G8 was not a DSP chip based radio, and yet it does appear to be a rebranded PL-300WT.

- This radio does have its quirks. At least one user has received one that is insensitive on AM out of the box (alignment was not attempted), another has heard hets, particularly on local stations, strong enough to warrant return to the vendor, detuning from a station can cause AGC problems, and there are "digital" noises heard when tuning about, though not when actually listening.

- The Ultralightdx group (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ultralightdx>) contains a wealth of late breaking information on the Tecsun PL-300WT/Grundig G8, including extensive tests, alignment procedure of the stock loopstick antenna etc. from the likes of Gary, Kevin Schanilec, Steve Ratzlaff and John Bryant. There is also an English language manual posted there, which seems to be otherwise difficult to come by. Excellent informative reading if you're interested in this innovative little radio

**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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