

January 16, 2010 - Volume 47, Number 17 - Edition 1491 - ISSN 899-9733

Feature in this issue... Using Large Single Wire Loops

DX TEST

Sat 02/06/10 0000-0200 1150 WGGH Marion IL (Walker)

WGGH 1150 IL MARION. Date: Sunday morning (late Saturday night) February, 6, 2010. Time: 0000-0200 ELT (0500-0700 UTC). Mode of Operation: 5000 watts (daytime pattern). Programming: Classic Country, oldies music and various sound effects.

The test will consist of classic country and oldies music along with tons of various sound effects. It should be fairly easy to identify the station, as our slogan is somewhat unique, "Monster Radio AM 1150". We also have TM Century jingles, including one used every hour for a legal ID (spoken) "Southern Illinois Trusted Voice Since 1949, (sung) AM 1150 WGGH Marion." The time the test actually starts will be largely dependent on when the last classic country song in the 11pm hour ends. We will remain at low power until the exact moment before our 12am legal id plays. (It has run as late as 12:03am). I plan on being in the studio live and "jocking" the test. We may or may not have a contest with a prize to giveaway but a call-in contest. I need to find a prize of interest to people nationwide, if anyone has anything to donate, please let me know. Our studio number is (618) 993-8102. Do NOT call about anything DX test related until the night of the actual test. I will NOT be in the studio till right before the test. I will handle QSL requests, but you MUST send a self addressed envelope with at least 2 stamps, otherwise you will not get a reply. I do not have the time, energy or money to be buying stamps or envelopes. I *PROMISE* to reply to everyone who sends one in this time!! I will want to know your location, types of radio used, when/what you heard. If you send a CD, do NOT send the entire test, just a few relevant clips. If you send a cassette tape, cue it up to where it needs to be or I won't listen. Our web streaming will be disabled during this test. Also, please be aware our mailbox at the post office is only checked twice a week, so you may not get an immediate reply. Make SURE you address the envelope and letter to my attention or I may not see it right away. Unfortunately, we have no bumper stickers, pens or anything else to give out. You will most likely get just a letter. If we have coverage maps, I might send those. If I have forgotten anything, I will add to it later. **Paul B. Walker, Jr.** WGGH-AM 1150, PO Box 340, Marion, IL 62959.

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BROADCASTING INFORMATION

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

FREQ	OLD CALL	CITY	NEW CALL
980	WTIX	Winston-Salem, NC	WEGO
1190	KRFT	DeSoto, MO	KQQZ
1360	new	Lithonia, GA	WHRH
1410	WEGO	Concord, NC	WTIX
1520	new	Savannah, GA	WSHX

SLOGAN/IMAGE CHANGE OR UPDATE

FREQ	CALL	CITY	SLOGAN UPDATE
740	KCBS	San Francisco, CA	"All News 740 & FM 106.9 KCBS"
940	KWRU	Fresno, CA	"Radio Vida Abundante"
1190	KQQZ	De Soto, MO	"The All New KQQZ 1190/Cool Killer Country"
1550	KFRC	San Francisco, CA	"True Oldies Channel"
1590	KLIV	San Jose, CA	"Silicon Valley's News Station"
1600	KUBA	Yuba City, CA	"AM 1600 & FM 95.5 KUBA"

FORMAT CHANGES

FREQ	CALL	CITY	OLD INFO	NEW INFO
660	KXOR	Junction City, OR	Regional Mexican	Reported Silent
690	WIST	New Orleans, LA	Standards	Sports – Talk
870	KFJZ	Fort Worth, TX	Ethnic	Spanish Religion
970	WAMD	Aberdeen, MD	Religion	Rumor they will go silent 1/10/10
980	WEGO	Winston-Salem, NC	Sports	Spanish Contemporary Christian
1000	WJBW	Jupiter, FL	Business Talk	True Oldies
1040	KXPD	Tigard, OR	Regional Mexican	Reported Silent
1110	KTEK	Alvin, TX	Business News	Ethnic
1150	KAGO	Klamath Falls, OR	Talk	Reported Silent
1180	KGOL	Humble, TX	Ethnic	Business News
1190	KQQZ	De Soto, MO	Talk/Classic Country	Country //WQQZ 1510
1230	KSLO	Opelousas, LA	Country	Classic Country
1260	WTJH	East Point, GA	Black Gospel	Reported Silent
1270	WUCO	Marysville, OH	Religious Teaching	Oldies
1340	KSSR	Santa Rosa, NM	Top 40	Spanish AC //KKJY 95.9
	WOYL	Oil City, PA	News/Talk	Reported Silent
	WRWA	Reading, PA	Oldies	Classic Hits
	WHAP	Hopewell, VA	Country	News-Talk
1350	WHWH	Princeton, NJ	Silent	Adult Standards
1370	WBYE	Calera, AL	Black Gospel	Reported Silent
1390	WLAN	Lancaster, PA	Standards/Oldies	Classic Hits / Oldies
1410	KNVR	San Saba, TX	Classic Country	Standards
1450	WHLS	Port Huron, MI	Adult Standards	Oldies
	KLZS	Eugene, OR	Smooth Jazz	Reported Silent
1540	KGBC	Galveston, TX	Oldies	Ethnic – Chinese
1580	WVZN	Columbia, PA	Silent	Contemporary Christian
1590	WHLX	Marine City, MI	Adult Standards	Oldies
	WABV	Abbeville, SC	Silent	Spanish Contemporary Christian
1600	WAMS	Dover, DE	R & B Oldies	80's Hits

FACILITY AND PARAMETER APPLICATIONS AND GRANTS

((A) = application, (G) = grant)

1140	KGEM	Boise, ID	correct co-ordinates to 43-35-47/116-15-00 (G)
1160	WCXI	Fenton, MI	15K/1 K new day site (A) Daytime is currently 1 KW from 2 towers. Application is for 15 KW 3 tower DA from a new site at 42-32-39/83-33-36. The new site is co-located with the CP for WPON Walled Lake, MI. Night time would remain the same at 42-48-30/83-43-50.
1210	new	Bixby, OK	7.5/7.2/250 DA-2 This amendment to a current application adds the critical hours operation at 7.2 KW to avoid interference to Philadelphia. It also adjusts the tower co-ordinates to 35-59-38/95-49-52. (A)
1250	KBSZ	Wickenburg, AZ	change from 350/100 NDA to 800/50 NDA (A)
1280	KZNS	Salt Lake City, UT	increase from 670 to 730 watts at night (A)
1310	WPLV	West Point, GA	add 25 watts night (A)
1320	WLOH	Lancaster, OH	correct co-ordinates to 39-42-22/82-32-43 (A)
1400	KFJL	Central Point, OR	change co-ordinates to 42-20-55/122-54-51 (A)
1530	WRPM	Poplarville, MS	STA to operate at 1 KW NDA due to Tower damage (G)
1550	KRPI	Ferndale, WA	change from 50k/10k DA-2 to 50k/50k DA-2 (A)
1560	KKAA	Aberdeen, SD	change from 10k/5k DA-2 to 10k/10k DA-2 (A) Minor change to current CP due to Zoning issues at original site 42-21-00/122-54-27.
1700	KBSZ	Apache Junction, AZ	STA for 1 KW on 1700 DAYTIME ONLY KRSZ will install a temporary 100' tower and test with 1 KW for conductivity measurements. The permit will be valid for 90 days and they expect measurements will take about 7 days total. They will be taken during this 90 day window. The tower co-ordinates are 33-22-54/111-32-09. (G) I would assume that KBSZ would retain their regular programming on 1260 KHZ – ed

F.C.C. FINES

MT. RUSHMORE BROADCASTING, INC. Issued a monetary forfeiture in the amount of \$17,500 to Mt. Rushmore Broadcasting, Inc. for failure to ensure the operational readiness of the KRAL(AM) and KIQQ(FM) EAS equipment; for failure to maintain a complete public inspection file. Action by: Regional Director, Western Region, Enforcement Bureau. Adopted: 01/08/2010 by Forfeiture Order.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AND CONTRIBUTOR LISTINGS:

1070 WCSZ SC Sans Souci 12/31/09 GREENVILLE, SC – More than \$100,000 worth of broadcasting equipment was swiped during a burglary at a now-closed Greenville radio station, Greenville County deputies said. The burglary happened at the former studios of WCSZ 1070 AM on Highway 25 sometime between Nov 16 and Dec 16. A former employee of the radio station checks on the property from time to time. That employee became suspicious after he noticed that the front gate the radio station was open. The employee called deputies after he noticed that there was an open window and damage to the underpinning of the building. Deputies said that a transmitter, transmitter tube and disc jockey board were stolen. They said that the equipment is valued at about \$106,000. Investigators said that the radio station has been closed for several years. (DP-HI)

970 WAMD MD, Aberdeen, Rumor mill is saying they will go silent 1/10/09 The station was bought by SALEM a few years ago, and will go dark so Salem owned WNYM 970 Hackensack, NJ can let their "nulls" out a bit in that direction. See above. (LF-FL)

1680 ????? SC Brief note on a new HAR in South Carolina on 1680 kHz. Project brochures and state maps can be found at the I-26 westbound rest area in Newberry County, the I-85 northbound rest area in Anderson County, and the I-385 rest area in Laurens County. The project also has a highway advisory radio station that can be accessed near the I-26/I-385 interchange on AM 1680. (MH-NC)

Dale Park, Honolulu, HI (DP-HI)
Lee Freshwater editor, Ocala, FL (LF-FL)
Mike Hardester, Jacksonville, NC (MH-NC)

Date of Column: 1/09/10. Our THANKS to BOB for editing this column for so many years, and we wish him well. During this "transition", you may see some duplicate entries, but that will work out as time goes by. We are trying to make this a bi-weekly feature. We have added a separate "SLOGAN" update and will include any info we get from AMLOGBOOK dot COM. PLEASE email your tips to **EDXR** at **AMLOGBOOK dot COM**... As I get ready to send this off to Dan, I leave for a week in Eugene OR visiting Broadcast Software INC. I get back on Jan 15, and leave again the following day for our annual "cruise" Eastern Caribbean this year on Royal Caribbean line. 73's. Fresh 1/09 0900

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (AB) **Art Blair**-730 SW 3rd St.-Fruitland, ID 83619 **artblair1937@gmail.com**
NRD-515, Kiwa loop
- (BB) **Bill Block**-7716 E. Thelma Drive-Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 **billwblock@msn.com**
Drake R8
- (LG) **Larry Godwin**-2390 Clydes Dale Lane-Missoula, MT 59804 **lbg@mtwi.net**
Hammarlund HQ-180, Kchibo D96L, car radio; Sanserino air-core box loop
- (MS) **Mike Sanburn**-P.O. Box 1256-Bellflower, CA **mikesanburn@hotmail.com**
Ford RX

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1150 **KLPM** **OR**, Portland ex-KXMG, 1/6 0926 gent with KLPM ID, followed by vocal music. Fair over KKNW. Last logged 3/12/08. (AB-ID)
- 1010 **KIHU** **UT**, Tooele 1/1 1650 EWTN programming, KIHU ID at 1700. Ex-KPCW. (AB-ID)
- 630 **KWRO** **OR**, Coquille 1/6 2200 KWRO ID and news, KFXD nulled. New. (AB-ID)
- 650 **CISL** **BC**, Richmond 12/31 0321 songs "Darling Je Vous Aime" sung by Nat "King" Cole, "You Are So beautiful" by Joe Cocker, and **AM650.com**. (AB-ID)
- 690 **?KRCO**?**OR**, Prineville 1/6 2209 men's college basketball, Seattle Univ. vs Oregon on "Beavers Sport Network." (AB-ID)
- 720 **WGN** **IL**, Chicago 1/7 2200 with "Chicago's WGN 720" and way on top of KDWN. (BB-AZ)
- 770 **CHQR** **AB**, Calgary 12/31 0338 CHQR ID and ad block. (AB-ID)
- 870 **KJMP** **CO**, Pierce 1/7 1932 with "KJMP 870." (BB-AZ)
- 890 **KLFF** **CA**, Arroyo Grande 1/7 2100 with "KLFF Arroyo Grande" on top of KDXU. (BB-AZ)
- 910 **KPOF** **CO**, Denver 1/1 1819 gent with "Point of Faith AM 91," vocal music followed. (AB-ID)
- 920 **KXLY** **WA**, Spokane 12/30 0927 with "KXLY 920." (BB-AZ)
- 930 **KROE** **WY**, Sheridan 1/1 1830 KROE ID and weather, poor with others. (AB-ID)
- 920 **CFRY** **MB**, Portage La Prairie 1/2 1754 unID song sung by Randy Travis, "CFRY 93.1" ID at 1756. (AB-ID)
- 950 **KNJY** **ID**, Boise 12/28 gent with "Solid Gospel K-Joy, KNJY 9-50 AM Radio," SRN news at 1300. (AB-ID)

- 960 **KFAC** **AB**, Calgary 1/3 2150 NFL Bengals vs Jets football. (AB-ID)
- 1130 **KBMR** **ND**, Bismarck 1/3 0941 C&W music, KBMR ID at 0947. Poor under CKWX. New. (AB-ID)
- 1150 **KSEN** **MT**, Shelby 12/30 1217 song "Little Bit O Soul" sung by The Music Explosion, KSEN ID at 1220. Song "It's a Long Way There" by The Little River Band. (AB-ID)
- 1230 **KBAR** **ID**, Burley ID'd at 1900 on 1/4. Announcer said "Straight talk and cool classics, KBAR, Burley, a Lee Family Broadcasting station." (LG-MT)
- 1240 **KMZK** **MT**, Billings in at 2000 on 1/4. Woman IDed as "Music 1240, KMZK." Heard again 1/7 at 0800 when man proclaimed "We're number one for today's Christian music, KMZK." (LG-MT)
- CJOR** **BC**, Osoyoos 1/8 0102 a surprise with ID as "Okanagan Easy Rock. QRM from KTIX. (LG-MT)
- 1380 **KOSS** **CA**, Lancaster 12/30 1931 with traffic report and ads for Palmdale. (BB-AZ)
- 1400 **KART** **ID**, Jerome dominated 1/6 at 1801. Man said "Real country, we're Cart, KART, 1400, Jerome." (LG-MT)
- KJDY** **OR**, John Day on the car radio in the clear finishing a banjo piece, then ID at 1100 on 1/8. (LG-MT)
- 1440 **KMED** **OR**, Medford 1/3 0956 gardening pgm, ads, 1000 "News Talk 14-40 KMED." (AB-ID)
- 1450 **KBFI** **ID**, Bonners Ferry 1/6 1900 KBFI ID and ABC(?) news. New with KIOV off. (AB-ID)
- KFLS** **OR**, Klamath Falls 1/6 1004 KFLS ID, second ID 1005. New with KIOV off. (AB-ID)
- KCLX** **WA**, Colfax 1/5 1006 gent with KCLX ID. New. Note: KIOV off and has been off and on since 1/2/10 at least. (AB-ID)
- KONP** **WA**, Port Angeles back-to-back KONP ID's, station phone number for advertising purposes. New with KIOV off. (AB-ID) (Heard 1/5 or 1/6?—NJ)
- 1490 **KCID** **ID**, Caldwell in well at 1930 on 1/4 with ID by a man in Spanish. I've never heard this one in English. (LG-MT)
- CJSN** **SK**, Shaunavon 12/27 1957 strong when woman gave weather and call ID. (LG-MT)
- 1590 **KLIV** **CA**, San Jose 1/7 1922 ID and weather. Last logged 3/4/08. (AB-ID)
- 1690 **WPYE566** **CA**, Long Beach 12/30 1820 TIS parking access station from Cal State Univ. Long Beach. Good with continuous campus parking info. (MS-CA)

UNIDS

- 1710 **UNID** Music pretty strong at 0758 on 1/6. I assume this is the Seattle-area pirate. (LG-MT)

Four reporters from four different states this week. Nancy 1/8 2100

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

John C Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings MT 59102-7755
E-mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@ircaonline.org

RIDING GAIN

- [EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood, MO **N0UIHEric@aol.com**
GE Superadio III, Grundig S350, Realistic TM-152, Worcester Space Magnet II.
- [NJ-MT] **Nancy Johnson**, Billings, MT **NancyJohnson@Prodigy.net**
Drake R8B and Kiwa Loop

DOWN THE DIAL

- 900 **KFAL** **MO**, Fulton. 1-8 fair with minor ACI from WGNU-920. 15:26 noted with "Your home for country legends, The Big Nine-Hundred KFAL" ID. Classic Country. [EB-MO]
- 1150 **WHBY** **WI**, Kimberly. 1-8 good to poor, mixing with CKOC. 21:09 noted with local spots, Wisconsin Network Sports. [EB-MO]
- 1290 **WHIO** **OH**, Dayton. 1-8 good to poor, mixing with WIRL, CFRW. 21:00 noted with legal ID, "12-90 AM and 95 point 7 FM, news talk radio, WHIO" into local news. [EB-MO]
- 1350 **KCOR** **TX**, San Antonio. 12-17 fair to poor mixing with KRNT and others. 00:04 with local spots, Spurs basketball in SS. [EB-MO]
- 1590 **KLFE** **WA**, Seattle. 1-7 poor. 20:59 with man talking in foreign language. Quick ID in EE. "KLFE Seattle" into religious program. [NJ-MT]

25 YEARS AGO

January 12, 1985 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Karl J. Zuk** of Croton-on-Hudson, NY said he keeps trying to hear KFI-640 with no luck ... **Ernest R. Cooper** of Provincetown, MA told about a movie being produced in Provincetown which includes scenes from inside local WOMR's studios. The WOMR call letters will be used in the movie set in the fictional town of "Adams Port."

OPEN MIKE

Eric Bueneman mentioned KQQZ 1190 has been louder lately. Might be on their 6.5kW night power or have an STA around 1kW. This column was typed 1-9-10. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

E-mail: EDXR at AMLOGBOOK dot COM

Deadlines: Saturdays 8 AM!!

		STARS OF THE WEEK
(JJR-WI)	John J Rieger	L'Anse, MI Sony ICF SW7600GR stock
(KK-VA)	Kraig Krist	Manassas, VA NRD-545 rx w/134' multiband antenna NW to SE.
(WM-MD)	William McGuire	2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD DX-398

LOGGINGS

650	SK	CKOM	Saskatoon 12-29 0815. Fair o/all. "SK's #1... CKOM."	(JJR-MI)
690	MN	KFXN	Minneapolis 12-29 0853. Fair "All Sports 690 the Score" to quick fade. Fox network.	(JJR-MI)
910	ND	KCJB	Minot 12-31 0815. Poor – "910 Country KCJB" chatter, ad, wx o/faded KJJQ. C&W.	(JJR-MI)
	SD	KJJQ	Volga 12-30 0807. Very poor – Brookings nx, Volga police blotter "AM 910 Depot Radio" and no usual WFD.	(JJR-MI)
910	VA	WRNL	Richmond 12/23 1700. "Sports radio 910"; "Fox Sports Radio."	(WM-MD)
930	SD	KSDN	Aberdeen 12-30 0805. Poor – ABC nx, "930-KSDN" wx o/anything.	(JJR-MI)
1140	AB	CHRB	High River 12-29 0845. Fair "So. AB's... AM 1140." Fades, commodity prices.	(JJR-MI)
1230	MN	WKLK	Cloquet 12-29. 1800. Poor LID into nx.	(JJR-MI)
1240	WI	WJMC	Rice Lake 12-30 0749. Poor "listen for news... AM 1240 WJMC" lost to mess. Rare!	(JJR-MI)
1340	MN	KRBT	Eveleth 12-30 0706. Poor though clear "AM 1340 KRBT" in mess by OM. Chasing UNID C&W outlet.	(JJR-MI)
1400	WI	WATW	Ashland 12-30 1612. Very poor w/"This is WATW, Memories 1400" made possible when WCCY-MI, carrying same NOS format, misfired, not giving calls! Rare!	(JJR-MI)
1420	OH	WHK	Cleveland 12/23 2100. "News Talk 1420"; ID.	(WM-MD)
1450	WI	WHRY	Hurley 12-29 1618. Poor "Greatest Hits... 1450 WHRY" o/others and into mud.	(JJR-MI)
1470	TN	WVOL	Berry Hill 12/23 2000. Various ads heard, Local mentions.	(WM-MD)
	VA	WTZE	Tazewell 12/21 1800. Station promo; ID.	(WM-MD)
1540	IA	KXEL	Waterloo 12/28 2000. "The Voice of the Cedar Valley"; "News Talk 1540"; ID; ABC News.	(WM-MD)
1540	ON	CHIN	Toronto 1/7 2355-0035. Mixing w/singing, preaching and Spanish. "...Insight where we deal with politics, social issues... Wednesday night from 1:30 PM... FM 91.9... worldwide on the internet at www... 'Insight' radio worth listening to on the Caribbean network... broadcasting to the world... CHIN (said as they word chin and not as a call sign)...."	(KK-VA)
1570	WI	WSC0	Appelton 12-31 0828. Very poor to fade. "1570theScore.com" and ment of FM xlator. Ads.	(JJR-MI)
1550	ON	CBE	Windsor 1/6 2355-0035. Mixing w/Spanish singing. "CBC news is next followed by 'As It Happens'" into news.	(KK-VA)
1570	NY	WFLR	Dundee 1/4 2355-0035. Mixing w/talk and religious. "...Joe... WFLR news..." into weather forecast.	(KK-VA)
1580	ON	CKDO	Oshawa 1/3 2355-0035. Mixing w/talk and another oldies station. "...endless summer CKDO...."	(KK-VA)
1590	MD	WFBR	Glen Burnie 1/2 2355-0035. Mixing w/WAKR and another oldies station. News, then, "...WFBR forecast...."	(KK-VA)
	OH	WAKR	Akron 1/2 2355-0035. Mixing w/WFBR and another oldies station. "...oldies variety equals fifteen ninety WAKR."	(KK-VA)
1600	PA	WPDC	Elizabethtown 1/1 2355-0035. Mixing w/singing and religious. "...sports radio sixteen hundred WPDC...."	(KK-VA)
1610	ON	CHHA	Toronto 12/31 2355-0035. Mixing w/Caribbean Beacon (Dr. Gene Scott), singing, talk, and ESPN radio. "...in your car, at home, at work or where ever your listen... CHHA...." "...studios located... park in Toronto Canada... postal address is... email address is...."	(KK-VA)
1630	GA	WRDW	Augusta 12/28 1800. Promo for Sean Hannity; "NewsTalk Sports 1630."	(WM-MD)

Well, our Caribbean cruise is looking better and better as we awoke this morning to a dusting of SNOW!! Not a big deal for you northerners, but a major deal for Florida. Only the second time I have seen snow here in 20 years. I am off in the morning to Eugene, OR for a week at Broadcast Software Inc, then back in Florida in time to leave on our Cruise. Penny will be handling the HDXM next week while I am gone. The next HDXM will only be delayed by a few days. Thanks to all this week... All the best...
fresh 1-09 0845

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Patrick Martin – PO Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138

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

Lots of TA DX.... Those guys to the North of me sure clean up with those TA's However, I did log a new country, Denmark on 1062. So there is hope. Nick got the Czech Rep on 639. So way we go.

TRANS ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

639 **CZECH REPUBLIC**, various locations, Cesky rozhlas 2, 0413 Jan 8, Man and woman talking, mostly poor to nil, but faded up slightly to Petula Clark's "Downtown" and 15 seconds later there she was on the webstream. New country for me. (NHP-BC)

756 **GERMANY**, various locations, Deutschlandfunk 0420 on Jan 10, Faded up to almost fair at times for a couple of minutes w/vocal pop music, followed by the webstream. (NHP-BC)

963t **FINLAND** female announcer at 0450 Jan 7, ending with what sounded like a Michael Jackson song, but disappeared at 0457. (S/off?)

1062 **DENMARK**, fair with man in Danish, sounded News or something close at 0503 Jan 7/10. New here, maybe good enough for a CD report, but right after CKMX Calgary playing a loud C&W song wiped out most of 1062. (PM-OR)

TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

612 **AUSTRALIA**, Brisbane, QLD, 4QR 12/25 1657. Modern Big Band by Michael Feinstein? Woman host with chatter, mention phone number, mention ID "You're listening to 6WA...." ABC news theme, news by second YL about nationwide drought before fading out. Poor to Very Poor. (5P-HI)

774 **AUSTRALIA**, Melbourne, 3LO, 1539 Jan 5. Vocal pop music fair //612 followed by man in EE as it faded down. Been awhile since this has been heard, JOUB off the air by this time. (NHP-BC)

1017 **CHINA**, Changchun, CRI 1427 Jan 6, Man in KK nil to fair //5965. Awhile since this was heard last. (NHP-BC)

1476 **UNID**, 1439 Jan 6, Woman talking w/echo, bits of mx, sounds CC, Poor at best. No ideas. (NHP-BC) (Nick, there is a CNR2 on 1476. Being a network, probably // to several tx around China, causing the echo effect. PM)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

5P-HI **DALE PARK**, PO Box 10640, Honolulu HI 96816 **dxfool@aol.com**
DXing with Sangean ATS-818CS, Terk AM1000 loop

NHP-BC **NICK HALL-PATCH**, 1538 Amphion Street, Victoria BC V8R 4Z6 **nhp@iee.org**
DXing with Drake R8, Dymek DR333, RF Space SDR-14 running DX Fishbarrel program when not recording, north & west Flag antennas, west corner fed loop, 1 meter indoor box loop, 14 meter sloper, DXP-3 phasing unit

PM-OR **PATRICK MARTIN**, PO Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-084 **mwdxer@webtv.net**
DXing with Drake R8, Drake SPR4 (modified) Kenwood R1000 (modified), 1500' Eastern beverage (not terminated), 22X50X22' NW EWE, 25X100X25 SW EWE, 15X40X15 NW EWE, 45' vertical (for phasing), Quantum Phaser 3, Sanserino Box Loop.

DX FORUM

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

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

Deadlines: Saturdays: 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/20, 3/6 Anniversary issue, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1, 5/15, 5/29, 6/12, 6/27, 7/10, 7/25 and 8/21.

Richard Evans, 3908 Grand Oak Avenue, Apt. 4, Indianapolis, Indiana 46237-4694

Last week, there was a Forum report from Gary Siegel asking about how other members counting frequency changes. He doesn't at the moment but is open to thoughts from others. For myself, over the years, I haven't had a lot of changes but there have been a few. I count the changes as a new station feeling that the radio conditions are different for each frequency as well as the interfering stations I tangle with for the frequency. There may only be a couple of stations in my log and most, if not all, are from my old days listening in Gary, Indiana. On the other hand, I don't count call changes or change in city of license as long as it is local. When 1250 moved from Milwaukee, WI to Greenfield, WI, I did not consider it a new station since nothing changed but the city it called home. After all, I lived in Milwaukee but could see Greenfield from my back yard.

However, if and when (if it hasn't happened already) Chicago Heights, Ill moves to Michigan, I will consider it a new station. The distance is enough for me. On another note, Gary asked me privately if I had noticed that CFZM-740 had changed its music so that, during the time slots other than evenings and Sunday nights, the music seemed to be a little more current than it had been. Yes, I had noticed it as well, but thought it was more because it seemed too much more Canadian artists than before, chalking it up to the requirements up there for Canadian based content. Sunday night, of course, is the big band program with George Jonescu and 7-10pm Monday thru Thursday is Sentimental Journey with Frank Proctor. Both are great shows. It's fun listening to George doing the weather because he doesn't like Celsius and says he prefers to use it only in giving his age. That is a live program, by the way, on Sunday nights. For conspiracy buffs, they now have a two hour show at 11pm Sunday nights. I am not into that type of show but I did listen to one they had on John Lennon – at the 20th anniversary of his death – which wasn't bad. CFZM also runs two old radio shows from 10pm to 11pm Mon thru Thurs evening which can be interesting. Dragnet was real fun to listen to as I remember the old television shows. First show is drama while the second show on the half hour is a comedy. Last month, I got to listen to Jack Benny doing his Christmas shopping. Feels like we got our January freeze early this year. I am back doing taxes again for the sixth season. I should be retiring from Meijer the end of July. Hard to believe that I have been a member of IRCA for 45 years now. 73.

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It's hard to believe that another decade has gone by. I started the Double-Os with 616 AM stations heard; now, my total stands at 1,115. That's a grand total of 499 stations. I count both frequency and call changes on AM only; call changes do not count in my FM and TV logbooks. I added 84 stations to my logbook in 2000, 17 in 2001, 44 in 2002, 39 in 2003, 103 in 2004, 85 in 2005, 21 stations in 2006, 72 stations in 2007, seven in 2008, and 47 in 2009. During the 1990s, I logged 74 stations in 1992 (I started my current log in July 1992), adding 157 new stations in 1993, 133 in 1994, four in 1995, 132 in 1996, 18 in 1997, 35 in 1998 and 63 in 1999. When I started the decade, I was between stations; I'm now out of radio. The first decade of the 21st Century started with the largest cluster owning just four radio stations and the local ABC-TV affiliate; now, the largest cluster in the market is a six-station cluster owned by a company that's in deep financial trouble. Many of our favorite local personalities have been pushed out the door over the past decade... including yours truly last July. Radio started becoming unlistenable at the beginning of the decade; there aren't very many listenable stations now. Ten years ago, we had five stations broadcasting in AM Stereo; now, we have none. "HD Radio" came to St. Louis on AM at KFJ0 850 in 2002. We lost six good daytime and sunset channels in 820, 830, 840, 860 and 870. When KMOX 1120 began broadcasting in "HD", we lost seven channels during the daytime: 1090, 1100, 1110, 1110, 1130, 1140, 1150 and 1160; at night, we can no longer hear DX on 1110, and KWKH barely makes it through the digital QRM from KMOX at night. When WSDZ 1260 began broadcasting in "HD" in 2004, we lost 1250, 1270 and 1280; the digital QRM drove KYRO 1280 Potosi, MO off the air. I get digital interference to WTAX and KFMO on 1240 during the daytime. KATZ 1600 also tried "HD", but got interference complaints from WBGZ 1570. AM "HD" wastes at least 40 kHz of spectrum, depending on power. KFJ0 850, near its transmitter site on the campus of Concordia Seminary, wipes out 100 kHz of spectrum; while KMOX 1120, with its transmitter in Pontoon Beach, IL, wipes out most (if not all) of the AM band near their transmitter site. Also, the Chicago 50 kW stations that broadcast in "HD" are up to 50% weaker than they were when they were analog-only. The FM "HD" stations waste 600 kHz of spectrum, and blocks out nearby adjacent channel stations. Besides the spectral inefficiency of "HD" and all other digital radio systems (even DRM), "HD Radio" was approved without consumer input. "HD Radio" receivers have not sold very well at all. The spectrally efficient C-QUAM AM Stereo system never reduced station coverage, like the engineers at Clear Channel and predecessor Jacor claimed. The AM Stereo count has hovered around 300-400 stations throughout the decade, including several on the expanded AM band. KXEL 1540 was smart enough to add C-QUAM in 2009. As for AM stereophonic broadcasting, the industry should abandon "HD", or IBOC, and return to the C-QUAM standard. The problem has never been with the transmission quality, but with the receivers, especially the lack of DSP in consumer home and mobile receivers. It looks like the Canadians are abandoning AM in smaller markets; I don't think they'll abandon AM in that country's largest markets, like Toronto or Montreal. If there is a future for AM, it should include ending digital operations, allocating a separate digital radio band for corporate interests so companies like CBS and Bonneville can move their interests off AM (and FM), requirements for the hiring of at least 60% local talent for on-air positions, a permanent ban on the practice of "voice tracking", and eliminating the policy of "it's not WHAT you know, it's WHO you know", which has long been a barrier to entry for many who want to get into radio. The FCC also should be the final word for format changes, just as the CRTC is the final word for format changes in Canada. What we need is more regulation; regulated environments seem to be more friendly than deregulated ones. 73.



IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

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Using Large Single Wire Loops the cheap, fast and easy way

John Bryant and Guy Atkins



I've been actively DXpeditioning for twenty years now and have gone on at least a hundred such adventures, primarily in coastal Washington state and British Columbia. For the past decade, my DXpeditioning buddy, Guy Atkins and I have been using various forms of large single wire loops for at least one of our antenna choices: these have been EWEs, KAZs, Pennants, Flags and Super Loops and each antenna or array has required from one to four masts. I've also come to use these types of antenna almost exclusively at "home" also, as I cycled between Oklahoma and Washington state, with six month stints in each place each year.

Both of us have been intensely interested in developing quick, easy, cheap and yet stoutly built semi-permanent loop and mast designs. Over the first five years of the effort, we regularly modified the design, usually making it simpler, easier and cheaper than before. Feeding off each other's ideas, it is almost impossible to remember who thought of what. Our resulting design, stabilized almost 5 years ago, has proven to be quite sturdy. I have found that the poles will last at least 2 years in *continuous* use. Personally, I have only had two poles partially collapse (a largely imaginary bug-a-boo) in all of those occasions.

So what is the deal here? First, the poles: we have both been using 19 or 20 foot long light-weight \$25 (sometimes as low as \$14) collapsible fiberglass or carbon fiber poles almost from the very beginning. Although my favorite supplier, <http://www.tmastco.com/>, actually markets these poles for antennas, all of the pole manufacturers I'm aware of are actually building them for the kite and banner industry or as light, almost disposable fishing rods. The fishing pole used most often has been the 20 ft. BnM Crappie Fishing Pole, model BW6. A virtual clone is the Bream Stix series.

These poles, if used correctly, are actually rather strong. Their main weakness is in their somewhat brittle nature when subjected to what structural engineers call concentrated and/or point loads. These must be avoided at all costs! The strength of the poles lies in responding to *bending* forces. Think about it; these things are designed as fishing rods or poles shoved in the beach that fly wind socks and banners from their tips or upper halves. Trying to keep these poles straight and induce forces going straight down their long dimension is an exercise in frustration, antennas on the ground and collapsed poles. So, *we use \$25 fishing poles; we try to use them at least slightly bent rather than straight and we avoid point and concentrated loads.*

OK, great, now we have to hold them in place in everything from beach sand to damp greasy clay and we gotta do it quick, easy and cheap. This was our most intense area of experimentation. Eventually, we focused on the means illustrated on the left portion of this page. To anchor the pole, we use a .75 x 4 steel



reinforcing rod driven halfway into the soil. This has proven strong enough (smaller bars did not) to support our masts and loops in winds above 60 mph on any number of occasions. We protect the rod/mast by enclosing the re-bar in a 1 diameter Schedule 40 PVC water pipe that is attached to the mast with 6 or so plastic cable clamps. The pole itself is cushioned with a 3 section of foam plastic sleeve fabricated from insulation for hot water pipes. Everything is tied together with those plastic cable ties. About the only judgment involved in assembly is just how tight to pull the cable ties. They need to be pretty tight between the PVC pipe and the fishing pole, but not so tight as to cause pole implosion when in use. These pole units are fabricated and stored between DXpeditions.

At the site, we simply extend the pole itself full length, drive the 3/4" re-bar (not shown) halfway in the ground and drop the 1" PVC pipe tube down over the re-bar. Bang, it's done in far less than 5 minutes and with minimal effort.

Whoa, there! How about the antennas themselves? The truth is that – in most of our designs – these light poles will not support even 18 gage wire. Guy and I both use insulated 24 gage *multi-strand* wire. When possible, we try to get inexpensive lengths of Teflon-coated 24 gage wire, because the coating itself is both light weight and very strong. We often use the antenna itself as a guy wire, so strength is important. That being said, my two oldest 20' x 17' Delta antennas are from regular plastic coated 24 gage multi-strand that was sold USED in 1986! The important ideas are *24 gage, insulated and multi-strand*. The latter recommendation is because multi-strand is much more flexible and long lasting than solid single conductor wire (in antenna applications.)



There is just one final question related to detailed construction: connections between the fishing pole and anything else: generally either the antenna itself or, in some designs, guy ropes. The primary answer is: *plastic cable ties*. They are marvelously versatile and inexpensive; don't go on a DXpedition without them! We generally use some version of the blue-black connection (at the left) that is the one that we use at the center-bottom of a Delta that is elevated 3' above the ground. A central cable tie (the black one here) goes around the pole and around the actual hanger ties (the blue ones.) We tie the bottom wires of the Delta directly to the blue ties.

For guy ropes, we try to position the junction such that the horizontal cable tie is *just above a joint in the pole*. If done that way, the junction is less likely to slide down the pole. We often use 1/8" diameter light-but-stout fishing line as guy ropes, as it does a great job with these light loads and offers little wind resistance. In guy rope situations, the horizontal cable tie shown above would be a stronger tie, of course.

The two of us diverge in our design for the upper wire connection to the pole (the apex of a Delta, for instance.) Guy uses a cable tie connection at the upper most pole connection. It has one horizontal central cable tie (very tight) and one vertical hanger tie to take the peak of the antenna wire. John goes a different



route, having developed 1" x 1/2" fittings fabricated from high-density plastic such as Nylon. The edges of the large hole are carefully rounded to protect the pole. These fittings slide down the ever-enlarging pole about 15" and are a temporary jamb fit. Either way works.

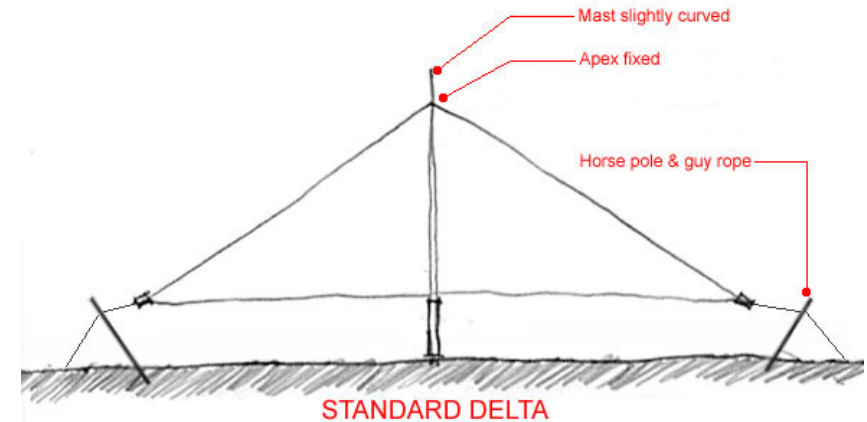
That then represents our basic antenna support design for both triangular and rectangular large area, single turn loop antennas. The other half of our success, we believe, is using the bending strength of the poles and the tensile strength of the antenna itself to create easy semi-permanent antennas.

The following three pages detail three different antenna designs that we use quite often, always with the fishing poles discussed in the first two pages of this article. The first two designs have been used on several dozen DXpeditions and each has

stayed up and in use for 6 month periods in central Oklahoma with no problems whatsoever. The latter, A Frame Delta design has been flown a half dozen times, again with no problems. We hope that the results of this decade long effort will be of use in your own antenna work!

Antenna Design 1

The first antenna drawing is the design that we use for Deltas that are elevated about a meter off the



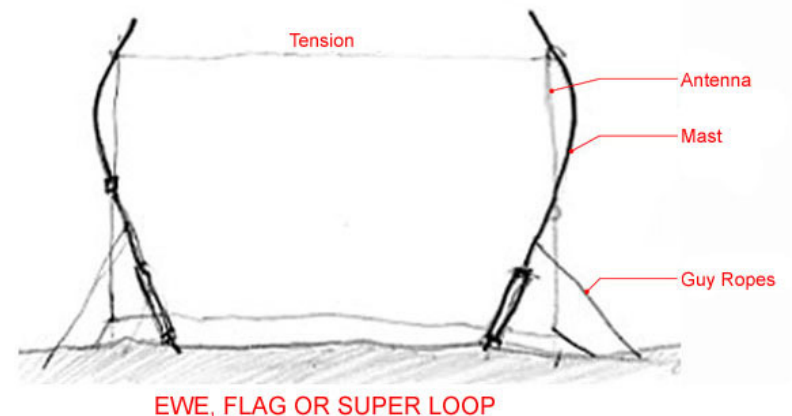
ground; K9AYs, and KAZs, as well as the antenna elements for many of our phased arrays. The top drawing is a typical side elevation of the antenna.

The 3' tall plastic stakes that we use with the guy ropes are round plastic ones sold for use with temporary electric fences for horses. They are also called step-in electric fence posts. Typically, the lower chord of this antenna is at 3' off the ground. The overall size varies per application: the largest that we've flown this way is about 30', though larger should be possible in moderate weather. Note the slight bend in the upper portion of the pole. This is completely normal and is, in fact, desirable from a structural point of view.

The two pictures to the left detail the mast used in a typical Delta configuration, with the bottom chord about one meter above the ground plane. In this configuration, the apex of the delta is fixed, tension is in the remainder of the antenna and the lower corners are free to self-adjust. The red dots connote the three corners of the antenna. The central mast is slightly curved for structural integrity.

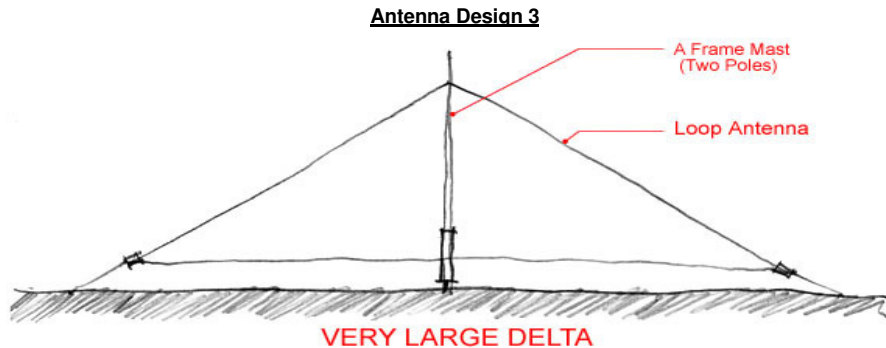
The second photo is a detailed view of the same antenna, showing the lower portion of the base of the antenna, with the Wellbrook ALA100 amp and impedance matcher attached by cable ties. In these photos, the mast and Delta are being used as one of two elements in a first generation (based on two ALA100s) Wellbrook Phased Array.

Antenna Design 2



Our second design is for rectangular single turn loops: Flags, EWEs, and Super Loops. This design appears to be rather radical, though we have used it very successfully for up to 6 months a time and in raw weather. Although the poles are bent more in this design than in the Deltas, they have always returned to their normal appearance immediately after use and had no residual "memory" of their curvature. Four short guy ropes are used in this design to provide weather stability in this design. Each pole is guyed by two ropes that run at about 45 degrees to the plane of the loop. These provide stability in rough weather, both in the plane of the loop (winds from left or right, here) and for winds blowing at 90 degrees to the plane of the loop (blowing into the page or directly out from it.) We usually stake these into the soil with plastic camping tent stakes.

We usually fly this design at an 18' x 40' size, though an 18' x 60' antenna has been flown in moderate weather. If this design is used as a Flag, the lower wire would likely be raised to the 3' level and the transformer and opposing resistor would each be mounted about half way up the two poles. This has only been done three or four times, but it was quite successful.



A variant of the original Delta design is shown above. This design uses an "A" frame of two masts rather than a single central pole as in the first design (see photo below); however, the side elevation is very similar. The apex joint is fixed in position and there is tension in the two upper sides of the antenna, using the upper wires as guy wires. The opposite elevation looking along the plane of the antenna is shown below. The bases of the masts are about 4 feet apart. This double central mast "A Frame" design is rarely used except to fly very large Delta antennas up to 100 feet long, sometimes built with 18 gage insulated wire.

Have a GREAT TIME and GOOD DX!!!



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NRC AM Radio Log, 30th Edition

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