

April 9, 2011 – Volume 48, Number 26 – Edition 1534 – ISSN 899-9733

FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I am preparing this DX Monitor while my family is in mourning. My oldest brother died of cancer on the morning of April 4, 2011. He had been suffering from cancer for the past couple of years; he will be laid to rest by the time this DX Monitor makes it to your mailbox. I'm sure that you have known a family member, friend or even fellow DXer who has been through this experience. It has been a most difficult experience, especially for my sister-in-law, nieces and nephew. I'm sure that all of you in IRCA will join me in extending our deepest condolences to my family in their most difficult hour. This issue includes March's Geomagnetic Indices, the Verification Signers, DX Worldwide-East, part two of a DXpedition report from Walt Salmani, the Technical Column, and the election ballot.

2011 IRCA Convention – Colorado Springs, CO

The convention will be held June 23-25, 2011 at the Airport Value Inn (<http://www.airportvalueinn.com>) located on the east side of Colorado Springs at 6875 Space Village Avenue, Colorado Springs 80915. IRCA has set aside a special block of rooms with a special reservation rate of \$69.99/night (regularly \$79.99/night during the summer months), please call the hotel directly at (719) 596-5588 or toll-free (800) 596-5588 to book the special rate (the special rate is only available over the phone), views of the rooms can be seen on their website. The Colorado Springs Airport is located about 5 miles south of the hotel and is a relatively easy drive from the airport to the hotel (taxis are available at the airport, the hotel doesn't have a shuttle). Convention registration is \$30, please send registrations to: Mike Sanburn, P.O. Box 1256, Bellflower, CA 90707-1256. If you wish to donate items for the auction, they can also be sent to this address as well, all AM radio-related donations are welcome. The convention will include radio station tours (specifics to be announced later), an AM transmitter tour around the city, DX quiz with prizes, business meeting, banquet, and the traditional Saturday night auction. The banquet will be held at the Golden Corral Buffet located on 1970 Waynoka Road (near Powers/Palmer Park Blvd., about 4 miles NW of the hotel) Saturday night 6/25/11 at 6 PM (we will have a room reserved at the Golden Corral, it is a 'pay-your-own-way' all-you-can-eat-buffet, cost is approximately \$10/person (NOTE: COST OF BANQUET IS SEPARATE FROM CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEE), beverage extra, to see the menu, go to <http://www.goldencorral.net>), with the auction to occur in the hotel meeting room after the banquet at approximately 8 PM. (Thanks to Mike Sanburn, KG6LJU, for the information.)

DX TEST

Oregon DXer Patrick Martin relays word from Paul Lotsof of Arizona that 580 KSAZ in Marana AZ will test later this month.

Sunday morning, April 24, 0000-0300 PDT (0300-0600 EDT).

The station is known as Radio Ebineezzer, programs religion in Spanish, and will be running regular programming but at its 5,000-watt non-directional day pattern. English IDs are anticipated on the hour. KSAZ transmits from an array just west of I-10, about 15 miles NW of Tucson.

Paul Lotsof says the station (another individual made the decision) will not be running tones or code, so anyone who thinks they have the station is welcome to call him (Paul) at 520-290-9797 and he can confirm it by playing it into the telephone.

I realize that the majority of us, myself included, greatly favour the inclusion of morse code IDs, sweep tones, and such. And if fact without these the chances of logging a station are significantly reduced. My own case in point - from central Ontario, I anticipate zero chances of hearing this (stations in Windsor and Ottawa ON are dominant). Sweeps and code would be obvious and would spike through

the other stations and present a sliver of opportunity for me. Even Spanish religion - something I have never heard on 580 here - is unlikely to be enough to do the job. My best guess is that a few DXers within fringe-range (CA CO OR, TX OK) will hear the station. This test will have virtually the same effect as a station running day power/pattern at night, with regular programming and IDs. I'm also thinking that DXers Down Under or in Hawaii might stand a chance. If I am at my Burnt River site on the morning of Sunday April 24, I'll give it a go. But I put my own odds at freaky-unlikely. I think I stand a better chance of hearing FIBS on 530. I say all this because I want to make the following point - that I think we need to appreciate what we can get. The alternative is nothing. Furthermore, I see noiseless tests as conversation-starters. Maybe there can be a "next time". The same goes for tests organized at the last minute. We greatly prefer tests with at least a month's notice. That enables publicity to be included in DX club paper bulletins - some DXers do not have access to e-mail or to computers - and for inclusion on the DX Audio Service (DXAS). Many subscribers to DXAS also do not have access to computers. But sometimes, an engineer will decide at the last minute to run a test. In all these cases, we can only hope the test will be as widely heard as possible, and that we can use this test, with any perceived shortcomings, to build a bridge to another down the road that has more DXer-friendly features.

I will report QSL and related information when I have that.

So, go get 'em.

(Information via Saul Chernos for the IRCA-NRC DX Test Committee)

Midwest Spring DX Get-Together

John Tudenham (WØJRP) is planning a spring DX get-together in Washington, MO the weekend of April 15-17. Washington is in Franklin County, MO, about 50 miles west of St. Louis. Amtrak provides two trains a day from St. Louis and Kansas City. Tours may be arranged for KWMO 1350/KSLQ 104.5 and KLPW 1220 (this is unofficial at this point). More information can be obtained by sending John an E-mail at jotud@yahoo.com or snail-mail to: John Tudenham, 2824 Missouri, Joplin, MO 64804-2755. Tell John you saw it in DX Monitor!

CANADIAN RADIO NEWS

Dan Sys – sydan@gmail.com

For March 2011 (April 1 2011 – next update May 1 2011)

FORMAT CHANGES

1050 ON Toronto CHUM From All News to Sports (April 13)

TECHNICAL CHANGES GRANTED

830 AB Wainwright CKKY Move to 1080, increase night power from 3,500 watts to 9,000 watts (day power will remain 10,000 watts)
1650 ON Mississauga CINA Increase day power from 1,000 watts to 5,000 watts (night power will remain 680 watts)

OWNERSHIP CHANGES GRANTED

580 ON Ottawa CFRA From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
580 ON Windsor CKWW From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
800 ON Windsor CKLW From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
990 QC Montreal CKGM From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1040 BC Vancouver CKST From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1050 ON Toronto CHUM From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1070 BC Victoria CFAX From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1200 ON Ottawa CFCO From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1290 MB Winnipeg CFRW From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media
1410 BC Vancouver CFTE From CTV Globe Media to Bell Media

PROPOSED NEW STATIONS

1400 QC Montreal 1,000 watts (Multilingual) (Radio Humsafar)
1610 QC Montreal 1,000 watts (Multilingual) (Radio Humsafar) (backup plan if 1400 application fails)

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.



BROADCASTING INFORMATION

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

FREQ	OLD CALL	CITY	NEW CALL
1190	KXMK	Anaheim, CA	KGBN
1340	KXSL	Wendell, ID	KTFI
1450	KIOV	Notus, ID	KWEI
1520	new	Snohomish, WA	KKXA
1580	WPMP	Pascagoula, MS	WPMO

FORMAT CHANGES

FREQ	CALL	CITY	OLD INFO	NEW INFO
840	WPGS	Mims, FL	Smooth Jazz	Talk
1020	KDYK	Union Gap, WA	Regional Mexican	Spanish Adult Hits
1230	KDYM	Sunnyside, WA	Regional Mexican	Spanish Adult Hits
1280	KNBY	Newport, AR	Talk	Oldies
1350	KWMO	Washington, MO	Talk/Country	Reported Silent
1490	WMOG	Brunswick, GA	Sports	Oldies
1550	WSDK	Bloomfield, CT	Silent	Religion
1560	KNGR	Daingerfield, TX	S. Gospel / C&W	Reported Silent
1570	WHTX	Warren, OH	Classic Hits	Standards

SLOGAN / IMAGE CHANGES

FREQ	CALL	CITY	NEW INFO
1020	KDYK	Union Gap, WA	"Juan"
1280	KNBY	Newport, AR	"AM 1280 Gold Oldies"
1490	WMOG	Brunswick, GA	"1490 AM The Beach"
1570	WHTX	Warren, OH	"Fabulous 1570"

FACILITY AND PARAMETER GRANTS

850	WEEI	Boston, MA	License to cover for 50K/50K DA-1 at 42-16-41 / 71-16-02
1070	WCSZ	Sans Souci, SC	Minor change granted to change to NON DA from DA
1440	WDXQ	Cochran, GA	License to cover for 940/48 NDA at 32-24-43 / 83-21-42
1520	NEW	Snohomish, WA	New CP for 50K/20 K DA-2 at 47-52-32 / 122-04-40
1550	WNZF	Bunnell, FL	License to cover for 11K / 9.5K CH/ 250 N Da-N at 29-28-09 / 81-16-00

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AND CONTRIBUTOR LISTINGS:

FROM R B R DOT COM Most of KPAM-860 lineup moving to former KKAD-1550 Pamplin Media Group's Adult Standards "Sunny 1550, The Music of your Life" (KKOV, formally KKAD) flips on Monday, 4/4 to be the New "AM 1550, Vancouver's Talk Station." The new 24/7 Talk format will be complemented by Salem Radio Network live programming, weekdays from 3a-6p PT. The weekday lineup will include Salem's Bill Bennett, Mike Gallagher, Dennis Prager, Michael Medved and Hugh Hewitt. The station will also have programming from Westwood One, Radio America, Premiere and United Stations. With the new format, also comes a new website that will be complete in the coming weeks at www.1550talk.com.

FROM KSL DOT COM KSL Radio's transmission site targeted by copper thieves - ksl.com Police are looking for two men who got away with more than \$30,000 in goods and copper wire. The east radio tower at KSL NewsRadio's transmission site rises more than 400 feet above the ground. It has been there since the 1930s. But it was the building near the tower that thieves targeted this month, getting away with more than \$30,000 in copper wire, tools and other goods. "This is stuff that isn't something that's going to come right off the shelves," said engineer Randy Finch. He said that is why metal recyclers should be able to recognize the stolen property. It includes sliced up sections of feed cable that the thieves stripped off large spools in the yard, cut up into sections and loaded into a truck. They also got away with a welder and other tools. The thefts were recorded on video. "We watched one person pick up a box of Scotch rags, just a box of paper towels," said Finch. "I guess he had a use for paper towels at home so he stuck it under his shoulder and out he went with it." Over the past 30 years that Finch has worked at the site, he's seen other similar thefts. He said it seems when the economy turns more sour, thefts and break-ins at the remote site pick up.

FROM: ALL ACCESS DOT COM WXFN- (ESPN 1340) / MUNCIE, IN is dropping **ESPN RADIO** after 10 years with the network. The station will pick up **FOX SPORTS RADIO** and **PREMIERE's JIM ROME** to replace the ESPN programming, with a start date yet to be announced. Dir./Station Operations **STEVE LINDELL** said, "**ESPN RADIO** is requiring its affiliates to carry more live national sporting events, such as the **NBA** and **MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**, which would limit **WXFN's** ability to continue to air local sporting events. **FOX SPORTS RADIO** offers us the flexibility to provide MUNCIE and DELAWARE COUNTY with the play by play and sports talk shows of local interest." "We have been disappointed in the direction **ESPN RADIO** has been going, taking more time away from its affiliates for local programming," added LINDELL. "Plus, the network programs on **ESPN RADIO** have not met our expectations." **BACKYARD BROADCASTING** VP/Market Manager **BRUCE LAW** said, "We began looking at this months ago when **DAN PATRICK** left ESPN Radio. Our new affiliation with **FOX SPORTS RADIO** will bring the **DAN PATRICK** show back to **WXFN** and **MUNCIE/DELAWARE COUNTY** along with the biggest

names in sports talk radio such as **JIM ROME** and **TONY BRUNO**." (Editors note : This station has always done a TON of local sports.

Ball State University as well as 2 local high schools, including one that was the inspiration for the movie "Hoosiers". We lost that game. It was also the very first station that I worked for.-lf)

FROM: RADIO INFO DOT COM dot com Atlanta-market WPBC (1310) signs an FCC consent decree over alleged violations. The Decatur, Georgia-licensed AM is currently doing progressive talk and jazz, but licensee Hanmi Broadcasting got into trouble during the period when it was "Atlanta Radio Korea." There was a complaint in June 2009, and that led to an investigation into possible unauthorized transfer of control of the license, failure to keep the proper documents in the public inspection file, failure to grant public access to the file, and failure to file ownership reports and certain required contracts. WPBC owner Hanmi Broadcasting pleaded that it had been going through great financial distress, and that it had language difficulties. The Commission resolves the matter by requiring an ongoing compliance plan and staff training, and a \$22,000 "voluntary contribution to the U.S. Treasury" in five installments.

FROM: RADIO INFO DOT COM In Kansas City, Entercom to flip Soft AC KUDL to a simulcast with AM talk KMBZ. The second stage of a makeover at Entercom's Kansas City cluster leads from yesterday's creation of a new "bright AC" named "99.7 The Point" on the former KGEX to the blowup of sister KUDL (98.1). Entercom will temporarily simulcast the new "Point" on the KUDL frequency through next Wednesday, March 30 at 2pm local time. That's when KMBZ-AM (980) will add an FM signal with a new simulcast on 98.1, which takes the "KMBZ-FM" calls. Program Director Neil Larrimore calls it "a bigger, better KMBZ." This morning's TRI Newsletter speculated about a simulcast of 98.1 and KMBZ, which is the market's highest-rated AM station, though it's ranked #13 in the February Arbitron PPMs. The lineup of KMBZ remains unchanged: Kansas City's Morning News with E.J. Becker and Ellen Schenk, 5-9am. The Voice of Merrill, 9-11am. Rush Limbaugh, 11am-2pm. Shanin & Parks, 2-6pm. And KMBZ Live with Darla Jay, 6-9pm. Programmer Larrimore says the new FM signal complements the AM and "our comprehensive online, text and social media news product."

FROM RADIO INFO DOT COM Radio Remembers: Steve Labunski of WMCA, NBC Radio and IRTS Back in the day when WMCA-AM (570) was a Top-40 music station in the late 1950's, its GM was **Steve Labunski**, brought in to shape and guide the station in its new format. He helped create the famous "Good Guys" radio format and team of DJ's. Labunski was also at one time the President of NBC Radio and the Executive Director of the International Radio & Television Society. He was a member of a number of organization boards including the National Association of Broadcasters and the Radio Advertising Bureau, and was a former chairman of the advisory committee for Voice of America. He was part of the industry group that began the Radio Mercury Awards and the Broadcasters Foundation of America, around 20 years ago. A founder of the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame, Steve Labunski passed away. He was 86.

Contributors:

Dale Park, Honolulu HI

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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WDXR DEADLINES: April 15, April 29, May 13, May 27, June 10. Please use Eastern Time.

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- (RB) **Rick Barton**-Phoenix, AZ desertmoon_dxshack@inbox.com
GMC Sonoma truck radio, Radio Shack DX-375
- (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
- (GH) **Glen Hansen**-64985 Olson Rd.-Deer Island, OR 97054 gbhansen2@q.com
Drake R8B, R-390A, TMC GPR-90, Hammarlund SP-600, 800' wire S/W, 300' E/W, Kiwa loop
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
SPR4, 1500' Eastern Beverage term., SW EWE, Quantum Phasing Unit

- *****
- 650 CKOM SK, Saskatoon 3/26 0202 good with news, several mentions of CKOM and Newsradio 650. Best heard in some time. (PM-OR)
- 770 KATL MT, Miles City 3/29 2200 KATL ID and news, weak under CHQR. (AB-ID)
- 790 KFYO TX, Lubbock 3/23 0926 with "Newstalk KFYO." (BB-AZ)
- 810 KTBI WA, Ephrata 3/22 2100 KTBI ID then into religious programming. (AB-ID)
- 880 KWIP OR, Dallas 3/20 1018 Mexitunes, "La Campeona" slogan at 1021. (AB-ID)

900 KBIF CA, Fresno 3/20 1024 gent with talk in unID language, KBIF ID at 1025, then "KBIF Fresno" at 1030. Oh yeah, new! (AB-ID)

920 KVEL UT, Vernal 3/31 2130 with "The first in news, KVEL." (BB-AZ)

930 KMPT MT, East Missoula 3/29 0947 spot for The Missoula Home and Garden Show then covered by CJCA. (AB-ID)

KBAI WA, Bellingham 3/22 1057 KBAI ID and ad block followed, poor with KYAK QRM. (AB-ID)

940 KYNO CA, Fresno 2/27 0000 man said "The new KINO K-Y-N-O Fresno," news and ads for local business. Weak on TMC with 800' wire. (GH-OR)

960 CFAC AB, Calgary 3/22 1015 NHL news and "The Fan 960." (AB-ID)

990 KRKS CO, Denver 3/21 090-0 KRKS ID, into SRN news. (AB-ID)

1050 KMTA MT, Miles City 3/23 1022 song "Dream A Little Dream of Me" sung by Mama Cass. No ID but Miles City mentioned. New baby. (AB-ID)

CKSB MB, Winnipeg 3/26 2359:45 good on top with man in French, several mentions of "Radio Canada." Soon CJNB took over the freq. then CKSB was back on top. (PM-OR)

1120 KANN UT, Roy 3/25 1000 M announcer with Christian rock, significant log in that this is usually gone almost immediately after local SR. Other Utah stations such as KSL, KLO, KDXU, etal, stay on long after sunrise, but I was surprised to hear KANN in there so late in the morning. (RB-AZ)

1140 KZMQ WY, Greybull 3/27 0930 fair to very good on optics, local spots and references to "The Bighorn Basin." (RB-AZ)

1180 KERN CA, Wasco 3/24 1128 good on top of KLAY with talk, news at 1130 "KERN News Talk 11-80" ID's. (PM-OR)

1230 KRYN OR, Gresham 3/26 phased out KKEE's open carrier to get a good signal on KRYN running SS and a mix of Mexican pop & Romantica, ID at 1455 "KRYN Gresham-Portland," followed by some slogan I could not catch. They are no longer // with KGDD 1520 "La Gran D," it seems. I generally only hear them at night here as KKEE kind of blocks the channel 7 miles away, that is unless I phase them, but it is easier when KKEE has an open carrier. I had not caught 1230 Gresham under this call before either. Station has been around since the 50s. I think they were KGRO with 100w in the beginning. By the 60s changed to KRDR and rock later switched to C&W and they were that format until the 80s. After that it has been call and format change after another. Busto Media bought them some years ago and they switched to Spanish. (PM-OR)

1250 KNWH CA, Yucca Valley 3/29 2132 with weather report. (BB-AZ)

1280 KRVM OR, Eugene 2/28 0000 ID and NPR type world news. Fair with at least one other in there as well, on Hammarlund with SW wire. (GH-OR)

1290 KOWB WY, Laramie 3/23 2059 with "KOWB Laramie-Cheyenne." (BB-AZ)

1310 KEIN MT, Great Falls 3/29 after being reported off, now back on with NOS format as before "Twilight Time" by the Platters, followed by "1310 KEIN" at 2245. (PM-OR)

1330 KWLO IA, Waterloo 3/25 0310 good with Four Tops oldies song Bernadette, followed by "KWLO" ID into another oldies song. (PM-OR)

KCKM TX, 3/27 0945 weather "49 degrees," "Here's Toby Keith, on KCKM." (RB-AZ)

1350 KSRO CA, Santa Rosa 3/13 0005 faint ID and talk show. Weak with KLRC and an ESPN (probably KTIK) in there was well, on TMC with SW wire. (GH-OR)

1380 KRKO WA, Everett 2/28 0030 ID and ad for Everett bone & joint surgicenter. Fair to good and alone on Hammarlund with SW wire. (GH-OR)

1390 KLGW UT, Logan 3/27 1025 light pop, fair to fadeout at TOH to what sounded like ABC news, after 1103 came back up, with ID "1390 AM, (unintelligible) FM, KLGW." First for me. (RB-AZ)

1400 KRPL ID, Moscow 3/30 0248 good with oldies with Brother Louie, followed by ID "KRPL" into Band of God by Freda Payne. (PM-OR)

1450 KIOV ID, Notus 3/28 2100 Mexitunes, "KIOV Notus, Nampa, Caldwell" at 2102. (AB-ID)

KFLS OR, Klamath Falls 3/10 0100 faint ID buried in the hash, very weak on Drake with Kiwa. (GH-OR)

1460 KZNT CO, Colorado Springs 3/22 2042 with "Newstalk 1460 KZNT." (BB-AZ)

1470 KEPL CO, Estes Park 3/29 0934 KEPL ID, and ad block. Slight CJVB QRM. (AB-ID)

1500 KSTP MN, St. Paul 3/26 2200 sports results of "March Madness" action to M announcer with ESPN Radio ID, then another M with local legal ID "KSTP, St. Paul-Minneapolis" clearly heard. (RB-AZ)

1540 KIVA NM, Albuquerque 3/25 0921 "KIVA" Roadrunner traffic, quick traffic report then went back into the soup. (RB-AZ)

1570 KVTK SD, Vermillion 3/30 mixing with XERF with ESPN Sports and ID at 0159:50 "KVTK Vermillion, The Ticket," then back into ESPN. (PM-OR)

1580 KREL CO, Colorado Springs 3/24 0932 with weather report then business news. (BB-AZ)

1590 KVGB KS, Great Bend 3/30 totally dominating the channel at S9+30DB like it was a couple hundred miles away. ID at 0259:50 "KVGB Great Bend" into net news. The best heard in years. (PM-OR)

DX TEST

1250 (WYTH) GA, Madison 3/19 nothing heard that sounded like a test, KWSU on top most of the time. (FA-ID)

UNIDS

1540 UNID 3/24 2330 Spanish vocal music with no ID at top of hour. Fair to poor but dominating the freq. on TMC with Kiwa. (GH-OR)

1590 UNID 3/25 0000 heard ad for Hugh Hewitt Show and ID only as "Freedom 1590." Weak and alone in the static on TMC with Kiwa. (GH-OR)

Welcome to WDXR Rick! We hope to hear from you often. Reporters to this column are evenly split between OR, ID and AZ with two reporters from each state. CA where are you? Nancy 4/1 2100

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

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RIDING GAIN

[EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood, MO **N0UIHEric@aol.com**
Yaesu FRG-7, GE Superadio III, Worcester Space Magnet II.

[TN-WI] **Tim Noonan**, Oak Creek, WI **DXing2@aol.com**
Kenwood R-1000, Radio West Loop

[POB-IN] **Pat O'Brien**, Pekin, IN **obie47165@yahoo.com**
Eton S350DL, Grundig indoor loop, Kia car radio.

DOWN THE DIAL

680 CFTR ON, Toronto. 3-18 fair. News, weather, sports. [POB-IN]

710 WAQI FL, Miami. 3-29 good to fair signal over KEEL, WOR. 00:25 noted with "Radio Mambi, La Grande" slogan in Spanish. Legal ID in English. Promo and Cuban-style jazz music in Spanish. [EB-MO]

WFNR VA, Blacksburg. 3-18 good. 23:28 with Dennis Miller Show. [POB-IN]

730 WJMT WI, Merrill. 3-23 fair to good. 21:00 with "The Patriot, Country 730" slogan and a legal ID into CNN News. [TN-WI]

790 KURM AR, Rogers. 3-23 fair to poor signal, mixing with WMC through the digital sideband of WBBM-780. 20:20 with UofA vs. Oral Roberts University women's basketball PBP, local spots. [EB-MO]

1130 WISN WI, Milwaukee. 3-24 fair. 23:32 with political talk. [POB-IN]

1300 WLXG KY, Lexington. 3-19 poor. 23:05 with Richmond vs. Moorehead basketball game PBP. [POB-IN]

1360 WSAI OH, Cincinnati. 3-18 fair. 23:50 with Ohio sports talk. [POB-IN]

1380 WMJR KY, Nicholasville. 3-25. 23:05 with "Real Life Radio" talk show. [POB-IN]

1440 KDIZ MN, Golden Valley. 3-27 good, briefly dominant before fading to WGEM. 20:13 noted with pop music, "Radio Disney" slogan. [EB-MO]

1470 WBFC KY, Stanton. 3-19 poor. 22:20 with religious programming. [POB-IN]

1490 KRIB IA, Mason City. 3-25 fair. 07:58 with "KRIB News." [TN-WI]

1550 WIGN TN, Bristol. 3-22 fair. 23:19 with local spots, religious talk. [POB-IN]

WKBA VA, Vinton. 3-23 poor. 22:58 with TTIW religious program. [POB-IN]

1560 WLYJ AL, Centre. 3-28 fair to poor signal over WQEW. 21:50 with "Joy Christian Radio" slogan and Contemporary Christian music. IDed by a check of the web site. 60th Alabama station from this location. [EB-MO]

1670 WTDY WI, Madison. 3-26 good. 23:40 with "When Radio Was" old radio programs. It was fun to listen to a great program. [POB-IN]

25 YEARS AGO

April 12, 1986 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Tom Jasinski** of Shorewood, IL mentioned WBYG-930 Sandwich, IL was not on the air yet, but he had heard them testing ... **Jack Parks** of Hamlet, NC said he was 60 years old and said he started DXing in 1941 listing some catches back then ... **Gary Larson** of Burbank, CA commented on the death of C. M. Stanbury II.

OPEN MIKE

This column was typed 4-2-11. 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		
(KK-VA)	Kraig Krist	Manassas, VA. NRD-545 rx w/134' multiband antenna NW to SE.
(KK1-VA)	Kraig Krist	Manassas, VA. NRD-545 rx w/ KIWA Loop
(JJR-MI)	John J Rieger	L'Anse, MI CC Radio2

LOGGINGS

580 ON CFRA Ottawa 3-24 0736 Poor - /ads, "580-CFRA" into t/c, chatter. Alone. . (JJR-MI)
740 WV WRNR Martinsburg 3/31 1832 Mixing w/ other talk and oldies. Local Ads " to the eastern panhandle AM 7-40 WRNR". (KK-VA)
790 VA WSVG Mount Jackson 3/31 1857 Mixing w/ other talk and singing. "WSVG". Local Ad . (KK-VA)
800 VA WSVS Crewe 3/31 1901 Mixing w/ singing. "AP Radio News". "WSVS Richmond".
Weather forecast into c&w song. (KK-VA)
840 VA WKTR Earlysville 3/31 1908 C&W song. At 1912 "Big country 105 point 3 and AM 8-40 WKTR Earlysville Charlottesville. WKTR AM now concludes its broadcast day. WKTR is licensed to operate on the assigned amplitude modulated frequency of 8 hundred forty kiloHertz and an effective radiated power of 8 thousand 2 hundred watts from local sunrise to local sunset as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington DC. If you'd like to continue listening to today's new country and yesterday's favorites, please tune your FM radio to 105 point 3 or log onto our website at www big country 1 oh 53 dot com to listen live online. WKTR AM will resume broadcasting tomorrow morning at sunrise. Thanks for listening to big country 105 point 3 FM and AM 8-40.". 1915 National Anthem played and signal off the air. (KK-VA)
850 CO KOA Denver 3/20 0355-0505 Mixing w/ WTAR, ESPN radio and R. Reloj. "Join today by visiting 850 KOA...". (KK-VA)
880 NC WPIP Winston-Salem 3/31 1916 Mixing w/ WCBS and WRFD. Trying to null WCBS as much as possible. Religious singing. "... Christian programming... WPIP... and may our Lord...". (KK-VA)
OH WRFD Columbus-Worthington 3/31 1916 Mixing w/ WCBS and WPIP. Trying to null WCBS as much as possible. "WRFD... talk... WRFD...". Ad for Grace College. "8 hundred WRFD". (KK-VA)
910 VA WRNL Richmond 3/29 1851 Mixing w/talk. Sports Talk. "Sports radio 9-10 WRNL". (KK-VA)
930 NY WBEN Buffalo 3-24 0638 Poor - News, calls, alone (JJR-MI)
NC WDLZ Washington 3/27 2019 Mixing w/ WRVC and talk. Sports Talk "Arrgh (as a pirate would say) your pirate station" into ad for "Financial Freedom of America". (KK-VA)
WV WRVC Huntington 3/27 2019 Mixing w/ WDLX and talk. Typical ESPN radio programming. "WRVC... ESPN...". (KK-VA)
940 PA WADV Lebanon 3/28 1845 Mixing w/ WKGM. Religious singing. "Solid Gospel music radio for south central Pennsylvania 9-40 WADV Lebanon...". (KK-VA)
VA WKGM Smithfield 3/28 1845 Mixing w/ WADV. "This is AM 9-40 WKGM Smithfield...". (KK-VA)
960 PA WYHL Carlisle 3/28 1901 Mixing w/ talk. Oldies. "Cumberland county's most powerful radio station 5 thousand watts from the twin towers of power. You're listening to AM 9-60 WHYL Carlisle Pennsylvania" into "ABC News". (KK-VA)
1050 WV WADC Parkersburg 3/26 0355-0505 Mixing w/ talk, music and ESPN radio. WADC with oldies. "This is your home for America's... AM 10-50 WADC". "AM 10-50 WADC". "Your 10-50 WADC forecast.". (KK-VA)
1150 KY WLOC Munfordville 3/29 0355-0505 Mixing w/ WMRD and CKOC. C&W songs. "... 24 hours a day at... log onto wloc dot com". (KK-VA)
ON CKOC Hamilton 3/29 0355-0505 Mixing w/ WMRD and WLOC. Oldies. "Remember... great time oldies... and great oldies 11-50 CKOC". (KK-VA)
1160 MO KCTO Cleveland 3-24 0801 Fair & loud! "1160" and "LaSuperX" ments, web info, callers. In 30+ mins. No WYLL,etc. If LID was given, I missed it. SS. NEW! (JJR-MI)

1230 GA WNGM Hiawassee 4/1 0355-0505 Mixing w/ talk. WNGM with adult standard type songs. "... weekdays... WNGM..." into "CBS News". Weather mentioning "high of 75". (KK-VA)
1250 VA WDVA Danville 3/19 0200-0230 Mixing with WYTH DX Test, other singing, ESPN and oldies. Endless religious songs. "WDVA". (KK-VA)
1290 PA WFBG Altoona 3/31 1756 Mixing w/ WDZY, music and oldies. WFBG with talk. "The big 12-90 WFBG Altoona.". WFBG traffic report. (KK-VA)
1300 NC WSSG Goldsboro 3/29 1912 Mixing w/ ESPN, other talk and other singing. "Gospel sound... WSSG breakfast... here on Solid Gospel...". (KK-VA)
1350 CT WINY Putnam 3/30 1901 Mixing w/ ESPN, talk and other talk. WINY with oldies. "... go to WINY radio... ", "What's going on in your neighborhood now? Go to WINY radio... ", "WINY 13-50 AM" into Elton John "Rocket Man". (KK-VA)
1410 ON CKSL London 3-24 0658 Poor u/WIZM. Calls in jx. "Oldies1410.com, OLD (KK-VA)
1450 MI WHTC Holland 3-25 2135 Poor alone, then to mess. "WHTC.com, call, TALK (JJR-MI)
1560 MI KAAA Aberdeen 3-24 0930 Poor -alone. "Family Radio" mx and LID (JJR-MI)
1570 WI WLKD Minocqua 3-24 0823 Poor -alone w/ "Music of Your Life....Lakeland's 1570 WLKD", NOS (JJR-MI)

DX TEST

1250 GA WYTH Madison 3/19 0200-0230 DX Test. Mixing with WDVA, other singing, ESPN and oldies. Only heard sweep tones during the 1/2 hour. WDVA was a pest with religious songs. (KK-VA)

That's a wrap for this week..... Thanks to Kraig and John this time Best to all... fresh 4-03 0730

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Patrick Martin – PO Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138
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Mini DXpedition to Haida Gwaii March 11 to 13, 2011 (Part Two)

Walt Salmaniw, Victoria, BC

(Continued from last issue) Solar conditions were relatively active with the SF into the 120s, with some elevated A/K indices and R1 blackouts reported. Of course, this ruled out any chance for European MW DX. I was able to hear the faintest of a het on 1215 from Absolute Radio in the early evening. Propagation to the south, however, both on MW and SW was very good with the Guyana Broadcasting Corporation on 3290, for instance, being the best ever heard last night. So, on to some loggings. First, for MW/LW with the John Bryant 10 point scale (1 being the faintest het, maybe there, to 10 meaning absolutely armchair, local quality. A 5 is a very strong het, no audio. 6 means just audible without content. 7, language only identifiable, 8 a decent signal with some difficulty following, while 9 is a very nice signal. I still like this system, as it's easy to graph on a sheet. I'll comment on the 7+ level stations only below:

Day One: March 12, 2011 TP report for LW/MW: Monitored from 12:50 to past 15:00 UTC

Russian LW: 180: 7 level. 279 (normally the strongest), only 6.5 and that one was late at 15:09.

531 7 level probably DU with music.
540 NHK1 local program at 15:07 with local program 7.5 level.
567 8 level 15:05 with music. Not sure who. Possibly Radio National, Wellington.
594 JOAK Tokyo at 7.5 level at 13:13. Anemic Japanese morning, until dawn/post dawn! Normally a 9+ signal.
612 9 level 4QR Brisbane early, plus weak JOLK audible.
621 3RN Melbourne at 9 level at 15:00. Also strong at 13:18 which is unusual. Normally, the DU activity picks up after LSR, although the DU activity can be very good overnight (at least as experienced on Rose Spit), and then fades towards dawn.
657 8 level North Korea.
666 7 level JOBK at 14:56.
693 JOAB Tokyo with multilingual loop advising tsunami evacuations from tune-in at 13:25 right past 16:00. Languages also included Portuguese and English, as well as probable Japanese, Korean, and Chinese. Really picked up strength after my LSR to 9 level.
702 Up to 9 level with music, as well as cochannel NHK2 (either JOFB Hiroshima or JOKD Kitami, both with 10 kW). At 14:55.
711 KBS 1 presumed HLKA, Seoul at 8.5 level.
729 JOCK Nagoya 50 kW with NHK1 at 8.5 level at 14:54.
738 8 level with two cochannel. RFO plus another playing what sounded like Indian music.
747 7 level only at 14:53 with JOIB Sapporo 500 kW.
756 Unid 7 level station.
765 Unid music station 7 level at 14:52.

774 Weak early, but 9+ level later with 3LO far over JOUB Akita at 14:20, but then the JJ station dominating later.
 792 8 level 4RN Brisbane at 14:55.
 801 Unid 7 level at 14:55.
 819 9 level DU station with a church service/sermon. Could be 2GL Glen Innes, NSW with 10 kW or RNZ National, Tauranga with 10 kW.
 828 7.5 level JOBB Osaka.
 873 Very strong JOGB Kumamoto at 14:48 with 500 kW. Strongest of the NHK2 station network today.
 954 9 level JOKR Tokyo with EZL music. 100 kW. Always a good performer.
 972 HLCA Dangjin with a 9 level powerhouse signal at 14:46. Small wonder with listed 750/1500 kW.
 1008 JONR Osaka at 8.5 level at 14:45. 50 kW.
 1044 7.5 level unid station with talk at 14:43.
 1053 8 level Korean jammer at 13:50, but music dominating at 14:43.
 1089 7 level JOHB Sendai, on air despite being in the earthquake/tsunami region.
 1098 Super strong OC from V7AB Radio Marshalls. Thought they might carry some tsunami information, but nothing.
 1116 8 level 4BC Brisbane with 17 or 6.3 kW at 13:05. A good bell weather station for DU openings.
 1134 2 cochannels at 14:39 at 8.5 level.
 1179 7 level music at 14:38.
 1224 7 level unid.
 1233 8 level unid.
 1242 9 level, very strong JOLF Tokyo 100 kW with call in show at 14:37.
 1278 7 level JOFR Fukuoka 50 kW.
 1287 to 1314 Normally well heard, but these channels barely lifted out of the noise this morning.
 1323, 1332 7 level.
 1359 At 14:33, a multitude of cochannels here at 8 level.
 1368 7 level.
 1377 7 level NHK2 plus cochannel.
 1386 NHK2 station (4 x 10 kW listed) and cochannel at 8 level at 14:32.
 1395 7.5 level CC music at 14:31.
 1404, 1413, 1431, 1449, 1476, 1494 All at 7 level only.
 1422 JORF Yokohama 50 kW at 9 level at 14:28 plus coch music station.
 1467 8 level probable HLKN Mokpo with 100 kW KBS1.
 1512 2RN Newcastle at 8 level at 14:25 10 kW.
 1548 9 level 4QD Emerald 50 kW at 9 level at 14:24.
 1557 WYFR at 7 level 300 kW.
 1566 8.5 level HLAZ, Jeju at 14:23. 250 kW and normally one of the strongest stations on the band. Not so today. Earlier, only a 6 level signal.
 1575 Only 7 level from probably VOA Thailand (1000 kW). Later, pop music, so likely AFN Japan with 1 kW or less.
 1593 9 level CNR1 with 600 kW listed from Changzhou. Just about the only Chinese station heard today. Normally a very good performer on the west coast. Heard at 14:22.
 1602 NHK2 stations at 7 level.

X-Band: pretty much absent today.

Day Two: March 13, 2011 TP report for LW/MW: Monitored from 13:58 to 16:13 UTC

What a difference a day makes. Today, I caught the solar indices: SF 121, A: 12, K(12:00 UTC): 2 with minor radio blackouts predicted. Almost totally a Japanese morning.

Russian LW stations: 153 (6), 189 (7), 279 (8.5) level.

531 8 level NHK1 JOQG, Morioka with 10 kW.
 540 7 level NHK1 Numerous 1 and 5 kW stations listed.
 549 9 level Mayak. Several Far East sites listed with 500 and 150 kW. ?Vladivostok with 500 kW or ?Magadan, also with 500 kW most likely.
 558 HLQH Yeong-il 250 kW with KBS 2 at 7 level //603.
 576 Mayak again with 8 level. This one more usually heard. Again, several transmitters listed, but most likely the 150 kW transmitter at Petropavlovsk (in my opinion).
 585 JOPG Kushiro 10 kW // 594 7 level.
 594 9+ level JOAK Tokyo 300 kW. That's more like it!
 603 9 level NHK1 station // to JOAK. Surprising as there's only 2 5 kW listed here: JOOG Obihiro, Hokkaido and JOKK Okayama. Also cochannel, probably HLSA Seoul at 14:14.
 612 No sign of Australia today with JOLK Fukuoka 100 kW at 8 level, //594.
 648 7 level Chinese station.
 657 North Korea at 8 level.

666 JOBK 100 kW Osaka with NHK1 at 9 level. At 15:12 noted cochannel probable Voice of Vietnam 1 Nha Trang, 50 kW in Vietnamese.
 675 8 level NHK1 (2 listed, both with 5 kW: JOVK Hakodate, Hokkaido and JOUG Yamaguchi) cochannel with presumed Voice of Vietnam 1, My Van 700 kW. The latter is often the dominant station on this channel.
 684 7 level prob. JODF Morioka 5 kW, not // to NHK1 network.
 693 JOAB Tokyo, 500 kW at 9 level, and back to "5 minutes in English" at the top and bottom of each hour. 14:30 first heard. Network seems to have reverted to normal programming today.
 702 8 level NHK2 (2 listed with 10 kW: Hiroshima and Kitami, Hokkaido) plus weak cochannel.
 711 9 level at 14:50 KBS1 HLKA Seoul, 500 kW.
 729 JOCK, Nagoya 50 kW, // NHK1 666 at 14:35 and cochannel prob. Voice of Vietnam 2 Dong Hoi, 200 kW.
 738 7 level ? BEL2 Taiwan Area Fishery BC Station, Baisha with 100 kW and ? // to 1143. Not strong today. Incidentally, RFO Tahiti was very strong last night at my QTH.
 747 8.5 level JOIB 500 kW Sapporo.
 756 7 level JOGK, Kumamoto.
 765 8.5 level Japanese station, with 5 transmitters to choose from between 0.1 and 5 kW.
 774 JOUB, Akita with 500 kW is pretty much a 10 with 5 min of English at 14:00. Sign-off today at 14:40.
 792 7 level CC station.
 819 7 level KCBS at 14:44. 500 kW, Pyongyang listed.
 828 JOBB at 8 level 300 kW Osaka.
 837 7 level JOQK //666 and cochannel. 10 kW listed from Niigata, although there is a 1 kW repeater in Nayoro, Hokkaido.
 846 7 level unid.
 855 North Korea at 7 level.
 873 JOGB at 9 level with OC after sign-off. 500 kW Kumamoto.
 891 8.5 level JOHK 10 kW Sendai NHK1.
 909 JOVX 9 level //1440. 5 kW Abashiri, Hokkaido.
 945 7 level NHK1 with 4 transmitters between 1 and 5 kW. Probable JOIQ Muroan, Hokkaido. Also cochannel CNR1 Jiaohe, Jilin with 400 kW.
 954 Near 10 level JOKR with piano music. 100 kW Tokyo.
 963 At 15:06 8 level NHK1 with 5 transmitters between 1 and 5 kW.
 972 HLCA at 8 level marred somewhat by IBOC (or maybe jamming) 750/1500 kW Dangjin.
 981 8 level CNR1. 27 transmitters listed in PAL from 1 to 200 kW!
 990 7 level JORK plus cochannels. 10 kW Kochi.
 999 7 level NHK1 (7 transmitters from 0.1 to 1 kW) and KCBS on the low side of 999.
 1008 JONR at 8 level. Osaka 50 kW.
 1017 Big OC and weak CC cochannel. OC is JOLB Fukuoka 50 kW, after NHK2 network signed-off.
 1035 7 level OC again. 7 small transmitted between 0.1 to 1 kW.
 1044 9 level CRI in JJ 300 kW Changzhou. Also note a cochannel on 1043.78.
 1053 9 level CC, with weaker cochannel JOAR Nagoya with 50 kW.
 1071 JOFK 9 level Hiroshima 20 kW and a weaker cochannel.
 1098 7 level cochannels.
 1107 7 level radio play JJ.
 1116 No sign of Australia today. Instead a JJ program at 8 level. 9 transmitters between 0.1 and 5 kW for RNB, NBC or BSN networks.
 1125 8 level with OC from NHK2 with 8 transmitters 0.1 to 10 kW.
 1134 JOQR 8 level Tokyo 100 kW.
 1143 JOBR at 8 level with ID at 15:31. Kyoto 20 kW.
 1152 8 level OC from NHK2. 4 transmitters between 0.1 to 10 kW, including 10 kW JOPC Kushiro, Hokkaido.
 1161 8 level with CC music, not CNR1.
 1170 HLSR KBS in KK at 8 level, over domestic stations.
 1179 9 level JOOR plus IBOC. 50 kW Osaka.
 1188 9 level JOKP 10 kW Kitami, Hokkaido // NHK1 666. Also cochannel ? HLKX, Seoul.
 1197 7 level with 2 different JJ stations. 15 transmitters listed between 0.1 and 10 kW from STV, RKK, RKB, IBS, and SBC networks.
 1206 8.5 level Yanbian RGD, Yanji, Jilin 150 kW in KK.
 1215 8 level JJ (4 listed 0.1 to 2 kW from KBS, RAB, or TBC networks).
 1224 7 level with piano and vocals. Probable JOJK, Kanazawa, Ishikawa 10 kW.
 1233 7 level JJ (6 listed 0.1 to 5 kW from RAB, WBC, or NBC networks).
 1242 9 level JOLF Tokyo 100 kW.
 1251 7 level.
 1260 7.5 level JOIR Sendai under domestic. 20 kW.

1269 9 level JJ station (most likely JOHW Obihiro, Hokkaido with 5 kW, although 3 others listed between 0.1 and 5 kW). 1000 Hz tone noted making reception difficult (and not a het from 1270). 16:00 UTC. Was // to 1287.
 1278 9 level JOFR Fukuoka 50 kW.
 1287 9 level JOHR Sapporo 50 kW. Also cochannel KK or CC station.
 1296 JOTK 10 kW Matsue, Shimane at 9 level.
 1314 JOUF 9 level. 50 kW Osaka.
 1323 7 level.
 1332 9 level JOSF Nagoya, Aichi 50 kW at 15:54 not off the air as listed in PAL.
 1341 7 level with 2 cochannels.
 1350 JOER 8 level. 20 kW Hiroshima.
 1359 8 level NHK2 with OC (26 0.1 kW transmitters listed!).
 1377 8 level NHK2 with OC (3 transmitters 1 to 5 kW).
 1386 9 level NHK2 with OC (4 10 kW transmitters).
 1395 7 level with IBOC interference.
 1404 7 level JJ (probably JOQL Kushiro, Hokkaido with 5 kW although 3 others listed as well).
 1413 8 level JOIF Fukuoka with 50 kW.
 1422 8.5 level JORF Yokohama 50 kW.
 1431 7 level JJ (11 transmitters from 0.1 to 5 kW).
 1440 JOWF (50 kW Sapporo) at 8.5 level.
 1449 8 level JOQM (Abashiri, Hokkaido).
 1467 7 level at 16:04 with oriental music.
 1476 8 level NHK2 with OC (JOSD 1 kW Ida, Nagano plus two 0.1 kW repeaters).
 1485 8 level JOGO Hachinohe, Aomori 1kW with "RAB" ID at 16:11.
 1494 7 level.
 1503 8 level JOUK 10 kW Akita.
 1566 HLAZ with 9+ signal.
 1575 9 level AFN Japan (with rap music) and cochannel at 16:08.
 1584 25 listed 0.1 kW NHK1 transmitters at 8 level with NHK1 network programming.
 1593 9 level CNR1 and cochannel. Changzhou listed with 600 kW.
 1602 8 level NHK2 with OC. 27 transmitters 0.1 or 1 kW.

X-Band: absent today as well

SW Loggings (mostly) from 11 to 13 March 2011

693 **JAPAN**, 1335-, JOAK Tokyo Mar 12 Not a great morning yet for Japanese stations, but multilingual tsunami warnings heard including English announcing waves of up to 2 meters. Advising evacuation in the following areas....Good at times, but often fading down to poor. Earlier, there was a Portuguese language lesson. Oops, no, listening again I realize that it was the same multilingual tsunami warning in Portuguese, and not a language lesson. Continues with same at 13:43. Same loop past 14:00 without ID. 'All people by the coast must evacuate'. 'The Meteorological Agency is warning that tsunami is expected in the following areas: The Pacific coast ofprefectures....The waves can be up to 2 meters high in some of the areas mentioned. Everyone near the coast must evacuate to higher ground.' Still on at 16:04 recheck, so likely on continuously during this disaster. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 738 **TAHITI**, 0606-, RFO Mar 13 Definitely a strong night to the south with good reception of RFO in French with strong modulation (for a change). (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 1089 **JAPAN**, 1441-, JOHB NHK2 Sendai, Miyagi Mar 12 Despite the tsunami hitting Sendai hard, JOHB continues on the air at fair to good level with the looped NHK2 tsunami warning broadcast. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 3289.99 **GUYANA**, 0247-, Voice of Guyana Mar 13 Fair to good reception with EZL music. Some deep fades present, but mostly quite nice reception. Probably the best I've heard them. Propagation seems to favour a southerly direction tonight. Lots of late night banter by the male DJ. '11 minutes after 11 o'clock' at 03:11 UTC. No ID at the TOH. On recheck at 05:30, BBC news. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 4052.49 **GUATEMALA**, 0229-, Radio Verdad Mar 13 Must have been a listeners show, or even a DX show, since on tune-in they were playing an interval signal from a well known SW station. The hosts are a man and woman. The woman is speaking Spanish. The male speaker sounds a lot like Jeff White of WRMI. Can't tell whether he's speaking English or Spanish, though. Occasionally fades up to fair strength. Rechecked at 05:28 and still at fair level with an American accented preacher in English. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 4749.98 **INDONESIA**, 1558-, RRI Makassar Mar 12 Good reception until sign-off with, I believe, Song of the Coconut Islands. Transmitter cut immediately after. Still other cochannels present. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 4920 **INDIA**, 1521-, AIR Chennai Mar 12 Excellent reception with Tamil or Hindi programming. Lhasa, Tibet just audible cochannel. Continued monitoring resulted in Lhasa picking up to almost equal strength at 15:28. At 15:30, into AIR 'English news at 9'. Main news concerns the nuclear alert in Japan as a result of the tsunami. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)

4930 **BOTSWANA**, 1603-, VOA Mar 12 English news for Africa at good level. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 5765 **GUAM**, 1411-, AFN Mar 12 Very good reception with NPR news reporting on the Japanese tsunami. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 5905 **PORTUGAL**, 0402-, Deutsche Welle Mar 12 Good reception with English to Africa and DW Radio News. Also // to 9450 (Kigali) fair, and 5945 (Portugal) poor. All these SW frequencies end in A11 as I understand. Into tsunami information about Japan at 04:05. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 6130 **ALBANIA**, 0243-, Radio Tirana Mar 13 Good reception with an interval signal repeated for several minutes. Minor splatter from adjacent channels above and below. At 02:45 announced, 'This is Radio Tirana, Radio Tirana Shortwave'. Proceeded to give their English language schedule with frequencies and meter bands. Monday to Saturday to North America. Presumably this is local time, as it's UTC Sunday now. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 6270 **EGYPT**, 0206-, Radio Cairo Mar 13 S7 to S9 signal, so could come across quite well, but with a hum, and very low modulation, it's useless. I can just make out it's English, but that's about all. A shame. Rechecked at 02:52, and noted Arabic music at better level. Fairly loud hum still present, though. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 6925 **PIRATE**, 2337-, KARR Pirate Radio Mar 11 Good reception in USB mode with 70s/80s pop music. Rechecked at 00:41 to excellent reception. Very strong! At 00:50, there is someone else weakly on 6932. Continued on until 02:00 with a 'K A R R Pirate Radio' ID and then off. Great signal throughout! Thanks! (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 6925 **PIRATE**, 0233-, Random Radio Mar 13 Light banter by a male at good level, with good wishes, and ID (pretty certain he said 'Random Radio'. A little bassy. At 02:35: 'Nice signal, Random Radio'. Then Dr. Benway and Undercover Radio with a two way communication between Random Radio and Undercover Radio. Both at equal strength (fair to good). Later another pirate occupied the frequency, but too weak to make any content out (around 02:50). FRN states this was Wolverine Radio. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 6925.10 **PIRATE**, 0534-, unid Mar 13 Back behind the dials and note a pirate at fair level in AM mode. Heavy beat techno pops. Some deep fades. Listened past 06:00 and no ID, just the same music with a very heavy beat. Sounds very much like some of the Europirates. Checking the FRN back in Victoria, this turns out to be Liquid Radio. First time heard here. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 7250 **RUSSIA**, 0025-, VOR World Service Mar 13 Good reception in English from Krasnodar, while //7290 from Moldova fair. Still a couple of hours before my LSS. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 9510 **IRAN**, 0317-, VOIRI Mar 13 Good to very good reception of their Russian service. Surprised with the strength. Presumably receiving them across the polar region. ID'd at 03:19 as Golos Islamska Respublika Iran, or something like that. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 9655 **ALASKA**, 1546-, KNLS Mar 12 Terrible choice of frequencies. Cochannel with a much more powerful station (not sure who), with KNLS programming in English heard underneath. Good modulation for KNLS making it audible, but unpleasant to listen to due to the interference. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 9840 **RUSSIA**, 0538-, VOR World Service Mar 13 Very good reception in English, with ID as, 'This is the Voice of Russia World Service, one of the oldest radio stations in the world'. // 9855 at good level as well. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 11655 **IRAN**, 1536-, VOIRI Mar 12 English news to Asia at fair level. // 9915 poor/fair. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 11710.74 **ARGENTINA**, 0355-, RAE Mar 12 Good reception with French programming and lots of Latin music. Compared to my last visit to Masset, where the MUF dropped off very rapidly (late December), the MUF continues to be quite high, two hours after LSS. Guitar music at 03:58 with RAE ID, then into a piano piece. Time pips at 04:00 and then carrier off. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 15735 **RUSSIA**, 0207-, Voice of Russia Mar 13 A powerful DRM signal here tonight, but alas, I didn't bring any gear to decode DRM. I suspect that it would have decoded fine. Scheduled as Russian to south Asia. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 13745 **THAILAND**, 0028-, Radio Thailand Mar 13 Good to very good reception with ads for Sheraton Bangkok hotel, and into special report. Off in mid-sentence at 00:29:30. Back at 00:30. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 15550 **USA**, 1510-, WJHR Milton FL Mar 12 Good to very good reception with the usual canned religious preaching. I wonder whether they've boosted power? (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)
 17770 **PHILIPPINES**, 0208-, Radio Filipinas Mar 13 Very good reception with a poem being read in English. A slight transmitter hum present, as well as phone quality audio. Parallel 15285 fair. My notes also list 11880, but nothing there. At 02:15, they interviewed a well-known Filipino singer in Tagalog. (Salmaniw, Masset, BC)

Well, that completes my report for the past weekend. 73s... Walt Salmaniw, Victoria, BC

DX WORLDWIDE – EAST

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Welcome to another edition of DXWW-East.

*** TRANSATLANTIC DX ***

- 531 **ALGERIA** Chaîne 1, Ain-El-Beida, MAR 26 0420 - // 549 with strings, drumming, male Arabic vocal; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
549 **ALGERIA** Alger Chaîne 1, Les Trembles, MAR 26 0420 - strings, drumming, male Arabic vocal; good. [Connelly*B-MA]
621 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, MAR 28 2331 - // 684 with man & woman in Spanish; over slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
639 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, La Coruna et al., MAR 29 0000 - Spanish news; poor to fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
684 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, Sevilla, MAR 28 2331 - // 621 with man & woman in Spanish; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
693 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R. 5, Droitwich et al., MAR 28 2329 - "BBC Radio Five Live" ID, item about the Prime Minister; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
738 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, Barcelona, MAR 29 0000 - pips, ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos"; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
747 **NETHERLANDS** R.5, Zeewolde (Flevoland), MAR 28 2329 - Dutch folk song; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
756 **GERMANY** Deutschlandfunk, Braunschweig & Ravensburg, MAR 29 0000 - electronic music, Deutschlandfunk ID, pips, news by woman in German; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
774 **SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, MAR 29 0000 - // 738 with news about Libya, excerpt from Obama speech; good over others. [Connelly*O-MA]
783 **MAURITANIA** (t) R. Mauritanie, Nouakchott, MAR 28 2330 - Arabic talk probably this (but not clear enough to rule out Syria). [Connelly*O-MA]
792 **FRANCE** France Info, Limoges, MAR 28 2330 - // 945 with France Info fanfare music, then man in French; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
837 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** COPE synchros, MAR 28 2330 - fast Spanish talk; over France. [Connelly*O-MA]
855 **SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, MAR 29 0000 - ID "Radio Nacional de España, informativos"; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
864 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Villebon-sur-Yvette, MAR 28 2345 - French talk by man, then music; fair, over others. [Connelly*O-MA]
882 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R.Wales, Washford, MAR 28 2345 - two men in English; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
909 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2345 - excerpt of Obama's speech about Libya; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
927 **BELGIUM** VRT Radio Een, Wolvenstem, MAR 26 0421 - country music; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
936 **MOROCCO** RTM A, Agadir, MAR 28 2358 - Arabic music; under blank carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
936 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 29 0001 - Spanish newstalk. [Connelly*O-MA]
945 **FRANCE** France Info, Toulouse, MAR 28 2330 - // 792 with France Info fanfare music, then man in French; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
954 **SPAIN** Onda Cero, Madrid, MAR 28 2330 - man in Spanish; poor to fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
963 **TUNISIA** RTT, Tunis, MAR 29 0000 - Koranic vocal. [Connelly*O-MA]
1026 **SPAIN** SER synchros, MAR 28 2346 - // 1116 with ballad male vocal; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
1062 **DENMARK** Danmarks Radio, Kalundborg, MAR 26 0501 - news by man in Danish; gaining in strength. [Connelly*B-MA]
1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** TalkSport synchros, MAR 28 2301 - "TalkSport, on DAB, 1089 and 1053 AM", "Official Barclay's Premier League", news about Libya; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
1098 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2345 - // 1107 with Spanish political talk by man; good, slight echo. [Connelly*O-MA]
1107 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2300 - fast Spanish news by man; through slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
1116 **SPAIN** SER synchros, MAR 28 2300 - news by man in Spanish, slight echo. [Connelly*O-MA]
1125 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2301 - // 1107 with news by woman in Spanish; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
1134 **SPAIN** COPE synchros, MAR 28 2345 - // 1143 with man & woman in Spanish; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
1143 **SPAIN** COPE synchros, MAR 28 2345 - // 1134 with man & woman in Spanish; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]

- 1152 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2301 - // 1107 with news by woman in Spanish; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
1206 **FRANCE** France Info, Bordeaux, MAR 28 2330 - // 792 with France Info fanfare music, then man in French; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Absolute R. synchros, MAR 29 0001 - "Absolute Radio Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy Football" promo, then "Sweet Child O' Mine" by Guns N' Roses; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
1296 **SUDAN** SNBC, Reiba, MAR 28 2230 - man in Arabic; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
1305 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2230 - man & woman in Spanish; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
1314 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** R. Farda, Al Dhabbaya, MAR 28 2300 - pips, fanfare, Radio Farda ID; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
1341 **NORTHERN IRELAND** BBC Radio Ulster, Lisnagarvey, MAR 26 0501 - BBC news by woman in English; poor. [Connelly*B-MA]
1377 **FRANCE** France Info, Lille, MAR 28 2330 - // 792 with France Info fanfare music, then man in French; fair through slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
1413 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 28 2345 - // 1098 with Spanish talk; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
1422 **ALGERIA** RTA, Algiers, MAR 28 2230 - woman with French teletalk; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
1431 **DJIBOUTI** R. Sawa, Arta, MAR 28 2345 - woman in Arabic; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
1485 **SPAIN** SER synchros, MAR 28 2345 - vocal // 1116; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** BSKSA, Duba, MAR 28 2300 - pips, 5-note fanfare, man in Arabic with news mentioning Libya; HUGE. [Connelly*O-MA]
1539 **GERMANY** Evangeliums Rundfunk, Mainflingen, MAR 26 0501 - man in German; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
1557 **FRANCE** France Info, Fontbonne, MAR 26 0423 - woman in French; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
*** **PAN-AMERICAN DX** ***
960 **CUBA** R.Rejloj, MAR 29 0001 - Radio Rejloj newstalk, ticking, "RR" beeps. [Connelly*O-MA]
1610 **ANGUILLA** Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, MAR 28 2346 - female preacher in English; excellent. [Connelly*O-MA]
1620 **CUBA** R. Progreso / R. Rebelde, MAR 28 2345 - Cuban sporting event with mentions of several Cuban cities, second much-weaker synchro had the same talk with a delay of about two seconds; good. [Connelly*O-MA]

*** CONTRIBUTORS ***

Mark Connelly, WA1ION MarkWA1ION@aol.com
[Connelly*B-MA] = Billerica, MA, USA (GC= 42.5332 N / 71.2205 W)
Receiver: Microtelecom Perseus
Antenna: west-null SuperLoop, 7 m vertical by 11 m horizontal, base height 4 m
See <<http://www.bamlog.com/superloop.htm>> for a similar antenna.
[Connelly*O-MA] = South Orleans, Cape Cod, MA, USA (GC= 41.7347 N / 69.991 W)
Receiver: Microtelecom Perseus
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 W7IUV 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> for a similar antenna.

73, Brandon.

IRCA ELECTIONS

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

IRCA GENERAL ELECTION / TVA / RHA 2011

Here are the campaign statements for the IRCA General Election that were submitted for publication

President – Lee Freshwater

Secretary-Treasurer – Lynn Hollerman

Board of Directors (in alphabetical order):

Phil Bytheway

Craig Healy

"I'd be happy to continue on the Board of Directors. A goal is to sense the opinion of the IRCA members on a given proposal. The purpose of IRCA from Day One was to do exactly that and not be a dictatorship. I intend to support that purpose."

John Johnson

"It is an honor to be nominated to the IRCA Board of Directors. I am one of the few remaining Charter Members of the club founded in 1964. This, along with editing CDXR for nearly 25 years now, gives me a perspective on the club that would benefit the Board if I am elected. Your vote is appreciated."

Kraig Krist

"I am honored being nominated to run for the IRCA Board of Directors. The IRCA has a fine history of serving medium wave enthusiasts since 1964. I accept the nomination. If elected, I will endeavor to continue the IRCA tradition to the best of my abilities. I will also seek an improved IRCA web presence with, but not limited to, additional content and improved user interface. I appreciate and I am thankful for the nomination. 73."

Patrick Martin

"I would like to thank those who nominated me. I am very pleased to accept the nomination. I have been a member of the IRCA since 1968 and have been editing DXWW-West since 1980 and have served on the BOD since the 80s. I am always happy to hear members that have thoughts and concerns. The IRCA is like a family to me. I would appreciate your vote. Thank you again."

Bruce Portzer

"I'm happy to accept the nomination for re-election to the Board of Directors. The club and hobby remain vibrant and energetic - I continue to be amazed by the amount of DX that is reported and the technical innovations that are made. As a Board member, I would do all I can to support and encourage the flow of information in DX Monitor and the club e-group. In terms of club experience, I've served several past terms on the BoD as well as two stints as club president, and ten years as editor-in-chief of DX Monitor. I currently edit DX Worldwide II. I'm also the editor of the Pacific Asian Log, which has become the de facto reference for medium wave stations in Asia and the Pacific. On the personal side, I'm 59, married with two children aged 23 and 20, and work as an engineer in the wireless industry. If elected, I look forward to serving the club yet again, and will try to represent the best interests of everyone involved."

Mike Sanburn

"Thank you for nominating me for another term on the I.R.C.A. board of directors. If elected I plan to continue supporting the club to the best of my ability, promoting the club when and wherever possible, and encouraging accurate reporting to the various columns of DX Monitor. We are approaching our 50th anniversary and I'd love to have the club make it to the century mark."

Robert Wien

"Thank you for nominating me for the IRCA Board of Directors. I have been a club member for 35 years now and have served on the board of directors for many years now. Hopefully I have done a good job and have represented the voice of IRCA, and I hope with your vote I'll continue to do so. I am hosting this year's 2011 convention here in Colorado Springs, CO and am still active in AM radio. IRCA has a proud past and a great future to look forward to, and with myself on the Board of Directors, will hope to see that the club will remain strong and one of the best DX clubs around. Thank you."

Official Ballot - International Radio Club of America

General Election of Officers for Sept 15, 2011 through Sept 14, 2013. [blank spaces are for write-in candidates]

For IRCA President (check only one):

Lee Freshwater

For IRCA Secretary-Treasurer (check only one):

Lynn Hollerman

For IRCA Board of Directors (select maximum of 7):

Phil Bytheway **Craig Healy**
 John C Johnson **Kraig Krist**
 Patrick Martin **Bruce Portzer**
 Mike Sanburn **Robert Wien**

2010-2011 Ted Vasilopolous Award (TVA) (vote for one):

Phil Bytheway for his many years of service to IRCA as Editor-in-Chief, editing the Geomagnetic Indices column, serving on the Board of Directors, and running the IRCA bookstore.

Gary DeBock for his fine work in publicizing Ultralight radios over the past few years, both in DXing with them as well as modifying them for better results.

John Johnson One of the three remaining active Charter Members of IRCA, for editing CDXR column for 24 years and serving on the BOD numerous times..

Dale Park for his regular contributions to the Broadcasting Information Column, Western DX Roundup and DX WorldWide West, and for editing the Sportchannels IRCA column.

_____ (reason)

There is also a write-in space to vote for any IRCA member, except for the following members who have won the TVA in the last five years and are ineligible this year: **Bill Block, Nancy Johnson, Patrick Martin, Nick Hall-Patch, and Lee Freshwater.**

2010-2011 Ric Heald Award (RHA) (vote for one):

Eric Bueneman for stepping up as the Editor-in-Chief when that position became open, and for frequent contributions to DX Roundups and Forums.

Kraig Krist for his enthusiastic support of Eastern DX Roundup and Verification Signers columns.

_____ (reason)

There is also a write-in space to vote for any IRCA member, except for the following members who have won the RHA in the last three years and are ineligible this year: **John Bryant, Gary deBock, and Dan Riordan.**

SPECIAL NOTE FOR SUBSCRIBERS TO BOTH THE HARD-COPY AND THE ELECTRONIC DXM:

Those subscribing to both the hard copy and electronic versions of the **DX Monitor** may vote by using this ballot **OR** by e-mail, whichever is the most convenient to you. **PLEASE DO NOT DO BOTH.** Thank you.

This ballot must be **RECEIVED** by the Election Committee Chairman no later than 0001 hours Eastern Standard Time, **June 1 2011.**

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN
Nick Hall-Patch – 1538 Amphion St – Victoria BC Canada V8R 4Z6
E-mail: nhp@ieee.org

Tecsun PL-606 AM-LW-FM-SW DSP Receiver
Breakthrough AM-DXing Capabilities in a Very Small Package

By Gary DeBock

Introduction Early in 2009, China's Tecsun company radically altered the pocket radio market by its introduction of the innovative PL-300WT Ultralight radio model, the first to feature Silicon Labs' amazing Si4734 DSP chip. Although these initial radios had limitations both in AM sensitivity and in fixed 3 kHz DSP filtering, AM-DXing hobbyists were astonished at the remarkable selectivity already provided by DSP chip, and started to dream about a radio having the full range of Si4734 filtering options.



Both the Tecsun and Kchibo companies rushed to comply with our desires, with the latter company introducing its D92L and D96L models initially. Kchibo's introduction of these full-range DSP radios in the summer of 2009 caused a sensation among hobbyists, who purchased large quantities of the preferred D96L model. These models came with several quirks like digital "chuffing noise," internally-generated heterodynes and unusual rechargeable batteries, but the awesome 1 kHz DSP selectivity seemed to compensate for all these minor inconveniences. The Tecsun company quickly upstaged the D96L with its introduction of the superb PL-310

shortly thereafter, however—a model which featured equivalent AM sensitivity, full-range DSP filtering, no digital "chuffing noise," and used standard AA batteries. Tecsun's PL-310 was followed shortly by the slightly smaller PL-380, a similar full-range DSP model with slightly less AM sensitivity, but which offered greater freedom from the DSP chip's "soft mute" annoyance.

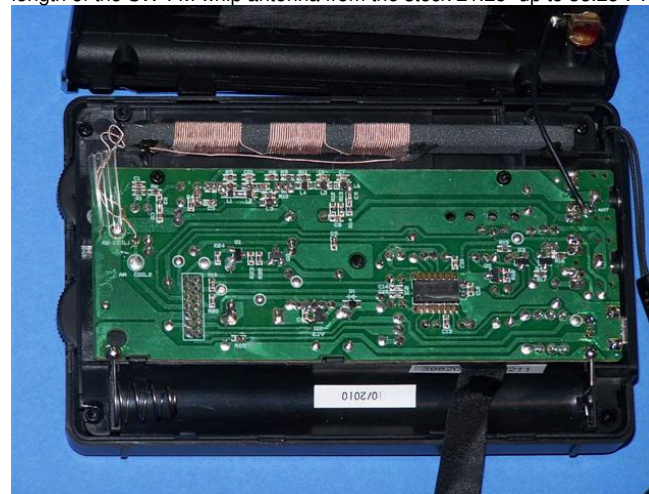
Unknown to us, Tecsun had continued to work behind the scenes to design and create an unusually compact portable, the new PL-606, which would essentially combine the best features of all the full-range DSP Ultralight radios so far. This breakthrough model combines the class-leading PL-310 AM sensitivity with full-range DSP filtering (6, 3, 2 and 1 kHz), all in a compact package significantly smaller than even the PL-380 model. Assuming that thumb wheel tuning and the PL-310-like "soft mute" level can be tolerated, medium-wave DXers can finally have the ultimate Ultralight combination of sensitivity, selectivity and portability-- all for a price of \$39.50 (plus \$20 shipping, from Hong Kong to N. America).

Physically, at 5" x 3.2" x 1" (125 x 80 x 25 mm) and weighing 6 ounces (175g), the new PL-606 resembles a slightly shrunken PL-380 model, with a more stylish, curved cabinet (and without the direct-entry keyboard). Several of the PL-380's cabinet design graphics are retained, as is the tuning thumb wheel (with its dual tuning rate, depending upon the rotation speed). The PL-380's three AA battery supply has been changed to a two AA supply in the newer model, however, allowing the PL-606 to have a significant size and weight advantage over its bulkier sibling (and an even greater advantage over the PL-310).

Although the new PL-606 does bear a strong physical resemblance to the PL-380, it also shares many characteristics with the ultra-compact PL-360, a vertical form Ultralight radio which was introduced by Tecsun last spring. Like the PL-360 there is no front-panel indication that the radio even tunes the LW band, and the process of accessing the band is related to the selection of 9 kHz tuning steps. The PL-360's two AA battery supply is matched, and the digital tuning functions are very similar. The lessons learned by Tecsun in engineering the extremely compact PL-360 circuitry probably helped greatly in the PL-606 design, allowing the company to pack maximum performance in the smallest possible cabinet space.



Optimizing AM Sensitivity To provide the best possible AM performance in the new PL-606, Tecsun installed the same 100 x 7.5 mm loopstick used in the class-leading PL-310 model. Taking up practically the entire length of the compact PL-606 cabinet (shown below), this long loopstick has proven its weak-signal effectiveness repeatedly in the larger model, allowing many PL-310 owners to take advantage of the narrow DSP filtering to receive their first transoceanic stations from North America. The loopstick doubles as the PL-606 LW antenna, providing moderately sensitive reception of stations from 153- 513 kHz (which is somewhat less than the LW performance of the class-leading PL-310, which in turn is not quite competitive with that of the ICF-2010 and other large portables). In addition to the relatively effective long loopstick, the PL-606 also has the external SW-FM antenna plug-in jack (also found on the PL-310 model) and a screw-on plastic clamp attachment to extend the length of the SW-FM whip antenna from the stock 21.25" up to 38.25". The Tecsun company does



seem to have made extensive efforts for fairly competitive performance on all four bands, especially in such a compact package. In the intensely competitive ULR world the new PL-606 is likely to warmly received, and welcomed as a breakthrough in four-band DXing versatility.

Digital Tuning Functions The PL-606 features most of the advanced digital functions of the other Tecsun DSP models, with the exception of direct frequency entry (to

conserve space, there is no keypad). Besides the ETM (easy tuning mode), ATS (auto-tuning storage) and Auto-scan modes, there are 550 station memories available, including 100 for the AM band. All of the standard Si4734 DSP chip capabilities are utilized, with display functions of frequency, RSSI, S/N, temperature (Celsius or Fahrenheit), clock, and battery condition. As in the other Tecsun DSP models, the tuning thumb wheel operates with a dual rate (either 1 kHz or 9/10 kHz), depending upon the rotation speed of the operator's thumb. This system works somewhat differently than in the PL-310 model, with the PL-606's 1 kHz tuning rate sticking around unless the rotation speed is fast indeed—causing some owners to feel that quick changes from the low band to high band are somewhat inconvenient (of course, placing several band-edge stations in memory would help to provide a quick solution). The PL-606 has four DSP filtering options available (6, 3, 2 and 1 kHz), dropping the somewhat superfluous 4 kHz filtering option available in the PL-310 and PL-380 models. Like the other Tecsun models the PL-606 also has an alarm function that can awaken you with either a buzzer or your favorite radio station, along with a snooze function.

Included Accessories The Tecsun PL-606 shipping package includes the radio, two AA rechargeable batteries, a USB connector cable (to charge the batteries from a computer), a plug-in LW and SW wire antenna, a screw-on extension to the SW-FM whip antenna (to extend its length from 21.25" to 38.25"), a soft carrying case and a wrist strap (attached to the radio). A colorful shipping box is also part of the package, which at the current time does not include the English Owner's Manual (usually sent by the eBay seller "Anon-co" as an email attachment, and is also available at the following link: <http://www.mediafire.com/?msaaidp58598crt>).

Four Band Performance Comparisons The new PL-606's AM sensitivity and selectivity was thoroughly compared to that of the PL-310 and PL-



380 models in daytime DX performance tests, in the typical suburban environment of Puyallup, WA (about 40 miles south of Seattle). Various fringe stations were used to accurately judge the performance of all three models, as well as the inconvenience of any "soft mute" signal drop off in weak-signal situations. Ratings are from 0 to 5, with "5" being the best possible rating

AM SENSITIVITY (All three models using the 2 kHz DSP setting)

STATION	PL-606	PL-380	PL-310
610-KONA	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
650-CISL	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
750-KXL	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Good (3)
810-KTBI	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
980-CKNW	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Good (3)
1110-KBND	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
1320-CHMB	Trace (1)	Nil (0)	Trace (1)
1550-KKAD	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Good (3)
1640-KDZR	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)

AM Sensitivity Summary: The new PL-606 model has weak-signal performance equal to that of the Ultralight class-leading PL-310, which is to be expected because of the identical loopsticks. Both of these models have a slight AM sensitivity advantage over the PL-380, with its smaller loopstick. However, because the PL-380's soft mute threshold is set at a less active level, there are fewer occasions of weak-signal drop out when using that model than with the PL-606 and PL-310. This leads to occasional rare situations where the PL-380 will maintain reception of weak stations while the PL-606 and PL-310 are silenced by soft mute.

AM SELECTIVITY (All three models using the 1 kHz DSP setting)

STATION	PL-606	PL-380	PL-310
560-KPQ	Slight KVI slop (4)	Slight KVI slop (4)	Slight KVI slop (4)
860-KPAM	Mod. KHHO slop (3)	(no reception)	Mod. KHHO slop (3)
960-KALE	No KJR slop (5)	No KJR slop (5)	No KJR slop (5)
1370-KAST	Slight KKMO slop (4)	Slight KKMO slop (4)	Slight KKMO slop (4)
1460-KARR	No KSUH slop (5)	(no reception)	No KSUH slop (5)

AM Selectivity Summary All three models have equivalent 1 kHz DSP filtering, which provides outstanding selectivity adjacent to local AM pest stations. The practical DXing benefit of this advantage is greater in the PL-606 and PL-310 models, however, because of their slightly superior sensitivity—which allows reception of weaker fringe stations adjacent to local pests. As shown, the PL-380 had difficulty receiving 860-KPAM and 1460-KARR, presumably because of its smaller loopstick.

LW Performance Test The new PL-606's LW sensitivity was tested against the PL-380 and PL-310 models by checking reception of weak-signal NDB beacons during evening hours (at 0530 UTC).

LW SENSITIVITY (All three models using the 2 kHz DSP setting)

STATION	PL-606	PL-380	PL-310
328-LAC	Nil (0)	Nil (0)	Trace (1)
350-NY	Trace (1)	Nil (0)	Fair (2)
368-SX	Trace (1)	Nil (0)	Fair (2)
371-ITU	Nil (0)	Nil (0)	Trace (1)
404-MOG	Fair (2)	Trace (1)	Good (3)

LW Sensitivity Summary Although the PL-606 shares the same loopstick with the PL-310, the latter model had a definite advantage in LW sensitivity during reception of these beacons (presumably because of different front end LW components). The PL-380 was noticeably less sensitive on LW than either the PL-606 or PL-310 models.

FM Performance Test Note: The PL-606 package includes a screw-on plastic clamp attachment to extend the length of the whip antenna from the stock 21.25" up to 38.25". According to the FM testing here, this does provide a significant boost for the radio's fringe FM station reception,

although it is very important to ensure a solid electrical connection (inside the plastic clamp) between the stock whip antenna tip and the metal base tip of the extender antenna. When the PL-606 has this accessory fully extended (photo at right), the composite whip antenna is much longer than those of either the PL-380 or PL-310 models—resulting in superior reception of fringe FM.

The following tests were made to compare the FM sensitivity of the new PL-606 model (both with the stock 21.25" whip antenna, and also with the 38.25" extension) against that of the PL-380 and PL-310 models. The comparison tests were performed in the typical suburban environment of Puyallup, WA (about 40 miles south of Seattle), under normal FM conditions around local noon on November 27, 2010.

FM SENSITIVITY (All three models using the 2 kHz DSP setting)

STATION	PL-606 (stock whip)	PL-606 (extended whip)	PL-380	PL-310
98.5—CIQC	Good (3)	Very Good (4)	Fair (2)	Good (3)
100.3—CKKQ	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
102.1—KPQ	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Trace (1)	Fair (2)
103.3—KKCW	Trace (1)	Fair (2)	Nil (0)	Fair (2)
104.1—KAFE	Trace (1)	Fair (2)	Nil (0)	Trace (1)
107.3—CHBE	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Trace (1)	Fair (1)

FM Sensitivity Summary Without the whip antenna extension, the PL-606's FM sensitivity was found to be about equal to that of the PL-310 throughout the band, and slightly superior to that of the PL-380. With the 38.25" whip antenna extension the PL-606's reception of FM fringe stations was significantly increased, so that it provided better reception than the PL-310 (or any other Ultralight radio) on all FM frequencies.

SW Performance Test Once again, the PL-606 was tested against the PL-380 and PL-310 using both the stock whip antenna, and the 38.25" extended system. The Ultralight radio class SW reception leader, the Eton E100, was also included to provide relative reception comparisons. With the exception of 7.506-KTBN (received at 0230 UTC), all stations were received between 2215-2245 UTC in Puyallup, WA.

SW SENSITIVITY (All DSP models using the 2 kHz setting)

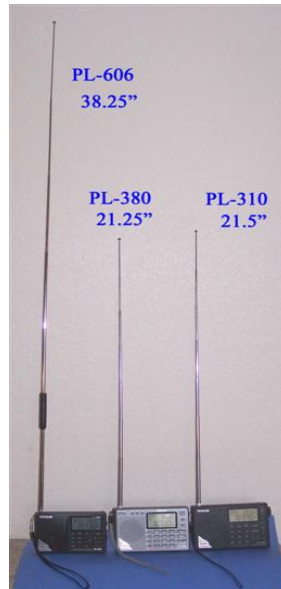
STATION	PL-606 (stock whip)	PL-606 (extended whip)	PL-380	PL-310	E100
7.506-KTBN	Fair (2)	Fair (2)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Good (3)
9.980-KSDA	Good (3)	Good (3)	Good (3)	Good (3)	Very Good (4)
11.665-Radio Japan	Fair (2)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Fair (2)	Very Good (4)
11.740-WYFR	Good (3)	Good (3)	Good (3)	Good (3)	Very Good (4)
15.115-WYFR	Fair (2)	Fair (2)	Fair (2)	Good (3)	Very Good (4)

SW Sensitivity Summary It's fairly obvious that the extended whip antenna fails to boost the PL-606's SW reception like it does on the FM band. All of the DSP models had fairly equal SW sensitivity throughout the spectrum, but the PL-310 and PL-380 excelled on one frequency each. The Eton E100 had unsurpassed SW reception on all frequencies, and should still be considered the Ultralight radio class leader on shortwave, despite its lack of DSP filtering.



The whip antennas' orientation and proximity to external windows made a significant difference in the SW reception results of all models, and although the PL-606 package does include a plug-in wire antenna for boosting SW and FM reception (and a cabinet jack for connecting it to the radio), this accessory was not tested during this radio comparison. Dedicated SW enthusiasts could probably use this accessory to provide PL-606 SW (and FM) reception results superior to those above, especially if the wire is strung in an elevated space, clear of obstructions.

Tecsun PL-606 Verdict Today's DSP-enhanced pocket radios provide AM-DXing capabilities that would have seemed like science fiction only a few years back. Whereas the original models like the PL-300WT were compromised by



limited DSP selectivity and AM sensitivity, both of those shortcomings have been overcome. Tecsun's efforts to pack maximum DXing effectiveness into the smallest possible cabinet have paid off, and the new PL-606 is a unique combination of AM sensitivity, selectivity and portability.

At \$39.95 (plus shipping) the radio is an outstanding value for either domestic or international AM-DXers, and is superbly prepared for either mission. The 1 kHz DSP selectivity from the Si4734 chip reduces domestic splatter to a very narrow minimum, while the generous 100 mm loopstick has already proven itself repeatedly with sensitive AM reception in the PL-310 model. By providing both capabilities in such a compact, inexpensive radio, Tecsun may well have created the ideal Ultralight model for travelers, or casual AM-DXers without external antennas.

The PL-380 model retains a slight edge over the new PL-606 for 9-kHz split DXers with effective antennas, primarily because of its less annoying soft mute threshold (which allows 1 kHz off-tuning without a severe DX signal drop off). Certain DXers may also prefer the direct-entry keypads in the PL-380 and PL-310 models, and the round tuning knob in the PL-310.

LW-DXers will probably still prefer the PL-310 because of its sensitivity advantage (and simple LW selection process), but FM-DXers will probably be quite impressed with the PL-606's innovative screw-on whip antenna extension, which performed quite well in the relative tests here. Like the PL-310 model, the PL-606 also does include a plug-in jack for connection of external FM and SW antennas, which should continue to encourage antenna experimentation among Ultralight radio enthusiasts on both bands.

Finally, the compact portability of the new PL-606 makes it very easy to pack along in a shirt pocket, purse, or most anywhere else. Tecsun's generous accessory package certainly augments the value of the \$39.95 purchase, with the two rechargeable AA batteries, and the USB cable for charging from a computer. The plug-in FM/ SW wire antenna is also useful, as well as the innovative screw-on whip antenna extension. The entire package seems like a timely bargain as the holiday season approaches, and should provide plenty of four-band DXing excitement this winter for dedicated Ultralight radio enthusiasts, as well as those wishing to try out one of the fastest growing segments of the AM-DXing community!

73 and Good DX to All,
Gary DeBock

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

PL-606 Owner's Manual (courtesy of Anon-co) <http://www.mediafire.com/?msaeidp58598crt>
Tecsun PL-606 "First Impressions" Article <http://www.mediafire.com/?qp24b5b4pfjuj6s>

VERIFICATION SIGNERS

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E-mail: showe@csc.albany.edu

My deadline is the last Monday of the month at 1500 ELT.

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NP **Nigel Pimblett**, 331 5th St, Dunmore AB T1B 0J9; nijp@shaw.ca

FREQ CALL NAME, TITLE; ADDRESS; WHAT; WHEN; WHO

680 WCTT Derek R Eubanks, Mgr/CE; 821 Adams Rd, Corbin KY 40701; P; 9; TMJ
783 [None]; MDR Info, Kantstrasse 71-73 04275 Leipzig, Germany; Q++; 72f; NP
940 KMER James Thorny (?), PD; 436 Fossil Butte Dr, Kemmerer WY 83101-3052; P; 24f; NP
1050 CHUM Larry Keats, CE; 1331 Yonge St, Toronto ON M4T 1Y1; P; 534; NP
1130 KWKH Gary McCoy, PD; 6341 West Port Ave, Shreveport LA 71129-2415; P; 22; NP
1150 WGGH Paul B Walker, Jr; walkerbroadcasting@gmail.com; Marion IL; E; 4; IRCA
1290 WHIO Benny Spitler, CE; benny.spitler@CMGOHio.com; Dayton OH; E; 1; IRCA
1340 KACH Alan White, O/Mgr; 1133 East Glendale Rd, Preston ID 83263; LP; 22; NP
1360 WMOB* Buddy Tucker, O; Mobile AL; IRCA
1440 WGIG Scott Ryfun, DirOps; scott@qantumofbrunswick.net; Brunswick GA; E; 1; IRCA

1540 WKVQ Craig Baker, CE; P O Box 3965, Eatonton GA 31024; F++; 6-11; TMJ, PM
1570 KCVR Paul Shinn, CE; Entravision Communications, 6820 Pacific Ave, Suite 3A, Stockton CA 95207; Q; 6; PM

WHAT was received: L = Letter with personalized statement; F = Form letter; Q = QSL card, commercially printed; C = Postcard or similar card supplied by station; P = Prepared card or form supplied by DXer; R = DXer's report returned with statement; cf = Certificate; E = Verification by e-mail; fx = Verification by FAX; M = Coverage map; B = Bumper or other sticker; bc = Business card; + = Extra goodies

WHEN the reply came: Number of days elapsed; f = Follow-up, by mail, FAX, e-mail, or visit; n = Return postage not used; r = Return postage returned

NOTES: * [For this column] = Station not interested in verifying reception reports; see note below

Great to have three reporters and a bunch of tips this month! Per several messages on the IRCA ListServ, WMOB-1360 is **not** interested in verifying reception reports. Quoting the owner, "Your reception of my station is of no interest to me! These e-mails are becoming annoying! I get at least 10 a day! Please quit." This column was prepared on 3/28/11. 73, SSH.

GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

Compiled by: Phil Bytheway
E-mail: phil_tekno@yahoo.com

Geomagnetic Summary March 1 2011 through March 31 2011

Tabulated from email status daily.

Date	Flux	A	K	Space Wx					
3/ 1	111	25	4	minor	17	90	2	1	no storms
2	113	15	3	no storms	18	88	2	0	moderate
3	121	14	3	no storms	19	89	5	1	no storms
4	127	11	2	no storms	20	92	5	2	no storms
5	135	5	1	no storms	21	101	4	3	minor
6	143	4	2	no storms	22	100	8	1	minor
7	153	9	2	minor	23	105	12	2	minor
8	155	4	1	moderate	24	108	3	1	minor
9	143	5	1	strong	25	113	3	1	minor
10	131	13	3	strong	26	115	1	0	minor
11	123	25	5	minor	27	117	1	2	no storms
12	121	12	3	no storms	28	119	1	1	no storms
13	113	5	1	no storms	29	116	2	2	no storms
14	107	2	0	minor	30	118	5	1	no storms
15	102	1	0	minor	3/31	113	3	1	no storms
16	95	1	1	no storms					

NRC AM Radio Log, 31st Edition

The **NRC AM Radio Log** is unbound and three-hole punched for standard binders. Media Rate: \$19.95 to US IRCA/NRC members; \$25.95 to US non-members; to Canadian members, \$24.00 (\$28.95 to non-members); add \$3.50 for Priority Mail. Airmail to all outside of USA/Canada: \$33.00. Canadian orders: PayPal or postal MO only. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251, Aurora CO 80047-3251, or via www.nrcdxas.org. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.) Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

The NRC AM Antenna Pattern Book

The Pattern Book now includes daytime and "Graveyard" frequency patterns for the first time. For those stations which operate with 50 kW (and higher in Mexico) non-directional (designated U1 in the AM Log), the day 'pattern' is shown to approximately the predicted 0.5 m V 1M coverage limits, while the night pattern is illustrated approximately 1.5 times larger. Stations in Alaska and Hawaii are listed on separate pages at the end of the book. The basic list of U.S. and Canadian stations comes from the 26th Edition of the National Radio Club's AM Radio Log. Mexican stations in the states bordering the United States plus those stations elsewhere which are easily heard in the U.S. and Canada are also included. All data is up-to-date as of November 1, 2005.

Prices: \$16.95 to USA/Canada IRCA/NRC members, \$22.95 USA non-members, \$25.95, Canada non-members/all overseas orders. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251 – Aurora CO 80047-3251 (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax). Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

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8th Printing, Digitally Enhanced and Updated

This completely-revised book features the plans for the original NRC 4' FET Altazimuth loop antenna. Completely revamped with digitally enhanced drawings and updated material sources, it also contains other articles on the subject of antennas for medium wave DX'ers, most originally published between 1969 and 1974 in DX News. It includes articles on air-core and ferrite core loops, antenna tuners for longwire antennas, and antenna couplers. This is the original book which has been available for over 20 years. \$8.95 to IRCA/NRC members (\$11.95, non-members). 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251 – Aurora CO 80047-3251 (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax). Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

The County Cross Reference

What a time-saver! A complete list of counties, parishes, and similar political divisions in the U. S. and Canada. Two lists are included: alpha by county, and by state. Compiled by Bill Hale and designed and produced by Wayne and Joan Heinen. \$8.95 for IRCA/NRC members, \$11.95, non-members; overseas customers, please contact us for exact price. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251 – Aurora CO 80047-3251 (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax). Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

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The Challenging Crystal Set

For hobbyists demanding the ultimate DX challenge, Ray Cole's publication detailing step-by-step procedures in building a crystal set is for you! Only \$4.00 for IRCA/NRC members; non-members, \$5.00. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251 – Aurora CO 80047-3251 (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax). Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

Bruce Elving's FM Atlas ...21st Edition

FM Atlas #21 is now in print and ready for shipping! The price is \$19.95 plus shipping. The 288-page FM Atlas is updated with computerized maps and directories showing FM stations, translators and low power FM stations in North America, including those broadcasting in FM Stereo and mono, along with listings of those broadcasting in "HD Radio", along with those using the Radio Data System (RDS) and Subsidiary Communications Services (SCS) for each station. Payment is by major credit cards or PayPal to 1-800-605-2219, or check or money order to **FM Atlas, P.O. Box 336, Esko, MN 55733-0336**.

Sunrise/Sunset Maps

12 maps showing 15 minute sunset and sunrise times for the US and 12 maps showing hourly sunset and sunrise times for the World. Explanation includes use of the maps and examples of DX made possible by knowledge of SR/SS times. Prices: **IRCA members** – \$2.25 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$3.00 (rest of the Americas/Europe airmail), \$4.00 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-IRCA members – add \$1.00.

An Introduction to Broadcast Band DXing

This tri-folded brochure is ideal for explaining the Broadcast Band DXing hobby and the IRCA. It can be included with reception reports and given to other interested folks. Sub topics include: What is DXing?, Broadcasting's early years, The first DXers, Clubs helped listeners share, Our hobby today and DX clubs still unite listeners. It is two color printed on heavy stock. Price is \$0.35/brochure (US and Canada), \$1.00 (rest of the world). Minimum order is 10.

To order any of the above items from the **IRCA Bookstore**, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to **Phil Bytheway** – which will be returned if not made out to **Phil Bytheway**) to: **IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334** (email: **phil_tekno@yahoo.com**).

IRCA Reprints

The IRCA maintains a large file of articles that have appeared in past issues of **DX Monitor**. These articles cover a wide variety of topics, including: antenna theory and construction, tips for the foreign BCB DXer, how to improve your DXing skills, history of DXing and broadcasting, lists of stations by subject, construction projects and receiver modification, receiver reviews, medium wave propagation, and more. Copies are available for a nominal charge. Price for the complete list is \$1.00.

New from the IRCA reprint service. "IRCA REPRINTS ON CD"!!! 648 Reprints. The entire set, now on one CD. Only \$10.00 (US/Canadian IRCA members, overseas contact Lee.) Categories include: Antennas, Domestic, Foreign, History, DX Lists, Receivers and Receiver Modifications, and Technical.

For a complete list of reprints, or to purchase the CD send to: **IRCA Reprints, c/o Lee Freshwater, 414 S.E. 3 RD ST, Ocala, FL 34471**. Allow 3-4 weeks for delivery. (Make all checks and money orders out to **Lee Freshwater**)

Pay electronically with PayPal-add \$1 to all prices above. Go to **www.PayPal.com**, then send your funds to **phil_tekno@yahoo.com** (Phil Bytheway).

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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