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FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

I hope many of you got to hear the KRSN 1490 DX Test over the past weekend. Even though I have not had a New Mexico AM logged at this location, I didn't try for KRSN because of the sheer volume of stations on 1490, plus I have a station on 1490 less than 20 miles away in East St. Louis, IL. I've only heard one DX Test on 1490...the one from Prescott, AZ back in 1994, when the nearest 1490 (then WESL) signed off at 2300 ELT.

Auroral DX conditions have come to my QTH several times this year; I've been able to log several new Mexican stations this season, along with a few new Southerners. DX Tests have been scheduled for two co-owned stations in Harrisburg, PA; the announcements are found in this issue. Also in this issue: the latest Letterama totals, and a CDXR big enough to even give me a hernia, hi! Nick Hall-Patch gives us a report on the DXPedition to Gabriola Island off the coast of British Columbia. Broadcasting Information and Eastern DX Roundup are taking this week off so that Fresh can enjoy his cruise. These columns will be back next week. For those of us who get the softcopy DXM, you still have time to submit your nominations for the TVA and RHA! By the time the hardcopy version is delivered to most subscribers, the deadline will have passed. The deadline for the 2011-12 editions of the TVA and RHA are listed in the announcement below. Have you submitted a Forum recently? If you haven't, Richard C. Evans would like to hear about what's going on in your neck of the woods. We're now headed into the home stretch of the AM BCB DX season...keep sending your logs to the appropriate editors!

NOMINATIONS FOR THE TED VASILOPOULOS AND RIC HEALD AWARDS

Nominations Are Open for the TVA and RHA for 2011-2012

Ted Vasilopoulos Award (TVA)

Ted Vasilopoulos was a charter member of IRCA who died in 1965, and was known for his high DX standards and contributions to the club. This award in his honor is presented to the IRCA member who has contributed the most to IRCA and the DX hobby during the past several years. The following persons have won the TVA in the last five years and are ineligible this year: Phil Bytheway, Bill Block, Nancy Johnson, Patrick Martin, and Nick Hall-Patch

Ric Heald Award (RHA)

Ric Heald was an enthusiastic IRCA volunteer and contributor. In 1995, after his passing, the RHA was created to recognize the IRCA member who most benefited the club in a particularly noteworthy way during the previous year. The following persons have won the RHA in the last three years and are ineligible this year: Eric Bueneman, the late John Bryant, and Gary DeBock.

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

TVA Nominations: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334. E-mail: phil_tekno@yahoo.com

RHA Nominations: Eric Bueneman, 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood MO 63042-1347. E-mail: NOUIHEric@aol.com

All nominations must be received by the above no later than February 1, 2012.



DX TESTS – BROADCAST TEST COORDINATOR

Jim Pogue – PO Box 3777 – Memphis TN 38173-0777
Email: KH2AR@comcast.net (times are Eastern)

DX Test Alert – WTKT and WHP Radio, Harrisburg, PA

WTKT Radio, 1460 kHz, Harrisburg, PA will conduct a DX Test on Monday morning, Feb. 27, 2012 at 12:15, 12:45, 1:15, 1:45, 2:15, 2:45, 3:15, 3:45, 4:15 and 4:45 a.m. Eastern Time for one minute. The test will consist of voice announcements and Morse code identifications. Operations Manager R.J. Harris is also investigating the possibility of using WHP's daytime antenna pattern during the test periods. More information regarding the DX Test will be provided as it is developed. Reception reports and digital audio recordings may be directed to RJHarris@ClearChannel.com. DXers can receive a WHP QSL card for correct reception reports by sending their reports along with a self-addressed envelope and return postage to the following address: Mr. R.J. Harris, Operations Manager, 1460 The Ticket, c/o Clear Channel Communications, 600 Corporate Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110. Many thanks to Mr. Harris who is also amateur radio operator W3HP. (Test arranged by J.D. Stephens and Jim Pogue)

WHP Radio, 580 kHz, Harrisburg, PA will conduct a DX Test on Monday morning, Feb. 27, 2012 at 12:05, 12:33, 1:05, 1:33, 2:05, 2:33, 3:05, 3:33, 4:05 and 4:33 a.m. Eastern Time for one minute. The test will consist of voice announcements and Morse code identifications. Operations Manager R.J. Harris is also investigating the possibility of using WHP's daytime antenna pattern during the test periods. More information regarding the DX Test will be provided as it is developed. Reception reports and digital audio recordings may be directed to RJHarris@ClearChannel.com. DXers can receive a WHP QSL card for correct reception reports by sending their reports along with a self-addressed envelope and return postage to the following address: Mr. R.J. Harris, Operations Manager, WHP Radio, 600 Corporate Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110. Many thanks to Mr. Harris who is also amateur radio operator W3HP. (Test arranged by J.D. Stephens and Jim Pogue)

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Way – Billings MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: Jan. 27, Feb. 3, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 9. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (RB) **Rick Barton**-El Mirage, AZ desertmoon_dxshack@inbox.com
Hallcrafters S-77A, Hamarlund HQ-120X, Drake R8, Palomar MW loop, Slinky, inverted L
- (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
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
Drake R8, SW EWE, WSW EWE/Eastern Beverage, Quantum Phaser
- (BN) **Bill Nittler**-108 El Mundo Road-Belen, NM 87002 nittlers2@cnsps.com
Drake R8

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 1510 KOAZ NM, Isleta new calls noted 1/10 1700, ex-KMYN, but still "K-Mine" slogan with KMIN-980. (BN-NM)
- 550 KLLV CO, Breen 1/17 0900 "KLLV" ID under KRAI. New. (AB-ID)
- 560 KBLU AZ, Yuma 1/12 0403 KBLU ID and ads. New. (AB-ID)
- 570 KNRS UT, Salt Lake City 1/7 1930 BOH ID of sorts by man "The views expressed...not necessarily the views of KNRS or its management." (RB-AZ)
- KVI WA, Seattle 1/16 2226 "Smart Talk 5-70 KVI." (AB-ID)
- 580 KMJ CA, Fresno 1/16 0730 "Its 4:30 at Newstalk 580, KMJ, Fresno," into newbreak. (RB-AZ)
- 590 KUGN OR, Eugene 1/10 1900 "Newstalk KUGN." (AB-ID)
- KSUB UT, Cedar City 1/17 1930 "We are newstalk radio, KSUB." (RB-AZ)

KQNT WA, Spokane 1/10 1830 "Newstalk 590 KQNT" and 1/16 2235 "Newstalk 5-90 KQNT." (AB-ID)

600 KSJB ND, Jamestown 1/12 0411 "Classic Country KSJB" and 1/16 2240 C&W music, KSJB ID at 2242. (AB-ID)

620 KPOJ OR, Portland 1/17 1948 Randi Rhoades program, "6-20 KPOJ, Portland's Talk." (AB-ID)

650 KSTE CA, Rancho Cordova 1/12 1933 "Talk 650 KSTE" and traffic report. (AB-ID)
CISL BC, Richmond 1/14 2016 song "Song Sung Blue" by Neil Diamond, "AM 650" at 2018. (AB-ID)

680 KNBR CA, San Francisco 1/9 2116 "KNBR 680." (AB-ID)

710 KFIA CA, Carmichael 1/9 1900 "710 KFIA." (AB-ID)

KIRO WA, Seattle 1/9 1858 "710 ESPN Seattle." (AB-ID)

720 KDWN NV, Las Vegas 1/9 2100 "KDWN Las Vegas." (AB-ID)

740 KVOR CO, Colorado Springs 1/17 2006 traffic report and "7-40 KVOR." (AB-ID)

770 KTTH WA, Seattle 1/12 2300 "AM 770, KTTH Seattle." (AB-ID)

790 KNST AZ, Tucson 1/6 2031 traffic report and "KNST." (BB-AZ)

KFPT CA, Clovis 1/9 1913 "790 ESPN The Deuce, The Home of the San Jose Sharks." (AB-ID)

KABC CA, Los Angeles 1/9 2130 "Talkradio 790 KABC." (AB-ID)
+1/11 0849 with "Talkradio 790 KABC." (BB-AZ)

CFCW AB, Camrose 1/12 0421 C&W music, CFCW ID at 0423. New. (AB-ID)

870 WWL LA, New Orleans 1/12 2133 NBA New Orleans vs. Memphis. (AB-ID)

880 KRNV NE, Lexington 1/16 1930 "KRVN.com" into "Sports Nightly" program. (AB-ID)

890 KLFF CA, Arroyo Grande 1/12 2145 "Back to the Bible" program. New. (AB-ID)
KDXU UT, Saint George 1/9 1938 "Newstalk 890 KDXU." (AB-ID)

910 KPOF CO, Denver 1/11 2100 with "KPOF Denver." (BB-AZ)

KBIM NM, Roswell 1/11 0921 with "Newstalk KBIM." (BB-AZ)

920 KPSI CA, Palm Springs 1/16 0906 with "Newstalk KPSI." (BB-AZ)

940 KYNO CA, Fresno 1/16 1947 "AM 9-40 KYNO." (AB-ID)
+1/16 1956 with "Straight Talk 940 KYNO." (BB-AZ) (You and Art must have been listening to KYNO at the same time!—NJ)

950 WWJ MI, Detroit 1/14 0100 "WWJ Newsradio 9-50." (AB-ID)

970 KESP CA, Modesto 1/16 2003 "AM 9-70 ESPN Radio." (AB-ID)

KBUL MT, Billings 1/11 1958 with weather report and a very weak KBUL and Fox news at 2000. (BB-AZ)

980 KBBO WA, Selah 1/16 2030 "K-USA." (AB-ID)

990 CBW MB, Winnipeg 1/11 2259 "This is CBC One 990 AM and 89.3 Winnipeg." (BB-AZ)
+1/17 1828 NHL news, time check and traffic at 1829, "CBC Radio One" at 1830. (AB-ID)

1010 CBR AB, Calgary 1/17 1906 CBC News. (AB-ID)

1060 KBGN ID, Caldwell 1/18 1901 IRN/USA Radio News, KBGN ID art 1905. (AB-ID)

1070 KNTH TX, Houston 1/11 1845 in clear for a couple minutes with good IDs. (BN-NM)

1100 KWWN NV, Las Vegas 1/9 fair in mix with "ESPN Radio 1100" IDs and one with "ESPN Radio 1100 and 98.9 FM," several Las Vegas spots at 1802-1805. New for me. Thanks to Bill in BC for the tip. I even have enough on tape to send a CD report. (PM-OR)
+1/11 1848 UNLV ticket promo and "The Herd with Colin Cowherd" spot. (AB-ID)

1110 KFAB NE, Omaha 1/17 1921 "Newsradio 11-10 KFAB." (AB-ID)

1130 KTMR TX, Commerce 1/11 1843 on top with "KTMR Commerce-San Antonio." (BN-NM)
CKWX BC, Vancouver 1/18 2151 "News 1130," then traffic and weather. (AB-ID)

1150 KSEN MT, Shelby 1/11 1855 state road conditions and weather. (AB-ID)

1190 CFSL SK, Weyburn 1/13 1850 C&W music, "AM 1190" at 1853. (AB-ID)

1210 KEBR CA, Rocklin 1/11 1959 religious programming, "Family Radio" at 2000. Poor. (AB-ID)

1230 KVAS OR, Astoria 1/19 0200 I have no clue what is going on with them tonight. A few months back they switched to Classic C&W, tonight they are oldies. Just dead air at TOH and went into Chapel of Love by the Dixie Cups. (PM-OR)

1260 KTRP ID, Weiser 1/13 1955 with "The new 1260 KTRP." (BB-AZ)

1300 KROP CA, Brawley 1/15 2030 ID mentioned "Imperial Valley," very good but occasionally tangling with XEP in Juarez (MEX). (RB-AZ)

1310 KFKA CO, Greeley 1/12 0753A female with spot for "Western States Bank," "Downtown Greeley," "Newstalk 13-10, KFKA," also male announcer with ID X4. I love these IDs before the hour, gives me time to retune and catch another ID at TOH on another frequency. (RB-AZ)

KLIX ID, Twin Falls 1/12 0900 muddled ID and mixing with unID, but emerging as owner of the frequency during "Fox News" at + :03. (RB-AZ)

1330 KWKW CA, Los Angeles 1/10 2102 "KWKW 1330." (AB-ID)

1340 KCRN TX, San Angelo 1/12 1900 came up on top with good ID, Christian programming. (BN-NM)

1360 KHNC CO, Johnstown 1/18 2300 "KHNC" with 1350 KTIK slop. (AB-ID)

1370 KSOP UT, South Salt Lake 1/10 1930 "KSOP South Salt Lake," 1380 KSRV slop. (AB-ID)

1490 KCID ID, Caldwell 1/19 1700 "KCID" in English then programming in Spanish. (AB-ID)

1530 KFBK CA, Sacramento 1/19 2125 sports, "AM 15-30 KFBK" at 2127. (AB-ID)

1580 KMIK AZ, Tempe 1/19 2140 Radio Disney programming, promo for local RD event at 2142. KGAL QRM. (AB-ID)

KGAL OR, Lebanon 1/19 2136 college BKB, USC at Oregon, fair with KMIK QRM. (AB-ID)

1600 KRKE NM, Albuquerque 1/10 0820 break to local spots "in Albuquerque," and "Thompson Law Group." Good, with only slight QRM on this busy channel. (RB-AZ)

1620 WTAW TX, College Station-Bryan 1/16 2455 man with weather "... on newstalk 16-20, WTAW." Not rare but not regular either, usually hear KSMH Sacramento. (RB-AZ)

1650 KFOX CA, Torrance 1/8 1000 choral music before the hour to ID "You're listening to AM 16-50, KAY-FOX" by man. (RB-AZ)

1660 KXOL UT, Brigham City 1/17 1900 two Spanish language stations mixing, one with F announcer, one M. Sports talker emerged with local spots for Utah K-Mart's, "ESPN Radio" and // "104.9." (RB-AZ)

This week there are 5 WDXR reporters from 4 different states, not too bad a turnout! Nancy 1/20 2100

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

John C Johnson – 265 Waterton Way – Billings MT 59102-7755

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

RIDING GAIN

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

[TMJ-IL] Tom Jasinski, Shorewood, IL amdxe@core.com
Drake R8A and Quantum Loop

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

[RW-CO] Robert Wien, Colorado Springs, CO wienbob@aol.com
C Crane 2, Select-A-Tenna

DOWN THE DIAL

560 KLVI TX, Beaumont. 1-2 fair over WHBQ, ACI from KTRS 550. 17:55 with local promo "News, talk 5-60 KLVI" into Sean Hannity program. [EB-MO]

600 WREC TN, Memphis. 1-6 fair over WMT, ACI from KFNS 590. 17:56 with Wall Street Journal report, Sean Hannity program. "You're listening to news radio six hundred WREC Memphis" legal ID at 18:00 into Fox News. [EB-MO]

620 WRJZ TN, Knoxville. 1-15 good to fair over others, ACI from KJSL 630. 02:58 with end of "Family Life This Week," promo, "Joy 6-20 WRJZ Knoxville" legal ID into "In Touch with Charles Stanley." [EB-MO]

640 WGST GA, Atlanta. 1-2 good to fair over WCRV, ACI from KJSL 630. 17:19 with "6-40 WGST" ID in promo, local spots. [EB-MO]

660 KCRO NE, Omaha. 1-2 fair to poor, alone. 17:30 with "KCRO" IDs in church calendar, local spots. [EB-MO]

750 KBNN MO, Lebanon. 1-6 fair over WNDZ, light ACI from WEW 770. 16:21 with local spot, financial talk show, "You're listening to news, talk 7-50 KBNN Lebanon" legal ID at 16:30 into Missouri Network News. [EB-MO]

780 KCEG CO, Fountain. 1-14. 16:05 noted testing with country music, ID "The music is better here at the Ranch, KCEG." Definitely in test mode as earlier they were switching the transmitter off and on with various clicks. Did hear a spot for a church in Lakewood and another Denver spot later. [RW-CO]

800 KREI MO, Farmington. 1-1 fair, alone. 15:57 local spots, "The voice...AM eight hundred KREI Farmington, Fredericktown, Park Hills" legal ID into ABC News. [EB-MO]

820 WWBA FL, Largo. 1-2 good in WBAP null. 17:49 with local news, EST time check, traffic report, "AM 8-20 News" slogan, weather, sports, news, local spots. [EB-MO]

930 KWOC MO, Poplar Bluff. 1-5 good over WTAD. 17:55 with local spots, "News talk 9-30 KWOC" ID into talk program. [EB-MO]

940 WYLD LA, New Orleans. 1-5 good to fair over WMIX. 17:55 with Urban Gospel format, "AM 9-40 WYLD" ID into Bible teaching program. [EB-MO]

950 WORD SC, Spartanburg. 1-15 good over KWOS, WWJ. 17:12 with local spots, "News radio WORD" ID into "Money Talk" program. [EB-MO]

960 KGKL TX, San Angelo. 1-16 fair, dominate, but faded. 19:00 with local spot mentioning San Angelo, ID "The Voice of the Concho Valley, 960 KGKL San Angelo." [RW-CO]

970 WATH OH, Athens. 1-13 poor, up out of nowhere for a few minutes then faded out. 01:08 with news, sports, "...and now back to the '60s, '70s, and '80s" music. [POB-IN]

1060 WKNG GA, Tallapoosa. 1-11 good over KYW. 17:53 with Classic Country format. "WKNG Tallapoosa now ends another day of programming for west Georgia and east Alabama" into National Anthem. Carrier off at 18:00. [EB-MO]

1070 WDIA TN, Memphis. 1-5 good over KHMO, WAPI. 18:01 with local spot, "10-70 WDIA Memphis" legal ID into talk program. [EB-MO]

1100 KWWN NV, Las Vegas. 1-16 strong, alone. 19:27 with virtual non-stop spot cluster mentioning Las Vegas and Henderson. Finally at 19:32 a "KWWN" ID. [RW-CO]

1130 KBMR ND, Bismarck. 1-11 strong in KWKH null. 19:53 with promo for country show. Nice "Country 11-30 KBMR" ID. [RW-CO]

1140 KHTK CA, Sacramento. 1-11 good in XEMR null over two other stations. 20:08 with Sacramento Kings basketball game. First time logged in CoS. [RW-CO]

KYDZ NV, North Las Vegas. TENTATIVE. 1-16 good in XEMR null. 19:44 with "Kids radio now also broadcasting on 105 point 5 FM in HD," Radio Disney type music. Assume this was KYDZ, loop E/W, faded out to XEMR. [RW-CO]

1180 WHAM NY, Rochester. 1-22 fair with tough copy through Cuban stations. 22:05 with Fox News, spot cluster, "News radio 11-80 WHAM" ID. [EB-MO]

1200 KFNV ND, West Fargo. 1-11 strong to good in WOAI null. Good conditions to the north. 19:55 with religious program, ID. [RW-CO]

1210 WILY IL, Centralia. 1-10 fair over WPHT, minor ACI from KLPW 1220. 16:12 with Oldies format, "All oldies, all the time" slogan, trivia contest, "12-10 WILY and 98 point 7 FM Centralia" ID. [EB-MO]

1220 KDDR ND, Oakes. 1-16 weak, choppy over unID with classical music (XEB?). 20:22 with mention of "Dakota" and a spot mentioned "Oakes." Nice jingle "KDDR" before fading out. [RW-CO]

KLBB MN, Stillwater. TENTATIVE. 1-11. 19:41 with spot mentioning Minnesota and a 651 area code which is part of that area. Might have been ESPN Radio. [RW-CO]

1230 WANO KY, Pineville. 12-31 fair to poor poking through several others. 22:22 with "Your place for the best country, AM 12-30 WANO Pineville" ID. KY #40 from here. [EB-MO]

WCDS KY, Glasgow. 1-12 fair to poor poking through several others. 00:16 with "Glasgow's ESPN 12-30" slogan in promo. [EB-MO]

1260 KBSZ AZ, Apache Junction. 1-16 good over several others. 19:07 with "Entertaining talk radio 12-60 AM and 96 point 1 FM" slogan, several Tucson spots, 602 area code mentioned. [RW-CO]

1270 WKBF IL, Rock Island. 1-14 good to fair over WXYT. 22:00 with "WKBF 12-70 AM Rock Island, Illinois" ID in English, "La Que Manca" in Spanish, Mariachi music. [EB-MO]

1280 WMCP TN, Columbia. 1-10 good to poor over KYRO, WGBF. 23:45 with country music, weather, local spots, "You're listening to AM 12-80 WMCP Columbia, Tennessee" legal ID into ABC News. [EB-MO]

1290 WHKY NC, Hickory. 1-7 strong. 22:00 with "WHKY Hickory" legal ID into Fox Sports. Frequent local news and weather reports with mentions of call letters. Heard most of the night, must not have dropped power at sunset. First heard in 2006 when they were also on with daytime power. [TMJ-IL]

1310 CIWW ON, Ottawa. 1-15 good to fair over WIBA. 02:26 with "13-10 news time is 2:26" into business news, "13-10 News" slogan, local spots, promo, travel weather, news headlines. [EB-MO]

1340 KXEO MO, Mexico. 1-1 fair over WSOY. 15:32 with "KXEO, today's radio" ID into Adult Contemporary format. [EB-MO]

1350 WJBD IL, Salem. 1-10 good over KWMO. 16:19 with Classic Country format, "Real Country 13-50 WJBD" ID. [EB-MO]

WKCU MS, Corinth. 1-9 poor. 01:10 with religious music format, "Yes, you are listening to WCKU" ID. [POB-IN]

1360 KSCJ IA, Sioux City. 1-16 good, briefly on top. 19:52 with "Talk radio 13-60 KSCJ" ID. Faded out to others. [RW-CO]

WMOB AL, Mobile. 1-9 fair. 01:02 with Doctor Patricia Campbell Bible Broadcast. "You're listening to voice of WMOB" ID. [POB-IN]

1370 KSOP UT, Salt Lake City. 1-16 good, on top of KGNO. 19:09 with "Classic Country 13-70 KSOP" ID. [RW-CO]

1380 WVSA AL, Vernon. 1-8 fair, heavy fading. 04:35 with country music format. [POB-IN]

1390 WTJS TN, Jackson. 1-13 fair to poor over others, ACI from KSLG 1380. 17:58 with spot cluster, "West Tennessee's TJ Network, 13-90 WTJS Jackson, 94 point 3 WTJJ Dyer, 105 point 3 WTJW Humboldt" legal ID into Fox News Radio. [EB-MO]

1420 WOC IA, Davenport. 1-10 good over WIMS, minor ACI from KZQZ 1430. 22:31 with weather, local spots, iHeart Radio promo, "News talk 14-20 WOC broadcasting live from the Interstate Bakeries studio" ID into Dave Ramsey program. [EB-MO]

1470 KKTY WY, Douglas. 1-16 good. 19:11 with "Country 93 point 3 KKTY" FM ID. Faded out through KZNT 1460 splash. [RW-CO]

1490 KGOS WY, Torrington. 1-16 faded up in KXRE null. 19:15 with KGOS ID. Finally logged a decent GYer here! [RW-CO]

1520 KOKC OK, Oklahoma City. 1-10 good over KRHW. 09:04 with CBS News, "News talk 15-20 KOKC" ID, traffic report, weather. Faded to KRHW at 09:06. [EB-MO]

1530 WTTI GA, Dalton. 1-6 good in WCKY null. 16:41 with Contemporary Christian music, "You're listening to WTTI 15-30 AM. North Georgia's most powerful AM radio station" ID. GA #50 from here. [EB-MO]

1550 KAPE MO, Cape Girardeau. 1-11 good over KLFJ. 17:00 with "Cape radio is KAPE Cape Girardeau" legal ID into Fox News Radio. [EB-MO]

1560 KLTI MO, Macon. 1-12 poor. 14:30 with country music, ID. [POB-IN]

KTUI MO, Sullivan. 1-12 fair, ACI from WBGZ 1570. 15:58 with local spot, "AM 15-60 KTUI Sullivan" legal ID into ABC News. [EB-MO]

1640 WTNI MS, Biloxi. 1-8 fair, alone. 17:00 with "16-40 WTNI Biloxi" ID in a three station legal ID into AFC playoff game. [EB-MO]

1650 KCNZ IA, Cedar Falls. 1-12 good to poor over KBJD. 19:55 with sports talk, spot cluster, "16-50 The Fan KCNZ Cedar Falls, Waterloo" ID into Fox Sports News. [EB-MO]

1680 WPRR MI, Ava. 1-15 good over KRJO. 03:40 with "WPRR 16-80 AM and 95 point 3 FM. Public Reality Radio" ID into music. [EB-MO]

1690 WVON IL, Berwyn. 1-2 good to poor over WMLB. 17:27 noted with "The talk of Chicago, 16-90 WVON" ID into talk program. [EB-MO]

DX Test

1490 KRSN NM, Los Alamos. 1-21 DX Test made it here relatively easy in lull of local KXRE. 02:00-02:10 with various sweep tones, code IDs, nice vocal IDs. First part of test seemed stronger than second part. Report sent. [RW-CO]

25 YEARS AGO

January 31, 1987 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Tom Laskowski** of West Lafayette, IN said he logged 149 new stations in 1986 ... **Ernest Cooper** of Provincetown, MA mentioned his verie total at the end of 1986 was 4,299 ... **Mike Hardester** of North Versailles, PA purchased an Icom IC-R70.

OPEN MIKE

Have you joined this year's DX Contest? From Eric's report this week it looks like he filled at least one more Letterama tier. This column was typed 1-21-12. 73, John

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Patrick Martin – PO Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138

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

TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

153 **RUSSIA**, R Rossii. 0720 1/21. Steady S-1 signal with woman in RR. (DV-WA)

180 **RUSSIA**, R Rossii. 0721 1/21. Weak signal with above program. (DV-WA)

279 **RUSSIA**, R Rossii. 0718 1/21. Fair signal with woman in RR. Good signal at 0722. (DV-WA)

774 **JAPAN**, JOUB, NHK2. 1540 1/21. Fair signal with music. (DV-WA)

828 **JAPAN**, JOBB, NHK2. 1539 1/21. Weak signal with man in JJ. (DV-WA)

1566 **REP KOREA**, HLAZ. 1533-1536 1/21. Good signal with woman in CC. (DV-WA)

1575 **THAILAND**, VOA. 1537 1/21. Weak to fair signal. (DV-WA)

1593 **CHINA**, CRN1. 1542 1/21. Believed to be the station with weak about with a lot of KOHI splatter. (DV-WA)

THANKS TO THIS REPORTER

DV-WA **DENNIS VROOM**, Kalama WA

DXing with JRC NRD 545, Sky wire loop 753', Long-wire 225'. 50' SW EWE

DXpedition to Gabriola Island

Nick Hall-Patch

I spent a few days recently on Gabriola Island off Nanaimo, BC, about 120km north of my home in Victoria, BC. I was able to place a Flag antenna facing 340 degrees a couple of hundred meters from Georgia Strait, a body of salt water that is open to the north for another 30 km or more, and even at 300 degrees, looking at Vancouver Island there is 6 km of open water. A Flag has a beamwidth of 140 degrees; so much of Western Europe and East Asia was included in its pattern.

The first evening (14 January UTC) wasn't too spectacular. There were a couple of TA carriers, but I was spending a lot of time tracking down noise sources in the cabin and turning them off, at least temporarily. I left the SDR recording a bit overnight, but there was little sunrise enhancement from East Asia except at the top of the band, 1566 and 1575 with reasonable audio, by 1534UT, a man talking on 1557 and a man on 1593 also, fair at best, so it was like a good morning at home for this time of year. Signal strengths on the big NHK low band stations seemed better at 1000 and 1100 UT however.

The second evening (15 January 0100 UTC) showed various TA carriers, including ones on every channel from 1485 to 1602, but mostly weak; 1215 and 1575 had the strongest carriers, with audio traces, so not too bad to start with, and some audio was noted on 1089 around 0130UT. But conditions had deteriorated by 0200UT, the only audio at that point was poorly heard on 1269, and things got no better after that. Again the SDR was left recording, but except for HLAZ-1566, there was not very good sunrise enhancement.

Things got a little interesting the following day. Reports of Alaska being heard in Scotland inspired my curiosity, so I fired up the radio at midday local time. A very wispy carrier on 1575 was heard at 2025UTC (local noon is 2000UT). Pretty much imaginary audible carrier (but very visible in the Spectran audio display program) on 1539, plus a visible only carrier on 1503. By 2220UT audible carriers were heard on 1503, 1512, 1539, 1548 and 1575, though 1575 was down in strength from earlier. Remember, local sunset is near 0100UT at this time of year, and by that time, carriers were everywhere, with audio (not great readability much of the time, but this is a poor TA season) on 1575, 1539 and 1503, that turned out to be Iran! Other, more European audio turned up as the evening wore on, and then faded away long before European sunrise, but the spectacular over the pole DX was around local sunset. Again, the following morning was nothing to get excited about; JOUK-1503 was abnormally strong around 1540UT, and the NHK2 synchros on 1593 and 1602 were heard weakly signing off at 1540UT also, with no sign of the usual China on 1593.

Obviously, a little bit of water path is a good thing, especially when, as others were reporting, there was a low level of trans-polar absorption. Hearing midday carriers from the Middle East is not normal at all for this far south, even in mid-winter.

TRANS ATLANTIC

- 1206t **FRANCE**, Bordeaux-Néac, France-Info. 0130 1/16. FF talk by woman, poor strength; aided by some dead air on CJRJ-1200. (NHP-BC)
- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM**, various sites, Absolute Radio. 0200 1/16. Pop mx, fair to poor strength, no ID across hour, likely this. (NHP-BC)
- 1269t **GERMANY**, Neumünster, Deutschlandfunk. 0159 1/15. Poor with man talking, Germanic inflection. Two short and one longer pip on the hour, all the same pitch, but too poor for any ID. I may have missed a pip, as I'm pretty sure that 3 and 1 has also been heard. (NHP-BC)
- 1314t **UAE**, Al Dhabiya, Radio Farda. 0132 1/16. Mostly a carrier, but at 0132, I have about 5 seconds of very weak signal, a man perhaps reading nx, seemed //1575. Neither WRTH 2011 nor EMWG list this as being R Farda at this time, but Mauno Ritola assured me that they're now Farda, and should appear that way in WRTH 2012. First time heard. (NHP-BC)
- 1503 **IRAN**, Bushehr, IRIB-1. 0121 1/16. Nil to fairly good, deep voiced man intoning something followed by a moment of stringed music, repeated on the webstream about a minute later. This continued for a couple of minutes, with man talking over music, best signal about 0122, when it was quite listenable. 0125 with Middle Eastern vocal mx, mangled somewhat by 1520's IBOC. Faded by 0130, killing any hope of an ID on the Iranian hour. Wonderful surprise. (NHP-BC)
- 1539t **UAE**, Al-Dhabbaya, VOA Radio Aap Ki Duniya. 0122 1/16. Woman and man talking in Middle Eastern sounding language, poor to fair. Soon faded. (NHP-BC)
- 1575 **UAE**, Al Dhabiya, Radio Farda. 0101 1/16. Man talking, followed by pop mx, fair at best, and parallel with Farda webstream. Frighteningly good strength w/ Persian pop by 0118, gradually fading after 0120, but returning w/fair to good strength from time to time. At 0300, 3 short and one long pips were heard, all the same pitch, followed by what appeared to be news, but only poor to fair strength by this time. (NHP-BC)

TRANS PACIFIC

- 1017 **CHINA**, Changchun, CRI. 1100 1/14. Fair signal w/CRI chimes and fanfare on the hour. (NHP-BC)

NHP-BC **NICK HALL-PATCH**, 1538 Amphion St, Victoria, BC V8R 4Z6 nhp@ieee.org
DX'ing from Gabriola Island, RFSpace SDR-IP; Flag antenna at 340 degrees

2011-2012 IRCA Letterama DX CONTEST

Manager: Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Way – Billings MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

- January 15, 2012 update
1. Paul Swearingen 315
2. Tim Noonan 182
3. Greg Hall 180

4. Eric Bueneman 166
5. Bill Nittler 104
6. Dennis Vroom 67
7. Nancy Johnson* 23
8. Nigel Pimblett 16
9. Mike Sanburn 10
10. John C. Johnson 3

*Contest manager is not eligible to win

The contest has just begun so there is plenty of time to log and report stations. Join in the fun and enter the contest! Rules can be found online at the IRCA website, and in the August 27, 2011 issue of DXM. Please remember to report any special loggings you hear while DX'ing for the contest to the appropriate editor!

IRCA Facebook Page

The IRCA's Facebook page is now online! This is a new feature of IRCA, featuring photos of transmitter sites (many of which provided by our Chairman, John C. Johnson), members' shacks (your Editor-in-Chief included) and plenty of information. If you have a Facebook page, enter "International Radio Club of America" into your Facebook search engine, then click the "Like" icon. Many thanks to Mike Sanburn (KG6LJU) and John C. Johnson for setting this page up.

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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