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BROADCASTING INFORMATION

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CALL CHANGES

850	WKIX	Raleigh, NC	WPTK
1110	KWDB	Oak Harbor, VA	KRPA
1230	WNUZ	Talladega, AL	WPPT
	WHCU	Hudson, NY	WAIP
1370	WRWD	Ellenville, NY	WJIP

FORMAT CHANGES

FREQ	CALL	CITY	OLD INFO	NEW INFO
550	WBZS	Pawtucket, RI	Business News	Catholic Teaching
680	WPTF	Raleigh, NC	Talk	News - Talk
850	WKIX	Raleigh, NC	Oldies	Talk
1090	KSOU	Sioux Center, IA	Contemp. Christian	Oldies
1110	KRPA	Oak Harbor, VA	Talk	Ethnic
1180	KXIQ	Turrell, AR	Silent	Classic Country
1230	WWWH	Haleyville, AL	S. Gospel	Talk
	WMMML	Glens Falls, NY	Silent	Sports - FOX
	KBNH	Burns, OR	Classic Country	Country
1260	KSML	Diboll, TX	Sports	Talk
1270	WAIN	Columbia, KY	Oldies	Sports - FOX
1350	WGPL	Portsmouth, VA	Black Gospel	R & B Oldies
1370	WLLM	Lincoln, IL	Moody Religion	Reported Silent
	WRWD	Ellenville, NY	Country	Talk
1380	KRCM	Shenandoah, TX	Silent	Spanish Religion
1400	WCYN	Cynthiana, KY	Oldies	Country
	KBDB	Sparks, NV	Spanish CHR	Reported Silent
1410	WENU	South Glens Falls, NY	Silent	Sports - Fox
	KHCH	Huntsville, TX	Spanish Religion	Reported Silent
1430	WOWWW	Germantown, TN	Pre Teen - Disney	News
1510	KRDH	Canton, TX	Silent	Classic Country
1550	KCOM	Comanche, TX	S. Gospel	Classic Country
	WZRK	Lake Geneva, WI		Reported Silent

SLOGAN / IMAGE UPDATE

550	WBZS	Pawtucket, RI	"Relevant Radio"
640	WMFN	Zeeland, MI	"La Poderosa, 640 AM"
810	WMJH	Rockford, MI	"Interferencia 810 AM"
850	WKIX	Raleigh, NC	"Talk Radio 850 WPTF"
970	WNYM	Hackensack, NJ	"970 AM The Answer"
1230	WMMML	Glens Falls, NY	"Fox Sports Radio"
	KBNH	Burns, OR	"True Country 1230"
1250	KZHN	Paris, TX	"The Texan KZHN Country Classics"
1270	WAIN	Columbia, KY	"Fox Sports Radio AM 1270"
1350	WGPL	Portsmouth, VA	"Passion 1350"
1360	KBKB	Ft. Madison, IA	"1360 KBKB"
1370	WRWD	Ellenville, NY	"News Talk 1450 WKIP"
1380	KRCM	Shenandoah, TX	"Radio Vida"
1400	WCYN	Cynthiana, KY	"Genuine Country 1400 AM"
1410	WENU	South Glen Falls, NY	"Fox Sports Radio"
1430	WOWWW	Germantown, TN	"News Radio 1430 WOWWW"
1510	KRDH	Canton, TX	"True Country"

F.C.C. ACTIONS

1520	KQQB	Hallettsville, TX	Changes City of License to Stockdale, TX
1570	WNKX	Centerville, TN	Changes City of License to Lobelville, TN

F.C.C. FINES

FROM: RADIO INFO DOT COM A fine kettle of fish: Hilton Head's WNFO-AM charged \$12K by FCC A Hilton Head Island, SC daytimer has been levied a \$12,000 fine by the FCC for problems with fencing, EAS and its public file. Walter Czura's WNFO-AM (1430) Sun City Hilton Head broadcasts with 210 watts and a format that serves the local Spanish-speaking population. FCC agents from the Atlanta office visited the outlet in July 2011 and found "a portion of the fence surrounding the base of the tower was collapsed," while there was also no perimeter fence. Commission officials also could not locate any EAS equipment or EAS logs at the studio, as well as the station's public file. Czura told the FCC by phone that he thought the LMA operator was in possession of the public file—which, in the commission's purview, is not the correct answer. It is up to the licensee to maintain it, no matter what its LMA arrangements may be. Agents eventually discovered some EAS equipment at the transmitter—but it wasn't connected to any receivers or the transmitter, and wasn't under the control of the studio operator. Altogether, it adds up to a \$12,000 fine.

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FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A big IRCA welcome to George Santulli of Lovettsville, VA; he has chosen to receive both the soft and hardcopy versions of DXM, and welcome back to Thomas Giella of Plant City, FL, who has chosen the soft DXM. Report your DX as often as possible, and feel free to submit a Forum! We're getting closer to summer...there's still plenty of DX to be had during the warmer months, especially when FM and TV DX aren't a hot ticket. Sunrise is earlier and sunset is later now; you can still get some great sunset and sunrise DX!

NRC/WTFDA CONVENTION – BRIDGEPORT, WV

Bill and Brenda Swiger would like to extend an invitation to all club members to come to West Virginia the weekend of August 3rd, 4th and 5th for the NRC Convention. This year the Days Inn and Suites at 112 Tolley Drive, Bridgeport WV will be the host hotel. Rooms can be reserved by calling 304-842-7371 before July 20, 2012. The cost of each room is \$79.94, and this includes the tax. The rooms are double or king and the cost can be split between however many people are in the room. Be sure to tell them that you will be with the National Radio Club to get this rate.

The Worldwide TV-FM DX Association will also be joining us.

Registration will be \$45.00 for NRC members and \$25.00 for spouses or significant others. This will include the Saturday evening banquet and snacks and drinks for the hospitality room.

We are hoping to have some tours scheduled and there is also a festival that weekend with food and music that we can carpool to.

The Days Inn is right off the intersection of Interstate 79 and Route 50. There are shopping areas and restaurants within walking distance. The local airport is approximately 3 miles away with shuttle service. More information will follow with bus service, etc.

Registration and items for the auction can be mailed to:

Bill Swiger
1 Casey Lane
Bridgeport WV 26330-9454

If you have any questions or ideas please email me at ridgeradio@cebridge.net and I will try to answer them.

Hope to see you here in our beautiful "Almost Heaven" state of West Virginia.

(From Ernie Wesolowski via Nancy Johnson and Phil Bytheway)

SPRING MIDWEST DX GET-TOGETHER – ROLLA, MO

The 2012 Spring Midwest Get-Together will be held the weekend of May 4-6 at the Budget Deluxe Motel, 1908 North Bishop Avenue in Rolla MO. The motel is located on the south side of I-44 (Historic Route 66) Exit 186 at the U.S. 63 junction, about 100 miles southwest of St Louis. This is the same location we had our first Midwest GTG in 1993.

Rolla is a college town of about 20,000 residents; home of KTTR 1490 and 4 FM stations owned by Results Radio. Also, there's 2 FM stations at the Missouri Science and Technology University campus (KMST 88.5 and KMNR 89.7), plenty of eating places within one half mile of motel. A possible tour of KFLW FM 98.9 in St. Robert, MO (near Fort Leonard Wood) about 25 miles down I-44, also a visit to KSMO 1340 and KKID 92.9 in Salem, MO.

We are getting the word out early so many will have a chance to plan for it in advance.

For those wanting to make a reservation the phone number is (573) 364-4488. Most of the activity will be Saturday May 5th. For more information contact John Tudenham at (417) 624-8058. or E mail:

jtud@yahoo.com

FROM : RADIO INFO DOT COM Flinn's Memphis sports WHBQ cuts deal with K-Love owner EMF to add FM signal Flinn Broadcasting's WHBQ-AM (Sports 56) Memphis is adding an FM signal to its sports broadcast, via translator W249BN at 97.7. An application with the FCC was filed to relocate the FM signal from Ellendale, Tenn., to Memphis, upgrading power from 19 watts to 250 watts, while remaining at 97.7. The new tower site is near Bartlett, and, according to the Radio-Info.com **Memphis Board**, the coordinates match those for the tower of WTWV-TV. The arrangement with owner George Flinn comes courtesy of non-profit Educational Media Foundation, which produces the contemporary Christian "K-Love" network. The two sides are well-acquainted, since Flinn runs the K-Love format on stations he owns in five states. EMF now has a better way to reach Memphians with its contemporary Christian K-Love network—a full-power FM.

FROM : JOURNALGAZETTE DOT NET FM simulcast of WOWO to replace 'The Fort' Steve Penhollow | The Journal Gazette On April 1, WOWO, 1190 AM, will start simulcasting at 92.3 FM, the station's program director, Gregg Henson, said Thursday. The classic rock station that is currently using the frequency, WFWI-FM, The Fort, will cease to exist, Henson said. Both stations are owned by Federated Media, which also owns WQHK-FM (K-105), WBYS-FM 98.9 (The Bear), WMEE-FM 97.3 and the AM station ESPN 1380, Henson said. Henson said the decision to simulcast WOWO on FM was an economic one. "It's the No. 1 station in Fort Wayne," he said. "It's the biggest brand in news, sports, weather and traffic. We wanted to go where the audience is." Henson said the radio audience in 1979 was evenly divided between AM and FM. "Now it's 80/20 in FM's favor," he said. "We need to go where the audience is and extend our brand. There are probably people who have never been exposed to WOWO on the AM dial." Henson said WOWO will continue to be available on AM "to serve the audience that's there." At present, The Fort is home to popular local DJ Billy Elvis and popular national duo Bob and Tom. Efforts are being made, Henson said, to shift Bob and Tom over to one of Federated Media's other stations, although he could not say which one. Henson said he believes The Fort was established in the late '80s, although some online sources suggest the year was 1993. Henson does not anticipate much protest from The Fort's listenership. "The classic rock audience can still get that music elsewhere," he said.

FROM : RADIO INFO DOT COM Salem's "970 The Apple" NYC gets makeover as "The Answer" Sunday update: Salem programmer Phil Boyce posts an explanation of his goals and thinking about the new "Answer" branding for WNYM (970) on the New York Board of Radio-Info.com, **here**. Boyce, veteran New York programmer and Salem's new VP and Director of the Spoken Word Format, says "The new name will more accurately reflect who we are and what the benefit is to listening to us." He says "We are the answer to so many questions, from 'What happened while you slept?' to 'Is it gonna rain?' to 'Why am I stuck in traffic?'" Salem says the new imaging that accompanies "The Answer" will "create a hip, younger sound" for the station that has been doing conservative talk since August 2008. Boyce previously piloted talk WABC (770), across the Hudson from WNYM, Hackensack, NJ (970). The lineup of "The Answer" is Bill Bennett's Morning in America (from Salem Radio Network), 5-7am. The local Curtis Sliwa (who joined in late 2009), 7-10. Dennis Miller, 10am-noon. Dennis Prager, noon-3pm. Michael Medved, 3-5pm. Curtis Sliwa (again) together with Jeffrey Lichtman, 5-7pm. And Hugh Hewitt, 7-10pm. The Answer also uses timely content from Fox News Radio. Sean O'Neill is Salem's GM for WNYM.

FROM : RADIO INFO DOT COM North Carolina's Curtis Media makes talk changes in Raleigh & Greensboro In the Triad market of Winston-Salem/Greensboro/High Point, "FM Talk 101.1" WZTK goes away at midnight tonight (March 12). The onetime smooth jazz station licensed to Burlington had been in the format for 3-1/2 years. Curtis Media Group tells Radio-Info.com that the new format at WZTK won't be announced for several weeks. There are ripples from that move in both the Triad and in the neighboring Raleigh-Durham market. In the Triad: Current WZTK morning talents Brad Krantz and Britt Whitmire move to afternoons on Curtis-owned talk WSJS (600). They will also be heard in Raleigh on the re-branded 850 AM. The syndicated Neal Boortz and Clark Howard also move to WSJS and Raleigh's 850. Local WZTK afternoon host Allan Handleman and the syndicated Michael Savage, Alan Colmes and Phil Hendrie are off the Curtis lineup. Curtis says WSJS will now "feature more continuous coverage of local national and world news, including a new hour-long information block weekdays at 12 o'clock." WSJS morning host J.R. Snider remains, as do the syndicated Dave Ramsey and Dennis Miller. Ken Salyer is the Curtis GM for Greensboro. In the Research Triangle of Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill: News/talk WPTF (680) will become more oriented towards news, while WKIX, its sister at 850, switches from oldies to talk. 850 will share the "WPTF" branding, and be known as "Talkradio 850 WPTF." (680 will be "NewsRadio 680 WPTF" and will run news in the daytime, except for talker Dave Ramsey.) The lineup at 850 will include Bill LuMaye and (from Greensboro) Brad & Britt. Also the syndicated Neal Boortz, Clark Howard and Mark Levin shows. General manager David Stuckey says the concept is that "680 is where people will hear about the big events of the day, while 850 is where they'll talk about those stories." He says "we're not going to force-feed the same political agenda ad nauseum. We've seen ratings slippage on stations and channels with a hard-leaning approach, and more advertisers are telling us they want media platforms that are less toxic and more civil." WKIX-FM (102.9) continues doing oldies. The Raleigh-Greensboro Board of Radio-Info.com reports Bill LuMaye's announcement that he's moving from afternoons on 680 to mornings on the new talk 850.

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Way – Billings MT 59102-7755

E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: April 6, April 20, May 4, May 18, June 1, June 22. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

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NRD-515, Kiwa loop
- (MF) **Martin Foltz**-Mission Viejo, CA martinfoltz@cox.net
HQ-180A, 80' wire
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
Drake R8, SW/NE EWES, WSW EWE antenna, 45' vertical. Quantum Phaser
- (5P) **Dale Park**-P.O. Box 10640-Honolulu, HI 96816 dxfool@aol.com
Honda car radio
(5P-HI1) DX'ing at Waiialae-Kahala post office, Honolulu
- (MS) **Mike Sanburn**-P.O. Box 1256-Bellflower, CA mikesanburn@hotmail.com
GE Superadio 2

- *****
- 570 KQNG HI, Lihue 3/12 good with CHR and 0250 "KONG" slogan at S9+. Strong solar activity totally knocking out KVI, the best I have heard them in several years. (PM-OR)
- 970 KNUU NV, Paradise 3/18 2100 ABC news, ad block at 2105. Poor. (AB-ID)
KUFO OR, Portland 3/17 2130 KUFO ID under KFTA and others. (AB-ID)
- 1000 KCEO CA, Vista 3/21 2056 EWNT/Immaculate Heart Radio program, KCEO ID at ToH. New format. (MF-CA)
- 1090 KPTK WA, Seattle 3/4 0338 noted in passing with "Best of NorMan GoldMan," poor with KWAI-1080 QRM. (5P-HI1)
- 1120 KANN UT, Roy 3/20 0003 music, "Radio for Life" slogan at 0009, KPNW QRM. (AB-ID)
- 1190 KNUV AZ, Tolleson 3/16 0800:53 "Grupo Formula." (AB-ID)
- 1200 CJRJ BC, Vancouver 3/16 0754 "RJ 1200." (AB-ID)
- 1220 KHTS CA, Canyon Country 3/11 weak with spots for RV sales, with several "KHTS" mentions at 2355. Haven't heard this one in years. Still good AU conditions, KVAS 1230 Astoria phased. (PM-OR)
- 1230 KORT ID, Grangeville 3/20 0858 C&W music, KORT ID at 0900. (AB-ID)
- 1370 KUPA HI, Pearl City 3/7-8 noted off the air on 3/7, probably due to local storms. However, noted back on 3/8 at 2005 relaying China Radio Intl's "Beyond Beijing" EE service, two seconds behind KHCM-880. Missed ToH ID so maybe KUPA is actually simulcasting KHCM. (5P-HI1)
- 1410 CFTE BC, Vancouver 3/18 0900 "Team 1410" slogan. (AB-ID)
- 1420 KUJ WA, Walla Walla 3/16 0031 song "I'm Into Something Good" sung by Herman's Hermits, "1420 KUJ" at 0034. (AB-ID)
- 1430 KLO UT, Ogden 3/10 2100 "KLO" and CBS news. (AB-ID)
- 1450 KZNU UT, St. George 3/20 faded up at ToH with a nice ID "Fox News 93-1 FM and 14-50 AM, KZNU St. George," then faded. New. (MF-CA)
- 1480 KRXR ID, Gooding 3/16 0048 Mexitunes, "Fiesta" slogans at 0052 & 0053. (AB-ID)
- 1590 KLIV CA, San Jose 3/4 promo for CNN Radio news "on KLIV," promo for South Bay traffic coverage before fading out. Fair to poor, over/under KUNX. (5P-HI1)

DX TESTS

- 670 *KBOI* ID, Boise 3/10 0309 DX test well through horrific QRN with sweep tones and Morse code IDs in alternating pitches. Some interference from semi-local KIRN. KBOI is the first station in my logbook! Thanks to those who arranged this test and to Mr. Frahm at the station. (MS-CA)
- 720 (KOTZ) AK, Kotzebue 3/10 0400-0500 DX test tried for but not heard due to solar storm/local QRN/KDWN Las Vegas, etc... Thanks to the station nonetheless for running this special program during the historic Night Chicago Died. Perhaps they will re-test again someday. (MS-CA)

Don't forget that we no longer have weekly deadlines! Nancy 3/23 2100



CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

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

RIDING GAIN

[EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood, MO **N0UIHEric@aol.com**
GE Superadio III, Yaesu FRG-7, Worcester Space Magnet II.
[POB-IN] **Pat O'Brien**, Pekin, IN **obie47165@yahoo.com**
Tescun PL600, Eton S350DL, Grundig indoor loop.
[RW-CO] **Robert Wien**, Colorado Springs, CO **wienbob@aol.com**
C Crane 2, Select-A-Tenna

DOWN THE DIAL

730 KDWN NV, Las Vegas. 3-10 fair with XEDE. Usually signal is buried way under WGN. 03:39 with sports program then infomercials after ID. [RW-CO]
KINF ID, Boise. 3-10 just above the grumble. 03:00 noted with many mentions of Boise, nice ID, but lost to XEX. First time logged here. [RW-CO]
750 KHWG NV, Fallon. 3-10 good, alone, fades. 03:56 with classic country, ID. [RW-CO]
780 KAZM AZ, Sedona. 3-10 fair to good with WBBM off. XEWGR in null. 03:30 with Fox News, weather for Sedona and Flagstaff. [RW-CO]
790 WMC TN, Memphis. 3-10 poor. 04:40 with spot for a BBQ place, oldies format. [POB-IN]
800 KQCV OK, Oklahoma City. 3-21 good to poor over XEROK, CKLW. 01:56 with "KQCV Oklahoma City" legal ID, "Bott Radio Network" mention and promos. [EB-MO]
900 WJTH GA, Calhoun. 3-11 fair. 01:15 with country format, news. [POB-IN]
1110 KBND OR, Bend. 3-13 fair, alone after KFAB fadeout. 09:00 with a nice ID and the "America In The Morning" program. [RW-CO]
1130 KQNA AZ, Prescott Valley. 3-13 in good, alone on 1130. 09:32 with ID, mention of Yavapai County. [RW-CO]
1190 CFSL SK, Weyburn. 3-13 good, briefly alone before taken over by others. 08:24 with mention of area highways 13 and 39, "11-90 CFSL" ID. [RW-CO]
1220 WAXO TN, Lewisburg. 3-7 fair to poor through WLPO and an unID with Classic Hits format. 21:33 with "WAXO" ID and country music format. [EB-MO]
1260 KTRP ID, Weiser. 3-13 weak but alone. 09:39 with classic country, nice ID. Still in at 10:00 when rechecked frequency. Easy to confuse this with KTRC also on 1290. [RW-CO]
1290 KOUU ID, Pocatello. 3-13 in fair over others. 08:05 out of national news with ID into country music format. [RW-CO]
1330 KCKM TX, Monahans. 3-13 good, no sign of anyone else. 09:06 with weather, "13-30 KCKM" ID. [RW-CO]
WRAM IL, Monmouth. 3-5 poor. 05:27 with country music, "The best in country, 13-30 AM" slogan. [POB-IN]
1370 WTAB NC, Tabor City. 3-6 fair to poor over WLLM, KDTH. 23:34 noted with "WTAB" jingle and country format. NC #20 from this location. [EB-MO]
1430 KZQZ MO, Saint Louis. 3-18 very loud. 03:20 with early era oldies. [POB-IN]
1450 WROX MS, Clarksdale. 3-11 fair to poor, mixing with several others. 21:23 with "WROX" jingle and R&B oldies format. [EB-MO]
1530 KCMN CO, Colorado Springs. 3-17 fair to poor over WKCY, WLIQ. 08:20 noted with Adult Standards format, "Legends 15-30 KCMN" ID. CO #15 from this location. [EB-MO]

DX Test

670 KBOI ID, Boise. 3-10 DX Test 03:07 and 03:37 with excellent signal during both one minute DX tests. Way over semi-local KLTT with code ID's and sweep tones. Brief quick interludes of music on the 2nd test. Surprised at the strength. Disappeared into mud after both tests, but still in weak. [RW-CO]
720 KOTZ AK, Kotzebue. Tried for the 3-10 DX Test, but not heard. WGN off, KDWN in weak to fair, and XEDE in their null. That was about it, heavy AU conditions. [RW-CO]

25 YEARS AGO

March 28, 1987 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Karl J. Zuk** of Croton-on-Hudson, NY's last EDXR column appeared in this issue. **Tim Kridel** of Middle Island, NY will take over EDXR ... **Pat Martin** of Seaside, OR mentioned he had some 1700 verifications from 73 countries ... **Todd Skane** of Minneapolis, MN mentioned the Larry King show moved from KSTP to WDGY ... **Greg Hardison** of Los Angeles, CA said he worked at KABC 790 and handled phone calls for Ira Fistell and Ray Briem.

OPEN MIKE

Robert Wien noticed Chicago stations WSCR, WGN, and WBBM off the air on 3-10 between 03:15 and 05:00. This column was typed 3-24-12. 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!!

(KK-VA) Kraig Krist Manassas, VA.
Winradio G33DDC SDR rx with homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE.
(WM-MD) William McGuire Cheverly, MD

STARS OF THE WEEK

LOGGINGS

720 NC WGCR Pisgah Forest 2/26 1745-1755 Southern Gospel hrd in the mess (WM-MD)
880 OH WRFD Columbus 3/1 1750 "This is Life Changing Radio" ; ID (WM-MD)
1000 PA WIOO Carlisle 3/9 1825 C & W music hrd, "Your Home for Country Classics (WM-MD)
1240 NC WHVN Charlotte 3/10 0255-0655 Mixing with WWWC, WCNC, ESPN and oldies. 0400 "WHVN Charlotte WPCN TV Charlotte "Heaven radio" into "Back To The Bible" program. (KK-VA)
NC WWWC Wilkesboro 3/10 0255-0655 Mixing with WHVN, WCNC, ESPN and oldies. 0257 ".hometown Christian radio..12-40 WWWC Wilkesboro North Carolina." (KK-VA)
NC WCNC Elizabeth City 3/10 0255-0655 Mixing with WHVN, WWWC, ESPN and oldies. 0327 "This is where country is... it's all classic country on AM 12-40 WCNC and AM 12-60 WZBO." (KK-VA)
1250 VA WDVA Danville 2/26 1900 ID heard (WM-MD)
1340 WV WXKX Clarksburg 3/10 0255-0655 Mixing with oldies, other talk and Fox Sports. WXKX w/ typical ESPN programming. 0300 "ESPN radio AM 13-40 WXKX." (KK-VA)
1420 NC WVOT Wilson 2/3 1715-2215 . Mixing with WKCW and talk. WVOT with Gospel songs. 1800 "Top Gospel hits in America." 1901 Ad for advertising on WVOT. "We are 14-20 WVOT Wilson North Carolina." (KK-VA)
1430 NJ WNSW Newark 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with CHKT, WVAM, WEIR, singing, oldies and other talk. WNSW with V. of Russia programming. 1900 L "Welcome to Voice of Russia broadcasting on 13-90 AM Washington DC and 14-30 AM New York." (KK-VA)
PA WVAM Altoona 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with CHKT, WNSW, WEIR, singing, oldies and other talk. WVAM with a call in show about the Super Bowl. OM "Mike from Altoona". 1830 "Mike and Mike will talk about it weekday morning on ESPN radio 14-30 WVAM." (KK-VA)
WV WEIR Weirton 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with CHKT, WNSW, WVAM, singing, oldies and other talk. 1909 ET OM "You're listening to... on sports radio 14-30 WEIR. We're also streaming online at weir (said as word we're) sports dot net." (KK-VA)
1440 GA WGIG Brunswick 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WKLK, WHKZ, WAJR, singing and rock & roll songs. 1759 "The Rush in on. Rush Limbaugh weekdays from 12 to 3 only on... radio 14-40 WGIG Brunswick". (KK-VA)
VA WKLK Blackstone 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WAJR, WHKZ, WGIG, singing and rock & roll songs. 1715 "This is 14-40 AM Blackstone with the Fox sports radio". "Loose Cannons Show". (KK-VA)
WV WAJR Morgantown 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WKLK, WHKZ, WGIG, singing and rock & roll songs. 1732 "WAJR news time 5 33..." "This is the Capitol Report on... the voice of West Virginia..." (KK-VA)
1450 VA WREL Lexington 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WVAX, c&w, oldies and other ESPN. 1929 "AM 14-50 WREL Lexington a... station" into news. (KK-VA)
VA WVAX Charlottesville 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WREL, c&w, oldies and other ESPN. 1730 "This is ESPN radio 14-50 WVAX". (KK-VA)
1470 SC WLNC Georgetown 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with Religious songs, talk, other talk and Spanish. 1905 "This is 14-70 WLNC I'm Rod Stallings with you..." (KK-VA)
1480 GA WYZE Atlanta 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WPWC, WGUS, WDJO, WHBC, WADR, R. Disney and Fox Sports. 1802 "... invite you to tune in each Saturday 8PM... inspire, lift... praise... right here... AM 14-80 WYZE". Must have gone to night power as signal gone. (KK-VA)
1480 GA WGUS Augusta 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WPWC, WYZE, WDJO, WHBC, WADR, R. Disney and Fox Sports. 1801 "WGUS AM Augusta. FM Warrenton". (KK-VA)
NY WADR Remsen 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WGUS, WYZE, WPWC, WDJO, WHBC, R. Disney and Fox Sports. WADR with rock and roll songs. 1835 ET OM "14-80 WADR... 95.5 FM rock and roll..." (KK-VA)
OH WDJO Cincinnati 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WGUS, WYZE, WPWC, WHBC, WADR, R. Disney and Fox Sports. 1715 "Great oldies 14-80 WDJO" (KK-VA)
OH WHBC Canton 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WGUS, WYZE, WPWC, WDJO, WADR, R. Disney

and Fox Sports. 1729 "Want to know what's going on?... on news talk 14-80 WHBC." (KK-VA)

VA WPWC Dumfries-Triangle 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WGUS, WYZE, WDJO, WHBC, WADR, R. Disney and Fox Sports. Reactionary radio. Call in with veteran professing he's now a reactionary. 1937 "WPWC re-act radio". (KK-VA)

1490 PA WNTJ Johnstown 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WBCB, WXTG, oldies and teen songs. 1758 "Michael Savage weeknights at 8... on the WNTJ news talk sports network.". 1759 "14-90 WNTJ Johnstown 9-90 'The Fan' WNTW Somerset. WNTJ... serving the Laurel Highlands" into Fox news. (KK-VA)

PA WBCB Levittown 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WNTJ, WXTG, oldies and teen songs. 1835 "... on 14-90 WBCB." (KK-VA)

1510 OH WLKR Norwalk 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WLAC, other talk, singing, Spanish, other Spanish and Religious. WLKR with oldies. 1834 "More classic hits now... true gold 15-10 WLKR." (KK-VA)

1520 NC WARR Warrenton 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WWKB, other talk, other singing, bluegrass. 1741 "Broadcasting live city to city, nation to nation, worldwide. It's your number 1 AM station WARR 15-20 AM in Warrenton North Carolina. Where the community comes together.". 1759 signoff "This is radio station WARR 15-20 AM in Warrenton North Carolina signing off the air for another broadcast day. WARR is owned and operated by Darensburg and operates on the assigned frequency 15-20 kiloHertz with a maximum output power of 5,000 watts as authorized by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington DC. WARR studio and offices are located at 824 Highway 158 Business West in Warrenton. Our tower and transmitter are located at 729 Highway 158 East in Warrenton. Join us again tomorrow morning at sunrise for the best in music, news and information on AM 15-20 WARR." (KK-VA)

1540 ZNS1 Bahamas Nassau 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WTXY, WNWR, KXEL, CHIN, WYNC, singing Spanish, other Gospel and Chinese. 1902 beach warnings for northern and eastern shorelines of the Bahamas. 1903 "Radio Bahamas community announcements". Rap music. (KK-VA)

NC WTXY Whiteville 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WNWR, ZNS1, KXEL, CHIN, WYNC, singing Spanish, other Gospel and Chinese. 1731 under WNWR National Anthem OM "15-40 WTXY...". (KK-VA)

NC WYNC Yanceyville 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WNWR, ZNS1, KXEL, CHIN, WTXY, singing Spanish, other Gospel and Chinese. WYNC with Gospel singing. 1754 "You're in tuned to 15-40 WYNC music with a message." (KK-VA)

1540 PA WNWR Philadelphia 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WTXY, ZNS1, KXEL, CHIN, WYNC, singing Spanish, other Gospel and Chinese. WNWR with China R. International programming. 1740 "... please join us tomorrow when programming resumes on WNWR" into National Anthem. (KK-VA)

1550 TN WIGN Bristol 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WKBA, WMRE, Spanish and other talk. 1715 "15-50 WIGN classic and bluegrass Gospel for the tri-cities." (KK-VA)

VA WKBA Vinton 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WIGN, WMRE, Spanish, other Spanish and other talk. WKBA with religious talk. 1754 ad for church in Roanoke. "Email us at WKBA at cox dot net." 1758 "This is the ministry station 15-50 WKBA Hampton Roanoke Salem... and Lynchburg." (KK-VA)

1560 VA WSBV South Boston 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WQEW, talk, other talk and oldies. WSBV with Gospel singing. 1831 signoff "This concludes another day of broadcasting on WSBV in South Boston Virginia. WSBV operates on an assigned frequency of 15-60 on the AM dial and is owned and operated by Linda Waller Barton. WSBV has studios and offices located at 1180 Plywood Trail South Boston Virginia." (KK-VA)

1570 GA WIGO Morrow 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WNST, WNCA and basketball. WIGO with oldies. 1804 "You're listening to... oldies on the new WIGO 15-70." Seemed strange hearing oldies on a religious station. Checked the WIGO website, www.wigoam.com. I see WIGO has "Enjoy your afternoon drive with Blues and R&B classics from The American Blues Network M-F from 4pm-10pm.!" (KK-VA)

1580 TN WLIJ Shelbyville 2/3 1715-2215 Mixing with WHFS, CKDO, other talk, other oldies and Spanish. WLIJ with c&w songs. 1832 "...join us tonight for... Shelbyville sports network... WTNZ Shelbyville... 15-80 WLIJ..." (KK-VA)

1660 NJ WWRV Jersey City 3/10 2100 Ethnic programming heard ; ID (WM-MD)

UN - IDEN

1080 ?? ???? 3/7 1810 Black Gospel mx hrd, then gone (WM-MD)

Thanks to Kraig, and William this week. Off tomorrow for a week in Cleveland. Getting some training on audio over IP, phone systems and audio processing. Best to all... fresh 3/24 0930



DX WORLDWIDE – EAST

Vincent Ferme
 E-mail: dxista@yahoo.ca

all times UTC

***** PAN-AMERICAN LOGS *****

550 VENEZUELA - YVKE Mundial, Caracas - (03-08/00:01) "...siete treinta y un minuto, hora Mundial", fair. [SN-QC]

580 PUERTO RICO - WKAQ R.Reloy, San Juan - (03-07/23:59) "...la historia se repita en WKAQ", good. [SN-QC]

600 PUERTO RICO - WYEL R.600, Mayaguez - (03-07/23:40) Talk in Spanish about women's conditions in Puerto Rico, fair **NEW**. [SN-QC]

610 COLOMBIA - HJKL La Cariñosa, Bogotá D. C. - (03-07/05:00) "...La Cariñosa" mention, fair & mixed with unid domestic **NEW**. [SN-QC]

630 PUERTO RICO - WUNO NotiUno, San Juan - (03-07/23:42) Phone-in program in Spanish about Puerto Rico's politic, fair **NEW**. [SN-QC]

640 COLOMBIA - HJBJ, Santa Marta - (03-11/02:59) Colombian ads, fair and // to 760 **NEW**. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjbj_640.mp3

670 CUBA - CMBA, Loud. March 10, 04:35, Cuba mentioned many times. Music - Comprete. Female announcer. [POB-IN]

670 VENEZUELA - YVLL R.Rumbos, Caracas - (03-07/23:59) "...por Radio Rumbo 6-70", fair under QRM. [SN-QC]

690 COLOMBIA - HJCZ R.Recuerdos, Bogotá D. C. - (03-11/02:59) "...Radio Recuerdo, 6-90 AM", good. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjcz_690.mp3

740 CUBA - CMKO R.Angulo, Sagua de Tánamo - (02-28/03:59) "...CMKO Radio Ángulo", fair. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/cuba_cmko_radioangulo_740.mp3

740 MEXICO - XEQN-AM R.Fórmula, Torreón - (03-08/01:59) "...Radio Fórmula punto com", fair. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/mexico_xecaq_740.mp3

750 VENEZUELA - YVKS RCR 750 R.Caracas, Caracas - (03-07/23:46) "...RCR, 7-50 AM" with quite a good strength. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/venezuela_yvks_750.mp3

760 COLOMBIA - HJAJ RCN, Barranquilla - (03-11/02:59) Colombian ads, good and // to 640. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjaj_760a.mp3

770 CUBA - CMKB R.Rebelde, Victoria de las Tunas - (03-07/23:43) Man in Spanish about politics and Cuba, fair // 600 mixing with WABC. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/cuba_cmkb_770.mp3

770 COLOMBIA - HJXJ RCN - (02-28/05:12) Man and woman in Spanish, fair and // to 760 mixed with Cuba and WABC. [SN-QC]

790 VENEZUELA - YVXM R.Minuto, Barquisimeto - (03-11 02:59) "...Radio Minuto, la emisora feliz de Barquisimeto", fair **NEW**. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/venezuela_yvxm_790.mp3

800 BONAIRE - PJB Trans World Radio, Bonaire - (03-03/01:38) Man in Spanish with religious content, fair and mixed with CHRC. [SN-QC]

840 HAITI - Radio 4VEH, Cap Haïtien - (03-11/02:59) "...Depuis le Cap Haïtien, vous écoutez Radio 4VEH, la voix évangélique d'Haïti", fair to good. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/radio_4veh_haiti.mp3

860 ST-KITTS-AND-NEVIS - Voice of Nevis, Bath Village - (03-07/23:40) Amusing sung local ads, fair to Good. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/nevis_860.mp3

870 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (tentative) HIVG R.La Vega, La Vega - (03-07/23:36) Jokes in Spanish on Haitians, fair followed by meringue music, poor to fair. [SN-QC]

900 VENEZUELA - YVMD Mara Ritmo 900, Maracaibo - (03-12/08:02) Man in Spanish announcing "la hora de Venezuela", fair. [SN-QC]

900 MEXICO - XEW-AM W Radio, México D.F - (02-28/05:00) "... Doble U Radio", ID, fair and mixed with Cuba. [SN-QC]

910 COLOMBIA - HJMY RCN - San Andrés - (02-28/05:14) "...esta escuchando Nocturna de RCN", fair and mixed with stronger Cuba **NEW**. [SN-QC]

950 CUBA - CMJG R.Reloy, Unknown Location - (03-08/01:59) "...Radio Reloy" ID with tics, fair to good. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/cuba_radioreloy_950.mp3

970 COLOMBIA - HJCI Radio Súper, Bogotá D. C. - (03-11/02:59) "...a través de Radio Súper Bogotá 9-70", fair **NEW**. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjci_970.mp3

1070 COLOMBIA - HJAH Emisora Atlántico, Barranquilla - (02-28/05:08) "...Emisora Atlántico" ID, fair. **NEW**. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjah_emisoraatlantico_1070.mp3

1170 COLOMBIA - HJNW Caracol Radio, Cartagena - (03-08/00:00) "...esta es Caracol Radio Cartagena", fair to good. [SN-QC] http://www.quebecdx.com/colombia_hjnw_1170.mp3

***** CONTRIBUTORS *****

[AW-BH] Allen Willie, VO1-001-SWL, VOPC1AA & Dianne Froude, VO1-003-SWL

Bristol's Hope, Newfoundland 47:43N 53:11W <<http://nldxers.summerhost.info>>
Receivers: SRF-M37V, SRF-M37W, SRF-39FP, Sangean DT-210V barefoot

[POB-IN] Pat O'Brien, Pekin, Indiana
Receiver: Tecsun PL-600
Antenna: Grundig Indoor Loop

[SN-QC] Sylvain Naud, Portneuf, QC
Receiver: Perseus
Software: StationList
Antenna: 1500ft / 450m non-terminated Beverage NE-SW
http://www.quebecdx.com/latin_american_caribbean_audio_files.html

DX FORUM

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

Deadlines: 4/7 4/21 5/5 5/19 6/2 6/21 7/7 7/21 8/12 9/1

Gary Siegel, 2955 - 115th Street, Toledo, Ohio 43611

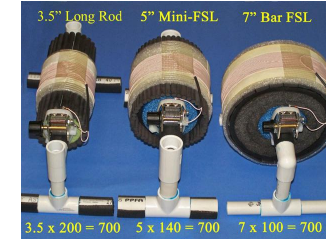
Since it's just over 40 years that I've been in the club, I thought I'd take this opportunity to reflect back to 1972 when the DX conditions were significantly different than today's clogged and all too often HD-IBOC hissed dial we have in today's DX World. Back in 1972 even some 50kw clears would sign off on Monday mornings and in so doing provided unique opportunities to hear some real exotic DX. Longtime IRCA member and at the time nearby neighbor and fellow U. of Toledo student Dan Myers saw the President's holiday when neither of us would have classes or any other obligation as a chance to press his Hammarlund HQ-180 receiver and box loop antenna into action for an overnight DX stint. We also were aware that then KLUC-1140 was going to test and that WRVA would stand down for this test. The promise of great conditions made possibly hearing a new state in Nevada a good chance indeed. At the prescribed time we had a reel to reel recorder r4igged up to Dan's H-180 and upon tuning into 1140 were able to catch KLUC, but what really took us aback was the stunning strong signal KLUC blasted in with. On this February 20th, we knew we might bag something special based on this huge signal from KLUC. We, of course, were excited to add Nevada, but in searching other clears we noticed WSM was gone from 650. We decided then and there to point his box loop west and stand by to see if anything would rise above the din. At 3:43am with tape rolling, we started hearing EE and a very low voice talking to someone with distinct uh huhs coming through. We looked at each other wondering if we had either Alaska or Hawaii. Our answer would come shortly when after giving the phone number (sans area code) he went into his next call by saying "KORL contact" and we both erupted in a big cheer that woke Dan's household. We had just heard Hawaii and for the next 5 minutes hung on what was being said with utter amazement. Needless to say this feat has not been repeated in the 40 years hence. We also checked 780 since WBBM was off and heard KCRL in Reno and later that morning on 780, we heard ZBVI Tortola, British Virgin Islands signing on. Also heard was YVLX Caracas on 570. Upon hearing KORL, though, Dan and I knew we had bagged a real big one and popped open a beer to celebrate! This night would help me establish an all-time record for most stations in a month with 64 added in Feb., 1972. Dan and I would collaborate again on the Columbus Day holiday on Oct. 9th that year. Just like on President's Day, the explorers' holiday didn't disappoint either. Early on, we noted TA's on 1554 (Nice, France), 1214 (Washford, Gr. Britain), 1205 (Bordeaux, France) and 1394 (Tirana, Albania) and when those dissolved, we still noticed things to be very good to the northeast. We caught FF on 580 and that proved to be CHLC, Hauterive, Que., that one climbing over semi-local CKWW in Windsor, more FF was heard on 1380 via CFDA in Victorville, Que. It was about this time we decided to turn our attention to picking stations in the Maritimes. Boy, were we rewarded! CBNM 740 in Nfld. Was our first get, then we latched onto CBN 640 St. John's, Nfld., and then CBT 540 in Grand Falls, Nfld.! These 3 are the only Newfies I've ever heard and I've not gotten them since! We also added CKBW 1000 in Bridgewater, NS. How big were those MM silent periods? Some other great DX that day saw KTKT 990 in Tucson, AZ, HICM-540 & HILR-960 from the D.R. and CJCH-920 Halifax, NS, in all 16 new ones that day, which still stands as my all-time best single day effort. I would add 320 new ones in 1972, expand my then total past 1500 stations, but those 2 MM holiday all-night DX sessions still stand tall in DX annals. 73's.



ULTRALIGHT NEWS

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FSL Antenna Design Optimization
All-out Experimentation to Determine Weak-Signal Performance Potential
By Gary DeBock, Puyallup WA, USA March 2012



Introduction: The publication of Graham Maynard's ferrite sleeve antenna article in March of 2011 kicked off a torrent of experimentation in the Ultralight radio enthusiast group, as hobbyists quickly discovered the DXing potential of the new design. Massive orders were placed for Russian surplus ferrite and Chinese Litz wire, while wholesale lots of swimming floatation aides were drafted into service as ferrite padding material. Each individual experimenter had his own ideas about FSL design, and backed them up with serious financial outlays. Multiple design optimization questions went unanswered in the process, but since the new antennas seemed to be working fairly well for everyone, attempts to bridge opinion gaps were few and far between.

One school of thought held that coil diameter was the most important gain factor, while another was that ferrite size and weight was paramount. Ferrite rod versus ferrite bar opinions were also diverse, and even Litz wire variables became part of the controversy. Any newcomer wishing to build an FSL antenna had no shortage of advice – the only problem was which advice to follow.

This experimental free-for-all continued for a full year, with various (and diverse) FSL antenna designs published in the process. The performance variables needed to be sorted out in detailed A/B experimentation, conducted by an experimenter with a completely open mind, and with no axe to grind. Although all of my previously-published FSL designs had been based on ferrite rod components, I recalled that a large supply of Russian surplus 100mm x 20mm x 3mm ferrite bars had been received here for some time, and had gone unused. In a serious effort to bridge opinion gaps and provide complete clarity to the design factors influencing any FSL's weak-signal DXing performance, it was time to wipe the slate clean and test out all possible variations of the antenna – letting the chips fall where they may.

Experimental Objectives: The ambitious agenda of the testing included all experimentation necessary to judge the weak-signal performance of ferrite rods compared to ferrite bars, to judge the weak-signal performance of large-diameter FSL models compared to smaller-diameter models with more ferrite weight, and if at all possible, to establish a design formula which could accurately predict the weak-signal DXing performance of any FSL antenna model before it was constructed (as well as rate the effectiveness of any existing model). These were challenging goals, but I was determined to continue the experimentation (and build as many test models as necessary) until complete clarity of all the design optimization factors was reached.



In order to carry out this agenda seven new FSL test models were built, including a diverse variety of ferrite bar models, short ferrite rod models and long ferrite rod models. Deliberate use was made of common material like Russian surplus ferrite (of 400 permeability), single coils composed of 660/46 Litz wire, a common 381 pf variable capacitor and standard PVC-pipe frames. Each test model was constructed with a coil diameter shared by other models using dissimilar ferrite material (bars, short rods or long rods) so that the performance differences between each ferrite type would become obvious. Finally, all test models would be judged in relative weak-signal performance outdoors in an open-air test range, competing with each other in the reception of at least four fringe daytime DX test

stations on frequencies throughout the AM band. During this testing relative-reception MP3's would be recorded for each antenna match up, with the antennas switched in the middle of the recording (within 7 seconds, so that the fringe station's signal level would not change). Both FSL test models would be placed on a 5' PVC base for equal elevation, and the antennas would be separated by at least 50 feet so that there would be no possibility of interaction. Additionally, in cases where a relative-strength deadlock was apparent between two FSL test models, a reference antenna (4' sided PVC air core loop) would be used to check if either test model had better performance against the reference antenna. In summary, every possible preparation was made to provide equal testing parameters for accurate relative performance results.



Three Diameter Classes: The test models were divided into 3", 5" and 7" diameter classes. The 3" class included a 200mm long-rod model (3.5"), a 100mm bar model, and a 65mm short-rod model. The 5" class included a 140mm long-rod model, a 100mm bar model, and a 65mm short-rod model. Finally, the 7" diameter class included a 140mm long-rod model and a 100mm bar model.

Each diameter class would first have relative performance tests against other antennas of the same class, then the top performers in each class would have match ups against each other. With the diverse mix of rods, bars and diameters in the test models, it was presumed that obvious patterns of superior performance would emerge – and they quickly did.



Ferrite Rods or Bars – Which are Better? In each diameter class a clear pattern emerged immediately, with every model having a longer ferrite material (rod or bar) beating out every model with a shorter ferrite material (rod or bar). The thickness or weight of the ferrite material was irrelevant – even though the 65mm rod models had greater weight and ferrite thickness than the 100mm bar models, they lost out to the bar models every time. But this had nothing to do with any superiority of the bar models – to even the score, the 100mm bar models always lost out to the 140mm and 200mm rod models. So the question of rods or bars had finally been answered – whichever ferrite material was longer had the superior DXing performance. Even a 35mm or 40mm advantage in ferrite length was enough to provide a noticeable edge in weak-signal performance, for a given coil diameter.



Smaller Diameter FSL Beats Out Two Larger Diameter Models: The 65mm short-rod FSL models proved to be experimental duds, losing out to every other FSL model in their respective diameter classes. But before final elimination from the competition, the 5" short-rod (65mm) model was matched against the 3.5" long rod (200mm) model – and was clearly inferior to it. The 3.5" long-rod (200mm) model not only outpaced the 5" short-rod (65mm) model, but clearly outperformed the 5" bar model (100mm) as well. This was the first experimental proof that a smaller diameter FSL could outperform a larger diameter FSL – and another indication that ferrite length was extremely important to overall DXing performance.

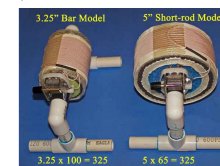


The "Odd Couple" DXing Deadlock: With the overachieving 3.5" long-rod (200mm) model running roughshod over two of the 5" diameter FSL models, it was given a shot at the 7" diameter bar (100mm) model. In what was probably the most important FSL match up in the entire project, the two completely different antennas deadlocked in performance on all 5 of the test signals. This was the first weak-signal deadlock in 10 different FSL match ups, so it was quite a surprise. Both antennas were then tested against the 4' air core reference loop – and both FSL's deadlocked with it, also! There was now no doubt that the DXing performance of these two radically different models was identical, which certainly was a puzzle considering their polar-opposite design.

But when I looked at both models closely, I finally noticed a very peculiar relationship between them... the 3.5" long-rod model's ferrite length (200mm) was twice that of the 7" bar model (100mm), while the 7" bar model's coil diameter was twice that of the 3.5" long-rod model! Could this mean that ferrite length was equally important to coil diameter in determining an FSL's overall performance? It certainly was in these two FSL models – the two models each had their own design advantage, which was resulting in a DXing deadlock!

After stumbling on this concept, I quickly made up a provisional formula to predict an FSL's overall DXing performance: In comparison to other models having equal component parameters (Litz wire type, coil orientation, and ferrite permeability), an FSL's coil diameter times its ferrite length would determine its overall weak-signal capability. Since every current FSL experimenter used inches to measure coil diameter and millimeters to measure the Russian surplus ferrite length, I decided to risk the wrath of purists and simply multiply the two dissimilar measurements together in my formula, which in the case of the 7" bar FSL worked out to an equation of $7 \times 100 = 700$ points. In the case of the 3.5" long-rod FSL the equation worked out to $3.5 \times 200 = 700$ points, an identical figure.

But wait – I knew that the 5" Mini FSL model (composed of the 140mm long ferrite rods) had also deadlocked with the 4' air core reference loop, which meant that its performance also was identical to these two deadlocking FSL models. Here was now yet another FSL model which had a design pretty much in the middle of the two radically different models, with equal performance. Theoretically, it should then have the same performance "score" as the other two FSL models in the new equation. It was with some excitement that I quickly did the math... $5 \times 140 = 700$! All three performance scores agreed with each other, and I was thrilled that the new formula had accurately predicted the 5" Mini-FSL's participation in a 3-way DXing deadlock (as shown in the large group photo of the three FSL's together, at the beginning of this article).



Further Confirmation of the FSL Performance Formula's Accuracy: When considering the results of all the FSL test model match ups conducted previously, I finally realized that the new performance formula could have accurately predicted all of the experimental results before any of the test models had even been constructed! But there was one test model match up that had not been tried yet, which was to provide the final confirmation of the formula's accuracy. The 5" short-rod (65mm) model was an under-performer, and had never been matched against the 3" bar (100mm) model. However, the apparent performance formula scores of these two models were extremely close (325 and 300, respectively), and it was time to see how they shook out in an actual weak-signal Shootout. Before running this final confirmation test I carefully measured the actual diameters of the two models, though – and was very lucky to find that the 3" bar model was actually a little bit larger than 3", having a coil diameter of 3.25"... giving it a dead-even performance score with the 5" short-rod model! I didn't even need to modify either model, to have another two FSL antennas which (theoretically) should be equal in weak-signal performance, according to the new design formula.

Once again, it was with some excitement that I set up both FSL test models on their 5' PVC stands in the back yard test range, eager to see if the performance formula had once again clearly predicted the final result. After receiving the very first fringe signal (540-Burien TIS) on both models I knew that I could have saved my trouble... switching between the two antennas on the MP3 recording produced no change in signal quality at all. It was another rare performance deadlock of two diverse FSL test models – accurately predicted by the new performance formula.

Experimental Wrap Up: The objectives of the testing had all been met, and accurate weak-signal design factors for the FSL antenna had finally been determined. To summarize, here were the new discoveries:

- 1) There is no weak-signal advantage to be gained by using either ferrite bars or ferrite rods. The only performance factor related to ferrite is the **length** of the ferrite material, whether it is in bar or rod form. For a given FSL coil diameter, as long as the ferrite permeability is identical, longer ferrite material will always outperform shorter ferrite material, and the weight and thickness of the ferrite material is irrelevant to weak-signal performance (this was proven in seven FSL match ups.)
- 2) The **length** of the ferrite material in an FSL antenna is equally important to its coil diameter in providing weak-signal performance. An FSL with twice the ferrite length of another FSL model can still match its weak-signal performance even with a coil diameter half the size of the other model (proven in the case of the 3.5" long-rod model and the 7" bar model.)
- 3) Assuming that all component parameters (Litz wire type, coil orientation and ferrite permeability) are identical between two FSL antenna models, the weak signal performance of any FSL antenna in relation to another can be accurately determined by multiplying the coil diameter times the length of the ferrite material in the sleeve. This product gives a "Performance Score" which can accurately predict the weak-signal reception capability of any FSL antenna in comparison to other FSL models having the same component parameters (proven in three FSL match ups here, with identical signals in switched MP3 recordings.)

Summary: The ability to accurately determine an FSL antenna's DXing performance even before construction opens up a fascinating new perspective on design improvements. Aided by the new performance design formula, a hobbyist can concentrate on building highly effective models at a minimum cost and weight. The FSL antenna's great advantage in relation to other antenna types is its ability to provide low noise, high gain performance from an extremely compact size – and this new design formula emphasizes compact effectiveness, proving that ferrite length is equally important to coil diameter in DXing performance. Future FSL antenna models that combine both ferrite length and coil size are the wave of the future, and now that definite answers have been found for most of the design controversies, we can proceed to design and build our new models with complete assurance of success!

73 and Best Wishes, Gary DeBock

Relative Strength "Shootout" MP3 Links

For determination of the design factors influencing an FSL antenna's weak-signal performance, four of the FSL test model match ups were considered very important. These four match ups (with the design factors clarified by the results) were as follows:

- 1) 3.25" Bar model (100mm ferrite length) outperforms 3.25" Short-rod model (65 mm ferrite length)
Longer ferrite sleeve material is superior in performance to shorter ferrite sleeve material, even if the shorter material is heavier and thicker than the longer material.
- 2) 3.5" Long-rod model (200mm ferrite length) outperforms 5" Short-rod model (65 mm ferrite)
A smaller diameter FSL model can outperform a larger diameter FSL model if the smaller diameter model has a ferrite sleeve length much greater than that of the larger diameter FSL.
- 3) 3.5" Long-rod model (200mm ferrite length) deadlocks in weak-signal performance with 7" Bar model (100mm ferrite length)
The ferrite sleeve length of an FSL model is of equal importance to its coil diameter in determining weak-signal performance. An FSL model with twice the ferrite length of another model can match its weak-signal performance even with a coil half the diameter of the other FSL model.
Assuming that component parameters (Litz wire type, coil orientation and ferrite permeability) are identical, any FSL antenna's weak-signal performance in relation to another FSL antenna can be accurately determined by multiplying its coil diameter times its ferrite sleeve length, and comparing this "Performance Score" with that of the other FSL model.
- 4) 3.25" Bar model (100mm ferrite length) deadlocks in weak-signal performance with 5" Short-rod model (65mm ferrite length)
The "Performance Score" formula can accurately predict the identical weak-signal performance of two FSL antennas, even when they have different coil diameters and ferrite sleeve lengths.

The detailed MP3 recording links for each of these important FSL test model match ups follow.



- 1) 3.25" Bar model (100mm ferrite length) outperforms 3.25" Short-rod model (65mm ferrite) (**3.25" Short-rod FSL reception for first 18 seconds, followed by that of the 3.25" Bar FSL**)

540-Burien TIS (15 watts at 25 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?jqja5qneh3f9chl>
790-KGMI (5 kW at 140 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?fbobcmhv4d27c47>
1230-KWYZ (1 kW at 80 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?76nglcufzz1c7pd>
1430-KBRC (5 kW at 110 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?76nglcufzz1c7pd,lzzz0bamjdt3jgg>



- 2) 3.5" Long-rod model (200mm ferrite length) outperforms 5" Short-rod model (65mm ferrite) (**5" Short-rod FSL reception for the first 18 seconds, followed by that of the 3.5" Long-rod FSL**)

540-Burien TIS (15 watts at 25 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?y6j2q0p4e76po6c>
1230-KWYZ (1 kW at 80 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?i6575pbpkimg4vw>
1410-CFUN (50 kW at 160 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?1v8qa3g3j0dct3>
1430-KBRC (5 kw at 110 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?z13ba6dg6pd65ab>



- 3) 3.5" Long-rod model (200mm ferrite length) deadlocks in weak-signal performance with 7" Bar model (100mm ferrite) (**7" Bar model FSL reception for the first 18 seconds, followed by that of the 3.5" Long-rod FSL**)

540-Burien TIS (15 watts at 25 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?bbuzgs8c819wsrj>
750-KXL (50 kW at 150 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?87d0ccexi81yhaw>
1040-CKST (10 kW at 160 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?i8d4jjd4q2vctml>
1070-CFAX (10 kW at 90 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?ghh0omngnn5o9le>
1410-CFUN (50 kW at 160 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?1gfqr9763g59h8>



- 4) 3.25" Bar model (100mm ferrite length) deadlocks in weak-signal performance with 5" Short-rod model (65mm ferrite) (**5" Short-rod model FSL reception for the first 18 seconds, followed by that of the 3.25" Bar FSL**)

540-Burien TIS (15 watts at 25 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?5n7vm2upt1zxfn9>
750-KXL (50 kW at 150 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?ok82g3ey77bxncr>
1070-CFAX (10 kW at 90 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?1cy43cahub24y1h>
1410-CFUN (50 kW at 160 miles) <http://www.mediafire.com/?1v8qa3g3j0dct3>

FSL Test Model Specifications

Model	Ferrite Size	Ferrite Wt	Total Wt	Construction Cost*	Performance Score**
3" Short rod	65 x 8mm	1.5 lbs	2 lbs	\$45	195
3.25" Bar	100 x 20 x 3mm	1.0 lbs	1.5 lbs	\$40	325
3.5" Long rod	200 x 10mm	4.0 lbs	4.5 lbs	\$95	700
5" Short rod	65 x 8mm	2.5 lbs	3.0 lbs	\$65	325
5" Bar	100 x 20 x 3mm	2.0 lbs	2.5 lbs	\$50	500
5" Long rod	140 x 8mm	4.0 lbs	5.0 lbs	\$90	700
7" Bar	100 x 20 x 3mm	3.0 lbs	4.0 lbs	\$65	700
7" Long rod	140 x 8mm	6.0 lbs	7.0 lbs	\$130	980

* Total cost of components (excluding shipping charges) as of March 2012

** Coil diameter (in inches) times ferrite sleeve length (in millimeters)

2011-2012 IRCA Letterama DX CONTEST

Manager: Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Way – Billings MT 59102-7755

E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

March 15, 2012 update

1. Paul Swearingen 350
2. Eric Bueneman 198
3. Tim Noonan 182
4. Greg Hall 180
- Bill Nittler 180
6. Dennis Vroom 104
7. Nancy Johnson* 30
8. Nigel Pimblett 29
9. Mike Sanburn 10
10. John C. Johnson 3

*Contest manager is not eligible to win.

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!

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 mV 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.

IRCA TIS/HAR LIST (Winter 2011)

The IRCA TIS/HAR LIST lists all US TIS/HAR stations, by frequency, including call letters, state, city, county, licensee, coordinates, expiration date and dates of DXM/DXN reports. It has been updated with FCC data and DXM/DXN reports through November 15 2011.

Prices: IRCA/NRC members – \$9.50 (US/Canada/sea mail), \$11.50 (México), \$12.50 (rest of the world). Non-IRCA/NRC members – add \$2.00.

To order from the IRCA Bookstore, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to Phil Bytheway) to: IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334. Order through PayPal [add \$1.00] to email: phil_tekno@yahoo.com. Please state club affiliation when ordering.

ARRL Hamfest Calendar

As you may know (and I can say this from experience-EIC), a Hamfest is a great place to find good deals on new and used receivers, wires and cables for antenna projects, and other hobby-related needs. The American Radio Relay League has a Web page to help you find a Hamfest near your home QTH or while you're traveling to other parts of the country. You can search by Zip Code, select

from Hamfests within 25, 50, 100 and 250 miles of your home QTH, as well as city and state. (Searching by ARRL division and section is only for the Ham-savvy, hi.) To find a Hamfest in near your home QTH, visit <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar> and plug in your location or Zip Code. You'll be able to find upcoming Hamfests in your local area.

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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MEMBERSHIP DUES (DXM=printed DX Monitor, SDXM=soft e-mailed version)

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USA	\$10	\$31	\$36
Canada & Mexico (group 2)	\$10	\$40	\$45
Western Europe (group 3)	\$10	\$52	\$57
Australia/NZ/Japan (group 4)	\$10	\$52	\$57
Rest of world (group 5)	\$10	\$52	\$57

TRIAL MEMBERSHIP (10 issues) TO USA-CANADA-MEXICO only: \$10 DXM, \$12 DXM / SDXM Installment Rate: 2 payments a year of one-half dues plus \$1.

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Pay electronically with PayPal – add \$1 to all prices above. Go to www.paypal.com, then send your dues to ircamember@ircaonline.org – contact Lynn Hollerman for more information.

Sample copies of DX Monitor are available. Along with your request, please include first class postage of: 42c for USA addresses, 69c for Canada and Mexico or 2-International Reply Coupons each, for other countries. Send to: IRCA, 414 SE 3rd St, Ocala FL 34471. (Maximum two samples per year.)

For information on subscribing to the IRCA mailing list at Hard-Core-DX, a group e-mail service, contact the moderator, Lynn Hollerman at lynnhollerman@yahoo.com.

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