



March 16, 2013 – Volume 50, Number 25 – Edition 1596 – ISSN 899-9733

DX TESTS

Sunday March 24	KSEY 1230 Seymour, TX	0000-0200 ELT	Paul Walker
Sunday March 31	WKBI 1400 St. Marys, PA	0000-0300 ELT	Paul Walker

Details of these tests on Page 2

Happy Anniversary, IRCA!

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FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It's hard to believe it's been 49 years since IRCA arrived on the scene...I'd like to take this opportunity to wish IRCA a very Happy Anniversary. I've been an IRCA member 19 years now, and have done quite a bit for our club over the years. There's still some time to decide what you can do for IRCA; see this page and Page 2 for details. IRCA urgently needs a Publisher for the hardcopy DX Monitor. **Come on, let's give**

Fresh a hand!

DX WORLDWIDE EAST EDITOR NEEDED

Vincent Ferme will be resigning as Editor for DX Worldwide-East at the end of this volume, or the appointment of a new editor, whichever comes first. Anyone interested in editing DX Worldwide-East should contact Lee Freshwater immediately.

NEW PUBLISHER NEEDED NOW!

Friends...we have six hard copies of DXM left in this Volume. As of today, **NO ONE** has expressed interest in taking over the publication duties. Should this lack of interest continue, I

will be forced to ask for a Board of Directors vote on ceasing publication of the printed version of DX Monitor. I will not be waiting until the last minute on this. Plans have to be put place ahead of time for this to happen. **THERE WILL BE NO REPRIEVE.** IRCA will become an "Internet only" club. We will continue to publish DX Monitor as before, but only in a PDF file. Those who do not own a computer will be able to get a free E-mail account from various sources (Yahoo!, GMail, et cetera) and print a copy at their local library (most good libraries have Internet access). Members who get the hard copy version will have their dues adjusted accordingly. Those who want refunds will get them, or they can apply any overage to their membership. We announced that this would be the last volume in the hard copy version LAST AUGUST. The time has come. **IF SOMEONE DOES NOT COME FORWARD IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, THE HARD COPY VERSION WILL END THIS AUGUST.** (via IRCA President Lee Freshwater)

LEARNING AND SHARING: 2013 - TWIN CITIES

Response has been terrific for the August Joint dx Convention in Minneapolis. At this point the following folks are signed up or (we're told by their friends) may be attending:
 Scott Fybush Bill Dvorak Frank Merrill Rick Lucas Steve Walko Doug Smith Matt Sittel Nigel Pimblett Mike Bates Todd Skaine Eric Koester George Sherman John Crabtree Scott Blixt Steve Kremer Mel Larson Mark Pysick Pete Reiter Skip Dabelstein Mark Durenberger Dean Sorenson Nick Hall-Patch Neil Kazaross Theo Donnelly Andrew Ooms Wayne Heinen Paul Swearingen John Sampson Ernie Wesolowski Mike Lantz Phil Bytheway Lee Freshwater Mike Sanburn Bill Dvorak Jim Dale Eric Cooper David Jones. Others are signing up.
 We wanted you to know about these folks in case it gave you the idea that you might want to attend, to hook up with them. Many attendees will be presenting technical "papers" and 'show-and-tell.' The hotel is the **Holiday Inn Bloomington South Airport Mall** in Minneapolis. Make your hotel reservations *right now*, to get the special convention rate. Call the Holiday Inn at 952-884-8211. Use the registration code "NRC" to obtain the special convention rate of \$73.00 per night, plus tax.

Cost for convention registration is \$45 for members and for guests. This includes the Saturday night banquet, as well as the **Museum of Broadcasting** and the Friday evening "Pizza-fest" at the Museum.

Your check or Money Order for registration should be payable to: "**The National Radio Club**". Send to **Skip Dabelstein at 8008 North Iron Ridge Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85743**. You can contact Skip at **ckdabel@comcast.net**. Once you're registered, we'll send you an information form so we can learn about your special needs and interests. *Register early so we can send you pre-convention information.*

You can also sign up on-line at <http://www.nrcdxas.org/convention/13nrccon/2013Info.htm> Remember to add a dollar to the on-line cost if you're using PayPal.

If you have questions, please contact Host Mark Durenberger at www.durenberger.com. For further information about the clubs, go to: <http://www.ircaonline.org/>

FROM THE PRESIDENT (Lee J. Freshwater)

Volunteers are needed for the following:

AWARDS : Not much to do here except for printing out the HEALD award every year. . No one has applied for the DX awards for many years.

PUBLISHING : Get address list from Lynn. Create labels and envelopes. Send (email) PDF file from the EIC to the printers, Pick up, Staple, Fold, stuff, then mail. It takes me about an hour to do the labels and envelopes. I usually do the envelopes on Wednesday morning before leaving for work. I pick up the DXM at the Printers on Wednesday night on my way to dinner. I staple, fold and mail on SATURDAY AM. It takes about an hour to fold and staple. It helps when you have a wife that assists you. You can set your own schedule as long as the issues go out on or before the masthead date. You will also need to send out sample issues as needed.

E.D.X.R. : Take email and mailed in DX reports and put in proper form for publication. Usually takes me about an hour to 90 minutes per issue.

I will be giving up these duties at the end of VOLUME 50. If no one comes forward during VOLUME 50, these features WILL go away. I will NOT extend my club duties past VOL 50.

DX TESTS

KSEY 1230 Seymour, TX will test on **Sunday, March 24** from 0100-0300 ELT. Note that it will be late Saturday night in the Western time zones. KSEY is located 50 miles SW of Wichita Falls, 75 miles NNE of Abilene and 140 miles NW of Fort Worth.

The test will include Morse Code, sweep tones, sound effects, odd music and other easily identifiable content. KSEY's regular format is Western swing and Classic Country. KSEY will test at 1,000 watts non-directional.

At press time, QSL information is still being worked out. The station's mailing address is:

KSEY
Post Office Box 471
Seymour, TX 76380-0471

When you write, be sure to thank the station for running the test.

This test was arranged by Paul Walker. (Thanks Paul!)

WKBI 1400 and W233BS 94.5 FM St. Marys, PA will test on **Sunday, March 31** from 0000-0300 ELT. Note that the test will run at the top of the hour only. Note that it will be late Saturday night in the Western time zones. WKBI is located 100 miles NE of Pittsburgh, 60 miles NW of State College and 90 miles SE of Erie (one of your Editor-in-Chief's favorite towns-EIC).

WKBI will run 60-second Morse Code IDs and sweep tones at the top of each hour after ABC News only. Otherwise, look for a format that's referred to on-air as "America's Best Music"; music technically thought of as Adult Standards, but to the non-radio person, more like Soft Oldies. The station identifies itself as "Classy 1400 and 94.5". WKBI will operate at 1,000 watts on a non-directional pattern. The DX Test will also broadcast over W233BS 94.5 with 250 watts ERP at 364 feet AAT from an elevation of about 2200 feet above sea level.

No E-mail reports accepted. Reports should be sent by regular postal mail only, accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Audio clips welcome on CD or MP3/Wave files on USB/thumb/jump drive. Please do not send cassette tapes. Reports must include written or printed information with the listener's location, equipment used, and details about content heard. CDs will not be returned, but if you include return postage, a USB/Thumb drive will be returned.

Send reports to:

Paul Walker
c/o WKBI DX Test
Post Office Box O
Ridgway, PA 15853

This test was arranged by Paul Walker. (Thanks Paul!)

CANADIAN RADIO NEWS

Dan Sys- sysdan@gmail.com

For February 2013 (March 1 2013 – next update April 1 2013)

CALL LETTER DATA

990	QC	Montreal	new	Will become CHRFB
OFF THE AIR				
540	ON	Windsor	CBEF	Scheduled to go dark on March 1, 2013 after simulcast time for move to 1550 AM expired
1240	QC	La Tuque	CFLM	Simulcast time for flip to 97.1 FM has expired
1510	ON	Tillsonburg	CKOT	Went dark February 17, 2013 (was a simulcast for CJDL 107.3) (no longer financially viable)
GOING OFF THE AIR				
580	AB	Edmonton	CKUA	Will go dark this Spring due to unaffordable upgrades required to transmitting equipment

PROPOSED AM TO FM CONVERSIONS

920	NT	Tulita (Fort Norman)	CBQI	Move to 100.9 with 50 watts
1450	AB	Fort Chipewyan	CBKE	Move to 99.9 with 50 watts

BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Robert J. Wien (KG6RJW/3) - 902 Hall Station Drive #104 - Bowie, MD 20721
E-mail: wienbob@aol.com

DATE OF COLUMN: MARCH 9, 2013

Column data span: February 24, 2013-March 9, 2013

Data courtesy of Stationintel.com, FCC database and member contributions

COLUMN DEADLINES: SATURDAYS

Please send your tips to the Email address above only and no other.
Deadlines for column will be Saturdays. Thank you.

CALL CHANGES

FREQ	OLD CALL	CITY OF LICENSE	NEW CALL
1290	WMCS	Greenfield, WI	WZTI
1430	KCOH	Houston, TX	KSHJ
1520	KVTA	Port Hueneme, CA	KUNX
1590	KUNX	Ventura, CA	KVTA

FORMAT, SLOGAN AND SILENT STATUS CHANGES

FREQ	CALL	CITY OF LICENSE	NEW INFORMATION
560	WOOF	Dothan, AL	was Yahoo Sports Radio, now ESPN Radio
770	WYRV	Cedar Bluff, VA	old slogan: "Amen 770", new: "WYRV 770"
770	WYRV	Cedar Bluff, VA	was Contemporary Christian, now variety
830	WUMY	Memphis, TN	old slogan: "95.3 Country Rebel", new: "Y 105.5"
830	WUMY	Memphis, TN	was country, now classic country
880	KLRG	Sheridan, AR	was talk, new format not available
900	WOZK	Ozark, AL	new: "WOAB 104.9"
900	WOZK	Ozark, AL	old slogan: "The Memory Lingers On"
910	WOLI	Spartanburg, SC	old slogan: "Earth 105.7", new: "The Source"
910	WOLI	Spartanburg, SC	was classic hits, now adult standards
910	WTMZ	Dorchester, SC	old slogan: "ESPN Radio 910", new: "910 The Zone"
940	WMIX	Mount Vernon, IL	new slogan: "Newstalk 940"
940	WMIX	Mount Vernon, IL	old slogan "Today's Talk and Yesterday's Memories"
940	WMIX	Mount Vernon, IL	was Dial Global adult standards, now talk
950	WJKB	Moncks Corner, SC	old slogan: "The Zone 950", new: "1340 The Voice"
950	WJKB	Moncks Corner, SC	was Yahoo Sports radio, now talk
970	KFTA	Rupert, ID	old slogan: "La Fantastica", new: "970 Juan"
970	KFTA	Rupert, ID	was La Gran D network, now Dial Global Juan FM
970	KFTA	Rupert, ID	was regional Mexican, now Spanish adult hits

970	WRHA	Spring City, TN	adds slogan "CBS Sports 970"
970	WRHA	Spring City, TN	was oldies, now CBS Sports
1010	KDLA	De Ridder, LA	now silent
1050	KEYF	Dishman, WA	adds Dial Global adult standards
1090	XEPRS	Rosarito, BCN	new slogan: "The Mighty 1090 AM"
1090	WENR	Englewood, TN	was silent, now Southern gospel
1090	XEPRS	Rosarito, BCN	old slogan: "XX Sports Radio"
1200	WXKS	Newton, MA	new: "Bloomberg 1200"
1200	WXKS	Newton, MA	old slogan: "Matty's Comedy 1200"
1200	WXKS	Newton, MA	was comedy, now business news
1220	WCPH	Etowah, TN	was adult standards, now Southern gospel
1230	KLIC	Monroe, LA	was talk, now oldies
1230	KQUE	Houston, TX	was ethnic, now urban contemporary and talk
1240	WJIM	Lansing, MI	new slogan: "Lansing's Big Talker 1240 AM"
1240	WJIM	Lansing, MI	old slogan: "1240 AM WJIM"
1240	WLAG	La Grange, GA	was Fox Sports, Radio, now CBS Sports
1290	WZTI	Greenfield, WI	adds slogan "Martini Radio"
1310	WXMC	Parsippany, NJ	was Spanish contemporary Christian, now tropical
1320	KELO	Sioux Falls, SD	old slogan: "KELO AM 1320, News Talk Radio"
1320	KELO	Sioux Falls, SD	new: "KELO AM 1320/107.9 FM"
1330	WGFT	Campbell, OH	now silent
1340	WQSC	Charleston, SC	adds slogan "1340 The Voice"
1360	WELR	Roanoke, AL	was Fox Sports Radio, now CBS Sports
1400	KKZZ	Santa Paula, CA	old slogan: "AM 1400 KKZZ", new: Radio Formula"
1400	KKZZ	Santa Paula, CA	was talk, now Spanish talk
1420	WNRS	Herkimer, NY	old slogan: "1420 The Fox", new: "1420 True Oldies"
1420	WNRS	Herkimer, NY	was Fox Sports Radio, now Cumulus True Oldies
1430	KSHJ	Houston, TX	was urban contemporary, now EWTN Catholic
1460	WXBR	Brockton, MA	was silent, now talk
1470	WEVG	Evergreen, AL	now silent
1500	WASN	Youngstown, OH	now silent
1590	KLRK	Mexia, TX	old slogan: "101.3 Bob FM", new: "La Caliente"
1590	KLRK	Mexia, TX	was adult hits, now regional Mexican
1590	KVTA	Ventura, CA	old slogan: "Radio Formula", new: "News Talk KVTA"
1590	KVTA	Ventura, CA	was Spanish talk, now talk
1660	WBCN	Charlotte, NC	new: "CBS Sports Radio 1660"
1660	WBCN	Charlotte, NC	old slogan: "WBCN 1660 America's Talk"
1660	WBCN	Charlotte, NC	was talk, now CBS Sports

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS

ERIC BUENEMAN OF HAZELWOOD, MO SENDS ALONG THE FOLLOWING:

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch has reported in its March 8 edition that KFNS 590 Wood River, IL and KXFN 1380 St. Louis, MO are dropping all-sports formats, effective May 1. KFNS has been an all-sports station since 1993; it has been affiliated with Yahoo! Sports Radio. KXFN has been an all-sports station for several years now (it had a short run as an all-sports station in 1992-93 as KASP), and has been affiliated with Fox Sports Radio.

KFNS 590 is preparing to switch to a male-oriented talk format, some shows with controversial hosts. The new slogan will be "590 The Man". KXFN 1380 is preparing to switch to a female-oriented talk format as "1380 The Woman". The reason for the changes is the declining ratings of not only the two stations, but of sports radio in general, in the St. Louis market. The two stations are locally-owned; that will leave Hubbard Broadcasting's WXOS 101.1 East St. Louis, IL as the only all-sports radio station in St. Louis.

DENNIS GIBSON OF SANTA BARBARA, CA SENDS ALONG THE FOLLOWING:

KVTA-1520 is now KUNX. Format is unknown. It is currently running a tape loop saying that all of its programs have moved to 1590, and identifying each time as KUNX Port Hueneme. KUNX-1590 is now KVTA.

What may have something to do with it is something I just learned about recently. 1520 has been operating at reduced power since 2011 under an STA. On April 15, 2011 it was discovered that one of the monitoring points for the antenna was out of tolerance and it reduced nighttime power to 648 watts (from 1,000 watts; not much of a loss) while they investigated the cause. While they were trying to figure out the problem a farmer plowing on land adjacent to the transmitter site mistakenly crossed a boundary and tore up at least half of the ground wiring for one of the three towers used for the day pattern. This necessitated a reduction in day power to 4,600 watts (from 10,000 watts; about a 3 db reduction) and night power down to 136 watts, a loss of close to 10 db. As of January 8, 2013 they had not completed repairs and requested an extension of the STA. I know a contract engineer down there and will check with him to see the current status. 1520 has always gotten out quite well and I haven't noticed much if any difference.

Well, just 2 weeks till spring and we switch back to DST tonight, was 60 degrees here in the Washington DC area today, so very nice weather. Hope your DX springs into action also! 73's. Bob Wien

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: March 22, April 5, April 19, May 3, May 17. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY ISSUE:

- (RB) **Rick Barton**-El Mirage, AZ desertmoon_dxshack@inbox.com
Philco Model 60, Drake R-8, Slinky and homebrew loop, Panasonic RF-2200, random wire
- (AB) **Art Blair**-730 SW 3rd St.-Fruitland, ID 83619 artblair1937@gmail.com
NRD-515, Kiwa loop
- (DG) **Dennis Gibson**-Aptos, CA wb6tnb@yahoo.com
Grundig G4000A
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net
Drake R8, 1500' Eastern Beverage
- *****
- 570 KNRS UT, Salt Lake City 2/26 0826 spot for Salt Lake City Home & Garden show, male "On 105.7 FM and 570 AM." Did not, however, actually give the call letters, which were given 15 minutes later. Very good. (RB-AZ)
- KVI WA, Seattle 3/4 2106 "Talkradio 5-70 KVI," into the Lars Larson program, fair/good over KNRS. (AB-ID)
- 590 KQNT WA, Spokane 2/28 2105 "Fox News Radio," local ads, and "5-90 KQNT" at 2106. (AB-ID)
- 640 KFI CA, Los Angeles 2/24 0150 very good and alone on channel with program on various conspiracies, "KFI AM 6-40" at ToH. (RB-AZ)
- 660 KXOR OR, Junction City 2/28 0140 faded up and over usual KWVE and KTNN. I suspect that it was running day power at night; 10kw instead of 75 watts. Patrick Martin verified that it often does not power down, which I have suspected for awhile. (DG-CA)
- 700 KGRV OR, Winston 2/27 0423 totally buried semi local KMBX, obviously on 23 KW day power of 470 watt night power. Never heard from this location before. (DG-CA)
- KALL UT, North Salt Lake City 2/25 0100 sports recap and results of Daytona. Very good, but some splashover from local on 710 due to the Philco 60's wider bandwidth. (RB-AZ)
- 730 KINF ID, Boise 3/4 1956 "ESPN 7-30," BSU basketball news. "ESPN 730 Boise" at 2000. (AB-ID)
- 740 KCBS CA, San Francisco 2/24 0200 news, very good with perfect loop null of local KIDR. Correspondent report from "... Shaffer, KCBS," to sports. The antenna is a makeshift homebrew loop made from an old pizza box and 50' of wire. (RB-AZ)
- CFZM ON, Toronto 3/3 0411 good on top with adult standards and "CFZM AM 740" ID. (PM-OR)
- 750 KOAL UT, Price 2/25 0245 talk show, break on the hour to good ID, combining announcement and jingle, to ABC news. "KOAL New, Talk, Sports...Price 7-50." (RB-AZ)
- 770 KTTH WA, Seattle 3/4 2002 "Talk 7-70," fair. (AB-ID)
- 800 KBRV ID, Soda Springs 3/4 very good at 0030 with C&W music and ancr "KBRV AM 800." (PM-OR)
- +3/4 2006 "KBRV Soda Springs," and "AM 800" good over KPDQ. (AB-ID)
- 810 KTBI WA, Ephrata 2/27 840 gent preaching about "Lighting Your Own Fire." (AB-ID)
- 880 KRVN NE, Lexington 2/24 0242 very good with country music. Faded down, then back with local spots at 0250, "...Insurance in Kearney." (RB-AZ)
- 900 CHML ON, Hamilton 2/24 0343 good on top of jumble with Coast to Coast, ID as "AM 900 CHML," over unID religious station. (PM-OR)
- 980 KFVB CA, Los Angeles 4/3 2257 promo for "Ken Rokowski" to "KFVB Newstalk 98," good with slight mixing. (RB-AZ)
- 1000 KOMO WA, Seattle 2/26 2205 brief local weather & news. (AB-ID)
- 1040 WHO IA, Des Moines 4/3 2250 local promo to male "...on Newsradio 10-40, WHO." Another male with legal ID within a minute. Very good and all alone on channel. (RB-AZ)
- 1070 KNX CA, Los Angeles 2/24 0740 "Frank Motek" money report. Armchair copy. (RB-AZ)
- 1140 KHTK CA, Sacramento 3/4 2104 end of network news, to spot for "Sacramento Home & Garden Show." Not heard in a few months here. (RB-AZ)
- 1160 KSL UT, Salt Lake City 2/26 1245 local talk show, caller on line from traffic jam, brought on by big road wreck, to "Brown Toyota" spot, very good. (RB-AZ)
- 1170 KFAQ OK, Tulsa 2/24 0300 "On newstalk 11-70," to ABC news. (RB-AZ)
- 1250 KWSU WA, Pullman 2/26 0800 "This is KWSU 1250" under 1260 KBLV's slop. (AB-ID)

- 1260 KTRC NM, Santa Fe 3/4 0706 "Click on KTRC at Santa Fe dot com," fair to good. (RB-AZ)
- 1340 KIKO AZ, Miami 2/25 1150 The Commodores "Easy," ID on the hour "KIKO Miami-Globe," ABC news. This is a graveyard that is hard to hear out in my local area. (RB-AZ)
- 1380 KHEY TX, El Paso 2/24 0815 talk about NASCAR racing history in Florida. Good. (RB-AZ)
- 1430 KLO UT, Ogden 3/5 0100 spot for "The Metal Mart" to ABC news after clear legal IDs on the hour. Good, with some co-channel mixing. (RB-AZ)
- 1470 KNXN AZ, Sierra Vista 3/4 break from a religious talk show to promo and "Here on AM 9-40, KGMS." KGMS is a Tucson station on 940, but they simulcast with KNXN, coming in strong & clear, from the US/Mexican border, 180 mi, 2kw. (RB-AZ)
- 1480 KHQN UT, Spanish Fork 3/6 0355 fair in & out of jumble with promos for "Newstalk KHQN." (PM-OR)
- 1510 KGA WA, Spokane 2/27 2000 "Sports Radio 15-10 KGA." (AB-ID)
- 1570 KPRO CA, Riverside 3/4 1800 male with "Here in Riverside on KPRO...KPRO Riverside" to "Bible Studies" program on the hour. Fair-good. (RB-AZ)
- 1580 CKDO ON, Oshawa 2/24 0112 very good on top of jumble with "You're My Best Friend" by Queen, followed by a "C-K-D-O" jingle, back into oldies. (AB-ID)
- 1650 KFOX CA, Torrance 2/27 1930-1946 man & woman with talk in Korean, "Radio Seoul" mentioned. (AB-ID)

Thank you to our WDXR reporters this issue. Happy Anniversary IRCA! Nancy 3/8 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

[GH-OK] **Glenn Hauser**, Enid, OK wghauser@yahoo.com
DX-398

DOWN THE DIAL

790 KFYO TX, Lubbock. 3-1. 09:30 with local news. [GH-OK]
1160 KRDY TX, San Antonio. 3-6 in KSL null. 09:36 with Radio Disney programming. [GH-OK]

25 YEARS AGO

March 26, 1988 Anniversary Issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Bruce Portzer** of Seattle, WA was 36 and mentioned his 11 month old daughter ... **Jef Jaisun** of Bothell, WA was 43 and said he has logged some 1000 stations ... **Ric Heald** of Sacramento, CA was 41 and has been DXing since 1959 ... **Pat Martin** of Seaside, OR was 39 and had been DXing for 26 years ... **Bill Nittler** of Mancos, CO began DXing in 1950 when he was in high school in Geneva, NE ... **Walt Breville** of St. Louis, MO started DXing in the early 1950s ... **Robert Wien** of San Jose, CA was 27 and a member since 1976 ... **Neil J. Wolfish** of Winnipeg, MB said he was 25 ... **Rick Evans** of Wisconsin Rapids, WI was 42 and a member since 1965 ... **Tom Laskowski** of West Lafayette, IN was 27 and a senior at Purdue University ... **Karl Forth** of Chicago, IL was 32 and has logged 2471 stations.

OPEN MIKE

Happy Anniversary IRCA. We're one year away from the 50th anniversary of our great club. Times sure have changed. My CDXR 25 years ago ran two pages and some 36 members had submitted Forum reports. This column was typed 3-9-13. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

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

E-mail: EDXR-at-AMLOGBOOK-dot-COM

Deadlines: Saturdays 7 AM!!

STARS OF THE WEEK

(JUR-MI) John J. Rieger L'Anse,MI
Grundig Satellit 750 stock

(WM-MD) William McGuire Chevery, MD
(RW-MD) Robert Wien Greenbelt, MD
2011 Ford Fusion
Manassas, VA

(KK-VA) Kraig Krist Winradio G33DDC SDR rx with 12 foot vertical antenna.

LOGGINGS

690 FL WOKV Jacksonville 3/2 2225 Good on top of 2 others with ID "Jacksonville's 690 AM". Faded eventually u/unid. oldies station. Listed 50 kw. days/25 kw. nights, directional east/west. (RW-MD)

740 WI WDGY Hudson 3/2 0824 Poor in fade up. True Oldies Channel, Top5 countdown and calls at :29. (JJR-MI)

850 VA WTAR Norfolk 2/21 1900 "Comedy 850:" ID (WM-MD)

880 OH WRFD Worthington 2/21 1800 "Life Changing Radio" ID (WM-MD)

900 WI WATK Antigo 2/22 2050 Poor -calls in peak up o/CHML. Unusual at night. NOS JJR-MI

WI WDSL Wisconsin Dells 2/22 2051 Fair in nice fade up, "...in the Dells, Country Western AM 900." was almost strong! Never hrd @nite. OLD C&W (JJR-MI)

990 IL WCAZ Carthage 2/22 2044 Very poor w/Ililini basketball. Way u/CBW. Only affil. No calls hrd. (JJR-MI)

1000 SD KXRB Sioux Falls 3/2 0741 Very poor in WMVP null. Finally "Classic Country 1000 KXRB" o/unid CCM strn. "From 1955..." (JJR-MI)

1080 KY WYHY Cannonsburg 2/22 1859 Poor -"WYHY....WYHY" noted 2x in very nice fade up. Trx to Saul Chernos for heads up on this. re-log. (JJR-MI)

ND KNDK Langdon 2/22 1850 Poor- calls, Yahoo Sports radio o/weak WTIC. WNWI nulled (JJR-MI)

1140 KY WRLV Salyersville 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WRVA, singing and Spanish. 0343 "Pure country 106 point 5". (KK-VA)

1160 NY WPIE Thurmansburg 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WOBN, WYLL and other singing. WPIE with typical ESPN radio programming. 0300 "... WPIE... sports... Thurmansburg...". (KK-VA)

1200 SC WMIR Atlantic Beach 2/21 2000 Presumed with Black Gospel Music (WM-MD)

1230 MI WSOO Sault Ste Marie 2/24 0718 Very poor in mess, tho clear "1230 WSOO" in liner w/softer OLDies.. (JJR-MI)

PA WTIV Titusville 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with other talk, singing and ESPN. 0300 "Allegheny news talk sports network." (KK-VA)

WI WCLO Janesville 3/1 0734 Poor in/out "WCLO newstime"....wx and woman w/"WCLO.com" popping up o/anything. (JJR-MI)

1240 WI WOBT Rhinelander 2/24 0803 Poor in w/2 others. "Hodag" heard clearly. Slogan is "Hodag Country Legends" OLD C&W (JJR-MI)

1250 ON CJYE Oakville 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WKDL, oldies, and Gospel singing. 0400 "You're listening to 'Overnight' on the White Oak... family radio stations CJYE... 12-50 and CJMR AM 13-20." (KK-VA)

1260 OH WNXT Portsmouth 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with other talk, more talk and singing. 0300T "You're listening to 'Fox Sportsman' on AM 12-60 WNXT AM Portsmouth." 0316 "You're listening to your hometown favorite for Cincinnati Reds baseball. Fox sports 12-60 WNXT." (KK-VA)

1270 IN WXGO Madison 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WXYT, ESPN and C&W songs. 0303 "... that's the forecast from AM 12-70 WXGO". "12-70 WXGO". WXGO with oldies.. (KK-VA)

MI WXYT Detroit 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WXGO, ESPN and C&W songs. 0400 "This is WXYT and WXYT HD Detroit CBS sports radio 12-70." (KK-VA)

1280 PA WJST New Castle 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WSAT, WADO and WYVE. 0331 "Fox sports radio 12-80 WJST". (KK-VA)

VA WYVE Wytheville 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WSAT, WADO and WJST. 0337 "Mainstream country WYVE". (KK-VA)

1300 MA WJDA Quincy 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WCKI, WGDJ and ESPN. 0357 "You can fund us at 13 hundred WJDA." (KK-VA)

NY WGDJ Rensselaer 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WCKI, WJDA and ESPN. WGDJ with "Red Eye Radio". 0330 "WGDJ Rensselaer. It's talk 13 hundred... Vanderburg mornings, Fred Dicker at 10 and the home of Sienna basketball. It's stimulating talk..." (KK-VA)

SC WCKI Greer 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WGDJ, WJDA and ESPN. WCKI with EWTN Catholic radio programming. 0401 "Catholic radio of South Carolina broadcasts..." (KK-VA)

1310 NY WRSB Canadagua 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with talk and other talk. 0335 "This is your station for Christian music and talk radio. 15-90 AM WASB and 13-10 AM WRSB. The Sonshine network." (KK-VA)

1340 MI WAGN Menominee 2/23 0748 Poor in mess. Quicken, "here in Menominee..." and by this time, dx was almost nil, vs yesterday when it lasted 45 mins longer (JJR-MI)

NY WLVL Lockport 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with oldies, Fox sports and ESPN. 0318 "...weekday mornings at 7:55. Here on hometown 13-40 WLVL..." (KK-VA)

1350 OH WARF Akron 2/25 1900 "Fox Sports Radio" heard (WM-MD)

1370 MI WLJW Cadillac 3/2 0700 Poor w/end of SRN nx, LID, wx:high in 30s. Long forecast thru next Thur. Weekend Magazine show. (JJR-MI)

1380 IN WKJG Fort Wayne 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WABH, WKDM, talk and C&W songs. WKJG also with typical ESPN radio programming. 0305 "Join... basketball... ESPN.. WKJG.". (KK-VA)

NY WABH Bath 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WKJG, WKDM, talk and C&W songs. WABH with typical ESPN radio programming. 0403 "13-80 WABH." (KK-VA)

1380 NY WKDM New York City 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WABH, WKJG, talk and C&W songs. Chinese talk. 0300 In English "WKDM 13-80 AM New York." (KK-VA)

1400 MN KEYL Long Prairie 2/24 0706 Poor -"AM 1400 KEYL Long Prairie" into mx in mess. OLD C&W Rare (JJR-MI)

WI WBIZ Eau Claire 2/24 0733 Poor "Sportsradio1400.com" over & over in promos for shows. In mess. (JJR-MI)

1410 CT WPOP Hartford 2/25 1940 Fox sports radio heard (WM-MD)

1440 OH WHKZ Warren 2/25 2005 SRN News, "The Word." ID (WM-MD)

1450 IL WRLL Cicero 2/23 0656 Poor w/LID at :00. SS kinda stood out on freq, hi. In 45 mins which is a first here! (JJR-MI)

IA KMRY Cedar Rapids 3/2 0800 Poor -"93.1FM, 1450 Classic KMRY...." CBS nx in mess.. (JJR-MI)

MO KOKO Warrensburg 3/1 1811 Poor wx:hi 40s, low:30's...calls finally hrd at :11 and :16 Over others.. (JJR-MI)

MN KNSI Saint Cloud 2/22 2000 Pr w/LID "and 103.3" K277BS. NBC nx in mess! (JJR-MI)

OH WLEC Sandusky 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WPSE and Fox sports. WLEC with adult standards. 0350 "We are 14-50 WLEC." (KK-VA)

PA WPSE Erie 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WLEC and Fox sports. 0306 "You're listening to WPSE 24 hour business and financial news from CBS Radio and CBS Market Watch..." (KK-VA)

1470 FL WNOGI Naples 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WMBD and singing. 0319 "... 14-70 WNOG". 0330 "The Steve Kane Show with encore presentations overnight, everynight on 14-70 WNOG and AM 7-4 WSBR". (KK-VA)

1510 SD KMSD Milbank 3/2 0849 Poor -"12 degrees at Hometown Radio" Calls, winter storm watch. (JJR-MI)

1530 PA WMGE North East 2/22 0255-0405 Mixing with WCKY and talk. 0302 "Your... station on AM 15-30 WMCE North East and 88 point 5 WMCE Erie." (KK-VA)

1570 IN WVHII Minocqua 3/2 0801 Poor "NewsTalk 1570 WLKD" and "Northern Wisconsin wx" jingle o/anything. (JJR-MI)

UN-IDEN

780 ?? ???? 3/2 2218 Noted with southern accented annr, gospel mx, had signoff and invited listeners to tune in tomorrow morning at 6:45 AM when they would sign on again, then totally overridden by WBBM. Most likely either WWOL Forest City, NC or WCKB Dunn, NC, both have LSR time of about 6:41 AM on 3-2 per Google sunrise map. (RW-MD)

1340 ?? ???? 2/22 0255-0405 EST. Mixing with WLVL, oldies, Fox sports and ESPN. 0321 "... the copy center in Milwaukee. Find details online...". Is this WJYI? (KK-VA)

1460 ?? ???? 2/23 1912 Poor in CJOY null w/Rosary. Lost in 2 mins. (JJR-MI)

CORRECTION FROM LAST TIME

1330 IN WVHI Evansville 2/22 0830 Poor w/"AM 1330 WVHI Evansville" into REL programming. No sign of WHBL/KWLO. (JJR-MI)

Thanks to all this week.....fresh 3-9 0830

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX
Patrick Martin – PO Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138
E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net all times UTC

Welcome to another year with the IRCA!!! Deadline, Sunday 3/24 noon PLT.

TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

153 **RUSSIA**, Komosomolsk, R Rossii. 1355 3/2 fair signal with music RR. HPAW. (DV-WA)

279 **RUSSIA**, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, R Rossii. 1356 3/2 very weak signal with man in RR. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

594 **JAPAN**, JOAK, Tokyo, NHK1. 1401 3/2 weak signal with man in JJ. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

603 **REP KOREA**, HLSA, Seoul. 1404 3/2 assuming the station with weak signal and music. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

738 **TAHITI**, Papeete, R Polynesie. 1413 3/2 weak signal with music followed by woman in FF. W-SW ewe. (DV-WA)

774 **JAPAN**, JOUB, Akita, NHK2. 1345-1350 3/2 good signal at times with woman in JJ. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

828 **JAPAN**, JOBB, Osaka, NHK2. 1353 3/2 weak signal with moderate splatter with woman in JJ. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

972 **REP KOREA**, HLCA, Dangjin. Good KK music and YL speech at 1440 2/28; best TP signal of the morning <http://www.mediafire.com/?ifyblrrpfjq0qq6>. (GDB-WA)

+ Fair KK pop music at 1427 3/8; best signals so far in March <http://www.mediafire.com/?coryfdzrv4ufj87>. (GDB-WA)

1566 **REP KOREA**, HLAZ, Jeju, FEBC. Good Christian music during KK program at 0955 2/28 (Asian sunset period) <http://www.mediafire.com/?gkmbvwhloekwk4>. (GDB-WA)

+ 1407 3/2 with weak signal with music. Followed by woman in CC. NW ewe. (DV-WA)

+ Hrd at 1335 3/8 with talk. (BB-AZ)

- + Heard at 1343 3/9 with very weak audio. (BB-AZ)
- 1575 **THAILAND**, Ban Rassom, VOA. Fair-good Asiatic language YL speech at 1420 3/5; best TP signal of the morning <http://www.mediafire.com/?ttn2jm4edullmb4>. (GDB-WA)
- + Fair Asiatic language OM speech at 1423 3/7; best TP signal of the morning <http://www.mediafire.com/?ajd5c4sjd8566ed>. (GDB-WA)
- + Hrd at 1341 3/8 with talk by man and woman. (BB-AZ)
- + Fair Asiatic language speech at 1425 3/8; steadiest TP of the morning <http://www.mediafire.com/?y8xiniljx0cv3ur>. (GDB-WA)

PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 550 **MÉXICO**, XEPL, Cd Cuauhtémoc, Chih, La Super Estación. 0616 2/24, a Suprema Corte "tiempo oficial" government PSA, dominant signal from NE/SW but with a SAH of about 4 Hz; 0617 balada music; 0623 "La Super Estación, 550 AM," 11:22 timecheck. Therefore it is, per Cantú: XEPL + FM 91.3. 5,000 150. No sign of Low GG or indigenous language at the moment. IRCA and WRTW agree on night power, if we can believe that: not bad for 150 watts, rather than 5 kW day power. (GH-OK)
- 730 **MÉXICO**, XEHB, Hidalgo del Parral, Chih. 1342 3/3, gobierno federal PSA, Grupo Radiorama promo, Ke Buena ID with 107.1, ie the usual dominator XEHB, back to music. (GH-OK)
- 730 **MÉXICO**, XEX, México, DF. 0622 2/26, Morse code goes by a few times, but I don't copy it completely in the QRM: not RR as in CUBA. Must be TDW, which XEX DF uses as a non-ID. (GH-OK)
- 880 **UnID**. 1314 3/3, spirited discussion in SS, mentions mujeres, "cien metros" a couple times, so maybe about women's track & field? In tight null of KRVN N/S. No KLRG now which often occupies that null, from AR to the east. Previously had XEV Chihuahua city which is a R Fórmula news/talker, best bet, but also XETC "Kiuu" = Q as pronounced in EE, Torreón, Coahuila. Sports talk is format for XEAAA, Guadalajara, Ultra per IRCA Log, but doubt it's that at this hour. (GH-OK)
- 960 **MÉXICO**, XEK, Nuevo Laredo. 0600-0605 2/25, local KGWA Enid continues to provide a Fox-hole of dead air most nights – well, almost, except for that nasty hum. Carefully nulling it on the DX-398 by the window, from long experience I recognize three stations coming thru: at 0602, 4-descending 'XEW' chimes really from XEK; then at 0603 harmonica blues music presumably from WABG Greenwood MS. (GH-OK)
- + 0601 3/2, during KGWA Fox-hole of carrier only, clearly hear ID "Desde Nuevo Laredo, escuchan XEK, la estación grande," No XEW chimes, however. This was amid some ballad music which continued, so not sure if ID interrupted same on XEK or that was from another Mexican like XEFAMA, also heard previously. By 0604 also mixing in dueling banjos from "Deliverance," probably from WABG in Mississippi. (GH-OK)
- 990 **MÉXICO**, XECL, Mexicali, BC. 0745 2/24. Mexican music and "Rockola 9-90"slogan in SS. Armchair. This one sometimes a no-show, other times just this good. Heard on homebrew pizza box loop coupled to classic Philco Model 60. (RB-AZ)
- + 1313 2/26, SS ID as "La Rocola," ballad, and 1316 jingle, east-west. That's XECL, per IRCA actually spelt "Rockola 9-90," 5/3 kW, a kilomile away. (GH-OK)
- 1050 **MÉXICO**, XEBCS, La Paz, Baja California del Sur. 0615 2/26. 1980s rock and disco mix. Mexican national anthem by female chorus just before the hour, ID by Male. Not first time heard, but IS first time I got good positive ID. Surprised I finally ID'd this on old Philco broadcast receiver, and surprised this was NOT (as I had suspected) was the XEG powerhouse out of Monterrey NL to the south east. (RB-AZ)
- 1110 **UnID**. 0558 2/26, soft jazz in null of KFAB making SAH. None of the other nighttime US stations look likely in the NRC AM Log, so switch to the IRCA Mexican log for most likely candidate there, XEWR in Ciudad Juárez, 500 watts at night, but there are several others. (GH-OK)
- 1260 **MÉXICO**, XESA, Culiacsn, Sin. 0515 2/25. Music pgm. ID was at the hour during fadedown, but I could make out enough to make the call. No sign of semi-local KBSZ due to loop being oriented for N-S reception at this time. (RB-AZ)
- 1300 **MÉXICO**, XEP, Ciudad Juárez, Chih. 1338 2/24, VG signal in SS, timecheck for 6:37, so it's the usual XEP, which penetrates well even a semihour past sunrise here with its 38 day kW per Cantú. (GH-OK)
- + 1340 3/6, deliberately stammering promos for effect, R México Noticias, quick list of international bridge traffic delays, including Zaragoza just downstream, weather, ie XEP, 1342 Hugo Chávez bio. (GH-OK)
- 1370 **MÉXICO**, XEMON, Monterrey, NL. 0713 2/28, Mexican political discussion from the south with anti-sindicato sentiment (as the PRI President Peña Nieto is cracking down on corrupt union leaders), 0705 ID as "Grupo Fórmula" and then ads. IRCA shows two Radios Fórmula on 1370, but I'm sure this is not Nogales but the one in Monterrey, XEMON, 10/10 kW, relaying XERFR 970, ie the network flagship out of the DF. No doubt if I had listened longer I would have heard a 970 rather than 1370 ID. (GH-OK)

TROPICAL BAND DX ROUNDUP

- 2910 **MÉXICO**, XEVT, Villahermosa, Tab (3x 970). 1151 2/26, harmonic here is often a carrier, but power outage today lowers the noise level enough to make out a few SS words, "pantalones de color naranja" (meaning prison garb?), ie previously identified as 3 x 970, XEVT. (GH-OK)
- + 1213 3/3 harmonic is peaking about now, as good as it ever gets. Recording: <http://www.w4uvh.net/XEVT2910.rm>. Starts with timecheck for 6:13, and a few other peaks of readable SS audio, such as mention of "mujer y el poeta." Catching call letters is very difficult, rarely mentioned, but previously firmly IDed. Altho I've heard it many times, I haven't yet seen a single other report of it from anyone. (GH-OK)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

- BB-AZ **BILL BLOCK**, Prescott Valley AZ
Drake R8
- DV-WA **DENNIS VROOM**, Kalama WA
DXing with JRC NRD 545, Drake R8B, EAC R-390. NW & W-SW ewe, Sky wire loop 753', Long wire 300', High Performance Active Whip (long wave)
- GDB-WA **GARY DeBOCK**, Puyallup, WA
C Crane SWP 7.5" Slider loopstick Ultralight + 8" Medium Wave FSL antenna
- GH-OK **GLENN HAUSER**, Enid OK
Mostly DX-398 with internal antenna only, or Sony SRF-59
- RB-AZ **RICK BARTON**, Box 1804, El Mirage AZ
Philco cathedral type Moedel 60. 50' of wire around an old pizza box for an antenna

DX WORLDWIDE – EAST

Vincent Fierste
E-mail: dxista@yahoo.ca all times UTC

*** TRANSATLANTIC LOGS ***

- 162 **FRANCE** France-Inter, Allouis, MAR 5 0359 - US soul music, 4 pips at 0400, ID "Vous écoutez France-Inter", man and woman in French into news; good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 171 **MOROCCO** R. Mediterranee Internationale, Nador, MAR 5 0401 - dance / hip-hop music; to fair peak. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 177 **GERMANY** Deutschlandfunk, Oranienburg, MAR 5 0401 - woman in German; fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 183 **GERMANY** Europe No. 1, Felsberg, MAR 5 0400 - woman in French, chimes, man in French with news; good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 189 **ICELAND** Ríkisutvarpid, Gufuskalar, MAR 5 0358 - Queen "You're My Best Friend"; to good peak. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 198 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R.4, Droitwich et al., MAR 5 0400 - talk "online and on air today on the BBC World Service", 5+1 pips, "This is News Day", into news mentioning the Kenyan presidential election; to good peak. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 216 **FRANCE** Radio Monte Carlo, Roumoules, MAR 5 0401 - man in French; fair over CLB and YFA beacons. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 225 **POLAND** Polskie Radio, Konstantynow, MAR 5 0400 - fanfare music, man in Polish; poor. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 234 **LUXEMBOURG** RTL, Junglinster, MAR 5 0400 - French news; fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 252 **ALGERIA** Radiodif. Algerienne, Tipaza, MAR 5 0401 - woman in French; evenly mixing with Ireland. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 252 **IRELAND** RTE R.1, Clarkestown, MAR 5 0401 - man in English; mixing with Algeria. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 531 **ALGERIA** Jil FM, F'kirina Wilaya d'Oum El Bouaghi, MAR 1 0400 - pop female vocal, woman with "Jil FM" ID to good peak. + MAR 3 2259 - dance music; better than // 549. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 549 **ALGERIA** Jil FM, Les Trembles, MAR 1 0400 - woman with "Jil FM" ID // 531; good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 603 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, MAR 1 0402 - Spanish news by man; poor. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 621 **CANARY ISLANDS** // SPAIN RNE R.1 synchros, MAR 1 0358 - rock music; poor to fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 693 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R. 5, Droitwich et al., MAR 1 0401 - // 909 with interview with young girl; poor. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 909 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R.5 synchros, MAR 1 0401 - political news by man, interview with young girl; fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** TalkSport synchros, MAR 1 0401 - sportstalk mentioning Manchester City; fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
- 1206 **FRANCE** France Info, Bordeaux, MAR 1 0359 - Henry Mancini "Moon River" instrumental (1961); to good peak over slop. [Connelly*Y-MA]

- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Absolute R. synchros, MAR 1 0359 - Absolute Radio live comedy promotion, then Green Day song; good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1377 **FRANCE** France Info, Lille, MAR 1 0359 - Henry Mancini "Moon River" // 1206; to fair peak. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1422 **GERMANY** Deutschlandfunk, Heusweiler, MAR 1 0359 - man in German; fair. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1449 **LIBYA** Voice of Great Homeland, Misurata, MAR 5 0001 - man with Koranic chant; to fair peak over slop. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** BSKSA, Duba, MAR 5 0001 - news by woman in Arabic, emphasis music; good. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1557 **FRANCE** France Info, Fontbonne, MAR 1 0400 - France Info theme music; over slop. [Connelly*Y-MA]

*** PAN-AMERICAN LOGS ***

- 600 **PUERTO RICO** WYEL, Mayaguez, MAR 1 0401 - WKAQ network ID; better than // 580. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 950 **CUBA** R.Relej, La Habana & Mayari Arriba, MAR 1 0359 - "RR" code beeps; under KKNB/WROL. [Connelly*Y-MA]
 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP, Fredriksted, MAR 5 0400 - relay of BBC World Service, somewhat distorted audio; over Cuba. [Connelly*Y-MA]

*** CONTRIBUTORS ***

[Connelly*Y-MA] **Mark Connelly**, South Yarmouth, Cape Cod, MA, USA
 (GC= 41.6931 N / 70.1912 W) (= 41° 41.59' N / 70° 11.47' W)
Receiver: Microtelecom Perseus
Antenna: west-null Kaz Delta, 7 m vertical (mid-base to apex) by 21 m horizontal, base height 1 m.

DX WORLDWIDE – II

Bruce Portzer – 6546 19th Ave NE – Seattle WA 98115

E-mail: bportzer@comcast.net All times UTC unless noted otherwise

ASIA AND PACIFIC

INDIA: Nautel has received orders for 21 additional medium-wave AM transmitters and associated equipment from India's Prasar Bharati. The orders for 100kW and 200kW transmitters join the earlier-announced order of six 300kW DRM transmitters from All India Radio as the world's largest digital radio deployment to date. All transmitters in the system will be configured for DRM30 transmission and will be used in 27 locations throughout India. The project includes six Nautel NX300 (300kW MW-AM), 10 NX200 (200kW MWAM) and 11 NX100 (100kWMMW-AM) transmitters.

http://radiomagonline.com/currents/nautel_lands_high-power_am_transmitter_orders_0118/
 (AndreaBorogninovia"David"mwcircle24.1.2013)

HAWAII: KHNU Hilo on 620 has applied for a silent STA; has been silent since 19 November after a delivery truck knocked down part of the antenna. KIPA Hilo 1060 has also applied for silent STA; the formerly silent station was put back on the air by the new owner (after bankruptcy of the old one) on 28 September 2012 but went silent on 20 November - new licensee needs to find "a new programming source that will be economically viable." (NRC via NZDXT)

TAJIKISTAN: 252 KHz has been noted off for several weeks. They used to be heard around the clock here (150 Kw @ 500 miles). No sign of them day or night. Algeria 252 in French (750 Kw night @ 3,570 miles) weak but steady with a fade in around 1630, or 9:00 PM local. I will keep trying for most wanted Ireland. (Brock Whaley Kandahar, AFG via dxld 3 Jan)

WESTERN HEMISPHERE

COLOMBIA: 1070 HJVR Nueva Radio Super, Popayán - The station now identifies as Nueva Radio Super. 1430 HJEG The only other novelty in this area (Popayán) concerns La Voz de Belalcazar 1430 which is unheard and according to people in Popayán the station is inactive. The licensee had problems with the Ministerio already in 2010, obviously not solved. The station was founded in 1938. (Yimber Gaviria via Mauno Ritola, Christer Brunström and web via Olle Alm/Arctic)

Since January 2nd W Radio broadcasts on 690 kHz // FM 99.9 mHz, thus Radio Recuerdos, Bogotá disappeared after 27 years on the air. I am awaiting information to confirm additional changes in Caracol AM stations which in the future will broadcast W Radio:

- 1010 Barranquilla ex Oxígeno Radio, // 97.6 fm
 1090 Manizales ex Oxígeno Radio, // 101.7 fm
 1230 Tunja ex Oxígeno Radio, // Tunja 99.3 fm

I believe the above plans are quite obvious (Rafael Rodríguez via Mauno Ritola, Christer Brunström)

VENEZUELA (and elsewhere): Received in Puerto Colombia and Tucacas , Venezuela , from 11 to 16 February 2013 by DX-er Robertas Pogorelis (SONY ICF SW-7600 GR)

- 540 UNID Colombian station
 550 R. Mundial, Venezuela
 570 R. Nacional de Colombia// UNID with religious preaching
 590 R. Continente, Venezuela (parallel 680)
 600 UNID (heard "Estación la Guerez" or smth similar)
 610 R. Rebelde, Cuba
 620 RCN "La Cariñosa", Colombia // UNID US station in English
 630 R. Nacional de Venezuela (parallel 770)
 640 Deportes Unión R., Venezuela // WMEN, Palm Beach , FL , US (tent.) carrying NBC Sports Radio
 650 RCN "Antena 2", Colombia
 670 R. Rumbos – Voz De La Liberación, Venezuela
 680 Caracol Radio W, Colombia// UNID Brazilian
 690 Caracol R. Indigo, Colombia (not exactly as in WRTH!)
 700 R. Popular, Venezuela (parallel 780)// Caracol, Colombia
 710 R. Capital, Caracas
 720 R. Venezolana, Venezuela
 730 Informativo 700 (local mornings), R. De Talento (local evenings), Venezuela – probably coming from the same transmitter (not in WRTH under this name!)// NotiUno 630, Puerto Rico
 740 UNID Colombian// WIAC "La Original", Puerto Rico
 750 RCR, Venezuela
 760 RCN, Colombia// NotiUno, Puerto Rico
 770 R. Nacional de Venezuela (parallel 630)// RCN, Colombia // UNID US station in English
 780 R. Popular, Venezuela (parallel 700)
 790 R. Venezuela
 800 RCN, Colombia
 810 Caracol, Colombia // R. Progreso (tent.), Cuba with program "Notturmo"// NotiUno, Puerto Rico
 820 Caracol, Colombia
 830 R. 830, Caracas
 840 8-40 AM, Barquisimeto, Venezuela (religious)
 850 R. Antena, Venezuela (not in WRTH!)
 860 R. San Cristóbal , Venezuela (WRTH lists this as R. Mundial)// UNID Brazilian
 880 R. Paraguaná, Venezuela // UNID US station in English
 890 Reloj R. América, Valencia (not in WRTH but on www.america890.net)// Caracol, Colombia // R. Progreso, Cuba
 900 Mara Ritmo, Maracaibo, Venezuela// R. Progreso, Cuba
 910 RQ 910 AM Center, Caracas
 930 Todelar HJCS La Voz de Bogotá, Colombia// R. Reloj, Cuba
 940 La Máxima 940, Puerto Rico// 940 WINZ, Miami , US (clear ID)
 950 R. Reloj, Cuba
 960 R. Venezuela // R. Reloj, Cuba
 980 RCN, Colombia
 990 R. Tropical, Venezuela , partly relaying an Italian station
 1000 Caribeña , Venezuela
 1010 R. Aragua, Maracay , Venezuela // Caracol , Colombia // UNID US station in English
 1020 Alegría 1020, Venezuela // Caracol Radio W, Colombia // R. Reloj, Cuba
 1040 La Voz de Carabobo , Valencia , Venezuela
 1070 R. Santa Fé , Colombia
 1080 R. Venezuela
 1090 Deportes Unión R., Venezuela
 1100 UNID, IDing as "Canto(?) Radio"// Caracol , Colombia
 1110 Deportes Unión R., Venezuela
 1150 Venezuela Caribe// UNID Cuban (tent. R. Bayamo)
 1160 UNID religious station in American English
 1170 Caracol R. Cartagena , Colombia
 1180 R. Martí , Florida , US
 1200 R. Tiempo , Venezuela
 1210 R. Rebelde, Cuba
 1220 La Hora de Venezuela (pro-Chavez propaganda station, not in WRTH) English
 1260 BBN, Caracas (religious)// UNID Colombian station
 1280 NotiUno, Puerto Rico
 1290 R. Puerto Cabello, Venezuela
 1300 Recuerdos 1300, Caracas
 1320 R. Apolo, Venezuela
 1340 R. Uno, Venezuela
 1360 Armonía 1360, Charallave , Venezuela (not in WRTH)
 1380 Ondas del Mar, Puerto Cabello, Venezuela
 1390 R. Fé y Alegría, Colombia (religious)
 1400 Misionario Mariano , Colombia // Harbour Light of the Windwards, Grenada (both religious)
 1420 R. Sintonía, Venezuela

1430 Deportes Unión R., Venezuela
1450 R. María, Caracas (religious). Relaying Vatican R. in Spanish at 11:45 UT.
1470 Vibración , Colombia
1480 El 1480, Puerto Rico
1490 La Onda Dinámica, Venezuela (religious)
1500 R. Dos Mil , Venezuela
1510 UNID in English mentioning Florida , US (tentatively WWBC)
1520 UNID from Puerto Rico (tent. R. Voz)
1540 Broadcasting Service of the Bahamas
1550 R. Rebelde (tent.), Cuba
1580 UNID religious
1590 R. Deporte , Venezuela
1610 The Caribbean Beacon, Anguilla (Melissa Scott preaching)
1620 WDHP , US Virgin Islands , including BBC relay// UNID with preaching in Spanish
1660 WGIT (tent.), Puerto Rico (Robertas Pogorelis, Feb 20, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

EUROPE, AFRICA, AND MIDDLE EAST

GREECE: 1260 Rhodes – Another change concerning the mediumwave broadcasting of the public Greek Radio service took place a few weeks ago. The mediumwave transmitter of ERA Rhodes now broadcasts on a new frequency, as it moved from the frequency of 1494 KHz to 1260 late December. The new frequency appears to be extremely clear in terms of interference. The transmitter coverage during the day reaches the island of Crete, while in the evening it also covers quite well northern Greece and a large area of the Balkans.

It should be noted, for historical reasons, that the frequency of 1260 was used until recently by the VOA. In 1952, they began broadcasting services in Arabic, Turkish and English language to the Eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East. The broadcast was originally done from a ship off the coast of Rhodes, with a mediumwave antenna hung onto helium balloons, whereas in 1964 a transmitter on the territory of the island was built. Voice of America had given exceptional attention to specific frequency for 60 years and relayed its program with a powerful AM transmitter power 500 KW, while in 1977 it became the first station fed via satellite from the central studio in Washington. The first service of ERA also used to be relayed for three hours daily (12.00 until 15.00) from this frequency. The second frequency of the Voice of America, at 792 KHz from Kavala, is now used by the E.R.A. Sports, which broadcasts from New Malgara, Thessaloniki.

If we are allowed to comment, perhaps we would suggest reconsidering the content of programs broadcasted by the specific frequency of Rhodes. Particularly in the evening, the multicultural but purely musical, service named Kosmos is being sent. Perhaps it would be a better idea to play something more multilingual and informative, taking advantage of the extended coverage and the history of frequency. Submitted by radiofono.gr 10.1.2013 <http://www.thegreekradio.com/node/3417> (includes a photo of the ship and balloon antenna) (Mike Terry, MWDX 8.2.2013)

ITALY: The 657 kHz transmitter near Bozen (Bolzano) has been closed down in December and, acc. RAI Bozen, the antenna already been dismantled. This leaves Pisa/Coltano as only remaining transmitter on this frequency in Italy. For the part of Southern Tyrol the only remaining mediumwave transmitter there is Bruneck (Brunicolo), 2 kW on 1449 kHz. The transmitter at Brixen (Bressanone), still listed in some literature, has been shut down already some years ago due to technical problems, it will be (or has already been?) dismantled as well. And already in the last decade shut down has been the 1602 kHz Bozen/Bruneck/Brixen/Meran outlet which carried the all-day German program from Bozen which now is on FM only. 1449 kHz has, as 657 had until December as well, Radiouno with short Italian broadcasts from Bozen. (Source: A. Dellemann, Innsbruck) Pictures of that last mediumwave Mohican in Southern Tyrol: <http://www.mediasuk.org/archive/brunico.html> its already dead brother, with an antenna quite expensive for a tiny 2kW outlet, at least for European standards: <http://www.mediasuk.org/archive/bressanone.html>

Haven't found any photos of the just closed 657 kHz facility, so look out in Google Maps, and southeast from Montiggl, rather close to the Etsch River.

While I'm at it: Perhaps still remembered is the 6000 kHz transmitter ORF used to operate at Aldrans. To my knowledge never ever admitted by ORF was its real target area. Just to get it right for the chronicle, in case it has never been discussed outside the German-speaking area: This shortwave outlet was of course not meant for valleys in Austria into which mediumwave did not properly penetrate. This was just a lame excuse used because this service was a quite sensitive matter. (Kai Ludwig dxld, 30 Jan)

RUSSIA: 1494 St. Petersburg (Krasnyy Bor) was switched off at New Year. Actually the whole external services site including shortwave, was closed. The site opened in 1961/62. The mediumwave transmitter started on 114kHz and was heard testing with a strong open carrier for many weeks during the summer of (I think) 1961. Later, when Polish Radio moved to 1502 kHz and RBI to 1511 kHz, Radio Moscow moved from 1142 to 1493 kHz, all three of these with Scandinavian programs. (Olle Alm, ARC, and from BCDX)

The proposed cutbacks of R Mayak on LW/MW seem not to have taken place so far. (Olle Alm, ARC)

Voice of Russia schedule via Bolshakovo (Kaliningrad)
1143 1700-1800 Polish, 1800-2100 Russian. At other times R St Mayak.
1215 1800-2200 Russian (schedules via BCDX) (Olle Alm, ARC)

SLOVENIA: 1170, Radio Capodistria, the Italian language station serving Italian communities in Slovenia and Croatia, will extend broadcasts to 24 hours daily. As from 1 January 2013, Italian programs cover also the nightly hours, from 2300-0500 UT. This will present a new opportunity for listeners to hear Italian broadcasts on 1170 kHz.

This station, part of the regional Studio Koper-Capodistria of RTV Slovenia, has extended their control system, enabling it to automatically repeat broadcasts at night in two segments 1900-2300 and 2300-0500UT. Music and repeats of daily broadcasts will be included. Italian communities scattered in Istria, Dalmatia and Fiume (Rijeka) regions became a national minority after the area was included in former Yugoslavia at the end of World War II.

The MW station in Croce Bianca (Beli Kriz by Pirano - Piran, Istria) is operated by Radio Capodistria (1170 kHz) and its Slovenian sister station Radio Koper (549 kHz) with 15 kW. Listeners confirm that it can be heard as far as Central and Southeastern Italy and the eastern Adriatic Coast (Italradio report on AWR Wavescan, 20.1.2013 via Feb Communication magazine, BDXC-UK 30.1.2013 via BC-DX 2.2.2013 via DXLD)

UKRAINE: Several transmitters were switched off back on January 1:

549 kHz - UR2 - Kyiv-Brovary, Lviv-Krasne, Mykolaiv-Luch
936 kHz - UR1 - Lviv-Krasne
1242 kHz - UR2 - Donetsk-Dokuchaevsk
1431 kHz - UR3 - Mykolaiv-Luch

The same day broadcasting time was reduced for:

711 kHz - UR1 - Donetsk-Dokuchaevsk (4-8, 15-20 UT only)
657 kHz - UR3/RUI - Chernivtsi (17-23 UT only)
837 kHz - UR1 - Kharkiv-Taranivka (4-8, 15-20 UT only)
972 kHz - UR1 - Mykolaiv-Luch (4-8, 15-20 UT only)

Radio Bukovyna switched off 819 kHz (Novodnistrovsk) in late January but 837 (Chernivtsi) is still in operation (06-17UT). Radio Khvyliya (1377, Vinnytsia) reduced transmission hours to 1000-1415UT.

On January 24 it was announced that budget of state TV and radio stations will be severely cut. Donetske Oblasne Radio - 2nd Channel (1359 kHz, Donetsk-Dokuchaevsk) was closed on January 28. Radio Mykolaiv (1377 kHz, Mykolaiv) reduced time to 07:00-13:00 UT on Mondays-Fridays and 08:00-14:00 UT on Saturdays and Sundays.

On February 5, ALL transmitters carrying state national and regional channels in the low FM band (64-72 MHz) were switched off, so UR-1/2/3/regional channels can now be heard in very few locations on the "high" FM band (87.5-108 MHz) because NRCU has few licenses in that band.

As for MW, the majority of transmitters are also inactive. No trace of:

711 kHz - UR1 - Donetsk-Dokuchaevsk (off since Jan 28)
657 kHz - UR3/RUI - Chernivtsi

837 kHz - UR1 - Kharkiv-Taranivka
972 kHz - UR1 - Mykolaiv-Luch

1377 kHz - UR2 - Chernivtsi

No idea as for 1044 kHz carrying UR1 (Verkhovyna, 1 kW).

Still on the air:

765 kHz - Radio Mayak (Odesa-Petrivka) 05-23 UT
837 kHz - Radio Bukovyna (Chernivtsi) 06-17 UT
873 kHz - Dnipropetrovske Oblasne Radio (Ch.2) Dnipropetrovsk 06-18 UT
1377 kHz - Radio Khvyliya (Vinnytsia) 10-14:15 UT
1377 kHz - Radio Mykolaiv (Mykolaiv) 07-13 UT Mo-Fr, 08-14 UT Sa,Su
(Aleksandr Diadishev, Ukraine via dxld yg (6/2-2013) via mediumwave.info)

Thanks to prime minister's interference, the National Radio Company of Ukraine returned to the medium wave and OIRT bands. UR1 resumed the following transmissions on February 11:

711 kHz - UR1 - Donetsk-Dokuchaevsk - 40 kW (4-8, 15-20 UT)
657 kHz - UR3/RUI - Chernivtsi - 25 kW (17-23 UT)
837 kHz - UR1 - Kharkiv-Taranivka - 150 kW (4-8, 15-20 UT)
972 kHz - UR1 - Mykolaiv-Luch - 500 kW (4-8, 15-20 UT)
1044 kHz - UR1 - Verkhovyna - 1 kW (03:30-22:00 UT)

Radio Mykolaiv (1377 kHz, 5 kW, Mykolaiv) returned to its previous schedule - 06-18 UT. (Aleksandr Diadishev, dxld)

UNITED KINGDOM: "With regard to medium wave (AM) frequencies in the Greater London area, three groups which were offered licenses to operate on medium wave have not launched their services. Therefore there are mediumwave (AM) frequencies available for use in Greater London. As stated in our last monthly update, we anticipate inviting community radio applications for services throughout the UK wishing to broadcast on medium wave later this year. "This could be more good news for the Radio Caroline AM license campaign. (Ofcom Update: Communications Monthly Update: February 2013 via Mike Terry, MWDX 5.2.2013)

DX FORUM

Richard C Evans – 3908 Grand Oak Ave Apt 4 – Indianapolis IN 46237
E-mail: REvans5435@yahoo.com DEADLINES: Saturdays

Deadlines: 3/23 4/6 4/20 5/4 5/18 6/1 6/22 7/6 7/20 8/17

Steve Hawkins, 1610 Green Street, Boone, Iowa 50036

I just turned 66 and am semi retired. Besides BCB DXing, I am a Ham and spend a lot of time chasing DX on the Ham bands. Mostly CW on the low bands. My Wife and I are getting ready to sell both of our houses here in Boone, Iowa and buy a place in the country with more room and fewer neighbors. She wants a larger

garden and I want more room for Radio antennas. I have a more complete bio on www.qrz.com if you look up my callsign which is NGØG.

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

I'd like to take this time to wish IRCA a Happy Anniversary! It's hard to believe that next year will be IRCA's Golden Anniversary! I'm 46 years old now, presently helping my father take care of my mother, who has been suffering from a slower-progressing form of Lou Gehrig's Disease since May 1997, and presently serving IRCA as Editor-in-Chief of DX Monitor and compiling the SportChannels IRCA column and IRCA Ham Radio list. I have previously served as DX Monitor Publisher, and editor of "Hearing It Through The Grapevine". I've been a member of IRCA since 1994, and involved in the DX hobby since October 1981. I have DXed from two locations in Hazelwood, MO (approximately two blocks apart), as well as Cherokee and Cobb Counties in Georgia. I also hold memberships in NASWA, WTFDA, ARRL and two local Amateur Radio clubs. I worked in the broadcast industry for 22 years, mainly as an announcer and studio engineer. I worked at two AM stations in that span of time: WFTD 1080 Marietta, GA (1989-92) and WGNU 920 Granite City, IL (for a few months in 1996-97), the rest have been for FM stations. All of the broadcasters I worked for over the years have been public broadcasters or single-station commercial owners. I've been retired from the industry (the industry's choice, not mine) for the past three and a half years. I've been licensed as an Amateur Radio operator since October 1992; I upgraded from Technician to General Class in June 2007, and from General to Extra Class in May 2012. I do quite a bit of operation on VHF during the summer months, and occasionally operate on HF. As I write this, I have 1,408 AM stations heard from my present location. I logged roughly 400 stations from my original location two blocks southwest of my present location, and roughly 200 from the Cherokee-Cobb county line. The biggest concern I have for IRCA's future is the apparent lack of interest in continuing a paper edition of DX Monitor. I'm more of the typing, copying and pasting type. IRCA is not the only club that has considered going this route; WTFDA is in the process of phasing out its paper bulletin in favor of an electronic-only edition. I tend to prefer a paper bulletin, so I don't have to switch on a computer to read it. I've been taking on more duties for IRCA in recent years, including as your Editor-in-Chief and putting together SportChannels. I'm also trying to update the New Member Packet; I've gotten a few ideas, contacted the other column editors for their suggestions. I don't know what it is that's scaring people away from volunteering to help keep IRCA going, but I encourage everyone to participate in IRCA, regardless of whether you're contributing DX or editing a column. It's not that hard to contribute your logs or even edit a column. When I encourage everyone to give our outgoing President, Lee Freshwater, a hand, I mean it. Even I need a helping hand with DX Monitor! Before I wrap this up, I'd like to thank Fresh for his contributions to IRCA over the years. He's going to be a hard act to follow. 73.

John C. Johnson - 265 Waterton Way - Billings, Montana 59102-7755

john@johninmontana.com - www.johninmontana.com
It's time for all of us to send in our DX Forum reports to celebrate IRCA's anniversary. Happy Anniversary, IRCA! I am a Charter Member of the club, joining when the club formed in 1964, just about 50 years ago. I've seen many changes over the years, but the friendship of fellow members has always been foremost. I'm married to Nancy, your WDXR editor. Nancy and I have known each other for 42 years. I have been editing the CDXR column for over 25 years. I currently serve as Chairman on the IRCA Board of Directors. I work for KTVQ channel 2 here in Billings. May 8th marks my 41st anniversary with KTVQ. It was KOOK-TV when I started back in 1972. There have been many changes over the years from film to computer files. In addition to being master control for KTVQ 2.1 and CW 2.2 I am also technical director for two nightly newscasts. My DX'ing started in 1962 from Sheridan, WY. Back then I used various old receivers including a Hallicrafter SX-16. Now I use my 28 year old Icom IC-R75A or Nancy's much newer Drake R8B with a Kiwa loop, or the great little Sony SRF-59. Other hobbies include computer video and audio editing, web site design, genealogy, TV DX, and collections of all kinds including TV Guide magazines dating back to the late '50s, old radio station music surveys (yes, I still collect these), bumper stickers, sports pocket schedules, Coke-A-Cola items and even The Three Stooges items. Both Nancy and I can be found on Facebook. The club is still going strong after all these years. Happy Anniversary! 73, John.

Nancy Johnson, 265 Waterton Way, Billings, Montana 59102

It's time for my annual Anniversary Issue re-intro Forum. I'm married to CDXR editor John, who I met through IRCA 42 years ago. I have two children and three grandchildren. I'm still working part-time at OfficeMax. It doesn't seem possible, but I've been a Roundup editor for 41 years, beginning with EDXR in 1972, and WDXR after moving west. In addition to DX'ing, other hobbies include genealogy and camping. My favorite is DX'ing while camping in Yellowstone or Grand Teton Nat. Park. In 1969 I began DX'ing from Fredonia, NY and joined IRCA 42 years ago (1971). From my three DX locations (Fredonia, NY, Aberdeen, WA and Billings, MT) I've heard a total of 2586 stations (some duplicates). I'm a domestic DX'er and spend most of my DX time on the graveyard frequencies. We will not be able to attend the upcoming convention in Minneapolis as my daughter is expecting a baby at that time (her first). I would like to thank all the members who make IRCA the great DX club that it is today. Happy Anniversary IRCA!

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

I've just finished up my 48th year in IRCA and starting number 49. I started out in Michigan, then, in 1966, moved to northwest Indiana (also known as downtown Gary and East Chicago), then transferred back to Michigan in 1974. In 1978, after that company shut down, I moved out to the Philadelphia, PA area for nine years. From there, I wound up near Wausau, Wisc. For a year, then down to Milwaukee for eight years. From there, the next stop was South Carolina for three years before moving to Indianapolis in 1999. I spent 38 years in the trucking industry before being (not by choice) retired in 2004 -- I went thru the consolidations and shutdowns in the industry during the 80s and 90s that wiped out so many of the old-time carriers, not all that much different than what we have seen in the broadcast industry. At times, I've wondered how many young people become DX'ers and how they would become interested in the hobby. It sounds like that might be one of the reasons behind the joint convention this summer in Minneapolis. I think that, for the crowd around my age, we started chasing the big top 40 stations of the 50s-60s era and were drawn into catching the stations between the big stations. I remember my brother-in-law (who holds the highest ham license) putting a radio in his son's room hoping my nephew would get interested in the hobby. Didn't work, hi. I

haven't listened much over the past few years because I just don't like much of the music I hear and I get tired fast of talk radio. I just picked up some CDs of air checks from the old big band music broadcasts from the 30s and 40s. One interesting time check as we made the transition to Daylight Saving time... "at approximately 11:45 Eastern Daylight Standard confusing time...". I should be seeing you in two weeks as we usually run the second installment of the anniversary issue Forums, hi. 73.

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

Nick Hall-Patch – 1538 Amphion St – Victoria BC Canada V8R 4Z6
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Software-Defined Radio--Getting Started (Part One)

By Jack Weber

Just over six years ago, in the December 16, 2006 issue of *DX Monitor*, I wrote an introductory article on software-defined radio describing how it works and what you can do with it. Looking back at it now, it's clear just how much SDR technology has moved on. The basic principles are the same, but there are many more models to choose from and entirely new types of SDR have appeared that do a great deal more, offer much better performance and cost a lot less.

The biggest change has been the arrival of Direct Digital Conversion (DDC) SDRs which can digitize the signal from the aerial without first needing to convert it down to lower frequencies. This has had a profound impact on both the



usability and the reception quality. Now, more than ever, there are significant benefits to using SDRs and many of them are particularly relevant to MW DX.

Among the most important ones are:

- The ability to record the entire medium wave band for later time-shifted DXing. Not only do you miss less DX, you miss less sleep as well.
- The digital filters in SDR receivers are very much sharper and cleaner than even the best crystal filters. That's particularly important for MW DX where weak signals are right next to strong ones.
- Digital processing of the signal doesn't introduce the intermodulation distortion that occurs in the mixers, roofing filters and IF amplifiers of superhet receivers. Some spurious signals do occur in SDRs, but they're normally far less troublesome.
- You can observe the carriers of broadcast signals down to very low levels and to an accuracy of better than 1Hz. Monitoring carrier offsets is a significant extension to MW DX. Only an SDR lets you do it simultaneously on multiple channels while continuing to listen.
- With many SDRs you can choose different software according to your needs and preferences, and most software is regularly updated, often at no cost. Buy a conventional receiver and how it is now is how it will always be.
- Some SDRs allow remote operation with a full display of all the controls and signals.
- For the same level of performance, an SDR is generally cheaper than a conventional receiver. Even more so if you already have a PC to run it on.

As with any new technology, there will be some hurdles of unfamiliarity to overcome, but choosing, installing and using an SDR needn't be difficult or expensive, certainly no more so than with a conventional receiver.

For MW purposes, SDRs can be broadly divided into two groups - those that can digitize and record the whole of the MW band and those that can only cover a part of it. The full span of MW is 1180 kHz (530 to 1700 plus 5 kHz at each end for the outer sidebands). Receivers in the wideband group usually have a maximum span of either 1600 or 2000 kHz so MW fits comfortably. In the narrowband group, there are various bandwidth limits, but many cluster at 192 kHz because this is used for most professional music recording. As a result, there are plenty of devices designed to work with this bandwidth. SDRs that cover the whole band need to use more complex chips and require more software development so they end up costing more. However, they also offer better performance in terms of sensitivity and dynamic range, so the extra cost is justified by more than just bandwidth.

It's worth quickly going over what these bandwidths refer to. There are actually three important bandwidths in any DDC SDR. The first is the total bandwidth that it can digitize from the antenna. This corresponds to the overall coverage of a traditional receiver and is often 0-30 MHz or 0-50 MHz. This is too much for the SDR to do anything useful with, so a narrower block (often termed the DDC bandwidth) is extracted from it by a process called decimation. Usually, a number of different DDC bandwidths will be offered so you can choose whichever is appropriate. For example the Perseus SDR offers five values from 100 kHz to 1600 kHz, while the Excalibur Pro has 24 values from 20 kHz to 4000 kHz. These are the bandwidths that were mentioned

above as being the frequency span that can be recorded and observed. On some SDRs they're wide enough to encompass the whole of MW, on others they're not.

Within the DDC bandwidth you can tune around at will, so another narrower slice is selected as the demodulation bandwidth. This corresponds to the final selectivity of a traditional radio. It may be just a few Hz for CW signals or several kHz for AM reception. The big difference is that you're not confined to just a few fixed bandwidths for each mode, as on a superhet, but can vary the selectivity smoothly to whatever value gives the best result.

The first and final bandwidths present few challenges, it's that middle one - the DDC bandwidth - that sets different SDRs apart and has a big impact on how useful they are and how much they cost.

The price range you'll need to consider currently runs from around US\$225 to \$2500. There are SDRs that cost more, but the extra capabilities they offer tend to be aimed at specific uses that aren't always relevant to MW DX. There are also SDRs that cost less - the cheapest come in at about \$15-\$30. These are based on the Realtek RTL2832U receiver which is used in various makes of dongle for receiving digital TV and FM radio on a PC or laptop. With suitable software, they can be operated as a general purpose SDR tunable over a wide frequency range. Sadly, I don't know of any that cover MW, but they're proving very popular on the VHF and UHF bands.

For MW, the starting point is currently about \$225, or actually £150, which will buy you the FUNcube Dongle Pro+ from Britain. Don't be put off by the name, it's a serious radio designed to encourage schools to become involved in satellite communication. Earlier models (FUNcube Dongle and FUNcube Dongle Pro) don't reach down to MW, but the latest Pro+ does, though with a maximum bandwidth of 192 kHz. It's not a stellar performer on MW, but certainly capable of bringing in the easier North American or Asian stations to European listeners. Various other 192 kHz receivers, such as the RFspace SDR-IQ, sell in the \$500-\$750 range and are better suited to MW DX.

Among the SDRs with enough bandwidth to encompass the whole MW band, the cheapest I know of is the Afedri SDR-Net. This sells for about \$250, but there'll be an additional cost for shipping and duties as you'd have to import it from Israel. I haven't used one so can't comment on it, but Norwegian MW DXer Bjarne Mjelde has one and has written up his observations at <https://www.box.com/s/1cd9353fa35b1022925e>. Note in particular what he says about the possible need to buy or build a front-end low-pass filter and maybe use a preamplifier at the antenna. The final cost may not be quite as low as it initially appears, but still well below most such SDRs.

At around \$1000, you reach the sweet spot where receivers such as the Microtelecom Perseus and Winradio Excalibur offer truly excellent DX performance. Above that level there are further performance and capability enhancements, but the law of diminishing returns comes into play. Winradio's Excalibur Pro, for example, is superb, but at around \$2500, represents a substantial investment over the \$1000 radios.



Figure 1--- All SDRs present a visual interface with spectrum displays and operating controls on screen. These are the dedicated software applications for three leading SDRs. All are tuned to 1120 kHz and are displaying the whole of the MW band. Across the top is the Winradio Excalibur Pro, below it on the left is the RFspace NetSDR, and bottom right is the Microtelecom Perseus.

You might assume that the cheapest SDRs are necessarily simpler and therefore better suited to the first-time user. Not so. They may be simpler in their capabilities, but are often more complex to set-up and use. Some come with no instructions or software and assume that you will be happy to sort it all out. Some are DIY kits, others are supplied as a bare board for which you need to make an enclosure, and some require you to build or buy additional circuitry. That's because many of the cheapest SDRs are aimed not so much at DXers, but at technically-minded experimenters who are happy to delve into the nuts-and-bolts and the bits-and-bytes of this technology.

Although it's the hardware that largely determines the potential of an SDR, it's the software that does much of the work and determines if that potential will be realized. Receivers such as Excalibur and Perseus come with their own custom software that's been written by the manufacturer, is supported by them and works only with that specific model. Some alternative software may be available, but the choice is fairly limited. Among the cheaper models, it's unusual to find custom software, instead most of these rely on generic third-party applications that can be used with various different models. The radio may come with a recommended application or it may just suggest some that are known to work and leave you to find, download and install

one. The best of these applications are excellent, but some can be a bit more complex to install and use.

Once you've decided which SDR to buy, what else will you need? The first and obvious requirement is a suitable PC. SDR software makes quite heavy demands on a PC because the processing needed to implement filters, demodulators, AGC, spectrum displays and so on involves a constant stream of calculations that need to be done very quickly. The exact level of this processing burden depends on two main factors - the DDC bandwidth and the sharpness of the selectivity filters. An SDR with a bandwidth of 1600 kHz will need a faster PC than one that's only covering 192 kHz. However, it's the bandwidth currently in use, not the maximum achievable, that matters. If you have a wideband-capable SDR, running it at a narrower bandwidth will reduce the workload and may let you use an older and slower PC. This could allow you to buy a good SDR now and delay upgrading the computer until later. Reducing the receiver's filter sharpness can also help. Not all SDR applications let you adjust this setting (because of the way the calculation works it's known as 'filter length'), but some do, so this may offer another compromise.

Where a minimum PC specification is provided by the SDR manufacturer treat this as being the minimum at the receiver's maximum setting. For example, for the Excalibur Pro the minimum PC requirement is given as a 2.4 GHz quad-core processor. However, its maximum frequency span is 4 MHz, much more than you'd need for MW alone. So, for MW DX, you should get away with a slower PC, but then you wouldn't be able to push the receiver to its limit. Around 2-2.5 GHz dual-core would be about the right level for full coverage of MW on most SDRs. For top performance you need to go higher.

I would avoid laptops unless that's what you already have or you need the portability. For the same level of performance they are significantly more expensive than a corresponding desktop PC.

Most SDR software is written for Windows PCs. At present just about everything will work with versions up to Windows 7, but not everything is yet fully compatible with Windows 8. There are a few applications for Macs or Linux computers, but the range is very limited. However, if you have a Mac you can use Apple's BootCamp software to create a dual-boot machine that can be started up either in MacOS or Windows. This is what I do and it works perfectly. Virtualization software such as Parallels Desktop or VMware Fusion lets you run multiple operating systems simultaneously, but doesn't always seem to cope with SDRs. Some people have reported success, others have found it impossible. There are even some options for running SDRs on a tablet or smartphone. They're obviously quite limited as these devices don't have the processing power for heavy-duty SDR.

Apart from processing speed, the other important aspect of PC hardware is hard disk throughput. If you plan to record a 1.6 or 2 MHz block of radio spectrum, that's a flood of data being pushed relentlessly onto the disk. It's much safer to use a second hard disk for this rather than the main one which also contains the operating system. The OS has all sorts of things to do behind the scenes and many of them happen only occasionally, so a recording that starts out perfectly may crash or stutter in the middle of the night because the OS has some housekeeping to do then.

Your computer may have internal slots for additional disks, alternatively you can plug in an external disk. If you expect to do a lot of wideband recording, I would suggest buying an external disk dock and a number of naked hard disks intended for internal use inside a PC. These simply push into the slot on the dock and can be changed over in seconds. The docks don't cost much and these disks are cheaper too as they don't need to come with their own enclosure, power supply or connectors. If your PC has an eSATA port, then try to get a dock that will connect to this as it's fast and generally trouble-free compared to USB. Many docks will take 2.5" and 3.5" disks - 3.5" are better as they're both faster and cheaper. 2.5" disks are designed for laptops, which use slower disks to save battery power. For recording the whole of MW you should expect to use between 22GB and 48GB per hour (it varies for different SDRs) so big disks are essential. 1TB and 2TB disks (1TB=1000GB) are readily available and are more economical in terms of GB/\$ than smaller disks.

Operating an SDR is a much more visual experience than operating a normal receiver and you'll really feel the benefit if you have a large display attached to your PC. The only exception is the Perseus SDR, which has a small fixed-size window that tends to look even smaller on a large display. Other SDR applications have resizable windows and become easier to use as the display size increases. Of course, you can also use the screen space to run other applications at the same time so long as your PC is fast enough to handle them.

As with any radio, you will need some connecting cables. All SDRs require a minimum of three connections: power, antenna and a data link to the PC. Audio is taken from the computer so you'll need headphones, powered speakers or an external amplifier and speaker system to connect to it.

(Editor's note: Due to the length of this article, it has become necessary to divide this into two parts. Part Two of this article will be in the next DX Monitor.-EIC)

(The above article first appeared in *Medium Wave News*, and is used with the permission of the author and of Medium Wave Circle)



GEOMAGNETIC INDICES

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

Geomagnetic Summary February 1 2013 through February 28 2013

Tabulated from email status daily (K @ 0000 UTC.)

Date	Flux	A	K	Space Wx
2/ 1	104	4	2	no storms
2	112	9	1	no storms
3	111	4	1	no storms
4	107	4	0	no storms
5	105	2	0	no storms
6	104	2	1	no storms
7	103	6	1	no storms
8	104	7	1	no storms
9	108	3	0	no storms
10	106	4	1	no storms
11	105	4	1	no storms
12	102	4	2	no storms
13	100	11	4	no storms
2/14	100	10	1	no storms
2/15	100	4	1	no storms
16	103	8	1	no storms
17	106	8	2	minor, R1
18	105	4	3	no storms
19	112	6	1	no storms
20	114	5	1	no storms
21	109	6	2	no storms
22	107	9	3	no storms
23	100	6	2	no storms
24	95	3	1	no storms
25	95	3	2	no storms
26	99	5	1	no storms
27	102	4	1	no storms
2/28	106	7	3	no storms

Sx – Solar Radiation Storm Level
Gx – Geomagnetic Storm Level
Rx – Radio Blackouts Level

Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 1 8th Printing, Digitally Enhanced and Updated

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

Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 2 8th Printing Digitally Enhanced and Updated

This book is a compilation of numerous articles on the subject of antennas for medium wave DX'ers, originally published between 1974 and 1981 in DX News. Some articles were formerly available as reprints. Includes articles on air-core and ferrite core loops, antenna tuners for longwire and Beverage antennas, and phasing units for use with Beverage antennas and longwires. 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. Price: \$8.95 to IRCA/NRC members; \$11.95 to non-members. 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.

Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 3

A compilation of 17 articles on antennas, phasing impedance matching, and RF amplification for medium wave DX'ers, some of the articles were published in DX News between 1999 and 2004. 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. IRCA/NRC member price: \$11.95; non-member price \$16.95; overseas customers, please contact us for exact price. Order from: NRC Publications – PO Box 473251 – Aurora CO 80047-3251 (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax). Please state your IRCA membership affiliation when you order.

IRCA Mexican Log, 17th Edition (Winter 2012)

The IRCA MEXICAN LOG lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. The call letter index gives call, frequency, city and state. The city index (listed by state, then city) includes frequency, call and day/night power. The transmitter site index (listed by state, then city) tabulates the latitude and longitude of transmitter sites. This is an indispensable reference for anyone who hears Mexican radio stations. Size is 8 1/2" x 11".

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 to: IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334 (PayPal [add \$1.00] 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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