



DX MONITOR

The official publication of the
International Radio Club of America

January 23 2016 – Volume 53 Number 20 – Edition 1692 – ISSN 899-9733

IRCA welcomes **Ron Ross** – Ellsworth IL. All DX columns – WBOB test reports – Ultralight construction article. Seattle deadline **Monday** 6 PM PLT.

In This Issue:

Broadcasting Information...	1
Western DX Roundup...	2
Central DX Roundup...	2
Eastern DX Roundup...	3
DX WorldWide – West...	5
DX WorldWide – East...	5
SportChannels IRCA...	6
IRCA Contest Update...	6
Ultralight News...	6

2016 IRCA-NRC-WTFDA-DecalcoMania CONVENTION

The IRCA will join the members of the NRC, WTFDA, and DecalcoMania on September 9-11 2016 in Kansas City MO and other DXers in AM, FM or TV. It will be held at the Hyatt Place Kansas City Airport, 7600 NW 97th Terrace.

HOTEL REGISTRATION: 1-816-891-0871x3. Ask for the Group Rate for the National Radio Club. The group code is: G-NRCC. Reservations will need to be secured by 8/18/16. <http://kansascityairport.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?comp>. Rates are \$99.00 per night for 1 to 3 persons per room plus taxes and fees. Plan to arrive on Thursday for 3 nights and ends on Sunday noon. Free airport transfers and breakfast each morning.

Convention registration: \$55 per person which includes a free Friday evening pizza party and Saturday evening banquet. Checks made payable to NATIONAL RADIO CLUB and sent to ERNEST J WESOLOWSKI, 13312 Westwood Lane, Omaha NE 68144-3543. Please mention which clubs you belong to for club treasury info. **Dale Hamm** W5LN and **Ernie** are your host. 73's neerniew@yahoo.com

Bruce Portzer Annual DX Get Together

I'll be holding my annual DX get together on Saturday February 20 at 2 pm. Consider yourself invited, and be prepared to talk about AM, shortwave, or TV-FM DX with like-minded persons. Bring radio stuff for show-and-tell if you'd like.

It will be held at my house: 6546 19th Avenue NE in Seattle, 206-522-2521. Potluck snack food (liquid or solid) is welcome.

See you there! **Bruce**



BROADCASTING INFORMATION – **Robert J Wien** – 14051 Belle Chasse Blvd #415 – Laurel MD 20707
E-mail: wienbob@aol.com Phone: 301-477-3733 Column Deadlines: Saturdays

DATE OF COLUMN: January 16 2016, **Column data span:** January 02-16 2016, Data courtesy of **Stationintel.com**, FCC database and member contributions.

CALL CHANGES

FREQ	OLD CALL	CITY OF LICENSE	NEW CALL
1300	WMEL	Cocoa Beach, FL	WKQK
1340	KFMD	Bethel Heights, AR	KQIS

FORMAT, SLOGAN AND SILENT STATUS CHANGES

FREQ CALL CITY OF LICENSE

760	KDSP	Thornton, CO
900	WIAM	Williamston, NC
920	WNJE	Trenton, NJ
970	WZAN	Portland, ME
990	WRFM	Muncie, IN
1160	WBYN	Lehighton, PA
1190	KKOJ	Jackson, MN
1220	WDWR	Pensacola, FL
1250	WRKQ	Madisonville, TN
1310	WSLW	White Sulphur Spring, WV
1320	WVNZ	Richmond, VA
1330	WCVC	Tallahassee, FL
	WSPQ	Springville, NY
1340	KQIS	Bethel Heights, AR
1370	WDEF	Chattanooga, TN
	WLJW	Cadillac, MI
1400	WLJN	Elmwood Township, MI
1410	WHIM	Taylorville, IL
1480	WQOH	Irontdale, AL
1500	KDFN	Doniphan, MO
1550	WKTF	Vienna, GA
1570	KDIZ	Golden Valley, MN
1600	KEPN	Lakewood, CO

NEW INFORMATION

was talk, now Fox Sports Radio, old slogan: "Real Talk 760", new: "Denver Sports 760"
old slogan: "Lifeline Radio", new: "Carolina Classics"
was talk, now Fox Sports Radio, old slogan: "920 The Voice", new: "The Jersey"
was talk, now ESPN Radio Network, old slogan: "970 WZAN", new: "970 ESPN Portland"
was talk, now religious teaching
was religious teaching, now ESPN Radio Network, old slogan: "The Light 1160 AM", new: "ESPN Radio 1230"
was country, now classic hits, farm programming
was Eternal Word Network, now Guadalupe Radio Network
was classic hits, now talk
was silent, back on with new unknown format
old slogan: "Selecta 1320", new: "La 1320"
was Eternal Word Network, now Guadalupe Radio Network
now silent
was Christian CHR/Rock, now urban contemporary, old slogan: "105.3 The Voice", new: "Kiss 105.3"
was sports, now classic country, old slogan: "Fox Sports 1370", new: "Classic Country Q 97.3"
old slogan: "We're Lifting Jesus' Name", new: "The Source"
old slogan: "We're Lifting Jesus' Name", new: "The Source"
now silent
was Eternal Word Network, now Guadalupe Radio Network
now silent
now silent
was business news, now talk, old slogan: "Business News 1570", new: "Wellness Radio 1570"
was Westwood One NBC Sports Network, now ESPN Radio Network

MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

Mike Sanburn of Bellflower CA sends along the following dated 1/8/16:

I am reading that KFVB (980 Los Angeles CA), has been sold and will be a foreign language station. (Note: Mike also sends a note from Dennis Gibson of Salinas CA dated 1/11/16 describing the sale, link to sale document: https://licensing.fcc.gov/cdbs/CDBS_Attachment/getattachment.jsp?appn=101715458&qnum=5120©num=1&exhcnm=1)

Well, got laid off unexpectedly from my job Friday 1/15 (along with 2 other people), so that lasted a little over a month. Hope I can find something, but I'll move if I have to for the job, if anyone has any job tips, please send to me. Hope everyone has a good MLK weekend and good DX. Still waiting for my WBOB-600 QSL from the DX test last weekend. Love the calls, gotta have a station with Bob in their name! 73's. **Bob Wien**





WESTERN DX ROUNDUP – Nancy Johnson – 2922 S Olivewood – Mesa AZ 85212-2923
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: Jan 22, Jan 29, Feb 5, Feb 12, Feb 19, March 4, March 18, April 1 and April 15. Please use Eastern Local Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (RB) **Rick Barton**-PO Box 5503-Peoria AZ 85385 **desertmoon_dxshack@inbox.com**
CountyComm GP-5/SSB; Hammarlund HQ-180A and Terk Advantage loop; Panasonic RF-2200, Grundig Satellit 750 with stock antenna
- (BB) **Bill Block**-Prescott Valley AZ **billblock@cableone.net**
ICOM IC-75
- (JCJ) **John Johnson**-2922 S Olivewood, Mesa AZ 85212 **John_Johnson@prodigy.net**
Icom IC-R75, 75' N-S longwire
- (NJ) **Nancy Johnson**-2922 S Olivewood-Mesa AZ 85212 **nancyjohnson@prodigy.net**
Drake R8B, 75' N-S longwire
- (PM) **Patrick Martin**-PO Box 843-Seaside OR 97138-0843 **mwdxer@gmail.com**
Drake R8, 1500' Eastern Beverage

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- 760 KDSP **CO**, Thornton ex-KKZN, new call and format as of 1/4/16. 1/10 over or mixed with KFMB 2343 with numerous "Denver Sports 760" slogans. "KDSP Thornton, KRFX 103.5" legal ID on the hour. New for me. (JCJ-AZ)
- 550 KRAI **CO**, Craig heard 1/9 at 0900 with "KRAI 55 Country" way under KFYI. (BB-AZ)
- 680 KKYX **TX**, San Antonio heard 1/8 at 1840 with "KKYX" then country music. (BB-AZ)
- 700 KALL **UT**, North Salt Lake City 1/13 0145 "Utah Sports Medicine Central" spot, very good. (RB-AZ)
- 810 KGO **CA**, San Francisco 1/13 at 0145 unheard then "on 8-10 KGO" up out of static, followed by an interview. Often very good here, poor reception at the moment on CountyComm Gp-5/SSB. (RB-AZ)
- KLVZ **CO**, Brighton heard 1/8 at 1847 with "Where Love Lives KLVZ." (BB-AZ)
- 870 KRLA **CA**, Glendale heard 1/13 at 1931 with "KRLA The Answer." (BB-AZ)
- WWL **LA**, New Orleans 1/12 mixing with KJMP and unID Spanish language station. 0000 with "You're listening to news talk 870 WWL New Orleans... 105.3 FM." First time logged here. (JCJ-AZ)
- 920 KVEC **CA**, San Luis Obispo heard 1/11 at 0804 with weather report then "News Talk 920 KVEC." (BB-AZ)
- 930 KCCC **NM**, Carlsbad 1/14 fair at 0900 with ID "Thank you for listening to KCCC Radio 93-oh on your radio dial in Carlsbad, New Mexico" into ABC news. (NJ-AZ)
- 940 KICE **OR**, Bend heard 1/9 at 1945 with "Central Oregon's Best Sports Talk 94.9 and 940." (BB-AZ)
- 950 KAHJ **CA**, Auburn heard 1/8 at 1947 with "K-High." (BB-AZ)
- KDCE **NM**, Espanola heard 1/8 at 1926 with "KDCE." (BB-AZ)
- 1010 CBR **AB**, Calgary heard 1/12 at 0843 with weather and traffic. (BB-AZ)
- 1140 KNWQ **CA**, Palm Springs 1/11 1010 local weather forecast. Fair post-sunrise, over top of channel rumble, with loop of KXST (NV). (RB-AZ)
- 1150 KSAL **KS**, Salina heard 1/9 at 1930 with weather report then "1150 KSAL." (BB-AZ)
- 1220 KDOW **CA**, Palo Alto 1/12 weak in noise from local 1230, 2333 with promo for a business program on "12-20 KDOW." (JCJ-AZ)
- 1260 KMZT **CA**, Beverly Hills 1/13 2400 classical music, good on Panasonic RF-2200, verified on RadioShack 20/629. (RB-AZ)
- 1340 KTMM **CO**, Grand Junction 1/13 0040 gravelly voiced talk show host on sports topics. Good over the mumble rumble using CountyComm GP-5/SSB. (RB-AZ)
- 1380 KTKZ **CA**, Sacramento 1/9 0145 "Here at 13-80 The Answer," then complete fadeout. On Panasonic RF-2200. (RB-AZ)
- KENN **NM**, Farmington 1/14 0559 "New Mexico's News Talk Leader, KENN." Good on Grundig portable. (RB-AZ)
- 1580 KFCS **CO**, Colorado Springs heard 1/14 at 1931 with "KFCS Colorado Springs," new for is religious programming. (BB-AZ)
- KGAL **OR**, Lebanon heard 1/11 at 0842 with "KGAL." (BB-AZ)
- KKTS **WY**, Evansville heard 1/11 at 0839 with weather report then "KKTS." (BB-AZ)

DX TEST

- 600 WBOB **FL**, Jacksonville heard DX test 0200-0202 1/10 with Morse code IDs in the jumble followed by sweep tones. Quality was rather poor, but the 1500' Beverage is not as directional at the bottom of the band. I am pleased with this. E-mail report sent with mp3 attachment. Thanks to everyone involved with setting up and running the test. (PM-OR)
- (WBOB) +1/10 0000 DX test not heard. Only a strong KCOL mixed with KOGO. (JCJ-AZ)

It's nice to include a DX test in the column this week! Back in the day there were quite a few to listen for each Monday morning. – Nancy 1/15 1900



CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP – John C Johnson – 2922 S Olivewood – Mesa AZ 85212-2923
E-mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net **CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@ircanonline.org**

RIDING GAIN

- [EB] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood MO **NQUIHEric@aol.com**
GE Superadio III, Yaesu FRG-7, Worcester Space Magnet II, 150' homebrew dipole
- [TMJ] **Tom Jasinski**, Shorewood IL **amdxe@core.com**
Drake R8A and Quantum Loop

DOWN THE DIAL

- 1280 KYRO **MO**, Troy. 1/11 fair signal, mixing with WGBF. 0237 noted with promo for Web site, "Westplex news, talk 12-80" ID into CBS News special report on the passing of rock musician David Bowie. [EB-MO]
- 1340 KXEO **MO**, Mexico. 1/12 fair to poor signal, mixing with other stations. 0147 noted with Adult Contemporary format, "Your home for today's hits and yesterday's favorites, 13-40 KXEO" ID. [EB-MO]
- 1380 KLIZ **MN**, Brainerd. 1/13 fair to poor signal, mixing with WLRM and other stations. 0046 noted with "Sports radio 13-80 KLIZ, The Fan" ID into Fox Sports Radio. [EB-MO]
- 1420 WINI **IL**, Murphysboro. 1/12 good to poor signal, mixing with WOC. 0259 noted with local spots, "News, talk 14-20 and 93-point-five, WINI Murphysboro and W228DC Carbondale" legal ID, into CBS News. [EB-MO]
- 1550 CBEF **ON**, Windsor. 1/14 fair to poor signal, mixing with KESJ, WPFC and WDLR. 0157 noted with discussion and promos in French. [EB-MO]

DX Test

- 600 WBOB **FL**, Jacksonville. 1/10. 00:01 to 02:08, special DX Test with Code, Voice ID's and assorted sound effects. Testing with full power ND with very strong signal here dominating the frequency. [TMJ-IL]

FLASHBACK

January 19 1965 issue of "DX Monitor" ... Membership reached 279 ... KOA 850 had a 02:00 signoff with the National Anthem being played ... **Frank Merrill Jr** pointed out the call letters WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHY, and WHERE(e) – WOW! ... **Dan Sheedy** added South Dakota for state #44 heard ... **Marvin Robbins** announced he had relinquished his position as President. //January 20 1990 issue of "DX Monitor" ... **Ernest Cooper** of Provincetown MA helped with member's UNID stations ... **David W Johnson** of Gainesville FL was working on a PhD in molecular biology at the UoF.

OPEN MIKE

It was nice to see a DX Test scheduled. I tried here in Mesa, but didn't hear them. This column was typed 1-15-16. 73, John



EASTERN DX ROUNDUP – Eric Bueneman (NØUIH) – 631 Coachway Lane – Hazelwood MO 63042
E-mail: n0uiheric@gmail.com
DEADLINES: Thursday 2000 ELT

TUNING THE DIALS THIS ISSUE:

- (MC-MA) **Mark Connelly** (WA1ION), South Yarmouth, Cape Cod MA
 Microtelecom Perseus software-defined receiver, two cardioid-pattern SuperLoops, first antenna with a peak of 165 degrees and a null of 345 degrees, second antenna with a peak of 80 degrees and a null of 260 degrees
- (SSH-VT) **Stephen S Howe**, Saint Albans VT
 Sony ICF-2010, Radio West loop
- (KK-VA) **Kraig Krist** (KG4LAC), Manassas VA
 Winradio G33DDC software-defined receiver, Wellbrook ALA1530S+ Imperium loop
- (JJR-MI) **John J. Rieger**, L'Anse MI
 Grundig Satellit 750, stock antenna, Terk AM1000 loop
- (PS-ON) **Paul Snider**, Welland ON, Canada
 ICOM IC-R75, Pixel RF Pro 1B loop, MFJ-1020 antenna tuner

ACROSS THE DIAL

- 540 WFLF **FL**, Pine Hills – 12/13 2300 noted with “WFLF Pine Hills/Orlando, WMGF-HD3 Mount Dora/Orlando” legal ID. The station was apparently alone on the channel. (MC-MA)
- 550 WWSA **VA**, Harrisonburg – 12/13 2300 noted with “Informing the Shenandoah Valley for over 80 years, News/Talk 550 and 92.1, WWSA Harrisonburg” legal ID, over the Cuban. (MC-MA) (The FM's call is W221CF – eb)
- 600 CKAT **ON**, North Bay – 1/10 0003 noted with “Country 600 CKAT” ID. A fair and strong signal was noted; first time noted this season. (JJR-MI)
- 610 WIOD **FL**, Miami – 12/15 2300 noted with “From the Renters' Warehouse Studios, WIOD Miami/Fort Lauderdale, WMGG-HD2, an iHeart Radio station” legal ID; alone on the channel. (MC-MA)
- 620 WSUN **FL**, Saint Petersburg – 12/13 2300 noted with “This is Tampa Bay's Sports Radio, 620 WDAE Saint Petersburg and 95.3 FM”, over Cuba. (MC-MA)
- WHEN **NY**, Syracuse – 1/9 1635 noted with “Power 620” sweeper; a “Power 620” ID and Urban AC format was later noted. A poor signal was noted under WTMJ. (JJR-MI)
- 640 KFI **CA**, Los Angeles – 1/13 0820 noted with mention of “Your Wake-up Call on KFI AM 640”. A poor, but steady, signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- 680 WPTF **NC**, Raleigh – 12/13 2300 noted with “WPTF Raleigh” legal ID. A weak signal was noted under WRKO. (MC-MA)
- 690 WNZK **MI**, Dearborn Heights – 1/11 0800 noted with “WNZK, Your Ethnic Voice” ID. A poor signal was noted while listening to CBKF1; this is a new log at L'Anse. (JJR-MI) (You caught them on their daytime frequency; they operate on 680 kHz at night – eb)
- 710 KNUS **CO**, Denver – 1/14 0800 noted with legal ID, mention of “and now on 1460 KZNT Colorado Springs, the Answer”. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- 780 WCKB **NC**, Dunn – 12/22 1700 noted with “This is WCKB in Dunn, North Carolina, concluding its broadcast day” mention in sign off, the signal mixed with YVMN (Radio Coro) in Venezuela. (MC-MA)
- 850 WFTL **FL**, Fort Lauderdale – 12/21 2100 noted with “WFTL” mention in legal ID; mixing with Cuba, HJKC, WEEI and WTAR. (MC-MA)
- 910 WTMZ **SC**, Dorchester Terrace – 12/21 2100 noted with “ESPN Radio 910, WTMZ Dorchester Terrace/Charleston” legal ID; alone on channel. (MC-MA)
- 940 WINZ **FL**, Miami – 12/22 1700 noted with “Miami's Sports Radio Play-by-Play, 940 WIMZ” ID. A good signal was noted. (MC-MA)
- 950 KWOS **MO**, Jefferson City – 1/8 1805 noted with weather forecast read by a male announcer, “That's what's happening now... (when) news breaks, News Radio 950 KWOS and on FM 101.1”. A different male announcer was noted with “News Radio 950 KWOS and 101.1” (K266CA Jefferson City) into the Mark Levin program. The signal was noted mixing with WCTN, WAKM, WKDN and unidentified stations with Christian talk, Oldies and Adult Contemporary music. (KK-VA) (Kraig, your Christian talker is most likely WTLN Orlando FL; your Oldies station could be either WHVW Hyde Park NY or KRWZ Parker CO. Your AC station could be either Urban AC stations WGUN Valdosta GA or WDIG Steubenville OH – eb)
- 960 CFAC **AB**, Calgary – 1/8 1830 noted with CBS Sports Radio, ads for various Canadian businesses, including TrueCar ADP; PSA for the Canadian Safe Boating Council was noted at 1831. The station was noted mixing with WERC, WELI, WTGM, Radio Reloj (Cuba) and unidentified stations with ESPN Radio, Christian talk, vocal music and another station with a beep tone. (KK-VA) (Kraig, you did hear CFAC; this would be around local sunset in Calgary. As for your unidentified stations, your Christian talker could be WCRU Dallas NC. Your ESPN could be WPRT Prestonsburg KY, part of the WLSI 900 network. Your vocal music station could be WRNS Kinston NC. I don't see a second CBS Sports Radio affiliate on 960 listed in the NRC Log other than CFAC – eb)
- WERC **AL**, Birmingham – 1/8 1725 noted with “News Radio 105-5 WERC” ID by a male announcer. The signal was noted mixing with CFAC, WELI, WTGM, Radio Reloj (Cuba) and unidentified stations with ESPN Radio, Christian talk, vocal music and another station with a beep tone. (KK-VA)
- WELI **CT**, New Haven – 1/8 1631 noted with female announcer mentioning: “960 WELI Traffic Center, I'm....” The signal was noted mixing with CFAC, WERC, WTGM and unidentified stations with ESPN Radio, Christian talk, vocal music and another station with a beep tone. (KK-VA)
- WTGM **MD**, Salisbury – 1/8 1800 noted with “Salisbury sports plays here; Fox Sports 960 WTGM Salisbury, Fox Sports 960-dot-com” legal ID by a male announcer. The signal was noted mixing with CFAC, WERC, WELI and unidentified stations with ESPN Radio, Christian talk, vocal music and another station with a beep tone. (KK-VA)
- 970 WTBF **AL**, Troy – 1/8 1758 noted with the station's General Manager talking about jobs for veterans. At 1759, this legal ID by a male announcer was noted: “Your Choice for CBS Sports Radio, 970 WTBF Troy, Alabama.” The signal was noted mixing with WNIV, WFLA, WYSE, WKCI and either WGTK or WNYM. (KK-VA) (WNYM is more likely at your location, Kraig; WGTK generally beams toward St Louis from Louisville; they have to protect WTEM – eb)
- WFLA **FL**, Tampa – 1/8 1751 noted with mention of “Your weather on Fox 97 WFLA” by a male announcer. This is the first time I've actually heard the WFLA calls as opposed to WFLF 540 calling itself WFLA from time to time. The signal was noted mixing with WTBF, WNIV, WYSE, WKCI and either WGTK or WNYM. (KK-VA)
- WNIV **GA**, Atlanta – 1/8 1659 noted with Christian talk, “970 WNIV” ID by a male announcer. The signal was noted mixing with WTBF, WFLA, WYSE, WKCI and either WGTK or WNYM. (KK-VA)
- 980 KDSJ **SD**, Deadwood – 1/13 0816 noted with station promo, “Serving you since 1947, South Dakota's 98 KDSJ” ID. A poor signal was noted. (JJR-MI)
- 990 WDYZ **FL**, Orlando – 12/23 1700 noted with talk format in Spanish, “La Nueva Nueve-Noventa AM” ID, which is WDYZ per Henrik Klementz at Real DX; alone on the channel. (MC-MA)
- +1/8 1700 noted with “Esta es WDYZ Orlando” legal ID in Spanish. The signal was noted mixing with WEEB, KWAM, WNML and unidentified stations with Oldies and Bluegrass formats. (KK-VA) (Your unidentified Oldies station could be WJEH Gallipolis OH; your unidentified Bluegrass station is definitely WNRV Narrows/Pearisburg VA – eb)
- WCAZ **IL**, Carthage – 1/13 0835 noted with local obituaries, sponsored by the Mohn Funeral Home; weather forecast at 0850. A poor signal was noted with no sign of CBW. (JJR-MI)
- KAYL **IA**, Storm Lake – 1/9 0943 noted with “Juan, Juan, Juan” ID in Spanish into a Regional Mexican format. A poor signal was noted with no sign of CBW; not in so much. (JJR-MI)
- KWAM **TN**, Memphis – 1/8 1759 noted with “This is AM 990 KWAM Memphis” legal ID by a male announcer, into CBS News. At 1806, this mention was made by a male announcer: “From the East Memphis studios of KWAM, this is the Earle Farrell for Memphis Show”. The signal was noted mixing with WDYZ, WEEB, WNML and unidentified stations with Oldies and Bluegrass formats. (KK-VA) (With a “K” call in Tennessee, I wonder if the station's transmitter site is in Arkansas – eb)
- WNML **TN**, Knoxville – 1/8 1640 noted with an ad for the Tennessee Lottery, followed by a “Sports Radio WNML” ID by a female announcer. The signal was noted mixing with WDYZ, WEEB, KWAM and unidentified stations with Oldies and Bluegrass formats. (KK-VA)
- 1030 KTWO **WY**, Casper – 1/13 0833 noted with two “KTWO” IDs; a Rush Limbaugh commentary followed. A poor signal was noted with WBZ phased. (JJR-MI)

- 1050 WSEN **NY**, Baldwinsville – 1/10 1718 noted with an Oldies format, “Oldies WSEN” jingle ID. At 1736, a “Your Choice for Oldies, WSEN” jingle ID was noted. The signal was noted mixing with WEPN, WBQH, WHSC and unidentified stations with Christian talk, Oldies, a talk format and an NFL football game. (KK-VA) (Your Christian talker could very well be WFAM Augusta GA. Your Oldies station could be WFSC Franklin NC; your other talk station could be sports talker CHUM Toronto ON. The station carrying the football game could be WDW Decatur IL – eb)
- WHSC **SC**, Conway – 1/10 1730 noted with “Fox Sports Radio 101.9 FM and 1050 AM” ID by a male announcer. (The 101.9 is in reference to relay W270BZ – eb) The signal was noted mixing with WEPN, WBQH, WHSC and unidentified stations with Christian talk, Oldies, a talk format and an NFL football game. (KK-VA)
- 1070 KNX **CA**, Los Angeles – 1/13 0814 noted with “I’m Dick Helton; it’s 5:14 at Southern California’s only all-news station, KNX 1070” mention. Years ago, Helton was reporting the news at WBBM 780 Chicago. A poor, but steady signal was noted with no sign of WTSO. (JJR-MI)
- 1080 WWDR **NC**, Murfreesboro – 12/21 2100 noted with “1080 AM WWDR Murfreesboro” legal ID, mixing with WTIC. (MC-MA) (This one forgot to switch off at night; the NRC log lists this as a 930-watt daytimer – eb)
- 1190 WNWC **WI**, Sun Prairie – 1/14 0914 noted with the same Christian program that aired on Faith 1200 KFNV (West Fargo, ND). A poor signal was noted in a WOWO null. (JJR-MI)
- 1210 KOKK **SD**, Huron – 1/11 0736 noted with American Agricultural Network programming, South Dakota weather report with a mention of 30 degrees below zero, ad for Tri-County Kia mentioning “South Dakota’s Tri-County Kia”. A poor signal was noted. (JJR-MI)
- 1230 KDIX **ND**, Dickinson – 1/9 0820 noted with programming from the Northern Agricultural Network, mention of “at North Dakota Hardware, Hanks” in a local ad. A poor, but steady signal was noted. (JJR-MI)
- WXCO **WI**, Wausau – 1/11 0831 noted with “The Osgood File”, weather report mentioning “Clear and minus 12 in Wausau”. A poor signal was noted, mixing with other stations. (JJR-MI)
- 1240 KDLR **ND**, Devils Lake – 1/9 0816 noted with mentions of sub-zero temperatures, “Radio Works Sports Director” and “Weatherology” before a “KDLR” ID. A fair signal was noted. (JJR-MI)
- 1260 WSKO **NY**, Syracuse – 1/12 1902 noted with mention of “three to six on the Voice of Central New York, 1260 the Score”. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- WCCR **OH**, Cleveland – 1/12 0821 noted with EWTN Catholic Mass; this is assumed. A poor, but steady, signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI) (John, this is definitely WCCR – eb)
- 1290 WNBK **NY**, Binghamton – 1/9 1719 noted with a sportscast, mention of “on News Radio WNBK” into ad for Matthews Auto. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- 1330 CJYM **SK**, Rosetown – 1/12 0831 noted with news read by a female announcer, mentions of road conditions and “elsewhere in Saskatchewan”. This is the first time I’ve noted this station all season, which seems unusual! A poor signal was noted with no sign of WHBL or KNSS. (JJR-MI)
- 1340 WEXL **MI**, Royal Oak – 1/9 1547 noted with mention of “three to six on WEXL, Glory 1340”. A very poor signal was noted; a new log in L’Anse. (JJR-MI)
- WMSA **NY**, Massena – 1/11 1804 noted with an Oldies format, including music by The Grass Roots, Marvin Gaye, The Four Seasons, Bob Dylan and Young-Holt Unlimited. This one always faded at the appropriate times, hi! At 1902, a partial “1340 WMS...” was noted going into CBS News. After listening to the recording over and over and the Web stream, WMSA does tape delay the news and uses the same voice for the legal ID at the top of the hour. A very poor signal was noted; a new log at L’Anse. (JJR-MI)
- KXPO **ND**, Bowman – 1/9 0955 noted with “Expo Radio” jingle ID into weather report, with a high of three degrees above zero and a forecast low of 12 degrees below zero, into a Country format. A very poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- KIJV **SD**, Huron – 1/11 1707 noted with “Tiger 95” jingle IDs and a Hot Adult Contemporary format, including “Worth It” by Fifth Harmony. (“Tiger 95” refers to K237EL 95.3 – eb) A poor signal was noted in and out of the mess chasing an unidentified Oldies station. (JJR-MI)
- 1350 WGDN **MI**, Gladwin – 1/10 0901 noted with mention of “For Religion and Politics in Central Michigan”, followed by a legal ID. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- 1370 WSHV **VA**, South Hill – 1/7 1950 noted with a mention of the station identifying all songs and artists, “Shine FM” ID into Contemporary Christian music, simulcasting the 96.7 Shine FM Web stream. A poor to very poor signal was noted mixing with a few possible stations, including WSPD and WTAB. (PS-ON) (The “Shine FM” mentioned is W244CP – eb)
- 1410 WNER **NY**, Watertown – 1/12 1758 noted with “Fox Sports Radio 1410, the Winner” ID, followed by weather forecast and mention of skiing information at I Love New York-dot-com, legal ID at 1800. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. This one is a new log at L’Anse. (JJR-MI)
- 1430 KBRK **SD**, Brookings – 1/13 0906 noted with mention of “Brookings Morning News” into local news. A poor signal was noted with other stations nulled. (JJR-MI)
- 1440 KCHE **IA**, Cherokee – 1/13 0900 noted with a Classic Hits format that included Pat Benatar’s “Love Is a Battlefield”, followed by a legal ID into ABC News. A poor signal was noted with other stations nulled. (JJR-MI)
- 1450 KZZJ **ND**, Rugby – 1/9 0807 noted with news from the Dakota Network, into an ad for Saint Michael Furniture in Rugby. A poor signal was noted with other stations nulled. (JJR-MI)
- 1470 KWAY **IA**, Waverly – 1/14 0926 noted with “The Winner, AM 1470” ID into PSA for the Department of Health and Human Services mentioning their Web site. A poor signal was noted with other stations nulled. (JJR-MI)
- 1480 WPWC **VA**, Dumfries-Triangle – 12/21 2200 noted 5 Hz low at 1479.95 kHz; “WPWC” ID into talk in Spanish, over WSAR. (MC-MA)
- 1490 KNDC **ND**, Hettinger – 1/13 0933 noted with “The Osgood File” and an ad for Main Street Cuts in Hettinger, giving the phone number as 567-42xx. A poor signal was noted; alone on the channel. (JJR-MI)
- 1510 KIFG **IA**, Iowa Falls – 1/9 1746 noted with “KIFG 95.3 FM and 1510 AM” after music selection (Classic Hits format). A poor signal was noted, mixing with KMSD. (JJR-MI)
- 1550 WEVR **WI**, River Falls – 1/14 0922 noted with “Your Good Neighbor, WEVR 1550 and WEVR 106.3” ID. A poor signal was noted with other stations nulled. (JJR-MI)
- 1600 WRPN **WI**, Ripon – 1/9 2350 noted with an Oldies format, including “Year of the Cat” by Al Stewart, into an ad for Culligan and a station ad looking for someone to fill an open position at the station, complete with full postal address and E-mail address, mention of WRPN AM-dot-com. A song from Barbra Streisand followed. A poor to very poor signal was noted, mixing with WWRL and several other stations. (PS-ON)

DX TEST

- 600 WBOB **FL**, Jacksonville – 1/10 0048 noted with “WBOB WBOB JACKSONVILLE FL USA WBOB WBOB WBOB” ID in Morse Code, sweep tones, ascending beeps, phone off hook sound effect, game show music, mentions of WBOB and Florida by a male announcer, antique siren sound effect, “WBOB WBOB” ID in slow Morse Code. Interference was mostly from Radio Rebelde (CMKV) Cuba, with HJHJ (Colombia), WYEL and other Latin Americans occasionally in the mix. (MC-MA)
- +1/10 0001-0020 during DX Test with SRN News, promos, Morse Code IDs and a variety of tones. A moderate to strong signal was noted over WICC, CMKV (Radio Rebelde) in a CKAT null. (SSH-VT)
- +1/10 0000-0130 noted with Morse Code IDs, male and female announcers with voice IDs, sweep and siren tones, theme from “The Price is Right”, with regular programming and music at times. I’ve already received a reply from Station Engineer Jerry Smith that I indeed heard WBOB. QSLs are forthcoming from the station. The signal was noted mixing with WKYH, WSJS, CMKV and an unidentified Country station. (KK-VA) (The unidentified Country station is CKAT North Bay ON – eb)
- +1/10 0008 noted with sweep tones that did come through; I previously logged this one in Milwaukee as WSNY (“Sunny 600”) in 1980. A poor signal was noted with no sign of WMT; a new log at L’Anse. (JJR-MI)
- +1/10 0015 noted with sweep tones, Morse Code IDs repeated, phone disconnect sound effect, “The Price is Right” theme and assorted sound effects, “WBOB Jacksonville test” ID at 0054. A poor to very poor signal was noted, mixing with CKAT, WMT and possibly WICC and WSNL. (PS-ON)

WEB RESOURCES (all from MC-MA)

Recording of WBOB 600 test: http://www.qsl.net/wa1ion/audio1/wbob_600_fl_20160110_0548-0555z.mp3
 Recordings of logs from August to December 2015: http://www.qsl.net/wa1ion/doc1/audio_aug_to_dec2015.htm
 SuperLoop antenna: <http://www.bamlog.com/superloop.htm>.

EDITOR’S NOTES

Thanks to Mark, Steve, Kraig, John and Paul for their reports! This is the largest column I’ve done in nearly three years of editing EDXR! I’ve included the Web sites Mark Connelly mentioned in his contribution as a reference to our fellow DXers. Paul Snider sent me a correction on the station that interfered with WITK 1550 in his last report: it was indeed CBEF that interfered with WITK. I was not able to hear the WBOB test; part of the reason being is that my local KFNS 590 is back on the air. I already have 35 AM stations from the Sunshine State. While I’m putting the column together, I’m usually monitoring one of the GY frequencies. Judging from the logs, this test was widely heard. 73 and good DX from NØUIH



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

Deadline Monday 1201 PM PLT. Thanks to Nigel, we have a column this time. All times UTC/GMT.

TRANS-PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

- 693 **JAPAN**, JOAB, Tokyo, NHK2. Traces of audio at 1504 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 747 **JAPAN**, JOIB, Sapporo. NHK2. Poor level, with woman in Japanese at 1455 1/16, //774. (NP-AB)
 +Traces of audio at 1508 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 774 **JAPAN**, JOUB, Akita, NHK2. Man in Japanese at 1456 1/16. Poor, briefly reaching fair just after the hour. (NP-AB)
 +Poor, woman in Japanese at 1503 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 828 **JAPAN**, JOBB, Osaka, NHK2. Time pips noted at 1500 1/16, but otherwise only a few words noted now and then. (NP-AB)
 +Time pips noted at 1500 1/17, but otherwise only a few words noted now and then. (NP-AB)
- 873 **JAPAN**, JOGB, Kumamoto, NHK2. Time pips heard at 1500 1/16, but that was about it. (NP-AB)
- 972 **REP KOREA**, HLCA, Dangiin. Woman talking in Korean at 1502 1/16. (NP-AB)
 +Poor, with woman talking in Korean at 1502 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 1566 **REP KOREA**, HLAZ, Jeju, FEBC. Poor, with woman in Chinese when first noted at 1456 1/16, but was fair for a while after the hour, and was the last to fade out at 1520. (NP-AB)
 +At fair level with woman speaking at 1502 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 1575 **THAILAND**, Ban Phachi, VOA. Man speaking on Southeast Asian language. Not audible yesterday at all, but reached good level today at 1510 1/17. (NP-AB)
- 1593 **CHINA**, Changzhou, CNR1. Poor-fair, with man in Chinese at 1503 1/17. (NP-AB)

THANKS TO THIS REPORTER

NP-AB **NIGEL PIMBLETT**, Dunmore AB
 Perseus SDR with a Wellbrook Phased Array



DX WORLDWIDE – EAST – Brandon Jordan – PO Box 338 – Rossville TN 38066
E-mail: bdjorda@gmail.com
all times UTC

Deadline – Sunday Midnight Central Time.

***** PAN-AMERICAN DX *****

- 540 **MÉXICO** XETX, Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chih. JAN 14 1330 – “La mera mera, La Ranchera de Paquimé”, after a string of federal PSAs. I knew if it were XETX there would be an ID within two minutes of tuning in. By this time, most of the lowband XEs are gone, except 620 XEBU Chihuahua2, but this 1000/250 watter persists. Our sunrise today: 1343 UT, earlying at the rate of 3 or 4 minutes per week. [Hauser-OK]
- 660 **MÉXICO** XEACB, Ciudad Delicias, Chih. JAN 13 1324 – one announcer reading live adstring, 1327 mentions 98.9 FM, 6:27 time, “Chihuahua capital”, all of which mean it’s XEACB.
 +JAN 14 0700 – Chihuahua state anthem is playing (listen for “chihuahuense”), vs IBOC from WSCR, 0701 “son las 12”, en 98.9 FM, so it’s XEACB again. [Hauser-OK]
- 690 **UnID**. JAN 16 0712 – Spanish canciones interrupted by non-ID for “La Reina, 107.9 FM y 690 AM”. Searching FM and AM lists and broad searches lead nowhere. A few US Spanish stations don’t match. Figure it’s Mexican, pretty good DF at SW/NE. Possibly XEMA Fresnillo, Zacatecas, 50/2 kW, listed with an FM on 107.1 by Cantú and IRCA – but on 107.9 in WRTH 2016 – but2, name in all as “La Mejor”. However, I am not 100% sure that the word I heard was Reina (queen). I am more certain of the FM frequency, which in Spanish unlike English would not be confusable with 107.1. More to the SW is one other Mexican, XEST, Mazatlán, Sinaloa, 2/0.25 kW, but with FM on 94.7 and called “Romántica”. Maybe there’s been a recent change at one of these which will eventually emerge. [Hauser-OK]
- 700 **MÉXICO** XEETCH, Etchojoa, Son. JAN 11 1316 – rustic fiddle and guitar music, staple in the mornings from XEETCH which at 1333 gives full ID in Spanish as La Voz de los Tres Rios, Etchojoa, Sonora, and also native languages; 1334 “toque un baile” and back to music. Some of the usual other signals from NW Mexico in the UT -7 zone also in during this pre-sunrise span: 550, 620, 660, 710, 870.
 +JAN 13 1330 – rustic music at the moment from Etchojoa, is drumming and piccolo. [Hauser-OK]
- 720p **MÉXICO** XEJCC, Ciudad Juárez, Chih. JAN 13 1332 – “Fonógrafo 720 AM” ID, classic rock, woman with Spanish dedication, timecheck as 7:33, loops WSW? We have a confusing situation about the identity of this station: a few nights ago, Dec 27 at 0121, I assumed it was XEDE Saltillo, Coahuila, which fits for the timecheck heard now, CST. In the morning around sunrise, it’s likely to be a bit further west, such as XEJCC Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua, where the time is 6:33 am MST. Searching on the slogan, I get a Wikipedia listing of Grupo Radio México stations including XEJCC 720 Juárez as Fonógrafo 720, so that would seem to clinch it except for the clock. https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grupo_Radio_M%C3%A9xico
#Ciudad_Ju.C3.A1rez.2C_Chihuahua. Fonógrafo does not appear for any 720 station in our DX source listings: WRTH 2016, IRCA Mexican Log 2015, and Cantú as of early 2015, all of which have it as Extremo 720 (and BTW, IRCA Log has upped the power from 1 kW to 25 kW daytimer). The GRM website itself, <http://www.gradiomex.com/estaciones-por-ciudad/> still has XEJCC on its long-abandoned frequency 1520 as “La 15 20”. The Fonógrafo moniker also applies to a Grupo Radio Centro station on 1150, XEJP, México DF. I suppose it’s possible that the 720 station in Juárez is inserting local non-IDs, while relaying programming out of DF with TCs local for there. A DXer in El Paso could clarify this. [Hauser-OK]
- 800 **MÉXICO** XEROK, Ciudad Juárez, Chih. JAN 13 1336 – strong Spanish from the WSW with KQCV OKC nulls as much as possible – just like XEROK used to achieve before it disappeared. Two men and one woman in studio, dialogs with callers; 1340 with 6:40 timecheck, mentions “carretera a Casas Grandes”, and an address in “Colonia Villa Esperanza”; 1343 discussing Powerball and its sesquigadollar jackpot. Makes slow SAH with KQCV of approx. 92 per minute or almost 1.5 Hz, which IIRC was also typical of the old XEROK. And this “is” definitely XEROK, seemingly jacked up again to 50 kW power at least for the moment. The colonia checks out for Ciudad Juárez (but also one in Ahumada, Chihuahua, which is just south of CiJz, and another in San Nicolás de los Garza, Nuevo León, not the right direction although there is one NL station on 800, in Montemorelos); and Nuevo Casas Grandes is the next town to the SW of CiJz via federal highway 2. Neither at sunrise nor at night have I been hearing any such signal on 800 vs KQCV – if I get anything else at night, it’s likely to be TWR Bonaire. We’ll see if XEROK continues revived at night.
 +JAN 14 1306 – XEROK with two cuckoos for a time check “6 con 6 minutos”, headlines; 1308 this time it’s a rooster crowing, and ID including call letters XEROK. Still with restored hi power, presumably 50 kW ND entitled to own the frequency at night across western USA, holding its own against nearest groundwave KQCV OKC.
 +JAN 16 0700 – choral NA is playing, multi-verse until 0705 full XEROK Radio Cañón ID “desde la frontera norte”, full, but not including any assertion of current power level, presumably 50 kW once again after a long QRP hiatus – equipment problem, or deliberate downgrade? It seemed the latter, like with co-Juárez station XEJ 970. No reference to a new FM, just Grupo 7, not to be mistaken for Ciento 7. [Hauser-OK]
- 870 **CUBA** Radio Reloj synchron. JAN 15 0221 – as I tune across WWL, I hear “RR” in Morse, so Radio Reloj is underneath. WRTH 2016 shows three CMBDs on 870: 10 kW each in Bueycito, Granma and Baracoa, Guantánamo; 1 kW in Sancti Spiritus, SS. SS is the closest from mid-isle, although weakest. Here’s a handy map and list by frequency provided by Bruce Conti: [Hauser-OK]
- 990 **MÉXICO** XECL, Mexicali, BC. JAN 9 0630 – 50s Oldies, male shouting “Rockola” and female jingle “Neuve Noventa”. So happy that they have returned to the old Rockola 990 format, with traditional 50s and 60s rock and roll and Mexican cover songs from the same period (sung in Spanish). [Barton-AZ]

CONTRIBUTORS

- [Barton-AZ] **Rick Barton**, North Peoria AZ
 Grundig Satellit 750
- [Hauser-OK] **Glenn Hauser**, Enid OK, USA
 DX-398 with internal antenna only or PL-880; NRD-545 with ALA-330S inside E-W or inside random wire N-S; ICR-75 with E-W longwire;
 FRG-7 with NW-SE short wire
- 73, Brandon



SPORTCHANNELS IRCA – Compiled by: Eric Bueneman (NØUIH)
E-mail: n0uiheric@gmail.com

Welcome to another edition of SportChannels! Basketball season is under way, and we're now taking a look at NBA network lists. In this edition, we'll take a look at the teams in the Western Conference's Pacific Division; the defending NBA champion Golden State Warriors play in this division. Flagship stations are in **boldface** type, Spanish flagship stations in **boldface italics**, Spanish language affiliates or simulcast partners in *italics*.

GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS Tim Roye, Tom Tolbert, **Web:** nba.com/warriors/

680 KNBR San Francisco, CA only

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS English: Brian Sieman, Isaac Lowenkron, Michael Smith, Spanish: Armando Garcia, **Web:** nba.com/clippers/

980 KFVB Los Angeles, CA (English) *1220 KWKU Pomona, CA* (Spanish) **1330 KWKW Los Angeles, CA** (Spanish)

LOS ANGELES LAKERS English: John Ireland, Mychal Thompson, Spanish: Fernando Gonzalez, Pepe Mantilla, **Web:** nba.com/lakers/

AM	920 KBAD Las Vegas, NV	1330 KWKW Los Angeles, CA	<i>1490 KWAC Bakersfield, CA</i>
590 KTIE San Bernardino, CA	940 KFIG Fresno, CA	1360 KLSB San Diego, CA	1520 KVTA Port Hueneme, CA
610 KAVL Lancaster, CA	<i>1220 KWKU Pomona, CA</i>	1400 KKJL San Luis Obispo, CA	FM
710 KSPN Los Angeles, CA	1230 KSZL Barstow, CA	<i>1460 KENO Las Vegas, NV</i>	103.9 KKUU Lake Arrowhead, CA
910 KRAK Hesperia, CA	1230 KYVA Gallup, NM	1490 KMET Banning, CA	

PHOENIX SUNS No English or Spanish play-by-play personnel information available, **Web:** nba.com/suns/

AM	1210 KEVT Sahuarita, AZ	FM	105.7 KVRD Cottonwood, AZ
600 KVNA Flagstaff, AZ	1230 KATO Safford, AZ	92.1 KZUA Holbrook, AZ	106.7 KNKI Pinetop, AZ*
610 KNML Albuquerque, NM	1340 KIKO Miami, AZ	94.3 K232EY Kingman, AZ (1)	
620 KTAR Phoenix, AZ	1400 KRVS Springerville, AZ	98.7 KMVP-FM Phoenix, AZ	
980 KNTR Lake Havasu City, AZ	1400 KSUN Phoenix, AZ	100.5 K263BM Riviera, AZ (1)	

Relays: 1) KNTR 980, * denotes Suns' list has the frequency as 102.5

SACRAMENTO KINGS No play-by-play personnel information available, **Web:** nba.com/kings/

1140 KHTK Sacramento, CA only

A little bit of NFL news... the NFL has approved the relocation of the Saint Louis Rams back to Los Angeles for the 2016 season. They will be playing their home games at the Los Angeles Coliseum until a new stadium opens around 2019 in Inglewood CA. The San Diego Chargers have the option of joining the Rams in Los Angeles starting with the 2017 season. A number of stations could be vying for the contract to be the Los Angeles Rams' new flagship. The flagship in Saint Louis the past several years was WXOS 101.1 East Saint Louis IL. There could also be a similar competition for the Chargers' rights if they move up the coast. In the next edition of SportChannels, we will head to the NBA's Eastern Conference, starting with the Atlantic Division. 73 and play hard!



2015-2016 IRCA DX CONTEST – Manager: Nancy Johnson – 2922 S Olivewood – Mesa AZ 85212
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

January 15 2016 Contest Standings

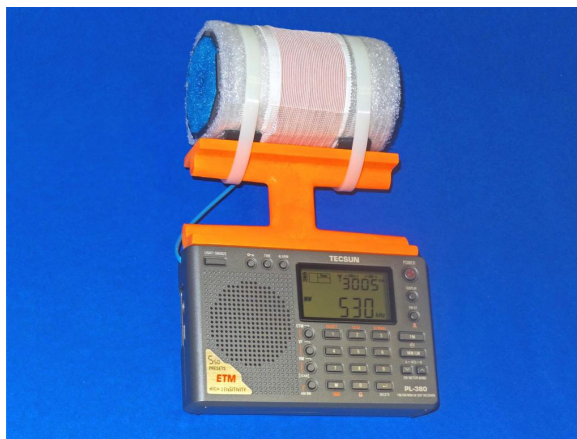
- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. John C. Johnson 321 | 3. Nancy Johnson 191 | 5. Dennis Vroom 127 | 7. Russell Nelson 99 |
| 2. Greg Hall 237 | 4. Tim Noonan 134 | 6. John Tudenham 106 | 8. Nigel Pimblett 83 |

If you would like to join the contest the rules can be found in the August 22 2015 issue of DXM. A lot of new stations have been logged by our eight contestants! 73 – Nancy



ULTRALIGHT NEWS – Phil Bytheway – 9705 Mary NW – Seattle WA 98117-2334
E-mail: phil_tekno@yahoo.com

3 Inch FSL Tecsun PL-380 Model
Compact Breakthrough in MW Sensitivity, Selectivity and Portability
 By Gary DeBock, Puyallup WA, USA January 2016



Introduction: Portable radio enthusiasts were astonished when Silicon Labs first introduced their innovative Si4734 DSP chip in 2009 – the pocket radios empowered by this new component had amazing DSP-enhanced selectivity. Although the relatively lame stock loopsticks designed by the Kchibo and Tecsun companies seriously limited MW sensitivity there was no shortage of fanatical hobbyists designing upgrade loopsticks in an effort to correct this deficiency. The 7.5" loopstick transplant boosted the MW sensitivity of the PL-380 model up to a much improved level, and it became the most popular modification in our Ultralight radio group. But in 2011 another huge breakthrough was about to capture the fascination of our DXing niche group – Graham Maynard published his original Ferrite Sleeve article, and the innovative antenna's sensitivity made our humble pocket radios perform like real transoceanic DXing contenders. This was very thrilling – but was there any possible way that the awesome selectivity from the Si4734 DSP chip and the awesome sensitivity provided by the FSL antenna could somehow be combined in a self-contained breakthrough portable, with lightweight portability as an added bonus?

The fact that an Si4734 DSP chip could successfully tune an external antenna was demonstrated by various experimenters (including me) in 2011 – a hard-wired 3" Longwave FSL design worked quite well for me in early 2011, and although it was far too heavy to consider attachment to the PL-380 the validity of the hard-wired FSL concept was proven to my satisfaction (see photo at right). The challenge has always been to create a hard-wired FSL that would offer both high MW sensitivity and lightweight portability – a value tradeoff that made this project especially intriguing.

After testing various designs I finally settled on a 3" FSL composed of the lightweight Russian surplus 100mm x 20mm x 3mm ferrite bars. These bars provide a unique balance of high sensitivity and lightweight portability, and the cylindrical shape of the FSL apparently provides the fringe benefit of exceptional nulling capability. The PL-380's Si4734 chip easily tunes the antenna for breakthrough MW sensitivity from 521-1701 kHz, and provides excellent 1 kHz DSP selectivity as well. The weight of the FSL-enhanced PL-380 is within reason to maintain the concept of easy portability, and its modest size may actually convince airport security agents that it is indeed a radio and antenna combination. Overall the project has been a very satisfying effort to combine the awesome capabilities of both the Si4734 DSP chip and the new FSL antenna – resulting in a breakthrough "travel portable" with astonishing MW-DXing performance.



Project Overview: This modification procedure will convert the Tecsun PL-380 AM-LW-FM-SW portable from a modest-performing Medium Wave receiver into an exceptional one, with a significant enhancement of Longwave performance as well. The process involves some close-order soldering on a crowded PL-380 circuit board, and should only be attempted by those with good close-up eyesight, steady hand coordination and some soldering experience. Certain component parts (such as the 100mm x 20mm x 3mm ferrite bars, the 2.25" Fun noodle inner cores and the orange plastic antenna frames) may be in short supply depending upon current demand, and it is recommended that all these be collected prior to starting the project.

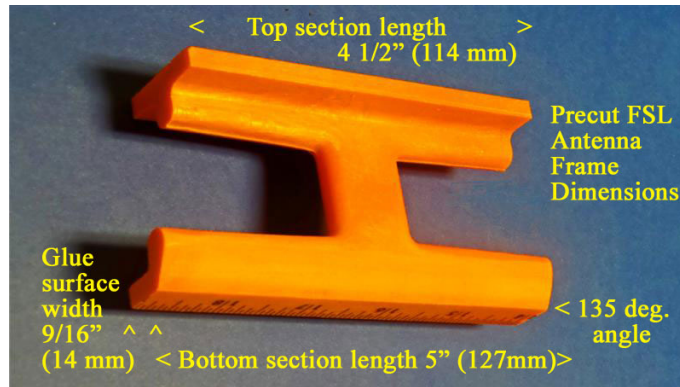
Since major portions of this project involve duplication of procedures contained in the PL-380 7.5" Loopstick Transplant article, reference is made to various steps and instructions in that article (posted at <http://www.mediafire.com/view/du3sr5cd9thqvau/7.5inch-LS-PL380.doc>). As such, hobbyists who have successfully completed the 7.5" loopstick transplant project on a PL-380 will find this procedure relatively simple, with only the 3" Bar FSL construction as a new challenge. The resulting FSL-enhanced PL-380 truly provides a quantum leap in MW-DXing performance over the stock model, but reasonable care is necessary to protect the modified portable from sudden drops or mechanical shocks. Completion of the finished radio should provide a great level of satisfaction and hobby enjoyment, especially during travel opportunities where external antennas are impractical or forbidden.



Construction Parts Required

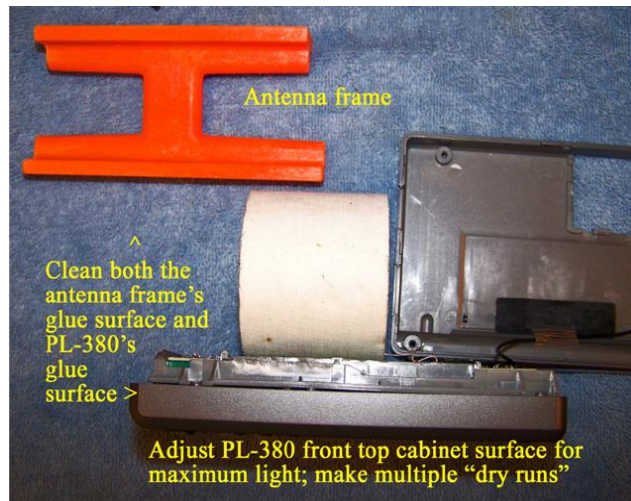
- A) Tecsun PL-380 AM-LW-FM-SW Receiver (available from many sources, including this eBay listing at \$46.99 with free shipping to the USA) <http://www.ebay.com/itm/Tecsun-PL380-DSP-AM-FM-Shortwave-LW-PLL-Radio-Receiver-PL-380-/251783558999?hash=item3a9f783757:g:t0EAAOxylpNTTAn7>.
 - B) 37 feet of 250/46 Litz wire http://www.ebay.com/itm/Litz-wire-250-46-0-04-mm-for-crystal-radio-coil-Loop-antenna-100-/160804560511?hash=item2570b2de7f:m:m9fkDfLaAd59_UEmp1po5w.
 - C) 8 Russian surplus 100mm x 20mm x 3mm ferrite bars (availability currently uncertain – author has a limited supply. An eBay source may reappear for future orders, since many of these bars are presumably still in Eastern Europe).
 - D) 4" length of 2" diameter Fun Noodle inner core <http://www.amazon.com/Aqua-World-223-Fun-Noodle/dp/B0017QABEQ/>.
 - E) Precut orange plastic antenna frame (cut from Ace hardware 48" plastic level, with 5" long bottom dimension and 4.5" top dimension – cutting instructions to follow). NOTE: each Ace Hardware 48" level has enough material to make two FSL antenna frames.
 - F) Rite Aid 1" wide waterproof tape (1 roll)
 - G) Scotch "Extreme" shipping tape (1 roll)
 - H) Tube of Duro Super Glue (or equivalent), .07 ounce
 - I) 7 inches of 1/16" diameter shrink tubing
 - J) Two 18" lengths of 125 lb. test plastic tie wraps
 - K) Two 16" lengths of 75 lb. test plastic tie wraps
 - L) Oatey foam pack (4" wide)
 - M) Two 3/4" x 1" strips of 1" I.D. rubber heater hose
- Miscellaneous: Solder, 25w (low heat) soldering iron, hacksaw (or power miter saw), screwdriver set, sandpaper (optional)

PL-380 Preparation: Before voiding the warranty on your new PL-380, it's a good idea to ensure that it has no existing problems which might require warranty service © Install batteries in the radio and give it a test run on all four bands, checking the tuning encoder, clock, volume control, speaker, headphone jack, display functions and digital searching modes. Make sure that the radio is working properly in all functions before starting the modification procedure, since the eBay sellers are unlikely to show you any sympathy after you tear out the stock loopstick. It's also a good idea to check out the Medium Wave weak signal reception with the PL-380 stock loopstick before starting the modification, to establish a benchmark of performance against which the new 3" FSL's DXing performance will be compared.

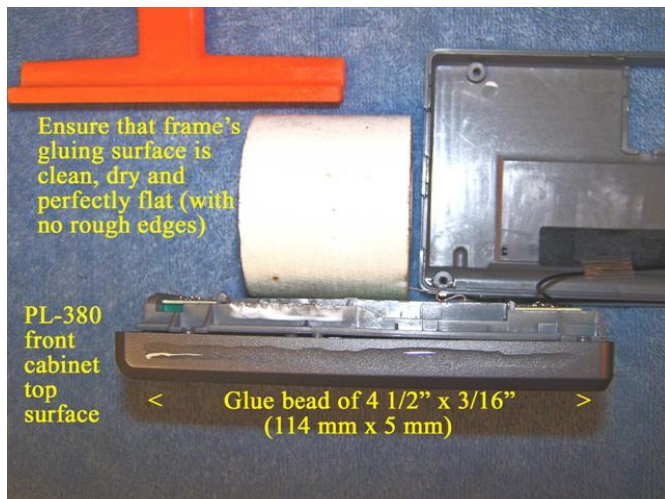


STEP-BY-STEP CONSTRUCTION

- 1) Follow the detailed cutting procedures in steps 1-9 of the loopstick transplant article (using either a power miter saw or hacksaw) to prepare the FSL antenna mounting frame, HOWEVER please note that the top section length for this project is 4 1/2" (114 mm), NOT 8" as in the loopstick transplant project. The finished precut frame should resemble the picture above, with the top section flat, and the bottom section back edge trimmed to allow full use of the radio's whip antenna. The frame's entire bottom section (including the glue surface) is identical in both the loopstick and FSL transplant projects.
- 2) Follow the detailed procedures in steps 17-22 of the loopstick transplant article to prepare the PL-380 cabinet for the FSL transplant procedure.

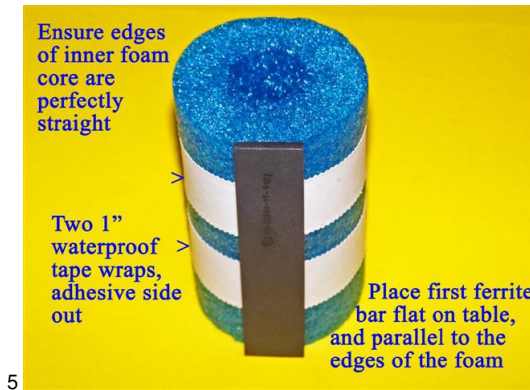


- 3) Refer to the photo above. Place the prepared PL-380 cabinet in the vertical position as shown, with a paper roll (or other item) to keep the cabinet in the vertical position. If necessary sand the edges (only) of the antenna frame's glue surface to ensure that no cutting debris or rough edges will cause an uneven gluing surface. Use a clean, damp cloth or paper towel to remove all dust and debris from both the antenna frame and PL-380 glue surfaces, then wipe them thoroughly dry. Ensure that maximum light shines on the PL-380's top glue surface (as shown in the left photo below), then practice making multiple "dry runs" of placing the antenna frame directly centered on the PL-380's front top cabinet surface, with its front edge lined up with the PL-380's beveled front edge. You will only get one chance to place the frame accurately when the super glue is on the PL-380 surface, so make sure that you know exactly what to do! The antenna frame should sit completely flat against the PL-380 cabinet, and slide across it smoothly if such a test is made. If not, sand any rough edges on the antenna frame's glue surface and repeat the cleaning procedure.

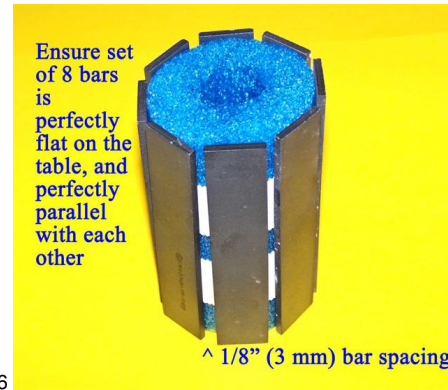


- 4) Refer to the above right photo. After ensuring that you are fully prepared for accurate placement of the antenna frame on the PL-380 cabinet, place a 4 1/2" x 3/16" bead of super glue (114 mm x 5 mm) on the PL-380's front top cabinet surface, as shown in the photo. Refer to the above left photo. Ensure that the front side of the antenna frame (as shown) is facing you, then place the antenna frame in a centered position flat against the PL-380 cabinet, with its front edge lining up with the front beveled edge of the cabinet, as shown in the photo. Press the antenna frame down firmly against the cabinet for about one minute, scraping away any excess glue from the front and back edges with a small, flat jeweler's screwdriver. It is especially important to remove any excess glue from the back edge of the antenna frame in order to allow the PL-380's back cabinet to close normally. After completion of this step place the PL-380 (with the attached antenna frame) in a secure area until the FSL antenna is constructed.

CONSTRUCTION OF FSL ANTENNA

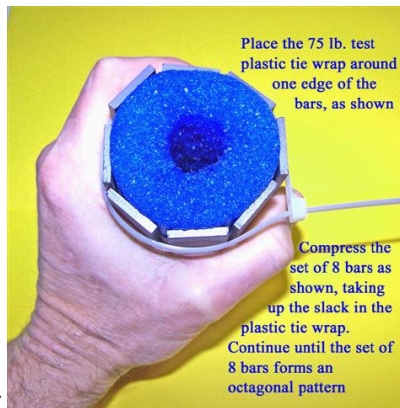


5



6

- 5) Refer to the above left photo. Ensure that the end edges of the 4" Funnoodle inner foam core are perfectly straight before performing this step. Place the inner foam core flat on a table, standing on one of its edges as shown. Take the roll of 1" wide waterproof tape and wrap two turns tightly around the inner foam core as shown in the photo, with the adhesive side out. Ensure that the two turns are wound tight enough so that they will not slide up or down the inner foam core. Take the first 100mm ferrite bar and press it firmly against the waterproof tape with its short edge completely flat on the table, and long edges completely parallel to the edges of the inner foam core (as shown). It is important to place this first bar accurately, in order to start an accurate pattern for the set of 8 bars.
- 6) Refer to the above right photo. Press another of the 100mm ferrite bars against the waterproof tape in a position where it is perfectly flat on the table and perfectly parallel with the first bar, with 1/8" (3 mm) spacing between the bars. Continue to place the other 6 bars on the inner foam core in exactly the same way, ensuring that all 8 bars are flat against the table and parallel with each other, having 1/8" (3 mm) spacing between them. If necessary (after placing all 8 bars on the tape), even out the spacing by moving certain bars slightly so that the gaps between them are all equal. The set of 8 bars will be compressed in the next step to form an octagonal pattern.

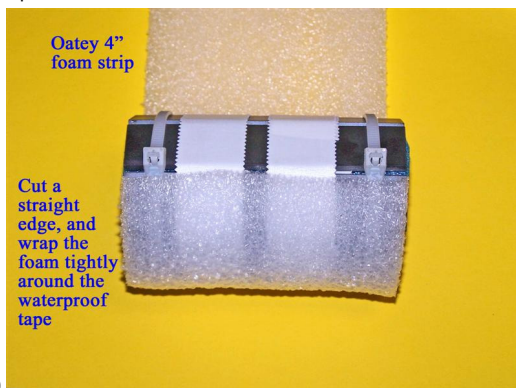


7

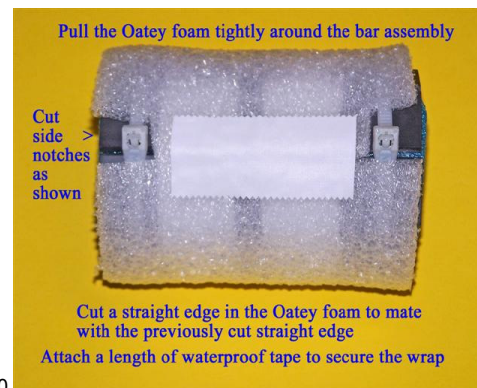


8

- 7) Refer to the above left photo. Place a 75 lb test plastic tie wrap around one edge of the set of 8 bars as shown, 1/2" (12 mm) from the ends of the bars. Slowly and carefully compress the set of 8 bars as shown, tightening up the slack in the plastic tie wrap gradually as you compress the set of bars. Continue this gradual process until the set of 8 bars forms an octagonal (stop sign) pattern, with the bars barely touching each other on their compressed edges. At this point take up any remaining slack in the plastic tie wrap, and stop compressing the bars. Repeat this process on the other side of the ferrite bars with another 75 lb. test plastic tie wrap, ensuring that the bars form another octagonal pattern, with their compressed edges barely touching each other. Again take up the slack in the plastic tie wrap, and then use diagonal cutters to trim the excess ends of the plastic tie wraps.
- 8) Refer to the above right photo. Place the prepared set of 8 bars flat on the table on one of its ends, as shown. Take the roll of 1" waterproof tape and tightly wrap two turns of tape around the ferrite bars as shown, with the adhesive side out. Space these two wraps evenly as shown, ensuring that they are tight enough not to slide up and down the bars.



9



10

- 9) Refer to the above left photo. Take the Oatey 4" foam pack, remove the center staple and locate a 9" (23 cm) long length of this foam which is free of any holes or imperfections. At the beginning of this 9" (23 cm) long length of foam cut a perfectly straight line perpendicular to the edges of the foam. Press this straight edge of foam down tightly against the waterproof tape as shown, with the edges of the 4" Oatey form lining up with the edges of the bar assembly's inner foam core. Wrap this Oatey foam tightly around the waterproof tape until the foam touches the plastic tie wrap clamps. If necessary, re-wrap the foam tightly so that it is centered on the ferrite bar assembly.
- 10) Refer to the above right photo. Pull the Oatey foam wrap tightly around the bar assembly, then cut a straight edge to mate evenly with the previously cut straight edge. Before pressing this edge down on the tape cut side notches in the foam where the tie wraps clamps are located, as shown. The press this foam edge tightly down on the tape, mating evenly with the previously cut foam edge. Ensure that there are no gaps or overlaps in the foam edges; if necessary, pull the foam wrap once again all around the bar assembly and cut a new straight edge that will mate evenly, with no gaps or overlaps. Finally, secure this newly cut foam edge with a 2 1/2" (64 mm) strip of waterproof tape, as shown.



11

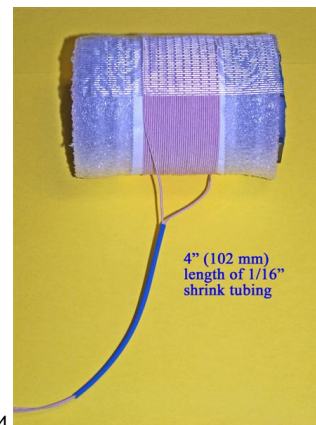


12

- 11) Refer to the above left photo. Support the edges of the prepared bar assembly so that it will be raised off of the table. Wrap two turns of the 1" waterproof tape tightly around the center of the prepared bar assembly, adhesive side out (as shown). When wrapping the second turn, ensure that the inner zigzag edge of the waterproof tape mates evenly with the inner zigzag edge of the first turn of tape, with no overlap or gap.
- 12) Refer to the above right photo. Take your reel of 250/46 Litz wire and measure off 16" (41 cm) of wire from the end. Press this exact point down on the waterproof tape 1/8" (3 mm) from the left edge of the waterproof tape, as shown in the photo. While pressing down this Litz wire point while the wire is in a position parallel to the waterproof tape (as shown) pick up the bar assembly with one hand and the Litz wire reel with the other hand, pulling the Litz wire tightly around the circumference of the bar assembly in a straight, parallel manner to begin the first Litz wire turn. Ensure that this first turn stays 1/8" (3 mm) away from the left edge of the waterproof tape all around the bar assembly, then start the second turn directly adjacent to the first turn, ensuring that no gaps or crossovers occur while winding the turns. Carefully continue this process until 36 total turns have been wound around the bar assembly, which should leave the Litz wire coil in a centered position, similar to the below right photo. **NOTE:** This coil is designed to provide an inductance of 350 uH.



13

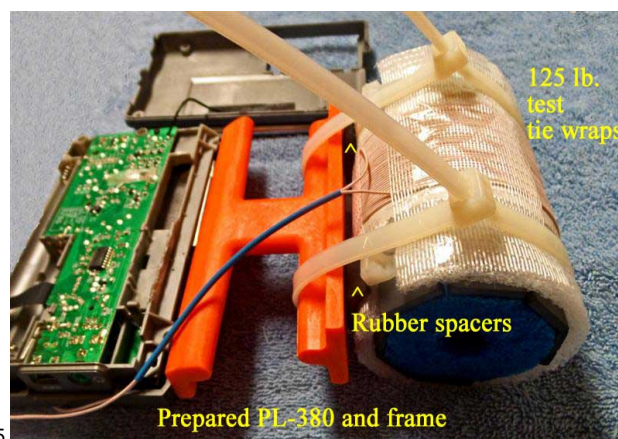


14

- 13) Refer to the above left photo. After 36 turns have been wound on the bar assembly, ensure that there is still a 16" (41 cm) length of loose Litz wire leading up to the first coil turn. Then place a strip of Scotch "Extreme" tape along the length of the bar assembly, with the lower edge of the tape along the point where the first Litz wire turn begins (as shown), and with the tie wrap clamps in back of the assembly. Press the tape down firmly to lock the coil into place. In the same manner, turn the bar assembly over and place another strip of "Extreme" tape along the bar assembly, with the lower edge of the tape along the point where the last Litz wire turn ends (where the wire leaves the coil), avoiding the tie wrap clamps. There should be about 2" (51 mm) of space between the two "Extreme" tape strips, and both loose Litz wire ends should be parallel as they come off of the coil. Press the second "Extreme" tape strip down firmly to lock the coil into place. Finally, measure off another 16" (41 cm) of loose Litz wire from the coil, cutting the Litz wire at that point.
- 14) Refer to the above right photo. Cut a 4" (102 mm) length of the 1/16" shrink tubing, and then cut a very short piece off of the ends of the Litz wires to ensure that these ends have the smallest and smoothest possible profile to be run through the shrink tubing. Run one end of the Litz wires through the shrink tubing until about 3 inches of wire extend from the tubing. Carefully insert the other end of the Litz wire through the shrink tubing, and use the procedure (and photo) in Step 30 of the Loopstick Transplant article to run the second Litz wire through the shrink tubing, as shown. The related photo for that procedure is included below left.



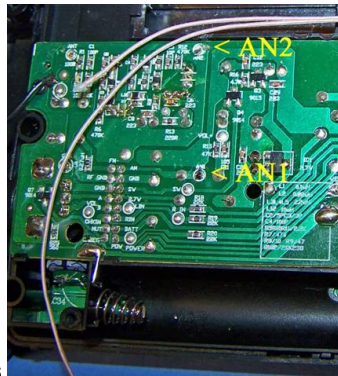
14



15

- 15) Refer to the above right photo. Place the previously prepared PL-380 and antenna frame assembly flat on the table, with a protective cloth to keep the front panel display from damage.

Take the prepared FSL antenna assembly and place it in the position shown, with the Litz wire shrink tubing running along the back side of the antenna frame and the lower edge of the FSL assembly next to the top of the antenna frame. Place the two 3/4" x 1" strips of rubber heater hose in the two positions shown, in between the antenna frame and the FSL antenna and also in between the coil and the FSL edges, with the longer rubber strip dimensions parallel to the FSL edges. Start the two 175 lb. test plastic tie wraps in the positions shown (down the center of the rubber spacer strips), ensuring that the rubber spacer strips remain between the FSL assembly and the antenna frame, and that the spacer strips are centered at the very bottom of the FSL assembly. Also ensure that the Litz wires are in the position shown, with no pinching or binding between the FSL assembly and antenna frame. Slowly and carefully tighten the first plastic tie wrap while ensuring that the rubber spacer strip remains in the proper position. Tighten this plastic tie wrap only enough to securely hold the FSL assembly, and do not tighten it to the point where the ferrite bars' octagonal pattern begins to distort. In a similar manner, carefully tighten the other plastic tie wrap while ensuring that the rubber spacer strip remains in the centered position, in between the antenna frame and FSL assembly. Once again, tighten this tie wrap only enough to securely hold the FSL assembly, and not to the point where the ferrite bars' octagonal pattern begins to distort. When this process is complete the large plastic tie wraps' clamps should be in the position shown, lined up with each other and in a position to support the radio/FSL combination when the model is laying down flat, on a table. Cut off the excess tie wrap lengths.



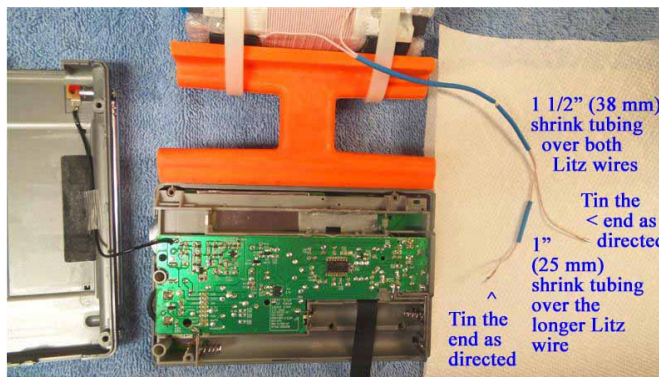
16

16

16) Refer to the above left photo. Temporarily place the Litz wires down along the radio's circuit board in the position shown. Locate the detailed circuit board antenna connection points "AN1" and "AN2" in the close up above right photo. After locating these two circuit board connection points (with the Litz wires running in the position shown in the photo) place one of the Litz wires over the "AN1" circuit board point, and the other Litz wire over the "AN2" circuit board point. Then measure out about 1" (25 mm) extra Litz wire past these two circuit board connection points, and after making sure that the Litz wires are still in the approximate position shown in the photo at the beginning of this step, cut one (shorter) Litz wire 1" (25 mm) past the "AN2" circuit board point, and one (longer) Litz wire 1" (25 mm) past the "AN1" circuit board point.

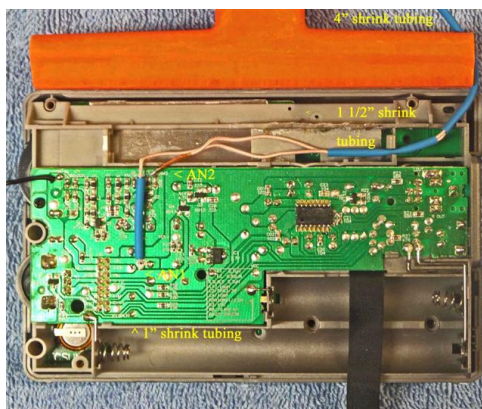
17) Refer to the **photo below**. Temporarily place the Litz wires outside of the radio as shown, and install a 1 1/2" (38 mm) long section of shrink tubing over both Litz wires, and a 1" (25 mm) long section of shrink tubing over the longer Litz wire. Position both sections of shrink tubing as shown in the photo below. Place some type of protective material under the Litz wire so that the soldering procedure (in the next step) will not damage your work surface.

NOTE: The proper procedure of tinning the ends of the Litz wires requires that all of the individual Litz wire strands be soldered together at the ends. This requires a clean, shiny solder connection all around the circumference of the Litz wire ends for at least 1/8" (3 mm). When preparing the ends of the Litz wires in the next step, ensure that the ends are tinned in this manner before continuing.



18) Refer to the above photo. Carefully tin the ends of both Litz wires in the manner described above, working around the circumference of the Litz wire ends with a clean soldering iron for at least 1/4" (6 mm). After doing this, cut off the tinned section on both ends to a length of 1/8" (3 mm). When viewing the ends of the Litz wires after tinning, the entire 1/8" (3 mm) length should be bright and shiny all around its circumference, as shown in the photo below. The cut surface of the Litz wire (the circular face) should also be bright and shiny, with one solid surface of melted solder.

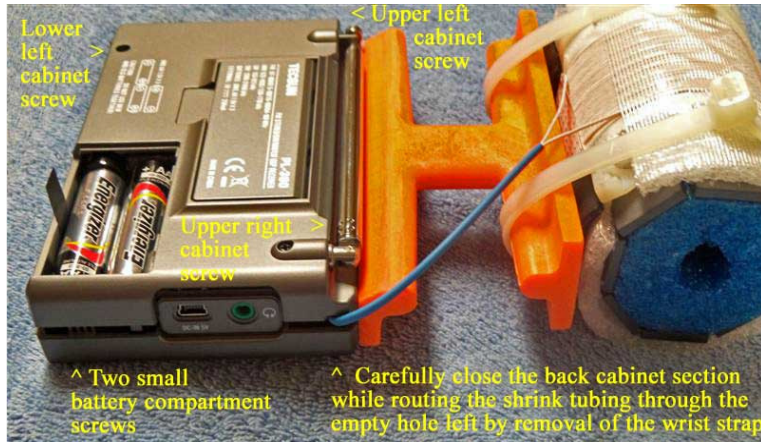
19) Refer to the below photo.



Take the prepared ends of the Litz wires and route them as shown in the photo above, with the 1 1/2" (38 mm) section of shrink tubing placed in the cabinet clamp as shown, and the end of the 4" (102 mm) section of shrink tubing (coming from the FSL coil) also positioned as shown (where it will be run through the

empty wrist strap hole, in the back cabinet side panel). Before placing the 1 1/2" (38 mm) long section of shrink tubing in the cabinet clamp refer to the picture at the top of the next page, and ensure that there will be sufficient slack in the 4" (102 mm) shrink tubing to be run from the FSL coil to the wrist strap hole (3/8" or 9 mm down from the top of the cabinet) without binding.

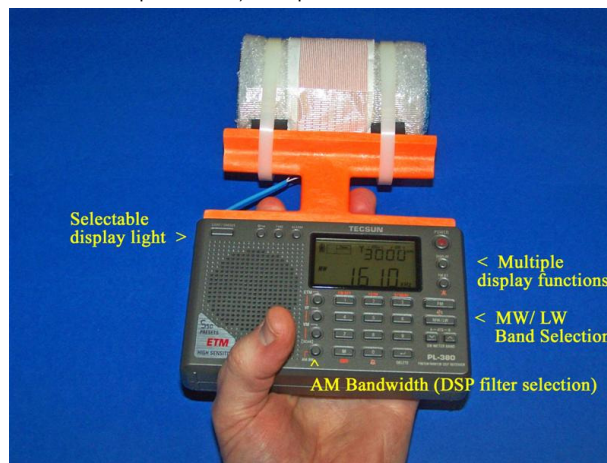
Ensure that the circuit board points "AN1" and "AN2" still have a small amount of melted solder on them (after removal of the PL-380 stock loopstick, as described in the Loopstick transplant article). Also ensure that there is no excessive length in either of the Litz wires, since these both must be positioned as shown (if necessary, cut one or both to the proper length, and re-tin them as described in the previous step). Place the end of the shorter Litz wire (going to the AN2 circuit board point) down in a horizontal position as shown, and using a MINIMUM of heat (and no additional solder), solder the pre-tinned Litz wire end to the AN2 circuit board point while the wire is in a horizontal position. Carefully observe the connection to ensure that there are no solder bridges to the adjacent circuit board components. After ensuring this, temporarily move the 1" (25 mm) section of shrink tubing away from the end of the longer Litz wire, and following the detailed procedure described for the AN2 connection above, carefully solder the end of the longer Litz wire to the AN1 circuit board point in a horizontal position as shown, using a MINIMUM of heat (and no additional solder). Once again ensure that there are no solder bridges to adjacent components, and that the wire is in a horizontal position, as shown. Then slide the 1" section of shrink tubing down over the Litz wire to the position shown in the photo.



20) Refer to the above photo. After ensuring that your Litz wire connections and the wires' positions resemble those in the previous photo, take the PL-380's back cabinet section and carefully bring it close to the radio, as shown in the photo. Ensure that the whip antenna's lead-in wire is not pinched, and also ensure that the 4" (102 mm) section of shrink tubing is routed in a position close to the empty wrist strap hole in the back cabinet, as shown. As a first step, carefully mate the radio's back cabinet to the radio's right side (the one opposite the wrist strap hole) while continuing to guide the shrink tubing through the wrist strap hole. Finally, center the shrink tubing in the wrist strap hole while mating the remaining (left) side of the cabinets together. Ensure that the shrink tubing is not pinched or extremely tight as it is clamped down in this hole. While holding the two cabinet sides together move the whip antenna up and away from the cabinet screw hole underneath, and insert the first cabinet screw, tightening it temporarily to keep the shrink tubing in position. Then insert and tighten the left upper and left lower cabinet screws thoroughly, while snapping the right lower cabinet sections together. Finally, after ensuring that the Litz wires' shrink tubing is still in the center of the wrist strap hole without any binding or excessive stress, tighten the final cabinet screw near the whip antenna base. Reinstall the two small battery compartment screws and reinsert batteries.

INITIAL TESTING: If you are not familiar with the PL-380, make sure that you study the owner's manual to find the location of basic operating controls. It is important to initially test the radio in a location free of computer noise or other RF pollution – preferably in an outdoor location where its capabilities can be appreciated. Refer to the photo below. Turn on the radio and select the Medium Wave band (530-1700 kHz in North America) and set the AM bandwidth control to the most selective (1 kHz) position (NOTE: This position also provides maximum MW and LW sensitivity for the model, although the higher audio frequencies are limited somewhat by the sharp DSP filtering). If your FSL antenna transplant is working properly you should notice an EXCEPTIONAL increase in the signal strength of weak fringe stations relative to the stock PL-380 model, and a very significant increase in fringe station strength relative to a 7.5" loopstick PL-380 model. Check fringe station strength across the band, and you should notice MW reception far superior to that of any stock portable in your collection. If you are not receiving any MW signals the problem is usually easy to trace – either one of the PL-380 circuit board connections is shorted to adjacent components because of too much solder, or the physical stress on the Litz wires (because they were not soldered in a horizontal position) has caused the circuit board connections to break off and separate from the board. In the first case you can attempt to remove excess solder by turning the circuit board upside down and melting the excess solder onto the tip of your soldering iron (or using a "solder sucker" in a normal position), but in the second case you will probably need a technician to restore proper function to your radio. Fortunately both of these problems are rare, and can be entirely avoided by carefully following the instructions in Steps 18 and 19.

OPERATION: The triple advantage of superior FSL sensitivity, powerful audio amplification and sharp DSP selectivity provide this breakthrough model with exceptional weak-signal performance for a portable – to the extent that after a few DXing sessions the operator may have the impression that the realm of science fiction has been approached. The cylindrical shape of the FSL antenna seems to provide a bonus capability of unusual nulling function as well, so that multiple weak signals can be received adjacent to (or on the same frequencies as) local pests.



During DXing sessions it is a good idea to support both the PL-380 and FSL antenna frame in the same hand (as shown in the photo above), and also to avoid sudden mechanical stress or bumps to the antenna frame. When constructed according to this article the glue bond between the antenna frame and PL-380 is sufficient for routine operations, but the DXer should exercise care to avoid bumps, drops or other stress. The FSL antenna itself is fairly rugged, as constructed.

Refer to the above photo. The PL-380 has many digital search functions and advanced capabilities for a pocket radio, but some of the functions of particular interest to the transoceanic DXer are described here. The "AM Bandwidth" switch allows you to choose different levels of DSP filtering to limit splatter from

domestic pests, and is usually left in the 1 kHz position for the narrowest filtering while chasing transoceanic DX (although this position does cut off some of the high frequency audio from the desired DX station). The 9/10 kHz switch allows you to change the tuning steps of the radio from the North American (10 kHz) band system to those of the European/ African/ Asian/ Pacific band system (9 kHz), depending upon your preferred DX targets. The MW/LW switch allows you to switch over to Longwave DXing – and you will be pleasantly surprised to discover that your newly installed 3" Bar FSL antenna is FAR more sensitive on the Longwave band than the stock PL-380 loopstick. Finally, the Display switch offers you multiple options while chasing transoceanic DX – you can have a 24 hour clock display, a display of the alarm time set in the radio, a constantly changing readout of DX signal strength and S/N ratio, or a temperature display (in either Celsius or Fahrenheit).

Because the antenna frame has been trimmed to allow full operation of the PL-380's whip antenna to receive SW and FM signals, it's possible to check the Shortwave parallels of Medium Wave DX stations (and switch back and forth) within a couple of seconds. In general, this "science fiction" PL-380 model's sensitivity and selectivity will allow you to experience the most exciting AM-DXing fun that a portable can offer – and do so at an unbeatable price.

This hard-wired FSL-enhanced PL-380 model is the first in a series of portables designed to be the ultimate "travel radios," with DXing potential superior to any stock design. It has been a great thrill to design, construct and introduce this model, which is pretty fanatical in both its appearance and DXing capabilities. My hope is that its function will inspire those who build and use it, and help them share my impression that the MW-DXing hobby has a very innovative and exciting future!

73 and Good DX, Gary DeBock

IRCA Mexican Log, 20th Edition (Winter 2015)

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), \$11.00 (Canada) \$12.50 (México), \$14.00 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA/NRC members** – add \$2.00.

A DXers Technical Guide, 4th Edition (Spring 2004)

In its nearly 200 pages you will learn about the principles underlying the design of successful receivers, antennas and receiving accessories, find reviews of the best commercially available DXing equipment in different price ranges, as well as detailed instructions for building one's own antennas and other DXing aids. Although it focuses on the technical backdrop to medium wave DXing, it will also be of interest to serious shortwave listeners and low band radio amateurs.

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** – \$15.00 (US), \$16.50 (Canada) \$18.00 (México), \$20.00 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA/NRC members** – add \$2.00.

IRCA Slogans List (Winter 2015)

This completely revised Slogans List includes radio slogans from the US and Canada (over 4400).

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** – \$7.25 (US), \$8.50 (Canada) \$10.00 (México), \$10.75 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA members** – add \$1.00.

IRCA TIS/HAR LIST (Summer 2014)

The **IRCA TIS/HAR LIST** lists all US and Canadian TIS/HAR stations, by frequency, including call letters, state (province,) city, county, licensee, address, coordinates, expiration date and dates of DXM/DXN reports/sources. It has been updated with FCC data, DXM, DXN and DXer reports, and on-line listings through August 1 2014.

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** – \$9.50 (US), \$11.00 (Canada) \$12.50 (México), \$14.00 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA/NRC members** – add \$2.00.

Sunrise/Sunset Maps

12 maps showing 15 minute sunset and sunrise times for the US and 12 maps showing hourly sunset and sunrise times for the World. Explanation includes use of the maps and examples of DX made possible by knowledge of SR/SS times.

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** – \$2.25 (US), \$3.00 (Canada) \$3.50 (México), \$4.50 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA members** – add \$1.00.

"DX Monitor" on DVD

IRCA's regular bulletin **"DX Monitor"** Volumes 1 through 49 in .pdf format on 2 DVDs. Re-live the days gone by and re-introduce yourself to the former members who helped make the IRCA great!! NOTE: You will NEED a DVD reader to open the .pdf files. These files were TOO LARGE to use regular CD's.

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** – \$15.00 (US), \$16.00 (Canada) \$16.50 (México), \$17.50 (rest of the world). **Non-IRCA/NRC members** – add \$2.00.

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

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.) **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.



CLUB OFFICERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

President: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334 **E-mail:** phil_tekno@yahoo.com (all proposals, suggestions and gripes go here)

Secretary-Treasurer: Lynn Hollerman, PO Box 60241, Lafayette LA 70596
e-mail: **lynnhollerman@yahoo.com** – (dues, address changes, IRCA mailing list sign-ups)

Board of Directors: Bill Block – **billblock@cableone.net**, Dennis Gibson – **wb6tnb@yahoo.com**, John C Johnson – **John_Johnson@prodigy.net**, Patrick Martin – **mwdxer@webtv.net** (Chairman), Bruce Portzer – **bpportzer@comcast.net**, Mike Sanburn – **mikesanburn@hotmail.com** and Robert Wien – **wienbob@aol.com**

Publishing Committee: Temporary Editor-in-Chief: Phil Bytheway, 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334
E-mail: phil_tekno@yahoo.com (all material for publication goes here).

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Destination	Rate
USA	\$10
Canada & Mexico	\$10
Western Europe	\$10
Australia/NZ/Japan	\$10
Rest of world	\$10

Make checks and Money Orders in US funds payable to IRCA.

All dues and address changes go to: **IRCA, PO Box 60241, Lafayette LA 70596**

Pay electronically with PayPal – add \$1 to the price 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 at **phil_tekno@yahoo.com**

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**.

Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to publish, broadcast, or otherwise reproduce non-copyrighted material appearing in **DX Monitor** provided credit is given to the IRCA and permission is obtained from the original contributor. Opinions in **DX Monitor** are those of the original contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the IRCA, its publishing staff, editors or officers.