



DX MONITOR

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Best of DX in the **New Year!!** No DXWW this time... a very small issue too! Seattle deadline, every **Monday** 6 PM PLT.

2018 IRCA Convention

The dates of the **2018 IRCA Convention** will be Friday September 7 and Saturday September 8 2018 at the Best Western Plus Charles Inn in St Charles MO. The registration fee is \$25.00 per person. Radio tours and the Saturday banquet site are TBA at this point. Ken Hawkins (stlouisherdfan@gmail.com). (More details as they become available. Set these dates now if you plan to attend – pb)

World Radio TV Handbook 2018

Published 7 December 2017 – Order your copy today!

We are delighted to announce the publication today of the 72nd edition of WRTH.

For full details of WRTH 2018 and to order a copy please visit our website at www.wrth.com where you can also order the B17 WRTH Bargraph Frequency Guide on CD and Download.

WRTH 2018 is also available for pre-order, for readers in the USA, from **Amazon.com** or **Universal Radio** in Ohio.

I hope you enjoy using this new edition of WRTH and the new CD.

Best regards, **Nicholas Hardyman**, Publisher



WESTERN DX ROUNDUP – Nancy Johnson – 2922 S Olivewood – Mesa AZ 85212-2923
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WDXR DEADLINES: Dec 29, Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 19, Jan 26, Feb 2, Feb 9, Feb 16 and March 2. Please use Eastern Local Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (RB) **Rick Barton**-PO Box 5503-Peoria AZ 85385 desertmoon_dxshack@inbox.com
Hammarlund HQ-180A, RF-2200, SW-200628, and GMC Sonoma dashboard radio
- (BB) **Bill Block**-Prescott Valley AZ billblock@cableone.net
R8, Wellbrook ALA1530LNP

- 670 KMZQ **NV**, Las Vegas 12/20 1840 sports talk, well before sunset, good and dominating. (RB-AZ)
- 730 KLOE **KS**, Goodland heard 12/17 at 2000 with "Newstalk KLOE Goodland." (BB-AZ)
- 750 KOAL **UT**, Price 12/20 0055 sports interview to local spots and references, ID by man "This is Newstalk 107.3 FM and 750 AM, KOAL, Price." Solid S-9 signal, steady, atop all co-channel stations. Good ID repeated again at 0100. (RB-AZ)
- 790 KABC **CA**, Los Angeles 12/16 1907 local ad spots, LA Kings promo, ID by male saying very slowly "K A B C." Just starting to come in at local sunset. Good over co-channel jumble. (RB-AZ)
- 800 KBRV **ID**, Soda Springs heard 12/1 at 0837 with "KBRV, The Bear." (BB-AZ)
- 930 KIUP **CO**, Durango heard 12/16 at 1930 with "Serving the four corners ??? KIUP Durango ?? 97.3" on top of KHJ. (BB-AZ)
- 970 KBUL **MT**, Billings heard 12/18 at 0818 with ads for Montana then at 0821 "Cat Country 102.9" into country music. (BB-AZ)
- 1070 KNX **CA**, Los Angeles 12/20 1850 correspondent reports with frequent IDs very good semi-local sounding pretty well before sunset, local afternoon here so I still consider it a DX catch. (RB-AZ)
- 1170 KFAQ **OK**, Tulsa 12/16 1925 break from Glenn Beck to ad spot "Only at Keystone Chevrolet in Sand Springs." Very good over jumble at local sunset on Hammarlund HQ 180A and Slinky wire. (RB-AZ)
- 1250 KNEU **UT**, Roosevelt 12/21 1905 local news, local ad spots. Very good and over the channel jumble, heard mobile on dashboard rig. (RB-AZ)
- 1340 KTOX **CA**, Needles 12/20 0305 "Here in K-Talks (K-TOX), 1340." Very good, up and over the channel "mumble rumble" then faded clear out. George Noory came up after a few minutes, but no way to tell for sure this was via KTOX. First time heard for me, Heard on RF-2200 looped for NW. (RB-AZ)
- 1400 KTUC **AZ**, Tucson heard 12/17 at 0831 with "1400 KTUC." (BB-AZ)
- 1530 KFBK **CA**, Sacramento 12/19 1000 ID, tag-team style news with man and woman news anchors. Not usually tough DX here, but interesting at this hour. Heard with near-local signal on Panasonic RF-2200 and went on with still good signal as late as my 1030 tune out. (RB-AZ)
- 1590 KELP **TX**, El Paso 12/18 0030 Christmas music to ID by jingle, then talk show that sounded more political than religious (the station format leans religious). Very good signal with a few long deep fades, heard on Zenith Transoceanic R 7000. (RB-AZ)
- 1600 KIVA **NM**, Albuquerque 12/20 0330 break from George Noory to male announcer telling audience to retune to new "Rock of Talk" frequency 93 point 7. I wasn't sure what is wrong with the old frequency, considering I hear them well over here in Arizona. (RB-AZ)
- 1680 KGED **CA**, Fresno 12/20 0200 news, slogan ID "16-80 The Answer," talk show on personal finance. Good, steady on HQ-180A, Slinky. (RB-AZ)

Merry Christmas everyone! – Nancy 12/22 1900



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RIDING GAIN

- [EB-MO] **Eric Bueneman**, Hazelwood MO NUIHEric@aol.com
CountyComm GP-5/SSB Ultralight receiver, Grundig AN-200 tunable loop, Yaesu FRG-7, Worcester Space Magnet II

DOWN THE DIAL

- 740 KTRH **TX**, Houston. 12/17 fair to poor signal through CFZM. 0505 noted with call letters and weather forecast. [EB-MO]
- 930 KKIN **MN**, Aitkin. 12/15 fair signal over WBEN, WTAD 0445 noted with Adult Standards format, "Adult Standards Nine-30 AM" ID. This must have been on day power. [EB-MO]
- 1270 WXYT **MI**, Detroit. 12/18 fair to poor signal in WKBF null. 0208 noted with sports talk and CBS Sports Radio promos. [EB-MO]
- 1370 WLTH **IN**, Gary. 12/20 fair signal with ACI from KXFN 1380. 0000 with "It's 13-70 AM, WLTH Gary, Indiana" legal ID into R&B Oldies format. [EB-MO]
- 1410 WNGL **AL**, Mobile. 12/17 fair to poor signal, mixing with WING, WIZM. 2138 noted with The Holy Rosary broadcast, *Catholics Come Home* promo, "Archangel Radio, 14-10 AM WNGL" ID, legal ID and underwriting announcement mentioning an auto repair shop in Spanish Fork. [EB-MO]

- 1470 KYYW **TX**, Abilene. 12/16 fair signal over WMBD. 0504 with ABC News, local spots, call letters into C2C. This must have been on day power [EB-MO]
 1480 KQAM **KS**, Wichita. 12/15 fair to poor signal over WDJO, WJBM, WLMV. 0405 noted with local spot, "The Big Talker, KQAM" ID, weather forecast and a "14-80 KQAM" ID. [EB-MO]
 1630 KKGW **TX**, Fort Worth. 12/21 fair signal over KCJJ. 0426 noted with *The Bible in the News*, Web site mention, call letters into *Through the Bible*. [EB-MO]
 1680 KRJO **LA**, Monroe. 12/21 good to fair signal, but under modulated, over WOKB, WTTM. 0544 noted with local spots, "99-Seven My FM" ID into Hot Adult Contemporary format. [EB-MO]

FLASHBACK

December 24 1966 issue of "DX Monitor" ... **Dan Sheedy** of Encinitas CA said college was a pain, but better than hup-two-three-four ... **Larry Godwin** of Berkeley CA met with two staffers from JONR who were in San Francisco on a visit ... **Bill Block** of Portland OR sent out 25 reports in 5 days. // December 21 1991 issue of "DX Monitor" ... **Patrick Martin** of Seaside OR mentioned he was up to 2001 veries. It took him 26 years ... **Mark Connelly** of Billerica MA told about a get-together with **Marc DeLorenzo** and **Ray Arruda** ... **Richard Eckman** of Hampton VA mentioned he was a NASA researcher.

OPEN MIKE

Thanks to Eric we have a column. The New Year is almost here. Nancy and I wish you a Happy New Year 2018! This column was typed 12-22-17. 73, John



EASTERN DX ROUNDUP – **Eric Bueneman (NØUIH)** – 631 Coachway Lane – Hazelwood MO 63042-1347
 E-mail: n0uiheric@gmail.com
 DEADLINES: Friday 2359 ELT

TUNING THE DIALS THIS ISSUE:

- (KK-VA) **Kraig Krist (KG4LAC)**, Manassas VA
 Winradio G33DDC software-defined receiver, Wellbrook ALA1530S+ Imperium loop
 (PS-ON) **Paul Snider**, Welland ON, Canada
 Elad FDM-S2 software-defined receiver, Pixel RF Pro-1B loop, MFJ-1020C as a tuner

ACROSS THE DIAL

- 620 WAKY **KY**, Louisville – 12/17 2208 noted with an Oldies format featuring music from King Harvest, "Merry Christmas, WAKY" jingle into a Christmas song by Frank Sinatra. A poor to very poor signal was noted in a mix of stations, confirmed via Tune-In Web stream. (PS-ON)
 810 WCKA **AL**, Jacksonville – 12/15 1626 noted with Christmas music, mention of "Monday morning, 6:00 till 10:00 on WCKA, Alabama 810 and 94.3 and 97.1 FM" by a male announcer. The signal was noted mixing with WGY, WSJC and an unidentified talk station. (KK-VA) (Your other talker may be sports talk station WHB Kansas City, MO – eb)
 WSJC **MS**, Magee – 12/15 1700 noted with "AM 810 WSJC" ID by a female announcer. The signal was noted mixing with WCKA, WGY and an unidentified talk station. (KK-VA)
 840 WHGH **GA**, Thomasville – 12/15 1730 noted with "WHGH Thomasville concludes its... broadcast..." as part of a sign-off announcement by a male announcer. The signal was noted mixing with WHAS, WKTR and an unidentified station with vocal music in Spanish. (KK-VA)
 870 WLVP **ME**, Gorham – 12/18 2232 noted earlier with Oldies and Christmas music under WHCU and WWL; checking back later, I heard an ad and "WLVP weather" mention at 2233 (supposed to be simulcasting WLAM 1470, but I was sure they said WLVP), more Oldies before fading out. The signal was noted occasionally over WWL, but mostly under with WHCU as well. (PS-ON)
 1030 WEBS **GA**, Calhoun – 12/14 2252 noted with a Country format, featuring music by Shenandoah and Randy Houser, "Kicking Country 103.5" ID at 2257, followed by selections from Chris Young and Big & Rich, missed a possible full ID at 2302 into more music. A poor but readable at times to very poor signal was noted under WBZ; confirmed via Tune-In Web stream. (PS-ON)
 1480 WPFJ **NC**, Franklin – 12/16 2140 noted with a clear "1480 WPFJ" ID, popped through a station mix before fading. A poor signal was noted momentarily in a station mix with WDJO, WTOX and an unidentified station playing an old-time radio show (probably "It's a Wonderful Life"), which turned out to be WHBC. (PS-ON)

EDITOR'S NOTES

Thanks to Kraig and Paul for their logs. Wishing you a Happy New Year and great DX in 2018! 73 and good DX from NØUIH, the Florissant Valley Dial Twister



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

Gary DeBock's Hawaii Trip (a few highlights)

12/18. Yikes! The regular Pacific island DU's were overwhelmed with monster signals from Japan, North Korea and China from 0730-1010 UTC, resulting in the wackiest TP-DXing session I've ever experienced. The first sign of bizarre activity was 1440-JOWF mixing with Kiribati in an S9 snarl around 0750, followed by a slew of North Koreans pounding in on 657, 801, 810, 819 and 855 (complete with South Korea Jammers on 810 and 819). The Chinese crashed the party from 0800-1000, with 981 and 999-CNR1 both well over S9, while 621-China actually started pushing Tuvalu down into the noise. 1440-Kiribati was diced by JOWF through the duration, but the Chinese practically owned the band on the other frequencies, with potent signals on 612, 621, 783, 792, 837, 909, 918, 927, 981, 999, etc. 846-Kiribati continued to have intermittent signals (one MP3 had them dropping out 3 times within 15 seconds) while 621-Tuvalu had an intermittent garbled signal throughout the night. No real time to sort out all the wacky snarls tonight, but here is 621-China doing its best to crash the 621-Tuvalu sign off at 1005 in one of many S9 snarls, complete with a garbled signal from Tuvalu during its national anthem. At least Tuvalu manages to fight off China long enough to get the (garbled) anthem through! (Sorry for the 1 kHz het- no time to remove it tonight) <https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/6w3k47s0wk3tuqvzd8cm1up6fo06pcbq>

12/19. The Asians once again slammed the Pacific island DU's with huge signals from 0830-1030, so apparently this is the usual Kona propagation pattern for December. Japan, Korea and China were all well represented, with several wild and wacky S9+ signals from the likes of 819-Pyongyang, 981-CNR1 and 1440-JOWF. 846 and 1440-Kiribati have delayed their sign off until 1014 the last couple of days, so this may be a new programming change. 1440-Kiribati's sign off was particularly interesting tonight, with JOWF doing its best to hold down the frequency. 621-Tuvalu's garbled audio has become a chronic issue, and no longer seems to be intermittent. Unlike April both of these DU's have trouble holding down their frequencies, and around 1000 Tuvalu's garbled audio was so weak that three different TP's (NHK1, Pyongyang and China) were running all over it, TP mixes were all over the band, with Japan, North Korea and China fighting it out. Recordings have been made of all these mixes but there's no time currently to write up a detailed report and post them. The full report will need to wait until return to Puyallup, I'm afraid. In any case I'll post this one wacky recording of 819-Pyongyang KCBS at 1035 tonight (dedicated to Chris Kadlec), with bizarre female doo-wop music loud enough to wake up the dead <https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/xd18go0080a8xgnku4fcwf3ug2mcaws0>

12/23. The 5-day trip to warm and (usually) sunny Kona, Hawaii has wrapped up, and now I've returned with a huge number of obscure TP-DX recordings made with a 5 inch (127mm) TSA-friendly FSL antenna (also known as the "Frequent Flyer" model). This antenna was specifically designed to pass quickly and easily through airports, and provide gain roughly similar to that of a 4 foot (1.3m) air core box loop.

December propagation in Kona was a stark change from what was observed during a 4-day trip to Kona with identical gear in April. In April the Pacific island DU's on 540, 558, 621, 1017, 1098 and 1440 had no Asian competition from 0700-1030 UTC, and could pound in at awesome strength all alone on their frequencies during those hours. By contrast, during this week's Hawaii trip the Asian TP's started pestering the Pacific island DU's as early as 0730, and usually drowned most of them out by 0830. The only exceptions were the new 846-Kiribati from Christmas Island, its 1440-Kiribati parallel (although with a 19-second delay between the two, with Christmas Island lagging), and 1098-Marshalls. Overwhelming signals from Japan, North Korean and China were usually all over the band by 0900 UTC, with the second-tier Asians sounding like big gun TP's do on the west coast. The 5 inch FSL did a great job in providing gain to record many exotic MP3's at good levels, but the "side effect" was piling up a huge number of obscure TP recordings (including wild TP snarls), and the necessity to "record first, and report later."

In an attempt to provide some organization to the wild process I decided to initially report TP-DX according to the countries of origin, and post links for some of the more memorable recordings from each area. Once the dust has settled a more detailed (frequency-by-frequency) report should be in order. The group of MP3's chosen for this first report were all recorded from North Korea, a bizarre country with even more bizarre programming. Other North Korea stations were

received in TP snarls, but these were generally all alone. They include an S7 recording of Pyongyang's Japanese service on 621 (with degraded audio from the transmitter), a transmitter on 801 with a Southern Jammer (sounding like the old 1053 beehive) and an 819 transmitter loud enough to wake up the dead. A curious point was that the usual west coast big gun on 657 was never received – a victim of loud Hawaiian splatter from 650 and 670.

- 621 **DPR KOREA** Pyongyang Bangsong, Chongjin. Voice of Korea Japanese service at a strong level, complete with a buzzing transmitter. This was one of three Asian TP's (including China and NHK1) that would usually run Tuvalu off the rails around 0900
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/rhfs381csgtohlux3e97tj79fsh>. Japanese female ID and typical music at 0928
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/v7q9eniu9qq1f27rbq97v4c9zbni2eha>
- 801 **DPR KOREA** Pyongyang Bangsong, Kimchaek. This station was a moderate-strength regular, and had an intermittent Beehive-type jammer from the South
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/e4kr0asg24d1ujyk74zztcbdl8aepazh>. Jammer and Pyongyang at equal anemic strength
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/2fgnifuus86pd0n9qzszatzps56hk43kb>
- 819 **DPR KOREA** Pyongyang Bangsong, Pyongyang. Far and away the strongest North Korea station in Kona, this signal would pound in around 0830 and vary from S7 to S9+ right up until 1030. Bizarre vocal music from a female group was at legendary strength at 0935 on 12/19
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/gj2deffl7mjuzqr5tocsro100sfhqll9>. Typical music and 3+1 time pips at the North Korean "TOH" of 0930 on 12/20
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/v7q9eniu9qq1f27rbq97v4c9zbni2eha>
- 855 **DPR KOREA** Pyongyang Bangsong, Sangwon. Those who remember the tirade lady on 657 will recognize the voice in this recording. This station was always around during good TP propagation, but never at overwhelming strength
<https://dreamcrafts.box.com/s/34r4oayh63kxxigc6hisu3t5bfhz1yeb>

Gary DeBock (DXing in Kona, Hawaii), 7.5 inch CC Skywave + 5 inch "Frequent Flyer" FSL antenna

(Demo video posted at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRaOnWS-5lg&t=78s> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bRaOnWS-5lg&t=78s>)

Full Color IRCA Letterhead

Full color 8.5 x 11 MS Word 2007 file with the current IRCA logo. Send email to phil_tekno@yahoo.com to get yours today! Great for verification requests.

IRCA Slogans List (December 2017)

This completely revised Slogans List includes radio slogans from the US and Canada (over 4500). The 2017 IRCA Slogans List is posted on the IRCA website for all to download. The link is: http://www.ircaonline.org/editor_upload/File/2017_IRCA_Slogans_List.pdf

For those preferring a hard copy, one can be ordered from the IRCA.

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.

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.

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.

An Introduction to Broadcast Band DXing

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

"DX Monitor" on DVD

IRCA's regular bulletin "DX Monitor" Volumes 1 through 50 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.

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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.



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MEMBERSHIP DUES

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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 DXM.EiC@gmail.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.

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