WIMA-1150 (667 West Market Street Lima, Ohio 45801) will conduct a DX test from 1:00-2:00 am EST on Monday, February 21. The test will include Ohio State Buckeye March music along with voice & CW IDs. WIMA will be at 1K0W non-directional for the test. A special e-mail and snail-mail QSL card will be issued. Reception reports may be sent to: WIMA DX Test, Attn: Engineering, or WWW: <<http://www2.wcoill.com/~markg/wima.html>> (please browse to this URL for a verification/signal report form). Arranged by Mark Gerhart for the NRC CPC.

Willie, (N1NRM) Engineer, WFIF Radio, reported that the test ran as scheduled Jan. 9, and that anyone wishing to send a report or request a verie to use the e-mail address, <<WFIF@aol.com>>, ONLY.

From the publisher ... Jerry Stzar reports a total of ZERO items on hand for AMS, once again reflecting the FCC holidays, so no column, but things should be back on track again next week. And the west-coast flu has whisked across the continent to strike down Dave Schmidt, temporarily, so no Musing either.

Thanks again to all who sent holiday greetings and kind words to Topeka during the holiday season, including Martin Greer, from down under in Tasmania, whose card included “all members involved with the NRC”. We appreciate it.

Publications ... The long-awaited IRCA Foreign Log #10 is NOW available. This edition contains ALL the SDXM, DXWW-E and DXWW-W tips from 9/96 to 7/99 ... almost three years of material, all collated and in frequency order by TA, PA and TP for each DXWW column. Prices: IRCA/NRC members - $10.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), $11.00 (rest of the Americas airmail), $11.50 (Europe/Asia airmail), $12.00 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add $2.00 to the above prices. To order from the IRCA Bookstore, send the correct amount (in US funds payable to Phil Bytheway) to: IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334. Also available now from the IRCA Bookstore is the 2000 'M Street Radio Directory' at a nice discount. The Directory contains a complete listing of over 15,000 radio stations (AM/FM, US/Canada) including the following information: facilities, ownership, formats, LMA's, station personnel, phone numbers (and FAX), addresses, ratings, as well as information on almost 400 radio markets in the US and Canada. Stations are listed by location (complete info), frequency (frequency, call, location, power and format) and call (call, frequency, location) and market (frequency, call, location, rating, format). It also includes a former call reference (old call, location and current call). Major network information (addresses/phone numbers/etc) and several interesting radio articles are included as well. The price to US and Canadian DXers ordering through the IRCA Bookstore is $40.00 post paid (UPS address required). The book is expected to be out by February 2000. (Retail will be $72.00.) Europe - add $5.00 for surface, $19.20 for airmail delivery. Australia/New Zealand - add $5.00 for surface, $27.25 for airmail delivery.

Kulpsville ... Mark your calendars - the 13th Annual Winter SWL Festival will be held March 10-12 at the Holiday Inn (215-368-3800) in Kulpsville. Complete information may be found at <<http://www.trsf.mm/winterfest.html>> or by sending an SASE to P.O. Box 4153 - Clifton Park, NY 12065. Full registration will be $40; add one spouse for $22; subtract all meals and pay only $17.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:
50 years ago ... from the Jan. 7, 1950 DXN: Bob Brown, Goshen, NY took advantage of the exceptionally strong signals he had heard "by sending reports to BBC stations on 877 and 977 kcs; France on 648, 913, 1040, and 1077 kcs; Germany on 904 and 1095 kcs; and LKS-Norway on 850 kcs.

25 years ago ... from the January 13, 1975 DXN: Publisher Russ Edmunds noted that an "additional controversy had erupted over what should be counted as a logging related to distance from the home QTH".

10 years ago ... from the January 8, 1990 DXN: Mike Coberly, Cazadero, CA reported hearing 780 Ecos del Toros on 12-7 as his 22nd Venezucelan.
Welcome to Richard E. Wood of Hawaii...checking in with his initial report. Results of his Graveyard Loggings next week.

Pete Taylor reports the latest Puget Sound happenings: "KJR-950 is installing its new 50 kW transmitter at the co-owned KHJH site near Port of Tacoma Road in Tacoma. Two towers have been added (there are now six) and they plan on testing it starting in mid-January. Look for some down time and a possible change in signal strength. They will have a fat northerly lobe (which means I'll be getting about 100 kW in my face). They would have installed it at their present site but couldn't do a proof because of buildings, cranes etc. in the area. KHJH-850 is simultaneously installing a new transmitter. It should be stronger (the old one was operating at about 65%) and louder (new, KJR-like audio processing). They will eventually split programming with KHJH carrying a different sports format. Meanwhile, at Salem Communications, Construction of KAZJ-1680 facilities has not yet begun (the CE says they will probably have a sports format and apply for KSEA). Likewise, it seems to fit.

It-ent sports format. Meanwhile, at Salem Communications, Construction of not yet begun (the CE says they will probably have a sports format and apply for KSEA). Likewise, it seems to fit. KHHO (1240) is also adding a sports format. No special announcements were made. Got it on tape.

REPORTERS

FA-ID Frank Aden Boise
SA-MB Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg
MS-MB Ragnar Danneskjold Mesa
GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento
AK-WA Andy Kahn Camas
MS-MB Morris Sorensen Winnipeg
GT-FL Gary Thomas Pensacola
FW-IL Frank Wheeler Macomb
REW-HI Richard E. Wood Kailua-Kona,
Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills

STATION NEWS & NOTES

KFRE CA Fresno - Has been sold to Radio Unica and is all-Spanish as of 2/1/2000. (GJ-CA)
KTIK ID Nampa - Switched to 1350 at 0000 MST 01/01/00, right in middle of a commercial. No special announcements were made. Got it on tape. Ect1340. (FA-ID)
KGOE CA Eureka - 1/4 1130 - Local news of Eureka and Fort Bragg, shooting. NRC Log says // KGO-810, but at least at this time, programming was local. (REW-HI)

UNIDS and UNID HELP

- 12/27 0005 - Newark, sd, into ESPN Radio. Likely east of me, nothing seems to fit. (FW-IL)

1670 UNID ?? - 12/28 2115 - Who is this guy? Heard occasionally in KCGJ partial null with cool jazz. Very weak but readable signal and loop-E. Noted again 12/28 at 2135 with light jazz sax (nice!) but another sd/lk SS (?). Nothing listed in NRC log. (GT-FL)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

WPLY701 FL Tarpon Springs - 12/18 1600 - Easy copy of this TIS, with Coast Guard info and fire safety tips. (GT-FL)
WPLR917 LA Baton Rouge - Heard many nights in December, with Louisiana Department of 16400 kilocycles ID. In KCIJ null. (GT-FL)
WPLR660 TX Dallas-Forth Worth - In late nights (2000) with airport info and ID as This is WJ-8 (??)1660 broadcasting on 1640. (GT-FL)
WPPP201 CA Menlo Park - 12/26 - With regular programming. Received nice letter saying I was first to report them. Received Menlo Park Police Department Patch and Police Sports Card. Later heard 12/29 0715 with info on New Years Day and DWI driving. (GJ-CA)
TIS/HAR CA Truckee - 12/26 0415 - North Star at Tahoe, still testing. Good Signal - 12/28 0600 - On RS, giving weather report, snow conditions for North Star and plans of fireworks for the new year. Female announcer. Strong. (GJ-CA)
TIS CA Truckee - 12/25 0115 - This is a test of the Northern Information Radio System... (loop recorded message)... located on 1680 on your AM dial. Weak signal; alone on the dial. (AK-WA)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT-ELT

0600 WSJ5 NC Winston-Salem - 12/23 1943 - Very strong, with 600 and 1200, WSJ5 after weather. Couldn't find 'em on 1200. (FW-IL)
610 WDAF MO Kansas City - 12/20 2340 - Good, with local weather and ID as 61 Country. (MS-MB)
630 KSJL MO St. Louis - 12/18 1801 - Fair, with man mentioning that KSJL was an equal opportunity employer. ID as KSJL, St. Louis. (MS-MB)
640 KFI CA Los Angeles - 12/30 [no time] - Two men and a woman talking about bad book titles. Then ad for Monte Carlo Casino and its low millennium night rate of $259 a night. (RD-AZ*)
680 KNBR CA San Francisco - 12/20 2055 - Talking about top 10 best looking women. Was quite a list. And then talking about the top 10 ugly men. (RD-AZ*)
720 KDWN NV Las Vegas - 12/30 2050 - With Michael Reagan Show talking about Clinton and privacy rights. (RD-AZ*)
740 KCBS CA San Francisco - 12/20 2049 - With traffic report and ID. There were LOTS of cars. It was a long report. Was even with KIDR here, as usual. (RD-AZ*)
750 KOAL UT Price - 12/30 2045 - With Michael Medved talking about conspiracy theories. (RD-AZ*)
770 WLWL NC Rockingham - 12/31 2114 - Loud, with Big Wave 77 ID and the Rhythm and Beach Network. Apparently on daytime power this New Year's Eve. (GT-FL)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Sign</th>
<th>State/Province</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KATL</td>
<td>MT</td>
<td>1220 kHz</td>
<td>97.5 QRS (\text{FM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOBX</td>
<td>NM</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>NM 97 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KGO</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KGO 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTCI</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KTCI 1230 (\text{FM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCSB</td>
<td>MB</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KCSS 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSWI</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KSWI 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KQXL</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KQXL 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTIS</td>
<td>MN</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KTIS 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KCBI</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>KCBI 1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRVN</td>
<td>NE</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KQX</td>
<td>AB</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KJCA</td>
<td>AB</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KJCN</td>
<td>LA</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KFAM</td>
<td>FL</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KFBI</td>
<td>KS</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWBR</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WKKI</td>
<td>MO</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOAI</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPRZ</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KQVY</td>
<td>OK</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOKK</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHSC</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CJS</td>
<td>ST</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KNWC</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CME</td>
<td>SK</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPKZ</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSCO</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>1230 kHz</td>
<td>1230 (\text{AM})</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

About an emergency vehicle's axle snapping and into anti-drunk driving PSA. Dominant. (REW-CA)
DDXD-East

Deadlines are Tuesdays.

As Jerry Starr noted a couple issues ago, the rapid changes in station ownership in AM radio mean that studios, offices, and therefore mailing addresses of stations are constantly changing. Wayne Hein and the NRC Log crew do an amazing job of keeping up with all of this, but active reporters to stations will often find their letters coming back. If you have a station address that works, and that isn't included in the latest Log, please send it to Wayne for inclusion in the next edition. And you can also send it here, to benefit your fellow NRC members until the next Log comes out. G. Harley DeLamere sends along a whole bunch of changes this week; feel free to add any other address information you may have.

Russ Johnson writes that he got a super Christmas present when local mega-pest WLXN (1440) went silent for a few hours on 12/28. There really are stations on 1430/!

EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

A word in favor of using a tape recorder while DX'ing. A spell of listening while traveling last week reminded me how difficult it is to DX without taping what you hear. A station bubbles up out of nowhere, someone rattles off some call letters, and then the signal is gone. Often this also works when you hear what is definitely a DX'er in the area they confirmed that WCDS was still shut down. After listening to the tape about fifteen times, it became clear that the ID was for DDXD!

Sometimes this also works when you hear what is definitely a DX'er saying something, but no ID is heard the first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard the first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard the first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard the first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard the first time around. When you listen to the tape, call letters and ID are heard the first time around.

(3) Better details can be obtained for reports. How many times have you read “With call letters only, in the jumble” in DDXD? I sometimes edit out such loggings, and I’m tempted to do so much more often than I do. Why? Because they’re often inaccurate (see #1 above) and offer no assistance to other DX’ers hoping to log the stations. With a tape, more of the reception can be reconstructed, resulting in better tips to send to DDXD, and a more interesting personal logbook to boot. Also, you won’t get a QSL from a station if you report the call letters only. But you might get enough details for a reception report if you can listen to the tape often enough.

(4) And if the station doesn’t send a reception report, well, then you have your tape to use as proof of your reception, should anyone ever question it, and to listen to again some day when DX conditions are poor. DX’ers have debated for centuries whether taped verifications are better, worse, or equivalent to paper QSL’s, and that’s for each of you to decide, but personally, given that a number of stations (like grand juries handing down indictments) will verify a ham sandwich. I trust tapes more.

(5) Best of all … taping is easy. Even a tech-idiot such as myself is capable of plugging a cord into the “REC” jack on the ole’ R71A.  

STATION NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KTBK</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>12/29 1750</td>
<td>Sports Talk</td>
<td>13-10 (KTCX) (GT-FL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KTBK</td>
<td>TX</td>
<td>1/3 0530</td>
<td>Strong, with sports and ID.</td>
<td>(GJ-CA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WMMUS</td>
<td>MI</td>
<td>12/22</td>
<td>Back to simulcasting the country format of WMMUS-FM 106.9, logo is again “107 M-LS.”</td>
<td>No longer / WWMUS-FM 1600’s NOS. (PLB-MI)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMIR</td>
<td>SC</td>
<td>12/20 0720</td>
<td>Man saying “Right here on WMIR 1220 AM,” then weather forecast and into religious/Christmas music. Apparently no longer a “Tourist” format.</td>
<td>(RB-NC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMVO</td>
<td>OH</td>
<td>12/18 1218</td>
<td>Per QSL, currently using a STA with reduced power (not sure why). Usually DA with 2 towers, but one is malfunctioning. They are 24 hours, ABC Stansdut NOS.</td>
<td>(SK-NY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WYCK</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Schedule is 24 hours NSF.</td>
<td>/ WICK-1400. (DS-PA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WICK</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Schedule is 24 hours NSF, “Northeast Pennsylvania’s Giant Jukebox” with an oldies format.</td>
<td>(DS-PA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WKQV</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>Station is silent.</td>
<td>(DS-PA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBJ</td>
<td>PQ</td>
<td>1550</td>
<td>Station is SILENT. After extensive monitoring and e-mail input from 3 experienced northeastern DX’ers, I am 99.999% sure that this station is SILENT.</td>
<td>(RB-NC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DX TESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WJWB</td>
<td>MA</td>
<td>12/20</td>
<td>Not heard through big mix, mostly WMGB (SK-PA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAAT</td>
<td>PA</td>
<td>12/18</td>
<td>Not heard this night (or on 12/17, which I also checked due to confusion about the date), despite 65 mile distance. Most likely because a Latin was nearly smothering WSB. Last year’s test was heard. (SK-PA) The test was canceled due to some really severe problems with the station, starting with the tower icing up and damaging the unipole, to a blown modulation transformer and modulation choke. (DS-PA)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNID AND UNID HELP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNID</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12/17 0505</td>
<td>Promo heard for “Real Life Radio.” (W-MD) [WFLI-1500]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNID</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12/20 0105-0200</td>
<td>Testing with a steady tone, switching from day to night facilities, powering on and off Suddenly left air with no ID at 0200, very strong. Only a faint CKAC could be heard during the weaker periods.</td>
<td>(SK-PA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| KGTO   | OK   | 1050 | Tulsa — 12/25 0651 — SLD “Oldies Radio, 10-5 Tulsa,” on top just long enough to ID. Should have been on PSRA with 52 watts. (PC-VA) I’m thinking maybe finally a contemporary music station the entire family can listen to, and you’re found at AM 6-10, WNTW “The Word.” | Bugged by periods of dead air, called twice to alert the FM DJ of problems. (PC-VA)
the jingle was for "10-50 Cham" as in CHUM Toronto? — DY
1170 UNID — 12/31 0641 - Alone in WWVA null with WRHD, 7-46, good morning," into C&W song. This call not found in AM Switch or on FCC web site, and I am fairly sure I didn't miss-hear this call, though I didn't get it on tape. (MB-ON) [It's the FM call for WWLE-NY, "Hudson Valley Country 107.3." — DY]
1230 UNID — 12/17 2120 - Florida Panthers vs. Buffalo Sabres hockey. No 1230 on the 1999 Buffalo list, don't know about Florida. Maybe WGGG? (SK-PA)
1250 UNID — 12/21 1720 - Ad for Phillips Jewelers across from Republic High School; host speaking about the "snowstorms we're had here in eastern North Carolina," then canned ID "You're listening to Andy Durham." (SK-PA)
1320 UNID — 12/24 1507 - "Right here on your gospel music station, Jewell(?) 10-80," mainly over WPGC(?) also with gospel. Best guess is WWSJ St. John's Michigan. (HF-MI)

LOGGINGS

530 CIAO ON Brampton - 1/2 0651 - Indian music with EE announcements, "Indian Radio," also 0656 commericals in EE for Indian jewelry store in Scarborough, and charter airline Sky Service Canada. No call ID at 0700. (PC-VA)
540 WQTM FL Pine Hills - 12/27 0320 - Assumed this carrying ESPN Radio, mixed with unprompted Gospel and Music of Your Life stations, in CBE CBGA null. (BC-NC)
560 WDMV MD Pocomoke City - 1/2 1659 - ID "The Salvation Station, WDMV Pocomoke City," behind dominant WWJS-CA. (PC-VA)
580 WLUX NY Islip - 12/29 0420 - Fair, promo for Music of Your Life cruise, "540 AM WLUX... Music of Your Life." ID. (BC-NH)
598 WZPL NC Florence - 1/3 1805 - "Tell it like it is, WZPL Florence," heard briefly through LSS crowd. (PC-VA)
605 CBT NF Grand Falls - 12/29 0435 - Fair, weather and sports in brief, then discussion about Newfoundland's third political party, in WLUX null. (BC-NH)
610 WSVA VA Harrisonburg - 12/18 1600-1632 - Good battling WLKW with ads for McDonald's and local toy store, local weather report, sports report, numbers of WZPL, etc. (PC-VA)
620 CHLN PQ Trois Rivieres - 12/29 0445 - Good, "Rock 'n' roll... à CHLN" promo and "Radiomedia Montréal" news. (BC-NH)
640 WGAJ NC Elizabeth City - 12/17 0033 - SID "AM stereo WGAJ," promo for North Carolina seafood industry, Christmas talk program. Best ever heard, WFLF and others absent. Still no reply from their 11/7 Test. (JEKDMD)
650 WILL IL Urbana - 12/23 0459 - Out of BBC World News, man with "Good morning from WILL AM 580... news and information next on WILL, Urbana," then NPR news. (RB-NC)
670 WTAG MA Worcester - 12/27 0331 - Excellent, contest promo with address "WTAG, Stereo Lane, Paxton MA 01612." (BC-NH)
690 CCKS PQ Injunquaire - 12/29 0450 - Fair, Radiomedia in FF with WEZE-MA null. (BC-NH)
700 CKAT ON North Bay - 12/24 1658-1703 - Loud and clear atop channel with Christmas card "Away In A Manger" followed by local news at 1700. Heard on car radio in Framingham. (MD-MA)
710 CIQC PQ Montreal - 12/27 0220 - Fair, weather, "You're listening to 940 News." (CNW-940, in CKAT null. (BC-NH)
720 WDAF MO Kansas City - 12/24 1945 - Very early at good levels with a Christmas C&W music mix, "61 Country." ID's. (JK-VA)
730 WBMQ GA Sabannah - 12/27 0720 - ID, CNN sports, then a Dr. Dobson commentary. (IJ-NC)
into news. Supposed to be on 45 watts night power. (PC-VA)
+ 12/30 1900 - "Shaboom" by the Crewcuts, ID, NOS music. (WM-MD)

CKVL PQ Verdun - 12/27 0250 - News in FF // CINF-690, weak in WEL. (BC-NH)

860 WTXZ TN Sparta - 1/2 1930 - Fair for at least an hour, C&W featuring the best 25 country singers of the century, many FM 105.5 mentions. Legal ID at 2000 mentioned only WSMT FM. Overboard or good for 10 watts, new. (JEK-MD)

870 WPWT TN Colonial Heights - 12/17 1610 - "You are listening to Power Talking WPWT, Colonial Heights," almost at noise level in WFLQ. (PC-VA)

870 KJOJ TX Conroe - 12/22 1725-1730 - Presumed with talk show, mention of "950 AM" at 1728, tough under WCBS. (SK-PA)

870 WBAJ SC Blythewood - 12/17 1719 - End of AC religious song, call letters, presumed as C&W was right in. Very tough with slop from both sides. (SK-PA)

870 WKNV NV Fairlawn - 12/26 1645-1700 - With WBRPS QRM, "Southwest Virginia's gospel connection, this is JOY-AM," sign-off announcement at 1655, then song to carrier cut. (RM-CT)

890 WYLI OH Marietta - 12/7 1850 - With high school sports and "Sports Radio 9-10 WYLI" ID's. New, and probably on 61 watt power. (JC-VA)

890 WNHV VT White River Junction - 12/27 1615 - Tentative with political ad for John McCain, into ESPN Sports. According to press reports, McCaay is currently running ads only in NH and SC; WNHV is on the NH border. // WTVS-NH, and is listed as ESPN. Would be nice: this one is long-sought. (DYC-CT)

900 CINW PQ Montreal - 12/28 1920 - "940 News," also at 1930 "This is CINW, a Metromedia station, the tone indicates 7:30. Montreal's only all-news radio station." (PC-VA)

910 WNTD IL Chicago - 12/22 2045 - Presumed with Radio Unitca, some type of sports talk show with mentions of Pedro Martinez and football, confirmed // WBAB-1600. Strongest in the mix. (SK-PA)

910 WIBX NY Utica - 12/19 2134 - With call letters (actually sounding like W11BH), return from break to Buffalo Bills network. Tough under WPEN, WZEO mix. (SK-PA)

920 WAKM TN Franklin - 12/23 0615 - Overpowered WWJ with detailed weather report for all of Tennessee, ad for Franklin Farm Store. (MB-ON)

940 WRNS NC Kinston - 12/11 1800 - With "Today's hot country 95.1 WRNS" over WIFR. A little too early for CFA2. (IK-VA)

950 WTCH WI Shawano - 12/23 0621 - In over pest WFIR with "WTCH" jingle ID, into C&W. (MB-ON)

970 WWSW PA Pittsburgh - 12/7 1833 - Loud with OLD and "3WS ... Making you feel good, 94.5 3WS." (JC-VA)
+ 12/17 2245 - "3WS" ID, mention of Pittsburgh Penguins. (WM-MD)

980 CKRU ON Peterborough - 12/16 1615 - Traffic report, ad for Peterborough Subaru, "Here at 9-80 Cruise, we know what Christmas means to children," then lost. (SK-PA)

990 WLGZ NY Rochester - 12/26 2035 - Good, "The perfect way to start each weekend, with Scott Taylor and 60 years of music favorites, here on Legends 90 WLGZ," and oldies. (BC-NH)
+ 1/1 0903 - New call, ex-WDCZ, NOS, "You are listening to the greatest songs of all time on Legends 990, WLGZ." New format? (PC-VA)

1010 CFRB ON Toronto - 12/18 1210 - "That's sports on CFRB 1010," ad for Holly and Derby, promo for FM station, promo "CFRB has closed the store." First ever daytime reception. (SK-PA)
+ 12/16 1730 - Excellent with Imagination Theater, "In Oakville, your source for reliable news and stimulating talk is CFRB 1010," well over WINS. (BC-NH)

1030 WWGB MD Indian Head - 12/23 0844 - Alone in WBZ null with gospel music, ID as "1030 AM the Word, WWGB, Washington's local gospel broadcasting station." (MB-ON)

1040 WSKE PA Everett - 12/22 1745 - Unexpected signal surge, new PSSA authority? Most of the day signal is nullled on the Drake/LW. (JEK-MD)

1050 WADC WV Parkersburg - 12/15 1748 - Good with NOS ("All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth"), then "WADC 10-50" ID's, new. (JK-VA)

1060 WMCL IL McLeansboro - 12/22 1825 - Fair with call letters, rare. (JEK-MD)

1060 WNRX MS Tupelo - 12/22 1813 - Good with "Country 1060 WNRX," C&W version of "Let It Snow." Finally a log from this famous Southern city, new. (JEK-MD)
Janesville – 12/23 0812 – Man with promo for a New Year’s Eve party, “When the clock strikes 12:00, a guest will win $2,000 cash. Call 752-7895 now to reserve ...” Then “It’s time for WCL0’s Juke! (Quiz, a chance for ... listeners to win great prizes.” Called station and a definitely surprised Al Fagerli confirmed what I’d heard. New for #30 and best distance on this frequency at 651 miles. (RB-NC)

New Lisbon – 12/17 2116 – “We’re 1230 CJTT” heard in jumble. (SK-PA)


Roanoke – 12/23 2300 – ID // WVGM, then ABC news on the hour. (WM-MD)

Charleston – 1/1 1852 – Good for at least a half hour, “News Talk 1250 WMTA,” “Morning Talk” program, PSA for blood donations in conjunction with Channel 2. (JEK*MD)

Portsmouth – 12/15 1820 – Strong with “Classic Country 12-60 WNXT,” then Paul Harvey promo. (K-JV)

Detroit – 12/17 2005 – Talk show host saying that 2003 is the last year of the decade, not 2000. Finally someone with a brain! PS! To Art Bell haters: I also heard Art Bell say this. (SK-PA)

Belmont – 12/21 1828 – Poor, “Oldies WGCC” slogan, OLD music, not REL as per LOG. Haven’t heard in several years, but visited the station in 1964. (JEK*MD)

Maryville – 12/23 1952 – Fair, CSFT QRM, with calls, weather, and C&W. Heard once before, on 4/1/1986 (JEK*MD)

Newport – 12/15 1836 – Promo for the “Money Making WLIK Musicmobile for parties,” another ID, into C&W oldies. (K-JV)

Alma – 12/17 2007 – Presumed with Alma vs. Mount Pleasant basketball game, just over WADO, CFMB. (SK-PA)

Scotland Neck – 12/13 1650-1655 – Black gospel music, ID. (WM-MD)

London – 1/3 1650 – Atop frequency with Ottawa Senators vs. New Jersey Devils hockey. Why they would be on the Senators’ network I don’t know, since London is much closer to Toronto than to Ottawa, but I heard ID as “1290 CJBK, talk all day, sports all night.” (MB-ON)

Fulton – 12/19 1737 – Part of ad “Holiday greetings from Oswego County’s ..., business in Oswego, during WFKF fade. (MB-ON)

Harrisonburg – 12/29 1655 – Briefly topped local pest WXRL with ID as “WVKY AM Stereo 1300.” (MB-ON)

De Land – 12/23 1900 – “WYND, De Land, stay tuned now for the truth.” Speaking of truth, were they really on 55 watts night power? (PC-VA) [Dave Braun and I both heard this one a couple years ago, a few months apart, both at an unsigned-off time of 2218, I think. When I heard it, it had to have been on full 5 kW – DY]}

Indianapolis – 12/23 1700 – “Hi, this is Mike Gamble, of the Mike and Mack Morning Show, wishing you and yours a blessed holiday season from AM 13-10 ... WTLC Indianapolis.” (PC-VA)

Madisonville – 12/23 2030 – Solid for 10 minutes with OLD, calls, weather, and SID at 2037. (JEK*MD)

Call letters only through the sunset bubble. (PC-VA)

Madison – 12/23 1710 – “Traffic and weather next on WIBA,” then into news. (PC-VA)

Attleboro – 12/27 1520 – Break at 1537 with Boston in presumed ad, call letters at 1557. This SS music sounds like they’re banging on hollow cinnamons and logs. Poor and fluttery. (SK-PA)

Mississippi – 12/20 2105 – ID “Join us on the Golden Horseshoe Radio Network, 13-20 CJMR.” (RI-NH)

Flint – 12/30 1855 – “13-30 WTRX,” and then at 1900, “24 hours a day, Sports Extra, 13-30 WTRX,” through the mix. (PC-VA)

Springfield – 12/30 1653 – Sports news, call letters only several times, and then at 1700. “The Voice of the Tri-County, with local weather and news, 13-30 WSPQ.

WCL0 WI

WBBW OH

WGMN VA

WTMA SC

WBNX OH

WXYT MI

WGCC NC

WUCO

WLK PN

WFYC MI

WYAL NC

CJDK ON

WZZZ NY

WKCY VA

WYND FL

WLDO SC

WIBA WI

WJYT MA

CJMR ON

WTRX MI

WSPQ NY

WFAN OH

WYPC OH

WHBL WI

WNJC NJ

WCKY OH

WXII NY

WKJVC NC

WTOB NC

WGUS SC

WINO OH

WWIN MD

WICK PA

WKAY VA

WRBJ WI

WELM NY

WKWN GA

WACK NY

WALQ NC

WOIR FL

WLKF FL

WYMC KY

WVAM PA

WJJK OH

WYKMK MI

WFIN OH

WYP C OH

Sheboygan – 12/16 1723 – Presumed with end of One on One Sports Flash, briefly over WWRY. (SK-PA)

Washington – 12/22 1856 – Gospel, then at 1900 “... speaking on behalf of the management and staff of 13-60 WMNJ, we wish you and yours the very best of what life has to offer.” (PC-VA)

Cincinnati – 12/18 1920 – College basketball game, ad for financial services, “You’re listening to University of Miami (Ohio) Red Hawk basketball.” (WM-MD)

Rochester – 12/31 1958 – "This is NPR, National Public Radio," promo for NPR program. (WM-MD)

Asheville – 12/21 1652 – Religious program, no ID, but assumed from remarks about Asheville. (PC-VA)

Winston-Salem – 12/22 1700 – “This is WTOB, 13-88 Winston-Salem, and WCCG, 13-20 Greensboro," clear for only a moment. (PC-VA)

North Augusta – 1/3 1910 – Excellent with CNN Headline News, long list of local sponsors. Don’t know if they were overboard, or just a good reception on night power. (JEK*MD)

Youngstown – 12/16 2144 – Presumed with "The music of your life, W... Youngstown." (JEK*MD)

Baltimore – 12/24 1922 – Has some new canned ID’s by the same guy who does them for WWRL, "Spirit 1400, WWJR.” Before, you had to catch the top of the hour ID’s for call letters. This has my #1 graveyard pest. (SK-PA)

Scranton – 12/27 1657 – Weather, ID atop will with no sign of usual pest WEST. (RIE-JA)

Charlotte – 12/27 1700 – Pop-up ID over WICK, WILL. (RIE-JA)

Racine – 12/22 2000 – “Racine’s news-talk station, AM 14 WRJN,” then ABC news, atop jumble. (SK-PA)

Elmira – 12/19 2146 – Break on Buffalo Bills network, ads for Sid’s Right Service, sporting goods store in Watkins Glen. Haven’t heard this for a long time, though I was hoping for WDOE, the only Bills station I don’t have. I SK-PA

Trenton – 12/28 0805 – SID “WKWN Trenton” came through briefly, then gone. (PC-VA)

Newark – 12/28 0749 – Westwood Five News, SID “WACK,” then down into morning QRM. (PC-VA)

Wilson – 12/30 0222 – ID, PSA for skin cancer prevention, One on One Sports. (RI-NH)

+ 1/3 1853 – Poor with ads for Goldsboro and Wilson sponsors, ID, and another ID 1900, promo for “Sports Wrap-Up” program. Very rare, last heard 2/13 1982 as WVOT. (JEK*MD)

Homestead – 12/22 2018 – By woman in EE, “This is WOIR 1430 AM Homestead-Miami,” then same ID in SS. (RB-NC)

Lakeland – 12/28 2300 – ID “This is 14-30 WLKF Lakeland.” ABC news. (RI-NH)

Mayfield – 12/22 1728 – Man saying “WYMC news time is currently 28 minutes past four ... Sports Beat on-line ... for the best in sports, rely on your sports leader WYMC.” (RB-NC)

Altoona – 12/28 2315 – Promo “Stay tuned to WVAM for the best in sports, Pittsburgh Pirates baseball, championship boxing, and local sports.” (RI-NC)

Toronto – 12/22 1908 – Presumed with woman in AA language, then Oriental music. Heard weakly under WNSW and loud WEIR. (RB-NC)

Inletber – 12/25 1901 – Over CHKT-1430 slap with gospel program, ID as “We’re WYKMK Detroit.” Last heard some 20 years ago as WCHB. (MB-ON)

12/28 1730-1800 – Fighting WTOW and old rock ‘n’ roll (from presumed Luxembourg) with gospel program, ID 1800 as “... Power every hour, we’re 14-40 W-M-K M-Detroit.” Talked to Jim Howard, General Sales, interested in the K-9AY terminated loops I’m using. (RM-CT)
14


WTHM PA Red Lion - 12/21 1500 - "AM 14-40 WTHM Red Lion," fading up from back-ground in late afternoon. (PC-VA).

WAJR WV Morgantown - 12/15 1916 - Listening for WGE, heard this with "Keeping you in touch, WAJR, depend on us." (JK-VA)

WHLS MI Port Huron - 12/17 0000 - End of Dave Clark Five's "Glad All Over," ID "then station, WHLS Port Huron," then AP or CBS news. Strong in jumble. (SK-PA).

WATA NC Boone - 12/16 2234 - While listening to a rarely heard song on CHUC, "(What I Have Done to Deserve This" by the Pet Shop Boys and Dusty Springfield), I heard this jumping over with live DJ, "WATA, we've got the animals," playing 12/21 1251 - "We've Got Get Out of This Place," clear for a minute. A new station, at the expense of a great song. (SK-PA).

WHSC SC Hartsville - 12/21 1650 - Clear ID by female "WHSC Hartsville," then CBS news, atop the jumble. (SK-PA).

WDLB WI Marshfield - 12/18 0200 - Mentioned B.B. King in station promo or ID. Just when I hit the on button. (SK-PA).

1460 WIFI NJ Florence - 12/26 0832 - Caught ID by woman, in CJOY null, "all day long on WiFi AM 1440," into gospel program. (MB-ON).

1470 WPNC NC Plymouth - 12/23 1700 - Full sign-off, ID. (WM-MD).

1480 WRDW GA Augusta - 12/29 1655 - Financial talk show, ID at 1655, "The Fan, 14-80 AM WRDW Augusta, and 93.1 FM, WRSN(?)," dominant on channel briefly, then lost. (PC-VA).


1490 WLEA NY Hornell - 12/29 0906 - "Brian Doran, reporting for WLEA News," into then upstate New York reports. (PC-VA).

1500 WHBC OH Canton - 12/21 1917 - "It's 27 degrees and partly cloudy in downtown Canton." (PC-VA).

WCNS PA Latrobe - 12/22 1655 - SUD, oldies music. Again at 1951, this time with high school basketball game and mentions of Latrobe. (WM-VA).

WHSP PA Shippensburg - 12/26 1059 - With local WISL running OC heard "Shippensburg" through WDAS' gospel music. It will have to be enough since it's my last PA needed! WISL back at 1105. My fourth state completed. (SK-PA).

1510 WHAV MA Haverhill - 12/28 0640 - Presumed with SS, marginal but atop channel. Unneeded. (RJE-PA).

1520 WDUR NC Durham - 12/27 0625 - Presumed the one with "You're listening to The Light," which is / WNWNL-103.9 Fuqua-Yarina, unneeded. (RJE-PA).

WTNI SC Hartsville - 12/26 1900 - Partial ID "Your information source. WTNI," after months of hearing just your information source! Then take your pick among ABC, CNN, and CBS news. (SK-PA).

1530 WLAC TN Nashville - 12/7 1919 - After years of having a very poor signal here in Virginia, this now blasts in; have they changed something? Sports-call in show at this time, "15-10 WLAC" ID's. (JK-VA).

1540 CBE ON Havre - 12/31 1550-1706 - Fair-plus, interview with DEXb Sheldon Harvey(?) about Y2K stuff, CBC news at 1700. Mixing with EZL music station before 1700 but on top after that. (HF-MI).


1560 WTOD OH Toledo - 12/20 1551 - Caused ID "Most of today's best country with Doug ... on Toledo's ... station K-150." Mostly atop with two other C&W's, slight WQEW. (SK-PA).

1570 WAGL SC Lancaster - 12/26 0715 - Signing on, saying they have 50,000 watts. Very rough copy, splatter from semi-local WMRE-1550. (PC-VA).

1575 WSSA GA Morrow - 12/20 0700 - With "The best mix of gospel and ... music, 1570 WSSA Morrow," under WEP. (RJE-PA).

1580 WPTW OH Piqua - 12/23 0640 - Holiday music, weather, ID. (RJE-PA).

1585 WYTI VA Rocky Mount - 12/31 1725 - Poor, ad for Rocky Mount Monuments. VA #11. (HF-MI).

1590 WSRF FL Fort Lauderdale - 12/27 1852-1855 - Good atop jumble with local talk show, "South Florida's talk duo, Craig Worth(?) and AI Miles(?) on Mystic 15-80." Phone number 581-1580 or 1580 via Bell South Mobility. No trace of CBJ which seems to be silent. Conditions definitely NOT auroral at this time. (MD-PA) [And solving RJE-PA's unid last issue... - DX].

1595 WJVA IN South Bend - 12/28 0700 - Blasting in all alone with C&W, top of hour ID: "We play the country hits you can sing along with, Classic Country AM 1580 WJVA South Bend," into AP news. Not / WHLY-1620, if indeed they ever were. (HC-NC).

1600 WPGC MD Morningside - 12/29 0355 - Ad for Iazu dealer in Laurel, "Heaven 1580 ... the spirit of the Lord," ID briefly over WRDD. (BC-NH).

1610 WSMO NC Camp Lejeune - 12/25 0715 - Sign-on with "WSMO Camp Lejeune, North Carolina," confirming new call letters of ex-WWODE, WCJY, WWJV, etc. (HC-NC) + 1/2 1654 - No doubt this with ad for "The Taylor IGA, Pines Tree Road, Highway 258, Jacksonville and in Mayesville," then lost under loud WPGC. Resurfaced 1705-1713 with classic country music, no ID noted. By 1725 WSRF was dominant. (MD-MA).

1615 WRDD PA Ebensburg - 12/29 0355 - Fair, "You're listening to the Cumbrad Radio Network, AM 950 WNCC Barnesboro and AM 1580 WRDD Ebensburg - two great radio stations, one great sound, at your service 24 hours every day," Cambria region weather, and 60's-70's oldies music. (BC-NH).

1620 WGGO NY Salamanca - 12/22 0635 - Popped up with full ID in WAKR, WMIM, and WPWA mess. (RJE-PA).

1625 WHPY NC Clayton - 12/23 1648 - A top with ad for B&B Air Conditioning in Benson NC, then holiday REL music. While looking for WVQF, WQXK. (PC-VA).

1630 WMMI PA Mount Carmel - 12/29 0600 - Fair, "This is ESPN Radio, Sports Radio 1590 The Zone, the one for sports in central Pennsylvania," with WSMN pulled out. (BC-NH).

1640 WARV RI Warwick - 12/30 1655-1715 - Mostly atop channel with many ID's, promos, including one for group travel to Israel and Jordan. Finally lost at 1715, a full hour after local sunset. (RJE-PA).

1650 WMHG MI Muskegon - 12/24 2245 - Caused ID "WMHG, a special set of music just for you, Unforgettable 1600." Very good signal was here all evening, but with ABC NOS, I had assumed it was WCCG. (SK-PA).

1660 WCPK VA Chesapeake - 12/26 1756 - Voice ID with muffled audio quality, "WCPK Chesapeake," in post-sunset mix. Supposed to be 23 watts night power. (PC-VA).

1670 WKSH WI Sussex - 12/24 1715-1730 - Very strong with Christian program including Christmas carols, call letter ID at 1728. Best signal ever from this one. (MD-MA).+ 1700 WAFN FL Miami Springs - 12/24 1704-1707 - Fair with sports news, ad for restaurant featuring the Miami Dolphins Cheerleaders, slogan The Fan. (MD-MA).

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

1680 HAR MD ——- 12/27 2119 - End of tape "WCCX"? Then re-start of tape loop: "You are listening to Maryland highway advisory radio." (SK-PA).

OFF THE INTERNET

From Scott Fybush's "NorthEast Radio Watch," used by permission: The FM relay of WKXL-1450-NH was to switch from WWLD-FM (102.3) to WRCI (93.3) on December 27.

Mike Brooker notes that "Infinity Broadcasting," one of several applications for the Fall 2015 auction, has been granted a license for a station at the WRSF-FM frequency, is proposing a multi-ethnic format and has a web site at http://www.infinitycanada.com. 

ADDRESS UPDATES

690 WOKV FL Jacksonville - It's 6869 Lenox Avenue (only one "n" in Lenox). (GHD-WV)

760 WLCC FL Bradenton - 1915 North Dale Mabry Highway, Suite 200, Tampa FL 33607. (GHD-WV)
If you are interested in helping preserve the history of our hobby through preserving your collections, you should consider ordering a supply of these free 3-inch-square stickers to place on your records, recordings, etc. Specify the number you need, and order from Ron Musco - P.O. Box 118 - Poquonock, CT 06064-0118. Include an SASE. Don't wait until it's too late - order now.
FIJIAN: A call in the DXing UHF service is 1097 MHz. I heard them saying 1097 and 283 MHz. The signals were strong enough to be heard over the local broadcast stations.

HAWAII: ARCO SDA R. is 1210 AM, Hilo, owned by Al Elkins. The station is a bilingual Spanish/Mandarin service. The transmitter is located on the roof of the station building. The station is active 24/7 and can be heard throughout the Big Island.

Target DX

Dave Braun 683 Allabands Mill Rd. Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

DXing 'smart', with shared tips and requests by NRC members

We start this time with more on some topics which have been in the last few columns.

Baron Cronin <cbcronin@gte.net> The discussion on KAPS' Paran antenna in issue #12 was of interest. What wasn't mentioned was that KAPS also has a single tower adjacent to and on the north side of the four-tower Paran array. It is a bit taller than the other four towers and was one of two that were used for a DA-D pattern on 1470 to protect Vancouver, BC before moving to 660. The transmitter is just west of Interstate 5 just south of the Skagit River bridge. I was told by an engineer several years ago the old tower was left as a passive part of the antenna system to effectively elongate the signal slightly north-south. They get into central Washington well, however. I was recently on the Big Island and looked for the KIPA antenna at Kalalau. If it is indeed near the Kona airport then it's sitting in a lava field. Probably the main reason it doesn't get out. And a note on KSL. I visited the transmitter site in 1961 with an engineer friend who worked there. He told me an interesting story about some painters working on the tower. One needed to relieve himself but was at about the 400-foot level. He figured he could just let fly. The long line of salt water apparently picked up some RF slightly burning the painter. After that he climbed down when he needed to go. I don't know if the story was an urban legend or not, but the engineer who told me claimed it was true.

John D. Bowker <w2awen@juno.com> Bar — Thanks for the add-on to the KAPS story. Fred Vobbe and I are working on a brief program segment for an upcoming DX Audio Service release about that antenna and we'll see how it might work in. The part about the KSL tower painting incident may not make the cut...but it's a fun story anyhow!

Bob Ulm <bobulm@ms.com> My wife bought me the (Radio Shack AM) loop for Christmas, and it's great. It turned a Fisher receiver which was pretty much deaf, in to a nice AM Receiver with much improved sensitivity. Thanks for the suggestion.

The next one is from the discussion on methods of taping DX in cars.

Russ Edmunds <w2b2j@hotmail.com> “Problems with this? Two: 1) The trunk mechanism doesn't understand about light-weight wires and tends to snap them unless they are dressed properly around the springs and countersweights. 2) Indexing the cassette. You wind up with a C-90, or whatever, loaded with all these IDs and you have no way of telling about the radio dial setting at the time a couple of weeks ago when you made the recording.” For some reason, I intended to respond to this but didn't...Re the problems noted above, 1) the wires can easily be fished through from the trunk to the passenger compartment by running them under the rear bench seat and/or along the side of the car, inside. 2) I'd suggest a stereo cassette recorder set up with the input described above feeding into one channel, and a switchable microphone feeding the other for you to dictate any narrative needed to ID. I've done the former a couple of times when installing speakers aftermarket and the latter whilst DXing in the shack years ago, but rather than a microphone, a monitor rx w/WWV so as to synch the times.

John D. Bowker: Russ...Thanks for the comments. Indeed, we DO use a stereo recorder for most of our trips and talk the frequency into the right channel. I just thought enough was enough when I posted that comment last month. The only thing is, I was not able to find a way to snake the wire under the rear seat in our latest Buick Century. I'm sure it can be done...but there comes a time when you take the course of least resistance. And another 5-6 feet of speaker wire doesn't cut the fidelity at all.

On to some new stuff:

G. Harely DeLeureere, Hendricks WV
@Terry L. Krueger, Clearwater FL; NRD-535 with dipoles.
Richard E. Wood, Hawaiian Paradise Park, Kea'au HI; Yaseu FRG-100, 3 longwires (850' ESE, 700'ENE, 700'N).

CONTRIBUTORS
If you can afford it, I recommend the equipment sold by Polyphase. They have equipment that will allow your power, cable, antennas, phone, etc. to all have common point grounding.


Paul Smith: Someday I'd love to talk to you about my theory of NOT grounding outside antennas during lightning storms. Believe it or not, I've had better luck letting them float above ground. Have not had to be careful not to bring any of the leads into the house. I've actually noticed that your typical AM broadcast tower arrays rarely get direct strikes by lightning. That's because they are not grounded directly. Of course nearby strikes induce a strong EMP into the arrays, but they usually don't take direct strikes, as compared to grounded towers. I noticed that years ago watching the towers of WAAM 1600 in Ann Arbor, Mich. when I worked there overnights in the late 60's. Used to scare the hell out of me sitting at the console being able to look over at the towers during severe storms. I could see a spark jump across the spark gap on the towers.

Russ Edmunds: Thanks, guys! I have all copper pipe here and I have two separate ground rods - one I put in for my ham antennas, and the other was put in later as an additional ground for the electrical system to further reduce suspected electrolysis in the pipes following installation of an inline (all-plastic) sediment filter. So I should be OK there. And in Maine, I can probably ground right to the deep well head.

Joseph Dube <ki4dr@webtv.net>: I live very close to you in Tampa. Several months ago, just across the street, we had a tremendous lightning strike which hit the light pole. The force of the strike was so severe that when it hit the pole, it traveled down into the ground and ended up in the city water meter. Needless to say the electricity was off for a period of time and more importantly the water meter was in pieces in the basement. The geyser that was created by the broken water shooting into the air looked like "Old Faithful". My point is that there was a big loss of electronic gear through the neighborhood-7V's, computer etc. The only thing that I lost here (I was only 75 feet away) was my Heathkit weather station ID 4001. It was the ONLY thing that wasn't properly grounded. In the past I have tried things your way (floating) and have been lucky: I have incurred very little damage. Since I have a generator and grounding and an RF ground for my radio equipment, I have lost no radio gear from lightning. I did lose my computer modem during a severe lightning storm in July though. Guess what? The phone line wasn't surge protected!!!!! I was never much on grounding anything and I've lived in this area more than 35 years, but I sure am a believer now!!!!

Russ Edmunds: "Someday I'd love to talk to you about my theory of NOT grounding outside antennas during lightning storms. Believe it or not, I've had better luck letting them float above ground. Have not had to be careful not to bring any of the leads into the house. I've actually noticed that your typical AM broadcast tower arrays rarely get direct strikes by lightning. That's because they are not grounded directly. Of course nearby strikes induce a strong EMP into the arrays, but they usually don't take direct strikes, as compared to grounded towers." And, if you could find data on it, I would bet that a good many of the sites where there are direct lightning strikes to broadcast towers are in places like on your recent photos - where the tower literally sits in the water - quite common in Florida and some other low-lying coastal areas.

Doug Smith: "And in Maine, I can probably ground right to the deep well head." I have heard it told that grounding to wells is a bad idea (if the well is still in use), because of the threat of a lightning strike burning out the pump motor.

Russ Edmunds: Well, well. Sounds very reasonable, and it is still in use. So, when I get to that bridge, I'll cross it by grounding to where the electrical service is grounded instead. Thanks!

William Loyd Van Horn <katamount@colleges.com>: I found plans somewhere (cant remember where) for a simple longwave switching box that uses banana plugs and a PVC box. Was gonna get the parts and assemble it today (just put up a 350' 5E&WW longwire yesterday that is kicking all kinds of butt here in Brown). I will let y'all know how it works!

Fred Vobe: "I have heard it told that grounding to wells is a bad idea (if the well is still in use), because of the threat of a lightning strike burning out the pump motor." True. But I don't have a well. But up in our vacation property, when they drilled the well for the home, I had an old casing sunk on the opposite side of the property and that's "station ground".

Fred Vobe: "If you can afford it, I recommend the equipment sold by Polyphase. They have equipment that will allow your power, cable, antennas, phone, etc. to all have common point grounding." Very true, and I also find that it does not hurt to have a good "spark gap" with a couple of penny nails on longwires. We've had our dipoles at the TV station get hit, the nail appears to have been "welded" but the equipment escaped damage.

John R. Tudenheim <kj4uu@juno.com>: "Someday I'd love to talk to
you about my theory of NOT grounding outside antennas during lightning storms. I know several hams who have the same theory and have never been hit, it's a good question, I don't know.

John R. Tudenhams: "I never was much on grounding anything and I've lived in this area more than 35 years, but I sure am a believer now!!!" I think the answer is have a good ground, but if you don't have a good ground sometimes it is better to not ground at all. I have read that if you ground to a water pipe and has to run 20 or 30 ft before entering the ground it is not good. May also have corrosion in the joints. When I lived in Tulsa I had a 6 foot rod driven into the ground a very good ground, here in the Missouri Ozarks although only 100 miles away I hit rocks down 1 foot nowhere that I try it so it is very difficult.

Next up is the beginning of a discussion on how stations operate. Tom Dittmer: "<jd@esonline.com> Does anyone know if WCC, 940, Lebanon Pennsylvania now has authorization to go on the air more than five nights at a time? I never used to hear them here at night, but now they are quite strong all night long. It makes it difficult to hear the new station on 940 from Canada.

Russ Edmunds: I've been fighting with this problem for a few months here outside of Philadelphia. They aren't there at the same strength around sunrise, so I have concluded either that they have a PSSA (Post-Sunset Authorization - these aren't consistently used nor listed in the Log and they are "not" shown on the FCC database) or else they're throwing the switch late without authorization. Try later in the evening or before sunrise and you should have better luck around sunset and sunrise you should have better luck there.

Diggins: "tgw@juno.com> Everyone runs day power at night now. Why should WDAB be any different. If you like it that everyone runs day power 24/7 stop here, don't read the rest of this message. Here's the address to write to if you see stations abusing their power and other things: complaint-enf@fcc.gov. If you don't complain, they won't act.

Russ Edmunds: Problem is, I don't think anybody really "knows" that. Unless we can somehow verify that a given station and (we've -reognized about a dozen here over the last 2 months, hi) "does" not have authorization for PSSA, then we shouldn't really pursue the course you recommended. I'm copying Dave Schmidt, who has consulted for or engineered for a number of stations, but whom I don't recall as being on the reflector, to see if I can get his comments on the PSSA issue. Others who have a lot of edge (Wayne, Fred?) please respond also.

Ragnar Daneskejd: PSSA at 0100 at 5kW instead of allotted 1kW? Dude, I don't know of any PSSA that runs to 1AM. I know at least a half dozen stations in the Phoenix area alone that are on full power 24/7. The FCC needs to get off its dead butt and do its job of enforcement. Sorry guy, I am busting the mail box at complaints-enf@fcc.gov with my congressman on each one. I have tried with some of these stations until I am blue in the face to get them to comply with standards and reg. I have called them, I have written them, the stations interfered have tried to get the offenders to stop and it ain't happening. Its complaints-enf@fcc.gov as a last resort. I don't feel bad about rattling them out either brother. There are people on this list that know that I have tried all kinds of methods to get these guys to do right and now I don't care if it costs them $25K. I just want the FCC to clean up the airwaves in Phoenix. I want you to do whatever you want out east. You might like chaos but I don't. I have to hear a station on 1060 kHz here that is real bad about never dropping power and they are splashing from 1030 to 1090 kHz at my house. I have another on 1130 that has unmodulated sidebands from 1135 to 1165. I am sorry for them but I am sick of the crap and I rattled them both out. I feel real good about it too.

The NRC AM Radio Log, 20th Edition, is compiled from members reports and from official sources so that it is the most accurate listing of U. S. and Canadian AM stations available - and it includes Expanded Band stations. Cross-referenced, 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only $16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; $22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: Latin America, $24.00; Europe, $25.00; rest of the world: $28.00. Order from NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mansfield, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).

Two KCMO's, KCFX for sale: Entercom to let go of radio stations so deal can be OK'd

By Aaron Barnhart, The Kansas City Star (via Jim Lewis)

Entercom Communications Corp. announced Thursday which three radio stations it would sell to gain government approval of its recent deal with Sinclair Broadcast Group, which is expected to bolster Entercom's presence as Kansas City's top radio broadcaster.

David Field, president of the Bala-Cynwyd, Pa.-based station owner, told employees at Entercom's Westwood facility that KCMO-AM (710), KCMO-FM (95.5) and KCFX-FM (101.1) would be sold. A buyer has not been found for the stations.

Field said employees and programs associated with those stations would be included in the sale but when the question of Kansas City Chiefs football games was raised, Field curiously hedged. The deal for the Chiefs is due to be announced by KCFS through 2002, but Field said a "decision has not been made" on whether the two would be sold together, according to people at the meeting.

A source familiar with the Chiefs contract said Entercom could sell KCFX and pay the Chiefs a premium to keep the broadcast rights for their games.

However, Mike Murphy, Chris Baker, Dick Wilson, Rick Tamblyn and all the other personalities associated with the three stations will be drawing the ire of Entercom employees and listeners alike. In short, the deal was welcomed by some Entercom employees who took this as a sign that Entercom, a station owner by Thanks-giving, when the Entercom-Sinclair deal is expected to close. Syndicated shows such as "Dr. Laura" will also transfer to the new owners.

The question of which stations would be spun off has been a subject of intense speculation in the two months since Entercom announced its $821.5 million acquisition of most of Sinclair's radio assets.

Among the 43 stations bought July 27 from Sinclair is KCMO in Kansas City: KCFX ("The Fox"), KQRC-FM (98.9, "The Rock"), KCTY-FM (106.5, "The City") and classical KXTR-FM (96.5).

That raised Entercom's total in the market to 11 stations, three more than the Federal Communications Commission allows. And it escalated Entercom's share of the local ad market to 57 percent, far more than the Justice Department's 40 percent limit. To satisfy both government overseers, Entercom knew it would have to sell at least three stations. Nor could Entercom hold more than five stations on either the AM or FM bands.

With the announced spinoff of the three stations, Entercom will hold its legal limit of eight stations in Kansas City: KMIZ-AM (980), WDAF-AM (610), KCMG-AM (1250), ("the Game"), KUDL-FM (98.1), KYFS-FM (99.7), KQRC, KCTY and KXTR.

The station's ad sales, the Entercom stable of stations will grow from 33.5 percent of the local radio market to an estimated 37 percent to 38 percent. If Entercom keeps the Chiefs rights, it could have trouble squeezing under the 40 percent cap. The Chiefs provide $3 million a year in radio ads, or 3 percent of the market, according to industry sources.

More important, having the Chiefs would give Entercom a powerful advantage in the radio sports talk wars vs. WHB-AM (810), which this morning took over the programming of KCTE-AM (1510), providing a stronger, 24-hour signal.

The remaining Sinclair station, KUPN-AM (1480), was sold Sept. 6 to HIME Communications Inc., which is converting the station to an all-Spanish format.

Bob Zurowste, who manages the Entercom properties in Kansas City, said a realignment of stations was designed to create "clusters" of stations that would allow advertisers to reach a wider range of listeners in a single buy.

Before people said, "Well, I have to go out and buy seven or eight radio stations," now we can create one package for them," Zurowste said.

"You can create some pretty powerful marketing plans for these stations.

For example, KUDL, KCTY, and KXTR all reach fairly affluent audiences made up mostly of women. Through "the Fox" and "The City," you could allow Entercom to sell two similar groups of male listeners at once. Other men could be reached through KMBZ and Entercom's new sports-radio property KOCG, which Zurowste dubbed "the ESPN2 of KMBZ."

WDAF's listenership is older and split evenly among men and women, making it a "floater" that could be added to any of the clusters to suit an advertiser's needs.

Although most big radio groups have begun using a clustering strategy — including CBS/Infinity, the second-largest owner of stations in Kansas City — one industry analyst said Thursday that Entercom's clusters would be especially competitive because local management took the lead in shaping them.

"Bob Zurowste has a lot of leeway in how he runs his operation," said the analyst, Thom Moon of Duran's American Radio, a company that analyzes radio markets. "That gives Entercom a lot more ability to tailor the product they put out over the air to the local market. Some of the other companies are telling (their managers), 'You're going to be this format and sound pretty much like this other station we have in Denver.'

The Sinclair additions doubled Entercom's national presence to 26 stations in 16 markets, making Entercom the country's fifth-largest radio group when measured by ad billings.