

DX News

•Serving DX'ers since 1933•

Volume 67, No. 15 - January 24, 2000 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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CPC Test Calendar

WMAL	DC	630	Jan. 30	0100-0130
WILM	DE	1450	Jan. 30	0100-0300
WIMA	OH	1150	Feb. 21	0100-0200

From the publisher ... We have a delightful pair of reminiscences from Objio and Ooms in this issue as well as the usual good stuff, especially DX catches.

So far, no takers for editorship of DDXD-E; Dave Yocis is a hard act to follow, we admit, but someone's gotta do it. Applications via e-mail will be accepted happily in Topeka ASAP, as Dave would like to hand over the column soon, due to his commitment to finishing up his degree.

Some folks (like me) are still using reel-to-reel equipment, and Dave Schmidt advises: "Recording Tape Supplies are available from National Audio Company, Inc., P O Box 3657 Glenstone Station, Springfield, MO 65808, 417-863-1925. They still have listed open reel tape, plus tape supplies. Would suggest to write or call for a catalog." I wonder if they carry supplies for my 8-track recorder, too, hi?! As an aside, I still have several "Quick-Load Cartridge" tapes, which look like a compact cassette on steroids, as they are 5" by 7 1/8" in size. The Scotch number was 8000, and they played 1 hour stereo, 2 hours monaural, at 3 3/4 ips on quarter-inch tape. Anyone out there know of equipment on which this cartridge might have been played?

Recently, on the [NRC] listserve, nostalgic ruminations concerning NRC conventions have been posted, leading to questions like who might have attended the most (Ernie Wesolowski is leading right now with 39); who hosted certain conventions and what hotels might they have been held in, and associated questions. You might want to visit the DXAS web site and help Fred Vobbe fill in some of the blanks.

Another gathering reported by Ernie via phone is the annual Minnesota DX Club DXpedition at Omega, MN, NW of Fairbault, on Feb. 18-20. For more info, call Randall Trapp at 507-634-7542.

AM Switch and IDXD plus the CPC program have recently been affected by non-delivered e-mail, either from or to the publisher, and others have reported problems in the past. We think we've gotten it all straightened out now, but allow me to remind you that if you send me a submission for DXN and do NOT receive an acknowledgment that I received it ... I probably didn't. My estimation is that 2-4% of all correctly-addressed e-mails to me never reach me, according to eventual feedback I get ("Why didn't you answer my *&^\$#@ message!"). For those of you using "free" e-mail sources ... you probably get what you pay for, and the entity charging 33¢ to deliver messages is still the most reliable, at very close to 100%, even if it is a bit slower than the Internet. Also, feedback I've received from some members indicates that delivery this year during the Christmas rush was speedier than last year, and I can report that fewer copies of DXN have had to be replaced due to being lost or damaged, probably since June, when I started using more tape on the leading edge of DXN (all DXN's with the imprint must go through a sorting machine, at great speed). Thanks to all who have provided feedback on DXN delivery and e-mail arrival or non-arrival.

The first half of the volume is over; let's make the second half even better by more reports to the DX columns and to Musings. Report!

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the Jan. 14, 1950 DXN: It was announced that Carroll Weyrich would publish a new station log before March 1, to cost \$1.00, and members were advised to send a dollar to Carroll to reserve a copy.

25 years ago ... from the January 13, 1975 DXN: 650 kHz was a hot frequency in Al Merriman's IDXD for Glenn Hauser, Enid, OK, who heard HJDX, Bogot; TIBAS, San Jos; HIAT; Santo Domingo; HOS22, Panama City; and, tentatively, Montevideo.

10 years ago ... from the January 15, 1990 DXN: Jerry Starr reported in AM Switch that pirate station "WENJ"-1620, New Brunswick, NJ had been busted and put off the air by the FCC.

AM Switch

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com
c/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

Status changes in AM stations, supplied by the FCC and listeners

Through some sort of publishing error the AM Switch column sent to HQ for DX News #10 was never printed. In its place was a repeat of the column from Issue #9. The information from the unprinted #10 AM Switch was incorporated into the column sent to HQ via E mail for Issue #13. For unknown reasons this column never arrived in Topeka (although 4 other editors on same the E mailing list got their copy) so Paul ran the now aged column intended for #10 in the last DX News. You may have noticed some of the information it contained has already been changed. Before it gets any more confusing, here's what we are going to do. This AM Switch you are about to read is a combination of the information from the missing #13 column plus all the new information we have on hand. In the process of blending this information we may repeat some information from a previous AM Switch. Please forgive this but better to read it twice than not to see it at all. A few of our "nit-picky" members actually write to me to point out when information is listed twice. What possible harm this could cause that would warrant somebody taking the time to write is beyond me, but in any case, please save your time and ink this time. Assuming this column does not end up in Cyber-Limbo it will bring you totally up to date.

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<i>Old call</i>		<i>New call</i>	
570	WRDT	NC	Raleigh	WDTF
590	WOW	NE	Omaha	KOMJ
600	WKLW	KY	Paintsville	WKYH
630	KKPL	WA	Opportunity	KXLI
690	*New	PQ	Montreal	CINF
750	WJNL	MI	Petosky	WWKK
940	*New	PQ	Montreal	CINW
980	WLMX	GA	Rossville	WUUS
1060	KBNB	TX	Gilmer	KOFY
1090	KMPS	WA	Seattle	KYCW
1250	KDEI	TX	Port Arthur	KALO*
1260	WPZE	MA	Boston	WMKI
1280	KJAX	CA	Stockton	KUYL
1290	WTMC	FL	Ocala	WCFI
1380	KZJZ	MO	St. Louis	KSLG
1400	KBZZ	CO	La Junta	KBLJ
1400	WTRR	FL	Sanford	WSDO
1540	WDCD	NY	Albany	WPTR
1640	KKJY	OR	Lake Oswego	KPBC

*Note: KALO change to KDEI has been set aside; station remains KALO (see Otherness)

The More Things Change....Department: In Issue 5 we described the FCC's new state of the art super on-line call letter system that was supposed to provide a convenient and foolproof method for stations to find and apply for available calls. The system hadn't been running a month when it assigned the same call, WKLO, to two different FM stations in PA and IN. At least right now this system doesn't seem to work any better than when the call file was kept on a Rolodex and similar amusements occurred on a semi-regular basis.

APPLICATION FOR NEW STATION

1450 CA Mountain Gate: 250/250 U1 (1998 application for 1000/1000 U1 was denied; this reapplication requests the Commission's reconsideration)

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES



1220 CKCW NB Moncton: to 94.5 FM

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

900	KALT	TX	Atlanta: 1000/33 U1
950	WPEN	PA	Philadelphia: 50000/50000 U4
1000	WYBT	FL	Blountstown: 5000 D1
1010	KXEG	AZ	Tolleson: 15000/250 U5
1010	KIQI	CA	San Francisco: 10000/1500 U4 (CP modification)
1050	WPBS	GA	Conyers: to 1040 kHz with 12000 (420 CH) D3
1060	KAHU	HI	Hilo: 5000/5000 U1
1070	WIWS	WV	Beckley: 10000 (7700 CH) D1
1150	WMET	MD	Gaithersburg: to 1160 kHz with 19000 U4; this CP calls for the night operation to remain on 1150 kHz with the existing power and pattern (a la WNZK 680/690 kHz) but requires a new six tower antenna system to be built in an area where land prices are some of the highest in the country, and the residents are known to be tower unfriendly. Don't expect this one to be on soon.
1240	WHBU	IN	Anderson: 700/700 U1, relocate transmitter
1240	KXLE	WA	Ellensburg: relocate transmitter
1270	KPLY	NV	Sparks: 13000/5000 U2
1290	WRNI	RI	Providence: 5000/10000 U4
1320	WLOH	OH	Lancaster: 500/16 U1, relocate transmitter site
1360	WWLG	MD	Baltimore: to 1370 kHz 21000 D3 (drops night operation)
1400	KAOK	LA	Lake Charles: relocate transmitter
1450	CHBV	BC	Houston: to 106.5 FM
1490	WFKY	KY	Frankfort: relocate transmitter
1550	KVAN	WA	Vancouver: 50000/12000 U2
1560	KLTI	MO	Macon: 1000/41 U1
1560	KEGG	TX	Daingerfield: 1500/60 U1
1580	KIVA	NM	Albuquerque: 10000/128 U1



OTHERNESS

550	WJMW	PA	Bloomsburg station is SILENT while transmitter site is relocated
560	CKJL	ON	Kirkland Lake: CP to move to 101.5 FM is on
600	WAEL	PR	Mayaguez: CP for 5000/5000 U3 is on
640	WWLS	OK	Moore: CP for 5000/1000 U4 is on
660	WORL	FL	Altamonte Springs: new station is ON THE AIR
750	WWKK	MI	Petoskey: new station has been testing ON THE AIR
900	KALT	TX	Atlanta: CP to relocate transmitter is on
900	KREH	TX	Pecan Grove: silent station is ON THE AIR (ex Oakdale, LA)
900	KKLS	SD	Rapid City: CP to relocate transmitter is on
960	WRNS	NC	Kinston: CP to relocate transmitter is on
980	WLUS	FL	Gainesville: station is SILENT
980	KJOX	WA	Selah: CP for U4 is on (abandons separate daytime transmitter, both patterns now come from former night site)
990	KTUB	TX	Wichita Falls: station is SILENT to facilitate move to Farmersville, TX
1140	KCLE	TX	Cleburne: CP to move here from 1120 kHz with 850/710 U4 is on
1160	WWON	MI	Fenton: silent station has been noted testing with carrier
1170	KOHO	HI	Honolulu: silent station set to return January 15
1180	R.Marti	FL	Marathon: Marti has increased power to 100000 watts; not shown in FCC actions as this station is not licensed or regulated by the FCC
1220	KLVZ	CO	Denver: silent station (as KBNO) is ON THE AIR
1230	WENY	NY	Elmira: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1240	WBCF	AL	Florence: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1250	KALO	TX	Port Arthur: station is SILENT
1280	WSQV	PA	Berwick: station is SILENT
1280	WWAR	VA	Appomattox: silent station is ON THE AIR
1290	WCFI	FL	Ocala: station is SILENT
1290	WBZT	FL	West Palm Beach: CP for 10000/4900 U4 from new site is on
1310	WBRO	GA	Waynesboro: license was CANCELLED 11/6/97 and this station no longer appears in the FCC Database; however, a petition for reconsideration was filed 5/18/99 but does not appear to have been acted on. We have reports

			this station is still operating; can someone in that area confirm this?
1320	WTKZ	PA	Allentown: CP for 770/195 U2 from new site is on
1350	KTIK	ID	Nampa: CP to move here from 1340 kHz with 5000/600 U2 is on
1360	WNNJ	NJ	Newton: CP for 2000/320 U4 from new transmitter site is on
1360	WKOP	NY	Binghamton: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1370	WLTH	IN	Gary: station is SILENT pending sale
1370	KPOS	TX	Post: license CANCELLED, call DELETED (owner turned in license)
1380	KSLG	MO	St. Louis: station was briefly SILENT but is back ON THE AIR
1400	KNND	OR	Cottage Grove: CP for 950/950 U1 from new site is on
1420	WWSR	VT	Saint Albans: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1440	WJJL	NY	Niagara Falls: station is SILENT due to fire damage
1450	KMCA	CA	Shasta: CP to move here from Burney with 260/250 U1 is on, the dismissed application for this change was reinstated
1460	KTXS	CA	Salinas: silent station is ON THE AIR
1470	KVLH	OK	Pauls Valley: station is SILENT
1520	WDMN	OH	Toledo: station is operating daytime only while night transmitter site is refurbished
1550	WMDH	IN	New Castle: CP to relocate transmitter is on
1550	WSER	MD	Elkton: silent station expected to return in January
1550	WKQV	PA	Pittston: station is SILENT
1560	KLTI	MO	Macon: CP for 1000/41 U1 is on
1560	KCJK	IA	Iowa City: has returned to the air, had gone silent when programming was moved to their 1630 kHz X-band facility, presently simulcasting for all their listeners with "old radios that won't tune up to 1630".
1570	WFOG	NY	Riverhead: station is SILENT due to "vandalism" but will return in the spring
1570	CKTA	AB	Taber: their FM is now operational and AM is scheduled to go OFF THE AIR in "four months"
1650	KBJD	CO	Denver: new station is ON THE AIR

THANKS: Bill Hale, Ed Krejny, Shawn Axelrod, Frank Aden, Bart Cronin, Dave Schmidt, & MSJ

73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

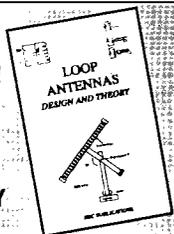
WTDY
News/Talk 1480

Jerry & BKF

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The NRC AM Radio Log, 20th Edition, is compiled from both 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 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).



Domestic DX Digest

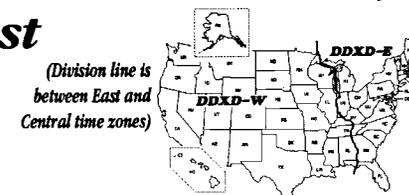
West: Bill Hale phantom2@eze.net

6124 Roaring Springs Drive - North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

East: David Yocis DavidYocis@aol.com

532 LaGuardia PL, #462 - New York, NY 10012-1428

DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-br. ELT



(Division line is between East and Central time zones)

DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- This issue of DX News marks the half-way point in our volume year. Have we seen your contributions yet? If not... write down what you've been hearing, DX-wise, and send it in. The rest of us want to know!
- New years bring new things. Effective... now... the Graveyard DX columns will recognize another category of records, "Records from Alaska and Hawaii". These will be listed after the worldwide record (if any) and before the record from the "lower 48", and annotated by a # symbol. This, in response to a suggestion from Richard Wood of Hawaii. Also, I've decided to treat any record from outside Canada, Mexico, and the United States as the "worldwide" record. So, any listing from the Caribbean or other offshore (other than the aforementioned) places will be eligible for a second, and possibly third record holder. Morris Sorensen has contributed more Graveyard updates, also. And we've made a couple of adjustments to Morris' previous records (see end of the column).
- Although we show zero-for three on the WFIF-1500 test, I have read where the test DID go off and was heard (faintly) along the East Coast.
- Address update from Dakota Territory reporter Terry Jones: KWSN-1230 and KELO-1320 Sioux Falls, SD are co-located at 500 S. Phillips Avenue, Sioux Falls 57104. KWSN's phone number is 605-336-1230, while KELO's is 605-336-1320.

REPORTERS

FA-ID	Frank Aden, N7SOK	Boise	FRG-8	<n7sok@aol.com>
SA-MB	Shawn Axelrod	Winnipeg	Icom ICR-70 & Drake R8 + 4 Foot Unamplified Box Loop/Quantum Loop, 145' outdoor wire, 100' indoor wire, MFJ 1026 Phasing Unit	<saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
GB-FL	Gerry Bishop	Niceville	Drake R8 with MLK-MB2 antenna, Sony -2001 barefoot	<gerryb4991@aol.com>
RD-AZ	Ragnar Danneskjold	Mesa	Kenwood R-1000 and Zepp antenna; GE model 3-5280C; Delco car radio	<ldwdrx@juno.com>
GH-KS	Gary Houdek	Munden		
MH-CA	Michael Hawk	N00SY	near San Jose	Icom R70 and Kiwa loop <hawk@globalcenter.net>
GJ-CA	Gary Jackson	Sacramento	FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop	
MS-MB	Morris Sorensen	Winnipeg	Drake R-8 + McKay-Dymek DA-9 ferrite loop or indoor random wire	
JJR-WI	John J. Rieger	South Milwaukee	FRG100, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp, HDSP-599zx Audio Noise Reduction Filter	<johnrieger@webtv.net>
RS-MO	Randy Stewart	Springfield	Yaesu FRG100 + 15" Sanserino amplified box loop	<jrs55t@mail.smsu.edu>
RT-CA	Rich Toebe	Davis	Sony ICF-2010	<richtoebe@jps.net>
Ed.-TX	Editor	North Richland Hills		

STATION NEWS & NOTES

- | | | | |
|------|------|----|--|
| 850 | KOA | CO | Denver - Now has a new address: 4695 South Monaco Street, Denver, 80237 and the phone number is 303-713-8000. (GH-KS) |
| 1200 | KOQI | CA | Soquel - 1/12 2300 - Noted testing, playing country music selections on CDs. Quick KOQI Soquel ID over a country song on the hour. Good signal, slightly fadey. Dominates channel. Do not know power being used. Apparently they're testing from a single tower but will be directional at night with a 4 tower array, diplexed off KIEZ-540 near Salinas. (RT-CA) |

New Country
CHAT

- 1630 KNAX CA Clovis - 1/8 1954 - SS programming with mix of English and Spanish AC music. No IDs heard, but given the strength, I'd presume this new X-band is testing now. Seems to be on sporadically. (MH-CA)
- 1650 KBDJ CO Denver - 1/12 2230 - Good signals with Christian Contemporary music. Heard with slogan *The Beat 16-50 and Colorado's New Power Station*. New on The Air!! (SA-MB)
- 1650 KBDJ CO Denver - 1/12 1930-1933 - Heard playing Christian Rock music after :30 *The Beat* ID, and then lost as the grayline made LA and KGIL came up and over KBHJ. New. (RD-ZA)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 840 UNID ?? - 1/9 1925 - Two alternating DTMF tones every 3 seconds repeatedly. Sounds like someone testing? (MH-CA)
- 1360 UNID ?? - 1/14 0740-0752 - Fair in fade-up, with *The station the whole family can listen to, the Friendship Station*. Ad for Gary Bauer at :44, *Christian Music Leader* at :48. Satellite-fed Contemporary Christian music, but who???? (JJR-WI)
- 1400 UNID ?? - 1/2 2159 - Poor-to-fair, with break during game on *Nebraska Cornhuskers* net. Ads for *Miller Lumber Company* and *Valentines Restaurant*. (MS-MB)
- 1540 UNID ?? - 12/28 1705 - Poor signal, with *The Rosary* program, under KXEL. (SA-MB)
- 1550 UNID ?? - 1/8 2050 - Weak station fading in and out under CBE with satellite oldies program. Several *Oldies 15-50* Non IDs. (SA-MB)
- 1720 UNID ?? - 1/8 1751 - Good het here, with bits of music fading up, but very poor signal. A new Pirate?? (SA-MB)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 1500 WFIF- CT Milford - 1/9 0000-0045 - Nothing heard under CKAY. (FA-ID)
- 1500 WFIF- CT Milford - 1/9 0030 - NOT heard; only KSTP and new XEDF. (SA-MB)
- 500 WFIF- CT Milford - 1/9 0030-0045 - Nothing heard. KSTP and Mexican dominant. Also lotsa slop from WLAC-1510. (RS-MO)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

- 530 WNPZ947 CA San Jose - 12/19 1025 - San Jose International Airport. Used to have a regular recording, but now just plays a test message repeatedly (MH-CA)
- 530 WPJP546 CA San Mateo - 12/19 1028 - Weak, under San Jose, but has been regular as of late - they must have fixed something. (MH-CA)
- 1610 TIS/HAR CA Placerville - 1/5 0635 - Giving weather conditions for the summit. Mentioned to ... *carry chains, as conditions can change*. (GJ-CA)
- 1610 WNWV? CA Saratoga - 12/19 1115 - *Radio Saratoga* ... can never understand the three digits at the end due to WMK214 in Newark. (MH-CA)
- 1610 WRD347 GA Watkinsville - 12/30 2222 - Oconee County Emergency Management Agency with announcement that *Oconee County government offices will be closed Friday, December 31, 1999* and other emergency management info. ID from Mr. Quinton Still, Director of Emergency Management Agency. Said this one is 100 watts, but still can't get a signal into the north part of the county. Surprised that I'd heard it in Florida. Mail address is PO Box 145, Watkinsville, GA, 30677. (GB-FL) [The FCC database shows this to be 60 watts at 49 feet, so it should get out fairly well. And I figure you are 293 miles from Watkinsville - Ed.]



- 1630 TIS/HAR CA Los Angeles IAP - 1/4 0530 - With parking information. (GJ-CA)
- 1670 WSKC502 CA Menlo Park - 12/19 1105 - New TIS on the air. (MH-CA)
- 1670 WTNR210 CA Menlo Park - 1/8 0628 - Giving phone numbers and city services. (GJ-CA)
- 1680 TIS/HAR CA San Mateo County - Signed on 12/23/99, but are now using 5 watts. (GJ-CA)
- 1700 TIS/HAR CA Los Angeles - 1/9 0623 - Station at junction of I-405 and I-105 still testing after two years. Giving same info as always. Will give them a call. Seems like a waste of money to still be testing??? (GJ-CA)
- 1700 WPBP201? CA Mountain View - 12/19 1000 - New NASA Ames/Moffet Field station with recording saying the station is on the air ... *primarily for employees of NASA Ames Research Center*. Extremely strong, giving phone number of 650-604-1923. (MH-CA)

- 1700 WPMD956 CA Norwalk (Norwalk College) - 1/11 0529 - Good signal, giving sports schedule for the college and ID. (GJ-CA)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

- 550 KOAC OR Corvallis - 1/9 2029 - End of some public radio program followed by statewide weather forecast. (MH-CA)
- 570 WNAX SD Yankton - 1/12 0740 - Good, with jingle, sports, local ads. (JJR-WI)
- 590 KCSJ CO Pueblo - 1/9 2333 - With sports scored and talking about the *Phoenix Coyotes'* attempts to trade Keith Tkachuk. I usually hear an XE here. (RD-AZ)
- 710 KNUS CO Denver - 1/12 0732 - Good, with CNN News, ID as 710-KNUS and more news features. New! Colorado #17, and first new one on frequency in 14 years!!!! (JJR-WI)
- 780 KAZM AZ Sedona - 1/10 0000 - Playing *Tuesday Afternoon* by the *Moody Blues*, then ID KAZM 780, Sedona. AM Stereo, followed by AP News. (RD-AZ)
- 800 KQCV OK Oklahoma City - 1/12 0757 - Good, with REL and ID, then *KQCV weatherline*. Glad I didn't tune out thinking it was PJB! New! Oklahoma #18. (JJR-WI)
- 820 WBAP TX Fort Worth - 1/10 0002 - With ID and local news after ABC News. Exceptionally strong and was without usual XE interference. (RD-AZ)
- 870 KPRM MN Park Rapids - 12/30 1702 - Fair, with CBS News, KPRM ID at 1705 mentioning they play ... *all your favorite songs*. (MS-MB)
- 870 KFLD WA Pasco - 1/9 2020 - Sports; ID as The Field. (MH-CA)
- 930 KRKY CO Granby - 12/26 2300 - Poor, but on top briefly. With ID as 930 *KRKY Granby-Winter Park*. I have night power listed as 121 watts. (MS-MB)
- 930 WAUR IL Sandwich - 12/30 1900 - Fair, with rather confusing (to me) ID as: *AM 930, Chicago, WAUR and AM 950 ??-Chicago W???* (missed call ID) into news from (what I believe) USA Radio Network. (MS-MB)
- 950 KNFT NM Bayard - 1/13 0556 - // to 102.9 FM. IDed as KNFT-FM 102.9. Was playing C&W. Fairly uncommon. (RD-AZ)
- 1060 WAMT FL Titusville - 12/29 1720 - Brief fade up, with ID between songs ... *on WAMT* and ad with mention of *Titusville*. (GB-FL)
- 1060 WNRX MS Tupelo - 12/29 1736 - Ad string for local businesses, including *TJ's One-Stop* in Tupelo, *Cole's* at Barn's Crossing Road, then C&W (log shows GOS, is not). ID at 1749 *This is Tupelo's real country station, this is Tupelo's WNRX*. Also heard strong again at 1829. Doubt they reduced to night power at sunset. (GB-FL)
- 1060 KYW PA Philadelphia - 12/29 1733 - Traffic report, then *KYW newstime five thirty-three*. Good after WKNG off. (GB-FL)
- 1060 WPHC TN Waverly - 12/29 1816 - Weather for Tennessee, then funerals, sponsored by a ... (garbled) *funeral home in Waverly*. Promo for church service *Sunday 11 to 12*, then sign-off ... *and now ladies and gentlemen, a conclusion to our broadcast day at 1823*. (GB-FL)
- 1210 KPRZ CA San Marcos - 1/12 0950 - With Focus on the Family. (RD-AZ)
- 1260 KWYR SD Winner - 1/2 2157 - Good, with ads for a *John Deere* dealer in Winner and *Dakota Pride Fertilizer*. Promo for selling advertising on KWYR AM & FM. Surprisingly little splatter from local CHSM-1250 this evening. (MS-MB)
- 1260 KWYR SD Winner - 1/10 0411 - Under "KASR" the Arizona State College station, and KVSF was KWYR with an ID and playing *I Can't Even Get the Blues* and then *If You're Gonna Cheat on Me, Don't Cheat in My Hometown* by *Ricky Skaggs*. (RD-AZ)
- 1320 KSIV MO Clayton - 1/13 0718 - Poor, in jumble, with two call mentions. Rare on SRS. (JJR-WI)
- 1360 WGFA IL Watseka - 1/14 0802 - Poor-to-fair, in fade ups. Very localized news and ads. (JJR-WI)
- 1360 WGEE WI Green Bay - 12/30 1803 - Fair, with news. ID mentioning Wisconsin and *Green Bay's News Radio 1360*. Local weather with a temperature of 25 degrees. (MS-MB)
- 1360 WVRQ WI Viroqua - 1/14 0757 - Poor, with calls and back to mud. (JJR-WI)
- 1400 KXGN MT Glendive - 12/30 2105 - Poor, with sports event ID: *1400 Radio, this is KXGN Glendive, Montana*. (MS-MB)
- 1420 KIGM SD Aberdeen - 12/28 1810 - Poor, with local weather, dual ID for KIGM and another station whose call I didn't catch. (MS-MB)



1420	KTOE	MN	Mankato - 1/14 0712 - Fair, with very localized news and sports. Not as common as years ago. (JJR-WI)
1440	WDOW	MI	Dowagiac - 1/12 0812 - Good, with Q92 non-IDs and soft AC music. Local ads, weather. Not common. (JJR-WI)
1480	KLEE	IA	Ottumwa - 1/14 0712 - Poor, but very clear calls, over mess. Oldies? (JJR-WI)
1490	KXRA	MN	Alexandria - 12/30 1811 - Poor-to-fair, interviewing the manager of <u>North West Bank</u> of Alexandria concerning possible Y2K problems. Mention of upcoming talk show featuring Governor Jesse Ventura. More talk and ID at 1820 as 1490 KXRA. (MS-MB)
1490	KOVC	ND	Valley City - 12/30 1822 - Fair, with play-by-play of Valley City High School basketball; Valley City ads. (MS-MB)
1520	WLGC	KY	Greenup - 1/14 0700 - Poor, with nice full ID, after waiting 32 minutes for calls, local mentions, anything!!!! Patience is a virtue as this is NEW!!! First new one on 1520 in six years! (JJR-WI)
1520	KDYS	LA	Lafayette - 1/1 2120 - Disney format, numerous ads/promos for events around Lafayette through 2150. Faded out and didn't come back after that. New one here. ID presumed, no call sign heard. (GB-FL)
1520	KRRH	MO	Sikeston - 1/1 1953 - With <u>St. Louis Blues</u> hockey, ads for Sikeston businesses in the breaks. (GB-FL)
1530	WOBS	FL	Jacksonville - 1/5 1743 - Sign-off under WSAI, with ... <i>bringing you the best in southern gospel, WOBS ... 50000 watts ... owned by the Metro Radio Group.</i> Gave address as per the Log. (GB-FL)
1530	WRPM	MS	Poplarville - 1/5 1816 - Sign-off, also under WSAI, and also claiming to have ... <i>the best in southern gospel, WRPM Poplarville now ends ...</i> to SSB and off at 1819. (GB-FL)
1570	WTWB	FL	Auburndale - 1/6 1710 - Local brokerage rep giving the final (bloody if you ask me) stock numbers for the day, to church service promo. Then <i>WTWB news headlines</i> at 1715, followed immediately by <i>WTWB weather update</i> . Good signal; new here. (GB-FL)
1600	KWOM	MN	Watertown - 12/28 2208 - Fair, with music by <u>Nat King Cole</u> , Sam Cooke, Arlo Guthrie, and various big bands. Local ads and ID as <i>The station with unforgettable music, KWOM.</i> (MS-MB)
1640	KPBC	OR	Lake Oswego - 1/4 0600 - ID through KDIA. (GJ-CA)

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

indicates record held from Alaska or Hawaii

* indicates record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska)



1230 kHz:

					Miles
KGEO	CA	Bakersfield	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2444
KXO	CA	El Centro	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2595
KWG	CA	Stockton	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2388
WNEB	MA	Worcester	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale, ON	436
WSOO	MI	Sault Ste. Marie	Morris Sorensen	Leaf Rapids, MB	955
WMOU	NH	Berlin	Joe Kureth	Uniontown, MD	453
WHUC	NY	Hudson	Joe Kureth	Uniontown	254
KVAS	OR	Astoria	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2550
KHSN	OR	Coos Bay	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2425
CJLB	ON	Thunder Bay	Morris Sorensen	Leaf Rapids	711

1240 kHz:

KPOD	CA	Crescent City	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2367
KXXT	CA	Monterey	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2320
KSON	CA	San Diego	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2504
WWCO	CT	Waterbury	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale, ON	417
WNBZ	NY	Saranac Lake	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	272
WKOY	WV	Bluefield	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale	580
CJRW	PI	Summerside	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	*746

Expiring? Time to renew? Not sure when? Need to call or e-mail someone? Check the back page - it's all right there!

1340 kHz:

KXXT	CA	Santa Barbara	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2389
KSCO	CA	Santa Cruz	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2325
WLEW	MI	Bad Axe	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	393
KBBR	OR	North Bend	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2427
WRHI	SC	Rock Hill	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township	476

1400 kHz:

KVTO	CA	Berkeley	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2333
KUKI	CA	Ukiah	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2326
KBCH	OR	Lincoln City	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2497

1450 kHz:

KVEN	CA	Ventura	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2410
WSNO	VT	Barre	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale, ON	346
KBKW	WA	Aberdeen	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2583
WDLB	WI	Marshfield	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township, PA	743

1490 kHz:

KWAC	CA	Bakersfield	Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2444
KICO	CA	Calexico	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2596
KBKO	CA	Santa Barbara	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2389
KRNR	OR	Roseburg	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2456
CJSN	SK	Shaunavon	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#3287

Totals:

	1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	Total
Steve Kennedy Coal Township, PA	44	40	55	48	50	52	289
Joe Kureth Uniontown, MD	35	36	40	43	37	43	234



Deadlines are Tuesdays.

STATION NEWS

640	CFYI	ON	Richmond Hill - 11/30 1630 - ID as "For your information, CFYI Talk 640," into traffic report. Ex-CHOG, CFGM. (JF-ON)
850	WODZ	PA	Johnstown - 12/20 1900 - Good in WRMR phase null with OLD music, ID as "Oldies Radio 850 WODZ Johnstown," more oldies. Ex-WJAC. (JF-ON) [And not to be confused with WREF-CT "Oldies 850." - DY]

DX TESTS

740	WJIB	MA	Cambridge - 12/20 0000-0100 - <i>Not heard</i> , ran remote tape for the hour, heard only an UNID with NOS and an UNID SS Latin American station. (JF-ON)
1420	KSTN	CA	Stockton - 1/1 0300-0600 - <i>Not heard</i> through big mix. (SK-PA)
1500	WFIF	CT	Milford - 1/9 0000-0100 - <i>Heard</i> poor in WTOP null with various tones and code ID. Not needed, QSL'ed on sunset skip in 1977. (MB-ON) <i>Not heard.</i> (SF-TN)

UNID AND UNID HELP

560	UNID	—	12/29 1905 - The Dallas Cowboys Show with Terry Howfield(?), ad for memory aid. (WM-MD) [KLVI makes it out east now and then. - DY]
960	UNID	—	1/1 1923 - While passing by, canned ID "You've found the Twin Peak's best," then the theme from Beverly Hills Cop. Power cut at 1928. The only match by format and time zone is KSRA-ID, which is highly unlikely. (SK-PA)
1100	UNID	—	1/1 All Night - Music under WTAM, so faint that I couldn't tell what kind. Not sure if it was my mystery New Year's Eve station. Anyone else hear it? (SK-PA)
1240	UNID	—	1/1 2224 - End of Toronto Maple Leafs hockey, partial ID as "102.1," C&W. Good, but fading out. CJRW-PI? (SK-PA) [I believe CJRW has moved to FM. - DY]
	UNID	—	1/1 2225 - Someone ID'ing as "Rock and roll, Oldies 104." Sounded like 104, but could have been 124 as well. (SK-PA)
1370	UNID	—	1/10 1720-1730 - C&W music, ads for local drugstore and market,

1460 UNID



mention of Highland County, TC at 1722, promo for high school basketball game, "Community Radio." (WM-MD)

— Re: WM-MD's unID with promo for UPN 16 News: My TV database only lists two UPN stations on channel 16. One is a semi-local, WMTU in Jackson TN. This station is a 100% relay of "UPN 30" WLMT Memphis, and doesn't carry news. The second is WCGT-LP in Columbus GA. This is a low-power station, so I'd be surprised if it carries news, but it's possible that it does. And there is a 1460 station (WPNX Phenix City AL) in the Columbus market. (DS-TN)

1570 WXLN IN

New Albany – HF-MI's unID in no. 13 has to be this, which is in a Louisville suburb. WXLN has a Christian, southern Gospel format, and Bardstown Road runs from quite near downtown Louisville all the way south to ... Bardstown. It is natural that a southern Indiana station would carry Louisville advertisements; the Jeffersonville IN station where I worked for many years did. (KM-FL)

1580 WSRF FL

Fort Lauderdale – This is definitely the one JEK-MD reported in no. 12 using slogan "We Are You." Noted here several times in addition to slogan "Mystic 15-80" and not "Magic 15-80" as listed in the Log. Call ID's are given near the top of the hour. (MD-MA)

1600 UNID

— 1/13 1753 – Fair, two sports for Liberty Works Radio Network, then man with commentary on drugs. KATZ took over at 1800; DX parade in the works here. (HF-MI)

UNID

— 1/13 1835 – Poor with Illinois high school wrestling match coverage. Not WCGO which was also heard (see loggings below), so WMCW? Not new if it is, but a rare visitor. (HF-MI)

LOGGINGS

540 WYNN SC

Florence – 1/2 1805 – ID "Tell it like it is, WYNN Florence," briefly through sunset mix. (PC-VA)

560 WNSR TN

Brentwood – 1/4 1600 – Fair with plug for co-owned WMGC-810, then "Nashville's Sports Radio" mention and legal ID, soon gone to WQAM, WJLS, WVOC. Finally! Been chasing this one under a variety of calls since it took to the air back in '85. (SF-TN)

570 WMCA NY

New York – 1/3 0816 – With "Steve Adams, WMCA weather center" momentarily through the competition. (PC-VA)

WSYR NY

Syracuse – 1/3 0833 – Time check "It's 8:33 here in central New York," then weather and "That's the news from Weather Station ... Radio 5-70, WSYR." (PC-VA)

WWNC NC

Asheville – 1/3 0822 – ID "You are listening to the ... 5-70 WWNC," difficult copy. (PC-VA)

580 CKAP ON

Kapuskasing – 1/6 0643 – "AM 58, CKAP" with C&W, behind nulled WHP. (PC-VA)

590 KOMJ NE

Omaha – 12/18 2032 – NOS music, ad for New Years Eve concert in Omaha, "Magic 590" slogans, poor to fair with CJCL phased. Ex-WOW. (JF-ON)

650 WNMT MN

Nashwauk – 12/18 1615-1640 – Good at times while looking for WJLT in WSM phase null, with either high school or college basketball (All Stars vs. Cardinals). Weak REL station under, WJLT? Ex-WKKQ. (JF-ON)

660 WMIC MI

Sandusky – 1/10 1659 – ID "This is WTGV FM and WMIC 6-60 AM, Sandusky," behind partially nulled WFAN. (PC-VA)

670 WIEZ PA

Lewistown – 1/1 1718 – Live DJ "WIEZ AM 670," into ABC sports. Alone and barely audible on PSSA. I've never heard then after power cut because WMAQ is always there. (SK-PA)

WRJR VA

Claremont – 12/5 1140 – Fair with WIEZ with promo for Metro Traffic Reports every weekday morning "on WRJR." (JF-ON)

690 WZAP VA

Bristol – 1/5 1840 – Toe-tapping Southern music, weather report, local ad, ID. (WM-MD)

WNNT VA

Warsaw – 1/1 1715 – In mid song, dead air, then "This is WNNT Warsaw, Virginia, completing today's broadcast," then off. (SK-PA)

720 CHTN PI

Charlottetown – 12/4 1223 – Fair on east EWE with WWI, no WGN, with ID's and OLD music. Has to be one of my best daytime catches ever! (JF-ON)
+ 1/5 1905 – OLD music in WGN null. (WM-MD)

740 WMBG VA

Williamsburg – 12/26 2000 – ID, "Your oldies memory station, 740 WMBG," good at times. (HJH-PA)

WRPQ WI

Baraboo – 1/11 1733 – Fair, EZL/MoR pop, "7-40 AM Stereo WRPQ" after most tunes. Heard for first time on DX'pedition in Brighton in December, and new here in Midland. WI #33. (HF-MI)

CHCM NF

Marystown – 12/28 2148 – Fair to good, slogan "Coming up, more VPCM Million Dollar Music," ad for Rainbow Day Care and Roy's Electronics. NF #2. (HJH-PA)



750 KBNN MO

1/11 1745 – Poor, boiled up over WRPQ, woman with weather mentioning CHCM, then "CHCM" SID. Program that followed was Dr. Laura, though I can't be sure that was CHCM as a C&W station was in there also. NF #1!! (HF-MI)

910 WSUI IA

Iowa City – 12/24 1857-1902 – Finally heard alone on frequency with NPR program about Christmas in Vermont, ID at top of hour and into NPR news. (JF-ON)

920 WKVA PA

Lewistown – 12/26 1939 – Strong but fadey, ID as "Oldies 920 WKVA," into Chubby Checker tune. Not commonly heard. (HJH-PA)

930 WLLL VA

Lynchburg – 1/1 1800 – Very strong with gospel, ID. (HJH-PA)

940 WMIX IL

Mount Vernon – 1/10 1929 – Doris Day song, ID. (WM-MD)

980 WTEM DC

Washington – 12/17 2101 – Hockey game, New York vs. Washington, fair. (DT*ON)

990 WLGZ NY

Rochester – 12/25 1056 – Alone with NOS music and "Legend 990" jingles. Ex-WDCZ and REL format. Was still WDCZ on 12/24. (JF-ON)

1020 WIBG NJ

Ocean City – 1/2 1700 – Sign off mentioning 500 watts, address and slogan as in Log, and transmitter located at Nadine Boulevard and Route 9. Good signal, no KDKA until power off. Seldom heard here. (SK-PA)

1030 WUFL MI

Sterling Heights – 1/3 1718 – Live DJ, "1030 WUFL, 18 minutes after 5:00," mellow religious music, strong under WBZ. (SK-PA)

1070 WGOS NC

High Point – 1/6 0730 – Southern-accented woman with "WGOS in High Point" during likely sign-on. Her other words were unreadable under a typically strong WIBG. Long-sought to complete the High Point AM trio. (SF-TN)

1080 WWNL PA

Pittsburgh – 1/8 0933 – ID "You're listening to New Life Radio, WWNL." (RJ-NC)

1110 WNNW NH

Salem – 12/4 1740-1800 – Good over WBT with tropical music, to full-data sign-off with instrumental SSB. New. (JF-ON)

1150 WIMA OH

Lima – 1/8 2150 – ID sneaking through on a mostly dead frequency, "News Radio 1150, WIMA." (HJH-PA)

CJRC PQ

Gatineau – 12/31 1920-2001 – Most likely a New Year's Eve news program with lots of phone interviews. Lucky they waited for ID until 2001, as CKOC was atop at 2000. I've never heard any FF on 1150, even in the background, so I'm betting they're on full power. (SK-PA)

1160 WODY VA

Fieldale – 1/5 1930 – Weather forecast by Dr. Dave Walker, mention of flower shop in Bassett, ID. (WM-MD)

1180 WHJM TN

Knoxville – 1/8 0905 – ID "This is WHJM, Knoxville, Tennessee, it's 31 degrees downtown." Appeared suddenly on frequency, very strong, then disappeared just as quickly. (RJ-NC)

1190 WXBH NY

Cobleskill – 12/28 1600 – Fair with WLIB, with ID, ex-WDCS for me. (JF-ON)

1200 WRKK PA

Hughesville – 12/28 1558 – Fair over mess with ID "The Pennsylvania News-Talk Network, WRKK 1200 and WRAC 1400," into Dr. Laura. (JF-ON)

1220 WENC NC

Whiteville – 12/26 1802 – Fair at times, with sign-off after lengthy prayer, invitation to join us at 6 a.m. (HJH-PA)

1230 WSBB FL

New Smyrna Beach – 1/5 2050 – Song "From a Distance," ID. (WM-MD)

WXCF VA

Clifton Forge – 1/1 2000 – Partial ID "Southwest Virginia's AM 1230 WXCF," USA news. Only second time heard. (SK-PA)

1240 WJIM MI

Lansing – 1/10 1653 – Fair, G. Gordon Liddy, "News-Talk 12-40, we're Lansing's weather station," Don Riggs with WJIM News. Only decent in LSB to avoid

- 1260 **WWJQ MI** Bay City on 1250. (HF-MI)
Zeeland - 12/23 1653 - Ad for Ovaltene, Christmas message from station manager, back to Michael Medved show. Not being heard much lately. (HJH-PA)
- 1270 **WCGC NC** **Belmont** - 1/8 0839 - ID, local news with a story about the local airport authority, weak in a real jumble. (RJ-NC)
WLIK TN **Newport** - 1/10 1735 - Good ol' boys discussing University of Tennessee and high school basketball and football, ads for National Bank of Newport and ? Insurance on the Charleston Highway. Fair, TN #21. (HF-MI)
- 1290 **WKNE NH** **Keene** - 1/1 1824 - ID with many others, during a talk show about relationships. (HJH-PA)
WQMC SC **Sumter** - 12/20 2014-2047 - REL talk show, ID "1290 WQMC," poor. (DT-JAM)
- 1300 **WNQM TN** **Nashville** - 1/8 0830 - "Please give whatever God lays on your heart to support Christian radio," ID. (RJ-NC)
- 1320 **WZMZ FL** **Hollywood** - 12/23 1821-1846 - Presumed with talk show in FF, poor. (DT-JAM)
- 1330 **WKTA IL** **Rockford** - 1/3 2203 - End of CNN news, canned ID "I'm (Jim Becker?), you've found 1330 WKTA," ABC NOS. Barely atop mix. (SK-PA)
WYSN PA **Somerset** - 1/8 0817 - ID "... here on 13-30 YSN," very faint, much competition on frequency. (RJ-NC)
- 1360 **WHNR FL** **Cypress Gardens** - 12/24 2326-2400 - REL talk show, ID in promo "here only at WHNR," QRM from unID SS station. (DT-JAM)
- 1420 **WRCG GA** **Columbus** - 12/27 1948-2010 - Atlanta vs. Detroit hockey game, local ads, poor with unID SS QRM. (DT-JAM)
WNRS NY **Herkimer** - 1/10 1843 - Presumed with One on One Sports. (WM-MD)
- 1430 **WPNI MA** **Amherst** - 12/4 1559 - Fair at times over CHKT with program about Leonard Bernstein, ID at top of hour. New. (JF-ON)
WEIR WV **Weirton** - 1/9 2000 - Very good, canned NOS, jingle and ID. Mixed with WXKS and WNSW, a new one. (HJH-PA)
- 1440 **WJAE ME** **Westbrook** - 12/4 1539 - Surfaced over WNPV and others briefly with "Sports Radio WJAE 1440" slogan. Ex-WMER, WLPZ for me. (JF-ON)
WJLL NY **Niagara Falls** - 1/9 1745-1800 - This is the one playing old rock and roll with WWTM. ID's as "Join the crowd, join the listeners: 14-40 W-J-J-L Niagara Falls-Buffalo, Great Times ... rock and roll." Gave ID at 1757 and at top of hour had a funeral home in North Tonawanda sponsoring a "Friends don't let friends drive drunk" spot ... nice! They also wished everybody happy holidays. Excellent tape made and all alone at times. NY #162 (all different) with 152 varied. (RM-CT)
- 1450 **CHUC ON** **Cobourg** - 1/10 1639 - Good, "CHUC 14-50," EZL music, "CHUC Community Booster Club" with local calendar, ad for Dr. John McCloud. They did something - more power, favorable pattern to me? I've never heard any station on 1450 this well. (HF-MI) [This one is higher power than the usual 1450'er and gets out real well. - DY]
- 1460 **WWWG NY** **Rochester** - 1/5 0750 - Caught slogan "The spirit of Rochester, 1460 3WG," in CJOY null. (MB-ON)
- 1470 **WTRR MD** **Westminster** - 1/5 1720 - Listing of upcoming basketball games, ID. (WM-MD)
- 1490 **WOHI OH** **East Liverpool** - 12/13 1844-1900 - OLD, call letters, poor. (DT*OH)
- 1500 **KSTP MN** **St. Paul** - 1/9 0800 - Poor under WTOP with local weather and "AM 1500 KSTP" ID. (MB-ON)
- 1520 **WDSL NC** **Mocksville** - 1/1 1519-1555 - Mention of Halifax High School and "call for applications at 252-4607." All black oldies, live DJ 1555 "The all new WDSL (Grover?) ... Davie ... County's ...," then North Carolina Network news. Mostly under WWKB. (SK-PA)
- 1530 **WLSP MI** **Lapeer** - 1/10 1827 - Loud over WSAI ending satellite-fed sports talk, into detailed sign-off announcement including "All sports AM 1530 WLSP Lapeer-Flint ... with directional towers located at 1150 Morris Road in Lapeer Township." (MD-MA)
- 1570 **WRJQ WI** **Appleton** - 12/13 2144-2200 - OLD, ID as "WRJQ Appleton," poor. (DT*ON)
- 1580 **WRDD PA** **Ebensburg** - 11/24 1925 - On top with OLD music and ID "Oldies, oldies, and



- 1600 **WQOP FL** **Atlantic Beach** - 1/12 1759 - Fair, classical music to top of hour ID "... WQOP Atlantic Beach-Jacksonville," to requiem Mass for recently deceased Sister Mary Rayfield(?). FL #7, on top of possible WAAM. (HF-MI)
- WCGO IL** **Chicago Heights** - 12/15 1936-2025 - OLD, ID as "Music station WCGO Chicago Heights," ABC news, fair with WAAM QRM. (DT*ON)
 + 1/13 1813 - Fair, Kevin Scott with traffic and weather, ad for Miller Buick, "The more you hear, the more you want to hear on Unforgettable WCGO ... 1600 AM," Hubbard's Cupboard nostalgia music program. (HF-MI)
- KATZ MO** **St. Louis** - 1/13 1800 - Fair, up to top of hour with "St. Louis' all-gospel station, Gospel 1600," no call. (HF-MI)
- WBLY OH** **Springfield** - 1/13 1833 - Poor, up briefly with spot for Springfield Parents Without Partners, "Community events for WBLY." OH #54. (HF-MI)
- 1620 **KAZP NE** **Bellvue** - 1/13 1739 - Very good with "Sports Fan Radio Network" and the "Two Minute Drill" short sports program, ad for McCormick's Restaurant in Omaha and other Omaha spots. WPHG was dominant last night about the same time. (HF-MI)
- 1630 **KCJJ IA** **Iowa City** - 12/15 2106-2114 - AC music, ID as "1630 1560 KCJJ," fair. (DT*ON)
- 1660 **WMIB FL** **Marco** - 1/1 2309 - Live band from Indiana, "Saturday Night Dance Party," ID as "WODX 1480, 1660 WMIB." Good, some WQSN QRM. (DT-JAM)
- 1670 **WTDY WI** **Madison** - 12/15 2127-2137 - News, talk, ID "WTDY, top of the news," poor to fair. (DT*ON)
- 1700 **KQXX TX** **Brownsville** - 1/2 0334 - Presumed with Latin ranchero music, very poor under WAFN, traces likely of KTDK. (DT-JAM)
 + 1/5 1853 - Good in KTBK fades with romantic Tejano vocals, canned four-station ID at 1900. UC-style delivery stressed the second syllable of "Brownsville" for some reason. Bumps KGBT-1530 and KIRT-1580 as my southernmost K-call. (SF-TN)
- KTBK TX** **Sherman** - 1/12 1830 - Fair, "All Sports all the time, Sports Radio 13-10 the Ticket," Gordon Keith program on Texas pro teams, promo for "The Ranch Report." (HF-MI)

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

1610 **Pirate PA** **Reading** - 1/5 - A SS-speaking pirate is operating in this area; apparently it has been on for some time, running music and ads, located on the west side of the city. This was also noted on a previous trip through that area in November. Anyone catch this one yet? (DS-PA)



OFF THE INTERNET

From Scott Fybus's "NorthEast Radio Watch," used by permission: **WKZE-CT-1020** rang in the New Year with an unusual nighttime broadcast, pushing the boundaries of FCC regulation by signing back on at 11 PM and remaining on until just after 1 AM New Year's Day, with its usual music format but no commercials. [No doubt to cover Y2K-related "emergencies." - DY] **WHLD-NY-1270** lost its Harris SX5 transmitter in a fire, just a week after cross-town **WJLL-1440** lost its Main Street studio in a fire. Fortunately, **WHLD** had a brand-new Harris DX5 waiting to go on the air at its new transmitter site (diplexed with **WNED-970**); that unit was moved to the old site on Grand Island and placed into emergency service. **WMSA-NY-1340** has switched from AC to adult standards and is now running 24 hours NSP. **WPTR-NY-1540** was to return to the air at 0600 on Monday 1/3, but instead the station dropped its **WDCD** REL simulcast sometime on the previous night and then went silent. Look for "Legends 1540" sometime soon.

ADDRESS UPDATES

- 530 **CIAO ON** **Brampton** - Address in Log no longer valid. (GHD-WV)
 600 **WKYH KY** **Paintsville** - 330 Second Street, P. O. Box 831, Paintsville KY 41240-0831; (606) 789-3333. (GHD-WV)

REPORTERS

- | | | |
|--------|------------------|--|
| MB-ON | Mike Brooker | Toronto - Panasonics RF-2200, RFB-45 |
| PC-VA | Perry Crabill | Winchester - R8, Kiwa loop, 100' RW |
| GHD-WV | Harley DeLeurere | Hendricks - Address changes |
| MD-MA | Marc DeLorenzo | Auburndale - JRC NRD-525, Quantum loop |

JF-ON Jeff Falconer
 SF-TN Steve Francis
 HF-MI Harold Frodge
 HJH-PA Harry Hayes
 RJ-NC Russ Johnson
 SK-PA Steve Kennedy
 KM-FL Ken MacHarg
 WM-MD William McGuire
 RM-CT Ron Musco
 DS-PA Dave Schmidt
 DS-TN Doug Smith
 DT-JAM Don Trelford
 DT*OH

Clinton - Drake R8B, 45' vertical, pair of 120' wires (noise reduced via 9:1 transformers), terminated EWE antenna, modified MFJ-1026, Timewave DSP-599zx
 Alcoa - TRE, Select-a-Tenna
 Midland - Icom R71A, 85' / 170' RW's, 100' broomstick coil
 Wilkes-Barre - TransOceanic, Kiwa pocket loop
 Lexington - CC Radio barefoot
 Coal Township - Superadio III
 Miami - UnID help
 Cheverly - DX-380
 Poquonock - AMELCO R-390A, 2 slopers, phasing unit; Drake R8 and K9AY terminated loops
 Scranton - Local news
 Pleasant View (Nashville) - UnID help
 Runaway Bay - Kenwood R2000, LW EW-NS
 DX'ing in Scarborough - YB305, short longwire



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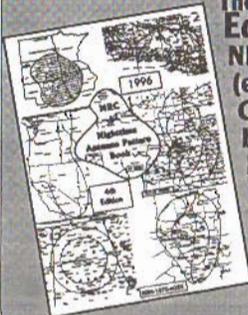
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International Jim Renfrew renfrew@localnet.com

DX Digest

61 Wilcox Street
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELI, subtract 5 hrs.

PLEASE NOTE my new e-mail address: <renfrew@localnet.com>. The old address is no longer working, and an incorrect address has appeared on the IDXD for several weeks (my fault -pls). Half of this column was previously sent out via the NRC web page as IDXD 67-14, but it did not appear in print, so that material is folded into the current print column. Sorry for the redundancy. Some of my mail has been going out as <marquez@localnet.com>, which is my wife's non-functioning address, and replies to her address fail to reach either of us. Please use the address shown above only!

Well, the much-anticipated Y2K catastrophe turns out to have been one of the biggest busts of the concluding millenium. My one concession to potential social meltdown was to be sure to do a large load of clothes on New Year's Eve - so I would have some fresh socks and underwear to see me through the riots and chaos.

Some of you know that I have a real job besides IDXD, and that some of my IDXD commentary is related to my work as a minister. If you want to check it out, look for our web page <www.stonechurch.net> - at the very least you can see what I look like.

Please, please, follow the format you see below. If you report via e-mail, please send loggings in text form, and do not use attachments! Thank you!

Jim

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 153 ALGERIA ENDRS Bechar, DEC 20 0410 - Arabic under RFI Allouis. poor. DEC 28 0323 - Arabic music, good, no GG interference. DEC 30 0058 - Arab chanting/Time signal @ 0100. News AA male and female. [Stromsted-MA]
- 153 GERMANY D. Radio, Donebach, DEC 20 0410 - News/commentary GG Male, medium. [Stromsted-MA]
- 162 FRANCE RFI Alouis, DEC 20 0406 - News/commentary female and male, 5-9+5 Weather-Paris @ 3 degrees C, 0415 - Accordion music with French vocal-simulcast/verified with St Pierre/Miquelon 1375 kHz. Both excellent. [Stromsted-MA]
- 171 MOROCCO Nador, DEC 26 0037 - Good with both Moroccan and Christmas music, some with vocals, announcements mostly in FF. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 30 0130 - AA music F-Modern fast beat included flute, drums? Good. [Stromsted-MA]
- 183 GERMANY Europe 1 Saarlouis, DEC 20 0403 - News FF-male. [Stromsted-MA]
- 189 ICELAND Rikisutvarpid Gufuskalar, DEC 20 0412 - Dance music. Good.
- 198 ENGLAND BBC synchros, DEC 20 0354 - Investment discussion-Interview. Good. Bank of America Official British Male interviewer. New age-young millionaires Its play money unlike earlier Rockefeller years" followed by World Today, World News (BBC World Service) Chechnya, World Cup, 0422 Financial News " Daimler Chrysler/Mercedes-Big truck export discussion. [Stromsted-MA]
- 234 LUXEMBOURG RTL Jungslingester, DEC 30 0233 - Rock Music-Heavy Beat woman vocal, poor. [Stromsted-MA]
- 252 IRELAND Atlantic 252 Clarkestown, DEC 28 0326 - Slow Blues beat with female vocal (English), good. DEC 30 0237 - Rock, fair. [Stromsted-MA]
- 252 ALGERIA Tipaza, DEC 27 2324 - Fair, Algerian music. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 531 SPAIN RNE R. 5, Pontevedra, DEC 31 0625 - Split from national network program into regional program with "Radio Cinco todo noticias Galicia" announcement and regional news, // 558 La Coruna; SIO 232 [Burnell-NF]
- 549 ALGERIA Les Trembles, JAN 8 2310 - AA talk by young woman; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 567 IRELAND RTE1 Tullamore DEC 19 0115 - Surprisingly strong with easy listening music, hampered by 570 domestic splash. [Conti-NH]
- 585 SPAIN RNE1, Madrid, JAN 8 2308 - // 855 with SS news, telephone interview; fair, hotted by Tunisia-585.25. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 603 SPAIN RNE5, Sevilla / Palencia, JAN 8 2307 - SS speech, then discussion; good. Not // RNE1 at the time. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 612 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun, JAN 8 2304 - AA vocal, drums; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN RNE1 synchros, JAN 8 2303 - fast SS news by man, // 684;

good. [Connelly*O-MA]
 684 SPAIN RNE1, Sevilla, JAN 8 2302 - SS news by man; very good. [Connelly*O-MA]
 693.7 AZORES RDP, Santa Barbara JAN 8 2259 - PP discussion; good, stronger than stations on 693.0 (growl of 700 Hz noted). [Connelly*O-MA]
 702 SLOVAKIA Slovensky Rozhlas, Banska Bystrica & Presov, DEC 31 2044 - Slovak talk, old pop/folk songs, // 1098 (much stronger); SIO 332 [Burnell-NF]
 819 EGYPT General Program, Batra, DEC 29 0202 - AA news, // 12050; SIO 442, with extreme fading [Burnell-NF]
 836 AZORES RDP, Pico da Barrosa, JAN 8 2247 - outdoor public address or sports announcements by man in PP; fair, better than Canaries-837 at the time. [Connelly*O-MA]
 837 SPAIN COPE Las Palmas, JAN 8 2206 - Local ads until rejoined national net programming at 2209; SIO 333 [Burnell-NF]
 846 ITALY RAI Rome DEC 27 0230 - Operatic vocals // 6060, very week with WEEI 850 nulled. [Conti-NH]
 855 SPAIN RNE-1 Synch., Good signal, but what was interesting was the same channel interference between 2 or more of these transmitters causing a waving sound. This is how this channel sounds from Mallorca or Minorca out in the Mediterranean all day long. [Dangerfield-PA] JAN 8 2308 - // 585 & others with SS newstalk; loud. [Connelly*O-MA]
 882 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros, JAN 8 2246 - man & woman in SS; to fair peak, in YVYM slop with WCBS phased. [Connelly*O-MA]
 891 ALGERIA Algiers, JAN 8 2242 - AA vocal, flutes, drums; low audio, but huge S9+30 carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
 909 ENGLAND BBC R. 5 synchros, DEC 31 2355 - "Five Live" reports from around Britain, Big Ben chimes to the UTC New Year, champagne bottles popping in studio, excited descriptions of London fireworks SIO 444 [Burnell-NF] JAN 8 2238 - EE talk by man (seemed sports-related); poor, over probable Morocco, slopped by YVRQ/WABI, and hetted by Gambia-907.8. [Connelly*O-MA]
 954 SPAIN R. Espana, Madrid, JAN 8 2236 - woman in SS; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
 981.1 ALGERIA Radiodif. Algerienne, Algiers, JAN 8 2355 - back about 100 Hz on the high side of the channel: bits of AA vocal; mostly a big het against WTRY/WCAP. [Connelly*O-MA]
 989.73 SPAIN SER network station, DEC 28 0522 - One of the SER stations noted off-frequency; SIO 343 [Burnell-NF]
 999 SPAIN COPE Madrid, DEC 28 2038 - Local ID and local ads; SIO 333. JAN 8 2206 - Local ads, rejoined net at 2209; SIO 344 [Burnell-NF]
 1008 CANARY ISLANDS Onda Cero, Las Palmas, DEC 31 2358 - Subdued welcome to the New Year "en Canarias;" SIO 333 over SER stations [Burnell-NF]. JAN 8 2233 - non-SER SS talk; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1035 PORTUGAL R. Nacional, Lisboa, JAN 8 2350 - light piano music, then man in PP; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1044 MOROCCO Sebba-Aioum, JAN 8 2232 - AA / Berber vocal and drumming; at low audio level on huge carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1044.03 SPAIN R. San Sebastian, DEC 27 2339 - Local ID noted in passing; SIO 343 [Burnell-NF]
 1053 MOROCCO Tanger, JAN 8 2349 - instrumental music, then man & woman in AA; LOUD! [Connelly*O-MA]
 1062 DENMARK Danmarks Radio, Kalundborg DEC 23 0720 - Good; man and woman in Danish, rock music. DEC 27 0700 - Good; rock music, man and woman with news in Danish. [Conti-NH]
 1089 ENGLAND Talk Radio synchros DEC 11 2340 - Fair; Dave Barrett talk // 1053. DEC 27 0110 - Fair; "Talk Radio; on 1053 and 1089 AM, this is Talk Radio," breakfast program promo, and telephone talk. DEC 29 0815 - Bits of talk, otherwise just a het at this late hour against WBAL/CKKW. Lately this has been the only signal heard on a regular basis from the UK, as others like Virgin 1215 and Radio 5 909 and 693 have not been coming in. [Conti-NH]
 1098 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, JAN 8 2347 - SS talk with messy growl. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1107 ENGLAND Talk R. synchros, DEC 27 2005 - "Talk Radio Weather" and IDs; SIO 333 [Burnell-NF]
 1125 CROATIA HRT Deanovec DEC 23 2220 - Fair; end of news into Croatian rock music // 1134. [Conti-NH] DEC 29 0103 - Pop music with vocals and coming in better than Zadar-1134. [Dangerfield-PA]
 1161 EGYPT Mid-Delta R., Tanta, JAN 7 2351 - AA talk, Koran to just before 0000, sign off announcement then Egyptian anthem; SIO 322 with QRM from Euskadi Irratia [Burnell-NF]
 1179 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN SER synchros, JAN 8 2244 - SS news; loud. [Connelly*O-

MA]
 1206 FRANCE R. Bleue, Bordeaux, JAN 8 2343 - woman in FF; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1215 SPAIN COPE synchros, JAN 8 2342 - woman with fast SS talk; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1296 SPAIN COPE, Valencia, JAN 8 2246 - // 882 with SS talk; poor to fair. JAN 8 2340 - bits of SS talk; in tough CJCB/WTSN slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1314 NORWAY NRK Kvitsoy DEC 19 0150 - Good; nostalgic Norwegian folk music. DEC 23 0625 - Good; man and woman with news in Norwegian, fading up to an excellent signal with dawn enhancement. DEC 27 0030 - Excellent; rock music, jingle, woman in Norwegian, and Christmas carols. DEC 29 0810 - Fair to poor; rock music on a fading signal. [Conti-NH]
 1332 unID DEC 11 2250 - Man and woman in English, on briefly audible fade-ups. [Conti-NH]
 1377 FRANCE R. Bleue, Lille DEC 23 0640 - Fair; man in French, nostalgia, with hets against St. Pierre-1375 and 1380 domestics. [Conti-NH]
 1467 MONACO Monte Carlo, DEC 24 2305 - Good with choral music during a Christmas Eve program, probably a mass. I know the transmitter is in France where it has always been, but there just isn't room for it in tiny Monaco, which the station basically serves. [Dangerfield-PA]
 1467 FRANCE TWR Roumoules DEC 11 2220 - Fair; man and woman in Arabic, instrumental music. [Conti-NH]
 1485 SPAIN SER synchros, JAN 8 2334 - SS teletalk; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1503 AZORES AFRTS, Lajes, JAN 8 2215 - US football game coverage; poor, over RTTY-type jamming(?) signal. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1503 POLAND Norea R./TWR, Stargard, DEC 27 1932 - Presumed this, news in Nordic language; SIO 242 [Burnell-NF]
 1512 BELGIUM R. Netherlands, Wolvertem DEC 23 2235 - Fair; news in English, "You're listening to Radio Netherlands" ID, difficult in WNRB splash. [Conti-NH]
 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA Duba DEC 11 2210 - Good; man and woman in Arabic, string music // 9555. [Conti-NH] JAN 8 2222 - man in AA speaking in a somewhat echoey room; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1521 SLOVAKIA BBC World Service, Rimavska Sobota, DEC 27 1924 - EE WS program, // 6195, ID at 1930 but then educational program not // 6195; SIO 353 [Burnell-NF]
 1530 VATICAN CITY, DEC 24 2255 - Over/under WSAI with Christmas mass and choral music. I would have added "man in Latin and Italian" but I think he was the Pope! // to 1611. [Dangerfield-PA] DEC 29 0655 - Fair; Christmas hymns // 6185, in WSAI null. [Conti-NH]
 1548 ENGLAND BBC R. Bristol, DEC 31 2114 - Building excitement about New Year, reports from streets of Bristol and Bath; SIO 433 [Burnell-NF]
 1557 FRANCE R. Bleue, Nice DEC 29 0640 - Good; man and woman in French, huge het against WQEW 1560. [Conti-NH]
 1575 SPAIN SER synchros, JAN 8 2337 - // 1485 with fast SS talk and teletalk; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1575 ITALY RAI synchros DEC 29 0650 - Fair; man and woman in Italian // 6060, apparent transmitter site dawn enhancement, although only at the high end of the band. [Conti-NH]
 1584 SPAIN SER synchros, JAN 8 2336 - SER teletalk; under presumed Ceuta. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1584 SPANISH MOROCCO RadiOle Costa del Estrecho, Ceuta, DEC 31 2101 - Flamenco-style music mixing with SER stations, thus this one now appears to be back on 1584.00 kHz; SIO 222 [Burnell-NF] JAN 8 2336 - tentative, SS music atop SER station: likely it's found its way back to the correct 1584 channel from its 1583.6 "drift" frequency. [Connelly*O-MA]
 1611 VATICAN CITY, DEC 24 2246 - Good signal with man in Latin and Italian, probably the Pope, and choral music. // to 1530. [Dangerfield-PA]
 1636.15 NETHERLANDS R. Mexicano and Speedy Gonzalez (joint pirate broadcast), Groenlo, JAN 1 0008 - Disco, '70's pops, some Dutch tunes with very few announcements, but IDs at 0013 and 0051, heard past 0057; many thanks to Julius Hermans and Piet Pijpers in Holland for assistance with the ID; SIO 252-3. My first "new" station of the millennium! [Burnell-NF]

Ben speaks: The last several days have brought a big improvement in TA reception - though not so as to LAs. All parts of the band seem better, and most of the regulars have returned. Norway-1314 is back and stations like Croatia-1134, Slovakia-1098, UK-1089 and Rome-846 are much better. The LW band is alive again, especially Morocco-171 and Germany-183. But my biggest recent thrill came on Christmas Eve when I picked up the mass from the Vatican stations on 1530 and 1611 with strong signals. There was also a nice signal from Monte Carlo, also a midnight mass. Next week my wife and I will take our college freshman granddaughter to Paris and London for 10 days, so I will try some DX over there. Hope all of you had a great Christmas and that you all enjoy a wonderful 2000."

TRANS-POLAR DX

1296 ENGLAND BBC European Service, JAN 4 1644 - FF political discussion, amazingly good at dawn enhancement with possible India behind. Still my only European since reactivating last October. No SW parallel noted and I believe there is none - this is a MW only service to France and Belgium. [Wood-HI] (Our first "trans-polar" entry since we last heard from Brian Vernon - Jim)

PAN-AMERICAN DX

526 BAHAMAS ZLS, Stella Maris, JAN 8 2318 - "ZLS" code beacon; fair in RVC slop. [Connelly*O-MA]

530 TURKS & CAICOS IS. RVC, DEC 8 0204 - good with talk by man in SS, ID by man as "R. Visión" and later as "R. Visión Cristiana Internacional". [Sorensen-MB] JAN 8 2317 - SS talk about religion, law, and government; local-like signal. [Connelly*O-MA]

535 GRENADA GBC, St. George's, JAN 8 2315 - country influenced female pop vocal; rising up to a good level over the RVC-530 slop. [Connelly*O-MA]

550 CUBA R.Rebelde DEC 27 0825 - Good; salsa // 620, 670, 710, and 5025. [Conti-NH]

570 CUBA R.Relej, Santa Clara DEC 27 0830 - Good; syncopated clock, news, IDs, etc. in WMCA null. [Conti-NH] JAN 8 2309 - SS news, clock ticks, "RR" beeps; huge, burying WMCA. [Connelly*O-MA]

570.71 UNID DEC 22 0234-0239 - whoever this Latin American is, it's still here and very weak. Tonight with some kind of live sporting event with SS male announcer, possible ads in passing. [Krueger-FL]

580 UNID, DEC 1 0200 - Spanish station giving two beeps every nine seconds. Could this be WKAQ - listed in WRTH as R. Relej, but as R. El Mundo in log? [Kennedy-PA] (I believe WKAQ is news/talk, but not with any beeps - Jim)

580.7 NICARAGUA R 5-80 YNEA, Managua, JAN 2 1138-1155 - this is the mystery station here. Tune-in to SS vocals, mechanical coo-coo's and "Aqui la hora" followed by male with "R Cinco Ochenta" and mention of Managua. Fair-good. Still no ID on the 1135 presumed Honduran or Guatemalan, nor the eastern Cuba buzzer on 1140. [Krueger-FL]

609.27 unID JAN 8 2305 - carrier with AC ripple; hetting 610 domestics. [Connelly*O-MA]

609.3 UNIDENTIFIED JAN 12 0321+ - rather strong continuous grinder-like noise, much like the 1142 Cuban jammer from years' past. A screwed-up Latin American transmitter, or something intentional? [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]

627.5 unID JAN 8 2359 - het against WSKN/CFCY/WPRO-630. [Connelly*O-MA]

630 / 640 UNID - 630 and 640 both had the same Spanish music at 0130, but 890 had something else. Also, there's no Progreso listed on 630. [Kennedy-PA] (Cuban stations sometimes switch between programs - Jim)

630 HONDURAS R America, Tegucigalpa or Santa Rosa de Copan, JAN 12 0324-0329 - very good in passing with ad string, singing "R America" and male announcer with timecheck, ID. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]

640 CUBA R.Progreso DEC 29 0925 - Fair; carrying R.Relej, man and woman with news items, time checks, IDs, etc., over WHLO/CBN, 0958 national anthem and start of R.Progreso programming. [Conti-NH]

640 GUADELOUPE RFO Pointe-a-Pitre DEC 27 0730 - Fair; man and woman in French // St. Pierre 1375. [Conti-NH]

670 VENEZUELA R. Rumbos, YVLL, Caracas, JAN 8 2359 - R. Rumbos ID; strong, dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]

680.04 VENEZUELA R. Cumana (YVQR), Cumana, JAN 9 0320 - Religion with many up-tempo songs until end of "Voz de Dios" program at 0355, then sign off with 2 anthems; SIO 343 [Burnell-NF]

690 ANGUIILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, JAN 8 2301 - EE preaching from the gospels of St. Paul; strong, well over a messy melange (FE, SS, PP stations) and an unID tone-tester. [Connelly*O-MA]

700 JAMAICA JBC Montego Bay, DEC 1 0242 - Radio One jingle, ad for Jamaica (magic?), taking phone requests. Equal to or over WLW, but not a good signal. [Kennedy-PA]

700 COLOMBIA R.Net, Cali, DEC 27 1020 - Fair; news from Bogota fading in and out with WLW, over an unID Latin American station. [Conti-NH]

720 VENEZUELA R. Oriente, YVQE, Porlamar, JAN 8 2256 - Oriente ID and SS talk about cultural programming; good, over CHTN. [Connelly*O-MA]

740 PUERTO RICO WIAC, San Juan, JAN 9 0431 - SS sports under quasi-local CHCM, seemed to use the slogan "Radio Puerto Rico;" SIO 322 [Burnell-NF]

780 VENEZUELA Ecos del Torbes, San Cristobal DEC 27 1035 - Good; news with Rumbos-like doorbells // 4980, over WBBM. [Conti-NH]

780 ALASKA KNOM Nome, JAN 4 1605 - loud and clear "25 degrees in the Gold Rush City," PSA on traffic rules, winds 20 knots, weather for St. Matthew Islands, bristol, regional weather forecast from NWS office 1610. Earliest Alaskan here, KQFD is a poor second. [Wood-HI]

830 CUBA R.Relej, Holguin DEC 27 0915 - Clock, code IDs, heard through domestics. [Conti-NH]

840 CUBA CMHW Santa Clara, DEC 1 0258 - Presumed with what appeared to be a political speech. Mentioned Santa Clara at 0258 and at 0302, "Viva Revolución" over/under WHAS. [Kennedy-PA]

850 CUBA R.Relej, Nueva Gerona DEC 27 0920 - Code IDs under WEEI Boston/CKVL Verdun. [Conti-NH]

860 VENEZUELA R. Enlace 860, YVYE, Valle de la Pascua, JAN 8 2358 - Enrique Iglesias doing SS version of "Rhythm Divine", then numerous "Valle de la Pascua" mentions in slogans and advertising; good, atop CJBC. [Connelly*O-MA]

870 CUBA R.Relej, Sancti Spiritus DEC 27 1005 - Fair; news, code IDs, etc. among a number of unID Latin American and domestic signals. [Conti-NH]

890 CUBA R. Progreso, Santiago de Cuba?, JAN 9 0357, 0438 - Deep fades but clear IDs noted at these times, Cuban music; SIO 342 [Burnell-NF]

895 ST. KITTS & NEVIS VON, Bath Village, JAN 8 2356 - mellow soul vocal (sounded like Boyz II Men); good. [Connelly*O-MA]

900 MEXICO XEW Mexico DEC 17 0057 - fair to good in CHML null with SS talk, mention of "navidad" ad for Cerveza Corona, ID sounded like "W en la capital Mexicana" into what may have been a Christmas nativity drama. [Sorensen-MB] DEC 27 0930 - Good; la Voz de la America Latina ID, XEW jingle, romantic/pop music. [Conti-NH]

940 MEXICO XEQ Mexico DEC 27 0945 - Good; "Cadena Q, verde y oro" ID, nostalgic salsa, over R.Relej-Cuba. [Conti-NH]

940 PUERTO RICO WIPR San Juan, NOV 10 0059:45 - ID by man, followed by 45 second bumper music, then female with "Nuevo Puerto Rico", into news. This is a big mix tonight, but WIPR, Mexico and R. Relej are strongest. Only the second new station since the demise of CBL. The other was a major achievement for me - WGRP. [Kennedy-PA]

950 UNID DEC 21, 0232-0315 - tune-in to seeming news or local announcements, then fast, bouncy SS vocals, some accordian-accompanied. Male "Radio ———" at 0300, vocal, then apparent ads 0303. Battling it out with R Relej. [Krueger-FL]

980 CUBA COCO El Periodico del Aire, Sapo, Ciudad Habana, DEC 19 1830-1838 - recorded woman "Esta es la COCO, la emisora el Periodico del Aire... 980 kHz y 91 punto 7 F-M, desde la Ciudad Habana..." Soft SS rock, live woman announcer. Very good daytime. [Krueger-FL]

980 COLOMBIA RCN (HJES), Cali, JAN 9 0400 - RCN IDs, news; SIO 333 [Burnell-NF]

990 COLOMBIA RCN (HJDB), Medellin, JAN 9 0442 - RCN jingles and IDs, lottery results, news, // 980 and about 1 second behind 770; SIO 343 [Burnell-NF]

1060 GUATEMALA TGT R Sonora, Guatemala, JAN 8 0240-0301 - fair-good on peaks (mixing with XEEP R Educación and local St. Petersburg-Clearwater Int'l Airport TIS co-channel). Live SS soccer coverage between Guatemalan and Honduran teams, frequent references to Guatemala, then two clear "R Sonora" ID's by the anncr at 0254. Recheck at 0434 with male ID, SS mid-tempo ballad and much weaker. First time I've heard this one, and always nice to catch a Guatemalan. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]

1060 MEXICO XEEP R Educación, Mexico, JAN 8 0240-0301 - in the mix while listening to the Guatemalan. Nonstop classical music. Recheck at 0434, airing Italian opera. Generally under the Guatemalan, fortunately. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]

1090 CUBA R Cadena Habana, La Salud, Habana, JAN 8 0528-0532 - tune-in to end of SS vocal, quick and seemingly recorded man at 0529: "Esta es CMCH, R Cadena Habana" into seriously truncated vocal version of NA from 0531. Fair, and parallel 1080 (very good), 1100 (fair) and 1120 (very good). Carriers seemed to remain on through 0535 tune-out. Semi-odd closing time. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]

1100.8 unID JAN 8 2346 - dramatic SS female vocal; in and out of the slop. [Connelly*O-MA]

1110 VENEZUELA R. Carupano, YVQT, Carupano, JAN 8 2345 - Carupano ID, man in SS with "telco" audio (possibly a feed from an outdoor event); atop WBT. [Connelly*O-MA]

1135.04 UNID (GUATEMALA?) I haven't heard this SS religious station (faded on a post-sunrise log for me along the path of a Guatemalan or Honduran, seemingly) for at least a couple of weeks, so not sure if it's still here. John Wilkins, Colorado first discovered this one, and he

- received this reply to his query from HRVC in Honduras (and as John says, "back to Square One.") — "Estimado Señor: Le agradecemos por habernos reportado la señal de HRVC en ese lugar referente a su pregunta pues aquí en Honduras, Tegucigalpa, no hay ninguna radioemisora en esa frecuencia. (signed) Edwin Mejia." (Quick translation: "It wasn't us." - pls.) [via Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1140 CUBA "The Buzzer," eastern Cuba, JAN 8 0519 - it's still here! I hadn't heard it since the last days of 1999, but indeed buzzing away for a few seconds at a time, and sometimes with long gaps between buzzing sessions. A real mystery as to whether this is intentional or a hosed transmitter. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1180 FLORIDA R Marti, Marathon, JAN 7 0244-0302 - haven't observed this one from Clearwater in years, until tonight. Mostly threshold through the powerhouse R Rebelde co-channel. SS man and woman with commentary on the Elian Gonzalez case, parallel 6030 (jammed), with the Marti electronic theme punching through nicely at 0300. There was a published report (Miami Herald) late last year, stating that this transmitter site was authorized to go up to 100 kW (from current 50 kW). Also, the NRC's "AM Switch" column (Vol. 67, No. 13) lists "Marti has increased power to 100,000 watts, not shown in FCC actions as this station is not licensed or regulated by the FCC." This DOES appear via the FCC dB AM State/City search. However, according the link at <http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-in/amq?pat=13258> this is listed at the old 50 kW, with some antenna/pattern modifications. This information doesn't appear to be dated (the heading date refers to the entire AM Database update). [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1210 MEXICO R Centro XEBD, Jalapa, Veracruz, JAN 2 1215-1225 - EZL SS ballads, man with R Centro ID at 1219, back to vocals with strings, another "R Centro... 6:24..." Very good on the sunrise grid. Another XE on 1190 about the same level at the same time, but didn't get around to the ID prior to fading down. [Krueger-FL]
- 1230 CUBA R Veintiseis, Union de Reyes, Matanzas, JAN 2 1234-1247 - tune-in to the very popular "Chan Chan" as sung by Eliades Ochoa and Compay Segundo (with the distinctive "luego a Cueto voy para Mayari") refrain, SS woman dj. You will hear this song all over Cuban local and provincial radio, and it has received international fame as well (the very same version is the opening track on the "Buena Vista Social Club" CD). Parallel much poorer 1220. Eventually mixing with domestic pop oldies station. [Krueger-FL]
- 1290 CUBA R Taino, unknown (Habana area) site, DEC 19 1720-1804 - seems to have bumped their power up of late, as now it's easily heard again daytime. Format remains SS and US pop/rock, SP "ads" for restaurants, hotels etc. catering to Euro tourists, SS ID, including reference to "93 punto 3 F-M en la Habana." At 1757, a brief, recorded GG man ID/promo, then Olivia Newton-John's "Xanadu." The good old days of long EE block programming (back when this was on the 1180 Rebelde transmitter) are gone, in fact the GG promo is the first non-SS I've heard in ages. When on 1180, they also had short II and FF segments in addition to EE, GG and SS. Also, no trace of the RHC-produced EE news that used to be here (even after the shift to 1290) daily approximately 12:50-1:00 p.m. local. Gone, or re-timed? [Krueger-FL]
- 1310 CUBA Dobleve, Sagua la Grande, Villa Clara, JAN 12 0334-0342 - very poor with male announcer, Cuban pop-flavored vocals, parallel very strong 840 kHz. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1350 PUERTO RICO WEGA, Vega Baja, JAN 9 0419 - Sports play-by-play, ads; SIO 333 [Burnell-NF]
- 1375.02 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO, JAN 8 2339 - Latin American style jazz; good. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1430 / 1440 CUBA R Surco, Moron and Ciego de Avila (respectively), Camaguey, JAN 8 0447-0503* - soft SS ballads, reverb over song from 0457 with closing ("... mi tierra... esperanza... buenas noches..."), then canned closing 0501 by male announcer "R Surco, Cadena Provincial de Instituto Cubano de Radio y Television..." and into instrumental NA from 0502. 1440 generally better, but 1430 up for best copy at the closing (1430 often mixing with WOIR-Homestead, running SS "la biblica americana" format and "Radio Amanecer" slogans, along with local phone numbers, SS modern Christian rock). [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1500 VENEZUELA R. Dos Mil, YVRZ, Cumana, DEC 22 0700 - Fair in WTOP null with SS music and full ID mentioning call letters, Cumana, and R. Dos Mil. South America # 80. [Francis-TN]
- 1500 MEXICO XEDF Mexico DF, JAN 9 0530 - Poor signals with Spanish talk and music. Heard while trying unsuccessfully for WFIF DX test. First new station of the year. [Axelrod-MB]
- 1500 MEXICO XEAI Mexico City DF; JAN 9 0559 - I didn't tune away from the WFIF test as I was

- otherwise occupied, but then I suddenly noted the Mexican anthem at this time, news seemed to follow (though weak), but I did hear an "A-I" slogan. So what are the correct call letters here? [Renfrew-NY]
- 1569.92 HONDURAS TGRF "RCN" R Cadena Nacional de Noticias, Tegucigalpa, JAN 12 0408+ - surprise number one on 1570 tonight. Tegucigalpa store ads block fade-up, then rapidly lost. Back up at 0429, with nonstop news by two men, frequent "R-C-N" slogans (no "R Cadena Nacional de Noticias" heard), and Tegucigalpa datelines. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1570 CUBA R Enciclopedia, NEW unknown site; JAN 12 0412+ - surprise number two amongst the 1570 mix, noted an instrumental EZL (Muzak) version of an old Dianna Ross song, followed by a Cuban-accented woman. I immediately jumped to 960 kHz, and indeed in parallel. Don't recall any Cuban on 1570, so presume this is a new one. Occasionally surfaced briefly later. At 0456 an instrumental Cuban NA was noted on 960 (presumed R Musical surfacing). Also noted past 0530 with Muzak-ish version of "The Way we Were," "Memories" and randomoid piano schlock. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1570 GUATEMALA TGVE R Voz Evangelica de America, Guatemala, JAN 12 0354+ - surprise number three on 1570, tune-in to reverb SS preacher, briefly over XERF's rancheras (initially thought this was R Amanecer, Dominican Republic). Then, at 0401, recorded mane with "Esta es TGVE, R VEA [phonetically pronounced Vee-aaah], Radio Voz Evangelica de America. Desde la capital de Guatemala... R Voz Evangelica de America." Into live chatter, then faded while other equally-interesting Latins faded up. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1580 BELIZE VOA Relay, Punta Gorda, DEC 28 0328 - EE "VOA News Now", IDs and program promos, // 1530 (very poor); SIO 433 [Burnell-NF]
- 1610 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon, DEC 21 0316-0322 - alone and fair on peaks with Dr. Gene Scott ramblings, parallel 5935. [Krueger-FL] JAN 8 0442-0445 - weak and alone, with usual Dr. Gene Scott babble, parallel 5935. Was checking the frequency for Gerry Bishop's recent TIS log of WRD347 Oconee County Emergency Management Agency, Watkinsville, GA, but no joy. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- 1630 MEXICO XEUT Tijuana BCN, DEC 27 0131 - with "Noticias Mexicana" and "Radio Universidad" ID. [Danneskjold-AZ]
- Steve Whitt asks: "Jean, You noted VOA in // on 1580 & 1530. Were they both from Belize? Or was 1530 from São Tome?"
- Jean responds: I suspect strongly that they were both from Belize, even though they are very rare visitors! 1580 was unequivocally Belize. On 1580, the ID at 0330 UTC mentioned specifically that this was the programme for the Americas. At that point I checked 1530. This was, as usual, dominated by Vatican R., but there was a VOA signal underneath it. Sao Tome is the normal VOA outlet heard here on 1530, but they have the African programme. I was not confident about a // with 1580 until the 0330 news ended and the programme went into an item about internet use. I don't know if this was also an item in the African programme. (I didn't check São Tome on short-wave.) I did note that there was no detectable delay between the two signals (checked using 2 receivers), and the bearing seemed to be the same (south-west) for 1580 and 1530 from the K9AY loops."
- Steve F. speaks: "When I noticed that YVRZ-1500 was my 80th South American catch (50 Colombians, 28 Venezuelans, Ecuador-540, and Rio-1180), I decided to check my log to see just when I'd heard them. I knew they were rarities now, but the breakdown by decade took me by surprise: 70 in the 70's, eight in the 80's (nothing after '84), and only Coro-780 and Cumana -1500 in the 90's. I'd forgotten how dependent those of us without a water path were on the North American clears taking their Monday morning silent periods. I remember some South American stations being downright easy - just as soon as the US or Canadian biggie would cut its carrier, a Bogotá or Barranquilla or Caracas station would be the first thing you'd hear. When those silent periods went away, they took a whole continent (well, the very top of it, anyway - that's about all I ever heard) along with them!"
- Morris speaks: Not much international DX since I moved to Winnipeg in early December. Over 150 stations logged, but most of them domestic."
- SE 963**
- TRANS-PACIFIC DX**
- 701 NORTH KOREA JAN 4 1630 KK, inspirational music, // SW 3250, 3320 and others. [Wood-HI]
- 801 NORTH KOREA JAN 4 1608 - inspirational music (mass choirs and choruses - resembles old Soviet music). Very good, not // 701. [Wood-HI]
- 1521 CHINA Urumqui (?), DEC 20 1546 - RR ID "Mezhdunarodnoye Radio Kitaya" (=CRI), report on nationalities, 1557 off with usual melody, 1600 RR back on with ID. Until 1557 was // 1323, but at 1600 1323 went into Hindi (name of station given in EE). [Wood-HI]
- 1557 UNID MIDDLE EAST, JAN 4 1650 - Muslim call to prayer, 1653 talk by man. Good strength,

mixed with possible Australian. [Wood-HI]

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- ALBANIA: Unusually strong signal from Albania this morning: 690.6 kHz - RTVSH 1 (listed Shkodër, nom. 693 kHz, 50 kW), DEC 25, 0710 UTC // 648, 1260, 1359, 6100 kHz. Still audible after 1000 UTC as the only Albanian station on MW - drifted to 690.9 kHz. NO SIGNAL on 1089 kHz (listed Durrës, 150 kW) this morning! [Karel Honzik (CZE) in MWC e-mail list]
- ARGENTINA: A report from DX'er A. Slaen: according to dj Roberto Belo-Rovello working at BBC Spanish Service, it is regularly operating over 1670 kHz in Buenos Aires area, a new station with 5 kW power, at present still carrying irregular tests. [From Conexión Digital No. 32 in PLAY-DX 1048, DEC 12]
- CUBA: The Elian Gonzalez stalemate is drawing (as expected) orchestrated daytime rallies in the town of Cardenas (where Elian's family is from) and central Habana, which are heard on the medim wave channels here. Many nights, the Progreso and Rebelde networks carry the rallies (I think at least some appear to be rebroadcasts). The question remains: will a full-scale radio war erupt? [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga #49]
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: "Por las Rutas de Quisqueya" - an exceptionally fine MW, SW and FM bandscan - was made by veteran Japan DXer Takayuki Inoue Nozaki in his "Relampago DX" (No. 112 - December, 1999). The observations (mostly focusing on Santo Domingo area stations) took a little while to appear (these logs were made during his visit to Hispanola in December of 1998), however it is still a very useful guide which I highly recommend. FM entries alone total nearly 50 stations! His address is QZY07141@nifty.ne.jp if you wish to request a copy. [Krueger-FL/Tocabaga DX #49]
- GERMANY: Mega Radio 1575 Burg, will commense transmissions at the start of 2000. Daytime power 100 kW, nighttime power 500 kW. [RadioRed OCT 20 in Frekvensnytt #8-99]
- IRELAND: Atlantic 252 will close down DEC 31 at 2359. Station's license has not been renewed. In the future this frequency will be used by RTE. [RadioRed (NOV 11) in Frekvensnytt #8-99]
- ISLE OF MAN: Music Man 279 is due to launch next year, has submitted a detailed planning application for the 500 kW transmitter at the Port of Ayre. [Radio Newsletter OCT 20 in Frekvensnytt #8-99]
- KOSOVO: R. Prizren reactivated on 1377 kHz with a Local program. Heard on DEC 23 at 0030 UTC in Albanian with a request program (phone-ins, pop, no news). A number of IDs, a very clear one at 0101 UTC included frequencies (MW + FM). Radio Prizren is listed on 1377 kHz (10 kW) and 94.0 MHz. Good signal, S9+10 dB in peaks, clear channel. The station was on the air still after 0200 UTC, when mostly young people were still calling for their favourite songs. (Prizren is to be pronounced similarly like "prison", not "prize"). [Karel Honzik (CZE) via MWC e-mail list]
- POLAND: TWR announced that TWR programs in Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish and Lithuanian would end JAN 21 and move to 1494 St. Petersburg Popovka transmitter. [WWDXC NOV 12 in Frekvensnytt #8-99]
- RUSSIA: R. Mayak 1544, Murmansk region, monitored on this split frequency during the last two months. Exact location unknown. [WWDXC NOV 6 in Frekvensnytt #8-99]

QUERIES

"I wonder if someone could let me know the identity of the Dutch pirate who I heard on 1634 kHz between 2148 and the end of transmission at 2255 UTC on 5 December. I found the presenter's IDs impossible to decipher, however the station address seemed to be Box 101 in Vriezeveen, and the postal code included "7670." Many thanks!" [Jean Burnell-NF]

CONTRIBUTORS

- @Shawn Axelrod VE4DX1SMA, Winnipeg MB; ICOM ICR-70 & Drake R8, 4 foot unamplified box loop / Quantum Loop, 145 outdoor wire / 100 foot indoor wire, MFJ Phasing Unit. VE4DX1SMA <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
- @Jean Burnell St. John's NF; Drake R8A, Icom R-71A, modified MFJ-1026 phasing unit, K9AY delta loops.
- @Mark Connelly WA1ION, DX'ing from South Orleans MA; Drake R8A, 30-m wire (running east), MFJ-1024 active whip, Superphaser-1 phasing unit. <WA1ION@ix.netcom.com>
- @Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, DCP-2, 30-m east sloper, 15-m terminated loop, noise reduction via 4:1 xfms and buried coax.
- @Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, 4 slopers, MFJ-1026 phaser.
- @Ragnar Danneskjold, Mesa AZ; Kenwood R-1000 and Zepp antenna.

@Steve Francis, Alcoa TN; TRF, Select-a-Tenna. <amdxmail@aol.com>
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@Terry Krueger, Clearwater FL; NRD-535 with diploes. <tocabagadx@earthlink.net> Terry's report includes items from TOCABAGA DX #49 - retransmit or quote only with full credit given to Tocabaga DX and all attributed sources

@Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Drake R8, Radio West Loop. <renfrew@localnet.com>
Morris Sorenson, Winnipeg MB; Drake R8 with McKay-Dymek DA-9 loop on Fgrundig YB-400 with built-in antenna.

@Erik Stromsted WIZBT, Pepperell MA; Yaseu 1000MP, 1500' beverage aimed NNE-terminated, 20 ft. high, Palomar Active Preselector. <microadv@net1plus.com>

Richard E. Wood, Kesau HI; Yaseu FRG-100, longwires 300-1000 feet N/ENE and ESE.

DX'ing at San Cristóbal and Las Salinas By Cesar Objó

This was another tour trip organized by the Museo de Historia y Geografía, this time to some caves located in San Cristóbal, which all the people in the bus visited in order to see what was in there (I did not enter; I spent my time DX'ing for 90 minutes while they were inside). The place outside was the most agreeable one, with a good shadow under the trees, a clear sky, nice breeze, and wonderful, so I had time to DX all alone with no other noise heard all around, just the TRF.

As the place around was in forest into the country and some mountains around, stations from abroad were not easy to be heard, quite the contrary at Las Salinas, where it is a wide place and in a small peninsula pushing into the sea and some low mountains far in the north. Stations from Venezuela were easily heard by turning the TRF. No Colombian was heard this time; I don't know why as I usually hear them at other occasions in this place. So here is what I heard at both places. SC means San Cristóbal, and LS is Las Salinas. The number between parenthesis is the power which I heard them: 5 is a local, 2 is very weak

San Cristóbal is about 25 kms. west of Santo Domingo, and Las Salinas is about 66 kms. southwest of Santo Domingo.

San Cristóbal/Las Salinas - October 23, 1999

- | | |
|---|---|
| 530 - R. Visión Cristiana (3) | 910 - RQ-90 (Noventa), Caracas, Ven. (3)/WPRP, |
| 540 - R. ABC, Santo Domingo (5) (SC/LS) | Ponce, P.R. (3) LS |
| 550 - WPAB, Ponce, P.R.(4) (SC/LS) | 920 - R. 9-20, S.D. (5) SC/LS |
| 570 - R. Cristal, Santo Domingo (5) (SC/LS) | 930 - WEKO, Cabo Rojo, P.R. (5) LS |
| 590 - R. Santa María, La Vega (4) (SC/LS) | 950 - R. Popular, S.D. (5) SC/LS |
| 600 - R. 600, Mayagüez, P.R. (3-SC) (4-LS) | 990 - WPRR R. Mil, Mayagüez, P.R. (9) LS |
| 610 - R. Acción, Santiago (3) (SC/LS) | 1000 - R. Mil, Morón, Ven. (2) LS |
| 620 - R. Televisión Dominicana, S.D. (5i) (SC/LS) | 1010 - R. Comercial, S.D. (5) SC/LS |
| 850 - R. Universal, S.D. (5) (SC/LS) | 1040 - R. Central, S.D. (5) SC/LS |
| 660 - Ondas de los Médanos, Coro, Ven. (3-LS) | 1050 - R. Azua (5) LS |
| 670 - R. Dial, San Pedro de Macorís (4) (SC/LS) | 1070 - HIBI Radio, San Francisco de Macorís (3) SC |
| 680 - R. WAPA, San Juan, P.R. (3-LS) | 1100 - R. Ocoa (3) LS |
| 690 - R. Guarachita, S.D. (Off due to death of owner two years ago) | 1120 - R. Metro (5) SC/LS |
| 710 - WKJB, Mayagüez, P.R. (4) SC/(5) LS | 1140 - R. Anacaona, San Juan de la Maguanaa (3) LS |
| 730 - R. HIZ, S.D. (5) SC/LS | 1150 - Onda Musical, S.D. (5) SC/(3) LS |
| 740 - R. Maracaibo, Ven. (3) LS | 1180 - R. Mil, S.D. (5) SC/LS |
| 750 - R. Caracas, Ven. (4) LS | 1200 - R. Caracol, Azua (5) LS |
| 760 - WORA, Mayagüez, P. R. (3) SC/(5) LS | 1210 - R. Ven, S.D. (5) SC (religious) |
| 760 - R. Puerto la Cruz, Ven. (4) LS | 1240 - R. Barahona (3) SC/ (5) LS |
| 780 - R. Constanza, R.D, (3) SC/R Coro, Ven. (2) LS | 1260 - R. Visión, S.D. (5) SC |
| 790 - La Voz del Trópico, S.D. (5) SC/LS | 1270 - R. Ambiente, Baní (5) LS |
| 800 - PJB, Bonaire (5) LS | 1300 - R. Radio, S. D. (5) SC/R. WTL, Mayagüez, P.R. (5) LS |
| 810 - R. Baní (3) SC/ (5) LS | 1330 - R. Visión Cristiana, Turks & Caicos (5) SC/LS (rel.) |
| 830 - R. HITB, S.D. (4) SC/ (5) LS | 1340 - R. Centro, S.J.M. (4) LS |
| 850 - R. Guarocuya, Barahona, (5) LS | 1410 - R. 14-10, Barahona (5) LS |
| 860 - R. Clarín, S.D. (5) (SD/LS) | 1440 - R. Cristocéntrica, S.D. (4) SC / (2) LS (rel.) |
| 880 - WKYO, Sabana Grande, P.R. (3) LS | |
| 890 - R. Continental, S.D. (5) SC/LS | |
| 900 - R. Mara, Ven. (2) LS | |

1480 R. Villa, S.D. (5) SC / (4) LS
 1490 - WZBZ, R. San Miguel, P.R. (2) LS
 1510 - R Pueblo, S.D. (5) SC
 1540 - R. Oasis, S.D. (5) SC / LS

1560 - R. San Juan, Bayamón, P.R. (2) LS
 1570- R. Amanecer, S.D. (5) SC/LS (rel.)
 1580 - R. Escala Sur (4) (?) LS.
 1600- R. Revelación, S.D. (5) rel.

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DX'ing 'smart', with shared tips and requests by NRC members

We'll begin this time with the last portion of the discussion on longwires and grounding antennas.

Joseph Dube: I do understand that DRILLING through rock in the mountains would be a tremendous feat of engineering, but the nature of lightning is such that it travels from ground up to the cloud (or visa versa depending on the school of thought you follow). It has to go some where hopefully not through your radio gear. As far as the length of the wire to the ground goes, making it to GOOD ground to begin with and using a good conductor to get it there, the distance away shouldn't really matter. Grounding to a cold water pipe in this day and age is probably not a good idea. Most of the houses built since the advent of PVC pipe have resulted in no real connection to anything other than the copper pipe connected to the house plumbing. Many of the older houses do have galvanized plumbing out to the street but some of the local water companies use a plastic water meter. Ooops there goes the ground connection again!! You just have to be as careful selecting a ground source as you do selecting an antenna. In the past I have run ground wires to metal well casings a considerable distance away from my operating position, with no ill effects from the connecting wire's length. In fact that arrangement was the best ground for my gear that I ever had. I really don't think there is much of a difference if the applications are for RF(as I use it for) or just receiving. A good ground helps the receiver dispose of a certain amount of noise build up-static, line noise, etc. If all you have is just the third wire on the electric service, that's all you have! I suppose the next best thing would be to disconnect everything-electric, antenna, etc. that's the only true way to be safe. Here I go again just using up the reflectors space with a few thoughts after nearly 40 years of experimenting with this stuff. Thanks for putting up with ranting and raving!!!

Fred Vobbe: "Someday I'd love to talk to you about my theory of NOT grounding outside antennas during lightning storms." This is true. Grounding an antenna is actually providing a better path for the charge, especially in areas of poor conductivity. What I do is float the antenna, (unground), but ground the antenna feedline at the antenna, and then at the shack end. Never lost anything in almost a strike a year in the neighborhood. (knocking on wood). Another trick is to make a loop, about 18" round, four turns, in the coax. The stroke of lightning is going to look for a path of least resistance, and that 4 turn coil will appear as a choke. It does not seem to bother the HF transmissions though. This by no means protects 100%. As I tell some of the new kids at the station that buy computers and fancy \$150 protection blocks, if it jumps a mile across the sky, don't think it won't jump a foot or more in your home. The best protection is to minimize the damage through loosing the connections to equipment, computers, power and telephone lines.

Joseph Dube: Exactly my feelings Fred. Like I said a the end of my long drawn out dissertation. The only true way to protect your gear is to disconnect everything and head for the hills!!!!!!

Randy Stewart <jrs555t@mail.smsu.edu>: "here in the Missouri Ozarks although only 100 miles away I hit rocks down 1 foot no matter where I try so it is very difficult." Ain't that the truth! Up here on the Springfield plateau it's the same story, solid rock no more than 6" to a foot below the surface... it sucks, frankly. The only grounding solution around here is to lay more than one ground rod HORIZONTALLY (/ / to the ground in other words)... and I just don't have the gumption (or the spousal permission, hi!) to dig up my whole damn yard. So I've never bothered with ground rods.

Thomas Giella: "Someday I'd love to talk to you about my theory of NOT grounding outside antennas during lightning storms." Leaving an antenna ungrounded (floating) is a BAD idea. You have to understand the mechanics/physics of a lightning strike event. A floating antenna allows a static electricity charge to build up. This static electricity charge buildup attracts a downward moving step leader charge. When the step leader make contact with the charge buildup on the floating antenna, BLAMMO a return stroke with upwards of 100,000,000 volts and 1,000,000 amps at 50,000,000 deg C. If the antenna is grounded, even if it's only to say a radial or 4 foot ground rod, this DC ground WILL continually drain the static buildup charge on

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WYKR
 WELLS RIVER - VERMONT
 HAVERHILL - NEW HAMPSHIRE

the antenna, reducing the chance of a lightning strike. Of course lightning has a habit of doing what it wants, including regularly striking any particular location and regularly striking the LOWEST object around!!!. Whether an antenna is grounded or ungrounded, if it gets hit the charge will go wherever it wants. Unhooking everything is a good idea but I've still lost equipment that was just sitting there with no conductive path into it. The tremendous voltage and current of a lightning strike creates an electromagnetic pulse (EMP) just like a nuclear detonation. This EMP conductively couples to our precious microchips and ZAP it's off to the radio store for a new rig. The best protection for an antenna/tower is grounding and a spline ball (porcupine) a device which increases the efficiency of draining static electric charges off of your antenna/tower. I'm quoting from lightning research findings of NASA, Florida Power Corporation and the University of Florida lightning research center.

Bob Ulm <bobulm@im3.com>: The key benefit I've found from grounding my stuff at home has been that it's helped to reduce tv and bci on FM The only time I've taken a lightning hit in 30 years as a ham, 26 of them with a tower at least fifty feet tall came in through the powerlines and not the antenna. The first 21 years were without ground of any kind on the inside stuff and an 8 foot ground rod at the tower and nothing else.

Paul Smith: "Another trick is to make a loop, about 18" round, four turns, in the coax. The stroke of lightning is going to look for a path of least resistance, and that 4 turn coil will appear as a choke. It does not seem to bother the HF transmissions though." Every AM broadcast station I've ever seen, has this trick from the ATU to the tower. I've done it with my cable TV, and all outside antennas, with a gas discharge device ahead of the loop providing a much better path to ground than into the building. We do this at the shop where we have to be up all the time.

Perry Crabill: I believe that all antennas should be grounded when not in use. I connect my 100' random wire to ground through an NE-2 neon bulb so I can see it flash when distant lightning strokes occur. It will also glow when a charged cloud passes overhead, even if no lightning occurs. It will also glow at times during a windy snowstorm from precipitation static. I learned about this the hard way, when I was listening to WSM-650 with a one-transistor preamp, and the snow static popped the FET. At one time I was the electrical protection engineer for an AT&T subsidiary, C&P Telephone, in the Washington, DC area, and learned that grounding was always the preferred technique for protection against static and minimizing the damage from induced surges from lightning and power system faults.

Russ Edmunds: "Another trick is to make a loop, about 18" round, four turns, in the coax. The stroke of lightning is going to look for a path of least resistance, and that 4 turn coil will appear as a choke. It does not seem to bother the HF transmissions though." How about VHF??? would they be similarly unimpaired?

Paul Smith: "I believe that all antennas should be grounded when not in use." There will always be a diversity of opinion on grounding antennas when not in use or during thunderstorms. I can sure see grounding them during P-static situations. But thunderstorms are a different matter. No matter how good of a ground you have, there will always be some minute amount of impedance that can force the lightning to find alternate paths to ground. This may be through your rig, house ground, phone protector, electric service ground. Even if 99.99% of the charge goes to your good ground. What's left can wreak havoc. Since I took a direct strike years ago, I have floated my antennas and have not been hit since. As those of us that live in Florida know, Normal afternoon seabreeze front thunderstorms in Florida produce so much lightning that if the same storm were in Michigan or Ohio, the Skywarn nets would be active, and folks would be headed for the storm shelter. And this is every afternoon here in the summer time.

Fred Vobbe: "The only true way to protect your gear is to disconnect everything and head for the hills!!!!!!" We don't have the number of storms like you folks have in FL/Tampa area, but we have some pretty mean stuff come through at times, and really take a toll. If not the lightning, the high winds usually roast us from time to time.

Fred Vobbe: "I've done it with my cable TV, and all outside antennas, with a gas discharge device ahead of the loop providing a much better path to..." Are you using a Polyphasor or another device?

Fred Vobbe: "How about VHF??? would they be similarly unimpaired?" Russ, You have to be a little careful that you don't get the coil to a point where it's resonant on VHF frequencies. What I did on my installation of a V2000 on the top of my tower is to come down the tower to the base in 9913, just before I enter the shack I hit a grounding block, then make (3) turns of Belden E34972 (see footnote) around an 18" form. Then I go in the shop. If you work out the math on the coil of wire, the point where it will resemble a choke or not band pass will be in the 125-380 kHz range, so it's not going to bother anything from 28 MHz and up. To a lightning stroke, the transition between the heavy cable to the small cable, the ground block at that junction, and the resistance of the coil of small coax, provides a pretty big brick wall anything coming in the shack. Again, if it's going to jump a mile across the sky, anything can happen. But I'm using a calculated risk here in making the whole force of the strike less likely to get in

the house. Footnote: If you are not familiar with E34972, it's a double shielded RG-58 with silver center conductor usually used in couplings between duplexers and cavity filters. RG-59 can be used, it's just a little more lossy.

Paul Smith, W4KNX: I use Polyphasor devices. Have had very good luck with them. Got turned on to them by a friend who's an engineer for GTE Mobilnet Cellular. They use their equip on all their cell towers.

John R. Tudenham: I have heard that lightning usually doesn't make right angle bends. So if your coax makes a 90o bend at the bottom of the tower, will that protect if somewhat?

Fred Vobbe: You have to be careful of tight bends at VHF/UHF frequencies. If it's a tight enough bend, you'll cause some additional losses and also impedance problems by distortion of the cable jacket. I could make it as tight as 6" around, but then I start to get close to making a coil for 10-meters and 6-meters.

And we also have more on the operation of stations'.

Russ Edmunds: I am not at all certain that this problem is restricted to cities. I know that when I DX'ed (as did a number of others, I might add) in a direct line to the Northern NJ antenna far, for many of the NYC stations, there were similar problems. That extra 30+ miles meant little by comparison to an earlier QTH less than 10 miles from them. I think that there can be problems with strong signals anywhere, and that while it would appear that the situation in Phoenix is extreme, and perhaps results from illegal operation, I would be inclined to dispute the suggestion that what Ragnar is hearing could be a result of propagation effects — these are his locals we're talking about. If I were local to the station that started all of this discussion, I imagine that I'd be able to be pretty sure of what they were doing as well. I'm not, and so I can't say that. If I were sure, then maybe I'd be inclined to send a few friendly notes to a few of the stations they would be expected to protect, suggesting what I believed to be the case and kindly asking them if they'd noticed it or had other complaints. Of course, I might also be inclined to send them anonymously so as to not jeopardize the hobby. The other stations might get better results either from the offenders or from the FCC than I would by myself, and they'd have a much better reason to do so. Am I/are we really harmed by stations disregarding the provisions of their licenses? Perhaps not, but our society today is rampant with examples of people sitting by and ignoring blatant disregard for the law in a multitude of contexts, which is just what some of these guys are counting on. But I still think that there are better and more effective ways to deal with it than the original suggestion. The FCC is probably more likely to deal with these situation if proper complaints, properly documented, from legitimately injured parties are brought than they ever are likely to deal constructively with the big-money issues like ownership and advertising abuses.

Fred Vobbe: If anything, we'll find out if the FCC does anything at all to correct the problem, or if they blow Ragnar off. One of my biggest pet peeves about my Congressman and the FCC is that they are like sheep. Someone can be murdered in front of them, and they stand there and stare with a blank look on their face. No reaction, no calls back, no return letter, nada. Ragnar, it will be interesting to know if something is done. Please report back if there are changes.

Russ Edmunds: Somehow, Fred, that sounds like a description of a substantial number of Americans, so I guess we shouldn't be surprised that the people elected to represent us and/or their appointees behave that way. The notion that the people we elected to office were any better than the run of the mill citizenry died a long time ago.

William Loyd Van Horn <katamout@colleges.com>: While this has nothing to do with night power it does have to deal with stations being stupid and the FCC ignoring it. We have a local station, WCVP-600 that runs 1KW daytime, they are supposed to sign off at sunset. They slop all over the band (560-630 is a waste, and so is 1200 with their harmonic). Their tower is about 10 miles from our home, but they are overpowering. They run past sunset, sometimes till around 11:00. Calls to the owner get a "so what" response and a similar response has been met by the FCC. Several complaints have been filed with the FCC and have netted no results AT ALL. A similar problem has been met with our local power company. There is a faulty electric pole near our house that is causing HEAVY interference on most of the band during the daytime. Repeated calls by dad and several others have netted zilch. It is just a shame that most people consider things like this a non-issue. There is little that one person can do about things like this. Just a shame.

Patrick Martin: I hear what you are saying. Apparently living in the NW part of Oregon I have been lucky getting rid of QRN from powerlines. The power co here has been very helpful. Other places are different.

Perry Crabill <pcrabill@visualink.com>: How about night antenna patterns? if some stations aren't observing night power restrictions, I wonder if there are also some who don't shift to their night patterns at sunset. I've been trying to DX on 1550 kHz at night, after nulling near-local WMRE;

KFAB
NEWS/TALK 1110

however, CBE in Windsor is always dominant on this channel. Their night pattern shows that they shouldn't be sending much signal toward NW Virginia, but I wonder.

Paul Smith, W4KNX <sunray2@gte.net>: In the last few weeks, I've noticed numerous posts complaining about wide "slop" on AM stations. As a technical person with quite a bit of knowledge of AM antennas and broadcast transmitters, I find it hard to believe that so many stations have signals as wide as a barn door. All type accepted equipment has bandpass filters in them to keep the signal within the allotted bandwidth. I would find it hard to believe that stations are intentionally bypassing this stuff. My guess, is that the subject receivers are being subjected to overload from strong adjacent signals, and that receiver selectivity is more than likely the culprit. Just my \$0.02 worth.

Russ Edmunds: The practice of intentionally overmodulating the signal to make it 'sound louder' or 'sound fuller' was common with rock stations in the 1960's and 1970's, when the FCC actually did something in the enforcement arena. I have little doubt that the practice is more prevalent today. This seems particularly likely given the 'let them stop me' attitude prevalent today, not just in the broadcast industry. Where we have stations 'forgetting' to throw the pattern and/or power switches when they're supposed to, staying on later than their supposed to, etc., exceeding their allotted bandwidth should hardly be a surprise in an age when the FCC devotes most of its energies to playing politics and cozying up to the biggest and richest of the entities it is supposed to regulate!

Ron Gitschier <gitchzoo@bellsouth.net>: Here, here... The station I've been associated with decided not to go AM stereo (to my disappointment) with its music programming when the entire station's equipment, short of the antenna tuner and tower was totally replaced with new. The rationale was



KEWI
AM 690

111 West South Street
Ft. Worth, Arkansas 7201

basically that we would lose about 10% of the modulation. The modulation is driven to just before the limit of the law, very strong... with no splatter or harmonics. It's very clean. As to the second part of the above quote, I have heard in different circles that 1560 in greater Miami gets away with (44 or 50kw) NDA day power due to the present White House administration doesn't want to offend the strong Democratic vote in Metro Dade (FL) and vicinity when this station tries to project the signal to a potential audience in Cuba. We would sometimes get splashed a lot in Fernandina Beach on 1570 from it at night. We use 500 watts for about 2 hrs after sunset, then it's down to 30 watts, and back up to 500 watts about 6AM. New Englanders have told me that 1560 in Miami interferes with WQEW 1560 in NYC...

Doug Smith: Intentional overmodulation is quite rare (at least on AM). It results in VERY severe distortion, severe enough that nobody would listen to the signal. (when it does happen, it does result in severely exceeding the allotted bandwidth though) Basically, when you try to modulate more than 100% in the negative direction, your transmitter will attempt to radiate negative power. This is physically impossible. Instead, nasty things happen to the modulation envelope and radiated spectrum. In my personal experience, spurious emissions and use of excessive bandwidth are relatively rare offenses. Failure to switch to night facilities is MUCH, MUCH more common. There's an economic reason for this: failure to switch to night facilities actually increases revenues/profits. (even if you get caught, the fines are unlikely to exceed the added revenue...) Spurious emissions & excessive bandwidth waste power that could be transmitted on the frequency that people are actually listening to.

And also the conclusion of the discussion on radio listenership which began in No. 13.

Russ Edmunds: "Radio will have a future ONLY if it learns to offer what tapes & CDs can't. That being timely information — both about the community and about the music." These comments, I think, overestimate the intelligence, sophistication, discrimination and attention span of the average listener. Remember, we are as far from an average listener as one can get. As someone else here pointed out, the average listener listens to music they like, push the button or scan as soon as there's a commercial, other talk, news, or music they don't like. As to the ads, I'm really atypical — probably because my college degree is in broadcast communications — unless an ad is either sufficiently awful or sufficiently good or creative to cause me to notice it, I almost always ignore them totally, and I never believe any of the claims.

Paul W. Smith, W4KNX: I have to agree that either really good ads or really bad ads stick out. Although I'm talking TV here, I would have to give best ad to Publix Supermarkets for their Thanksgiving Pilgrim ads and Christmas dinner on a boat, or who stole the dinner ads as all time good ads. Some of the worst ads I've ever seen stick with me. In Orlando there was a used car salesman named Art Grindle who always closed his ads with a huge close-up of him saying "I want to sell you a car". He later became a politician (natural progression, huh?). Then Tom Stimus in Bradenton FL, who used to always bang on the hood of a car. And the latest in terrible ads is one in Tampa for a company that sells kitchen cabinets and tile floors and other home stuff and ends each ad with 3 guys laughing terribly and crossing their arms like a bunch of apes. In Detroit years ago, I remember Mr. Belvidere, a home improvement company, and Irv Nussbaum who sold carpet. (New York Carpet World). I think every city in the US has someone who does the worst ads, (usually used car ads) that everyone remem-

bers. It's amazing that most of these ads were done without any scripts, any professional actors or anything, usually one take, including screwups, but are always remembered because they are so bad.

Doug Smith: "As someone else here pointed out, the average listener listens to music they like, push the button or scan as soon as there's a commercial, other talk, news, or music they don't like." Yes, because they know there's nothing to look forward to but a few minutes of inane talk, poorly-done news, or the same music they can get on another station. Will they stick around if they believe the DJ will actually say something worthwhile? I would tend to think so, but have sure been proven wrong before! "As to the ads, I'm really atypical...unless an ad is either sufficiently awful or sufficiently good or creative to cause me to notice it, I almost always ignore them totally, and I never believe any of the claims." Y'know, the number of simply *bad* ads on radio and TV has skyrocketed... We (the TV station I work for) accept things you never saw on TV 10 years ago. If they pay the bills, they get on the air... "Lose weight without dieting". "Talk to our gifted psychics". "CREDIT, CREDIT, CREDIT!". Not to mention the issue advertising. (if there's money behind your side of the issue, it gets airtime. If there's no money behind it, tough...) I suspect the best advertising works subconsciously. You don't consciously pay attention, but the advertiser's name sticks in your head, and next time you need the product/service, it pops back out. (and sometimes backfires.. for example, the tune "800-325-3535" - aired all the time about 10 years ago - is stuck in my head, but I can't for the life of me remember whose phone number that is!)

Blake Lawrence: I copied this article to my General Manager (KKSF/San Francisco, owned by AMFM) and his response was interesting. He points out that the decline in listenership has been an ongoing issue that began even before the addition of more spots per hour. Most of the major ownership groups (AMFM, Infinity, Clear Channel) have increased their spot loads on all their stations at pretty much the same time, raising \$\$ to pay for the buying spree they've all been on. It would be interesting if we could track stations and groups that haven't added units (or perhaps have, but to a lesser extent...Bonnevillie comes to mind) to see if their listenership has declined at or near the same rate.

Patrick Martin <mwdxer@webtv.net>: Another group owner is Entercom. I hear they have not added to their spot load either.

Russ Edmunds: Good ads tend to be creative and usually unique, regardless of the medium. As you pointed out, anybody can do a bad ad, and many folks sure do!

Russ Edmunds: "It would be interesting if we could track stations and groups that haven't added units (or perhaps have, but to a lesser extent) to see if their listenership has declined at or near the same rate." Y'd be pretty certain it would be either universal, or, at minimum, common to most all of the group-owned out-of-town and/or satellite-fed stations.

Bob Smolarek: "In Detroit years ago, I remember Mr. Belvidere, a home improvement company," Was that the inspiration for the TV show!! "I think every city in the US has someone who does the worst ads, (usually used car ads) that everyone remembers." In New York it was this ad for JGE, back in 1972. You had this guy saying JGE is only open to union members and their families. Then a voice comes on and says "Hey Jerry, what's the story". At the end Jerry says "That's The Story" and lifts his hands and arms and his shirt goes up and you see his fat belly. Are you the Paul W. Smith that was on WWDB 96.5 and then went to Detroit?

Russ Edmunds: Yeah! I remember that awful thing. When I first moved to Philadelphia, the classic was a men's clothing store, I think the name was Krass Brothers (and the ad was crass). The guy had an obnoxious voice, and screamed. And then there was one where the female announcer started off "This is the boss's wife..." I can't remember if that is also Krass Brothers or not. Ugh!

Paul Smith: "Are you the Paul W. Smith that was on WWDB 96.5 and then went to Detroit?" Nope, I'm not the morning drive personality on WJR 760 in Detroit, although Plymouth Michigan is my original hometown, my only on air time in the Detroit area was Weekend and fill in jock on WAAM 1600 Ann Arbor back in the late 60's while I was going to college. (Basically a glorified board op). Played the WAAM sweet sixteen survey. Talk about a tight playlist. That's probably why I cant stand the music of that era because I heard it so much. Switched to country to clear my head <grin>. Course you know what you get when you play a country record backwards don't you? You get your dog back, your wife back, your pickup truck back, and you don't run out of beer. <groan> I've met my namesake in Detroit. Guess he does quite well there. He has the time slot of the late J.P. McCarthy.

Fred Vobbe: We did an ad at WLIO where there are six monks, all in brown robes with hoods, heads bowed reading books. A very good looking model in a bikini walks by in front of them, but the monks don't even look up from their books. She turns, looks at them, shrugs, and walks off. Then the words come up on the screen "6 monks and no interest at Warehouse Carpet Outlet". <grin>

Next time we'll have information on loop antennas, another discussion of how to count stations heard (this time due to transmitter locations) and we'll share some member's memories of how they bagin DXing and their membership with the NRC.

Graveyard Achievements

Bill Hale phantom2@cazz.net

6124 Roaring Springs Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

Distance records for stations logged on graveyard frequencies



Logged from Jan 1, 1960 to Present

Date of Last Update: January 12, 2000

indicates record held from Alaska or Hawaii

* indicates record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska), when another world-wide record has been established

Station	City	DXer	DX Location	Miles	
WEBJ	AL	Brewton	Bruce Conti	West Warwick, RI	1138
WPRN	AL	Butler	Ernie Wesolowski	Omaha, NE	768
WULA	AL	Eufaula	Robert Kramer	Chicago, IL	703
WOWL	AL	Florence	Ernie Wesolowski	Omaha	639
			Carl Dabelstein	Omaha, NE	(Tie) 639
WMGJ	AL	Gadsden	Karl Jeter	Stone Mountain, GA	103
WARF	AL	Jasper	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln, NE	712
KJAA	AZ	Globe	Mike Sanburn	Bellflower, CA	435
KVRC	AR	Arkadelphia	Charles Reh	Leamington, ON	789
KTLO	AR	Mountain Home	John Malicky	Pittsburgh, PA	732
KWAK	AR	Stuttgart	Charles Reh	Leamington	711
KPOD	CA	Crescent City	Sam Dellit	Brisbane, Queensland	7117
			Richard E. Wood	Keaau, HI	#2367
			Tim Hall	Chula Vista, CA	*742
KOAD	CA	Lemoore	Phil Bytheway	Seattle	792
KXXT	CA	Monterey	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2320
KNRY	CA	Monterey	Nancy Johnson	Aberdeen, WA	742
			Pete Taylor	Tacoma, WA	(Tie) 742
KPPC	CA	Pasadena	Mike Hardester	San Diego, CA	112
KLOA	CA	Ridgecrest	Carl Dabelstein	Tucson, AZ	450
KROY	CA	Sacramento	Craig Rathbone	Denver, CO	885
KKLA	CA	San Bernardino	Carl Dabelstein	Tucson	389
KSON	CA	San Diego	Richard E. Wood	Keaau	#2504
			Phil Bytheway	Seattle	*1067
KSMA	CA	Santa Maria	Phil Bytheway	Seattle	880
KSUE	CA	Susanville	Olle Alm	Abisko, Sweden	4643
			Carl Dabelstein	Phoenix, AZ	*655
KRDO	CO	Colorado Springs	John Wilkins	West Des Moines, IA	621
KDGO	CO	Durango	Carl Dabelstein	Phoenix, AZ	347
KSLV	CO	Monte Vista	Phil Bytheway	Seattle	1072
KCRT	CO	Trinidad	John Johnson	Sheridan, WY	544
WWCO	CT	Waterbury	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale	417
WBGC	FL	Chipley	Don Trelford	Scarborough, ON	952
WEUS	FL	Eustis	Shawn Axelrod	Orlando, FL	28
WINK	FL	Ft. Myers	Charles Reh	Leamington	1065
WMMB	FL	Melbourne	Mauricio Molano	Madrid, Spain	4337
			Marc DeLorenzo	Hyannis, MA	*1105
WFOY	FL	St. Augustine	UK DXpedition £	Sheigra, Scotland	3991
			Andy Rugg	Montreal, PQ	*1157
WBHB	GA	Fitzgerald	Ernie Wesolowski	Omaha	971
WDUN	GA	Gainesville	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln	833
WLAG	GA	La Grange	Dave Whatmough	Hamilton, ON	650
WDDO	GA	Macon	Don Trelford	Runaway Bay, Jamaica	1072
WWNS	GA	Statesboro	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln	1014

RADIO YOUTH

By Andy Ooms

Sometimes I wonder why I subscribe to about a dozen radio-related magazines, listen to a lot of short wave, and have more than an average interest in station formats, AM distance reception, broadcasting history, station history, and pre-solid state receivers. It is not because my career has been radio-related, or that I am technically skilled or knowledgeable in electronics theory. Although I am interested in antique radio collecting, I don't describe myself as a collector. Yet I have a lot of interest in radio and would much prefer a world without television than one without radio.

This description of the radio memories of my youth may explain at least part of my fascination with the medium. Until I graduated from high school in 1956, I lived in the relative isolation of a farming community on the prairie and had never lived in a city of any size or had any access to television. I grew up in the '40's and '50's in a town of less than 500 people in South Dakota. As late as 1956, only 2 or 3 TV sets existed in my hometown of Corsica, and towers about 100 feet tall were required for sporadic snowy reception from Sioux City, Iowa or Omaha, Nebraska. So for as long as I lived there radio was an exotic link to a far off rest-of-the-world, and my inquisitive mind could hardly get too much of it.

How isolated were we in Corsica? It was, and is, a great town to grow up in, but not because it was in the mainstream of national cultural trends (not even then necessarily a bad thing). It had no traffic signals, of course; but that was not particularly unique in small town America. I never used a dial telephone while living there; we told Central which number we wanted her to connect us to. And when I got to a city in Michigan to attend college at the age of 17, I heard of the National Football League, the National Basketball Association, and the National Hockey League for the first time. I don't believe that any of my 21 co-grads of the Class of '56 knew of those professional sports leagues either.

We knew a lot about major league baseball however, even though the nearest team then was 700 miles distant, primarily because of Mutual's Game of the Day broadcast every summer day to those areas of the country not near any major league team, secondarily because of pictures of players like Stan Musial and Bob Feller on Wheaties boxes. Also, our high school classes were suspended each year while we all gathered in study hall to listen to each World Series game played on a school day, as they were then scheduled for afternoons. In 1955, the Philadelphia Athletics moved to Kansas City, and some of their games were carried on a South Dakota station, but they never caught on as a local team for that area.

More on sports—for a short time in the '50's, CBS broadcast a Saturday afternoon radio program, College Football Roundup. It carried about 10 minutes of live action from each of several high-profile schools of that era. In addition to current powerhouses like Notre Dame, Texas, Oklahoma, and Michigan, teams like Navy and Harvard were included. Almost the only other sportscasts were state high school basketball tournaments, state junior league baseball tournaments, minor league pro baseball (Northern League teams Aberdeen Pheasants and Sioux Falls Canaries) and some University of South Dakota and South Dakota State football and basketball games. These were, and are, Division II teams then having limited fan interest in a farm community with few college graduates. Not that any of us knew of the NCAA or its divisional status rules. South Dakota even today is the only state without at least one Division I team in any sport. North Dakota has one Division I team (hockey) and Alaska is blessed with two Division I teams, also hockey.

Last on sports—broadcasts of the Indianapolis 500 and heavyweight boxing, particularly if Joe Lewis was involved, were enjoyed by my father and me.

Although my sisters educated me that small people were not talking and making music in our Zenith console (probably after having given me the idea), I nevertheless obviously found the signals themselves to be fascinating. My mother discouraged radio listening to some extent, (at least the amount I was eager to do) on the basis that it could be a waste of time, that someone my age was not likely to sort quality programming from the more abundant type of programming, and that active mental and physical skills were more valuable than passive habits. On the same grounds, she greatly encouraged non-fiction reading instead of fiction. She also believed that radio programs with a lot of action or emotion could lead to nightmares, fear of the dark, restlessness, or other symptoms of anxiety in children. The term "hyperactivity" was not much in use then, but that is the syndrome she described. She did introduce me to programs she deemed worthwhile (actually they would be classified as worthwhile by almost anyone): the Texaco-sponsored Metropolitan Opera on Saturdays (still presented by Texaco on NPR), and on Monday evenings, The Cities Service Band of America, conducted by Paul Lavalley, The Telephone Hour, The Railroad Hour, and The Voice of Firestone. Yes, even at an early age, I detected a programming trend there.

WNAX 570

My father worked in his general store all day six days a week and usually had a radio on there, so he was inclined to read without radio when he was home, although we all listened to Fibber McGee and Molly on Tuesday, and I listened with him to Drew Pearson and Walter Winchell on Sunday. Fibber and Molly have ever since been my favorite type of comedy. And why do I still remember they were sponsored by Johnson's Wax, Pearson by Adams Hats, and Winchell by Jergens Lotion?

On Sundays, our family also listened regularly to The Back to God Hour, frequently to The Lutheran Hour, and The Hour of Decision (with Billy Graham), and the music portion of The Old-fashioned Revival Hour. I don't know about the last one, but the other three are still being broadcast 50 or more years later with pretty much the same format now as then. The Back to God Hour has yet to make its first request for contributions on the air, making it unusual, if not unique, in the history of religious broadcasting. The Hour of Decision still has Rev. Graham preaching, George Beverly Shea singing, and Cliff Barrows announcing.

Although I didn't listen regularly, there was also a Presbyterian Hour, a Methodist Hour, a Catholic Hour, and a Jewish Hour on network radio as I recall from newspaper listings.

Due to my mother's rules, I was not allowed to listen to afternoon programming aimed at elementary school students. Naturally, I was keenly interested in those programs, and would find out the next day what had happened the afternoon before from those who did listen, or listen at other homes when I was allowed to visit, and would try to be as knowledgeable about the programs as those who listened regularly. Examples of after-school or early evening programs I remember: The Lone Ranger (Cheerios); Jack Armstrong, the All American Boy (Wheaties); Sky King (Peter Pan peanut butter, or was it Skippy?); Straight Arrow (Nabisco Shredded Wheat); Wild Bill Hickok (Kellogg's Sugar Corn Pops); Terry and the Pirates; and Sergeant Preston of the Yukon (Quaker Puffed Wheat). Another trend is exposed: cereal serial sponsorship.

Do you remember when there were four major networks (ABC, CBS, MBS, NBC) and they were identified in oratorical tones, pronounced in full: "This is the Columbia Broadcasting System," almost never "this is CBS?" Those were the days of primarily full service stations—a variety of recorded music

(live music frequently at major stations), network comedy, drama, quiz, and commentary programs, news, weather, and community announcements. Narrowcasting as practiced today with one type of music for a demographically defined market was unknown.

Newscasts were not every hour, but when they were broadcast, about 4 times daily, they ran for 15 or 30 minutes. Another statement once familiar but unheard today: "And now we bring you an interlude of recorded music for your listening pleasure." This was used to fill-in programming gaps, and to cover local or network technical difficulties. Full time news, sports, talk stations? Not until a few New York, Chicago, Los Angeles stations initiated that format in a daring move in the 1960's.

Kids listened to adventure programs until about high school age, then segued toward stations that played popular music, switching stations during the day as most stations varied their programming. Very little broadcasting was directed at the teen-age market, probably because teen income was practically non-existent, at that time (except for the essentials: cars, gas, tires). Some experimenters, as I did, scanned the dial trying for distant signals, or unique or obscure programming, from several states—program content being more interesting than audio quality. Adults were considered to be the basic market, and 95% of them in my area had their radio needs met by 3 stations: WNAX, KSOO, and KORN.

WNAX, Yankton, SD had a booming signal (when I became more knowledgeable about details, I was amazed to find that it was only 5000 watts; it sounded like 50,000 to me living about 75 miles away). It covered major portions of 5 large states, and I heard its signal hundreds of miles from my home, when traveling various directions. Proud of its power, it always gave separate weather reports for each of the 5 states covered. Like many stations of that time, it was owned by a plant nursery-seed company. It was the only signal we could get any time of the day, night, or year in Corsica, except during severe thunderstorms in the summer. And like most stations, it signed off at midnight. It was popular for its farm news, regional livestock market and grain price reports, accurate weather reporting, local news, ABC (CBS after 1950) nighttime programming, and a long string of soap operas daily interspersed with Arthur Godfrey Time, in the morning, extensive farm market news at noon, and Your Neighbor Lady in mid-afternoon with recipes and neighborly chat. I was astounded in October, 1998 to find out from the Internet that Your Neighbor Lady, Wynne Speece, is still actively broadcasting, 42 years after I moved away from the sound of her voice. I didn't really listen to her, as I was not her intended audience, but she was respected a lot, and many is the time I heard her voice throughout my youth in various homes, and passing car radios. She is approaching 60 years on the air.

WNAX is an old station, having obtained its call letters before stations beginning with W were reserved for east of the Mississippi locations, and therefore has always been the only South Dakota station not beginning with K. Because of its far-flung signal, its commercials were for national prod-

ucts. Its non-network sponsors (like most major farm-country stations) were fencing materials, pesticides, herbicides, rat poisons, farm equipment, livestock medications and feed, and seed corn.

Do you remember when big city stations had their own instrumental and vocal musicians? WNAX had several, including the Tunecrackers who would attempt to play songs suggested by listeners, and the WNAX Bohemian Band, which played polkas and waltzes at various locations live, some nights for fifteen minutes after the 6 p.m. news, and for about 4 hours, along with guest or regular country musicians, on the live weekly broadcasts of the WNAX Saturday Night Barn Dance.

KSOO, Sioux Falls, SD was listened to because Sioux Falls was the major city in the state (about 100 miles away and traveled to frequently for shopping), and it had good news and farm markets programming. Its sponsors tended to be farm products or Sioux Falls retailers. It was not network-affiliated for some time and signed off at sunset so its influence was limited compared to WNAX.

KORN, Mitchell, SD, a 250 watt Mutual affiliate 40 miles away, was big in our town. The call letters were appropriate as Mitchell is the home of the world famous one and only Corn Palace. Mitchell's adult amateur baseball team was the Cobs; the junior team was the Kernels; its radio station was, and is, KORN.

The station had news, sports, and weather that covered our area. Being Mutual, it carried Queen for a Day, the daily major baseball game in the summer, the after-school adventures of Wild Bill Hickok, and Straight Arrow, and later, Bob and Ray. On Sunday, it had the afternoon suspense and adventure programming lineup that included The Green Hornet, and The Shadow. It had primarily local sponsors so its supermarket specials caused some to drive to Mitchell for grocery shopping (not enthusiastically appreciated by our grocer's family). And being Mutual, it had no all-day lineup of soap operas, so it had a lot of local recorded pop music (with, among others, later-to-be-famous on Laugh-In disk jockey, Gary Owens). It had music all afternoon, the prosaically named 1490 Club (it was at 1490 on the dial) and in the morning it broadcast Requestfully Yours, which carried dedications of the latest songs (Irene, Goodnight; On Top of Old Smoky; How Much is That Doggie in the Window) from people we might know to other people we might know celebrating birthdays or anniversaries. It was the only station the radio in our store could get due to fluorescent light interference, and since I worked in that store almost full-time after I started high school, it was a large part of my life. Due to its low power, it was not usually listenable after sunset. When the Mutual broadcast of the commentary of Fulton Lewis came on KORN at 6:15 p.m., it was time to start turning off the lights and close up and head home for the night, except on Saturday night which was too busy for radio listening for us anyway.

Regional stations for us included ones in Minneapolis, MN, Sioux City, IA, Omaha, NE, Jamestown, Fargo, and Bismarck in North Dakota plus several other smaller city signals in those adjoining states. I listened to almost all of them to some degree; few others did as it was a little work to find them, and naturally their signals were relatively weak compared to the South Dakota ones.

Daytime listening really was rather limited compared to that available to people in large cities, due to a scarcity of stations, the distance between towns with stations, and the number of small powered stations, as appropriate for small towns. Although daytime only stations still exist on the medium wave (AM) band, there seemed to be many more of them then, and I always found them quaintly interesting. Their end-of-day programs called for creative scheduling as the end of day could come anywhere from about 4:00 to about 8:30 p.m.

Nighttime listening was a different matter, of course. WNAX was the only South Dakota station available as the others signed off at sunset, or didn't have enough power to send a clear signal to our town. But at night, we could usually hear good signals from several Chicago stations (more about them coming up) plus WWL, New Orleans; KSL, Salt Lake City; KOB, Albuquerque; KXEL, Waterloo; KVOO, Tulsa; KOMA, Oklahoma City; KOA, Denver; KRLD, Dallas; WOAI, San Antonio; WBAP, Fort Worth; and the exotic to me Mexican stations, XERF, with a Del Rio mailing address, and XELO, across the border from El Paso. The Mexicans were 150,000 watters, 3 times the United States stations' allowable power, so they broadcast in English with a northward directed antenna pattern and I am told could be heard to some extent in all the lower 48 states and some of the Canadian provinces.

Never did I get stations west of Salt Lake City, or east of WLV, Cincinnati; no Detroit, Cleveland, Philadelphia, or New York sounds. Even the other two states sharing part of a border with South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana, were never heard in my far eastern part of the state. And surprisingly, although I caught Mexico about every night I tried, I never got a Canadian station.

My research was exhaustive, if not exhausting. The majority of stations, even if broadcasting at night, signed off at midnight or close to it, and signed on around 6:00 a.m., (remember the Star Spangled Banner and sonorous announcements accompanying it at sign-off and sign-on? remember some stations having a sermonette, prayer, or Scripture reading at the beginning or end of the broadcast day?) so the midnight to dawn stretch was great for clear signals from the few but powerful all night stations.



Most mornings I was awake and listening at 5:00 catching the farm reports and wake-up music from around the middle states, waiting for the rational members of the family and the rest of the town to wake up, (although the farm kids were mostly up and milking by then, unable to understand someone voluntarily getting up that early). Some nights, I was awake an hour or two during the night listening to far-off signals.

When I was 11 or 12, I ran into a White's Radio Log. I immediately memorized the call letters, frequency, power, affiliation, and schedule of all the South Dakota stations. All 15 of them. Some I never did hear due to distance and low power. Only one, WNAX, could be counted on to have a listenable night time signal to my town.

I also developed an interest in network programming and generally tried to keep track of which programs were on each of the four majors, whether or not I could get them locally. Night programming was fairly well known to most people, due to magazine and newspaper references and word of mouth. But I was interested in daytime programming as well. In addition to the huge line-up of soaps on CBS and NBC, including the unique dynastydom of One Man's Family, do you remember Grand Central Station, Queen for a Day, Arthur Godfrey Time, Art Linkletter's House Party and the Breakfast Club with Don McNeil?

My 11-year-old mind presumed that the number of networks was permanently established, and that 4 was the appropriate number, but one day scanning the dial, I heard a fifth network—Liberty Broadcasting System. I only heard it on one small station in Sioux Falls, and it disappeared after a year or two, but it was a cheerful surprise to me when I first heard it soon after it was born. It shamelessly imitated Mutual with a baseball game of the day, and did so with a teletype game report to an announcer in a studio, but on the theory that two of a good thing is better than one of a good thing, I didn't mind at all. It did exist in the early 1950's, but running across people who remember it is a seldom occurrence. I don't know what programming it had beside baseball; the only other program I ever heard on it was a network disc jockey, in itself a rare occurrence as disc jockey programs were usually local.

NPR did not exist. But we could get good and unique programming from stations owned by the University of South Dakota and Iowa State University.

Who would have dreamed that one day the NBC, CBS, and Mutual networks would all be the same company, as they are today owned by Westwood? (General Electric owns NBC television but sold its radio business to Westwood; Westinghouse bought CBS, changed its name to CBS, and sold its radio properties to Westwood, which has owned Mutual for a long time. The last I heard NBC is used to identify only a few newscasts per day on a few stations, which newscasts are identical to CBS newscasts except for the NBC or CBS identifiers).

Why some stations carried mostly commercials for national products (Oxydol, Duz, Johnson's Wax) and others usually carried ads for local grocery stores and other businesses intrigued me. Only recently have I figured out that the major factor was strength of signal—a store's management would not want to pay the higher rates a more powerful station can command to advertise its specials and services to an audience 300 miles away.

In the days before demographics and narrowcasting, most stations were full-service, which means that they had a lot more programming variety, and were mostly adult-oriented, except for an hour or two after school. Network and local programming was dominated by religious broadcasts until at least noon on Sunday. To broadcast a secular program too early in the day Sunday was considered sacrilegious. Interestingly even now, some Central American countries (Dominican Republic is one) prohibit rock and roll broadcasting during the week before Easter. Some rock stations there switch to ballads, classical, or religious music; others sign-off for the week.

At about noon on Sundays, stations here switched from religion to news, interview, commentary, and classical music (both CBS and NBC had their own orchestras of excellent caliber and reputation); programs considered to be serious, worthwhile. The Greatest Story Ever Told ran mid-afternoon on ABC later in the day (earlier in the day as time went on); Sunday programming became as secular as weekdays, with comedy, drama, and game programs. Mutual had a fantastic line-up of mystery and adventure shows on Sunday afternoons, like The Shadow, and The Green Hornet.

And although they were not of much interest to me, I remember that from 10:30 p.m. till midnight every weekday night, the networks carried live dance bands from various ballrooms and hotels, such as the Cocacabana, the Waldorf Astoria, the Coconut Grove, and other Statlers and Hiltons in large cities. It seems like for years and years Vincent Lopez and his orchestra were on Mutual every night from I don't know where. The other networks had a little more variety, it seems to me. I don't remember ever hearing of Vincent Lopez before or after or in any other context.

About Chicago—my grandmother and many uncles, aunts, and cousins lived there. So we usually



spent one week there each summer, and although I spent most of my time with relatives being royally entertained with visits to museums and zoos, I had time to notice a few details about the Chicago version of big city radio. At night in South Dakota, I could usually get the big ones—WGN, WMAQ, WBBM, and WENR/WLS. I believe that I received WJJD occasionally, and maybe WCFL.

But being live in Chicago, I also encountered for the first time ethnic broadcasting (1240 on the AM dial probably broadcast 12 languages a week, primarily European), and the unusual concept of a full-time Christian station (WMBI, owned by the Moody Bible Institute). Most religious broadcasts in radio's early days were part of secular stations' programming.

I didn't take the time to listen to radio that much in Chicago, but I read the *Tribune* schedules and still remember the programming of WIND: instead of 15 minute soaps, it had 15 minute segments of recorded artists all day—a quarter hour each of Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, Jo Stafford, Rosemary Clooney and so on, the schedule repeated day after day. I still wonder how many times per week some of those songs were heard, although I know Sinatra probably had enough recordings to go for days without repetition, almost.

Another thing that intrigued me about Chicago radio was that it was there that I ran into my first examples of shared frequencies. WLS and WENR both at 890 on the dial; why 2 sets of call letters? It was many years later before I found out why that occurred. And the aforementioned 1240 on the dial: a real mind-blower to me, WSBC, WEDC, and WCRW and all broadcasting foreign languages almost all the time.

On one of my trips to Chicago, my uncle, proprietor of a radio shop, gave me a car trunk-full of working used radios to take back to South Dakota. About then farms were getting wired for 110 volt AC electricity for the first time, so I began a modest used radio business, selling used radios, many of which were used in barns so farmers could hear markets, news, and weather while milking and doing other chores. I paid \$4.00 per year for a sign in the barber shop advertising my business. I did some minor repairs (replacing tubes, soldering loose connections, exchanging speakers), and by the time I graduated from high school, our basement was pretty full of radios, phonographs, and parts.

I did get a little personal airtime exposure, as the announcer for our church's weekly taped broadcast of *The Bread of Life* on KORN during my last year or two of high school.

Then I left for college, didn't have time for hobbies due to school and the Army for 7 years, transistors replaced tubes, and my career turned out to be unrelated to electronics, although I worked the control board weekends for WKLV-FM, Grand Rapids, MI for a year or so while a student.

Why haven't I mentioned listening to FM? Well, there was not one FM station in South Dakota when I lived there, and I never missed it because, after all, I never got done listening to AM. I saw an FM antenna on my cousin's house in Illinois, but he couldn't satisfactorily explain its purpose to me, especially in a city with about two dozen AM stations.

So, where did I get my extreme interest in radio along with an enjoyment of unsophisticated humor? Well, what can we expect of a lad literally growing up between WOW (Omaha, NE, 590 on the dial) and KORN (Mitchell, SD, 1490 on the dial)?

Memories of Times Gone By with the NRC

By César Objío

(Publisher's note: César has become a respected author in the Dominican Republic with the publication of two books dealing with the history of Bani, his home town, and the second of a historical figure from Bani.)

I really enjoyed Target DX by Dave Braun in *DX News* No. 8, recalling those times gone by, when those guys talked about the '60's and their best listening places. I can say that the best place I have ever had is my home town Bani, where during the '50's I could hear on the 60- and 49-meter bands short-wave stations from Colombia and Venezuela in the day (I did not have an MW band then, just a one-band Philips radio, from 90 to 30 meter bands) and I really enjoyed it.

With another set then I could hear some U.S. stations as local in the evenings at Bani. They were CKLW-800 from Windsor, Ontario. WOAI-1200, San Antonio, Texas, WLCY-1380 in St. Petersburg, Florida, and WCKY-1530 Cincinnati, Ohio. Radio Belgrano-950 from Buenos Aires, Argentina, was a usual local in the evenings as well as XERF-1570 from Ciudad Acuña, Mexico, and XEW on 940. Yes, you can say that they were powerhouses; yes, they were, but I was not really DX'ing, I was just listening to the best stations heard in the band, apart from the shortwaves.

One night I was surprised to hear a station ID'ing: as "El Heraldo del Chocolate Abuelita" in the 1300's kHz. I did not believe it, but when I checked with the WRTH it was true, that was a Mexican station. And stations from Cuba, Venezuela, and Colombia were usual in the evenings. There were persons at Bani who used to listen to soap operas (novelas) from CMQ every night as they were the best on radio at that time. Those were the days when the dial was free from the actual flood of stations we have now, preventing us from listening to faraway stations. Now DX is really difficult.

Then came my contact with Sveriges Radio. I became a collaborator to Radio Sweden and even started to learn their language, which I stopped. I don't know why.

I used to receive DX RADIO, a magazine printed in Stockholm, all in Swedish. I sent my collaborations and had very good friends there; the best one was Ernst Lilliegren, who passed away a long time ago, which I regretted a lot. At that time, during the '60's and '70's, I became for them "their man in Latin America". And many were the articles I wrote for their magazine about stations in my country and shortwave information about Latin America. Only that shortwave right now is almost forgotten due to the arrival of FM and satellites. But at those times we had very good catches in S.W. as when I got Karachi, Pakistan, on a Sunday afternoon.

The article brought back very pleasant memories with the names of John Callarman, Gordon Nelson, and Russ Edmunds. In 1966 I prepared my first list of Dominican radio stations, as I traveled the whole country to do that, and I did not know where to publish it, so somebody (sorry, but I don't remember the name) recommended me to get in touch with John Callarman and the NRC in Boston.

That is how I heard about NRC. They published my list (by mimeograph, as it was then) and I became hooked with the club. Then happened my first visit to Boston and the 1968 Convention where I met all those crazy guys like me who spent their time twiddling the dials during the night. One part of the Convention program was to visit a mountain near Boston in the night in order to DX away from the noise of the city. It was dark, as in the car we were going up in had trouble, and we had to continue on foot, but I could not see where to step on as it was terribly dark.

When we arrived at the top they had lights there (sigh) and we started DX'ing. That was before the TRE, and I did not have a portable set so I had to depend on what others were doing with their HQ-180's. The only Dominican station I heard was La Voz de las Fuerzas Armadas on 1597 kHz, and I told them that the station was on that frequency because the radio receiver of the director of the station could not get it on 1600 as it was out of his receiver, so he asked the engineer to move the frequency a little inside so he could get it in his receiver. Everybody laughed as they heard that.

But nothing important was heard that night, so we had to return with logs empty. Gordon Nelson had prepared for me a big loop antenna that was used in the Convention, and after that he said that it had been prepared as semi-portable and that I could take it with me to Santo Domingo, and I did; he disassembled it for me. I really enjoyed its use with my Lafayette HE-30 and the loop and many good catches I made with it. I still have it in my radio shack.

I remember I was received at Kennedy Airport by Bob Foxworth and Ernie Cooper; I slept that night at a friend's house, but Ernie took care of everything, and I travelled with him to Boston, but returned with Russ Edmunds to New York. That was the first and only time I visited Boston due to the courtesy of a friend of mine who lived at Peabody, Mass. I met there a lot of very good friends that I haven't forgotten even though I don't where they are now.

At that Convention there were some talks of merging NRC and IRCA, but I don't know what happened at the end, as there was no merging at all.

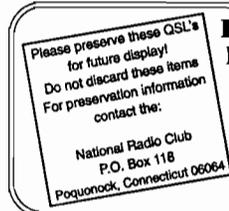
My advantage was that I had learned English at home by reading books and listening to VOA on shortwave because of the speaker's good pronunciation, quite different from the BBC, which I could not understand at the beginning. So I did not had trouble communicating with everybody in the U.S.

My second Convention was at New Jersey in 1970, where I went with my wife, then to Miami in 1972 with Ronald Schatz, my good old friend.

Oh, those were the good old days then; thank you very much, for reminding me of all that.



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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 veries, 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.

International DX Achievements

Paul Swearingen plsBCBDXER@AOL.com
2840 SE Illinois Avenue
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International DX verie/taped totals listed by continents

Year Started	DX'er	Location	Last Update	Total SA	Total Veried	Ctries	Foreign	NA	Eur	Oc	Af	As
1933	Geary, Kermit	PA	1993	243	6190	107	988	512	147	61	23	2
1933	Cooper, Ernest	NY-MA	1980	131	4142	79	760	528	88	7	6	0
1950	Krejny, Edward	OH	1996	126	2733	76	441	208	91	6	10	0
1938	Anderson, Roger A.	VA/NY/PA	1993	78	1448	105	514	227	128	48	28	5
1940	Morss, Stan	MA	1993	65	3922	84	424	218	221	1	14	3
1946	Moore, Ray	MA	1993	52	245	104	245	95	59	8	24	7
1960	Rugg, Andy	QC	1999	48	1747	71	208	87	66	0	6	1
1958	Merriman, Alan	VA	1994	47	1615	93	368	212	88	3	14	4
1958	Dangerfield, Ben	PA	1999	44	431	127	332	85	151	8	33	10
1962	Edmunds, R. J. (taped)	NJ	1998	37	897	43	56	50	14	0	0	1
1952	Schiller, Ron	NJ	1999	34	2103	86	254	136	72	1	8	3
1954	Starr, Jerry	OH	1974	34	1209	51	194	134	20	3	3	0
1967	Wood, Dr. Richard E.	LA	1970	27	629	51	551	515	2	76	0	26
1973	Sgrulletta, John	NY	1998	24	64	54	64	24	19	0	3	3
?	Callaman, John	?	1970	20	740	50	138	72	17	20	3	6
1975	Swearingen, Paul (taped)	KS	2000	16	775	22	95	43	0	0	0	0
1931	Steele, Sid	IL	1998	12	3101	36	299	104	2	8	0	1
1963	Scrimgeour, Gray	CA/ON	1971	10	526	47	440	354	18	31	1	26
1958	Phillips, Dan	TN/AL	1974	9	567	26	40	21	5	3	1	0
1958	Wesolowski, Ernie	NE	1999	8	2222	32	103	85	0	7	1	2
1931	Wheeler, Frank	PA	1993	7	1885	25	78	68	1	2	0	0
1976	Renfrew, Jim	NY	1998	7	400	40	67	44	0	0	0	0
1976	Froemming, Gary	AZ	1994	7	338	17	92	85	0	1	0	0
1964	Reynolds, Bruce	MO	1977	6	1103	28	121	111	2	2	0	0
?	Sampson, John	NJ	1965	6	445	54	72	23	38	1	3	1
1962	Musco, Ron	CT	1999	5	1295	49	54	40	10	0	2	1
1931	Holland, George B., Jr.	NY	1996	5	885	22	58	46	5	2	0	1
1947	Luton, Relfe	NC	1973	4	1049	23	142	102	3	33	0	0
1955	Palmer, Richard D.	IL	1993	4	822	33	94	77	10	2	1	0
?	Fela, Joseph	NJ	1965	4	738	24	35	19	11	0	1	0
1977	Wolfish, Niel	ON	1977	4	397	11	20	14	2	0	0	0
1964	Heinen, Wayne	NY/CJ	1996	3	1470	38	38	26	5	2	0	2
1962	Edmunds, R. J. (paper)	NJ	1998	3	266	7	13	10	0	0	0	0
1966	Bruner, Jesse R.	KY	1966	3	132	23	27	17	5	2	0	0
1967	Floden, Eric	ONT	1970	3	93	16	65	61	0	0	0	0
1969	Falconer, Jeff	ON	1999	2	1064	22	20	14	2	2	0	0
1952	McIntosh, Eric	NZ	1965	2	686	63	635	301	45	253	4	81
1973	Mount, Paul	NJ	1995	2	230	6	25	22	0	0	0	0
1964	Whatmough, Dave	ON	1994	1	1014	13	15	6	2	6	0	0
1964	Sorensen, Morris	ON/MB	1975	1	537	13	385	375	9	0	0	0
1965	Kadet, Jeff	MD	1969	0	703	12	41	39	0	2	0	0
1968	Bytheway, Phil	WA	1982	0	457	9	20	0	0	0	0	0
?	Dellit, Sam	Australia	1978	0	362	37	218	109	5	80	1	23
1969	Karchevski, Bob	MA/CA	1975	0	204	24	141	112	0	6	0	0
1965	Long, John	CT	1968	0	101	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
1964	Edmunds, R. J.	NY	1999	0	76	3	1	1	0	0	0	0
1975	Bartek, Daniel, Jr.	NE	1976	0	23	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
1960	Lynch, Don	MA	1980	0	0	9	157	0	0	0	0	0

Feel free to send in your updated totals in time for the next IDXA; you probably have 3-4 weeks. Remember, only taped or paper veries are counted, and mainland U. S. and Canadians are not included in NA totals. Include your best catch from each continent and all other totals when reporting. Our next column will feature all Foreign totals.

Sunrise-Sunset Maps

Monthly maps (12) showing the average monthly sunrise/sunset times for the U. S.; customize them for your location. \$3.00 for NRC members (\$4.50, non-members). Order from NRC Publications; NY residents, add sales tax.



Musings

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of the Members

Times are local per Muse; submit double-spaced only.

Thoughts from NRC members ... the opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.

Mike Hawk - San Jose, CA

Well, it has probably been about 3 years since I last submitted an entry to this column, so I'm long overdue for a re-intro. I've been living in the Bay Area for about 2 years now, and really haven't been all that active DX'ing since my move. DX here really pales in comparison to Omaha, NE and Reston, VA, my previous two places residence. Seems like all I hear are California stations, and I've had little luck in the expanded band due to many CA stations and TIS/HAR's. And FM is really poor due to the geography and geology of the area. In any event, I've recently become active again trying to make the best of it, shooting for Alaska and Hawaii, which I was never able to hear in either NE or VA. I use an ICOM R70 w/ a Kiwa Loop. As for life outside of DX, I'm "principal engineer" at an international telecom/internet company. It's a great job, but long hours have lead to some carpal tunnel-like problems in my hands. 73's

Bill Moser - PO Box 465 - Fort Pierre, SD 57532 - <<wcmfort@sd.cybernex.ne>>

Two Musings in the January 10 issue caught my attention. Bob Galerstein writes that KRMG is a QSL holdout for him. My verie letter from KRMG was signed by Frank S. Lane, General Manager. But this information may be out of date. His letter was written on November 5, 1953 to verify my reception of KRMG on November 2! And a big welcome back to Tom Connatser, a name I remember from the days of yore. My verie letter from WECO, a former employer of yours, was signed by Carl E. Stump. He was verifying my reception of a DX test broadcast on October 31, 1983. As I slowly recuperate from the chemotherapy which succeeded in eliminating my cancer, I find I don't have the strength or ambition to do much AM DXing. But I eagerly read each issue of *DX News*, and look forward to the time when I can be active again. 73s and good health to every one of you!

Ray Arruda - 47 Burt Street - Acushnet, MA 02743-1939

Time for a long overdue MUSE. First, I would like to wish everyone and their families a Happy New Year, long life and good health. We thank those who attended our Thanksgiving GTG in November. Also a hearty thanks to those who sent cards and letters over the holidays. Nice to see ALAN MERRIMAN, BRUCE CONTI, MARK CONNELLY, GLEN COOPER, BOB & PATTI STONIER and other members. It was a pleasure to finally meet one of my neighbors, NRC member PAUL ALVES of Mattapoisett. After 37 years of listening, I still enjoy the hobby and through the NRC and have met a large number of wonderful people. Listening is still primarily done on AM and also on SW, FM and the Amateur bands with a log of new stations kept up to date. The sending of reception reports and 'paper chasing' (sorry to say) has come to an end. Very low return percentage has made it not worth the time and effort. I have spoken with ERNIE COOPER early this year. He is in good health and has informed me that he wishes to sell both his Hammerlund HQ180 & HQ180A (the 180A is Steve Bohac modified, owned previously by DICK TRUAX & myself). Both radios are as is, best offer and must pickup. The radios are in good condition, but may need a tube or tubes. You can contact Ernie at his Provincetown address or at 508-487-9337. I will be visiting ERC sometime this winter so if the units are sold, arrangements could possibly be made to pick them up at my house; cash, check or money order. 73

Ernest Cooper - 5 Anthony Street - Provincetown, MA 02657-1703

It's been a LONG time since I last appeared in MUSINGS, but let me get a few words in here. Back on Aug. 7th, I took a bad fall here in the house. No bones were broken, but I'm still being bothered by an achy back. I wasn't able to prepare my year-end Christmas letter to go with my cards, I hope you'll understand and pardon me. Thanks to the many who send cards and holiday wishes! And I haven't been up to DXing, and both of the HQ180's have been standing idle here (and not working). I kept an ear out for FM Eskip during the warm months but wasn't lucky enough to catch any. I'm not permitted to drive at night, so that means I won't be able to get to any of the conventions or regional get-togethers. I'd welcome visits from



anyone coming up this way, but I do not have space available for staying overnight. I do not own a computer as I figured I'm much too old to learn something new and as complicated. I can't find anyplace around here where I can buy a new typewriter ribbon for my Smith-Corona typewriter. I sent away for one but it didn't fit and I have to move the ribbon every couple of lines by hand! I still look forward to *Dx News* and *DX Monitor* and it's good to see the club flourishing on high! I'm wondering if someone might suggest a moderately-priced receiver with good selectivity with which I might "make a comeback" with AM DX with a built in antenna and which covers 1610-1700. So, I hope your holidays were great, and long may you wave! (OK, members, lets pull together and give ERC a hand! Ernle was our club Musings editor for many years and I'm sure the help would be appreciated!-DWS)

Ernest J. Wesolowski - 13312 Westwood Lane - Omaha, NE 68144-3543

Happy New Year to all! Now beginning my 42nd year in the NRC, I've met many friends. Now at the age of 59, so many things have changed in the life of DXing. Most daytimes are gone along with the clear channels. Very hard to hear both coasts anymore, let alone getting them to verify. JEFF KITZE's Musing in #8 was interesting. My only '99 verie was a Christmas card verie from the Feb. DX TEST of KEYZ-660. Dec. loggings include KOAQ-690 on 12/24 and WJNZ-1680 on 12/25, and at about the same time, WTTM-1680 for my 5th station from NJ. Finally got around to logging KLTT-570 before their local sunset pattern change on the 26th. A few weeks back, a car trip to Kearney and Grand Island, NE found the FCC's monitoring station (On Monitor Road) still somewhat active, but remote controlled from Atlanta. All of the 16 beverage antennas have been removed except for the short telephone poles that support them. Some of the high frequency antennas are still active. KRGI-1430 said they do not intend to enter the X-Band, cost would be about \$300,000. KMMJ-750 address is the same as KRGI, correct your log. My local KAZP-1620 still ID's at :59:58 each hour, very fast. They want to be known only as Omaha's ESPN. Thanks to BILL & BRENDA SWEIGER for a staggering and enjoyable convention! 73's to all

Dave Schmidt - P O Box 3111 - Scranton, PA 18505-0111

Thank you to all for your continued support to the column, it's very much appreciated, and we invite some of the new members to check in with us also! I have on hand reports from JOHN MALICKY and RICHARD WOOD. My apologies also for the delay in getting the above reports here, right before Christmas, I came down with the flu bug, which knocked me out for 2 weeks and then last week, my assistant (who we just hired) handed in his notice. And just when things were getting back to normal! Big news here is WKQV-1550 being silent as of 1/1 (a good New Years present for HARRY HAYES and myself!). And I've also been elected as VP of the Hudson Railroad Club in Wilkes-Barre which I joined last year as sort of an 'escape' from radio and computers.

I'm going to try to get some type of longwires up here, being that I have an R390 and R392 on hand, plus an early MARK CONNELLY phasing unit. The WAAT test will be rescheduled for February now; things are pretty much back to normal there.

DX News continues to arrive on Tuesdays, sometimes on Monday. Remember, this column needs your support, please send in your reports! Thanks and 73

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