

DX News

•Serving DX'ers since 1933•

Volume 67, No. 19 - February 21, 2000 (ISSN 0737-1659)



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CPC Test Calendar

WIMA	OH	1150	Feb. 21	0100-0200
KEYZ	ND	660	Mar. 6	0129-0159
WELC	WV	1150	Mar. 26	0000-0030
WTBQ	NY	1110	April 1	0515-0600

KEYZ-660, (P.O. Box 2048 - Williston, ND 58802-2048) will be conducting a DX test on March 6, 2000 between 0129 and 0159 CST. You'll hear Morse Code ID's and tones. KEYZ will be powered at 5000 watts, using both day and night patterns, according to their CE. Please address reception reports to Mr. Earl Gross, Chief Engineer. Arranged by Blaine Thompson for the NRC CPC.

WELC-1150 (P.O. Box 949 - Welch, WV 24801) will conduct a DX test from 12:00-12:30 am EST Sunday, March 26, 2000. WELC will be using 5 kW, ND. All that is known about programming is that there will be Morse code ID's. Reception reports may be sent to Mr. John Sidote. Arranged by Blaine Thompson for the NRC CPC.

WTBQ-1110, Warwick, NY (62 N. Main St. - Florida, NY 10921) will conduct a DX test from 5:15 - 6:00 am EST Saturday, April 1, 2000. The test will feature novelty music and code ID's. Reception reports may be sent to Mr. Rob McLean, E-mail: <<am1110@magiccarpet.com>>; <<http://www.wtbq.com>>. Arranged by Rob McLean of WTBQ and Lynn Hollerman of the IRCA.

From the publisher ... We debut a new, but not really new, column this issue, in "DX'er's Notebook", with Dave Braun editing it. Okay, so it's the former "Target DX" column renamed to reflect more accurately the content. Through the medium of the Internet, and more specifically the listserv hosted by www.nrcdxas.org, Dave has been selecting the most useful of the spontaneous on-line discussions concerned with DX tips and topics. We had been concerned that some of these on-line comments, made by noted experts in the field of DX'ing, might vanish without a trace and without being read and enjoyed by the rest of the NRC membership, so Dave agreed to survey the ongoing discussion and edit them for placement in the more permanent paper pages of *DX News*. And since he's done so, more comments and articles have been generated and have ended up in *DXN* for all to take advantage of.

We think "DX'er's Notebook" is an excellent compromise for those members who do not have access to the Web but would like to take part in some of the discussions. Meanwhile, "Musings of the Members", which has been slowly decreasing

in contributions over the years, can still serve as a forum for independent contributions, "mini-articles", DX tips, and certainly ideas and DX experiences for anyone, and indeed has been the place for some "spillover" from ideas discussed online.

So what happens to "Target DX"? I still say that there's a need for a column in which tips for DX'ing "smart" can be shared. And not only that, I firmly believe that our newer members need a forum in which they can ask questions and receive some guidance from more experienced members. We have tried two similar columns in the past, "The Answerman" and "For Beginners", which for various reasons faded out, but perhaps now, with the more instantaneous advantage of asking questions on a listserv and quickly receiving expert answers, we can refocus a question-and-answer forum which could be conducted online and edited and reprinted in "Target DX", with special consideration for new members who may not be used to "expert" DX techniques nor DX "jargon" ... and who might leave the club in frustration after finding that *DXN* has not served their needs. I'm therefore asking for someone to step forward, coordinate efforts with Dave Braun, and edit "Target DX" with these ideals in mind.

Good news is that we're just a few mouseclicks away from announcing a new editor for *DDXD-East*, pending formal acceptance by those concerned.

Finally, if the NRC and *DXN* are not serving your needs, please contact either a Board member or the Publisher with your concerns. We might just turn you into an editor if you have a specific proposal, but we certainly would like to have feedback so we can correct any problems of which we may not be aware.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of *DX News*:

50 years ago ... from the February 11, 1950 *DXN*: Pat Reilly, Jamestown, NY, reported hearing KPOA with a broadcast of a Hawaiian heavyweight championship wrestling match on Feb. 6 at 3:10 am.

25 years ago ... from the February 24, 1975 *DXN*: Marty Wright, Springfield, IL, listed his best catch of the season as KGHL-790, heard 1/6, for his 43rd state.

10 years ago ... from the February 19, 1990 *DXN*: Gene Martin, Denver, CO recalled hearing (from his DX location in Dallas) W3XN, Whippany, NJ, on 700 kcs, followed a few months later by WEXAL, Cincinnati, and on Oct. 4, 1928, WLW, which began regular operation as the first 50,000-watt station west of KDKA, seizing the lion's share of the night-time listening audience across the South and Midwest.

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<i>Old call</i>	<i>New call</i>
570	WHNZ FL Pinellas Park	WTBN*
620	WSSA FL Saint Petersburg	WHNZ
1110	KJTT WA Oak Harbor	KWDB
1250	WHNZ FL Tampa	WDAE*
1270	WBHC SC Hampton	WHGS
1320	WEZN AL Birmingham	WRJS
1340	KQIL CO Grand Junction	KTMM
1550	WWWN GA Vienna	WKTF
1670	*New CA Moreno Valley	KSUL

*Notes: Disregard all the Tampa area call swaps shown in Issue #16; everything has changed again. And the Birmingham change above was incorrectly listed as being on 610 kHz in #17.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

1670 CA Moreno Valley: 10000/9000 U4 (as noted last week the application to change this new facility to from 10000/1000 U1 to 10000/9000 U4 was returned to hearing status. Rather than allow a modification of the existing facility, the FCC has now issued a brand-new CP for 10000/9000 U4.

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

None

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1150 WSNW SC Seneca: relocate transmitter

OTHERNESS

870 WQRX AL Valley Head: silent station is ON THE AIR
1110 KWDB WA Oak Harbor: silent station set to return to the air February 20th
1150 KSRB WA Seattle: CP for 10000/5000 U2 is on (the portion of their application that also requested 6000 watts at night was not granted a CP and remains in application status)
1190 WGKA GA Atlanta: application for 25000 D1 DISMISSED
1190 KHAD MO DeSoto: station is SILENT due to fire
1200 WMIR SC Atlantic Beach: silent station is ON THE AIR
1280 WFBS PA Berwick: silent station set to return to the air in April
1290 WNBN MS Meridian: CP for 2500/91 U1 is on
1380 WTMC DE Wilmington: silent station plans to return as a non-commercial station in March with an "All Traffic" format, ie: glorified TIS station

THANKS: Ed Krejny, Les Johnson, and MSJ

It's hard to imagine that racing season is here already, but by the time you read this we will be in Daytona to do our NASCAR thing again, then in North Carolina for more of the same. Consequently there will be no AM Switch in Issues 20 or 21. In #22 we will catch you up on all the action so stay tuned.

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



Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Hale phantom2@eaze.net

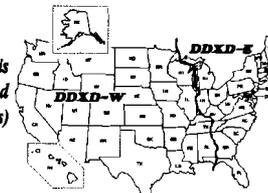
6124 Roaring Springs Drive - North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

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-hr. ELT

(Division line is between East and Central time zones)



DDXD-West

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- **Bob Pote** of Greenwood, Indiana writes: "I noticed in the latest issue of the *DX News* under 'Medium Wave Ramblings' that T-shirts were available from radio station WHAM-1180. If any club members are interested my local station, WIBC-1070, has T-shirts, jackets, coffee cups, keychains, etc for sale, all with their logo. They are on the Internet at <www.WIBC.com> for prices and information. They maintain a pretty neat website for those that are interested." **Randy Stewart** of Springfield, Missouri fills us in on all the latest from his home town: "Local changes in Springfield . . . KGMV-1400, formerly *Memories 1400* with a nostalgia-music format, is now airing ESPN Radio 6 AM - 6 PM. During the overnight hours it simulcasts classic-rock station KXUS US-97 (97.3 FM). Both are owned by **Sunburst Media**. KGMV will go 24 hours ESPN after April 15, when ESPN's current agreement with rival Meyer Communications lapses. Meyer is leasing 12 hours a day (6 PM to 6 AM) on KIDS-1340 and running ESPN Radio during that time; the rest of the time KIDS runs Branson Information Radio (Branson tourist infomercials). Meyer is in negotiations to purchase KIDS (which, as you can tell by the call, used to be an all-kid format — locally produced) — says sale will be complete in about 60 days. Once it's a done deal, he says KIDS is . . . *not going to run infomercials*, but he doesn't say what he will run. (Meyer also owns all-talk KWTO-560 and various FMs). This info from *Springfield News-Leader* February 9, 2000. KGMV had been stereo, but shut off their stereo generator several months ago (in anticipation of this change . . . ?)"
- **Gary Jackson** of Sacramento reports he received a couple of QSL cards: one from KKWY Fox Farm, Wyoming. Full info included. One of the nicest QSLs he's ever seen. Their address is 110 E. 17th Street #205, Cheyenne, WY 82001. Verie signer is Paul Mantoya. Second QSL is a homemade one from WTIR Winter Garden. Address is 3765 N. John Young Parkway Orlando, FL 32804.
- "Happy Retirement" wishes go out to **John Wilkins**, who now by his own admission . . . has more time for DXing!!



REPORTERS

FA-ID Frank Aden Boise FRG-7 with 4 foot box loop <N7sok@aol.com>
RD-AZ Ragnar Danneskjold Mesa Optimus 12-604A; Kenwood R-1000 and zepp antenna <ldwaxer@juno.com>
TRH-CA Tim Hall Chula Vista Delco car radio; ICF-2010, KIWA Loop <halls@inetworld.net>
GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
CK-CO Chris Knight, N0IJK Ft. Lupton R-1000, TS-440SAT, Sanserino Loop, GAP Eagle Vertical <swrad@juno.com>
PG-CO Pat Griffith Westminster Kenwood R-600 and Palomar Loop <am-dxer@webtv.net>
CR-IL Christos Rigas Wood Dale Kenwood R-2000, Sony ICF-2010 + Kowalski loop <crigas@birinc.com>
JJR-WI John J. Rieger South Milwaukee FRG100, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner/preamp, DSP599zx Audio Noise Reduction Filter <johnrieger@webtv.net>
MS-MB Morris Sorensen Winnipeg Drake R8 + McKay-Dymek DA-9 ferrite loop
PT-WA Pete Taylor Tacoma Sony ICF 2010, Kiwa air core loop <taytac@worldnet.att.net>
JW-CO John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop <peakbagger3@juno.com>
Ed-TX Editor North Richland Hills Sony ICF-2010 barefoot

STATION NEWS & NOTES

920 KGHO WA Olympia - Noted back on 2/10 2000, with *Good Time Hit Oldies*. First day

Jimmy & BKF

back on (not on when I checked at 1000). They are *All Beatles* at this time. As has always been the case, I have not been able to get much information out of these people. Also noted with a *Playing the hits of the Northwest* live promo at 1415 on 2/11. (PT-WA)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 900 UNID ?? - 12/22 0140 - Strong, with Art Bell, over CJVI's *Rona* (CJVI used to carry him). Possibly KBIF, if their Hmong programming no longer goes to 0300 (not KKRT as per phone call). Art was without nationwide phone service and could only take calls from the Pahrump metro area. (PT-WA)
- 1450 K?HM ?? - 2/8 0200 - AM 1450, K?HM, right after KXOX ID, so is to the south. ID is loud and clear but second letter is garbled (W? X?). City is monosyllabic and sounds like "Blythe." (PT-WA)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 630 WMAL- DC Washington - 1/30 0100-0130 - Had KIDO nulled best as possible, but nothing heard under them that sounded like a test. (FA-ID)
- 1450 WILM- DE Wilmington - 1/30 0100-0300 - Nothing heard in mess that could have been a test. (FA-ID)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

- 530 WTO624 ND Devils Lake - 1/28 1840 - Weak, but in the clear, with highway advisory, winter driving tips and frequent IDs by female, mentioning *WTO624 operating at 530 AM on your radio dial*. (MS-MB)
- 1580 "KSSU" CA Sacramento - 2/3 1520 - California State University-Sacramento station, strong with ID. Gave phone number and taking music requests. Good signal at 15 miles. (GJ-CA)
- 1630 TIS/HAR CA - 2/2 0643 - ID as *Highway Advisory Radio* by male announcer. Mixing with LA Convention Center TIS. Suspect Cal Trans as they used to have a TIS/HAR on this frequency. (GJ-CA)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

- 560 KLZ CO Denver - 1/26 2356 - Fair, with 1950s era oldies. ID as *Legends 56 KLZ Denver*. (MS-MB)
- 710 WUFF GA Eastman - 2/7 0702 - Poor, though clear, with 97.5 FM & AM ID. C&W music. (JJR-WI)
- 710 WDSM WI Superior - 1/29 1733 - Fair, with WGN splash. Many Duluth ads into *Bulldogs vs Moorehead State* basketball. (JJR-WI)
- 790 KSPD ID Boise - 1/3 1030 - With syndicated preaching. *Inspirational Family Radio* and ID in the clear at good level - no KJRB. New. (PT-WA)
- 730 KKDA TX Grand Prairie - 2/3 2315 - Very good peaks, with Urban Contemporary music, call letter ID, song dedication to *Pearly in Ferris, Texas*. (CK-CO)
- 930 KROE WY Sheridan - 1/27 1814 - Good, with oldies. ID mentioning *Great oldies 930 KROE*. Local ads including one for *Carol's Furniture in historic downtown Sheridan*. (MS-MB)
- 940 WCPC MS Houston - 2/7 1641 - Good, clear GOS format, ID, promo. (JJR-WI)
- 970 WNIV GA Atlanta - 2/7 1643 - 970 & 1400 WNIV into REL program. Alone on frequency. (JJR-WI)
- 980 KMBZ MO Kansas City - 1/29 - Fair around 2200, despite some CBW splatter. IDs as *KMBZ Kansas City. News, talk, and sports 980*. (MS-MB)
- 1000 KXRB SD Sioux Falls - 1/27 1805 - Good, despite local CBW-990, with country music. ID at 1809 as *Country 1000 - KXRB*. (MS-MB)
- 1060 KDUS AZ Tempe - 2/5 0159 - Very good, in local KLMO null, with ID: *The Valley's Sports Information source 10-60 KDUS, Tempe, The Deuce, into One-on-One Sports* (no news on top-of-the hour). (CK-CO)
- 1070 KNX CA Los Angeles - 2/12 0730 - Fair and all alone, with *KNX 1070 Newsradio*. No WTSO. If I hear this 5 times a year I'm lucky! (JJR-WI)
- 1140 CHRAB AB High River - 2/9 0109 - *You're listening to Southern Alberta's community radio station, AM 11-40*. (PG-CO)



- 1180 KYET AZ Williams - 2/8 2105 - Alone on channel, with huge signal. With *Phoenix Suns* basketball, IDs, and local ads. Used slogan *Power 11-80*, which seemed appropriate as they sounded like they must have stayed on day power! (KPHX-1480 was booming in with Spanish coverage of the *Suns* game; they sounded like they were still on day power as well). (TRH-CA)
- 1180 WSAF GA Trion - 2/7 1900 - Fair, full ID into SS programming. Not common. (JJR-WI)
- 1240 KDG0 CO Durango - 2/2 0059 - Fair to good peak, with OLD music, ID: *Rock & Roll oldies... on AM 12-40 KDG0, Durango*. (CK-CO)
- 1240 KSMA CA Santa Maria - ID noted 1/31 0100 with KGY nulled and no sign of the usual mini-pests, KNRY and KSUE. Second time this season. (PT-WA)
- 1240 KODY NE North Platte - 2/6 2159 - Legal ID: *Nebraska owned and operated, this is KODY North Platte* and into CNN News. Nice signal. (JW-CO)
- 1290 KOUU ID Pocatello - 2/8 0853 - Fair-to-good, on top of channel, with C&W music, legal ID on the hour, into Northwest Network News(?), . . . *now back to your country favorites on K-O-W (K-O-double-U)*. New, ID #18, station #1234. (TRH-CA)
- 1310 KTCK TX Dallas - 2/5 0245 - ID: *Sports Radio 13-10, The Ticket*, promo for an event *Tickets still available*. QRM from a Spanish station. Local KFKA off per regular schedule. (CK-CO)
- 1320 KCTC CA Sacramento - 1/30 0015 - Excellent, with NOS, totally obliterating KXRO and CHMB. (PT-WA)
- 1370 KGNO KS Dodge City - 2/4 2359 - Very good and alone, with OLD music, ID: *Rock and Roll memories on AM 13-70 KGNO Dodge City*. (CK-CO)
- 1380 KLPZ AZ Parker - 2/8 2059 - On top of channel, with C&W, legal ID: *The all-new 13-80 country, KLPZ Parker-Lake Havasu-Blythe*. (TRH-CA)
- 1410 WLTV AL Mobile - 2/12 0716 - Fair, with promo looking for sales people at *Victory 1410 WLTV*. (JJR-WI)
- 1410 WAZY IN Lafayette - 2/7 1908 - Fair, with ??? 95-WAZY, with satellite AdCon. Over all. (JJR-WI)
- 1430 KQLL OK Tulsa - 2/12 0650+ - Battling several others, but finally cutting through with sports talk (1-on-1?) and into quick ad for the "judge" shows on *KTFO UPN 21*. Heard better in south Texas than here. [Ed.-TX]
- 1440 WPRS IL Paris - 2/7 0714 - Poor, but alone, with two call mentions. No usual WROK. Rare! (JJR-WI)
- 1450 KXOX OR Eugene - 2/8 0200 - With NOS (same as KKSXN). Much sought after. KSUH nulled. New. (PT-WA)
- 1460 KKTK TX Waco - 2/8 0152 - *Good times, great oldies, KKTK AM 14-60*. (PG-CO)
- 1520 KVTA CA Port Hueneme - 2/5 2100 - Even with KKSXN an hour after LSS. I heard this station a month ago fielding a listener call about the signal disappearing at sunset. At least this night, they seem to have resolved the problem! (PT-WA)
- 1560 KIQS CA Willows - 1/4 2000-2005 - Very weak, but occasionally cutting through KNZR. Not heard before. (PT-WA)
- 1560 KKAA SD Aberdeen - 1/22 0105 - Surprising level, occasionally over KNZR, with clear K-K-double-A ID. (PT-WA)
- 1600 KYBC AZ Cottonwood - 2/8 2051 - Good signal on top of channel, with NOS, and slogan *Great memories, KYBC, IDs and local ads*. (TRH-CA)
- 1630 KKWY WY Fox Farm - 1/6 0100-0110 - In over a ten minute period, with *Classic Country* and then gone. Very respectable level, but call letters in ID obliterated by a wonderfully-timed KYIZ percussive clinkathon. (PT-WA)
- 1650 KBJD CO Denver - 1/26 2300 - ID noted over KGXL for the first time. Not exactly a powerhouse. IDs as *The Beat*, with Contemporary Christian format. (PT-WA)
- 1650 KBJD CO Denver - 2/4 0901 - Good, over KGXL with bland music, loud and clear ID: *The new beat for Colorado, AM 16-50, KBJD*. New. (TRH-CA)
- 1650 WHKT VA Portsmouth - 2/10 0000 - Fair, with *WHKT Portsmouth* ID and into news. (CR-IL)
- 1660 WMIB FL Marco Island - 2/9 0229 - Fair, in KXOL null, with NOS music. Very clear pre-recorded ID caught on tape at 0233: *WODX and WMIB*. Much more readable tonight than they were the night of the DX test!



			(TRH-CA)		
1660	KAXY	TX	Waco - 2/9 2354 - Fair, in null of other stations, with local bank ad in Waco. (CR-IL)		
1670	WTDY	WI	Madison - 2/9 2329 - With the Tom Leykis Show. 2330 ID: Weekends were made for talk on WTDY 1670, Madison, Wisconsin. (RD-AZ)		
1680	WTIR	FL	Winter Garden - 2/6 0130 - Fair peaks, with ID: You're listening to Orlando's 16-80 Radio WTIR. Mentioned Florida Department of Transportation, into ads. Some WTNZ QRM. (CK-CO)		
1680	WTIR	FL	Winter Gardens - 2/10 0002 - Good, with You are listening to AM 16-80 WTIR Winter Gardens - Orlando ID, followed by an explanation of the future format of WTIR. (CR-IL)		
1700	KTBK	TX	Sherman - 1/3 0300 - The Ticket with mighty dual ID. (PT-WA)		

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

indicates record held from Alaska or Hawaii

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

1240 kHz:					Miles
WBML	GA	Macon	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	*205
WTWA	GA	Thomson	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*180
1340 kHz:					
KXXY	OK	Oklahoma	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	*760
1400 kHz:					
WNUE	FL	Ft. Walton Beach	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	*402
1450 kHz:					
WILM	DE	Wilmington	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	*535
WBSR	FL	Pensacola	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*416
WMVG	GA	Milledgeville	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*191
WHKP	NC	Hendersonville	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*91
1490 kHz:					
WEAG	FL	Starke	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	*420
WMOG	GA	Brunswick	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*351
WRLD	GA	West Point	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*213
WTUP	MS	Tupelo	Steve Francis	Alcoa	*287

DDXD-East

Deadlines are weekly on Tuesdays.

Welcome to new reporter Michael Shaw. Hope to hear lots more from you!

Until we get a new DDXD-East editor, please keep sending your logs here. However, since "here" won't be here for too much longer, you should feel free to send in an application to be the next editor. For now, keep the reports flowing!

STATION NEWS

990	WNTY	CT	Southington - 2/1 - Not heard at night in the past week or so. Maybe the FCC reminded them to read the conditions of their license? (JEK-MD)
1200	WAGE	VA	Leesburg - 1/31 1745 - GOS music, promo for real estate show, ID. Format change? (WM-MD)
1260	WMKI	MA	Boston - 2/6 2100 - New call, usual Radio Disney fare, with on-the-hour ID by a kid as "AM 1260, WMKI Boston." (AR-ON)
	WPHB	PA	Philipsburg - 1/25 0605 - Noted with NBC news. (DB-DE)
1360	WNJC	NJ	Vineland - 2/3 1950 - EE Gospel program with "Brother Al Jones," phone number with 856 area code and mentions of Philadelphia. Add to format. (RJE-PA)
1490	WBYM	VA	Hampton - 1/25 0952 - Now ID'ing as "1490, The Gold Mine," with country oldies, it seems. (DB-DE)
1510	WRNJ	NJ	Hackettstown - 2/3 0910 - Noted with WW1



			NOS programming // WKAP-1470, add network and NOS as format. (RJE-PA)
1520	WKBZ	MI	Muskegon Heights - According to the Muskegon Chronicle, WKBZ was "abandoned" in January by the company which bought it last fall, resulting in bills not being paid, power shut off, etc. Now being run under court supervision by the company which owned it before September 1999. (PLB-MI)
	WWKB	NY	Buffalo - 1/31 1700 - Now carrying Kiss 94.5. What a waste of a radio spot. (SK-PA) [Supposedly this won't last long. - DY] + 2/3 0920 - Ending Santana record, then teletalk with "Kiss-98.5" non-ID's. Then WWKB voiceover ID 0930 (Kiss 98.5 is WKSE Niagara Falls-Buffalo). New format and // FM. (RJE-PA)
1600	WPNT	MA	East Longmeadow - 2/4 1727 - Woman with "... from the Rock 102 Archives," then ad for insurance agency in Northampton. Later, at 1752, suddenly announced "... WPNT East Longmeadow-Springfield now ends its broadcast day," and off. FCC database verifies new call; FM call remains unchanged. (RJE-PA)

DX TESTS

630	WMAL	DC	Washington - 1/30 0100-0130 - Not heard, in part because of nasty CHIN-1540 spur, unneeded. (MB-ON) Heard with 1947 drama "Casey, Crime Photographer," no code noted. WMAL has always been top dog on 630, but CFCCO was burying them tonight. (SF-TN) Heard with regular ABC News music and weather at 0105, usually dominant but buried tonight by CFCCO. (SK-PA)
740	WJIB	MA	Cambridge - 2/2 - In a note received today from Bob Bittner, no one (as of 1/29) reported hearing the station's recent test! (JEK-MD)
1450	WILM	DE	Wilmington - 1/30 0100-0300 - Not heard in GY jumble dominated by pest CHUC. (MB-ON) Heard with siren tones and long code ID periods, fair at peaks. (SF-TN) Heard with code, siren tone, voice ID. (SK-PA) Not heard, just WTHU (16 miles west) and WCTC (154 miles northeast). If they were on, should have been heard as just 83 miles to the east. (JEK-MD)
1530	WMBT	PA	Shenandoah - 2/5 0000-0200 - Heard weakly under partially nulled WSAI, no code or voice ID's heard. Gave up at 0100 because of CHIN-1540 slop. Unneeded. (MB-ON) Heard with code ID's, possible tones and instrumental music, fair to poor under WSAI. (SF-TN) Heard with code ID's, canned ID's, oldies music. Just "happened" across the test posting at the DX Midamerica web site of NRC member John Rieger. (GM-VA) Heard under a very dominant WSAI, code ID's, rock songs, including Beatles, Beach Bpys, possible voice ID's. I was tickled to hear the test, as I only have logged two other stations on 1530 in 5 years of DX'ing. (RCP-IN) Heard with weak code ID's a couple of times. (AR-ON)



UNID AND UNID HELP

660	UNID	—	2/4 1713 - Fair over nulled WFAN with REL format, PSA to read the Bible before investing in mutual funds, ad for Interchristo Christian Career Specialists mentioning job postings on website http://www.jobsinaflash.org , into gospel song. Signal disappeared at 1715 in middle of song, presumably when they cut daytime power and switched to flea-power night pattern. (MB-ON)
740	UNID	—	1/31 2033 - Ad for volunteer group, "America's best music," jazz-sounding music. (WM-MD) [Jazz here is WNOP. - DY]
1310	UNID	—	2/5 1605 - NCAA basketball way under WSSJ, unable to get much more than NCAA promos. Likely WGH, but maybe WADB? (RJE-PA1)
1380	UNID	—	2/4 1740 - Female announcer with sign-off announcement over, under the mess. There are no daytimers listed, except for one in AL which should have a later sign-off. (RJE-PA)
	UNID	—	2/4 1745 - Ending Billy Joel record, then "Oldies 1380, WA??," nothing close in Log. (RJE-PA)
1400	UNID	—	2/1 2203 - Partial ID "Greatest hits of all time, Unforgettable ... Springfield," WW1 NOS. Strong in jumble. KGMV Springfield MO? (SK-PA) [Or maybe WHMP ID'ing as Northampton-Springfield MA? - DY]

1590 UNID — 2/3 1850 – SS talk, some ads, mostly under WAKR in the 1830-1900 range. Nothing ID'able; only listed are WXRf-PR and WONX-IL, and neither is likely. (RJE-PA)

LOGGINGS

550 WDUN GA Gainesville – 1/20 0650 – Presumed with local news, Dawsonville, I-85 mentioned in traffic report. No call letters heard. (DB-DE)

570 WSYR NY Syracuse – 2/9 0837 – ID by man “570 WSYR,” mention of Onondaga County, spot for Raymour & Flanigan Furniture. (MS-MA)

590 WLVA VA Lynchburg – 1/27 1905 – End of USA Radio news, ID, weather forecast. (WM-MD)

630 CFCO ON Chatham – 1/30 0109 – Strong with oldies during WMAL DX Test. Never heard in the 1900's, but lots of easy relogs over the next week, so that new 6 kW night rig is really working – maybe too well, hi. (SF-TN)

670 WWFE FL Miami – 2/4 0155-0305 – Fair in WMAQ null, no fades and moderate WNZK-680 splash, with SS talk and Cuban-sounding NOS music. EE ID at 0200 and 0300: “This is WWFE, AM 670, Miami.” New, FL #3. (TS-MI)

720 WRZN FL Hernando – 1/9 2000 – Good, “Sunshine 720, WRZN Hernando,” NOS music, “Born Free” and Louis Armstrong. No WGN, some CHTN QRM. Unusual in non-auroral conditions. (JEK-MD)

CHTN PI Charlotte – 2/2 1906 – “One great oldie after another ..., 7-20 CHTN,” hadn't logged this one since 1990. (PC-VA)

740 WRWB TN Harrogate – 1/27 1919 – Song “Do Wa Diddy,” ID, poor. Listed as 7 watts. (WM-MD)

WIRJ TN Humboldt – 1/26 2200 – Weak under KRMG with “Groovin' Oldies” mention and legal ID by woman, between Barbara Lewis and O'Jays tunes. Long-sought and 740 #20. (SF-TN)

820 WOSU OH Columbus – 2/5 2015 – Ohio State hockey game. (WM-MD)

870 WKAR MI East Lansing – 2/6 1500 – PBS “Car Talk,” running at 1300 Saturday and 1500 Sunday. This and Gary Burbank's BBC (Broadbank Broadcasting Company) show are the best programs on MW, in my humble opinion. ID as “8-70 Michigan State Radio, WKAR East Lansing,” 90.5 FM spot, excellent. (HF-MI)

910 WAKO IL Lawrenceville – 1/27 1935 – ID heard in muck. (WM-MD)

WABI ME Bangor – 1/26 1942 – Between Bangor-Brunswick girls-boys basketball games, many recruitment ads for Hudson(?) College. Best I've ever heard them; don't know if it's due to great conditions to the northeast recently, or maybe overboard for the games. (JEK-MD)

WSBA PA York – 1/31 2046 – Ad for business on Route 30 in Lancaster, popped up in mix. First time heard at night. (SK-PA)

920 WOKY WI Milwaukee – 2/4 1705 – Fair in nulled CKNX with announcement “It's 4:06 on 920 WOKY,” into local traffic report. (MB-ON)

CJCJ NB Woodstock – 1/30 0131 – C&W music, many station slogans, “CJ Radio in Woodstock,” “Grapevine Radio” program promo. Great signal to 0145, then lost to CHNX, no sign of CJCH. New, NB #14. (JEK-MD)

930 WSEV TN Sevierville – 2/1 1912 – Fair with calls, local ads, mention of Sevierville, some WKY QRM. New and #11 on 930. (MB-IN)

960 WELI CT New Haven – 2/4 0737 – Broke through dominant WFIR with talk on upcoming primaries and “WELI news time is 7:37” ID. (MB-ON)

980 WCAP MA Lowell – 1/26 1905 – Fair with calls, weather by Jeffrey Byron. Again 1/27 1835 with “News-Talk 980 WCAP,” Barry ? talk show about Cubans in Miami, ad for Heritage Builders at 1849. Not heard since first logging them as a 1 kW daytime back in 1965. (JEK-MD)

1050 WEVD NY New York – 1/31 1945 – St. John's vs. Syracuse college basketball, ID as “WFAN Radio Network.” (WM-MD)

1090 KAAV AR Little Rock – 2/2 2155 – Southern gospel music mixing with college basketball game on WBAL, promo for southern gospel contest, mention of upcoming gospel music countdown show, ID, USA Radio News at 2200. Strong at times. (WM-MD)

[Or maybe it's the following? – DY]

WMTY SC Greenwood – 1/31 2050 – WBAL nulled, Internet address at solidgospel.com, commentary by

P.O. BOX 827, FALL RIVER, MA 02721
TEL. (508) 678-8727 / FAX (508) 673-0510

WSAR
NEWS/TALK/SPORTS 1400 AM

Dr. Richard Land “For Faith and Family,” Trinity Bible College ad, ID at 2100: “The Mighty 10-90, Greenwood's most powerful station, WMTY Greenwood, South Carolina, with 5,000 watts.” UnID news, then southern gospel music, solid to 2145 tune-out. Overboard would be an understatement. Heard nightly; a new pest. (JEK-MD)

1140 WCJW NY Warsaw – 1/25 0853 – C&W music, mention of FM frequency (94.9?), lots of local ads including mention of Silver Spring, promo for “Tradio”(?) program beginning at 0915, “CJ” slogans, legal ID 0859. (DB-DE)

1160 WSKW ME Skowhegan – 1/27 1851 – Poor to excellent with mostly ESPN programs and promos, Skowhegan Savings Bank ad, legal ID 190 with WHQO (?) FM, ABC NHL sports ad. (JEK-MD)

WVNJ NJ Oakland – 2/10 0836 – ID by man, “The station of the stars, 1160 WVNJ,” mention of the Hackensack Medical Center, spot for Temperpedic Bed. (MS-MA)

WPIE NY Trumansburg – 1/25 0901 – On top at this late hour with local ad for DJ service, including phone number with 607 area code. This upstate New York area was uncommonly good all over the band late into the morning here, on the morning the Nor'easter storm moved up the coast. (DB-DE)

1220 CHSC ON St. Catharines – 2/4 1740 – “CHSC news,” “Morning News” and Niagara spots, ad for Canadian mutual funds, light music. Fair in and out with possible WKNR. (HF-MI)

1250 WDVA VA Danville – 2/2 1800 – Gospel music, ID. (WM-MD)

CHWO ON Oakville – 1/26 2355 – Anne Murray song, ID. (WM-MD)

1260 WWMK OH Cleveland – 1/31 0200 – ID by kid popped up out of nowhere as “WWMK Cleveland,” last heard as WMIH. (SK-PA)

+ 2/4 1752 – Radio Disney, show tunes, rock, and that — perkiness, ID at 1801 “AM 12-60, WWMK Cleveland” delivered in the perky style, poor. WWJQ-MI in there also. (HF-MI)

1270 WHLD NY Niagara Falls – 2/5 0829 – On top of frequency at this late time with “Danny Boy,” then ID as “WHLD, the Sound of the Falls.” (DB-DE)

1290 KKAR NE Omaha – 2/4 1705 – Nebraska news and weather, “12-90 K-Kar,” poor. (HF-MI)

1300 WPNH NH Plymouth – 1/28 1950 – Good with songs by John Denver, Kay Starr, Sinatra, Nat King Cole, frequent calls and “Music of Your Life, WPNH Plymouth, WFTN Franklin” ID at 2000. No local ads, etc. noted, some WJFK QRM. NH # 20. (JEK-MD)

1360 WNJC NJ Washington – 2/1 2120 – Ad for chiropractor, mentions of 609 area code and New Jersey. (WM-MD)

WCKY OH Cincinnati – 2/1 2145 – Cincinnati Cyclones hockey game. (WM-MD)

1370 WLTC NC Gastonia – 2/3 2030 – Screaming Southern gospel preacher 1915 and on, faded some after 1945, back again around 2020, finally ID'ed as “WLTC, WGCD, Rejoice Radio 1370 and 1490,” mentioning new “Rejoice Radio” facility “up in Rock Hill.” Been chasing this on and off for about two weeks; they're not turning this one off at sunset on a regular basis. (RJE-PA)

WMJT WV Moundsville – 2/3 2000 – Ending talk program, local weather, then ID as “WMJT 1370 Wheeling,” too strong to be listed 28 watts! (RJE-PA)

1380 WSYB VT Rutland – 2/3 1930 – Pregame for high school sporting event, mentioned TV on Channel 15. (RJE-PA)

1420 WNRS NY Herkimer – 2/3 2335 – Ad for Sears window replacements, sports talk, One on One Sports Flash. 64 watts? (WM-MD)

1440 WMVB NJ Millville – 2/2 2025 – High school basketball, ID. (WM-MD)

1460 WRAD VA Radford – 2/3 1900 – Weather, ID, and news briefly atop WIFI. (RJE-PA)

1480 WPFJ NC Franklin – 2/4 1920 – Announcer with phone number on air, ID. 13 watts? (WM-MD)

WTOY VA Salem – 2/1 1928 – Good at tune-in with rap music, ID as “1480, WTOYU,” gone by 1934, new. Local WTHI off the air due to ownership change. (MB-IN)

1490 WAZL PA Hazelton – 2/5 1550 – Finally way under pest WBCB with Bette Midler record, local spot, ID, and Music of Your Life promo. (RJE-PA1)

WCSV TN Crossville – 1/31 2259 – “Sunday morning at 11 on WCSV,” in quick fadeup. (SK-PA)

 **CJOB 68 AM**
MORNING TEAM

- 1500 WFIF CT Milford - 2/10 0829 - ID by man, "WFIF, Life-Changing Radio," spot for Cottman Transmission in West Haven. (MS-MA)
- WGHT NJ Pompton Lakes - 2/3 0900 - Middle of the road music, local announcements, ID, then news. Weak but steady under WTOP, extremely rare. (RJE-PA)
- 1510 WRNJ NJ Hackettstown - 1/26 0715 - Good and on top with school closings, interspersed with local ads. First time heard here, WNNN not on yet. (DB-DE)
- 1540 WBNL IN Boonville - 1/31 1800 - Heard at sign-off with very weak signal, SSB through the mess. First time heard. (RCP-IN)
- 1550 WLOR AL Huntsville - 2/2 1910 - Ad for IRS Rapid Refund Service, mention of Huntsville. (WM-MD)
- WNDI IN Sullivan - 1/31 1706 - Promo for Notre Dame basketball game, canned ID "Memories 1550 WNDI," WW1 NOS, then lost to CBE upfade. (SK-PA)
- 1570 WXLN IN New Albany - 2/3 0130-0145 - Fair, above everything else on channel with GOS music and "1570 Louisville, the Word" liners. New. (TS-MI)
- WISP PA Doylestown - 2/4 1900 - "Serving the Holy Spirit," ID, religious music. (WM-MD)
- 1580 WLIM NY Patchogue - 2/10 0827 - Man with ID "WLIM Patchogue," promo for the American Heart Association. (MS-MA)
- 1690 KDDZ CO Arvada - 1/25 0636 - Under a much weaker than normal WMDM with Radio Disney // WQEW-1560. First time heard since WMDM came on. (DB-DE)

TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS

OFF THE INTERNET

ADDRESS UPDATES

- 1520 WKBZ MI Muskegon Heights - Now 6083 Martin Rd., Norton Shores MI 49441, phone (231) 799-9951. (PLB-MI)

REPORTERS

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|--|
| PLB-MI | Phil Boersma | Spring Lake - Local news |
| DB-DE | Dave Braun | Wyoming - R-5000, Quantum loop, LW |
| MB-ON | Mike Brooker | Toronto - RF-2200, RFB-45 |
| MB-IN | Mark Burns | Terre Haute - R8, 80' RW, Kiwa loop |
| PC-VA | Perry Crabill | Winchester - R8, Kiwa loop, 100' RW |
| RJE-PA | Russ Edmunds | Blue Bell - Car radio, whip |
| RJE-PA1 | | DX'ing from Blue Bell - Hammarlund HQ-150, 2' air core loop (unamplified) |
| SF-TN | Steve Francis | Alcoa - TRF, Select-a-Tenna |
| HF-MI | Harold Frodge | Midland MI -R71A, 85'/170' RW's, ICF7600G, 50' RW |
| WM-MD | William McGuire | Cheverly - DX-380 |
| GM-VA | Greg Myers | Richmond - |
| RCP-IN | Bob Pote | Greenwood - DX-392, Select-a-Tenna |
| AR-ON | Andy Rugg | Cornwall - Sony 6500W, HQ-180, Kiwa loop |
| TS-MI | Tom Sanders | Lexington - Sony 2010 |
| MS-MA | Michael Shaw | Beverly but DX'ing in Salem - 97' Neon car radio, Ccrane coil-loaded antenna |



International Jim Renfrew renfrew@localnet.com

DX Digest

61 Wilcox Street
Rochester, NY 14607-3832

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

We have a nice mix of reporters this week. Keep it up folks!

- Celebrity DX Quiz: on what frequency is Dr. Frazier Crane's talk show supposedly broadcast? (a) 770 (b) 1090 (c) 99.9 (d) cable access (e) Real Audio web page - The Psycho Network
- Another Celebrity DX Quiz: on what frequency was "WKRP in Cincinnati" broadcast? (a) 550 (b) 700 (c) 1360 (d) 1530 (e) Via megaphone on Les Nessman's Turkey drop helicopter
- Yet another Celebrity DX Quiz: on what part of the radio spectrum was Minnie Driver's program broadcast in the movie "Gross Point Blank"? (a) AM (b) AM X-Band (c) AM carrier current (d) OIRT FM (e) FM (f) DAT (g) HDTV

TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 189 ICELAND RUV Reykjavik, FEB 4 0123 - best signal on longwave. Presumed with classical piano music. No talk or ID heard. [Wolfish-ON-A]
- 252 ALGERIA Tipaza, FEB 4 0111 - poor with Middle Eastern male vocal, no sign of Atlantic 252 tonight. [Wolfish-ON-A]
- 567 IRELAND RTE, Tullamore, FEB 5 2339 - US C&W music; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 612 IRELAND Athlone, FEB 5 2334 - rock music; slightly under Morocco. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 612 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioum, FEB 5 2334 - AA/Berber music; slightly over Ireland. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 684 SPAIN RNE1, Sevilla, FEB 5 2329 - SS teletalk; rising up to a good peak over the WRKO slop. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 693 UNITED KINGDOM BBC, Droitwich et al., FEB 5 2328 - EE talk by man; mixed with apparent Spain and hetted by Azores-693.7. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 693.68 AZORES FEB 5 I have heard a carrier on 693.68 kHz a few times recently. I had some audio, and, although it was extremely weak, I think it was Spanish football coverage, // 855 and 774. (I'm not absolutely sure since the signal was so pitifully tiny!) Does anyone in Europe hear this, and, if so, can anyone tell me which RNE R. 1 outlet this is? (Later) It turns out my off-freq Spaniard is none other than the chronically off-freq Azores station. I had good audio last night, and the ID is now unequivocal. [Burnell-NF]
- 774 SPAIN RNE1 synchros, FEB 5 2320 - // 855 with SS talk; barely over co-channel rumble and bits of AA station. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 836 AZORES RDP, Pico da Barrosa, FEB 5 2315 - man in PP; to fair peak, better than the stations on 837. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 855 SPAIN RNE1, Murcia et al., FEB 5 2313 - SS discussion and telephone interview; to good peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 891 ALGERIA Algiers, FEB 5 2348 - AA vocal; to fair peak. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 980.98 ALGERIA Radiodif. Algerienne, Algiers, FEB 5 2353 - AA vocal; strong carrier but feeble audio, WTRY phased. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1044 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioum, FEB 5 2305 - AA music evenly mixed with SER Spain. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN SER synchros, FEB 5 2305 - somewhat echoey SS talk; mixed with Morocco. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1107 SPAIN RNE5 synchros, FEB 5 2303 - SS news by man & woman; fair. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1179 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN SER synchros, FEB 5 2257 - SS newstalk by man; poor. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1251 LIBYA Tripoli, FEB 5 2358 - AA talk; poor, stopped by unID SS station on 1250. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1422 GERMANY DeutschlandRadio, Heusweiler, FEB 7 0411 - woman in GG, then orchestral music; over second station. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1467 FRANCE TWR, Roumoules, FEB 5 2253 - male vocal; weaker than usual and badly slopped. [Connelly*O-MA] FEB 7 0356 - man preaching in GG; fair to good. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA, Dubai, FEB 5 2045 - fade-up at good

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).



- level, actually stronger before sunset than after it. FEB 5 2249 - AA vocal and talk; only fair, sometimes submerging under the SER Spain outlet running much less power. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1530 VATICAN R. Vaticana, FEB 7 0400 - Vatican interval signal music; over/under WSAI. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1548 UNITED KINGDOM unID station, FEB 7 0408 - British EE news; not // BBCWS; fair on peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1575 ITALY Genova, FEB 7 0402 - Italian news mentioning a prime minister; very good, over Spain. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1583.65 CEUTA RadiOle, FEB 7 0404 - SS talk and a het against SER-1584, so this one has drifted off channel again. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1584 SPAIN SER synchros, FEB 7 0404 - SER SS news with echo. [Connelly*B-MA]

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZLZ, Basseterre, FEB 5 2341 - reggae vocal music, drums; good with WGAN phased. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 580 PUERTO RICO WKAQ, San Juan, FEB 5 2337 - SS Puerto Rico news; mixed with other SS station (likely R. Monte Cristi, Dominican Republic per format) and a C&W domestic (CJFX?). [Connelly*O-MA]
- 581 unID FEB 5 2336 - het against WKAQ/others on 580. Possibly related to Terry Krueger's 580.8 logging from FL. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 600 CUBA R. Rebelde, CMKV, Urbano Noris, FEB 5 2324 - empassioned SS political speech // 710; excellent / dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 609.42 unID FEB 5 2335 - this 'turkey' now here with buzzy carrier. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 630 CUBA R Progreso, unknown site, JAN 28, 0350-0400 - new one for me, though in checking past IDXD's, this was logged by S. Kennedy and M. Connelly, 11/99+. [Krueger-FL]
- 640 CUBA R. Progreso, Guanabacoa / Las Tunas, FEB 5 2331 - // 660 with SS folk vocal; under CBN. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 640 MEXICO XEHHI CHIH, Hidalgo de Parral FEB 4 0615 - SS, fair and alone in KFI null with festive XE music, slogan "Radio Uno, La Numero Uno". [Knight-CO]
- 660 CUBA R. Progreso, CMHG, Santa Clara, FEB 5 2331 - // 640 with rustic folk group vocal with fiddle and steel guitar; over/under WFAN. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 660 CUBA R Progreso, Santa Clara, Villa Clara, FEB 6 1050/1105 - this one is still running R Reloj overnight till 6 a.m. local. Tune-in to Reloj audio at 1050, Progreso at 1105 recheck. Excellent. [Krueger-FL]
- 660 HONDURAS unidentified (only LV de Honduras listed on 660, and only R America listed on 630), JAN 28, 0315-0400* - tune-in to two men hosting live soccer match between Arequipa Ecuador and unID Honduran (I think) team, frequent live Coke-a-Cola and cerveza spots. The odd thing is, this was parallel 630. So, is there an unlisted R America outlet on 660, or was it a joint relay (maybe merely the latter)? Coverage ended just after 0400, and ad blocks, soft SS vocals and R America ID's were heard on 630, but 660 was in the mud at this point to confirm whether still parallel. America-630 sign-off with closing announcements (no NA) at 0502, plug pulled 0506. [Krueger-FL]
- 660 MEXICO XEAR La Mexicana, Tampico, Tamaulipas, FEB 6 1146-1155 - rancheras, man with "La Mexicana" slogan. Fair, over and under Progreso. [Krueger-FL]
- 670 VENEZUELA YVLL Caracas, JAN 30 0325 - fair over WMAQ with announcements with doorbell sounds, "Radio Rumbos" IDs and Time checks. [Wolfish-ON-M]
- 680 PUERTO RICO WAPA, San Juan, FEB 5 2330 - "Wapa" mention and SS talk under WRKO (and bits of WPTF sneaking in also). It wasn't an auroral night, so fill-in skip from WRKO was messing up the usually solid phase null of its groundwave. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 690 ANGUIILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, FEB 5 2327 - weird sermon about the importance of this month's star charts regarding Canis major and Canis minor (then alluded to by their EE names 'big dog', 'little dog'); strong signal, way over Montreal. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 710 MEXICO XEDP CHIH, Ciudad Cuauhtemoc JAN 26 0330 - SS, full ID, ranchera music, "La Ranchera de Cuauhtemoc". [Knight-AZ]
- 710 CUBA R. Rebelde synchros, FEB 5 2323 - // 600 with emotional SS revolutionary speech: this and the het from W. Sahara - 711.04 were overpowering WOR. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 720 COLOMBIA HJAN Barranquilla, FEB 11 2356 - full call letter ID



- heard in WGN/CHTN mess, several mentions of Barranquilla, too. [Renfrew-NY]
- 730 MEXICO? XE? FEB 4 0418 - SS, música romantica and "La Que Buena" slogans. Looping SE. Over and under KKDA and another XE station. Mentioned "Jaliscos". [Knight-CO]
- 760 COLOMBIA HJAJ Barranquilla, JAN 30 0115 - live broadcast from some kind of carnival, complete with people yelling and banging on drums. RCN ID and jingle also heard; good over WJR. [Wolfish-ON-M] FEB 5 2318 - // 770 with SS shouting by woman & man; good, dominant. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 760 CUBA Radio Reloj FEB 4 0354 - SS, poor under local KTLK with familiar "RR" in morse code. Some QRM from XEABC. [Knight-CO]
- 770 COLOMBIA RCN, HJJX, Bogotá, FEB 5 2318 - // 760 with shrill-voiced female announcer in SS; evenly mixing with a Frank Sinatra retrospective show I was checking out on WABC. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 780 VENEZUELA YVNM Coro, JAN 30 0136 - "Radio Coro" jingles and UTC-4 Time checks, mixing with "Ecos Del Torbes" and WBBM. [Wolfish-ON-M] FEB 5 2346 - R. Coro jingle; mixed with CFDR & WBBM. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 780 VENEZUELA YVOD San Cristobal, JAN 30 0138 - "Ecos Del Torbes" with Latin American music, parallel to 4980. Mixing with YVNM and WBBM. [Wolfish-ON-M]
- 820 unID FEB 5 2316 - jamming type signal; totally trashing WNYC. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 830 CUBA R. Reloj, Holguin, JAN 31 0406 - Typical Reloj news, clicks, and "RR". Location from recent list in IDXD. [Braun-DE]
- 830 MEXICO XEIK COAH, Piedras Negras FEB 4 0345 - SS, Loud (comparable to WBAP on 820) with call letter ID, "La Norteña" slogans, ranchera music. [Knight-CO]
- 870 CUBA R. Reloj, Sancti Spiritus, JAN 31 0409 - Typical Reloj news, clicks, and "RR", first time this one has been noted here. Location from recent list in IDXD. [Braun-DE]
- 910 VENEZUELA YVRQ Caracas, JAN 30 0010-0013 - Latin American music, ID by man at 0012 as "aqui es R-Q Uno". Fair in mess. [Wolfish-ON-M]
- 970 MEXICO XEEZ SON, Caborca FEB 5 0640 - SS, poor under XEJ with "La Zeta (Z)" and "La Super Zeta" slogans, into ad string. [Knight-CO]
- 1000 MEXICO XEFV CHIH, Ciudad Juarez FEB 5 0630 - SS, very good with musica romantica, jingle: "La Rancherita (repeated once), XEFV" by male chorus, mentioned "Juarez" and "Chihuahua" also. [Knight-CO]
- 1020 VENEZUELA Mundial Margarita, YVRS, La Asunción, FEB 5 2359 - SS folk vocal, Margarita ID; good, in easy null of KDKA. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1020.79 unID FEB 5 2308 - weak het against YVRS/KDKA. [Connelly*O-MA]
- 1050 MEXICO XEQOO, Cancun QR, FEB 4 1930 - Good with dance music, DJ taking calls from listeners, and occasional "Radio Pirata" mentions. SS language is about the only tipoff this one is a Mexican - even the 2000 ID was a simple canned "Radio Pirata", minus the full details the XE's can be counted on to give. They were also heard on JAN 6 during auroral conditions strong and nearly alone. This and 860 are probably our best bets for Quintana Roo, a nearly impossible state before the creation of the Cancun resort town. [Francis-TN]
- 1070 MEXICO XEOBS SON, Ciudad Obregon JAN 26 0052 - SS, good in KNX null, call letter ID: "XEOBS, La Nortena" (slogan heard last year as Radio Mexicana). [Knight-AZ]
- 1100 MEXICO unidentified, FEB 6 1200-1210 - XE accordion music, poor under R Cadena Habana and an unID domestic with possible satellite-fed EE news format. Both faded rapidly, leaving only Habana. [Krueger-FL]
- 1140 CUBA "The Buzzer," FEB 6, 1127-1128 - still here, tune-in to the big grinding buzz that seems to last for a minute or so spaced a few minutes apart. [Krueger-FL] (Maybe it's my blender with the missing gasket? - Jim)
- 1140 MEXICO XEMR NL, Monterrey JAN 27 0110 - SS, full ID, very good signal. Heard in car while at Sierra Vista. [Knight-AZ]
- 1170 COLOMBIA HJNW Cartagena, JAN 30 0123-0151 - on top of WWVA with shlocky romantic Latin American vocals. "Caracol" ID at 0051. [Wolfish-ON-M]
- 1170 MEXICO XEIB Caborca, SON FEB 6 0300 - Long ID/promo with synthesized sound, so hard to copy, but call letters and location were there. Followed by a variety of Latino music, occasional ads, many "Super Banda" slogans; occasional time and temp checks. Occasionally fair when partially-nulled KVOO megasignal fades. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1177.94 UNIDENTIFIED FEB 6, 1106-1112 - EZL instrumental music, very weak and in the Rebelde/Marti mix. Puts a big het on 1180 when in AM mode, though, presume LAM as seemed to loop approximately due south. [Krueger-FL]
- 1350 MEXICO XETB COAH, Torreon JAN 27 0030-0059 - SS, very good

with mentions of "Cadena Caracol", full ID. Trying for XETM in Naco (not heard). Heard on car radio in while in Benson driving to Sierra Vista. [Knight-AZ]

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IRELAND: Atlantic 252 has re-launched as 'New Atlantic 252' and their format is now 'Rhythm and Dance Music' They are spending A3250,000 on advertising the new format. They are also using the slogan '12 hits in a row'. There have also been a number of changes to the DJ line up. [Broadcast Magazine via John Williams in Medium Wave News e-mail]

CONTRIBUTORS (@ = via e-mail)

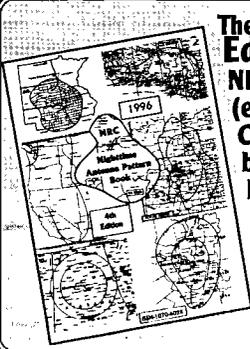
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 @Jean Burnell, St. Johns, NF. (via medium wave circle e-mail) <jburnell@morgan.ucs.mun.ca>
 @Mark Connelly WA1ION, Billerica MA and South Orleans AM; Drake R8A, slopers (east, west), 30-m wire (running east), MFJ-1024 active whip, Superphaser-1 phasing unit. <MarkWA1ION@excite.com>
 @Steve Francis, Alcoa TN; TRF Select-a-Tenna. <pellisipi@aol.com>
 @Chris Knight N0LJK, Lupton CO; Kenwood R-1000, Realistic DX-375, Sanserino Loop; also DX'ing from South Tucson AZ; Realistic DX-375, 1998 Chevy Cavalier Car Radio. <swrad@juno.com>
 @Terry Krueger, Clearwater FL. <tocabagad@earthlink.net>
 @Jim Renfrew, Rochester NY; Drake R8, Radio West Loop. <renfrew@localnet.com>
 @John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop. <peakbagger3@juno.com>
 @Niel Wolfish, DX'ing in Minden ON, ICOM-R71A + 1000 feet of wire pointed south. Also DX'ing from east of Aurora, AOR-7030 Plus + 500 feet of wire pointed east. on the side of St. John's Sideroad. <niel@ican.net>

CELEBRITY DX QUIZ ANSWERS: #1: (a) 770 kHz, (not sure of call letters). #2: (d) 1530 kHz (I always wondered what WCKY thought of the program!). #3: (d) a legal frequency in the Eastern European FM band, but below the authorized range in the USA. [I clearly have too much time on my hands - Jim]

The NRC AM Log on a disk. The NRC is offering this service primarily for sight-impaired members; but NRC members (ONLY) may purchase this PC-formatted, 3.5-inch disk for \$6.00 postpaid. The list contains only Frequency, Call letters, State, City, Antenna, Day Power, Night Power, Additional Powers, Permits, Time Zone, and Stereo Operation and is current with the 20th Edition of the NRC AM Log. Order from the NRC Publications Center - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

Please preserve these QSL's for future display! Do not discard these items. For preservation information contact the:
 National Radio Club
 P.O. Box 118
 Poquonock, Connecticut 06064

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.



The NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 4th Edition is the perfect mate to the NRC AM Log, as the NPB provides DX'ers with up-to-date maps of all (except Class IV) stations with nighttime operations. Convenient to use: 3-hole punched for standard binders. Only \$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members: to 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)

DX'ers' Notebook

Shared tips, topics, and Internet info

Dave Braun dcbraun@delanet.com

863 Allabands Mill Rd.

Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

Welcome to the first "DXers Notebook". Well, the name has changed, but our mission remains the same. We're going to continue looking in on discussions from the NRC's e-mail group (if you're on e-mail, why not join?). We're also going to continue to try to include information to help you hear more DX, and to identify the stations that you do hear. While we have been concentrating on the e-mail group recently, mostly due to your editor not having a lot of extra time to dig up other info, look for other types of information to show up in upcoming columns.

We start this time with a "new source of RFI".

Russ Edmunds <wb2bjh@yahoo.com>: Today I decided to see if the source of an insistent buzzing mostly at the lower end of the band was really computer-generated. It wasn't, but I did trace it to the mini-transmitter attached to my water meter which enables the meter readers to drive by and read from their cars! And this is mandatory, and the electric/gas supplier is talking about going the same way. Pretty soon I'll need a cabin in the woods in order to DX!

Paul Smith, W4KNX <sunray2@gte.net>: Russ, that problem is easily repaired with a pair of diagonal pliers. Let them come to you when they can't read the meter.

Paul Swearingen <PlsBCBDXER@aol.com>: Some distant day in the future, when I have lots of time, I need to research state laws to see what our legislature has done to protect the public, including DX'ers, from this type of pollution. I know that our city soon will have "drive-by" transmitters similar to what you've described, but I never thought that they would cause such a problem. Silly me!

Russ Edmunds: The whole utility industry is going in this direction. But why they have to leave the things on continuously when readings are only bi-monthly escapes me. I intend to negotiate with them to disable it the rest of the time. It kills 530 and 730, and many channels up thru about 900, and causes lesser noises above.

David Braun <dcbraun@delanet.com>: Have you contacted the utility about this yet? It would seem that the manufacturer should have had some specs that they had to meet - interference was one of them we worked on when I was in charge of Dover's water department.

Doug Smith <w9wi@bellsouth.net>: How about a wireless mike tuned to the thing's frequency? Maybe your state's Public Utilities Board can do something? (it may also be in violation of Part 15, but I wouldn't expect a FCC complaint to see action any time in the near future...)

Doug Smith: Be careful what you ask for in terms of state legislation, you may regret it! State legislatures - and even more so, local governments - are good at ignoring the laws of physics, and even the Constitution, in order to do something that sounds good to them. (not that the federal Congress doesn't do this too, but the states are a lot worse) You might end up with a law prohibiting the maintenance of more than one radio tower on the same property, or prohibiting transmitters of more than 100 watts within the state's borders, or prohibiting the operation of those distracting red lights on radio towers at night...

Bart Cronin <bcronin@gte.net>: My biggest RFI problem is a horrible buzz that comes from my CATV after they upgraded the system. It is constant at some level from 1500-2000 +/- kHz basically ruining the XBand (except for KXOL, of course.) They are less than cooperative and with a sale to AT&T I doubt the cooperation will improve. I'm looking at a Dish but with lots of trees in the way apparently won't get a good signal, either.

Patrick Martin <mwdxer@webtv.net>: You might have pretty good luck with a Dish (18 inch), even with the trees. There are a bunch of Poplars blocking the South here, but the signal gets through all the same. It was different with the big dishes. I refuse to have cable, mostly for the RFI QRM too.

John R Tudenham <jotud@juno.com>: QRM the thing and maybe you won't get a water bill. HI.

Paul Swearingen: Far be it from me to ask for more... even though our local legislator is a former student of mine and has a good head on his shoulders! I would only research to find currently existing legislation to use as a club only as a last resort, or to change the priorities of the offenders.

The following discussion was a result of KFI turning off their AM Stereo generator:

Ragnar Danneskjold <lwdxer@juno.com>: KFI 640 AM in Los Angeles has turned its C-QUAM exciter for the last time according to its CE. I will miss another AM stereo signal at night. It's a shame to see it go because of government and manufacturers stupidity.

Paul Smith, W4KNX: Didn't KFI just join the clear Channel empire?? Randy Michaels has turned

**AM 580
WIBW**
NEWS • TALK • SPORTS

off the stereo of every AM Clear Channel owns. It's his policy.

Ragnar Danneskjold: Paul, What that man has done is awful. Yes, KFI has not yet joined but it is a pretty much foregone conclusion. The money is going to change hands soon and the deal will be done. The CE, Marvin Somethingorother said that it wasn't his choice but that it came from AMFM and he was just following marching orders. Money talks. What else can I say.

John R Tudenham: Right, but how many people care anything about AM stereo, most younger people don't even know AM exists. I don't like it that way but that's the way it is. In most markets FM stations have 80% or more of the audience.

Ragnar Danneskjold: Go to www.amstereo.com. Go to amstereo@listbot.com and sign up and see all the people on the list. There are a lot of people who wonder where am stereo went and would like to see it back. You'd be surprised. I know I want to see it return and would like to see AMFM go to hell for turning off all the exciter.

John R Tudenham: Ragnar again I agree but look at the ratings on AM in most markets only talk AM stations are doing well, I wish this would change. Look what happened to your 550 KOY a good station, they make more money with talk and sports programming on AM. WDAF 610 in Kansas City might be the exception. Our 10KW local KKOW on 860 just changed from music to all talk, the only AM stations here that still play some music are religious stations playing some gospel music 1230 and 1310. They couldn't afford to go Stereo. The 1310 ex KFSB 5KW, was donated to Ozark Bible College here because no one wanted to buy the station and the owner of 4 FM stations did not want it. Your Phoenix area may be doing better because of the large number of Senior Citizens but very few young people listen to AM music anymore. Money talks and that's the name of the game, I don't like it either.

Randy Stewart <jrs555t@mail.smu.edu>: The situation John talks of in Joplin is similar to what's happening 70 mi. up I-44 here in Springfield MO... our longtime country station on 1260, KTTS, recently shut off their stereo generator, as did "Memories 1400" (whose call I just forgot!!). Now, I'm not a fan of country music, but their stereo audio was superb—cleaner in fact, with less limiting, processor artifacts or distortion, than their *FM* (94.7), and with almost the same frequency response! 1400 frankly isn't that much of a loss, as their audio was horrid—uneven channel levels, hum and noise and unidentifiable garbage in one or both channels, tinny, bass-shy, distorted crap. Sounds better in non-AMax format, actually. However, now we have NO local AMs in stereo, and that's a damn shame. KTOZ-1060 supposedly has a stereo generator, but they've never hooked it up.

Patrick Griffith, N0NNK <AM-DXer@webtv.net>: My '86 Jeep Cherokee had a factory AM stereo/FM stereo radio in it. The sound on AM stereo was superb. It even had an indicator light to tell you when you were tuned to a stereo station. Made DXing and general listening a lot of fun. When I traded it in on a '96 Ford Bronco I was surprised to find out they didn't offer an option with AM stereo. Of course, when I bought the Jeep there were still some AM stations playing music formats. I can't see what purpose AM stereo talk radio would serve. I suppose in a debate you could put pro on one channel and con on the other :-).

John D Bowker <wa2wen@juno.com>: AM Stereo.. FM Stereo..Talk shows benefit a great deal. When two people start talking at once, in stereo you can understand them both! And WQYK(FM) here in Tampa is broadcasting the football games in stereo.. the crowd really comes alive!

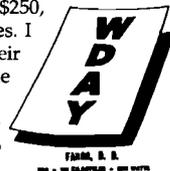
John R Tudenham: "KTOZ-1060 supposedly has a stereo generator, but they've never hooked it up." Randy does KTOZ 1060 still run an all volunteer staff and still not showing a profit? I can see why they can't go stereo. I hear them here in the daytime fairly weak but audio seems somewhat distorted.

Randy Stewart: John, yes, KTOZ is still doing the all-volunteer staff routine (indentured servants, more like—from what I hear he treats his volunteers like dirt, don't know why anyone would WANT to subject themselves to that...). And yes, their sound quality is awful... any low-modulated audio disintegrates into gritty distortion, like their compressor/limiter is totally screwed up.

Ragnar Danneskjold: "I can't see what purpose AM stereo talk radio would serve. I suppose in a debate you could put pro on one channel and con on the other :-)." Lots of times the moderator and someone else is talking simultaneously. It would help to be able to hear them both well.

Patrick Griffith, N0NNK: That makes sense. I sure wish my Bronco had an AM stereo radio in it.

Chet Copeland <CHETCOP@webtv.net>: I was at my local Radio Shack yesterday, and noticed that the RS DX 392 shortwave/AM/FM portable with a (mono) I event timed-cassette recorder is now on clearance at \$130. My store had three; the DC area stores had a total of 45, most of them display models. You should know that if the packaging, etc. is in bad shape or non-existent, you can get a year added to the full warranty (or a \$20 discount)—at least I have. This 'rig' retailed at \$250, and \$199 on sale. I'm sure the Sangean version is still being sold at those prices. I currently have two (along with a 390, 398, etc), so I must like it! I always buy their TSP—4-5 year full warranty, since I'm rough on my units: it's not unheard of for me to get 1-2 free DX392 replacements in that time (if it's not made any more, you stand a good chance of getting an upgrade to a more expensive version to something roughly comparable, say, to the DX398), plus replacement antennas, etc. no



questions asked. Getting the cassette serviced 'free' has also been welcome. Because of this, I avoid mail order radio stores (but then, many look down on R.S. products, esp. shortwaves... They can go on looking down, IMHO!). If I lose my warranty info, RS has it via their 800 TSP # which I've accessed myself but only because store clerks kept getting 'no TSP on file' one time: In that case it turned out to be because the selling clerk entered the wrong zip code, so it was filed there.

Russ Edmunds: Pete Taylor asked me if I had any ideas about how to locate SR/SS times for Canadian stations similar to what is available on the FCC's website for US stations, also noting that our SR/SS maps don't include Canada. While I have an old archival set of IRCA World SR/SS maps from the early 1970's, that's the only source I can locate. I've checked several of the Canadian government sites and found only huge database files which might be downloaded if you have 25+ megabytes to spare along with the time it might take to download them. While I have both at the moment, I thought that before I went in that direction, I'd ask here to see if there's a better source.

Russ Edmunds: I've been thinking lately about how to provide more help for DX'ers in this area, and I've come up with a few thoughts. Perhaps some of these resources are already available, but I may not be aware of them. There could perhaps be created. Perhaps we can discuss this here and come up with some answers.

1. I have looked without success for a current listing of the names of the various state governors on the web. This is sometimes helpful to ID news items or promos.
2. It might be helpful if there were a listing of all of the call-in numbers used by the major national tele-talk programs/networks. I know we could compile such a list.
3. It might also be helpful if we had studio call-in numbers for local talk shows, although this could be an enormous undertaking to compile and keep up-to-date.
4. I've come across a good telephone area code index site which I'd like to share: <www.555-1212.com/adlookup.html>

5. I haven't seen anything in DX News, but there is a listing of stations for the Liberty Works Radio Network available at <www.libertyworksradio.com>. For some reason, this list doesn't include WCPK-1600-VA, which as recently as December when I last paid attention to the station, was running this net. Also, I don't know how current the website is on this.

Russ Edmunds: It's always a good thing when you are able to answer your own questions, hi. As it happens, I stumbled across a list of governors on the web. The URL is: <www.nga.org/Governor/GovMasterList.htm>

Wayne Heinen <Nrclog@aol.com>: My latest info says Liberty Works abandoned WCPK when they acquired WHKT-1650.

So what type of information would like to see? What would help you identify those stations you've heard that won't ID? Let me know - I'll try to get it for you.

Taking the cue from this discussion, let's get some in-depth information on some networks - more than just the station lists. Here's information on "Florida's Radio Network". FRN provides the following programming: News, "Better Lawns & Gardens" (Sat. 0700-0900 ELT), "Florida Roundtable" (Sun. 1000-1000 ELT), "At Home with Gary Sullivan" (Sat. 0900-1100 ELT), and "Outdoors with Vern & Doug" (Sat. 0500-0600 ELT). The network's phone number is 888-407-4FRN.

This the news affiliate list, from http://www.frn.com/lists/news_insert:

570	WHNZ-FL	1290	WBZT-FL	1430	WLKF-FL	94.1	WTYS-FL
610	WIOD-FL	1330	WEBY-FL	1450	WWJB-FL	94.3	WNFB-FL
730	WWTK-FL	1340	WDSR-FL	1460	WZEP-FL	94.9	WTNT-FL
740	WWNZ-FL		WTYS-FL	1490	WWPR-FL	96.9	WKEZ-FL
790	WLBE-FL		WITS-FL		WXVQ-FL	97.3	WSKY-FL
840	WPGS-FL	1350	WMMV-FL	1530	WENG-FL	99.1	WVOJ-FL
850	WRUF-FL		WDCF-FL	1570	WYHI-FL	100.3	WCTH-FL
940	WINZ-FL	1370	WOCF-FL		WOKC-FL	101.1	WYOO-FL
1070	WKII-FL		WAXE-FL	1580	WTCL-FL	101.7	WDJY-FL
1130	WWBF-FL	1400	WPRY-FL	1590	WPSL-FL	103.1	WFKZ-FL
1150	WNDB-FL		WTRR-FL	92.1	WJXR-FL	106.3	WAFK-FL
1230	WMAF-FL		WZHR-FL	93.5	WXCV-FL	106.9	WZZS-FL
	WWSD-FL						
1240	WBGC-FL						
	WMMB-FL						
	WFOY-FL						
1250	WQHL-FL						
1260	WYD-FL						
1270	WNLS-FL						



We also take a look at the "Z" Radio Networks, from their website at www.zspanish.com/. The Z-Radio Networks include three formats: "La Buena", "La Bonita", and "Hot Z", described as "Old School & R&B Favorites". "Hot Z" was the only format not to include an affiliate list. The network phone number is 916-646-4000. They have links on their web sites to hear real audio feeds of their networks.

"La Buena" is heard on the following (from www.labuena.com/Stationlist.html):

750	KMMJ-NE	1470	KBBA-TX	100.9	KMIX-CA	106.9	KRVA-TX
930	KAPR-AZ	1490	KENE-WA	103.5	KRAY-CA	107.1	KRVF-TX
970	KBBK-ID	1600	KRVA-TX	103.7	KPZA-NM		

"La Bonita" is heard on the following (from www.labonita.com/Stationlist.html):

920	KLOC-CA	1210	KZTS-CA	1310	WOKA-GA	1430	WDAL-GA
960	KIWX-CA	1240	KSQR-CA	1390	KDQN-AR	1540	KZMP-CA
980	KCTY-CA	1300	KAKC-OK	1420	KBBX-NE	1570	KCVR-CA
						98.9	KTDO-CA

Musings of the Members

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.

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Scranton, PA 18505-0111

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

Richard Wood - P O Box 2895 - Kailua Kona, HI 96745-2895

My congrats to BEN DANGERFIELD on his outstanding catch of India-1566. It is a well-modulated station, apparently beamed to the Gulf, not undermodulated or hummy as some of its shortwave equals, Ben's equal to on 5010 khz clinches it. Equals noted here are Calcutta-1134 (a megawatt which would peak an hour earlier, if on the air, then be an even rarer catch on the East coast) and Delhi-810. Hearing 810 in Hindi call for extreme care in ID'ing, since Fiji is also in the same language at the same time, 6A here. And since Fiji now has an ethnic Indian prime minister, it is conceivable that Radio Fiji could relay AIR, certainly Fiji's English service on 774 and elsewhere, carries many relays from BBC, RA and RNZI. Selfishly, as a DX'er here, I'm sorry to hear that KOHO-1170 is being reactivated. It used to be Japanese, but about 3 years ago, it went silent on 1170 and, as KJPN, replaced the former KAHU on 940, doing away with HI's only country station. Since KFRE-940 was also country then, it was a great demonstration for non DX'ing visitors to flip the antenna switch and show the two different stations on the same frequency, one semi local and the other 3000 miles away, both at local strength. Honolulu's local shaky economy will be hard put to support yet another marginal AM station. On the positive side, there are still several silent traditional HI frequencies, 970 here on the Big Island where a construction permit was granted for Waimea (Kamuella) but never materialized, 1130 (once KLEI Kailua, Oahu), and 1350 (once Kauai). Listening the other morning to BBC-1296, my most distant semi-regular catch, I noticed what a huge range of frequencies England was audible on simultaneously, all the way to 21710 (at 6AM local). But, approaching it the other way round, to the best of my knowledge, English DXers have never heard HI (or New Zealand or the Pacific Islands) on AM. I began DX'ing in England in 1957, and little thought then that I would be living in the Aloha State. The Sheigra, Scotland, DXpedition caught the West coast, mainly KOMO-1000 and KING-1090, but no HI. On the other hand, Finnish DX'ers have sent me tapes of KKON-790 with better reception than in downtown Kailua-Kona. In fact, KKON's local coverage is poor. At my business, I conduct informal surveys of customers AM listening habits and have yet to meet one who heard of KKON, which has now become a satellite of KIPA-620, which has its own Kona synchro relay! What a waste of frequencies!

Stan Morss - Route 2 - Boxford, MA 01921

Have just renewed for my 60th year in the NRC, but the fun has gone from DX with the hundreds (if not thousands) of stations "on line" and the several stations that have become non-verifiers for me the past season with good solid reports sent and follow ups sent. And others get veries by E-mail, and now a station runs a DX TEST saying all reports must be sent by E-mail. It's been fun and receiving a card or letter or the occasional EKKO stamp was the goal. Maybe I'll be around for DAB-IBOC or Eureka 147 but the thrill is gone, as far as computers are concerned.

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

STAN'S above report brings up a perspective to things. Yes, there are a lot of us that have computers but there are still a lot of us that DON'T and still rely on using the standard method of enjoying the hobby! I agree with Stan, E-mailing reception reports might be handy for the CE but certainly not the way to do the test! So,



let's put this to the membership, have a few members that can help out, if a station wants E-mail reports, fine, the reports can be forwarded to someone who has a computer for them to send the member's report who does not have a computer. And any PC, I would really discourage that practice of using JUST E-mail

for reports. The WMBT-1530 test was on as scheduled 2/5, 0000-0207; hope BILL ANDRES enjoyed it! The conditions were bad that morning, so another one will be rescheduled in late March/early April, with a few weeks more advance warning. And another test from WAAT-750 will be forthcoming soon also, maybe a little later in the morning for the benefit of those further west.

The last test at WAAT brought about 30 reports. On the way out, one thing I noticed was WMIM-1590 running FULL power at 2:30AM with ESPN sports (and off frequency by about 400 hertz!), I think this may be RJE's catch from a few issues back, WMIM runs ESPN sports which he ID'ed as WPWA, which is still on the Catholic Radio Network (they own the station!) and is ALL religion via satellite. As of 2/5, my 3-mile-distant local, WKQV-1550, remains silent. And even though I was IN the main lobe of their 500 watt night signal, it was still given a real hard time by WQEW-1560! Anyone remember the frequency check of WCDL-1440 from many years ago? That was one that you would always hear, no matter how bad the conditions were; it was always there. Last week, I repaired the transmitter that made the test possible, a Gates BCSE. Its still there after all these years, and, now, working! Reports on hand from BILL ALISAUSKAS and Y-O-U, if you send them in! 73's

Non-technical Observations On The Radio Shack Indoor Am Loop (15-1853)

by Joe Kureth

After reading the comments by Russ Johnson and John E. Bowker (DX News Volume 67, #7) on the new AM loop from Radio Shack, I purchased one the following weekend (\$30). It was the only one in stock.

For reception comparison, I am currently using a Drake SW8, purchased in August, 1998. The following January, I ran a 950' longwire, which is generally NE-SW oriented. Results have been more than satisfactory as over 70 new logs have been added with the Drake/longwire (all but one was a domestic.) Problem is that the wire is "fixed" and nulls stations from the west and north-west. For instance, WGN, WHO, CBE, and WAKR are nearly impossible, KDKA and WLS difficult. This is great for nulling properties but sometimes I'd like to hear these stations and others in that direction.

At first I tried the Loop in the day on the Drake, but the gain didn't nearly match the longwire. Next, I tried it with a Radio Shack DX-375 but not much there either. Then I tried it on a GE Superadio III with somewhat better results; the antenna leads could be attached to the receiver.

With night-time DX on the SR III and the Loop, reception was much improved. Without going into a lot of detail, I've been missing a whole lot of DX! Comparing reception is like DXing on two different frequencies. While the Drake would be picking up one signal, the Loop would be getting another on the Superadio. And, in some instances, one could not be heard on the other. In recent months I've added at least a dozen new AM loggings on the SR III/RS Loop which were not heard on the Drake/longwire.

As for positioning the RS Loop next to a receiver (the SR III), I've found good results by placing the loop under the receiver for best reception: nulling and gain. Another benefit is that both the receiver and loop can be maneuvered to get the desired signal. (Recently, I was able to hear 4 different signals on 1060 kHz besides KYW Philadelphia).

For the product, the Radio Shack Loop is a good investment for AM DX'ers. It is well designed and stable (i.e. doesn't tip over easily). The only drawback is that the Loop is much more prone to TVI and QRN than a shielded-to-receiver/longwire. Only improvement I can think of is that Radio Shack could make a larger version (maybe 1/2, 18" diameter) and be active (battery powered, like the Wooster SM-1).

Are you expiring?

We hope not! To avoid expiration, mail your remittance to the DX News Membership Center early. Allow at least three weeks after mailing your check or money order for new renewal data to appear on your mailing label.

Radio's Role in the Communications Revolution

By Brad Skillman, AP Business Writer

(via Phil Boersma; in the Grand Haven Tribune)

NEW YORK - On an otherwise unremarkable late October evening in 1938, many Americans relaxed at home, doing what they had become accustomed to since broadcasting had become popular a couple of decades earlier: They listened to radio. It was the Mercury Theatre's live broadcast of a concert from New York's Park Plaza Hotel.

No one expected the urgent news flash.

"Ladies and gentlemen, we interrupt our program of dance music to bring you a special bulletin from the Intercontinental Radio News. At 20 minutes before 8 Central Time, Professor Farrell of the Mount Jennings Observatory, Chicago, Illinois, reports observing several explosions of incandescent gas occurring at regular intervals on the planet Mars."

For the next couple of hours, listeners across the country remained transfixed, some panicked, as details poured out of the radio about the Martian landing in New Jersey.

Owens Pomeroy, a grade-school boy at the time, remembers hearing the announcer talking to Professor Pierson about the rocket in the sky and the spaceship landing.

"My mom got really upset," recalled Pomeroy, who now lives in Baltimore. His father, though, was immediately skeptical. "Now if this is the real thing, it should be on the other stations," he said, and quickly scanned the dial.

"Lo and behold," said Pomeroy, "we heard Charlie McCarthy coming to us over the good old NBC Blue."

For the Pomeroyes and millions of others, it was a relief when Orson Welles' chilling broadcast of "The War of the Worlds" was revealed as fiction - but it also reminded them of the awesome power of radio.

In this age of information overload, it's easy to overlook the grandparent of 20th century mass communications.

The clunky device that in its early days resembled a homemade science project filled with tubes and wires. The primitive tuner that people would fiddle to pick up a scratchy broadcast of "Amos 'n' Andy" or a president's speech. The simple yet powerful precursor to television and the Internet. This was radio, which became the foundation on which the information revolution was built.

Consider the legacies radio has established:

— THE VOICE OF AUTHORITY: Radio's reach and power were such that anything heard over the airwaves was considered to be fact, said Chuck Howell, the curator of the Library of American Broadcasting at the University of Maryland.

"Part of it was that voice of authority — this

was something that did come into your home," said Howell. "It was so glamorous and so high-culture — radio had a real cachet."

Radio's assumed authority was a primary reason why the "War of the Worlds" resulted in a panic in some areas, with thousands of people contacting police - even though newspapers had printed notice of it in their broadcast listings.

Lest one think that Welles' hoax was a unique experience that could not be repeated today, consider the effect the mass media still have on the average person.

One example: About a year ago, securities analyst Ralph Acampora, noted for his bullish attitude toward the stock market, made a pronouncement on the CNBC cable television network that the stock market run was over. The market, which had been struggling all day, promptly plunged as traders and investors across the country, independent of one another but reacting as one, sold stocks.

— THE LOSS OF BOUNDARIES: Radio connected people over vast distances, enhancing a sense of regional or national unity.

Today we take for granted the eroding of boundaries that has been carried much farther by the Internet. It was not always this way.

One radio pioneer, Fay Gillis Wells, described how she and her husband used to travel in the late 1930's doing a show called "The Magic of RCA" to help promote the wonders of short-wave radio. Sixty years ago, it was still astonishing that someone could speak in Los Angeles and be heard in New York almost instantaneously.

"We would always have to synchronize watches ... so when they wanted him to speak at 2:17, he'd start," she said.

Not only did radio shrink the distances between people, it helped to bring them together. In the throes of the Depression in the early 1930's, President Franklin Roosevelt began using regular broadcasts as a forum, and families gathered around the radio to listen. "My dear friends ..." he would start each Fireside Chat before going on to explain the latest details of his New Deal.

— INFORMATION, NOW: In a century of impatience and speed, radio allowed people to get the news immediately, rather than having to wait hours or days for the local daily or weekly newspaper. It became an invaluable propaganda tool, leaping enemy lines during World War II, slipping behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War.

On Nov. 2, 1920, Pittsburgh station KDKA announced that Warren Harding had won the presidential election in what is considered the first-ever

commercial broadcast.

From presidential elections to ball scores, radio news gathering progressed, relating key news events as they happened. Events such as the Hindenburg disaster in 1937 showcased the medium in all its glory, a precursor to today's live TV news coverage.

NBC (WLS) newsmen Herbert Morrison was on the scene that day.

"Here it comes, ladies and gentlemen, and what a sight it is, a thrilling one, a marvelous sight.... Oh, oh, oh.... It's burst into flames. ... It is burning, bursting into flames and is falling.... Oh! ... This is one of the worst ... Oh! It's a terrible sight ... Oh! the humanity ..."

Radio news broadcasting perhaps reached its apex during the coverage of World War II. While World War I was fought through the antiseptic pages of the country's newspapers, the brutality and atrocity of the Nazis' march across Europe was brought to life through radio by the compelling reporting of correspondents such as H.V. Kaltenborn, Edward R. Murrow, and Eric Sevareid.

Dave Michaels, a former CNN anchor, said listening to the wartime broadcasts on WEAJ with his family was always compelling. "There was something about the voice on the radio that was extremely dramatic."

Sometimes the added drama wasn't necessary. He was in Philadelphia when the Japanese surrender was announced over the radio, Michaels said. "The family just went nuts."

— THE POWER TO ENTERTAIN: Much of early broadcasting consisted of radio manufacturers' sometimes desperate efforts to fill air time so people would want to buy a radio to listen. Gradually, however, entertainers cultivated followings, helped tremendously by the introduction of network radio.

Led by the National Broadcasting Company and Columbia Broadcasting System, the networks broadcast the same show everywhere in the nation at once.

People would make time to hear shows such as "Our Gal Sunday" and "The Goldbergs," just as people decades later carved out time to watch "Seinfeld" each week, said Susan Smulyan, an associate professor in the Department of American Civilization at Brown University.

"You could get professional quality entertainment without leaving the house," said Smulyan.

One of the most popular shows of the late 1920's and early '30's, "Amos 'n' Andy," starred Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll, two white men playing two black men in slapstick roles that offend modern sensibilities but were so popular then that more than half the listening public tuned in for the 15 minute show every evening. Restaurants stopped serving for that quarter hour; some movie theaters interrupted the film and

pipled the radio program into the cinema.

It wasn't just comedy and music that were popular. Horror and drama serials drew listeners back to the radio each week to hear the latest adventure of The Shadow or The Lone Ranger.

Exactly who gets credit as radio's inventor is subject to debate, though a device patented in England in 1896 by Guglielmo Marconi became the most commercially successful.

By the end of 1930, 12 million American households, or 40 percent, had radios. A decade later, 35 million households, or 80 percent, had a radio.

It was no longer the only show in town. TV technology existed in the 1930's but had not been able to flourish due to the prohibitive costs and the lack of television facilities through which to transmit the signals.

Now, however, with the end of World War II, the networks - now three, with American Broadcasting Company taking over one of NBC's networks, - faced a choice: Continue investing money in radio, or start spending money on TV - which offered everything radio had plus pictures. It was an easy decision.

Many entertainers liked the new medium, which allowed them much more leeway on how to perform.

No longer were families gathering around the radio for the early evening drama - now it was the TV set.

"Once the TV came into the house, the big Atwater Kent (radio) got relegated to the basement and was never heard from again," said Michaels, who worked as a page at NBC during the transition period.

"We still had network shows, but all the stress was on television."

The Golden Age of Radio was nearing an end. But rather than dying out, radio reinvented itself, evolving to a localized format and filling the airtime with everything from rock 'n' roll to today's ranting talk shows. It's now a \$15 billion industry, according to Radio Business Report.

With nearly 12,500 stations licensed by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States as the century nears a close, radio today is as big as ever, though different now.

Software such as RealAudio allows people to use their computers to listen to radio stations across the world.

At the other end of the spectrum of listening experience, rival sports teams in small towns use the local radio station to make ironic song dedications to the opposing team.

"I like radio's ability to foster community and make people feel connected," said Smulyan, who heard some of those musical raspberries during a visit to Texas. "It can bring different people together - people who have lots in common, and people who have nothing in common."

IRCA Convention 2000 in Billings, Montana

The International Radio Club Of America Convention will be held August 25, 26, and 27, 2000 in Billings, Montana. Your convention hosts will be John and Nancy Johnson. Non-IRCA members may register by mail providing your name and names of those attending, mailing address, days you plan on being in Billings, and confirmation that you have made reservations at the Quality Inn. The advance registration fee will be \$35.00 which includes the Saturday night buffet. Please make out your registration fee check to "John C. Johnson" and send it to John and Nancy's home address, 265 Waterton Way, Billings, MT 59102-7755 by July 31, 2000.

The convention will be held at the Homestead Quality Inn located at 2036 Overland Avenue in Billings. This is just off I-90 on Billings' west end. Take Exit 446 and follow King Avenue West to Overland Avenue. A map is available on the internet, or write to John or Nancy. This is the same location as the 1993 IRCA convention. Their phone number is 406-652-1320. You may call their national 800 number at 800-228-5151 for reservations, but please make sure you mention the Billings Homestead Quality Inn and the "2000 IRCA Convention" for the special rates. Our special rates are \$55.00 for singles, \$72.00 for doubles, or \$59.00 for their twin suites. Cut off date for special rates is July 15, 2000. Homestead Quality Inn provides free shuttle service from Logan International Airport and the Greyhound Bus station.

Airlines serving Billings include Delta, United, Big Sky, Northwest, and Horizon. If Alaska Air serves your area, please check their connections on Horizon. Greyhound Bus service is available to Billings.

The banquet will be at the Old Country Buffet. This will be an all-you-can-eat buffet featuring their regular Saturday night menu of (subject to change) Carved Ham, Carved Roast Beef, Fried Chicken, Baked Chicken, BBQ Ribs, Spaghetti, Penne, Fried Fish, Corn on the Cob, Chicken and Dumplings, Macaroni and Cheese, French Fries, a complete salad bar, and a complete dessert bar.

Tours will be scheduled with as many Billings radio stations as possible. The tour of KTVQ will include watching the production of their Friday night 10:00 newscast. More details will be provided as tours are confirmed.

Do you like to eat and shop? The convention is being held in the heart of the largest shopping area in Montana. Restaurants within easy walking distance of the convention site include Fuddrucker's, Dennys, Outback Steakhouse, Jade Palace, Burger King, Taco Johns, Perkins, Red Lobster, Olive Garden, and Gussicks. Within two miles you will find Pizza Hut, Subway, Dairy Queen, Wendys, Arbys, McDonalds, Taco Bell, Applebees, Dos Machos, Fuddrucker's Express, Golden Corral, Old Country Buffet, and Cactus Creek Steak Outfitters. The largest mall in Montana, Rimrock Mall is just 2 miles from the convention. Many national big box stores are within 2 miles including, but not limited to, Costco, Wal-Mart Super Store, ShopKo, Target, Big K-Mart, Best Buy, Toys R Us, Old Navy, and OfficeMax.

Billings is located within a days drive of many vacation tourist attractions including, but not limited to Yellowstone National Park, Little Big Horn Battlefield, Glacier National Park and Mount Rushmore.

Start making your plans now to attend this years convention! If you were at the 1993 Billings convention you will want to return for more of the same fun. If you missed the 1993 Billings convention now is your chance to attend. If you have access to the internet, check out the convention web site at: <<http://pages.prodigy.net/john_johnson/irca2000>>



13th Annual Winter SWL Festival

March 10-12, 2000

Holiday Inn

Summeytown Pike

Kulpsville, Pennsylvania



First Fest of The Millennium!

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Get there any way you can!

Plan to attend your favorite forums Friday and Saturday. Enjoy meeting with your friends in the Hospitality Room. Bring radio related items for the swap meet or to donate for the Silent Auction. Check out your friends' receivers, bring one of your own for others to try!

No frills: just shortwave, longwave, mediumwave, pirates, and scanning. Once again you will enjoy the camaraderie of your hobby friends.

Registration Options include:

FULL — Includes forums, hospitality room, lunch and banquet — \$40

PARTIAL — Includes forums, hospitality room but NO meals — \$17

SPOUSE — Includes hospitality room and meals — \$22



GRAND PRIZE To be announced

SPECIAL Register early to win a SW portable! One free entry for an early-bird registration received by February 12, 2000.

Please bring items for the Silent Auction. Proceeds are donated to charity.

Checks should be made payable to WINTER SWL FEST. Register directly with the hotel for your rooms by calling the Holiday Inn at (215) 368-3800. For 2000, one special rate \$75 single or double! Tell the hotel staff you're with the WINTER SWL FEST to receive this special room rate. Up to the minute info can be found on the Winter SWL Fest Web Page at <http://www.trsc.com/winterfest.html> or from <http://www.anarc.org/naswa/>.

The Holiday Inn is located at EXIT 31 of the PA Turnpike Northeast Extension-Lansdale Interchange. Improved access from the south with the Blue Route—ask for details. Limo service is available from Phila. Intd Airport directly to the Holiday Inn.

Please submit the following form with your registration amount or send for more information to:

NOTE!



SWL Winterfest

P.O. Box 4153

Clifton Park, NY 12065



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Name _____

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Circle: FULL PARTIAL SPOUSE (Spouse Name _____)

Banquet - Check: Roast Beef _____ Chicken _____ Registration Fee Enclosed: \$ _____

I wish to purchase _____ raffle tickets

(\$1 ea./ 6 for \$5/ Special 13 for \$10)

Tickets Fee Enclosed: \$ _____

Total check/money order enclosed: \$ _____

Registration cancellations after 2/28/2000 cannot be refunded, however we will refund raffle ticket money if you have to cancel.

Registration verifications can only be made if you supply an email address! Sorry if this is an inconvenience.