

# DX News

Serving DX'ers since 1933



Volume 68, No. 18 - February 12, 2001 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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### CPC Test Calendar

WFBS	PA	1280	Feb. 17	0000-0200
WGAI	NC	560	Feb. 16/17	2330-0030

**WGAI-560** (P.O. Box 1408 - Elizabeth City NC 27909) will conduct a DX test from 11:30 pm-12:30 am EST Friday, February 16/Saturday, February 17. The test will consist of easily-identifiable CW ID's and various jingles inserted between breaks of the CW ID's. WGAI will be operating with its normal night time operation of 500 watts directional. Phone calls (NOT collect) will be accepted at 252-335-0856, and reception reports (with return postage) may be sent to Bob Carter, Operations/Engineering. <<www.wgai560am.com>>; E-Mail: <<wgai560am@aol.com>> Arranged by Bob Carter and forwarded by Lynn Hollerman, IRCA.

**From the Publisher ...** More great behind-the-mike memories on tap this week in Dave Schmidt's "Musings" ... but the column lost two pages this week! Whazzup wi' zat? Let's keep his fingers busy; send in those Musings ASAP. And two great stories from the media on the demise of the music at CHUM-1050 detail problems in the entire radio industry.

**Ken MacHarg's addresses ...** From Ken: "Please note our new home e-mail address. It is <<KPMacharg@cs.com>>. This replaces our old Compuserve address. Our addresses at work remain the same: <<kmacharg@lam.org>> and <<pmacharg@lam.org>>. Thanks.

**New Zealand DXPD ...** I promised Paul Ormandy that I'd print info about the "next" convention of the North Otago Branch of the New Zealand Radio DX League, at Camp Iona, near Oamaru ... not realizing that it was held last week-end, with the info coming too late to make it into DXN. So, Paul, I really WILL print info about the "next" convention ... the informational web site for it is <<[http://radiodx.com/spdxr/Convention\\_2002.htm](http://radiodx.com/spdxr/Convention_2002.htm)>>.

And I'll segue into a reminder to all that a two-to-three-week lead time is necessary for any info to be printed in DXN; that is, if you mailed me info today, the first DXN that you'd possibly see it in would be February 26, and more likely March 5. And add another week for material mailed to column editors.

**Those funny numbers ...** For our overseas members ... if you're wondering what the numbers "3",

"4", or "5" on your label, next to the renewal date, have to do with anything, they correspond to the new USPS postal "zones" or outbound country rates. "4" corresponds to New Zealand, Japan, and Australia (and the most expensive rates), and "3" and "5" are the rest of the world (please don't ask me to delineate who gets what; I just use the country list that the USPS provides, and why Jamaica and Austria get the same rate makes no sense to me!).

**Welcome to these new members ...** Burton Zacks, Atlanta, GA (rejoins); Martin E. Agnelly, Stanton, CA; Albert Bowers, Apple Valley, CA; Roark Consolatti, Paw Paw, MI; Carrol Weyrich, Towson, MD (rejoins); Weldon Childers, Carbon Hill, AL; Robert Fox, Dearborn, MI; Stan Levine, Stony Point, NY; Roy Poses, Barrington, RI; Bill Riches, Cape May CH, NJ; Jodi Rodriguez, Detroit, MI; Edward MacDonald, Kansas City, MO (rejoins); Harley Steward, Erie, PA; Sam White, Portland, OR; Myles Vanduzer, Streator, IL; Joseph G. Ursini, Euclid, OH; Thomas C. Lewis, Nashville, TN; Christopher Denney, Elk Grove, CA; WTIC Engineering, Farmington, CT; Ken Englert, Los Angeles, CA (rejoins).

### DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 68

Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date
19.	Feb. 9	Feb. 19	25.	Apr. 6	Apr. 16
20.	Feb. 16	Feb. 26	26.	May 4	May 14
21.	Feb. 23	Mar. 5	27.	June 1	June 10
22.	Mar. 2	Mar. 12	28.	July 6	July 16
23.	Mar. 16	Mar. 26	29.	Aug. 3	Aug. 13
24.	Mar. 30	Apr. 9	30.	Sept. 7	Sept. 17

### DX Time Machine

#### From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the February 10, 1951 DXN: Lew Carter, G. M. of WHWB, Rutland, VT, wrote to Club HQ, stating that his C. E. had left and asking help in finding a replacement to operate the board, spin discs, do some maintenance work, and put on remotes and tapes at the salary of \$40/week, with time-and-a-half after 40 hours.

25 years ago ... from the February 9, 1976 DXN: George Green, Houston, TX reported hearing R. Belize on 834 kHz, 1/20, with EE music and announcements.

10 years ago ... from the February 11, 1991 DXN: Mark Connelly, Billerica, MA pulled in the Vatican City on 1611, hetting against Anguilla-1610, on 1/13.

# 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

	Old call		New call
540	WQTM FL Pine Hills		WFLF
800	WKEE WV Huntington		WVHU
940	KCEE AZ Tucson		KGMS
1100	*New FL Palm Beach Gardens		WIJR
1230	KVAS OR Astoria		KKEE
1410	WGME NY Watertown		WNER

## APPLICATIONS / GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

## APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

1040 KGGG TX Dallas: 3300 D1

## GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

920 KXLY WA Spokane: 20000/5000 U1  
1060 KFIL MN Preston: relocate transmitter  
1260 WMKI MA Boston: relocate transmitter  
1320 WBRT KY Bardstown: 1000/44 U1

## OTHERNESS

960 WFIR VA Roanoke: CP to relocate transmitter is on  
1160 WMVI NY Mechanicville: silent station is ON THE AIR relaying WUAM-900 Saratoga Springs, NY  
1560 WRHC FL Coral Gables: station is SILENT  
1580 WTKT KY Georgetown: station relays some programming from WSAI, often on a tape delay including plenty of "WSAI" mentions, but the licensed call remains WTKT which is clearly given at the top of each hour.

THANKS: Bill Hale, Ed Krejny, Rick Lucas, Dick Truax and MSJ

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

*It may not be perfect ...*

but the NRC AM Log is, simply, the best there is because of your contributions. Why not make the next edition even better? Send all corrections and changes to

Wayne Heinen - 4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831, or nrclog@aol.com. Thanks!

**The NRC AM Radio Log, 21st Edition, including cross-referenced listings from 530-1700 khz., is compiled from both listeners' reports and official sources, making it the most accurate listing of U. S. and Canadian AM stations available. Unbound, three-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@eaze.net

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

East: Michael Shaw mshaw002@tampabay.rr.com

455 Alt. 19 S., Apt. 176 - Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5931

(Division line is  
between East and  
Central time zones)



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

## DDXD-West

☐ Let the DX'ing begin!

### REPORTERS

MD-KS Mike DeRoo Roeland Park Sony ICF-2010 barefoot  
L&NH-IL Larry and Nancy Hall Downers Grove Kenwood A-3070 barefoot  
<kdz2092@earthlink.net>  
GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop  
DKK-CA Don Kaskey San Francisco Drake R8a Antenna: Kiwa Loop <Kaskey@jps.net>  
BM-SD Bill Moser Fort Pierre barefoot Superadio II <wcmfort@dakota2k.net>  
CR-IL Christos Rigas Wood Dale Kenwood R-2000, Kowalski loop <http://www.mindspring.com/~tmdoc/>  
JJR-WI John J. Rieger South Milwaukee Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop or Superadio III, Terk AM1000 Loop <johnrieger@webtv.net>  
JR-OK John Reed Ponca City SAIT MR1411 with 100' wire, homebrew balanced ferrite loop, MFJ phaser <jreed@ponca.net>  
KR-AZ Kevin Redding Mesa DX-440 and RS 15-1833 loop <lwdxr@juno.com>  
MS-MB Morris Sorensen Winnipeg Drake R-8 with McKay-Dymek DA-9 loop <SMosor@aol.com>  
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 boxloop <peakbagger3@juno.com>  
Ed-TX Editor North Richland Hills

### STATION NEWS & NOTES

1050 KHTL NM Los Ranchos de Albuquerque - 1/29 0841 - C&W music, many PSAs and non-local ads. Table 1050 and Classic Hit Country slogans. Traffic at 0840 and 0850. Legal ID at 0859:50 as KHTL Los Ranchos de Albuquerque is KTBL. Table 1050, All Time Country Favorites. Don't know if this portends a call change but for the moment they still, apparently, are KHTL with new format. Ex: BIZ news. (JW-CO)  
1160 WYLL IL Chicago - 2/2 1000 - Heard with WYLL AM Chicago, WYLL FM Des Plaines - Chicago. ID and religious talk. Apparently since 2/1 1600 CST, 1160 kHz stopped relaying the rock music of WXRT 93.1 FM and started relaying the religious programming of WYLL 106.7 FM. The IDs on top of the hour are WYLL AM Chicago, WYLL FM Des Plaines - Chicago. (CR-IL)  
1190 KJOI TX Dallas - 2/1 - After stunting for a couple of hours with loud, Dallas/Fort Worth sports headlines, came on with Fox Sports Net at 0800. Carries PRN's Jim Rome from 1200-1500, so now all sports. I expect a call change, as the slogan is: Extra Sports, 1190. [Ed-TX]  
1280 KBNO CO Denver - Station no longer inserts KVOD IDs after the top-of-hour KBNO ID, so guess they are officially KBNO now, La Nueva Que Bueno. Ex: KVOD. (JW-CO)

### UNIDs and UNID HELP

580 KFXD ID Nampa - 1/9 0200 - With William Tell Overture (not CKUA) turned out to be the theme music under a KFXD ad. (PT-WA)  
1190 UNID ?? - 1/24 0300-0400 - EE station under KEX, up well at times but not at TOH. Format was Tele-Talk. Was in rather well at times but not at TOH IDs. SS noted under KEX 1/26 0100-0200. (DKK-CA)



- 1200 UNID ?? - 1/22-23-24 0100-0400 - Station with C&W music, no IDs, including TOH, and fair signal. Assume this is KOQI in Soquel. Wonder if he'll ever ID? No announcements between songs, just dead air. (DKK-CA)
- 1560 UNID ?? - 1/29 2030 - Arabic music, only heard briefly. (JR-OK)
- 1590 UNID ?? - 1/27 0732 - Poor, under WAKR/others, with AM 1590 WUIAB or WQAD. Very sure of W and A. Stumped again. (JJR-WI) [How about WAUB Auburn, NY? - Ed.]

## MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

- 620 CKCK SK Regina - 1/24 2120 - Oldies from the 60s, IDing as 62 Cool and The Oldies Specialist. Good signal, in phase null of KMKI. (JR-OK)
- 640 WCRV TN Collierville - 1/29 0800 - Poor, with religious program. (MD-KS)
- 680 KNBR CA San Francisco - 1/24 0725 - California sports talk. Weak, in loop null of KFEQ. (JR-OK)
- 710 WFNR VA Blacksburg - 2/1 0755 - Fair, with weather, ID, and Imus //100.7 FM. (JJR-WI)
- 720 KSAH TX Universal City - 1/29 1959-2004 - SS tune, SS ID and more SS tunes. Fair, in WGN null. Best signal ever heard from this station. Reception augmented by heavy snow storm at the time. (BM-SD)
- 720 KSAH TX Universal City - 1/29 2024 - Tejano music. After each tune, a Norteno Siete Veinte slogan. Nice EE legal ID at the odd time of 2029:20 KSAH Universal City - San Antonio. Another song was followed by ads at 2032. Fair signal and no QRM with loop southish. New slogan, either replacing, or in addition to Radio Festival. (JW-CO)
- 750 CJVR SK Melfort - 1/29 0720 - Weak, but all alone. C&W music with what sounded like pleasant live morning show. My farthest north received. (MD-KS)
- 790 CFCW AB Camrose - 1/30 0835 - Area and national (Canadian) weather. At 0836, Black Gold, a 30-second salute to Alberta's oil industry, sponsored by several local merchants, then NHL and local hockey results. Briefly good, but soon lost to KGH. (JW-CO)
- 800 CKLW ON Windsor - 1/25 2050 - Hockey game, Windsor vs. Brampton. IDing as AM-800 CKLW. Good signal, in phase null of KQCV. (JR-OK)
- 830 KOTC MO Kennett - 1/28 0645 - Fair, in WCCO null with C&W music. Cotton Country. (MD-KS)
- 840 KTIC NE West Point - 1/28 1445 - Poor, with C&W music. (MD-KS)
- 870 KAAAN MO Bethany - 1/23 0813 - Obituaries, bank ad, area high school basketball scores, mention of a broadcast ... live on 95.5. 0823 time check Our time is now 7:23 at Regional Radio Cam. Fair, over local TIS and XETAR. (JW-CO)
- 910 WFDI MI Flint - 2140 - ESPN sports talk and weather with cold forecast: -25 degrees for a low temp. Heard briefly; new here. (JR-OK)
- 910 KBIM NM Roswell - 1/28 0805 - USA Network news, local news and call ID. Weak, in phase null of KVIS. (JR-OK)
- 920 KXLY WA Spokane - 1/26 2200 - Pre-game show for Washington State University vs California on the Cougar Sports Network. Legal ID at 2200:25: Spokane's most dependable [kind?] of information for more than 75 years, News Radio 920 KXLY Spokane. Fair. (JW-CO)
- 950 KTBR OR Roseburg - 1/29 0158-0207 - Even with KJR at times, with calls, CNN News, promo, health vignette and Coast to Coast. I am pleased to get this before KJR's power increase. This was a Sunday night, and I doubt of they were on 20 watts. I think there is greater power "variance" on weekends - KBLE and KYIZ have been consistent on this - perhaps to less-proficient operators. (PT-WA)
- 960 WFIR VA Roanoke - 2/1 0747 - Poor, way under WSBT, with calls. (JJR-WI)
- 970 KFTA ID Rupert - 1/30 0928 - Musica mexicano, announcer with MST time checks and La Fantastica slogans. At 0934, a feature answering the question Cuales son las reglas que debemos seguir para llegar ser un buen vendedor? (What are the rules that we need to follow to become a good salesman?). A list of 10 rules was read. Interesting - NOT. (JW-CO)
- 970 KBULp MT Billings - 1/30 0924 - Traffic, sponsored by arca bagel joint - On Cal Country for World Watch Montana, I'm David Burke. Mention of Joke-of-the-Day phone number, then into C&W hit tune. Fair, before being topped by KJTA. (JW-CO)

**WVHI**

10 N W 3RD  
EVANSVILLE IN 47708

- 970 KHVN TX Fort Worth - 1/25 2000 - Southern gospel vocal music. At 2000:35 gal says . . . Heaven 97 KHVN . . . , talked a few more seconds, then back to GOS. Only surfaced for a short time for the ID. A nice reversal of Murphy's Law, and a new one to boot, for Texas #156. (JW-CO)
- 980 KINS CA Eureka - 1/24 1932-1942 - Atop, with local/regional news and numerous call IDs. Usually KFWB dominates. (DKK-CA)
- 980 KSVC UT Richfield - 1/24 1920-1930 - Well atop, with ID at 1929 while carrying Utah news items. Rare at sunset. (DKK-CA)
- 1010 WGUN GA Atlanta - 2/1 0745 - Poor, in the clear and alone, with weather, ID and REL. (JJR-WI)
- 1050 KLOH MN Pipestone - 1/29 0915 - CST time check, announcement of no school at Luverne, plus other weather-related announcements. Farm News at 0916, sponsored by an implement dealer in Tyler. Fair, over XED. (JW-CO)
- 1210 KZTS WA Sunnyside - 1/19 2059 - ID in EE: KZTS Sunnyside-Yakima. Atop KEBR with Mexican music program. (DKK-CA)
- 1270 KPLY NV Sparks-Reno - 1/25 1950 - Carrying Tom Leykis with much hype (as if this were a good thing). They had been all sports format. Checked 5-6 hrs later and carrying sports show so perhaps just an anomaly?!? (DKK-CA)
- 1280 KDOX NV Henderson - 1/22 1947 - With call ID after song in SS. Was in/out, thru QRM, from 1940-2000. Format is SS. (DKK-CA)
- 1290 KKDD CA San Bernardino - 1/24 0324 - With local ID during Radio Disney break, even with KPAY at the time. Has been strong the past several days. (DKK-CA)
- 1310 CIWW ON Ottawa - 1/27 0709 - Good, in WTBA null, with Oldies 1310 and Capital City mentions Good conditions to north included 600-CKAT and 790-CIGM. (JJR-WI)
- 1320 WMSR TN Manchester - 1/31 1810 - Poor, but alone and clear, with local ads, ID, and oldies. (JJR-WI)
- 1370 WSPD OH Toledo - 1/25 0158 - Heard Coast to Coast (Seagel), then break to local news (Team Coverage). Mayor Finkbeiner (?) addresses council. Female announcer — Ellie Miller. Further news on capture of Texas 7, (er.6), traffic/weather. More than just the headlines . . . Toledo's News Radio....1370...WSPD. (L&NH-IL)
- 1440 KITA AR Little Rock - 1/26 0713 - Fair, over others, with calls and weather. (JJR-WI)
- 1450 KIOVt ID Payette - 1/28 0700 - Tony Bennett singing I Want to be Around then the ToH ID which was very hard to hear due to Murphy's law of IDing, then CBS News and into Neil Sedaka singing Laughter in the Rain. Faded into the mess about 0707. (KR-AZ)
- 1450 KIRX MO Kirksville - 1/31 1905 - Poor, with mention of KIRX Newslines, weather by female and basketball promo. (MS-MB)
- 1450 KHIT NV Reno - 1/22 0300 - With ID, atop KEST after ESPN Sports. (DKK-CA)
- 1450 KWBE NE Beatrice - 1/31 1811 - Poor, with Nebraska state news, local ads including Homestead Center for the Performing Arts. Weather preview. (MS-MB)
- 1450 KFLS OR Klamath Falls - 1/24 0205 - Atop frequency, with ID, then oldies rock tune. Stayed atop for awhile. (DKK-CA)
- 1460 WXOK LA Baton Rouge - 1/22 2100 - Call ID, gospel songs and preaching. Last heard in 1996. (JR-OK)
- 1490 WTIQ MI Manistique - 1/26 0647 - Poor, in mess, with Crusin' 1490 WTIQ slogan. Oldies. (JJR-WI)
- 1490 KTRR MO Rolla - 1/31 0419 - Poor, with calls in a mess. (JJR-WI)
- 1520 KKSN OR Oregon City - 1/19 0230-0320 - Looped in thru KVTA/KOMA, with Adult Standard Format. 0253 spot for Portland Center For Performing Arts. ID at 0320. (DKK-CA)
- 1590 WVNA AL Tusculumbia - 1/29 2020 - Talk about Alabama, acting, and movie ratings, then dropped into QRM. (JR-OK)
- 1590 KTCH NE Wayne - 1/29 1004 - Weather for Wayne and Sioux City. CST time check, then Moment for Living with local gal Methodist pastor. Fair, in QRM. (JW-CO)
- 1590 KTCH NE Wayne - 1/31 1754 - Fair, with country music, Real Country slogan, announcer Richard Lee, mention of . . . downtown Wayne, ID at 1800 as Real Country on KTCH 1590, Wayne, Nebraska. (MS-MB)
- 1620 WTAW TX College Station - 1/23 0730 - Texas news, college talk, sports and call ID. New here. (JR-OK)
- 1680 KAVT CA Fresno - 1/20 0435 - Noted on ET with Radio



Disney format. First time heard here, signal rather poor considering close proximity. Not heard since. (DKK-CA)

1680 KAVT CA Fresno - 1/23 0615 - Very weak, almost inaudible, with Radio Disney. Unlike when the CE was testing back on October 28<sup>th</sup>. (GJ-CA)

#### GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

# indicates record held from Alaska or Hawaii

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

					Miles				
<b>1230 kHz:</b>									
KELY	NV	Ely	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge, CO	522				
<b>1450 kHz:</b>									
KIRX	MO	Kirksville	Morris Sorensen	Winnipeg, MB	(Tie) 692				
<b>1490 kHz:</b>									
WTIQ	MI	Manistique	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	284				
<b>Totals:</b>			<b>1230</b>	<b>1240</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>1400</b>	<b>1450</b>	<b>1490</b>	<b>Total</b>
Ron Bailey	Shelby, NC		32	33	30	27	25	28	175

### DDXD-East

What a difference a week makes! This column is half the length of the previous one, even with the return of Leslie Wood (LW-NY) as a reporter. I struggled this week to hear anything new because conditions were only fair at best. Was it the same for you?

#### STATION NEWS

- 570 **WTBN FL** Pinellas Park - 01/30 0754 - "Money 570, WTBN Pinellas Park" ID; "You're tuned to Business Morning". Phone number in 21<sup>st</sup> NRC Log is a "non-working" number; area code needs to change from (813) to (727). (MS-FL)
- 1140 **WKWM MI** Kentwood - 01/23 0255-0310 - Noted running all night with the usual "Groovin' Oldies" satellite feed. They've been doing this fairly consistently of late; no ID noted at 0300, which is also the way it has been. When running past licensed hours, only the satellite feed is aired, with no local IDs or inserts [...and nobody minding the shop, no doubt - MS] (PLB-MI)
- 1520 **WKBZ MI** Muskegon Heights - 01/18 - Station went silent, and according to the local paper WKBZ is being sold, so likely will remain off-air until the new owners take over. (PLB-MI)  
+ - 01/24 1350-1402 - Back on-air, now airing Radio Disney". Calls assumed; no legal ID heard at 1400. (PLB-MI)
- 1530 **WYGR MI** Wyoming - 01/23 1100-1330 - Airing polkas (in English) until 1300 and using slogan "The Big Kielbasa". At 1300, a dual English/Spanish ID was given, into Spanish music with slogan "Radio Exitos". So WYGR has expanded its polka programming to six mornings a week (was only Saturdays), and cut back on the Spanish (was all day Monday through Friday). (PLB-MI)



#### UNID, UNID HELP, PRESUMED AND CORRECTIONS

- 980 **WOFX NY** \_\_\_\_\_ - 01/09 2039 - Basketball game with Albany and "The Gridiron Chef" mentioned. (LW-NY)
- 1120 **WPRXpCT Bristol** - 01/09 2000 - In with SS programming mixing with WBNW. (LW-NY)
- 1200 **WOAp TX** San Antonio - With NBA game between Rockets and Hornets; station promo also heard. (WM-MD)
- 1220 **WSLMp IN** Salem - 01/20 2000 - With basketball game. One team was Salem. In slight WKNR null; last heard in 1997. (SK-PA)
- 1540 **UNID** \_\_\_\_\_ - 01/20 1708 - Oldies format; live announcer "Oldies 106.1". Under CBE. Stumps me. (SK-PA)

#### DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 1550 **WNTN MA** Newton - 01/20 0202 - Played "Baby Come Back" several times, then "Careless Whisper". At 0217 very light-voiced male "this is radio station WNTN,

Newton, Massachusetts, testing". Then left air. Blowing out CBE. Verified in 1997. (SK-PA)

- 1560 **WAGL SC** Lancaster - 01/20 0100-0202 - Test ran and repeated in this order: Announcements, canned ID by female "WAGL Lancaster/Rock Hill". Jingle "Waggle Country", short code, march music. In WQEW null; was atop 99 per cent of the time. WQEW under or gone. Best ever reception of a DX test. (SK-PA)  
+ - 01/20 0100 - DX test heard. Numerous IDs, station facts and history of operation mentioned. Announcer stated test was presented by IRCA; listeners everywhere were invited to tune in. Fair-to-good over and under WQEW. Listened for this one during local SS but never heard until now! (LW-NY)

**TalkRadio WRNR**  
Shenandoah Communications Inc.  
Post Office Box 709  
Martinsburg WV 25402-0709

#### STATION LOGGINGS

- 580 **WHP PA** Harrisburg - 01/25 0730-0735 - (NEWS) "WHP five-eighty, Eyewitness News". (DL-MD)
- 610 **WIOD FL** Miami - 01/27 2246 - "Miami NewsRadio 610, WIOD" popped up, then gone in mess. (MS-FL)
- 690 **WTIX LA** New Orleans - 01/27 2252 - Promo for "Health Connection with Susan Bernick", "...here on WTIX 690 AM". (MS-FL)
- 760 **WCPS NC** Tarboro - 01/25 1717 - ID heard in WJR fade. (WM-MD)
- WCIS NC** Morganton - 01/25 1725-1730 - Southern Gospel music heard; ID; sign-off; station address given. Mention of 500 watts; fair-to-good in WJR null. New. (WM-MD)
- 800 **CKLW ON** Windsor - 01/27 1955 - Sports news; ID; "The Information Station". (WM-MD)
- 810 **WHB MO** Kansas City - 01/22 2200 - Over WGY but fading. End of ESPN. ID by the ESPN voice guy "SportsRadio 810 WHB...". I can never get the whole ID. Came back with SportsCenter. (SK-PA)  
+ - 01/27 1950 - "We've got it live on SportsRadio 810 WHB" heard under WGY with Minor League Hockey game. (WM-MD)
- 820 **CHAM ON** Hamilton - 01/27 2126 - C&W music heard; "AM 820 Country"; spoken ID. (WM-MD)
- 830 **CFJR ON** Brockville - 01/23 1800 - ID "The news and information you need, CFJR"; into community events and weather for the area. (LW-NY)
- 840 **WKTR VA** Earlysville - REL music heard; "The Ministry Station"; ID. (WM-MD)
- 850 **KOA CO** Denver - 01/28 0045 - ID; mention of Colorado Avalanche. (WM-MD)
- 860 **WAMO PA** Pittsburgh - 01/24 1955 - Hip-hop music heard; anti-drug PSA; "laser sound"; ID. (WM-MD)
- KKOW KS** Pittsburg - 01/28 0100 - Sports Overnight America program heard; mention of Sports Byline Network; American Express ad; ID. (WM-MD)
- 880 **WINU IL** Highland - 01/26 1753 - Fair in WCBS null with ad for KNLC TV24 in St. Louis, then "880, WINU Highland" ID. (SF-TN)
- 890 **WFKT PA** Cashtown - 01/24 1715 - ID, full sign-off, station address given. Religious programming; new. (WM-MD)
- 900 **WYCV NC** Granite Falls - 01/28 1430 - Preacher delivering a sermon from a church in Marion, NC, then weather report from WYCV. Gospel music. (RJ-NC)
- 940 **CINW QC** Montréal - 01/24 0158-0202 - (NEWS) Bloomberg Business News just before the hour followed by lotto then: "The News Watch never stops on CINW, Montréal. Montréal's only all-news radio station, this is nine-forty news". Non-network news follows. (DL-MD)
- WMIX IL** Mount Vernon - 01/20 0558-0602 - About even level with CINW which is fading at this hour: "...on NewsTalk nine-forty WMIX, Mount Vernon..." into CNN News. At the top of the next hour CINW returned to cover the frequency. (DL-MD)
- WMAC GA** Macon - 01/24 2358-2402 - "...this is your Talk and Information Station WMAC, Macon. It's twelve o'clock" In heavy co-channel. (DL-MD)  
+ - 01/24 1835 - Ad for auto dealer off I-75 in Macon; ID, then Michael Reagan Show". (WM-MD)
- 950 **CFAM MB** Altona - 01/28 0700-0707 - Likely them with classical music earlier, then "...this is CFAM news" at top of the hour. News, weather update, sports scores, ID "Radio Southern Manitoba, CFAM 950", into hymn program. Fair, mostly on top. New. (BM-ON)

WAKM TN Franklin - 01/28 0704 - Surfaced briefly with ID from a genial-sounding announcer. Possibly the one with C&W music before 0700. New. (BM-ON)

980 WTEM DC Washington - 01/09 2050 - "SportsTalk 980" with John Hennesey; mention of Rugrats Hockey. (LW-NY)

990 WNRV VA Narrows - 01/28 1453 - Gospel music followed by male announcer ID'ing "WNRV". Very difficult through WEEB partial null. (RJ-NC)

1020 WNTK NH Newport - 01/19 1714 - Canned ID "Your hometown music station AM 1020 WNTK". C&W music. Another at 1724 "More folk, bluegrass and country coming up on your hometown music station". Ad started and faded. This is the first time I've ever been able to completely null KDKA, but it picked up some 1030 slop. (SK-PA)

1070 WFLI TN Lookout Mountain - 01/24 1730 - Southern Gospel format. Heard ad for Chevrolet dealer in Stevenson, Alabama; mention of tri-state area, then religious programming hosted by Dr. Kenneth Hagan. (WM-MD)

1090 WHHG TN Kingsport - 01/28 1459 - Fourth-quarter action of Lady Eagles basketball game. Reference to "PowerTalk 1090". ID WHHG given at commercial break. (RJ-NC)

1120 WBNW MA Concord - 01/09 2000 - ID "WBNW 1120 Concord and WPLM 1390 Plymouth"; "Do you know where your finances are?"; mixing with WPRX. KMOX seemingly in distance. (LW-NY)

1140 WKWM MI Kentwood - 01/20 1900 - Clear ID "One nation under a groove from Kentwood, Michigan: Groovin' Oldies WKWM Kentwood". Blowing out WRVA. Has run 24 hours all January. (SK-PA)

1150 WRUN NY Utica - 01/10 1933 - "First News; Fast News"; "WIBX 950". (LW-NY)

1160 WCCS PA Homer City - 01/30 1858-1706 - Two men were talking about a new baseball park in Indiana County and one of the men was thanking WCCS for all their help in making the Park a success. The signal was strong and steady. This is a four-tower box-style antenna array. (GMC-MD)

1260 WWVT VA Christiansburg - 01/28 1559 - Sat through twenty minutes of opera music in WKXR null. Got WWVT ID at top of hour. (RJ-NC)

1270 WXYT MI Detroit - 01/18 1853 - In with ID "Detroit's Sports leader, 1270 WXYT". "...home of Red Wings Hockey". Fair in 1270 noise; last heard years ago as WXYZ! (LW-NY)

WTSN NH Dover - 01/18 1912 - Spot for Mutual Auto Body of Dover, then into UNH basketball game with UNH Wildcats vs. "Hofstra Pride". (LW-NY)

1280 WODT LA New Orleans - 01/22 1918 - Detailed weather forecast for New Orleans area heard. (WM-MD)

WYVE VA Wytheville - 01/24 1930 - C&W music heard; "laser sound"; ID. (WM-MD)

1290 CJBK ON London - 01/24 1800 - Weather forecast with mention of "minus two degrees (C)"; local news heard; mentions of London and Canada. (WM-MD)

1330 WYSN PA Somers - 01/20 0558-0602 - (NOS) "With music and memories from the forties, fifties, and sixties this is Sunny 1330 WYSN, Somers". (DL/MD)

WFNN PA Erie - 01/25 0158-0202 - "Sports Radio 1330 The Fan WFNN Erie, a Next Media Radio Station"; ABC News. (DL/MD)

WSPD OH Toledo - 01/19 2158-2202 - "When you need to know, depend on NewsRadio 1370 WSPD, Toledo's News, Traffic and Weather Station". Locally originated news at the top of the hour. (DL/MD)

1360 WKMI MI Kalamazoo - 01/23 0838 - Promo for "In Focus" show "...every Saturday morning at 10:05, on TalkRadio 1360, WKMI". Good over jumble of stations; heard in car during my morning commute. New. (BM-ON)

1370 WSPD OH Toledo - 01/21 1745 - Promo for Rush Limbaugh; "NewsRadio 1370"; ID. (WM-MD)

1380 WNRI RI Woonsocket - 01/23 2100 - End of The Joan Rivers Show; USA News. At 2105 ad for dentist; another ad ended with "...call 769-0020 in Woonsocket". Then talk show hosted by male. WNNY atop/CKPC under nulled, but WNNY would shoot up and descend quickly. (SK-PA)

1420 WLNA NY Peekskill - 01/19 1734 - Weather, then ABC NOS after WLNA jingle. At 1750, promo for Storm Center on Good Morning Hudson Valley. Something at West Point; telephone call to Bernicker Dodge in Cornwall; WeatherPhone sponsored by Union State Bank. Mostly over WCOJ and WCED. (SK-PA)

1440 WKJN PA Carbondale - 01/27 1651 - Poor with NOS music, ID mentioning sister sta-

1450 CBS RADIO  
KMRV  
MEMORIES

tions WEMR 1460 and WAZL 1490, "Music of Your Life" slogan. Ex-WCDL for me. (JF-ON)

WTHM PA Red Lion - 01/27 1702 - Weak with sign-off announcement after GOS music program. New. (JF-ON)

1450 WMOH OH Hamilton - 01/23 1900 - Top of the hour ID "Your home of the Miami Redhaws...1450 WMOH, Hamilton-Fairfield-Middletown-Cincinnati", into ABC News. Weak but clear; new. (BM-ON)

1480 WISL PA Shamokin - 01/23 2200 - "This is your station of memories"; ID. (WM-MD)

1510 WLAC TN Nashville - 01/19 2257 - End of The Lionel Show; The ADA Minute; ID "When news breaks, hear it first on 1510 AM, WLAC, Nashville"; then CBS NEWS. WNRB nearly-completely nulled, which usually can't be done. (SK-PA)

1570 WXLN IN New Albany - 01/26 2330 - "Seven days a week, the best in Gospel music for Louisville"; ad for Family Restaurant. (RJ-NC)

1580 WPKY KY Princeton - 01/26 0003 - Two musical "WPKY" IDs, into oldies ("Game of Love" by Wayne Fontana & the Mindbenders), in and out of GY-like jumble. New. (BM-ON)

WVZN PA Columbia - 01/29 1658-1700 - Ad for wireless phone service, ID "You're listening to WVZN"; disappearing abruptly during the "N". Powering down on schedule. (BM-ON)

WWSJ MI St. Johns - 01/29 1902 - Gospel music, ID "Joy 1580 WWSJ...where the world's greatest..."; poor but nearly alone. (BM-ON)

WTTN WI Watertown - 01/29 2000-2006 - Guy with deep, hard-to-understand voice talking, but then lady with promo at 1902: "Every Saturday at noon, right here on WTTN", the call letters spoken very slowly and clearly. Alone on channel. (BM-ON)

WSMO NC Camp Lejeune - 01/25 0730 - Atop the channel with ID into local news. Unneeded. (RJE-PA)

WZKY NC Albemarle - 01/26 1900 - With oldies from early 1960's and frequent ID's mixing it up with WLIM-NY. Unneeded but far from a regular. (RJE-PA)

1590 WARV RI Warwick - 01/26 0820-0830 - "Focus on the Family" show, weather update; frequent IDs. Good; nearly alone. (BM-ON)

+ - 01/21 1930 - ID and local area weather, followed by Sunday evening sermon. (LW-NY)

1600 WHNP MA East Longmeadow - 01/25 0725 - With promo for UMass Minutemen Basketball and dual-ID with WHMP-1400, briefly atop over WWRL and WHOL mess. First time with this call. (RJE-PA)

1610 KALT TX Atlanta - 01/25 1800 - Good with "KALT means talk. AM 1610 KALT Atlanta-Texarkana-believe it!"; into SRN news. (SF-TN)

+ - 01/27 0007 - Promo for a program "every afternoon on Texarkana's 1610 AM KATL". (RJ-NC)

1620 WTAW TX College Station - 01/24 2155-2205 - Talk show in progress then "Newstalk 1620 WTAW" spoken ID at 2159, local spots; CBS News mixing with WHLY and KAZP. (RA-MA)

KAZP NE Bellevue - 01/24 2200-2215 - Poor under WHLY and WTAW with Nebraska Cornhuskers basketball game in progress. (RA-MA)

1630 WRDW GA Augusta - 01/21 2010 - Hockey game with "Augusta vs. Roanoke"; mention of "PowerPlay" program on TV12, Sunday at 1030 a.m. Spot for Augusta's new "Sports Pub and Grill". (LW-NY)

1650 KWHN AR Fort Smith - 01/27 1900 - Strong with ad for Office Furniture USA in downtown Fort Smith, then "The one you depend on for Paul Harvey, weekday afternoons at two: KWHN-KYHN Fort Smith". 1650 #5. (SF-TN)

+ - 01/28 0048 - Usually buried under WHKT and KDNZ, but fair this time with promo for show called "Your First Pet", two "NewsTalk KWHN" IDs. At top of the hour, just heard the "Fort Smith" on the heels of KDNZ ID. (BM-ON)

1690 WMDM MD Lexington Park - 01/28 1750-1810 - "Southern Maryland's Best Country"; ABC News followed by talk. (DL/MD)

TIS, HAR AND MISCELLANEOUS

530 HAR PA Allentown - 01/31 1540 - With PA Turnpike HAR tape loop, including mention of 1640 frequency. This is a dead giveaway as there is only one with that

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announcement on 530. 1630 PA DOT HAR from same area in well also. First time this was readable enough to be sure-usually the Rutgers University TIS dominates here. (RJE-PA)

1610 WPAS758 NJ Mount Laurel - 01/30 1710 - Mixing it up strongly with local Valley Forge Park TIS. Featured usual NJ Turnpike tape loop with local ID. (RJE-PA)

#### ADDRESS UPDATES

1090 WHGG TN Kingsport - P.O. Box 2061, Bristol, TN 37621. (423) 878-6391. (SK-PA)

#### REPORTERS

RA-MA Ray Arruda Acushnet - Hammarlund HQ-180A, Quantum Loop, Drake R8A; dipole.  
 PLB-MI Phillip Boersma Spring Lake - GE SuperRadio III.  
 GMC-MD Gerald Conkling, Jr. Greenbelt - Grundig Millennium 800.  
 RJE-PA Russ Edmunds Blue Bell - Car radio and whip.  
 JF-ON Jeff Falconer Clinton - Drake R8B, pair of 135' noise-reduced and terminated wires (one pointed east; one pointed west), modified MFJ-1026 phasing box; Timewave DSP-599zx audio filter.  
 SF-TN Steve Francis Alcoa - TRF; Select-a-Tenna.  
 RJ-NC Russ Johnson Lexington - Sangean ATS-803A, Radio Shack DX-398, Grundig YB-400PE; Quantum QX Loop.  
 SK-PA Steve Kennedy Coal Township - GE SuperRadio III; indoor wire.  
 DL-MD David Larrabee Columbia - ICOM R8500; loop and long wires.  
 DL/MD David Larrabee Columbia - Unattended AMRAD LF-modified Ten-Tec RX-320, long wire; running KF5OJ RX-320 controller gathering timed samples at the top of the hour.  
 WM-MD William McGuire Cheverly - Radio Shack DX-398.  
 BM-ON Barry McLarnon Ottawa - JRC NRD-525, homebrew loop, inverted-vee; MFJ-1026.  
 MS-FL Michael Shaw Palm Harbor - SONY ICF-2010, Radio Shack DX-392 and DX-399; Radio Shack Loop.  
 LW-NY Leslie Wood East Meadow - SONY ICF 2010, GE SuperRadio II; Radio Shack Loop.

## AM Broadcast Station Antenna Systems A Basic Guide

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# International Jim Renfrew renfrew@localnet.com

## DX Digest

6988 Bank Street Rd.  
Byron NY 14422-9702

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

Happy Groundhog Day! In the movie of that name, Bill Murray's clock radio greets him with what song as he repeats each day over and over again?

I bought the 2001 WRTH yesterday, which prompts the following quiz. Here is a list of capital cities. Can you give the name of each country? As in previous weeks, one of these capitals is pure fiction. Good luck!

Antanarivo _____	Asmara _____	Basseterre _____
Belmopan _____	Bratislava _____	Bujumbura _____
Doha _____	Dushanbe _____	Gabarone _____
Koror _____	Lilongwe _____	Ljubljana _____
Male _____	Manama _____	Niamey _____
Nuku'alofa _____	Paramaribo _____	Rio Verde _____
Roseau _____	Skopje _____	Sucre _____
Suva _____	Tallinn _____	Thimphu _____
Vaduz _____	Victoria _____	Vientiane _____
Yamoussoukro _____	Yaounde _____	Zagreb _____

#### TRANS-ATLANTIC DX

- 153 GERMANY D. Radio, Donebach, JAN 12 0305 - Good signal // 1422 (fair), over/under  
 Algeria: News in German ...followed by a classical work -Brahms? JAN 27 0247 - Piano Concert, Loud, with Algeria way under. JAN 28 0410 - American piece "Pennies from heaven" Female American vocal, Loud. [Stromsted-MA]
- 162 FRANCE Allouis, JAN 19 1504 - Female French newscaster then a brief classical music interlude and at 1506 French male radio host "Bonjour. Le Magazin" followed by another piano classical interlude. [Stromsted-MA] JAN 20 0040 - French talk. [Chernos-ON]
- 177 GERMANY D. Radio-Berlin,Oranienburg, JAN 12 0308 - A classical interlude followed by Female GG with attractive voice & announcements, good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 183 GERMANY Europe Un, Saarlouis, JAN 20 0050 - French talk. [Chernos-ON]
- 189 ICELAND RUV, Gufuskalar, JAN 15 0425 - "If we could be together again..." country/western style then..Icelandic folk music Strongest TA (Loud). JAN 16 0239 - Big signal! "Oh what a night, back in '93, what a sexual time for me" followed by Beach Boys song and Icelandic female vocal with male chorus. JAN 19 0603 - Icelandic news (Big signal). 1501 (this is 10:01am East Coast time-broad daylight!) -News.Fair signal. JAN 22 1759 (12:59pm Eastern time-broad daylight again!) Female Icelandic announcer then news read by male newscaster, poor signal with TUK Aero beacon interference. [Stromsted-MA] JAN 20 0048 - Anne Murray & Blondie pop. [Chernos-ON] (According to a report from Fran Donovan in the February issue of LWCA's "Lowdown", TUK has made some improvements in its signal - Jim)
- 225 POLAND Polskie Radio Konstantynow, JAN 12 0312 - Male and female Polish newscasters, signal weak with SZO Aero beacon interference. JAN 21 0018 - music interlude with segue to another dreamy instrumental, good signal. 0050 string music, rock beat S9+20. JAN 28 0255 - Slow American rock tune. 0300 Male announcer with news in Polish, good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 261 RUSSIA R. Rossii, Taldom (presumed), JAN 20 0340 - Male Russian talking to another male in excited voice-call in? Poor to fair signal. 0342 Aero beacon interference with long tone-repeating, music interval at 0345 then male announcer, clearest in upper SSB position. 0348 Female talker. Poor to fair signal faded at 0350. JAN 28 0418 - Female to female caller? Then male voice. Poor signal faded at 0420, best in USB (narrow filter used). ESG beacon interference. These are the first two receptions of this notable DX here. Propagation was good with low atmospheric noise. The next time I hear this, I will check the many other parallel R. Rossii signals in the 5 GHz range for confirmation.
- 270 CZECH REPUBLIC Cesky Rozhlas Uherske-Hradiste, JAN 28 0420 - After listening at 261 kHz, dialed in 270, and for the first time in months (were they off the air?) Cesky Rohas is boiling in with an American tune "You got whiskey, you got women on your mind...you're

hap hap happy....." sounds like a classic Southern Dixie tune male singer with banjo, guitar backing. This was the best reception for this station yet heard here (S9 +20) with slight TOF Aero beacon interference. [Stromsted-MA]

- 567 IRELAND RTE Tullamore, JAN 21 0042 - Song- "Turn your lights down low" then into synthesized music with male vocal. Good signal with splatter.[Stromsted-MA]
- 756 GERMANY DR Ravensburg & Braunschweig, JAN 7 0230 - Piano concert, good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 711 FRANCE R. Bleu, JAN 27 0351 - Western music (Poor signal in jumble) // 837(poor) // 864 // 945 // 1205 // 1377 (all good). [Stromsted-MA]
- 774 EGYPT Egyptian Radio-TV, Abis (presumed), JAN 19 0340 - Tenor/Arabic music chanting with drum & flute-fair signal with WABC splatter- [Stromsted-MA]
- 783 SYRIA Syrian Arab Republic BC, Tartus JAN 27 0107 Good signal Koran-recitations. [Stromsted-MA]
- 846 ITALY RAI Radio Due, Roma JAN 21 0233 - Male Italian men in a conversation about music. Good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 864 FRANCE R. Bleu, Paris, JAN 11 0125 - popular music, female FF vocal, loud signal // 945 / / 1206 // 1377(all good). [Stromsted-MA]
- 1053 ENGLAND TalkSport synchros, JAN 11 0134 - // 1053 (both good), call AAP now.new prune juice available and in a smaller bottle...this is the best darn thing on the radio..." Musical jingle. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1098 SLOVAKIA R. Slovensko, Velke Zaluzie, JAN 11 0130 - American Blues piece (country western) then into jumble & slow fade. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1134 CROATIA Hrvatsky Radio Zadar, JAN 21 0037 - woman announcer: Romantic Slavic song,slow tempo with male vocal, then western popular music. Loud signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1179 SWEDEN R. Sweden Solvesborg, JAN 19 2146 - women in Swedish-poor in slop. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1188 HUNGARY RFE Relay, JAN 21 0036 - Slavic language? Male announcer, fair signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1206 FRANCE R.Bleu, Bordeaux, JAN 04 2020 (3:20pm East coast time) - Female FF announcer, music then male FF announcer, loudest TA an hour before sunset. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1215 ENGLAND Virgin Radio synchros, JAN 11 0120 - Slow rock with male EE vocal / / 1242 (both fair to good). JAN 11 0125 - "Right here on Virgin-Rock and Roll " // 1197 (fair, then into jumble). [Stromsted-MA]
- 1296 ENGLAND R. XL, Langley Mill (presumed), JAN 11 0115 - Indian music? High vocal with lots of strings- Also, some English words. Poor to fair signal, then into a jumble. [Stromsted-MA] (yes, this station serves the Asian community - Jim)
- 1314 NORWAY NRK JAN 03 2148 - Loud signal, only TA (at local sunset), American Rock ballad with vocal. JAN 05 0342 - Big signal, male Norwegian host-into Norwegian ballad (folksong). JAN 28 0407 - Big signal, louder than adjacent US stations. A popular Norwegian song, then female announcer into "You're so vain..." [Stromsted-MA]
- 1386 RUSSIA/KALINIGRAD VO Russia, Bolshakovo, JAN 19 2021 (3:21 pm local time) -Man speaking in Slavic language (slow speech) , signal poor/splatter but earliest TA here. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1386 RUSSIA/KALINIGRAD LBH Radio (presumed), Bolshakovo, JAN 21 0027 - Rock music with male EE announcer, good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1575 KUWAIT/CLANDESTINE Al Mustaqbal, (presumed) JAN 19 0334 - Arabic language-tenor and chorus with drum, clarinet or flute? Male announcer mentioned "Iraqi". Quite strong signal well above Spanish signal.under then faded under. [Stromsted-MA]

*Erik speaks:* "LW TA signals continue to improve here. Unable, so far, to duplicate the Newfoundland DXpositionIX fantastic DX reception of Turkmenistan on 279 kHz! I get heavy beacon interference. I am amazed at the daylight reception that now occurs off and on for the TA's including New Atlantic 252 as well. Mostly European signals heard were weak to good. Frequently, strong reception occurred for the R Bleu, R. Norway, Croatia big stations with a few surprises from unanticipated finds such as the Kuwait clandestine station (must be running high power-CIA?)"

*Saul speaks:* "Lovely results in many directions from a recent DX-pedition to Burnt River, Ontario (100 miles n.e. of Toronto). Mainly used a 600-700 foot longwire pointed pretty well due south. Was joined JAN 20-22 (am) by Neil Wolfish of Toronto, who brought an older ICOM radio and a newer radio which I don't have data on. he also had a nice loop antenna. I also used my Radio Shack loop. Times EST. These are also the first trans-Atlantic longwave signals I've ever heard - thanks to Neil for helping me there ... they were on his rig and



(if I recall correctly) my longwire."

*Jim speaks:* "Thursday night Friday morning FEB 1/2 brought the strongest LW TA signals yet, with France 162 and Medi Un 177 at local strength. Algeria, as yet not ID'ed, was strong for a few minutes at 0710, with no sign of Atlantic 252. But not a single MWTA het of any kind."

#### PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 780 BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS ZBVI Tortola, JAN 29 2338-0022 - Talkshow with FM host, ID at 0008 as "Jamin the Virgin Islands, this is ZBVI", station promos, local spots and into Creed and other US music. Very good in easily nulled WBBM. [Myers-FL]

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Saul Chernos, Burnt River ON. <schernos@sympatico.ca>  
 Greg Myers, Clearwater FL; Sony ICF-2010, Kiwa Pocket loop w/PRM. <gregmyers1@juno.com>  
 Jim Renfrew, Byron NY; Drake R8, 1000' E/W wire, 300' SSW/NNE wire, Grove Antenna Tuner, Quantum Phaser. <renfrew@localnet.com>  
 Erik Stromsted, Pepperell MA; Yaesu 1000MP, 500 meter terminated Beverage aimed NE (toward Europe) Also using a Palomar preselector. <microadv@mindspring.com>

#### QUIZ ANSWERS

Madagascar, Eritrea, St. Kitts & Nevis, Belize, Slovakia, Burundi, Qatar, Tajikstan, Botswana, Palau, Malawi, Slovenia, Maldives, Bahrain, Niger, Tonga, Suriname, Fictional Country, Dominica, Macedonia, Bolivia, Fiji, Estonia, Bhutan, Leichtenstein, Seychelles, Laos, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroun, Croatia. 1-10 correct, don't bother trying to get on TV game shows; 11-20 correct, you could be an ambassador, 21-30 correct, you know the difference between Rand and MacNally! Oh yes, the song is "I Got You Babe".

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## IRCA Mexican Log, 6th Edition, 2000

The IRCA MEXICAN LOG log lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. In addition, stations that have changed frequency since 1996 are cross-referenced on the old frequency. The call letter index gives call, frequency, city and state. The city index (listed by state, then city) includes frequency, call and day/night power. The log has been completely updated from the 1998 edition and carefully cross-checked by IRCA members. This is an indispensable reference for anyone who hears Mexican radio stations. Size is 8 1/2" x 11" and three-hole punched for easy binding.  
 Prices: IRCA/NRC members - \$8.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$9.00 (rest of the Americas airmail), \$9.50 (Europe/Asia airmail), \$10.00 (Australia/New Zealand airmail). Non-members: add \$2.00 to the above prices. Order your copy today, in US funds payable to Phil Bytheway, from  
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# Target DX

R. J. Edmunds  
753 Valley Rd. wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org  
Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052

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

Welcome to another edition of Target DX! This time, we feature a variety of topics. The next single-topic column will deal with the subjects of antenna patterns, operating schedules, Pre-Sunrise Authority, Post Sunset Authority, Critical Hours and the like. Remember to send your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns to me either NRCDXAS listservs, by off-line email or by regular mail!

Before we get into the questions for this time, I want to share a few additional useful Internet websites for DX'ers which have appeared recently on the NRC Listserv:

Listings of frequencies for all sorts of interference sources (such as cell phones) can be found at: [http://www.strongsignals.net/htm/oak\\_faf.htm](http://www.strongsignals.net/htm/oak_faf.htm)

The official Colombian government lists of AM and FM stations (incl. call signs) can be found at: <http://www.mincomunicaciones.gov.co/>. Look under Planes Técnicos de Radiodifusión Sonora AM - FM. They are .zip files that convert to .doc files.

The official Guatemala Radio Station Database can be found at: <http://espectro.sit.gtm.tripod.com/inventario/inventario.html>. This data comes in a zip file which turns into a .pdf file. It lists all radio/TV stations & private utilities in the country...no call signs, but does include locations, owners, and powers in dBm.

Interval Signals Archive - audio clips: [www.intervalsignals.com](http://www.intervalsignals.com)

Topographic maps online: [www.topozone.com](http://www.topozone.com)

Finally, the Hard-Core DX site has a bunch of links to articles about various K9AY antennas and K9AY-inspired designs & mods... <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/nordicdx/antenna/loop/k9ay/index.html>

Now on to the Q & A part of the column.

Q - I have a Sangean 505 and I was wondering whether the antenna jack is for shortwave only or if I could use it for medium wave?

A - According to the manufacturer, the antenna plug is for LW/MW/SW. Hopefully this info will also be of help to others using or considering this receiver.

Q - There are two antenna terminals on the back of my receiver in addition to the ground terminal. Why is this, and what is the best way to connect a longwire or loop?

A - The two antenna terminals are provided to accommodate a balanced antenna, whether you use a balanced loop, or a dipole, or something else. These terminals are usually connected to a slight impedance load for matching purposes and then feed into the antenna or its tuning network. An unbalanced antenna requires only a single terminal. Depending on the type of receiver, it may or may not matter which one of the two you use. Check your receiver's manual to determine whether there is a preference, as well as whether or not the manufacturer recommends shorting the unused terminal to ground (some receivers actually have a rotatable shorting lug for the purpose) or tying the two antenna terminals together. In cases where no preference is stated, or you have no manual, it may be a good idea to experiment and compare the results using one terminal versus the other, and also whether shorting the unused one to ground affects performance.

Q - Where can I obtain a suitable variable capacitor for use in building either the NRC 4' or 2' loops?

A - One firm which has access to many Hammarlund capacitors, including some specified for other BCB DX construction projects is Cardwell Condenser, 80 East Montauk Highway, Lindenhurst, NY 11757 (on Long Island). Their website address is [www.cardwellcondenser.com](http://www.cardwellcondenser.com). They have several

online catalogs available. They can provide alternatives for close matches, or, in many cases, subject to an added fee, actually custom manufacture them. Although Antique Electronics Supply in Arizona at one time carried these, their online catalogue shows nothing which appears to be a close match. The capacitor specified in the loop plans is a "linear taper" capacitor, which allows for easier tuning of stations throughout the whole band, and it is best to stick with that type.

Q - There is sometimes a heterodyne near a weak signal, Would it be useful to use two audio processors in series, one to notch out the het and the other to peak the signal?

A - It may be in some cases, but there also may be an easier way. You may find, depending on the frequency of the heterodyne and how close in frequency it is to the desired signal, that you can accomplish your goal with only a single audio processor. If your receiver has a Q-Multiplier or Crystal filter, you can probably use on or both of those in conjunction with the audio processor or filter. In my experience, in many situations the addition of an audio filter to a weak signal produces enough loss to require amplification, and external audio amplification from an active audio filter can add some noise of its own. In addition, an audio filter needs to be impedance matched correctly or additional audio loss will result. Cascading audio devices could very likely increase these types of problems.

Q - Why is it that sometimes during auroral conditions some stations to the North, usually in one specific area, will be quite strong while the rest of them are either weaker or inaudible?

A - There are two possible answers to this. First, during larger auroral disturbances, various particles in the ionosphere group together at roughly the same altitude as the E-layer, and form 'clouds' of Sporadic-E. These areas act as a temporary, and often mobile, reflecting layer, and may even disappear only to reappear later, which accounts for the name. The phenomenon is not fully understood, but is frequently observable. Another possibility, which again is usually only noted during severe auroral events, is a seemingly-enhanced groundwave. This is a result of the elimination of the usual signals from the Northerly directions because of the auroral absorption. By removing these normally dominant signals, sometimes and groundwave signals from stations which is usually covered may become audible.

Q - Why, when conditions are extremely auroral, do I pick up not only stations to the South, but also lots of CW (code) and other noise that sounds like a dozen TV sets are running in the next room?

A - Similarly to the second part of the previous answer, often these noises are covered by the skywave signals which have been absorbed by the auroral activity. In some cases, rather than (or in addition to) groundwave from stations not normally heard, the result is noises which are not heard under normal conditions. Under such conditions, it is also not at all uncommon to hear numerous external mixing products or even harmonics of local stations which again, would not normally be audible if it weren't for the absorption.

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**See? No problem!**

## The day the music died on radio 1050 CHUM switch to all-sports format marks end of an era

**David Olive, Senior Writer Financial Post; From the National Post.**

THE DAY THE MUSIC DIED: 1050 CHUM's switch to an all-sports format will leave Baby Boomers with just memories of "Jungle" Jay Nelson and rock 'n' roll that mattered.

History records that in 1985, British pop star George Michael's Careless Whisper placed a respectable 17th on 1050 CHUM's ranking of the year's top 100 hits. That was a promising augury for the solo career of a singer who was first introduced to the world as one-half of the pop duo Wham!

And that was pretty much the last gasp for the locally famous CHUM chart, a weekly and annual compilation published by 1050 CHUM, a Toronto pop-rock radio station. In its heyday, the CHUM chart, distributed to thousands of fans and posted prominently at every record shop in town, was followed closely by Toronto teens. For 20 or so years, it symbolized the power of radio as a uniquely intimate medium, acutely reflecting the local tastes of an intensely loyal audience.

The announcement this week by CHUM Ltd. that it is abandoning music at 1050 CHUM for an all-sports format seemed to repudiate that tradition. It triggered a mild despair among Baby Boomers over the loss of a relic from their past.

It also sparked a peculiar amount of media coverage. Was it a confirmation of the Toronto-centric nature of the media that both of Canada's national newspapers and the CBC's As It Happens deemed the event to be of coast-to-coast import? Or could it be that self-exiled Torontonians in Lotusland and Chester, N.S., did indeed feel the loss as deeply as stock jockeys on Bay Street who dimly recalled that they had once been CHUMbugs?

What is certain is that radio, now arguably less powerful than any mass medium, not even excepting outdoor advertising, has squandered its legacy.

Radio was able to pull families together in the 1940s to hear Vera Lynn and Jack Benny. Decades later, stations such as 1050 CHUM were able to unite teens of all ethnic and income groups to debate the great issues of the day, none more pressing than whether the Beatles or the Rolling Stones had the superior claim to greatness.

That was a North American phenomenon. The reason the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and Museum is located in Cleveland is that it was a local disc jockey, Alan Freed, who first sanitized the expression "rock and roll." He took a crude term for sexual relations that vaguely originated with dance-hall musicians and made it a worldwide label for the anthems of a new generation.

And it was a Canadian radio station, Windsor's CKLW, that first put Motown artists on the map in their homeland. "The Big W," as it was known in the 1960s, beamed into Detroit the music of the Four Tops and Smokey Robinson that lily-white station managers in the Motor City initially refused to include in their playlists.

But it would be hard to find a radio outlet anywhere on the continent that championed the new music more relentlessly, and with more affection for its audience, than the station that neophyte broadcaster Allan Waters, then a pharmaceutical salesman, bought in 1954 from a friend in the drug supply business. Three years later, he converted it into Canada's first 24-hour Top 40 hit machine. The station's ratings doubled by the end of the first week.

1050 CHUM was not content to merely spin discs. It aggressively promoted the artists who recorded them, sponsoring their local concerts, making them the focus of endless quizzes and contests, and updating listeners on their romantic and legal woes.

Not everyone signed up for membership in the CHUMbug Club. But everyone did follow the antics of "Jungle" Jay Nelson and his fellow disc jockeys. Their exploits are well-remembered today, all the more so for being in some instances no doubt apocryphal. Like the DJ who threatened to go on a hunger strike if Lulu didn't add a Toronto date to her concert tour. Or the colleague who lashed himself to a Ferris wheel seat for the three-week duration of the Canadian National Exhibition in order, if memory serves, to make his case that Mr. Waters should bump up his paycheque.

With its chart-driven playlist, 1050 CHUM precisely monitored the evolution both of music and its audience. It was its listeners' constant companion through the eras of pop-Mop (the Monkees), pop-folk (Puff the Magic Dragon), pop-protest (Ohio) and pop-shock (Sex Pistols).

In time, the superior sound quality of FM created a rival to AM as a town square. But not before Mr. Waters had parlayed the burgeoning cash flow from 1050 CHUM into a broadcast empire. Today's CHUM Ltd. owns about two dozen radio stations, Citytv and other television stations, and CP 24, Bravo! and other specialty cable channels.

In the meantime, 1050 CHUM eventually gave up on Top 40, adopting the aural wallpaper of Favourites of Yesterday and Today, a concept imported from the United States. When that failed, it switched to the still more numbing oldies format that it is now shedding, which held a trifling 2.6% audience share. That made 1050 CHUM one of the least listened-to stations in the market, although it did seem to be the mood music for every discount department store and doughnut shop in the greater Toronto area.

1050 CHUM ultimately failed as a music station because it was boring. It was boring because CHUM Ltd. didn't spend enough money to make it interesting. Mr. Waters and his son Jim, who heads the CHUM Radio Group, opted for an endless loop of canned content. 1050 CHUM was no longer animated by the often manic voices of disc jockeys who weren't above accusing listeners of traitorous behaviour if they dared switch for even a minute to arch-rival CFTR, a minor province of Ted Rogers' empire.

The Waters were hardly alone in their mistake, although the redundancy of CHUM Ltd. as both a Muzak franchisee and an operator of innocuous radio stations was a telling irony.

Across North America, the response of radio owners to the threat of rock videos on cable was not to improve on their own programming innovations of the past, but to surrender the field. If they could no longer boost top-line revenue with ease, they could, and did, slash their bottom-line costs. They cut personnel, replacing colourful on-air personalities with syndicated programs. They assumed that listeners in whitebread Toledo and multi-cultural Toronto have the same ear for recorded music.

They don't, obviously, and music radio is in trouble in most markets. Hence CHUM Ltd.'s plan to yoke CHUM 1050 with some of its other stations to create an eight-city sports network, pledging to insert at least some local content in each market.

But the shift to sports in Toronto and elsewhere is hardly a panacea. The health of sports stations is tied to the fortunes of local teams, as Toronto sports station the Fan 590 learned when the Blue Jays stopped winning World Series and audience numbers plummeted.

Worse, the strategy most stations have chosen for sports is identical to the methods that undermined the music franchises.

Like many other radio-sports broadcasters, CHUM Ltd. plans to rely heavily on syndicated shows, saving the expense of employing more than the minimum number of local on-air voices. It will, for instance, be filling a fulsome three hours of the programming day at the new Team 1050, set for a debut likely on April 1, with a syndicated U.S. afternoon talk show featuring Jim Rome.

It is possible that Mr. Rome will use some of that time to speculate about Vince Carter's trade-bait status and Curtis Joseph's prospects for winning the Vezina Trophy. But don't count on it. When the Fan 590 dispensed with the services of Spider Jones, a quirky late-night host, his replacement was canned ESPN broadcasts in which mention of Toronto sports developments is timed for the appearance of a new moon.

The Fan 590 commands a mighty 2.5% of the Toronto market. But then, station owner Telemedia boasts that those hardy listeners are skewed to the demographically lucrative audience of high-spending males aged 18 to 45.

Radio isn't quite dead. The case for its continued relevance is made by the CBC, and by commercial talk-radio outlets with controversial hosts such as Vancouver's CKNW and Toronto's CFRB, along with non-profits such as Toronto's CJRT, a champion of local jazz.

Elsewhere on the dial, however, commercial operators keep finding new ways to reduce radio to the afterthought medium.

As for former CHUMbugs in Toronto, they can still find a broadcasting showcase of local talent whose innovative programming is on par with the best broadcasters on the continent. It is called MuchMusic, a cable channel owned by CHUM Ltd.

Somewhere out there on the broadcasting spectrum, the Waters family is keeping the faith, after all.

## Farewell, my old CHUM

**By JIM SLOTEK — Toronto Sun (Forwarded by Tom Bryant)**

"Gonna drive past the Stop 'n' Shop with the radio on ... I got the AM ... RADIO ON!" — Jonathan Richman, Roadrunner

So it's official. Some as-yet-unannounced date around the vernal equinox will be known as the day the music died at 1050 CHUM — a local institution that spent the last 15 years of its life playing the same songs it played in its first 15.

On that day a few months hence, songs will be replaced, as they have at AM stations across the continent, by people blabbing. In this case, it will be people blabbing about the ludicrous trades neces-

sary to turn the Leafs/Jays/Raptors into a contender.

You'd think one station in town doing that — The FAN 590 — would be enough. But I guess you can never get too much of something nobody asked for.

With crystal-clear FM a longtime reality and digital radio looming, it's not hard to see why AM radio has come to be regarded as the discount outlet of broadcast. The signal fades in and out in tunnels. If you happen to be driving down Queen or King Sts., static from a streetcar two miles away makes the station produce a sound that cracks glass and makes your fillings fall out. And the AM signal is capable of turning the most expensive car sound system into the two-inch transistor radio of your childhood.

Which, from where I sit, is part of the charm.

At least it is for anyone who spent part of their youth fiddling with the dial to pull in WLS Chicago (easily available in Winnipeg) or, as I understand it, CKLW here. The big Top 40 station in The Peg, CFRW, put out poster-size charts weekly with which I plastered my room.

I am a CHUM listener, or I am when I can wrest control of the car radio. On the way to school, it's KISS 92, where I get my fill of Eminem and NSYNC. My wife's pre-set is CJRT, especially now that it's all-jazz.

On my own, I hit CHUM for some Guess Who or Byrds or Five Man Electrical Band, until they play that first Paul Anka record, at which time I try 1150 Hamilton for more of the same, until Bobby Curtola sends me screaming back to the FM band (where I might catch some R.E.M. on The Mix or Tragically Hip on Y-95). I am, according to the ratings, one of about a dozen people who hear Henny, Nancy and Doug crack each other up in the morning.

Well, at least The Bear's got somewhere to continue making his dubious NFL picks.

If I were interested in stations that don't shut up, there'd be a lot more keeping me on the band these days. There are, of course, two all-talk outlets — the august CFRB, where my old pal Ted Woloshyn has been in Wally Crouter's chair long enough to finally mould it to his contours, and the we'll-try-anything Talk 640, which gave us Dr. Laura and which is bringing back the whacked-out Art Bell and his UFO conspiracies in the wee hours.

There's all-news 680 and the aforementioned all-sports The Fan. Soon there'll be Team CHUM, which sounds less intimidating to the opposing teams if you consider that chum is a word for slimy, gooey fish guts. And no, nauseated is not the same as intimidated.

Which is not to say all is atonal on the AM. I notice the former CBC frequency 740 has been taken over by the music of your grandpa's life — a weird mix of big band music, '50s sh-boom and the occasional '60s hootenanny-era folkie stuff. Station brass will be rubbing their hands thinking about all the living-will and funeral home ads that will be looking for a home after CHUM switches formats.

I suppose the thing about AM radio is you always know you're listening to the radio when you hear it — whether it's the lo-fi or the endless babble. There will be aspects of it, the texture of it that will eventually be lost, even if AM saves itself by going digital.

The content, however, will adapt. Some years back, I eulogized the death of Top 40 when AM 640 went all-talk (with the same quote above from unheralded poet/songwriter Jonathan Richman).

That certainly was the "alternative" industry wisdom at the time — pop, short for "popular," was unpopular. A few years later, KISS-92 proved us all wrong as pop hits became a hot format again, courtesy of Britney, Christina and the Backstreeters.

Just not on AM.

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## Professional Sports Networks

Barry S. Finkel bsfinkel@ANL.gov

10314 S. Oakley  
Chicago, IL 60643-2409

Network listings for team sports stations

I have looked in local newspapers for radio broadcast information for the new American Basketball Association (ABA). I have found no local broadcasts, although I did not look at all of the local newspapers. Also, I received some information about college hockey broadcasts. I forwarded that information to Dave Braun, who handles college sports networks. My column handles professional (or semi-pro) sports only.

Here is one more NBA network list. There are still some NBA and NHL network lists that I do not have. Please send me any lists that you have.

**Boston Celtics 2000/2001** via Dave Braun (from Saul Chernos [from fax from WEEI])

620	WZON-ME	1160	WSKW-ME	1340	WBRK-MA	1480	WSAR-MA
640	WNNZ-MA	1230	WTSV-NH	1400	WHMP-MA		
790	WSKO-RI	1240	WHAI-MA		WLTN-NH	95.5	WCLZ-ME
850	WEEI-MA *		WOON-RI	1440	WVEI-MA	102.5	WQSS-ME
910	WNHV-VT	1280	WEIM-MA		WJAB-ME		

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# 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.

**Dave Schmidt** NRCMusings@aol.com  
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Scranton, PA 18505-0111  
Times are local per Muse; submit double-spaced only.

**Pete Taylor, Tacoma WA:** As a former broadcaster, I know I am not the only one among us who continues to have these recurring dreams:

(1) The record has about 30 seconds to go and you run in, rip off the most recent 5 min. UPI summary and go at it cold. After line 5, it is all gibberish

(2) The record has about 10 seconds to go and you don't have anything cued up on the other turntable and there are no other records in the studio

I haven't been in front of a mike for 35 years but one or the other of these still pops in every three or four months. Of course it's all fantasy, since we all know very well that neither situation ever took place in real life...

Only slightly related, but KFOG made the wire services once when Frank Frey, the all night DJ, went outside the front door to see who was knocking and locked himself out. There were three more cuts by Robert Goulet and then about two hours of the inside groove. I think most of us are familiar with that sound...

**John Callarman, Krum, TX:** I will occasionally dream that:

1) It's 7:29 a.m., the 5-minute weather cast comes on at 7:30, I go to the Weather Bureau teletype and discover the sign-off man forgot to check the paper supply and the machine is empty;

2) I have a new job as a disk jockey, I start my shift, there's a stack of loose 45s on the table next to the board, there's no playlist, and I've never heard of any of the artists or the titles;

3) I rush to the news announce booth, two rooms away from the news room, to start my 15-minute newscast and discover, just as the news theme starts, that I've left the copy in the news room;

4) I've arrived at the gym at a high school 60 miles from home, set up the equipment for my play-by-play basketball broadcast, and discover the chief engineer had failed to put a microphone among the equipment (This actually happened once; I had to borrow from the hometown station);

5) And, oh, yes, the bathroom dream. Sometimes Marty Robbins' "El Paso" didn't last long enough.

**Mark Durenberger, Grand Junction CO:** Now THAT's amazing! My friend Mike Diem and I have that same sort of dream. It varies somewhat...maybe different stations...but there's always an imperative...the music's running out, the next cut isn't cued, the news isn't ready, the logs are missing. For flavor, the phones are usually ringing off the hook and the transmitter's acting up and the teletype seems awfully quiet just when you need copy.

We both have this dream every few months. It's gotta have something to do with a persona or psyche we develop being in the "live" business. We were always responsible for "keeping it live". Dead air was anathema.

I'll bet today's jox who ride live-assist or other automation don't have those dreams...

**Fred Vobbe, Lima OH:** In my dreams the usual nightmare is that something is wrong with the TX, but when I'm at the site it works correctly. And then as I'm 20 minutes away, it acts up again. <grin>

**Paul Swearingen, Topeka KS:** Your dreams were too real ... mine (26 years after leaving radio) are similar, but every time I try to put the needle on the record, it turns to mush. And does that EVER date me!

**Fred Vobbe, Lima, OH:** Since were talking about personnel history. This is what happened to me. In 1968 I was going to Whitmer HS in Toledo. There was a little FM radio station in Berkey OH (105.5 now in Toledo), that needed someone to do cleaning. I took the job just to get out of working at the local family business.

The station was one of those "progressive rock" stations of the '60's, complete with typical beaded hippies of the time. Strange place, and always had a funny rope-like smell in there.

Anyway, one night I hear a record at the end of the groove as I was about to take out the trash. When I went into the room, there was a fellow sitting in the chair just staring at the VU meter. I made every attempt to get him to move but the only thing he would do is grunt something. I called the GM who explained it was probably an OD and that someone would come over to collect him, and why

don't I get something on the air.

I jocked from 8PM till 6AM, and the GM was impressed, so that is how I made the transition from kid janitor to radio DJ.

Getting into management and engineering is a whole other story!

**Ron Gitschier, Jacksonville FL:** We carried Clear Channel Communication's talk show "Better Lawns and Gardens" live every Saturday morning where I worked at WYHI 1570. There was some sort of satellite problem that rendered our Florida Radio Network feed out of commission. We were provided an 800 number to dial in ahead of time and do the news and features over phone lines.

I felt that it would be a tragedy to have a two-hour talk show on the air with telephone quality audio. So being the person I am, I took out my Sony SRF-A1 AM stereo (FM Stereo) Walkman, and tuned in the nearest FRN affiliate. Patched the Walkman into the board with some adapters I had in my box of tricks and viola: Better quality audio for the talk show. For me the fun was working the board to drop out the other station's ads and liners and inserting ours. Went real smooth and it impressed the GM who was listening while under the covers at home. It was a little iffy at first because of "station B" was on its last minutes of night pattern... it worked out fine in the final analysis...

**Fred Vobbe, Lima OH:** WLIO Television has a lot of two-way equipment for news, productions, IFB, and director cues. One of the radios we have is a link on 26.410 MHz that is used to send the off air programming + director instructions back to our ENG truck so people in the field can hear the Off Air and instructions from the director.

Our 6AM news is formatted so when we come up to the top of the hour, news anchors on the set will give the station ID just prior to going into Today Show at 7AM. The fellow that anchors the news at 6AM is pretty radio wise and has a good sense of humor. Between segments we were talking about the live shot at 6:45AM and how the people in the field could hear him. I explained that although it's two-way, people can still hear what is on it, and I have received reception reports from as far away as California on the 26 MHz link.

At the end of the cast I'm listening to the close and hear the usual patter going up to the top of the hour followed by "and say with us for national news on the Today Show here on your local NBC station, WLIO Lima, and throughout the world on WPLP548 Lima. It's 7AM." (Today Show starts).

Several of us had a good laugh, and it shook up the SWL/ham community as the rumor got out that we had a shortwave station!

Another anecdote: A DX'er (who shall remain anonymous), was working at a 24-hour-a-day station on 1520. When a CPC test was scheduled for another station on 1520, this fellow was working on the air. Due to a power failure ... (or remote control problem), the 1520 he was working at went off the air from about 12:58 to 1:58, which just happened to coincide with the CPC test schedule. Strange, huh?

**Doug Smith W9WI: Pleasant View (Nashville) TN:** Back in the days when the CBS-TV network was still delivered by microwave, we would occasionally suffer microwave fades. So, a 30' tower was installed and a high-gain antenna to provide studio-quality reception of the CBS affiliate from Rockford, Illinois, about 70 miles away. In case the CBS network feed was to fade out, we were to put WIFR-TV on the air.

One Saturday morning, the CBS feed did begin to fade, and our operator did patch up WIFR. Worked great for a few minutes, then WIFR's CBS feed began to fade too. It still looked better than ours, so we left it on the air.

For a few minutes. Then, the audio began howling. The video went down the tubes too, but I didn't see it and the operator couldn't find words to describe the situation.

Seems WIFR had the same idea, and put \*us\* on the air. 70 miles of feedback...

**John Callarman, Krum, TX:** You can't have been in radio without someone, sometime, trying to cause you to break up and laugh, uncontrollably, on the air. I was the morning man and news director, A.C. Higgins the afternoon shift operator on daytimer KPAN-860, Hereford, Texas, in 1958-59. Together, we did an hour-long news/talk block at noon. One day, A.C. determined he was going to break me up, and did everything he could think of ... all the tricks except floating a nude bicyclist outside the control window. I did not succumb. The last segment in the news block was the livestock report. I introduced it: "Now, the Livestock Report. Here's A.C. Ducey." A.C. broke up.

I did break up on my own one time at KPAN. It involved an agricultural concept I'd never heard of, and I was reading a brand-new piece of copy that had just been handed me, live, on the air. It went: "Farmers! Got green bugs! Then get lady bugs! Farm Supply of Hereford has lady bugs, frozen by the gallon. Warm 'em up, let 'em go, and they'll get those crop-sucking green bugs." It went on and on but by that time, I was gone. I couldn't get through the commercial. What it was about, of course, was

aphids, the tiny green insect that killed many crops by sucking the juices, and aphids' natural nemesis, the lady bug, which could live though frozen in suspended animation. When I got control of myself and did the make-up, I can't remember if I apologized for my ignorance. I should have.

**David Gleason, Los Angeles CA:** At WERC in Birmingham in 1972, we had a night jock who was also the Channel 6 Saturday kid show host. In other words, fairly straight and conservative. The WERC studio faced a seldom used production room endowed with the old 16" RCA turntables with the washing machine motors in the base. Down the hall was one of the first 5 or 6 top-40 FM's in the country, a station with attitude and NO respect. And down the street was a topless bar.

With these ingredients in order, the night jock on the FM decided one evening to bring a stripper, place her in darkness in the old production room, and have her stand on the turntable. As soon as the news began, he flicked on the light and started the turntable. The AM jock looked up, saw a naked woman turning at 16 rpm and was totally speechless and paralyzed for over a minute!

**Ron Gitschier, Jacksonville FL:** As you all know, I'm in the Navy. I was on shore duty and as a part-timer on WYHI-1570 Fernandina Beach, FL. From my desk PC, I'd often take a quick check of the National Weather Service for severe weather warnings, especially during the stormier months of the year. If I found something interesting and pertinent to our coverage area, I'd fax the info to the station and then call where the GM (Afternoon drive) would put me on the air to announce the wx bulletin. The fellas in our open-bay office would do their darndest to make me break up and laugh. Others would make teletype or xylophone sfx in the background, etc... what a great bunch of friends I had working in the office.

**John Tudenham, Joplin MO:** The last few days have been very entertaining with various radio stories along with the usual DX tips. I want to add one more. Back in the early '60's KIXZ-940 studio was located on the ground floor of an older small downtown Amarillo hotel. One evening someone upstairs let the bathtub run over and water was dripping down on the console. The DJ was doing all he could to stay on the air in between the laughter. The station had a showcase window and was visible from the street outside and gathered quite a crowd. I am not sure but I think the DJ was Chuck Dann who later moved on to KOMA. Chuck was quite a character and added a lot of humor to the incident. He was also a speaker at the 1961 NRC convention.

**Phillip Boersma - 15570 Cleveland Street - Spring Lake, MI 49456**

I've enjoyed the radio nostalgia articles by ANDY OOMS, WALT BREVILLE and DAN O'DAY which have appeared recently in *DX News*. I hereby offer something of a short trip down my own "Radio Memories" lane. I honestly cannot remember when radio first interested me, but I was very young. I remember listening to such stations as WKBZ-850, WJBL-1260 and WMAQ-670 at an age of maybe 7 or 8. Shortly thereafter, thanks to grandparents who saw my interest, I got to go "look Around" in several stations: WJBL, WHTC-1450 and WFUR-1570. Plus my dad knew the owners/managers at WGHN-1370 and WKJR-1520, so two more stations had to put up with a 9- or 10-year old, intensely curious and fascinated kid hanging around for several hours. I guess that's when I really got hooked. To me, there was something very magical about tall towers beaming invisible waves out into the air, meaning that one's voice (or music one chose to play) could be heard for miles and miles. This was back in the late 1960's, and most of the stations I visited were daytimers, which added another layer of mystery and thrill: the local station went off at sunset, and some strange station from somewhere else would often come in, loud and clear! I was in to DX before I even knew the term, I guess! When WKJR went from a 1000-watt nondirectional signal to 10000 watts (still daytime) with a 3 tower directional system in 1970, another dimension was added: directional antennas! I remember WKJR's open house (they also moved to a new studio/transmitter location with the facility change). I ran into the station chief engineer, and he was nice enough to patiently and in a most friendly manner answer a 13-year-old boy's questions about how the station's directional antenna system worked. Eight years later, I would end up working at WKJR, and had the privilege and fun to watch the stations night array (6 more towers added to the 3 existing ones) being built, tested and put into use. Radio programming of course also has interested me; standouts include Cliff Martin on WKZ, doing his big band "Jukebox Saturday Night" during the 1970's. The DJ's on WOKY-920 (Gary Price and Ronnie White come to mind immediately) during its Top 40 heyday in the early 70's (WOKY actually had a better signal here on the other side of Lake Michigan than any local Top 40 except maybe WTRU-1600 Muskegon), listening to the fantastic Larry Lujack on both WLS and WCFL, and on FM, great "progressive" jocks like Aris Hampers and Ed Buchanan on WLAV-FM, and the wonderful classical music presented with distinction on WUOM (relayed by WVGR-104.1 Grand Rapids) by announcers such as Evans Mireages, Bob Whitman and Peter Greenquist. Everyone's memories are no doubt a bit different, but I think we all might agree, that for those of us began a love affair with radio at a very young age, those memories

linger, a bittersweet reminder of what was, and what may never be again. Radio has changed, greatly, and not for the better over the past decade. But one never truly forgets one's first love.

**Paul Swearingen - 2840 SE Illinois Ave. - Topeka, KS 66605-1427**

When you're a kid, you go from one love to another, and I suppose I had many of them at one time, but somehow radio won out and for awhile even brought me a regular, if scrawny, paycheck. I can remember listening to various stations when I was very young, but the first station I ever visited was KOA-850 in October, 1952, when I was seven, and part of our family had driven from SE Kansas to participate in my grandparents' 40th wedding anniversary celebration. I can remember someone playing at a monstrous grand piano in a studio and talking into a mike on a morning program - oldtimers perhaps can pull his name out of the blue; I can't. And after we returned home and I became more interested in twirling the dials of the 5-tube Radiola (I still have it), I can remember listening to programs like "Big John and Sparky" on WLW-700, "The Lone Ranger" on KGGF-690, Sunday afternoon and evening CBS serials on KCMO-810 like "Gene Autry" from his Melody Ranch, "Gunsmoke" (with my all-time favorite character actor, Parley Baer, playing Chester), the hilarious but politically incorrect "Amos 'n' Andy", "Our Miss Brooks", and of course the country's favorite comedian on the "Jack Benny Show". Later, as I grew older, morning newscasts by Alex Dreier on WDAF-610 impressed me (little did I know then that my radio career would end as a newsman for KUDL-1380) as well as the wacky Johnny Dolan on WHB-710.

In 1964, when I was finishing up my second year in college, I was invited to apply as a copywriter at KALN-1370 by dint of being a friend of one of the jocks also attending college in Iola, KS, Joe Shields. I got the job, typed my fingers off for a couple of months (they threw in the job of typing up the daily log, too), and then when one of the weekend jocks quit with about 10 minutes notice, I found myself mumbling on the air on a spring Saturday morning at 8:00. I was awful and no threat to Johnny Dolan or anyone else, but at a 500-watt, very directional station in Kansas, no one cares, and I eventually learned to enunciate clearly enough to get a job at KVOE-1400, Emporia, where I spent the next two years supporting myself and getting a BSE (and dodging those pesky peacocks who regularly escaped from the nearby zoo). Nearly got myself fired one morning, too ... one of the local funeral homes sponsored a fifteen-minute obituary program at 10:15 every weekday morning, and we were supposed to play only the most sonorous, sedate religious music while solemnly recounting details of the local demised. Pretty boring stuff ... and one day when the quick prevailed and the dead were few, I reached into the record bin and pulled out an album by the "Chuckwagon Gang". Barely had I gotten past the first cut on the album and read the first obituary when the head mortician called, screaming, at the program director, who was then obliged to tell me that lively white gospel music might not be appropriate for his paid program. It was back to organ music for the rest of the program, and for years afterward, when I'd pay the station a visit, both Lyle Brown, the PD, and Roger Hartsook, the news director, would resurrect the "Chuckwagon" story with great gusto, even more so than the story of the peacock that terrorized Lee Burdorf by wandering through the station during his long newscast on a Sunday afternoon (that wasn't the only thing that terrorized Lee; I can remember him flattened against a wall whilst the FM transmitter sputtered a few feet away; he wasn't sure if it was going to expode or what ... but he lived and had a fine career in sportstalk radio at various stations).

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

One of the stations that I worked at over the years was WAMS-1380-Wilmington, DE, a very big station in northern Delaware in the days of Top 40 radio. In the late 60's/early 70's, I was hired as the night engineer, basically there to baby-sit, as was required in the time, by the FCC, to have a First Class Radio Telephone operator on duty. Meter readings EVERY half hour at the EXACT time that you took them, which took about 5 minutes to do. The CE always liked to see the operator busy, also, even if it was polishing the panels on the phasor cabinet! In the '60's, the station got a power increase to 5000 watts daytime, BUT with 2 patterns. This was due to the share time arrangement of then WAWZ in NJ and WBNX in NY (actually WBNX was in NJ, too; Carlstadt was their transmitter location). When WAWZ was on, WAMS was on "DA-1", and when WBNX was on, it was "DA-2", night pattern was "DA-3". (Day pattern was 5 towers in line and night pattern was 4). It was interesting in the summer and when WAWZ/WBNX switched share time every hour and a half! WAMS had to switch pattern every time they switched, 11 times! One Sunday afternoon, when I was asked to a some fill in on-air shift, I got a call from the PD, banishing me for saying "On a WAMS Pattern Change Weekend". I was CE of WAMS from 1991 til it closed down in 1996, and it was a tearful day to watch the towers be cut down.

That was the station that really got me hooked in the radio engineering side of broadcasting, and I'm still with it. OK, lets have your trips down memory lane, either from the broadcaster or listener side, and send along your reports! 73s

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