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From the Publisher ... Lotsa good stuff in this summertime DXN ... in fact, you antenna enthusiasts are probably thinking that you're hallucinating! Have fun with your construction projects, and stay away from overhead wires that could light you up.

The NRC AM Log is sold out, but the Night Pattern Book is almost ready for publication; see p. 36 for more details.

Perhaps it’s not a complete coincidence that the following two accounts almost coincide in time ... see p. 38 for an account of what it’s like for one almost-legally-blind radio aficionado. And from Duane Fischer: “Today I received something I have never ever received in forty years of sending QSL reports to AM and SW stations. I got an audio cassette letter recorded by one of the station announcers (the report mentioned I am totally blind). Additionally, there was a printed copy of said letter verifying the reception of WLW. What a thoughtful surprise!”

Paul Kallinger ... From Steve Francis: “According to a posting on the alt.obituaries newsgroup, legendary XERF announcer Paul Kallinger died on Wednesday, May 30. He had been in failing health for some time.

“Many many many thanks for listening to powerful X.E.R.F in Ciudad Acuna, Coa-inuela, Mexico; this is your good neighbor along the way, Paul Kallinger, saying thanks!”

Bandscan Web Page ... Mark Connelly has set up a new Web page with bandscan report information for a variety of locations: <<http://members.aol.com/RockportMWDX/index.html>>. The page includes AM, PM, and longwave scans, and Mark adds, “DXers are welcomed to send me their contributions for inclusion, or to start their own pages to which I can link. GTG’s ... See page 45 for information on the August 31-September 3 NRC/DXAS convention in Pittsburgh. The IRCA/Decalcomania convention will be in St. Louis August 24-26 at the Best Western Airport Inn; send an inquiry to host Mike Sanburn (mikesanburn@hotmail.com) for more info, or see the #24 DXN. And Phil Bytheway will be hosting a DX Get-Together on June 30 from 2-10 pm at 9705 Mary Ave NW, Seattle WA 98117-2334. Bring radios, antennas, QSLs, etc., as well as your favorite junk food/beverage. You can warn Phil that you’re on the way by calling 206-794-5145.

Loops ... The Minnesota DX club has set up an interesting page on loop antennas, including a chronology of loop history and even some construction details. Check it out at <<http://www.frontiernet.net/~jadale/Loop.htm>>.

DX Time Machine
From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the June 15, 1951 DXN: Cpl. Jack Rhea, Corpus Christi, TX relayed a request from KWBU-1030 for information from club members on the nighttime signal of WBZ at their locations; daytimer KWBU was planning on nighttime operation with 1000w. 25 years ago ... from the June 21, 1976 DXN: A number of DXers reported hearing R. Jumbo-545, Dominica, including Linda Brodsky and Mark Connelly.

10 years ago ... from the June 3, 1991 DXN: Dallas Lankford’s article “High-Performance One-Foot Air Core Loop” was published in this issue, along with first impressions of the new Drake R8 receiver.
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APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

540 WY Pine Bluffs: 800/500 U4 (existing application, change in powers)

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

580 KSAM KS  | Marana: CP for 5000/300 U2 is on |
| 620 WKBH PA  | Greensburg: CP for 3500/50, relocate transmitter, city of license to Irwin, PA is on |

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

660 KGDP CA  | Orcutt: application for 5000/7000 U4 is DISMISSED |
| 710 *App MI  | Deep River Township: application for new station DISMISSED |
| 760 WCHP NY  | Champlain: CP for 3500/11 U4 is on |
| 780 WZZX AL  | Lineville: CP to relocate transmitter, taller tower is on |
| 840 CJXX AB  | Grande Prairie: CP to move to 93.1 FM is on |
| 950 WAKM TN  | Franklin: CP for 5000/40 U1 is on |
| 990 *App MI  | Lake Township: application for new station DISMISSED |

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

1010 CKOD NF  | Gardner: CP to move to 98.7 FM is on |
| 1080 WMVR OH  | Sidney: station is SILENT |
| 1120 *App MI  | Reed City: application for new station DISMISSED |
| 1280 CKGY AB  | Red Deer: CP to move to 95.5 FM is on |
| 1580 WEEC GA  | St. Mary’s: CP for 1800 D1 is on |
| 1590 KRFT MO  | Desoto: silent station is ON THE AIR |
| 1220 CJOC AB  | Lethbridge: CP to move to 106.7 FM is on |
| 1250 KDEI TX  | Port Arthur: silent station is ON THE AIR |
| 1310 KOOR MO  | Joplin: station is SILENT |
| 1311 KTCK TX  | Dallas: CP for 9000/5000 U4 is on |
| 1440 WTYS FL  | Marianna: CP for 540/540 U1, relocate transmitter is on |
| 1450 WCMY KY  | Ashland: CP for 700/700 U1, relocate transmitter is on |
| 1480 KXEX MO  | Mexico: CP for 960/960 U1 is on |
| 1490 KKSO IA  | Des Moines: station is SILENT |
| 1500 KVLA LA  | Vidalia: station is SILENT |
| 1510 *App MI  | Mackinaw City: application for new station DISMISSED |
| 1580 WTAL FL  | Tallahassee: silent station is ON THE AIR |
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| 1510 KSSI AR  | Greenwood: license CANCELLED, call DELETED |
| 1550 WMRE WV  | Charles Town: silent station returned to the air for several days and then fell silent again, rumored to have had a transmitter fire too severe to repair |
| 1580 WNTF FL  | Bilbao: CP for 2100 D1 from this city of license is on |
| 1590 KFBQ IA  | Davenport: license CANCELLED, call DELETED |
| 1600 WALA KY  | Beaver Dam: station is SILENT, will return in June |
| 1600 KODE TX  | Tyler/El Dorado: CP for 5000/700 U4 is on |

THANKS: Bill Hale, Ed Krejny, Shawn Axelson, Dave Braun, Les Johnson, and MSJ 73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

AM Switch
C/O WHOT Radio

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com

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4040 Simon Road
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AM Switch
C/O WHOT Radio

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com
Welcome to DDXD-West. We have a heat for you

Brother Steve Francis queries the status of silent periods:
1. The last known surviving SP east of the Pacific time zone is gone. Westerners, does KDWN-720 still go left.
2. If you have any fresh TIS info that you haven't seen published, please get it to a club editor or list server!

Gary Jackson sends word that he "Talked to head of Cal Roaring Springs 19919 -Nod-

* Med. Wave Ramblings

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About the image: The text is from a newsletter or magazine page discussing DX (distance) listening, specifically focusing on Western U.S. stations. It mentions various stations, frequencies, and conditions, along with personal anecdotes and technical details. The newsletter is titled "Domestic DX Digest" and is divided into sections for Western and Eastern locations.

**DDXD-West**

**Medium Wave Ramblings**

- Welcome to DDXD-West. We have a heat for you! TIS fanatics this issue. And a little side order of DX, too.
- Apologies to Russ Edmunds for miscomputing a Graveyard DX mileage. Correct data appears.
- Steve Francis queries the status of silent periods: "WOAI-1200 San Antonio was on during their former silent period (0400-0600 Sundays) with back-to-back Roy Masters broadcasts, so the last known surviving SP east of the Pacific time zone is gone. Westeners, does KDWN-720 still go off every Monday morning? Ditto KCBS-740 on Sunday morning? They may be the only ones left." If anyone knows about KDWN and/or KCBS, let us know.
- Tim Hall, fresh back from a trip to the desert, says: "DX-wise, this was a much better trip than most of my recent business trips gested markets). Conditions in Page, an "area hotel room but had some of the best reception I have had in years. It's sad to see so many 70s or 80s. Even on the car radio at sunset, signals were livelier than ever."

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

**DD XD-West**

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**Reports**

- **SA-MB**
  - Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg
  - 105/70m and Drake R8 + 4 Foot Unamplified Box Loop / Quantum Loop
- **CD-TX**
  - Chuck Dobkins Alpine
  - DX-160 + Falamar Amplified Loop or Sony ICF-7600 barefoot
- **PG-CO**
  - Pat Griffith Denver
  - Drake R-8 and Kiwa Loop
- **TRH-CF grabs a new Super TIS/3AB/HAR going on the air in Oakland on 840 kHz and another in Yreka, CA on 1610 kHz. Oakland due this week! Yreka soon."**

**Next deadline for DDXD-West is July 3rd at 1800 CDT. Thanks for listening!!**

**Reporters**

- **SA-MB**
  - Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg
  - 105/70m and Drake R8 + 4 Foot Unamplified Box Loop / Quantum Loop / 145 Foot Outdoor Wire / 100 Foot Indoor Wire, MIJ 1026 Phasing Unit
  - <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>

- **TRH-CA**
  - Tim Hall
  - Chula Vista ICF-2010, KIWA Loop
  - <halles@networld.net>

- **TRH-CA1**
  - Tim Hall on the road in CA
  - Toyota car radio

- **TRH-CA2**
  - Tim Hall on the road in AZ
  - Toyota car radio

- **TRH-CA3**
  - Tim Hall Ajo
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop

- **TRH-CA4**
  - Tim Hall Tucson ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop

- **TRH-CA5**
  - Tim Hall Tombstone
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-CA6**
  - Tim Hall Page
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-CA7**
  - Tim Hall Grand Canyon North Rim
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-ZA8**
  - Tim Hall Kaibab Lodge, AZ
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-ZA9**
  - Tim Hall Grand Canyon South Rim
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-ZA10**
  - Tim Hall Flagstaff, AZ
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop, Toyota car radio

- **TRH-NM1**
  - Tim Hall on the road in NM
  - Toyota car radio

- **TRH-NM2**
  - Tim Hall Bear Mountain Lodge (3 mi NNW of Silver City)
  - ICF-2010, Quantum QX Loop
DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

930 KAPR AZ Douglas - 5/16 0926 - Noted running OC this morning and well into the afternoon. Back on the air by mid-afternoon; noted on car radio from Willcox with rock oldies and 9-30 AM 'the Eagle'. (TRH-AZ4,AZ1)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

530 KOP737 AZ Grand Canyon South Rim - 5/21 2337 - Information on shuttle bus service for permit holders west and Yaki Point; lots of hams for Canyon View Information Plaza near Mather Point. Easy to log from the other side of the canyon. If you have this station listed on 1610, scratch that listing, as the station moved to 530 about 5 years ago. (TRH-AZ7)

530 (KGD50) AZ Jacob Lake - 5/21 1700 - No station noted at Jacob Lake, and no signs posted. We were in the area for 2 days. Suspect this station has been defunct for many years. (TRH-AZ7)

530 (KNJX78) AZ Kingman - 5/25 2030 - We drove from one end of Kingman to the other, and no TIS noted this evening or the next morning. (TRH-AZ1)

530 (KIF794) AZ Show Low - 5/19 1100 - No sign of the TIS listed for Apache - Sitgreaves National Forest when we were in Show Low. (TRH-AZ1)

530 (TIS) AZ Tucson - 5/13 1800 - This is the second trip to Tucson with no TIS noted on 530. I suspect this one (listed as "Pima County Parks") is defunct. Can any AZ members confirm? (TRH-AZ3)

530 WNXE619NM Silver City (area) - 5/17 1715 - Message by Ricardo Montalban mentioned the mining history of this part of New Mexico, and was oriented toward Silver City. There are listings for stations in Central and Silver City which must refer to the same station. First noted weak signals on the car radio in Santa Lorenzo. As we returned to Silver City, signal strength increased but not as much as you'd expect for a 10-watt local station. May be operating at reduced power, or located significantly S/SE of town. (TRH-NM1) [Ricardo also does audio the 530 TIS at White Sands National Park - Ed.]

530 (TIS) NM Lordsburg - 5/16 1920 - Noted OC at the visitor information center in Lordsburg. (TRH-NM1)

530 UNID ?? - 5/20 1530 - From Mexican Water, AZ, and into Utah on US 191, we noted a seemingly low-power station running non-stop hymns. Possibly a local church broadcast? (TRH-AZ1,TRH-UT1)

870 WPIV413 IL Cary - 5/13 1015 - With fair signal while driving through Algonquin, Illinois. Municipal information repeated over and over along with the following ID: "You are listening to the Cary Radio Information System. CRIS AM 870, WPIV413, the Voice of Cary." The phone number 639-0003 was given for additional information. (CR-IL)

1610 (TIS) AZ Cameron - 5/23 1530 - Noted signs along US 89 for a new Grand Canyon TIS near Cameron. Station is not on the air yet. A similar station has recently come on the air in Valle, AZ, for tourists approaching from the south. (TRH-AZ1)

1610 (KGD49) AZ El dorado - 5/24 1700 - No TIS noted as we headed north out of Flagstaff on US 89 past the El dorado area. It seems like all of these old Forest Service stations with "KGD-" calls are off the air, if they were ever on. (TRH-AZ10)

1610 KNNS570 AZ Flagstaff - 5/24 1545 - Great signal, already loud 10 miles northwest of Flagstaff. General info about how to enroll at Northern Arizona University plus specific information for people attending the graduation ceremonies this weekend. (TRH-AZ10)

1610 KOP738 AZ Grand Canyon Desert View - 5/22 1212 - Female tape loop noted on car radio with information on the Desert View Watchtower area. (TRH-AZ10)

1610 (KOJ737) AZ Katherine Landing - 5/26 1200 - Not noted from Oatman, AZ, in the mountains over Bullhead City, but there's no guarantee I could hear it from here it was on. (TRH-AZ1)


1610 KOJ778 AZ Page - 5/13 0759 - TIS at Glen Canyon NRA really gets out. Noted from Ajo with man/woman tape loop on boating safety (later in the week, this message was replaced by a more traditional TIS message with only a female voice). Note: Although this station has been reported as being in Utah, it is actually in Page, AZ. (TRH-AZ2), also on 5/15 0007 - logged from Tombstone. AZ, (TRH-AZ1) on 5/17 0734 - Logged from New Mexico, over 1610 station mentioning US 89 visitor center. (TRH-NM2)

1610 (KOC734) AZ Painted Desert - 5/19 1830 - No TIS noted at the North entrance of Petrified Forest NP. No signs up. Presume this station is defunct. (TRH-AZ1)

1610 KOJ794 AZ Pipe Spring National Monument - 5/21 1600 - New TIS with tape loop by woman mentioning Kaibab Paiute Indians, the Arizona Strip, ranger guided tours of ranch house. Monument is administered by the Zion Natural History Association, so it would be very easy to confuse this station with one of the Zion National Park stations. First noted at Kanab, UT, good at Fredonia, and audible for a while on US 89A. (TRH-UT1,AZ1)

1610 (KOC733) AZ Rainbow Forest - 5/19 1430 - No TIS noted at the South entrance of Petrified Forest NP. No signs up. Presume this station is defunct. (TRH-AZ1)

1610 TIS AZ Valley - 5/24 1400 - New TIS: Grand Canyon Radio for visitors entering Grand Canyon National Park from the south. Located at the junction of US 180 and Arizona Highway 64 in Valle. Male voice on tape loop, advises people to keep guns and cans early in the day as they will not last. (TRH-AZ1)

1610 KOJ793 AZ Why - 5/12 1920 - New TIS at Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument. Transmitter seems to be in Why, near the north end of the monument, as the signal gets out well from that point but is weaker at the visitor center near the south end of the monument. Mentions keeping your speed to 55 MPH on Highway 85, and talks about the two main dirt roads for viewing the cactus. I need to check my tape to see if I may have logged this one from home and not known what it was. (TRH-AZ1)

1610 (KMC478) CA Imperial Sand Dunes - 5/26 1815 - No TIS noted at this location when we drove through the area, and no signs for one. I believe this station is defunct (in fact, from my travels in the last two years, I'd say the entire series of Department of the Interior stations with "KMC-calls are all gone). (TRH-CA1)

1610 (KMC483) CA Vidal - 5/26 1630 - No TIS station noted at Vidal Junction or the town of Vidal itself. I believe this station is long gone. (TRH-AZ1,CA1)

1610 (KMC426) CA Yuma - 5/12 2530 - No TIS station active as we drove through the area, and no signs. I believe this station is defunct. (TRH-CA1)

1610 TIS CA South San Diego - 5/31 0830 and 5/26 2150 - The scratchy pest at the San Ysidro border crossing is moving to 1700 kHz, where they will do much less damage. Existing signs are being changed, and several new signs have been added along I-5, I-805, and CA-905. The new station will deliver traffic information when lights on the new signs are flashing. (This is odd, as there is never a wait to get into Mexico, but there is often a 2-hour wait to come back into the US; the main purpose of this station is to warn people not to bring guns into Mexico, as several dozen morons get imprisoned in Tijuana each year for doing this). For now, the station remains on 1610 even though the signs have changed. (TRH-CA1)

1610 KOJ786 UT Zion National Park - 5/22 2254 - Noted three stations from Zion National Park tonight. The first one, for visitors entering via Utah Highway 9, had a tape loop with a female announcer who talked about the new shuttle bus service and escorts for large vehicles. It mentioned to tune into 1610 again about 16 miles up the road. The second station, which was weaker, seemed to be that station. The third station was a tape loop with a male voice saying This is a test broadcast for Zion National Park on the Desert View AM 1610 - 1,2,3. At least one of these stations appeared to be running 100-200 kHz high. (TRH-AZ10) also on 5/24 0107 - The first station was audible at the South Rim, despite the fact that several other stations are closer. (TRH-AZ9)

1610 "KJACK" AZ Flagstaff - 5/24 1550 - Student radio station for Northern Arizona University with mindless music. Slogan K-jack, the alternative and Student voice, student choice. Gets out very well. Seems like 10 watts with very clean audio. Thanks Doug Martin for tip. (TRH-AZ10)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT
KKOW KS Pittsburg
CKRM SK Regina
KNDN NM
KKYN TX Plainview
KNFT NM Bayard
KTRA TX Dallas
KNZZ CO
KRDO CO Colorado Springs
KSLV CO Monte Vista
KMHI ID Mountain Home
KWiK ID Pocatello

KKB SK Prince Albert
KNFT NM Bayard
KNND NM Farmington

KKY TX Lubbock
KKW KS Pittsburg

KKBI SK
KNF NM Roswell

KKYN TX Plainview

KKW KS

KKZ CO Grand Junction
KENS TX San Antonio
KTRA TX Dallas

KRLN CO Canon City

KRU CO Colorado Springs
KSLV CO Monte Vista
KMHI ID Mountain Home
KWiK ID Pocatello

KRKY CA Monterey

KRDO CO Colorado Springs
KSLV CO Monte Vista
KMHI ID Mountain Home
KWiK ID Pocatello

KSWX AZ Evanson

KXKY TX Houston

KXZ CO Pagosa Springs

KXZ CO Pagosa Springs

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GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

SASKATOON, SASKATCHEWAN

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

1230 kHz

WTWS NH Claremont Russ Edmunds Kinnelon, NJ 196

1240 kHz

KFLI ID Mountain Home Tim Hall Page, AZ 486

WRNC NC Raleigh Russ Edmunds Parsippany, NJ 419

1340 kHz

1400 kHz

WAQJ GA Alma Don Trelford Runaway Bay, Jamaica 962

1450 kHz

KTIP CA Porterville Tim Hall Grand Canyon North Rim, AZ 428

1490 kHz

WANA AL Anniston Don Trelford Runaway Bay, Jamaica 1180

KMET CA Banning Tim Hall Chino, AZ 444

XEAQ Son Agua Prieta Tim Hall Wilcox, AZ 69

DDXD-East

The column’s a lot shorter this time around as DX conditions and other interests take their toll. Still, some nice catches here.

UNID, UNID HELP, RESUMED AND CORRECTIONS

540 CBEP ON Windsor - 5/22 0100 - Fair, listed as CBC-French. Can pick out the word “Canada” in the French and more than likely Windsor and not the other Canadian-French on 540 as it is much further away (SC-IN)

960 UNID - 5/6 - Someone IDs here as “The Team 9-60, The Poconos’ Sports Radio” and carries ESPN. Mixing with WLL-CT, WVFIR-VA and the Canadians. (RWK-CT)

1020 KOKPP OK Perry - 4/27 0533 - Weak; with motto “The greatest classic hits in the country, hour after hour, right here on OK Country”. Phasing KDKA will bring this country station in almost every night but never are any call letters given. The assumption here is OK means Oklahoma. (SC-IN)

1520 WCEHP PA West Chester - 4/25-26-27 0640-0700 - Finally I'd my sunrise folk/country station as this, which seems to play segue music somewhere in these two areas then a quick ID and a local talk show with the host doing either phone calls or a rambling monologue. At various other times during the day heard all sorts of music programs from the previous to classical and religious, so the only description for this format it “VAR”. (RJE-PA)

STATION LOGGINGS

540 WWCS PA Canonsburg - 5/22 0300 - Weak; with ID “Radio Disney WWCS Canonsburg, Pennsylvania”. Voiced by child-type announcer. (SC-IN)

550 CFOS ON Owen Sound - 5/25 0200 - Weak; with ID “This is [s]560 CFOS and 1490 CFPS news, information, and music”. Story of new album release and North American tour by ELO [Electric Light Orchestra - MS]. (SC-IN)

570 WTNT MD Bethesda - 5/29 1544 - “The new WTNT... AM 570”, into ads for Wellesley Inn and Suites, Sudafed, and GEICO. Last heard as WWRC, was WTEM before that, and WGMG for years and years. (PFC-VA)

580 CKAP ON Kapuskasing - 5/23 0400 - Weak; in weather report mentioned “High near 21”, ID “The best of the 70's and 80's, weekdays at noon on AM 58 CKAP”. Moving to FM 100.9. (SC-IN)

590 WGAJ NC Elizabeth City - 5/23 0500 - Very weak; with ID only “Your information station WGAJ AM 560”. (SC-IN)

620 WSNR NJ Newark - 5/09 0300 - Weak, with ID “This is New York’s Sports News Radio 620 WSNR Newark/New York.”. (SC-IN)

WTGH SC Cayce - 5/09 0400 - Very weak, heard ID only “WTGH AM 620 Cayce/Columbia” and then ID was repeated. (SC-IN)

640 WFMN MI Zeeland - 5/01 0600 - Very weak; ID “Simply the best talk on the radio AM 640 WFMN Zeeland/Grand Rapids”. (SC-IN)

WGOC TN Blountville - 4/26 0400 - Good at Top of Hour with spot for alcoholism help line and “640 WGOC, Blountville” ID by man. Never heard this before, and it was competing with dominant WWZJ-NJ all night. Day pattern? (RWK-CT)

770 WEW MO St. Louis - 5/09 2020 - Fair; with ID “Now you can hear more about your favorite music and the people who make that music with Gary Duncan on Variety 77 WEW”. (SC-IN)

790 KFYO TX Lubbock - 4/17 0200 - Weak, Weather report; mentioned “Wednesday with a cool start, temperature in the 70's”. ID “KFYO AM 790 Lubbock, news and information”. Then CBS News. (SC-IN)

800 WEEU PA Reading - 5/9 0588 - Haven’t really DXed 830 for domotics since getting back into the hobby, so had a couple of easy catches here. WEEU shares domi-
nance with WCRN. Heard this night with well-produced local news, then into ABC news. (RWK-CT)


WYLF NY Penn Yan - 4/15 0015 - Fair and in the clear. ID "We're AM 850 WYLF" and then into "My Heart Will Go On" by Celine Dion. (SC-IN)

920 WGNU IL Granite City - 5/02 0100 - Over/under KARN. Heard ID only "WGNU Granite City/St. Louis". (SC-IN)

960 CFXX ON Kingston - 5/6 0200 - Winning out briefly over WEJL-CT with "Just an Old Fashioned Love Song" then recorded ID: "In Kingston, CFFX is Good Time Oldies", then into "I Know What You Mean". (RWK-CT)

990 CKGM QC Montreal - 5/5 0600 - Three straight nights of just "Oldies 9-90" IDs finally paid off with a clear song ID "Oldies 9-90, CKGM" at 8 am, then into "Iko Iko" for a quick mention of Montreal by man. WLZG-NY, WALE-RI and WZ2D-PA usually dominant. (RWK-CT)

1020 WJFF IL Carbondale - 4/27 0600 - Weak, with ID "The morning news watch from 6 to 9 on News Radio WJFF", then signal smothered by WPEO sign-on. No SSB. (SC-IN)

1040 CJMS QC Saint-Constant - 4/30 2330 - WEVD-1050 off made 1040 more quiet. Heard FF talk show in WHO null. Male host taking callers, mentions of Quebec, then into countryside-sounding music in French after midnight. (RWK-CT)

1050 CHUM ON Toronto - 4/30 2315 - On e-mail tip from Dave Mauthouse, found WEVD-NYC off and CHUM dominant. Usual oldies with many testimonials from former radio personalities about CHUM's history. They are doing several days of retrospective before going to sports on 5/7. It was fortuitous that WEVD went off during this programming. There was a station underneath playing nostalgia music at midnight, but nothing else heard. (RWK-CT)

1070 WINA VA - 5/15 0800 - Faint signal in late morning mixing with remnants of WBT. "County 11-10, WUNH, Pittsfield, MA": 05/02 2100 Back again, but with monster signal and "Berkshire County's only country station - WUHN Pittsfield, Mass". (RWK-CT)

1110 WUHN MA Pittsfield - 5/15 0800 - Faint signal in late morning mixing with remnants of WBT. "County 11-10, WUHN, Pittsfield, MA": 05/02 2100 Back again, but with monster signal and "Berkshire County's only country station - WUHN Pittsfield, Mass". (RWK-CT)

1200 CFGO ON Ottawa - 5/5 1100 - Heard weak "The Team" IDs at 4 am and 6 am under dominant WTLA-NY and WOKX-MA. Weak but in clear after sunrise with local Ottawa news woman by then, "Team Weather". (RWK-CT)

1230 WXNI RI Westerly - 5/14 0300 - Caught while digging for WLAT over mush with man: "WRNI-1290 Providence and WXNI 1230 Westerly. Rhode Island's NPR news station" then into BBC news (which gave GMT time, which was convenient during daylight savings time). (SC-IN)

1300 WJBB DE Wilmingtong - 5/25 0640 - In very strong with end of NOS song, then "Delaware's AM 12-90" ID by male, then ad for Mailboxes Etc. (RWK-CT)

1310 WICH CT Norwich - 5/20 0000 - Over Spanish station (WXML-NY) assumed with ad for "Airport Auto Repair" then "You're listening to KWIC" radio, WICH Nor-

witness" then coverage of local roadway racing. 3 to go to complete CT. (RWK-CT)

WADB NJ Asbury Park - 5/20 0300 - Fair with recorded ID by man: "13-10 WADB Asbury Park, with the music you love and the information you need 24 hours a day". (RWK-CT)

1330 WSPQ NY Springville - 4/27 2200 - Heard Cleveland Indians baseball mixing with WWRV-NY for a couple of nights in a row. Finally IDed at Top of Hour break with "You're listening to your major league radio in the Tri-Counties for Cleveland and Indians' baseball, all season long on 1330 WSPQ-Springville." Two other towns were listed after Springville, but I didn't catch them. (RWK-CT)

1340 WYBC CT New Haven - 5/22 0600 - Audible during day; best in the evening. Morning, devo song, then their usual quick Top of Hour recorded ID by woman: "WBIC - New Haven". Needed the new call letters. (RWK-CT)

1350 WNYT CT Putnam - 5/20 2350 - In local of WNLK-CT with ad for Marinos then recorded ID: "It's music, local information, weather, sports and good clean fun ?? weekdays from 6-9 WINY 13-50 AM" then into generic pop song 2 to go for CT. (RWK-CT)

1360 WNJC NJ Washington Township - 5/26 2200 - Fair under WDRIC-CT with end of recorded REL program, then recorded ID by man: "Fast becoming the most listened to station in the Delaware Valley, the newest 13-60 AM WNJC Washington Township/Philadelphia" then another, different recorded full ID, and finally a full ID in Spanish. (RWK-CT)

1380 WSCG MI Greenville - 5/4 2052 - Poor in mess with NOS music, "Beautiful memories 24 hours a day on WSCG, 1380". Ex-WPLB for me. (JF-ON)

1390 KCIM IA Carroll - 5/4 2307 - Faded up with start of Cubs baseball as "Cubs baseball is on the air with your station for the Cubs, KCIM". New. (JF-ON)

1400 WTJS TN Jackson - 4/20 0532 - Fair; with ID, "Sinatra, Cole, Streisand, The Platters, and plenty more here on 1390 WTJS 7-10 AM every morning". (SC-IN)

1410 KQV PA Pittsburgh - 5/26 0140 - Weak, with ID "KQV newtime 5:10". Mention of Pittsburgh Int'l Airport with weather report. (SC-IN)

1420 CKPT ON Peterborough - 5/4 0500 - Heard AdCon music in background all night behind the talkies on this frequency. Finally a solid "14-20 CKPT, Peterborough" ID at Top of Hour. WHK-OF and WCOJ-PA the other dominants. (RWK-CT)

1430 WENE NY Endicott - 5/7 0200 - Weak; with Imus promo. "The 1-Man and sports all day, Sports Radio 1430 WENE Endicott". (SC-IN)

1440 WDIC VA Clinchco - 5/27 0600 - Fair with ID "We're AM stereo 1430 WDIC Clinchco". (SC-IN)

1470 WKAP PA Allenstown - 5/6 0500 - Struggling under WMW, rising up for quick ID by man: "WKAP Allenstown". (RWK-CT)

1480 WKND CT Windsor - 5/7 2000 - Very weak, very noisy, with recorded ID by man: "WKND Windsor/Clinton". This was during a pause in WZRC-NCY's audio. One to go in Connecticut. (RWK-CT)

1500 WRTP NC Durham - 5/3 0100 - On web tip from Dave Braun (Thanks!), found WRTP on overnight coming in and out of WSAL null. Caught fairly clear, recorded FM, AM and 2 other station IDs at Top of Hour then into canned REL program. (BICT)

1570 WJQR WI Appleton - 5/14 2350 - ID in mess, under CMW-MA. (SC'ON)

1570 WFOG NY Riverhead - 05/19 2045 - Fair, "The only place for classic hits, 103-9 RCN" and classic rock music, over WBUG, WISP and UNID stations. (BC-NH)

1600 WUNR MA Brookline - May 15 2130 - African or Caribbean accented French and music, with local ID on bottom of hour. (SC'ON)

1700 WAFN FL Miami Springs - 05/19 2245 - Fair, religion in Spanish, mentions of O. Cristiana. (BC-NH)

TIS, HAR AND MISCELLANEOUS

1640 UNID NY New York City - 05/19 2225 - Poor, mentions of New York State Department of Transportation and I-95. (BC-NH)

1640 UNID NY Pomona - 05/19 2230 - Fair, woman announcing office hours and "You are tuned to Rockland County's residents' information station. 1640 AM. We aim
to keep Rockland County residents informed. " (BC-NH)

5/21 2030 - Briefly over HAR sub-audible heterodyne mesh with "Rockland County Residents Information Radio Station". Didn't get call letters, and there's nothing in the FCC database for Rockland Co. City is assumed based on input from Bruce Conti. (RWK-CT)

1700 UNID NY New York City - 05/19 2235 - Fair, run-down of road construction. "Thank you for choosing John F. Kennedy International Airport." (BC-NH)

REPORTERS

SC-CN Steve Chappell McCordsville - Bearcat DX-1000. 3 terminated loops.

SCON Saul Chernov Burnt River (roughly 75 air miles northeast of Toronto) - Radio Shack TRF655 Grundig Yachi Boy 400; Radio Shack loop antenna.

BC-NH Bruce Conti Nashua - Drake R88, MDWX-5. 100-ft wire; 100-ft east sloping wire.

PFC-VA Perry Crabill Winchester - Drake R8. 100-ft wire.

RJE-PA Russ Edmunds Blue Bell - Car radio and whip.

JF-ON Jeff Falcomer Clinton - Drake R88. pair of noise-reduced/terminated wires (one pointed east and one pointed west). modified MEJ-1026 phasing box, Timewave OS-599ez audio filter.


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It looks like Mike Tuggle is looking to win a "no prize. Mike remembers a quote from an old Scientific American article: "I admit, 'screched' must be the longest one-syllable word. I came to realize this the other day, as I was being broughammed to Heathrow airport. Well, of recent manufacture or not, "broughammed" is two letters longer than the word I presented as the correct answer in last month's quiz.

For the first time in all the years I have been doing this column, I now have ONE computer on which to receive your e-mail reports, compose the column and then send it to Paul and Fred. This should dramatically reduce the incidence of lost and delayed submissions. Thank you for your patience.

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6988 Bank Street Rd.
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Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.

AM Broadcast Station

International DX Digest

Jim Renfrew

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1368 [Connelly*B-MA]
1369 ITALY Synch. APR 16 0404 - RAI-Tres, Man in Italian, Classical Music. [Dangerfield-PA]
1377 FRANCE France Bleu, Lille, APR 30 0408 - man & woman in French; fair. MAY 20 0323 - "Monday Morning" by the Mama's & Papas from '66, to good peaks. [Connelly*B-MA]
1404 FRANCE Synch. APR 16 0424 - Fair. Radio Bluee with fem pop vocal and // to 1206 and 1557, among others. I would like to think this was primarily coming from Ajaccio, Corsica, since it is the most powerful on this freq. and since both nice and Monte Carlo were being heard with such strength at this particular time. No proof, though. [Dangerfield-PA]
1431 ITALY Synch. APR 16 0406 - Weak but probable RAI-Due. [Dangerfield-PA]
1449 FRANCE Synch. APR 16 0407 - In but hard to read. Probable RAI-Due. [Dangerfield-PA]
1467 FRANCE TWR, Roumoules, MAY 1 0358 - German talk by woman, then female medieval-sounding folk vocal with fluent accompaniment; good, best TA at the time. MAY 19 0348 - religious music; fair / jumpy. [Connelly*B-MA]
1484 SPAIN SER synchros, MAY 19 0349 - // 1575 with Spanish news interview; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
1494 FRANCE Synch. APR 16 0425 - Fair. Man, woman in FF and // to other Radio Bluee stations such as 1557 and 1706. Maybe Bastia, Corsica [20 KW], but how to tell? [Dangerfield-PA]
1512 CRETE, GREECE, Chania, APR 14 0203 - Romantic vocals by man and woman, just as heard a year or so ago at this time [4-13-00] and subsequently verified, so believe it to be one and the same. Didn’t hear it in last night’s TA opening. [Dangerfield-PA]
1521 SPAIN Castellon, APR 16 0400 - Man, woman in SS. SER Net. Saudi Arabia by this time was just give a quick listen to 1206. Expecting nothing since I’ve yet to have a break into the SM-2. Also, had strong “syncable” bets on 1351, 1314 and 1548.
1583 FRANCE R. Bleu, Nice, MAY 19 0341 - Kiwa, heard with such strength at this particular time. No proof, though. [Dangerfield-PA]
1584 SPAIN SER synchros, MAY 19 0350 - Go to fair peak through WQEW splash. [Connelly*B-MA] &\n1590 SPAIN SER stations, MAY 19 0440 - Good. Man and woman, then //. MAY 19 0341 - 1206 with cover version of Ray Charles song “Unchain My Heart”; to fair peak through WQEW splash. [Connelly*B-MA] &\n1600 Armchair. Radio Bluee, FF pop vocals. [Dangerfield-PA]
1683 CEUTA RadiDole, APR 25 2355 - Spanish talk by man; hetting SER-1584. [Connelly*B-MA] &\n1684 SPAIN SER synchros, MAY 19 0320 - Spanish talk & teletalk // 1357; poor over Ceuta-1583.64 het. [Connelly*B-MA] APR 17 0446 - At times very good. “Raining Men”, but didn’t sound like Weatherboys version, then Spanish talk by man. At 0514 spots or commercials, one commercial with 3 pips, then 2 men and 1 woman trading off reading what sounded like news stories. [Kenneally-CT]
1702 SPAIN Vitoria, APR 16 0439 - Way up, with man and woman in SS, but separable from the SER stations below that were // to 1757 and others. [Dangerfield-PA]
1711 VATICAN Synch. APR 16 0319 - Strong at sign-on with Vatican IS and announcements by woman in Italian. Then man in another language; and fadeout shortly thereafter. [Dangerfield-PA] Ben speaks: On the night of 4-15 I found a TA opening that began around 0330 on 4-16 and extended from 1206 to 1600, the “Acerera”, not “La Serena”, as I reported it. Reviewed my tape and heard a couple of what sounded like “Acerera” without the “La”. Not sure what “Acerera” means. Might derive from the word “acero”, which means steel. [Wilkins-CA] (But “acero” is sidewalk, or pavement, which doesn’t make much sense for a slogan, either. –pl\])]\n1730 MEXICO XEKTEN (?) Los Moschis, Sin. (pres.) APR 12 1100 The station heard several AM with unusual ID announcement “EPNC, Radio 65, La Ley del Norte, Radio de Servicios a la Camara a Radio y Television Industria con Responsabilidad Social.” The male announcer gave the call letters twice and they are categorically not XETEN, though “La Ley” and “Radio 65” match this listing in IRCA Log. The best translation that several native SS speakers can give is XETEN, though it might also be XETFCX. There was no mention of the location of the station. [Bryant-OK]
1760 MEXICO XEAR Tampico APR 9 1341 - deep fades with SS music, many SIDs “Radio Mexicana”. [Loy-IL]
1770 MEXICO UNID, MAY 17 1102 - XE anthem, sign-on garbled but mentioned 5 mil watts. [Hall-NN]
1767 MEXICO (presumed) UNID APR 4 0146 Male announcer heard with several IDs as “RADNO PERTICO.” No other information and the signal faded down rapidly after resuming romantic Latin ballads. Ideas? Theories? [Bryant-OK]
1790 ANGUILLA Caribbean Beacon, The Valley, APR 26 0040 - to good peaks. [ConnellyB-MA]
1830 MEXICO XEQP Melchor Muzquiz, COAH, MAY 17 1105 - XE anthem, pray for man, then “XEQP: La Sa-Sa-Sabrosita... 5 mil watts.” [Hall-NN]
1850 MEXICO UNID MAY 6, 1200 Heard with morning network ID at 1100 UTC. Cocks crow, alarm clock rings, other sound effects then ... Radio Formula, Tizcara Cadena de la Cuidad. ” (Third Network of the City) The male announcer then went on to list four stations, all with frequencies, some with powers, all with locations: “XEA1 AM, 1470 Mexico, DF; XEZ AM, 600 Merida, Yucatan; XEIZ AM, 1240 Monterrey, Nuevo Leon; XEBON AM, 1280 Los Mochis, Sin. (pres.)” [Bryant-OK]
might note that the IRCA Log listing of Radio Fórmula station on 740 in Los Mochis, Sin. is NOT listed on their current website. [Bryant-OK]

MEXICO XECAQ, Cancun, Quintana Roo. APR 13 1100 UTC I reported this as a strong pre-summation recently. The Radio Fórmula website revealed that, unlike the other stations of Radio Fórmula's three AM networks, XECAQ produces about 20 percent of its own programing. In reviewing my recordings of Radio Fórmula stations, the sign-on pattern of XECAQ is unique to it and they use the slogan "Radio Fórmula Trópica" at least twice as well as the standard "Radio Fórmula, Cadena Nacional." [Bryant-OK]

MEXICO XEBAI, Aguascalientes, Agua. APR 1, 1145 Male announcer with several IDs as "RA-DO BIEN" and mentions of Aguascalientes and call letters. Fair to good signal and mentions of upcoming notices. [Bryant-OK]

CUBA Radio Rejo, APR 8 1223 - R. Rejo outlet here fair but atop and steady. [Loy-IL]

CUBA Dooble, Santa Clara, APR 3 0245-0300+ - man in SS taking phone calls with techno music bumpers. Variety SS vocals. 08250 "Esta es Dooble Santa Clara". Fair, Cuba #75 [Froedge-MI]

MEXICO XEAMO, Irapuato, GTO, MAY 17 1126 - "Monitor" program from the OR network. [Hall-NM]

CUBA Radio Progreso Cuba (p); APR 3 0900-0942+ - woman host in SS with SS baladas. Fair, no sign of WCBS. // / / [Poor - Froedge-MI]

ST. KITTS & NEVIS V. of Nevis, Bath Village, Nevis, APR 26 0011 - Caribbean-English speech by man in an echoy hall. poor to fair. [Connolly+rw-MA]

MEXICO XEHQ Hermosilio, SON - A review of tape shows that "Globo 92" is the slogan, not "Lobo". Makes sense, since the slogan on their old 590 freq was Globo 590. Thanks Chris Knight for spotting this. [Wilkins-CO]

MEXICO XE Xuen Laredo, APR 3 0906+ - very good and all alone with SS ballads, ads with many Nuevo Laredo mentions. [Loy-IL]

MEXICO XEFOX MEXICO Mazatlán, SI, MAY 11 1230+ - with a call in segment and then playing banda mostly and a little ranchera. [Redding-AZ]

MEXICO XEML Los Mochis, SI, MAY 12 0553 using song "La Comadre" and was announcing gruppera music but went right into banda, go figure. [Redding-AZ]

MEXICO XETU Tampico, APR 7 0436+ - very good with SS music, list of names, many R. Tampico ID's, full ID at top of hour. [Loy-IL]

MEXICO XEQ Caneana, SON, MAY 17 1510+ - Noted "La F-Q" slogans. Web site indicating this station now runs 25kW. They have certainly increased power, as their midday loggings again at threshold levels. The fellowship was grand as usual, but the entire affair will certainly serve as a contrast when conditions once again enable our usual excellent results from this site. The following loggings list reads MUCH better than it actually was! [Hall-NM]

MEXICO XEM (pres.) Guadalajara, Jal. APR 7, 1145 Male announcer with multiple announcements during program of romantiica music. IDs as "Esté es AM, La Poderosa" with mentions of Guadalajara, but no sign of the call letters. [Bryant-OK]

CUBA Radio Cozumel, Cozumel, MAY 17 1152 using slogan "La Comadre" and was an announcer with XE anthem, and radio at sunset, signals were livelier than I have heard in years. I was in a basement hotel room but had one of the best reception I have had in years." [hand-pw]

MEXICO XEFN Agua Prieta, SON, MAY 14 1510 - with talk into a time check and slogan R. Sistema del Noroeste. Good level very briefly. [Frodge-MI]

CUBA Radio Rejo, APR 8 1223 - R. Rejo outlet here fair but atop and steady. [Loy-IL]

CUBA Dooble, Santa Clara, APR 3 0245-0300+ - man in SS taking phone calls with techno music bumpers. Variety SS vocals. 08250 "Esta es Dooble Santa Clara". Fair, Cuba #75 [Froedge-MI]

MEXICO XEAMO Irapuato, GTO, MAY 17 1126 - "Monitor" program from the OR network. [Hall-NM]

CUBA Radio Progreso Cuba (p); APR 3 0900-0942+ - woman host in SS with SS baladas. Fair, no sign of WCBS. // / / [Poor - Froedge-MI]

ST. KITTS & NEVIS V. of Nevis, Bath Village, Nevis, APR 26 0011 - Caribbean-English speech by man in an echoy hall. poor to fair. [Connolly+rw-MA]

MEXICO XEHQ Hermosilio, SON - A review of tape shows that "Globo 92" is the slogan, not "Lobo". Makes sense, since the slogan on their old 590 freq was Globo 590. Thanks Chris Knight for spotting this. [Wilkins-CO]

MEXICO XE Xuen Laredo, APR 3 0906+ - very good and all alone with SS ballads, ads with many Nuevo Laredo mentions. [Loy-IL]

MEXICO XEFOX MEXICO Mazatlán, SI, MAY 11 1230+ - with a call in segment and then playing banda mostly and a little ranchera. [Redding-AZ]

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MEXICO XEFN Agua Prieta, SON, MAY 14 1510 - with talk into a time check and slogan R. Sistema del Noroeste. Good level very briefly. [Frodge-MI]
MALAYSIA-EAST RTVM, Kota Kinabalu MAY 28 1245 This hold-out on the odd frequency noted as a very strong hot only [Bryant-WA]

1503 JAPAN/OK, Akita (presumed) MAY 26 1210 noted with modern ballad in Japanese at threshold level. [Bryant-WA]

1548 KOREA HAZ, Cheju Island was noted at very low levels with typical FEBC religious programming each morning of the DXpedition in the 1145-1200 "max. dawn" period. [Bryant-WA]

AUSTRALIA 4QD, Emerald, Qld (presumed) MAY 27 1210 to 1228 with Radio Australia discussion program. Fair level. [Bryant-WA]

1683.2 AUSTRALIA 2ME, Sydney (pres.) MAY 29 1251 to 1303 fade. Call-in show in ME language (Greek?) until 1300 and then into traditional ME music. Fair to poor. [Bryant-WA]

AUSTRALIA 2NTC, Sydney (presumed) MAY 28 1222 until 1256 fade. Middle eastern music, solos by male and female artists and duets. Occasional intros for numbers by male announcer or the artist. One quasi station ID by male in English, but I believe that this was a fade up of the other Aussie on the channel, R. 1701 in Brisbane. Fair to poor levels. [Bryant-WA]

AUSTRALIA Radio 1701 (presumed) Brisbane MAY 29 1205 to 1320. Radio 1750 was noted at about equal levels with 2NTC (presumed) and running Oldies Rock and Roll and a few commercials. Fair to poor. [Bryant-WA]

CONTRIBUTORS

John Bryant, Stillwater OK; Ten Tec 340, Kiwa-ed NRD-353, two phased Kaz delta loops + K9AY loop. Northwest loggings used: 1000 foot long two-wire beverages at SW, W and WNW; 112' KAZ delta loop <john@provalue.net>

Mark Connelly W4AIN, DXing from Billerica and Rowley MA; Drake R8A, broadband loop, active whip. "Kaz" antenna, Superhetero 1 phase unit. <MarkWA10N@excite.com>

Bruce Conlin, Nashua NH; R8B, MW5-3, 30-m wire, 30-m east sloping wire, noise reduced via 4:1 RF xfmer and buried coax. <BACOntl@aol.com>

Benjamin Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, slopers. DXP-3A phasing unit. <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>

Harold Fiscko, Medford MI; Drake R8A: 85/215' RW's. 125' single loop <cykoon@tm.net>

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Rick Kenneally, Wilton CT; <woodlandview@yahoo.com>

Eric Loy, Champagne IL; Drake R-8 and Quantum XQ <eloy@netscape.net>

Greg Myers, Clearwater FL; Sony ICF-2010; Kiwa pocket loop w/ PIRN <myers01@tampabay.rcc>

Kevin Redding, Mesa AZ, CCRadio barefoot. <amitvdx@qwest.com>

John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO; Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop. <peakbagger3@juno.com>

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HONG KONG: 675 RTVK /BBC WS comes in quite well around 1300-1400 UTC, dominant over co-channel Hanoi and Brunei and various weak Filipinos. Signal strength is very similar to the co-sited transmitters on 864 and 1044, also listed with 10 kW. I suppose most of the MW transmissions on 1530 for 14 hrs a day and the shorthand would affect some 50% of broadcasts on that frequency, which is primarily used for broadcasts in Europe (via Hans Johnson at 639 Cumbre Apr 6). On Feb 6 we have reduced power on MW 1530 from 600 to 300 kW and we've already received reception reports stating that our signal is not so clear now. (Quote by Stefano Valianti, Bologna-Italy, in WDXC May CONTACT magazine, pages 8-9.) (All this due to the electromag problem – Olle Alm) [via ARC Infodex e-mail]

VIETNAM: A research of press reports together with recent monitoring has revealed extensive details of the high-powered Vietnamese mediumwave transmitters that went on the air in the late '90s:

1) North Vietnam (Bac Bo area). The new station is located in the My Van district, Hung Yen province, to the immediate east of the Hanoi city province. The station uses the frequencies of 549 (VOV2) and 675 (VOV1) with a power of 700 kW (presumed to be the total for the two transmitters). The antenna height is 191 m. The transmitters were made by Nautel and delivered by Marconi. The station was expected to start transmissions by March 1997.

2) Central Vietnam (Trung Bo area): The new station is located in the Dong Ho district, Quang Binh province. The station uses the frequencies of 630 (VOV1) and 729 (VOV2) with a power of 200 kW (presumed to be the total for the two transmitters). The station was inaugurated in June 1998.

3) South Vietnam (Nam Bo area): The new station is located at the Thu Long hamlet, near O Mon town, some distance to the northwest of Can Tho city, Can Tho province. The station uses the frequencies of 711 (VOV1), 783 (VOV2), 873 (VOV3) and 1242 (VOV6). It was equipped with three transmitters of 500 kW each and two 1000 transmitters used in parallel to form one 2000 kW transmitter. It is presumed that 1242 is the home of the 2000 kW unit. The Thu Long transmitters were made by Harris. The Thu Long program aired on 783 is a special program for the Mekong delta area and includes newscasts in English, French and Russian as well as a minority language service towards Cambodia. The program is the external service. The station started transmissions on 10 July 1997. Maps of the current division of Vietnam into provinces and districts are available at: http://www.ambafance-vn.org/accosdc/vn.htm (Olle Alm, Alan Davies) [via ARC Infodex e-mail]

MORE LUXEMBOURG EFFECT

Notwithstanding the recent comments in DXN or the comments below, I continue to believe that the second signal is indeed cross-modulation from 1467. The fact that many reporters have indicated that the second audio always remains steadily below the primary further supports my belief. Thought you might find the below of some interest. [Russ Edmunds]

Dear Russ & Erik, I just received this issue and read your "More on Luxembourg (Effect)" and your observations & Erik's of TWR MW & MW transmissions. Our complete transmission schedule is available on the TWR web site: www.twr.org under "tune in" under the listing for CIS, Europe, No. Africa, ME & C. Asia. Our present schedule from Radio Monte Carlo, Roumoules, France includes: 1467 kHz, 1 MW Northeast (25 degrees) 0345-0415 UTC in German. Note that the transmitter usually comes on well ahead of this and then starts with the interval signal and announcement just before the scheduled broadcast. 216 kHz, 2 MW (315 degrees) 0243-0258 UTC in French. RMC continues after this with their own programming. These two transmitters are at the same site and the antennas are about 1 kilometer apart. The actual carrier on and off times can vary depending on the time zone and path. The actual carrier time is about 800 kHz, 500 kW transmissions. I suppose most of the MW DXers know that the Bonaire station is now using a 100 kW solid state transmitter on 800 kHz with a new antenna system specifically for Caribbean and So. American listeners. (The web site lists their schedule also). Isn't radio and propaganda an interesting subject? [Chuck Roswell, K2MGL, TWR Frequency Coordinator]

BANDSCAN FROM CYPRUS

Bandscan from Kyrenia, by Tim Bucknall (from Medium Wave News (UK) e-mail list)
Ever wonder what an effective verify request letter looks like? NRC member Eric Loy, who currently works for WEDS, forwarded to DX News a copy of the letter below sent to the station in 1945 by former NRC publisher "Pop" Edge. Note the detail, polite tone, and wealth of information for station personnel to use!

**NATIONAL RADIO CLUB HEADQUARTERS AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK**

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**NATIONAL RADIO CLUB HEADQUARTERS AT Buffa**
Testing Two “KAZ” Squashed Delta Antennas

By John Bryant

I was really excited when veteran MW DXer Neil Kazaross began using the EZNEC antenna modeling software to optimize various large loop antennas for MW DX use. As far as I know, most of the previous work with K9AY, etc. has been optimized for the 160 meter radio amateur band. The first design that Neil actually constructed was what he has been calling a “squashed loop.” This design, with a 1 to 4 “aspect ratio,” is one that the modeling software shows to reject low arrival angle signals from the backside even better than the classic equilateral pennant/delta. The dimensions of the loop were 10’ high by 40’ long. For convenience, I have come to refer to this antenna as a “KAZ-10x40” or just the KAZ.

I’ve operated a four-loop K9AY antenna for two years now, both in my winter home in Oklahoma and at my summer cottage on Orcas Island north of Seattle. I’m interested in finding an even better antenna than the K9AY for use in both locations. In Oklahoma, 1 DX Mexican MW stations and the primary concern is the rejection of unwanted co-channel signals. Gain is not so important, since signal levels, in general, are quite high during the prime DXing hours. In the Pacific NW, my main interest is the DXing Trans-Pacific MW signals. There, gain is king, since the majority of those very weak signals are almost alone in the 10 kHz channels of the North American stations and since Trans-Pacific conditions are often extraordinarily quiet.

I’ve tested quite a few antennas over the years, often with well-known Lowfer, Bill Bowers. He has a wide array of laboratory-grade equipment. We’ve both pretty well concluded that it is impossible to measure the actual F/B ratio of an antenna on MW. We usually work in the very middle of the day to eliminate as much ionospheric skip as possible, but we still have great difficulty finding stations that are totally alone on their channel to use in the tests. Even when there seems to be no other station “in the null” of the target, the antenna is still likely receiving several weak carriers, thus partly filling in the difference between the native gain of the two antennas “by ear.” I had to look at the S-Meter. In about 80 to 90 percent of the cases, the content and quality of the two signals was identical, as well. In the other 15 percent or so, the KAZ out-performed the K9AY! For instance:

1510 kHz. has WLAC, Nashville and XEQI, Monterrey at about equal distance from me. Looking toward Monterrey, the KAZ must have 80 foot to the 10x40” or just the KAZ. When nulled, it goes into noise, of which the null” of the target, the antenna is still likely receiving several weak carriers, thus partly filling in the difference between the native gain of the two antennas “by ear.” I had to look at the S-Meter. In about 80 to 90 percent of the cases, the content and quality of the two signals was identical, as well. In the other 15 percent or so, the KAZ out-performed the K9AY! For instance:

700 kHz. has nearly unnullable WLW on it. Pointed southwest, mostly away from Cincinnati, The K9AY gave me a signal of -80 dB, while the KAZ provided a -103 dB, much weaker. If you factor in the 10 dB or so of difference in native gain of the two antennas, it appears that, in this instance, the KAZ nulled WLW by an additional 15 dB! What’s more, for the first time ever, I could actually listen to a station on WLW and the signal was not obscured by local noise. WLW is 700 kHz. Radio Romantica in Hidalgo del Parral, Chih. With the KAZ, Radio Romantica was in the clear about 50% of the time and in a jumble the rest. The K9AY can manage to “hear” the Mexican station about 2/3 of the time, but always rather far beneath WLW. One of the nicest things about the KAZ vs. K9AY is that both of my antennas are equally soft in the noise. Both antennas eliminated semi-local WLW, which was near a 780 kHz. WGN puts in an above S-9 signal here at night. With both antennas turned to the southwest, XEMF, Monticello, Coah. ran about S-6” with WGN about 95% gone.

Some examples of equal performance of the K9AY vs. KAZ:

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Both of the later two tests were done with the S-meter covered...I could tell no difference “by ear” between the two antennas and just estimated the signal strength.

The “Super KAZ”

After reading a draft of the first half of this article, antenna guru K6SE cautioned that gain is not really an issue in a receiving antenna since actually hearing the signal was dependent upon the signal-to-noise ratio rather than the absolute gain of the antenna. There is an old truism which states that “if you can hear the basic band noise well, you’ll hear any signal peaking above that band noise even better.” Of course, that is true, as far as it goes. However, it’s been my experience that there are more occasions than people realize where the absolute gain of a receiving antenna is the limiting factor. Mostly, these occasions may arise when you are listening to a very quiet band, with a very quiet receiver. Since I’m using a new Ten Tec 540 and since I’m fortunate enough to live away from virtually all man-made noise (hey, itsa big cow pasture!) I was very interested in finding out if the 40’ KAZ was “gain-limited” in any meaningful way.

About a week ago, I built “Super KAZ,” a 28’x112’ version of KAZ, using 22 gage wire and one of the fine 10 meter telescoping fiberglass mast from Germany. Using the much smaller gage wire, Neil figured the impedance at about 1060 ohms. I ended up with a 6 turner (50 turns vs 10 turns on a FT-114-43 Amidon torsion) and boosting the far-end resistor to 1057 ohms. While testing the smaller KAZ at mid-day, I had noticed several rather weak signals coming from the southwest (the center of gain) seemingly all alone on their channels. Further, there were no strong signals on immediate adjacent channels and my daytime MW conditions are as near noise-free as it gets. So, this seemed a perfect model to condition the conditions that I figure what I was doing... I poked around about that marvelous 90 minutes, centered on dawn, when (on the West Coast) the band noise often drops to near zero and the whole of East Asia opens up for MW DXing.  

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

Working about mid-day, I was able to find six stations at threshold audio levels on the 40’ KAZ. Two were located at the low end of the band, two at the middle and two at the top. I put the KAZ adjacent to the Super KAZ on my antenna switch and began to compare. In every instance, the apparent signal-to-noise ratio was significantly better on the Super KAZ. In other words, the S-meter showed a much stronger signal on the Super KAZ— as expected.... but there was also a very significant improvement in the clarity of the signal. All or almost all of the “band noise” was not the signal on the Super KAZ. I rechecked all of my connections and thought about the whole thing for a while. Since the basic signal-to-noise ratio of an antenna is related to its sensitivity pattern and since the pattern (but not the gain) of the KAZ and the Super KAZ should be identical, the 40’ KAZ must be “gain limited” under the specific conditions tested. In other words, what I was hearing on the 40’ KAZ was not band noise, but rather the noise floor of my receiver! I added about 10 dB of amplification to the KAZ signal and attenuated the Super KAZ a little; this pretty well equalized the apparent gain of the two antennas. As expected, the KAZ signals remained much noisier than the same previously marginal signals when received with the Super KAZ.

Final Gain Comparisons

To complete the study, I ran final gain comparisons between all three antennas, again at about mid-day. The K9AY is listed both first and last in the following chart:

### Daytime Gain Comparisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>K9AY vs KAZ</th>
<th>vs Super KAZ</th>
<th>vs K9AY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>-93</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>-104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okla. City</td>
<td>-57</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>-92</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clayton</td>
<td>-97</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>-110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Reno</td>
<td>-84</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>-101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Okla. City</td>
<td>-56</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>-70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEAN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**K9AY is a 28’ delta; KAZ is 10’ x 40’, Super KAZ is 28’ x 112’**

I also rechecked the front-to-back ratios of each KAZ antenna, again at high noon, again using KGGF, Coffeyville, KS, 690 kHz as my target. This time the KAZ measured only 18 dB (it had previously measured 23 dB), while the Super KAZ measured 23 dB of F/B. The differences in the two high signal levels of the 10x40 KAZ simply reinforce the vagaries of measuring F/B ratios on MW, even at high noon on a carefully selected station. I have noticed real differences in the day-to-day daytime propagation here at the solar peak. My guess is that the station in Lamesa, Texas was filling in more of the null, as I noticed that XFWA on 540 was actually audible at good levels at mid-day, very unusual for my location. What the test did show, unequivocally, is that the Super KAZ had a F/B ratio at least as good and probably somewhat better than the KAZ, at least as I’ve constructed them.

The F/B ratios of these two KAZ designs ought to be identical, I think. Probably, the termination resistance in the smaller KAZ is not quite the correct value. Neil calculated the gain difference between the two versions of the KAZ at 17 dB, while I measured 23 dB. That too, argues that my small KAZ is not quite operating at the optimum.

### CLOSING REMARKS

Although I intend to run many more tests of the Super KAZ and a mid-sized KAZ in the Pacific Northwest this summer, I think I’ve come to at least a few useful findings:

1) The useful directivity of the 40 foot KAZ is at least as good and probably just a bit better than my classic KAZ at both the top and bottom of the band. That’s great news, since the KAZ is so much smaller/cheaper. Neil designed the 40 footer as small as he could, hoping to develop an antenna that could be erected in an urban back yard, a rooftop or even in a large attic.

2) The classic K9AY outgains the 40 foot KAZ by just about 12 to 14 dB. I measured this before I read the recent 10 kHz peak. An Onan is quoted as saying that an increase in cross-sectional area of a loop by a factor of two will increase the F/B of the loop by a factor of one. In the case of the K9AY, that would be a 20 to 25 dB improvement. That’s what Neil has added with the Vactrol termination control scheme detailed in my previous Pennant article. Both antennas were configured so that the termination was on the west end, since interference in the southwest to northwest sector is generally what I’m trying to null. Figures 1 and 2 show the shape and size of the two antennas that I evaluated.

### Pennant and KAZ Antenna Tests

This article is a follow-on to John Bryan’s recent article “Testing Two ‘Kaz’ Squashed Delta Antennas” (reference 1) and my article “Pennant Antenna with Remote Termination Control” (reference 2). At my home location in Billerica, MA during April, 2001 I installed a Kaz design antenna, named for developer and noted international medium wave DXer Neil Kazaross. After having taken some test data on it, I took this antenna down and installed a Pennant antenna of a similar configuration to the one I used in my tests at West Yarmouth, MA in July 2000. For both antennas I used coaxial feedline and the Vactrol termination scheme detailed in my previous Pennant article. Both antennas were configured so that the termination was on the west end, so interference in the southwest to northwest sector is generally what I’m trying to null. Figures 1 and 2 show the shape and size of the two antennas that I evaluated.

For nulling / peaking set-ups on both antennas, the adjustable termination resistance was indirectly ‘measured’ by recording the DC voltage present at the arm of the control potentiometer and computing the resistance based on measured values that I included in Table 3 of my first Pennant article (reference 2). When a voltage fell between measured voltage-versus-resistance points, I used an Excel sheet to interpolate Rvalues linearly. Maximum termination resistance, over 20K ohms, occurs at 0 volts at the arm of the controller potentiometer (i.e. no current to the LED part of the VTL5C4 Vactrol). Minimum resistance, about 24 ohms, occurs with 10 volts at the pot arm. After the voltage goes through a series of RF chokes and dropping resistors on route to the termination, the voltage actually "seen" at the Vactrol's LED is about 2 VDC, this gives a current flow of about 25-30 mA there.

**Pennant Observations**

With the antenna placed for optimum nulling to the west, termination resistances in the adjustment range of 1K to 3K produced nulls of 8 to 24 dB. A 15 dB null was typical. Some nulls took a signal below the level of local electronic noise (running about 2 to 3 S/N below the level of another co-channel station, or below the "slope" from an adjacent channel station. In those cases, I did not enter a null depth value in the Excel calculation table. Stations in or near the null bearing (west) had peak signal values when the termination was set to one of the end scale values: 54 ohms, or greater than 20K. Most of the time, for stations in the southwest to northwest sector, the minimum termination value of 54 ohms "demulcated" the signal to the greatest extent.

Stations close to a right angle to the plane of the antenna – north or south in my case – nulled best with termination resistances between 54 ohms and 1K. Null depths were shallower, about 3 to 12 dB typically. Because resistance values dialled up for stations north or south were similar, the pattern produced was likely figure-of-eight rather than cardiod at those settings. Peak pick-up of these right-
John Bryant had with a single fixed termination resistance value. I feel that you are going to have to adopt your termination resistance over a range of at least 500 ohms to 5 k ohms unless you have these antennas constructed in a perfectly open area away from houses, power lines, coaxial lead-ins, other antennas, metal masts, and even trees. That applies even if you only want to null stations on bearings within +/- 30 degrees of the design direction. I feel that the ability to "slew" the null over a much greater bearing range is a nice side benefit of the Vactrol system. Admittedly nulls more than 30 degrees away from the design direction aren't maximum depth, but they can still be useful. As far as phasing goes, setting up two Pennant or Kaz antennas at a spacing of 1/8 to 1/4 wavelength is the best way to go, but if you have to position them closer, either orient them differently or make one different from the other by using different termination resistances. Minimum resistance (even a dead short) to terminate one of them would yield a minimal null where something like 1K on the other antenna would produce a substantial null. Phasing two antennas set up in this way could be very useful. These terminated loops are somewhat more susceptible to local electrical noise pick-up than a conventional balanced (tuned or broadband) loop is. Place the antenna in a relatively quiet area and things should be OK.

Signal capture (sensitivity) of both the Pennant and Kaz antennas, as configured here, was very similar. I did not use an amplifier, though one having about 20 dB gain is seriously recommended---especially for rural DXers---because the signal levels obtained from a Pennant or Kaz antenna of the sizes I tried is about 20-23 dB lower than that from a 30 m (100 ft) sloper via 4:1 transformer.

Both antennas, because of the adjustable termination resistance, were often superior to the sloper in reducing nighttime skip from domestic stations in the southwest to northwest design sector. I could even make a dent in "superpegs" WPTR-1540 and WQEW-1560, two of the most difficult stations to null here at night. Around local midnight, reception of numerous high band stations from Spain and France was usually about the same (in terms of audibility if not S-meter level) when I switched between the "workhorse" Euro-sloper and the Pennant or Kaz antenna under test.

A full set of the Pennant test data is available in a PDF format (reference 3). The complete Pennant-versus-Kaz Excel sheet is obtainable in a downloadable ZIP file (reference 4).

The table below demonstrates the performance of the Pennant and Kaz antennas on a short list of stations monitored under daytime groundwave conditions at BillERICA, MA.

**Pennant versus Kaz Antenna Tests: a sampling of stations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAYTIME BANDSCANS</th>
<th>19 &amp; 27 APRIL 2001 - BILLERICA, MA</th>
<th>- (GC= 71 221 W / 4233 N)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sorting order is by bearing (degrees clockwise of true north)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bearing</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dist.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Freq.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>degrees</strong></td>
<td><strong>Km</strong></td>
<td><strong>kHz</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>173.25</td>
<td>28.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>167.75</td>
<td>12.96</td>
<td>1150</td>
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<tr>
<td>185.81</td>
<td>18.46</td>
<td>630</td>
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<tr>
<td>186.06</td>
<td>83.77</td>
<td>920</td>
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<tr>
<td>187.90</td>
<td>28.29</td>
<td>850</td>
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<tr>
<td>207.03</td>
<td>35.51</td>
<td>890</td>
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<td>207.03</td>
<td>35.51</td>
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<tr>
<td>235.28</td>
<td>59.84</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>241.92</td>
<td>19.25</td>
<td>1120</td>
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<td>241.94</td>
<td>66.24</td>
<td>830</td>
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<tr>
<td>242.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>348.85</td>
<td>55.99</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AVERAGE OF PEAK-NULL (dB) IN 225 - 285 DEGREE DESIGN SECTOR:**

Pennant: 16.6
Kaz: 14.9

**AVERAGE OF PEAK LEVELS (SENSITIVITY BENCHMARK) (dB over zero):**

Pennant: 54.7
Kaz: 77.6

**Slopers**

References:

(1) Testing Two 'Kaz' Squashed Delta Antennas, John Bryant, 2001
(2) "Pennant Antenna" - a MUST have antenna
(3) "Kaz Observations" - a sampling of stations
(4) "Slopers" - a short list of stations monitored under daytime groundwave conditions at BillERICA, MD.

URL's available from the National Radio Club and International Radio Club of America reprints services.)

http://members.aol.com/DXerCapeCod/kaztests.pdf
Pennant Antenna Review and Impressions

After several days of scrambling around to collect parts, build circuit boards, and package everything up I was finally able to spend this past weekend testing my first pennant antenna. The antenna was modelled using EZNEC. The intention was to create an antenna that would cover the medium wave band and down into the longwave band. After experimenting with several different sizes I settled on sizing it by bearing of 43 degrees, which aims the null directly at the rotation of the pot and it requires the delicate touch of a brain surgeon to find the deepest part of the null. I may try adding a second pot to act as a fine tuning control. Regardless, it did work very well!

The dimensions work out to 16.4 ft high with sides 54.6 ft long. The vertical section was approximately 3 ft off the ground.

I could, and relied on what my ears told me. Stronger stations from Toronto such as CFTR-680 and CHUM-Amherst, NS were no weaker on the Pennant than they were on our beverage. This bodes very well for when the electronics for the Pennant are installed the carrier section was approximately 3 ft off the ground.

I've tried several different antennas at our Coe Hill site in an effort to reduce local station interference and changes to 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 Heiken • 4151 S. Andes Way • Aurora, CO 80013-3831, or nrclog@aol.com. Thanks!

Notes:
- all stations are in the province of Ontario except as noted
- bearings are degrees from true north, taken from Coe Hill, Ontario

The best setup has been a 1000 ft terminated beverage as the main antenna phased against a 1000 ft unterminated beverage antennas phased with the MFJ-1024 active antenna with the MFJ-1026 phasing unit.

The Pennant seems to be the answer to our problems. It has a nice, deep null, it can be set up in minutes, and nulling is simple compared to phasing. Propagation last weekend wasn't good enough to hearing anything more than weak carriers from Europe, but once the amplifier was installed the carriers were no weaker on the Pennant than they were on our beverage. This bodes very well for when the DXpedition Season starts again next September.

Final Note: The last thing I did last week before sneaking away from work early to head to our DXpedition site was to print out John Bryant's review of the KAZ. I read it after setting up my Pennant. Since returning I modelled the KAZ with EZNEC and am encouraged by what I find. Now that the electronics for the Pennant are built and working well the next thing I will try is the KAZ configuration!
TOTUGH STATES

Rick Daub <rdtaub36@yahoo.com>: This is an old thread, but I'll put in my thoughts. From three different locations here in Iowa (Oakland, Iowa City, Spirit Lake), I've managed to bag every one of the lower 48 states except Oregon, Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island. I do have two tentative receptions of KWWJ-1080 from the mid-1990s, and a very tentative logging of the Lake Oswego station on 1640 from October 1998, but anything definite from Oregon continues to elude me. Only two catches from Idaho: KBOI, which seems to come in at sunset only during the last week of September, and KID-990's DX test from about 5 years ago. KDWK-720, KROW-780, and the Laughlin station on 870 are the only Nevadans to have made it here. Another one of those late September regulars is KGA, but anything else from Washington is very difficult, although I do have a much-cherished QSL from KOMO-1000 dated Feb. 1989, and was thrilled to get KWSU-1250 nearly two years later. Only New Hampshire loggings are both from DX tests, WNTK-1020 and the 1250 from Manchester. I have tried many times at sunrise for both WVMT-620 and WSKE-1160...one day, those WILL arrive. I'm sure of it.

Neil Kazaross <neilkaz@interaccess.com>: You'll get Oregon if you try for KEX 1190 at sunset near the ends of Sep/Oct/Nov. I'm a couple hundred miles east of you and can get them sometimes with WOWO phased. Have you ever heard Idaho 1620? My attempts have all failed.

Rick Daub: Neil, 1620 is actually pretty tough here, what with a 10 kW blowtorch on 1630 (transmitter is just 5 miles from my QTH) breathing down my neck, but I have been able to snare WTAI, WHLY, and KAZP here during those rare times when splitter from KCJ into a minimum. The Idaho station would be a dream catch for me. As far as Oregon goes...I have tried a couple of times to go after KXL-750 at sunset in late September, thinking that a station further down the dial would have a better chance of making it here, but WSX is just too strong. 1300 at night here in the winter is just a jumble between Fort Wayne and Dallas. I would hope that maybe KOAC-550 will do a CFP test for us folks again sometime soon.

Kevin Redding <kamfmdtv@qwest.net>: 1620 is heard here every night. KBOI is a morning listener here but they were almost 24/7 in the winter in AZ. Don't hear (KID-590) often but on occasion.

Neil Kazaross: Good to know that 1620 gets out. I hope to bag them once Sept prior to their sunset when they should be running 10 kW and Omaha only 1 kW.

Patrick Martin <cmxvdb@webtv.net>: KDBZ-610-Portland has been operating for several months from the KFX site in SE Portland. They are ND 5/1 kW. They wanted 50 kW but the FCC said no. KXL-750 is directional to the West, but KEX-1190 is ND day, but directional nights. 1640 does not get out well, even with 10 kW. We had an apt. in NW Portland for a while. At 2 miles from their transmitter site, I could hear KDIA under them at night without any trouble. Their 1 kW sounds more like 250W and the 10 kW days sounds more like 1 kW

Wills Monk <wvbk5hd@net75.com>: Rick Daub, I wonder where you are? If you have QRM from Dallas and Ft. Wayne on 1190, also from WSX-750.

In the middle and late 60's, I was in Charleston, SC, and was hearing KOMO-1000 from Seattle, and did log KXL-750 when WSF would fade out. Being right at the ocean side help. The Caribbean was in nightly. As were Oregon, Idaho, California and Utah. Seems to be easier to hear the west coast from SC than it is from here in TN. I did have trouble hearing Montana, Arizona and Nevada and the plains states like Kansas, from Charleston, SC.

From here in southeastern TN, I have a hard time hearing WSX-750. The Braves games are on this station and WSX in weak here. Maybe I am too close.

What I would like to hear is Alaska and Hawaii from here in TN. I do have a QSL from KORL-650 but I was in Garland, TX when I heard it. WSM-650 Nashville is hard to hear here also. At night even the stations from Chattanooga are lost.

Rick Daub: Wills, I am in Iowa City. Iowa, in the eastern part of the state, and 1190 here at night, from sunset on, is usually a battle between WOWO and KJOB, or whatever callsign the Dallas station uses nowadays. On some evenings, KVSJ in Beloit, Kansas and WHMT in Humboldt, Tennessee will visit my QTH. My Iowa City logbook shows no stations from Oregon or Idaho, just one from Nevada (KWDN) and two from Wisconsin, KGA and KUJ, the latter on a DX test. From out east, I have just one from Delaware (WDVQ's DX test from 1991), two from New Hampshire, two from Connecticut (WTC and WNLC), and two from New Jersey, WWJZ-640 and WJDM-1660. I could keep trying over and over at sunrise and sunset during the dead of winter for Oregon, Idaho, and the missing New England states, but I'm guessing that I'll have a better chance of hearing these on DX tests.

And we'll extend this to the international side of the issue:

Benjamin Dangerfield <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>: To Mike Battaglino and any others here in the Eastern US. Don't give up on New Zealand! When 41A Dunedin was on 780 it put in a good signal here with only 20 kW when the frequency was clear. It's now on 810, so forget it, but there are many possible splits, and summertime might be a good time to try for them, when it's winter down there.

Michael P. Battaglino <Michael_Battaglino@newyorklife.com>: Ben, Thanks for "inspirational" message :-) When I get to the new house in late June I'll be able to run a REALLY LONG (for me, anyway) wire along the property and in the woods behind it, so it'll give it a shot. If I were to catch something it would be the highlight of my DXing career, never having heard NZ before...<br><br>Michael P. Battaglino <Michael_Battaglino@newyorklife.com>: Ben, Thanks for "inspirational" message :-) When I get to the new house in late June I'll be able to run a REALLY LONG (for me, anyway) wire along the property and in the woods behind it, so it'll give it a shot. If I were to catch something it would be the highlight of my DXing career, never having heard NZ before...<br><br>Russ Edmunds <v2bjhj@rcnxxas.org>: But how long ago (that less man-made noise, fewer stations) was that?
makes a huge improvement, its still not the whole story. There are lots of things that RADIATE the signal and not through the wiring. Still need to know a little more about the transformer and how its connected.

Bruce Conti: “Hey—what a great way to meet the new neighbors—wandering around my property with a radio and headphones pointing it at different things!” This is actually the best way to find a quiet location for a DX rig. If you can’t follow my “20-foot rule,” then do a walk-around and your property determine the quietest location for an outdoor antenna. Do both a day and night survey as noise pick-up may vary based on what might be activated in the neighborhood. Then your neighbors really will be talking when they see you throwing wires into the trees.

Michael P Battaglino <Michael_P_Battaglino@newyorklifeline.com>: Bruce, I’ll have the trees to do, too! A much bigger lot that goes way back away from the house and I do not have any houses behind me! I think (I hope) it will wind up being a good location.

Kevin Redding: OK Bruce I have done everything except the transformer. I will go looking for a Mini-Circuits models T4-1 or T4-6.1 shunt the transformer across the shield and conductor of the coax outdoors at the antenna end. How do I get the antenna to pass signal to the coax. Do I just run loops around or through the transformer? Is it just a toroid with wire wrapped around it from the antenna and the coax. I've heard that it won't work.

Would like to read the Feb issue of PopComm but the magazine is very rare in Arizona and I don’t have to access the old Target DX stuff because I wasn’t in the club yet. I am for anything that will kill some noise. Its pitiful here. I even get it on portables so I don’t have much hope, but I will try anything.

Think you can post some more info on this since I don’t have access to the items listed?

Bruce Conti: The transformer has four pins. Two pins are the low impedance windings which are attached to the coax. The other two pins are the high impedance windings which are attached to the antenna and ground.

Mark Durenberger <Mark@durenberger.com>: Kevin, have you tried a truly balanced loop such as the big Kiwa loop? Those things REALLY can make a difference!

Neil Kazross: I have a Kiwa Loop and while it is less susceptible to noise than a random longwire or vertical it still picks up severe line noise unless set the distance to null the majority of it. When I lived in a neighborhood in Rancho Bernardo, CA the area had buried wiring and little line noise. Here in IL my semi-rural area was VERY quiet until about 3 months ago when something happened to the power lines and they became exceedingly noisy much of the time. I'll check with the 11am who lives about 1/4 mile away from me and see if we both complain and get the power company out here.

Neil Kazross: I have a problem with a phone line that makes using a loop difficult, plus the fax machine puts out a lot of noise. The computer isn’t that bad.

John Sampson <jsampson@qwest.net>: In 45+ years of DXing, I have had a number of noise problems; some are solvable, some aren’t. Current ones reflect comments by others and include:

1. Wife’s computer - This is an Apple Power Book G2, the in line transformer gives noise at all times when connected to a hot AC circuit (have solved the problem in Minnesota with an in-line surge suppressor that can be turned off when the computer is not in use, fortunately our power up there is rather bad and subject to spikes so I have been able to sell the concept; power is not as susceptible here in SCW and haven’t figured out an acoustics way to put a suppresser in line yet). When her computer is turned on, I can’t use the radio at all, squelches blanket everything.

2. Long voltage desk lamp - Even when connected to a hot switch and off, this gives a motor effect all over the hand. When on, is just as bad as the other computer. I have to unplug it from the power line to eliminate its noise.

3. Television Set - We have one of those vampire types (a Zenith), squalls at various frequencies when on, the only way to eliminate those is to unplug the set (I have connected an in-line extension cord with an on off switch that I can use to depower the thing when DXing). I have a problem with a phone line that makes using a loop difficult, plus the fax machine puts out a lot of noise. The computer isn’t that bad.

4. My computer - An Apple Power Book G2, not as bad as my wife’s but still provides enough interference so that it needs to be disconnected from the power line when DXing.

5. Printer - Have an Epson here in SCW, which is somewhat noisy when off but in line, and an Apple 1200 in Minnesota, which is terribly noisy when off but in line; both need to be effectively unplugged before DXing.

6. Dimmer Switches - Have a number of these in the house in SCW (not my idea!): all need to be off before DXing.

7. Cable TV - As Bruce Conti says, a big RF leakier!, unfortunately, I have a line very close to the radio here in 95W.

8. Low voltage track lighting - Have this in Minnesota: when on, so much noise that I can’t DX; when off, no problem. Did have one in another house that we owned in the early 1990s, I found, about the time that we moved it, that it was my primary noise source when "off" (had dimmer switches that, even though "off", evidently were still in the power circuit and gave significant noise; when they were on, forget DXing!).

9. Electric golf cart charger - I suspect that this isn’t a common problem; however, we have an electric golf cart with an internal charger and when this is connected and charging, it’s extremely noisy.

10. Clothes Dryer - When on, generates some noise (my listening area is very close to the laundry room); solution, don’t do laundry (ha, ha).

11. All else - When we first moved to Sun City West, we were one of the few houses in our area and the bandwidth was quiet. As the area has built up, noise has increased significantly. Even when all of the noise sources in the house are turned off and the main breaker is thrown, I can’t portable radio by the incoming power line and get an annoying amount of noise.

As a test several years ago, I tried, in a table lamp, one of the fluorescent light bulbs that are being touted by the electricity providers as an energy saver. It proved a terrible noise generator and I pitched the thing as soon as I had power in.

In other houses, I’ve also noticed noise coming from furnace motors. Fish tank heaters were identified as a big problem, too, but haven’t heard much about them recently.

It’s my opinion that increases in electrical noise are a byproduct of “advancements” (and I use that term very loosely) in technology and that electrical noise is something that we will have to endure. Unfortunately for the DXers, solid state controlling devices, fluorescent lighting, vampire stuff and Cable Television are a fact of life.

Patrick Martin <cmwxdexer@webtv.net>: I have been reading with interest about everyone’s noise problems. Fortunately, I have very few where I live. I live in an area where all the power lines, cable, etc. are underground. However, the highway (101) is only about 500 feet from me and the power lines along the highway get noisy at times. I have lived here since 1981. One thing that interested me was the low noise level. Even though the houses in the area have doubled, the noise level hasn’t changed much. My biggest problem has been my neighbors electric fencing. I do need a receiver with a noise blanker to remove them. Other than that the noise generally is almost nil on MW & SW. On LW I do get more noise, but I rarely DX LW so it isn’t a concern.

About 15 years ago my neighbor bought a fish tank and after a few weeks the aching was noisy, so I asked her if I could clean the contacts and it worked. She moved about a year later and the noise was gone.

The new energy saving fluorescent bulbs are a bit noisy. The local power company was giving them away (2 of them), so I ordered two to try them out. They don’t buzz, but do cause carriers. The radiation was only a few feet away on a portable. Maybe it is different here with everything underground. The radiation isn’t bad. Also the ground is wet here a lot of the time so the grounding works well.

I have been going to move several times during the years, but in checking the DX and noise in the different areas I would rather stay here.

In the house there is one laptop that causes very little noise unless you are close to it. Web TV seems to be quiet except for the printer (HP) when in use. The sat equipment is quiet enough too. Anything noisy would go out the door pronto. No light dimmers or anything like that. By the way the two free bulbs I got are not in use.

All my antennas are connected with coax and matching transformers, so no noise pick up there either. I have had my share of noise and if I can control it I do. The power company (Pacific) has been very good in running down those lines on the couple of occasions I have needed some help.

Robert Foxworth <cfroxworl@tamaplayyrr.com>: A thorough list, with some surprising things on it. Another one I saw recently, which surprised me - a drop-in stove top for natural gas use. New ones don’t use pilot lights, for gas conservation. Instead, there apparently is some sort of electronic circuit that causes the front gas knob to turn, and operates an igniter. These things generate a constant sputtering-type RF noise. I was a victim of one when last living in NY.

Paul Smith, W4KNX <sunray2@qgtek.net> - Not quite on subject, but I have to comment. Those new energy saving fluorescent’s with the electronic ballast operate at much higher frequency than the 1200 flashes per minute the old ones did. We put a frequency counter on one and read about 35 kHz with all kinds of harmonics. I fix TV’s amongst other electronics, and we have had problems with Infrared remotes not working where these lamps are used. They put out so much garbage that the remotes can’t get over the interference.

Patrick Martin: How far did the harmonics radiate? The screw in bulbs I have tried here are not bad. Maybe because the utilities are underground. I do know the power company sent out thousands in Oregon and Washington.

Russ Edmonds <rj2b@midnightxas.org>: As I’ve said before, my shack is in the basement. I’ve done thorough checks of everything, both with the HQ-130 and loop and walking around with a portable.

The number one problem here is SCR dimmers and light-sensitive switches, including the sensors
for the garage door openers.

Number two is the televisions, although I have noticed minimal problems with the "vampire" issue, perhaps because one or the other is almost always on.

We have a server, and 2-3 computers running at any given time, and the server is actually on the same power circuit as my shack, but I notice no problems unless I put the portable within 18 inches of any of the equipment.

The igniter element in the dryer is worse than the one in the oven, and both are worse than any of the equipment.

Benjamin Dangerfield <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net> Russ, I agree that light sensitive switches may be a main problem, but why garage door openers? Our openers don't even cause any radio noise even when the door is going up or down which is about half a dozen times a day.

Russ Edmunds Not the openers themselves, but it's the motion sensors which are there for safety to protect children and small animals to prevent the doors from closing on them.

Rick Kennelly <woodlandview@yahoo.com> Moving my listening station to a different part of the house farther away from our noisy electrical panels has really improved conditions on the lower frequencies. Finally, there is the unitID neighborhood warble that is strong near power lines but from which you never quite escape.

I mention this because I was wondering if DX News could open up a section for reporting new QRM sources. Seeing as there are almost as many as there are radio stations, and that the challenge of identifying them is often greater than that of IDing stations, it seems that we could define a whole new branch of the hobby. Now, how to get them to QSL...

See you another month...

The NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 5th Edition will be available by the end of June; advance orders are now being accepted. The NPB 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)
Clearwater, FL; tell the full story of why I am as devoted to radio as I am. A number of handicaps brought on by eyesight, heart defect, and a nervous condition. I have several eyesight problems that compound each unsteady hands. ...

Some have actually wondered to me, “Why radio?” I usually just reply “Why not?”, but that doesn’t...
Mojo Radio 640
from The Toronto Star, via Ginnie Lupi

On Mojo 640, it's all guys, all the time. Betsy Powell, a radio entertainment reporter, said the station that aims to put "the stubble on the face of Canadian radio." When Mojo Radio (AM 640) signs on Monday, it'll be the world's first 24-hour talk radio station exclusively for men, according to its owner, Corus Entertainment.

Market research showed there's an opportunity to serve a niche audience-males 25 to 54-by providing a forum to discuss, debate and salute the things that matter to them most, Jim Johnston, general manager of Corus Radio Toronto, said yesterday after a raucous news conference at a downtown pub.

"What's on Mojo's menu? "Sex, gadgets, gear, cars, comedy, beer and babes," Corus promises. True to form, a massive ad campaign will feature the station's "Mojo models," lingerie-clad blondes reclining on satin sheets and cooing up to stereotypical symbols of men's favourite things: power tools, baseball gloves and hot dogs.

The guys them played out through yesterday's news conference, where a steady stream of Van Halen and Steppenwolf tunes filled the packed salon.

Reporters were dispatched with black top kits containing glossy men's magazines, a hockey puck, foam beer cooler and pocket wrenches. Tucked in were cardboard coasters, including one with a picture of an aforementioned Mojo girl that looks like an escort agency ad. On the flip side, a cryptic come-on: "She'll be anything you want her to be- even a coaster."

Okay then.

The concept of "audio testosterone" wouldn't have flown a few years ago, said Johnston, credited as the architect of this soon-to-be airwave guyville.

"The climate has changed," he said. "People are a lot looser now, a lot more relaxed. It's not as important to be politically correct now. We're in the year 2001.

"Did we mention sex?"

"Guaranteed to keep guys abreast of everything," said a news release detailing the personnel. The after-midnight Mojo Sex Show, hosted by "Dr. Date" Rebecca Rosenblat, a Hustler magazine columnist, will dispense advice on issues of "the heart, gut and groin."

Sex talk will be the hetero variety, apparently, as the station has no plans to target Toronto's gay community.

"Not at this point," Johnston said. "Who knows? We have to start here, we'll evolve the station in time."

The station hopes listeners will also tune in for jock talk, updates, and scores and interviews with athletes and commentators. The station will broadcast live NHL, baseball and NFL games and wrestling. And yes, it wouldn't be a radio station without contests.

"Guy events," jokes Johnston. One promotion, The Guy Getaways, will offer prizes such as a golfing trip to Arizona. But there's a catch. To get the trip validated, a significant other has to give her permission on air. No wife or girlfriend? A mother will do.

Mojo's on-air talent will include hosts from Toronto listeners. Wearing T-shirts in black and orange-the station's colours (permission granted), tạo...
Fabricating Impedance Transformers for Receiving Antennas

By John Bryant

With the proliferation of local neighborhood noise sources and the growing popularity of wire antennas in configurations other than the inverted-L, coaxial cable has become the antenna lead-in of choice for most radio hobbyists. Since the impedance of most commercially available coax is either 50 or 72 ohms and since many wire antennas exhibit impedance of 400 to 1000 ohms or more at the feed point, directly connecting the coax to a wire antenna invites very significant signal losses due to the impedance mismatch. Given this situation in the listening hobby, it has been a mystery to me why impedance transformers and baluns for receiving antennas have not been more commonly available on the retail market. Further, the few transformers that are available are offered at around $60.00. While this may be a fair price, considering labor, profit, and retail mark-up, the parts cost for a good weather-tight balun or impedance transformer is well under $10, paying retail for the parts! If you own a soldering iron and can make even a semi-reliable connection, you really ought to consider "rolling your own" baluns and transformers. The total labor time is about one hour per unit and the construction is quite simple and personally, I make mine in front of the TV on Sunday afternoons. Essentially, while making transformers, I'm paying myself $50 per hour to watch the Dallas Cowboys have yet another terrible season. Not a bad deal, at all.

Selecting Components

You need to obtain some connectors, a weather-tight box, and the guts of the transformer. For the wire connectors, I have come to use the type of binding posts that also accept a banana plug in the top of the post. That way I have several choices of connection a-thods at the antenna. These parts are all available at Radio Shack. I have fallen in love with one special form of banana plug, though, that is only available from professional parts houses (Mouser #71HR549, #71HR550). The shaft of the male plug is running down it and it takes a VERA reliable connection by actually plowing a shallow furrow in the metal of the female banana socket. The connector for the coax is a normal chassis-mount coax connector of your particular flavor. More and more hobbyists seem to be switching to BNC connectors for their ease of use and better weather characteristics, though only professional-class receivers yet use this type.

Some DXers swear by all-metal boxes for this application. If you fall into this camp, the cast aluminum Hammond boxes are my choice. I buy mine through Antique Electronics Supply (http://www.tubesandmore.com/). Those who use metal boxes are usually attempting to maintain the system as RF sanitary as possible, preventing stray signal pick-up by grounding the box, usually to the coax shield. However, the majority of DXers I know, and most manufacturers, use cast plastic enclosures. They reason that the stray signal pick-up is miniscule, compared to the size of the antenna, and let the case of using the plastic boxes, and their significantly lower cost, make that decision. Personally, if I'm in one of my rare obsessive/compulsive phases, I use metal; if I'm "normal," I use plastic. I've never been able to distinguish between the two designs in actual use.

All of the impedance transformers with which I am familiar are based on some sort of ferrite core with windings around it. Several well-known East Coast DXers favor manufactured transformers from Mini-Circuits, and just wire this tiny transformer in the appropriate box and add connectors. The very small 9-to-1 Mini-Circuit transformers are perfect for converting the 450 ohms of beverages and many other wire antennas to 50 ohm coax. I used these small units for several years, before sweating off them entirely. DXing on the prairies North America generally exposes wire antennas to a good bit of static electricity. Both Bill Bowers and I had several random failures of the Mini Circuits units, probably due to the hair small wire used to wind the transformer. The main problem was that the failures were often partial, making us think - for several nights running - that conditions were really bad. What a waste! After the third such failure, I returned to the tried-and-true "roll your own" techniques based on relatively larger ferrite toroids. These techniques were originally taught to me over a decade ago by Nick Half-Patch, Technical Editor of IRCRA and published in a co-authored article in Fine Tuning's Proceedings 1988.

Once the decision is made to roll your own using ferrite toroids, there are just two decisions left the size of toroid and the specific ferrite mix to be used.

In North America, at least, most of us use the toroids from Amidon. These may be purchased over internet directly from the manufacturers representative at (http://www.lytemark.com/amidon). I've used three sizes of cores over the years. The smallest that I have used is a 1/2" diameter toroid (Amidon's FT-50) which looks like a half-eaten Life Saver candy. To get the proper turn count through the donut hole, you must use very fine magnet wire and a large needle. I found the whole operation overly tussy and I was also concerned about static electricity burning the hair-thin wires. I saw no advantage in using cores this small and I don't recommend them now. The largest toroids that I've used measure 1.4 inches in diameter (FT-140). These work great, but they are a little heavy and expensive for my taste. I recommend the medium size, 1.14 inch diameter donuts which are large enough to handle easily and I use 30 gauze insulated wire from Radio Shack ( #279-501, 502 or 503 for the windings). This wire is small enough to make a neat close-wound coil of the proper turns-count on the toroid and yet the wire is large enough and stiff enough to be easy to handle. What it comes down to is this: if you want to work from 3.5 MHz to 30 MHz, select "Type 43" material. This material also gives "reasonable" performance on LW. If you are certain that your interests are limited to LW, MW and Tropical Bands (2 to 15 MHz), then "Type 75" ferrite is what you need.

If you've followed me this far through this technical thicket, it's probably time to take a break. Let's hunker down in the shade and let me scratch out an illustration to show you where we are headed:

Calculating The Turns Count

Let's calculate the turns count for impedence matching a beverage antenna with an impedance of 450 ohms to 50 ohm coax. Because this is a step-down transformer, the primary (attached to the antenna) will be the larger winding and we'll deal with that first.

The first formula to use will give us the desired inductance of the primary winding.

desired L of winding = X / 2pL

where

X = Reactance in ohms

= Lowest frequency of operation in kHz

L = Inductance in millihenries

Now that we know the inductance (L) needed for the primary winding, we can apply the following formula to determine the number of turns needed for the primary winding.

N = 10000 O/L/A.

In narrative, this formula should be read: Number of turns required (N) is equal to 1000 times the square root (O) of the inductance (L) divided by the constant A. The constant A, determined from the Amidon technical literature and takes into account the RF qualities and the size of a Type 43 toroid that is 1.14 inches in diameter. The A, for the FT-114-43 is 603. So, working the formula above, N = 1000 * 0.573/603 = 1000 x 0.30825 = 30.8 turns, use 31

The turns count for the secondary winding (connected to the coax) may be determined by the same method or by knowing that the impedance ratio of a transformer is the turns ratio squared. We are trying to get from a 450 ohm antenna to a 50 ohm coax, so the impedance ratio is 9 to 1. The turns ratio must then be 3 to 1 ... so, the secondary winding is 10 turns. Working it out with the formula yields 10.2 turns.

By golly, we have waded clear through the technical thicket. Burn any blood sucking leeches off your arms and legs, rest up in the shade for a while and pop a cool one. You deserve it!
The windings should be placed on the toroid in a “close wound” fashion, with the primary and secondary windings spaced as far apart as possible on opposite sides of the donut.

Typically Wound Toroid Winding
Note the series of hot glue dots on the edge of each coil. I use this strategy to keep the windings in place.

Single Wire Antennas
There are three or four choices of circuit arrangements here and the best one for your application probably should be determined by careful experimentation. The “scientifically superior” arrangement is probably that shown here as “Circuit A.” The second side of each of the coils is connected separately to ground. Signal current and static electricity flows from the antenna through the larger coil directly to ground. Current between ground and your receiver is induced into the smaller coil. The main argument against Circuit A is that individual grounds must be separated by at least 12 to 15 feet to be electrically separate, or so I've read. Due to connection through the ground itself, what is probably best to ground the second side of the smaller coil. However, if you have a poor grounding situation, or the feed point is in the air, the smaller loop ought to be just connected to the coax braid.

Circuit A

Circuit B

Circuit C

Circuit D

the antenna feed point. This is the circuit that I use when the feed point of the antenna is within three or four feet of the ground and the grounding conditions are good. After writing this article and having Nick pound his approach through my thick skull yet one more time, I think I’ll be switching my approach to Circuit B.

Circuit D is the arrangement that the “magnetic balun” manufacturers normally use. The grounded sides of the coils are connected together and hooked to the braid of the coax. The grounding that is so vitally necessary for signal flow is accomplished through the coax braid and left totally to the user. This is the circuit that I use for random wire antennas and I ground the braid at least once between the antenna and the receiver. I will confess, though, that I’ve used Circuit D with good success on occasion with an ungrounded coax and an ungrounded receiver. I know that I’m taking a chance with static electricity build-up, and I wonder whether all of the signal energy is reaching my receiver; but there

Loops
Luckily, with loops like the KAZ delta, etc., things are fairly straightforward. The larger coil of the transformer is connected directly (in series) into the loop. One side of the smaller coil is connected to the center conductor of the coax. The other side of the smaller coil may be connected to the coax braid, may be grounded, or both. If the loop feed point is within a foot or so of the ground, it is probably best to ground the second side of the smaller coil. However, if you have a poor grounding situation, or the feed point is in the air, the smaller loop ought to be just connected to the coax braid.

Closing Remarks
About the only issue left to mention is physically attaching the transformer to the interior of the box. I'm rather sure that most constructors will have a favorite method. Mine is to simply hot glue the transformer securely to the plastic box. In some cases, I have even totally encapsulated the transformer in hot glue. I have sometimes wondered if I wasn't somehow affecting the magnetic qualities of the transformer with the hot glue. Bill Bowers has run some quite sophisticated bench tests concerning this and assures me that the qualities of the transformers are unaffected by hot glue.

Well, there you have it. For those of you interested in making 500.00 per hour rolling your own matching transformers while watching your favorite sports franchise get blown away yet again, order some cores, make a quick trip to Radio Shack or your junk box and HAVE AT IT. May the forces (magnetic) be with you!

National Radio Club and the DX Audio Service
Present Pittsburgh 2001 - "A Radio Odyssey!"
Join us for the NRCDXAS Convention in Pittsburgh, PA, at the Greentree Radisson from Friday, August 31, through Monday, September 3, 2001.

Formerly the Greentree Marriott, the Radisson hosted NRC Pittsburgh 1990. The city and the Allegheny County area have many great features including the Pittsburgh Pirates’ brand new home for baseball, PNC Park.

Registration: Convention registration is $40 and will include a Saturday night buffet, Sunday morning breakfast, snacks, soda, and beer. Convention activities include speakers, a DX Quiz, the infamous NRC Auction, tent and station tours including KDKA, and more!

Your registration must be made by cash or money order and made payable to “National Radio Club” and sent to John R. Malicky - 995 Shadycrest Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15216-3046. Please send auction items to the same address.

Room Reservations: For early arrivals, five rooms have been reserved; 25 rooms are reserved on Friday and Saturday, and 20 on Sunday. Reservations will be held only until August 10 for single- or double-bed rooms at $69 per day. Reservations are guaranteed after 4 pm by a first-night room deposit or a major credit card. Make your reservation directly with the Greentree Radisson by calling 1-800-333-3333.

Travel: Pittsburgh International Airport (which opened October, 1992) has daily flights by many airlines including USAir, and service includes a complimentary hourly shuttle service to and from the Radisson. The Greyhound Bus Station is downtown three miles from the hotel. By car, the Radisson is just off the Parkway West or I-279 (From I-79, take I-279 north to Exit 4, “Greentree/Mt. Lebanon Exit”, turn left at the traffic light onto Greensview Road [Rte. 121], turn left at the first traffic light onto Mansfield Avenue; go through two lights, and then look for the Marriott Drive “Radisson” hotel sign and turn right. From the turnpike, I-76, take I-376 through downtown, which becomes I-279 south to Exit 4 “Greentree/Craffon Exit” and bear left onto the “Craffon Exit”, then turn left onto Mansfield Avenue; go through two lights, and then look for the Marriott Drive “Radisson” hotel sign and turn right. See you in da ‘Burgh!"
Pavek Museum of Broadcasting

By Bill Moser

What AM station broadcasts with a tenth of a watt on 1200 kilohertz? The answer is KPAV, located at the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting in Saint Louis Park, MN (a southwest suburb of Minneapolis). The building address is 3515 Raleigh Avenue. The phone number is 952-926-8198. The www. address is pavekmuseum.org.

Joe Pavek had an old radio he didn’t want to throw out. That was the genesis of a collection of radios and related equipment which has evolved into the Pavek Museum of Broadcasting. A visit is well worth the admission price of $5.00 for adults and $3.00 for students and senior citizens.

The museum has a preservative function. It is home to one of the best collections of radio, TV, audio and broadcast equipment in the world. More than a hundred radios, transmitters and TV sets from the first half of the 20th century are on display. KPAV broadcasts from an authentic 1930s era studio.

The equipment for this was donated by KWOA in Worthington, MN and by other area stations. The museum has an educational function. Each year, an average of 5000 school students are introduced to electronic and broadcasting concepts through class visits and Saturday morning events. Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops are often hosted on Saturday afternoons. The kids get to go “on the air,” broadcasting news, music and an NBC-style 3-note chime to the adjacent parking lot!

The museum also provides a hobby function. The Minnesota DX Club (boasting some 3 dozen members) has meetings here on a regular basis. Amateur operators gather and enjoy making world-wide contacts from the state of the art ham shack. One of the most extensive treasuries of technical service literature ever assembled is also available for reference.

Our tour was hosted by Associate Director Tom Mittelstadt. He knows our hobby, and agreed to accept the donation of my AM, FM and TV sets from when I can no longer enjoy them. The museum already has amateur and short wave receptions for those interested in seeing them.

The Pavek Museum of Broadcasting is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Groups are asked to make reservations in advance of their visit. This is a non-profit organization supported by admissions and contributions. Newsletter is printed and mailed regularly.

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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It’s been years since I’ve sent in a MUSE, so a re-introduction is in order. I’m 60 years old, married with one son, and have been DXing for something like 50 years, usually in succession of receivers, starting with a Zenith console, through the Hammerslunds, Nationals and Sonya. Believe it or not, the most DXing fun I had occurred when I was the poorest, in my teen years! I was using an 8-tube Philco 37-765 with two home-built (that was the operative word in those days) preselectors in series (one used a 6AK5, the other a 6SN7) with a Heath Q-Multiplier thrown in for good measure. From my location in Philadelphia, using a CB ground plane antenna and a long wire, I did so well that my loggings at one point were questioned by one of the "experts". One of the thrills at that time was logging Cario on 737 (9) kHz. In this Internet age, it’s easy to access programming from all over the world, but you still can’t beat the thrill of hearing an actual transmission from the other side of the earth. Those early hours sessions, prior to sunrise, waiting for a possible Trans Pacific signal or hearing Europeans barreling in while its still daylight on this side of the Atlantic add joy to the hobby. I am very happy to see the NRC continue to publish comprehensive construction articles on antennas and tuners. These have done more to help the DXer than almost anything else. If you are looking for the best ways to improve your receiving equipment, the NRC reprints of those projects are invaluable. For those who find that equipment modification is one of the joys of life, do not hesitate to put on paper those receiver mods that you find most useful. And, I suspect that there are more tube-type receivers out there than many realize; my fixed 1950’s era square wave converter is a true treasure. The hobby lives on, even under the horrendous crowded band conditions that we must live with today. V7 (And thanks for the kind words Ed, they’re appreciated by all involved!-DWS)

Rick Dau - 1015 West Benton St. #52 - Iowa City, IA 52246-3117 rdua36@yahoo.com

I greatly enjoyed reading recollections from the NRC’s broadcasting elite in the last few MUSINGS columns. No stories of my own to share, of course, but I do recall the time only a few short years ago that WMT-600’s sports director, Ron Gonder, reading a morning recap of the previous day’s stories, mispronounced the name of pro golfer Fred Funk by leaving a key letter out of the surname. Not the first time that’s happened, I’m sure, but it has to be a bit disheartening for the announcer when it goes out over the air, nonetheless. The aerobeacon on 524, UOC, is a thing of the past. I remember Chicago’s ROB KRAMER, about a decade or so ago, swearing by the IRCA’s TWIN CITY’S sports director, WILDLANDS, through the Hammerlunds, Nationals and Sonyas. Believe it or not, the most DXing fun I had occurred when I was the poorest, in my teen years! I was using an 8-tube Philco 37-765 with two home-built (that was the operative word in those days) preselectors in series (one used a 6AK5, the other a 6SN7) with a Heath Q-Multiplier thrown in for good measure. From my location in Philadelphia, using a CB ground plane antenna and a long wire, I did so well that my loggings at one point were questioned by one of the "experts". One of the thrills at that time was logging Cario on 737 (9) kHz. In this Internet age, it’s easy to access programming from all over the world, but you still can’t beat the thrill of hearing an actual transmission from the other side of the earth. Those early hours sessions, prior to sunrise, waiting for a possible Trans Pacific signal or hearing Europeans barreling in while its still daylight on this side of the Atlantic add joy to the hobby. I am very happy to see the NRC continue to publish comprehensive construction articles on antennas and tuners. These have done more to help the DXer than almost anything else. If you are looking for the best ways to improve your receiving equipment, the NRC reprints of those projects are invaluable. For those who find that equipment modification is one of the joys of life, do not hesitate to put on paper those receiver mods that you find most useful. And, I suspect that there are more tube-type receivers out there than many realize; my fixed 1950’s era square wave converter is a true treasure. The hobby lives on, even under the horrendous crowded band conditions that we must live with today. V7 (And thanks for the kind words Ed, they’re appreciated by all involved!-DWS)

Truckin’ Bozo Radio Network

via Rick Dau

580 KFXD-ID 1180 WHAM-NY
700 WLW-OH 1240 KLKJ-MO
700 KLWU-NY 1510 WLAC-TN
1030 KTHO-WY 1013 WCOY-IL
1040 WHO-IA 99.5 WCOY-IL
1130 WKKH-LA 101.3 WCUZ-MI
1170 WWVA-WV