

# DX News

Serving DX'ers since 1933



Volume 70, No. 12 - December 23 2002 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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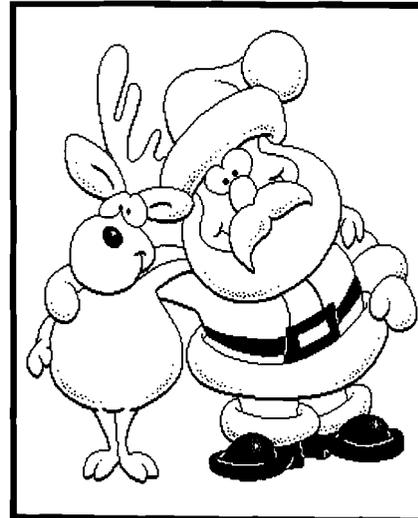
### CPC Test Calendar

WMRO TN 1560 Dec. 30 0100-0130

From the Publisher ... I'd simply like to wish you the happiest of holidays, un nuevo año prospero, et pax vobiscum. We'll be back with you in two weeks.

### DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 70

Iss.	Deadline	Pub.	Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub.	Date
13.	Dec. 27	Jan. 6		22.	Feb. 28	Mar. 10	
14.	Jan. 3	Jan. 13		23.	Mar. 21	Mar. 31	
15.	Jan 10	Jan. 20		24.	April 4	April 14	
16.	Jan. 17	Jan. 27		25.	April 18	April 28	
17.	Jan. 24	Feb. 3		26.	May 9	May 19	
18.	Jan. 31	Feb. 10		27.	June 6	June 16	
19.	Feb. 7	Feb. 17		28.	July 4	July 14	
20.	Feb. 14	Feb. 24		29.	Aug. 1	Aug. 11	
21.	Feb. 21	Mar. 3		30.	Sept. 5	Sept. 15	



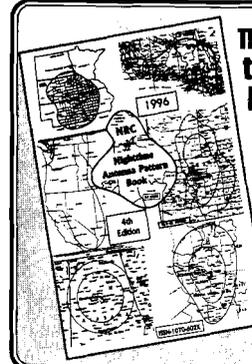
### DX Time Machine

#### From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the December 20, 1952 DXN: It was reported that WJZ-770 was trying to change call letters to WABC, following WEAJ's change to WNBC-660 and WABC's change to WCBS-880, and the ABC was trying to get the calls KABC and KXYZ for their Los Angeles and San Francisco stations.

25 years ago ... from the December 30, 1977 DXN: 53 Musings of the Members were only a small part of this 64-page issue of DXN, which included various nostalgic features.

10 years ago ... from the December 21, 1992 DXN: Included in this DXN were 24 Musings, including a first-time Muse from Mike Sanburn, Bellflower, CA, and the first Musing in over 30 years from Carl Mann, Omaha, NE; he mentioned that he was News Director at KESY1420/104.5.



The **NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 5th Edition** is the perfect mate to the **NRC AM Log**, as the **NPB** provides DX'ers with up-to-date maps of all (except Class IV) stations with nighttime operations. Convenient to use: 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only \$18.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members in Europe (except Italy): \$28.00. All others, please contact us for exact pricing.

Order from: **NRC Publications - Box 184 - Mannsville, NY 13881 (NY residents, please add sales tax)**

# AM Switch

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com  
161 Fox St.  
Hubbard, OH 44425-2122

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

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<i>Old call</i>		<i>New call</i>
730	CJNW	BC Vancouver	CHMJ

## APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

650	MI Manistique:	30000/212
	(20000 CH) U7	

## GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

## APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

1640	KMKZ	OK Enid:	10000/1000 U4
------	------	----------	---------------

## GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

810	KSWV	NM Santa Fe:	5000/10 U1
1100	KFAX	CA San Francisco:	50000/50000 U3
1250	WARE	MA Ware:	5000/2500 U4
1280	CFYZ	ON Toronto:	400/150 U1 (this is evidently a TIS at Toronto Airport; CRTC shows previous powers as 25/99 U1)
1290	WHKY	NC Hickory:	50000/1000 U4
1450	CHUC	ON Cobourg:	to 1580 kHz with 10000/10000 U4

## OTHERNESS

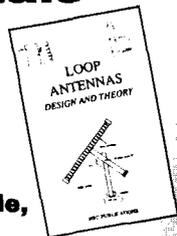
760	WEFL	FL Tesquesta:	application for 3000/1500 U13 is DISMISSED
840	WPGS	FL Mims:	CP for 1000 D1 is on
890	WBAJ	SC Blythewood:	50000 (8500 CH) D1 (corrects frequency shown in Issue 10)
1220	KZEE	TX Weatherford:	490/8 U1, relocate transmitter (corrects FCC typo in Issue 10 showing state as OK)
1290	WHKY	NC Hickory:	CP for 50000/1000 U4 is on
1290	WJVC	NC Jacksonville:	5000/47 U1 (corrects FCC typo in Issue 10)
1400	WFTG	KY London:	CP for 690/690 U1 is on
1480	WGFY	NC Charlotte:	CP for 4400/5000 U4 is on
1550	KVAN	WA Vancouver:	CP for 50000/12000 U2 is on
1600	WAOS	GA Austell:	CP for 20000/67 U1 is on

THANKS: Bill Hale, Al Merriman, Wayne Heinen, Ed Krejny, Shawn Axelrod, & Les Johnson

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

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*Jimmy & BKF*

# Domestic DX Digest

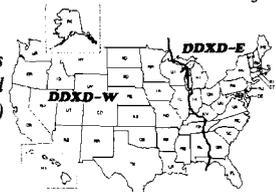
West: Bill Hale w\_r\_hale@sbcglobal.net

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

East: Ginnie Lupi ginnie@nrcdxas.org

PO Box 4014, Clifton Park, New York 12065

(Division line is between East and Central time zones)



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

## DDXD-West

### MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- What is being said: "Recent comments on IBOC make me wonder whether we'll have a hobby in a few years. Somebody was bamboozled!" - JJR-WI; "Conditions really are spotty around here. Hard to complain, the weather has been so pleasant and 15 degrees above normal for this time of year but AM radio sure is taking a beating." - DKK-CA;
- Some first-time-DX-in-this-column adorns our last edition before the Holidays. See if you can pick it out, hi. Keep up the DXING effort, folks. And remember, to report what you hear to your favorite DX column. Don't forget the DDXD-West Challenge!! This Challenge is to DX stations with an X (XEs are acceptable, but be reasonable), an M, an A, or an S in the call letters. For the January 10 deadline, it's 1230 kHz. For the next week, January 17<sup>th</sup>, let's hear your DX on one of my favorite frequencies . . . 1460 kHz. Keep those dials a-spinnin', and let's hear from you!
- Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous 2003. It's not too late to tell Santa you want that new piece of listening apparatus. See you next year (remember we are into a two-week break).

### REPORTERS

- |        |                                |   |
|--------|--------------------------------|---|
| RA-NV  | Rene Auvray Henderson          | 2003 Ford Taurus caradio  |
| RA-NV1 | Rene Auvray Primm              | 2003 Ford Taurus caradio  |
| SA-MB  | Shawn Axelrod Winnipeg         | ICOM ICR-70/Drake R8/ICOM R-7000 + 4' unamplified box loop/Quantum Loop/disco/145' outdoor wire/100' indoor wire/MFJ 1026 Phasing Unit <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca> |
| PG-CO  | Patrick Griffith, N0NNK        | Westminster Drake R-8 + Kiwa air core loop <AM-DXER@webtv.net>  |
| TRH-CA | Tim Hall Chula Vista           | <tim_hall_dx@hotmail.com>   |
| DKK-CA | Don Kaskey San Francisco       | Drake R8A + KIWA Airloop <kaskeyfamily@yahoo.com>   |
| EL-IL  | Eric Loy Champaign             | Drake R8 and Quantum QX <eloy@netscape.net>   |
| CR-IL  | Christos Rigas Wood Dale       | Kenwood R-2000 + Quantum QX-Pro <crigas@birinc.com>   |
| JJR-WI | John J. Rieger South Milwaukee | Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp or (2) GE SR IIIs, Terk AM1000 loop* <johnjrieger@webtv.net>; <http://DX-midAmerica.com>; <http://DXMW.com>         |
| JTR-OK | John Reed Shawnee              | Sylvania R1414/URR with SE-3, modified KIWA MW loop <jreed@alum.mit.edu>  |
| KR-AZ  | Kevin Redding Mesa             | Sony ICF-2010 barefoot <amfmtdvx@qwest.net>   |
| DS-TN  | Doug Smith, W9WI               | Pleasant View <w9wi@w9wi.com>   |
| DS-TN* | Doug Smith                     | car radio DX in 1998 Ford Escort about 5 miles southeast of Pleasant View on I-24   |
| MS-MB  | Morris Sorensen Winnipeg       | Drake R-8 with Quantum QX Pro loop <mosor@shaw.ca>  |
| TT-IL  | Tim Tomljanovich Byron         | Yaesu FT-990, Kenwood TS-430S. Antennas: Inverted "L" for 160 meters, K9AY directional loops <k9sb@msn.com>   |
| JW-CO  | John Wilkins Wheat Ridge       | Drake R-8, 4-phoot loop <peakbagger3@juno.com>  |
| WW-TX  | Wally Wawro Rowlett            | tuned ears <WWawro@wfaa.com>  |
| Ed.-TX | Editor                         | North Richland Hills DX-398   |

### STATION NEWS & NOTES

- |      |      |  |
|------|------|--|
| 770  | KNWX | WA Seattle - Is slated to move calls and format to 1210 on 1/6/03, now home to KBSG. 770 will get new calls and all-talk format. (100000watts.com) |
| 1210 | KBSG | WA Auburn - Will take the KNWS calls (from 770) and business/talk format on 1/6/03; ex: oldies. (100000watts.com)                                  |

4  
 1340 KTPI CA Mojave - Becomes classic country. Ex: religious talk and KAVC. (100000watts.com)  
 1400 KVSF NM Santa Fe - Has flipped from classic country to sports. (100000watts.com)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

640 UNID ?? - 12/3 0146-0151 - SS music station behind, and overtaking KFI for about one minute. Any ideas? (RA-NV1) [XEHHI - Hidalgo del Parral, Chihuahua, perhaps? - Ed.]  
 1030 UNID ?? - 12/7 0810 - EZL music under WUFL. (SA-MB)  
 1170 UNID ?? - 12/1 0815 - Spanish speaking man and lively accordion music. Heard a possible ID of *Musica Populari*???? (SA-MB)  
 1250 UNID ?? - every night 11/28 through 12/11 - CBS News sounder heard under WEMP - speech never intelligible under the interference. WGL and KCNZ have both been logged here previously. (DS-TN)  
 1550 KZRK TX Canyon - Kevin Redding's UNID here with Fox Sports in the 12/2/02 DX News is most likely this. They're listed as Fox Sports, they get out well to the west, and I think I have logged them on the road in the past year. (TRH-CA)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

1470 WLCR KY Shepardsville - 12/1 0300 - Fair-to-poor signal, mixing with WMBD, KWSL and KLBP, with Morse Code ID's as WLCR KY USA at 0301, 0303, and 0309. NEW! (SA-MB)

  
 7601 Riviera Blvd - Miramar, FL 33023

TIS & ODDITIES

530 WPUJ624 CO on I-25 near Mead, CO exit - 12/10 0820 - A 49-second loop tape with phone numbers and website to go to for current road conditions. Fair, in null of local TIS WPLX284. Thanks to Chris Knight for tip. A new one, Colorado #104. (JW-CO) [I'm sure everyone heading down the road jumps right on the cell phone or Internet to check on road conditions, making driving that much more fun, hi - Ed.]  
 1670.12 TALKING HOUSE CO Probably in Wheat Ridge - 12/11 0825 - Gal on 90-second loop tape describing the house, giving address and agent's phone number. Only partially readable with 1670 het and local KDDZ-1690 hash. Guess I'll have to go out and scour the neighborhood for exact location. Colorado #105. (JW-CO)

PRESUMED

1250 KKHK KS Kansas City - most nights 11/28 through 12/11 - Someone with Mexican music under WEMP. Never heard any talk or ID. (DS-TN)

REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in ELT)

530 CIAO ON Brampton - 12/10 2035 - Good, with Polish language religious program. Mention of *Katolicky Program Kamady*. You are listening to CIAO AM 530 English language ID at 2100. In RVC and local TIS nulls. (CR-IL)  
 570 WNAX SD Yankton - 12/6 1707 - Strong, with Bill O'Reilly show. (TT-IL)  
 570 CKGL ON Kitchener - 12/12 2000 - Fair through local CKY splatter, with OHA hockey, *Kitchener Rangers vs. Windsor Spitfires*. Ad for *Nickelson's Realty*. NEW! (MS-MB)  
 600 WREC TN Memphis - 12/8 2125 - Talk on medical topics with call ID and Memphis ads. Weak in loop null of sports broadcast. (JTR-OK)  
 620 WKVB PA Irwin - 12/11 0809 - Fair-to-poor, in mix, with call ID, mentions of Pittsburgh. New here. (EL-IL) [And I believe a first-time mention in this column! - Ed.]  
 650 KGAB WY Orchard Valley - 12/6 1730 - Fair, with ID, in the mix with WSB semi-nulled. Ad for the *Wyoming Bar Association*. (TT-IL)  
 670 KBOI ID Boise - 12/4 1816-1821 - Talk show discussing soda bottles and cans refund in Oregon, traffic and weather read by Bob Peters. Call ID. Unknown REL station in background [that would have been KLTT-CO - Ed.]. Fair, in and out. (RA-NV)  
 680 KNBR CA San Francisco - 12/6 0115-0122 - Weak, in KFEQ null, with sports summary, *49ers* and *Raiders* mentions, eventual KNBR mention heard in promo. Not new, but not a regular either. (WW-TX)

5

690 KGGF KS Coffeyville - 12/12 0749 - Fair, with calls noted in passing. (JJR-WI)  
 710 KNUS CO Denver - 12/8 0807 - With ID, in a quiet moment in the KUET programming. Into the *Jerry Baker* (?) *Garden Show*. Rare. (KR-AZ)  
 730 WJMT WI Merrill - 12/12 0745 - Fair at power up, with station promo. Quickly faded. (JJR-WI)  
 900 KFAL MO Fulton - 12/9 0744 - Poor, with calls into ads. Alone. (JJR-WI)  
 910 KLCN AR Blytheville - 12/6 0047-0105 - Weak, with semi-local KXEB nulled. Christmas music, liner mentioning *holidays* and then . . . *we're 910, KLCN*. Reported by several on the AM list of being on at full power the evening before. (WW-TX)  
 910 KBIM NM Roswell - 12/11 2030 - *Savage Nation* talk show, call ID and *Voice of Southeastern New Mexico*. Weak signal that soon faded. (JTR-OK)  
 910 WJCW TN Johnson City - 12/4 0655 - Poor, with calls heard in passing. (JJR-WI)  
 930 KAFF AZ Flagstaff - 12/8 0141 - Very good signal. C&W and frequent IDs. All IDs include KAFF (pronounced like calf) *Country Classics* slogan. Sure didn't sound like only 31 Watts. (PG-CO)  
 930 WTAD IL Quincy - 12/9 0756 - Poor, but alone, with temperature and calls. Rare! (JJR-WI)  
 930 KSDN SD Aberdeen - 12/11 2259 - Fair, with sports talk and ID as *Clear Channel KSDN Aberdeen*. (MS-MB)  
 940 WYLD LA New Orleans - 12/12 0650 - Weak and fading with QRM. Gospel music with call ID. (JTR-OK)  
 940 CJGX SK Yorkton - 12/9 0719 - Fair @ 20/9, with concert info on CX 94. Alone! (JJR-WI)  
 950 KXJR AR Forrest City - 12/6 1700 - Good, with ID into *Paul Harvey*. (TT-IL)  
 950 KXJK AR Forrest City - 12/12 0700 - Star Spangled Banner, call ID and local news. Faded shortly afterward. New here. (JTR-OK)  
 960 WHAK MI Rogers City - 12/10 0735 - Poor, with AM 960 WHAK. Popped in/out. Rare! (JJR-WI)  
 960 CFFX ON Kingston - 12/10 0733 - Fair, way over WSBT, with ads, sports, and weather. *Oldies 960*. (JJR-WI)  
 980 KEYQ CA Fresno - 12/5 1900 - With ID which included a number of stations on the Nueve Vida Network, including KLTx-1390 Long Beach, KEZY-1240 San Bernardino, KEYQ-980 Fresno, and KGZO-FM (forgot frequency). This was my closest unheard since I logged Oakhurst earlier this fall. (DKK-CA)  
 980 KVLV NV Fallon - 12/12 0725 - Briefly faded up with call ID, then lost under KMBZ. New here. (JTR-OK)  
 990 NOTHING submitted for the 990 challenge this week.  
 1010 CBR AB Calgary - 12/8 0800 - With *You're listening to CBC Calgary*, giving no calls, and into news, weather and sports. Faded out at 0805. In null of local KXEM prior to going to day power and pattern. Very rare. Canada is very difficult from here. (KR-AZ)  
 1150 KRMS MO Osage Beach - 12/9 0736 - Poor, with local ads. Quickly replaced by WGGH. (JJR-WI)  
 1160 WAMB TN Donelson - 12/10 0712 - Poor, over WYLL, with TC and calls into ads. Been a while. (JJR-WI)  
 1250 WZOB AL Fort Payne - 11/30 2100 - Poor, with WZOB Fort Payne ID. Very weak in mess. (DS-TN)  
 1250 KLIH AR Little Rock - 12/5 2040 - UC gospel music, ads for Little Rock area. Faded into noise level. (JTR-OK)  
 1250 WSPL IL Streator - 12/10 0600 - Fair, with *That's the weather forecast here on WSPL*, into ABC News. New. (DS-TN)  
 1250 WLCK KY Scottsville - 11/30 0900 - Poor, with . . . station WLCK, Scottsville. (DS-TN)  
 1250 WKBL TN Covington - 11/29 1000 - *Classic Country*, 1250 WKBL, Covington. Fair. (DS-TN)  
 1250 WEMP WI Milwaukee - 12/8 1900 - At least four full IDs in 20 seconds. Night regular and a big pest, but very good at IDing. (DS-TN)  
 1260 KWYR SD Winner - 12/8 1935 - Good, with ID: KWYR Country 1260. (TT-IL)  
 1270 WLIK TN Newport - 12/10 0707 - Poor, over WKBF, with weather, a jingle, and oldies. (JJR-WI)  
 1280 WGBF IN Evansville 12/5 2110 - Weak, with sports and call ID, under WODT. (JTR-

- 1280 WHVR PA OK)  
Hanover - 12/11 0750 - Fair, but atop channel, with apparent promo for a station *area business fair*, many call IDs, and *Hanover* mentions. New. (EL-IL) [Another newbie! - Ed.]
- 1370 WLTC NC Gastonia - 12/5 0632 - Briefly above mess. Black gospel, ID with WAAW-94.7, and at least one other AM station. NEW. (DS-TN\*)
- 1370 WVLY WV Moundsville - 12/12 0753 - Fair, with calls and weather into ads. Not common. (JJR-WI)
- 1400 KDRG MT Deer Lodge - 12/12 1834 - Poor, in mess, with what sounded like a review of past week in sports. Heard distinct . . . on KDRG. NEW! (MS-MB)
- 1450 WLYV IN Ft. Wayne - 12/8 0330 - Poor, with calls, in/out quickly. REL. (JJR-WI\*)
- 1450 KHIT NV Reno - 12/11 0300 - Atop frequency, in KEST null, with ID after C&W music. (DKK-CA)
- 1450 KYNT SD Yankton - 12/10 1812 - Soft-voiced gal with area weather, followed by car ad. At 1813, same gal with area sports, and several call IDs. Fair, through QRM. This pops through from time to time in the pre-sunset hours before the frequency gets too cluttered. (JW-CO)
- 1470 KEAN TX Abilene - 12/8 0837 - C&W tune, spots for a furniture store and Dodge trucks, a 1470 *The Ranch* slogan and back to music at 0843. Fair. (JW-CO)
- 1480 KQAM KS Wichita - 12/6 0856 - Local spots, a legal ID by brat at 0858, then back to Radio Disney. Fair, occasionally good, with not much QRM. Will try another report to them. (JW-CO)
- 1490 WABJ MI Adrian - 12/6 2122 - Poor, with *News Talk 1490 WABJ* into chatter. (JJR-WI)
- 1490 KQDS MN Duluth - 12/8 0430 - Poor, with clear calls. CNN News format. Over mess. (JJR-WI\*)
- 1490 CFPS ON Port Elgin - 12/6 2100 - Poor, but nice clear legal id for this, // 560-CFOS. (JJR-WI)
- 1560 KTXZ TX West Lake Hills - 12/11 0801 - Spanglish ID by guy: *KTXZ Quince Sesenta, ahora con musica para todos los gustos* and into peppy Latino number. Man again at 0805 with call ID and *Radio Alegria* slogan. Fair. (JW-CO)
- 1570 KCVR CA Lodi - 12/9 0857 - California PSAs in SS. At 0859: *Las Noticias de la Hora*, a legal ID in EE at 0900:05: *KCVR-FM Colombia*, *KCVR-AM Lodi, en el valle central, La Nueva 98.9, Quince Setenta AM. Radio Romantica, Numero Uno en musica romantica*, followed by, naturally, *musia romantica*. Fair, not much QRM in null of a weak KSXT. (JW-CO)
- 1580 WILJ TN Shelbyville - 12/5 1807 - Good, with a funeral home ad. Still on day power. (TT-IL)
- 1580 WLIJ TN Shelbyville - 12/9 0728 - Poor, with WPGC, with ad for *Shelbyville Record Shop* . . . there's a dated name, huh? (JJR-WI)
- 1590 KMBD OR Tillamook - 12/5 1927 - Breaking through KLIV and the several SSers with *Savage Nation*. Pretty rare here. (DKK-CA)
- 1680 WJNZ MI Ada - 12/7 0340 - Only an OC, leaving frequency clear. (SA-MB)
- 1680 WTIR FL Winter Garden - 12/7 0341 - Poor signal, with info on Orlando. (SA-MB)
- 1680 KRJO LA Munroe - 12/7 0343 - Fading in and out with GOS music. (SA-MB)
- 1680 KAVT CA Fresno - 12/7 0346 - Poor with Disney radio programming. (SA-MB)

**GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE**

Totals:	1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	Total
John Vervoort Brooklyn, NY	5	4	2	5	5	2	23

Remember all the GY DX records are on line at: [www.angelfire.com/tx2/phantom2/index.html](http://www.angelfire.com/tx2/phantom2/index.html)

**DDXD-East**

This week's Frequency Challenge on 1250 kHz yielded 17 stations and three UNIDs. Thanks, everyone! There seems to be a little bit of confusion about the Challenge; the idea is to for participants to listen to the same frequency during the same period of time, logging what they hear. The box on the next page should clear up any questions.

Best Wishes to all for a wonderful New Year!



KQDS KMNS 2-98 KSPT KWBL  
P.O. Box 3009 • Sioux City, Iowa 51102

**REPORTERS**

- MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto – Panasonics RF-2200; RFB-45.
- SC-IN Steve Chappell, McCordsville - Bearcat DX-1000; 3 terminated loops.
- SC-ON Saul Chernos, Burnt River – Sangean AT5909 portable with 1000-foot 14-gauge longwire pointed ne-sw. Realistic TRF655 with Radio Shack loop.
- MC-NY Mike Clancy, Fort Niagara State Park, overlooking Lake Ontario – 1991 Buick Skylark radio.
- MC-NJ Mike Clancy, Jersey City – Optimus 12-603A and car radio.
- BC-NH Bruce Conti, Nashua - R8B, MWDX-5, 50/75/50-ft east/west Double-Ewe antenna.
- PC-VA Perry Crabill, Winchester – Drake R8, Kiwa Loop, 100' wire.
- RJE-PA Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell - Hammarlund HQ-150 w/ 4' amplified aircore loop.
- JF-ON Jeff Falconer, Clinton - AOR AR7030+, pair of 130' EWE antennas, MFJ-1026 phase box, etc.
- PG-MA Phil Greenspan, Marshfield - Superadio III with Select-A-Tenna.
- MH-MA Mic Healey, Swansea - SuperRadio III, Benmar Navigator 555A Direction Finder.
- DH-NJ David Hochfelder, Brunswick - Sony ICF-2010 with Quantum Loop.
- RWK-CT Rick Kenneally, Wilton - Drake R8B, Sony 2010, Quantum Phaser & QX Loop, lots of wire.
- DL-MD Dave Larrabee, Columbia - lcom 8500 on random wire or loop.
- DL\*MD Dave Larrabee, Columbia - TenTec RX340 on a long wire operating unattended gathering 4 minute audio samples at the top of each hour.
- WM-MD William McGuire, Cheverly – DX-398.
- JR-NY Jim Renfrew, Byron - Drake R8, 1000' west, 1000' nww, 100' sw, Quantum Phaser.
- RR-NC Rick Robinson, Hendersonville – Sony 7600 and Radio Shack loop.
- JJR-PA Joe Rocchino, Cuddy - Realistic DX-370 and Optimus SuperRadio Clone, RS Loop Antenna.
- BT-NB Brent Taylor, Doaktown – YB-400PE & Radio Shack loop.
- JV-NY John Vervoort, Brooklyn – Yacht Boy 400PE.
- PEW-SC Powell E. Way, Columbia - Hammarlund HQ-129-X.
- NJW-MI Niel Wolfish, Brighton - SONY ICF-2010 and Quantum Loop antenna.
- NJW-ON Niel Wolfish, Toronto - SONY ICF-2010 and Quantum Loop antenna.

DDXD-E	
Frequency Challenge	
Deadline	Frequency
January 1	560
January 8	930
January 15	1330
January 22	1600
January 29	570
February 5	1280
February 12	910

**WEEKLY FREQUENCY CHALLENGE – 1250 kHz**

- 1250 WGL IN Fort Wayne - 12/6 1749 - Popped up briefly with "WGL Five O'Clock News Hour" and "a look at what's going on for the weekend," over unID *ESPN Radio* with WKBR nulled out. On 12/9 1700 - "Talk Radio WGL Fort Wayne" into CBS news. New! (BC-NH)
- + 12/9 1714 - ID, temperature, station promo, ID. New per BC-NH tip! (RJE-PA)
- WRAY IN Princeton – 12/4 1700 – "On 1250 WRAY AM" ID faded up from noise. (RR-NC)
- WARE MA Ware – 12/1 1730 - On top with Beverly Hills Cop theme, then man with "WARE", Rocky Squirrel saying "Now here's something we hope you'll really like", man again w/"AM 12-50" then into "The Future's So Bright I Gotta Wear Shades." This station seems to have a very short playlist as I keep hearing the same things: Billy Idol "Eyes Without a Face", Blondie's "Man from Mars" rap song, and a few others. (RWK-CT)
- + 12/5 0002 - "This is Hometown Radio, Ware, WARE AM 1250". At 1023, "Hometown Radio has a new format and three new account execs..." (MH-MA)
- + 12/6 1843 - Call letter ID and Rocket J. Squirrel saying, "Here's something you'll really like!" into Bay City Rollers "Saturday Night," continued to fade in at times with late oldies over WEAE with WKBR nulled out. (BC-NH)
- + 12/10 0645 - Promo to advertise on WARE. Phone number with 413 area code. (PG-MA)
- WKBR NH Manchester – 12/5 2237 - "Real Country that makes a difference, WKBR". Owing the frequency tonight! (MH-MA)

- + 12/6 1357 - Excellent; "You're listening to News/Talk 1250 WKBR" and *The Sam Donaldson Show*, then full ID into ABC news. Format is news/talk weekdays beginning with Imus at 0600, *Real Country* nights and weekends. (BC-NH)
- + 12/7 1900 - Took all week to hear this one - weak with end of C&W song with a chorus that sounded like "Continental Soup"?? then recorded ID: "You've found it... all your classics are here nights and weekends on Real Country, 12-50 WKBR." (RWK-CT)
- + 12/10 0650 - Music into Imus in the Morning. (PG-MA)
- + 12/10 1714 - Imus promo with ID briefly bubbled up to audibility. (RJE-PA)
- WMTR NJ** **Morristown** - 11/30 1643 - Usual dominant signal with Christmas music, "This is WMTR", ad for Madison Photo Plus, then quick "WWTR Bridgewater, WMTR Morristown." WARE underneath playing Blondie (again). (RWK-CT)
- + 12/4 1701 - Call letters only heard at first, then at 1705, "WMTR Newstime is 5:05". Rough copy in evening jumble except for occasional brief periods. (PC-VA)
- + 12/5 1930 - Holiday music, ID. Mostly under WEAE. Still can't get used to hearing my former daytime local at night. (RJE-PA)
- + 12/6 1405 - Fair; "WMTR Eye on Weather" and "WMTR News First," local ad for a Morristown Irish pub, with WKBR nulled out, no sign of WARE. + 12/7 1547 - Good; Christmas nostalgia off the satellite, "You've found WMTR AM 1170 and 1250." (BC-NH)
- + 12/9 1756 - ID. Discussion of Make a Wish Radiothon. Call 1-800-252-9474 (WISH). Music "Mona Lisa". Mixing with UNID ESPN station. (PG-MA)
- WGHB NC** **Farmville** - 12/7 0659 - Weak but audible in mush with recorded ID by man: "... on sports ... Eastern North Carolina's ... radio WGHB Farmville/???ville." I missed that this had changed to ESPN - now I know what has been causing the ESPN "echo" on 1250 with WEAE-PA. (RWK-CT)
- + 12/10 1721 - Local sports call-in, all Eastern NC callers. Back atop at 2015 with high school basketball, ad for Ricoh office machines and clean ID as "the new ESPN Radio 1250, WGHB". New! (RJE-PA)
- WBRM NC** **Marion** - 12/4 1733 - Marion and Old Fort/McDowell county church closings. "Stay tuned to WBRM." This is the dominant daytime station. (RR-NC)
- WCHO OH** **Washington Court House** - 12/4 1652 - song by Perry Como followed by "Serving southern Ohio. American music classics on AM 1250 WCHO." (RR-NC)
- WLEM PA** **Emporium** - 12/1 1700 - Way on top with end of C&W song then recorded ID by woman: "Country 12-50 WLEM Emporium, a Priority Communications station" then network news. (RWK-CT)
- + 12/4 1735 - Shania Twain song, then "Country 1250 WLEM"; again at 1907 with ID out of news. On late with day facilities 12/4, 6, 7, 9, 10. (RJE-PA)
- + 12/6 1709 - Suddenly became dominant with C&W music, "Emporium's radio station, Country 1250, your kind of country," over UNID *ESPN Radio* with WKBR nulled out. New! (BC-NH)
- WPEL PA** **Montrose** - 12/1 1645 - Mixing with WEAE with end of sign-off announcement "commercial-free continues, around the clock, 24-hours a day, on WPEL-FM." New. (RWK-CT)
- + 12/10 1644 - Promo for "Back to the Bible", weather. (RJE-PA)
- WEAE PA** **Pittsburgh** - 11/30 2101 - Good with break in football game (Woodland Hills vs. Exeter), recorded ID "The sports station, 12-50 WEAE - ESPN Radio 12-50." Shares dominance with WMTR. (RWK-CT)
- + 12/4 1637 - Sportstalk, multiple "ESPN-1250, Pittsburgh" 'IDs', local ads. (RJE-PA)
- + 12/4 1642 - Steelers talk show, "EPSN Radio in Pittsburgh on 1250 AM. Now the WEAE weather." (RR-NC)
- + 12/4 2348 - "Sports Radio 1250". Mention of www.espnradio1250.com. Another sports station that seldom gives its call letters. (MH-MA)
- + 12/6 1902 - Local ad, promo, "...weekdays 10 to 3, only on Pittsburgh's ESPN Radio 1250," more ads, promo with "Number One" references, fading up

- over the jumble as the night progressed. (BC-NH)
  - + 12/7 1700 - "...This is the NSN Sports Network... this is The Sports Station, WEAE, Pittsburgh's ESPN Radio twelve fifty." Dominant at this time, no channel. (DL\*MD)
  - + 12/9 2355 - ID as "ESPN 1250" also mention of ESPN1250.com web site. (PG-MA)
  - + 12/10 1159 - "ESPN Radio in Pittsburgh on 1250 AM", with call letters too. (PEW-SC)
  - WQXA PA** **York** - 12/5 1500 - C&W "We are Country AM twelve fifty. ... This is Real Country AM Twelve Fifty, WQXA York", into news, couldn't dig out the network. (DL\*MD)
  - + 12/6 1642 - C&W, ad for business in Mechanicsburg. (RJE-PA)
  - WTMA SC** **Charleston** - 12/5 1945 - Talk program, station promo, time check. (RJE-PA)
  - + 12/6 1702 - Poor; local news, "WTMA's Natalie... reports," in jumble with WKBR nulled out. New! (BC-NH)
  - + 12/9 1701 - Mixing with CBGA on a very good night with news by woman, spot for WTMA 12 Days of Christmas Contest, and repeated "Newstalk 12-50 WTMA" IDs. New. (RWK-CT)
  - WDVA VA** **Danville** - 12/4 1730 - Gospel music, ID, weather. (RJE-PA)
  - WYKM WV** **Rupert** - 12/4 1600 - Ending C&W song, then "Your Country Connection - WYKM, Rupert" and into news. Heard again, on late with C&W, frequent IDs. (RJE-PA)
  - + 12/5 1800 - C&W "Your Country Connection, WYKM Rupert." (DL\*MD)
  - + 12/6 0641 - ID out of noise "WYKM AM 1250." (RR-NC)
  - + 12/9 1640 - Poor; "Your Kountry Music, WYKM" ID and music under WEAE with WKBR nulled out. New! (BC-NH)
  - CJYE ON** **Oakville** - 12/8 2000 - Very good over WEAE with end of gospel song then man with "Catch the spirit on Joy 12-50 ... Christian Radio for Southern Ontario," followed by a show hosted by Herbie Kuhn. New. (RWK-CT)
  - + 12/10 1730 - Faded up nice with a traffic report including "Highway 401," ending with "Back to music now, on Joy 1250." New! (BC-NH)
  - CBGA QC** **Matane** - 12/6 1625 - Presumed French talk, female, then male, then both. (RJE-PA)
  - + 12/7 1520 - Way on top with alternating long French monologues by man and woman, many mentions of Montreal, CBC radio chimes at 1600. Audio seemed a bit fuzzy. Received dxtip notice about CBGA from Russ Edmunds just after tuning into this. (RWK-CT)
  - + 12/9 1710 - Fair; woman in French, better at 1735 with a speech on the CBC French service parallel 860 CJBC, at an even signal level with WKBR, phase null bypassed, thanks to a tip from Marc DeLorenzo that CBGA peaked at 1700 most nights. (BC-NH)
  - + 12/9 1907 - French. Woman's voice. Fading in and out mixing with Boston Celtics broadcast. (PG-MA)
  - UNID** - 12/6 1900-2010 - Het on the low side, definitely not WKBR. (BC-NH)
  - UNID** - 12/9 1910 - regular Celtics broadcast. No station listed at this frequency carrying Celtics games. (PG-MA)
  - UNID** - 12/10 2112 - country music with female announcer. Heard almost every night but never got clear ID. (RR-NC)
- UNID AND PRESUMED
- 560 UNID** - 11/19 1540 - host mentioned "giant 50,000 watt daytime signal" followed by song "What a Wonderful World" by Sam Cooke. Through the static and interference I thought I heard "560-CFOS." (MC-NY)
  - 690 UNID** - 12/4 0630 - Again 2 verses of choral SSB sung slowly. This time followed by a PSA on abused children followed by one for the Red Cross. This was followed by jumping right into a telephone talk discussion. Again, as a couple of weeks ago, no local ID heard. The only thing new I know is that this isn't an operation which signs on at local sunrise since it came on 0630 in Nov. and Dec. (RJE-PA)
  - 860 UNID** - 12/6 1800 - Somebody under CJBC with oldies like "Light My Fire" by The Doors. (NJW-MI)

**NEWS-TALK-1250**  
**WTAE**

10  
1410 UNID — \_\_\_\_ - 12/2 2215 - Two stations broadcasting Jets-Raiders Monday night football game, one with Jets announcers (WPOP?) and the other with CBS/Westwood One. At 2248 the Jim Bohannon show faded in and competed with the two game broadcasts, talking about the Supreme Court and quotas. It disappeared about 8 minutes later. Reception fair to poor with everyone fading in and out. (MC-NJ)

1650 UNID — \_\_\_\_ - 11/19 1504 - CBS news story about man who was bitten by a rattlesnake he was trying to kiss. Followed by local news about a leaking ammonia tank and a PETA protest. Signal was fluttery and faded quickly. (MC-NY)

1660 KQWBp ND West Fargo - 11/19 1507 - "Daydream Believer" by Ann Murray followed by "Star 1660" and male voice saying "your station for the best music." Signal was fluttery and then faded. (MC-NY) (Editor's note: I searched on line for "Star 1660" and this is what came up. Mike sent this logging as an UNID. - GL)

1690 UNID — \_\_\_\_ - 12/7 1823 - Under WPTX with woman giving weather for downtown Chicago. TIS or HAR? (NJW-MI)

STATION LOGGINGS

590 CJCW NB Sussex - 11/24 2243 - "Back to Back CJCW" ID. Heard under VOXM with WEZE off with technical problems. Weak but clear. (PG-MA)

VOXM NF St. John's - 11/24 2245 - Weather for various bays and peninsulas (Clarendon, Avalon, Buena Vista). Mention to listen to Jay Taylor on Monday. Salvation Army PSA. ID "VOXM" with WEZE off with technical problems. Very strong. (PG-MA)

CKRS QC Jonquiere - 11/24 2246 - French, // with talk show on 610 CHNC. Male host. Mention of Montreal. (PG-MA)

610 CHNC QC New Carlisle - 11/24 2217 - French talk show. Male host. Under WGIR. (PG-MA)

620 WZON ME Bangor - 12/7 0105 - Very weak: "It's the power in Power Play on the Sports Zone WZON" hockey game promo with T-shirt give away contest info and station address in Bangor mentioned. (SC-IN)

WKHB PA Irwin - 12/7 0701 - Weak: "We offer a variety of music here on KHB." (SC-IN)

WWNR WV Beckley - 12/7 1800 - Good: "News Talk 620 WWNR Beckley, now CBS News covers the world." (SC-IN)

630 CFCY PE Charlotetown - 11/24 2215 - Country and Western Music. ID "CFCY". No WPRO heard. (PG-MA)

640 CFOB ON Fort Frances - 12/7 0613 - Running tape loop telling listeners to go to their new FM on 93.1. In mess with Cuban, CFMJ and WMFN. (NJW-MI)

710 WELC KY Williamsburg - 12/6 1705 - in WOR null with funeral announcements, water advisory for Whitley County, commercials for Clayton Mobile Homes, and Murray Towing Service in Jellico TN, country-gospel music and ID at 1719. (NJW-MI)

720 WGSE GA Hogansville - 12/6 1721 - Under WGN with Atlanta traffic report, ID and spot for Weber Eye Group (NJW-MI)

730 WOHS NC Shelby - 12/3 2121 - Weak: Local ads such as "Griffin Drug Center" and "704" area code. Also "Downtown Kings Mountain" and "in Shelby." (SC-IN)

780 WPTN TN Cookeville - 12/6 1728 - in WBBM null with oldie "Sugar Shack" and sign-off announcement at 1730. Another station with basketball was also audible (NJW-MI)

790 WETB TN Johnson City - 12/6 1735 - Mixing with WSGW and WNIS with man reading the local forecast verrrrrry slowwwwwly. Gave ID and time after at 1737. (NJW-MI)

800 WKBC NC North Wilkesboro - 12/4 1938 - C & W song "Next Big Thing", female voiced ID. New. (WM-MD)

810 WGY NY Schenectady - 11/22 1330 - Rush's show went to local station at bottom of hour. Temperature was 41 degrees, then two ads: NY Lottery and WGY Food Drive. Announcer then gave weather forecast (1-3 inches of snow). Good signal surprised me in rainy weather on I-80 east of the Delaware Water Gap in New Jersey. (MC-NJ)

11  
830 WCRN MA Worcester - 12/6 0405 - Good: Out of AP Network News, "Now we take you back to the music on Swing 830 WCRN," then "Taking A Chance On Love". (SC-IN)

840 WHAS KY Louisville - 11/19 1518 - host apologizing for being a bad paperboy in Miner's (?) Lake. Announced that the station had tickets for a Rick Petino luncheon and mentioned "84 WHAS". Traffic report. (MC-NY)

860 KKOW KS Pittsburg - 12/6 1754 - Under CIBC with a woman reading the news and a commercial for a Kansas credit union. ID at top-of-the-hour. (NJW-MI)

910 KLCN AR Blytheville - 12/5 0333 - Playing Christmas music with numerous taped (carted) IDs. Also promo for Delta Festival of Lights. Still audible as late at 0654 in my car and heard again the following morning with the same stuff. No doubt running all night on day power. (NJW-ON)

+ 12/6 0706 - over usual sunrise pest WAVL with choral version of O Come All Ye Faithful (one of the few Christmas songs I like, but only when sung in Latin \_), ID as "season's greetings from your official Blytheville Christmas station, 910 KLCN". (MKB-ON)

WFVR GA Valdosta - 12/8 1917 - weak but briefly alone with driving tips from the Florida DOT mentioning "Florida Vacation Radio, AM 910". Ex-WGAF for me. (JF-ON)

1020 WRHB FL Kendall - 12/6 0005 - fair under KDKA. I'd been hearing French under KDKA for the past couple nights and camped out here trying to hear an ID. Finally rewarded with "Radio Carnivale" slogan ID just after top of hour. Seems to be a Spanish talker down in there too. New. (DH-NJ)

1090 WILD MA Boston - 12/6 1715 - "Today's Christian Hits"; ID. Great signal. New. (WM-MD)

1110 WBT NC Charlotte - 12/4 2215 - Meteorologist Eric Thomas talking about freezing rain and sleet storm in area: "don't be too surprised if you wake up to no electricity, no heat, no school... when was the last time you heard about an ice jam in Charlotte... 129,000 power outages." At 2228 announcers witnessed power transformer outside station window catching fire! Good reception with some fading. (MC-NJ)

**110WBTAM**

1230 WAMM VA Woodstock - 12/4 0600 - Male announcer speaking, "You're listening to AM 12-30 WAMM in Woodstock, Virginia... It's time for World and National News from the Associated Press." Underneath semi-local WBVP Beaver Falls, PA. (JJR-PA)

1240 WCEM MD Cambridge - 12/4 1730 - "Delmarva's ESPN." New. (SC-ON)

1270 WMKT MI Charlevoix - 12/7 2200 - "The latest in News, Sports and Weather, right here on WMKT Charlevoix. You're listing to the talk leader, News Talk twelve-seventy, WMKT Charlevoix." Followed by CNN News. (DL\*MD)

WXYT MI Detroit - 12/8 0300 - Buried in co-channel, but on the hour: "twelve seventy, WXYT Detroit." (DL\*MD)

WUCI OH Marysville - 12/8 0400 - "Your are tuned to ... twelve seventy, WUCO ... twelve seventy WUCO Marysville ..." in heavy co-channel. (DL\*MD)

1290 WDZY VA Colonial Heights - 12/6 1658 - Disney program, nice ID just before top of hour, strong. (JR-NY)

WHKY NC Hickory - 12/6 1705 - ID after breaking from news. New. (JR-NY)

1320 WOBL OH Oberlin - 12/11 0001 - "Real Country 1320" ID, calls. (JR-NY)

1330 WJSS MD Havre de Grace - 12/4 1700 - ID, mention of station being multicultural, into a foreign language I don't recognize. New. (SC-ON)

1350 WOYK PA York - 12/8 1455 - "The WJFK Redskins Radio Network." "The Redskins play here every week, Sports Radio thirteen fifty, WOYK, York." (DL-MD)

1360 WGEE WI Green Bay - 12/5 0851 - alone on frequency with slogan "Green Bay's first news, WGEE" into talk on mutual funds introduced by the first few bars of Pink Floyd's Money. (MKB-ON)

1370 WGHN MI Grand Haven - 12/4 0700 - Very weak: "This is WGHN and WGHN FM Grand Haven." (SC-IN)

WVMR WV Frost - 12/9 1700 - over WSPD with sign off announcement by woman, mentioning "WVMR is a service of the Pocahontas Communications Co-operative... if you're listening on FM, WVMR's programs will continue", no SSB. (MKB-ON)

WLTC NC Gastonia - 12/9 1705 - fighting off WSPD with "Spirit Flows" gospel pro-

- gram "recorded live from the Main Street Baptist Church in Gastonia". (MKB-ON)
- 1380 CKPC ON Brantford - 11/20 1551 - "Proud Mary" and "One More Chance" followed by "...3:57 - information you need." Then "lady" by Styx and "at 1380 this is Brantford CKPC, 10 degrees at four o'clock." Signal fair with some interference. (MC-NY)
- WKJV NC Asheville - 12/9 1708 - over nulled CKPC with North Carolina News Network state news read by woman, lead item about weather-related deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning, ad for Asheville Tribune. (MKB-ON)
- 1390 WRIV NY Riverhead - 12/3 2210 - "1390 WRIV ... hometown station" and into a version (possibly not Cat Stevens) of "Morning Has Broken." New. (SC-ON)
- WNIO OH Youngstown - 12/7 1723 - "Thirteen ninety, WNIO" call faded up. May have been in a high school basketball game. (DL-MD)
- 1400 WSTC CT Stamford - 12/3 1638 - Calls strong in mix of stations. New. (SC-ON)
- 1410 WDOE NY Dunkirk - 11/20 1545 - "Wind Beneath My Wings" followed by ID: "isn't that great - more music from your hometown station, 1410 WDOE." PSAs for American Education Week and Salvation Army. (MC-NY)
- WRMN IL Elgin - 12/13 0200 - "WRMN/W??? Elgin" dual ID, USA news. New. (JR-NY)
- 1420 WVJS KY Owensboro - 12/13 0130 - 1490/1420 dual ID during NOS program break. (JR-NY)
- 1430 WXNT IN Indianapolis - 12/13 0100 - "News Talk 1430 WXNT", CBS news. New with these calls. (JR-NY)
- 1450 WWSC NY Glens Falls - 11/25 2059 - "WWSC Glens Falls" out of graveyard jumble; mixing with semi-local WCTC. New! (JV-NY)
- 1460 KXNO IA Des Moines - 12/12 0105 - Fox sports, local IDs. (JR-NY)
- 1470 WPDM NY Potsdam - 11/27 0813 - ID. Mention Route 56. "99 Forecast". 22 degrees. Sports at 0815. Mention of NCAA Div 3 Soccer Championship. Appleton Arena and Bob Anfeld sports guy. Weak but clear. (PG-MA)
- WTKO NY Ithaca - 11/27 0817 - ID "WTK Oldies All Day". Mixing with WPDM. (PG-MA)
- WMBD IL Peoria - 12/1 0305 - ABC News. Ad for lottery.com. Weather, male voice ID'd as meteorologist but name not clear. ID "WMBD" followed syndicated Whitney Strebart/Art Bell talk show. (PG-MA)
- WJDY MD Salisbury - 12/4 1450 - Local ads and announcements. New. (SC-ON)
- 1480 WSAR MA Fall River - 12/11 0405 - With news and then local weather and full ID "14-80 WSAR." Then into an ad for the Boys and Girls Club, followed by a few more ads and then back to talk. (BT-NB)
- 1490 WMRN OH Marion - 12/3 TIME? - In heavy co-channel, "The News is next. This is WMRN, Marion Ohio." (DL\*MD)
- 1500 WFIF CT Milford - 12/7 1601 - poor in mess with "WFIF Weather Update" followed by ID "Life Changing Radio, WFIF" into GOS music. Rare. (JF-ON)
- WGHT NJ Pompton Lakes - 12/7 1602 - good with end of a sporting event (State Championships in basketball or football?), ID "North Jersey Radio is WGHT, Pompton Lakes, Paterson, Denison" into Paul Simon tune. New and much wanted! (JF-ON)
- 1520 WTNE NY Mineola - 12/7 1653 - fair over WWKB with ID "New York's first gospel station, WTNE" into GOS music. This one gets out pretty good. (JF-ON)
- 1560 WATJ OH Chardon - 12/8 0724 - Sporting News Radio stuff, commercial for Geauga County Festival of Lights and Mangia Mangia restaurant in Newbury. (NJW-MI)
- WMRO TN Gallatin - 12/7 0707 - On top with ID as "Magic 1560 WMRO" and tune by Bread. (NJW-MI)
- 1570 WPTW OH Piqua - 12/7 1956 - ID: "Miami County's Voice for sports, 1570 WPTW". Another liner mentioned they were running 24 hours a day. (NJW-MI)

### Not sure about renewing?

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## International DX Digest

**Bruce Conti** nrcidx@aol.com  
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Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs.

### Transatlantic DX

- 153 GERMANY DR Donebach DEC 6 0611 - Deep voiced male German news, good signal with Algeria under, also a rumble under, and at 0906 female German news, good signal, no Algeria, also parallel 207 and 756, both poor with MJ beacon interference on 207. [Stromsted-MA]
- 153 ROMANIA SRR Program 1, Brasov DEC 7 0232 - Tentative; male talk host and female caller, fair signal, with Germany faintly under (female classical vocal). This is uncertain, possibly could be Algeria but time and content make it doubtful. Definitely not Norwegian. [Stromsted-MA]
- 162 FRANCE RFI Allouis DEC 6 0913 - French talk, two ladies in a discussion. Also parallel to St. Pierre on 1375.02, a second later both signals excellent, no interference. [Stromsted-MA]
- 171 MOROCCO RMI Nador DEC 6 0620 - Calypso tune with male vocal, loud signal! [Stromsted-MA]
- 183 GERMANY Europe 1, Saarlouis DEC 6 0610 - Female news host and taped interview with male politician. Probably mayor of Grenoble with mention of National assembly, loud signal. [Stromsted-MA] DEC 6 2226 - Strong with tele-talk in French. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 189 ICELAND Ríkisútvarpið, Gufuskálar DEC 6 0711 - Male talk host and female caller, and at 0907 after news, short guitar music interval followed by female/male Icelandic talk. Good signal, some beacon interference. [Stromsted-MA] DEC 7 0038-0040 - Fair with American rock music and man in Icelandic. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 198 ENGLAND BBC Droitwich and others DEC 6 0608 - Male English with BBC news, DIW aero beacon over; weak. [Stromsted-MA]
- 207 GERMANY DLF DR Radio, Aholming DEC 6 0906 - Female German news, signal poor with MJ beacon and other interference, parallel 153. [Stromsted-MA]
- 216 FRANCE RMC Roumoules DEC 6 0607 - Female French talk host and male caller, strong signal, with Luxembourg effect in background (as usual). Strong signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 225 POLAND Polskie Radio, Konstanznow DEC 6 0549 - Polish talk, deep voiced male, poor signal under SZO beacon, and at 0558 female talk host and male caller, poor. 0604 news, fast delivery, male and female presenters, more Polish talk at 0622 redial. [Stromsted-MA]
- 234 LUXEMBOURG Junglinster DEC 6 0910 - Advertisement, French male and female presenters, very fast paced. CW het interference. Good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 243 DENMARK DNK Danmarks Radio Program 1, Kalundborg DEC 6 0704 - Male Danish news, extremely poor signal but news appeared to be parallel 1062 (fair to good). [Stromsted-MA]
- 252 ALGERIA Tapaza DEC 6 0554 - Light Arabic music with vocal, female French DJ, and at 0707 female and male French news anchors, loud signal, no recent evidence of Ireland station, presumed off air. YTF beacon IF nulled. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1521 SAUDI ARABIA BSKSA Duba DEC 8 2155-2159 - Good with apparent radio drama in Arabic parallel to 9555 and 9870 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 1548 KUWAIT R.Sawa, Kuwait City DEC 8 0000-0043 - Fair in both English and Arabic with American pop music and Middle Eastern music. Announcement at 0004 included "Take a moment wherever you are... www.radiosawa... Radio Sawa." [DeLorenzo-MA]

*Erik speaks:* Much better long wave reception lately with booming signals from many of the Western European stations from time to time, the loudest generally RFI France and Europe 1, but sometimes Algeria 153 and Iceland 189 plus Algeria 252. Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 261/270 kHz intense listening yielded no reception for Russia and Czech Republic stations. Heavy beacon interference both frequencies.

### Pan-American DX

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS R.Visión Cristiana Int'l, South Caicos NOV 28 0155 - Religious talk show with halleluiahs by an emotional preacher, loud! Then chorus singing Spanish/Cuban song. No interference, dominant local quality signal louder than adjacent stations on south-east long wire. [Stromsted-MA] DEC 7 0236 - Very good signal with man talking about Jesus Christ as being "lo ultimo salvador" and giv-



- ing the their phone number a few seconds later as 1-973-881-1130. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 535 **GRENADA** GBC St George's NOV 28 0152 - Calypso music, deep base, male vocal, weak signal but clear. + DEC 6 0949 - Trace of audio, male English talk, poor signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 555 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** R. ZIZ, Basseterre NOV 28 0153 - Male Caribbean English accented, into Caribbean music, female caller, talk host chat, more music, female vocal then DJ in/out of music and call-ins. Loud signal. + DEC 6 0948 - Sermon in English, prayer, "Father, we pray." Poor to fair signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 580 **PUERTO RICO** WKAQ *R. Reloj*, San Juan DEC 6 2350-2354 - Good well atop channel with discussion between two men in Spanish and long string of advertisements. IDed with both slogan and "WKAQ" jingle. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 600 **CUBA** *R. Rebelde*, Urbano Noris DEC 7 0212 - Presumed; man in Spanish way under WICC and growl. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 620 **MEXICO** XENK *México DF* DEC 2 0833 - Spanish talk show atop into ad break, finishing with very clear "XENK" call ID, gone to WTMJ soon after. New here. [Loy-IL]
- 640 **VENEZUELA** YVQO *Unión Radio*, Puerto La Cruz NOV 28 0205 - Baseball game in progress, play by play mentioned Caracas and Maracaibo. Dominant signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 650 **COLOMBIA** HJKH RCN *Antena Dos*, Bogotá DEC 7 0052 - Very strong, mixing with semi-nulled WSM; heard a man with a strong voice mentioning Bogotá. The strongest I've heard them yet. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 660 **CUBA** *R. Progreso*, Santa Clara DEC 8 0000-0010+ Fair in mix with WFAN New York and an unID Mexican station, anthem and female making speech, parallel 640. First time here. [Loy-IL]
- 750 **VENEZUELA** YVKS RCR Caracas DEC 7 0139 - Man and woman atop WSB, and at 0314 poor to somewhat fair, mixing with WSB. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 760 **COLOMBIA** HJAJ RCN Barranquilla DEC 7 0128 - Spots, "Radio Succeso RCN" ID; time pips on :30 then the program "Momento Deportivo" continued. Good to fair signal (Chiochiu-QC)
- 1020 **VENEZUELA** YVMX Maracaibo DEC 8 0040+ Rose above graveyard-like mass of Spanish stations in KDKA null with "Radio Calendario" ID out of break. New here. [Loy-IL]

*Erik speaks again:* GBC Grenada 535 on air but signal frequently weak at threshold level but sometimes quite strong peaks. Easy DX listening with limited noise as winter approaches. Also constructing a third long wire beamed east to capture possible African DX.

*Bogdan speaks:* Slightly above average conditions to Latin America produced a solid log of Colombia-650 among others. Another Colombian, the one on 760, is much stronger since a week suggesting a back to normal power (they were very difficult to hear during most of this fall).

#### Contributors

- Bogdan Chiochiu, Pierrefonds (Montreal suburb) QC; Sanyo MCD-S830 with internal ferrite loop. <acq@videotron.ca>
- Marc DeLorenzo, Marstons Mills MA; JRC NRD-525, noise-reduced slopers, Mini DXP-3 phasing unit. <MarstonsMarc@aol.com>
- Eric Loy, Champaign IL; Drake R8, Quantum QX, Realistic TRF. <ecloy@netscape.net>
- Erik Stromsted W1ZBT, Pepperell MA; Yaesu 1000MP, terminated long wires aimed NE (toward Europe) and SE. <microwaveadvances@charter.net>

#### International News

- COSTA RICA:** 530 TIJX *R. Sinfonola*, Cartago, ex-*R. Rumbo*. They relay 90.3 FM. According to a telephone interview, they replaced all programming of R.Rumbo with *R. Sinfonola* from mid-April and they operate from 1000 to 0600. [Tetsuya Hirahara, RNM, who visited San José 12-15 October 2002, via DEC ARC LA Info-Desk]
- CUBA:** 2540.00, *R. Reloj*, Camagüey (harmonic 2 x 1270) NOV 28 0321 - Weak talk and "RR" code ID. [Mark Mohrmann-VT, DEC 2 DX Listening Digest]
- ECUADOR:** HCJB is preparing to test DRM digital radio broadcasting, first on AM and then shortwave. [From various sources, including *Cumbre DX*, *DX Listening Digest*, and *ARC LA Info-Desk*]
- FRANCE:** The TdF transmitter at Antibes Plateaux Fleuris (aka the Nice site), currently carrying *France Info* on 1557 kHz, is to be taken out of service within a few weeks. As soon as the new aerial is erected near Fontbonne (a site that TdF took over two years ago from the now defunct *R. Monte*



*Carlo*), Antibes will cease transmissions and will be dismantled after 67 years of service. Antibes Plateaux Fleuris started broadcasting in 1935, carrying *R. Méditerranée*. During WW2 it was leased to *R. Monte Carlo* until that station had completed a transmitter of its own at Fontbonne, on the slopes of Mont Agel. [Rémy Friess, MWC e-mail news 27.11.2002] This sounds interesting and would make 1560 a little bit easier hi! [Barry Davies, MWC e-mail news 28.11.2002] No, it won't. Fontbonne will take over from Antibes on 1557 kHz as soon as the new mast is operational. There won't be any disruption. [Rémy Friess, MWC e-mail news 28.11.2002] [All via DEC ARC Info-Desk] The real question: Will the new Fontbonne antenna signal reach the US as well as the old Nice site?

- IRAQ:** *Republic of Iraq Radio*, Baghdad, Arabic songs, IDs, and news on 846 and 908.94 kHz. [Dave Kenny and Alan Pennington, Sheigra DXpedition Report, MWC DEC *Medium Wave News*]
- IRELAND:** From Radiowaves NATIONAL; An RTÉ spokeswoman has told the *Meath Chronicle* that they intend to use the former *Atlantic (TeamTalk) 252* mast to broadcast their four main radio stations across Ireland and into the United Kingdom. If it happens, this will make RTÉ Radio 1, 2FM, Lyric FM and Radio na Gaeltachta available in parts of the country where the current signal is not up to standard. However, no final decision has yet been made and the facility may still be leased out in the future [Mike Terry, DEC 8 *DX Listening Digest*]

Don't forget to monitor Ginnie Lupi's *Frequency of the Week* for IDXD. 73 and Good DX!

## Connecticut Radio Legend Bob Steele Dies At 91

from *The Hartford Courant*

Bob Steele, perhaps the best-known voice in Connecticut through the better part of a century on radio station WTIC, died this morning [December 6] at the age of 91.

His family said Steele died in his sleep and was feeling fine only Thursday.

Steele, whose full name was Robert Lee Steele, built a huge radio audience on a blend of erudition, impeccable pronunciation, flawless timing, and some of the corniest jokes known to mankind.

To hundreds of thousands of Connecticut residents - and hundreds of thousands of others outside the state - Steele became almost like a member of the family with his recipe for scrambled eggs, word of the day, bad predictions and comments about fictitious relatives such as his Uncle Stainless and Cousin Tubular. In a business where performers can quickly fade, Steele was truly phenomenal, continuing on year after year, decade after decade, always finding an audience.

In the early 80s, his share of the Hartford area morning radio market was between 35 percent and 40 percent.

People who never knew Steele personally addressed him by name as an old friend.

He commented on this once, after he had been in radio for four decades. "After 40 years at 50,000 watts, you can't not be recognized," he said.

But it was more than that. To a large percentage of people in central Connecticut, he was a friend. He was the person who got people out of bed in the morning with his frequent announcements of the time, and who then shared his own morning, confessed his weight and elicited chuck-

les, or groans, with his jokes - which he so obviously relished himself.

Steele might chide a person for making an error in grammar, or pronunciation, but his humor was gentle. It didn't hurt anyone, and perhaps this was part of the secret of his longevity in the radio business.

Some examples:

"Where I live in Wethersfield, we have a scientist who's active in genetics. He crossed a praying mantis with a termite. Got a bug that says grace before eating your house."

In 1978, Steele was given a roast. "I trained for it for several weeks by attending a lot of warm-up banquets," he said.

What did the "L" in Robert L. Steele stand for? "Elmer," he would say.

Steele was hired by WTIC, the biggest radio station in town, at \$35 a week. On Oct. 1, 1936, he reported to work at the radio station, and started a long career.

His 50th anniversary with the radio station was marked with a book titled "Bob Steele's 50th Anniversary: An Affectionate Memoir."

In the book published by Spoonwood Press Ltd., authors Jane Moskowitz and Jane Gillard of the Storrs section of Mansfield collected fan letters, famous one-liners and background information including photographs and some of Steele's own cartoons.

This year, Steele and his son, Phil Steele, released the book "The Word for the Day: 65 Years of Wit and Wisdom on Mispronunciation," published by Connecticut River Press in Newington.

## **Long Beach Island, New Jersey DXpedition 2002**

**edited by Rick Keneally**

**Rick:**

It started back in March when Dave Hochfelder suggested that a bunch of Northern New Jersey DXers should get together on Long Beach Island (LBI) for a DXpedition. Though not in NJ, I asked to join the fun if/when such an event took place.

In October, Bob Galerstein got the whole thing moving by inviting interested DXers to his house for a DXpedition planning barbecue. Bob then researched possible DX locations and accommodations, and selected the Drifting Sands Motel in Shipbottom as the official LBI DX Inn. We originally planned for November 9, but I had to cancel that date due to personal issues. The group was very supportive and accommodating, and rescheduled to November 23. The final attendee list was Bob Galerstein, Russ Edmunds, David Hochfelder and myself.

As the date approached, weather began to look like a problem for the target weekend as a Nor'easter was blowing thru. Rain and high winds were forecasted. And a day before the expedition, the driver's side window on my car failed and dropped open. I feared it would be a cold, wet drive to New Jersey. Fortunately the rain subsided, and liberal amounts of duct tape kept the window closed.

I got up early on Saturday and drove to Long Beach Island, logging TIS stations all the way. When I arrived at the DX Inn, residual winds left over from the storm were whipping 30mph gusts across the sand. I stretched out the "North" wire about 1400' at about 40 degrees pointed directly at central Europe. This wire (18 gauge stranded copper) ran on the ground just down-slope from the dune fence. In the interest of dune preservation, I avoided walking against the fence and stayed down on the flat sand as much as possible. Since this wire crossed several beach access paths for both pedestrians & cars, I had to bury the wire across the paths.

By now it was warming up, and I was getting hot & hungry for lunch. Returning to the DX Inn, I started to head out to lunch when I realized my indoor glasses had fallen out of my pocket on the beach. Not relishing a night of DXing wearing prescription sunglasses, I retraced 1400' of Beverage. The glasses were miraculously intact, peeking out of rapidly drifting sand in the middle of one of the beach access roads.

After lunch came the "South" wire, which ran 1000' down the beach in the other direction and pointed at southern Mexico. I didn't have a ground rod for this wire, so I played out some radials and buried them under the sand. Russ Edmunds arrived as I was wiring up the transformers. Between us we stretched out one more short wire as a "noise" wire for phasing, ran all 3 coax feedlines from the room to the Beverages, attempted (and failed) to tune the variable terminator on the North wire, and began hooking up the equipment in the room.

Russ brought along his monster Hammarlund DX-150 and his 2-foot box loop. While not the most portable setup ever, it is a heck of a conversation starter. Unfortunately, problems with the 150, and the fear that it would collapse the table, meant that the big boatanchor sat on the sidelines.

Dave Hochfelder showed up around 3:00 carrying the all-important card table that was to hold much of our equipment (and also carrying the all-important liquid refreshments that would power the evening). So we quickly hooked up the remaining gear and set to DXing. We were well into it when Bob arrived at 5:00, running on about 3 hours sleep and toting his Drake R8B.

The logs tell the story of what we heard. Loggings were accompanied by pizza and beer and discussion and stories. This was my first face-to-face "shared DXing" experience, and it was an exciting and memorable evening. All in all, it was a great event. The lack of TA's or Brazilians didn't detract from the fun. I'm just sorry that several of the original group couldn't make it, and hope to meet them at a future event.

Finally, a big thanks to Bob for arranging the affair.

**Bob:**

After reading about the many DX-peditors in *DX News*, I've long coveted the opportunity to experience a beverage on the beach. Such lines as Mark Connelly's "a salad bar of South Americans" from Newfoundland or Bruce Conti's "VOA-Kuwait S-30 and obliterating the domestics" had me longing for what we finally did the third weekend in November. While our one day LBI experience was more an appetizer than a Newfoundland main course, the DX palate has been whetted for future radio trips to LBI.

I'm quite familiar with LBI, having done the summertime bachelor thing with my buddies. (Still do.) This past August and September, I scouted a few hotels, and found what, ergonomically, was the

best motel on LBI for stringing beverages. Our DX Inn was just off the causeway, and the oceanfront DX room had a balcony that overlooked a sand dune. Very easy access to the beach. Rick, Dave and Russ all arrived early Saturday afternoon and did the "fun" part of setting up both wires. I would have liked to experience setting up a beverage (really guys!), but work commitments, and the subsequent traffic out of Manhattan, prevented me from getting there till 6pm.

I work as an anchor for one of the NYC radio stations, and subsequently told the guys that I hope I wasn't splattering over some early TA arrival. As it turned out, I didn't have to worry. As soon as I walked in the door, Russ blurted out, "The TA signals are dead." Mind you, these were Russ' first words before "hello"; we last saw each other at Bob Foxworth's 1976 BBQ. Ah, the priorities of DX'ers. Within five minutes my Drake was hooked up, and my first team DX experience was an immediate frenzy of such things as "Caribbean accent on 810!" All four of us would tune there and figure out that ZNS-3 was parallel to 1540, both blasting in. It is certainly a different DX strata to have Jamaica 700 and 720 go from "pest" to "pain" status within an hour. All the while, it was a pleasure learning little tips and observing the extensive DX knowledge of the rest of the team.

The DX highlight was the armchair reception, for quite a while, of Radio Reforma from Panama. When the clear ID was heard, we collectively cheered. Except Russ. His reasoning, more or less, "When you've already logged 100 countries...." (Sorry Russ, couldn't resist relaying that one.)

Another thing I remember reading in Mark Connelly's extensive Newfie reviews was his description of some "succulent" seafood dish at a local restaurant. Somehow, the LBI pizza was not the gourmet equivalent, but to starving DX'ers eating over their radios, it hit the spot. As did Dave's DAB beer.

The next day, after Rick and Russ brought in the wires, Dave and I ventured out to retrieve the Euro wire ground rod. After lying on the sand and digging with a fervour that would have made a child jealous, the rod wouldn't move. Even with Rick and Russ coming over to try. So, Dave went to his car and came back with what he uses for an emergency snow shovel. This was not a full-fledged snow shovel; rather, it looked more like a glorified beach shovel for a kid. After digging about five feet down, the rod rotated, but still could not be liberated from the sand. We concluded that it must have latched onto some piece of driftwood, so Rick and Dave proceeded to hammer it further into the ground. Then came Russ' comment of the weekend, something on the order of, "Wait till someone next summer runs a metal detector over this one!" While it won't be a buried treasure for some coin collector, our DX experience was priceless.

**Dave:**

I arrived later than I had planned, around 3:30 on Saturday. By the time I arrived, Russ and Rick had everything set up, including two longwires, one pointed toward Europe and the other toward Mexico and Central America. Rick also brought three rigs, an R8B and two ICF-2010's for spares or for other DXers. Russ brought his boatanchor and box loop, but opted to use one of Rick's '2010s. Rick also brought other necessary equipment, like antenna switches and splitters for all four of us. All I had available to bring was my '2010 and Quantum Loop. Thanks to Rick's splitters and switches, all four of us had access to both longwires.

Unfortunately, because of poor propagation conditions and poor grounding on the north longwire, the only TA we heard was Mauritania on 783. The south wire, pointed to Mexico and Central America, worked great though. The Cubans on 660 and 710 were sometimes stronger than the New York locals on the same channels. The Bahamas on 810 and 1540 were very good copy, and the Jamaicans on 700 and 720 were quite good also. The highlight of the evening for all of us was R. Reforma, Panama, on 860. I was very impressed with the directionality of the longwire, so I'll have to win the lottery and buy a huge tract of land.

We all turned in around 1:00 AM, and Bob and I slept till about 9:30, when Russ called us to get us to remove the last ground rod from the end of the north wire. Russ and Rick had been up for awhile and were pretty perky, but I need a couple cups of coffee to feel human. So a very groggy Bob and I went out to retrieve the ground rod. We dug and dug and dug, but it didn't budge. I went to get a plastic shovel my wife keeps in the car for snow removal, and we dug and dug some more. By this time, Russ and Rick came out to see what the holdup was. So there were now four of us tugging at the rod, and a few passers-by came over to ask us what we were doing. We wound up deciding that removing it was impossible, or at least very tiring, so we pounded it down about three feet below the surface and filled in the hole. The copper rod will no doubt be spectacular "DX" for some poor beach-comber with metal detector!

**Russ:**

It had been a long time since I'd last had the opportunity for even a mini-Dxpedition, and an equally long time since I'd had the opportunity to use a beverage antenna, so I had been eagerly awaiting this. Fortunately, the weather broke for us, and although the auroral conditions pretty much killed our TA

prospects, a number of unusual Southeastern domestic and Latin stations were heard. This was also my first chance to work with one of Rick's Sony 2010's, and it is a very impressive receiver. Although I had brought along my backup Hammarlund HQ-150 and 2-foot loop, these were little used, as they were set up in my room for demo - there wasn't enough room to pack those into the radio room. As it happened, I really was glad to have the 2010's instant-entry digital tuning capabilities. One small casualty of the trip - the power switch on the 150 gave out Sunday morning, so I'll have to replace it.

Had we had a few hundred feet of untrafficked beach to lay out a mini-BOG toward eastern South America, I believe we would have heard some Brazilians, and certainly more Venezuelans, however with the 'South' wire running at about 220 degrees, that wasn't to be. I had almost forgotten the extra enjoyment the hobby brings when DX'ing with a group! I'm already awaiting the next trip, hopefully with better conditions, a Brazilian wire, and perhaps more hands on deck as well.

#### Foreign Loggings:

- 530 **TURKS & CAICOS** R. Vision Cristiana, South Caicos - 11/23 1940 - Alone and huge on frequency with Spanish preacher thanking the town of Floral Park, NJ, and rolling his R's dramatically.
- 540 **MEXICO** "W" Radio, XEWA, San Luis Potosi - 11/24 0010 - SS talk, // 900
- 555 **ST. KITTS** ZIZ, Basseterre - 11/24 0108 - Heavily-accented English local events announcements
- 570 **CUBA** R. Reloj - 11/23 2010 - Strong time pips and some talk under WMCA.
- 580 **CUBA** R. Rebelde, Guantanamo - 11/23 2230 - // 600; chimes at bottom of hour
- 600 **CUBA** R. Rebelde - 11/23 2230 - // 580; chimes at bottom of hour
- 660 **CUBA** R. Progreso, Santa Clara - 11/23 1922 - Good with woman talking and a cappella signing. Parallel to 890.
- 660 **CUBA** R. Progreso, Santa Clara - 11/23 2300 - sometimes dominant over WFAN; // 890
- 680 **CUBA** R. Rebelde, Ciego de Avila - 11/23 2022 - SS Talk, Radio Rebelde voice ID
- 690 **MEXICO** XEMA, La Madre de Todas - 11/24 0025 - Huge signal with man giving "XEMA" calls, mention of "poder", and accordian music.
- 700 **JAMAICA** RJR, Kingston - 11/23 1815 - Heavily-accented English, apparently reading a listing of funerals and burials - parallel 720. Slightly low on frequency. Much stronger later in the night.
- 710 **CUBA** R. Rebelde - 11/24 0016 - R. Rebelde 9-note chimes heard // 580,600
- 720 **JAMAICA** RJR, Montego Bay - 11/23 1815 - Fair in parallel to 700. Like 700, slightly low on the frequency.
- 730 **COLOMBIA** Cadena Melodia, HJCU, Bogota - 11/23 2200 - Under Mexico with slow music, top of hour ID then into news.
- 740 **CUBA** R. Progreso, Camaguay - 11/23 2024 - SS Talk, R. Progreso ID
- 760 **CUBA** R. Reloj, Caney de las Mercedes - 11/23 2110 - "RR" in Morse.
- 783 **MAURETANIA** R. Mauretanie, Nouakchott - 11/23 2136 - Talk, abrupt break then chanting. Clearly // 4845 kHz.
- 800 **NETHERLAND ANTILLES** Trans World Radio, PJB, Bonaire - 11/23 2000 - Weird French-like language earlier in evening, then shifting to Spanish. Radio Transmundial ID at top of hour. Good signal.
- 810 **BAHAMAS** ZNS3, Freeport - 11/23 1910 - Slightly-accented ad for air fare to Cuba starting at \$199. Parallel to 1540.
- 840 **HAITI** R. 4VEH, Cap Haitien - 11/23 1905 - Very good with very Latin-sounding trumpet music and very French talk between songs.
- 860 **PANAMA** R. Reforma, HOL55, Chitre - 11/23 1954 - Possibly the highlight of the night. Dominating the frequency with man talking fast, listing many names, rolling his R's, and repeatedly mentioning "Radio Reforma". Regretted tuning away from this to look for other stations - it was so much fun to hear.
- 890 **CUBA** R. Progreso, Santiago de Cuba - 11/23 1922 - Same music as on 660, but monster signal - completely alone.
- 890 **CUBA** R. Progreso, Chambas - 11/23 2300 - // 660
- 900 **MEXICO** "W" Radio, XEW & XEWB, Mexico - 11/24 0012 - Clear "R. Doble U" mention; network echo is presumably also XEWB on same channel.
- 900 **CUBA** R. Progreso - 11/23 1923 - Same woman as on 890 - fair signal.
- 940 **CUBA** R. Reloj - 11/23 2029 - SS talk, Radio Reloj 'RR' code ID
- 950 **CUBA** R. Reloj, Habana - 11/23 2155 - SS talk, Radio Reloj 'RR' code ID
- 960 **CUBA** R. Reloj - 11/23 2203 - SS talk, Radio Reloj 'RR' code ID
- 960 **COLOMBIA** UnID - 11/23 2025 - Someone in parallel to 980 RCN.

- 980 **COLOMBIA** RCN, HJES, Cali - 11/23 2025 - Distinctive music with concertinas // 960
- 1000 **COLOMBIA** RCN, HJAJ, Cartegena - 11/23 1945 - Slow talk by man, mentions of "RCN". Another Latin underneath.
- 1020 **VENEZUELA** R. Alegria, YVTW, Chivacoa - 11/23 2200 - In mush with long song-type jingle with many Radio Alegria mentions.
- 1060 **MEXICO** R. Educacion, XEEP, Mexico - 11/24 0100 - Jazz music, mostly segued, ID as R. Educacion
- 1080 **VENEZUELA** R. Barcelona, YVQJ, Barcelona - 11/23 1900 - Under Cuba and in partial phase null of WTIC - with weak but clear "R. Barcelona" ID and much talk.
- 1080 **CUBA** Cadena Habana, Habana - 11/23 1900 - Big signal, good ID, but lousy audio - drama program
- 1180 **CUBA** R. Rebelde - 11/23 1755 - Very strong with R. Rebelde programs and distinctive 9-note theme.
- 1210 **CUBA** R. Sancti Spiritus, Sancti Spiritus - 11/23 2322 - Break in flute music, woman talking mentioning "Sancti Spiritus" - good signal under WPHT.
- 1540 **BAHAMAS** ZNS1, Nassau - 11/23 1912 - Monster signal with loud, echo-produced preacher. Parallel to 810.

#### Domestic Loggings:

- 550 **WDUN** GA Gainesville - 11/23 2339 - ESPN Network & local ID
- 560 **WQAM** FL Miami - 11/23 2015 - U of Miami Basketball, network and local ID
- 580 **WBIL** AL Tuskegee - 11/23 2332 - Rhythm/Dance/Soul format, amateur DJ's, many segued songs, "Saturday Nights are Hot" slogan, "Renegade Disco" slogan, finally an ID
- 580 **WGAC** GA Augusta - 11/23 2334 - News, "Newstalk 580 WGAC"
- 600 **WBWL** FL Jacksonville - 11/23 2231 - Sporting News Radio, "The Ball" slogan
- 600 **WSJS** NC Winston-Salem - 11/23 2230 - Mixing with Cuba and WICC with calls and "Newstalk" slogan.
- 610 **WIOD** FL Miami - 11/23 2017 - Sports scores, promo for coverage of "War on Terrorism", ID.
- 680 **WCNN** GA Atlanta - 11/23 2348 - Sports, GA ads
- 690 **WTIX** LA New Orleans - 11/23 1750 - Beautiful signal with spot for Tulane football and Louisiana-accented "WTIX New Orleans" ID.
- 720 **WGCR** NC Pisgah Forest - 11/23 1730 - Full signoff mentioning Anchor Baptist Church and ending with National Anthem.
- 720 **WGSE** GA Hogansville - 11/23 1735 - Local ad, ID: "NewsRadio 720, WGSE"
- 730 **WSCC** SC Charleston - 11/23 1725 - Local ads, "WSC News"
- 730 **WLIL** TN Lenoir City - 11/23 2238 - good; call ID.
- 740 **WQTM** FL Orlando - 11/23 1810 - Sports scores, commentary, ID
- 760 **WLCC** FL Brandon - 11/23 1745 - Spanish music, brief call ID in English
- 780 **WWOL** NC Forest City - 11/23 1715 - Good with full signoff.
- 780 **WCKB** NC Dunn - 11/23 1722 - Local ads, promo, ID, then abruptly disappeared
- 790 **WQXI** GA Atlanta - 11/23 1720 - Good with Atlanta Thrashers promo and "WQXI The Zone" ID.
- 790 **WTSK** AL Tuscaloosa - 11/23 2054 - Good with funky song, clear "WTSK 7-90" then DJ named Karen Clark in the "Praise Party". Hip hop gospel.
- 800 **WPLK** FL Palatka - 11/23 1717 - With NC State vs. Florida State FB. ID for WPLK and mention of FSU network, ad for business in Tallahassee. Good again later at 1950 with recorded "Magic 800 WPLK" ID by man then NOS music.
- 830 **WTRU** NC Kernersville - 11/23 1740 - Local events calendar, ad
- 850 **WDJC** AL Birmingham - 11/23 1728 - Huge signal with solid ID.
- 850 **WTAR** VA Norfolk - 11/23 1835 - Sports and ID
- 910 **WFVR** GA Valdosta - 11/23 2205 - Florida Travellers Info Radio - many Disney promos
- 930 **WFXJ** FL Jacksonville - 11/23 2058 - Fox Sports Net program promo, local ad
- 940 **WMAC** GA Macon - 11/23 2032 - Carrying Mercer vs. Elon college basketball, ad for Medical Center of Central GA, ID
- 990 **WDYZ** FL Orlando - 11/23 2208 - Radio Disney
- 1010 **CFRB** ON Toronto - 11/23 2028 - Under 1010 WINS with news // 6070. An oddity on an otherwise auroral night.
- 1040 **WSGHp** NC Lewisville - 11/23 2040 - Presumed this was the very loud station carrying the "Que Pasa" show and giving "La Raza" IDs.

- 20  
1060 WIXC FL Titusville - 11/23 2007 - Sports, local ads for Melbourne & Orlando, ID  
1070 WKII FL Solana - 11/23 2052 - Elvis tune, then ID: "WKII Solana"  
1160 WYRU NC Red Springs - 11/23 1910 - Good in phase null of semi-local WOBN with full ID by man and gospel music - 250 watts at this time.  
1160 WAMB TN Donelson - 11/23 2140 - Weak in phase null of WOBN with local weather and clear ID.  
1220 WFWL TN Camden - 11/23 2300 - C&W music, ABC news, mentions of Nashville and area code 615.  
1260 WSUAt FL Miami - 11/23 2322 - Spanish talk, mention of Miami  
1520 KRHW MO Sikeston - 11/23 2043 - Great with "... weekdays at 11:20 on 15-20 KRHW". They stayed on and audible through midnight.  
1630 WRDW GA Augusta - 11/23 1635 - Good at 4:30 in the afternoon with sports program and ad for Testosterol. Mixing with TIS from JFK airport in NYC. Wicked high-band local static picked up on antennas - was nullable with phaser.
- TIS Loggings (made on the drive to LBI):**
- 530 WPML750 CT Stamford - 11/23 0640 - Several stations all along I-95 with traffic info from CT Dept of Trans.  
530 WNYG610 NY Spring Valley? - 11/24 1358 - One of many traffic stations serving Rockland County and the Tappan Zee Bridge on 530. Replaced in Connecticut by the WPML750 stations.  
1610 WPAS758 NJ Exit 13A - 11/23 0750 - New Jersey Turnpike Authority station at interchange 13A - struggling against WWRL slop.  
1610 WPFQ441 NJ Woodbridge - 11/23 0820 - NJ Turnpike station at Interchange 11 in Woodbridge. Calls and ID given by a woman.  
1610 WQO799 NJ Wall Township - 11/23 0839 - Owned & operated by Garden State Parkway giving upcoming construction info. Man's voice, not loud. Very near mile marker 99, and audible for 20+ miles in either direction.  
1610 WPIR381 NJ Pleasantville - 11/23 0920 - Atlantic City Visitor's information station with info on new convention center. Woman's voice gave call letters "WPIR".  
1610 WPIJ668 NJ Union Beach - 11/24 1205 - Office of Emergency Management for Union Beach info station - heard only briefly. Announcements by very soft-voiced man. Did give calls. Mixing with NJTP station.  
1620 WNNW396 NJ North Arlington - 11/23 0730 - Emergency broadcast station for boro of North Arlington. Usual info on what to do in case of flooding.  
1620 WPTU717 NJ Ocean City - 11/23 2133 - Good signal along the coast. Operated by the Ocean City Office of Emergency Management. Gave info on emergency procedures. No calls given. Had problem with their NOAA weather feed which meant they broadcast several minutes of hash during each loop.  
1620 Unid NJ - 11/24 1222 - Station heard only briefly on my drive back up the Garden State Parkway - near the Cheesapeake service area. Religios programming in what sounded like Hebrew. Quickly overtaken by Radio Vencedor.  
1620 R. Vencedor NJ Linden? - 11/24 1255 - Very strong Spanish religious station broadcasting a local church service. Decent audio and professionally produced "Radio Vencedor" ID and liners at the top of the hour.  
1630 WPQJ970 NJ North Plainfield - 11/23 0756 - Office of Emergency Management station for the Borough of North Plainfield emergency management station. Also carried NOAA weather from NYC. No calls given.  
1630 KNAA585 NY Jamaica, Queens - 11/23 0825 - JFK Airport TIS carrying very far into New Jersey across the marshlands. Usual JFK terminal, parking and construction info.  
1640 WPLT248 NY Bronx - 11/23 0645 - Very good signal with information on construction projects on Bronx highways.  
1640 WPVN442 NJ Brigantine - 11/23 0911 - City of Brigantine Beach holiday events, chamber of commerce info, etc. Became audible only along the coast.  
1640 NY Rockland Co. - 11/24 1401 - Heard the usual set of synchronized stations serving all of Rockland County with local information, emergency instructions, etc. Lot's of current event information given. These are not in the FCC database.  
1680 WPUG603 NJ Secaucus - 11/23 0743 - New Jersey Turnpike Authority station at the Alexander Hamilton Service Area. Interesting that they would put a TIS on

this frequency, as the 1680 station in Princeton kills it.

- 1690 NY Bronx - 11/23 0715 - Bronx Zoo "Channel 1690" information station describing parking and exhibits. Only audible for a short distance. No calls.  
1690 WQO256 NY Queens - 11/23 0830 - Queens construction info, similar to the 1640 station in the Bronx. Also carried very well into New Jersey.  
1700 WPSK807 NJ Clark - 11/23 0754 - Information from the Office of Emergency Management for the Township of Clark. Some long silent periods in the tape loop, info on public safety, and NOAA weather in a woman's voice. Calls given.  
1700 KNAA585 NY Jamaica, Queens - 11/23 0832 - Second KNAA585 at JFK (according to FCC database), but carrying special info about holiday travel. No calls given.

## U.S. radio station bucks the trend by playing only local music

from the Canadian Press, via Brian Smith and Perry Crabill

RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP) -- The compact discs come to Steve Bass on a kind of musical underground railroad, slipped under the door of his radio station or passed from a friend to a friend.

Bass is more than happy to air the tracks. It's the mission of WBZB-AM -- perhaps alone in the country -- to play nothing but local music. Radio consultants say they know of no other station foolhardy enough to try it.

As station owner, Bass just wishes that groups like Bandway, the Belmont Playboys, Bigun Mother Nature, Bluesville and Celtic Jam would include a phone number or address where they can be reached.

"We can't find these guys," reads WBZB's Web site beside each band's name and a picture of their CD. "Can someone help us? They gave us a great CD and disappeared."

"We have a lot of stuff that's really good music, but it was slipped under the door," said Bass, who's also general manager of the 1,000-watt station with offices in the small town of Garner, near Raleigh.

"We get a lot of 'a friend of a friend asked me to give this

to you, and his name is Gary something,' " Bass said with a sigh. "However, we're not allowing those issues to restrict whether we play the music."

**If we like it, it goes on the air**

There are two restrictions on the music WBZB plays: It's got to be local (and that's loosely defined, with South Carolina and Virginia bands making their way onto the airwaves); and it's got to pass the taste test of WBZB employees, which basically means someone at the station likes the music.

"It's hard to judge what's going to get on the air and what's not," said Ben Alexander, WBZB's station manager. "The employees sit around and listen to CDs. If we like it, if it sounds like quality music, then it goes on the air. There's nothing else influencing it."

Krystal Ely, of Goldsboro, N.C., sings at radio station WBZB-AM. That means heavy metal, country, jazz and R&B all can get airtime, in a lineup the station

calls "genre hopping." The station gets about 20 CD submissions a week, of which about 95 percent get at least one track aired; most get two or three tracks.

For a musician, little is more fulfilling than hearing your song on the radio, said Rod Abernethy, a guitarist for Arrogance, which ruled the North Carolina rock scene in the 1970s and early '80s.

"It's one of the best things a band or musician can have, to



WBZB's Steve Bass plays music that comes only from local artists.



Artist Krystal Ely performs live on WBZB.

22 have his music played on the radio -- other than playing in clubs," said Abernethy, who dropped off some Arrogance CDs at the station this summer.

WBZB went on the air July 15, a year and a half after the Federal Communications Commission approved its license. Per that license, it broadcasts only from sunup to sundown.

Its signal is so weak the station can be picked up in the car only in a small area because power lines interfere with it. It can only be heard in parts of Raleigh, but it broadcasts on the Web, and Alexander said he has e-mails from listeners in Holland and New Zealand as well as sites closer to home.

Musician Mojo Collins of Wilmington wrote: "Rock on, brothers. It's so cool to have someone like you doing this for indie acts."

Bass has filed a petition with the FCC to move the station to the band between 1610 and 1710 AM, which would shift it to 10,000 watts in the daytime and allow it to broadcast 24 hours a day.

#### Radio dominated by big corporations

WBZB is the antithesis of a national trend toward radio homogenization, including syndicated disc jockeys and sound-alike formats that let marketers promise businesses that their ad will air every day, say, at 4 p.m. just after Phil Collins' "Sussudio."

Local artists pay tribute to WBZB. The reason for the sound-alike formats is the Telecommunications Act of 1996, which deregulated station ownership. Before that, ownership was capped at 40 stations nationally and four in any market, two AM and two FM. Now, San Antonio-based Clear Channel, the industry leader, owns 1,200 stations across the country.

Even though Arbitron ratings show listeners tune in less since the change -- an average of 23 hours per week with the radio in 1993 compared to 20.5 hours in 2001 -- one radio consultant ranks WBZB's chances of survival at "one in a billion."

A low wattage station on the AM band has enough handicaps. In addition, few people are interested in unknown, unfamiliar, local music, said Jon Coleman, president of Coleman Research, a radio-program consulting company based outside Raleigh.

"If you want to know if they're going to make it, I guess it depends on your definition of making it," he said. "In terms of typical radio success of garnering an audience from a ratings standpoint, I'd say there's no prayer. Maybe there's some economic viability in some other way, but I'd say that's pretty slim."

The station isn't paying its bills yet, said Alexander, the station manager, but it's getting closer. Besides, "we're having fun," he said.

#### We're a lot more than a radio station

Bass has no patience for naysayers, mainly because he views the radio station as merely the jumping-off point in his grand plan to turn Raleigh into a music mecca like Seattle or Austin, Texas.

The station hopes to expand into Web commerce, and employees have discussed making custom CDs. Alexander said there are plans to open a store stocked with CDs and T-shirts.

"We're a lot more than a radio station trying to sell ads and survive," Bass said.

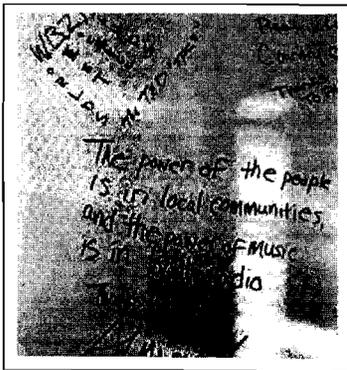
The promotion of bands and clubs is "our ace in the hole to help us last longer than the average radio property," Bass said. "And you have to start somewhere."

He got his start when the owner of a license for an AM station outside of Raleigh retired and agreed to sell the license to Bass. Bass owns a studio as well as a company that sells audio equipment, BME (for Bass Music Enterprises), and works with several area bands.

"All of these people we had been doing business with all these years, they never had a voice or any input in a radio station that played their material," he said.

Abernethy called the station a gift for local musicians. Asked to describe his reaction to hearing his music on the radio, he covers the phone and yells to his teenage daughter, Sara, for the name of a movie, then comes back to the phone.

"Do you remember that scene in 'That Thing You Do' where The Wonders hear their song on the radio and they're running up and down the street, screaming, shouting?" he asked. "That's what it's like."



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## Musings of the Members

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

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

#### RICK DAU - 13312 Westwood Lane - Omaha, NE 68144-3543

Hello to all in the NRC. It was very sad to hear about the demise of KKSU-580. Through lots of splatter from KOMJ-590, I was able to listen to some of KKSU's final broadcast on the afternoon of November 27nd, most of which chronicled the history of KKSU and its predecessor, KSAC. Very fascinating. But perhaps sadder still is WNAX-570's decision to drop C&W music from its programming during the weekday afternoons and evenings, opting to go with talk programs from Clark Howard, Bill O'Reilly, Art Bell, and the like. Just what we need in the Midwest, yet another station with an expansive daytime signal that has to go and drop music. Fortunately, KWMT-540 has the good sense to stay with C&W, and their Saturday morning C&W oldies program, where they "go back and play it like it was", is especially enjoyed by Ernie W. and myself. We've noticed here in recent months that WDAF-610's daytime signal isn't nearly as strong here as it once was; we're thinking that WDAF may be having transmitter problems. It's been a very active 2002 for me at the dials. My total heard here on Feb. 5th was 426. On August 20th, it stood at 556. As of today (Dec. 11th), it sits at 711, with no stopping in sight before the end of the season in March. Just want to close by wishing all of you the very happiest of holiday seasons. 73 from Big Red Country.

#### CRAIG HEALY - Providence, RI

A while ago Dave asked about the VCR DX Recorder. That started as an April Fool piece by someone else. As I read it, I thought that it might actually work. By amplifying the antenna signal to a half volt or so, and adding a 1v 60Hz AC signal to serve as a sync signal, it did work when applied to the video input. It was possible to record a fair bit of the AM band for later playback. Due to the noise of the recorder, weak signal work wasn't practical. The recorded signal also wasn't very stable in frequency. USB or LSB mode wasn't possible. It was, however, useable over about a quarter of the AM band. Maybe the newer VCRs would have better results. Up until recently I had sent a twice daily WWV report to the am@nrcdxas.org list server. Unfortunately, the list server wrongly added my ISP as a spammer and unilaterally blocked all my posts, so no more WWV report. Fred tried, but was unable to fix it. Since I was blocked from the list I put the report temporarily at: <http://www.wrrib.com/www.htm> and is updated hourly. Before the first of January, the report will be again be available on a list. Soon you will be able to subscribe to a new list at am@am-dx.com and get the same WWV information with the Trends history. I hope to add other useful info to the list, and an associated web site. I'll announce when it's operational. Best Holiday Season to all, and good listening! (Note from the publisher: according to Fred, the ISP problem was with Craig's ISP, which is why Fred couldn't "fix" it - pls.)

#### DAVE SCHMIDT - P O Box 3111 - Scranton, PA 18505

We have on hand a response to Cesar's report a few issues back from GORDON ANDERSON that we'll feature in the next issue of Musings, in 2 weeks! Happy Holidays to all!

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