

DX News

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Volume 70, No. 15 - January 20, 2003 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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CPC Test Calendar

| | | | |
|------|---------|----------|-----------|
| WBMJ | PR 1190 | Feb. 1/2 | 2300-0100 |
| WIVV | PR 1370 | Feb. 1/2 | 2300-0100 |

From the Publisher ... It may be a little chilly where you are, but now's the time to start planning ahead, and I'm not just talking about getting a highlighter out and thumbing through the seed catalogs, either! The NRC convention is shaping up nicely for the Dallas area over Labor Day weekend, and if you have time to plan two vacations during the summer, check out this information about the IRCA convention.

IRCA convention ... from Mike Sanburn: "The 40th annual IRCA convention will be held on June 27-29 at the Best Western Merry Manor Inn, 700 Main street, South Portland Maine, 04106. Phone number for reservations is 207-774-6151 (mention the IRCA convention rate of \$69 per night.) We will have the usual events including business meeting, station tours, auction, banquet, etc. All members or radio fans are welcome. Registration fee will be the usual \$35 (payable to Mike Sanburn) This covers meeting room rental, banquet, refreshments, etc. The hotel can be viewed at www.seenewengland.com/merrymanor; tourist info can be found at www.visitportland.com. Specific questions can be directed to me at mikesanburn@hotmail.com. Mike Sanburn KG6LJU.P.O. Box 1256 - Bellflower, CA 90707-1256.

LBI Expedition again? A second DXpedition to Long Beach Island, J, is being planned for this DX season, and organizer Russ Edmunds wants to invite those interested in joining the group to contact them in advance so that they can be sure to get them info on dates, locales, etc. in time for them to make reservations. For more information, contact Russ at wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org or 753 Valley Rd. - Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052.

Kulpsville ... We see in NASWA's fine publication *The NASWA Journal* that the 16th Annual Winter SWL Fest will return to the Best Western Inn at Towamencin in Kulpsville, PA on March 7-8. For more information on registration fees (there are at

least 12 different rates) and hotel rates see <<www.swlfest.com>> or send a #10 SASE to SWL Winterfest - P.O. Box 4153 - Clifton, Park, NY 12065. Previous NRC reps to this convention are apparently scheduled elsewhere this weekend, so anyone who is interested in attending and representing the NRC (that means sitting at a table and handing out DXN's and perhaps selling NRC publications), please contact Ken Chatterton (address and phone number on back page).

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 70

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

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the January 17, 1953 DXN: Norm Maguire, Albuquerque, NM, mused that his best catches so far this season, excluding Japanese stations, were ZBM-1235 on 12/15, YVMF-1120 on 12/29, Yss-645 on 12/30, and TIW-755 on 1/1. Japanese veries had come from AFRS-Nagoya, JOBB, JOAK, JOCK, and the best, JOIR with 3 kW on 1250 kc/s ... from the January 24, 1953 DXN: Pat Reilley, Jamestown, NY reported that PRB2-1440 and PRG3-1280 afforded good reception between 0315 and 0400 on 1/14, and that Radio Trinidad-790 was good at their 0358 s/on.

25 years ago ... from the January 23, 1978 DXN: Ray Arruda took over DDXD from Eric Rittenhouse ... DDXA leaders in the "Total Domestic Verified" category were Richard Allen, San Francisco bay area, 2501; Frank Wheeler, NW PA. 1632; Richard Pistek, Chicago, 1117; Andy Rugg, Montreal, 1101, Rich Eddie, St. Louis, 986, and Ron Musco, Hartford, CT, 942.

10 years ago ... from the January 25, 1993 DXN: Gerry Thomas reviewed the new Superadio III and called it "a bummer" ... technical problems were delaying the opening of the expanded band, 1605-1705 kHz.

AM Switch

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

| | <u>Old call</u> | | <u>New call</u> |
|------|-----------------|----|------------------------|
| 640 | WJNA | FL | Royal Palm Beach WLWJ |
| 650 | WJLT | MA | Ashland WSRO |
| 710 | KUET | AZ | Black Canyon City KMIA |
| 710 | KDIS | CA | Los Angeles KSPN |
| 770 | KNWX | WA | Seattle KTTH* |
| 840 | KABN | AK | Long Island KCKC |
| 960 | WAAK | NC | Dallas WZRH |
| 1040 | WLWJ | FL | Boynton Beach WJNA |
| 1110 | KSPN | CA | Pasadena KDIS |
| 1160 | WMVI | NY | Mechanicville WABY |
| 1170 | WZUR | PR | Ponce WLEO |
| 1320 | WDEP | PR | San Juan WSKN |
| 1350 | WTZK | NC | Black Mountain WWRN |
| 1430 | WRDN | WI | Durand WQOQ |
| 1450 | WHOH | AL | Huntsville WTKI |
| 1470 | WSRO | MA | Marlborough WAZN |
| 1480 | KCKC | CA | Concord KABN |
| 1490 | WZUR | PR | Ponce WDEP* |

*Note: *Confusion reigns at the FCC!* In the release of Call Letter Actions several days ago 770 in Seattle was shown as KTTH with KNWX moving to 1210 in Auburn. Three days later the FCC shows KNWX back on 770 and KTTH moving to 1210. When we looked at the latest FCC database they show KTTH as an unassigned call and KNWX assigned to BOTH 770 and 1210. Huh???? Off the air monitoring on 1/6 reveals KTTH on 770 and KNWX on 1210 so we have left it that way for now. But stay tuned, we'll try to clear this mess up by next issue. WLEO-1490 was changed to WZUR in a call swap with 1170 but almost immediately the change from WZUR to WDEP took place on 1490 when WDEP left 1320.

APPLICATIONS / GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

| | | | |
|------|------|----|--------------------------------------|
| 540 | KDFT | TX | Ferris: 1000/249 (1000 CH) U4 |
| 560 | KLVI | TX | Beaumont: 5000/5400 U2 |
| 1080 | WFTD | GA | Marietta: 50000 (30000 CH) D3 |
| 1270 | KESS | TX | Fort Worth: 50000/5000 U4 |
| 1300 | WTLS | AL | Tallassee: 1200/18 U1 |
| 1320 | WDMJ | MI | Marquette: 5000/135 U1 |
| 1330 | WMOR | KY | Morehead: 800 D1 |
| 1370 | KJL | WY | Cheyenne: to 1380 kHz with 1000/8 U1 |

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

| | | | |
|------|------|----|---------------------------|
| 1060 | WIXC | FL | Titusville: 50000/5000 U4 |
| 1330 | WRCA | MA | Waltham: 25000/17000 U4 |
| 1330 | WELW | OH | Willoughby: 500/42 U4 |

OTHERNESS

| | | | |
|------|------|----|---|
| 730 | KSUD | AR | West Memphis: application for 1000/1000 U4 DISMISSED |
| 1080 | WWDR | NC | Murfreesboro: CP for 930 D1 is on |
| 1210 | KNWX | WA | Auburn-Federal Way: FCC now shows this dual city of license |
| 1600 | WNGA | TN | Nashville: SILENT |

THANKS: Bill Hale, Pete Taylor, Wayne Heinen, Ed Krejny & Les Johnson
73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman



Jimmy & BKF

Domestic DX Digest

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East: Ginnie Lupi ginnie@nrcdxas.org

PO Box 4014 - Clifton Park, NY 12065-0850

(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

- Issue 15 is a-lookin' at cha. Some darn good reports to peruse this week. Thanks to all who've shared their DX loggings.
- They are whispering behind our backs: "This was the morning [1/4] of the UNID! In addition to the [below], REL preaching on 1260, 1310 NOS, SoGOS on 1590 and lively SS on 1600! All were due South. I'm not touching the antenna for tonight! Overnight taping on 1450 and 1490 has brought goose eggs." - JJR-WI; "What goes around comes around as CFST goes back to the CFRW calls it had when it was an oldies station. The sports Team never worked out and they went back to oldies and this call." - SA-MB;
- Deadlines are Thursdays. CU Next Week.

REPORTERS

- FA-ID Frank Aden, N7SOK Boise <N7sok@aol.com>
- SA-MB Shawn M. Axelrod Winnipeg Icom ICR-70 / Drake R8/ Icom R-7000 + 4-foot unamplified box loop / Quantum Loop; 145' outdoor wire; 100' indoor wire / discone / MFJ 1026 <Saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
- AB-CA Art Blair Folsom <artngwen@calweb.com>
- PG-CO Patrick Griffith Westminster Drake R-8 and 30 foot indoor inverted "L" <AM-DXER@webtv.net>
- DKK-CA Don Kaskey San Francisco Drake R8A + Kiwa Air Loop <kaskeyfamily@yahoo.com>
- JJR-WI John J. Rieger South Milwaukee Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp or GE Superadio III with Terk AM1000 loop <johnrieger@webtv.net>
- JTR-OK John Reed Shawnee W-J DMS-105R tunable demodulator, modified KIWA MW loop <jreed@alum.mit.edu>
- KR-AZ Kevin Redding Mesa Kenwood R-1000 and roof ridge wire; Sony ICF-2010 nekkid; Radio Shack 12-639A <amfmdx@fastq.com>
- DS-TN Doug Smith, W9WI Pleasant View (Nashville) <http://www.w9wi.com>
- PT-WA Pete Taylor Tacoma DX-398 <ptdx@att.net>
- BW-OK Bruce Winkelman, AA5CO Tulsa R8, Quantum Phaser, 2-130 foot wires <bdwink@cox.net>
- JW-CO John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop <peakbagger3@juno.com>
- Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills DX-398 + RS Loop

STATION NEWS & NOTES

- 770 KTTH WA Seattle - Was born 1/6/03 at 0800. Talk 770 KTTH features Mike Siegal, Bill O'Reilly, Michael Medved and Michal Savage between 5 AM - 7 PM PST. Concurrently, the KNWX format moved to 1210. Of interest was a promo at 0255 about "KNWX 1210" even though it was still on 770 at the time. (PT-WA)
- 1100 WTAM OH Cleveland - 1/9 0340-0411 - OFF on tune in. One station there with l-o-n-g fades. Female announcer after every song. Never got slogan. Will never know what this was. Will listen to tape again. WTAM came on w/ Art Bell, no ID. (JJR-WI)
- 1150 KCUV CO Englewood - 1/6 1245 - Station is dark today. KNRC announced previously that they would take it dark for a while as they prepare to move KNRC from 1510 to 1150. (PG-CO)
- 1290 CFRW MB Winnipeg - 1/4 2000 - Very good signal, with oldies music. IDs as Oldies 1290. Using new call (which it used years ago): Ex: CFST. (SA-MB)



- 1300 KAKC OK Tulsa - 1/7 1743 - In EE, with sports talk, and IDs as AM 1300 *The Score*. Traffic update reporting jammed Tulsa intersections; ads and PSAs. Ex: Spanish. Presume call is still KAKC. (JW-CO)
- 1570 KYCR MN Golden Valley - 1/3 - Drops the leased Pantera Spanish format and begins a temporary simulcast with sister religious talk KKMS 980. (10000watts.com)
- 1650 KBJD CO Denver - 1/3 - Changed from contemporary Christian *The Beat* to news-talk KNUS 2. (10000watts.com)
- 1650 KBJD CO Denver - 1/6 1200 - G. Gordon Liddy program in the stations new talk format (ex: Christian). ToH was KBJD Denver is KNUS-2, a service of KNUS. I checked and it was separate programming, not // to KNUS. (PG-CO)
- 1670 KHPY CA Moreno Valley - 1/3 - Report from Gary "Jax" Jackson says he called the station and was told 'The FCC is holding up their coming on air. No set date! They expect to be on the air full time in next two weeks.' (AB-CA)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 660 UNID ?? - 1/4 0723 - Fair, with up/down fades. List of many names to be prayed for. After every song, jock talked but no calls. Faded out @ :36. Southern gospel. Needed WXIC? (JJR-WI)
- 920 UNID ?? - 1/9 0302-0305 - With ESPN *Sports Center*, battling KLOC in KNEW slop. Didn't hear ID. Most likely much-wanted KBAD Las Vegas. (DKK-CA)
- 930 WLHG? ?? - 1/7 0000 - Faded up to just barely copyable level, with... Fox WLHG ???-Jacksonville-Fort Hampshire? I have a sneaking suspicion it's WFXJ, but thought there was a city before Jacksonville. (DS-TN)
- 1500 UNID ?? - 1/4 0735 - Someone with oldies, under XEDF. No KSTP in weird conditions. (SA-MB)

REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in ELT)

- 600 KSJbt ND Jamestown - 1/7 0027 - Under KOGO with country music and *North Country Giant* slogan. Radio facing NNE/SSW only other one I could figure it possibly could be is in Saskatoon and its never made it here. KSJB is very rare in Arizona. (KR-AZ)
- 610 KDAL MN Duluth - 1/8 1830 - Fair, in at 10/9, with calls and news. Never in this well before. (JJR-WI)
- 640 WOI IA Ames - 12/31 0400 - This is WOI Radio, Ames-Des Moines, into BBC News. Sure sounded like he was saying WON, not WOI... (DS-TN)
- 690 KTSM TX El Paso - 1/8 0032 - Fighting it out with XETRA and running *Coast to Coast* with George Noory. Then into El Paso-area ads and an ad for vacationing in Mexico. Rare, last heard as KHEY. New here, for call change. (KR-AZ)
- 710 KMIA AZ Black Canyon City - 1/8 1000 - With ToH ID and Mexican music, mostly Northern style, with Ranchera, Nortena and Banda. New for change from KUET and nice ABC Timeless Classics format. (KR-AZ)
- 710 KSPN CA Los Angeles - 1/2 1930 - With ESPN Radio. ID at 1930 and into Iowa-USC at Orange Bowl. Easy on day pattern. (DKK-CA)
- 710 CKVM PQ Ville-Marie - 1/7 1732 - Fair, atop frequency, with FF chatter and jingle. No WOR. (JJR-WI)
- 730 WPIT PA Pittsburgh - 1/5 0800 - Poor, with ID between a PSA and REL program. No CKDM. Alone. (JJR-WI)
- 730 WLIL TN Lenoir City - 1/4 0716 - Poor, but on top, with calls and C&W. (JJR-WI)
- 730 CHMJ BC Vancouver - 1/2 0225 - Found atop of KCBS slop which is increasingly rare in these parts. Talk. Mojo Radio. (DKK-CA)
- 770 KTTH WA Seattle - 1/9 0150-0305+ - Under KKOB. Missed ID at 0300, went into news 'til 0305, then big hype on new station and format followed by several KTTH IDs. Another talk show followed. (DKK-CA)
- 800 KDFO CA Bakersfield - 1/2 0222 - Fair signal, through KGO slop, with Fox Sports. (DKK-CA)
- 820 WMGG FL Largo - 1/4 0754 - Fair, with a SS ad for *Mimi's Café en Tampa*, then a jingle and SS music. (JJR-WI)
- 840 WHAS KY Louisville - 1/1 1310 - Weak daytime signal with call ID, then into Rush Limbaugh talk. (JTR-OK)
- 860 KONO TX San Antonio - 1/3 1803 - Segued Oldies tunes to 1815 fadeout. Noted one *Cono 101 FM* slogan. Fair, at best, in QRM. (JW-CO)

- 880 KJJR MT Whitefish - 1/6 1900 - Through KKMC/KWIP, etal, with KJJR *Whitefish, Kalispell, Columbia Falls* ID after ad break, then into news. Haven't heard them since 1988. (DKK-CA)
- 900 KHOZ AR Harrison - 1/4 0900 - CBS News and ads, then newer version of Can't Hurry Love at 0908. Noted a couple of slogans: *Harrison's very own AM 900* and *Harrison's AM 900 KHOZ*. Fair for a few minutes, with minor KJSK QRM. First new catch of 2003, for Arkansas #22. (JW-CO)
- 900 KJSK NE Columbus - 1/4 0914 - Program *Morning Coaches Show*, with an interview with local girls basketball coach. They really play up the name of their town - the team is called the *Discoverers* and the sponsor of the program was *New World Restaurant*. Fair with KPOF-910 splatter. (JW-CO)
- 920 KARN AR Little Rock - 1/3 2117 - Call ID then into football game. Weak and fading in loop null of SS stations. (JTR-OK)
- 930 WJBY AL Rainbow City - 1/3 2100 - Poor, with partial station address: ... P.O. Box 930, Gadsden, Alabama... (DS-TN)
- 930 WFXJ FL Jacksonville - 1/6 1800 - Fair with ID. (DS-TN)
- 930 WMGR GA Bainbridge - 1/4 1700 - Poor, with ID into news. New. (DS-TN)
- 930 WTAD IL Quincy - 1/7 0900 - Very good. Thought it was WKCT! *The news next from CBS. This is WTAD, Quincy.* (DS-TN)
- 930 WHON IN Centerville - 1/3 0700 - In mess, with *Real Radio 930 WHON, Centerville's Hot Talk.* (DS-TN)
- 930 WKCT KY Bowling Green - 1/3 2300 - Poor, but atop, with 93 WKCT *Bowling Green*. Daytime semi-local, but relatively rare at night. (DS-TN)
- 930 KWOC MO Poplar Bluff - 1/3 0800 - Poor, under WKCT, with KWOC, *home of...* (DS-TN)
- 930 WYFQ NC Charlotte - 1/3 1700 - Poor in mess, had to play recording many times... ?? radio WYFQ <city> - WYFQ-FM *Wadesboro*. <city> was obviously Charlotte, but it sure sounded like *Fort Wayne!* Finally solved it when I looked up the FM. (DS-TN)
- 930 WDLX NC Washington - 1/6 0600 - Weak but clear, with *Your news and information station, WDLX Washington, serving eastern North Carolina since 1944*, into ABC News. (not certain I got the year right!) New. (DS-TN)
- 930 WKY OK Oklahoma City - 1/3 0100 - Relatively clear, but plenty of mess behind; *Oklahoma City's Talk Radio*... 930 WKY Oklahoma City. Noticing a lot of geographically-redundant IDs these days <grin>. (DS-TN)
- 930 WWON TN Waynesboro - 1/6 2100 - Poor in mess, with *This Is...*, then sung *WWON Waynesboro-Collingwood??*. A service of *Wayne County Community Radio*, and TRN (Tennessee Radio Network) News. Daytimer on all night, heard again at 0500. New. (DS-TN)
- 930 KLUP TX Terrell Hills - 1/3 1900 - Fair, with *You're listening to AM 930 KLUP Terrell Hills-San Antonio*. New. (DS-TN)
- 930 WLBL WI Auburndale - 1/4 1600 - Weak but clear, as KWOC was briefly silent before CBS News. Wisconsin Public Radio ID with announcer (well-known to those of us who lived there!) reading brief legal ID. Rare when I lived in Milwaukee; a huge surprise down here! Heard again (?) on 1/7 at about 0800, this time with ID cue tones and *Ideas 930* slogan with ID. New. (DS-TN)
- 950 KKFN CO Denver - 1/6 2245 - On top with *Sports Radio 950, The Fan, All Sports all the time* to Sporting News Radio program. No sign of usual KPRC. (BW-OK)
- 960 WERC AL Birmingham - 1/7 0706 - Poor, with calls; no WSBT. (JJR-WI)
- 970 WFLA FL Tampa - 1/3 2130 - Call ID, weather then lost in QRM. New here. (JTR-OK)
- 980 WITY IL Danville - 1/7 0728 - Good in surprise fade up, with ads, calls, and chatter. No WONE or WCUB. Rare! (JJR-WI)
- 1000 KKIM NM Albuquerque - 1/4 2100-2113 - Running USA Network, then into old-time radio. On top of KOMO and wiping them out! At 2113 they disappeared. Must have realized were still on day power? Thanks to tip by Paul LaFreniere. (FA-ID)
- 1000 KKIM NM Albuquerque - 1/6 2255 - With *Christian Talk Radio* slogan into choral hymn, then faded. Noted on top again at 2323 with another hymn. Mixing with presumed WMVP with ESPN. At 2340 nice call letter ID into another hymn, then *Your Leader in Christian Talk Radio* slogan. Had to be "cheating" on day power. Thanks to Kevin Redding's NRC DXTIP alert! (BW-OK)

1030 WEBS GA Calhoun - 1/9 0419 - Fair, in WBZ null, with *Oldies 1030*. Three Watts? (JJR-WI)

1030 KTWO WY Casper - 1/7 1843 - Fair, in WBZ null, with *Dr.Laura*, and a KTWO, *A Clear Channel station* ID into ads. No K2 slogan. (JJR-WI)

1070 KNX CA Los Angeles - 1/6 0058-0300 - Usually on top of overnight recordings with lots of *KNX News Radio* mentions, traffic, news, weather and old-time radio dramas, at times as strong as I've ever heard them. (BW-OK)

1070 KHMO MO Hannibal - 1/6 0400 - *We are your station for award winning news, sports and great music, KHMO Hannibal, Quincy* into AP Network News. Another new one on 1070. (BW-OK)

1070 WTSO WI Madison - 1/6 0204 - With *Madison's ESPN Radio* mention but no call letters heard, then at 0300 a quick *WTSO Madison, Wisconsin* ID into ESPN Radio program. ESPN Radio programming noted on most of the overnight recordings as well. Really surprised to hear this one as their night pattern shows a deep null to the southwest. (BW-OK)

1100 WCGA GA Woodbine - 1/5 0708 - Fair in fade up with *News Talk WCGA* by Southern accented announcer. WTAM nulled. (JJR-WI)

1110 KDIS CA Pasadena - 1/1 0600 - Atop with Radio Disney. Some KFAX slop. Fair signal with some KBND QRM. Heard nightly now. (DKK-CA)

1140 KNWQ CA Palm Springs - 1/2 0110-0240+ - Noted under/over KHTK, with *Coast to Coast* show. At 0200 KHTK gave ID and paused for several seconds and I heard . . . *KNWZ and Palm Springs KNWQ* apparently a multiple ID. At 0202 noted a local ad with Palm Springs mentioned, then news to 0206. Recheck at 0239 saw KNWQ solid atop KHTK for a few minutes. (DKK-CA)

1140 KGEM ID Boise - 12/30 1910-1915 - Noted under KHTK with NOS music. (DKK-CA)

1140 WRVA VA Richmond - 1/5 1722 (nearly 1 hour before LSS) - Up out of nowhere with clear 1140 WRVA Richmond into talk program. No sign of KVSP Oklahoma City. Unneeded, here but rare. (BW-OK)

1150 WGOW TN Chattanooga - 1/4 0752 - Poor, but over others, with calls and *News Talk 1150 WGOW*. (JJR-WI)

1160 KENS TX San Antonio - 1/5 1853 - All alone, in minor KVOO splatter, with *US Army All Star Football Game* pre-game show (line-ups, commentary etc.) At 1900: *KENS 1160 on your dial* ID. Finally logged something here on 1160, one of my (former) "one station logged" frequencies. (BW-OK)

1180 WJNT MS Pearl - 1/7 0810 - Out of CBS News and into an insurance ad. Canned ID as *Your Number One . . . for 15 years and still Number One, WJNT NewsTalk 1180* and into area news with Jackson datelines. Not real common; Mississippi is a semi-rare state here. (JW-CO)

1210 KNWX WA Auburn - 1/6 1910-1945 - In/out with KZTS, carrying *Clark Howard's* syndicated talk show. Ad break at 1917 + KNWX Traffic report at 1920. (DKK-CA)

1230 KBOV CA Bishop - 1/8 2300-2330+ - Assumed the station carrying a high school basketball game between Bishop Union and someone. At 2329 I heard *You're listening to Bishop Union Basketball*. Looped toward Bishop. If so, first time heard in 10 years or so. (DKK-CA)

1230 KYPA CA Los Angeles - 1/8 2300-2400 - In/out of hash. ID at 2400 after 3&1 pips: *Radio Korea-KYPA-Los Angeles*. (DKK-CA)

1230 KELY NV Ely - 1/8 2130-2300+ - With *Oldies*. ID at 2300: *Oldies Radio KELY* with the call letters sung. Been over 15 years since this station has been heard, too. (DKK-CA)

1230 KLAV NV Las Vegas - 1/8 2330 - ID noted clearly, while listening to KBOV. Believe the hot talk show that followed was KLAV. (DKK-CA)

1230 KZZR OR Burns - 1/2 0241-0245 - Atop, with long ad break. ID at 0245. (DKK-CA)

1240 KWIK ID Pocatello - 12/23 2005 - Noted two call letter IDs, then into local weather and slogan *News Radio 1240*. Best ever heard. (DKK-CA)

1280 KDOXp NV Henderson - 1/3 1946 - Local (Las Vegas) spots, Latino tunes, *Exitos Doce Ochenta* slogans. No call ID heard. Faded before ToH. Fair with local KBNO 90% nulled. (JW-CO)

1300 KGLO IA Mason City - 1/7 1758 - PSA; program note for *Viewpoint (. . . listen Sundays at 10:20 on your hometown station for news, Clear Channel's AM 1300 KGLO Mason City.)* Fair in QRM. (JW-CO)

1320 KOLT NE Scottsbluff - 1/5 0800 - Just barely over the mess with AM 1320 KOLT



1320 KXYZ TX Houston - 1/5 0200 - On top, with call ID in English: *kay ecks why zee*, then La Unica mention into noticias (news) in SS. (BW-OK)

1330 KGAK NM Gallup - 1/2 1903 - Really pounding in with Navajo dance chants, similar to KTTN-660 at the same time. Lasted only about three minutes, then in/out in QRM until 1930. (DKK-CA)

1330 WRAM IL Monmouth - 1/9 0700 - *This is WRAM, Monmouth*. Poor. (DS-TN)

1330 WNTA IL Rockford - 1/8 0800 - Under presumed WVHI, with ID: 1330 WNTA Rockford, a Radio Works station, then AP News. New. (DS-TN)

1330 KVOL LA Lafayette - 1/9 0200 - ID, poor in mess. (DS-TN)

1330 WYRD SC Greenville - 1/9 0100 - Good, with dual ID with *WORD 910*, into ABC News. (DS-TN)

1330 KLBO TX Monahans - 1/5 1945 - Playing *Aquarius*, then gave ID using the slogan *Radio Free Texas*. Rare. (KR-AZ)

1340 KTPI CA Mojave - 12/23 1940 - Classic C&W music noted. ID at 1942 followed by *Paul Harvey* + ads. C&W song at 0258 on 1/2 cut short at 0300 and into ABC News. (DKK-CA)

1340 KTSN NV Elko - 1/3 2000 - Atop with ID then into Fiesta Bowl football game. Atop on 1/9 at 0100 with ToH ID and ads. (DKK-CA)

1340 KRLV NV Las Vegas - 12/23 1931 - With ID through hash: This is KRLV. (DKK-CA)

1360 KAHS KS El Dorado - 1/7 1837 - Popped through briefly with call ID, in KHNC's null. New here, for Kansas #52. (JW-CO)

1360 KWWJ TX Baytown - 1/7 1850 - GOS or UC music. *Gospel 1360* slogan, traffic, news headlines, and weather . . . *on the station that keeps you Walking With Jesus, KWWJ, Gospel 1360*. Fair, with KSCJ QRM in KHNC's null. Another new one, for Texas #163. (JW-CO)

1490 KRTN NM Raton - 1/7 0924 - Spot for local vision clinic, then guy says It's today's best on AM 1490 KRTN and into unrecognizable AC tune. Fair in KCFC null. (JW-CO)

1500 WAKE IN Valparaiso - 1/4 0823 - Poor but dominating, with ads, station phone number for sales, and calls. NOS/MoYL music. (JJR-WI)

1500 KABR NM Alamo Community - 1/9 0859 - Had been monitoring 1500 for 10 minutes when this suddenly appeared at 0859:50 with ID and prayer, I think. At 0901, gal with sign-on and opening comments in EE and Navajo. At 0903, area announcements, sponsored by a Socorro bank. Alamo school lunch menu, boys and girls basketball that afternoon, etc. Back into Navajo at 0906. Fair, with KNRC-1510 splatter. (JW-CO)

1500 KPGM OK Pawhuska - 1/4 0820 - Poor signal, under XEDF and a bit of KSTP, with clear ID and gospel music. NEW! (SA-MB)

1550 WBSC SC Bennettsville - 1/8 1848 - Fair in fade up, with station promo, then out. (JJR-WI)

WBSC

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

None this week, but remember all the GY DX records are on line at: www.angelfire.com/tx2/phantom2/index.html

DDXD-East

This week's frequency challenge on 930 kHz netted 19 different stations! Congratulations and thanks to all who listened and submitted their loggings! Keep at it - upcoming frequencies and dates are: 1600 kHz - January 15-22; 570 kHz - January 22-29; 1280 kHz - January 29-February 5; 910 kHz - February 5-12. Have fun and good DX to all!

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, 22-gauge pointed n-s. Realistic TRF655 with Radio Shack loop.
 BC-NH Bruce Conti, Nashua - R8B, MWDX-5, 50/75/50-ft east/west Double-Ewe antenna.

DDXD-E

Frequency Challenge

| Deadline | Frequency |
|-------------|-----------|
| January 22 | 1600 |
| January 29 | 570 |
| February 5 | 1280 |
| February 12 | 910 |

PC-VA **Perry Crabill, Winchester** – Drake R8, Kiwa Loop, 100' wire.
 RJE-PA **Russ Edmunds, Blue Bell** - Hammarlund HQ-150 w/ 4' amplified air core loop.
 JF-ON **Jeff Falconer, Clinton** - AOR AR7030+, pair of 130' EWE antennas, MFJ-1026 phase box, etc.
 SF-NY **Scott Fybusch, Rochester** - Drake R8A, McKay Dymek DA5 amplified ferrite loop.
 RWK-CT **Rick Kenneally, Wilton** - Drake R8B, Sony 2010, Quantum Phaser & QX Loop, lots of wire.
 DL-MD **Dave Larrabee, Columbia** - Icom 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 the hour.
 BDM-ON **Barry McLarnon, Ottawa** - NRD-525, 1 m air-core loop, 40 m inverted-vee, MFJ-1026.
 RR-NC **Rick Robinson, Hendersonville** – Sony SW7600GR with RS Loop and Radio Plus Q-Stick antennas.
 BT-NB **Brent Taylor, Doaktown** - Kenwood TS-6805 & 60', 3-coil sloper at 55 feet.
 PEW-SC **Powell E. Way, near Blackville** – Cutlass car radio.
 PEW*SC **Powell E. Way, between Newberry and Columbia** - Ranger truck radio.

WEEKLY FREQUENCY CHALLENGE – 930 kHz

930 WJBY AL **Rainbow City** – 1/3 1748 – “Total Christian radio WJBY Rainbow City/Gadsden.” (RR-NC)
 WYUS DE **Milford** - 1/7 1655 – Presumed. Heard Spanish talk and music weak under WPAT’s Russian. Managed to pick out a couple of identifiable location names. Unneeded but rare. (RJE-PA)
 WFXJ FL **Jacksonville** – 1/1 1709 – New years bowl game summaries on “9-30 WFXJ Jacksonville.” Heard WFXJ every night. (RR-NC)
 WMGR GA **Bainbridge** – 1/3 1751 – 70s oldies “Cool 93 WMGR.” (RR-NC)
 WHON IN **Centerville** – 1/4 1809 – “More Indiana sports scores on WHON.” (RR-NC)
 WFMD MD **Frederick** – 1/2 1805 - Local news, ID, into local talk program. At this time ID was “Newstalk 930 WFMD”. When running sports (U of MD basketball, NFL playoffs), it’s “Sportsradio 930 WFMD”. (RJE-PA)
 + 1/3 0200 - Just sneaking through WPAT with top of hour ID - man with “Newsradio 9-30” then song jingle “WFMD Frederick”. (RWK-CT)
 + 1/5 0806 – “Frederick’s News Radio WFMD,” local news. (SC-ON)
 + 1/5 1100 – “News Radio nine thirty, WFMD, Frederick, Clear Channel World Wide.” ABC News follows. WFMD dominant during 24 top of the hour samples gathered on the 4th and 5th. (DL*MD)
 + 1/5 1800 - Presumed with NFL playoff game per tip from Russ Edmunds, interference from WBEN and WGIN with no sign of WPAT. (BC-NH)
 WBCK MI **Battle Creek** – 1/5 0832 – 24-hour pest with “Newsradio 930 WBEN” and talk. (SC-ON)
 KWOC MO **Poplar Buff** - 1/3 0800 - Fair: “For over 60 years News Radio KWOL Poplar Bluff, the news starts now.” (SC-IN)
 WGIN NH **Rochester** – 1/1 2300 - Fair with “New Hampshire’s First News” and long parallel ID with WGIR/WGIN/WGIP/WTSL. (RWK-CT)
 + 1/2 1655 - Good; local ID, “Newsradio 930 WGIN,” and *The Dan Pierce Show* local talk parallel Newsradio flagship WGIR. (BC-NH)
 + 1/6 0754 – “Newsradio 930 WGIN.” Sounds a lot like WBEN - watch out! (SC-ON)
 WPAT NJ **Patterson** – 1/3 1600 - Fair; end of Spanish program, “This is AM 930, WPAT Paterson” and “Happy New Year everyone, from all of us at Multicultural Radio Broadcasting. This is AM 930 WPAT Paterson...” into an UNID foreign-language program, with WGIN nulled out. (BC-NH)
 + 1/3 1655 - Russian talk, with Led Zeppelin music, ultimately English ID at 1700 (RJE-PA)
 + 1/6 1500 - Typical dominant signal with Eastern European or Russian language broadcast. Carries nostalgia music with Danny Stiles late at night. (RWK-CT)
 WBEN NY **Buffalo** – 1/1 2000 - Great with ad for Jointritis, spot for “Financial Forum” show, and many “Newsradio WBEN” IDs, local news and weather. Shares dominance with WPAT-NJ. (RWK-CT)
 1/2 1700 - Good; “Newsradio 930 WBEN” into local news headlines and

Accuweather, later at 1820 dominant with local news including a border crossing update. (BC-NH)
 + 1/2 1800 - ID, then into CBS News (RJE-PA)
 + 1/5 0909 — Buffalo weather report “from WBEN” Heard through a null of WFYQ. (RR-NC)
 + 1/5 0200 – Caught “WBEN” ID twice under stronger WFMD. (DL*MD)
 WIZR NY **Johnstown** – 1/2 1630 - Mixing with others on frequency - hard to separate, but I think it had an ad for ccRadio. ID was clear “...on AM 9-30 WIZR”. New. (RWK-CT)
 + 1/5 1842 - Ad for a building materials dealer in Johnstown. Either running day facilities or the snow has deranged their pattern as never heard before other than at sunset (RJE-PA)
 + 1/5 2227 – presumed with recap of Giants/49ers game “on the Giants Radio Network”. WIZR is the only 930 station listed on Giants Radio Network web site. (RR-NC)
 WYFQ NC **Charlotte** – 1/1 1700 — “The Bible Broadcasting Network, radio for the family, WYFQ AM.” This is the dominant daytime station here. (RR-NC)
 + 1/2 1825 - BBN religious music and talk program. Last heard as WSOC. (RJE-PA)
 + 1/3 0400 - Beautiful ID slipped into a minute-long period of dead air on WPAT-NJ. ID “WYFQ Charlotte & WYFQ-FM Waynesboro - Christian Radio” then music and start of religious program. New. (RWK-CT)
 WDLX NC **Washington** – 1/3 1815 – UNC Tar Heel basketball pre-game show. “The Tar Heels Sports Network on WDLX.” (RR-NC)
 + 1/4 1830 – presumed with UNC Basketball pre-game show, all ads for network businesses in the Triangle area. Thanks to help from RR-NC & PEW-SC for the network list assists. Did not hear ID. Last heard as WITN. (RJE-PA)
 + 1/4 1930 - presumed running a U of NC basketball game. (PEW*SC)
 + 1/7 1630 - Brief fade in with local ad for *Big Bargain Furniture and Appliances* located at 120 West Main in downtown Washington. New. (BC-NH)
 WHLM PA **Bloomsburg** – 1/4 0730 - Man crooning “Just the Way You Look Tonight”, then “Your memories station, specializing in Columbia County school closures (?)...” and two WHLM IDs, fair in a mix with WBEN and several others. Previously logged as WCNR in 2001. (BDM-ON)
 + 1/4 1430 - “Don’t Stop” by Fleetwood Mac, then ID, weather (RJE-PA)
 + 1/4 1645 - Pretty good in WPAT null with end of women’s basketball game between Bloomsburg and Lock Haven. Bloomsburg won 69/60. (RWK-CT)
 WWON TN **Waynesboro** – 1/3 1800 — 50s and 60s oldies “WHON The One, Wayne County Radio.” Heard every night. (RR-NC)
 KLUPp TX **Terrell Hills** – 1/5 2143 – 3 successive Frank Sinatra songs with no announcement. Program listed on KLUP website as “Sinatra and Friends”. I heard this mostly Sinatra show nearly every night but no ID ever noted. (RR-NC)
 WRVC WV **Huntington** - 1/5 1700 - Fair; “You’re listening to big bands and more, on AM 930 WRVC Huntington-Ashland...” and later an ad for the Huntington YMCA followed by the “big bands and more” slogan, big band music, under WBEN with WGIN nulled out. New. (BC-NH)
 + 1/7 1710 – presumed with ESPN Sports program promo weak in the mix; clearly not WFMD which was running news at the time. WRVC is the only thing likely at this time with ESPN. Unneeded anyway. (RJE-PA)
 CFBC NB **Fredericton** – DATE & TIME? - General pest – “Good times and great oldies, 93-CFBC” and other variations of this ID. (SC-ON)
 + 1/7 2322 - “Saint John’s Favorite Oldies, Good Time Oldies 93 CFBC,” into Bob Dylan, “Lay Lady Lay.” Weak, briefly fading up over very dominant WBEN. (And note, all of you Statesiders, that the folks in New Brunswick STRONGLY prefer that the name of their city be spelled out in full as “Saint John,” to avoid confusion with “St. John’s” up in Newfoundland, which of course has its own 930, just to add to the confusion.) (SF-NY)

STATION NEWS

1420 WRMR OH **Cleveland** - 1/3 1819 – new call - good with NOS music, ID “Cleveland’s Classical Pop station, AM 1420, WRMR”. Ex WCLV. (JF-ON)

10
1530 WSAI OH Cincinnati - 1/3 1706 - new format - heard with OLD music, jingle IDs. Ex NOS. Supposedly changed today. (JF-ON)

UNID AND PRESUMED

910 WFVRp FL Wellborn - 1/7 0625 - Travelers advisory simulcasting with 1680. "Florida Travelers Information Radio Network AM 1680 WTIR", numerous Florida locations and related information. No WFVR ID observed. (DL-MD)

1160 WABYp NY Mechanicville - 1/5 0647 - With partial ID "You're on the Moon, AM 900 and 11-60." NRC Log was instrumental in getting this one ID'd. Faded up to S9 after full daylight, and back in strong just after sunset the same evening. New. (BT-NB)

+ 1/5 1624 - good at times with NOS music, promo for "Sounds of Sinatra" program, ID "Moon Radio AM 900 and 1160", ABC News. Never gave calls but this has supposedly just changed from WMVI. (JF-ON)

1350 UNID — - 1/6 1924 - wiping out CKDO with non-stop black gospel music, slogan "your gospel connection" by female announcer. (MKB-ON)

STATION LOGGINGS

600 WFST ME Caribou - 1/6 1600 - End of Money Matters program, sponsored by "a grant from Galen Rockwell, Certified Public Accountant in Caribou", female announcer with weather forecast, then "WFST Caribou" ID by man, into a program for kids, fair signal, fighting it out with WICC. New, and much wanted. (BDM-ON)

660 WLFJ SC Greenville - 1/5 and 1/6 1700 - "Urban ... Gospel 660 WLFJ." with strong signal o/WFAN. (SC-ON)

710 WFNR VA Blacksburg - 1/5 1620 - Sporting News Radio, ad for some 1-800 junk product, ID "If you want to hear news, remember the station that has news all the time, WFNR... first, fast and factual - depend on it", back to SNR, fair in mix with WOR. New. (BDM-ON)

720 WGSE GA Hogansville - 1/6 1745 - ID, central time, Atlanta area ads. (SC-ON)

760 KMTL AR Sheridan - 1/6 1815 - Full sign-off caught after gospel bluegrass, said would return 7:15 am. New. (SC-ON)

780 WZZX AL Lineville - 1/1 2000 - Good: "You've found the home of all your Wednesday night Gospel favorites right here on Real Country WASZ FM Ashland/Lineville." (SC-IN)

810 WYRE MD Annapolis - 1/4 1628 - 50ish oldies song that I didn't recognize, ID "you are listening to WYRE", something about "AM All-Stars", then doo-wop type tune, fair under WGY talk. 250 Watts! New. (BDM-ON)

WQIZ SC St. George - 1/4 1710 - "Voice of the Last Day" prophet with appeal for support, with address (slowly and carefully spelled out): Box 691, Walterboro, South Carolina 29488. ID not heard, but website (<http://www.overcomerministry.com>) confirms that only WQIZ carries this program on 810. Poor in mess with WGY, etc. New. (BDM-ON)

850 WDJC AL Birmingham - 1/4 0800 - "WDJC, Birmingham" in moderate co-channel. Weaker at 0900 with 860 adjacent channel LSB splatter but no co-channel: "...AM eight fifty, you've found the truth...you are listening to WDJC, Birmingham." (DL*MD)

900 WJLG GA Savannah - 1/2 1934 - poking through CHML null with gospel songs and slogan "America's favorite gospel station, AM 900 The Light". Slogan ID'd thanks to tip at <http://www.angelfire.com/wi/dxmidamerica/AMslogans.html> (MKB-ON)

910 WSTK NC Jacksonville - 1/2 1941 - non-ID as "you're listening to Wolfpack basketball on ESPN radio 910 in Jacksonville" during break in action of NC State vs. U.Mass basketball game, over another college hoops game on WABI Bangor, ME. (MKB-ON)

920 WMMN WV Fairmont - 1/2 1803 - ID, into "West Virginia Sports Weekly" program - very strong (RJE-PA)

940 WADV PA Lebanon - 1/5 1400 - "nine forty AM WADV Lebanon..." (DL-MD)

WCPC MS Houston - 1/5 1800 - "...Bluegrass show here on WCPC radio" followed by Houston weather and legal ID. Quite strong. (SC-ON)

950 WWJ MI Detroit - 1/6 2100 - "WWJ Detroit" in heavy co-channel. (DL*MD)

990 WDEO MI Ypsilanti - 1/2 0817 - woman with talk on abortion, local weather, ID as "your Catholic connection, WDEO AM 990", battling Montreal's Team 990 and Rochester's Legends 990. (MKB-ON)

1000 WRAR VA Tappahannock - 1/5 1709 - UVA-NCSU basketball on the Virginia Sports Network, ad for Tappahannock Radio Shack dealer, WRAR-FM ID, good over WMVP and others. (BDM-ON)

WIOO PA Carlisle - 1/5 1738 - Country music, "Country Gold 1000 WIOO" ID, good over nullled WMVP. (BDM-ON)

1070 WNCT NC Greenville - 1/4 1635 - "La Favorita" and Latin (Mexican) music. New. (SC-ON)

1100 WCGA GA Woodbine - 1/8 1744 - way under WTAM with ID "Serving southeast Georgia and northeast Florida, WCGA....." (JF-ON)

1110 WGNZ OH Fairborn - 1/1 1828 - slogan "good news 1110, WGNZ" into C&W-gospel song, fighting it out with WBT. Heard well past sunset; suspect they were cheating. (MKB-ON)

1240 WCBY MI Cheboygan - 1/1 0300 - "Michigan's (?), 1240 WCBY", into ABC news, poor in mess, but crystal clear call letter ID. First new one for 2003, just 3 hours in! (BDM-ON)

1260 WDKN TN Dickson - 1/7 1632 - fair with weather report, promo for upcoming Titans game, ID "This is Titans Radio, WDKN, 1260, Dickson, Tennessee", into C&W music. Only 2nd time here. (JF-ON)

1280 WHTK NY Rochester - 1/4 1645 - Out of commercial break into ID "Fox Radio Network, Rochester's 1-2 punch for sports." Then back into sports talk. New. (BT-NB)

1310 WIBA WI Madison - 1/5 0835 - over Ottawa's oldies with McDonald's ad, ID as "7:34 and a half on 1310 WIBA", into talk on last night's Packers game and how hard it is to get Packer's season tickets. (MKB-ON)

WNAE PA Warren - 1/6 1715 - Locals news and ads and sudden power-down. Hard to believe I've never logged this one before! New. (SC-ON)

1370 WSHV VA South Hill - 12/31 1641 - good at times with NOS music, ID "Your local station, 1370 AM, WSHV, a South Hill institution", more NOS. Ex WJWS for me. (JF-ON)

WHEE VA Martinsville - 1/7 1544 - promo for Mort Crim News weekday mornings on "Whee Radio", ID "The Talk of The Town", AM 1370, WHEE", into C&W music. Haven't heard this in years. (JF-ON)

1390 WEGP ME Presque Isle - 12/31 1531 - weak talk with program, ad that mentioned "...in downtown Presque Isle..." (JF-ON)

WVAA VT Burlington - 12/31 1600 - alone with classic C&W music, ID "Serving the entire Champaign Valley, 'All American Country', WVAA, 1390, Burlington", more C&W music. (JF-ON)

1570 WYTI VA Rocky Mount - 1/5 1830 - Local and area ads, ID. New. (SC-ON)

WTLK NC Taylorsville - 1/5 1835 - It pays to tape: Faint but clear "WTLK Taylorsville" ID caught while transcribing WYTI content. New. (SC-ON)

1580 KCHA IA Charles City - 1/5 0906 - CNN news, ads ("International Star Registry", Ovaltine), then "playing your favorite music, the music of your generation, on AM 1580, KCHA in Charles City", into "Ballerina Dance". Good, completely alone on the channel, an hour and a half past local sunrise. Heard once before, but not this well! (BDM-ON)

1590 WPSN PA Honesdale - 1/7 2000 - C&W; ID on the hour, "Real Country; WPSN, Honesdale". Supposed to be a daytime only station. (PC-VA)

WVNA AL Tuscombria - 1/10 1008 - Clear channel sports promo and ID. (PEW-SC)

1620 WTAW TX College Station - 1/2 0056 - talk on autism, ID as "news talk 1620 WTAW", then lost to ESPN sports talk, presumably WDND. (MKB-ON)

TIS, HAR

1640 WXL52 PA State College - 1/7 1909 - Continuous NOAA weather broadcast for various towns and counties in Central Pennsylvania, with snow predicted for most areas. (PC-VA)

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

International DX Digest

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

Bruce Conti nrcidxd@aol.com
46 Ridgefield Drive
Nashua, NH 03062-1174

Transatlantic DX

- 684 **SPAIN** RNE Seville JAN 6 2226 - Good with man and woman talking. [Dangerfield-PA]
855 **SPAIN** RNE Murcia, etc. JAN 6 0203 - Fair with man reading the news. And as usual for these stations, there was interference from one or more of the synchronized transmitters, a flutter sound. [Dangerfield-PA]
1035 **PORTUGAL** Lisbon JAN 5 0434 - Fair with pop music and female vocals. [Dangerfield-PA]
1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros JAN 8 0235 - Just barely with sports talk. [Dangerfield-PA]
1548 **KUWAIT** *R.Sawa*, Kuwait City DEC 24 2235 - Fair with pop Arab music and female vocals. This is the second time I've heard this and suppose the VOA transmitter is being used. [Dangerfield-PA]
1557 **FRANCE** Nice DEC 27 0417 - Strong with man and woman in French. I wonder if this was still the old Nice transmitter or the one that was formerly used for Monte Carlo per recent international news item? [Dangerfield-PA]
1575 **SPAIN** *SER* various DEC 27 0419 - Man in Spanish, but mixed with it was what sounded like a man in German, so I probably was also hearing the new German station but the signals didn't last long. [Dangerfield-PA]
1602 **SPAIN** *SER* various DEC 27 0420 - Man in Spanish on one of two stations. It has been quite a while since I had any signals from these high band stations that in prior seasons were heard often. [Dangerfield-PA]

Ben speaks: On January 10, my wife and I are getting to a warmer climate for two weeks: a cruise around the Hawaiian Islands with a trip down to Fanning Island, Kiribati. I will have along my Sony-100 and Kiwa pocket loop so hoping to log something. As far as I know, the only Kiribati station is Tarawa-846 which is about a thousand miles west of Fanning Island. On previous trips to Hawaii I have logged Japan from the north coast of Kawaii and Western Samoa from Waikiki plus all those Hawaii stations, while on the east coasts of the islands I heard many west coast US and Canadian stations. We shall see. But back here the TAs and LAs continue to be sparse with just occasional brief interludes. In my logs of 5 years ago during the same period of January I showed three nights with 30 or more TA signals, two nights with 50 or more, and two nights with 70. What a difference! When I hear something of interest these days I'm afraid to put a tip out for fear the station will have faded out within an hour [Dangerfield-PA]

Rne.

Pan-American DX

- 530 **TURKS & CAICOS** *R.Vision Cristiana Int'l*, South Caicos JAN 1 2100 - Over local TIS; "This is WWRV 1330 AM New York, WVIP 1310 AM Mount Kisco, 530 AM Turks-Caicos Islands British West Indies" into Spanish jingle. [Chappell-IN]
535 **GRENADA** St. George JAN 9 0225 - Good, for a change, with a man and woman giving news commentary in English. Either they have improved their transmitting equipment or reception from the Caribbean is better. [Dangerfield-PA]
540 **MEXICO** XEWA San Luis Potosí JAN 8 2206 - Atop frequency. Men in conversation in Spanish, later joined by a woman. This seems to be the only Mexican I get with regularity anymore. [Dangerfield-PA]
870 **MEXICO** XETAR Guachochi CHIH JAN 8 1430 - Tuned in as a woman was giving full station ID announcement (maybe sign-on) in Spanish, then a man in a native language doing news (I think) during fade of WWL. [Westfall-NM]
940 **MEXICO** XEYJ Nueva Rosita, Coahuila JAN 5 1935 - With ID and running a solid S9+30 tonight. They are playing Mexican adult contemporary music. [Redding-AZ]
1100 **BRAZIL** *R.Globo*, São Paulo JAN 9 0600-0730+ - Neil Kazaross' tip that WTAM was off sent me right to the radio, where I heard a "wolf whistle" at 0600, Portuguese talk first suspected at 0606, mention of "Brazil" and definite Portuguese at 0615, then an ID at 0630, ID's subsequently heard at 0719 (with wolf whistle accompanying) and 0720. Long fades, but fairly

good signal at peaks. Rick Shaftan sent me a web cast address which allowed me to select *Radio Globo* 1100, but I finally had to conclude that the programs were different, not just delayed on the web. Although I have some long wires, I have nothing really aimed at Brazil, not even off the back end. Medium wave country #56. 4997 miles from western New York, my furthest MW reception to the south, just barely past the Tropic of Capricorn. And thank you Kaz! [Renfrew-NY]

- 1300 **MEXICO** XEP Cd. Juarez, CHIH JAN 4 1300 - With XE anthem, full sign-on with street address, power (50 kW), etc. Steamrolling over everything else on the frequency. [Wilkins-CO]
1430 **MEXICO** XEOX Ciudad Obregon, Sonora JAN 5 1945 - Running ads and slogan "OOOOO Equis, OOOOO Equis." [Redding-AZ]

Transpacific DX

- 1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS** Majuro OCT 27 1007-1118 - Presumed; instrumental music. + NOV 5 1125 - Soft voiced woman. + DEC 22 1102 - Big carrier, no audio. This is the most consistent transpacific carrier month after month. Many times seems to be only open carrier. Tentative ID based on direction finding and program content noted in previous years. [Moore-FL]
1475 **MALAYSIA** Kota Kinabalu, Sabah - Presumed; great expectations were raised on AUG 28 and 29 with a huge carrier. Again on SEP 23 at 1056 and OCT 13 at 1111. No audio due to high noise level. No significant carrier since. Nine direction finding bearings averaged 335° vs. 330° true, typical skewing for signals grazing the edge of the auroral zone. [Moore-FL]
1575 **THAILAND** Bangkok JAN 6 1146-1200 - Best reception ever with VOA Burmese service parallel to 9890 kHz (Sri Lanka), 1200-1205 fade out music and woman in unknown language. Finally got tape of top of hour announcement, "This program comes to you from the Voice of America" when station went silent, carrier still on, while 9890 kHz continued with the Yankee Doodle theme and then cut their carrier. 1575 kHz went on to the new program. Also produced audio JAN 2 1152-1207, JAN 1 1201-1204, and DEC 25 1142-1154. This station comes in directly over the pole and is reminiscent of the Urumchi, China station which was often heard in the east around sunset in the 1960s and '70s on 1525 (later 1521) kHz. These stations often come in when the ionosphere is disturbed and nothing else is heard, while signals from the Far East which skirt the auroral zone (Japan, Sabah) usually need prolonged periods of ionospheric quiet. [Moore-FL]



Ray speaks: This has been the worst season for "down under" stations since I've been in Florida. Only occasional weak carriers on 1611, 1548, 1512, 1503 and 738 kHz have made it.

Contributors

- Steve Chappell, McCordsville IN; Bearcat DX-1000, three terminated loops. <Chappellse@aol.com>
Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, four slopers, DXP-3A phaser, Kiwa back-up loop. <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>
Ray Moore, North Fort Myers FL; Homebrew receiver, R8, R1000, Comdel preamp, 23-inch spiral loop, 23-inch SW loop. <rsmcomm@usa.net>
Kevin Redding, Mesa AZ; Kenwood R-1000 and roof ridge wire. <amfmdx@fastq.com>
Jim Renfrew, Byron NY; Drake R8, 1000-ft wire W, 100-ft wire SW, 1000-ft wire NWW, Quantum Phaser. <renfrew@localnet.com>
Mike Westfall N6KUY / WDX6O, Los Alamos NM; Saturn car radio. <mwdx@gentoo.net>
John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R-8, 4-ft box loop. <peakbagger3@juno.com>

International News

- INDIA:** There is a radio station called *Radio Asia* in Ras Al Khaimah, one of the seven emirates that constitute the United Arab Emirates, that has been broadcasting in Malayalam language from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. local time (UTC+4) on 1152 kHz medium wave. The station has now announced that it will broadcast in Malayalam 24 hours a day beginning at 6 a.m. on 1st January 2003 on 1575 kHz medium wave. It claims that it will be the first radio station in the world to broadcast in this language round the clock. [P.Sreevalsan Nair, DEC 30 dx_india@yahoogroups.com]
I am hearing an unID station with Tamil songs on 1575 from 1700 UTC. Signal was weak and fading. Maybe *Radio Asia* with Tamil music. [C.K.Raman, JAN 8 dx_india@yahoogroups.com]

Listener C.K.Raman apparently is in India judging by his vsnl address. Nonetheless this may be a ECNA possibility; someone here reported 1575 activity recently. Incidentally ra's al-khaimah can translate as "tent point" possibly a reference to its historic early past. And it's certainly close enough to Kwt to think there would not also be activity there on 1575 as well. The use of Malayalam, spoken in Kerala state, reflects the huge number of south Indian laborers now working in the UAE. [Robert Foxworth, JAN 8 am@nrcdxas.org]

MEXICO: I have been hearing 1630 XEUT Tijuana much later than usual on the air. They have some classical and jazz programming if anyone hears them. [Redding-AZ]

SERBIA-MONTENEGRO: On January 01, 2003, the Republic of Yugoslavia changed its name to Serbia-Montenegro as one of the final steps of the disintegration of former President Tito's Yugoslavia. The Republic of Serbia which includes the autonome provinces of Kosovo in the south and Vojvodina in the north, nowadays has a total of about 10 million inhabitants, out of which 63% are Serbians, 17% Albanians and 3% Hungarians. Its capital is Beograd. The Republic of Montenegro has about 600,000 inhabitants with the capital Podgorica. Both Republics have severe democratic problems, since they had referendums during the past month, but were unable to elect new Presidents, because less than 50% of the electors showed up. On shortwave R.Yugoslavia is strongly heard again via the transmitters at Bijeljina, Bosnia-Hercegovina. [Anker Petersen, Ed., DSWCI DX Window via JAN 2 DX Listening Digest]

73 and Good DX!

For Beginners ...

the world of DX'ing can be confusing, but both new and experienced DX'ers can find answers in Russ Edmunds' column, "Target DX." If you have a DX question, just send it to Russ at <<wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org>> or 753 Valley Rd. - Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052 and he'll answer it in a future column. Remember - you're not alone - we all started at the beginning - once!

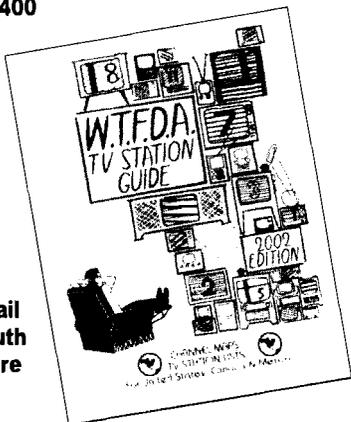
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Target DX

R. J. Edmunds

753 Valley Rd. wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org

Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052

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

The items contained in this column come from recent discussions on the NRC listserv. I want to again emphasize that the contents of the answers provided below are a composite of various replies also presented on the listserv. Some are my own responses, but many are not.

Q - Some of my most distant catches have been ones that came in almost or equally as well barefoot as with a loop. I've got an RS loop as well as a homemade 18" loop. While you can certainly tell the difference in gain with the loop antennae, I quite honestly don't see much improvement in Signal-to-Noise ratio.

A - This is not an unusual observation. There are some situations where that is the case for every DX location. The big improvement in Signal-to-Noise ratio comes with a balanced loop designed to do that. The 4' and 2' air core loops which are described in some of the NRC publications do that better than many others. But with similar loops working in the same place, there shouldn't be a lot of difference. Locally generated electrical noise, such as dimmers, photoelectric switches, thermostats, etc. can be brutal even with a good loop.

Q - When you use the alt-azimuth feature, aren't you then reducing or eliminating the directionality of the antenna? Seems to me that you would quickly lose whatever nulling capability you have when you tilt the antenna off of 90 degrees, yet people talk about alt-azimuth as being useful for nulling locals. What am I missing here?

A - The idea is that you first achieve your best null without employing the tilt, and then, trying to maintain that position, you introduce the tilt. That way, you hopefully introduce further null rather than losing it. There are two reasons for the up and down tilting feature: (1) the electric field of a groundwave is not exactly perpendicular with respect to earth. With imperfectly conducting ground, the front of the groundwave is tilted a few degrees; (2) when you are receiving skywaves, again they are not perpendicular with respect to earth. Since they are bouncing off the ionosphere at elevation angles of 0 to 90 degrees, it helps to be able to tilt the loop accordingly.

Q - I keep reading about phasing signals. Can you describe in a relatively non-technical manner the actual mechanics of this?

A - Simply stated, phasing involves receiving signals from two different antennas and canceling one out with the other. If you think of a radio signal as a wave, with peaks and valleys, then if you join that signal with a "mirror image" of itself (180 degrees out of phase), the result is complete cancellation - in other words no signal. So to use phasing for DXing, you take two antennas - one antenna that is receiving your desired DX station and your local, and one antenna that is receiving just your local. You adjust the signals using a phasing unit so that your local station is coming in with equal strength on both antennas. Then you adjust your phasing unit to exactly cancel one signal against the other. You can essentially eliminate the signal from even very powerful locals. All that remains is the DX station.

If you have a local that is just a couple miles away, you can DX that channel by using the phasing unit to cancel the local signal. Also, while sometimes trickier to achieve, nulls from phasing are more "stable" than nulls from loops, particularly for skywave signals. So you can conceivably phase null the local on a Monday and DX the channel all week.

Amplifying further about phasing units, I'll quote Bruce Conti's response directly.

There are two basic home-brew phasing unit designs, broadband and tuned. I prefer the tuned designs. I'm using an MWDX-5 LC-tank tuned unit. I've done side-by-side comparisons with the DCP-2 delay line broadband unit, and the MWDX-5 wins every time. Each of the two antenna inputs of the MWDX-5 is tuned with a high-Q LC-tank, essentially peaking each antenna for maximum efficiency while reducing if not eliminating interference from adjacent frequencies and strong local overload. The end result - more signal, deeper nulls, lower noise. One side effect of phasing is that sometimes after nulling out interference, the remaining signal is extremely weak. On many occasions when I still had a readable transatlantic signal with the MWDX-5, there was nothing on the DCP-2 using the same antennas. Both types of phasing require some patience and practice, but nulling out interference is

CFOR 1570

easier on a broadband unit than with a tuned unit. Furthermore, once you have a null or the reception beamed in the desired direction on a broadband unit, it holds over a wide range, while a tuned unit requires retuning on every channel. This broadband feature is handy for quick identification of parallels such as in scooping up several of the RNE Spain parallel frequencies at once. The other advantage to the DCP-2 is its compact antenna layout. This is one of the types of phasing units that can be used with a remote-controlled loop and whip mounted in the space of a car rooftop. The MWDX-5 is designed for longwires, super-sized broadband loops, Ewes, slopers, random wires and Beverages. So your application may determine which type of phasing unit is best. If the number of control knobs and switches doesn't scare you, then I would recommend one of the Mark Connelly "super phaser" designs that provides for both tuned and broadband operation. If you're working with wire antennas and want something a little more economical and easier to build, then go with the MWDX-5 design.

The individual tuned antenna inputs are simple LC-tank passive circuits, consisting of a tuning capacitor and a switch to select the appropriate inductor, along with a switch to select series or parallel tuning. There is a broadband amplifier on the MWDX-5 output, but I rarely if ever need it. The RF amp in the Drake R8B is usually plenty when needed. I believe the plans are available at Mark Connelly's WA1ION website or through NRC Publications.

Q - Why is it that when there's a period of very wet weather, the noise and interference levels seem to rise?

A - There are several reasons which can contribute. First, when the ground is saturated, ground conductivity is increased; so many electrical noises and external mixing products carry farther. Also, the same changes in ground conductivity can bring about changes in the coverage of local and semi-local stations. Still another factor is that dampness can create conditions conducive to transmission of mixing products and other spurious signals which might not be there otherwise.

Since the publication of the season-opening column featuring DX websites, I've received a number of additions, which appear below:

- FCC US Ground Conductivity Map <http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/m3/>
 Component Color codes <http://www.antiqeradio.org/art/recap13.jpg>
 Provides interpretation of color coding used to denote values on capacitors and resistors found in older radios.
 "Bad Weather Blowtorches" List (stations known to run day power/pattern for storm emergencies) <http://www.angelfire.com/wi/dxmidamerica/index.html>
 High school teams search www.ihigh.com
 World Weather www.worldweather.org
 Listing of Phone Area Codes & www.thedirectory.org/pref/
 Exchange Prefix Lookup (this site permits only limited exchange lookups per 48-hour period)
 BBN (Bible Broadcast Network) station listings
http://www.bbnradio.org/bbn/stations_and_ways_to_hear/us_map_of_stations.htm
 "The Light" Network List <http://www.sgnthelight.com/localstationlinks.asp>
 Spanish Alphabet / Pronunciations http://www.orbilat.com/Modern_Romance/Ibero-Romance/Spanish/Grammar/Spanish-Alphabet.html
 also <http://mts.admin.wsfc.k12.nc.us/Sgarden/alfabeto.html>
 Intercollegiate Broadcasting Svce www.frontiernet.net/~ibs/stations1.html
 (College Stations)
 Radio Station Databases www.radioinfo.com
 National Park Service Stations List www.geocities.com/CvapeCanaveral/9952/nps.htm

Please remember to keep sending me your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns as well as additional DX websites to me either via the NRCDXAS listserv, by off-line email or by regular mail! I'd like to acknowledge the many members who provided material for the answers in this column: Rick Kenneally, Chuck Hutton, & Bruce Conti.

It may not be perfect ...

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

Wayne Heinen - 4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831, or amradiolog@nrcdxas.org. Thanks!

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DX'er's Notebook

Shared tips, topics, and Internet info

Dave Braun dcbraun@delanet.com

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Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

We take a look at some propagation this time, from the basics to the theoretical.

AM SKIP

Adam Rivers <redsoxdxer417@hotmail.com>: This is a really dumb question but what is "AM skip"?

Russ Edmunds <wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org>: In the technical sense, any AM signal which arrives by skywave can be considered skip. More practically, however, most of us don't consider everyday nighttime reception of stations we don't hear in the daytime that way.

I hesitate to speak for any majority here, however I think it's safe to say that everyone views TA or TP reception as skip. The same would be true of transcontinental receptions and receptions from Latin America.

While there aren't effects similar to Es or tropo on FM, the analogy would be that what comes to us via groundwave reception isn't skip. Many of us hear semi-locals at night via a combination of groundwave and skywave, and so some may not view receptions as skip unless they're totally skywave, which is difficult to determine conclusively.

Kevin Redding <amfmdx@fastq.com>: Adam, I know that you understand FM skip. AM skip is exactly the same. Sometimes it's just called skywave. The propagation is basically the same and the biggest difference with AM is that AM doesn't have ducting.

Powell Way <powell@conterra.com>: Well lets phrase it this way. The standard BC band or MW will get distant reception at night when the groundwave signals are reflected back to earth instead of being absorbed by the D layer. Short wave skips the same way but higher frequencies are bounced off one of the layers of the ionosphere in the daytime. Shortwave reception is time of day sensitive, sunspot activity sensitive AND frequency sensitive. FM only truly skips when things REALLY get ionized in them thar regions! Tropo reception is often incorrectly called skip.

COASTAL VS. INLAND CONDITIONS

Benjamin Dangerfield <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>: Why does a difference of a few miles cause such drastic changes in the ionosphere? Is it the salt water grounding effect? Do solar storms lose force when signals hit water instead of land? I'll bet the late Gordon Nelson had some theories on this.

Yes, my reception conditions here are the same as everyone else in an inland location, including the noise.

Marc DeLorenzo <MarstonsMarc@aol.com>: Ben, I'm no expert on propagation but I remember very well a statement Gordon once made. He said that "Once you go a mile away from the ocean, you might as well be 100 miles away." That's how dramatically signals deteriorate as you travel inland. The foreign DX that you get from your inland location is amazing!

Russ Edmunds: That's pretty much correct. I can remember seeing that demonstrated very clearly many years back by Ron Schiller when he was located in Monmouth Beach NJ. I also see it on such mundane things as TIS stations - they're pounding in on the car radio on Long Beach Island or Point Pleasant NJ and a couple of miles straight inland and nothing.

Bruce Conti <BCONTI@aol.com>: There are variations that occur due to many factors. Obviously being out "in the middle of nowhere" like a salt marsh has many benefits including superior ground conductivity and the absence of local noise generators such as electric power. Ben, you often receive interesting transatlantic DX that I never hear in New Hampshire. Yet I often receive Caribbean and Latin American DX that Mark Connelly would have much more difficulty hearing at his home only some 25 miles south of me. There have been times when DXing from Camden ME has produced a Newfie-like experience, and other times when I would've been better off staying home due to solar and local weather conditions. I've been able to demonstrate transatlantic DX from electrically noisy hotels in Knoxville TN, Columbus OH, and Pittsburgh PA, yet DXers living on the other side of the Appalachian Mountains never report hearing TAs, I'm guessing that a lack of good antennas and equipment have something to do with it. I would say that everyone's location is unique, and everyone's setup is different, so as they say, results will vary.

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Randy Stewart <jrs555t@smsu.edu>: Yeah, right... helluva lot of good it does a listener in Missouri. Talk about INLAND!

Benjamin Dangerfield: I agree that when you go inland the signals deteriorate compared to the shore, but these are the ground signals. What about the sky wave signals? Why should they go away?

Russ Edmunds: Absorption from the land and what's on it - animal, vegetable and mineral. Also in some degree blockage, which might as well be considered in the same vein as absorption - either way the signal disappears. Both skywave and groundwave are absorbed by land and are either not absorbed or reflected by oceans.

Barry McLarnon <bdm@bdmcomm.ca>: For nearby stations (say within 1000 km or so), it shouldn't make much difference. But skywave signals propagating over large distances will likely be coming in at very low elevation angles, and thus are subject to the same loss factors as groundwaves over the last part of their journey to your antenna. I would further speculate that on those rare occasions when those distant signals are unusually strong at inland locations, some unusual propagation mode (ducting, chordal hop,...?) may be bringing them in at a higher than normal angle, reducing the ground loss effect.

Russ Edmunds: Multi-hop or even multi-mode are probably more likely than chordal at MW frequencies. I know chordal mode has been speculated about for MF, but I've only seen real research dealing with SW.

Either way, the main point about absorption at low-angle being analogous to that of groundwave is what matters here...

Barry McLarnon: Good point. Even though a given path can be theoretically covered in N hops, modes with N+1 or N+2 hops may provide a stronger signal, since the angle of arrival also increases with the number of hops.

Of course, distance loss and various other losses (absorption in the D layer, ground reflection loss, etc.) also increase with the number of hops. When distant stations are unusually strong, it's probably an indication that conditions have contrived to minimize the losses that affect multi-hop signals - unusually low absorption, focusing of the signal by the reflecting ionospheric layer(s), and so on. And as you say, there can also be unusual combinations of modes. It's a complicated business, but the unpredictability adds to the fun!

Russ Edmunds: With TA signals, where there's a great expanse of ocean, it would seem to me - although I've seen many arguments here in favor of single-hop - that the losses incurred in a double-hop vs. the losses incurred in a single hop at a much lower angle might be a wash during non-auroral conditions. During auroral DX, however, every extra 'hit' in the ionosphere represents additional potential for auroral absorption in the atmosphere.

Bruce Conti: My guess — You've changed from a highly conductive ground plane to something orders of magnitude less conductive. Thus any mediumwave signal that requires more than one bounce or any additional distance over land to be received will be orders of magnitude weaker.

Benjamin Dangerfield: OK. I begin to see why the difference. Bruce cites ground conductivity and absence of local noise levels in shore areas. Which would lead to less absorption. Russ mentions that there is more signal absorption on land plus blockage than there is on oceans. And I therefore deduce that increased solar activity must make for more absorption. So during auroral conditions when the sun is causing more damage we get the regional blackouts that we seem to be having these days. Conversely, when solar activity declines, absorption decreases. That's my thought for today.

GROUNDWAVE VS. SKYWAVE

Eric Conchie <econchie@reach.net>: Good Sunday evening, everybody! I know that this might sound like a pretty basic question, but is there usually some point out from a transmitter where the ground wave signal peters out, but is before the "first bounce" of the skywave signal will hit? I ask this partially because it seems as if at my location here in Tweed, the shortest "DX" signals I get in at night as usually those from New England, whereas I don't usually get in signals from New York state (other than the NYC stations) except for the locals. Also, I tend not to get too much which I consider to be a "sky-wave" signal from other parts of Ontario (except for a certain unnamed pest on 790 which has been mentioned on here a fair bit lately!) Just curious!

Barry McLarnon: If you don't get big signals from Toronto at night, then I envy you! A "skip zone" between groundwave and skywave coverage is a common occurrence in the HF bands, but it doesn't happen in the MW band. The main reason that you may not hear nearby stations at night is that the elevation angle of the skywave path to you is relatively high. AM stations have vertical antennas and good



ground systems, which are designed to radiate as little as possible at high angles. This maximizes their groundwave coverage and prevents the skywave from interfering with the groundwave (causing interference fading) at the edge of coverage. You'll probably find that the strongest skywave signals you receive are generally from stations at distances in the 500-1000 km range, which corresponds to skywave elevation angles of roughly 10 to 20 degrees.

Eric Conchie: As far as the "big" signals from Toronto at night, the only ones which really boom in here are CHWO 740, CFRB 1010 and CJBC 860. CHUM 1050 sometimes makes it in here, but more often than not, it's killed by WEVD! The NYC blowtorches (WFAN, WCBS, WABC, WQEW, etc) are bigger pests at night than Toronto's—I guess it's because of the skywave angles from NYC to Tweed.

Russ Edmunds: For most stations, there is an area of reliable daytime groundwave coverage, and a smaller area of nighttime groundwave coverage, even though the station has a larger overall coverage area at night. Outside of the nighttime groundwave area is another area where there is a combination of both groundwave and skywave. Still further, the signal becomes all skywave.

During the daytime, the skywave component of a station's signal is much smaller at most points within its coverage than at night. And since there is a significant area where there are both skywave and groundwave present, so there really aren't any firm boundaries.

Where these areas fall depends on several factors such as power, antenna pattern, ground conductivity, antenna type, frequency, and time of year. Thus the answer is different for different stations. Even a station as close as less than 50 miles can be received via skywave at night.

Bob Carter <KC4QLP@aol.com>: Its been my experience here on 560 at WGAI...my usual daytime coverage all the way out 'til the ground way signal disappears is in the order of 150 to 170 miles...depending on which direction I go. A good solid local coverage of say 60 to 80 miles depending on which way I go.[1000 watts directional] At night...I find that I start having effects from skywave anywhere from 30 to 50 miles out from the station...with night-time coverage going out to several states [500 watts directional]...all depending really on the "other" 560 operators. I've found a good strong skywave to come into play around the mountains of VA and NC at night...and usually an area from say 80 miles from the station out to 130 miles...the signal is very hard to hear...sometimes you cant hear it at all...its almost like a "skip zone" that you would encounter on certain shortwave bands. The thing too I've noticed...it varies from station to station [geographic location...antenna...frequency all plays a big role]

Rick Kenneally <woodlandview@yahoo.com>: Why is the nighttime groundwave coverage area smaller? Do signals propagate along the ground better during the day than at night? Or is the nighttime groundwave area of reliability smaller because of increased skywave interference from other stations?

Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@w9wi.com>: I wonder if Russ is considering that most stations reduce power and/or switch to more directional antennas at night?

Of course skywave interference is also a factor!

Russ Edmunds: The latter. Even if given same power, omni-directional day and night on a clear channel with nothing else there, the nighttime groundwave signal would be reduced by the station's own skywave signal.

Rick Kenneally: Meaning the station's skywave signal will cause interference to its own groundwave signal?

Russ Edmunds: Essentially, that can happen. Let's say you had WABC coming in at midnight, and conditions weren't auroral, and there were no other signals on channel. If you hear some instability in the signal, that could be the result of multipath where groundwave and skywave are both being heard. This was common in North Jersey with then-WQXR, even at about 40 miles back when I lived there. Other times the signal may be solid and steady, yet there could still be components of both which you might not notice.

If you look back at Gordon Nelson's original NRC loop article (or perhaps it's one of the follow-up articles) you'll see references to being able to use the altazimuth feature to null the groundwave signal of a local down to the point where the predominant audible signal was in fact skywave reflection (well within the primary groundwave contour).

NULLING DIFFICULTIES

Les Rayburn <les@highnoonfilm.com>: (I can null almost any station)...The exception is with signals that produce powerful ground wave and skywave components. In my case, WSM 650 remains almost un-nullable. Another local station, AM 610 also defies all attempts to null, using loops, phasers, etc. Why is somewhat of a mystery to me.

Bruce Conti: I have a couple of those too. 1030 WBZ Boston and 1560 WQEW New York are the two radio stations I have the most

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difficulty nulling. I've been able to receive a couple of domestics and Colombia in the null of WBZ, and Puerto Rico in the null of WQEW, both extremely rare under unusual conditions. I can easily null all the other NYC and Boston 50 kW stations to receive DX signals any time of night.

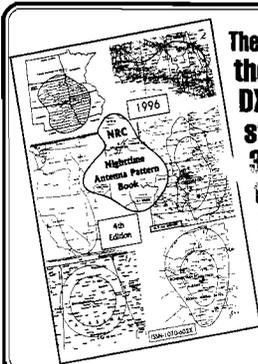
About 20 dB down on the back side is what I would consider a good null with a Ewe antenna. Don't forget that a Ewe has a wide beam cardioid reception pattern, so for example if a Ewe is aimed to the east, then expect good signals from the north and south too. Only signals directly to the west will be 20 dB or so down. Nulls of 10 to 15 dB are more typical when stations aren't directly off the back side. I've found that varying termination resistance has little appreciable effect and isn't worth the effort. The phasing of two Ewe antennas or the Double-Ewe is orders of magnitude more effective with steerable nulls of greater than 30 dB typical.

Les Rayburn, N1LF: I'm glad to read that Bruce's experiences seem to mirror my own. Though I've been very active on LF (1750 Meters) and 160 Meters for years, I'd never seriously investigated low noise receive antennas until recently. Prior to that, I mostly struggled with using the TX vertical for receiving, and used an active whip as the noise antenna on a phaser. This would often allow reception of TA signals on 160 meters and that was enough for my limited interest in chasing DX. AM DXing was something that I had always been interested in, and had promised myself for years that I would "make time for someday". For whatever reason, that someday finally came about a year ago. So far, I've literally been thrilled with this aspect of the hobby. And so now am paying a lot of attention to antennas.

Hopefully this weekend, I'll complete the 7X15X7 mini-flag and try it out. As Bruce noted, the EWE is great, but since it cannot be rotated, it only helps a lot with stations that are due North of me...even the locals are located at various spots (mostly north and west of me) so some of them give me trouble.

Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@w9wi.com>: The big Kiwa loop is rotatable both in the horizontal plane and the vertical.

My presumption is that WSM and 610 are arriving at Les' location at angles well above the horizon, while his nulls are *on* the horizon. Maybe pointing the antenna at Nashville and then tilting it up might get at least a partial null on WSM?



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Musings

of the Members

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

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Scranton, PA 18505-0111

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

John D. Bowker - 1811 Ft. Duquesna Drive - Sun City Center, FL 33573

It has been awhile since I last mused — a word or two of introduction. I've been retired from any active radio broadcasting since early 1991 but I made up for it by starting in 1946 during some brief moments one summer at WCAX-620. My 37-year employment at RCA ranged from color tv research at the Sarnoff Labs to managing the licenses for all RCA and NBC transmitters for broadcasting, microwave, satellite, and ship-to-shore. Since late 1985 I've been working with Fred Vobbe on the DX Audio Service and that leads to my musings today. There was a recent report in the press about high school and college students not being able to find the United States on a map of the world. They say that one out of nine didn't know and, apparently, didn't care. And that got me to thinking. I would like to wage a bet that, of the hundreds of members of the National Radio Club, there isn't one who couldn't find the U.S. on a map of the world and, even better, I'll bet nearly all could make a pretty good drawing of where every state is located if given an outline of this country. Canada? Same thing. Each month on the DX Audio Service I play air-check recordings of stations broadcasting on some AM frequency. The order in which I play those station tapes is determined by their location — we usually start with New England stations and work our way down the east coast before coming back up through the Midwest and then over to the West Coast stations. Almost without fail I will hear from one or another listener to the Audio Service regarding the geographic placement of a station I have featured, or about the interference from another nearby station that creeps into the collection from time to time. I'll also bet that, like me, some of your friends have a problem understanding what our hobby is all about. I tell them it's fun and is a great way to keep my mind sharp — but now I believe I'll tell them it's my love of geography that keeps me listening to distant stations. That ought to confuse them! <grin> Still, I'm right, am I not? Couldn't you fill in a blank map with many state outlines and, even better, put a dot where the 50 largest cities are located? I wonder how many non-dxers could do that. This may all sound very intellectual but, by golly, it's a form of national pride and we can use all of that we can get these days. (And thanks for coming thru for us John, your MUSINGS are always enjoyable!-DWS)

Perry Crabill - 225 Milam Drive - Winchester, VA 22602 w3hqx@arrl.net

As of December 31, 2002 I had logged at total of 747 BCB stations from this location since January 8, 1990. Of this number, 155 were new ones logged in 2002. . When you've recorded as many as 10 stations on a channel it's hard to get the 11th one. However, I have actually logged 13 stations on 1570 kHz, along with 10, 11, or 12 on a few other channels. There are several channels dominated by 50 kilowatt blowtorches that I have trouble nulling to get any of their cochannels; WPHT-1210 Philadelphia is one of these, and so is WOR-710 in Newark, along with WWVA-1170. I've also been paying more attention to the graveyard channels. A new logging was WJMO-OH on 1490, and another was WXXK-WV on 1340. Both of these channels have semi-locals that must be carefully nulled with the Kiwa loop. The only GY channel where I have logged just one station is 1400 kHz, with 1 kW local WINC about two miles airline from me. The best null I get from them is full of hum, probably due to re-radiation of their signal from the house wiring. Perhaps powering the Kiwa temporarily from batteries may help, but I haven't tried it yet. I don't see other people reporting from Virginia in *DX News*, to compare with my results, and the folks in Maryland aren't all that close. Being 15 miles west of the Blue Ridge probably cramps my style to the east somewhat. I have problems DXing most evenings. During LSS and drive times I'm busy preparing dinner. My wife is a semi-invalid and watches a lot of TV and sync buzz messes up a lot of channels. I get a brief respite when she washes the dishes after dinner, but she's a fast worker and is back at the tube in 15 minutes. Sometimes she falls asleep while watching and I turn the TV off and the Drake R8 on.



Gordon Anderson (N8CCC) - 7429 Treon Place - Huber Heights, OH 45424

(Part 2 of 2)

To overcome the dying radio syndrome is not going to be easy. Today's younger generation is overscheduled, given little free time to imagine, explore or play with the neighbor children. It has

been observed in past amateur radio demonstrations in the Dayton area that some parents would not allow their children to investigate the presentation, maybe for being in a hurry or out of fear. We need to show the parents and the children that they should not fear us radio enthusiasts. We are as concerned for a child's safety, and their need for an education that will open their minds to the new modes of discovery. It has been stated that some parents view the radio hobby as a passing fancy, not considering the long term education benefits. So we need to get parents interested in radio. This would encourage the children into the hobby. In our hobby, we need to squelch the doom sayers that say there is no future and who stifle the efforts of us who try to teach others about the hobby. Too often those within our hobby expect the first demonstration to be an overwhelming success.



But when it is not to their expectations, they reject all other ideas and efforts of outreach. We need to find a way to overcome our own feeling of worthlessness in trying to promote the hobby. For the education, we can provide and the expression of neighborly caring, we need the assurance from our radio and local communities. What can we as distant radio listeners do to bring some of the magic of radio back into the hobby and to a new generation? For one, maybe we need to seek the lead of the younger generation who have come in to the radio hobby, some being radio amateurs. To interest young people, we need to give them a real-life, hands on experience. Articles and projects need to be put back into magazines and newsletters, much like the ones we saw when we were young. This will attract the young to the magic of building and experimenting. As radio enthusiasts, we need to work with the other groups in the radio hobby. We need to find ways to demonstrate the adventures we have experienced in the hobby. But there should be more than one goal in mind. It is the experience we can pass on that can give technical, and educational understanding to the future generation. Presenting the hobby of AM Broadcast band DXing to other groups and radio clubs as a program, not only helps educate, but also draws others to the club meetings and the general radio hobby in general. There are even youth oriented amateur radio clubs at schools, and groups like Kids On The Air (KOTA). Teaming up with programs like the Education & Technology Program of the American Radio Relay League, would show that the listening side of the hobby can also be an important part of an education tool in a variety of subjects. Much information is on the web and it is a wonderful tool to assist in research and communications, but we should not rely on the web alone. Many people (and adults) do not have access to the web. Sending a young person their personal copy of a newsletter, that was mailed to them, always brings excitement. Much like those weekly readers we received when we were kids. Up to date books on the radio hobby need to be present in our libraries. I have been surprised how many of us continue to experiment and explore in the radio hobby, even AM BCB DXing. When we are able, we should tell others of our explorations. This should then be proof that this is not a dead hobby. So if we are able to volunteer, to present a program to a club, write an article, present the radio hobby to the neighborhood young people when given the opportunity, or even as an amateur radio talk to a young person on the radio; we give something back to the hobby. We are radio explorers, and with our introduction, we can urge others to give some exploring of their own. This gives us a chance to do a different type of educational public service to our community. Much different those who rely on the type of public service only when an emergency exists. I have only touched lightly on a variety of subjects of concern. I hope I have provided some food for thought on some steps we can take to help give a better future to the radio hobby. 73

John R. Malicky - 995 Shadycrest Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15216-3046

Once again, hello to all! An overdue short mention on attending my 20th NRC convention this past year in Lima. It was great to meet all the attending members including for the first time CESAR OBJIO, FRANK STYRON and JOHN ADAMS. Of course, another enjoyable convention hosted by FRED VOBBE and PHIL WAYNE! A highlight, of course, was WNRN-1710/100.1 and the best DJ's anywhere, our NRC members! The trip of visiting and/or touring AM/FM stations, my 18th, before and after convention plus the 2 groups in Lima saw 35 AM stations including WNRN. My trip this year was of NE Ohio starting at Uhrichsville's WBTC-1540, up to Dover's WJER-1450, Canton, Akron, Massillon, Kent, Youngstown, Conneaut, Ashtabula, Painesville, Willoughby, the Cleveland area and Bucyrus WBCO-1540. I must also acknowledge the help of NRC members GEORGE GREENE and JERRY STARR for assisting in this trip! George with accommodations and Jerry with a tour of Cumulus Youngstown! Also a DXer and friend Tim Davisson with a tour of WAKR-1590 and names of various radio personnel in Akron/Canton. Several great and/or unique visits were encountered, especially those of WHBC-1480, WABQ-1540, and WCLV-1420 (who will have changed to WMR-1420 on 1/1). WHBC's distinction was seeing their 64 year old building in downtown Canton and the vintage art deco reception area that gave a feeling of traveling back in time. WABQ's unique stop was

seeing their studios/offices in a former convent building with a bell tower and single tower in a one block area in NE uptown Cleveland on Euclid Avenue. WCLV's highlight was meeting president and 37 year voice of the Cleveland Orchestra, Robert Conrad, whose career started in Kankakee, IL in radio at the age of 14. In all including Lima, I saw and/or stopped at a total of 82 stations and 2 TV stations at Kent's WJMP-1520. Of course, I always enjoy the call letter meanings, like WELW's East lake Willoughby and WJER's Jeremiah E Reeves. Hopefully, I'll write the report in a separate article; stay tuned! Locally, WURP-1550 is back on the air with Sporting News Radio, G. Gordon Liddy, and mentions of advertising on "The Edge" and a phone number. They had been silent almost 9 months. DX wise, I caught WBSL-1190 with blue music and ID at 6P 11/27, WQLS-1200 signing off at 6P on 12/2, WXIT-1200 signing off at 5:07P on 12/11, and WIMS-1420 late nights over/under WCLV. Looking forward to NRC Dallas in '03 and NRC Rochester in '04 with JOHN CALLARMAN, WALLY WALRO and BILL HALE hosting Dallas and SCOTT FLYBUSH, JERRY BOND and their group hosting Rochester. Hope to see all of you at either "Big D" of WHAM land! Best wishes to thee in 2003!

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

Reports on hand for next week from JOHN VERVOORT, JR & JOE KURETH. For those looking for some unique DXing conditions, keep your eyes on the weather. When you see reports of icing conditions, look for stations that you might not usually hear, such as stations operating with directional systems, ice has a way of throwing them out of whack for a while (until the ice melts off the antenna system). When I worked for WNRK-1260, I lived about 5 miles from their 3 tower system and was in a deep null toward WBUD-1260; they were weak and very phase distorted. When we had a few icing conditions present, they were loud and clear, and that's when I knew when something was wrong as they normally weren't listenable. Also, on days when it is raining, AM signals seem to pick up, since the water makes signal conductivity better; that may help in a slight pickup of signal from a station just 'out of range' from where you're located. I always use to laugh at WAMS-1380; when it rained, the station sound would change: the harder it rained, the better it sounded! But it also pointed to a bad ground system (which they wouldn't spend the money on to fix!). Weather can be a help in your DXing; take advantage of it! See you next week!

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