Volume 70, No. 24 - April 14, 2003 (ISSN 0737-1659)

Inside...

9  IDXD
12  Target DX
14  DX'er's Notebook
18  Professional Sports Nets
23  Musings of the Members

From the Publisher... The weather is warming (none too soon for DX'ers in the Northeast), and there's still plenty of DX out there. We present a full 24 pages this time around, packed with DX and features for your entertainment, enjoyment, and elucidation (whatever that means). Enjoy!

DX Time Machine
From the pages of DX News:
50 years ago... from the April 4, 1953 DXN: Joe Becker, Hamilton, OH, former long-time NRC President, wrote to say that he had quit DXing, saying that "...Those all-nighters are the ones who put the jax on me."... from the April 18 DXN: Hal Williams, Seymour, CT reported that CMCO-590, Havana, broadcast a Milkman's Matinee program Monday through Friday at 3005-0200, playing Cuban music with English announcements.

25 years ago... from the April 1, 1978 DXN: Gerry Thomas and Charlie Barfield presented further methods of modifying the realistic TRF for more accurate readout... twenty-two-year-old D. Todd Ryder sent in his first Musing, reporting that he had worked at WBW in Orlando and WOPI in Bristol, TN, and that he was modifying his TRF for 10 kHz readout... from the April 17 DXN: "Unsung heroes" who worked behind the scenes were listed as Karl Jeter, Reprints; Ken Champion, booklets; and Frank Dailey, who handled paperwork for Publications... Don Davis published an article about... and list of NDB's (Non-Directional Beacon) 10 years ago... from the March 29, 1993 DXN: Ernie Wesolowski said that WKIZ-1500 Key West was broadcasting with 100 watts ND; after the station's second station was topped into the water March 12 by the "storm of the century"... while Dave Schmidt reported that he finally got two days off March 12 and 13, due to the storm... from the April 19 DXN: In his column "Target DX", Bruce Copei passed along comments about the GE Superadio III's audio quality... and Guy Kudlemer discussed DX software for Macintosh users.

Where can you find an airport the size of Manhattan? A ranch bigger than the state of Rhode Island? And with your help what could be the largest gathering of AM Radio enthusiasts ever?

It's Texas, the Lone Star State, and this is your Texas-sized invitation to attend NRC 2003 in Big D, the annual convention, and 75th anniversary celebration of the National Radio Club.

Our host hotel is the Holiday Inn Select DFW South in Irving, TX, just minutes from the "big" airport. Rates will be $69.00 per night, single or double. Convention registration is $45.00, and $25.00 for additional guests. John Callarman, Bill Hale, and Wally Wawro, this year's host committee, is working on a potluck "like no other," so stay tuned as they share their ideas and plans for a memorable event.

Hotel reservation and convention registration information will be published in the DX News and announced on the DX Audio Service later in the spring.

Please plan to join us Friday, August 29 through Sunday, August 31 for a taste of Texas hospitality. It's NRC 2003 in Big D, the annual convention of the National Radio Club.
CALL LETTER CHANGES

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<tr>
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<td>WKKN</td>
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<td>*New</td>
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<tr>
<td>1690</td>
<td>KXKK</td>
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*Note: WSRW had call change to WSNI set aside and remains WSRW

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

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GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

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APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

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OTHERNESS

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<td>1460</td>
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<td>CA</td>
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MEDIUM WAVE RAMblings

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- Overheard at the diner: "Not much listening this week due to Iraq & NCAA Tournament. Conditions early this a.m. (3/26) sounded better as KSTP-1500 was again pushing San Jose around but I was too tired to care (much)." - DKK-CA: "Just a few loggings this time around. With temperatures getting into the 70s here in western Colorado's Grand Valley, DX conditions are winding down. It's just a matter of time before lightning QRN will spackle the airwaves here." - BA-CA:
- Next deadline for DDXD-West: April 17th, 1800 CDT. See you there! Best of DX to All.

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WKKD IL Aurora - Changes to a religious format, along with \ // WONX-1390 Evanston. Ex: Spanish/ethnic. Radio/DX Information from Wisconsin: [http://www.angelfire.com/wi/dxing/>

1640 (WKSH) WI Sussex - 3/22 0600 - OFF! Something very weak in background. Carrier back on at 0612. (JFR-WI)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

810 UNID ?? - 3/17 2052-2055 - SS music on top of KGO, which started to get stronger as SS station faded. Any clues or hints? (RA-CA)

1010 UNID ?? - 3/22 0620 - Fair, though faded to poor, with lively SS. No slogans in 10 minutes. (JFR-WI)

1460 UNID ?? - 3/22 2525 - Fair, with C&W and news. Classic country, 1460, The Ranch. The stars and music from when country wasn’t cool. (C/W format stations seem to like that ID). (BA-CO)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

1710 WTBQ NY Warwick - 4/1 0519-0535 - Heard with WBT, on DX Test, with CIDs, one voice address mention. Bet this got out well. New here. (EL-IL)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

1690 WQO808 CA Culver City - 3/24 1025-1030 - ID: Your source for community and emergency information, also mentioning a senior center and the Culver City mayor’s luncheon. Also announcements for the Culver City Fire Department and the Public Information Office. (RA-CA)

REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in EST)

550 KRAI CO Craig - 4/1 1025-1035 - Fair, with C&W. Weather forecast for Colorado’s beautiful Yampa Valley. This is AM 55 country. (BA-CO)

590 KSUB UT Cedar City - 3/16 0125-0140 - Good, with Barbara Simpson, Coast-to-Coast. (BA-CO)

630 KHOW CO Denver - 3/29 0000-0010 - Good, with This is 630, KHOW. (BA-CO)

680 WIJE TN Memphis - 3/25 0740-0745 - With Tom Jones tune and ID. At 0745 KKYX went 50 kW non-DA and blew them away. Haven’t heard Memphis is quite a while. (Ed-TX)

730 KKDA TX Grand Prairie - 3/22 0642 - Poor, but steady, with Soul 73 KKDA after song. (JFR-WI)

780 KAZM AZ Sedona - 3/16 0142-0155 - Fair, with same Barbara Simpson show as on 590. Semidocumentary and movie promo for Nature of the Core of the Earth. (BA-CO)

790 KFYO TX Lubbock - 3/23 0635 - Fair, with news, weather, and Coast-to-Coast AM replay. (PAL-MN)

820 KORC OR Waldport - 3/30 0825-0835 - Noted alone with minimal KGQ-810 stop, playing an assortment of pop music, e.g. Don Williams’ ‘Believe in You’ followed by ID. Nasty buzz the only interference. (DDK-CA)

850 KMAX WA Colfax - 3/28 0245-0305 - Booming in with Coast to Coast network show. Over KKNY, et.al. ID at 0259 as ‘The station everyone’s talking about-AM 840 KMAX Colfax. Eastern Washington’s…’ No doubt still on day power. (DDK-CA)

870 KRLA CA Glendale - 3/12 2030-2040 - Good, with This is Smart Talk, 870 KRLA. (BA-CO)

950 WWJ MI Detroit - 3/25 2012 - Fair, in null of local CFAM, with a CBS report on the war in Iraq and man telling listeners to stay tuned to WWJ Radio. First time I’ve IDed anything in CFAM null. (BA-CO)

960 CFC AB Calgary - 3/12 2042-2045 - Fair, with hockey. Is this CC challenge still going on? (BA-CO) [No, but it’s a good catch - Ed.]

970 KNUU NV Las Vegas - 3/12 2047-2100 - Good, with News Radio 97 K News. (BA-CO)

990 WITZ IN Jasper - 3/23 0708 - Fair, with local ads and Southwest Indiana’s powerhouse, New. (PAL-MN)

1020 KRMO MO Cassville - 3/23 0640 - Fair, with Your favorite country and bluegrass on KRMO. New. (PAL-MN)

1020 KKSC NE Plattsmouth - 2/26 1840 - Fair-to-good, with local news, many Cass Country and Nebraska references. Mentioned Your 50,000 watt source for news, followed by John Deere ad and agricultural news. (MS-MB)

1020 KWIQ WA Moses Lake - 3/25 0430 - With ESPN, through KTNQ, with KXYE far below. Second time I’ve heard them in a week. Did they do something to their transmitter? (DDK-CA)

1030 KTHO WI Casper - 3/18 0004-0005 - Announcer saying snow was falling from Casper to the Rocky Mountains [Casper is in the Rocky Mountains, hi - Ed.] plus giving temperatures. KTNQ QRM. (RA-CA)

1080 KSLL UT Price - 3/25 0345 - Over/under KOTK on ET with C&W music. Cutting off on/ out throughout. (DDK-CA)

1200 KYAA CA Sequel - 3/14 0856 - Strong and weak. Oldies tunes by Dionne Warwick and The Spinners. Your Oldies Station, KYA 1200. Announced weekend event followed by a Four Seasons song. (RA-CA)

1230 WTKG MI Grand Rapids - 3/11 2100 - Fair, with ID mentioning Talk Radio and WTKG Grand Rapids and another city whose name I didn’t catch and Clear Channel Communications. Then into weather. NEW! (MS-MB)

1240 WSDR IL Sterling - 3/18 0641 - Poor, with calls in newscast. (JFR-WI)

1270 WLIK TN Newport - 3/18 0639 - Fair, in fade up, over WKBK, with promo and CNN Business Minute. OLDIES. (JFR-WI)

1280 KZNS UT Salt Lake City - 3/30 0708-0750 - Fair, with The Sports Zone. Your source for Fox Sports Radio, where bigger is better. Ads for America’s oldest Dodge dealership. (BA-CO)

1340 KCLL CA Fresno - 3/23 1945 - With Fox Sports Radio program and slogan The Bell. They are / to someone but I couldn’t figure it out due to a fade at the approximate time. Thanks Murphy. New. (KR-CA)

1340 KBBR OR North Bend - 4/1 0301 - With ad for Coos Bay Merchant followed by weather for Coos Bay area. Stayed atop maybe 20 seconds, then gone to an ESPN Radio station (probably KATA Arcata). (DDK-CA)

1420 KULY KS Ulysses - 3/21 2305 - Poor, with Real Country. Faded at 2310. (BA-CO)

1420 KITI WA Chehalis - 4/1 0538 - Probably the one with pop-rock music and mention of Town Cities. Heard often at night. (DDK-CA)

1430 KEZW CO Aurora - 3/21 2312-2320 - Fair, with NOS. For a great wake up, set your alarm to Rick Cranwell, at 1430. (BA-CO)

1480 KWAC CA Bakersfield - 3/24 0209 - Poked atop with a preacher. Black gospel program. (DDK-CA)

1490 KRRN OR Roseburg - 3/24 0158 - With Thunder Raid C&W tune. ID at 0200 and into CBS News. Barely above QRM. (DDK-CA)

1510 KFFN AZ Mesa - 3/23 0110 - Loud at times under local KNCR, with the Bruce Williams talk program. Presumed on day power. This is Financial News Radio, 1510, KFFN at Tolld. (PG-CO)

1620 KOZK NE Bellevue - 3/12 0800-0810 - Fair, with sports radio. An LS catch, heard during a brief WTAW fade. (BA-CO)

1630 KKYW WY Fox Farm - 3/22 0620 - Poor, though steady in KCJJ null, with KKYW and C&W (JFR-WI)

1640 KDZR OR Lake Oswego - 3/25 0359 - FINALLY heard call ID at 0359 through KDIA. (DDK-CA)

1690 KFSG CA Roseville - 1/31 0100 - 55 music and talk under local KDDZ. Then KFSG, Roseville-Sacramento in heavily accented EE at ToH and into EE promo for Southpointe Christian Center event with a variety of food on March 31st. Telephone 916-456-3288 for more information. Thanks to John Wilkins for the tip on the call change that sent me looking for this one. I’m very happy with this, as the transmitter is 887 miles from KDDZ and is only 18 miles. Fortunately KDDZ is directly south of me and I am able to get a null for east-west. Ex: KSSX. (PG-CO)

1690 KFSG CA Roseville - 3/22 1100 - With ID KFSG Roseville-Sacramento, playing Nortena(? music. Still in SS. Ads followed their ID. Thanks Pat Martin/Robert Wein for the tip. Ex: KSXX. (DDK-CA)

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

None this week, but 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)
FREQUENCY CHALLENGE - 960 kHz

WELI CT New Haven - 3/21 1835 - Good; "News/Talk 960 WELL" message from Connecticut Department of Public Health, and Real Money talk show. (BC-NH)

+ 3/24 0630 - Talk program, ID and into news, atop channel. (RJE-PA)

WRFC GA Athens - 2/28 0840 - Dominant morning signal. Georgia Tech basketball reports, "Georgia sports on Sports Radio AM 9-60 The Ref. Your home for Mayhem in the A.M.". (RR-NC)

KMA IA Shenandoah - 3/26 2047 - poor with promo for "America On The Road" program on "Regional Radio, KMA", weather report. (JF-ON)

+ 3/30 2325 - ID WELL in CHNS/WEAV mix. (PG-MA)

WFGL MA Fitchburg - 2/23 1400 - Excellent; contemporary Christian music, "This is 960 WFGL Fitchburg, an outreach of CSM International." (BC-NH)

+ 3/27 1959 - Caught weak but clear ID in brief WEAV-NY dead air - ID and promo for Horizon Christian Fellowship. New. (RWK-CT)


WHAK MI Rogers City - 3/24 1630 - good over WKXV with "ID you're listening to the Michigan Talk Radio Network on WHAK", state news and weather, Dave Barber Show. (JE-ON)

WEAV NY Plattsburgh - 3/23 1830 - Clear Channel promo for 96.7 The Zone and also for 960 WEAV, quite strong. (RJE-PA)

+ 3/26 0510 - "The Zone 960 AM, 96.7 FM," briefly over WEAI and CHNS. (BC-NH)

+ 3/27 1958 - Good in WELL-CT null, with "The Zone" sports, juvenile Don & Mike show, and more sports. ID "The Zone, AM 960, WEAV Plattsburgh and 96.7 FM. weak signal. (RJE-PA)

3/30 2325 - Fair signal. ID as "The Zone 960 AM, 96.7 FM, official CNN news source." Back to Drudge. (PC-MA)

WAAK NC Dallas - 3/28 0845 - Fair signal in WRFC null. Local weather report for Gastonia area "from the 960-AM WAAK weather team." (RR-NC)

WRNS NC Kinston - 3/24 1830 - Country, then ID, weak u/WEAV Arrival. (RJE-PA)

WKXV OH Wooster - 3/24 1631 - poor under WHAK on west wire with oldies, "Oldies 960 KVX" slogan. (JE-ON)

WHYL PA Carlisle - 3/23 1730 - ID and promo, oldies - the usual pre-sunset dominant here in WPEN-950's null. (RJE-PA)

+ 3/24 0625 - Good; many call letter IDs, "You're listening to the music you love on your transistor radio..." and nostalgia. (BC-NH)

WILT PA Mount Pocono - 3/21 1845 - Fair, sign-off with mention of sunrise to sunset operation, "The musical voice of the Poconos," and "960 WILT Mount Pocono," ID, later at 1455 heard still on WWPVOP, so sign-off announcement must have been for 840 WVPO. (BC-NH)

+ 3/26 1800 - Local ad then ID for 840 WVPO and 960 WILT. (RJE-PA)

+ 3/27 1900 - surfaced over Kingston's oldies with top of hour ID: "WVPO Stroudsburg, WILT Mount Pocono" into CNN special report on the war in Iraq. (MKB-ON)

WFIR VA Roanoke - 3/24 0100 - presumed with regular programs replaced by non-stop ABC news coverage of Bush War II: "you're listening to continuing coverage of the war with Iraq on ABC News". No top of hour ID, but WFIR is the major pest on 960 here, dominant almost every night. (MKB-ON)

+ 3/24 1820 - Talk, then program promo including calls. (RJE-PA)

+ 3/29 1455 - go over "Savage Nation", ID "The Roanoke Valley's news authority, WFIR". (JE-ON)

CHNS NS Halifax - 3/21 1900 - Good; "From Halifax, at 960 on the AM dial, this is Oldies 96 CHNS, a Maritime Broadcasting System station," and oldies music including Canadian-content hits "Clap For The Wolfman" by the Guess Who and "You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet" by BTO. (BC-NH)

+ 3/24 0102 - Excellent on northern wire with "Lite My Fire" by Doors, then "From Halifax at 960 on the AM dial, this is Oldies 96 CHNS. A Maritime Broadcasting station." Then Diana Ross. (RWK-CT)

+ 3/30 2320 - ID "Oldies 960 CHNS". "Weather on the 20's" into "Bad Moon Rising". Strong signal. (PG-MA)

CFBX ON Kingston - 3/22 1402 - fair with Kingston weather, "Oldies 960" slogan, oldies by The Beatles. (JE-ON)

+ 3/24 1930 - Promo for Toronto Maple Leafs Sports Network, ID. (RJE-PA)

+ 3/25 0745 - my number 2 pest on 960, with slogan "Kingston's fun oldies, Oldies 960" into Don't go Breaking my Heart by Elton John and Kiki Dee. (MKB-ON)

DX TEST

910 WEPE TN South Pittsburg - 3/20 0100 - not heard here, only KVIS and KLCN. (JE-ON)

910 WSDQp TN Dunlap - 3/29 2200 - Strong at times over nulled WOWO. Country request show "The Party Line" and "bestcountryaround.com." AM DX sites say it's this station. No IDs or local ads, only dead air where they should have been. Listed as daytimer. (SC-IN)

1190 STATION LOGGINGS


910 KVIS OK Miami - 3/20 0100 - strong with GOS music, ID "You're listening to 910 AM, KVIS, Miami, Oklahoma, we're The King's Vision". (JE-ON)


930 CFRC NB Saint John - 3/15 2332 - fair mixing with WBEN with ID "One great memory after another, 'Goodtime Oldies 930'. CFBC", into concert promo. (JE-ON)

950 WROL MA Boston - 3/31 1900 - English ID as "WROL AM 950, Boston" over play-by-play Spanish coverage of the Red Sox/Devils baseball game. In under WSEP-PA's Phillies/Marlins game from 1820 on. Last heard in North Jersey as WRYT. (JE-ON)

980 CFPL ON London - 3/26 1830 - ID bubbling up out of the mess - not often heard. (RJE-PA)

910 WONE OH Dayton - 3/26 1835 - Local ad, station promo and ID - very rare here. (JE-PA)

1000 WLNL NY Horseheads - 3/27 0830 - fair with ID "WLNL, Horseheads" into SRN News. Rare, no sign of usual WCCD. (JE-ON)

1130 WASP PA Brownsville - 3/27 0845 - poor with WDFN/WNWE with OLD music, "Oldies FM 99" slogans. Rare. (JE-ON)

1170 WDIS MA Norfolk - 3/18 1900 - Fair with full signoff by soft-voiced man "AM 11-70 now ends its broadcast day". Mixing with WCF-CT off. (RWK-CT)

1200 WCLN NC Clinton - 3/25 1810 - Good over WWVA with oldies music, "Oldies 1170" slogan, promo for contest sponsored by WCLN and Piggly Wiggly. (JE-ON)
MS Pascagoula
NY Schenectady
TN Millington
NY Ticonderoga
VA Danville
MI Cadillac
IL Chicago
IL Evanston
ON)
MA)
Stirling
like engineer saying “WIPS AM 12-50, Ticonderoga NY”, then full recorded
after top of hour, followed by call ID. New.
Braddock
Williamsport
tune. (SC-IN)
Dr. Dean Edell Show. (JF-ON)
Pittsburgh’s new talk station is ‘1550 The Edge’, WURP” into the “Don and
Mike Show”. (JF-ON)
ON)
Democratic war” of course, top of hour EE ID: “WONX, Evanston-Chicago”.
-3/24 1847
3/24 1750
2/28 2000 - Weak in mush with break in Sporting News Radio,
3/28 2154
3/9 0700 - Good with voice suddenly out of nowhere - sounded
3/27 0700 - Above local WBUR.
3/25 1030 - New station with short “New York State DOT High-
3/24 1750 - new station with short "New York State DOT High-
1557  FRANCE Nice MAR 24 0042 - French newstalk; good. [Connelly-MA]

Erik spoke: Long wave reception during the winter months was mostly good and sometimes really big signals heard on 153, 162, 171, 189, 234 and 252 kHz often with minimum static. Now noise is typically heavy and reception increasingly tough but with some good nights. I used a northeast long wire but sometimes an east wire was better on beacon interferers, particularly for North African signals on 171, 207 and 252.

Pan-American DX

530 TURKS AND CAICOS R.Visión Cristiana MAR 25 0400 - Spanish ads for local churches in the NYC area after the Spanish/English legal IDs. Generally very good! + MAR 29 0507 - Fair with a female Spanish vocal, but usually excellent most of the time the past night! [Chiochiu-QC]

600 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Santo Domingo MAR 19 0254 - Merengue music, mixed with program announcements from R.Rebelde Cuba. + MAR 25 0356 - Bachata music way under WICC. [Chiochiu-QC]

604 CUBA R. Progreso MAR 29 0346 - Son music to 0358 when I hear the Cuban theme song with the canned ID. “Radio Progreso cadena nacional, La Onda de la Alegría... sol de la Habana, Cuba. Primer tercito de América,” followed by the Perspectiva program. Fair to very poor. Then at 0354 very good with news summary program and some Eurodance team samples played before the summary announcements, mostly about education in Cuba and other Cuban news, no item was about the war in Iraq. [Chiochiu-QC]

640 VENEZUELA YVQO Unión Radio, Puerto La Cruz MAR 29 0306 - Newsicast with recognizable Unión Radio news jingle, in the mix with Cuba and others. Occasionally to very strong level with less interference at other times the past night. [Chiochiu-QC]

700 GUADELOUPE R.Guadeloupe, Pointe-à-Pitre MAR 19 0337 - “Talk in accented French about the disadvantages of the war in Iraq, then time-check and Radio Guadeloupe ID. Very strong and alone on channel!! + MAR 29 0504-0523 - Very strong with little interference, occasionally excellent; with France Info relay (a news/weather/sports station in France). All the news items heard were about the war in Iraq. [Chiochiu-QC]

750 VENEZUELA YVKS RCR Caracas MAR 25 0333 - Sign off with the YV anthem “Gloria al Bravo Pueblo.” Poor signal, but just slightly under WSB which was only fair the past evening + MAR 29 0313 - Man in Spanish. Fair with lots of interference from WSB. [Chiochiu-QC]

760 COLOMBIA HJA R.CBN Barranquilla MAR 29 0306 - Edición Cultural program; man said “Buenvidenos...” and other welcome announcements, then Colombian music. Pretty good for several minutes tried for Radio Mar Plus (OAAX), but no such luck! Earlier this evening, before 9 p.m. EST, in RCN null (which was very weak and not dominating the channel like later), I could get a country domestic. Has WIR changed their format from news/talk to C&W? I haven’t listened to them in quite a while. [Chiochiu-QC]

800 CUBA CMDZ R.Progreso, Chambas MAR 29 0216 - Playing “Too Much Heaven” by the Bee Gees followed by a Cuban pop song. Then a man in Spanish with a mention of “onda de la alegría” followed by news, the Ritmos program with a salsa song, then the rest of the music played on the Ritmos program was son music (very similar to Venezuelan llanera music - such as Juan Vicente Torrealba or Simón Díaz). Very strong signal with only very occasional interference from remains of null WLS and background net from WCRB-880. [Chiochiu-QC]

1150 MEXICO XELAS Culiacán, SIN MAR 27 1159 - Very slow instrumental anthem, followed by a soft-voiced gal with sign-on announcement at 1200: “Radio Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa... el aire... 1150 kHz... desde Culiacán, Sinaloa... radio... muy buenos dias...esta con Ud.s.” Mellow vocal music followed, with very spotty reception after 1205. Mixing with KDEF and two US Spanish stations on 1150. Now here, XE #10. Anthem seemed an hour early (5:00 a.m. in Sinaloa) unless Mexico is already on DST or maybe they just felt like coming on an hour early! [Wilkins-QC]

1180 CUBA CMBR R.Rebelde, Villa María MAR 19 0257 - Spanish sports talk under strong remnants of mostly impossible to null WHAM. + MAR 25 0402 - Son music getting well through a strong WHAM. + MAR 29 0506-0507 - For one minute alone with a Cuban song. I wanted to listen to this before I feel asleep, but at 0507 WHAM was back in very strongly with R.Rebelde fading down in strength and audible very weakly beneath HAM, so I tuned back to R.Guadeloupe. [Chiochiu-QC]

1375.01 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO St. Pierre MAR 29 2355 - French group vocal; fair. Station is still active. [Connelly-MA]

Affiliated stations:
720 R.Venezuela Oriente en Nueva Esparta
880 R.Venezuela Barinas en Barinas
880 R.Venezuela en Ciudad Guayana
900 R.Venezuela Mara Ritoio en el Zulia
960 R.Venezuela Llanera en Portuguesa
990 R.Venezuela Tricolor en Lara
1010 R.Venezuela Bolivar en Ciudad Bolivar
1080 R.Venezuela Universal en Aragua
1110 R.Venezuela Carupano en Sucre
1150 R.Venezuela Caribe en Falcón
1220 R.Venezuela Valencia en Carabobo. [Jose Elias Diaz, ConDq, ed. Tore Larsson, March ARC LA Newsletter]

73 and Good DX!

Target DX  

R. J. Edmunds
753 Valley Rd.  
wb2hj@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 - I have a CCrane Radio and a random wire antenna strung up under the eave of the house. Any further outdoor antenna is out of the question because of local restrictions.

1. Am I getting the most out of my rig that is to be expected?
2. What kind of efficient "low profile" antenna could I get without being sent to Leavenworth by the Home Owner's Association?
3. Is there anything I should be doing to maximize the equipment I already have?
4. Should I change or modify the antenna I presently have?

A - I'm not very familiar with the CCrane firsthand - only through others, but I believe I can provide some assistance regardless:

1. You are probably getting as much from the radio as you can, given the antenna. You could probably improve it somewhat with a better antenna, but you do have limitations in that area. That said, the CCrane is a 'consumer radio' meaning that it is not designed to have the type of performance of a radio designed for hobby use. You didn't mention it, but depending on your budget, you could upgrade the receiver also.
2. Your best bet would likely be an indoor antenna. Radio Shack makes a passive loop and an amplified loop. KIWI also makes a pocket loop, however those are temporarily unavailable due to the company relocating. None of these is particularly costly.
3. I think the answer to this is "see prior answer". I would wonder if you've tried both with and without the ground to see what difference it makes. You could also try tuning/matching the antenna to the radio using an inductance/capacitance circuit. Additional details on that can be found in the NRC Antenna Reference Manual #1, available through NRC Publications, depending on your interest in constructing something.
4. Yes. See the second answer. Also and again depending on your interest in construction projects, you could build a loop antenna. An antenna of this type may be more unsightly and will certainly take up more space, but that's the price for performance on a budget. There are excellent commercial indoor antennas available, but the cost is measured in the hundreds of dollars. Check out NRC Publications for specific projects.

Q - I just extended my backyard longwire that now probably measure about 300-350 ft. or so around the back of my property. I added on to it by tightly intertwining the end of the original longwire with the new length of incremental wire and then securing it all very nicely with weatherproof electrical tape. I couldn't solder the connection because I was about 20 ft. from the nearest electrical outlet!

Because I didn't solder the connection do you think it would somehow negate the additional length I've added because it's not "connected" properly?

A - I'm afraid that the best answer I can give you is 'maybe'. It could depend on whether or not you did a really tight job of intertwining and then taping. BTW, you can do a great solder job with one of those small portable propane torches set at low flame or, possibly even one of those grill lighters that produce a flame rather than having just a heating element. Also, in a situation like this, you could try encasing the joint in a small plastic pill bottle or case, and sealing it with putty or caulk, either of which will probably last longer than the tape.

If the wire is suspended at all, you'll also need to be concerned with possible breakage through strain. Attaching a hanging wire to some fixed object (a fence post perhaps or a tree trunk) in such a way as to permit the solder joint to hang between two such connections relatively closely spaced can help, as can other improvised means of mechanical strain relief.

In general, with wire antennas, you often end up just experimenting and seeing what works and what doesn't. Where I am, I haven't yet found a longwire setup that doesn't present too much noise. I also can't get a single straight line run of more than 100ft or so, and I can't do one of the 'noise-reduced' wires because I can't get the lead-in underground to come back to the house thanks to a patio and a sidewalk.

Q - I'm running GeoClock on the shack computer, so sunrise/sunset mapping is no problem. What is the significance of stations that are required to reduce power at local sunset?

A - Just having GeoClock - as I do also - doesn't give you the 'approved, official' FCC Local sunset time for the station even if you have the precise coordinates. The FCC AM Query shows those.

The significance is that, as sunset approaches, the ionosphere starts to change, and distant propagation is more likely. Thus if you listen just prior to their local sunset time, you have the best chance of hearing them because they'll still be on day power, but subject to propagation characteristics more like night.

As an overy to that, this effect is magnified in the fall months during the last two weeks of the month, and in the early months of the year, during the first two weeks because the FCC LSS times are based on a mid-month average. Thus, the idea is to maximize the degree of darkness at the station (and consequently, along the signal path from them to you) while they're on day power and pattern.

The exception to this would be those cases where the power difference is small or none, but the nighttime pattern actually is more favorable to you.

A (somewhat) related note: any station to the west that has a favorable nighttime signal in your direction (significant night power and no deep null aimed at you) is a potential sunrise target. The period around your local sunrise often produces a window that brings up the relative strength of stations to the west of you. This is because absorption in the D layer increases rapidly when solar radiation hits it, and it's being illuminated to the east of you, but not to the west, during the sunrise transition. Sort of like an RF-absorbing curtain being drawn across the sky from east to west. So, the eastern stations that were there all night tend to get knocked back, allowing the westerners to emerge from underneath. On rare occasions, the window will persist well after sunrise, long enough for some of the western stations to start going to day power/pattern.

Here, as with sunset, the time of month can also be critical, as the more darkness on the path, the better. As sunrise times get later in the fall, the end of the month is preferable. In the spring, the beginning of the month is better.

It also pays to realize that the shortest day of the year (usually December 21st) is not the day when the sunrise is latest and the sunset earliest. Those two conditions do not even occur on the same day. The earliest sunrise time at mid-latitudes is usually between Dec 5 and 10, while the latest sunrise times are right around December 30. Since December 21 is between these two, it is usually the shortest day of the year. This means that December can be viewed as a 'fall' month in terms of sunrise DX, but should be considered on the same plane as January for sunset DX.

Please remember to keep sending me your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns to me either via the NRCDXAS listserv, by off-line email or by regular mail! I'd like to acknowledge Barry McLarnon, who provided material for answers in this column.

Need more information about AM DX'ing?

Mail a First-Class stamp to NRC Publications - P. O. Box 164 -Mannsville, NY 13651-0164 and ask for the NRC Publications Catalog.
Received a letter from an ex-member who has just rejoined after... years:

John W. Hoogerheide, Kerrville, TX: Recently ran across NRC's web site and decided it would be fun to rejoin. I was an active NRC member in the '90s, and amazed to recognize names such as Ray Millar, Don Kaskey, Carl Dabelstein, etc. as still active members.

When all-niters started killing the hobby I quit but may start over again. Finished with 1800 stations logged and about 1000 QSL's including almost every country on shortwave including Reunion, Comoros and Falklands.

Best MW DX was WGBY DX test on 1340 from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba heard while in college at Madison, WI - 250 watts on graveyard.

Welcome back John – it's great to hear from you... And now continuing with the discussion from last time, including a wide range of topics to enhance your DX...

David Hochfelder < hochfeld@rcc.rutgers.edu>: Brian, Welcome back to AM DXing! Here's my $.02. I got back into the hobby a couple years ago, in a similar situation to yours. I don't have a lot of disposable income or room for an antenna farm. I started out with a Superadio 3 and had fun with it for a few months. Then I upgraded to the Sony ICF-2010 and haven't yet outgrown it. (Although I would love it if a Drake 88B dropped into my lap somehow.) To go with the 2010 I bought a Kiwa Pocket Loop antenna. So the total out-of-pocket cost was in the area of $500 spread over a couple months.

My advice regarding receivers: don't start out with the Superadio or CCRadio. You'll outgrow it and get bored with it soon and it will be money wasted. Go for the Sony ICF-2010: you won't outgrow it for many years, even on a Newfoundland DXpedition, Europa and Drake

One word of warning - be careful purchasing a used 2010. Earlier units had problems with a blown external antenna input. Once you have the 2010, I would consider installing the Kiwa filter upgrade, which makes MW DX performance comparable to that of the expensive tabletop rigs.

Harry Helms <helms@earthlink.net>: I agree 100% I have both the wide and narrow Kiwa filters. In my ICF-2010, and the improved performance is definitely worth the price/effort. The curves of the Kiwa filters are much steeper than the stock Sony filters; you can also notice the difference on SW, where most broadcasters operate 5 kHz apart. The Kiwa wide filter does a good job on SW of reducing QRM.

I also have the Kiwa filter in my CCRadio and it also is a major improvement as well. Craig at Kiwa has produced some very good tools for DXers.

Brian Leaton <bcory@cpex-usa.com>: Well, you've pretty much read my mind. I have been doing a lot of reading the last couple of days, and had pretty much decided to start with a Superadio, but keep my eyes open for a Sony 2010. I think that's what I'll do. Heck - if I later get a 2010, I can still use it on my desk at work. I see that used 2010's are selling in the $200 range on eBay. If I can get up the courage to buy something that expensive on eBay, then that may be a plan.

I like the lazy Susan idea, but years ago my old Sony had an AM antenna on the top of the radio, which would flip up, and swivel around. That way you didn't have to turn the whole radio. I wonder why they dropped that idea?

Has anyone found (the DX-398) to still be available? I could try to hit some of my local Radio Shacks, but I have a feeling I'd be wasting my time. I'm wondering if anyone has seen them on closeout lately.

Also - should I assume that the DX-398 may not be ideal for me for the same reason that the CCRadio is not recommended (its propensity to overload when close to a local tower?) Since they're both made by Sangean, I'm assuming they have similar characteristics. True?

Bruce Conti: For starter receivers, I would go with the CCRadio over the GE Superadio for many reasons.

1. The CCRadio has digital frequency readout, the GE Superadio is analog sliderule.

2. The CCRadio has a narrower bandwidth, and can be upgraded with a Kiwa filter for improved DX performance. The GE Superadio bandwidth is wide open, great for aircheck-quality sound, but lousy for DXing.

3. The CCRadio includes NOAA weather channels and VHF TV audio. The GE Superadio is only AM/FM broadcast.

4. The CCRadio makes a great clock radio, paraphrasing Steve LeVeille on WBZ. "It's a clock radio with a real radio inside, not just a clock with a cheap radio inside." So if you later decide that AM broadcasting is what it was used to be, you'll at least still have something useful in the CCRadio.

Kevin Burnet <kJb1@nrcrdxas.org>: I don't know about the CCRadio, but I really liked my DX-398 until it broke (dropped it onto the sidewalk). Speaking of my broken DX-398, it turns on, tunes, the memories all work, but I get no signal strength and no audio. Any ideas what might be wrong?

Matt < broadwater@wvqyp.net>: I have a DX-398 and like it quite a bit. If you don't want to shell out the big bucks for a 2010, give the 398 (aka Sangean 909) a try. If anything, it has a reputation for being built for high-strength signal areas, such as Europe or E. North America. I live near 2 fairly powerful AM stations, and have not noticed any overloading.

Two things the DX-398 has going for it... 1. It is on a blowout sale now, $99 (originally sold for $250). 2. You can buy it, keep the receipt and return it no questions asked within 30 days. With that in mind, I don't know how you can lose. It is generally a very well regarded receiver, and I think you will like it.

Mind you, the 2010 would be my first choice too, but I have been told by several MW DXers that the DX-398 gives you about 80% of the performance of the 2010, at 1/3 the cost.

Someday I might get a 2010, but for now the DX-398 is doing fine. Btw, I find the wide filter is very good, especially for fringe reception.

Good luck!

Russ Edmunds <vw2zb@nrcrdxas.org>: Y'know, I don't know of very many wives who would look kindly on a $500-$800 expenditure for a receiver. My take on the question was that he didn't want to tick the wife off in terms of price - justifiably! I'd start out following Rick Kenenally's advice earlier. You can always upgrade!

Generally speaking, aside from tubes (which are, after all, disposable in a sense) and the occasional filter capacitor (easily replaced) the only thing that I'm aware of that goes on a receiver is the filter capacitor (easily replaced) the only thing that I'm aware of that goes on a

Bruce Conti: I think the DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception. The DX-398/ATS-909 is a very good choice for fringe reception.
50 miles away from me. Another good choice, although a bit pricier, is the Sangean CC Radio sold by C Crane Co (and possibly others), and it is a very good choice also. For example, last night, I was trying to listen to WCBS New York on my Superadio, and I could not get it due to bad storm going on in my area, but when I tried the CC Radio, I was able to get a somewhat weak, but definitely listenable signal from it. Both radios were being run without external antennas at the time. All you need to do is to plug it into the radio's antenna jack. You can use almost any cord that fits into the jack. If you find you have much luck on shortwave. The DX-398 offers more possibilities and it is a fantastic deal for $100 marked down from $250. The Sony ICF-2010 is a great radio and very versatile. Any loop is better than none, and you can build your own or not too much money. Or you can try to buy a used loop like I did. Your choice of equipment will depend on how much you want to spend and how adept you are at building things.

Last night I tried it out with my ICF-2010, and the main thing it seemed to do for me with DXing. The problem is that it's BIG. I don't know about FM. I made a dial marker for that, then one for the longwave. They do withstand repeated unfoldings. Rather than completely folding them to home-size, I only wrap them around the whip antenna, or solder it to a 1/8 plug for the external antenna jack. An attic antenna, like a dipole, will improve reception even more on shortwave.

Bruce Conti: As (for an antenna) Yikes! Stay away from an indoor wire. The Radio Shack loop at $19.95 is a bargain, and as far as I know it works just as well if not better than the popular Select-A-Tenna.

Brian Leyton: Welcome to the returning DXers club! I spent yesterday morning calling around to the local radio stores (San Fernando Valley - CA), and I did manage to find 4 stores that still had their display units. I picked one up from a manager who actually sounded like he knew what he was talking about & picked one up. If you really want this radio, you should probably not wait too much longer. Once they're gone, they're gone.

I can't really tell you if this is a great radio yet or not, since I've had it less than 24 hours. Once I found a spot where I could listen fairly noise-free, I fired it up. Do a charge / discharge cycle at least 5 times. This allows maximum use of the batteries. Get at least 2 sets of batteries. Check around...other RS stores may have the loop. The Tork is similar to the RS one but not identical.

Brian Leyton: Thanks for the advice. I did have the wife pick up a pack of Duracells yesterday, but I suspect there's some promise there.

I think I need to buy or build a better antenna. The store where I bought the DX-398 didn't have the AM loop anymore, or I would have bought it.

Wow, thanks for all of the useful information. I'll check out the Yahoo group, and I'll work on some sort of longwire for SW. I can probably just stretch something from one eave to another at the side of the house. Now if I can just cut through the 20 layers of paint & get the window open...

I did find some mods listed for the 398, but none of them seems to fix anything that I thought needed fixing. I think there'll be lots of fun to be had with this unit.

Bruce Conti: This seems to be a hot topic lately. I would go for a CC Radio or the DX-398, followed-up by Kiwa upgrades. It seems to me that the DX-398 would be a hot little receiver with the Kiwa filter and audio upgrades installed. You can't beat the current sale price for the DX-398 at Radio Shack either. I thought about getting my own, but I already own too many receivers. I'll wait for the IBOC/DMR digital receivers.

Kevin Redding: <amfindx@fastfox.com>: It depends on how much you have to spend.

If you have about $100 and you move with lightning speed you MIGHT still be able to get a DX-98 which has been discontinued. If you want a GREAT portable and have $350 to spend get the Sony 2010, you will be very impressed. If you are a casual DXer and want great sound, get the $50 so or GE SR III.

The CC Radios are good but NOT worth the money in my opinion. I own all these radios. There are other choices but this is my opinion on the ones mentioned.

David Hochfield: Hi Chris, Welcome to the list and welcome back to the club. Here's my $0.02 worth.

I'm surprised, first off, that you live in the Atlantic metro area and have trouble picking up your locals during the day. At night WSB is local-like up here in New Jersey.

If you're deciding between a Superadio and DX-398, here's my advice: find a Radio Shack with a DX-398 left and buy it for $100. It's a bit more than the Superadio, but has a couple advantages over it. First, digital tuning. I started out with a Superadio and it was very difficult to figure out where on the band I was. I usually had to wait for an ID to find out. Digital tuning saves a lot of hassle. Second, shortwave capability. The DX-398 won't pull in Radio Bhtan or spectacular tropical band DX, but it will give you the major international broadcasters, and its performance will improve somewhat by using the Radio Shack windup antenna or by strung a length of wire. If you string a wire, you can do a couple things: either wrap it around the whip antenna, or solder it to a 1/8 plug for the external antenna jack. An attic antenna, like a dipole, will improve reception even more on shortwave.

I don't use my ham dipole for BCB DXing, because it doesn't seem to do much. The Radio Shack loop is OK, and is a good deal for the price. So you could get a decent BCB DX setup for $120 if you get the DX-398 and Radio Shack loop.

If you want better equipment, go for the Sony ICF-2010 for $350 or so. I've been very pleased with mine. I also have a Kiwa Pocket Loop which has served me well, and a used Quantum Loop which is working out a bit better. I also bought a box loop kit on eBay for around $70.

So the bottom line is to get equipment you can grow into and won't get bored with. You will get bored or frustrated with the Superadio because of its lack of shortwave and its imprecise tuning. The DX-398 offers more possibilities and it is a fantastic deal for $100 marked down from $250. The Sony ICF-2010 is a great radio and very versatile. Any loop is better than none, and you can build your own or not too much money. Or you can try to buy a used loop like I did. Your choice of equipment will depend on how much you want to spend and how adept you are at building things.

Here's the group address:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/DX398

And here are the Web addresses:

http://ontarioamxd.tripod.com/

http://www.ai-New-To-Net.com

http://www.powell.encoder.tripod.com
# Professional Networks

## Sports

Professional Sports Networks

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**Note:** The numbers in the **Network** column represent the radio station frequency (in MHz). The stations listed are affiliations for the Atlanta Braves baseball team.

## Networks

Here are the professional Baseball Network lists. I have included the end information about those network lists that I have yet to find. This contains updated information that I found while researching the subject. Please note that Ken Onyschuk sent me these listings. I am not sure that the teams for which I have not found a network list actually have a network (besides the flagship station). I need information on the Minor League teams/networks. (Note: to be continued next issue, starting with the Kansas City Royals - pls.)

**Baltimore Orioles 2003** Jim Hunter, Fred Manfra, Chuck Thompson


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<thead>
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**Boston Red Sox (EE) 2003** Joe Castiglia, Jerry Trupiano


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**Chicago Cubs 2003** Pat Hughes, Ron Santo

[http://www.trubinradio.com/cubsaffiliates.htm](http://www.trubinradio.com/cubsaffiliates.htm)

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**Chicago White Sox 2003** John Rooney, Ed Farmer


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</table>
Dave Schmidt  
P. O. Box 3111  
Scranton, PA 18505-0111  

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

My DXing came to a halt in mid-February because of a snowfall that began on the afternoon of Friday, February 14. It stopped for a while after that day and then started up again on Saturday and continued until Monday morning. The total accumulation in Winchester was 30" and the area was paralyzed. It took me 12 days to clear my driveway from end to end, shoveling snow for 15 minutes at a time and then resting inside for an hour before going out again. It was February 26 before I did any logging. I logged the 35 new stations so far this year, which considered the limited amount of time I spend at the receiver. My total at the end of December was 747, so I have now heard 782 stations on the CBC since January 1990. Back in the early 1930s RADEX said that there were something like 780 CAB Stations in the entire country. A number of DXers had logged nearly all of them because most of the channels were clear of local signals after midnight or 1:00 AM. Further, graveyard channels were cleared at times for FCC frequency checks. I was especially pleased to log WDMB-880 in Tennessee on March 4 despite WCBS-NY. Also, on March 12 I heard WHB-610 in Kansas City behind WGY-NG. It’s always a thrill for me to pull in a signal under one of the East Coast blow-torches. For some reason they don’t null very well with the Kiwa loop and I haven’t gotten around to trying phasing antennas.

Phil Boersma - 15570 Cleveland Street - Spring Lake, MI 49456

I just realized that 2003 marks my 50th year as a DXer. I am not qualified for the 40/80 club just yet (I. 46 years old). I didn’t join NRC until 1977; I was in another DX club before that. I still see my total pop up in DXDA, not updated since 1978. That’s because while I still actively ‘dial twirl’. I have not kept an organized log or records of DX catches since about that time. A significant ‘catch’ is now usually just noted by time/date scribbled in the margin of the NRC AM log. On another topic, my 2 cents for the AM nostalgia formats: It’s no big secret in the radio industry that pre-1965 oldies are now considered too ‘old’ for most FM stations. FM doesn’t much want listeners over age 50, and if you’re old enough to remember Chubby Checker or Big Bopper, you’re probably not in the demographic coveted by most FM’s. The result: the AM nostalgia formats, such as ‘Music Of Your Life’ and ‘Stardust’ are becoming the places for the first generation of ‘rock n roll’. Except for Frank Sinatra has been cut way back. “AM Only’ now is mostly ballads from the 1950’s and 60’s. FM doesn’t much want listeners over age 50, and if you’re old enough to remember Chubby Checker or Big Bopper, you’re probably not in the demographic coveted by most FM’s. The result: the AM nostalgia formats, such as ‘Music Of Your Life’ and ‘Stardust’ are basically extinct on the radio now, which in my opinion is a shame because I really like the music of the 1930’s and 40’s better than what has come since. The Westwood One ‘AM Only’ format, which used to be nostalgia, is now more soft adult contemporary /oldies. “AM Only” not only won’t play the tunes of Bette Goodman, they also have largely cut out Tony Bennett and Rosie Clooney, and even Frank Sinatra has been cut way back. “AM Only” now is mostly ballads from the 1970’s, it seems. If I had the money (I don’t), I’d buy some small AM somewhere and program it with music from 1920 through about 1950. When was the last time you heard Ben Selvin and his Orchestra or a singer like Eddie Howard on the radio? I can only dream.......

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

I got a pretty good shock on 3/29 when I got a call from Julian Milewski that WMBT went off the air the day prior. This is the result of the last stations I was doing contract engineering work for in this area, since they were, basically, “good pay” (they never gave me any hassles when paying bills). I had been with them since the early 1990’s. Basically, the station had ‘no staff’; anything that was on the air was either purchased time or put in by one of the people who worked with their parent company in Pottsville. It basically ran unattended all week with a computer inserting the ads for the breaks in the Jones network and another computer turning the transmitters on/off at the scheduled times and taking the transmitter readings! I understand they have some VERY heavy money getting it done, also, so it may not be gone. By the way, the reception reports that went unanswered from the DX TEST there 4+ years ago I now have; I had forwarded them to the secretary there, she stuffed them in a desk, and quit! I’ll be answering them as time permits (I don’t give up ANDY RUGG, it may be the record for longest time for a veri received!). I’m still very much a believer in AM radio; it still has a purpose, and I think it’s going to be around well into the ‘digital’ age, if and when that ever gets started? 73