

DX News

Serving DX'ers since 1933



Volume 70, No. 29 - August 11, 2003 (ISSN 0737-1659)

Inside . . .

- 2 .. AM Switch
- 4 .. DDXD-West
- 7 .. IDXD
- 12 .. Confirmed DX'er

- 12 .. DX'er's Notebook
- 17 .. Clear Channel Mends Fences
- 19 .. Petition for Low-Power Stations
- 20 .. Musings of the Members
- 21 .. Dallas '98

From the Publisher ... A couple of column notes ... no DDXD-East this issue, but look for it to return next month. And Barry Finkel says, "I have no new sports networks to report. It is NFL pre-season time, so please send me any NFL (or CFL) network lists that you find. Thanks."

DX article for Canadian Foundation ... NRC Member Brent Taylor has been commissioned by the Canadian Communications Foundation to write a short article for their web site at <http://broadcasting-history.ca/index2.html> on DXing and its pursuits during the founding days of broadcast radio.

It is a site created by and for the broadcasting community so the DX article is being written in more non-technical terms, mostly be a plain English account of the relationship between DXers and broadcasters and how they cooperated to improve the science of radio in the first half of the 20th century.

Brent is seeking any notes, quotes, logs, or anecdotes that may have appeared in ancient or more recent bulletins that would help him explain and illustrate our fascination with MW DX.

"The web site is primarily focused on Canada, of course, so I am mainly looking for submissions by Canadian DXers and/or US/foreign loggings of Canadian stations," Brent commented. "Loggings and stories are best, as well as pictures (permission to publish would be required from the owner). I've already scanned in some of my QSL card collection, but it only goes back to the early-1970s. I'm placing full credit in footnotes for all sources that I am able to use."

Contact Brent at <<btaylor@nbnet.nb.ca>> or 193 Main St - Doaktown, New Brunswick E9C 1A7 Canada.

Postal Regs ... The USPS is tightening up its quality standards for address labels, both in appearance and correctness, and now it will cost us about a dollar total every time your copy of *DX News* has to be forwarded or returned due to a bad address. And that cost will be passed directly on to you in one form or another, so it would be in your best interest to provide a corrected address

ASAP should you move or find yourself with a new address. And if you find a request for a correct address printed and highlighted on your label, kindly respond. We currently have two members who no longer receive DXN because they apparently moved and did not send in a new address, and two others whose addresses for some reason are unverifiable and must have DXN's mailed at the full rates of 37 and 60 cents each.

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 70

Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date
30.	Sept. 5	Sept. 15			

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 71

1.	Sept. 19	Sept. 29	16.	Jan. 16	Jan. 26
2.	Oct. 3	Oct. 13	17.	Jan. 23	Feb. 2
3.	Oct. 10	Oct. 20	18.	Jan. 30	Feb. 9
4.	Oct. 17	Oct. 27	19.	Feb. 6	Feb. 16
5.	Oct. 24	Nov. 3	20.	Feb. 13	Feb. 23
6.	Oct. 31	Nov. 10	21.	Feb. 20	Mar. 1
7.	Nov. 7	Nov. 17	22.	Feb. 27	Mar. 8
8.	Nov. 14	Nov. 24	23.	Mar. 12	Mar. 19
9.	Nov. 21	Dec. 1	24.	April 2	April 12
10.	Nov. 28	Dec. 8	25.	April 16	April 26
11.	Dec. 5	Dec. 15	26.	May 7	May 17
12.	Dec. 12	Dec. 22	27.	June 4	June 14
13.	Dec. 26	Jan. 5	28.	July 2	July 12
14.	Jan. 2	Jan. 12	29.	Aug. 6	Aug. 16
15.	Jan. 9	Jan. 19	30.	Sept. 10	Sept. 20

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the August 8, 1953 DXN: Len Kruse, CPC Chairman from Dubuque, IA, summarized the 1952/1953 DX season: 92 stations had presented DX programs for the NRC, ranging from VOXM-590 Nfld to CFYT-1230 Yukon/CHAK-1230 NWT to 5 stations in CA, 3, in OR, and 6 in WA, to 3 Mexicans (XEDR-1490, XEBH-920, and XEPF-1400)

25 years ago ... from the August 14, 1978 DXN: Daniel R. Bartek, Jr., Fairport, NY bought a Radio Shack TRF and was getting used to using it to DX, with his best log so far being WBAP-820.

10 years ago ... from the August 23, 1993 DXN: Five stations had already scheduled tests: WSEZ-1560, WCEI-1460, WASB-1590, WCEG-1530, and WEAM-1580.

AM Switch

Jerry Starr jerry@nrcdxas.org
161 Fox St.
Hubbard, OH 44425-2122

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	Old call	New call
650	*New WA Pullman	KUUX
790	KPTO NV Winchester	KBET
1150	WBPS MA Boston	WYTS
1250	WUGR KY Nicholasville	WWFT
1380	WLXE NY New York	WKDM
1400	WFLL FL Fort Lauderdale	WFLL
1440	KBET ID Pocatello	KPTO
1490	WBYM VA Hampton	WLRT
1570	*New NC Winterville	WECU
1600	WKDM MD Rockville	WLXE

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

780	CO Pueblo: 3000/760 U4
830	GA Sandy Springs: 50000/2400 U4 (amendment)
890	CO Fountain: 5500/500 U4

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

1570	PQ Laval: 10000/10000 U4
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APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

560	WFRB MD Frostburg: 5000/55 U1
630	WMFD NC Wilmington: 800/1000 U4
740	WMIN WI Hudson: 1100 D3
800	KPDQ OR Portland: 1000/1000 U2
990	KATD CA Pittsburg: 10000/5000 U4
1010	KIQI CA San Francisco: 35000/500 U4
1080	WOAP MI Owosso: 50000/450 (50000 CH) U13 (reapplication)
1120	WMSW PR Hatillo: 2600/5000 U2
1170	KOWZ MN Waseca: 2500/60 (1000 CH) U1
1250	CBGA PQ Matane: to 102.1 FM
1360	CKBC NB Bathurst: to 104.9 FM
1440	WYGH KY Paris: 1000/25 U1
1440	KTNO TX Denton: 9000/350 U4

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1020	WNTK NH Newport: 10000/37 U1
1150	KKNW WA Seattle: 10000/6000 U2
1320	WAGF AL Dothan: 1000/92 U1
1470	WCHJ MS Brookhaven: 1000/66 U1
1690	WHTE IL Johnston City: city of license to Berwyn, IL (a move of nearly 300 miles which will give the Chicago market its first X-band station. WDDD-FM will move to Johnston City so there will still be a local station when WDDD-810 leaves the air due to the five-year rule)

OTHERNESS

590	WRAG AL Carrollton: silent station is ON THE AIR
690	KVOI AZ Tucson: CP for 250/3 U1 is on
700	*App NM Bosque Farms: application for new station is DISMISSED
730	WKDL VA Alexandria: CP for 8000/25 U1 is on
920	KWYS MT West Yellowstone: silent station is ON THE AIR
1150	KRMS MO Osage Beach: application for 10000/17 U1 on 1160 kHz is DISMISSED
1160	WMLB GA East Point: CP for 50000/160 U5 is on
1230	WWSO FL Quincy: SILENT

If you are interested in helping preserve the history of our hobby through preserving your collections, you should consider ordering a supply of these free 3-inch-square stickers to place on your varies, recordings, etc. Specify the number you need, and order from Ron Musco - P. O. Box 118 - Poquonock, CT 06064.

0118

Include an SASE.

Don't wait until it's too late - order now.

Please preserve these QSL's for future display!
Do not discard these items
For preservation information contact the:
National Radio Club
P.O. Box 118
Poquonock, Connecticut 06064



1260	KIMB NE Kimball: silent station is ON THE AIR
1310	WGH VA Newport News: CP for 20000/500 U4 is on
1400	KIGO ID St. Anthony: silent station is ON THE AIR (has returned on this frequency while new 1420 facility is built)
1400	KTEM TX Temple: CP for 980/980 U1 is on
1460	KTFW TX Burleson: station has been testing new facilities after move from Waco and is expected to be on the air soon.
1510	KMSD SD Milbank: CP for 5000/14 (1000 CH) U1 is on
1570	WNSH MA Beverly: CP for 500/85 U5 is on

580 RADIO
WIBW
NEWS • TALK • SPORTS

NEWS FROM NORTH OF THE BORDER

Canada's CRTC, their version of the FCC, has announced they will no longer require a license or CRTC permission for "low-power" AM and FM stations for weather, traffic, travelers, and parks information. But these can be much more than the true low-power TIS stations we are familiar with, as their powers may be as high as 50 watts for FM and 100 watts for AM. Although this may sound like a formula for mayhem it should be noted that in Canada the engineering portion of broadcasting is handled not by the CRTC but by Industry Canada. IC will still be there to assure responsible engineering and frequency coordination when necessary.

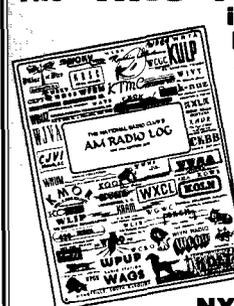
THANKS: Bill Hale, Dave Schmidt, Ed Krejny, Shawn Axelrod, Perry Crabill, John Bowker, and Les Johnson
73 and Good DX, Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

Jerry & BK F

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!

The *NRC AM Radio Log, 23rd Edition*



SOLD OUT! But you may pre-order a copy of the 24th edition AM Log for the same price as the 23rd, no matter what the 24th's price is to be. Delivery date: after September 1.

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ALL RADIO
National Radio Club, Inc. www.nrcdxas.org

All Radio, a supplement to the DX Audio Service, replaces the After Dark series. Now available on two C-100 tapes, you'll find an interview with Dave Graupner, CEO of TM/ Century, about the radio and TV jingle business ... John Bowker with an article on how Clear Channel Radio's competition are starting to copy what they do ... Ken Onyschuk with an article about jazz radio in Chicago ... John Malicky giving us a tour of 540-CBEF (CBC French) in Windsor Ontario ... Mark Durenberger telling about some CBS Milestones ... John Bowker on about FCC rules and regulations ... Fred Vobbe talking about D.R.M. ... A story about a group of people that are trying to get ads pulled out of the Russ Limbaugh show ... From N.P.R., a piece on the consolidation of radio and old time radio ... How Del Rio, Texas, is proposing to give Wolfman Jack a tribute with a large statue ... Fred Vobbe with two stories on EAS fines and regulations, and finally, on the entire side second side of tape 2, Fred talks with Leonard Kahn, of Kahn Communications about digital MW radio. Order Item ART-1. U.S.A Price \$5.00; Canada \$7.00; Overseas \$9.00. Order from NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

Domestic DX Digest

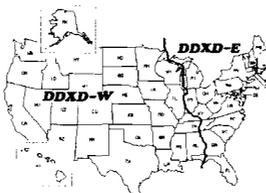
West: Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net

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

East: Ginnie Lupi ginnie@nrcdxas.org

PO Box 4014 - Clifton Park, 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

- ❑ The Dog Days of DX are here, being reflected in the number of loggings. However, plenty of updates to keep you busy changing your Logs and trying for exotic summertime catches.
- ❑ The FCC says there are 4803 AM stations as of June 30, 2003. How many have you heard??
- ❑ Heard on the "Hot Tube Network": "Been taping nightly on 1490 all spring & summer and have tried dx a little, so it was nice to hear NEW WOSU! FM-TV DX here has been nil also. Still trying after 36 years in the hobby, hi!" - JJR-WI;
- ❑ Deadlines, er, ah, deadline for the last DDXD-West from here is 1800 hours CDXT (Central DX Time) on September 4th. Wishing all who are coming to the NRC Convention a safe journey. We'll see you here.

REPORTERS

- FA-ID Frank Aden Boise DXING in Salmon DX 398 and 1998 Ford Windstar Radio <n7sok@aol.com>
- SA-MB Shawn M. Axelrod Winnipeg Icom ICR-70 / Drake R8 + 4 Foot unamplified box loop / Quantum Loop; 145' outdoor wire; 100' indoor wire / MFJ 1026 phasing unit <saxelrod@mb.sympatico.ca>
- PB-AL Park Barton Tuscaloosa (off the NRCDXAS AM list)
- MG-ID Mark Griffin Boise GE SRIII + C. Crane Twin Coil Antenna <pianomanvisto@cableone.net>
- MG-OR Mark Griffin (Boise) Reporting from Yachats, OR CC Radio Plus bareback
- TRH-CA Tim Hall Chula Vista <tim_hall_dx@hotmail.com>
- TRH-CA1 Tim Hall On the road between San Diego and Palm Desert Toyota car radio
- JJR-WI John J. Rieger South Milwaukee Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp, GE Superadio III, Terk AM1000 loop <johnjrieger@webtv.net>
- KR-AZ Kevin Redding Mesa nekkid DX-402 <amfmdx@fastq.com>
- Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills DX-398/ICF-2010/Delco caradio

STATION NEWS & NOTES

- 600 CKBD BC Vancouver - Has returned to broadcasting in AM stereo. Meanwhile, good news for C-QUAM AM stereo fans is the recent ruling by the National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) subcommittee setting In Band On Channel (IBOC) AM receiver standards, that the process be shelved until better quality audio can be achieved. IBOC and C-QUAM cannot exist on the same transmitted signal. (Northwest Broadcasters)
- 960 <KSRA> ID Salmon - 7/16 all afternoon - Not on the air, but FM is. A local ham said the new ownership does not have any technical staff there and is contracting out of Boise. They said when the AM has trouble they just turn it off, and then is on only sporadically. (FA-ID)
- 1150 WSPZ AL Tuscaloosa - 7/9 2045-2100 - Long silent WSPZ heard with sports talk, ID and ABC News at ToH, then into NOS (they call them "timeless classics") overnight. ABC News at 0700 and continuing music as I post this. (PB-AL)
- 1180 KYDZ NE Bellevue - 6/25 0435 - Fair signal, with Radio Disney programming using new calls. NEW! (SA-MB)
- 1230 WWSO FL Quincy - 7/11 - Is now SILENT; ex: Urban Contemporary as *The Electric* 1230. (MSJ)
- 1240 KSON CA San Diego - Was not sold as had been reported earlier. Radio Disney's 5-year lease expired, and the station is now leased to Multicultural Broadcast-

- ing (hence the continued use of KSON calls). Programming is Vietnamese and Mandarin. (TRH-CA)
- 1240 WSBC IL Chicago - Was heard as being // WCFJ-1470 Chicago Heights during a recent trip to the area. (Radio-DX Info from Wisconsin)
- 1280 KVWG TX Pearsall - Returns to the air with classic country. (10000watts.com)
- 1350 WOYK PA York - Was slapped with a \$7,000 Notice of Apparent Liability after an FCC inspector visited last year and found one of the fence posts around the station's middle tower (it has three) was warped, allowing the gate to be pried open. Now the station's been cleared — it tells the FCC that the gate was only loose at the top, meaning a would-be intruder would still have had to climb over the fence or knock it down to get to the live tower, and in any case the problem was fixed less than 24 hours after the inspector visited. (Inside Radio)
- 1270 WWCA IN Gary - Is still silent. (Radio-DX Info from Wisconsin)
- 1380 KRKO WA Everett - 7/11 - Is ESPN Radio Network, with slogan *Northsound 1380*. (MSJ)
- 1420 KIGO ID St. Anthony - 7/15 afternoon - Got to within 35 miles of here, and heard no sign of them at all. Also checked 1400 (from which they are supposed to be moving from), and heard nothing there either. (FA-35 miles west of St. Anthony)
- 1430 WRTH MO St. Louis - 7/17 0328 - Poor, in WXNT null, with new format. *Real Oldies 1430 WRTH*. Jingles used. No more *worth* slogan. (JJR-WI)
- 1490 KZZN TX Littlefield - 7/15 2200 - Playing *Me and Bobby Mc Gee* by Janis Joplin and then BoH ID. 551 miles. New, for #737. (KR-AZ)
- 1510 KTIM CA San Rafael - Is planning to switch to classical (if not already a done deal). Ex: C&W. (Inside Radio)
- 1680 WDSS MI Ada - 7/1 2254 - Good signal, with Radio Disney programming using new calls. NEW! (SA-MB)

TIS & OTHER STUFF



- 620 WPFK505 CA Beaumont - 7/18 0105 - Cal Trans HAR is on the air with traffic conditions for I-10. There were a group of stations planned for 620 in the Inland Empire back in the 90s, but only the Corona station came on at that time. Other stations in the group (Murrieta, San Bernardino) have never been noted. (TRH-CA) [In case anyone is wondering what the "Inland Empire" encompasses . . . the good people of SoCal (hi) have christened the area from just east of Los Angeles (which they call "The Southland") to the Nevada/Arizona border as the . . . you guessed it, the *Inland Empire*. Also, the folks up north in the Spokane, Washington area call their neck of the woods some other "Empire", but I can't remember what it is. Those westerners like the term *Empire*, hi - Ed.]
- 1610 WNUB568 CA Chula Vista - Is back on the air after being off for a few years. Signal is loud, but audio is very mushy. Female announcer talks about the Chula Vista Convention(!) and Visitor's Bureau. Where do they think they could fit a convention in Chula Vista? (TRH-CA) [At your place? - Ed.]
- 1610 TIS CA Desert Hot Springs - 7/18 0045 - Joshua Tree National Park TIS is getting out better these days. Audible for several miles along I-10. Female announcer. Message includes one or two sentences in German. (TRH-CA)

REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in ELT)

- 550 KOAC OR Corvallis - 7/12 0257-0310 - Programing from the BBC. Story about early American History centering around President Madison. BBC World News: talking about President Bush and Tony Blair and the Iraq weapons controversy. (MG-OR)
- 710 CKVM PA Ville-Marie - 7/10 0416 - Very good, with loud FF chatter. (JJR-WI)
- 750 KOAL UT Price - 6/11 0200-0215 - Slogan: *KOAL. News, Talk and Sports*. ABC News, followed by announcement of Rubber Duck Race on July 5 in Scofield. *Coast to Coast AM* was next. Poor-to-bad reception. (MG-ID)
- 820 WOSU OH Columbus - 7/17 0300 - Poor, but alone. Legal ID into BBC News. Nice Au conditions! WOSU AM always used. NEW! (JJR-WI)
- 830 WFNO LA Norco - 7/10 0413 - Very good and clean signal, in WCCO null. (JJR-WI)
- 930 KAGT OR Grants Pass - 6/30 0101-0200 - College of Southern Oregon station. BBC News followed by a discussion about creating life from an aborted fetus.

- Fair reception, with KSEI underneath. (MG-ID)
- 1030 KTWO WY Casper - 6/4 0100-0135 - Talk Show: Bill Clinton hinting about running for President. Trucking' Bozo program. June is National Trucker Month, followed by Clear Channel World Wide News. Strong signal with very little fading. (MG-ID)
- 1070 KNXCA Los Angeles - 7/12 0156-0205 - Last portion of a Shadow old-time radio program. Reception was poor-to-fair. (MG-OR)
- 1140 KHTK CA Sacramento - 7/12 0032-0042 - Fox Sports Radio. Sports and commentary, plus call-ins from listening audience. One caller did not speak to the established topic and was directly corrected by host. Good reception, with minimal fading. (MG-OR)
- 1230 KINO AZ Winslow - 7/18 0100 - Faded up nicely for a clear ID as I drove through Cabazon, CA. Still need this one from home. (TRH-CA)
- 1490 WABJ MI Adrian - 7/16 2106 - Poor, with calls into talk on slushy frequency. (JJR-WI)
- 1490 KZZN TX Littlefield - 7/15 2200 - Playing Me and Bobby McGee by Janis Joplin and then BoH ID. 551 miles. New, for #737. (KR-AZ)

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

Totals:	1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	Total
Tim Hall Yellowstone Lake Village, WY 10	9	9	9	9	9	9	55

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

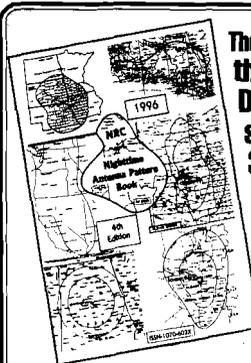
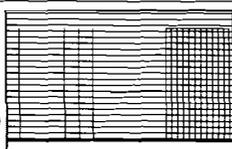
(Publisher's Note: DDXD-East is MIA this issue - look for it to return double-sized in September -pls.)

NON-ARCANE ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DDXD

//:parallel to :00: on the hour AC:Adult contemporary AP:Associated Press BBD:big band C&W:country & western CCR:contemporary Christian radio CHR:contemporary hit radio CID:code ID CL:call letter EZL:easy listening EE:English FF:French GOS:gospel LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset NFL:National Football League NBA:National Basketball Association NHL:National Hockey League NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier PSRA:pre-sunrise authority PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference (power lines, etc) QRN:natural interference (lightning, etc) QTH:location PRI:Public Radio International REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID SRS:sunrise skip SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban contemporary UPI:United Press International VID:voice ID

Logsheets - By Frequency

26 entries possible per sheet with space available to add your own columns. Punched for three-ring binders, full-size 8.5 x 11 inches, on heavy paper. Order "LG": 110 sheets for US\$8.50 (\$9.50 non-members); "LGS": 26 sheets for US\$2.00 (\$2.50 non-members). (Not to be used to report DX to DX News columns, please.) Order from NRC Publications (NY residents, add sales tax).



The **NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 5th Edition** is the perfect mate to the **NRC AM Log**, as the NPB provides DX'ers with up-to-date maps of **all (except Class IV) stations with nighttime operations**. Convenient to use: **3-hole punched for standard binders**. Still only **\$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members**. Airmail to members in Europe (except Italy): **\$29.00**. All others, please contact us for exact pricing.

Order from: **NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax)**

International DX Digest

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

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

Transatlantic DX

- 153 ALGERIA Chaîne 1, Bechar JUN 24 2338 - Arabic talk; fading up. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 162 FRANCE France-Inter, Allouis JUN 24 2339 - Man and woman in French; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 183 GERMANY Europe Un, Felsberg JUL 26 0257-0300 - Loud and clear with French version of Janis Ian's 1977 hit "Seventeen." ID by a man at 2300, "Vous écoutez Europe Un. Il est cinq heures," followed by church bells. The most reliable longwave TA here over the past year. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 549 ALGERIA Chaîne 1, Les Trembles JUN 29 0427 - Male Arabic vocal; good. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 567 IRELAND RTE R.1, Tullamore JUN 25 0203 - News in English; to fair peak. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 603 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 29 0428 - Parallel 1107 with Spanish talk; poor to fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 612 IRELAND RTE 2FM, Athlone JUN 25 0205 - Female pop vocal; slightly over jumble. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 639 SPAIN RNE R.1, La Coruña JUN 29 0425 - Parallel 1107 with deep voiced man in Spanish; fair over CBN slop. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 648 unID JUN 25 0200 - Classical music with trumpets. This went through the top of the hour with no ID. Not usual Spain. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 666 GERMANY SWF-4 Rohrdorf JUN 25 0155 - German talk by a man and woman; dominant, surprisingly loud. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 693 UNITED KINGDOM BBC R.5, Droitwich et al. JUN 25 0142 - English discussion; over others. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 702 unID JUN 25 0143 - Very big carrier, over other station; audio not noted. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 756 GERMANY DeutschlandRadio, Braunschweig & Ravensburg JUN 25 0140 - Light classical piano music; fair, over Spanish talker. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR Sottens JUN 25 0139 - Emotional French vocal, then 1985 hit "I Want to Know What Love Is" by Foreigner; good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 774 SPAIN RNE R.1 synchros JUN 25 0137 - Parallel 1107 with Spanish talk; fair, jumpy. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 783 MAURITANIA R.Mauritanie, Nouakchott JUN 25 0025 - Parallel 4845 with Arabic vocal and acoustic guitar-like instrument; poor to fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 864 EGYPT Holy Koran R., Santah JUN 25 0148 - Koranic vocal; strong, way over others. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 873 SPAIN SER synchros JUN 25 0145 - Spanish teletalk; good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 882 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN COPE synchros JUN 25 0133 - Spanish teletalk; poor to fair with WCBS phased. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 945 FRANCE Toulouse JUN 25 0129 - Parallel 1206 with male French vocal and drums; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 999 SPAIN COPE Madrid JUN 25 0128 - Spanish teletalk, joking, then a bit of circus type music; excellent. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUN 29 0417 - Parallel 1143 with teletalk; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1008 CANARY ISLANDS Onda Cero, Las Palmas JUN 25 0043 - Radio drama; to fair peak. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1017 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 29 0420 - Parallel 1107 with man in Spanish; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN SER synchros JUN 25 0125 - Parallel 1179 with mellow music, then teletalk; to fair peak. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1089 UNITED KINGDOM TalkSport synchros JUL 16 0133 - Very tentative; het against WBAL-1090 and some audio with talk. Audio was best received on 1086 and had a very, very dull sound making it impossible to understand. [Chiochiu-NB]
- 1098 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 29 0432 - Parallel 1107 with fast Spanish talk; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]



751,1 ÈRE AVENUE OUEST
AMOS (QUÉBEC)
J9T 1V7

- 1107 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros JUN 25 0048 - Man and woman in Spanish; fair. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUN 29 0408 - Man in Spanish, echo on audio. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1116 **SPAIN** SER synchros JUN 29 0418 - Parallel 1575 with Spanish talk by man and woman; poor to fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1143 **SPAIN** COPE synchros JUN 29 0417 - Talk parallel 999; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1152 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros JUN 29 0415 - Parallel 1107 with Spanish talk; fair over 1150 WBPS slop. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1179 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** SER synchros JUN 25 0050 - Spanish teletalk; loud. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1206 **FRANCE** Bordeaux JUN 25 0122 - Woman in French, then blues style male vocal; good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1215 **SPAIN** COPE synchros JUN 29 0407 - Music parallel 1296; fair. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Virgin Radio synchros JUL 16 0056 - Tentative; man with a British English accent (too poor and too much interference to understand much though) and rock music. Very poor to occasionally poor and some side-band splash from VOAR-1210 and CFVM-1220. Initially I thought this was an overspill from VOAR-1210, but when I realized that VOAR was huge with big band music, when I tuned to 1220 there was CFVM with hockey in French and that the man that I could detect on 1215 had a British accent, well I was astonished! [Chiochiu-NB]
- 1296 **SPAIN** COPE Valencia JUN 25 0406 - Spanish talk by man and woman, then music; excellent. [Connelly*B-MA] JUL 16 0051 - Very tentative; bits of Spanish in huge splash from an unID *ESPN Radio* station on 1300 (the same that is audible nightly here in Montreal). [Chiochiu-NB]
- 1332 **ITALY** RAI R. *Uno* synchros JUN 29 0206 - Bits of Italian talk. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1359 **SPAIN** RNE Arganda JUN 29 0404 - World news by man and woman in Spanish. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1377 **FRANCE** Lille JUN 29 0202 - Parallel 1557 with a woman in French; poor. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1422 **GERMANY** DeutschlandRadio, Heusweiler JUN 29 0352 - Choral music. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1503 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros JUN 25 0114 - Fast Spanish talk by man; over Mideast music station (Iran?), good during pauses in WTOP-1500 and WWZN-1510 slop. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUN 29 0438 - Parallel 1107 with news by man; good. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1503 unID JUL 16 0130 - Het, too much WTOP and too weak for audio. [Chiochiu-NB]
- 1521 **SPAIN** SER Castellón JUN 29 0402 - Parallel 1584 with news in Spanish; fair, some WWKB slop. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1530 **SAO TOME E PRINCIPE** VOA Relay, Pinheira JUN 29 0355 - ID, "This is VOA"; mixed with WSAI. + JUL 3 0347 - Parallel 9885: woman in English with news about Jacques Chirac of France having an active interest in African politics; over/under WSAI. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1548 **KUWAIT** R. *Sawa*, Kabd-Kuwait City JUN 25 0108 - Female vocal, pop style Arabic music, *Radio Sawa* ID; good. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1557 **FRANCE** Nice JUN 25 0057 - Jazz with male vocal, saxophone, piano, and percussion; fair to good with WQEW phased. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUN 29 0202 - Parallel 1377 with woman in French; to fair peak. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1575 **SPAIN** SER synchros JUN 25 0101 - Parallel 1179 with Spanish news by woman; poor. [Connelly*rw-MA] + JUN 29 0400 - Time pips, Spanish news; good. [Connelly*B-MA]
- 1575 unID JUL 16 0136 - At fair level with classical music. [Chiochiu-NB]
- 1584 **CEUTA** RadiOlé, Ceuta JUN 25 0103 - Afro-Caribbean influenced vocal; fair, over SER synchros. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1584 **SPAIN** SER synchros JUN 29 0401 - Parallel 1575 with Spanish news by woman; loud. [Connelly*B-MA]

Ben speaks: Long distance conditions were good last night, and for a change, there was no buzz - usually a low end annoyance and often also in the middle. Just the intermittent noise I have been getting nights on some spots. But the TAs were surprising, and I counted 24 TA frequencies. France-1557 and 1467 were in like locals after 0300, and Italy-1332 was in about an hour before that with a fair signal. Then, just after 0300 I checked 1530 and found WSAI off the air for a few minutes, and in this brief time had VOA São Tomé coming through with their African news program.

Pan-American DX

- 960 **MEXICO** XEK Nuevo Laredo, TAMA JUL 24 0359 - With bad version of Paul Anka's "Diana"; alternating Spanish/English verses; a salsa tune at 0401 was followed at 0404 by Laredo and Nuevo Laredo ads; at 0405 an "XEK" singing ID and mention of 5000 watts in station promo.

- Generally fair. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1110 **VENEZUELA** YVQT R. *Carúpano*, Carúpano JUN 25 0045 - Timecheck, "Radio Carúpano, ocho cuarente cinco minutos, hora de Venezuela," then into old-fashioned Spanish pop vocal. [Connelly*rw-MA]
- 1420 **MEXICO** XEF Cd. Juárez, CHIH JUL 24 0259 - Odd FM-imitating ID at 0259:30 as "La Deportiva Catorce punto veinte [sic], XEF, 1420 megaHertz [sic] con cinco mil wats de potencia, Cd. Juárez, Chihuahua." Spotty after this with XE fútbol program. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1570 **MEXICO** XERF Cd. Acuña APR 1 - Per a visit to the station, operating with 30 kW, U-1 (not 250 kW as listed in WRTH). Studios are downtown in the second floor of a building on the main north/south street about one mile from the border crossing. [Wesolowski-TX]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP Fredriksted, St. Croix JUN 25 0107 - Accented local advert with 719 area code, then "Chariots of Fire" interval music, followed by local talk show. [Connelly*rw-MA]

Comentario de Zecchino: And the Yanqui running dogs of Imperialistas think they have the edge with IBOC. 590 *Musical* is now on more than off, South Florida's commercial free classical station. Command economy engineers melded the transfer case from the '48 Fordson Fieldmaster with some old Nehi bottles to produce a perfectly good water cooled tetrode, new life for the 'mighty 590'.

Intelligence from Mr. Crawford confirms source of jamming of the VOA - Iran Broadcasts as originating from Bejucal, thirty or so miles south of Habana's Palacio del Fido. And to think, some thought the old Soviet radio complex south of Havana to be a cold war memory. Not one to neglect matters at home, Lider Maximo is bravely shifting his radio networks about on the fly. 1140 is ex-Ciudad Bandera and is now *Cadena Habana* with the added benefit of the jammer transmitter collocated with the satellite jammer at Bejucal now sporadically broadcasting *Reloj*. On the same frequency 1140. Look, this is Cuba, and El Comandante en Jefe knows best, just ackse Oliver Stone. 1470 still bringing clarity of truth to the Americas with *Ciudad Bandera*.

1120 *Cadena Habana* is off the air for the moment, 1100 soldiers on. 1000 and 1020, both long R. *Guamá*, are silent but carriers appear, part of the valiant campaign to jam the US psyops C-130 counter-revolucionario flights, how the gringo dreams!

Good news for lovers of 1260 *Encyclopedia*, its alluring format and 100 percent compressed modulation. Yes, just watch it sometime on the VU meter of the R-390, set VU for max at 100%, you'll never see the movement drop lower than 97%. And the gringos think they have it all with their Optimods and Solarizers. Ha. Chivatos! Yes, 1260 *Encyclopedia* is now buttressed by 1270, originating from Torriente about fifty miles south southwest of Habana and courageously fighting WNOG 1270 in Naples, Florida, as it forges ahead to the joy of appreciative connoisseurs of fine melody in Flo-ree-da, as the butthole surfers would so pronounce the name, now rumored to be playing for pesos in Ciego de Avila, home to the 820 jammer.



Transpacific DX

- 549 **NEW ZEALAND** 2XC Gisbourne/Napier JUL 12 1230 - *Radio Rhema* typical contemporary Christian music format, coming in quite nicely. Only logging, but several other *Rhema* stations noted on the band. First morning in several years at Grayland that a significant number of Kiwi stations were present. [Bryant-WA]
- 576 **NEW ZEALAND** 1XLR *Southern Star*, Hamilton JUL 13 1220 - Heard with quiet Christian music at low level. Seemed parallel to 2YC 657. Tentative only. [Bryant-WA]
- 612 **AUSTRALIA** 4QR *ABC Metro Service*, Brisbane JUL 12 1130 - Noted most of the morning at low to fair levels with *ABC* news-talk. [Bryant-WA]
- 657 **NEW ZEALAND** 2YC *Southern Star*, Wellington JUL 13 1145 - Presumed this at threshold level with quiet contemporary Christian music. Improved later. [Bryant-WA]
- 675 **AUSTRALIA** 2CO *ABC RR* Corowa JUL 12 1140 - Noted in passing and presumed this at fair level. [Bryant-WA]
- 738 **TAHITI** RFO Papeete JUL 12 0445 - Low levels of audio, female singer in French, first noted at 0415. Fair level. [Bryant-WA]
- 774 **AUSTRALIA** 3LO *ABC Metro Service*, Melbourne JUL 12 1146 - Typical *ABC Metro Service* news talk, raising to fair to good level at dawn parallel 612 4QR Brisbane. [Bryant-WA]
- 783 **AUSTRALIA** 8AL *ABC Alice Springs* JUL 13 1245 - This catch first spotted by Don Nelson. By the time that I got there, there were only high notes of semi-classical music breaking through on 783 parallel 2485. Wow! Sure would have liked to hear more. [Bryant-WA]
- 828 **AUSTRALIA** 3GL Sale JUL 13 1115 - Noted at fair level with pop music show hosted by female. Presume this, as usual. [Bryant-WA]

- 891 **AUSTRALIA** 5AN ABC Metro Service, Adelaide JUL 12 1152 - Metro Service sports talk show with a remote horserace call at 1156. Good level at dawn. Also noted on July 13. [Bryant-WA]
- 1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS** V7AD Majuro - Identified here in previous seasons. Easily spotted as bearing is half way between "down under" and Far East. Produced marginal audio on nine mornings during October and November. Easily the most consistent TP with at least a weak carrier 90% of mornings. Often noted with open carrier. This season another carrier has been drifting around this frequency on occasion, probably a Latin American. [Moore-FL]
- 1116 **AUSTRALIA** 4BC Brisbane JUL 12 0921 - First heard just after 0900 and, like May's DXpedition, often proved to be the strongest, most reliable Aussie on the band. Talk by males, mentions of various Aussie locations. [Bryant-WA]
- 1125 **NEW ZEALAND** R.Sport, Napier/Hawkes Bay JUL 13 1200 - Monitored for almost half an hour with satellite-fed simulcast of XETRA parallel KLAC and parallel 1503 R.Sport, Wellington. Extraordinary programming for New Zealand! Good at times. [Bryant-WA]
- 1475 **MALAYSIA** RTM Sabah, Kota Kinabalu - Tentative ID based on frequency and precision direction finding. First noted AUG 28, 29, 30 with a huge carrier 1046-1059. Big carriers also SEP 23, 29, OCT 13, NOV 14, then reappeared MAR 3, 5, 21, 31, APR 3, 29. APR 29 produced audio for first time with voice and music down in the noise 1040-1044. This is going to be a tough one for we tape DXers to pin down with its weak modulation and lack of a shortwave parallel. Needless to say, this would be a new country for me. [Moore-FL]
- 1503 **AUSTRALIA** 2BS Bathurst JUL 12 1217 - Wide-ranging music show with guest historian of pop music. Heard for several hours prior to dawn, sometimes at fair to good level. No ID caught. Definite Aussie commercial oldies program. Could have been new 3KND in Melbourne, but they are directional to protect Bathurst to their northeast. [Bryant-WA]
- 1503 **NEW ZEALAND** R.Sport, Wellington JUL 13 1200 - Simulcast of XETRA and KLAC. Refer to 1125 logging. Good at times. [Bryant-WA] Assumed; this is almost certainly one of the R.Sport stations based on sketchy direction finding, the accented English language, and the fact that it comes in when other known New Zealand channels are producing carriers. Produced audio AUG 15, MAR 14, MAY 20, 21, 25, 28, JUN 3, 4, 13, 22, 24, 25, 27, JUL 25, 26, 28 and 30. Mostly threshold level except JUN 27 when occasional words and phrases in English made it through. [Moore-FL]
- 1512 **AUSTRALIA** 2RN ABC Newcastle JUN 20 1026-1029 - Assumed with threshold level audio noted. [Moore-FL]
- 1575 **THAILAND** VOA Ayutthaya - Easily heard even on Sony 2010 with 23-in loop when coming in. Runs VOA Burmese service 1130-1200 parallel Sri Lanka 9890 kHz and then, on some days, into VOA News Now in English 1200-1230. Best reception JAN 6 1146-1205 and JAN 17 1146-1202, both times got tape, "This is the Voice of America, Washington, DC, signing off," at 1159:30. This station is on a bearing of 359 degrees from Florida, directly over the pole. This megawatt station has a directional antenna pointed in this direction giving it an effective power of several megawatts. [Moore-FL]
- 1611 **AUSTRALIA** Various low power stations - Assumed with threshold level audio heard NOV 10 1126-1128, JAN 10 1202. This is a very quiet frequency and I hope to get decent audio as conditions improve. [Moore-FL]
- 1638 **AUSTRALIA** Various low power stations JUL 3 1036-1039 - Assumed with threshold level audio. [Moore-FL]

Ray speaks: My DX season runs from August 1 through July 31 and as the current season has ended I've submitted a summary of one of the worst seasons ever. I listen seven days a week during the half hour before local sunrise year round. If you wonder how I can listen through the thunderstorm season here in Florida it is mainly due to the IF noise limiter in my homebrew receiver which can be set to clip static crashes and sideband splatter without distorting the desired signal. The Drake R8 is used to run down the DX channels searching for carriers. It is set in the CW mode with 500 kHz selectivity. Tuning is offset 400 Hz to produce a very distinctive 400 Hz tone on any carrier. To tune to 1575 kHz, for instance, the receiver is set to 1575.4 kHz for the lower sideband or 1574.6 kHz for the upper sideband. The passband tuning is adjusted to select the desired sideband. In this way I can pick up very weak carriers. When a carrier is strong enough to produce audio I switch to the homebrew receiver which allows me to extract the maximum audio without wrecking my ears, which, at age 79, have seen better days.

John speaks: Loggings are from a quick and too brief DXpedition to Grayland on July 12 and 13 with Guy Atkins and Don Nelson. In general, conditions were typical of poor high-sunspot year transpacific propagation, with few signals present as audio before dawn enhancement. Many of those present at dawn rose only to poor or fair levels. However, more New Zealand signals were present than I have

become used to in recent years. The highlight of the DXpedition was, for me, a tentative log of 8AL from Alice Springs in the Australian Outback.

Another highlight was seeing Winradio's new 303i in operation. Its panoramic spectrum display (plus or minus about 15 kHz) was most impressive and clearly useful as a DXing tool for split-frequency signals on medium wave. When combined with Nick Hall-Patch's vaunted DX Radar (which displays the full broadcast band, albeit abstractly) we really should have the tools for "Drift-Net DXing." We are looking forward to an in-depth review of the 303i from Don Nelson in the near future.

Contributors

- John Bryant, Grayland WA; Ten-Tec 320, Ten-Tec 340, 750-ft seashore Beverages west and southwest. <bjohn@provalue.net>
- Bogdan Chiochiu, Shediac Bridge NB; Sangean 606, long wire. <acq@videotron.ca>
- Mark Connelly, Billerica MA; Drake R8A, dual-feedline Flag antenna (4.9-m x 10.4-m), and DXing from Parker River NWR, Rowley MA; Drake R8A, active whip, 60-m wire, Superphaser-2 phasing unit. <MarkWAIION@aol.com>
- Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; Drake R8A, four loopers, DXP-3A phasing unit. <ben-dangerfield@verizon.net>
- Marc DeLorenzo, Marstons Mills MA; JRC NRD-525, 80-ft noise-reduced sloper. <MarstonsMarc@aol.com>
- Ray Moore, N.Fort Meyers FL; Drake R8 and homebrew receivers, 23-in spiral loop, homebrew preamp. <rsmcomm@usa.net>
- Ernie Wesolowski, Omaha NE; on the road in Texas and México (preparing for NRC '03?).
- John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R8, 4-ft box loop. <peakbagger3@juno.com>
- Paul V. Zecchino, Englewood FL. <Milspec390@aol.com>

International News

- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** 1330 HIRV R. *Visión Cristiana*, Santo Domingo, transmitter output is 3 kW fed into a single 180-ft antenna, per QSL from Peter Polanco-CE. Address: WWRV, PO Box 2908, Paterson NJ 07509-2908. [Paul Ormandy, July *New Zealand DX Times*, NZRDXL]
- LITHUANIA:** R. *Baltic Waves International*, 1386 kHz, 25 kW, Giruliai, and 1557 kHz, 150 kW, Sitkunai, welcomes reception reports. Reports should contain audio tape of the broadcast. Address: Radio Baltic Waves International, Vivilskio 7-405, Vilnius LT-2006, Lithuania. [Bernd Trutenau, via Mike Terry MWDX] Channel marker (or interval signal) consists of Dave Brubeck's Take Five, Unsquare Dance. [Gunter Lorenz, MWDX] R. *Baltic Waves International* from the Lithuanian capital Vilnius has confirmed conducting "channel marker" transmissions on 1386 kHz, where an unidentified station has been heard playing non-stop pop music. The transmission is aired at 2000-2100 UTC and originates from a 25-kilowatt transmitter in Giruliai. According to a station press release, reported by Bernd Trutenau on MWDX, correct reception reports will be verified and should be sent by snail mail, containing an audio tape of the broadcast. The station is also interested in the reception of its relays of *China Radio International* in the evening hours on the frequency of 1557 kHz (150 kW from Sitkunai). 1386 kHz is also used by a transmitter in nearby Bolshakovo, Kaliningrad (see Russia). This transmitter airs *Voice of Russia* programming at 0900-2000 UTC. [DXing.info, July 12, via Steve Whitt, MWC E-Mail News]
- PERU:** 1610 R. *Sabor* logged as far away as Sweden by Hasse Mattisson, is located in Arequipa city, not Paucarpata, as the official frequency listing of the Peruvian Comms Ministry has it. The station's address is Oficina 430 at the Centro Comercial Independencia, which is also the location of the company's main station R. *Alegria* (1510 kHz). *Alegria*, listed as station number 637 in WRTH03, is to celebrate its 13th anniversary on Aug 3 next. This is what I gathered from a phone call to the station on July 30. The phone number was kindly supplied by the webmaster of www.arequipalinda.com José Antonio Pastor D. who has made an all-out effort in trying to help, actually sending a messenger to the town of Paucarpata in order to locate the station. Thanks to José Antonio for his resourcefulness and thanks also to Björn Malm, without whose tip we would have been unaware of this Peruvian x-bander in the first place. Thanks also to Alfredo Cañote and César Pérez Dioses for taking their time to monitor the station. [Henrik Klemetz, HCDX, via MWC E-Mail News]
- RUSSIA:** *Russian International Radio* current MW schedule: 1143 kHz via Kaliningrad/Bolshakovo 1200-1700, 1800-2100 UTC. 1215 kHz via Kaliningrad/Bolshakovo 1900-2100 UTC. 1386 kHz via Kaliningrad/Bolshakovo 1200-1500, 1900-2100, noted signing off an hour early at 2000 UTC. 1494 kHz via St.Petersburg/Popovka 1500-1700, 2000-2100 (from August 10). [Mikhail Timofeyev, via Steve Whitt, MWC E-Mail News]

Confirmed **Greg Myers** gregmyers1@juno.com
DX'er P. O. Box 20112
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Your successes in obtaining QSL's and other station items

540	XEWA	San Luis Potosi, SLP MEXICO, p/d e-mail in 4 days after an e-mail follow-up. V/s Gaytan Molina Ivo. (Myers—FL)
800	WJAT	Swainsboro GA, f/d letter in 5 weeks after a 2 nd follow-up. V/s Jeff Wiggins, DoE. (Myers—FL)
860	XEMO	Tijuana, BCN MEXICO, p/d e-mail in 50 days after a written follow-up. V/s Sergio Golarde Q., Gerente de Promociones Externas. (Wilkins—CO)
1150	KNRC	Englewood CO, prepared card in 7 days. V/s Dave Herral. (Wilkins—CO)
1260	KSUR	Beverly Hills CA, prepared card in 7 days after a follow-up. V/s Arlene Robbins. (Wilkins—CO)
1270	WRLZ	Eatonville FL, business card, bumper sticker in 50 days. V/s John Moldonado, GM. (Trelford—JAMAICA)
	KBZZ	Sparks NV, p/d letter in 11 days after a follow-up. V/s Stephen R. Weber (K7SRW), CE. (Wilkins—CO)
1300	KBZC	Colorado Sprs. CO, prepared card in 9 days after a follow-up. V/s Jim Arthur. (Wilkins—CO)
1320	KYND	Cypress TX, 2 page letter, bumper sticker in 158 days. V/s Bill Turner, Sales Mgr. (Trelford—JAMAICA)
1350	WNLK	Norwalk CT, certificate, photo of transmitter towers, inset of control room in 459 days. V/s Illegible. (Trelford—JAMAICA)
1360	WKAT	North Miami FL, e-mail in 37 days. V/s Andrew P. Korge, GM. (Trelford—JAMAICA)
1510	KCUV	Littleton CO, prepared card in 7 days. V/s Dave Herral. (Wilkins—CO)
1520	KRHW	Sikeston MO, letter in 1 week for taped report. V/s Ms. Cindy Cooper. (Galerstein—NJ)
1570	KXST	Loveland CO, prepared card in 58 after a follow-up. V/s Illegible. (Wilkins—CO)
1580	KHGG	Van Buren AR, confirmation on report in 11 days after a follow-up. V/s Bill Pharis, Programming. (Wilkins—CO)
1620	WDHP	St. Croix VI, photocopied letter, sticker in 1 week on 6 th attempt. 3 letters and 2 e-mails unanswered- enclosing \$1.00 the difference this time. V/s Beverly Meyers. (Galerstein—NJ)
1640	WTNI	Biloxi MS, f/d letter, sticker in 6 wks after a follow-up. V/s Joel Robertson, CE. (Myers—FL) same in 6 wks for taped report. (Hochfelder—NJ)
1680	KTFH	Seattle WA, p/d letter, business card in 7 days. V/s Monte Passmore, CE. X-Band QSL #40 (Griffith—CO)

Contributors: Bob Galerstein, Morris Plains, NJ; Patrick Griffith, Westminster, CO; Dave Hochfelder, New Brunswick, NJ; Greg Myers, Clearwater, FL; Don Trelford, St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica; John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO

DX'er's Notebook

Shared tips, topics, and Internet info

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Welcome back...a quick check of a possible specific summer DX "season" and then on to Memory Lane.

GRAVEYARD SEASON?

Les Rayburn <les@highnoonfilm.com>: I've only been DXing the AM band seriously for the past two seasons, but I notice that many within the clubs refer to this time of year as "GY Season". Forgive my ignorance, but is there a reason for this? Does propagation favor the reception of these stations during this time of year, or is it because loggings on these frequencies are fairly random so it simply

makes more productive use of this noisy period?

Rick Kenneally <woodlandview@yahoo.com>: Speaking for myself, it is the latter case. Summer static is less of an issue on a frequency where 50 stations are piling up to produce a constant S9+40db signal. Though I check in with the GY frequencies throughout the year as conditions are always changing.

Bruce Conti <BACONTI@aol.com>: A DX season of any kind is pure myth, especially nowadays, with modern receivers and antennas successful MW DXing can be anytime of year. The only difference between the warm and cold weather months will be that local thunderstorm activity can cause temporary shutdowns. (Examples: Thunderstorms in New Hampshire made DXing impossible during the recent WTAM downtime, yet one summer while visiting Tampa, Florida, I could DX between storms to log some interesting Cuban signals.) The best time to DX during the summer months will be at local sunset when atmospheric conditions are varying widely (although thunderstorms tend to be strongest before local sunset), and during the pre-dawn hours when thunderstorm activity cools off for the most quiet noise levels. It's also a good time to take advantage of the warm weather for DX activity on the road, as Mark Connelly does on the Massachusetts coast, and I will be doing from Maine.

Robert Foxworth <rfoxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>: I did quite a bit of GY DXing from Long Island in the 70's and early 80's. While thunderstorm activity was always a consideration, there were, however, many quiet nights storm-wise. I found generally that in the winter there would be enough signals skipping in at good levels that it was nearly impossible to separate them (by waiting for one to fade up well). In the summer, it seems the skip is much more selective geographically, allowing fewer signals to come in at one time, and there would be some good regional openings with clear signals. I recall several times back then, DXing from Long Island, when WYCB from Washington DC would come atop 1340, and I'd jump to 1450 and get readable WOL. Other nights might favor New England and I'd get WTS-A-1450 or WFAD-1490 from VT clearly. This could be anytime after dark, "openings" sometimes were brief and other times lasted for minutes.

It was still a matter of hanging out, waiting for someone to suddenly swell up and dominate, but that never seemed to happen in the winter with many loud signals all in at once. And a clear ID on short skip is better than a buried long-skip ID you can't copy.

Now with all the satellite-fed junk, the signals become much harder to ID since there are no longer local jocks ID'ing after each record.

This of course refers to basically non-directional receiving antennas. If you have a BOG, all these comments probably don't apply at all.

That's what worked for me, generally speaking. While there are some theories about (1) this being Es related and (2) Es relating to thunderstorms, the presence of thunderstorm noise just meant that there would be no DX tried then. It did not affect the TYPE of DX as far as I could tell then. But the summer openings were often patterned similarly to Es.

John Callarman <JohnCallarman@msn.com>: One summer Monday morning in the early '60s in the Panhandle of Texas, I experienced the best up-popping-but-holding-steady signal from a graveyard I've ever heard. 1450, of course, wasn't as crowded then as it is now, but still, there were plenty of signals for the frequency checks (remember frequency checks?) to battle through. A thunderstorm had just passed overhead, but I was stubborn that morning, and surprisingly quickly, the storm QRM abated and KLBM in LaGrande, Oregon, came booming in.

Barry McLamon <bdm@bdcmm.com>: I haven't seen references to "GY Season" before... when I declared the season to be open, I thought I was making the term up.:-)

Bob Foxworth explained it nicely - during the summer, propagation tends to be more geographically selective, and the GY's therefore less jumbled. He also mentioned the possibility that Es is involved...

I'm definitely one of the believers in that theory.

**700
WLW**

MEMORY LANE

The following responses were to a recent weekly question posted on the NRC e-mail listserv - What are some of the first radio stations you ever remember hearing? Share some of your memories with us!

Russ Johnson <k3pi@radiointel.com>: As a very young boy, I grew up in a house that was directly across the street from time standard station WWV in Greenbelt, Maryland. The signal from WWV interfered with our telephone and radios. It even interfered with our television which picked up a grand total of 4 stations. Interestingly enough, this combination of WWV and the interference into a Zenith radio enabled me to learn how to tell time at a very early age. I would look at a clock on the wall and listen to WWV announce the time every minute (they did it back in Eastern time back then).

True story.

In terms of MW stations, the earliest ones I recall were the Washington-Baltimore biggies, WTOP-1500, WRC-980, WCAO-600, WBAL-1090 (they called themselves Radio 11), WFBR-1300, WWDC-1260,

David Gleason <david@davidgleason.com>: When I was about 12, I bought a few shares of Storer Broadcasting, and soon after got their annual report that included a list of all the stations. I guess I felt an obligation to listen to the facilities. WJW in my home of Cleveland was easy, and I quickly discovered that at night I could get WWVA in Wheeling. As I searched for the more elusive WSPD, WJBK, WIBG and others, I found I could hear pretty interesting things on AM at night. Still, for some reason, I had acquired a taste for country and would listen to the WWVA live show (the Barn Dance or something similar) regularly, although the thrill was probably more in the distance than in the music.

One I heard was the initial pre-sign on Proof of Performance test of WBKN in Newton, MS. I wrote to them (they were asking for letters) and they replied at length, mentioning other DXers who had reported. I realized this was a hobby, and went on to listen to many other stations. Soon, I heard a DX test from CKBW (I hope those are the calls) in Bridgewater, NS, and got a packet for the DXers Radio Club back from them. About a year later, I heard the Class V from Alcoa, TN, on for the NRC. I got information, and joined.

My favorite early listening experience was XEB-1220 in Mexico City; I had enough Spanish at the time to call and make requests, and the DJ put me on the air when I would call because he thought it was fun to have a gringo requesting Sonora Santanera records!

Later, my favorite was Una Voz en el Camino on HJED in Cali; I would tape each night after DFW went off the air and play it while I did my homework.

Finally, on several Monday mornings in '61 or '62, I heard 500 watt WITA-1140 in San Juan, PR, and it was my first confirmed Puerto Rican station; about 13 years later, I would be the GM of that station!

Another favorite was Radio Swan / Radio Americas, and for years I had a reel-to-reel tape of the broadcast done at the time the Bay of Pigs invasion was taking place. It was a fascinating way to pick up the fast Spanish of the Caribbean, too.

Frederick R. Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>: The first station I can remember listening to was WSPD-1370. Everyone's parents listened to WSPD for news, weather, and information in Toledo OH. Later, I became aware of WTOD-1560, as my brother (13 years my senior) was involved in radio at then McKinley HS station and worked a few nights at WTRT-FM in Toledo.

After I got my first radio (age 7) I discovered WTOL/WCWA-1230, WTTO-1520, and WOHO-1470. It was a year later that I got a crystal set when I was home with the measles for a couple of weeks. Later, I got a Panasonic and an Arvin radios that sounded better and received more stations. I also learned how to operate grandma's 1930 Silvertone, I found out about WJR-760, and then the rockers of the time in Detroit (WKNR-1310, WXYZ-1270, CKLW-800) and others. (see side note).

I also discovered FM when I was 9, although it was a mystery. It was always tuned to WTOL-FM 104.7 or my brother had it on the high school station. However, this was a Brunswick console, and the band was in Channel Numbers (200-300), so I had no clue what the frequency was all about. Wish I still had that radio!

It was not until after I started working P.T. at a local FM station that I discovered DXing and what kind of radios and antennas do what. I believe it was Gary "Seagull" Siegel that turned me onto the NRC, and the bevy of radios that we all talk about today. In fact, I can't recall a shift at the radio station where Gary didn't bring in his TRF.

Side note: My grandmother, and aunt never used the old radio (which now sits on my back porch. I always wondered why, and found out one day. It seemed that they spoke and understood German, (although it was never passed down to the kids). Both of them listened to SW out of Germany pre-WWII, and they *knew* that Hitler was up to no good. When war broke out they listened, but after they found out about all the things that Hitler and the SS did, they never turned on the old radio again.

Bruce Conti <BACONTI@aol.com>: I grew up listening to "136 KGB" in San Diego during the late '60s into the '70s, when some of my all time favorite songs were "No Matter What" by Badfinger, "Hitching a Ride" by Vanity Fair, "Proud Mary" by Creedence Clearwater Revival, and "I Think I Love You" by the Partridge Family. My first DX catch was XERB where Wolfman Jack played gospel records daily. XERB was the only radio station my crystal receiver and 50-ft wire could receive. Later upon moving to Rhode Island in 1971, I listened to 55 WGNG, 63 WPRO, and 66 WNBC on AM, plus FM DX of the only stations playing pop music; 105.7 WVBF, 106.3 WBZ-FM, and The Rock Garden 93.7 WCGY. Some of my favorite hits of the time included "Maggie May" by Rod Stewart, "What Would You Say" by Hurricane Smith, and anything by Bachman Turner Overdrive. (Sample hit lists from WGNG, WNBC, and WBZ-FM are posted on BAMLog.) Everything else on FM was either elevator music, classical, or progressive / album rock. WBZ-FM was automated most of the time, and known for making errors on a regular basis including dead air, cutting songs short, and playing the same song two or more times in a row. It was a very amateur-ish operation for a Westinghouse broadcasting station. However I rarely



missed the countdown every Saturday. 63 WPRO was the consistent number one rated station in Rhode Island, usually competing with Beautiful Music station WLKW AM and FM. Salty Brine was a legend in Rhode Island radio with his morning show on WPRO, and Big Ange was popular in the evening. When Big Ange was fired from WPRO, he reappeared on 1520 WKBW attracting a following of DX listeners. Later pop music graduated to FM with WPJB "JB 105 has big hits" and 92 PRO FM. As disco was becoming popular, Disco 93 WBOS and WXKS "Kiss 108" went all-disco in Boston. JB 105 responded by dropping disco from their playlist, focusing more on guitar rock hits with Rush being among the more popular bands. While working as a roller disco DJ, I did some guest appearances on 92 PRO FM and JB 105 during live broadcasts from the United Skates of America rink. In addition I was on the air with The Rock Block during morning drive on 91.7 WRBB The Revolution in Boston Broadcasting, and as a news anchor for the six o'clock Newsdesk 91 evening news. Radio was so much fun back then! While I enjoy reminiscing, I'm also saddened by the state of radio today. Radio just isn't fun anymore.

Eric Conchie <econchie@reach.net>: The first stations I remember listening to (this was in Toronto, ON), were 1050 CHUM, CFRB 1010, CHFI 680 (now CFTR) and CKEY 590. I remember that we usually had CHUM on the radio when we were having breakfast (much to my mother's distaste, if I recall, but at 8:00 sharp, the dial would be changed to CFRB for the news (read by the late Jack Dennett for those in the southern Ontario area).

As far as DX was concerned, the first ones I can remember listening to (this would have been the early 1970's) would have been KDKA 1020 Pittsburgh, WCAU 1210 Philadelphia, and (I think) WWWE 1100 Cleveland, all primarily for baseball games, although I tried more for those stations carrying National League games, as I was an Expo fan at the time.

A bit later (approx. 1974), I remember listening to some of the great top 40 stations of the era (WABC, WCFL, WLS, & WOWO, etc) after dark on nights when I couldn't get CHUM (I was always and still am hooked to that station. From then, I gradually got into full fledged DX'ing. Ahh, the memories!!

Mike Brooker <aum108@idirect.com>: I started listening to CHUM-1050 circa 1966-67. As a second and third-grader I would come home after school and switch on CHUM, to listen to the afternoon/PM drive DJ, Bob McAdorey. I also remember some of the other CHUM jocks from that time: Brian Skinner in the evenings, Jungle Jay Nelson in the mornings, and Duff Roman, who later became CHUM's music director.

As many of you know, I got into DXing a few years later (1973) by listening to out-of-town baseball and hockey games. One of the first broadcasts I picked up was the St. Louis Blues on KMOX, with Dan Kelly and Gus Kyle. The Blues were one of the most successful teams in the early years of the NHL's expansion beyond the "Original Six" (Toronto, Montreal, Detroit, NY Rangers, Boston Chicago), and thanks to KMOX the Blues became my second-favourite team - after the Leafs of course!

Deane McIntyre VE6BPO <dmcintyr@ucalgary.ca>: The first station I ever remember hearing, from our home in Bowmanville ON (east of Toronto) would be CFRB-1010. This would be in the very early '60s, on our GE All-American Five radio in the kitchen when I was 3-4 years old. I still have this radio, and have restored it. It is in the guest room and my father, who is in his 80's and who remembers listening to radio on a crystal set in the 1920's will be able to listen to it again when he visits in a few weeks.:

In January 1964 my sister, who is several years older than me, got a pocket transistor radio for her 12th birthday and she listened to CHUM-1050 for hours on end - the second station I remember. I think that most of her allowance went to buy 9V batteries for this radio.

A couple of hear later she got a Admiral AA5 radio and I remember her listening to the famous rock stations of the day - WABC, WLS, WCFL and so forth at night, when I was supposed to be sleeping.:. Thus I found out that it was possible to listen to distant stations and in 1970 started to DX in earnest. Will never forget the thrill of getting KSL, KFI and CBK for the first time. Now that I live in Calgary AB these stations are now my pests.:

As I wrote this I listened to the end of the Blue Jays-Red Sox BB game on CFAC-960 using my crystal set. Wonderful to hear that those hated Red Sox got what they deserved (a 13-2 licking.:.). But sad to hear that the Argos won't be on radio this season. They were a staple on CFRB for many years.

Robert Foxworth <rfoxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>: I began DXing BCB at about age 14 when my older brother was taking up aviation and brought home sectional charts which then listed many AM stations which could be used as navigation aids. One I particularly remember (?) was KFBC 710 Cheyenne Wyoming which seemed like a real interesting target, as my local WOR was on the same frequency but I think would occasionally go silent, and I thought I could hear KFBC (I never did). However I used the sectionals as a log source and compiled lists of such stations to try for. Soon I discovered the Whites Radio Log, and then the NNRC through the local Newark Evening News, which sponsored them, and printed the CPC list in the Sunday paper every week in the winter. In 1957 NNRC led me to the NRC and I joined NRC then. I had been a ham since age 10 (general at 11) and the hams thought I was a retrograde for taking up BCB DX (then as now).

My dad had bought me a Hammarlund SP-200-SX Superpro, an oddly tuned rx which began at 1250 kc and went to 50 Mc, so my really good DXing was at the high end of the band. It cost \$50, a decent piece of money then. The Newark Evening News did a weekly feature "With The Hams" and in 1954 they did a piece on me called "Summit Lad is Ham at 12" or somesuch, with a picture of me in front of the Sp200 and a converted BC-something Command Set I used as a transmitter. I still have this clipping. On the rest of the page are all the local radio schedules for Sunday for the NYC stations then. The caption of the photo said I was "...operating (his) ham set with the company of Tuffy (his) pet cat" but what was unspoken was that, when the picture of me was taken, my dad was crouched behind me holding the cat's tail so it wouldn't run off. Yes, a real staged photo-op.

The first DX test I tried for was WSTN 1420 St. Augustine FL which may have been a NNRC test. I sent them a SASE and they replied by typing a verie message on a tourist postcard, my first verification. Later I learned about using stamps and not SASE's, and started getting letter veries.

Fred V mentioned a test from CKBW 1000 in NS, and a packet from the DXers Radio Club. I had forgotten about this club for decades, but I recall it was an effort of Jim Ernst, a native of Bridgewater, NS, who was living in Scotch Plains NJ then (1957-1959) with his family. His dad was a minister working here. Jim had formed DXRC, and apparently got CKBW - a very DX-friendly station - to send out these packets to DXers requesting QSLs. I don't think DXRC lasted very long.

John Callarman <JohnCallarman@msn.com>: I'll start with the first radio program I ever remember hearing. I was 6 years old in the summer of 1941 when our family moved from Oklahoma to Oregon, when my father took a teaching job at Oregon State. On a weekend early in December, my dad decided to bundle us into the car and take our first trip to the Oregon Coast 54 miles away. I know we had the radio on in the car, but I do not know to what radio station it was tuned. The station must have been playing recorded pop music of the day, because the only thing I can actually, positively remember hearing was Freddy Martin's "Tonight We Love," adopted from Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto in B-Flat Minor. I know from my parents' stories that we learned from the radio that weekend of the Dec. 7 attack on Pearl Harbor, and that we cut short our trip to the coast, but all I can remember is the song. I hear the words "Pearl Harbor" and immediately, my mind plays "Tonight We Love."

The first actual radio station, call letter-wise I remember hearing was KOAC-550, the only station licensed to Corvallis until 1947, when KRUL-1340 came on the air. I became an Oregon State basketball fan in 1943, and I used to listen to Jimmy Morris' play-by-play accounts over Beaver basketball. I may have mentioned hearing for the first time the description of a player "dribbling down the floor" and I thought of the poor guy drooling.

I remember the network radio programs of the '40s, at night, and the problems we had tuning them because, while Portland was only 85 miles from Corvallis, the highest powered Portland stations were no more than 5 kW. (Until later when KEX-1190 went 50 kW.) For NBC at night, we had either KPO-680 San Francisco or KFI-640 Los Angeles (how well I recall the winter weather reports and the warnings to the owners of orange groves to start the smudge pots burning.) For CBS, we could sometimes hear KOIN-970 Portland QRM free, but most of our nighttime CBS programs came from KNX-1070. I don't recall us listening to much from ABC until later when I had my own table model radio and was able to do a little more exploring. ABC was not easy at night with KEX at 5 kW, KGO-810 at 7.5 kW and the Los Angeles ABC station, now KABC but the call letters then slip my mind (KEAC?), was useless. Our only local station was KWIL-1240, Albany, and it provided 6-to-midnight Mutual Broadcasting System programs over the Pacific Coast version of MBS, Mutual Don Lee.

My father drove alone to Oklahoma to bring back my grandma, who was to stay a few months with us, and, to keep up with the network programs while on the road, he bought a White's Radio Log. I remember somewhat vaguely that he referred to what he called "fishing" for stations rather than just listening for programs, and, armed with that White's Radio Log, I started a list of stations that I could hear. I remember the specific date I started that list, October 27, 1947, and the first station I wrote down was KTRB-860, Modesto.

I've never been the same since.

David Gleason: KECA for Earle C. Anthony, the Cadillac dealer who first had KFI and the had the permitted duopoly with KECA.

Benjamin Dangerfield <ben-dangerfield@worldnet.att.net>: The first stations I heard in my youth were the 5 Pittsburgh locals: KDKA, WKAE, WJAS, KQV and WWSW. Then I discovered nearby WWVA. My first out-of-town stations were CKOK [Windsor-540], WCAU and WRVA.

My first TA was London-877 and my first continental TA was Radio Monte Carlo-1466. My first TP was 2BL Sydney-740. These from my present location.

Rick Robinson <kf4ar@arrl.net>: The first station I remember listening to was WSOC in Charlotte when it was on 1240. My mother listened to WSOC who carried Breakfast Club hosted by Don McNeill on a white metal Arvin 444 "midget" radio. Mother also listened to "Search for Tomorrow" on the radio, the trials and tribulations of Joanne Barron Tate and her family. We didn't have a TV until 1953 so I must've been about 4 or 5 when I remember my first radio shows.

My first radio was a Miniman red and white crystal rocket radio that I got for Christmas in 1959. I used to lay in bed and listen to "WSOC Party Line", an early local call-in talk show, I guess that's why I still listen to talk radio at night. They would discuss anything but "race, religion and private complaints."

I also remember my father listening to Grady Cole on WBT in the mornings before he left for work and my mother changed the station. Grady was a morning institution on WBT and the Carolinas from the early 1930s until he retired in the late 50s. We also had a big 12 tube Silvertone console radio in the living room. One program I remember my dad listening to on the Silvertone was the Renfro Valley Barn Dance on Saturday nights. I'm not sure if it was on WBT or another local station. My dad was a DXer although he didn't know it. He loved to pull in distant stations on the Silvertone.

Thanks Mom and Dad for passing the love of radio along to me.

Feel free to join in either one of these topics...or another of your choosing. With the summer bringing monthly deadlines, you won't be skipping three issues before you see your contribution in print (if you get it to me by September 15).



Clear Channel wants to mend some fences

By W. Scott Bailey
(from the June 20, 2003 print edition
of the San Antonio Business Journal)

via Pat Martin

Clear Channel Communications Inc., the dominant player in the radio-station market, is attempting to improve its public relations efforts in the aftermath of a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) ruling that relaxed ownership rules for television and print — but not radio.

Some observers say the move is not as much about the San Antonio-based company protecting its future growth opportunities as it is about holding on to what it already has. On June 2, the FCC announced a ruling that essentially left radio ownership restrictions as is but allowed more room for television and print to explore expanded ownership opportunities. Clear Channel initially lashed out at the FCC ruling, characterizing the decision as a "re-regulation" of the radio industry. Company President and Chief Operating Officer Mark Mays went so far as to accuse the FCC of choosing politics over public interest. But there are recent signs that the communications giant is actually working to lower the volume on its disputes with politicians and the media, replacing some of that harsh rhetoric with a more informative, proactive approach.

Clear Channel has been under fire for a number of controversial issues for quite some time. They include participation in industry consolidation, an alleged monopolizing of the market and, more recently, the practice of voice tracking — which has replaced some local disc jockeys with voices and programming emanating from other locales.

Andy Levin, senior vice president of governmental affairs for Clear Channel, was asked if his company's embattled image — deserved or not — has hurt its standing with regulators and the public.

"I believe that's what has happened," he said from his Washington, D.C., office. "I definitely think that is what we are up against."

Levin said that image or reputation has been self-perpetuating in part because of the sheer size of the company, and because it has not moved quickly enough in the past to adequately explain its position on a number of key issues. "Our company, as large as it is, is going to have vocal opposition," explained Levin. "In our case, we grew very large very quickly. I think that made us a lightning rod for criticism."

Levin said a number of Clear Channel's image woes can be traced back to the company's failure to be more proactive.

"I think we could have told our story better and earlier," he admitted.

"They've had a really bad run of publicity," says John Dunbar, a director with the Center for Public Integrity, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that tracks media and governmental issues.

Dunbar, who has stated recently that politicians on both sides of the political spectrum are working to distance themselves from Clear Channel as fast as they can, tells the Business Journal: "You don't have to be a genius to know that there has been a backlash against radio in general and Clear Channel in particular."

He says any new proactive PR strategy by Clear Channel — especially in Washington, D.C., — can likely be attributed at least in part to the fact that the company wants to avoid a run-in with some

detractors possessing strong political muscle.

"There are people that really don't like that company," Dunbar says. "Some of them are in a position to pass laws that could hurt them in a big way."

Setting it right

Levin said there are too many misconceptions about Clear Channel that simply need to be clarified. One, he added, is consolidation. "We think people are under the mistaken impression that the radio industry is consolidation run amok," Levin said. "The opposite is true. But some folks, who had a political agenda to keep TV from being further regulated used radio — especially Clear Channel — as the scapegoat."

Levin added, "It is true that Clear Channel owns about 1,200 radio stations and that's a very large number. But it needs to be put into perspective. There are about 13,000 stations in the U.S. We're only 9 percent — and only 20 percent of the revenues. That's not a monopoly, yet we've been unfairly targeted."

Levin also pointed to voice tracking as an area that Clear Channel needs to address. "We think it's better programming. We're using technology to bring high-quality entertainment to smaller markets that could not otherwise afford it," he explained. "If we stop doing that, a lot of people are going to be unhappy."

Levin added, "We certainly need to do a better job of educating people on what this is all about. It's just syndicated programming that's one step better because it is more localized." But has voice tracking led to a generic sound or message throughout the cities where Clear Channel owns radio stations?

"I'm not sure the perception is true," Levin said. "If you look at the playlist in Austin versus Washington, D.C., for example, they're very different."

Robert Unmacht, a partner in Nashville-based media consultant iN3 Partners, says he has tracked Clear Channel for more than 15 years. He says what Clear Channel is doing is house cleaning.

"They've taken so much flack for the way they've operated from so many sides," Unmacht contends, "ultimately, the negativity plays into advertising, where some may rethink their relationships."

He adds that any lingering image problems could also haunt Clear Channel in future regulatory decisions and legislation.

"I do have high praise for some of what they've done, and there is nothing wrong with them wanting to operate like a business," Unmacht says. "But because of who they are, how big they are, the world demands more from them. "When it comes to radio, people are passionate. It's not a shoe store (Clear Channel is) running," he says. "I'm not sure they understand that yet."

Perceptions

Said Levin about Clear Channel's detractors, "When people make false accusations, they tend to stick over time. We may have made a mistake in not dealing with that earlier on. Perception becomes reality. We're trying very hard now to show the good that we do for communities."

He pointed to the \$20 million Clear Channel raised to help victims of the Sept. 11 disaster as an example.

"We have not done a good job of taking credit where credit is due. Our image has suffered because of that," Levin said.

Has this awakening led to some significant changes in the way Clear Channel is now addressing its public image?

"There's no question," said Levin. "Absolutely. We're now much more focused on explaining how our business works."

Asked why a communications giant with a global reach perhaps has not been more in tune with the media and the public up to now, Levin explained, "I suspect the company was in a high-growth mode and was busy trying to build and improve its business and its culture. But maybe now attention needs to be paid to reputation and image. We can't turn the clock back. But we can move forward."

Dunbar believes Clear Channel's new outreach was prompted, at least partially, out of fear that Congress could put a hurt on the company if politicians continue to feel enough heat from the public to take another look at the radio industry.

But is the broadcast company reaching out to its detractors and others more now in an effort to better position itself for future gains or to avoid the possibility of losing some of what it already has? Dunbar believes it is the latter. "There is a vulnerability for them right now," he contends. "If either the public or Congress chooses to get really nasty, Clear Channel could eventually be forced to let go of some stations. What they are doing isn't as much about what they want to add as much as what they want to protect."

Levin said pending legislation over the FCC's recent ruling isn't likely to change things for the radio industry one way or the other. He added that there could be a repeal of some of the changes regarding television, however. On the radio side, Levin said, "Deregulation has been good for radio and good for consumers. We're not the evil empire people would like to make Clear Channel out to

be." That said, Levin knows hurdles remain.

The biggest?

"Clearly, its image," he said. "We have to get the word out better about who we are and what we do. We are extremely proud of our company and what we do. We will continue to work as hard as we can from this point to please each community where we do business."

A Petition For A Low Power Community Radio Service In The AM Expanded Band

via Patrick Griffith

Here's something very interesting from the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) Chapter 48 newsletter. Fred Baumgartner is very active with the SBE. In fact, he has administered all 3 of my SBE certification exams. I have the complete petition which includes some technical recommendations for power and so on but it is a little lengthy. There is also a reference to <http://www.recnet.com/lpam>

In a press release suggesting that neighborhood and community broadcast voices may be the most genuine broadcasters, Fred Baumgartner, a long-time broadcast engineer, proposes a low power service in the expanded portion of the AM band. Fred indicates that the proposal is based on a series of inputs from various groups, engineers, and individuals; and his best effort to find the middle ground.

The proposal is for a service with as much as 100-watts on the 10 AM channels from 1610 through 1700 kHz. The petition asks for an easy and affordable application process based on simple mileage separations, and asks for strict rules of use to guarantee that the spectrum granted is used to the community's best interest, and avoids the issues and distractions that have surrounded previous low power services.

The choice of the extended band is the perfect location for a low power community service, as receivers are available, and the potential for interference at the requested power and antenna limitations is nearly nothing. No other spectrum offers the same opportunity.

If adopted, the tender would create a spectrum grant where a typical community might have as many as six licensees sharing time on three frequencies, covering a few miles. The proposed service is constructed with minimum and maximum hours of operation that all but require two broadcasters to share each frequency, facilitating diversity. The rules also prohibit the ownership of more than one station, preventing a range of potential abuses. The petition provides heavy protection for full power extended band broadcasters, but no protection for one LPAM broadcaster and another. The tender encourages the sharing of facilities, frequencies and resources in a community.

Rather than an involved technical application process, the proposal defines maximum antenna system size and requires type-accepted transmitters with integral limits on out-of-band emissions, frequency, and power level. This process is designed to allow application for a license without the expense of consulting engineers, or other unnecessary technical complexities.

The scheme permits LPAM (low power AM) broadcasters to support their operations with the sale of commercial time, and underwriting, but puts limits automated, network, and out-of-market content, as well as the hours of operation. The LPAM AM proposal requires hands-on broadcasting.

The petitioner believes that if an LPAM service is granted with the suggested rules of use, a plethora of community stations will take to the air, and a valuable gap in broadcasting, truly neighborhood and community broadcasting, will be filled.

Community radio has been a contentious topic for some time. Broadcasters fear interference and competition from any serious service. Part 15 operation at very low powers is inadequate to serve any real public need. Without a legitimate means of broadcasting, pirates take to the air with self-justification.

Low Power FM has been authorized, however the rules of use often have made the existing services largely impractical and inaccessible to the people who would best serve and be served by neighborhood radio. LPFM technical requirements make getting a license a lengthy and expensive process beyond the resources and knowledge base of those not already involved in commercial broadcasting. Further, current FCC policy often permits enterprises to apply for multiple licenses, blocking out the very potential broadcasters the service was designed to support. In some cases, applicants even vie to assemble a series of low-power facilities, in effect creating a full power like service. FCC regulations may also serve to inhibit fund raising, and discourage sharing of frequencies, live operations, and limited time operation.

LPAM in the expanded band proposes to provide the missing neighborhood owned, and operated, community centered broadcast service.

710WOR-HD

New York's FIRST Digital AM Radio Station

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

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

Sometimes you can get a clue as to the location of a DX station from the telephone area code given for local commercials. Many telephone directories have a page with a map showing the location of area codes, along with a table listing the area codes in numerical order. When I receive my new directory in the fall of the year I remove this page from the old directory and keep it at my desk for quick reference. Does anyone know if AM broadcast antenna systems can have a high enough Q to cut sidebands? I read an article about the IBOC system that indicated that stations must have symmetrical upper and lower sidebands for the digital system to work properly, and the implication was that the AM antenna and its matching network could attenuate one of the sidebands. I almost always use the Drake R-8 in the SSB mode while DXing, and select the upper or lower sideband to minimize heterodynes or slop-over from the adjacent channels. Several times I found stations that had one sideband much weaker than the other, and it wasn't because of sideband-cutting by the Kiwa loop.

Al Ogriovich

Errr Moxie, Fletcher's Castoria in a can. I tried in a few years ago after visiting my wife's homeland NH. Yuk!!!! Just getting back into bcb dx after not doing it for many moon. Was a member of IRCA in the 70s and got out. Have been hamming since then, KX5U, but need something else since the sunspots are going down. Work for the state full time here in Fla and part time at a local fm baby-sitting a harddrive. Was on the air for about 4 years until format changed and the computer took over. Hope to keep up the reading with the news and hope the dx flies in.

Stan Morss -76 Lakeshore Road - Boxford, MA 01921-1115

I have the first 5 years of the IRCA bulletins for the NRC archives, if anyone is interested, please write, I'll make arrangements for shipping (US only). Local Spanish pirate on 1700 daily, all religion and in Lawrence area, heard here loud and clear most days. Others are near, heard only in Lawrence with varied programs. After 15 years of subscribing to MSJ, they are only now available via fax or on line, with neither available, I have lost that source of info. Locals WBPS-890 and WAMG-1150 noted in parallel 6/29, WBPS had been talk and calls due to be switched. WCCM-1490 dropped 2 local talk shows due to too much anti-politician talk from near bankrupt cities of Lawrence and Haverhill. Citizens are upset at the current mayor and council for over-spending and service cuts, so they're now off the bird in the afternoons. And a short visit from JOHN BOWKER to pick up a big lot of Radio Digests, 1922-1930 and headed for the NRC Archives. Also received a copy of the 2002 Convention tape from ERNIE WESLOWSKI, which I enjoyed.

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

OK, its time to dust off the receivers, check the sky wires, put new batteries in the loop and get ready for the DX season that's just around the bend. And as a couple of guidelines for our column: please keep your reports radio-related, as to what you're hearing, what you've heard, and what you hope to hear! And it would be wonderful to have a FULL ADDRESS on your report, a lot of our Email reporters don't include them, so it would be appreciated. Thanks to all for their continued support, and we look forward to hearing from YOU!



NRC Dallas 1998

by John R. Malicky, 2003

The Metroplex! Big D! KRLD! Texas Stadium! Reunion Plaza! What a convention! Or was it? Anyway, here's my story of a personal two-day visit to Dallas on Tuesday, September 1 and Wednesday, September 2, 1998 from my home of Pittsburgh en route to NRC San Antonio '98. So, if you don't want to know any details of Dallas and some of Dallas radio, please turn the page. However, if you do want a preview and my wandering adventures, this 'bud' is for you!

'Morning has broken' on Tuesday, September 1 with an exciting day ahead, but first thought to remember, Dallas is a very large city! Also, please do not get caught in Dallas morning rush hour on I-30 heading into the city!

Also, heed the signs, "Welcome to Texas", "Don't Mess With Texas", and "Drive Friendly, the Texas Way!" I do! Our host hotel is the Days Inn in Arlington which also happens to be home to our first stop, "KRLD Newsradio 1080." KRLD is the big voice of Dallas with "Traffic and Weather together every 10 minutes on the 8's mornings and afternoons." Plus, several local talk shows like the sign says, "KRLD Newsradio 1080 presents Charley Jones" 9 AM to noon discussing current issues in the news. A previously arranged tour was set up through Mr. Erik Disen, Director of Engineering. His words were, "we are located behind the ballpark." That's the rather new 'The Ballpark in Arlington' where the Texas Rangers baseball team plays and you thought it was the old Washington Senators! Now I presume Erik meant KRLD is in a building behind the ballpark.

Instead, I'm directed to an entrance where an overhead sign in marble and concrete states in bold letters, "KRLD". To my amazement, I discover that the station is built within the ballpark with the studios and offices located behind center field! How 'bout that! Historically, KRLD scared no one signing on the air on Halloween Day, 1926 from a small second-floor room at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas. Named after the Radio Laboratories of Dallas, KRLD started at 1040 for 6 hours a day, except on Wednesdays when the station closed down to make repairs and recharge the batteries. Like I do sometimes! KRLD was one of the original 16 member stations when CBS was formed in 1929. They were the first station to present live broadcasts of high school and college football games and first to originate commercial announcements, or 'ads' on radio, 'cause somebody has to pay those bills! In the summer of 1941, KRLD 'slid into' 1080.

You'll be impressed like I was that the front entrance lobby on the floor has thousands of small black and white tiled squares spelling 'KRLD' and 'TSN.' 'TSN' is KRLD's "Texas State Network" providing news and information to their large Texas station network. 'TSN' is also the country's oldest and largest state network incorporated August 2, 1938! Prior to their being sold one week before to KLW, a sign on one of the front doors lists, "Talk 1190." Near the front entrance is the main talk studio with glass windows for the public.

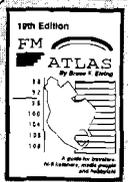
Promoting the impressive facilities, KRLD lettering is everywhere even, like on Broadway, in neon lights! Operating on 1080 Clear Channel, 50 kw KRLD is directional nights protecting WTIC-Hartford. Two major lobes are northwest and southeast. Their transmitter building was built in 1938 and is located in Garland, Texas, about 20 miles northeast of downtown Dallas. Verified in January, 1970, KRLD is the voice of the Texas Rangers. Behind their offices are glass doors that open to the centerfield area of the ballpark! Another sight is that of the ballpark's three levels of blue seats from the left to right field lines! On a level behind centerfield are rows of benefactor's names embossed in bronze about three feet off the ground. There's also a bronze statue of Ranger pitcher and Hall of Famer Nolan Ryan! A final pitch from KRLD is that "Newsradio 1080" switched from music in 1978 becoming the first news station in the Metroplex (Dallas/Ft. Worth area) and is now situated, literally, right in middle of where everything happens! Thanks KRLD! Next, batting second, WBAP!

Clear Channel WBAP, "Newstalk 820" is licensed to Ft. Worth, Texas and has served the area since May 2, 1922! WBAP or "We Bring All Pleasure", a self-described acronym, was verified here in October, 1970. Over 30 years ago, WBAP and then WFAA shared time on 570 and 820 kilocycles. My confirmed card of the WFAA Communications Center was noted February 27, 1970. Now, ABC owned WBAP is located in Arlington also, along with their FM, "The Country Leader" KSCS 96.3. The stations are located less than one mile from KRLD in the Brookhollow office complex at 2221 East Lamar Blvd. From a distance, both calls stand out atop the office building. Inside, I acquire some oversized baseball cards of the local air personalities like, "Sam From Sales, Mornings and Afternoons!" Unfortunately, a scheduled meeting with Operations Manager Tyler Cox does not occur. So, who's on third? Why it's KKDA!

Next stop in Grand Prairie, Texas just west of Dallas is Service Broadcasting's KKDA-730, KKDA-104.5 "K-104" licensed to Dallas,



The Rangers Station



Bruce Elving's FM Atlas ...19th Edition
The world-famous guide which has served FM DX'ers for over 20 years is available from NRC Publications at the special price of \$18.00 for NRC USA/Canada members, \$22.00 USA/Canada non-members, \$25.00 for all others. NY orders, please add sales tax.

Ad KRNB-105.7, licensed to Decatur, Texas. Located at 621 NW 6th Street, KKDA-730 programs rhythm and blues oldies while the FMs play urban AC. KKDA signed on originally as KPCN on August 1, 1957 as listed in Broadcast Yearbook.

While the visit is cordial, I only have a few minutes with Frances Davis, Continuity Relations. She mentions KKDA is 500 watts non-directional days and directional northeast at night. Well, keep on groovin' KKDA! Batting forth, KLUV!

Mid-afternoon past 4 PM and the "sidewalks are hotter than a matchhead" and so is Infinity owned and Dallas' Oldies Station, KLV-98.7 (and the recently acquired 1190)! Here at 4131 North Central Expressway in Suite 700, just north of downtown, this visit is special. That's because for the past 10 years, legendary and former Pittsburgh air personality, Chuck Brinkman, now PD at KLV, is here! Also, two other former 'Burgh personalities are here, John Summers and Jay Crestwell! What a great honor to meet Chuck and John as I was presented the 'key' or some free passes to K-LV's forth annual Oldies Festival September 19th at Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie which I'll donate to the NRC Auction. Long live K-LUV! Now batting fifth and 5 floors up in Suite 1200, a cordial visit is made to Dallas' "Soft Rock B 97.9" KFBF-97.9 and their new 'baby' "Jammin' Oldies 102", Ft. Worth's KTXQ-102.1! My thanks to Wendy, the receptionist, for helping with the arrival! It's a warm and mild evening in downtown Dallas as this visitor or 'cowboy' rounds up several different venues.

First, several plaques and maps in bronze and stone salute the city and county created on March 30, 1846. The city was named after George Mifflin Dallas, the 11th Vice President of the US who favored the state's annexation in 1836. Of course there are other markings and memorials, some weathered, mark the death of President John F. Kennedy on November 22, 1963 which is the day and month of my birthday. Other sites include "The Canyon" which is the link of highway and interstate roads, the Dallas Morning News Building, WFAA TV 8 (hey Wally!), the DART (Dallas Area Rapid Transit) Building, Reunion Plaza and Center (home to the NBA Mavericks and NHL Stars), Union Station and Amtrak, and just a couple miles east, Fair Park. Say hey and goodnight! "It's a beautiful morning.." on Wednesday, September 2 and those bright sounds coming from Fair Park and Classical 101.1 WRR! Easily flowing past the famous Cotton Bowl, the huge Texas Star ferris wheel, and the Texas State Fair grounds, NRC wanderers find a sign pointing towards WRR. With their tower located southwest of Dallas in Cedar Hill, Texas, WRR is billed "as the premier 24-hour commercial classical station in northeast Texas!" Since their 1948 sign on, WRR is the second of 7 municipally owned stations in the US by the City of Dallas. In their bio, WRR began as the second AM station in the country two and a half weeks after KDKA in November, 1920 and once operated at 1310 kc. Now, a plaque inside their building lists the dedication of the WRR Building in 1973 as the station operates with 100 kw. In lieu of a tour, busy morning host and Operations Manager Steve Hillard bears gifts for this 'king'!

Late morning and up at number seven northwest of downtown Dallas is Susquehanna Radio Corporation's four, local talk "570 KLIF", "The Ticket" sportsradio KTCK-1310, classic rock and licensed to Haltom City "The Zone 93.3", and country KPLX-99.5 "The Wolf" licensed to Ft. Worth. The stations are located at 3500 Maple Avenue in "The Reverchon Plaza at Turtle Creek." With the main offices, on the 16th floor is "570 Cliff" with "The Wolf" while 1310 and "The Zone" are three floors down. With a prearranged tour, I hunt and find my guide, VP/GN Dan; Halyburton. A whirlwind and very thorough one hour tour is conducted by Dan who notes all 4 stations are very competitive in the Dallas market. A sign on one of the doors lists that as of June 25, 1998, a repeater station at 104.1 in Sanger, Texas is acquired for 93.3. Also, on 950 in Denison, Texas, a repeater is acquired for KLIF. Thanks for the KLIFnotes!

Later in the near 100 degree afternoon as 'the heat is on', I've made the last 3 PM tour at Texas Stadium to see the Dallas Cowboys shrine of battle! Down on the field, even trying to field a punt, in the luxury box, and in the locker room, to see the "Ring of Honor" of Cowboy players past is exciting even for this Steeler northerner! I should mention for all you cowpokes that KVIL-103.7 is the voice of the Cowboys!

Three more stops and the 'party is over!' First, I'll wet my whistle across the road from Texas Stadium, dedicated in 1971, at Webb's Bar S, Crill, a slightly newer venue. Then a quick stop outside the Hispanic Radio Group's seven Spanish stations at 7700 John W. Carpenter Freeway. They include KESS-1270 (oldies and licensed to Ft. Worth), KTLY-1440 (talk and licensed to Denton, Texas), KMRT-1480 (soft Spanish ac) and four 'hot' FMs. Last, I'll 'kick up some dirt' at the home of the Mustangs, Southern Methodist University in University Park north of downtown Dallas.

Thus ends my tour of "Big D" and onward to Austin, Texas, but that's another story. With a cry that is heard, "Yawl come back now, like at NRC Dallas 2003, ya hear!"

(Publisher's note: No exclamation points were harmed, truncated, modified, or transformed in the preparation of this article.)



NRC-2003-Big D!

This year the National Radio Club marks another milestone, its 70th anniversary. And this is your invitation to join us in Dallas, TX for our annual convention. Convention dates will be Friday August 29 through Sunday August 31, 2003. Your hosts will be John Callarman, Bill Hale and Wally Wawro, who hope to make your visit to the Lone Star State memorable and fun.

Convention registration and hotel reservations are now being taken. Here's how to join us:

This year, registration is \$45 dollars for each NRC member or \$70 for member and spouse. Registration includes the annual NRC banquet to be held on Saturday, August 30. As usual we'll have plenty of snacks and refreshments throughout the gathering. And there could be other surprises too.

You can register two ways. By mail, send your registration to:

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

Make your check or money order payable to the *National Radio Club* and note that it's for the convention. Please include your name, address, phone number and e-mail address with your check. If you need special accommodations please note that as well.

Once again you can register for the convention at the NRC website using your credit card through our Paypal account. Click on "Convention." You'll find instructions there. In either case the deadline is Friday, August 15, 2003.

Our host hotel is:
The Holiday Inn Select DFW Airport South - 4440 Airport Freeway - Irving, TX 75062, 1-800-360-2242 <<[<http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/HI/hd/dfwso?irs=y>>](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/HI/hd/dfwso?irs=y)

It's just minutes from the south entrance to DFW airport. The hotel has complementary shuttle service from the airport. Room rates are \$69.00 per night single or double occupancy. To get the special NRC rate of \$69.00 you must call the hotel directly. Their toll free number from anywhere in the US or Canada is 1-800-360-2242, and tell them you're attending the National Radio Club convention. If you require special assistance or services please let the hotel know. The hotel is fully ADA compliant. Hotel reservation deadline is Friday, August 15. The hotel will have rooms available at the NRC rate beginning Thursday August 28, through Labor Day, Monday, September 1st. The hotel was recently updated and offers numerous amenities including indoor and outdoor pools, restaurants, lots of space to unwind and even an indoor putting green. Within easy distance of the hotel is everything from Wal-Mart and McDonald's to a major shopping mall.

American, Delta, United and Continental all fly into DFW Airport, but Southwest Airlines does not. If you choose to come to the convention on Southwest you will need to make transportation arrangements from Dallas Love Field to the hotel. Also, all of the major car rental companies are located at DFW airport.

Texas in August is hot outdoors and very well air-conditioned indoors so keep that in mind. And having a tube of sunscreen isn't a bad idea either.

For answers to your questions, contact Wally Wawro at WFAA-TV in Dallas, 214-977-6260, or e-mail at wwawro@wfaa.com. Also, you can reach Wally at 214-354-4958 or e-mail at nrc2003bigd@hotmail.com.

Let's make this the best turnout ever for an NRC gathering. After 70 years we do have something to celebrate! Join us in Texas for this year's NRC convention.

