

# DX News

*Serving DX'ers since 1933*



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**DX Test:** KCKM-1330 Monahans TX will test on Saturday, March 22, at 0100-0130 ELT, with 12 kW non-directional into a 5/8th-wave tower. The test will consist mainly of Morse code, sweep tones, and sound effects known to cut through the mud. There will be a few voice announcements spread out through out the test.

GM and station owner Bob Souza will accept reports. E-mail reports to [bob@kckm1330.com](mailto:bob@kckm1330.com) are preferred (.mp3 attachments only, .wav are too big), but snail-mail reports will be accepted too at P.O. Box 990, Monahans TX 79756.

A verification postcard will be sent – a stamp to defray postage costs is always a good idea. (Thanks to Bob and Paul Walker.)

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### From: The NRC Board of Directors

#### To: NRC Membership

As we've noted in recent issues of DX News, we're seeing dramatic changes in the publications that surround us. The International Radio Club of America ceased its printed version of *DX Monitor* this past fall, *Monitoring Times* ceased publication after the December 2013 issue and CQ Publications announced that *CQ VHF*, *Popular Communications*, and *World Radio* would all be rolled into one "on-line-only" publication. The National Radio Club intends to continue its print and online publication ... but we want you to know about the cost implications for the print version.

Some background to put things in perspective: The Club has had to increase dues twice since June 2012, when we had raised dues to \$38.00 in an effort to offset the rising printing, handling, and postage costs. This was a partial solution; we relied also on profits from our book sales to cover these increasing costs. But profits from book sales have declined, and on January 15, 2013 we had to raise dues to the current \$45.00 per year. This helped stabilize the treasury and over the last year we saw our cash flow improve, from the dues increase and from the brisk sales of the 7th Edition of the *Antenna Pattern Book* and the 34th Edition of the *AM Radio Log*.

Now once again we're faced with a three-cent-per-issue postage hike. Issues of DX News

now cost **forty nine cents** to mail 12, 16, 20 or 24 pages.

As we pass the two-thirds point of Volume 81, our page count for the first 21 issues is as follows: (two) 24-page issues, (four) 20-page issues, (ten) 16-page issues and (five) 12-page issues. Each has been mailed with a 1st class stamp whose cost has just gone up again (and is likely to keep increasing).

At the same time we're seeing a decrease in subscription count to the *print* edition of *DX News*. Many members have switched to the much-less-expensive e-DXN.com, downloading *DX News* in .pdf format and printing it themselves.

The Board of Directors wants you to know that we have no intention of reducing our services or the quality and coverage of *DX News*. We have however, concluded that we can best meet the goal of cost-control by restructuring our publication schedule. We propose reducing the number of issues to 20 annually ... a bi-weekly schedule ... while expanding the content of these 20 issues. Current members would receive a 4-week dues extension, and the new printing schedule would take effect with Volume 82 which commences in October 2014.

Your Board of Directors would like to extend to members the opportunity to comment on this plan of action. The Board feels that this move would be in the best interest of the membership and would avoid the need for another dues increase for the print edition of *DX News*.

Please direct your comments to any member of the Board. Our contact information is on the back page of *DX News*.

The National Radio Club Board of Directors

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**From the Publisher:** This is our last scheduled weekly issue for Volume 81; we'll be back in **two** weeks. Please refer to the calendar below for deadlines and publication dates.

VOL. 81 DX NEWS PUBLISHING SCHEDULE					
No	In By	Date	No	In By	Date
23	Mar. 7	Mar. 17	27	May 30	June 9
24	Mar. 21	Mar. 31	28	June 27	July 7
25	Apr. 11	Apr. 21	29	Aug. 1	Aug. 11
26	May 2	May 12	30	Sept. 5	Sept. 15

# AM Switch



Info to David Yocis – 1245 13th St. NW #105, Washington DC 20005 – NRCDXNews@gmail.com

Now that we have come to the end of the weekly issues for the current volume, how will you keep up to date on the latest call changes, STAs, and other station news for your spring and summer DX? Well, we may be able to help. I will try to provide a weekly “interim AM Switch” – with official FCC and CRTC information only – via e-DXN.com. Look for it in the AM Switch folder on Friday night or sometime on Saturday.

I learned (the hard way) last summer during the monthly issues that letting the FCC data pile up for five weeks makes it very difficult to get current again, so I now check and update the FCC data virtually every day as a matter of habit. So posting the weekly catch should not be a major project. There may be the occasional week where travel or work schedules interfere, but I expect that will be infrequent.

And if the Board’s proposal on page 1 is adopted, I intend try to keep the weekly interim AM Switch going on e-DXN.com during next DX season as well.

But, on to the official FCC information for the current week:

## CONSTRUCTION PERMITS FOR EXISTING STATIONS

CPs moving toward final licensing:

- 680 WGES FL St. Petersburg – Applies for license to cover CP for U1 930/165.
- 1230 WSKY NC Asheville – Granted program test authority to use CP for new site pending final licensing, remaining U1 1000/1000.

Applications for new CPs:

- 860 WTZX TN Sparta – Applies for U1 950/10 from a new site (diplexing with WSMT-1050); replacing a CP for the same parameters that is almost finished but has expired.
- 1010 KIQI CA San Francisco – Licensed for U4 10000/500 with an expired CP for U4 35000/15000, now applies for U4 10000/15000 (day as licensed, night as in CP).

Expired CP (in addition to the two just mentioned):

- 1540 WGRK KY Greensburg – CP to move to 1200 kHz with D1 2500, CoL to Jeffersontown KY, has expired; remains here with D1 1000 (ch 500).

## SPECIAL TEMPORARY AUTHORITY

- 960 WRNS NC Kinston – Applies for STA for night pattern at variance.
- KALE WA Richland – Granted STA with U3 1000/1000, night pattern used 24 hours, and parameters at variance, due to tower work and transmitter problems.
- 1300 WBOW IN Terre Haute – Granted STA with U1 350/58 from tower planned for 640 and 1230 CPs (39-29-21/87-25-10); lost licensed tower years ago.
- 1360 WNJC NJ Washington Township – Granted STA with U1 1250/200 from emergency antenna after tower site vandalism.
- 1420 WVOT NC Wilson – Granted STA with U1 300/125 from temporary site; has lost licensed site but has found a new site and will apply for a CP soon.
- 1440 KVON CA Napa – Granted STA with U1 1250/250, transmission line failure.
- 1480 WVOI FL Marco Island – Granted STA for U4 250/250 and parameters at variance; station was observed “operating with an elevated amount of reflected power.”

Applications to extend existing STAs were received from WWTK-730 Lake Placid FL (parameters at variance during tower work); WTOR-770 Youngstown NY (reduced power, unspecified, while new transmitter is installed); WEEI-850 Boston MA (pattern at variance during testing); KKAT-860 Salt Lake City UT (U1 200/200, day transmitter burned up); KLOA-1240 Ridgecrest CA (U1 185/185 due to transmitter problems); KKNS-1310 Corrales NM (U1? 500/500 from a temporary antenna, lost licensed site); and WVZN-1580 Columbia PA (temporary longwire).

Previously reported applications to extend existing STA were granted to WDAE-620 St. Petersburg FL, KUAH-720 Kekaha HI; WHYF-720 Shiremanstown PA; WINZ-940 Miami FL, WTLN-950 Orlando FL, WELI-960 New Haven CT; KUFO-970 Portland OR; KFAY-1030 Farmington AR; WQHC-1170 Hanceville AL; KEBR-1210 Rocklin CA; WSHU-1260 Westport CT; WODT-1280 New Orleans LA, WEBY-1330 Milton FL; WYRD-1330 Greenville SC; WYOS-1360 Binghamton NY; WRHC-1550 Coral Gables FL; WKTP-1590 Jonesborough TN; KLFE-1590 Seattle WA, and KNTS-1680 Seattle WA

Finally, the FCC dismissed previously reported STA extension applications by KTKT-990 Tucson AZ (presumably back to licensed operations) and WBOW-1300 (granted a new STA instead, above).

### SILENT STATIONS

Stations informing the FCC that they are silent:

- 580 KZMX SD Hot Springs – Silent 2/13; staff quit without notice and new staff not yet hired.
- 670 WRJR VA Claremont – Silent 10/13/2013, waiting on parts for the transmitter.
- 690 KEWI AR Benton – Silent 2/7 pending sale.
- 750 WPDX WV Clarksburg – Silent (again) since 1/25, awaiting equipment delivery.
- 1280 WOWZ VA Appomattox – Silent (again) since 2/12, financial and technical issues.
- 1490 KFCR SD Custer - Silent 2/13; staff quit without notice and new staff not yet hired.

Formerly silent stations informing the FCC that they are no longer silent:

- 1070 WSCP NY Sandy Creek-Pulaski – Silent since 11/30/2013, back on the air 2/18.
- 1470 WEVG AL Evergreen – Silent since 2/10/2013, back on the air 2/4 at 0800 Central time.

Continuing the clean-up of the FCC silent list, the FCC has now figured out that KIBL-1490 Beeville TX, which had been on the silent list for two years until this week, has in fact been on the air the whole time.

### NEW STATION WATCH

First, the CP for WJOE-1450 Lake City FL, which expired last year, has now been dropped from the FCC database.

Second, on February 21 the FCC denied two petitions for reconsideration stemming from the 2004 CP application window. Where there are multiple applications that would interfere with each other, the FCC first determines whether it has a “dispositive preference” for any one application – if so, that applicant gets the first chance to develop the application into a CP and a new station. In 2009 and 2010, respectively, the FCC found dispositive preferences for applications by Black Hawk SD (U7 50000/350 (ch 22000) on 860 kHz) and Springerville UT (U1 10000/570 on 1580 kHz). Another applicant, which had applied for U2 10000/5000 on 860 from Orchard Homes MT and U2 10000/1000 on 1580 from Lolo MT, asked for reconsideration. That has now been denied, clearing away another obstacle to granting CPs to Black Hawk and Springerville.

*Fines:* KBXD-1480 Dallas TX, fined \$9,000 for failure to maintain Emergency Alert System (EAS) equipment and logs; KOMJ-1490 Omaha NE, fined \$17,000 for not maintaining a studio or a public inspection file; KOMJ has no employees or equipment at the listed address in Omaha (the KMTV-TV studios) but programs the station entirely from Arizona.

*Other FCC News:* Denied the application of Hudson County NJ to operate TIS station WQFG689-1710 at 100 watts or more. Not sure why they need extra power; 10 watts even makes it across the Atlantic now and then just fine!

*Canadian Radio-TV Commission (CRTC):* No AM actions again this week.

And here are NRC AM Log updates from Wayne Heinen; contact him directly with any changes you may observe at [NRCAMLog@nrcdxas.org](mailto:NRCAMLog@nrcdxas.org).

- 650 WSRO MA Ashland – Add // WSRO Group.
- 760 WETR TN Knoxville – Add // W222BA-92.3. (BC)
- 850 KEYH TX Houston – Slogan to “La Ranchera.”
- 860 WAOB PA Millvale – Group/slogan to // We Are One Body 106.7 (ex-// WAOB-FM).
- 940 WNRG VA Grundy – Networks: add SRN News.
- 1060 KRCN CO Longmont – Slogan to “Bloomberg Radio.”
- WHFB MI Benton Harbor-St. Joseph – Networks: add CBS News.
- 1080 WOAP MI Owosso – Format to SS:MEX (ex-SS).
- 1230 WCDS KY Glasgow – Add Group: // ESPNKY.
- 1240 WBAS MA West Yarmouth – Add // WSRO Group.
- KRJW OR Altamont – New station on air; format is SPT; slogan is “1240 the Winner”; networks are CS/Jr.
- KGY WA Olympia – Format to OLD:TLK (ex-AC/EZL:TLK); networks to C/WW1.
- 1290 WDZY VA Colonial Heights – Format to UC:GOS (ex-REL).
- 1300 WMVO OH Mount Vernon – Format to TLK (ex-TLK/OLD); slogan to “Talk Radio”; networks to A/Ao/Bf/Oh/WW1/DR.
- 1310 WTTL KY Madisonville- Add // ESPNKY.
- 1340 KHUB NE Fremont – Format to Rock/OLD:SPT (ex-TLK); slogan “K-Hub”; nets to A/Bf.
- 1400 WIEL KY Elizabethtown – Add Group: // ESPNKY.
- 1410 WZBR MA Dedham – Format to ETH/Portuguese (ex-JAZZ); add // WSRO Group.
- WHTG NJ Eatontown – Slogan to “Great Gold 1410.”

- 1430 WXAM KY Buffalo – Add Group: // ESPNKY.  
 1450 WTCO KY Campbellsville – Add Group: // ESPNKY.  
 WWKU KY Plum Springs – Add Group: // ESPNKY.  
 1460 WBRN MI Big Rapids – Group/Slogan to // NewsRadio WBRN.  
 1490 KKAN KS Philipsburg – Format to OLD/TLK (ex-NOS/TLK).  
 1510 WPGR PA Monroeville – Group/slogan to // We Are One Body 106.7 (ex-// WAOB-FM).  
 1570 WMAK TN Lobelville – Slogan to “America’s Bluegrass Channel.”  
 1640 KZLS OK Enid – Format to TLK (ex-OLD/TLK); slogan to “1640 the Eagle”; networks to A/TRN/CMP/RER.

### Questions to the Members

- 830 WCCO MN Minneapolis – Are they still relayed on K278BP-103.5?  
 1210 KEVT AZ Sahuarita – Have they switched to English with Fox Sports Radio and slogan “Power Talk 1210”?

### Add to Group

// The Sports Animal-Tulsa – Adds KITO-FM-96.1.



### New Groups

// WSRO Group – WSRO-650, WBAS-1240, WZBR-1410.  
 // NewsRadio WBRN – WBRN-1460, W299BE-107.7, W236BR-95.1.  
 // ESPNKY – WTHX-101.5, WIEL-1400, WCDS-1230, W238BV-95.7, WTCO-1450, WXAM-1430, WWKU-1450, WTTL-1310.

### Group Name Change

// WAOB-FM becomes  
 // We Are One Body 106.7 – WAOB-FM-106.7, WAOB-860, WPGR-1510.

Thanks to Shawn Axelrod, Bill Hale, and Bruce Conti (BC).

## *Musings of the Members*

**Dave Schmidt** [NRCMusings@aol.com](mailto:NRCMusings@aol.com)  
 55 N. Main Street  
 Shrewsbury, PA 17361

**Thoughts from NRC members. Local time per Muse.**

**All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers – they do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.**

Walt Breville – Valley Park MO [walter.breville@att.net](mailto:walter.breville@att.net)

50 years ago this month I first joined NRC. Needless to say many well known NRCers have passed on, as conditions of DXing got worse and worse in many ways. The one I consider the greatest Musings writer ever, C.M. Stanbury, kept me in the hobby when he blasted the practice of intense competition & striving for totals. He influenced me to no longer take DXing seriously. I’ve misplaced some of my log papers in the process of moving 5 times. My first few months of NRC membership was in the Air Force at Watertown, NY. I’m a naive St. Louisian, lived in Central Florida from 1999 to 2005. This winter I wish I was still there, although I didn’t like FL DX conditions since I’m a domestic DXer, know very little Spanish. With aging, had to move back to St. Louis area to live near my closest relatives again. Have some hearing loss trying for IDs amidst noise, and now live in an apartment, so I take my Kaito 1103 outside weather permitting. Started DXing for different tunes as an 8th grader in 1952, but radio clubs like NRC were well hidden in the 1950s - took me 11 years to find NRC. Now I enjoy a wide variety of music via Wi-Fi Internet and, in the car, Sirius XM. Its still magical enchantment to hear bits of cool music on the AM band amid the noise and catch a new station on very rare occasions.

From our Pro Sports Network editor, Barry Finkel: “With the Major League Baseball (MLB) spring training starting, it is time to start collecting URLs to network lists. Please send me any that you find. Thanks.”

Barry can be reached at 10314 S. Oakley, Chicago, IL 60643-2409 or [bsfinkel@att.net](mailto:bsfinkel@att.net).

*Domestic DX* Mike Brooker patri1818@yahoo.com  
*Digest – East* 99 Wychrest Avenue  
 Toronto, ON M6G 3X8 CANADA  
 U.S./Canadian Loggings from Eastern/Atlantic Time Zones. All ELT.

## REPORTERS

- BC-NH **Bruce Conti, Nashua** – Excalibur SDR, MWDX-5, variable termination SuperLoop antennas northeast and south.
- HF-MI **Harold Frodge, Midland** – Drake R8B + 125 ft. bow-tie; 85 ft. RW & 180 ft. center-fed RW
- HJH-PA **Harry Hayes, Wilkes-Barre** – Tecsun PL-390, Q-Stick Plus passive antenna
- BH-MA **Bob Hill, Littleton** – Sony ICF-2010 with Kiwa filters, AOR LA390 active loop.
- KK-VA **Kraig Krist, Manassas** – Winradio G33DDC SDR, Wellbrook ALA-1530S+ Imperium Loop.
- TLK-FL **Terry Krueger, Clearwater** – NRD-535, roof dipole
- PS-ON **Paul Snider, Welland** – Icom R75, 3 foot homemade loop.
- FV-OH **Fred Vobbe, Lima** – Perseus SDR, TTFD 90' antenna, 2010 Silverado pickup truck radio
- MKB-ON **Mike Brooker, Toronto** – Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

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 Friend me on Facebook! [www.facebook.com/keval.mike](http://www.facebook.com/keval.mike)

## UNID

- 990 unID -- - 2/16 0100 - Mystery station that sounded like it was programming sports. Mentions of "A Cumulous Station," and "???99.com". Well buried behind CBW-Winnipeg. Kind of points towards WNML, but no call heard. (FV-OH)
- 1010 unID -- - 2/16 0100 - Carrier at 1009, in the background of WINS-1010 NYC. Could see modulation on waterfall display, but WINS was too strong to decode what was on 1001. Normal 9 KHz split is 1008, so I'm not sure what this was. Still there at 2/16 0600. (FV-OH)
- 1220 unID -- - 2/16 0600 - Unknown Spanish station with music, breezing through the TOH without an ID or any vocal announcement. (FV-OH)
- 1310 unID -- - 2/16 0600 - Large carrier noted on 2/12 at 0259 interfering with WIBA was back at this time. Not heard on my 0100 2/16 recording. (FV-OH)

## LOGGINGS

- 560 WIND IL **Chicago** – 2/17 2331 – Traffic news, weather on "560 The Answer," ads including travel service to Israel, time check. Fair with some WGR-550 splatter. (PS-ON)
- 580 CKWW ON **Windsor** – 2/16 0600 – Not normally heard here at night. Noted "Broadcasting from the studios of the legendary Big-8" ID that they use. (Sure would like to see 800 and 580 swap formats.) (FV-OH)
- 660 WAMO PA **Wilkinsburg** – 2/2 1636 – In WFAN mix with songs and station promo "... exclusively on the best and hottest hits WAMO 100." Been a long, long time since I've heard this Pittsburgh legend. (KK-VA)
- 680 WINR NY **Binghamton** – 2/2 1709 – In WCBM/WPTF/CFTR mix with station contest promo: "... Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ceremony in New York. Part of the ultimate ... listen to win on oldies 96.9." (KK-VA)
- 690 WOKV FL **Jacksonville** – 2/2 1727 – In multi-station mix with "Best of Sean Hannity Show," local "WOKV first alert weather forecast." (KK-VA)
- +++ - 2/15 1800 – Good; "WOKV AM Jacksonville, WOKV-FM Atlantic Beach." (BC-NH)
- CKGM QC **Montreal** – 2/2 1902 – In multi-station mix (WELD, WOKV, WZAP, Cuban R. Progresso) with "TSN 6-90 the voice of the Montreal Canadiens" during Super Bowl coverage. (KK-VA)
- 730 WPIT PA **Pittsburgh** – 2/15 0724 – Over CFZM-740 slop with tail-end of gospel program "... and when you write, mention you heard it on 73 WPIT." (MKB-ON)
- 760 WLCC FL **Brandon** – 2/13 1759 – In multi-station mix with programming in Spanish. "WLCC Brandon Tampa St. Petersburg Clearwater" ID by female in EE. (KK-VA)

- WVNE MA **Leicester** – 2/13 1628 – In multi-station mix with “Life changing radio, 7-60 WVNE” slogan. **(KK-VA)**
- WCHP NY **Champlain** – 2/13 1659 – In multi-station mix (WJR, WLCC, WVNE, UNID SS) with promo for advertising on WCHP, “A thought from WCHP Champlain Montreal” religious talk. **(KK-VA)**
- WETR TN **Knoxville** – 2/20 1800 – Under WJR; “W222BA Karns ... WETR Knoxville.” New log, domestic #800 this decade. **(BC-NH)**
- 770 WAIS OH **Buchtel** – 2/13 1659 – In WABC/WKFB/Cuba mix with C&W songs, “we’re your ... information ... news, weather, talk radio, AM 7-70 WAIS” station promo. **(KK-VA)**
- 790 WAXY FL **South Miami** – 2/20 1957 – Local ad for flamingogardens.org in Davie, ID. **(TLK-FL)**
- WBLO NC **Thomasville** – 2/13 1626 – In multi-station mix (WNIS, WAEB, WPIC, UNID oldies, C&W and R. Reloj) with programming in Spanish, “Pepe 7-90” slogan. **(KK-VA)**
- 800 WCHA PA **Chambersburg** – 2/15 1627 – In WSVS/WVHU/CKLW mix with oldies. “We’re glad you found us. New FM 96.3. The true oldies channel” station promo. **(KK-VA)**
- WVHU WV **Huntington** – 2/15 1750 – In WSVS/WCHA/CKLW mix with oldies. “News radio 800 WVHU ... only local news” station promo. **(KK-VA)**
- 810 WMJH MI **Rockford** – 2/15 1809 – In WGY/WEDO/WPIN mix with announcement of impending sign-off: “We’re going off the air about 6:15 ... 8-10 AM ... smartphone ... ‘Super Hits MJH’ or on our website superhits810.com. Bye, bye.” **(KK-VA)**
- 820 WWFD MD **Frederick** – 2/15 1640 – In WVSG mix with program promo: “a good variety of music if found here at the ‘Gamut’.” **(KK-VA)**
- 830 WFNO LA **Norco** – 2/16 0100 – Completely dominating over WCCO with Mexican music and ID in Spanish, but I was able to pick out “WFNO” and “New Orleans.” (Gone at 0600, WCCO dominate) **(FV-OH)**
- 910 WSUI IA **Iowa City** – 2/16 0100 – Mention of “This is Iowa Public Radio,” and list of various stations in network. Hard copy through noise, Cuba, and religious broadcaster. **(FV-OH)**
- KVIS OK **Miami** – 2/16 0100 – Just after WSUI gave its list of stations, the religious song ended, and Cuba took a pause, and I heard a very clear female voice with “KVIS,” then Cuba and WSUI started modulating and KVIS was well in the background. **(FV-OH)**
- 940 WIDG MI **St. Ignace** – 2/17 1737 – With WKGM in null, “Hi, this is Debby Mason, a member of ... St. Francis Xavier Parish. You are listening to Baraga Broadcasting Radio Network, the Catholic Light for Northern Michigan.” **(BH-MA)**
- WGRP PA **Greenville** – 2/15 0601 – Over/under WMAC; oldies music, Big Ben chimes marking the hour a minute late, ID, “... 940 WGRP, 1470 FAR, and on the web at 940wgrp.com.” **(BC-NH)**
- 950 WBES WV **Charleston** – 2/16 0600 – Under local WCIT slop, heard a clear “your new home for sports talk, WBES,” fighting with WWJ and unknown station signing on with female vocal of SSB. **(FV-OH)**
- 960 WERC AL **Birmingham** – 2/17 2321 – Flipping by and heard “960 WERC” ID at 2321, some ads, “Newsradio 105.5 WERC” ID at 2323. Poor with QRM from WDCZ-970. **(PS-ON)**
- WFGL MA **Fitchburg** – 2/21 1800 – Over WELI/WFIR mix with local weather, “you’ve got it tuned to Renew FM, WFGL Fitchburg ... (slew of FM //’s and translators)” into gospel program. **(MKB-ON)**
- 990 WNML TN **Knoxville** – 2/20 2003 – ID and mention of Knoxville, DavesPestControl.com spot, into sports coverage, Raiders vs. Auburn? **(TLK-FL)** *College basketball game, say Texas Tech Red Raiders v. Auburn? Mike*
- 1060 WILB OH **Canton** – 2/15 1752 – EWTN Catholic program under WQOM/KYW mix and lagging WQOM by a few milliseconds. At 1757 promo for free public lectures at Walsh University; gave Walsh website URL and 330 area code phone #. At 1759 “Stay tuned for another edition of Catholic Trivia, brought to you by Living Bread Radio, 1060 AM WLIB Canton.” **(BH-MA)**



- 1070 WNCT NC **Greenville** – 2/21 0000 – Over/under WINA; “Beach, boogie, and blues, on 105-9 Greenville, 95-7 New Bern, 101-1 Jacksonville, and anywhere anytime at 1070 and beach boogie and blues dot com.” **(BC-NH)**
- WFLI TN **Lookout Mountain** – 2/19 1800 – Deep-voiced announcer with “Thank you for listening to WFLI 1070 Lookout Mountain-Chattanooga, Tennessee.” Struggling in WKOK/CHOK mix plus an HD crap sandwich from KYW-1060 and WTIC-1080. **(BH-MA)**
- 1080 KRLD TX **Dallas** – 2/19 1828 – “Traffic & weather together on the 8’s KRLD” with announcer Debbie Douglas, “News, traffic and weather all day KRLD” station promos. Mainly on top of WTIC. **(HF-MI)**
- 1090 KAAY AR **Little Rock** – 2/18 1835 – Christian pop music to “KAAY” ID at 1840 into ad string including Izzy’s Family Restaurant in Little Rock. Fair over UNID talker. **(HF-MI)**
- WBAL MD **Baltimore** – 2/17 1739 – Well on top with WBAL-TV spot. Dropped into muddle promptly at 1745, presumably for pattern change. No one dominant after that. **(HF-MI)**
- WCAR MI **Livonia** – 2/19 0010 – Long non-local ad/PSA string to 0028 ID, “NBC Sports Radio Detroit WCAR.” Mixing with KAAY until about 0010, then on top. **(HF-MI)**
- WTSB NC **Selma** – 2/19 1724 – Way under WBAL with job ad: “... TSB Radio ... Send your resume to TSB Radio, Post Office Box 90, Smithfield, North Carolina 27577. ... Prior experience is preferred.” Unreadable talk for a minute or so, then into C&W tune. **(BH-MA)**
- 1100 WTWN VT **Wells River** – 2/17 1715\* – Good; s/off with choral national anthem, “WTWN Wells River-St. Johnsbury, the River of Life,” and off. **(BC-NH)**
- 1130 WBBR NY **New York** – 2/16 0600 – From under usual 1130 pests and 1120 IBOC slop heard, “From the financial capital of the world, this is 1130 WBBR New York.” **(FV-OH)**
- 1160 WYLL IL **Chicago** – 2/19 1820 – On top with gospel show, huckster named Carl said “Your bod is something God gave you.” **(HF-MI)**
- WPIE NY **Trumansburg** – 2/16 1700 – Out of ESPN with “ESPN Ithaca 1160 and now at 107one FM, WPIE Trumansburg-Ithaca-Watkins Glen,” then back to sports talk. Poor in choppy mix. **(BH-MA)**
- 1220 WSLM IN **Salem** – 2/19 2359 – Poor signal with C&W music, “... (something) country 1220 WSLM Salem, Indiana” ID at 0000 into news. Been trying to ID this one for a while, luckily WHKW wasn’t dominating for once. **(PS-ON)**
- 1230 WCMC NJ **Wildwood** – 2/17 1759 – Amid jumble with ‘50s doo-wop, quick local “WCMC Wildwood” and canned “... broadcasting from the doo-wop capital of America and now serving Cape May County on AM 1230.” Followed with jingle “Classic Oldies WMID [1340],” then back to songs. **(BH-MA)**
- 1330 WBTM VA **Danville** – 2/15 1800 – Barely atop; “We’re 102-5 FM, 1330 AM ... WBTM Danville dot com.” New log. **(BC-NH)**
- 1360 WKYO MI **Caro** – 2/16 1905 – Jingle and spoken ID with weather report that featured sub zero temps and snow. Then went into 70’s Grand Funk music. Fair to weak signal. **(HJH-PA)**
- 1380 WOTE WI **Clintonville** – 2/17 2254 – Instrumental music, “You’re listening to the Lounge ...” slogan, “It Had to be You” by Frank Sinatra, “The world’s best singers are here, The Lounge, music with style” station promo. Very good with no fading and no sign of CKPC. **(PS-ON)**
- 1520 WARR NC **Warrenton** – 2/20 2200 – Under WWKB; R&B/soul oldies, “WARR... North Carolina, where the community comes together,” into “It Takes Two” by Marvin Gaye and Kim Weston. New log. **(BC-NH)**
- 1590 WKTP TN **Jonesbororough** – 2/16 0100 – Expecting to hear Akron or Coldwater, instead heard “Your listening to the worldwide leader in sports, the all new ESPN radio for the tri-cities. WKPT Kingsport on 1400AM and 94.3FM. WOPI Bristol on 1490AM and 97.9FM. And WKTP Jonesbororough-Johnson City on 1590AM and 97.7FM. This is ESPN TriCities. A ??? Broadcast Station.” Checked 1400 and 1490 and nothing heard. **(FV-OH)**
- 1640 KDIA CA **Vallejo** – 2/17 0601 – Briefly atop unID HAR/TIS; preaching about “the Word of God.” Tentative; the only religion in English listed on the frequency. **(BC-NH)**



# *Domestic DX* Jim Tedford Radio\_Enthusiast@hotmail.com *Digest – West* 20310 Bothell-Everett Highway B4 Bothell, WA 98012-8133

**U.S./Canadian Loggings from Pacific/Mtn/Central Time Zones. All times ELT.**

## REPORTERS

- GH-OK** Glenn Hauser, Enid, OK. Mostly DX-398 with internal antenna only; or Sony SRF-59 as specified; Nissan stock car radio as specified; FRG-7 as specified. Glenn's complete reports, with extensive commentary, are originally published in *DX Listening Digest*.
- JEL-MO** J.E. Lewis. Kansas City MO. Honda Odyssey car radio.
- JR-OK** John Reed, Shawnee, OK. AOR AR7030, homebrew tuned loop, Clifton Labs active whip.
- RS-UT** Ron Schiller, W7SGU, St George, UT. 2014 Kia car radio.
- TS-MN** Todd Skaine, Woodbury MN. Sony ICF-2010, car radio

## DX LOGS

- 670 WSCR IL **Chicago** – 2/15 1456 – Ad for Hyatt Regency O'Hare, i.e. WSCR, instead of usual daytime groundwave occupant, KLTT-CO. 720 has not enough signal to read WGN, but a SAH between two very weak ones. **(GH-OK)**
- 750 KBNN MO **Lebanon** – 2/14 0823 – NAB "local radio" PSA, then promo for Dave Ramsey (who is anything but local) "at 2:05 on KBNN, The Talk of Laclede County"; 0825 medley of song bits from Billy Joel, Olivia Newton-John, Ray Charles, presumably making some point or interluding in another talk show, as someone was also speaking the lyrics. Seems I haven't heard this one before, except in DXLD 12-12 had a possible log of this Lebanon MO, 5 kW ND daytimer. Official sunrise in Feb is 0800; March, 0730. It also has a 500-watt PSRA every month except when unneeded in May/June/July, i.e. starting at 6 am local CST/CDT. Another obstacle to ever hearing KSEO in Durant OK. **(GH-OK)**
- 770 WYRV VA **Cedar Bluff** – 2/20 0545-0558 – Variety of mx then dead air for 15 sec and ID. Poor to fair but all alone on frequency. WBBM IBOC nullified due to poor signal strength. Index and winter storm definitely were factors. Pleasantly caught me off guard. This makes 4 new ones in 24 hours. Can't remember 4 new ones like this since that super flare a couple of summers ago. 730 WZGV, KCLE & XEMR 1140, and WYRV. **(TS-MN)**
- 1020 KDKA PA **Pittsburgh** – 2/17 2150 – Weak and fading with PA area ads and news, call ID then talk on Jewish religion. **(JR-OK)**
- 1110 KBND OR **Bend** – 2/18 1045 – Giving weather for various OR communities and local spot in Bend, seemingly alone on the frequency. **(RS-UT)**
- 1190 KEX OR **Portland** – 2/18 1050 – Listing the many traffic snarls around the area, very strong well after daylight. **(RS-UT)**
- 1250 KZDC TX **San Antonio** – 2/19 0848 – PSAs and "ESPN San Antonio" back to *Mike & Mike, Sportscenter*. So it's KZDC, which NRC AM Log shows also IDing as "The Zone," like so many other sports stations, alluding to "end zone," or what? Must be on 25 kW day power now, with day pattern aiming northwest, but plenty to the NNE. **(GH-OK)**
- 1430 KEZW CO **Aurora** – 2/18 1903-1906 – Poor to fair, over/under numerous UNID's with local news, sports, and traffic, then into NOS with Johnny Mathis "Teacher Teacher." They run 10 KW non-directional during days, so they should probably be a more regular visitor, except that there are so many others on 1430 that they are kind of lost. Rare. **(JEL-MO)**
- 1480 KBXD TX **Dallas** – 2/11 2110 – Pastor Butch with Call to Decision Ministry, a mix of God, guns and diet supplements. **(JR-OK)**
- 1500 KPGM OK **Pawhuska** – 2/12 1500 – Very weak with sports, news and weather. Low power daytimer with 500 watts. New here **(JR-OK)**
- 1500 KJIM TX **Sherman** – 2/12 1440 – Oldies and NOS with singing ID. **(JR-OK)**
- 1640 KZLS OK **Enid** – 2/15 1454 – Past 1511, KZLS Enid is incomprehensible; sounds like an extremely garbled lo-bit-rate internet feed, and maybe mixing with second audio. Neither sounds like True Oldies or a stupid ballgame. Such a mess has



happened before with KZLS or antecedents. No one paying attention. **(GH-OK)**

1680 KRJO LA Monroe – 2/16 0940 – C&W “Classic Country” with call ID. Good signal to start, but disappeared soon after due to loss of nighttime ionospheric conditions. **(JR-OK)**

#### UNID

770 UNID -- 2/15 1458 – In KSPI-780 splash, I am getting the usual remnant signal of KAAM Garland (The Metroplex) TX, which with 10 kW day would be easy were it not for their directional pattern pushing southwest, mostly null toward here. BUT, there is a second even weaker signal making a SAH of 2.2 Hz. I stick here for possible ID at 1500, but can't make any out. By power, pattern and around 500 mile distance, 50 kW ND KJOB Albuquerque might be it, but I've yet to pull anything on daytime groundwave from NM, not even 540. **(GH-OK)**

840 UNID -- 2/15 1502 – Two very weak signals making SAH of about 8 Hz, initially both talk, then one goes to music. KTIC in West Point NE is the closest and usual marginal groundwave signal. What else? Little but WHAS in Louisville KY, except KWDF, 8 kW ND in Ball LA. Heard on car radio at quiet parking lot in mid-Enid. **(GH-OK)**

870 UNID -- 2/15 1450 – Very weak SAH of about 7 Hz countable, main signal surely the closest and regular groundwave, 1 kW KFJZ Fort Worth, Vietnamese; beyond that, possibly WWL New Orleans at some 600 miles, but second closest is 1 kW KAAN in Bethany, northwest MO. The 40 kW power of KPRM Park Rapids MN (application for 50) might also make it. Heard on car radio at quiet parking lot in mid-Enid. **(GH-OK)**

1110 UNID -- 2/20 0901 – With KFAB nulled, some station with ABC news, but can't hold it long enough for an ID; discounting ethnic KVTI The Metroplex, of the other three 1110s in neighboring states, AR, TX and NM, the one with ABC affiliation, and still propagationally possible is: KYKK Humble City (Hobbs) NM, a 5 kW ND daytimer, and Feb sunrise there is 1330, though with 2.5 kW during Critical Hours, whenever those are. Note further 1300 XEP Juárez is still propagating past 0900. **(GH-OK)**

Last of the weekly columns for this DX season. Still lots of interesting radio to be had, though. Thanks to all of this week's contributors. See you next time. **(JDT-WA)**

## Membership Report

**New Member** – Here's a big NRC welcome to Stephen Lindsay, Glenville PA.

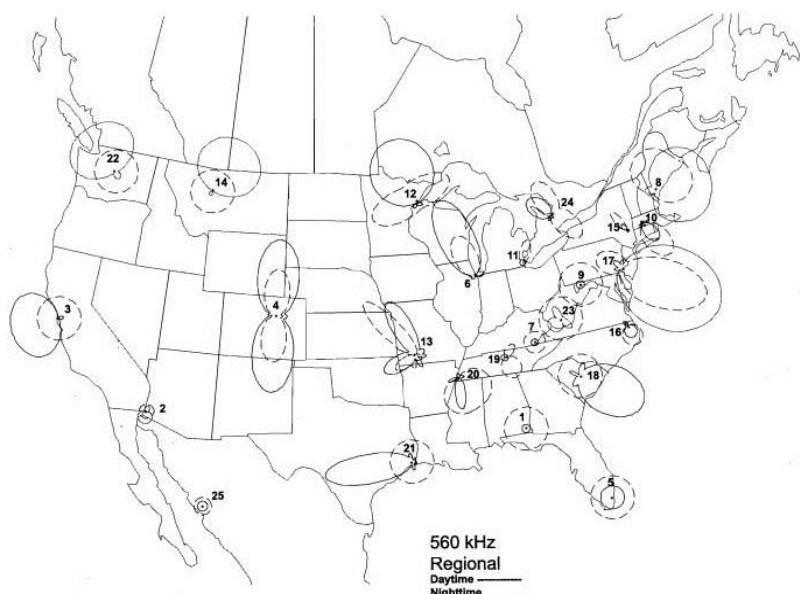
**Renewing Member** – Thanks for the ongoing support of Russell Curry, John C. Herkimer, Thomas M. Jasinski, and Richard M. Ray.

## NRC Antenna Pattern Book, 7th Edition

The 7th Edition of the NRC *Antenna Pattern Book* is now available. This all new edition prepared by NRC'er Paul Swearingen is an all-inclusive book of patterns for both Day and Night operation of stations in the USA, Canada and selected foreign stations. The data for the book comes from the 34th Edition of the *AM Radio Log* and NRC'er John Callerman's comprehensive Mexican station listing.

The book comes shrink wrapped in 8½ by 11 three hole punch format for placement in your own three ring binder. There are 240 pages and the book has maps covering 530 through 1700 kHz depicting the lower USA, Canada and Mexico. Hawaii and Alaska are shown on separate maps at the of the book.

Price/ordering info: Same as for *AM Radio Log*, see page 19 for details.



# *International DX Digest*

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## Trans-Atlantic DX

1053.1 **LIBYA** *R.Libya*, Tripoli FEB 15 2200 – Loud het against 1053.0 *TalkSport*; measured 1053.1 kHz. [Conti-NH]

1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros FEB 15 2230 – Good; promo for Sunday morning show, gambling ad, “Get a free five pound bet every week.” [Conti-NH]

*Hauser transatlantic carrier search:* FEB 18 0130-0136 – After hearing the tell-tale het from 1521 upon 1520 KOKC, surely Saudi. Tuning up the band on DX-398, internal antenna with offset BFO for easy spotting, found these: 774, 783, 873, 882, 1044, 1053, 1152, 1206, 1215, 1422, 1503, 1512, 1521 kHz. This receiver has a few birdies which I always have to ignore, including around 855 and 1476 kHz.

## Pan-American DX

620 **MEXICO** XEBU Chihuahua, Chih. FEB 19 1357 – Mentions of Chihuahua, as low-banders are about to fade out, so XEBU. Also not quite gone by now are the usual 650, 710, 720 and 730 Spanish stations, no doubt in Chihuahua and Sinaloa. Enid sunrise was almost half a sesquihour earlier at 1314 UTC. [Hauser-OK]

800 **NICARAGUA** *Radio 800*, Managua FEB 20 2358 – Spanish male announcer, 4 + 1 time sounders ending at 2359:20, “Radio 800, desde Managua, Nicaragua” at 0000, into news items. [Krueger-FL]

1200 **CUBA** *R.Sancti Spiritus*, Yaguajay FEB 21 0020 – Telephone patched female reporter, parallel much better 1210 kHz. [Krueger-FL]

1300 **MEXICO** XEP Cd. Juárez, Chih. FEB 19 1403 – Its 37 kW is still in well more than half a sesquihour after Enid sunrise; IDs as “Radio México Noticias en 1300” but also mentioning more than once, “Reportero 970,” apparently referring to a guest reporter. At first I thought it was 960, but more likely from XEJ 970, which by now I can’t hear; indeed both are in the Grupo Radio México. Multi-station groups from the same studios were common in Mexico long before this was allowed in the USA. [Hauser-OK]

1430 **MEXICO** XEWD Cd. Miguel Alemán, Tamps. FEB 15 0658 – Dominant signal is banda music, looping north/south, 0703 mentions “Fórmula perfecta” and more music. NRC AM Log 2013 does not show any likely Spanish. Cantú lists five XE’s on 1430. The closest to the south but weakest is XEWD *La Grande de Cd Miguel Alemán*. Further, in about the same direction are two stronger ones: XETT *R.Tlaxcala* and XELL *Latido*, Veracruz. IRCA 2013 and WRTH 2014, however show a sixth station on 1430, 250-watt XERAC *La Número Uno en Campeche / R.Fórmula*. In the Campeche section, Cantú has no such station, altho he does include its FM counterpart, 97.3 XHRAC. (Maybe assumed to have “migrated” from AM already?) Anyhow, XERAC looks like the tentative source. I can’t find any affiliate list or anything about Campeche at the Grupo Fórmula site. FEB 16 0656 – Much like last night, Mexican music is barely atop heavy interference of SAHing off-frequency mostly U.S. stations, and looping north/south. Brief break between tunes sounds like “Radio Sí – algo,” next break at 0659 sounds like “XEOA, 1430 de AM.” Closest call, tho from the southwest, per Cantú and WRTH is XEOX *Exa*, Obregon, Son. If that were it, would expect national anthem at local midnite. FEB 17 0601 – Long choral multi-verse national anthem is playing so this one must be in the CST zone = local midnite. Then 0605 segué to other music rather than ID. FEB 17 0625 – Tentative ID as “XEOX, la Exa,” which would be in wrong time zone, so not same station. At 0643, “Radio X,” so this one or the other one? FEB 18 0115 – Once more, a Spanish station atop the pileup (fortunately, KZQZ is behaving itself, no more 50 kW day power at night), roughly north/south or slightly west of south. Live hyper (but not super-hype) DJ with rapid speech, greets various colonias, mentions Monterrey, ranchera tune; 0120 next break mentions corridos, 1430, Tamaulipas. 0123 a canned ID, relatively low-key and smooth, harder to understand. Maybe ‘La X, 1430’; then live DJ mentions Reynosa; 0127 plug an event in Cd. Madero, Tamps. Finally says, “La Fórmula Perfecta desde Ciudad Miguel Alemán, Tamaulipas,” which makes it XEWD, 5/0.15 kW per WRTH and Cantú, 2/0.15 kW per IRCA log, all sloganing it “La Grande” which I don’t hear, and IRCA says with RCN network. Unclear yet whether this “Fórmula” refers to the national Fórmula grupo, or just a generic fórmula. Always with a very fast SAH, which

leads me to suspect this station is the one most off-frequency compared to the average. No way it's only 150 watts, yet steadily dominating all the other signals. Suspect but not positive it's the same one heard around 0700, rather than something deeper into Mexico. [Hauser-OK]

1610 **ANGUILLA** *Caribbean Beacon, The Valley* FEB 16 1100 – Under CHHA *Voces Latinas*; preaching about “the end of our days.” [Conti-NH]

1640 **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC** *R.Juventus Don Bosco, Santo Domingo* FEB 18 1059 – National anthem faded over the pile of co-channel HAR/TIS stations. New log. [Conti-NH]

### Contributors

Bruce Conti WPC1CAT, Nashua NH; WiNRADiO Excalibur, MWDX-5 phasing unit, 15 x 23-m variable termination SuperLoop antennas 60° northeast and 180° south.

Glenn Hauser, Enid OK; DX-398 with internal antenna.

Terry L. Krueger, Clearwater FL; NRD-535, Icom IC-R75, roof dipole, active loop.

### International News

**BENIN:** The programmes aired on 1566 TWR that have *Radio ELWA* in their contact info are actually produced by our Nigerian brothers in Jos. Radio ELWA which was based in Monrovia for many years, used to broadcast via SW from Liberia, and their partner Radio ELWA studios in Nigeria produced programmes that were aired for many years on that station. However, today the only programmes we are aware of aired on 1566 that would have Radio ELWA in their contact details, are the ones produced at Radio ELWA in Jos, Nigeria. The Radio ELWA Director in Nigeria is Rev. Peter Salawu, e-mail [elwaonair@ecwang.org](mailto:elwaonair@ecwang.org). [Karen Barkhuizen, Audience Relations, TWR Africa Region]

**MEXICO:** 720 XEZX *R.Noticias/La Voz de Usumacinta, Tab.,* ex-860 kHz. [[www.zxradiotv.com](http://www.zxradiotv.com) via ARC]

**U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS:** Per email from Three Angels Broadcasting Network (3ABN), 1690 WIGT is owned by Three Angels Corporation, not 3ABN, although 3ABN programs are broadcast on WIGT and sister station WGOD-FM. Whether WIGT is actually on the air is in question, not reported by any DXers including a listener in Puerto Rico. [Mauno Ritola] *WIGT was upgraded from a construction permit to license granted by the FCC on January 30. Not paying attention to detail, I misidentified WIGT as a 3ABN owned station last week. – Conti.*

73 and Good DX!

## NOAA Space Weather Outlook

Issued February 17, 2014 – For the period February 17-March 15, 2014

(From <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftplib/weekly/WKHF.txt>)

Solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate conditions through the period. An increase to a chance for X-flare activity is expected from 22 February through 07 March with the return of old Regions 1967 (S12, L=112) and 1968 (N09, L=109).

A slight chance exists for a greater than 10 MeV proton event due to potential flare activity from old Region 1967 as it rotates across the visible disk from 22 February through 07 March.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at normal to moderate levels through the period with a chance for high levels on 17-18 February due to coronal mass ejection (CME) effects and again on 09-10 March due to coronal hole high speed stream (CH HSS) influence.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be mostly quiet through the period. Quiet to unsettled periods are expected on 20-21 February due to a possible glancing blow from the 16 February CME. Quiet to unsettled levels are also expected on 25 February, 09 March, and 11 March due to CH HSS effects.



### Follow @NRCDXNews on Twitter!

Twitter can be used to disseminate hot MW DX tips to the DX community

To read tips: go to [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and search for #mwdx

To send tips, write a tweet (140 characters max) and include the tag #mwdx

Don't forget the NRC Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/509246815818550/>

# *DX Tool Box*

Shawn Axelrod [amandx@mymts.net](mailto:amandx@mymts.net)  
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 Winnipeg, MB R2N 2X9 CANADA

## **Improving your DX skills – tips from new and veteran members**

Greetings once again from the Heart of the Continent and welcome to the DX Tool Box Column number 58.

**This Month's Radio Saying:** LowFER's Are Not Lazy DX'ers

### **New Publication**

The Spectrum Monitor is now here. The publication started in January 2014 and I was lucky enough to receive a copy of this new e-publication. Yes I said e-publication because unlike the Monitoring Times (MT) that preceded it The Spectrum Monitor (TSM) comes only as an electronic publication. Monitoring Times started out as a paper publication that later was available in electronic format as well. Now that MT is no more The Spectrum Monitor is supposed to be a replacement for the older publication. Many folks would like to know if TSM truly replaces MT. The answer is yes in many ways it does just that. Now if you had a favourite editor in MT you may not find him or her in TSM but the new publication is a great all round DX'ing publication.

First what do you get in the new TSM? You get a well produced professional looking publication that has information for all types of DX'ers no matter what your interests are. Now for sure it is not like DX News which is a very specific publication that deals with the AM Broadcast Band. The new TSM goes from the low bands through the scanner frequencies and beyond. The columns in the first issue included:

- **Scanning America** by Dan Veeneman *Scanning, Satellites, Trunked Systems and More!*
- **Federal Wavelengths** by Chris Parris *Monitoring Federal Frequencies*
- **Utility Planet** by Hugh Stegman *Utility Shortwave Explained*
- **Digital HF: Intercept and Analyze** by Mike Chase-Ortiz *The Intrigue of Digital Noise*
- **Amateur Radio Insight** by Kirk Kleinschmidt *Antenna Tuners: The Devil's in the Details*
- **Radio 101** by Ken Reitz *Antenna Solutions for Hams and SWLers*
- **Understanding Propagation** by Tomas Hood *In the Beginning...*
- **The World of Shortwave Listening** by Thomas Witherspoon *TSM Tests Best Shortwave Portables under \$40*
- **The Shortwave Listener** by Fred Waterer *Shortwave Listening in 2014*
- **TSM's Guide to Shortwave**
- **TSM's Guide to FTA Satellites**
- **TSM Bookshelf** *Latest Radio-Related Publications*
- **Maritime Monitoring** by Ron Walsh *Listening to the Action on Winter's Waves*
- **The Longwave Zone** by Kevin O'Hern *Carey Is there a Future for the "Basement Band?"*
- **Adventures in Radio Restoration** by Marc Ellis *Electrical Safety for Radio Restorers*
- **The Broadcast Tower** by Doug Smith *Use Your PC for Off-Air Recording*
- **Antenna Connections** by Dan Farber *Antennas: Organic System, Targets of Oppression*
- **Radio Horizons** *New Product Releases*
- **About Us** *The Spectrum Monitor Staff*

Well if there is something missing I am not sure what it is. All this plus other articles related to the hobby every month. In my opinion the editors are doing a good job in each and every column. These are folks who know their stuff and are trying to pass their knowledge on to listeners around the world. You may see a familiar name there too as Doug Smith is an NRC member. As before the editors do invite readers to send in loggings, ideas, and other types of information for everyone to enjoy.

Besides all the regular columns and the ever changing monthly articles you also get advertisements. Why be excited by ads? Well to be honest many listeners listen to the radio in isolation. The ads give you a chance to see what is new or available from suppliers. Yes you can go around the web looking for equipment or books or whatever you want, but TSM gives you a single place to see things and then you can go off and see what interests you. It also lets you know who in your area is selling hobby related materials.

Now for the Pros and Cons of this new publication.

The Cons: The biggest Con would be that you no longer get a paper magazine that you can keep and go back to when you want. You have to go electronic or not at all, no choices here. The same can be said of what has happened to Popular Communications it too is only available electronically.

Some of your favourite editors and or columns from MT may not be there for you in TSM such as Bob Grove. Other than these two things I cannot find fault with the new publication.

The Pros: The first thing would be that you get a first class publication by people who know their stuff. This is why we all get a publication in the first place. You just have to accept that the paper copy is no longer there for you. The next pro is that for us older guys that have eyes that may not be what they used to be (ye olde editor is wearing progressives these days) you can adjust the new electronic version to whatever size you need. If you have a large computer monitor you can make the font as big as you care to. Also there are pictures and diagrams galore in the articles. The “a picture is worth a thousand words” saying is very true in TSM. The first edition was 85 pages in full colour with wonderful articles all of which had pictures in them to help you see what the editor was talking about.

Another important feature of this e-publication is that each issue is searchable. You can go to find and type in a word and you will be taken to the first time that word is used and by clicking on next you can go to that word every time it is in that issue! What a great way to search for something quickly and effectively. That is something that is very hard and time consuming in any paper publications.

I tried downloading a copy onto my iPad Mini that we use when we travel. No problem easy to read and made the TSM issue as portable as any magazine. Take the issues where ever you go. There is something you cannot do with a box of paper copies.

Finally you don't have boxes of magazines around. All you have to do is create a new folder in your documents folder and save each issue in that folder. You can divide them up by year or whatever is easiest for you. And yes no coffee stains on the paper here because there is none. Just make sure you back up your issues in case of a computer problem and you have them forever.

This is the way things are going and there are good things about getting your DX publication electronically. First off it will be there sooner than a mailed copy. And let us not forget this e-publication arrives all in one piece. No mail system damages or weather damage from rain and snow. You get a crisp clean on time every time publication. Bonus!

It may not be perfect but TSM is doing its best to give you good value for your dollar.

### **The Way Back Machine**

This time around I am staying close to home...well my home anyway. The Manitoba Historical Society has a great article describing the early days of wireless and radio in Manitoba.

<http://www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/transactions/3/earlyradio.shtml>

There is a great article that goes into length about how radio got its start in Manitoba. It looks back to the very first amateur wireless club in Canada through to the founding of the first true radio stations.

### **Bits and Bites from the NRC listserv:**

From: Saul Chernos [sauldx@sympatico.ca](mailto:sauldx@sympatico.ca)

Subject: Brazil Broadcasters Push AM Migration

From Radio World: “The U.S. radio industry is not the only one exploring ways to help AM broadcasters. Brazil radio observers expect their government to publish a decree in November detailing an optional migration process for AM radio to the FM band. In cities where the FM spectrum can't accommodate new channels, it will be necessary to extend the spectrum using television Channels 5 and 6 ....” Continued: [www.radioworld.com/article/brazil-broadcasters-push-am-migration/222179](http://www.radioworld.com/article/brazil-broadcasters-push-am-migration/222179)

From: Mark Connelly, WA1ION [markwa1ion@aol.com](mailto:markwa1ion@aol.com)

Subject: Perseus Captures from 1991

I finally got around to going through a box of VHS videotapes from the late '80s / early '90s spectrum capture experiments, as originally developed by Craig Healy (NG1U), and mentioned in this article: <http://chowdanet.com/markc/webpage/WA1ION/vcrdx.pdf>

There were about 6 tapes in the box. Two of these, when played into a receiver, had reasonable performance. One of these was the tape Craig had originally supplied me. This was made at his QTH near Providence, RI. The whole AM band is captured. Sensitivity on the lower half was quite low so it's primarily the local stations such as 630, 790, and 920. Some skip signals can be heard on the upper half of the dial. I still have to review the tape to determine the exact date and times of recording. Items on a news / sports station, possibly with some Google follow-up, will nail down the date. At some point in the recording there should be a time check on one station or another. I looked into the lower shortwave spectrum but noted little in the way of “real” (non-birdie) signals, so no CHU or WWV assistance on the time.

The second tape was one I made at Billerica, MA in April 1991 during the “wee hours” of the morning: 0643-1043 UTC. Because 50 kW WRKO on 680 is only 2.8 miles / 4.5 km from the receiving site, a notch filter for 680 was inserted ahead of the VCR input. Usable sensitivity for the capture came in starting around 800 kHz and up.

One thing that must be kept in mind is that this primitive version of spectrum capture had a rather small dynamic range: only about 30 to 40 dB from a hashy noise floor up to the level of a strong local on the verge of causing distortion and spurs. The tapes, obviously, are not going to produce much in the way of weaker signal DX.

Before the tapes have a chance to deteriorate, I’m porting at least some of the contents over to Perseus files. This also gives a ready method for sharing the experiment results with others. I reset the computer date/time so that the Perseus time-stamping is relatively close to the occurrence of the original recordings. After I get all this stuff digitized, I’ll go over it for any interesting audio clips.

Though the “VCR DX” method became known to the MW DX world about a quarter century ago, it is widely believed that, as far back as the JFK administration, “spook” agencies such as the NSA were able to store substantial RF bandwidths for later review. Broadcast studio grade videotape, or something similar but custom-designed, was used. Converters allowed any chunk of spectrum to be heterodyned to the baseband range (0-3 MHz?) the tapes could accommodate. The late Gordon Nelson (WA1UXQ) seemed aware of it. Maybe some tapes will show up at a Fort Meade, MD fleamarket / yard sale so we can tune around and hear stuff like Belize 834 and Bermuda 1235 once again, as well as Murray-the-K on WINS proclaiming his status as the Fifth Beatle.

From: Shawn Axelrod [amandx@mymts.net](mailto:amandx@mymts.net)

Subject: End of the Dial

CBC Radio 1 will have a program on its Ideas program tonight (Feb 13) called End of the Dial about the death of radio..Is the internet taking over? Is radio on its deathbed? The program says radio is far from dead. This is part of World Radio Day as per the United Nations proclamation. If you cannot get the CBC try listening on line at <http://www.cbc.ca/ideas/popupaudio.html?clipIds=2436633773>



#### **This Month’s DX Tool Box Web Site:**

SPARC Society for the Preservation of Antique Radio in Canada

<http://www3.telus.net/radiomuseum/index.html>

The site starts off with “SPARC is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving radio and electronic communications artifacts and history, with an emphasis on a Canadian perspective.” There are great virtual tours of the museum so you can see all the great old equipment and radio related materials they have. This includes [Bamfield trans-Pacific undersea cable telegraph equipment](#) [Early spark equipment](#), [pre-broadcast era Broadcast receivers](#) [Broadcast studio Television receivers](#) [Military equipment](#) [Amateur \(ham\) equipment](#) [Library](#) Great way to go to the museum on a winter’s day and still stay warm.

73 for this time Shawn **Remember On A Clear Day You Can Hear Forever**

## Where Do Deleted Call Letters Go?

When the FCC cancels a station’s license, the station’s status in the FCC’s online Consolidated Data Base Systems (CDBS) is usually set to “LICENSE CANCELLED” and the station is deleted from the online “AM Query.” In some cases, however, the listing is retained in AM Query with a “D” (for “deleted”) in front of the station’s call letters. As of February 21, 2014 there are **42** such deleted stations in AM Query. These stations fall into three main groups: licenses cancelled for being silent more than a year, licenses cancelled for failure to submit a renewal application, and licenses cancelled at the station’s request.

**Licenses Cancelled for Being Silent More than a Year:** In 1996, Congress passed a law providing that a broadcast station’s license is automatically terminated if a station is silent for more than one year. If the FCC has reason to believe that a station falls into this category, it normally sends the station a letter informing it that the license is cancelled and that further operation is prohibited. The letter usually states that the station has 30 days to provide evidence that the FCC is incorrect in believing the station was silent for more than a year. If the listing stays in AM Query longer than 30 days, it’s usually not clear whether there is actually a serious question as to whether the station was silent, or if the FCC just hasn’t gotten around to making the final deletion. Currently there are **11** stations in this category:

710	KAPZ	AR	<b>Bald Knob</b> – Silent since Dec. 17, 2007; FCC letter sent July 28, 2011.
900	WWLK	KY	<b>Eddyville</b> – Silent since before Apr. 2011; no letter sent but license cancelled Apr. 19, 2012; license would have expired Oct. 1, 2012, and no renewal application was received.
910	WNHV	VT	<b>White River Junction</b> – Silent since May 5, 2010; FCC letter sent Sept. 12, 2011.
1230	KQIK	OR	<b>Lakeview</b> – Silent since Nov. 1, 2011; FCC letter sent Feb. 25, 2013.
1260	KTUE	TX	<b>Tulia</b> – Silent since May 26, 2009; FCC letter sent June 30, 2011.
1420	WIGG	MS	<b>Wiggins</b> – Silent since Feb. 2, 2010; FCC letter sent July 18, 2011.
1470	WJPI	NC	<b>Plymouth</b> – Silent since Apr. 1, 2011; FCC letter sent Aug. 16, 2012.
1490	WPNT	IN	<b>South Bend</b> – Silent since Apr. 20, 2010; WPNT filed a notification that it resumed operations Apr. 29, 2011; and the usual FCC letter cancellation letter was sent May 11, 2011.
1550	WBSC	SC	<b>Bennettsville</b> – Silent since Oct. 6, 2011; FCC letter sent Nov. 29, 2012.
1580	WRDD	PA	<b>Ebensburg</b> – Silent since Oct. 15, 2010; FCC letter sent Jan. 24, 2012.
1590	KQLO	NV	<b>Sun Valley</b> – Silent since Oct. 12, 2011; FCC letter sent Sept. 30, 2013.

**Failure to File License Renewal:** Broadcast licenses generally have 8-year terms, and renewal applications are due four months before the old license expires. If a station files for renewal but it isn't granted on time (e.g., because it's contested) the station can continue to operate, but if it simply doesn't apply for renewal it must stop broadcasting immediately upon the expiration of the old license. If the station then files a (late) license renewal, the FCC will sometimes eventually grant the renewal and reinstate the license. However, once a license has expired without a renewal application, it cannot broadcast unless the FCC grants special temporary authority (STA). If an STA is granted, it is good for 180 days; generally as long as the station applies to extend the STA before it expires it can keep broadcasting until the FCC acts on the extension request.

There are **14** stations with expired licenses that have applied (or can still apply) for renewal; some have applied for or received STAs. Two of these are listed in CDBS as "licensed" and two more as "licensed and silent," even though the call letters are officially deleted.

580	KRSA	AK	<b>Petersburg</b> – License expired Feb. 1, 2014.
585	KJAL	AS	<b>Tafuna</b> – License expired Feb. 1, 2014.
850	WPFJ	TN	<b>Fairview</b> – License expired Aug. 1, 2012; filed late renewal Aug. 30, 2012; applied for temporary STA Sept. 7, 2012 and again Nov. 21, 2013.
880	WBKZ	GA	<b>Jefferson</b> – Filed a late application in 2004; renewal eventually granted (with a late fine of \$1,500) Jan. 25, 2007 but then dismissed (for unknown reason) Apr. 19, 2007; should have been up for renewal again in 2012 but there is no record of a renewal application.
950	KSEW	AK	<b>Seward</b> – License expired Feb. 1, 2014.
980	WKLF	AL	<b>Clanton</b> – License renewal was denied in 2003; various petitions for reconsideration filed July 22, 2003 and Nov. 28, 2007 and are still pending; <u>granted</u> temporary STA, most recently Mar. 20, 2013 to expire Sept. 20, 2013 and no record of any further extension request; CDBS says "licensed."
1150	KDEF	NM	<b>Albuquerque</b> – License expired Oct. 1, 2013; filed late renewal Oct. 24, 2013; was previously granted a silent STA that expired Feb. 19, 2014; CDBS says "licensed and silent."
1240	WEDC	IL	<b>Chicago</b> – License renewal dismissed and license cancelled by letter June 1, 2006, effective date Nov. 22, 1996 (no copy found on FCC web site).
1280	WKYY	KY	<b>Lancaster</b> – License expired Aug. 1, 2012; filed late renewal Sept. 11, 2012; <u>granted</u> temporary STA Sept. 14, 2012; applied to extend temporary STA Mar. 14, 2013; CDBS says "licensed."
1400	WEPP	MN	<b>Virginia</b> – License expired Apr. 1, 2005; filed late renewal Aug. 2, 2006; petition for reconsideration denied Jan. 3, 2008, in part because station had been silent since Nov. 2002.
1430	KCRX	NM	<b>Roswell</b> – License expired Oct. 1, 2013; filed late renewal Nov. 14, 2013; applied for temporary STA Nov. 22, 2013; CDBS says "licensed and silent."
1500	WOLY	MI	<b>Battle Creek</b> – License expired Oct. 1, 2004; station fined in 2008 for unlicensed operations after that date; filed late renewal Jan. 15, 2009; denied May 27, 2009; petition for review filed June 26, 2009.
1520	WQMA	MS	<b>Marks</b> – License expired June 1, 2004; filed late renewal June 9, 2006; granted temporary STA June 22, 2006; application to extend STA filed Dec. 22, 2006 but denied Aug. 20, 2010; petition for reconsideration filed Sept. 22, 2010.

**1540 WBRY TN Woodbury** – License expired Aug. 1, 2012; filed late renewal Aug. 31, 2012; granted temporary STA Jan. 15, 2014.

There are **6** more stations with licenses expired more than 30 days that don't seem to have taken any action to file late license renewals or STA applications; it's not clear why they are still listed in AM Query.

**1090 KLWJ OR Umatilla** – License expired Feb. 1, 2006.  
**1240 KPBL TX Hemphill** – License expired Aug. 1, 2013.  
**1340 KIHN OK Hugo** – License expired June 1, 2013.  
**1560 KDDA AR Dumas** – License expired June 1, 2004.  
**1560 KKUZ OK Sallisaw** – License expired June 1, 2005.  
**1580 WBBA IL Pittsfield** – License expired Dec. 1, 2004.



**Voluntary Surrender of Licenses:** The third main group of license cancellations comes from voluntary surrender of the licenses by the stations themselves. In these cases, the FCC usually deletes the station immediately from AM Query, but in at least one case (described below) there is some question as to whether the surrender was valid. Otherwise, it's not clear why these **11** stations are still listed in AM Query.

**590 KZHS AR Hot Springs** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Feb. 7, 2014.  
**940 WCSY MI South Haven** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Jan. 11, 2012.  
**1050 WPQR NH Conway** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Nov. 6, 2013.  
**1340 WBGI PA Connellsville** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of June 21, 2012.  
**1340 KRHC TX Burnet** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Dec. 14, 2011.  
**1360 WVMC IL Mount Carmel** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of April 13, 2010; station filed letter saying the Apr. 13 letter writer was not authorized to surrender the license; temporary STA granted May 18, 2010; application to extend STA filed Nov. 15, 2010 and license renewal application filed Aug. 3, 2012.  
**1400 WYKC MS Grenada** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Jan. 31, 2012.  
**1450 WROB MS West Point** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Jan. 30, 2012.  
**1490 KOTN AR Pine Bluff** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Feb. 18, 2011.  
**1530 KCLR TX Ralls** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of Nov. 7, 2013.  
**1590 WZRZ MS Jackson** – License voluntarily surrendered by letter of July 31, 2012.

The only other deleted call letters in AM Query are either database errors where a station was partially removed but not all the records were deleted (KMUL-830 Farwell TX, surrendered license by letter Sept. 27, 2013; KOBV-940 Cedar City UT, surrendered license by letter Nov. 13, 2012; WEIC-1270 Charleston IL, surrendered license by letter Feb. 1, 2014) or an expired CP (KJLJ-540).

## *The DX Time Machine*

**75 Years Ago:** From the March 6, 1939 issue of *DX News* – CMHJ-1160 (Cienfuegos, Cuba) says it received 58 reports for its recent DX test, the most distant coming from San Diego; the NRC increased annual dues to \$2.00 per year.

**50 Years Ago:** From the February 29, 1964 issue of *DX News* – Henry Wilkinson, Jr., in North Hollywood, Calif., said that Monday morning Feb. 17 was one of the best DX mornings he has ever experienced, with room-level volume from stations all over the dial from Japan, the Russian Far East, and Central and South America.

**25 Years Ago:** From the March 6, 1989 issue of *DX News* – Ollie Alm's North American graveyard logbook from Marnosand, Sweden for the 1987-88 DX season were published – 15 stations on 1230, 21 on 1240, 22 stations on 1340, 35 stations on 1400, 24 stations on 1450, and 35 stations on 1490; Peter George of WBET Brockton, MA wrote to thank everyone who reported on WBET's DX test.

**10 Years Ago:** From the March 8, 2004 issue of *DX News* – Ben Dangerfield reported in IDXD that nothing of interest, either Latin or TA, has been heard during February, but he held out hope for March, historically a good month for TA activity.



**TWO URLs TO BOOKMARK**

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## Can We Save AM Radio?

### *Keeping amplitude modulation out of the dustbin of history*

By Trent Wolbe (*The Verge*)

<http://www.theverge.com/2014/2/13/5401834/can-we-save-am-radio>

Before Facebook, before the internet, before cellphones and TV and even FM radio, there was AM radio. Entire families would gather around elaborate refrigerator-sized receivers and bask in the warm glow of vacuum tubes as news, music, and entertainment poured from the only source of broadcast content in existence — NBC, ABC, and CBS were all on AM before they were on TV. Amplitude modulation operated at the very core of American culture.

But in America we have a bad habit of eviscerating the past. Radio broadcasters, once a vital part of American culture, have been shedding listeners for decades — the mass transition to digital media has been particularly brutal for the AM band, where listenership against FM audiences is at a record low of 15 percent. Predictably, there are only a few people that care about this impending extinction — but one of them just happens to head the Federal Communications Commission.

FCC Commissioner Ajit Pai grew up listening to high school basketball games on KLKC 1540AM in his native Parsons, Kansas. It's not hard to envision the son of Indian immigrants actively becoming more American as he participated in this aural ritual practiced by generations of homebound sports fans before him. AM's low fidelity makes it relatively unsuitable for music compared to FM; this has traditionally made it a home of hyperlocal talk-radio programming, particularly when it comes to sports and community news. The AM band is still home to 90 percent of all news and talk programming.

"I'm often asked why we should care about the future of AM radio," Pai said in September at a meeting with the National Association of Broadcasters. "If you care about diversity, you should care about AM radio. Most minority-owned radio stations are located in the AM band ... If you care about localism, you should care about AM radio. Many AM radio stations cover local news, weather, and community events." KLKC still airs ball games today, as well as a sort of Craigslist-without-the-internet show called *The Trading Post*.

But listening to AM radio in 2014 can be an exercise in frustration. When amplitude modulation was developed in the early 1900s there was little else in the air to get in its way. Now we have iPhones with as many as eight transmitters onboard, pervasive Wi-Fi, and military communications in the mix. Non-digital machinery like cars can also wreak havoc on a signal: you can usually hear the RPMs of your motor fluctuate clearly with in-dash AM receivers, whining up and down with each gear shift. Even nearby lightbulbs can make an otherwise-clear broadcast sound like garbage — that's because almost any AC-connected appliance radiates frequencies below the 30MHz band, which is also where AM lives. High-powered ESPN and Radio Disney affiliates can usually be heard clearly, but the nostalgic core of AM — those small-town stations like KLKC — are increasingly marginalized by the massive financial, technical, and legal costs of operating a licensed transmitter.

This is where having an AM junkie like Pai at the head of the FCC gets interesting: he's letting his nostalgia for the antiquated band leak into his policy decisions.

On October 29th, the FCC published a set of guidelines it hopes will "revitalize further the AM band by identifying ways to enhance AM broadcast quality and proposing changes to our technical rules that would enable AM stations to improve their service." There are six core proposals in the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM 13-249): the first is to allow AM broadcasters an exclusive opportunity to file for an FM translator — that is, to take their existing signal and rebroadcast it into the more widely consumed FM band. Easy enough to understand.

The remaining five address some very technical economic regulations.

In its first 50 years, AM was a large enough player in the media landscape that it required lots of technical regulations to keep stations from interfering with one another's signals while simultaneously serving their communities with adequate signals. Advertising money was pouring in, and business was big enough that it could support a large and robust engineering workforce to ensure compliance with all those regulations. Now that its audience is relatively microscopic and competition is low, those regulations need to be relaxed to make AM a viable medium, especially for minority and rural (read: small-budget) broadcasters to be able to effectively serve their communities.

If the FCC doesn't adopt these rules, or something like them, the AM band may simply be too big of a hassle for Americans to both produce for and listen to. In a comment filed on the FCC's proposed guidelines, Leigh Ellis, the owner of WAKE 1500AM in Porter County, Indiana said: "As helpful as some of these proposals in the NPRM might be, they may not ... achieve ... a noticeable change in the AM services long-term."

Ellis is one of the many small-market station heads that filed official comments in support of the proposed changes to the AM band itself, but he's also resigned to the fact that their businesses will probably be untenable if they don't get an FM translator as well. Even if every AM listener in the country could hear any local station they wanted to perfectly clearly 24 hours a day, the fact remains that there just aren't very many people hitting the "AM" button on their tuners these days, and there's almost nothing anyone can do to change that trend. So what we end up with is proposed legislation that mostly aims to enhance the AM programming band by turning it into FM programming.

Digital, or "HD" AM transmission is something we've been hearing about for more than a decade — but most of us have never actually heard it. Like digital TV, it sounds better, but requires stations to buy new transmitters and listeners to buy new receivers — and unlike TV's transition to digital, there are still legal barriers to rolling out all-digital broadcasts. The National Association of Broadcasters commented on their ongoing experimentation with digital AM broadcasts, but pointed out inherent regulatory challenges: "Deployment of all-digital AM radio service would require a change to the commission's rules." After spending so much time in technical and legal beta, digital AM seems more like an expensive, niche destination than a viable alternative to its analog ancestor.

If you can get away from the dense fog of interference that hangs around urban areas, there are still plenty of transcendent moments to be had with AM radio. Rural listeners with a good receiver (like the amplitude modulation-specialist Tivoli PAL) can pull in signals that are full of otherworldly warmth and human depth — when it's engineered well, and heard in the middle of nowhere, that low-fi signal can feel like the voice of God. It can also serve as a way to connect you to a hundred years of cultural history, as the sound hasn't changed much since it was introduced. But since the efficacy of NPRM 13-249 is hinged on FM translation of AM programming, it certainly doesn't feel like the AM band as a medium itself is going to be a viable platform much longer.

If there is one thing that will keep AM alive in the coming centuries, it's simplicity. It's not difficult to envision some future world where all of the communications technology we take for granted today are decimated by forces either in or outside of our control. In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, the only source of broadcast news on Long Island was WALK 1370AM — battery-powered radios are by far the most commonplace emergency-news appliances we have, and they're operable during power outages, unlike most home networks or televisions. AM signals are also our most bombproof way to communicate over long distances. Because they reflect off the Earth's ionosphere, signals from the USA can be bounced to Europe with a simple, almost instantaneous hop. You certainly can't say that about the internet, or even about an overseas phone call.

But in the event of AM radio's likely demise, I can see a possible future of eventual deregulation and endless creative opportunity. Like a boom town that's lost its commercial appeal, the AM band may eventually return to the Wild West feel that it had when it was first deployed in the early 1900s: a low-rent haven that artists and other cultural opportunists will inhabit and reinvent for their own devices. Imagine an instant, global communications medium free of regulation: it sounds a lot like the internet used to be.

## Unreported Domestic Stations

Of the (approximately) 4831 full-service AM stations licensed in the United States and Canada, the number of stations last reported in Domestic DX Digest in each of the volumes from 67 (1999-2000) to 81 (2013-2014) is as follows:

Volume	81	80	79	78	77	76	75	74	73	72	71	70	69	68	67	Not
Stations	1131	919	549	231	201	135	149	135	119	163	126	142	120	92	82	537

No new stations to knock of the list this issue, so we hold at 537 not reported to DDXD during this timeframe. The most recent version of the list is available online on e-DXN.com.

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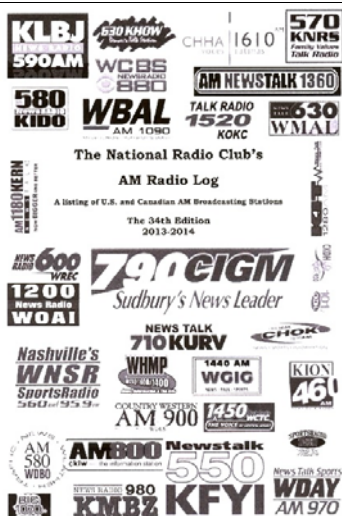
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## IRCA Mexican Log, 18th Edition (Winter 2013)

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